THE WARRIOR BATTALION SITUATION REPORT

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PONTUNE

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Welcome Class of 2023
Cadet Summer Training
Fall Field Training Exercise

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FALL 2019

IUP ARMY ROTC

ALUMNI UPDATES:

Please send one or two sentences highlighting exciting events/milestones in your life/career.

*Birth of a child

*Wedding

ing *Promotion

*Retirement *Assumption of Command

MP'S OUD

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT:

We are looking for a few longer updates to include in a future issue. Please send either a half page single-spaced (12pt) as well as 3 or 4 clear pictures.



7 Editor: Mr. Meryl Rutz

ARMY

ROT

Design/Content Director: CPT Daniel Beckers Photographers: CDT Charis Biancuzzo, Mrs. Lori Faulkner



UPCOMING EVENTS

October 2019

- 17 Ranger Challenge Competition Begins
- 28 Homecoming Weekend (Open House)

November 2019

- 17 Veterans Day Parade
- 28 Dining In Event

December 2019

13 End of Final Exams (All Schools)

January 2020

- 5 Classes Begin (UPJ)
- 13 Classes Begin (SFU)
- 21 Classes Begin (IUP, MAC)

March 2020

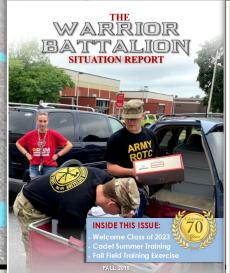
26 Combined FTX (Juniors & Seniors)

April 2020

- 18 Staff Ride (Seniors)
- 24-25 Military Ball 2020

May 2020

- 08 Spring Commissioning Ceremony
- 10 SFU Graduation & Oath of Office



ABOUT THE COVER

CDTs Kevin Neavling (left) and David Zipperlen (right) help a Freshman unpack her car and move into her dorm room as she supervises them packing the cart. Cadets assisting on Freshman Move-In Day is a tradition at Warrior Battalion that assures new Cadets and their parents that they have a family here and will be looked after and cared for by Warrior Battalion and their fellow Cadets.

Opposite: Cadets stand ready to assist on Freshman Move-In Day

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NEXT ISSUE: MAY 2020

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26..... Warrior Battalion Store Catalog



Advanced Camp, Airborne, Air Assault, Basic Mountaineering, CTLT, NSTP, AMEDDIP, CULP



Freshman Cadet move-in followed by fun, games and BBQ at Yellow Creek State Park

Field Training Exercise



Warrior Battalion took 151 Cadets to Camp Dawson, WV to conduct rappelling, ranges, and team building.

Making the Big Screen

Left: Cadets present the colors during the National Anthem at Heinz Field in Pittsburgh, PA on August 17, 2019 for the Steelers vs Chiefs preseason game. The president of the IUP Alumni Association, who works for the Steelers organization, specifically requested the Warrior Battalion Color Guard to make this presentation.



From the Professor of Military Science

Lieutenant Colonel Dennis W. Faulkner

Family, Friends, Allies, and members of the Warrior Battalion,

I want to wish farewell to our departing Executive Officer and Assistant Professor of Military Science (PMS) CPT Dan Beckers and his wife Theresa; they have been tremendous members of the Warrior Battalion team and will be sorely missed. And bid welcome to our incoming Assistant PMS CPT Adam Becker and his wife Kim. Yes, it has been hard keeping all the CPT Bs straight around here, but I am sure we will get it together soon and we are excited to have them join the team. Second, I would like to congratulate all our new LTs who were commissioned in 2019. The Warrior BN exceeded our mission again, commissioning 20 new LTs to the US Army. I am also pleased to report that we are on track to exceed our mission again in 2020, projecting 23 LTs. This year's seniors have hit the ground running and are doing an amazing job so far. We should soon have the results of the 2020 accessions board and I expect we will again have great success in ensuring our seniors get their branch and component of choice. I want to highlight the selection of senior Cadet Ethan Blackie as this year's Battalion Commander. We changed our selection process a bit this year to give a broader group of senior Cadets the opportunity to compete for the position and to base it more heavily on performance on campus once the semester began, congratulations Cadet Blackie! I know you will do great!

This year we have two new initiatives under way that I will highlight below:

Spring Military Ball: This year will not only continue the practice of linking our 20th year class with the commissioning class but it is also our 70th anniversary. In recognition of this we are looking to make this year's Ball a multi-day event with several activities to ensure there is something for everyone to enjoy. It is scheduled for 24-25 April 2020 and will be at the Blairsville Country Club. We are currently planning to have an evening mixer on the 24th, with an opportunity for golf and some spa time during the day on the 25th, culminating with the Ball on the evening of the 25th. Additional information/invitations as well as information on how to sponsor Cadets for the event will be coming out shortly. I thank you in advance for your support and I look forward to seeing everyone again this year, it should be an amazing venue and a night to remember.

Pathways to Service: In an effort to integrate better with the community and to increase opportunities for local students to achieve a National Scholarship we have initiated a club at Indiana High School named Pathways of Service. This club exposes students to opportunities in all forms of service professions including Military, Emergency Services, and Law Enforcement. Additionally, we will assist those students interested in ROTC in completing their scholarship applications. We anticipate many new local success stories will come from this and are grateful to the leadership at Indiana High School for assisting us in this effort.

Our current strength is at 164 Cadets (with 59 freshmen and Cadets at all 4 universities). As always thank you to our Allies who continue to support the program with your time and money, we would not be able to do this without your support! I look forward to seeing everyone at events throughout the year and we are ready for a tremendous 2019/20 school year.

Warriors First! Warrior 6



LTC Faulkner promoted CDT Blackie to Cadet Battalion Commander and CDT Crawford to Cadet Battalion Executive Officer at FTX in recognition of their excellence in opening the fall semester.



From the Senior Military Science Instructor

Master Sergeant Samuel Alter

W arrior Battalion, I would like to si

I would like to start by congratulating our endof-summer commissioned 2^{nd} Lieutenants. Great job on crossing the finish line and finishing strong in achieving your goals. I wish you the best of luck in your next step and adventure in becoming a US Army Officer attending BOLC.

I cannot pass up the opportunity to congratulate all our newly advanced Seniors for a job well done during Advance Camp this summer at Fort Knox Kentucky. I had the chance to observe most of you executing your leadership missions and it was impressive. You all represented the Warrior Battalion and your universities extremely well. I am looking forward to this year with your team owning and running the ROTC program. The Senior class has started very strong with planning and organizing some great Fall Semester events. Stay focused and dedicated to your mission and continue on your path to excellence. Your organization will only be as good as its leaders make it. I wish you all the best of luck on your desired Army branch.

The Warrior Battalion has grown with eager Cadets returning as Team leaders and Squad Leaders. We have been witnessing a stronger motivation and desire amongst our Cadets as they take ownership of their roles.

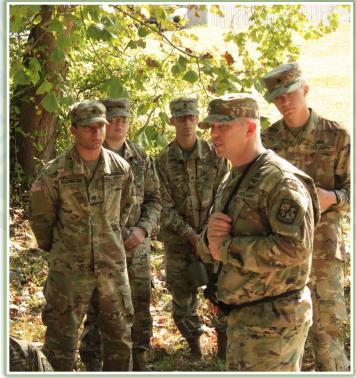
The physical fitness has picked right back up and continues to get more strenuous as the weeks progress. The Cadets are preparing for the new Army Combat Fitness Test as it will be implemented in the upcoming Summer Cadet Training as an evaluated event to take place of the Army Physical Fitness Test. They began this new training model with fitness clinics to help new cadets with proper form and techniques to prevent injuries as well as develop muscle growth. I am looking forward to seeing the advancements in fitness throughout the entire program.

It is also competition season for the Ranger Challenge Club, and it is in full force. Lead by CDT Daigle and CDT Painter, they are training hard and preparing the team to bring home the win in October when they compete against 42 other ROTC programs throughout the northeast region. Good luck and give it 110%!

We hit the ground running and will continue to do great things for the university and our program. Thank you to all faculty and staff who continue to support our program and to the community that supports our training events and allows us to be part of this great county.

Warriors First!

Warrior 7



MSG Alter instructs Cadets at FTX

www.iup.edu/givetoROTC

Farewell

Captain Daniel Beckers, Executive Officer



I started my career as an enlisted infantryman in the Connecticut Army National Guard in 2003 and, after a deployment to Afghanistan in 2006/2007, I joined Army ROTC and earned my commission. After my time in ROTC, I had always wanted to be an Assistant Professor of Military Science. . When it became clear I was on the short list for one of the two openings in the Active Guard and Reserve (AGR) Program as an Assistant Professor of Military Science, I begged my Battalion Executive Officer, Major Martinkis (IUP '03), to influence the state to assign me to East Stroudsburg University. I had never heard of Indiana University of Pennsylvania, it was clear on the other side of the state, and my wife was due with our fourth child two weeks before the start date. He assured me that if assigned to IUP, I would not regret it. He was absolutely right and I am grateful for what has turned out to be the highlight of my career so far.

This battalion has an incredible history. Most universities support the military and many work well with their ROTC program. Indiana University of Pennsylvania, however, is not on the same playing field. Our program has its own building with our own large classrooms, an indoor rifle and pistol range, over a dozen offices, a cadet lounge, and a massive supply room. Our professor of military science sits on the Council of Chairs, the Academic Affairs Council, and the University Faculty Senate. I have personally worked with each of the vice presidents on initiatives to grow Army ROTC and each of them were not simply enthusiastic about our proposals, but actively proposed ideas of their own. This is truly a uniquely supportive environment to develop our nation's next military, civilian, and government leaders.

After learning I would be assigned to IUP ROTC, I also learned that Saint Francis University was part of the Warrior Battalion. I graduated from Franciscan University of Steubenville, which is the sister school of Saint Francis (the Franciscan Third Order Regular runs both universities). From day one, I hoped I would have the opportunity to instruct at Saint Francis and in Fall 2018 I was assigned to this small detachment of about 16 Cadets. With strong support from Father Malachi (President), Laura Papcunik (Finacial Aid and Veterans Affairs), Dr. Pete Skoner (Dean of the College of STEAM), former Army Captain Dr. Rombouts (Registrar), and the great work of now Second Lieutenants Sarah Davis and Kathleen Leary (both class of 2019), the program reached full stride. The Saint Francis program has grown from an average of one Second Lieutenant per year since its inception in 2010, to commission three officers in 2019 and three in 2020. They are now projected to commission six to seven officers in 2022 and seven to eight officers in 2023.

I am proud to have been here for many other Warrior Battalion successes including a total branding campaign, complete interior update to Pierce Hall, creation of the Warrior Battalion Store, the creation of the Warrior Battalion magazine, the revival of our connection to alumni, the acquisition of dedicated dorm space, expansion into Mount Aloysius College and University of Pittsburg at Johnstown, etc. Under the leadership of LTC Dennis Faulkner, these and many other successes have already and will continue to provide for the excellent formation of Warrior Battalion Cadets for decades to come.

The support we enjoyed and the hard work of all ROTC instructors and staff while I have been here has allowed us to double our commission potential. For 30 years we have commissioned an average of 17 new Officers, but in 2021 we will commission between 30 and 35. In 2022, we will reach 35 to 40. As I depart there are still several high impact initiatives that are being spearheaded by our excellent Recruiting Operations Officer, Mr. Chris Chavira, that could realize another 30 to 50% growth for 2024 and beyond. I will always look back with satisfaction on the work accomplished during these 3 years and with affection for Warrior Battalion.

Thank you to all the Cadets from the class of 2017 through 2023 for stepping forward to serve! Thank you to the cadre and staff for your friendship and your hard work!

Warriors First!



ADVANCED CAMP

Each summer, over 6,000 MS III Cadets from across the country descend on Fort Knox, KY for the major event of their ROTC careers: Advanced Camp. Cadets pass through several phases at camp, in both garrison and the field, undergoing a series of briefings, training, and testing.

At the end of each rotation, Cadets are evaluated ed on how they demonstrated leadership proficiency. The top 15% in each platoon receive Outstanding, the next 34% Excellent, the following 36% Proficient, while the bottom 15% are Competent. These evaluations play a significant role in determining whether Cadets get their preferred component and branch.

This summer, Warrior Battalion sent 19 Cadets to camp. Cadets Jordan Crawford, Eric Kinderman, and Aaron Piccolo, achieved Outstanding. CDT Piccolo accomplished this as an MS II accelerated nursing student. While they brought the lessons learned from Warrior Battalion to camp, they also learned valuable lessons, which will inform their actions and decision making for the rest of their careers.

Thinking about his success, CDT Kinderman said, "The biggest take-aways for me were to use your entire team, be proactive and help others at every opportunity, and treat everyone equally and respectfully." CDT Piccolo echoed these sentiments. "The first thing that separated me from other Cadets was my sense of urgency and willingness to help others. Throughout training I continued to help others, which led to building my reputation as a reliable person."

Cadets who did little to help, but criticized peers' plans to other platoon members "led to mission failure and it was astonishing and very concerning to see how willing people were to let their peers fail," CDT Kinderman found. He recognized that it is important to make use of your entire team, which "allows them to be involved in planning, and to take ownership of their individual tasks, helping the platoon leader focus on the big picture." He also felt it is important to recognize others' efforts in making the mission successful. "Be consistent, be humble, and always give credit before you take credit," he said. "The biggest piece of advice is to treat others equally and with respect."

CDT Crawford noted another mission planning challenge. "Regardless of how much time you put into planning, the opposition always has a say in the battle." As a result, "it is important to always be mentally agile as an officer. You must be able to react to any obstacle the enemy might try to put in your way,... be ready to take control of your elements, and use your knowledge to take the advantage in conflict."

On an individual level, CDT Crawford noticed "individuals who were not properly prepared for the weather. After a few days, it was clear that their mental and physical stamina was significantly less than those who were prepared." He asked rhetorically, "If you cannot take care of yourself with little things, like preparing for a field exercise, how can you properly lead others in situations demanding an organized and prepared leader?" Preparation was a common theme among the Cadets.

Preparation gives a Cadet an advantage, as does the effort put into something. "Never be complacent in an individual graded event. Most Cadets simply wanted to pass the land navigation practical with 3 out of 4 points. I pushed myself to find all 4 points. In the end, this separated me from most of my platoon when we were ranked against each other." CDT Piccolo explained that in general "giving 100% and achieving a first time 'Go' is absolutely vital and will separate great Cadets from average Cadets at the end of camp."

"It was clear from the moment I arrived that I was better prepared for this training than most other cadets; a clear testament to the training I received from the Warrior Battalion," CDT Piccolo said. The preparation paid off. "As I continued to succeed at each event, I became more confident in my ability to perform as a Soldier." CDT Crawford believes that "the rigorous event was an important culmination of my past three years of ROTC that effectively tested my character, knowledge, and ability to lead as a future United States Army Officer."



Cadet Kinter pulls security during a Field Training Exercise at Ft. Knox, KY

IR TRAINING



CDT Mackenzie Reed and CDT Sean Stirling attended Airborne School at Fort Benning, GA. CDT Stirling described the training outline: "Airborne School consists of three weeks: Ground Week, Tower Week, and Jump Week. Ground week consists of an Army Physical Fitness Test followed by classes on learning to take care of the equipment, how to exit the aircraft safely and how to land with no injury. Tower Week consists of learning to control the parachutes and more landing practice while jumping from the 34-foot training towers. Jump week is made up of five qualifying jumps from an aircraft—three day jumps and two night jumps, with two of the jumps made while carrying 95 lbs of equipment."

Jumping from aircraft was not the only hazard the Cadets encountered CDT Reed discovered, "Once the day was underway, I quickly learned what a 'heat cat' was. Up until the moment a student went down, I thought heat casualties were a myth. After witnessing that, I realized that staying healthy, hydrated and aware was no joke."

One of the most memorable moments for CDT

Reed was when her platoon came together as a family and it all clicked. "The Friday before jump week, two of the students in my platoon were still struggling with swing harness training. First Sergeant was ready to send them home until they convinced him to give them another chance. We all rallied around them, gave them sound advice, and cheered them on. By the grace of God, they both successfully completed the parachute landing fall and passed."

"I honestly had no idea what I was getting myself into when I agreed to go," CDT Reed reflected. "Neither did I know how much of a gift it was to be selected for the slot. During those three weeks of training, I learned a lot about myself as a person and exactly what I am capable of. Sometimes the best experiences in life are the ones that pull you out of your comfort zone." CDT Stirling is also proud to wear the airborne wings on his uniform.



AIR ASSAULT

CDT James Johnson and CDT Zachary Taylor attended The Sabalauski Air Assault School at Fort Campbell, KY. The school started with a challenging Day Zero made up of a 2-mile timed run and an obstacle course. After successfully completing both, Phase 1 began, which provided a comprehensive overview of Army helicopters, hand and arm signals, and safety procedures for operating around aircraft with a written test and practical exam.

Phase 2 was by far the most challenging consisting of an introduction to pathfinder and sling load operations. Most of this training took place in the motor pool covering the preparation, rigging, and inspection of the Army's most commonly used sling loads (A-22 cargo bag, M1197 HMMV, fuel blivets, 5k cargo net, and water trailer). The phase included a written test, six-mile ruck march, four-mile timed run, and a practical exam.

Phase 3 consisted entirely of rappelling operations, starting with how to properly tie a Swiss seat, rappel safety, and belay procedures. The class prac-

> ticed on closed and open walls, rappelling with and without gear. A rappel from a UH-60 Blackhawk provided an exhilarating culminating experience. The final requirement was a 12mile ruck with a three hour time limit. Both Cadets are proud to wear the Air Assault Badge.

Air Assault School helped CDT Johnson focus on his future. Being able to interact with enlisted Soldiers, CDT Johnson asked for advice on becoming a good lieutenant. In addition to learning about the Army's air assets and being able to question new lieutenants about the next steps, CDT Taylor reflected, "Attending air assault school provided an opportunity to gauge my progress as a Cadet with regards to physical readiness and operational awareness."



CDTs Taylor and Johnson at the Sabalauski Air Assault School.

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MOUNTAIN WARFARE SCHOOL



CDT Ethan Blackie Basic Military Mountaineering Course (BMMC) at the Army Mountain Warfare School in Jericho, Vermont was a step in the right direction as time to commissioning approaches. At BMMC we covered a wide range of topics including basic knot tying, animal packing, altimeter land navigation, and casualty evacuation in mountainous terrain. Recognizing the pertinence of this

Top rope climbing

information to the current situation was easy. As a result, I am very grateful to have had the opportunity to attend BMMC.

Currently, we operate in mountainous terrain such as Afghanistan, and operations in Russia or North Korea could be possible in our future. Both hold bitter cold winters and mountainous terrain. Given that, attending BMMC was very beneficial and will aid my future as an Army Officer. Even though I took the summer section of BMMC, it enhanced my knowledge of safely and effectively operating in cold weather, and I learned proper soldier load management. These topics cover situations I will encounter in my Army career.

Advanced topics such as vertical danger areas and environmental effects on weapons piqued my interest and made training even more enjoyable.

I appreciated the practical exercises that encompassed what we were learning in the class room the most. The practical exercises strengthened my problem solving and critical thinking skills—



Casualty evacuation training

two traits that are crucial for an Army officer. Nearly every day we would ruck march from the school house to a training area and conduct hands-on training. This teaching strategy is something I will implement in my own training plans. We rappelled and rock climbed on multiple occasions. These techniques and the systems that came with them were fun, but also helped me understand some of the challenges that come with operating in mountainous terrain. Overall attending this school and interacting with a wide range of soldiers and officers was very beneficial to me as an ROTC Cadet as well as a future Army Officer.

CADET TROOP LEADER TRAINING

Cadets Michael Ondik and Brittany Thatcher participated in Cadet Troop Leader Training (CTLT), an opportunity for ROTC Cadets to shadow an active duty platoon leader for a month in order to learn more about leadership and what a platoon leader actually does. CDT Ondik was assigned to the 761st MP Company at Fort Campbell, KY, while CDT Thatcher worked with the 432nd Blood Support Detachment at Fort Bragg, NC.

The Cadets had very different experiences. CDT Ondik's focused on observation and learning. "Observing an actual platoon leader and platoon sergeant had a massive impact on me. We learn what they do on paper, but getting to watch it in action felt like it brought my ROTC experience full circle," he related. A big positive was that "my PL and PSG gave me tons of advice and were quick to answer any questions I had. They made sure I understood what they were doing and why. I could see the things I have learned in ROTC being put to use in real life." Another benefit was "being able to tell the junior enlisted and NCOs about my ROTC experience and learning about the enlisted career path from them. I saw a little bit of what they go through, which I believe is important for Officers to understand."

CDT Thatcher, on the other hand, actually performed in the role of platoon leader, with her mentors giving her tasks to perform in support of the unit's mission. "My duties consisted of planning, monitoring, evaluating, and advising the unit commander and staff on both medical and non-medical tasks," which encompassed the full range of the unit's mission. While learning to manage tasks, she also learned about the roles of supporting units and their interrelationships.

CDT Thatcher found that she "learned the importance of networking, flexibility, open-mindedness, humility, knowing the "why" in order to be an effective leader. Being able to participate in the CTLT program was an awesome experience and an effective way to grow as a leader." CDT Ondik emphasized, "I can't say enough good things about this program and I believe more Cadets should participate as I learned a lot from the experience."

NURSE SUMMER TRAINING PROGRAM

The Nurse Summer Training Program (NSTP) is an opportunity for Cadet nursing students to work at Army Medical Centers world-wide in order to gain experience as an Army nurse. Five of our Cadets participated this summer: CDT Audra Everitt, CDT Jordan Fisher, CDT Brooke Gaumer, CDT Amanda Goodwin, and CDT Sarah Gottardi. They gained invaluable hands-on experience that their civilian classmates have only seen or heard about, and built relationships with active duty personnel and other Cadets they are likely to work with in the future.

CDT Everitt worked in the Intensive Care Unit on Joint Base Lewis McChord, WA. She found that



"working with Army officers in the inpatient setting was invaluable to me as a future leader. I was able to visualize how the fundamentals of being an Army officer and the responsibilities of a nurse on the floor directly

CDT Everitt with her preceptor, CPT Dowd

correlate. Being a future Army Nurse puts me in a position to effectively serve Soldiers and Army families. NSTP opened my eyes to be proactive in seeking leadership opportunities and training events in order to better serve the Army and its Soldiers."

CDT Fisher spent three weeks at Fort Benning, GA in Labor & Delivery and Mother & Baby, then finished her rotation in the Emergency Department. The day she entered the ED, Ft Benning broke their previous record for heat casualties in a single day. By quickly learning the procedures, she was able to help make a difference and gained a great deal of knowledge. "Almost every patient who entered the ED required an EKG and ECG, which was great practice for my senior year nursing courses. The skills I was able to acquire through



NSTP will set me apart from my peers in my last year of clinicals. I am more confident in my ability to become an Army Nurse from this experience." At Fort

Stewart, GA, CDT Gaumer cared for patients in the Intermediate Care Unit, which houses the medicalsurgical ward, but also floated through many other departments in the hos-

CDT Fisher draws blood at NSTP

pital. Because of the practice she received, she is more confident about returning to school in the fall, and learned a lot about Army nursing. "One of the most rewarding aspects of this program was seeing illnesses and treatments that I learned about in lecture in the clinical setting," she said. More importantly, "this experience reinforced my goal of becoming an Army nurse. Getting a preview of what my future is going to look like in just over a year reassures me that this is what I want to do. It was a great experience and I would encourage every nurse Cadet to take the opportunity."

In the Emergency Room at Fort Bliss, TX, CDT Goodwin had a lot of independence in providing patient care following participation in skills labs to practice what she would be doing with them, and even had responsibilities during a Code Blue. She also spent a week in Labor & Delivery. "This training gave me hands-on experience to learn and practice these skills. Because of this training, I will be ahead of my peers in nursing school," a tremendous advantage in any case. Additionally, "I became aware of the opportunities that I can be a part of once I commission. I am confident I made the right decision in choosing the path to become an Army nurse."

Through NSTP, CDT Gottardi said, "My confidence in the nursing professional skyrocketed and with the help of Army and civilian staff alike, I learned many useful clinical skills," which allowed her to work more independently. She also found that despite being a nurse, you are a Soldier first. "I developed my professionalism through interactions with the officers I came in contact with at the hospital. The Medical branch is very different, so it's important to maintain your integrity and military bearing at all times." Like the other nursing students, CDT Gottardi would highly encourage all nursing students to participate. "Everything I learned from the nursing staff this summer will help shape me as an Army officer and nurse. I am very grateful I had this opportunity."

CULTURAL UNDERSTANDING AND LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

The Cultural Understanding and Leadership Program provides an opportunity for Cadets to train with foreign militaries. Three of our Cadets had the opportunity this summer to explore life in a foreign military. CDT Eric Kinderman went to Argentina to the Colegio Militar de la Nacion, CDT Kyle Kinter joined Cadets from Lithuania, and CDT Jordan Washington spent time with cadets from the Escuela Militar de Chorrillos in Peru.

Of course, training in a foreign environment, all three Cadets drew some comparisons. CDT Kinter was a little concerned about the language barrier, but "I quickly noticed that most of the country spoke English very well and life was not too different from life in the US." CDT Washington mentioned that "it was important to overcome the language barrier and communicate with the Peruvian cadets to make sure we knew how everything worked around the barracks."

CDT Kinderman appreciated being "in Argentina for almost a month—it gave our Cadets time to overcome the 'culture-shock' and any biases and misconceptions they held." Throughout his time in Peru, CDT Washington "was trying to compare and contrast American and Peruvian culture." He also found many differences throughout his training experience, from weapons handling techniques to tactical combat care. Overall, CDT Kinter found that "having this experience was great because it helped me notice things that we do differently in America and developed my awareness of how it made us stand out as Americans."

In forming his initial impressions, CDT Kinderman said, "Words that came to mind to summarize their army were outdated, small, and underwhelming." As he learned more, he realized that although it is small and somewhat outdated, "The Argentine army is very powerful and effective. Not because of the latest and greatest weapons, vehicles and technology, but because of the people in it." He noticed "the common denominator among every soldier was the desire, pride, loyalty, and selfless-service they displayed across all levels, from cadets to the highestranking NCOs and officers." What made them successful was that "Every soldier in their army is an expert at their craft, an expert with the tools they use, and an expert problem solver." CDT Washington had a similar impression of the Peruvian army. "To say the least, they are highly motivated, disciplined, and show a lot of passion in everything they do."

One aspect of the trip that all three Cadets raised was the training environment. CDT Washington explained, "The other American Cadets and I were expected to hold the same standards as their cadets," which included their daily schedule. "Weekdays at the military academy held the same schedule every day . . . Weekend normally consisted of cultural activities or a rest after a busy week." CDT Kinderman thought, "One of the best aspects of this mission was that we were able to see a very rigid military training environment at the Colegio Militar de la



Desert FTX

Nacion, the national capital of Buenos Aires, and the Mountain Warfare School in the region of Bariloche. . . .After visiting the Mountain Warfare School in Bariloche, and seeing the massive Andes Mountains, it quickly became my favorite part of the trip since I love hiking and I am an outdoorsman at heart."



On the range

All three Cadets participated in Field Training Exercises with their host nations as well. In Lithuania, CDT Kinter participated in Iron Wolf, "a multi-nation exercise in which we were able to see many NATO allies work together." He felt this was "very valuable for me to see how our allies come together and get that little bit of experience working with soldiers from different nations. Since the US usually operates in coalitions, participating in Iron Wolf was a useful experience."

CDT Washington had a grueling experience while

training in Peru. "The last major training we received was a weeklong FTX in the desert. During the week, we had hours of live-fire training, watched tank demonstrations, received mountain warfare instruction, and had the opportunity to fire their machine guns." But at the

end of the week, "we faced one of the toughest challenges of the mission. We had to ruck 30 miles through desert, sandy beaches and the city back to the Escuela Military. In addition, as tired as we were, each of the American Cadets helped carry over 500 pounds worth of mortars that the Peruvian cadets were tasked to carry, demonstrating the level of teamwork between the Americans and Peruvians." Amazingly, "we finished the 30 miles in 14 hours, which was a school record. The commanding general was astonished that



Desert FTX

we finished and we were greeted with applause and cheers from the rest of the installation."

CDT Kinderman "became close friends with some of their cadets in a short period of time." This is important because "having connections and friendships already established greatly improves rapport with their military and country." CDT Washington reflected, "This was not an easy month, but I would do it over again if I had the opportunity to." He felt it "gave me tools which I can carry with me. As an Officer, it is important to have strong leadership attributes, among which are being personable and openminded. Not knowing what theater I might find myself in, or what their



CDT Washington with Peruvian cadets

culture might be like, I learned many valuable lessons I can apply in those situations." CDT Kinter summed up their collective experience. "This was a valuable and rewarding experience. I grew and developed as a person by working with people from different cultures. The experience of seeing how different militaries can work together is something that will be vary useful in my Army career."



CDT Cherish Smith

The Army Medical Department Internship Program (AMEDDIP) assigned me to the Landstuhl Regional Medical Center (LRMC) in Germany. Currently, I am studying to obtain my bachelor's degree in biology, with a concentration in pre-medical studies. My end goal is to become an Army Medical officer and an obstetrician/ gynecologist (Ob/Gyn). During my time at the LRMC, I shadowed various Ob/Gyn physicians and nurses with broad military and civilian backgrounds. AMEDDIP allowed me to gain exposure to Ob/Gyn operations at an Army Medical facility.

My days at the LRMC consisted of shadowing: sonographers running ultrasounds, a maternal-fetal medicine physician, doctors conducting surgeries in the operating room, nurses caring for patients in labor and delivery, midwives conducting viability scans, nurses conducting non-stress tests on pregnant patients, physicians meeting with patients for gynecologic visits, and nurses answering patient questions via triage.

The AMEDDIP enhanced my knowledge of what Ob/Gyn physicians face day-to-day in the hospital. My time at LRMC also gave me insight into the balance doctors have between medical and military life. All military physicians and nurses still have duties that they are expected to execute on the military front, along with giving care to their patients.

Shadowing providers belonging to a broad range of backgrounds informed me how different branches operate as well as the ease of their operations. I am happy that I chose the path to become an Army officer and, will continue to tread the path toward becoming an Army Medical officer.

CONTRACTING

Above: Cadets open their insignia boxes after contracting; Right: LTC Faulkner addresses the newly contracted Cadets and their families at the reception; Below: Cadets raise their right hand to take the contracting oath

Congratulations contracted Cadets:

CDT Alexa Andrick (MS II) CDT Jeremy Ayrault (MS II) CDT Nicholas Blake (MS I) CDT Ryan Burgland (MS II) CDT Jacob Fox (MS II) CDT Joseph Guerra (MS III) CDT Frances Hermoso (MS III) CDT Hailey Hulsinger (MS II) CDT Gunner Jankouskas (MS II) CDT Mia Lenzi (MS II) CDT Annabelle McCullough (MS II) CDT Riley Morgan (MS II) CDT Kevin Neavling (MS II) CDT Colton Packard (MS II) CDT Yesina Roman-Longoria (MS I) CDT Jack Woolard (MS II) CDT Raegan Woolwine (MS II)

Congratulations Second Lieutenants:

2LT Daniel Grey 2LT Kristi Newlen 2LT Tristan Pilch 2LT Zachary Raible 2LT Ronald Reighard



On 29 August 2019, Warrior Battalion hosted our Summer Commissioning and Contracting Ceremony in Fisher Hall Auditorium at IUP. With friends, family and the balance of the battalion present, fifteen Cadets contracted with Army ROTC, and five Cadets commissioned as 2nd Lieutenants.

After the traditional posting of the Colors, the National Anthem and the invocation proffered by Battalion Chaplain Scott Weigner, fifteen Cadets marched on stage to raise their right hand and repeat the contracting oath.

Following this, LTC Faulkner kept his remarks short, encouraging the new lieutenants and thanking their families for their support. One at a time, the commissioning Cadets took center stage, received their bars from family members and their first salute from a friend or family member. They

then took their Oath of Office. The remainder of the program was the singing of the Army Song, and the benediction. As always following the formal events, the new 2nd Lieutenants took part in a reception with their families back at Pierce Hall, concluding with signing the Historic Ledger.



COMMISSIONING

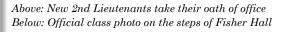
IUP ROTC HALL OF FAIVIE







Center of Page: 2LT Daniel Gray greets his family; Above: LTC and Mrs. Pilch pin 2LT Tristan Pilch; Left: 2LT Raible signs the Warrior Battalion Historic Ledger; Right: The Summer 2019 Commissioning Class signatures on the Historic Ledger







Over the past several years we have come to recognize that our new cadets are going through a lot in their first few weeks. For the first time, they are stepping away from the comfort of home and entering the world. After four years in high school, they arrive at a university where they may only know a small handful of other students. They may be entering into a degree path that appears exciting, but one in which they may know very little. They are experiencing dorm life with a roommate who may be from a completely different culture, have a different set of values, or a completely incompatible sleep schedule. To top it all off, they are joining a somewhat intimidating organization with its own culture, rules, and expectations.

With all of those experiences in mind, Warrior Battalion is making every effort to welcome our new Cadets and to give them the best start in our program and at their university. We are confident that if by the first day of class, they have begun building friendships, their roommate has the same sleep schedule, their Residence Assistant is their Team leader or squad leader, and they have been formally welcomed into our organization, then they are more likely to persevere through the initial challenges of Army ROTC. The Senior Cadets were well into MDMP Week (see page 19) when they took their traditional break to assist the new Freshman Cadets move into their dorms. This year, Warrior Battalion had a surprise for Freshman Move-In: We have our own dedicated ROTC dorm space in Stephenson Hall. Although a few Cadets are living in other dorms because this agreement came late in Spring 2019, most are concentrated in Stephenson Hall (Named after former Warrior Battalion Professor of Military Science, 1966-1968, and former IUP professor Colonel Charles Stephenson)

Following Move-In, parents and new Cadets attended orientation, consisting of a meet and greet, a briefing for the parents with LTC Faulkner and Recruiting Operations Officer, Christopher Chavira, briefings for the students with MSG Alter and LTC Faulkner, and, of course, a visit to the Battalion Store. After the orientation, students had time to get settled before their families returned home.

The following day, Thursday, freshmen Cadets met briefly for initial paperwork officially enrolling them in Army ROTC, and initial uniform and equipment issue (1 set of fitness uniforms, 1 set of combat uniforms, and tactical equipment for leadership labs). Later that evening, Senior Cadets organized a Cadet social in Pierce Hall.



Top Left: CDT Cherish Smith helps a freshman Cadet move her things from her parents' car to her dorm room; Top Right and Center Right: The new Army ROTC wing in Stephenson Hall ready for Cadets; Center Left: CDT Nicole Sarnovsky talks with parents prior to orientation; Right: LTC Faulkner briefs the families during orientation before speaking to the new Cadets



RERIOR

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PALION

Freshmen Welcome Event Yellow Creek State Park

PIA 5643 FF





Top: New Cadetes participating in the canoe race; Center Left: CDT Samuel Fichtl looking for his next target in dodgeball flanked by CDTs Ryan Redilla and Christian Labash; Center: Freshman Cadets team up for a tug-ofwar;

To further welcome new Cadets into the Warrior Battalion family, Senior Cadets planned, resourced, and executed a welcome event at Yellow Creek State Park on the Friday. Cadets broke the ice with canoe races, paintball matches, tug of war competitions, kickball, corn hole, and socialized over barbeque style lunch. By the end of the 3-day orientation, Cadets had met their leaders and made friends with classmates over a little competition and a shared experience.

Cadet Sergeant Major Erik Hicks, Officer in Charge of the Freshman Move-In, considers the day a success. He believes the event should be a priority every year, and would move planning to the previous spring to improve the organization of the day.

CDT Brittany Thatcher had responsibility for the Freshman Welcome Event. She said it went very well and served as a solid informal teambuilding environment. Even the seniors responsible for the various events had fun with their tasks, which in turn made it more fun for the freshman participants.

We hope that with a well-planned opening to the new school year, our new Cadets will keep an open mind to the endless possibilities that Army ROTC can offer them. Freshmen come from various backgrounds in fitness, academics, and leadership experience. We have seen unbelievable transformations within even the first semester for Cadets who zero in on their goal of becoming an Army officer. We look forward to writing next year's contracting ceremony article where these new Cadets make the formal commitment to serve.

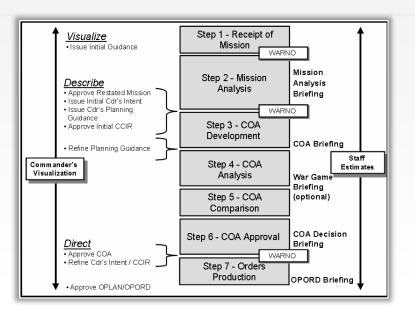
Military Decision Making Process

Senior Cadets have been practicing leadership for several years. During freshman year they learned leadership theories in the classroom and observed both good and bad leadership as members of teams, squads, and platoons. Sophomore year they entered into the "year of the Non Commissioned Officer" and continued their classroom discussions on leadership and served as team leaders responsible for three to four freshmen cadets. As Juniors, the temperature was cranked up a few degrees. They wrestled with the application of leadership concepts in a tactical environment. At lab, they were challenged to apply leadership theories during tactical situational exercises while battling discomfort, stress, and attempting to lead their peers. The daily life of a junior Cadet was spent as a squad leader, platoon leader, or platoon sergeant responsible for 8-30 underclassmen. By the end of junior year, they had experienced many levels of both following and leading, but they had not yet experienced total ownership of the battalion.

Seniors began trickling back from Advance Camp in July and August. They had received the "Brigade" Operations Order for the upcoming school year and they began collaborating through emails, text, and phone calls on how they would "run the battalion better than the terrible, no good, seniors did last year."

In the past two years, the instructors have implemented a significant change to the battalion with the intention of creating more prepared officers. Seniors are truly given full ownership of their battalion. They own every event ranging from morning fitness to the Spring Military Ball and all color guards, parades, leadership labs, fundraising, recruiting events in between. They own the uniform inspections, customs and courtesies, flag detail, club activities, orientations, field training exercises, and much more. As senior Cadets, returning from their assessment at Fort Knox, Kentucky, their were facing a live, year-long leadership scenario to find out if they are truly ready to become Second Lieutenants.

Senior cadets arrive a full week early to plan for the training year. This is their first practical exer-



cise in the Military Decision Making Process (MDMP). During MDMP week, they prioritize work based on when the events take place and establish work groups based on their assigned leadership positions in the battalion. The Cadet Battalion Executive Officer manages this process and runs the staff. "As XO, I need to fulfill the role of conducting MDMP Week and ensuring that the tasks that need to be completed during the week are completed in a timely manner," CDT Blackie said.

As one of the top Cadets in his class he had been selected for Mountain Warfare School and was not scheduled to return until the end of MDMP week. "In order to mitigate confusion, I created a 'due-out' list as well as a daily timeline for MDMP ahead of time. When I had free time at school, I used the schoolhouse computers to check on the Battalion staff's progress." Cadet Kinter, the Cadet Operations Officer, filled in for Cadet Blackie in his absence.

The immediate tasks were to create an accurate schedule of the semester, plan weeks 1 through 4, complete the battalion-level operations order, and flesh out the calendar. Additionally, the seniors would be facilitating freshmen move-in, new cadet orientation, and running a welcome event at a local state park. To add complexity to an already challenging endeavor, they needed to establish daily and weekly routines such as attendance reporting, supply processes, the cadet mentorship program, and much more.

The Cadets struggled at first to wrap their minds around all that needed to be done, but as the week progressed, they found their stride. "This week is valuable for the Battalion staff in getting organized for the semester and learning our positions, roles, and responsibilities," CDT Jeffries explained.

As XO, CDT Blackie noted, "I admire our class's hard work and ability to work as a team. I am thankful to be working with these individuals." He will be present for the next MDMP Week at the beginning of the Spring semester. "I plan to follow a more doctrinally structured outline. As a result, staff members will be able to focus on their individual responsibilities sooner so productivity will be increased."

STATE OF THE ROTC

HEROES MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Above: IUP President Dr. Michael Driscoll addresses the gathering.

On the evening of September 20, the Warrior Battalion hosted our 2nd Annual State of the ROTC dinner and Theta Chi Heroes Memorial Scholarship presentation. Distinguished guests from Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Saint Francis University, and Mount Aloysius College as well as past and present brothers of Theta Chi Fraternity joined us for the evening. Professor of Military Science, Lieutenant Colonel Dennis W. Faulkner, delivered the State of the ROTC address highlighting the impact Warrior Battalion has made on our universities as well as program performance regionally and nationally.

IUP President Dr. Michael Driscoll spoke about the prominent presence of military on campus, both from veterans as well as Warrior Battalion Army ROTC Cadets and Cadre. He shared a poem reminding all that it is the Soldier who unlocks the incredible freedoms guaranteed by the Bill of Rights and Constitution. Theta Chi Alum, Mr. Carl Amenhauser, reflected on the origins of the Heroes Memorial Scholarship, while Theta Chi brother and Warrior Battalion Alum, Retired Major General Larry Gottardi, discussed the selfless actions of Jim Flannery, Greg Spinnelli, and Bob Young. He also spoke about his hope for other fraternities and sororities to do likewise and honor their fallen heroes. Following his comments, MG(R) Gottardi presented this year's award to Cadet Jordan Crawford. This year was the second year that the Heroes Memorial Scholarship, an honor that goes to the top performing senior Cadet returning from Advanced Camp, has been awarded to a Theta Chi fraternity brother.

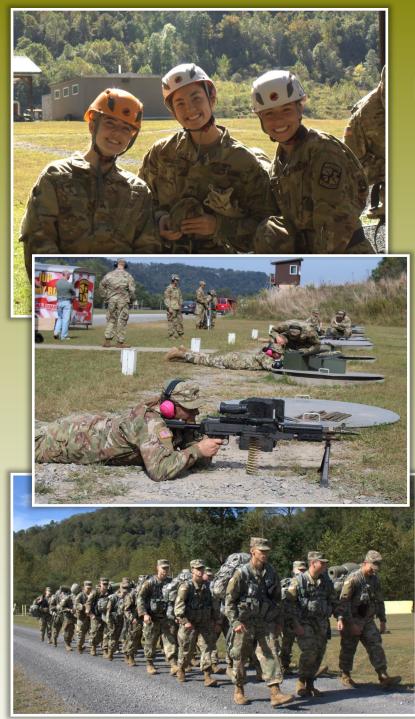
A special thank you goes to senior Cadet Ethan Blackie, Second Lieutenant Ali Ippoliti, Captain Daniel Beckers, and Mr. Carl Amenhauser for their extraordinary efforts in planning this meaningful event.



Above: Theta Chi alum Mr. Carl Almenhauser and MG(R) Larry Gottardi present the Heroes Memorial Scholarship to CDT Jordan Crawford; Right: LTC Faulkner presents the State of the ROTC address; Below: Dr. Driscoll, Mr. Almenhauser, and MG(R) Gottardi visit with CDT Crawford and his family.







Field Training Exercise

Fall FTX is the highlight of the Fall semester each year. Cadets are bused to Camp Dawson, WV, for a 3-day weekend of instruction, ranges, and fun. The MS IIIs split off to Pringle Training Area to practice skills needed for Advanced Camp, while the MS Is and IIs participate in the experience planned and conducted by the MS IVs.

On Friday, the MS Is and IIs rappelled down the 30 ft tower, negotiated the Obstacle Course, participated in an M4 familiarization fire, had some fun playing ultimate frisbee and then watched Fury.

Saturday morning came too early as Cadets began a round robin of instruction with communications and camouflage instruction, constructing a one-rope bridge, familiarization fire of the M240 or M249, M4 training in the Engagement Skills Trainer (EST), practice with Individual Movement Techniques, participation in teambuilding activities and a Hand Grenade Assault Course, and training in Tactical Casualty Combat Care. Later, there were some competitions, and Cadets had a chance to experiment with night vision devices.

Sunday saw teams of Cadets overcoming the obstacles on the Field Leadership Reaction Course (FLRC), followed by the bus trip home.

The most popular activities by far were the M4 and machinegun ranges, although Cadets enjoyed the weekend as a whole. Despite the rigorous schedule, smiles abounded throughout the weekend and Cadets went home tired, but satisfied.







Opposite, Top to Bottom: Cadets prepare for the Rappel Tower; Cadets had the chance to fire the M240 and the M249 machineguns; Cadets marched from range to range; the official Battalion photo.

This Page, Clockwise from Top Left: LTC Faulkner addresses the Cadets; Rappelling down the tower; Cadets overcome obstacles on the FLRC; CDT Cherish Smith negotiates the trip wire maze; commo class; MS IIIs on patrol at Pringle Training Area.







Program Sponsorship

There are many ways to support the Warrior Battalion. For those who are looking to create a lasting impression that provides annual support to a specified area, the following are the areas that currently have the greatest need:

Ranger Challenge Club

The Ranger Challenge Club selects 12 of its members to compete in the annual Ranger Challenge Competition. During the off-season, the larger club (Approx. 40-50 members) participates in several named half or full marathons, ruck marches, Tough Mudders, white water rafting, etc.

Staff Ride

Each Spring, the graduating seniors visit a nearby battlefield like Gettysburg or Antietam. This event is commonly a 2-day, 2-night event. Senior Cadets research and brief their peers at stops throughout the battlefield.

Rifle Club

The reinvigorated rifle club has more than 50 members and they aim to build a strong foundation in marksmanship. They hope to begin competing in events like the President's Hundred and the Governor's Twenty in the next several years.

<u>Dining In</u>

In November, the battalion lets loose and participates in the traditional dining in. This event is typically held at a local venue and is open to all Cadets in the battalion.

For more information on how to set up an endowment, please call the Office of University Advancement at 724-357-2324

Ball Sponsorship



This year Warrior Battalion is celebrating 70 years! At our Military Ball we will also celebrate the class of 2000 for their 20 year reunion. Please consider attending this year's Military Ball. Invitations will be sent January 2020.

We are hoping for as close to 100% Cadet attendance, however we are typically around 80%. Please consider sponsoring a Cadet to maximize participation in this exciting event.

Gifts of all sizes are welcome! Anyone who fully sponsors a Cadet for at least \$65 will receive an "Ally" t-shirt.

October 25 - November 24 T-Shirts Mailed December 10

iup.edu/sponsoracadet



Military Ball 2019 Sponsors

Dr. Timothy Moerland Dr. Justin Fair Mr. Robert Cowan MG (R) Thomas Csrnko COL (R) Colin Ratner COL (R) Alan Halliday COL (R) Michael Pappal COL (R) Joseph Saffron **COL David Spess** COL (R) Michael Zang COL (R) Stephen Allen **COL Don Stoner** COL Jennifer Walkawicz COL (R) David Mauser COL Jay Liddick COL (R) David Bunton **COL Dennis Barletta** LTC Thomas Wissinger LTC Aaron Felter MAJ Jessica Walker MAJ (R) Valerie Kokal MAJ Albert Baraniak MAJ (R) Dave Frye **CPT** Timothy Karl **CPT** Alex Deets **CPT Gregg Postage CPT** Paula Hughes **1LT Kelsey Reppert**

Thank You!

WarriorBNmagazine@gmail.com

COL & MRS. ZANG SCHOLARSHIP



Recognizing the importance of the IUP ROTC program to the defense and security of our Nation, they have established the Colonel and Mrs. Zang Military Science Scholarship awarded to qualifying students enrolled in the ROTC program and under contract to the military. COL and Mrs. Zang presented their scholarship in person at the 2018 and 2019 spring military balls.

Thank You!

Canon Sponsorship

SPONSOR A ROUND

Our annual military allocation for canon rounds has been cut in half for the last 2 years and the IUP Football team is posting record touchdowns. We are looking for sponsorship to continue supporting football games, parades, etc.

\$75 to sponsor a round

Sponsor name announced during the game

"The last round fired by the Warrior Battalion Canon was sponsored by..."

www.iup.edu/givetoROTC

Advance Designee Scholarship

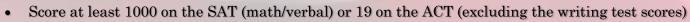
<u>100% Tuition & Fee Scholarships (+ Monthly Living Stipend)</u>

The Army holds a competitive process from July through February to pre-select high performing high school seniors for a full ROTC university scholarship. If you want to serve your country and attend college, you can do both!

- Recipients earn either a 4-year or 3-year scholarship
- Pays 100% of Tuition & Fees (No Maximum)
- 3-Year Scholarship Starts Sophomore Year
- Attend any College that has Army ROTC
- \$420 monthly living stipend
- \$600/semester book stipend

Minimum Requirements

- Be a U.S. citizen
- Be between the ages of 17 and 26
- Have a high school GPA of at least 2.50
- Have a high school diploma or equivalent



- Meet physical standards
- Agree to accept a commission and serve in the Army on Active Duty or in a Reserve Component (Army Reserve or Army National Guard)

Your Commitment

- Chose either Full-Time Service or Part-time Service starting after graduation from college.
- Full time: 4-Years Active Duty and 4-Years with the Individual Ready Reserve (IRR).
- Part-time: 8-Years in the Army National Guard or Army Reserves while pursuing a civilian career.

How to Apply

- Contact: Mr. Chris Chavira 724-357-7682 or email: cchavira@iup.edu
- Mr. Chavira will be your guide during the online application process. This process is not through Army recruiters.
- Online application: Google: Go Army ROTC Scholarship
 - Application
 - Interview with a Professor of Military Science
 - Fitness Test (1min Push-ups, 1 Min Sit-ups, 1 Mile Run)
 - Health Exam, Eye test, Hearing test



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1140 Maple Street, Pierce Hall Indiana, PA, 15705-1056

WARRIDR BATTALION

You're Always Invited!

Next Commissioning

- Friday May 8, 2020
- 10:00am—10:45am
- Fisher Auditorium
- Reception to follow at Pierce Hall

Next Military Ball

- Friday & Saturday April 24-25, 2020
- Location: Chestnut Ridge, Blairsville, PA
- Time: 5:00 PM
- Friday night mixer, Saturday golf & spa, Saturday night ball