

green capsule

**g.c.c.**  
comments

combined  
with

**YorkTalk**

VOLUME 10, Number 6  
JUNE 1970

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Official publication of  
The Toronto Optimists Drum & Bugle Corps  
The Optimist Cadets Drum & Bugle Corps  
The Optimist Lancers Drum & Bugle Corps  
The Optimist Club of York-Toronto  
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**“An Evening With  
The Optimists  
Drum Corps”**



The Optimists, Suite 302, 205 Keele St.,  
Toronto 9, Ontario, Canada.

SPONSORED BY THE OPTIMIST CLUB OF TORONTO.  
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**NEWS FLASH...** Milwaukee Contest of July 11th has been cancelled. Optimists are open to other Saturday events there and Mr. Billington is checking out some other contests in the same area.

- JUNE 14---Exhibition---Seagram Stadium Waterloo.
- 14---Church Parade Toronto (noon)  
Exhibition, Welland, afternoon.
- 19---Shrine Parade Toronto, 8:00PM, from the Ontario Parliament Buildings Queens Park, down Yonge Street to the City Hall. To date featuring the Optimists, Lancers, Cadets and Etobicoke Crusaders.
- 20---SHRINERS INTERNATIONAL, CNE Stadium, 7:45PM
- 27---Geneva, N.Y. Contest sponsored by the Appleknockers Drum Corps.
- JULY 1---Exhibition field Show and Dominion Day Parade, Port Dover. Cadets and Jr. Corps.
- 4---Exhibition, St. John's Contest, Brantford.
- 10---Contest, Michigan City, Indiana.
- 11---Open at this time.
- 12---Contest Sponsored by Madison Scouts, Madison, Wisc.
- 18---"FANFARE OF BUGLES, THUNDER OF DRUMS, Contest Porter Stadium Toronto. Sponsored by the Optimists. (See ad this issue, GCC)

**GREEN CAPSULE COMMENTS Vol. 10#5**  
**STAFF:**

- Editor: Don Daber.
- Associate Editors: Ray Roussel, Ben Burrage.
- Contributing Editor: Janet McGillen
- Art, Photos, Cartoons: Ben Burrage, Kerry Burrage, Don Daber
- Crossword Puzzle: Mrs. B. Burrage.
- Writers: Al Tierney, Kerry Burrage, Calvin Johansson, Don Whyte, John O'Leary, Jim Kane, Jack Roberts, Jim Jehu, Dick Day, Marty Barreca, Brian Hogan, Bob Dobson, Froggy.

**THE FRONT COVER:** Programme cover for Optimists concerts held during the month of May in Scarborough and Etobicoke.

- JULY 25---Ogdensburgh, N.Y.
- AUG. 1---A. JrC. Championships Utica, N.Y.
- 8---Exhibition, Crusaders Contest, Etobicoke.
- 9---North American Championships, Varsity Stadium, Toronto.
- 15---U.S. Open Contest Marion Ohio.
- 16---Contest, Windsor, Ont.
- 22---Ontario Championships Kitchener.
- 29---Titusville Contest.
- SEPT 1---ONE Labour Day (Tentative)
- 12---National Championships Varsity Stadium Toronto.

FOR '70... \* \* \* \* \*

**MAKE THE GREEN**

**THE GREATEST**

\* \* \* \* \*



## YORK-TORONTO CLUB NEW SPONSOR IN OCT!

Toronto, May 12, 1970: Allan J. Tierney, Ancaster, Ontario was elected president of the Optimist Club of York-Toronto at the official organizational meeting of the new service club, May 12, 1970 held at the Commercial Travellers Association Building in Toronto. The Club, formed by 40 business, industry and profession men of Toronto, will hold regular Luncheon meetings on Sunday at 12:00 noon at the Seaway Hotel. The Optimist Club of York-Toronto joins the more than 2600 Optimist Clubs throughout the United States and Canada that are engaged in youth and community service projects.

Mr. Jim Sonnier, field representative of the international service club organization headquartered in St. Louis, Mo., presided over the official organization meeting and then spent indoctrination session meetings with the new club officers and committees the evenings of May 11th, 13th and 14th. The new Club was sponsored by the Optimist Club of Toronto, Inc. and the President and other representatives of the sponsoring club attended the meeting of May 12th.

Other officers elected at the organization meeting were: Don Daber, Dick Brown, and Bill Stevenson; Vice-Presidents. Named to the Board of Directors were: Cliff Billington, Bud Pryor, Gord Angus, Greg Tierney, Barry Bell and Dick Day. Mr. Vic Decloux of 38 Oakridge Drive, Scarborough was appointed to serve as the Club's secretary-treasurer.

The new Optimist Club will become a part of the Ontario District of which Ken Gillis of Woodstock, Ontario, is Governor.

The first Boys Work project of the new Club is the sponsorship of the Optimist LANCERS Drum & Bugle Corps of Etobicoke. Mr. Dick Brown is the Corps Director and a Vice-President of the new Club.

On October 1st, 1970 The Toronto Optimists Drum Corps and the Optimist Cadets Drum Corps will be sponsored by the new club.

The Charter members of the new Club are as follows: Gord Angus, Barry Bell, Cliff Billington, Harold Bradley, Dick Brown, Keith Buckingham, Bob Burman, Ben Burrage, Ron Chong, Don Daber, Jack Davidson, Bob Davidson, Dick Day, Lorne Ferrazzutti, Dave Gault, Joe Gianna, Bob Haid, Bill Kane, Frank McDonald, Peter McGillen, Don McGregor, Mel Jago (OVER)



*Allan J. Tierney  
President,  
Optimist Club of  
York-Toronto*

Clare Reid, Jack Roberts, Gord Robinson, Gord O'Halloran, Art Pryor, Ray Roussel, Bill Sheperd, Dan Splonick, Bill Stevenson, Lawrence Thiffault, Paul Thompson, A.J. Tierney, Greg Tierney, Vic Decloux, Syd Williams and Ross Wilson.

The Optimist Club of Downtown Toronto took over the sponsorship of the Corps in 1956, the year the corps went on to win the Novice Jr. Championship. The next year the corps moved up to Jr. "B" class and won the National Championships of that division in September. They then took the new leap upward to the Jr. "A" division in 1958. Previous to the sponsorship by the Downtown Club the corps was a Boy Scout parade corps.

The Board of Directors of the Downtown Club were faced with the situation of steadily increasing costs of the corps program over the past few years and with a reduction of funds within their club they were faced with the decision of the withdrawal of sponsorship. Since 1956 the Club has invested over fifty thousand dollars in the Jr. Corps with corps funds through the club booked at over one hundred thousand dollars!

Needless to say the Executive and members of the Downtown Club are delighted that the Corps has found a new sponsor within Optimism and will be able to carry on under the Optimist Club banner. In a letter to the Corps Executive, President Dave Forrester stated,

"Our decision, based on necessity, in no way changes our high regard for the corps and its youth work. We are very proud of the Junior Drum & Bugle Corps. From a modest beginning it has, over the years of our sponsorship achieved great renown. We are happy to have nurtured it to graduation..."

#### JR. CORPS PERFORMS AT OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL MEETING AT DON MILLS HOLIDAY INN:

At 12 noon on Saturday, May 9th the Optimists Jr. Corps performed their show in concert, at the meeting of the Ontario district of Optimist International held at the Don Mills Holiday Inn complex.

This meeting, attended by over 200 delegates and their wives was the Third Quarter Board Meeting of the Ontario District under the chairman Governor Ken Gillis of Woodstock.

Immediately after the Corps' performance all delegates then attended a luncheon which began with the Ontario runoffs for the Provincial Oratorical Championship the winner of which went on to the Optimist International Convention in Los Angeles June 27th to compete with the American State Champions for the National title and the award of a University scholarship.

Immediately after the Oratorical presentation the head table of the Luncheon was drummed in by the drum line of the Cadets and then the playing of O'Canada by George Tamaki, on solo soprano.

#### KERRY BURRAGE NEW ASSISTANT DRUM MAJOR:

Kerry Burrage, 16, and solo soprano with the Jr. Optimists has been appointed Assistant Drum Major to Vern Johansson as of Sunday, May 7th. He will move up to the Drum Major position in the corps in October.

Kerry began in drum corps in the fall months of 1963 after he and his family saw their first drum corps show at Varsity Stadium in September of that year. A few weeks after that contest his father noticed

an item in the Scarborough Mirror on the Scarborough Trumpet Band and he and his brother Tim went down to apply for membership. He started the 1964 season on Second Soprano and moved with the corps up to the M&M Class under the new banner of the Scarborough Firefighters. Kerry stayed with the Firefighters for the next 3 years then joined the Optimists for the 1968 season. He moved up to first soprano during the 1969 season, then on to solo soprano for 1970.

Kerry has two other brothers in corps, both in the percussion section... Tim with the Firefighters and Dana on Optimists snare.

In a statement after his appointment Kerry said, "I want to carry on the high tradition of the Corps and their Drum Majors and see both go to even greater heights."

He has 5 more years to work on that goal.

#### NEW GUARD APPOINTMENTS:

As of May 1st two new appointments have been made in the Optimists Guard. Greg Oxenham moves up to the position of Guard Captain from that held by Steve Cooper and Don Whyte becomes Guard Sergeant.

#### COVER STORY:

##### "AN EVENING WITH THE OPTIMISTS"

by Marty Barreca, Editor, *The Etobicoke CRUSADE*

*Being a member of the Etobicoke Crusaders Drum Corps, I find it a privilege to write for Green Capsule Comments.*

On the evening of May 25th, 1970 I was not to find myself experiencing the usual blow evening buried in books or otherwise. I tromped over to the ultra modern Martingrove Collegiate where the Optimists organization were to



perform in concert. I arrived early and watched the Junior Corps and the Cadets form up.

Mr. Brown, the Director of the Optimist Etobicoke Corps, and the M.C. for the evening made his entrance on stage and the audience simmered down. He introduced himself and then the National Anthem was played.

With the words... "Probably the most winningest corps ever, Ladies and Gentlemen, The Toronto Optimists! The curtain parted. There in front of us were the colours of green white and black in uniform and worn by the Pride of Canadian Drum Corps! They began with the harmonious duet of "Hang 'em High" which was then backed up with the power and mass of the whole corps. Most of the audience in attendance were new to drum corps and were listening breathlessly; most probably wondering how these teenage amateurs could produce such a professional sound of dynamics and arrangements.

After a climactic close of "Hang 'em High" we were treated to the Optimists' 1970 colour presentation of "Phantom Regiment and O'Canada!" What a weird and wonderful arrangement! The baritones have a good part and the sopranos excel in "O'Canada." Great imagination was used in the arrangement of "O'Canada" to add to the listening pleasure.

My pleasure was temporarily terminated by Mr. Brown's talk on the history of Drum Corps as written by Al Tierney, while the Corps were changing back stage. It surprised me when he went as far back as ancient times of the straight tube bugles to the development of bending the tube and so on right up to the 1940's when the military sponsored trumpet bands were in existence on up to the present M&M corps.

Mr. Brown then introduced the bugles used in present day drum corps...the soprano... "TEE!"...The French Horn... "TAH!"...the Mellophone... "LAH!"...the Baritone... "DAH!" and the granddaddy of them all, the Contra

Bass... "BAH!"... "Put all together and you get the sound of the modern day bugle line... "TAHH!"

The programme then turned to the corps' percussion section and a demonstration as originally performed on April 25th at the Drummerama. John Rood, one of the members of Optimists drum line then took the 'mike' and proceeded to explain the intricate difficulty in corps drumming... Rick Roussel then played his individual solo (followed by overwhelming applause). A comparison between street beats of yesterday and today was then made and he then introduced the triple bass drums and noted how each was tuned to a certain musical note. The 4 bass then played "Little Brown Jug" and then co-ordinated with the whole drum lines street beat. This ended by the line playing their solo of "Blue Rondo Alla Turk" and then the drumming to "Flesh Failures."

I was stunned!

The Secondary Guard then provided a change of pace with a brief demonstration of the flash, execution and discipline installed in their unit.

The Pride of Mr. Brown performed next. The new Optimists' Lancers Parade Corps, under the direction of Mr. Barry Bell, played his arrangement of "Pietot" and did a fine job. These boys and girls displayed a large amount of discipline and pride in themselves. Their horn snaps were pretty good, I noted.

After an intermission the Optimist Cadets performed and I must say they improved since I saw them last. They were under the direction of a new drum major, Jim Jehu.

Mr. Brown then spoke to the parents of the Lancers and he was followed by Mr. Day who introduced 4 members of the corps and their new uniforms. The trousers were a lime tang green with a white stripe topped by an orange cummerbund, white blouse, orange apache tie and white lancer hat. They looked very smart and flashy.

The programme ended with the Junior Corps back on stage playing 4 numbers from their

1970 repertoire. "Hang Em High" and Colour Presentation were repeated. "Flesh Failures" a new concept of that number, except I found it too short. The baritones were too weak as the sopranos tended to overpower them. Even in the baritone solo, I honestly couldn't hear what he was playing.

"San Francisco" of course was heart warming except the mellophone was a little too short on tone that night and tended to blast.

Overall the corps has improved a great deal since the March 21st Waterloo Show and if the Optimist Corps can keep up this steady pace of improvement their opposition will have a tough time this summer.

I'd like to compliment Mr. Brown on his co-ordinating of the show. I found it very entertaining. Here's wishing the Lancers and the Cadets the best in the future and the Toronto Optimists a successful 1970 season! It certainly was an "Evening With The Optimists!"

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by Kerry Burrage

### C.N.E. PLAYBOY HITS THE BIG TIME:

NEW YORK CITY, May 16, 1970:

Big News hit this city last evening, May 15th., when the famed and notorious CNE Playboy-of-Toronto flew down to catch the "EVENING WITH THE CORPS" Show at the Felt Forum Theatre, at the Madison Square Garden Centre. Immediately on landing we were whisked away by taxi to the famed NEW YORKER Hotel where we were to spend the weekend. Immediately on unpacking it was Broadway and the night lights tonight (Friday). One thing about Toronto...every movie that was showing in New York is showing or has been showing here...the only play, or about the only play in New York and not in Toronto was "Oh Calcutta!" (On seeing Al Tierney the same weekend in New York, he expressed a desire to see this epic but later decided not to, we understand)

During Saturday we saw most of the sites of New York including St. Patrick's Cathedral, Rockefeller Centre, and last of all the famed PLAYBOY CLUB of New York, where we saw the rest of the sites. Most humiliating for yours truly was being served a fruit punch in a posh and swanky place as this one...but it was worth it...being served and served and served by a bunny...PLAYBOY come to life. There was no flavour in the punch but it was not noticed.

On to AN EVENING WITH THE CORPS Concert which drew hundreds waiting outside the doors!

The CONNECTICUT HURRICANES were BEST IN SHOW of the 13 corps appearing as the crowd

soon found out! "If They Would See Me Now", "Hang Em High", "The Magnificent Seven" and a finale of "2001" were all played precision perfect by this 90 man unit this evening. The auditorium was almost brought down to dust and rubble by the overwhelming applause. The SKY-LINERS were next with a quite original entry to the beat of "Aquarius" played by the 4 timps. With 5-5 side drums & 42 bugles their bright spots were "WHEN THE SAINTS GO MARCHIN IN" and "AQUARIUS" They were out for blood tonight tho this was not a contest.

As for the Juniors, the Golden Knights of Newark were best. This unit with 42 bugles that sound like 82 are playing the same show as last year with only minor changes...including "Meadowlands" off-the-line, "Hang 'Em High" and "Eleanor Rigby". In my opinion the next best corps was OLPH Ridgemen of Brooklyn, N.Y.

It was a sell-out crowd and hundreds turned away at the door...the most successful "EVENING WITH THE CORPS" in the history of this event/.

### UPCOMING CONTEST DETAILS:

"6th ANNUAL JUNIORS IN REVIEW"

SATURDAY, JUNE 27th., at 8:00PM.

BOSWELL FIELD, GENEVA, N.Y. (HOBART COLLEGE)

An A.Jr.C. Contest sponsored by the Geneva Appleknockers who are exhibition corps

IN COMPETITION: CRUSADERS, Boston Mass.

St. Josephs, Batavia, Cadets LaSalle,

Optimists, Toronto, Utica Yankees

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SUNDAY, AUGUST 16th., 7:30P.M.

Windsor Stadium, Jackson Park, Windsor.

IN COMPETITION:

The Nisei Ambassadors, Chicago.

The Midlanders, London.

The Mariners, Wisc.

The Knickerbockers, New York City.

The Optimists, Toronto.

The 32nd Hussars, Madison Wisc.

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"U.S. OPEN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP"

HARDING STADIUM, MARION, OHIO

Among the corps in competition: The Racine Kilties, The Cadets of Marion, The Black Knights of Belleville, Norwood Imperials, Blue Stars, Blue Rock of Wilmington, Madison Scouts, N.Y. Knickerbockers, Nisei Ambassadors, Argonne Rebels, The Kingsmen of Anaheim, California, Toronto Optimists, Imperials of St. Patrick, Milwaukee, Wisc.

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NORTH AMERICAN: AUG. 9th: Troopers, Cavaliers, Kingsmen (Calif) St. Josephs+Del, Opti, LaSalle



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ANNOUNCEMENT:

JIM JEHU, 1970 CADET DRUM MAJOR!

Jim Jehu, the Cadets solo soprano player with the "built-in" baritone voice has been named Drum Major for the Cadets...and as of the publication of this issue of GCC he has already led the Cadets in several parades.

Jim is 14 and joined the corps in January of 1968 when he was invited to a rehearsal by Jim Lee one of the Cadets buglers who lived on the same street. Jim was never involved in music till he joined the Cadets. He tried the bugle then because Jim Lee played a horn. He has since joined the school band on 3-valve trumpet and also has taken up guitar as a change of pace.

One of his highlights of Cadets membership was as a soloist in the Batavia Contest in June of 1969. In September of that year Jim was appointed to the position of instructor for the second soprano section.

Jim would like to see the 3 corps in the new Optimists organization work closer together as in the recent recruiting concerts and the upcoming Shrine parade, and the visit to the Junior Camp, May 31st.

Jim's favourite corps are: The Optimists; the best corps in Canada...The Troopers for their drill execution and music and Cadets LaSalle for their music.

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THE CADETS APPEARANCES

TO DATE by Jim Jehu

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The Cadets started their 1970 Parade Season this year with a bang! Their first appearance was "The Beautify Toronto" Parade in May. This even looks like its becoming a tradition with the corps. It was one of the first parades ever done by the Cadets back in '68 and they have been doing it every year since. The Cadets were voted "best Corps" on parade at this event.

The next appearance was a concert at

Cedarbrae Collegiate as a recruiting drive for the Cadets. The Jr.Corps and the Lancers performed here too. The corps was a success and drew a pleasing round of applause as well as recruits.

The next appearance was the Victoria Day Parade in Clarkson. The corps didn't seem to have the enthusiasm in this parade as in other events and the standard of drill & music was not up to par. But the day wasn't a total loss. After the parade Steven Trofimchuk's father, who owns a restaurant nearby, invited the whole corps in for a treat. It was a pleasant surprise.

On the 23rd of May the corps travelled to Hamilton in their yellow submarines for the Annual Boy Scout Parade. The Corps looked sharper and sounded better in this march... could it be because the Channel 11 T.V. Cameras were there?

Two days later the Cadets were in Etobicoke for a repeat concert to that done at Scarborough a few weeks previous. The corps put on an excellent performance even though there had been some hasty changes in the repertoirs. Its easy to see that the corps has been improving steadily since the first parade in May and if this can continue with no 'slacking off' then the corps shall be just great by September.

Keep working at it, guys.

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CONTEST SCORES

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BRIDGEPORT, MAY 23rd:

Blue Rocks 71.95, Lancers:69.75, Boston Crusaders:67.60, Garfield:66.75, Blessed Sacrament:66.55

KENOSHA, May 30th: Blue Stars:67.9, Cavaliers:66.35, Vanguard:64.2, Kilties: 62.25.

TORONTO: JUNE 6th: Cadets LaSalle:70.1 St. Josephs, Batavia:69.65, Royal Lancers: 63.2, Firefighters:57.55, Marauders: 51.5, Les Cavalaieres: 47.2

QUOTES FROM THE GOYS IN THE JR. CORPS:

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"It makes a man out of you, both physically and mentally." ...Derek Branton.

"Optimists are the best organized group around."...Peter Byrne, soprano.

... "A solid record, never beaten, never matched."...George Nasello, Soprano.

... "Winning."...George Tamaki, Mellophone.

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CROSSWORD PUZZLE:

CLUES ACROSS:

1. Combined with 14 down  
A well known B.S.Corps.
6. State of World Open.
10. Part of Optimists  
Organization.
12. You may have been one  
if your from Montreal.
13. Corps Show Caption.
15. Might call her if you  
are thirsty.
16. You and me.
17. These go with downs.
19. What boys become.
21. Your place in the  
line is sometimes call-  
ed this.
23. Needed in battle of  
Britain. (abbrev.)
25. Kind of drum.
26. Top show in U.S.A.
28. Some drum shots are on  
this.
30. Takes care of corps  
activities in Canada.
32. A cover.
34. Poetic over.
35. Letters before Rever-  
ies.
37. Mexican for Mister.
39. Spanish "Yes."
40. Friend.
42. Exclusive news item.
44. Soloist might be this  
of the show.
45. Home of Les Compagnons.

This is a New Guy!  
You can tell he's a New  
Guy 'cos he looks like  
a New Guy.



This is an Old Guy!!  
You can tell he's an  
Old Guy 'cos he looks  
mean & nasty & has a  
big nose.



Gee whizz, Old Guy sir,  
yours knees!!!



What about my knees?



Well, Old Guy sir, I've  
been watching them!



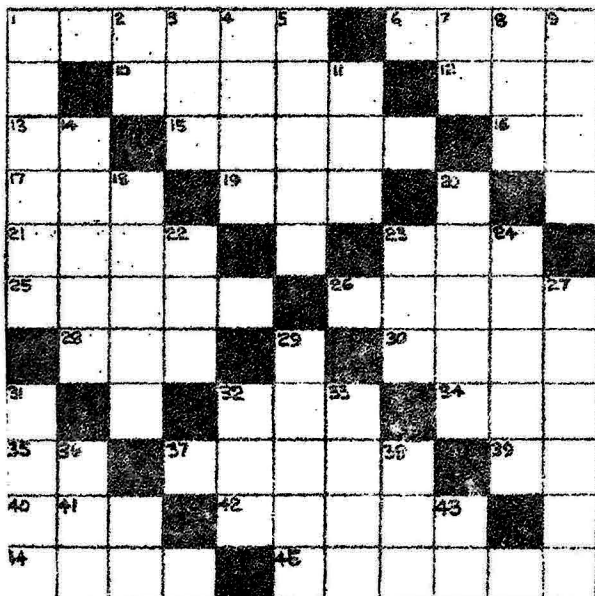
I'll have you know I  
took a course in  
knee-lifting.



Well, you must have  
heavy knees, 'cos you  
don't lift 'em very  
much, Old Guy, sir.



I can lift 'em if I  
want t----- er ---  
well -- er -- blush.



CLUES DOWN:

1. Month of the Provincials.
2. Metric measure.
3. May be in a sandwich.
4. Dutch cheese.
5. If your from Argoine you may be one.
7. Morning.
8. Stitch together.
9. Better not be out of this.
11. Years in a decade.
14. See one across.
19. Describes a boom.
20. Something you believe.
22. Two of these and you'd have a drum.
23. Part of a circle.
24. Exactness in these is essential for good dressing.
27. Scene of U.S. Open.
29. Mr. Macciocchi's name.
31. With 32 down, name of Quebec corps.
32. Means "The" in Quebec.
33. Lots of errors spell ----.
36. Household pet.
38. Steal.
41. Los Angeles. (abbrev.)
43. Bucks are bought by the ---. (abbrev.)





THE OPTIMISTS DRUM CORPS of Edmonton, Alberta, an all-girl corps, held their Awards night in April. Corpswomen of the Year was awarded to MISS DEBBIE WALKER. Another highlight of the evening was the presentation of a corps flag. BILL SIMON, former Drum Major of CHESSMEN and YORK LIONS is now living in Edmonton and they hope he will take over the drill instruction of the corps.

THE MARION CADETS can have only what might be called HEAVEN in so far as rehearsal facilities are concerned. They PURCHASED a former ARMORIES and now, after suitable renovations have a large acoustic auditorium, 5 other rehearsal rooms plus a special soundproof DRUM ROOM, equipment storage room, equipment repair room and a fully equipped snack bar. They also have meeting rooms and office facilities. This year the Cadets will field 46 bugles, 18 drums, 39 guard and two drum majors. Thats right, 39 guard!!!

THE CITY OF MILWAUKEE has its own drum corps program...called the "Parade Of Champions" and is aired every Monday night from 10:00 till 11:00PM over station WUWM-FM.

1970 CORPS AROUND ONTARIO: A relatively unknown Corps in the usual circles in Ontario is the CAYUGA WARRIORS of Cayuga, Ont. Their bugle instructor is BOB STEVENSON, who was formerly an instructor with KINSMEN GIRLS, still instructs the Querum Colour Guard and was a former playing member of CONQUEROR & THE VISCOUNTS. The Warriors are a mixed boys and girls corps & have 21 bugles, 8 drums and guard of 6. They are a parade unit, do not compete and are not members of the CDCA.....A Corps that will appear for its second year in 1970 are the GOLDEN LIONS from Simcoe. They have 30 horns, 15 drums, and 24 guard. Drum Instructor is ROBERT JUDD who marched with Optimists in 1968. STEVE BAILEY is on bugles and also teaches St. Johns Girls of Brantford. ROBERT JUDD is also on drill.

THE 1970 ONTARIO CHAMPIONSHOPS will be held

August 22nd at Seagram Stadium, Waterloo. There is a large attractive park located adjacent to the stadium, which has good picnic facilities, a small zoo and a swimming pool...so if you or your parents want to make a day of it, the facilities are there.

See you in the pool. Halt for this issue!

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 THE DRUM MAJOR'S CORNER by Kerry Burrage.  
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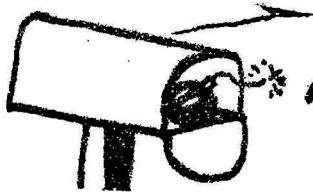
The subject is ROOKIES. Not the ones who joined last fall or even last spring, but the ones who have JOINED SINCE CAMP. They have been thrown into the midst of a whirlpool because the corps M&M drill, music etc is now in full swing and they have to learn all that the old rookies know in a very short time...at least the older rookies have months of basics behind them...the new Rookies have to get the basics and the show too; and they are in their first contest in a few weeks.

If he makes a mistake or doesn't dress the line right away then you can rest assured that the instructors know it. Should a rookie make a mistake please explain what is wrong and help him correct the error. The newer Rookies are to be heartily congratulated for their endurance and stamina and interest under the concentrated conditions of the weeks of June.

When Nationals have come and gone and the season is over and that Rookie is still in the corps shake his hand on a job well done. Until then, at least be understanding and of help.

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 WILL THIS BE CAVALIERS'  
 YEAR IN THE U.S.A. ???  
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 Word has it WATCH THE 27<sup>th</sup>  
 LANCERS' in the EAST..  
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**WE GET LETTERS...**

Letters from  
our readers...

19 Snaresbrook Drive, Rexdale, April 27th., 1970.

Dear Don:

We enjoy reading GCC each month and particularly enjoyed "A DANA IN THE LIVES OF SOME COW ROUSSELERS" by Jim Kane. Thought you might enjoy Doug's mother's version of the rescue of her son:

Know one realized that when Doug's mother arrived at the hole, still exhausted from completely replacing the seat of his trousers for last years "Nationals" The "Larry-ette that was "Randy" had a tripple "Snaresbrook in it. The Green Machine that was needed to un-Snare the tripple snare was missing a Chlcago screw...so a White Buck was called to assist her, while the Green Machine marked time. Only the fact that the entire performance took just under 13 minutes allowing her time for coffey and plume pudding when she arrived back at her Shrine, saved her from blowing her mind and hitting High-C on her bass drum.

Sincerely, Joyce Harrison.

1126 East King St. A & B, Preston, Ont. May 3, 1970.

Dear Mr. Daber:

Thank you very much for Green Capsule. It was just too much!!! Enclosed is a one year's subscription fee. Best of luck in 1970.

Mr. W. McLeod.

300 Bright Street, Sarnia, Ont. May 12, 1970.

Dear Mr. Daber:

I am terribly sorry for not writing sooner to thank you for the wonderful items you sent me way back last October. I got top marks for my Opti p project and all my friends in Diplomats and Lionettes couldn't believe that I actually wrote to the corps Director of the fabulous Green Machine!

I made it to the Ontario Individual Championships last Feb. and was very impressed by one of your tenor drummers...not to mention the snares and rifles. I was disappointed that your double bases weren't there. Optimists are still my favourite corps all round. Wish the corps would come to Sarnia this year.

Would some of your drummers like to correspond with another drummer? My address is:

Fernando Rocco, 300 Bright St. Sarnia.

The Dip lomates 1970 repertoire is:

OFF THE LINE: "Live Till I Die."

COLOUR PRESENT: "Requim for The Masses."

INTO CONCERT: "Going Out Of My Head." (68 Opti)

CONCERT: "Hurt So Bad."

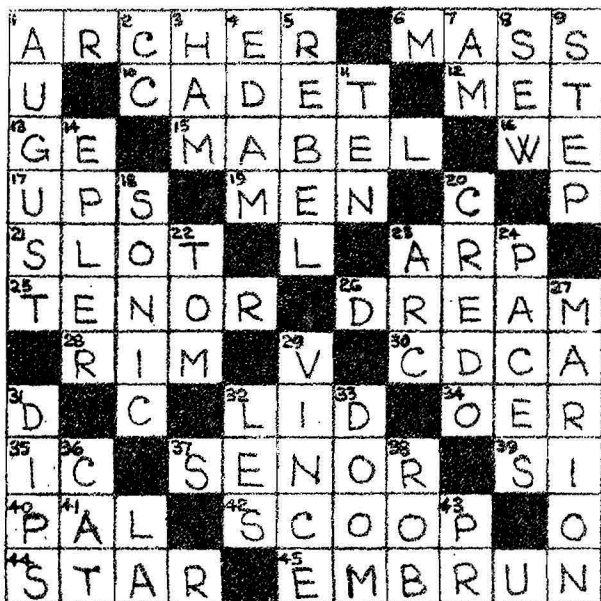
OUT OF CONCERT: "The Joker." ('68 Opti)

OFF-THE-FIELD: "Where Do I Go?"

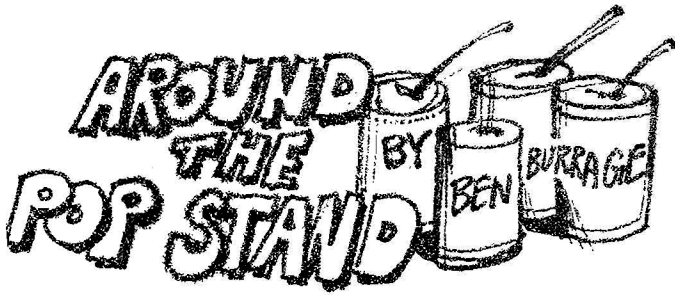
Look forward to hearing from your guys.

Yours sincerely,

Fernando Rocco.



\*\*\*\*\*  
WRITE TO GCC. WE ARE ALWAYS INTERESTED IN YOUR THOUGHTS & OPINIONS ON THE OPTIMISTS & DRUM CORPS IN CANADA AND THE U.S.A.  
\*\*\*\*\*



"Hey, did you see the way those cops looked at us as they drove by?"

That was BRIAN HOGAN addressing the GROUP gathered around the rear of my station wagon (otherwise known as The Pop Stand).

PETER MCGILLAN replied, "They didn't seem surprised at all. You'd think they would at least ask if they were loaded?...the rifles, that is."

"Yeah!" laughed someone, "Here they come again!" JOHN O'LEARY hollered ... "Wave your rifle, Freddie!" (Everyone knows that Freddie is really JERRY MCGUIRE)

The above incident took place outside Lord Dufferin school at rehearsal one Thursday night. I suppose the second time round by the police car was to be sure we weren't setting up for a bank job, knowing that neighborhood.

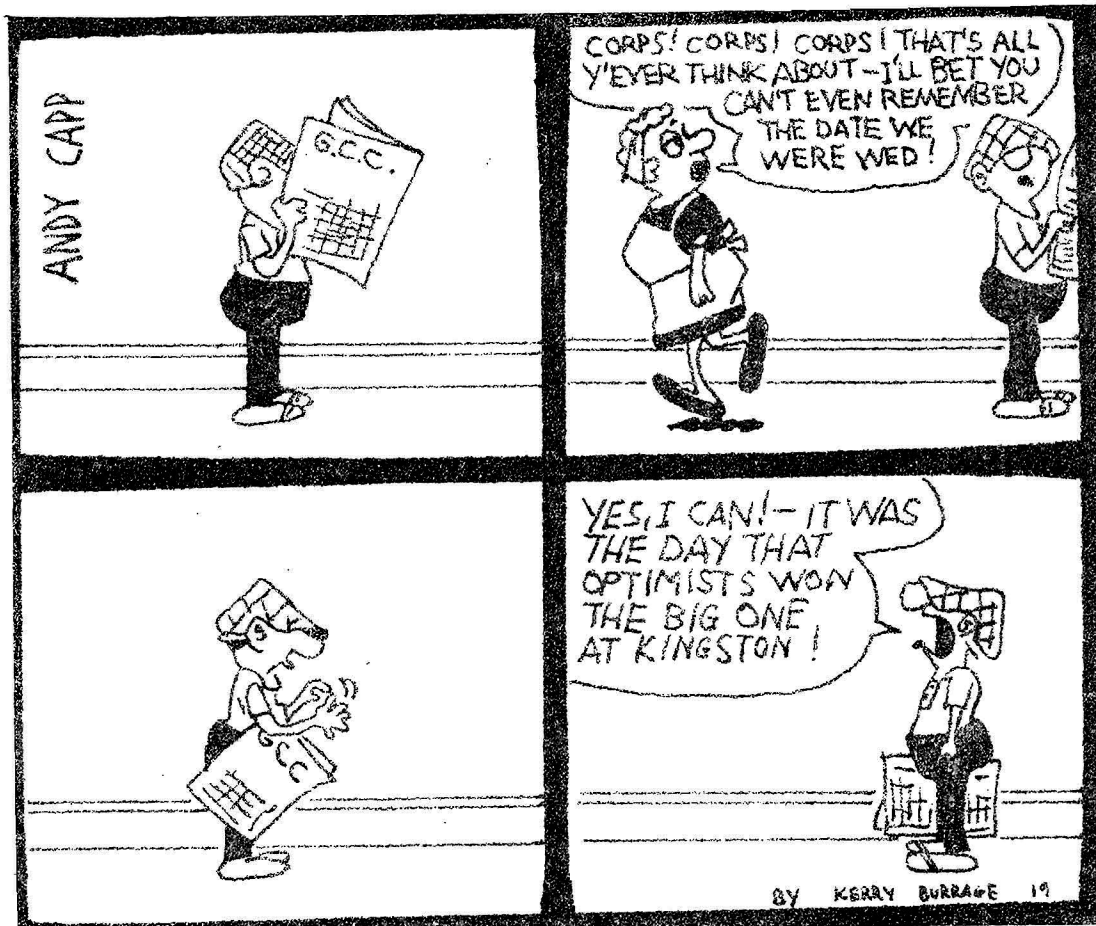
Needless to say, it was our rifle line working out on the lawn in front of the school.

The names mentioned above have such a decided Irish flavour about them that I sometimes feel tempted to make a survey of religions in the corps just as a point of interest. And that brings back another memory...

Last June, when we went to Batavia, Mr. Daber, who I used to think was a heathen, had pre-arranged a Mass at St. Joseph's in Batavia for all us Catholics who had been unable to attend in Toronto, due to such an early start on leaving the city.

The Church we attended was ST. JOSEPH'S Corps home Church and all the corps members attending were in uniform as we had just completed an afternoon contest. The uniforms seemed to add to the solemnity of the Mass, rather than detract from it as one might think. JOHN TIERNEY and GEORGE NASELLO served for the delightful old priest who was so sincere and fatherly that I have often mentioned it as being one of the nicest church services I have been to.

Another feather in DON DABER'S plume for looking after our spiritual well-being, besides the countless other chores he handles. Do you think there is any truth in AL



TIERNEY'S thought that VERN JOHANSSON actually honeymooned in a tent at KEETING PARK????

Looks like this round of the 'Pop Stand' is being served to the RIFLE LINE because they bring forth another item...It was our last night at the LordDufferin school and I was on my way out to the station wagon to open up the pop stand when I was at once assailed by an irate neighbour of the school. He was dressed in rumpled blue-grey trousers and what was once a white shirt. As he weaved towards me trying to look at me with eyes that were turning slow circles in their sockets, he said, "Hey!...by golly that was enough! That one word "Hey" revealed a set of teeth you wouldn't believe. They were like a snooker set just returned from a snuff-chewing contest. And the fumes...if I'd lit a match he would have gone off like a rocket.

"Hey!!!" he repeated, "Are you in charge of thosh shtabbing them rifles in the ground?"

"No, L'm not," I replied, truthfully.

"Well, I've never sheen the likesh of it!! I'm an old sholdier and I had 14 men under me and they never, never ever done anything like THAT!!! I'm going to bed in ten minutesh then I'm going to call the scopsh!!!"

"Oh, don't worry about it" I said, trying to quieten him down a bit..."They are old rifles that don't fire anyway."

"That don't make no differensh! I'm an old sholdier and they'll get used to doing that and then, one day they'll want to fire their rifles and they'll blow up in their faces and then they'll be in trouble!" (I had to agree there) "I'm going to phone the copsh right now, you shee if I don't."

BERNIE ROELKE had come over and now replied, "Go ahead, call 'em. You keep saying you're going to call 'em, so call 'em." Then Bernie had a coke to settle his nerves while the complainant wobbled down the street to his house.

A while later, 'rainbow teath' came staggering out to a waiting car and as he passed, he yeld..."I'm giving you a ticket when I get back, you shee if I don't!!!"

I guess the ticket would probably read, "Peddling pop and chips while allowing rifles to be jabbed into ground" or vice versa.

The incident has a serious side, as well as the one just told. Old soldiers have as much respect for their rifles as they do for their wives---in some cases, more.

Hear the one about Instructor RAY ROUSSEL calling a special rehearsal of the BassBaris but making a number of phone calls to confirm their attendance. When he dialed through to MIKE CLIFFORDS number, as supplied by the Director, he asked for Mike and Mike came to

the phone. The conversation went like this, we understand...(with effervescent enthusiasm...)

RAY: "Hello, you lucky little animal, you have a rehearsal tonight..."

MIKE: "?"

RAY: "Yes, indeed. Keating Park. 8:00PM!!!"

MIKE: "?"

RAY: "Come on man. Lets get with it. Rehearsals at 8:00!!!!"

MIKE: (incredulously)... "For what?"

RAY: "The corps man, the CORPS!!!"

MIKE: "What???"

RAY: "Hey, what's the matter with you? I said you have a rehearsal tonight at 8:00PM"

MIKE: "Yea, I know. But for what???"

RAY: "Say, isn't your name Mike?"

MIKE: "Yes."

RAY: "What's your last name?"

MIKE: "...MacArthur."

RAY: "Oh." (a definite lackluster of tone, subdued dynamic voice) "I think I have the wrong number..." Clank!!!

So goes the dial of fate from the Bell Telephone, names lists and similar first names. Perhaps Ray should have carried the conversation a little further with Mike MacArthur. We might have had another recruit. See you round the POP STAND.

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#### GREEN MACHINE SPUTTERS AT WATERLOO

by Janet McGillen

Seagram Stadium, Waterloo, June 6: Tonight was the first contest in this area as sponsored by the Flying Dutchmen. It was a double event opening with the Golden Triange "Jr. B" competition then the Red Carpet Sr. Competition of the second half. Between the Gold and the Red sections the Green Optimists put on their first field show of the season..

The Golden Triange "B" section featured the Midlanders, Sarnia Marching Angels, St. Johns Girls, Opti-Knights, and for the first time in Canada the Greece Cadets and Tri-Town Cadets of New York state.

The TT Cadets were most unique with their "Down on the Farm" outfits and music. The square dance in the middle of the show is something not likely to be done by any other corps...it sure caught the viewers by surprise and soon had them toe-tapping and hand clapping.

Optimists did exhibition and the Executive should be commended for putting the corps in uniform so soon after completing the M&M drill. But after watching rehearsals on drill for the last number of weeks in Toronto, I can only assume that stage fright

got the better of them. It seemed a few individuals had to carry the whole corps. The Off-The-Line was great and flowed into the drum drum solo 'Blue Rondo' then suddenly the Machine began to sputter from a minor percussion malfunction (a dropped drum stick from the triple bases) but DM Vern Johansson kept his cool, brought the corps to a halt, gave them a few seconds to compose themselves and then directed them on to the kind of finish expected of them. I was impressed with the rifle line,

especially. They put on an excellent show and after a rough and uncertain beginning a month or so ago they now are beginning to look like the HOGAN-ROELCKE team have been together for years. Impressed also with JOHN ROOD's cymbal work. Adds much GE.

It was unfortunate the Optimists didn't do a better show on their first field effort but as it was got the impression the people who pay, those in the stands, thought they were terrific, giving them a standing ovation.

Congratulations to MIDLANDERS on winning the Jr. "B" section of the contest and the AMBASSADORS the Sr. division.

# AH HE EEEEEEE 1970 CAMP

by your  
roving reporter  
RAY ROUSSEL

Recently faded into exhausting obscurity, CAMP NORVAL must be proclaimed as one of the most productive and enjoyable spring sessions we have held in our long 3 previous years of "Bring Your Boy To Camp for a Weekend" sojourns. It was distinct from our previous weekend workouts...Orillia, Gravenhurst, Communist Camp Calamity '69...in that we didn't have to hurdle barriers created by man or nature.

In the past the corps was endowed with refreshing spring thunderstorms, cold that was near absolute zero and edibles so remarkably bad that a Biafran waif would have turned up his emaciated nose in pious disgust. But, this year of 1970, we were blessed with blazing sunshine, staggering waves of insipid heat and a menu that contained more than enough in the way of palatable food. Indeed, the gods were once again smiling on the Green Horde.

FRIDAY, MAY 29th. The Corps arrived at camp, a veritable wilderness sanctuary nestled in the rugged suburbs of Georgetown. Here would be re-enacted the high Drama and colour that has become a hallmark of the Optimists over the years.

Events got underway as the corps assembled in the dining lounge for their assigned quarters and some general announcements intersected with a short bugle rehearsal. This was an absolute "de riguer" affair for the Rookies sported fashions ranging from moth-eaten Parisian to "Squid Inlet", Newfoundland high fashion late-evening attire. A most Honourable Mention must be given firstly, to DOUG "ORK" YOUNG for his stunning Aunt Matilda crinoline ensemble; secondly to Doug Roberts for his breathtaking mini, and last and certainly least, to the remainder of the Rookies, including Pregnant Sam.

Breaking up early with the intention of obtaining as much rest as possible for the morrow some guys took this as a direct invitation to create a little hell. The usual camp skulkers were out in full force and some cabins animalized until 3:00 A.M.

SATURDAY MAY 30th. Up with the furry forest creatures at 7:00 A.M. many of us trooped apprehensively to the cookhouse. Bearing in mind that the quality of the food (if keeping with tradition) would be somewhat akin to crushed glass, decomposed herbs and roots and flavoured plankton we discovered to our complete amazement that the food was not only hot, but tasty and good looking as well. Yes, Camp was really shaping up.

After breakfast, rehearsal ensued till 4:45 P.M. with time out for lunch. Supper came and went with everyone copiously gorging themselves, then into section rehearsals for an hour.

INITIATIONS: As darkness engulfed the surrounding countryside, tension began to mount as everyone prepared for the annual Rites of Lucifer. Numerous fiendish contraptions and an arsenal of missiles and hand-to-hand ammunition were quickly stockpiled.

The rookies, as per custom, were assembled in the dining hall going through their pre-initiation fear or whatever.

On a preordained signal the massive initiation machine was set into motion. Stealing furtive glances into the coal-black country-

side, the rookies noisily shuffled to the front lines. Occasional blood-curdling screams erupted from the bowels of the bush where the main tactical arm of the old guy force was firmly ensconced.

Then, the rookies began to move into the war zone. Thirty-nine strong, they trooped along the regulation trail where ingenious assault maneuvers were put into action to test their battle endurance. Coming through remarkably well, the rookies seemed in high spirits as they marched down to the campfire. Headed by the intrepid, blundering "Ork" who led them down the wrong trail the rookies finally regrouped on the lower slope for the free-for-all, er..... main assault.

With their mutilated faces turned away from the proceedings the rookies waited silently as they were gorily processed individually by the old guys and their despicable apparatus. Over very quickly, the operation was hailed as a resounding success combining total coverage, increased efficiency and fire-power along with maximum troop participation.

Since this was a bloodless (?) event, the rookies splashed into a swift running river waiting nearby to disengage themselves from the malodorous tokens bestowed on them by the old veterans.

When everyone had cleaned up we had a short spirit rousing session and then on up to the cafeteria for cookies and hot chocolate.

Then it was on to bed. The night passed relatively quietly except for completely unfounded rumours that an enormously bulbous black inner tube was doing a couple of turns around the camp area at two in the morning. Except for Don Daber, who claims the tube sprang out of the dark at 46 miles an hour on a direct collision course, all else deny any knowledge of this latex phantom.

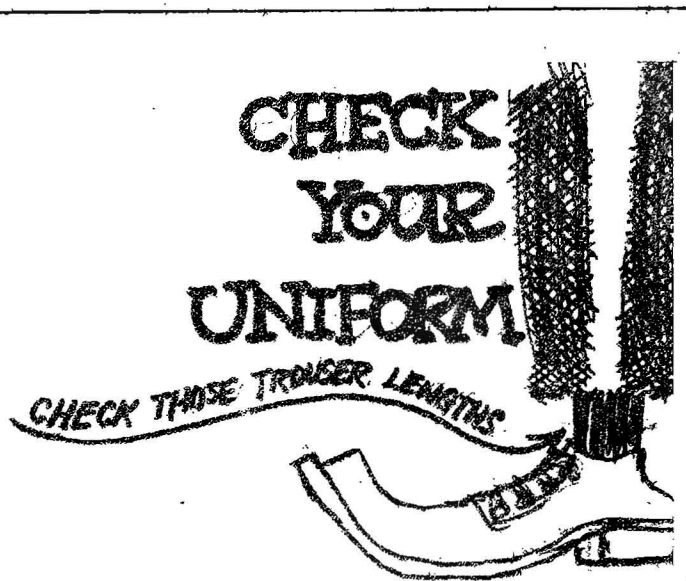
SUNDAY, MAY 31st: Again, a bright cheerful day heralded us upon awakening. Dashing to the cookhouse, the corps devoured a hearty breakfast and then repaired to section rehearsal.

The guys were out in full animal force save two rookies, Randy Haid and Mark De Cloux. These two four foot gentlemen seem to develop a rare malady commonly found only in aboriginal Pago Pago and the Lesser Antilles. Referred to as Sucki-Sucki this disease strikes often, usually at the convenience of the infirmed. Characteristics include; sweet, sickly smiles;

dull, pallid eyes and dramatic, stage-impression shuffling movements. Well done guys, a superior performance.

After lunch, the corps stalked to the starting line a tore through the show till 4:30 P.M. After brief announcements, it was homeward bound.

A most successful weekend and by all indications a most successful season.



**CHECK  
YOUR  
UNIFORM!**

CHECK THESE TROUSER LENGTHS

DABER

HOW'S YOUR CONSCIENCE? *by Brian Hogan & Bob Dobson.*

+++++ +++++

TRY THIS QUIZ AND SEE HOW YOU SHAPE UP AS AN OPTIMIST:

- 1 ( ) Are you attending all rehearsals?
- 2 ( ) Are you on time for all rehearsals?
- 3 ( ) Do you practice at home?
- 4 ( ) Do you THINK at rehearsals about your drill, music, flagwork, etc.?
- 5 ( ) Do you always bring all your equipment to rehearsal?
- 6 ( ) Do you keep all your equipment in top condition?
- 7 ( ) Do you act like #1 at all times, if at practice or not?
- 8 ( ) Do you have self pride when someone comments, "Hey, are you in the Optimists?"
- 9 ( ) Do you pay your dues on time...month by month?
- 10 ( ) Do you try to act like gentlemen in public places?
- 11 ( ) Do you help the newer rookies at all times, whether he is your personal Rookie or not?
- 12 ( ) Do you think COMMON SENSE on all matters in relation to the Corps?

It all adds u p to 12!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

# WEDNESDAY IN GREEN

ADOPTED BY ALAN ACRON

Monday is blue. Some people may say it's yellow or red or sometimes they may even say it's orange. But, according to all trends, surveys, and also's, it is blue; sometimes turning purple about five, five thirty, six or even six thirty, as the case may be. However, Wednesday is definitely green---all day.

Now you may say, "Why?" Why is Monday blue? Why not Tuesday blue or Thursday blue or Friday blue or even Saturday or Sunday blue? "Why?" (You'll notice I left out Wednesday but everyone who knows, knows that Wednesday is green.)

Now you may say, why is Wednesday green? But that is a very ridiculous question and you shouldn't even ask why. Wednesday is green, green, green and sometimes even four times.

## SUMMARY: MONDAY

Q: Why is it blue and purple after five, five thirty, six or six thirty as the case may be?

A: Blue Monday; (a) It sounds correct. (b) Tuesday is brown (c) the main reason: Wednesday is green!

## SUMMARY: Tuesday.

Tuesday is brown. It fits. There is no browner day than Tuesday. Some uneducated people may tell you Thursday is brown, but these people are uneducated. Educated people the world over will tell you Tuesday is brown, brown, brown. (Also maybe four times)

Therefore Brown Tuesday: (a) It sounds correct. (b) Monday is blue. (c) As we all know, Wednesday is green.

## SUMMARY: Wednesday.

Wednesday is green and there is not any reason to go further. Wednesday is definitely green---That is a fact---Green Wednesday.

## SUMMARY: Thursday.

Thursday, Thursday.

You may think, What colour could Thursday be? Or maybe you never thought about it. But, if you did, you surely would be in a quandary as to what colour Thursday would be. Monday wasn't tough---most people know Monday is blue. Tuesday might have been confusing as some uneducated people confuse it with Thursday, but most educated people know it's brown. Wednesday, we all know, is green. But Thursday.....Thursday?? What colour---? According to most O.L.D.S. it is white. Most Y.D.R.'s say aqua. But the fact is, Thursday is definitely orange; sometimes tannish-orange.

Orange-Thursday; (a) It sounds correct---tannish-orange Thursday. (b) Monday is blue, sometimes turning purple after five, five-thirty, six or six-thirty. (c) Tuesday is brown. (d) Wednesday is green, as we all know.

ATTENTION JR. CORPS: 1970 TRIPS

(1) On each trip there will be be work crews assigned. Crews will be advised in advance and names will be posted on the door of the bus on the day of the trip. These crews will be responsible for loading of equipment UNDER the bus.

(2) EACH MEMBER OF THE CORPS IS RESPONSIBLE FOR HIS OWN EQUIPMENT

(a) On arrival at the bus, each member must take his equipment off the truck and place it in a straight line beside the bus he is on.

(b) Uniform bags are colour coded. Green for bugles, Black for drums and Wine for guard. All bags are to be hung together by section. Generally, bugles on one rack, drums and guard on the other. Each member will hang up his own uniform.

(c) Each member will place his shako and bag of personal belongings on the racks in

the bus he will occupy.

(d) Each man is to unload his own equipment, moving it into the dressing rooms.

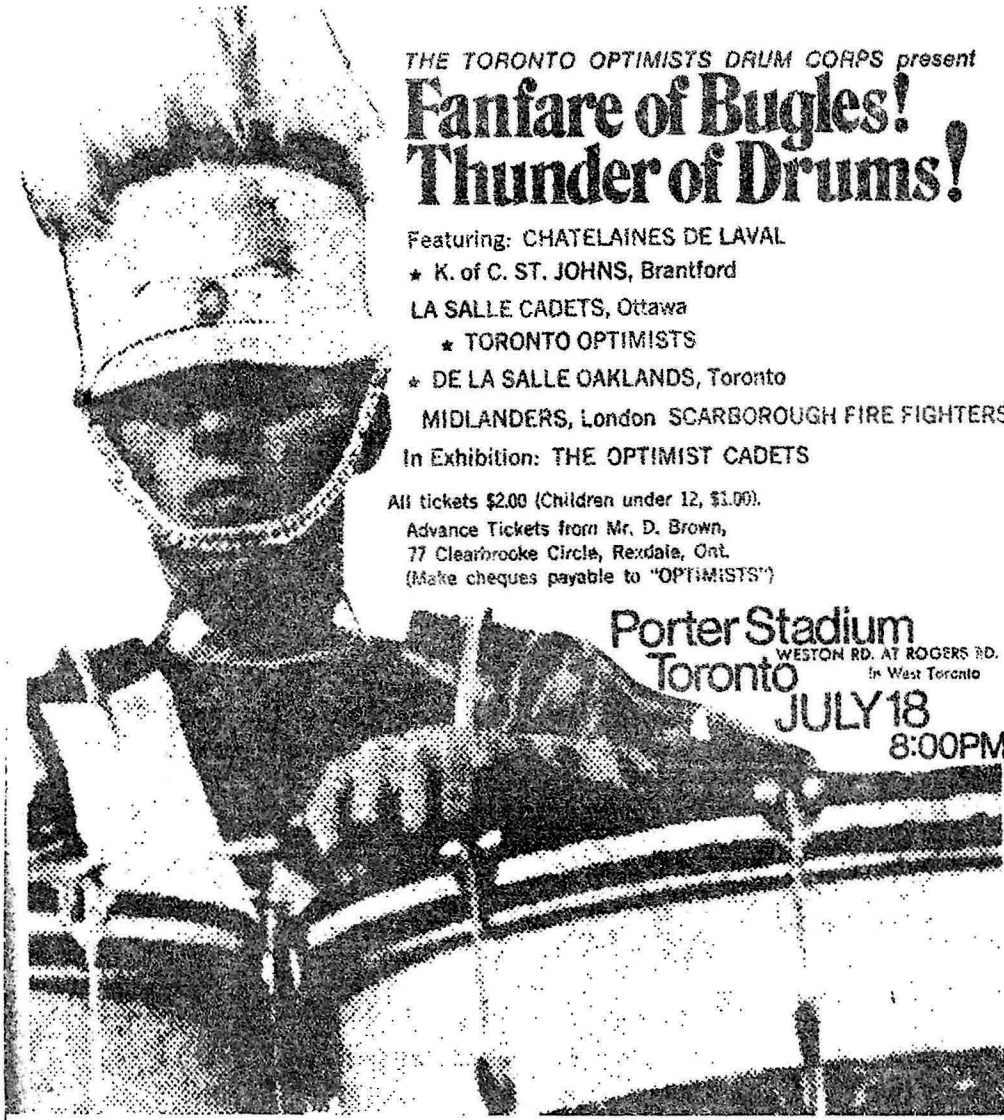
(e) Each man is responsible in the same order, to load the bus after the contest and to make sure all equipment is removed from the bus on return to Toronto.

(f) Take your uniform home.....DO NOT leave it on the truck

DO NOT EXPECT ANYONE TO LOOK AFTER YOUR EQUIPMENT.....NOT THE EXECUTIVE..... NOT THE EQUIPMENT DEPARTMENT.....NOT YOUR BATHER.....NOT YOUR ROOKIE. YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE AND WILL BE HELD RESPONSIBLE.

NEXT DEADLINE FOR ARTWORK, POEMS, ARTICLES, LETTERS, ETC. FOR G.C.C. IS: JULY 11th!\*\*\*\*\*

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THE TORONTO OPTIMISTS DRUM CORPS present

# Fanfare of Bugles! Thunder of Drums!

Featuring: CHATELAINES DE LAVAL

\* K. of C. ST. JOHNS, Brantford

LA SALLE CADETS, Ottawa

\* TORONTO OPTIMISTS

\* DE LA SALLE OAKLANDS, Toronto

MIDLANDERS, London SCARBOROUGH FIRE FIGHTERS

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JULY 18  
8:00PM