

The BAYONET

Volume 14, Issue 3

The Middle School Newspaper

March 2009

Welcome Spring!!!

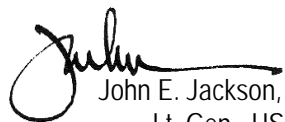
A Message From the President

As the end of the year approaches, we all begin to get excited about the upcoming summer. The temperature warms and our minds begin to expand beyond the buildings we are sitting in. We long to take those daydreams and turn them into a reality. However, the reality remains that we still have a race to run, a goal to accomplish. The only way to get to the end is to work hard and finish strong. I encourage each one of you to take advantage of your spring break and come back with a renewed spirit.

I know winter still dominates the horizon, but I would like to offer a word of encouragement. I am proud of each one of you, our cadets, for the hard work you have put in thus far. The long hours are paying off and you are learning skills that will help throughout your life. Stay the course. Keep on charging. The goal is in sight!

I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.

2 Timothy 4:7


John E. Jackson, Jr.
Lt. Gen., USAF
(Ret.)

Upcoming Spring Events

March 14-22 Spring Break

April 7	End of the 5 th Grading Period
April 10-13	Easter Leave Weekend
April 21-22	ITBS Testing
April 24	Spring Dance
April 26	Corps Parade

May 3	Alumni Day Parade
May 8-10	Mother's Day Weekend
May 10	Mother's Day Parade
May 17	Greenbrier Parade
May 18	End of the 6 th Grading Period
May 20	Parent/Faculty/Cadet Picnic, Parade, Careby Hall Reception and Awards
May 21	Middle School Graduation



Headmaster's Message

As the year winds down, I offer my encouragement to our Middle School Cadets to press on, full steam ahead, as the race for the finish line continues. I want to stress the importance of maintaining a positive work ethic until the line is reached on May 21st. This year we have witnessed more cadets than usual struggle under the challenges that leadership requires. We are confident that lessons have been learned through all of these challenges and that positive steps have been made along the path to maturity. For those who have taken their role as cadet seriously and have performed their jobs in a manner befitting a FUMA cadet...we salute you! We realize that the lifestyle that you have lived for the past several months hasn't been easy. So many of you are well on your way to young adulthood, and we're proud of your positive attitude and "can do" spirit. I look forward to your continued growth as a cadet and as a person. For those who are still trying to find their way, I urge you to build on the lessons that have been learned throughout the year. It's never too late for a "makeover." I encourage all of you to set the goal of completing this year on a positive note so that you and those who love and care for you can look back on your efforts with pride and a sense of accomplishment.

LTC Robert Feathers
Headmaster

Academic Honors

1st Semester

President's List:

8th Grade: Dallas Bonner
6th Grade: Carter Hammond

Headmaster's List:

8th Grade: Caleb Danielson
Michael Guerci
Jesse Jacobson
Juan Pigurina
Colin Ventrella

Honor Roll:

8 th Grade:	Folabi Akanbi Nick Borgstedte Donte Carter Mitchell Daugherty Andrew Kilgore Gavin Marks Kyle Salyer Jeremy Sundel	Jose´ Alfaro Charlie Carter Taylor Craig Rosser Henry Will Langford Alejandro Said Andrew Suarez Brandon Welch
7 th Grade:	Taylor Arnold Alex Bessette Brad Chiovaro Daniel Hilsen Dylan Leger Luis Pigurina Chris Reynolds John Ross Jake Willier	Alec Battin Stewart Buffaloe Sergio Gonzalez Quinton Jackson Rodrigo Orvañanos Spencer Ragsdale Gilman Robinson Tyler Wigal
6 th Grade:	Colin Brewer Roman Jones Billy Marshall	Nate Ilori Parker Lamb John-Carr McIlnay

Academic Honors

4th Grading Period

President's List:

8th Grade: Dallas Bonner
Colin Ventrella
6th Grade: Carter Hammond

Headmaster's List:

8th Grade: Jose´ Alfaro
Michael Guerci
Jesse Jacobson
Juan Pigurina
Kevin Yang
7th Grade: Alec Battin
Brad Chiovaro
6th Grade: Roman Jones
Parker Lamb
Billy Marshall

Honor Roll:

8 th Grade:	Folabi Akanbi Nick Borgstedte Donte Carter Rosser Henry Will Langford Alejandro Said Jesse Schulze Andrew Suarez	Emory Baldwin Charlie Carter Mitchell Daugherty Andrew Kilgore Dylan McCormick Kyle Salyer Tyler Shifflett
7 th Grade:	Taylor Arnold Adam Bryan Quinton Jackson Dylan Leger Spencer Ragsdale Tyler Wigal	Alex Bessette Daniel Hilsen Faraz Khan Rodrigo Orvañanos Luis Pigurina
6 th Grade:	Nathaniel Ilori Allwin Philip	John-Carr McIlnay

Well it looks like we have made it through another winter. While we have picked up a few dents to our hull, we are still afloat and making steam. As we begin the process of winding down the year, I want to encourage all of you to stay focused and disciplined in your academics, sports and conduct. True, the finish line is near, but your concentrated effort and determination are needed now to allow you to finish the year on a positive note. I want you to be proud of what you have accomplished but also to know that the finish line to this year's race is May 21st. Stay on task, make good choices and enjoy the upcoming major leave.

MAJ Bill Blanchetti
Commandant, Middle School

Excellent Conduct 1st Semester

Folabi Akanbi
Taylor Arnold
Alex Bessette
Christopher Boland
Dallas Bonner
Stewart Buffaloe
Beau Carter
Charlie Carter
Brad Chiovaro
David Cox
Michael Guerci
Carter Hammond
Rosser Henry
Nate Ilori
Jesse Jacobson
Faraz Khan
Andrew Kilgore
Parker Lamb
Billy Marshall
John-Carr McInay
Alejandro Said
Austin Sebetzki
Cameron Taylor
Colin Ventrella
Brandon Welch
Tyler Wigal

Excellent Conduct 4th Grading Period

Folabi Akanbi
Jose´ Alfaro
Taylor Arnold
Alex Bessette
Christopher Boland
Dallas Bonner
Colin Brewer
Stewart Buffaloe
Brad Chiovaro
David Cox
Baily Crockett
Max Gordon
Michael Guerci
Carter Hammond
Rosser Henry
Daniel Hilsen
Nate Ilori
Jesse Jacobson
Nathan Jensen
Faraz Khan
Parker Lamb
Billy Marshall
Dylan McCormick
John-Carr McInay
Rodrigo Orvañanos
BJ Patterson
Alejandro Said
Austin Sebetzki
Tyler Shifflett
Jeremy Sundel
Colin Ventrella
Tyler Wigal
Kevin Yang



Classroom Updates

8th Grade English Poetry Unit

Glimpse of Life

By: Donte Carter



When I am playing basketball, I am calm,
excited, rejuvenated, prepared for life.
The court is a sanctuary, there are no worries.
Hustling, scoring, and assisting my team,
If I work hard it will soon be a true dream.

The Machine

By: Taylor Craig

Flip the switch.
"Tweet, tweet!"
Gears tick.
We all pour from the barracks,
Like a hole in a cup of water.
Pulleys pull.
We line up and stand still.
Like a well-oiled machine.

"Right face!"
The gears start to click again,
After a brief pause.
"Report!"
Programming is accessed.
One step forward, right face.
Like a well-oiled machine.

"Ready, cut!"
Memory brought up.
Sidestep left face.
Voice box activated.
"1st Platoon all present!"
Message received.
"Alpha Company all present!"
Numbers counted.
"Middle School Battalion all present!"
Message received.
Like a well-oiled machine.

"Battalion!"
"Attention!"
Axles spin
"Left, Face!"
Buttons are pushed
"Forward, March!"
Gears start and we take off
Like a well-oiled machine.



Physical Education

By: Colin Ventrella

One of my favorite things about FUMA is Physical Education. P.E. gives us a break from the regular school day and a chance to learn a new sport. We can get a break from using only our minds and get physically active. At FUMA, Coach Rich and CPT Carter show us how to do a sport, one fundamental at a time. Then we practice it with our team. Later we have a chance to use what we have learned in a scrimmage against the other team in our class. Currently, we are learning how to play volleyball. We have learned how to bump, set, and spike the ball and how to score a game. I am enjoying P.E. and hope we have more fun things to learn before the year is over.



Exploratory

Guitar Exploratory



By: Jeremy Sundel

This grading period I signed up for the guitar exploratory taught by CPT Miller. On Friday mornings, we go up to CPT Miller's classroom and work on songs together. Sometimes CPT. Miller teaches them to us and other times another cadet will lead the class and teach us a song. On February 13th, CPT Miller's brother came in with his guitar. He played a bunch of songs that were really complicated. He is really good! This was one of the best exploratories that I have had.

Archery



By: Colin Ventrella

This grading period, CPT Keating has resurrected the archery exploratory. In this exploratory he teaches us how to shoot an arrow, the proper stance, and safety procedure. We go outside and practice shooting on a block of Styrofoam with a target on it. Archery is a lot of fun. As long as everyone follows the safety procedures, it will always be that way.



Band

By: Tyler West

During this time of the year there is a lot going on in band. Everyone is practicing and preparing for the spring parade season in which everyone wants to participate. Only the best Middle School cadets are chosen to play with the Upper School band for parades. If you don't make it into the Upper School band, you will still get to play, but not until the Middle School graduation parade. For the bagpipers, it is especially hard. There are a very limited number of bagpipers who can play. We are learning from the seasoned Upper School players who are also competing for a spot on the parade field. I have really enjoyed band this year and am hoping to get to play alongside the Upper School cadets during parades this spring.



Winter Sports Wrap-Up

Basketball Wrap-Up

By: Chivalry Romain

As the Middle School basketball season came to a close, we suffered some tough losses, but we were able to pull it together toward the end. With a 5-9 season, coaches CPT Miller and CPT Keithley were proud of the way we played and the effort that we showed throughout the season, although we could have given more at times. Practice after practice, game after game, we played more as a team each day.

As a player I watched cadets improve each day. I remember one cadet who did not expect anything of himself but failure. With the support of the coaches and the rest of the team, he was able to go out and play his hardest. As time went on, his game progressed and he became a valuable member of the team.

Overall, I believe this was a great season. I would have liked for us to have won more games, and I am sure the rest of the team and the coaches felt the same way.



Wrestling Season

By: Colin Ventrella

We had a good wrestling season this year. We had our ups and downs, but we managed to keep it together and work our hearts out in practice. We had players who have been wrestling for many years mixed with wrestlers who have just begun. Through tough times the team still gave 100% every day! We had some amazing victories as well as some disappointing losses. We managed to stay focused at our matches, and if we lost, we could ask ourselves what caused that loss and how to fix it for next time. We would correct it in practice. If we won, we would ask ourselves what we did to earn that victory and how we could use it to improve. This season was excellent, and I hope that the 6th and 7th graders stick with it and come back next year and wrestle.

Spring Sports

Hiking

By: Parker Lamb

Hiking is a very fun activity. We meet on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday and hike in a variety of locations. CPT Garriss takes us to farms, around campus, and to other trail sites around the county. We hike through creeks and over hills and occasionally through the mud. If we see a pond, we have a rock skipping competition. I skipped my first rock and got five skips. It is a lot of fun and I would suggest that anyone interested in it should try it.



Lacrosse

By: Dylan Leger

For this year's lacrosse season, I am looking forward to getting in the goal again. I am also looking forward to seeing all of the new players excel this year on the field. I am working hard to help them build their catching and throwing skills. We have a lot of new players, but I am glad that we have some guys who have played in the past. I hope that we win at least four games, if not all of them. As goalie, my plan for the season is to stop at least 60 shots on the goal. In one game, you will have 10 to 15 shots. The attack and midfielders will hopefully score a lot of goals. I am hoping that all of the players will get at least one goal this season.



Baseball

By: Kyle Salyer

This is my first year at FUMA and I decided to try out for the baseball team. The coaches are CPT Cox and LTC Washington. I was looking forward to tryouts and was willing to give it my all during tryouts. On the first day of tryouts, we ran about two and a half miles and did about 350 crunches. This is a good way to show endurance, and I did my best to keep up and not give up. We did the same thing for the first few days until one day CPT Cox told us to bring our gloves to practice. I was excited because I finally got to show my baseball skills. For the next week and a half, we did team strengthening drills, fielding and hitting drills. We still give the coaches a few laps around the fields at the end of practice, but now we are learning new techniques. They have taught me how to take a lead off of a base and to make sure you look at the pitcher rather than the batter when you are on base. I think that this is going to be a really good team and a great season.



Trips

Wilderness Survival



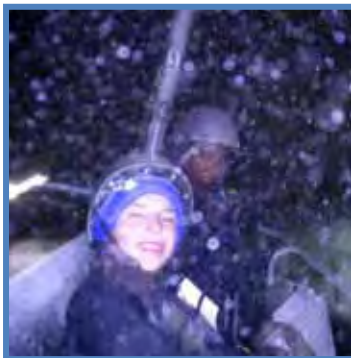
During the weekend of February 20-22, CPT Garriss and five cadets spent three days in the George Washington National Forest in West Virginia. Their mission was wilderness survival. During the weekend they learned how to put together a pack, put up a tent, make a fire and cook with it, as well as how to make their own rigging to go rock climbing. The cadets used these and many other newly acquired skills during the weekend to learn not only how to survive in the wilderness, but also how to work as a team.



Ski Trips

The Middle School took four ski trips to Wintergreen Ski Resort this year. The skiers ranged from expert to beginner, but all seemed to enjoy their time out on the slopes. The hit of the season, for most of the cadets, were the terrain trails. These trails have obstacles set up for them to jump and slide across for both skiers and snowboarders.

Ski Trips



Happenings Around Campus

Marines Visit FUMA



Marines Visit FUMA

By: Tyler West
In January, Fork Union was visited by the Marines. On that particular Saturday it was very cold, in the teens, but the Marines came out anyway and brought four helicopters with them. One of the helicopters was an Osprey. Everyone thought that the Osprey was awesome because it was so big and it was blowing everything out of its path when it landed and took off. They also brought an array of guns that they laid out for us to handle. Cadets were putting on gear, climbing in and out of helicopters, and handling a variety of guns. Although it was freezing cold, everyone still managed to have a great time!

SCUBA classes begin

SUPER BOWL PARTY

By: Colin Ventrella
This year, CPT Garriss combined the Upper and Middle School to teach us how to Scuba Dive. We are learning how to breathe through a regulator, relax and swim. At the same time we learn how to maintain natural buoyancy all while enjoying the sights of the aquatic life. We work every Sunday from 1 o'clock until whenever we are finished with our Scuba homework. Scuba is more than just swimming underwater with a tank of air. Scuba involves a bunch of homework, quizzes, and tests. If you can sacrifice an hour to completely dedicate to your Scuba homework, then this might be right for you.



Valentine's Day Dance



BOY SCOUT TROOP 125



Calling all Cadets...

Fork Union is proud to have reinstated Boy Scout Troop 125. FUMA has been without a Boy Scout troop for some time, but, under the direction of LTC Giszack and Susan Ferguson, the Boy Scout troop has been revived. All cadets in good standing from grades 6-12 are invited to attend meetings on Tuesday nights at 6pm in the Moretz Science building. The troop currently consists of twenty-five cadets but is always welcoming more. If interested, please attend a meeting or contact LTC Giszack: giszackt@fuma.org.

Scout Law

A Scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly,
courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty,
brave, clean, and reverent.

Scout Oath

On my honor I will do my best
To do my duty to God and my country
and to obey the Scout Law;
To help other people at all times;
To keep myself physically strong,
mentally awake, and morally straight.

Happy Birthday To You!



February

2: Alec Battin
6: Roman Jones
8: Donte Carter
16: Brandon Welch
17: Nicholas Borgstedte
23: Brad Chiovaro

March

2: Joe McManus
6: Beau Carter
11: Juan Pigurina
17: Alexander Wandell
17: Charlie Carter
23: Sergio Gonzalez

April

2: Quinton Jackson
9: Faraz Khan
13: Carter Hammond
13: Josh Sprouse
21: Christopher Boland
21: Spencer Ragsdale
25: Colin Brewer
27: Baily Crockett
27: Folabi Akanbi



Fork Union Military Academy
Middle School
Fork Union, VA 23055