

B.C. PIPERS' NEWSLETTER



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

SUMMER, 1975

NO. 146

B. C. PIPERS' NEWSLETTER

Published by the British Columbia Pipers' Association.

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SUMMER, 1975

NO. 146

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir,

I refer to the editorial in the October, 1974 "Piping Times". Namely, the proposed approval of piping colleges by the Institute of Piping.

"The Institute should take it on itself to consider carefully the whole organisation of each summer school, to examine the motives and the methods, the calibre of the instructors, the ratio of students to qualified staff, the arrangements for supervision the details of syllabus and timetable followed. Then, where it is satisfied, the Institute should award a seal of approval - subject always to regular review."

The author of such a proposal must either be joking or daft, man! Did the colleges of the MacCrimmons, MacArthurs or Rankins need such a seal of approval? The record of accomplishments of any institution is indeed the proof of excellence.

Since the early colonial days this country has been plagued by a variety of adventurers, from Royalist regiments to Carpetbaggers. It is now a matter of history as to the effective disposal of each variety.

Here in the United States, we are happy indeed to welcome any constructive criticism or help in furthering the cause of piping. However, we will not tolerate being dictated to or browbeaten by any group of self-styled experts.

The time is long overdue to clear up considerable misconceptions regarding Invermark College of Piping. (c.f. "Piping Times", Vol. 27, No. 4 Pg. 14) "Invermark ... was originated by James Lindsay ... who decided ... that why should he travel all that way for instruction when the school could be organised on his own doorstep ...". Invermark was not built as an expedient to long distance travel. It was built in order to create an environment which would foster and further develop the art of piobaireachd in North America. It should be pointed out that this concept of making piobaireachd a central focus for a modern piping school was unprecedented in North America in 1961.

The need for such an institution was evident by the late 1950's. In the Eastern United States, the standard of Ceol Mor playing had reached an all time low. Many games committees, in fact, had dropped piobaireachd contests entirely.

Since its conception in 1961, Invermark has closely followed the format of the old Highland colleges, where the student/teacher ratio rarely exceeded 3 to 1. The teaching methods were developed by Messrs. Thomas Pearston, John MacFadyen, Dr. John MacAskill, the late R.U. Brown, M.B.E., Robert Nicol, and the continuing efforts of Donald F. Lindsay.

By the summer of 1966, piobaireachd contests were back in every games program, and the entry lists had grown to unprecedented proportions. During the period from 1961 to 1970, the art was raised from a point of near extinction to a standard of playing comparable to the best anywhere, the Gold Medal judging at the Northern Meeting, 1974, notwithstanding.

The parallel between the opening of Invermark College of Piping in July of 1961, and the vigorous revival of piobaireachd to its present standard of playing and popularity in the Eastern United States is indeed significant.

I am at a complete loss, therefore, to understand how Invermark College of Piping could possibly benefit by a "seal of approval" from the Institute of Piping. It would seem to me that in the interest of piping, a leaf from Invermark's book would be more helpful than endless blethering about a regulatory body of dubious credibility.

James F. Lindsay
Invermark

LAST MONTH IN AND AROUND THE ASSOCIATION

Summer Games Results

As a prelude to the results of our summer games, an explanation of our promotional system is, perhaps, in order.

Originally, when our present system of classes was set up, i.e. Juvenile, Junior, Senior Amateur, players were permitted to stay in any one class, with the exception of Novice, for as long as they wished. The result, however, was a rather top-heavy Juvenile class as, of course, none of the top players would move up. Why leave a good thing?

To combat this position a system was devised whereby players winning a 1st, 2nd or 3rd prize in that particular class were compelled to advance to the next class at the end of the competition year. This system also created problems, however, for now the senior classes were top-heavy.

Another system was then devised. Players were required to accumulate a number of points based on the aggregate system (8 pts - 1st, 5 pts - 2nd, etc.). It was felt that only consistent winners would be able to accumulate enough points and thus be ready to compete in the higher calibre of the next class. This, too, had its problems.

As a result, the Board of Directors has decided, in effect, to advance those players, with the appropriate accumulation of points, it feels capable of competing in a higher class. By doing this the Association will be able to regulate the size of the classes and ensure that competitors are not playing above or, for that matter, below their own standards. It must be emphasized at this point that any competitor may play in a higher class if he chooses. By doing so, however, he relinquishes his right to move back down again.

The Games considered for promotional purposes are referred to as "Major Games" and are as follows:

Vancouver Ladies' Festival	Vancouver
B. C. Pipers' Annual Gathering	Nanaimo
New Westminster	Portland
Bellingham	Seattle
Victoria	

Naturally, Games such as Nelson, Trail and Coeur d'Alene cannot be included in the above as they do not conform to our class structure. Pipers are classified by age at these contests. The Mini-Gatherings are also not considered for promotion purposes as were the Bi-Monthlies before them.

FOR MORE INFORMATION SEE MINI-GATHERINGS.

Portland Highland Games - July 19, 1975

Novice March

1. Andrew Peck
2. Mary Kenny
3. Robyn Nicol
4. Dennis Holt

Juvenile March

1. Sue Arbuthnott
2. Jim Stewart
3. Jean Nicol
4. Mike Guillemin

Juvenile Strathspey & Reel

1. Ronald Tait
2. Vern Kennedy
3. Jim Stewart
4. Jean Nicol

Juvenile Old Highland Airs

1. Jim Stewart
2. Ronald Tait
3. Jean Nicol
4. Jimmy Paterson

Juvenile Aggregate

- Jim Stewart

Junior March

1. Gordon Paterson
2. Ruth Tremaine
3. Grant Wilkie

Junior Old Highland Airs

1. Grant Wilkie
2. Ruth Tremaine
3. Gordon Paterson

Amateur March

1. Bruce McIntosh
2. Jill Laurie
3. Stuart Reid

Amateur Piobaireachd

1. Gordon MacDonald
2. Gordon Lyle
3. Bill Wishart

Professional March

1. Hal Senyk
2. Jack Lee
3. Ian Whitelaw

Professional Piobaireachd

1. Jack Lee
2. Hal Senyk
3. Colin Gemmell

Novice Drumming

1. Adam Bell
2. Ross Kennedy
3. Alan Tait
4. Cathy Guillemin

Senior Amateur Drumming

1. Rob McKendrick
2. Allison McCarlie

Juvenile Novice Bands

1. Highland Laddies

Grade II Bands

1. Richmond Senior

Quartettes

1. Triumph Street
2. Richmond Senior

Junior Strathspey & Reel

1. Christine Waddell
2. Duncan Fraser
3. Grant Wilkie

Junior Aggregate

- Grant Wilkie

Amateur Strathspey & Reel

1. Jill Laurie
2. Gordon Lyle
3. Colin MacKenzie

Amateur Aggregate

- Jill Laurie

Professional Strathspey & Reel

1. Hal Senyk
2. Colin Gemmell
3. Terry Lee

Professional Aggregate

- Hal Senyk

Junior Amateur Drumming

1. Todd Mitchell
2. Paula Tremaine
3. Ron Galloway

Professional Drumming

1. Scott Robertson
2. Murray Monroe

Juvenile Open Bands

1. Richmond Junior

Grade I Bands

1. Triumph Street

Seattle Highland Games - August 2, 1975

Novice March - Under 14

1. Paddy MacNeil

Novice March - Over 14

1. Andrew Peck
2. Kent Withycombe
3. Dennis Holt

Novice Strath. & Reel - Over 14

1. Glen McEachran
2. Eric Bremner
3. Roderick Weeks

Juvenile March

1. Sue Arbuthnott
2. Jim Stewart
3. David Winter

Juvenile Strathspey & Reel

1. Sue Arbuthnott
2. Jim Stewart
3. Terri Smith

Juvenile Old Highland Airs

1. Terri Smith
2. Royce Lerwick
3. Carolyn Paterson
4. Jim Stewart

Junior March

1. Duncan Fraser
2. Ruth Tremaine
3. Grant Wilkie

Junior Strathspey & Reel

1. Ruth Tremaine
2. Grant Wilkie
3. Duncan Fraser

Junior Old Highland Airs

1. Donny MacNeil
2. Alan Wilson
3. Grant Wilkie

Amateur March

1. Colin MacKenzie
2. Graham Davidson
3. Bruce McIntosh

Amateur Strathspey & Reel

1. Alison Palmer
2. Jill Laurie
3. Graham Davidson

Amateur Piobaireachd

1. Alison Palmer
2. Gordon J. MacDonald
3. Colin MacKenzie

Professional March

1. Hal Senyk
2. Jack Lee
3. Ian Whitelaw

Professional Strathspey & Reel

1. Jack Lee
2. Steve Geddes
3. Jamie Troy

Professional Jig

1. Donald MacMillan
2. Steve Geddes
3. Jamie Troy

Professional Piobaireachd

1. Jack Lee
2. Hal Senyk
3. Jamie Troy

Novice Drumming

1. Adam Bell
2. Craig Smith
3. Rodney Navid

Senior Amateur Drumming

1. Danny McKillop
2. Rob McKendrick
3. Laurie McKendrick
4. Keith Clark

Juvenile Open Bands - M.S.R.

1. Richmond Junior

Grade I Bands - M.S.R.

1. City of Victoria

Grade II Bands - Medley

1. Richmond Senior
2. Seattle Pipe Band

Amateur Drumming

1. Paula Tremaine
2. Ronald Galloway
3. Galen Lenwick

Professional Drumming

1. Willie McErlean
2. Keith Manifold
3. Dave McNicol

Grade II Bands - M.S.R.

1. Richmond Senior

Juvenile Open Bands - Medley

1. Richmond Junior

Grade I Bands - Medley

1. Triumph Street

Coeur d'Alene Scottish Festival & Tattoo - July 27, 1975

Novice March

1. Kent Withycomb
2. Mary Kenny
3. Colin Elliot
4. Jamie Mignerey
5. Paige McLaughlin

Novice March - Special

1. Greg Galloway
2. Ina Huntley
3. John Moore
4. Barbara Conrad
5. Doug Stewart

March - 13 yrs. & Under

1. Billy Haws
2. David Goodsheld
3. Robert Rife
4. Graham Davidson
5. Mark Underwood

Strath. & Reel - 13 yrs. & Under

1. Tom Jones
2. Billy Haws
3. Robert Rife
4. David Goodsheld
5. Mark Underwood

March - 14-16 yrs.

1. Alison Palmer
2. Heather Parker
3. Jill Laurie
4. Michael Young
5. Brad Wakefield

Strath. & Reel - 14-16 yrs.

1. Alison Palmer
2. Jill Laurie
3. Brad Wakefield
4. Heather Parker
Jim Stewart
5. Raymond Galloway

March - 17-19 yrs.

1. Kelly Todd
2. Ruth Tremaine
3. Mary Alward
4. Ian Keith
5. Laurie MacKenzie

March - Over 19 yrs.

1. LuAnne Alward
2. Jonathan Losee
3. Rich Mount
4. Judy Pittman
5. David Furomoto

Amateur Piobaireachd

1. Ian Keith
2. Gordon MacDonald
3. Mary Alward
4. Kelly Todd
5. Candy Parker

Professional March

1. Donald McMillan
2. Colin Gemmell
3. Rene Cusson

Professional Piobaireachd

1. Jack Lee
2. Hal Senyk
3. Craig Hazelbacker

Drumming - 16 yrs. & Under

1. Danny MacKeller
2. Terry Dalziel
3. Rob McKendrick
4. Paula Tremaine
5. Anne Arbuthnott

Professional Drumming

1. Alex Brown
2. Willie McErlean
3. Jon Moore

Grade I Bands

1. Triumph Street
2. Viscount Park
3. McBain Scottish

Strath. & Reel - 17-19 yrs.

1. Ruth Tremaine
2. Ian Keith
3. Kelly Todd
4. Mary Alward
Duncan Fraser
5. Graham Davidson

Strath. & Reel - Over 19 yrs.

1. Luanne Alward
2. Jim Carr
3. Judy Pittman
4. Rich Mount
5. Joyce Bottoms

Amateur Piobaireachd - Special

1. Laurie McKenzie
2. Robbie McKendrick
3. Alison Duncan
4. David Furmoto

Professional Musical Selection

1. Hal Senyk
2. Rene Cusson
3. Iain MacCrimmon

Novice Drumming

1. Scott Reusser
2. Beth Bergin
3. Scott MacMartrey
4. Steve Jones

Drumming - Over 16 yrs.

1. Scott Gray
2. Sam Henry
3. Laurie McKendrick
4. Todd Mitchell
Bonnie McKendrick
5. Joe Hewitt

Grade II Bands

1. Richmond Senior
2. Blue Heron
3. Portland Ladies

The Spokane Piobaireachd Society

On the last day of the world's largest piping school held annually at the North Idaho College, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, Colin Gemmell from Connecticut won the Spokane Piobaireachd Society's "Banner of the Mountains" with a magnificent rendition of "The Rout of Glenfruin" against a field of fifteen invitational open competitors.

Iain MacCrimmon of Edmonton, Alberta won the "warm-up" march with one of his own compositions "The Un-Names" which will appear in his book **pumber** two soon to be released.

Earlier in the afternoon of July 25th, charming sixteen year old, Miss Jill Laurie of Vancouver, B.C. won the Donald MacKenzie Lochinver Medallion and the "warm-up" march with "Kantara to El Arish" and "The Glen is Mine". Miss Laurie was the youngest, the first lady and the prettiest to ever win this coveted prize with its associated three hundred dollar check for transportation to Scotland. There were seventeen who entered in this delightful competition.

Two weeks earlier, the other Lochinver medal and check for three hundred dollars was won by Mr. Jim Johnson, a student from McCallister College in Minnesota. He played "The Rout of Glenfruin" on a magnificently toned pipe. Miss Laurie won the "warm-up" 2/4 march with an excellent treatment of "The Braes of Brecklet", a William Lawrie composition. Ten students entered in this competition which was judged by Donald Morrison of South Uist of the City of Aberdeen Police.

The Banner and the other Medallion competition was adjudicated by Mr. Andrew Wright from Paisley, Scotland. Morrison and Wright conducted individual critiques with all the competitors at the end of the competitions. They were offered and have accepted five year contracts to return to this highly successful program at Coeur d'Alene, now finishing its ninth year in improving the skill level of the hundreds who have come and benefited so dramatically from the expertise of the teaching staff.

John McEwing

New Members

Mr. Dean Ferguson
Nanaimo, B.C.

Mr. Robert Millman
Burnaby, B.C.

Mr. John Millman
Burnaby, B.C.

Mrs. Mary Huige
Burnaby, B.C.

Mr. W. Micenko
Tacoma, Washington

Nelson Highland Games - August 30 - 31, 1975

Novice March - Under 15 yrs.

1. Gordie Young
2. Clark Rowe
3. Pauline Alakija

Strath. & Reel - Under 15 yrs.

1. Pauline Alakija
2. Clarke Rowe
3. Gordie Young

Novice March - Over 15 yrs.

1. Edward Ferguson
2. Sandy Ward
3. Heather Ferguson

Strath. & Reel - Over 15 yrs.

1. Rob Duncan
2. Sandy Ward
3. Brenda Drummond

Amateur March - Under 16 yrs.

1. Stuart Clark
2. Gordon Gray
3. Donna McInnes

Strath. & Reel - Under 16 yrs.

1. Gordon Gray
2. Stuart Clark
3. Philip Gordon

Slow Air - Under 16 yrs.

1. Stuart Clark
2. Gordon Gray
3. Robert Rife

Jig - Under 16 yrs.

1. Robert Rife
2. Gordon Gray
3. Robbie Olsen

Amateur Aggregate Under 16 yrs.

- Gordon Gray

Amateur March - Under 19 yrs.

1. Allan MacDougall
2. Warren Fells
3. Kelly Todd

Strath. & Reel - Under 19 yrs.

1. Kelly Todd
2. Graham Davidson
3. Gordon MacDonald

Slow Air - Under 19 yrs.

1. Allan MacDougall
2. Kelly Todd
3. Graham Davidson

Jig - Under 19 yrs.

1. Allan MacDougall
2. Gordon MacDonald
3. Kelly Todd

Amateur Aggregate Under 19 yrs.

- Allan MacDougall

Amateur March - Over 19 yrs.

1. Alex MacIntyre
2. Dave Rutherford
3. LuAnne Alward

Strath. & Reel - Over 19 yrs.

1. Dave Rutherford
2. LuAnne Alward
3. Alex MacIntyre

Slow Air - Over 19 yrs.

1. Alex MacIntyre
2. LuAnne Alward
3. Bob Gallaher

Jig - Over 19 yrs.

1. Dave Rutherford
2. Alex McIntyre
3. Ian Paterson

Amateur Aggregate Over 19 yrs.

- Alex MacIntyre

Amateur Piobaireachd

1. Mary Alward
2. Gordon Gray
3. Graham Davidson

Trios - 4 part 6/8 March

1. Graham Davidson
Phillip Gordon
Gordon Gray

Duets - 3/4 March

1. Mark Christy
Robbie Olsen
2. Rolf Kartegaard
Jim Walgren
3. Graham Davidson
Gordon Gray

Professional March

1. Allan MacLeod
2. Iain MacCrimmon
3. Robert Menzies

Professional Strathspey & Reel

1. Rene Cusson
2. Jim Barrie
3. Allan MacLeod

Professional Jig

1. Jim Barrie
2. Allan MacLeod
3. Dan Diessner

Professional Piobaireachd

1. Allan MacLeod
2. Jim Barrie
3. Robert Menzies

Chanter - 13 yrs. & Under

1. Sheena McLeod

Chanter - 16 yrs. & Under

1. Cathy Balfour

Grade A Bands

1. Triumph Street
2. Viscount Park
MacBain Scottish

Grade B Bands

1. Kootenay Kilties
2. City of Penticton

The B.C. Pipers' Association contributed two scholarships to the Glentruim School in Nelson. The winners, chosen by the School, were Pauline Alakija of Penticton and Graham Davidson of North Vancouver.

City of Ottawa Highland Games

On June 27th and 28th the city of Ottawa's Landsdowne Park was invaded by over 200 competitors from British Columbia. The "B.C. contingent" had arrived.

Two days earlier the invasion party touched down at Ottawa Airport and was promptly billeted at nearby Carleton University. Because of the extreme heat it was necessary to immediately embark on a sojourn to Hull, Quebec. (The beer is cheaper there.) However, duty called and the group's activities were curtailed by a band practice (of all things).

Friday was strictly confined to solo competitions. Friday was also the only black mark on Ottawa, for the individual competitions were very poorly organized. One class, namely professional, was still in full swing at 8:00 p.m.

Playing under the stars didn't appear to phase Jamie Troy as he carried away the Professional aggregate in the Inter-provincial event, collecting two firsts and one second. Jack Lee, Hal Senyk and John MacLeod also acquitted themselves well despite the adverse conditions. Other B.C. professionals competing individually included Ian Whitelaw, Steve Geddes, Donald MacMillan, Rob Menzies and Rene Cussons.

In the Amateur ranks, Allan McDougall carried off the Grade I (our Senior Amateur) Open aggregate. Jill Laurie received third prize in the Open piobaireachd also in Grade I. Prize winners in Grade II (Junior) included Donny McNeil, Grant Wilkie, Ruth Tremaine, Alan Wilson, Bruce Gandy and James Paterson.

In the solo drumming events, B.C. again faired very well winning three of the top four prizes in the Professional Open. Wee Wullie (McErlean) was first in the Professional Inter-provincial.

Saturday was the day of the Pipe Band Contest and Tattoo. The B.C. bands faired extremely well in the prize lists and raised many an eyebrow in doing so. In the Grade I Inter-provincial, the City of Victoria defeated the invincible Clan MacFarlane. Also in the Interprovincials, Richmond Junior claimed top honours in the Grade III event. In the Open event Triumph Street placed second behind Clan MacFarlane in Grade I, certainly the high point of their career. In the Grade II competitions, Richmond Senior placed first in the Open and second in the Interprovincial events.

On Saturday evening a packed house at Landsdowne Park greeted the participants in the Scottish Spectacular. As before, the B.C. contingent, under the direction of D/M Archie Walker, rose to the occasion and was very well received.

Unfortunately for many of us the coming of Sunday meant Ottawa Airport and home. For the remainder though, the party wasn't over yet. An eight hour bus ride took them to London and the nearby Embro Highland Games. Once again the Western competitors carried off more than their fair share of prizes. However, they, too, were soon to be home and the invasion party retreated - undefeated.

On behalf of the piping and drumming participants I would like to thank Heather Jolley for organizing and coordinating the trip and also those groups and individuals who donated their time and money to make it all possible.

Angus Macpherson

NEXT MONTH

H A G G I S W A N T S Y O U
A T
THE B.C. PIPERS' WINTER KNOCK-OUTS



Plan to attend the 1975-76 Knock-outs.

18 trios entered in head to head competition.

1ST FRIDAY OF EVERY MONTH - SCOTTISH AUDITORIUM

See you there - Bring your pipes.

Admission to non-members - \$1.50

under 18 - \$1.00

Bar Service

Knock-outs

With our so-called summer drawing to a close it is time once again for our winter schedule of knock-out competitions. As has been the case for the past two years, the feature attraction will be trio competitions.

For the first few months, starting October 3, 1975, two, and sometimes three, trios will compete against each other in a medley competition. Having survived the first round, quarter and semi-finals, two successful trios will compete for the cash prize in the knock-out final held at the Association's Annual Dinner next spring.

This year eighteen threesomes, including two from "South of the Border" - Blue Heron and The Tacoma Scots - will be battling to reach the final.

As an added attraction, a Professional competition will be held during the evening. Although prizes will be awarded we are hoping to run the event on an "impromptu" format.

This year the method of opening the meetings has been altered slightly. In an effort to encourage more member participation, active members are asked to bring their pipes. The meeting will be opened with as many as possible playing into the Ballroom. Hopefully this will set the tone for the evening (no pun intended) and more of our "older" members will join in the "impromptu".

Bar service, of course, will be available.

In closing it should be noted that although these evenings are billed as "Knock-outs" they are still General Meetings and business can be brought up from the floor. If any member has any comments, ideas or beefs, please feel free to air them.

It promises to be an interesting year. See you there!

Knock-out & General Meeting

The first knock-out of the season will be held in the Ballroom of the Scottish Auditorium, 12th & Fir, Friday October 3, 1975. The proceedings will get underway at 8:00 p.m. with the "massed pipers" playing Pipers' Cove (Queen's Own). In the first trio contest, Triumph Street #2 will do battle against C.P. Air Jr. #1, while in the second competition Blue Heron will take on Triumph Street #1.

The entrants in the Professional competition will be required to play two Jigs. No pre-entry will be required.

As always "impromptu" will be in full swing for the remainder of the evening.

KNOCK-OUT DRAW

October 3/75

- Event A C.P. Air Richmond Jr. #1
Triumph Street #2
- Event B Blue Heron Bay
Triumph Street #1

November 7/75

- Event A C.P. Air Richmond Sr. #2
Port Moody #2
- Event B Port Moody #1
Victoria #1
C.P. Air Richmond Sr. #1

December 5/75

- Event A Tacoma Scots
Seaforth #1
- Event B Jacobites
C.P. Air Richmond Jr. #2

January 9/76

- Event A C.P. Air Richmond Sr. #3
Vancouver Police
- Event B Seaforth #2
Vancouver Ladies

February 6/76

- Event A Winners of events A & B at October K.O.
- Event B Winners of events A & B at November K.O.

March 5/76

- Event A Winners of events A & B at December K.O.
- Event B Winners of events A & B at January K.O.

April 2/76

Winners of events A & B at February K.O.

May 7/76

Winners of events A & B at March K.O.

Winners of April and May play in final to be held at the Annual Dinner. Date will be announced in a later edition.

Mini-Gatherings

After last year's debut in the winter piping scene, the Board of Directors has decided to follow the format of the mini-gatherings for the coming season. The programme will remain the same as last year except that the first competition will commence at 11:00 a.m.

The proceedings will again be conducted in the Scottish Auditorium, 12th & Fir in Vancouver on November 1, 1975 and February 7, 1976. Competitors may enter for one or both competitions and must have their entries in the hands of the secretary by October 20th (entry forms on back page). In the event of a mail strike please phone Mrs. Rose Swanson at 327-1441. There will be no entry fee. All competitors will pay admission which will be \$1.50 for adults and \$1.00 for children under 18.

Earlier we mentioned the promotion system:

FOR THE MINI-GATHERINGS PLAYERS WILL COMPETE IN THE CLASSES THEY PLAYED IN DURING THE SUMMER. THE PROMOTIONS WILL BE PUBLISHED LATER IN THE NEWSLETTER AND WILL TAKE EFFECT AT THE VANCOUVER LADIES' FESTIVAL.

November 1/75

Novice:

Old Highland Air March (of own choice)

Juvenile:

March Strathspey & Reel

Junior:

Jig Piobaireachd

Amateur:

March, Strathspey & Reel Hornpipe

February 7/76

Novice:

Strathspey & Reel (2 parts)

Juvenile:

Jig 6/8 March

Junior:

March, Strathspey & Reel Hornpipe

Amateur:

Piobaireachd Jig

Entry form on back page. Entries must be in by Oct. 20th.

White Heather

On Friday, September 26, 1975 and Saturday, September 27th the B. C. Pipers' and the St. Andrews and Caledonian will present the White Heather Concert, starring Scotland's best all-round entertainer, Andy Stewart.

Accompanying Andy will be comedian Lou Grant, soprano Anne Williamson, and highland dancer Donna Cove. Mark Simpson will provide the accompaniment on the piano.

Tickets are available from the Vancouver Ticket Centre and all outlets.

Prices - \$6.00, \$5.00, \$4.00

Showtime - 8:30

Queen Elizabeth Theatre

C.P. Air Dance

The Richmond Junior and Senior Pipe Bands are holding a dance on October 18, 1975 at the Sea Island Forum. Light refreshments are available. Tickets are \$3.00 each and can be obtained from any band member or by phoning 731-7459.

Dancing 9-1

Live Music

Bar Service

ROVING REPORTER

Intercontinental Pipe Band Championships

The 1975 Intercontinental Pipe Band Championships were held on August 17th at Toronto's C.N.E. Stadium as a part of the Scottish World Festival. Although the Canadian National Exhibition with its carnival rides, games and midway may not appear to be the ideal place for a pipe band competition, it is perhaps a question of necessity as the financially successful evening tattoo must contribute to the funding which allows the Scottish bands to attend the contest. It is evidently the presence of the Scottish bands which makes the Intercontinental the most exciting band contest in North America. One attends with the expectance that one will be exposed to the very best.

The morning of the contest was overcast and chilly - a condition which perhaps would have favoured the Scottish bands, however, as the day wore on the sun came out and we experienced a typical, muggy Toronto summer day. In the stadium the four grades were competing simultaneously in the four corners of the field. The classes were staggered so that although all four grades were in progress at 11:00 when Grade 1 began, Grades 2,3 and 4 soon ended leaving only the Grade 1 contest.

There were 24 bands entered in Grade 1 and 21 actually competed. The contest began as scheduled at 11:00 a.m. and continued very smoothly until about 3:00 p.m. Each band was allotted 8 or 9 minutes and the only lags in the contest arose when a band scratched, at which time there would be a corresponding 8 or 9 minute break.

There was certainly a wide cross-section of competitors. Aside from the Canadian and Scottish bands there also were bands from England, Ireland, the United States and New Zealand.

Most of the Grade 1 bands were of moderate size with about a dozen pipers. In fact, no band played more than 13. However, quite a few bands had larger drum sections than we are used to in this part of the world - 5, 6 or 7 sides being fairly common. Balance was an important consideration as the contest was judged by not only piping and drumming judges, but also by an ensemble judge whose task was to appraise the overall "sound" of the bands - how well the pipe section and drum section of a band meshed and complimented one another.

The attendance was not as great as one might have expected with perhaps 3000 spectators present. However, it was obvious that the crowd was a very "professional" one as every second person seemed to be clutching a tape recorder and most comments heard were fairly intelligent ones.

As the day wore on it became evident that we were not to be treated to any breathtaking performances, however, there were several very competent ones. The contest eventually seemed to be decided on the basis of tone, as the winning band, Dysart and Dundonald, had the biggest sound of the day and were playing probably the best set chanter. It was interesting to see Dysart win as they are a very young band with several players who appear to be in their teens.

The results of the contest were:

1. Dysart and Dundonald	95.75
2. Shotts and Dykehead	93.37
3. Muirhead and Sons	91.75
4. Strathclyde & District (Glasgow) Police	90.37
5. Clan MacFarlane	89.75

Clan MacFarlane of St. Catherines, who placed fifth overall, also was awarded the prize for the best Canadian band. The Clan could, perhaps, have placed higher on the prize list were the contest judged on tone alone. However, something seemed to be lacking in the ensemble department.

All in all it was a very well run and interesting competition. For someone coming from this area the most interesting aspect of the competition was the realization that, after hearing Scotland's best, perhaps we're not so far behind.

Allan Skalazub

Band Chatter

We would like to offer our congratulations to Byron and Heather Barnard on their latest addition, Keith Ross. Byron and Heather, two of the top players from the Island, appear to be working on their own pipe band.

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On behalf of the Association, we'd like to wish the newest member of the Anderson family all the best. Derek Robert was born on September 5th to Dave and Paula. Dave, formerly of Triumph Street, is currently playing with Port Moody. (Another one for that band - drat!)

* * * * *

Tim Noot, the seafaring piper, is currently in the Cook Islands. Tim, you'll all remember, cast off last Fall in "Amazing Grace" and set sail for points west. He has since visited Mexico, the Marquesas Islands, Tahiti and now Raratonga in the Cooks. Tim plans to return to Tahiti, then up to Hawaii and home for next summer.

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Belated welcome home to Bill Russell. Bill, one of our top professionals, has been located in Watson Lake and Fort St. James with C.P. Air for the last two years. Bill was the Association Secretary before his departure and we hope to see him back in an active role.

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ENTRY FORM FOR NOV. COMPETITION

NAME

ADDRESS

TELEPHONE NUMBER

TEACHER'S NAME

ALL ENTRIES TO BE IN BY OCTOBER 20, 1975.

TO: Mrs. R. Swanson
8363 Shaughnessy Street
Vancouver, B.C. V6P 3Y1