

SHIPPENSBURG UNIVERSITY RAIDER BATTALION NEWSLETTER FALL 2021



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Greetings from the Raider Battalion



**WRITTEN BY THE PROFESSOR OF
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Welcome to the first Shippensburg Army ROTC Raider Report. Through this newsletter, we hope to highlight the events and achievements the Shippensburg Raiders have accomplished over the fall 2021 semester.

Due to the uncertainties created by COVID, I was unsure how this semester would unfold. So far I have been extremely impressed. Going back to Cadet Summer training, we had twenty-one out of twenty-one Cadets graduate from Advanced Camp. Represented in that number were two RECONDO winners; Cadets Matthew Lawrence and Jarred Birriel. Cadets Matthew Lawrence, Ben Havens, Ryan Wittle, and Tyler Dickover all completed Air Assault School, and Cadet Kristine Melder completed Airborne School. We also had Cadets Gaven Bupp and Pearse Stephens participate in Cadet Troop Leader Training (CTLT) at Joint Base Lewis-McChord and Fort Bragg respectively. Finally, Cadet Rylie Traxler completed Project Global Officer (GO), spending the summer at the Citadel learning Mandarin-Chinese. After a year off, it was great to see the Cadets take advantage of these opportunities.

This semester started out with us welcoming 29 new freshman level Cadets. Of these we have five scholarship recipients; Cadets Mitchell Brett (4 year), Elijah Greenawalt (4 year Minuteman), Josef Domby (3 year), Zachary Eisenhart (3 year), and Caleb Smith (3 year). I know each will do exceptionally well as a Shippensburg Raider Cadet.

Much of what we did last year was virtual, but we were able to retain our traditions. This year we got back to doing everything in person, a most welcome condition. We completed the most rigorous Mungadai Warrior in memory. We also executed the 5K/10K Run in support of Boulder Crest Military and First Responder retreat, celebrated the Program's 40th Anniversary, and had a great showing at this year's Ranger Challenge at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst. Many of these events you will read about in this newsletter.

I look forward to the next semester as this year's Cadets continue to grow. All of our Cadets are ready to meet the rigors and challenges provided by ROTC. Under the guidance and mentorship provided by the Cadre and more seasoned Cadets, I know that they are up to the task.

RAIDERS LEAD THE WAY



From the Cadet Battalion Commander, Collin Curley

Becoming the Battalion Commander was a position I never thought I would hold. My love for the Army comes from the people within it. Being a former UAS operator, the Army has been more than a profession but a way of life and has given me another family to care for. Joining ROTC at Shippensburg was the best decision I have made thus far. I never did believe I would have the honor of becoming rather the S-3 or Company Commander. I believe I earned this position by holding myself to the Army values and striving to constantly do what is best for this Battalion and the troops. Being relentless and passionate about bringing a change to this Battalion has increased the standard of being a Shippensburg Cadet.

This semester was very unique in remembering who The Raider Battalion is and understanding how far we have come within the past 40 years. With the Coronavirus, there has been an excuse to not be accountable or be present. This fall semester we have adapted, overcome, and excelled in what our program is capable of. Improving Wright Hall and creating the new Cadet office has been fundamental in giving the cadet command staff the ability to better understand the expectations of the cadre. Working with Shippensburg University and the local Shippensburg area this semester has created new opportunities and outreach. We have not only formed strong bonds locally, but with the Blue Mountain Battalion as well. This year Shippensburg hosted the first-ever Turkey Bowl. The Turkey Bowls' purpose was to bring the Blue Mountain Battalion and Raider Battalion together through a fun, friendly(ish) football game. Not only was this a success, but a rivalry and tradition to be timeless. Let it be known that the Raiders won. I look forward to seeing what strong relationships and opportunities will come in the years ahead for the Raider Battalion.

Some lessons were learned along the way. I am a strong believer that shared sacrifice is shared success. It's the people who do everything as a team that makes us all successful. Ensure that you work for the troops and always have their back. Seek multiple sources and understand there are always two stories. Have faith in your subordinates, often they will surprise you by the level of ingenuity they possess. I emphasize that by becoming an officer, you will be responsible for the sisters, brothers, mothers, fathers, and other loved ones. Therefore take your responsibilities seriously and care for the soldiers as if they are your own family.

I'm excited to see where this article reaches and to whom it does. I hope that this newsletter makes you reminisce and remember that all your hard work and help to this program whether it be four years or ongoing has not gone unnoticed. Thank you for your time and support, and as always RAIDERS LEAD THE WAY!

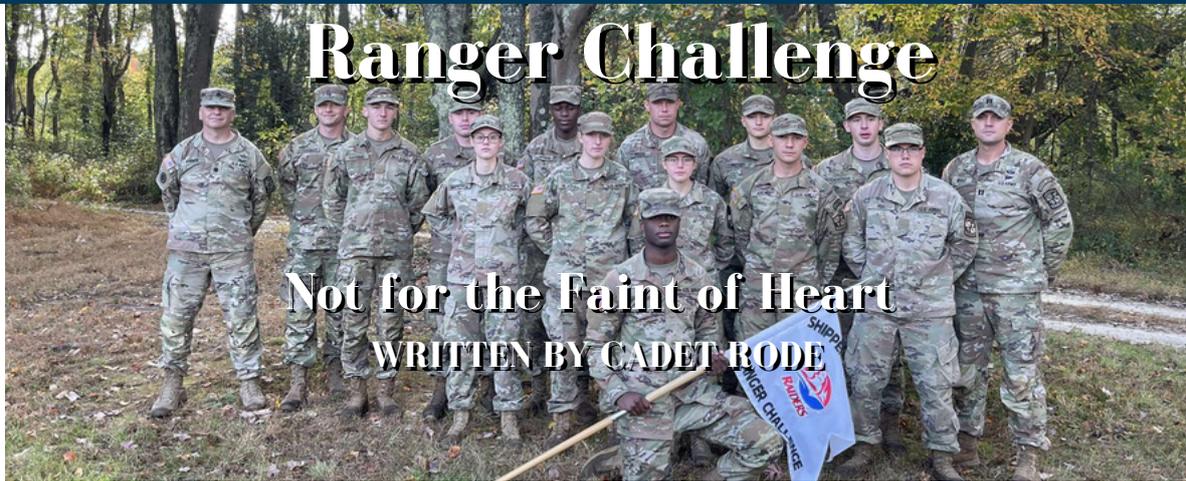
Mungadai Warrior

**WRITTEN BY
CADET JARRED
BIRRIEL**



Mungadai Warrior is not only a United States Army tradition but also a tradition here within the Shippensburg University Army ROTC program. Developed originally by Genghis Khan, Mungadai Warrior is essentially a way to test the leaders within an organization on their leadership ability and decision-making skills. On August 20th, 2021, Cadets from the MSIII class gathered at dawn to conduct a Mungadai Warrior event. Dawning a 35-pound rucksack and full combat equipment the Cadets formed up ready for anything. Ahead of them was a tough day full of rigorous tasks designed to bring the class together. These tasks create emergent leaders who stand out from their peers. The cadets were tested on their attention to detail and instruction following ability through Physical Readiness Training followed by equipment checks with a rucksack weigh-in. After the cadets were issued their equipment for the day, they moved to their first task. The cadets had to perform individual movement techniques as well as team movements with a battle buddy. The movements were designed to be similar to the buddy team live-fire training at Cadet Summer Training at Fort Knox, Kentucky. They conducted casualty movements and set up a casualty collection point for a mass casualty event. After they completed their tasks the MSIII's received a mission that they had to complete. They put on their weighted rucksacks and conducted a movement to contact mission a mile down the Cumberland Valley Rail Trail. The mission was intense and the first time many of the cadets experienced assaulting an objective with an opposition force. Exhausted after securing the objective the MSIII's were given a new task. A pilot was shot down several miles from their current position. The cadets marched again of the trail to secure their fallen ally, played by a 200 lbs Rescue Randy dummy. Showing perseverance, grit, and determination the class as a team were able to bring the casualty to an extraction point. As a reward for their completion of Mungadai Warrior the cadets cooled off in the creek beside Shippensburg University. They started the day as individuals and ended as one class.





The Ranger Challenge team is made up of twelve cadets. It is composed of nine starting cadets and three alternates. The nine members are at least one from each military science/grade level and at least one female cadet. Every fall semester is the brigade competition. The Ranger Challenge team utilizes physical fitness and army skills when competing. At the start of the semester the Ranger challenge team conducts tryouts which last of the first week where the official twelve cadet team is decided. Then from the start of the fall semester the Ranger challenge team typically has approximately 6 weeks of training once the team is established from tryouts week.

Shippensburg University is the Second Freedom Brigade for the United States Army Cadet Command. There are 42 host programs apart of Second Brigade. The competition is composed of three days and seven events along with a culminating road march with gear. The events are grenade throw, rope bridge, first aid, obstacle course, gear carry, weapons assembly, and physical training (PT).

This year our team placed sixteenth in the competition which means we placed within the top third of Second Brigade. The Shippensburg ranger challenge team weekly schedule was made up of a morning 0530-0700 Monday Road march, Tuesday HIIT (High Intensity Individual Training), Wednesday rope bridge, Thursday HIIT, and Friday Road march. Also Monday and Wednesday afternoons 1715-1815 is where the technical training was used and trained on. So overall we trained almost ten hours per week in order to prepare for this year's Ranger challenge competition.

The Ranger Challenge team highlights the Army "One team One fight" mentality for cadets to perform skills, work as a team, and show what true drive and motivation really is.



Balancing ROTC and Collegiate Sports

WRITTEN BY CADET LAKE LLOYD
SHIP BASEBALL

The Shippensburg University Army ROTC program is a big supporter of its scholar-athletes. Ship ROTC not only allows athletes to be successful in their respected sports but also lends out a helping hand to make sure they are also just as successful as a Cadet. Ship ROTC understands how much time and effort goes into being a collegiate athlete and will work with each individual athlete to accommodate their specific schedule and workload. Depending on the sport and season, an athlete will be expected to have practice five to six days a week as well as one to two times a day. With this amount of time accumulated towards their sport, an athlete within the battalion will most likely miss training/learning opportunities. The Cadre and other Cadets at Shippensburg University are more than willing to help with organizing individual instruction to make sure athletes are not falling behind on their Cadet knowledge and skills. Athletes at Shippensburg University must maintain a high level of strength and conditioning to be able to perform at the highest level possible for their respected sport. This training translates directly towards the expectations Cadets are held at regarding the fitness tests within the Army. Ship ROTC trusts their athletes to be able to successfully lead and pass physical standards within the program.

Ship ROTC demonstrates their support and interests in their athletes by always checking in on each one. Always wishing the athletes good luck in their next game/match, or even just asking how things within their sport are going. Ship ROTC acknowledges the amount of work that goes into being a cadet-student-athlete. Not only does Ship ROTC support its own athletes within the Battalion, but the program also supports all athletic programs across the University. For example, Ship ROTC supports its football team with its own cannon crew present at all home games.

The biggest challenge Cadets in sports face on a day-by-day basis is ultimately time management. You must remember, not only are these Cadets athletes, but they are students at the university. When involved in all three of these domains, you must be on top of time management to become successful. The Shippensburg ROTC program provides advice and guidance to all Cadets with time management, especially the Cadets in sports. Ship ROTC builds and trains future leaders in the US Army. Leadership competencies/capabilities are a huge part of the program, and you can recognize these traits in the Cadets in sports. Cadet-student-athletes not only lead teams within the Raider Battalion but also lead their sports teams. Ship ROTC provides unique leadership education and training that can be applied towards becoming team leaders/captains in their sport.

The Shippensburg ROTC program allows me and the other Cadets in sports to overcome the challenges that come with being a Cadet-student-athlete. The support from the Raider Battalion provides an environment that favors athletes to accomplish great things in all aspects of education, discipline, and competition on and off the field.

Our D2 Athletes



Cadet John Devlin
Wrestling



Cadet Mitchell Brett
Cross Country and Track and Field



Cadet Robert Lissner
Indoor and Outdoor Track and Field



Cadet Toni Jones
Softball



Cadet Lake Lloyd
Baseball



Cadet Laron Woody
Football



Cadet Matt Bochanski
Swimming



On the 1st of October 2021, the Shippensburg University Army ROTC Raider Battalion celebrated our 40th anniversary as a host ROTC program. The event took place at the Old-Main Fountain which sits out front of the historic Old-Main building itself. The celebration, led by CDT Justin Noel, began with a gracious welcoming of an audience of cadets within the battalion and other distinguished guests, such as university faculty and Dr. Patterson, President of the University. Highlights of the event include an informational brief on the history of the program at Shippensburg University. Additionally, some of the battalion's former cadets were recognized; LT Reilly Kline, LT Patrick Hiller, LT Haylie Hardy, and LT Johnathan Adami were all "Distinguished Military Graduates" in 2019. Also, 2021 graduate LT Joe Oleski was ranked among the top 10 cadets in the nation, and in 2015 graduate LT Collin Brackin was the number one cadet in the entire country. Finally, a moment of acknowledgment and gratitude was directed towards the program's General Officers; Major Generals Andy Munera, Robert Collins, and John Kline. Following this, LTC Firmin enlightened the guests on the significance of Army cake cutting ceremonies, which was consequently followed by the presentation of the cake. The battalion's very own CDT Collin Curley had the pleasure of cutting the cake with President Patterson utilizing a unique saber. The ceremony was concluded with a commemorative plaque given to President Patterson by CDT Curley. This plaque and ceremony represent the accomplishments and importance of the Shippensburg Army ROTC Raider Battalion to the community and the United States Army.



42nd Annual 5k/10k Race

WRITTEN BY CADET ALIYAH BAIR



The Shippensburg Military Science Department was honored to host its 42nd Annual 5k/10k Walk and Run on Saturday, October 27, 2021. The Department has been committed to raising funds to benefit the Boulder Crest Foundation, a Veteran-led organization that is loyal to aiding, healing, and improving the overall wellbeing of combat veterans, first responders, and their families who have experienced trauma. Additionally, the race supports the department's ability to host events like this and many more for Cadets to create special projects that benefit the expansion

of the department and our community. Although, uncertain of the turnout of the race since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, we were anxious to connect with our local community again for a generous cause. All of the students' unwavering devotion in the planning of the 5k/10k Race and networking led to a sensational success with a respectable 73 total runners and \$1,680 alone from runners! Many members of the Shippensburg and Cumberland Valley community habitually participate in the race, leaving the Department excited to continue the touching tradition. Holding the race on homecoming weekend perpetuated the morale and atmosphere while also inviting university presence. President Charles Patterson led the start of the race, firing off the Department's cannon alongside our cannon crew. On behalf of the entire Shippensburg Military Science Dept, we are grateful for all of the sponsorships, runners, and expanded contribution and support in the fundraiser to benefit Boulder Crest Foundation that led to a total raised amount of \$4,342!



Veterans Day Parade and Ceremony

WRITTEN BY CADET ASHLEY COOK



Over the week of Veterans Day, two important events occurred that honored those that served: the Veterans Day Parade and the Veterans Day Ceremony. The parade occurred on November 7th at 1400 and included participants from the community such as the American Legion, the Shippensburg Middle and High School marching band, and Shippensburg University's ROTC program. The Raider Battalion showed its support and pride in its veterans by marching down King St., calling marching cadences and sounding off loud and clear. Returning to campus, cadets of the Raider Battalion showed their respect by saluting the American Flag as the colors passed. Many members of the community came out to support their veterans during this parade, and it was with much honor that the Shippensburg University ROTC program was able to be a part of this event.

On November 11th at 1100 in Memorial Auditorium, Shippensburg University's ROTC program hosted their own Veterans Day Ceremony to personally honor those that served this country. Cadet Nicholas Farrow began the ceremony with the invocation and opening prayer. The ceremony continued with a speech from the program's PMS, LTC Michael Firmin, who spoke highly of the program and of the armed services to which all veterans are a part of. He then gave the floor to the ceremony's guest speaker, LTC Kenneth Jones from the Army War College at Carlisle Barracks. LTC Jones gave an anecdotal speech, recalling stories of men and women in the armed forces that he had the honor to work with and the sacrifices these Soldiers made. The University's president, Dr. Charles Patterson, gave his remarks on Veterans Day, honoring those that served and thanking those in attendance and the ROTC program. The ceremony ended with the playing of America the Beautiful and the benediction given by cadet Nicholas Farrow. Cadet Ashley Cook closed the ceremony, thanking those in attendance for their support and thanking the speakers for their speeches. Those in attendance were able to stay and talk while enjoying refreshments in the lobby of Memorial Auditorium following the ceremony.

These events gave the Raider Battalion the opportunity to honor the Veterans of Shippensburg and those of this country. Many cadets have friends and family that have served and strive to follow in their footsteps by becoming officers of high quality and sound morals. It is through Veterans Day that the cadets of the Raider Battalion get to express their gratitude to those that served and honor them in their own way.



Fall Semester Labs

Written By MSIV Cadets



Above: CDT Lawrence and SFC Wright assist CDT Culp with call for fire training



Above: CDTs Shires, Eisenhart, Crawford and Hagg carry sandbags around Rec Fields as part of the Best Squad Competition

Below: CDT Curley awards CDT Eisenhart with a battalion poker chip



Below: CDT Daniels shows Alpha Company Cadets what a MOPP 4 suit looks like



Fun Lab

Written By. Cadet Matthew Lawrence



The Introduction to ROTC and Team Building lab occurred on August 26, 2021, at Rec Fields. This lab was designed to raise comradery between existing members of the Raider Battalion and new Cadets. The events included knocker balls, yard games, and volleyball. The highlight of the lab was a game called Knocker Ball. Knocker balls is a contact sport where Cadets get into big plastic balls and run into each other. The plastic ball protects you from harm and big hits sent Cadets flying. Adam Keh, an MS IV Supply Chain Management Major, stated that "It's not only a workout, but it is really fun. You can play contact soccer without the fear of getting hurt,". The rules of regular soccer still apply, but players must wear the protective knocker balls. This was considered the favorite event by the majority of participants. Yard games were also included in the event with games such as spike ball, cornhole, and ladder golf. Cadre and Cadets got to play each other on the volleyball court. In order to make good working relationships between Cadre, and Cadet leadership. It is great to see the battalion come together in friendly competition and a great morale boost to start a busy semester. The lab concluded with awards to congratulate our Cadets on accomplishments of several different Army trainings such as Air Assault and Airborne Schools, CTLT (Summer internship with Active-Duty Unit), Advanced Camp, and Project GO (A Cultural Development and Exchange Program). We celebrate success as a Battalion with events like these.



Drill & Ceremony

Written By. Elizabeth Mckeever

Drill and Ceremony is something that every cadet and future 2nd Lieutenant needs to be proficient. The second week of school this fall semester is when we conducted drill and ceremony training. This training consisted of teaching the cadets how to properly stand at attention, parade rest, and rest. My instructors instructed the cadets on how to properly conduct facing movements as well as marching. At the end of lab, we tested what the cadets had learned through a couple rounds of knockout. This exercise consists of a MS IV calling commands and if the cadets did not execute the command correctly, they are considered out. This lab was then assessed through an after-action report or AAR.

Land Nav

Written By. Cadet Adam Keh



“You can’t spell lost without LT.” It is not uncommon that servicemen and women have heard that saying. Unfortunately, there is a stigma that pertains to Lieutenants getting lost when performing land navigation. The Raider Battalion is doing everything they can to put an end to this. On September 9th, 2021, the Raider Battalion conducted an in-depth land navigation lab. This lab-created a strong foundation for all our Cadets within the program. Not only will this prepare them for their assessment at Fort Knox, but their future Army career as well. During this lab, the MSI Cadets were familiarized with military maps, terrain features, plotting points, calculating distance and direction, obtaining pace counts, and how to use a compass. The MSII’s and MSIII’s started to build upon that foundation by developing more advanced land navigation techniques such as intersection, resection, and terrain association. The Raider Battalion excels from our tight training standards. We accomplish this by placing a large focus on the “crawl-walk-run” methodology. Not only does this help evaluate training, but it also provides our Cadets with what right looks like before it is their time to execute. This lab consisted of the walk and run phase as these Cadets developed their understanding of each technique. The following weekend, a run phase, consisted of a hands-off practical exercise conducted at Fort Indiantown Gap. We simply gave the Raider Cadets a map, protractor, compass and five grid coordinates. They had to apply everything they learned in order to find their points in both day and night conditions. The Raider Battalion Cadets took this task without hesitation and did an outstanding job. As our Cadets progress through our program, we will continue to develop each and every one of them. They will be well prepared when it is their time to shine as new 2nd Lieutenants.



Communications

Written By. Cadet Nick Poche

On September 14th, the Shippensburg Raider Battalion conducted communications training. They received instruction on ASIP radios, sending up different types of reports, as well as the usage of hand and arm signals. Cadets were tested on sending up situation reports and spot reports. Following instruction, Cadets were tested by a practical exercise. The junior class was put in the platoon and squad leader roles to conduct a movement while maintaining noise and light discipline. The platoon leader created a PACE plan in order to maintain communication within the Platoon. A PACE plan is the succession of communication under mission circumstances. This is crucial to mission success and it creates a shared understanding within the Platoon. Our Shippensburg Cadets had numerous repetitions using various hand and arm signals to transition from different security postures along the way.

CBRN/First Aid

Written By. Pearse Stephens



During week seven of the ROTC fall semester of 2021, cadets were presented a lab focusing on both chemical, biological, radioactive, and nuclear (CBRN) and First Aid training. Cadets were split up into two groups by company and taught one of the two subjects. After 45 minutes, the groups rotated station

The CBRN class was instructed by Cadet Crawford and Cadet Daniels respectively. They covered a wide variety of subjects. They began by discussing the importance of CBRN, specifically to protect the force and allow the Army to fight and win against a CBRN threat. They then described the types of CBRN threats one could encounter on the battlefield. The threats discussed were nerve agents, blister agents, and chemical agents. Cadets in attendance were described the horrible things these agents could do to a person as well as providing pictures of the aftermath of them. Cadets were then told how one could detect and protect themselves from these threats, specifically with the use of a mission-oriented protective posture (MOPP) suit. Cadet Daniels demonstrated how to wear a MOPP suit, and how to get a proper seal on a protective mask (pro mask). Cadets were then each given a pro mask so they could practice wearing them themselves. A competition was then started to find who could get a proper seal on a mask within nine seconds.

The First Aid class was instructed by Cadets Hacker and Havens. They demonstrated to the class the tools an average Soldier would use to fix wounds on the battlefield. The first piece of equipment demonstrated to cadets was a tourniquet. Cadets were told to come up to have a tourniquet placed on them to learn how to put it on properly. They were then taught how to apply an Israeli Bandage to flesh wounds. Cadets were then released into smaller groups to practice applying these tools to others. The instructors both oversaw this process.

These lessons were important to teach to younger cadets to give them an understanding of these subjects on the battlefield. For the MS3's, it will be essential for them to remember how to use these lessons for when they go to Advanced Camp summer 2022.

Weapons

Written By. Cadet Ryan Wittle

The Shippensburg Raider Battalion conducted a weapons familiarization lab on 14OCT2021 to introduce cadets to the M4, M240B, M2 Browning, and MK19 weapons system. The lab included disassembly and reassembly of the weapons system as well as identification of all parts and operations. Cadets were tested on functions check of the weapons and the speed at which they could assemble and disassemble each weapon system. The lab was conducted at the Chambersburg Armory with assets used from the Pennsylvania National Guard. It is vital for cadets to gain comfortability with these weapons in preparation for their time at Advanced Camp and once they become 2nd Lieutenants.



Basic Warrior Tasks/SMCT

Written By. Cadet Dior Edmonds

My name is cadet Edmonds, and I was in charge of the SMCT, or soldier's manual of common tasks lab that took place on October 21st, 2021. SMCT is an actual field manual used by US Army soldiers. Within this manual, soldiers can find numerous tasks, guides, and battle drills, to have a shared understanding as well as a standard level of combat readiness. A soldier's ability to complete these tasks without being told is what sets the US Army apart from any other fighting force in the world. It instills discipline within the unit and proves efficient within a field-type environment. The main objective of this lab was to take the most common skills and tasks that we as cadets use during training and familiarize the MSI and MSII cadets and reiterate to the MSIII cadets who will very soon be going to Cadet Summer Training in Ft. Knox Kentucky and be evaluated on their abilities to complete these tasks. On October 21st, Cadets learned a few of the basic tasks found within the manual. The ones that we focused on were, the basics of packing a rucksack, how to apply camouflage face paint in the field, how to build a hooch, and how to call up a 9-line and transport a casualty on a litter. The purpose of this lab was to prepare cadets to be self-sufficient in a field-type environment. They can take these skills and apply them to FTX's and other advanced Army training situations.





Special Teams

Written By. Cadet Nick Farrow

On November 4th, 2021, the Raider Battalion conducted a Lab on Specialty Teams detailing what they are and how they are used while a platoon is on an objective. There are three Specialty Teams; Enemy Prisoner of War (EPW) Search, First Aid and Litter, and Demolitions as recognized by the Ranger Handbook. To start with, EPW Search is the process of thoroughly and correctly searching all the EWPs in order to find any sort of equipment, weapons, personal information, or intelligence that could assist in the planning of future operations. Next, the First Aid and Litter Team will tend to all the wounded or injured. This team will conduct Tactical Combat Casualty Care (TCCC), as well as conduct a 9-Line if needed. Lastly then is the Demolition team which their job is to gather up all the equipment and weapons that cannot be taken along when the platoon leaves the objective. Once that gear is gathered up, they will prep explosives to destroy that equipment as the platoon is leaving the objective.

The Specialty Teams lab was a new addition to the Fall 2021 Lab schedule after the MS4s realized how important these teams are at Advanced Camp this past summer. For this Lab, the cadets were taught about these teams, they ran through a practical exercise of how each team works, and also conducted training on how to properly carry wounded or injured battle buddies. This Lab was a beneficial addition to the Battalion Lab Schedule and will continue to be part of the lessons taught to the Cadets of the Raider Battalion of Shippensburg University.

Best Squad Competition

Written By. Cadet Nate Rode



On November 11th the Raider Battalion conducted a squad competition. This lab was a round-robin event composed of eight different stations. These stations were: drill and ceremony, first aid with a litter carry, individual movement techniques, grenade throws, call in a nine-line medevac helicopter, gear carry, land navigation, and call for artillery fire. This ROTC lab was conducted at rec fields on the Shippensburg University campus. There were eight different groups and the goal was to accumulate points throughout the competition. These stations were made up of skills the cadets had learned earlier in the semester. This was a great lab because it was able to check on Cadet learning, establish morale through friendly competition, and reenforce teamwork Army "One team One fight" mentality.

Awards Ceremony

Written by Cadet Savannah Mower



On November 18 2021 at 14:00, the Raider Battalion held its fall semester awards and change of command ceremony featuring guest speaker bronze star recipient, Colonel Frank Hancock (ret.). Cadet Justin Noel was the master of ceremonies for the event which began with a contracting ceremony, distribution of awards, speech from our guest speaker, and concluded with a change of command ceremony. The ceremony began with the contracting of cadet Samuel Hacker into the program to demonstrate his commitment to his country by answering the call to serve as an Army officer upon graduation. Following the contracting ceremony, the Raider Battalion recognized the success of its cadets with several awards to include cadet of the semester award which was awarded to CDT Samuel Hacker and the Dean's Volunteer Service Award awarded to CDTs Josef Domby, Michael Eyler, Kierstin Melder, and Renee Sahli. Other awards included the Dean's List Award, Cannon Crew, Color Guard, Ranger Challenge, Recruiting Award, and the Battalion Commander Award for Excellence. Following the distribution of the awards, Colonel Frank Hancock gave a moving speech titled "The Thinking Soldier" to help cadets adopt a thinking attitude to prepare them to better serve as officers. The ceremony concluded with the change of command ceremony of next semester's battalion commanders. It was a celebration both of CDT Collin Curley's successful performance as the fall 2021 semester's Raider battalion commander and CDT Matthew Lawrence's achievement of assuming command for the spring 2022 semester. The ceremony was an excellent demonstration of the pride that cadets within the Raider Battalion have for their program and a great way to celebrate the conclusion of the fall semester.

Color Guard and Cannon Crew

Written by Cadet Renee Sahli



In 2020, the Shippensburg Raiders Football season was suspended due to the COVID-19 pandemic. On September 4th, 2021, Shippensburg's football season was revived by a 25-17 at home win against West Virginia State. There was no better way to kick-off the season than with a boom. The Shippensburg University Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) provide support to home football games at the stadium by firing a 75mm Howitzer cannon at kick-off and after every touchdown. Students, faculty, and community members were happy to see the return of one of the university's longest running and loudest traditions. Shippensburg home games draw huge crowds from the university and local population because of the iconic fan experience that the cannon provides at every home football game. In addition to the cannon crew, the university's ROTC program presents the American, Pennsylvania, and Shippensburg University colors at every home game. The color guard consists of five ROTC cadets who perform advanced facing and marching movements as well as display the nation's colors in a honorable and dignified manner. Presenting the Colors is a military tradition and a Shippensburg tradition. No game would be the same without the American flag waving on the field as the national anthem plays combined with the echoing boom of the Howitzer cannon.

1st Annual Turkey Bowl



On November 13th, 2021 the Raider Battalion declared victory against our worthy opponent Dickinson College in our very first annual Turkey bowl. Hosted here at home at Shippensburg University, our carefully selected team of fierce raiders embraced the cold, rain, and wind and came out on top with a 32-30 win. Cadets, as well as Cadre, are looking forward to defending our title in the upcoming years.



Fall 2021 Field Training Exercise (FTX) at Fort Indiantown Gap September 10th -12th, 2021



If You Would Like To
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SUPPORT SHIP'S ROTC PROGRAM by making a gift to the SU Foundation.

Through the ROTC program, students receive leadership development, military skills, and career training. Your gift to the ROTC Fund at the Shippensburg University Foundation supports specialized training and activities that help cadets build strength and character. Please consider a gift in support of these future leaders of the armed services as they protect and serve our country.

Go to tinyurl.com/SUROTC or scan the code to make a gift.



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