

Bobcat Bugle

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West Broward's Racing Raider Team

This year's Raider Team has been working so hard this season. And they're doing really awesome in all of our events: Flipping tires, Rope Bridge, 5K run, obstacle courses and litter. In fact, as the years have gone by, the group of kids and team has got better in performance, according to the director of the Raider Team, First Sergeant Sosa. Having such a great group of kids with all different strengths but with the same mind-set and goal. To be champions.



In this year's Raider Team, we've met a lot of new faces, a lot of LET 1s. This was really great for the Leadership to step up and teach the newbies the legacy of hard work and championship. And along the way, making new friends. As 1SG Sosa says it, "You guys have to be friends first, even best friends, then you'll take each other to the finish line of championships."

I got to sit down with First Sergeant to ask him a few questions about what he thinks about this year's Raider Team and any thoughts on the years before and coming. It was pretty interesting myself since I too am a first year Raider, and I liked what I was listening.

Rosas- "How did your team prepare themselves for what's coming?"

1SG Sosa- "The preparation started back in Sep.10th. Some people have been preparing themselves for competition over the summer. We officially got together for the first time at tryouts on Sep.10. A lot of training, a lot of weekend work, a lot of work with no school at all; the preparations is long and it's hard, it's lonely but we all have one common goal and that's to continue our legacy to be the best school in the County and to compete for our 6th County Championship. So with that in mind, if you're a winner, it doesn't take much to motivate you when you know that everybody, every other school in the county wants what you have. You know, we have to protect what we have and that's that championship."

Rosas- "Is there anything you want to tell any cadets who haven't been on raiders before that may want to join or are scared because of what they might get themselves into?"

1SG Sosa- "My advice to anyone who is interested in joining the Raider Team is number one you have to look at yourself. You got to ask yourself, 'am I doing this for me or am I doing this for my team?' If the answer is your doing it for your team, then you probably have the best quality that a Raider needs to have. Number 2 you need to live a healthy lifestyle 24 hours a day. Being a Raider is not seasonal: it's not Monday through Friday, it's a lifestyle that you have to live. If you cheat your body today, your body will fail you tomorrow. I would challenge anyone to at least come out and try to see and to evaluate all of his or her physical fitness. And if their fitness is at a level where they can compete, then come out and join the team.

I also, got the chance to talk with some kids on my team in my Company actually. Here is some of the feedback I got from the past competitions:

"I liked both of them. But I think the second one was better. The thing is the 1st one was harder. It seemed so narrow during the run, the 5K. When you run a certain area, we were cramped running as a group. The fence and tree's leaves were in our way but we got through it good. I do have to say that Everglades, the run was beautiful, the scenery and the weather. Everything about it was nice. And I think we did a little better at Everglades too." **Says LET 1 Jillian Henry**

Well, like I said before. This year's group of Raiders was off to an incredible start, ultimately winning first place overall at the past two competitions. I think they all did an awesome job working together to be this year's champion. Now it's time to carry on West Broward High School's legacy of winning championship for the 6th consecutive year. So with that said,

Let's Raider Up Bobcats!

The Classroom Inside-Out

A lot of people outside of JROTC don't know too much about the program and we have a lot of LET 1's this year just learning a little bit of what we do here. For example, it was their first time putting on their uniform. After seeing their upper classmen getting promoted, some of the LET 1s also got promoted for the first time! A whole lot of them! Taking a look at the picture below:



Just like the upper LETS, the tradition in the military and at West Broward High School's JROTC program is to step forward and say a few words on who you want to thank that helped you reach the rank you're being promoted to. That rank you're being promoted to makes the person held responsible for the duties and responsibilities of that new position. This rich tradition really reflects on what one may do in the real world, outside of school; it's something that one should learn now and acquire. Responsibility and duty and feeling respect and accomplishment. Because of course, when we work for something, we'd love to be acknowledged about our job well done, and the reward is earned in paycheck or in a ribbon decoration. It's like earning something you work so hard for. From this experience for the LET ones in Alpha Company, it's something they'll appreciate and cherish. Due to this major event, we hope that they will be motivated to do well in JROTC as well as work outside of the program and education.

