

BLUE DEVILS

“DEVIL’S PRIDE”

Booster Club Newsletter

May 2008

CAMPS/REHEARSALS

Unfortunately, we were out of town for the earlier camp and are unable to give any report on activities. However, the brass line started their weekend rehearsals and all-days started on May 16.

Memorial Day camp - once again held at Mars - was a very successful one with lots of activity both drill-wise and music-wise.

Having the color guard with us on a full-time basis now is something we had been looking forward to.

Thank you all who stopped by that weekend and lend us a hand!

Some parents had a "Welcome to the Home of the Blue Devils" sign made up to replace the one taken down by the old entrance to the practice field. It is really nice.

Photos of Memorial Day camp can be seen on the corps' website. Various videos can be seen on Blue Devils' Fan Network.



OUR 2008 "A" CORPS DRUM MAJORS:

Brian Howard - Head DM (19): This will be Brian's third year as DM for the Blue Devils and third year in Drum Corps. Past drum major experience includes 1 year in middle school and 2 years in high school. Brian has 3



Jon-Thomas Duldulao (JT), Brian Howard and Andrew Rogers

semesters at the University of Colorado at Boulder as a music education major and also plays the French horn and bass guitar. Brian currently lives in Riverside, CA.

Jon-Thomas (J.T.) Duldulao-Lee (17): This is Jon's first year in the Blue Devils as well as his first year in Drum Corps. He has held a leadership/drum major position since the 6th grade and throughout his school career up until the 12th grade. Not only talented as a drum major, Jon also plays the tenor saxophone. Currently attending Jesse Bethel High School in Vallejo, CA, he plans to attend San

Francisco State University in the fall for the Biochemistry program.

To quote Jon: "I love the position and do everything I can to bring the best possible to it for those I lead."

Andrew Rogers (18): This is Andrew's second year as a member of the Blue Devils and first year in the capacity of Drum Major. Andrew performed as a member of our very talented trumpet section in the 2007 DCI Championship Corps. Currently a senior at Haltom High School in Haltom City, TX, plans are to attend Texas Tech University in the fall of 2008 to major in mathematics.

HOUSING AVAILABLE? Another request

Many members of the Corps have moved into the area over the last few weeks as we were having weekend Brass rehearsals and our "All Days" which started recently.

Some of the members are searching for apartments, but these are very limited for people wanting to rent for about a month and actually not having any employment!!

The Corps will be in town a bit longer than in the past as they will not be leaving until after June 21 when they leave for the rest of the season. If you have any available space, please consider housing one or more of these young people.

Apartments and the Holiday Inn can get extremely

expensive - especially when you consider the amount of money they have spent in tour fees, transportation costs, housing, etc. They are basically looking for a place to sleep (floors are wonderful) and to take a shower.

If this is a possibility, please give Kris Wills (Housing Coordinator) a call: (925) 586-7270



CONGRATULATIONS, RICK ODELLO !

It was recently announced our own Rick Odello has been elected into the 2008 DCI Hall of Fame.

Rick was involved through all the years leading up to the forming of the Drum and Bugle corps in 1971.

He became the percussion arranger and instructor in 1973 where he teamed up with Jim Ott to collaborate on the musical arrangements.

In only five short years, he helped propel the corps to back-to-back world championships and consecutive drum titles.

As a first year performer in 1974, a first impression of Rick was his amazing passion. He was the backbone of the organization and Rick helped set the "style" and

atmosphere for us to succeed. It was a joy to watch his unabashed and full out commitment for The Blue Devils.

The anything goes free spirit confidence was the reason we were able to be successful so quickly.

Rick's amazing writing, use of new equipment and partnerships with percussion companies were way ahead of his time. He set the foundation for all corps for many years to come.

The beginning years of The Blue Devils with Rick, Mel, Shirley, Mike, Wayne, Jerry and ALL, still have far reaching impacts on today's Blue Devils.

Without the founding instructors and management, we for sure would NOT be where we are today. They set the philosophies that still guide us today.

Rick has spent a lifetime both as a member of the Blue Devils percussion section as well as in a many-faceted leadership role. Rick is currently the Director of the "B" and "C" Corps.

The Hall of Fame was conceived in 1985 and more than 80 honorees have been so honored - all representing those who have been influential and instrumental in the continued success and evolution of DCI

Other members of the Hall of Fame with Blue Devil connections include: Jerry Seawright, Mike Moxley, Pete Emmons, Wayne Downey, Scott Chandler, Tom Float, David Gibbs, Fred Sanford, Stacey Lynn, Jack Meehan, Jim Ott.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN JUNE ?

Rehearsals every day except June 2, June 9 and June 16

June 8 - Tentative date for our Corps BBQ at Mars - sponsored by your Booster Club

June 21 - Picture day (early am), Family Day (we hope), and Precision West Evaluation Show

June 22 - Stockton show "Moonlight Classic"

June 23-26 - Corps practice at Summerville High School

June 27 - Clovis, CA show - Mid-Cal Tour of Champions - Buchanan High School

June 28 - Walnut, CA show - Corps at the Crest

June 29 - Riverside, CA show - Western Corps Connection

CONGRATULATIONS DCI "VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR"

Since 1988 DCI and the Friends of DCI have honored volunteers in the activity for their hard work and dedication. Those chosen from the many volunteer nominations submitted by drum corps staff members and directors to be so honored this year are: Thelma Fung from the Blue Knights, Marie Limpei from Pioneer and Greg Lowe from Carolina Crown.

Congratulations from the Blue Devils!

Just as a matter of information, the following volunteers from the Blue Devils have also received this very coveted award: Jeannie Hauck, Booster Club President Mary Cloyd, and Sonja Williams.

SCOTT JOHNSON "MAKE-A-WISH" UPDATE

A few issues ago we mentioned that our Percussion Caption Head, Scott Johnson, was involved in granting the wish (to get new drums for

his drum line plus meet Scott) of Raul Lozada in Southern California through the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

Not only did Scott fly down to meet Raul, Raul was given tickets to Finals in Pasadena, loads of items from Scott and the Blue Devils, plus having his wish granted.

Many of our Booster Club members have asked how the young man was doing. Following is a report we recently received from Scott:

"Raul's mother called me last fall to tell me that Raul's biological father was approved as a kidney donor, and that Raul was scheduled for kidney transplant surgery on December 3. His mom also called me after the surgery to tell me that the transplant was a complete success. I called Raul while he was still in the hospital and he told me he was doing well, and even had his sticks and drum pad in the hospital so that he could practice!"

"I also spoke to Raul after he was released from the hospital. Although he couldn't go back to school for a while, his body was adjusting well to the new kidney, and he



Raul Lozada and Scott Johnson

couldn't wait to get back out on the field with his drum line. He said he was interested in taking private tenor lessons. I contacted Jeremy Somers (BD tenor section leader this year - who lives in the LA area), and I am happy to report that Raul is indeed taking lessons from Jeremy now."

We heard through the grapevine that Raul thoroughly prized the items he received from Scott and rather considers him his "Drum God." Knowing Scott, we are not a bit surprised that he went above and beyond what could have been expected of him to make this young man's wish come true.





Dave Gibbs and Jack Kenner after the encore performance in Pasadena

MARINE TOUCHED BY BLUE DEVILS KILLED IN ACCIDENT

It is with the deepest regret that we must report the passing of Jack Kenner, one of the two young Marines who met with the Corps at the Rose Bowl last August after Finals.

Jack had recently returned home after serving two tours of duty in Iraq and was involved in a fatal motorcycle accident in California. Service was held at the Jefferson

Barrack's National Memorial Cemetery in St. Louis, MO on May 27.

It has been very touching to know many Corps members have asked for some way to express their sympathy to Jack's mother.



2008 COUNTDOWN RESULTS

And the 2008 Countdown Champion is: *The 2006 Cavaliers!* Congratulations! Final scores submitted by the audiences attending the 300+ theaters through the US:

1. 2006 Cavaliers 90.50
2. 2007 Carolina Crown 89.00
3. 2006 Phantom Regiment 88.65
4. 2007 Blue Devils 86.20
5. 2005 Cadets 83.00
6. 2007 Bluecoats 81.90

GE: Cavies 36.95
Guard: Cavies 13.65
Visual: Cavies 14.00

Brass: Phantom 13.60
Percussion: Phantom 13.50

OnQ NATIONAL DRUMMING CAMPS

Five DCI drum lines and percussion educators are coming together to present the OnQ National Drumming Camps at four locations. "Now is your chance to learn the secrets of the world's most elite and exclusive marching percussion ensembles when you take part in a hands-on camp experience that you'll have to experience to believe."

Phantom Regiment:

May 30-June 1 at Rockford College - Rockford, IL

Caroline Crown:

June 6-June 8 - Gardner-Webb University - Boiling Springs, NC

Bluecoats:

June 13-June 15 - Denison University - Granville, OH

Blue Devils & Santa Clara Vanguard:

June 28-29 - Yucaipa High School - Yucaipa, CA

If you know of any drummers who would be interested, please have them check out the video on the dci.org site and register.

JEFF FIEDLER

From the Green of the Cavaliers to the Green of the Santa Clara Vanguard:

After retiring from a 35-year stint with the Cavaliers, Jeff Fiedler will be acting as the new CEO of the Santa Clara Vanguard. According to Jeff, he "bleeds green".

We welcome Jeff to California!

OUR NEXT MEETING TUESDAY, JUNE 3, 2008

**I-HOP Restaurant
Martinez, CA
7:00 - 9:00 P.M.**

2007 Officers:

Mary Cloyd
President

Yvonne Moss
Vice President

Sonja Williams
Secretary

Pat Worley
Treasurer

Katie Wills
Membership

Penny Ross/Norma Merrill
Sunshine