

FOCUS

Bond's Broadcast

By Hank Bond



How about that band

Last Tuesday night, the Nicholas County High School Band, with the addition of the sixth grade band, presented its 1988 Christmas Concert.

The sixth graders, all 20 of them, helped the band blossom into a much larger group and gave an early indication of about how big the band should be next year.

Of course there will be some loss, with seniors graduating and all, but counting the 32 playing members, less the four seniors should make the playing portion of the band - exclusive of flags and field commander - total near 50.

Letters to the Editor

Editor:

After reading your most recent editorial "Taking a new job," I felt it was time to respond to you, I, Me, and We editorials.

You have written several editorials which do not fall into the category of journalism. I would like to comment on two of these editorials, your most recent and the one you wrote regarding the football coach at Nicholas County High School.

In the past editorial you verbally attacked the reputation of the local school's football coach, when you asked readers to respond as to whether he should resign. Fortunately, the readers didn't feel your request dignified a response.

By the way, your presence on the sidelines is far from being professional. Is not your presence there to observe and report the sporting event, instead of trying to coach? The school has a competent coaching staff.

This week your I, Me, and We editorial on Julie Pfeifer leaving your staff for the Georgetown News & Times, a paper you refer to as being in the newspaper business of sorts, shows a total disregard of any semblance of professionalism.

Over the past two years I have had the opportunity to read the Georgetown News & Times. The paper covers the news in Scott County in a professional manner. The people of Scott County are indeed fortunate to have a paper which covers the events of local interest. Why are you in Nicholas County are not as thing.

Lonnyn Kelly
Carlisle
editorial are not the same thing.

Additional Letters Page 3

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What a difference a few years can make in a program. The band sounds better, looks better, and most importantly, as director Shawn Parrish pointed out at the concert - is learning more and more.

With the band moving straight ahead with experience, playing time, and ultimately performance time, it will continue to improve.

That's the goal of all organizations grouping individuals. With the overall size of the band continuing to increase - and playing time made available increased simply by the nature of having time to work together - the finished product is just what Parrish has ordered - improved.

The large crowd certainly appreciated the old fashion music on the showbill. From Jolly Old Saint Nick to We Wish You a Merry Christmas, it was a showbill full of songs those attending could hum along with and maybe just maybe sing along with.

A tip of the hat to the band and its director.

It is not my practice to respond to letters to the editor in the column unless they are unsigned and I don't publish them, however there are a couple of things which must be pointed out.

First a column is a column not an editorial. It is a personal reflection. Read Merlene

Davis of the Herald Leader or any of the others and there is a sense of personal interaction not of an editorial stand. That's exactly how this column is written.

An editorial is an official stand, usually documented and outlined, to express a specific view on a specific subject. While my typing and spelling could certainly be improved (grammar, too) the journalistic approach of a column is not the same as an editorial opinion.

The Georgetown News & Times was not my former employer - Scripps League Newspapers was. I was the publisher and local chief operating officer of the paper. As to why we (I say we because it was my entire family, not some transient move) came to Carlisle, was to purchase The Mercury, and make Carlisle our home, not simply a job change.

I am sorry the writer of the letter feels The Mercury doesn't provide coverage of events in Nicholas County - we do the best we possibly can.

And last, I did not ever call for the resignation of head football coach Robbie Barr - I wrote what I wanted to be a column of support. I tried to point out that talk of him leaving was WRONG and that the decision to stay on head coach should be his not the general public's.

And so, for another week, thanks and thirty.

From the staff and management of

The Carlisle Mercury

Marilyn Bond
Kathleen Barkley
Julie Clark
Lee Peltier
Lisa Doyle
Patricia Bowles
Faye Mathes
Carol Bond
Hank Bond

Happy New Year

The Carlisle Mercury office will be closed December 30-31 and January 1

LOOKING BACK - 1988

Continued from Page 1

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BORN: Kristopher

LETTERS

Editor:

During the holiday season I'm always pleased to see a surge of newspaper and TV reports about the 440,000 community volunteers who serve through our ACTION programs.

It is well-earned and well-timed recognition. America's volunteers truly embody the season's spirit of giving and caring. But this is also a good time to recognize that volunteer efforts are not mere "feel-good" stories to warm our hearts during the holidays.

Volunteer achievements is vital to our nation's future. Without community action by involved citizens, we stand little chance of conquering the great challenges of drug abuse, illiteracy, homelessness, hunger, and under education among our "at-risk" youngsters.

The tragedy of drug abuse gets headlines, but volunteers who effectively fight drugs gain too little notice, and the public too rarely learns about programs that work and could be replicated in their communities with private incentive and support.

Eight years ago, President Reagan challenged Americans to mobilize and form partnerships to help each other. The people responded, and volunteering has reached record heights, with 45 percent of all adults - 80 million citizens - now active as volunteers.

Nicholas County, can lay an excellent pay roll. She is very pleasant, reliable, and dependable," said one faculty member. Her extracurricular activities are her interest: craftwork and reading. Plans after high school: College business oriented.

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Year in Review: Edition 6, February 4, 1988. A bulletin board sponsored by the Parent Teacher's Association displayed the "Just Say No" to drugs message to Nicholas County Elementary Students who signed one page.

Don't Drink and Drive

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