

MMA Leader

Current information for our Special Friends. Dedicated to our Cadets—Leaders of tomorrow.



CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE

12 Pages

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MMA Springs Into Full Throttle With Returning Cadets and Promising Mid-Term Enrollees

Take a fine young man with prior acceptable academic history, a solid health history and potential to adapt to MMA's challenging academic setting, commendable morals and parents and/or guardians that embrace the value of a leading-edge college preparatory program--sift all factors together, examine thoroughly and what do you get? On Saturday, 7 January 2006, MMA's Admissions Department brought over sixty new cadets, their parents/guardians, brothers, sisters, aunts, uncles and grandparents to Marine Military Academy's Peacher Hall to register for the second semester of MMA's Academic Year 2005-2006. As families and sons said "so long" to one another, 'plebe handlers' moved the new students through the various departments securing information, uniforms, boots, athletic shoes, jackets, towels, and what every young man anticipates--the traditional USMC haircut! Following graduation from Plebe training on Saturday, 4 February 2006, these young men will join the ranks of returning Corps of Cadets--comprising a student body hailing from thirty states and four foreign countries.



MMA Acting President Col R.G. Hill, USMC (Ret) greets incoming cadets and their parents during Mid-Term Registration. In the background, Admissions Director LtCol Robert Grider, USMC (Ret) searches for an incoming plebe's nametag to jump-start the registration process. See more pictures on page 6 and on web site: <http://www.mma-tx.org/images/whatsnew/springreg2006>.

MMA's Corps of Cadets Earn Top Ranking in 8th District Marine Corps MCJROTC Inspection

Following a 7 a.m. briefing and 'welcome aboard' by MMA's Commandant SgtMaj Kinsley and initial inspection of Battalion Officers, Marine Military Academy's Corps of Cadets stood at attention, shined shoes or boots and crisply-starched uniforms in perfect array as Captain Robert P. St. Croix, USMC, moved from company to company, during Thursday's (December 7th) 8th District MCJROTC Inspection. Moving the uniform inspection inside the barracks due to the

inclement weather did not deter MMA's cadets from making an extremely fine presentation.

"Take off your cover and hand it to me," commanded Captain St. Croix as he scrutinized a cadet's uniform. As he reached to take the cover from the poker-faced cadet, the Captain's gaze rested upon the cadet's crisply ironed shirt. With his fingertips, he removed an item of microscopic proportions. Placing it gingerly on the tip of his index finger, he exhibited his find to

the cadet and announced, "An eyelash." Cadet Commandant David Miller raised a quizzical eyebrow, pen poised above his clipboard. "No, we won't need to make a notation," responded Captain St. Croix.

Despite freezing temperatures and blustery winds, MMA's Corps of Cadets marched in unison and with precision throughout the Drill Inspection, earning the final nod of approval from Captain St. Croix, USMC. Separated by a single earned point Charlie, Fox and Golf

Continued on page 2

Continued from page 1

presented stellar drill performances.

Following the Inspection and Platoon Drill Evaluation, cadets gathered in Yeckel Auditorium for debriefing by Academy President Col R.G Hill, USMC (Ret). Charlie Company took top honors in Uniform Inspection. Alpha and Golf Company placed a close second. An adamant "OOH RAH!" rang out as Col Hill announced, "Taking first place honors in the Platoon Drill Evaluation is SgtMaj Albert Wilson's GOLF Company."

CONGRATULATIONS and 'OOH RAH!' to all MMA Cadets on an Inspection and Drill Evaluation WELL DONE!!!



A MATTER OF HONOR, COURAGE AND COMMITMENT. (L-R) Cadet Battalion Commander Col David Miller; Captain Robert P. St. Croix, USMC; Golf Co. Commander Geoffrey Howard; Charlie Co. Commander Robert Long.



USMC CAPT ST. CROIX scrutinizes Cadet 1st Lt Erik Westman's uniform and USMC knowledge before proceeding to MMA Corps of Cadets.



AMIDST FREEZING TEMPS AND BLUSTERY WINDS, MMA's Fox Company prepares for Drill Evaluation under the watchful eye of USMC Capt St. Croix.

Q. What does participation in the Marine Corps Junior Reserve Officer's Training Corps - MCJROTC mean to Cadets at MMA?

A. In 1963, MMA established one of the very first Marine Corps Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (MCJROTC) in the United States. All MMA Cadets are members of the MCJROTC unit. Those who do not qualify for full membership because of age or citizenship receive the training as associate members.

The instilled discipline, goal orientation, and initiative of military leadership training are directed toward scholastic achievement. The program promotes the same strong core values that the United States Marine Corps teaches to Marines from recruit training to completion of service.

The MCJROTC program is one of the Marine Corps's contributions to assisting America's youth to become better citizens. The program produces successful students and productive adults, while fostering a more constructive and disciplined learning environment.

As a MCJROTC Cadet, MMA cadets are challenged daily to develop the traits of a leader. Cadets are exposed to a standard curriculum which addresses the importance of neatness, responsibility, persistence, discipline, shame, brotherhood, courage, achievement, punctuality, respect, pride, and loyalty.

The MCJROTC has a standard curriculum which includes a variety of academic subjects in the following areas: Leadership, Citizenship, Personal Growth and Responsibility, Public Service and Career Exploration, and General Military Subjects focussed upon development of individual confidence, promoting physical endurance and mental sharpness, providing intense, hands-on leadership learning experiences that emphasize fast decision-making, enhancing team-based problem solving capabilities, and strengthening fast and focused leadership techniques.

Physical fitness trials round out the MCJROTC experience through honing skills learned by navigating through the Leadership Complex. The Complex includes a rappelling and climbing tower, a high-ropes challenge course, a full-sized Marine Corps obstacle course, and a Leadership Reaction Course. MMA also maintains a Paint Ball course, confidence course, a mud infiltration course, a boxing/judo gym, and fitness facilities.

The Military Department, in conjunction with the College Placement Office, affords every Cadet the ability to establish his college resume with quality of citizenship by encouraging Cadets to participate in community service activities such as HOSTS (Help One Student To Succeed), Rotary, Interact, National Honor Society, Key Club, and Boy Scouts.

MMA's JROTC program helps to guide many young leaders into the Military Service Academies as well as numerous colleges throughout the county. College ROTC program scholarships are also encouraged. Those applications are made through the Marine Corps Senior Military Instructor to the Director of Admission at the Service Academy where nomination is sought. Prime examples of this are Cadet Battalion Commander Colonel David Allen (Trae) Miller earning an appointment to the United States Naval Academy and Cadet Lieutenant Colonel Stephen Chase Cooper who recently earned an appointment to the United States Air Force Academy.

(See page 3 for full coverage of recent service academy appointments.)

MMA LEADER

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Cadets of the Month for November

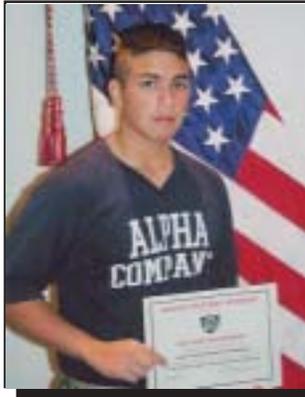
Each month a cadet is selected from each company, from the band and from the drill team, to be recognized for their outstanding attitude, conduct and performance. Below are the selections for November with a comment from their Drill Instructor or activity coordinator.

“Those selected are to be commended for their outstanding performance.” - SgtMaj Ford Kinsley, USMC (Ret) Commandant

ALPHA COMPANY PHILLIP B. MENDOZA

Junior - Springfield, VA

“Cadet Mendoza has done a superb job both academically and militarily this year. His performance is steady and he has proven to be very reliable, trustworthy and diligent. Because of this, he earned promotion to Corporal and assigned Squad Leader for 2nd Platoon. I look for great things from this OUTSTANDING CADET!” - CWO3 Ed Harris, USMC (Ret)

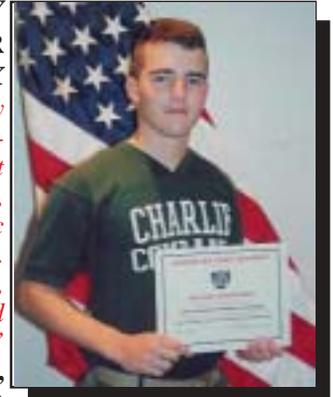


CHARLIE COMPANY ANDREW E. ALEXANDER

Sophomore - Houston, TX

“Cadet Alexander consistently performs his duties in an exemplary and highly proficient manner. He’s responsible, dependable, and very enthusiastic in all he sets out to accomplish. His exemplary performance, devotion to academics, and leadership is commendable.”

- CWO Jesus Hernandez, USMC (Ret)



DELTA COMPANY

ANDREW THOMAS

Junior - Jacksonville, N.C.

“Cadet Thomas has demonstrated outstanding potential and has performed his duties in an excellent manner. As a result of his performance, can-do attitude and unselfish work ethic he has earned this nomination.”

- SgtMaj Larry Carson, USMC (Ret)



ECHO COMPANY

DONG KWON SHIN

Junior- Gyeonggi, South Korea

“Cadet Shin is a first year cadet who has demonstrated and displayed an excellent attitude. He works well with the other cadets, maintains outstanding military appearance, is a straight “A” student, and I enjoy having him in my company. A bright young man who will do very well in college.” - GySgt Frank Martinez, USMC (Ret)



FOX COMPANY

ZIJIAN YANG

Junior - Spring, TX

“Cadet Zijian is a first year cadet who has demonstrated and displayed an excellent attitude.

Because of his can-do attitude and initiative he has earned the respect of his peers. With additional time and experience this young man will prove an asset to the Academy.”

- GySgt Ernesto Montemayor, USMC (Ret)



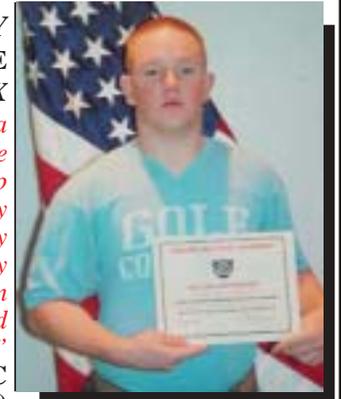
GOLF COMPANY

WILLIAM HARDEE

Junior- Sugarland, TX

“Cadet Hardee currently holds a Platoon Commander billet. He demonstrates outstanding leadership skills, always shows accountability when responsibility is needed, leads by example, maintains good military bearing at all times, assists others in academics and military subjects and military leadership skills.”

- SgtMaj Albert Wilson, USMC (Ret)



BANDSMAN

TRAVIS DUNCAN

Sophomore - Houston, TX

“Cadet Duncan has stepped into this demanding position with an uncommon brilliance and dedication, performing duties during Parent’s Weekend with astounding attention to detail and a degree of competence that has not been seen for many years. He’s set a new standard of excellence that will be the benchmark for many years to come.” - CWO3 Ed Harris, USMC (Ret)



DRILL TEAM/COLOR GUARD

JOHN ALLEN CLANTON

Freshman - Lake Oswego, OR

“Cadet Clanton is a first year cadet who has demonstrated and displayed an excellent attitude. He has gained the respect of his peers because of his demonstrated can-do attitude and ability to step up and take initiative.”

- GySgt Ernesto Montemayor, USMC (Ret)



Cadets of the Month for December

Each month a cadet is selected from each company, from the band and from the drill team, to be recognized for their outstanding attitude, conduct and performance. Below are the selections for December with a comment from their Drill Instructor or activity coordinator.

"Those selected are to be commended for their outstanding performance." - SgtMaj Ford Kinsley, USMC (Ret) Commandant

ALPHA COMPANY
VINCENT R. CERVASSI
Junior - Beaumont, TX

"Cadet 1st Sgt Cervassi truly is an immeasurable asset. He has an incredible sense of teamwork and ownership in his company, is extremely reliable and equally trustworthy--the effort he personally put into his company's level of readiness for District Inspection is noteworthy. He's a true leader who genuinely cares."

- CWO3 Ed Harris, USMC (Ret)



CHARLIE COMPANY
COLT T. MARCYAN
Sophomore - Chicago, IL

"Cadet Sgt Marcyan consistently performs his duties in an exemplary and highly proficient manner. He is responsible, dependable and enthusiastic about everything he sets out to accomplish. His exemplary performance and devotion to academics exceeded all others in December--nothing less than superb!"

- CWO Jesus Hernandez, USMC (Ret)



DELTA COMPANY
QUINN D. GORDON
Sophomore - Aurora, CO

"Since Cadet Gordon's arrival he has done an outstanding job. His performance as a squad leader in his platoon has been excellent. Because of the consistent motivation he provides to his squad members and platoon, he is without question an exceptional leader."

- SgtMaj Larry Carson, USMC (Ret)



ECHO COMPANY
TYLER SECREST

Junior - Fort Wayne, IN

"Cadet CPL Secrest is an excellent 1st year cadet...great to have in Echo. His performance as squad leader and platoon guide has been exceptional. He sets a great example for younger cadets in Echo, works hard for the company and all company cadets."

- GySgt Frank Martinez, USMC (Ret)



FOX COMPANY
ASHWICK LI

Sophomore -Tai Po Kau, Hong Kong

"Cadet PFC Li is a 1st year cadet who has demonstrated and displayed an excellent attitude. With more time and experience here at MMA, he will be an exceptional asset to both the company and the Academy."

- GySgt Ernesto Montemayor, USMC (Ret)



GOLF COMPANY
GEOFFREY HOWARD
Senior - San Antonio, TX

"Cadet Howard is a company commander and a fine example for all to follow. He is applying for the Air Force Academy and hopes to secure a career in the military--one that involves flying. He's already been accepted to TX Tech. This young man has a bright future ahead of him."

- SgtMaj Albert Wilson, USMC (Ret)



BANDSMAN
BENJAMIN SCHWARTZ
Junior - Plano, TX

"Cadet SGT Schwartz has been a very positive, influential leader in MMA Band this year--we would not be where we are today without his contributions. He's personally taken to effecting the musical growth and development of cadets in his section, is always punctual and prepared, well thought of and equally well spoken earning him the respect of all members of the Band."

- CWO3 Ed Harris, USMC (Ret)



DRILL TEAM/COLOR GUARD

LIONEL RODRIGUEZ
Freshman - Slymur, CA

"Cadet PVT Rodriguez is a 1st year cadet who demonstrates and displays an excellent attitude. His can-do attitude and initiative has earned him the respect of his peers. He performs in both the Color Guard and Drill Team--with additional time and experience, he'll be an asset to all."

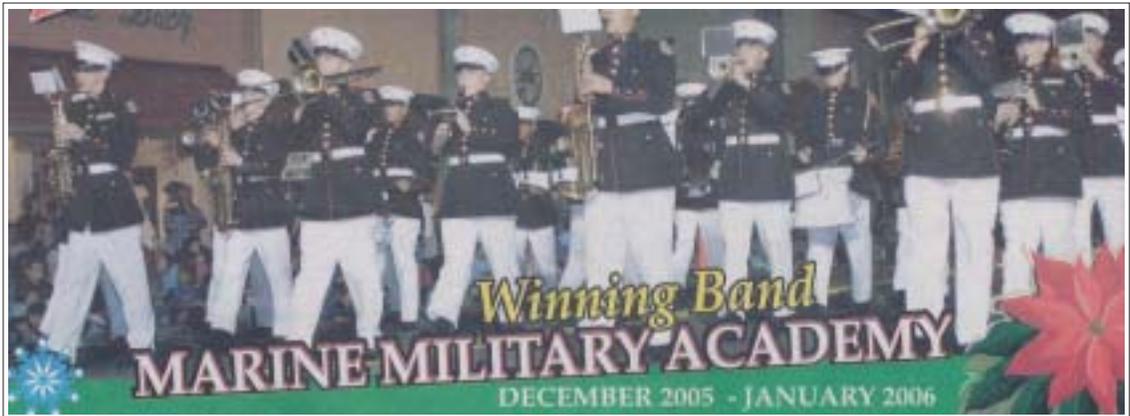
- GySgt Ernesto Montemayor, USMC (Ret)



MMA On The Move

MMA BAND TAKES TOP HONORS IN WESLACO'S 11TH ANNUAL MID-VALLEY LIGHTED CHRISTMAS PARADE COMPETITION.

“Well, once again, for the third year in a row, MMA has beat out Weslaco High, Weslaco East High, and two other High School Bands



Photograph courtesy of WESLACO-SLICE OF THE GOOD LIFE - MID-VALLEY TOWN CRIER

for First Place and a healthy award of \$700 in prize money. MMA Band--we may be small, but we are MIGHTY. Mighty good that is! The Band did really well, and I'm very proud of them.”--MMA Band Director CWO-3 Ed Harris, USMC (Ret).

IWO JIMA MONUMENT GETS A 'FACE LIFT' OVER HOLIDAY BREAK.

Contracted local company *Godwin & Sons* primed, then applied new layer of paint to the original plaster model, routinely done every 4-5 years to keep it in MMA-styled “mint” condition!



“Let’s see--pinky out, napkin on lap, two forks on the table--hmmm, work from the outside in!” MMA Color Guard had ample opportunity to practice perfect table manners while dining at UT PanAm’s December 10th ‘Texas State Guard Meals For Veterans’. Cadets were treated to dinner following presentation of Colors.



“FOR ME? I NEVER WIN ANYTHING!” MMA Cadet Zachary Bowen feigns disbelief as his name is called as door-prize winner during the December 2nd H.O.S.T.S. (Help One Student To Succeed) Holiday Reception held at Harlingen’s Casa del Sol. H.O.S.T.S. participation is sponsored through MMA’s National Honor Society under the direction of

6 Faculty Member Diolanda Dye.

A BIG HAIRY DEAL. Mid-Term Returnee Cadet Jason Tannowitz gets treated to Barber Jose Handy’s finest.



’Twas a night of merriment for all Friday, December 9th, as two area orphanages and children of MMA employees enjoyed Christmas Burgers, goodie packs, presents—even a Holiday movie—compliments of MMA’s Chaplain Elliott, Social Directress Monica Bates, and 75 cadet “elves”. There were smiles all around as the Christmas spirit filled the hearts of all, from the youngest to the most-seasoned holiday reveler. Cadets pictured L-R are: Cadet Thomas Gallardo and Cadet Brian Stillion, Charlie Co.; Cadet Ashton Walzer and Cadet Rafael Lewis-Gonzalez of Golf. Co; and Cadet John Haren of Charlie Co. as Santa Claus.

Photograph courtesy of Gary Howard’s Photography class.

**JSA MEMBERS
MINGLE AND
SOCIALIZE DURING
POLITICAL DINNER
HELD 1 DECEMBER
AT RANCHO VIEJO'S
CASA GRANDE
SUPPER CLUB.**

*Pictured L-R: Cadets
Davis Brown; Zachary
Bowen; Patrick Graves;
Andrew Davis; Aadil
Alidina; Steven Wittekiend;
Captain Scott O'Grady,
USAF (Ret); Cadets
Spencer Logan; Charles
Gurney; and James Fuqua.*



The **Junior State of America (JSA)** is a nonpartisan organization whose purpose is to educate American youth as voters, statesmen, and loyal citizens of the United States of America, and to raise their moral standards in order to preserve, perpetuate, and develop American democracy. The MMA Chapter of JSA was founded in Spring 2004 by Cadet Winston Elliott. The meetings are held to discuss current political issues, have debates on political issues, or to have speakers on political issues. This year's JSA officers are: President, Jason Hiller; Vice President, Stephen Cooper; Secretary, Andrew Davis; and Treasurer, Steven Wittekiend. JSA currently has 21 members on board.



MMA'S NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY and KEY CLUB REP DAVID MILLER PRESENTS U.S. MARINE CORPS RESERVE TOYS FOR TOTS PROGRAM A HEFTY CHECK...and a box packed full of joy! Each year, MMA's NHS and Key Club hosts the Rio Grande Valley (RGV) U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program. NHS collects donations in the form of money or new, unwrapped toys throughout October, November and December, then turns the 'fruits of their labors' over to local Reserve Marines who distribute those toys as Christmas gifts to needy children within the RGV, spreading a message of hope to needy youngsters that will hopefully motivate them to grow into responsible, productive, patriotic citizens and community leaders.

PIZZA O'PLENTY!
MMA's Fox Company enjoyed a "boatload" of pizza, salad, desserts, sodas, and plenty of fun on Friday, Dec. 9th. These Cadets voluntarily donated their pay call to United Way Fund Drive—to the tune of \$1500.00! Fox D.I. Montemayor briefed Fox Co. Cadets about



Hurricane Katrina and United Way's relief efforts, pointing out that if they felt so moved they could contribute—perhaps \$1 each was suggested. To the D.I.'s surprise, when pay call came around, the first Cadet entered the room and said, "Just put my pay call in the pot to help out U-Way and those folks." Then another, and another ... much to D.I. Montemayor's amazement the entire company threw in their pay call! These fine young men are a true testimonial to the exceptionally fine character our Marine Military Academy Cadets exemplify.

PARENTS: TAKE NOTE!
**Scholarship Assistance
For
Academic Year 2006-7**

The Marine Military Academy awards financial assistance to returning cadets on an annual basis. The number of applications and amount of financial assistance requested each year is far greater than the scholarship fund. Thus, the cadet must compete for scholarships based on his performance and the family's financial needs.

The largest single factor considered in the cadet's performance is his GPA, which must be at least 2.5 for the spring semester and at least a 3.0 cumulative MMA GPA. Other factors such as conduct, military leadership and participation in extracurricular activities are also considered.

To request an application contact:

**Institutional Advancement
Department (Attention Scholarship
Committee)
Marine Military Academy
320 Iwo Jima Blvd.
Harlingen, TX 78550**

If you have any questions, you may call Ester B. Reyes at (956) 423-6006 ext. 231 or e-mail at reyes@mma-tx.org. An application will be forwarded immediately and must be completed/returned no later than **12 May 2006**. Recipients of financial assistance will be notified by **30 June 2006**.

As part of the application process **you must provide a copy of your 2005 federal income tax return (including copies of W-2 forms) or your application will not be considered.** Your cadet must be reenrolled for the Academic Year 2006-2007 before the Scholarship Committee meets in May 2006.

Applications received after 12 May 2006 will not be considered.



LEATHERNECK SPORTS



TOM MORTON
ATHLETIC DIRECTOR
HEAD FOOTBALL COACH

"Taking Care Of Business"

Baseball•Basketball•Boxing•Cross Country•Football•Golf•Judo•Physical Fitness Training•Soccer•Swimming•Tennis•Track & Field•Volleyball•Wrestling



Baseball • Basketball • Boxing • Cross Country • Football • Golf • Judo • PFT

Soccer • Swimming • Tennis • Track and Field • Volleyball • Wrestling • PFT

Baseball•Basketball•Boxing•Cross Country•Football•Golf•Judo•Physical Fitness Training•Soccer•Swimming•Tennis•Track & Field•Volleyball•Wrestling

LEATHERNECK SOCCER

The **MMA Leatherneck Soccer Team** travelled to San Antonio on 11 November to face Antonian College Prep in doubleheader action on 12 November. The team played sluggishly throughout the first game and seemed to have trouble getting coordinated attacks going--but managed to stay close throughout the game. Giving up a late score the team lost by a score of 1-2.

In the second game the Leathernecks came out strong and grabbed an early 1-0 lead which held until late in the second period, and the Warriors tied the game. Both teams battled hard in the final minutes trying to secure a victory, but the game ended in a 1-1 tie.

Although the team was disappointed in the overall outcome of the weekend games, last season they lost both games to Antonian so this was decidedly an improvement over last year. --**Major Harold Compton, USMC (Ret) Head Coach - SOCCER**

SOCCER SCHEDULE

JANUARY

- 10 Central Catholic @ MMA-4 p.m.
- 21 At St. Michaels - 10 a.m.
- 27 At Holy Cross - 4:30 p.m.
- 28 At Holy Cross - 10 a.m.

FEBRUARY

- 4 Bi-District Playoffs - TBD
- 11 Regional Playoffs - TBD
- 17-18 At Waco - State Tournament

LEATHERNECK "RED TIDE" SWIM TEAM

The **Swim Team** kept waters churning in Leatherneck fashion throughout November. Best times recorded: **200 Freestyle-Cadet Wagener:** 2.42.57; **Cadet Hill:** 2.23.42. *Hill was able to trim off 6 seconds from his previous 200 free time and is a great asset to the Team in both Swimming and Diving. Wagener is steadily improving on his strokes and should be a good breast stroke swimmer soon.* **50 Freestyle-Cadet Keegan:** 35.32; **Cadet Mitchell:** 31.05; **Cadet Beardon:** 30.71; **Cadet Meyer:** 29.41; **Cadet Genoff:** 23.92. *All boys entered in the event are still trying to improve other strokes. The 50 Free is an easy event and good confidence builder for those new to Swimming. Genoff placed first again despite a slow start which affected his time and is unbeaten in the Valley so far this year in this event.* **100 Butterfly-Cadet Russell:** 1.26.03. *Russell did well in the Fly and has dropped another second from his previous swim. He does very well in the pool and is above average for his age.* **100 Freestyle-Cadet Bearden:** 1.08.50; **Cadet Mitchell:** 1.13.94; **Cadet Steeg:** 1.06.18; **Cadet Genoff:** 52.11. *Again, most of these swimmers are just starting out. The key is to try and get them to swim the 100 in under one minute. Genoff placed second in this event against a swimmer from Porter who swims a 100 in 50 seconds. We are working on neg split 100 to remedy that problem!* **200 Free Relay-1.54.10. 100 Backstroke-Cadet Keegan:** 1.49.28; **Cadet Russell:** 1.18.32. *Russell dropped a lot of time in this event--AGAIN!* **100 Breast Stroke - Cadet Wagener:** 1.28.93; **Cadet Steeg:** 1.27.85. *These two breast strokers did well. Wagener is new to this event but is learning quickly.* **400 Free Relay:** 4.44.74. **1 Meter Diving-9th Placewinner: Cadet Niki Hill.** **10th Placewinner: Cadet Meyer.** *The Dive Team has been together for six short weeks now and they are doing wonderful accomplishing quickly what other divers take a much longer time to do. Coach Gander has done a great job assisting with the diving portion of the Swim Team. Cadets Bearden and Mitchell continue to work on being able to complete 11 dives in the manner outlined by UIL.*

With most of the older members of the Swim Team out taking the SAT, the MMA Swim Team made a small showing during December Swim Meet competition. Those that were able to compete brought in the following slate: **200 Medley Relay-Cadets Mitchell, Wagener, Russell, Hill:** 2.25.09. **100 Freestyle-Cadet Mitchell:** 2.45.32; **Cadet Hill:** 2.45.24. **50 Freestyle-Cadet Keegan:** 34.16; **Cadet Wagener:** 30.55; **Cadet Mitchell:** 31.84; **Cadet Boyd:** 33.87; **Cadet Hill:** 28.77. **100 Butterfly-Cadet Russell:** 1.19.45. **100 Freestyle-Cadet Keegan:** 1.17.04; **Cadet Boyd - 1.12.98;** **8 Cadet Wagener:** 1.08.12; **Cadet Russell:** 1.06.22. --**Staff Sergeant Caleb Hood, USMC (Ret), Head Coach - SWIMMING**



LEATHERNECK WRESTLING

The **MMA Wrestling Leathernecks** continued to dominate the mats in true Leatherneck fashion, finishing 3-0 as a team at the San Benito Tourney. The first of the three was a forfeit from Rio Hondo who left the tournament before MMA could wrestle them. That stacked us up against San Benito in our first action match of the day (and first of the season!). We had to forfeit five weight classes but managed to pull out the victory 47-35. The next and final match of the day was against PSJA. We again forfeited five of the weight classes, but this time the bite didn't hurt as much as PSJA was missing three--two of them being the same as two of ours. We beat PSJA 46-18. Individual wrestlers having great matches included Cadets **Taylor Fabian, Kyle Trout, Chris Latos and Ryan Law** who each walked through competition with two pins in their two matches. A pin earns six points (the maximum) towards the team score. Cadet **David Nekuyi** was undefeated with one pin and one forfeit victory. Cadet **Carlos Torres** was also 2-0 on the day with two forfeits (each forfeit counts six points for the team score). Cadets **Amauri Latham** and **Mason Carpenter** each had one win coming by way of pins, and one loss. Cadets **Zach Bowen** and **Joe Martinez** each had HUGE wins by way of PINS in the Heavyweight Division, making each wrestler 1-0 for the day. When we get Cadet **Spencer Logan** back I'll be able to work more with Cadets **Zach Bowen** and **James Martinez**. Once that happens, we should have a really strong team this year. There's always a lot of action when the Leathernecks take to the mats--come on out and see for yourself! --**Ron Lang, Head Coach - WRESTLING**

WRESTLING SCHEDULE

JANUARY

- 19 Dual at Nikki Rowe - 7:30 p.m.
- 26 Dual at San Benito - 7 p.m.

FEBRUARY

- 11 TAPPS State Tourney - TBA
- 17 Prep State Tourney - TBA

LEATHERNECK JUDO TAKES FOUR AND BRINGS HOME FOUR FIRST PLACES IN CHAMPION GULF COAST TOURNEY ACTION

Four members of MMA's **Judo Team** entered the Champion Gulf Coast Tournament held 10 December in Houston, Texas. Entering the Tournament were Cadets **David Martens** (Team Captain); **Jason Franks**; **William McLaird**; and **Karl Rohloff**. These four competitors racked up 4-First Places; 2-Third Places; took home honors as First Place Team and the Most Excellent Contestant. Martens won 2-First Places by entering two divisions--both Junior and Senior.

Cadet **David Martens** of Echo Company won with strong left side techniques (Waza), as well as strong Katame Waza (a grappling technique). These victories count as IPPON (one point). His first win was a strong and sure left side Kesagatame (scarf hold); next victory was a left side Taiotoshi (body drop); and the third victory--a beautiful combination--first, he feigned a left side Taiotoshi. In the blink of an eye, his next move came from the left side--an Osotogari (major outer reaping). A most outstanding combination! *Coach's note: This was Cadet Martens' FIRST meet.*

Cadet **Jason Franks** of Alpha Company won a First and a Third in his two division wins using Shimie Waza (strangling techniques). The first two wins were with an application of Kataha Jime (one-wing strangle), an Gyaku Juji Shime (reverse cross strangle). Another win was by way of Kesagatame (scarf holding). *Coach's note: This was Cadet Franks' SECOND meet.*

Cadet **William McLaird** of Delta Company won a First, a Third, and was awarded "The Most Excellent Contestant". All of his wins were by way of strangling techniques. McLaird made use of Hadaka Jime (bar strangle), Gyakujuji Shime (reverse cross strangle), and Okuri Eri Jime (assist lapel strangle). He was also voted The Most Excellent Contestant by the Officials' Office.

Cadet **Karl Rohloff** of Echo Company had two of the best bouts in the Tournament. Rohloff fought the entire time allowed, then some in overtime. **Head Coach Charles Robertson** ranked these the best scuffles of the entire tournament.

A HEARTY ROUND OF APPLAUSE GOES TO THE MMA JUDO TEAM ON A TOURNAMENT EXTREMELY WELL EXECUTED. WAY TO REPRESENT!!!

Katasuzuma



**Hidazi
Osotosazi**



L-R: Cadet Martens, Cadet McLaird, JUDO Head Coach Charles Robertson, Cadet Franks, Cadet Rohloff. Photo courtesy of SENSEI Sandra Martinez.



**Yokoshi-
kosatame**

**Koshisuzuma
Kaeshi**



Alumni News



**MMA Alumni Reunion
7-9 April 2006**

in conjunction with

**3rd Annual Alumni Scholarship Bike Ride
4-6 April 2006**

Proceeds benefiting MMA Cadets through

Gunny Ski Memorial Scholarship and MMA General Scholarship Fund

Kick Off Dinner: 3 April in Austin, TX • Ride Begins at 0600 4 April in Austin, TX
and wraps up 6 April at MMA Campus in Harlingen, TX

MAKE PLANS TODAY TO PARTICIPATE: Ride and/or SPONSOR!

Catch all the details in next issue of MMA Leader

Ride and/or Sponsor Info: [Craig Matteson: craig@matteson.cc](mailto:Craig.Matteson@matteson.cc)
[Jim Mischel: jim@mischel.com](mailto:Jim.Mischel@mischel.com)



LOOK WHO TIED THE KNOT over the holidays. Left to Right: Debra and Jim (MMA Alum '80) Mischel; Newlyweds Sweetie Pie and Kuni (MMA Alum '72) Beasley; Bill (MMA Alum '79) and Tish Fanning; Chris Crum, MMA Alum '82). Congratulations and Best Wishes to the newlyweds!

Those were the days...

MMA Silent Drill Team - 1971.

Photo courtesy of MMA Pass In Review '71 with the caption, "The MMA Precision Drill Team is an elite unit of the Corps of Cadets. It is composed of 16 cadets who have been selected by the team coach, 1st SGT Robert E. Lacourse, USMC (Ret) for their outstanding personal appearance and ability to execute difficult silent drill routines."



MMA Drill Team - 1982. Photo courtesy of MMA Alum George B. Murray, Class of '83 - BRAVO Company: "Keep on keeping on." (Recognize the line of palm trees in the far background?)



ALUMNI: Be sure to E-Mail your updates to pickens@mma-tx.org for inclusion in the Leader!

Need to find out what's going on with a fellow alum? Get on board MMA's on-line "Alumni Bulletin Board". Fill out the Alumni Information Request form located on-line: <http://www.mma-tx.org/alumni.htm> or call Connie Flores at (956) 423-6006 Ext. 232. **Get on Board: ALL ALUMNI, ALL THE TIME!**

Where are they now?

*****HOT OFF THE PRESS*****

MMA Alum Pat Redmon ('81), Giles Keyser (PG '81) and Tim Herndon ('79) have earned selection as full COLONELS in the United States Marine Corps.

MMA Alum LtCol Mike Forrester, USMC, is safely back from Iraq.

OOH-RAH!

'80

Bernardo "BT" Lawrence - bt.Lawrence@weyerhaeuser.com - General Manager of Weyerhaeuser Corrigated in Sanger, CA, married, two children, "I owe most of my success to MMA's formation in leadership, discipline, honor, and team spirit."

'90

Andrew Martinez - via Classmates.com - Owns several businesses in Las Vegas; Married nine years and has three boys; Has brother in ninth grade at MMA - Cadet Nathaniel Keegan, Golf Co. (correction from Oct./Nov. 2005 issue)

'91

Chris Greenwood - cg@demented.com - Been living in England the past two years as VP of Online Development for a company based in Dublin, Ireland whose primary product is an artificial intelligence back end for search engine technology.

'95

Rusty Rahe - rahe@davidsonsinc.com - New e-address.

'05

Arturo Brana - art_brana@hotmail.com - Studying technologic and electronic engineering in Monterrey, Mexico.

PFC Linwood Cook - According to Stephen Kang, he is in the army at Fort Benning, GA, earning his jump wings, and will be attending a prep course for the Green Berets prior to going to Special Forces Boot Camp.

MMA Parents Organization (MMAPO) AND MMA Alumni



8th Annual Leatherneck Classic ***LOCATION: HARLINGEN, TEXAS!***

7-8 April 2006



Here we are, coming 'round to Spring and the annual MMA Leatherneck Classic! The MMAPO looks forward to making this event the best ever!!! Premiering for the first time at MMA, the Leatherneck Classic and Alumni Weekend will both be held in Harlingen on the **same weekend**, providing a unique opportunity for old and new to mingle and converse about MMA.

Beginning at precisely **4 p.m. on Friday, 7 April** will be the **Alumni Parade on MMA Parade Grounds**, directly adjacent to the Iwo Jima Monument. Don't miss this opportunity to see YOUR SON march by in formation as MMA Alumni step forward to take the Pass In Review.

Friday evening offers a scrumptious dinner complete with **Silent and LIVE Auctions**, all **beginning at 7 p.m.** MMAPO has secured GREAT auction items this year, so be sure to join in! **Saturday morning** starts off with a bang--literally. Imagine what it would be like to **take aim in the Rifle Range, fly down the zip line, or 'run' the C.O.P.E. Course**. Why should your son have all the fun? Ever dreamed of doing all those challenging activities your cadet writes home about? Here's your chance! All day Saturday has been set aside for Academy Games--and that includes YOU!!!! Earn bragging rights during paint ball wars; try your luck on the obstacle course; and for lunch enjoy a delicious **barbecue cookout** on none other than MMA Battalion Street. The fun goes on ALL DAY at MMA. This will be a memorable event for all family members and non-golfers to experience MMA 'cadet-style'!

The **Leatherneck Golf Tournament** gets underway at **1:00 p.m. on Saturday** at **Treasure Hills Golf Course** located at 3009 North Augusta National Drive in Harlingen. Following the Tournament will be the 19th Hole Get Together and Awards Ceremony. Not a great golfer? No worries--purchase mulligan passes and boogie tickets to boost your score! For further information or to sign up for the Tournament, **contact LtCol Bob Grider, USMC (Ret), MMA Director of Admissions or MMAPO Rep Christy Peebles**. (contact numbers listed below). To keep you close to all the action there are a limited block of rooms secured at an **\$86 per night rate** at MMA's Partner in Education **Harlingen Courtyard Marriott** located at **1725 West Filmore Avenue - reservations by phone: (956) 412-7800** (request the MMA Alumni/Parents Weekend rate).

Don't miss out! Mark your calendar today and make plans to attend this fun-filled, action-packed weekend.

LtCol Bob Grider, USMC (Ret)
320 Iwo Jima Blvd.
Harlingen, TX 78550
(956) 423-6006 Ext. 230
grider@mma-tx.org



With all this fun planned, the MMAPO needs **your** assistance. We need volunteers! Check out the list of committees below, then contact **Christy Peebles** (contact numbers listed below) with your committee of choice.

Committee Chairman or Committee Members needed for:

- 1) Registration
- 2) Food
- 3) Publicity
- 4) Live/Silent Auction
- 5) Raffle
- 6) Academy Games



If these committees don't catch your eye, there are many other ways you can become involved:

1. Be an Event Sponsor or Solicit sponsors to underwrite the cost of one or more events. Sponsorships can be full or partial.
 - a. Academy Games-\$2,500; b. Buffet Dinner-\$6,500;
 - c. Golf Tournament-\$7,500
2. Solicit the involvement of a Celebrity golfer
3. Sponsor a hole-\$200.00 per hole
4. Register yourself and a team of golfers!
5. Donate auction items: vacation home usage, condo usage, artwork, jewelry, hunting/fishing trips, airline tickets, "Golf Package", "Ski Package", "Vegas Package", dinner/theater package, tickets to professional football/basketball game, etc.--use your imagination!
6. PURCHASE raffle tickets (\$10.00 each or 3 for \$25.00)
7. SELL raffle tickets
8. Simply make a monetary donation!

In addition to having a super weekend, this event provides a perfect opportunity for you to spend a memorable weekend with your cadet. We look forward to hearing from you whether or not you plan on participating. All registration forms can be accessed from the MMAPO website, www.mmarents.org/NavLinks/LeatherNeck_Classic.htm or on the MMA website located at: www.mma-tx.org, then click on the link to the **Parents Organization** and select **Leatherneck Classic**.

Christy Peebles
1589 Old Reunion Road
Decatur, TX 76234
(940) 210-3316 home
(817) 307-9947 cell
christy.peebles@siemens.com

Calendar of Events

February

- 3 Academic Awards Ceremony
- 4 MMA Parents Org. Meeting
Introductory Training Graduation
- 14 Marine Band - Yeckel Auditorium
- 24 H.M. Smith Foundation Dinner
- 25 Iwo Jima Parade/H.M. Smith Parade

March

- 7-10 Third Quarter Exams
- 10 Begin Spring Break
- 19 End Spring Break
- 20 Begin Fourth Quarter

**NOTE: March 10th - All Cadets
Schedule Departure after 1600.
May 20th - All Cadets Schedule
Departure after 1300.**

April

- 8 ACT
- 7-9 Parent's Organization/Alumni Wknd
- 7 Alumni Parade
- 21 Sports Banquet
- 22 Ring Ceremony and Dance

May

- 6 SAT
- 13, 15-17 Second Semester Exams
- 18 Graduation Rehearsal
- 19 Eagle Scout Ceremony
Academic Awards & 8th Grade Grad.
Senior Banquet
- 20 Graduation, Parade, Awards

Memorials

- John W. Brunner, Sr.
- Col Frank H. Butler, Jr.
- LtCol Joseph A. Carey, USAF (Ret)
 - Jan Fox
 - Jack Gross
- Adam W. Hall - MMA '98
- BGen E. Hunter Hurst
- LtCol Edward B. Lewis, USMC (Ret)
 - Phillip Roger Mains
 - Myrtle Mason
 - Rupert C. Richards
- Maj Larry Robinson, USMC,
KIA RVN 1969
 - L.P. Simmons
- LCPL Richard Warner, Fox Co
2/24, KIA: IRAQ

In Honor Of

- Jack H. Brouse, VMF 422
- Cpl Clay Coble, USMC -
Iwo Jima, Feb 1945
- C-17-1st Mar Div - Korea, 1951-1952
 - Anthony J. McIntyre,
MMA Board Chairman
 - Pfc Mike Murphy -
1st Marine Division - Active Duty in Iraq
(previously listed in error as a Memorial)
- Capt Robert J. Shirk, USMC
- Major General Ray L. Smith,
USMC (Ret)
- J. Rob Walker's Marine Service



Harlingen Border Patrol "Head of the Class" Honors



**DELTA COMPANY
WILLIAM MUSA**
Junior - East Stroudsburg, PA
Son of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Wm. Musa
*"Cadet Musa receives my highest possible
recommendation. It is truly an honor to
have the opportunity to work with a young
man of this caliber. Musa has proven
himself as an outstanding cadet. He
provides instinctive leadership and can be
relied upon to keep best interests of the
cadets close at hand."* -SgtMaj Larry
Carson, USMC (Ret)

Harlingen Border Patrol's "Head of the Class" is a community awareness program honoring local student participants who promote abstinence from using illegal drugs. Every month, students from across the Rio Grande Valley who exhibit outstanding leadership and participation in the program are selected and recognized by Harlingen Border Patrol at awards ceremonies and/or banquets.

CADET WILLIAM MUSA is the Harlingen Border Patrol's "Head of the Class" award recipient for November 2005.

BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

JANUARY

- 13 St. Michaels - 5 p.m. - Away
- 14 Holy Cross - 1 p.m. - Away
- 20 Antonion - 6 p.m. - Away
- 21 Central Catholic - 1 p.m. - Away
- 24 St. Joseph - TBA - Home
- 27 Holy Cross - 6 p.m. - Home
- 28 St. Michaels - 1 p.m. - Home

FEBRUARY

- 03 Antonioan - 6 p.m. - Home
- 04 Central Catholic - 1 p.m. - Home
- 07 St. Joseph - TBA - Away

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In MMA Basketball action, the **Leathernecks** competed in the South Padre Island Tournament, losing their opening game to Houston CYA 76-36. With a second game loss to Brownsville Lopez 74-49, the Leathernecks were then eliminated from Tourney competition.

Court was back in session on Monday, 5 December as the Leathernecks soundly defeated the Port Isabel Tarpons 48-40. In action once again on Tuesday, 6 December the Leathernecks lost to the Mission Veterans 56-34. --**Rene Cardenas, Head Coach - BASKETBALL**

IN ACCORDANCE with 40 CFR
Part 763 of the
Asbestos Hazard Emergency
Response Act (AHERA) Section
736.93 pertaining to the
Asbestos-in-School
Identification and Notification
Rule, The Marine Military Academy
hereby notifies all concerned
parties of the
availability of an
Asbestos Management Plan.
The plan and a copy of
inspections and assessments are
available for review during office
hours, Monday through Friday, in
the Central Administrative Office.
Should any interested parties desire
to view the plan, contact:
MMA Facilities Department.
956-423-6006 Ext. 244
facilities@mma-tx.org