



BC's Corner

by CDT Joseph DeLong

As the current battalion commander for the Fighting Eagle Battalion I am excited for the upcoming year and to commission in the United States Army as of March 2011.

I am excited to be here for this year's MSIV's as they prepare themselves for LDAC. I hope that as part of the senior class, I can help provide valuable information and training that will ensure their success at LDAC this upcoming summer, just as the cadre and MSIV's before me did for my class.

Last year the senior Cadets put us through all sorts of situations that would challenge and develop our leadership abilities. We conducted land-navigation training consistently, and completed a variety of courses, to ensure our success and LDAC that upcoming summer.

Spring quarter 2010, we conducted a joint FTX with Washington State University which consisted of three grueling days of running missions from sun up to sun down. This gave us the opportunity to develop our leadership skills under the stress of fatigue and working with people with which we had no previous experience. This helped us as a class acquire the abilities



to communicate, follow and to lead people from different backgrounds much like we would be required to do at LDAC later in the year; a skill that will also be required of us in our future roles as 2nd Lieutenants.

Speaking for the current senior leadership this year, we have our own challenges! Running the battalion has been a learning experience for all of us, and as the battalion commander I have a new level of respect for the classes that came before us and made this battalion what it is today. I look forward to new adventures on active duty, and I hope that the example that my fellows seniors and I have set will help this year's juniors take over the battalion next year.

Visit our EWU ROTC website at:



<http://www.ewu.edu/CSBSSW/Programs/Military-Science.xml>

COMING EVENTS

28 March	Beginning of Spring Quarter 2011
15-16 April	Joint FTX with WSU
13-14 May	Spring Quarter FTX
19 May	National Awards Ceremony
10 June	ROTC Spring Quarter Commissioning
11 June	EWU Commencement

For more information on any of these events, please contact our department secretary at 509.359.2386 or by e-mail: ROTC@ewu.edu.

Recommendation from LTC (R) Jerry Mellick (1967)

"If you are a Vietnam buff, this is probably the best search list ever compiled about the Vietnam War."

<http://www.cc.gatech.edu/fac/Thomas.Pilsch/Vietnam.html>

Note from the PMS

by LTC Michael G. Kirkland

The Fightin' Eagle Battalion is soaring to new heights! In June 2009, when I assumed command of the ROTC program, I could not have foreseen the fun, excitement, and fantastic atmosphere that exists here at Eastern Washington University. It has been a great year and I am looking forward to the next two and will definitely be sad when I have to depart!

The ROTC program has grown and flourished, even with the departure of two of our Cadre. CPT Alex Fisher and MSG Travis Schledewitz will be missed tremendously, but they have been replaced with new Cadre that will soon be infused with the Fightin' Eagle Battalion's traditions and esprit de corp. We welcome CPT Von Astudillo and MSG Joseph Martinez to the battalion and know they will be great assets to the program.

I am continually amazed and exceptionally proud of the hard work and dedication our fine young men and women exhibit as they continue to strive to meet the academic and career goals of becoming Commissioned Officers in the United States Army, Army Reserve and the National Guard.

Many of our Cadets spent the summer months in far off places like Fort Polk, La., Fort Knox, Ky., Ft Lewis, Wash., and West Point, N.Y. Our Cadets attended training events such as Air Assault School, the Leader Development and Assessment Course (LDAC), Leader's Training Course (LTC), and Cadet Troop Leadership Training (CTLT) with tactical units. In all cases, these Cadets came back better leaders ready to take on added responsibilities within the unit.

In addition, two of our Distinguished Faculty and Staff from the university attended events across the country, learning more about the United States Army Cadet Command's mission of producing future leaders and returned to campus fired up and enthusiastic about all they can do to assist our ROTC program here at EWU. We thank Dr. Jeffery Stafford, Assistant Dean in the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences and Social Work and Kevin Hills, Manager of Disability Support Services, for their continued support.

2009 was a true learning experience for me as I picked up the Cadet Command requirements and adjusted to the environment on campus. I quickly discovered that the quarter system is very fast paced but soon got into a rhythm of balancing the academic requirements with the military requirements. The new MS IV senior Cadets were ready to take on the demands of leading the Battalion and the MS III's were eager to undertake the rigors of training in preparation for LDAC. Between supporting the EWU football games, preparing and participating in Ranger Challenge, conducting weekly Leadership Labs and participating in the Field Training Exercises (FTX's), the Cadets found time to keep up with their studies and other activities with many excelling in various academic achievements. Unfortunately, we did not meet our Commissioning mission, but the new 2nd Lieutenants that we commissioned in December, June, and August were well prepared to meet the challenges they will face in their upcoming assignments and deployments across the globe.

Upon my arrival and immersion at EWU, I was greatly impressed with the traditions and accomplishments of the Military Science Department in past years. I am now attempting to build on the prestige and excitement that has



characterized the EWU ROTC programs' storied history. We have opened up one half of the rifle range that was mothballed and with the support of your alumni donations we have purchased several AirSoft Rifles to facilitate marksmanship training, and with your continued support, plan to re-start a competitive rifle team at EWU using Air Rifles. We would love to hear from past members who participated in Eastern's prestigious Rifle Teams, especially if they have information and/or support for this endeavor.

Our Jeep and Howitzer continue to be present at all home football games. Our 75mm Pack Howitzer provides the "shock and awe" to football fans! The jeep is in need of mechanical assistance and a paint job to reflect the new EWU logo! The jeep was present at all the games, but our Cadets have needed to assist its departure on several occasions by providing a means of locomotion to get it started!

With the state budget reductions these endeavors are difficult to complete – I want to thank all the ROTC alumni that have contributed and who continue to contribute generously to the ROTC Foundation. I am sure that we have failed to thank you enough for your support and contributions and want to take this opportunity to thank you again.

In addition, a revision to the BA in Military Science degree offered by EWU. is now before committee. If approved, we hope to use this degree program to recruit new students to Eastern for the explicit purpose to ultimately serve as commissioned officers. This degree revision will include the possibility of several different concentrations or minors; including concentrations in the application of leadership, cultural awareness for military leaders, modern U.S. military history, or U.S. government and policy, as well as minors in journalism or health services, and a certificate in geographic information systems. We hope this degree revision will be available for incoming freshmen in fall 2011.

Finally, please join us on Facebook! <http://www.facebook.com/home.php#!/pages/EWU-ROTC/168397843176588> We have established a presence on Facebook to share information within the Corps of Cadets. You are welcome to visit, become members of our group, and keep an eye on what is happening here at EWU!

Please continue to share your alumni information with us – we enjoy seeing current photos of what our EWU ROTC Alumni are up to today, and our Facebook page would be a great opportunity to meet and share information with our current as well as past Cadets.

EAGLE STRONG!!!!

ALUMNI UPDATES

COL (R) Frank P. Todd, (1980)

Currently working in HQDA-CIO/G6 focused on Space (both communications and intelligence satellite capabilities) and Unmanned Airborne communications relay. Retired in February 2006, after 33 years as an NCO and Signal Officer, presently lives in Manassas, Va., hoping to relocate to Spokane in 2012. (5/21/10)

LTC Roy Brown (1984)

Senior Guard Advisor/Chief
NTC Reserve Component Operation (1/28/10)

LTC Douglas J. Bell (1986)

Assumed command of the Army Field Support Battalion-Hood (AFSBn-Hood), at Fort Hood Texas on 7 October, 2010. The battalion provides command and control of Army Material Command (AMC) capabilities across Fort Hood, Fort Sill and Joint Base San Antonio.

MAJ Dennis O'Reilly (1995)

Branch :MSC. Current assignment: Deputy Surgeon, United States Division-North (USD-N) Iraq (3rd Infantry Division) OIF 09-10 "ROCK OF THE MARNE" (7/22/10)

CPT William Neanover (2006)

Senior Guard Advisor/Chief; NTC Reserve Component Operation (1/28/10); EN, ECC 02-11, Ft. Leonardwood, Mo.

1LT Christopher MacGeorge (2008)

2nd BN, 506th IN, 4BCT, 101st ABN DIV, East Pakitika, Afghanistan, TF Currahee

A Word to our Alumni

by 2LT Jonathan Abshire

The EWU ROTC program continues to grow with more than 70 cadets enrolled at the beginning of fall quarter, 2010.

As every graduate of the Fighting Eagle Battalion knows, success in the program would not be possible without the help and support of friends and family. Our alumni, especially, with their continued support and contribution help pave the way for our Cadets to be successful.

Currently, we are working to convert the decommissioned rifle range at Cadet Hall to an Airsoft rifle range, which will be a great draw for our program.

In October, we put together a white-water rafting trip for our Cadets here at EWU and our Cadets at Spokane Falls Community College. It was a great time, and the Cadets were able to focus on teamwork and leadership. With your continued support, we have great hopes for the future of this program, and the future of our graduates and commissioned Officers.



Mrs. Johnson, COL Johnson and LTC Kirkland at Military Ball Reception Line.

Greetings Fellow Eagles!

I'm happy to have this opportunity to express my gratitude for the invitation to speak at last year's Military Ball. My wife and I were so very impressed with the wonderful cadets and cadre we met that evening. It is encouraging to see young Americans, during a time of war, willing to step forward to become our Army's newest leaders.

As an Eastern graduate, I take great pride in returning to a campus that continues to improve both in structure and spirit. As you depart our outstanding university, you too will reflect on the solid educational foundation you received at Eastern. Take the time, as I do, to tell our university's story. It is a good story about a small school in a quaint town with a huge impact on our state, nation and the world. Eastern grads continue to distinguish themselves everywhere they go.

Use the months or years ahead to prepare yourself for the tremendous responsibilities and challenges ahead. While our soldiers have distinguished themselves in wartime service, be cognizant of the toll it has taken on their lives and the lives of their families – prepare to care. As I remarked at your military ball, focus on the factors that bolster resiliency in the force. Embrace and enhance our Army's efforts to promote soldier and family activities that balance body, mind and spirit. And while our force demands tactically and technically competent leadership, it also requires compassionate and empathetic stewardship.

Again, thank you for your hospitality and the opportunity to visit my school, your school – the superb Eastern Washington University.

Best regards,

Mike Johnson
Colonel, Infantry
Washington National Guard

LDAC

By Kevin Hills, Director
EWU Disabled Student Services



In July 2010, I had the pleasure of attending Educators' Week at the Army's Leadership Development Assessment Course (LDAC), also known as "Warrior Forge." I traveled to Ft. Lewis, Wash., where I met fellow educators from all over the country.

We spent the next three days traveling around Fort Lewis in four large tour buses that we filled to capacity. We engaged in activities with Cadets, including rappelling, the slide for life and firing weapons on the range.

The first stop on our journey was to watch the graduation of two companies and witness the commissioning of several dozen new 2nd Lieutenants. During the ceremony we were exposed to new language, as the Cadets would exclaim "HOOAH!" which, as we came to understand, can mean just about anything in the Army. Fewer than 20 of our group had served in the military, so most had no understanding of military culture. However, by the end of the first day, if you asked any of the educators on the tour how they were doing, if they were ready or any other question they would reply "HUAW"! I hope, for their students' sake, this did not carry over to the classroom when they returned home.

We were encouraged to speak with Cadets and there where always Cadre (that's Army talk for ROTC instructors) on hand to answer questions. But, I have to admit it took some getting used to have so many Lieutenant Colonels (LTCs) calling me "Sir."

In true Army fashion, the weather was in the 90's (every day) except when we went to the waterfront to participate in

the slide for life. The weather that day was a balmy 71 degrees and the water was a refreshing 58.

Rappelling was a lot of fun and the instructors were amazing. Anyone who wanted to participate could rappel, but you had to pass the hang test to do the slide for life.

My favorite part, next to eating MREs, was the US Weapons Range. We all got to fire a rocket launcher and M203 Grenade launcher and I was one of five people in our group who fired the new MK48 machine gun—50 rounds of .308 goes quickly.

I mentioned MREs (Meal Ready to Eat). They are awesome! Each one is between 2,000 and 3,000 calories and they are self-heating, just add water, and they taste pretty good. Just make sure you drink plenty of water and be aware that the gum is laced with colace.

Not only was LDAC a lot of fun, but I came away with a better understanding of ROTC and a deeper respect for the young men and women who choose to join the military in this time of war.

One of the LTCs we met was passionate about making sure that we, as educators, understood the importance of the Cadets knowing how to climb a rope as part of their training. It is all about technique and not strength. Some schools do not allow their cadets to climb rope as part of their program and those cadets are at a major disadvantage when they get to LDAC. Here at Eastern, our cadets do have the opportunity to climb rope and are supported by an amazing Cadre of Officers and NCOs.

I was proud to have been given the opportunity to have a closer look at some of the training our Cadets go through and I encourage all of you to support ROTC and our many students, faculty and staff who have served, and who continue to serve this country.

HOOAH!

Fall 2010 Ranger Challenge Team



Gold Bar Recruiting

by 2LT Patrick Watts

Being one of the two residential Gold Bar Recruiters at EWU, I am given the opportunity to look back upon last year with an interesting perspective—that of an outgoing Cadet Battalion Commander, witnessing the program's progression after having graduated from it. It is not an easy task serving as newly appointed Cadre after having been a senior Cadet only five months ago. However, it is definitely good to see that the legacy left behind by the 2010 commissioning class has continued.

Our main goal as a class was to make the program a success at the lowest beginning level—with the freshmen Cadets. We tried our best to nurture them and mold them into a cohesive group, not only while at Cadet Hall, but outside ROTC as well. We succeeded in this sense.

The former freshmen Cadets, now sophomores, have taken

the role that the 2010 seniors did and have taken on the challenge of being mentors and an appropriate example for the new Cadets.

This previous year had its ups and downs, but its successes far outweighed its setbacks. The cadets experienced a large array of leadership challenges, including three field training exercises at Camp Seven Mile. One of these was a new and particularly beneficial experience, being a joint operation, with Washington State University's ROTC Cougar battalion. Being on the sidelines during the 2010 fall quarter, I have witnessed the leadership growth first hand. The new Cadets have a good corps of upperclassmen to carry them to new levels, and stimulate their dimensional leadership growth. I am proud to have the privilege of standing alongside my fellow classmates, now commissioned and in various stages of training, and be able to say that I was part of this program, and part of this family. It was our hard work that put this movement into effect. Now it is up to the current cadets to carry it further.

Spring 2010 Joint FTX with WSU at Seven Mile Military Reserve





Spring 2010 Award Ceremony

The Military Order of the World Wars Award is presented by LTC Kirkland, EWU ROTC PMS to (left to right) Joe Lee, EWU Cadet, Jeremy Moore, EWU Cadet, and Stephen Thomas, SFCC Cadet

Leadership Training

By Cadet Joshua Novajosky

While attending LTC at Fort Knox, Ky., I was given an opportunity to have an experience that runs the scope of responsibilities of being an Army officer. The four weeks were designed to instill a sense of confidence, decision-making and to highlight the Army values: leadership, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity, and personal courage.



The first weeks were spent learning Army basics under the watchful eye of drill sergeants. A diagnostic Army Physical Fitness Test, which consists of sit-ups, push-ups and a two-mile run, was also conducted.

We Cadets were branched into platoons and squads randomly, and were introduced to small-group team-based dynamics in activities such as an obstacle course, intended to stretch our cohesion and ability to work with another to accomplish set goals.

Each Cadet was given a leadership role at points through the four-week training course, whether that be a Squad Leader, Platoon Leader, Platoon Sergeant or Company level leadership. Newly commissioned second lieutenants coached and watched our growth throughout the four weeks, offering daily feedback, constructive criticisms and recommendations for improvement. As LTC progressed, the leadership responsibilities were

expanded through simulated combat in field training. Land navigation and basic riflemanship, and other events were also a part of our curriculum.

Personal strength and leadership were focused upon during events designed to assist in overcoming fear. Fear of heights was confronted on the high-ropes course and at the top of the 31-foot rappel tower. Fear of swimming is tackled during combat water survival training, where in one event, Cadets jumped blindfolded off a 3-meter high dive with a rifle.

The four weeks of LTC were mentally grueling and physically taxing, many Cadets becoming ill with what was known as the "barracks crud". But the rewards of graduation, the elation of completing the 10 kilometer march with 40 pound rucksack and full gear, and meeting ROTC standards have culminated in the opportunity to enroll in the world's greatest leadership program and receive college tuition assistance.

Graduation from LTC has been the first step in my career as an Army officer. Graduates of ROTC have gone on to lead America's sons and daughters in fighting to preserve American democracy and freedoms or in civilian life in the boardrooms and offices of American business. Achievement earned.

Army Strong!

*Cadet Novajosky
(on right) and friends at
LTC, Ft. Knox, KY*



Branch Results

CDT Beau J. Bailey
Engineer Corps
Branch detailed - Engineer Corps
Army Reserves

CDT Jeremy Bermudez
Transportation Corps
Army National Guard

CDT Shawn M. Blaydes
Armor
Active Army

CDT Brian E. Brenner
Adjutant General Corps
Branch detailed - Field Artillery
Active Army

CDT Joseph E. DeLong
Armor
Branch detailed - Military Intelligence Corps
Active Army

CDT Kris L. Kristensen
Engineer Corps
Army National Guard

CDT Kevin B. Lawson
Signal Corps
Branch detailed - Signal Corps
Army Reserves

CDT Nicolas B. Rose
Armor
Army National Guard

SUMMER TRAINING

CTLT

By Cadet Karl Kristensen

Over the summer, I traveled to Fort Polk, La., to shadow a Lieutenant in the 178th Engineer Company as part of the Cadet Troop Leadership Training (CTLT) program. I believe that what I learned in those short three weeks will be indispensable for me as a leader and future Lieutenant in the United States Army. While I was there, the 178th Engineers was charged with conducting platoon-sized battle drills in up-armored HMMWV's, all the while cycling in and out by platoons building a large-scale fighting position composed of trenches and bunkers in the pine forests of Fort Polk, La.

I saw the majority of the project being constructed while I was there, from the digging of the trenches to the installation of the bunkers, to the building and excavation of the trenches. I learned a great deal about fortification engineering, but I learned much more about leadership from 1st Lieutenant Jones by his experience, competence and the manner in which he took care of his soldiers. This was no easy feat the Lieutenant and his men! It was a tremendous experience watching them construct this fighting position in Louisiana while experiencing the heat and humidity, with temperatures reaching 108 degrees on some days. I was made aware of the almost unbelievable humanity demonstrated by the Platoon Leader and his troops, a feeling which I have never felt in my whole life. I made careful notes of my experience in learning to be a leader under his command, and I feel privileged to have shadowed him and gained a much greater insight into the workings of the active army.

Air Assault

by Cadet Joseph Dutton

Tough, intense, hot: the three words which exemplified my experience with the Air Assault School during July, 2010. Taking place at the National Guard training site at Camp Smith, near West Point, NY, it was run by a mobile training team from the Sabalauski Air Assault School, Fort Campbell, Ky. and Cadets from the United States Military Academy. While the school is only ten days long it is by far not a walk in the park. Your first day involves a strenuous obstacle course followed by a two mile run with a six-mile ruck march/run the next morning. Once those are completed you go into your first phase of classes.

Air Assault school is comprised of three phases with the first being helicopter operations, the second - sling load operations, and third - rappelling operations. Overall the third phase was by far the most fun due to the amount of rappelling you do. Your final two tasks you must complete to graduate is successfully rappel from a UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter at 100 feet and complete another ruck march/run but this time for 12 miles! After all was said and done my class of originally 180 only graduated 102 and I am proud to say it was a great school and can thoughtfully say that those who have the will to push themselves beyond their breaking point will succeed with flying colors.

DO YOU HAVE NEWS TO SHARE?

Send us an e-mail at: ROTC@ewu.edu

LDAC 2010

By Cadet Shawn M. Blaydes

This last year, I chose to spend 28 days of my summer vacation in Ft. Lewis, Wash. I chose to pursue a career as an Army Officer. The Leadership Development and Assessment Course is designed to evaluate and develop potential future officers within the Army... and it does just that.

When I arrived, I was immediately processed and sorted into the 5th platoon of the 7th Cavalry Regiment (Cadet). I found my squad mates to be agreeable and didn't have much time to form any other opinion. For the first couple of days we in processed, completed necessary paperwork, and were issued our equipment. We also completed our APFT and land navigation courses. LDAC is not a place to show up unprepared.

The day after we completed Land Navigation, we were taken to Tactical Training Base (TTB) East where we conducted daily road marches to different events such as U.S. Weapons familiarization, chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear equipment training, and the Field Leaders Reaction Course. It felt like time had flown as we were already halfway done with camp (although we'd been claiming

since day five, much to the confusion of the cadre, that we only had three days left).

We were eventually moved to TTB West where we began our Squad Tactical Exercise (STX) lanes. Because we had established SOP's before we ever left garrison and had continually practiced them, STX was possibly the easiest part of LDAC. Moving through six lanes per day, life was easy. That was until our camp guard failed to properly interact with the locals, the cadre started dropping mortar simulators in the TTB.

When we were able to move out of the TTB and begin patrolling lanes, we were all relieved. We spent two days in the field attacking the South Atropian Peoples Army and defending against mosquitoes. After completing four days of STX lanes it was becoming automatic. While our squad was a coherent and well functioning unit, integrating with another squad and developing new SOP's was difficult at times, but well worth it when we would successfully complete our missions. After a week of STX and patrolling, we moved back to garrison.

Besides the "Million Dollar Minute" at U.S. Weapons, the last week of LDAC is most certainly the best. This is when you

get to complete the water confidence course and begin out processing for home. The water confidence course consists of raft races and flipping, building poncho rafts, the log-walk rope-drop, and my favorite, the slide for life.

Camp culminated in a massive graduation ceremony on the Ft. Lewis parade field and was attended by several general officers. Shortly after graduation, we were released, traded contact information, and those cadets from across the nation were bused to Sea-Tac International Airport. While I didn't think I'd remain in contact with my peers from LDAC, I talk regularly to CDT George who I play rugby against at the University of Washington, CDT Nedell who attends the University of Idaho and CDT Coughlin from the University of Montana, whom I enjoy reminding that EWU is the D1-NCAA National Football Champion. I'm also planning on visiting Cadet Allen from the Citadel while he is on educational delay working towards his law degree at the University of Kentucky. As for me? I'll be heading back to active duty as an Armor Officer, because, let's be honest, who doesn't want to shoot at a tank?

Spring 2010 Commissioning



From Left to Right: LTC Michael G. Kirkland, PMS; 2LT Jonathan Abshire; 2LT Patrick Watts; 2LT Christopher James; 2LT Joshua Decker; 2LT Zachary King; 2LT Phillip Figuerres; Mr. Kevin Hills, Representative, Veteran's Coin Program and Guest Speaker Alan Basham, Lecturer in the EWU Dept of Counseling, Educational & Developmental Psychology.

Commissioning

by 2LT Jonathan Abshire

For Cadets Commissioning is probably the most important event of their career-to-date. Commissioning represents the culmination of four years of dedication, training and preparation. It also signifies the transition from being a student and scholar, to being a soldier and a leader in the United States Army. The oath we take, and the commission we receive represents our country's trust and faith in our abilities. It is a solemn occasion and one that we have looked forward to since beginning the ROTC program.

This year, the Fighting Eagle Battalion commissioned eight new officers: 2nd Lieutenants Decker, Figuerres, James, King, O'Neel, Powers, Scarth, Watts and myself.

I remember back to my freshman year and witnessing the commissioning of Officers. It seemed like an event that was so far off, an almost-impossible goal to attain. Now, myself and my colleagues face the sobering task of continuing on with our training as Officers and the preparation to lead soldiers in our wars overseas.

I conclude my time here at Eastern by offering some advice to the MS I's and II's new to the program; continue to study and work hard – yet enjoy the time you have. It rushes by faster than you realize and very soon you will be standing where I am. And you will be the Officers entrusted with continuing America's fight against Her foes. Though it may seem like forever, there is a light at the end of the tunnel.



2LT Phillip Figuerres — Following in many footsteps



Outprocessing Cadre - MSG Travis Schledewitz & CPT Fisher receiving Veteran's Coins from Kevin Hills and Tracy Eddy of the Military Student Advisory Committee..



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