

Local Excellence Forged in the Field: 185th CSSB Soldiers win State and Regional Best Warriors Competitions

Every day, the men and women of our armed forces demonstrate unparalleled dedication, resilience, and leadership. Recently, these traits were put to the ultimate test during the annual Iowa State Best Warrior Competition, followed by the rigorous Region IV Best Warrior Competition. These events serve as a powerful reminder of the exceptional talent and steadfast character residing right here in our own backyard and solidifying that the 185th CSSB has some of the best warriors in the State and Region.



Staff Sgt. Logan Pasker, a competitor in the Iowa Best Warrior Competition, prepares for an event. The competition tests soldiers on a wide range of tactical and technical skills.

The Best Warrior Competition is a grueling crucible designed to identify the finest Non-Commissioned Officers (NCOs) and junior-listed service members. Competitors are pushed to their absolute physical and mental limits. They face a battery of evaluations, including high-stress marksmanship, day and night land navigation, rigorous physical fitness assessments, a strenuous ruck march, and intense board interviews where their military knowledge and leadership acumen are scrutinized by senior leaders.



Staff Sgt. Logan Pasker performs a heavy deadlift at the AFT field as well as the low crawl under a barbed wire obstacle.

Physical strength and endurance are paramount. Competitors endure multiple fitness challenges, including strength tests like the deadlift. Mental and physical grit are pushed to the limit during demanding obstacle courses designed to simulate battlefield conditions.

During the state-level competition held at Camp Dodge in Johnston, Iowa, on September 14, 2025, our local service members showcased extraordinary grit. We are incredibly proud to highlight Staff Sergeant Logan Pasker and Specialist Tom Hook, both Service Members are part of the 185th CSSB based in Fairfield Iowa. They demonstrated outstanding synergy and determination to take home the state team competition win.



(Left to Right) Staff SGT. Logan Pasker and SPC. Tom Hook are recognized for winning the state-level team competition at the Iowa Best Warrior Competition.



The challenge escalated significantly at the Region IV Best Warrior Competition, hosted at the Fort Custer Training Center in Michigan from April 29th to May 3rd. We are exceptionally proud to announce that SSG Pasker continued his winning streak, claiming the highly coveted title of Region IV NCO of the Year! The Iowa Army National Guard also won the team competition, with SSG Pasker and SPC Hook taking home the win.



Staff Sgt. Logan Pasker proudly accepts the award for Region IV NCO of the Year, a testament to his leadership and expertise.

The Best Warrior Competition is more than a military event; it is a showcase of ultimate professional development. The very skills tested—strategic problem-solving, grace under pressure, and decisive leadership—are the exact qualities that make these service members invaluable assets to the civilian workforce and our community at large.

We congratulate SSG Pasker, SPC Hook, and all the competitors and sponsors of both the State and Region IV Best Warrior Competitions. Their commitment to excellence makes our military stronger and our community immensely proud.