

NHSDTC CHALLENGE LEVEL COMPETITION RESULTS

THESE TEAMS WERE "Up to the Challenge" AT THE NATIONALS

What do you have when over 1,200 hungry cadets from 37 schools travel from as far away as Alaska to "draw a line in the sand" in the 2nd annual Challenge Level competition at the 1998 Nationals? You get what you expect -- some wide-eyed wonderment, a few mistakes and many spirited, up-and-coming programs with young men and women giving it everything they've got on "The Worlds Most Famous Beach"!

Their faces told the story. Serious, poker-faced instructors and nervous cadets abounded as the Challenge Level event took center stage on the opening day of the 1998 Nationals drill competition. The Challenge Level competition at the Nationals brought together 37 schools and 51 teams looking to cap off their drill season under the sunny Florida skies at the National High School Drill Team Championships.

The five team events within each division (Inspection, Regulation, Color Guard, Squad/Element and Platoon/Flight Exhibition) gave these proud teams a chance to display what they have worked so hard to achieve. Historically, the Challenge Level featured schools maintaining strength in some events and weakness in others. In 1998, certain teams dominated -- stepping to the forefront. With schools attending from across the country, a wide diversity of drill styles were on display in every area of the Challenge Level Nationals competition.

ARMED Division Highlights

Led by strong overall performances in every facet of drill, the **Devil Pups** armed drill team from **Rahway HS** achieved the overall championship within the armed division. Earning a 1st place finish in four of five team events (Inspection, Regulation, Squad & Platoon Exhibition). The Marines from Rahway, New Jersey steamrolled their way to a convincing finish. Their score of 5,003 out of 6,000 was exceptionally high and a testament to the hard work and motivation on display at the Nationals.

Lopez HS from Brownsville, Texas put together a super overall effort in capturing the Armed Runner-up title. The **Lobo Rifles** Army drill team gained a top three finish in all five team events, paced by a 1st place Armed Division Color Guard finish. Their 4,874 total points made a distinctive mark in history at the National High School Drill Team Championships.

Other outstanding performances were on display by numerous armed division schools including: **Winnsboro HS** (2nd-Inspection & Color Guard); **United South HS** (3rd-Platoon Ex., 4th-Inspection); **Cedar Shoals HS** (Silent Knights: 3rd-Color Guard, 4th-Regulation, 5th-Squad Ex. & Lady Knights: 5th-Inspection & Regulation), **C.E. Murray HS** (3rd-Squad Ex.) and **West Charlotte HS** (3rd-Regulation).

The Commander's Trophy is earned from scores given to cadet commanders during Platoon Regulation. **Cadet Knudsen** from **Rahway HS** grabbed 1st place in the tough Armed Division with a solid 277 point total (out of 350). **Cadet Ecamilla** from **Lopez HS** earned 2nd place (261 points) and **Cadet Boyd** from **West Charlotte HS** netted a 3rd place finish (234 points).

UNARMED Division Highlights

In a tremendously tight and tense competition, first year Nationals attendee, **Lopez HS** put forth a highly motivated, well-rounded attack. The **Golden Ladies** drill team from Brownsville, Texas, earned two first-place finishes (Inspection and Color Guard), a second place (Regulation), and a third place (Element Exhibition). These top placements gave their tough cadets an overall score of 4,982 out of 6,000 points.

Annual powerhouse **Hialeah HS** from Hialeah, Florida excelled with a younger team and nearly grabbed the overall title, coming up just short. The **Destruction** drill team was fantastic, gaining a top five trophy finish in four of the five team events. The Air Force program garnered 4,915 points overall with a 1st place finish (Regulation), and three 2nd place finishes (Inspection, Color Guard, Element Exhibition).

Other strong unarmed performances were on display by: **Forest HS** (1st-Flight Ex., 5th-Inspection); **West Anchorage HS** (1st-Element Ex.); **Pine Ridge HS** (3rd-Color Guard, 4th-Regulation); **Fairmont HS** (3rd-Inspection, 4th-Color Guard); **Rayville HS** (3rd-Flight Ex., 4th-Inspection), **Winnsboro HS** (4th-Platoon Ex., 5th-Regulation), **Rahway HS** (3rd-Regulation), **Forestville HS** (2nd-Flight Ex., 4th-Element Ex.), **Sandalwood HS** (5th-Color Guard, Flight Ex.) and **James F. Byrnes HS** (5th-Element Ex.).

The Unarmed Division Commander's Trophy competition is always very close. **Cadet Montez** from **Hialeah HS** captured 1st place with a commanding 316 point total (out of 350). **Cadet Spink** from **Pine Ridge HS** earned 2nd place by only 2 points (292 points) and **Cadet Davis** from **Winnsboro HS** grabbed 3rd place (290 points).

A spirited Awards Ceremony was held immediately following the conclusion of the Armed and Unarmed knockout drills. This brief ceremony gave recognition to the individuals and the schools who helped to make the Challenge Level competition such a success in its second year and a memorable part of their Junior ROTC program.

The ceremony also recognized the winners within the Open Level Color Guard event. The top five finishers in this event were:
1st-**Lancaster HS**-Lancaster, TX
2nd-**McDonough HS**-Pomfret, MD
3rd-**MacArthur HS**-Irving, TX
4th-**White Mountains HS**-Whitefield, NH
5th-**Mulberry HS**-Mulberry, FL

We at Sports Network salute the Challenge level attendees at the Nationals. We were honored by the strong efforts put forth by every team.

National High School Drill Team Championships

Masters Level Event Standings

All totals are based on a maximum 1200 points per event

Demilitarized Arms

Inspection

Winston Churchill HS-Black Watch	1106
Douglas MacArthur HS-Blue Guard	1041
Enterprise HS-Blue Knights	1021
Flour Bluff HS-Sea Devils	1003
Kamehameha HS-Warriors	1001

Regulation

Douglas MacArthur HS-Blue Guard	998
Flour Bluff HS-Sea Devils	974
Theodore Roosevelt HS-San Juan Guard	960
Coventry HS-Red Falcons	949
Palm Bay HS-Pirates	945

Color Guard

Winston Churchill HS-Black Watch	1080
Theodore Roosevelt HS-San Juan Guard	1078
Flour Bluff HS-Sea Devils	1062
T.C. Williams HS-Armageddon Blue	1060
Mattoon HS - Gladiators	1054

Squad Exhibition

Winston Churchill HS-Black Watch	1170
Theodore Roosevelt HS-San Juan Guard	1164
Douglas MacArthur HS-Blue Guard	1150
Springfield HS-Emerald Guard	1148
Mattoon HS-Gladiators	1139

Platoon Exhibition

Enterprise HS-Blue Knights	1137
Kamehameha HS-Warriors	1115
Winston Churchill HS-Black Watch	1112
Douglas MacArthur HS-Blue Guard	1099
Flour Bluff HS-Sea Devils	1098

Unarmed

Inspection

Theodore Roosevelt HS-Riderettes	1123
Flour Bluff HS-Sea Hawks	1084
Walla Walla HS-Sponsors	1055
T.C. Williams HS-Armageddon Red	1032
Hialeah HS-Golden Raiders	973

Regulation

Walla Walla HS-Sponsors	961
Douglas MacArthur HS-Blue Angels	946
Winston Churchill HS-Queen's Guard	940
Flour Bluff HS-Sea Hawks	939
T.C. Williams HS-Armageddon Red	918

Color Guard

Theodore Roosevelt HS-Riderettes	1074
Winston Churchill HS-Queen's Guard	1054
Flour Bluff HS-Sea Hawks	1052
T.C. Williams HS-Armageddon Red	1033
Hialeah HS-Sinisters	1028

Element Exhibition

Theodore Roosevelt HS-Riderettes	1171
N.B. Forrest HS-White Lightning	1163
Oxon Hill HS-Blue Guard	1162
Flour Bluff HS-Sea Hawks	1161
Oxon Hill HS-Devastation	1150

Flight Exhibition

Theodore Roosevelt HS-Riderettes	1165
Boca Raton HS-Bobcat Battalion	1137
Walla Walla HS-Sponsors	1132
N.B. Forrest HS-Blue Thunder	1111
Flour Bluff HS-Sea Hawks	1082

Alternative Arms

Inspection

Springfield HS-Grenadiers	1067
Enterprise HS-Belles of the Blue Knights	1031
Miami Coral Park HS-Hurricanes	997
Oak Ridge MA-Lady Cadets	978
Lyman HS-Lady Greys	968

Regulation

Lyman HS-Lady Greys	948
Springfield HS-Grenadiers	923
Jeffersontown HS-Leatherettes	880
Oak Ridge MA-Lady Cadets	876
Enterprise HS-Belles of the Blue Knights	874

Color Guard

Miami Coral Park HS-Hurricanes	1041
Enterprise HS-Belles of the Blue Knights	976
Lyman HS-Lady Greys	968
Seneca HS-Devil Dogs	937
Springfield HS-Grenadiers	936

Squad Exhibition

Springfield HS-Grenadiers	1151
Enterprise HS-Belles of the Blue Knights	1131
Miami Sunset HS-Golden Knights	1124
Oxon Hill HS-Ladies of Vengeance	1118
Palm Bay HS-Lady Pirates	1091

Platoon Exhibition

Springfield HS-Grenadiers	1097
Jeffersontown HS-Leatherettes	1002
Enterprise HS-Belles of the Blue Knights	977
Miami Sunset HS-Golden Knights	958
Oak Ridge MA-Lady Cadets	958

Overall Champion Totals

Demilitarized Arms

Winston Churchill HS - Black Watch	5337
Theodore Roosevelt HS-San Juan Guard	5229

Solo Exhibition

- 1st Place: Cadet Purdy - Mattoon HS
2nd Place: Cadet Addison - Colonel White HS
3rd Place: Cadet Reed - Mattoon HS

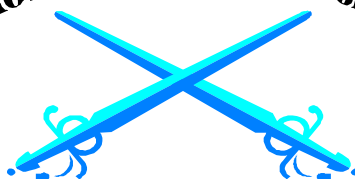
Dual Exhibition

- 1st: Cadets Secrest & Purdy - Mattoon HS
2nd: Cadets Moses & Akeroyd-Winston Churchill HS
3rd: Cadets Reyes & Polanco - Lincoln HS

Unarmed

Theodore Roosevelt HS - Riderettes	5445
Flour Bluff HS - Sea Hawks	5318

*Congratulations to the Finest
JROTC Programs in the World*



Alternative Arms

Springfield HS-Grenadiers	5174
Enterprise HS-Belles of the Blue Knights	4989

Solo Exhibition

- 1st Place: Cadet Embry - Oak Ridge MA
2nd Place: Cadet Rickling - Miami Sunset HS
3rd Place: Cadet Ice - Jeffersontown HS

Dual Exhibition

- 1st: Cadets Ziegler & Douglas - Springfield HS
2nd: Cadets Rickling & Briceno - Miami Sunset HS
3rd: Cadets Burner & Farris - Enterprise HS