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Butler R. Eitel appointed University of Montana director of bands

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Butler R. Eitel, conductor, clinician, and head of music education at Macalester College, St. Paul, Minn., has been appointed director of bands at the University of Montana, Dean Charles W. Bolen of the School of Fine Arts announced.

The dean also announced the appointment of Dr. Kurt Miller, a public school music specialist from California, as an associate professor of music.

Eitel taught instrumental music and produced top-rank bands in Michigan (including the Edina-Morning Side High School Band in Minneapolis) and Minnesota public schools for 13 years before joining the Macalester faculty as band and orchestra conductor in 1964. He has taught at the Universities of Maryland and Minnesota and at the U. S. Air Force School of Music. He was assistant conductor of the USAF Orchestra and Band for three years. For the summers past seven years he has served on the conducting staff of the National Music Camp at Interlochen, Mich.

He holds a bachelor of music degree from the University of Michigan, where he was euphonium soloist with the band, and a master of music degree from MacPhail College of Music. He is currently working for a doctorate from the University of Minnesota. He is a member of Pi Kappa Lambda and other professional societies and the composer of published works for euphonium, baritone and tuba.

Eitel succeeds Dr. David Whitwell, who is leaving the academic scene to enter the field of professional conducting.

(more)
Dr. Miller, who has had extensive experience in public school music in California and Arizona, has been supervisor of fine arts for the Santa Maria, Calif., School District since 1964. From 1960 to 1963 he was director of music for the U. S. Army Dependents Education Group, supervising about 2,500 teachers in Germany, France, Italy and Ethiopia. He has directed summer camps in Denmark and Switzerland and been associate director of the Idyllwild Arts Foundation in California.

Dr. Miller is the author of articles in professional journals and is music consultant and arranger for a music text series published by Holt, Rhinehart and Winston Co. He is a member of the Music Educators National Conference and of the Association of Supervisors and Curriculum Directors. He holds A.B. and M.A. degrees from Arizona State University and a doctor of musical arts degree, with a major in music education, from the University of Southern California.

"The University's growing enrollments in music education require additional emphasis in this area of the curriculum, and we are indeed fortunate to secure the services of men so eminently qualified in this field," Dean Bolen commented.