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"Where Marines Are Made"

AND THE WESTERN RECRUITING REGION

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# Recruits train body for Marine Corps way of life



Recruits of Company L, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, perform crunches to prepare for an upcoming fitness test aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego March 25. Recruits were corrected by drill instructors if they were not using proper form.

BY LANCE CPL. BENJAMIN E. WOODLE

Chevron staff

Physical fitness is a big part of the Marine Corps. It is so important that a Marine's physical ability is measured each year through a fitness test which results in a score that is applied toward their promotion. During recruit training, a vast amount of time is spent preparing recruits for not only the fitness test, but the Marine Corps way of life.

Recruits of Company L, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, conducted various physical training events aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego March 25 to help achieve a high level of

The purpose of the PT session was to prepare recruits for their upcoming final Physical Fitness Test.

For recruits, the score they receive on their final PFT will be the first that goes on their permanent record. Therefore, all preparation and training leading up to it is crucial.

"This final PFT is really important to me and holds a lot of weight toward my future promotions," said Recruit Craig M.

see PFT 2

## Introducing warrior ethos

BY LANCE CPL. PEDRO **CARDENAS** Chevron staff

Recruit training encompasses preparing body and mind to become a basically-trained Marine. Some of these areas of training include close-order drill, core values classes, physical training and basic combatrelated martial arts.

The Marine Corps Martial Arts Program requires recruits to learn the basics of hand-to-hand combat and is a fundamental step in becoming Marine Corps

During MCMAP training, recruits learn various techniques

under the guidance of MCMAP instructors. Recruits of Company H, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, learned basic chokes, counters and knife techniques aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego March 25.

The purpose of MCMAP is for recruits to learn hand-to-hand combat and develop confidence, leadership and basic warrior ethos. These skills are necessary to learn in order to graduate recruit training.

"MCMAP lets recruits see the basics of hand-to-hand combat.

see MCMAP 2



Recruits from Company A, 1st Recruit Training Battalion, read along in their text books during a history class aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego March 28. Recruits are taught Marine Corps History early in recruit training to instill a esprit de corps.

Lance Cpl. Pedro Cardenas

Recruits of Company H, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, practice a rear choke during Marine Corps Martial Arts Program training aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego March 25. MCMAP is a training requirement recruits must learn in order to graduate.

### Corps history is major training element

BY CPL. LIZ GLEASON Chevron staff

The recruits of Company A, 1st Recruit Training Battalion dove into the rich tradition of the Marine Corps during a history class aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, March 28.

During the class, the academic instructor used different educational tools such as a video, a slideshow and a game of jeopardy to teach the recruits about World War II and the Korean War.

"The importance of teaching the recruits his-

tory early on is like the old adage, if you don't know where you came from then you don't know where you're going," said Sgt. Michael Pelaez, academic instructor, Instructional Training Company, Recruit Training Regiment. "It's our history, our tradition, our foundation, the Marine Corps has a rich tradition and it's important to indoctrinate the recruits before they become Marines."

There are six phases of Marine Corps History classes which encompass everything from the birth

see HISTORY 2



Lance Cpl. Benjamin E. Woodle

Recruits of Company L, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, run a half-mile sprint during a physical training session aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego March 25. Recruits ran four half-mile sprints to help condition their bodies for a timed three mile run.

#### PFT 1

Reece, Platoon 3242, Co. L, 3rd RTBn. "I have been preparing for this through healthy eating, carbohydrate loading, and doing extra pull-ups whenever I can."

There were four events recruits conducted during their PT session. After completing their warm-up exercises, recruits made their way over to the pull-up bars to complete two maximum sets of pull-ups. Following the pull-ups, recruits completed a maximum set of push-ups, and then did as many

crunches as they could in two minutes. The last event consisted of four half-mile sprints.

"This PT event is designed to help condition the recruits' bodies for the PFT coming up," said Staff Sgt. Ray J. Rozane, drill instructor, Plt. 3241, Co. L, 3rd RTBn. "In the third phase of recruit training we don't have as many PT events, so this is really important for the recruits."

The training offered recruits similar challenges to those they would face in the final PFT.

"Maintaining the endurance on the

sprints was probably the toughest part," said Reece, who played football for Indiana State University as a running back. "I'm used to doing short dash sprints so it is really an adjustment for me."

The constant physical training and high Marine Corps standards keeps Marines ready to answer the call of duty at a moment's notice. Being ready for any challenge is a necessity in this line of work.

"Physical fitness is imperative for Marines," said Rozane. "It keeps them in shape and helps them be combat ready."

#### HISTORY 1

of the Marine Corps to the recent conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan. However, the knowledge isn't only taught in the classroom. Throughout training, drill instructors help recruits review, understand and reinforce the information learned which helps prepare them for the Comprehensive Test on Training Day 55.

"It's important to have these classes because the Marine Corps is highly based on tradition, values and pride, and you can't really be proud of something that you don't know anything about," said Recruit Michael Hoskins, Platoon 1002, Co. A, 1st RTBn.

"Part of it is the pride in knowing what other Marines accomplished before you and another part is that those who don't learn from history are doomed to repeat its mistakes. It's absolutely vital to pay attention to what's happened in the past and learn from it to implement it in the future."

The Marine Corps is known for having a proud tradition and Marines are known to uphold the traditions passed down, it's what sets us apart from the other military branches. It's the pride in where we came from, said Pelaez.

"Ît's really exciting to be here learning about Marine Corps history," said Hoskins. "It's a good and a bad thing at the same time to learn about the stories of some of the Marines and what they've been through. It's bad because they died but it's amazing to learn about what Marines and different units have been able to pull together and accomplish."

Learning history and gaining the sense of pride also brings inspiration and motivation to recruits and helps them gain new perspective to face difficult challenges.

According to Hoskins, it gives a sense of "If the Marines before me were able to endure so much, there is no reason why I can't make it through this."

All of the knowledge gained in recruit training will stay with the recruits long after they graduate. With the history they learned about the legacy left to them by past Marines, they will be able to build on that heritage and leave their own for the Marines to come.



Cpl. Liz Gleason

Recruit Michael Hoskins, Platoon 1002, Company A, 1st Recruit Training Battalion, answers a question during a Marine Corps history class aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, March 28. Topics covered in the class included World War II and the Korean War.

#### MCMAP 1

It is also the first insight to provide discipline, basic warrior studies and leadership classes," said Staff Sgt. Sean R. Blue, chief drill instructor, follow series, Co. H, 2nd RTBn. "A lot of kids have never been in a fight and don't know how to defend themselves. MCMAP builds confidence and it transfers to all events during recruit training."

Recruits are set up with partners to practice their choke techniques. As a safety precaution, they are told to use only 60 percent of their strength and to immediately stop once their partner taps out. Afterward, they learn ways to coun-

ter the choking techniques.

"MCMAP involves leg sweeps, kicks, knife techniques and pugil sticks. It is the Marine Corps mixture of various martial arts," said Staff Sgt. Andrew Cordero, martial arts instructor, ITC, Support Bn. "It is one of many stepping stones to apply later in their careers. This is where they learn how to be war fighters."

MCMAP has different levels of belts similar to those in other traditional martial arts programs in the civilian world. Belt colors include, tan, gray, green, brown, black, and change with higher levels of knowledge and experience.

MCMAP is a graduation requirement

and recruits are tested during week nine of training. During the test, they are expected to perform all techniques learned during recruit training with confidence and discipline in order to earn their tan belt.

During recruit training recruits increase their confidence, strength, discipline, leadership skills and learn about basic warrior ethos. These are all traits needed in order to successfully graduate. MCMAP is one of many training events designed to assist recruits in the growth of these traits.

#### **BRIEFS**

#### **Volunteer Recognition**

MCRDSD hosts its annual Volunteer Recognition Ceremony at the Recreation Center, Building 590, on April 22 at 10:30 a.m.

The event recognizes and celebrates the efforts of those who have supported their communities by volunteering time, effort and expertise. They are active duty members, retirees, civilian Marines and family members.

This event is an opportunity to say "thank you" to the many people who have positively impacted the quality of life for our personnel. For information call Tracy Genica, Marine Corps Family Team Building, at (619) 524-8030.

#### DI of the Year Awards

The depot's Museum Historical Society hosts its Quarterly Breakfast and will present the Drill Instructor of the Year award on April 23 at 7 a.m., in Duncan Hall.

The guest speaker will be Maj. Gen. Steven W. Busby, commanding general, 3rd Marine AW.

The breakfast is open to all depot military members and civilians.

For information contact Capt. Torres at (619) 524-8753 or Col. (ret.) Stuart at (619) 524-4426.

#### Scholarship time

The Col. Nate Smith Memorial Scholarship Program will award three \$1,000 scholarships in July. All active duty enlisted aboard the Depot and within the Western Recruiting Region, and dependents who are high school graduates and currently enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate program, are eligible to apply.

For the application and further information see the website at www. mcrdmhs.org, or call (619) 524-4426.

### Laser Tag

Join Single Marine Program members in Laser Tag at the Ultrazone. Cost for the event is \$10 for three games and gear rental.

Sign up by April 17. Space is limited.

For information contact Josh Davis at davisjp@usmc-mccs.org, or via telephone at (619) 524-8240. Check out the event on Facebook at http://on.fb.me/Zrv3R7.

#### **CG Cup Ping Pong Tourney**

Channel your inner Forest Gump and show off your ping-pong skills at the 2013 CG Cup Ping Pong tournament!

This one-day tournament will be held at the MCRD Fieldhouse on April 23. Start time and tournament format depends on the number of entrants.

A registration meeting will he held April 15 from 11 a.m. to noon at the Fitness center training room. The tourney is open only to MCRD active duty and depot DOD/Nafi employees. Female participation earns extra CG Cup entry points.

Ping Pong table and practice equipment are available. The table will be available daily, after 1300, through April 22. Players may check out balls, paddles and the court key from the Fitness Center (619) 524-4427.

For information contact Athletics at (619) 524-0548 or e-mail Rachel Dickinson (dickinsonr@usmc-mccs. org).

#### Send briefs to:

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.

# **Around** the depot

This week the Chevron asks: "What book from the Commandant's reading list do you recommend and why?"



"'The United States Constitution.' I feel that a lot of Americans don't know the amendments and laws. It's good knowledge to have." Lance Cpl. Traymond Miller, musician, Service Company, Headquarters and Service Battalion



"Message to Garcia.' The message of the book is something that every Marine should know and understand." Sgt. Blaine Reed, training noncommissioned officer, Service Company, Headquarters and Service Battalion



"The Last Stand of Fox Company.' It's a really good read. The way the author depicts the scenes really brings you close to the story line." Cpl. Matt Howell, graphics chief, Combat Camera, Service Company, Headquarters and Service Battalion

# **Cultural Show**



Lance Cpl. Bridget M. Keane

Richard Parker (left) and Richard Orvedal (right), both of the Omaha tribe, a Native American tribe out of Nebraska, dance traditional northern dances during Cultural Heritage Day aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego April 4. Parker and Orvedal were wearing traditional Native American oufits made from American bald eagle feathers and porcupine quills.

# Amphibious Raid



Marines of Company F, 2nd Battalion, 4th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division provide security while waiting for other members of their assault force to arrive during an amphibious raid aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego April 2. The assault was carried out by 105 Marines utilizing Combat Rubber Raiding Crafts.



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Recruits of Company G, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, perform inclined sit ups during the Circuit Course aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, April 2. The Circuit Course helps recruits build strength, endurance and agility.

Cpl. Liz Gleason

#### Recruits of Company G, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, perform medicine ball twists during the Circuit Course aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, April 2. The Circuit Course is made up of various stations focused on strength and endurance.

## Variety in physical fitness makes well-rounded Marines

BY CPL. LIZ GLEASON Chevron staff

The recruits of Company G, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion challenged their physical fitness and endurance while learning different exercises during the Circuit Course event aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, April 2.

"We instill and stress the importance of physical fitness to the recruits from the beginning (of training) because it's more than just what we do, it's our way of life," said Staff Sgt. Ricky Broadway, Platoon 2142, Co. G, 2nd RTBn. "It's important to build a strong physical foundation because physical fitness helps maintain a strong mind and a strong spirit."

The recruits formed up for physical training and the chief drill instructor led them in a brief warm-up and stretches. After stretching, the recruits divided into

recruits early in recruit training.

teams and took a lap around the football field before ending at one of the sprint circuit stations.

During the sprint portion of the PT session, recruits rotated through various stations focusing on strength, agility and endurance. Some of the stations included sprints, planks and ammunition can presses.

"Before joining the Marine Corps, I played almost every sport. I also worked out five days a week, so I consider myself to be in good shape," said Recruit Morgan Chestnut, Plt. 2142, Co. G, 2nd RTBn. "The physical training we do here is different, it's very endurance based and I'm not used to the continuous rigor of the physical training in the Marine Corps; but I am beginning to adapt to it."

When each team finished all the stations the recruits formed up and ran to the next field where they faced another section of the Circuit

Course. The second part focused on strength and included stations such as pull-ups, inclined sit-ups and standing barbell presses among

"The PT we do at recruit training helps make better more wellrounded Marines," said Chestnut. "Marines are the first in the fight so we need to be ready for any type of situation. If we are physically fit in recruit training it will help us be prepared for whatever we may face, whether it's deploying to Afghanistan or anywhere else we may be sent."

The Circuit Course is part of a strict physical training regimen geared toward training recruits to meet the Marine Corps' physical standards. Since recruits arrive at recruit training at various fitness levels, the intensity of their workouts gradually increases the further they get through training. It also teaches them different techniques, ways to

work out and how to maintain their fitness once they leave the depot.

Another important purpose of events like the Circuit Course is that it allows recruits to gauge their current physical fitness levels and learn their weaknesses and strengths so they can continue improving, said Broadway.

Once they finished the second circuit course, the recruits formed up to run back to the football field. The event concluded with a cool down followed by stretching. Recruit training PT sessions always begin and end with stretching to help prevent injury.

While this was the first time the recruits completed the Circuit Course event, it's not the last time. Throughout recruit training they will complete the course six times.



during the Circuit Course aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, Staff Sgt. Ricky Broadway, drill instructor, Platoon 2142, Company G, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, calls April 2. Recruits will complete the out commands at the parallel bar dips station during the Circuit Course aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, April 2. Physical fitness is an important aspect of being a Marine and is instilled in recruit training.



Training Battalion, does a star-jump

A recruit of Company G, 2nd Recruit



Circuit Course six times throughout Course aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, April 2. The Circuit Course helps recruits gauge their fitness level and identify strengths and weaknesses.



Cpl. Liz Gleason

Pvt. Jeremiah Owens, Platoon 3242, Company L, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion high-crawls during a Crucible event at Edson Range aboard Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif. Owens was inspired and driven by the adversity he faced growing up.

# Marine learns life lessons through adversity

BY CPL. LIZ GLEASON Chevron staff

The phrase "adapt and overcome" is often used in the Marine Corps to describe the long legacy of Marines who were faced with extenuating circumstances, yet refused to let the challenge defeat them. It's a trait that many Marines work hard for and strive to obtain.

For Pvt. Jeremiah Owens, Platoon 3242, Company L, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, this trait wasn't something new; it has been his way of life since he was young.

When I was in middle school, we moved from shelter to shelter, trying to go to school as much as we could," said Owens, a 20-year-old St. Louis

native. "We were poor and always struggling to pay bills and keep a home. There were times when we had no food, all we'd have to eat was ketchup packets and we'd have to drink out of syrup bottles. There were months that we'd live off of candles for light because there was no money to pay the electric bills."

His mother's struggle with drug addiction made it difficult for her to provide for her family. However, when Owens reached high school things took a turn for the better.

'When I was about 14 years old we stayed at a shelter with a drug rehabilitation program," said Owens. "Once my mom completed treatment, our life started to get better. We were finally able to pay the bills

and I was able to go to school and start playing sports. I played football, ran track and wrestled."

Owens started on his high school varsity football team as a freshman and participated in wrestling. His hard work and dedication resulted in sports scholarships to two colleges. Things were finally starting to look up when his life took another unexpected turn.

"My junior year I started dating a girl," said Owens. "She told me she was pregnant. I had to quit playing sports so that I could go to school and find a job to support my new family."

He sacrificed his dreams and scholarships to do what he believed was right, however after some time passed he decided it was time to chase his dream of becoming a Marine.

"I wanted to become a Marine to better myself and our future," said Owens.

Not long after, Owens found himself on the yellow footprints aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego.

"Owens stood out from the beginning of recruit training. He was one of our most motivated recruits," said Sgt. Brandon Cobb, drill instructor, Plt. 3242, Co. L, 3rd RTBn. "He's always eager to help with tasks and get things done, he assists the scribes with administrative work and when they're gone he steps up and takes their place."

Instead of allowing his circumstances derail or defeat him, Owens used it as inspiration and fuel to propel him through recruit training.

"He's always putting out, he's never had a day he hasn't given 100 percent," said Cobb. "His good work ethic, personal drive, unselfishness and the fact that he overcame a hard upbringing and wants to better himself says a lot about Owens. I think he'll do great things in the Marine Corps."

His excitement and passion for becoming a Marine was transparent as Owens talked about getting so close to his dream.

"I feel like I can taste graduation," said Owens with a grin. "Nothing is going to stop

### Col. Michael A. Biszak

#### **Parade Reviewing Officer**

Col. Michael A. Biszak is the commanding officer, 12th Marine Corps District.

Biszak was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Marine Corps in December 1986, after completing his undergraduate education in Physical Education at the University of Wisconsin-Platteville.

Following The Basic School and the Infantry Officer Course, Biszak was assigned to 1st Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif., in August 1987. During this tour he served as a platoon commander and company executive officer for Company B, 1st Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment, participated in various exercises and deployed with the 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit in 1988 and the 15th MEU in 1990 to the Western Pacific.

In August 1990, Biszak was transferred to Recruiting Station Oklahoma City, 8th Marine Corps District, where he served as the operations officer and executive officer. He subsequently reported to Fort Benning, Ga., in August 1993 where he attended Infantry Officers Advance Course and Airborne School.

Ordered to Camp Pendleton, Calif., in February 1994, Biszak reported to 3rd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment where he served as the assistant battalion operations officer, Company K commander and the battalion operations officer. During this tour, he deployed twice with the 31st MEU and conducted numerous exercises in the Western Pacific.

In 1996, he was assigned as the commanding officer of Recruiting Station Chicago, 9th Marine Corps District, where he served until reporting to Marine Corps Command and Staff College, Quantico, Va., in August 1999.

In July 2000, the colonel reported to Recruiters School, Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, Calif., where he served as the director. In July 2003, Biszak was reassigned to Headquarters Battalion, 1st Marine Division, where he served as the battalion executive officer and subsequently as the battalion commander. During that tour, he deployed twice to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

In June 2005, Biszak was reassigned to the U.S. Army War College, Carlisle Barracks, Carlisle, Pa., where he received a master's degree in National Security and Strategic Studies.

In July 2006, Biszak reported to NORAD - U.S. NORTHERN Command, Colorado Springs, Colo., where he served as the deputy division chief, Theater Security Cooperation Division, Directorate of Plans, Policy and Strategy until May 2008.

In May 2008, the colonel reported to Marine Corps Recruit Depot/Western Recruiting Region San Diego, Calif., to serve as the assistant chief of staff, recruiting, until March 2010 when he assumed his current duties.

The colonel's personal decorations include the Bronze Star Medal, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal (2nd award) and the Navy-Marine Corps Commendation Medal (2nd award).





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\* Indicates Meritorious Promotion

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Pvt. M. A. Cruz Pvt. B. T. Dawson Pvt. L. A. Dawson Pvt. H. J. Dempewolf Pfc. J. W. Dison Pvt. A. A. Deusenberg Pvt. J. A. Freber Pfc. C. J. Friend Pvt. S. K. Garces Pvt. J. Garcia Pvt. A. J. Gardner Pvt. L. M. Garrett

Pvt. J. K. Gonzales Pfc. N. T. Gonzalez Pvt. G. J. Gostomski Pvt. M. A. Gronau Pfc. A. Guerrero Pfc. D. A. Gutierrez Pvt. T. M. Hails Pfc. M. L. Hardy \*Pfc. C. L. Harris Jr. Pvt. J. A. Hazelhurst Pvt. A. I. Herrera Pfc. J. C. Ho Pvt. G. J. Hono Jr. Pvt. V. V. Jackson III Pfc. J. L. Jimenez Pfc. J. S. Johansen Pvt. K. S. Johnson Pfc. L. C. Jones

Pfc. K. S. Kasher Pvt. B. R. Keller Pvt. B. Li Pvt. T. J. Loveday Pvt. N. E. Lyons Pvt. B. M. Maqill \*Pfc. R. Maldonado-Montellano Pfc. R. L. Mangrich

Pvt. J. E. Markus \*Pfc. R. N. Martinez-Salas Pfc. D. R. Melde

Pvt. J. P. Merkley Pfc. C. J. Miller Pvt. C. W. Moore Pfc. E. J. Murguia Pvt. N. D. Nguyen \*Pfc. W. P. Ocampo Pvt. F. Olmeda Jr. Pvt. J. A. Owens \*Pfc. S. L. Padgett Pvt. N. D. Park Pfc. R. W. Parkinson Pfc. J. Pavon Pfc. J. J. Pena Pfc. J. J. Peterman Pfc. L. R. Pina

PLATOON 3243 \*Pfc I A Alvarez

Pvt. J. A. Arndt

Pvt. J. M. Anchors

Pfc. J. W. Pregler

Pfc. C. A. Barrett Pvt. M. P. Bean Pvt. I. L. Blanton Pfc. B.D. Brochier Pvt. C. M. Burch Pvt. C. S. Canon Pvt. J. A. Casetta Pfc. J. A. Chaffee Pfc. T. W. Christensen Pvt. R. L. Clint III Pfc. D. K. Cross Pvt. E. A. Daniels Pfc. R. DeLeon Jr. Pfc. A. D. Doran Pvt. C. A. Dreyer Pvt. T. J. Eberling Pvt. C. D. Ewell \*Pfc. N. A. Fay Pfc. C. M. Ferguson Pfc. C. A. Fink Pvt. A. J. Garcia Pvt. P. B. Glaubitz Pvt. S. Gomez Pvt. G. Gutierrez Jr. Pfc. C. R. Haller II Pfc. C. A. Harma Pfc. C. M. Harrington Pfc. A. J. Harry

Pvt. T. J. Hart

Pvt. E. H. Hensel

Pvt. R. R. Hixson

Pfc. S. J. Horner

\*Pfc. F. S. Hunt

Pvt. C. M. Jewell

Pfc. C. L. Johnson

Pvt. E. A. Holcomb

Pvt. A. T. Hess

Pfc. S. S. Hill

Pvt D J Hatchbaum Pvt. K. R. Hathaway

Pfc. J. L. Judd Pfc. J. Z. Juelke Pvt. C. J. Kuperstein Pvt. L. M. Lewis Pvt. M. S. Lewis Pvt. J. K. Lindsey Pfc. C. G. Lopez Pvt. S. Lutz Pvt. C. G. Lyden Pvt. M. D. Mack II Pvt. J. D. Manriquez III

Pfc. D. H. Martin Pvt. M. L. Martin Pfc. A. Martinez Pfc. A. J. Martinez Jr. Pvt. M. B. Mashburn \*Pfc. M. Mauricio Pvt. J. D. McDowell Pvt. J. W. McKinnie Pvt. C. B. Moore Pvt. C. O. Mueller Pvt. J. M. Murillo Pvt. J. S. Murphy Pvt. J. M. Mustard Pfc. R. V. Nosenko

Pfc. A. M. Omnes Pvt. J. L. Ortiz Jr. Pvt. D. L. Perry III Pvt. C. S. Pruett Pvt. T. L. Rafter

PLATOON 3245

Pvt. J. J. Alexander Pfc. A. B. Alicea Pvt. N. K. Aragon Pfc. G. T. Baumann Pfc. E. D. Bunnell Pvt. J. S. Burch Jr. Pfc. R. B. Casillas Pfc. T. D. Chambers Pvt. M. F. Cornejo Pvt. M. T. Cotton Pfc. N. M. Davidson Pfc. L. L. Davis Pfc. K. K. De La Cruz \*Pfc. B. R. Diaz Pvt. J. D. Drummond

Pvt. J. H. Ewing Pfc. A. D. Filmer Pvt. A. D. Flannery-Rick Pvt. G. Y. Garcia-Angeles Pvt. T. S. Gregory Pvt I Ilic Pvt. M. B. Johnson Pvt. S. F. Kuhlman Pvt. E. R. Lomeli

Pvt. H. E. Mendoza Pfc. J. G. Mon Pvt. J. Montalvo Jr. Pfc. P. H. Moore Pvt. C. D. Palacios \*Pfc. J. C. Pennington Pvt. K. A. Rebiger Pvt. M. J. Rieck Pfc. R. Rin

Pfc. E. Rios Pvt. A. Rivera-Torres Pfc. R. A. Rodriguez Pvt. O. Rodriguez-Ramos Pfc. A. M. Scognamillo Jr. Pvt. C. B. Sevier Pfc. S. A. Simmons

Pfc. S. H. Smith Pvt. W. A. Smith Pvt. F. Soria-Estrada Pvt. C. J. Spencer Pvt. S. J. Staley Pvt. P. G. Stewart Pfc. S. Sum Pfc. R. C. Swierkowski Pvt. M. R. Taylor Pvt. D. M. Tessmer

Pfc. J. N. Teter

Pfc. H. K. Tieu

Pfc. G. Touthang

Pvt. C. K. Towry Pfc. E. J. Tuma Pvt. M. N. Vega Pvt. H. Wang Pvt. A. C. Warner Pfc. D. L. Waters Pvt. G. P. Wedde Pfc. D. L. Wells Pfc. R. D. Wilkins Jr. Pvt. S. M. Williams Pvt. T. R. Williams Pvt. D. L. Windell \*Pfc J C Winkler Pfc. C. V. Witherspoon

Pvt. F. Zuniga **PLATOON 3246** 

Pvt. M. Ybarbo

Pfc. J. C. Young

\*Pfc. A. L. Zamora

Pfc. A. R. Alcaraz Pvt. D. K. Andrade Pvt. V. D. Bahena Pvt. C. M. Bird Pvt. R. L. Brown Pvt. R. L. Brown Pvt. A. E. Burden Pfc. S. R. Burger \*Pfc. B. J. Burney Pvt. C. C. Canilao Pvt. W. J. Christmas Pvt. J. A. Cornejo-Zavala Pvt. A. D. Corwin \*Pfc. J. E. Drummond Pvt. A. I. Flores Pvt. S. R. Foskitt Pfc. A. S. Gabriel \*Pfc. C. R. Gannon Pfc. A. R. Gibson Pvt. D. J. Graphman Pvt. B. D. Graves

Pvt. O. A. Hernandez

Pfc. H. S. Kirakosyan

Pvt. L. C. Johnson

Pvt. R. G. Keith

Pvt. G. R. Reves Pvt. C. J. Rhoudes Pvt. N. R. Rice \*Pfc. C. Rios Pvt. M. S. Roberts Pvt. A. Robles Pvt. M. J. Rodriguez Pfc. D. M. Rogers Pvt. Z. D. Rohde Pvt. D. M. Rolla Pvt. Z. S. Rowbottom Pvt. N. W. Ryan Pvt. J. M. Samora Pfc. B. L. Santor Pvt. A. L. Saunders Pvt. M. A. Scott Pvt. S. J. Smith Pvt. J. M. Stefani Pvt. I. C. Stotler Pfc. B. P. Stoyak Pvt. A. R. Sunguist Pfc. S. B. Szopinski Pvt. B. M. Taca Pfc. M. K. Tan Pvt. O. W. Thompson Pvt. I. S. Thornton Pvt. W. S. Throndson \*Pfc. W. M. Tinnin Pvt. J. D. Tobias Pvt. C. L. Underahl

Pfc. A. Zarrabian PLATOON 3247 Pvt. A. K. Anderson Jr. Pvt. E. C. Appleget Pfc. A. C. Boehland Pvt. T. A. Brennan Pvt. J. C. Card Pfc. D. B. Coffin

Pvt. A. M. Varela

Pvt. G. A. Wilson

Pvt. G. Vela

Pvt. C. J. Contos Pfc. J. A. Cripps Pvt. K. E. Gadaire Pvt. A. Garcia Pvt. N. G. Garcia \*Pfc. Q. M. Ginn Pfc. R. V. Goldman Pfc. J. L. Graham

Pvt. W. A. Hernandez Pfc. N. J. Hoeksema Pvt. C. A. Hopkins Pvt. C. R. Jackson Pvt. M. T. Johnson Pvt. A. J. Kennedy Pvt. A. F. Kidane-Mariam Pvt. U. L. Kilpatrick Pfc. A. J. Kregor Pvt. C. S. Lambert Jr. Pfc. R. Maldonado Jr. Pvt. H. D. Miranda \*Pfc. C. R. Rainbolt Pvt. D. M. Ramos-Davis Pvt. I. F. Randolph Pvt. M. J. Renty II Pfc. M. Rocha Pvt. R. O. Sanchez-Reyes Pfc. C. D. Schroeder Pvt. K. R. Sheidenberger

Pvt. T. B. Grotbo

\*Pfc. B. E. Smith Pvt. M. M. Smith Pfc. N. Solisz Pvt. K. D. Sprengeler Pvt. C. J. Stover Pvt. S. T. Sullens Pfc. S. R. Swanson Pfc. J. M. Tarr Pvt. N. R. Thomasson

Pvt. D. R. Tienter Pvt. A. D. Tipsword Pvt. J. C. Toney Pfc. M. Y. Tong Pfc. A. Tree Pvt. E. D. Valle Pvt. Z. Vang Pvt. E. Vega

\*Pfc. K. V. Villanueva Pfc. E. W. Villareal Pfc. A. R. Wallace Pvt. J. B. Wallace Pvt. C. L. Washington Pvt. A. H. Wauneka Jr. Pvt. B. Weekly Pfc. C. G. Westerman Pvt. J. A. White Pfc. C. R. Williams Pfc. C. A. Williams

Pfc. S. G. Williams Pvt. R. J. Wipf Pvt. C. A. Wise Pfc. M. N. Wisser Pvt. C. J. Wolz Pfc. J. C. Yeatts Pfc. K. A. Young

\*Pfc. P. L. Zavala-Fonseca Pvt. E. Zepeda Pvt. S. M. Zercher

# Recruits honored to wear U.S. Marine Corps Uniform

BY LANCE CPL. BENJAMIN E. WOODLE
Chevron staff

o be a U.S. Marine, one must go through a tough initiation process known as Marine Corps recruit training. Recruits strive to complete this training to earn the title and respect of being in an elite fighting force. Being able to wear the Marine Corps uniform during recruit training gives recruits a taste of what they are working toward.

Recruits of Company B, 1st Recruit Training Battalion, went through their final uniform fitting aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego March 29. The final fitting is to ensure the uniforms have been altered to fit properly.

The history of Marine
Corps uniforms date back to
the founding of this nation.
During that time, traditions
developed and have left a
lasting impression on the
Corps. Among those traditions
is the nickname 'leatherneck'
that has stuck around today,
though the protective leather
neck collar garment hasn't been
worn since 1872.

A lot of careful planning and slight adjustments due to changing battlefield technology, have made the Marine Corps uniform what it is today.

"There is a lot of attention to detail," said Sgt. Justin E. Barnes, drill instructor, Platoon 1025, Co. B, 1st RTBn. "The uniforms are very distinct and have a unique look."

During uniform fitting, recruits get to put on the Marine Corps dress and service uniforms to check for proper fit. This is one of the few times in recruit training that they are allowed to wear their uniform,

and for most, their first. Recruits finally get to see and feel what they've been working hard for during their last few weeks of training.

"It feels great putting on the uniform," said Recruit Shuo-en Lee, Plt. 1026, Co. B, 1st RTBn. "It's like finding your identity, who you are. You feel like somebody."

Recruits aren't the only ones that get a sense of pride when they are trying on the uniforms. Drill instructors who have dedicated themselves to recruits over the entire recruit training cycle, feel it as well.

"I feel a lot of pride seeing recruits put on the uniforms because that's my product there," said Barnes, who is about to complete his second cycle as a drill instructor. "The recruits know how precious it is and it's as big of a deal to us as it is to them."

The tradition, honor, pride, and legacy of the Marine Corps uniform continues one recruit cycle at a time. They continue to be a selling point for those interested in joining.

"The uniforms were a part of what drew me in," said Lee. "I liked how people looked in them. They look very professional, tight, and very neat."

The recruits have learned about something that they will take pride in throughout the rest of their Marine Corps career. The drill instructors have made sure of it.

"We instill great pride in them," said Barnes. "That way they will go out to the fleet and continue to maintain and carry the honor and tradition with them."



Lance Cpl. Benjamin E. Woodle

Recruits of Company B, 1st Recruit Training Battalion, are inspected to make sure their dress uniforms fit properly during a uniform fitting March 29. This is the second time recruits try on their uniforms after making initial adjustments during the first phase of recruit training.



Lance Cpl. Benjamin E. Woodle

Recruits of Company B, 1st Recruit Training Battalion, turn in their camouflage utilities to have their name tapes sewn onto them aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego March 29. The uniform fitting is also held to ensure recruits are correctly sized for their dress uniforms.