

BYU COUGAR BATTALION NEWSLETTER

Dec/Jan 2009/10

Newsletter OIC Cadet Dan Nixon

Sadly the fall semester came to an End for All Cougar companies. BYU Alpha Company ended the semester with a sports day activity and competitions amongst the four MS classes. Each class was represented by a team in each event. Events included; the push up, sit up, 2 mile run, kickball, ultimate rugby and tug of war. The MS IV's won most events, but the MS IV's had the coolest snowman in the 'make a snowman' competition.

"It was a good time" said cadet Odanahue, one of the key performers of the push up event for the MS III's.



MS I's attempting the 'snowman'.

Friday December 4, 2009 BYU main campus had their Dining Out. Cadet Wiedner and his band played live music for everyone to enjoy. Skits were performed by each MS class.



MS IV Skit, poking fun at GBRs and Cadre

The Cadre judged the MS IV's as the best skit, followed closely by the MS III's.

The food was delicious; chicken, roast beef, potatoes fresh baked bread coupled with deserts of all types, from cheesecakes to berry pie. The event was a success and Cadet Ford as the 'party planner' was awarded flowers and a gift certificate to Tucanos restaurant for her hard work in putting the event together. Thanks Cadet Ford for a "JOB WELL DONE."

This month's spot light is on Cadet Ricks. Cadet Ricks is currently in Law School at BYU, and commissions in April. He currently is awaiting results to get into the ARMY JAG program. Cadet Ricks is a hard worker, and never wastes a second. He is often found with a dictionary in his hand. The dictionary is for his studying of Korean and Chinese and he already speaks Japanese. Cadet Ricks has been in the Army National guard for 9 years. He has several medals on his dress green uniform to show for it as well. He adds a lot of experience to the program and was just assigned as the Battalion Commander of the Cougar Battalion for the 2010 spring semester. Cadet Ricks is a great example and leader for the BYU program.



SUU

By CDT Kristi Koplin

On November 18th, Southern Utah University conducted their end of year Dining Out. The President was MS III, CDT Cory Condie. The Vice President was, MS III CDT Matthew Chase. The evening events included a grog bowel which generated about \$500 dollars in donations! The money from the Points of Order was spent on a family who was in need of some

assistance this Christmas. Cadets went out on our Finals Week Study Day and bought the family Christmas gifts. It was a wonderful experience for all.



(from left to right) CDT Brown, CDT Santana and CDT Koplin wrapping presents for the family we helped this Christmas.

Our Cadet spotlight this time is CDT Jonathan Santana. CDT Santana is a MS III/IV split and will commission at the end of camp this summer. His major is Political Science and currently holds a 3.89 GPA and scores of 300 on the APFT. CDT Santana is currently part of the 1457th Sapper Company out of Camp Williams. CDT Santana enjoys working out, playing the guitar, and playing video games in his free time.

DIXIE

By CDT Michael Hall

The Month of December was filled with ROTC activities to include; APFT, (Army Physical Fitness), BRM (Basic Rifle Marksmanship), Closing Social, and Military Ball. During the APFT, a few cadets scored 300 and one, CDT Stucki, received the High Score of 335. BRM was eventful with a great Cadet turn out. The Closing Social served as a time to remember all the fun and exciting things that happened over the semester in the program.

At the Military Ball, the evening of 11 October 2009, Mitchell Curwen was sworn in as a 2nd Lieutenant, becoming the First Cadet EVER to commission from Dixie State College ROTC program. His dedication to the program and continual ability to lead, earned him recognition as MS IV of the Year. Last summer,

2LT Curwen successfully completed LDAC and secured a slot in the Signal Corps in California.



Mitchell Curwen gets pinned 2nd LT.

The MS III of the Year Award went to Chris Shuck, a new addition to the program who successfully completed LTC over the summer. CDT Shuck showed dedication, hard work, and commitment to the ROTC program. His great enthusiasm and devotion rightfully earned him the Sergeant York Award, awarded to the most dedicated cadet to the ROTC program.

Letters From Down Range

It is good to hear that BYU ROTC is still active, and excelling in so many ways. I am currently deployed to Afghanistan as the Science and Technology Advisor for regional command south. I never thought I would make the Army a career, but it has been good to me and my family. I included a photo of me, "Flat Stanley", and one of the many robots running around Afghanistan.

Have a Merry Christmas!

MAJ Jared P. Novak

BYU Class of 1998

Science & Technology Advisor

Kandahar, Afghanistan



Maj Novak and Flat Stanley in Afganistan

Thanks for the news letter. As a retired Army LTC and previous Cadet Commander of the BYU Army ROTC, I often think kindly of my time in the ROTC and the experiences I had there. Please keep the newsletter coming.

Lynn Crawford

Very interesting. Thank you for sending this to me. It has been a long time since my commissioning in April 1978, but many fond memories. Hope to receive future editions, especially information on commissioning.

Although retired, I live in Vicenza, Italy....Home of the 173rd Airborne. If any of the new 2LTs are coming this way, I hope to help and sponsor them.

Thank you,
Frank Petty; COL (R)

This year I did a humanitarian MEDRETE with our National Guard unit. We went to Trinidad, West Indies and over two weeks set up clinics at 3 different schools. We did very basic assessments and treatments. We had about 30 personnel including doctors, nurses, optometrists, dentists, medics and physical therapists. It was in very rural areas where the sugar cane fields have been abandoned for about 8 years now. (their major financial asset up to then) The dentists did a lot of extractions

and we gave away many used and new pairs of glasses. Some people would get up at 3 or 4 in the morning to get in line. I started out in the Medical Service Corps and then switched to the Nurse Corps. I had to start out again as a Lieutenant but Nursing is where it's at in my civilian work (County Health Dept) and the Army.

Peter Stewart, AN
CPT, UTNG BYU CLASS OF 96



Capt Stewart with battle buddies and Locals



Capt Stewarts Ocean View of Trinidad

BYU ROTC Mission

“To Commission the future officer leadership of the United States Army and motivate young people to be better citizens.”

BYU ROTC Mentorship Program

We are currently seeking BYU, UVU, SUU ROTC Alumni who are willing to provide mentorship to our Cadets. Duty station, assignments and age are not factors. We will try and match up Cadets with mentors who have much in common, but really focusing on the contacts right now. If you are willing to participate, notify MSG Straight at: michael.straight@byu.edu

Alumni, we welcome your contributions to the Newsletter! We love to hear what our former Cadets are doing. Any war stories, personal opinions, experiences, photos. Alumni contributions call: Cadet Nixon at 801-830-5226 or email Cadet Nixon at dantakingcareofbusiness@gmail.com.

DECEMBER COMMISSIONEES

A Co. BYU

2LT Dustin D. Minor...Infantry, AD
2LT Jerome Ferrin... Army Nurse, AD
2LT Jacob T. Shillig Medical Service, NG
2LT James Brady....Aviation, AD

B Co. UVU

2LT Gina M. Tamburrino
Adjutant General's, NG
2LT Alexander J. Passey..Infantry, AD

C Co. SUU

2LT Nathan E. Caldwell
Quartermaster, NG

D Co. DSU

Mitchell H. Curwen...Signal, AR