

RITORNELLO

Department of Music and Dance West Texas A&M University

Volume 16, Number 2



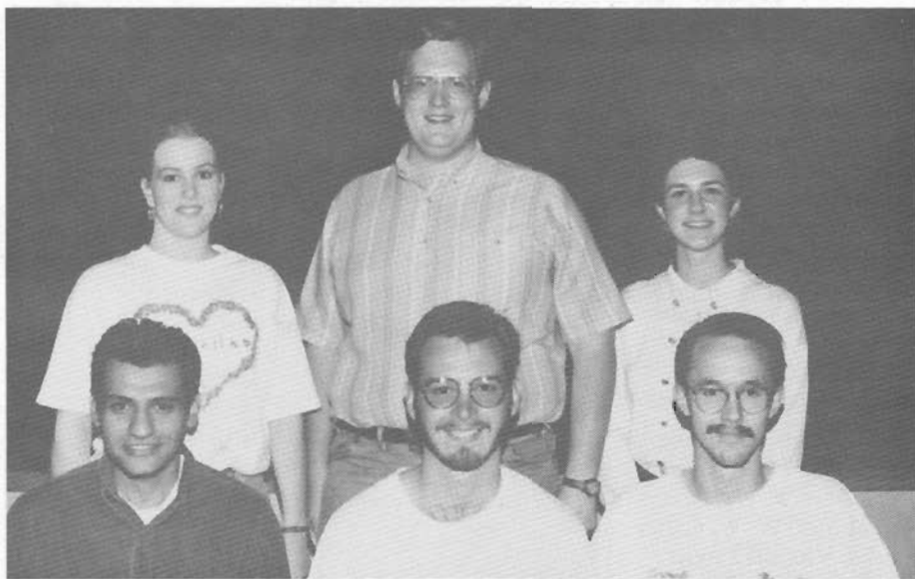
Spring 1993

It's Official

On June 1, West Texas State University became West Texas A&M University. This is the fourth name change since the institution's founding in 1909 as West Texas State Normal College. The first change occurred in 1923 when the college was designated as West Texas State Teachers College. In 1949 the name was changed to West Texas State College. (Even today there are a few remnants of that WTSC marking on some of our music department equipment still in use!) Finally, in 1963 the name was changed to West Texas State University.

WTAMU became a member of The Texas A&M University System in September of 1990. It was only last September that a name change was approved by the board of regents. The latest change, in the estimation of the regents, better illustrates our affiliation with The Texas A&M University System.

In this issue of *Ritornello*, references to "WTSU" have been changed to "WTAMU." It may take some time for our readers to get used to the change, but bear with us. Though the name has changed, the tradition continues in vision, truth, and courage, the Latin slogan on the university's seal.



Paula Hill Scholarship Recipients

Front row, left to right: Fouad Fakhouri, Brad Bledsoe, Cliff Brown
Back row, left to right: Mechelle Curry, Keith Sacane, Jennifer Presner

Scholarships for Returning Students Announced

Six WTAMU students were named as recipients of the Paula Jane Hill Memorial Scholarship for the 1993-94 academic year. Paula Hill was a music education major who attended the university from 1977 through 1980. She was an outstanding flutist and, above all, an inspiration to students and faculty because of her enthusiasm for music and her zest for living. Income from the endowment established in her name provide the funds for the annual scholarships. This is the twelfth year that scholarships have been given, and fifty students have now received the award.

This year's recipients are Fouad Fakhouri, a junior piano performance major (who is also an outstanding composition student) from Amman,

Jordan; Brad Bledsoe, a junior percussion performance and music education major from Missouri City; Cliff Brown, a graduating senior violinist from Amarillo whose major is music education; Mechelle Curry, a senior soprano music education major; Keith Sacane, a senior trumpet music education major from Clovis, NM; and Jennifer Presner, a sophomore flute music therapy major from Midland.

Recipients of the Gail and Helen Shannon Scholarship are Susan Imm and Ronald Loyd. Dr. Shannon retired as president of WTAMU in 1984. Susan is a junior horn music education major from The Colony; Ron is a senior voice performance major from Euless.

Cai Lei, a freshman from Shanghai, was recognized for his musical abilities by being awarded the Knutson Keyboard Scholarship.

1993 MUSIC AND DANCE DEPARTMENT PATRONS

The following is a list of donors for the 1993 annual solicitation. Donors support the publication of *Ritornello*, the alumni reception at TMEA and, most importantly music scholarships. The names were listed in the 13th annual SHOWCASE OF MUSIC program which was held on April 2. (Next year's SHOWCASE will be on April 8 and dates have already been set through the year 2000, if anyone is interested.) We raised \$8,000 this year for music scholarships. Thank you for your continued support of the Department of Music and Dance at West Texas A&M University.

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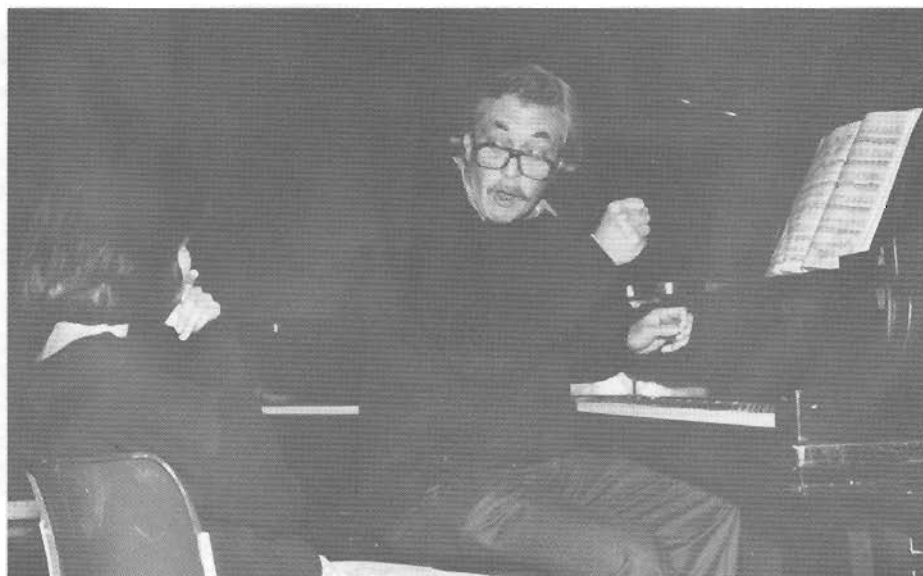
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William Doppmann, Meadows Foundation guest artist, leads a master class, Northen recital hall, February 3.

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Orchestra

It's been a busy and productive semester for the orchestra, beginning with the annual Concerto Concert in January. This year's soloists, chosen by competitive audition, included baritone Ron Loyd, soprano Esther York, flutist Amy Browning, saxophonist Mark Alewine, and hornist Mike Ellis. Each gave an outstanding performance.

The spring concert included Beethoven's Symphony No. 8 and the Haydn Cello Concerto in C, with a dazzling performance by WTAMU cello teacher Emmanuel Lopez. The rest of the semester was committed to preparation for the opera, *Così fan tutte*.

1993 SUMMER CAMPS

Band Camp (July 11-23)

Dance Camp (July 25-31)

Room and Board: \$125

Tuition and Fees: \$125

Dance Camp (August 1-7)

Room and Board: \$125

Tuition and Fees: \$125

Choir Camp (August 5-8)

Room and Board: \$75

Tuition and Fees: \$75

For more information about summer music camps, contact the Department of Music and Dance
West Texas A&M University
WTAMU Box 879
Canyon, Texas 79016-0001
or call (806) 656-2840.



Participants in this spring's annual bassoon bash.

Band

The Symhonic Band had a very successful tour in February, encountering lots of alumni along the way. Among them were Bob Anderson, Ann Pierce Barnes, John Black, Bryan Band, Ron Caffey, Donna Carroll, Kim Craig, Donna Crumps, Marlys Edborg, DeLee Francis, Beverly Goode, Phil Goodson, Mark and Denise Harman, Bill Huff, Bob Humphries, Lawrence Lewis, John Lowe, Jamie and Susan Marin, Heather McCamey, Mina McClendon, Teresa Moore, Jack and Donna Nall, Mark and Chris Roath, Ruth Sepulveda, Lisa Stallings Smith, David Sorgi, Ken Valliant, Todd and Shelly VanDoren, Jollette Wine, and Gary Wurtz.

Our scholarship picture is looking brighter, thanks to those who responded to the plea from our university's development director, Betty Howell. We hope to set aside some of the contributions to build an endowment and to use the rest to provide some immediate help. Thanks to all of you for your generosity in this critical time. Robert Frost and Martin Waldrop are also mounting a major effort to help assure the continuation of the WTAMU band program at the highest possible level.

We hosted our third annual band clinic on March 27. Four outstanding high school bands participated—Abilene

Cooper HS, directed by Jack Nall; Canyon HS, directed by Robbie Rumph; Hereford HS, directed by James Maclaskey; and Midland Lee HS, directed by Randy Storie. Dr. Harry Begian returned as guest clinician, doing his usual superb job. Each of the bands also had section rehearsals conducted by the WTAMU wind and percussion faculty.

Brass Ensemble

The WTAMU Brass Ensemble, under the direction of trumpet professor David G. Ritter, performed at the 1993 Texas Music Educators association meeting in San Antonio in February. The performance was part of a clinic designed to address various problems encountered in brass ensemble performance. Topics covering intonation, balance, and musicality were examined.

The members of the ensemble included (trumpets) Keith Sacane, Clovis, NM; Vicki Glenn, Weatherford; Kelly Pace, Snyder; Robert Hinds, Amarillo; Alan Hanna, Amarillo; and Raquel Rodriguez, Kermit; (horns) Mike Ellis, Mustang, OK; David Lanier, Amarillo; Susan Imm, The Colony; and Noelle McGallian, Pampa; (trombones) Greg Montgomery, Brenham; Heather Hughes, Midland; Jay Clemons, Victoria; and Paul Schlichting, Seguin; (euphoniums) Rene Rodriguez, El Paso,

and Bret Parker, Abernathy; and (uba) Pablo Vela, Kingsville.

1993-94 Meadows Foundation Season

The 1992-93 Meadows Guest Artist Series was the most varied and well-attended to date, but the 1993-94 series may well surpass it. Russian violist Dimitri Berlinsky from the Young Concert Artists will be the first residency on Sept. 30 and Oct. 1. Second is clarinetist Todd Palmer, also from Young Concert Artists, who will perform on Feb. 3 and 4. English pianist Graham Scott, another Young Concert Artist, will be on campus March 9 and 10 and bassist Diana Gannett from the University of Iowa is scheduled for March 25 and 26. Yet to be scheduled, but probably in the fall semester, is percussionist Ed Soph from the University of North Texas. Each artist will be on campus for a master class and recital.

Through the generosity of the Amarillo Symphony Orchestra, each of their soloists will present a master class on the music department's Master Series, which includes the Meadows Artists as well. All recitals and master classes are open to the university community and the general public at no charge. For further information, contact Stanley Potter at (806) 656-2852.



Meadows artist Gillian Weir in performance, March 30.

Flute Ensemble

The Flute Ensemble, under the direction of Sally Turk, presented their first TMEA concert Feb. 12, 1993 in San Antonio. It was a program of Pops, designed to encourage the use of the flute ensemble for audience building. The SHOWCASE concerts in Amarillo have proven that the general public really enjoys flute ensemble music. The ensemble presents its "stereophonic" effect (flutes surrounding the audience) annually at SHOWCASE. This presentation, along with antiphonal flute choirs, provided a varied program.

Former Amarillo High School director Jimmy Edwards (now at that other school down the road working on his doctorate) has written many lovely arrangements for the group. These were presented along with a new Christmas arrangement and were extremely well received. All players alternate parts (picc., C flute, alto, and bass).

Additional selections were a transcription of Euryanthe Overture, Greensleeves, Shadow of Your Smile, and Tico, Tico. The ensemble played at Lanier HS in Austin (Robert Rubio) and the atrium of the building housing Salon 15600 (Melody Darden Nixon). We thank them for their hospitality.

Students participating were Amy Browning, soph. performance; Melissa Gray, fr. music therapy; Angie Munoz, sr. music education; Patti Phillips, fr. performance/music education; Jennifer Prensner, soph., music therapy; Lance Sanford, soph. performance; Heather Turk, jr. performance/music business; LeeAnn Woodall, soph. psychology; Dave Rodriguez, bass; Brad Bledsoe, drums.

Percussion

Alumni Ray Dillard and James Metcalfe returned to the WTAMU campus for a variety of clinics on March 28 and 29. Dillard presented a wonderful "hands on" frame drum clinic. Metcalfe joined Dillard for an inspiring performance/clinic on Latin percussion instruments.

Monday, March 29, was quite a busy day. Both gentlemen coached senior Cynthia Barlow on her upcoming recital, worked with individual percussion majors, held a frame drum improvisation session and a music therapy session. Dillard capped the evening as guest speaker for the music business class.

The clinics were co-sponsored by the music department, Sparyx, the music business program, and the Remo Drum Company. Frame drums for the students to use in the clinics were provided from Remo through the Houston Percussion Center.

Both Dillard and Metcalfe teach percussion at San Jacinto Junior College in Houston, perform regularly as freelance musicians, and join alumna Sandra Dillard in the actively performing percussion trio, Convergence.

Opera/Musical Theatre

Opera and musical theatre have flourished this year at WTAMU. The season began with Stephen Sondheim's cult musical, *Follies*. Dr. Robert Hansen directed the production and made his stage debut in the

Branding Iron Theatre in the role of Ben. The large cast included cameo appearances by such WTAMU alums and community figures as Mila Gibson and Gene Murray.

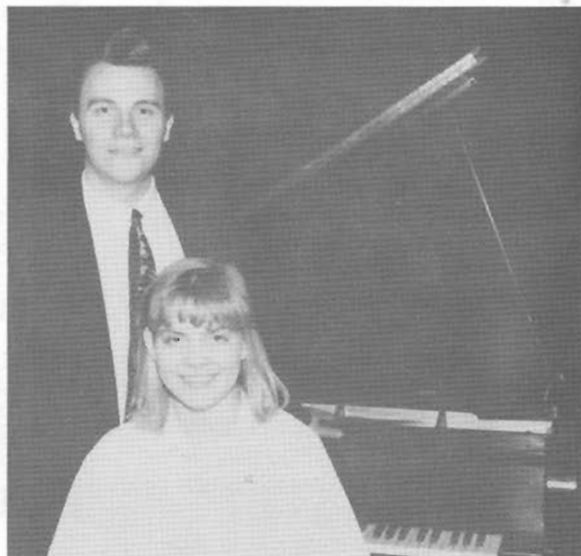
The spring production brought the charm and rollicking fun of Mozart to the stage in *Così fan tutte*. Joining Hansen on the production team were keyboard instructor and staff accompanist Thom Robertson and former faculty member James Gardner as the Meadows Foundation Guest Conductor. The cast included recent graduates Melody Baggech and Alan Marshall, along with four current WTAMU music majors.

The addition of new courses and continued cooperation with the theatre faculty hold promise for a future of continuing excellence in opera and musical theatre at WTAMU.

Music Therapy

The music therapy department has been quite active this semester. The music therapy students gave a recital March 24 which involved various music therapy activities and concluded with a signed song.

Eight therapy students, along with Martha Estes, attended the Southwest Regional Conference (SWNAMT) in Oklahoma City March 25-27. They all came back with many new ideas. The students, under Mrs. Estes' direction, also performed the current pop hit "A Whole New World" in sign language at the WTAMU Showcase of Music. Overall, the music therapy department has been very productive this semester.



Gail and Helen Shannon Scholarship Winners Susan Imm and Ronald Loyd



Crescendo, a newly-formed gospel choir, performs at SHOWCASE.

Choirs

The choral area has had a good year under the direction of new director of choral activities Dr. George Biffle. The choirs (Chorale and Women's Chorus) have sung very well this year at each performance. The singers are becoming acquainted with new styles of singing and conducting, as well as experiencing new expectations in rehearsal conduct and responsibilities to the ensemble.

Vocal scholarship auditions are going extremely well. There are some outstanding singers expressing a desire to attend WTAMU next fall. Several all-staters have already signed scholarship agreements with us. There should be between 20-30 new voice majors in the choral program next year.

We will also initiate a new recruiting program in order to attract talented singers from other majors on campus that are not aware that both choirs are open to them. Both of these influxes of new members will necessitate changing the Women's Chorus back into the Collegiate Chorus next fall. We have hopes of adding a new, third ensemble in the future, comprised of primarily non-majors.

The choral department has two new programs in the works. The first is will be a workshop this summer for choral directors June 14-17, featuring Dr. Don Moses, director of choral activities at the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana. The second program is an all-state music camp for high school singers interested in getting a head start on next year's all-state choir literature. We have signed ten of the areas leading

high school choral directors to help us run the camp, which occurs August 5-8. The camp will feature section rehearsals, mass rehearsals, activities, recreation, fun, and fellowship. This should be a great recruiting atmosphere for WTAMU's music department.

The choral department would like to hear from all of its exes. Please drop us a note telling where you are and what you are doing. Please be sure to give both your current address and telephone number. Responses should be addressed to Dr. George Biffle, Department of Music and Dance, WTAMU Box 879, Canyon, TX 79016. We look forward to your reply. Have a happy and prosperous summer.



Symphonic Band performs at SHOWCASE.

Gifts That Give....and Give....and Give

Some gifts keep on giving. That could be the definition for an endowment. And some people keep on giving. They are the ones who have set up a monthly bank draft for an endowed scholarship.

As part of the ongoing quest for band scholarships, these people are giving monthly to the Gary Garner Scholarship. Half is immediately available for scholarships, and the other half goes into endowment.

We tip our band hats to these good friends:

Cindy Bulloch, Odessa, TX
 John H. Butler,* Clemson, SC
 Joe & Meredith Campbell,
 La Mesa, CA
 John W. Carroll, Dalhart, TX
 Diane R. Chalk, Fairfield, CA
 Robert W. Frost, Plano, TX
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 Cathy M. Teague, Amarillo, TX
 Rick R. Vaughn, Albuquerque, NM

*Similar gift to choral scholarships

Will you join them? Call Gary Garner (806-656-2855) or Betty Howell (806-656-2066) for details. If you prefer, you may write to Gary Garner Scholarship, WTAMU Box 766, Canyon, TX 79016.



Dance Ensemble in performance.

Alumni Notes

Dr. Matilda Gaume (45-76 history/theory/piano faculty) confounds us all with her many talents. Now she's in video production, recording events for a year at Palo Duro Retirement Village in Canyon, where she lives. In addition, she's on its board of directors, on its advisory council and is pianist/leader of the weekly sing-song. Is anyone surprised?

Mr. Royal Brantley (53-87 voice faculty) was back in the classroom this spring teaching orchestration. He joins wife Charlotte (part time in art) and son Royal (associate professor of theater) on the WTAMU faculty this term!

Dr. George Eason (62-88 piano faculty) and wife **Ruth** moved this past January to Washington state. They live in Kennewick (which is Indian for "Winter Paradise") at the confluence of the Yakima, Snake, and Columbia Rivers. They are close to relatives there. We wish them all good things though we miss having them here in Canyon. Dr. Eason invites all to call and stop by if in the area. Their address is PO Box 7301, Kennewick, WA 99336.

Marihoward Apel Engelbrecht (63 BME, 64 MA) was honored this spring by the Amarillo Women's Forum for outstanding volunteerism with youth at Stratford's Sherman County Depot Museum, being one of five Panhandle women selected for recognition in various areas. She is active as her church musician, in several music clubs,

on the school board, and on the WTAMU Friends of Fine Arts board—to list only a few of her efforts.

Rev. Richard (66 BME, 68 MA) and **Noreen Putnam** (65 BME, 68 MA) Bales had a gratifying missionary experience early this year in Pakistan. Richard's church, Canyon First United Methodist, sent them to an annual conference there, and he spoke at the John Wesley Convention in Lahore. Attending Christian meetings in an essentially non-Christian nation was eye-opening, broadening, and fascinating to the Bales, fulfilled a thirty-year dream.

Glen (66 BME, 74 MEd) and **Marvella Upton** (71 BME) Thompson still labor in the vineyards of the Lord—they have been Southern Baptist missionaries in the Philippines for approximately 25 years.

Joan Wallace Hudgins (67 BS) is church organist at John Calvin Presbyterian Church in San Antonio where she also teaches piano privately. Her whole family is musically-inclined. Husband Clyde teaches sociology by day and plays jazz piano on weekends, while son Jeff graduated with highest honors last May from Berklee College of Music in Boston with a saxophone performance degree and is now pursuing his MM at the New England Conservatory.

Doug Kincaid (70 BME, 75 MA) continues to "preserve the lofty standard of band literature for America's Youth" at Pflugerville HS outside of Austin.

Jim Hutson (71 BME, 74 MA) serves as Region I TMEA Band

Division Chairman and is director of bands and fine arts department head at River Road HS in Amarillo where his wife Frances also teaches. Daughters Ruth and Emily are musicians, Ruth on double reeds at Amarillo HS and Emily on French horn at Bonham MS.

Susan Brantley Milligan (71 BME) is in her twelfth year as orchestra director for Princeton City Schools, is active in OMEA and OSTA, and serves as concertmaster of the Cincinnati (Ohio) Community Orchestra. She traveled to Hong Kong and Singapore last summer as associate conductor with the Cincinnati Junior Strings. Children Sean, a freshman at UT-Austin, and Julie, a seventh grader, are both string players.

Garner Fielding (72 BME) first played percussion in 7th grade in *The Undertakers*; the garage band continued into Caprock (Amarillo) HS playing school dances and teen clubs in this area in the mid-60s and traveling in a 1952 Pontiac hearse which was perfect for that purpose. He is presently teaching at Amarillo's San Jacinto Elementary, and is president of the Association of Texas Professional Educators. He continues to play with area jazz groups, and of course, at CHS class reunions.

Carolyn Baker Sims (72 BME) started a "Just Say No" program at Gene Howe Elementary when she encountered two of her former students in the CareUnit alcohol and drug treatment center. Her school was recognized as drug-free in '91 by the U.S. Department of Education, the only public school in the Panhandle to win the honor. She teaches K-5 music, husband Dave (who coordinates the recreation at WTAMU's summer band camp) teaches PE at Sundown Lane Elementary and oldest son Bryan is a freshman music major at WTAMU. Their 3 children join Carolyn and Dave in making music at Canyon Christian Church.

Bill Duggan (73 BME) is completing his 19th year as band director at Dulles HS. During his tenure, the district has grown from 1 HS and 1 JH to 5 HS and 7 JH.

Vicki Gibbs (73 BM) is director of music ministries at Beltway Park Church in Abilene.

Frank Davis (77 BME) and wife Melody live in a 100-year-old house in Channing, using spare time to refurbish the residence built by a Texas Ranger. He's superintendent of Channing ISD, and she teaches speech/drama.

Brad (79 BME, 79 MA) and **Linda Harman** (77 BME, 79 MA) **Garner** are the proud parents of daughter #3, **Brianne**, born in April. Brad teaches at Cincinnati, Julliard, and Hofstra University. Linda is product manager of Auto Data Processing in New York City.

Richard (77 BME, 82 MA) and **Patti Prior** (80 BME) **Nance** are now living in Spanaway, WA, where he is director of choral activities at Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma and she is teaching 6th grade. They moved there in August after Richard completed his doctorate at Arizona State University.

Bruce (78 BME, 84 MA) and **Julie Smith** (88 BME) **Collins** are the proud parents of Alex Bruce born December 9, 1992. According to Julie he has "dark hair, dark eyes and is very cute!" They continue teaching music in Pampa, Bruce is completing his 7th year at the middle school, and Julie her 3rd at the elementary level.

Lisa Payne (78 BMTh) is activity director at Jan Werner Adult Day Care Center in Amarillo, is president of the Golden Spread Activity Directors Association, and teaches the nursing home activity director course at Amarillo College. Her total immersion in her field is a credit to her WTAMU training and her personal professionalism.

Barbara Pierce (79 BMTh) always the innovator, has devised a music therapy program for use in early pregnancy, labor and delivery, which enables as well as facilitates comfort and confidence at this important time. Still based in Odessa, Barbara informs area therapists of techniques used on both coasts of the USA.

Kyle (80 BME, 84 MA) and **Lisa Thomas** (82 BME) **Maxwell** have moved to Breckenridge, TX, after six successful years at Greenwood HS near Midland. In Breckenridge, Kyle is the HS director, and Lisa is the JH director, but they team teach all of their classes.

John Black (81 BME) teaches band at Dan F. Long JH in the Carrollton-Farmers Branch ISD. He also works with **Mark Harman** (79 BME, 80 MA) at Newman Smith HS.

Ray Dillard (81 BM, 83 MM) and **James Metcalfe** (81 BME) came to WTAMU on March 28-29 to run clinics for our percussion students. Ray also spoke to the music business and music therapy classes.

Betsy Hampton Girdler (81 BME) and husband **Wes** are now the happy parents of three sons, **Jon**, 6; **Kurt**, 3; and baby **Nathaniel Wayne**, now 1.

Stephen Sampsell (81 BME) is band director and instrumental resource teacher at the Paseo Academy (arts magnet HS) in Kansas City, MO. In addition, he's playing lots of gigs on trombone, baritone, and trumpet. Married for five years, he is the father of two sons, **Taylor**, 4 and **Graham** 1.

David Wimberly (81 BM) and his wife dropped by on a Friday afternoon late in February. He was on his way to an anesthesiology convention in Lubbock.

Cindy Cole Harris (82 BM, 84 MM) has been married about a year. Her husband is a church choir director and works in business forms, while she stays busy with various things as usual, plus work at a church.

Brent Unrue (82-93 band member) has played trombone in our bands for ten years. He earned a BA in mass communication and a BS in physical education/life-earth science. You may have thought he left years ago, but 1993 is the date. The Buff Band won't be the same!

John Mueller (84 BM) is minister of music at First Baptist Church in Farmington, AR.

Gerry (84 BME) and **Eva Dee Priddy** (81 twirler) **Lewis** are still in Ft. Worth staying busy pastoring Eagle Mt. Baptist Church, working with homebound students in the Azle ISD, and being mom and dad to **Tova** and **Zeke**. Gerry has recently recorded two Christian music albums and has written a workbook for use in marriage enrichment seminars. Daughter **Tova**, 4 1/2, is following in Dad's footsteps—she has sung solos in five different churches recently.

Ritornello received the following letter from **Mike Harcrow** (83 BME). "After graduating in 1983, I spent several years as hornist and assistant director with the Continental Singers, a gospel music group. In 1988, after receiving an MM in horn from the University of Miami (Florida), I went to Korea with this team to perform at the Olympics. I subsequently was assigned to establish national teams of Continental Singers in both Korea and Japan, and I served as director of both groups for three years. In 1991, I married **Hannah Park**. We lived in Chicago for one year where I was hornist for the Cathedral Brass Quintet

and Grant Park Symphony Orchestra. This past autumn (1992), we returned to Korea where I had accepted the position of third horn with the Korean Symphony Orchestra in Seoul. I continue in that position, and I continue to serve the Korean Continental Singers as managing director. I'm also professor of horn at Mokwon University, and I perform in and arrange music for my church orchestra in addition to answering calls for occasional studio recording gigs. It's a busy life, but I have the best of everything."

Mike Porter (83 BME) has been living in Dallas and playing bass for a Persian musical group for 3 years. The group tours the south and also backs up Persian singers who tour the US. He and his girlfriend **Eva B.** are very happy. Says Mike, "Playing Persian music has been very rewarding and has expanded my musical boundaries. Their music is very festive."

Elizabeth King Robinson (83 BME) is currently studying for her prelims and working on her dissertation toward a Ph.D. in English at Texas A&M University. Husband **Royce** (88-90 MacLab supervisor) is a computer hardware support representative for Agency Management Services in College Station.

Robert (83 BME) and **Lisa Oldencott** (87 BMTh) **Rubio** have a beautiful daughter, **Ashley Marie**, born May 18, 1992. Both teach in Austin ISD. Robert is head band director at Lanier HS while Lisa works with special education students at the elementary level.

Carlie Burdett (84 BM) has obtained her real estate license and now works in residential sales in Amarillo. However, she is still composing. Thirteen of her songs taken from five major works were recently performed by the Hereford Chamber Singers. The Central Church of Christ Chorus debuted her cantata *A Man After God's Own Heart*, and she is currently working on another major choral work, *Lamb of God*.

Janie Howard (85 BM, 87 MM) now lives in Fresno, CA, where she is doing music therapy at Valley Children's Hospital and is music director at the Liberal and Wesley United Methodist Church. She won the Central Valley-San Joaquin Met auditions this past year and looks forward to competing again next year.

Kathy Baker (86 BME) has a flourishing piano studio plus some oboists at Fort Stockton HS. She utilizes skills learned in WTAMU music therapy to maximize her efforts.

Tico Cook (86 BFA dance, 91 MA interdisciplinary studies) recently completed a four month tour through Germany, Belgium and Switzerland as "Mac" in *Annie Get Your Gun*. It was so enjoyable he'd like to work there some more. He's based in NYC now, saying "...that city is a real education." Break a leg, Tico.

Lisa (Gulde) Stobb (86 BME) wrote a nice letter. As you will recall, she was married in the summer of 1990. Her second baby girl (Sarah Brigid) was born this February. Her first daughter, Michelle, is now 20 months old. Husband Tony is still busy with his research and development project for space applications, and Lisa still has a piano studio in addition to her full-time job as mommy.

Brenda Spence (86 BMTh) is teaching guitar and piano in Lubbock as a new enterprise, in conjunction with MHMR clients. Her enthusiasm and energy contribute favorably to her professional calibre.

John Reimund (87 BME, 92 MM) still performs with the U.S. Military Academy Band and has also joined the Hudson Valley Opera Company. John recently completed his MM from WTAMU.

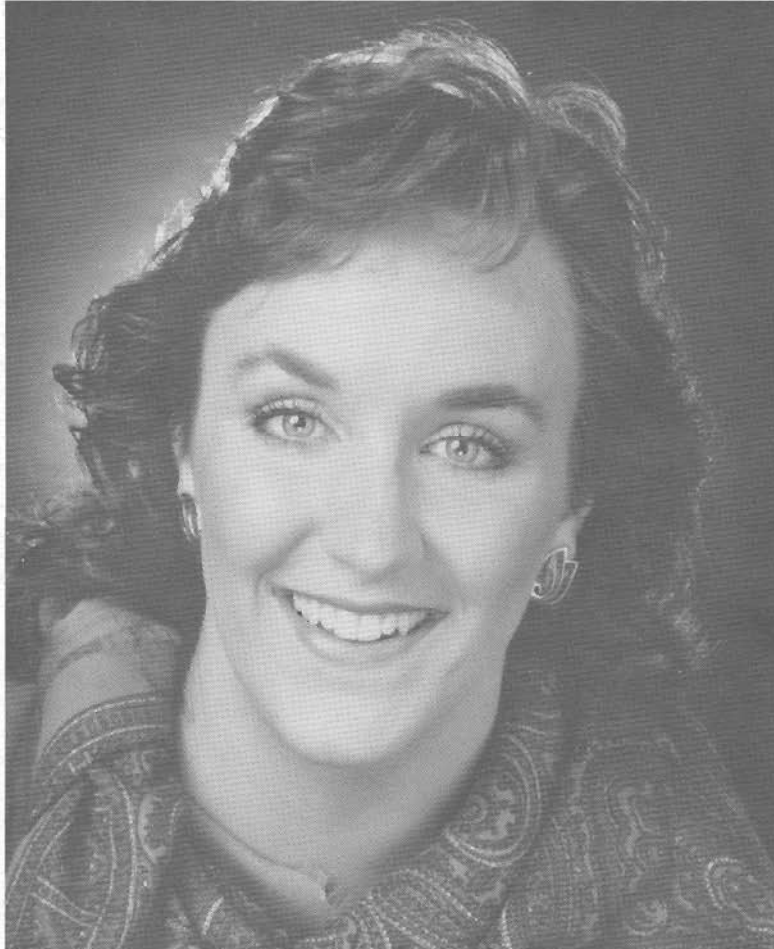
Risa Kanaoya-Kumagami (86 BM, 88 MM) was married last August and is expecting her first child in August. She is still working with the International Language and Culture Center in Japan.

Rebecca Shuler Stewart (88 BME) is finishing her second year as a 6th grade teacher in Garfield, OK.

Talara Hammons (89 BMTh) married last Thanksgiving and loves living and working in Houston.

Kristy Nelson (89 BMMB), since September 1992, has been the meeting planner/convention coordinator for the Gospel Music Association in Nashville.

Kathy Nelson (89 BMMB) was married May 1 in Nashville where she works for Diadem Music, Inc. Her husband is employed by American Eagle Airlines.



Emily Pulley

Emily Pulley (89 BM) won the Metropolitan Opera auditions held at the end of March. She received a \$10,000 cash prize and will be listed on next year's roster of singers for the Met. She survived two rounds of competition and was one of the 23 finalists. From that group, eight were selected. After graduating from WTAMU, Emily began a master's degree at the University of North Texas. During the summers she has been working with the Central City (Colorado) Opera. Next February she will perform as a soloist with the Fort Worth Symphony.

John Britton (90 BMMB) is now the director of sales for Opera Omaha in Nebraska.

Camille Day (90 BMMB) married Andy Nies, a theater/speech grad, last Christmastime. She is field representative for the American Cancer Society, based in Amarillo, plays viola in the ASO and sings in the Polk Street Methodist Church choir. Andy is doing graduate work and continues to be very active in theater/speech activities.

Marlys D. Edborg (90 BMMB) now lives in North Arlington and works for the Fort Worth Symphony as the development and fund raising assistant.

Rodney Kuchar (90 BMMB) is director of marketing for the Houston Grand Opera. On May 1, 1993, he married Donna Stewart.

Chaiwat Rodsuwan (90 MM) is with the Amarillo College Suzuki program for the sixth year, and he and wife Cookie have a darling baby named - what else—Melody.

Theron Rose (91 BME) is now working for the Pharr-San Juan-Alamo School District while he completes his MA work from WTAMU.

Russ Teweleit (91 BME) married Tina Bali at the beginning of spring break. He's serving as assistant band director at Canyon HS. She has a BSSW (91) and does

social work in Amarillo.

In February some of the old guys played with the Amarillo Symphony for their performance of *Le Sacre du printemps*. Joining numerous current students and faculty were **Stephanie McCown** (89 and current grad student), **Rudy Sanchez** (85), **Robby Rumph** (84 & 86), **Mike Johnson** (80), **Steve Baird** (82), **Robbie Hawkins Pepper** (80), **Russ Teweleit** (91) and **Robert Simmons** (79). What an impressive sight!

In Memoriam

David Schuette (66- 72 Phi Mu Alpha) died of multiple sclerosis last September. He was active in many WTAMU musical productions as well as being the flagman on horseback on the canyon rim in TEXAS. He was a U.S. Army veteran, a machinist, a park ranger, and a wrangler for TEXAS.

Malcolm Helm (68 BME, 76 MA) died of cancer in Dallas on March 27. He was a band director in Amarillo and at Lake Highlands HS in Dallas. Survivors include his wife, Debbie, and a sister.

Dance

The West Texas A&M University Dance Ensemble has been experiencing an exciting year of creative endeavors. This year, in addition to the choreography of dance director Neil Hess, the dance ensemble has been graced with the works of three stimulatingly original guest choreographers: Richard Ing, Bonnie Scheibmen, and Richard Glass. Their work, coupled with the traditional yet innovative choreography of graduate teaching assistant John Paul Mauldin, has given the dance ensemble a vibrant and invigorated repertoire for this year.

This has facilitated the growth and development of the dance ensemble for an exceptionally active year of events. The year began with the dance ensemble participating with the Amarillo Opera in the original production *The Legend of Columbus*. The dancers performed later with Willie Nelson in a concert in Corpus Christi. It took part in the Lone Star Ballet original production "New World, New People," and the joint Lone Star Ballet/Amarillo Symphony production of Tchaikovsky's *The Nutcracker*.

This followed by the spring dance recital on the WTAMU campus in Mary Moody Northern Hall and performances for the communities of Tucumcari, NM; Wichita Falls, TX; and Perryton, TX. In the local community the dance ensemble has performed for the Leadership Amarillo and the Legislative Arts Day as well as at Palo Duro HS and the Amarillo VA Hospital.

The Dance Ensemble wrapped up the year with a performance at the Southwest Regional Ballet Festival in Abilene and the ever important Dancing People's program with the Amarillo ISD.

RITORNELLO

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