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26 service members to compete for top honors at FLW

FORT LEONARD WOOD, Mo. – Twenty-six service members are slated to compete in the 2014 Maneuver Support Center of Excellence and Fort Leonard Wood Best Warrior Competition scheduled for March 17-21.

The competition identifies Fort Leonard Wood's next Drill Sergeant, Advanced Individual Training Platoon Sergeant, Noncommissioned Officer and Soldier of the Year, along with the Joint Service NCO and Joint Service member of the Year.

These competitors will take on tasks that are physically demanding and mentally challenging, while under the scrutiny of NCOs, who have been selected to weed out the best from the best.

The competition includes weapons qualification, land navigation, warrior tasks, battle drills and events that test each service member's combat skills, in addition to military core values, FLW programs and policies, world news, leadership, military justice, customs and courtesies.

The competition winners are slated to be announced at 3 p.m., March 21 at a ceremony to be held in Lincoln Hall Auditorium here.

The MSCoE and FLW DSoY and AIT PSoY will represent Fort Leonard Wood at the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command competition this summer at Fort Jackson, S.C., while the NCO and Soldier of the Year will compete at the U.S. Army Combined Arms Center NCO and Soldier of the Year competition in Fort Leavenworth, Kan.

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Media interested in covering the events of the 2014 Best Warrior Competition, should contact the Fort Leonard Wood Public Affairs Office at (573) 563-4145, no later than 10 a.m., March 17.

About Fort Leonard Wood

Fort Leonard Wood is a thriving and prosperous installation that has evolved from a small basic training post 70 years ago to a premier Army Center of Excellence that trains more than 80,000 military and civilians each year.

Home to the Maneuver Support Center of Excellence, Fort Leonard Wood now trains and educates service members and develops doctrine and capabilities for the Training and Doctrine Command's U.S. Army Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear School, U.S. Army Engineer School, and U.S. Army Military Police School, three gender integrated Initial Military Training brigades, one of only five reception stations in the Army, and the Army's largest Noncommissioned Officers Academy.

Over the past several years, Fort Leonard Wood has received numerous additional responsibilities to include supporting the 4th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, a large Forces Command unit that is responsible for all deployable capabilities at Fort Leonard Wood. A colonel-commanded Marine Corps Detachment and an Air Force Detachment, which are both the largest on any Army installation, are located on Fort Leonard Wood; a large Navy Seabee Detachment and elements of the Coast Guard train here as well.

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