

HOUSTON MSTC
ARMY JROTC



THE BLACK KNIGHTS' SWORD



OCTOBER 2023

5TH BRIGADE COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR VISITS



Command Sergeant Major Robles, 5th Brigade Cadet Command's top enlisted leader, visited Sam Houston MSTC to discuss the importance of education and service. He spoke about being a son of immigrants and the first in his family to be in a position that affects so many people. C/MAJ Nava welcomed him to the battalion.

"TO MOTIVATE YOUNG PEOPLE TO BE BETTER CITIZENS"

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OPPORTUNITY!

CSM Robles spoke with the cadets in the weight room after the work out detailing how you can start from the bottom and work your way to the top as he did. He informed the cadets that the military isn't the only way to climb the ladder but is a way. He said there are many scholarships with the military and out of the military that can help you achieve if you are willing to put in the work.

Following his short speech, he invited individuals to approach him for questions. Several cadets asked him about military service and college. He took time to speak with every cadet that approached him.



CSM Robles awarded C/Major Nava, battalion commander, a coin of excellence after he learned of all of the responsibilities she has and her accomplishments such as her summer visit to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. CSM Robles also thanked the Army instructors for all they have done to make Sam Houston an elite JROTC program.



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C/SSG Sofia Cortez is a member of the junior varsity volleyball team. This is her first season with the team as she wanted to explore more opportunities in her school. She is also the student government vice president, elected last spring semester. She is a staff member with the Black Knights and former drill team leader.



Cadet Nayeli Davila is a freshman cadet who is a multi-sport athlete at Sam Houston. Currently, she is a member of the junior varsity volleyball team but is also a member of the basketball team. She is dedicated to her athletic career and the Black Knights will help develop her to be better in everything she does.



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PREMIUM SUPPORT

Cadet Master Sergeant Krystal Ramirez is the battalion logistics officer. During this first semester, she has been extremely busy with preparing for her annual inspection, issuing uniforms, and returning clean camouflage uniforms to district headquarters. The battalion commander issued her guidance to distribute as many uniforms to cadets as possible. It's not easy, and it is time consuming. Retired Army Captain Chapman from district speaks fondly of Krystal's mastery of unit logistics and she is only an 11th grade cadet in her third year of Army JROTC.



ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES.

The logistics officer is responsible for all clothing issuing and turn in procedures. She accounts for all clothing on the shelf, signed to cadets, and coordinates to turn in clothing to the cleaning company. In total, she is responsible for over \$30,000 in clothing and around \$20,000 in government property that she inventories monthly. She reports her findings monthly to the HISD JROTC district headquarters, and they inspect her operations twice per year to ensure quality assurance.

Krystal is building a resume for her college application, and she enjoys the job. She is putting herself into a position to earn scholarships as she is now part of the Emerge program.



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STRICTLY BUSINESS

Every Wednesday at 7:30am, the staff assembles in the “Long Shot” Conference room to hold a professional meeting about the operations of the battalion. The staff consists of:

- Human Resources Manager
- Security Manager
- Operations Manager
- Logistics Manager
- Public Relations Manager
- Executive Officer
- Chief Executive Officer

These positions have military titles, but they are similar to civilian corporations with similar responsibilities.



CADETS IN ACTION



LEFT: Cadet America Lucero training to be a nail technician through the cosmetology program.



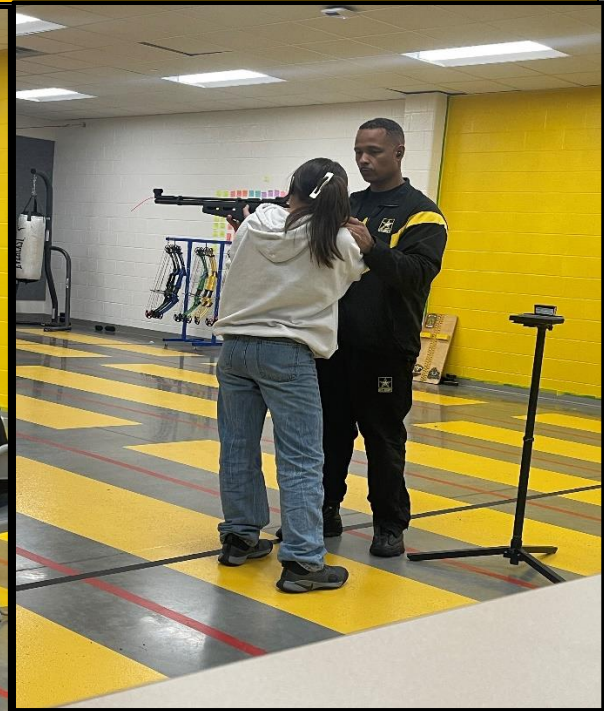
ABOVE: The friend Zone...

Cadets hang out with each other after school and on the weekends. Being a cadet brings young people instant friends and new family members. They take care of each other in class, at practice, and any time someone needs a buddy...

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BULLSEYE



DEFENDING CHAMPS!

The Black Knights are set to defend the district marksmanship championship in the 2023-2024 season. There are four separate matches within the district that determines who has the sharpest set of eyes and discipline. Sergeant First Class Page is coaching this team daily starting at 7:30 am three days per week, and he also coaches two days after school.

Several cadets have answered the call to earn a spot on the roster after three seniors recently graduated. The final match will be in March of 2024 and the Black Knights look again to be standing in the winner's circle.

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