The Mighty Bruin Battalion - UCLA Army ROTC

Loyalty • Duty • Respect • Selfless Service • Honor • Integrity • Personal Courage
Dear Friends of the Bruin Battalion,

As always, it’s a great day to be a soldier and a great day to be a Bruin! This is the first issue of what we plan to be a quarterly newsletter to keep all of you abreast of what is happening within the Bruin Battalion. Your feedback, comments and input are always welcome.

Please take a few minutes to read this newsletter and get to know some of the current cadets. We have a great group of young men and women—all of whom entered the program since America began the full-blown War on Terror. They are patriotic, dedicated, and competent. Just like their predecessors in the Bruin Battalion, these cadets will be outstanding young leaders in our Army.

This year, we will commission 12 lieutenants; however, we are definitely on the upswing. We are on pace to commission 20 or 21 lieutenants in FY07 and 23 lieutenants in FY08.

The last quarter of the year is always busy—the Spring FTX, preparation for Leadership Development Assessment Camp (LDAC—formerly known as Advanced Camp) and other schools, the awards ceremony, and of course, commissioning. All of these things occur in the next 80 days!

I would like to personally invite all of you to attend the Awards Ceremony on Wednesday, May 10, 2006 at 2PM in the Student Activities Center (the old Men’s Gym). Second, everyone is invited to attend the Commissioning Ceremony on Saturday, June 24, 2006 at 10AM in the Grand Salon of Kerkhoff Hall at UCLA. Both of these events
are highlights of the year and we certainly hope many of you are able to join us.

My office door is always open. Please feel free to contact me at any time if you have any questions about the program or any changes in ROTC. Until then....Go Bruins! Go Matadors!

Sincerely,

SHAWN P. BUCK
Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Army
Professor of Military Science

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**YOU’RE INVITED**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2006 Annual Army ROTC Awards Ceremony</td>
<td>10 May 2006</td>
<td>2:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Student Activities Center, Room B05</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spring 2006 Commissioning Ceremony</td>
<td>24 June 2006</td>
<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Kerckhoff Hall, Grand Salon</td>
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Please join us for either or both events!

R.s.v.p. to Victoria Sanelli
(310) 825-7381
vksanelli@milsci.ucla.edu
The Bruin Battalion has over 50 cadets in training. Each student is working hard to acquire the skills and knowledge that will make him or her a stand out officer in the U.S. Army. In every issue, we will profile four of these students — this quarter’s featured cadets are:

**CDT Jonathan Stafford, MS IV**

CDT Stafford is a humanities major at Pepperdine University and serves with the Army Corps of Engineers. In addition to ROTC, CDT Stafford works at the Pepperdine library and enjoys spending his free time rock climbing, sailing, reading, slowly running marathons and learning Brazilian ju-jitsu. With commissioning and training beginning very soon, CDT Stafford’s summer plans will be to spend as much time as possible with his wife.

**Why did you decide to join ROTC?**

Military figures in history have always intrigued me - especially their willingness to sacrifice personal comfort for a cause greater than themselves. ROTC gave me the chance to join with those great figures in history AND get a great education. How could I pass it up?

**Favorite ROTC-related activities?**

There are three things that come to mind - our FTXs (Field Training Exercises), patrolling at LDAC (Leader Development Assessment Course), and the last week of airborne school.

**ROTC students are Scholars-Leaders-Athletes – which person or persons do you admire for being a great scholar, leader and/or athlete?**

There are many people I admire for being great scholars, leaders, and athletes. The person I admire the most, for those traits, is General Patton. While he was a controversial figure - he sums up all three of those traits better than any other single person. He created much of the doctrine for modern tank warfare, became one of the most respected WWII generals, and was an Olympic competitor.

**CDT Daniel Nelson, MS III**

CDT Nelson is a junior at UCLA, majoring in History. His goal is to join Infantry and ultimately become a Special Forces officer. An avid outdoorsman and athlete, CDT Nelson enjoys a wide range of activities from camping and fishing to rugby and rodeo. He also participates in triathlons and marathons and will run an Ultramarathon (50K) at the end of April. This summer,
CDT Nelson will be busy attending summer school, practicing with the UCLA football team and hopefully taking his wife camping far from L.A..

**Why did you decide to join ROTC?**

This country has given me the opportunity to be in the privileged situation that I am now. It's too easy for me to go to a great school and play football, live my life with my beautiful wife and enjoy a cushy job and NOT think about the men and women who sacrificed everything for this country. I have been given so much, I didn't want to live my life knowing that other people served instead, time and time again. It is simply my turn, and I'm truly thankful for the opportunity to serve.

**ROTC students are Scholars-Leaders-Athletes – which person or persons do you admire for being a great scholar, leader and/or athlete?**

I admire Pat Tillman because he was a great scholar, leader, and athlete. Before he made the decision to join the Army, I idolized his playing style and work ethic as a PAC-10 football player and student. I followed his professional career closely. I remember seeing the interviews Tillman gave after September 11, 2001 and being amazed at how insightful and honest he was. I identified with how deeply affected he was by the events of that day. I also remember the day I heard the announcement on ESPN that he was joining the Army with his brother in order to be a Ranger. I was in awe of his refusal to give any interviews or accept any media attention about his decision to give up millions of dollars and serve his country. I respected and related to some of Tillman's political and ideological views, and I most admired the fact that he possessed a genuine love and respect for this great country and those who have fought and died to protect it. I remember exactly when and where I was when I heard of Tillman's death. I never knew him personally, but for some reason I was emotionally crushed. That feeling, the one that I had that day, has never really left me. Pat Tillman's selfless actions have inspired and influenced me more than I could ever express.

**CDT Tamara DeJesus, MS II**

CDT DeJesus is a sophomore at UCLA, majoring in History. She is a member of Christian Students and is very active with a variety of community service programs on campus and back home in Minnesota. For fun, CDT Continued on page 8
Above: MSIV Cadet Cabal prepares the terrain model at Camp Pendleton for the spring mini STX.

Left: Bruin Battalion cadets on the move! Friday labs are an opportunity for cadets to put classroom learning into action. In the left column, CDT Pickering, CDT Tuquero and CDT Ching. CDT Ritenour heads the right column.
Above: Cadets working together can overcome any obstacle. From left to right, CDT Abraham, marine, CDT Pauley, marine and CDT Carpo.

Below: ROTC is fun! At the land navigation exercise, from left to right, CDT Matson, CDT Tuquero, CDT Corbin, CDT Carpo, CDT Yoo, CDT Flores, CDT Geiger, CDT Stahlke and CDT Pickering.
DeJesus makes good use of UCLA’s many recreational activities. This summer, CDT DeJesus will spend time with her family in Minnesota, continue her active volunteer work and attend Airborne school.

**Why did you decide to join ROTC?**

I decided to join ROTC because I thought it would give me a great opportunity to do something challenging and meaningful while I am in college. I knew that ROTC would allow me to gain great experiences and skills that would be beneficial to me in the future, in and outside of the military. I’ve always respected the program and the people in it and wanted to be part of that.
Favorite ROTC-related activities?
I think that the FLRC that we did was fun because it was challenging and was a great way to build leadership and teamwork. I also enjoyed the rappelling we did during our fall FTX.

ROTC students are Scholars-Leaders-Athletes – which person or persons do you admire for being a great scholar, leader and/or athlete?
The person who I believe is a great scholar, leader and athlete is Arthur Ashe. He is a great role model to many because not only did become a successful tennis player, but he also fought against racial prejudices, passionately promoted education, and was a spokesman for various issues. Arthur Ashe also served his country as a 1st Lieutenant in the Army.

CDT Amanda Coyle, MS I
CDT Coyle is a freshman pre-med major at UCLA. Always on the go, CDT Coyle is also active with her sorority Pi Beta Phi and training to become an EMT. Next year you will also find her on the field playing for UCLA’s lacrosse team. This summer, CDT Coyle will get a jump on her studies by attending summer sessions at UCLA. She hopes to join the Medical Corp upon commissioning.

Why did you decide to join ROTC?
I joined because I want to be a doctor in the army. I know that this way I will be guaranteed adventure for the next few years of my life.

Favorite ROTC-related activities?
I really enjoyed Ranger Challenge because it allowed me to learn a lot more about the army quickly.

ROTC students are Scholars-Leaders-Athletes – which person or persons do you admire for being a great scholar, leader and/or athlete?
I admire CDT Nelson because he does everything!
“Thanks, CPT Higginson. I didn’t know that!”

This is Captain Higginson, Assistant Professor of Military Science and the Enrollment Officer at UCLA. The purpose of this section is to inform you about the many benefits available to current and prospective cadets. Feel free to contact me for more information!

**Scholarship Opportunities**

Eligible students receive 2, 3, 4, and 5 year scholarships that pay full college tuition or your room and board costs, on or off campus, up to the cost of tuition. If you elect the tuition option, the scholarship money is sent to the school. If you elect the room & board option, you receive the scholarship money as an electronic funds transfer into your account. Additionally, you receive $900 per year for textbook and miscellaneous fees. Lastly, both scholarship and non-scholarship cadets receive a tax-free monthly allowance as a contracted cadet.

**Monthly Allowance Breakdown:**
- Freshman—$300/month
- Sophomore—$350/month
- Juniors—$450/month
- Seniors—$500/month

Non-scholarship cadets may also elect to drill with a local Reserve or National Guard unit for 1 weekend a month while in college. This option is called the Simultaneous Membership Program (SMP). As an SMP cadet, you are eligible for tuition assistance (up to $4,500/year), drill pay ($2,815/year), GI Bill Benefits (if prior-service), and MGIB Kicker benefits ($4,200/year).

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**R o l l  C a l l**

Whether you are a graduate, a past cadre member or one of our valued supporters, the UCLA Department of Military Science considers you a member of the family. We are proud of our program and very much want you to feel connected and informed. To accomplish this goal, we have launched this quarterly newsletter which we hope will serve as a convenient way for you to catch up with the ongoing activities of the Mighty Bruin Battalion.

We also want to hear from you! We invite you to share your personal and professional milestones — be it career news, a marriage or birth or any other personal accomplishment. Wherever you go, whatever you do, you will always be an important member of the Bruin Battalion family.

To update your contact information or get added to our mailing list, please email Victoria Sanelli at vksanelli@milsci.edu or give us a call at (310) 825-7381. Help us build and maintain the lines of communication!