Field Training is the single biggest event for Air Force cadets and October 11 was the first day of Field Training Preparation for Det. 875. All GMC cadets eligible to attend Field Training this summer gathered in the Pearson Hall Company room to receive a brief from the POC about FTP expectations and the purpose of Field Training. These sessions are important and active participation leads to higher Field Training scores. During the sessions, cadets are broken up into flights to work on the specific lesson of the day.

FTP starts off with the recitation of quotes cadets are required to memorize. The second session started with a quote by the General Erwin Rommel: “War makes extremely heavy demands on a soldier's strength and nerves. For this reason, make heavy demands on your men in peacetime exercises.” These quotes not only represent values within the Air Force, but test preparation prior to Field Training. The remainder of the session focused on attention to detail as cadets learned how to properly fold clothes for inspection.

The next FTP session covered group leadership problems (GLPs). GLPs are exercises that test a leader’s competency, command presence, and decision-making skills. FTP cadets are expected to master many skills and the pressure will continue to rise as summer approaches.
This month we recognize Cadets Sweat, Sampson, Huffman, and McKay for their selfless service to others by presenting them with the Cadet of the Month Award.

The Cadet of the Month program is in place as a small way to acknowledge the efforts made by the detachment's hardest workers. By recognizing these accomplishments, this program motivates Det. 875 to follow the example set by their peers.

First, we would like to highlight Cadet Sweat, AS100, for his volunteering during Operation Jetpack on 10 Sep 2017. He sacrificed three hours of his free time to clean Lane Stadium on a Sunday afternoon.

Cadet Sampson, AS200, led a Field Training Prep marching session for an hour so that AS 100s and 250s could become more confident in their marching skills. C/ Sampson also volunteered for three hours at Gobblerfest.

Cadet Huffman, AS300, mentored three sophomore cadets as they pursued Fire Team Leader positions within the Corps of Cadets. He taught them new skills and instilled in them the confidence to lead. He also organized and executed a marching session to help GMC cadets prepare for Field Training.

Cadet McKay, AS400, planned, organized and led a staff of 20 cadets to ensure that the Aviation Wall of Fame ceremony was a success. The ceremony took place on September 22 to recognize General Carlton D. Everhart. Cadet McKay took on this huge responsibility and executed the job flawlessly.

It’s not easy to balance school, Corps and Air Force responsibilities, while still making time to serve others, but these motivated cadets made it happen. We cannot wait to see what November has in store for Det. 875!
On October 5, the Wing was tested on its physical fitness with this semester’s physical fitness assessment. The PFA took place at the Virginia Tech track and consisted of a body composition measurement, one minute of pushups, one minute of sit-ups, and a 1.5-mile run.

According to Wing Physical Fitness Officer, Cadet White, “The current Wing average is a 93.5,” indicating that the average score is above the 90 points required to receive an excellent on the test. Sixteen cadets maxed out their overall PFA score; an astonishing feat that places them in Tier 1.

The final PFA average for the semester will not be released until the make-up PFA is completed. The makeup PFA will take place on the 29th of November, and will be the final PFA of the 2017 calendar year. This PFA will be a second chance for those who failed their PFA the first time around, an opportunity for those who seek to improve their overall score, and the chance for those who were on profile to shine. “I am confident that our score will go up because of the hard work that everyone has been putting in, especially all of the cadets who have been attending remedial PT with Army on Friday mornings,” Cadet White said. Best of luck to all of those retaking the PFA in late November and congratulations to the Wing for having such a strong overall score.
Dark spooky evenings make the perfect setting for scary creatures to lurk around and hunt for cadets. However, these aren’t just any creatures. After capturing runners, these monsters have been known to PT them to death.

One of the best yearly events is the detachment Halloween run. Cadets participate in a run that not only puts their cardio skills to the test, but their monster evasion skills as well. Last year’s run was conducted during the day, but this year’s Halloween run had an added element—the dark.

Instead of Leadership Lab, each squadron began at the obstacle course and traversed their way around the monster infested trail. Periodically these creatures would appear and claim their victims. Cadets that got captured had to have their entire squadron participate in the PT exercise that was assigned for that section of the course. It was incredibly difficult to get an entire squadron through the course without having someone being tagged. For most squadrons, this meant that there was a lot of pushups and burpees to go around for everyone. This event is a huge morale boost to the Wing and is looked forward to by many. This year’s run lived up to the excitement as both creepy creatures and cadets had an opportunity to get a good workout in while also having fun. In the spirit of the holiday, the 2017 Halloween run proved to be both terrifying and thrilling in a way that only Det. 875 could pull off.