

GREEN



CAPSULE COMMENTS

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION

OF THE TORONTO OPTIMISTS DRUM AND BUGLE CORPS
Editorial Offices — Suite 302, 205 Keele St., Toronto 9

Beginning
our **7th**
yr.!

Vol. 7 No. 1

JAN-FEB-1967





WE GOT CARDS FROM...

A word of thanks goes out to the following, who sent Christmas wishes to the Optimists.

- Rita Roy, Twin City Crusaders. Micheal Riley, St. Mary's Crusader. Canadian Commanders**Blair Flagal Don Mountford**Florence L. Wells. Les Laurentiennes Girls Drum Corps. St. Patricks Imperials. Troop 12 B.S.A. Indians. Les Senoritas Drum Corps. Les Diplomats De Quebec. Bill & Patti Holloway**Keith Morgan Roy MacKenzie**Joe Barr. Bob Hoehn Jr.**Travelling Bob. Bronco, Mary, & Paul Saban. Le Chatelaines De Laval Drum Corps. Ralph Shapiro**Gord C. Robinson. Jack Mann (Sarnia Lionettes.) Le Sphinx De Ste. Therese. Dave Shaw**A. Shepard. Les Dlablay**Al Peczeniuk. Fay & Francis O'Donnell**Film House Frank & Julia Wilcox & Sons. The Bouvets Family**Joel Henricks. Metro Toronto Police Association. The Blue Saints Drum Corps. Ed & Marlene Banni**Dave Shano. Mel Cunningham**Micheal Racine. Emerald Statesmen Drum Corps. The Berkshire Pom Poms Drum Corps. Hanover Lancers Senior Drum Corps. Bert & Doris Rodgeron**Dave Johns O.Y.B. Lamplighters Drum Corps. Dorothy & Fred Blazey. Pickering Blue Notes. Hugh McKorkindale**John Gibson. Betty & Joe Waters**Gord Hopeson. The Fessler Family**Dave Collins. Ron Gault**Lord Athol Layton. Patt & Earl Lindbergh**Scout House. New York Canadian Association.

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ATTENTION - CORPS MEMBERS

WE WANT YOU

TO WRITE FOR G.C.C.

CONTACT THE EDITOR - VERN JOHANSSON.

- LIST OF DEADLINES FOR G.C.C. Vol. 7#2---March April Issue--MARCH 18. #3---May June Issue---MAY 18. #4---July August Issue--JULY 18. #5---Sept Oct Issue-----SEPT 18. #6---Nov. Dec. Issue-----NOV 18.

MEMBERS OF THE CORPS: This is your paper---write for it. See the Editor.

... THIS SPACE RESERVED FOR JOHN SHEARER

INSIDE THE CORPS:
(cont.)



year. One guys hands turned "GREEN." (the right colour, anyway.) The crowd asked us to play after our horns, lips, fingers, bodies, etc., had thawed out. We didn't play too badly. The Polar Bears, and Eskimos liked it. "Oh well, this week Cobourg, next week, Baffin Island in a contest with The Baffin Island Abom Nibles Drum Corps." The trophy is a 12 foot icicle!!

Wondering what the picture at the left is all about? Its a reserved spot for our Equipment Manager, John Shearer. He is in the Hospital trying out a loooong range Metrecal Program. Hope to see you real soon, John. The Equipment Department just doesn't carry as much weight without you.

Bell, it has finally happened. We have driven our Corps Director, Don Daber, to the depths of insanity. He has this terrific advertising book, that he uses for reference material. Its a beautiful book with full colour pictures, but the novelty is the fact, that neatly tucked in the center section of this book is the latest issue of "EAD Magazine." "Isn't it great what Drum Corps do for you, Don?"

Did you know that our illustrious Music Director, BARRY BELL, has a song named after him? The Optimists Cadets are playing it. Actually its a test piece that Barry wrote for the Cadets, and he has placed his name at the top of the page, so the Cadets actually think that is the name of the song! "See what Drum Corps do for you Barry!"

MIKE THYS thought he would be first to be last, but he did finally pay his dollar for C.D.C.A. (CHEAP) We understand that the strain of teaching the Opti-Cadets was too much for JOHN MacDONALD to handle by himself, so he has pulled in outside help from DAVE SIMMS. I hope this helps John to beat it into their heads.

Three Green Cheers to ED COLLINS who is building our new cymbal cases, in his shop class. Hurrah! Hurrah! Hurrah! VEZIFA is finally out of debt. He shot all his bill collectors. DOUG MacKENZIE bought Daber's tape recorder, made by the J.A.Pan Company. MARK!!! He also had his mouthpiece engraved, in old English lettering yet. LOOOOW!!!

GORD LEMEVRE must have prayed a lot lately because after four years, he finally got a new drum case. You can go back to being an atheist for another four years, Gord. After being in our present rehearsal school for over four months, TERRY WARBURTON got lost when he came. Whats it like to be so well liked that nobody will tell you where the rehearsal school is? Maybe if you used BAN you would have more friends. PAUL THOMPSON is being bounced around the big horns.

INSIDE THE CORPS (cont.)

Through hail, snow, sleet, muck, sickness, hoof & mouth, plague, cracked lips, broken fingers, fractured skulls, GALEMITIS, and Tungus Face. The following had a perfect attendance record for the month of December. BERNIE (stopped at customs) ROELKE, DAN (Metis) VILLENEUVE, DAVE (younger Metis) VILLENEUVE, RICK (#3) COOPER, STEVE (brother of well known football star) JARVIS, GARY CRAIGON, ROBERT LEONARDS, PETER (Crash) RINCLER, VERN (Swede) JOHANSSON, MIKE FINK oops, sorry, TIERNEY, Dwight (slim second) AUGUS, STEWART (RRRRring) YOUNG, DAVID (Grade six) TIERNEY, KEITH (n.n.n.erve) BUCKINGHAM, GEORGE TAMAKI, HIDE MORI, ALAN (Accorn) ACORN, DAVE (the man from E.A.R.R.I.E.) BLEVINS, and EMILIO (traveling man) RUSSO.

BARRY STINSON can't play his horn these days because of an ABSCESS MOUTH! Toooooo Bad. How did you enjoy your trip to Montreal RUSSO? He tried to make it around the world in ninety minutes, via a super version of Pappa Russo's famous Pizza Crust. He just wrote a new song called "My Pizza Pie is PIZZEE All Over The Place."

DeLasalle School must be mellowing, because JOHN McALPINE is still wandering around the halls in his Optimists Corps Jacket.

To close off this delectable, delirious, dilemma, we have written, we would like to put in an add..... $4+2=2$. See what Drum Corps do for us!

"Good night David," "Good night Chet." Good night Cinderella, you PUMPKIN." "Wake up Sleeping Beauty," "Go to 345678 (She uses the number system to swear) Prince Charming." "Sleep tight Karis."

FIMI (Like in fish)



Remember This?

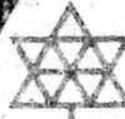
P.S. The cartoon at left shows exactly what we stated earlier in this column, about the parade in Cobourg. Note the poor frozen look that this individual bears upon himself. He suffers in silence all for the betterment of Drum Corps.

Oh see his frozen nose,
As he blows and blows,
But he cannot linger,
Or he will freeze a finger.
Standing in this cold,
Looking very bold,
Looking over the scene,
As his hands turn GREEN.

BORN FREE

1967

EVENTS



Here for all of you Optimists Fans, are some of the places we will be appearing at, so far this year. Hope to see all of you Drum Corps Fans there.

1967 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- Saturday February 4th-----CONTEST-----Ontario Individual Championship
Toronto.
- Saturday February 25th----CONTEST-----"Sound Off 67" War Memorial
Rochester, N.Y.
-
- Saturday March 4th-----CONTEST-----1967 National Individual
Championships. Ottawa, Ont.
-
- Saturday April 1st-----CONCERT-----Stoney Creek, Ont.
- Saturday April 15th-----CONCERT-----Michael Power School, Toronto.
-
- Saturday June 10th-----CONTEST-----Batavia, N.Y.
- Saturday June 17th-----CONTEST-----3rd Shriner's International
Toronto.
- Saturday June 24th-----PARADE-----Welland, 1967 Rose Festival.
CONTEST-----Welland, 1967 Centennial.
-
- Saturday July 1st-----PARADE-----North Toronto Dominion Day.
CONTEST-----Port Hope, Ontario.
- Saturday July 15th-----CONTEST-----Chemical Valley Festival, Sarnia
- Sunday July 23rd-----CONTEST-----CNE, Toronto, Metro Police.
-
- Saturday August 19th-----CONTEST-----Kingston N.Y. (tentative)
- Saturday August 26th-----CONTEST-----Ontario Championships, Waterloo
-
- Saturday September 2nd---CONTEST-----North American Invitational,
Toronto.
- Monday September 4th-----CONTEST-----CNE, Toronto.
- Saturday September 9th---CONTEST-----1967 Nationals, Ottawa, Ont.
- Sunday September 10th-----Expo 67, Montreal, Quebec.
-

 ONTARIO INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIPS.....Sponsored by Canadian Commanders
 SATURDAY FEBRUARY 4th, 7 P.M.....War Amps Club, Bay & Wellesley.
 PRELIMINARIES TO BE HELD AT 3:00 P.M. ADMISSION .50¢.
 GENERAL ADMISSION FOR THE FINALS.....1.50.
 FOR FURTHER INFORMATION WRITE TO BILL RIDER, 427 CRAWFORD ST. APT.12.
 TORONTO, 4, ONTARIO.

Welcome.. ROOKIES

ROOKIES, ROOKIES, ROOKIES, the delight of every "Old Guy." This year we have a very ample supply of "Rookies," whose names I will list below. This list is for all you people who have the opportunity to see our Corps this year, and would like to memorize the names of the "SLAVES" of the Corps. These Rookies are working very hard, and are a great asset to the Corps this year, but before I build up their ego's anymore, I will just tell them that they still have to go through the INITIATIONS. If you make it through these perilous straits, you will be a full fledged member of "THE BIG GREEN BAND."

- #8---DWIGHT ANGUS-----Bugle.
- #9---RON HARKNESS-----Bugle.
- #10--JOHN CHRISTIE-----Bugle.
- #20--BILL LEE-----Bugle.
- #23--BOB BURMAN-----Bugle.
- #30--FRANK MANEA-----Bugle.
- #33--JIM TAYLOR-----Drums.
- #36--ROBERT LEDWARDS--Guard.
- #37--BRIAN UPPER-----Guard.
- #42--PETER RINGLER----Guard.
- #43--GEORGE THOMPSON--Bugle.
- #44--DAVID VILLENEUVE-Guard.
- #50--PETER BARCLAY----Bugle.
- #52--DAVE JANE-----Bugle.
- #53--BARRY KEARNS-----Drums.
- #57--PETER CARELL-----Bugle.
- #60--TOM FELTS-----Bugle.
- #62--DAVID JEFFS-----Bugle.
- #63--DON CAMPBELL-----Bugle.
- #66--DAVE TIERNEY-----Bugle.
- #69--STEVE JARVIS-----Guard.
- #73--MIKE MASLOWSKI---Guard.
- #74--WALLY CAMERON----Drums.
- #75--GEORGE TAMAKI----Bugle.
- #70--GARY CRAIGON-----Guard.

THE FIRST BIG SHOW CONTEST OF 1967!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
 Saturday, February 25th., 8:00 PM at the War
 Memorial Building, Rochester, N.Y.
 "SOUND OFF FOR '67"

in Exhibition: THE Famous HAWTHORNE CABALLEROS!!!!!!
 Competing Corps---THE TORONTO OPTIMISTS**CHESSMEN**
 LES METROPOLITAINS**COMMANDERS**WHALERS**U.S.AIRFORCE

announcement



SUNDAY, JAN. 22, 1967---Mr. Don Daber, Director of The Toronto Optimists, announced today, the appointment of Jim Warburton, 20, as the 1967 Corps' Publicity Director.

Mr. Warburton brings to his new office considerable experience in the publicity and public relations field. His present knowledge of photography was gained as CBC-TV News Dept. cameraman. He moved from there to the promotion department of Capital Records.

In his hours away from the corps Jim finds time to apply his knowledge as a serious artist and also in a more relaxing art form, cartooning. Jim's brother, Terry is also in The Optimists, on solo soprano. There are times, at home, when Terry's horn is drowned out by Jim's Tenor Saxophone.

The Corps Executive looks forward to accelerated publicity for 1967, under the able direction of Jim Warburton.

He may be reached at 453 Rhodes Ave., Toronto 8, Ontario. Phone: 466-6303 (area code 416)

GOT PROBLEMS

?

READ OUR
"Advice from Gilda"

IN THIS ISSUE

drummers are NOT nuts!

BY DAVE SIMMS



Why are Drummer's believed to be a little "Off Their Stick?!!"

This is a question which has long pondered the Craniums of many, especially drummer's. Merely because a person completely demolishes objects by pounding on them, or mumbles drum patterns instead of saying Grace, there stands no reason to conclude that he should be sent into exile, like another well known personality pictured above.

Strangely enough, I have often heard people claim that a drummer is an absolute BLANK!!, and once he puts a drum on, he is in a Zombie world that is exclusive to drummer's. They also say that he has literally beaten his brains out (probably with his stick). This is a popular misconception, I think!!

Actually, a Drummer, because of his superior mind, has merely segregated himself from the Hybrid Universe surrounding him, and has become immersed in a clangorous nightmare of flying drum patterns.

From this nightmare, he tackles the task of producing the glorious rythms which will please you-----**HE HOPE!**

This, I'm afraid, is the only possible explanation I can give for that delicate question above. However in the next issue, I shall try to give you some facts behind my reasoning. I will then divulge into the history of drumming just to straighten out you poor misguided individuals. I'm sure you wouldn't like me going around saying that Horner's or Guarder's were nuts would you?

In closing I would just like to say that man, since the beginning of time, has beaten his way through history, and who can tell, maybe one of your early relations was.....**A LITTLE OF HIS STICK.....**

(Continued next issue.)

EDITOR'S NOTE:

...Of course drummers are not nuts!SEE the happy "not nuts" drummers. They are practicing. THAT is not nuts! But they are on the street. They are on a street in Cobourg. It is 20 below zero! They are not nuts?



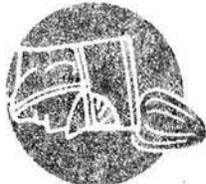
Patric Photo

+++++

DOMINION*DOMINION*DOMINION*DOMINION*DOMINION*DOMINION*DOMINION*DOMI

By the By. Just in case it may have SLIPPED your minds we are still collected DOMINION CASH REGISTER SLIPS, for the Optimist Club. If you have any please give them to Mr. Don Daber, Suite 302, 205 Leele Street, Toronto, Ontario.

PROFILE ON THE CORPS.....VERY JOHANSSON



PROFILE ON

MIKE
TIERNEY

MARC BURNS

For this months Profile I took the opportunity to interview two of the relative newcomers to the wild, wacky, world of Drum Corps. MIKE TIERNEY, and MARC BURNS. Both spent their first year in the guard. This year, however, they have both switched positions. Marc has moved into THAT Section on cymbals, and Mike has moved into the hornline on second soprano.

Now that you have the basic outline of our Hero's, let us continue.

MIKE TIERNEY

- Q: How old are you, and how many years do you have left in the Corps?
 A: I am 14, and have 7 years left in the Corps.
 Q: When did you first get started in Corps?
 A: My Father had been interested in Corps for 3 years, and he used to read Drum Corps Magazine, where he came across some of Mr. Daber's classic literature. Then he persuaded me to join.
 Q: What are your future Corps ambitions?
 A: Just to stay in Optimists and some day be their soloist, and follow MacKenzie's sterling example.
 Q: What are your favorite Corps, American & Canadian?
 A: American; Chicago Cavaliers, and Rochester Crusaders. Canadian; Optimists & Commanders
 Q: What was your best trip last year?
 A: Kingston N.Y. because it was lots of fun, and the Director let us out of our cages.
 Q: What was your worst trip of the year?
 A: The Grape Festival. Because I don't like GRAPES!
 Q: What are your plans for the future, after School?
 A: I plan to be an educated Drum Corps Fanatic.
 Q: One final question, if you feel up to it. What is your Pet Peeve?
 A: Guys that ask me what my Pet Peeve is!

MARC BURNS

- Q: How old are you Marc?
 A: How old are you?
 I can see that this is going to be and interesting interview.
 Q: How did you get interested in Corps?
 A: A friend of mine who is in the Corps, asked me if I'd like to join, and I said, "Are you kidding, BANDS are for kids." But, he kept nagging me until I finally went to see a Competition, from there on in it is self explanatory. Here I am you lucky people.
 Q: Being a Rookie last year, what do you think of our Rookie system?

- A: I refuse to answer that question on the grounds that it might incriminate me.
- Q: What is your secret ambition now that you are in Corps?
- A: If I told you that then it wouldn't be a secret any more. But I will say that I hope to be in the Corps, when we are IN in the U.S. of A.
- Q: What has been the most exciting moment for you since you have been in the Corps?
- A: At the Nationals, when Pierre on the Idiot Phone said "And in second place....."
- Q: What are your favorite Corps?
- A: American Jr; Royal Airs. Sr; Skyliners. Canadian Jr; Optimists, Sr; Commanders.
- Q: What are your feelings now that you are no longer a Rookie?
- A: Now that I am no longer a Rookie, I don't have any feelings.
- Q: Who has been your Drum Corps inspiration?
- A: Ron Kaiser, even if he is a Maniac.
- Q: To close off this idiocy, what is your Pet Peeve?
- A: Paying fines for mouthing off....As if its any of your business, STUPID.

Well, there you have it. I hope this gives you an idea of the kind of guys we have in our Corps. If it doesn't give you an idea, don't worry about it. You wouldn't want to know anyway. Next issue, if I'm over my nervous breakdown by then, I will give you another of these informal hash sessions with two more fine, upstanding, creative, talented nuckleheads that we have in our BAND.

COVER CONTEST!



the BIG 20! WIN TWO CENTRE CHOICE SEATS AT THE SHRINERS' 3rd INTERNATIONAL JUNE 17th! ...ENTER THE G.C.C. COVER CONTEST! There are 21 identifiable people on this month's cover. List 20. Where correct ties the winner will be judged by draw. Send your entry to GCC, or if a member of the corps hand them to the Drum Major. Contest closes FEB.19th. Answers and winner announced in March issue of GCC.

NOTE: Cover contest not open to the staff of Green Capsule Comments or their immediate families.

the 1967 June 17 SHRINERS' 3rd annual INTERNATIONAL

THE CAVALIERS (CHICAGO) American Legion Champions
THE BOSTON CRUSADERS, C.Y.O. Champions 1966
THE GARFIELD CADETS, American Legion Champions
THE RACINE KILTIES, V.F.W. National Champions 1964
THE TORONTO OPTIMISTS, Canadian Junior Champions
THE LA SALLE CADETS, OTTAWA
DE LA SALLE, TORONTO

ADVICE FROM GILDA: (cont.)

Dear Boo:

How many towns are there in the U.S. with more than a hundred people?

Dear Gilda:

I am a parent of one of the boys in the Band and since they are going on a trip soon, I would like to know if Corps Directors ever get lost?

C.D. Mann.

Dear C.D.

Only if they follow their own directions.

WOULD YOU BELIEVE?

AGENT 9

WOULD YOU BELIEVE THAT.....

RICK COOPER has been with the Optimists for nine years? THAT... York Lions started in 1962 and finished in 1967. THAT...There used to be a kid in the Bantams called Ricky Shearer? THAT...Opti has only lost four contests in Canada, in nine years? THAT... Optimists carried the first Euphoniums ever seen on an M&I field in North America? THAT... the word Optimist is not used at DeLasalle? The only word to get across the same idea is anti- pessimist. THAT...C.C.C. was first published in 1960, and has run continuously ever since? THAT The Bantams, now called Cadets, were once nicknamed "The Green Giants?" THAT...JOHN SHEARER went on his first diet in 1962? THAT...we used to have a Ladies Auxilliary, made up of mothers of guys in the Corps? THAT...TED KBY, Drum Major of the Ambassadors, was once in the Optimists? THAT...Doug MacKENZIE was one of the first Optimists to have a soprano horn equipped with a rotor? THAT...Optimists once had an American as their Drum Major, JIM McKONKEY? THAT...there was once a Rookie Revolution? THAT...

Optimists added Contras to their hornline in 1964? THAT...the present uniform was first worn by the Corps in Rome N.Y. in 1962? THAT...DAVE HARRIS, and DAVE SIMS graduated from the Bantams, to the Big Time. THAT...you should run warm water through your horn at least once a week. It improves the tone? THAT...STEVE COOPER was Guard Captain, and Drum Major of the Bantams? THAT...the best chocolate bar salesman in the Corps is PAUL THOMPSON? THAT...an Optimist is an 80 year old man married to a 20 year old girl, and looking for a house close to a school? THAT...Micheal Power Knight used to be Columbus Drum Corps until 1964? THAT...we started to look for an equipment truck in 1960? THAT...there was once an Alumni Club and a Booster Club? THAT...BARRY BELL during his playing days, held the Canadian Individual Solo Bugling CHAMPIONSHIPS? THAT... Optimists were beaten twice several years ago by the Golden Monarchs...At Hockey? THAT...MIKE THYS joined the Corps in 1962? THAT...your Corps was once known as The Port Credit Pear Pickers? THAT...in 1961 RON KAISER was the Corps Baby?



EVERYBODY QUIET!
I have arrived.
Drum Corps
answer to Joe
E. Brown, I will
keep you up to
date on all
the latest

gossip and scandal from the world of Drum Corps. So, if you will all kindly CLAM UP, while I do the talking, we will be underway.

SPEAKING ON BEHALF OF: The Metropolitans from Montreal, and The St. Patricks Imperials, from South Milwaukee. Both these Corps have sent me Press Releases, pertaining to new music, etc. for 1967.

The Metropolitans are playing This is a Great Country, Who's Sorry Now, O'Carrilon, TaRaRa, My Heart Belongs to Daddy, Fly Me To The Moon, After You are Gone, and After Your Love Has Gone. They are going Jr. A this year, and are available for parades, contests, exhibitions. For further info, write to Howard Lacey, 5846 Beurling Avenue, Verdun, Quebec.

The St. Patricks Imperials are playing, New World Symphony, Kerry Dancers, Colour Presentation of Armed Forces Themes, Alabama Jubilee, Sana, Sana, Sana, and Greensleeves. They are very busy building for next season. They have just finished a very successful membership drive, Good Luck, Imperials. For information on their Corps write to Dale Karrigan, 429 Montana Avenue, So. Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 53172.

BIG BLAST FROM CANADA: YORK LIONS are no more. They have officially folded. This is unfortunate because there is already a lack of Canadian Corps, and losing another one doesn't help much. Its too bad that most of the fault for this folding goes to one person. Its a good thing that all Corps don't rely so much on one particular individual!

STRAIGHT FROM THE VOCAL CHORDS: January 21, St. Catharines, The Canadian Open Guard Championships. This was an all day event, with Prelims in the afternoon, and Finals at night, and would be very interesting if you enjoy Colour Guards, and there are many people that do. The afternoon Prelims were won by Aquinas Institute from Rochester N.Y. They were, however, dumped in the night Finals by a very deserving pack of skirts, in the form of The Sherborne Girls, from Sherborne, N.Y. They showed a lot of spirit in the evening show. A special Congratulations goes out to The Optimists Guard who placed very admirably considering that this was their first competition.

MOUTHING OFF IN GENERAL: I understand that LaSalle Cadets cannot appear in the Ontario Individuals. They had already booked a show for the same day as the Individuals. This also means that they will not be able to appear at the National Individuals.

LaSalle & Audrey Burns got into a rather heated discussion at

THE BIC MOUTH (cont.)

the last Ontario Chapter meeting. The discussion was in regards to the handing out of minutes of the meetings. It seems that Audrey did not know that this was part of her job as secretary.

TIDBITS TO CHEW ON AND DIGEST: The Ontario Individuals will be held on February 4th. at the War Amps building, at Bay & Wellesley Sts. The Shriners Show promises to be one of the best contests ever to be produced in Canada....with such Corps as: The Chicago Cavaliers, The Boston Crusaders, The Racine Kilties, The Garfield Cadets, The Toronto Optimists, DeLaSalle, and LaSalle Cadets, you can't miss. In case you haven't noticed by now, thats BILL SIMON out in front of Chessmen.....DON J. MOUNTFORD has been appointed the new Publicity man for D.C.A. I'm sure he will do a great job for them... Arnprior Lions are reportedly doing very well, with a very much improved Corps over last year.....Canada's Marching Ambassadors are still Blacklisted from the C.D.C.A.....BROTHER XAVIER was down at York Lions rehearsal the night they folded, trying to recruit new members for Del.....The guys in the Golden Monarchs have apparently turned their rehearsals into Volleyball Games. Thinking of joining a volleyball league fellows?...St. John's Girls working hard to defend their Championship. They are getting new uniforms this year.. Michael Power Knights have a new sponsor. It is connected with the Shriners, which means that they should have lots and lots of money....The Drum Corps Encyclopedia is out and costs \$28.00, but I would think it is worth it....Fleetwood has been Blacklisted by the Ontario Chapter of C.D.C.A....Michael Power has a new Corps paper. Welcome to the "Writer's Circle, Knights...

Well, time to button up my lip, and let you do some of the talking.

Winter is truly upon us now. While the boys in the horn & drum lines of the Chessmen Drum Corps are learning their music for next years show, the girls in the Guard are working hard to perfect their drill for winter competitions.

For those of you who aren't familiar with Guard Shows; they consist of Colour guards which do a drill of four to six minutes in length, on a specified drill area. It is somewhat like a field show, only shorter and smaller, with no music.

This year is the second year that The Chessmen Guard has travelled to the United States to compete in both the New York-Canadian and Mid-Western Colourguard circuits

Chessman Ghatter...

The Chessmen Drum Corps
ST. CATHARINES, Ontario.

Incidentally, The Chessmen had the opportunity of sponsoring the first Guard Show in Canada.

At 8:30, Friday night November 25th, the guard, our drummer, and members of the board and instructing staff, left St. Catharines for Des Plaines Ill., just outside of Chicago. It was our first show of the season, and we were all excited about the whole thing.

We reached our destination at 6:00 Saturday morning, and ate a hardy breakfast, after which we piled back on the bus and went to practice at a school provided for us. Last minute adjustments were made in our show. After rehearsal, we were given free time until 5:00 p.m.

CHESSMAN CHATTER (cont.)

The show was to start at seven and we were to go on third. After getting into our uniforms, we talked about the show in a group (we find that this helps to relieve tension before a show.)

When the competing guards had finished, and the Corsaires had put on their exhibition, the retreat ceremonies got under way.

The Chessmen placed 13th, with a score of 62.8 and a six point penalty in violations to the Mid-West Circuit rules. These penalties would not have been assigned in the New York Canadian Circuit, due to a difference in rules.

After the show we went back to the Motel for a good nights sleep, before going to another show in Milwaukee.

When we reached Milwaukee on Sunday morning, it was still raining from the previous night, and unfortunately, we had no facilities to rehearse. We were on near the end of the show, so we had time to talk about the previous nights show.

We ironed out all the difficulties, and we were sure we had removed all the penalties. But, when the scores were announced we had placed sixth, with a score of 62.8, and 6 points in penalties.

To close off, let me give you a brief history of our Corps. The Chessmen were born in September 1965. This came about through the merger of The Majestics and Grantham Drum Corps, with a few members of the Hamilton Conqueror. The Corps calls St. Catharines it's home.

The Chessmen entered competition as a Jr. A Corps and placed sixth in the Nationals, which was said to be good for a first year Corps. Well, now we are two years old, and if things continue to go as well as they have now, we could go far in 1967.

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to drop me a line.....Till next issue,

Terry Kirkpatrick,
46 York Street,
St. Catharines, Ont.

THE CHESSMEN CORPS BANQUET.....By Bob Christie.

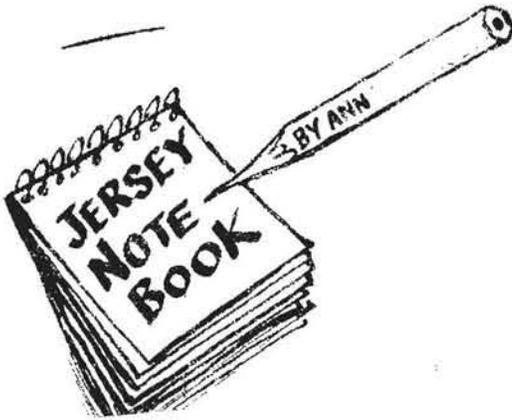
The Chessmen changed the idea of a Corps Banquet a little, by inviting a member of the Executive, and a member of the Corps from various Corps in their surrounding area. The Corps that took the opportunity of this free meal were; De La Salle, The Kinsmen Girls, Cadets LaSalle, and the Optimists.

A few of the Drum Corps notables there were: Fred Blazey for C.D.C.A. Mr. Bernie Beer for Ont. Chapter C.D.C.A. Vince Truni and Don J. Mountford for D.C.A.

After supper, the guest speaker, Dr. Finley Stewart, was introduced. His topic dealt with four freedoms: 1. The Freedom to Excel. 2. The Freedom to Believe. 3. The Freedom of Moral Judgment. 4. The Freedom to live a full life. This last freedom seemed to deal with Drum Corps, when he stated, "that in order to make this Freedom work you must take part in the activities of your community.

After Dr. Stewart's excellent talk, The Chessmen played their show for the year, and their Guard put on their drill show.

The Banquet went over very well, except for a power failure, which occurred while the Corps was playing on stage, but it was very well planned and ran smoothly, which made it a real pleasure to attend.



Greetings from "Jersey." Since this is my first column, I'd like to introduce myself. My name is Ann Tennissen and I was a member of St. Patrick's Cadets of Jersey City from 1957 until early 1966. Through this column I hope to bring you news of the corps in the Jersey area, both Junior & Senior.

There is not much activity in this area at this time. Most of the individual and guard contests begin later this month and early February. The Penn-Jersey Individuals are scheduled for Feb. 18th.

This contest is rapidly becoming one of the best around here.

Nov. 24th was the date of the New York, Macy's Parade. This annual event marks the arrival of Santa Claus and the official beginning of the Christmas Season. This year there were four Drum Corps participating. The Minisink Warriors, from New York, The Monroe All Girls, from Monroe, Georgia, and the Hawthorne Caballeros, and Muchachos. Both Hawthorne Corps looked big: Caballeros using 49 horns, and Muchachos using 40. The Muchachos horn line playing in two fronts, played, "Here Comes Santa Claus" just before the reviewing stand. At the reviewing stand, the Caballeros opened up, and both Corps marched past playing "Stranger's in the Night."

Blessed Sacrament gave an exhibition in Camden N.J. on Dec. 30th. They used 41 horns, and played "National Emblem" which they will use this season, for an "off the line." "Phantom Regiment" will be their "colour presentation". Although I did not attend this exhibition, I understand that they did have a very good sound for this early in the season. For an ending number they played "Auld Lang Syne."

Although St. Lucy's Cadets have not made any public appearances yet, they are also very hard at work. Plans call for them to play "On a Wonderful Day Like Today" for an "off the line", they will keep the same "Colour Presentation" and coming out of concert, they will play "If My Friends Could See Me Now," from the musical "Sweet Charity."

A Corps to watch this season is the Hawthorne Muchachos. This Corps has good potential and has been rapidly progressing for the past few seasons.

Another Corps reported to be expected a good season is the Bronx Kingsmen. All reports point to a larger hornline, and an improved sound.

It is also rumoured that the Caballeros are planning to revert back to an all Latin type of music. But only time will tell.

Well, thats all for this issue. I will be happy to answer any and all questions concerning the Corps in this area. Just write to me anytime at the address listed below. See you all next issue.

Ann Tennissen,
306 Armstrong Avenue,
Jersey City, N.J. 07305.

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THE GREEN MACHINE FROM CHICAGO**CAVALIER
COMMENTS**

By Tim Hicklin and Les Dlabay

Now that the great 1966 season is over, we will have quite a bit to relate from the eventful summer.

JUNE 11 - CHICAGO: This was the Royal Airs contest and our third of the year. Our show didn't seem to be as good as the previous two, but the drums did a great job while we got dumped in horns and G.E. horns (not the only time this happened). Cavaliers - 71.75, Vanguards - 70.4, Norwood Park Imperials - 69.37, Kilties - 60.9.

JUNE 18 - PARK RIDGE: This was our own contest with a fine lineup of corps, we put on a good show that the crowd went wild over. Vanguards - 71.13, Norwood - 71.12, Mariners - 65.95, Madison Scouts - 61.78, Millstadt Crusaders - 61.1, Kilties - 60.75, Viscounts - 45.3

JUNE 24, 25 - PEORIA, ILLINOIS: We left for V.F.W. State on Friday morning and had 10 entered in individual contests that afternoon. Among these 10, we had two firsts, 4 seconds, 2 fourths, a fifth, and a seventh. That evening we had the state parade, which we won. Saturday started with inspection and prelims where we received many good comments on our show. At the finals, we saw what was probably the Vanguard's best show of the year, but we topped it to win our twelfth consecutive V.F.W. State title. Cavaliers - 82.1, Vanguards - 79.65, Norwood - 77.75, Royal Airs - 74.35, Millstadt Crusaders - 70.25.

JULY 1, 2 - DUBUQUE, IOWA: This was the start of a long weekend, as we left for Dubuque on Friday night. On Saturday we had a morning rehearsal to try to beat the heat, the parade in the afternoon and the evening contest, which was our first look at the Troopers; who didn't seem to have the execution they had last year, but guess they did!!!!!! At this show we took fourth in horns to the Troopers, Kilties, and St. Paul Scouts?????? Cavaliers - 72.63, Troopers - 72.53, Kilties - 61.1, St. Paul Scouts - 56.4, Sky Ryders - 50.2

JULY 3 - DIXON, ILLINOIS: Another hot afternoon parade and an evening contest with very little competition as we won by 21 points. Other than that it was quite an uneventful day. Cavaliers - 75.33, Nisei - 54.03, Sky Ryders - 49.83, Jackson Raiders - 35.92, Purple Knights - 32.88.

JULY 4 - ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS: After we got up, which for once wasn't early, we had still another parade. The corps put on a good show, but we only got a 69; and for the first time in '66 there was another corps with a higher score. This was one time the drums got dumped. It was the last show for Tom Hartig, rudimental bass drummers, now in the Army. Troopers - 71.117, Cavaliers - 69.433, Madison Scouts, - 60.35, Jackson Raiders - 39.8

JULY 8 - MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN: Our next contest was the 'Midwest Dream' with it being held on Friday night. We put on a real good show and won all captions except G.E. bugles, won by the Argonne Rebels, to win this title for the third straight year. Famous Quote: "We need to get rid of 90% of the jokers" wise guy answer "and we wouldn't have a corps". Cavaliers - 74.167, Norwood - 69.133, Vanguards - 68.433, Madison Scouts - 64.633, Kilties - 62.533, Argonne Rebels - 56.7

JULY 10 - KENOSHA, WISCONSIN: We had Saturday off, and before we left for Kenosha we had a drill rehearsal. We went swimming before the contest and then put on a great show to beat by three points, the same corps we beat by 10 points on Friday. Cavaliers - 81.1, Madison Scouts - 77.8, Kilties - 76.4.

JULY 17 - McHENRY, ILLINOIS: After another Saturday off, we were in McHenry on Sunday to defend the title we had won for the last five years and we did it by almost that much. This was the last show for Rich Gately, of the rifle section, who is also now in the Army. Cavaliers - 79.03, Norwood - 74.05, Vanguards 74.0, Royal Airs - 72.5.

JULY 23 - SOUTH MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN: This was the "Wisconsin Spectacle of Music" with very little competition, as a matter of fact, none in our class. There were eight other corps, four A Class and four seniors. Despite the lack of competition the corps put on a terrific show. Cavaliers - 88.05.

JULY 24 - WOODSTOCK, ILLINOIS: This was one of the two shows all year that we lost both drums and horns, but we did take high M & M and G.E. by a good margin. Before the show we had our first revival meeting of the summer with the appearance of the Great Walzoo (PAT McCARTHY) and the sacrifice of CARL ROLARK. Cavaliers - 80.78, Vanguard - 77.98, Norwood - 76.35, Royal Airs - 75.02, Kilties - 70.7, Mariners - 67.9, Viscounts - 57.97

JULY 30 - PARK RIDGE, ILLINOIS: We got an early start, but we were quite satisfied at the end of the long day, for the American Legion State title. We won the prelims by three points, with the Royal Airs in second. The evening finals saw the corps put on a real great show and a score to go along with it. Cavaliers - 85.066, Royal Airs - 80.033, Vanguard - 79.816, Norwood - 75.633.

AUGUST 6 - NILES, ILLINOIS: Another local contest, this one for the championship of the Illinois Drum and Bugle Corps Association. There were eleven corps in two classes of competition, with us winning the A Class competition by only a small margin because of our being way down in horns. Cavaliers - 78.93, Vanguard - 78.63, Royal Airs - 73.82, Norwood - 73.23, Mariners - 67.82

AUGUST 7 - OTTAWA, ILLINOIS: The next day found us at the Crusaders contest in Ottawa with a good show by the corps, especially the drums, who won by a big margin. Cavaliers - 78.33, Vanguard - 76.12, Royal Airs - 71.98, Norwood - 69.88.

AUGUST 12 - DELEVAN, WISCONSIN: Another Friday night contest, as the start of three contest weekend, which turned out to be very cold. We topped the Troopers by a small margin because of a penalty, but they did the same twelve days later. Cavaliers - 75.98, Troopers - 75.52, Royal Airs - 74.07, Norwood - 71.6, Kilties - 68.72, Madison Scouts - 67.48

AUGUST 13 - MOMENCE, ILLINOIS: It started as a cloudy and rainy day which cleared up by contest time. We had another revival meeting before the contest, with Brinker as the sacrifice, which helped to bring up the corps spirit. The corps put on a terrific show and the crowd went wild, the results were also right. Cavaliers - 80.27, Troopers - 77.92, Royal Airs - 76.4, Vanguard - 75.0, Mariners - 66.08, Nisei - 57.48.

AUGUST 14 - SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS: We got into Springfield at about four in the morning from Momence, to regain the State Fair title lost last year. We won the prelims and went on to win the finals with a real good show. Cavaliers - 87.075, Royal Airs - 85.775, Millstadt Crusaders - 81.2, Black Knights - 77.9.

AUGUST 19, - CAVALIER HALL (CHICAGO): There was a big gathering on Friday night to see the corps off on our long Eastern journey. Once we were off, card games were the order of business with five going at once on Jones' bus.

AUGUST 20 - UTICA, NEW YORK: After being on the bus all night we arrived in Utica Saturday afternoon for a contest sponsored by the Magnificent Yankees. We were on first and won every caption except G. E. M & M. Cavaliers - 86.166, St. Joe's - 83.3, Magnificent Yankees - 82.383, Vanguard - 81.75, Racine Scouts - 81.05, New York Kingmen - 79.133

AUGUST 21 - JERSEY CITY, NEW JERSEY: We left Utica early on Sunday to compete in the Dream where once again we were on first of the competing corps. The corps received a fantastic ovation, which must have been the consolation prize. Blessed Sac - 83.283, Cavaliers - 82.45, Troopers - 82.283, St. Lucy's - 82.216, Kilties - 80.4, Royal Airs 79.466.

AUGUST 22 - NORTH BERGEN, NEW JERSEY: After the Dream we checked into the Chris-Ann Motel, our home away from home for the next few days. On Monday we were inspected for V.P.W. Nationals in the late morning, rehearsed in the afternoon and had the evening off.

AUGUST 24 - JERSEY CITY, NEW JERSEY: The first order of business was the prelims in which we finished second, behind the Troopers. The afternoon consisted of a very excellent rehearsal, time to relax and dinner before the show. We followed the Vanguards in the evening finals; from the time the corps hit the line until the last note of "Somewhere" it was THE show of the year, truly fantastic. When the scores were announced we had fell short again, but actually it was due to a penalty. Troopers - 90.45, Cavaliers - 89.65, Boston Crusaders - 88.55, Vanguards 87.4, Blessed Sac 87.25, Royal Airs - 85.15, St. Lucy's 84.65, Kilties - 82.75, St. Joe's - 82.0, Madison Scouts and St. Kevins - 79.7, Norwood - 79.4, Racine Scouts - 77.8

AUGUST 25 - NORTH BERGEN, NEW JERSEY: We had all day Thursday until 2 A.M. Friday free, which meant going into New York for many plus getting equipment and belongings ready to leave on Friday.

AUGUST 26 - WASHINGTON, D. C.: Friday we left Jersey for bigger and better things in our nation's capital. The trip meant seven hours free time on the New Jersey Turnpike for those on Jones' bus, because of bus trouble and we had to wait for a new bus.

AUGUST 27 - WASHINGTON, D.D.: Saturday consisted of rehearsal for another "Nationals", this one the American Legion. The evening was used to get equipment in shape for the inspection before prelims on Sunday.

AUGUST 28 - WASHINGTON, D.C.: We won the prelims by 1.1 over Sac, second, Boston, third, and Troopers, fourth. In the finals we followed Boston and Sac, with Troopers and Royal Airs after us. After the junior show, a fine senior show was seen. Hawthorne put on a truly superb show that evening, to regain the American Legion Senior National Championship. Cavaliers - 85.233, Boston - 83.066, Blessed Sac - 82.25, Troopers - 80.5, Royal Airs 78.516

AUGUST 29 - WASHINGTON, D. C.: Monday was the American Legion National parade and then we were free the rest of the day.

AUGUST 30 - WASHINGTON, D. C. : Tuesday we had a tour of the White House and Capitol building, after which we had a banquet given to us by our American Legion sponsor. At this banquet, Bill Linder was announced as new drum major and Steve Carlin' and Kurt Bloom were named new guard sargeant and assistant, respectively. After the banquet we went to Kennedy's grave and Arlington Cemetary as the last stop of the day.

AUGUST 31 - MALDEN, MASSACHUSETTS: We left Washington very early Wednesday and arrived at the Robin Hood Motor Lodge in Malden, Mass. (just outside of Boston) that afternoon. We had the evening off to do as we pleased.

SEPTEMBER 1 - HAVERHILL, MASSACHUSETTS: We had a rehearsal in the morning and time off in the afternoon until we left for the contest in Haverhill, where we won every caption. Cavaliers - 87.383, St. Kevins - 82.2, St. Mary's - 81.1, I. C. Reveries - 78.716.

SEPTEMBER 2, 3 - BEVERLY, MASSACHUSETTS: We left for the last leg of our trip Friday afternoon, going from Malden into Beverly. When we arrived we were assigned to private homes in Beverly and had off until Sunday afternoon. Friday and Saturday evenings were spent at "pawty" for most of the corps.

SEPTEMBER 4 - BEVERLY, MASSACHUSETTS: It rained and rained all day Sunday, so the contest had to be postponed until Monday. Because of this we left much earlier than expected, but before leaving, we played our routine for these very, very nice people of Beverly. You can't find nicer people than these.

SEPTEMBER 5 - CHICAGO: After the long bus trip it was "Welcome Home 1966 American Legion Champions" as we returned to that famous landmark of Logan Square, Cavalier Hall, which never looked so good.

SEPTEMBER 11 - MAYWOOD, ILLINOIS: This was the end of the line for 1966, the last show of a great season. It was the first time we had won this show since 1961. The show was the last for AL BRINKER, SAL CAMPAGNA, JIM COSTELLO, FRANK MOSTOWSKI, JIM PAWLOWSKI and STEVE WELLS. All will be missed as each was a true, hard working member. Cavaliers - 77.88, Royal Airs - 76.65, Vanguards - 76.28, Norwood - 71.02

So ended another season, but not just any other season, it was one that will long be remembered as one of the best.

TIME OUT 'ROUND CHICAGO': A word of congratulations goes out from us to the Optimists on their ninth consecutive Canadian National Junior Championship,....our corps is still in good shape, although we lost about ten from the 1966 corps we have gained more than that in new numbers that want to be a part of the "Green Machine" for '67..... booster items we now have available are new decals for 50¢ and 1966 records with us, Vanguards, Royal Airs, and Norwood, all four corps on two records for \$5.....as for the other corps in the Midwest, there is no word on anything they're doing as yet, but it won't be long before 1967 will be with us.

CLOSING THOUGHT - "the rung of a ladder was never meant to rest upon, but only to hold a man's foot long enough to enable him to put the other somewhat higher".

--Tim Hicklin, 6720 Palma Lane, Morton Grove, Ill.

--Les Dlabay, 6829 West Pershing Road, Berwyn, Ill.

I am pleased to announce that John F. Kennedy Stadium in Bridgeport, Conn. has been chosen for the site for th 1967 D.C.A. Championships.

Although the date is not, as yet, definite, it will take place over the Labour Day weekend with probable Prelims and Finals.

Scranton Penn. Nov. 12-13 - Following the recommendations of a meeting held some 7 months ago in New York City, DCA has been the instrument needed to form a National Judging Federation.

The prime objective of this meeting was to secure and present an open interpretation of the rules and regulations that govern Drum & Bugle Corps across the United States and Canada. Ten of the biggest and most active Judging Associations in the United States were invited to send 1 representative in each caption along with their Chief Judge for an agreeable and decision-making

session on rules as printed in the American Legion Handbook. Clinics were held in Horns, Drums and M&M on the highest plain possible. No personal vindictiveness was, at any time, indicated in any of the discussions or sessions.

November 15. It has been announced that Mr. Vincent A. Bruni will take over all duties relating to and/or supervision of the sponsorship and negotiations for present and future DCA Approved contests.

For further information in regards to sponsorship and approval for DCA Contest, contact Mr. Vincent A. Bruni, in writing, at 118 Woodrow Avenue, ROCHESTER, New York, #14609.



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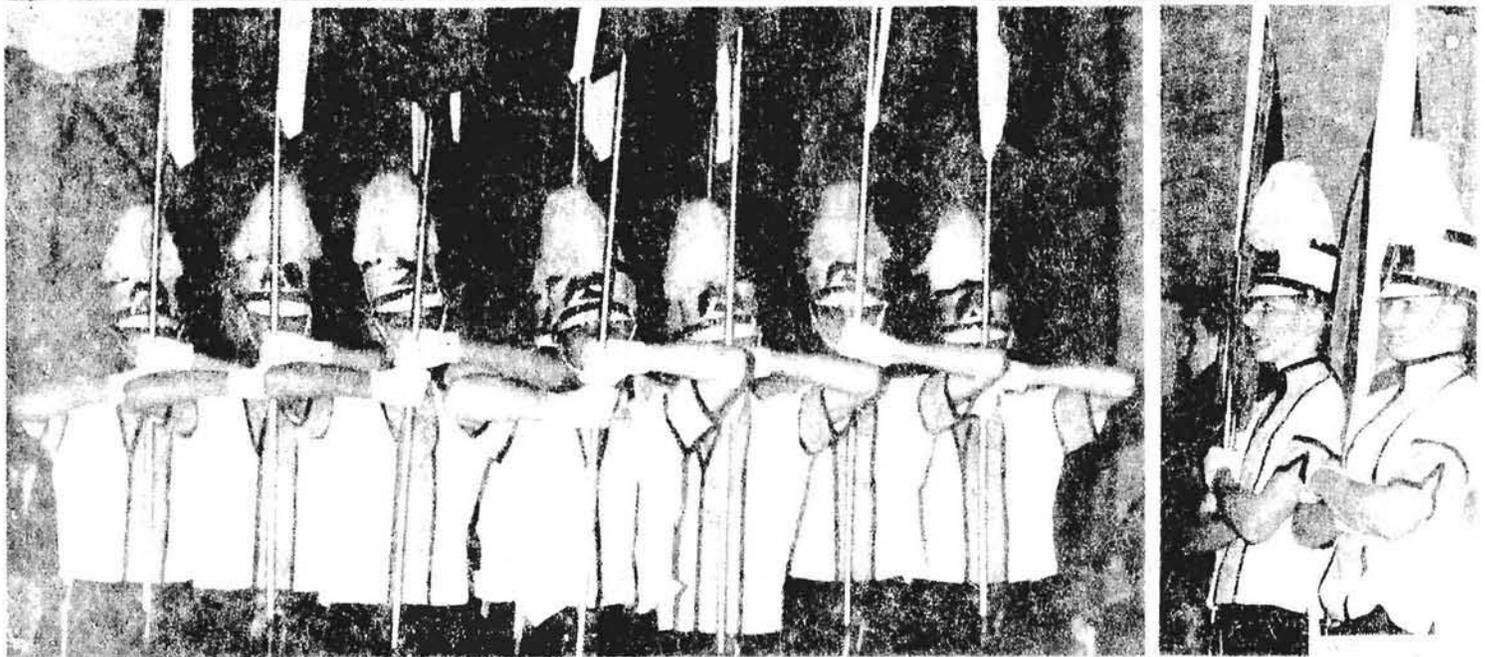
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GUARD SCORES GREAT ...

FIRST TIME OUT!



ST. CATHARINES, JANUARY 21, 1967.
The Guard of The Optimists Drum Corps entered their first competition today at the Chessmen's Guard Contest.

The preliminaries began at 3:00 P.M. featuring 18 Guards from North New York State, and Canada.

At 6:00 p.m. the results of the Prelims ushered twelve Guards into the night Finals. Months of hard working showed the results, with the placing of Optimists in 5th position, with a score of 91.64.

Under the able instruction of JACK ROBERTS, the 1967 Guard was the first Guard in the 10 year history of the Corps to enter

Guard Competitions.

CONGRATULATIONS must be extended to Jack, for being the first Guard Instructor that The Optimists have ever had, that has shown an interest in producing a competition Guard.

In the night Finals of The Chessmen's Guard Show, The Optimists placed 8th with a 2 point penalty. Their score was 88.76.

CONGRATULATIONS are also to be extended to the Guard itself for placing so very admirably in their first Competition.

JOIN THE CHAMPIONS!

THE TORONTO OPTIMISTS DRUM & BUGLE CORPS
CANADIAN JR. CHAMPIONS 1958-1959-1960-1961-1962-1963-1964-1965