



Ohio Adjutant General's Department

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For Immediate Release

Ohio Guard hosts fourth annual RSP Warrior Challenge

COLUMBUS – Nearly 100 Soldiers from the Ohio Army National Guard's Recruit Sustainment Program will compete in the 2011 Warrior Challenge April 30 from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Camp Sherman in Chillicothe and May 1 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Camp Lazarus in Delaware.

The event highlights new recruits' training experience and each of Ohio's 10 RSP companies will send two teams of five warriors each to compete. ROTC teams from select Ohio colleges will also participate as guest competitors.

The April 30 event at Camp Sherman in Chillicothe will consist of several graded events including land navigation, evaluating a casualty and military map reading. The April 1 capstone event at Camp Lazarus in Delaware consists of a grueling two-mile challenge course consisting of a low-wall climb, litter carry, water crawl, ravine rope climb and other challenging obstacles.

The Recruiting and Retention Battalion will conduct a formal pass-in-review followed by a promotion ceremony headed by Lt. Col. Daniel Shank, battalion commander.

The Ohio RSP was created in 2006 to prepare new recruits for the mental and physical rigors of basic training. On average, 95 percent of Ohio Army National Guard enlistees successfully ship to their basic training, and of those, 92 percent complete it. Since its inception, the Ohio Army National Guard program has ranked among the top programs in the country, which have been implemented in all 54 states and territories.

"This is the capstone event for basic training preparation," Shank said. "The warriors get to test their skills and it raises esprit de corps. These are the best of the best warriors in the state, all competing to be the best team in the state."

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Editors Note: If you wish to attend, RSVP to the Ohio National Guard Public Affairs Office at (614) 336-7000. Please plan to arrive 30 minutes early.