

SAM HOUSTON MSTC
ARMY JROTC



THE BLACK KNIGHTS' SWORD



FEBRUARY 2023

THE SAN ANTONIO SITUATION



3rd Place Overall

Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico, Texas, Utah, Arizona, Oklahoma, and Arkansas met up in San Antonio for the annual drill meet.

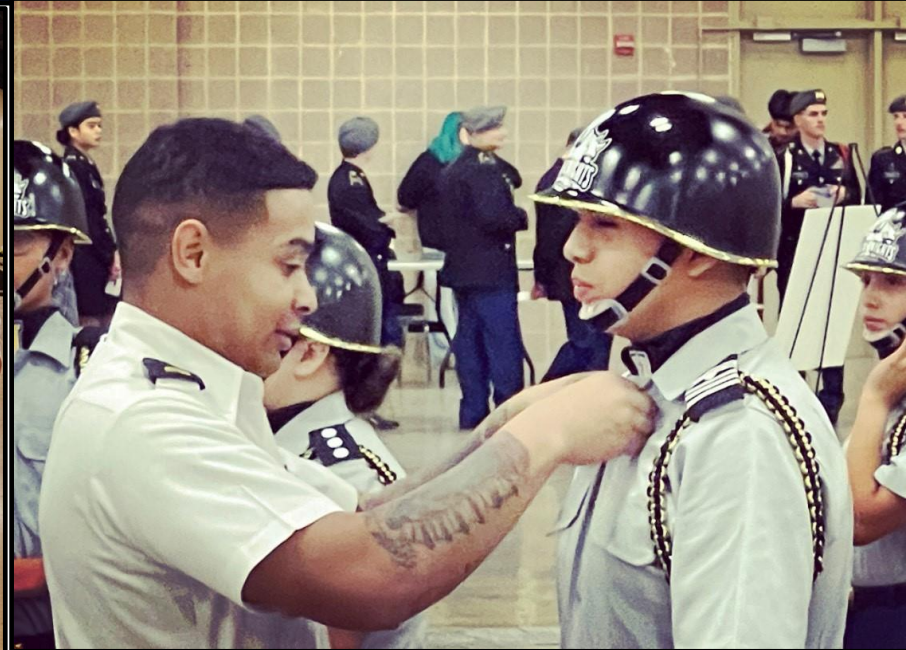
"TO MOTIVATE YOUNG PEOPLE TO BE BETTER CITIZENS"

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THE LEGACY CONTINUES

Sam Houston Alum, **Adam Obregon**, has over 18 months guided the armed drill team to not only be the champions within the district over the last three meets, but he has taken this team to the regional championship for the first time since he was a student on this same drill team in 2004. With this third-place finish, the Black Knights have now qualified for an all-expense paid trip to Daytona, FL where they will compete for the national title of best Armed Drill team in the country. The national drill meet will be held during the first week in May. Wish them luck as they go off and compete.



COACHING MATTERS

Coach, Sergeant Zachery Enriquez, led the color guard to a 1st place finish over all color guards in the meet. He attended Heights High School in 2017 and joined the Black Knights summer of 2022 to coach both the unarmed and color guard teams.

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A FAMILY AFFAIR



A successful team is only as strong as its parent support base. The Black Knights have the best parents in the land when it comes to fundraising, mentoring cadets, and traveling to meets to root for the teams.

Left: Coach Adam and his daughter, Drill Commander Sabrina Obregon, both building on a strong legacy on Sam Houston after one phase at the Brigade Drill Meet in San Antonio.

Right: Booster Club president, Mrs. Torres, with her daughter exhibition drill commander Alondra, made the trip to make sure all incidentals were provided for every cadet. She brought along a few booster club parents to support.



KINFOLK

Three HISD JROTC programs competed at the 5th Brigade Drill Meet. **Sam Houston, Bellaire,** and **Scarborough** all represented the district quite well where Scarborough earned a trip to Florida and Bellaire earned a spot as an alternate. Bellaire is led by Chief Warrant Officer 4 Collins and First Sergeant Sanford. Scarborough is led by Lieutenant Colonel King and First Sergeant Chambers.

Left: Bellaire and Sam Houston met up at both Buc-ees and Lone Star Café to share some good food and good times.

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SUPERIOR INSTRUCTORS

THE MONSTER ROSTER

Top Left: Cadet Captain Nava (11th Grade) / Staff Officer / Team Affiliations: Unarmed Drill, Physical Training, Leadership Bowl Team Marksmanship / Athletics: Varsity Volleyball Captain / Clubs: National Honor Society, Diamond Club / **GPA: 4.5**

Top Right: Cadet Staff Sergeant Lozano (10th Grade) / Staff Officer / Team Affiliations: Unarmed Drill and Academic Bowl Team / Clubs: National Honor Society / **GPA: 4.5**

Bottom Left: Cadet Staff Sergeant Rigney (10th Grade): Staff Member / Team Affiliations: Armed Drill, Color Guard, Flag Folding, Leadership Bowl Team / Clubs: National Honor Society / **GPA: 4.5**

Bottom Right: Cadet Staff Sergeant Ramirez (10th Grade): Staff Officer / Team Affiliations: Academic Bowl Team / **GPA: 4.6**



The Superior Instructor competition is a component of the overall score for the Superintendent's Cup, and cadets earn a ribbon and arch for their uniforms. Four cadets from each program in the Houston ISD must teach three approved classes to fully compete. The first two classes are graded by the school's Senior Army Instructor where the cadets earn a ribbon. The final class is taught in front of Director of Army Instruction from HISD and is measured against a rubric where programs earn points for their teams. Last year, the Black Knights performed quite well being one of the top three programs in this competition. This year, the goal is to be the absolute best in this competition, and at the same time inspire the next crop of student instructors to want to lead the way. The Black Knights will formally compete on February 27, 2023.

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THE HONORABLE SILVIA GARCIA INTERVIEWS C/LTC JIMENEZ



In the final stages of securing an appointment to the United States Military Academy at West Point, Cadet Lieutenant Erik Jimenez did a face-to-face interview via Zoom with District #29's House of Representatives member, the Honorable Silvia Garcia. She asked him why he wanted to serve in the U.S. Army as an officer and how did he learn about this path. He responded, *"As a freshman, I was placed in JROTC, but I grew to like the course. During my sophomore year, our instructor explained there was a military college that focused on engineering and academic excellence. So, I wanted to earn this appointment since my 10th grade year."* Erik is now waiting to learn if he has been accepted into the university. The congresswoman was pleased to see a young person so focused and poised knowing what he wants to do once he leaves his high school.

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DEDICATION TO SERVICE: In January, the Black Knights conducted a community service project for the Veterans of Foreign Wars group. The VFW held a district wide meeting and invited the Black Knights to perform armed and unarmed drill to start the meeting. The Black Knights then served lunch to all the veterans and thanked them for their service. JoAnn Mata is the president of the auxiliary department thanked the Black Knights and wants to continue building the relationship between the VFW and the Sam Houston Black Knights.



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SILENT KNIGHTS:
Commander Dwight Rumph of American Legion Post 586 introduced an opportunity to the marksmanship team for Sam Houston's JROTC program. The Silent Knights competed in a postal match competing against other American Legion sponsored programs across the country. Commander Rumph was glad to see so many young people inspired to compete with air rifles. His post is considering awarding a scholarship to the Silent Knights top marksman. Results from the match will be available in a few weeks. Stay tuned!

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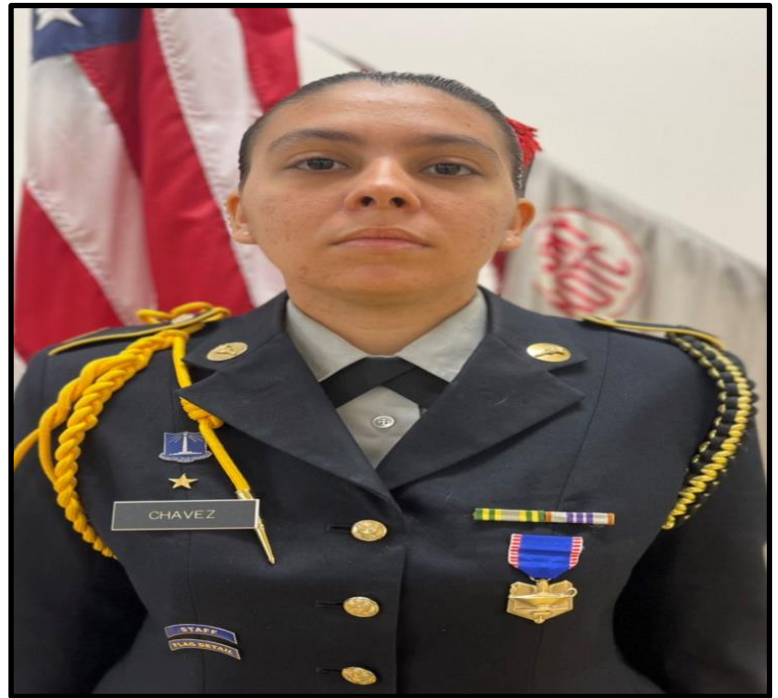
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A WORD FROM THE TOP



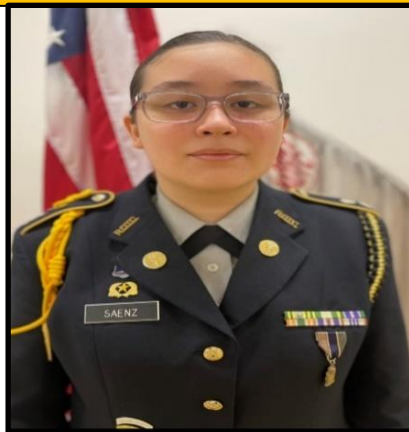
BATTALION COMMANDER JIMENEZ

Good day cadets and patrons. Please congratulate our armed drill team for their outstanding efforts in the 5th Brigade Regional Drill Competition. Their continuous dedication to their practice has landed them 3rd place overall. As our armed drill team prepares for the national competition, we must also prepare for our annual Military Ball. Expect a bigger and grandiose ballroom to seat our cadets, parents, teachers, and supporting organizations. No one gets left behind. To make this happen, fundraisers **will continue to be key, so make sure to save up for chocolates! Thank you all for your support. GO BLACK KNIGHTS!!!**



COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR CHAVEZ

Good evening everyone, I would like to acknowledge the cadets who have put in their hard work and dedication. We have shown up and dominated the competition at San Antonio, along with serving our community by giving back to the veterans who have served and fought for our freedom, at the Veteran Foreign Wars. Let's continue to do great things and dominating. **HOOAAHH!!!**



EXECUTIVE OFFICER SAENZ

Greetings to cadets and readers alike! I would like to congratulate all teams who participated in competition this month and keep up the amazing work to knock out Blue Bonnet this March! Cadets, keep in mind the military ball court fee will be on February 15th. Please keep a keen eye out for any updates of the military ball and what you need to do to attend. In addition, let's get prepared to show off our program to middle schools this upcoming month starting with Burbank to Fonville, ready your gear team members! Cadet instructors, show off your teaching skills on the 27th for your Superior Instructor award. The 1st battalion is on its way to obtain the Superintendent Cup this year, work hard out there cadets and sell large amounts of chocolates this month with our fundraiser approaching fast this month!

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