

Contact: Amy Lewis, amy@renownmarketing.com <<mailto:amy@renownmarketing.com>>
(651) 552-9826

SAINT THOMAS ACADEMY NAMES FREUND 102nd CADET COLONEL
Five Additional Seniors Promoted to Lieutenant Colonel

MENDOTA HEIGHTS, Minn., Nov. 25, 2009 – D. Freund was named the 102nd cadet colonel of Saint Thomas Academy <<http://www.cadets.com/>> in a ceremony today. Surrounded by fellow cadets, administrators and faculty, previous cadet colonels, family and community members, Freund was handed the Fleming Saber by Headmaster Dr. Thomas Mich to signify his selection as head of the Corps of Cadets.

“Freund is an outstanding young man who will lead the Corps of Cadets with excellence and honor,” said Commandant of Cadets Lt. Col. Michael DePuglio (ret.), U.S. Army. “He is well respected among his peers, as well as the faculty and administration. He has earned their respect through discipline in his academics, community service, co-curriculars, and most importantly, his level of integrity in dealing with others.”

Freund, the son of Janet Freund, has attended Saint Thomas Academy for four years. He is considering attending Harvard University, Cornell University, Carleton College, the University of Notre Dame, and the University of St. Thomas after graduation. For all of his four years at the Academy, Freund has played halfback on the varsity football team and competed on the track team. He is a four-time Eagle Award winner and commander of E Company.

“The Academy has taught me many priceless lessons and has helped me realize the values of self-discipline, time management and hard work,” Freund said. “I have not made a final decision as to where I will go to college next year, but I hope to attend a school where I feel the same sense of camaraderie and pride that I have experienced here at the Academy.”

His role as cadet colonel will prepare Freund for leadership roles in college and throughout his life. The cadet colonel works closely with the Academy’s administrators and military leaders to implement a wide variety of events at the Academy, including the formal JROTC military reviews, the Brigade Formal Inspection, and numerous other school activities. The cadet colonel also acts as liaison between the cadets and the faculty and administration, often influencing or handling disciplinary matters.

The cadet colonel is chosen based on his academic performance, co-curricular involvement, merits and demerits, military performance and leadership abilities. A board including the headmaster, commandant of cadets, the assistant headmaster, the dean of students, the dean of academics, a faculty representative and a student representative choose the cadet colonel from the 16 senior officers.

The traditional symbol of the cadet colonel’s authority, the Fleming Saber, is named in honor of U.S. Marine Corps Reserve **Capt. Richard E. Fleming ’35**, who served as a flight officer in Marine Scout-Bombing Squadron 241 during World War II. He was posthumously awarded the highest decoration for heroism, the Medal of Honor, by President Franklin D. Roosevelt for his “dauntless perseverance and unyielding devotion to duty.” Fleming died in the line of duty on June 5, 1942, during the Battle of Midway. For additional background, visit: <http://www.cadets.com/page/288> <<http://www.cadets.com/page/288>> .

Five additional seniors were promoted from cadet captain to cadet lieutenant colonel. They are:

- M. Neuberger was named brigade executive officer
- R. Wankel was named brigade chief of staff
- D. FitzPatrick was named white battalion commander
- C. McFadden was named blue battalion commander
- J. Garry was named gold battalion commander