

DRUM CORPS WORLD

The voice of the drum corps

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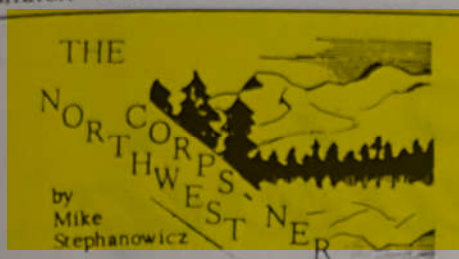
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MARCH 1963

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SENIOR SHOW NON - V.F.W. TITLE???

Locally there is much unhappiness over lack of a senior contest at the National V.F.W. in Seattle. The Wash. State Drum Corps Assoc. asked me to write to TONY SCHLECTA. Request is for a senior contest, NON-V.F.W. TITLE. Purpose is to inspire western corps for the contest . . . to use nationally famed judges . . . receive some truly indicative scores . . . play in front of a nice size audience . . . spur themselves to higher goals for performing in front of some of the nation's famous junior corps. It is a great idea and we hope that the V.F.W. considers it seriously. Cost to the V.F.W.? Some time and work.

Washington, Oregon, and California corps all working hard. DUANE ANDREWS, music director of the SHAMROCKS, has provided them with all new music. Duane is gaining tremendous respect for his drum corps musicianship. The Shamrocks are turning out with 40-44 horns at rehearsals. Duane is also music director for the West Seattle TOREADORS. Only 10-15 horns, but building and working. LORIN GRINOLDS, co-state champ junior drummer, is teaching drums. I think it's wonderful to use junior drummers for instructors. It's good experience and they are often more up-to-date. . . . The BHUDDIST BOY SCOUTS are working on Class A ERNIE CARROLL arrangements. They tell me many high notes are being tried. SCOTT OKI, one of the top Bhuddist drummers, will be teaching the Seattle SHRINERS drummers . . . The Seattle THUNDERBIRDS are working with some 35-40 horns on Carroll and JACK AVERY arrangements. Carroll's drum parts are being altered only slightly, rhythms unchanged. The boys have started on some LARRY MCCORMICK (CAVALIER instructor) street beats. I think I should say street beats. Am trying them and there are some mean measures, but just wonderful. Very nice drum parts.

Seattle HURRICANES doing fine with 25 horn line, but are hurt by the no senior show on drummers. Two top senior drummers may not sign up now. Corps is doing well, however . . . Everett BLUE KNIGHTS are hurt by senior cancellation also. The V.F.W. sponsor may drop money help now. . . . Portland LEATHERNECKS VERY unhappy, I am told. Seems that Washington contests will not allow their junior tip-top soprano horn player to compete with the senior corps. The Leathernecks who are shooting for 27 horns, have 25 . . . PHIL YORK now manages the Portland HAWKS. Portland Police V.F.W. is the sponsor and the corps boasts 27 boys. READER is the music director and STELL is horn instructor . . . don't know about drum man. Best of luck, Phil.

JOE MORECROFT of the Salem, Oregon OPTIMIST FLAMINGOS Jr. corps writes to say that they are not playing all twist music. Rotaries are coming soon and music is

still under wraps. Corps has many old timers and expects to show well this year. Joe says that the Las Vegas visit was an eye opener and that many changes are planned. . . . CHARLES EASTLAND of the Astoria MARINERS sent along a copy of the MARINERS LOG. Some of the news included an article about the McLaren drum and bugle corps of Woodburn, Ore. This unit has been parading with some 32-35 boys for several years and has won numerous honors. We hope to see them in contests. Charlie has a nice article on Learning the Bugle, which stresses rhythm and intonation. (Just been reading, quite a newsletter) Nice article on BELLEVILLE BLACK KNIGHTS, who are in their tenth year. They are one of my numerous favorites and this could be a big year for them. Good Luck, MIDDLETON and gang! LEE ALLEN is quoted as saying that he can't find any sponsor for a junior corps in Pendleton. Thinks that Oregon should form an independent Drum Corps Assoc. divorced from the Legion and V.F.W. and even the All-American, he is little dubious about them. JOHN HAYNER of the Mariners summed up most beautifully why he likes corps, "Had a lot of fun, learned a lot of stuff, met a lot of guys, and went a lot of places." It is felt by some in Oregon that more qualified drum corps judges are needed. At the 1962 A.L. contest the judges stood on sidelines, never entered the field. In the newsletter RUSS BELL stated that GARFIELD, CAVIES, ROYAL AIRS, NORWOOD PARK, and MADISON SCOUTS will be at Seattle for the V.F.W. Oh! how I hope you are right, Russ.

MADISON SCOUTS have sent some invites for their SPRING SPECTACLE. Seattle may not send any reps. But DEL BLAKE intends to enter one of the shows, either the SPRING SPECTACLE or the WINTER CARNIVAL. I would like to predict that he will do very well. Good luck to the Scouts and to MIKE MACKIN. (Good name, Mike) Speaking of names - I will try to be funny. Have seen many ads for a book titled NORTHWEST CORNER and thought about suing. But decided to forget it. He spells it wrong. Nope, can't compete with ED ROONEY.

ST. PAUL SCOUTS are hoping big this year. Things look good says GARY MUNK-HOLM. The Scouts color guard took 1st over RACINE'S 4th but the Racine small corps took St. Paul by 1/10 point. The St. Casimer's color guard took 5th out of 7 in Minneapolis. A new group managed by proud Gary M.

AL MONDRAGON, director and horn instructor of the DELTA THUNDERBIRDS, Stockton Calif., sent nice ad-type picture and request for info on housing for his corps for the big show. All I could learn, to date, is that housing will be at the University of Washington. The group has 27 horns, 3 years experience, 6 drums, 2 bass, and sharp looking green uniforms. We are happy to hear that they may show.

Back to some local news. The Seattle BLUE ANGELS are planning a competition 5 days prior to the V.F.W. finals, that is Sat. before the Wed. Prize money is expected to be on the order of \$500.00. Keep it high Frank Sousa, and you may end up with a terrific show. The JOLLY JESTERS are faltering, about 8 at last couple of rehearsals. The BELLINGHAM A.L. Seniors turning out about 3 or 5. The few left many travel south to Sedro Wooley to boost that

Drum-Bugle Arrangements

Ernie Carroll

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KNIGHT KNOTES

by Les Dlabay

The winter's activities are finally picking up with more color guard contests, stand-stills starting, and the M & M season just around the corner.

On February 3, the Norwood Park Imperials sponsored their "Review of Stars" color guard contest. It featured 22 guards in the prelims with the top eight going into the finals. I believe these scores are on the Score Board. Trophies were awarded for the top three guards, also for the best commander won by Gary Cartier of the Shadows and for the highest M & M and G.E. scores both won by the Mariners. This contest was the first appearance of the St. Alexis North-ernaires, a second guard from the St. Alexis Vikings Drum Corps. Their instructor is Joe Courtney, a D.C.W. writer, the girls did a very fine job for being their first contest. Keep up the good work.

The Blue Knights' news goes like this: Jane Gruber was named assistant drum major to Barbara Nichols and Sue Mikes assistant to Gale Antholtz, captain of the color guard.

I really enjoyed the Directory of Canadian Drum Corps put out by the Canadian Drum Corps Association with its 23 featured corps and loads of action photos.

Also from north of the border comes "EXPRESSION" the fine and official publication of The Conqueror (Hamilton Jr. Optimists). As things stand now The Conqueror hope to have two midwest showings this season.

From out west I received a booklet about the Cathay Drum and Bugle Corps, San Francisco, Calif. It featured 13 pictures of the corps and their all-girl color guard.

Thanks to my good friend J.C., I was able to attend the Winfield Scott Rebels drill practice. From what I have seen so far, they should prove to be one of the top senior corps in the country.

If there are any corps that have newsletters or corps publications available I would be very interested in receiving a copy, also in hearing news from corps all over the country and Canada, so why don't you write Les Dlabay at 6419 West 41st. Street, Berwyn, Illinois.

corps. Pasco COLUMBIAN news is secret. Eldon Sargent is manager.

That's it for this month. Very best to every one.