

# DEVIL'S PRIDE

Booster Club

October 2007

**THE BLUE DEVILS GO TO JAPAN:** Several members recently traveled to Japan to participate in the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Marching in Okayama Festival. There were 24 brass players, 12 percussionists and 1 drum major. The members left San Francisco October 3 and returned October 9. Two days of rehearsal and sightseeing over, they began a very diverse performance schedule involving TV appearances, outdoor concerts, stage shows and a parade. Included in their repertoire was the music from “Winged Victory” and “Free,” “Legend of the One Eyed Sailor,” “Since I Fell For You,” “Strike Up The Band” and “When a Man Loves a Woman.” All of these have always been considered some of the Best of the Best of Blue Devils. This was the third time the Blue Devils have been privileged to have been asked to appear in Okayama. The event was sponsored by the City of Okayama, DEG/Japan and Dynasty/USA.

*A copy of the program*



**DAVE GIBBS GOES TO SOUTH AFRICA:** Dave, the Director of the Glassmen and Michael Zapanta recently traveled to South Africa to take part in the National Championship of the Field Band Foundation and their 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations. Not only DCI people were involved, but also representatives from Europe. It is hoped this trip will help establish a partnership between the organization, DCI and the Field Band Foundation. The competition included brass, percussion, steel drums, marimbas and dance. The Field Band Foundation creates opportunities for the young people of South Africa through discipline and creativity of music and movement and helps to build self-esteem and nurture future leaders. The Foundation presently has 3,626 members with an average age of 14.6 years. The target audience is disadvantaged youth who come from communities where unemployment is high and any access to youth-oriented educational activities is limited.

While in South Africa, who should they meet at a band festival but former Blue Devil member Rick Haller. Rick was one of our very talented horn players who was a member of the Corps in 1983 and 1984. A “few” of the places Rick has taught: Casablanca Morocco, Korea, Bahrain, Santiago Chile, Mexico City and now in Johannesburg South Africa. If a drum-corps-type program gets going in South Africa, we’re sure Rick would be a great asset.

**Thank you ladies of the Booster Club:** We mentioned earlier that we had a great day with some of the people from the Santa Clara Vanguard when we did a lot of cleaning to our vehicles. For Devil’s Food we focused mainly on the fans, stoves, walls and floors. Cleaning day #2: Thanks to Carol Vargas, Mary Cloyd and Yvonne Moss who spent quite a bit of time doing a lot of organizing of the shelves, checking dates on canned items, and things of that nature. Our next “clean-up day” has not been determined as yet, but we plan to focus on getting all the coolers and cooking stuff ready for the January camp. If you are in the area and might be interested in helping, we would love to have you join us. Give Mary a call and she can let you know when an actual date has been established. Mary’s number: (925) 846-0802

**More help requested & what we do with the money:** While you are calling Mary regarding the above, perhaps you can let Mary know if you might also be available to help out with one of the upcoming ball games. We can certainly use all the help we can get in this fundraiser. The more people we have helping, the more items we can sell and, therefore, the more money we receive.

Your Booster Club is very proud of the fact that we will be able to provide a substantial amount of money to go toward providing championship rings for the marching members of the "12-Time DCI World Champion Blue Devils." (Yes, we're still on our cloud and still full of excitement!) Why do we keep asking for your help at the ballgames? Well, the vast majority of the money going toward the rings and the money we spend for the items the Booster Club provides for the members during the year comes from our manning the concession stands at the baseball and football games. The games are definitely our major source of income.

### **A BIT OF HERE AND THERE:**

#### **DCI's New "First Annuals":**

**How creative can you be?** DCI sponsored its first annual Drum Corps International Pumpkin Carving Contest recently! Sorry we did not know about this in time for participation this year. However, you can start thinking about what you might like to submit for next year. The entries could be scary, elaborate or, if you would like, there is a series of downloadable pumpkin carving templates of the logos of many of the DCI units. Maybe DCI would still send these out even though the contest is over for this year.

**Going along with what we know best,** As part of Finals Week, DCI held its First Annual DCI Peanut Butter & Jelly Eating Championship. Hundreds of people were present to watch the event that served as a kick-off to the DCI Championships at the Rose Bowl. There were nine local and international media outlets covering this event, including the Associated Press, local TV affiliates and a Dutch TV host who also participated in the contest to air as part of his show, "Try Before You Die." Pacific Crest opened the contest at Knott's Berry Farm by first parading through the park and then giving everyone "a taste of the powerful sounds of drum corps." There were 16 contestants (3 in the elite top of Major League Eaters). The winner won by devouring a total of 42 PB&J sandwiches in 10 minutes. Did you know: Over the course of a typical season, top DCI units feed their combined 5,000 performers and staff 1.2 million meals during the Summer Music Games Tour, including 42,500 loaves of bread, 20,000 pounds of peanut butter and 25,000 pounds of jelly. We are sure our Devil's Food crew can attest to these facts!

**Bluecoats:** On October 16, Bluecoat member Nathaniel Hartman was a contestant on "The Price is Right" TV program and did well for himself. If you check out episode #4041 from October 16, you will see Nathaniel wearing his "pennies" on a necklace, which is a Bluecoats tradition. As it was put, he had a chance at winning a "Bloooooo" Dodge Viper sports car!

**Southwind:** Feeling the organization is not in a financial situation whereby they will be able to provide the best drum corps experience possible for their members, the corps will be going inactive for the 2008 season to focus on organizational stability and funding and looks forward to fielding a competitive corps for the 2009 season. While not competing during 2008, the organization plans to continue sponsoring the "Drums Across the Bluegrass" competition. We wish them well and look forward to seeing them again in 2008.

**Lucas Oil Stadium - Indianapolis, IN:** At this point in time, the stadium (referred to as "the stadium like no other") is a little over 65 percent complete. We are happy to say that the 2008 World Championships are scheduled to be the very first set of events to be held in the \$700,000,000 stadium starting August 7. You can learn more about the stadium on the DCI site.

**2007 DVDs:** If you ordered your 2007 World Championship DVD, they will start shipping starting November 15 and should arrive in time for you to enjoy them along with your Thanksgiving celebration. To quote DCI, "...these DVDs will put you right inside the action of all the top 2007 World Championship performances from what has gone down in the history books as one of the most competitive seasons to date."

**COMING UP:**

**2007 Awards Banquet:** We are hard at work preparing for the Awards Banquet to be held on Saturday, November 24 at the Marriott Hotel in Walnut Creek, CA. If you are interested in attending, the cost is \$40 each and reservations need to be in by November 16. Any questions, send an e-mail to Sonja at [williamssonjab@hotmail.com](mailto:williamssonjab@hotmail.com), but be sure to include BD in the subject line. Friends, family and fans are welcome to help us celebrate our 12<sup>th</sup> DCI Championship.

**January Camp:** Our first camp of the 2008 year is scheduled for Friday, January 18, through Sunday, January 20. Meals provided: Saturday – Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner. Sunday, Breakfast, Lunch. As we have done in the past, the Booster Club will sponsor the Saturday breakfast at each of the camps. The majority of our camps are held in Concord at the Blue Devil Hall and Devil's Food is normally parked at the rear of the building. If you can come by to help out, we would love to see/meet you. We are hoping to have some much needed repair/remodeling done to Devil's Food this year. Hopefully things will be pretty well done by either this camp or by February.

Here it comes: If you can, please consider housing one or more kids during the camp weekends. When you start adding the cost of tour, transportation, lodging, etc., it starts getting to be a very expensive journey for these young people. Any help you can give would be gratefully accepted. All they need is a place to put a sleeping bag and a place to take a shower. Transportation to and from practice can be a bit of a problem at times, but most of the kids have had the ability to work this out on their own. Again, this is a great way to get to know some of these young people – and you won't be sorry.

**Membership Dues:** Yes, it's getting to be that time again. Booster Club membership dues will remain at \$20 per family for the coming year. We are sure you will be receiving a reminder from our Membership Chairman Katie Wills, but we thought we would just get you started thinking about it. If you have a son or daughter who has "aged-out," please don't feel you need to do the same. A great number of our members have been with us long after their child/children aged out of the Corps. We most certainly appreciate your continued support. If you are local, please consider joining us at one or more of our monthly meetings. We meet on the first Tuesday of each month – usually at the I-HOP Restaurant in Martinez, CA. We like having new people join us and having the opportunity to possibly get some new insights on things we can do for "our kids."

**Our next meeting:**

Tuesday, November 6, 2007  
I-HOP Restaurant – Martinez, CA  
7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

On behalf of your Booster Club, we wish everyone a most wonderful Thanksgiving.