Breaking Brush: Time for Land Nav.

By: Kurt Peterson

It's October, which means the highlight of this month’s lab schedule will be land navigation. Every year roadrunner battalion orienteers at Camp Bullis land navigation sites. To cadets this is a physical and mental test, and for our Ranger Challenge teams, Land Navigation becomes intense competition.

Once the horn blows and the course begins, it’s you versus yourself. Being prepared and confident before you hit the course is vital. Take an honest look at your land nav skills and give yourself a confidence check. This simple test can tell you a lot about where improvement is needed and what areas a mentor can provide guidance.

With two field training exercises and Warrior Forge in the future for MSIII’s, now is the time to improve your skills. The day and night land navigation labs give every cadet who participates the opportunity to get hands on practice. The best way to swing for the fences is having an organized route planned, and avoiding self-doubt and common sense mistakes.

Arguing that there is a perfect technique for orienteering is hard, so be flexible. The fact is that Camp Bullis and Fort Lewis are two drastically different courses and both require a high level of skill to succeed. If your goal at lab is finding every point and finishing with ample time leftover, you are already headed in the right direction.

October’s lab schedule includes Day and Night navigation, which are two graded events at Warrior Forge.

Roadrunner Fundraisers

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Thanks to our fundraising program the battalion has no shortage of activities to participate in. You can train and compete with CDT Goodman’s Ranger Challenge teams, or learn drill and ceremony with CDT Knapp’s Color Guard. Joining CDT Gilmore’s Bataan Memorial death march teams gives cadets a chance to travel to White Sands Missile Range in New Mexico.

Our weekly Burger Burn is our primary source of income. Don’t hesitate to volunteer for a shift when your class leaders ask for volunteers. From 1030 to 1500 help is needed and new faces are encouraged to volunteer. Other events in the future include setup and tear down of Rock ‘n’ Roll San Antonio Marathon, and half-marathon, also bagging groceries at the Fort Sam Houston commissary for donations.

Having fun activities and nice events like our end of the year Dining Out are the results of our hard working volunteers. In Roadrunner Battalion helping out does not go unrewarded. Like Ranger Challenge, Color Guard, and the Bataan Memorial Death March, volunteering for a fundraising event is a way to gain accessions points.
Army ROTC athletes victorious; sweeping the Air Force at Commanders Cup.

MSII Cadet Collins gaining yardage and putting his team in scoring range.

Cadet Sealey ran for two touchdowns over the course of the games.

Battalion Commander Hastings lead the defense, and didn't hesitate to get physical.

Cadet Canty proved to be a powerhouse for the MSIV team, making several catches.

MSI Cadet Powers put pressure on the Air Force team, eventually wearing them out.

MSI, II, III, and IV's came to play and showed support for their fellow athletes.

“Never surrender, play like a Champion!”