

Carolina!

SEMPER FI A FEW GOOD MIEN

Marine organization strives for physical and mental fitness

By WANDA JONES
Staff Writer

The Semper Fidelis Society is a university organization which says its purpose is to promote positive mental leadership as well as physical courage through academics and physical fitness.

U.S. Marines Maj. Michael Love is in charge of USC's Semper Fidelis Society. Love has been in the Marine Corps for 13 years and is dedicated to getting up at 4:30 a.m. for daily runs.

Semper Fi members work for their goals in various ways. One is through leadership training, where they learn how to relate to people, how to motivate and how to carry out tasks in a positive manner. But Love said Semper Fi is more than likely well-known for a more vocal activity.

"We're probably best known for running around campus and shouting," Love said.

Members also go out in the field at least once a semester for what are known as "humps," in which Marines use their compass and map-reading skills. They also learn how to navigate in the woods and how to take care of their troops when they are in the field.

Semper Fi member Matt Grosz is a Marine officer in the Navy ROTC unit. Grosz trains underclassmen for Officer Candidate School (OCS). Members of Semper Fi enter OCS after graduation and are commissioned as second lieutenants in the Marine Corps.

"We meet every Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 4 to 5 p.m.," Grosz said. "We go out into the field. We do physical training (PT)." PT consists of push-ups, pull-ups, sit-ups, speed workouts and endurance runs.

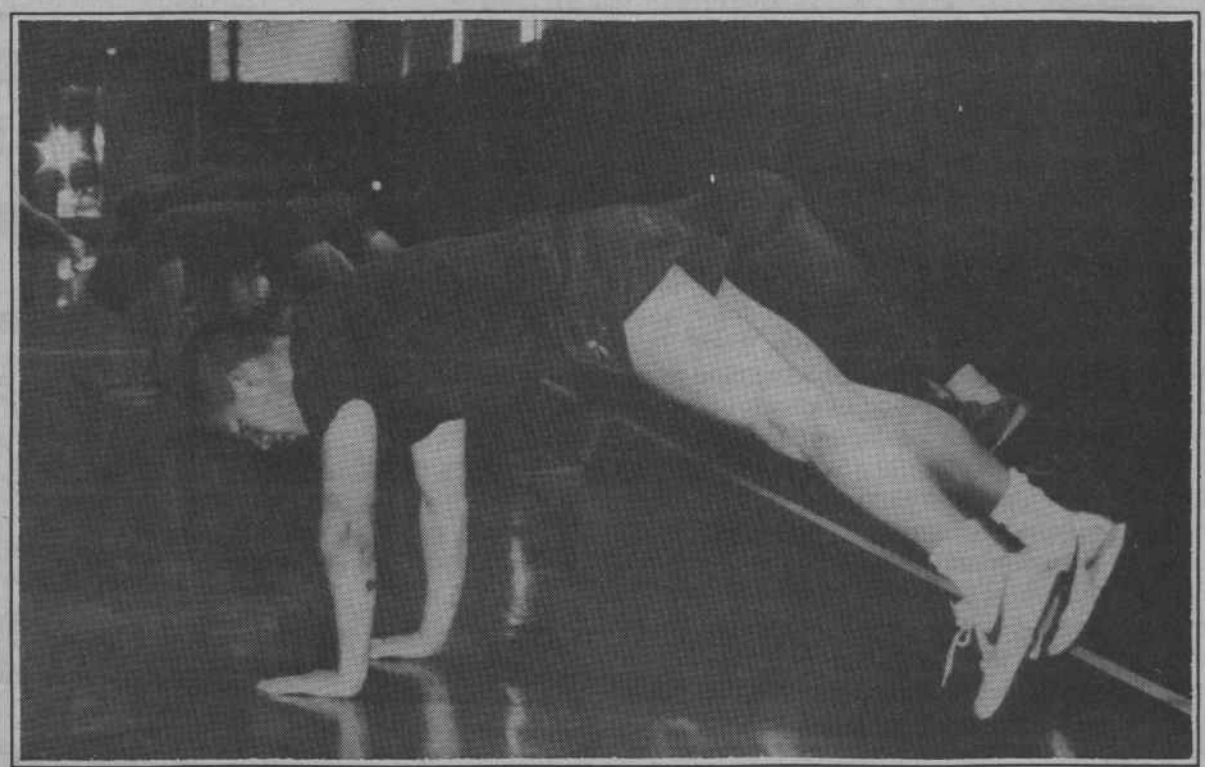
According to Love, anyone enrolled at USC can join Semper Fi, and he believes there are many reasons why they should.

"I could say a lot about Semper Fi. Obviously, I believe in it," Love said. "Semper Fi means 'always faithful,' and I think that's what we teach."

Marine officer Anthony Sermarini is another Semper Fi member who trains pre-OCS students. "We are probably the biggest 'fraternity' on campus," Sermarini said. "We hang out and socialize together, and we're an active club."

Love said one of the benefits of Semper Fi is the feeling of togetherness the organization fosters.

"One thing we try to enhance in the Semper Fidelis Society is that it may be hard, it may be tough, and you may think you can't do it... but there is someone to turn to," Love said. "When someone turns to you, you need to help them because it promotes that cooperative and teamwork spirit that everybody needs. That's really the crust of what Semper Fi stands for."



Semper Fi members follow rigorous physical routines to maintain high standards of fitness. These include push-ups, sit-ups and endurance runs. They also take part in "humps," which are field exercises which require compass and map-reading abilities.

Photos by Stephanie Newlin/TheGamecock

Service program provides memorable spring break

By HOLLY LIBOFF
Staff Writer

Spring Break is coming up, and from March 6-13, many USC students will be heading to the beach to enjoy a week of partying, sun and fun. Others will be heading north to take part in The Alternative Spring Break in Boston.

The trip, which is called City Break 1993, is being coordinated with City Year, Boston's urban peace corps. Twelve USC students will work in teams with the corps

members and provide various community services.

They will help in creating community gardens, renovating shelters for the homeless, running after-school programs and salvaging and sorting food.

The students will stay in an international youth hospital in downtown Boston. Participants will be busy working throughout the day until 4:30 p.m. The evening provides the students with the opportunity to enjoy some free time and see the sights of Boston.

Junior Kelly Smith, coordinator of the trip, said she feels it will be very rewarding.

"It will be a lot of hands-on experience and something you won't forget," she said.

Sophomore participant Keena Kaye agrees. "Last year, I went to Daytona, and that was a lot of fun," Kaye said. "This year, I thought that I might do something a little more worthwhile."

Freshman Jennifer Skubic said she feels that by attending the Alternative Spring Break, she will

be getting a different perspective on how the underprivileged live. "Perhaps I can do something to improve it," she said.

City Year 1993 is sponsored by the Office of Community Service Programs. The cost of the trip is less than \$100 per person. This covers expenses for food, lodging and transportation.

Kaye said, "Hopefully being part of the project will help benefit the people of Boston, and it will give me the opportunity to experience a place I've never been before."



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