



drum corps digest

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PACIFIC NORTHWEST . . .

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"March comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb" but that's not true with drum corps activity in the northwest. For the most part March is a practice month in preparation for April and the summer. The only competition is on the 31st of March. This is another Northwest Color Guard circuit competition with the battle between the Thunderbirds and the Shamrocks. Both guards have won one competition so this will be the tie breaker, unless one of the other guards pulls an upset.

Most of the action starts in April with a new competition on the 1st in Buckley, Washington and then on the 7th in Seattle, the Thunderbirds sponsor their 8th annual Pacific Northwest Championship at the Seattle Center. Which should prove to be one of the best shows of the season, with individuals during the day and corps and color guards in the evening. For the high point of the show the Thunderbirds have made arrangements for the Air Force Academy Drum and Bugle Corps to attend, and are waiting for final confirmation.

The Thunderbirds have run into one big problem, that is with the Northwest Drum and Bugle Corps Association who voted not to sanction the Thunderbirds show. The reason being — The Thunderbirds are charging a dollar entry fee per corps member and five dollars per color guard. Prize money was to be awarded to first, second and third place in A and B corps. But this didn't seem to make any impression on THE association.

The Thunderbirds have a new music instructor, Dave Kausch. Dave has been with senior drum corps for over eight years. For about seven years he marched and played soprano bugle, with the Rochester Gray Knights. After his army service he rejoined the newly formed Rochester Gray Knights Crusaders, and was with them for about a year before coming west.

Dave and the Thunderbirds are proud to announce that Mr. Alfred "Corky" Frabrizio is now arranging their music. Corky is also arranging music for St. Joseph's and The Syracuse Brigadiers.

The Thunderbirds are playing a very brilliant and difficult arrangement of George Gershwin's semi-classical "Of Thee I Sing" off the line. For Flag Presentation they are playing a combination of the exciting— light moving "Fanfare and Allegro" and finishing with a powerful moving arrangement of "America".

And so goes March in like a lamb and out like a lion.