



Gorilla Gazette

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Professor of Military Science

LTC Christopher Lambert

Happy Holidays, to all members of the extended Gorilla Battalion. I wanted to take a little time in middle of this festive season to update each of you on what has been going on with the Gorilla Cadets since the last news letter.

We had a very large senior class graduate between May and June; resulting in 22 new Gorilla 2nd Lieutenants being added to the force. Several have already headed off to and have competed or nearly completed Basic Officer Leadership Course.

For the current senior class, they maintain a standard of excellence at LDAC this past summer with again no overall "N" ratings. Our programs overall percentage of "E's" went up along with the number of RECONDO qualified cadets. The PSU cadets exceed the Cadet Command Standard in nearly all events.

Ranger Challenge is always a key event for the Gorillas and this year was no exception. This past October we sent two 9-male cadets team and one 5-female cadet team to Camp, Dodge Iowa. The 2 male teams competed in a pool of 20 total teams. Our "RED" team comprised heavily of Senior and Junior Cadets finished fourth overall, but first with Task Force Riley (KU, KSU, MOWest, and PSU). Our "GOLD" team comprised of mostly Sophomore and Freshmen cadets finished 10th. Our female team (Greybacks) finished 2nd amongst the 7 female teams.

All of our senior cadets accession into the component they wanted and each received no worse than their third branch choice. Of note, Cadet Paul Hartfield helped exemplify the quality of the Gorilla Battalion Cadets by accession as the 42nd highest rated cadet in a pool of nearly 5,800 cadets nationwide.

As for the staff it has also been a very busy time. We has yet again some personnel turnover. CPT Eric Hollingsworth completed his time with the program and was re-assigned within the Kansas National Guard and is now serving as the commander for all of the KSNG recruiter in southern Kansas. CPT Hollingsworth energy and excitement will be missed but his legacy of promoting the PSU Gorilla's will undoubtedly continue. Replacing him, is CPT Chad Murrow. CPT Murrow is diligently working to learn a new job and is now the programs enrollment and recruiting officer.

Additionally, after three great years training and mentoring young cadets, SFC Forrest Robertson PCS'd to Fort Stewart; returning to a cavalry troop. SFC Robertson had a true impact on this program from Ranger Challenge training to simple day-to-day hip-pocket counselings with cadets. SFC Robertson and his wife Marcie were key members of this command team and will be hard to replace.

Lastly, the cadre staff excelled this fall during the Command Inspection from our higher headquarters, 3rd ROTC BDE. The Gorilla Battalion met or exceeded requirements in every area of inspection. So while there can always be improvement the inspection validated that staff is highly dedicated and knows what they are doing for the program. Individuals of note in the inspection were SFC Robertson and Ms Shirley Beer, the Human Resource Administrator. Shirley is of course the key continuity part of the program and she received an "Outstanding" in all inspected areas.

Again, on behalf of my family and my staff Happy Holidays to you and your family. Gorillas Always.



Tradition continues as Cadets fire the 75mm cannon after Gorilla football touchdowns.



Cadet Allen rappels off the tower. The new tower was constructed in 2011 through generous donations from private donors.

Proud Year to be a Gorilla



Cadets maneuver through the woods during a recent Movement To Contact mission.



During the Annual "Gorilla Warfare" football game, the Cadets led the football team on the field with flags of the military.



Cadet Cord Stanley was nominated for Homecoming King and rode a M998 as his escort vehicle through downtown Pittsburg.

Ms. Shirley Beer
Human Resource

The beginning of the Fall 2012 semester was a whirlwind of activity at ROTC. As Human Resources Assistant I greeted Cadets returning from Warrior Forge at Ft. Lewis and Leaders Training Course Ft. Knox with the normal array of paperwork. I also had an armload of forms for Cadets returning from all over the world! Five Cadets participated in the Cultural Understanding and Language Proficiency (CULP) program this summer. They traveled to Tanzania, China, Costa Rica and other countries to learn about the language and culture. When they returned we greeted them with, naturally, paperwork!

After we sifted through that, our attention turned to processing the necessary forms to contract ten Cadets this semester. While Marie Pettey and I worked that project we also juggled submission of accessions data for the nine Seniors who will graduate this Spring and the Fall 2012 commissioning. The front office 'machine' never stops and we are looking forward to getting Cadets prepared to go to summer training when the Spring semester starts. It is indeed a rewarding experience.

Gorilla Hall of Fame

There is a link on the Pittsburg State University ROTC Website. It currently contains a general outline for Hall of Fame nominations, as well as the form needed to make a nomination. Please take the opportunity to review the link and learn about current Hall of Fame members at www.pittstate.edu/department/military.

PSU ROTC pictures from the last year



The Battalion incorporates M4 Paintball systems into many of the labs creating a more real-life scenario.



Cadets took part of their annual Combat Water Survival Training in the Weede Gym Pool.



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Contact us!

We love to see your photos! Send your deployed and non-deployed pictures to dpolen@pittstate.edu.

Upcoming Spring 2013 Schedule

Jan 14: Class resumes

Feb 28: MSIII FTX-Camp Crowder, MO

Mar 28: High ropes course-Greenbush, KS

April 1: KU Buddy Ranger Challenge-Lawrence, KS

April 5-7: Joint FTX (KU, Kstate, MoWest, CMSU)-Ft. Riley, KS

April 12-14: Germain Armed Forces Proficiency Badge-Pittsburg, KS

April 26: Dining Out-Pittsburg, KS

April 27: Gorilla Dash-Pittsburg, KS

May 10: Commissioning

Please let us know if you'd like to make any of the events. The Cadets and Cadre would like to see Gorilla Battalion Alumni at the Dining out. Mark your calendars and look for invites in February.

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