



The Revere Recorder

“ROTC – the best leader and management development program in the world”!

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Being a College Freshman and MS I

By Cadet Alyssa Pybus



When people find out that I’m an ROTC cadet, one of the first things they ask about is how I balance ROTC and school. It’s not an easy thing to do, and some days it doesn’t seem like there’s any balance at all, but one of the hardest and most beneficial lessons I’ve learned from ROTC is how to manage my time. When you have to wake up before 0600 for morning PT every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, finishing homework at 2 am every night isn’t a sustainable option, we’ve all already tested it. As a cadet, it’s guaranteed that your college experience will be very different from that of a normal student. On mostly any given Wednesday night, you’ll be out in a forest during winter running STX lanes, or at an Army camp familiarizing yourself with M16s, or

downstairs in the unit building learning how to clear rooms in MOUT fashion, while your other friends are getting homework done or hanging out at the dorm. And one weekend a semester, we leave civilization and conduct our Field Training Exercises. That’s not all, either. There are ceremonies to go to, color guards to march, counseling meetings to hold, visits to supply that have to be made, ASU inspections to conduct, and this semester’s particular joy of illusive MOLLE packs to assemble, as well as the Ranger Challenge team and the National Society of Pershing Rifles for those who choose to participate. On a typical week, cadets spend ten to twelve hours doing ROTC related things and it’s even longer for upperclassmen and the more involved cadets. So it’s unreasonable to think of ROTC like another class, or even as just an extracurricular. ROTC demands a certain lifestyle. Living the cadet life isn’t easy, even for the most high speed among us. There may be times during a ruck march, at a particularly intense PT session, or in the red dragon inhaling sweat-filled air waiting for CPT Lindberg to finally decide on a radio station when you look back and wish you had decided on Air Force or Navy ROTC, but together we push past those trying moments.

The real key to balancing school and ROTC is getting your work done when you have the time. It took me a long while to figure this out, and it changed my life. Being more efficient earns us a few more hours of sleep, which allows PT to be stress-relieving instead of causing us extra worry about that P-set or paper we need to finish when we get back, or to focus during a lead lab and really learn something, which is what college is all about. ROTC is, in a way, a welcome break from school, and you won't find better company anywhere else on campus. Because as many trying moments that we go through, there's that many and more fun and rewarding times. So I tell those that ask me what it's like that balancing it with school is not easy, but ROTC is the most worthwhile decision I've ever made.



CDT Pybus is an MS I Cadet at MIT, undecided on her major.

Boston Marathon Ruck March

By Cadet Timothy Wholley

This year's Boston Marathon ruck march started almost identically to last year. We met at the same time, took the same commuter rail, and crossed the

start line at roughly the same time. For the first time marathon ruck marching cadets, it was an experience to take in as their adventure had already begun. For those of us that did it last year, we knew the adventure didn't really begin until we could see the city in the horizon. This year, that adventure would be cut short. We were in between mile 21 and mile 22 when we found out two bombs had exploded near the finish line. As fate would have it, we received the news from a cadet volunteering at the medical tent in between mile 21 and 22, CDT Ege-Wenger. He came running up to us and informed us of what happened and our initial response was disbelief. Upon receiving the information, we kept moving toward the finish line but our mood was quite different. Gone was the pain and soreness of the past 22 miles, replaced with the pain of knowing our city and quite possibly people we knew had been attacked.

Our first step was to let our loved ones know we were okay. Once we took time to do that, we decided to try and finish the marathon but after going another half mile, the marathon was shut down and all participants were being told they would not be allowed down town due to the attacks. We went to a street that was not part of the quarantine zone, roughly a mile away, and arranged for transportation. Since many of us were part of the company's chain of command, we began the phone tree in order to account for each of our fellow cadets. Within ten minutes, we had 100% accountability of every cadet in the Paul Revere Battalion. Within an hour, all cadets were on their way home.



CDT Wholley is an MS IV from Salem State University, majoring in Economics.

JFTX

By Cadet Nathan Swaim



Late this spring, the Paul Revere Battalion went down to Camp Edwards to participate in a joint field training exercise (JFTX) along with other Army ROTC programs from the Boston area.

The weekend began on Friday afternoon with a long bus ride down to Camp Edwards. Upon arrival, each Cadet was issued a rifle with blanks and divided into newly formed squads composed of different cadets from the Boston area. Once all the squads were formed, dinner was served, and everyone

then adjourned to the barracks for the evening. Saturday began at 4AM with breakfast at 4:45AM. The squads were then sent out into the field where training commenced. During the day, each squad completed 8 lanes. The lanes presented the MS III's with situations they would encounter at LDAC. One of the lanes my squad participated in involved capturing a rogue general who was attempting to sell a nuclear warhead to a group of terrorists.

Sunday began at the same time except the MS I's and MS II's were separated from the MSIII's. While the MS III's spent the rest of the morning on patrol, the MSI's and MS II's received training on marching, field medicine, radio communication, and demolitions. As the MS III's continued their patrols, the MS I's and II's were sent to the Camp Edwards obstacle course where cadets had an opportunity to challenge their bodies and demonstrate their physical fitness.

After some cleaning, the JFTX concluded and cadets were sent home. I had a lot of fun getting to know and work with cadets that I had never met or seen before. The instructors and MS IV's were all very helpful through the lanes and the obstacle course was certainly enjoyable. I look forward to participating in next year's JFTX with new MS I's and seeing the MS III's who will be going through LDAC this summer.



CDT Swaim is an MS I from Gordon College, majoring in Physics and General Engineering.

AIR ASSAULT SCHOOL

By Cadet James Kiefner



Last summer, I flew down to Ft. Benning, GA for the US Army Reserve National Guard (ARNG) Air Assault course. Air Assault is a grueling 11-day course designed to push and develop Soldiers, while teaching them valuable skills related to airmobile operations.

The first day, Day Zero, involves a two-mile run, obstacle course, and a rigorous equipment inspection, after which the candidates are considered officially “enrolled” into the course.

The next three days are an introduction to airmobile operations: Soldiers memorize an exhaustive list of specifications of every helicopter currently in use by the US military, as well as formulas for close air support and medical evacuations. The following three days are the real academic test at Air Assault: slingloads. Broadly speaking, a slingload is any piece of equipment tied up beneath an aircraft as it flies. The attention to detail required to properly secure a slingload is astounding; a half-inch piece of metal rotated the wrong way can cause the load to fall, the helicopter to crash, and the mission to fail. More than half of candidates usually fail their first slingload test due to one of these miniscule oversights.

The final phase, rappelling, is certainly the most enjoyable. Candidates learn proper form for descending from a hovering aircraft via rope with full equipment, rucksack, and rifle. At the end of the phase, every Soldier practiced rappelling from a UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter, hovering 100 feet above the ground. It was a truly incredible experience.

On the final day, after a brutal 12-mile rucksack march in 85-degree heat and 90 percent humidity, most of us passed a final equipment check and graduated under the heavy Georgia sun. As the youngest member of Air Assault class 303-12, I was awarded a commander’s coin and received the commendation of “Wingbearer.” It was a difficult 11 days, both physically and mentally, but I emerged with a sense of intense pride and a true appreciation for the incredible effort that our Soldiers put out every single day in the field.



CDT Kiefner is an MS II Student from Tufts University, majoring in Psychology.

MSIIIs Prepare for LDAC By Cadet Hans Ege-Wenger



As the year comes to a close, myself and the other MS IIIs (Juniors) of the Paul Revere BN are preparing to travel to Fort Lewis, Washington for Warrior Forge, the culminating exercise of our ROTC career up to this point. There, we will be evaluated on our physical fitness, land navigation skills, small unit tactics, and most importantly, our leadership. Throughout this year, our MSIII class has undergone strenuous training to adequately prepare ourselves for the challenges we will face. Our most important preparation, however, cannot be found in any ROTC curriculum or Field Manual. Rather, it came from the constant responsibility that was put on us

as junior and senior NCOs in the Cadet Chain of Command.

Like the rest of the MS IIIs, I walked into the billet of Cadet First Sergeant for Bravo Company having no idea what it was that a First Sergeant did. Along with my MS III Platoon Sergeants and Squad Leaders, I struggled to efficiently get accountability, march Cadets, and keep everyone in the right uniform. Yet, under the guidance of our Cadre and MS IV Cadet Officers, we slowly figured out how things were supposed to work. Our mistakes grew fewer (though certainly not non-existent), and our successes larger. As the year went on, I feel that through countless formations, lead labs, and After Action Reports, the MS III class has gained the confidence and poise necessary to succeed at LDAC.

Now, as all of our classes end, and we scatter before camp starts, it's up to all of us to review our knowledge, keep ourselves in shape, and succeed as we know we all have been given the capacity to.



CDT Ege-Wenger is an MS III Cadet at Tufts University, majoring in International Relations.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to alumni and Soldiers currently serving in our armed forces around the world.

Words from the Cadet Battalion Commander

By Cadet Ryan Leahy



Paul Revere Battalion, I had the great opportunity to lead our battalion this past semester through many training events that were to bring all of us up to standard for our future army tasks. All of you put the effort in that is necessary for our battalion to create the atmosphere needed for optimal training. We had some large obstacles we needed to overcome, given that Mother Nature was not so kind to us this winter. But even through all the snow and ice, we drove on and got effective training done.

It was a busy spring semester for us all. We conducted 9 Leadership Labs along with the Joint Field Training Exercise. This was the most training we have conducted in one semester as a battalion since I have been a part of it. I know it seemed like we had a lab every Wednesday (because we did), but it is

that amount of training which is going to prepare our cadets to be at the top of the national order merit list.

The new cadre created a crawl, walk, run platform that allowed us to build you up into the cadets that would be able to effectively lead your squads and platoons through squad tactical exercises. Starting with the basic battle drill format, and moving through two phases of squad STX, the improvement was obvious. We ran two labs on patrol tactics, more than we've ever done at Paul Revere. I believe it gave our cadets a much better understanding of their roles in the platoon as Platoon leaders, Platoon Sergeants, Squad leaders, Team leaders, and basic team members. You all also got hands on training with the M4, in a lab run by our prior service cadets, who walked you through some of the basics on the weapon.

It all culminated with our training at the JFTX. Our MS III's got the opportunity to put all of our tactical training into action, and did so in great ways. They led their squads and platoons through ambushes, attacks, raids and recons, and did so in solid form. Our MS I's and II's also showed their tactical knowledge, as they were able to help their squads during the STX lanes, not needing deep instruction from their leaders because they had already been trained so well before.

As an Army ROTC Battalion, we are made up of many different schools, with many different types of people. We all bring something to the table that needs to be capitalized upon. Just like any other team, you will need to work together to achieve success, and the US Army is the greatest team ever

assembled. Make sure that as you go on into the future of your ROTC and Army training, you remember that you must work together to achieve greatness.

It has been an honor for me to be your battalion commander this past semester. Much appreciation must go to the rest of the MSIV's, who put in the leg work to make this semester a success. And of course the cadre, who through all of our decisions (good ones or bad), helped us get to the finish line and create a good training environment. I know that all of you will go on to achieve success wherever you end up. And I look forward to hearing about the high marks our LDAC bound cadets receive upon their return from Warrior Forge. It has been a great semester, and a great year. I wish the best of luck to all of you. No Fear, Paul Revere!



CDT Leahy is an MSIV from Endicott College, majoring in Criminal Justice.

Calling all Alumni . . . do you have a story to share? Contact Lisa Morin at ljmorin@mit.edu with your story and/or pictures.

Words from our Commander ...



Dear Friends of the Paul Revere Battalion,

We've concluded another successful academic year here in the Paul Revere Battalion. Once again a batch of motivated, capable and ethical new officers have commissioned and are on their way to the honorable calling of leading America's young men and women. Once again another batch of enthusiastic and talented young folks have taken on the challenge of pursuing the same by joining our ranks as new cadets. This newsletter's articles and photos, written and taken by our cadets, provide a small example of what happens between the new cadets joining us and the new officer leaving us. It is an amazing transformation, and I am honored to be a part of it.

This spring we have commissioned ten new officers; three from Salem State, one from Tufts, four from Endicott, one from Wellesley and one from MIT. 2LT Nicolas Favaloro graduated with a degree in Criminal Justice and commissioned in the Field Artillery. 2LT Arthur Fennelly graduated with a degree in Fire Science Management and commissioned into the

Transportation Corps. 2LT Roland Paquette graduated with a degree in Criminal Justice and commissioned into the Infantry. Roland also achieved the Distinguished Military Graduate honor. 2LT Samuel Chapin graduated with a degree in Religion and commissioned into the Field Artillery. 2LT Jessica Chabot graduated as a Nurse and commissioned into the Nurse Corps. 2LT John Lawrence graduated with a degree in Business Administration and commissioned into the Finance Corps. 2LT Ryan Leahy received a BS in Criminal Justice and commissioned in the Armor Corps. Ryan also achieved the Distinguished Military Graduate honor. 2LT Ryan Sutherland received a degree in Communications and commissioned in the Medical Service Corps. 2LT Eileen Parodi received a BS in Neuroscience and commissioned in the Medical Service Corps. 2LT Lia DiGiovanna graduated with a degree in Mechanical Engineering and commissioned in the Ordnance Corps. Congratulations to all of our new Officers.



This spring our program numbered 71 cadets and we already have a batch of about 20 incoming freshmen who have committed to joining the Paul Revere Battalion. I look forward to their arrival in the fall. But, even though the academic year is over, things have not

slowed down. We have cadets taking advantage of the numerous summer developing opportunities ROTC has to offer. 14 Cadets are heading off to the Leadership Assessment and Development Course at Ft Lewis, Washington this summer with the other rising seniors from across the country. They are a high quality group of cadets and I'm sure will represent themselves and the battalion well. We have five cadets headed to the Leadership Training Course at Ft Knox, Kentucky this summer. We also have an unprecedented seven cadets headed around the world on Cultural Understanding and Language Proficiency deployments. Cadets are headed to month long experiences to Bulgaria, Senegal, Montenegro, Taiwan, Thailand and Panama. We have one cadet interning as a nurse trainee at an Army Hospital and another filling in as a platoon leader for a month at Ft. Stewart in the Cadet Troop Leader Training program. Finally we have one cadet who will spend three weeks learning to parachute from a military aircraft at Airborne school. These are but a few examples of what sets a cadets development apart from the rest of their collegiate peers.

In any Army organization, soldiers come and go. The Paul Revere Battalion is no different. This summer we say goodbye to two dedicated military professionals who drove this program forward with their energy, skill and expertise.



MSG Jerry McCartney retires after 21 years of service and 3 combat tours. MSG McCartney will return to his family farm in Tennessee.



CPT Paul Lindberg departs the Army with nine years of service and two combat deployments as an Army aviator to pursue a career in business. He will pursue an MBA at the University of Virginia Business School this fall.

Joining us is MSG James Myers, a 20 year combat engineer who will take over as the Senior Military Instructor. MSG Myers' most recent assignment was as the Battalion Operation Sergeant for the 2nd Engineer Battalion at White Sands, New Mexico. MSG Steven Degnan, an 18 year veteran infantryman joined us in February from a deployment in Afghanistan. MSG Degnan is serving as Military Instructor and is currently filling in for our vacant Human Resources position. Finally, we look forward to the arrival this summer of

SFC Craig Westberg, an infantryman joining us from the 10th Mountain Division in New York. SFC Westberg will take over the role of Military Instructor and Assistant Operations Officer.

It has been a great 2012-2013 school year and I look forward to an even better 2013-2014 school year.

No Fear! Paul Revere!

**It's that time of year again ...
Commissionings!**

**Congrats to our newest 2nd
Lieutenants!!!**



2LT's Arthur Fennelly, Roland Paquette and Nicholas Favaloro at Salem State University.



2LT Samuel Chapin at Tufts University



2LT Eileen Parodi at Wellesley College



2LTs Jessica Chabot, John Lawrence, Ryan Leahy and Ryan Sutherland at Endicott College.



2LT Lia DiGiovanna at MIT



MIT Army ROTC - Paul Revere Battalion, Class of 2012-1013.

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or scan the following image to your smartphone:



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