

NW Title Taken

Spokanites Win in Drum, Bugle

Spokane's Percussion-Naut Patriots are undisputed drum and bugle corps champions of the Pacific Northwest for 1972.

Their victory at the Northwest Drum Corps Association championships in the Patriots-sponsored "Classic of Champions" competition at Albi Stadium Saturday night was complete.

Ovations Won

A crowd estimated between 3,500 and 4,000 spectators gave the red, white and blue-clad Patriots standing ovations twice during their 11-minute performance, then stood and applauded enthusiastically as the 96 members of Saturday night's drill unit retired from the field. Fifteen corps and 1,200 youngsters competed.

Adjudicators from the Central States Judges Association soon confirmed what drum and bugle corps buffs in the crowd had guessed:

The Patriots had won the contest's A Division trophy and also the **NWDCA's** Northwest Champion A trophy with a score of 74.15, eight points better than the 66.1 of the runnerup Columbians of the Tri-Cities.

Other Trophies Taken

The Percussion-Naut Patriots also won trophies for high bugle score, high drum score and high marching and maneuvering score.

The Black Watch of Auburn, Wash., won the B Division trophy with a score of 53.8, while the Strutters of Edmonton, Alta., won the C Division trophy with 51.35. Each of the two corps also received the **NWDCA** championship trophy in its respective division.

The colorful and rhythmic Pancho Hernandez of the Flamings, an A corps from Salem, Ore., received a special trophy as the contest's best drum major. He also holds this year's

Oregon state championship as drum major.

The A Division Sentinels' drum major, Steve Franke, of Bellevue, Wash., was awarded a special trophy as the drum major who in 1972 contributed the most not only to his corps but to **NWDCA** objectives and activities as well.

Central States judges, Northwest States judges who served as contest tabulators and directors and managers of the visiting corps at a postcontest meeting yesterday praised the "Classic of Champions," the first competition ever sponsored by Percussion-Nauts of Spokane, Inc., the nonprofit charitable corporation of parents which sponsors the Patriots.

Event Praised

Marie Barduhn, the Northwest States' chief judge, termed it the region's best contest of the year.

Corps leaders said they particularly appreciated the friendliness and assistance of Spokane parent couples who stayed with each corps throughout its visit. It was the first time in Northwest drum corps history that a contest sponsor had provided host couples, they said.