



Portland Detachment Newsletter

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Spring FTX

By: Cadet Jacob Wolwowicz

Spring FTX was a strenuous time for all cadets involved. During this time, the cadets of the Portland Battalion endured three days of weapons familiarization, STX lanes, and leadership training.

The training was conducted at Camp Rilea, located near the coast of Oregon from the 24th to the 26th of February. The weather was particularly derivate during this time as Friday the cadets saw rain and freezing temperatures, and Saturday the day was beautiful with sunny weather and warm conditions. The weather contributed heavily to the Portland Battalions morale. Over the 48 hours of training, the cadets displayed an immense amount of determination and readiness for the training that was to ensue. During the FTX, cadets were put to the test of leading their platoons and conducting tactical lanes. They were judged on the soundness of their leadership abilities and the aptitude of their ability to work in teams. The MSIV's led the FTX behind the scenes, giving out OPORD's from the TOC and receiving information such as MEDEVAC's from the cadets in the field. The MSIII's led the platoons as Platoon leaders, Platoon Sergeants, or Squad Leaders. MSII's advanced their leadership abilities by leading teams as alpha or bravo team leaders. MSI's also displayed leadership abilities by working with their superiors and learning basic soldier skills.



It was advantageous that all companies of the Portland Battalion joined together during the FTX. Eastern Oregon, Portland State, and University of Portland all worked together to make the training exercise successful and memorable. Truly, anyone that attended the Spring 2017 FTX learned valuable leadership qualities and gained invaluable experience with tactics and soldier skills. Overall, the Spring FTX was very successful, and though arduous, helped to develop capable and skilled future officers.

Spring FTX

By: Cadet Aundrea Dickard

The Spring FTX conducted in February didn't quite have ideal weather conditions, with pretty persistent rainfall and chilly nights getting down below freezing, but it still had extremely beneficial training which I was able to retain due to the applicable real-world simulation. It was basically split into a two part training (it was supposed to be three parts including rappelling but due to rainy weather conditions it was deemed unsafe) which included weapon qualification and STX lanes.

The weapon qualification with M4s was beneficial to me, especially as an inexperienced MSI, because I never had much prior knowledge in any sort of weapons training, so it was nice to have a hands on experience with someone right beside me to guide me on what I needed to do. Then we all got to fire a M249 SAW and a 240B... Which I think everyone can agree was awesome.

Friday evening and all day Saturday consisted of STX lanes where we were able to actually simulate real life war conditions to the point where people were actually classified as injured or dead and a MEDEVAC would have to be called. I was taken back by how realistic the whole process seemed and it put everything into better perspective for me as to how a real life scenario would play out.



I loved all of it, and thoroughly enjoy the field training. Everything is very hands on which is much more beneficial than any sort of classroom environment. I am excited to get more leadership opportunities at future FTX's to help me grow as a cadet and future Army Officer!

Dodge ball Tournament

By: Cadet Nate Thomas

In keeping with a tradition that began only a few years ago, University of Portland Army ROTC was proud to host their annual dodgeball tournament in the Howard Gym. With 16 teams participating this year, drawing the largest pool of competitors ever for the tournament, it was an excellent way to say farewell to Howard Hall, which is scheduled to be torn down over the summer. Of the 16 teams that participated, 2 teams from both Army and Air Force ROTC were included, with one Air Force team winning the final game and being declared the winner. Two Army and Air Force teams met in one fateful match, and after an exciting game where players both remembered and forgot Patches O'Houlihan's famous advice "Remember the 5 D's of dodgeball: Dodge, duck, dip, dive and dodge", the Air Force team came out on top. The Air Force team would go on to win the tournament championship. All members who participated in the tournament were given a complimentary t-shirt that had the tournament logo on the back, and the top 3 teams were rewarded with hoodies with similar logos.

Army ROTC, after suffering such a crushing defeat from Air Force, has now included dodgeball into the weekly PT schedule to search for the absolute best players in the program. In addition, CPT Koerwitz, Assistant Professor of Military Science, a member of the University of Portland Army dodgeball team, has sworn he will not rest until Air Force ROTC has been defeated in the next year's tournament, and has been seen in the gym several times a week with a new training regimen that many Cadets suspect will be a potent new weapon. CPT Koerwitz was not available for comment on either his plans for next year's tournament or his new workout plan, but was seen walking over to the gym again with CPT White, another APMS at the University of Portland.



CDT Wolwowitz, a referee for the tournament, was asked on what he thought of the Army teams and their performance this year and was quoted saying, "I think the teams performed well, but next time there needs to be a stronger showing from the Army teams that participate. We also need to beat Air Force so we have an excuse to reform the Army Air Corps."

Mental Health Fair

By: CDT Melissa Cross

At the mental health fair, ROTC cadets ran a booth to teach students about alcohol awareness. There were articles at the tables for students to read, as well as posters with facts on alcoholism and the percentage of college students who binge drink. A big hit at this booth was the drunken goggles. Students could try on two different types of drunken goggles; one was to simulate being tipsy, and the other was to simulate being almost blacked out. The activity was for the students wearing the drunken goggles to dribble a ball around an obstacle course marked off by tape. The drunken goggles helped make students more aware of the dangers of being drunk. The alcohol awareness booth run by ROTC cadets was very popular. The cadets were able to spread the word about safe drinking and what safe drinking really is. Students were taught the importance of knowing their limits, always having a friend with you when you go out, having a designated driver, and many more tips. Overall the mental health fair brought a lot of awareness to UP students and everyone had a great time.

Adventure Games

By: Cadet Kelsea Peterson

Cadets from UP and PSU have competed in an adventure race team known as Wild Canyon Games over the last few years. In the past they would conduct a twelve-week train up in preparation for this by mountain biking, swimming, running, geo caching, and obstacle competitions. However, last year was the last Wild Canyon Games hosted by the creators of Wild Canyon Games. Disappointed by this change, the cadets who competed last year still wanted to carry on the tradition.



A couple of us who have competed in the past found a new competition in Washington to train up for in lieu of regular PT. We got the plan approved by LTC McGee for a two-month train up. We have been running and biking many rigorous miles of hilly trails through mud and sweat. All spring we have been training Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturdays together. This adventure race train up has improved our APFT scores, built up our moral, and enhanced our camaraderie. We hope that cadets will carry out the adventure race train up for years to come!

Dining-Out

By: Cadet Joshua D'Andrea

The Portland Battalion's annual dining-out event is held near the end of every school year to celebrate the cadets' hard work over the course of the year. It is also a special event for the soon to commission MSIV cadets as their shoulder boards are placed on their uniforms by a significant person(s) of their choosing. These shoulder boards will later hold their 2nd lieutenant rank insignias after their commissioning ceremony. MSIV cadets often choose parents, siblings, spouses, significant others and friends. The MSIVs are escorted into the event by their significant person(s) and walk under a saber arch, put up by the saber guard detail primarily composed of MSI cadets which is meaningful in and of itself. The MSIs work to make the event memorable for the MSIVs, knowing that one day, just a few short years away, a new generation of MSIs will do the same for them.

This year, Dining-Out was held at the Sheraton Portland Airport Hotel on March 10, 2017. Cadets arrived wearing their Army Service Uniform (ASU) and conducted themselves according to Army customs and courtesies. Such decorum was necessary given both the formal nature of the event and the distinguished guests who were present. One such guest was COL Jose Aguilar who imparted a few words of wisdom on the cadets, wisdom he earned from his time at the United States Military Academy at West Point and during his Army career. In addition to distinguished service members, school faculty were also invited to the event as special guests. Fr. Art Wheeler, a professor of both United States and American military history here at the University of Portland, was in attendance and gave the opening invocation and closing benediction.

Most cadets brought a date or their own guest along to share with others the tradition known as dining-out. Some cadets were even recognized for their accomplishments during the school year during the awards ceremony, making the event all the more memorable. The event was also significant for one of our cadre, CPT Briggs, who had his retirement ceremony at the end of the dining out. The retirement ceremony recognized CPT Briggs' dedication to his Army career and commemorated its completion.

On a final note, dining out was a successful event this year. The cadets all enjoyed themselves. Delicious food was served, the staff was polite and accommodating, the guests were supportive of our organization, the MSI cadets enjoyed putting on the saber arch for the MSIVs and posting the colors, and the awards, retirement, and shoulder board pinning ceremonies made the event meaningful and memorable.



Athlete in ROTC

By: Cadet Erik Holm

Today, I'm writing about my experience of being both an Army ROTC cadet as well as a student-athlete. I can truly say that I feel honored to wear both the uniform that represents the Army as well as the uniform that represents my University. People have asked me many times "How are you doing that?" or "I couldn't imagine what that would be like!" Although it's sometimes flattering to hear, I personally believe that I've been successful thus far because of my heavy course load. I quickly had to learn how to prioritize and manage my time, and I also had to understand the importance of not binge watching entire seasons of shows on Netflix. Most of my time is invested in my life here at the University of Portland with little time to myself. Whether that's a good thing or bad thing, I've tried to only focus on the positives. I understand that life will just get increasingly busy, and whether that will be a culture shock to some students or not, I feel like my experiences here will benefit me and better prepare me for the stresses of the real world. As of right now, my goal is to become a physician's assistant or a Doctor, and although this is a very difficult path, I feel that my experiences in college will most definitely help me towards achieving this goal.

Advanced Camp

By: Cadet Jonathan Booker

This summer I will be traveling to Fort Knox, Kentucky to attend the Army's largest training exercise known as Advanced Camp. The 29-day training course will put everything I have learned in ROTC to the test. Recently I was informed that I am assigned to 1st Regiment, which means I will report on May 25th and come back home on June 25th. The course will not only give me knowledge to take back to my Battalion, but will test my land navigation skills, marksmanship, tactical knowledge, and leadership abilities.

Almost half of the time at Advanced Camp will be spent in the field. I am most excited for this aspect of Camp. The field is a true test of grit. It separates the weak from the strong. The long days and nights spent in the woods will be both mentally and physically exhausting. Under these conditions will Cadets be tasked with conducting missions such as raids, attacks, ambushes, and more. The quick decision making and critical thinking skills that I have learned in ROTC will be evaluated under the pressure of simulated combat.

I am confident that Advanced Camp will bring out the best in me. When we face adversity, we show our true selves. Portland Battalion has prepared me well to face the challenges of Camp. When I graduate from Advanced Camp and come back to school, I believe I will come back a much stronger and more confident Cadet than before. I will be equipped with the skills needed to be successful in my MS4 year. I can't wait to get down there and start training!

Fall 2017

Pilot Detachment Staff Positions

Cadet Battalion Commander: CDT Wells (UP)

Cadet Battalion Executive Officer: CDT Tanatchangsang (UP)

Cadet Battalion Command Sergeant Major: CDT Booker (UP)

Cadet Battalion Administration Officer (S-1): Cadet Grace (UP)

Cadet Battalion Intelligence Officer (S-2): CDT Sipe (UP)

Cadet Battalion Operations Officer (S-3): CDT Roeper (UP)

S-3 SGM/MFT: CDT Bartsch (UP)

Cadet Battalion Supply Officer (S-4): CDT McNichols (UP)

Cadet Battalion PAO (S-5): CDT Stevens (WSUV)

Assistant Cadet S-5 PSU: CDT Mueller (PSU)

Cadet Battalion Signal Officer (S-6): CDT Barrier (UP)

PSU Cadet Officer In Charge: CDT Paschall (PSU)