Cadets learn to take charge

By CHES BROWN

Younger Truman State ROTC cadets experienced field training exercises for the first time during Truman ROTC history last weekend.

Every year, freshmen and sophomore cadets participate in Truman ROTC’s FTX, but this year the sophomore cadets were allowed to lead the exercises for the first time. Battalion En- rollment Officer Doug Reinsch said he thinks this leadership opportunity will prepare them for the responsibilities they will undertake more regularly during years to come.

The Truman State ROTC cadets usually participate in the spring FTX and annual combined FTX, which takes place at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. and includes cadets from other schools, but this year, the juniors are not participat- ing in the Truman’s FTX, he said. The seniors were given a chance to lead during the FTX for the first time during Truman ROTC history last weekend. He said the seniors were given a chance to lead during the FTX for the first time.

Senior Miranda Martin, who helped organize the Truman FTX events this year, said the exercises included a variety of land navigation exercises and tactical lanes. She said the exercises were designed to build skills the younger cadets have been practicing during weekly labs through- out the year.

During the night navigation exercises at Thousand Hills State Park, the cadets had to navigate a series of points in the woods using only a compass and their own footsteps to measure their way to the points. Martin said they were given a chance to lead during the FTX for the first time during their ROTC careers.

During the day, the cadets went back to Thousand Hills for daytime land navigation and the cadets went back to Thousand Hills for daytime land navigation exercises and tactical lanes. She said the exercises were designed to build skills the younger cadets have been practicing during weekly labs through-out the year.

Senior Jacob Vogel said the planning for Truman’s FTX took a month and included preparing the food, restroom facilities, weapons and accommodations for the exercises. He said the exercises were a success.

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