

THE BLUE DEVILS

“Devil’s Pride”

Booster Club

February 2007

FEBRUARY – CAMP #2

Well, there are some camps with wonderful weather and then there are camps with not-so-wonderful weather! We admit we needed some rain, but we did not want quite so much during Saturday rehearsal. Did this stop our kids from learning drill on the football field? Not for a minute! Most of them just said they would dry out by the evening rehearsal.

Thankfully, Sunday was a much better day and we were able to listen to some of the music at the end of the rehearsal day. Wish we could give you more information regarding this year’s show – but no. We have heard rumors with people mentioning Pegasus, Wings, Heaven, etc., but nothing concrete from the staff. We will keep on trying. Most of the 2007 Corps was in attendance at the camp and whatever was being played during the ensemble sounded pretty good and was loud! Everyone loves loud, and we are just the Corps that can do loud and good at the same time.

Again, many thanks to the wonderful members of the Booster Club braving the weather to provide some excellent meals during the camp weekend. We got wet, we worked hard, but we still enjoyed our interaction with the kids.

CAMPS #3 AND #4: We are scheduled for two camps during the month of March: March 9-11 and March 30-April 1. If you are in the area, come on down. The schedule for the camps should be posted on the BD website shortly. Meals will most likely be at the BD Hall (come around to the back of the building, and we’ll be there in Devil’s Food).

REMINDER: If you are local and haven’t made your reservation for the “B” Corps Cioppino dinner to be held March 17, you better hurry as this usually sells out quite rapidly and no tickets will be sold at the door. Again, you can call (925) 625-2132, 625-0594 or the BD office.

SILENT AUCTION ACTIVITY: Booster Club Vice President Yvonne Moss has been extremely busy getting items for this event. While we hate repeating ourselves, this is going to be a major event during our 50 Year Anniversary Week, and we need your help. If you have any connection with a company/person who could provide an item or if you have any ideas or suggestions, please get in touch with Yvonne as soon as possible. Yvonne’s e-mail address: yjmsounding@sbcglobal.net. Thank you!

DCI RULES ACTION: We had hoped to get a succinct report to everyone on what the new rules entailed. However, at this time, the main one we really talked about was the fact that in 2008 corps may up their marching membership to 150 rather than the current 135. (Of course, the first thing we thought about was trying to house another 15 kids!) It will be interesting to see which corps go to 150 and how that many people will look on the field. The proposal stated it was felt “from an audience perspective, one might not notice the corps being larger, but one would likely audibly feel and visually sense the difference.” Maybe – we’ll have to just wait and see. Can you imagine 80 Blue Devil horns – 30 drums – 40 guard?? -A proposal passed to allow extended warm-ups, allowing for pre-show non-judged programming

just before the start of the judged program. –One judge is to be positioned in the stands through July 4. One judge will be used on the field and one in the stands (for major events) for the remainder of the season. –There will be a visual judge in the stands. The original proposal was to have one judge off the field for the entire season. However, an amendment was agreed upon to move that judge back onto the field after July 4. –The vote on the proposal to allow electronic instruments to be used in any DCI-sanctioned performance ended in a 10-10 tie and was declared defeated. This could have possibly opened the path to include synthesizers and drum machines. Electronics and Drum Corps - ??? We personally hope not.

There were three issues that were defeated in caucus sessions and were not presented to the DCI rules congress. We know there was a proposal to allow “prop” personnel (not in uniform and not performing) to assist in a production but they wouldn’t be counted in a corps’ total membership. We are glad we didn’t see this one in the final voting results. A personal feeling is that there are some corps who use way too many props that take away from what 136 kids are trying their hardest to do on the field.

There was a report on the DCI web site on all the rules, but there isn’t enough space in the newsletter to report on all the rules in detail...plus (to be truthful) we don’t really understand all of them and don’t want to give any wrong impressions.

MEMBERSHIP: To everyone who has renewed their membership in the Booster Club and to all our new members – thank you so much for your support. You are so vital to our cause. If you haven’t sent that \$20 check to Membership Chairman Katie Wills, please do so as soon as possible. If your son or daughter aged-out, that does not mean you have to “age-out” as well. We still appreciate your interest and support. We do not want this to be your last newsletter!!

SPRING CONCERT: We are very happy that we will once again have our Spring Concert at the Pavilion in Concord even though it is for this year only as part of our 50th anniversary celebration. This event is produced by the Blue Devils in association with the Sleep Train Pavilion and the City of Concord. Featured will be the three Blue Devil Corps, the Santa Clara Vanguard “A” and Cadet Corps, and ensembles from each of the two corps. It is hoped we will be treated to a preview of the BD and SCV Alumni Ensemble. The date is Sunday, May 6, 2:00 p.m. Admission is free, but there is a Pavilion parking fee of \$8. We understand food and beverages will be available through the Pavilion concession group. Providing the weather is good – and it should be by May – many people enjoy bringing a blanket and/or chairs and spending the afternoon on the lawn.

2007 COUNTDOWN: Did you get the chance to vote for your favorite corps on the DCI web site? Eight corps from the 30 semi-finalist corps shows will be included in the Thursday, April 26 showing at the various theaters throughout the United States. Which 8 different corps? No one will know until that evening. Check the DCI site for a listing of where the Countdown will be showing in your area. Last year had way over 100 theaters, and we understand this year the number will be even greater. Be sure to take your camera along and take pictures of items/people of interest and submit them to DCI. Last year we had a photo published showing vintage jackets from the Bridgemen and Blue Devils Corps.

FYI:

-BDENTERTAINMENT DRUMMERS: If you love basketball, the Warriors and drumming, there are two remaining Warrior games where our DBE drummers will be performing: Friday, March 23 and Sunday, April 1.

-Members of the A-B-C Corps and the winter guards recently had a photo shoot and will be featured in an article on the Blue Devil organization to run in the April issue of "Diablo Magazine." We'll try to get a copy of a picture or two for one of the future newsletters.

-DCI and WGI are teaming up this year to offer live video webcasts of performances from the 2007 WGI Word Championships in Dayton, OH. Catching the action on your computer will be available on April 13-14 and April 20-21 during the WGI color guard and percussion championships. *"Content will be delivered in a pay-per-day format that will allow a single viewer to login to the broadcast anytime throughout one entire competition day."*

- DCI has an immediate opening for a full-time Travel and Meeting Coordinator. "The ideal candidate for this position is a friendly, high-energy, customer service-oriented person with experience and a bachelor's degree (or related professional education) in travel and meeting planning and/or related experience in the hospitality industry. This valued member of the dynamic and growing Drum Corps International team is the primary contact for all travel and meeting planning for the corporation." If you have these qualifications, this looks like it could be a very interesting position. Check out the DCI site for more details. If interested, candidates should e-mail a cover letter and resume to DCI Operations Director Mark Goodmanson at markg@dc.org or fax to (630) 333-4548.

-J. W. Koester has been appointed as the tour director for the Phantom Regiment. Many will remember "JW" as the director of the Santa Clara Vanguard and tour director of the Glassmen. Most recently he was the national coordinator for DCI Division II and III. "JW" has many years of management experience in the marching music activity and we wish him well in his new position. Former Phantom tour director Brandt Crocker will be returning to his role as a DCI contest coordinator (Brandt is also "the voice of DCI"). Replacing "JW" as coordinator for Division I and II will be David Eddleman.

-After a one-year absence due to field renovations, there will once again be a DCI Major Event at WMU's Waldo Stadium in Kalamazoo, MI (Saturday, June 30).

Our next Booster Club Meeting

TUESDAY – March 6, 2007
I-HOP Restaurant – Martinez, CA

7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

2007 Booster Club Officers

President	Mary Cloyd
Vice President	Yvonne Moss
Secretary/Treasurer	Sonja Williams
Membership	Katie Wills
Sunshine	Norma Merrill/Penny Ross

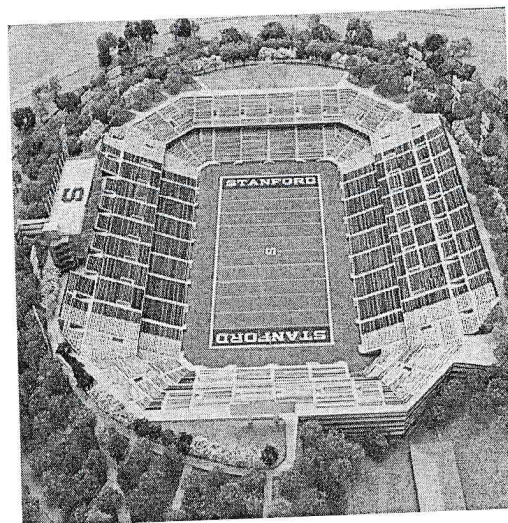
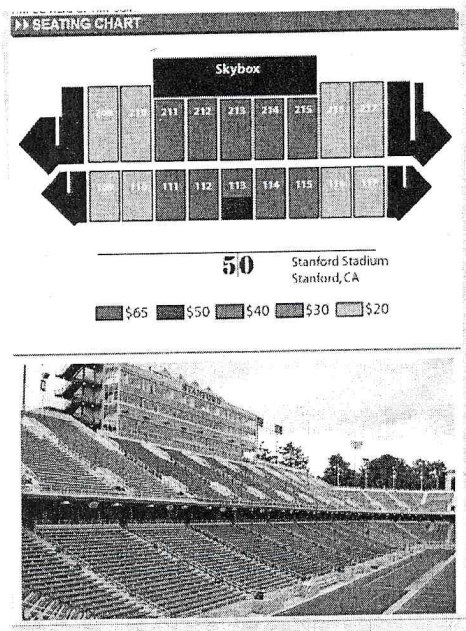
www.bluedevils.org-programs-a-boosters

Blue Devil Hall

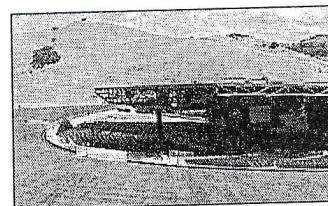
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Wish we had more Corps news to report. However, there just isn't any more at this time that is reportable! So – we thought we would offer a couple of pictures relating to articles above – and also a trip down Memory Lane:



The new Stanford state-of-the-art stadium California Regional 2007



The Pavilion - Great view



The only Drum Corps International World Championships to take place outside of the United States, were hosted in 1981 and 1982 in Montreal, Canada's Olympic Stadium. Built for the 1976 Olympic Games, the stadium facility's roof—originally designed to be retractable—was not completed until six years after the Blue Devils took the '82 DCI World Championship trophy.

Jaw-dropping stadium - Record audience
Great night - Fantastic memories

35th ANNIVERSARY FACTOID

A British corps, the Dagenham Crusaders, was the first foreign corps outside of Canada to compete in the DCI World Championships during 1982 in Miami, Fla. Channel 4 in England was the first overseas television station to cover the event.

Some members toured with BD in 1981 as fans. "Just happened" to bring their uniforms for Retreat. (DCI Finals 1983 - Miami, FL)