

A young woman in a dark blue U.S. military uniform is leaning over a table, writing in a book with a silver marker. She has her hair in a bun. On the table next to her is a black beret and a pen. In the background, other people in military uniforms and civilians are visible, suggesting a formal ceremony or event.

**THE**  
**WARRIOR**  
**BATTALION**  
**SITUATION REPORT**

Congratulations  
**Class of 2019**



NIEFOTH

STREMSO

LOBER

LEARY

DRONOCK

IPPOLITI

COLLINS

DAVIS

# CONTENTS

## FEATURES

- 8** Combined Field Training Exercise
- 10** Military Ball 2019
- 12** Commissioning
- 16** ROTC Clubs & Senior Projects
- 18** Faith & Resiliency  
By Chaplain Scott Weigner
- 19** Staff Ride: Antietam  
By Cadet Zachary Raible
- 20** Cadet Profiles
- 26** Alumni Profile: MAJ (P)  
Joseph Martinkis '03
- 28** Alumni Profile: Nick Bare '14, Entrepreneur
- 29** Poised for Growth  
By Captain Daniel Beckers

## UPDATES

- 5** From the Professor of Military Science
- 6** From the Senior Military Science Instructor
- 6** The PMS Standard of Excellence List
- 7** From the Cadet Battalion Commander and the Cadet Command Sergeant Major
- 14** The Commissioning Class of 2019
- 15** Cadre & Staff Profiles
- 24** Class Notes (Alumni)
- 30** Battalion Store Catalog

Opposite: *The Spring 2019 Warrior Battalion Army ROTC Commissioning Class stands tall. The newly commissioned Second Lieutenants took an oath to defend the Constitution of the United States of America and to faithfully discharge the duties of the office of Second Lieutenant. The class consists of 5 Distinguished Military Graduates. Seven are entering Active Duty, five are entering the Army National Guard, and one is entering the Army Reserve. All will attend Basic Officer Leadership Course at various military bases across the Nation.*

On the Cover: *Newly commissioned 2nd Lieutenant Sarah Davis signs the Warrior Battalion's Historic Ledger following the commissioning ceremony.*

**Whether you serve a full military career or you serve just the first service obligation, the foundation of ROTC is worth a lifetime.**

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## August 2019

- 17 Cadet Orientation (CUSP Only)
- 21 Cadet Orientation (All)
- 23 New Cadet Welcome Event
- 26 Fall Semester Begins
- 29 Commission & Contracting

## September 2019

- 13 Fall Scholarship Boards Begin
- 20 State of ROTC & Theta Chi Heroes Memorial Scholarship Dinner
- 21 Parent's/Family Day (Open House)
- 27 Field Training Exercise Begins

## October 2019

- 17 Ranger Challenge Competition Begins
- 28 Homecoming Weekend (Open H

## January 2020

- 13 Classes Begin (SFU)
- 21 Classes Begin (IUP)

## March 2020

- 26 Combined FTX (Juniors & Seniors)

## April 2020

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

## May 2020

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



**WARRIOR  
BATTALION**  
**ARMY ROTC**

## Magazine Staff

**Editor:** Mr. Meryl Rutz

**Contributing Editor:** CDT Jonah Strenski

**Design Director:** CPT Daniel Beckers

**Photographers:** Mrs. Lori Faulkner

CDT Sarah Davis

CDT Walter Lober

CDI Sarah Gottardi

## Magazine Staff Contact

724-357-0000

WarriorBNmagazine@gmail.com

## Save the Date!

Military Ball 2020

Celebrating the Class of 2020 &  
Honoring the Class of 2000

- Saturday 25 April 2020
- Invitations will be sent in January 2020
- Additional details will be forthcoming



# From the Professor of Military Science

Lieutenant Colonel Dennis W. Faulkner

Family, Friends, Allies, and members of the Warrior Battalion, As year number two rapidly comes to an end I have started to reflect on the number of changes we have made in the program that have been a catalyst for this year of revitalization; and am astounded at the tremendous success we have had. Most notably we have just gained approval from the administration at IUP to offer 1<sup>st</sup> year matching scholarships to all our National 3/4 Year Scholarship winners, this should provide a great advantage in our ability to attract the best talent nationwide to the Warrior BN. Also, IUP has agreed to support ROTC having a consolidated dorm; starting in Fall of 2019 Stephenson Hall (which is right across the street from Pierce Hall) will now be an ROTC dorm. In the Fall, all freshman joining the team will be housed there and the university is also offering a very competitive incentivized rate for Sophomores and above to remain on campus, also living in Stephenson. We are excited for how this change will positively impact the program and enhance the esprit de corps that already exists among the Cadets.

Another noteworthy initiative has been the reestablishment of our clubs in ROTC. Ranger Challenge is now a year-round club with official standing and representation on the university Student Senate. Rifle Club has exploded in membership boasting 15 members of the team that are not ROTC Cadets but regularly attend Rifle Club activities. Sabre Squad has also initiated its request to become a permanent club and we are pleased to announce we will be supporting the Steelers in August with color guard support for a pre-season NFL game. Next year we intend to complete our club structure with standing up a reimagined AUSA/Scabbard and Blade club as well as an Army Nurses club. Clubs have proved to be a great source of comradery and expert knowledge formation for Cadets.

I would be remiss if I didn't thank all the amazing Allies that have contributed to the program this year. We had an impressive response to our initiative to support Cadets going to the Military Ball. This support has assured an amazing night for all and I thank you very much for all who sponsored a Cadet or donated to the program.

I also want to highlight the outstanding improvements to Pierce Hall that CPT Beckers, our Executive Officer, has spearheaded. The following are just a few completed in the last year: remodel of the cadet lounge with new

computers, printer, refrigerator, couches, and Apple TV, new roof, drainage repair so we no longer flood every year, complete interior repainting and branding, VTC capability in F2, install of automated external speakers to support flag detail, and install of digital displays for the lobby. And he still has an ambitious list for the summer as well. Great work, Dan, the building looks amazing.

As proud as I am of the improvements we have made to Pierce Hall and organizationally for the BN, I am most excited about seeing another outstanding cohort of Warrior Battalion Officers about to embark on their professional career. We have an outstanding group of seniors this year who truly took the program to the next level, embracing Mission Command and taking charge of the daily running of this BN; fantastic job this year, seniors. I am very proud of what you have accomplished. I am also excited to see what our juniors will do next year. They are a great group as well and are chomping at the bit to take the reins!

I hope all our Friends, Family, and Allies are finding ways to get involved with the program and that we are ensuring you remain informed of upcoming events. I look forward to meeting new family members and Alumni of the program at future events.

Warriors First!  
-Warrior 6



# From the Senior Military Science Instructor

## Master Sergeant Samuel Alter

First, I would like to start by congratulating all our newly commissioned 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenants. It has been a great privilege to watch you all grow during your Senior year and develop yourselves into the newest leaders in our Army. You endured a lot of change within the program from leaders' responsibilities and emplacement of the NCO Corps to holding BN level accountability formations where you were not only responsible for yourself but every level of Military Science Cadets in leadership positions, as well as ensuring that morale and motivation was high so that each cadet gives their best every day. You all did extremely well with adapting and paving the pathway for the future of the Battalion.

Observing our Juniors, I know that the Battalion will be left in good hands. For the Class of 2020, you all worked extremely

hard this year with your tactics and physical fitness. You all have lived up to the Army Values as well as what it is to be a leader. You have taken your duty positions with your best foot forward and worked very well together in surpassing the intent to be prepared for Cadet Summer Training. Good luck this summer during all your evaluations. I know you all are going to do great. See you there! To the Sophomores you did well adjusting to your new leader roles in the program. During the absence of the MS3s you stepped up to the plate and lead from the front. Some of you came out of your shells and accomplished things you never thought you would have been able to. Great job! The next year is going to come quick and you will be in those higher leadership positions so stay focused and get ready to get to the grind and "get after it". For the class of 2022, it was a privilege to teach and mentor you throughout your Freshman year. I was charged with inspiring the future leaders of the program and develop your interest in the Army. I could not be more proud of the

advancements you all made. Your dedication and drive to not only your school work as a new college student but to the Warrior Battalion was amazing. I look forward to working with you next year as the team leaders throughout the program.

It has been a great experience during my first year here at IUP as the Senior Military Science Instructor. I have had the honor and the opportunity to watch how the Battalion works and be part of great changes within its foundation. I look forward to seeing the outcome of summer camp with our rising Seniors and hitting the ground running in the Fall Semester. Good job this year to all the Cadets that put the blood, sweat and tears in making this program what it is, and a special thanks to all the support from our University, community and all the Alumni that give us the ability to help develop our future leaders of the Army and our communities.

Warriors First!  
-Warrior 7

## PMS STANDARD OF EXCELLENCE

### MS I (Freshmen)

Alex Andrick  
Shaylee Caulkins  
Casey Chobany  
Jacob Fox  
Mia Lenzi  
Annabelle McCullough  
Esau Olson  
Brendan Reid

### MS II (Sophomores)

Peter Flory  
Christopher Joswick  
Zachary Taylor

### MS III (Juniors)

Ethan Blackie  
Jordan Crawford  
Ryan Daigle  
Kyle Kinter

### MS IV (Seniors)

Stephen DeMarco

Awarded for excelling in all three critical areas : Academics, Fitness, and Leadership.



# From the Cadet Battalion Commander

## Cadet Kathleen Leary

new company. The rebranding was very successful and our sister schools truly feel like a part of the family.

CFTX, held at Camp Ravena, OH, was the largest training event in the Spring, designed to test the Juniors' abilities to lead a platoon. The Juniors were split into four platoons along with Cadets from other schools. Each MS3 had the opportunity to be in platoon leadership and run a mission. Every Cadet was evaluated on their leadership, which revealed strengths and weaknesses to improve on prior to Advanced Camp. Staff Ride was a big event for the seniors as they conducted a battle analysis of Antietam and enjoyed a team bonding experience. In pairs, the MS4s analyzed a part of the battle and taught their classmates on location. They spent the day learning about offic-

ers' decisions during the battle, the outcomes, and how today's military would do it differently. The Seniors and Cadre then camped for the night in West Virginia to bond and close out the semester.

This semester has been incredibly successful, focused on teaching the Cadets what they will need for their future while ensuring they enjoy their time in the program. The Freshmen and Sophomores are acclimated to Cadet life and some will attend Special Schools, the Juniors are prepared to represent the Warrior Battalion at Advanced Camp, the nurses are prepared to study at NSTP, and the Seniors received their BOLC orders and will head off to start their Army careers. This semester paid off for everyone, and all of the Cadets are prepared for their summer trainings.

The 2018-2019 school year saw changes and restructuring to the program that proved very beneficial for the Warrior Battalion's goal to recruit and retain. The Cadet Battalion staff worked very hard to plan effective training, create clubs, and host fun events for the other Cadets. The Spring semester's biggest events were CFTX, Staff Ride, and the Military Ball. The program grew from two to four schools, and we currently have ten Cadets from the new schools. Our seniors worked with the new Cadets to help them understand what ROTC is all about and to build a

# From the Cadet Command Sergeant Major

## Cadet Kristi Newlen

Over the course of the year, the Warrior Battalion grew tremendously due to the addition of Cadets from University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown, and the expanding program at Saint Francis University and Indiana University of Pennsylvania. The Battalion has developed into a cohesive unit.

This year the cadets at IUP and SFU experienced their first year of four-days-per-week PT. Monday through Thursday PT provided cadets a foundation for a stronger physical fitness routine. As a result, the Cadets in the battalion have improved their physical

fitness scores and the stricter PT schedule kept cadets more focused on making time for their academics. This year the Army Combat Fitness Test (ACFT) was introduced. The events of the new Army physical fitness assessment are geared towards a higher level of fitness and cardio ability. While continuing to train for the Army Physical Fitness Test, the Battalion incorporated deadlifts and weight lifting workouts to prepare for the ACFT.

The Junior class, which lead PT, acted in the roles of platoon leaders, platoon sergeants and squad leaders for the past two se-



menters. Keeping the same leadership positions for the MSIIIs encouraged unit cohesion and led small teams to grow closer than ever before. The MSIIIs have been working hard by attending after labs and tactical tutoring which will lead them down a successful path to do well at Advance Camp this summer.

# Combined Field Training Exercise

From March 28th through the 31st, Warrior Battalion's MS III Cadets spent a cold and rainy weekend at Camp Ravenna, OH, preparing for Advanced Camp. On arrival, cadre formed platoons made up of Cadets from several schools throughout our region, including Gannon University, Slippery Rock University, Edinboro University, and University of Pittsburgh. Over the weekend, Cadets rotate through leadership positions within their platoons in order to practice what they were taught, gain experience, and learn how to lead better. Despite the weather, the Cadets demonstrated high morale.

Over the course of the weekend, platoons com-

pleted Cadre assigned missions, with platoon leadership changing daily, and squad and team leadership changing between missions. Missions changed also so the Cadets did not simply repeat the same activities over and over. The Cadets each learned several valuable lessons from their experience that will help them to perform at a higher level during their Cadet Summer Training.

The weekend presented several challenges to the Cadets, and the weather was only one of them. They learned quickly that not all Cadets are created equal. Many Warrior Battalion Cadets seized the initiative on Day 1 and volunteered for leadership positions right away. CDT Eli Norman noticed that right from the beginning as Cadets tried to get to know each other a little, they sized each other up, and got a feel for who knew what. At least one platoon, CDT Ethan Blackie's, worked very hard to establish SOPs and conduct rehearsals while their platoon leader and platoon sergeant received their operations order. This served them well, as they had a semblance of normalcy from the very start. However, after their first or second mission, it became apparent that unit cohesion was lacking.

CDT Blackie, personally felt that he did not perform his best, but recognized that he did not know most of the individuals he was working with. As Cadets got to know each other and became more comfortable, mission capability improved. CDT Brady Dalton recognized that a valuable skill to have would







be learning how to work with people you do not know, and learning their strengths and how to best utilize them to accomplish the tasks at hand. “Being around strangers can be uncomfortable, but being able to be social, talk to them and learn who they are is a good ability to have, or two learn,” she said. CDT Nicole Sarnovsky also recognized the value in this. “I learned to use delegation to my advantage. I quickly realized that I did not have the time to manage each person in my squad. I utilized my team leaders to assign tasks to their team members, which allowed me more time to work with the platoon sergeant on the overall mission.

Not only was working with different Cadets a challenging experience, but working with new cadre also. CDT Sarnovsky noted that “It was a strange adjustment to be comfortable working with new cadre members, who have much different mannerisms and teaching techniques,” she said, but by the second day she had a better understanding of them and learned a lot from them over the weekend. CDT Norman found it helpful, however. “COL Richey spent a lot of time and went into great detail explaining what was required, and gave us a lot of tips. I am happy I was able to sit in this briefing and I learned a lot,” he said. CDT Dalton found it valuable that if they messed something up or got off the plan during a mission, the platoon would stop and talk through what they were supposed to be doing. Thorough and in depth AARs followed every mission, which gave them a complete understanding of what they did right, and how to fix what they did wrong.

CDTs Norman and Blackie each experienced missions in which cadre threw in twists to test the Cadets. CDT Norman’s platoon was attacked and they had to react to contact. This simple action taught him two lessons. “At camp, I will need to keep my head on a swivel, but it also taught me to make sure that information that is supposed to be passed down is actually passed down.” During the attack, he and another Cadet were left stranded because they were not given

the correct SOP for how the platoon would react to contact. CDT Blackie also saw the practical value in this lesson as a platoon leader when he was ‘killed’ during a mission. Because of the way he managed information and divided up responsibilities in his platoon, they successfully completed their mission despite the absence of his leadership.



CDT Norman summed up the weekend as a whole very well: “I saw how much a ‘spotlight ranger’ sticks out and how some Cadets are beyond clueless. This leads to my biggest and most reassuring take-away: Warrior Battalion ROTC is the best. Our Cadets were undeniably the best overall and I feel a lot better about going to camp now. I am confident that I am among the most prepared Cadets out there just by virtue of being a part of this program.” CDT Sarnovsky amply demonstrated this. “I learned what some of my weaknesses are, but I also learned to trust in myself. I often found myself teaching others or explaining content to help catch them up.”

## ROTC Assessment

Between Junior & Senior year of ROTC, Cadets are evaluated on proficiency with Army skills learned in ROTC and tested on their ability to lead their peers through challenging situational training exercises. This assessment occurs at Ft. Knox, Kentucky and lasts approximately 35 days. Skills include:

- Physical Fitness
- Map Reading
- Land Navigation
- Call for Fire
- Marksmanship
- First Aid
- 12-Mile Ruck March
- Rappelling
- Cultural Awareness
- Hand Grenade Course
- Live Fire Exercise



*Military Ball*  
*2019*



Warrior Battalion faculty: (from left) SFC Stockwell, MSG Alter, LTC Faulkner, MAJ Pilch, CPT Basaldua, SFC Rutz, SFC Collins, CPT Beckers, SFC (R) Walker



Dr. Khatmeh Osseiran-Hanna (IUP VP of Univ. Advancement), COL (R) Michael Zang '73 (ROTC Scholarship Donor), Dr. John Kilmarx (IUP Assoc. VP of Academic Affairs), Mrs. Beth Kilmarx



Hon. Timothy O'Neal '03, Mr. Eric Gardner '98, LTC Gretchen Gardner'99, Matthew Homa '02 MAJ Wendy Smith '05



CDT Ali Ippolitti and Mrs. Lori Faulkner planned the Ball

Cadets, Cadre, Staff, University representatives, and Alumni gathered for the Spring 2019 Military Ball at the Kovalchick Athletic and Convention Center. Pennsylvania House Representative Timothy O'Neal (Class of 2003) was the night's guest speaker. Professor of Military Science Lieutenant Colonel Dennis Faulkner presented Rep O'Neal with a plaque thanking him for sharing his experiences while deployed and wisdom on leadership.

The event was planned by senior Cadet Ali Ippolitti and Mrs. Lori Faulkner. Cadets from all classes assisted in bringing this wonderful night together including participation in a well-executed col-

or guard, grog ceremony, and the Spring Awards Ceremony.

During the event, senior Cadets were introduced and entered through the Sabre Arch escorted by their dates. Distinguished Military Graduates and high academic performers were recognized as well as scholarship recipients. Colonel (retired) Michael Zang (Class of 1973) presented his scholarship to Cadet Eric Hicks.

Thank you to all Alumni and supporters who sponsored cadets through the RSVP website. We look forward to the next year's ball and hope to see you there!

# Spring Commissioning 2019



*The Class of 2019 raises their right hand and takes the Oath of Office.*

The highlight of each year in ROTC is the Spring Commissioning Ceremony, when graduating cadets officially pin on their gold bar and become 2<sup>nd</sup> lieutenants in the U.S. Army. In the Class of 2019, we had thirteen cadets commission on the morning of May 10<sup>th</sup>. Family, friends, and distinguished guests gathered in Fisher Hall to participate in the formal pinning and swearing in of the new lieutenants. We were pleased to welcome Dr. Michael Driscoll, President of IUP, and Dr. John Kilmarx, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs, who joined us to witness the ceremony. The ceremony is relatively short, but packed with emotion as it means Cadets will be graduating from their university in the next few days and leaving for their respective Basic Officer Leader Courses (BOLC) within a few weeks. This course is held at various locations around the country dependent on their officer specialty.

The ceremony began with the posting of the colors and the entrance of the official party, consisting of LTC Dennis Faulkner, Professor of Military Science, MSG Samuel Alter, the program's Senior Military

Science Instructor, and our guest speaker, COL Matthew Rauscher, who happens to be an IUP alumnus and commander of Cadet Command's 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade.



Once the official party took their place on the stage, the National Anthem played. COL Rauscher (pictured left) then offered some wisdom and words of encouragement to the soon-to-be 2<sup>nd</sup> lieutenants. His first piece of guidance was, "You know more than you think you do." He warned that they would be overwhelmed

when they reached their first duty stations, but if they thought through their instruction as Cadets, and the training they would receive in BOLC, they should be able to think through most situations they would

encounter. Second, he commended families for providing the guidance that brought their sons and daughters to this point, and reminded them that they had not just raised a child, but that as an officer in the US Army, their son or daughter would use the guidance they had provided to 'raise' potentially generations of Soldiers who would serve under them. Third, he reminded the Cadets that they would always be working within a framework of guidance provided by their own command and would always know where they stood. Finally, he encouraged



ers would pay for an enlisted advisor to teach them the history of the regiment and their role as an officer. With all of the graduates now wearing their 2<sup>nd</sup> lieutenant rank, LTC Faulkner proffered the Oath of Office to the class, and CPT Daniel Beckers, the program Executive Officer, swore in those Officers joining the National Guard.

New 2LT Kathleen Leary received the COL Willard Robinson Leadership Award for her performance as Cadet Battalion Commander and 2LT Sarah Davis was recognized as the top nurse cadet in 2nd Brigade (Pennsylvania through Maine). The new

officers took pictures around campus and then attended a reception in Pierce Hall, where the new 2<sup>nd</sup> lieutenants signed the Battalion's Historic Ledger.



*2LT Trastian Collins poses after receiving his first salute from SFC (R) Chris Chavira*



*2LT Sarah Davis receives her Certificate of Commission from COL Rauscher while LTC Faulkner and MSG Alter wait to greet her*

them that when they were at a loss, to take the initiative and move forward in the direction that seemed most likely to fit within their commander's intent.

After COL Rauscher concluded his remarks, time had come for the main portion of the ceremony to begin. One at a time, the Cadets would move to the front of the stage where they were joined by their family who would pin their bars on. Following their pinning, a family member or friend who had served as an enlisted U.S. military servicemember would render them their first salute as an officer, for which the new lieutenant would give them a silver dollar. This tradition stems from the British Army and was brought to American during the colonial period, when new offic-

*Friends and family congratulate 2LT Kathleen Leary*



# Class of 2019



## INFANTRY

The Infantry encompasses positions concerned with the employment of the combined arms to close with the enemy by means of fire and maneuver in order to destroy or capture him, or repel his assault by fire, close combat, and counterattack. Infantry forces fight dismounted or mounted according to the mobility means provided. They form the nucleus of the Army's fighting strength around which the other arms and services are grouped.

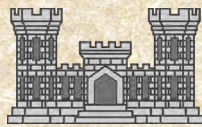
- 2LT Jeffrey Eichelman, Active Duty
- 2LT Stephen DeMarco, Active Duty (DMG)
- 2LT Colin Everett, Active Duty
- 2LT Alfred Jackson, PA Army National Guard
- 2LT Meredith Lynn, PA Army National Guard (DMG)



## ORDNANCE

The purpose of the Ordnance Corps is to develop, produce, acquire, and support weapons systems, ammunition, missiles and ground mobility material during peace and war in order to provide combat power for the U.S. Army. The Ordnance Branch encompasses all functions related to the life cycle management of its three commodities: tank/automotive materiel, munitions materiel, and missile materiel.

- 2LT Alyssa Sanchez, Active Duty
- 2LT David Danielson, Army Reserves
- 2LT Ali Ippoliti, PA Army National Guard
- 2LT Kathleen Leary, Active Duty (EOD Select) (DMG)
- 2LT Zachary Rowe, Active Duty



## ENGINEER CORPS

The Corps of Engineers is a Combat Arms Branch which also has combat support and combat service support roles. Engineer officers plan and execute missions relating to engineer support on the battlefield in light, heavy, airborne, and topographic missions. They coordinate and control all facilities and housing support at military installations. Additionally, the engineer officer serves as the Army's component to the Department of Defense (DOD) team charged with mapping, charting, geodesy, and military geographic responsibilities.

- 2LT Walter Lober, PA Army National Guard



## NURSE CORPS

The Army Nurse Corps is a part of the Army Medical Department (AMEDD) and is a special branch of the Army. The mission of the Army Nurse Corps is to provide quality nursing support and nursing leadership. To fulfill its mission, the Army Nurse Corps officers specialize as nurse practitioners and clinical nurse specialists and serve as staff officers at all levels throughout the AMEDD. Army ROTC has a program specially designed for Nursing Cadets that augments the curriculum of a standard nursing program.

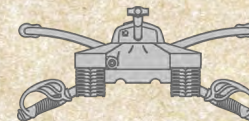
- 2LT Sarah Davis, Active Duty (DMG)



## MILITARY INTELLIGENCE

Military Intelligence encompasses the application and integration of all Military Intelligence functions at both the tactical and strategic levels. Officers serving in this specialty plan, conduct, and supervise intelligence collection resources, analysis of the resultant raw intelligence information, and the production and dissemination of finished all-source intelligence in the form of briefings and written reports to the ultimate consumer, the commander.

- 2LT Trastian Collins, PA Army National Guard
- 2LT Jonah Strenski, Active Duty (DMG)



## ARMOR

The Armor encompasses positions concerned with the employment of the Armor/Cavalry maneuver forces and combined arms organizations during mobile combat operations. Armor's mission is to close with and destroy the enemy using fire, maneuver, and shock action. The dynamism that distinguished the cavalry of yesteryear is now the hallmark of the Armor, the Combat Arm of Decision. Armor Officers command the World's Best Main Battle Tank, The M1A1 Abrams!

- 2LT William Kliefoth, Active Duty

# Meet Our Faculty & Staff



**Lieutenant Colonel Dennis Faulkner**  
Position: Professor of Military Science (Commander)  
Component: Active Duty  
Branch: Infantry  
Time in Service: 26 Years  
Instruction: All Seniors



**Master Sergeant Samuel Alter**  
Position: Senior Military Science Instructor  
Component: Active Duty  
Military Specialty: Cavalry  
Time in Service: 17 Years  
Instruction: Freshmen (IUP)  
Add'l Focus: Ranger Chall & Sabre Squad Advisor



**Captain Daniel Beckers**  
Position: Executive Officer (Chief of Staff)  
Component: Army National Guard  
Branch: Logistics  
Time in Service: 16 Years  
Responsibilities: SFU/MAC Program Lead, University Engagement, Facilities, Alumni Outreach, BN Store



**Sergeant First Class Shaun Collins**  
Position: Military Science Instructor  
Component: Active Duty  
Branch: Infantry  
Time in Service: 16 Years  
Instruction: All Juniors & Tactics  
Additional Focus: Rifle Club Advisor



**Major (Promotable) Brian Pilch**  
Position: Assistant Professor of Military Science  
Component: Active Duty  
Branch: Military Police  
Time in Service: 26 Years  
Instruction: All Juniors  
Additional Focus: UPJ Program Lead



**Mr. Meryl Rutz (Sergeant First Class)**  
Position: Military Science Instructor  
Component: Army National Guard  
Military Specialty: Military Intelligence  
Time in Service: 17 Years  
Instruction: Freshmen & Sophomore (UPJ)  
Additional Focus: Magazine, Academic Advising



**Captain Paul Basaldua**  
Position: Assistant Professor of Military Science; Operations Officer  
Component: Active Duty  
Branch: Field Artillery  
Time in Service: 14 Years  
Instruction: Sophomore (IUP)



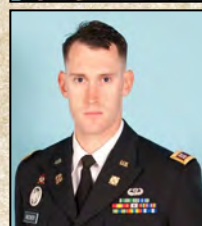
**Mr. J.D. Walker (Retired Sergeant First Class)**  
Position: Military Science Instructor  
Component: Active Duty  
Military Specialty: Special Forces & Civil Affairs  
Time in Service: 22 Years (Retired)  
Instruction: Freshmen & Sophomore (SFU) & Tactics



**Major Bruce Jordan**  
Position: Army Reserve Liaison / Instructor  
Component: Army Reserve  
Branch: Combat Engineer  
Time in Service: 29 Years  
Instruction: Freshmen & Sophomore (UPJ)



**Sergeant First Class Aaron Stockwell**  
Position: Army National Guard Recruiter  
Component: Army National Guard  
Branch: Military Intelligence/ Armor  
Time in Service: 16 Years  
Instruction: Freshmen Dimensions of Wellness (IUP)



**Captain Adam Becker**  
Position: Assistant Professor of Military Science  
Component: Active Duty  
Military Specialty: Logistics  
Time in Service: 8 Years  
Instruction: TBD (Arriving August 2019)



**Mr. Sam Bennett (Retired Sergeant First Class)**  
Position: Logistics Technician  
Component: Active Duty  
Military Specialty: Cavalry  
Time in Service: 22 Years (Retired)



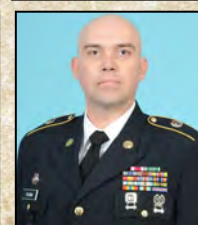
**Mr. Michael Zabrzkeski (Retired Major)**  
Position: Human Resource Assistant  
Component: Active Duty  
Branch: Infantry  
Time in Service: 20 Years (Retired)  
Instruction: Military History



**Mr. Chris Chavira (Retired Sergeant First Class)**  
Position: Recruiting Operations Officer  
Component: Active Duty  
Military Specialty: Combat Engineer/ Recruiter  
Time in Service: 20 Years (Retired)



**Mr. Sonny Brillhart**  
Position: Pierce Hall Building Custodian



**Sergeant First Class Fulmar**  
Position: Army Reserve Recruiter  
Component: Army Reserve  
Military Specialty: Recruiter  
Time in Service: 24 Years

# CLUBS & SENIOR PROJECTS

## YEARBOOK

CDT Walter Lober & CDT Ron Reighard

The 2018-2019 school year brought about a number of changes in the Warrior Battalion, including the establishment of a yearbook. The purpose of the yearbook is to compile the events, activities, clubs, and the people who make the Warrior Battalion what it is, and to share those memories in a clear and well-organized product that Cadets will have for years to come.

The yearbook is my senior project and I have worked on a number of aspects to make the book successful. I created a committee consisting of CDT Nicole Sar-novsky, CDT Brittany Thatcher, CDT Stella Jarmulowicz, and CDT Regan Grove. I researched year-book software to find the best one for our purposes. I planned contents as well as a timeline for completion of the book.

This being the inaugural year, we ran into several bumps in the road and learned plenty of tricks of the trade as well. The juniors who are a part of the committee will be leaps and bounds ahead of where I started when they begin next year's yearbook. My commit-

tee has seen the mistakes that I made and picked up on elements they liked as well as elements they are excited to add to their book next year.

The yearbook showed me how complex and involved a project like this can be. I received guidance from LTC Faulkner to create and IPR (In Process Review) the work done so far to keep on track. The book itself is hard enough to create, but all the subtasks, such as coordinating schedules, tracking down Cadets for photos, advertising, collecting payment, and several other tasks, are what really makes the project a difficult one.

I believe the book will impact the Warrior Battalion by reminding Cadets and their families of the exciting and fulfilling activities they participated in throughout the year. The book can also be a means of recruiting future cadets, by showing them and their families that the Warrior Battalion is an exciting and character-building program that takes care of its Cadets and also has a fun time while doing so.

## SFU LAND NAV COURSE

CDT Kathleen Leary

For my senior project, I created a permanent Land Navigation Course at Saint Francis University for the Warrior Battalion to utilize year-round. Land Navigation is a skill that is taught to all class levels of Cadets, and it never hurts to practice. Cadets take written and practical Land Navigation tests at Advanced Camp, which are necessary to pass. The course will be most beneficial to Brave Company, as it is on campus and easy to access. The Cadets will be able to utilize it for class, extra training, and Brave Company will be able to hold their own Land Navigation labs. In order to create the course, I had to create a topographical map of Loretto and the surrounding areas at a 1:25,000 scale and create points out of PVC signage. The course is spread throughout the campus, Loretto forest, and the SFU Nature Trail. There are fifteen points over more than a square kilometer of land. There are sixteen lanes for Cadets to practice on, each includes four points that average a total movement of 1800 meters from start to finish.

## RIFLE CLUB

CDT Brady Reitz

This semester the IUP Rifle Club proudly reopened its doors to students of the university, having undergone major changes. The club is happy to announce that at the end of Spring 2019 the Cramer Range will undergo major renovations and will be renewed with a fresh coat of paint, branding, furnishings, and a new floor. The range will be ready for club members in Fall 2019. In addition to the exciting new renovations taking place, through our partnership with Nick's Bullseye Firearms club members will practice their marksmanship with all new rifles in the fall.

We hold some fun events such as our Halloween Zombie Shoot, but the Rifle Club will be gearing up to compete in several civilian marksmanship competitions at the Indiana Bow and Gun Club during the Fall 2019 semester as well.





# SABRE SQUAD

CDT Colin Everett

This was a big year for the Warrior Battalion. In addition to adding two partner schools, we added two clubs sponsored by the Warrior Battalion. One club in particular has never been conceptualized in the history of the Battalion. This club, Sabre Squad, had the unique challenge of defining a mission, as well as recruiting a Cadet base within the program.

The mission of Sabre Squad is to "Provide community assistance and engagement through various missions and details such as Color Guard, Cannon Crew, and Parade Involvement". A challenge that Warrior Battalion faced in the past was finding Cadets to volunteer for various details to represent the Battalion in public settings. Sabre Squad offers a new club for Cadets to earn OML points, while helping to fulfill the needs of the Battalion.

Like any new organization, Sabre Squad faced the challenge of recruitment and sustainment of numbers through the year. Thankfully, the Training c/NCOs helped to foster a high degree of esprit de corps, recruiting quality Cadets to maintain a healthy organization. Currently, there are seventeen enrolled Cadets in Sabre Squad. With only two members graduating, the outlook for sustaining the organization is strong. Also, a limited budget restricted the abilities and potential for the club. An expanded budget would allow for the purchase of uniforms and accessories, maintaining and refurbishing ceremonial rifles and sabers, as well as funding additional training.

# SFU CLASS-ROOM OFFICE, & LOUNGE

CDT Sarah Davis

When LTC Faulkner assigned a senior project, I knew that I had to do something here at Saint Francis. Ever since my MS II year, I have been assisting in running the program here. My main goals over these past three years have been to increase our size and communication with IUP. I also wanted cadets to feel that they had a true ROTC program here on campus. To achieve these goals, I decided to make a TOC and assist in the development of our office alongside Captain Beckers. To do this, I talked with university Registrar, Dr. Stephen Rombouts, about my goals for the room and why it would be crucial for us to have it. I wanted the TOC to be a meeting place, a place to study, and a place to showcase our program. The office would be used for any cadre members that would be teaching at SFU, apparel storage, and another location for studying. Dr. Rombouts secured the room and office for us and we are so grateful for his, and Saint Francis's support. We applied a fresh coat of paint to the office and added a few branding items. I hope that this room can help ROTC's presence on campus and be an area that Cadets can always have to use.



# RANGER CHALLENGE

CDT Ethan Blackie

In previous years, the Warrior Battalion Ranger Challenge team would train and practice five days a week during the fall semester until competition. After competition the Ranger Challenge team would then stop training until the next fall semester. Now the Warrior Battalion Ranger Challenge team is a year-round club. This club will train all year and more cadets in the Warrior Battalion will have the opportunity to experience Ranger Challenge.

Starting in the 2019 Spring semester, the Ranger Challenge Club will take part in multiple competitions year-round. These competitions will include Spartan Races, Tough Mudders, 5Ks, marathons, power lifting competitions, and many more. Additionally, at the beginning of the 2019 Spring semester the Warrior Battalion Ranger Challenge team will compete in the first ever 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade Artic Ranger Challenge.

The Ranger Challenge Club is a very rewarding and fulfilling club to be a part of. Cadets who decide to participate in the club will develop themselves both physically and mentally. Even though the annual 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade Ranger Challenge competition and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade Artic Ranger Challenge are very physically demanding competitions, military intellect is required as well. The Ranger Challenge Club trains how to operate a radio and communicate properly, how to provide tactical combat casualty care, land navigation, marksmanship, and many more basic soldier skills. The Ranger Challenge Club prepares cadets physically and mentally for competitions, Advanced Camp, and most importantly, their future as Officers in the United States Army.

# Faith & Resiliency



By

## ROTC Chaplains Scott & Liz Weigner

“I don’t measure a man’s success by how high he climbs but by how high he bounces when he hits bottom.” - General George S. Patton

Rev. Scott and Elizabeth Weigner serve the IUP ROTC as volunteer civilian chaplains. Their role involves helping interested Cadets and cadre take the next step in their faith formation in order to strengthen character and integrity which are vital to resiliency and leadership. They fulfill this role in several ways. First, they have initiated “Rally Point,” a weekly Christian devotional that begins with a scripture passage followed by a discussion relevant to the life and challenges of a Cadet. Second, they serve as chaplains during ROTC ceremonies such as the military ball, State of ROTC, and commissioning ceremonies. Third, they connect Cadets and cadre with other community faith resources such as student religious organizations and local houses of worship. These communities make significant contributions to the depth and strength of the spiritual well from which our Cadets and cadre must regularly draw. Additionally, they provide international mission trips which open the eyes of Cadets to the larger world, makes them grateful for the opportunities they have at home, and explains how faith calls them to care responsibly for all people. They also lead the IUP Chapter of Fellowship

of Christian Athletes (FCA) which meets weekly on Thursday evenings in Pierce Hall (Military Science Building) and is open to ROTC Cadets.

Those who make the commitment to serve in the Army choose a difficult path. They will experience loss every day in varying degrees. Scott and Liz endeavor to grow, in each member of the ROTC family, the ability to bounce back from the lows to new heights because of the hope and joy found through spiritual connection.

Their ministry has had a lasting impact on new officers as they begin their service to the Nation. Second Lieutenant Madison Kauffman ‘18 recalls, “Chaplain Scott and the FCA family inspired me to be fearless and confident not only in my faith, but also in the everyday challenges I would face as a young officer. The FCA ministry challenged me to make decisions and stand firm in my beliefs even if my peers and societal norms pointed in other directions. Chaplain Scott and his wife Liz taught me that to be an amazing leader you must love those that God put you in charge of and share him in everything you do.”

Warrior Battalion is grateful for their support!

# Staff Ride 2019: Antietam

CDT Zachary Raible

Antietam battlefield is one of the more unique battlefields of the Civil War. The battle was a turning point for the Union during the war. The senior Cadets visited the battlefield for the Spring 2019 staff ride. In visiting this battlefield, we as a class of seniors, saw the same things commanders would have seen during the battle on 17 September, 1862. Cadets were paired off and each pair was assigned a stop on the battlefield. One Cadet would explain what happened from the Union perspective while the other Cadet explained what happened from the Confederate perspective. As a group, we would then discuss what we saw, what we would have changed had we been the commander, and how the lessons learned applied to modern warfare. Staff rides provide an opportunity for military leaders to see what happened from a strategic stand-point and learn lessons from that battle. This allows us to gain understanding and learn from the successes and failures of past leaders. Staff rides make us better officers because they allow us the chance to analyze battles and battlefields, and talk about what has changed in warfare and what we would have done differently.



Above: Cadets Everett and DeMarco describe the battle from the ridge above Burnside Bridge; Right: senior cadets at Antietam National Battlefield



Above: Dunker Church, now and then

Below: The Sunken Road, also called Bloody Lane, with the Observation Tower at the end of the road





# MSI

## CADET PROFILES

### CADET ANNABELLE MCCULLOUGH

Cadet Annabelle McCullough grew up in Mercersburg, PA, where she attended James Buchanan High School. A dedicated student, she earned a 4.3 GPA while participating in swimming, water polo, and crew (rowing). These activities gave her a taste of leadership as swim team captain and a National Honor Society officer. She was honored with the PIAA Top 10% in the State SAT Score. Saint Francis University, where she majors in General Engineering, recruited her for swimming, but she was also attracted to the school for their strong engineering program.

Major considerations for Cadet McCullough joining ROTC included service and being part of a team. She said, "I was motivated to join ROTC so that I could be a part of a group of dedicated people who work together towards a common goal. The aspect of service of also something that I've always known I wanted to do, and ROTC was the perfect implementation of this." Additionally, the presence of ROTC at her university orientation influenced her as well. "CPT Beckers gave a presentation on one of the

orientation days which helped me to finalize my decision to join." Although she has not had to make a formal decision yet, Cadet McCullough would like to commission into Active Duty and is hoping for the Military Intelligence branch. She would like to be stationed in the Washington, D.C. area.

Cadet McCullough has already benefited from her ROTC experience. "ROTC has been one of the best decisions of my college career," she said. "The people I have met through ROTC have become some of the best friends and mentors in my life. These relationships, along with the leadership development ROTC has introduced me to, have strengthened my confidence." She is excited to serve after commissioning as it will give her a sense of pride and responsibility. In her senior year of high school, she heard a presentation centered on the concept of "if not me, then who?". This theme of self-responsibility described her motivation to serve her country: "I am excited to give back to the country that has provided so much for me."

### Did You Know?

Army ROTC works well with varsity sports as well as intramural and club sports. Coaches are sometimes concerned about conflicting schedules, but in almost all conflicts, the Cadet-Athlete will attend the athletic commitment. Warrior Battalion recognizes that the Cadet-Athlete is receiving many benefits from their athletic program including fitness development, leadership development, and academic accountability. We work with coaches and athletic directors directly to ensure maximum flexibility while giving the Cadet-Athlete the full ROTC curriculum. We currently Cadets involved in Swimming, Track, Cross Country, Baseball, Football, Lacrosse, Soccer, Hockey, and Rugby.

# MS II

## CADET PROFILES

### CADET HANNAH LLOYD



Just by virtue of being a 4-Year National Scholarship Winner, Cadet Hannah Lloyd has already obtained a high honor. The National Scholarship is awarded to a select group of high-achieving high school seniors. Her record speaks for itself. She grew up in Marietta, PA, where she attended Donegal High School and earned a 3.8 GPA. She was very active in high school, participating in the National Honor Society and varsity soccer, track and field, and cross country. She also obtained leadership experience as the secretary of the German Club and president of the Donegal Experiential Educational Program. She chose IUP for its competitive nursing and exceptional ROTC programs. Although she did not continue in athletics, she has already served as the service chair, ice president and president of Rho Tau Chi.

Cadet Lloyd planned well for her future. She joined ROTC because of a family history of military service and she wanted to continue that history. At the same time, she chose a major she would be able to use both in the Army as well as a post-retirement civilian career. She already knew she wanted to join ROTC, but applied for the scholarship to alleviate college costs. She credits her high school GPA and her

involvement in clubs and athletics with her success obtaining the National Scholarship. Her experience taught her time management skills, and helped her prepare for the in-person interview.

As a rising Junior, Cadet Lloyd has already benefited from her ROTC experience, recognizing how much time and effort the cadre invests in Cadets. ROTC has taught her everything she knows about the Army, and it has helped her grasp an understanding of what it means to be a good, successful leader. She feels like ROTC is her second family, who continually pushes her to improve. She will be commissioned into the Army Nurse Corps and hopes to serve in Landstuhl, Germany. She is excited to commission and plans to continue her Army career beyond the required 4-years of service. She is looking forward to starting her career in order to make a difference. As such, she believes that service means being her best both on and off duty. To Cadet Lloyd, "The standard of military professionalism and leadership should not be compromised. Sacrifices may need to be made when following orders, but that, to me, goes hand in hand with service."

### Did You Know?

High School Seniors can apply for Army ROTC Scholarships starting in the summer before their senior year. The applications commonly open in June and begin with an online application. Candidates take a fitness test, health screening, and complete an interview with an ROTC Professor of Military Science. Most competitive candidates receive a 4-year Advance Designee Scholarship covering 100% of Tuition and Fees as well as a \$420 monthly stipend and a \$600 per semester book stipend. Highly competitive candidates receive a 3-year scholarship that begins Sophomore year of college. If interested in applying for an Advanced Designee Scholarship, contact Chris at (724) 980-7598.



# MS III

## CADET PROFILES

### CADET ERIC HICKS

Cadet Eric Hicks is local to the area. Growing up in Marion Center, PA, he attended the Marion Center Area School District where he earned a 4.1 GPA. Cadet Hicks participated in a number of activities in high school and proved himself to be well-rounded. He competed in Enviroquest and Math Club events, played football and baseball, and wrestled, and served in a number of leadership positions including president of the school's chapter of the National Honor Society, vice president of the History Buff Bikers, Math Club treasurer, and was the Student Council representative on the school board. He chose to attend IUP because it is "close to home and nationally ranked in my major", which is Safety, Health, and Environmental Applied Sciences. Here at IUP he is the Football Video Coordinator, and serves the battalion as the First Sergeant of Apache Company.

Looking to his future, Cadet Hicks joined ROTC to "become an officer and stabilize my financial needs" and he believes he has been influenced in that choice by "being with a good group of people

with a similar future." Cadet Hicks received a Dedicated Guard Scholarship, meaning that he will commission into the Pennsylvania Army National Guard when he graduates. He said that his "commitment, physical fitness, and ability to lead by example" all played a critical role in being selected for a scholarship. He has continued in ROTC and pursued the scholarship because, he said, "I felt I met the requirements to lead people, and the Army was a good path."

Cadet Hicks has already learned or improved some important skills through ROTC, including time management, communication, and military customs and courtesies. He hopes to join the Chemical Corps, and is willing to serve wherever his career takes him. He takes a lot of pride in the ROTC and his future service as an officer in the United States Army. "It's an honor to serve along with other great people and for the security of the country that I am from."

## Did You Know?

Basic Training is not a requirement for becoming an Army Officer. There are several reasons why a Cadet may choose to attend Basic Training. Basic Training unlocks PA Army National Guard Education Assistance, allows Cadets to achieve a higher level of proficiency with Army skills, and will unlock an additional \$10,000 in annual salary for a Cadet who commissions into Active Duty. Cadets must first join the Army National Guard or the Army Reserves with the intention of serving part-time simultaneously while in the ROTC program. While in the Simultaneous Membership Program a Cadet will shadow a Platoon Leader one weekend per month and earn drill pay (about \$300).

# MS III

## CADET PROFILES

### CADET BRITTANY THATCHER



New Cadets may have already met Cadet Brittany Thatcher since she is the student worker supporting the battalion Recruiting Office. Cadet Thatcher grew up in Allentown, PA, where she attended Parkland High School and earned a GPA of 3.6 while participating in cheerleading. There, she obtained some leadership experience as a cheer coach. At that time, she had not planned on joining ROTC. She decided to attend IUP because “when I came here on my college visit I automatically knew I was home,” she said. At IUP she majors in Criminology and serving as the Platoon Sergeant for Apache Company’s 2nd Platoon affords her the opportunity to mentor and lead Cadets.

Cadet Thatcher realized that she wanted to pursue ROTC after taking the Military Science Health & Wellness course. Along with the Health & Wellness course material, SFC Aaron Stockwell, the course instructor and our National Guard Recruiter, and 2LT Sierra Conley ‘18, her predecessor in the Recruiting Office, also influenced her decision to join ROTC. Cadet Thatcher has a Dedicated Guard Scholarship, meaning that she will commission into the Pennsylvania Army National Guard on graduation. She credits guidance from her peers

as the most valuable element in obtaining her scholarship. She chose the Dedicated Guard Scholarship because she wants to pursue a civilian job while serving in the military, and commissioning into the National Guard makes that possible for her. She plans to commission into the Adjutant General branch and hopes to find a unit in or near Pittsburgh, PA to serve with.

Cadet Thatcher has seen herself grow from participation in ROTC, and expects to continue that growth throughout her service. When asked what it meant to her to serve her country, she said, “To serve my country means to live the Army Values,” seven principles that help guide Soldiers in making good decisions. She sees the service and commitment that come with commissioning as a vehicle that “helps me grow as a person and become more disciplined.” ROTC has also taught her some valuable lessons. “Throughout my ROTC career I have learned to not fear anything and to stay openminded. I think ROTC has taken me out of my comfort zone and made me a stronger person.”

### Did You Know?

Criminology is an excellent major to pair with Army ROTC. Most Criminology students are interested in state or federal law enforcement and the leadership, problem solving, critical thinking, and fitness foundation provided in ROTC allow them to be a more competitive candidate. For students interested in becoming an FBI Special Agent and studying Criminology, Army ROTC is an essential complimentary program. To apply for the FBI, a candidate must have 3 years work experience, be physically fit, possess leadership potential, and have ability to obtain a Top Secret Clearance. In most cases, Army Officers possess all of those basic requirements and more.

2009 1998 1999  
 2010 1984 1989  
 1966 1977 1984  
 1979 2018 1974 1997 1984

# CLASS NOTES



**1980s**

**COL(R) Cypher '88** Retired on Aug 30, 2018 after 30 years of service.

**COL(R) Mike Pappal '88** Retired on Sep 01, 2018 after 30 years of service. Mike's last assignment was as the Director of the Center for Army Lessons Learned, Fort Leavenworth, KS. Mike commanded at all levels culminating with command of 1<sup>st</sup> Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division and spent 3-1/2 years in Iraq. Mike and his wife of 30 years, Stephanie, retired to the Indiana, PA area where they grew up. Mike continues to train Army leaders as a Brigade Staff Coach with the Leader Training Program at the National Training Center, Fort Irwin, CA.



**COL Mark Pike, '89** just recently retired from AGR where he was the Deputy Property and Fiscal Officer, he was also the 28ID G4 for many years.

**1990s**

**LTC(R) Bart Wagner '91** retired in May after 28 years of service including

20 years of Active Guard service. His last assignment was at National Guard Bureau as Operations Officer. LTC Wagner's command assignments included PA Army National Guard Recruiting Retention Battalion Commander and Company Commander of A Co 876th Engineer Battalion. His first Active Guard assignment was in service to Warrior Battalion as the PA Army National Guard Assistant Professor of Military Science from December 2000 to August 2004.

**COL Donald Stoner '91** Recently finished his first year on the faculty at the Army War College

**COL Matthew Rauscher '93** relinquished command of the 2nd Brigade, US Army Cadet Command and will soon be moving on to a new assignment in Hawaii.

**COL(R) Thomas Anderson '93** Retired on 30 April 2018 after 25.5 years of service.

**LTC Lori Renwick '97** completed a year at the Pentagon with the USDI and is now assigned as G2 at USACE HQ.

**LTC Gretchen Gardner '99** and husband **Eric Gardner '98** will be PCSing this summer to Europe where she will assume command of the Allied Forces North BN, NATO BDE, Mons Belgium. Some of the best things she has enjoyed in the last 19 years of service have been traveling the world, meeting/working with people from all walks of life, educational opportunities and overall adventure.

**2000s**

**MAJ R. Scott Dunlap '02** is the S3 and AASF#2 Operations Officer for 2/104<sup>th</sup> GSAB in Johnstown, PA.

**Mr. Timothy O'Neal '03** is a member of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, representing District 48. O'Neal was elected to the office on November 6, 2018.

**MAJ(P) Joseph Martinkis '03** has been selected for Command of 103rd BEB, 56th SBCT, 28th ID after 4 years as the executive officer of 103rd BEB.

**MAJ Lou Fabrizi '03** is currently Active Guard Reserve (AGR) in the PA Army National Guard and serves as Utility Training Battalion Executive Officer at the Eastern Army Aviation Training Site located at Fort Indiantown Gap, Annville, PA. MAJ Fabrizi is current and flies the UH60 A/L and M Model Blackhawk Helicopters.

**MAJ Keith Conrad '05 and wife Megan (Cribbs) Conrad '05** just welcomed their 4th child in may (Emily Rose Conrad) and Megan was selected as the next chief of surgery at St Rachel's Hospital in Montgomery, PA. MAJ Conrad is currently serving as the Battalion Executive Officer for the 1/112th Infantry, 56th SBCT.

**MAJ Wendy (Smith) Williams '05** was recently assigned as the Executive Officer for the 228th Transportation (Motor Transport) Battalion, 213rd RSG, Fort Indiantown Gap, PAARNG. She is currently on ADOS with the Joint Staff as a J37 planner, PEMA Liaison, and project officer.





*COL Rauscher speaks to the Cadets of Warrior Battalion as 2nd Brigade US Army Cadet Command Commander in March 2019.*

**MAJ Aaron Chonko '05** completed an interstate transfer to the Washington DC National Guard and is currently assigned to the National Guard Bureau. He lives in Virginia with his wife Angela and their two children Ariston (7) and Finley(5).

**MAJ Cory Scharbo '05** and his wife Amber currently live in Manhattan, Kansas and both work at Fort Riley. MAJ Scharbo is an FA50 and currently serves as the 1ID Division Force Management Officer, under the G5.

## 2010s

**Mr. Timothy Karl '10** left active duty in 2014, and has recently been promoted to supervisor of the simulation team at the Mission Training Complex on Ft. Wainwright, Alaska.

**CPT Brennan Cebula, MD '11** is completing his assignment as Chief of Medical Residents at Madigan Army Medical Center and beginning fellowship training in Infectious Diseases at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in July, 2019.

**CPT Rob Haake '12** is currently in the 82nd Airborne Division Artillery at

Fort Bragg and getting ready to change branches from Field Artillery to Public Affairs. His wife Julie is currently in nursing school and they had a beautiful baby daughter named Braelyn in July, 2017.

**1LT(P) Nick Oberholtzer '15** has been accepted to the US-Army Baylor Doctorate in Physical Therapy Program and will begin in January 2020. He is currently serving as the Executive Officer for the Dental Health Activity - Fort Jackson after three years in 30th Medical Brigade, Germany. His last assignment was the Executive Officer for the 160th Forward Resuscitative Surgical Team.

**2LT Hannah Cole '16** graduated from MPBOLC as Honor Grad in 2017 and is currently assigned as the Brigade Signal Officer at 43d Military Police Brigade (RIARNG) in Warwick, Rhode Island.

**1LT Alyssa Dachowicz '17** graduated from MIBOLC in December 2017 and is currently assigned as Assistant Battalion S2 for 2-10 Assault Helicopter BN, 10CAB, deploying to Afghanistan later this year. She also married Holly Kresge in January of 2019.

**1LT Natalie Demarino '17** was crowned Miss Oklahoma in 2018

**1LT Cassini '17** graduated from the Pennsylvania State Police Academy and is now deployed in Afghanistan

**2LT Sierra Conley '18** completed a Master of Science in Exercise Science

**2LT Benjamin Dupstadt '18** was selected into the PA Army National Guard's Medical Student Program

**2LT Gabrielle Smith '18** completed the Physician's Assistant Program at Saint Francis University

**2LT Eric Lynn '18** married the former Meredith Drosnock '19 and successfully completed Ranger Course.

# Integrity, Trust, & Teams

## Alumni Profile

**Class of 2003**

### MAJ(P) Joseph Martinkis

I commissioned from the Warrior Battalion in May 2003 as an Engineer Officer. Prior to my commissioning I was enlisted and a member of the Simultaneous Membership Program assigned to A Company, 876<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion, in Johnstown, PA. Shortly after my commissioning and completion of Engineer Officer Basic Course I became a mechanized combat engineer platoon leader with the unit. During my first annual training period in the summer of 2004, they notified us that we would be deploying later that year in support of OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM and 2/28<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division. As our 18-month deployment started I very quickly realized a 24-year-old First Lieutenant did not have all the answers and I needed to rely on my platoon sergeant and squad leaders to help mentor and guide me through an unpredictable and in some cases chaotic deployment to Ar-Ramadi, Iraq. After returning home from this deployment in 2006, I entered the Active Guard and Reserve (AGR) program in the Pennsylvania Army National Guard.

My first assignment in the AGR program was as a regional Officer Strength Manager (OSM) in central Pennsylvania for the PAARNG Recruiting and Retention Battalion. In total, I was assigned to the PAARNG Recruiting and Retention Battalion from 2006 to 2011 in a full-time capacity. During my time in recruiting, I held numerous positions throughout the Battalion such as regional OSM, Area Commander for Enlisted Recruiting, Battalion S3, and finally State OSM. My experiences in the Recruiting and Retention Battalion were bittersweet. The best times I had during my assignments were helping Soldiers and Officers achieve their short-term goals of enlist-



ment or commissioning. Still today, I have Soldiers and Officers who work alongside of me who thank me for helping them throughout the past decade. Some of the most challenging time of this assignment was being a recruiter. Back in those days in some cases there was a stigma associated with recruiters from the civilians and our peers. My approach to dealing was to remember my integrity. I told my story. I encouraged my recruiters to tell their stories and to always tell the truth about the Army. You might lose a recruit, but nine out of ten times you will gain trust within your community and you will not compromise your integrity.

In August, 2007, during my time with the Recruiting and Retention Battalion, I was selected to take company command of the 228<sup>th</sup> Mobility Augmentation Company (MAC) in Spring City, PA. The 228<sup>th</sup> MAC was a new echelon above brigade engineer unit assigned to 103<sup>rd</sup> Engineer Battalion and 213<sup>th</sup> Regional Support Group at this time. During our annual training I was once again called into my Battalion Commander's office and told my unit was selected to mobilize within the next six months, and I should start preparing my Soldiers and families. We were deployed with the 724<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion from the Wisconsin Army National Guard as a Route Clearance Company ISO OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM and OPERATION NEW DAWN. This mission set was difficult due to the type of operations we conducted. Deliberate route clearance operations on the same routes almost every night for ten months was not like conducting normal combat engineer operations such as breaching, gunnery, and combat patrols. The company and platoon leadership had to think outside the box to develop ways to ensure the Soldiers stayed engaged and focused on their specific tasks for each mission to avoid complacency. We were assigned throughout Iraq for much of the deployment, but finally settled in Baghdad supporting various brigade combat teams until our redeployment. We did redeploy with all of our Soldiers in 2011. However, some did require additional support when returning home.

As a company commander during a combat deployment, I reflected on my time as a platoon leader in combat and continuously reinforced the value of strong leadership from the Officers and NCOs, team-building, and trust from the youngest private to the company first sergeant and I. The platoon leaders would conduct operations independently every night throughout Iraq and I felt they needed to know their chain of command trusted them to make decisions and know we would support them. I felt it was imperative for the leadership to know this and to power it down to their leaders as well.

Upon my redeployment in 2011, I was assigned to staff positions such as the PAARNG Force Integration and Readiness Officer (PA-G3), Mobilization and Readiness Officer (ARNG-G3, Arlington, VA), Deputy Construction and Facilities Management Officer (PA-JFHQ), and later the Battalion Operations Officer, 103<sup>rd</sup> Engineer Battalion. In December, 2014, I was assigned as the full time Battalion Executive Officer/Administrative Officer for the 103<sup>rd</sup> Engineer Battalion in Philadelphia, PA.

Besides my normal tasks of managing the battalion staff and full-time staff during normal business, I was tasked to oversee and manage the transition of the legacy headquarters to the 103<sup>rd</sup> Brigade Engineer Battalion for the 56<sup>th</sup> Stryker Brigade Combat Team. This transition consisted of integrating an existing Stryker Engineer Company, Stryker Signal Company, Military Intelligence Company, and Stryker Anti-Tank (ATGM) Company, standing up a new Stryker Engineer Company and finally reorganizing the Headquarters and Forward Support Companies. While transitioning the battalion, we immediately rolled into a Brigade Warfighter Exercise, then planning and execution of an Exportable Combat Training Center (XCTC) rotation at Fort Pickett, VA, and finally this past year we executed a rotation at the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, CA. During this rotation we integrated six echelon-above-brigade companies into our formation which doubled our personnel assigned and equipment density. This rotation was designed in a decisive action training environment with a free thinking near-peer opposing force which used conventional, non-conventional, cyber, and CBRNE weapon systems to attack our battalion. Throughout my time as the executive officer of this battalion, I have been focused on the battalion transition, individual and collective readiness, and building a strong, cohesive team. I have learned the easiest way to accomplish what may seem to be an unsurmountable task is to

build a strong team of teams and attack the problem together. As I move forward into my next assignment as the Battalion Commander of the 103<sup>rd</sup> Engineer Battalion, my plan is to continue to build our team and move onto the next level of proficiency.

I was asked if I had an over-arching theme which helped me throughout my career. After reflecting I come back to integrity, trust, and teams. I have always believed the only thing another person or entity cannot take from you is your integrity unless you give it to them. Be truthful to yourself and your Soldiers during both good and bad times. Trust yourself and most importantly trust your junior leaders. Once you have trust up and down the chain of command your organization can accomplish anything. Build a team of teams. I think you need integrity and trust to build a team. Include your lead-



ers in the decision-making process, allow your leaders to execute mission command and lastly, but arguably one of the most important parts of building the team of teams, is integration and support of unit family members.

I appreciate the opportunity to provide my story to the Cadets of the Warrior Battalion. I wish the graduating class of 2019 the best of luck in their first assignment and for the rest of the battalion to have some fun and train hard this summer at your schools. "Dandies First"

## Share Your Good News

Your old friends want to know what you're up to these days!

Send Pictures & 1-3 Sentence Updates to:

[WarriorBNmagazine@gmail.com](mailto:WarriorBNmagazine@gmail.com)

Or call (724) 357-7682

- Military Milestones (Promotion, Command, Deployment, Retirement, etc.)
- Civilian Milestones (Promotion, Election, etc.)
- Family Milestones (Birth, Wedding, etc.)

# Nick Bare '14

---

## Entrepreneur



I wanted to serve in the military after watching my cousin return home from multiple deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan. Every time he returned, I noticed how much he matured, how well he was respected in the community and how much honor he carried with him. This left a lasting impression on me and changed my life forever. In high school I was awarded an Army ROTC scholarship to Indiana University of Pennsylvania (IUP) where I studied nutrition and earned the title of an Army Infantry Officer.

During my time at IUP I started my own sports nutrition company, Bare Performance Nutrition. I was extremely passionate about exercise, nutrition and supplementation, all of which helped me excel in my degree and the Army ROTC program. This was a humbling experience, to say the least, and I learned the hardships of launching a start-up brand, building an online community, and establishing a target market, all studying for classes, enjoying a social life, and making it to 0600 PT. After graduating from college, I went to Fort Benning, Georgia for the Infantry Officer Basic Course, Ranger School, and Airborne School. The year that

I spent in Georgia was one to remember. I learned so much about my physical and mental capabilities, leading others under times of stress, and what I could personally handle while severely food and sleep deprived.

My first duty assignment was Fort Hood, Texas. I was fortunate to take over a platoon quickly after arriving at my unit and lead them through months of training in preparation for a rotation to South Korea. While being an Infantry Platoon Leader was my primary focus and mission, I was still trying to grow my sports nutrition company. I picked up a camera and started documenting my life through the lens, uploading to YouTube multiple times a week. My videos consisted of nutrition and training advice, the process of building my business, and life as an Infantry Officer stationed in Texas. With the use of social media and my military niche I began to build a large online presence which brought more exposure and traffic to my supplement company.

While stationed in South Korea I decided to use all of my “free time” to work on building my brand. I skipped out on filling empty time with movies, TV shows and video

games, and spent every waking minute outside of the Army teaching myself how to be an entrepreneur. I taught myself online coding, video editing, social media marketing, storytelling and running paid advertisements. It turned out to be the most productive nine months of my life and set the stage for my transition out of the military.

After returning from South Korea I started the process of transitioning to civilian life. My brother moved to Texas from Pennsylvania to help me build Bare Performance Nutrition and we signed a lease for our first warehouse. Since leaving the military we have scaled our company to a multi-million dollar business, built an online community of over 350,000 and were forced to move to a larger warehouse to sustain our growing operation. There is not a day that goes by that I do not think back to my days at IUP, launching my business, growing up in the Army as an Infantry Officer and learning from my NCOs and Soldiers. The lessons and values I learned in the Army have directly correlated to building a brand and leading a team. I am very grateful for what the Army did for me and how much I took away from my experience.

# Poised for Growth

By Captain Daniel Beckers

Warrior Battalion has commissioned an average of 31 Second Lieutenants per year for the past seven decades. In contrast to the first 40 years where the program produced an average of 40 officers per year, the last 30 years the program has commissioned only an average of 18 per year.

This year 19 Second Lieutenants will begin their service placing 2019 on par with the past several decades. The tide is changing however and over the next 3 years, Warrior Battalion will sustain 28 per year for 2020 and 2021, and then increase to over 40 beginning in 2022. Those increases were the direct result of both timing and intentional actions within the ROTC program.

This year, while realizing significant gains for year-group 2022, we set out to put into motion another round of recruiting and retention based actions that should solidify our standing as one of the largest programs in the US Army Cadet Command's 2nd Brigade (Spanning from Pennsylvania to Maine).

Our goal is to maintain 40 commissioning per year. Reaching that goal is clearly within our reach in the short-term, but we acknowledge that external factors are largely uncontrollable. For example, if there is a change in U.S. Presidential Administration and a subsequent shift in military size, the Army may require fewer officers per year. We hope to solidify our standing prior to any future contracting caps or mission reductions.

In support of these goals, we have made several significant gains this year. At Indiana University of Pennsylvania (IUP), a university that has enthusiastically supported Army ROTC for decades, we received an incentives package that will impact both recruitment and retention. Working with the Vice President of Academic Affairs, the Vice President for Enrollment, and the Interim Vice President of Student Affairs, we have gained a matching scholarship incentive, dedicated dorm space, and a room and board discount.

All High School National Scholarship winners, who bring their 3 or 4 year scholarships to IUP, will receive a \$10,000 tuition credit for their first year. With this incentive we are able to potentially double or triple our National Scholarship commitments.

One wing of Stephenson Hall, which is a four-floor wing capable of housing 290 students and directly across the street from Pierce Hall Military Science Building, will now be dedicated to the Army ROTC program. Freshmen Cadets will be required to live in the dedicated dorm and will live with their platoon. We will provide a robust move-in service to our new Cadets when they arrive and from their first day on campus, they will feel part of a team.

Freshmen students are required to live on campus their first year, however most move off-campus starting their sophomore year. The Housing and Meal Plan incentive provides sophomore, jun-

ior, and senior ROTC cadets with a 44% discount on room and meal plan. Rooms are assigned by platoon and are based on leadership position. Platoon and Squad leaders will serve in the traditional role of Resident Assistant.

At Saint Francis University we have requested official status as the Department of Military Science. We have only commissioned an average of one officer per year there and were therefore a low impact organization. This year we graduated 3 officers and will commission 3 in 2020. Looking at our freshmen class, we have the potential to commission 7. With demonstrated growth, the university is considering department status, an annual operating budget, and has already provided a department office suite and a dedicated classroom directly across the hall from the office. Both the office and classroom are located in the primary academic and administrative building on campus.

Similar initiatives are also planned for Mount Aloysius College and University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown.



*Stephenson Hall (above) is named after a former ROTC Professor of Military Science who served the program from 1966 to 1968.*

# BATTALION STORE



## PHYSICAL FITNESS



## GIFTS



Google: IUP Marketplace / Select 1st Website /  
Select Warrior BN Store

## WARRIOR BATTALION PRIDE



FLEECE LINED  
RAIN JACKET

\$55



T-SHIRTS  
\$15



HOODIE  
\$30



CREWNECK  
\$26



HATS  
\$20



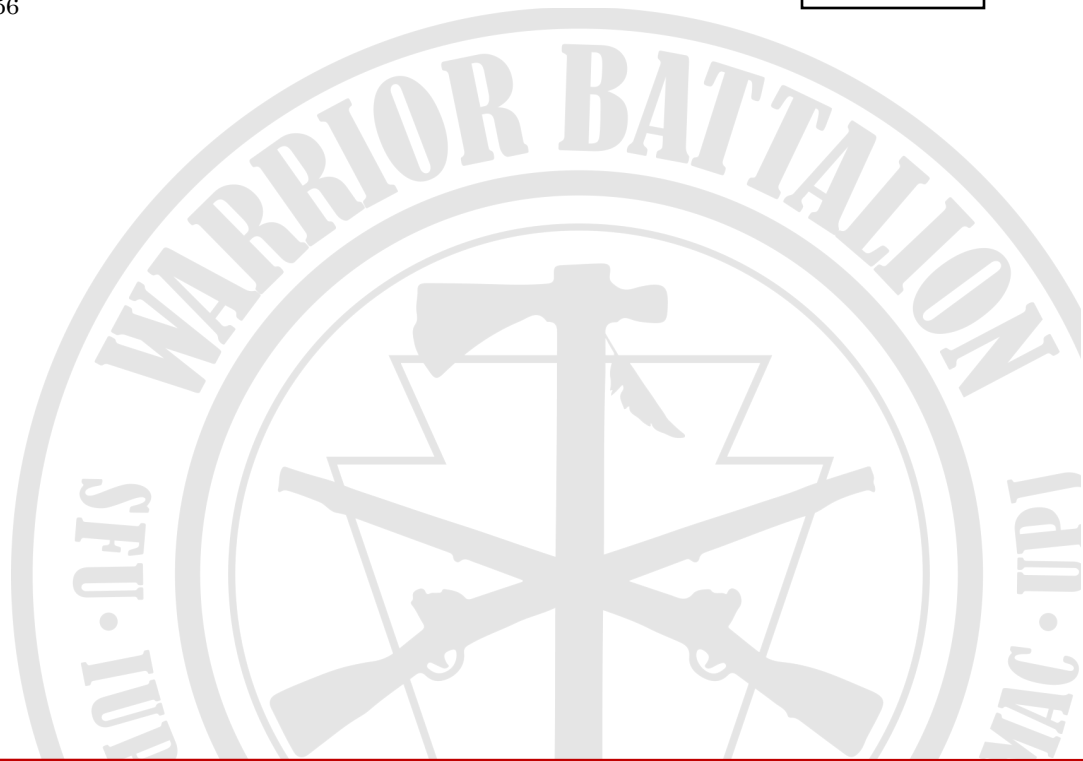


# WARRIOR BATTALION

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

NONPROFIT ORG  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
INDIANA PA

Electronic Service Requested



## You're Always Invited!

### Summer Commissioning

- Thursday August 29, 2019
- 3:30pm—4:30pm
- Fisher Auditorium
- Reception 4:30pm at  
Pierce Hall

### Spring Commissioning

- Friday May 8, 2020
- 10:00am—10:45am
- Fisher Auditorium
- Reception 11:00am at  
Pierce Hall

### Military Ball

- Saturday April 25, 2020
- Location TBD
- Time TBD
- Invitation & details to  
follow January 2020