

Music man

Renown performer Steven Trinkle talks on talent, goals, career

By PECIOUS SAMPSON
Staff writer

Steven Trinkle is no amateur when it comes to music.

A trumpet player for more than 35 years, the 42-year-old Red Springs resident started playing at the age of seven.

"And I've been doing it ever since. It's what I do," he said.

A renowned performer, Mr. Trinkle has developed a wide-ranging musical career that includes conducting as well as orchestral and solo performance.

"I teach very few students," he says, "because of my varied performance schedule."

It's a hectic one as well. In some years, Mr. Trinkle has played up to 200 concerts and this year he will perform 14 in Augusta, Georgia where he is Principal Trumpet of the Augusta Symphony Orchestra.

Mr. Trinkle performed as guest conductor for the Fayetteville Symphony twice and was asked to come aboard full-time. But instead, he conducts the Dillon County Community Band in South Carolina.

This band, he said, just started last winter in Latta, a town south of Dillon which is about the size of Red Springs. The group performs on instruments much like those used by high school marching bands.

"One man organized the group just for the sake of entertainment. It grew from that."

The band now has 50 adult members, half of whom are educators and band directors. A number of students from Pembroke State University will join the Dillon Band this fall. And the players come from all over.

"There's quite a variety. We have members who commute from great distances to play in this band, including those from Fayetteville,



Stephen Trinkle is famous for a broad musical career.

'I'd like to see a street closed down one Saturday and have people perform for each other.'

— Steven Trinkle

Maxton, Pembroke and Whiteville."

The group's goal is to play at the worldwide Spoleto Festival — festival of two worlds — which will be going on in Spoleto, Italy at the same time as one next summer in Charleston, S.C. Mr. Trinkle is

confident that the band will take part in the big event.

"I think they'll make it; they've been playing very well."

Mr. Trinkle is preparing for the Dillon band's performance in Red Springs. Still though, the band needs woodwind players, especially those who play clarinet.

Rehearsal starts Monday, July 12 and Monday, July 19 beginning at 7:30 p.m. at Latta, S.C. in the high school's band room. August rehearsals have not been set yet. For more information call 843-1201.