



news **LEADER**

THURSDAY
Oct. 20, 2005

A periodic look at Eastern Region ROTC happenings

Marching *into* History

**First-time event
toasts JROTC's
'best of the best'**

By **STEVE AREL**
Editor

LEXINGTON, Va. — Famed frontiersman Daniel Boone pierced through the Kentucky wilderness, opening a path to America's uncharted West.

The top 128 JROTC cadets in the country blazed a trail themselves last week as the first group of cadets to take part in the inaugural George C. Marshall JROTC Leadership Symposium.

Continued on page 2



Inside

*Pages
4 and 5*

Proven leaders preach value of hard work, determination

*Pages
6 and 7*

Participants take break from helping hurricane-ravaged communities



GEORGE C. MARSHALL JROTC LEADERSHIP SYMPOSIUM



Continued from page 1

Besides being recognized as the premier crop of tomorrow's leaders, the group made up mostly of high school seniors and juniors learned about ways to hone their leadership skills and motivate others to be better citizens.

Cadets left Virginia ready to shoulder the responsibility.

"I believe you can improve a lot more," said Cadet Lt. Col. Anthony Nguyen of Forest Hill High School in West Palm Beach, Fla. "This is a way to make things better."

Cadet Command and the George C. Marshall Foundation staged the three-day event from Oct. 13 through Saturday at the campuses of Virginia Military Institute and Washington and Lee University and nearby Natural Bridge Hotel in the Natural Bridge National Forest.

Cadets took tours of attractions and sites in the area. But, most importantly, they were exposed to people who have long been successful in their careers and in life.

"You have to be motivated to get here," said Cadet Maj. Stephanie Morris of North Springs High School in Atlanta. "But to be surrounded by people motivated like you motivates you more. I'd like to see that same atmosphere at my school."

Speaker after speaker called the cadets' participation history in the making and applauded their selection for the program.



Photo by Steve Arel

From left, Cadet 1st Lt. Joe Hichar of Howard High School in Ellicott City, Md., and Cadet Maj. Stephanie Morris of North Springs High School in Atlanta hold their glasses in a toast during the awards dinner of the leadership symposium.

"You have to be motivated to get here. But to be surrounded by people motivated like you motivates you more."

*Cadet Maj. Stephanie Morris
North Springs High School in Atlanta*

Just 32 schools in the United States and in the Department of Defense Schools system overseas were chosen. Selections were based on a variety of factors, including cadets' grades and their amount of community service.

The group was so exclusive, they represented less than a thousandth of 1 percent of the 300,000-plus students enrolled in Army JROTC programs.

Though organizers and proven leaders put the cadets on a pedestal, the students were put to the test, too.

For starters, cadets were intentionally placed in groups of 20 or so people they didn't know as a way to

encourage the students to overcome uncomfortable situations and to expose them to other people from around the world. They also had to complete a project related to Marshall's principles of leadership and make a presentation before Cadet Command's top brass using techniques taught by instructors.

The quality of the skits did not reflect the less than two days they had to prepare. Instructors said cadets answered the challenge and worked as teams to complete the mission.

Two groups used a process called Thinking Maps, which was used to compare and contrast

At a glance

The first George C. Marshall Leadership Symposium was Oct. 13 through Saturday in Lexington, Va. A look at the schools that took part:

- Howard High School, Ellicott City, Md.
- Forest Hill Community High School, West Palm Beach, Fla.
- North Springs High School, Atlanta
- Northview High School, Duluth, Ga.
- Campbell County High School, Jacksboro, Tenn.
- North Hardin High School, Radcliff, Ky.
- Oakland High School, Murfreesboro, Tenn.
- Ooltawah High School, Ooltawah, Tenn.
- Soddy Daisy High School, Soddy Daisy, Tenn.
- East High School, Denver
- Junction City High School, Junction City, Kan.
- Natrona County High School, Casper, Wyo.
- East Central High School, San Antonio, Texas
- Ronald Regan High School, San Antonio, Texas
- Thomas Jefferson High School, El Paso, Texas
- A.J. Diamond High School, Anchorage, Alaska
- Incline High School, Incline Village, Nev.
- Caddo Parish Magnet High School, Shreveport, La.
- Central High School, Baton Rouge, La.
- Jim Hill High School, Jackson, Miss.
- Tara High School, Baton Rouge, La.
- Calumet High School, Calumet, Mich.
- Muncie Central High School, Muncie, Ind.
- Northwest High School, Indianapolis
- D.H. Conley High School, Greenville, N.C.
- Heidi Trask High School, Rocky Mount, N.C.
- J.H. Rose High School, Greenville, N.C.
- Union High, Clinton, N.C.
- Francis Lewis High School, Fresh Meadows, N.Y.
- Washingtonville High School, Washingtonville, N.Y.
- DODEA Vicenza High, Italy
- DODEA Wuerzburg High, Germany

Continued on page 3

JROTC Cadet Creed: *I am an Army Junior ROTC cadet.*



GEORGE C. MARSHALL JROTC LEADERSHIP SYMPOSIUM



Continued from page 2

people's skills. Two others used Winning Colors, a color-code technique for identifying strengths and weaknesses. And two others used software and equipment called a Classroom Performance System.

One group put on a mock game show called "G.I. Jeopardy." Host Alex Cadet asked participants holding CPS keypads to choose questions to answers he read that related to Marshall's principle of action. Another group produced a talk show regarding selflessness and caring, and one recreated parts of the speech Col. Carlos Glover, JROTC deputy chief of staff, delivered at the conference opening to illustrate the principles of preparation and vision.

Cadets' motivation throughout the event was evident. They routinely joked with each other and gave high-fives. Some groups marching from site to site chanted cadences, sounding off with their group number. One even developed its own saying, "On point," meaning they were focused and ready.

"It's an awesome endeavor to go to," said Cadet Command Sgt. Maj. Josh Chretien of North Hardin High School in Radcliff, Ky. "It's pretty sweet."

Besides the lessons cadets learned, the time they spent taking part in the symposium garnered them each two college credit hours in leadership and community service.

A video featuring highlights of the symposium will be produced in the months to come and distributed to schools. But many cadets simply relished being part of the event and forging new relationships, experiences they said they won't forget.



Photo by Steve Arel

Cadets applauded Maj. Gen. W. Montague Winfield, Cadet Command commander, after he addressed them at the awards dinner of the symposium.

Cadet Maj. Teresa Fender from Natrona County High School in Casper, Wyo., found herself in situations that forced her to overcome her shyness and interact more with others. She said she believed she would be returning home a better person as a result.

Others cadets shared similar experiences.

Cadet Capt. Andy Vargas of East Central High School in San Antonio, Texas, said he learned the importance of being more caring and listening first to people before making decisions. Cadet Capt. Jonathan Houston of North Springs High in Atlanta said he realized how much people can learn from each other and that, as a leader, he can better his school's program by working toward the betterment of the battalion and not necessarily himself.

Though she felt she had changed for the better thanks to the symposium, Cadet Capt. Anna Rogers wasn't sure her mother would see a change.

"My mother thinks I'm above the rest anyway," said Rogers, who attends Campbell County High School in Jacksonboro, Tenn. "I was just trying to actually get there."

What they said

Comments from cadets on what they valued most about the first Marshall leadership symposium:

**Cadet Lt. Col. Matt Nelson
Northview High School
Duluth, Ga.**

"I think two of the biggest themes I have taken from this symposium are a much better understanding of Marshall's nine principles of leadership and a better understanding of our own Army core values. As well, I have gained a much deeper appreciation of the word 'teamwork.'

"I will use this information and relay it to my cadets in order to better motivate them."

**Cadet Capt. Adam Edmundson
J.H. Rose High School
Greenville, N.C.**

"I plan on taking away a better sense of pride in what I do, as well as taking back leadership traits learned to introduce into the battalion."

**Cadet Capt. Isis Milian
Forest Hill High School
West Palm Beach, Fla.**

"I will take a more positive attitude home. I learned how to deal with many situations and how to motivate young people to become better citizens is so important."

**Cadet Lt. Col. Shaina Carr
Union High School
Clinton, N.C.**

"I would like to take away better leadership skills to motivate and enhance better citizenship at my school, battalion and everyone I meet. Also, I'd like to show others JROTC is not a joke and that it is a great course to develop leadership and other worthwhile traits."

**Cadet Lt. Col. Bryan Woody
Washingtonville High School
Washingtonville, N.C.**

"(I gained) experience in dealing with others from all walks of life, objectively using thinking charts to plan a course of action, and using Winning Colors to determine how to correctly react to a given situation. I will never forget the words of Command Sgt. Maj. (Mittie) Smith and how it applies to people only caring about rank: 'It's nice to be important, but it's important to be nice.'"

I will always conduct myself to bring credit to my family, country, school and the Corps of Cadets.



GEORGE C. MARSHALL JROTC LEADERSHIP SYMPOSIUM



(From left) VMI track coach and retired Brig. Gen. Mike Bozeman, Marshall Foundation Vice President Bob James, symposium co-chairman and retired Maj. Gen. Robert Wagner and Command Sgt. Maj. Mittie Smith spoke to cadets.

Pats on the back

Speakers praise cadets, issue challenge to motivate others to be better citizens

By **STEVE AREL**
Editor

LEXINGTON, Va. — No one ever will wave a wand over JROTC cadets and — *poof!* — they'll morph into straight-A students.

Or — *poof!* — they'll become professional athletes. Or — *poof!* — they'll become general officers in the Army.

Attaining goals and turning dreams into reality won't happen without determination and perseverance, an array of speakers told students at last week's George C. Marshall JROTC Leadership Symposium.

"Dreams don't come true just by wishing," said Charlie Aeschliman, a renowned basketball handler who performs regularly at halftimes of NBA games as "Special Agent Jam." "It doesn't work like that. To achieve your goals and dreams, you're going to have to work hard."



Photos by Steve Arel

Maj. Gen. W. Montague Winfield, Cadet Command commander, addressed cadets at the closing ceremony of the symposium.

Speakers served as a focal point of the symposium. They were a mix of active duty and retired Soldiers. They were leaders in the business and sports worlds.

All were successes. And they delivered motivational messages to cadets peppered with praise and advice.

Retired Maj. Gen. Robert Wagner, the first commander of Cadet Command and the man who fostered the idea for the symposium, issued a challenge to cadets.

JROTC's motto is "to motivate young people to be better citizens." He encouraged them to expand the motto's scope and work to make better citizens of those around them as well.

The way they carry themselves, interact with teachers and perform in the classroom can rub off on other students.

"You have a responsibility to your entire school, to your classmates

Continued on page 5

I am loyal and patriotic.



GEORGE C. MARSHALL JROTC LEADERSHIP SYMPOSIUM



Continued from page 4

to be better citizens,” Wagner said.

A number of the speakers applauded the students for the fact that they stood as the most elite of the junior cadet corps.

“If that don’t make you feel good, there isn’t too much that is going to make you feel good,” said Col. Carlos Glover, deputy chief of staff for JROTC.

The colonel routinely visits high schools and cadets. What stands out to him most on those trips is how he walks by typical classrooms, peeks in and sees some kids’ heads on desks and teachers talking to few who are paying attention.

But the atmosphere inside a JROTC classroom is drastically different, he said. Students are attentive, participate in discussions and answer instructors with “Yes, sir” and “No, sir.”

Those cadets are setting high standards and raising the bar for other students. Glover said the sights are reassuring, considering many criticize teens today as being a generation in trouble.

“When you go talk to JROTC cadets, you know America is all right,” he said.

Retired Brig. Gen. Mike Bozeman parlayed his military experience to the sports arena. Using the principles of teamwork and leadership, he has guided the Virginia Military Institute track and field team to 12 conference titles and earned himself 12 coach of the year honors.



Photo by
Steve Arel

Col. Carlos Glover, JROTC deputy chief of staff, pumps up cadets as he speaks to them during their introduction to the Marshall symposium.

Leadership tips

Pointers from the various speakers at the Marshall JROTC leadership symposium:

- It’s nice to be important, but it’s important to be nice.
- There are no shortcuts to success.
- Everybody is part of a team.
- There is no limit to what you and your team can accomplish together.
- Perseverance keeps dreams alive.

But that success hasn’t come easy. Bozeman had to get students, competing in a sport focusing greatly on individual feats, to understand the concept of being a team.

“You may run as an individual, but you sweat as a team,” Bozeman said. “That’s how we win.

“There are no shortcuts to success. Not in the classroom, not in your family.”

Command Sgt. Maj. Mittie Smith asked cadets at a luncheon whether they had ever watched someone win a competition and knew they could have beaten that person. Dozens of hands went in the air.

“If you ever say you could’ve done better than

someone else, you didn’t do your best,” said Smith, the commandant of the NCO Academy at Fort Stewart, Ga.

“There is always room for improvement.”

Aeschliman, a former Navy SEAL, knows that as well as anyone. As a child, he fell in love with basketball. He resigned himself to becoming the best ball-handler possible — dribbling between his legs, spinning balls on his fingers, performing tricks few others could.

During performances in packed arenas, Aeschliman has dropped balls, kicked them accidentally into the stands and even ripped his pants.

“I fought past the frustration and embarrassment,” he said. “I was getting a little bit better and a little bit better and a little bit better.”

Maj. Gen. W. Montague Winfield, Cadet Command commander, told cadets to put what they learned at the symposium to use every day. He stressed teamwork and the importance of thinking about “we” and “us” instead of “I.”

“If you treat people as partners ... there is no limit to what you and your team can accomplish together,” Winfield said.

Chaplains have long been known to act as pastor and prophet to military commanders. Col. James Park, Virginia Military Institute chaplain who had roles in the opening and closing ceremonies of the symposium, stood before the cadets to deliver the final benediction.

Before he did, Park offered his own prediction.

“There are general officers in our midst,” he said. “Will it be you?”

I am the future of the United States of America.



GEORGE C. MARSHALL JROTC LEADERSHIP SYMPOSIUM



Photo by Steve Arel

From left, Cadet Maj. Shoville Corenti, Cadet Maj. Gabrielle Brown, Cadet Capt. Jessica Bell and Cadet Lt. Col. Nicholas Chamberlain, all of Jim Hill High School in Jackson, Miss., lead participants in reciting the JROTC Cadet Creed at the opening ceremony of the symposium. The Hill High students have spent parts of the last several weeks helping people in their region recover from recent hurricanes.

in from the **STORM**

Cadets from area hit hard by hurricanes take part in symposium

By STEVE AREL
Editor

LEXINGTON, Va. — A hungry Hurricane Katrina barreled into the Louisiana and Mississippi coastline, chewing up the landscape.

In Jackson, Miss., some 200 miles inland, 70 mph-plus winds blew around

Cadet Lt. Col. Nicholas Chamberlain's home. They pulled down wires and uprooted trees, one of which fell on his house.

The storm soon moved north and fizzled out. In its wake were clearing skies and a widespread mess.

Cadets with some JROTC programs in the region

quickly began picking up the pieces and picking up canned goods, clothing and other necessities to help people recover who bore the brunt of Katrina's onslaught.

"We had a minor discomfort compared with what others experienced," said Cadet Maj. Shoville

Continued on page 7

I do not lie, cheat or steal and will always be accountable for my actions and deeds.



GEORGE C. MARSHALL JROTC LEADERSHIP SYMPOSIUM



Continued from page 6

Corenti, a fellow member of the battalion of which Chamberlain is commander.

Eight cadets from two schools in the hurricane-ravaged region — Jim Hill High in Jackson and Central High in Baton Rouge, La. — took part in the first George C. Marshall JROTC Leadership Symposium. The conference was something of a break for the students, who planned to return home and continue their assistance efforts.

Jim Hill shut down for two weeks after Katrina hit in early September because the building had no electricity. But when cadets returned, they went back determined to help.

Students organized drives to collect items for victims and even worked to find places to live and churches to attend for people who fled the most devastated areas of the region.

Retired Maj. Frank Branch, the school's senior instructor, said the cadets were simply compelled to assist.

"We couldn't just let it go," he said.

In the weeks since, a handful of cadets have joined Jim Hill's JROTC program. And it has been the battalion's leadership who stepped up to ensure the newcomers felt as much as



Photo by Steve Arel

Cadet Lt. Col. Nicholas Chamberlain, center, and Cadet Maj. Shoville Corenti, left, both of Jim Hill High School, look on as a guide talks about life in a Virginia Indian Village.

part of the program as anyone else.

"We treat them the same," Corenti said. "They're just like everybody else."

At Central High, where Baton Rouge was mostly spared by the storm, JROTC cadets were the first students in the school to stage a fund-raiser for victims. They collected scores of diapers, but also received aid from those at

the brigade level in the form of clothing, water and canned goods, all of which went to a local church operating a shelter for the influx of people who relocated to the city.

Baton Rouge, Louisiana's capital, has doubled in size since Katrina. Two of those newest residents live with Cadet Lt. Col. Phillip Alford and his family. His grandmother and uncle's

home filled to the roof with water after the levees in New Orleans gave way.

While the home still stands, it remains uninhabitable.

"I couldn't believe what I was looking at," Alford said of pictures he saw of the flooding.

The cadets said their experience in JROTC helped them through the tough times, instilling leadership skills they have used in organizing food drives and in coming together as a team to help each other cope.

Alford said JROTC also teaches the ability to better view situations from the perspective of others.

"You might not pick that up otherwise," he said.

Branch has plans to travel with members of his church to haul cleaning supplies and other materials to residents of Biloxi and Gulfport, two of the hardest-hit sections of the state. Cadets and cadre will continue to find ways to contribute to the recovery effort, and cadets will broaden their contacts to help new students at Jim Hill, regardless of whether they are enrolled in JROTC, transition into the school and the community.

"We're not doing it for a pat on the back," Branch said. "You're out there to make life better for someone else."

I will always practice good citizenship and patriotism.



GEORGE C. MARSHALL JROTC LEADERSHIP SYMPOSIUM
a closer look



(Right) From left, Cadet Command Sgt. Maj. Joshua Chretien of North Hardin High and Cadet Capt. Danielle Defreese of Washingtonville High illustrate the principle of leadership.



(Top left) Cadet Capt. Mark Lewis of Oakland High has his uniform checked by Cadet Capt. Aniece McKenzie of Heidi Trask High during a skit.



(Right) A cadet impersonated Col. Carlos Glover, JROTC deputy chief of staff, during a presentation.



(Center) One group used colored lights in its skit on the technique of Winning Colors.

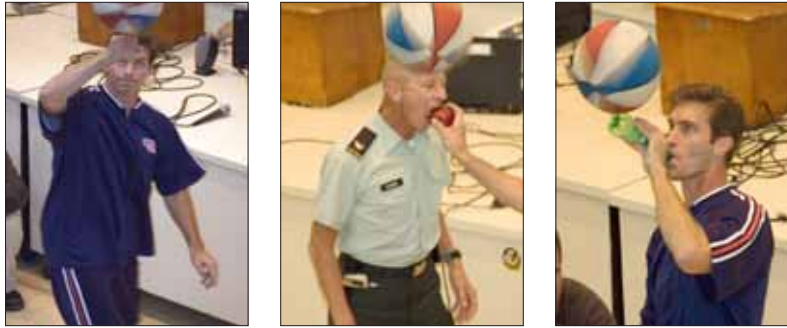
(Left) Cadet Lt. Col. Katherine Stathes of East High School in Denver poses as an inattentive cadet during her group's skit.

Photos by Steve Arel

I will work hard to improve my mind and strengthen my body.



GEORGE C. MARSHALL JROTC LEADERSHIP SYMPOSIUM *a closer look*



Photos by Steve Arel

(Left) Renowned ball-handler Charlie Aeschliman spins a ball on his finger. **(Center)** Aeschliman had Col. Carlos Glover bite into an apple while he juggled balls. **(Right)** Aeschliman rested a spinning ball on a bottle while he quinched his thirst.



(Above) Aeschliman looks out into the crowd of cadets while basketballs spin on his index fingers.

(Right) Retired Col. Steve Mifflin of Powhatan High School in Powhatan, Va., instructs cadets during training sessions at Washington and Lee University.



I will seek the mantle of leadership and ...



GEORGE C. MARSHALL JROTC LEADERSHIP SYMPOSIUM
a closer look



*Photos by
Steve Arel*

Cadet Lt. Col. Matt Nelson, right, and Cadet Maj. Scott Barlow, both of Northview High School in Duluth, Ga., chow down during a pizza party for cadets at the Natural Bridge Hotel in the Natural Bridge National Forest in Virginia.



(Left) Mary Rounds, principal of Cado Parish Magnet High School in Shreveport, La., talks about JROTC at her school with a crew producing a video on the symposium.



(Right) Cadets tour the VMI barracks.



(Left) Cadet Lt. Col. Anthony Nguyen of Forest Hill High in West Palm Beach, Fla., shoots a photo during a tour of the George C. Marshall Museum.



(Right) A group of cadets mulls ideas in preparation for their presentation.

... stand prepared to uphold the Constitution and the American way of life.



GEORGE C. MARSHALL JROTC LEADERSHIP SYMPOSIUM
a closer look



(Above) Cadet Andy Vargas of East Central High School in San Antonio, Texas, shoots footage of a remade Indian village at Natural Bridge National Forest.

(Right) Cadets walk under the famed Natural Bridge.

(Below) Cadet Maj. Sarah Dorau, left, and Cadet Maj. Julia Bladen, both of Muncie Central High School in Muncie, Ind., touch hanging animal fur at the Indian village.

Photos by Steve Arel



Cadets learn about Virginia Military Institute as they begin a tour of the school.



May God grant me the strength to always live by this creed.



GEORGE C. MARSHALL JROTC LEADERSHIP SYMPOSIUM



With initial conference complete, organizers look to build on success

By **STEVE AREL**
Editor

Cadet Command established a new legacy with last week's first George C. Marshall JROTC Leadership Symposium.

It was just the beginning.

The 2006 event already has been given the green light, and organizers are mulling how to make the second conference more relevant and useful in cadets' everyday lives.

As smoothly as the inaugural conference unfolded, organizers say there's always room for improvement.

"We're not going to rest on our laurels," said Col. Carlos Glover, deputy chief of staff for JROTC.

"The kids tremendously benefited from it. It's something they'll remember the rest of their lives."

He described the event as running "flawlessly." There were no incidences of misconduct, all resources were in place and the event was strongly supported by active duty and retired general officers.



Photo by Steve Arel

Members of the Cadet Command staff responsible for putting on the first George C. Marshall JROTC Leadership Symposium posed for a photo in the dining hall of Washington and Lee University after the event wrapped up.

Planners will try to build on the success of the inaugural event by delving more into issues affecting cadets, such as discipline and how cadets can gain more respect among school peers. They also will work to encourage more administrators to participate and welcome more teams of cadets.

Other changes could come after feedback is received next month from cadets and cadre.

Donna Rice, chief of education and information technology for JROTC and one of the symposium's organizers, said she was particularly pleased with presentations cadets made on the principles of Marshall, for which they had a short window of preparation, and how they planned to use what they learned back home.

"You take big risk when you ask students to do a performance of what they've

"We're not going to rest on our laurels."

*Col. Carlos Glover,
JROTC
deputy chief of staff*

learned," she said. "That is risky. But the risk is usually worth it because when you leave it up to the kids, you get a lot of creativity. I'm pleased with how it happened."

The 2006 event will take place at the same Virginia venues — Natural Bridge Hotel, Virginia Military Institute and Washington and Lee University. Though a date has not been set, officials expect it to take place in October.

Glover anticipates the event to have just as great an impact.

"The (positive) testimonials from the cadets were overwhelming," he said.

About us

*Vol. 2,
No. 3*

News Leader is an authorized publication for members of the Department of Defense. Contents of the News Leader are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government or the Department of the Army. The editorial content of this publication is the responsibility of the Eastern Region, U.S. Army Cadet Command, public affairs officer.

COMMANDER: Col. Robert J. Frusha
COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR: Command Sgt. Maj. Michael Peters
NEWS LEADER EDITOR: Steve Arel, steve.arel@usacc.army.mil

CONTACT US AT:
Eastern Region
Bldg. 1468, 328 Third Ave.
Fort Knox, KY 40121
(502) 624-1842 or (502) 624-8149