Cadet O’Neil Sets LDAC APFT Record

Cadet Glory O’Neil attended the Leadership Development Assessment Course (LDAC) in Fort Lewis, Washington, in the summer of 2009 after completing her junior year. Cadet O’Neil had the highest physical fitness test score in the nation among all females attending LDAC with a score of 373. 373 is a new (female) LDAC record to date! This score actually beats all males to date as well, save one. Top overall score is 374.

Commander’s Corner

I cannot begin to express my family’s and my own personal excitement about becoming the next Professor of Military Science at the University of Vermont! Within the last four months we have received such fantastic support from many of you; a true sign we are back in New England – thank you.

We would like to personally thank LTC Steve and Katherine Koebirich for all that they have done for the Green Mountain Battalion; and wish them well as they continue to serve in the Office of the Secretary of Defense in Washington DC.

Throughout my time in the Army I have come to believe that our Nation’s ultimate resource is our people – human beings – specifically our future leaders. It is our job to teach, coach, & mentor our future commissioned Officers.

Within the context of teaching, coaching, and mentoring, the Non Commissioned Officer Corps moves to the forefront! I’m proud to announce the arrival of our new Senior Military Instructor—Master Sergeant David Kozak. Within his first two weeks, MSG Kozak has had a significantly positive affect on the Cadets — be sure to ask your favorite Cadet how Physical Fitness Training is going!

Both MSG Kozak and I are committed to ensuring our Cadets receive the best possible teaching, coaching, and mentorship. This process starts with the Battalion Staff; which I can assure you—“leads by example”. In addition, we believe the Green Mountain Battalion Alumni and Cadet Parents are critical links to the future success of our program. Many of the Alumni are serving in both the military and civil sector; your experiences are invaluable to the mentorship of our Cadets. In addition, many of the Cadet Parents share similar experiences and can learn from each other. We would love to hear from you and get you involved with the Battalion. Please check out our “Call to Alumni & Family” section.

Lastly, MSG Kozak and I look forward leading the Battalion and truly appreciates the endless support we have already received.

Michael V. Palaza
LTC, USA
Professor of Military Science

David S. Kozak
MSG, USA
Senior Military Instructor
Alumni & Families

To all alumni: I hope this message finds you well. ROTC has played an integral part in starting your careers as army officers. Many of you are continuing to wear the uniform and are progressing through the ranks while continuing to make the Green Mountain Battalion proud. Some of you have moved on from the military life and are providing your expertise in the civilian sector. No matter which track you have taken you will always be a part of the Green Mountain Battalion. I would like to take this opportunity to let you all know that some great alumni functions are coming up. We are holding our Fall Alumni Reception on 3 October at the Sheraton Hotel in Burlington. On 18 October we will be presenting three of our Cadets with awards on center ice at the beginning of the UVM/BC hockey game. Tentatively, our Winter Alumni Reception will be held on Saturday, 13 February in conjunction with the UVM/Merrimack hockey game.

To our parents and families: We want to better include you in Battalion functions. You are all invited to the Fall Alumni Reception with your Cadets and we would like to start a parents group to increase your involvement with the Cadets and the Battalion. If there is anyone out there that would like to volunteer to help run such a group, please contact the Battalion.

2009-2010 Cadet Chain of Command

The new Cadet Battalion Commander is Cadet Glory O’Neil. She will be supported by her XO, Cadet Wesley Monaco and her CSM, Cadet Tucker Brown. Her staff consists of Cadet Thomas Griffin, the S1, Cadet Keith Harper the S3, Cadet Thomas Wong the S4 and Cadet Zachary Guerin the S6.

Assisting the staff are Cadet John Brayshaw as the Assistant S1, Cadet Eric Shupp as the Assistant S3, and Cadet Phillip Harrington as the Assistant S4. The remainder of the MS IV Cadets are serving as TAC officers, assisting the underclassmen. Cadets Michael Chin and Raymond Plante are responsible for the MS III Cadets, Cadet Nathan Holt is responsible for the MS II Cadets, and Cadets Jackie Horgan and Matthew Miclette are responsible for the MS I Cadets.

ROTC Mission

CADET COMMAND, through targeted recruiting, rigorous leader development and focused retention, commissions the future Army Officer leadership for service to the Army and Nation; in addition, motivates young people through caring leadership and positive influence to be better citizens for life-long service to community.
Congratulations on your acceptance to college and the beginning of your life’s journey. As part of the Green Mountain Battalion, you are joining an elite organization that will help transition thru college to achieve your goal of becoming a Second Lieutenant in the United States Army. As Military Science Cadets, you will learn basic knowledge about the Army such as the rank structure, drill and ceremonies, basic rifle marksmanship, wear and care of your uniform and equipment, and basic leadership skills and ethics. Remember that while you are in college, your number one priority is to maintain a high standard of academic performance. You must maintain at least a 2.0 GPA to remain in the program; however, WE are not about minimum standards! the higher your GPA, the more choices you will have upon commissioning. Finally, I must emphasize the importance of physical fitness. The Army wants to ensure that you can meet the physical and mental toughness required of an officer. Physical Fitness expresses self-discipline, teamwork, and exemplary leadership. Good luck in all of your endeavors this year and remember we are here to help you.

Welcome to class of 2013

On January 7\textsuperscript{th}, I embarked upon a journey that I will remember for the rest of my life. That journey was the Basic Airborne Course located at Fort Benning, Georgia. The goal of Airborne School is to teach students how to properly exit a C-130 aircraft flying at 1250 feet above the earth and land safely with the use of a parachute. However, the course taught me much more than just that. As a cadet, it taught me things about the Army (and being a soldier) that can never be taught in ROTC. It exposed me to the active-duty training environment, and it showed me that, to have success in the Army or civilian life, you must have confidence in your equipment and your training. Most importantly however, Airborne School taught me how to put aside an intense amount of fear so that I could effectively perform the duties required of me.

Airborne School is broken down into 3 weeks: Ground Week, Tower Week, and Jump Week. During Ground Week, you learn the basics of jumping out of an airplane. You are introduced to your parachute, proper exiting procedures, and taught how to perform a “parachute landing fall.” During Tower Week, you then build upon those skills by utilizing the 34 and 250 foot towers. During this week, you are also instructed on emergency procedures and how to steer your parachute. In order to advance to Jump Week, you must master the techniques taught to you in the previous 2 weeks. Jump Week is totally different than the first 2 weeks. In this week, there is no more training. This is where you must apply everything taught to you up to that point. You must make 5 satisfactory jumps (one of which is at night) in order to receive your wings. I did that and graduated on January 30\textsuperscript{th}. Airborne School was one of the greatest experiences of my life. I will never forget it. Before I left for the school, I didn’t realize why paratroopers were so highly regarded. I now understand why. I feel a great sense of honor to be able to wear the parachutist badge. If anybody has any questions about attending Airborne School, please do not hesitate to ask.
Green Mountain Battalion

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Upcoming Events

October 3—Alumni Reception (Sheraton Hotel in Burlington, VT)
October 16-18—Fall FTX (Ethan Allen Firing Range, VT)
October 23-25—Ranger Challenge Competition (Fort Devins, MA)
October 24—Fall Leadership Lab #2 (Camp Johnson, VT)
October 28—Fall Semester Record APFT (Camp Johnson, VT)
February 6—Spring Lab 1 (Camp Johnson)
April 16-18—Spring Joint FTX with Clarkson University and University of New Hampshire (Ethan Allen Firing Range, VT)
April 24—Spring Lab 2 (Ethan Allen Firing Range, VT)
May 1—Military Ball (TBA)

Green Mountain Battalion Cadet Staff from left to right: Cadets Wong, Chin, Harrington, Harper, Brown, Shupp, O’Neil, Plante, Holt, Griffin, Brayshaw, Guerin, Miclette, Monaco, and Horgan