



**Private
First Class
Mason Davis,
Charlie
Company is
this week's
Honor
Graduate
Pg 2**

MARINE CORPS RECRUIT DEPOT SAN DIEGO

CHEVRON



AND THE WESTERN RECRUITING REGION

Vol. 75 – Issue 26

“WHERE MARINES ARE MADE”

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2015

TOP STORY BAYONET ASSAULT COURSE

“Fix bayonets!”



A recruit of Fox Company, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, rushes from behind an obstacle during the Bayonet Assault Course at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, Sept. 15. Recruits were instructed to move quickly during the course to simulate maneuvering around dangerous conditions during combat situations.

Fox takes on bayonet course in preparation for the Crucible

STORY & PHOTO BY
LANCE CPL. ANGELICA ANNASTAS
Chevron staff

In recruit training, it is imperative that recruits learn to expect the unexpected week after week. They train to prepare themselves, and each other, for what is to come during recruit training and beyond.

To prepare themselves for the Crucible, recruits of Fox Company, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, charged the Bayonet Assault Course in an unusual summer rain at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, Sept. 15.

To prepare for the course, recruits first participated in Marine Corps Martial Arts Program classes when they learned techniques such as horizontal and vertical butt strokes, vertical and horizontal slashes, disrupts and offensive and defensive weapons maneuvers.

“We try to instill a little more courage into them and help them enhance the growth of a warrior mindset,” said Staff Sgt. Steve A. Pottinger, drill instructor, Fox Company.

The recruits had already attacked the course earlier in training, so to begin, a fire team led a demonstration as a re-

fresher for everyone. During the course, recruits are required to move as a fire team while properly taking cover behind different obstacles and pits. Additionally, they



A recruit of Fox Company, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, walks across a rope bridge during the Bayonet Assault Course at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, Sept. 15. This portion of the event simulated what it would be like maneuvering across dangerous terrain with gear and a weapon in combat.

needed to conduct MCMAP techniques on rubber tires that hung throughout the course.

Though this wasn't the first time the recruits experienced the course, it was the first time they ran it in the rain, which brought a new challenge to the recruits.

“The rainy weather adds a touch of unpredictability to the course,” said 30-year old Pottinger. “It's kind of like what they'd face in combat- the unknown.”

To add an additional unnerving element, speakers blared the sounds of gunshots and war cries simulating the sounds of combat and keeping the recruits alert.

“We moved much faster this time around,” said Recruit Riley W. Reidhead, Fox Company. “I think we improved a lot since the last time we did it.”

Completing the course is what will ultimately prepare the recruits for similar events they'll come across during the Crucible.

“They've grown as recruits,” said Pottinger, a native of Miami. “It further proves what happens when individual Marines rely on their training. We breed special warriors here, and we only seek to better them and enhance their warrior mindset.”

BRIEFS

Gate 4 closure

Gate 4 is closed to all vehicular and pedestrian traffic until construction is completed in December.

During Gate 4 renovation, operating hours of Gates 2 and 5 will be as follows:

Gate 2:

Open 5 a.m. to 10 p.m.
seven days a week

Gate 5:

Open 24 hours

New Marine Family Meet & Greet

The depot hosts a New Marine Family Meet and Greet each Wednesday prior to graduation from 5 to 8 p.m., at the Bay View Restaurant.

This is a chance for families to meet other new Marine families and depot drill instructors. The event price of \$21.95 per person entitles the purchaser to a steak or chicken dinner. Dinner service starts at 6 p.m.

For information and reservations go to www.mcrdmeetandgreet.eventbrite.com or call (619) 725-6388.

UFC Title Fight at Rec Center

Marine Corps Community Services will host a UFC 192 showing at the depot recreation center on Saturday, Oct. 3. The prelims begin at 5 p.m. and the first bout begins at 7 p.m.

CG's Welcome Aboard Brief

The CG's Welcome aboard brief is scheduled to take place Tuesday, Oct. 13 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Bldg. 14, Personal and Professional Development. The brief is mandatory for all newly joined active duty personnel. Families are encourage to attend. Contact Perlita Rodriguez at (619) 524-5732 to register for the event.

College 101 Brief

The Education Center is scheduled to hold a College 101 brief on Wednesday, Oct. 14 from 8 to 9 a.m. at the Education Building, Bldg. 111. Active duty members must attend the brief before applying for tuition assistance. Contact James Brooks at (619) 524-1275 to register.

EFMP Info Hour

Marine and Family Programs will be hosting a brief discussing the Exceptional Family Member Program on Wednesday, Oct. 14 from noon to 1 p.m. The brief will cover how the program can help families, how to enroll and where to find support. Contact Allison Newcomer at (619) 524-3764 to register.

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.

COMPANY FEATURE ...FOOTBALLS FOR M-16S



Private First Class Mason A. Davis, Charlie Company, 1st Recruit Training Battalion, lays a board across a chain bridge during the 12 Stalls event at Edson Range, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif., Sept. 23. The 12 Stalls event is a part of the Crucible, which is a 54-hour test of endurance where recruits must conquer more than 30 different obstacles while they experience food and sleep deprivation. During the Crucible, Davis utilized his small unit leadership skills he acquired throughout training.



Private First Class Mason A. Davis, Charlie Company, 1st Recruit Training Battalion, makes his way across an obstacle only able to use a plank of wood during the 12 Stalls event at Edson Range, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif., Sept. 23. If the plank touched the ground, then it could no longer be used.

Athlete trades cleats and football for boots and M-16

STORY & PHOTO BY
CPL. JERICHO CRUTCHER
Chevron staff

Recruits come from all different backgrounds. Some come from small farming towns and some from urban hot spots. One new recruit recently traveled from the big city lights of Las Vegas to sunny San Diego with dreams of becoming a Marine and carrying on a family tradition.

The 20-year-old Private First Class Mason A. Davis did not start out in Las Vegas though. He was born in Virginia and when he was five months old, his family moved to California then to Nevada when he was five. Once there, the family decided to plant their roots in Vegas.

“It was fun growing up in Vegas,” said Davis. “I’m not 21, so I haven’t participated in much, but I still go to the main strip with my friends and hang out. It doesn’t matter how long you’ve

lived there, it’s still beautiful to see every night.”

Davis grew up in a military family. His father, grandfather and two uncles served in the Marine Corps, so he knew his path would lead to serving his country. However, it didn’t start out that way.

The athlete grew up hitting shoulder pads playing football. Like tough Marines who defend their country, this linebacker fiercely defended his quarterback. Once he reached the high school level, he decided to put a hold on joining the military to pursue a football career.

“I trained hard to be the best I could be,” said Davis. “There is a special feeling you get when you dig your cleats into a football field and prove yourself better than the opposing player your clashing helmets with all game.”

It wasn’t long before college offers filled up the football player’s mailbox. One particular school caught his eye and sparked his interest over the rest.

“Earlham University offered me a full ride with plenty of money, so I decided to sign with them,” said Davis. “It’s located in Richmond, Indiana, which was a fun area to go to school.”

Although Davis played well in his games and maintained a high grade point average, he decided to cut his football career short for what he described as his true calling.

“After playing my first year, I was awarded Defensive Newcomer of the Year and voted

team captain,” said the athlete. “There was something else I needed to do though.”

The college student left his school with a 3.5 grade point average and set off on a new path to join the United States Marine Corps.

“When I first got home, I immediately got a job at Home Depot to keep money in my pocket,” said Davis. “I then went straight to a Marine recruiter, and within a month I was on my way to recruit training.”

Now that the new Marine has graduated with Charlie Company, 1st Recruit Training Battalion, he will attend Marine Combat Training at Camp Pendleton to further his combat skills. Once he graduates from there, he will attend school for his military occupation specialty to become a motor transportation operator.

Davis will be a Reserve Marine and plans to go back to college locally in Las Vegas to earn a degree in criminal justice.

“Carrying on the family tradition of serving this great country has a special meaning to me,” said Davis. “I look forward to making them proud and giving back to my country.”



Private First Class Mason A. Davis, Charlie Company, 1st Recruit Training Battalion, sprints approximately 100 yards with two ammunition cans during the 12 Stalls event at Edson Range, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Sept. 23. If, while maneuvering an obstacle, any part of the recruit’s body or equipment touched designated danger areas, the recruit was rendered a casualty. In order to return to his fireteam, the casualty was required to run the marked course with ammunition cans.



Private First Class Mason A. Davis, Charlie Company, 1st Recruit Training Battalion, provides security while his fire team works its way through one of the 12 challenging obstacles during the 12 Stalls event at Edson Range, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Sept. 23. The stalls, which stand approximately 20 feet wide and 20 feet deep, are set up in three columns. After receiving only a small set of tools and basic instructions for each station, the fire team was quickly on its way to complete each mission.



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CHARLIE COMPANY

1st RECRUIT TRAINING BATTALION

Commanding Officer
Sergeant Major
Battalion Drill Master

Lt. Col. B. S. Taylor
Sgt. Maj. B. Clark
Staff Sgt. J. C. Hunt

COMPANY C <i>Commanding Officer</i> Capt. J. P. Nelson <i>Company First Sergeant</i> 1stSgt. J. W. King	SERIES 1049 <i>Series Commander</i> Capt. M. L. Garcia <i>Chief Drill Instructor</i> Staff Sgt. B. W. Grzyb	PLATOON 1040 <i>Senior Drill Instructor</i> Sgt. J. E. Austin <i>Drill Instructors</i> Sgt. Z. J. Hanks Sgt. O. Delgado Sgt. A. Cruz	PLATOON 1050 <i>Senior Drill Instructor</i> SSgt. B. M. Rosati <i>Drill Instructors</i> SSgt. L. H. Williams Sgt. L. M. Ledemsa	PLATOON 1051 <i>Senior Drill Instructor</i> Sgt. E. A. Newman <i>Drill Instructors</i> Sgt. K. C. Collis Sgt. W. I. Leopold Sgt. T. A. Harris
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* Indicates Meritorious Promotion

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- Pvt. Z. C. Carlile
- Pfc. R. P. Carlisle
- Pvt. R. W. Chen
- Pvt. C. S. Clements
- Pvt. B. J. Cobb
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- Pvt. A. C. Cunningham
- Pfc. A. A. Davis
- Pfc. M. A. Davis
- Pvt. C. Dominguezcortez
- Pfc. J. A. Durand
- Pvt. M. D. Dvorak
- Pvt. R. A. Dykstra
- Pvt. D. R. Ferreira
- Pvt. A. E. Fitch
- Pvt. A. J. Fuller
- Pvt. N. Garcia
- Pvt. Z. R. Gastelum
- Pvt. M. A. Gehne
- Pvt. D. W. Gibson
- Pvt. R. K. Graziano
- Pvt. A. J. Green
- Pvt. R. K. Grzeczowski
- Pvt. D. A. Gutierrez
- Pvt. J. Hare
- Pfc. J. W. Harvey
- Pfc. B. E. Heflin
- Pvt. E. A. Huffman
- Pvt. A. J. Jackson
- Pfc. D. D. Jackson
- Pvt. J. V. Jackson
- Pvt. M. A. Kenny III
- Pvt. J. D. Konik
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- Pvt. C. G. Lembecke
- Pfc. M. J. Leroy
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- *Pfc. A. J. Mealy
- Pvt. W. M. Nelson
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- Pvt. K. A. Puebla
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- Pvt. R. R. Davenport
- Pfc. K. J. Dennis
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- Pfc. P. M. Downard
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Pvt. A. Quiroga	Pfc. G. Arenas Jr.	Pvt. M. J. Hernandez	Pvt. J. R. Sliver	Pfc. C. D. Clark	*Pfc. R. A. Peavy
Pfc. S. R. Raley	Pfc. C. N. Antilesvelazques	Pfc. R. J. Jaramillo III	Pvt. A. M. Smith	Pvt. T. D. Clark	Pvt. J. S. Pitts
Pvt. A. Ramirez	Pvt. R. G. Avinaguerrero	Pvt. A. C. Juarez	*Pfc. J. S. Soriano	Pfc. J. W. Coffman	Pfc. E. M. Popp
Pvt. Z. D. Rankin	Pfc. S. J. Aznoe	Pvt. J. M. Kramer	Pvt. J. R. Stuart	Pvt. J. A. Cofield	Pvt. D. A. Potts
Pvt. N. S. Restifo	Pfc. J. J. Bailiff	Pfc. B. D. Larsen	Pvt. A. A. Tank	Pvt. C. L. Colvin	Pvt. N. Rodriguez
Pfc. R. Reyesflores	Pfc. M. Barajas Jr.	Pfc. C. S. Lee	Pfc. I. T. Tarazon	Pvt. B. H. Conley	Pvt. T. G. Rodriguez
Pfc. G. T. Rice	Pfc. N. J. Beavers	Pfc. R. J. Lopez	Pfc. J. A. Taylor	Pvt. J. K. Crowder	Pfc. A. L. Rudy
Pvt. J. R. Rios	Pfc. J. E. Behling	Pvt. D. L. Magwood	Pfc. M. A. Templin	Pfc. J. A. Cruz Jr.	Pfc. L. B. Sample
Pvt. C. D. Robertson	Pvt. A. M. Beltran	Pfc. M. Manel	Pvt. T. M. Vanmuyden	Pvt. B. J. DiazAlvarado	Pvt. L. J. Sanders
Pvt. Z. A. Robertson	Pfc. A. Q. Benavides	Pfc. A. A. Marhas	Pvt. S. M. Wade	Pfc. D. T. Driver	Pfc. S. R. Sargent
*Pfc. D. L. Rodriguez	Pfc. J. M. Benitezgarcia	Pfc. J. D. Martinez	Pfc. B. A. Williams	Pvt. L. T. Duclos	Pfc. K. D. Schappaugh
Pfc. H. G. Rodriguez	Pvt. S. A. Benn	Pvt. S. A. McDonald	Pfc. K. L. Williams Jr.	*Pfc. J. D. Durden	Pfc. D. T. Sneed
Pvt. G. J. Rollins	Pfc. B. L. Black	Pfc. D. P. Metz	Pvt. M. F. Zevallos	Pvt. E. Estrada Jr.	Pvt. L. M. Sublett Jr.
Pfc. E. S. Russell	Pvt. K. J. Boller	Pvt. G. E. Michel	Pvt. J. P. Zuzula II	Pvt. K. N. Everhart	Pvt. B. R. Sullivan
Pfc. C. B. Simon	Pfc. P. P. Bundash	Pvt. S. A. Murcek		Pvt. D. D. Fattig	Pvt. N. A. Townsend
Pfc. N. L. Smith	Pfc. S. Calixto	Pfc. A. H. Nguyen		Pfc. G. A. Fults	Pfc. D. F. Turner
*Pfc. C. T. Stocker	Pvt. J. Canche	Pvt. S. Nunez		Pvt. J. B. Gallagher	Pfc. J. T. Vu Jr.
Pfc. J. K. Streeter	Pfc. D. S. Cantu	Pvt. B. Olivaz		Pfc. R. R. Gill	Pvt. J. T. Wilcoats
Pvt. J. T. Strong	Pfc. K. A. Cary	*Pfc. A. R. Pascua		Pvt. G. Gomez	Pfc. S. L. Williams
Pfc. M. C. Torres	Pfc. D. Cervantes	Pvt. C. A. Pate		Pfc. T. E. Gorham	Pfc. N. G. Wisz
Pfc. W. N. Tullbane	Pvt. A. H. Chavez	*Pfc. S. J. Pawlik		Pvt. Z. T. Hammer	Pfc. T. S. Wong
Pvt. D. L. Tuss	Pfc. J. W. Chwaliszewski	Pvt. R. Pena		Pvt. J. R. Hinojosa	Pvt. D. R. Young
Pvt. D. M. Tyner	Pvt. D. R. Corral	Pvt. B. S. Portillo		Pvt. L. N. Hopkins	
Pvt. P. R. Velasquez	Pvt. A. S. Darnell	Pvt. Z. J. Powell		Pfc. A. A. Jimenez	

Platoon 1055

Pvt. I. R. Albarran	Pvt. E. M. Alfarolazaro	Pvt. D. J. Alstad	Pfc. J. T. Amlong	Pvt. M. F. Ansorge	Pvt. D.T. Bailey	Pvt. A. M. Banks	Pvt. K. A. Bennett
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The journey's end: 1stLt. Bonnyman's final resting place

STORY & PHOTO BY
CPL. SARA GRAHAM
Marine Forces Reserve Staff

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. -- A long procession of Marines led an artillery caisson carrying a casket draped by an American flag. The procession marched up a steep hill to a gravesite with a large white headstone bearing the name Bonnyman.

Atop the hill near the headstone six Marines took the casket, laid it down and prepared to render military honors to the Marine named Bonnyman who has finally returned home.

First Lt. Alexander Bonnyman Jr. returned with military honors to Berry Highland Memorial Cemetery in Knoxville, Tenn., Sept. 27.

Bonnyman joined Marine Forces Reserve in July 1942 and was killed during the Battle of Tarawa. His remains, along with

several other Marines and sailors, were never recovered following the battle in 1943.

According to Bonnyman's Medal of Honor citation, "during an assault against enemy Japanese-held Tarawa in the Gilbert Islands from Nov. 20-22, 1943, he took the initiative and led his pinned down assault troops to the beach, then voluntarily obtained flame throwers and demolitions and organized the shore party to blow up several hostile installations. Bonnyman was determined to make an opening in the enemy's defense line. Under heavy casualties and hostile fire, he voluntarily placed demolitions in the entrance of a large Japanese emplacement and then led his men in the assault. After gaining his objective, he made a heroic stand on the edge of the structure, defending his position and killing three enemies before he was mortally wounded."

Bonnyman was buried in Tarawa and his site was lost. In March of 2015, History Flight, a Florida-based non-profit tasked with recovering the remains of missing U.S. service members, discovered the remains of Bonnyman and his fellow Marines, giving families who never expected to have their heroes come home a new hope and the ability to bury their fallen heroes on home ground.

The Marines leading Bonnyman's procession were joined by his family, who have waited a life time to finally lay their hero to rest.

"My grandmother and grandfather, there was one thing that they wanted after they knew he had been killed. They wanted his remains brought home," said Alexandra Bonnyman Prejean, daughter of Bonnyman.

The family gathered at the white headstone to offer their prayers and watch as the Marines from

Marine Corps Barracks Washington rendered honors for the fallen Medal of Honor hero.

The Marines work hard to help families find closure and honor heroes and veterans like Bonnyman.

The Marine Corps puts great importance on helping families while they are serving or once they are out. They continue to provide military honors and funeral details for fallen veterans, a task both active duty and Reserve Marines take very seriously. This funeral detail was unique and an opportunity to honor a fallen hero who was fighting for his brothers more than 70 years ago.

"His remains had been missing for 70 years and, amazingly and almost miraculously, his remains were recovered in recent weeks including 35 other Marines and sailors," said Maj. Gen. Burke Whitman, Headquarters Marine Corps director of Marine and family readiness.

"He is one of the first to return home," said Whitman. "It is a huge honor and privilege for us to give him full military honors here in Knoxville and to be buried with the rest of his family."

"Marines love to serve and every single Marine has made the decision to serve in the defense of this country," said Whitman. "When someone like Lt. Bonnyman serves in such an extraordinary, exemplary way by going way above and beyond the call of duty and being recognized with the Medal of Honor, it is inspiring to us and this could not be a greater day to honor that service and the inspiration he gave to others."



Marines from Marine Corps Barracks Washington, D.C. render military honors for 1st Lt. Alexander Bonnyman Jr. at Berry Highland Memorial Cemetery in Knoxville, Tenn., Sept. 27, 2015. Bonnyman joined Marine Forces Reserve in July 1942 and was killed during the battle of Tarawa in 1943. He was awarded the Medal of Honor for his heroic actions during the battle. Bonnyman's remains were discovered in Tarawa 72 years after he was buried there.