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## **U.S. Marines Compete in Grilling Competition**

**NEW YORK** – Col. Stewart Navarre from Camp Pendleton, CA, claimed the “Command of the Grill” championship title after edging out nine other Marines in Weber’s first grilling competition created solely for the men and women serving in the U.S. Marine Corps.

The aroma of grilled steaks greeted pedestrians in New York’s famous Times Square during morning rush hour on May 25 as the Marines competed against each other in the event held in conjunction with the 19th Annual Fleet Week, and was featured live on ABC’s “Good Morning America.”

As the “Command of the Grill” champion, Navarre took home a prize package worth more than \$5,000 that includes a new luxury Weber® gas grill along with a grilling lesson and dinner for Navarre and 10 Marine buddies with acclaimed chef and best-selling cookbook author Jamie Purviance.

The 10 Marines won their spots at the all-beef barbecue battle after winning semi-final competitions that were hosted by Marine Corps Community Services. Prior to the event, each participant was required to submit an original recipe and an essay detailing why their entry should be selected. After the coals were hot, the Marines showcased their culinary skills by grilling two New York strip steaks using their original recipes. The

judges chose the winner based on recipe creativity, visual appeal and the taste of the steaks.

“We’re looking for a good spice rub and marinade – something spicy but that still allows the beefy flavor of the meat to come through,” Chef Purviance said.

Navarre, a native of Evansville, Ind. whose Combat Steak recipe, which featured a salt, pepper and garlic rub, with grilled mushrooms, said, “I was honored to be part of the competition and absolutely surprised to win. The opportunity to participate with my fellow Marines in this event ... made it very special for us.”

According to Mike Kempster, executive vice president for Weber-Stephen Products Co., the Command of the Grill competition is their opportunity to give back to Marines and sailors.

“We want to show our support for the brave men and women who have been separated from their families, wounded in the line of duty, and need help coping with new challenges when they come home,” explained Kempster.

Navarre’s *Combat Steak* along with recipes from his fellow competitors and former famous Marines, including Ed McMahon, are featured in a cookbook *Command of the Grill—A Salute to Steak*. The book can be purchased for \$10 at Marine Corps Exchanges or through the promotion website at [www.commandofthegrill.com](http://www.commandofthegrill.com).

For more information check out the promotion website at [www.commandofthegrill.com](http://www.commandofthegrill.com).

(Assembled from press reports)

## **Command of The Grill Participants**

MCB Camp Pendleton

MCB Quantico

MCAS Cherry Point

Camp Allen

MCAS New River/MCB Camp Lejeune

MOBCOM Kansas City

MCAGCC Twentynine Palms

MCB Hawaii

MCAS Beaufort/MCRD Parris Island

MCAS Yuma

Col Stewart R. Navarre (Winner)

Capt Robert L. Burton

SSgt Joseph E. Taylor

SSgt Jeremiah E. Batista

Capt Eric P. Dominijanni

Sgt Michael K. Clawson

Capt Phillip J. Woodward

SSgt Daniel G. Newcomb

Sgt Michael J. Clayton

LCpl Jaynine L. Goodroe