BAND IN NEW UNIFORMS

The Pittsburg State University Pride of the Plains Marching Band received new uniforms at the tail end of last football season, just in time for the NAIA First Round Playoffs.

The uniforms were designed by Dr. Gary Corcoran, PSU Director of Bands, and were manufactured by Fruhauf Uniforms, Inc., Wichita. "The new uniforms are totally different from the ones we bought in 1973," Corcoran said. "They feature more prominently the red and gold school colors. We used a bright metallic gold, which is very striking."

The uniforms feature a cadet-style white coat, cadet cap with white plume, a red and gold sash from shoulder to hip, gold wrist gauntlets and a cape with red on the outside and a gold lining. Black tuxedo trousers, black spats and black shoes complete the ensemble. There are also new Flag Line uniforms which include white pleated slacks, red formal coats with a white breastplate, gold sequin hats and gold wristbands.

Corcoran said that he deliberately kept the design simple "so that the field formations will be more readable. Sometimes, if the uniforms are too 'busy' it is harder for the audience to perceive the formations on the field." He said that he was striving for a "dignified, classy look." I want there to be no mistaking that this band is a class act."

The total cost of the band's new uniforms was around $30,000. Part of this came from the reserve fund of the Student Activities Council, and the rest from the University.

Band members and football fans alike were enthusiastic about the band's new look, and the students are already looking forward to strutting their stuff next Fall!

Timmons Chapel Program Features New Music
—a tradition on the PSU campus—

On March 21, as part of a new concert and lecture series sponsored by the Friends of Timmons Chapel, a concert was held in the Chapel which presented works by members of the PSU faculty. Two songs on the poetry of Stephen Crane represented the work of Gene Vollen. James Poulos contributed his Fantasia for Clarinet and Violin, and David Gordon, former member of the Axe Library staff, presented three songs from his Lincoln Song Cycle. Computer Suite SU 88 by R.G. Cook was given its premiere performance, as was John MacKay's Piece for Trombone and String Quartet.

This strong interest in, and support for, creativity is not a new phenomenon at PSU. Walter McCray, himself, was an avid composer of songs and instrumental music. His works were regularly performed during his tenure as Chairman of the Department of Music, and many of his autograph scores and printed editions now reside in the Special Collections at Axe Library.

One of our most important legacies, however, was established by Markwood Holmes, who came to the PSU faculty as a string specialist in the laboratory schools. The quality of this aspect of his work was acknowledged in his being named to the KMEA Teachers Hall of Fame in 1986. But he is known just as widely as an excellent composer and arranger. He eventually taught theory and composition in the Department of Music, and it was during this time (the 1960's) that he began a series of Composers' Forums that displayed the best in new music. He did this by simply inviting the Composers' League to hold its concerts at PSU. Because of the care with which their works were treated and the general convivial atmosphere, the composers opted to return annually.

The composers competed, on a national level, to have their works included. Once chosen, these works, which ranged from solo songs to large orchestral works,
Friends, colleagues, and students of professor Robert Schott gathered in Pittsburg on Saturday, March 4, 1989, to celebrate the career of this distinguished member of the faculty. The event began with a public recital at 4:00 p.m. in McCray Recital Hall. Performers included the following PSU alumni: Keith Lemmons, clarinet; Steve Wilkerson, alto sax; David Harrington, clarinet; Betty Jo Laffen, clarinet; Robert Stahl, clarinet; Leota Anthony, clarinet; Linda Baum, flute; Marlin Cooper, soprano sax; Phil Brenner, clarinet; Charles Beard, clarinet; Tana Beard, piano; Lori Kehle, piano.

The festivities continued with a banquet held at the Pittsburg Holiday Inn. Professor Schott was presented with gifts, individual greetings from his former students, and the announcement that a scholarship has been established in his name.

A special word of thanks goes to Keith Lemmons ('79) for all his work as coordinator of the event.

Although he began his college career as an engineering student, Professor Schott's love of music drew him back toward full-time musical study. He earned degrees at the Cincinnati Conservatory and the University of Tulsa, with further clarinet study under Jack Brymer and Gervase DePeyer, co-principal clarinetists of the London Symphony. His affiliation with Pittsburg State University began in September, 1949, at a time when he was also playing bass clarinet in the Kansas City Philharmonic.

Professor Schott retires following 40 years of service to the institution. During that time, he has played a significant role in the development of outstanding musicians, many of whom are now continuing the tradition in their positions as teachers and performers throughout the country.

Alumni response to this gala was tremendous. Persons travelled to Pittsburg from all parts of the US and Canada to share in honoring their mentor. From those who were not able to make the trip, there were personal notes and many additional contributions.

The Robert Schott Scholarship Fund, as it continues to grow, will assist future generations of woodwind students at Pittsburg State University, thereby continuing the legacy of this outstanding teacher.
NEW WOODWIND INSTRUCTOR NAMED

The Department of Music is pleased to announce the appointment of Karen Dannessa as assistant professor of music. A native of Ohio, Ms. Dannessa graduated *magna cum laude* from Youngstown State University with a BM in music education. She then studied clarinet with Elsa Ludewig-Verdehr at Michigan State, graduating *summa cum laude* with an MM in clarinet performance. As part of the woodwinds component of this program, she received extensive training in applied saxophone, flute, and bassoon.

Ms. Dannessa is currently completing work on a DM degree in clarinet performance at Florida State University. As a graduate teaching assistant to Frank Kowalsky, she has been responsible for applied instruction for undergraduate majors. Other duties have included chamber music coaching and work as a woodwind consultant to high school music programs in Tallahassee.

Ms. Dannessa brings to this position considerable experience as a member of performing ensembles of all kinds, but she admits to having a special fondness for chamber music. Her doctoral research has, in fact, focused on recent additions to the trio repertoire for clarinet, violin, and piano.

Ms. Dannessa’s responsibilities at PSU will include the applied teaching of all clarinet, saxophone, and flute majors.

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SOLO & CHAMBER MUSIC SERIES ANNOUNCED

The 1989-90 Solo & Chamber Music Series will bring an impressive array of artists to Pittsburg. The schedule is as follows:

The season opens on *September 28* with the return engagement of English violinist Yfrah Neaman. Mr. Neaman will also appear with the Southeast Kansas Symphony on Sunday, September 24, presenting the premiere of a concerto for two violins and orchestra by American composer, Katherine Hoover. Mr. Neaman will be joined by PSU’s Dr. Paul Carlson in this special performance.

Pianist William Browning, an alumnus of PSU, will return to Pittsburg on *October 17* for a benefit performance for the series. Mr. Browning is on the Chicago Musical College of Roosevelt University.

*November 28* will bring to campus New Winds, a woodwind trio whose performances feature a high degree of improvisation and modern techniques such as multiphonics and circular breathing.

Organist for the Boston Symphony and faculty member at Boston Conservatory, James David Christie will appear on *February 27*.

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Calendar of Events

**August**

22 Enrollment
23 Classwork Begins

**September**

24 *SEK Symphony, with guest violinist, Yfrah Neaman, Memorial Auditorium, 3:00 p.m.*
26 *Solo and Chamber Music Series: Yfrah Neaman, violin, 8:00 p.m.*

**October**

3 Resident String Quartet, 8:00 p.m.
5 Jazz Ensemble, 8:00 p.m.
13 *Jazz at McCarthy’s, 9:00 p.m. to midnight*

17 *Solo and Chamber Music Series: William Browning, piano, in a special benefit concert for the series, 8:00 p.m.*
29 *Treble Clef Club benefit concert, 3:00 p.m.*

*Tickets required. For further information, contact the PSU Department of Music (316/231-7000, ext. 4466).*

*Cover charge.*

All events take place in McCray Recital Hall unless otherwise noted. Please consult local news media for any changes in the above information.

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New Music . . .

were rehearsed by members of the PSU faculty and student body. The ensembles and soloists carefully worked out their often difficult and complex assignments. The result was a three-day extravaganza of new and important compositions.

Since there was a student division, many of today’s practicing composers found their first public outlet in this series which ended prior to Holmes’ retirement in 1970. The word “legacy” was mentioned above because we still reap many benefits from Holmes’ advocacy of the new and experimental. When attending national meetings, or when being introduced to prominent composers, I can count on hearing more than once, “Pittsburg, Kansas . . . that’s where the Composers’ League held its new music concerts.”

—Gene E. Vollen

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The season closes on *March 20* with a performance by mezzo-soprano Victoria Livengood, who will be in this area for a return engagement at the Kansas City Lyric Opera. She will be accompanied by pianist John Douglas.

Master classes will be held in conjunction with the visits of many of these artists. For information about classes or any other aspect of the series, contact the Department of Music (316/231-7000, ext. 4466).

Season tickets and individual concert tickets are available at the University Ticket Office.
ALUMNI NEWS

Melissa (Lewis) Belk (BME '87) reports that her vocal program in the Carthage, MO junior and senior high schools is growing. She returned to Pittsburg this spring as alto soloist for the performance of Haydn's Lord Nelson Mass.

Becky Blaes (BM, BME, '83) and her husband, John, proudly announce the birth of a son, Adam John, on May 10, 1989.

William Browning (BM '47) will return to Pittsburg next October to present a solo piano recital, proceeds of which will benefit the PSU Solo and Chamber Music Series. He is currently a member of the faculty at the Chicago Musical College of Roosevelt University.

Steven Edmund (MM '89) appeared as piano soloist in Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue with the Springfield Symphony on their July 1st concert.

David (BM '75, MM '76) and Pam (BM '74, MM '75) Gaston are the proud parents of a set of twins, Jessica and Jacquelyn, born February 28, 1989.

Jaye George (BME '86) has just completed her first year of teaching high school band in the Moses Lake, WA school system. Jaye returned to Pittsburg this summer to assist with the Summer Music Festival, June 12-16.

Judy (Stuckey) Jones (BME '72, MM '79) was named Master Teacher of the Independence School District by Independence-National Education Association this spring. Judy began teaching in Independence in 1980 as an elementary music teacher. She later became the full-time string instructor. Her well-known ensemble, the Strolling Strings, was featured at the American String Teachers Association meeting in Wichita in 1986.

Lonnie Koch (att. '75-'76) has just completed the candidacy program for the United Methodist ministry. The next step is a 5-year local pastor studies program at the St. Paul School of Theology in Kansas City.

Carl Mathis (BM '61) continues as associate professor of music at the University of Prince Edward Island. His teaching duties include voice, choral techniques, theory, counterpoint, and composition. He also conducts two choirs and a recorder ensemble, and he serves as Precentor for St. Peter's Cathedral.

Patsy (Blair) Morris (BME '68, MM '72) is activity director for the Williamsburg Landing Retirement Community, a beautiful facility of 350 residents. She is involved in other musical activities, including ragtime and Dixieland bands, throughout the region. Patsy has recorded several cassette tapes of gospel music, available at the rate of $8.00 each, directly from her: 5 Woodlake Circle, Newport News, VA 23606.

Kathryn Parke (BM '87) appeared in concert with the Kansas City Early Music Consort at Boston's Old South Church on May 30 during the week of the Boston Early Music Festival. She also performed three sacred songs of Hugo Distler with Dr. Michael Bauer on his June 5th recital, the opening program of the 1989 University of Kansas Organ Institute.

Dana Saliba (MS '66) is still busy and happy as Director of the Music Department at Labette Community College in Parsons, KS. Her husband, Nehme, continues to run the antique shop. The Salibas have made PSU a family tradition: daughter Dana, a sophomore, is a recipient of a Waddill String Scholarship; daughter Mary has graduated with a degree in biology education; and one of their four sons earned two degrees in recreation therapy.

Charles Oscar Stover (BS '40, MS '47) was elected to the Oklahoma Music Association Hall of Fame this year. He served as Director of Bands at Northwestern Oklahoma State University in Alva, OK from 1960 until his retirement in 1976, after which he continued to teach part-time. Among his many other honors, he served on the President's Advisory Committee for the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts from 1970-1975.

Patrick Sweeten (MM '89) has been awarded a full scholarship for doctoral studies in trombone performance at the University of Illinois. He will be a student of Robert Gray.

Steve Wilkerson (MM '89) was a featured soloist for the 1989 PSU Jazz Festival, March 10. Steve will be on the faculty of the National Music Camp at Interlochen, MI this summer, as a director of jazz bands. In September, he will join the music faculty of Mt. San Antonio College in Walnut, CA, succeeding Ashley Alexander as director of bands and jazz studies.

Helen (Aiken) Wyatt (BM '65, MM '69) is currently West Coast correspondent for the National Association of Chiefs of Police publication, Chief of Police and the National Police Academy's Police Times. Her recent stories have included an investigative report on the Long Beach "sting" and the anti-gang task force of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.