



Home Came the Bandsmen

To help celebrate the O.U. Band's 50th birthday, former band members were invited to perform in Alumni Band at Homecoming.

PHOTOGRAPHED by JOHN CRANE



Fifty years ago, Lloyd B. Curtis, '08bs, '10eng, brought his horn to O.U. and organized the first University Band. As honored guest, he played again, directed Alumni Band in one number.

Waiting to rehearse for half-time performance of Alumni Band, Hardy Suggs, '36fa, Lawton; James D. Walker, '36fa, '52m.ed, Okla. City, and James Hues, '26-27, Sayre, recall when they were an undergraduate part of O.U. Band.



Band Director Leonard Haug, far right, reviews the Alumni Band lineup, as alumni await their instructions for half-time performance at Homecoming.

Fun and Frenzy Marked Alumni Band's Birth



It was not easy for alumni bandmen to pick up where they left off years before. Harry Schwartz, '33-'34, Oklahoma City, made a determined attempt at perfection.



Myra Jo Moon, '54bs, Tulsa, hadn't so much to remember, having been so recently a band member. With music wedged in skirt, she listens to the instructions.



Not all bandmen were serious. George S. Menninger, '33eng, Abilene, Texas, was enjoying himself as band rehearsed the "U" formation performed at half-time.



Four Directors, From '04 to '54, Lead Alumni Band

William R. Wehrend, Denver City, Texas, and University band director from 1929-45, directed band in "O.K. Oklahoma" during Homecoming performance. He's shown at rehearsal.



Two former band directors, who took part in Alumni Band activities, talk with Waldo W. Ports, '28bs, Wichita Falls, Texas (at extreme right). They are Dr. Charles E. Springer, '25ba, and Lloyd B. Curtis, '08bs, '10eng, of Boulder, Colorado. Springer directed the band 1925-27, and Curtis headed the band 1904-15.



Leonard Haug, O.U. band director since 1945, talks with Alumni Band drum major James Swain, '54bus. Swain, now in Air Force, flew to Norman from Ohio to head the Alumni Marching Band.



Two alumni bandmen stand at rigid attention in crowded Owen Stadium to give the first performance of the Alumni Band of the University of Oklahoma. Alumni Band uniforms for Homecoming game appearance consisted of overcoats from regular band's uniforms and recently retired shakos.