Collegiennes add kick to Kings Island

By James Sahli

The Ohio State University Collegiennes, a campus dance and drill team, will perform at the opening of Kings Island Amusement Park May 25, said Marilyn Rice, the team's director and choreographer.

The Ohio State military band will accompany the drill team at the opening.

The Collegiennes, organized in 1972, also performed at the Xemia benefit football game and the regular spring football game.

The 25-member team has performed at Ohio State basketball games in the past.

Bat-girls busy

A few members of the drill team acted as batgirls for the baseball team this season. The baseball coach hopes to have the girls back next year, Rice said.

The drill team had asked to perform with the Ohio State Marching Band the fall of its first season, but was not asked to perform with the band after a vote was taken of band members, according to David Grier, assistant director of University recreation and intramural sports and the team's faculty adviser.

The Collegiennes will perform at the Homecoming parade this fall. Basketball games and other events still are tentative, Rice said.

The team gets money for uniforms by supporting a summer workshop. The workshop will take place July 22-August 2.

Workshop gives instruction

The workshop, which began in 1972, offers high school girls interested in drill team competition, a chance to come to Ohio State and participate in a week of drill instruction. More than 500 girls are expected this summer, Rice said.

Rice said the drill team usually practices twice a week in the French Fieldhouse. For the spring benefit game, however, the team practiced almost everyday for a week at 6 a.m. in Ohio Stadium, she said.

The Collegiennes sponsored a state competition March 31 in St. John Arena with 18 teams participating.

Rice said assistance from parents has been a big part of the Collegiennes' success.

The Collegiennes will be holding tryouts May 23. A meeting for recruits is scheduled for May 22.
Drill team gets ‘no’

By Jerry Rush

The Ohio State Collectiennies, a 40-member all girl drill team, has everything it needs to become the best drill team in the Big Ten except a band to perform with.

Marilyn Rice, director of the team, said she has tried ever since the group formed in 1971 to get permission for the team to perform with the Ohio State Marching Band during football halftimes.

She said they have asked almost everyone from the state president for student services down to the band director and always get turned down.

SHE SAID there are many drill teams at universities across the country with six in the Big Ten. “The University of Michigan just formed one this year.”

Rice said the teams can do several dance routines with shakers, flags and batons while the band is performing their own entertainment.

Paul E. Droste, director of the Ohio State Marching Band, said, “They have come to me several times asking to perform with the band but the answer is still the same: no.”

Droste said, “We are the best band anywhere and we just do not need them.”

THE DRILL team does get to march behind the band during the Homecoming parade and also does a routine during the halftime of Ohio State basketball games a year.

Droste said, “I’ll help them with those events but when it comes to the football halftimes, that’s the band’s show.”

He said, “I don’t think they could improve the band’s performance. We can carry the show ourselves and have no need for any other group.”

Rice said, “The band puts on a great halftime performance but I’m certain the drill team could make it better.”

“BESIDES,” Rice added, “we have a lot of talent this year. It’s hard to find a better group anywhere.”

She said the team knows scores of high kicking dance routines.

She said, “The band director thinks I am just a trouble maker because I’m always asking if the girls can perform. All I want is for the team to have a chance.”
Knee-boots and hot pants mark collegiennes' debut

By Robert Furbee

From pom-poms, knee-length boots and hot pants will mark the debut of the Ohio State University Collegiennes Saturday night at St. John Arena.

The newly organized dance drill team will perform at halftime activities at the Ohio State-Indiana basketball game.

"It is a dance drill team similar to those in the Southwest like the Kilgore College Rangerettes," said Marilyn Rice, director of the collegiennes and member of the National Drill Team Association. "To my knowledge it is the only one like it in the Big Ten," she added.

The paper work for the Collegiennes started last Spring Quarter when four interested girls and Rice drew up a constitution for the organization.

In October, tryouts were held from which 32 girls were chosen. They were judged on showmanship, dancing ability, precision and rhythm while performing in kickline and jazz routines and marching to standard military commands.

"It is an excellent way for an outlet of talent and to keep physically fit," said Robin Barnheiser, a junior from Centerville and captain of the drill team.

The girls have practiced twice a week this quarter to make their debut a success. One member, Jane Eide-miller, a junior from Troy, designed and made the uniforms.

The collegiennes hope to perform at hockey games and other sporting events, "Performing on ice is possible if you are very careful," Rice said. "You have to wear tennis shoes and turn corners with less precision, but it's possible."