

CWUArmyROTC

Spring2022

 CWU ARMY ROTC

 @CWUARMYROTC

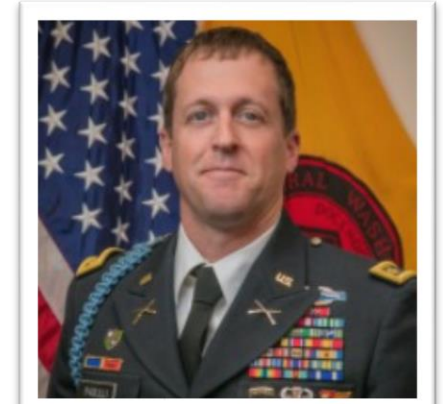
## Wildcat BN, Family, Friends, and Alumni,

The 2021-22 year exceeded all of our expectations, but most importantly, our cadets performed well in a plethora of events this year. We did four separate field training events with the highlight being the combined FTX with cadets from Gonzaga and Eastern Washington, not only did it prepare everyone for Cadet Summer Training our MS IIIs outperformed their peers. They are ready to go to Cadet Summer Training and we anticipate them doing very well.

This year we spent over 700 hours doing community service and were even recognized with an award from the Ellensburg Downtown Association. Our focus on community service has been two fold. First, we need to contribute to CWU and the greater Ellensburg community in more than learning how to be great leaders, but also as great teammates. Second, service ethos is important, and we use our community service events as a way to instill selfless service prior to donning their Lieutenant Gold Bars.

For the graduating seniors who are about to become Second Lieutenants, they are more ready than they realize. Perhaps the most reassuring feedback I can tell anyone about their performance this year and their future potential was a quote from MSG Brockman, the senior military Science Instructor in early May after our final field exercise, “Sir, I have no problems with any of the MS IVs becoming 2LTs, they are performing at the level and then some already”

Next year will have a similar feel to the school year, multiple field training exercises, the joint military ball with the Air Force ROTC, another 18.6 Mile Norwegian Foot march (hopefully without the snow), multiple color guard events, staff ride, hosting Gold Star families again, great PT, leadership labs and developing future leaders. If you are alumni and are able to participate in an event we look forward to your mentorship.



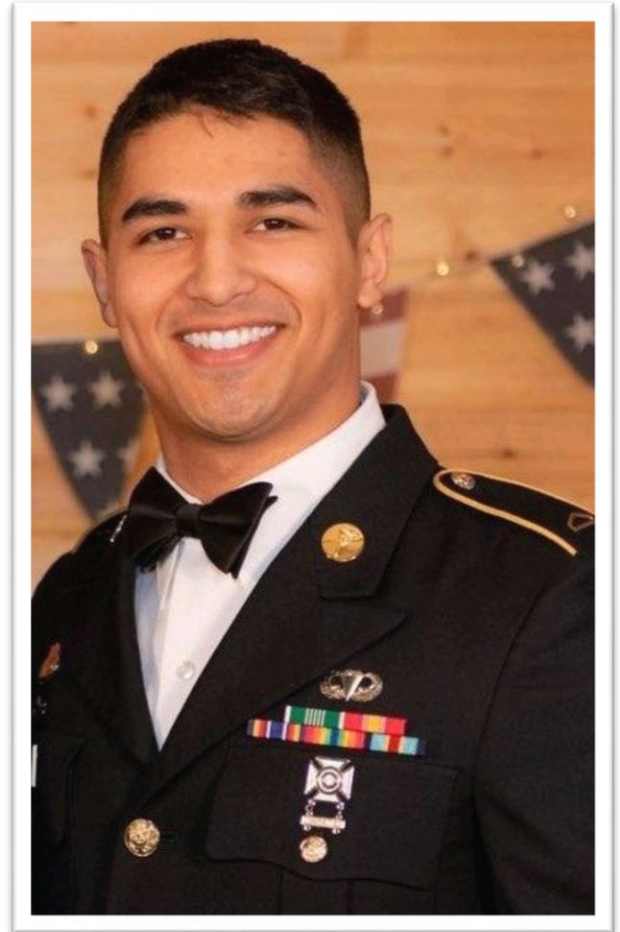
**Major Joseph Paolilli**  
**Professor of Military**  
**Science (PMS)**

# Letter from Cadet Battalion Commander

The past two quarters of 2022 have been a rewarding challenge to all of us in the Wildcat Battalion. I am thankful to the previous Cadet Battalion Commander, Cameron Keeler, for fostering healthy and strong roots for the battalion to grow from as we shook hands and I assumed command.

The MS IIIs have been working hard to sharpen their skills in preparation for Cadet Summer Training (CST) at Fort Knox this summer, and our seniors have been refining themselves as leaders to be ready to commission as Second Lieutenants in their respective branches of the U.S. Army. Leadership and tactical training opportunities at our weekly labs, as well as our amazing field training exercise (FTX) at Camp 7 Mile with Eastern Washington and Gonzaga University ROTCs, have prepared our MS IIIs and underclassmen for the challenges they will face at CST. I am proud to see their dedication to excellence and their ability to work with others both respectfully and effectively. I have full confidence our Cadets will achieve good evaluations and continue to show the nation how strong the Wildcat Battalion is at making leaders.

Lastly, I want to thank the community for their continued partnership with the Wildcat Battalion and providing us with opportunities to serve. The Wildcat Battalion was honored to take part in many community events these past several months. Most recently the Cops and Bobbers event to honor the legacy of Officer Ryan Thompson and the CWU Softball Gold Star Family Event which honored the surviving families of service members lost in the line of duty. Service is important to us and we are honored to be a part of recognizing the outstanding service of others. We take pride in our community and with their help, will continue to build strong bonds with Ellensburg and Central Washington University.



# MS4 TAKE

**Miller**

Being an MS4 has been an eye-opening experience. The transition from being in a role that is the “doer” of training, into a role that is the “creator” of training made me realize how much work goes into everything that I had been participating in over the last 3 years of ROTC. My staff position as the S2 allowed me to use the knowledge I have from my Geography Major by providing spatial intelligence for training events by planning the layout and creating maps of training areas.

Serving as the OIC for events and labs throughout the year was challenging yet rewarding. You don’t realize until planning an event how many small details go into what seems to be the simplest of tasks. However, seeing all the effort come to life during the execution phase of training is one of the most rewarding feelings that I have had in my time here at CWU.

Additionally, I have come to recognize that as an MS4, I am in a position that others look towards for leadership and advice. This year has been the final chance to experiment and practice leadership and planning techniques before commissioning this June.

Overall, my time as an MS4 has been very different from what I ever expected it would be. However, it was very rewarding and made me look forward to what is to come. My advice for next year’s MS4s is don’t get overwhelmed and overthink stuff. If you take a step back and disconnect for a second, you will realize that you actually know a lot more than you think. Find opportunities to use your unique skillset to its potential and most importantly, enjoy your time.



# MS3 TAKE

## Hadden

This year has been a challenge. Our MS3 class was challenged in many ways, but most of all in our character and leadership. Our class was able to step into positions that were usually MS4 level positions this year and it increased our confidence, knowledge, and our level of responsibility. I know for me at least and I am sure many of my classmates can say the same thing, our level of knowledge rapidly increased every week and the ability to step into leadership positions was stressful, but ultimately fun and gave us all new confidence in many aspects. Every year here at Central and in the ROTC program has guided me to be accountable and a more prepared person not only for camp this summer, but ultimately in life. Having these extra programs and commitments, like playing rugby and being a part of ROTC as well as being given the opportunity to step up and be A Co for this quarter has taught me a new level of responsibility and how to prioritize. I think cadets here have an advantage being in Army ROTC because it teaches them characteristics that most young adults never experience. We also have an advantage of experiencing helicopters and getting to shoot at a qualification range, which I think was really freaking cool.

When it comes to how our MS3 year went for preparation, our cadre has been incredibly helpful and just full of experience and advice. Our class has been well-prepared because of their dedication and experience. I know I have progressed immensely from the beginning of this year to now. My worries of going to camp have significantly decreased which I am very happy about. Our FTX with other schools was incredibly helpful for us MS3s and allowed a more realistic experience of working with strangers and working with new ideas and opinions. I know it made some of us really proud to be a part of CWU Army ROTC.

I also know our class has gotten closer as well this year. I know when I came into the program, I didn't really get to know a lot of the other MS3 cadets outside of ROTC and this year I did and I'm really grateful for that because we have a lot of great people in our class and our program. Being put into command positions and working with each other in stressful scenarios allowed us to have a new level of appreciation for each other as well. I know our class worked hard this year to step up and I'm really proud of us.



# MS2 TAKE

## Szoke

The MS2 class has made great progress as a whole. Starting off the year we were introduced to the role of team leader which all MS2s were able to experience. The position gave each MS2 new responsibilities taking care of their subordinates in their squad. The position also required us to understand the battle drills more thoroughly than ever before. This deeper understanding was essential, as we were in charge of moving and positioning others based on guidance from our SL. It required higher situational awareness and focus. Taking this experience paired with teachings from the MS3s, MS4s and Captain Page we are now better prepared for our transition into our 3rd year. As far as challenges go, there wasn't one challenge that affected everyone. Instead it was a mix of challenges that some struggled with and others excelled at. This included land navigation, the M4 qualification, team leadership, the CWST and more. Fortunately, as a class we were able to share our skills and expertise to help each other through these challenges. Going to Airborne this summer is a unique opportunity. I was excited to hear I had gotten a slot. I had always wanted to skydive someday so when I heard I was going to Airborne I thought it was a great opportunity to get out of my comfort zone and learn something new. I am sure Airborne like any school will have its own challenges but it will definitely be worth it. I've learned how to fly a plane. Why not learn how to exit one in style.



# MS1 TAKE

## Vandenberg

I remember coming into the CWU Army ROTC program feeling nervous but confident that I would pursue the program all four years. After making it through fall and into the winter and spring quarter of my MS1, year every experience I have endured has made me enjoy being here especially as I am being pushed to try my hardest and challenged to try new things. So far, things that have gone well are understanding how to apply concepts learned in class like battle drills and map reading skills to our missions at lab or our FTXs and getting several opportunities throughout both quarters to be a Team Leader. Some challenges I have faced have been simply not having the leadership experience besides team leader at lab or FTX. I can't wait to accept the new challenges of being put in more leadership positions in my MS2 year so that by my MS3 year I will be more successful and have everyone look to me for help or anything. So far, I feel that my squad leaders this year, MS1 instructor Captain Falk, and all my experiences have prepared me well for next year.



# FTX

## CWU-EWU-GU

### Frantz

On 22-24 April 2022 the CWU Wildcat Battalion partnered with Gonzaga University and EWU to form Task Force Washington for a Field Training Exercise (FTX) at Camp Seven Mile Military Reservation in Spokane, WA.

The FTX allowed cadets to gain practice integrating and leading with cadets from other programs. MS1's-MS3 conducted day and night land navigation training on Friday and then were divided between three platoons that conducted tactical patrolling missions over the following 36 hours.

MS4 cadets gained experience in planning and executing training exercises during the lead up to the event and during execution through the various roles they filled.

CWU cadets came away from the training feeling they gained valuable experience through the three days of training. MS3's in particular were able to identify areas to focus on before the final FTX of the year being held this upcoming weekend and before reporting to Cadet Summer Training in the following months.

Thank you to Gonzaga University and Eastern Washington University for partnering to put this valuable training exercise on and thank you to the 5th Security Force Assistance Brigade for supporting and assisting in the execution of the FTX.



## Winter STX

Frantz

Last Saturday and Sunday the Wildcat BN conducted their Winter Situational Training Exercise (STX). The winter STX provided an opportunity for MS4 cadets to practice working together as part of a staff team in order to plan a training event for the MS3's and underclassmen. This fact was emphasized when the MS4's were informed late



Thursday afternoon that the originally planned training location was no longer available and that they needed to plan and create orders for a new area and timeline by the following morning. The MS4's were able to create a new plan and training was successfully conducted.



Saturday's events involved both MS3-led platoons conducting 4 tactical lanes with the missions of Recon, Raid, Movement to Contact, and Ambush. Even with the training area being shifted to the area used in weekly labs the MS3's were able to gain valuable leadership experience by planning missions in the field. On Sunday the MS3 cadets had a practical classroom session where they were paired up and practiced creating warning and operation's orders then briefing them off of a terrain model. After the morning session of creating orders, the MS3's were given a class on Field Artillery from Captain Page to conclude the training weekend.

# NWFM

## Norwegian Foot March (18.6 Miles)

Frantz

“AND...THEY'RE OFF!!” Cadets, Soldiers, Airmen, and a few civilian participants started on the Second Annual Norwegian Foot March run by Central Washington University Army ROTC. If they complete the 18.6 mile foot march on the





Palouse to Cascade Trail, east of Ellensburg, in the time allotted, they will earn the Norwegian Foot March Badge from the Norwegian Armed Forces. Thanks to all those that have assisted with helping us with this event including the Kittitas County Sheriff's Department, the Norwegian Consulate, Norwegian Armed Forces and Army Reserve Medics of the 807th Med providing medical support. In total 239 participants competed, 117 passed. Of those that passed there were 102 bronze and 15 silver awards that were handed out that dreary night. Overall, 59 CDTs, 53 service members and 5 civilians made it through the tough training conditions!

## RECONDO

Miller

CWU cadets **Mackenzie Singleton, Cameron Keeler, Tom Sturgeon, Brandon Randall, Christian Anderson, and Eddie Ho** (not pictured) received the Wildcat Battalion REDONDO tab.

To earn the Wildcat Battalion RECONDO tab, cadets must complete various physical tasks. This year, the tasks included earning a 540 on the ACFT, immediately followed by a 4-mile ruck march with 45LBS in under 1 hour, and finally a 5-minute water tread.



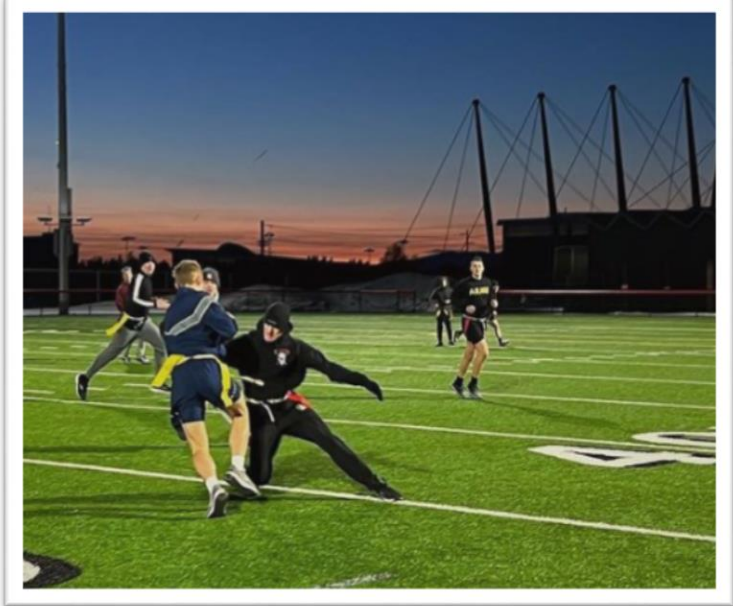
## Toilet Bowl

Miller

For the second time this year, the Wildcat Battalion faced CWU Air Force ROTC. Army won with a score of 36-30! Special Shout out to CDT Bland



who planned our routes. Also to BC Keeler who was our fearless coach on the field!



# Swag Shop

Frantz

If interested, consider purchasing items from the Wildcat BNs swag shop! We currently have sweatshirts, hoodies, T-shirts, hats, and bottle openers!

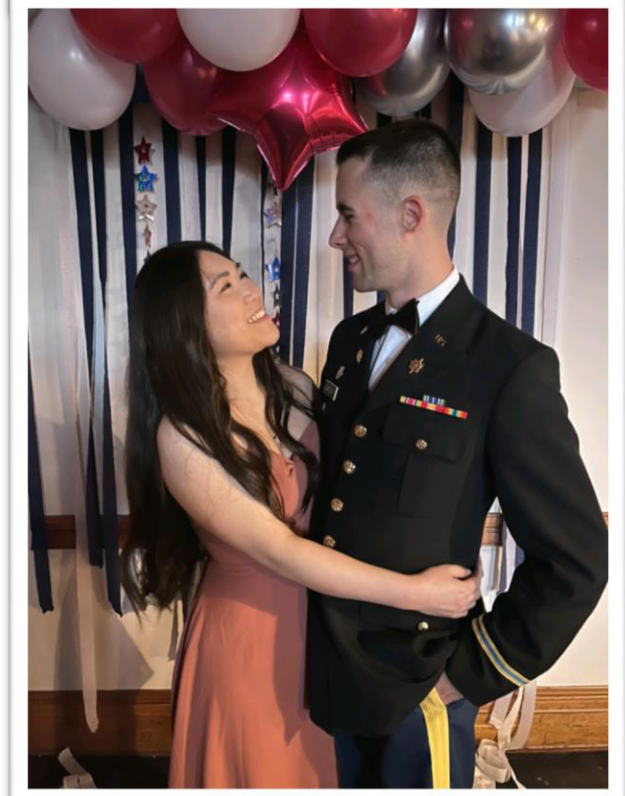
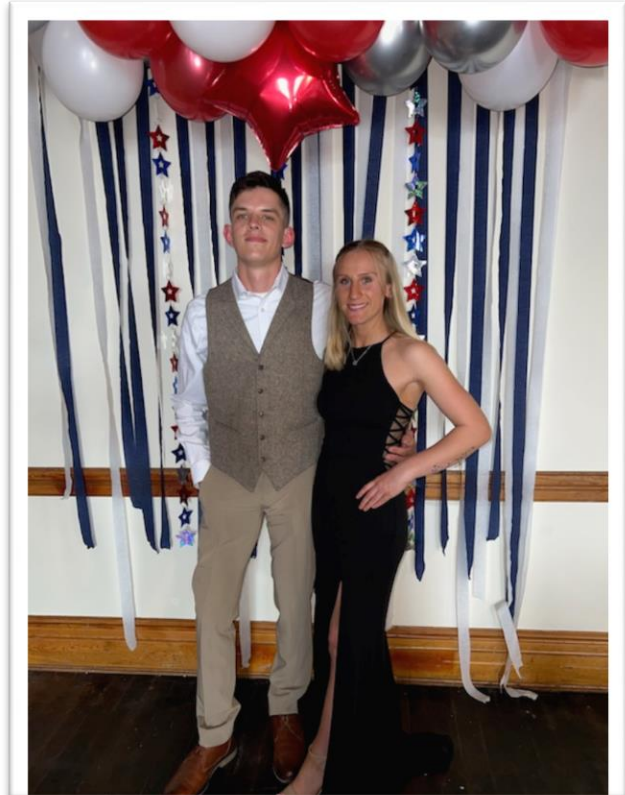
Link: [https://www.zazzle.com/store/cwu\\_army\\_rotc](https://www.zazzle.com/store/cwu_army_rotc)



# Joint Military Ball

Frantz

The CWU Army and Air force ROTC hosted its annual Military Ball. Our CDTS enjoyed a night of catered food, socializing, and dancing. This event has been a tradition for the past ten years and still continues to be one of the highlights of the year. As the spring quarter comes to an end, our cadets continue to work hard and exceed in the classroom as well as ROTC. Not only is the Military Ball a time to relax and the enjoy the atmosphere but also a time to recognize achievements made within the Wildcat BN. Listed below are CDTs that have made outstanding progress within their own life, as well as ROTC. Alongside of those recognized receiving rewards are pictures taken during the night! A great deal of work went into this event and was only made possible with the help of Mario from the Red Pickle who provided excellent catering, Garrett Miller, Anna Reid, and Renee Ball who also worked very hard to ensure the ball was a success.



Miller, Garrett	PRESIDENTS ACADEMIC ACHEIVEMENT: MS IV WITH THE HIGHEST CUMULATIVE GRADE POINT AVERAGE.”
Sandoval, Isaac	CAPTAIN DAVID ALAN CRATSENBERG MOST OUTSTANDING CADET AWARD: CADET HIGHEST ON THE NATIONAL ORDER OF MERIT LIST
Sturgeon, Tom	82ND AIRBORNE DIVISION ASSOCIATION, EVERGREEN STATE CHAPTER AWARD: MS III CADET WITH THE HIGHEST PEER EVALUATIONS
Vanginhoven, Joshua	ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE OF FREEMASONRY – ROTC EDUCATION AND AMERICANISM AWARD: MS II CADET WITH THE MOST VOLUNTEER HOURS
Bland, Corbin	AMERICAN LEGION GENERAL MILITARY EXCELLENCE AWARD: TOP MS II CADET AS RATED BY THE CADRE
Bland, Corbin	AMERICAN LEGION SCHOLASTIC EXCELLENCE AWARD: MS II WITH THE HIGHEST GPA AND BEST PERFORMANCE IN TRAINING
Wildman, Patrick	ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY ROTC MEDAL AWARD: MS III WITH THE HIGHEST BLUE CARD SCORE
Wildman, Patrick	THE ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY MILITARY HISTORY AWARD: MS III WITH THE HIGHEST BLUE CARD SCORE
Kress, Owen	KITTITAS COUNTY VETERANS ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIPS: CADET WITH BEST SERVICE ETHOSE AS CHOSEN BY THEIR INSTRUCTOR
Szoke, Elliot	KITTITAS COUNTY VETERANS ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIPS: CADET WITH BEST SERVICE

	ETHOSE AS CHOSEN BY THEIR INSTRUCTOR
Hernandez, Frances	KITTITAS COUNTY VETERANS ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIPS: CADET WITH BEST SERVICE ETHOSE AS CHOSEN BY THEIR INSTRUCTOR
Mcinerney, Jacob	MILITARY ORDER OF THE WORLD WARS AWARD: MS I WITH THE HIGHEST GPA
Samson, Cecil	VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES - ROTC AWARD: TOP MS III AS VOTED ON BY THE CADRE
Miller, Aidan	SUPERIOR CADET AWARD: TOP CADET AS CHOSEN BY THEIR INSTRUCTOR
Escobar, Adrian	SUPERIOR CADET AWARD: TOP CADET AS CHOSEN BY THEIR INSTRUCTOR
Evans, Matthew	SUPERIOR CADET AWARD: TOP CADET AS CHOSEN BY THEIR INSTRUCTOR
Keeler, Cameron	SUPERIOR CADET AWARD: TOP CADET AS CHOSEN BY THEIR INSTRUCTOR

# Gold Star Event

Reid

On May 1st at 1300, the Gold Star softball event kicked off. This



event was a collaboration between CWU Army ROTC and CWU Softball team. This event was put into play in order to honor 15 families that have had family members die, while in service in the military. What does it mean to be a Gold Star family member? An immediate family member to a service member that has passed away in the line of duty, this can be combat related or while serving stateside.



# **Staff Ride**

**Ft. Stevens**

**Frantz**

MS4s within the Wildcat Battalion had the opportunity to visit Ft. Stevens on 19MAY-20MAY. Alongside of the MS4s were a group of History students and faculty members from the history department. The main goal of the trip was to further the students ability in



understanding the many different characteristics of how the base functioned as a whole. A total of 5 groups were given varying topics to be researched and discussed upon the arrival of the fort, this form of research allows thoughts and ideas to be discussed thoroughly and on their own level.

## **Diversity Classes**

**Katie Parks**

**Frantz**

During the quarter, the Wildcat BN scheduled 2 PATH classes (Prevention-Advocacy-Training-Healing), and a micro aggressions class, all of which were taught by Katie Parks, the schools Health Promotion Coordinator for Violence Prevention and Response program. CDTs were able to engage in and practice in-class exercises on how they can handle unpredictable situations within their current life as a student as well as prepare themselves for when they become officers within the Army.



**Katie Parks**

# VIP Visits

**Brigadier General Appelhans**

**&**

**MAJ Blanchard**

Within the spring quarter, the Wildcat BN had the privilege of having BG Appelhans come and talk to the BN in specific regard to current world events, as well as MAJ Blanchard who lead a PT session on May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022. The Wildcat BN was able to honor MAJ Blanchards brother (Aaron Blanchard) who died April 23 of wounds caused by indirect fire in Puli Alam, Afghanistan. The PT session consisted of 4x800m runs, 4 sets of 32 jumping air squats, 32 weighted sit ups, and 32 burpees, the number 32 signified Aaron Blanchards age.



**Aaron Blanchard**

## CWU Alumni Take

**“Life after commissioning”**

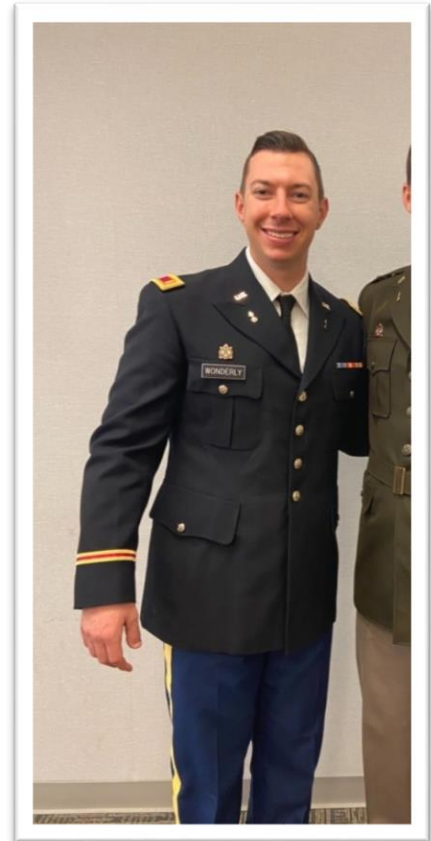
**2LT Wonderlv**

Commissioning into the United States Army is a huge accomplishment and is an extremely exciting time in your life. Somewhere in the midst of all the celebration and excitement, comes a thought about what your new profession is going to be like and how you will perform in the myriad of situations the Army will put you in. Those thoughts and feelings are extremely normal,



and all new Officers will have them. But, when you commission from Central Washington University you have a massive head start on many of your peers. I had heard this from past graduates many times about how great of a program CWU is and how prepared you will be for BOLC and beyond. While I wanted to believe them, I had no basis for how true it is outside of a Joint FTX or two with other schools. But I can assure you, in my experience, it is the absolute truth. It becomes apparent at BOLC and even before if you are one of the lucky ones heading to Fort Knox to assist as CST Cadre. While all BOLC's are different, be confident in the fact that you have the knowledge to stand out amongst your peers and shine no matter which branch you have Commissioned into.

The next thing I learned is to enjoy the BOLC ride. Much like in life, some days in BOLC will be a blast while others will be forgetful, but it is what you make of it. As strange as some of the things you will be asked to do seem, there is a ton you can learn while there. But it will be on you to make BOLC a worthwhile course and stepping-stone in your career. Ask questions and stay focused; there will be plenty of time to enjoy your time outside of the course. At BOLC you will meet all sorts of individuals who have commissioned, surround yourselves with the right ones and build a network of peers that you can rely on for many years. Those in your commissioning class will be your fellow platoon leaders and company commanders that you may need to rely on in the future. The presentation of yourself that you display daily while at BOLC will be the one your peers and instructors will remember, and it is important to build a network that is beneficial for you as you will all face many of the same problems throughout your careers. Have fun, but act professional and remember that you are a commissioned officer and that means something. Congratulations to those commissioning this year and remember to always be there for your peers and those who have helped you along the way, professionally and personally. CWU ROTC alumni are a family, put in the effort and you will succeed. I look forward to seeing you all in the force in the years to come.



**2LT Connor Wonderly**

# Commissioning Ceremony

**Frantz**

The commissioning ceremony that took place 10JUN22 was a success. A total of 9 CDTs have successfully commissioned as 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenants within the U.S Army. Within the following months our newly commissioned officers will be attending BOLC (Basic Officer Leader Course)

that is specific to what they have branched in. On top of BOLC many will also have the chance to attend follow on training such as Airborne, Air Assault and even Ranger School. Listed below is where our 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenants will be headed to after completing BOLC and any follow on training!

<b>Lieutenants</b>	<b>Branch</b>	<b>Duty Station</b>
Lawrence, Pierre	Medical Service Corps	Schofield Barracks, HI
Samson, Dylan	Military Intelligence Corps	WAARNG
Sandoval, Isaac	Ordnance Corps	TBD
Thomas, Terrance	Chemical Corps	Fort Drum, NY
Bafaro, Wil	Chaplain Corps	USAR
Miles, Wayne	Signal Corps	AL USAR
Parada, Raquel	Quartermaster Corps	Fort Shafter, HI
Miller, Garrett	Quartermaster Corps	Camp Carroll, Korea
Keeler, Cameron	Field Artillery	WAARNG

# Fall Calendar

Frantz

## CWU ROTC Fall 2022 Major Events Calendar

<p>September 20th</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New Cadet Orientation</li> </ul> <p>21th</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First day of school</li> </ul> <p>22nd</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First Lab (Award Ceremony)</li> </ul>	<p>October 8<sup>th</sup></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Contract Hike up Manatash Ridge (Alumni and Family encouraged to come)</b></li> </ul> <p>29<sup>th</sup></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Halloween Crossing Guard duty in Downtown Ellensburg</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• November 10<sup>th</sup></li> <li>• <b>Veterans Day parade (Alumni and Family encouraged to come)</b></li> </ul> <p>18<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FTX @JBLM</li> </ul> <p>22nd</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Turkey Bowl against the Air Force</li> </ul>
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