

# PASS IN

VOLUME 26



# REVIEW

ISSUE 2



SERVING MARINES, SAILORS AND FAMILIES OF THE OLDEST POST OF THE RPS



# CO's Corner

**A** I write this the 2006 parade season is well underway. Months of preparation, training and hard work are paying off. I want you all to know that I couldn't be more pleased with the way all of you are accomplishing the Barracks missions.

Everything we have done since the end of last parade season has been designed to get us where we are today. We have had nearly a fifty percent turnover of our junior Marines. That means almost half of our young Marines are now serving in the operating forces. Despite our busy ceremonial, security and distance learning commitments, you have made good use of training opportunities to prepare Marines for leadership in their primary MOS. Barracks Marines are making a difference every day in units spread across the globe.

The Marines who have arrived for service here have been welcomed and integrated into our companies. Training has been non-stop and the learning curve has been steep. Because of the professionalism, dedication and motivation of all, we have achieved the standard of performance expected of us. I want to thank each of you for what you have done thus far and for what you will do in the coming months.

Our Commandant hosted this year's first public parade and our guest of honor was our commander-in-chief. I can't think of a better way to have started the season. Though there was much added stress to make sure we were ready to represent our Corps, the parade was a tremendous success and set the tone for the remainder of the year. Across the board your performance was superb and met the expectations of both the President and the Commandant. I was very proud to share the evening and hear them praise your actions.

That said, we have a long way to go before the end of August. I ask all of us to continue the training and ensure we always meet the standard of ceremonial excellence, but never forget that we must also prepare our Marines and ourselves for service elsewhere in our Corps after our duties here are complete.

Finally, we should all remember that ours is a special responsibility. Those of us fortunate enough to serve at the "Oldest Post" are charged with safeguarding the soul of the Corps, fostering our legacy and traditions, and representing all that makes America's Marine Corps what it is. You represent what it means to be a Marine to tens of thousands of people every year. Always do the best that you can, be proud and be humble. We owe that to every Marine. Have a great parade season, take care of yourselves, each other and your families.

Semper Fidelis,

Colonel Lockard



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On The Cover: Photo Illustration by Cpl. David Revere

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# PHYSICALLY FIT FOR COMBAT READINESS

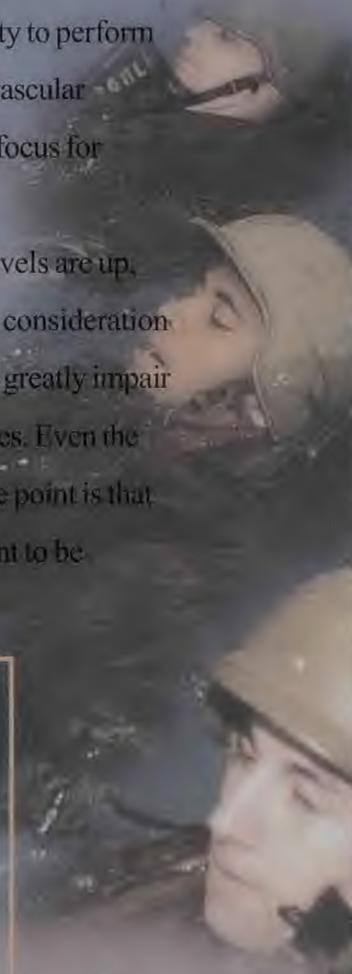
STORY BY JAMIE C. DALECKI



It is not that difficult to understand how extremely important it is to maintain a level of physical fitness in the branches of the United States Military. Modern technology allows the world to engage in battles with fewer hand to hand combat incidents but the fact of the matter is that they still do occur. If our Marines are not fit enough for the challenge, the penalty may be great.

Physical fitness can be summed up as the body's ability to perform muscular strength, muscular endurance, flexibility, and cardiovascular endurance tasks with minimal risk of injury. The main area of focus for Marines should be muscular and cardiovascular endurance.

Not only do Marines have to make sure endurance levels are up, but there are environmental aspects that need to be taken into consideration as well. Levels of temperature and humidity have the ability to greatly impair physical fitness as well as overall health if dealing with extremes. Even the effects of altitude can impair a person's ability to perform. The point is that no matter where our Marines are stationed, it is very important to be properly trained and ready to handle these situations.



## **Muscular Endurance:**

Frequency: 2-3 per week  
Intensity: Moderate  
Mode: Choose exercises that require the use of body weight. Ex. Push ups, Pull ups, Triceps Dips, etc. Exercises

## **Cardiovascular Endurance:**

Frequency: 3-5 per week  
Intensity: 65-90% Heart Rate  
Max/ 50-85% VO<sup>2</sup>max  
Duration: 20 – 60 minutes  
Mode: Running, Jogging, Cycling, Step Aerobics, Speed Walking, etc.



# MCI NAMES 2005 GRADUATE OF THE YEAR

SUPPORT OF FAMILY AND  
FRIENDS KEY TO SUCCESS



STORY BY  
STAFF SGT. WILL PRICE



**C**pl. Gage Rindt's family and friends have known about Rindt's drive to excel for a long time — but now the Marine's loved ones have a brand new reason to be proud. Rindt has been awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal as the 2005 Marine Corps Institute Graduate of the Year, adding further luster to a career marked by achievements as numerous as they are diverse.

In a ceremony held April 24 at the historic Centerwalk of Marine Barracks, Washington, General Robert Magnus, Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps, presented Cpl. Rindt with his medal in front of an audience of Marines from the Barracks and Rindt's duty station, Naval Air Station Patuxent River, Md. His family and friends were also on hand, and Rindt had nothing but gratitude for their unwavering support.

"From the time I was a kid, my parents have always been proud of me, no matter what," said Rindt, a 20-year-old Westminster, Md., native. "Their encouragement has always made me strive to want to do even better."

Rindt told the crowd he had one special source of inspiration. "I especially want thank my high school sweetheart, Naomi," Rindt told the crowd during the ceremony.

"She always pushed me to complete just one more MCI. If I was doing two, she would ask me, 'Why not three?'"

Lt. Col.  
Nicholas Klaus,

MCI Deputy Director, commended Rindt. "It's not just the number of MCIs a Marine does that bestows this honor," Klaus, said, "it is about how the knowledge gained is used to enhance ones' career."

Contributing to Rindt's selection as Graduate of the Year was his completion of 30 MCI courses within a two-year period, and much more. Rindt is a volunteer with "Christmas in April," a house-building program, as well as Marine charity "Toys for Tots." He also attends high school ROTC drill competitions, tutors local children of the military, and works a second job as a culinary specialist.

Since stepping on the yellow footprints of Parris Island in July of 2003 as a private, Rindt, an administrative clerk by MOS, has earned each of his promotions meritoriously — and his many achievements have raised the bar for his fellow Marines at Marine Aviation Detachment at NAS Paxutent River.

Rindt's philosophy is simple. "It's important to use MCI courses for good causes, like training your Marines, and furthering your own education by earning a degree," he says. "Two of our Marines have already gotten their Associates degrees using credits they received from MCIs."

In August of 2005, Rindt attended the Corporal's Leadership course aboard The Basic School, in Quantico, Va., where he became the Honor Graduate, and earned the Gung-Ho Leadership Award.

"Corporal Rindt is a fine American," Gen. Magnus summed up. "In every step of his life and military career, he has excelled."

Rindt was recently accepted to the Meritorious Enlisted Commissioning Education Program, and he plans on attending Norwich University in Vermont in the fall of 2006, to study Political Science and History.

His goals from there are straightforward. He wants to continue learning, become the best officer he can, and — above all — never stop making his family, friends and Corps proud.



General Robert Magnus, assistant commandant of the Marine Corps, commends Cpl. Gage C. Rindt for becoming the MCI 2005 graduate of the year, April 24.

# Rape Aggression Defense



## Equipping spouses with the tools to stay safe

Story and photos by Lance Cpl. John J. Parry

Most of the people who commit sexual assault don't hide in the shadows or wear masks. According to the Rape Aggression Defense program, they fit in with everyday people, scouting out their targets while waiting for the right moment to strike.

To help combat the threat of sexual assault, the Key Volunteer Network sponsored RAD classes at the Barracks, April 1 and 8. The classes were designed to help women recognize threatening situations and avoid becoming a victim.

The KVN recommended its Marine spouses attend the event because it would provide the women with risk prevention and self-defense techniques. This would equip them with more tools to

defend themselves and their families, said Sharon Halstead, KVN coordinator and RAD participant.

According to the RAD Web site, self-defense instructors established RAD in 1989 to increase awareness of violent crimes and provide people with the tools to defend themselves in a dangerous situation.



Spouses attend Rape Aggression Defense classes, April 1. Participants received one hour of classroom instruction.

The hands-on training classes teach women to use an attacker's techniques against them.

"Our instructors emphasize to the class how anyone can get hurt during an attack, but the goal for the victim is to get away," said Janet E. Hammes, RAD instructor.

"The program allows us to look at our weaknesses and work on them," Halstead said. "The fear generated by the seriousness of the instructors during hands-on practices made the training very effective."

"The RAD program is so empowering because it combines crime prevention, mental preparedness and physical techniques, all in one course," said Dina Barclay, class participant.

Once attackers make their move on a victim, their goal is to gain control and try to abduct the victim from the scene, Hammes added.

"Attackers tend to dehumanize their victims and see them as targets or prey to downplay the

impact of their crime," Halstead added. "It's very frightening when you think about it, no matter how violent attackers perceive their actions, it's still a crime."

Hammes recommends women seek improvement in their ability to defend themselves after the course because any uncomfortable situation can escalate into an attack.



Col. Pauline Lockard, United States Army (Ret.), practices defense techniques in a simulated attack, April 8.

"The only way to prepare for an attack is to practice," she said. "Being able to recognize and respond quickly to a threatening situation can allow a victim to escape an assault."



Spouses review striking techniques demonstrated by Staff Sgt. Greg A. Ashby during Rape Aggression Defense classes, April 1.

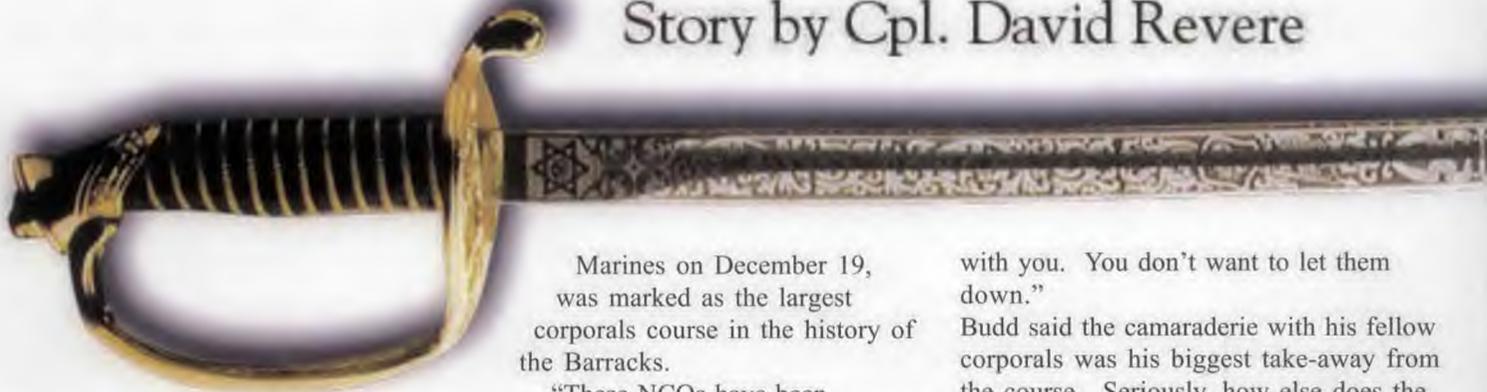
According to the RAD systems website, the RAD program offers more than just the basic course for women. There are courses available for men, children and advanced self-defense.

"This kind of training is important to the Barracks," said Sgt. Maj. Michael J. Watkins, barracks sergeant major, Marine Barracks Washington, D.C. "The knowledge learned here enhances our abilities to prevent an attack and handle unfortunate situations."

For more information on the Rape Aggression Defense program, go to [www.rad-systems.com](http://www.rad-systems.com). To find out how to join the Key Volunteer Network, contact Sharon Halstead at 202-373-1373.

# Corporals Course raises bar

Story by Cpl. David Revere



Marines on December 19, was marked as the largest corporals course in the history of the Barracks.

"These NCOs have been prepared for all kinds of leadership challenges they will face throughout their career," said Wilson.

Sounds nice, but that's no small thing to say about a mere two weeks in the life of a Marine.

Cpl. Brian J. Budd, marimba player for the United States Marine Drum and Bugle Corps, gave an inside look at what really happened during those grueling, fourteen days.

"There was probably six months worth of information to digest," said Budd. "Combine that with PT and drill practice in single-digit weather. It was completely consuming. One of the things that pulled you through it was knowing it was your job. The class was the only thing you had to focus on, so if you failed, it meant you weren't doing your job."

From dawn to dusk, Marine Barracks NCOs trained together at the Anacostia Naval Station, alternating classroom instruction with PT and drill practice.

"The thing is, there's really something about going through hard times with someone else,"

said Budd. "We were wiping snow off the pull-up bars, for crying out loud! The ridiculously cold weather, the amount of stuff to study for the exams - it builds your character, and what helps you get through those times is seeing everyone else go through them

with you. You don't want to let them down."

Budd said the camaraderie with his fellow corporals was his biggest take-away from the course. Seriously, how else does the

Marine Corps' only marimba player get to interact and learn extensively from corporals whose military occupational specialties run the gamut of the Corps?

"One of the greatest things about a corporals course is how the different

MOS's come together to complete one mission," said Wilson. "NCOs get to interact with their peers. That's important, because everyone knows you can fool your seniors and you can fool your juniors, but your peers always know."

Here's a crucial aspect of leadership not covered in a textbook - peer learning.

"We learned alot about other jobs an what different MOS's do day-in and day-



Cpl. Edward Shaw practices non-commissioned officer's sword drill on the parade deck at Quantico, Va.

**T**hey have been called the backbone of the Marine Corps; non-commissioned officers of our nation's most valuable asset - United States Marines. Officers rely on them to not only carry out the words of an order, but also their intent. Staff non-commissioned officers depend on their mature leadership to accomplish the mission and train junior Marines.

That's a lot of responsibility, and it doesn't come overnight. So to mold them into Marine leaders ready to attack the responsibilities of an NCO, there's Marine Barracks Washington corporals course. What happens when nearly 40 NCOs attack the Barracks



Corporals Course huddles up during drill practice.

with two extremely intensive weeks of leadership training under their belts?

"They are ready to go back to their shops, inspire and train their Marines," said Staff Sgt. Jack D. Wilson, chief instructor of MBW Corporals Course 1-06. The graduating class of 36



Sgt. Luis Salinas inspects Cpl. James K. Haygood during a Corporals Course Service Alpha uniform inspection.

# for Marine Barracks NCOs



out,” said Cpl. Everton A. Bryan, Friday protocol NCO, Headquarters and Service Company. “I think it opened our minds more than before.”

Cpl. Stephen Duncan, xylophone player for D&B, agreed that some of his greatest take-aways from the course came from his peers.

“I learned a lot of good leadership skills from the instructors, but you find out some things from your fellow corporals about conduct in a day-to-day situation that you would never know otherwise,” said Duncan. “For instance: how they talk to junior Marines and how they pass information to them. I feel more prepared for situations I may encounter in the future.”

Corporals weren’t the only ones to enjoy the company of other Marine E-4s.



Cpl. Dilia Parades reacts to a fine for excessive talking at Corporals Course Mess Night.

“I loved being with these young Marines,” said Sgt. Marcus Chatman, one of the class’s full-time instructors.

Chatman sweat and shivered alongside the Marines for the entire course, his humorous cracks and stories a favorite source of motivation for the

students.

“I was a corporal for three years,” said the former Detroit policeman. “I’ve been around. Seeing their positive response to me during this course and knowing when they really understood something I was trying to impart was probably the best aspect of it for me. Their motivation motivated me to give them my best at all times.”

Chatman and Wilson said they were both blown away by the Marine’s resiliency throughout the course.

“I’ll never forget the desert cammie inspection at zero six thirty in 15-degree weather,” said Wilson. “They stood there shivering and at attention the entire



Corporals take a motivational run led by Sgt. Maj. Michael J. Watkins, Barracks sergeant major.

time. They had so much heart through everything. They never quit.”

They never will, because now they’re fully-equipped leaders of “the Few.”

“I didn’t just learn what leadership is,” said Cpl. Quinby T. Akal, protocol NCO, H&S company. “This helped me develop my own leadership style. I implemented feedback and encouragement from the instructors and my peers. Now I have a better understanding of how to get things done.”



Cpl. Matthew R. Cole receives the “Gung-Ho” Award at Corporals Course graduation for demonstrating outstanding motivation throughout the course.

# WANTED

## Battle Color Ceremony

Story and photos by Cpl. David Revere



Why have a battle color ceremony? For decades, Americans have turned out in droves to witness the performances of famous Marine Corps units like the Silent Drill Platoon, the United States Marine Drum and Bugle Corps and the Official Color Guard of the Marine Corps.

“These units represent Marines around the globe who embody our core values of honor, courage and commitment,” booms the announcer before the start of every Marine Corps Battle Color ceremony, but after witnessing the performances of these Marines first-hand, audience members seem to experience a whole new level of meaning.

“I was crying,” said Norco, Calif. native Roland C. Marchand after a Battle Color ceremony at his hometown’s high school. “Everything was executed so perfectly - from the music to the uniforms to staying in step. I felt like they were representing me out there.”

A former Marine and Vietnam veteran put his finger on perhaps the most intense emotion the ceremony induces – pride. It is a top-caliber musical and drill showcase designed to honor all that is represented by the National ensign of the United States of America and the official Battle Colors of the United States Marine Corps.

“America doesn’t need us,” said Maj. Brent A. Harrison, Battle Color Detachment commanding officer. “It wants us. So here we are, getting out there and showing them our Marine Corps.”

For many Americans, this ceremony will be the most significant exposure they have had to Marines.

Eleven-year-old Hannah Jackson encountered leathernecks for the first time at a performance on Marine Corps Air Station Miramar.

“I liked the music the most,” said Jackson. “It was so happy.”

Jackson said she was enthralled with the dazzling, red and white uniforms worn by the “Commandant’s Own,” the United States Marine Drum and Bugle Corps.

D&B launches each ceremony with a tightly-played, *Music in Motion* concert featuring an energetic mix of modern compositions and patriotic classics. Their

performance is followed by a precision drill exhibition featuring M-1 rifles with fixed bayonets executed in heart-pounding silence by the Silent Drill Platoon.

“The part where they fixed bayonets was my favorite,” said high

school sophomore Nathan D. Buell after a ceremony at his school in San Diego. “I was so excited that I was shaking.”

Buell said all he wanted to do after the ceremony was, “get out there and be like them.”

Spontaneous applause erupts throughout a typical Battle Color ceremony as the audience is inundated with one dazzling display after another. When it’s time for all to rise for the presentation of the colors and the playing of the national anthem, it’s not just a ritual. Rather, it’s a response to the pride, professionalism, and *esprit de corps* that are hallmarks of United States Marines.

“I will never forget this,” said Marchand. “I love the Army and the Navy, but I thank God for the Marines.”

The Battle Color Detachment performs throughout the nation before tens of thousands of spectators annually. For more information, visit [www.mbw.usmc.mil](http://www.mbw.usmc.mil).

*“Everything was executed so perfectly - from the music to the uniforms to staying in step. I felt like they were representing me out there.”*

*-Roland C. Marchand, Vietnam Veteran*



## MARCHING WITH “OLD GLORY”

**S**alutes are rendered and hearts beat proudly at the passing of our national flag, but perhaps the proudest of all belongs to the Marine chosen to bear “Old Glory” and march with her unfurled.

Sgt. Andrel C. Rutherford became the 31st Marine to hold the official title, “Color Sergeant of the Marine Corps,” when he marched out bearing the National Ensign for his first time during a Battle Color ceremony at Marine Corps Air Station Yuma, Ariz., Feb. 28.

Formally recognized in 1965, the billet

### STORY AND PHOTOS BY CPL. DAVID REVERE

requires Rutherford to carry the flag during ceremonies around Washington as well as with the Marine Corps Battle Color Detachment. The recently-promoted 23-year-old from Detroit will also carry the Presidential Colors for all White House State functions and tours.

“Having this title means a great deal to me,” said Rutherford. “I’m carrying our most sacred colors. Many have bled in battle to keep them standing tall, and I’m honoring that.”

According to the Marine Barracks Washington Web site, official tracking of the position began with former Color Sergeant,



**Gunnery Sgt. Shelton L. Eakin, who was killed in the line of duty while serving in Vietnam. A memorial trophy dedicated in his honor bears the names of all color sergeants to date, and is passed on to each new color sergeant.**

**Rutherford, a lean six-foot, three-inches, left his former job in supply at Camp Lejeune, N.C. to compete against two other candidates for the position at Marine Barracks Washington in fall of 2005.**

**According to Staff Sgt. Brian T. Strickland, the 30th Color Sergeant, Rutherford was chosen based on his height (the minimum requirement is six feet, three inches), a high physical fitness test score, a top secret White House security clearance and demonstration of outstanding**

**leadership skills.**

**“Nothing can prepare the Color Sergeant for the level of endurance he has to go through,” said Strickland. “He has to know ceremonial drill and keep himself in flawless physical condition due to the fact that he’ll never know what he has to face. He could be standing out there, holding those colors for hours in front of thousands of people.”**

**Strickland, who was promoted to staff sergeant by the Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps the day after relinquishing his title to Rutherford, stood with the 47-pound presidential colors for nine hours**

**during President George W. Bush’s second inauguration.**

**“The flag can never fall,” said Strickland. “That’s where you get your strength from. It’s the most symbolic object in the world, and you can’t let it go.”**

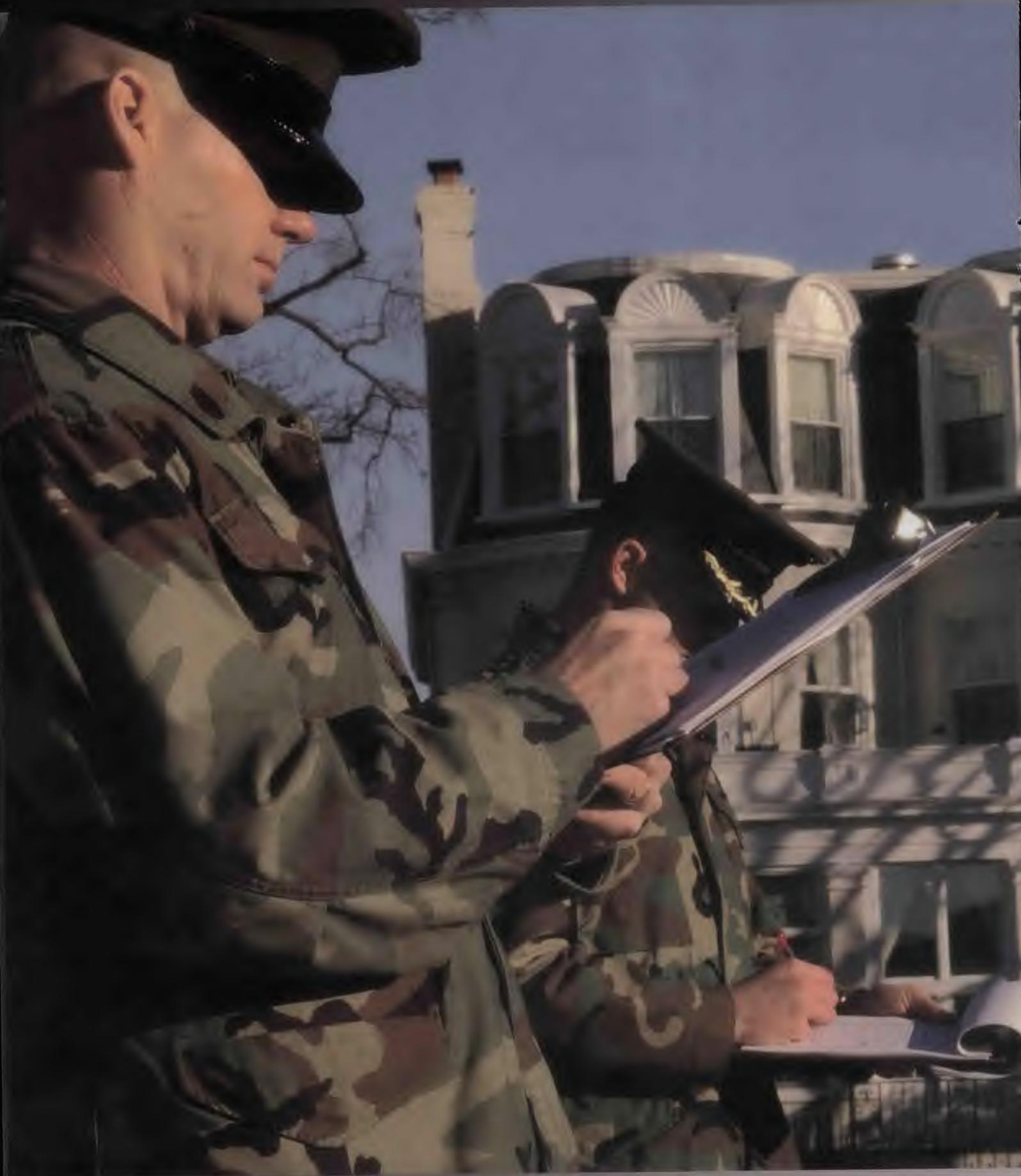
**In addition to carrying the flag during ceremonies, Rutherford will head the Marine Color Guard Section of Company A, Marine Barracks Washington, which performs for parades, ceremonies and official functions around the United States and in other countries. The Color Guard section has three teams and participates in more than 1,000 ceremonies annually.**

**“It can break you down,” said Strickland, who held the position for two years. “Not only are you trying to better yourself every single day, but you have to be there for your Marines at all times. They have to see you and have confidence in you.”**

**Rutherford said he’s up for the challenge, and his self-assured presence is hard to deny. “I know I have what it takes for this,” said the towering leatherneck. “The time has to come to man up and do it.”**



The color guard, led by the 31st Color Sergeant of the Marine Corps, Sgt. Andre C. Rutherford, holding the national flag, displays the colors at the Friends and Family Parade, April 28.





# Making the Cut

Story and photos by

Lance Cpl. Jordan M. Welner

**H**idden behind brick walls atop Capitol Hill, an anxious crowd is silenced. A sudden absence of light and two rings of the bell indicate an imminent start to this evening's program. One by one performers march out in their immaculate blue and white uniforms. Movements spell perfection, and all those in attendance become mesmerized by



Gunnery Sgt. Peter W. Ferral takes notes on an evaluation during parade staff tryouts.

the marching precision of the Marines.

Excellence in drill, for nearly fifty years, has become the hallmark of historic Marine Barracks Washington, D.C.

The rigorously trained barracks Marines perform for tens of thousands of spectators each year in numerous ceremonies, most notably the Friday Evening Parades aboard "The Oldest Post." Additionally, each year all the officers and staff non-commissioned officers stationed here try out for one of the key elements in the parade—the parade staff.

Consisting of one field grade officer, two company grade officers and two staff non-commissioned officers, the staff is responsible for giving commands and essentially acting as the link to all elements in the parade sequence.

"Not everyone can be a staff marcher," said Gunnery Sgt. Peter W. Ferral, MBW Battalion drill master. "Staff

members should contain the ceremonial discipline to execute each movement with precision every time."

Along with critiquing and selecting a parade staff, the drill master is responsible for overseeing all drill performed at the post from morning colors to daily marching and ceremonial practice executed on the parade deck.

With parade season on the horizon it will take keen understanding like Ferral's and the input of other Marines experienced in drill, to select and train this year's staff.

One Marine helping this year is 2004/2005 parade commander and barracks operations officer, Maj. Michael C. Starling.

"The parade staff is responsible for providing units confident, professional commands to evoke cohesive execution of drill movements, facilitating the

sequence of the parade and ensuring proper response to potential contingencies," said Starling.

Once again the Marines were ready to try out, and on Feb 15, 2006, 16 officers and 24 staff non-commissioned officers reported to the parade deck. One by one, they performed a sequence that, if selected, would become part of their lives throughout the following year.

While red pens vigorously scratched the critique sheets that would help determine the staff, onlookers watched their brethren perform the sequence, nodding with approval those that would be selected.

"The evaluation is based on everything from their uniforms to marching to the volume of their voice," said Ferral.

After much deliberation, the commanding officer,



Gunnery Sgt. Peter W. Ferral observes Gunnery Sgt. Robert T. Kruger during parade staff tryouts.

**“The evaluation is based on everything from their uniforms to marching to the volume of their voice,” said Ferral.**



Gunnery Sgt. Brian A. Shaughnessy (foreground) stands by for his evaluation while Staff Sgt. Bryan S. Lawrence and Gunnery Sgt. Yu look on.

battalion sergeant major and battalion operations officer convened with the eager officers and staff non-commissioned officers to reveal who had “made the cut” for the 2006 parade staff.

Stating that it was too early in the game to comment, the drill master was limited with his words concerning the outcome. He did, however, note that this year’s decision was a very difficult one.

“This is just the beginning for us. From here it’s back to the fundamentals of drill for 3 months,” stated Ferral. “This will give the command a chance to ensure that the selected Marines are fully capable of taking on the challenge that lies ahead.”

Once prepared, the Marines will take on a unique responsibility that they themselves, along with those lucky enough to see a performance, will never forget.

“It is overwhelming to represent the Corps and honor past and present Marine heroes, distinguished officials and foreign dignitaries in this high visibility ceremonial capacity,” said Starling.

Visitors to Marine Barracks can watch the finished product of months of dedication to drill excellence every Friday, May through August, at 8th and I.



## PRESIDENTS PAST AND PRESENT HELP KEEP BARRACKS TRADITION

STORY BY  
STAFF SGT. WILL PRICE

President George W. Bush was the guest of honor at an Evening Parade ceremony held at the Marine Barracks in Washington, D.C., on May 5.

Seated next to the President during the event were First Lady Laura Bush, as well as Gen. Michael W. Hagee, 33rd Commandant of the Marine Corps, and Col. Terry M. Lockard, commanding officer of Marine Barracks Washington.

With this unprecedented visit to the Barracks, George W. Bush became the only U.S. president to be the Guest of Honor twice for an Evening Parade Ceremony.

The Marine Barracks is home to more than 1,100 brave Marines, Sailors and civilians. The Barracks performs infantry, special security, distance learning and ceremonial missions, and its assigned Marine stand guard over the White House.

President Thomas Jefferson, who famously sent the Marines to "the shores of Tripoli," originally

selected the site of the Marine Barracks. In his inaugural address, Jefferson called America, "A rising nation, spread over a wide and fruitful land, traversing all the seas with the rich productions of their industry, advancing rapidly to destinies beyond the reach of mortal eye."

Days after he was inaugurated, Jefferson rode through Washington with Lt. Col. William Ward Burrows, the second commandant of the Marine Corps, searching for a site that was "within easy marching distance of the Capitol." On March 31, 1801, Jefferson selected the Barracks location, a site near both the Navy Yard and Capitol.

At a White House gathering of famous and distinguished guests, President Kennedy once quipped that so much talent had not been present in the room "since Thomas Jefferson dined alone," so it comes as no surprise that

Jefferson chose the Barracks' location wisely. It has survived in the same location for more than 200 years, and the Marine Barracks is now "The Oldest Post of the Corps." The nearby Home of the Commandants was one of the few buildings to survive the British attack on the Capitol during the War of 1812. Both the Barracks and Home of the Commandants were designated National Historic Places in 1976. The Home of the Commandants is the oldest and longest residence to be continually habituated in Washington, D.C.

The Barracks is also home to The United States Marine Band, created in 1798 by President John Adams. Known as the "President's Own," the band's 17th director was John Philip Sousa, universally acclaimed as the "March King" — the greatest parade march composer of all time. Sousa was the third of 10 children, and his family lived just a few blocks away from the Barracks. Because his father was a Marine trombonist with the band, Sousa grew up as a member of the Band family. After enlisting at age 14, he would go on to become the most famous director of "The President's Own."

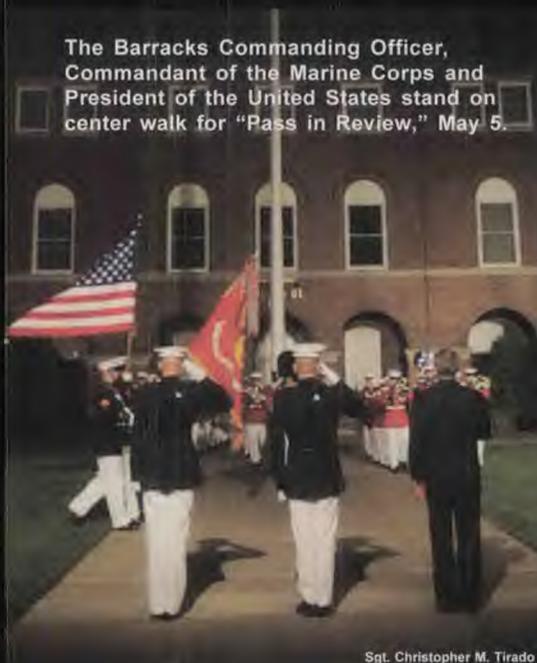
Each Evening Parade ceremony begins with music from "The President's Own," continues with a stirring performance from "The Commandant's Own," the United States Marine Drum and Bugle Corps, and concludes with an amazing display of precision marching by the Marine Corps Silent Drill Platoon. The first Evening Parade at the Barracks, of this format, was conducted on July 5, 1957. Currently, an Evening Parade ceremony is held every Friday from May through August.

"As a member of the House of Representatives, as Vice President and President," said Gerald R. Ford, 38th president of the United States, "I often visited Marine Barracks for a stirring and patriotic musical program by the U.S. Marine Band."

Since the inception of the Evening Parades at the Barracks, the U.S. presidents to attend have included: John F. Kennedy, Lyndon Baines Johnson, Richard Nixon, Gerald R. Ford, Jimmy Carter, Ronald Reagan, George H.W. Bush and Bill Clinton.

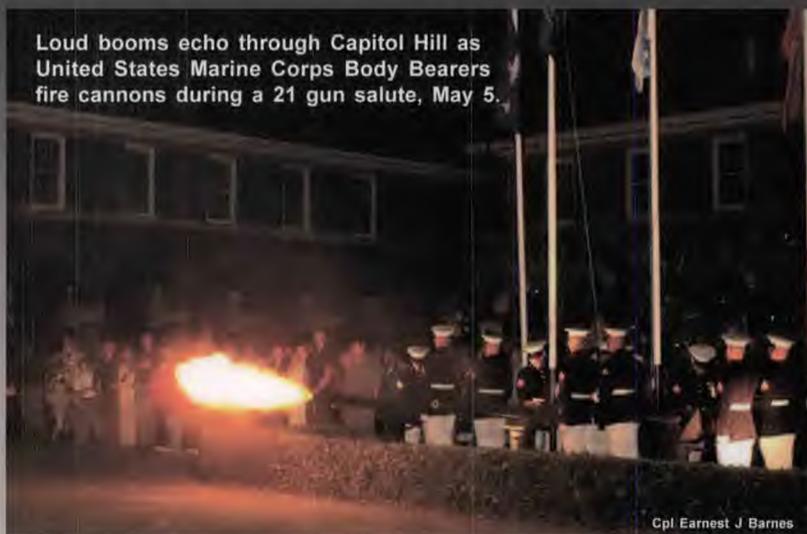
The spectacular Evening Parade ceremonies easily rival the most awe-inspiring shows on Broadway. They are a showcase of military drill and precision, as well as a reflection of the entire

mission of the modern Marine Corps: To make Marines, win battles, and protect America and its commander-in-chief as it advances rapidly to "destinies beyond the reach of mortal eye."



The Barracks Commanding Officer, Commandant of the Marine Corps and President of the United States stand on center walk for "Pass in Review," May 5.

Sgt. Christopher M. Tirado



Loud booms echo through Capitol Hill as United States Marine Corps Body Bearers fire cannons during a 21 gun salute, May 5.

Cpl. Earnest J. Barnes

# Two renovations near completion

Story and photos by Cpl. Earnest J. Barnes

The Marine Corps War Memorial in Arlington, Va., imparts a great sense of pride and patriotism in the hearts and minds of its visitors. Recently, some might be put off at the sight of the piles of dirt, rubble and metal that lay around Felix W. de Weldon's bronze depiction of the five Marines and a navy corpsman raising an American flag atop Mount Suribachi on the island of Iwo Jima, Japan, during World War II.

The memorial is undergoing a construction project to rehabilitate several components, to include: replacing the lighting system, installing new irrigation and drainage systems, and improving access ways, in accordance with the Americans

with Disabilities Act 1990.

"This is the first major renovation in over 50 years," said Garth Shull, chief of technical services, George Washington Memorial Parkway, National Park Service. "The renovations will extend the memorial's life and address safety hazards due to deterioration of original concrete work."

According to Shull, the purpose of this project is to rehabilitate the U.S. Marine Corps Memorial. No work will be done to change the overall look of the sculpture.



"The ADA regulations require gentle grades (slopes) and hard surfaces to accommodate people with walking disabilities," said Shull. "The old design of the site posed difficulties for some people to access the memorial and surrounding grounds."

The contracting company in charge of the project, HSU Development Company out of Rockville, Md., expects to complete all work by July, which is ahead of the original contract set for November.

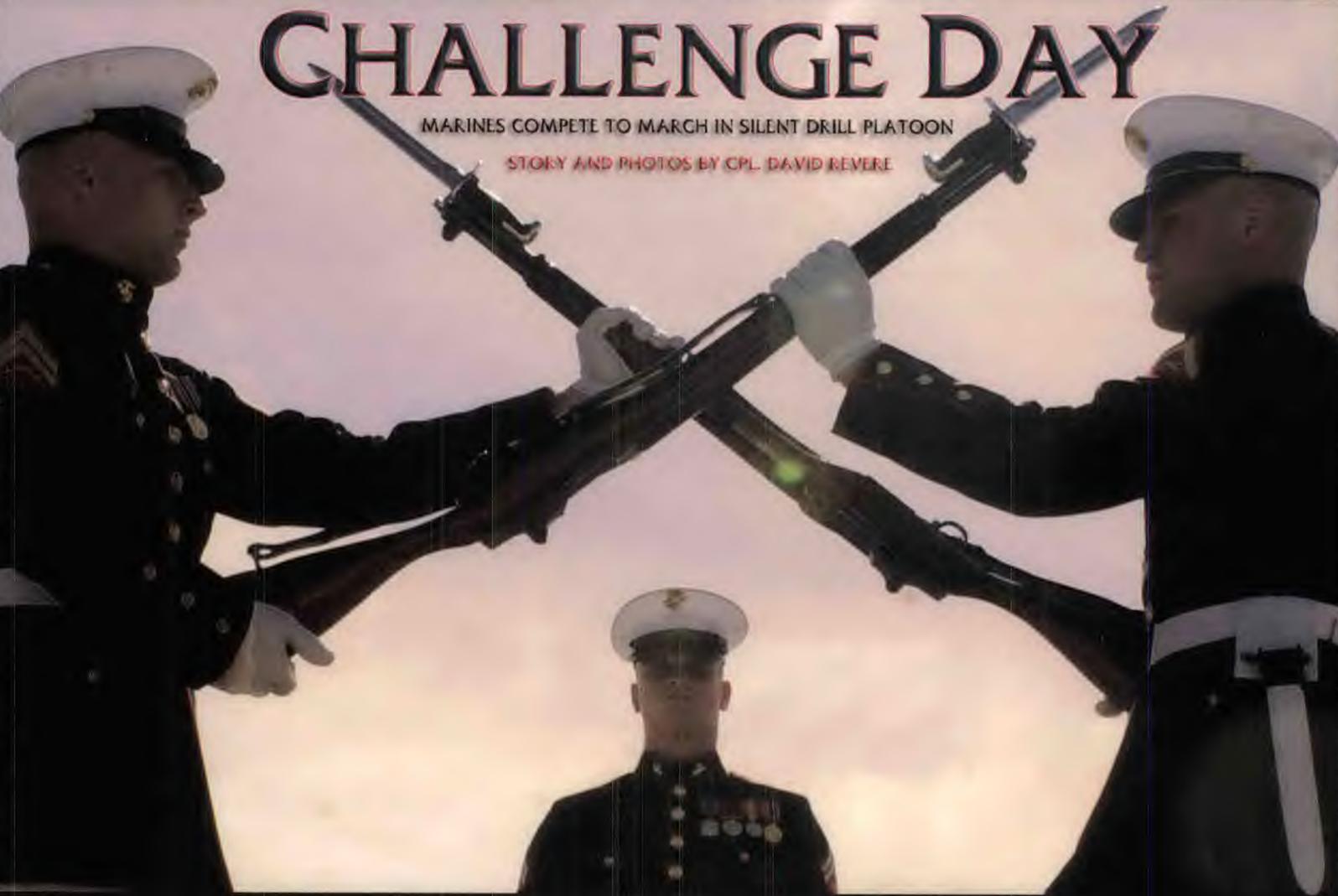
According to the contract, the construction that began in October will not interfere with upcoming Marine Corps Sunset Parades, held every Tuesday during the months of June through August.



# CHALLENGE DAY

MARINES COMPETE TO MARCH IN SILENT DRILL PLATOON

STORY AND PHOTOS BY CPL. DAVID REVERE



**D**rill is life.

That's your mantra if you think you have what it takes for the Silent Drill Platoon, a crowd-pleasing marching unit that performs elaborate drill sequences without the aid of verbal commands for hundreds of thousands of people a year. For the past four months, you've marched, spun rifles and exercised from *Reveille* to *Taps*. Along the way, you've watched most of your buddies pack their bags. With a drop rate comparable to the Marine Corps' most challenging occupational schools, Silent Drill School gives new meaning to your identity as one of "The Few." You're lean, you're hard, and nothing in the world could break your bearing.

You might be ready for Challenge Day, the culminating event of SDS in which the remaining elite travel here to face off in spectacular, audition-style displays of precision drilling.

If they can impress the drill master enough with their appearance, intensity, precision and confidence, they are chosen for SDP's "Marching 24."

"Ah, Challenge Day." Meet Cpl. Tim Maurer, the 22-year-old SDP drill master. "It was a huge relief when I

finally made it the first time. Everything I had gone through the past four months suddenly made sense. I was finally a member of not only the most premier military unit in America, but in the

world."

Fortunately points aren't deducted for modesty. In fact, these leathernecks need confidence to match their bicep size. From NFL half-time shows to high school appearances, they're pulling off scores of unforgettable, intensity-driven performances a year, and

intensity is definitely a grade on Challenge Day.

"It's a critical event," said Maurer. "We need to know if these guys have what it takes. They have to be loud. They have to be confident. They have to be perfect. We've been around since 1948. We have a legacy to uphold that no one can compete with."

No pressure though. During their shows, the Marines execute a series of calculated drill movements and precise handling of their hand-polished, 10 and one-half pound M-1 Garand rifles with fixed bayonets. The routine concludes with an inspection so elaborate the audiences' heads are spinning right along with the rifles.

"The point is to represent the pride and discipline that Marines are all about," said Maurer. "We put a face on the Marine Corps for a lot of people."

And where do these poster board Marines come from?

"They're all grunts. They're individually selected from the School of Infantry based on their size and marching proficiency," said Maurer. "They come here to be marchers at the regular evening parades at Marine Barracks Washington,

The Silent Drill Platoon presents the "bursting bomb" formation during a sunset parade.



but they can try out for SDS when it begins in November.”

Try and fail, most likely. Ask Lance Cpl. Brian M. Henexson. He’s out here again after being cut early in the previous school.

“I want this,” said Henexson. “I just have to keep the drill slow and be ready to give it 100 percent at all times.” Henexson said he was nervous when his turn came up again, but no one observing his stone-faced performance would have noticed. The 20-year-old won this year’s “New Dog” award – a title given to Challenge Day’s best new driller.

“His level of dedication to perfection went beyond everyone else’s,” said Maurer. “And that’s exactly what’s going to be demanded of him and all

the others from now on – perfection.”

Maurer said once Challenge Day is over, things aren’t going to get any easier. The bar is set higher, and everything becomes about fine tuning.

“I’m definitely relieved I did so well,” said Henexson. “But now’s the time I have to try even harder.”

These silent devil-dogs know all about trying hard. The pride reflected in their eyes has been earned through severe sweat and heroic dedication - hallmarks of the corps of warriors they represent.

“You all should be beaming with pride,” said Capt. Ryan K. Aldrich, SDP commander, at the end of the competition. “Anywhere you go in the country, you will be



representing the best of the best.”

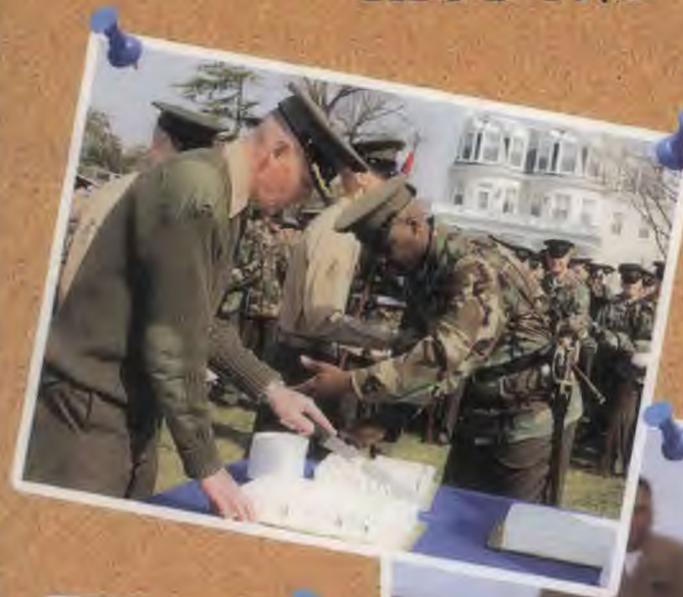
Maurer allows a slight smile to escape his lips as he gathers everyone around in a huddle. “Drill is...”

The steely-eyed Marines of the Silent Drill Platoon are suddenly not so silent as they finish the sentence in thunderous unison. “LIFE!”

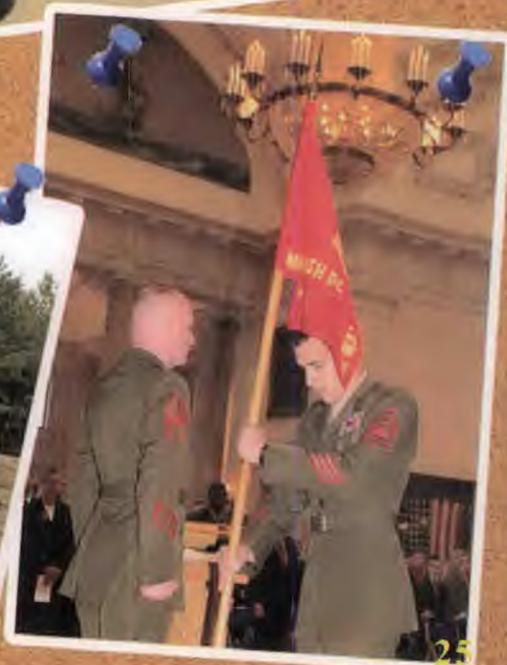
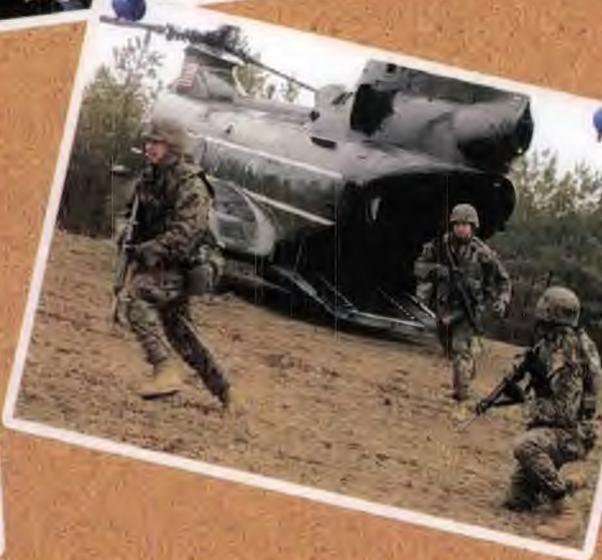
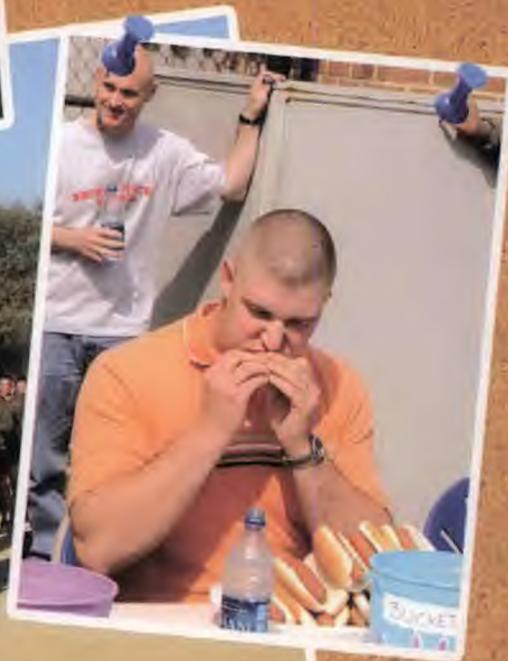
The Silent Drill Platoon performs at the Rose Bowl in Pasadena, Calif., March 12, in one of the 2006 line-up's first performances.



# AROUND THE BARRACKS



# AROUND THE BARRACKS



# PROMOTIONS



## H&S

Master Sgt. B.L. Baker  
Gunnery Sgt. A. Taylor Jr.  
Staff Sgt. L. Galvezvaldivino  
Sgt. D. Paredes  
Cpl. N.L. Adams  
Cpl. K.A. Beckum  
Cpl. R.E. Damiani  
Cpl. N.P. Onofrio  
Cpl. J.B. Sumagang  
Cpl. E. Urena  
Cpl. R. Antu  
Lance Cpl. M.N. Andrews  
Lance Cpl. S.M. Bayne  
Lance Cpl. W.P. Black  
Lance Cpl. J.L. Brown  
Lance Cpl. M.H. Brunette  
Lance Cpl. E.M. Burns  
Lance Cpl. J.S. Calvert  
Lance Cpl. A.J. Cuevas  
Lance Cpl. E.L. Daniels  
Lance Cpl. E.E. Destaphano  
Lance Cpl. N.W. Dveck  
Lance Cpl. B.J. Dyson  
Lance Cpl. M.A. Egolf  
Lance Cpl. N.J. Farrell  
Lance Cpl. C.L. Fleck  
Lance Cpl. R.F. Fraumann  
Lance Cpl. L.G. Gard  
Lance Cpl. D.P. Hamilton  
Lance Cpl. C.W. Hampton  
Lance Cpl. A.K. Hayes  
Lance Cpl. C.B. Husband  
Lance Cpl. S.J. Keirnan  
Lance Cpl. C.S. Kelk  
Lance Cpl. J. Keophilavanh  
Lance Cpl. K.P. Lawrence  
Lance Cpl. C.A. Malan  
Lance Cpl. J.C. Maldonado  
Lance Cpl. K.C. Martin  
Lance Cpl. J. Minkler  
Lance Cpl. D.P. Newton  
Lance Cpl. B.M. Nunnery  
Lance Cpl. M.R. Nygaard  
Lance Cpl. W.L. Phillips  
Lance Cpl. R. Sanchez Jr.  
Lance Cpl. M.P. Shertzer  
Lance Cpl. N.R. Simone  
Lance Cpl. A.J. Sokolowski  
Lance Cpl. S.J. Strehlow  
Lance Cpl. J.E. Turner

Lance Cpl. X. Xiong  
Lance Cpl. R.A. White  
Pfc. M.D. Beaty  
Pfc. J.C. Mirra

## A Company

Gunnery Sgt. H.M. Grimmett Jr.  
Staff Sgt. B.T. Strickland  
Sgt. K.E. Laukhuf  
Sgt. T.J. Maurer  
Sgt. J.P. McQuillan  
Cpl. G.W. Andrews  
Cpl. E.P. Bonty  
Cpl. R.L. Brehm  
Cpl. J.A. Tebrake  
Cpl. C.B. Vandorn  
Lance Cpl. A.R. Crockett  
Lance Cpl. A.J. Hansen  
Lance Cpl. C.D. Heckman  
Lance Cpl. A.C. Hill  
Lance Cpl. J.T. Holster  
Lance Cpl. A.J. Johnson  
Lance Cpl. S.J. Jones  
Lance Cpl. S.J. Mack  
Lance Cpl. R.A. Morton  
Lance Cpl. J.P. Moseley  
Lance Cpl. A.A. Moul  
Lance Cpl. R. Navarette  
Lance Cpl. M.W. Oliver  
Lance Cpl. A.D. Oxford  
Lance Cpl. J.M. Plummer  
Lance Cpl. M.S. Ramos  
Lance Cpl. A.N. Spardone  
Lance Cpl. M.B. Stech  
Lance Cpl. D.J. Trester  
Lance Cpl. J.H. Williams

## B Company

Capt. G.G. Gill  
Cpl. J.B. May  
Cpl. A.M. Fahrer  
Lance Cpl. J.P. Ashman  
Lance Cpl. H.A. Bull  
Lance Cpl. J.R. Burnett  
Lance Cpl. B.C. Campbell  
Lance Cpl. E.A. Carreras  
Lance Cpl. D.S. Catron  
Lance Cpl. N.D. Comeau  
Lance Cpl. R.J. Condley  
Lance Cpl. D.S. Downes  
Lance Cpl. T.M. Fuss  
Lance Cpl. B.K. Geesaman  
Lance Cpl. K.M. Hestdalen

Lance Cpl. A.M. Jacks  
Lance Cpl. B.F. Jackson  
Lance Cpl. C.J. Jones  
Lance Cpl. K.D. Johnson  
Lance Cpl. T.K. Lee  
Lance Cpl. M.D. Licata  
Lance Cpl. D.J. Lord  
Lance Cpl. B.A. Mellor  
Lance Cpl. M.P. Mock  
Lance Cpl. M.A. Mollersimpson  
Lance Cpl. A.J. Orcutt  
Lance Cpl. J.P. Ratledge  
Lance Cpl. J.A. Smirr II  
Lance Cpl. T.N. Trump  
Lance Cpl. Vines  
Lance Cpl. J.E. White  
Pfc. R.D. Rock

## Marine Corps Institute

Capt. P.W. Blair  
Master Gunnery Sgt. S.M. Andrews  
Gunnery Sgt. S.A. Stone  
Sgt. J.M. Russell Jr.  
Sgt. D.J. Slocum  
Cpl. J.M. Klatte  
Cpl. J.L. Morrison  
Cpl. M.A. Valdezfermin  
Lance Cpl. K. Armstrong Jr.  
Lance Cpl. E. Barrientos  
Lance Cpl. L.J. Geter  
Lance Cpl. J.K. Hayes  
Lance Cpl. T.B. Lloyd  
Lance Cpl. Pinadejesus  
Lance Cpl. A. Rapaj  
Lance Cpl. P.W. Shaw  
Pfc. J.C. Hinkle

## U.S. Marine Drum and Bugle Corps

Sgt. J.R. Alexander  
Sgt. B.J. Budd  
Sgt. J.D. Dannemiller  
Sgt. S.R. Duncan  
Sgt. W.D. Young  
Cpl. J.P. Miller

## Security Company

Staff Sgt. A.E. Swisher  
Sgt. P. Blankenfield  
Sgt. D.P. Irick  
Cpl. T.K. Martindill  
Cpl. J.P. Miller

## U.S. Marine Band

Cpl. P.M. Pages

# CHAPLAIN'S OFFERINGS

## PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT

After months of preparation, it's finally here - the first performance. You wonder, "Am I ready? Will I remember everything that I practiced?" Suddenly you wish that you had more time to practice. But there's no more time - you hear your cue. Your heart races. You shoot up a prayer for help and then you step out under the lights . . .

I still remember the first time I had to stand up in front of people and perform. I was enjoying a month on active duty as a chaplain candidate during the summer between my second and third year at Seminary. I was sitting across the desk from my mentor chaplain as he talked to another chaplain on the phone. "Would you like to preach this weekend at a Naval Station in Oxnard this Sunday?" he asked.

"Yes, sir!" I replied, motivated by the opportunity. Then I thought to myself: "I've never preached in front of anyone but seminary students in a preaching class. Am I ready for this?"

Sunday morning came quickly. I thought I'd prepared enough, but here I was, on the platform, knowing that as soon as the hymn ended, I would be introduced. I tried to pay attention to the words I was singing, but my eyes kept lifting off the page to the 200 people in the audience. "I had no idea that there'd be so many people," I thought. My heart began to race.

"Ladies and gentlemen," the chaplain announced, "I won't be speaking this morning. Instead, Chaplain Candidate Foskett will be delivering the Word." He looked over at me, smiling, inviting me up to the pulpit. I smiled back, trying to hide my nervousness. I thought to myself, "I wonder if he'll still be smiling after I'm done?" I shot up a prayer.

Although most of you have never had to preach a sermon, you can relate somehow to how I felt. Many of you have felt this same nervousness while waiting in the arcade, waiting to march out and perform in front of thousands on a Friday night. Others of you know the anxiety of trying to play your instrument and march at the same time. Some have felt the nervousness before you taught a class, stood an inspection, gave a presentation, or stood in front of a meritorious board. Few of you have even known the extreme anxiety of a fire fight - the "snap" of rounds flying by you as you shoot and move.

Let me introduce you to teenager who faced a situation that would cause any one of us extreme anxiety - hand-to-hand combat against a bigger and stronger opponent. This teenager was David, and his enemy was Goliath. For those that are not familiar with this story, you can read about it in 1 Samuel 17.

Notice how David responds when he hears about how Goliath is not only taunting the men, but also their God. "Who is this pagan Philistine anyway, that he is allowed to defy the armies of the living God?" (1 Samuel 17:26, *New Living Translation*) After getting yelled at by his older brother for his outburst, David is summoned to appear to before King Saul.

King Saul asks David if he would be willing to take on Goliath. "Don't worry about a thing," David told Saul. "I'll go out and fight this Philistine!"

"Don't be ridiculous!" Saul replied. "There is no way you can go out against this Philistine. You are only a boy, and he has been in the army since he was a boy!"

But David persisted. "I have been taking care of my father's sheep," he said. "When a lion or a bear comes to steal a lamb from the flock, I go after it with a club and take the lamb from its mouth. If the animal turns on me, I catch it by the jaw and club it to death. I have done this to both lions and bears, and I'll do it to this pagan Philistine too, for he has defied the armies of the living God! The Lord who saved me from the claws of the lion and the bear will save me from this Philistine!" (1 Samuel 17:32-37)

Eventually David takes out Goliath with his slingshot. Where did David's courage come from? Was it from his fighting abilities alone? "The Lord who saved me from the claws of the lion and the bear will save me from this Philistine!" David's confidence in performing well in combat came from his unwavering faith in God's protection and provision.

All of you will face "Goliaths" of some sort or another. Will you respond with the confidence of David? It all depends on what you really believe deep down inside about God. Faith is like muscle memory, it only becomes automatic if it is practiced and practiced and practiced.

I encourage you to be like David. Spend time with God on a daily basis. Read His Word and talk to Him about everything. Ask Him for wisdom to know what to do and the integrity to do the right thing. Trust Him in big and small things. Pretty soon you'll notice that when it comes to performing, your faith in God will make you more confident and less nervous.

Practice makes perfect!

- Lt. Michael E. Foskett, Chaplain  
Marine Barracks Washington



Official Marine Corps Photo

Col. John Ripley, Navy Cross recipient for heroism at the battle of Dong Ha, Vietnam, 1968, reviews Marine Guard contingents at the U.S. Naval Academy, Annapolis in 1972. After nearly 155 years, the tradition of guarding the Naval Academy's gates by Marines from the "Oldest Post" was officially handed to the U.S. Navy in a disestablishment ceremony, Jan. 13.

## **Public Affairs Office**

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