

Winter 2017

Panther Press, Winter 2016-17

University of Northern Iowa. Department of Military Science.

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Recommended Citation

University of Northern Iowa. Department of Military Science., "Panther Press, Winter 2016-17" (2017). *Panther Press*. 12.
<https://scholarworks.uni.edu/rotcnews/12>

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PANTHER PRESS

PANTHER BATTALION • WINTER 2016-17



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NATIONAL GUARD GIVES HELPING HAND

University of Northern Iowa Panther Battalion ROTC cadets have had the honor to work alongside many Officers and NCO's of the Iowa National Guard. The Guard units and the Panther Battalion share a common goal of helping educate the future leaders of the Army. Working alongside the NCOs and officers allows the cadets to get to know the backbone of the Army. With nearly two-thirds of the UNI ROTC contracted cadets being prior enlisted in the Iowa National Guard, the relationship is a beneficial and harmonious one. Not only does the Iowa National Guard help the UNI ROTC program, but the cadets and cadre give back to the Iowa National Guard as well. Frequently cadets and cadre host opportunities for National Guard recruiters to bring potential guardsman to campus and have the cadets share their stories. The relationship between the programs is both positive and beneficial to all.



Cadet Chase Pottebaum holds an M4 assault rifle at the 1-113 armory in Waterloo, IA



Cadet Sean Maday receives guidance from an 1-113 NCO.



Cadet Nolan Cook shares his story with High School students in a National Guard visit.

UNI ROTC HOST TEACHER APPRECIATION DAY

On Friday, October 7th, the UNI ROTC hosted an Educator Appreciation Day. Educators and staff from high schools all over the Cedar Valley, Hawkeye Community College and UNI came together to learn about the University and what the Panther Battalion cadets do as full time students and full time cadets. The Cadets shared their different stories about how the ROTC program has helped shape them into future leaders of the United States Army. The Iowa National Guard also made a visit to the event and provided the cadets, teachers, and staff with a fly over of the area in the Lakota and Chinook helicopters.



Cadets Rollison (Left), Mixdorf (Center) and Logemann (right) share their experience in ROTC

ARMY 10-MILER, WASHINGTON DC

The University of Northern Iowa, along with its Sister School The University of Dubuque, had the opportunity this year to participate in the 32nd annual army 10-Mile run. The cadets and cadre visited the Nation's Capital of Washington D.C. on the weekend of October 9th to run with over 35,000 supporters of the United States Army. The Army 10-Miler is one of the largest 10-Mile run events on the planet and continues to bring runners from across the nation and the world to participate. This trip also afforded cadets the chance to see the Nation's Capital, during the 2 days prior to the run. The sites visited include the White House, the National Archive and the Smithsonian. Cadets also paid tribute to the military's sacrifices by visiting many of the war memorials in and around the capital. Trips like this are made affordable and available to various cadets due to the fundraising efforts of the University of Northern Iowa Supporters of the United States Army and the University of Northern Iowa.



University of Northern Iowa and University of Dubuque Army 10-Miler teams.



ROTC'S NEWEST CADETS

University of Northern Iowa Panther Battalion ROTC would like to officially congratulate its newest members of the program. These young men and women have taken an oath to commission as Second Lieutenants in the United States Army: Cadet Nicolle Duschen, Cadet Nolan Cook, Cadet Michael Casey, Cadet Chase Pottebaum and Cadet Tylamin Ovel. [photo above, left to right]

The Panther Battalion would also like to congratulate its three newest scholarship recipients. These three men have distinguished themselves above their peers and have received various scholarships: Cadet Bradley Kelly, Cadet Tomas Breitingner and Cadet Tyler Nelsen.

HALL OF FAME INDUCTION CEREMONY

UNI ROTC held its inaugural Hall of Fame induction ceremony on October 3rd.

UNI ROTC inducted two of its alumni, COL Patrick Williams and John Gallagher, into their hall of fame. Both alumni were also inducted into the National ROTC Hall of Fame in Ft. Knox, Kentucky as part of the 100th anniversary of ROTC and will be the first to be inducted into UNI's hall of Fame. John Gallagher earned his commission from the program in 1983 and served as an Army signal officer from 1983-1989. Mr. Gallagher is currently the vice president of Government Relations for The VGM Group, Inc. in Waterloo, Iowa, the largest organization representing independent durable medical equipment providers. COL Patrick Williams earned his commission in 1986 as a Military Police officer. COL Patrick Williams' successful Army career has led him to the position he currently serves as Assistant Chief of Staff, G3, III Corps, Fort Hood, Texas.

The UNI ROTC Hall of fame induction is a continuing way to bring back those alumni who have helped make a lasting and lifelong impression on the UNI ROTC program with distinguishing careers in both the military and civilian spheres.



COL Patrick Williams (left) and John Gallagher(right) the 2016 UNI ROTC Hall of Fame inductees

MENTORS IN VIOLENCE PREVENTION TRAINING

University of Northern Iowa Panther Battalion ROTC cadets worked with high school students in team-building activities on October 11, 2016. Mentors in Violence Prevention helps to educate young students on ways to keep themselves and the community safe from all violence. The University of Northern Iowa has set the cornerstones for the MVP program and the UNI ROTC cadets have been among the largest advocates of MVP among student organizations at the university. Each summer the upcoming senior class also holds a briefing at Cadet Leadership Course in Fort Knox, Kentucky where they facilitate an interactive conversation with nearly 1,000 of their peers.

The UNI ROTC students spent the day showing these high schoolers how to work together in stressful situations and overcome challenges to succeed at the task given. UNI ROTC cadre support the event by observing and providing guidance to students on Army standards and knowledge. Multiple team-building activities were provided, including minefield, broken bridge, what's in the box, floating ruler, and magic carpet. These activities helped to create more cohesive teams and trust between the students.



Mentors in Violence Prevention Training, University of Northern Iowa Campus, Cedar Falls, Iowa

UNI ROTC COMMISSIONS TWO NEW LIEUTENANTS

Saturday, December 17th the University of Northern Iowa Reserve Officers' Training Corps bid farewell to two of its strongest leaders.

2Lt Josh Mixdorf of Dunkerton, IA completed his Masters Degree in Biology and joined the Iowa National Guard in Waterloo as an Aviation officer. Josh, during his time in ROTC, has held the position of assistant S-4 and Cadet Battalion Commander. 2Lt Mixdorf has also been identified as a Distinguished Military Graduate for being one of the top cadets in his class nationwide.

2Lt Taylor Julander of Des Moines, IA completed her undergraduate degrees in Accounting, Management Information Systems and Business Management and has joined the Iowa National Guard as a full-time employee, drilling out of Sioux City as a Quartermaster officer. Taylor during her time served as Cadet S-3 and Cadet Battalion Commander.



UNI ROTC HELPS UNIVERSITY WITH COMMENCEMENT

Saturday, December 17th the University of Northern Iowa Reserve Officers' Training Corps continued to extend outreach to the university and exhibit what it truly takes to be a leader and practice personal courage and selfless service.

Every semester the UNI ROTC program is granted the opportunity to fulfill one of the nation's greatest honors and present the National Colors, the Iowa State Flag and the University of Northern Iowa Flag. Cadets from various classes volunteer to present the honor in front of many of the peers, families and the highest-ranking officials in their university.



Above, Top to Bottom: Cadet Ceniza, Cadet Maday, Cadet Reagan, Cadet Whitney, Cadet Casey



UNI ROTC SALUTES VETERANS

University of Northern Iowa Panther Battalion ROTC has held a long-standing tradition of respect for the heroes of the past. On Veterans Day the Cadets of Panther Battalion remained constantly busy.

The Cadets started their morning with a Battalion run where members of the program and various community members participated in a run to honor all those who have served.

The Senior class was then off to a local middle school where they were honored to present the colors for the schools annual veterans appreciation program where the children reach out to local heroes and honor them.

Lastly the cadets in a joint effort of all levels, including cadets, enlisted and veterans alike saluted those who have served in front of the campus veterans memorial. The University of Northern Iowa Panther Battalion would like to extend thanks to all who have served our country and paved the way for these future leaders.

UNI ROTC HOST THIRD ZOMBIE RUN

Thursday, October 27th the UNI ROTC program held its third annual Zombie Run 5K. The Zombie run is not your average 5K. Throughout the course there are many obstacles the participants must traverse, while being chased by a horde of bloodthirsty zombies!

The obstacles in the 3.1-mile run included a low crawl, hurdling hail bails and running through a mud trap!

This year the event had around 45 participants from all over the Cedar Valley with varying ages from children to the elderly.

The money raised will benefit the cadets of UNI ROTC in areas such as participating in the Army 10-Miler, attending the German Armed Forces Badge test, and the annual military ball. The cadets all helped out with the event and even had a class of UNI students help out as the zombie volunteers!



Contestants Ashlyn Perkins and Maranda Bear getting ready to run for their lives