

B. C. PIPERS' NEWSLETTER



*Nov. 1983
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**The official monthly publication of
the British Columbia Pipers' Association**

NOVEMBER 1983

THE B.C. PIPERS' NEWSLETTER IS PUBLISHED BY THE BRITISH COLUMBIA'S PIPERS' ASSOCIATION AND IS DISTRIBUTED TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE B.C. PIPERS' ASSOCIATION.

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ALL OTHER COMMUNICATIONS TO THE B.C. PIPERS' ASSOCIATION ARE TO BE SENT TO THE SECRETARY: MRS. MARY MACKINNON, 6959 HALLIGAN ST., BURNABY, B.C., V5E 1R4.

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TRIUMPH STREET PIPE BAND PRESENTS
THE WEST COAST INDOOR PIPE BAND CHAMPIONSHIP
THE 12TH ANNUAL TSPB CONTEST

Saturday, December 3, 1983

Location: Guildford Park Community School
14577-106A Avenue, Surrey

Solo piping, trios and drumming 1-5 pm

Band Contest 7-9 pm

Cielidh to follow

Solo Piping Events:

1. Chanter Class (Choice of tune)
2. Novice: 6/8 March
3. Novice: Strathspey and Reel
4. Juvenile: Slow Air
5. Juvenile: 2/4 March
6. Junior Amateur: March
7. Junior Amateur: Piobaireachd
8. Senior Amateur: Musical Selection (4-6 minutes)

Solo Piping: B.C. Pipers' Rules

Solo Drumming Events:

9. Novice Drumming: March
10. Amateur Drumming: MSR
11. Senior Amateur Drumming: Medley
12. Professional Drumming: Medley

Trios

13. Junior Trios (under 18): 4-7 min. medley

Band Events

14. Juvenile Miniature Bands: 4-6 min. medley
15. Grade 4 Miniature Bands: 4-6 min. medley
16. Grade 3 Miniature Bands: 5-7 min. medley
17. Grade 2 Miniature Bands: 5-7 min. medley
18. Grade 1 Miniature Bands: 5-7 min. medley

Miniature Bands to consist of 6 pipers, 2 sides, 1 tenor, 1 bass.

Drumming and Band events: WPBA rules

Prize money to be announced.

Entry Fees: Events 1-11-----\$2.00
Events 12, 13-----\$3.00
Events 14, 15, 16-----\$10.00
Events 17, 18-----\$15.00

Competitors will be informed of their time of play before the contest. Entries must reach the secretary by November 19. No local field entries will be accepted. Entries must be accompanied by an entry fee. Make cheques payable to the Triumph Street Pipe Band.

Mail entries to: Rob Menzies, #213-149 West 6th, North Van., B.C.
V7M 1K4. Phone: 986-8196.

VANCOUVER LADIES' PIPE BAND ANNUAL FESTIVAL

FEBRUARY 17, 1984 and FEBRUARY 18, 1984
LANGARA CAMPUS, 100 WEST 49th AVE., VANCOUVER, B.C.

PIPING EVENTS FRIDAY FEB. 17, 1984 - 6:00 P.M.

No. 101 - chanter
No. 102 - novice - 2/4 march
No. 103 - novice - slow air
No. 105 - juvenile - 2/4 march
No. 106 - juvenile - strathspey
and reel

PIPING EVENTS SATURDAY FEB. 18, 1984 - 12:30 P.M.

No. 104 - V.L.P.B. - 6/8 march
No. 107 - Junior Am. - 2/4 march
No. 108 - Junior Am. - jig/horn-
pipe
No. 109 - Senior Am. - M.S.R.
(submit 2)
No. 110 - Senior Am. - jig/hornpipe
(submit 2)
No. 111 - Prof. - M.S.R. (submit 3)
No. 112 - Prof. - jig/hornpipe
(submit 3)

DRUMMING EVENTS

No. 113 - novice side drumming - 2/4 march
No. 114 - Junior side drumming - M.S.R.
No. 115 - novice tenor drumming - 2/4 march
No. 116 - amateur tenor drumming - strathspey and reel
No. 117 - senior amateur side drumming - 3-5 min. musical medley
No. 118 - Prof. side drumming - 3-5 min. musical medley

MINIATURE PIPE BAND COMPETITION - 6:00 P.M.

No. 119 - Grade 1 No. 120 Grade 2 - both Grades 5-7 min. medley
No. 121 - Grade 3 No. 122 - Juvenile - both Grades 4-6 min. medley

PROFESSIONAL PRIZE MONEY: 1st - \$50., 2nd - \$40., 3rd - \$30.
PIPE BAND PRIZE MONEY:

Grade 1	1st	\$300.	2nd	\$200.	3rd	\$100.
Grade 2		200.		125.		75.
Grade 3		150.		100.		50.
Juvenile		100.		75.		40.

PIPING RULES

1. Rules of the B.C. Pipers Association will apply to individual piping events.
2. Western Pipe Band Association rules will apply to individual drumming and band events.
3. Chanter - for anyone who has not competed on the pipes.
Novice piping class will be split if more than 20 in a class.
4. Novice drumming - one, who, in the previous calendar year, has not placed 1st or 2nd in at least 2 competitions where there were 6 or more competitors.
5. Novice tenor - one who has never won 1st, 2nd or 3rd in a competition.

- 6. Competitors must be on hand when called or face disqualification.
- 7. Events 109 to 112 inclusive must submit tunes with entry form.
- 8. Entry fee: chanter, novice and ALL amateur piping/drumming events - \$3.25 each. Professional events - \$4.25 each. Pipe bands - \$15.00 each. All fees payable by Money Orders only to Vancouver Ladies' Pipe Band Association. U.S. competitors please note that U.S. money orders in CANADIAN FUNDS ONLY will be accepted. Entries will NOT be accepted unless accompanied by fee. Double entry fees will be charged for late entries but definitely no entries accepted day of Festival. Closing date of entries: January 23, 1984.

THE ABOVE RULES WILL BE STRICTLY ADHERED TO --- ENTER EARLY!!!!
CEILIDH FOLLOWING PIPE BAND COMPETITION IN CAFETERIA --- ADMISSION \$5.

MAIL ENTRIES TO: PIPING, DRUMMING, BANDS

Kim Chisholm, # 107 7349 - 140th St., Surrey, B.C. V3W 5J6

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NELSON'S OWN KOOTENAY KILTIE PIPE BAND ASSOCIATION HAS MOVED THAT THEIR
HIGHLAND GAMES DATE WILL BE CHANGED FROM LABOUR DAY WEEKEND YEARLY, TO
THE AUGUST B.C. DAY WEEKEND.

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FOR SALE

2 Highland dancing velvet vests - girls size 12 in blue and teen 12-14 in black. Both in excellent condition. \$45. each. Phone Elaine Fournier at 936-0546.

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Phone Doug Grant at 946-8779.

Uniforms for sale. Matching kilts, drummers and pipers plaides and hose tops in the Hunting MacMillan tartan. For particulars phone or write Archie McAffer, 2945 Sandlewood St., Port Coquitlam, B.C., V3B 3K3. Phone 942-0980.

POSTSCRIPT ON SCOTLAND

Having spent four beautiful weeks in Scotland this summer following the "games", it was with great interest that I tore open my September copy of the newsletter. Congratulations to Rob MacNeil for an uplifting piece about the Simon Fraser band's trip to Scotland.

I would like to add that Canada was well represented in almost all aspects of the various "games". The 78th Frasers captured best "Overseas Band" at the World's championships and following that up with a first place at Rothesay the next weekend. Their spirited march down to the docks after the games was thoroughly enjoyed by all who were there to see it. And, speaking of spirit, there was the cheerful partylike atmosphere of an eastern Legion band from Jervis Bay, N.B. and their supporters. They competed in Grade three and had a most successful summer taking many awards and winning new friends everywhere. There was also a lot of courage shown by Canada's highland dancers who bravely endured sometimes terrible piping, especially at Montrose, and of course, the rain and cold at Rothesay to emerge as champions at Cowal.

Also, a special nod, goes to Bill Livingstone for his stirring performance in the open pibroch at Cowal, bringing him another first place finish.

Finally, during the last week of my trip, I had the pleasure of attending the Edinburgh Military Tattoo where I discovered the Cameron Highlanders to be among the entertainers. Their stirring marches were performed at a tempo to be marveled at and showed that their efforts were highly inspired. And when the warm-up announcer was going through his routine of "is there anyone from _____, _____, _____? Canada?, I stood and cheered with all the rest of the Canadians, more, I think, in thanks to one of the warmest, friendliest countries in the world for a great summer.

Bill Hiscock

During the last ten years, I have had the opportunity to travel and work in quite a few foreign countries and during these travels, I have come across some interesting incidents concerning the bagpipes which I thought might be worth passing on.

In 1972, I was working in Abu Dhabi, which is located on the eastern side of Saudi Arabia, on the Arabian (or Persian) Gulf. The island we were on had a very large military presence and was run mainly by British officers who were either on loan or contract. One weekend, four of us decided to travel by jeep to Barami Oasis which was about 100 miles inland. This natural oasis borders Abu Dhabi, Oman and Saudi Arabia. One of the new attractions to the area, compliments of the then new oil boom, was a zoo located a few miles out of the town of Elain. We went out to have a look and whilst walking around I heard the pipes somewhere off in the distance. When I mentioned it to my colleagues, they straight away thought I had sun stroke. Because

this was a very unusual event, I followed the general direction of the sound and eventually ended up at an army camp located a few miles away. As it turned out, there was really nothing unusual about the Abu Dhabi Army having a pipe band; they already had a lot of British influence.

I thought I would find out how it all started. After a lot of hand gestures and broken English and Arabic, I convinced the guards that I was not a rebel or a spy and they let me into the camp. The band was marching up and down, playing "Heilan Laddie", followed by the "79th Farewell" and, I must say, their playing was quite good; the only real difference was that they were playing Pakistani bagpipes which sound somehow different. I was very pleased to be listening to a pipe band again.

When the band finished, I went over to the Pipe Major and inquired how the band started. Apparently, when Sheik Zaid deposed his uncle Shackbut, he formed his own army with the help of the British. Lt. Col. David Murray was on loan at the time and one of his accomplishments was to start a pipe band. He went over to Pakistan and recruited twelve pipers who had all, at one stage, been Pipe Majors of Pakistani regiments. Most of these pipers had been brought out of retirement to form this pipe band. Talking to them, I realized that there was quite a lot of talent in the band. Most of them at one time or another had been taught by P/M W. MacLeod of the Seaforths who had held the post as P/M of the Pakistani Army School of Music; others had been to Edinburgh Castle to the Army School of Piping and had been instructed by P/M Willie Ross and later P/M J.A. MacLellan. Having been in pipe bands, I was instantly accepted as one of them and I was given a demonstration of their individual playing which included jigs, reels, strathspeys, laments, part of a pibroch, as well as their own Pakistani Regimental Marches. I wish I had had a tape recording of the music and the stories they had to tell. It made a great day for me and I made a lot of friends.

The second incident took place a few years later whilst I was working in Singapore. I joined the local St. Andrew's Society which was thriving and during one of the St. Andrew's night suppers, they had the Singapore Ladies' Pipe Band, the Gurkha Police and the Singapore Ladies' Police Bands. In fact, I have never seen so many pipers at a function of that size. I was very interested in the stories behind the band history and, again, a rather amusing story came to light.

During the 1960's, just before Singapore's independence, a confrontation had developed between Indonesia and Malaysia. British forces, covering the security in Borneo, would come to Singapore for their rest period. The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders had finished their stint and before going home had beat the retreat. (If any readers knows this story and it is not the Argylls, I apologize.) Their farewell was covered in the Straits Times, in more ways than one, and because of this a Chinese businessman wrote a letter to the paper asking why there was always so much coverage of Scottish regiments and why do the Scots always make out that the bagpipes were such a difficult instrument to play. Not a player himself, he felt that they looked quite easy. Needless to say, the Straits Times was bombarded with tons of mail from irate Scots and this, in turn, prompted the Chinese businessman to offer the Scottish community a challenge. He wagered that he could have a pipe band playing at the Singapore Independence Day parade; the band would consist of young Singaporeans who had never played any instrument before. The bets and odds started to come in. They had just over six

months to produce the band. The businessman recruited the Pipe Major and Drum Sargent from the Dagenham Girls Pipe Band, which at that time, was a band from the London area that did a lot of television performances and promotional displays. They came out and started to the task of getting a band together. The big day arrived and the final bets were placed; most felt that the band would not appear. The band did turn out and they did play a tune. Too bad nobody had thought of putting in a provision that the bagpipes had to be played properly or the tune had to be recognizable! The girls band that played that day was the start of piping among young Singaporeans and, in fact, it is the reason why all the bands in Singapore, are ladies, with the exception of the Gurkha Police. Since gambling is almost a national past-time, I wonder if the businessman used the occasion as a ploy to get a really good bet going.

I hope the members find these tales on interest and I apologize for deviating from the more serious art of piping.

Doug Grant

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COMING EVENTS

ROBBIE BURNS DINNER AND DANCE

SATURDAY, JANUARY 28, 1984

COCKTAILS 6 - 7 DINNER - 7

DANCING - 9 BAND - HARMONY

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produces. His flowing style was most enjoyable. The jig "Paddy O' Rafferty" provided a strong finish. Jimmy was declared the winner and will face Rob Menzies in the second round.

The audience was treated to a performance by the Richmond Pipe Band. They gave a most enjoyable show and many thanks should be extended to the band for coming out on short notice. In listening to the band one must really appreciate Jim Wilson's dedication to the band as he has produced a fine group of young players.

Saturday's mini gathering was very good. All the classes right from novice through junior amateur were of a very good standard. The chanter class also had some very good performances by these beginners.

The senior amateur class was certainly of a high quality on this day. The event was a 4-6 minute medley selection given by each player. Malcolm Bokenfohr placed first. His performance was solid from start to finish. His bagpipe was well tuned. The only major flaw in the performance was that the reel "Ness Pipers" was played too slowly and without much drive. However, this was not enough to seriously hurt his overall excellent performance. Bruce Woodley, with his ever powerful execution, placed second. Solid from beginning to end, Bruce's performance was a first class show of technical ability. The music lacked somewhat in its overall flow, but with a little more experience this will surely take care of itself. Patricia Miharija was third in the contest. Patricia's opening 6/8 marches were certainly the highlight of the contest. They were well executed and flowed nicely with lovely expression. Unfortunately her performance was marred by three or four chokes. This was unfortunate as Patricia certainly provided a very musical selection. The other players in the class all provided very pleasing performances. The most unfortunate breakdown by Dandy Miller was disappointing. Sandy started out in brilliant fashion. His bagpipe was first class and he started off with a tremendous rendition of "76th Police Tattoo". He continued on with a great strathspey. The reel was a little laboured but not noticeably. Sandy started the jig in fine fashion but was hit by a coughing attack that forced him to stop. This was unfortunate because his performance, up until now, had been excellent.

The judges for the mini gathering were Peter Aumonier, Jimmy Hardie and Alan Walters. Special thanks are extended to Alan and Jimmy for travelling to Vancouver to play in the knock-out and assisting with the mini gathering.

Next month's knock-out competition takes place on Friday, December 2nd. Mark it on your calendar. It looks to be a good evening. The crowds at the first two knock-outs this year have been large. This certainly makes for a more enjoyable evening of piping and socializing. The night will feature Angus MacPherson playing against John A. MacLeod, Jim Stewart versus Drew Noot, and Duncan Fraser takes on Rob MacNeil. There will also be a warm up competition consisting of two 9/8 marches (2 part) by each player. We are unable, at this time, to confirm a band to play for the evening but efforts are being made to do so. So we'll hope to see everyone out for another good evening of music.

#1 - Proposed by President, Dave Rickards a change in the By-Laws from previous type of prizes to a medal and clasp format.

Ian MacKinnon, and Karen Shelton appointed as a committee to get quotations on new medals for next meeting.

#2 - All pipe band competitions held under W.P.B.A. rules shall be run and directed by a committee supplied by the W.P.B.A.

Through a clerical type of malfunction the B.C. Dancers Association are presently not a member of the P.I.H.G.A. Steps are now being taken hopefully to change this situation.

A TENTATIVE possible schedule for 1984 Highland Games was drafted:

June 30	B.C.H.D.A., Vancouver
July 7	(open) (Possibly Kelowna)
July 14	Nanaimo
July 21	Portland
August 11	Seattle

The Okanagan Games this year will be in Kelowna. The Okanagan Games Committee are to be complimented on their cooperation in moving their date to accommodate the Nanaimo Highland Games and the Nanaimo Bathtub race Committee.

Election of officers for 1984:

President	D. Rickards, Seattle
1st Vice-President	A. Duncan, W.P.B.A., Van.
2nd Vice-President	Karen Shelton, Seattle
Secretary-Treasurer	Bill White, Nanaimo

Next meeting of the P.I.H.G.A. will be held in Portland, Jan., 1984.

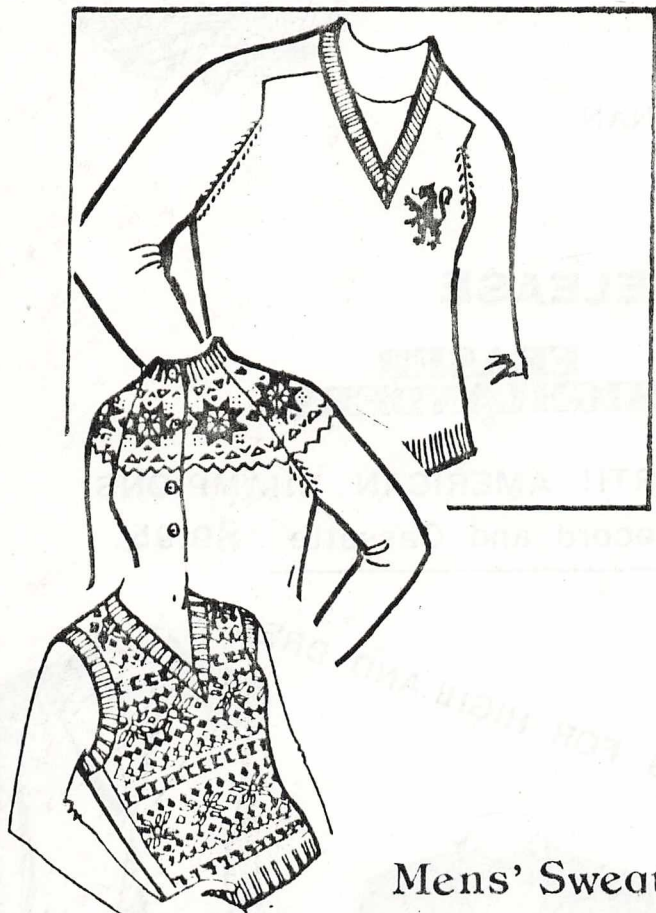
Any members having possible input to the P.I.H.G.A. committee please contact Ian MacKinnon B.C.P.A. representative - 522-9697.

Respectfully submitted

Ian O. MacKinnon, B.C.P.A. Representative

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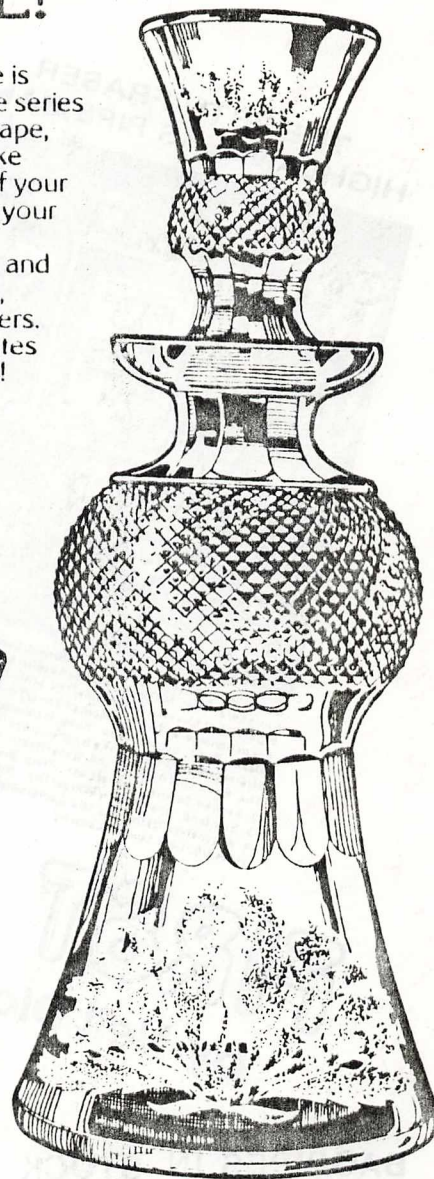
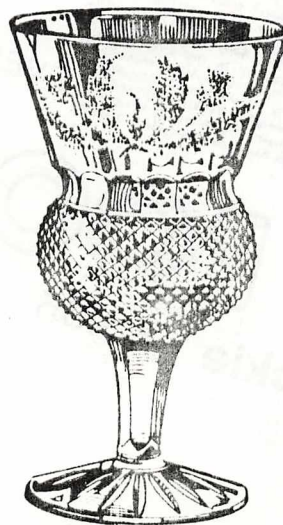
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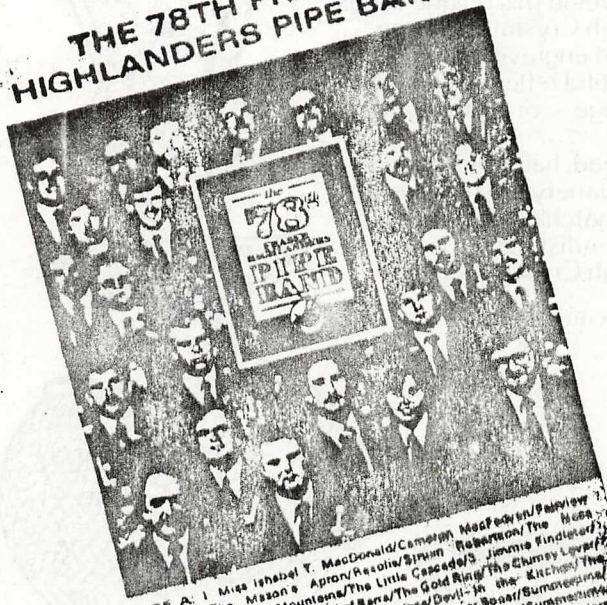
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THE 78TH FRASER
HIGHLANDERS PIPE BAND



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Collage / 3. The Mason's Apron / Resolis / Struan / Robertson / The Hagg
Pipers / 4. The Fair Maid of Bann / The Little Cascade / 5. Jemmie Findlater /
6. Lochanale / 7. The Fox / 8. The Gold Ring / 9. The Clurkey / 10. The
Strathpey King / 11. Devil in the Kitchen / 12. The Silver Spear / 13. The
The Keen Jig / 14. Rocking the Baby / 15. The Bones / 16. The Wedding /
17. Fanall to the Creek / 18. Capt. Craig Brown / 19. The Bones / 20. The
2. Scotland the Brave / Wings / The Rowan Tree / Murdoch's Wedding
4. Argyleshire Gathering / The Cameronian Hero / John Morrison of Assy
house / 6. Lord Lovat's Lament /

NEW RELEASE

FRASER HIGHLANDERS

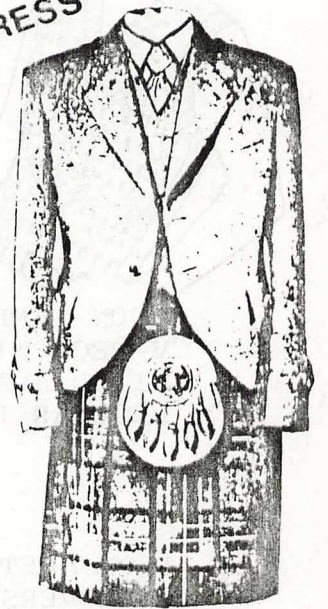
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