



CWU Army ROTC Winter 2022



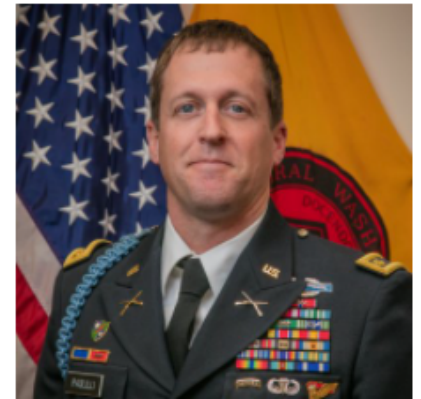
CWU ARMY ROTC



@CWUARMYROT

Wildcat family,

We had a fast and exciting fall 2021 quarter. Accessions, a process that occurs in the fall, is an important event for our senior cadets where they find out which component (Active Duty, National Guard or Army Reserve) they are commissioning into and what branch (officer job) they are being selected for. For our senior class, all who requested Active Duty achieved their goal. Every cadet also was selected for one of their top four branch choices. We had five students who were designated as Distinguished Military Graduates placing them in the top 10 percent of all ROTC graduates. Our junior class focused on squad level tactics to prepare them for cadet summer training, and our freshmen and sophomore classes focused on individual training and becoming members of our team. We made many changes to the overall structure of the program and cadet leadership positions. Cadet Cameron Keeler was chosen to be our Cadet Battalion Commander. He has done a great job, albeit with some challenges that we placed on him, and shows tremendous potential as a future platoon leader. He was also selected as one of our Distinguished Military Graduates and will branch Field Artillery and serve in the Washington National Guard.



Major Joseph Paolilli
Professor of Military
Science

We have been placing MS IIIs in critical leadership roles to challenge them, gauge their potential for future leadership, but also prepare them to run the program for their senior year. CDT Suce was the Battalion Command Sergeant Major and CDT Sturgeon the Company First Sergeant with CDT Cecil Sampson serving as the Company Commander. It was a great opportunity to watch leader development and the three of them voicing ideas and concerns to the senior class. Those juniors have been helping to identify problems, and, in general, make the battalion as a whole run much smoother.

We conducted our Fall Field Training Exercise at the Yakima Training Center in November. Cadets were able to conduct land navigation, M4 familiarization in spite of what some described as a “mythical mist” overcoming the range and obscuring all targets past 100 meters. We also completed squad STX and enjoyed some much needed coffee and soup donated by D&M in Ellensburg. If you are looking for a food critic to speak to the quality of the coffee and soup, CDT Garrett Miller approves. We also did our fall contract hike with 16 newly contracted cadets up Manastash Ridge!

On the cadre side of the house, the programs executive officer, CPT Ben Page was selected for promotion to major and to attend the Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, KS in the summer of 2022. Only the top 50% of promotable majors are selected to attend the Command and General Staff College in person. CPT Jaymar Imperial and his wife Edna welcomed their third child, Jayde Reyna, coming into the world at a fighting weight of 7.7 lbs and 20 inches. We also welcomed a new Senior Military Instructor, Master Sergeant Todd Brockman with his wife Yunni and two daughters Sarah and Sophia.

We have a lot of exciting events in the winter and spring quarters. Some of these events include Winter STX in Ellensburg (5-6 March), the Norwegian Foot march in Ellensburg (8-9 April) and a combined FTX with Eastern Washington and Gonzaga in Spokane (22-24 April). On the 1st of May we are hosting Gold Star Family members at a CWU Softball Game where each member of the softball team will wear the jersey of a fallen service member in the community (Please come support our Gold Star Families if you can). We have our spring FTX for CST bound cadets in Yakima (7-8 May), the senior class will conduct their staff ride with the Air Force and Military History Department to Fort Stevens in Astoria, OR (19-20 May). We have our Joint Military Ball and Presidential Day Awards Ceremony on the 27th of May and then Commissioning on the 10th of June.

Recruiting and Retention are going well, we are on track to meet all of our “Big Army” Requirements, and anticipate 100% success at Cadet Summer Training.

IN THIS ISSUE

Letters from PMS and BC- Cadet Experiences- What We're Up To!-

Letter from Cadet Battalion Commander



Cameron Keeler

Fall quarter of 2021 has been an exciting time for the Wildcat Battalion, with the pandemic going on this is the first time we have been able to return to full training in a semi-normal manner. It has been great getting to be back in person for PT, classes, and labs with new and returning members of the Battalion. This year we had the goal of engaging with the community that we have been distanced from since the spring of 2020. So far, we have taken part in a number of color guards and community events including the yearly Halloween crossing guard. It's been great seeing cadets volunteer to take part, and the community receive us, and we look forward to more opportunities to engage with the community. Training is also something we have had a goal of furthering, with the return of in person classes, PT, and regular labs every week the Battalion has gone full swing back into tactical trainings with FTX in the fall, and multiple FTX and STX weekends planned for the Winter quarter with the goal of preparing this year's MS3s as best as possible prior to leaving for Cadet Summer Training. I'm excited to continue this year with the Battalion to watch how all the cadets develop, and to see my peers finish their final year and commission as Lieutenants in the Army.



What We're Up To!

Volunteering

So far this year, Wildcat Battalion has had the privilege to volunteer at multiple different events around the Kittitas Area. Once again, we were able to continue our long tradition of assisting the Ellensburg Downtown Association with their annual Trick-or-Treat event as road guards. With the recent snowstorm that has affected all of Ellensburg. Some of our cadets have taken up their snow shovel and helped around the neighborhood. Volunteering is cornerstone when it comes to selfless service. A principle that the Army Values is rooted in.



Events

- Winter STX (March 5-6)
- Norwegian Foot march (8-9 April)
- Joint FTX W/EWU & Gonzaga (22-24 April)
- Gold Family Member CWU Softball Game (May 1st)



Highlights!

Turkey Bowl



Fall Quarter, CWU Army and Air Force ROTC faced each other in a very competitive game of flag football, known as the Turkey Bowl. Both sides played their best, but ultimately it came out with a victory for the Army!

Fall FTX



CWU Army ROTC once again had the opportunity to train at Yakima Training Center. Here cadets were able to hone their leadership skill in desert like conditions. With access to M4's and blank rounds to simulate a realistic environment.

Contracting Hike



Contracting in ROTC is the first steppingstone for a cadet's future career in the US Army. It is a tradition in CWU Army ROTC for a cadet to undertake the locally known Manashtash hike with their upper-class mentors. Cadets start the 4-mile hike before dawn so they can reach the top by sunrise. It is a special moment for all cadets involved. Further strengthening the bonds that make Wildcat Battalion one of the best.

Interested?

Contact Us

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Wildcat Battalion GEAR:

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