

EXPLORERS WIN AT COMPETITION

Twelve members of Port Hueneme Police Explorers Post 9988 earned two impressive trophies in the three-day Annual Police Explorer Tactical Competition in Chandler, Arizona last month.

The Explorers won first place in a SWAT-like Tactical Paintball tournament in which the team was undefeated. Last year they took second place in this event. In the Hostage Negotiations event, our explorers placed second. They were judged on their ability to talk to a suspect by phone for 15 minutes, urging her not to harm her 13 hostages. Other events included a rescue of a downed officer, a shooting, police negotiations, and terrorist threat exercises. Police Officers Frank Michel and Robin Matlock accompanied the Explorers to the event.

The Explorers, age 14-21, meet twice a month and perform activities such as assisting at the Police Department, marching and law enforcement tactics training. Many of them have future plans for careers in law enforcement and this is a program that will prepare them for the job.



Proud of their achievement: *(back row, left to right):* Robert Franco, Chris Zadra, Nick Sanchez, Alfred Camarena, Armando Perez, Henry Montelongo, Sabrina Baker. *(Front row):* Miriam Sosa, Jannette Lujan, Frank Montelongo, and Freddie Michel. *(Not shown):* Ashley Reyes



The Explorers are dispatched to a call of a suspect taking a subject hostage inside of a building that has been gassed. They are expected to make a rapid response and secure the victim, using good tactics.

