



**Company B  
conquers  
the  
bayonet  
assault  
course**

p. 4

# CHEVRON

AND THE WESTERN RECRUITING REGION

“WHERE MARINES ARE MADE”



**Company L  
recruits learn  
combat water  
survival**

p. 8

Vol. 72 – Issue 7

FRIDAY, MARCH 9, 2012

## Co. A passes final inspection for graduation

BY LANCE CPL. BRIDGET M. KEANE  
*Chevron staff*

The new Marines of Company A, 1st Recruit Training Battalion, had their battalion commander's inspection at the parade deck Wednesday, aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego.

Throughout training, recruits go through a series of inspections in order to see how they've progressed in Marine Corps knowledge, core values, and rifle and uniform maintenance.

“This is a final test for them to show all the hard work they've done,” said Sgt. Joseph Rice, senior drill instructor, Co. B, 1st RTBn. “This will show us how they'll present themselves as Marines.”

The inspection ensures that each Marine can properly clean and maintain their M-16A4 service rifles, test their Marine Corps history and knowledge while properly wearing their inspection-ready

Service “A” uniform.

When each Marine is being looked over, they first perform “inspection arms,” which is done to show that the chamber of the rifle is cleared to be safely inspected. The inspector looks to see if the Marine properly executes “inspection arms” with confidence and precision.

Their rifles are then closely checked for cleanliness; they're inspected to be free of dust and rust and other discrepancies. The cleanliness of a rifle is important because dirt and rust can cause malfunctions.

“We check to see if they learned how to properly clean and take care of their rifles,” said Capt. Jeffery Marston, lead series commander, Co. A, 1st RTBn. “Weapons maintenance is a big part of these inspections, because every Marine is a rifleman.”

While their rifles are being inspected,

see CO. A ▶ 2



Lance Cpl. Bridget M. Keane

Lt. Col. Daniel R. Kazmier, commanding officer, Company A, 1st Recruit Training Battalion, inspects Pvt. Thomas Averill's M-16A4 service rifle at the battalion commander's inspection March 6 aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot. Their rifles are closely checked for cleanliness and are expected to be free of rust and dust and other discrepancies.



Lance Cpl. Crystal Druery

Sgt. Jesus Felix, senior drill instructor, Company G, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, motivates recruit Darius Creppel, center, and recruit Kevin Jones, right, as they took their inventory Physical Fitness Test aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego March 5 to help prepare them for the following weeks final PFT. The inventory PFT is done during week nine to give the recruits a chance to see where they stand physically and how much they've improved.

## Co. G runs into week nine with PFT

BY LANCE CPL. CRYSTAL DRUERY  
*Chevron staff*

Recruits of Company G took their inventory Physical Fitness Test aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego March 5 to help pre-

pare them for the following weeks final PFT.

“This PFT gives the whole company a gauge before our final PFT next week,” said recruit Jordan A. Mansfield, Platoon 2145, Co. G, 2nd RTBn.

Recruits take their first

PFT during week four and their final during week 10. The inventory PFT is done during week nine to give the recruits a chance to see where they stand physically and how

see PFT ▶ 6

## Marines launch new recruiting website

BY MASTER SGT. JASON BORTZ  
*USMC Quantico, Va.*

**MARINE CORPS BASE QUANTICO, Va.** – Since 2008, [www.Marines.com](http://www.Marines.com) has been one of Marine Corps Recruiting Command's most successful advertising tools in support of recruiters. In fiscal year 2011 alone, the website had over 7 million visits and produced over 79,000 qualified leads. A new [www.Marines.com](http://www.Marines.com) website was recently launched by MCRC and expectations are even higher for the new site.

“With the way technology has changed over the past few years, the standards and capabilities of websites have increased, and the new website will take advantage of these technologies to better reach people interested in the Marine Corps,” said Master Sgt. Greg Gilliam, advertising chief, MCRC.

Content will be key on the new website as the target demographic, 17- to 24-year-olds, has a various appetite for videos and photos. More than 50 new videos were produced and over 500 photos will be featured in addi-

tion to videos and photos from the existing website. Some of the new features for the new site will include an optimized lead form, which will have simplified instructions and format for an improved user experience; content that will be viewable from mobile devices; a career tool that shows the variety of opportunities in the Marine Corps; and the ability to register for a [www.Marines.com](http://www.Marines.com) account.

By registering for the account, users will be able to save videos to a queue, see new content that was added since their last visit, save the recruiter information they receive when they submit a lead form and ask questions.

“The new questions and answers feature will allow registered users to get answers from subject matter experts,” said Gilliam. “This will ensure they are getting the information they need about basic recruitment related topics. Our target demographic is accustomed to finding to their questions online. By providing this resource, we will en-

see WEB ▶ 6

# Be ready to evacuate when emergency strikes

PROVIDED BY MISSION ASSURANCE

Whenever a menace to the public health or safety is created by a calamity such as a flood, storm, fire earthquake, explosion, accident, or other disaster, authorities may close the area where the menace exists.

According to Penal Code 409.5 (a), law enforcement agencies are typically responsible for enforcing an evacuation order. Citizens have the legal right to refuse to evacuate but, if this act endangers children they are subject to arrest.

The terms "voluntary" and "mandatory" are used to describe evacuation orders. Local jurisdictions may use other terms including but not limited to "precautionary" and "immediate threat," to describe the same mandate.

The terms used are related to the significance of the danger threatening the safety of residents. If a citizen refuses an evacuation advisory it is done at his or her own peril, and the citizen assumes the inherent risks.

During an evacuation, law enforcement or other emergency personnel may determine the route(s) of travel depending on the hazard location,

behavior wind, terrain, etc.

Depending on circumstances, there may be time for citizens to collect valuables and transportable property. But, if the evacuation advisory is urgent, there may only be time for evacuees to get into their vehicles and leave via the route law enforcement officials provides. This

underscores the importance of preparation.

Everyone should consider preparing one or more emergency kits for car and home, containing drinking water, food that can be consumed with

a minimum of preparation, prescription drugs, clean

clothing and other necessities to take care of each person for a minimum of three days. For more information on preparing to face an emergency, go to [www.readysandiego.org](http://www.readysandiego.org).

In the event that San Diego County activates its computerized mass phone calling

disaster alert system, the alert will provide some directional information and, most probably, the location of a temporary evacuation center.

County residents should be aware

that the mass call system only calls land line telephones and, if telephone poles and wires close to the disaster are damaged, the system may not activate in that particular area.

Because the system uses the 9-1-1 database, only landline numbers are in the system. It will not automatically call cell phone numbers.

Those with a Voice over IP (VoIP) or cellular telephone who would like to get notification on that device, or who would like an e-mail notification, must register the device telephone number and/or email address for use by the system.

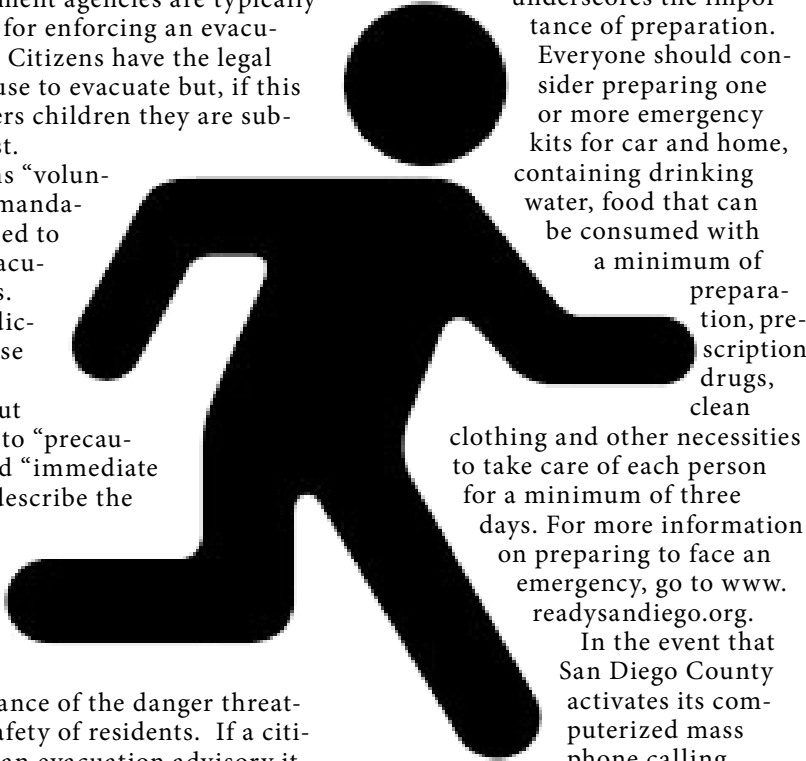
Numbers and addresses can be registered for AlertSanDiego at [www.readysandiego.org/alertsandiego/](http://www.readysandiego.org/alertsandiego/).

After an area has received an evacuation advisory, the sheriff's department will, if possible, conduct patrols to prevent theft and looting.

According to the penal code, any unauthorized persons who willfully and knowingly enter an area that has been closed, and who willfully remains within the area after receiving notice to evacuate or leave, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, Penal Code 409.5 (c).

Fire officials will determine when it is safe for residents to return home considering safety and accessibility. Residents must take the initiative to stay informed and aware via television, radio and/or announcements from law enforcement and/or emergency personnel.

For more information during an emergency go to <http://www.sdcountyemergency.com/>.



## CO. A ◀ 1

the Marines are asked questions about Marine Corps knowledge and core values.

"We test their bearing and see if they can confidently answer the questions," said Capt. Chris Urban, series commander, follow series, Co. A, 1st RTBn. "It's important to see if they understand the basic concepts of recruit training and most of all, the importance of core values."

Although the new Marines are being tested on knowledge, the inspector also asks more personal questions such as why they chose the Marine Corps over the other branches of service, what was their toughest challenge throughout

recruit training, and what they're taking away from their training experience.

Once the Marine's rifle has been inspected, it is returned to them and they complete "inspection arms" by sending the bolt home and finish the drill movement.

They are then looked over in their uniforms to make sure they fit correctly and if they know the regulations of wearing each uniform properly.

The Marines need to leave MCRD in a proper-fitting uniform as well as the knowledge how to care for them and how to confidently wear them in accordance with Marine Corps orders, said Marston, a 33-year-old Medford, Oregon native.

One of the traits that Marines have

instilled in them throughout recruit training is confidence. By demonstrating confidence, Marines are able to succeed in mission accomplishment in their careers.

"In order to perform the best, we need to look our best," said Pvt. Brandon Wakefield, Platoon 1001, Co. A. "If our buckles don't shine, we don't shine."

The Marines display military bearing and show that they are confident in what they have learned throughout their time here.

The battalion commander's inspection is the last test Marines go through before graduating recruit training, but it's a small step to prepare them for the many tests they face as they begin their Marine Corps careers.

## BRIEFS

### Spring ahead

Daylight savings time goes into effect this weekend at 2 a.m. Sunday. Remember to set your clocks ahead one-hour Saturday before bed.

### Steam Outage

A Depot wide steam outage is scheduled for Sunday and Monday. The outage begins at 8 p.m. Sunday and continues until 10 p.m. Monday. The outage will affect all steam space heating, steam hot water heating and steam cooking operations. If there are any comments or concerns, call Rick Hatcher- Facilities Manager at (619) 524-4372.

### Be a Hero

Holmes Elementary School is looking for volunteers to assist in their 2012 "Holmes Education Run Off" run March 30 from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Volunteers will help pass out water bottles and encourage sponsored children to run. Two hours of your time will ensure the development of a physical fitness course and the continuation of music and arts enrichment classes. To volunteer, contact Mr. Marc Ayalin at the MCRD San Diego Public Affairs Office at (619) 524-8724.

### Don't go there

The following "off-limits" orders are imposed on all military personnel in the San Diego Region.

- Angelo's Kars, 222 S. Coast Highway, Oceanside, CA.
- Angelo's Kars, 226 S. Coast Highway, Oceanside, CA.
- Willie Henderson Park/San Diego City Park at 45th Street and Logan Ave.

The following are off-limits areas and prohibited activities at times specified, due to violent criminal and gang activity or recurrent misconduct by military members:

- Loitering in the 2600 to 3600 block of main street, including the McDonald's and Burger King parking lots on 28th Street, San Diego from midnight until 4 a.m.
- Loitering in Denny's parking lot (south side of E street between Woodlawn Avenue and Broadway), 692 E Street, Chula Vista, from midnight to 4 a.m., Wednesday to Sunday.

The following areas are not off limits but are potentially dangerous and caution should be exercised when in the vicinity:

- Naval Base San Diego perimeter area.
- Trolley stations. Many trolley stations become potentially dangerous areas after trolley services secure, especially at Palomar Street and San Ysidro.
- Tijuana.

### Out to the ball game

The Padres have issued a new military season pass for junior enlisted military personnel (pay grades E1 to E3 only). This pass is available for \$99. It entitles the holder to one upper reserved seat for up to 80 home games in 2012 (excludes Opening Day, April 5). The passes are currently on sale exclusively at local military bases. The passes will also be available at the Petco Park box office. A military identification card is required to buy and to use the pass. As in years past, all active duty military personnel, reservists and veterans will continue to enjoy \$6 off single-game tickets priced \$13.50 or higher, with the exception of the All-You-Can-Eat seats.

### Send briefs to:

[rdsd\\_pao@usmc.mil](mailto:rdsd_pao@usmc.mil). The Chevron staff reserves the right to publish only those briefs that comply with Department of Defense regulations and the standards of the U.S. Government.

**Come out and see  
(it's completely free)**

**The Commandant's Own  
US Marine Drum and Bugle Corps  
The Silent Drill Platoon  
and  
The Color Guard of the  
Marine Corps  
On the Depot**




**March 10  
2:30 p.m.**

**Shepherd  
Memorial Drill  
Field**



# Be ready to evacuate when emergency strikes

PROVIDED BY MISSION ASSURANCE

Whenever a menace to the public health or safety is created by a calamity such as a flood, storm, fire earthquake, explosion, accident, or other disaster, authorities may close the area where the menace exists.

According to Penal Code 409.5 (a), law enforcement agencies are typically responsible for enforcing an evacuation order. Citizens have the legal right to refuse to evacuate but, if this act endangers children they are subject to arrest.

The terms "voluntary" and "mandatory" are used to describe evacuation orders. Local jurisdictions may use other terms including but not limited to "precautionary" and "immediate threat," to describe the same mandate.

The terms used are related to the significance of the danger threatening the safety of residents. If a citizen refuses an evacuation advisory it is done at his or her own peril, and the citizen assumes the inherent risks.

During an evacuation, law enforcement or other emergency personnel may determine the route(s) of travel depending on the hazard location,

behavior wind, terrain, etc.

Depending on circumstances, there may be time for citizens to collect valuables and transportable property. But, if the evacuation advisory is urgent, there may only be time for evacuees to get into their vehicles and leave via the route law enforcement officials provides. This

underscores the importance of preparation.

Everyone should consider preparing one or more emergency kits for car and home, containing drinking water, food that can be consumed with

a minimum of preparation, prescription drugs, clean

clothing and other necessities to take care of each person for a minimum of three days. For more information on preparing to face an emergency, go to [www.readysandiego.org](http://www.readysandiego.org).

In the event that San Diego County activates its computerized mass phone calling

disaster alert system, the alert will provide some directional information and, most probably, the location of a temporary evacuation center.

County residents should be aware

that the mass call system only calls land line telephones and, if telephone poles and wires close to the disaster are damaged, the system may not activate in that particular area.

Because the system uses the 9-1-1 database, only landline numbers are in the system. It will not automatically call cell phone numbers.

Those with a Voice over IP (VoIP) or cellular telephone who would like to get notification on that device, or who would like an e-mail notification, must register the device telephone number and/or email address for use by the system.

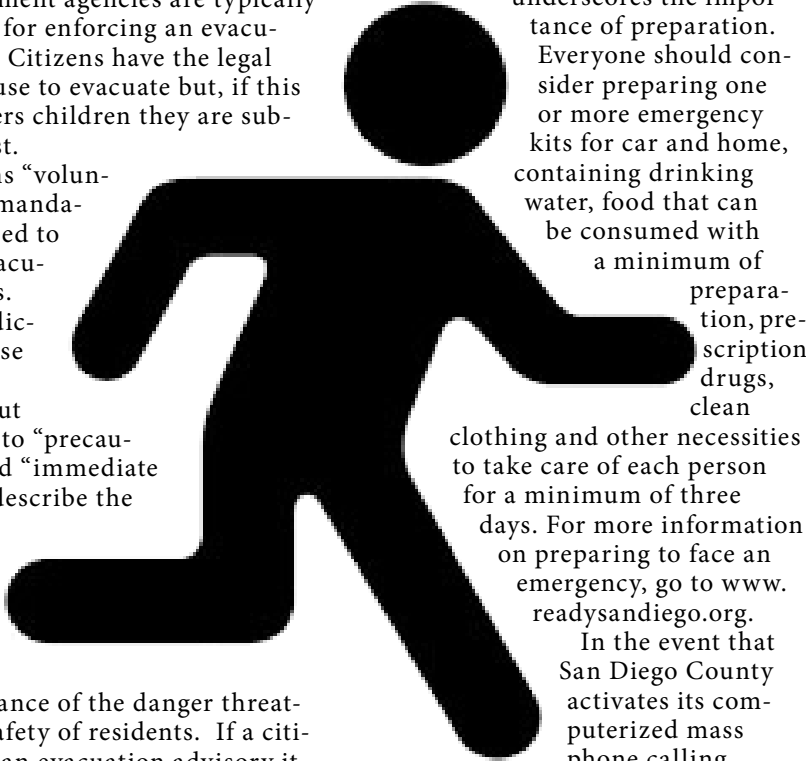
Numbers and addresses can be registered for AlertSanDiego at [www.readysandiego.org/alertsandiego/](http://www.readysandiego.org/alertsandiego/).

After an area has received an evacuation advisory, the sheriff's department will, if possible, conduct patrols to prevent theft and looting.

According to the penal code, any unauthorized persons who willfully and knowingly enter an area that has been closed, and who willfully remains within the area after receiving notice to evacuate or leave, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, Penal Code 409.5 (c).

Fire officials will determine when it is safe for residents to return home considering safety and accessibility. Residents must take the initiative to stay informed and aware via television, radio and/or announcements from law enforcement and/or emergency personnel.

For more information during an emergency go to <http://www.sdcountyemergency.com/>.



## CO. A 1

the Marines are asked questions about Marine Corps knowledge and core values.

"We test their bearing and see if they can confidently answer the questions," said Capt. Chris Urban, series commander, follow series, Co. A, 1st RTBn. "It's important to see if they understand the basic concepts of recruit training and most of all, the importance of core values."

Although the new Marines are being tested on knowledge, the inspector also asks more personal questions such as why they chose the Marine Corps over the other branches of service, what was their toughest challenge throughout

recruit training, and what they're taking away from their training experience.

Once the Marine's rifle has been inspected, it is returned to them and they complete "inspection arms" by sending the bolt home and finish the drill movement.

They are then looked over in their uniforms to make sure they fit correctly and if they know the regulations of wearing each uniform properly.

The Marines need to leave MCRD in a proper-fitting uniform as well as the knowledge how to care for them and how to confidently wear them in accordance with Marine Corps orders, said Marston, a 33-year-old Medford, Oregon native.

One of the traits that Marines have

instilled in them throughout recruit training is confidence. By demonstrating confidence, Marines are able to succeed in mission accomplishment in their careers.

"In order to perform the best, we need to look our best," said Pvt. Brandon Wakefield, Platoon 1001, Co. A. "If our buckles don't shine, we don't shine."

The Marines display military bearing and show that they are confident in what they have learned throughout their time here.

The battalion commander's inspection is the last test Marines go through before graduating recruit training, but it's a small step to prepare them for the many tests they face as they begin their Marine Corps careers.

## BRIEFS

### Spring ahead

Daylight savings time goes into effect this weekend at 2 a.m. Sunday. Remember to set your clocks ahead one-hour Saturday before bed.

### Steam Outage

A Depot wide steam outage is scheduled for Sunday and Monday. The outage begins at 8 p.m. Sunday and continues until 10 p.m. Monday. The outage will affect all steam space heating, steam hot water heating and steam cooking operations. If there are any comments or concerns, call Rick Hatcher- Facilities Manager at (619) 524-4372.

### Be a Hero

Holmes Elementary School is looking for volunteers to assist in their 2012 "Holmes Education Run Off" run March 30 from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Volunteers will help pass out water bottles and encourage sponsored children to run. Two hours of your time will ensure the development of a physical fitness course and the continuation of music and arts enrichment classes. To volunteer, contact Mr. Marc Ayalin at the MCRD San Diego Public Affairs Office at (619) 524-8724.

### Don't go there

The following "off-limits" orders are imposed on all military personnel in the San Diego Region.

- Angelo's Kars, 222 S. Coast Highway, Oceanside, CA.
- Angelo's Kars, 226 S. Coast Highway, Oceanside, CA.
- Willie Henderson Park/San Diego City Park at 45th Street and Logan Ave.

The following are off-limits areas and prohibited activities at times specified, due to violent criminal and gang activity or recurrent misconduct by military members:

- Loitering in the 2600 to 3600 block of main street, including the McDonald's and Burger King parking lots on 28th Street, San Diego from midnight until 4 a.m.
  - Loitering in Denny's parking lot (south side of E street between Woodlawn Avenue and Broadway), 692 E Street, Chula Vista, from midnight to 4 a.m., Wednesday to Sunday.
- The following areas are not off limits but are potentially dangerous and caution should be exercised when in the vicinity:
- Naval Base San Diego perimeter area.
  - Trolley stations. Many trolley stations become potentially dangerous areas after trolley services secure, especially at Palomar Street and San Ysidro.
  - Tijuana.

### Out to the ball game

The Padres have issued a new military season pass for junior enlisted military personnel (pay grades E1 to E3 only). This pass is available for \$99. It entitles the holder to one upper reserved seat for up to 80 home games in 2012 (excludes Opening Day, April 5). The passes are currently on sale exclusively at local military bases. The passes will also be available at the Petco Park box office. A military identification card is required to buy and to use the pass. As in years past, all active duty military personnel, reservists and veterans will continue to enjoy \$6 off single-game tickets priced \$13.50 or higher, with the exception of the All-You-Can-Eat seats.

### Send briefs to:

[rdsd\\_pao@usmc.mil](mailto:rdsd_pao@usmc.mil). The Chevron staff reserves the right to publish only those briefs that comply with Department of Defense regulations and the standards of the U.S. Government.

**Come out and see  
(it's completely free)**

**The Commandant's Own  
US Marine Drum and Bugle Corps  
The Silent Drill Platoon  
and  
The Color Guard of the  
Marine Corps  
On the Depot**




**March 10  
2:30 p.m.**

**Shepherd  
Memorial Drill  
Field**





Lance Cpl. Crystal Druery

Recruit Lawrence A. Short, Platoon 1029, Company B, 1st Recruit Training Battalion, executes his way through the bayonet assault course as part of the Marine Corps Martial Arts Program training Feb. 29 aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego. Recruits are taught thrusts, jabs, and slashes with bayonets, then use them in the bayonet assault course.



Lance Cpl. Crystal Druery

Staff Sergeants Bryan Reza, right, and Rodger Reyes, both drill instructors with Company B, 1st Recruit Training Battalion, correct Recruit Tray L. Charleston, Platoon 1035, Co. B, as he learns bayonet techniques as part of the Marine Corps Martial Arts Program training Feb. 29 aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego.

## One mind, any weapon: Recruits of Company B learn bayonet techniques

BY LANCE CPL. BRIDGET M. KEANE  
Chevron staff

The Marine Corps Martial Arts Program is one of the many requirements that every recruit aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego must go through in order to earn their Eagle, Globe, and Anchor.

They are put through mental and physical exhaustion for long, strenuous hours in the hot sun to perfect every technique, to instill a combat mindset and warrior mentality.

The recruits of Company B, 1st Recruit Training Battalion, went through the bayonet assault course and pugil sticks as part of MCMAP training Feb. 29.

MCMAP is a program developed by the Marine Corps that combines hand-to-hand and close quarter combat techniques with team-building functions.

It also includes instruction in mental and physical discipline to prepare them for a combat situation.

Recruits are taught MCMAP as self-defense in a combat situation and to also instill combat mindset through discipline.

"The recruits start with the basics here," said Sgt. Garrett Griebenow, martial arts instructor trainer with the Instructional Training Company. "MCMAP and the bayonet techniques are some of the basic training that they are required to learn."

Each recruit is issued their own M-16A4 service rifle in phase one of recruit training and taught from the very beginning how and why their rifle will become their best friend. They must know every function of a rifle and how to fully operate one when it comes to marksmanship, as well as how to defend themselves in worst-case scenarios when ammunition is no longer useful to them.

Through the bayonet assault course, each recruit is taught how to properly execute bayonet techniques and are put in a simulated combat situation, said Griebenow, a 25-year-old Jackson, Mich. native.

A bayonet is a knife designed to fit underneath the muzzle of a rifle effectively turning it into a spear.

The recruits are taught thrusts, jabs, and slashes with bayonets. They then utilize them in a course with dummies designed to simulate a combat environment.

"The big mindset is to prepare and expose them to close combat situations," said Staff Sgt. John A. Saracuy, chief drill instructor, Co. B, 1st RTBn. "In a worst-case scenario when they have to use the bayonet, they have the natural instinct of how to properly defend themselves."

After the recruits go through the bayonet assault course, they

suit up and are handed pugil sticks to practice one-on-one defense tactics with an opponent.

Pugil sticks are a heavily padded pole-like training weapon used for training in rifle and bayonet combat.

"Pugil sticks show the recruits how to properly use the techniques," said Saracuy. "Even when they're tired and exhausted, they can still fight through it and execute the techniques." Recruits battle one another for the combat experience of exhaustion and learn how to use their skills on a moving target.

Recruit Lawrence A. Short, Platoon 1029, Co. B, 1st RTBn, said pugil sticks are a great training tool and allows you the practice of the different techniques.

"It's different when you're actually doing it against an opponent," Short said. "Instead of just hearing the instructor saying, 'Execute, execute, execute,' we really get to utilize the skills."

Short, an 18-year-old from Casa Grande, Ariz. said MCMAP and bayonet techniques are important because if a Marine happens to be disarmed during battle, they'll be able to get back into the fight and turn their body into a weapon.

"It's all about mission accomplishment," said

Short. "You can definitely do more damage with a bayonet."

Short feels confident with the bayonet techniques and confidence is one of the many qualities that recruits gain in recruit training.

"These courses bring the recruits out of their comfort zone," said Saracuy, a 28-year-old-year Los Angeles native. "We want them to feel confident and have the natural instinct to be able to turn on and off that combat mindset in certain situations."

The recruits of Co. B will continue MCMAP training to receive their tan belts, the first of five belts that Marines can earn throughout their Marine Corps career.



Lance Cpl. Crystal Druery

Recruits of Company B, 1st Recruit Training Battalion, execute bayonet techniques with pugil sticks against each other as part of the Marine Corps Martial Arts Program training Feb. 29 aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego. The recruits use the pugil sticks as a training weapon to practice the bayonet techniques they just learned.



Lance Cpl. Bridget M. Keane

Sgt. William A. Getts, chief drill instructor, Company B, 1st Recruit Training Battalion, assists recruits by correcting them while they execute bayonet assault techniques as part of the Marine Corps Martial Arts Program training Feb. 29 aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego. The recruits are taught mental and physical discipline to prepare them for a combat situation.



Lance Cpl. Crystal Druery

Staff Sgt. Bryan Reza, drill instructor, Company B, 1st Recruit Training Battalion, corrects recruit Kevin D. Dezelske, Platoon 1035, Co. B, as he learns bayonet techniques as part of the Marine Corps Martial Arts Program training Feb. 29 aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego. Each recruit is taught how to properly execute bayonet techniques and then put in a simulated combat environment.

# New Marine, university graduate earns strong leadership skills

BY LANCE CPL. CRYSTAL DRUERY  
Chevron staff

When Pfc. Christopher Olson graduated from the University of Nebraska at Kearney, he chose to pursue his dream of becoming a Marine Corps officer. He attended Platoon Leaders Class as his entrance into Officer Candidates School, a school at Quantico, Va. where potential Marine Corps officers prove their ability to lead others.

Despite not achieving his goal of becoming a Marine officer and completing PLC he was given a second chance at earning the title of Marine. Although offered a second chance at becoming a Marine Corps officer, Olson decided to broaden his horizons and develop his leadership skills by becoming an enlisted Marine. Olson said he felt recruit training would teach him the basics of leadership and help him become a better leader.

Olson's father, who served 20 years as an enlisted Marine, was one of Olson's influences to join the Marine Corps.

"I joined for my community, family and the professional development I hope to gain from the Marine Corps," said Olson.

Now Olson is graduating as the guide for platoon 1001, Company A, 1st Recruit Training Battalion March 9

from Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego. The guide is a recruit chosen to be the leader of the whole platoon.

In the drill instructors' absence, the guide is expected to maintain discipline and order amongst the recruits.

Since forming day one, Olson has held the title of guide for Platoon 1001. He constantly displayed a mature and productive demeanor that his fellow recruits tried to emulate and his drill instructors acknowledged those qualities.

"He was chosen as our guide because when people make a mistake in one area, they learn from it and aren't going to make it again," said Sgt. Joseph Rice, senior drill instructor, Co. A, 1st RTBn. "He was kind of quiet at first but once he saw the influence a guide has, he really started to progress and get things done."

Olson, an Aurora, Neb. native, used his experience from PLC to help him through the challenges he faced during recruit training. Now that Olson has developed his leadership skills, Rice said he feels confident that Olson will pass on the knowledge he has gained from his experiences, just like he did at recruit training.

"Once the other recruits realized Olson already knew what was going on and his background, they definitely

looked up to him and listened to him," said Rice.

The 23-year-old was able to maintain his title as guide for the duration of recruit training because the drill instructors could rely on him to get things done, even when they didn't ask him to, said Sgt. Joseph Weaver, drill instructor, Co. A, 1st RTBn. The guide typically gets changed out during the cycle until the drill instructors feel they have found a person best suited to lead fellow recruits but Olson managed to remain in the position throughout the 12 weeks.

"He has been a good leader," said Pfc. Bradon Welfl, squad leader, Co. A, 1st RTBn. "He always kept the platoon on task and motivated by telling us why we needed to get things done."

Now that Olson has successfully completed recruit training, he has the choice to stay enlisted like his father did. Once he has continued to demonstrate his leadership potential and has proved himself as a Marine, he can pursue commissioning programs the Marine Corps offers to enlisted Marines.

Olson isn't completely sure which route he will choose but said he hopes to continue developing his skills once all of his training is complete. Olson said he feels he can help other junior Marines with his life experiences.



Lance Cpl. Crystal Druery

**Pfc. Christopher Olson, Company A, 1st Recruit Training Battalion, represents platoon 1001 as the guide on Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego. Since forming day one of recruit training Olson has demonstrated leadership skills by maintaining the billet of guide for his platoon.**

## WEB ◀ 1

sure that the people are receiving accurate information directly from the source."

The new site will also be integrated with social media, which has grown in popularity over the past few years. Visitors to the new website will have quick

access to MCRC's social properties and the homepage will feature a social stream that will display a feed from MCRC's social properties such as Facebook and Twitter posts. All content on the site will be shareable through social media.

"By allowing prospects to share content from the site with their peers, we open another avenue by which the mes-

sage of the Marine Corps can be spread to the American public," said Capt. Frederick Evert, lead generation officer, MCRC. "This method of dissemination is free and allows young men and women to act as advocates for the Marine Corps brand."

Ensuring that the new site reaches the target demographic and provides accu-

rate and viable content is vital to build upon the success of the old website.

"The new site will reach a broad spectrum of audiences in the target demographic," said Evert.

The site will build upon the success of the old site and provide even more tools for applicants to research the Marine Corps."

## PFT ◀ 1

much they've improved.

"This is their second PFT since they've been here," said Sgt. Joseph Onello, senior drill instructor, Co. G 2nd Recruit Training Battalion. "It allows them a chance to see their progress and set a goal for next week's final PFT."

Upon graduating from recruit training and entering

the Fleet Marine Force, Marines are required to take a PFT annually. This test consists of a three-mile run and two minutes of crunches. In addition, males must perform pull-ups while females perform a flexed-arm hang.

While at recruit training, their bodies are put through numerous physical strains to help build muscle for their annual physical tests: the

Combat Fitness Test and PFT.

"Every day we have the recruits do pull ups, sit ups and pushups," said Staff Sgt. Andres Navarro, drill instructor, Co. G 2nd Recruit Training Battalion.

Navarro said having the recruits practice these exercises everyday helps them build strength and perform higher on their PFT. Throughout recruit training the recruits do strength and endurance runs to help with

their speed, since the three miles they run for is timed.

"I'm pretty sore today from last week's strength and endurance runs," said Mansfield. "But after today's PFT I feel a little better knowing where I stand physically."

Mansfield said they do pull-ups after every meal and workout everyday, which has contributed to his PFT improvement since the last one during week four.

"The recruits have shown a large improvement since their last PFT," said Onello.

Co. G only has three more weeks until graduation March 30. They will be heading to Weapons Field Training Battalion where in two weeks to take on the ultimate test, the crucible. Their new physical abilities will contribute to helping the recruits overcome the many obstacles of the crucible.

## Peter D. Fitzpatrick

### Parade Reviewing Officer

Peter D. Fitzpatrick is president of Allied Management, Ltd., a real estate and restaurant management holding company based in New York City.

A driven and results-oriented businessman, Fitzpatrick possesses a proven record of both growth and responsibilities.

After completing his stint in the Marine Corps in 1983, Peter began his career as a bartender at McGee's pub, where he tirelessly worked his way to co-owner by 1984.

By 1993, his ownership had expanded to include three restaurants. This diversified into real estate holdings shortly thereafter.

Fitzpatrick's role today, and the

main scope of his responsibilities consists of overseeing the operations, profitability and business developments of nine restaurants and seven commercial properties in New York City.

Fitzpatrick has also entered the hotel industry, opening a boutique hotel which has become a home away from home for many Military personnel and their families.

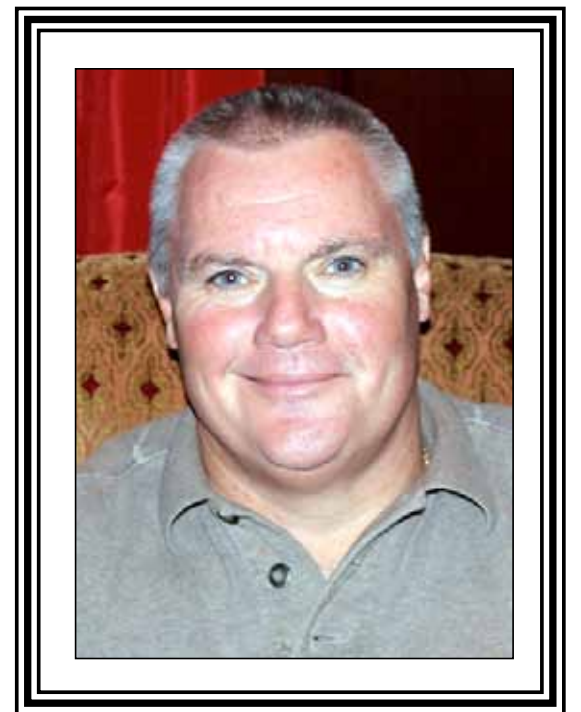
As a successful entrepreneur, Fitzpatrick is known as a visionary, motivator, problem-solver, communicator and deal-maker. He has a keen business sense and an unwavering disinterest in the status quo. He is constantly pushing the envelope in areas of new business, growth and expansion. He also possesses an insatiable curiosity about all things including business, sports, politics, religion, history and the human spirit.

Without fan-fare Fitzpatrick often sponsors fundraisers for the New York City Police and Firefighters associations, as well as for local hospitals and Churches.

Peter is involved in numerous organizations including:

- The Marine Corps Association
- The Naval League
- Friendly Sons of St. Patrick
- Knights of Columbus
- Republican National Committee
- United Restaurant Liquor Dealers
- St. James Parish
- Encore House

In addition, Fitzpatrick is currently vice chairman of the N.Y. Police Department Boxing Association, (affiliated with America's Camp and the Widow and Children's Fund), and was a proud recipient of the 1997 "Dreamers of Dreams" award, given by the Irish Business Association.





|  |  |  |  |   |   |  |   |
|--|--|--|--|---|---|--|---|
| <b>Platoon 1005</b><br>COMPANY HONOR MAN<br>Pfc. T. J. Lundy<br>Victoria, Texas<br>Recruited by<br>Staff Sgt. K. Hampton | <b>Platoon 1001</b><br>SERIES HONOR MAN<br>Pfc. C. J. Olson<br>Aurora, Neb.<br>Recruited by<br>Sgt. J. J. Jellison | <b>Platoon 1002</b><br>PLATOON HONOR MAN<br>Pfc. J. C. Combs<br>Phoenix<br>Recruited by<br>Sgt. C. G. Godsoe | <b>Platoon 1003</b><br>PLATOON HONOR MAN<br>Pfc. M. K. Muir<br>Kenosha, Wis.<br>Recruited by<br>Gunnery Sgt. K. Nguyen | <b>Platoon 1006</b><br>PLATOON HONOR MAN<br>Pfc. A. R. Funk<br>Phoenix<br>Recruited by<br>Sgt. Z. S. Jenner | <b>Platoon 1007</b><br>PLATOON HONOR MAN<br>Pfc. S. L. Farmer<br>Murrieta, Calif.<br>Recruited by<br>Staff Sgt. J. J. Jarvela | <b>Platoon 1007</b><br>HIGH SHOOTER (335)<br>Pfc. S. L. Farmer<br>Murrieta, Calif.<br>Marksmanship Instructor<br>Sgt. A. Scruggs | <b>Platoon 1007</b><br>HIGH PFT (300)<br>Pfc. K. M. Hesse<br>Kent, Wash.<br>Recruited by<br>Staff Sgt. C. Branham |
|--|--|--|--|---|---|--|---|



# ALPHA COMPANY

1st RECRUIT TRAINING BATTALION

Commanding Officer  
Sergeant Major  
Battalion Drill Master

Lt. Col. D. R. Kazmier  
Sgt. Maj. J. N. Perry  
Gunnery Sgt. S. C. Chromy



|  |   |  |   |  |
|--|---|--|---|--|
| <b>COMPANY A</b><br>Commanding Officer<br>Capt. K. E. Harris<br>Company First Sergeant<br>1st Sgt. M. R. Hackett | <b>SERIES 1001</b><br>Series Commander<br>Capt. J. C. Marston<br>Chief Drill Instructor<br>Gunnery Sgt. M. Thorpe | <b>PLATOON 1001</b><br>Senior Drill Instructor<br>Sgt. J. Rice<br>Drill Instructors<br>Sgt. N. P. Payne<br>Sgt. L. Razo<br>Sgt. J. D. Weaver                                 | <b>PLATOON 1002</b><br>Senior Drill Instructor<br>Gunnery Sgt. F. Galvan<br>Drill Instructors<br>Sgt. T. Tate<br>Staff Sgt. L. M. Ortega<br>Sgt. C. A. Gonzalez                             | <b>PLATOON 1003</b><br>Senior Drill Instructor<br>Staff Sgt. J. A. Thompson<br>Drill Instructors<br>Sgt. P. J. Aguirre<br>Sgt. W. L. Anderson<br>Sgt. J. A. Del Gado |
|  | <b>SERIES 1005</b><br>Series Commander<br>Capt. C. Urban<br>Chief Drill Instructor<br>Staff Sgt. R. A. Cezair     | <b>PLATOON 1005</b><br>Senior Drill Instructor<br>Staff Sgt. J. S. Correa<br>Drill Instructors<br>Staff Sgt. J. R. Duncan<br>Staff Sgt. O. Ramirez<br>Staff Sgt. M. E. White | <b>PLATOON 1006</b><br>Senior Drill Instructor<br>Staff Sgt. M. A. Brown<br>Drill Instructors<br>Staff Sgt. J. O. Downing<br>Staff Sgt. S. A. Roberts<br>Sgt. F. Loza<br>Sgt. J. J. Sanchez | <b>PLATOON 1007</b><br>Senior Drill Instructor<br>Sgt. J. J. Rodriguez<br>Drill Instructors<br>Sgt. R. W. Randolph<br>Sgt. C. G. Woid                                |

\* Indicates Meritorious Promotion

**PLATOON 1001**  
 Pvt. D. M. Breashers  
 Pvt. C. R. Haldeman  
 Pvt. B. R. Harper  
 Pvt. C. J. Hartman  
 Pvt. D. J. Heimgreiter  
 Pvt. A. Hernandez  
 Pvt. D. P. Higgins  
 Pvt. A. J. Hill  
 Pfc. A. R. Himes  
 Pfc. B. D. Howard  
 \*Pfc. R. Jasso  
 Pvt. C. J. Jeffrey  
 Pvt. T. C. Larsen  
 Pfc. Z. Merchant  
 Pvt. G. Munoz  
 Pvt. M. L. Nahmad  
 Pvt. R. C. Nas  
 Pfc. B. M. Nee  
 Pvt. W. B. Ohran  
 Pfc. C. J. Olson  
 Pvt. E. G. Ostrand  
 Pvt. A. Park  
 Pvt. T. J. Perterson  
 Pvt. D. E. Pittman Jr.  
 Pvt. N. D. Pollack  
 Pvt. T. A. Price  
 Pfc. C. R. Price III  
 Pvt. C. J. Quinn  
 Pvt. S. D. Ransone  
 Pvt. N. T. Render  
 Pvt. T. C. Riggs  
 Pvt. E. T. Robertson  
 Pvt. I. Rodriguez  
 Pvt. J. C. Roush  
 Pfc. P. D. Russell  
 Pfc. Z. D. Sajdera  
 Pfc. C. K. Sanchez  
 Pfc. J. J. Saucedo  
 Pvt. R. J. Schwartz  
 Pvt. J. L. Seymour  
 Pvt. C. L. Shrimplin  
 Pvt. D. H. Skelly  
 Pvt. C. W. Stewart  
 Pfc. B. J. Stosiek  
 Pfc. B. M. Straw  
 Pvt. M. A. Thomas  
 Pvt. J. D. Trujillo  
 Pvt. M. L. Tucker  
 Pvt. G. G. Vega  
 \*Pfc. B. T. Wakefield  
 Pvt. J. R. Walther  
 Pfc. A. M. Ward  
 Pvt. S. E. Weiler  
 Pvt. C. D. Welch  
 Pfc. B. M. Wellf  
 Pvt. J. L. Wilson  
 Pfc. M. D. Wilson  
 Pfc. B. J. Woods

Pvt. T. D. Wray  
 Pvt. A. C. Zanger

**PLATOON 1002**  
 Pvt. J. Alfonzo-Veliz  
 \*Pfc. T. C. Averill  
 Pfc. L. J. Banks  
 Pvt. L. M. Banks  
 \*Pfc. M. B. Campbell  
 Pvt. T. J. Cartwright  
 Pvt. T. M. Chaloux  
 Pvt. O. J. Colon Jr.  
 \*Pfc. J. C. Combs  
 Pfc. A. Dakis  
 Pvt. T. D. Dennison  
 Pvt. T. W. Derks  
 Pvt. M. R. Drown  
 Pfc. N. M. Erbe  
 Pvt. C. L. Ernst  
 Pvt. V. Espinoza-Hernandez  
 Pvt. S. J. Eubanks  
 Pfc. T. K. Eversole  
 Pvt. N. P. Funk  
 Pvt. R. Galeana  
 Pvt. P. P. Garrett  
 Pfc. T. J. Garza  
 Pfc. J. M. Gibson  
 Pvt. A. D. Gipson-Paige  
 Pvt. A. R. Goedecke  
 Pvt. R. Gomez  
 \*Pfc. A. R. Gonzaque  
 Pvt. K. T. Gould  
 Pvt. S. S. Guillen  
 Pvt. C. W. Haak  
 Pfc. A. C. Hamiel  
 Pvt. J. Han  
 Pvt. T. M. Harrington  
 Pvt. L. B. Haugh  
 Pvt. K. C. Howard  
 Pvt. J. D. Johnson  
 Pvt. I. Kahn  
 Pvt. T. N. Kontinakis  
 Pvt. E. A. Larsen  
 Pfc. J. K. Marker  
 Pvt. J. F. Martinez  
 Pvt. K. S. McCall  
 Pfc. M. P. Meyers  
 Pfc. J. M. Miles  
 Pvt. M. S. Mitchell  
 Pvt. C. B. Monson  
 Pvt. M. W. Morris  
 Pvt. G. R. Mulnix  
 Pvt. J. M. Newman  
 Pvt. D. Nguyen  
 Pvt. J. W. Nordness  
 Pvt. A. A. Notz  
 Pvt. M. J. Peat  
 Pvt. M. A. Perez  
 Pfc. R. P. Pirmantegen  
 Pfc. C. J. Powell

Pvt. C. J. Radomsky  
 Pvt. J. Richards

**PLATOON 1003**  
 Pvt. I. A. Acevedo  
 Pvt. N. C. Horney  
 Pfc. N. H. Huppert  
 Pfc. C. A. Illanez  
 Pfc. D. W. Johnson  
 Pvt. T. M. Jones  
 Pvt. C. D. Kane  
 Pvt. J. A. Kelly  
 Pfc. H. Kim  
 \*Pfc. S. G. Koehn  
 Pvt. C. S. Kraklau  
 \*Pfc. D. M. Krausch  
 \*Pfc. R. J. La Brosse  
 Pvt. J. A. Lambert  
 Pvt. L. M. Lange  
 Pvt. R. M. Langit  
 Pvt. G. V. Machado  
 Pfc. B. Manriquez  
 Pfc. K. J. Mapes  
 Pvt. V. M. Mathias-Agwiak  
 Pvt. T. R. Mayhugh  
 Pfc. J. R. Melecio Jr.  
 Pvt. C. M. Mennell Jr.  
 Pvt. K. S. Moreno  
 Pfc. M. K. Muir  
 Pvt. N. E. Murphy  
 Pvt. M. N. Nealey  
 Pfc. P. G. Neichter  
 Pfc. A. Netro II  
 Pvt. A. A. Nguyen  
 Pvt. R. J. Nuckolls  
 Pvt. A. V. Rodriguez  
 Pfc. J. T. Sandblast  
 Pvt. G. Sandoval Jr.  
 Pvt. H. V. Santoyo  
 Pvt. Z. M. Schuerbaum  
 Pvt. H. L. Schultz  
 Pvt. J. Sei  
 Pfc. R. C. Shepard II  
 Pfc. X. Shi  
 Pvt. D. J. Stigall  
 Pvt. N. A. Stortroen  
 Pfc. J. T. Stucker  
 Pvt. S. M. Swarouth  
 Pvt. C. N. Sylvester  
 Pvt. M. A. Taylor Jr.  
 Pvt. M. A. Thomas  
 Pvt. A. K. Thomason  
 Pvt. R. L. Timmerman  
 Pfc. S. Ursoonthornwattana  
 Pvt. M. W. Van Hoff  
 Pfc. I. E. Vasquez  
 Pvt. M. A. Weatherspoon

**PLATOON 1005**  
 Pvt. R. M. Acuna Jr.

Pvt. J. C. Alvarez  
 \*Pfc. I. A. Anderson  
 Pvt. K. M. Anderson  
 Pfc. T. E. Anderson  
 Pfc. A. R. Arambula  
 Pvt. L. J. Armenta  
 Pvt. L. I. Aulai  
 Pvt. S. F. Avilesmejia  
 Pfc. J. S. Bacolod  
 \*Pfc. P. J. Baker  
 Pvt. O. A. Bautista  
 Pvt. S. Bautista-Ramirez  
 Pfc. B. J. Bekius  
 Pvt. E. D. Benitez  
 Pvt. B. W. Boese  
 Pvt. G. F. Bostick  
 Pvt. L. A. Botello-Garcia  
 Pvt. J. Buchanan Jr.  
 Pvt. T. J. Burford  
 Pvt. A. J. Calabio  
 Pvt. K. Cardona  
 Pvt. M. Castellanos  
 Pvt. Z. L. Chambers  
 Pvt. E. J. Contreas  
 Pvt. T. R. Crespos  
 Pvt. S. Davila  
 Pfc. N. C. Edwards  
 Pvt. C. A. Emmons  
 Pvt. R. J. Erickson  
 Pfc. R. D. Finell  
 Pfc. C. Gardea  
 Pvt. T. C. Gould  
 Pvt. J. D. Hutzenroeder  
 Pvt. M. W. Heiningner  
 Pvt. B. K. Kahia  
 Pvt. A. C. Knaus  
 Pvt. D. A. Lopez  
 Pfc. D. S. Marquez  
 \*Pfc. J. R. Nino  
 Pvt. A. Olguin  
 Pvt. G. Ortuno  
 Pfc. C. N. Pacarro  
 Pfc. R. C. Padamada  
 Pvt. B. J. Padilla  
 Pvt. I. A. Parada  
 Pfc. E. N. Peterson  
 Pvt. S. D. Phipps  
 \*Pfc. N. W. Reinert  
 Pfc. Z. S. Ryder  
 Pvt. I. M. Sanchez  
 Pfc. A. F. Santos  
 Pvt. A. M. Schuurs  
 Pfc. K. B. Sparrow

**PLATOON 1006**  
 Pvt. C. P. Acevedo  
 Pfc. B. J. Alexander  
 Pvt. M. B. Alford  
 Pvt. L. J. Alley  
 Pvt. D. M. Andersen

Pvt. G. L. Auxier  
 Pvt. R. H. Bach  
 Pvt. S. D. Balderas  
 Pvt. K. E. Beazer  
 \*Pfc. A. C. Beese  
 Pvt. A. P. Bergeron  
 Pvt. B. L. Bernard  
 \*Pfc. J. D. Boardman  
 Pvt. D. D. Boggs  
 Pvt. K. W. Bokern  
 Pvt. C. H. Boyce  
 Pvt. T. R. Bradley  
 Pfc. R. E. Brake  
 Pvt. S. M. Bravo  
 Pfc. C. M. Broekemeier  
 \*Pfc. N. L. Brookshire  
 \*Pfc. L. F. Bryan  
 Pvt. P. T. Bryant  
 Pfc. N. P. Buning  
 Pvt. J. P. Caine  
 Pvt. G. W. Callahan  
 Pvt. V. B. Carmelo  
 Pvt. E. Carrillo  
 Pvt. L. M. Colon-Santiago  
 Pvt. P. G. Colon-Santiago  
 Pvt. S. E. Cook Jr.  
 Pfc. M. V. Corp  
 Pvt. C. G. Cunningham  
 Pvt. V. P. Daniels Jr.  
 Pvt. J. M. Delacruz Jr.  
 Pvt. T. R. Demartini  
 Pvt. D. R. Dockens  
 Pvt. C. W. Dodson  
 Pfc. J. A. Dome  
 Pfc. J. R. Duken-Tietjen  
 Pfc. D. G. Ford  
 Pvt. E. G. Franck  
 Pvt. A. R. Funk  
 Pvt. S. D. Gardiner  
 Pfc. E. E. Gonzales  
 Pvt. A. J. Gourley  
 Pvt. Z. I. Graham  
 Pvt. S. M. Grenier  
 Pvt. D. S. Klinger  
 Pvt. D. M. Koesters  
 Pvt. J. N. Lampkins  
 Pvt. J. Lara  
 Pvt. L. E. Ledger  
 Pvt. T. M. Lonergan  
 Pfc. C. A. Lopez  
 Pvt. B. M. Mares  
 Pvt. F. Marquez-Uno

**PLATOON 1007**  
 Pvt. K. S. Eschilsen  
 Pfc. S. L. Farmer  
 Pvt. J. L. Fischer  
 Pfc. C. A. Gaona-Ruiz  
 Pvt. A. R. Garcia  
 Pvt. I. Garcia

Pvt. R. L. Gonzales  
 \*Pfc. J. R. Grimm  
 Pvt. S. Guemez  
 Pvt. W. E. Hamilton  
 Pvt. W. C. Harper  
 Pvt. H. K. Hatfield  
 Pfc. B. W. Hemann  
 Pvt. B. D. Henkel  
 Pvt. A. E. Hermans  
 Pvt. D. B. Herrick  
 Pfc. K. M. Hesse  
 Pvt. T. R. Hoeffler  
 Pvt. W. E. Hollis  
 Pfc. C. A. Jackman  
 Pfc. A. M. Jacobson  
 Pvt. Z. D. Johnson  
 Pvt. A. S. Jones  
 Pvt. D. J. Jones  
 Pvt. S. A. Jones  
 Pvt. A. Morales-Hilario  
 Pfc. J. D. Price  
 Pfc. R. R. Pun  
 Pvt. M. T. Revenaugh  
 Pvt. R. J. Reyes  
 Pvt. R. Robles  
 Pvt. G. E. Rodriguez  
 Pvt. R. S. Rodriguez  
 Pfc. J. L. Ruloba  
 Pvt. D. D. Sandoval  
 Pvt. T. M. Stockman  
 Pvt. B. R. Tennis  
 Pfc. A. B. Thomas  
 Pfc. D. Tilar  
 \*Pfc. W. M. Tipper  
 Pfc. M. T. Turek  
 Pvt. B. M. Vinzant  
 Pvt. O. G. Waterfield  
 Pvt. K. C. Watkins  
 Pvt. K. G. Winnett  
 Pfc. J. M. Withers  
 \*Pfc. C. S. Young  
 Pvt. D. J. Zaro  
 \*Pfc. D. E. Zeller  
 Pfc. J. M. Zornes  
 Pfc. R. E. Zuleta

# Company L makes a splash

BY CPL. ERIC QUINTANILLA  
*Chevron staff*

Recruits of Company L learned the importance of combat water survival at the recruit training pool aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego this week.

In the 12-week training schedule, four days are dedicated to ensuring every recruit has the knowledge they need to survive in the water. Swim qualification is an annual training requirement for every Marine and a graduation requirement for every recruit.

"Marines are mainly mobilized by ship," said Staff Sgt. Dean Begaye, senior drill instructor, Co. L, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion. "The basis of learning how to swim is paramount to their job description."

Combat water survival is broken down into three levels: basic, intermediate and advanced. However, recruits are only certified in the basic

level. A full combat utility uniform is required in all levels of training, adding to the difficulty of completing the qualification.

"This is very important because we're an amphibious service," said recruit Andrew Lasky, Co. L, 3rd RTBn, who used to work as a life guard. "It was a lot more difficult than I thought it was going to be."

Marine Corps Instructors of Water Survival are posted around the pool to promote a safe training atmosphere. The pool posts one instructor for every five recruits who are comfortable in the water and one-on-one for recruits who are having a difficult time.

"I felt very comfortable and safe in the water," said Lasky, 18, a St. John, Ind. native. "It was actually very fun."

The basic swim qualification incorporates swimming 25 meters, treading in deep water for 4 minutes, and traveling in the deep end with a pack. Recruits must also be able to strip off a

Kevlar helmet, flak jacket and rifle while underwater in less than 10 seconds.

"The better they are in the water, the better they can get to land," said Begaye.

Swim training helps promote self-confidence and reduce fear when confronted with a potentially life-threatening situation in the water. Recruits must also face any fears of heights by jumping off a diving board 10 feet above the water.

"We operate from the sea, it's important that they not only can get to shore, but if they were to fall in, they know what to do," said Sgt. Christopher Battaglia, MCIWS instructor trainer. "Here we are giving them different scenarios to work on basic survival."

Combat water survival is introduced to the recruits in week four of recruit training. Company L is also getting ready for their movement to Weapons and Field Training Battalion, Camp Pendleton, Calif., to begin their training on the rifle range.



*Cpl. Eric Quintanilla*

Recruit Miles Post, Company L, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, takes a step off the 10-foot diving board as part of the combat water survival basic certification at the recruit training pool aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego March 6. A full combat utility uniform is required in all levels of training, adding to the difficulty of completing the qualification.



*Cpl. Eric Quintanilla*

Recruit Tyler Halleman, Company L, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, swims the first 25 meters of his combat water survival basic at the recruit training pool aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego March 6. Four days of the 12-week recruit training schedule are dedicated to ensuring every recruit has the basic knowledge they need to survive in the water.



*Cpl. Eric Quintanilla*

Recruits from Company L, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, cross their arms over their chests and take a full step into the water at the recruit training pool aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego March 6. The recruits are working on completing their combat water survival basic, a graduation requirement.