

Summer 2015

Panther Press, Summer 2015

University of Northern Iowa. Department of Military Science.

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PANTHER PRESS

PANTHER BATTALION, UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN IOWA
CEDAR FALLS, IOWA



UNI ROTC NEWSLETTER

Summer 2015

Professor of Military Science Corner



We have completed another incredible year as the Panther Battalion. Congratulations to our new 2nd Lieutenants that commissioned this May, nine in active duty, five into the National Guard, and one into the Army Reserves. We had a total of four Distinguished Military Graduates (DMG), these are the top 20% Cadets in the nation. This is an amazingly high number of DMGs based on our size and is a testament to the quality Cadets we have in our program.

This year our program served as the lead planner and organizer for the CLTX with over 300 Cadets from all Iowa and Nebraska schools converging on Camp Dodge for four days of training in April. Using the Military Decision Making Process (MDMP) our seniors published an Operations Order (OPORD) to all the schools and then led the execution of the exercise at Camp Dodge.

UNI Cadets are leading the way across Cadet Command on preventing sexual violence using the Mentors in Violence Prevention (MVP) model taught by UNI's Center for Violence Prevention (CVP). In the past year our partnership with the CVP has led to three state and regional conferences and multiple training sessions that directly impacted over 1,000 Cadets, students, faculty, and community leaders. Our Cadets will facilitate MVP training at Cadet Summer Training sharing their lessons learned with over 6,000 of their peers.

Good luck to our 19 Cadets attending the Cadet Leader Course (CLC), three Cadets attending Cadet Initial Entry Training (CIET), and six Cadets traveling to five different countries as part of the Cultural and Language Immersion Program (CULP)..

MOLON LABE!

LTC Glen P. Keith

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Join UNI ROTC Online!



Like us on Facebook at UNI-ROTC and follow us on Twitter : @UNIROTC
Check us out for updates on what ROTC is up to daily! Events, community participation and fundraising!

Leadership Training Exercise Spring 2015



The Panther Battalion completed their combined leadership training exercise 9-12 APR 2015. The Leadership Training Exercise (LTX) was a weekend event focusing on leadership, land navigation, squad tactical exercises (STX), operation orders, sexual assault prevention and teamwork. Cadets from the University of Northern Iowa, University of Nebraska Lincoln, University of Iowa, Iowa

State University, and Creighton University gathered at Camp Dodge in Johnston, IA to conduct the training. The weekend began with an air assault operation, CDTs got the chance to learn about sling load (sustainment operations) as well as the CH47 Chinook Helicopter. The 225 CDTs conducted a Battalion Air Assault directly into offensive operations in dedicated Company Areas of Operations. Two sling loads followed which sustained the 36 hour operation. This tested the MSIII and MSIV leadership they were tasked with occupying their AO and could have missions come down from higher at any time. The exercise was designed to re-enforce TLPs / Mission Command through all levels. On Saturday CDTs conducted a 5 mile ruck march back to the barracks where they conducted weapons maintenance and prepared for Mentors in Violence Prevention (MVP) training. On



UNI CDT Tyler Christy Learns About Sling Load Operations with CPT Parrino



Sunday CDTs conducted MVP training with help from professionals from around the state and a grant from Verizon. WHOtv of Des Moines provided coverage of this event.

**Please consider giving to
the Military Science
Fund for Excellence.
More details page 5.
<http://www.uni foundation.org/>**

Governors Cup



The Governors cup is awarded to the most outstanding MSIV cadet in each ROTC program throughout Iowa. CDTs Christopher Morton and Daniel Yehieli was honored by Governor Branstad this year for their achievements in the UNI ROTC program.



Panther Battalion Ranger Buddy Challenge

The University of Northern Iowa Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) cadets participated in the annual Ranger Buddy Challenge competition April 18th in Lawrenceville, Kansas. UNI had three Ranger Challenge Teams with two cadets each competing in an exhausting weekend of physically and mentally demanding events. A total approximately 350 teams from around the country to compete in Ranger Challenge which is considered the “varsity sport” of Army ROTC. The weekend consisted of various events including: a forced march, obstacle courses, technical and tactical Army knowledge exercises, land navigation, Army Physical Fitness Test, and finished with an unknown distance run. UNI teams placed in the top half of all teams with one team placing in the top third.



Sexual Assault Awareness Week



Jacob Johnson Cadet Platoon Sargent, leads the platoon during the 5K run.

UNI ROTC supported many events this semester to help raise awareness of sexual assault. We conducted a Stomp Out Violence 5K run to help raise awareness as well as sent cadets to the Y Factor Conference. All MSIII cadets going to CLC this summer will also lead discussions with their CLC Regiments on preventing sexual assault.



Cadets participated in the Take Back the Night Event on April 30th. To help raise awareness for sexual assault in the community.

Contact Us

Alumni of the UNI ROTC Program, we want to hear from you! The UNI ROTC Program is always updating our Alumni Contact Roster. Please send us your current contact information and share this newsletter with your classmates to ensure we reach everyone. Alumni will be featured in each newsletter if you want to be featured let us know!

Information can be sent to Debbie Ackerson at Debra.Ackerson@uni.edu

Military Science Fund for Excellence

To support our future leaders please consider giving to the Military Science Fund for Excellence.

To make a contribution go to the website listed below:

<http://www.uni-foundation.org/>

On the right hand side click on "Make an online gift." To ensure your donation goes to the Panther Battalion you will need to enter *Military Fund for Excellence* in the "Other" box near the bottom of the form.

Thank you for your continued support!

Follow UNI ROTC on Facebook, the program page is different from the Alumni page! Search UNI ROTC!!



Cadet Colin Johnson shakes LTC Keith's hand while accepting the Veterans of Foreign Wars Award

Awards Ceremony

University of Northern Iowa's Spring ROTC Awards Ceremony was on 06 May 2015 in Seerley Hall. The men and women recognized have invested a tremendous amount of time to excel in academics, physical training, and leadership excellence. Their dedication to the core values of Army ROTC have set them apart from their peers and their commitment to service is highly commendable.

The 300 APFT award was presented to the cadets who scored over 300 points on the Army Physical Fitness Test. The test is divided into three categories. Two minutes of push-ups, two minutes of sit-ups, and a 2-mile run. Cadets Lucas Tener, Cameron Griffith, Taylor Julander, Gatlin Meador, Thomas Madsen achieved this standard. The highest male PT score was Lucas Tener who scored a 365, the highest female score was CDT Julander who scored a 321.

LTC Keith also recognized the distinguished military honor graduates for this semester. This year's honor graduates were Daniel Yehieli, Cameron Griffith, Mark Wieneke, and Thomas Madsen. To be considered a distinguished military honor graduate you must be in the top 20 percent of Army ROTC programs nation wide and have evidence of high moral character, military aptitude, and demonstrate leadership ability.



Swearing In

Curtis Ege, Alec Krekel, and Josh Mixdorf took their oath to join the ROTC program on 13 MAR at a Waterloo Black Hawks Hockey Game.



Cadet of the Semester

Cadets were nominated by their instructors and evaluated by the upper-classmen. The Cadet of the Semester must be knowledgeable in the following areas; Current Events, Uniforms, Leadership, Chain of Command, Army History, Drill and Ceremony, First Aid, Customs and Courtesies, and Physical Fitness. The Cadet of the Semester competes against other Cadets from their class and the other military science classes. The overall winner is Dustin Smith.

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Spring Commissioning Ceremony



UNI ROTC held the Spring Commissioning Ceremony on May 9, 2015 at Lang Hall. Seven Cadets took the Oath of Office and commissioned as Second Lieutenants. Guest Speaker, Mike Finley, retired US Army First Sergeant, current educator, and author led the ceremony with words of wisdom for the new officers. After the Oath of Office the lieutenants families were welcomed to come on stage and pin on the new rank. Finally, the lieutenants took part in the Silver Dollar Salute, to the Non-commissioned Officer who had the most impact on their military career. Congratulations to 2LT Jack Dee (Iowa Army National Guard), 2LT Cameron Griffith (Active Duty), 2LT Tom Madsen (Active Duty), 2LT Gatlin Meador (Iowa Army National Guard), 2LT Karlee West (Active Duty), 2LT Mark Wieneke (Iowa Army National Guard), and 2LT Daniel Yehieli (Active Duty).



Meet UNI's Newest 2LTs



2LT Jack Dee

Hometown: Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Degree: Bachelor of Arts in Economics
and Geography

Branch: Infantry

Component: Iowa Army National
Guard



**2LT Cameron
Griffith**

Hometown: Ankeny, Iowa

Degree: Bachelor of Arts in Criminology
with minors in Mathematics, Spanish,
and Military Science

Branch: Infantry

Component: Active Duty



2LT Gatlin Meador

Hometown: Mt. Pleasant, Iowa

Degree: Bachelor of Arts in
Kinesiology

Branch: Quartermaster

Component: Iowa Army National
Guard



**2LT Thomas
Madsen**

Hometown: Council Bluffs, Iowa

Degree: Bachelor of Arts in Political
Science and Economics

Branch: Infantry

Component: Active Duty

Meet UNI's Newest 2LTs



**2LT Karlee
West**

Hometown: Swisher, Iowa

Degree: Bachelor of Arts Communication Studies with minors in Military Science and International Affairs

Branch: Quartermaster

Component: Active Duty



**2LT Mark
Wieneke**

Hometown: Iowa City, Iowa

Degree: Bachelor of Science in
Biology

Branch: Infantry

Component: Iowa Army National
Guard



2LT Daniel Yehieli

Hometown: Cedar Falls, Iowa

Degree: Bachelor of Arts in Global Studies, Global Health, and Criminology with a minor in Military Science

Branch: Military Intelligence branch
detailed Infantry

Component: Active Duty