

digest

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PACIFIC NORTHWEST and ALASKA ...

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Greetings from the Great Northwest, home of the top West Coast corps.

I am sorry that this column hasn't appeared in the last several issues of the Digest, but both Jerry Logan and I have been taking our basic training in the army for Uncle Sam. I just returned home from five months training, but am afraid Jerry is still going strong at Fort Ord in California. Good luck Jer!

Now for the latest news from the Northwest. The first field show of the season was held at Milwaukie, Oregon. Placing were as follows: "A" Corps Contest — 1. SHAMROCKS, Seattle 2. ROYAL LANCERS, Portland 3. HAWKS, Portland. "B" Corps — 1. IMPERIALS, Seattle 2. FLAMINGOS, Salem. This is the first year for the Lancers as an "A" Corps. They show much promise and will be giving the older "A" corps a run for first place honors.

The second contest, held June 10th, was in Bellevue, Wash. This one was sponsored by the SENTINELS and the Bellevue Jr. Chamber of Commerce. A very fine parade preceded the field competition. The contest, held at the high school stadium, was declared an "open" contest with Junior and Senior corps competing against each other. Results were as follows: 1. THUNDERBIRDS, Seattle 2. LINKSMEN, New Westminster, Canada 3. SENTINELS, Bellevue 4. EL TOREADORS, Seattle 5. CASCADE CADETS, Seattle.

On June 16th the V.F.W. State Contest was held in Tacoma, Washington. All corps were down from what they should have been, so it could have been a better all around show. Undoubtedly the closing of the school year, graduations, etc. took some of that practice time needed before a contest.

The SHAMROCKS, with a pow-

erful horn line came up with this one by beating the THUNDERBIRDS and the COLUMBIANS. The scoring by the judges created a very unpopular feeling and vocal reaction from the crowd when the scores were announced. The SHAMROCKS were good, but one wonders what is going on when the contest looks close, and when the final scores are announced, there is a 20 point difference between first and second place, and a 25 point separation between first and third. The crowd response left no doubt in their minds that such a difference was not the result of realistic judging. Perhaps I am prejudiced for the T-BIRDS, last years All American National Champions. Final results were: "A" Corps 1. SHAMROCKS, 2. THUNDERBIRDS, 3. COLUMBIANS.

"B" Corps 1. SENTINELS, 2. EL TOREADORS 3. CASCADE

CADETS.

In reviewing the Color Guard Competition, one can say that the three guards receiving awards, stand out above all others in the area. Awards were as follows: "A" guards — first place tie THUNDERBIRDS and SHAMROCKS. "B" guard — first place CASCADE CADETS. The latter award brings up the question of whether a guard such as the CASCADE CADETS should have been dropped to "B" guard status without consideration or previous notification. The CADETS for the past three years have consistently placed in the top three, in the Northwest "A" Guard Circuit. From what I hear, the Cadets didn't like this new classification. One wonders what will happen next?

Well this is all the news for now. See ya next time when the DIGEST comes out!

GREATER NEW YORK, DAVE KING

Greater New York Circuit contests have been dominated by the Milford Shoreliners thus far this season. They'll be making a run for the title left vacant by St. Joseph Patron's absence this year. The Lakeland Goldenaires (Garden State Circuit Champions) have been running right behind Milford and could pull up by the end of the season. Long Island Circuit champ Babylon Islanders, who finished 2nd in Greater N.Y. last season, haven't been out in June and the showing of the Minisink Warriors (4th last year) has been very disappointing.

The Massapequa Elks held their annual Flag Day Parade on June 18th with the spirited Smithtown Freelancers taking top honors. The host corps was the Sunrisers, leaving the Pequa Redmen with an easy victory in the senior division. Smith-

town also won the best color guard trophy in the parade which saw at least fifteen other corps participate. Among those were the Golden Hawks, the West Sayville Golden Eagles, the Riptides, the Smithtown Plebes, Our Lady of Mercy, the Lindenaires (and feeder corps-Linden-eers), the Babylon Islanders, and the Red Coat Grenadiers.

HOW GOOD IS YOUR MEMORY? Ten years ago (July 6th, 1957) St. Catherine's Queensmen won a Greater N.Y. Circuit show sponsored by the Islanders, scoring 80.1 to defeat the Selden Cadets (78.2). Also in the show were the Wynn Center Toppers (Brooklyn, N.Y. 72.9); Our Lady of Lourdes (Paterson, N.J. 68.3); Barringer-Walker (Lyndhurst, N.J. 62.6); and St. Bernadettes (Brooklyn, 56.35).