

DRUM CORPS WORLD

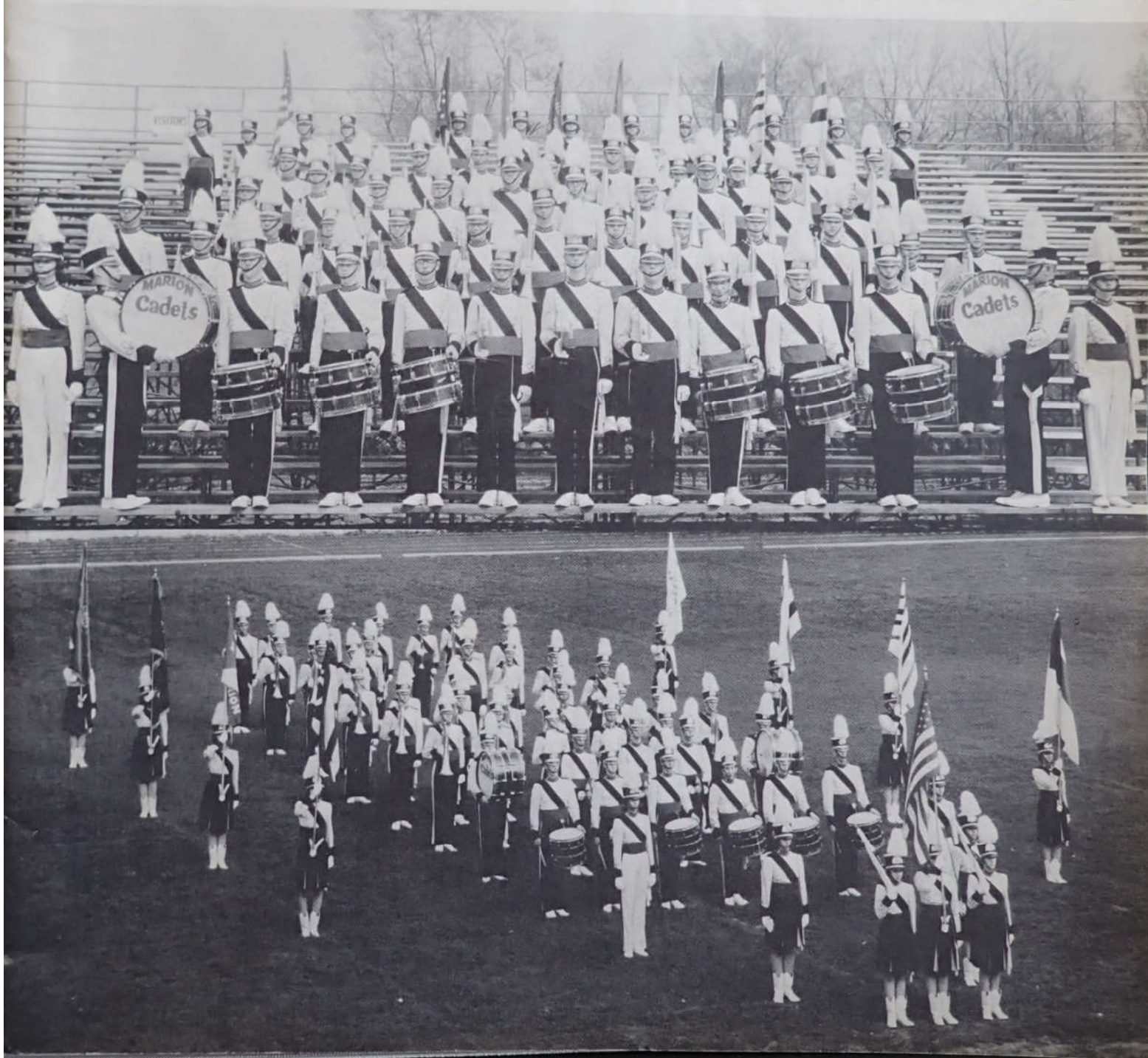
The voice of the drum corps

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TONY SCHLECHTA submitted a very nice writeup to the D.C.N. concerning the Natl. V.F.W. show in Seattle. Hope the same will be in the D.C.W. . . . Noted that the MILFORD SPARTANS are raising money for the long trip to here . . . Tony stated that excellent judges from throughout the country will be selected for Seattle . . . Senior bands, Color Guards, Drum Majors, Rifle Teams and Individual horn and drum, Quartet horn and drum contest WILL BE HELD, says Tony . . . Expect at least 14 junior corps entries from Calif. Oregon and Wash. . . . To date, it looks like at least ten others have submitted entries or have indicated intent to show. With a little luck we could hit 30 corps. (Hope big) I especially would like to see more of the BIG BOYS come out to really WOW the westerners, corps people and civilians . . . The World's Fair grounds have been converted to a huge Civic Center, many buildings intact, new halls with lots of seating, pavilions, etc. They have recently heard of the National Championship show, and they especially would like the contests to be held on the grounds . . . all of the contests. The field is ideal for marching and acoustics are very good. The Wash. Drum Corps Assoc. is pitching for the change to the Center grounds also. The new Center grounds will provide much pleasure and fun for all visiting corps.

Local corps are naturally working hard . . . 2-3 rehearsals each week. Today at the Memorial Day parade in Seattle all Wash. units, except Pasco, made their first appearance. A little rusty for all. Bhuddist Boy Scouts sounded and looked the best to me. The Seattle BLUE ANGELS have some new music and some new drum parts from LARRY McCORMICK. The directors are very happy with the new drum sound. Manager FRANK SOUSA working like mad for housing for the CORPS OF THE NORTH. We all thank you, Frank, most sincerely . . . The Seattle BHUDDIST EXPLORERS and SCOUTS both have new uniforms; Explorers have new drums also. Much CARROL A music played by the Explorer group, and older simpler music by the Scouts. Pictures of both available soon . . . The Seattle EL TORREADORS are progressing nicely, but the group is still quite new. Manager JERRY CHAMBERS says horns working very hard, drums not quite so. The corps may not go to the AL State contest because managers must work. Send the kids with some other parents, Jerry . . . Seattle Shamrocks burned all old music, playing a great deal of DUANE ANDREWS' material now. Horn line is about 33 strong. Manager AL WITTMAN says group is already planning on the DALLAS AL NATL. in 1964 . . . Seattle THUNDERBIRDS are rehearsing with 36 horns, much CARROL A music, 2 Contra-Bass, many bass, bari and French horns. Sound is good most of time. Drums need more work to perfect their more difficult patterns. May play "In The Mood" for concert. Nice JOHN

DOWLAN drum part. "Shady Lane" drum part by LARRY McCORMICK also very nice and effective. The drum instructor is yours truly but I like the way the experts write drum parts. Also have some EARL STURTZE street beats that are excellent . . . No news from the TRI CITIES COLUMBIANS (Pasco) but we may rest assured that they are working and will be a top contender, as always. Roseburg, Ore. KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS working on new music and drill. This parade and exhibition corps should join in competition . . . Portland AIR NATIONAL GUARD, 28 total, has not been seen in the Wash. area. Would like to see them join the senior contest circuit . . . the Astoria MARINERS, top Oregon junior corps at the NORTHWEST CHAMPIONSHIPS, continues to improve. Lots of desire and spirit in this corps. Many thanks to CHARLESEASTLAND of the Mariners for all of this Oregon info. PENDLETON's new junior corps is progressing. Have 17-girl color guard, several drummers and horn men. Could get lots of training from the Pendleton senior corps. Keep working manager LEE ALLEN. . . . The Salem FLAMINGOS are playing "Blue Moon", "Never on Sunday", and "Rock Around The Clock", plus others. They recently welcomed the Natl. President of the AL Auxiliary, at Portland.

Seattle, Portland, and Spokane had the pleasure of observing and participating in drum clinics by FRANK ARESENALUT of Ludwig Drum Co. Frank conducts an excellent instruction and talk session. His demonstrations are terrific. Apparently, one-handed drumming becoming very popular, and finer drumming for the jazz inclined, also flammed rolls, one-hand 1/16th singles, 6-stroke rolls, 1/32nd singles, drag-a-diddles, etc. And, herein is a puzzling thing to me. I love and defend the original "26" with the old timers, and then I also love the new stuff. I have read many articles about; don't add more rudiments to the list, don't pamper every drummer's pet little patterns and sticking, don't change things, etc. etc. THEN, I purchase and see music written by the nations best, I hear Arsenault, I get the word from Del Blake about all the new ideas he learned at the Archer-Epler contest this year (he took the junior drum title), I witness top individuals at nationals, I hear records by the best in the world - and everything is LOADED with new ideas, new patterns, new sticking, and new rhythms. From my experience with students and myself, you must progress and learn the new AND know the old, or you're dead. I think I am convinced now that the standard "26" rudiments are the Arithmetic of drumming - then there is Algebra, and Trig, Analytic Geom., Calculus, etc. I truly wish that some of the new becomes standardized, formally. Then we, out in the drum corps wilds, could learn of it without having to travel and see. I often wonder what men like Bruce and Emmett, Strube, Ashworth,

Three business men were having lunch together. For a long time, they ate in silence. Then one of them sighed deeply. Another silence. Then a second one sighed.

The third man glared at them both.

"Listen," he said. "If you two are going to talk business, I'm going home."

P.A.L. CADETS REPORT

Sorry I missed last month but we've been mucho busy with practice sessions this month. I didn't get a chance to write. Well this month the Cadets are all set music-wise and drill-wise and our schedule is filled up all the way into July. We have three parades Memorial Day, an exhibition at Dumont's Contest, June 1, and a parade the following day in New York. Looks like we won't get a chance to take off our uniforms all that weekend.

A new corps on the Connecticut scene is the "Royal Lancers". The corps director is Bill Hagney, his assistant is Dennis Holleran, musical director is Joe Genaro, and drum major is Tom Connerly. This corps has a lot of potential and a lot of spirit. All the Cadets are right behind them and wish them the best of luck.

One more thing before we call it quits for this month. We would like to thank the Baltimore Yankee Rebels for making us their "CORPS OF THE MONTH". It was a big boost for us to receive such an honor from such a great corps. Well that's it for this month, and youse peoples from the Selden Cadets get your bathing suits ready because that beach party isn't far off.

Yours in Drum Corps Spirit,
Bill Duquette, P.A.L. CADETS
346 Salem St. Bpt. 6, Conn.

and Sousa went through when they changed some of the existing material of the day. Were they accused of interjecting pet ideas? Usually, a drummer can learn the 26 in two years and become quite proficient, with work. But then some juniors play for 9-10 years. The present day active senior may be a 20 years experienced man. Are these people content with the "26"? Well, maybe it is all something to think about.

RON CAFFIERE of the Shamrocks, GARTH STUBBS, LORIN GRINOLDS and the drum quartet of the THUNDERBIRDS all received Superior ratings at the University of Wash. drumming competition . . . GORDY GOULD, drum major of the Seattle HURRICANES, is moving to Kansas City. Gordy is the most reknowned drum major in the state, holding many state titles, including bass drumming . . . LEA LANGABEER has recently passed away, much to the sorrow of the local drum corps world. Lea fought hard and long in the leaner years of drum corps, started color guard contests, was a pro-corps man in the AL for many years. JACK AVERY is now also the director of music for the BLUE ANGELS. The corps and parents, and everyone is extremely happy with Jack's efforts and results . . . To CRAIG MOTTAAZ, you said that the Calif. Ambassadors had the west Coast's first and only compact corps. Advise you to look at April issue of D.C.W. We held a junior and senior compact corps contest - 5 compacts. Honest, Craig, Wash. is on the west coast. To W.O. #2 R. SMITH of Vancouver B.C. thank you very much for the nice comments about Wash. and Oregon corps in your letter on page 11 of May D.C.W. To TILLIE MOTO, the Shamrocks are looking forward to seeing and meeting MISS KATHY FORD. That's it for this month.

Very best to all of you, and come see us sometime, in August of 1963.