



December 2011–
January 2012



Ballistic Bear News

Commanders Corner:

I can hardly believe we're approaching the end of my first semester at MSU. And what an awesome semester it has been. One of the things that I have noticed the most is the caliber of future leaders this one battalion holds and will contribute to the United States Armed Forces. We have all learned a lot this semester and I know together we will continue to strive and better ourselves, the Battalion and the University.

This December we will Commission four cadets, and they will then take their role as a leader in the greatest Army in the world. These future leaders are flexible, adaptable and exactly right for what our nation needs.

The Battalion has worked hard, but most importantly we have all had fun and made every day count.

We hosted the German Armed Forces Proficiency Badge competition in November and the event was enormously successful. We had over 50 cadets participate and we had 42 that earned the coveted badge.

As you understand we have a tremendous amount of training wants and as with any organization we need to limit our wants based on available funds. I hope you would consider establishing a monthly allotment towards the Army ROTC general fund – even \$10.00 a month would go a long way towards maintaining the quality of officer training events.

I just want to throw out the fact that next year will be the Bear Battalion's 60th Anniversary at MSU and we want to get as much participation as possible. We are ten-

tatively planning to host this event around a Fall '12 football game and make it a weekend celebration. As we get into next semester and more details are worked out we will keep everyone up to date.

The next newsletter in February will include a section on Alumni, so if Alumni have anything they want included please let us know.

Finally a Merry Christmas to everyone and a Wonderful New Year.

Go Bears!
LTC Troy S. Wisdom



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What's Happening on Campus

As some of you might know, the Bear Battalion is made up of Cadets from Missouri State, Evangel, Southwest Baptist, College of the Ozarks, and Drury . Here is what is going on at each campus this month.



Missouri State University

Last month, Missouri State cadets participated in the annual Taps Project on Veterans Day. The taps project is an event where buglers surround the campus in a chain and play taps one after another until it has been played all the way around campus. Cadets were with the buglers rendering salutes during taps to show their gratitude for what the veterans had done for our nation.



Evangel University

Evangel's music department put on a Christmas concert to benefit the Salvation Army's food bank last Friday. Songs were performed by the EU Choral, Orchestra, and Jazz Band. The Sing His Praises Homeschool choir also performed a couple of songs at the concert. The price of admission was a non-perishable food item or a cash donation. This was put on by Evangel's SIFE, and it was a part of Campbell's Lets Can Hunger project. The EU Marching Band also performed at Silver Dollar City this weekend. On Veterans Day we had a special chapel which was led by Col. McChrystal (General McChrystal's brother). The Evangel ROTC cadets also performed a color guard. There was a reception held afterwards for all veterans that were current students and faculty.



College of the Ozarks



College of the Ozarks Students Learn about Patriotism through WWII Veterans

During the Veterans Day Sunrise Ceremony 2011, CofO cadets were joined by three World War II veterans to commemorate veteran's service and sacrifices. These veterans involvement is part of a new patriotic initiative by College of the Ozarks to teach students about the sacrifices made by veterans. One aspect of the Patriotic

Education Program is international trips, on average 30 students will accompany 15 veterans to battlefields they were involved in. The veterans are able to share first hand experiences with students as

they walk the battlefields they fought on. The next trip is leaving December 14; ten students will be accompanying veterans of the WWII Pacific theatre to Hawaii and Japan, to commemorate the 70th anniversary of Pearl Harbor. Recent trips have included Normandy France, the Netherlands, and Germany, each focused on specific campaigns of WWII. Students who are chosen to attend the Patriotic Education trips are funded entirely by generous benefactors of the college.



Southwest Baptist University



Effects of Motivation at SBU

After hearing about how well cadets at SBU (Southwest Baptist University) had done on their physical fitness test, one cadet at MSU commented, "It's not fair, SBU is motivated!" Fair or not, the SBU Army ROTC is motivated! Over the past semester SBU has continued to build a reputation of character and excellence. Their momentum of quality participation is evident in their physical fitness class, their involvement in diverse activities, and their goals for the future.

Like the cadets at MSU, the SBU cadets meet three mornings a week to develop their physical fitness. This semester, two cadets, Schnelle and Mitchell, plan and lead physical fitness under the direction of Leskawat, a senior, and their cadre, MAJ McCloud. Although continually planning workouts for the military fitness class can be taxing, the opportunity to lead is preparing Schnelle and Mitchell for their future as Army officers. It is exciting to see how their leadership motivates the rest of the class. Each cadet's dedication is shown by the improvement in the participants' physical fitness test scores.

Not only do the cadets at SBU develop themselves physically, they also invest in their school and community through various activities. This semester, the SBU cadets trained a color guard. The color guard started off the season by marching in the SBU homecoming parade and has since presented the colors at two SBU football games. (Continued on next page)



(Continued) In the future, the cadets plan to continue the color guard through starting SBU's own chapter of the National Society of Pershing Rifles. The SBU cadets are also planning the second annual Warrior's Race, a cross-fit fundraiser to involve the community and send care packages to local military personnel currently serving overseas.

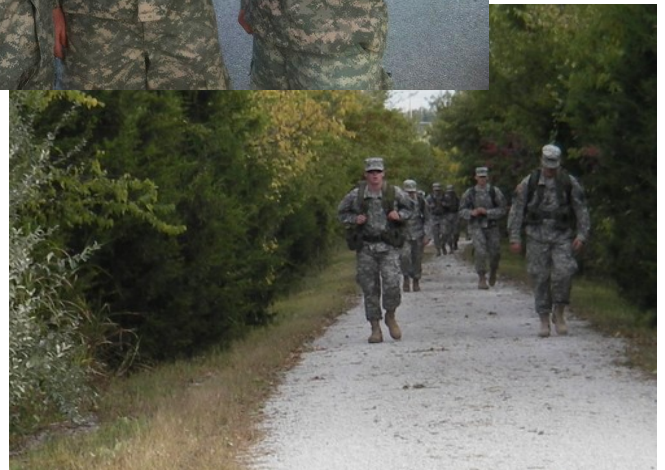
If the present motivation and success of the SBU Army ROTC is any indicator of the future, this satellite of the beloved Bear Battalion will continue to have a great impact on their school, their community, and the U.S. Army.

Cadets compete for the German Armed Forces Proficiency Badge



Last month the Bear Battalion hosted the German Armed Forces Proficiency Badge, or GAFPB, competition for the third year in a row. This badge is earned by completing many athletic events such as swimming, sprinting, high jumping, and a ruck march ranging from 6 to 12 Kilometers. Participants also had to successfully hit three targets in five attempts with a 9mm handgun. Finally those hoping to earn the badge had to complete a first aid test that was covered combat lifesaver training level one training.

Competitors in this year's successful event included five other schools from our Brigade, soldiers from area Missouri National Guard, U.S. Army Reserve, and soldiers from Fort Leonard wood.

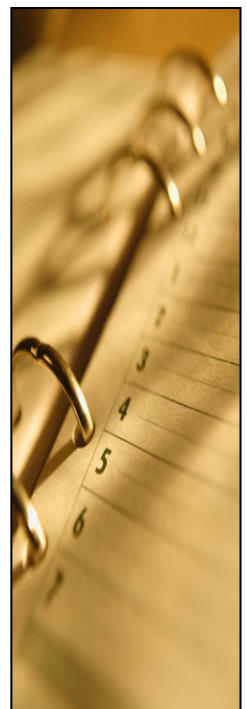


Local Events

- Live Nativity Pageant: The 34th annual live nativity pageant will be held December 7-10 from 6:30 to 7:30 at the Ozark Empire Fairgrounds. View from the warmth of your car. Admission is free.
- Nixa Xtreme Christmas Lights Tour: Residents go Xtreme with our annual Nixa's Xtreme Christmas Lights. Visit this website for map and details.
www.nixachamber.com
- A Christmas Story: Showing throughout the holiday season at the Springfield Little Theater: A perennial holiday favorite, A Christmas Story recounts the Parker Family Christmas in a small Midwestern town in 1938. Nine year old Ralphie wants only one thing for Christmas: an official Red Rider BB gun. This wish and his efforts to fulfill his dream provide a delightful story of a simpler, less hectic time, a family holiday season and life in general, as seen through the eyes of a nine-year-old boy. www.springfieldlittletheatre.org
- First Night Springfield 2012: December 31, 5:30-midnight, Join us as we ring in the new year at First Night Springfield 2012. First Night is a family-friendly New Year's Eve Event that takes place in multiple venues in Downtown Springfield including Park Central Library, 1984, Discovery Center, Mediacom Park, Gillioz Theater, and many others. firstnightspringfield.org

Bear Battalion Calendar

- DEC 7th - Remembrance of Pearl Harbor
- DEC 9th - Dead day MSU, No Class
- DEC 16th - Commissioning Ceremony and Fall Commencement
- DEC 25th - **Christmas**
- JAN 11th - Evangel classes resume
- JAN 15th - CofO classes resume
- JAN 17th - MSU and Drury classes resume
- JAN 20th - Physical Fitness Test
- JAN 22nd - SBU classes Resume
- JAN 31st - Last day to apply for 3-year scholarship
- FEB 1st - 3-year Scholarship competition
- FEB 6-9 - Range Week



Travel and Explore:

By Evelyn Anton

The ice and snow of yesterday led me straight to the idea of the MEDIACOM ICE PARK, for my first column. Located on 635 E. Trafficway St. downtown, the relatively new (2002) indoor skating rink, serves as a location for community recreation such as public skating, instruction, hockey and even Broomball as well as a home for the MSU ICE BEARS hockey team and the Springfield Wolfpack arena football. The Ice rink provides the best ice sports entertainment, whether you are an experienced skater or just trying it for the first time. Skating provides great exercise and an opportunity to get out of the house. Plus it's not like exercising at the gym...SKATING IS FUN!! Lace-up the skates and enjoy! Get on the ice and get ready for lots of laughs....guaranteed!

!Go with friends or hang out with the family!

Afterwards, warm up and relax at the MUD LOUNGE on 321 E. Walnut St. This locally owned downtown attraction has much to offer. It's unique atmosphere and laid back ambiance come thru with all the couches and coffee tables. The MUD LOUNGE is a place for drinks and/or conversation, offering more than 80 fine beers and ales, cocktails, a full coffee bar and great appetizers. Please try both the cheese fondue as well as the ohhh sooo good, chocolate fondue! Combine all that with great friendly service and you can't go wrong with the MUD LOUNGE. The MUD LOUNGE has the market on feeling at home when you're out.

Would you like to contribute? Here's how!

If you would like to send a donation to help the ROTC Program and help develop the Nations future leaders, please print out this form and send it to:

Missouri State University Foundation
901 South National Avenue
Springfield, MO 65897-0089

Please make your check payable to: Missouri State Foundation

Or go online: www.missouristatefoundation.org

For more information, please contact:

Shelly Griese (ROTC, Academic Administrative Assistant II - 417.836.5791) SGriese@MissouriState.edu

Name: _____

Address, City, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

We / I would like to make a contribution of:

_____ \$50 _____ \$100 _____ \$500 _____ Other (please specify amount)

Please specify where you would like your donation applied:

_____ ROTC General Fund

