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UNIVERSITY OF IOWA STUDENT NAMED IOWA NATIONAL GUARD BEST WARRIOR

Spc. Trejahn E. Manning, of Clive, Iowa, was named the Iowa National Guard Soldier of the Year in the Best Warrior Competition held April 1-3, at Camp Dodge in Johnston, Iowa. He represented Company C, 334th Brigade Support Battalion, in the competition which consisted of 15 events designed to test Soldiers both physically and mentally.

Manning, a premedical student at the University of Iowa, was one of 24 Soldiers competing in this annual event, where competitors were split into two categories based on rank – junior enlisted and noncommissioned officers. To qualify for the state-level competition, Soldiers first had to compete and win at the battalion level. Of the approximately 7,000 Soldiers in the Iowa Army National Guard, less than 1% qualify for the Iowa Best Warrior Competition.

The weekend started with the new Army Combat Fitness Test, followed by several weapon qualification courses, land navigation and a 12-mile ruck march, among other rigorous events. At the completion of the competition, total scores were tallied, and the winners were recognized at an award ceremony.

Manning will be joined by the noncommissioned officer winner, Staff Sgt. Harrison M. Densmore, in the Regional Best Warrior Competition to be held at Camp Ripley, Minnesota.

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For questions concerning this release as well as additional information about the operations, training and activities of the Iowa Army and Air National Guard, please contact Maj. Katherine Headley, Iowa National Guard Public Affairs Officer by email at katherine.p.headley.mil@army.mil or 515-252-4582 (office).

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