

# THE PARRIS ISLAND BOOT



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See Lima, Papa companies' graduates

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## Papa Company's Crucible no day at beach

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Photo by Lance Cpl. Octavia Davis

Rct. Gabrielle Zehr, 19, of Platoon 4028, crawls through sand during an event of the Crucible at the combat training area on Parris Island on Sept. 28. The recruits are required to use the skills they have learned throughout training to complete the Crucible and earn their titles as U.S. Marines. Zehr, who is a native of Imperial, Mo., is scheduled to graduate with her fellow recruits today.



Photo by Lance Cpl. Octavia Davis

Rct. Deshai Butler, 19, of Platoon 3073, Lima Company, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, takes advice from his range coach, Cpl. Erik Walker, during a practice rifle qualification on Parris Island's Starlite Range on Aug. 29. Butler spent six weeks in the Medical Rehabilitation Platoon recovering from stress fractures in both his legs. He went back to training afterward and is now scheduled to graduate with his new company today.

### Recruit breaks his legs, but not his spirit

Lance Cpl. Octavia Davis  
Staff Writer

A Marine scheduled to graduate today from Lima Company, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, overcame injuries while on Parris Island to earn the title U.S. Marine.

Pvt. Deshai Butler, 19, of Platoon 3073, pushed through the pain of two fractured legs as he strove to become a Marine – a title he has wanted since he was 14 years old.

“Before I got here, I was told that I need to push myself to a higher limit,” said Butler, a na-

tive of Columbus, Ohio. Butler said he tried his hardest to put out maximum effort at all times in training, screaming and running as best as he could. He then noticed severe pain in his legs after the first few weeks of training.

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## RECRUIT BEATS CANCER

Lance Cpl. Tyler Reiriz  
Staff Writer

Many recruits face personal obstacles they must overcome to complete their training on Parris Island.

Pfc. Tyler W. Heintz of Platoon 3072, Lima Company, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, faced a challenge more difficult than most.

Heintz, a 20-year-old native of West Chester, Ohio, said he was about halfway through training when he was diagnosed with Hodgkin lymphoma, a type of cancer

that spreads from the lymph nodes and attacks the immune system.

The disease remained undetected until Heintz went to the medical clinic for a pulled muscle. When he mentioned that he felt like he had an upper respiratory infection, the corpsmen suspected he may have had bronchitis and decided to order a chest X-ray in early January. The tests came back showing signs of cancer, and further testing revealed Heintz had Hodgkin lymphoma. He left Parris Island to receive treatment Jan. 22.

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Photo by Lance Cpl. Tyler Reiriz

Rct. Tyler W. Heintz of Platoon 3072, Lima Company, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, crouches as he walks through a cement cylinder while navigating a day movement course on Parris Island on Sept. 14. Heintz, 20, a native of West Chester, Ohio, left training Jan. 22 when he was diagnosed with Hodgkin lymphoma, but returned to training after beating the disease. He is scheduled to graduate today.

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Lima Company splashes through swim qualifications

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# Lima & Papa Companies' Graduates

## Lima Company Honor Graduates

**Pfc. J. C. Moxley**, Marietta, Ga.  
Platoon 3072, Moxley was recruited by Sgt. Buchana and trained by Sgt. Baisden

**Pfc. J. B. Whitcomb**, Fort Myers, Fla.  
Platoon 3074, Whitcomb was recruited by Sgt. Giannetti and trained by Staff Sgt. Padilla

**Pfc. P. T. McGlumphy**, Inman, S.C.  
Platoon 3077, McGlumphy was recruited by Sgt. Fothergill and trained by Sgt. Buckom

**Pfc. J. C. Chavez**, Tampa, Fla.  
Platoon 3073, Chavez was recruited by Sgt. Gomez and trained by Staff Sgt. Keffer

**Pfc. T. M. Bynum**, Hazel Green, Ala.  
Platoon 3076, Bynum was recruited by Sgt. Davis and trained by Sgt. McMillan

**Pfc. Z. R. Shultis**, Port Murray, N.J.  
Platoon 3078, Shultis was recruited by Sgt. Odenbrett and trained by Staff Sgt. Verschage

## Papa Company Honor Graduates

**Pfc. A. M. Vidal**, Hollywood, Fla.  
Platoon 4028, Vidal was recruited by Sgt. Burgess and trained by Staff Sgt. Zamora

**Pfc. R. J. Hernandez**, Stockton, Calif.  
Platoon 4029, Hernandez was recruited by Staff Sgt. Taylor and trained by Staff Sgt. Wassink

### Platoon 3072

Pfc. C. A. Alonso, Pvt. J. A. Ballenger, Pvt. K. R. Banks, Pfc. C. C. Barringer, Pvt. A. T. Baunach, Pfc. H. D. Bell, Pvt. H. A. Bowen, Pvt. B. S. Brent, Pvt. J. X. Bronosky, Pfc. J. M. Brown, Pfc. J. A. Buckner, Pvt. S. Castro-Gomez, Pfc. A. D. Chambers, Pvt. C. L. Chase, Pvt. D. S. Combs, Pvt. R. H. Combs, Pvt. K. M. Connor, Pfc. G. I. Correa-Diaz, Pvt. T. M. Daugherty, Pfc. D. X. Dellaperuta, Pvt. G. Desmond, Pvt. D. A. Duncan, Pfc. K. B. Eskins, Pvt. J. B. Farmer, Pvt. K. D. Ferguson, Pvt. D. J. Fields, Pfc. I. E. Fowler, Pfc. T. R. Frederick, Pfc. B. W. Gaddis, Pfc. D. L. Gatz, Pfc. K. A. Gonzalez, Pfc. J. L. Hargis, Pvt. F. T. Harp, Pfc. T. W. Heintz, Pvt. B. J. Horak, Pvt. M. G. Howard, Pvt. M. E. Hunt Jr., Pfc. D. R. Hunt, Pfc. T. J. Johnson, Pfc. K. B. Justice, Pvt. B. L. Keen, Pfc. S. T. Keene, Pvt. B. S. Koritko, Pvt. T. J. Krier, Pvt. R. J. Kyle, Pvt. D. J. Leath, Pfc. M. L. Lewis Jr., Pvt. J. A. Litchfield, Pvt. J. T. Lucero, Pvt. S. J. Mann, Pfc. B. D. Martincic, Pvt. M. A. Massas, Pvt. M. D. McMeans, Pfc. J. C. Medina, Pvt. C. A. Midkiff, Pvt. M. C. Miller, Pfc. O. M. Mims, Pfc. J. C. Moxley, Pvt. D. A. Mulker, Pvt. K. C. Murphy, Pvt. P. R. Newby, Pvt. J. C. Powers IV, Pfc. P. A. Pruitt, Pvt. R. A. Purveya II, Pvt. C. R. Rinn, Pvt. C. B. Robertson, Pvt. C. K. Roozbehi, Pfc. B. E. Salazar, Pvt. C. M. Saxon, Pvt. S. M. Scovill, Pfc. G. S. Sickich, Pvt. F. A. Soto, Pfc. W. K. Spiggle, Pfc. B. M. Stephen, Pvt. S. W. Strickland, Pfc. J. A. Sweat, Pfc. T. N. Sweeney, Pfc. T. M. Taylor, Pfc. B. L. Thacker, Pfc. R. Thomas Jr., Pfc. R. L. Tyler, Pvt. A. M. Vojtecky, Pvt. C. P. Walters, Pfc. R. G. Wenzel, Pvt. C. W. Wheeler, Pvt. A. N. Whitlock, Pvt. J. L. Whitney, Pvt. J. L. Whitworth, Pfc. B. K. Wightman, Pvt. B. M. Wilbanks, Pvt. T. L. Wood, Pfc. J. K. Worthington, Pvt. R. A. Young

### Platoon 3073

Pfc. P. D. Allen, Pvt. X. M. Anderson, Pfc. D. M. Andrews, Pvt. C. D. Aubin, Pfc. P. J. Batson, Pvt. D. B. Blue, Pvt. R. J. Boerst, Pfc. P. D. Booker, Pfc. C. E. Borecki, Pfc. S. G. Boyd, Pfc. K. E. Bray, Pvt. D. M. Brooks, Pfc. J. L. Buchin, Pvt. D. J. Butler, Pvt. D. L. Butler, Pfc. L. T. Capps, Pfc. K. A. Carrion, Pvt. C. S. Catusus, Pvt. M. W. Cedarstaff, Pvt. C. B. Celeste, Pfc. J. C. Chavez, Pfc. R. K. Chism, Pvt. B. L. Clark, Pvt. D. R. Conners, Pvt. A. M. Costlow, Pvt. D. J. Coursen, Pvt. J. D. Cunningham, Pvt. K. C. Cushman, Pvt. J. A. Cutler, Pvt. R. S. Cuykendall, Pfc. J. J. Douglas, Pvt. Z. J. Downing, Pvt. M. W. Dunaway, Pvt. J. T. Dwyer, Pvt. C. E. Flatt III, Pfc. A. J. Fredley, Pfc. Z. A. Fry, Pfc. J. Gale, Pvt. A. H. Gamache, Pvt. D. Gonzales, Pvt. D. A. Harper Jr., Pvt. A. J. Hile, Pvt. H. M. Hirsch, Pfc. D. R. Hoppe, Pvt. J. D. Horn, Pvt. D. G. Hottinger Jr., Pfc. Y. N. Hughes, Pfc. D. M. Johnson, Pfc. S. J. Joslyn, Pfc. W. J. Kerestes, Pvt. Z. B. Kerr, Pvt. N. L. King, Pfc. K. N. Lambert, Pvt. A. I. Lee, Pfc. D. S. Lemay, Pvt. Z. Leonard, Pvt. D. A. Lloyd, Pfc. S. G. Mallory, Pvt. J. M. Martino, Pfc. M. A. McDaniel, Pvt. W. Morales, Pfc. C. Nichols, Pvt. J. S. Oden, Pfc. D. Ortiz, Pvt. J. C. Paredes-Lopez, Pvt. B. D. Parker, Pfc. K. Perez, Pfc. L. L. Pittman, Pfc. A. M. Powell, Pvt. E. M. Pratt, Pvt. K. T. Pulone, Pfc. N. J. Reimer, Pfc. N. O. Rivera, Pfc. J. J. Robertson, Pfc. D. K. Sanford, Pvt. C. T. Showalter, Pvt. C. T. Smith Jr., Pvt. A. L. Smith, Pvt. C. J. Smith, Pfc. T. J. Smith, Pfc. K. C. Sobota, Pvt. S. Soni, Pfc. B. S. Stanley, Pvt. A. N. Stevens, Pfc. M. T. Stonebraker, Pvt. J. M. Syms, Pvt. S. A. Tayner, Pfc. R. E. Tudela, Pfc. R. S. Wallace, Pfc. L. M. Walt, Pfc. M. B. Wilkerson, Pvt. T. R. Will Jr., Pvt. C. G. Williams, Pvt. M. D. Williams, Pfc. A. D. Workman, Pvt. Z. N. Zieger

### Platoon 3074

Pvt. E. C. Adams, Pvt. K. D. Addison, Pvt. P. D. Agacinski, Pfc. L. Alejandro, Pfc. L. J. Banning, Pfc. P. J. Bavaro, Pfc. C. W. Blasius, Pvt. V. R. Brady, Pvt. G. L. Bryant Jr., Pfc. S. M. Bryla, Pfc. M. B. Burke, Pvt. C. J. Burns, Pfc. J. R. Carlone, Pvt. P. A. Centeno, Pvt. J. D. Close, Pvt. S. G. Concelman, Pvt. J. L. Danison, Pvt. D. A. Danley, Pfc. D. M. Dare, Pvt. C. J. Davis, Pvt. J. C. Difante, Pvt. R. W. Digiacomio, Pfc. B. G. Domagalski, Pvt. J. R. Donley, Pvt. M. J. Douglas, Pvt. D. Dubose, Pfc. S. A. Edmondson, Pvt. N. A. Ellegood, Pvt. W. M. Fernandez, Pfc. C. Ferreira, Pvt. J. W. Fisher, Pfc. E. J. Folston, Pfc. T. J. Forster, Pvt. A. N. Foster, Pfc. D. Q. Fulcher, Pfc. Z. W. Griffin, Pfc. M. A. Grumet, Pfc. A. R. Hastings, Pfc. D. D. Herrera, Pvt. B. G. Hesford, Pfc. D. A. Hevey, Pvt. J. W. Hoffner, Pfc. J. D. Houck, Pvt. T. E. Huether, Pfc. C. K. Johnson, Pvt. S. T. Jones, Pvt. D. R. Kays, Pfc. M. J. Knight, Pvt. D. J. Koebler, Pvt. K. P. Kolenda, Pvt. J. G. Linton, Pvt. E. S. Ludlow, Pfc. R. Luque, Pfc. S. R. Martin, Pvt. Z. L. Martin, Pvt. K. A. McPherson, Pfc. J. L. Meinhardt, Pfc. H. E. Mendoza, Pvt. Z. W. Montgomery, Pfc. B. D. Moore, Pvt. B. Murray, Pvt. J. A. Navarro-Reyes, Pfc. M. G. Patel, Pfc. T. D. Payne, Pvt. S. T. Pearson-Kinsey, Pfc. I. T. Peckham, Pfc. A. C. Peduzzi, Pvt. V. A. Perry, Pfc. M. Pinnick III, Pfc. J. W. Pritchett, Pvt. M. B. Pruetz, Pvt. M. C. Roberson, Pvt. M. R. Robtoy, Pfc. A. A. Ruble, Pfc. I. C. Rush, Pfc. A. Santana Jr., Pvt. M. H. Sartori, Pfc. L. J. Schaefer, Pvt. J. L. Schettler, Pvt. A. Schwenker, Pvt. A. J. Shelby, Pvt. E. A. Slageter, Pvt. M. Sosa, Pfc. B. C. Spaulding, Pfc. C. M. Stoffel, Pvt. D. E. Sutton, Pvt. J. Torres, Pvt. T. N. Tutton, Pvt. D. R. VanAlstyne, Pvt. A. M. Warren, Pvt. D. A. West, Pfc. J. B. Whitcomb, Pfc. S. L. White, Pfc. K. M. Wilson

### Platoon 3076

Pvt. S. W. Alfaro, Pvt. A. G. Amezquita, Pfc. S. A. Anderson, Pvt. M. E. Annis, Pfc. A. Antic, Pvt. J. M. Aravanis, Pvt. M. O. Arguetachacon, Pvt. K. D. Baker, Pvt. B. K. Bauserman, Pvt. B. A. Belisario, Pvt. S. R. Bhatti, Pvt. M. J. Bosche, Pvt. D. V. Bozzi, Pfc. X. M. Brooks, Pfc. T. M. Bynum, Pvt. I. M. Campbell, Pvt. J. J. Carmona, Pvt. A. W. Carpenter, Pvt. J. S. Cawley, Pvt. C. J. Cericola, Pvt. B. M. Chalmers, Pvt. R. Colon, Pfc. T. W. Conrad, Pfc. C. R. Crowley, Pvt. J. M. Davis, Pfc. B. M. Dayton, Pvt. R. M. Dones, Pvt. A. C. Edwards, Pvt. M. A. Etlinger, Pfc. G. Galindo, Pvt. C. E. Galloway, Pfc. L. F. Giralde III, Pvt. K. G. Gorski, Pvt. R. W. Guffey, Pfc. S. G. Gulette, Pvt. O. Guzman, Pvt. W. Hall, Pvt. J. J. Han, Pvt. J. T. Hanner, Pvt. A. M. Hansen, Pvt. J. Harvell Jr., Pvt. J. E. Hintz, Pvt. M. Ho, Pfc. J. R. Hollon, Pvt. R. T. Humphreys, Pfc. B. S. Isselbacher, Pvt. K. J. Kelly, Pfc. B. L. Kennedy, Pfc. L. W. Koren, Pfc. C. R. Kuhns, Pvt. B. M. Lawson, Pvt. T. Z. Liburd, Pvt. N. D. Majors, Pvt. N. W. Malave, Pvt. R. Marte, Pfc. T. M. Martin, Pvt. M. D. Milner, Pfc. G. K. Moncier, Pfc. G. Morales-Martinez, Pfc. R. J. Morse, Pvt. P. J. Moser, Pvt. M. A. Nunez, Pfc. B. N. Offutt, Pfc. N. F. Peccerelli, Pvt. C. Pepi, Pvt. G. A. Perez, Pvt. S. N. Picciurro, Pvt. W. A. Powell III, Pfc. J. A. Przybylo, Pfc. V. W. Quinzo, Pvt. M. Ramos, Pvt. R. J. Raymond, Pvt. D. L. Reavers, Pfc. P. J. Reed, Pvt. C. A. Reid, Pvt. K. Ricker, Pvt. M. J. Rutherford, Pvt. J. C. Saravia, Pfc. A. H. Schmittou, Pfc. K. L. Schneider, Pvt. T. S. Simpson, Pvt. A. M. Stanton, Pvt. T. M. St. Cyr, Pfc. M. A. Suttan, Pfc. T. H. Tanksley, Pfc. J. L. Truong, Pvt. S. M. Turner, Pfc. E. O. Urzuatoborga, Pvt. J. A. Votta, Pvt. A. C. Wenner, Pfc. J. F. White, Pvt. B. A. Womble, Pvt. A. P. Wucher, Pfc. F. L. Zuberer

### Platoon 3077

Pvt. E. D. Aikins, Pfc. D. D. Alexander, Pvt. W. Allen, Pfc. K. E. Arnold Jr., Pfc. C. A. Atwood, Pvt. C. Bartlett, Pfc. M. J. Bleacher, Pfc. C. A. Bonaccolla, Pvt. M. F. Brennan, Pvt. A. S. Brofford, Pvt. D. L. Buell III, Pvt. C. Buzzell, Pvt. D. E. Byerly Jr., Pfc. T. A. Cahill, Pvt. J. S. Case, Pfc. J. R. Chavira-Diaz, Pvt. D. C. Chesney II, Pvt. T. A. Clapacs, Pfc. M. J. Coleman, Pfc. D. A. Cordner, Pvt. G. R. Cournoyer Jr., Pfc. K. J. Cutler, Pvt. N. P. Davis, Pfc. K. R. Dembowski, Pfc. S. T. Demers, Pfc. M. D. Diaz, Pvt. A. C. Dulaney, Pvt. E. C. Esparza III, Pvt. M. O. Farley, Pvt. K. S. Francis, Pfc. C. D. French, Pfc. T. Gagnon, Pfc. C. A. Gray, Pfc. J. T. Griffin, Pfc. S. Guarino, Pfc. T. S. Hanney, Pvt. D. J. Hornbeck, Pvt. C. J. Hulet, Pfc. K. Jaggernath, Pvt. C. L. Jewett, Pfc. J. C. Johnson, Pfc. C. J. Josher, Pfc. S. J. Karas, Pvt. A. J. Kennedy, Pvt. S. R. Kenny, Pvt. B. J. Kimrey, Pvt. C. S. Lall, Pvt. J. A. Lamanna, Pfc. A. J. Lotti, Pvt. A. A. Martin, Pvt. M. N. Martinez, Pvt. S. Masse, Pfc. S. P. Mastropole, Pfc. T. M. McElroy, Pvt. J. I. McFaddin, Pfc. J. McFarland, Pfc. P. T. McGlumphy, Pfc. B. W. McKane, Pvt. D. McLinden, Pvt. E. D. McPhearson II, Pfc. C. J. Melnyk, Pvt. B. D. Minnick, Pvt. J. A. Moore, Pvt. M. P. Moran, Pvt. J. A. Mousseau, Pfc. T. W. Nelson Jr., Pvt. G. S. Nelson, Pfc. B. J. Nguyen, Pvt. M. T. Ortman, Pvt. J. P. Parrow, Pfc. L. R. Perez Jr., Pfc. D. S. Philip, Pfc. K. E. Reed, Pvt. K. Reid, Pvt. M. V. Richardson Jr., Pfc. S. D. Riggan, Pvt. P. L. Ritchie, Pfc. J. T. Russell, Pvt. M. A. Sanchez, Pfc. T. A. Scheatzle, Pfc. A. C. Scott, Pvt. D. B. Sims, Pfc. J. G. Smartt, Pvt. M. R. Steele, Pfc. R. K. Swann Jr., Pvt. J. J. Vance, Pvt. J. Vazquez, Pfc. S. C. Vieira, Pvt. L. Q. Walker, Pvt. J. A. Watson, Pfc. T. S. Wehby, Pfc. T. W. Wiedenhaefer, Pfc. J. D. Workman, Pvt. B. W. Wozniak, Pvt. Y. Xiao, Pfc. M. L. Zimkiewicz

### Platoon 3078

Pfc. V. M. Acosta, Pvt. A. M. Alejandro, Pfc. K. E. Amos, Pvt. J. S. Bailey, Pfc. A. T. Baker, Pvt. L. C. Beverly, Pvt. W. J. Bolton, Pfc. S. F. Borden, Pvt. A. J. Bowers, Pvt. K. J. Breaux, Pfc. C. A. Burke, Pfc. J. B. Carter, Pvt. K. Castro, Pvt. S. D. Chapman, Pvt. Z. C. Cue, Pvt. C. A. Dilworth, Pfc. N. Dumar, Pvt. J. B. Durboraw, Pfc. J. G. Fleuriet, Pfc. D. A. Fontenot, Pfc. M. R. Forman, Pvt. C. M. Fox, Pvt. R. M. Francis, Pfc. Z. W. Friggle, Pfc. A. J. Fucito, Pvt. G. E. Gray, Pvt. K. A. Griffin, Pvt. J. L. Guidry, Pfc. D. C. Harris, Pvt. P. Harrison, Pvt. J. B. Harwood, Pfc. T. L. Hickman, Pfc. R. T. Hill, Pvt. J. A. Hoffman, Pvt. T. K. Holder, Pfc. N. J. Holton Jr., Pfc. D. P. Hoover, Pfc. J. M. House, Pvt. F. T. Hyler, Pfc. R. W. Jensen, Pvt. B. Jimenez, Pvt. J. P. Jimenez, Pvt. J. H. Jones, Pvt. J. M. Kennedy, Pvt. A. T. Landolfi, Pvt. V. N. Librettie, Pvt. C. W. Long, Pvt. O. D. Love, Pvt. D. L. Lupperger, Pfc. J. T. Lynskey, Pvt. N. J. Marcinko, Pfc. J. J. Marshall, Pfc. A. M. Martinez, Pvt. L. M. Maslach, Pvt. A. Mathew, Pfc. C. D. McDougal, Pfc. R. L. Melendez, Pfc. S. A. Meyer, Pvt. J. R. Mitchell, Pfc. N. A. Morgan, Pfc. Q. M. Morgan, Pvt. L. J. Mudel, Pvt. L. C. Naquin, Pfc. J. C. Ostia, Pfc. N. L. Paulchel, Pvt. J. K. Reece, Pvt. G. M. Reynolds, Pvt. D. W. Reynolds-Levy, Pvt. C. D. Richardson, Pfc. M. Rodriguez, Pvt. J. A. Rodriguez, Pfc. J. J. Rodriguez, Pvt. J. D. Rodriguez-Reyes, Pfc. J. I. Ruiz, Pvt. B. E. Salvatore III, Pvt. A. S. Schermerhorn, Pfc. N. D. Seale, Pfc. K. M. Sherrod, Pfc. Z. R. Shultis, Pfc. A. T. Simon, Pvt. D. M. Smith, Pvt. J. J. Snyder, Pfc. J. Tancredi, Pvt. J. A. Thatcher, Pfc. J. A. Thompson, Pvt. J. R. Trajkovski, Pvt. D. B. Upchurch, Pfc. M. A. Valenzuela, Pvt. A. J. Vall, Pvt. R. S. Velasco, Pvt. W. J. Villanueva, Pvt. M. D. Walker, Pvt. R. W. White, Pfc. C. Wright, Pvt. J. P. Wurtz

### Platoon 4028

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### Platoon 4029

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## Lima suits up for training

**Lance Cpl. Caitlin Maluda**  
Staff Writer

The recruits of Lima Company, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, tested their inner warrior during pugil sticks training at Parris Island on July 23.

Recruits come to training with different backgrounds, some who have been in a fight and some who haven't yet.

Staff Sgt. Carl Farmer, a martial arts instructor at Leatherneck Square, said that it is easy to tell recruits who have never fought.

"They are a little more timid than the other recruits," said Farmer. "Some recruits will come in aggressive, ready to apply the techniques, and some come in there and they're shy. They tend to back up instead of attack."

According to Farmer, a 28-year-old from Gary, Ind., pugil sticks gives recruits a general concept of how to apply bayonet techniques in a combat situation. If they are attacked, they know how

to get out of a dangerous situation, instead of just standing there and freezing.

Some recruits sat nervously as they watched the fighting around them. Even dressed in a protective flak jacket, helmet, padded gloves, groin protector and mouth piece, the fighting could get intense.

It was an adrenaline rush for Pvt. Javahn Bailey, Platoon 3078, who said he had never been in a fight before. The thought of rushing into the ring to willingly endure the attacks was a little daunting.

"My mindset was to hit them with a straight thrust and knock the helmet off his head," said Bailey, a 21-year-old from Atlantic City, N.J.

For someone who had never been in a fight, watching the recruits attack each other with intense blows that sometimes left one opponent on the ground was intimidating.

"I just kept thinking I needed to knock the helmet off," Bailey said.

Recruits aren't just suit-

ed up and thrown into the ring together. Before they begin, instructors go over what is expected of them during the fight.

Instructors explain to recruits what is expected of them during the pugil stick matches, said Farmer. They are told what techniques the instructors are looking for and shown how to perform the techniques properly and safely.

"Waiting in line, the excitement is building," said Pfc. Cody Josher, Platoon 3077. "The anticipation of the fight, you've just got a lot of energy, and you're ready to explode. You just have to go in there as confident as possible."

The 23-year-old from Milltown, N.J., said he had never been put in a situation like pugil sticks fighting before. He was happy to be given the opportunity to test himself in such a pressured situation.

This training experience opened the eyes of Bailey who thought that during a fight he would only have to pay attention to the moves he himself wanted to make.

"It taught me to pay

more attention to my opponent rather than trying to figure out what I'm going to do," said Bailey. "If I don't pay attention to what he is going to do, I'm going to get knocked out."

During training, recruits are put through stressful situations they may face in combat.

"You never know when someone is going to randomly come in your face and try to attack you, try to kill you," said Farmer. "You never know when someone wants to bring bodily harm to you. We teach them to apply these techniques to help them get out of these situations."

The recruits were given the chance to figure out if they would stand and fight or freeze. Some found the confidence in themselves to hold their own when they thought they could not. As they came one step closer to graduating recruit training Oct. 5, Lima Company recruits battled not only each other, but the need for confidence in themselves.

Rct. Matthew Annis, of Platoon 3076, Lima Company, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, gets suited up in preparation to enter the pugil sticks ring at Leatherneck Square on Parris Island on July 23. Recruits do not enter the ring unless all their gear is securely fastened. Lima Company is scheduled to graduate today.



Photos by Lance Cpl. Caitlin Maluda

Recruits of Lima Company, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, test their knowledge of bayonet techniques during pugil sticks training at Leatherneck Square on Parris Island on July 23. Lima Company is scheduled to graduate today.

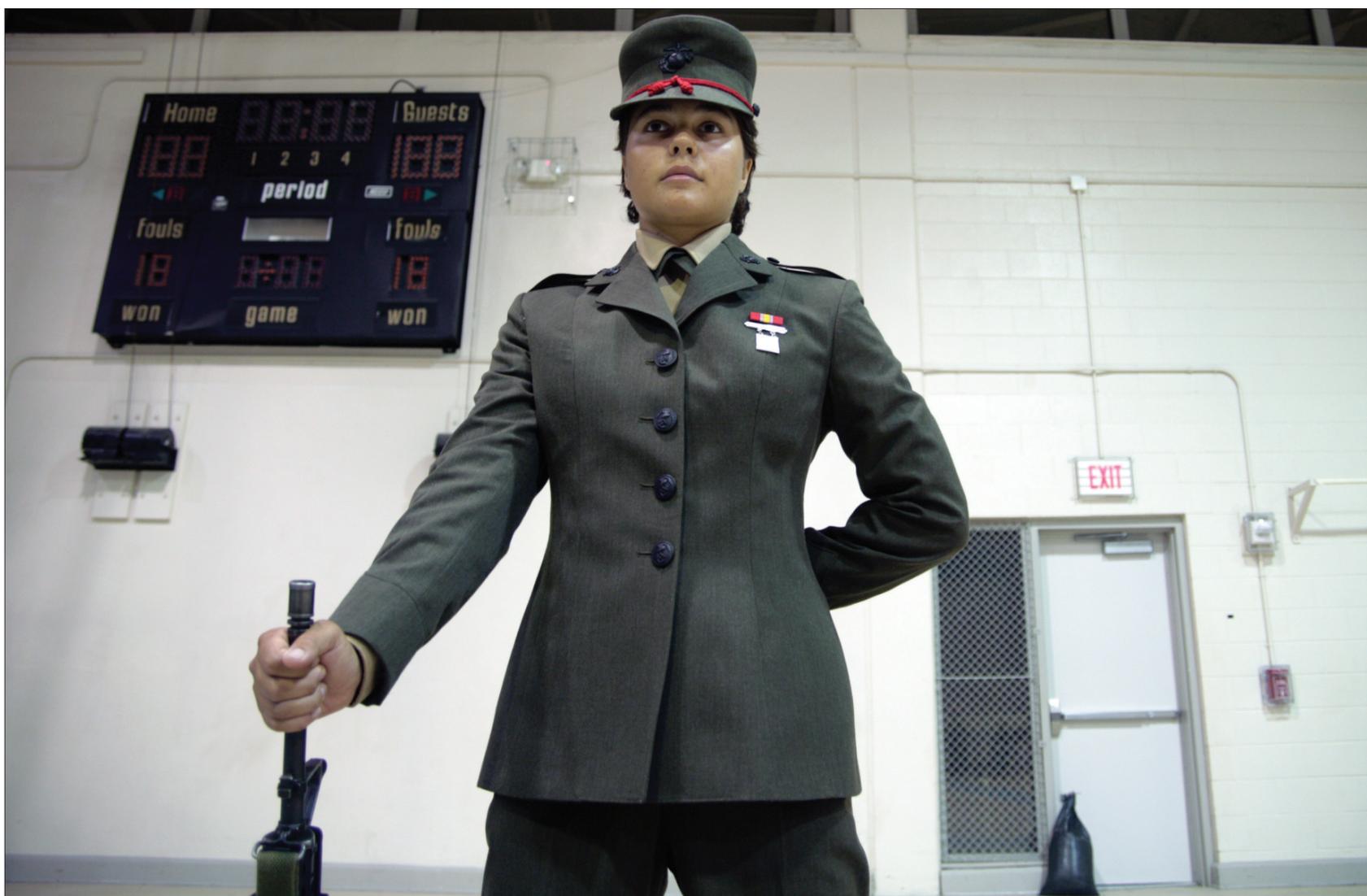


Photo by Lance Cpl. David Bessey

Pvt. Margarita Palli, 19, of Platoon 4029, Papa Company, 4th Recruit Training Battalion, stands at the position of parade rest during the battalion commander's inspection at the 4th Recruit Training Battalion gymnasium on Parris Island on Oct. 2.

# From Russia with love

## Russian orphan moves to US, joins Corps to honor late twin sister

Lance Cpl.  
David Bessey  
Staff Writer

Pvt. Margarita Palli, 19, of Platoon 4029, Papa Company, 4th Recruit Training Battalion, was only 5 months old when she first arrived to an orphanage in Severodvinsk, Russia.

She had no recollection of her mother and her identical twin sister died when they were both babies.

Eight years later, her biological mother tracked her down at the orphanage after being released from prison.

"When I met my mother for the first time, I rejected her," Palli said. "I didn't accept her to be my mother."

It was the last time she heard or saw her biological mother, she said.

Palli was 13 when she was adopted by her parents in the United States.

"We were considering adopting a child and attended several events across New Hampshire where we met Margarita," said Kim Palli, Margarita's mother. "We learned that only about 5 percent of children over the age of 5 ever get adopted and we knew we had to adopt an older child."

The adoption process took approximately two years to complete.

Margarita Palli only knew how to speak approximately 10 words of English when she first arrived to her new home in Cumberland, Maine.

"When I attended seventh grade, I had to have everything translated for me. From what the teacher's said, the textbooks and even casual conversation with classmates," said Margarita Palli.

Margarita Palli is capable of communicating very fluent-

ly in her second language because of her dedication and perseverance to learn English. When she entered eighth grade she was at the top of her English class, she said.

"I had a teacher who was Russian who spent three hours a day with me to help teach me English," Margarita Palli said. "I learned seven grades of English in less than a year."

Margarita Palli moved out of her adoptive parents' house during the summer of her senior year in high school.

She had earned several scholarships to many colleges and was unsure what school she wanted to attend. The cost for school was still too high for her, she said.

Margarita Palli wasn't clear what she wanted to do or where her life was going to go.

One night she was surfing the web when a Marine Corps commercial played. She was immediately captured by the visuals and the challenge offered to earn the Eagle, Globe and Anchor.

"At the end of the commercial it said 'Call right now or you never will,' so I called right there," said Margarita Palli. "I was surprised that a recruiter actually picked up at 10 p.m."

In just a few days, Margarita Palli went through the enlistment process and swore the oath of enlistment into the Delayed Entry Program.

"Joining the Marine Corps was a journey for me to find out why she [Margarita's twin] died and I didn't. I see her as a guardian angel and I joined to be a protector, to be like her," she said. "I've always felt as if I've been living for two people."

The reactions to her enlisting were very negative, she said.

"People were telling me that I'm too smart for the Marine Corps, and that I should go to college," said Margarita Palli.

If the negative feedback from her peers wasn't enough, Margarita Palli did not get any more of a welcome from her parents.

"When I first told them I said 'Mom I joined the Marine Corps and I'm leaving July 9,'" Margarita Palli said. "Then she said 'Yeah right.'"

Her parents didn't believe anything she told them and thought she was lying or trying to play some kind of joke.

However, after leaving for recruit training, her parents' minds had changed and they are now being very supportive of her, said Margarita Palli.

Margarita Palli's experiences in the orphanage have made her more humble from the lack of material items and the mistreatment she withstood, she said.

From those experiences she drew the strength to finish recruit training.

Her hardest lesson was learning to rely on others.

"Where I'm from I was forced to only rely on myself," Margarita Palli said. "Now I have learned that it's OK to ask for help."

Margarita Palli will train to be a legal administrator in the Marine Corps after she graduates recruit training.

Margarita Palli believes joining the Marine Corps was worth everything it took to finally graduate.

"I've always wondered why I was the one who survived, and by joining the United States Marine Corps it has given me a purpose," said Margarita Palli. "I've had several occasions where I woke up in the night and wondered where I was and what I was doing but now I know."

"Right now, I just take it day-by-day and I don't look to the future. I keep my mind on the present," Margarita Palli said.

"I know I made the right decision," Margarita Palli added. "The Marine Corps is a great foundation to your future."

### SPiRiT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"I didn't pay any attention to it," he said. "But then it just started getting worse and worse by the day."

Butler informed his senior drill instructor of his problem and was sent to the Parris Island medical clinic where he was checked by the medical staff. An X-ray and MRI revealed stress fractures in Butler's legs.

"When that happened, my confidence just dropped," Butler said. "I was lost for words."

Butler's journey to become a Marine paused on his 25th training day. He left his platoon and went to the Medical Rehabilitation Platoon, Special Training Company, due to his injuries.

Butler said he had built a family with the recruits of his original platoon in Bravo Company, 1st Recruit Training Battalion. Having to adjust to a new group of recruits in a new environment was a challenge for him.

"I got there, and I was

scared. I was by myself. I didn't know anybody," he said. "I just sat in the [restroom] for days and just cried."

Butler said he met another recruit in MRP who was spending several weeks there recovering from an injury as well. The recruit gave Butler words of encouragement, telling him to stay strong and that everything happens for a reason.

The words of Butler's fellow recruit "just clicked" and prompted a 180-degree turn for Butler's mindset. He grasped a more positive outlook on his situation and said that he remained "extremely happy" with his decision to take on the challenge of recruit training, even though he hurt himself in the process.

Butler spent about six weeks recovering and strengthening his broken legs. He gradually progressed through his healing process and was eventually able to run again.

After passing a fitness test to exit MRP, Butler was put back into training with Lima Company, pushing his total amount of days on the island to 130, compared to the usual 88. However, Butler is thankful for his experiences.

He said going to MRP boosted his mental strength and better prepared him for the rest of training.

"I'm grateful for going," he said.

Butler said that becoming a Marine is "as important as it is for me to breathe."

"All I have is the Marine Corps," Butler said. "I want to finish. I want to get off of Parris Island as a Marine. I want to be a part of the best of the best of the world."

Butler may have broken his legs, but his spirit proved strong and durable. His drive to become a U.S. Marine led him to his final day on Parris Island—graduation.



Photo by Lance Cpl. Octavia Davis

Rct. Deshai Butler, 19, of Platoon 3073, Lima Company, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, takes advice from his range coach during marksmanship training on Parris Island's Starlite Range on Aug. 29. Butler went back into training after spending six weeks with the Medical Rehabilitation Platoon recovering from stress fractures in both his legs. Butler is scheduled to graduate with his new company today.

## More of the Story

**CANCER**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"I really wanted to graduate," he said. "I had the goal to come back, but I didn't know if it would be possible."

He returned home to Ohio to undergo treatment for his illness and worked at a nearby Marine Reserve station where he remained medically suspended from training. Heintz spent six months in treatment, but never let his determination to become a Marine falter.

"I really wanted to be a Marine," he said. "Throughout my recovery, the Marine Corps helped with payments for my medical procedures and helped with all the paperwork required to get me back into boot camp."

Throughout his recovery, Heintz kept a training mindset, working to keep his body and mind prepared for his eventual return to Parris Island.

"I ran two or three physical fitness tests every week and hired a personal strength coach to make sure I stayed physically prepared for boot camp," he said. "I wanted to come back as soon as possible."

Heintz made a full recovery and returned to Parris Island on Aug. 22. He joined Platoon 3072, Lima Company, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, on Sept. 5 to resume his training where he left off six months earlier.

"It takes a lot of heart and

dedication to come back," said Sgt. Aaron W. Baisden, Heintz's new senior drill instructor. "He already tasted almost every bit of boot camp and has done it all essentially twice. I don't know a lot of people who could do that."

When Heintz resumed training, he said he knew the weeks ahead would be difficult, but he wouldn't let anything deter him from the goal he set out to achieve nearly a year ago.

"I have a lot invested in this," he said. "The fact that it has taken almost a year and I have fought so hard for it makes it worth that much more to me."

Heintz said he is looking forward to graduating today, when his mother, Maureen Heintz, who helped him through his recovery, will finally get to see him become a U.S. Marine.

Photo by Lance Cpl. Tyler Reiriz

**Rct. Tyler W. Heintz of Platoon 3072, Lima Company, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, sprints from cover during a combat training exercise on Parris Island on Sept. 14. Heintz had to leave training Jan. 22 to recover from Hodgkin lymphoma and returned to Parris Island Aug. 22 to continue his training and claim the title U.S. Marine. Lima Company is scheduled to graduate today.**

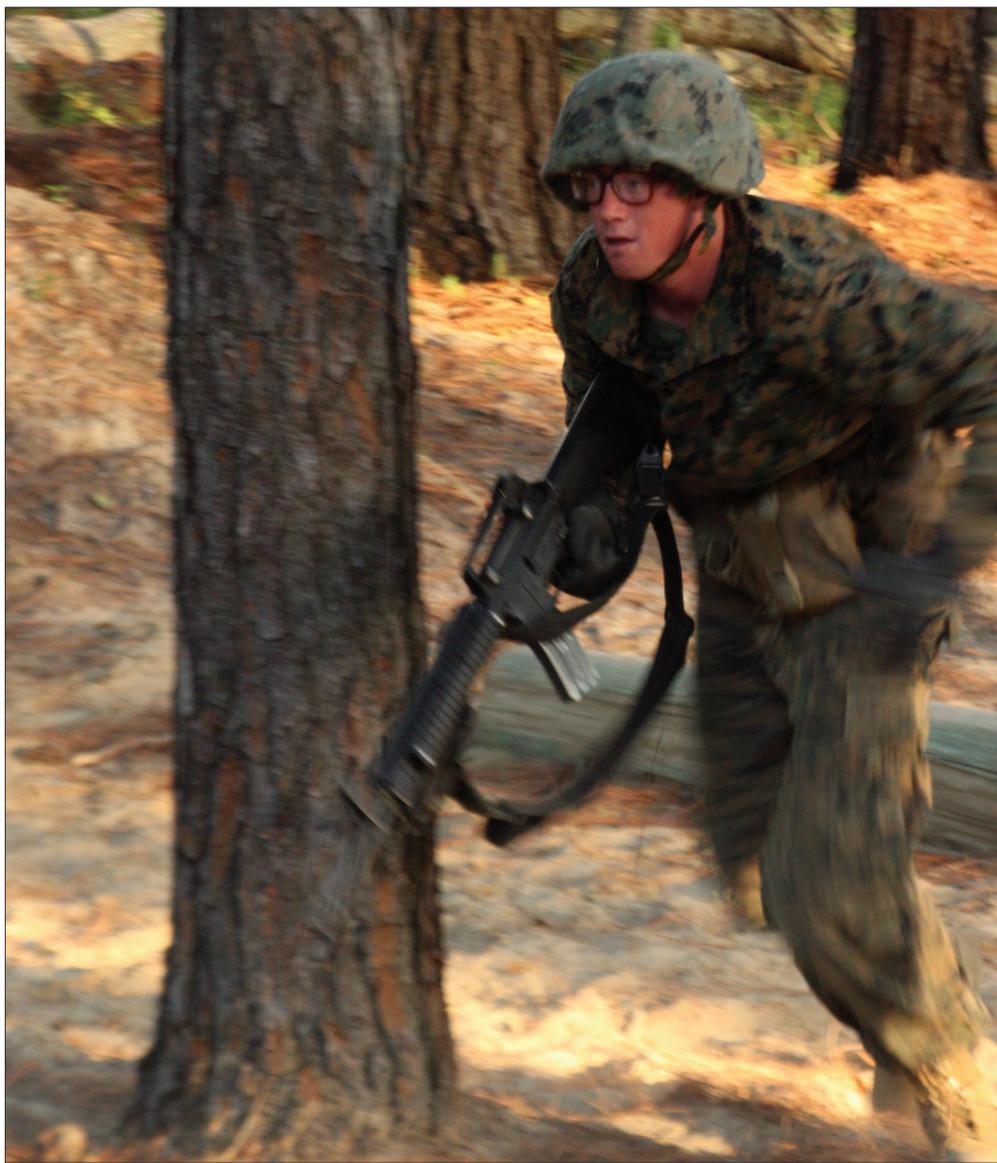


Photo by Lance Cpl. Caitlin Maluda

**Rct. McClain Forman, of Platoon 3078, Lima Company, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, gets out of the pool during swim qualifications at Parris Island on Aug. 6. Forman, a 20-year-old from New Orleans, is scheduled to graduate today.**

## Lima Company soaks up training

**Lance Cpl. Caitlin Maluda**  
Staff Writer

The recruits of Lima Company, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, learned valuable skills while at the recruit pool on Parris Island on Aug. 6, that may one day save their lives.

Swim qualifications take place during the fourth week of training, and is one of the requirements to graduate. During qualifications, recruits swim with and without gear, jump from a diving tower, tread water, and remove gear from their person while fully submerged.

According to Staff Sgt. Ryan Pippin, a swim instructor at the recruit pool, Marines are the most comfortable in the water out of all the ser-

vices.

Marines are not a land-oriented force, said Pippin, a 29-year-old native of Miami. One of the missions of the Corps is to get to a stage where every Marine is comfortable in the water. That's how it's supposed to be. That's what Marines are about.

When the recruits entered the water, they wore boots, a blouse and trousers. The everyday clothing became a challenge when submerged in the pool.

When the uniforms and boots became filled with water, it was a lot harder to swim, said 18-year-old Pvt. John Wurtz, of Platoon 3078 and a native of Abington, Pa.

Swimming in full uniform was a new experience for them that may one day save their



**Rct. John Votta, of Platoon 3076, Lima Company, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, swims toward the nearest ladder after jumping from the diving tower during swim qualifications at Parris Island on Aug. 6. Votta, a 17-year-old from Deer Park, N.Y., is scheduled to graduate today.**

lives.

Marines in Iraq and Afghanistan have crashed their light armored vehicles into rivers and drowned, said Pippin. Recruits must pass swim qualifica-

tions to acquire a more amphibious mindset.

Nine weeks ago, the recruits tested the waters during swim qualification. Today, they stand before the world as Marines.



Photo by Lance Cpl. Octavia Davis

Rct. Tori Marie, 18, helps lift Rct. Stephanie Hernandez, 23, over a bar during an event of the Crucible at the combat training area on Parris Island on Sept. 28. The recruits work together to conquer each event. Marie and Hernandez are both with Platoon 4029, Papa Company, 4th Recruit Training Battalion, and are scheduled to graduate training today.

## PAPA COMPANY'S TEST OF TEAMWORK: THE CRUCIBLE

Lance Cpl.  
Octavia Davis  
Staff Writer

The recruits of Papa Company, 4th Recruit Training Battalion, came together at Parris Island's combat training area and worked as a team during the time it mattered most — the Crucible.

The 54-hour event highlighted the recruits' teamwork and cohesion that was built during the 12 previous weeks. They had grown from individual recruits to a band of sisters that conquered the Crucible together Sept. 27-29.

It was chaotic when the recruits first arrived on Parris Island. Many of them were thrown into an environment full of unexpected events.

Recruits are often confused and nervous during the first several weeks of training, said Staff Sgt. Leslie Moree, 27, a drill instructor for Papa Company. They are typically more concerned with themselves rather than those around them.

However, Moree added

that recruits "are broken down and built back up as a team throughout the training cycle."

As the weeks went by, unity and teamwork took the place of any bickering and individuality among the recruits, said Pvt. Serenity Shaw, 18, of Platoon 4028 and a native of Raleigh, N.C. The recruits realized they needed each other to succeed

in training.

"Everything came together and we put our differences aside," said Pfc. Haydee Ayala, 18, of Platoon 4029 and a native of Ventura, Calif.

By the time recruits reached the Crucible, they had spent more than 75 days of living, training and working together. The young women were able to make a collabora-

tive effort to conquer the most defining moment in recruit training.

"The Crucible is helping show unit cohesion," Shaw said. "We have to make our own plan and execute it ourselves."

For each subevent, recruits joined one another in devising a way to effectively complete their assigned mission. Whether they had to drag one an-

other across a sand-filled path, or patrol an area, the recruits' combined effort accomplished their tasks.

"Teamwork is crucial," said Moree. "They're stronger together as a team and this is showing them."

"We've changed for the better because now we actually work together," said 18-year-old Pfc. Kelly

Bustos Astudillo, of Platoon 4029 from Elizabeth, N.J.

Papa Company thrived off a solid foundation of teamwork and unit cohesion to finish the Crucible. They went from a disconnected group of people to a strong team of women that earned the title U.S. Marine together. The company is scheduled to graduate today.

