

CWU Wildcat Battalion Newsletter

2 February 2009

Wildcats Named Most Outstanding Battalion in the Nation!

Central Washington University's ROTC Battalion was named the Most Outstanding Program in the Nation by the United States Army Cadet Command, Fort Monroe, Virginia. As top in the country, the Wildcat Battalion will receive the Order of the Founders and Patriots of America (OFPA) Award for Excellence in a special ceremony later this year. This award is given annually to the best program in the United States. Other winners include Indiana Univ. and Wheaton College.

The Wildcats beat 276 other college and university Army ROTC programs for the top spot. Cadet Command evaluates all Senior Army ROTC programs based on Scholarship utilization and evaluations of Cadets' performance at the National Leadership Development Assessment Course (LDAC) at Fort Lewis, Washington. It also determines ranking based on a program's meeting or exceeding contracting, retention and commissioning missions. The award is a direct reflection of the Cadets' hard work, character, determination and dedication to duty.

Wildcats Win Task Force Pacific Northwest Ranger Challenge Competition 2008



For the second year in a row, CWU beat SU, UW, OSU, EWU and UO to become Task Force Pacific Northwest champions. Led by Cadet Mangrubang, Central's Gold Team

won first place in the M16 Assembly/Disassembly, One-Rope Bridge and 10 kilometer foot march events. Though trailing going into the 10Km foot march, Central's Gold Team beat UW A-Team by 10 seconds. Due to their outstanding stamina and drive to succeed, Central's Silver Team also fared well. Scoring 1569.06 points, they finished third behind SU's A-Team by just .86 points. Next year's teams also look strong, with just five graduating seniors among this year's eighteen competitors. Central's Ranger Challenge future seems as bright as ever!

CWU ROTC Alumni in Iraq



1LT David Celski, class of '07, seen here at FOB Marez in Mosul, Iraq with a Kurdish Leader and member of his platoon. 1LT Celski was promoted on 27 NOV while deployed as a Field Artillery fire support officer with the 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment, though his home unit is the 3rd Brigade, 4th Infantry Division out of FT. Bliss, TX. 1LT Celski's current tasks include processing intelligence, targeting areas for possible fire support and patrolling with his platoon in Mosul.

Leadership Training Course (LTC) \$5,000 Bonus!

Successful graduates of this summer's LTC at Fort Knox, Kentucky, who contract next fall, will earn a \$5,000 bonus and a two years' tuition. If you know a Sophomore in good academic standing here at Central or a community college they may be eligible for this great opportunity. Please spread the word and refer applicants to our Recruiting Operations Officer, Major Walter Botwinski and 509.899.3591 or armyrotc@cwu.edu.

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Cadets March in 2008 Veteran's Day Parade

Eighty Army ROTC Cadets and Cadre joined Veterans from every major conflict since World War II marching through the streets of downtown Ellensburg. Residents of all ages turned out to support the Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines, which were all represented by at least one Command Sergeant Major or service equivalent walking at the head of the parade. The High School band kept time while Cadets called cadence and happily accepted praise, which many will earn when they become Commissioned Officers and Army Leaders. The route started at Albertsons, took the parade down Pine, turned right onto 3rd and then North up Pearl, ending on University Way. This marks the third year of Wildcat Battalion participation in the event, and the largest turn-out of Cadets by far.

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Wildcat Battalion Celebrates Fourth Annual Military Ball

On a cold December night, the Wildcats gathered at the Quality Inn in downtown Ellensburg to continue their four year tradition of an annual military ball. The night started with a standard receiving line, followed by the introduction of the head table and special guests. This year's special guests included LTC John Armour, Air Force ROTC's Commander, CSM (ret) Don Morris, Dr. Connie Lambert, Interim Dean, College of Education and Professional Studies (CEPS), and Dr. Ethan Bergman, Associate Dean, CEPS. The night continued with the posting of the National Colors, making of the grog, dinner and a few points of order to ensure Mr. Vice's concoction didn't go to waste. This year's guest speaker was LTC Mitch Rambin, Commander, 5-20th Infantry. LTC Rambin spoke about the need for future officers to be calm and composed, lead from the front and be decisive even if it leads to a mistake. Following the guest speaker was a "special" rendition of Journey's *Don't Stop Believin'* by the MS IVs and a couple hours of dancing.



This is what happens when you wear the wrong unit pins...you spontaneously break into a line dance of "YMCA" with your accomplices.

Alumni, What Are You Doing These Days?

CWU ROTC would like to keep in touch with all alumni. Where are you? What are you doing? Are you still in the Army or have you moved on to other things? Please forward updates and photos to armyrotc@cwu.edu. Thanks.

Wildcats lead the way!