

## *SMA Dominates in Nashville, Tennessee*

The weekend of 13-15 October 2006 was a huge success for the Sarasota Military Academy's Rifle Team. The team representing SMA with SFC (Ret) Pellegrino and assistant coach Mr. David Rudisill, and chaperone Mrs. Deb Mouhot along with Mr. and Mrs. Cooper, had our eyes on our target-Nashville, TN. Nashville's Montgomery Bell Academy Rifle Classic is one of the premier shooting matches in the country.



Our team recorded outstanding performances by all 7 members (6 Pneumatic Sporter and 1 Precision). Participants were: team Co-Captain Brent Rudisill (Sophomore), Chad Andrews (Senior), Kevin Hobson (Junior), Christian Urrea (Junior), and Freshmen Arielle Mouhot and Katie Pinion competed in the Pneumatic Sporter class, and freshman Jimmie Cooper competed in the Precision class.

Hundreds of shooters from over 35 different schools spanning almost 15 states converged to attend this prestigious event.

The team did something that has yet to be accomplished; took 1<sup>st</sup> Place team and the top four positions individually.



Scores for the 3x20 relay from the 4-person team were: Rudisill (501), Urrea (498), Andrews (491), and Hobson (483). All four made the finals of eight, to determine who the top individuals were. Mouhot (424) and Pinion (414) finished in the top 50% and performed exceptionally well.

A shooter makes the finals if their score in their relay is in the top eight (8) of the competition; called an aggregate score. The top eight compete in what could basically be called a shoot off. Competitors fire one pellet in 60 seconds, and an unofficial score is recorded and announced. They conduct this procedure for 10 rounds, add their finals score to their aggregate to end with their total.

Final results proved that our cadets are the best of the best by taking the top four positions: 1<sup>st</sup> Place – Rudisill, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Andrews, 3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Urrea, and 4<sup>th</sup> Place – Hobson.

Jimmie Cooper, although he didn't make it to the finals, demonstrated his ability to compete at this level. Disappointed, yet experiencing another level of competition will only make Jimmie that much more prepared for our next hurdle in the world of air rifle competitions.

Brent Rudisill commented on the new shooters competing at this level, saying "I think all the new shooters handled the stress of competing at this level exceptionally well."

Congratulations to all the competitors and thanks for representing SMA in the traditions of excellence that SMA is known for.

We wanted to thank all parents, SMA Staff and faculty for allowing these cadets to attend. Thanks to the PTCC for off-setting some of our costs, COL Cork and SMA for providing the resources needed for transportation to Nashville!

Special thanks go out to the following parents who donated to the team in either time or financially giving us this opportunity: Mrs. Andrews, Mr. Hobson, Mr. and Mrs. Cooper, Mr. and Mrs. Mouhot. Also, thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Pinion for their donation of our sweatshirts, and giving us that look of uniformity and professionals. To the members of the team that didn't attend MBA, your time will come, you must want it and JUST SHOOT...