

SHIPPENSBURG UNIVERSITY RAIDER BATTALION NEWSLETTER SPRING 2022



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Greetings from the Raider Battalion



**WRITTEN BY THE PROFESSOR OF
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We established this newsletter last semester as a means to highlight the Program's accomplishments throughout the semester; show the family, friends and community partners of the Raider Battalion how involved we are with both the University and Shippensburg community. Like last semester, there is not a shortage of stories to tell.

During the last issue I highlighted -more accurately bragged - how all 21 Cadets we sent to Advanced Camp graduated, two with RECONDO honors. This summer we will see 16 of them commission, plus another four others, bringing this year's commissioning class to 20; a program record. Next year we are just as strong, projecting to commission another 19. Bottom line, the Program continues to excel in commissioning the Army's next generation of leaders.

In this issue you will read more about these future leaders. Notable stories include our annual MSIV service project visit to Boulder Crest Military and First Responder retreat; Cadets who attended Project Global Officer and Air Assault School; an introduction to our newest member of the Shippensburg ROTC Hall of Fame, Lieutenant Colonel (Retired) Lynn Daley; and many others.

Unfortunately, this was my last semester as the Shippensburg University Professor of Military Science as I will be heading off to Europe for a NATO assignment. In my short two years I have enjoyed seeing the growth in these Cadets, and truly believe the Shippensburg ROTC program is special. I will be succeeded by Lieutenant Colonel Nicole Jepsen, and I know her passion for this Program rivals mine. Raiders will continue to lead the way far into the future.



From the Cadet Battalion Commander, Matthew Lawrence

My Army journey started in 2014 when I enrolled in the Cumberland Valley JROTC. I ended up loving the program so much that I applied for the National Scholarship for Senior ROTC programs and received a 4-year Advanced Designee Scholarship. After a few years of participating in the Shippensburg ROTC program, I have received the honor of serving the program as the top-ranking Cadet.

The Shippensburg Raider Battalion offers a range of opportunities and adventures that a traditional student usually never gets to experience. Our Cadets get to travel abroad and domestically to learn strategic languages and cultures for free and receive college credits. Our Cadets get to attend several Army schools such as Airborne and Air Assault and professional development conferences such as the George C. Marshall Conference. Lastly, our Cadets participate in summer internships with the CIA, FBI, the Army Marketing Department, Cadet Summer Training, West Point Summer Training, and CTLT with possibilities in every unit in the Army. The Raider Battalion offers the adventures of a lifetime while receiving a quality education. As future Army Officers, professional development opportunities are of the utmost importance when developing members of the Raider Battalion.

Our program has continued to accomplish great things this semester. We have raised \$2400 to buy equipment to bolster training and expand our program's influence online and at Shippensburg University. We have developed weekly Leadership Development Courses taught by all Cadre members. These weekly courses share over 100 years of military experience with the next generation of leaders. We have created a LinkedIn and established the groundwork for an Alumni Association. Our social media accounts have grown by 13% with an unprecedented presence on social media. We have reestablished our mentorship program to ensure academic success. We have made our morning PT sessions into a 1 credit class for our Military Science Minor. Our program has hosted 2 JROTC League 3 events, hosted Cadet for A Day, and completed 1 M4 qualifying range. Other main events accomplished by our program include 5 fundraisers, participating in 2 sports team collaborations, conducting 2 color guards for outside organizations, participating in 1 Battalion SHARP event, completing a 12-mile ruck march, a diagnostic ACFT, a Joint FTX with Dickinson, and many other events and activities.

The people of our program are who make these events and accomplishments possible. Our Cadet's professionalism, drive for excellence, and high performance allows us to continue to hold the reputation of being Raiders. We have no other mission but to create the best 2nd Lieutenants of character. I would like to thank the Shippensburg community, faculty, and families of Cadets for your constant support. Raiders Lead the Way!



First Day of Classes

**WRITTEN BY
CADET ADAM KEH**

A month off school including celebrations like Christmas and New Year's makes the transition from winter break to the spring semester not easy for many college students. The first week is one of the most overlooked weeks of the semester. Professors usually refrain from starting brand-new material on the first day. However, they do go through the syllabus, which outlines what is planned for the entire semester and most importantly their expectations. It is crucial to take this week seriously for it can significantly impact how you do in the semester.

Speaking of expectations, the Raider Battalion is turning up the dial this semester. It is only a few months away until our MSIII Cadets arrive at FT Knox, Kentucky where they will be evaluated on their leadership attributes and competencies (Advance Camp). This semester is designed to challenge them physically and mentally in preparation for that culminating event in a few months. As a MSIV Cadet myself, who experienced camp last summer, I know what right looks like. This makes designing a training format to prepare them much more effective. Despite the lasting effects of COVID-19 that continue to linger like the mask policy on campus, this year did start some type of normalcy. This puts the MSIII Cadets already at a significant advantage. The MSIII Cadets are surrounded by their MSIV peers who all went to camp, which is a luxury my class did not have.

The Raider Cadets are already off to a smooth first day back despite starting the semester on a Tuesday. In fact, it turned out to be very beneficial because the Battalion training meetings occur every Tuesday. This allowed our cadets to fall right back into the battle rhythm. This training meeting ran very smoothly due to the Battalion's hard work over break. The MSIV's assigned OIC's and AOICS/NCOIS to labs and events, so the planning process can be well complete before the execution of each task that occurs this semester. This allowed for most of the planning to be done over winter break when classes aren't in session. It is extremely easy to get carried away with ROTC events when classes, exams, and projects are all happening at the same time. There should be no surprises this semester. We all know what we must do and that is to train and develop are MSIII Cadets. Their performance falls on us peers.



The League 3 JROTC drill competition was held on February 5th and was the first big event for Shippensburg University's military science department in 2022. The cadets in charge of planning the event were Cadets Elizabeth McKeever and Kiersten Melder, each making sure everything went smoothly the day of the event. The Carlisle Army Recruiting Company as well as the Pennsylvania National Guard provided Soldiers to help grade each event. The Shippensburg Raider Battalion provided the lane walkers, cadence counters, scorekeepers, and cadets to ensure that each individual school was where they needed to be at the specific time that they needed to be there. There was a total of five high schools that participated in the event including: Cumberland Valley, Red Land, Pine Grove, William Penn, and Shikellamy. This was a big event for these schools as it helped them get a general idea of where they are at when it came to drill and ceremony. The different events that these schools competed in included: Armed and Unarmed Drill, Color Guard, Inspection, and then at the conclusion of the event a game of knockout.

This was one of the biggest events of the school year for both the high schools and the University, only being rivaled by the Raider Competition. During the planning process we had to ensure that all the volunteers we had to help work the event were confident with what they were doing, as well as that the graders knew what they were grading and that everyone was on the same page on how to grade each event. As the cadet in charge of the drill competition, Cadet McKeever had to ensure that the cadets assigned to the scoring table were confident with their assigned tasks because, as stated above, this is a very important event and proper scoring is imperative. These cadets sat at a table with their laptops and input all of the grader's scores into a spreadsheet so that we could announce the proper winners at the conclusion of the event. Overall, the event went rather smoothly with little to no issues, and everyone seemed to be happy with their performances. Although it was a very long planning process and then a very long day on the day of the competition, Cadet McKeever could not have asked for a better team to help make this day successful.



Farewell to SFC Wright

**WRITTEN BY
CADET GAVEN BUPP**



This year the Raider Battalion wished farewell to its longest currently serving cadre member, Sergeant First Class Wright, as he took a well-earned retirement after twenty years of diligent and selfless service. As excited as we are to see what the future holds for SFC Wright, we said our farewells with a heavy heart. After all, Sergeant First Class Wright was an integral part of our battalion for five years and served as a trusted mentor and role model for many aspiring officers. For half a decade he devoted himself to the training and development of the future officers of the United States Army. The impact he had on the Raider battalion cannot be overstated. His mentorship and guidance will never be forgotten by those that had the honor of learning from him. It would be difficult to find a better and more influential teacher than SFC Wright, so we thank him for all of his diligence, sacrifice, and for the lessons he imparted to all of us.

SFC Wright focused on preparing cadets for the challenges of leadership through tactical and technical training as well as being honest and open about his hard-earned experience from his service. Many of these stories provided lessons that will help guide our decision making as leaders, keep us focused on the mission and the Soldiers we will lead, and inspire us to be officers of character. In many ways, Sergeant Wright has been an exemplar of the Army Values and has worked tirelessly to shape the cadets of the Raider battalion into officers worthy of leading America's sons and daughters. As a battalion, every day we strive to prove that his lessons took root. We wish him the very best in life's next journey and appreciate everything he did for the Raider Battalion.



Cadets in Spring Sports

WRITTEN BY

CADET LAKE LLOYD

The Shippensburg University Army ROTC program supports its Cadets in sports year-round. When it comes to spring sports, you are preparing and practicing all fall and winter to be ready when the spring season kicks off. While in season, you are fully committed to your sport. Sacrificing your time and energy seven days a week, all semester long. Therefore, during the fall, as a cadet-student-athlete, you must be engaged and involved with the program as much as possible. Cadre and fellow cadets within the battalion will challenge you as a future leader and to encourage exponential development during the fall so you can succeed in the program when the spring semester comes around. Even in-season, cadets in spring sports must maintain their strength and conditioning that allows them to perform at their best. Ship ROTC supports and trusts the strength and conditioning coach to keep their cadets in spring sports in top physical shape to still surpass the Army standard.

Ship ROTC continues to show its support for its cadets in spring sports by wishing the games go well week after week. Not only does the program support its cadet-student-athletes in spring sports, but spring sports also show its appreciation back to the Raider Battalion. The Shippensburg University Baseball Team hosted the Shippensburg ROTC program for a Military Appreciation Game. Shippensburg athletics recognizes the time, effort and sacrifice this program dedicates itself to provide extraordinary training and preparation of the army's next generation of leaders. Spring sports would like to recognize the amount of demanding work and selfless sacrifice the Cadre members of the Raider Battalion do to develop young cadets into aspiring and motivating officers in the US Army.

One of the biggest challenges cadets in spring sports face are the missed opportunities to train at lab and the spring FTX. These crucial weeks in the spring are the pivotal training points that prepare you for Advanced Camp. The consistent absences and missed learning opportunities is one of the biggest challenges for spring sport cadets to really learn and succeed in their cadet skills and knowledge. Cadre understand the time and effort it takes to be a cadet-student-athlete and will go beyond to make sure you are prepared and ready to take on the challenges you will face at Advanced Camp.

Leadership is the backbone of the program, and you can see the difference in leadership from regular student-athletes and cadet-student-athletes. An advantage of being in a spring sport is that you have the entire year to evaluate and learn from different experiences and lessons learned in the military science classes with your team. Shippensburg ROTC program allows me and other spring sport cadets to succeed within and outside the Raider Battalion. To be prepared for all leadership challenges whether in the woods of Fort Knox, Kentucky, or the great athletic facilities here at Shippensburg University.

Our D2 Athletes



Cadet Matt Bochanski
Swimming



Cadet Mitchell Brett
Cross Country and Track and Field



Cadet Robert Lissner
Indoor and Outdoor Track and Field



Cadet George Drivas
Football



Cadet Lake Lloyd
Baseball



Hall of Fame Inductee: LTC(R) Lynne Daley

**WRITTEN BY
CADET MATT BOCHANSKI**

On April 29, 2022, the Raider Battalion held its annual Dining Out event. Every year at this event the Battalion recognizes a Shippensburg University ROTC alumnus for their success. The 2022 Shippensburg University Army ROTC Hall of Fame inductee was LTC(R) Lynne Daley. LTC(R) Daley graduated from Shippensburg University in 1983 with a degree in Business Education, a Bachelor of Science in Education, and earned a Master of Education in 1984. Outside of ROTC, she was active in Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., the Panhellenic Council, Harmonic Voices of Truth, and Minority Affairs. She also worked on campus as a Desk Assistant and as a Graduate Assistant for the Dean of Undeclared Majors. LTC(R) Daley was commissioned as a 2LT in the US Army Signal Corps in 1984.

During her inspirational career in the US Army, LTC(R) Daley held leadership positions from Platoon Leader in Hanau, Germany; Company Commander at Fort Bragg, NC; Saudi Arabia and Iraq; Battalion Executive Officer in Taegu, Korea; and Battalion Commander in Oahu, Hawaii. Key Joint Staff positions she held included being the Executive Support Officer for the Secretary of Defense; Legislative Liaison Joint Chiefs of Staff; Legislative Liaison Secretary of the Army; Deputy Commander for the Global Network Operations and Security Center, Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA).

During her career LTC(R) Daley earned many military awards including the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal (2nd Award), Meritorious Service Medal (4th Award), Joint Service Commendation Medal (2nd Award), Army Commendation Medal (2nd Award), Army Achievement Medal (2nd Award), Joint Meritorious Unit Award, National Defense Service Medal, Southwest Asia Service Medal w/Bronze Service Star (3rd Award), Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Korea Defense Service Medal, and the Kuwait Liberation Medal.

At the Raider Battalion Dining Out, COL Firmin presented LTC(R) Daley as the 2022 Shippensburg University ROTC Hall of Fame inductee. The Raider Battalion cadets had the opportunity to hear LTC(R) Daley speak. During her time with the Battalion LTC(R) Daley shared her wisdom, telling the cadets to always look after their soldiers, and most importantly, to be courageous as we approach the start of our military careers. The Raider Battalion is honored to have such an inspirational leader and alumni inducted into the Shippensburg University ROTC Hall of Fame.

Raider Competition

**WRITTEN BY
CADET NATHAN RODE**



The Raider Challenge competition was held on 2 April 2022. The event was held and hosted by Shippensburg University ROTC. The attendance composed of ship ROTC and eight JROTC high schools within the surrounding area. The event had five events the Army APFT physical fitness test, rope bridge, first aid, land navigation, and a three-kilometer team run. That is the background on the event.

I was the OIC also known as the officer in charge. This has taught me a lot about relying on your peers, planning, and effort/accountability. The first thing is relying on your peers it is very important to delegate out your work and utilize the assets that you have available. It is super key that one's given a mission to sit down and analyze all the available assets that you must use at your ability for mission success.

Next goes into how much planning goes into an event. It is so often the not thought of that even the simplest of events need slim to no planning that is clearly wrong. The more planning that a leader conducts the more likely the mission will be accomplished. The planning for this mission was conducted over several months with several different echelons of schools.

The last key point that I learned through being the leader of this Raider Challenge Competition event was that that no matter what as a leader you need to be applying maximum effort and everything that you do this goes hand in hand with accountability a leader needs to be accountable of all the everything that happens with the formation.

Over a lot overall I learned a lot with overseeing and the leader of the Raider Challenge Competition of 2022 it involved a lot of prior planning coordination and communication with the multi echelon ROTC and JROTC cadets and cadre members.

Community Volunteerism

WRITTEN BY
CADET ASHLEY COOK

Throughout the Spring semester, the Shippensburg ROTC program, along with its cadets, have participated in community service opportunities. This article would like to highlight the work put in by cadets in the battalion at their annual car wash and the work put in individually by Cadet Kiersten Melder throughout the semester.

The Raider Battalion conducts an annual car wash in the spring to offer its time and service to the members of the Shippensburg community. This year, the car wash was organized by Cadets Maria Maresca and Garrett Zary of the fundraising committee who worked hard to gather volunteers in the battalion and organize the event with the community. While the car wash was donation based, the Raider Battalion managed to gather over \$1,000 in donations from generous community members.

Within the Raider Battalion, Cadet Kiersten Melder has put in plenty of community service herself. Throughout the semester, Cadet Melder completed two separate fundraisers with Shippensburg University's National Honor Society. The first fundraiser raised over \$1,000 for first responders and the second raised dog food supplies for animal shelters in Chambersburg. She also volunteered at Katie's Place in Shippensburg to help give local families access to clothes and food.

We are proud to recognize our cadets within the Raider Battalion for the hard work they do within the community. The Raider Battalion follows the Army values and selfless service, especially for the community, will always be a priority. Therefore, we are honored to have upstanding cadets in our battalion to lead the way!



Boulder Crest Trip

WRITTEN BY
CADET ALIYAH BAIR



On Thursday April 14th, the Shippensburg senior military science class was honored and enthusiastic to travel to Loudoun Virginia to visit the one out of two Boulder Crest Foundation locations. The foundation is a Veteran-led organization that is loyal to aiding, healing, and improving the overall wellbeing of combat veterans, first responders, and their families who have experienced trauma.

Upon arrival, the cadets were able to donate a \$967.67 check, which was half of the proceedings raised from the 5k/10k walk and run race that was held on October 27, 2021, during the semester prior. The senior class arrived around 10:00 am and was split into groups to complete various tasks around the Boulder Crest facility. The tasks included kitchen cleaning, archery lane maintenance, horse mulching, cleaning chicken coops, and other landscaping and gardening duties on site.

After completing the rewarding labor, the class enjoyed lunch with Vice President Kyra Pooley. The visit then concluded with the fun opportunity for all of our senior cadets of learning how to shoot a bow and arrow on the archery lanes as well as axe throwing! This opportunity was loved by the cadets and cadre who participated. Our senior cadets were privileged to visit the Virginia Boulder Crest location in order to give back to our fellow veterans, first responders, and their families and help create and maintain a more peaceful and pleasant environment where they are embraced with the support they need.

In the summer of 2021, I had the opportunity to attend a program that sought to educate and improve my language and intercultural communication skills. Project Global Officer (GO) is a Department of Defense initiative aimed at ROTC students to attend domestic and overseas language and culture training in order to provide the skills needed for effective leadership in the 21st century.

Students who are accepted into this program get to choose from 11 languages – Arabic, Mandarin Chinese, Hindi, Indonesian, Japanese, Korean, Persian, Portuguese, Russian, Swahili, and Turkish. When I applied to the program, I tried for Mandarin Chinese, Russian, and Indonesian. I heard back from the Mandarin and Russian programs rather quickly and was accepted to both, but I ultimately chose the domestic Mandarin Chinese program. I spent seven weeks at The Citadel Military College in Charleston, South Carolina for this immersive experience. Not only did I start learning a new language that I have since grown a passion for, but I also made lasting friendships and opened myself up to a multitude of opportunities for my future.

This year, the Shippensburg University Raider Battalion had four applicants all from the freshman class: Drew Landis, Mason Smith, Timi Adeshokan, and Zach Eisenhart. CDT Landis has been accepted to go to Morocco for the Arabic program through the University of Maryland. CDT Smith has been accepted to the domestic Russian program through the University of North Georgia. CDT Adeshokan was accepted to the Swahili program in Kenya and Tanzania but has since decided not to go due to personal reasons. Finally, CDT Eisenhart has been accepted to the domestic Russian program through the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Project Global Officer

WRITTEN BY
CADET RYLIE TRAXLER



12-Mile Road March

**WRITTEN BY
CADET NICHOLAS POCHE**



The 12-mile road march is a timed event. The standard for this event is completion in less than 3 hours while carrying a 35lb rucksack and a weapon. This rigorous event serves as a test of muscular endurance, aerobic endurance, determination, and pure grit.

During both the fall and spring semesters the Raider Battalion does a series of buildup rucks, some heavier, some longer in order to prepare our cadets for this strenuous event. This road march is one of the major physical fitness tests our cadets complete each year. We do the 12-mile road march in the Spring in order to prepare the junior class, the MS3s, that is heading to advanced camp at Fort Knox, Kentucky throughout the summer.

At advanced camp the cadets will be tested on their ability to individually complete a 6-mile road march in under an hour and a half. The cadets will also be tested on their ability to complete a 8-mile and 12-mile road march as a company. The 12-mile road march also allows our program to gauge those cadets who are going to army schooling, such as Air Assault School, where completing the 12-mile road march in under three hours is required to graduate. We want to ensure we are setting our cadets up for success by training them for this rigorous event. The slots to go to Army schools are primarily given to sophomores.

Also, the 12-mile road march allows us to introduce the freshman class to this event. Their completion time for this event serves as another way for the cadets to compete for a scholarship. All in all, it was a great training event for everyone involved and gave the battalion an idea of what they need to do in terms of personal physical fitness in order to be successful.

At the end of March four Shippensburg ROTC Raider Battalion cadets were selected and given the opportunity to attend The West Point Negotiation Project. This is a two-day interactive principled negotiation workshop that takes place at the United States Military Academy.

USMA hosts this workshop annually for cadets across commissioning sources and branches to teach basic negotiation skills. This conference offers an opportunity to inject basic negotiation skills into the force. The two-day event addresses principled negotiations, the role of assumptions in negotiation, builds negotiation skills, and hosts several guest speakers to discuss the role of negotiation as an officer.

The conference is highly interactive and has experiential and small group learning environment that educates participants about principled negotiation through plenary sessions, role-playing, and meaningful interactions with both peers and negotiation experts. This year, the key-note speaker was Adam Silver, the commissioner of the National Basketball Association. Mr. Silver brought the business side of negotiating to the table and explained the tactics he uses in his position every day.

Attending this workshop is not only a big deal for the four of us who were selected to attend but it was a big deal for the Raider Battalion to be there and prove our small program is just as important as any other ROTC program.

USMA

Negotiation Project

WRITTEN BY
CADET TYLER DICKOVER



Cadets of the Months

**WRITTEN BY
CADET DIOR EDMONDS**



Mason Smith
MS1



Riley Gladhill
MS2



Zachary Eisenhart
MS1



Garret Scully
MS1

This semester was full of opportunities for cadets of the Raider Battalion to showcase their work ethic, dedication, and leadership, but there were a select few cadets that simply went above and beyond and got the well-deserved recognition of being the Cadet of the Month.

Each month over the course of the semester, cadet company leadership, as well as cadet staff nominate cadets who they have noticed have been going the extra mile not only for themselves but for the battalion as well. From Alpha company, Cadets Mason Smith and Riley Gladhill had the pleasure of being recognized. Mason, who is an MSI, did not miss any of the PT or lab sessions. This was noteworthy because MSIs and IIs are only obligated to attend one PT session a week. Mason took it upon himself to come to every session to better himself. He also was an active member of the Ranger Challenge team, as well as participated in the boxing club. Cadet Riley Gladhill also did not miss a single lab or PT session, was leader at the tactical labs, oftentimes stepped up and filled for platoon sergeant role, and was an active member of the intramural volleyball team.

Cadets Garret Scully and Zachary Eisenhart were the Cadet of the Month awardees for Bravo company. Garrett and Zachary are both motivated MSIs that never missed lab or PT. Garrett is a part of the criminal justice club, criminal justice LLC, as well as a star member of the Shippensburg rugby team. Zachary is an active member of the Ranger Challenge team and maintains an exceptional GPA, as well as an impressive ACFT score. All four of these leaders highlight the exceptionalism of the Raider Battalion.

Air Assault School

WRITTEN BY
CADET RYAN WITTLE

Air Assault school is designed to train Soldiers in Air Assault operations, sling-load operations, and rappelling. Upon graduation Soldiers are able to perform the skills required to make maximum use of helicopter assets in training and in combat to support their operations. The school is 10 days in length with physically demanding challenges throughout. Day zero of the school includes a 2-mile run, smoke session, and obstacle course that must be done to standard in order to continue the school. In addition, Soldiers are evaluated on a 6-mile ruck, 4-mile run, and 12-mile ruck to standard. Throughout the course, Air Assault instructors will smoke students for lack of attention to detail. When I went to the school if you did not strap your ruck and place it the correct way when setting it down this would give the instructors reason enough to smoke you. If a student does not bring required packing list items everyday of the course, they will fail and become a day zero recycle. Attention to detail is a main focus of Air Assault school. The hands-on sling load test is a perfect example, students must identify 3 deficiencies on a multitude of sling loads to pass. This could include type III nylon cord being wrapped around the wrong way on an A-22 cargo bag or tape not fully covering the mirror on a Humvee. There are also written test to assess your knowledge of the material you learn. I went to Sabalauski Air Assault School in Fort Campbell Kentucky; it was the best experience I have had in the army thus far and the most challenging both physically and mentally. The school has a 55% fail rate but with proper readiness training anyone can pass. Shippensburg University is sending Cadets Nequan Ali, Robert Lissner, and Michael Ardise to Air Assault School this summer.





Raider Tab



WRITTEN BY

CADET SAVANNAH MOWER

The Shippensburg Raider Battalion completed their bi-annual Army Combat Fitness Test (ACFT) over a two week period starting March 15 to March 25. The ACFT consists of six challenging events that are used to measure the endurance, speed, strength, and power of a soldier on a 600 point scale. The test was administered during its beta phase therefore the events included a maximum weight deadlift, a standing power medicine ball throw for distance, a sprint, sled-drag, and kettlebell-carry, maximum leg tucks or plank hold, topped off by a 2-mile run for time. The scores would be recorded to award Cadets with the coveted Raider Tab, a patch worn on a cadet's uniform as a testament to their physical and academic performance. The Raider Tab is awarded to cadets who possess both the physical and mental fortitude to maintain at least 3.0 GPA, 450 ACFT score, and a 12 mile ruck march in under 2 hours and fifty minutes. There are four levels of prestige a cadet can receive for their raider tab indicated by color. In ascending order of prestige from minimum to maximum criteria, the colors of the tab include green, red, white, and blue. Awardees from our Raider Battalion include: (INSERT NAMES HERE). These cadets are role models within their communities that represent true mental and physical toughness, and we are excited to announce and celebrate their success.

ROTC Internship

WRITTEN BY

CADET COLLIN CURLEY

This internship allowed me to not only put my skills in Geographic Information Systems (GIS) to the test but also allow myself to lend hand to cadre members on various tasks. I began the internship making topographic maps of Shippensburg and Letterkenny. These maps allowed cadets to plan and practice land navigation on their own or for missions. The maps were tailored to the issued protractors and were made on letter sized laminated paper. I also aided in recruiting operations, by going to career day events and providing updating information for the giant recruitment board. The internship has allowed me to not only work with cadre but cadets as well. I discovered how to make posters and get laminated images in the bottom of the Grove Hall. Cadet Farrow and I selected photos we wanted to be displayed in the cadet lounge and basement of Wright Hall. I also helped print all the references and CONOPS from 2020-2022 for the fall and spring labs. I appreciated being able to attend the new Officer Professional Development (OPDs) program held by our cadre members every Friday. The OPDs allowed me to be prepared and understand expectations of an officer from cadre's experiences. I would also use the internship to help aid in other big events whether it be helping with planning for the land event or helping with Mr. Miller in the basement with the FTX. The most rewarding part of this internship has been being able to take time and really help this program create tools that others don't have the skills to do. I was able to create maps and be resourceful, because of the skills taught here at Shippensburg University.

Spring FTX

WRITTEN BY
CADET MATTHEW LAWRENCE

The Raider Battalion and the Mountain Task Force conducted another Spring Field Training Exercise. This semester's FTX took place at Letterkenny Army Depot from April 08-10. The joint FTX allowed all MS levels to practice and test their skills in a tactical environment. MSIVs operated the TOC and practiced staff operations required of commission Officers. The MSIVs also were expected to give 2-minute drills to Cadre of the current status reports of the platoons.

The MSIIIs were tested on their platoon-level leadership for the last time before getting evaluated at Fort Knox. MS IIs and Is were slotted into either one of the platoons or the OPFOR which is the opposition forces. Younger Cadets got to learn the fundamentals of leadership and tactics while being members of the platoon and acting as lower-level leadership.

The Spring FTX is arguably the most important training event of the year due to the type of training. Cadets get realistic training with blank rounds and real weapons in wooded terrain. Platoons complete a series of missions that they will be evaluated at Advanced Camp. As an MSIV now, the Spring FTX was the best time to actually apply all the lessons I learned throughout both years. I found every year I was more and more prepared. This year, our task force was even flown in by UH-60 Blackhawks into their designated landing zones to start their missions. In conclusion, this FTX is the culminating event of the year and Raider Battalion performed extremely well as we move closer and closer to normalcy after COVID.



Award Ceremony

WRITTEN BY
CADET RENEE SAHLI

On Thursday April 29, 2022, the Shippensburg University ROTC program hosted its annual spring awards ceremony. Cadets are recognized for their accomplishments at the awards ceremony and numerous military organizations attend to make awards presentations. Many awards are presented such as the USAA Spirit Award, American Legion Awards, the VFW Award, and the Nathan DeTample Award.

When cadets receive their award they receive a certificate and ribbon, and some awardees are awarded scholarships or a plaque with their name on it. The awards ceremony is extremely important to the program because the value extends beyond just the cadets who are recognized. The ceremony is also a time to publicly identify individuals and groups who embody our organizations core values. The organizational representatives that attend the spring awards ceremony serve as examples of leadership and help to inspire cadets.

After the cadet awards were handed out, a presentation of a Sapper sign to MSG Buchanan and a Pathfinder sign to CPT Wright was conducted as they will be leaving our program to do bigger and better things. Lastly, the award ceremony concluded with the change of command from Matthew Lawrence as Battalion Commander to the Fall 2022 Batttlaion Commander, Maria Maresca. We wish her well as we know she will do great things as the next Battalion Commander.



Cadet for a Day

WRITTEN BY CADET JUSTIN NOEL

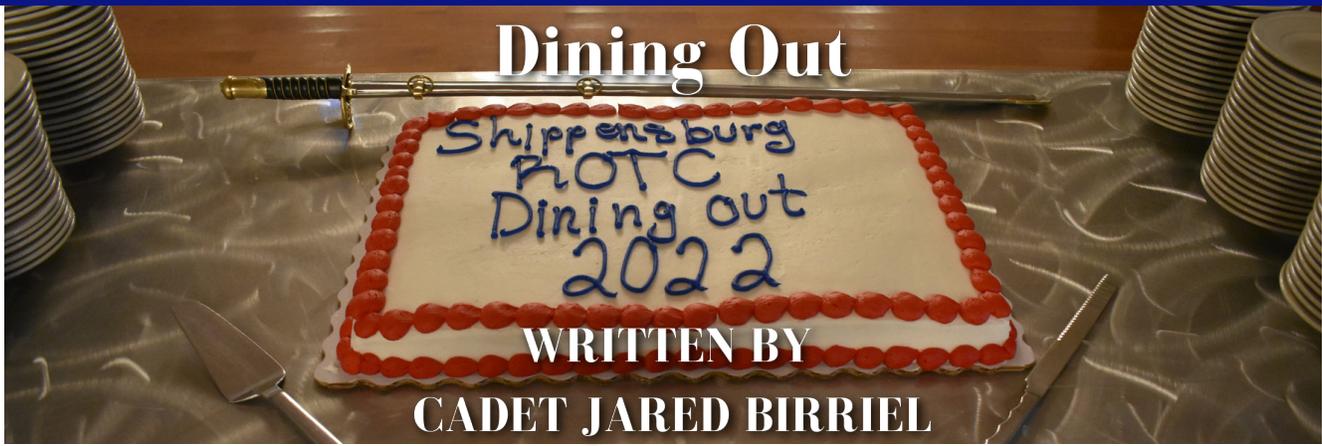
On the 28th of April, 2022, the Shippensburg University ROTC program hosted Cadet for a Day, an event designed to expose prospective high school students to college and ROTC. CDT Noel led the charge in the planning for the event, ensuring that it would be a worthwhile experience for all attendees. The day started at 12:30PM with an in-processing brief, providing critical information pertaining to ROTC at Shippensburg University. Following this, attendees were guided over to Rec Fields where the remainder of the event took place. Needless to say, there was not a lack of activities for attendees to participate in.

The SHIP ROTC program went to great lengths to ensure there was a variety of internal and external resources acquired in order to make the event special. Festivities at Rec Fields kicked off with the landing of a UH-60 Blackhawk, followed by the firing of the cannon and a complementary lunch. Guests were further entertained by a rock band from the Pennsylvania Army National Guard, something the Cadet for a Day event at Shippensburg University has never experienced before. A variety of stations were set-up by cadets of which attendees could visit at their own pace. The stations included, CDT gear, ACFT, volleyball, with the addition of many National Guard resources, such as a 50 cal machine gun, recruiting information, and everyone's favorite, knockerball. Attendees could also visit the UH-60 Blackhawk and get the unique opportunity to sit inside it.

Overall, the Cadet for a Day event was an exciting experience to all those involved, and it served as a reminder of the Raider Battalions efforts to serve the community.



Dining Out



WRITTEN BY
CADET JARED BIRRIEL

At the closing of every spring semester the Shippensburg University Army ROTC program hosts an official dinner to commemorate the accomplishments of the Raider Battalion. This year's event was hosted at the Letort View Community Center within Carlisle Barracks. After the Cadets and their dates finished taking a handful of photos by the Shippensburg University fountain, they headed to Letort for the festivities. The Cadets and guests were met with beautiful laid out tables and soft music in the background.

Once everyone was settled, Col. (Ret) Hancock gave a high energy block of instruction on a variety of exciting dances. After this was over the ceremony began with first with an invocation, then the recognizing the fallen Soldier table and a series of toasts. Each table was then able to serve themselves from three delicious food options and sides. Once everyone was done eating there was a symbolic cake cutting to conclude the dining portion of the event. At this point the Guest of Honor LTC (Ret) Lynn Daily was inducted into the Shippensburg ROTC Hall of Fame. She gave a brief speech filled with countless wisdom and advice.

Once a few more gifts and awards were handed out from the departing senior class, there was a presentation that commemorated their time in the Raider Battalion. The presentation concluded with a benediction praying for a successful future of the senior class and the Raider Battalion. To end the night everyone was encouraged to dance with their dates as the seniors celebrated by smoking cigars with their classmates one last time.



Preparing to Commission



As a person who is attempting to become a leader in the U.S. Army, there is never a time in which someone can be considered fully learned in the art of leadership. This goes for when one is a lowly cadet to a brigadier general. I recently had a great learning experience to prepare me for my commissioning in being the leader of Lab 9, platoon raid run phase. In this lab I was expected to give the cadets in class two and three the ability to attempt a raid under the watchful eye of chosen graders. This would in turn give them a better ability to see where they are good as a leader and where they can improve. The cadets in class one in turn would be those they would face off against, as they would be taught the basics of a defense and expected to hold a line against the upperclassmen.

Leading the lab prepared me in my future commissioning and becoming a leader as I was expected to train the men and women under my command, a job a platoon leader is constantly expected to do. I created a conop and opord for my lab that clearly defined my intent, and I assigned those whom I know would take the job seriously to conduct grading and training of the lower classes. The day before the lab began, leadership of the mission I developed was passed down to the MS3 class along with the opord so they could get a head start on planning. The next day, the lab went off without a hitch. We formed up, where I gave direction to the battalion without stumbling over a word. Upon falling out, the MS 3's and 2's stayed at Britton Park to begin planning, while the MS 1's went to their concealed location to train on their own. The three's planned the lab and led the twos to their ORP successfully. They conducted a leader's reconnaissance and conducted the raid. The raid itself had some faults, yet that is why we conduct it in a training environment, so it does not happen when you lead a real platoon. Upon falling out of the final formation, we briefed the MS3 class on what they did right and wrong, and everyone, including myself, learned what their abilities are and what improvements they need. In this way, leading a Lab prepared me for commissioning.

Our May 2022 Commissionees



Cadet Aliyah Bair

Branch: Military Intelligence



Cadet Jarred Birriel

Branch: Field Artillery



Cadet Matt Bochanski

Branch: Field Artillery



Cadet Gaven Bupp

Branch: Military Intelligence Branch Detail Infantry



Cadet Ashley Cook

Branch: Chemical Corps



Cadet Collin Curley

Branch: Army Aviation



Cadet Nicholas Farrow

Branch: Military Intelligence



Cadet Michael Hickey

Branch: Armor

Our May 2022 Commissionees



Cadet Adam Keh

Branch: Corps of Engineers



Cadet Lake Lloyd

Branch: Field Artillery



Cadet Justin Noel

Branch: Signal Corps



Cadet Ryan Wittle

Branch: Infantry



Cadet Matthew Lawrence

Branch: Armor



Cadet Elizabeth McKeever

Branch: Quartermaster Corps



Cadet Pearse Stephens

Branch: Armor



Cadet Laron Woody

Branch: Infantry

Purchases Made This Semester

WRITTEN BY CADET NICHOLAS FARROW

Going into this spring semester, some needs were quickly recognized in terms of the equipment that we had. In the Public Affairs shop, it was quickly realized that a new camera was needed in order to take high quality pictures of the training that the Raider Battalion would be conducting. Over the last several semesters being able to take high quality images to share on our social media was an area the Raider Battalion struggled in. With the money that has been raised over the past several months, a new camera was bought for the battalion and will stay with the battalion for many semesters to come. The camera that was purchased is a Nikon D3400 camera. The idea of purchasing this camera came about after our Cadet Battalion Commander, Matthew Lawrence, allowed the Public Affairs shop to borrow his Nikon 3400 camera for the purpose of taking pictures of the cadets. It was then believed by the cadet staff that it would be in the best interest of the Battalion to purchase a similar camera to ensure that the Battalion is set up for success for many semesters to come. Many of the pictures used in this newsletter are thanks to the camera that was purchased for the Battalion.

Another set of purchases that was made was for three CAC readers for the Cadet Lounge. This purchase was necessary in that our cadets constantly had to ask around to find a CAC reader in order to get onto any military website that requires that card in order to access the website. The CAC readers had been a need for the Battalion for some time and finally action was made to get those readers in the Cadet Lounge. While there are still more needs this Battalion would like to remedy, that will be up to future leadership and the future of the fundraising committee to achieve that. All in all, the Raider Battalion finished this semester with a positive balance even after these purchases.

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Through the Military Science program, students receive leadership development, military skills, and career training. Your gift to the Military Science Fund at the Shippensburg University Foundation supports specialized training and activities that help cadets build strength and character. Please consider a gift in support of these future leaders of the armed services as they protect and serve our country.



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