

The Harlan County High School JROTC Black Bear Battalion participated in a Raider meet at Corbin High School on Saturday, February 25. The team participated in each event, claiming first place in the one-rope bridge competition. The time was three minutes, 42 seconds with no penalties.

The best event of the day was the one rope bridge in which CSM Roy Day was commander.

“We practiced hard on this event during each practice, today we came back from a rough start,” Day said. “After this we went and completed the event and everything fell in place for us. We walked out of there with a first place win.”

The members of the team competing were Day, David Sumpter, Doug Brashears, Bridget Greene, Angel Joseph, Kevin Crider and Josh Zunda.

“This is the first year we have won an event at this annual meet. To win a trophy at an event with 15 schools competing, let alone a first place trophy, makes me look at the future of this team as being very bright,” said 1SG Sonny Long.

The team will only lose a few of our members to graduation. “We hope to do even better than we have in the years since our JROTC program has been founded here in Harlan County,” he said.

Other schools participating included North Laurel, Whitley County, Thomas Walker, VA, Henry Clay, Knox Central, Montgomery County, Clay County, McCreary County, Middlesboro, Pulaski County, Southwestern (Pulaski) and Rockcastle County. The events of the competition included color guard, tug of war, a relay event, raider challenge, an academic challenge, and the one rope bridge.

The HCHS JROTC is an active group.

