



The one quality that can be developed by studious reflection and practice is the leadership of men.
- Eisenhower

Fall 2007

FIGHTING SAINTS LEADER



FSB Cadre and Cadets at the 2007 Dining-In



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2007 Dining-In

By Cadet Charlie Dietz

The 30th of November brought upon us our annual Fighting Saints Dining-In. The event was flawless thanks to numerous hours of preparation by Cadet Koenig who was constantly running around the event making sure everything was right where it should be and squared away. The evening was held at Gorecki Hall, a new ballroom on the beautiful campus of Saint Benedict. The Dining-In gave us the chance to welcome everyone as a Battalion by dressing in our Class-A's and engaging in some entertainment, led by Cadet Anthony Muccio who acted as

Mr. Vice. Mr. Vice is the ringmaster of the show, leading the antics such as Rucksack Twister, Nerf Field Artillery, and assigning drinks from the Grog (a mixture of numerous substances that represent tradition for the Battalion and the Army). We were treated to a fancy meal by the St. Ben's caterers and some hilarious skits that the Cadets performed that had the whole room laughing out loud continuously. We had an all around very good time while honoring an important Army tradition.

Cadet Commander's Corner

By Cadet LTC Matthew H. Schwegel

As fall semester comes to a close and cadets prepare to take their finals, I reflect on the past four months and all that we've accomplished. The progression and development of the Battalion can't be overlooked, as cadets have demonstrated the utmost willingness to learn, lead, and grow. Our freshmen class has successfully integrated themselves into the program, thanks in no small part to strong mentorship demonstrated by the corps of cadets. Our sophomores have continued to build their leadership by organizing speakers and raising money for AUSA, and the Student Veteran Resource Center

This final group was established by Cadets Caroline North and Andrea Lieder, and their vision to help reintegrate student veterans returning to campus life. Much thanks goes to them and the cadets who volunteer to support the SVRC. We also welcome back some of our comrades who've been studying around the world. Cadet Alex Tatone studied abroad on the cape of South Africa. We also welcome back 2LT Neutkens, who spent almost six months traveling through sub-Saharan Africa and Western Europe. Continued on Page 8

From the Professor of Military Science

LTC James C. Fischer



December provides an interesting background to tell you about another great semester. This is the month that we commission our mid-year graduates and hold boards for our scholarship candidates.

These events plus our first alumni gathering provide an amazing intersection of past, present, and future which help us to realize the importance of ROTC to our Nation: we see the past in the dedication of our alums, we see the present in the bravery and perseverance of those just beginning their service as commissioned officers, and we recognize the promise of the future shown by those seeking to join us on the path to leadership excellence. As you read about this past semester, allow me to highlight some trends that I observe:

I see upper division Cadets who are really planning, preparing, and executing our training. They have taken ownership: teaching, coaching, mentoring and enforcing standards.

They are apprentices, eagerly learning and doing. I see new Cadets mastering college life; willingly accepting the challenges we throw at them and wanting more!

I see two companies, but one battalion, whose unity and teamwork is making everyone better.

I see leadership labs that are just that: a place to experiment and learn in a "controlled" environment that allows us to observe performance, adjust the variables, and increase the pressure to precisely refine abilities.

I see faithful alumni who successfully serve their country in uniform and beyond -- even fifty years or more after receiving their commission. Based on the conversation at the first alum event and your emails, I believe we have the start of something big: a network of Fighting Saints that will be stronger than its individual parts. I see young people still willing to serve.

Many people I talk to are amazed that our recruiting continues to be so successful. I no longer am. I am convinced that there

remains that solid core of people willing to pay any price, bear any burden, and experience the special reward of being an officer. I see outstanding support from the parents who have raised these young leaders and I thank them. I promise we will do our best to bring them to the next level.

I see grateful communities who respect the dedication of our Cadets and all in uniform (even if they sometimes cannot understand what we do and why).

And last, but not least, I see cadre putting in unlimited hours and giving selflessly of themselves to guarantee that these future Lieutenants provide only the best leadership to our children and comrades across the Army.

I hope that you can see that there are many reasons for us to be thankful. The future continues to look bright. If you would like to help us, please let us know. We greatly appreciate your continued support.

From the Senior Military Instructor

MSG Keith H. Arnold



Fighting Saints, we have come to a good place to catch our breath from a busy semester. This past semester we have conducted an FTX where we had an opportunity to fire

M16's, conduct practical night land navigation, and be challenged by the Field Leader Reaction Course. We also incorporated the basic fundamentals of movement. This was capped off by a five mile foot march back to the cantonment area for re-fit operations. The Corps of Cadets have shown a significant improvement in each training session. MS I's and II's want to be challenged with more responsibility and the MS III's are finding their rhythm of leading and executing the task for the Battalion. The MS IV's are finding the test of planning and coordinating for each and every event can be very demanding. The past semester has shown that the Fighting Saints are more than up to the rigors of training hard and maintaining focus on education. A large group of our Saints represented the battalion during

the Ranger Challenge competition held at Camp Ripley. The two day event was comprised of physical and technical skills. After starting with a record APFT, the teams moved into a group of round robin events that consisted of M16 qualification, assembly and disassembly of an M16, grenade assault course, orienteering, patrolling, and the one rope bridge. The event finished with a demanding 10 kilometer foot march. Our teams competed with the best cadets from six other programs in our area. The demanding training schedule and the time each member of the team sacrificed to improve their performance earned my utmost admiration. Neither team finished where we had hoped, but both teams can be looked on as a source of pride for their dedication and effort throughout the competition.

Another training event that we have absolutely excelled at throughout the semester was our tradition of having a color guard at specific events. We provided the colors for all the St. John's home football games as well as events at St. Cloud State and St. Benedict's. The professionalism of our cadets have inspired the fans and brought great credit upon the Fighting Saints Battal-

ion. Many cadets have volunteered for the honor to present the colors at these events. I would like to recognize one cadet in particular who has had a hand in each event by either marching or assisting in the training of his fellow cadets. Cadet Kevin Maxwell has distinguished himself through his efforts to represent the Fighting Saints with the highest degree of expertise.

Returning from our Christmas break, our team training focus will turn to the Bataan Memorial March in White Sands, NM. We anticipate taking approximately 20 cadets there to represent the battalion. The purpose of the event is to show respect for those veterans of the Bataan Death March and Corregidor. Thousands of American and Philippine Soldiers were forced to surrender after running out of supplies and the means to defend themselves. The resulting event happens to be one of the darkest chapters in World War II for the United States.

Finally I would like to wish each and every one of you a happy and safe holiday season. Never forget that you are a representative of your family and the Army ROTC battalion. Enjoy your time with your loved ones and return safely and as motivated as you have been for the last semester.

The Race Is On

By Cadet Will Durbin

On October 7, 2007 the Army Ten Miler celebrated its 23rd annual race in Washington DC. 17,641 runners packed the starting line early in the morning with the sunlit Pentagon as a motivational backdrop. Among these thousands were five members of the Fighting Saints Battalion. Cadets Gregory Sandquist, Aaron Rindahl, Adam Larson, and I ran as a team and Mr. Alberto DeJesus accompanied us as cadre.

Planning for this event began during the Spring Semester where CDT Sandquist coordinated with the General Vessey Chapter of the Association of the United States Army (AUSA) to arrange travel and accommodations once in Washington DC. CDT Sandquist is the President of the Fighting Saints Battalion AUSA subchapter. Shortly after signing our team up for the race the Army Ten Miler closed its registration in record time.

The course for the race brings racers by historic monuments like the Washington Monument and even takes runners by the Capitol building. People lined the streets cheering for all of the racers and holding signs. Bands playing instruments also encouraged racers along their way. In addition to the positive environment, the weather was beautiful. Though it was much warmer than recent years, the clear sky was an enjoyable way to see DC.

Along with the Fighting Saints Battalion came the University of

Minnesota team, also sponsored by AUSA. Prior to departing for our Nation's Capitol, the Professors of Military Science (PMS) from both schools placed a bet between the two teams. The losing team's PMS would have to wear the t-shirt of the winning school and post it at both campuses. This year the Golden Gophers were victorious, though a young team for the Saints will prove to be worthy adversaries next year.

The main event after the Ten Miler is the AUSA national meeting. This convention provides a view into where the Army is and where it is moving. Contractors come to show their products and how they will better our Soldiers' lives and help accomplish the mission. It is a three day long event that is well worth attending. Despite losing to the Golden Gophers, the Fighting Saints team came back with experiencing a great event and learning a lot about the Army and its future, along with getting to know some of the cadets in our Brigade a little better. This event showed us to be proud of our organization and the great things the United States Army does. Good luck to those who run next year.

If you are interested in joining our AUSA subchapter #93 please contact Mr. DeJesus at 320-308-3930 or visit the AUSA website www.vessey5401.org/

2007 Ranger Challenge Competition

By Cadet Cody Martin

The Ranger Challenge competition for the Fighting Saints Battalion began with an early morning formation to initiate the events to follow for 2 days.

All teams took part in the PT test at the same time. Both the Black and Gold teams from the Fighting Saints Battalion pushed and crunched their way through the 2 minutes of all out push ups and sit-ups before completing a two mile run. Black and Gold teams pushed each other on during the race of time and once finished they would stand on the sides and cheer them on.

The second event for the Black Team was land navigation. Black team divided up its members into different grid areas to quickly and accurately plot the points. All members made it back before time ran out. The second event for Gold Teams was Patrolling. The mission was a recon to identify enemy. Gold team who were comprised of younger members from FSB worked exceptionally well together for not having done many lanes before.

For the third event the two teams switched. Black team went on to patrolling and Gold team went to conduct land navigation. Black team also worked together very well demonstrating proficiency in tactics and team cohesion. The Gold team also carried out the land navigation in a similar fashion to the black team, also returning before time ran out.

For the fourth event, the black team moved to the one rope bridge event. The black team excelled, working smoothly to show that practice has paid off.

The Gold team moved to the grenade assault course. With each wave of the arm a team member armed with their rubber duck weapon ran to each obstacle and negotiated them with a grenade. During the fifth event the teams switched places and performed similarly.

Both teams competed in the weapons disassembly/assembly next. As the teams approached the bench where the M-16 was lying, they prepared it in the proper position before telling the timer to begin. Once the M-16 was disassembled the parts would be put in any order the team member wanted as long as they did not touch. Then the assembly would begin.

Both Teams then proceeded to the firing range to conduct Basic Rifle Marksmanship. Despite lack of practice, both team performed well in this event.

That concluded the first day of competition. The Ranger Challenge teams then headed to bed that night and prepared themselves mentally and physically for the next mornings 10k ruck run event. Both teams drove on to the finish line pushing through the exhaustion, sweat, and thirst. Black team came in a close third after passing a team on the last stretch to the finish line and Gold team was not far behind coming in sixth. Overall the year was one of team building. Both teams were fairly new to Ranger Challenge but still performed well despite this. The Black team ended up in 5th taking a second place in one rope bridge and the Gold team came in 8th taking second in the weapons disassembly/assembly event.

2007 Alumni Gathering

By Major Joey Errington

The Fighting Saints Battalion held its first annual Alumni Gathering in December in conjunction with the St Cloud State versus St. John's men's basketball game. Over 25 people attended the event which kicked off at the Kelly Inn for pregame activities. Alumni/ae from the first class of 1955, the 1970's, 1980's, 1990's, and 2000's came from as far as Virginia to reunite and reconnect with their program. All of the alumni told stories of how tough it was or how good their Ranger Challenge teams were. Several current cadets also attended to tell the stories of how hard and challenging ROTC is now. LTC Fischer spoke to the group about how the program is currently doing and to thank the alumni for their continued support. A display of AUSA literature and a challenge coin presentation were set up for alumni and current cadets to understand the history of military challenge coins. St Cloud State, College of St Benedict's, and St John's University Alumni Directors also provided gear for the alumni and cadets and supported our program for the event. A contracted bus took us to the basketball game where we were able to observe current cadets in action. The Fighting Saints Battalion provided a color-guard for the men's and women's basketball games. They performed superbly and generated positive comments and conversation from ROTC alumni and casual fans alike. Our program also has a starter on one of the basketball teams; unfortunately he was injured for this game and did not play. After SCSU defeated SJU by a score of 82-56, we rode the bus back to the Kelly Inn for the formal conclusion of the evening's

events. The alumni gathering was an overall success that we would like to build on in the future. Email or call Major Joey Errington at jerrington@csbsju.edu or 363-2342 if you have any suggestions or comments for next year's event. The cadre and cadets of the Fighting Saints Battalion is looking forward to seeing our alumnae/i at next year's event.



FSB Alumni, Cadre and Cadets at the 1st Annual Alumni Gathering

Congratulations to our Newest Second Lieutenants

The end of the 2007 Fall Semester was a pivotal time for five former cadets of the Fighting Saints Battalion. It marked the end of five young Lieutenants' lives as a cadet. The accumulation of over four successful years through ROTC led to the commissioning of Timothy Biocic, Daniel Frantz, Corey Hake and Adam Kramer and Eric Neutkens as Second Lieutenants. This was a pivotal moment in these young men's lives as it has pointed them in a new direction in their lives as an Army Officer. They have successfully completed all necessary training as a cadet to have the honor of earning the Bar of Gold. They will now move on to further training at BOLCII and continue to the Officer Basic Course of their selected branch before arriving at their first duty station. On behalf of the Fighting Saints Battalion, we congratulate

these newly commissioned Lieutenant's as wish you the best of luck in your future!

Timothy Biocic - Quartermaster

Daniel Franz - Ordnance

Corey Hake - Quartermaster

Adam Kramer - Chemical

Eric Neutkens - Medical Service



Voice of the Army Support for the Soldier

Consider joining the Norberg sub chapter of AUSA Since 1950, the Association of the United States Army has worked to support all aspects of national security while advancing the interests of America's Army and the men and women who serve. AUSA is a private, non-profit educational organization that supports America's Army - Active, National Guard, Reserve, Civilians, Retirees and family members.

AUSA provides our cadets numerous Professional Development Opportunities at a variety of events both local and national.

Our chapter is named in honor of Jeremy Norberg, a cadet who tragically died in a car accident two months shy of receiving his commission. He was a fine example of the seven Army values and was posthumously appointed a Second Lieutenant.

See the Minnesota chapter's website at www.vessey5401.org/ or call Major Errington @ (320) 363- 2342 to learn more.

Initial Week

By Cadet Daniel Gimm

While most students were celebrating their last few days of summer, Fighting Saints Battalion cadets were preparing for the upcoming year. Incoming first-year cadets were being tested on their physical strength and stamina by taking the Army Physical Fitness Test. As for the fourth-year cadets, understanding the duties of the battalion level leadership positions, being introduced to the Military Decision-Making Process, and getting the first few classes out of the way were all on the agenda. The Fighting Saints Battalion initial week was full of activities that prepared cadets for the upcoming year and was meant to reduce stress on the first semester of the training schedule.

Spring FTX

By Cadet Charlie Morin

The 2007 fall FTX was held at Camp Ripley this past September. The MS I and II cadets had a chance to go out to a rifle range and get familiarized with the M16 rifle while engaging targets at 25 meters. The MS III cadets had the chance to get some great night land navigation training in preparation for warrior forge this summer. Come Saturday afternoon battalion had a squad level competition where each individual squad was time negotiating an obstacle course. When Sunday morning finally came the Fight Saints Battalion as a whole from the MS I's to the MS IV's were ready to take on the coming challenges of the semester as a team.

Veteran's Day Parade

By Cadet David Thao

Veteran's groups from around the state of Minnesota gathered in St. Cloud to help put on the State's most spectacular Veteran's Day Parade. Pedestrians watched in awe as the officers, floats, marching bands and military vehicles and veterans all push through the streets of St. Cloud. After the parade a memorial service was held at the Apollo High School gym, with other festivities taking place at various locations throughout the city. Attendants attending the Veteran's Day parade paid tribute to our nation's heroes.

It was truly a memorable event. You couldn't help but get a lump in your throat and a tear in your eyes watching those brave young men and women of the Fighting Saints Battalion Color Guard march by. This group of cadets was selected based on individual experience, dedication and was led by SFC (P) Derek Fussell.

I had the privilege of riding on one the floats where I had the opportunity to greet and thank the pedestrians who attended the event. When asked how I felt to be a participant, I stated "It was an honor for the Knights of Columbus to select me amongst all the brave soldiers to who had served in the Armed Forces. It was a honor to represent the Fighting Saints Battalion."

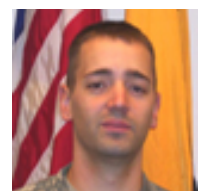
Thanks to all of the men and women in the U.S. Armed Forces past and present for their unselfish and dedicated service to our nation. It is these individuals that make our country great.



NICOLE BOCK/ VISUALS EDITOR
SCSU student David Thao gets ready to throw candy to parade goers while riding in the Knights of Columbus float. The Veteran's Day parade started at the VA Medical Center and ended at Apollo High School.

Welcome Our Newest Cadre

Captain Hintgen joins the Fighting Saints as its new Executive Officer. He is an Ordnance Officer and qualified in the Quartermaster and Transportation branches. He comes to the Department of Military Science after returning from a sixteen month deployment to Iraq with the 1st Brigade Combat Team, 34th Infantry Division. He is a member of the Minnesota Army National Guard and currently serves as Company Commander for Golf Company, 134 Brigade Support Battalion based out of Saint Peter, Minnesota. Captain Hintgen graduated Cum Laude from Saint Cloud State University in 2001 and holds a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science. He is currently pursuing a Masters of Business Administration degree.



CPT David F. Hintgen

Future Army Nurse takes a study abroad to Africa

By Cadet Alex Tatone



My experiences in South Africa just keep getting better and better. I have had the opportunity to work in some of the poorest communities in the world, which has been eye-opening and valuable to my education, but also very frustrating at the same time. Because of red tape and government corruption there are very few resources available to provide adequate healthcare. I am right now in a clinical rotation at a psychiatric health out patient clinic where I have been able to get very involved in dealing with the mental health patients being treated there. I am also taking South African jazz and SA political science classes.

Outside of class and clinical work, we have also kept very busy traveling and soaking up the atmosphere. A few of the highlights

have been shark cage diving with great whites, doing the world's highest bunji jump, safari in Addo Elephant National Park and Schotia Game Reserve, as well as visiting Robben Island where Nelson Mandela was held as a political prisoner for 27 years. You will also be happy to know that we visited the Castle of Good Hope in Cape Town, which was occupied by the Boers and the British at different times. It has since been turned into a museum on the English-Boer wars.

If you are interested in seeing a few of my pictures, I have posted a few on this sight for family and friends to visit: www.dropshots.com/adtatone.

Alum Notes

The Fighting Saints Battalion held its first annual Alumni Event December 8th, in conjunction with the St Cloud State versus St John's men's basketball game. Over 25 people attended the event which kicked off at the Kelly Inn for a pregame activities.

Other notes: Officers enroute to their Captains Career Course can serve as Hometown Recruiters for a week or so; email us if you are interested. If you would like to come to speak to Cadets or at the monthly AUSA meeting at the Fort Snelling Officer's Club, contact CPT Hintgen at 320-363-2717. Please consider joining our AUSA chapter. Tell your soldiers about Green-to-Gold at SCSU, CSB, or SJU.

We expect to have some seats available at our Military Ball; it would be great if you could join us. Keep checking our site for updates from your brothers and sisters.

<http://armyrotc.com/edu/mnstjohns>

Support Your Local Staff Ride

Every year Cadet Command expects MSIV's to study a battle and conduct an on-site staff ride. This helps them learn from history about the challenges and opportunities they might face as officers in wartime.

Our goal is to see one of the most important battlefields in American history: Gettysburg and focus on the heroic actions of the First Minnesota Regiment. Could you help us pay for transportation or lodging?

If you would like to donate to our trip, please make your checks out to "Cadet Battalion Fund" and mail to: Dept of Military Science, ATTN: MAJ Errington, 7099 Guild Hall, Collegeville, MN 56321, or call MAJ Errington at 320-363-2342.

Sights from Fall 2007



FSB Color Guard at SJU Homecoming



2007 FSB Ranger Challenge Teams



The ladies of FSB at the Dining-In



CDT Christiansen assists in mixing the grog



CDT Durbin enjoys sipping the grog



FSB Ten Miler Team & Mr. Wagner



FSB Cadets training during at the Fall FTX and November



FSB new 2LTs during the 2007 Winter Commissioning Ceremony at St. Cloud State University

America's Newest Citizen Soldier

By 2LT Joseph Genin

Ulises Ayala swears in naturalizing him as a citizen of the United States at the District Court in St. Paul, Minnesota 19 December 2007. This oath signifies that this citizen will uphold and support the Constitution that makes this nation great. Soon after, Ayala took the Cadet oath to become an Army Cadet in the Fighting Saints Battalion ROTC program.



Spring Calendar

Spring FTX	April 17-20
Military Ball	April 25
Gettysburg	March 11-15
Bataan, NM	March 28-30
Bataan, MN	TBD
Commissioning	May 10

Do you know a future Cadet?

If you know a young person who has the potential to be an Officer, tell them about us!
They don't have to be from Minnesota!

We have great opportunities for Green-to-Gold;
two/three/or four year scholarships
(CSB/SJU/SCSU even pay for room & board);
and the Simultaneous Membership Program.
Call 320-363-2717 for more info.



Organization

**FIGHTING SAINTS BATTALION
ST. JOHN'S UNIVERSITY,
COLLEGE OF ST. BENEDICT
& ST. CLOUD STATE UNIVERSITY**

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Cadet Commander's Corner cont'd

Finally, we also say goodbye to four of our own, now Second Lieutenants in the Active Army and Minnesota Army National Guard. Lieutenants Adam Kramer, Tim Biocic, Daniel Franz, and Corey Hake have all completed their college degrees, and have demonstrated to all that they are capable of leading America's finest young men and women.

It is my sincerest hope that all FSB personnel, cadre and cadets, have a safe and relaxing break. It has been well earned through hours of PT, studying, mentoring, and teaching. It has also been a privilege to be your Cadet Battalion Commander this semester. I am continuously amazed at the potential, motivation, and drive exhibited by those of the Fighting Saints Battalion. I look forward to seeing this continue in the new year.

Fighting Saints!

C/LTC Matt Schwegel

Fighting Saints Battalion

If you are interested in ROTC or have any questions please feel free to visit our office either at St. John's or St. Cloud University campus. At SCSU we are located downstairs Stewart Hall room 11 and at St. John's we are located downstairs Guild Hall room 20.

This issue was compiled by:

CDT David P. Rothstein, C/S-5/S-6