Maverick Battalion Training Newsletter
Bethany Lutheran-Gustavus Adolphus-Minnesota State

Volume I Issue 3: 13 March – 23 April 2015

Above: CDT Masters shows off his ghillie suit at Offensive Operations

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Where & When

19 March 2015 Land Navigation @ Minneopa State Park. Uniform is ACUs.

26 March 2015 Tactics III 1600-1800. Uniform is ACUs.

09 April 2015 ROC drill @ Mankato Army Reserve Center 1600-1800. Uniform is ACUs.

23-26 April 2015 CLTX @ Camp Ripley.

PT Calendar

14 April 2015: No PT MSI-MSIII

15 April 2015: Record APFT

Above: CPT McClure and CDT Jacobson Z demonstrate how to use their ACU bottoms as a flotation device

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Mavericks Selected for CULP

Above: CDT Johnson E exchanges flags with a Thai soldier during his CULP trip last summer

One of the quintessential college experiences is to study abroad, to go away for a period of time to work, to volunteer, to teach, or to learn. ROTC cadets get a special opportunity to travel overseas and support US interests by participating in the Cultural Understanding and Language Proficiency program, or CULP. This summer, four Maverick Battalion cadets will be traveling abroad on CULP orders. CDTs Blomgren and Olson will be going to Croatia, CDT Brazel will be going to the Czech Republic and CDT Grove will be going to Turkey.

CULP represents an opportunity for these cadets not only to interact with cadets and cadre from across the country, but to engage with other cultures, civilian and military, from around the world. Each of the cadets going overseas this summer will be participating in a military-to-military exchange, that is, interacting directly with the military of their host nation. Other types of CULP deployments include purely educational trips where military uniforms are never worn, and trips where the main focus is volunteering or teaching English.

Applying for CULP is a selective process with an acceptance rate of less than 50%. Cadets going to CULP receive a boost to their order of merit list (OML) score as well as per diem pay for the time that they are abroad. Applications went up late first semester, and cadets were selected on 30 January for their summer trips. Moving forward, cadets will need to schedule CULP alongside their regular summer training, such as Cadet Leader’s Course (CLC) and Cadet Initial Entry Training (CIET).

Summer Internships

An old Army saying goes that "experience is the best teacher", yet ROTC classes are taught at civilian universities, many of which, including the schools that comprise the Maverick Battalion, are far from an active military installation. How, then, are cadets to gain experience in the field while still completing their studies? The answer is simple; Army internships at bases across the country, which introduce cadets to the basics of Army life as well as specific jobs which will be available to them once they commission. CDTs Clark and Williams applied for and were granted summer in the Chaplain’s Corps and Nursing Corps, respectively, for the summer of 2015.

Below: CDT Williams (left, kneeling) and CDT Clark (right, kneeling) with their M240s at tactics

Army internships are as varied as the Army itself, with some cadets finding themselves working in an office at the Pentagon while others are firing M119 howitzers on the plains of Oklahoma. Many such "internships" fall under the auspices of Cadet Troop Leadership Training, a generic program that matches cadets with lieutenants in line units for three or four weeks. CDTs Clark and Williams, however, applied for specific internships which will teach them the inner workings of their respective branches as well as provide a "leg up" should those cadets want to join the branches where they’ve interned.
New Contract: Lindsey Hibbard

Name: Lindsey Hibbard
Year: MSIII
School: Gustavus Adolphus

Above: With the ink barely dry on her contract, CDT Sik is already in the thick of things at Offensive Operations

New Contract: Jenna Sik

Name: Jenna Sik
Year: MSII
School: Minnesota State University

Below: CDT Hickman leads from the front at Combat Water Survival Training (CWST)
Announcements

Cadets who have not RSVP’d for the military ball need to do so ASAP

Resolute Leadership Challenge is 18 April 2014; tell your friends

APFT scores were greatly improved from January to March. Great job Mavericks!

Cadets seeking an excused absence from PT need to be in touch with their cadre instructor as well as their chain of command

Commander’s Intent: CDT Jacobson Z.

“Success as individuals is left to our own volition. Have we aligned our priorities with our goals? Are we displaying this through effective time management, discipline, and sacrifice? And are we satisfied with the results? As cadets our successes is often measured by two simple things, grades and pt scores. Having just taken a diagnostic pt test, and having just received our midterm reports, we can gather an accurate assessment of where we stand. I encourage everyone to reflect on where they are at, and use that as motivation to finish this year strong”