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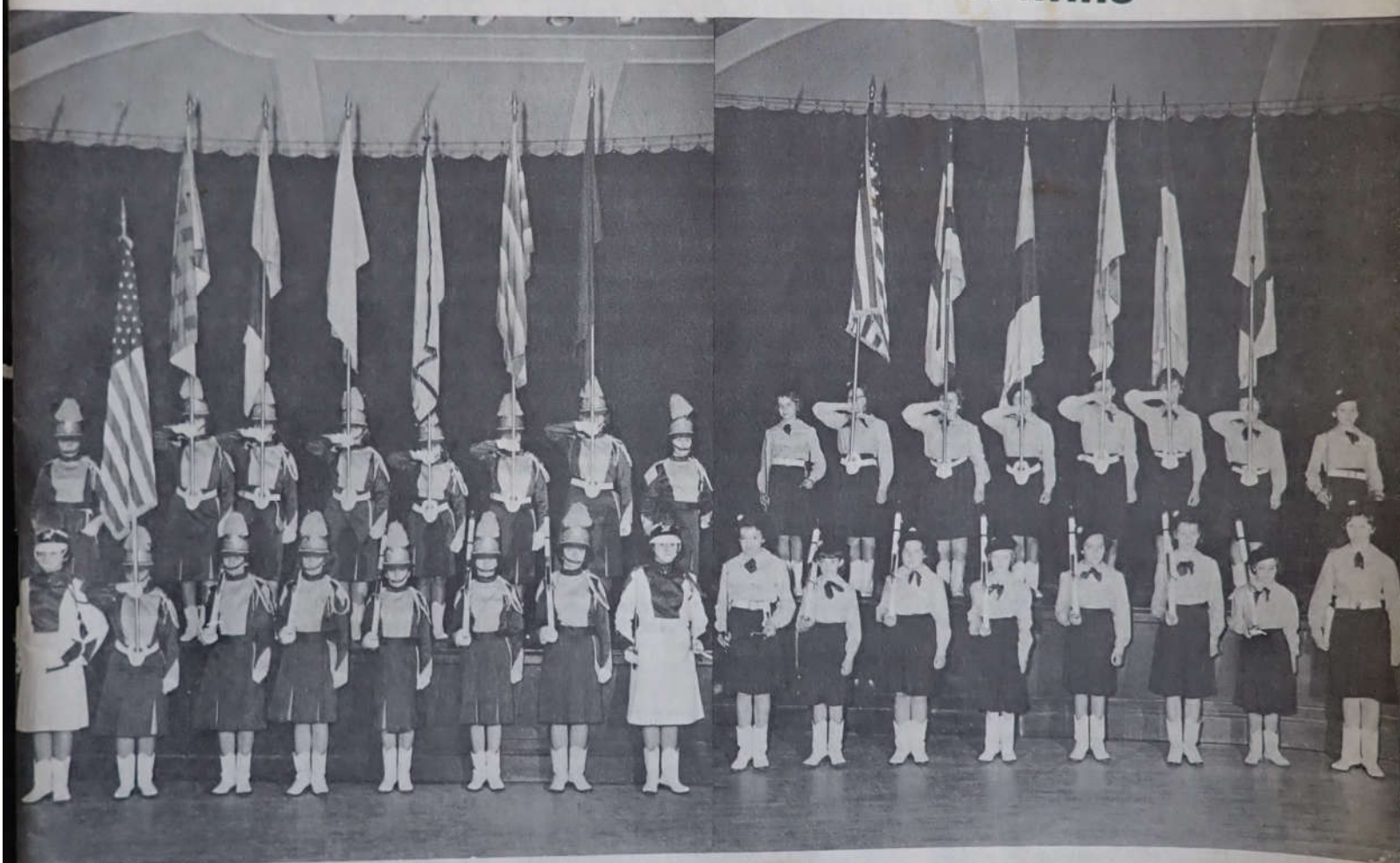
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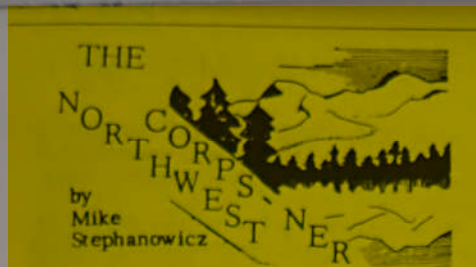
PINETREE

WARRIORS

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LEWISTON - AUBURN, MAINE



THE ARCHER - EPLER "MUSKETEERS"

by Joe L. Leson

The 1962-63 indoor practice season has witnessed continually large turnouts at the Archer-Epler Post #979 of Upper Darby, Pa., an indication of the enthusiasm this corps has shown as it prepares for the oncoming season. Men who have to travel 100 miles from North Jersey and New York, along with personnel from South Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, and the Philadelphia area, have kept the Post practice hall, alive with the sounds of drum corps.

The "Musketeers" have had a busy winter, rehearsing for their new record album and spending an entire day in New York, "cutting-the-wax" for the Somerset Record Co. (a Sinatra subsidiary). Immediately after this, the corps started preparations for a visit to Quebec, where they will give two exhibitions in that area's enormous Winter Carnival on the weekend of February 22nd. These events, along with Archer-Epler's Fifth Annual Guard Contest, has kept all of the men busy.

Along with this activity has come some changes in repertoire for Epler. Following the policy of something new each year, the "Musketeers" will feature the Dixieland sounds of "High Society", along with areal Archie classic, "South Rampart Street Parade", as they march on down to New Orleans, for the 1963 American Legion Nationals . . . For those who enjoy the martial airs of a classic march, the corps (famous for its marches, particularly "Stars And Stripes"), will present "National Emblem" . . . If it's the sound of Broadway that pleases your ear, the "Epleteers" aim to please. "Camelot", a concert brought back by your request, and "I Have Dreamed", from the "King And I", will certainly "fill the bill" . . . A novelty, and an innovation in sound, will be featured in the corps' new color presentation; this will be an addition not to be missed . . . No Archer-Epler show is complete without the refrain "We Are The Musketeers", and so, for the 18th year, the corps will again have a new arrangement of their distinctive theme. As usual, Lee Wolf, the "Music Man" of the Keystone State, came up with another big show!! Along with the

ard Post V.F.W. is the sponsor. BOB AKLIN and HERSHEY RANDALL may join the drum line. The drum line is very excited about a new tenor drum member, OTIS PAWN, formerly with the ST KEVIN'S EMERALD KNIGHTS. They hope Otis will take over the tenor line. Have nearly 25 horns. . . . The Everett BLUE KNIGHTS working hard, still waiting for V.F.W. sponsorship. Membership climbing up slowly.

The big Northwest championships are planned for March 30. I pushed for unlimited number of entries this year - so we hope to see many many of you individuals quartets, colorguards, compact and full-size corps, and a dance.

To JACK O'BRIEN - thanks for the Thunderbird writeup. For the meeting of the two corps, how about the Staten Islanders starting it out here in '63. To DICK TRANK - nice comments on drumming and judging.

music, comes the drum-parts of Jack Cassidy and the M & M of "Mr. Military Bearing", Bud Johnston, who, as the title implies, is Archie's D. M.

The size of the corps, at this time, is undecided. Our Canadian friends will be seeing an A-E unit of 36 bugles, 9 in the drum line and a big color section of 17 men. This summer it's very possible American fans, below the Northern border, will see 45 horn men and a senior corps innovation of last year - six snare drummers. Most recently added to the horn line has been Dave Fite, the soloist you hear on the U.S.A.F. Drum Corps album. Along with this ex-Airman is Ray Eiler, another of the "boys in blue". Other additions to the corps' rolls this winter have come from St. Vincent's of Bayonne (who needs no introduction), Bracken, Liberty Bell, and Vasella.

Schedule-wise, the corps will see action up and down the East Coast, with contests scheduled in Boston, Jersey City, Pittsburgh, Harrisburg, Lewisburg, Baltimore, and, of course, New Orleans, with other contests continually being added.

JUST "RATTLING THE SABRES": Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Vince Deagan on their recent addition to the family . . . Congrats also, go to Mr. and Mrs. David Fite, on the birth of 7 lb. 7 ounce, Mark David Fite . . . Mr. and Mrs. Al Rollick are expecting a visit from the stork . . . If you've ever wondered what the lyrics are to the "Musketeers" theme, you can hear the entire number sung by the corps' choir on the last-band of their new album . . . First contest for Archie will be May 18th in Wilkes-Barre, Pa. . . . No, Archie hasn't lost any men to a newly formed senior corps in Bayonne. The North Jersey crew is at practice, alive and in full color, lead by their spokesman, Franny Burke . . . Lou Scirrotta, of '59 cymbal-fame, has been in the hospital for the past four months. For those who know brother Lou, drop him a line c/o The "Musketeers", 6736 Marshall Road, Upper Darby, Pa., and he'll get your message . . . Thanks to all the color guard units for making our show the success it was. See you all next year?? . . . That's it for now . . . Stop in and see us and for info on the corps stay tuned to D.C.W. or write:

J. L. Leson, c/o The Archer-Epler "Musketeers", 6736 Marshall Road, Upper Darby, Pa.

You have furnished me with a 3rd name for possibly the same pattern RRLRR, now diddly-diddle, drag-a-diddle, and triple-diddle. To KATHY FORD, I apologize for the mixing up names, I got it. Thanks for the nice words about the Columbians. To RON HOUSLY - congratulations on your "Antlers in the Treetops" column. Which end of our coast are the two GARFIELD men located? To RUSS BELL, people in Seattle have been most happy to see you. Hope the next trip coincides with a corps rehearsal.

I promise to answer all letters soon. Past month was a bearr. Have written a short (27 page) pamphlet on Introduction to Rudimental Drumming for Seattle's High Schools and for starting drummers and corps. Hand drafting went awful slow, and it only covered nine rudiments.

Til next month, best to you all, and practice!

Mr. Tony Schlechta has issued the formal temporary cancellation of the senior contest at the Natl. V.F.W. show. The Wash. state V.F.W.'s are currently sending three petitions to Mr. Schlechta and the Natl. contest committee urging that the senior show not be cancelled. Mr. Bradshaw of Seattle has sent a letter to Mr. Gentry, National Commander and a copy to Mr. Schlechta urging the same; also Lee Allen of Pendleton, Oregon sent a similar letter.

The DELTA THUNDERBIRDS of Stockton, California are planning on the Natl. V.F.W. show writes TONY CARO, business manager. TERRIE BUTTERFIELD writes that the Wisconsin BELLES are very enthusiastic about coming to Seattle. KEN BEVERIDGE says that the MARION CADETS are tripping to Rochester for their first contest. He didn't say yes to Seattle but then he didn't say no. ARNOLD ENG formerly of BLESSED SAC thought SAC may head west. ST PAT'S CADETS will field 33 horns this year and JOHN CULLEN says a trip to Seattle is "up to the Boss". DAVE BORCK of the NORWOOD IMPERIALS says Norwood is planning on New Orleans.

The junior corps in the Northwest are excited and working hard and so are the seniors. The Seattle SHAMROCKS have obtained DUANE ANDREWS as horn instructor and music director. Duane was formerly with the California SENORITAS. Duane has brought along stacks of music (they tell me a two foot stack) and he is pushing the Shamrocks. JOHN BRODERICK is teaching as much "new drumming" as he can obtain. Drum parts have been ordered from John Dowlan. The corps boasts about 35 horns . . . The Seattle THUNDERBIRDS are playing much Carrol music, are getting a drum score from Dowlan, have ordered some drum parts from Crawford, McCormick, and Goodhart. Jack Avery is arranging several new numbers, may use "Bonaparte" for concert. The Corps welcomed the National Legion Commander to Seattle on Jan. 6. Latest horn count was around 35.

The Seattle BHUDDIST BOY SCOUTS are ordering Carrol music, Class A, after returning some B arrangements. Have purchased some new rotaries, and are actually fielding two corps, Explorers and juniors. Manager Bob Oki is determined to produce a top state contender within two years. The West Seattle ELTORREADORS, new junior corps, has 55 members - 14 horns, all drums, 14 in the Color Guard. The group looks promising, they need a drum instructor, money. They have DUANE ANDREWS (again) helping with horns and music direction. . . The AUBURN JUNIORS are forming and will use a band director at the start. Good luck to you, Auburn. The Seattle JOLLY JESTERS may join with the Thunderbirds. Not certain.

The Seattle HURRICANES are going very strong. Still preparing for the V.F.W. senior contest, as are all others in the area. Ball-