

The Citadel sizzles

The Citadel is one of America's 25 hottest colleges according to the August 2005 *Newsweek Kaplan College Guide* that is also featured on MSNBC.com. America's Hottest Colleges named The Citadel the Hottest Military School. A panel of experts, including many high school counselors, selected The Citadel for its graduation rate and highly rated engineering program. The college's six-year graduation rate is 72 percent—the highest in the nation among public colleges with a median SAT score between 1000 and 1100. The Citadel also leads the nation in its four-year graduation rate among public colleges whose students have a median SAT score between 1000 and 1200. To read more, go to <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/89392421>.



Summerall Guards perform in inaugural parade

The Summerall Guards performed in the Jan. 20 Presidential Inaugural Parade in Washington, D.C. A silent precision drill platoon, the group was named for Gen. Charles



P. Summerall, former chief of staff of the U.S. Army and president of The Citadel from 1931 until 1953. Each spring rising seniors are selected by outgoing guards for their superior physical stamina and drill proficiency. Membership in the platoon is considered one of the most prestigious honors at the college. The 61-member team performs precise drill movements based on a silent close order drill known as The Citadel Series. The series has never been written down, but has been passed down from class to class through rigorous practice.

College leads nation in graduation rate

Cadets are much more likely than their counterparts in other public colleges and universities to earn a degree in four years according to data collected by the U.S. Department of Education. The Citadel ranks No. 1 nationally in the percentage of students who graduate on time—the top ranking comes from a comparison of all public colleges whose entering students have average SAT scores between 1000 and 1200.

Information listing the four-year graduation rates of all colleges appears on the Web site, www.collegeresults.org, which is operated by the Education Trust, a national non-profit organization dedicated to academic achievement.

The Citadel's four-year graduation rate is 62.3 percent. The No. 2 public college whose students have similar SAT scores is James Madison University in Virginia with a four-year graduation rate of 60.6 percent.

In addition, the football team posted the best graduation rates in the Southern Conference at 94 percent. This rate compares to the second-best team at 81 percent and the national average of 54 percent for I-AA teams.