

# The Young Marines look to defend us in the future

By Jeff Novak

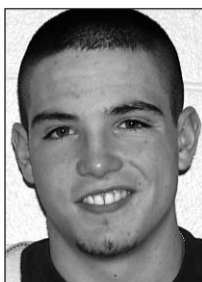
“OORAH!” The one word made famous by the United States Marine Corps. Every year, thousands of people from the United States join the Marines, but some are more prepared like Kyle Porter, a senior at Richmond High School.

Kyle has been in the Young Marines since he was in sixth grade. “I have always wanted to join the Marines. My Uncle was in the Marines and always told me stories when I was little,” Porter said.

Kyle’s uncle, Chief Warrant Officer Tim Dans, served in the United States Marine Corps for 20

years. Although he wasn’t a big figure in the service, he still served his country and that’s why Kyle and others still appreciate everything he has done for them.

What happens in the Young Marines is that as the recruits get better, they grow in rank. For example, Kyle is a Master Sergeant. Although there aren’t many types of combat, there still is some basic combat training such as obstacle courses and basic weapon handling. However, most of the work is done in the classroom. There are tough courses in Marine history and basic training, so the recruits are ready when they officially enroll in the United States



KYLE PORTER

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Marine Corps. “I like the USMC history class the most; I find it really interesting to hear about all the things former Marines have done,” Porter said. The

class is basically teaching us how the Marines came to be and all the accomplishments famous Marines have made. When it comes to choosing a

favorite aspect of the Young Marines Kyle has a difficult time.

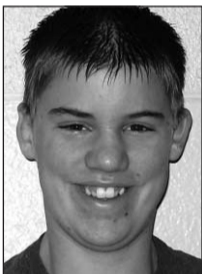
“I love it all,” Porter said. “It’s a great thing for young people to get into. It not only prepares them if they are interested in the Marine Corps, but it is also a good way to learn discipline and respect for authority.”

The Young Marines is a great program for young children to get into and take all the way through their high school careers and onto the battlefield in the real Marine Corps. It also makes citizens feel safer when the people that are defending them have started practicing at such a young age.

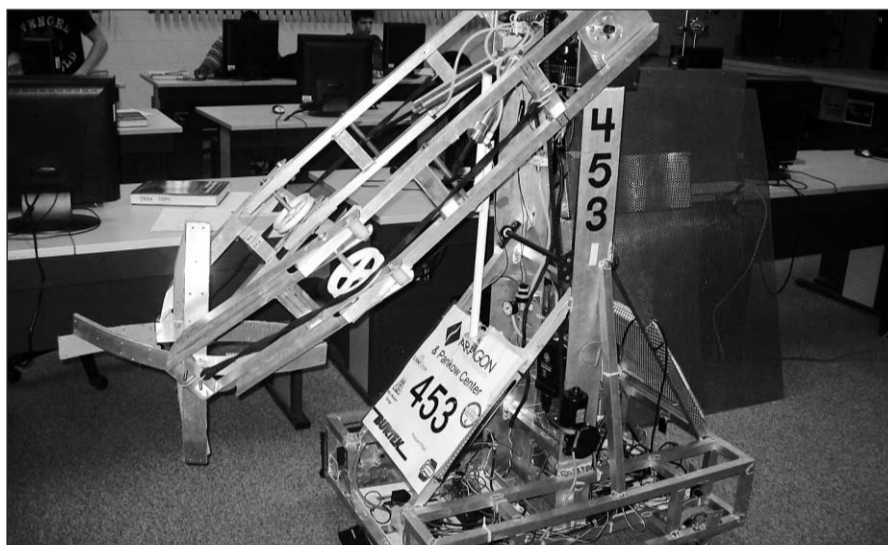
# Designing futures CAD is the Class for Gott

By Kaitlyn Bishop

After spending the morning in classes at Richmond High School, Trevor Gott packs up his books and gets ready to continue his day of classes at Pankow, which is located in part with L’Anse Creuse Public Schools. Many students choose to add classes at Pankow, which are more career and technical based, into their schedules. Gott is involved in the CAD program, or the Computer Aided Design and Drafting Program.



TREVOR GOTT



One of the many projects students work on for the CAD program.

The CAD program is offered to students tenth through twelfth grades, with only prerequisites in the area of basic math. Students learn, at individual work spaces, new technology using programs such as Pro-D and Auto CAD to build 3-D objects including shapes, airplanes, legos, and other projects. They learn to use the computers to draw, build, and design 3-dimensional objects.

“I like that we get to do hands-on activities,” Gott said. It will help to

prepare me for the future because it gives me a chance to work on computers.”

The CAD program allows for students to engage in many hands-on opportunities. Some projects the students have taken part in building include excavators, bridges, and catapults. Also, there is a robotics team that comes out of the program, in which students participate as a team to construct robots that perform a certain given task.

“I found out about this program through career cruising,” Gott said. “I thought it would be a good resource for the future, as I wanted to be able to work and learn with computers.”

For those interested in seeking future careers in categories such as engineering, especially mechanical or electrical areas, or perhaps architectural design, the CAD program can help with introduction to the technologies and skills that will be needed.

# Auto Courses help drive students On road to success

By Stephen Peltier

As Juan PeÒa wakes up early for school and eats his breakfast, his mind is on what he’ll be working on in the first few hours of his day. No, not about his math or science classes, but instead, the kind of car damage he will be learning about and fixing in his Auto Collision and Refinishing class.

PeÒa, a senior at Richmond High School, is a car fanatic and lover of anything with an engine. His dad is an auto mechanic for Ford, and PeÒa says that is where he gets the love for cars.

Last year PeÒa took an auto mechanics class through the Armada School District. Throughout the year, they worked on project after project, from swapping engines to installing gas tanks, transmissions, and axles. The course is held in a garage right next to Armada’s



JUAN PEÒA

High School. “The garage was at least ten times bigger than my garage at home and probably had ten times as many tools, too,” PeÒa said.

The students learned the mechanics of the major components of the car, such as the engine and the steering. The class is very hands-on and the teacher lets the students learn from hands-on experience rather than just observing.

“It was cool to try to figure stuff out by messing around with it. I think it sank in a lot more, too,” said PeÒa.

Once the yearlong Auto Mechanics class ended, PeÒa wanted to continue his

learning, so he signed up for an Auto Collision and Refinishing course held at the Fredrick V. Pankow Center. He figures learning about both the inside and the outside of the car will help him when deciding on a career to pursue.

In the class, the students learn to weld, bond, and paint car body parts. It is also hands-on like the auto mechanics course, so students still get quite the experience.

“Have you ever tried TIG welding? It’s so hard,” said PeÒa when asked about his first time welding.

With another few months of school left, PeÒa still has a lot to look forward to as he will begin pin striping and decalizing painted cars.

After High School, PeÒa is looking to attend Universal Technical Institute in California where he hopes to continue learning about what he loves most, cars.



Dominic Cattera stands next to a Load All, one of the many pieces of equipment is learning to operate and repair.

# Heavy lifting AIS Program Prepares Cattera for the Future

By Tayler Cattera

As the alarm clock goes off at 6:30 in the morning, Dominic Cattera rolls out of bed to get ready for yet another day of school. But his day doesn’t start off at Richmond High. Instead he heads to a program that not only helps him now, but will benefit him in the future. AIS is a program that gives students the opportunity to not only learn about heavy machinery, but use it as well.

AIS is a two year course that teaches everything from taking apart and putting back together motors, to using heavy equipment such as backhoes and excavators. Students learn about parts and the process of building and rebuilding them in the classroom. But when the weather gets nice, they get to actually use the machines they built parts for and the knowledge they obtained to run them.

The experience Cattera gets at AIS really helps him in his current job at a landscaping company. “Being involved in AIS really increases the value I have in the company because of all the new knowledge and experience I get there,” Cattera said. “I get the hands-on practice I need with

It (the AIS program) really gives students a chance to pursue their goals early, Cattera said. I definitely recommend this course to anybody interested in machinery.

— Dominic Cattera

machines that otherwise would not be available to me,” he added.

Being in AIS is also helping Cattera prepare for his future in the military. “There’s a heavy equipment operators program that I want to get into when I join the military.” AIS will definitely help him succeed in that program if it’s what he chooses to do.

Whether it is AIS or something else, these programs give students a great opportunity to learn things not offered to them at a traditional school.

“It [the AIS program] really gives students a chance to pursue their goals early,” Cattera said. It definitely recommend this course to anybody interested in machinery.”

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For more information about CTE at the high school level contact the Macomb Intermediate School District. Contact Macomb Community College for college level programs. See contact information above.

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