

CITY EDITOR

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VALLEY

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Officer arrested ★ C2

Opinion ★ C8

BUZZ CUT

About 320 boys from across the nation register for MMA Summer Camp



Above: Brandon Linthicum, 14, smiles in surprise as he feels his newly shaved head after a visit to the barber at Marine Military Academy in Harlingen. Linthicum was one of about 320 boys from across the nation, ages 12 to 17, who registered Saturday morning for MMA Summer Camp. Preparations for camp included getting a traditional military-style "buzz cut." Linthicum, a Maryland native who hopes to be a Marine some day, says he is still a bit nervous about what the next four weeks have in store for him. Activities include leadership training, a Marine Corps-style obstacle course, mud course, paintball, rifle range, boxing and pugil stick bouts.

Right: Linthicum stands to be measured for summer camp clothing. About half of the campers are from Texas while the rest are from about 25 other states and four or five other countries. "The rewarding part for the staff is the transformation we see in these young campers after 28 days. Summer camp is designed to build up personal confidence, self-esteem and self-confidence," said retired Marine Corps Col. Tom Hobbs, MMA admissions director.



Dina Arévalo/Valley Morning Star