



Thursday, August 3, 1978

(F)1B

Festival parade: march madness in July

By LORRAINE McCLISH

The Celtic Pipe and Drum Corp was the big winner in the Founders Festival parade, taking first prize for the best band and the Drake's Cup, given for best of show.

Another group of Scots, The Tarettes, took a double award, coming in as number one in the drum and baton category, then taking the second place award for best color guard.

"It was good marching weather," remarked one bandsman in the colorful event, referring to the overcast day that kept the temperature down for the hundreds who walked the Grand River route for the 14th annual parade.

Clowns, bands, antique cars, local and state officials, floats and animals formed the two-hour parade directed by Sue Miramonti and led by Grand Marshal Gov. William Milliken, who walked a good part of the route.

SCRIBBLES CLOWNS took first place among the clown groups who handed out balloons and toys to those who lined the streets. Michigan Bell Clowns and the Livonia Jaycee Clowns took second and third place.

Central Church of Christ took the top award for its float dominated by an oversized treasure chest. Other float winners were those created by Farmington Co-op Nursery and Farmington Hills Christian Center.

Our Belgian visitors, Alkuone, here on tour in an exchange program with Blue Lakes Fine Arts Camp, and many of the members staying in local homes, captured the top award for its color guard. Alkuone is noted for an unusual choreography done with large flags.

Another first time visitor to the parade was "The Diplomats," a drill team that very literally danced its way from one end of the parade route

to the other, and took a second place award. The group was followed in the drill team category by the Farmington Elks Motorcycle Corps.

A POIGNANT unit in the parade came from Oak Hill Nursing Home residents, who joined the march in wheelchairs.

Music came from about 10 units. Following the Celtic Pipe and Drum Corps, awards were given to The Highland Scots and the Redford Township

Bike Band. The bicyclists, clad in turn of the century straw hats and red vests, each played instruments reading music pinned to the back of the bandsman in front.

In the drum and baton category, The Ambassadors followed The Tarettes in the awarding of prizes. The Golden Garrisons took the top award in the drum and bugle category, followed by The Coachman and the Blue Water Guardsmen.

Special awards went to the Belgian

Horses and the Redford Unicyclists.

BETTY DUNN, a band scout for the Orange Bowl Parade, was back at her post in the reviewing stand, announcing units as they passed. She said she couldn't remember how many years she has come to the festival to perform that job.

Among the thank-yous and credits for putting the parade together, the Farmington Amateur Radio Club was noted for again handling all on-the-street communications.



The Redford Unicyclists took a special award from the judges for deft maneuverings and complicated drills.



The Farmington Co-Op Nursery took an award for the colorful float overflowing with the young set.

Best of show went to the Celtic Pipe and Drum Corps. The group took the Drake's Cup, a passing trophy that must be won three years running before it's kept as a permanent award.

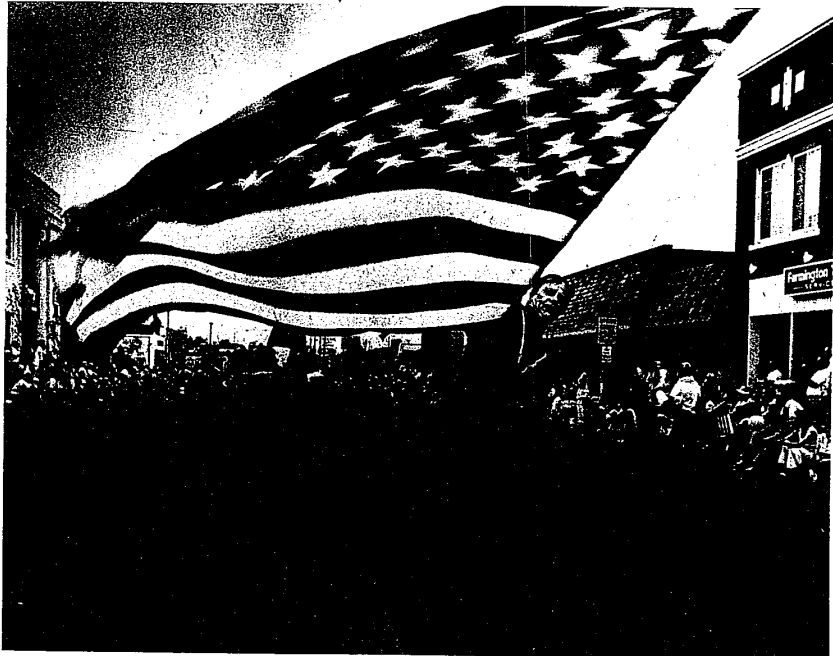


The A stands for Ambassadors. A nifty tenor drum section led smooth sounding xylophones and the flag bearers to the second-place award in the drum and baton category.

Staff photos
by Allen
Schlossberg



A majorette calls her troops in line while the baton twirling corps stops before the reviewing stand.



The number one choice in the color guard category is Alkuone. In native dress, the corps of flag dancers from Belgium were welcomed into Farmington homes for a short stay here while giving an on-stage

performance and then joining the festival parade. Members who do complex choreography with over-sized flags are touring Michigan in a cultural exchange program with Blue Lakes Fine Arts Camp.