



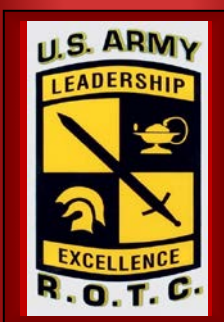
Illinois State Army ROTC

Spring 2019 Newsletter

ATTENTION ALUM!! If you'd like to update your contact information you can do so by sending it to demographicupdate@ilstu.edu. If you have ANYTHING at all that is ROTC related (i.e. books, papers, clothing, patches, rank, etc.) PLEASE email ISU Archives at archives@ilstu.edu.

*Bradley University and Illinois Wesleyan University Alum can send their updated contact information to Mr. David Sanford at dasanfo@ilstu.edu.

After a long winter break the Redbird Battalion is back and excited to start the new semester filled with events such as the Combined Leadership Training Exercise, Military Ball, Run Ranger Run, and Polar Plunge.



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Alumni Relations

Demographicupdate@ilstu.edu

ISU ARCHIVES

archives@ilstu.edu

Newly Commissioned Officers

The Redbird Battalion commissioned seven new Second Lieutenants on 10MAY2019. We want to congratulate them on all of their hard work and dedication to the Program. We wish them the best of luck!





Military Ball

This year's Military Ball was put on by CDT Legaspi on the 2nd of March. The ball is a formal event to showcase our program whilst congratulating our senior Cadets as they are pinned with their branches. This ball consists of a dinner, a grog bowl to welcome our newly contracted Cadets, a few mock awards, the recognizing of our seniors, a guest speaker, and a little dancing at the end. This year's guest speaker was Captain Elizabeth Fields, currently serving at the Pentagon as a WATCH Officer.



CPT Fields giving her speech.

"Leadership is a potent combination of strategy and character. But if you must be without one, be without the strategy."

- Norman Schwarzkopf



The senior Cadets receiving their branch.



Branch Pins for senior Cadets.

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Battalion Day

This semester a few of our Cadets from the Redbird Battalion got the opportunity to go shooting at a local range. Cadets got to shoot air rifles and apply the fundamentals of marksmanship by competing in teams of two in different shooting games!



Cadets shooting the air rifles.



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Run Ranger Run

During the month of February, the Redbird Battalion put together three full teams to participate in 'Run Ranger Run'. The teams have pledged to walk, run and/or ride bicycles for a combined total of 565 miles in the month of February to increase awareness for veteran issues surrounding the transition from active military service to civilian life.



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Cadets racking up miles while attending a cycle class taught by fellow Cadet Legapsi.



Polar Plunge

Throughout the whole month of February, Cadets have been raising money for Polar Plunge to support Illinois Special Olympics. Twelve Cadets took the plunge into the frigid waters of Miller Park Lake. Participants had to raise \$100 in donations from friends, family and co-workers in exchange for jumping into the icy waters. The Redbird Battalion raised a total of \$2,122!



Cadets before taking the plunge into the lake.

Combat Water Survival Training (CWST)

The Combat Water Survival Training (CWST) is a two-part test. The first part is the diagnostic consisting of a ten-minute swim and five minutes of treading water. The second part consists of a fifteen-meter swim with a rifle, an equipment ditch station, and the high drop.

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A Cadet performing the fifteen-meter swim.



A Cadet getting ready to complete the equipment ditch station.

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A Cadet completing the high drop.



Bataan Memorial Death March

In March, six Cadets from the Redbird Battalion participated in and completed the Bataan Memorial Death March! The Bataan Memorial Death March is a challenging 26.2 mile ruck march through the high desert terrain of the White Sands Missile Range.



Cadets Rosenkranz, Monaco, Shook, Kurtz, Perry, and Schmitz after completing the Bataan Memorial Death March.

Norwegian Foot March

On March 25th, 21 Cadets from the Redbird Battalion participated in the Norwegian Foot March hosted by Purdue University’s Army ROTC Program. The foot March consisted of 18.6 Miles while carrying at least a 25 lbs Rucksack. 14 Cadets qualified for the Norwegian Foot March skill badge (foreign award)!



Cadets after completing the Norwegian Foot March.

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Field Training Exercise (FTX)

This semester Cadets from ISU, IWU, Bradley, and WIU participated in the Spring 2019 FTX. They pulled security through the cold nights, rucked through the fields of the training area, practiced some land navigation spent time on the range working on basic rifle marksmanship, and execution of the confidence course. The platoons also ran through various missions including reacting to contact, raids, ambushes, attacks and recons. The FTX allowed our Cadets the opportunity to get some hands on tactical knowledge.



Cadets rucking to their next objective.

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Cadets qualifying on the range.



Cadets executing the obstacle course in teams.



Newest Contracts



Cadet Ajith contracted non-scholarship and is a member of the Simultaneous Membership Program.

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Cadet Baker contracted and was awarded a 2.5 year Minuteman Scholarship and is a member of the Simultaneous Membership Program. The Minuteman scholarship covers 100% tuition and fees OR room and board, it provides a yearly book allowance and more!



Cadet M-Yarrow contracted non-scholarship and is a member of the Simultaneous Membership Program.



Cadet Awere contracted non-scholarship and will begin to receive a monthly Cadet stipend.

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Cadet Wiese contracted non-scholarship and is a member of the Simultaneous Membership Program.

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Cadet Leon contracted and was awarded a 2.5 year Minuteman Scholarship and is a member of the Simultaneous Membership Program. The Minuteman scholarship covers 100% tuition and fees OR room and board, it provides a yearly book allowance and more!



Cadet Golden contracted and was awarded a 3-Year Minuteman scholarship and is now a member of the Simultaneous Membership Program. The Minuteman scholarship covers 100% tuition and fees OR room and board, it provides a yearly book allowance and more!

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