



MORGAN STATE UNIVERSITY ROTC

THE GRIZZLY



December 08—January 09

Words From The Bear Battalion Commander

WELCOME BACK.

The Mighty Bear BN had a very successful semester academically, in training. We demanded a lot from the Cadets and they produced. All of the Cadets were given opportunities to lead their peers in challenging realistic situations in garrison and tactical situations and they learned a great deal about themselves and about being a leader.

We commissioned five of our Cadets on January 23rd, a short summary of the ceremony and bios of the new 2LTs is included in this newsletter. All five of the Cadets had obstacles placed in their path during their tenure at Morgan State. We are proud of them and we know that they will be better officers and citizens because of the ability to overcome those obstacles.

Many of our Cadets answered the challenge to strive for academic excellence. All of them understand that their academic standing accounts for forty percent of their score for accessions purposes. Fifty three of the Eighty Seven Cadets assigned have a 2.7 CUM GPA or better.

During the course of the semester several Cadets earned a four year scholarship. Congratulations to you and all of the hard work and effort you put in has paid off. In addition to the Cadets who earned a scholarship during the semester four Cadets are pending medical waivers and should be on scholarship by the end of February. So far we have added twelve new Cadets to the BN for the Spring semester from Morgan and Coppin

I believe that excellence attracts excellence. The positive example set by our Cadets at Morgan State University and Coppin State University during the semester has resulted in fourteen new students enrolling in ROTC for the Spring semester and all of them are motivated and excited about the road ahead. I fully expect this trend to continue and expect another banner incoming Freshmen class for Fall 09.

Typical of the Army we have lost some Cadre due to moves and gained another. We say farewell to MSG Ferrell and SFC Phillips; the Cadre and Cadets thank you for your dedication to training and for the work you did within the BN. We welcome MSG Beatty who is an experienced infantryman with a love for the Army and a strong desire to mold our Cadets into the best officers they can be.

Finally we start the Spring semester at a quick walk and will be at a run by mid-February. This semester we continue to emphasize academics, military custom and courtesy, discipline, tactics, and leadership.

Strike First and Strike Hard Bears!

Grizzly 6 Out



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TRAINING

By CPT Thomas Goyette

Fall Training Highlights

During the Fall 2008 semester, the Cadets of the Bear Battalion participated in numerous training events. All training events were geared towards preparing for the Leader Development Assessment Course (LDAC) at Fort Lewis, Washington, that Cadets take following their Junior academic year. Training events included physical fitness development, leadership labs, swim training, participation in a Ranger Challenge Competition, participation in the ROCKS 5-Miler Competition, and a capstone Field Training Exercise. All training events were executed very well with enthusiasm and motivation from our Basic and Advanced Course Cadets.

Physical Fitness Conditioning

Many Cadets strived for and achieved physical fitness excellence during the Fall 2008 Semester. The following Cadets have earned the Army Physical Fitness Badge scoring over 270 with a minimum score of 90 points on the push-up, sit-up and 2-mile run events;

Cadet Caleb Asomugha MS IV (365), Cadet Jasmine Holloway MS II(325), Cadet Gerald Oliver MS I (320), Cadet Nicholas MS II Mollock (314), Cadet Fendi Richardson MSII (298), Cadet Michael Reid MS III (296), Cadet TieShe' Morgan (294), Cadet Khamau Andrews MS IV (290), Cadet Debora Nelson MS I (288), and Cadet Phillip Johnson MS IV (286)

Leadership Labs

During the Fall 2008 Semester, the Cadet Battalion Leadership planned resourced and executed Leadership Labs for all Cadets once per week on Thursdays. The Labs consisted of hands-on training to re-enforce tactical training learned in the classroom. Topics for the labs included; drill and ceremonies, map reading, land navigation, field craft, and squad tactics.



Swim Training

All Cadets attending LDAC following their Junior year must successfully pass the Combat Water Survival Test (CWST). Cadets in the ROTC program conducted swim training throughout the semester in order to meet this requirement. CWST consists of: a 15 meter swim with M-16 while wearing the Army Combat Uniform (ACUs), tennis shoes, and LBE; a 3 meter drop –off a diving board blindfolded with weapon & LBE; and equipment removal, discarding weapon & LBE underwater. Cadets also trained to pass the on-campus swim assessment which includes swimming for 10 minutes and treading water for 5 minutes.



TRAINING

Ranger Challenge Competition

This year the Bear Battalion sent its strongest and most motivated Cadets to participate in the brigade's annual Ranger Challenge Competition from 23 to 25 October at Fort A.P. Hill, Virginia. The competition was designed to test both a teams' physical and mental stamina. The competition began with a physical fitness test administered to all participants. After completing the test, the team moved onto a rope bridge course, where they had to construct a bridge using a rope and cross a river. They were later tested on hand grenade accuracy, weapons qualification, and orienteering. The culminating event of the weekend was a 10 Kilometer Forced Foot March that tested their endurance and perseverance. Overall, the Bear Battalion's performance in this competition was far better then previous years thanks to their numerous rehearsals and practice sessions. Participants in the competition include; Cadet Phillip Johnson (Team Captain), Cadet Michael Reid (Co-Captain), Cadet Marcus Carey, Cadet Nicholas Mollock, Cadet Benedict Paye, Cadet Gerald Oliver, Cadet Matt Young, Cadet Dennis McLendon, and Cadet Gernie Purnell.

ROCKS 5-Miler

Every year the Bear Battalion sends a team to a participate in the annual ROCKS 5-Miler Competition, which is a competition sponsored by the Washington, DC chapter of ROCKS Inc. ROCKS Inc is a non profit organization that provides mentorship and leadership outreach to ROTC students. During the 17th annual competition, the Bear's team performed superbly, as usual, earning second overall in the ROTC Programs Division. Additionally, Cadet Caleb Asomugha came in first in his age group. Cadet Fendi Richardson came in second in her age group. Participants include Cadet Caleb Asomugha (Team Captain), Cadet Gerald Oliver, Cadet Matt Young, Cadet Justin Mack, Cadet Nicholas Mollock, Cadet Fendi Richardson, Cadet Benedict Paye, Cadet Ryan Pinckney, Cadet Marcus Carey, Cadet Michael Reid, Cadet Cristin Sanders, Cadet Phillip Johnson, and Cadet Corey Glass.

Field Training Exercise

Every Semester the Battalion conducts a capstone Field Training Exercise (FTX) at a training area on a military base, in order to prepare the Army's future leaders for tasks they must execute at LDAC. All training is planned, resourced, and driven by the Cadet Battalion Leadership. The FTX for the Fall 2008 semester, took place at Edgewood Training Area on the southern side of Aberdeen Proving Grounds. During the FTX, Cadets developed their leadership skills and participated in numerous squad tactical scenarios such as establishing an ambush site, movement to contact, knocking out a bunker, and conducting reconnaissance operations. Cadets also conducted marksmanship training on the EST 2000 Simulator, which simulates firing semiautomatic rifles.



BEAR BATTALION ACADEMIC STARS (FALL 2008)

By MAJ Jacob Lefors

Since your #1 priority as an Army ROTC cadet is ACADEMICS, we want to acknowledge those cadets who excelled in their studies last semester.

Dean's List 3.4 or higher for the semester

G'Nelle Franklin	Chelsea Frazier
Shaneik Kellier	Rasia King
Dennis Mclendon	Johnathan Merriweather
Shaka Miller	Michelle Nicholson
Asya Parker	Meldrick Poindexter
Kaneshia Ward	Matt Young

The following Cadets in addition to those listed above have a Cumulative GPA over 3.0

Caleb Asomugha	William Dixon	Deanthony Edwards
Corey Glass	Phillip Johnson	Andre Kersey
Jordan Kingston	Dekisha Mathis	TieShe Morgan
Deborah Nelson	Benedict Paye	Morris Ricks
Cristin Sanders	Ashley Thomas	Ashley White
Jessica Williams		

Congratulations to these cadets who have shown academic excellence. Your CGPA comprises almost one-half of your accessions score for branch and component choice after your Junior (MS III) year. If you want to control your own destiny during accessions you need to be smart. As a reminder, you must graduate with a 2.0 CGPA to even be commissioned and you must maintain a 2.7 CGPA to receive the Room and Board benefits of the MSU Bridge Grant. For cadets or students who want to earn scholarship, your CGPA must be 2.5 to be academically eligible for the scholarship.

For cadets who fell below the 2.7 CGPA this past semester, you will be enrolled in the mandatory Tutor Program and Study Hall to help bring your grades back up. All cadets should continue to study hard, go to class, and don't wait until it's too late to seek help!!

MS instructors will review the 104R with each cadet during the first two weeks of February to ensure you are taking the correct classes to graduate on time and to maintain your scholarship benefits. The 104R will need to be reviewed and re-signed by your advisor by the end of February. If you do not know who your advisor is or are having issues getting in to see him or her inform your MS instructor immediately. Remember as a contracted or scholarship Cadet you signed an agreement between you and the military to graduate on time. Those cadets that have fallen behind academically may be required to attend summer school to get academically aligned for on time graduation, the Army will **NOT** pay for summer school classes.

WINTER COMMISSIONING

By CPT Beverly Maddux



On Friday, 23 January 2009, five more Morganites were commissioned as 2nd Lieutenants into the U.S. Army. At a ceremony presided over by LTC Brundidge and Dr. Richardson, Major General Prather served as he guest speaker and administered the Oath of Office to these new officers. Family and friends and even some of the commissionees themselves cried tears of joy and relief as their long journey thru Army ROTC and college was over and their new adventure as tomorrow's leaders was about to begin.

MG (R) Thomas Prather was the guest speaker for the commissioning ceremony. MG (R) Prather has led our Army ROTC Enhancement Team for many years and under his leadership the Team and Alumni have provided mentorship and outstanding support to the Cadets and Cadre of the Bear Battalion. MG Prather emphasized to the newly commissioned officers the importance of appearance and first impressions, doing the right thing always, and being a leader who leads by example. MG Prather graduated from Morgan State in 1962 and spent time in Europe, Asia, and the United States as an Ordnance Officer. He has a Master's Degree in Contracting & Procurement and a certificate from the U.S. Army War College. MG Prather has served in a variety of assignments to include Vietnam, Army Material Command (AMC), and the Pentagon. His many awards include the Distinguished Service Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Legion of Merit, and the Bronze Star Medal.

Dr. Earl Richardson, President of Morgan State University, congratulated the 2LT's for completing the race at Morgan State and encouraged these new alumni officers to return often to share their experiences with current and future Morganites. He reminded all the commissionees that their success was built on the sweat, blood, and tears of previous generations and it was their duty to give back to the community and the nation as leaders and model citizens.

6. The Grizzly DEC 08 - JAN 09



**CONGRATULATIONS
TO OUR NEW 2LTs!!!**

BELOW IS A SHORT BIO

2LT Elise Adams, Medical Service Corps, National Guard. As a cadet in Army ROTC, she was in the Simultaneous Membership Program (SMP) with the 224th Medical Battalion in Laurel, Maryland. 2LT Adams was the Cadet Battalion Commander during the Fall 2006 semester and was presented a Saber during the Commissioning Ceremony for her hard work and dedication to the Mighty Bear Battalion. She received an overall E (Exceeds the Standard) rating at the Leadership Development and Assessment Course (LDAC) and participated in Color Guard and Ranger Challenge while here at Morgan State.

2LT Serapis Williams, Ordnance Corps, Active Duty. She is on her way to Fort Benning, Georgia to complete Basic Officer Leadership Course Level Two (BOLC II). 2LT Williams graduated with a Cumulative GPA of 3.19 and worked her way thru school at BWI Airport with the Transportation Security Agency (TSA). She will be most remembered for her hard work and dedication to the Bear Battalion Mentorship Program and BN Executive Officer.

2LT Robert Pearl, Adjutant General Corps, U.S. Army Reserves (USAR). 2LT Pearl was a four year scholarship winner out of high school and is Airborne qualified. While in the Bear Battalion, 2LT Pearl was on the Ranger Challenge Team and Color Guard. His most enjoyable and memorable experience was spending one summer with the British Cadets in England during the Robin Sage Exchange Program.

2LT Terrance Marshall, Field Artillery, Active Duty. 2LT Marshall will attend BOLC II and III at Fort Sill, Oklahoma. 2LT Marshall transferred to Morgan State from the Citadel just prior to his Junior, MS III year. He was very excited to join Morgan State's long, distinguished history and participated in both the Pershing Rifles and the ROCKS 5-miler on a regular basis.

2LT Khoran Lee, Ordnance Corps, USAR. 2LT Lee graduated with a 3.16 GPA. While at LDAC, he received the coveted RECONDO badge which is given to cadets who receive a first time go on all events, score 270 and above on the APFT, and get 90% in all three areas of Land Navigation (written, day, & night).



RECRUITING

By CPT Beverly Maddux

Congratulations 2008 Army ROTC Scholarship winners. You have accepted the challenge and dedicated yourself to pursue a college education at Morgan State University and Coppin State University. The challenge is great, however not impossible. We applauded you and your families in this decision. We look forward to an exciting new year full of adventure and knowledge. Stay focused!!!

4 Year Scholarship Winners

Marissa Armour (Fr)	Jordan Kingston (Fr)
Joshua Brown (Fr)	LeDara Clark (Fr)
William Dixon (Fr)	Hursel Forbes (Fr)
Chelsea Frazier (Fr)	Lassandra Jones (Fr)
Shaniek Kellier (Fr)	Justin Mack (Fr)
Jonathan Merriweather (Fr)	Dennis McLendon (Fr)
Debora Nelson (Fr)	Gerald Oliver (Fr)
Brendon Perry (Fr)	Gernie Purnell (Fr)
Morris Ricks (Fr)	Ashley Williams (Fr)
Matt Young (Fr)	

3/3.5 Year Scholarship Winners

Joni Jackson (Fr) Sha'ka Miller (So) Asya Parker (So) Randall Richardson (So)

Scholarship General Eligibility Requirements

In order for these individuals to obtain an Army ROTC Scholarship, they first had to meet the basic requirements. These requirements consists of 1) being a U.S. citizen, 2) be between the age of 17 and 27 years old, 3) have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 if a already in college or a transfer student, 4) be a high school graduate or equivalent, 5) have a minimum 920 SAT or 19 ACT if a first time student, 6) have no moral obligations or convictions to prevent supporting and defending the U.S. Constitution and conscientiously bearing arms, 7) must satisfactorily explain any arrest and/or civil convictions, and 8) meet medical and physical qualification standards. These cadets met these qualifications and accepted the challenges to be an Army ROTC cadet- the future Army Officer.

Again, Congratulations and Best Wishes!!!!

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DISCLOSURE:

This newsletter does not represent the views
Of the entire Bear Battalion, Cadet Command or the U.S
Army.

*The Editor and Staff Thanks all of those that read
and support this publication.*

Chief Editor—Jacquelyn Thomas

Bear BN Thanks

The Bear BN extends special thanks to these special
supporters:

Dr. Earl S. Richardson

MG (R) Thomas L. Prather

LTC (R) J.C. Bozeman

COL (R) Bernard A. Barnes

The Honorable Turhan E. Robinson

DATES
TO
REMEMBER

<u>Event</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
Spring Semester Begins	26 JAN	MSU
BN FTX	20-22 Feb	Edgewood
Military Ball	13 MAR	MSU
GEN (R) Ellis Guest Speaker		
Mid Terms	16-20 MAR	MSU
Spring Break	23-27 MAR	MSU
Joint FTX (MS IIIs)	16-19 APR	Edgewood
Awards Ceremony	23 APR	MSU
Finals	11-15 MAY	MSU
Commissioning	14 MAY	MSU
Commencement	16 MAY	MSU

Birthdays for the Month of December/January

December

G'Nelle Franklin

Aishah Geater

Justin Mack

Debora Nelson

Brendon Perry

Cristin Sanders

Petra Way

January

2LT Terrance Marshall

William Dixon

DeAnthony Edwards

Asya Parker

Elliott Reid

Jacquelin Thomas

Corey Glass

*Happy Birthday to all the cadets that celebrate their special day in the months of December
and January from all of us in the Bear BN*