

SAM HOUSTON MSTC
ARMY JROTC



THE BLACK KNIGHTS' SWORD



APRIL 2022

DISTRICT CHAMPIONS!



Saturday, March 5, 2022, the Black Knights competed in every event in the district-wide drill meet known as “The Blue Bonnet Drill Meet.” The drill meet consisted of drill competition, swim competition, physical training competition, marksmanship, academic bowl, color guard competition, and the flag folding competition. The teams trained for months every day before and after school to be able to compete at the highest level.

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Team results:

Ranger Swim Male: 7th
Ranger Swim Female: 3rd
Academics: 8th
Fitness Test Male: 3rd
Fitness Test Female: 1st
Color Guard A: 11th
Color Guard B: 5th
Armed Regulation: 1st
Armed Exhibition: 1st
Armed Drill Leader: 2nd
Armed Inspection: 4th
Unarmed Regulation: 3rd
Unarmed Exhibition: 5th
Unarmed Drill Leader: 4th
Unarmed Inspection: 7th
Non-Service Inspection: 2nd
Non-Service Regulation: 1st
Non-Service Exhibition: 1st
Non-Service Leader: 1st
Marksmanship: 9th

Top 5 Programs:

1. Sam Houston: 9,208
2. Bellaire: 8,115
3. Scarborough: 6,899
4. Waller: 5,847
5. Westbury: 5,712



1st Battalion Black Knights
58 subscribers

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Knights on YouTube
by subscribing.
Thank you!



TOP RANKED DRILL TEAM

In back-to-back district drill meets, the Black Knights dominated the competition. The armed and unarmed drill teams practice five days per week knowing exactly what they must do to win. **Congratulations!**

ELITE PHYSICAL TRAINING TEAM

Not only did they win 1st and 3rd, but this team, without, practice did well in the swim competition. True Grit!



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VIP VISITS THE BLACK KNIGHTS



**CSM Daniel T.
Hendrex**

Command Sergeant Major Daniel T. Hendrex assumed the responsibilities as Command Sergeant Major, U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command, Fort Eustis, Virginia, on Sept. 2, 2020.



The Training and Doctrine Command's senior enlisted advisor visited the Black Knights to speak with young people about the importance of public service and good citizenship. He and his staff of enlisted Soldiers told their personal stories of service going back to their high school days. Cadets asked several questions about his career, and they also asked questions about Army life. Cadet Staff Sergeant Compean Garza, 2022 Senior, was actively pursuing a career in the U.S. Marine Corps but has changed his mission to enlisting in the U.S. Army. He credited this visit from this team to him changing his mind. Several freshmen cadets also expressed they are now interested in service as they spoke with a young Army Specialist who is in the medical field. They were inspired by her.



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A PROMISE TO A MOTHER



After his visit to Sam Houston MSTC, the Command Sergeant Major invited several members of the Black Knights to a "Roundtable" at the office building of the Houston Mayor. The CSM was so impressed by C/MAJ Erik Jimenez and his quest to be accepted into West Point Military Academy that he promised he would do everything in his power to facilitate either a recommendation for West Point or a path into a college ROTC program with a scholarship. He spoke with Jimenez's mother using Ms. Garza of AUSA as an interpreter at this meeting.



Harris County Precinct 2
@HarrisCoPct2

#ICYMI: Earlier today Commissioner joined **#veterans** and future service members for a US Army Hispanic Community recruitment roundtable. **#hounews #init2gether**



4:55 PM · 3/4/22 · Twitter for iPhone

The County Precinct 2 Commissioner also attended the meeting to meet with the cadets at the mayor's roundtable event. He shared some kind words with the Black Knights and spoke highly of Sam Houston MSTC which falls under his jurisdiction.

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III CORPS PUBLIC AFFAIRS VISITS



Lieutenant Colonel Mai Lee Eskelund, Chief of SORD for Houston, coordinated with the Black Knights to have the chief of Public Affairs from III Corps from Fort Hood, TX visit with the Black Knights. During his visit on March 25th, Colonel Wayne Marotto explained his Hispanic roots and how he navigated his way from being an enlisted Soldier to Army officer. He brought along with him a cadre of professionals who shared their stories as well. This visit was special because the Houston area ROTC recruiters came along discussing how to get money for college through the ROTC program. Local Army recruiters visited as well and they routinely visit with the Black Knights to help conduct physical training or just speak with cadets about navigating through life as a young person, mentorship. Colonel Marotto invited the Black Knights to visit Fort Hood, TX and see live demonstrations of Soldiers doing their jobs well. Invitation accepted! The Black Knights drill team put on an exhibition to welcome him and his staff.



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INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY CEREMONY



The Black Knights were requested to present the colors at the annual "International Women's Day" ceremony where women in STEM fields were honored and spoke about their experiences. The team enjoyed the experience and time away from the campus.



On March 23, 2022, the Color Guard presented the colors and were all treated to a three-course meal in a formal dining setting at the Junior League of Houston ballroom. MAJ Ray conducted a formal dining class just before the meal so that cadets could feel comfortable in the setting with so many professionals. The military ball is on April 2nd and C/SGT Jasmine Nava is scheduled to teach the cadets how to conduct themselves at a formal dinner. This event was real world scenario training. Great Success!

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A WORD FROM THE TOP



"Hello cadets and esteemed patrons, I hope everyone is excited. We'll be having our yearly military ball after a long time full of hardships. I hope everyone understands that this was made possible through the hard work of not only the cadets, but the adults around supporting our every effort. Now that we have worked hard, it is time to enjoy the fruits of our hard labor.

GO BLACK KNIGHTS!!!"



"Good day to everyone, I hope all of you are doing well. Our JROTC program has come a long way since the COVID-19 pandemic. It makes me a little emotional seeing all of the hard work every cadet has put in to win. To be the best, you have to put in work when no one else wants to. And trust me, we all have seen the work you put in, and we are all very proud of each one of you."



XO's Corner

Ladies and Gentlemen, the military ball is Saturday, April 2nd, 2022, starting at 5pm. We worked hard all year to raise enough funds for this event and this is a required annual event. We will have fun and I'm looking forward to seeing you all there.

Events:

- Fonville Middle School Recruitment Effort April 1st
- April 1-14 Spring Basket sale
- Tiger Store fundraiser April 1st
- Final Review at Delmar Field House April 23rd
- **Uniform turn in April 25-29**
- Pending BBQ plate fundraiser with Drill Team Exhibition (April 30, more to follow)

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THE BOOSTER CLUB BRINGS REINFORCEMENTS



On March 26, 2022, the Booster Club held a fundraiser at a local church selling barbeque plates for \$10. Super sweet desserts were also donated by parents from the club to make the plates complete. Several cadets came out to support the event, but the parents led the way!



The Booster Club is looking for active parents who want to see the Black Knights thrive in action. In order to do that, the club needs to raise money to buy new custom uniforms, pay for field trips, pay for competitions, and help cadets really appreciate all that Army JROTC has to offer. It takes a village to raise a battalion.

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