It is hard to believe that the Fall Semester comes to a close in just a matter of days, for it seems like just yesterday the Royal Warriors were coming back together after an amazing summer of training around the globe. As Cadets returned from Cultural Understanding and Language programs in Costa Rica, Indonesia, Spain and Estonia, as well as from places like Airborne School at Fort Benning, Georgia or the Leadership Training Course at Fort Knox, Kentucky we set goals, established training priorities and moved forward for the start of the new semester. Once the Battalion was back on campus the training pace quickened and we never looked back. In rapid fashion we integrated the new freshman class into our Cadet Battalion and transition several new instructors into the ranks of our Cadre.

Under the leadership of Cadet Battalion Commander Jessica Persoon and Cadet Battalion Command Sergeant Major Sean Cogan the Military Science Level IV staff set off planning, executing and assessing a wide spectrum of training events to include Physical Training four mornings a week, weekly Leadership Labs and a Battalion level Field Training Exercise. In between, the Battalion executed numerous other events, including participation in the annual 2nd ROTC Brigade Ranger Challenge Competition, running the 28th annual Army Ten Miler in Washington, D.C., marching in the New York City Veterans Day parade and a MS IV Staff Ride to Antietam National Battlefield.

In October our Military Science Level IV Cadets learned the results of the 2012 Accessions Board and this May the Battalion will be well represented across all three components of our Army. A total of twelve Cadets were selected for Active Duty, while ten were selected to serve in the Army National Guard and four more will serve in the ranks of the U.S. Army Reserve. We also had a total of five Cadets selected by U.S. Army Cadet Command as Distinguished Military Graduates.

It has also been terrific this semester to see so many alumni reach out to the Cadets of this Battalion and offer support in a number of ways. From Major General Michael Terry who just recently spoke to a group of our Cadets about leadership and the challenges ahead, to Colonel John Hashem who led our Army Ten Miler team on a tour of the Pentagon and Mr. Michael Noonan who returned to campus in November to serve as the keynote speaker for the University of Scranton Veterans Association luncheon. We thank you for your taking time to help shape and mentor the next generation of Army officers.

The Cadre and I would also like to thank the staff and faculty of our host, partnership and affiliate universities and colleges for their continued support of the Royal Warrior Battalion.

In closing I want to thank everyone for the hard work, dedication, loyalty and professionalism displayed over the course of the semester. Enjoy the time off afforded by the upcoming holiday break and take this time to be with friends and family, but please take time to remember those who are deployed in harm’s way this holiday season. Please be safe and know that the Cadre and I look forward to seeing everyone in January as we start Spring Semester 2013.

-Royal Warrior Six-
The Royal Warrior Battalion Color Guard Detachment under the command of MS III Cadet Hope Oliver takes part in the New York City Veterans Day parade. The Royal Warrior Battalion marks the start of the Veterans Day weekend with a Battalion Run through Nay Aug Park led by Cadet Battalion Commander MS IV Cadet Jessica Persoon.

Cadet Battalion Command Sergeant Major MS IV Cadet Sean Cogan engages with University of Scranton students during the University’s Diversity Fair held on 08 November. Cadets shared with fellow students their experiences of participating in the U.S. Army Cadet Command's Cultural Understanding and Language Programs.

MS II Cadet Kelly Tracy finds her point during Day Land Navigation Training at the Battalion's Fall Field Training Exercise held at Fort Dix, N.J. 30 November—02 December. MS I Cadets execute the rope climb as they negotiate the obstacle course during the Battalion FTX.
Royal Warriors From East Stroudsburg University
Assist Those In Need Following Hurricane Sandy

By Captain Joseph Cotterino

I have tried to instill in the Cadets at East Stroudsburg University (ESU) that in order to lead, you must first learn how to follow. Along with that is the need to put other’s needs in front of your own. You need to lead with a firm hand but yet know when to show compassion. I have only worked with the Royal Warrior Cadets at ESU for approximately four months. Because of this short time period, it can only be that these cadets were being taught these principles by someone else as well. Regardless of who did the teaching, the Cadets have indeed been doing the learning.

In the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy, thousands in the East Stroudsburg area were left without power and even homeless. The American Red Cross began to utilize two physical training facilities to house the “nuevo homeless” until their homes could be restored.

A Vietnam veteran named Mr. Irv Edwards was involved in this project but manpower was low. Mr. Edwards needed help to set up hundreds of cots and outfit them with linens so displaced citizens would have somewhere clean and dry to sleep.

When Cadet Donald Galli found out about this need he promptly rounded up Cadet Victoria Paskiet and Cadet Chelsea Reedy and headed to Khoeler Fieldhouse to assist. They worked tirelessly for hours setting up cots, adding sheets and pillows and finally sanitizing the works. When they were finished, the gym floor had become a white sea of hope and rest for the weary. When it was all over, Cadets David Kotz, Zanetti, Gregory Houser, James Abbott, Quentin Cornelius, and Ian Drew joined the original crew and assisted in reclaiming the equipment and restoring the college facilities to their original purposes.

Throughout the process, the cadets interacted with the displaced and weary families. Their caring and hard work planted seeds of good will with the families and build strong relationships with the local Red Cross staff. The Red Cross was thrilled at the response of our Cadets and expressed an unwavering willingness to work with them again.

I am overjoyed and filled with pride and respect for these individuals and what they have done for their school and the community. They have come forward and volunteered to do a thankless dirty job simply because they were needed. They knew it was the right thing to do and they did it.