



AROUND 60 STUDENTS attended the workshop performed by the Denver Brass 5 ensemble on Sunday. Many thought the music to be 'awesome' and were glad they could come.

Students listened intently to ensemble

By Karen Krien

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Sunday afternoon at the St. Francis Community High School was an enjoyable and rewarding experience for around 60 band students from Cheylin, Cambridge, Neb., and St. Francis. The Denver Brass 5 came for a workshop which started at 1 p.m. in the band room.

There were five members playing different numbers but, after each number, they would talk to the students, encouraging them to play, to practice, to find someone's music they admire and try to make those same sounds, and last of all, enjoy music and pursue it throughout their lives.

As they played and talked, the students, as well as several adults, listened intently, laughing at the jokes and applauding their music.

At the end of the workshop, the musicians commented on how polite and well behaved the students were.

Jim Milliken, St. Francis, had brought the Denver Brass 5 to St. Francis. He has participated in the Denver Brass Holiday Brass Fest for the last four years. The first year, he was the only person from Cheyenne County but he felt it was such an opportunity for other musicians that he began inviting others to go with him, paying the fee to participate.

participate.

The number has grown to include 11 people and Mr. Milliken has started a fund so there will be enough money that young and old can play with these talented musicians in the years to come.

At the end of the workshop, Nakita Schneider and Tommy Frisbie, Cheylin School students, and Louanne Isernhagen, leader of the Once Again Sound Band, St. Francis, told about their experiences and the fun they had at the Holiday Brass Fest.

Following the workshop, lunch was served at the park for both the Denver Brass players as well as those youth attending. Dustin Gilliland prepared the beef which was provided by him and Kari Gilliland, Annie Hengen brought watermelon, and Rose and Dennis Hengen brought baked beans and chips.

There was an opportunity for the students to have one-on-one talks with the musicians.

The weather couldn't have been better, Mr. Milliken said. Everyone seemed to enjoy the food as well as the camaraderie. The Denver Brass musicians, he said, truly enjoyed the hospitality.

At 4 p.m., about 225 people gathered in the school auditorium for over an hour of music ranging from classic and opera, to

movie selections, to jazz, to a variety of "their favorite melodies" which included the Cheylin and St. Francis fight songs that brought some rousing clapping from the audience.

While Mr. Milliken had arranged for the Denver Brass 5 to come to St. Francis, he recognized that all of the activities would not have been possible if it were not for the help of many.

"The workshop and concert turned out well and it was a neat experience," he said.

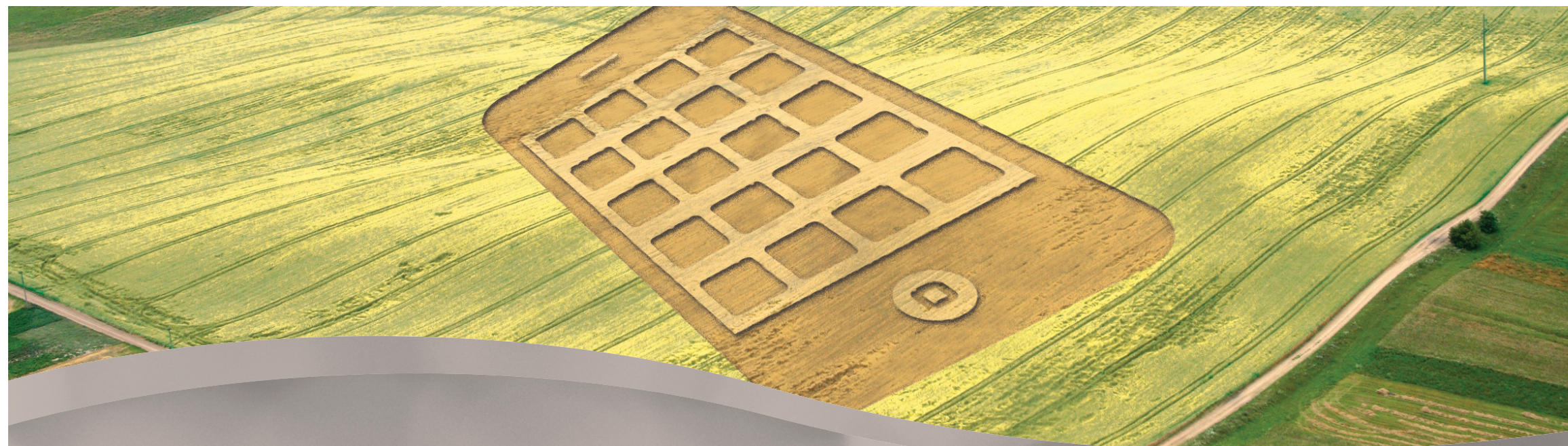
He plans to try to arrange another workshop and concert in the future. In the meantime, there were a lot of students who will remember the day for many years to come.

The Denver Brass 5 ensemble is internationally recognized for its approach to brass chamber music performance. Founded as the Aries Brass Quintet in 1976, the ensemble has toured the United States, Western Europe, Russia, Japan and Central and South American. Members of the ensemble are on the faculty of the University of Denver's Lamont School of music and principal trumpeter, Joe Docksey, is the former director of the school.

Other players were Alan Hood, trumpets, Susan McCullough, horn, Joseph Martin, trombone, and Kathy Aylsworth Brantigan, tuba.



BIG TUBA was played by Kathy Aylsworth Brantigan, one of the members of the Denver Brass 5 ensemble.



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