

# GOLDEN KNIGHT BATTALION NEWSLETTER



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*Don't forget about the Dining Out coming up on February 26. Family and friends welcome! Invites will be arriving in the mail around early December.*



## WELCOME FROM THE CADET

Friends, Family and Alumni of the Golden Knight Battalion, I am very excited to be the Cadet Commander of the Golden Knight Battalion. This fall we began our training to prepare our junior class, for the Leadership Development Assessment Course at Fort Lewis Washington. The semester's training culminated at our three day long Field Training Exercise where Cadets worked on their Land Navigation Skills as well as Squad Level Tactics. Cadets of the GKB also competed in the Army Ten Miler in Washington, D.C. where the GKB placed 22nd overall for ROTC teams. Additionally, our Ranger Challenge team placed 3rd out of twenty three teams from around the Northeast. This upcoming spring we have many great events planned; from one of our labs dedicated to flight where the Freshman and Sophomore Cadets will get to fly in various Army Helicopters to our Spring Joint Field Training Exercise where we will welcome the Cadets from two other Universities to train on various tasks. Our Dining Out in February is a great event to meet many of the Cadets and Cadre as well as their families, and I hope to meet as many of you as possible there. Happy Holidays to everyone and I look forward to seeing you in February. "From the Front!"



*CDT Rugg at the Army Ten*

## ARMY TEN MILER: CDT ZANGHI

On October 24, 2010 several members of the GKB competed in the 26<sup>th</sup> annual Army 10-Miler in Washington DC. The Cadets spent Saturday,



*Starting from top left: CDT Keys, CDT Nevin, 1LT Onley, CDT Austin, CDT Coveleski, MAJ Toth, CDT Voorhees, CDT*

October 23<sup>rd</sup>, touring Arlington National Cemetery and Washington DC. The Golden Knights' Team placed 22<sup>nd</sup> out of 59 ROTC teams. Runners included MSIVs Charles Rugg, Erin McTarnaghan, and Jayson Keys, MSIIIs Tim Nevin, Russ Austin, Cris Coveleski, and myself, and MSII David Voorhees. Also joining us was 1LT James Onley, who commissioned from Clarkson in 2009. Major Toth also accompanied the team to DC and completed the race. Top runners for the Golden Knights were Charles Rugg finishing at 67:08, myself at 71:16, Cris Coveleski at 73:29 and Tim Nevin right behind

him at 73:50. Special thanks goes out to Clarkson trustee Kevin Parker, wife Anne, and daughter Kate for their generous hospitality in housing and feeding our team. Also thank you to the Fort Drum Chapter of the Association of the United States Army (AUSA) for sponsoring the team.



# FALL FIELD TRAINING EXERCISES:

When the weather began to cool down and Halloween was in a few days, I knew that the Golden Knights Field Training Exercise, more commonly known as FTX, was approaching. Once I loaded myself up on candy for the weekend, I was ready to take part in one of my favorite ROTC events of the year. The weekend of training started off Thursday afternoon. Where we formed up at "the barracks" a.k.a. Old

everyone finished, we marched back to Old Snell. If the early bird gets the worm then we must have gotten the



**Ruck march through downtown Potsdam**



**CDT Wolf preparing for Land Navigation**

Snell and split up by squads. While we waited for dinner, we were able to go over battle drills and get ready for night land navigation (LN). We marched from Old Snell to a wooded area on Clarkson, known as the "Back 40" to conduct night LN. Upon arrival we were given our lanes of points to find and we were set free into the woods. After

LN has always been an exciting event for me because there is a great sense of accomplishment felt every time I find one of my points. Although it may have been a little cold and rainy outside, I managed to keep myself

worm, because first call was at 5 AM. Once everyone was ready, we headed out to Seven Springs, where we put on our rucksacks and marched up to the start point of our land navigation course.

to come. During the situational training exercises, known as STX lanes, squads are given different situations, such as knock out a bunker or an ambush, and it is our mission to complete our tasks as effectively as possible. The people that acted as our ene-



**CDTs sitting by the fire after LN**

mies, known as the opposing forces (OPFOR), were composed of Air Force ROTC and Clarkson students. I had the unfortunate luck of being a casualty on more than one occasion; ask my squad ... they know. Despite being shot with paintballs or the rainy and cold weather we were up against, it was a memorable weekend and I learned a lot from the training.



**CDT Phillips as the High Value Target for STX**

motivated by talking to some of the senior Cadets positioned at check points. Before I knew it, Saturday was here and FTX was almost over but there was still the most action filled part of the weekend

*"LN has always been an exciting event for me because there is a great sense of accomplishment felt every time I find one of my points"*  
- CDT Voorhees



# RAPPEL LAB: CDT CLARKE



**CDT rappelling from the 40ft. tower**

As someone who had never rappelled before, I was not sure what to expect. Many people are intimidated by

heights and I am definitely one of those people. When you are preparing yourself for the descent, there are many thoughts running through your head. These thoughts go away every time you watch someone have a successful rappel. When the

time came, I was all set with my swiss seat tied and backed up to the edge, ready to jump. I was all smiles at

this point and the thought of falling or not being able to do it was long gone, I really couldn't wait to go. When MSG Empey gave me the go, I bounced off the wall and went for a ride. It was something I'll always remember and as soon as my feet hit the ground, I was already anticipating another go at it. Rappelling is something that is easy to do and extremely fun. The support of the people around you ensures that failure is not an option. I recommend that everyone should try it if they're ever given the chance.

# RANGER CHALLENGE COMPETITION:

Every year in the fall, ROTC battalions in each brigade assemble for the Ranger Challenge Competition. Ranger Challenge, often labeled the "varsity sport" of Army ROTC, is a multi-event competition in basic warrior skills such as rifle marksmanship, land navigation, weapon assembly and disassembly, first aid, and a 10K ruck-run. I was fortunate enough to participate on the Golden Knight Battalion's team this year. It was one of the most challenging experiences of my life. I, along with 20 fellow Cadets, gave up many of my mornings and Saturdays competing for one of the 10 team slots. Training included many long runs and challenging PT sessions. During the two day competi-

tion, our team survived on Cliff bars and Gatorade while we tested both our bodies and minds. The competition and training to prepare, continuously challenged us to work as a

team to complete the many obstacles and tasks. Of all the things I walked away with, teamwork stood out as the most rewarding. We finished 4 out of 41 teams during the 2nd Brigade Competition. Teams represented battalions from nine northeastern states. We would not have done so without the unity that our team shared this year. There were many times that I felt like quitting but I could not take the feeling of



**RC Team; Back row from left: CDT Strait, CDT Brewer, CDT Nevin, CDT Christian, CDT Sortevik; Middle row: CDT Rugg, CDT Lucas, CDT McTarnaghan, CDT Hallam; Front: CDT Austin**

letting down my team mates. It was an attitude shared by all those who competed. We went to push each other and grow as future military leaders, yet walked away with an exceptional finish. I couldn't be more proud of the people I competed with; it was an experience that has given me a new outlook on leadership and what a team can accomplish when they work together. Taking the lessons learned, I walk away confident that next year we can return a better and stronger team, one that will no doubt be number one.



**The one rope bridge event**



*“The thought of falling or not being able to do it was long gone, I really couldn't wait to go”  
-CDT Clarke*

*“Taking the lessons learned, I walk away confident that next year we can return a better and stronger team”  
-CDT Austin*

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# ARMY VS. AIR FORCE SOCCER GAME: CDT CHRISTIAN, A.



**Team huddle during the game**

The Army versus Air Force soccer game was held at the new turf Hantz Field at Clarkson University during the Parent's Weekend. This event showcased the Army's teamwork and good sportsmanship both on the field and off the

field. The first half of the game was kept zero to zero for both teams. Army's defense was championed by Mark Lucas, Colby Sortevik, Matt Wilsey, Josh Addington and Nick Olszewski as goalkeeper. There were great attempts on goal by the front offensive line consisting of Steven Strait, Matthew Coryea, Jeff Philips, Sean Robishaw, James Wheeler, Matt Teeple, and Adam Ribeiro. The second half of the game had the Army

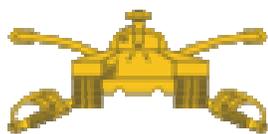
team on attack with many attempts on goal. We finally scored from a shot by Sean Robishaw, assisted by Steve Strait, in the last ten minutes of the game that put the Army in the lead. The opposing team made numerous offensive plays after the Army goal, which Nick Olszewski saved all except for one, which turned the score to 1-1. Official game time ended with this tied score, which brought the game to a shootout. Despite valorous effort by the Army team, the Air Force won the shootout and ultimately the game. The next chance at the Boot trophy is the Army versus Air Force Hockey game. It'll be a great match to watch, so don't miss it.



[www.clarkson.edu/Armyrotc](http://www.clarkson.edu/Armyrotc)

"Youtube" Page:  
<http://www.youtube.com/user/goldenknightBN>

Find us on "Facebook":  
<http://bit.ly/d4WVge>



**Phillips - AR (NG)  
Rugg - AR (AD)**



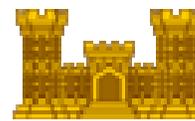
**Fahsel - MI (AD)**



**Smith - MS (RES)**



**Schumacher - OD (AD)**



**Keys - EN (RES)  
Wheeler - EN (AD)**



**Brewer - FA (AD)  
Vantine - FA (AD)  
Sortevik - FA (AD)**

## Congratulations

to MSIVs on their  
branch assignments!



**Richards - QM (RES)  
Woodhouse - QM (RES)**

**AD = Active Duty    RES = Reserves    NG = National Guard**



**Lucas - TC (AD)**

**McTarnaghan - ADA (AD)**



**Toyo - IN (AD)**



**Bognaski - MP (NG)  
Shineman - MP (RES)**

