

'Marching Mizzou'

The University of Missouri Band, "Marching Mizzou," will be making its fourth television appearance in two years when it performs in the Orange Bowl on January 1. The Band, which has won wide acclaim for its performances under the direction of Charles L. Emmons, this month has worked on production of the big show it will present in Miami on New Year's Day.

Precision drills are charted for the dimensions of the Orange Bowl. Special musical arrangements, timed to the second, have been worked out in sectional and mass rehearsals. Instruments were to be polished and uniforms cleaned for the December 27 departure date for the trip by special train.

The Marching Band, 165 strong in its black-and-gold uniforms, takes to the Orange Bowl field for both the pre-game show and five minutes of the half-time show. In addition, it will be in the New Year's Eve parade.

Under the baton of Prof. Emmons, who is director of University bands and orchestra, "Marching Mizzou" will give its interpretation of several compositions by Miami's famous band composer, the late Henry Fillmore. In the pre-game show, "Marching Mizzou" and the University of Georgia band, with selected high school bands, will perform Fillmore's "Orange Bowl March" and his arrangement of the National Anthem. Then each university band will play its school song.

Theme for Missouri's part of the half-time show will be "A Little Southland Music." The fast-stepping Band has scheduled "Basin Street Blues" by Spencer Williams; "Waiting for the Robert E. Lee," by Lewis F. Muir, in a steamboat formation complete with smoking stack; and Fillmore's "Lasses Trombone."

Black uniforms with gold citation cords and trim were re-designed for "Marching Mizzou" in 1958. Cross belts, gloves, and spats are white, and the hats sport white plumes. Shoulder patches carry in white outline the six famous Columns of the University.

Pacing the group in white shakos and uniforms, with gold trim, will be two students from Jefferson City, Mo.: the head drum major, James H. Gardner, and his assistant, Carey E. Cole. Heading the fifteen baton twirlers—one boy in gold blouse and black trousers, and fourteen girls in black-and-gold-flecked jackets and shorts—will be Carlynn A. Ross, Kennett, Mo.

Richard L. Hills, instructor in woodwind music, and assistant director, will accompany the Band to Miami. Also assisting will be John M. Christie, instructor in brass music. Carolyn Clithero, band member from RFD 1, Vandalia, Mo., and Prof. Emmons' secretary, will assist with arrangements in Miami.

Instruments will travel with the Band in a special baggage car. This will allow directors to hold rehearsals of the various sections of the band during the two-day trip.

Last year, "Marching Mizzou" was commended by

Missouri's Gov. James T. Blair, Jr., for the favorable attention drawn to the State by the Band's excellent performances at the two Missouri football games which were nationally televised. These performances brought complimentary letters from band directors across the Nation, as well as from former University teachers and alumni.

Even before he came to the University, Prof. Emmons' success as a bandsman had been credited by observers to "meticulous training in musicianship, and strict discipline tempered with friendly understanding." In its shows, the Band combines intricate dance steps and colorful formations with blues, rock 'n roll, popular, folk, and classical music. Because of the exact timing necessary, all music must be specially arranged. Prof. Emmons is assisted in this



In going over band formation, Director Charles L. Emmons pauses with Head Baton Twirler Carlynn Ross and Head Drum Major James H. Gardner.

by Don V. Joseph, staff arranger, who is band director for Jefferson City (Mo.) High School.

To chart a show, synchronizing the music and routines of the large group, an average of 30 to 40 hours is required. Behind the fine musicianship and complicated footwork on the field lie hours of practice. Each week during the fall, band members march approximately six to seven hours and attend a one-hour rehearsal.

Prof. Emmons came to the University in 1957 after a spectacular success with the Amarillo (Tex.) High School Band. In 1956, Amarillo, competing against 101 bands from 15 states, was sweepstakes winner, accumulating more prizes than any school in the history of the Tri-State Musical Festival, held that year in Enid, Okla.

He conducted the Amarillo Band in performances in the Cotton Bowl, the Rose Bowl parade, and the New Orleans Mardi Gras. Two of his former Amarillo students, are in "Marching Mizzou"; Gerald S. Middleton, trombonist, and Gary L. Van Doren, oboist and business manager.