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25TH ANNIVERSARY
EDITION

"The World's Premiere JROTC Publication for Military Drill Excellence"

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Contains registration information for your
school to participate in the upcoming
2007 National High School
Drill Team Championships
in Daytona Beach, Florida

air-service features inside include:

ARMY: Eastern & Western Region
Cadet Command Championship Coverage

MARINES: Complete ground assault
in Daytona's Challenge Level competition

NAVY: Florida & Texas dominate the
Navy Nationals in NAS Pensacola, Florida

AIR FORCE: Air Force Nationals
most talent-laden competition field ever

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AN ARMY OF ONE



IDR Magazine

**Official Publication of the Internationally Recognized
JROTC Drill & Ceremony Spectacular, the...
National High School Drill Team Championships**

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COVER

United States Marine Corps Drill Instructors make a powerful, lasting impression on every cadet that attends the Nationals. Their imposing demeanor can be quite intimidating to even the most seasoned and experienced drill team. (PHOTO CREDIT-D. Michael Martinez)

MAGAZINE DEDICATION

With troop deployments that stretch across the globe and throughout the Gulf Coast, the 2006-07 IDR Magazine is dedicated to both the active duty and reserve components of our American Armed Forces, along with the National Guard. These brave and selfless men and women continue to provide the blanket of freedom that Americans enjoy day in and day out. Thousands of cadets and instructors who have attended the Nationals in the past 25 years are currently serving around the globe in all branches of the armed forces, helping to protect the interests of the United States of America. SNI is honored by their commitment to duty and wish them all a safe and speedy return home when they complete their mission.

Sports Network International would like to thank the exhibitors who help to make the Nationals a special home for JROTC drill: Battlefield Relics, Civilian Marksmanship Program, Daisy Outdoor Products, Norwich University, Georgia Military College, North Georgia College & State University, Valley Forge Military Academy, College Options Foundation and Sportiva frames.

IDR (Infantry Drill Regulation) is the official publication of the National High School Drill Team Championships. IDR is produced by Sports Network International, Inc. (SNI), 775 Fentress Blvd., Daytona Beach, FL, 32114. For detailed information regarding IDR or Sports Network Int'l (SNI), please visit the SNI homepage at: <http://drill.thenationals.net> or contact SNI via email: drill@thenationals.net or call toll-free at 800/327-9311.

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NATIONALS DRILL CAMP

JULY 7TH - 14TH, 2007 ★ TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

*Sports Network International proudly announces
a ground-breaking innovation in drill & ceremony training*

For the first time ever, Junior ROTC cadets can now participate in a one-of-a-kind military drill experience. Trained by world-caliber judges, instructors and former cadets, attendees will learn what it takes to be a champion - from the ground up! Nationals Drill Camp cadets will spend seven days of the most intensive training imaginable, gaining an unparalleled insight into the creation of a National Championship drill team.

COME HUNGRY TO LEARN ... LEAVE READY TO COMPETE WITH THE BEST!

- ✧ NDC cadets can attend individually or in groups; contact SNI for additional information on group discounts.
- ✧ JROTC instructors are encouraged to attend and learn as well. They will receive supplemental training and materials to better prepare and manage their program and their drill team. Instructors also have the option of attending a limited 4-day session.
- ✧ Two 90-minute classroom lessons taught each day; two 90-minute practical, hands-on training sessions also taught each day.
- ✧ NDC instructors will be drawn from the finest JROTC programs in the world, along with select Nationals judges and former cadets, including **CDR Armando Solis, national champion instructor from Flour Bluff High School and legendary veteran National's Inspection Head Judge, 1stSgt. Christopher Borghese, USMC, ret.**
- ✧ Training will include basic & advanced classes within Inspection, Regulation Drill, Color Guard and Exhibition. Additionally classes will be taught in drill & ceremony styles (Classic, Texas, Hawaiian, and more); team dynamics and leadership; the pursuit of excellence; drill season mechanics; and general organization (practices, goal setting, build-up & peaking).
- ✧ JROTC instructors will have additional classes that will focus on recruiting & retention; parent booster clubs; teenage psychology and the training of males vs females; fundraising and trip organization; and building a championship team from the ground up.
- ✧ All participants will receive an orientation on Texas A&M's Corps of Cadets, along with information on the over 1.5 million dollars in scholarships offered each year.

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- ✧ 7 nights / 8 days of housing at a Texas A&M Corps of Cadets dormitory - cadets housed 2-per-room
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- ✧ Devoted 2-DVD set chronicling 10-year history of Nationals Armed Exhibition excellence
- ✧ All classes and practical training sessions
- ✧ All meals while at the Nationals Drill Camp
- ✧ Recreational activities scheduled each evening
- ✧ Opening Night welcome reception and Closing Night semi-formal Awards Banquet
- ✧ Supervision of cadets provided 24 hours a day throughout the NDC
- ✧ Cadets are responsible for their own transportation to TAMU - a travel agency resource will be made available to participants
- ✧ Transportation to/from Houston's Int'l airport to TAMU will be coordinated for all NDC attendees at a nominal additional charge.
- ✧ Cadet tuition packages begin at \$899.00 per person - Cadets registering before January 10th will receive a \$100.00 discount
- ✧ Instructor tuition options start at \$549.00 for dorm accommodations; other packages are available featuring hotel accommodations. Visit our website for thorough details on all tuition packages offered along with the discounts available for early registration.
- ✧ Participants should visit the drill camp website for complete NDC information and on-line registration form.
- ✧ Payments can be made by check or by credit card through Paypal.

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For further information on the Nationals Drill Camp, Contact Sports Network International
email: drillcamp@thenationals.net website: <http://drillcamp.thenationals.net> toll-free: 1-800/327-9311

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BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND! SNI has again produced the finest competition materials available for purchase. These 2-hour videos are filmed exclusively during the Masters Level competition of the famous National High School Drill Team Championships. Units across the world have used these tapes for over 15 years to sharpen the skills of their drill teams. All videos focus on routine segments featuring a variety of armed and unarmed drill styles. All videos are timeless, all-service examples of what a team's hard work and dedication can accomplish on the drill deck.

Over 25 schools are featured on each video!

The **Best of Basic Drill** features competition segments from: Unit Inspection, Regulation Drill and Color Guard Drill. The **Best of Armed & Unarmed Exhibition Drill** programs are devoted exclusively to exhibition drill, featuring separate armed and unarmed squad/element and platoon/flight performances, as well as interesting armed solo & dual exhibition routines. The running time for each DVD/VHS is 120 minutes. Personal/school checks, money orders or signed school Purchase Orders accepted. Best prices and fastest shipping with credit card payments (on-line orders only). Make checks payable to Sports Network International. Allow up to 10 business days for delivery. Most orders shipped the same day we receive them. Thank you for your continued interest and support of the "Best of the Nationals" Series!



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Dynasties & New Blood Pave the Navy Way

Would any of the Navy's finest schools achieve the elusive goal of dethroning multi-year national champion Flour Bluff High School under the blue skies of Pensacola, Florida?

Every Spring, the best of the best from each Area in Navy JROTC travel far and wide to test their overall mettle in the arduous Navy JROTC Academic, Athletic & Drill Championships. The competition is always fierce and a genuine treat for competitors and spectators alike. These tenacious young squids converge annually on the home of the Blue Angels, NAS Pensacola, Florida to compete for the highly coveted title at the "Navy Nationals".

After the dynasty from Flour Bluff HS earned a razor-thin Championship in 2005, hope sprang eternal from many competitors that they could vanquish the New York Yankees of the drill world. But champions of this caliber have a heart and soul that will not allow them go quietly into that dark night. If someone was going to best Flour Bluff, they would have to take the crown away as this proud program was not going to give away anything.

The overall Navy Nationals competition is a totally unique experience in the world of high school athletic competitions through its variety and intensity. Much like active-duty military life can be, the event maintains "hours of waiting followed by minutes of terror!" A long 14-hour competition day kicks off the event on Friday beginning at 0700. Early school registration on Friday morning leads every competing cadet into the meticulous Unit Personnel Inspection (UPI) competition. Here, hard-boiled Navy Chiefs scour every competing cadet only to be followed immediately by Marine judges evaluating the Color Guard units. Both events' "by-the-book" nature and rigid uniformity give even the most casual onlooker a moment's pause to watch the excellence on display.

All competing units are so well trained and prepared that the UPI event is typically separated by a small margin; but when the pencils were still this year, two schools distanced themselves from the field. **Flour Bluff HS** from **Corpus Christi, Texas** pounded out a slim victory early in this high point value event, besting **Boca Raton HS** from **Boca Raton, Florida**. In 3rd place, always tough **Lake Howell HS** from **Winter Park, Florida** also made a very strong showing.

The Color Guard event yielded the first dark horse victor as long-time attendee **East Aurora HS** from **East Aurora, Illinois** stunned many onlookers with a flawless colors presentation, just edging out always well-prepared **Centennial HS** (2nd place) from **Las Vegas, Nevada** and **Boca Raton HS** who trophied again with a 3rd Place finish.

Trading Class "A" duds for matching shorts and t-shirts, schools began to really sweat under the melting Florida sun during the

inspiring athletic event competition. Crowds of on-lookers cheer on their favorites, hoping to give them a boost of one or two push-ups or curl-ups that can sometimes mean the difference between winning & losing. It was a blow-out of record proportions as **Pearl River Central HS** from **Carriere, Mississippi** obliterated the competition in team Curl-ups; **Centennial HS** had a convincing victory in team Push-ups; while **Union Grove** from **McDonough, Georgia** hit the daily double by narrowly sweeping both the Oval & Shuttle Relay sprint events.

When all of the athletic scores were tabulated, **Pearl River Central HS** used their overall dominance in Curls-ups to eclipse a hard-charging **Centennial HS** who came in 2nd within the Overall Athletics event. A tight 3rd place Overall Athletic finish by **Lake Howell HS** put the Sunshine State schools from Area Seven (including **Boca Raton HS** and **Flanagan HS**) in a tightly-knit striking position to challenge multi-year champion Flour Bluff going into the final Day One team event, the Academic Exam.

With darkness firmly set-in on an event day that began long ago for most of these competitors, the 15-cadet academic teams put on their thinking caps and went after the 1,500 points up for grabs. No worries about perfect scores being churned out this year on the brutal 2006 exam with the median score dropping roughly 20% from previous years.

With the Scantron still smoking, the test may have been tougher, but the results were similar to past years. **Flour Bluff HS** soundly won the event, setting up a solid overall point lead going into the drill event competitions on Saturday. **Pearl River Central HS** had one of their finest academic performances, narrowly capturing 2nd place over the fantastic team effort put together by **Stephen F. Austin HS** from **Sugar Land, Texas** (3rd place).

Cadets and spectators alike hit their racks for a few hours of sleep before marching into the exciting drill phase of the competition. With four events all occurring simultaneously, keeping track of all of the drill action can be a bit daunting!

Many drill finishes were noteworthy, but the highlight had to be first time attendee **Patuxent HS** from **Lusby, Maryland** capturing both the Armed

& Unarmed Basic competitions! **Flour Bluff HS** captured 1st place in the Armed Exhibition event (as well as earning 1st place in Drill Overall) and annually strong **Junipero Serra HS** stepped up to win the Unarmed Exhibition event, giving them a strong 2nd place overall drill finish.

The famous **National Museum of Naval Aviation** (www.naval-air.org) plays host each year to the closing evening awards presentation. The ceremony is a memorable night of honor for these deserving youngsters. The evening kicked off with an outstanding keynote speech from Navy Nationals special guest speaker **Rear Admiral Gary R. Jones, U.S. Navy Commander, NSTC/Navy Region Midwest**.

Since the scores are not distributed in advance, everyone attending had the edge-of-your-seat excitement that helps to make the evening special. While many different schools took home trophies, as the night progressed it became apparent that the reign of **Flour Bluff HS** was to continue for a 10th consecutive year. The legends from Corpus Christi, Texas powered to a convincing Navy Nationals Championship Title.

Grabbing the Navy National Runner-up title was **Boca Raton HS**. Their finish was made all the more amazing as a late-entry snafu gave them just two solid weeks to prepare for the event! Just behind in 3rd place was the always-formidable **Centennial HS**. Schools looking for complete, top-to-bottom scoring should go to the official web home of the Navy Nationals at: <http://navy.thenationals.net>.

The support of NAS Pensacola, the Marines, the Navy Chiefs, the OCS Recruits and everyone else on base help to make this a special weekend all around. Words cannot express what they do for so many NJROTC cadets and their families. The event looks forward to returning in 2007 to this exceptional venue.



Flour Bluff HS from Corpus Christi, Texas proved their dominance in capturing their 10th consecutive Navy Nationals Overall Championship over an outstanding field of 23 NJROTC units from throughout the United States.

THE 6th ANNUAL **AIR FORCE NATIONAL INVITATIONAL Drill Classic** CONTINUES TO BRING TOGETHER THE FINEST AIR FORCE JROTC DRILLERS FROM ACROSS THE UNITED STATES FOR A SINGLE DAY OF AIR FORCE DRILL EXCELLENCE! 2006 WAS ANOTHER TREMENDOUS EVENT! NEW POWERHOUSE TEAMS COMBINED WITH LONG-TIME ATTENDEES TO MAKE THE EVENT ONE FOR THE AGES. WITHOUT ANY SERIOUS DEBATE, THE AFNIDC REMAINS THE LARGEST AND FINEST AFJROTC-ONLY DRILL COMPETITION HELD ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD.

THIS YEAR, THE 78th AIR BASE WING FROM ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE IN WARNER ROBINS, GEORGIA PROVIDED MUCH OF THE LOGISTICAL AND JUDGING SUPPORT FOR THE COMPETITION AND THE MACON CENTREPLEX IN MACON, GEORGIA PROVIDED THE BIG-TIME, 10,000 SEAT ARENA NEEDED FOR AN EVENT OF THIS STATURE. THESE TWO ENTITIES WERE INSTRUMENTAL IN MAKING THE 2006 EVENT VERY SPECIAL FOR ALL OF THE ATTENDING CADETS!

ARMED DIVISION HIGHLIGHTS

FOR THREE CONSECUTIVE YEARS, **COVENTRY HS** FROM **COVENTRY, RHODE ISLAND** HAS RULED THE ARMED DIVISION AS UNDISPUTED AIR FORCE JROTC CHAMPIONS. THIS YEAR, TWO NATIONAL DRILL POWERS (JOHN JAY AND THOMAS C. CLARK) JOINED THE ALWAYS TOUGH COMPETITION FIELD FOR THE FIRST TIME TO MAKE THE 2006 ARMED DIVISION EVENT THE MOST COMPETITIVE FIELD IN THE HISTORY OF THE AIR FORCE NATIONALS COMPETITION! WOULD THE HIGH FLYERS FROM THE OCEAN STATE HAVE ENOUGH TO DEFEND THEIR TITLE...?

Spring Valley HS FROM **COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA** GRABBED THE ATTENTION OF ONLOOKERS EARLY ON, CAPTURING THREE TROPHIES (1st-Exhibition, 3rd-Inspection, 5th-Color Guard) IN THIS TOUGH DIVISION. HOWEVER, A POOR 11th PLACE FINISH IN REGULATION PUT THE VIKINGS DRILL TEAM OUT OF TOP CONTENTION.

THOMAS C. CLARK HS AND **JOHN JAY HS** BOTH CARRIED THE FLAG TO THE AIR FORCE NATIONALS FROM DRILL MECCA **SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS**. WITH A NATIONAL REPUTATION FOR DRILL EXCELLENCE, THEY WERE BOTH PRIMED AND READY AND DID NOT DISAPPOINT! THE **CENTURION GUARD** FROM **THOMAS C. CLARK HS** POWERED TO THE FRONT EARLY, GRABBING A 1st PLACE IN REGULATION AND A 2nd PLACE IN INSPECTION. HOWEVER, TWO 6th PLACE FINISHES IN COLOR GUARD AND EXHIBITION LEFT THE DOOR OPEN.

ALWAYS IMPRESSIVE **JOHN JAY HS** MADE THEIR TRIP FROM THE LONE STAR STATE COUNT, GRABBING A 1st PLACE COLOR GUARD AND A 2nd PLACE FINISH IN BOTH REGULATION AND EXHIBITION. THESE STRONG EFFORTS HAD THEM WELL POSITIONED. THE **SILVER EAGLES** DRILL TEAM TOOK A HIT WITH A 9th PLACE INSPECTION FINISH, BUT THAT STILL GAVE THEM JUST ENOUGH TO EDGE OUT **THOMAS C. CLARK HS** BY A SINGLE QUALITY POINT. BUT WOULD IT BE ENOUGH TO HOLD OFF MULTI-YEAR CHAMPION **COVENTRY HS**?

COVENTRY HS STARTED STRONG AND STAYED STRONG ALL DAY LONG, GRABBING TROPHIES IN ALL FOUR

OUT OF THE BLUE AT THE "AIR FORCE NATIONALS"

Captivating drill performances were everywhere as the Air Force Nationals took a one year hiatus "South of the Border" at the largest Air Force-only drill competition held anywhere in the world!

TEAM EVENTS! LED BY AN AMAZING 1st PLACE INSPECTION DISPLAY, THE **FALCONS** DRILL TEAM POWERED TO THE FRONT TO CAPTURE THE ARMED DIVISION OVERALL CHAMPIONSHIP BY A COMFORTABLE MARGIN.

CAN THIS COVENTRY AIR FORCE DYNASTY CONTINUE? WITH THE RECENT RETIREMENT OF DRILL GURU **MSgt. Dick LeBel**, THE UNTOUCHABLE DRILLERS WILL NEED A NEW SOURCE OF INSPIRATION AND KNOWLEDGE TO KEEP THEIR PROGRAM AT SUCH A HIGH COMPETITIVE LEVEL - AND WE AT SPORTS NETWORK WOULD NOT BET AGAINST THEM!



Cadets throughout both the Armed and Unarmed competition divisions were fully prepped and ready for excellence as eye-popping performances proved to be the norm not the exception at the famous 2006 Air Force Nationals.

OTHER SOLID ARMED DIVISION FINISHES INCLUDED: **FRANKLIN K. LANE HS** (3rd-Color Guard 4th-Exhibition, 5th-Regulation); **Ridgeland HS** (4th-Inspection and Color Guard); **Shiloh HS** (3rd-Regulation) AND **E.E. Smith HS** (5th-Inspection).

UNARMED DIVISION HIGHLIGHTS

BEING A PRIMARILY UNARMED SERVICE, THE UNARMED COMPETITION AT THE AIR FORCE NATIONALS IS ALWAYS AN INTENSE DOGFIGHT. THIS YEAR, NEW TALENTED TEAMS WERE ADDED TO AN ALREADY STRONG COMPETITION FIELD TO MAKE EXCITING PERFORMANCES AS EASY TO FIND AS A SIMPLE TURN OF THE HEAD! EVERY TEAM IN THE HUNT EACH HAD A SINGLE EVENT WHICH WOULD PROVE THEIR DOWNFALL, BUT WHICH COULD PREVAIL DESPITE THEIR ACHILLES' HEEL?

2003 & 2005 OVERALL UNARMED CHAMPION **SOUTHERN REGIONAL HS** FROM **MANAHAWKIN, NEW JERSEY** LOOKED TO RECAPTURE THEIR TITLE AND THEY WERE CERTAINLY IN THE MIX UNTIL THE END. THEIR COMPETITION STYLE REMAINED UNCHANGED AS THEY GENERALLY NAIL THE "BASIC" EVENTS AND THEN HANG ON IN EXHIBITION DRILL TO WIN. THE **BLUE KNIGHTS** DRILL TEAM GRABBED 1st PLACE FINISH IN INSPECTION, 2nd IN REGULATION AND 5th IN COLOR GUARD. HOWEVER, A 15th PLACE FINISH IN EXHIBITION WAS NOT ENOUGH TO REPEAT AS CHAMPIONS IN 2006, LEAVING THESE TOUGH CADETS WITH A SOLID BUT UNSPECTACULAR 23 PLACEMENT POINTS.

JOHN JAY HS COPIED THEIR STRONG ARMED DIVISION PERFORMANCE, TOUTING A 3rd PLACE EXHIBITION AND TWO 4th PLACE FINISHES IN INSPECTION & REGULATION. HOWEVER, AN UNEXPECTEDLY LOW 12th PLACE FINISH IN COLOR GUARD LEFT THE **Snap II** DRILL TEAM TIED WITH SOUTHERN REGIONAL HS. THEIR RAW POINT TOTAL BROKE THE TIE, EARNING THEM THE 3rd PLACE OVERALL UNARMED FINISH.

LOCAL POWER **HOUSTON COUNTY HS** (PRONOUNCED "HOW-STUN") FROM **WARNER ROBINS, GEORGIA** STORMED THE FLOOR WITH GUSTO, GRABBING

THREE TROPHIES LED BY A 1st PLACE FINISH WITHIN EXHIBITION DRILL. SADLY, A DISMAL 14th PLACE FINISH IN REGULATION DRILL CLIPPED THEIR WINGS BUT COULDN'T DAMPEN THEIR LOFTY SPIRITS IN CAPTURING THE OVERALL UNARMED DIVISION RUNNER-UP TITLE BY A SINGLE PLACEMENT POINT OVER BOTH JOHN JAY AND SOUTHERN REGIONAL.

AFTER MANY YEARS OF BEING THE BRIDESMAID, **SANDALWOOD HS** FROM **JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA** PUT EVERYTHING TOGETHER WITH JUST THE RIGHT FORMULA TO CAPTURE THE 2006 UNARMED OVERALL CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE! THE **SILVER EAGLES** DRILL TEAM EARNED THREE TROPHIES (1st-Color Guard, 2nd Exhibition, 5th-Regulation) AND A SOFT 9th PLACE INSPECTION FINISH COULDN'T KEEP THESE DETERMINED CADETS OUT OF THE FINAL CHAMPIONS PHOTO. THEIR MARGIN OF VICTORY WAS CONVINCING IN THIS ALWAYS TIGHT COMPETITION.

OTHER TOP UNARMED DIVISION FINISHES INCLUDED: **THOMAS C. CLARK HS** (2nd-Inspection, 4th-Exhibition); **E.E. Smith HS** (1st-Regulation); **PINE RIDGE HS** (2nd-Color Guard); **PLAINFIELD HS** (3rd-Color Guard); AND **FRANKLIN K. LANE HS** (3rd-Regulation).

THE "AIR FORCE NATIONALS" ENJOYED THE PEACH STATE BUT LOOK FORWARD TO A MOVE BACK TO THE NATION'S CAPITAL IN LATE MARCH, 2007! SCHOOLS FROM ACROSS THE COUNTRY INTERESTED IN ATTENDING THE 2007 EVENT SHOULD CHECK THE OFFICIAL WEBSITE AT: <http://af.thenationals.net>. ON THE WEB, SCHOOLS CAN DOWNLOAD THE EVENT SOP, SCORE SHEETS, INVITATION AND DOWNLOAD THE EVENT REGISTRATION FORM TO GAIN A COMPETITION SPACE.

WE AT SNI HOPE TO SEE YOUR AIR FORCE JROTC DRILL UNIT IN LANDOVER, MARYLAND ON FRIDAY, MARCH 23rd, 2007 FOR THE SINGLE FINEST GATHERING OF AFJROTC DRILL EXCELLENCE EVER!

U.S. ARMY CADET COMMAND

The Green Wave of Army Excellence swept into the U.S. Army Cadet

Eastern Region Championships - Macon, Georgia

With a venue shift south to the Peach State for the first time ever, 49 Army Junior ROTC units from throughout the Eastern Region descended on Macon, Georgia. Their mission was simple - to see whose brains (academics) and brawn (drill) could dominate in one special day to capture the Army's Eastern Region Championship.



The Eastern & Western Region events comprise the "Army Nationals" - the finest single day collection of Army JROTC drill & academic talent found anywhere!

Schools knew from the 2005 event that the New York duo of Xavier HS and Francis Lewis HS would be the front-runners that would require vanquishing to take home the tallest hardware. Would other schools be up to the task? Only a long day of spirited competition would decide.

ARMED DIVISION

Dozens of talented armed competition units paraded on the drill floor throughout the day. This depth of talent left most onlookers to believe the issue would be decided deep into the event. However, in the rich history of the Eastern Region Championships, no one team had ever maintained such a dominating overall single school performance. **Francis Lewis HS** from **Fresh Meadows, New York** ended any doubt about their ability to return to dominance early on through jaw-dropping performances featuring 1st place Inspection and Color Guard finishes (note: one of the finest color guard presentations many had ever witnessed), as well as 1st place in the Academic Exam competition and a very strong 2nd place Platoon Exhibition finish.

Their dominion was so complete in capturing the Armed Division Overall title and the lead so insurmountable, the Regulation finish (a respectable 6th place) by the **Patriot Guard** drill team was virtually unneeded to capture their Championship!

A bunched pack of talented drillers congregated and clawed for the coveted Armed Division Runner-up title. When the rifles cooled down, **Winter Springs HS** from **Winter Springs, Florida** came out on top. With solid trophy finishes in Color Guard (2nd place), Platoon Exhibition (3rd place) and Inspection (5th place), the **Golden Bears** drill team fought back the tough challenge from 2005 Armed Champion **Xavier HS** from **New York, New York** (3rd place Armed Overall). With two 1st place finishes (Regulation & Platoon Exhibition), a disastrous 13th place finish in the Academic Exam and 11th place in Inspection kept these tough drillers only 2 quality points away from grabbing the Runner-up title.

Other schools in the Armed Division who had noteworthy results included: **McNair Academic HS** (2nd-Regulation & Academics, 3rd-Color Guard); **Carver HS** (2nd-Inspection, 4th-Regulation); and **Cranston HS East** (4th-Inspection, 5th-Regulation & Exhibition).

UNARMED DIVISION

Spirited displays of military drill excellence glorified the tradition-rich Army green uniform throughout the Unarmed Division competition. However, much like the Armed Division competition, the Unarmed division early on changed from a horse race to a one horse warm-up lap. **Francis Lewis HS** repeated their complete domination in 2005 to again crush the competition. The **Patriot Pride** drill team captured 1st in every competition event with the sole exception of a 3rd place finish in Color Guard. The last New York domination of this magnitude belongs to **LaSalle Military Academy** from Long Island, New York back in the mid-to-late 1980's at drill meets throughout the Eastern United States.

The battle for Division Runner-up was strong but the victory for **McNair Academic HS** from **Jersey City, New Jersey** was very convincing. Powering their way to 2nd place finishes in every team event except Regulation (6th place), the **Tanko-Woosas** drill team was clearly deserving of the Unarmed Division Runner-up title over 3rd place Overall Unarmed Division finisher **Carver HS**.

With so much dominance at the top of the leaderboard, **Long Island City HS** (3rd-Academics; 4th-Inspection and Exhibition); **Forestville MA** (2nd-Regulation, 3rd-Inspection, 5th-Exhibition); and **Hutchinson Central Tech HS** (4th-Academics, 5th-Regulation) were the only other schools to gain strong trophy finishes.



Eastern Region top finishers (left to right): Winter Springs HS (Armed Div. Runner-up); Francis Lewis HS (Armed Div. Champions); Col. Robert J. Frusha, Commander, USACC; CSM Michael Peters, CSM, USACC; Francis Lewis HS (Unarmed Div. Champions); McNair Academic HS (Unarmed Div. Runner-up).

After a massive dual Knockout competition, cadets were on the edges of their seats in the Macon Centreplex to prepare for the trophy and award distribution. Kicking off the ceremony in a dramatic fashion was the inspirational keynote words delivered by **Colonel Robert J. Frusha, Commander, Eastern Region, U.S. Army Cadet Command**. The words of wisdom imparted by this dynamic Army leader made a mark on all of the attendees and their families as they anxiously awaited the results of the day-long competition.

The 2006 event's southern exposure was a nice change but the Nation's Capital of Washington, DC holds such a historical and governmental draw that we look forward to bringing the event home to Washington, DC in 2007 and beyond!

2007 Eastern Region Championships
Saturday, March 24th - Landover, Maryland

A return to the Nation's Capital yields high demand for competition spaces - lock up your event space today!

JROTC CHAMPIONSHIPS

Command Eastern & Western Region Drill & Academic Championships.

Western Region Championships - College Station, Texas

With the omnipresent "Howdy" in the campus air of event host Texas A&M University, 33 Army JROTC units marked their drill calendar to migrate to the Lone Star State to compete at the event the cadets commonly call the "Western Nationals." With Texas being the continental U.S. home of national drill excellence, Army programs from Houston, San Antonio and other famous drill stops in Texas combine with many regionally strong drill programs to make the Western Army Regionals event the most talent laden drill competition held outside of the Daytona Beach all-service Nationals event.

ARMED DIVISION

With so much drill talent in this field, it was anyone's guess if 2005 Armed Champion **Ronald Reagan HS** from **San Antonio, Texas** would have enough talent and good fortune to repeat their victory.

As suspected, the competition began with no clear favorite. Literally 6-8 schools were deep in the hunt for the top spot half-way through the day. **Theodore Roosevelt HS** from **San Antonio, Texas** jumped out with a big early lead. The **San Juan Guard** drill team earned a 1st place within both Inspection and Color Guard competitions. However a disastrous 19th place finish in Exhibition drill poured cold water on their chances to capture the top spot, settling for a 3rd place Overall Armed finish.

As the day wore on, it became obvious the competition was going to lie between cross-town rivals. **Winston Churchill HS** also from **San Antonio, Texas** displayed the legendary strength that has earned their distinguished program several Armed Division National Championship titles in Daytona Beach. With three 2nd place finishes (Inspection, Regulation & Academics) the **Black Watch** drill team put forth a strong overall finish. Historically one of their strongest events (Exhibition) proved to be their downfall as miscues gave these proud warriors a 14th place finish, forcing a tough Armed Division Runner-up title.

The Overall Armed Division championship title was, in fact, earned again by 2005 champion **Ronald Reagan HS**, despite finishing no higher than 3rd place in any team event! The breadth of talent displayed by the **Rattler Guard** drill team gave them just enough points to eke out the impressive victory with trophy finishes in Inspection, Regulation & Color Guard (3rd place) and Exhibition (4th place). Many people whispered that Reagan was poised to challenge Flour Bluff's dominance at the Nationals in Daytona but that would have to wait until May of 2006 to be decided!

Other Armed Division performances of note included: **Douglas MacArthur HS** (5th-Reg, 4th Overall); **James Madison HS** (1st-Ex); **J.H. Reagan HS** (4th-Reg, 4th-CG, 5th-Ins); **Grant HS** (1st-Reg, 4th-Ins); **Central Catholic HS** (1st-Academics); **La Joya HS** (2nd-Ex); **Sam Houston HS** (3rd-Ex) and **Ozark HS** (3rd-Academics).

UNARMED DIVISION

18 schools competed for the Overall Unarmed Division title and it was apparent early the top spot would come down to a three-horse race between familiar foes. 2005 Unarmed Division event champion **Theodore Roosevelt HS** pushed to the front with a 1st place finish (Inspection) followed by a 2nd place finish (Regulation). But the placements in the remaining events did not fare as well and the **Riderettes** were left with the same solid 3rd place Overall finish their male counterparts earned.

Ronald Reagan HS charged out of the gate with both guns blazing, capturing two 1st place finishes (Regulation, Color Guard) as well as two, 2nd place finishes (Inspection, Academics). The **Diamondback** drillers earned an uncharacteristic 8th place finish in Exhibition, totaling an impressive 14 "placement points" score (*the determining factor on who wins where lower is better*). But would this amazing finish be enough to win the title?

For years, **Winston Churchill HS** made a living off of their overall consistency and never was it more apparent than at the 2006 Army Championships! With FIVE trophy finishes yet only ONE top finish (1st-Academics, 2nd-Color Guard, 3rd-Regulation and Exhibition and 4th-Inspection), the **Queen's Guard** drill team had, by a single point, knocked off the impressive Ronald Reagan performance to capture the Overall Unarmed Division title. It was one of the closest finishes in history at this always tight competition.

Other top finishes in the Unarmed Division were: **Douglas MacArthur HS** (2nd-Ex, 3rd-Ins, 4th Overall); **Robert E. Lee HS** (1st-Ex); **Alamo Heights HS** (3rd-CG, 5th-Ins, 5th-Academics); **Caddo Parish Magnet HS** (3rd-Academics); **James Madison HS** (4th Ex) and **La Joya HS** (4th-Reg, 5th-Ex).

Two powerful members of the Army were on hand to congratulate the hard working cadets. **Texas A&M Commandant of Cadets, Lt. Gen. John Van Alstyne** and **U.S. Army Western Region**

Commander, Colonel Steven R. Corbett provided a positive message to the assembled cadets, instructors and family members before the trophy distribution at the closing-night Awards Ceremony. Tension was everywhere as the top finishers were announced and featured before the audience.

The involvement of the U.S. Army 12th Brigade helped to organize and ensure that knowledgeable, motivated judges were on hand to give the cadets a fair evaluation throughout the day. Their efforts led the way to ensure a fantastic experience was had by all. Work has already begun on the 2007 event, which should be another fantastic showing of drill talent. Early emails show this event will be another blockbuster!



Western Region top finishers (left to right): **Winston Churchill HS** (Armed Div. Runner-up); **Ronald Reagan HS** (Armed Div. Champ); **COL Steven R. Corbett, Commander, USACC, Western Region**; **Lt. Gen. John Van Alstyne, Texas A&M Commandant of Cadets**; **Winston Churchill HS** (Unarmed Div. Champ); **Ronald Reagan HS** (Unarmed Div. Runner-up).

2007 Western Region Championships
Saturday, March 10th - College Station, Texas

For complete event invitation & registration forms:
Army Nationals: <http://army.thenationals.net>.

From Nationals to West Point – A Long Gray Line



Sunday evening, May 6th, 2001, saw Michael P. Moad, Cadet Commander of the legendary Black Watch drill team from Winston Churchill High School in San Antonio, Texas become the first recipient of the Jean Weil Memorial Scholarship. Presented before an audience of thousands of admiring cadets and adults, presenter Justin Gates, Vice President of Sports Network International pronounced that “in all my years at the Nationals I have never met a more amazing cadet. I only hope that if I ever have a son, he grows up to be like Mike.” Moad competed on the 1999 championship team, and as the Black Watch Commander in 2000, he had led his team to a National Championship. Before the night was through on this last trip to Nationals, he would have led his team to the Runner-Up National Championship title. But it was his next step in life that would put to the test his years at Churchill. In his efforts to attend the United States Military Academy at West Point, Moad’s academics fell just short. He was accepted into their Prep School and utilized that year to enrich his education and prepare for one of the most demanding universities in the world. This journey would be a long and arduous one, filled with remarkable highs and daunting lows, all designed to turn a plebe into a world-class Army officer. This journal highlights his steps along the way as well as some thoughts on the long road between Nationals and West Point.

Prep School & Beast Barracks Fall, 2001 through Summer, 2002

My experiences at West Point have been profound on my personal and professional development. From the first time I stepped onto the “Go Army” pad at the USMA’s Prep School to present, I have been challenged by superiors, peers, and even subordinates. The test of my character and determination to be an officer was not until after Prep school. “Beast” or what some call Cadet Basic Training at West Point was the first time I had really experienced a significant challenge since the triumphant summer of my Black Watch try-outs. I was fortunate to have had experience with the military and JROTC prior to Beast, so I didn’t struggle as much as others with being yelled at. It was difficult for those who never had the opportunity to live the life of a JROTC cadet. I did my best to keep a good attitude and a sense of humor through the haze of confusion and chaos of ninety or so upperclassmen yelling at the comparatively small thirty-eight of the fifty of us that made it through Beast from my platoon. But that was just the start of the challenge known as West Point.

Plebe Year – 2002-2003

The academic year brought new challenges, missions, and goals to the table. I felt I had completed something noble, but in actuality, Beast was just a mere six weeks of my forty-seven month adventure. I look back on all that I have accomplished at the Academy and I must admit that what I thought to be difficult in the beginning is hardly comparable to the stress and pressure of performing and excelling later on down the road. Plebe year academics seemed challenging; I would study five hours a night, but what really made plebe year tough was the constant preparation for the next formation, ensuring our room and personal appearance were always up to the standard, delivering upper class laundry, knowing the next three meals in advance at all times, and never being able to talk outside your room. I finished near the top of my class that year but not without hours of trial and error, sacrifice and teamwork.

Camp Buckner – Summer, 2003

I soon reported to West Point for Camp Buckner where I would develop myself again in the art of soldiering but this time with a finer tuning of the soldier rather than cadet theme. Buckner was a memorable experience. I got to fire live M1A1 Abrams tank rounds, .50 caliber rounds from the top of a Humvee, live, sleep, and train in the rain among other basic soldiering skills. It was a summer to remember because I made some of the best friends I have at West Point. It was a long summer, almost twice as long as Beast, and we were always on the go. Virtually night or day we were somewhere training on the different equipment the Army uses in battle. I carried the M240B machine gun, which is probably the heaviest weapon system an infantryman could carry, all summer long. This was a struggle after awhile as we worked our way from camp site to camp site and through the navigational paths that we were tasked to follow (if you find yourself at Buckner, I recommend volunteering for something a little lighter). This summer was one of the more physically and mentally challenging experiences I had ever been faced with. It was one of the first times I had ever stayed up for more than twenty-four hours continuously. Now that I look back on Buckner I am glad I had the opportunity to lay in the mud all night waiting for the “enemy” to come out from the

dark and attack us with training rounds (blanks). Overall, Buckner was an enjoyable experience that taught me about the military and people; I had the chance to get to know my classmates and find out what motivates them. This summer, however, was only the beginning of what I thought to be the end of the hardest year at West Point.

Yearling – 2003-2004

Yearling or “Yuk” year was, in my eyes, twice if not three times more challenging and demanding than Plebe year. The classes were more trying and most people expected a lot more out of you as a Yearling. We were all Team Leaders now so of course we were perfect in every sense! In truth, most people were not, but I took plebe year very seriously just as I had done with most other things in my life, so I was prepared to become a Team Leader. I was assigned two plebes at the start of the year – this was my first shot at West Point leadership. I was in charge of everything regarding these two men. I was directly responsible for their failures and successes and the upperclassmen made sure you understood this fact. I was lucky that my plebes did not need as much developing as a lot of other plebes. Academics were definitely the most challenging aspect of Yuk year. The classes were far more demanding; I was not expecting to have to study more than

I did Plebe year. This was disappointing because I studied for about six hours or more daily and spent the majority of each week-end not watching movies but studying and attempting to get ahead in my classes. The exams were challenging but hard work pays off in the end. I finished first and second semesters relatively high in my class rank but not just because of academic classes.

At West Point, cadets are graded in three areas: Academics, Military and Physical performance. In a given year you receive grades for each event you take. For instance, in the Physical performance category one could expect to receive grades for a physical fitness class, a combative or hand-to-hand combat class, an intramural or varsity sport, as well as from the required semester physical fitness test (APFT). Then for each of the three pillars, they are combined to form your overall ranking or grade point average. With all of the other stresses of Yuk year one must also focus on his or her physical maintenance, military knowledge, as well as the full academic load. This year was no joke.



Beast - Summer, 2004

I made it through the challenges and what seemed to be strategically-placed blockades that kept me from enjoying more of my time. I fought through all the emotions of being away from my family and found pleasure in succeeding at West Point. I look back now and wish that I could have Plebe and Yearling year back, for these two years were by far the easiest days that I have seen since I started my Cow year. I took on a new roll as a Cow or Junior. As a company First Sergeant, I was responsible for nearly everything that happens or fails to happen in the company. I was in charge of 155 New Cadets and about 30 Cadet Cadre who were also selected for the Beast detail during the summer. Together the Cadre and I would help shape, develop, and motivate each and every New Cadet in our company to meet and perform at our standard – the Corps' standard. I had never been more tired, worn-out, fed-up, angry, and challenged in my entire life. I was busy from 0400 in the morning to almost 0100 the next day. I slept only three to four hours a night because I had to ensure that things ran smoothly, were on time, and looked good from all angles. I spent early mornings getting my plan for the day's mission ready to go and the late nights preparing again for the next day. I was always busy. There were some days that I never sat down for 20 hours straight; this is hard to believe but you can in fact eat standing up. I did everything that summer out of the desire to lead, motivate, and train my New Cadets to the standard of the Corps of Cadets and someday the Army. I worked my butt off to ensure each of my Cadre members knew my expectations and I spent the rest of my time enforcing those standards to the best of my ability. In the end, my company - Alpha company, earned the Best Company of the Detail award as well as four out of the six other achievement awards the

eight Beast companies were competing for. We worked hard and pushed our New Cadets firmly in all endeavors, but it was all for them in the end. The New Cadets did great and were both a good and bad group of kids at the same time, but as much as I disliked the experience at the time it was the best leadership experience I have ever had.

Cow Year – 2004-2005

The summer was soon over, and I was selected to lead a company, this time my academic year company, A-3 Anacondas as the company First Sergeant – a highly competitive and respected position within the Corps. I was responsible for the cadet's class performance, their conduct, appearance, rooms, and everything else. In this capacity I really gained a lot personally and professionally. On a daily basis I had to work with my own classmates to ensure that the company's operations ran smoothly. This is difficult because it is often hard for a person who is both your classmate and your age to accept the fact that you are in charge of them and their military grade, and cadets are also renowned for becoming very apathetic. As the highest ranked Cow in the company it was my job to strike a workable balance in order to keep everyone from beating each other's faces in while preparing to become officers of character.

I never failed to have my best friends there next to me providing me with a "head check" from the work that we so easily got caught up in. We made it our doctrine to spend as much time away from the academy as possible. There was never a weekend that was not filled with some type of adventure; in-fact, now that I look back on my Cow year I recall taking trips to Jordan, the United Arab Emirates, Puerto Rico, near-by Montréal, and not to forget the highly recommended New York City. It goes without saying that

when you work hard, you certainly deserve to play hard. I think this was my saving grace. My first two years at the academy were spent basically behind closed doors. I was consumed by doing well, studying, working out, and focusing on why I came to West Point. Yet, the last two years my focus actually became more tuned on becoming an officer as I had intended all along. It was then that I learned how to really manage my time, my resources, and my energy. I became a semi-master at getting my work done on time without ever procrastinating in order to create more time to have fun. I looked at it this way, as much as West Point is not a real college, I had better enjoy it as much as it allowed me to, for within a short span of time I would be a platoon leader and that job affords little time to "party."

Syria & Germany - Summer, 2005

Firstie year started off on a great foot. I was selected, along with three other of my classmates, to take part in a ground-breaking language immersion program in Damascus, Syria. It was an opportunity of a lifetime for four Arabic majors. We left school the end of May on a trip to Damascus. While there we each lived with a Syrian family and studied four hours daily at the University of Damascus. It was an intensive Arabic program which helped us each improve our speaking, listening, and writing skills considerably. I was not only grateful for the opportunity to expand and learn Arabic, I was also happy for the opportunity to live amongst people of a different culture, heritage, quality of life, and even religion. I learned a lot about myself, the world, and history and religion. It was an eye-opening experience that I will cherish for the rest of my life. As an officer or even a civil leader we must be cultured, worldly, and diverse. Without this, the military or civilian

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leaders of our country would be missing a huge part of their development as professionals. As we have seen from history, it is practically impossible for a society or country to help another society (or sometimes its own diverse population), without being aware of cultural sensitivities, language customs and barriers. This is critical, and it now serves as a part of my foundation as a leader.

Soon after my time in Syria, I quickly made my way over to Stuttgart, Germany where I had the great privilege to work with soldiers from the 1st Battalion, 10th Special Forces Group. Of the two free summers West Point affords its cadets, they require us to join an active duty unit and work side-by-side with the soldiers there. During my five weeks in Germany, I learned as much as I possibly could about non-conventional warfare through the eyes of the Special Forces teams which fight every day battles and wars throughout the world. It was a unique experience, for these guys are highly trained, self-motivated, and driven to making the world better.

Firstie Year – 2005-2006

Once I arrived back at West Point as a Firstie I jumped right into another leadership position. I was the commander of my academic year company, which is only a semester position. I had a great time and learned a great deal about people, leading, planning, and balance. In this capacity I was the highest ranking cadet in the company, so I made the decisions. Of course there are green suitors, or regular army officers and NCOs, watching our every move, but they gave me and the other leaders just enough room to succeed or fail. In my opinion, we did well as a company and as a chain-of-command. We set goals, a vision, and a mission and after it was all said and done, we accomplished nearly every single goal we had set out to reach. We maintained a very professional command climate that promoted teamwork, camaraderie, achievement, and professional and personal officer development. I am proud of our efforts, and it was an honor to stand in front of 120 of my company mates and be the example for them to follow.

After my company command, I was afforded the opportunity to lead my company's Sandhurst team. This would be a great chance for me to put together a team of eight males and one female to participate in the annual Sandhurst competition. I chose this because it would allow me to work on my military training skills, I could get into great shape in preparation for the Infantry Officer Basic Course following graduation and it would allow me to fine-tune my leadership skills. In short, I have seen a number of leadership positions which have allowed me to develop certain military leadership skills and this, the Sandhurst team, would be my last opportunity before I began my career as an Infantry Lieutenant.

Reflections on the Journey

I can remember the first time I waited behind the arms room door in our armory at Winston Churchill High School. Standing still and silent as we waited for the command port arms. The lights were off and my heart was beating quickly. I felt like a superstar as I waited for the door to part and the lead man to take the first steps through the threshold. When it was my turn to exit the arms room I was astonished by the number of parents and fellow classmates that awaited us, to see our traditional departure to nationals or any other drill meet for that matter. I ran quickly, slapped the weapon hard, and sounded off with "Black" as one foot struck the ground and "Watch" as the other followed closely behind. We circled the bus and came to a halt before loading up. It

was loud and I remember an intense feeling of pride as I knew I was a part of something great.

I had the same feeling of pride and accomplishment following Beast in the Summer of 2004. I stood next to a formation of 157 new cadets at the United States Military Academy. Though my job description called for me to be stern, strict, firm and aggressive, I could not help but feel the same emotions for the new cadets as I stared into the eyes of the proud parents standing before us. I never really took the time to notice things like this until that year. I was always too busy or too caught up in the chaos of the moment to realize the importance of days like this. I was their company First Sergeant, which didn't mean much unless you did the job right.

The last five years have been an amazing time in my life. I have had the opportunity to meet people that I will ultimately live, fight, and die with for the rest of my life along with learning from an array of professors who are at the top of the educational chain. These things are important to me now. A few years back the same feelings did not exist for such concepts and notions. I was a "punk" as my dad would say. The only things I knew were what I was exposed to in the small ring of friends I had. I never wanted to learn much more about different cultures, academia, and the means to development. I was arrogant then, but I have changed. I know what I did then was great; I think most people would agree if they won two national championships in any sport. Things have changed however. I am a much different person than I was back then as the Black Watch Commander.

The Academy has helped me change incredibly. I think I have a lot more patience, expertise, confidence, and presence than I used to. These are qualities that leaders need to possess. They still need improvement but I have come along way since my days of rifle drill. I used to ignore other classmates because I thought I was better than them. I did not know any better then, but I do now. I have learned the essence of leadership. I have learned that taking responsibility and ownership for yourself and your actions is important. I have learned that personality is a good thing to have and it is ok to smile, sometimes. There is a list of traits that I have built on since my departure from high school, but I still think there is more that is important in life than learning about leadership. I think understanding, applying, and feeling the essence of leadership and how it works with different people is what is important.

I had the opportunity to judge the Eastern Regional Army Championships while at West Point, and I observed a fantastic group of highly motivated cadets. It was a fabulous experience to judge as these cadets marched proudly upon the floor that I had once dominated when I was a cadet. I realized something during that long day. I found that I was happy for these cadets who took on the challenge of participating in JROTC. While I would never admit it in high school, I wish I would have been as proud of what I was doing then just as these cadets were that day, win or lose. The feeling of inspiration that I gained from these dedicated cadets on that drill pad was similar to the feeling I had while watching family and friends enthralled at the sight of their overwhelmed new cadets during their oath ceremony.

As I reflect on what I accomplished in high school, I realize that what you do back then does not matter as much as what you do tomorrow. I have learned through the high and low points in my life to be grateful for the opportunities that I have had. I have learned about what is important in life for me and to cherish these things. My advice is to make the best of each day you have because soon enough, you

will wish you had that time back. I wish I could do it all over again. I would go back with the knowledge that I have now and do it all right, but that is not possible. I want to go back and lead the right way. I want to use the skills I have now to inspire, motivate, and instill a sense of camaraderie in the soldiers who stand before me.

I think I can do it; I think I can be that leader that I have always looked up to. At this point in my life, I am proud of what I have accomplished, but time goes by all too quickly nowadays. I been out of high school for years now, but the images of the drill floor at Nationals are still fresh in my mind. I can remember the intense sensation after hearing my team's name called for the championship title. Those were great moments in my life, but I have something better to look forward to in the future. That is being able to apply what I have learned throughout high school and college to where it counts. The business of being a war fighter, taking care of soldiers, and inspiring them to be the best that they can possibly be is what I have now.

So as I reflect back on the short years of my life, I am reminded of how important education, dedication, pride, teamwork, and dreams are, not so much what people think about me. I look now into the eyes of those who stand before me at West Point and I see the same thing. I see that the next generation wants to excel and fulfill the same dreams and aspirations that I have. I am proud of those who stand up for what is right, those who have integrity, honor, and respect instilled into their daily lives, as well as those who are willing to challenge themselves to be the leaders of tomorrow.

After five years of the West Point system, I can look back and actually see how this place changes a person. I can say without hesitation that I have developed and grown into a much more mature, confident, organized, and driven leader. I do not know everything or have the best solution for every problem. Yet what is most important is that as we grow as leaders we gain the ability to trust others who have the proper experience and then sit back and evaluate until we are one-hundred percent trained on the standard. I know that once I become a platoon leader I will not know every aspect of tactical operations and soldier care, but I do know that I will have the best foundation possible to be able to lead my troops with honor, integrity, and courage. I am positive that West Point has given me the tools to succeed.

Now, over nine years after I took my first steps into the armory at Winston Churchill High School I am prepared to take my first steps into the real world as a leader in our Army. I recall standing at attention in front of hundreds and sometimes thousands of spectators at a number of drill meets with such determination and drive to perform well. That chance presents itself once again. This time I will stand in front of the American public as I prepare to perform the duties my nation and its people calls upon me to do. I am proud of what I have become and I am privileged to serve in this honorable profession. With graduation approaching in a very short three months I can finally see the green grass on the other side of the hill, but I seem to think that when I get to the other side, that is after graduation, that I will probably see another hill that I will need to charge with spirit, enthusiasm, courage, charisma, and perhaps a little support.

On Saturday, May 27th, 2006, Cadet Michael Moad strode across another stage ... this time receiving his USMA diploma from President George W. Bush as he graduated 13th in a class of over 900 cadets before taking his oath of office as a 2nd Lieutenant in the United States Army.

25 GREATEST INFLUENCES IN THE HISTORY OF "THE NATIONALS"

- 1 **The Nationals' Judging Corps** - Hundreds of the nation's finest Marine drill instructors from Parris Island, Army drill sergeants from Ft. Benning, Air Force TIs and Navy Chiefs have made the Nationals the finest drill meet in the world because it is judged by the finest and most qualified all-service individuals in the world of drill.
- 2 **US Army Cadet Command** - Under the leadership of MG Robert Wagner, in the late 80's Cadet Command saw the Nationals as a showcase for drill excellence and became our first event sponsor. Over the decades, Cadet Command's staff including MG Montague Winfield, COL Carlos Glover, Leon McMullen, Carol Hetler, London DuBois, Donna Rice and Cal Foster have made a dramatic impact on the support the event receives at the national level.
- 3 **Jean Weil** - Co-founder of the Nationals, Jean had a unique vision that would ultimately transform the event in ways both subtle and dramatic. She created the 16'x16' eagle banner that hangs proudly in the Arena, along with the performance boards and each year's event design. Upon her passing in 1999, the Jean Weil Memorial Scholarship Fund was created that will forever allow her contribution to be so richly remembered.
- 4 **Paul Naki & the King's Guard** - With a style that was breath-taking and precision that was stunning, the King's Guard set the art of drill on fire. Their innovations sent shock waves through the JROTC community and produced an explosive creative growth that may never be equaled.
- 5 **1SG Jimmy Howard** - The "father" of drill excellence in San Antonio, Texas. He not only made Theodore Roosevelt HS into a National power, he helped every school in the region to rise and later conquer the drill world!
- 6 **MAJ Allen Broussard** - As the senior instructor of Fern Creek HS, MAJ Broussard attended the Nationals in its infancy and was profoundly instrumental as the event's rules and procedures were fine-tuned. His after-action reports provided an endless source of inspiration that helped make the Nationals what it is today.
- 7 **LTC James Rose** - Blazing a trail for the state of Texas and the city of San Antonio, LTC Rose ushered in the modern age of the Nationals through the dominant National Championship force of Theodore Roosevelt HS.
- 8 **MAJ Greg Mikesell** - Under his direction, the Nationals would be forever changed by the precision and intensity of Winston Churchill HS and the Black Watch drill team mystique. They truly set the standard for excellence.
- 9 **Abdul Al-Romaizan** - A former cadet commander from Valley Forge MA, Abdul's influence has taken the Nationals to a world stage with his creation of The Drill Jungle website, his remarkable video presentations of drill and his determination to take each new Nationals project to an even more exalted level.
- 10 **The cadets of La Salle Military Academy** - The first decade of the Nationals was overwhelmingly dominated by the LSMA style which was born from the confidence and skill of these unique National Champions.
- 11 **Sharron Ritch** - In her first year at Sports Network International, Sharron changed the world of the Nationals through the creation of an Access database that would allow SNI to manage larger events with fluidity and precision. Her abilities allowed SNI to fine-tune our events with a professionalism that makes her irreplaceable.
- 12 **Ocean Center** - Moving into this state-of-the-art facility allowed the event to create an identity that matched the excellence of the teams. The Nationals is synonymous with this building and inspires awe in each cadet that enters.
- 13 **CDR Armando Solis** - Through his inspiring leadership at Flour Bluff HS, CDR Solis has redefined the standard for creating a national championship team through perfection in each detail and a remarkable affinity for capturing the essence of true excellence while maintaining a truly joyful esprit de corps.
- 14 **SgtMaj. Keith Williams** - No one individual has better emulated the fundamental qualities of the Nationals - honor, determination, preparation and a quest for excellence that is unstoppable; all of which have made a remarkable impact on the judges he has led and the cadets he has inspected!
- 15 **1stSgt. Christopher Borghese** - No single judge has been more revered or loved by the Nationals' cadets; his intensity and dedication to bringing out the best in each cadet has made 1stSgt. Borghese a living legend.
- 16 **MSgt. Robert Barnette** - As a long time judge at the Nationals, MSgt. Barnette has a profound love for the Nationals and the difference it has made in so many cadets' lives. His passion set the tone for all judges.
- 17 **SCPO Joe Draper** - In the earlier days of the Nationals, SCPO Draper served as the Event Head Judge for many years, guiding the event into the future and setting a sterling example for all judges to follow.
- 18 **LtCol. Pete Duggan & Captain Joe Matthews** - As instructors at Lincoln HS, this dynamic duo were a dramatic influence on the Nationals, including their suggestion that the event expand to a Challenge level.
- 19 **Mr. Bill Squires** - The Nationals would simply not exist without Bill Squires, who challenged the founders of SNI to take their event management skills into the world of JROTC drill, which gave birth to "The Nationals."
- 20 **CMSgt. Frank Killebrew** - Through his leadership at Oxon Hill HS, CMSgt. Killebrew led a dramatic evolution in Unarmed drill with their unique and dynamic style of exhibition drill that will live on long after his retirement.
- 21 **LTC Jerry Cheatom** - Following in the powerful footsteps of Jim Rose, LTC Cheatom took the reigns at Theodore Roosevelt HS and continued their Unarmed dynasty while inspiring all those around him to raise their expectations and strive for the best.
- 22 **MGySgt. Douglas Dunlapp** - As the drill team instructor at Fern Creek HS, Top Dunlapp has provided years of advice to the Nationals while setting an unequalled standard in the Alternative Arms division.
- 23 **SGM Johnny Snodgrass** - A powerful presence in the world of competition drill, SGM Snodgrass led Enterprise HS to countless victories and was the Alternative Arms Dynasty with his "Belles" throughout the 90's.
- 24 **Mr. Bill Brady** - A Pearl Harbor survivor and local veterans group representative, Bill Brady reached out to special performance units and teams alike in welcoming them to Daytona Beach. His heart was as big as the Nationals and when he passed away he left a lasting memory of warmth and caring that will never be forgotten.
- 25 **SGM Dennis Hastings** - Through the sponsorship of the Corps of Cadets at Texas A&M University, SGM Hastings has not only brought millions of dollars in scholarships to Nationals cadets, he has also ushered in an era of corporate support and involvement that saw the creation of the Nationals Benefactors Guild.

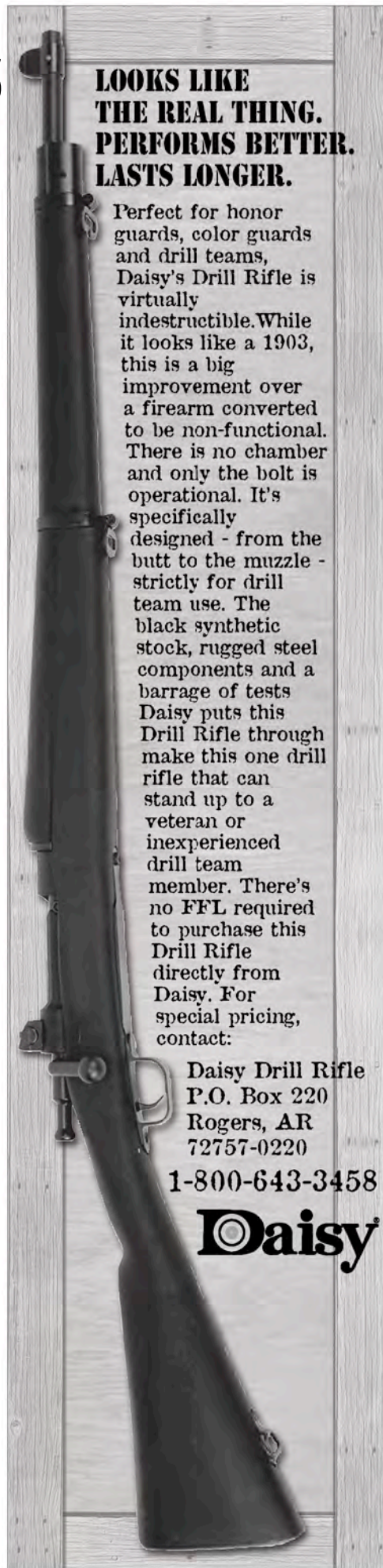
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THE REAL THING.
PERFORMS BETTER.
LASTS LONGER.**

Perfect for honor guards, color guards and drill teams, Daisy's Drill Rifle is virtually indestructible. While it looks like a 1903, this is a big improvement over a firearm converted to be non-functional. There is no chamber and only the bolt is operational. It's specifically designed - from the butt to the muzzle - strictly for drill team use. The black synthetic stock, rugged steel components and a barrage of tests Daisy puts this Drill Rifle through make this one drill rifle that can stand up to a veteran or inexperienced drill team member. There's no FFL required to purchase this Drill Rifle directly from Daisy. For special pricing, contact:

Daisy Drill Rifle
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Rogers, AR
72757-0220

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★ ★ JCAP ★ ★

JUNIOR CADET ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

"Honoring JROTC Excellence Across the Nation"

★ ★ TWO EVENTS ★ ★

OCTOBER 12TH-15TH, 2006 (FALL PROGRAM)

&

SPRING, 2007 (CHECK WEBSITE FOR SPRING DATES)

JCAP is your golden opportunity as a high school senior to experience the Corps of Cadets at Texas A&M University! For 130 years the Corps of Cadets has produced more commissioned officers than any other college in the nation. Today, the Corps - with a strength of approximately 2000 students - is the largest uniformed body of students outside the military academies. The Corps teaches principles of leadership, develops responsibility, honor and integrity. It builds pride and self-confidence, develops physical stamina, and lays the foundation for intelligent and involved citizenship. Cadets learn time management skills, build life-long friendships, and graduate as leaders possessing character and competence, ready for service to the state and nation. The Corps is organized much like the military, and works in concert with the ROTC departments at Texas A&M to provide cadets the opportunity to receive a commission into the United States Armed Forces.

Where will JCAP be held?

- ★ On the campus of Texas A&M University in College Station, Texas

Who can attend JCAP?

- ★ High School Seniors in JROTC and
- ★ Students interested in the military as a career and
- ★ Minimum 1050 SAT (combination of math/critical reading sections only) / 23 ACT and be in top quarter of class
- ★ Minimum 1150 SAT (combination of math/critical reading sections only) / 25 ACT and be in top half of class

How much will it cost?

- ★ All candidates must pay a registration fee of \$50.00, which includes all meals.

Who will handle my arrangements?

- ★ Corps of Cadets and associates will make all arrangements for you including airline and room reservations.

How do I apply and when?

- ★ **APPLY NOW!** Cadets should contact the Corps of Cadets Recruiting Office at (800) TAMU-AGS, Attention: SGM Hastings or apply online at www.jcap-tamu.org.

What will the JCAP experience include:

- ★ Cadets will gain valuable insight and information about the University Admissions Process, Financial Aid, Scholarships, Academic Support Programs and ROTC opportunities.
- ★ Cadets will spend the night inside Aggie Corps dormitories and witness the intensity of daily Corps training.
- ★ Cadets will meet other outstanding JROTC cadets from schools around the nation who are planning to earn their military commission at Texas A&M University.

SENIOR CADETS!

TEXAS A&M WANTS THE NATION'S
BEST JUNIOR ROTC CADETS.

CALL (800) TAMU-AGS
FOR INFORMATION

Corps of Cadets scholarships range in value from \$1,000 - \$10,000 and carry no military obligation. Most Corps scholarships qualify non-Texas residents for a non-resident tuition waiver.

This is your official invitation to attend the finest, most highly respected all-service JROTC event in the world, the...

2007 National High School

Introduction

Sports Network International is pleased to provide this invitation to all precision drill units to attend the 25th annual **National High School Drill Team Championships** in Daytona Beach, Florida. This event is open to all Junior ROTC units and select other military-style programs competing in Armed & Unarmed divisions. This is your school's **official invitation** to enter the nation's finest drill & ceremony competition, referred to worldwide as simply "**The Nationals.**" Schools will never experience a more spectacular event than this, our **Silver Anniversary!**

The **National High School Drill Team Championships** remains the most coveted drill destination in the nation. Schools travel from across the U.S. to attend this all-service drill spectacular. Schools considering entry into the Nationals *should make plans early* as competition spaces are limited to roughly 50 schools at the Masters Level; 55 schools at the Challenge Level; and 35 schools within the Open Level Color Guard event.

Sports Network International, Inc. (SNI) serves as the Event Manager for The Nationals. The National High School Drill Team Championships are **proudly sponsored by the U.S. Army Cadet Command** and **Texas A&M University**.

Competition Guidelines

All units use the regulations of their own service to best compete at the NHSDTC, however in Armed Divisions where their manual is not specific, U.S. Army FM 3-21.5 is used. In the Unarmed Division, U.S. Air Force FM 36-2203 (1996) is used. The variety of services that have gained top finishes at Daytona is a testament to the fairness of this drill event. The event SOP is mailed to all registered schools in mid-January and posted on the website. Schools having specific questions regarding the event should contact SNI before applying for entry.

Event Judging

All judges at the NHSDTC maintain a strong background in military drill. Judges are fully qualified military personnel representing all four branches of the service. Judges are given extensive judging manuals in advance of the event, as well as a full on-site briefing on the eve of the competition. The Nationals' judges are extremely motivated and give a 110% effort. This remains a major reason why so many teams look to end their drill season at "**The World's Most Famous Beach.**"

Competition Events

The NHSDTC maintains two competition levels. The **Challenge Level** event is designed for drill teams who wish to be part of the Nationals experience while competing against similarly talented schools at a less intense skill level than the Masters Level. The Challenge Level maintains Armed (demilitarized weapons only) & Unarmed divisions. All schools are also encouraged to consider entering "stand-alone" Color Guard units into the exciting Open Level Color Guard competition also held on Friday during the Challenge Level event.

The **Masters Level** event brings the finest drill programs in the nation together to compete within three separate divisions. Teams utilizing standard demilitarized rifles compete in the **Demilitarized Arms Division**. Those teams competing without weapons enter the **Unarmed Division**. The **Alternative Arms Division** is for teams using lightweight, facsimile weapons (regardless of their gender) AND teams that are all-female (regardless of the weapon type used).

CHALLENGE LEVEL EVENTS

- ★ Unit Inspection (12 + Cmdr.)
 - ★ Platoon/Flight Regulation (12 + Cmdr.)
 - ★ Color Guard (4-person only - w/arms)
 - ★ Team Exhibition (9 cadets & over)
- (Squad or Platoon Formation is acceptable)

MASTERS LEVEL EVENTS

- ★ Unit Inspection (12 + Cmdr.)
- ★ Platoon/Flight Regulation (12 + Cmdr.)
- ★ Color Guard (4-person only - w/arms)
- ★ Squad/Element Exhibition (8-11+ Cmdr.)
- ★ Platoon/Flight Exhibition (13 & over)
- ★ Solo & Dual Exhibitions

Schools may enter multiple complete teams in different divisions at the Nationals **as long as no cadet competes for more than one team**. Therefore, schools entering both an armed and unarmed team may do so, but the two teams **must have separate cadets for each team**. This rule allows maximum cadet participation without adding multiple school entries utilizing the same cadets.

All Masters Level Armed units are allowed two entries (per team) in both Solo & Dual Exhibition. Unarmed Masters units can enter two pairs in Unarmed Dual Exhibition. Also, ALL CADETS are urged to compete in their level's Armed & Unarmed Knockout Drills **NOTE:** no "knockout fee" is charged to participate in this event.

NHSDTC Event Specifics

The National High School Drill Team Championships are held at the impressive **Ocean Center Civic Arena** in Daytona Beach, Florida in late Spring every year. This state-of-the-art facility features permanent seating for over 6,000 with outstanding amenities for a drill competition the size and prestige of the Nationals. The Ocean Center also features a complete concession area and ample bus parking. All instructors and cadets who attend the Nationals will attest that the Ocean Center Complex remains the most exceptional drill & ceremony facility currently in use in the United States.

Schools are housed in Daytona Beach at one of 20+ oceanfront hotels located within 10 minutes of the Ocean Center Arena. They provide quality & affordable billeting for every Nationals team. SNI will also offer schools the ability to choose an Upgrade Hotel Package Plan at one of several select premium hotels. The Headquarters for the event is the **Hilton Oceanwalk Resort**. Located directly across the street from the Ocean Center, the Hilton is an oasis which will provide exceptional billeting for the few schools selected to stay in this luxury hotel environment. Schools requesting a specific hotel should contact SNI directly.

All schools must be in town the day before their competition begins. Schools attend the **NHSDTC Commander's Call** the evening prior to their competition. At this meeting, all teams are presented their competition schedules and receive a short briefing by NHSDTC Competition Director, Justin Gates. The Challenge & Open Level events will be held on **Friday, May 4th**, with the two-day Masters Level competition held on **Saturday & Sunday, May 5th & 6th**. Both competition levels feature Knockout Drills at the conclusion of the judging and an Awards Ceremony in the evening following the competition.

Awards and Trophies

The Nationals features unparalleled trophies & awards. National Championship and National Runner-Up trophies are awarded in all competition divisions - Demilitarized Arms, Unarmed and Alternative Arms (at the Masters Level); Armed & Unarmed (at the Challenge Level). The impressiveness of these trophies remains legendary within the Junior ROTC drill community!

Drill Team Championships

Team events in all competition divisions are trophied in 1st-5th place. All schools competing for a Championship (schools entering every team event in a division) will receive a personalized NHSDTC plaque to commemorate their quest at Daytona.

The Masters Level division maintains both Solo & Dual Exhibitions for all armed teams and Dual Exhibition for unarmed teams. Regulation Cadet Commanders at both the Masters & Challenge Levels also compete for Commander's Trophies. These individual trophies are awarded in **1st-3rd place**. Top finishers in all Armed & Unarmed Knockout Drills will receive a hand-painted medallion.

Costs to Attend

All schools choosing to attend the National High School Drill Team Championships **must attend through the Team Package Plan**. This plan is designed to ensure all cadets and instructors are given the enjoyment of staying together in superb oceanfront hotels with other schools from across the country, provided with treasured event mementos, as well as **ensuring all schools receive the finest drill event they have ever attended at an affordable cost**.

Team Package Plan Includes:

- ❖ Four days & three nights billeting in one of several oceanfront hotels in Daytona Beach
- ❖ NHSDTC bronze medallion on a chest ribbon
- ❖ NHSDTC collared sports-shirt for adults or t-shirt for cadets, both ordered to size
- ❖ Swiss-embroidered four-inch patch designed exclusively for the NHSDTC event
- ❖ 8" X 10" color team photograph

The price of the Team Package Plan, based on staying four-to-a-room, is only **\$117.00 per person for the full 4-day / 3-night package**. Challenge level schools have the option to stay in a 2-night package for only **\$101.00 per person**. Three, two and one to-a-room prices are slightly higher, utilized primarily for instructors and other adult team followers. Schools interested in Deluxe billets should contact SNI ASAP or check the website for those upgraded rates. ***All participants (cadets, chaperones & instructors) are required to attend the NHSDTC through this Team Package Plan to ensure all event costs are fully covered.*** Parents and other team followers MAY attend through the package plan, but it is optional.

Registration Fee

The School Registration Fee for Nationals entry is \$300 for the Masters Level, \$200 for the Challenge Level and \$50 per team for the Open Level Color Guard. Schools wishing to enter multiple teams within multiple levels should contact SNI for details. **This event Registration Fee is completely refundable** if requested before **Friday, December 8th, 2006**. It is non-refundable once a school has been accepted for entry into the Nationals. This ensures that only those schools who are fully committed to attend the event occupy a valuable competition slot and will ensure the Nationals remains the home for the finest drill teams in the country.

To Register for the NHSDTC

To register your school for the Nationals, please complete the enclosed **NHSDTC Registration Form** and mail it to Sports Network International along with your Registration Fee. Schools unsure of which competition level they should enter should contact SNI before submitting their School Registration. Upon receipt by SNI, your school will be notified by mail that we have received your entry request.

SELECTION PROCESS: *All registrations will be accumulated and reviewed by the SNI Competition Committee beginning on Friday, December 8th, 2006.* SNI will evaluate all entries on their merits and decide which schools will be accepted. This judgment will be based on many factors but the largest of these include:

- ❖ Overall team strength in past Nationals performances as well as other regional drill meets you have attended.
- ❖ Teams looking to capture an Overall Championship (complete teams entering all team events within a division) are given preference over partial teams.
- ❖ Geographic spread, service diversity, gung-ho nature & previous entry attempts are all very strong points considered by SNI.

While most returning schools to the Nationals register within weeks of receiving the IDR and this invitation, a few schools wait. The spectacular 25th Anniversary program will cause the event to be overwhelmingly full. Schools registering after the December 8th review deadline will have only a small chance of getting into the Nationals. The event will be full on December 8th, with only a rarely used "standby slot" available after this date.

Additional Registration Info

Schools accepted for entry will be mailed confirmations and listed on the SNI website by Tuesday, December 12th. Any school not accepted will have their Entry Fee refunded within 10 business days.

All checks and correspondence should be made payable and sent to **Sports Network International** at the address listed below. Schools may contact SNI by email **BUT** all paperwork should be sent through the mail or submitted via our state-of-the-art website.

In Closing

We invite all teams, **especially those who have considered attending in the past**, to look at attending the 2007 Nationals. Take the opportunity to review page 18 for highlights of the remarkable 25th Anniversary program. Your drill team's attendance will become the highlight of your school year, giving focus and purpose to your drill season. It provides a strong means of attracting interest in your program from within your community and will give your school and drill unit the national notoriety and incredible learning experience that they richly deserve. The Nationals is renowned for the strong teams who annually attend. With the availability of the Challenge & Open Level competitions, schools of all talent levels now look to become a part of the exciting & memorable Nationals experience.

Mostly, a trip to the Nationals will give your cadets, parents and staff a great experience to reflect upon for the rest of their lives. The Nationals is the ultimate reward for a long year of hard work and dedication.

Veterans of the Nationals will attest that **no other drill meet compares with the National High School Drill Team Championships**. The overall talent, all-service flavor and vast geographic spread of teams attending the Nationals give this drill event an unparalleled atmosphere of drill excellence! We at SNI wish your program and your cadets the best of luck this school year and ***we hope to see you in Daytona Beach, Florida at The Nationals!***

For additional information:

Event Manager
Sports Network International, Inc.
775 Fentress Boulevard
Daytona Beach, Florida 32114
800/327-9311 ☎ 386/274-1919
website: <http://drill.thenationals.net>
email: drill@thenationals.net

THE NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL DRILL TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

25th Anniversary Celebration

We at Sports Network International have been dreaming about this event for almost a decade...with so much history, pageantry, and excellence on display at the Nationals year in and year out, putting together a fitting 25th anniversary event can be a daunting task. Through the groundbreaking ECHO project, the 2007 NHSDC will be a spectacle that is unlike anything ever seen before in the world of JROTC drill.

...May is Military Appreciation Month

Daytona Beach, Florida

Ocean Center Arena

May 4th-6th, 2007

A Military Appreciation Weekend

that will bring together the world's finest
exhibitions of military drill excellence



The performance of the always-excellent U.S. Army Drill Team on Sunday afternoon will have the Nationals capacity crowd cheering.



The lush perfection of the Marine Silent Drill Platoon will thunder into the Ocean Center Arena on Saturday afternoon.



The Nationals is thrilled to be host to the first live Isis competition. The International World Drill Championships will feature the finest post-high school drillers in solo and tandem exhibition.



The legendary King's Guard from Honolulu, Hawaii will take everyone's breath away when they perform on stage Sunday evening at the Masters Level Awards Gala!

ECHO is a collaboration between Sports Network International and Abdul Al-Romaizan. This project will encompass all the best traditions and history of 25 years of the Nationals. From the spectacular performances of the U.S. Army Drill Team and the U.S. Marine Corps Silent Drill Platoon during the event, to the King's Guard's dazzling show at the Masters Level Awards Gala, ECHO will showcase the finest in the world of military drill. From the twelve camera crews that will capture each Masters event in its entirety to the finished DVD set, ECHO will take the "Best of the Nationals" video series to a new stratosphere. From each of the cadets on the drill floor to the hundreds of invited guests and VIPs that have made Nationals the success that it is, ECHO will be a salute to their dedication and contribution. From each unique performance on the Nationals drill deck to the spectacular Isis event, ECHO will be a drill fanatic's greatest fantasy. And from the opening moments of the Masters Awards Gala to the final presentation of the championship trophies, ECHO will be both a heartfelt celebration and patriotic spectacle that will be remembered for a lifetime.

ECHO ... THE COUNTDOWN HAS ALREADY STARTED.

The Countdown Has Already Started



A project dedicated to, honoring and celebrating the 25th Anniversary of the National High School Drill Team Championships.

History Rising

COMING SOON

Produced By
Abdul Al-Romaizan &
Sports Network International

Marine Corps Dominates the Challenge Level in Daytona Beach

THE CHALLENGE LEVEL and Open Level Color Guard (OLCG) competitions at the Nationals have developed the deserved reputation as tightly fought slugfests that often come down to the final performance to determine a victor. As more JROTC programs improve their drill teams, Friday's events become more impressive every year! Top-finishing Challenge Level teams are making the step into the Masters Level with greater ease, proving that the talent gap between these two events narrows every year. OLCG performances are often a thing of beauty - making spectators and judges proud to watch such respectful and synchronized displays of the Colors. You never know what you might see at this exciting competition level and in 2006, the classic displays of team synchronization and bearing were the impressive factors that swayed the judges. Quite often, these qualities are best displayed by Marines.

ARMED DIVISION

Schools from 16 states brought together a huge diversity of drill styles in the Armed Division. Four different teams captured the four different team events, leaving most onlookers to wonder who would take control of this talented field of competitors? As the scoresheets began piling higher, it became clear that **Lynn English HS** from **Lynn, Massachusetts** would do just that! The USMC **Bulldogs** drill team was solid everywhere, nabbing trophies in Regulation (1st), Exhibition (3rd) & Color Guard (4th). Their overall display of excellence routed the competition field and ensured that their entry into the Masters Level competition in the future would be well deserved.

Always tough **Clearwater HS** from **Clearwater, Florida** came to win but a very poor 18th place Color Guard finish put these hard-charging leathernecks in too deep a hole to dig out. The **Tornadoes** strong 1st place (Exhibition) and 2nd place (Inspection) finishes saved their overall placement and earned them the Runner-up title.

With a pack of three schools fighting for a 3rd place Overall Armed title, the Navy JROTC program from **Central Crossing HS** broke through and had just enough to push to the front. Paced by two trophy finishes (1st-Inspection, 3rd-Regulation), the **Comets** drill team distinguished themselves at this tough event and powered home to their highest overall finish ever at this event.

Other solid Armed finishes: **Passaic HS** (1st-CG); **Campbell Co. HS** (3rd-CG, 5th-Reg); **Northeast HS** (2nd-Reg); **Montgomery Cen. HS** (2nd-CG); **Hialeah-Miami Lakes HS** (2nd-Ex); **Airport HS** (3rd-Ins); and **Clearwater HS** (4th-Reg, 5th-CG).

20

UNARMED DIVISION

With the absence of 2005 Challenge Unarmed Champs **Bethel Regional HS**, the competition was expected to be wide open. However, the open door was slammed shut early by the **Devil Dogs** from **Lynn English HS**. Despite not capturing a single event title, the balanced attack from the **Lady Bulldogs** drill team garnered two 2nd place finishes (Inspection, Regulation) and two 3rd place finishes (Color Guard, Exhibition) which easily propelled this fine program to a huge victory. Their two top finishes gave Lynn English a Challenge Level sweep, thereby providing a rousing send-off to the Masters Level in the future.

Traveling all the way from Alaska didn't seem to bother these hearty Air Force cadets as **West Anchorage HS** from **Anchorage, Alaska** had plenty of

firepower to capture the Unarmed Runner-up title. The **Eagles** drill team worked hard to nab first place in both Color Guard and Exhibition to cruise home with the 2nd place Overall finish.

A hard fought 3rd place overall finish was taken by **N. Miami Beach Sr. HS** from **N. Miami Beach, Florida**. Despite three strong trophy finishes (1st-Regulation, 2nd-Color Guard, 5th-Exhibition), a lackluster 18th place finish in Inspection left the **Lady Chargers** in 3rd place.



Marine Corps Devil Dog drill teams had a big time at the Challenge Level Awards Ceremony. Despite their relatively small number of competition slots, they took home the lion's share of the tall trophies.

2006 OPEN LEVEL COLOR GUARD CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Open Level Color Guard event annually features dozens of amazing color presentations. It remains an honor to watch this competition every year! Often, schools too small to field competitive drill teams or find the financial burden too great to attend the Nationals do bring just a color guard unit. Intense determination oozes from the competition square and team after team proudly display our National Colors. With the competition limited to just 33 teams in 2006, the event was very popular and tough to judge with so many solid performances.

Capturing the Championship in the OLCG event was **Lancaster HS Black Guard** from **Lancaster, Texas**. The always tough favorite going in did not disappoint as the **Black Guard** overwhelmed the competition by a solid margin.

Settled by tie-breaker, the **Wichita Titans** from **Wichita HS South** in **Wichita, Kansas** had just enough to grab the OLCG Runner-up title over **Panteras Del Sur** from past Challenge Level Unarmed Champion MCJROTC **United South HS** from **Laredo, Texas**. Just 4 points behind (out of 1,200 possible) the **Lady Eagles** from always-tough **Northeast HS** Army JROTC from **Clarksville, Tennessee** brought home the 4th place OLCG finish.

Little-known **Hernando HS** Air Force JROTC from **Brooksville, Florida** made their name known as the **Lady Leopards** convincingly distanced their unit from the field to grab the final 5th place trophy.

A hearty congratulations to every OLCG unit who competed with honor throughout the day! To see top-to-bottom scoring in all events of the 2006 NHSDTC, go to the official event website and click on the "Scoring Results" link. Entry spaces are limited to roughly 35 units, so apply early to ensure your interested unit can be a part of the exciting Open Level Color Guard Championships.

The division's other strong finishes included: **Myrtle Beach HS** (1st-Ins); **Washington HS** (2nd-Ex); **Trevor Browne HS** (3rd-Ins & Reg); **Long Island City HS** (4th-Ex, 5th-Ins); **Bainbridge HS** (4th-Ins); **Hialeah-Miami Lakes HS** (4th-Reg) and **East Henderson HS** (4th-CG).

Emotional knockout drills set the stage for a frenzied Awards Ceremony. With the ever-popular "Historic Salute to the Armed Forces" by **Lakewood HS** JROTC, emotions are high as the long day of drill overflows into a spirited trophy presentation.

The Challenge Level event has quickly become the largest, most diverse competition field at the NHSDTC! Any program who has ever attended the Nationals will tell you that the teams are treated to a fantastic, first-class weekend both on and off the drill floor. Congratulations to all Challenge schools for their efforts and we look forward to seeing these fantastic schools next year.

With the once-in-a-lifetime experience that the NHSDTC 25th Anniversary is sure to provide, all schools should consider attending in 2007! The entire event will be filled with remarkable displays of drill excellence producing memories that will last a lifetime.



2006 National High School Drill Team Championships

Challenge Level Attendees & Event Standings



Armed Division

Inspection

Central Crossing HS	<i>Comets</i>	814
Clearwater HS	<i>Tornadoes</i>	778
Airport HS	<i>Golden Talon</i>	771
Bloomingtondale HS	<i>Rajun Bulls Black*</i>	705
Green Run HS	<i>Gunslingers</i>	705

Regulation

Lynn English HS	<i>Bulldogs</i>	849
Northeast HS/TN	<i>Claws of the Eagle</i>	809
Central Crossing HS	<i>Comets</i>	803
Clearwater HS	<i>Lady Tornadoes</i>	784
Campbell County HS	<i>Cougars</i>	776

Color Guard

Passaic HS	<i>Omega Red</i>	835
Montgomery Central HS	<i>Warrior Guard</i>	804
Campbell County HS	<i>Cougars</i>	784
Lynn English HS	<i>Bulldogs</i>	771
Clearwater HS	<i>Lady Tornadoes</i>	764

Team Exhibition

Clearwater HS	<i>Tornadoes</i>	973
Hialeah-Miami Lakes HS	<i>Imperial/Trojans</i>	919
Lynn English HS	<i>Bulldogs</i>	906
Northeast HS/MO	<i>Long Rifles</i>	871
Myrtle Beach HS	<i>Seahawks</i>	865

Overall Armed Champion

Lynn English HS - *Bulldogs*

Overall Armed Runner-up

Clearwater HS - *Tornadoes*

Airport HS
Army JROTC
West Columbia, S. CAROLINA

Bainbridge HS
Air Force JROTC
Bainbridge, GEORGIA

Bayside HS
Navy JROTC
Palm Bay, Florida

Bloomingtondale HS
Air Force JROTC
Valrico, Florida

Brentwood HS
Air Force JROTC
Brentwood, New York

Campbell County HS
Army JROTC
Jacksboro, Tennessee

Cass Technical HS
Army JROTC
Detroit, Michigan

Central Crossing HS
Navy JROTC
Grove City, Ohio

Chester HS
Army JROTC
Chester, South Carolina

Christian Bros Admy
Army JROTC
Albany, New York

Clearwater HS
Marine Corps JROTC
Clearwater, Florida

Coffee HS
Navy JROTC
Douglas, Georgia

Colonel White HS
Army JROTC
Dayton, Ohio

Dr. Pila HS
Air Force JROTC
Ponce, Puerto Rico

East Gadsden HS
Army JROTC
Havana, Florida

East Henderson HS
Air Force JROTC
E. Flat Rock, N. Carolina

Englewood HS
Army JROTC
Jacksonville, Florida

Evans HS
Army JROTC
Evans, Georgia

F.W. Springstead HS
Air Force JROTC
Spring Hill, Florida

Fairmont HS
Army JROTC
Fairmont, N. Carolina

Forestville MA
Army JROTC
Forestville, Maryland

Gloucester HS
Marine Corps JROTC
Gloucester, MA

Unarmed Division

Inspection

Myrtle Beach HS	<i>Lady Seahawks</i>	762
Lynn English HS	<i>Lady Bulldogs</i>	750
Trevor Browne HS	<i>Lady Bruins</i>	738
Bainbridge HS	<i>Wings of Blue*</i>	734
Long Island City HS	<i>Daughters of Liberty</i>	734

Regulation

N. Miami Beach HS	<i>Lady Chargers</i>	717
Lynn English HS	<i>Lady Bulldogs</i>	700
Trevor Browne HS	<i>Lady Bruins</i>	693
Hialeah-Miami Lakes HS	<i>Royal Trojans</i>	681
Mulberry HS	<i>Mulberry Panthers</i>	678

Color Guard

West Anchorage HS	<i>Eagles</i>	815
N. Miami Beach HS	<i>Lady Chargers</i>	790
Lynn English HS	<i>Lady Bulldogs</i>	782
East Henderson HS	<i>Strike Eagles</i>	760
Hopkins County Central HS	<i>Raging Storm</i>	736

Team Exhibition

West Anchorage HS	<i>Eagles</i>	972
Washington HS	<i>Patriots</i>	913
Lynn English HS	<i>Lady Bulldogs</i>	908
Long Island City HS	<i>Daughters of Liberty</i>	900
N. Miami Beach HS	<i>Lady Chargers</i>	867

Overall Unarmed Champion

Lynn English HS - *Lady Bulldogs*

Overall Unarmed Runner-up

West Anchorage HS - *Eagles*

Grants HS
Marine Corps JROTC
Grants, New Mexico

Green Run HS
Navy JROTC
Virginia Beach, Virginia

Hendersonville HS
Marine Corps JROTC
Hendersonville, Tennessee

Hialeah-Miami Lakes HS
Army JROTC
Hialeah, Florida

Hopkins County HS
Air Force JROTC
Madisonville, Kentucky

Hubbard HS
Army JROTC
Chicago, Illinois

Irvington HS
Army JROTC
Irvington, New Jersey

La Salle Institute
Army JROTC
Troy, New York

Lackey HS
Air Force JROTC
Indian Head, Maryland

Lakeside HS
Army JROTC
Evans, Georgia

Lakewood HS
Army JROTC
Lakewood, New Jersey

Leesville HS
Army JROTC
Leesville, Louisiana

Long Island City HS
Army JROTC
Long Island City, New York

Lynn English HS
Marine Corps JROTC
Lynn, Massachusetts

Malcolm X. Shabazz HS
Army JROTC
Newark, New Jersey

Missouri MA
Army JROTC
Mexico, Missouri

Montgomery Central HS
Army JROTC
Cunningham, Tennessee

Mt. Juliet HS
Marine Corps JROTC
Mt. Juliet, Tennessee

Mulberry HS
Army JROTC
Mulberry, Florida

Myrtle Beach HS
Navy JROTC
Myrtle Beach, South Carolina

N. Miami Beach HS
Army JROTC
North Miami Beach, Florida

Northeast HS
Army JROTC
Kansas City, Missouri

Northeast HS
Army JROTC
Clarksville, Tennessee

Northview HS
Army JROTC
Duluth, Georgia

Oak Ridge MA
Army JROTC
Oak Ridge, North Carolina

Oxon Hill HS
Air Force JROTC
Oxon Hill, Maryland

Passaic HS
Navy JROTC
Passaic, New Jersey

Petersburg HS
Army JROTC
Petersburg, Virginia

Pleasantville HS
Army JROTC
Pleasantville, New Jersey

Reading Sr. HS
Marine Corps JROTC
Reading, Pennsylvania

Rossvieview HS
Army JROTC
Clarksville, Tennessee

Rutland HS
Marine Corps JROTC
Macon, Georgia

Smith-Cotton HS
Army JROTC
Sedalia, Missouri

T.C. Williams HS
Army JROTC
Alexandria, Virginia

Trevor Browne HS
Army JROTC
Phoenix, Arizona

United South HS
Marine Corps JROTC
Laredo, Texas

Washington HS
Air Force JROTC
Tacoma, Washington

Washington Math & Science Tech PCHS
Air Force JROTC
Washington, DC

Waukegan HS
Army JROTC
Waukegan, Illinois

West Anchorage HS
Air Force JROTC
Anchorage, Alaska

West Charlotte HS
Army JROTC
Charlotte, North Carolina

Wingfield HS
Army JROTC
Jackson, Mississippi

From excellence comes a dynasty....

Long Live the Kings!



For the fourth consecutive year, Navy JROTC unit Flour Bluff HS from Corpus Christi, Texas (top & left) dominated the Demilitarized Division and Unarmed Divisions, while six-time returning champion Fern Creek HS from Fern Creek, Kentucky (right) ruled the Alternative Arms Division.

DAYTONA BEACH, Florida has become synonymous with military JROTC drill & ceremony excellence. FOR OVER 20 YEARS, the finest military drillers in the world have come to "THE NATIONALS" with lofty dreams and left with cherished memories. While several MASTERS LEVEL schools are content to just do their best, most want to be recognized and remembered as the program that dethroned the King!

BOTH FLOUR BLUFF and FERN CREEK would give nothing away therefore any team looking to make their mark as champions would have to wrestle the title away - it would not be handed to them gently. Scores of schools have tried to become the victor year after year, but could this be the year a new team would break through and reach the holy grail of an Overall Championship at Daytona?

ALTERNATIVE ARMS DIVISION

Any chances of FERN CREEK HS from FERN CREEK, Kentucky having their unprecedented run of championships ended in 2006 were shattered early as the **Lady Leathernecks** came out stronger and sharper than ever! While DOMINATION is a word too often used in competition, it is the only appropriate description. Capturing four out of the five events (Color Guard and Platoon Exhibition by MASSIVE margins) with only a narrow 2nd place Squad Exhibition finish keeping these annual champions from a clean sweep, the thoroughbreds from Kentucky easily brushed aside any serious challenge to their reign from the outset. Like Tiger Woods in golf, the only question remaining seems to be, "How many years before a challenger steps forward to conquer these ladies?" With many schools already contacting SNI about the 25th anniversary, we expect a talent-rich competition field in 2007 to put every school to the test on the drill floor.

An incredibly tight battle ensued for the Division Runner-up title. Just a few points dictated a stirring victory by 2006 Runner-up **Palm Bay HS** from **Palm Bay, Florida**. The always strong **Lady Pirates** held four trophy finishes featuring strong 3rd place finishes in both Inspection and Regulation for this fine Marine program.

Palm Bay's efforts barely nudged out the tough Army JROTC unit from **Winter Springs HS** in **Winter Springs, Florida**. While they had four strong trophy finishes as well, the **Golden Bears** took a tough 8th place finish in Platoon Exhibition to land in the 3rd place overall slot.

The Alternative Arms Division had several other notable finishes including: **Montgomery Central HS** (2nd-Inspection, Regulation, Color Guard); **Mt. Juliet HS** (1st-Squad Ex, 4th-Regulation); **J.H. Reagan HS** (3rd-Squad Ex, 4th-Color Guard); **Carroll HS** (2nd-Platoon Ex) and **SE Southeast HS** (3rd-Platoon Ex).

UNARMED DIVISION

Despite a solid competition field, the entire division really came down to a two-horse match race right from the beginning. The **SEA HAWKS** Unarmed drill unit from **Flour Bluff HS**, coming off a stellar Navy Nationals competition squared off against the Army Eastern Region Champion **Patriot Pride** Unarmed drill unit from **Francis Lewis HS**. Like a heavyweight prize fight, each landed big punches early.

The Army challengers from **Fresh Meadows, New York** grabbed 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th place event trophies to put them in serious striking distance. But they hit the canvas hard for a TKO when they garnered an 8th place in Element Ex. That soft finish left the four-year reigning Navy champs from **Corpus Christi, Texas** in command of the division. The ladies from South Texas were paced by two 1st place finishes and two 2nd place finishes to tack up their 4th consecutive Unarmed Division National Championship title. Teams are already calling and emailing ready to challenge their reign in 2007!



Always standing tall during the Nationals, **John Jay HS** from **San Antonio, Texas** annually make their run at the top spot in both the Armed and Unarmed Divisions through their eye-catching showmanship and attention to detail.

The battle for 3rd place overall was again a two team tussle as the internationally famous unit from **Winston Churchill HS** in **San Antonio, Texas** grabbed four team trophies. Led by a very strong 1st place Element Exhibition performance, the **Queen's Guard** drill team from Churchill had just

enough strength to edge out the always tough **Rahway HS Lady Devil Pups** from **Rahway, New Jersey** for 3rd place overall. Rahway is so solid in so many areas they are a threat to take home the tallest hardware every year they attend.

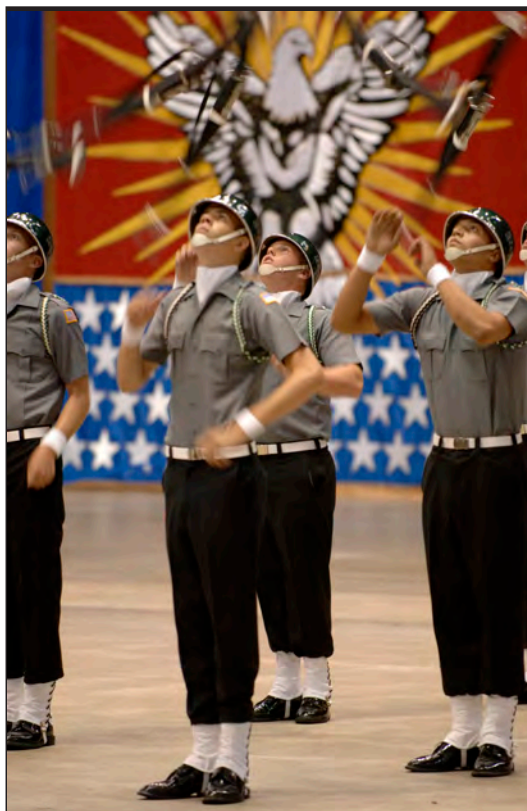
Other Unarmed Division highlights included: **Theodore Roosevelt HS** (1st-Inspection, 5th Element Ex); **Ronald Reagan HS** (3rd-Inspection, 4th-Regulation and Element Ex); **Sandalwood HS** (2nd-Color Guard) and **Douglas MacArthur HS** (5th-Inspection and Color Guard).

DEMILITARIZED ARMS DIVISION

IN ONE OF THE TIGHTEST FINISHES IN RECENT HISTORY, THE DEMILITARIZED ARMS DIVISION CAME DOWN TO THE FINAL FEW PERFORMANCES BEFORE A WINNER COULD BE CROWNED. COMING INTO THE FINAL DAY, **Flour Bluff HS** held a solid lead over several other strong programs. And then, lightning struck! The sickening sound of a dropped rifle during the final PLATOON Exhibition event for Flour Bluff gave every top contender a sense that an opening had just been blasted in the Navy bulkhead.

Seizing the opportunity, **Douglas MacArthur HS** performed the PLATOON Exhibition routine of their lives. They knew it was strong, but they had to wait several hours to learn whether all of their efforts throughout the weekend would be strong enough to capture the Demilitarized title.

When everything was totaled, Flour Bluff HS had just enough left to torpedo the Army assault and bring home their Demilitarized championship. The **SEA Devils** were solid, paced by a 1st place finish within Squad Ex and 2nd place within Regulation. But that rifle drop left the door



With the dramatic backdrop of the famous Nationals eagle banner, Ronald Reagan H.S. wows the crowd as they look into the bright lights of the Ocean Center during Platoon Exhibition competition.

open and a strong overall performance by MacArthur was marred by a single weak 13th place finish by the **Blue Guard** drill team. That one deficiency kept the amazing Navy cadets at the top of the mountain for another year in the competitive Demilitarized Arms division.

Other top performances: **Francis Lewis HS** (1st-CG, 3rd-REG, 3rd Overall); **John Jay HS** (1st-Inspection, 3rd-Platoon Ex, 4th-REG); **James Madison HS** (2nd-Platoon Ex, 3rd-Squad Ex); **Rahway HS** (1st-REG, 4th Squad Ex); **Fern Creek HS** (2nd-CG); **Winston Churchill HS** (2nd-Inspection) and **Ronald Reagan HS** (2nd-Squad Ex).

Every spectator at the Masters Level of "The Nationals" walks away with a sense of awe at the amazing precision and accomplishment that these young men & women produce. Their heart and determination for excellence will stand them in good stead long after their JROTC years are behind them. SNI salutes every NHSDTC cadet and looks forward to the 25th anniversary of the Nationals in 2007 when every other dominant program in the US sets their sights on ending these dynasties.

Thought I was gone... didn't you?

I'm going to haunt your dreams until you enlist in the Wentworth Challenge. Wentworth Military Academy, in partnership with Vermont American and the VFW, is challenging schools and Junior ROTC programs around the nation to raise funds for the VFW Foundation's Unmet Needs Program. You with me? See the back inside cover for more details or visit www.wma880.org/wentworthchallenge.htm

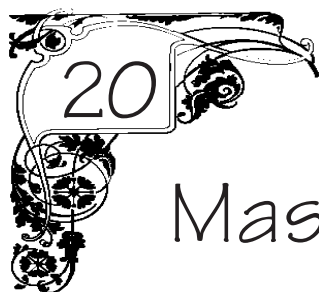
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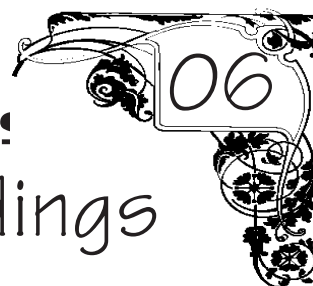
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NATIONAL High School Drill Team Championship!



Masters Level Event Standings

ALL TOTALS ARE BASED ON A MAXIMUM 1200 POINTS PER EVENT

Demilitarized Arms

Inspection

John Jay HS	<i>Silver Eagles</i>	792
Winston Churchill HS	<i>Black Watch</i>	775
Culpeper County HS	<i>The Thin Red Line</i>	756
Abraham Clark HS	<i>The Few, The Proud</i>	755
Flour Bluff HS	<i>Sea Devils</i>	751

Regulation

Rahway HS	<i>Devil Pups</i>	1003
Flour Bluff HS	<i>Sea Devils</i>	996
Francis Lewis HS	<i>Patriot Guard</i>	913
John Jay HS	<i>Silver Eagles</i>	911*
Abraham Clark HS	<i>The Few, The Proud</i>	911

Color Guard

Francis Lewis HS	<i>Patriot Guard</i>	869
Fern Creek HS	<i>Leathernecks</i>	854
Douglas MacArthur HS	<i>Blue Guard</i>	790
Xavier HS	<i>X-Squad</i>	784
Deerfield Beach HS	<i>Scarlet Bucks</i>	772

Squad Exhibition

Flour Bluff HS	<i>Sea Devils</i>	1017
Ronald Reagan HS	<i>Rattler Guard</i>	1011*
James Madison HS	<i>Maverick Guard</i>	1011
Rahway HS	<i>Devil Pups</i>	989
J.H. Reagan HS	<i>Reagan Rifles</i>	980

Platoon Exhibition

Douglas MacArthur HS	<i>Blue Guard</i>	928
James Madison HS	<i>Maverick Guard</i>	926
John Jay HS	<i>Silver Eagles</i>	889
Marmion Academy	<i>Flannigan Rifles</i>	883
Flour Bluff HS	<i>Sea Devils</i>	881

Unarmed

Inspection

Theodore Roosevelt HS	<i>Riderettes</i>	834
Flour Bluff HS	<i>Sea Hawks</i>	824
Ronald Reagan HS	<i>Diamondbacks</i>	790
Francis Lewis HS	<i>Patriot Pride</i>	786
Douglas MacArthur HS	<i>Blue Angels</i>	767

Regulation

Francis Lewis HS	<i>Patriot Pride</i>	750
Rahway HS	<i>Lady Devil Pups</i>	740
Winston Churchill HS	<i>Queen's Guard</i>	720
Ronald Reagan HS	<i>Diamondbacks</i>	719
Flour Bluff HS	<i>Sea Hawks</i>	711

Color Guard

Flour Bluff HS	<i>Sea Hawks</i>	936
Sandalwood HS	<i>Silver Eagles</i>	864
Francis Lewis HS	<i>Patriot Pride</i>	819
Winston Churchill HS	<i>Queen's Guard</i>	809
Douglas MacArthur HS	<i>Blue Angels</i>	798

Element Exhibition

Winston Churchill HS	<i>Queen's Guard</i>	985
Flour Bluff HS	<i>Sea Hawks</i>	915
Rahway HS	<i>Lady Devil Pups</i>	894
Ronald Reagan HS	<i>Diamondbacks</i>	880
Theodore Roosevelt HS	<i>Riderettes</i>	856

Flight Exhibition

Flour Bluff HS	<i>Sea Hawks</i>	1034
Francis Lewis HS	<i>Patriot Pride</i>	966
Winston Churchill HS	<i>Queen's Guard</i>	926
Rahway HS	<i>Lady Devil Pups</i>	835
James Madison HS	<i>Lady Maverick Guard</i>	821

Alternative Arms

Inspection

Fern Creek HS	<i>Lady Leathernecks</i>	770
Montgomery Central HS	<i>Chief's Guard</i>	751
Palm Bay HS	<i>Lady Pirates</i>	745
Seneca HS	<i>Lady Redhawks</i>	735
Winter Springs HS	<i>Golden Bears</i>	733

Regulation

Fern Creek HS	<i>Lady Leathernecks</i>	694
Montgomery Central HS	<i>Chief's Guard</i>	681
Palm Bay HS	<i>Lady Pirates</i>	677
Mt. Juliet HS	<i>Reigning Squad of Doom</i>	669
Winter Springs HS	<i>Golden Bears</i>	655

Color Guard

Fern Creek HS	<i>Lady Leathernecks</i>	878
Montgomery Central HS	<i>Chief's Guard</i>	795
Winter Springs HS	<i>Golden Bears</i>	793
J.H. Reagan HS	<i>Reagan Riflettes</i>	765
Lyman HS	<i>Lady Greys</i>	712

Squad Exhibition

Mt. Juliet HS	<i>Reigning Squad of Doom</i>	858
Fern Creek HS	<i>Lady Leathernecks</i>	849
J.H. Reagan HS	<i>Reagan Riflettes</i>	820
Winter Springs HS	<i>Golden Bears</i>	809
Palm Bay HS	<i>Lady Pirates</i>	806

Platoon Exhibition

Fern Creek HS	<i>Lady Leathernecks</i>	1060
Carroll HS	<i>Golden Knights</i>	928
Southeast HS	<i>Lady Noles</i>	921
Palm Bay HS	<i>Lady Pirates</i>	900
Enterprise HS	<i>Belles of the Blue Knights</i>	890

Demilitarized Arms Champions

Champion: Flour Bluff HS - *Sea Devils*
Runner-up: Douglas MacArthur HS - *Blue Guard*

Solo Exhibition

1st: Cadet Fischer - Alvin HS
2nd: Cadet Adkins - Colonel White HS
3rd: Cadet Frias - James Madison HS

Dual Exhibition

1st: Walls & Joyce - Carver HS
2nd: Davenport & Brown - John Jay HS
3rd: Balanzat & Robinson - Rahway HS

2006 NATIONAL CHAMPIONS

Unarmed Champions

Champion: Flour Bluff HS - *Sea Hawks*
Runner-up: Francis Lewis HS - *Patriot Pride*

Dual Exhibition

1st: Chang & Yeh - Francis Lewis HS
2nd: Moon & Augustine - James Madison HS
3rd: Alvarado & Holland - Winston Churchill HS

Alternative Arms Champions

Champion: Fern Creek HS - *Lady Leathernecks*
Runner-up: Palm Bay HS - *Lady Pirates*

Solo Exhibition

1st: Cadet Holliday - Palm Bay HS
2nd: Cadet Wendling - Lincoln-Way HS
3rd: Cadet Negron - Palm Bay HS

Dual Exhibition

1st: Greene & Head - Spring Valley HS
2nd: Morales & Robertson - Murphy HS
3rd: Sutterlin & Dickerson - Fern Creek HS

The Iwo Jima Rabbi and the Speech heard 'round the World

The fight for Iwo Jima in 1945 was one of the bloodiest of World War II. A tiny volcanic island in the Pacific, Iwo Jima was the setting for a five-week, non-stop battle between 70,000 U.S. Marines and a huge, unknown number of entrenched, determined Japanese defenders. The courage and gallantry of the American forces, showcased by the dramatic raising of the American flag over Mt. Suribachi, is memorialized in the Marine Corps monument in Washington, DC. Less remembered, however, is that the battle occasioned an eloquent eulogy by a Marine Corps rabbi that has become an American classic.



Rabbi Roland B. Gittelsohn (1910-1995), assigned to the 5th Marine Division, was the first Jewish chaplain the Marine Corps ever appointed. The American invading force at Iwo Jima included approximately 1,500 Jewish Marines. Rabbi Gittelsohn was in the thick of the fray, ministering to Marines of all faiths in the combat zone. He shared the fear and horror of the fighting men, each of whom knew that each day might be his last. Rabbi Gittelsohn's tireless efforts to comfort the wounded and encourage the fearful won him three service ribbons.

When the fighting was over, Division Chaplain Warren Cuthriell, a Protestant minister, asked Rabbi Gittelsohn to deliver the memorial sermon at a combined religious service dedicating the Marine Cemetery. Cuthriell wanted all the fallen Marines – black and white, Protestant, Catholic and Jewish – honored in a single, nondenominational ceremony. Unfortunately, racial and religious prejudice was strong in the Marine Corps, as it was then throughout America. According to Rabbi Gittelsohn, the majority of Christian chaplains objected to having a rabbi preach over predominantly Christian graves.

The Catholic chaplains, in keeping with church doctrine, opposed any form of joint religious service. To his credit, Cuthriell refused to alter his plans. Gittelsohn, on the other hand, wanted to save his friend Cuthriell further embarrassment and so decided it was best not to deliver his sermon. Instead, three separate religious services were held. At the Jewish service, to a congregation of 70 or so who attended, Rabbi Gittelsohn delivered the powerful eulogy he originally wrote for the combined service:

"Here lie men who loved America because their ancestors generations ago helped in her founding, and other men who loved her with equal passion because they themselves or their own fathers escaped from oppression to her blessed shores. Here lie officers and men, Negroes and whites, rich men and poor . . . together. Here are Protestants, Catholics and Jews together. Here no man prefers another because of his faith or despises him because of his color. Here there are no quotas of how many from each group are admitted or allowed. Among these men, there is no discrimination. No prejudices. No hatred. Theirs is the highest and purest democracy ...

Whosoever of us lifts his hand in hate against a brother, or who thinks himself superior to those who happen to be in the minority, makes of this ceremony and the bloody sacrifice it commemorates, an empty, hollow mockery. To this, then, as our solemn duty, sacred duty do we the living now dedicate ourselves: to the right of Protestants, Catholics, and Jews, of white men and Negroes alike, to enjoy the democracy for which all of them have here paid the price ...

We here solemnly swear that this shall not be in vain. Out of this and from the suffering and sorrow of those who mourn this will come, we promise, the birth of a new freedom for the sons of men everywhere."

Among Gittelsohn's listeners were three Protestant chaplains so incensed by the prejudice voiced by their colleagues that they boycotted their own service to attend Gittelsohn's. One of them borrowed the manuscript and, unknown to Gittelsohn, circulated several thousand copies to his regiment. Some Marines enclosed the copies in letters to their families. An avalanche of coverage resulted. Time magazine published excerpts, which wire services spread even further. The entire sermon was inserted into the "Congressional Record," the Army released the eulogy for short-wave broadcast to American troops throughout the world and radio commentator Robert St. John read it on his program and on many succeeding Memorial Days.

In 1995, in his last major public appearance before his death, Gittelsohn re-read a portion of the eulogy at the fiftieth commemoration ceremony at the Iwo Jima statue in Washington, D.C. In his autobiography, Gittelsohn reflected, "I have often wondered whether anyone would ever have heard of my Iwo Jima sermon had it not been for the bigoted attempt to ban it."

Abraham Clark High School
Marine Corps JROTC
Roselle, New Jersey

Alvin High School
Marine Corps JROTC
Alvin, Texas

Carroll High School
Army JROTC
Ozark, Alabama

Carver High School
Army JROTC
Winston-Salem, N. Carolina

Colonel White High School
Army JROTC
Dayton, Ohio

Culpeper County High School
Marine Corps JROTC
Culpeper, Virginia

Deerfield Beach High School
Marine Corps JROTC
Deerfield Beach, Florida

Douglas MacArthur HS
Army JROTC
San Antonio, Texas

Enterprise High School
Army JROTC
Enterprise, Alabama

Fern Creek High School
Marine Corps JROTC
Fern Creek, Kentucky

Flour Bluff High School
Navy JROTC
Corpus Christi, Texas

Forestville Military Academy
Army JROTC
Forestville, Maryland

Francis Lewis High School
Army JROTC
Fresh Meadows, New York

Grants High School
Marine Corps JROTC
Grants, New Mexico

Hendersonville High School
Marine Corps JROTC
Hendersonville, Tennessee

Hialeah High School
Air Force JROTC
Hialeah, Florida

J.H. Reagan High School
Army JROTC
Houston, Texas

James Madison High School
Army JROTC
San Antonio, Texas

★ 2006 Masters Level Participants ★ ★ Schools of Excellence ★

2006 ALL-SERVICE JUDGING CORPS



Judges listed from left to right, front row to back row:

Air Force: SSgt. Zakiya Harris, MSgt. Rosa Aumack, SSgt. Charles Turner, MSgt. Anthony Patterson, MSgt. James Kelly, SMSgt. Denroy Smith, SSgt. Anthony Key, SSgt. LaTundra Randall, SSgt. Tenisha DeAlbaAscencio, SrA Ashley Kirtley, SMSgt. Cedric Pinnock; **Army:** SFC Troy Shoemaker, SSG Clark Linck, SSG Jermaine Asberry, SFC Arthur Fonteneaux, SFC Timothy Marsh, SSG John Diggles, SFC Leonard Hutton, ISG John Poff, SFC Michael Jones; **Marine Corps:** 1stSgt. Christopher Borghese, SSgt. Charles Latour, SSgt. Eddie Colon, GySgt. Jason Jones, SSgt. Sean Bauhaus, GySgt. Phillip Frazier, GySgt. Fredrick Smith, SgtMaj. Keith Williams, Sgt. Peter Gosnell; **Navy:** CPO Roberto Roman, CT12 Santos Colon, PO1 Armando Mendoza, SCPO Marlon Glaud, CT13 Caleb Walser, CTRC Anthony Rizi, PO2 LaKisha Flanagan, FCCM Gregory Sullivan, CPO Paul Bollen

Robert E. Lee High School
Army JROTC
San Antonio, Texas

Ronald Reagan HS
Army JROTC
San Antonio, Texas

Sam Houston High School
Army JROTC
Houston, Texas

Sandalwood High School
Air Force JROTC
Jacksonville, Florida

Seneca High School
Marine Corps JROTC
Louisville, Kentucky

Southeast High School
Army JROTC
Bradenton, Florida

Southern Regional HS
Air Force JROTC
Manahawkin, New Jersey

Spring Valley High School
Air Force JROTC
Columbia, South Carolina

Strom Thurmond HS
Navy JROTC
Johnston, S. Carolina

Theodore Roosevelt HS
Army JROTC
San Antonio, Texas

Jenks High School
Air Force JROTC
Jenks, Oklahoma

John Jay High School
Air Force JROTC
San Antonio, Texas

Lackey High School
Air Force JROTC
Indian Head, Maryland

Leavenworth High School
Army JROTC
Leavenworth, Kansas

Mattoon High School
Army JROTC
Mattoon, Illinois

McKinley High School
Army JROTC
Honolulu, Hawaii

Montgomery Central HS
Army JROTC
Cunningham, Tennessee

Mount Miguel High School
Army JROTC
Spring Valley, California

N. Miami Beach HS
Army JROTC
N. Miami Beach, Florida

Oak Ridge Military Admy
Army JROTC
Oak Ridge, N. Carolina

Oxon Hill High School
Air Force JROTC
Oxon Hill, Maryland

Palm Bay High School
Marine Corps JROTC
Palm Bay, Florida

Trevor Browne High School
Army JROTC
Phoenix, Arizona

Union High School
Army JROTC
Union, New Jersey

United South High School
Marine Corps JROTC
Laredo, Texas

Walla Walla High School
Army JROTC
Walla Walla, Washington

Leesburg High School
Air Force JROTC
Leesburg, Florida

Lincoln-Way Central HS
Air Force JROTC
New Lenox, Illinois

Lyman High School
Army JROTC
Longwood, Florida

Marmion Academy
Army JROTC
Aurora, Illinois

Mountain View High School
Navy JROTC
Bend, Oregon

Mt. Juliet High School
Marine Corps JROTC
Mt. Juliet, Tennessee

Murphy High School
Army JROTC
Mobile, Alabama

North Augusta HS
Navy JROTC
North Augusta, S. Carolina

Palmetto High School
Army JROTC
Palmetto, Florida

Pickens High School
Army JROTC
Pickens, S. Carolina

Plainfield High School
Air Force JROTC
Plainfield, New Jersey

Rahway High School
Marine Corps JROTC
Rahway, New Jersey

Winston Churchill HS
Army JROTC
San Antonio, Texas

Winter Springs High School
Army JROTC
Winter Springs, Florida

Xavier High School
Army JROTC
New York, New York

Sports Network International extends our sincere appreciation to every JROTC instructor who goes the extra mile for their cadets. No other program better prepares young people from all walks of life to become quality citizens. With honor and an unwavering commitment to excellence, these cadets will guide our nation throughout the 21st century.

DEVOTED



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look at the Nationals ever produced.

Through the eyes of RA, DEVOTED is a 10-year retrospective
of the National High School Drill Team Championships
filled with interviews and amazing performances.

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to share their passion of drill.

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Are You Ready?

POINTS OF DISTINCTION



College: Private, combining a military tradition of nearly two centuries with a broad range of traditional undergraduate and online graduate degree programs.

Founded: 1819 by Captain Alden Partridge as the first private military college in the United States and the birthplace of the nation's Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) program.

Location: The rugged Green Mountains of Vermont, offering numerous outdoor opportunities year-round.

Northfield, Vermont: A friendly community located 15 minutes from Montpelier, Vermont's state capital; one hour from Burlington, Vermont's largest city; and three hours from Montreal and Boston.

Students: Approximately 1,900 Cadets, residential students and commuters attend Norwich.

The Corps of Cadets: Home to the 2006 National College Drill Team Champions.

Demographics: Students from over 40 states and 20 foreign countries.

Student/Faculty Ratio: 14:1

Academic & ROTC Programs: 31 academic majors; Army, Air Force, Navy & Marine Corps ROTC.

Sports: NCAA Division III, 17 varsity sports, a variety of club sports and intramural sports opportunities.

Clubs/Organizations: Approximately 60, including academic and professional societies.

Summer Programs: Future Leader Camp for Tomorrow's Leaders www.norwich.edu/flc



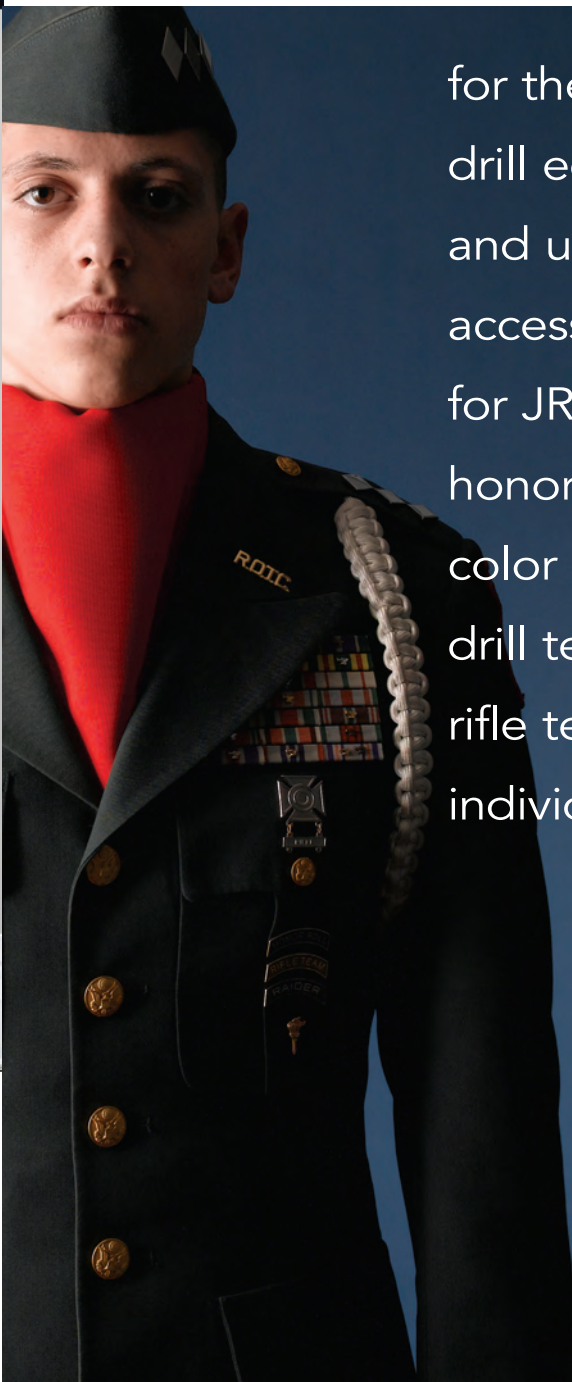
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JROTC President's Academic Championship



I

LEVEL I

Each registered JROTC team will receive (by Internet or mail) a quiz CD designed to run off a normal PC or your Classroom Performance System (CPS). The game is played in your classroom and is "Plug and Play" with easy to follow instructions. Questions will include JROTC curriculum, math, science and current events.



II

LEVEL II

A percentage of Level I teams will progress to Level II to compete in the next round. Questions at this level are basic English, Math and Science questions you would expect to see in your JROTC programs and on high school standardized tests, like the SAT, ACT or ASVAB. In Level II competition, teams will play a game developed by IDEAS at Disney - MGM Studios, called "Zero Hour Threat", during which they will answer a series of questions to find and dismantle a nationwide computer virus. Level II can be played at your high school or local college.

III

LEVEL III – THE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

This year's Nationals were held at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. and included teams from NY to FL. Teams advancing to the National Academic Competition will compete against the top teams from all over the United States as well as Department of Defense school teams located worldwide. National Finalists will receive software, books, scholarships and professional coaching concerning advanced education. Up to \$50,000 in scholarships and prizes and travel support will be presented to the winners of the national level competition.

The JROTC President's Academic Championship is a nationally recognized academic competition created exclusively for JROTC students. All JROTC units are invited to form an academic team of 5 cadets. There is no cost. Signing up is easy – just visit the website below.

Find Out More/Register Your Team:

Visit: www.collegeoptionsfoundation.net

Call: 1-888-JROTC-USA

***Competition Starts in Late
OCT 06, So Sign Up NOW!**



Where are most of the finest all-service, Junior ROTC drill teams from the Lone Star State planning to compete this Spring?

TEXAS STATE DRILL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Inaugural Event: Friday, March 10th, 2007 ★ Reed Arena - College Station, Texas

For decades, there has been NO debate over the fact that Texas IS the undisputed hotbed for Junior ROTC drill excellence. The sheer number of all-service, top National drill units across the Lone Star State is mind-boggling! The suggestion was made by several schools for Sports Network to look into hosting a fair, impartial Texas-only drill event. Through this urging was borne the concept and after years of planning, so begins the reality of the TEXAS STATE DRILL CHAMPIONSHIPS!

The Texas State Drill Championships are held on the campus of Texas A&M University in College Station, Texas. This will be an all-service event, with judges trained in specific knowledge & background within all service manuals currently used within Junior ROTC. The TSDC will occur the day prior to the Army Western Region Championships and will utilize a similar set-up, format and rules. This will ensure those Army schools looking to enter both events will not be placed at any disadvantage for attending both competitions.

Held inside the luxurious Reed Arena, the Texas Championships will have free parking, ample competitor/spectator seating, beautiful lighting, sound and concessions. The event will begin at 1000 hrs to better allow all schools driving to the event the ability to compete without an overnight hotel stay needed.

Team Events: Armed & Unarmed Divisions will offer **Team Inspection** (12 cadets + Cdr); **Regulation** (12 cadets + Cdr); **Color Guard** (2 rifles/2 flags) and **Exhibition Drill** (9 cadets min. w/no maximum size limit). Complete floor layouts/maps/scoresheets and necessary paperwork can be found at the official on-line homepage of the Texas State Championships at <http://texas.thenationals.net>.

Competition Guidelines: The complete event School Folder is posted to the official website. Schools will download and submit all required portions of the folder after acceptance into the event. This School Folder maintains all of the paperwork necessary to attend the event, as well as other vital information.

Texas Championships Team Package Plan: Every competing cadet attends the event through the Team Package Plan. The price of the Team Package Plan is \$20.00 per cadet. This plan provides cadets with treasured event mementos while paying the costs of running the drill event. All cadets competing in any part of the Texas Championships must attend using the Team Package Plan. The Team Package Plan is optional for instructors, parents and non-competing cadets. Few other drill events will maintain the high quality, first-class atmosphere, and beautiful event items that are a part of the Texas Championships.

The Team Package Plan provides:

- Texas Championships goldtone medallion on a chest ribbon
- Texas Championships competition t-shirt, ordered to size
- 8"x10" glossy color team photo
- The ability to compete in the Texas Championships event

NOTE TO ARMY UNITS ATTENDING THE ARMY REGION CHAMPIONSHIPS THE FOLLOWING DAY

As the Texas Championships are designed as an all-service event, a limited number of competition slots will be made available to Army units attending the following day Army Western Region Championships. A reduced cost Team Package Plan will be made available for these schools as the Army-only event maintains a similar package. Please go to the website or call SNI for full details.

In Closing: The dawn of a new era in drill begins in 2007 at the "Texas Championships". As a single day competition, this event will have a limited number of entry spaces. Schools wishing to enter should IMMEDIATELY go to the official internet homepage of the event (below) to download entry materials and review all rules, regulations and paperwork. If you have any questions about this exciting event, please do not hesitate to email to the location outlined below. Good luck in your drill season and see you in College Station!

FOR INFORMATION, CONTACT:

<http://texas.thenationals.net> ★ drill@thenationals.net



Our students excel in every field.

Harvard. Duke. Georgetown. The US Naval Academy and US Air Force Academy. Our 2006 graduates are going on to some of the best schools in the country. And if you want into the military, and want in faster, our Early Commissioning Program (one of only five in the nation) can make you an Army officer in just two years. With an education that builds solid character as well as solid GPA, VFMA&C graduates are just as well prepared for life.



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NATIONALS

A Quick Look at the News & Events of the 2006 Nationals



Army Blues to become Standard

Army service uniforms will be streamlined to one blue Army Service Uniform. "World-class Soldiers deserve a simplified, quality uniform. The blue Army Service Uniform is a traditional uniform that is consistent with the Army's most honored traditions," said SGM of the Army Kenneth O. Preston. The new uniform will be wrinkle-free and will also include a gold braid on the trousers for E-5's and above.

Reduction of the number of uniforms will reduce the burden on soldiers for purchases and alteration costs. Information about the blue Army Service Uniform and its composition is available at: <http://www.army.mil/symbols/uniforms>.



Sports Network Enters the Raider Challenge

Sports Network Int'l has begun an exciting partnership with Army JROTC program Cedar Shoals HS of Athens, Georgia. Currently hosting the finest JROTC Raider competition in the Southeastern United States, Cedar Shoals HS is combining with SNI to expand this event to become "The Nationals" of Raider Challenge events!

With a fantastic venue, solid geographic location and an existing base of regional Raider talent, event expansion to a National forum will be a natural progression. Look for results & photos from the 2006 event, followed by a revamped website with future details on the expanded 2007 Raider event at: <http://raider.thenationals.net>.

Spirit Award Winner Crowned at the NHSDTC

The NHSDTC Spirit Award Banner is presented to the school that makes the most of every opportunity, competes with honor and class and is a huge credit to Junior ROTC, regardless of any obstacles that may stand in their way. In 2006, the award was bestowed upon **Rahway HS** from **Rahway, New Jersey**. Their tremendous team fire and competitive spirit, as well as their unyielding support of the NHSDTC remain a solid example for others to follow. Shown at right is **c/MAJ Michael Gesumaria** (center) accepting the 2006 Spirit Award Banner presented by **Justin Gates** of SNI (right) and long-time NHSDTC benefactor, **Mr. Abdul Al-Romaizan** (left).



2006 Jean Weil Scholarship Winners

Numerous 2006 NHSDTC cadets applied to earn the Jean Weil Scholarship award. Big congratulations go out to **Matthew Preissig** of **Theodore Roosevelt HS** and **Anna Belle York** of **Carver HS** who were awarded \$1,000 scholarships each. All registered NHSDTC schools are eligible to submit applications for up to TWO senior cadets. Information and forms are mailed out to registered schools in December.



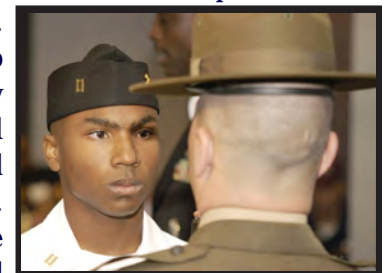
Wentworth Challenge a Charity to Get Behind!



Throughout this publication, readers have been treated to information surrounding the **VFW Unmet Needs Program**. Sports Network Int'l is proud to feature this extremely worthwhile charity. Wentworth Military Academy has initiated the "Wentworth Challenge", calling on all JROTC units to assist them in raising funds for military families of deployed personnel through this fund. Due to the financial commitment of Vermont American, 100% of all money donated will go directly to reservists, guardsmen, recently active or active service personnel and their families, across the five branches of the military. Home & auto repair, medical deductibles, child care expenses, mortgage and rent assistance are examples of what these funds can be used for. SNI looks forward to partnering with the Wentworth Challenge

Nationals Drill Camp Bursts onto the Scene

Sports Network International is extremely excited to put forth a brave new world as it relates to competition drill preparation & training. The Nationals Drill Camp will bring together many of the finest drill personnel involved in the art and sport of competitive drill. These fine people come from all corners of the drill community and for the first time have been cultivated and brought to one location to generate the most diverse, knowledgeable group of instructors ever assembled. Hosted on the campus of Texas A&M University through the efforts of the Corps of Cadets, SNI has the housing, the facilities and the transport connections to make your dream week a reality!



With over 250,000 cadets involved in JROTC, only 150 spaces will be made available to attending cadets and interested instructors alike. For greater details, visit the on-line home of the Nationals Drill Camp at: <http://drillcamp.thenationals.net>.





An advanced, unique drill competition available only to post-high school individuals with at least one year of JROTC/ROTC experience.

This competition is designed to feature the finest solo and tandem exhibition drillers from across the world. Exceptionally strong judges with even more exceptional judging backgrounds, cash prizes and beautiful awards to top finishers highlight this fantastic event.

Ocean Center Arena, Daytona Beach, Florida. Saturday & Sunday - May 5th & 6th, 2007

Sponsored by Abdul Al-Romaizan

www.i-w-d-c.com

Take the **WENTWORTH CHALLENGE**

Your Junior Reserve Officer Training (JROTC) program and/or school have a unique opportunity to join Wentworth Military Academy and Junior College to raise funds for the Unmet Needs program. Unmet Needs, established by Vermont American Power Tool Accessories together with the VFW, assists the families of service men and women deployed in harm's way. I'm proud to support this effort and need your help.

In fact, all schools or JROTC units that raise \$350 or more will be entered in a drawing to receive a visit from me to their school. The school or unit that raises the most money, period, will also receive a personal visit from me. **I know you're up to the challenge.**



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Want some personal advice? Reach out and call my friends at Area Marketing Services at **212.661.4300 x225**. Leave your name and phone number and someone will report back to you to help you work through whatever problem or question you may have about participating in the **WENTWORTH CHALLENGE**. Or visit the web link below for more details on how your unit or school can take the challenge and make a positive difference.

*Samuel F.
R. Leo Brown*



**Participate for a chance to
have me visit your school.**





Over 46,000 cadets from all walks of life have made themselves a part of the fun, excitement, & lifetime memories that are an annual part of the National High School Drill Team Championships



Graduating seniors are encouraged to learn about the scholarships available for Nationals attendees through the Jean Weil Scholarship Foundation.



To learn more, go to:

<http://drill.thenationals.net>



Make Your School a Part of the 25th Annual Nationals in 2007!