



THE PIRATE SCROLL

SPRING 2016 PIRATE BATTALION



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Pirate Battalion's Spring Semester

As the cold weather finally dissipates, Pirate Battalion's training ramps up every spring. Between the months of February, March, and April, Cadets completed events such as but not limited to, two Leadership Development Exercises (LDX), one Joint LDX with Rutgers and Princeton ROTC, the annual Best Pirate competition and Pirate Awards Banquet, and last but certainly not least, the MSIV Class of 2016 commissioned as 2LT's.



PMS' REMARKS

The end of the academic year is here and like with most endings, changes will occur. This is my last Pirate Scroll. I'll be moving on and a new PMS, MAJ Russell Lemler, will take over in June. I just want to thank all of you for your unyielding support over the last three years. I was very lucky to be part of this Pirate family. I know you will give MAJ Lemler the same support. Please welcome him to this great family, organization and University.

Our cadets this past year have performed extraordinarily. Each class is ready for their new leadership roles, especially our commissioning cadets. Good luck to our 2LTs! These cadets have built a stronger relationship with our Team Jersey partners (Rutgers and Princeton). They have established standards and a culture conducive to their motto, "Can Do, Never Quit". This newsletter highlights all this exceptional work our cadets have completed over this past semester. Anyone who has the fortune to work with and be a part of any of these fine young American's lives will only better themselves. The US Army is in good hands, but most importantly the United States will remain the greatest nation in this world.

I hope all of you continue to follow our cadets on our Facebook page, (<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Pirate-Battalion-ROTC/11799875545>) and our webpage (<http://www.shu.edu/offices/rotc/index.cfm>). I continue to ask our Pirate Battalion Alumni to get back in touch with us and stay connected by registering on our alumni page, (https://setonhall.formstack.com/forms/rotc_alumni_contact).

LDX's: Leadership Development Exercises

Operation Batman



Pirate Battalion held its first Leadership Development Exercise of the semester, dubbed Operation Batman, on 18 March 2015 in order to improve each Cadet's basic understanding of Platoon sized offensive operations. As the three lanes were conducted throughout the day, Pirate Battalion improved after every operation. Specifically, Operation Batman focused on developing Cadet's working understanding of Raid, Ambush, Attack, and Key Leader Engagement situations.

Operating in the Smria region of Atropia, which is the simulated battlespace in which ROTC Cadets base off all of our LDX's, Pirate Battalion responded to reports of enemy SAPA (South Atropian People's Army) advancement in the south. Intelligence suggested that SAPA was seeking to capture the North Eastern Sector of the region. In order to drive back SAPA forces Pirate Battalion conducted both direct and indirect actions against the enemy. However similarly to real life, the missions were not all to simply to drive back the enemy. Pirate Battalion was also pushed to acknowledge, understand, and adapt to the Smrian peoples culture and lifestyle. On the first lane of the day, Platoon sized elements conducted a raid on a known SAPA supply route, ambushing the enemy and capturing vital intelligence that would lead them to their next engagement of the day during lane two.

For some, Operation Batman was their very first LDX of the year, while perhaps intimidated at first new, Cadets quickly adapted to the situation and embraced the lesson. Their ability to do so is a testament to the hard work of their team leaders, squad leaders, platoon level leadership, and everyone at Pirate Battalion.

-CDT Carter

Operation Green Arrow

The Cadets of Pirate Battalion continued to learn and develop into our nation's future leaders as they finished their second Leadership Development Exercise of the spring semester on 1 April 2016. In this LDX, Operation Green Arrow, Cadets trained in platoon sized operations in order to prepare for the JLDX with Rutgers and Princeton ROTC. After grasping the basics of platoon-sized operations in LDX 1, Cadets of all levels were able to improve and refine their leadership skills. Operation Green Arrow simulated platoon raids, ambushes, and Key Leader Engagements; the same training exercises that will be conducted at JLDX.

As an MS2 of Pirate Battalion, I have seen how platoon operations are conducted from the perspective of a team member, but as well as a team leader. I knew what was expected of me as a team leader and I knew what I expected from my team members. Whether a mission was an ambush or a KLE, unit cohesion was an essential factor for mission success. This was evident in 1st platoon's ambush of three enemy forces during the last lane. The timeline was met, every Cadet knew their respective mission objectives, communication was effective, leaders were calm making critical decisions, and the platoon remained undetected by the enemy.

As a result, the platoon conducted its most successful ambush yet, resulting in the capture of high value SAPA target Amir Habib (shown below). Pirate Battalion continues to grow and its Cadets are in line to become exceptional military leaders of the future.

-CDT Blaza



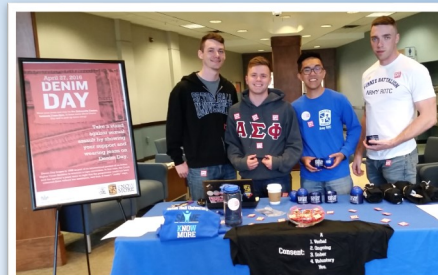
SHARP/EO Lab and Events

On 29 January 2016, three classrooms were filled with Cadets as I, Cadet Maravelias, and Cadet Bennett led the instruction for Pirate Battalions SHARP Training. SHARP is the U.S. Army's prevention program that stands for Sexual Harassment Assault Response and Prevention. The instruction was geared to be more of a conversation about sexual assault and harassment in the real world, especially on college campuses, rather than standing in front of a power point simply reading off of slides.

In addition to the classroom instruction, Pirate Battalion cadets participated in a number of other campus events to raise awareness against sexual assault. Pictured to the right is CDTs Keyes, Osika, Jamandre, and Doolittle tabling for a Denim Day event in support of victims of rape. Also pictured is a shirt that Cadets made at another campus event that supports victims through clothing artwork.

It is extremely important that we as an Army and society talk about the issue of sexual assault and harassment. It not only hurts the victims, but the entire organization that the perpetrator is in. It breaks the trust that was so carefully established. It creates a divide among teams and makes achieving the mission very difficult. If we can all work together to tackle sexual assault and harassment, we can work together to fight the enemies of the Nation.

-CDT Sanchez



2nd Brigade Fitness Challenge

This semester Army ROTC 2nd Brigade Commander Colonel Mintz created a challenge that would test each Cadet's combat physical fitness level. This would train the cadets to push themselves further than ever before and put the responsibility to complete the challenge on each Battalion's Core of Cadets. Needless to say, a majority of Pirate Battalion Cadets were up to the challenge and met each task head on and push themselves to complete as much as they could.

The Brigade Fitness Challenge consisted events that were to be completed by the Cadet within a one hundred-day period. A number of events consisted of: 700 Pull-ups, 3500 Push-ups, 2100 Air Squats, 2100 Walking Lunges, 350 minutes of Planking, 2100 Burpees, and 300 Miles Rucked, Ran, or Walked. Upon successful completion of these seven events, Cadets then had to complete a 4 mile run in under 34 minutes, 100 burpees in 9 minutes, 100 push-ups, 100 air squats, and 100 jump ropes in under 8 minutes. In addition they had to conduct numerous sprints, water jug carries, SKEDCO pulls, and finally finished off the challenge with a 12 mile ruck march with 35 pounds in under three hours and thirty minutes.

-CDT Keyes



CDT Keyes competes in the water jug carry



Cadets pull SKEDCOs, weighed down with 100 lbs, 100 meters overall.



CDT Porter competing in the 12 mile timed ruck.

First Aid Lab



"Check for consciousness--OK, now prop him up on the wall once you've confirmed his spine isn't broken. If it is broken, turn his head onto his side so he doesn't choke on his own saliva."

The cadet looped his arms under the victim's shoulders and dragged him back against the wall and proceeded to talk to him about class, work, anything that would take the victim's mind off of his present situation.

"Quick! Call in a nine-line."

"Line one: Whiskey, Kilo, Fife, Eight, Tree, Two, Niner, Four, Tree...."

When my watch's timer started beeping, I ended the simulation and directed the squad, now trained in treating shock, to move to the next classroom for practice tying tourniquets. This scene happened on a Friday during Pirate Battalion's First Aid Lab. My MSIII classmates and I introduced treating shock, clearing an airway, applying a tourniquet, and transporting a casualty to Alpha Company (A Co.). CDT Laidig, a CPR certified Lifeguard, taught compression techniques using a dummy named "Resuscitate-Anne" to demonstrate. CDT Verdi taught underclassmen how to tie an Army-issued tourniquet to stop serious bleeding. CDT Bluish showed cadets how to carry a casualty using different techniques, including a litter. Eight squads rotated through four stations in Mooney Hall, two at a time. For the MSIIIs, planning and executing the First Aid Lab provided valuable practice with the 8-step training model we will use in our future careers.

By the end of the day, the cadets of A Co. had listened to tasks, conditions, and standards, performed a practical exercise, and

undergone an assessment to confirm they learned all the tasks. "I'm glad we had a chance to practice some of the first aid techniques we learned last term," one cadet said at the Lab's AAR. Other cadets voiced similar views, though everyone agreed that more frequent first aid training should be a priority going forward.

-CDT Chideau



South Mountain Clean Up

Towards the end of each semester, Pirate Battalion conducts the South Mountain Reservation Clean Up. Cadets use South Mountain Reservation throughout the semester to train, and after the last event of each semester Cadets go back to clean the areas they had the opportunity to train in. Cadets raked leaves and picked up trash along the various trails and picnic areas to ensure the cleanliness of the parks for the public's use. Needless to say, Pirate Battalion Cadets are extremely fortunate to have such a great place to train at, and look forward to giving back to the community whenever possible.

-CDT Osika



Physical Readiness Training

Our Pirates work hard everyday to develop themselves as warrior leaders by honing their physical fitness and in turn refining their basic soldiering skills. Across the past semester cadets have conducted Physical Readiness Training (PRT), sports PT, a record Army Physical Fitness Test (APFT) and the combat water survival test (CWST). PRT and Sports PT developed Cadet's state of fitness through intense sessions of cardiovascular improvement, muscular strength development, and joint & muscular flexibility. Our Cadet NCOs write the PRT plans to push their subordinates beyond their own preconceived limits while also developing the Battalions ability to execute critical soldiering skills.

-CDT Adams

CWST



The Combat Water Survival Test is a confidence testing event which pushes Cadets far outside their comfort zone. Cadets progress through five different CWST events throughout the morning including: 15-meter swim with Load Bearing Vest and M-16 Rifle, an equipment ditch while fully submersed below 14 feet of water, a 3 meter drop while blindfolded while retaining control of their M-16, and lastly, 10 minutes of swimming and 5 minutes of treading water.



Record APFT

The record APFT is a critical component for measuring Cadets state of fitness and is comprised of two-minutes of pushups, two-minutes of sit-ups and a two mile times run. The APFT is designed to measure cadets physical strength, physical endurance, flexibility and anaerobic and aerobic endurance. Pirate Battalion had success on this record APFT from all classes. This was the last APFT our MS3's take before they go through the accessions process.



Sports PT

Once a month, cadets look forward to a day of sport and competition between one another. This past semester, Pirate Battalion Cadets played sports such as dodgeball and netball. All in all every sports PT is a very motivating time at Pirate Battalion that builds camaraderie and gives everyone a much needed break.



JLDX: Joint Leadership Development Exercise



Have you ever been curious how the Seton Hall Army ROTC Cadets spend their weekends? From 9-11 April, cadets gathered at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst (JBMDL) with the only three Army ROTC host schools from the state. The Rutgers Scarlet Knights, Princeton Tigers, and Seton Hall Pirate Battalions came together and were able to share what they have learned throughout their classroom sessions and leadership labs. Seton Hall Cadets flew down to JBMDL via UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters that were provided by the Long Island/New York National Guard. Upon arrival, Cadets were issued a weapon and assigned into a platoon-sized element of nearly forty other cadets from across New Jersey. The three weapons systems were the 7.46lb M4A1, the 25.8lb M240B machine gun, and the 16.4lb M249 squad automatic weapon. Getting to know their equipment and Cadets from the other schools on a personal level were the first steps that would ultimately lead to a successful field training exercise over the next two days.

Day two of the Joint Leadership Development Exercise (JLDX) started off with a 5a.m. wakeup time with temperatures as low as 36 degrees along with freezing rain. The rain that persisted throughout the entire day did not stop Team Jersey as they continually pushed through, placing the mission first. All hard work taught in the classroom by MSIII instructor CPT Baldenweck was illustrated on the field, as the operations led by Cadets of Pirate Battalion were particularly successful. The 21st Century Soldier Competencies allowed cadets to make the right decisions that led to desired outcomes. MSIII Cadet at the time, now current Company Commander, Joseph Klimas (pictured right, above), had a few words to say about his experience.



"Being effective in a platoon of people you've never met isn't an easy task to say the least, because the things necessary to really lead; trust, confidence, and loyalty, don't fully exist with people you've just met hours prior to directing them through lanes." - CDT Klimas

Day three, the last day at Fort Dix, was looked forward to as cadets of each school were set to go against each other on a platoon vs. platoon simulation round exercise to rescuing a downed pilot. Keeping goggles, facemasks, and leather gloves on were strictly enforced, as being hit with a simulation round was no less painful than being hit with a paintball. After the simulation round exercise, Cadets headed back to JBMDL to move back to Seton Hall. After sixty hours of training, Cadets were one step closer to becoming second lieutenants in the United States Army. Next time you see a cadet on campus, feel free to ask how exciting their weekend was.

-CDT Chalhoub



CALDEX: Cadet Leader Development Exercise



On 12 February Seton Hall's Pirate Battalion had the pleasure of hosting a CALDEX with our sister ROTC programs. Our sister programs being the Scarlet Knight Battalion from Rutgers New Brunswick University and the Tiger Battalion from Princeton University. All of our programs took the initiative to set up this event in order to provide our MSIV Cadets with an opportunity to take part in open discussions with Senior Noncommissioned and Commissioned Officers. As well we aimed to build long term relationships and trust with one another. Most importantly this event served as the beginning to our many more CALDEX's for Team Jersey.

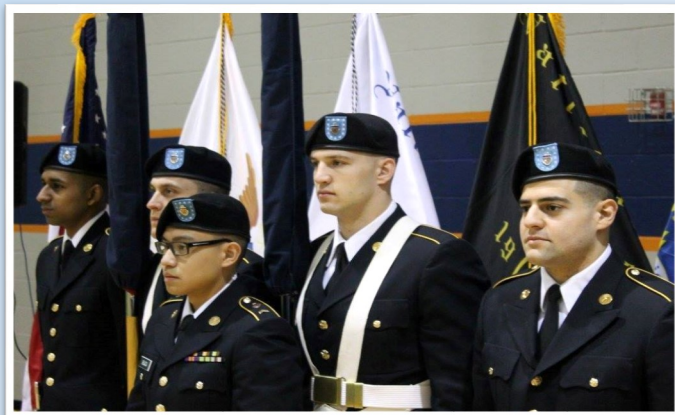
Our day started with breaking down Team Jersey into six groups of seven Cadets to conduct the physical training. The sequence of events started with a 1 mile run on around Seton Hall Campus followed by 50 pull-ups, 100 push-ups, 150 air squats in the Regan Center, then another mile. We wanted to test our senior Cadet's ability to stick together and persevere through this rigorous workout as a team. Every team was able to complete the workout and ultimately one team came out on top, but at the end of the day we were all winners.

The second half of our day included our six groups of Cadets participating in open discussions with our senior NCO's ranging from Sergeant First Class's to Master Sergeants and our Officers ranging from Captains to Lieutenant Colonels with countless years of experience. The topic of our discussions included the expectations that our fellow NCO's and Officers had for us when we became 2LT's in the US Army. Upon our senior Cadets commissioning into the US Army we become Platoon Leaders who are directly responsible with leading and mentoring forty men/women platoons. By giving our senior Cadets guidance and mentorship on these expectations and how the army operates our Cadets were given outstanding insight and a mutual understanding to what their futures held. This was only the beginning because the following week, Tiger Battalion would be holding their own CALDEX, which included a Staff Ride on the Battle of Wanat, which took place in Afghanistan in 2008.

-2LT Cabezas



Return of Pershing Rifle Company Kilo-8

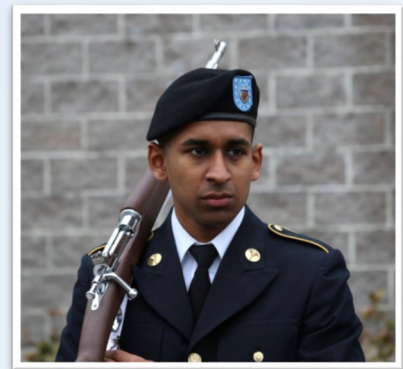


“Seton Hall’s Pershing Rifles Company Kilo-8 is back and in excellent hands.” These were the words of the company’s commander, Joseph Klimas, after returning from the days at the National Convention of the Society of Pershing Rifles.

Company K-8 of Seton Hall University thrived in its glory days throughout the sixties and early seventies. Winning the national championship for exhibition drill and even appearing in a television commercial; K-8 was the prime example of drill teams all over the nation. In the years past, however, especially in the last two decades, K-8 lost its members. A team that was once sixty-members-strong became nothing more than a memory of the alumni. K-8 no longer attended National Conventions, competed in drill competitions, and at one point, it was not recognized as an active unit by the Society of Pershing Rifles. For the former members who took part in the championship-winning exhibition drill performance, it seemed like their legacy would no longer carry on.

In the beginning of 2015, however, Seton Hall ROTC Cadet, Color Guard cadet-in-charge, and Nursing student, Christian Jamandre, brought up the idea of restarting Company K-8. He met with alumni, made a trip to the National Convention to see the other companies, and trained prospective Pershing Riflemen. A little more than a year after Cadet Jamandre planned the re-chartering of the company, Seton Hall’s own Company K-8 made the trip to the National Convention as an active, competing company for the first time in more than thirty years.

The competing team consisted of Cadets Travis Prol, Anthony Antonini, Michael Chalhoub, and Abel Samuel who practiced for a mere six weeks before travelling to Chantilly, Virginia for the competition. Their tireless efforts of meeting day and night to synchronize every part of their movements as a team shined bright throughout the competition. Placing fourth out of 23 total companies in the National Society of Pershing Rifles, K-8 made a statement in their debut as a rechartered company. As soon as the Convention was over, the first sergeant of the Company, Christopher Blaza said to the team, “Amazing job, team. This is just the beginning and we’re going for that first place trophy next NATCON.”



“I can’t express how proud we are of the team. I’m sure the other alumni will be very happy to hear about this year’s Convention.” Alumnus Mike Walsh expressed his pride about the newly re-chartered Company K-8 and congratulated each member on their hard work and dedication.

Although the process was long and tiresome, with the collaboration of Seton Hall University, Pirate Battalion, alumni, and individual members of Company K-8, Seton Hall University gained its Pershing Rifles company once again.

-CDT Park

Memorial Wall Dedication



Pirate Battalion's storied past is deeply valued, and this semester the alumni that have paid the ultimate price were cemented in history, finding a home on the new Memorial Wall on the 4th floor of Mooney Hall. On 13 February, 1968, 2nd Lt. Donald Leta was KIA in Hua Nghiha Province, Vietnam. On 16 August, 1968, 1st Lt. Stephen Leonardis was KIA in Sa Dec Province, Vietnam. On 23 June, 2008 in Salman Park Iraq, Captain Gregory Dalessio was KIA. This past week, Pirate Battalion dedicated a memorial wall to these three great leaders in order to not just remember, but to celebrate their lives of service. They are never truly gone, and will never be forgotten.

-CDT Osika

Change Of Command Ceremony

The change of command ceremony is an important Army tradition. It symbolizes a transfer of responsibility from the outgoing commander to the incoming commander. The ceremony itself dates back to the middle ages when soldiers carried organizational flags into battle to distinguish particular units. As soldiers charged into battle, these flags, or guidons, served as a rallying point. Soldiers followed the commander holding the guidon, as it acted as the heart and heritage of the unit. During the change of command ceremony, the unit's guidon is passed from the outgoing commander to the incoming commander. This gesture is performed in front of the unit so they can witness the transfer of duties, and devote their loyalty to the new commander.

On 25 April, 2016, Pirate Battalion held their semi-annual change of command ceremony. The positions changed during the formal portion of the ceremony were the Battalion Commander (BC), the Company Commander (CO), and the Command Sergeant Major (CSM). The outgoing leadership served in their positions for the previous six months. The incoming leadership serve through the upcoming semester.

The ceremony began with the passing of the guidon. The outgoing CO, CDT Dewerth-Jaffe passed the company guidon to the incoming CO, CDT Klimas. At the same time, the outgoing BC, CDT Prol, J passed the battalion guidon to the incoming BC, CDT Keyes (Top Right). As the battalion guidon was passed the outgoing CSM, CDT Dixon switched places with the incoming CSM, Myself; CDT Nyman. Both outgoing and incoming leadership gave speeches thanking Pirate Battalion for the fantastic performance the past semester.

-CDT Nyman



ROTC and Seton Hall Athletics

A group of individuals showing support for their family members and friends demonstrates the fundamental roots of a functional and devoted team. Having the luxury to be a part of one team is a fantastic opportunity, to find a place on two teams is an incredible honor, but to have one team support the other and completely unrelated team is a true blessing.

There is no greater pleasure in life that can quite compare to the pride and joy that swells within than seeing a pronounced assembly of battle buddies from a program of 80+ Cadets in the stands cheering and chanting for both me and my team. In my budding 1-year career at Seton Hall, I have already felt the family-like atmosphere that flourishes throughout Pirate Battalion. I have the pleasure to represent both Seton Hall Softball and Seton Hall ROTC Pirate Battalion. Although it may appear to be a difficult balance, both teams have made it incredibly easy for me to adjust to college life in general. Specifically, the Cadets in Pirate Battalion make sure I never forget that they are my homebody. Although they support us in camo, many more than a handful of Cadets are easily spotted at home games learning softball cheers from the stands. Other than home games, Pirate Battalion stretched its reach as far as travelling to West Point to support Seton Hall Softball. When a group of individuals is able to come together and travel as far as they are willing to in order to show support for another team is when characteristics of heart, loyalty, and passion are unveiled.

As a member of both teams, it means the world to me, but I know that their actions have touched more than just myself. Including the entire softball team and coaching staff, the baseball team and basketball teams have shown much gratitude towards Pirate Battalion's presence (color guard and contracting ceremonies) on campus and at sporting events. Out of the 100+ groups and programs on campus, there is one that knows not only how to take care of its own, but to extend its hand to support a number of teams and organizations. That program is Pirate Battalion ROTC.

-CDT Wilson

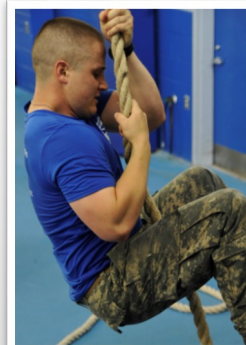
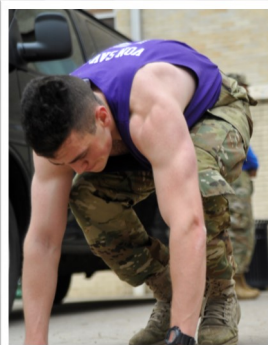


Best Pirate

The Best Pirate Competition is an annual event which pits Cadets against one another in physically and mentally demanding challenges. Incorporating swimming, long distance running, low and high crawling, rope climbing, and trivia challenges, the competition is a grueling 5-hour ordeal to test the endurance of each participant. Throughout the event, one's ability to "embrace the pain" and continue going forward are put to true test, and it becomes apparent who cannot continue the fight. By being in two-person teams, competitors motivate each other to fight through the pain for victory. The mental challenges are just as big a test for the competitors as they work to recall answers to difficult questions while already physically exhausted.

Beginning with a swim, the competition runs across all of Seton Hall University's campus, with competitors hustling to each event to keep their overall time as low as possible. The toughness of the event only grows larger as the team continues pushes through each event, already tired from the last. Upon completing all event, the cadets' final scores become less important to each competitors, replaced by pride that they succeeded over such a grueling ordeal. This competition remains a favorite of many Cadets, and lives on as one that everyone should strive to one day compete in to win.

-CDT Verdi



Raider Challenge

JROTC is a program that provides local students a way to foster discipline and military training while developing as a young adult. Raider Challenge consists of five separate events to test JROTC Cadets physical capabilities and teamwork. Overall 15 teams competed from local JROTC units, such as Union, Paterson, and Irvington High Schools to see which school was most prepared for the Brigade JROTC challenge later on in the year.

Five events tested the Cadet's endurance and strength: The One Rope Bridge simulates a river crossing. Cadets tie a rope between two trees 50 feet apart and cross, hanging and sliding across the rope. Next, Cadets run as a team for 3km. The "Gauntlet" is a 1 mile over treacherous terrain where Cadets run as a team, carrying four 25lb weighted rucks, forcing the team to decide how to manage the weighted rucks to most quickly complete the run. The Cross Country Rescue is another 1 mile run, but this time Cadets carried a 75lb litter in addition to four 25lb rucks. At the end of one mile, Cadets must place the litter on the ground and climb a 6 foot wall to complete the event. Lastly, the Raider Physical Challenge, or RPC, is a 560m obstacle including mini obstacles: a low crawl, water jug carry, desk jump, a maze, and another litter carry.

At the end of the day, JROTC Cadets traveled nearly 4.5 miles and repeatedly worked together as a team to demonstrate skills learned over the course of the school year. These Cadets are possible future ROTC Cadets or future enlisted military members, but definitely future outstanding citizens nonetheless.

-CDT Keyes



Franklin's Mixed team competes in the timed 3k



Union High School's male team (pictured above) took the grand prize.

Pirate Awards Banquet

Pirate Battalion celebrated this year's Awards Banquet at Birchwood Manor in Parsippany, New Jersey. Many Cadets, Cadre, alumni, and distinguished alumni were in attendance, including Retired Major General Donald Campbell (right) and guest speaker, Supriya Christopher (below). The recently rechartered Pershing Rifles, Company K-8 also put on an incredible performance, and awards were given to recognize the top cadets in the battalion.



Later in the night, Mrs. Christopher, a Seton Hall graduate of 1992, spoke about her time in the battalion. She talked of how she was one of the first female Cadets sent to Army Airborne School and how with her "Can Do, Never Quit" attitude and the help of an unknown Cadet allowed her to push through an injury and pin her jump wings. It was this event in ROTC that allowed her to find success wherever she went in life. It was with that attitude of Never Quit that she commissioned, got her Master's Degree at John Hopkin's University and eventually met that unknown Cadet, whom she ended up marrying.

The Pershing Rifle exhibition was led by Cadet Christopher Blaza. It was the first opportunity many of the alumni had to see the newly formed K-8 perform. The PR alumni also presented new K-8 Company Commander, Cadet Joseph Klimas, with a piece of team heritage. He was gifted one of the original M1 rifles from K-8's past. The top rated cadet from each class was also announced and given an award (below are winners from each class). The cadets of Pirate Battalion began planning the Award Ceremony last semester and in turn, it was one of the most widely attended event by alumni and faculty. The traditions of Pirate Battalion will be undoubtedly carried on next year at an even greater Awards Ceremony.



-CDT Doolittle



MSI Winner
CDT Wilson



MS1.5 Winner
CDT McDonald



MSII Winner
CDT Chalhoub



MSIII Winner
CDT Klimas



MSIV Winner
(now) 2LT
DeWerth-Jaffe

Commissioning

The commissioning ceremony is the culmination of four years of hard work in ROTC, and is a day no commissionee will ever forget. The ceremony consists of the now 2nd Lt's taking the sacred oath to receive their official documents, pinning of the 2nd Lt epaulettes by family, and the silver dollar salute. Below 2nd Lt. Montano talks about what led him to commission over the past few years.

At the age of seven, my mother moved us to the United States with the purpose of finding a greener pasture. As I watched my mother struggle to provide for me and my two siblings, I witnessed her challenges and became determined to make her proud. Her hard work and diligence inspired me. She became my role model for success. I wanted to become the person she could always look up to.

Since then, I have dedicated myself to serving my family and my community. As a successful high school captain in football, wrestling, and baseball, I knew that I had strong leadership abilities. I began developing my knowledge and skills with an eye toward becoming a future leader in the military.

Then, I was inspired to take action and join the military in the wake of 9/11. This great nation I now call home was calling for help, and I wanted to answer that call. Protecting my country, its freedoms and values, was of highest importance to me. I served in the Army for 7 ½ years. I distinguished myself as a soldier and began the process to become a commissioned officer.

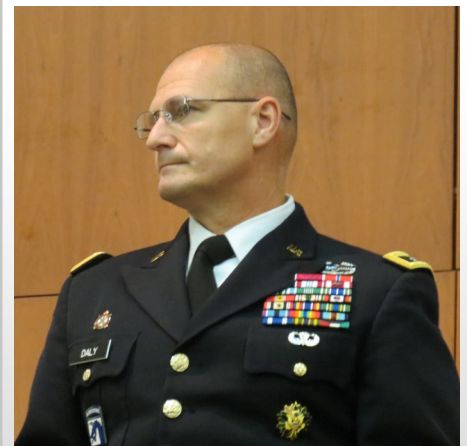
The military provided me with the opportunity for higher education. I am the first person in my family to attend college. I did so by continuing my commitment with the military as an ROTC Cadet at Seton Hall University, in addition to holding down a full-time job and earning an overall 3.6 GPA (with a 4.0 GPA in my Justice Studies major) at Montclair State University.

Throughout my course of studies, not only did I serve as a leader in the ROTC program at SHU but I continued to serve as a leader while at MSU. I was elected to serve as the President of the Student Veterans Association. Under my leadership, student veterans now receive more educational benefits and have priority registration which avoid the hardships of re-registration and enabled them to complete their degrees on time. I was also elected to serve as the President of the Justice Studies Club, where I coordinated professionals from different local, state, and federal organizations to speak to students regarding their prospective post-graduate careers. In these leadership roles, I had the privilege of serving and helping more than 1,000 students.

It is time to sharpen my leadership capabilities, once again, this time as a Second Lieutenant in the New Jersey Army National Guard. I hope to bring this proven track-record of a tireless work ethic and natural leadership abilities to the NJARNG. Specifically, my overall military and professional goals are to take what I've learned from my time spent at Seton Hall and grow as a successful Engineer Officer while managing a career in the national security sector as an advisor.

All in all my experiences have culminated in the commissioning ceremony, one day I will never forget. These past few years of participating in ROTC have changed my life and I will never forget the family, friends, and most importantly my classmates that supported me along the way. With the amount of guidance and mentorship instilled in me by LTC Gonzalez I know I will always strive for perfection but along the way achieve excellence. "Can Do, Never Quit"

-2LT Montano



Major General Daly, above, was the guest of honor for commissioning and shared words of wisdom and spoke to the new 2LT's on what the future might hold.



Physical Excellence

Outstanding performance by Cadets should always be recognized. In Pirate Battalion we recognize those who have achieved Athletic Excellence as measured by the Army Physical Fitness Test

The 300 Club

Cadets who have score the maximum points on their APFT.



CDT Cabezas CDT Osika CDT McDonough CDT Blaza CDT Jackson



CDT Chideau CDT Keyes CDT Navarro CDT Verdi CDT Wilson

Physical Fitness Excellence

Cadets who scored at least 90 points on each event of the APFT.



CDT Nyman CDT Alonso CDT Schwarz CDT Sanchez



CDT Bennett CDT Von Capplen CDT Maravelias CDT Hill



CDT Kim, D. CDT Laidig CDT Bala CDT Chelf

Not Pictured: CDT Adam and CDT Walton

Most Push Ups



CDT Cabezas -105 CDT Fine -63

Most Sit Ups



CDT Osika-101 CDT Jackson-97

Fastest Two Mile Run



CDT Keyes- 11:45 CDT Chelf- 15:09

Best APFT Score

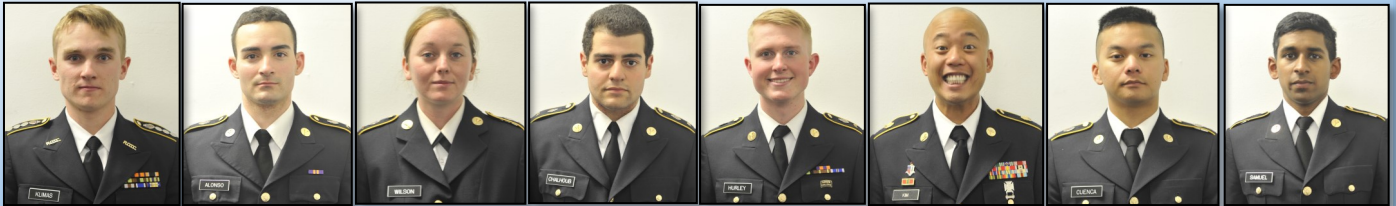


CDT Cabezas- 358 CDT Jackson- 329

Cadet Excellence

As Cadets we look are always looking to push each other to strive towards excellence. Following the end of each recognition cycle Cadets are nominated by their Cadet leadership who then double as their personal sponsors. Sponsors are to coach the Cadets through board processes which include a gauntlet of questions covering everything from Army history and foreign policy combined with physical challenges. Nominees distinguish themselves through their overall performance and drive to achieving a higher standard than their peers. To be selected as the Cadet of the Week, Month, Term, or Year by your peers is an arduous task, but is the pinnacle of Cadet Excellence.

Cadet of the Week



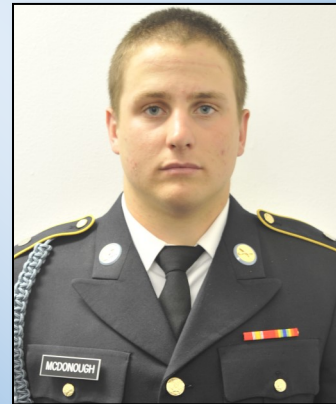
CDT Klimas CDT Alonso CDT Wilson CDT Chalhoub CDT Hurley CDT Kim, J. CDT Cuenca CDT Samuel

Cadet of the Month



CDT McDonough CDT Verdi CDT McCann
February March April

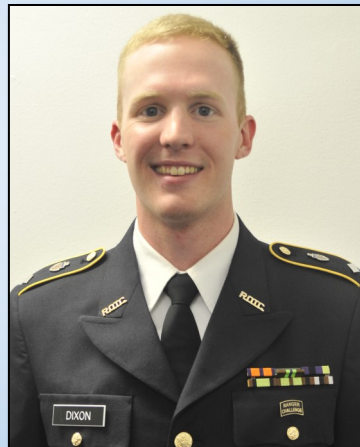
Cadet of the Term



CDT McDonough: Spring 2016

Cadet of the Year

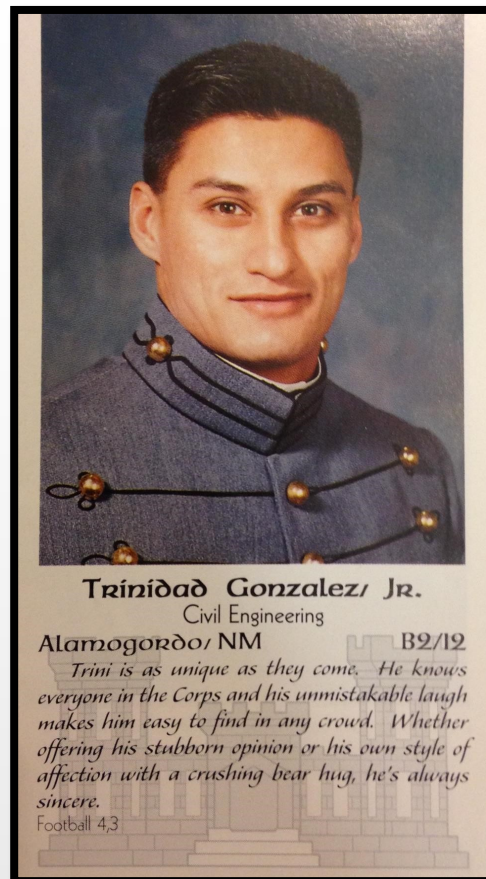
CDT Bryan Dixon: Academic Year 2016



Farewell, LTC Gonzalez

Three years ago I stepped foot into Mooney Hall and began my journey through Pirate Battalion's ROTC program. At the time, no one could have guessed the impact LTC Gonzalez would have on us over the next few years. He has pushed Pirate Battalion Cadets to strive for perfection, and accept nothing other than excellence from ourselves as well as those around us. In the last few years we have watched LTC Gonzalez prepare and mold over thirty MSIV's into 2LT's, who have all gone on to become successful officers due to their experience at Seton Hall. In addition to mentoring some of the best and brightest new officers in the country, and revamping Seton Hall's ROTC program, LTC Gonzalez has a few other notable accomplishments; he has gone undefeated in sports PT in the last three years, and has made his congratulatory slap on the arm a right of passage that every Cadet must experience at least once. However in all seriousness, Pirate Battalion would like to thank LTC Gonzalez for everything that he has done, and all the sacrifices he put forth in order to make us the best Cadets in the country.

-CDT Osika



Source: West Point Yearbook



It's not really goodbye... more like...
"See us after"



To stay updated on what our cadets are
up to during the school year
follow us on Facebook at...

www.facebook.com/SetonHallROTC/

or on Instagram at...

“SHU_PIRATEBATTALION”

And don't forget to visit our website at...

<http://www.shu.edu/offices/rotc/>