

It was a blistering hot summer day in August, when most people were relaxing on the soft wind swept sands of Edisto Beach. At a very early hour on the 4th day of August, Bill Young with Greg Ellenberg started sorting out some one hundred and seventy members of the Band of Blue.

Band sections were formed, sheet after sheet of music were dispersed, flags were unrolled, drums and horns tuned and chairs arranged by the sections. Band practice was underway for another year. No one has yet computed the numbers of hours of practice that the Band of Blue went through to learn, practice, and complete an award winning band show.

Then it was off to the Baptist College for a week of intensive music and marching training for all. The heat was an obstacle that the band endured and finally all the heat, work, and sweat faded into September and school started.

All this had little effect on the Band of Blue. Practices continued in the afternoon sun at the stadium. There was still music to learn, marching movements, turns, spins, and more that must become commonplace.

Sore feet, sunburned noses and gallons of perspiration resulted from the bands untiring efforts. The band director and his assistant seemed to know only one word, "AGAIN." As the saying about practice, practice, practice goes, so it was for the band. Practice did pay off.

The end of September rolled around and it was "Win, lose, or draw" time. The rumor of "State in '80" started and every band member made this their objective.

Barnwell's "Music in Motion" was the opening competition and the band came away winning their class and the overall championship.

A lengthy bus trip in early October saw the band in Greenville at Furman's "Music Bowl." The band earned third place in final competition. Then and there a glimmer of a championship band shown through.

The next big effort was our own "Palmetto Band Classic" and another superior trophy. During all this time the band performed at eight football games at home and on the road.

Mid-October brought the "Southern States Marching Festival" at Camden. Still another long tiring bus trip resulted in another superior trophy.

(cont.)

Below: After an outstanding season, **Opie Scoggins** (assist. captain), **Jessica Fields**, and **Marshall Jones**, (co-captains) look relieved. The pressure is over.

Middle: Performing during halftime at football games is not the only function of the Band of Blue. They spark the team and the crowd and create an exciting atmosphere.



Flutes: front row; Stephanie McMillan, Veronica Clayton, Monique Tracy, Leslie Bright, Laura Manigo, Jessica Fields, Lisa Bright, Tonie Parnell, Kaye Barwick. Back row; Renee Baker, Leisa Mole, Kay Robertson, Melissa Brown, Vernita Manigo-Bey, Rhonda Jones, Valerie Williams, Sanaata Taylor, Sabrina Green.



Bass Horns: William Merritt, Tony Moore, Ross McMillan, Mark Allen, Randy Fletcher, Edward Jarvis, Timmy Crosby.