Expo Extra

Drum Corps Festival Due

July 12 has been declared "Drum Corps Festival Day" at Expo '74 and some of the nation's top drum and bugle units will perform free for world's fair visitors, it was announced today.

Michael D. Kohluk, director of visual and performing arts at Expo, said the "Drum" (Corps: Festival Day" precedes the "Classic of Champions" field contest scheduled that evening at Joe Albi Stadium. Host for the third annual event is Spokane's Percussion-Naut Patriots, the official musical unit for "State Honor Days" at the world's fair.

Kobluk said units in the 10corps field contest will parade through the fairgrounds at various times during the day. He said mass performances by the corps also are being planned for the entertainment of fairgoers.

Kobluk said that, through a cooperative arrangement, Expo ticket offices also will handle ticket sales for the "Classic of Champions" field contest at the stadium.

He said Expo has had several performances by drum and bugle units on site, in addition to the frequent appearances of the Percussion-Naut Patriots

"A festival day at Expo is reserved for each municipality or organization whose contribution to the 'Festival of Entertainment' warrants such an honor," Kobluk said, referring to guidelines for the designation of special days at the werld's fair.

"Since many of the best units in the entire nation will be here for the stadium competition and they have offered to entertain our Expo visitors, we feel their contribution warrants giving them a special day," he said.

Top Units Coming

Three corps will come from California, including the Commodores of Stockton, a colorful nautical-styled corps which Drum Corps International currently ranks among the "Top 12" of the United States and Canada. Also from California will be the Blue Devils of Concord, a contender for 1974 national honors, and the Knight Raiders of the Santa Clara Valley.

Montana will send its perennial state champion Golden Skyliners of Great Falls, while from Calgary, will come the Cavaliers, a corps new to Spokane.

On hand from Pacific Northwest coastal cities will be four corps which share A-Division standing with the Percussion-Naut Patriots: The Black Watch of Auburn, Wash., the Cascades of Seattle, the Sentinels of Bellevue and the Flamingos of Salem, Ore.