



Cadet Newspaper

DRILL TEAMS FIND SUCCESS IN BLUEFIELD, WV

By: Cadet Daniel May



Drill Teams claim their trophies in Bluefield, WV

Raiders are used to success and this year is no different, but the Exhibition and Regulation teams are finding their stride this year as they have won numerous titles and awards. On January 17 the Drill teams went to Bluefield, WV to compete in the Best of the Best qualifier. It was a long day as the Cadets had to wake at five in the morning to make the four hour drive to Bluefield. Fishburne is one of only three schools out of over 400 in the 4th Brigade that have qualified for both Raider and Drill Best of the Best Championships. Also, there were only twelve teams out of over 400 that qualified for the Best of the Best Drill Championship.

"It isn't fun to wake up that early on a Saturday, but you just have to roll with it," said Cadet Gavin Overton. "It was a character-building experience for sure and I am glad to have done it."

The cadets' early departure obviously did not hinder their success as a team as they brought home several individual and team awards. In Knockout Drill, an individual drill competition where participants are eliminated by making a mistake, 14 out of the top 20 placers were Caissons.

In the team competition the Caissons took home multiple awards: First in Armed Platoon Exhibition, Unarmed Drill Platoon, Advanced Inspection, and Advanced Color Guard, Second in LET 1 Color Guard, and Third in Armed Squad Drill. By winning various events the Cadets were able to win the overall team award.

"Feels good to win," said Cadet Larkin Petrelles. "We work every day on exhibition so it is nice to see it pay off."

While the Cadets are happy about the result they still have much to achieve.

"We can't wait to see how we do at Best of the Best; we will prepare to the best of our abilities for that one," remarked Cadet Blake Justen.



CADETS LEND A HELPING HAND AT ARLINGTON

By: Cadet Julian Waldon



Cadets gathering wreaths at Arlington National Cemetery, picture by COL Gary Morrison

On the 24th of January 40 cadets were called upon to help Col. Morrison, our friends at New Day USA, and the deceased veterans buried in Arlington National cemetery who gave their lives so that we could live in a safe and free country. That Saturday at 04:00 Col. Morrison, 1st Sgt. Hensley, and the volunteering cadets loaded up the bus for a three hour ride to our nation's capital. As soon as we got there all eyes were on us while we marched in the front gates to pick up 230,000 wreaths. With the help of volunteers from New Day USA and the service members of our armed forces, we were done by 8:00 am.

After all the hard work it was time for a bit of leisure. Fascinated by Kennedy's Grave and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, the cadets spent hours touring the 600 acre cemetery. There were a couple of very fresh graves where there was just a huge patch of dirt and a stake in the ground with the soldier's name on it rather than a headstone. That 22 year old man touched a lot of hearts that Saturday even though his hands were underground. He made every cadet grateful for his sacrifice, and made them think about how short life is, especially since many of our brothers who graduated have gone into the service, and we only have social media and alumni weekend to know if they are safe.

FISHBURNE WELCOMES ITS NEW CADETS

By: Cadet Daniel May

Fishburne is a very unique place and as a result New Cadets often feel out of place, and have a difficult time adjusting. For the New Cadets that come in the middle of the school year the "new kid" effect is even more pronounced as they have fewer new cadets around them. Battalion Commander William Rowell is trying to make the adjustment as smooth as possible for these New Cadets.

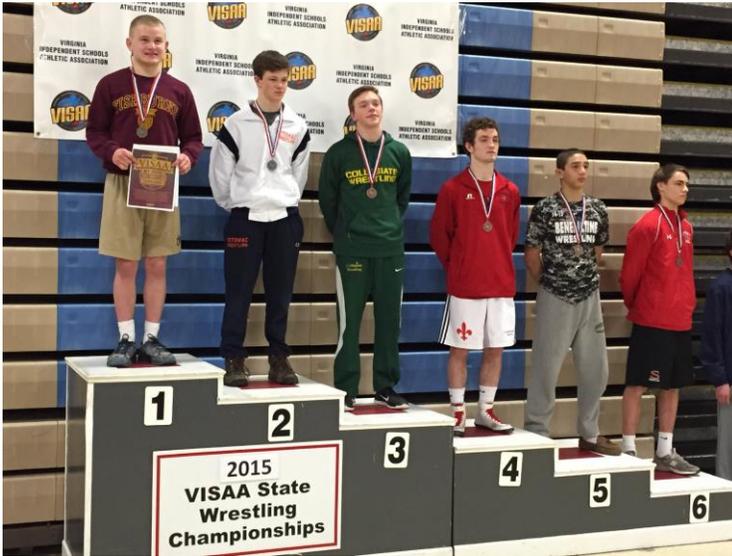
"I remember being a New Cadet myself a few years ago, so I know what they are going through. It isn't easy being away from home for the first time, but if the whole corps gets behind you and supports you it isn't so hard," remarked Rowell. Turning the New Cadets into bona fide members of the FMS corps is a job that takes patience and determination, just ask Battalion S-3 Cadet Captain James Wright, head of New Cadet training.

"RAT status is hard, but that is the goal. We as leaders try to push them and hold them to a higher standard while they are RATs so that we can be sure that they both have earned a place in the corps of cadets and that they will succeed as Old Men."

Continued on Page 4

WRESTLING SEASON COMES TO A CLOSE

By: Cadet James Wright



Cadet Daniel May Wins Best Season of VISAA

The wrestling team had large shoes to fill after the success of last year's team but the team fought hard throughout the season. They had success at the beginning of the season winning a tournament in West Virginia. However, injury plagued the team throughout the year. During this period many individual wrestlers were able to do well, such as Cadet May earning his 100th win, but the prevalence of injury prevented much team success. As the season wound down and the postseason began, the team began to show its hard work, earning a team record of over .500. The Caisson wrestlers went into the conference meet as the underdogs but all of the wrestlers fought hard; all but one wrestler earned medals, including one gold (Daniel May) and three silver medals. Twelve of the Fourteen wrestlers went to the state tournament where Daniel May won his weight class, Caleb Taylor placed Seventh, and Michael Camaro placed Eighth. In addition, Daniel May won the award for best season out of all VISAA wrestlers; he will be competing in the National Prep Tournament.

FISHBURNE OUTLASTS HARGRAVE

By: Cadet Julian Waldon

The rivalry lives on as the Hargrave Tigers came to our hill on South Wayne Avenue and tried to go home with a smile on their faces. When the game started, the Caissons were trying to take the lead by a large margin but the Tigers' skilled three-point shooters held us back and we ended up one point down at the half, 46-47. The second half of the game had more excitement than an NBA game, with the crowd responding to the action by getting on their feet every time we dunked the ball. Again we were neck and neck until coach Huckaby called a time and gave the whole team a shot of adrenaline; Fishburne attacked the basket and earned a lead of ten points. With five minutes left in the game, Hargrave started to catch up fast. With two and a half minutes left Hargrave trailed by five points, but when they shot a

Continued on Page 4



Chris Shields (22) takes a shot; picture by CPT Carl Lambert

FISHBURNE PGS

Continued from Page 3



Ramses Sandifer (44) dunks on Hargrave; picture by CPT Carl Lambert

because they live together, practice together, and are always hanging out, so they have no choice but to get very close like brothers. The team definitely feeds off the core, not just on the court by our loud chants and drums, but when we come up to them and give them a lot of support. Rich speaks for the whole team when he says that Coach Huckaby has taught them how to play better and how to be better young men.

three with 18 seconds left, taking the lead by one point, it seemed like all hope was lost for us. Colonel Morrison wasn't going to have that and neither were the cheering cadets. FMS made a layup and Fishburne led 90-89. With four seconds on the clock, Hargrave got the ball and shot a half-court shot; even though the ball went in, the shot was milliseconds too late and FMS won by a single point. Too upset to look Fishburne's team in the eyes when they shook their hands, Hargrave doubtlessly had a quiet bus ride home but made Fishburne's day a lot better.

Adrian Rich, #24 on the PG basketball team, was very enthusiastic about the 16-8 season, but upset that it couldn't last longer. He is glad that he found Fishburne because he and everyone on the team feel like Fishburne has given them a second chance to play for a prestigious college. Rich says he is still keeping his options open regarding college and is taking advice from his coaches so he can make the best decision. The chemistry of the team is phenomenal even though this team has been built from young men all over the country. Rich states it is

NEW CADETS

Continued from Page 2

The New Cadets are excited to be at Fishburne.

"It kind of stinks being away from home, but I know this place will get me to where I need to be," remarked Cadet Flanders. Flanders is not alone in his positive attitude toward Fishburne; when doing RAT training the New Cadets can be heard belting out the school song or cheering each other on during PT.

"Of course the RATs aren't excited when it comes time to drill and to PT but they understand that RAT status is something every cadet has gone through so they push themselves to be able to join the corps of cadets," Wright said.

The New Cadets became "Old Men" at the Winter Parents Military pass and review, held on February the 14th in the gymnasium at Fishburne Military School.

TEACHER PROFILE: MASTER SERGEANT MIKE ANSON

By: Cadet James Wright



Master Sergeant Mike Anson, USAF (Ret.)

Master Sergeant Mike Anson (Ret.) is a former Air Force Meteorologist, and current Fishburne Teacher and Coach. He currently coaches Winter Running Club and Track & Field, and is a former Cross Country Coach and Athletic Director. I asked him a series of questions:

James Wright: What originally led you to teach?

MSG Mike Anson: As an Air Force meteorologist I spent a lot of time teaching new airmen to become weather observers and eventually weather forecasters, while also teaching classes to Army aviators. It was a natural transition--although in many ways quite different--to go from that culture to Fishburne.

JW: What is your favorite class to teach?

MA: Earth Science, which includes geology, oceanography, meteorology, and astronomy. Volcanoes, earthquakes, hurricanes, tornadoes, black holes... all that destruction and mayhem, who wouldn't?

JW: What do you like most about teaching?

MA: Seeing the light switch on in a student's mind, and watching their confidence grow as they learn.

JW: What do you like about coaching?

MA: I believe everyone is capable of achieving a lot more than they think. I've seen kids come out for cross country and not be able to run a mile without stopping, and by the end of the season they're running a 5K without walking, which as a coach is very rewarding. As a coach I am most proud of my athletes when they show up every day and give it their best. You can't ask for more than that, but it's not easy.

JW: And is there anything else you would like to add?

MA: Everyone should strive to become better at everything--student, athlete, leader, and friend. Be more of a giver than a taker, which will lead to a much more fulfilling life. Set challenging goals for yourself. The key to being successful at anything is developing good habits and being consistent. As a leader maintain the standard while also being respectful and considerate of others. As General Colin Powell would say, "Get mad and get over it."

CQ Staff

Editor: Cadet Daniel May

Reporters: Cadet Julian Waldon
Cadet James Wright

Advisor: Dr. Galen Wilson

Thanks To: CPT. Carl Lambert and COL. Gary Morrison