

CBDNA SW Division Conference 2020

Thursday, February 20, 2020. 8:30 AM. OCCE A2-A4. Thurman White Hall
University of Oklahoma

The Best That is Within Our Limits to Produce: The Two Great Small School Band Programs of Oscar Stover



Coffeyville Junior College (Coffeyville, Kansas)

Northwestern State College (Alva, Oklahoma)

Clinician: Ken Drobnak, Texas A&M University – Commerce

Abstract

Oscar Stover (1913-1989) is a Hall of Fame member of the Oklahoma Music Education Association and the Oklahoma Bandmasters Association. He served in the 13th Army Airborne Division Band during World War II, taught at Kansas State Teachers College - Pittsburg, Michigan State University, Coffeyville Junior College, in Coffeyville Public Schools and at Northwestern State College. In 1947, Stover met Leonard Falcone, Director of Bands at Michigan State, at a CBDNA Meeting in Chicago. Stover would start an EdD degree, though quickly be named Falcone's Assistant Director. After eight years in East Lansing, Stover would return to the small-school environment at Northwestern State College. This presentation will showcase Stover's small-school band programs, along with a discussion of his youth and training.

These are the common traits of Stover's pathway to "The Best That is Within Our Limits"

- Repertoire included marches and transcriptions first, then new works
- Successful students often featured as soloists
- Stover continued to perform as a soloist himself
- Community involvement: radio broadcasts, rotary, church
- Stover conducted workshops and clinics
- Stover continued his own professional development
- The band traveled
- Concepts were recycled: marching band charting, guest artists
- Relationships maintained throughout life

THE COLLEGE BAND

In Concert

May 8, 1952, 8:00 P.M., College Auditorium

OSCAR STOVER, Conductor
DARLENE WELLS and JOE TROXLER, Soloists

Program

1. SEMPER FIDELIS (March).....Sousa
2. BARBER OF SEVILLE (Overture).....Rossini
3. MEDITATION FROM "THAIS".....Massenet
4. CONCERTO #2 (Theme from 3rd Mvt.).....Rachmaninoff
5. REVERIE.....Debussy
6. POMP AND CIRCUMSTANCE (Concert March).....Elgar

Intermission

7. SHOW-BOAT (Selections).....Kern
Darlene Wells and Joe Troxler, Soloists
8. LAURA (Theme from the Motion Picture).....Mercer
9. MARTINIQUE (Beguine Fantasy).....Morrissey
10. AN AMERICAN WEEK END (Concert Suite).....Morrissey
 - a. Picnic in the Park
 - b. Evening Stroll
 - c. Concert in the Park
 - d. Stepping Out
11. MUSICAL REMINISCENCES.....
12. THUNDERER (march).....Sousa

COLLEGE BAND DIRECTORS NATIONAL ASSN.
Congress Hotel - Chicago

OSCAR STOVER

COFFEYVILLE COLLEGE

December 18-19, 1950

Stover Named To Oklahoma Hall of Fame

Oscar Stover, a former Coffeyville resident and current band director of Northwestern State College at Alva, has been named to the Oklahoma Band Master's Hall of Fame.



Oscar Stover

1950 Coffeyville Junior College Halftime Announcement

Oscar Stover Will Discuss Bands

Nov. 18
1951

Oscar Stover, Coffeyville College band director and supervisor of music in the city schools, has accepted an invitation to speak before a group at the Southwest Division, National Association of College Band Directors on the University of Oklahoma campus Dec. 17 and 18.

Meeting this year for the first time in six divisions, the national group last year met in one convention at Chicago, Stover explained.

Stover's topic will be, "Problems of Junior College Bands." Other band directors on the program include Max Mitchell of Oklahoma A & M, E. J. Marty, University of Arkansas; James Neilson, Oklahoma City university; Leonard H. Haug, who is chairman of the southwest division. Haug is Oklahoma university band director.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The half-time procedure which you are about to witness is probably the first of its kind ever to be presented on this field. It is unusual in that it is probably the first time that any of the school organizations and its director should be so presumptuous as to stand in front of you and ask flatly for your approval or disapproval. The manner in which we would like for you to declare yourselves will be explained as briefly as possible.

The Coffeyville College band, which you now see on the field, is an outgrowth of the policy of Coffeyville College and the Board of Education to present to the citizens of Coffeyville the very best of organizations and educational opportunities that it is possible to offer in a two-year college. In this policy there are no thoughts of confining ourselves to such limited areas as the "Best in South-East Kansas" or the "best in Kansas" but simply "the best that it is within the limits of our abilities to produce."

Concert is tonight

David McCune, tympanist, and Mike Minton, flutist, will be soloists in a concert by the Ranger Band at 8 p.m. today in Herod Hall auditorium, Oscar Stover, conductor, has announced.

McCune will perform in "Tympolero," a composition for tympani solo and band by William J. Schinstine. Minton is soloist in "Hoopla," written by John J. Morrissey for flute soloist and band.

The two selections are part of a varied program that includes as another major number the

four-part "Second Suite in F for Military Band" by Gustav Holst.

Between John Phillip Sousa's arrangement of "The Star Spangled Banner" to his famous "Stars and Strips Forever," the musical selections are chosen to satisfy an assortment of musical tastes.

Included are the Overture to "Candide" (Bernstein-Beeler), "Pageant" (Vincent Persichetti) and "Sequoia, a Tone Painting." (La Gassey).

The second half of the program will open with "An American in Paris" (Gershwin-Krance). The two solo performances will follow. "Glenn Miller in Concert," arranged by Wayne Scott, will lead up to the closing Sousa march.

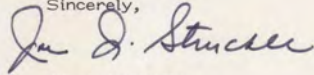
Dear Oscar:

April 29, 1976

For your many long years of service and dedication to the Music Department and specifically to the band, Northwestern Oklahoma State University wants to award you with your own complete director's uniform.

Needless to say, this is the one you now possess. We do hope that you will keep it and remember us always.

Sincerely,



Joe J. Struckle
President

Biography

Ken Drobnak is a freelance teacher, clinician and tuba artist in the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex who serves as an Adjunct Professor of Tuba & Euphonium at Texas A&M University - Commerce. Previously, he has held university teaching positions at the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, Del Mar College, Northwestern Oklahoma State University, South Dakota School of Mines & Technology, The University of South Dakota and Rocky Mountain College (Billings, Montana). His conducting teachers include Robert Jorgensen, Eric Rombach-Kendall, Michael Golemo and Wesley Broadnax.

Dr. Drobnak currently serves as Historian of the International Tuba Euphonium Association and contributes the *Looking Back* column for each Journal. He also coordinates the organization's Clifford Bevan Award for Research. Dr. Drobnak has presented research at Regional and International Tuba Euphonium Conferences and at the 2015 College Band Directors National Association National Conference. Tuba-Euphonium Press, now part of Cimarron Press, has published many of his arrangements and settings for tuba.

As a conductor, Dr. Drobnak has led athletic bands, concert bands, jazz bands and chamber ensembles in the public schools and at the collegiate level. While at The University of South Dakota, he conducted the premiere of the band version of Lee Actor's *Concerto for Horn and Orchestra* with Bernhard Scully as soloist. He has hosted numerous marching and concert band festivals and conducted at many TubaChristmas events.

In 2005, Drobnak received his Doctor of Musical Arts in Tuba Performance from Michigan State University. He holds a Master of Music in Conducting from The University of New Mexico and baccalaureate degrees in Music Education and Tuba Performance from The University of Akron (Summa Cum Laude).

more information can be found at www.drobnakbrass.com.

NORTHWESTERN STATE COLLEGE

presents

The Ranger Band

IN CONCERT

APRIL 20, 1967 8 P.M. HEROD HALL AUDITORIUM

OSCAR STOVER, Conductor
MELANIE HAYDEN, Soloist

PROGRAM

FESTIVE OVERTURE _____ DMITRI SHOSTAKOVICH
arr. Donald Hunsberger

PRELUDE and FUGUE in E Minor _____ J.S. BACH
arr. Carroll DeCamp

PRELUDE and FUGUE in F Minor _____ HOUSTON BRIGHT

PICTURES AT AN EXHIBITION _____ MODESTE MOUSSORGSKY
arr. Erik Leidzen

Hut of the Baba - Yaga
The Great Gate of Kiev

COWBOY RHAPSODY _____ MORTON GOULD
arr. David Bennett

INTERMISSION

RHAPSODY IN BLUE _____ GEORGE GERSHWIN
arr. Ferde Grofe

Melanie Hayden, Piano Soloist

AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL _____ SAMUEL WARD
arr. Carmon Dragon