

Northwest C/21

COLUMBIANS, SHAMROCKS WIN WASHINGTON SHOWS

July 18 at Pasco, Washington was the scene of the Columbians Water Follies Contest. The parade was held in the morning and the Corps were judged at the start of the parade. Each Corps put on four minutes of drill and music on a small field near the beginning of the parade; later, as they passed the reviewing stand it was announced what place they took and they were given their trophy - Columbians, first; Shamrocks, second; Thunderbirds, third.

Their evening show was just great. Eight Corps competed before packed stands. The Columbians won this contest by putting on their best performance so far this year. Their new music director, Mike Duffy, who incidently is 19 years old, has arranged all the Columbians music this year and has done a fabulous job. The Shamrocks and Thunderbirds are also using his arrangements.

The Corps placed as follows: Columbians - 75.0; Thunderbirds - 69.3; Shamrocks - 68.6; T-Bird Cadets - 43.6; Lancers - 43.2; Blue Angels - 35.9; Falcons - 35.0; Rangers - 24.2.

July 25 the big show was at Seattle, although many of the same Corps were competing, the show was by no means a repeat of the previous week. The Columbians were undefeated until this show; and when they were announced as third place the crowd went wild, and not with joy. It was obvious that very few agreed with the judges decision - their score was 69.0.

Second place went to the Thunderbirds of Seattle; they did their usual good job, but I believe that their G.E. is down from last year, and their horn line is not as smooth, but their drum line is still number one in the state. They have the potential to put a good show together and could bounce to the top at any show - 69.6. The Shamrocks took first place, they continue to improve

with each show. The lack of a music director has held them back some, but their new director is really pushing them, their score - 72.0.

The Seattle Seafair Parade was held August 1. Many drum corps entered from Canada and Washington. Seattle Budhists took first, Hurricanes second in senior division. In the junior division it was the Vernon girls Corps from Canada first and the Shamrocks took second. All other drum corps awards were won by Canadian Corps.

There is some unhappiness in this area about the judging at our shows. Mostly because some of the All-American judges instruct some of the participating Corps. Those who are complaining the most are the Corps that are not doing as well this year as they have in the past. As long as they were top Corps, there was no problem, although they were the same judges with the exception of one. Three drum judges have come within a few tenths of a point but only one is an instructor and he judged the first show of the season. It is possible that some of the perennial winners are not progressing as well as they could. Shamrocks and Thunderbirds of Seattle will see you all in Cleveland.

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