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Drillnation

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

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KING'S GUARD

2014 saw the retiring of the Hawaiian King's Guard Drill Team after 42 years. The last U.S. Mainland performance of this amazing precision drill team was on the stage of the National High School Drill Team Championships Awards Ceremony in Daytona Beach. Paul Naki, the leader of the King's Guard, wanted to give this special gift to the cadets, instructors, and parents of the Nationals. He believed that without the JROTC drill cadets, the King's Guard would not have become as popular as they are today. Pictured on the cover is Allen Nguyen, one of the last members.

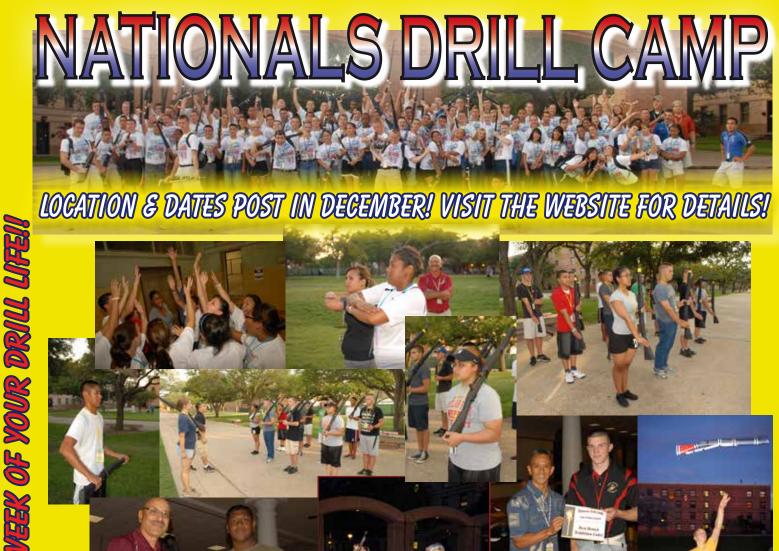
MAGAZINE DEDICATION

With troop deployments that stretch across the globe, the 2014-15 PrillNATION 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 individuals continue to provide the blanket of freedom that Americans enjoy every day. Thousands of cadets and instructors who have attended the Nationals in the past 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 thanks the many exhibitors who help make the Nationals a special home for JROTC drill: A Tag 4 U., Aviation Institute of Maintenance, Bethune-Gookman University, Competitive Outcomes, Daisy Outdoor Products, Dragon Rises College of Oriental Medicine, Florida Technical College, For the Art Clothing, Georgia Military College, Glendale Parade Store, Mary Baldwin College, National Aviation Academy, Norwich University, Post University, SAE Institute of Technology, Schiller Int'l University, Texas A&M University, Trident University International, Troy University, United States Military Academy, University of North Georgia, U.S. Army Cadet Command 1st BDE, U.S. Merchant Marine Academy, and the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets.

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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: 800/327-9311

USUT THIE WATUOWALS DRIVE CAMP



aider Nationals is the fastest growing and most fascinating JROTC event held! Teenage men and women brave the elements in early November to camp with their teammates in mid-Georgia for the pleasure of tromping through mud, running through woods, and traversing a creek on a rope bridge! Some video-game addicted youth would call these cadets crazy, but every one of these amazing cadets devote all of their free time to training for just this event. The 2013 event was the largest in its eight-year history with 46 schools representing 64 teams. Teams travelled from 14 states across the nation, even as far away as Washington state to participate in this one-of-a-kind national competition.



FEMALE DIVISION: The female division may not have as many teams as the male or mixed divisions, but the twelve teams that competed were prepared to go the distance, literally and figuratively. Francis Lewis HS (Fresh Meadows, NY) has reigned supreme in this division for the last five years, and the Patriot Strength team was again strong trophying in all five team events. However, this year there were two other teams, the Tiger Team Bravo from Adairsville HS (Adairsville, GA) and the Female Black Knights from Sarasota Military Academy (Sarasota, FL) that

were lying in wait! Both placed in the top five in all events and BOTH ended up tied in overall placement points when the dust had settled. However, a 15-second faster time in the Physical

Team Test gave Adairsville the edge they needed to win the tie-breaker and take home the Female Division National Championship trophy. In the eight year history of this event, there has never been a closer finish and it was exciting to watch all day!

MIXED DIVISION: The Mixed Division victories are always hard-fought, with so many division entries and the extra dynamic of having both males & females on a team. You have to really evaluate strengths and weaknesses of each team member and place them in the best position to help the team win, so being smart and strong gains to the top finish here. With 28 teams in 2013, no team ever sweeps every event in this division but the rivalry between always top finishers Smith-Cotton HS Tiger Team (Sedalia, MO) and Grissom HS Mixed Team (Huntsville, AL) is always fun to watch! In 2012, Grissom snatched the ultimate victory away from Smith-Cotton,

but in 2013 Smith-Cotton came bearing a grudge! Smith-Cotton captured 1st Place in the 5K and Gauntlet and 2nd Place in Rope Bridge while Grissom took 2nd Place in 5K and Gauntlet, 4th Place in CCR, and 5th Place in Rope Bridge. In the most anticipated finish of the day the final scores showed Smith-Cotton reigned supreme by one placement point crowning them champion



this year. The remaining 1st Place finishes were spread among three awesome teams; Waynesville HS Black Team (Waynesville, MO) took first in PTT, Georgia Military College Prep. School Bulldogs (Milledgeville, GA) took first in CCR, and Bluffton HS Mixed Raiders (Bluffton, SC) took first in the rock-star event, Rope

The 2014 Raider Nationals has 90+ teams! In 2015, the event will have TWO competitions to allow schools from ALL SERVICES who wish to attend!

Contact SNI for complete details on this exciting expansion of excellence! http://raider.thenationals.net 💠 email) raider@thenationals.net

DIVISION: With a huge 40 team competition field, capturing even a



single trophy can be a difficult feat. This always competitive division is amazing to watch as these fierce young men come prepared to battle. Their preparation and intensity is on display on every obstacle at every event. All eyes were on the previous year top finishers with Francis Lewis Patriot Force (1st Gauntlet & Rope Bridge, 4th 5K Run, 5th PTT), Grissom Team 1 (3rd Gaunlet, 4th PTT, CCR & Rope Bridge), and Osborne Cardinal Males (2nd 5K Run, 4th Gauntlet, 5th CCR) leading the pack, OR SO EVERYONE THOUGHT!

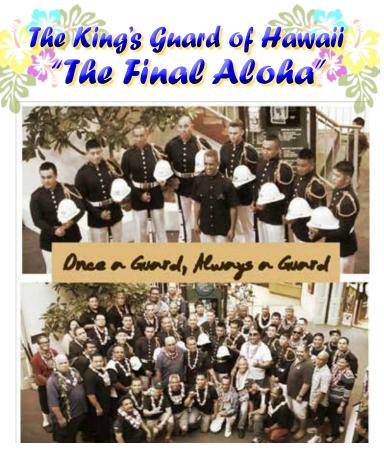
While all eyes were on these three top competitors, the ERS Team from Campbell HS (Jacksboro, TN) came from nowhere and showed them all how it is done. They placed 1st in the 5K Run and 2nd in PTT and CCR. Their 6th Place finish in Gauntlet and 7th in Rope Bridge kept them strong enough in all events to propel them to the top of the leaderboard gaining them the Male Division Championship Trophy. Francis Lewis powered their way to a solid National Runner-up finish, staying just ahead of the other two challengers. Other notable finishes include: Paulding County HS (1st CCR, 2nd Gauntlet, 5th 5K Run), Elbert County Comprehensive HS (1st PTT), East Surry HS (2nd Rope Bridge), Riverside Military Academy (3rd PTT & CCR, 5th Gauntlet). 2013 was the best gathering of Raider excellence in history!



(L-R) Campbell HS ERS Team (Male Division Champs), Smith-Cotton HS Tiger Team (Mixed Division Champs) and Adairsville HS Tiger Team Bravo (Female Division Champs) pictured with SFC Perez and SSG Simmons from the National Guard.

The Ultimate Raider competition is held on Sunday morning just prior to the Awards Ceremony. In this individual competition, two cadets from each school test their skills on a timed obstacle course that is brutally tough. This 1.5 mile course contains multiple obstacles and awards are given to the fastest males and the fastest females. The winning cadets deserve special recognition. Cadet Emily Sexauer from Adairsville HS won first place for the females and Cadet Clark Bingham with Paulding County HS won first place for the males. Complete details on results and up to the minute information is best found on the U.S. Army Raider Nationals website, as well as the Army Raider Nationals Facebook Page.

The Raider Nationals competition is sponsored in 2014 by U.S. Army Cadet Command as well as supported since the inception from the amazing men and women of the Georgia National Guard. Their work in manning the event stations and competition courses gives the event the professionalism and intensity it deserves. Cedar Shoals HS under the leadership of LTC Eric Cleveland spend countless hours making sure the course and the gear are ready for play. Groups form the best Raider teams to attend and that is why the event is so well thought of across the Nation. With well over 600 parents and instructors and over 900 cadets on hand, the 2013 Raider Nationals Awards Ceremony was literally a sea of excellence! With an expanded field next month, we expect a tidal wave of excellence in 2014!



To many who have made drill both a love and a passion for decades, the King's Guard will forever be known as the standard by which all other performance military drill excellence will be measured. Not simply for their mystique and deep ties to the Hawaiian Island heritage and history, nor simply for their amazing physical talents with their rifles, nor even for their unique and powerful marching style that swept the JROTC community by storm in the 1980's when SNI produced the first videos of their performances and mailed them to JROTC cadets across the world (hard to imagine for many of you youngsters but this was before there were personal cell phones and the internet!) No, the King's Guard was and always will be much more than the sum of their parts, and their announcement they would retire in May of 2014 shocked the world.

Having evolved from the tradition of Hawaiian ROTC exhibition drill popular in the 1920's, the King's Guard was an award-winning exhibition drill team that was inaugurated in 1972. Guards were authentic 19th Century Kingdom of Hawaii uniforms and impressed spectators with their uniquely Hawaiian style of rifle spinning. Members of the King's Guard were originally recruited to create a special attraction which would revive and preserve the 19th century history of Hawaii. Promoters wanted something that would emulate Guards during the time period while utilizing talents of the drill team. No one knew the impact the Guards would have on the world of military drill when they began performing over 40 years ago! The King's Guard performed nightly in the King's Village, 365 days a year since 1972. Their performance area was modest, paling in comparison to their magnitude in the drill universe. This juxtaposition was perfectly suited to the humble, unpretentious nature the Guards embodied.

At the NHSDTC, members of the King's Guard are akin to rock stars. When they travel to Daytona Beach, they are asked to stop and pose for pictures, talk and demonstrate their skills to awe-struck cadets. They would perform for an adoring crowd who understood and respected the talent on display. Many younger cadets may have never seen these amazing drillers perform before but their legend was so strong, they pressed to see them almost sensing their aura without fully understanding

it. To the city of Honolulu the retirement of the Guard was touted as the city losing a long-standing attraction. The "Changing of the Guard"

ceremony had the members move throughout the King's Village Shopping Center in the tourist district of Honolulu retiring the state flag each evening, then immediately marching into the small courtyard barely large enough for their talents, and perform



a short, precision exhibition drill routine to the delight of the gathered onlookers often spellbound and ill-prepared for what they were suddenly witnessing. But to the drill world and every cadet that has ever picked up a rifle, their retirement was truly on a magnitude unfelt before or maybe ever again.

The legend of the Guards began in the mid-1980's when a dear friend of the NHSDTC competition, Navy Seaman and Pearl Harbor survivor Mr. Bill Brady, presented a grainy VHS tape of a group of young men spinning rifles in a parking lot to then Sports Network International President Kip Horton. At that time, the movements were so amazing, innovative and crowd-grabbing, Horton went on a mission to see if the King's Guard would fly from Hawaii and perform for the then thousand or so youngsters who were a part of the NHSDTC. Much to his surprise, he reached Mr. Paul Naki quite easily, then a young Director and performer on the Guards. In short order, Mr. Naki agreed to attend with the Guards and a legend was born!

The King's Guard performed in May 1987 soon after the brand new Ocean Center Arena opened their doors. The combination of the first class facility and the amazing, never-before-seen moves the King's Guard laid on the crowd was electrifying! Coincidentally, the U.S. Army Cadet Command chose that year to have a small sponsorship of the Nationals after USACC founder Major General Robert Wagner attended the NHSDTC Awards Ceremony and was hugely impressed by what he saw. This sponsorship allowed SNI to send a 90-minute videotape entitled, "The Best of the Nationals" to every JROTC program in the world. The video featured many



The King's Guard Drill Team performing for the massive crowd on the famous staging ubiquitous to the National High School Drill team Championships in Daytona Beach, FL.

of the best teams at the event during competition featuring the now famous LaSalle Rifles of LaSalle MA, Schreiber's Rifles/Bandoleers of John Marshall HS, Oxon Hill HS and others...and of course, the amazing King's Guard performance to end the tape. The effect on drillers everywhere was sudden, swift and mighty! High schools across the country overnight were trying to emulate the Hawaiian style, some in small ways and some not so small. Major Greg Mikesell with Winston Churchill HS in San Antonio was so enamoured with what he saw, he immediately called Mr. Naki and



Mr. Paul Naki speaks to the massive crowd during the final performance of the King's Guard in Hololulu, HI 16 May 2014. frenetic pace and

this explosion rested firmly on the shoulders of the King's Guard's influence.

concepts, change them a bit, and use

them as a part of

their now-legendary Black Watch

routine. Other

In May 1994, SNI hosted the Military Exhibition Drill World Championships in Daytona Beach. This event featured some of the most well-known and respected names in post high school drill. The Texas A&M Fish Drill Team, the Citadel, United States Naval Academy, Georgia Military College and others led a field of excellence in this event.

Once again, SNI called Naki in late 1993 and told him what we were planning. With months to plan and prepare, the King's Guard decided they would do the unthinkable and compete! Naki immediately sought the best Guards past & present to make up the competition team and brought back an amazing driller, Mr. Donovan White to help lead the unit. But the King's Guard was taking a huge risk. The event maintained primarily exhibition drill but also a team inspection competition that would count 25% of their overall score. How would this group of rifle spinners stand up against military academies in the intense & grilling Inspection phase from the Parris Island Marines assembled for the event? In a word, "Wow!" The King's Guard not only WON the overall 1994 MEDWC Championship, but they WON the Unit Inspection competition as well.

Donovan White was so moved by his work leading up to and his experience at the MEDWC event, and his 1st Place finish in the Dual Exhibition competition at the MEDWC event, he decided to remain on the King's Guard for decades, and retired with them, performing on their final night. His decision to remain an active Guard was a fortuitous moment for the drill world as White quickly became the preeminent driller in the world and without question, the most copied driller to ever hold a rifle. Innovator of many moves still in use today, most notably the "heel stop," "baseball carding" a spinning rifle with your off hand, and others, Donovan White has no peers. After nearly 25 years of drill experience, he earned the coveted title of "Drillmaster."

The King's Guard came back to the Nationals on several special occasions, but the most special was the 25th anniversary of the NHSDTC. Known for their quiet and somewhat secretive nature, no one but the Guards had seen their performance during practices or even the rehearsal that afternoon, which was simply a walk through. As the crowd fell silent to the sounds of their Hawaiian cadence approaching, the audience was riveted as they took the stage. Their signature white covers did an excellent job of concealing the fact that performing among the Guards for the first time in over a decade, was Paul Naki himself at the age of 48! It was a moment that was frozen in time.

Naki notified SNI in late 2013 that the King's Guard would be ceasing performances in mid-May 2014 and would like to hold their final mainland performance on the hallowed stage of the NHSDTC where their notoriety began. Agonizingly, Naki requested this information remain a secret and it did not come out until just a week or so before the event.

asked permission to Not a dry eye in the house could be found as the King's Guard thundered to the stage one last time on 5 May 2014 - a date which will be legendary in the annals of the NHSDTC. The sense of history was palpable. Their announcement to the crowd of their retirement was met with a lengthy standing ovation by the judges, dignitaries, and the thousands assembled.

> So moved by their final mainland performance during the Masters Level Awards Ceremony of the NHSDTC, several members of the SNI team secretly flew to Hawaii to be on-hand for the final performance of the King's Guard on 16 May 2014. Seeing the look of surprise on the faces of the Guards and none more than Paul Naki made the moment priceless!

> The final performance in Honolulu was more emotional and meaningful than anyone could have imagined. Scores of past Guards came to be a part of that final night. Young-faced drillers from many of the local high schools came to see their heros perform one final time. Television crews captured every moment. The final performance seemed to end in a blink of an eye, however the night lasted hours past as old friends reunited and reminisced on what they had accomplished together.

As a part of the final performance, Mr. Naki cut the flag cord (shown at right) and presented the final Hawaiian flag to SNI in honor of everything we have done for drill around the world with a "key" removed. This he kept. When asked why he stated, "One day, there may be a time when the drill world needs help. You fly the flag like a signal for Batman, and I will bring the key and maybe the Guards will come together again."







Air Force Takes Over the Nation's Capitol

00:15

Air Force Nationals - Landover, Maryland

The 2014 Air Force Nationals were again held in the Washington, D.C. area at the Prince George's Sports & Learning Complex in Landover, Maryland. The 33 teams in attendance all came ready to prove that they had what it took to bring home the championship trophy. The cadets all arrived in their Class A blue uniforms looking like they were heading to a military ball - but their faces showed a fierce intensity that can only be seen when entering the field of battle.

ARMED DIVISION: John Jay HS Silver Eagles have been unbeatable the last few years so they were the team with a very large target on their backs. Brandeis HS Nighthawks were so close to capturing the title last year everyone knew they were coming into this competition with a solid agenda... take down the Silver Eagles!

As the competition progressed, it seemed obvious that a two-horse battle brewed for the top spot, but then from out of the blue, the East Paulding HS Black Hawks and the Lowell HS Red Raider Guard let everyone know that it would not be a runaway as they both placed in the top five in all four events (Black Hawks: 1st Inspection, 2nd Color Guard, 3rd Regulation, 4th Exhibition; Red Raider Guard: 3rd Color Guard, 4th Inspection & Regulation, 5th Exhibition). The Nighthawks from Brandeis did very well in three events (1st Regulation, 2nd Exhibition, 3rd Inspection) but left the door open with a surprising seventh place finish in Color Guard. The solid efforts made the awards ceremony a complete toss up!

When the final scores were in and the

From L to F: Air Force Association Chapter 145 Vice President SMSgt Naim Vaughan presneting the overall top finishers Brandeis HS Blue Aces, Unarmed Div. Runner-Up; Thomas C. Clark HS Silver Valor, Unarmed Div. Champion; John Jay HS Silver Eagles, Armed Div. Champion; East Paulding HS Black Hawks, Armed Div. Runner-Up.

dust settled, the Silver Eagles from John Jay HS had done it again! They placed 1st in both Color Guard and Exhibition and 2nd in both Inspection and Regulation giving them all the points they needed to maintain their tight grip on the championship title. The black horse of the event was East Paulding Black Hawks that surprised everyone by capturing 1st in Inspection, 2nd in Color Guard, 3rd in Regulation, and 4th in Exhibition, giving them a very solid claim on the Runner Up title.

UNARMED DIVISION: Thomas C. Clark HS Silver Valor has had a lock on the unarmed championship for a few years and this year was no exception. They came prepared to show everyone how it's done! Capturing first in Inspection and Regulation and second in Color Guard and Exhibition, their competitors didn't have a chance. The question was whether or not Brandeis HS Blue Aces would again take home the Runner up trophy or if they would leave room for another team to steal it away. They did take home trophies in all events (1st Color Guard, 2nd Inspection, 3rd Exhibition, 5th Regulation) and ended up winning second place overall by over 200 points, but they are definitely going to come back stronger next year. This has been too many years just inches away from the crown.

Other notable finishes include: Bellevue West HS Men's Silent Sentry - 1st Exhibition, 2nd Regulation, 3rd Overall; Jefferson City HS Dragons -3rd Regulation, 4th Color Guard, 5th Inspection, 4th Overall; Springfield Central HS Lady Eagles - 4th Regulation, 5th Exhibition.

The Air Force Nationals Awards Ceremony was outstanding with Air Force Association representative and guest speaker SMSgt Naim Vaughan, Vice President of AFA chapter 145 able to give the cadets a huge pat on the back for their solid efforts. The future is exciting as budget issues will bring first-class events close to the teams saving on travel and housing.

The future is BRIGHT for the stars of the Air Force Nationals!

For scoring results, photos & all event info: http://af.thenationals.net



and Air Force Mationals

2015 Air Force Nationals

National Capital Region Championships PG Sports Complex - Landover, MD Sarturday, 28 March 2015

Mid-Valley Region Championships Nutter Center Arena - Dayton, OH Saturday, 21 March 2015

Deep South Region Championships Macon Centreplex - Macon, GA Saturday, 14 March 2015

South Central Region Championships Freeman Coliseum - San Antonio, TX Saturday, 28 March 2015

North Central Region Championships Bellevue West HS - Bellevue, NE Saturday, 11 April 2015 (subject to change) (not hosted by Sports Network International)

Far West Region Championships Northrup-Grumman - Los Angeles, CA Saturday, 11 April 2015 (not hosted by Sports Network International)

The 2015 Air Force Nationals begins a new era in excellence! Same great first-quality venues, quality judging, trophies and awards for the cadets BUT the events are held closer to home to HELP YOU save on transportation & billeting. Top two placements within the Armed & Unarmed Divisions in each event gain automatic priority entry within the National High School Drill Team Championships Masters Level competition in Daytona Beach, Florida.

The Air Force Nationals are proud to offer for the first time both SOLO & DUAL Armed and DUAL Unarmed competitions! We will ensure your cadets have the greatest time of their AFJROTC lives!

While most schools have an obvious region location, all entry/event details, rules, score sheets and other event specifics are listed clearly on the Air Force Nationals main website. Support the AF Nationals and make this competition an annual part of your JROTC drill calendar.



Army JROTC Sational Drill Classic

Roughly 1,000 Army JROTC cadets descend on Louisville to fight for top honors at the Army Drill Classic



The Army JROTC National Drill Classic was held in Louisville, Kentucky at the Kentucky International Convention Center in April. This will likely be the final event held in this facility as we move to more spacious confines at the Kentucky Fairgrounds Broadbent Arena in 2015 and beyond. Although this event was not officially sponsored by Cadet Command in 2014 due to military sequestration, it was very well attended by 38 schools representing 16 states. Cadets travelled from as far away as Hawaii, California, New York, and Michigan to attend this exclusively Army competition. With budget items hitting teams hard, several notable top finishers did not attend, making the 2014 Army Nationals an amazingly open and exciting competition for those great programs who did come to the Bluegrass State!

Despite the event not being sponsored by the USACC, incredible logistical support was still provided from both the Army 5th BDE and the Cadet Command helping to give the attending cadets a fantastic show on and off the drill floor. This support was not unnoticed by the cadets when BG Peggy Combs, Commanding General, USACC and Colonel William Richardson, Director, USACC were shaking hands with the cadets, instructors & parents. The judges from the U.S. Army 95th Division did another fantastic job and all were thrilled to again see so many "Brown Rounds" on the floor holding clipboards.

ARMED DIVISION

Several new faces were hard charged and ready to bring home the top prize! It looked like West Creek HS (Clarksville, TN) Coyote Pride might be a contender as they took home 1st place in both Inspection and Color Guard, but a last-minute cancellation of their Exhibition routine took them out of the race. Then Ozark HS Night Stalkers (Ozark, MO) were in the perfect position to take home the gold as they were the only team to place in the top five in all four events (3rd Regulation & Exhibition, 4th Color Guard, 5th Inspection). However, Union HS Maroon Guard (Union, NJ) were hot on their heels with three placements of their own (2nd Inspection & Color Guard, 4th Regulation). When the final scores were tallied, the difference between champion and runner up came down to only 16 points. Union HS Maroon Guard had managed to edge out the Night Stalkers even though they placed a disappointing 13th in Exhibition, and the Armed Division Championship trophy would be headed to New Jersey!

Other impressive finishes included: Smith-Cotton HS Black Tigers (Sedalia, MO) who placed first in Regulation, fourth in Inspection, and fifth in Exhibition landing them in fourth place overall; West Creek HS Coyote Guard (the sister team to the Coyote Pride) landed in third place overall although they only captured two top-five placements (2nd Regulation, 3rd Color Guard) but their consistency kept them near the top; Bandys HS Trojan Rifles (Catawba, NC) placed 1st in Exhibition & 5th in Regulation.

UNARMED DIVISION

There were three teams in the hunt for the unarmed title. It was exciting seeing long time contenders Sparkman HS Senator Drill Team and the Smith-Cotton HS Gold Tigers working hard to vanguish the upstart Ozark HS Night Prowlers. All three teams ended up placing in the top five in three of the four events. Sparkman Senators took 3rd Placed in Inspection, 4th Place in Color Guard and 5th Place in Exhibition. They stayed solid in Regulation placing seventh, but their consistency wasn't quite strong enough landing them third overall. So it would come down to Ozark Night Prowlers and Smith-Cotton Gold Tigers. The Tigers had strong finishes with a 1st Place in Regulation, a 2nd Place in Inspection and a 3rd Place in Exhibition, but their Color Guard score knocked them out of the top spot giving them the runner up title this year. The Night Prowlers fought hard and stayed on top with a 1st place in both Color Guard and Exhibition (note-a FANTASTIC job by the ladies!) and a 2nd place in Regulation. They just missed with Inspection, coming in sixth in that event. This overall consistency had them taking home the Unarmed Division Championship title this year.

Other notable finishes included: Xavier HS Saber Guard (1st Inspection, 4th Exhibition); Hubbard HS Black Sheep Squadron (2nd Exhibition, 4th Regulation); Renaissance HS Cougars (2nd Color Guard, 3rd Regulation).

U.S. Army Cadet Command is now contracted to host the 2015 Army Nationals so the event will be even more affordable this year for the attending teams, cutting the competition costs in half through their financial support of the event.

Several powerhouse teams have already registered to attend and their return to the competition should make the 2015 event the finest competition ever hosted at the Army Nationals! Teams are now registering on the Army Nationals website - get your competition spot TODAY!



From Left to Right - BG Peggy Combs, Commanding General, US Army Cadet Command, Unarmed Runner-Up Smith-Cotton HS Gold Tigers, Unarmed National Champions Ozark HS Night Prowlers, Armed National Champions Union HS Maroon Guard, Armed Runner-Up Ozark HS Night Stalkers, COL William Richardson, Director, US Army JROTC.



2015 U-S- ARMY CADET COMMAND NATIONAL DRILL CHAMPIONSHIPS

KENTUCKY STATE FAIRGROUNDS, BROADBENT ARENA - LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY - SATURDAY, APRIL 11, 2015

FOR EVENT SCORING, PICTURES, INFO AND TO REGISTER FOR THE UPCOMING 2015 ARMY NATIONALS: http://army.thenationals.net









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TEXAS A&M

Open to all eligible high school juniors and seniors in JROTC, Civil Air Patrol, Young Marines and Sea Cadets.





A Virtual Navy Nationals Yields Excellence on the Small Screen!

Details?: http://navy.thenationals.net



For the second year in a row, NSTC hosted the Navy Nationals as a "virtual" competition. In this unique format, all of the teams compete at home under the watchful eye of an impartial monitor. Once these events are recorded, the video was uploaded to a special weblink and compiled in a random performance order and select judges from around the world watched each performance in an event providing scores and feedback even more detailed than what schools would receive at a site-based event. Early word on the street is the Navy Nationals are looking to be back in their home port of NAS Pensacola for the 2015 event and the teams are simply itching to get there!

Last year, Flanagan HS from Pembroke Pines, Florida was able to defend their 2012 National Championship title with a herculean effort. But this year, their crosstown rival Boca Raton HS (Boca Raton, FL) was going to make the move to wrestle it away.

Looking at the athletic events, annual awesomeness from Boca Raton HS is no shock and once again they smoked the stopwatches capturing 1st Place in both Curl-ups and Oval Relay, but their 4th Place in the Shuttle Relay and a disappointing seventh in Push-ups gave them an Overall Runner-up placement in Athletics. Escambia HS (Escambia, FL) always runs like the wind and this year was no exception. They placed 2nd in Push-ups and Oval Relay, 3rd in the Shuttle Relay, and 5th in Curl-ups. This overall consistency gave them the Overall Athletic Championship. Gaither HS (Tampa, FL) was the only other school to place in the top five in all four events (3rd Oval Relay, 4th Curl-ups, 5th Push-ups & Shuttle Relay) which put them in a solid third place overall in Athletics. Shawnee Mission North HS (Overland Park, KS) was also strong placing 2nd in Curl-ups, 4th in Push-ups but did not place in either of the relays gaining 4th place overall Athletics. Other strong athletic finishes that had people hovering in contention for the overall title were Centennial HS (Las Vegas, NV) who finished 1st in Push-ups and 5th in overall Athletics; West Brook HS (Beaumont, TX) who finished 1st in Shuttle Relay; and Southeast Guilford HS (Greensboro, NC) who finished 2nd in Shuttle Relay and 4th in Oval Relay.

The academic exam is always very challenging for the cadets by design. This 100 question test is drawn from several sources that the cadets use on a regular basis as well as a current events section, but they never know what part of the text these questions are drawn from and they can be quite detail-oriented. Most are extremely challenging where even the multiple choice format doesn't help. Only 15 cadets out of the 40 on each team are tasked with the job of trying their

hand at this naval academia gauntlet! To give you an idea of the level of difficulty of this year's exam, the top 10 scores ranged from 80 to 68 out of the 375 total test takers! In looking at the individual scores, it was apparent early on that First Colonial HS (Virginia Beach, VA) would come out on top. They had seven cadets place in the top 10! They dominated the academic portion of the competition coming in 179 correctly answered questions ahead of the next competitor. Boca Raton HS is always high on the leader board and they nabbed the runner-up slot, keeping their overall national champion hopes alive. Gaither HS placed 3rd, only 15 points behind Boca. Escambia HS and Flanagan HS rounded out the top five in 4th and 5th place respectively.

The drill portion of the event is often where the rubber meets the road being worth so many points in five areas. Basic is the meat & potatoes of drill and Shawnee Mission North HS cleaned their plate grabbing 1st place Armed Division by three points over East Aurora HS in 2nd. With a total spread of only 13 points between 1st & 5th place, Colts Neck HS

came in 3rd with Escambia HS and Providence HS rounding out the top five. Unarmed Basic saw Colts Neck take top honors with Cape Fear HS just behind. Boca Raton followed in 3rd with Terry Parker HS and Escambia HS at 4th & 5th respectively.

Color Guard is always heart-warming to watch as the National colors take center stage. East Aurora HS handily took 1st place in Color Guard with Flanagan HS coming in right behind. Colts Neck HS, Escambia HS and Shawnee Mission rounded out the top five.

Exhibition drill is the rock star event of the drill **Escants** world and this year there were many amazing and front of innovative routines. The precision and degree of difficulty shown by East Aurora HS in the Armed Exhibition drill event powered them to a championship. Other teams that found themselves "in the money" with trophy finishes included Cape Fear HS, Providence HS, Colts Neck HS and Zion-Benton HS. They all turned in amazing routines.

The Unarmed exhibition routines are always a challenge as teams try to create unique and memorable performances in a military farmework. Zion-Benton HS presented just what the judges were looking for in grabbing the 1st Place trophy. Falling not very far behind were the very solid routines from East Aurora HS (2nd), Boca Raton HS (3rd), Troy HS (4th) and Los Fresnos HS (5th).

While the National Championship is the goal of every school, the Overall Drill Champion is a highly coveted award with great prestige. When the computer cooled, it came down to a struggle between East Aurora and Colts Neck. East Aurora looked the obvious winner with several top finishes, but a few unarmed basic commands fumbled dropped them behind Colts Neck who powered their way to the Drill Championship by just 22 points. Coming in close were Escambia HS, Zion-Benton HS, and Cape Fear HS in 3rd-5th respectively.

In order to win the overall National Championship, a team must have the highest proportional points and with 1,000 available in Academics, 1,000 from Athletics, and a full 2,500 from Drill, anything can happen. The team that wins this coveted title must be consistently strong in all arenas even if they don't excel in each one. With Colts Neck dominating the drill events, one would think they would be right near the top but they did not place in the top five in Academics or Athletics so they wound up placing in 5th place for the overall championship. Although they didn't trophy in overall Athletic or Drill and only a 5th place in Academics, Flanagan HS (last year's champion) took 4th place overall proving that general consistency in all events matters more than high placement in just a few. Taking 3rd place overall was Gaither HS who placed 3rd in Academics and Athletics. Although Boca Raton was hoping to break out of their runner up placement this year, they maintained their 2nd place streak once again with all-around excellence, just beaten by 2014 overall National Championship winner Escambia HS, with their 1st place Athletics, 3rd place Drill, and 4th place Academics. Escambia had been improving for several years and in 2014, they put all the pieces together for a championship mosaic!



To the victor go the spoils as 2014 Navy Nationals Overall Champion Escambia HS NJROTC cadets receive their deserved accolades in front of a cheering crowd in their home gym on Senior Night in May.

The fabric of hosting an on-line competition is hugely important. Drawing on over 30 years of military drill hosting experience, Sports Network was able to handle the technical, competition and security related items without issue. Putting together a fantastic coalition of judges is also vital as SNI cajoled past & present drill instructors and others with amazing SNI judging experience to toss their pencil into the ring, including the honor of hosting eight members of the Navy Drill Team to score the always competitive Armed & Unarmed Exhibition events!

Thank you to NSTC, NJROTC HQ and Area Managers, and to the Navy League for their unwavering support of these fine young people. Most important, thank you cadets and instructors for continuing to keep the competition fires burning! You inspire all who watch you and will follow in your shadows!



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2015 NATIONAL IIIGII SCHOOL

Introduction

Sports Network International is pleased to provide this invitation to all precision drill units to attend the 33rd 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 majestic and remarkable drill event than this.

The **National High School Drill Team Championships** remains the most coveted drill destination in the world. 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**.

Competition Guidelines All units may use their own service regulations to compete at the NHSDTC.

Where their manual is not specific, Armed Divisions use US Army TC 3-21.5 while the Unarmed Divisions use US Air Force FM 36-2203 (1996). The variety of services that gain top finishes in Daytona is a testament to the fairness of this drill event. The event SOP is listed on the event website early in the school year. 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. The Challenge Level maintains Armed (demilitarized weapons only) & Unarmed divisions. **Select teams may be required to move up to the Masters Level depending on the strength of their team or the composition of their male/female ratio.** All schools are encouraged to enter "stand-alone" units into the exciting Open Level Color Guard event also held on Saturday.

The **Masters Level** event brings the finest drill programs in the nation together to compete within three separate divisions. Teams using standard full-weight rifles compete in the **Demilitarized Arms Division**. Teams without weapons enter the **Unarmed Division**. The **Mixed Division** is for teams with lightweight weapons (regardless of gender), for all-female teams (regardless of weapon type) and for mixed gender teams (see SOP for requirements).

CHALLENGE LEVEL EVENTS

- ★ Unit Inspection (12 + Cmdr.)
- 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 + Cmdr.)
- ★ Platoon/Flight Exhibition (13 & over)
- ★ Solo & Dual Exhibition Cadets

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 one entry (per team) in both Solo & Dual Exhibition. Unarmed Masters units can enter one pair in Unarmed Dual Ex. *Select Challenge Level cadets may also be accepted into these events! Teams can petition for a 2nd entry slot if desired. Also, ALL CADETS are urged to compete in their level's Armed & Unarmed Knockout Drills. NOTE: No "knockout fee" is charged to participate.

NHSDTC Event Specifics

The National High School Drill Team Championships are held at the impressive Ocean Center 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. Limited private meeting rooms are available for rent during the event. Contact SNI for details. All instructors and cadets who attend the Nationals will attest that the Ocean Center remains the most exceptional drill & ceremony facility currently in use in the United States.

Schools are housed in Daytona Beach at one of 15+ 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 Challenge & Open Level schools must arrive by Friday afternoon. All Masters Level schools must arrive by Saturday afternoon. Exceptions granted on a case-by-case basis. The Challenge & Open Level events will be held on Saturday, May 2nd, with the two-day Masters Level competition held on Sunday & Monday, May 3rd & 4th. Both competition levels feature Knockout Drills 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 Mixed (at the Masters Level); Armed & Unarmed (at the Challenge Level). The impressiveness of these trophies remains legendary within the Junior ROTC drill community!



Team events in all competition divisions are trophied in **1st-5th place**, or 1st-3rd if the size of the division warrants. 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 <u>must</u> <u>attend through the Team Package Plan</u>. 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
- * 8" X 10" color team photograph

The price of the Team Package Plan, based on staying four-to-a-room, is only \$129.00 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 \$114.00 per person. Three, two & one to-a-room prices are slightly higher, utilized primarily for instructors & 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 this 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 or stand-alone solo/dual exhibition entrants. Schools wishing to enter multiple teams in multiple competition levels should contact SNI for details. **This event Registration Fee is completely refundable** if requested before **Friday, December 5th, 2014,** but 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 with the many other fantastic drill programs attending.

To Register for the NHSDTC ONLINE REGISTRATION: To register your school for the Nationals, complete the online NHSDTC Registration Form located at: http://myschool.thenationals.net - if you choose to mail your registration fee, your school is not considered registered until the fee has been received. Schools unsure of which competition level they should enter should contact SNI before submitting their School Registration.

SELECTION PROCESS: All registrations will be accumulated and reviewed by the **SNI Competition Committee beginning** on Friday, December 5th, 2014. 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, gungho nature & previous entry attempts are all very strong points considered by SNI.

While most returning schools to the Nationals register within weeks of receiving <u>DrillNATION</u> magazine and this invitation, a few schools wait. Historically, demand to enter the Nationals causes the event to be nearly full by this date. Schools registering after the December 5th review deadline will have a smaller chance of getting into the Nationals. Any "standby slots" available after this date are available on a strictly first-come, first-served basis.

Additional Registration Info

Schools accepted for entry will be listed on the SNI website by Tuesday, December 9th. Any school not accepted will have their entry fee refunded within 10 business days.

Payments can be made by credit card or e-check online. Any checks should be made payable and sent to **Sports Network International** at the address listed below. Schools may contact SNI by email at anytime, but all paperwork will be 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 2015 Nationals. 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 your school in Daytona Beach, Florida this May at the 33rd Anniversary of "The Nationals!**"

For additional information:

Event Manager
Sports Network International, Inc.
10 Broadcreek Circle
Ormond Beach, Florida 32174
800/327-9311 386/274-1919
website: http://drill.thenationals.net
email: drill@thenationals.net

The NHSDTC Challenge Level Competition Wrap-Up

Where teams Come From EVERYWHERE to be a part of the all-service EXCELLENCE!

"Challenge Level teams climb the ladder each year as the talent pool gets deeper and deeper in JROTC drill." - Justin Gates, SNI Competition Director

he Challenge Level at the Nationals is always fun and exciting. There is a new winner every year, no chance for a team to build a dynasty since each year the top finishers in both divisions are sent to the Masters Level the following drill season. The Challenge level is designed to showcase teams that are smaller, newer, or less experienced but once they decode the secret and win big in their division, they have to move up to fight for new standings with the tougher more experienced teams.

ARMED DIVISION

The freight train from East Paulding HS was building on their strong finish at the Air Force Nationals just a month before and you could see both their confidence and excellence shining all day! This hard-charging, determined Air Force JROTC team from Dallas, Georgia told SNI several years ago they were going to work hard and compete among the best in the nation. After watching their domination of the Armed Division of the 2014 Challenge Level (1st Place Inspection & Color Guard, 3rd Place Exhibition, and sixth place Regulation) there are no doubts. So look out Masters Level, because while others in drill COMPLAIN, East Paulding HS TRAINS!

Also with a stellar performance was the Team Providence from Providence HS in Charlotte, North Carolina. These Navy JROTC cadets had a Hooyah day, distancing themselves from the rest of the Armed Challenge Level pack by over 200 points by grabbing 1st Place in Regulation & Exhibition, and a strong 3rd Place in Color Guard.

The rest of the placements were spread out among ten schools as is often the case in this 40⁺ school event. Top finishers included three Army, three Marine, one Navy, and three Air Force, showing that all services have a fair shot at the Nationals!

Some of the most notable Armed Challenge Level finishes were: Southwest HS Black Knights (2nd Inspection); North Side HS Blue Thunder (2nd Color Guard); Lincoln Park HS Railsplitters (2nd Regulation); Forestville MA Black Knights (2nd Exhibition); Hendersonville HS Commandos (3rd Regulation); Reading HS Red Knights (3rd Overall, 4th Regulation & Exhibition, 5th Inspection); Union City HS Soaring Eagles (3rd Inspection, 5th Regulation) and Prairie HS Golden Falcons (4th Overall and Color Guard, 5th Exhibition).

UNARMED DIVISION

As within the Armed Division, the Unarmed trophies were spread out among a total of eleven schools covering all four services, but one Air Force unit Aimed Higher than the rest capturing 1st Place in both Color Guard and Exhibition and 2nd Place in Inspection and Regulation. The Black Venom team from East Paulding HS dominated the Unarmed Division just as they did in the Armed Division leaving everyone else in the dust by a spread of almost 400 points! MSgt. Jim Greene, the drill team coach for this group of talented cadets, has worked for several years to bring his teams to this point and all of his efforts seemed to pay big dividends in one glorious and fitting weekend of Dallas, Georgia pride! Congrats go out to all of you on your efforts not only in 2014, but the thousands of

hours of work it took to get there!

the Dest in the nation. After watching their Challenge Level Awards Ceremony Guest Sponsor ILT (now Captain) Aaron Conley (center) from the domination of the Armed Division of the 2014 United States Military Academy presented the overall top trophies to (from left to right): Thomas C. Challenge Level (1st Place Inspection & Color Clark HS Spartan Valor Unarmed Runner-Up; East Paulding HS Black Venom Unarmed Champions; East Guard 3rd Place Exhibition and sixth place Paulding HS Black Hawks Armed Champions and Providence HS Team Providence Armed Runner-Up.

2014 OPEN LEVEL COLOR GUARD COMPETITION

Each year the Open Level Color Guard is a fierce competition between seasoned color guard units and units that have little experience. However, one thing is for sure, you will see some of the finest examples of how the color guard regulations should be executed. Many of these teams do nothing but perfect the sequence of movements from early fall until they arrive in Daytona Beach, these units are the ones that make it to the top of the leaderboard.

For many years, Alamo Heights HS (San Antonio, TX) had a stranglehold on the top placement but the streak was broken last year when the Blue Thunder Guard from North Side HS took home the gold. Since last May, the Mulettes from Alamo Heights have worked even harder and they came back with a vengeance capturing 1st Place this year in impressive fashion.

The Sea Chicks from Flour Bluff HS (Corpus Christi, TX) have only entered the open level in the last few years, but they have always been a top contender despite their youth as early NJROTC underclassmen. Last year they placed third (only a few points behind the second place finisher) and this year they landed in second place by an impressive margin.

The top five were rounded out with the always impressive Chargers from the Army JROTC program at North Miami Beach Sr. HS (3rd Place); Royal Lady Indians from the Navy JROTC program at Passaic HS (4th Place), and Floir Hirtir from the Army JROTC program at North Salem HS (5th Place).

This "open" color guard competition brings out some of the absolute best color guard units across the nation and they display a mastery of the technical rules and regulations, along with the implied precision that goes along with the exactness and pageantry of drill & ceremonies. Contact SNI today to learn how your drill program can be a part of the always exciting 2015 Open Level Color Guard event at the all-service Nationals!

Capturing the Runner up title this year was Thomas C. Clark HS. Comprised largely from the JV members of the National Powerhouse Clark program, the Spartan Valor drill team placed 3rd in Regulation & Color Guard and 5th in Inspection, just barely missing a trophy in Exhibition. Their struggle this year was mighty and they showed that hard work can truly pay off to those who are willing to make the sacrifice.

Reading HS Lady Red Knights came in 3rd Place overall with a 1st in Inspection and a 5th in Exhibition. These Marine Corps JROTC hard chargers may make some serious championship noise in 2015 as they maintained a large number of juniors on their team last year.

Three other teams took home two trophies each: Waukegan HS Bulldogs (2nd Exhibition, 4th Inspection); Passaic HS Elite Indians (3rd Exhibition, 4th Regulation); Fleming Island HS Golden War Wagles (5th Regulation & Color Guard). Other notable finishes were turned in by Providence HS Team Providence (1st Regulation) and Mulberry Sr. HS Panther Battalion (2nd Color Guard).

SNI was honored to have the U.S. Military Academy come on board to sponsor the Challenge Level Awards Ceremony in 2014. Their presentation of the trophies and serving as guest speaker gave the thousands of cadets on-hand a sense of what Army excellence looks like, sounds like and feels like. West Point also maintains support for the Best of the Nationals DVD Series helping to provide these useful training tools to cadets and instructors across the nation.

The talent level has raised so much in the Challenge Level over the years, it truly is anyone's event to win. As East Paulding found out this year, how you get to Carnegie Hall is the same way you get to the big trophies at the Nationals - practice, practice, practice!



2014 National High School Drill Team Championships Challenge Level Attendees & Event Standings



Armed Division

Inspection
East Paulding HS

East Paulding HS Southwest HS Union City HS Bloomingdale HS Reading HS Black Hawks 815 Black Knights 812 Soaring Eagles 797 Rajun Bulls Black 758 Red Knights 753

Regulation

Providence HS Lincoln Park HS Hendersonville HS Reading HS Union City HS Providence Armed 698
Railsplitters 666
Commandos 649
Red Knights 646
Soaring Eagles 636

Color Guard

East Paulding HS North Side HS Providence HS Prairie HS West Creek HS Black Hawks 765 Blue Thunder 750 Providence Armed 706 Golden Falcons 698 Coyote Pride 669

Team Exhibition

Providence HS Forestville MA East Paulding HS Reading HS Prairie HS Providence Armed 783
Black Knights 781
Black Hawks 746
Red Knights 727
Golden Falcons 717

Overall Armed Champion East Paulding HS - Black Hawks

Overall Armed Runner-up

Providence HS - Providence Armed Guard

Airport HS

Army JROTC W.Columbia, S.Carolina

> Alvin C. York Institute

ARMY JROTC

JAMESTOWN, TENNESSEE

Apollo HS

Air Force JROTC Owensboro, Kentucky

Bainbridge HS

Air Force JROTC Bainbridge, Georgia

Belleview HS

Air Force JROTC Belleview, Florida

Bloomingdale HS

Air Force JROTC Valrico, Florida

Blythewood HS

Army JROTC Columbia, S.Carolina

Easley HS

Navy JROTC Easley, S. Carolina

EAST Paulding HS

Air Force JROTC Dallas, Georgia **EAST RIVER HS**

Army JROTC Orlando, Florida

Fleming Island HS

Navy JROTC Fleming Island, Florida

Forestville MA

Army JROTC Forestville, Maryland

Hendersonsille HS

Marine Corps JROTC Hendersonville, Tennessee

Jackson-Olin HS

Army JROTC Birmingham, Alabama

Lackey HS

Air Force JROTC Indian Head, Maryland

Lakeside HS

Army JROTC Evans, Georgia

> LaSalle Institute

ARMY JROTC TROY, NEW YORK

Lincoln Park HS

Army JROTC Lincoln Park, Michigan **Unarmed Division**

Inspection

Reading HS East Paulding HS Oxon Hill HS Waukegan HS Thomas C. Clark HS Lady Red Knights 711
Black Venom 698
Blue Guard 690
Unarmed Bulldogs 668
Spartan Valor 632

Regulation

Providence HS East Paulding HS Thomas C. Clark HS Passaic HS Fleming Island HS Providence Unarmed 827
Black Venom 820
Spartan Valor 798
Elite Indians 795
Golden War Eagles 783

Color Guard

East Paulding HS Mulberry Senior HS Thomas C. Clark HS Monarch HS Fleming Island HS Black Venom 1003
Panther Battalion 944
Spartan Valor 913
Unarmed Knights 912
Golden War Eagles 889

Team Exhibition

East Paulding HS Black Venom 834
Waukegan HS Unarmed Bulldogs 798
Passaic HS Elite Indians 786
Southwest HS Southwest Sea Angels 780
Reading HS Lady Red Knights 760

Overall Unarmed Champion
East Paulding HS - Black Venom

Last radiality 110 - black verioni

Overall Unarmed Runner-up

Thomas C. Clark HS - Spartan Valor JV

Lugoff-Elgin HS

ARMY JROTC Lugoff, S.Carolina

Monarch HS

ARMY JROTC Coconut Creek, Florida

Mulberry Senior HS

ARMY JROTC Mulberry, Florida

Murphy HS

ARMY JROTC Mobile, Alabama

North Point HS

Air Force JROTC Waldorf, Maryland North Salem HS

ARMY JROTC Salem, Oregon

North Side HS

Air Force JROTC Jackson, Tennessee

Oakland Mills HS

Air Force JROTC Columbia, Maryland

Okkodo HS

Marine Corps JROTC Dededo, Guam

Oxon Hill HS

Air Force JROTC Oxon Hill, Maryland Passaic HS

Navy JROTC Passaic, New Jersey

Prairie HS

Air Force JROTC Battle Ground, Washington

> Providence HS

NAVY JROTC CHARLOTTE, N. CAROLINA

RAMSAY HS

Army JROTC Birmingham, Alabama READING HS

Marine Corps JROTC Reading, Pennsylvania

> Rutland HS

Marine Corps JROTC Macon, Georgia

> Southwest HS

NAVY JROTC SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

Southwood HS

ARMY JROTC SHREVEDORT, LOUISIANA Alexandria, Virginia

St. John's

Northwestern MA

ARMY JROTC

Delafield, Wisconsin

T.C. Williams HS

ARMV IROTC

Taylor County HS

ARMY JROTC

PERRY, Florida

Thomas C. Clark
HS

Air Force JROTC San Antonio, Texas

Union City HS
Marine Cords JROTC

Marine Corps JROIC
Union City, New Jersey

Waukegan HS

ARMY JROTC Waukegan, Illinois

West Charlotte
HS

ARMY JROTC
CHARLOTTE, N.CAROLINA

West Creek HS

ARMY JROTC Clarksville, Tennessee

William G. Enloe

Army JROTC Raleigh, N. Carolina

Congratulations to all of the remarkable schools that annually "Step Up to the Challenge" at the Nationals!

MASTERS LEYEL DIVISION RECAP

"Where the Finest Drill Programs ALWAYS Make the Finest Drill"



Pictured above the Flour Bluff HS Sea Devils- Demilitarized Arms Division Champions (back row), Flour Bluff HS Sea Hawks - Unarmed Division Champions (left) and Fern Creek HS Lady Leathernecks - Mixed Division Champions (right).

No high school athletic competition in the world maintains the overall excellence and intensity that can be found within the Masters Level at the Nationals High School Drill Team Championships. Every school that competes at this level, regardless of finish, deserves massive respect and admiration, for they all understand the tireless efforts and struggles needed to even compete at the Masters Level.

The drill strength of Texas was on hand in force. Northeast Independent School District which encompasses much of drill mecca San Antonio, Texas maintains almost a dozen Masters Level drill programs, several of which are annually in the top thirty programs in the nation. But for reasons unknown, the decision was made several years ago to tell many of their best programs they could not attend their recognized all-service championships despite their obvious qualifications and the disappointment from the Army JROTC Headquarters. This regulation affects no other athletic or other program in their schools and as best we can tell, no other EVENT in the country! But with the Army dropping the Army National Championships sponsorship in 2014, the programs were told those who wished to apply for entry could compete against the best programs Nationally and many of their best all came making the 2014 Masters Level competition field deep with drill talented and giving their deserving cadets the chance to shine again on the biggest stage in military drill.

MIXED DIVISION

The Fern Creek Lady Leathernecks dynasty continues as no team even came close to dethroning these amazing young women. Their precision and poise with heavyweight weapons on the drill floor is unmatched in the mixed division and can rival some of the best in the demilitarized division. This year they almost had a clean sweep of every event placing first in Inspection, Regulation, Color Guard, and Platoon Exhibition. They received second place in Squad Exhibition missing first by only 9 points. This is the Lady Leatherneck's 15th consecutive National Championship.

With the Lady Leathernecks domination, the fight in this division was for the Runner-Up slot. However, only one team maintained the overall consistency necessary by placing in the top five in all five events and that was the Smith Cotton HS Black Tigers. They captured first in Squad Exhibition, second in Color Guard, fourth in Regulation and Platoon Exhibition and fifth in Inspection.

Other notable finishes were seen from Papillion-La Vista South's Centurions (2nd Platoon Ex, 3rd Squad Ex & Inspection); Seneca's Lady Redhawks (2nd Regulation, 4th Inspection & Color Guard); Winter Springs' Platinum Bears (2nd Inspection, 3rd Platoon Ex, 5th Squad Ex); and the Airport HS Golden Talons (3rd Regulation, 4th Squad Ex, 5th Platoon Ex).



UNARMED DIVISION

For seven straight years from 2003–2009, the Sea Hawks from Flour Bluff HS reigned supreme in the Unarmed Division, and this year they sprang from the game poised to recapture that glory. However standing in their way were the reigning champion Francis Lewis HS and runner-up Brandeis HS and a collection of challengers ready for battle. Many teams looked solid early with the three favorites locked together. Francis Lewis ran into a buzz saw in Regulation drill slumping badly. Even though they placed in the top five in the other four events (3rd Inspection & Flight Ex, 4th Color Guard & Element Ex) it wasn't enough to move them into the top two slots keeping them in a third place overall finish.

Brandeis Blue Aces made a very strong showing by placing 1st in Regulation & Flight Exhibition, 2nd in Color Guard, 3rd in Element Exhibition and 4th in Inspection. But the hard-charging NJROTC cadets from Flour Bluff were ready as they captured 1st place in Inspection, Color Guard & Element Exhibition, 2nd in Flight Exhibition and 3rd in

Regulation. The Sea Hawks sailed to the front and captured the championship trophy leaving Brandeis Blue Aces to take home the runner-up placement. Next year will prove if the Sea Hawks are ready for another multi-year run as I know for a fact a dozen schools are ready to give them everything they have!

Other notable finishes: Thomas C. Clark HS Silver Valor (2nd Regulation, 4th Inspection, 5th Color Guard); Lynn English HS Lady Bulldogs (2nd Inspection, 5th Regulation); Papillion-La Vista South HS Guardians (2nd Element Ex).

DEMILITARIZED ARMS

The Demilitarized Arms Division is so exciting as high-powered cadets with heavy-weight weapons take to the drill floor in a high-flying spectacle. Last year, for the first time since 2006, the Flour Bluff Sea Devils were able to capture top honors but would they be able to hold on to the title this year? The Leathernecks from Fern Creek have been poised for the title and hoped to make their mark as Armed Division Champions which they have never done. The Leathernecks have been runner-up in this division five different times since 1987 but could this be the year?

With Fern Creek, Flour Bluff and several other programs looking strong out of the gate, it looked like a very exciting finish was to be at hand. The Leathernecks had captured 1st Place in both Inspection & Color Guard, 2nd in Regulation and 5th in Platoon Exhibition. Even with placing sixth in Squad Exhibition, they might have what they need to break through. Flour Bluff placed 1st in Regulation, 3rd in Color Guard, Squad Exhibition, and 5th in Inspection. These two teams were seriously running neck and neck! The final event for Flour Bluff was a Platoon Exhibition routine that maintained aerial difficulty and numerous other areas that were pegged max by each judge. But with two drops, they maintained only a 3rd Place finish in an event they were counting on winning. When the final scores were tallied and the proportional points were assigned, only 7 points out of 6,000 separated these two teams! Flour Bluff Sea Devils just barely managed to defend their championship title leaving the Fern Creek Leathernecks to settle into that runner-up position for the sixth time.

Other amazing performances were seen from Marmion Academy Flannigan Rifles (1st Squad Ex, 2nd Platoon Ex, 3rd Inspection); John Jay Silver Eagles (1st Platoon Ex, 2nd Squad Ex); Francis Lewis Patriot Guard (2nd Color Guard, 3rd Regulation, 5th Squad Ex); Lynn English Bulldogs (2nd Inspection).

The excellence on display in Daytona Beach during the Masters Level holds a shining spotlight on the future leaders of tomorrow, both civilian and military. SNI salutes every cadet who made themselves a part of the 2014 Nationals and we look forward to the fierce battles yet to come in 2015. With several new programs and a few veterans looking for that big hardware!





Demilitarized	Arms
Inspection	

Leathernecks	882
Bulldogs	862
Flannigan Rifles	855
Black Watch	831
Sea Devils	827
	Leathernecks Bulldogs Flannigan Rifles Black Watch Sea Devils

Regulation

Flour Bluff HS	Sea Devils	805
Fern Creek HS	Leathernecks	796
Francis Lewis HS	Patriot Guard	794
Brandeis HS	Nighthawks	778
Colts Neck HS	Colts Neck Guard	744

Color Guard

Fern Creek HS	Leathernecks	974
Francis Lewis HS	Patriot Guard	937
Flour Bluff HS	Sea Devils	920
Brandeis HS	Nighthawks	905
Colts Neck HS	Colts Neck Guard	840

Squad Exhibition

Marmion Academy	Flannigan Rifles	905
John Jay HS	Silver Eagles	900
Flour Bluff HS	Sea Devils	891
Brandeis HS	Nighthawks	864
Francis Lewis HS	Patriot Guard	863

Platoon Exhibition

John Jay HS	Silver Eagles	1144
Marmion Academy	Flannigan Rifles	1072
Flour Bluff HS	Sea Devils	1014
Ronald Reagan HS	Rattler Guard	962
Fern Creek HS	Leathernecks	944

<u>Unarmed</u>

Inspection		
Flour Bluff HS	Sea Hawks	782
Lynn English HS	Lady Bulldogs	751
Francis Lewis HS	Patriot Pride	744
Thomas C. Clark HS	Silver Valor	690
Brandeis HS	Blue Aces	655

Regulation

Brandeis HS	Blue Aces	921
Thomas C. Clark HS	Silver Valor	894
Flour Bluff HS	Sea Hawks	885
North Miami Beach Sr. HS	Lady Chargers	869
Lynn English HS	Lady Bulldogs	867

Color Guard

Flour Bluff HS	Sea Hawks	819
Brandeis HS	Blue Aces	793
North Miami Beach Sr. HS	Lady Chargers	766
Francis Lewis HS	Patriot Pride	753
Thomas C. Clark HS	Silver Valor	723

Element Exhibition

Flour Bluff HS	Sea Hawks	1091
Papillion La-Vista South HS	Guardians	1053
Brandeis HS	Blue Aces	1033
Francis Lewis HS	Patriot Pride	987
Battle Ground HS	Tiger Alley	976

Flight Exhibition

Brandeis HS	Blue Aces 1106
Flour Bluff HS	Sea Hawks 1095
Francis Lewis HS	Patriot Pride 1054
North Miami Beach Sr. HS	Lady Chargers 1011
Prairie HS Cri	imson Falcons 1005

Mixed Arms Inspection

Lady Leathernecks	927
Platinum Bears	857
outhHS <i>Centurions</i>	833
Lady Redhawks	810
Black Tigers	706
	Platinum Bears outh HS Centurions Lady Redhawks

Regulation

dy Leathernecks	767
	721
Golden Talons	678
Black Tigers	631
Buffalo Soldiers	631
	dy Leathernecks Lady Redhawks Golden Talons Black Tigers Buffalo Soldiers

Color Guard

ady Leathernecks	703
Black Tigers	682
Buffalo Soldiers	619
Lady Redhawks	608
S Lady Bolts	592
	adyLeathernecks BlackTigers BuffaloSoldiers Lady Redhawks S Lady Bolts

Squad Exhibition

Black Tigers	841
Lady Leathernecks	833
outhHS <i>Centurions</i>	780
Golden Talons	739
Platinum Bears	715
	outh HS Centurions Golden Talons

Platoon Exhibition

Lady Leathernecks	849
uth HS <i>Centurions</i>	751
Platinum Bears	724
Black Tigers	723
Golden Talons	721
	oth HS Centurions Platinum Bears Black Tigers

Demilitarized Arms Champions

Champion: Flour Bluff HS - Sea Devils Runner-up: Fern Creek HS - Leathernecks

Solo Exhibition

- 1st Cadet Kirtley Marmion Academy
- 2nd Cadet Childress Fern Creek HS
- 3rd Cadet White CA Independents
- 4th Cadet Pelham Papillion La-Vista South HS
- 5th Cadet Lopez Flour Bluff HS

Dual Exhibition

- 1st Pool & Taylor Flour Bluff HS
- 2nd Maley & Tate Marmion Academy
- 3rd Kirtley & Voirin Marmion Academy
- 4th Cromwell & Wald Ringgold HS
- 5th Sanchez & Villareal Hubbard HS

2014 NATIONAL CHAMPIONS

Unarmed Champions

Champion: Flour Bluff HS - Sea Hawks Runner-up: Brandeis HS - Blue Aces

Dual Exhibition

- 1st Pangilinan & Pangilinan Lynn English HS
- ^{2nd} Mejia & Rendon Lynn English HS
- 3rd Camacho & Walker Thomas C. Clark HS
- 4th Belisario & Silva John Jay HS 5th Hernandez & McDonald - Brandeis HS

Mixed Arms Champions

Champion: Fern Creek HS - Lady Leathernecks
Runner-up: Smith Cotton HS - Black Tigers

Solo Exhibition

- 1st Cadet Hagood Summerlin Academy
- 2nd Cadet Jonas Ringgold HS
- 3rd Cadet Crump Ringgold HS

Dual Exhibition

- 1st Morales & Peña Miami Coral Park Sr. HS
- ^{2nd} Jonas & Jonas Ringgold HS
- rd Hagood & Howard Summerlin Academy

* 2014 MASTERS LEVEL PARTICIPANTS *

* Schools of Excellence *

Airline High School Air Force JROTC Bossier City, Louisiana

Airport High School Army JROTC West Columbia, South Carolina

Asheville High School Marine Corps JROTC Asheville, North Carolina

Battle Ground High SchoolAir Force JROTC
Battle Ground, Washington

Brandeis High SchoolAir Force JROTC
San Antonio, Texas

Cathedral Prep High School
Air Force JROTC
Erie, Pennsylvania

Central Crossing High School Navy JROTC Grove City, Ohio

Charles H. Milby Sr. High School Army JROTC Houston, Texas

Chester W. Nimitz High School Navy JROTC Irving, Texas

> Claudia Taylor Johnson High School Army JROTC San Antonio, Texas

Coffee High School Navy JROTC Douglas, Georgia

Colony High School
Army JROTC
Palmer, Alaska

Colts Neck High School Navy JROTC Colts Neck, New Jersey

Deer Valley High School Air Force JROTC Glendale, Arizona

Dixie M. Hollins High School Army JROTC St. Petersburg, Florida

Douglas MacArthur High School
Army JROTC
San Antonio, Texas

East Aurora High School Navy JROTC Aurora, Illinois

> **Evans High School** Army JROTC Evans, Georgia

Everglades High School Army JROTC Miramar, Florida

Fern Creek High School Marine Corps JROTC Louisville, Kentucky

2014 ALL-SERVICE JUDGING CORPS



<u>Judges listed from left to right, front row to back row:</u>

Army: SSG Audra Rose, SSG Christopher Offringa, SFC Jason Bullock, ISG Michael Jones,
SGM Blaine Huston, 1SG Duncan MacPhail, MSG Leonard Hutton, SFC Travis Knudsen, SFC Polly Schmidt
Marine Corps: GySgt Eloisa Sanchez, Sgt Lindsey Rodriguez, Sgt Jonathan Yeneic, Sgt David Myhre,
Sgt Brian DaRosa, Sgt Jacob Wiley, Sgt Alexandria Perry, SSgt Marco Ibarra
Navy: CPO Joseph Obleton II, PO2 Theresa Pham, PO2 Brendan Dicarlo, PO3 Connor Swearingen,
PO2 Mathew Coleman, PO1 Justin West, PO1 Desiree Black, SCPO Laveda Basford
Air Force: SrA Michelle Kimberly, MSgt Larry Nicholson, TSgt Sterling Amos, SMSgt Jeffrey Taylor,
TSgt Rodric Riley, TSgt Nicholas Jiles, MSgt Herman Ybarra, SSgt Kristopher Benavidez

Fleming Island High School Navy JROTC Fleming Island, Florida

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

> Freedom High School Navy JROTC Tampa, Florida

Gloucester High School Marine Corps JROTC Gloucester, Massachusetts

Hebron High School Navy JROTC Carrollton, Texas

Hereford High School Marine Corps JROTC Hereford, Texas

Hubbard High School Army JROTC Chicago, Illinois

Independent Soloists Non-Affiliated Corona, California Sunrise, Florida Ewa Beach, Hawaii James Madison High School Army JROTC San Antonio, Texas

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

Lynn English High School
Marine Corps JROTC
Lynn, Massachusetts

Marmion Academy Army JROTC Aurora, Illinois

Miami Coral Park Sr. High School Army JROTC Miami, Florida

Mount Tabor High School Army JROTC Winston-Salem, North Carolina

> Newnan High School Air Force JROTC Newnan, Georgia

Newsome High School Army JROTC Lithia, Florida North Miami Beach Sr. High School Army JROTC N.Miami Beach, Florida

North Point High School Air Force JROTC Waldorf, Maryland

North Salem High School Army JROTC Salem, Oregon

Oak Ridge Military Academy Army JROTC Oak Ridge, North Carolina

Oakland Mills High School
Air Force JROTC
Columbia, Maryland

Papillion-La Vista South
High School
Navy JROTC
Papillion, Nebraska

Passaic High School Navy JROTC Passaic, New Jersey

Palmetto High School Army JROTC Palmetto, Florida

Prairie High School
Air Force JROTC
Battle Ground, Washington

Ridge Community High School Army JROTC Davenport, Florida Ringgold High School Army JROTC Ringgold, Georgia

Riverview High School Army JROTC Sarasota, Florida

Robert McQueen High School Army JROTC Reno, Nevada

Ronald Reagan High School Army JROTC San Antonio, Texas

> **Seneca High School** Marine Corps JROTC Louisville, Kentucky

Smith Cotton High School Army JROTC Sedalia, Missouri

Southeast Guilford High School Navy JROTC Greensboro, North Carolina

> Summerlin Academy Army JROTC Bartow, Florida

The Marching Elites Non-Affiliated Hampton, Virginia

Theodore Roosevelt High School Army JROTC San Antonio, Texas

Thomas C. Clark High School Air Force JROTC San Antonio, Texas

Tomball Memorial High School Marine Corps JROTC Tomball, Texas

United South High School Marine Corps JROTC Laredo, Texas

Waipahu High School Army JROTC Waipahu, Hawaii

West Charlotte High School Army JROTC Charlotte, North Carolina

West Creek High School Army JROTC Clarksville, Tennessee

West Orange High School Air Force JROTC Winter Garden, Florida

Winston Churchill High School Army JROTC San Antonio, Texas

Winter Springs High School Army JROTC Winter Springs, Florida

> York Comprehensive High School Navy JROTC York, South Carolina

Sports Network International extends our sincere appreciation to every JROIC 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.



Drill Hall of Fame

At the National High School Drill Team Championships in May 2014, two more names were added to the list of DHOF inductees. This amazing Hall of Fame was started in 2012 with 13 original inductees. This illustrious, diverse and amazing group of drill icons are celebrated each year as more join their ranks. These individuals and groups have been earmarked as the standard bearers to lead all others. Scores of other individuals and groups were considered and most all brought extremely strong credentials to the table. However, despite the amazingly tough choices, we have added two more to the Drill Hall of Fame. We will always cherish the impact each has made to the drill world and we look forward to expanding this field annually each May at the National H.S. Drill Team Championships.

2014 Drill Hall of Fame Inductees



MSqt. Ken Madden: Master Sergeant Ken Madden was borr at Mitchel Field on 26 June 1953. He was selected for Military Training Instructor duty in April 1975 and was assigned to the 3710 and 3708 Basic Military Training Squadrons. He returned to MTI duty in November 1982 and was assigned to the 3708 Basic Military

CDR Armando Solis & Flour Bluff High School: CDR Armando

HISTORICAL INFLUENCES

- Baron Friedrich von Steuben
- John "Black Jack" Pershing & the Pershing Rifles

ORGANIZATIONS & THEIR GUIDING FORCE

- 3 The U.S. Army Drill Team (The Old Guard)
- Mr. Paul Naki
- & The King's Guard • The National High School
- **Drill Team Championships &** Sports Network International
- 6 Mr. Constantine H. Wilson & **New Guard America**
- United States Marine Corps Silent Drill Platoon

SCHOOLS & INSTRUCTORS

- Salle Military Academy
- © CMSgt Frank Killebrew & Oxon Hill High School
- Major Odell Graves
- MGySgt Douglas Dunlapp & Fern Creek High School
- **1** LTC James Rose & Riderettes Theodore Roosevelt H.S.
- Watch, Winston Churchill H.S

- Abdul Al-Romaizan
- **6** Donovan White
- 1stSgt. Christopher Borghese



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Paintball
Leadership Reaction Course
Olympic Challenge Course
Drill Competition
Army Physical Fitness Test

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A Look Around the Nationals and JROTC Universe



Cadet First to Win National Coalition of Homeless Veterans Honor

A selfless Nokomis Regional H.S. student in Newport, Maine Army JROTC who spearheaded raising more than \$22,000 to help homeless veterans with health care issues has become the first teenager ever honored with the top award from the National Coalition of Homeless Veterans.

Felix Thibodeau, IV, 17, supervised roughly ten JROTC cadets last summer raising money for VA Maine Healthcare System-Togus and its work with homeless veterans. Starting July 20 for roughly one month, Thibodeau and the cadets raised about \$15,600, working at tables outside local businesses. During school break in February, they did the same thing, raising another \$7,000. Thibodeau's enthusiasm for the project came naturally. The Etna native said he has wanted to be in the Army since he can remember.

"I could not have gotten nearly as far as I did without the help of the cadets with me," said Thibodeau, who is a cadet LTC in JROTC. "We were standing outside for 13-hour shifts in the middle of February. People like seeing high school students getting involved in the community and that goes back to JROTC and the core values it instills."

All cadets can take great pride in the efforts of cadet Thibodeau to further the positive view JROTC has across this great land of ours!

West Creek HS Captures Nationals Spirit Banner Award

Every year, SNI selects a single school that best embodies the hard work, excellence in the face of adversity, and overall champion spirit of the Nationals to reign as the Spirit Award winner. Battalion Commander c/SGM Ken'Darrius Johnson (on left) representing the 2014 Spirit Award winning Army Junior ROTC program



at West Creek High School in West Creek, Tennessee receives their award from Sports Network International Event Manager Jennifer Ladd (on right) on stage during the Masters Level Awards Ceremony in Daytona Beach. West Creek has steadily improved and now maintains several top nationally ranked extracurricular programs led by the Raider team and their competition drill program. The cadets excel under the JROTC leadership of CSM Floden, SGM Keener, 1SG Luckett, and 1SG Arnold!

Cadet Fights the Modern-Day "Battle of the Bulge"

Cody Hampton is a senior at Cookeville HS in Cookeville, TN. This 4th year JROTC cadet had a goal of joining the Marine Corps Delayed Entry Program. At 260 pounds and 17 years old, his dream was not possible without a big change. After 5 months of a new lifestyle, the 6'-2" teen now weighs under 210 pounds — a difference of nearly 50 pounds!



This amazing new life odyssey began when

Sqt. Taylor Hartman,

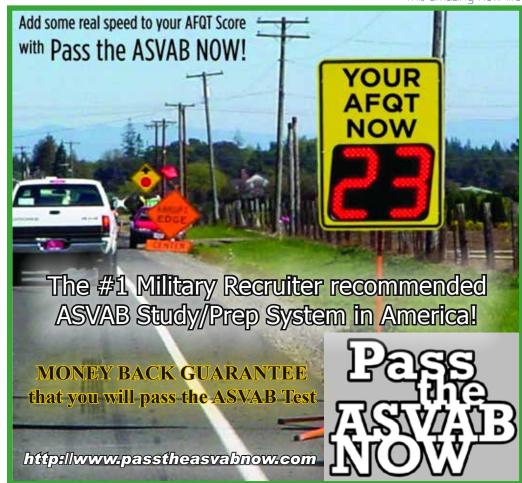
a local Marine Corps recruiter told Hampton, 'With that weight, you'll never get into any part of the military,' So Hampton committed to dropping the pounds — which meant rigorous physical training and diet changes. So far, the future Marine has been amazed by the results. "I'm just like, 'Wow, this is actually working!" he said.

Hampton said his passion to serve his country goes back to his great-grandfather, the late Mac Bryant, who was in the Army during in World War II. "He really inspired me. Every time I'm working out and started getting weak, I'm

Hampton said the Army Junior ROTC program, where he's earned the rank of cadet second lieutenant, has also been a big inspiration. "For me, it's all about making myself a better citizen," he said. "It's helped me physically and mentally, and I've also learned discipline."

like, 'Come on, you can do this."

Retired Col. Nickey Philpot, SAI at CHS, is clearly a big supporter saying, "It's just a clear example of when a young man or a young lady is properly motivated, they can really make great strides," he said. "And this program helps facilitate that in schools today around the world!"



Drive-Up AF Nationals = Do You Want EXCELLENCE With That?

In a giant mind shift, with budgets tight and travel/billeting expensive, SNI was completely impressed when several huge supporters of the AF Nationals approached us about how much the event meant to their cadets and parents and asked if there was ANY WAY to bring that great experience closer to their home? Several long conversations later, enter the Air Force Nationals Region Championships Series.



Spreading these event sites geographically into multiple impressive venues around the country will allow schools to save greatly on their costs, make the event more accessible to more AFJROTC units, and give all of these programs the National notoriety, unparalleled competition excellence and general first-class ambiance your drill & ceremony cadets deserve from their hours of selfless devotion to the program.

Also, beginning this year, the Air Force Nationals will maintain both a solo & dual Armed Ex, and Unarmed Dual Ex events. As these events don't count towards the overall title but rather for personal glory, they are OPEN TO ALL JROTC CADETS! We hope to make this something very special for your most talented exhibition drillers and build an all-service bond across the Region.

The future looks bright for the Air Force Nationals. We hope all AFJROTC programs will make their attendance a huge target of their annual drill team calendar. Your cadets will learn a lot and will remember their efforts on the big stage for a lifetime!

Jean K. Weil Scholarship Winners Take Top Honors of all Nationals Seniors

Selecting only TWO graduating seniors at the NHSDTC as the most outstanding overall cadets is an almost impossible job! The finalists are reviewed involving their academic, writing, personal recommendations and overall unit contribution. This arduous review of several dozen glowing Nationals cadets from the thousands attending is a true labor of love by the Scholarship Review Committee who bring this number to just five finalists. These five then participate in on-site interviews with JKW Scholarship Board Member, Mr. Keith Warren, who alone selects the top two cadets for this prestigious \$1,000 merit based award.

For the first time in the decade plus history of the JKW scholarship program, both winners came from not only the same service or the same city, they came from the same PROGRAM! Jessica Krzywonski (shown left) and Alex Usseglio (shown right) from drill powerhouse Brandeis HS in San Antonio,



Texas accept their scholarship plaques with JKW Board Member and former NHSDTC and WDC competitor, Mr. Keith Warren (center left) and Sports Network International President Samantha Ste. Claire (far right).

Along with the notoriety of earning the title as BEST graduating cadet at the Nationals, the \$1,000 scholarship is used toward their future scholastic expenses. To see more on this prestigious award as well as how to apply, go to the on-line home at: http://jkw.thenationals.net.

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2014 Solo Winners

2014

First Place:

Samuel Gozo Second Place: Michael Renn

King's Guard Award Winner

Third Place:

Chris Haley

Adam Jeup

2014 Dual/Quad Winners

First Place: Anthony Barbosa & Jesus Barbosa

Second Place: Michael Renn & Dylan Baine

Third Place: Wendling & Kaiser & Pacheco & Kidder

Reduce your WDC Solo Entry Fee 25% by earning a QUALIFIED BERTH in the event. Simply enter one of several official WDC qualifier competitions either on-site or on-line throughout the year. Go to the WDC website for more details on this brave new world of professional drill for all!



Elite drillers and those who want to be attend the World Drill Championships, making this event the finest collection of post high school exhibition drillers ever assembled in a single location each & every year. Founded and funded each year by drill enthusiast and former nationally-ranked driller Mr. Abdul Al-Romaizan, the WDC welcome all drillers who feel they are ready to be a part of the best drill weekend ever presented. Be surrounded by the legends in drill every year and see the newest superstars graduating from the championship ranks of the NHSDTC.

THE BUZZ CAN ONLY BE EXPERIENCED IN THE OCEN CENTER COMPETITION ARENA!

This premier event is the world's leading competition for those post-high school SOLO & SPECIAL (2-4 person) routines that become legendary overnight! This international event is operated for independent, college, military reserve or active-duty drillers. With the motto, "Dare Mighty Things", WDC serves to take drill to the next level beyond the high school arena. Winners are crowned on the biggest stage in drill during the Masters Level Awards Ceremony of the National High School Drill Team Championships. The WDC is simply without parallel - ask anyone who has been there! Drillers of all skill levels are urged to be a part of the brother and sisterhood that is trademark of the WDC!

> You'll come for the competition... but the fellowship and camaraderie will have you back year after year!

"The World Drill Championships, through the work of drill guru and entrepreneur Andrea Bryant, continue to march to new heights of excellence. It was never meant to be the biggest professional drill meet, just the best!"



- Justin Gates Competition Director World Drill Championships

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