



# DEVIL'S PRIDE

## Blue Devil's Booster Club Newsletter

### Summer 2011

#### Blue Devils Show Made Hearts Skip A Beat

**What a week! We are so proud of how far our members have come on this long journey -- the competition has been fierce! With a score of 97.80, The Blue Devils placed 2nd in the World Championship and they have won our hearts with their performing ability and professionalism. Go Devils! Congratulations to The Cadets for an outstanding victory and all the other corps for an amazing season!**

#### **PRESIDENT'S CORNER - June/July**

If you were one of the parents sending a letter or package to Minnesota and had the item returned, please accept our sincere apology. Mail stops for the kids while on tour is a high priority item for us; we take a great deal of care in trying to make sure the information sent to parents and on the web site is correct and make a number of personal telephone calls to each and every post office involved. For some reason we received some incorrect information regarding the zip code – and it is amazing the difference one digit can make. We certainly appreciate Sheryl Miles' going more than the extra mile (literally) trying to receive what mail she could from the various post offices in the area. Again, please accept our apology for any inconvenience.

We have only been able to see bits and pieces of the show on our computers and the changes keep evolving. It has really been amazing looking at the various recaps to see how the recap scores are all over the place. We can't wait to get to Indy and see what our talented instructional staff has up their sleeve.

#### **BDA takes Silver!**

The Cadets surpassed the Blue Devils by 0.55 as the two-time defending World Champion Blue Devils fell just shy of taking home the Champions trophy for a third time with a score of 97.80. Though they are one of the winningest corps in DCI history with 14 titles to their credit, 2011 marked the fourth time the corps has fallen short of a three-peat, also occurring in 1978, 1981 and 1998.

Devils' director David Gibbs explained that he has been telling his corps members that they have been his heroes all season long. "There is a lot of risk to join the Blue Devils after going undefeated for two years and after winning two World Championships. They took the risk; they met the challenges. They started the season a little rough, but at the end they were one of the most awesome Blue Devils drum corps ever. Blue Devils euphonium section leader Zak Stillwell said that "there was something in the air from bus to field, I'm so proud of this corps," he continued. "We were counted out early, so just to be in contention has been great. It's been an unforgettable year."

The corps' color guard impressed during its "The Beat My Heart Skipped" program, taking home the George Zingali Best Color Guard Award.



### **BDB THREEPEATS**

Blue Devils B cinched its third straight Open Class World Championship with a score of 95.00 at the Open Class Finals in Michigan City, Indiana, on Tuesday, Aug. 9, edging out the Oregon Crusaders by three tenths of a point. The Devils join the ranks of only two other Open Class corps and four corps in any division that have won three times in a row.

“It’s amazing—the best feeling I’ve ever felt in my life. I think better than getting into college” Blue Devils B drum major DaJuan Brooks joked. “This season has been very hard, but we’ve worked hard and tried to put out a good show every day while being true to ourselves as Blue Devils. We’ve entertained the crowds and had fun while doing it,” he said.

The California corps had a nearly perfect season, winning all but one competition with their show, “Synchronicity.”

“This year the competition was really tough, the corps were really good, and it was a dog fight,” said Blue Devils director Rick Odello. “I’m just really proud of our corps for being able to step up when they needed to and we couldn’t be happier to be in this position right now.

### **I & E BONANZA!**

Blue Devils Percussion – 1st - 93.00  
 Thomas Robinson – 1st - Saxophone - 81.50  
 David Reaver – 1st - Trumpet - 89.50  
 Kyle Headstream – 4th – Trumpet - 87.50  
 Keelan Tobia – 1st – Snare - 97.00  
 Micah McConnaugh – 1st - Baritone/Euphonium - 95.00  
 Matt Solis – 3<sup>rd</sup> - Baritone/Euphonium - 94.00  
 Mike McCue – 5<sup>th</sup> - Baritone/Euphonium - 90.50  
 Tim Leonelli – 1<sup>st</sup> – Trombone - 93.50  
 Taylor Smith – Trombone – 6<sup>th</sup> - 87.00  
 Greg Ramsey – Tuba – 1<sup>st</sup> - 96.60  
 Katrina Shore- Keybrd/Marimba/Vibe 4<sup>th</sup> 94.00  
 Hector Prado - Keybrd/Marimba/Vibe – 9<sup>th</sup> 88.50  
 Amir Oosman - Multi-Perc -1<sup>st</sup> - 97.50  
 Aaron Spevak – Timpani – 1<sup>st</sup> - 98.50  
 Chris Drummer - Multi-Tenor – 2<sup>nd</sup> - 92.00  
 Scott Nelson - Multi-Tenor – 3<sup>rd</sup> - 87.00

### **Way to go BD!!!!!!!!!!**

**Local Concord Tour party hosts/hostesses:** Charlotte Hollenbeck, Yvonne Moss, Chris & Carol Christopherson, Ken & Ronni Collmer, Kaffy Cecil and Norma Merrill? Potluck and watch the show/scores! A good time was had by all.

### **2011 CORPS STATS**

#### **HOME STATE:**

AL-1 - AR-1 - AZ-8 - CA-87 - CANADA-1 - CO-2 - FL-9 - HI-1 - IL-2 - IN-4 - JAPAN-6 - LA-2 - NJ-1 - NV-1 - NY-1

OR-5 - PA-1 - SC-1 - TX-12 - UT-3 - VA-1 - WA-1

#### **AGE-OUTS ( 57):**

Drum Majors – 2, Euphoniums – 12, Mellophones - 7, Trumpets – 9, Tubas – 4, Bass – 2, Pit – 3, Snare – 3, Tenors – 0, Guard – 15

1 Year - 15, 2 Year - 13, 3 Year - 15, 4 Year - 7, 5 Year - 7

#### **NON-AGE-OUTS (94):**

1 Year - 44, 2 Year - 39, 3 Year - 9, 4 Year - 1, 5 Year - 1

#### **MALE / FEMALE BREAKDOWN:**

DMS (4) – 2M / 2F  
 EUPHS (24) – 23M / 1F  
 MELLO (16) – 10M / 6F  
 TRUMPETS (23) – 19M / 5F  
 TUBAS (12) – 10M / 2F  
 BASS (5) - 5M  
 SNARES (9) – 8M / 1F  
 TENORS (4) – 4M  
 PIT (13) – 6M / 7F  
 GUARD (40) – 18M / 22F

#### **AVERAGE AGE OF CORPS MEMBERS: 20.6**

#### **TOTAL NUMBER OF YEARS MARCHING IN BD “A” CORPS (YEARS COMBINED): 307**

**BASEBALL & FOOTBALL FUND RAISERS:** The boosters have a schedule for the various games we can participate in. Contact [mossyvonne52@gmail.com](mailto:mossyvonne52@gmail.com). As this is our major fundraiser, we are very concerned about the current situation going on with the football teams. Should there be fewer (or no) games, this would have a very serious impact on our income. Hopefully we will be able to work more baseball games. Since we are given a better booth when we have more people, please consider helping in this area. Even one or two games during the season would be extremely appreciated.

#### **ON THE ROAD WITH BD**

What an adventure! Going on the road as part of the support staff working in Devil’s Food is truly an adventure. To see these amazing young people work so hard and so relentlessly, overcoming all sorts of obstacles, to try to bring home yet another championship. They are truly inspiring and have stayed in the top three at all their shows so far! And what they’ve overcome!



What we all overcame! Starting with the new first week of tour, getting all the major corps to compete right at the start of the season. We all embarked on a grueling 3 day trip from California to Texas to do four shows and then turn around and come back again. Six nights of traveling from city to city and state to state was grueling, to say

the least, working 16-18 hour days, but we did it and survived to return to California and our more normal tour



stops. Along the way we survived a start up problem with Devil's Food, a small generator fire on the Nest all fixed thanks to Terry Maurer and Doug Peterson's quick work! We also survived 6 straight days of 100+ degree temperatures as well as fierce winds, 600 + miles driving a night, and four cases of dehydration. But the corps hung in there, continued to grow and showed their mettle during tough

times and kept moving forward improving almost daily. So what next? How about Sand Dune, the instructor's bus breaking down so many of the instructors joined the support staff on the Nest for the night's drive while Sand Dune was tended to hopefully by the next day. And that's what happened! We are resilient to say the least. Finally back in Southern California we encountered , would you believe it, Cold weather!! What a relief for a while, but then the sweatshirts started coming out as the night's were quite chilly. Devil's Food benefitted from donations of an industrial meat slicer by Diane Ebert,

and a new food processor by Yvonne Moss. Helps a lot! The renovations by Toby Bush in the truck were fabulous. There were also lighter moments like the quick end of a practice on the field when the sprinkler system went on. Boy can the corps move! And who will ever forget Warner Vargas and Dan hooking up the golf cart trailer to the Cadet's look alike bus. Were they ever embarrassed? We loved the majesty of Utah, survived the humidity and tornado warnings in Nebraska and Iowa. And the horrendous rainstorms in Minneapolis and Denver and never missed a show. Amazing. Now I've gone home and the corps and staff moves on into the south and then east and finally Indy for the finals, relentlessly to say the least, knowing that Devil's Food will be there with their 4 meals a day no matter what!



**TOM WILLS**

**Banquet news** – Walnut Creek Marriott on Saturday, November 26. More details will be forthcoming.  
Save the date!

**Booster Club Meetings:** the first Tuesday of every month at the IHOP in Martinez – Come join us

**OFFICERS:**

Sonja Williams - President

Tom Wills - Secretary

Katie Wills - Membership

Yvonne Moss - Vice President

Kaffy Cecil - Treasurer

Norma Merrill - Sunshine

Booster Club Newsletter coordinator : Tom Wills

Newsletter editor : Usually Hans Kloppert - The Netherlands



