



## Manchester Raider Competition

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### Special points of interest:

- Everything!
- The 3rd 9 weeks was a busy time for CHCORI

At 5am CHCORI Raiders were piling into the SCTC to leave for the Manchester competition. The three teams were given their final instructions, patches, and a very motivating speech by Lt. Colonel Barham and then they got onto their bus transport and left for Manchester High School. When they arrived they were greeted by a large collection of schools and a challenge to be the best. After they had put their gear down and gotten warmed-up, the teams split and went to the track to start the PT (physical training) test. In this event the cadets had to do as many push-ups and sit-ups as they could manage in one minute, and then they had to run a timed mile against all the other cadets present.

After the PT tests had ended, the teams separated to do the other events of the competition. One of these events was the first-aid litter carry. In this event the Raiders had to evaluate a 'hurt' casualty and then run him on a stretcher through an obstacle course as fast as possible. Another competitive event was the rope bridge. Here the cadets had to set up a single-rope connection between two sparsely placed posts and then take the team across it utilizing personal "Swiss-seats" and D-

rings to attach themselves to it. After they all had crossed they had to dismantle the bridge and call, "Time!" to have the timer stop the clock. One of the last events was the truck-pull, where cadets had to pull a 7400lb hummer across a parking lot as fast as they could. After the completion of all of these events, the teams got a small break and were able to eat lunch, relax a little, and rehydrate themselves.

For the last event of the day, the tired, worn-out, and overall exhausted cadets motivated themselves to push through a 5k run. This event wears down most teams, especially since it is uphill most of the way and the team must carry a heavy guide on, but the CHCORI teams motivated themselves, pushed through, and finished the day strong. After the judges were given a little while to finalize scoring, the teams were all called forward to fall-in on the track. The CHCORI A team was presented with trophies for 2<sup>nd</sup> place overall, 1<sup>st</sup> place for PT, and 1<sup>st</sup> place for truck pull; the B team received trophies for 4<sup>th</sup> place



overall and 2<sup>nd</sup> place for truck pull; and the F team received trophies for 2<sup>nd</sup> place PT. For the personal fitness medals: David Weakley got 1<sup>st</sup> place sit-ups and top male overall, Lincoln Frawley had the top mile-run score; and Morgan Patterson won medals for top female sit-ups, pushups, and a mile run, putting her in the top female position. Overall the CHCORI Raider teams fared very well competitively and had a great day at Manchester High School.

## Annual Inspection

**593 points out  
of 600!!**

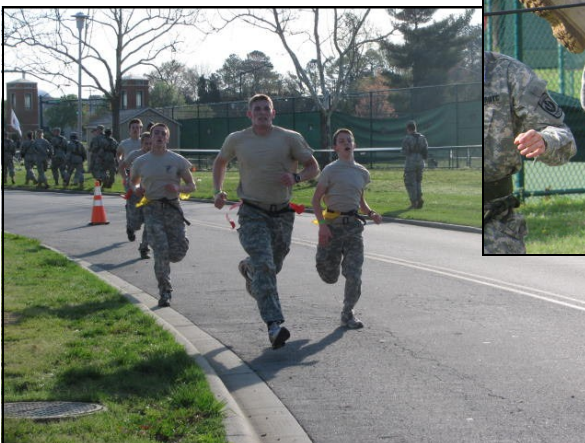
The CHCORI staff had been preparing for this event all year. Staff members kept their stations in top shape and rehearsed the brief until it was perfect. On March 15, 2012, the CHCORI Battalion conducted their annual inspection for Colonel Thornton. The staff members and key leaders arrived at the Spotsylvania Career and Technical Center bright and early to make final preparations. The battalion's personnel officer, c/1LT Duckett said, "I think we're ready. I have great people working in the S-1 shop and this is a chance to show them off." Before the staff could be inspected, the Charlie Company cadets conducted an in-ranks inspection and demonstrated drill proficiency for several active duty NCO's that were here to assist Colonel Thornton. Charlie Company did excellent!

The Charlie Company cadets set an amazing precedent for the rest of the battalion. After Colonel Thornton observed the Charlie Company cadets, he was escorted by the battalion commander, c/LTC Richie Cedres, to the staff briefing in the SCTC. Each staff member briefed the inspector on their duties and accomplishments from the year. The brief included the history and organization of our battalion. The unit teams, such as drill, academic, and raiders were showcased during the briefing. After the briefing concluded, Colonel Thornton was guided to the different staff shops by the battalion executive officer, c/MAJ Falon Stimpson. Capable and ready, each staff section took Colonel Thornton through an in-depth tour of their staff shop. After these presentations, Colonel Thornton informed us of the quality of the work. We did an outstanding job! All staff sections earned every point possible and only a few points were taken from Charlie Company's inspection. Overall we scored a

593 out of 600! The CHCORI Battalion is truly an amazing unit and very deserving of the gold star pinned onto every uniform. Colonel Thornton remarked, "This is a good unit and continues to be worthy of the Honor Unit with Distinction rating."



## Best of the Best Raider Competition



On March 17, 2012, the Raider A Team competed in the Best of the Best Competition held at University of North Carolina Charlotte. Only twenty teams compete; however, these twenty teams came from a seven state area out of 342 schools. It is a major honor to even be in the presence of the other teams and to be able to step onto the competition field.

The Raider Team left on their journey to North Carolina on Friday, March 16 in a school bus driven by r/LTC Barham. The trip took about six hours and when the cadets arrived at the hotel they were more than ecstatic to get out of the bus and stretch their legs. The cadets proceeded into the hotel and were given a Chick-fil-a complimentary dinner consisting of a sandwich, chips, fruit, and a brownie. YUM! Next the cadets were assigned to specific hotel rooms and went to the rooms to unload their gear and change into civilian clothing. After changing into civilian clothing the cadets gathered in the lobby of the hotel and prepared to go out to the competition site to perform recon. The cadets loaded back on the bus and drove about fifteen minutes to UNC Charlotte. When they got to the campus, they got off the bus and began to assess the scene in preparation for the upcoming day. When the assessment of the area was completed, the cadets got back onto the bus and went to the fantastic Maggie Moos for ice cream! One of the competitors, Da-

vid Weakley, decided to order an ice cream pizza for himself – needless to say, he did not finish it but did eat quite a bit. Once everyone finished his ice cream, the team journeyed back to the hotel. At the hotel the cadets practiced tying ropes and put the finishing touches on their roles. After the rope tying and finishing touches were completed, the cadets went to their respective hotel rooms at 10pm for a good nights rest (well except for Jack Dills, who slept in the bath tub).

The cadets awoke at 5 in the morning the next day. They got ready and squared away for the long day ahead of them. They went down to the lobby and ate a good breakfast provided by the hotel staff. After breakfast the cadets loaded up their gear and got on the bus to go to compete. The competition began at around 7 o'clock in the morning. The first event was the Modified Army Physical Fitness Test. This test consists of two minutes of push ups, two minutes of sit ups, and a one mile run. The cadets pushed themselves extremely hard during this challenge. Next the cadets went to the First Aid course. Here four of the cadets were to run with a stretcher through a curvy course and then transfer the stretcher to the next four members on their team. The cadets ran fast and hard while carrying this 100 pound stretcher. After this event, the team continued on to rope bridge. The rope bridge is a rope extending from one tree to another. During this event cadets are to form this "bridge" and haul themselves across it. The rope bridge went well and the cadets made it and made it across in less than three minutes, even though they had had some slight struggles and set backs with quick knot

tying. The cadets then moved on to the vehicle pull. This event is an event where cadets have to pull a Hummer in neutral with a rope. The cadets muscled up and pulled this vehicle in 21 seconds! This was extremely impressive and the cadets were so driven that they even pulled the vehicle too far and onto a curb. After the vehicle pull, the cadets went to the 5K site. At this point in the day it was around one o'clock. The cadets were exhausted, tired, drained, and essentially were running on empty. The cadets got into a two column formation and began their run. When they returned they were sweating, panting, and hurting. Bridger Johnson recalls that "he felt exhausted and happy that the day was over, but proud of the way the team carried themselves during the run." There is a never a moment when someone is more proud and feels more accomplished than after tackling this beast of a run. Once all the events were completed the cadets got to take a break and go to Cici's pizza for a quick lunch before the Awards Ceremony. The cadets enjoyed all you can eat pizza and cinnamon rolls. When the feasting concluded the cadets loaded back onto the bus and went back to the competition for the Awards Ceremony. The Awards Ceremony began at five o'clock and the teams began to receive awards. The CHCORI Raider Team did not receive any awards but they did receive sixth place out of all of the teams. The day was a victory.

## *Military Ball 2012*

On March 23, 2012 the annual Military Ball was held at the Hospitality House on Route 3. The Military Ball is a formal occasion for cadets to go out and showcase how amazing the CHCORI Battalion is. This year the cadets arrived at the location at 5:30pm to begin the night's festivities. The night began with all cadets and dates going through a receiving line. A receiving line is a line consisting of the Battalion Commanders from both the CHCORI Battalion and Knight Battalion, the adjutant, the guest speaker, and the Senior Army Instructors. The cadets are to go down this line and introduce themselves and shake hands with each person. Then the cadets bear into the ballroom and walk under sabers held by the Honor Guard.

The cadets then go to their respective places and wait for the ball to formally begin. The ball began with an introduction, followed by the presentation of the colors by the CHCORI Color Guard. After the Color Guard concluded, toasts were made and the Hat Ceremony was demonstrated. The Hat Ceremony is a ceremony that is displayed to emphasize the people that have lost their lives and cannot attend due to their service to their country. Once the Hat Ceremony concluded the ladies took their seats followed by the gentlemen. Then dinner was served. When dinner concluded, the guest speaker, Retired Colonel Robert Clay USMC spoke to the cadets. He spoke of the joy of serving and what being a Marine meant to him. It was a moving speech. Once the speech ended, the colors were retired and the

informal part of the evening began. Male cadets loosened their ties, took off their jackets and took the ladies out to the floor to dance. The dancing ended at 11pm along with the rest of the ball. Overall the night was a night to remember. After all, what other time does one get to dress up and enjoy a formal night that includes food, friends, and family? CHCORI AS ONE.





## *Cadet of the Month*

Every month, selected LET I cadets attend something called a “Cadet of the Month Board.” This is an organized board that takes place after school. Each cadet studies an information packet on their own time to prepare for this board. The packet consists of general knowledge questions, raider questions, and drill questions. On the day of the board, each cadet arrives in their Class B uniform. Then, one by one, each cadet is called to room 101 to face the CHCORI Bat-

talion Command Sergeant Major and all of the company First Sergeants. They are tested on their military bearing, questions from the packet, as well as current events. During the month of March, c/PVT Dori Larkin and several other cadets attended the board. Cadet Larkin came out victorious. It is truly a nerve-racking experience, but each month, brave cadets step forward to give it a try. By the end of the year, even if a cadet loses the board, he or she still has an advantage

over all of the other cadets during the promotion board. The promotion board is conducted in a similar manner, so going to at least one cadet of the month board helps the cadet.


**Cadets can do some amazing things when they set their mind to it.**

## *NCO of the Quarter*

On April 4<sup>th</sup>, the cadets of CHCORI eligible to go up to the NCO of the Quarter board appeared at the SCTC motivated and well prepared. Many different cadets appeared before the collection of inquisitors ready for a challenge and well prepared for it. The cadets then entered one by one and were each tested on their

JROTC, chain of command, and current event knowledge. When the boards were ended and the leaders had finished compiling the results and called forth the candidates. At the end of the day, it was revealed that cadet Staff Sergeant Hannah Cannon was the newest NCO of the Quarter. She describes this as, “A great honor

and a remarkably close competition where a fraction of a point can make all the difference between victory and defeat.” She also hopes that she will move forward to win the great title of NCO of the Year, taking place in May.



***Upcoming Events:***



*-Fort Pickett Raider Competition*

*-Cystic Fibrosis Walk*

*-Promotion Boards*

*-Field Day*

*-Color Guard Nationals*



*-Change of Command Ceremony*

*-JCLC*

*(check the website for dates)*

We're on the Web!

[HTTP://CHCORI.CO.CC/](http://CHCORI.CO.CC/)

Visit us for pictures, events, and more!



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**Special thanks to the S5 shop for creating this newsletter!!**