



# U.S. ARMY CADET COMMAND



*Army cadets put it all on the line in the Western & Eastern Drill Championships*

## Western Championships

The U.S. Army Cadet Command JROTC Drill Championships remain the premier gathering of Army JROTC drill talent. Next year, this exciting event will be moving to a new home! The 2009 Western Championships will be held in the beautiful and historical city of San Antonio, Texas at the magnificent Alamodome. This year's Western Championships were held in College Station, Texas on the campus of Texas A&M and were dazzling!



*COL Jake Betty, TAMU Corps of Cadets (L) and Ms. Emily Olsen from the U.S. Army Cadet Command (R) are pictured above with Western Region cadets representing (L to R) Armed Division Runner-up Grant HS, Armed Champion Ronald Reagan HS, Unarmed Champion Douglas MacArthur HS, and Unarmed Runner-up Winston Churchill HS.*

## ARMED DIVISION

In 2007, the **Rattler Guard** from **Ronald Reagan HS** in San Antonio was finally beaten for the championship after two years in the top slot. In 2008, they came back on a mission for victory. The entire day was a two-horse race to the finish between the **Rattler Guard** and last year's champion, the **Maroon & Golden Knights** from **Grant HS** from the tiny town of Dry Prong, Louisiana. Both teams trophied in three of the four events with one first place finish each. Even during the awards ceremony, no one could guess who would arise victorious. These placements yielded exactly 14 quality points which forced the raw points tie breaker to reveal Reagan's Rattler Guard had taken back their title as the Armed Division Western Champion by the closest of margins!

## UNARMED DIVISION

San Antonio is known as the mecca of drill and aptly named with six of the seven top finishing teams calling San Antonio home in the Unarmed Division. The progression of the day yielded only two teams standing head & shoulders above the rest. **Douglas MacArthur HS** fought valiantly capturing two, 1<sup>st</sup> place finishes (Regulation, Color Guard) and two 2<sup>nd</sup> place finishes (Inspection, Exhibition) en route to the **Mighty Blue Angels** Western Unarmed Division Championship. The runner up Winston Churchill HS unit fought hard placing 1<sup>st</sup> in both Inspection & Exhibition but a 3<sup>rd</sup> place Color Guard and 4<sup>th</sup> place Regulation left the Queen's Guard drill team just short.

The entire day was filled with non-stop drill & ceremony talent and the night was topped off by an inspirational message from **CSM Victor Mercado, CSM, Western Region USACC**, 2009 looks to kick it up a notch as the event moves to the Alamodome in the big city of San Antonio. Many schools from outside the San Antonio area have already gone on the website and registered to attend the 2009 Army JROTC Western Championships - *See You All in March, 2009!*

## Eastern Championships

The hospitality of Macon, Georgia provided a southern flair for the 2008 U.S. Army Cadet Command JROTC Drill Championships. Schools from across the eastern U.S. came to the Macon Centroplex as over 1,000 each coming with their own dreams of success and maybe event unseating the reigning champion...

## ARMED DIVISION

For the third straight year, the **Patriot Guard** from **Francis Lewis HS** from **Fresh Meadows, New York** showed that they are a force of nature capturing 1<sup>st</sup> place trophies in Regulation & Color Guard, a 2<sup>nd</sup> place in Inspection, and a 4<sup>th</sup> in Exhibition. They were the only team that trophied in all four events. With so much talent in their corner, they kept their championship status in dominating style. The runner-up title was claimed by Florida-powerhouse **Winter Springs HS** from Winter Springs, Florida. The **Bears** drill team mauled the rest of the field capturing 1st place in Inspection and a 3rd in Regulation. Solid finishes in the other two events yielded a strong eight quality point lead on their nearest competitor and thereby earned the Armed Division Runner-Up Trophy.

## UNARMED DIVISION

The New York drill dynasty remained intact as the **Patriot Pride** from **Francis Lewis High School** walked away with their fourth consecutive Eastern Championship trophy. They took 1<sup>st</sup> in Regulation and Color Guard, 2<sup>nd</sup> in Inspection, and 5<sup>th</sup> in Exhibition, making them unstoppable this year. The only other team to place in all team events capturing the Runner-Up title was **Tanko-Woosas** from **McNair Academic High School** in Jersey City, New Jersey. They powered their way with a 1<sup>st</sup> place Inspection, 4<sup>th</sup> place in Color Guard and Exhibition and 5<sup>th</sup> place in Regulation. This is the fourth consecutive year that McNair has won the Runner-Up title behind Francis Lewis. Next year they have vowed to remove the Patriot Pride from their throne and begin a new dynasty of their own at the exciting new home of the Eastern Championships, the Show Place Arena in Upper Marlboro, Maryland, just outside Washington, DC.



*CSM Michael Peters from Eastern Region Cadet Command looks on with with cadets from (L to R) Armed Division Runner-up Winter Springs HS, Armed Champion and Unarmed Champion Francis Lewis HS, and Unarmed Runner-up McNair Academic HS.*

With two massive knockouts, a huge awards ceremony, and a heartfelt message from **CSM Michael Peters, CSM, Eastern Region, USACC**, the Eastern event ended on the same high note it began with. 2009 brings a new home and hope to many schools looking to make the trophy parade stop at their doorstep. Good luck to all at the 2009 Army JROTC Eastern Championships.

**2009 Army Western Championships**  
**Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup> - San Antonio, Texas**

**2009 Army Eastern Championships**  
**Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup> - Upper Marlboro, Maryland**

**FOR ALL EVENT SCORING, PICTURES & INFORMATION, HIT THE ARMY NATIONALS WEBSITE: [HTTP://ARMY.THENATIONALS.NET](http://army.thenationals.net)**