



THE BLACK KNIGHTS' SWORD



OCTOBER 2022

THE BREAKFAST CLUB!

EARLY TO RISE...

Every morning, dedicated cadets arrive on campus before 7:30am to practice their individual team event. This requires dedication to the mission and the mission this year is to win the coveted superintendent's cup. Cadets practice marksmanship, physical training, flag folding, and the armed/unarmed drill. It's good friends coming together to accomplish a common goal. This is Army JROTC!



Breakfast club members on the left: Sofia Cortez and Vicente Banda practicing competition flag folding...

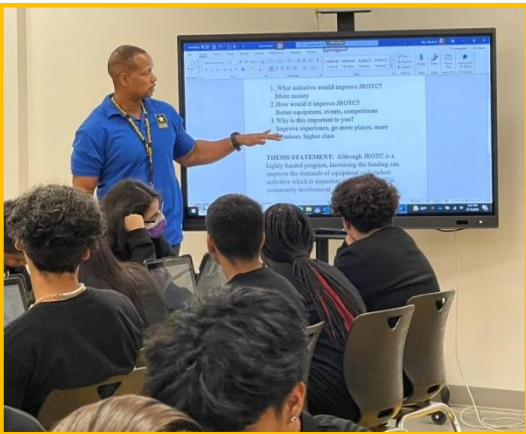
Breakfast club members Alex Turcios, Yamileth Aviles, and David Barajas conducting physical training starting at 7am.



"TO MOTIVATE YOUNG PEOPLE TO BE BETTER CITIZENS"

**SAM HOUSTON MSTC
ARMY JROTC**

WELCOME SERGEANT FIRST CLASS PAGE



Sergeant First Class Page joined the Black Knights family as the Army Instructor. He has three years of experience serving two years in Memphis and one year in Los Angeles. He is a native of Houston, TX and has returned home. He served on active duty as a military policeman and Army recruiter. He served in combat in Iraq and has served over twenty years on active duty. His passion is teaching, coaching, and mentoring young people. Welcome aboard Tiger Nation!



SFC Page assumed responsibility of the marksmanship team. The team practices at 7:30am until 8:20 four times per week. There are five district matches this year and the goal is to have a top five finish as a team under his leadership.



ANNOUNCEMENT: HISD JROTC hosts the annual “Fall Classic” Drill Meet on October 29, 2022, at Kashmere High School. In October of 2021, the Black Knights placed 3rd overall at the Fall Classic Drill Meet. The event will consist of the following:

- **Armed Drill (Inspection/Regulation/Exhibition)**
- **Unarmed Drill (Inspection/Regulation/Exhibition)**
- **Color Guard (Primary and Secondary)**
- **Flag Folding**
- **Physical Training (Push-ups/Curl Ups/1 mile run)**

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Stephanie Barrera is a freshman cadet playing on the junior varsity volleyball squad. Within the first 6 weeks of the semester, she has earned the position of first squad leader of first platoon in Alpha company. She has potential to be a varsity player and a leader in the battalion.

Alex Turcios is a senior on varsity cross country. This is his first year in Army JROTC and he will compete on the physical training team. His one mile run time is just under 5 minutes and 20 seconds. Look out!!



Jasmine Nava is a captain on the varsity volleyball team and is the battalion operations officer in charge. She is also a member of the National Honors Society. She is a member on both the marksmanship and physical training team. BEAST MODE!

CADETS IN ATHLETICS

Cadets are more than just students. Some of them are also student athletes who get it done in the classroom and in their sports field. JROTC just helps put it altogether on the resume concerning leadership.

SPOOKY BASKETS!

If its Halloween, it's time for Spooky Baskets brought to you by your JROTC program. Baskets are on sale all of October for \$5, \$10, and \$20. Custom made baskets are by request and are for \$35. Stop by B152/156 to pick up a basket all month long. **Support your JROTC!**



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KNOW YOUR RECRUITERS

Both Army and Navy recruiters visit the Black Knights at least once per week either to discuss the future with a senior or assist in classroom training. Recruiters also help grade physical training competitions between schools as fair agents. The Black Knights are grateful to have them support.



2022-2023 SERVICE LEARNING PROJECT



The battalion staff has coordinated with the local American Legion Post to plan and execute a community affair which will be called, "A Day of Giving." Commander Dwight Rumph reached out to the Black Knights about a special event that would support the community during Thanksgiving. The Black Knights were up to the task and they have made phone calls, held meetings, and are actively involved with the American Legion to make this a day the community won't soon forget.



In September, the Black Knights supported the *Veterans of Foreign Wars* Post by helping them clean and arrange the building for a formal event. The *VFW* is now allowing the Booster Club to use the building club to support fundraising efforts. Good News!!



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AROUND THE BATTALION

HISD Houston ISD @HoustonISD · 1d
Transmitting LIVE from @SHMSTC to the #ISS! @NASA astronauts answered students' questions from space! 🌍🚀
#HISD #NASA #STEM



1 8 29



Above: Cadets enjoying a post-practice meal. Sometimes, food just hits you differently... Right: Cadets Perez and Rodriguez performing announcement duty



Assistant Principal Hines has a brother who is currently in space. They arranged for a live stream with astronauts and students from Sam Houston MSTC where students could ask them questions. Several cadets participated and had a really good experience.



Above: Cadet Brenda Martinez squatting light weight with support from her classmates

Right: Cadet Sergeants Rigney and Cortez enjoying a post-practice plate of wings provided by Army Recruiter SSG Rodriguez who supports the program and the cadets.



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BLACK KNIGHTS VISIT GARCIA ELEMENTARY

Garcia Elementary hosted a "Career Day" for their students and they invited their local Army JROTC program to support. Army instructors briefly discussed the military as a career but the cadets discussed the importance of getting an education and participating in school programs like Army JROTC. The kids of Garcia were thrilled to see an armed drill team exhibition performance and the administration asked if the Black Knights would come more often.



GARCIA HOSPITALITY

The faculty and administration rolled out the red carpet for the Black Knights serving a light breakfast and a Dominos Pizza lunch. It was a great day and the Black Knights are looking for more opportunities to serve the community and the program thanks Garcia Elementary for welcoming them into the school.



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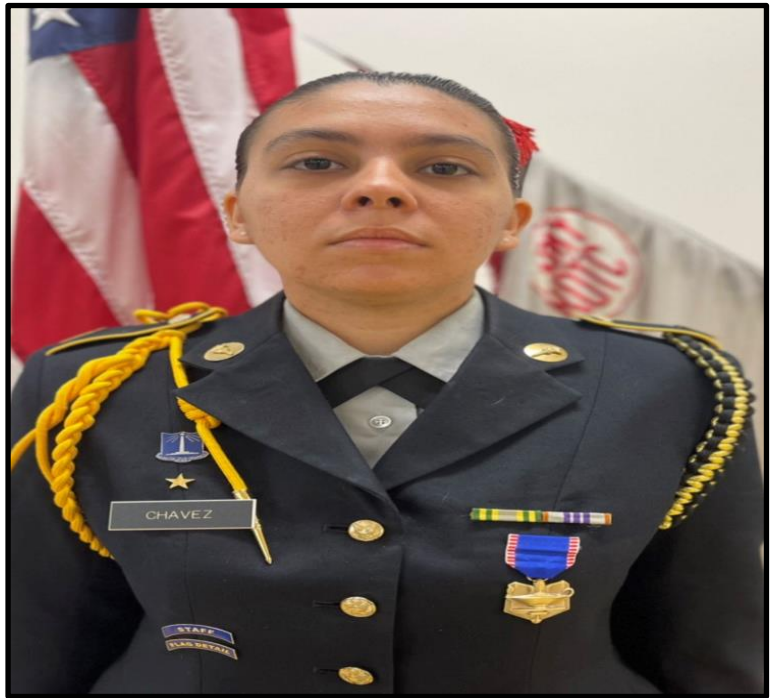
**SAM HOUSTON MSTC
ARMY JROTC**

A WORD FROM THE TOP



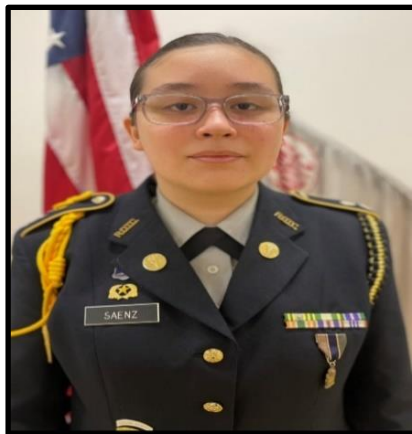
BATTALION COMMANDER JIMENEZ

Good day cadets and patrons. As we get closer and closer to our competitions and events, we must remember to stay focused. We are here to win and become champions. To those who watch our growth, I hope you are all prepared to witness greatness as we take home the Superintendent's cup with ease. Also, we will be making sure to give back to our community as they have given us their support throughout the years. GO BLACK KNIGHTS!!!



**COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR
CHAVEZ**

Greetings everyone,
I hope everyone is doing well. Our cadets are putting in hard work and effort into the battalion and into their training for competitions. Along with helping and giving to their community, let's continue to put in one hundred percent. HOOAAH!!!



EXECUTIVE OFFICER SAENZ

Greetings 1st Battalion and readers alike,

I would like to thank all cadets who went above and beyond fundraising by chocolate sales throughout September. Like always, we have another fundraiser coming up with our Spooky Baskets kicking off for two days every week through the month of October. This is our month to shine as the competition many have been training persistently for is now on the horizon. With our goal to obtain the Superintendent's Cup, let's dominate the 2022 Fall Classic competition on October 29th. There is nothing that the Black Knights can't do!!!

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