

The All For One

ISSUE 1

SPRING 2014

EDITOR: C/CPT

Word from the Cadet Battalion Commander

As c/BN Commander, it has been an exciting yet challenging opportunity to lead the Xavier BN through the last half of the spring semester. As future officers, it is drilled into our core that leaders are responsible for everything their units do or do not accomplish. In ROTC, the expectation from our cadre is not any different. Tasked with developing and executing training for the younger cadets, it is our duty as MSIVs to provide the younger MS classes with excellent military instruction. While occasionally our training plans do not quite meet our own expectations or stated goals – as this side of the equation is a learning experience for us as well – I feel the cadets of the XU BN have received overall another year of exceptional Army ROTC training.

As we proceed into the final month of training, it is crucial to remain focused on our core training objectives and finish the year strong. For MSIII's, the remaining weeks mark the last moments to prepare for LDAC, their final evaluation component for accessions. For MSIV's, it is important to ensure MSIII's have received the best training possible, as well as make the final preparations to begin our careers as 2LTs in the



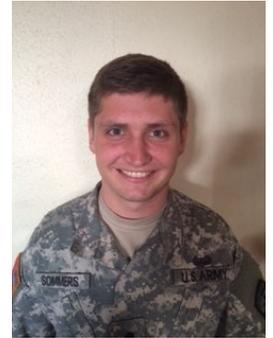
Army. MSIs and MSIIIs can use these last weeks to solidify a strong foundation of basic soldier skills and leadership traits. With only a few labs and a CFTX remaining on our training schedule, these events provide an excellent opportunity to showcase what each MS class has learned this year.

It is a bittersweet realization that for myself and many of my fellow cadets, we are entering the last month of our journey in ROTC. While our experience is atypical of many college students, I am confident that the MSIVs would agree when I say that the lessons learned in ROTC will prove to be valuable for our lives both inside and outside of the military. The benefits of leadership training isn't restricted to leading a platoon of soldiers; they're equally significant for our

civilian careers, our family life, and our participation in our local communities. ROTC has been an incredible and irreplaceable advantage in the first step – or for some, a second step – in our adult lives, no matter which direction that step may lead.

I wish the best of luck to our many promising cadets, and although a bit cliché, I offer this advice: you only get out what you put in. The MSIVs would also like to say a seemingly inadequate “thank you” to all the cadre for the countless hours and long days and nights dedicated to providing the cadets of the All For One Battalion with the best training possible. It is much appreciated. All for one!

C/LTC Ronald Longworth,
All for One BN
Xavier University



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Word from Cadet Battalion Commander C/LTC Longworth	1
2nd Blood by Cadet Connor Hamilton	2
Best Ranger Challenge by Cadet Dominic Geraci	3-4
Letter from the Editor By Cadet Jake Sommers	5
Battalion Photos!	6



2nd Blood by Cadet Connor Hamilton

On the morning of Second Blood, I arrived at the armory with my required gear and excitement to shoot a weapon system at a shooting range. I felt my nerves act up as we were split into two different groups in preparation to be loaded into the transport vehicles. The drive to Camp Atterbury, IN was quiet and long, which only added to the suspense. When we arrived at the range and unloaded all the gear, we moved to a designated point and were issued Meals Ready to Eat, or MREs. My group was the second in line to shoot. While waiting for our turn, we could hear the cracking of the M16s. Under the leadership of Cadet Longworth, we reviewed over different useful tactics such as R&S, recon and security, and different drills. After the review ended, we were each issued M16s to practice ready up drills. The drill consisted of taking a standing firing position and raising the weapon to simulate firing. We were instructed to switch the rifle to semi-automatic, take aim, fire and back to safe in a fluid motion. After an hour and a half, it was finally my turn to head to the range. I took a prone position behind a shooting block and waited for the signal that meant



the range was hot. Remembering what I learned in class about trigger squeeze and breathing, I fired my rifle three times. I hit just left of the target and proceeded to adjust my rifle's sights throughout the exercise. After sighting my weapon, we were given a target to qualify with. To qualify, twenty six rounds needed to hit a target from the forty rounds you were given. The drill went by quickly and to my satisfaction I qualified in my first try. While waiting for those who were trying to qualify, a large portion of the cadets were rounded up to take part in small STX lanes overseen by LTC



Wissel. Under the command of the Cadre and the MSIVs, I was able to learn about skills on how to be a leader, how to fire a rifle, and the importance of safety. Second Blood was an exciting experience that I am happy I was able to take part in.



Best Ranger Challenge by Cadet Dominic Geraci

On March 21st and 22nd, schools from six different states came together to compete in nine events over a 48 hour period. Xavier sported four different teams including Nick Chesrown and myself and another team consisting of the Nelson brothers. We all had high hopes of placing well against the forty eight teams during Ranger Challenge. Some of us were able to achieve this goal while others fell short. But I can say with



CDT Geraci with partner CDT Chesrown

out a doubt that every single one of us gave 100% for every event and came out of it knowing our physical capabilities and



how far we can push ourselves better than before.

On Friday all of the teams met at the O'Connor Sports Complex to compete in the first event, the swim test. This involved a 100m swim in full ACU's that ended with each member diving down to the bottom to retrieve 2 rubber M16s and placing them on the edge of the pool. This event proved to show who of us were strong and weak swimmers.

After getting some sleep, we all arrived in the Armory at 6:00am the next morn-

ing for the rest of the competition. The first event was the Ranger Physical Fitness Test. This involved two minutes of pushups and sit-ups along with chin-ups and a 5 mile run. All of the Xavier teams excelled in this event by receiving a near perfect score in the entire event.

The third event that followed was the hand grenade course. This involved each two man team to navigate their way through five separate stations that consisted of each member throwing one grenade at a specific target. This event was graded on accuracy and time completed in. Although this event was difficult and tiring, each Xavier team including Team Nelson were able to beat out the majority of the competition.

Immediately following was the weapons assembly. Each team was required to assemble a M16A4, M9, M249, M240B, and a radio within 8 minutes while also performing a successful functions check. I think everyone can agree, this was the most physically relaxing of the events.



Senior CDT Nelson doing the push-up portion of the Ranger Physical Fitness test

Best Ranger Challenge Continued by Cadet Dominic Geraci

The stress shoot soon followed which entailed every member to perform 40 pushups, run around the armory twice, and reach the range under three and a half minutes. Once at the range, each team had to perform 20 pushups for each member and fire ten rounds from either an M4 or M9. This event was solely graded on accuracy.

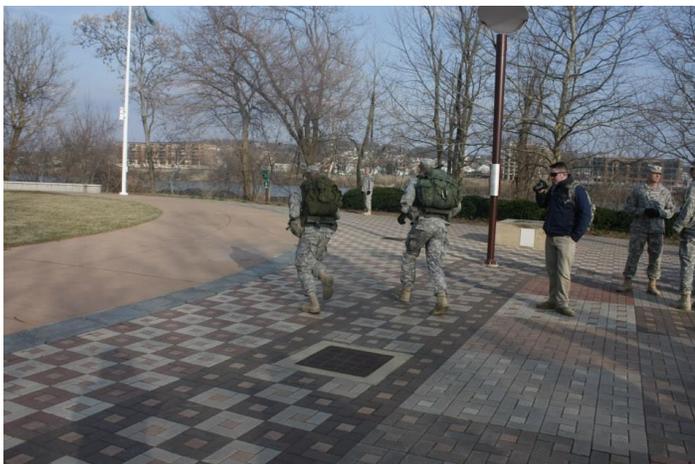
Next came what I thought was the hardest event of the day, the Iron Strike. This physical event required the teams to run two miles in 800m increments, an up-down course, one rope climb, 3 seventy pound sandbag lifts over a wall followed by climbing over the wall, 300m run with one forty five pound plate in each hand, and a skidco drag which weighed over 150 pounds. Needless to say, this was one of the most demanding workouts of my entire life.

We were then transported to Fort Thomas where we conducted a rope corral and

One Rope Bridge. At the rope corral, each team was required to successfully tie 8 different knots under two minutes. This was immediately followed by the one rope bridge. In this event each team must successfully transport both members including all of their gear (2 M16s and two fully packed rucks) across a small ravine. Through employing four different knots, Cadet Chesrown and myself were able to successfully make it across with very few hiccups.

With the conclusion of the one rope bridge, we were then transported to Sawyer Point where we conducted the final event, the Ruck Run. With full rucks, FLICS, and ACU's we set out on an undisclosed distance ruck run along the banks of the Ohio River. The position each team started at was determined by how they performed in the other events. Every Xavier team in-

cluding Team Nelson was able to finish in the top half with Team Mulvey/Hamilton finishing in fourth place. The culmination of running through Sawyer Point and across the Purple People Bridge brought the Ranger Challenge to a conclusive close. We were all proud of ourselves no matter what position we came in and hope to bring the trophy back to Xavier next year.



Letter from the Editor: CDT Jake Sommers

The school year is winding down quickly as cadets in the All for One Battalion are finishing off their classes strong. This semester has been a great semester in ROTC, despite the long drawn out winter. We have had great training in which cadets have participated in various leadership labs including 2nd Blood, patrolling, Combat water survival training, and those who have par-

ticipated in the Best Ranger Challenge.

As seniors in this Battalion, we would like to thank all of the cadets for their hard work and dedication during training and other ROTC functions. We would also like to thank parents, friends, and family for their continuous support of their cadet. Joining the military requires a strong supportive cast from

friends and family as assimilating into the military can be difficult at first.

With that being said, we look forward to having a great end of the semester and hope to see all friends and family at the Spring Military Ball!

All For One BN Photos



Interested in writing for the All for One?

The All For One newsletter is always accepting submissions from cadets and cadre. If there is a topic you would like to write an article on for the Spring Issue, don't hesitate to contact C/ CPT Sommers at sommersj@xavier.edu or the current Cadet Public Affairs officer.— C/CPT Sommers



For more photos visit our facebook page!
www.facebook.com/AllForOneROTC

Or our website at www.xavier.edu/military-science



All For One ROTC Battalion

Xavier University

3904 Winding Way

Cincinnati, OH

45229

(513) 745-1066

www.xavier.edu/military-science



ARMY ROTC



**FIVE SCHOOLS, ONE BATTALION
ALL FOR ONE**