

RTR takes Powder Puff football title



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MARINE CORPS RECRUIT DEPOT SAN DIEGO



AND THE WESTERN RECRUITING REGION

Ceremony honors Old Glory



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Vol. 71 – Issue 32

“WHERE MARINES ARE MADE”

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2011

## MCRC leadership gears up for success in FY12

BY SGT. CRISTINA N. PORRAS  
*Chevron staff*

Commanders and senior enlisted personnel from Marine Corps Recruiting Command gathered for the Fiscal Year 2012 MCRC National Commanders Conference October 18-20 at the Omni Hotel in San Diego.

During the week-long conference, Marine Corps leadership recognized recruiting stations that exceeded standards during fiscal year 2011 and gave their guidance for fiscal year 2012.

Commandant of the Marine Corps General James F. Amos presented 44 recruiting station commanders with the Superior Achiever Award. This award is given to recruiting stations that achieved or exceeded specified recruiting goals during the fiscal year. They received plaques to display in their RS headquarters, honoring the hard work of all Marines who contributed to their success.

“Marines take great pride

in knowing their day-to-day efforts are recognized,” said Maj. Mike Ogden, commander, RS New Jersey. “The (Superior Achiever Award) reflects the great things recruiters are doing on a daily basis.”

After presenting the awards, Amos spoke to commanders about the crucial role of recruiting and the importance of maintaining a diverse Marine Corps.

“We have a connectedness to the American public no other service has,” said Amos. “By maintaining a diverse force we can help guarantee our connectedness to the American people.”

By focusing on diversity, said Amos, the Marine Corps can expand their recruiting efforts to include a wide variety of backgrounds and skill sets.

“Diversity gives us the opportunity to fish in a bigger pond,” said Amos.

He also reminded the group

see COMMANDERS ▶2



Sgt. Cristina N. Porras

Commandant of the Marine Corps, General James F. Amos, speaks to recruiting station commanders during the National Commanders' Conference at the Omni Hotel in San Diego Oct. 18. Amos spoke to the audience about the importance of diversity in the Marine Corps and addressed commanders' concerns. He also thanked them for their hard work and dedication in ensuring only the best and brightest men and women are selected to become United States Marines. The annual NCC is held to honor recruiting stations that have contributed greatly to the Marine Corps recruiting mission during the previous fiscal year and prepare for the next year.

## Expo supports health, family

BY LANCE CPL. CRYSTAL DRUERY  
*Chevron staff*

Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego was painted pink Oct. 22 as Marine Corps Community Services hosted Make a Difference Day 2011 Walk and Wellness Expo at the MCRD Exchange Mall to raise awareness of breast cancer and domestic violence.

This is the seventh year the depot hosted Make a Difference Day, where participants take a walk around the depot and

learn more about the two issues through educational booths and services.

“I think the key to awareness is by educating people,” said Brig. Gen. Daniel D. Yoo, MCRD commanding general. “These events are important because such a large population is affected by (breast cancer and domestic violence).”

Yoo expressed his empathy for those affected by the two issues and thanked participants for coming out before blowing a horn, kicking off the mile-and-

a-half walk around the depot.

As Yoo blew the horn, children took off running. Participants walked along the route which was lined with signs providing facts and statistics on breast cancer and domestic violence.

“The facts help remind the participants why they’re here,” said Andrea Callahan, MCCA health promotions coordinator. “The more information they have, the better they will be to

see DIFFERENCE ▶2



Lance Cpl. Crystal Druery

Children take off as the horn blows to start the mile-and-a-half walk around the Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego Oct. 22. This is the seventh year the depot has hosted Make a Difference Day to raise awareness of breast cancer and domestic violence. The MCRD Exchange Mall was filled with pink during the Make a Difference Day 2011 Walk and Wellness Expo hosted by Marine Corps Community Services.

## Domestic violence prevention takes center stage

BY SGT. CRISTINA N. PORRAS  
*Chevron staff*

It can be difficult for someone to understand how domestic violence or sexual assault can unfold if they have never experienced either tragedy.

In observance of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, and to help combat the occurrence of both issues, Marine Corps

Recruit Depot San Diego hosted a theatrical production as a means to raise awareness among depot personnel Oct. 25.

Marines sat attentively as actress Denise Dean led them through the story of a woman named Anna and her abusive relationship with her boyfriend, Rick, in a play entitled “The Yellow Dress.” During the 30-minute monologue, Anna

told her detailed story, from the blissful beginning with Rick, to bouts of jealousy and abuse that led to her death at his hands.

“(Dean) did a fantastic job acting out the scenes. She painted a vivid picture that shows the effect domestic violence can have on someone,” said Cpl. Anita Jones, logistics

see DOMESTIC ▶2

## Depot observes national Red Ribbon Week



Lance Cpl. Katalynn Rodgers

Frank Chavez, left, drug demand reduction coordinator, Marine Corps Recruit Depot Substance Abuse Counseling Center, gives Lt. Duchuy Nguyen, right, Facilities Division public works officer, a t-shirt and bag in observance of Red Ribbon Week Oct. 21. “Red Ribbon Week is an ideal way for people and communities to unite and take a visible stand against substance abuse,” said Chavez. “Show your personal commitment to a drug free lifestyle through the symbol of the red ribbon October 23rd through 31st.” The Red Ribbon Campaign was started when drug traffickers in Mexico City murdered Drug Enforcement Administration Agent Kikki Camarrena in 1985, said Chavez.



# Marine aviator addresses depot Museum Historical Society

Maj. Michael A. Welsch, director of safety and standardization, Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 165, "White Knights," Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, speaks about MV-22 Osprey operations in Afghanistan during Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego's Museum Historical Society's quarterly breakfast Oct. 25. The society has started holding short professional military education periods during their breakfasts, Welsh's was the second period. At the end of his period of instruction, Welsh was awarded a certificate of appreciation and a pocket light from the society.



Lance Cpl. Katalynn Rodgers

## DIFFERENCE

look after their families." After the walk, participants went from booth-to-booth, collecting information they may not have known before. "If they came out for breast cancer they might learn stuff about domestic violence they didn't realize and vice-versa," said Callahan, the event organizer who helped arrange this year's event to make a difference in people's lives. Some booths offered free services to help people relax such as a dog therapy booth. Shirley Colman, founder of Therapy Dog Teams, said her booth was meant to inform people about dog therapy and how dogs can help calm and relax people by allowing them to pet the dogs and play with them.

"There's almost nothing that petting a dog can't make you feel better about," said Colman. "It might not cure you, but it will make you feel better." This proved to be true, as many people were captivated by the array of dogs dressed in pink and greeted guest with their playful demeanor. Yoo took advantage of the dogs' presence and spent a few minutes petting the dogs as well. "This was my second event like this, but I enjoyed this one more because it had more resources available," said Petty Officer 3rd Class Angelayana Henry, hospital corpsman, Branch Medical Clinic MCRD. "This event helped get the word out to people that these issues are actually going on." A local hairstylist volunteered her services for par-

ticipants who wanted to cut their hair and donate it to people suffering from cancer. "I gave my hair because I'm able to grow mine while others aren't (able to) and it just felt like the right thing to do," said AnnaLisa Hansing, a U.S. Navy spouse. "Better to give it to someone that can use it." Hansing felt being able to give hair was a healing process for those affected by the disease. This opportunity helped participants feel like they could contribute to those suffering from cancer, she said. "We were trying to find a new way for people to give back and hair donations seemed like a fun way to support the cause," said Callahan. Children visited the art therapy booth and put together an art project of people they knew affected by the two

issues. Their artwork was then put into a collage full of all the projects, giving the children a way contribute. The event afforded many people the opportunity to help raise awareness, but also offered the chance for those who have suffered from domestic violence or breast cancer to share their experience with people who have been through the same struggles. "This is definitely a great way for people to realize they're not alone," said Callahan. The event provided a safe haven and helped many people feel good, open up with others and raise awareness for two important issues. With the success of the 2011 Make a Difference Day, Yoo said he is excited for next year's event and is hoping to include a run as well.

## DOMESTIC

specialist, Service Company, Headquarters and Service Battalion. The interactive play, produced by Deana's Educational Theater in Wakefield, Mass., is a compilation of real-life events domestic violence and sexual assault victims have experienced. It's



Sgt. Cristina N. Porras

Actress Denise Dean played the role of a girl named Anna in "The Yellow Dress," at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego Oct. 25.

meant to stir emotions among the audience so they can better understand the victim and their thought process in an abusive relationship, said Dean. "This scenario is exactly how a lot of real-life (domestic violence) situations unfold," said Dean. "People need to see how this affects people and be able to step up the empathy and scale back on judgment." According to the director of MCRD Marine and Family Services, Lt. Col. Gregory F. Bond, there have been 41 cases of domestic violence involving personnel aboard the depot and 24 in the Western Recruiting Region. "One is too many, but 65 is a lot," said Bond. "This can hit home for everyone whether you're married, not married or just dating." After the play, Dean gave Marines an opportunity to ask questions and give their input on the play. She then asked the audience thought-provoking questions based on the play to help them learn to identify signs of abuse. Because denial or lack of knowledge can make it difficult to notice signs of abuse, it's important for people to put themselves in the victim's situation, said Dean. "The lessons to take away are to trust your gut and be supportive,"

Dean said. "Everyone should realize that it takes strength to be in (the victim's) shoes - being in a bad relationship and getting out of that relationship requires strength." The open forum allowed the audience to discuss how to deal with domestic violence and sexual assault in the military community. They discussed some of the resources available to aid victims and how to handle abuse situations as leaders of Marines. "This is an important issue -- it's a readiness issue," said Col. Robert Gates, MCRD/WRR chief of staff. "This is something we need to take home and discuss with our spouses and also with our Marines at work." Marines welcomed the theatrical performance as an alternative to the traditional annual training methods they've grown accustomed to. The play proved to be a compelling and interesting means of raising awareness about two issues detrimental to mission readiness. "We're used to the typical (professional military education) class, where it consists of someone lecturing us and showing us a PowerPoint presentation," said Jones. "This is much more effective in getting the message across that domestic violence just isn't right."

## COMMANDERS

that as the Corps scales back in size, standards to join the Marine Corps remain high and will not be compromised. He asked that they take his message back to their recruiting stations and ensure all recruiters understand his vision. Since MCRC has Marines scattered across the country, the conference is the easiest venue to get the entire command in sync. "Because the nature of (MCRC) is one of dispersion, it isn't very easy to get together," said Col. Michael R. Bowersox, MCRC assistant chief of

staff. "This is our annual opportunity to get together and share information as well as understand the mission for the upcoming (fiscal year)." The conference is an annual opportunity for RS commanders to set themselves up for success in the next fiscal year by gathering and discussing strategies and issues they face in the world of recruiting, said Ogden. The information they gather is something they can share with their Marines upon returning to their respective recruiting stations. "The bottom line is when we leave here, we can go back and talk to the Marines so they know the challenges

that lie ahead and we can give them the guidance we received straight from the commandant," Ogden said. On the final day of the conference attendees observed the Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego Friday Morning Colors Ceremony. Brig. Gen. Daniel D. Yoo, commanding general, MCRD San Diego and Western Recruiting Region, presented three final awards for the WRR for fiscal year 2011. RS Los Angeles was recognized as the most improved recruiting station and RS San Diego received the awards for region quality recruiting station of the year and WRR recruiting station of the year.

## BRIEFS

### MCX gas station closure

The depot's MCX gas station will be closed Wednesday and Nov. 9 from about 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., for mandatory annual environmental testing. The Minimart will remain open.

### Library closure

The depot library is closed until Nov. 14 for installation of a steam heating system. For questions concerning library services such as how to return books, CD, DVDs, etc., call (619) 524-5728 or 5732.

### State tax exemption filing deadline

Nine states do not withhold state income tax for active duty service members provided certain conditions are met. Residents of the following states must complete a DD Form 2058-1 prior to Dec. 31 for the tax exclusion to continue uninterrupted. The states are: Connecticut, Illinois, Missouri, Montana, New York, New Jersey, Ohio, Oregon and West Virginia. POC at CPAC is G. C. Saubon at (619) 524-6101.

### Turkey Trot

MCCS Semper Fit will host the 2011 Turkey Trot 5K Run Nov. 18 at the parking lot between the Fitness Center and Recreation Center. The race begins at 1 p.m. The Turkey Trot is free to all authorized patrons with a proper ID. Registration fee is \$10 per guest and participants may register online at mccsmcrd.com. Sign-up on race day begins at 10:30 a.m.

For more information contact Diana Vuong, Semper Fit administrative assistant at (619) 524-8083 or via e-mail at vuongd@usmc-mccs.org.

### Turkey Trot canned food drive

A canned food drive will be held at the Turkey Trot Nov. 18. Please bring nonperishable food items to the canned food drive booth during the event. All food collected will go directly to military families serving aboard the depot.

- Suggested Items:
- 12th MCD: Boxed corn muffin mix
  - 1st Bn: Canned corn
  - 2nd Bn: Canned yams
  - 3rd Bn: Canned peas
  - Civilians: Cake or brownie mix
  - Coast Guard: Soups/French fried onions
  - Dental: Canned cranberry sauce
  - Headquarters Co: Instant potatoes
  - Medical: Canned carrots
  - Recruiters School: Gravy mix
  - Service Co: Boxed macaroni and cheese
  - Support Bn: Canned green beans
  - WFTBn: Boxed stuffing

For more information contact Diana Vuong, Semper Fit administrative assistant at (619) 524-8083 or via e-mail at vuongd@usmc-mccs.org.

### A Journey through Boot Camp

Follow Sgt. Whitney N. Frasier as she blogs about Company G's boot camp experience at [www.transformationofmarines.wordpress.com](http://www.transformationofmarines.wordpress.com)

### 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 are you dressing up as for Halloween?"**



**"I'm going as Iron Man for Halloween."** Lance Cpl. Emmanuel Preza, training clerk, Support Battalion, Recruit Training Regiment



**"I always go as something scary for Halloween."** Staff Sgt. Heather Vecchia, logistics chief, Headquarters Company, Headquarters and Service Battalion



**"I'm going as Julius Ceaser for Halloween."** Cpl. Cesar Martinez, administrative chief, Support Battalion, Recruit Training Regiment

# I MEF (FWD) conducts pre-deployment training

BY CPL. SALVADOR MORENO  
I MEF

## MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON, Calif.

— Marines and sailors with I Marine Expeditionary Force (FWD) are cycling through a pre-deployment training program at Camp Pendleton to prepare them for a spring-time deployment. The week-long training covers different aspects of what service members might see in Afghanistan and refreshes common skills including medical training, patrolling and weapons familiarization.

"It's very essential for any Marine, because it gives them that chance to focus and hone in on some of those things they may have forgotten how to do," said Sgt. Randal Gamble, I MEF (FWD) force deployment chief.

Not only does the PTP refresh and sharpen skills, but it makes Marines aware of the ever-changing war being fought in Afghanistan.

The PTP week begins with culture training where Marines and sailors learn about the Afghan culture during a presentation encompassing customs, beliefs and their general ways of life. Later in the week, Marines and sailors move to the improvised explosive device lanes course where they see threats they may encounter in country.

"The basic intent of the course is to raise awareness of IEDs as far as their use in the

battlefield, what to do when you encounter an IED and what not to do," said Loren Hutton, 25, a counter-IED training specialist with the Marine Corps Engineer Center.

The course allowed the Marines and sailors to see what some of the latest IEDs look like and how they are concealed on a trail.

"For a first-time deploying Marine, it is an introduction as to what they really should be looking for," Gamble said. "It's a little more realistic and gives you the tools you need to identify it before it's too late."

After getting a close up on possible threats the Marines and sailors are reacquainted with their rifles at the marksmanship course, allowing them to engage possible threats at close distances and on the move.

After the range is completed, service members move to the Humvee Egress Assistance Trainer simulator which lets the Marines experience the confusion, noise and disorientation experienced during a Humvee rollover.

More than 11 separate groups will go through the training prior to deploying. This allows all Marines deploying to receive the same training and be able to fill in multiple positions if needed. I MEF (FWD) will assume command of all Marine operations throughout southern Afghanistan and begin its yearlong deployment in spring 2012.



Cpl. Salvador R. Moreno

**Lt. Col. Andrew Killion, Marine Air-Ground Task Force deployment officer with I Marine Expeditionary Force (FWD) exits the Humvee Egress Assistance Trainer after being spun around multiple times during a pre-deployment training evolution at Camp Pendleton, Oct. 20. The training device teaches Marines how to survive a rollover in a top-heavy armored vehicle.**



Cpl. Salvador R. Moreno

**A Marine with I Marine Expeditionary Force (FWD) exits the gunner's hatch of the Humvee Egress Assistance Trainer. The simulator allows passengers to experience the confusion, noise and disorientation experienced during a rollover.**



Cpl. Salvador R. Moreno

**A Marine with I Marine Expeditionary Force (FWD) straps himself into the Humvee Egress Assistance Trainer during a pre-deployment training program evolution Oct. 20. The training device teaches Marines how to survive a rollover in an armored vehicle.**

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# Colors ceremony more than pomp and circumstance

BY LANCE CPL. KATALYNN RODGERS  
*Chevron staff*

Every day at sunrise, the American flag is honored and hoisted up flagpoles on U.S. military installations worldwide.

Every Friday that new Marines graduate aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, family members and friends are introduced to this tradition at a special ceremony.

“Every day twice a day it’s been done for as long as the depot has been here,” said Col. Robert W. Gates, Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego and the Western Recruiting Region chief of staff. “We do it every day when we raise the flag, the formality that we do (at the Friday Morning Colors Ceremony) is a little bit more pomp and circumstance. It really is a way to showcase the Marine Corps and welcome families.”

Although morning colors is an everyday event, this ceremony is a more formal way of honoring our national colors.

“The purpose of the Morning Colors Ceremony is to formally raise our nation’s flag in a military ceremony,” said Gates. “It provides us a brief moment to reflect on its meaning and to also reflect on the millions of men and women who have worn the cloth of our nation and protected its shores from our foes since 1776.”

More than 50 depot Marines participate in this ceremony. Marine Band San Diego plays ceremonial music and three formations of Marines stand tall, symbolizing the critical elements needed to transform young men into Marines.

In one formation, Marines from Recruit Training Regiment represent drill instructors and basic combat skills instructors

from Weapons Field Training Battalion. These Marines are responsible for training recruits day and night, and teaching them their primary job as Marines – how to be riflemen.

Another formation consists of Marines who represent the Western Recruiting Region. These are recruiters who are charged with finding the best men and women to be U.S. Marines, and in many cases were the new Marines’ first contact with the Marine Corps.

The last is of Headquarters and Service Battalion. They help make sure that the base runs smoothly, from building upkeep to the military police who secure the base.

“It really drives home that no matter what your (military occupational specialty) is, (we) are the most well-trained fighting force,” said Gunnery Sgt. Rickey Gould, operations chief, Headquarters Company, Headquarters and Service Battalion.

At every Friday colors ceremony the commanding general, or a representative, thanks families for giving up one of their own to the United States Marine Corps.

This ceremony is an opportunity for the commanding general to get up close and personal with the families of new Marines, said Gould. It’s a little more intimate than at graduation.

“It gives the leadership of the depot a chance to address the families and welcome them to the Marine Corps and thank them for their support of their sons to become United States Marines,” said Gates.

Morning and evening colors have been a tradition since 1843 when the U.S. Navy borrowed the tradition of morning and evening colors from the British. According to the Royal Navy

National Archives, the present ceremony of hoisting colors each morning was instituted by Lord St. Vincent in 1797.

The first mention of a time regulation for morning colors was in the 1843 Rules and Regulations for the Government of the Navy, if sunset was after 6 p.m. morning colors would be at 8 a.m. and if sunset was before six, colors would go at 9 a.m. Since 1876, morning colors was set at 8 a.m. in all cases.

“The ceremony has morphed over the years,” said Gould. “It used to be that the formations were one of officers and one of staff noncommissioned officers. Having three formations of different ranks can give families a broader understanding of what it takes to train these young men in a safe, productive manner.”

Traditions are a large part of the Marine Corps, from the ceremonies performed to the nickname “devil dog.”

“We all come from different walks of life in the Marine Corps,” said Gates. “The one thing that bonds all of us as Marines is our history. Your grandfather is my grandfather, the same goes for everybody in the Marine Corps.”

This ceremony isn’t just about keeping with traditions; it’s about the families of the Marine Corps’ newest Marines.

“The Friday Morning Colors ceremony conducted aboard MCRD San Diego

provides families with a brief history of morning colors and educates them on: the units that constitute the Western Recruiting Region and Marine Corps Recruit Depot; the Depot Color Guard; and the MCRD Band,” said Gates. “It also demonstrates to them one of the many customs the Marine Corps follows that are part of our military traditions and provides a venue for Depot leadership to address the families of the graduating Marines

and welcome them to the Marine Corps family.”

Some family members are already familiar with the military culture, having children who have already completed recruit training or being veterans themselves.

“It’s watching the colors march on and listening to the band that really makes you think about the country and these young men who are about to embark on a really amazing journey,” said Michael Hall, Marine veteran and father of a newly-graduated Marine Oct. 7.

“In 1975, when I was in the Marine Corps, it wasn’t fashionable to be patriotic. It’s great to see that people are enthusiastic about our boys. This ceremony really brings back memories for me.”

Whether it’s during a ceremony on graduation Fridays or every day at sunrise and sunset, Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego continues to uphold its traditions to this day.

“Military traditions like Morning Colors are important to the Marine Corps because they remind us of our past and provide us with a foundation from which we can continue our legacy,” said Gates.

“Military traditions also enable us to honor those service members who have gone before us and provide credence to their actions.”



The Recruit Training Regiment color guard marches the colors out between a crowd of families during the Morning Colors Ceremony Oct. 7. While the colors were marched out





Lance Cpl. Katalynn Rodgers

Victor L. Kuhns, a Vietnam Era Marine veteran and the grandfather of Matthew R. Kuhns, a new Marine who graduated recruit training with Company H, Platoon 2173 Friday, Oct. 21, attends the Morning Colors Ceremony in front of building 31.



Lance Cpl. Katalynn Rodgers

Approximately 500 people attend Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego's Friday Morning Colors Ceremony each week. During the ceremony the band plays music and the national ensign is marched on. The ceremony doesn't kick into full swing until the narrator strikes a bell, foreground, eight times to signify that it is 8 a.m. and time for the colors to be raised.



Lance Cpl. Katalynn Rodgers

Formations from left to right, Headquarters and Service Battalion, Recruit Training Regiment and 12th Marine Corps District represent the manpower needed to transform young men into Marines. Headquarters and Service Battalion's responsibility is to keep the base running smoothly, Recruit Training Regiment consists of drill instructors who train the young men into Marines and 12th Marine Corps District represents the Western Recruiting Region.



Lance Cpl. Katalynn Rodgers

ut the National Anthem played. The attendees of the ceremony removed any hats they were wearing and placed their right hands over their hearts while the anthem played.



# Recon Gunny wins military championship at Kona Ironman

BY MAJ. GUILLERMO A. CANEDO  
Marine Corps Base Quantico, Va.

**QUANTICO, VA.** — Gunnery Sergeant Robert Hilton, 1st Marine Special Operations Battalion, Camp Pendleton, Calif., was the first U.S. military service member across the finish line at the Ford Ironman World Championship in Kailua-Kona, on the “Big Island” of Hawaii, Oct. 8.

Hilton is assigned to the 1st Marine Special Operations Battalion at Camp Pendleton, Calif. He finished the race with a time of 9 hours, 19 minutes, beating the other U.S. military service representatives to win the title of 2011 Military Division Champion. “Being in the special ops community, I’ve never really had a chance to dedicate time to racing and training like this,” said Hilton.

“But this year I was assigned to a training course, and with the time at home I decided to go for it. The intent was always to go to Kona. But once I was asked if I’d race

for the Marines, how could I say, ‘no?’”

Hilton qualified to race in the Ironman World Championship by competing and attaining a qualifying time at Ironman France.

“I was hoping that, at some point, I’d find my space in the water and be able to develop a rhythm, but it was a fight the whole way. Even getting out of the water seemed like a big mess, so I was feeling the chaos coming into transition. Everything on the bike was the way people said it would be, though. It was hot. It was windy. It was hilly. I just worked through the gears and made it happen.”

The Ford Ironman consists of a 2.4-mile open ocean swim, 112-mile bike ride and 26.2-mile run. The race at Kailua-Kona is the World Championship and is one of 26 Ironman competitions held each year in various countries around the world.

“It’s hard to do this in a way. My unit just has phenomenal leaders and incredible Marines. I’m talking

about courageous guys—absolutely no fear in them. I love being where I am, and sometimes I feel like I’m missing out on it to take time to come to Kona,” said Hilton when asked about what inspires him during the race.

Hilton is a member of the All-Marine Triathlon team. The team consists of the twenty best Marine triathletes chosen from across the Marine Corps. Athletes on the team compete individually in a variety of amateur races across the country each year and come together as a team to compete against the other services at the Armed Forces Triathlon.

Hilton’s times during the race were: 1 hour, 10 minutes for the swim; 4 hours, 52 minutes for the bike race; and 3 hours, 7 minutes for the marathon. His total time was 9 hours, 19 minutes, 57 seconds.

The next Armed Forces Triathlon Championship will be held at Naval Base Ventura County, Point Mugu, Calif., June 24, 2012.



Courtesy photograph

**Gunnery Sgt. Robert Hilton, 1st Marine Special Operations Battalion, Camp Pendleton, Calif., races in the third event of the Ford Ironman World Championship in Kailua-Kona, on the “Big Island” of Hawaii, Oct. 8. Hilton was the first U.S. military service member across the finish line at this year’s competition. The Ironman requires participants to complete a 2.4 mile swim, a 112 mile bicycle course and a full marathon (26.219 miles) in that order and without a break. Hilton covered the course in 9 hours, 19 minutes, 57 seconds.**

## Brig. Gen. Niel E. Nelson

### Parade Reviewing Officer

Brig. Gen. Niel E. Nelson is currently serving as Commanding General, Training Command, Quantico, Va.

Following commissioning, Nelson attended The Basic School followed by the Engineer School and was assigned to 8th Engineer Support Battalion, where he served as an engineer platoon commander, company executive officer and company commander. His next tour took him to Inspector-Instructor duty in Bakersfield, Calif., where he served as the inspector-instructor. Nelson then attended, and was a distinguished graduate of the U.S. Army Engineer Officer Advance Course.

Returning to the Fleet Marine Force in 1991, Nelson became the logistics

officer and support company commander for 3rd Combat Engineer Bn., and the operations officer of 3rd Special Operations Training Group. In 1994, Nelson reported to the Marine Corps Systems Command where he was the Mine Countermine Project Officer with PM Engineers.

Nelson then attended Marine Corps Command and Staff College followed by the School for Advance Warfighting. In 1999, Nelson reported to II Marine Expeditionary Force as the Southern Command Plans officer and subsequently assumed command of 8th Engineer Support Bn. This unit served with Task Force Tarawa and 1st Marine Division as an Assault Bridge Battalion during Operation Iraqi Freedom-I.

Following battalion command, Nelson attended the U. S. Army War College and was assigned to U.S. Pacific Command as the Regional Engineer Plans officer for Oceania and

Southeast Asia. Following this tour, Nelson commanded The Marine Corps Engineer School from 2006 to 2008, after which he became the chief of staff, II Marine Expeditionary Force (Forward) and returned to Iraq with the last Multinational Force - West (MNF-W). Upon completion of this tour with MNF-W, he became the executive assistant to the Deputy Commandant for Installation and Logistics (DC I&L) and served in this capacity until taking command of Training

Command on Aug. 12.

Nelson graduated from San Diego State University in 1984 receiving a Bachelor of Arts degree. He also holds masters degrees in Systems Management, Military Science and International and Strategic Studies from Capitol College, Marine Corps University and Army War College respectively. Additionally, Nelson is a graduate of The Basic School, Basic and Advanced Engineer Officers Courses, Airborne School, Marine Corps Command and Staff College,

Marine Corps School for Advanced Warfighting, Joint Forces Staff College and the Army War College.

Nelson’s personal decorations include the Legion of Merit with two Gold Stars, Bronze Star with V Device, Defense Meritorious Service medal, Meritorious Service Medal with one Gold Star, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal with two Gold Stars, Army Commendation Medal, Navy Achievement Medal and the Combat Action Ribbon.

*Congratulations Marines! And to the families; thank you for your great support. Marines, you are now part of a long lineage of United States Marines. As you prepare to depart the recruit depot today, know that you are part of something much greater than any individual. You have answered your country’s call and will now continue the legacy of our Corps. Holding the title of United States Marine carries with it an expectation to carry the colors high on your watch and maintain our proud traditions. I am confident all of you are up to the challenge. Remember to always look out for your fellow Marines and attack the future with honor, courage and commitment. Once again, congratulations Marines and Semper Fidelis!”*





**Platoon 3274**  
COMPANY HONOR MAN  
Pfc. D. D. Whitmore  
Kansas City, Mo.  
Recruited by  
Sgt. R. A. Tenfingers



**Platoon 3269**  
SERIES HONOR MAN  
Pfc. H. J. Sholl  
Redondo Beach, Calif.  
Recruited by  
Sgt. B. Downs



**Platoon 3270**  
PLATOON HONOR MAN  
Pfc. M. S. Gutschmidt  
Cedar Rapids, Iowa  
Recruited by  
Staff Sgt. R. A. Chaves



**Platoon 3271**  
PLATOON HONOR MAN  
Pfc. E. F. Aguilar  
Spring, Texas  
Recruited by  
Gunnery Sgt. H. Benn



**Platoon 3273**  
PLATOON HONOR MAN  
Pfc. M. P. Cross  
Sacramento, Calif.  
Recruited by  
Sgt. G. A. Tristan



**Platoon 3275**  
PLATOON HONOR MAN  
Pfc. W. C. Brown  
Pearl City, Hawaii  
Recruited by  
Staff Sgt. M. Viloria



**Platoon 3276**  
PLATOON HONOR MAN  
Pfc. S. A. Sommers  
Milwaukee  
Recruited by  
Sgt. A. R. LeRoy



**Platoon 3269**  
HIGH SHOOTER (333)  
Pfc. P. K. Ode  
Sioux Falls, S.D.  
Marksmanship Instructor  
Sgt. A. Duran



**Platoon 3271**  
HIGH PFT (300)  
Pfc. D. O. Gomez  
S. Sacramento, Calif.  
Recruited by  
Sgt. X. Huynh



**HONOR  
PLATOON**

# MIKE COMPANY

**3rd RECRUIT TRAINING BATTALION**

*Commanding Officer*  
*Sergeant Major*  
*Battalion Drill Master*

Lt. Col. M. A. Reiley  
Sgt. Maj. E. Gonzalez  
Staff Sgt. J. A. Cargile



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|--|---|--|---|--|
| <b>COMPANY M</b><br><i>Commanding Officer</i><br>Capt. S. G. Page<br><i>Company First Sergeant</i><br>1st Sgt. C. M. Carlisle  | <b>SERIES 3269</b><br><i>Series Commander</i><br>1st Lt. J. P. Torres<br><i>Chief Drill Instructor</i><br>Staff Sgt. M. G. Martinez-Ortiz                 | <b>PLATOON 3269</b><br><i>Senior Drill Instructor</i><br>Staff Sgt. M. A. Bowman<br><i>Drill Instructors</i><br>Staff Sgt. A. Jurado-Segovia<br>Staff Sgt. M. A. Miranda | <b>PLATOON 3270</b><br><i>Senior Drill Instructor</i><br>Staff Sgt. A. M. Poznanski<br><i>Drill Instructors</i><br>Staff Sgt. N. G. Seip<br>Sgt. C. K. Fulton | <b>PLATOON 3271</b><br><i>Senior Drill Instructor</i><br>Sgt. R. Moctezuma<br><i>Drill Instructors</i><br>Sgt. G. A. Dulal-Whiteway<br>Sgt. M. A. Sedlak |
| <b>SERIES 3273</b><br><i>Series Commander</i><br>Capt. J. F. Boyer<br><i>Chief Drill Instructor</i><br>Staff Sgt. N. A. Solana | <b>PLATOON 3273</b><br><i>Senior Drill Instructor</i><br>Staff Sgt. D. R. Brewer<br><i>Drill Instructors</i><br>Staff Sgt. G. Fuentes<br>Sgt. W. M. Johns | <b>PLATOON 3274</b><br><i>Senior Drill Instructor</i><br>Staff Sgt. L. S. Parker<br><i>Drill Instructors</i><br>Staff Sgt. R. Curiel<br>Staff Sgt. R. J. Stroud          | <b>PLATOON 3275</b><br><i>Senior Drill Instructor</i><br>Staff Sgt. J. I. Chavez<br><i>Drill Instructors</i><br>Staff Sgt. L. A. Bourdony<br>Sgt. D. C. Tate  | <b>PLATOON 3276</b><br><i>Senior Drill Instructor</i><br>Sgt. M. S. Bachicha<br><i>Drill Instructors</i><br>Sgt. J. Munoz<br>Sgt. J. D. Ruiz             |

\* Indicates Meritorious Promotion

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|---|---|--|--|---|--|--|--|
| <b>PLATOON 3269</b><br>Pvt. C. R. Acosta<br>Pvt. J. T. Allen<br>Pfc. E. Armenta<br>Pvt. O. Baltazar<br>Pvt. B. C. Barnum<br>Pfc. G. T. Barreras<br>Pvt. J. M. Barreras<br>Pvt. J. J. Bean<br>Pfc. J. S. Bogenrief<br>Pvt. W. J. Brady<br>Pvt. J. D. Bustamante<br>Pfc. A. Cabrera<br>Pvt. A. W. Caudill<br>Pvt. B. A. Chavez<br>Pvt. R. Chavez-Venero<br>Pvt. T. W. Harrison<br>Pfc. B. T. Hayes<br>Pvt. A. M. Henderson<br>Pfc. B. N. Hernandez<br>Pvt. H. A. Hernandez<br>Pvt. K. L. Hill<br>Pvt. B. L. Hoch<br>Pvt. M. A. Holt<br>Pfc. J. D. Hudson<br>Pvt. E. M. Keller<br>Pfc. E. Lara<br>Pfc. H. M. Le<br>Pvt. K. M. Leary<br>Pfc. J. Le Boy<br>Pvt. R. B. Ledesma<br>Pvt. J. A Lee<br>Pfc. J. L. Lopez Jr.<br>Pvt. J. R. Lopez<br>Pfc. A. T. Macias III<br>Pvt. A. Marquez Jr.<br>Pvt. R. Miguel<br>Pvt. J. R. Miller<br>Pvt. J. M. Montalvo Jr.<br>*Pfc. A. Montelongo Jr.<br>*Pfc. B. K. Morrow<br>Pvt. L. R. Nabors<br>Pvt. F. Najera-Arredondo<br>Pvt. A. Nieto<br>Pfc. P. K. Ode<br>Pvt. G. G. Ong<br>Pfc. J. Ontiveros<br>Pfc. T. J. Page<br>Pvt. A. J. Park<br>Pvt. M. A. Pedraza<br>*Pfc. A. A. Perez<br>Pvt. J. S. Perez-Huichapan<br>Pvt. S. A. Prince<br>*Pfc. J. T. Rizer<br>Pfc. L. N. Rodriguez-Aguilar<br>Pfc. D. N. Romine<br>Pfc. T. C. Satkowski<br>Pvt. P. F. Schwartz<br>Pfc. R. E. Servin<br>Pfc. H. J. Sholl<br>Pfc. D. R. Smith<br>Pfc. M. R. Smith<br>Pvt. J. N. Solorzano<br>Pvt. H. S. Sousa<br>Pvt. M. A. Spence<br>Pvt. R. J. Swanson<br>Pfc. B. V. Tarver<br>*Pfc. V. A. Terrazas-Castro<br>Pfc. M. A. Thompson<br>Pvt. J. M. Todhunter | Pvt. D. C. Treglown<br>*Pfc. A. A. Vargas<br>Pvt. O. C. Venegas-Lucero<br>Pvt. D. R. Wallis<br>Pvt. T. E. White<br>Pvt. J. A. Widmar<br>Pvt. J. A. Wiles-Ortega<br>Pvt. J. B. Winterringer<br>Pvt. C. B. Worsham<br>Pfc. S. A. Wright<br>Pvt. R. M. Zager<br>Pvt. K. G. Zion<br><br><b>PLATOON 3270</b><br>Pvt. A. E. Adams<br>Pvt. C. A. Aguilar<br>Pvt. K. L. Alexander<br>Pfc. C. J. Coble<br>Pfc. D. W. Curl<br>Pvt. D. K. Davis<br>Pvt. J. L. Davis<br>Pvt. B. J. Delzeit<br>*Pfc. G. S. Droll<br>Pvt. T. C. Eckert<br>Pvt. M. J. Erickson<br>Pvt. J. R. Escobar<br>Pvt. B. D. Farley<br>Pfc. N. R. Frederick<br>Pvt. C. G. Fritz<br>Pvt. R. P. Fromm Jr.<br>Pfc. C. A. Garay-Perez<br>Pfc. J. H. Garcia Jr.<br>Pvt. B. J. Goodell<br>Pfc. D. M. Goodson<br>Pfc. C. J. Grauel<br>Pfc. E. A. Greilich<br>Pfc. A. Guillen Jr.<br>Pfc. M. S. Gutschmidt<br>Pfc. M. A. Howell<br>*Pfc. B. K. Hurst<br>Pvt. B. P. Imig<br>Pfc. R. A. Maniak<br>Pvt. D. J. Manjarrez<br>Pvt. J. J. Juarez<br>Pvt. T. L. Kamolz<br>Pfc. M. G. Keas<br>Pvt. T. C. King<br>Pvt. O. M. Kraczek<br>Pvt. T. W. Laplante<br>Pvt. A. J. Lawrence<br>Pvt. A. J. Lent<br>Pfc. B. Lor<br>Pfc. P. S. Mahoney<br>Pfc. R. A. Maniak<br>Pvt. D. J. Manjarrez<br>Pvt. H. A. Marlin<br>Pvt. T. L. Maynard<br>*Pfc. A. E. McCarthy<br>Pvt. K. D. McCorkendale<br>Pfc. J. N. Montoya<br>Pvt. D. J. Myers<br>Pfc. H. V. Nguyen<br>Pfc. H. Nielsen<br>Pvt. K. C. Noel<br>Pvt. D. L. Otten<br>Pvt. A. M. Perakis<br>Pvt. Z. A. Phelps<br>Pvt. J. L. Post<br>Pvt. M. L. Resendez<br>Pfc. J. Rincon<br>Pfc. A. Robles Jr.<br>*Pfc. A. A. Rojo<br>Pvt. C. S. Rowe | Pvt. K. D. Rowley<br>Pfc. J. A. Salazar<br>Pfc. J. G. Sanchez<br>Pvt. P. R. Sebastian<br>*Pfc. T. C. Shauger<br>Pvt. E. K. Shepherd<br>Pvt. J. V. Shipley<br>Pfc. F. J. Sifuentes<br>Pvt. M. R. Sisco<br>Pvt. A. M. Strange<br>Pfc. G. J. Swank<br>*Pfc. D. W. Troutt<br>Pvt. T. Valdez<br>Pvt. R. P. Vasquez<br>Pfc. Z. E. Waits<br>Pvt. E. Y. Walsh<br>Pvt. T. W. Whitley<br>Pvt. J. E. Widstrom<br>Pfc. B. L. Wilson<br>Pvt. J. A. Yaccarine<br>Pvt. A. Zamarripa<br>Pvt. R. Zuniga<br><br><b>PLATOON 3271</b><br>Pvt. T. A. Able<br>Pfc. E. F. Aguilar<br>Pvt. A. Arnold-Garcia<br>Pvt. T. S. Arreguin<br>Pvt. A. A. Baca<br>Pvt. J. Balon<br>Pvt. C. M. Barber<br>Pvt. J. G. Beckley Jr.<br>Pvt. J. B. Bodnar<br>Pfc. R. C. Boettger<br>Pvt. C. A. Brackin<br>Pvt. G. Brown<br>*Pfc. P. D. Buchholz<br>Pfc. S. P. Bulfin<br>Pvt. B. Q. Burks Jr.<br>Pvt. S. M. Calderwood<br>Pvt. D. A. Canchola<br>Pvt. L. T. Caudill<br>*Pfc. T. L. Cline<br>Pvt. C. D. Cook<br>Pvt. J. J. Cornwell<br>Pvt. D. Covarrubias<br>Pvt. D. E. Cruz-Garcia<br>Pvt. J. A. Dobbs<br>Pvt. J. L. Eckerman<br>Pvt. M. E. Elliott<br>Pvt. J. X. Farias<br>Pvt. J. G. Geraghty<br>Pvt. A. C. Godinez<br>*Pfc. D. O. Gomez<br>Pfc. A. M. Gutierrez<br>Pvt. S. Gutierrez-Angulo<br>Pvt. P. J. Hadfield<br>Pvt. A. A. Halford Jr.<br>Pfc. T. A. Handzus<br>Pvt. D. S. Hanis<br>Pvt. T. C. Harris<br>Pfc. C. D. Hawkins<br>Pvt. N. A. Hendrick<br>Pfc. J. P. Hitchcock-Sivak<br>Pfc. C. R. Holbert<br>Pfc. S. D. Hollon<br>Pvt. M. A. Holloway<br>Pfc. J. M. Hurst<br>Pvt. N. D. Jaramillo<br>Pvt. T. S. Kern<br>Pvt. K. R. Khoo<br>*Pfc. K. D. Kuhlman<br>Pfc. D. D. Le | Pvt. J. D. Lee<br>Pfc. E. A. Lopez<br>Pvt. J. A. Lopez Jr.<br>Pvt. J. T. Lucas<br>Pvt. T. J. Marek<br>Pvt. O. Martinez<br>Pvt. D. Martinez Jr.<br>Pvt. J. C. Mayo<br>Pfc. L. E. McElroy<br>Pvt. M. R. Meekma<br>Pvt. A. R. Melgoza<br>Pfc. A. B. Miller<br>Pvt. G. A. Miranda<br>Pvt. M. J. Morrison II<br>Pvt. D. T. Nez<br>Pvt. J. L. Niemtschk<br>Pvt. P. M. O'Brien<br>Pvt. J. M. Oslund<br>Pvt. R. M. Parker<br>Pfc. J. D. Pearson<br>Pfc. C. M. Pekarek<br>Pfc. M. R. Perez<br>*Pfc. K. J. Prickett<br>Pfc. M. K. Robinson<br>Pvt. J. R. Walk<br>Pvt. B. S. Wogoman<br>Pvt. K. S. Young<br><br><b>PLATOON 3273</b><br>Pvt. K. F. Adamson<br>Pfc. C. T. Bagley<br>Pvt. B. M. Barclay<br>Pvt. E. P. Bentley<br>Pvt. E. W. Black<br>Pvt. A. D. Boone<br>Pvt. L. M. Borsch<br>Pfc. J. T. Bowen<br>Pvt. S. K. Boyd<br>Pvt. J. E. Burton<br>Pfc. N. P. Cannady<br>*Pfc. J. A. Chase<br>Pvt. B. A. Cole<br>Pfc. A. C. Conner<br>Pvt. J. R. Cowles<br>Pfc. M. P. Cross<br>Pfc. S. A. Franchini<br>Pfc. K. D. Fuston<br>Pvt. A. M. Giggers<br>Pvt. C. G. Gipson<br>Pvt. J. E. Gonzales<br>Pvt. A. J. Gradek<br>Pvt. V. K. Greco II<br>Pvt. J. R. Hall<br>Pvt. J. M. Hall<br>Pvt. M. C. Hall<br>Pvt. R. P. Herbst<br>*Pfc. C. T. Hobbs<br>Pfc. R. R. Holshouser<br>Pvt. Q. R. Hopkins<br>Pvt. J. J. Horsey<br>Pvt. S. D. Lawson<br>Pvt. J. D. Quigley<br>Pfc. J. F. Rath<br>Pfc. B. D. Ray<br>Pfc. S. P. Reany | Pvt. A. Rindel<br>Pfc. J. J. Rios<br>Pfc. T. A. Robinson<br>Pvt. R. Rodriguez Jr.<br>Pfc. A. J. Rodriguez<br>*Pfc. E. P. Rodriguez<br>Pvt. F. M. Rodriguez<br>Pvt. J. T. Rosales<br>Pvt. D. G. Ross<br>Pvt. A. Ruizalaniz<br>Pvt. J. Salazar<br>Pfc. E. E. Salazar-Gaona<br>Pvt. C. A. Schleiger<br>Pvt. S. L. Schnabel<br>Pvt. A. C. Shelby<br>Pvt. D. J. Shimoda<br>Pvt. C. M. Sinke<br>Pvt. D. J. Standish<br>Pfc. D. A. Streeter<br>Pfc. G. C. Talley<br>Pvt. D. W. Taylor<br>Pvt. C. A. Tejada-Hernandez<br>Pvt. F. Torres<br>Pfc. G. P. Tovar<br>Pfc. A. A. Trevino<br>*Pfc. C. M. Van Nuland<br>Pfc. N. M. Villarreal<br>Pvt. K. E. Wall<br>*Pfc. T. J. Ward<br>Pfc. M. J. Warnke<br>Pvt. E. T. Whiles<br>Pfc. J. C. Willis<br>Pvt. J. T. Wong<br>Pvt. K. D. Woodfin<br>Pvt. N. W. Young<br>Pvt. D. J. Zamora-Garcia Jr.<br><br><b>PLATOON 3274</b><br>Pvt. A. L. Ackerman<br>Pvt. A. Alfonso<br>Pvt. G. Alonso Jr.<br>Pvt. A. J. Autolino<br>Pfc. A. I. Delposuquimi<br>Pvt. C. M. Bobka<br>Pfc. E. P. Brinkman<br>Pvt. F. Calvillo-Aguilar<br>Pvt. L. T. Cao<br>Pvt. P. U. Chunn<br>Pvt. A. P. Christian<br>Pvt. J. R. Cobb<br>Pvt. M. S. Coca<br>Pvt. T. J. Cook<br>Pfc. T. R. Cordero<br>Pvt. E. Cuellar<br>Pvt. M. A. Curtis<br>Pvt. D. Daire<br>Pvt. J. Daniels<br>Pvt. S. L. de Haas<br>Pvt. A. F. De La Cruz<br>Pfc. E. Delgado-Ortega<br>Pvt. A. I. Delpozquimi<br>*Pfc. E. A. Diaz<br>Pvt. P. C. Dockery<br>Pvt. E. J. Doop<br>Pvt. J. L. Draper<br>*Pfc. S. A. Duran<br>Pfc. C. A. Durand<br>Pvt. I. D. Elk<br>Pvt. E. A. Ellingston<br>*Pfc. M. R. Ethridge<br>Pvt. C. A. Flores | Pvt. J. Flores Jr.<br>Pvt. A. Garcia Jr.<br>Pfc. J. J. Garcia<br>Pvt. R. Rodriguez Jr.<br>Pfc. A. J. Rodriguez<br>*Pfc. E. P. Rodriguez<br>Pvt. F. M. Rodriguez<br>Pvt. J. T. Rosales<br>Pvt. D. G. Ross<br>Pvt. A. Ruizalaniz<br>Pvt. J. Salazar<br>Pfc. E. E. Salazar-Gaona<br>Pvt. C. A. Schleiger<br>Pvt. S. L. Schnabel<br>Pvt. A. C. Shelby<br>Pvt. D. J. Shimoda<br>Pvt. C. M. Sinke<br>Pvt. D. J. Standish<br>Pfc. D. A. Streeter<br>Pfc. G. C. Talley<br>Pvt. D. W. Taylor<br>Pvt. C. A. Tejada-Hernandez<br>Pvt. F. Torres<br>Pfc. G. P. Tovar<br>Pfc. A. A. Trevino<br>*Pfc. C. M. Van Nuland<br>Pfc. N. M. Villarreal<br>Pvt. K. E. Wall<br>*Pfc. T. J. Ward<br>Pfc. M. J. Warnke<br>Pvt. E. T. Whiles<br>Pfc. J. C. Willis<br>Pvt. J. T. Wong<br>Pvt. K. D. Woodfin<br>Pvt. N. W. Young<br>Pvt. D. J. Zamora-Garcia Jr.<br><br><b>PLATOON 3275</b><br>Pfc. A. P. Arcement III<br>Pvt. D. Baker<br>Pvt. D. A. Banda<br>Pvt. J. W. Beall<br>*Pfc. V. M. Beard<br>Pfc. C. J. Blakey<br>Pvt. T. S. Boose<br>Pvt. B. A. Braff<br>Pfc. L. D. Brophy<br>*Pfc. B. T. Brown<br>Pfc. M. M. Bryan<br>*Pfc. M. J. Bumanglag<br>Pvt. D. M. Burke<br>Pvt. M. D. Burris<br>Pfc. T. S. Burris<br>*Pfc. B. T. Caggiano<br>Pvt. I. W. Caldwell<br>Pvt. G. Camarena-Rodriguez<br>Pfc. S. A. Campbell<br>Pvt. S. W. Campbell<br>Pfc. C. V. Cao<br>Pvt. B. J. Cappellin<br>Pvt. J. H. Cartwright<br>Pvt. Z. A. Casebooth<br>Pfc. A. D. Cebreros- | Martinez<br>Pvt. S. Chavez<br>Pfc. C. C. Ciclewatkins<br>Pfc. C. D. Coder<br>Pvt. J. E. Connor<br>Pvt. E. A. Contreras<br>Pvt. A. D. Crabbe<br>Pvt. K. M. Cuen<br>Pfc. P. I. Cuevas<br>Pvt. J. C. Culbertson IV<br>Pvt. B. H. Dahabiyeh<br>Pvt. C. E. DeMont-Wright<br>Pvt. R. E. Elias-Luna<br>Pfc. T. P. Eskeldson<br>Pvt. L. D. Gordon<br>Pvt. B. G. Hazlip<br>Pvt. D. B. Head<br>Pfc. J. P. Heilman<br>Pvt. R. M. Hiatt<br>Pvt. T. L. Hill<br>*Pfc. D. C. Hodges<br>Pvt. R. M. Jares<br>Pvt. R. S. Johnson<br>Pvt. T. Y. Jones<br>Pvt. D. J. Kilian<br>Pvt. J. T. Kirby<br>Pvt. A. K. Knoch<br>Pvt. H. D. Knox<br>Pfc. A. L. Kunze<br>Pfc. D. B. Lafaele<br>Pvt. M. K. Loo<br>Pvt. J. Luna<br>Pvt. C. R. Magdaleno<br>Pfc. M. D. Martinez-Hercules<br>*Pfc. B. D. McClain<br>Pfc. L. D. McCleary<br>Pvt. T. J. Messing<br>Pvt. D. K. Meyers<br>Pvt. C. L. Musgrave<br>Pvt. D. E. Nieuwsmma<br>Pfc. C. Orellana<br>Pvt. J. J. Peterson<br>Pfc. M. V. Pruitt<br>Pvt. A. R. Ramiscal<br>Pfc. E. B. Rivera<br>Pvt. J. W. Salz V<br>Pfc. W. M. Slatton<br>Pfc. J. A. Smith<br>Pvt. J. L. Smith<br>Pvt. J. Takazono<br>Pvt. J. D. Vincent Jr.<br><br><b>PLATOON 3276</b><br>Pvt. B. T. Allensworth<br>*Pfc. T. N. Beatty<br>Pvt. J. T. Bowling<br>Pvt. L. M. Brock<br>Pfc. C. J. Carey<br>Pvt. W. K. Gettinger<br>Pvt. J. H. Graham<br>Pvt. S. P. Hammond<br>Pvt. T. W. Hammond<br>Pvt. C. L. Harris<br>Pvt. A. G. Hellensen<br>Pvt. P. Ho<br>Pvt. C. D. Hone<br>Pfc. C. J. Ivey<br>Pvt. A. D. James<br>Pvt. K. T. Jao<br>Pvt. T. M. Lillis<br>Pvt. Z. A. Linares<br>Pfc. J. C. Lubrin | Pvt. C. A. Lynn<br>Pvt. C. C. Mantel<br>*Pfc. C. R. Marks<br>Pfc. D. K. Matlock<br>Pvt. M. R. Maxfield<br>Pvt. Z. L. McCarl<br>Pvt. T. J. Merrill<br>Pvt. S. R. Mitchell<br>Pvt. G. Moron Jr.<br>Pvt. B. J. Munoz<br>*Pfc. A. K. Murphy<br>*Pfc. C. V. Nguyen<br>Pfc. D. M. Nguyen<br>Pvt. T. J. Oba<br>Pvt. J. A. Ochoa<br>Pvt. A. M. Oliver<br>Pvt. A. R. Olson<br>Pvt. R. Ortiz<br>*Pfc. M. I. Pena Jr.<br>Pvt. L. R. Pendergrass<br>Pvt. J. M. Penn<br>Pvt. L. J. Perry<br>*Pfc. R. M. Pflasterer<br>Pvt. S. M. Pham<br>Pfc. E. M. Picker<br>Pvt. N. D. Piedmonte<br>Pfc. A. T. Pierce<br>Pvt. D. F. Pierce<br>Pvt. V. L. Popolizio<br>Pvt. J. C. Pos<br>Pvt. B. W. Posey<br>Pvt. D. K. Rainford<br>Pfc. K. R. Reed<br>Pvt. K. B. Reyes<br>Pvt. D. L. Reynolds<br>Pvt. A. M. Rivera<br>Pfc. J. H. Robb<br>Pvt. C. B. Roberts<br>Pfc. T. B. Roberts<br>Pfc. M. E. Robinson<br>Pfc. K. S. Rodriguez<br>Pfc. K. M. Rothen<br>Pfc. L. D. Rouse<br>Pvt. M. G. Sabbatis<br>Pvt. T. A. Sanchez<br>Pvt. V. M. Sanchez<br>Pvt. K. E. Schmid<br>Pvt. J. R. Shaw<br>Pvt. J. J. Shaw<br>Pvt. I. J. Sills<br>Pvt. J. M. Silva<br>Pvt. T. L. Smith-Chatman<br>Pfc. S. A. Sommers<br>Pvt. M. A. Starch<br>Pvt. R. S. Stuksa<br>Pvt. A. K. Thomason Jr.<br>Pvt. M. C. Thompson<br>Pfc. R. G. Torres<br>Pvt. E. J. Trisale<br>Pvt. C. J. Vas<br>Pvt. J. E. Villalobos-Ruiz<br>Pvt. L. E. Villanueva<br>Pvt. S. S. Waite<br>Pvt. J. D. West<br>Pvt. J. S. Wozniak<br>Pvt. C. R. Wymyczak |
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Lance Cpl. Eric Quintanilla

Lance Cpl. Heather Keasler, Recruit Training Regiment Rogues quarterback, tucks the ball and runs for yardage as players from Headquarters and Service Battalion Spartans close on her during the Powder Puff Football Tournament at Beeson Field aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego Oct. 19. RTR went on to win the tournament, claiming the championship title from Headquarters and Service Battalion, who won the tournament the last two years.

# RTR dominates Powder Puff championship

BY LANCE CPL. ERIC  
QUINTANILLA  
*Chevron staff*

Recruit Training Regiment came out on top during a fierce struggle in the fourth annual Powder Puff Football Tournament at Beeson Field aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego Oct. 19. Although Headquarters and Service Battalion dominated the tournament the past two years, they fell short against RTR and Weapons Field Training Battalion this year. Powder puff is played with flag football rules, and teams are comprised of female players. The tournament was set up so each team had the opportunity to play each other before determining who would play in the championship game. The top two

teams, RTR and WFT Bn., moved on to determine who would take the trophy home. The first match pitted RTR against WFT Bn. Both teams had a lot to prove and were tied 0-0 through three quarters. In the fourth quarter, RTR was finally able to put points on the board with a safety. Ending the game 2-0, RTR proved they wanted it more. “Defense is what wins games and the defense won this one,” said Charles White, coach for RTR. “They set a goal out there that no one was going to get them. They wanted to make sure no one scored on them and that’s what happened.” Without slowing down, RTR moved right into their next game with H&S Bn. Again the game went on with no clear dominant side. After three quarters going

back and forth, RTR finally put a player in the end zone and won the game 6-0. With two wins under their belt, RTR had a guaranteed spot in the championship game, leaving H&S Bn. and WFT Bn. to duke it out for the chance to redeem themselves. The third game went into overtime forcing the teams into a California tie-breaker. The California tie-breaker gives each team four plays, switching possession of the ball at each down. The team that advances the ball the farthest or scores is declared the winner. H&S Bn. had first possession but quickly lost it with an interception by WFT Bn. that resulted in a touchdown. With that WFT Bn. won the game 6-0, giving them another chance against RTR. “We lost because we didn’t

execute in one or two areas,” said 1st Sgt. Charles Callahan, coach of H&S Bn. “We broke down mentally on a couple plays and that’s why we lost the game.” The championship game was a constant struggle, each team getting close to the end zone but the opposing defense just wouldn’t let them through. Once again the two teams kept the spectators on the edge of their seats as they moved into overtime. “The defense stepped it up to even another level along with the offense,” said White of his team’s overtime performance. “One mental error can lose the game for you.” With both teams still unable to score a touchdown, the game went to RTR for moving the ball farther than WFT Bn. Although failing to beat RTR, WFT Bn.

remained upbeat about their second place victory. “We came out here positive, had a blast and we got to walk away with a trophy this year,” said Lori Abrego, captain for WFT Bn. At a closing ceremony, players from both WFT Bn. and RTR were presented with trophies. Col. Michael Lee, commanding officer, RTR, presented the trophies to RTR and Staff Sgt. Vincent Landry, WFT Bn. coach, presented them to WFT Bn. After the trophies were presented to the teams, White presented the first place trophy to Lee to be displayed in the company office, signed by every player on the team. White explained the hard work his team put in during practice over the past few weeks really paid off. They were finally able to bring home the trophy this year, he said.



Lance Cpl. Eric Quintanilla

Sgt. Deborah Young, Headquarters and Service Battalion Spartans wide receiver, loses her flags while running for a first down. Although H&S Bn. has dominated the tournament for he past two years, they fell short against the Recruit Training Regiment Rogues this year.



Lance Cpl. Eric Quintanilla

Cpl. Kaitlyn Avery, running back for Weapons Field Training Battalion, punts the ball after a third down during the Powder Puff Football Tournament at Beeson Field aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego Oct. 19. WFT Bn. finished in second place after losing to Recruit Training Regiment in the championship game.