

Big-band dance swings into step at CFB Borden

Laurie Watt: Special

The Battle of Britain Big Band Dance returns to Canadian Forces Base Borden, Oct. 25.

Featuring the award-winning Swing Shift Band, the event takes place at the Waterloo Mess, aka the officers' mess, from 8 p.m. to midnight.

"The Swing Shift is one of the most recognizable, one of the three best dance bands in the province," said emcee George Jonescu, who also hosts Big Band Sunday Night on AM 740.

"They've won awards in band festivals and in dance competitions. They're really good."



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Jonescu said he also appreciates Swing Shift's brass section. "The trombones and trumpets are as good as I've heard in profes-

sional bands. When they're on, they're spectacular.

Jonescu said the band also features a quintessential big band vocalist, Jan Laurie.

"She started singing over in England and she can take a Duke Ellington melody and lyric, and do what the Duke would have wanted

with it. She's good, very good."

"They're one of the few bands that has a bass trombone that really works. That's important if you want to dance, because it gives you the beat."

A fund-raiser for the Simcoe County student big band competition held each spring, the Battle of Britain Dance also includes a late-evening snack in its \$25-per-person ticket price.

Tickets are available at Music Pro in downtown Barrie or by phone. Call either Denise Paul at the officers' mess at 423-2119 or Wanda Collison at 733-3491. Tables for groups can also be reserved.