

BLUE DEVILS "DEVIL'S PRIDE"

Booster Club

April 2008

2008 DCI WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS RELOCATED TO INDIANA UNIVERSITY: DCI has announced Finals will *not* be in Indianapolis at the new Lucas Field as we have been hearing for so long, but will be held in Bloomington at the Indiana University – which is approximately 50 miles from Indy and has a concert side seating capacity of approximately 28,000. *From DCI:* "Unfortunately, we found out ...from a local news outlet, stadium construction officials determined the stadium would not be ready in time for our event this summer. We're a bit frustrated that we were 'scooped' on learning of this development, as we had no direct knowledge prior to the announcement that a change of venue was imminent." There's quite a bit of information on the DCI.org site, but hopefully we can give you the jest of what they plan.

Since we had just made our plane reservations before learning Finals had been moved, we sort of hit a major panic button trying to figure out if we needed to find a way to get to Bloomington to be with the Corps – and what about the brunch!!!!. However, Pete Emmons assured us that the Corps will still be staying at Ben Davis High School, which is a short distance from the airport (and the Adam's Mark Hotel for the brunch), and the Corps will be bused to Bloomington each day – and we had no need to panic. Thank you, Pete.

For people who have made hotel reservations in Indy, they are working with the Indy Convention and Visitors Association to ensure a minimum of inconvenience. People are encouraged to keep their hotel reservations as transportation services from downtown Indy to the events on Thursday, Friday and Saturday will be available at no charge. ***NOTE:*** Indy overnight accommodations made through the PassKey online system would need to be canceled before July 1 to avoid a \$25 charge per room night. Fans are encouraged to take advantage of special hotel blocks in downtown Indianapolis reserved specifically for the Championship week as there may be limited hotel availability in Bloomington. We assume further details will be forthcoming.

Ticket orders for FANtastic 5 packages will be filled in the same order in which they would have been at Lucas Oil Stadium. Additional information will be sent to all FANtastic 5 ticket holders as it becomes available.

FINALS WEEK SCHEDULE:

Tuesday, August 2 – 2 pm CT - Michigan City, IN – Open Class Quarterfinals

Wednesday, August 6 – 11 am ET - Indianapolis Convention Center – Indianapolis, IN – I&E

INDIANA UNIVERSITY MEMORIAL STADIUM – BLOOMINGTON, IN

Thursday, August 7 – 4 pm ET – World Class Quarterfinals

Friday, August 8 – 8 am ET – Open Class Semi-finals

Friday, August 8 – 5 pm ET – World Class Semi-finals

Saturday, August 9 – 10 pm – Open Class Finals

Saturday, August 9 – 5:30 pm – World Class Finals

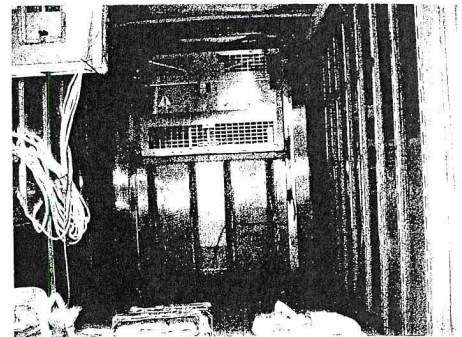
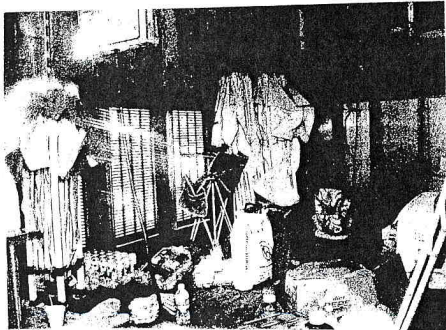
Downtown Indy will still be playing host to the I&E competition on Wednesday, August 6, as well as a number of scheduled activities presented by various corps and alumni groups.

As information becomes available, it will be posted on the dci.org site. If you have any questions or concerns, they can be submitted to Drum Corps International online or call (317) 275-1212 for additional assistance.

2nd MARCH CAMP: The second camp in March was for brass only and we had approximately 57 members present. We had been a bit concerned about the weather, but everything turned out to be a very good weekend. There is not much new to report as the weekend was spent working on the drill (still looking interesting) and the music to date (sounding much cleaner and powerful). We were very pleased to have quite a number of the alumni and members of the Board of Directors come to the Saturday evening rehearsal after attending "B" Corps' Cioppino dinner held earlier that evening. We got the impression that our guests were very excited about what they heard that evening.

Once again, the Saturday breakfast was sponsored by your Booster Club. Many thanks to everyone who gets up so early and stays so late working in Devil's Food during the weekend. We certainly do appreciate all our helpers. Our next camp will be April 25-27. It is anticipated most of the rehearsals will be at "MARS" so the transportation bit won't be such a hassle getting to and from breakfast and dinner. However, we think there may be a couple of evening rehearsals at College Park (across from DVC), so some help may be necessary there. We are looking forward to seeing our guard members at this camp as well.

Toby, Terry, Bill and gang are still working on our refrigeration unit. Below are pictures of what we had at the 1st camp and what we had at the 2nd camp....progress. For anyone who has worked in Devil's Food (or any other cook vehicle), the excited anticipation we have is understandable. The new unit will also allow us to freeze ice for the drinks, etc. (WOW!). Other parts of the vehicle are being redone as well to offer more storage areas.



Notice a couple of things that are missing in the above picture? There are no doors as yet, and walls/shelving are not in place. The hope is to get the best possible doors for our usage. What is in mind are the cooler door, the freezer door and something called the "Belly Boxes" that fit underneath and will make it possible to take care of drinks, etc. without having to go up and down the stairs. Of course, these items are expensive and \$\$ are a factor with a non-profit organization -- so to help out with the cost, your Booster Club made a donation to go toward the purchase of these items. Some of us called this the "*Dollars for Devil's Doors*" donation. We cannot tell you how excited we were when a member of the Booster Club graciously offered to donate the cost of the freezer door! Having a refrigeration unit that can be depended on is so very, very important while trying to keep 185 people fed while on tour. Not having the unit available just for camps has been difficult enough and we applaud our cook crew for all they had to work around on tour last year with the unit going out about 4 different times -- including the entire Finals Week in Pasadena.

DO WE NEED HELP, YOU ASK!

Quite often we have parents and friends asking how they could possibly help the Corps since they do not live in the Concord area. Well, if the Corps is going to be anywhere near you at any given time, please contact Sheryl Miles at smiles@bluedevils.org or call the Blue Devil Hall (925-689-2918) and leave a message. There is always somewhere another set of hands can be put to good use. No one has to be a fantastic cook to help in Devil's Food. If you can peel a carrot or chop an onion, you are considered an expert in our eyes. We also love people who don't mind doing dishes! We have a very limited crew on Devil's Food on tour and these people are up before the Corps wakes up and go to bed way after the Corps goes to sleep....and they do get extremely tired. The Corps is fed breakfast, lunch, dinner and a "midnight" snack after rehearsal or after a performance (tons of dishes, pots and pans to be washed) for weeks at a time. Debbie Odello takes care of the mending, altering and washing of uniforms which take tons of time. If you happen to be there with a car, quite often there is a need for a quick run to a grocery store, doctor's office, post office, etc. and finding an available vehicle while on tour is something next to impossible. – Get the picture? We welcome your help!!

If you are in the local area, two places we can always use help. Devil's Food, of course, is one of them at the remaining camps. If you can help, please contact Sheryl Miles (see above). An absolute huge help would be to volunteer to work at least one or two of the ballgames during the year. The more people we have, the more revenue we can generate – which, in turn, goes toward our goal of providing for our Corps members. Currently we have an extremely small number of people who consistently volunteer their time to work at the games and we wind up getting a smaller concession booth that does not get as much business as the larger ones. If you can find the time to help out, please give Mary Cloyd a call at (925) 846-0802. (FYI: We work *in* the concession booth; we **do not** go into the stands to sell items.)

We have found that once people get involved helping and being around the Corps members, they get a real sense of satisfaction and enjoyment in having the opportunity to interact with these fabulous young people.

THE 2008 COUNTDOWN COMING TO A THEATER NEAR YOU – APRIL 24: Don't forget to check out the listing of theaters on the DCI site to find out the theater closest to you. The new thing for fun will be the chance to download and bring along a score sheet with you to keep track of how you would rank and rate the performances that evening. After everyone enters their scores on dci.org following the theater presentation, the "Countdown Champion" for 2008 will be determined.

Performance order: 1-2007 Bluecoats (1,062 votes)	2-2007 Blue Devils (1,100 votes)	3-2005 Cadets (1,143 votes)
4- 2006 Phantom (1,167 votes)	5- 2006 Cavaliers (2,006 votes)	6-2007 Carolina Crown (2,137 votes)

A complete listing of scores received by the various corps/shows is available on the DCI site.

A special exhibition performance by the Anaheim Kingsmen Alumni will serve as the exciting conclusion of the "Countdown" featuring a portion of their performance at the 2007 Semi-finals in Pasadena. A little history: The Anaheim Kingsmen were DCI first World Champion in 1972. They also had a tremendous guard that performed in the Winter Guard circuit for several years and was exciting to watch. We understand fans will be treated to an exclusive preview feature of behind-the-scenes at the rehearsals of the Blue Devils, Blue Stars and Carolina Crown as they start preparing for the 2008 season.

"B" CORPS' CIOPPINO DINNER: We certainly hope all you "locals" got your reservations in for the fantastic Cioppino Dinner Fundraiser March 29 that was put on by our "B" Corps. To use the language of some of the kids, this has to be one of the "funnest" evenings around. The food, the music, the atmosphere of a ton of new and old friends getting together just makes this an evening not to miss. We look forward to next year. An extremely well coordinated event.

BRUNCH: Just a reminder that we are planning the brunch the morning after Finals. All are welcome. Estimated cost: \$30/person – Adam's Mark Hotel in Indianapolis.

Membership: We would like to extend a welcome to our new members and we hope you will be with us for years to come. Your support is so important whether you are in the Concord area or not and is very appreciated. If you ever have any questions and/or comments, please feel free to contact us. We also send our appreciation to the many members who have once again renewed their membership for the coming year.

If you are one of the members who has not responded to the letter sent by Membership Chairman Katie Wills, please take a couple of minutes to let us hear from you. Membership is \$20 per family per year. Katie Wills' address is 1036 Bermuda – Concord, CA 94518.

Again, if you would prefer to have the Booster Club newsletter sent via e-mail, send a note to williamssonjab@hotmail.com.

OUR NEXT MEETING:

**TUESDAY, MAY 6, 2008
I-HOP Restaurant – Martinez, CA
7:00 – 9:00 P.M.**

2007 Officers

Mary Cloyd
Yvonne Moss
Sonja Williams
Treasurer
Katie Wills
Penny Ross/Norma Merrill

President
Vice President
Secretary
Pat Worley
Membership
Sunshine

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