



# GREEN CAPSULE COMMENTS



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE TORONTO OPTIMISTS DRUM AND BUGLE CORPS

Editor, Don Daber. Editorial Offices — Suite 302, 205 Keele St., Toronto 9

VOLUME ONE, NUMBER 6 • MAY-JUNE, 1961

**SPECIAL—SUMMER TRAVEL ISSUE!** PART 2

## JERSEY HOSPITALITY OVERWHELMING!



THE FIELD OF BATTLE—ROOSEVELT STADIUM, JERSEY CITY, N.J.



BLIND CHILDREN, GUESTS OF ST. PAT'S MEET DAVE HANKS, OF THE OPTIMIST SOPRANO LINE.



FATHER GAFFNEY, THE MODERATOR OF THE ST. PATRICK'S CADETS RECEIVES AN OPTIMIST HONORARY MEMBERSHIP... WHICH INCLUDED THE COMPLETE OPTIMIST KIT.

TORONTO, MAY 29 —Although not placing as high as they had hoped at THE PREVIEW OF CHAMPIONS, the Boys in Green returned home today with many pleasant memories of their 3 day trip south of the border. The Corps traveled at night and arrived in Phillipsburg, N.J. 10AM Friday where they were met by a police escort and taken directly to their billets at the Easton Hotel as guests of the Phillipsburg Centennial Committee. Later that afternoon the Committee went out of their way to provide rehearsal accomodation both outdoor and indoor in the event of rain.

The next day, after the Phillipsburg Saturday afternoon parade, The Optimists went directly to Jersey City and their accomodation at St. Patrick's Parish Hall, as guests of the Cadets. Within minutes of their arrival the complete Corps sat down to a hot beef dinner provided by the ladies of St. Pat's. During the supper hour the Optimists had the pleasure of awarding Father Gaffney, Moderator of St. Pat's, an Honorary Membership in the Optimist Corps.

Earlier that day, boys from the Garfield Cadets offered their services as guides to some of the Optimists who wanted to visit New York Saturday evening. This gesture was very much appreciated and although the time element was against us, the Optimists did see some of (continued Page two)

## MIDTOWN BEATS OPTIMISTS TWICE!

AN EXCLUSIVE STORY BY SADIE MAU-MAU

THE OPTIMISTS were defeated twice by last year's Junior B Champs THE MIDTOWNERS. But the defeat did not come on a field of green, but rather on a field of white. The first battle took place on Sunday, April 23rd. This event was little advertised, produced few players and even fewer supporters. However, quality was demonstrated throughout, proving that quantity is often unnecessary. At Ravina Gardens, under gruesome and somewhat baffling conditions, OPTIMISTS and MIDTOWNERS battled in the true manner of sportsmanship, and displayed to an amature crowd that amature (Continued Page Two...)

JERSEY HOSPITALITY (Continued from page 1)

the Cadets before they left New York. Directly after the Sunday Show the Corps was provided with a police escort to allow the bus and wagons quick access from the city. Everything connected with this show proved it of Championship caliber both on the field and behind the scenes. Thank you New Jersey for a most wonderful three days.

MIDTOWNERS BEAT OPTIMISTS TWICE (Cont.)

hockey provides an element of excitement frequently lacking in the professional game.

The bafflement came to, I'm sure, both players as well as fans, with the warm up period before the game. Both teams glided on to the rippled ice in what seemed a demonstrative and elaborate spectacle of The Waltz of The Flowers, without music! Each player was attired in an entirely different and more vivid uniform than the next, and how each team was able to distinguish their own players from their opponents, was then, and still is to me, an unsolved mystery.

However, from the warm up, the game flashed like summer lightning into a game that kept fans perched on the edge of their seats. I got the impression that the OPTIMISTS were shooting at anything and everything with the slightest green hue, and so after removing my jacket, I settled back to watch the game.

Undaunted by the trivial inconveniences both teams played wonderful hockey. So live was the action at one point during the game that Gord O'Halloran, in the act of climbing over the boards onto the ice, received the full impact of the crowd's reaction, and lost his balance. However, he quite skillfully managed to hang on, feet over the boards, head under the bench, until he could be assisted. During the game OPTIMISTS suffered a few annoying drawbacks in the form of broken spectacles, bloody noses and one upset stomach. Some of the OPTIMISTS goal attempts were absolutely fantastic and it seemed quite unsporting of the MIDTOWNER'S GOALIE to stop all but 3 of them. The final score MIDTOWN---6, OPTIMISTS ---3.

THE SECOND GAME:

This game, much better organized, and advertised, proved even more thrilling than the first. The ice was icier, and the uniforms, uniformier. MIDTOWNERS were a little short of manpower, however, one of their smaller, speedier players made up for the shortage, and proved in more than one way, that good things, like dynamite, come in small packages.

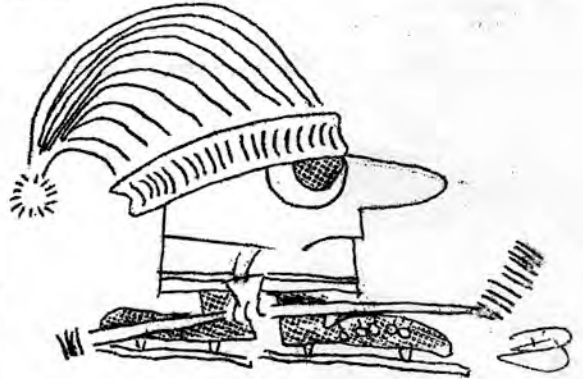
Striped pajamas worn under well used hockey socks, were definitely in vogue. Ronn Prokop's were green and white...what else? For this game, Mr. Punkari and Mr. O'Halloran had procured green and white sweaters, both boldly adorned with a number 12.

Optimist's Goalie, a small stranger to me, played a very good game, swathed in padding of every description. Goals would definitely have been a lot easier to score had the nets been imobile, however, nobility in nets does call for a great deal of shooting skill, and certainly, accuracy.

Seats were packed with cheering, smiling, gum snapping, green-jacketed fans, and equally as many, if not more, MIDTOWN fans.

The final score...with OPTIMISTS having three times the number of players, MIDTOWN-3, OPTIMISTS...5. By the way, being unable to

mingle with a large crowd, I found it imperative to wear a disguise. Those fans present that observed little brown furry, four footed friends (residents of the Ravina Gardens) probably will recall one a little larger than the rest. That was no mouse at all.

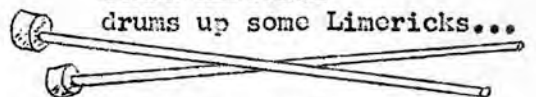


ROBIN WEATHERSTONE RECALLS JERSEY

Now that the long awaited trip to Jersey is over I'd like to know...WHAT WAS SO FUNNY ON THE BUS BEFORE WE LEFT, BARRY? ...Where would we have gone if 'Stinky' hadn't dashed up the bus isle, Mr. Beer? ...WHEN DID BOWLERS COME BACK IN STYLE, RONN? ...Is there a 90 degree rule, Ivor? WHO SAID "ITS GOING TO BE HOT FOR THE CONTEST TONIGHT? ...How many copies of Drum Corps News took off from Roosevelt Stadium that afternoon?...What prompted Customs to give us 'the lineup' at 5:30A.M.?

COLIN HEDWORTH

drums up some Limericks...



OUR DRUM INSTRUCTOR'S NAME IS LORNE,  
HE PLAYS ON A DRUM, NOT A HORN...  
WHEN HE WALKS ON THE STREET  
HE DRUMS WITH HIS FEET  
NOW EACH OF HIS TOES HAS A CORN.

FOR DRILL WE HAVE DOUGLAS McPHAIL,  
(WE HEAR HE'S QUITE GOOD WITH AN ALE)  
WHEN ON THE FIELD HIS BULLHORN HE'D  
WIELD,  
AND THE BRAVEST AMONG US GROW PALE.

(Editor's note: Doug doesn't like ale) or so he tells us.

WHO IS SADIE MAU-MAU ??????????

Read a bit about her early life in this issue of GREEN CAPSULE COMMENTS !!!





## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

May 24, 1961.  
21 Brookside Drive,  
Toronto 13.

The Editor,  
Green Capsule Comments,  
Suite 302, 205 Keele St.,  
Toronto, 9.

Dear Sir:

Through past issues of GCC I've noticed you have had some talk on 'Corps Spirit'. This is just fine but I'd like to speak of Corps' Spirit, but of a different kind. I call it RIVAL CORPS' SPIRIT. By this I mean a feeling of friendly competition. Its all right to have the will to win but when it builds up to hatred, then there's something wrong!

In my opinion it is mainly the fault of the younger members of the Corps, but the seniors are not entirely blameless. The younger fellows have a tendency to 'mouth off' and when they do its always in front of members of a rival Corps. On the other hand the older members add to the hatred because they just can't take a beating. I have, to my disgust, noticed it too many times in both Optimists and De La Salle.

You might ask the question, "what do you mean I can't take a beating?" Well, if you think about it you'll realize that no one likes to be beaten. If we analyze the situation we realize that we were beaten only because the other Corps were better. You, the Optimists were beaten, especially in the U.S.A. because the Jr. American Corps were better. There's no reason to show disgust towards the other Corps or speak out against the judges, but there is a reason to work harder next time.

One of the best ways to prevent this would be to try and get to know some of the guys in other Corps. I may not know many guys in Optimists but the guys I do know I couldn't hate. If everyone got to know a few fellows from other Corps then there would be no chance of an out and out brawl. Now that the contests are becoming close and there are about three Corps in the running, its no time for bad feelings. When the Champions are crowned they should be congratulated and not scorned upon.

I would like to thank those connected with G.C.C. for allowing me this opportunity to show my feelings on the matter. If anyone has any grievances or ideas I would very much like to hear from them.

Yours sincerely,

Tom Kelly,  
Guard Captain, De La Salle.

Toronto, Ontario,  
June 13th, 1961.

Dear Editors, GCC:

RE: My feelings toward our own (?) Green Capsule Comments

The 'Comments' were first introduced as an internal Optimist Corps' newsletter but it now seems to be a 'North American' monthly national publication with more copies traveling the countryside than are circulated throughout the Corps.

I feel that although enthusiasts and other Corps' men may be quite interested in just what The Optimists are doing, the paper is not fulfilling its obligations to the Corps to as great a degree as it should. I feel, and so do several others in the Corps, that the paper should be slanted more toward the "Men in the Line" editorially.

Since this editorial matter is strictly for THE OPTIMIST CORPS ...FOR EDUCATION, VIEWS & BLASTS why not keep the circulation right down to the confines of the Corps, as it should be!!!

General news and views may also be necessary and since you have already built up a 'mailing list' I suggest two sections for every issue, the first part on general news to be distributed to

(continued next page)



.....  
the Corps and loyal friends, the second containing more intimate news and directed to the Corps exclusively. By having two sections our loyal friends and enemies can still be kept 'up to date' and the paper will again be fulfilling its obligations and purposes as concerns the Corps.

I hope that you, the editors, will consider this proposal.

Yours sincerely,  
Ivor Bramley,

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EDITORS NOTE:

Your suggestion will be considered by the Editors, Ivor, and a verbal announcement will be made to the Corps.  
.....

**MUTTERINGS OF A CORPSMAN LOST IN THE DEPTHS OF A STRANGE CITY...**

That's me, Ed Nanni...lost in Hamilton, swallowed up by many strange sights, sounds and people who at the moment are just a blur of unfamiliar, meaningless faces. But this situation will no doubt exist for only a short duration. Meanwhile, I'm hard at work at CHCH-TV as a writer... isn't that funny. There's an announcer here at the station...his name is Bob McLean. At one time he marched with SCOUT HOUSE as a GLOCKENSPIEL PLAYER. You can't escape Drum Corps... and Hamilton is the home of the HAMILTON OPTIMISTS. Donn Truman, PR man and one of the three Drum Majors of this Junior Corps recently paid me a visit. We sat in my third floor, bohemian-styled-garret and talked of Drum Corps in general and "The Conqueror," in particular.

They're an up-and-coming group with a strong desire to be new and different in their outlook. Heaven knows, this is sadly lacking in some units. I'm sure that their methods of command, M&M, uniform and procedure will draw varied comments from Drum Corps writers and drum corps philosophers alike. But then, controversy is the life blood of the Drum Corps world.

It is evident from the contest at LEASIDE (or at least from where I sat) that this coming season of contests is going to be interesting and difficult. There are three Corps...Del, Midtowners & Grantham, that are apparently tired of continually being bridesmaids and have a strong desire to become the bride of the Canadian Junior A circuit. You saw how they performed, and heard how they handled themselves musically...need I say more.

To BOB MANNHEARDT, and all of you who have questioned the Latin phrase "VANITATIS VANITATUM" that appeared at the end of one of my columns...it means... "Vanity, all is Vanity..." And VANITY is one of the accouterments that eventually breed hard feelings between Corps and Corpsmen. Its good to have Pride in your Corps but don't dwell on this pride until it hurts others, and eventually you and your unit.

...And summer is here and this means travel just about every week-end...have fun but don't forget to show the Drum Corps World that THE OPTIMISTS are a TOP DRUM CORPS and intend to stay that way...and that's 30.

Ed Nanni.

# Jose-He say

A BRIEF ENCOUNTER WITH JOSE JIMINEZ (pronounced HoZAY HeMANez) active member of The Toronto Optimists Corps, as interviewed by your GCC Reporter, London Division, Mr. G.D.

- G.D. : What is your name?
- J.J. : My name...Jose Jiminez.
- G.D. : Your not from Toronto, are you?
- J.J. : Nuh, I not from Trrondo-aryu!!
- G.D. : Well, where are you from?
- J.J. : Deetrot.
- G.D. : I see, Then you just play in the Drum Corps there.
- J.J. : Si. I joos pleh cen dee drrun Kor.
- G.D. : And what do you play?
- J.J. : Well, I pleh footbaul, bes-a-baul an' teeqily weenkles.
- G.D. : No, No. You don't understand. I what instrument. Do you blow a horn?
- J.J. : Nuh, I dun blow dec horn; I blow dec drum.
- G.D. : You mean you PLAY the drum.
- J.J. : Nuh, I mean I BLOW dec drawm. Wen I mek for dec tes to pleh dec drawm, dey tol me, "Jose, wy don you blow!" So now I blow dec drawm.
- G.D. : Well, tell me Jose...
- J.J. : Hokay, I tel yoo...
- G.D. : No, you didn't let me finish what I was saying. Tell me, would you say Drum Corps are improving in Canada?
- J.J. : Okay, "Drawm Kors ar cenprooveen cen Kanda."
- G.D. : ?????...Could you tell me your favorite Corps?
- J.J. : Jes! My fayvret drawm kor ces dee drawm kor wat I like to wach ever seense I was lectle boy.
- G.D. : (sigh!) Jose, do you think that I could ask you a silly question
- J.J. : Shoor. Yor doin purdy good so far.
- G.D. : Well, maybe you haven't been with the Optimists long enough to offer a good answer.
- J.J. : Nuh, I no everyting abou Opnees Drawm Kor. So esk de kweston...
- G.D. : Alright, what do you think of the appointment of Mr. Al Baggs as the Chief Judge for Canada?
- J.J. : Hoo is El-Boggz?
- G.D. : ...??? (FAINT!!!)

.....  
GENERAL JOTTINGS:

Quotation from PAT NEWMAN in his new "TORONTONIAN" column in the May issue of OFF THE LINE... "the Spring Tournament", a standstill, besides giving you a look at the '61 shows will probably set the pattern for the coming season just as earlier "Spring Tournaments" have done. The scores... OPTIMISTS 90.525, DE LA SALLE 89.05, GRANTHAM 88.75, MIDTOWNERS 85.75, ST. MARYS 81.05, LEASIDE 77.3.

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CONGRATULATIONS to ST. MARY'S DRUM CORPS and their new Corps' paper BLUE NOTES... edited by DIANE STEFANIAK & FRANK GABRIEL. Congratulations too to THE CONQUEROR AND their new paper the 'CONKYTATOR'...and the TRAFALGAR PATROLMEN and their new sheet 'THE PATROLMEN BEAT'///DEL & ST. MARYS HAVE JUST RELEASED NEW CORPS BADGES.

## An Interview with Sadie Mau Mau!

“I WAS ONCE  
A HAPPY  
WAITRESS”

BY SADIE MAU-MAU  
AS TOLD TO DON DABER



With the Corps season blooming, and summer inevitable, nostalgic thoughts whisper through my mind, and one more than others, lingers hauntingly. I recall vividly the time when for one frightening year I endured the horrors of being a waitress in a small roadside comfort station. The restaurant, far from the city on a remote highway, boasted one distortion of modern time, this being a huge hypnotic, flashing neon sign advertising a deceitful picture of luxury to the weary traveller.

Whatever illusion of luxury the traveller received from the highway was shattered upon stepping over the threshold, however, once inside, the clientele out of weariness usually chose to remain. I will add, however, that whatever the premises lacked in beauty, the customers forgave for the wonderful spirit of friendship that existed among the management and personnel.

The manager himself was a joy to behold (on a full stomach). The customers always failed to order at all, if they became introduced to Mr. Crump before doing so. Nevertheless, Mr. Crump provided management.

Then there was Maurice...swarthy, beady-eyed and mysterious. Maurice claimed that he was a French chef of the highest degree. Probably all French Chefs combine the art of soup making and dishwashing, but I will admit it took a little getting used to. Then of course, there was myself...

Anyway, getting back to the day the straw was added to the pile that broke the camel's back. The stillness of that summer evening was suddenly broken by the swish of air brakes, causing mass hysteria in the restaurant. A miserable little family group had just left and two teenagers, who had apparently camped inside for the day, continued to writhe hideously to the blasting of 'Blue Moon' as played on a bass drum. I remember wondering if the vehicle was a truck or a bus, then glancing out I saw it was a bus. Was it the members of the Methodist Sunday School picnic? No, it was too early for them. Maybe the Midtown Lions roaring in from a convention?....

Suddenly, the bus door was flung open and there emerged a little green man, barking instructions rapidly from a triangular-shaped mouth. Sixty or maybe 70 pathetic creatures then emerged en masse and soon the walls were bulging and ringing with the demands for food. They looked as if they had never experienced the joy of sleeping, much less the necessity of bathing, and they all seemed to be terribly partial to green, all splashed here and there.

I think I was in a state of shock even before I started taking orders, but if I was then I must have been in a coma when I had finished. Orders such as six pounds of heated food (any variety)...coffee with cheese omelette...hot hamburger sandwich...hot beef sandwich...hot chicken sandwich...hot turkey sandwich...all with french fries with gravy and chocolate milk shakes...a side order of dill pickles...a banquet burger with chips, with large ginger ale...an order of wheat cakes...corn flakes with cream with a coke on the side...

Blurred though the memory be, I recall eventually the invaders left with more confusion than they had arrived. I sat, dazed for several minutes, wondering what bank would ever honour the foreign money I had been so graciously given in tips. And what did they mean by a Brigitte Bardot salad...a tomato with very little French dressing. And why did this official with the triangular mouth keep yelling at the boys 'don't be a Junky'.

At this point, I thought I heard air brakes again. Mr. Crump was rubbing his hands together and yelling something about two more busses pulling in! There was a sign on the side of one spelling DE LA something or other. I don't recall any more...I was running screaming into the night.

Perhaps this is why you don't know who I am. I don't know myself...the shock was simply too much.

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THE MAGNET comments on THE OPTIMISTS NEW JERSEY TRIP (PREVIEW OF CHAMPIONS)  
.....Although they had not placed as high as they had hoped to THE OPTIMISTS were a big, big favourite with the fans...the G.E. JUDGES agreed with the audience and the boys in green took top General Effect mark. Another high point, scoresheet wise, was the close third to GAREFIELD on drums. Bugles did not come up to the mark expected...they performed better at rehearsals the week before. Tired from the long trip, fellows? Will this early contest now swing The Optimists into high gear?

# The Magnet



IMPRESSIONS OF THE JESTER SPONSORED 'SPRING TOURNAMENT', May 14th at Leaside Arena.....

GRANTHAM very colourful and flashy bugle section---should be a big threat this season...MIDTOWNERS with 30 horns are starting to shape up...LEASIDE with a lot of new men has a good potential. DE LA SALLE with 40 horns made the rafters shake and have a much improved drum line. OPTIMISTS---high stepping and lots of DRIVE was the order of the day---very strong 36 horns, deadly drum line and sharp guard---(keep your eye on the RIFLEMEN!!!) ST. MARYS terrific looking all-girl-guard and a very sweet horn line---did a nice job...JESTERS gave everyone a glimpse of the sharp Corps that they are determined to develop this yr. ---an amazing job considering the high percentage of new faces in the ranks---DON CHISHOLM is a show by himself and really raised a lot of comment and applause from the stands. THE CONTEST was smooth and well run...congratulations to THE JESTERS!!!

## THE MAGNET PICKS UP GENERAL ITEMS

MIDTOWNERS' bugle section increased from 24 last year to 27 this year---FRED HEHN doing a swell job...DE LA SALLE very hot this year playing 'Climb every Mountain, Exodus and a new concert Steppin' Out'---MIKE DELANEY appears to be very confident regarding their performance this year...ALAN MORRISON who played solo bugle for OPTIMISTS last year is their DRUM MAJOR this year and looks really really classy indeed in his new cadet style uniform.... DOUG McPHAIL'S DRILL for the GREEN GUN is coming along famously---comments from many observers are very favourable and BARRY BELL most enthusiastic...Alas, Alas, ED NANNI has moved to HAMILTON to work with the T.V. Station there. Good luck, Ed, but will this be a loss to the TORONTO OPTIMISTS?---DON DABER says no but I hear that Ed was greeted with welcome mats and roses by the BIG 'C'---How about this TRUMAN TRUHART of HAMILTON OPTIMISTS...AMBASSADORS a little short on big horns but terrific solo soprano section should compensate...PAUL BAUER to Drum Major SCOUT HOUSE again??? PRESTON & GUELPH'S DRUMS big, big improvement over last year but I hear Preston's only using two snares... ROYALAIRES REPERTOIRE almost unchanged from last year?? if so this should mean much improved execution over last yr. & hard to beat!

LEASIDE & AMBASSADORS gone East to QUEBEC a few weeks back...I notice quite a few new faces in JESTERS this year including a large contingent of OPTIMIST alumni---has anyone noticed that one of the new Jesters snare drummers bears a tremendous likeness to LORNE FERRAZUTTI---the Green Gun's fabulous drum instructor?...hear that GLEN DURISH of OPTI, who is presently residing in LONDON Ontario is quite a hero to one of the Junior Corps in that area... OPTIMIST PEANUT SALES have purchased two BASS DRUMS...a long awaited and much needed item---new artwork on the skins by DON DABER... A big welcome to DON CHISHOLM former OPTIMISTS Drum Major now in the blue garb of JESTERS...hear he's really driving the former clowns...MIDTOWNERS, GRANTHAM and OPTIMISTS to invade Ottawa June 10th as guests of L'TROUBADOUR'S at Lansdowne Stadium...DON McINTYRE, former leader (now retired) in the field of Drum Corps had quite a reunion with former members of his old Corps, WESTERN TECH, when he visited the PETERBORO DRUM CORPS SHOW---I am informed that from the AMBASSADORS there was GARY SHICK, RON McCORMICK, HENRY STEFANIAK among others, from OPTIMISTS---BARRY BELL, DOUG McPHAIL AL MORRISON, AL LA VIGNE, CLAIR REID(C.D. C.A. Sec.) kind of gives you pangs, doesn't it Mac? I don't see why KIWANIS KAVALIERS, or other local Peterboro Corps don't approach Mr. MacIntyre (lives in Lakefield) and see if he is interested in instructing. ...I wonder if new OPTIMIST BOB MANNHARDT realizes that one of the advantages of membership includes assisting the Corps at contests when required??? ...GREEN GUN RIFLEMEN ANDY HENDERSON AND AL MILLER are putting on a terrific exhibition with a really dazzling routine---they kick right off the line with a flip, spin and twirl; then all through the show toss those nine lb. rifles around like they were batons---crazy, real crazy!!! \*\*\*and thats the gleaming from the MAGNET this month...now, if I can only get the fool thing to drop those 9 lb. rifles...

Comments and news items suitable to this column are invited. All correspondence should be addressed to:  
THE MAGNET,  
C/O GREEN CAPSULE COMMENTS,  
SUITE 302,  
205 KEELE STREET,  
TORONTO, 9, Ont., Canada.

\*\*\*\*\*  
KEEP SMILING...It makes people wonder what you have been up to.

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## Green Capsule Comments

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