

The Drum Corps

# WORLD







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*Our Cover*  
PAL CADETS

The BRIDGEPORT P.A.L. CADETS were born in 1951 as a parade unit and since its reorganization in 1957, have become one of the finest marching and Manuevering corps in the nation. During their existence they have been sponsored by the Bridgeport "Police Athletic League, which have often earned the corps their nickname of "the PAL". The corps is also sponsored by the Harry W. Congdon Post 11, American Legion; and Raymond W. Harris Post #145 Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Since 1957, the Cadets have been V.F.W. State Champions 7 times, and State A.L. Champions 7 times, as well as winners of the State open Championship at the 1st such contest held in 1964. The corps has also been finalists at the National V.F.W. championship and World Open contest.

The corps features a 36 man horn line, 12 man drum line; and all-girl color guard of 25. A portion of the color guard com-

petes during the winter season as the PAL Thunderbirds. Corps leaders are Alice Dobson as drum Majorette, who took over after the retirement of Lillian Gaudette last year, and Peggy Stirk as Color Guard Captain. All of these have won wide acclaim for their individual performances.

Music is arranged by John Sasso, Hy Drietzter, and Rip Bernert with Chris Ruge Sr. as horn instructor. Earl Sturtze handles the drumming with Jack Dobson on M & M. Chris Ruge Jr. is corps director, Mickey Sarback assistant director, and James ... Convertito is business manager.

In 1965, the corps introduced new music, much from the Broadway hit "Funny Girl" as well as new uniforms. With improvement such as the PAL Cadets showed in 1965, there is only one way the corps can go..... UP.....UP.....

(Photo by Dayton D. Holmes)

## OUR WRITERS

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The views expressed by our writers are not necessarily the views of the DRUM CORPS WORLD. We take no responsibility for articles written by our writers.

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Hi there! Just think it's October already and it just seems like the M&M season has just begun to start. And here I am, the one who's going to try and be a miracle worker and bring you all up to date on what's been happening to our corps in the past few months. So we better get the ball rolling.

I'm not going to mention too much about the parades because it'd take up the whole column and anyway, I think there are more important things to write about.

On the 22nd of June, our corps left on their trip to Buffalo, N.Y. Our co-sponsors the Chicago J-C's, wanted us to represent them at the Jay Cee National Convention Parade. Of course, we had a little time to ourselves and we gotta admit, though there wasn't much sleep to be had, those two nights, it was a lot of fun.

V.F.W. State Competition came up that same week, at which our corps placed 10th in the prelims. That same night the Cavaliers again won the V.F.W. State Championship, with the Royal-Airs placing 2nd.

On the 27th, our corps was in a parade and competition at Fox Lake, Ill. The contest was sponsored by the Lake Region Post 703 A.L. If there was one day I wished I could've marched in an air-conditioned field, it was that day! Man was it hot! Anyway, about the competition, the Scores: 1. St. Pats's Imperials, 73.4. 2. Wah-Mei, 73.2. 3. Buccaneers, 68.9. Guardsmen, 61.9.

July: This was the month of a couple of big contests and a lot of parades: The 10th was the day of the Madison, Wisc., sponsored by the Madison Scouts. We placed 10th out of sixteen corps in the prelims and in finals Kilties placed 1st, with the Cavies coming in 2nd.

July 18th our corps was in a parade at Dundee and afterwards entered a competition in Des Plaines sponsored by the Guardsmen. The Nisei Ambassadors came in 1st, St. Alexis Vikings 2nd, Wah-Mie, 3rd, Jackson Raiders, 4th and the Centurions, 5th. The Golden Grenadiers placed 1st in the 6 1/2 minute drill.

The 24th of July was the day of A.L. State Competition. In the final show Royal-Airs took 1st with the Cavies in 2nd. Congratulations Royals, you put on a terrific show!

On August 7th Our M&M instructor, John Opager, Jr., and Pat Murphy, ex-Royal-Airs, tied the knot. I guess congratulations are in order.

The following day was our annual corps picnic. Have you ever had a day that

## NORTHWEST OMNIBUS

Well, the drum corps contest season is about over for '65 in the North West and most people around here are glad it's over. Since I have not written a column in a few months I will just summarize the whole contest season of the N.W. with the exception of the Washington A.L. and VFW State contests. But before I do I would like to say that it was nice meeting the Hawthorne Muchachos Contra section and the Americanettes color guard from L.A.

The first contest of the year was a standstill in January sponsored by the Flamingos. Only a few corps came to this show but there was a large list of individual entries. Scores: Thunderbirds, 85.50. Hawks, 70.75. Flamingos, 68.10. Mariners, 66.60. T-BirdsCadets, 65.50.

The next standstill was in Seattle put on by the Thunderbirds. Here almost everybody in the area entered and the placings held true throughout most of the season. The Shamrocks, 76.47. T-Birds, 72.15. Columbians, 72.00. Buddhist Scouts, 71.15. Hawks, 53.65. Flamingos, 53.55. Amigos, 45.00. Lancers, 44.38. Blue Angels, 41.85. El Toreadors, 39.07. T-Bird Cadets, 35.86.

The first field show of the season was in Portland early in June. Scores of Finals: Shamrocks, 70.02. Columbians, 67.83. T-Birds, 68.37. Hawks, 48.867. F-Lancers, 46.33. Blue Angels, 49.27. Mustangs, 30.73. After this show there was a big lull in activity in Oregon, but everyone was practicing for the Legion National show in Portland.

Oregons A. L. State came at the end of July. Only two corps entered with an exhibition by Longview-Kelso. Scores: Hawks, 56.733. F-Lancers, 49.200. The Hawks also won the best bugle awards, best drum trophy, first place corps trophy, and won the M&M caption, losing only G.E.

A week later in Seattle the Shamrocks held a show which they won. I think I would feel a little bit guilty winning my own show. Anyway the scores were: Shamrocks, 82.55. T-Birds, 79.80. Columbians, 78.90. Buddhist Scouts, 75.80. Free Lancers, 57.35. El Tor, 56.60. B-Angels, 56.45. Amigos, 55.90. Hawks, 51.65. Bell-Airs, 45.05. T-Bird Cadets, 41.30.

Here I thought some of the smaller corps from Seattle were scored to high, but the F-Lancers definitely took their place. The reason the Hawks took a low score was because they actually put on their show with over half the corps mis-

everything just seemed to go wrong? To begin with, it was raining earlier that morning, but stopped about an hour before we were to leave. Just as we were leaving it started raining again. Then it seemed to stop automatically when word went around that the picnic was going to be called off. So we ended up going to Soldiers' field for M&M practice. After practice we decided to give this picnic another try. We went out to Bunker Hill and got our tables and everything else all set up, when all of a sudden it started raining cats and dogs. Well, the least we can say is -- We tried!

August 16th was a contest sponsored by the Jackson Raiders.

A big Welcome Back to Keon Tom, who once was our rudimental bass drummer, but had to quit because he moved away

sing. They had 1 snare, 1 tenor, 1 bass, and 1 cymbal. The horn line was had only five sopranos, three basses, one french horn, and one contra. The guard had only five in it. Anyway, after this show everybody was working for A.L. Nationals to be held in Portland. With only five junior corps slated for the finals the Washington corps were really working to edge each other out.

On Sunday Aug. 22, the prelims were held at a local high school football field. Seventeen entered in the Junior contest where the Royal-Airs made an easy win over Garfield. The Muchachos with their big horn line of about 48 took third, Argonne Rebels 4th, and the Shamrocks 5th. Prelim Scores: Royal-Airs, 85.66. Garfield, 81.91. Muchachos, 78.15. Argonne Rebels, 73.75. Shamrocks, 69.65. T-Birds 69.55. Cedar Rapids, 68.58. Velvet Knights 64.30. Hawks from Richmond, 61.15..... Columbians, 60.48. Buddhist Scouts, 56.11. Hawks from Oregon, 52.61. F-Lancers, 50.41. Police Cadets, 46.33. T-Bird Cadets, 44.11. Blue Angels, 41.61..... Longview, 34.81.

The senior prelims consisted of only six corps, here the Crusaders from Rochester beat Hawthorne, this victory probably kept many people from betting on the senior contest that night.

The finals were held that night on a field that was a mess. There were two sets of yard lines, one running diagonally across the other. I really don't see how a corps could expect to put on a good M&M show on that field, the only corps that really did was Garfield. This field definitely had an effect on the quality of the M&M because about half the corps guided on the wrong set of yard lines.

Crusaders two bass drummers Tom & Jerry put on a great show for the crowd and everyone liked them. Their drill was spread all over the field with something going on all the time. The Caballeros also had trouble with their M&M but I don't think the lines on the field played much of a part here. The Caballeros horn and drum line were fabulous, their big full latin sound was too much! Although they lost to the Crusaders people in this area still consider them National Champions. Scores: Grey Knight Crusaders, 83.66. Hawthorne Caballeros, 83.58. Juakin Caballeros, 63.80. Hamm's Indians, 61.18. Leather-necks, 46.41. Jr. Scores: Royal-Airs 84.51. Garfield Cadets, 82.15. Muchachos, 73.80. Argonne Reb's, 69.21. Shamrocks, with a 59.90.

and it would have been to far for him to travel to corps practice, (Chicago-N. Y.)

Also I would like to Welcome Mr. Jack McNulty, member of the Men Of Brass, to our corps. He is now our assistant M&M instructor and I for one can say that without his help our corps would not have been able to perform our drill to the best of our ability. Let's just say he gave us the little push that set us off on the right track.

At this time I'd like to say Hi to Joyce Hatori and Linda Shigehira, hope to be seein' ya' all in future competitions; to Carl, be writin' to ya' soon; and a big Thanks to Mr. Knutson (is that how you spell it?) for giving your help to a lost and bewildered Wah-Mei girl at A.L. State.

So until next month, 'Just one of 'em Jook Sings....Susie Moy 237 W. 23rd St. Chicago, Ill. 60616