

## Segment 1 (19:48)

[Intro]

You're listening to DrumCorpsAF, the only crowd-sourced drum corps podcast.

- This is Episode 34: the 2023 Season Review
  - Next episode: Best of the Boston Crusaders - Call our submission line at 913-390-3190. You have 3 minutes to talk to us about Your favorite Boston Crusaders shows. You can use your real name, or a pseudonym.
- Fair warning: We are opinionated AF and we're not afraid to bitch slap your favorite little corps. So if you're prone to butthurt, please press delete and scroll on by. BUT we love this activity. The worst day watching drum corps is better than the best day airing your dirty laundry on the Cavaliers Alumni Association Facebook page.
- *Disclaimer: The opinions expressed on this show do not in any way reflect the opinion of any corps or other organizations the hosts are or have been affiliated with. They are FAR classier, smarter and more successful than we are!*
- *The Drum Corps AF podcast does not have a Patreon or a booth at DCI, and we do not accept donations. If you like what we do, please consider becoming a monthly partner with your favorite drum corps.*
- We want to hear from you!
  - FaceBook Group (facebook.com/drumcorpsaf)
  - Twitter: @drumcorpsaf
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News

- DCI extends contract with LOS thru 2033:  
<https://www.dci.org/news/drum-corps-international-and-visit-indy-announce-multi-year-contract-extension>

Listener Feedback

*Disclaimer: The opinions expressed in this segment are those of the speaker ONLY! I mean seriously, in some instances literally no other human being holds these opinions.*

[9 listener voicemail submissions]

## Segment 2 (46:53)

Fossil Chops Rant:

The amount of people at DCI Open Class Finals is embarrassingly low. I've got very little room to talk since I'm not there, but I would be there if I could take the entire week off and drive up to Marion for them.

And I think therein lies the problem: DCI is (intentionally) handicapping every Open Class corps by holding their division's premiere events on a goddamn Monday and Tuesday.

Nevermind the fact that half of the division can't afford to attend because they're based in California, and rather than rotating Finals locations every year (like they used to when it made financial sense), they're stuck in goddamn Michigan City, Indiana.

\*fart noises\*

I get that this activity is a niche activity that has a low general appeal to the overall population because the vast majority of people in this country aren't fucking weird nerds like we are about marching band and the like, but we're also not doing ourselves any favors by not trying to get some kind of general advertising out to the masses about drum corps for at least even a few weeks of the year during the season. Yeah, advertising costs money, but we're not even making an effort it seems like.

#### **Notes:**

- Les Stentors - Yay Canada! Much more presence than 22; keep coming back, but bring Calgary Stampede with you again.
- Raiders - How to develop a visual concept for a small ensemble.
- Colt Cadets - PLEASE get some contras, I'm begging you. Bribe high school students if you have to, they're easy.
- 7th Regiment - Decent sound for a small hornline. Keep hangin' in there.
- River City Rhythm - Smaller size, same momentum as last year. Overall good show.
- Guardians - START WEARING PURPLE. <Gogol Bordello Starts>
- Battalion -
- Columbians - HYPE TRAIN. This show FUCKS. The shield set and the chains and just a wall of sound.
- Southwind - Yet another underrated show from an OC corps.
- Gold - Third OC silver in a row, but this show probably deserved a gold if they could've cleaned up more. Definitely felt very Mandarins-meets-BD.
- Spartans - We can see why this one took the gold. Solid all around, music selections are good (Polyphia what?). Blg mallets in the front ensemble are a trip.

- Jurf (Surf) - Make Drum Corps Fun Again! Fun show, cool visual concept.
- Cascades - Big drums presence, intonation probs on the hornline, an okay show.
- Genesis - THROWING SHADE IN THE PRESHOW XD XD XD; but the rest of it kind of dies after the opener.
- Music City - This show has attitude, especially in the guard. MC definitely turning a corner in production.
- Madison - I love the music. Rusty Cage and 23 north 82 west are great selections, but I can't help but feel like this had more potential than where it's placed. Lacks intensity when it needs it at times.
- Academy - Neat drum wraps, uniforms are kinda cool. They're definitely getting better as an ensemble year-over-year, but not a lot grabbed me about this one.

### **[Part II begins] [1:57:21]**

- **A wild JOHN appears...**
- Spirit - Brandt Crocker voiceovers! AND the mellophones killed it. John - "Big arrows pointing at their dicks."
- Crossmen - Bones are back in town, but they're still dirty in a few spots. Drill is fun and engaging, Letters From Home is good Metheny but hard to make interesting. They managed to get some pull with this one. Guard uniforms look like KC Chiefs fan outfits.
- Pac Crest - This show deserves to make Finals. Super big improvement over last year in all areas, and they're clearly taking cues (and talent) from bigger corps like SCV. TILTED SNARES!
- Blue Knights - Just dicks everywhere on the field, and unis look like Genesis + Mandarins; did the designers go to rehab or something? "I want to get away...from being in Finals."
- Colts - "I got the power"; Colts drums are CLEAN, horns are HERE TO SLAY
- Troopers - TROOPERS CAME TO FUCK BITCHES AND GET MONEY, AND THEY LASSOED THE SUN, DON'T YOU FORGET IT. TROOP MAD TROOP SMASH PUNY FINALS. Also Troop guard being criminally underscored.
- Intermission DBC (ha) -
- Blue Stars - The spoons have fat asses and we can't figure out whether they're making the drink or drinking it or becoming it IDK but the guard is getting shit together
- Cavies - Sperm windsocks and early 00s percussion! Fucking dominating drums, but the throwback parts just aren't tying together well.
- Cadets - Guard is lit, but the design is shit; I get it now, but I don't like it and the uniforms are not doing it for me anymore. Brass, drums good, but solid 7th place.

- Phantom - That bone solo at the beginning is making my Atlas rise. Imagine if Cadets marched this show in their West Point uniforms
- Mandarins - Kali Mah, KALI MAHHHHH!!!!
- Crown - Someone kill the king already, JFC.
- Bluecoats - This show is a solid contender. Probably won't win but holy fuck is it much more intense than when it started. SO MUCH COLOR.
- Boston - haha colin mcNutt go brrrrrrrr; BAC guard is TITS, seriously giving BD a run for their money. Boston drums deserve the Sanford but won't get it over Cavies who also deserve it, but more.
- Blue Devils - It's so different from their usual formulaic shows. They move more, their music is more accessible than usual, and their visual concept is more comprehensible than usual.

### Closing

- Where can people find you?
  - Host, Producer: Fossil Chops
    - Twitter @FactorOne, Instagram @factorone33, @drumcorpsafpodcast
    - Drum Corps AF FB group
  - [Jeff Menendez]
    - Facebook
  - [Jeff Ream]
    - FB/Twitter/DCP
  - [Nikki]
    - Instagram @therealdrumcorpstea
  - [John]
    - Facebook
    - Geeks & Grooves
    - Pride of Indy Bands
    - Fort Wayne Pride Band

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### SEGMENT 3 (2:24)

Exit Music: Santa Clara Vanguard - Send in the Clowns (2017)

- Next Episode
  - Best of the Boston Crusaders - Call our submission line at 913-390-3190. You have 3 minutes to talk to us about your thoughts on your favorite Boston Crusaders shows. You can use your real name, or a pseudonym.

- Leave us a review on iTunes!  
<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/drum-corps-af/id1367724568>
- Until next time drum corps fans, remember, friends don't let friends ignore the Open Class, Soundport, and non-Finalist corps that don't get to march on Saturday!
- Disclaimers:
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DrumCorps AF 34 - 2023 Season Review Part II. Host Fossil Chops joins our panel to cuss and discuss the 2023 season ad nauseam while the only John Weldy jumps on to join in on the gratuitous discussion.

We want to hear YOUR voices - call our submission line at 913-390-3190 and leave your best 2-3 minute take. You can use your real name or a pseudonym, and don't forget to leave us a review on iTunes.

Drum Corps AF is an irreverent podcast about drum corps and the marching arts. We love the activity, but we also get sick of all the saccharine BS that passes for commentary. Call it snark or call it shade, it's what we do. But at the end of the day, we still love drum corps.

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Show Notes:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1reybEidsp1jmQs2tRjWNYrih7laSP-kTFeQ3ii2UZf4/edit?usp=sharing>

Credits:

Hosts: Brandon "Fossil Chops" Worf

Panel: Jeff Ream, Jeff Menendez, Nikki Brose, John Weldy

Producer: Fossil Chops

Background music clips: Various shows from 2023

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