

photos by Melissa Reinsch

VARSITY TAKES JV UNDER WING

by Melissa Reinsch

During the CFISD Drill Competition at the Berry Center, varsity and junior varsity cadets circled around each other, guiding and prepping each other for the junior varsity inspection.

The junior varsity team was lined up in four rows, all waiting to be criticized and judged by the varsity cadets.

“When I am judged by a sergeant I am definitely nervous because they are a lot bigger than me, they have hats that cover the eyes so you don’t see their face and they are really muscular. Plus you don’t know if you are going to answer questions right or wrong, if wrong they will yell at you. It helps to be judged and criticized by the varsity cadets first so they can prepare you if something is wrong,” freshman Anthony Mahoney said.

The cadets spent a great deal of time together in and out of school getting to know each other and making each other laugh.

“It’s hilarious when the JV or Varsity Commander’s voice cracks because you try to take them seriously but when you hear the odd sound, you just can’t help but laugh,” senior Kevin Schreiber said.

Senior Jacob Kent said the relationship between cadets is “brotherly.”

“We look out for one another and that is important because it is a comforting group in the mix of high school,” Kent said.

The younger cadets often taught the experienced members some things.

“They have taught us what patience means because we walk them through drill and some will take longer than the others,” Schreiber said.

Kent said he learned about dedication.

“They have also showed me what true dedication means by showing me they love what they are doing by coming to practice, which makes me want to come and be there too,” Kent said.

The JROTC cadets practiced every day after school until 5 p.m.

“Because we practice so much, I think of my fellow cadets as family and our instructors like father figures,” Schreiber said.

This year, JROTC decided to take a day and combine junior varsity and varsity classes in order to check everyone’s techniques.

“By the end of the year, all JV cadets should know how to command because it will instill confidence in future leaders of the corps,” Naumann said.



Huddle up. Getting a pep talk before the CFISD Drill Competition, sophomore Brandon Cook, freshman David Bowles and sophomore Terry Brunner joke around with one another. “JROTC has taught me integrity, service before self and excellence,” Bowles said. Bowles planned to join the Marine Corps as an infantry officer to protect people.



Forward, march. Finishing Inspection, senior Musukula Sheriff leads the marching formation off the drill pad. "I really enjoy how teamwork is really focused on in JROTC," she said. Sheriff said she enjoyed getting to know her fellow cadets.

We salute you. During the CFISD Drill Competition at the Berry Center, senior Jacob Kent and his team perform their routine. "My favorite memory was easily competing," he said. "The thrill of my team going out there and doing the best they can is something I'll never forget." Kent said the most challenging aspect of JROTC was the distinction between professionalism and friendship.



"Navy because it's my sister's rival branch since she's in the Army."

Rosa Wolf, 12



"Marines because it has lots of good jobs like machine gun crew or infantry. I want to serve at the front and make a difference in the world."

Evan Creed, 9



"Air Force because I already know about it through JROTC and the career fields are more interesting to me than other branches."

Anthony Mahoney, 9



"Air Force because I want to do search and rescue and they have a team called 'pararescuemen' who save shot down pilots or aid the injured behind enemy lines."

Kevin Schreiber, 12

WHAT BRANCH OF THE MILITARY WOULD YOU LIKE TO SERVE IN?



Trust me, I'm Lieutenant Colonel.

Checking the schedule, senior Haley Naumann prepares fellow cadets for upcoming events. "In order for a lieutenant colonel to be successful, they must have faith in their team that they will get the job done. No faith in their team will allow no confidence in the fate of the future," she said. Naumann led more than 140 cadets and hoped for each of them to accomplish their individual tasks.

Permission to exit, sir! Leading junior varsity Inspection, sophomore John Mabida asks permission to exit the drill pad. "During inspection, I just hoped that everything we practiced worked out okay," he said. Mabida's team placed second at the district drill competition for their junior varsity Inspection.

Dummy down. Running to get the body on the other side to move on to pullups, sophomore Cynthia Soto and junior Christopher Sullivan compete in the physical training competition. "The pullups were the most challenging, but I worked out every day to prepare for the event," Sullivan said. Sullivan was physical training commander and hoped to join the Army as a career.



Unarmed and dangerous.

Participating in Unarmed Drill, senior Bryce Stamp vies for junior Jacob Kent's team during the CFISD Drill Competition. "During unarmed drill, military bearing is definitely a challenge because distractions are everywhere," Stamp said. Stamp was mission support squad commander and flight commander.