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## Once a Raiderette - Always a Raiderette!

By Sophie Braccini



Raiderettes from the '60s perform at their 50th reunion. Photo Provided

very first Raiderettes." Corsi said that some 400 women from the different age groups came - 28 were from the '60s. Corsi plans to stay in shape for the 60th reunion.

Cathy Corsi, owner of Moraga's Si Si Caffe and C.C. & Co. Hair Designs, danced in the center of the Oakland Coliseum Sunday, October 21, in front of thousands of Oakland Raiders fans during a recent halftime show as part of the 50th anniversary celebration of the Raiderettes. "This is how something you do at 14 and a half can impact you for the next 50 years of your life," says Corsi with a broad smile.

Corsi joined the very first group of Raiderettes in the early 1960s, which started in San Francisco. At age 14, Corsi accompanied her childhood friend JoAnn Stooksberry, who had been asked at her dance studio to a Raiderettes tryout. "At the time they (the Raiders) were not as popular as today; they recruited a group of cute young girls to attract more spectators," she jokes.

Stooksberry is still her friend, and she also came to the reunion. "It was a very well organized affair," says Corsi. The ladies worked on the new routine for five hours the day before their performance to the music "These Boots Are Made For Walkin'," had dinner together, then rehearsed again on Sunday with the other age groups all together.

"The announcer presented the ladies by age group," says Corsi. "We were in the very center of the stadium, the

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