



# Warrior Spirit

## Summer Training Challenges and Strengthens

BY: Pamela Fabiano

MSII

This summer, several Cadets from the Sun Devil Battalion will have the opportunity to attend Army schools to expand on their military training. These schools are Air Assault, Airborne, Sapper (Combat Engineer) and Mountain Warfare.

To qualify for consideration Cadets must be contracted, score an 80 or above in each event on the APFT, have good grades, and have good attendance in ROTC.

"We are only given a certain number of slots every year, so we have to create an

Order of Merit list of the best qualified cadets in order to determine who gets a slot," said Captain Elias Otoshi.

Cadets have several different reasons as to why they want to attend these different schools.

"My ultimate goal is to be an Airborne Ranger," said Nathaniel Jeanes, MSII. "I also wanted to go to spice up my summer and because I want to get as much accomplished in ROTC as I can."

Cadet David Robinson, MSIII, wanted to attend Air Assault School because he felt the chances of him getting in after he commissioned were less likely than if he went during his time in school.

"I want to go to as many schools as possible," said Robinson. "This way I

can get more training and it's not something you can do in the civilian world."

At Air Assault School, cadets execute obstacle courses, learn to rappel, learn to hook a sling load to helicopters, and do three road marches. This puts constant pressure and a lot of stress on participants.

"It gave me a good feel for what I could handle," said Robinson. "I passed everything without failing or being retested and it was really just another way of testing myself."

Cadets attending this summer have heard many different opinions on what to expect.

"I've heard that it's pretty easy as long as you're in shape," said Jonam Russell, MS II. "The only thing I'm

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## 2009-2010 Chain of Command

		<b>BN CDR</b>	Bailey				
		<b>CSM</b>	Owensby				
<b>XO</b>	Larson	<b>S-3</b>	Henderson	<b>FUNDS</b>	Kukta		
<b>S-1</b>	Diaz	<b>S-3 SGM</b>	Begaye	<b>C/FUND</b>	Sears		
<b>S-4</b>	Cuevas	<b>AS-3</b>	Shanders	<b>LDP</b>	Byers		
<b>AS-4</b>	Castro	<b>AS-3</b>	Maves				
<b>S-6</b>	Lovett						
<b>PAO</b>	Wake						
<b>ACO</b>	Wiley	<b>BCO</b>	Robinson	<b>CCO</b>	Parsons	<b>DR CO</b>	Smith
<b>A ISGT</b>	Bryson	<b>B ISGT</b>	Suter	<b>C ISGT</b>	DeWitt	<b>DR XO</b>	Terre
<b>ITAC</b>	Flinn	<b>ITAC</b>	Debroy	<b>ITAC</b>	Merkle		
<b>2TAC</b>	Ochoa	<b>2TAC</b>	Hayes	<b>2TAC</b>	Barry		
<b>3TAC</b>	O'Connor	<b>3TAC</b>	Lopez				
<b>4TAC</b>	Poland	<b>4TAC</b>	Miller				

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## Best of Luck LTC McIntosh

This semester the Battalion says goodbye to the Professor of Military Science, LTC Kirk McIntosh. Over his four years as PMS, he has had a significant impact on the lives of both cadets and cadre. Here are some quotes from those who serve with LTC McIntosh.

LTC McIntosh is probably one of the most dynamic personalities I've ever known. He is constantly on the go and never satisfied with the status quo. Funny thing is, he speaks "Huttese". But don't ask him because he'll deny it. This has been an enjoyable assignment for me and LTC McIntosh will definitely be missed. No one will soon forget "Helga, the American Gladiator!!"

**MAJ Witcher**

While he needs to work on his golf game, LTC Mac is one of the finest officers I have had the pleasure of working with in my career. His focus and drive are amazing, as is his capacity for caring for subordinates, both cadet and cadre. There is not much else that I can say that other's before me have not except it has been an honor and pleasure to serve with him and given an opportunity to do so again I would not hesitate.

**CPT Otoshi**

Bataan 2008 and 2009: 2008 a spider monkey on crack with a camera. Bouncing from racquetball court to hotel to brigade residence and back to the finish line. Flashy, flashy all the time talking himself into a frothy lather in anticipation of a cadre Bataan team in 2009. 2009 a steady building level of enthusiasm, excitement, and over analysis of boots, ruck type, route planning, nutrition, and training regime starting in December for a March race! Constant chatter and calls of "check THAT out!" and "Need a power gel?" but overall a very strong team member and individual performance. His infectious enthusiasm and can do spirit picked cadets and cadre alike up when they were down and made the entire event enjoyable.

Ranger Challenge 2008: If I heard it once, I heard it a million times "This year, we GOTTA win Ranger Challenge!" Equal parts coach, mentor, spectator, photographer, organizer, and participant. Ranger Challenge really gets LTC McIntosh's competitive juices flowing.

Never afraid to get dressed up (dress blues or Helga from American Gladiators) LTC McIntosh has left his distinctive footprint and scent trail on the Valley. From hiking Camelback Mountain, politicking around campus, and lobbying for incentives/donations/deals for the Sun Devil Battalion if you've met LTC McIntosh you've either been recruited, been fondled, or propositioned by him (and that's just the first 15 minutes!) An influential persona throughout cadet command, the university, and the local community, LTC Mac either knows where to get it, can get you a smoking deal on it, or will help you to get out of it once you've stepped in it. The kind of guy that would give you the shirt off his back (mostly because he likes to go topless) but at the same time will push you to be the best you can be in all things.

As with any significant change, the loss of LTC McIntosh will be felt across the battalion for years to come. His quick wit, ready smile, and propensity for popular culture made him an outstanding instructor, a reasonable boss, and THAT GUY on the golf course who would always beat you. LTC McIntosh and Penny have made the Sun Devil Battalion Cadre and Cadets members of their family and their absence will be sorely missed. Without doubt they will succeed and enjoy life in whatever new adventures they embark upon. We can only hope they will send periodic update, of course pictures and videos, and maybe drop by every now and then when the weather is nice. Best wishes and fond goodbyes from all Sun Devils past and present. Feel the Heat!!

**CPT Mammoser**



P.S. Remember LTC Mac says. "Wear your sun screen."





LTC McIntosh??? Oh you mean Penny's husband. Yea he's pretty cool too. Things won't be the same without her around taking pictures and making those cool videos for commissioning. She's quite a lady and she...oh you want to hear about him! He has been real good for this Battalion. He made a lot of positive changes around here to make this BN what it is today. He always had the Cadet's interest in mind. He wanted what was best for them, better training, better equipment, and better staff offices and lounge so it felt like home to them here. He would do what ever he could to make them successful, sometimes to a fault, but he always could see the potential in Cadets when other Cadre couldn't. He took care of Cadre as well. He expected nothing but the best from us at all time but knew when it was time to have fun, which was all the time. My most vivid image of LTC McIntosh was during the Halloween run of 08. He dressed up as Helga from the Gladiators. Sad part is he was hotter looking then she is and more muscular.

You will be hard to replace because I know you did so much more for this BN then we ever saw. I wish you the best of luck to you and your family in the years to come. It was a pleasure working for you and an even greater pleasure to be able to call you a friend.

**MSG Stover**



As the resident "green suiter" who's known LTC McIntosh (or should I say LTC Dude ?) the longest, allow me the following 2 cents and change, keeping in mind that this article is meant for the Cadets:

- I arrived at ASU about two months after LTC Mac, so I got to witness most of the changes that occurred. To begin with, the BN was a GOOD Battalion, and didn't need a lot of improvements.....but, BUT.....enter the GIF (or Good Idea Fairy) and the next thing we knew we were off and running !!!!

- As we all know, it's difficult to keep an aviator grounded, and so it was with our PMS. Liked greased lightening, you never knew where the Dude was going to strike

next! Some examples:

- no MS III instructor offices ???? Move some of those old books and throw out the rest damnit!!! ;) !!! we're having us an instructor room !!!
- nasty furniture in the staff offices....leading to grumpy (not you Cindy or Michelle) admin folks ?? Bleep it, replace it all !!
- skank Cadet lounge that no one uses except Crazy Yates??? Bribe some students to paint and beg for money on the side of the road selling chiclets.....who cares, whatever it takes to get some furniture.....including bringing Dude's own stuff .....
- he was the only one who could translate MAJ Caryl for us .....
- no computers in the computer lounge?? No problem....I think Dude had the Mac guy taken out and PC awarded him which a half dozen Dells....anyway, that's what I heard.....
- and to see LTC Dude's expression when some thing went FUBAR on an FTX, like the LT driving the new van over and onto a horseshoe stake....priceless
- oh, and you don't even know about all the "drug deals" with the University!!!! LTC Dude has raised about a billion \$\$ on this campus....how else do you think he got Obama to come here....suffice it to say, the program is much better off financially than it was before....and this means more and better training equipment !
- and who else do we have to thank for the "Coveted....." ....geesh, I can't bear to say it ... ;)

Well, in reality, I believe the Sun Devil Battalion has indeed been very fortunate to have LTC McIntosh at the helm for the past four years. You will not find anyone who lives the Army Values any better, or who cares as much for his Cadets. And he loaned us his better half Penny, without whom most of our media productions would have sucked.

**B—Old dude**

"LTC McIntosh, You never stopped caring about this program and the men, women, and Cadets that support and stand for it! Thank you for what you have done for me personally, I couldn't have fallen into better hands considering what I was going through upon my arrival here to now." With deepest regards,

**SFC James Greer**



## “Place Their Needs Above My Own”

BY: Kathryn Zurmehly

MSI

First-year Cadet Auston Terry served as a SPC from September 2007 to January 2009 at Hunter AAF and Balad AFB. He was a senior UAV Operator, Crew Chief, Air Mission Commander, Flight Line Manager, Instructor Pilot, Team Leader, and Section/Shift Leader.

Cadet Terry approaches leadership with ‘Be, Know, Do’ firmly in mind.

“The single most important job of an NCO is the training of his or her soldiers,” he said, believing that he should have the same high standard for himself as those he lead. Terry said that he set that high standard for his soldiers and got them to maintain it because he won their respect by being an approachable leader who shared in their hardship while maintaining the separation of authority.

“I prided myself in knowing that as a leader my superiors would often come to my team as a last resort knowing that my team would accomplish their goals, because those soldiers were always the most tasked, with the most important missions,” said Terry.

He deployed with Joint Task Force 6 and JTF-North in 2004 and 2005 for drug interdiction operations, helping the U.S. Custom and Border Patrol by providing near real-time aerial coverage.

“Leaders, at any level, who live by the NCO creed are always superior leaders,” Terry said, “I believe that by remaining a consummate professional, skilled in my core competence, and open to mentorship in new areas, with empathy, compassion, and mission orientation I achieve the goals of the NCO creed and provide the leadership my subordinates deserve.”

Over the span of two deployments from April 2006 to April 2007 and August 2008 to December 2008, Terry and his unit were credited with the capture or elimination of more than 500 high value targets and 1500 persons of interest and countless IEDs during their time in country. During the second deployment, they used previously untested equipment to provide 32 hours of intelligence coverage per each 24 hour period.

Cadet Terry decided to join the Army ROTC because he decided that the Army was going to be his career and ROTC offered the most challenges and opportunities. He currently plans to maintain a high enough GPA and do well enough on the MCATs to go into medical school, or go back to the aviation branch where he would like to fly OH-58's or their replacements.

His advice for former NCO cadets: “I think as NCOs we almost have to take a step back. We know how to lead, direct, and employ soldiers. As former NCOs, we have to let the other cadets gain their own experience as leaders without making it more difficult, which is often frustrating. When cadets struggle, give them the advice they need, but don't do the work for them. And I guess this is just for everyone in ROTC, because most NCOs already know: the Army is a professional organization, but that doesn't mean you can't have fun. Once you relax and take things in stride, being a leader becomes so much easier.”



C/Terry with one of his planes.

## “Backbone of the Army”

BY: Pamela Fabiano

MSII

The Green-to-Gold program is a system where qualified enlisted Soldiers are able to earn a college education and at the end of four years commission as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant.

Cadet Derrick Owensby is currently in this program.

Before, he was in a delayed entry college program, during which he attended Maricopa Community College to get his associates degree before enlisting. He was stationed at Hawaii in the 25<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division as an 11B (Infantryman).

Three years of active duty later, he decided to join ROTC.

“I wanted to progress and do something new, something different,” said Owensby. “I also joined because I wanted to get my college education while I'm still somewhat young.”

One of his best memories as an Non-Commissioned Officer (NCO) is watching his fellow comrades advance through the ranks.

“When I was a team leader I progressed up to a squad leader and one of my squad members became a team leader. It was cool to see him progress and know that some of that had to do with my guidance,” said Owensby. “As a leader you always try to guide the guy next to you. You're not only a leader, but a mentor.”

Owensby feels his NCO experience has helped him in ROTC because the job description is almost the same.

“Being an NCO helps you learn how to deal with soldiers, what standards you have found to be the most important, and understanding the military,” he said.

NCO's have their own creed which is indicative of their inherent professionalism and dedication to duty.

“The creed shows everything you should be or should live up to be,” said Owensby. “The NCO's are the backbone of the Army and nothing gets done unless an NCO makes it happen. They are the driving force of the Army, the doers.”



## “I Will Provide That Leadership”

BY: Sean Magner

MSII

Every year Cadets join the ROTC program for different reasons; to serve their country, do something to better themselves, to be able to afford college.

Cadet Steven Gibson, a native of Chandler, Ariz., originally enlisted in the Army because he couldn't afford to pay to go to college. Eventually earning the rank of Sergeant, he has seen quite a bit in his career thus far.

Gibson was deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, helped with the 2002 rodeo fires in Southern Arizona, and was also deployed to help with the aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

“We stayed in Livingston in an abandoned Piggly Wiggly the whole time thinking the roof was going to fall and we were all going to drown,” Gibson said when asked about his experience with the aftermath of Katrina.

During his tour in Iraq, his missions were varied from convoy escort and route security to working with civil affairs teams winning hearts and minds.

Gibson's favorite experience so far from ROTC has been the Situational Training Exercise (STX) lanes where he was able to use some of his real world experience as an NCO to help the squad leader with the orders process and actual tactical movement techniques.

“If you want to get respect from your rank, you've got to do better than what people expect from you,” said Gibson.

Gibson expressed his passion of wanting to fly. His hope is that when he commissions as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant he will be able to join the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 185<sup>th</sup> Aviation Regiment to fly Apache Helicopters.



*C/Gibson serving as part of OIF.*

## “Competence is my Watchword”

BY: Jennifer Henderson

MSIII

Being a Non-Commissioned Officer (NCO) has its challenges and benefits, but by taking on the responsibility, a soldier shows his or her commitment to the job and the soldiers.

Cadet Mark Cardenas served as an NCO for a year before he joined the ROTC. He was part of the 31B and the 44C – Military Police and a Financial Management Technician, respectively.

It took Cardenas a mere two-and-a-half years from his enlistment to make it to a Sergeant. During this time, he learned that he was responsible for more than just his own life.

“Part of the NCO Creed which states “competence is my watchword” reminds me that soldiers trust NCOS to make good, just decisions which ultimately bring them home alive from combat,” Cardenas writes in an e-mail. “I'm responsible to make sure my soldiers have the knowledge to become outstanding leaders.”

Cardenas served at Fort Bliss; Camp Shelby; and both Baghdad and Balad, Iraq. Now that he is part of the Sun Devil Battalion, he said that he has learned patience.

“[I've learned that] cadets are learning to become soldiers so I've learned patience,” he wrote.

Cardenas was recently accepted at USC and will be leaving the Sun Devil Battalion this summer.

## “I Will Exercise Initiative in the Absence of Orders”

BY: John Pedraza

MSI



*C/Garza during his time in service*

There are many cadets in the Sun Devil Battalion that came to ROTC from active duty. Some come to get an education and learn to be a leader. Some decide to join for personal reasons. Some have been deployed before they decide to join.

Cadet Joseph Garza is currently an MSII in the Battalion. He enlisted as active duty in 2001 after looking into all the Armed Forces and found that the Army was the best for him.

Garza served as a 42A, or a human resource specialist, and was assigned to the 82<sup>nd</sup> Soldier Support Battalion. His unit was deployed to Iraq in September 2003 and stayed there for seven months

“Even though I served in the AG corps I had to do escort runs, and I'd have to be a vehicle gunner,” Garza said about his time overseas. “My advice is that you may not be in a combat arms branch but don't discount any combat training they do teach you now because you never know when you may be using it.”

After four years on active duty, Garza left as an E-4. After a few years, he joined the National Guard as an E-5, staying in until 2008 when he decided to go for a commission.

“I chose to do ROTC because I wanted to help make changes for the better and I felt that I couldn't do that as an enlisted soldier,” he said.

Cadet Garza is just one of many cadets in the program that previously did time in as an enlisted soldier.



## Summer Training (Cont.)

worried about is the towers. You have to jump off them to practice before you actually jump.”

Russell admits that he has never liked heights.

“I’m afraid of heights, but I like to try and conquer my fears,” he said.

At the schools, cadets get to meet enlisted Soldiers and get a taste for what the enlisted side is like as well as train with other cadets.

“I met a lot of good people,” said Robinson. “It was a good intro to see what it will be like when I commission. I saw both good and bad people and learned from it.”

As tips for cadets going to Air Assault School this summer, Robinson suggested practicing rope climbing and watching videos on Youtube.com to get a feel for what it may be like.

“Don’t go there expecting to get in shape, go there in shape,” said Robinson.

Overall the impression of Air Assault School for Robinson was good. He felt that the training was good for the amount of time it was.

“It was cool training and we got to do a lot of cool stuff,” said Robinson. “I’m glad I did it, but also

that I don’t have to do it again.”

Most cadets going this summer are looking forward to it.

“I’m just impatient,” said Russell. “I don’t like that it’s so far away. I just want to go already.”

On the other hand some cadets don’t know what to expect. For instance John Hardin, MSII, has not talked to anyone who has gone to Mountain Warfare and is the only one going this year.

“I’m nervous,” said Hardin. “But I’ve been training hard by practicing climbing, land navigation and tying knots.”

Army schools are not only good for training, but help cadets stand out.

“I think it’s a good way to distinguish myself from my peers and it shows my level of hard work and dedication,” said Jeanes. “I’m proud to represent our battalion.”

As for cadets going this summer, many are eager to see what an Army school is like.

“It’s not every day you get to jump out of a plane,” said Jeanes. “I’ve never done it before and you only get to live life once. And on my plane ride home I want to tell the person next to me ‘I was forced to jump out of the last plane I was in.’”

Each year, cadet command within each university is given a certain number of available slots to send cadets to the following schools:

### **CTLT**

—held in various states

### **Sapper**

—held in Ft. Leonard Wood, MO

### **Northern Warfare**

—held in Ft. Greely, AK

### **Airborne**

—held in Ft. Benning, GA

### **Air Assault**

—held in Ft. Campbell, KY

This year, there were eleven slots for Air Assault school, five slots each for CTLT and Airborne school, and one slot each for Northern Warfare and Sapper school.

Cadets are chosen based on their Order of Merit List (OML) points to include GPA and performance and standing in the battalion.

## Spring JFTX Filled with Valuable Training

BY: John Pedraza

MSI

The Spring Joint Field Training Exercise (JFTX) held at Camp Navajo near Flagstaff was conducted with four other schools: the University of Arizona, Northern Arizona University, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, and the University of Northern Las Vegas.

From April 16-19, 2009, cadets conducted training in preparation for LDAC. The MSIII cadets were in charge of operations, holding positions from team leaders and up the ranks to company commanders.

Day one was spent in travel and the set-up of the barracks and squad integrity and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs). That night, MSIIIs conducted Night Land Navigation in the snow, while everyone else received Static Load Training on a CH-47 (Chinook).

The next day, cadets awoke to snow-covered grounds in which they gathered their ruck sacks, had an MRE breakfast chow, and moved out to the STX and Land Navigation sites. The rest of the day, Alpha Company spent as squads conducting the lanes, with a three-mile road march back to the barracks finale, while Bravo Company did day and night land navigation.

The third day was sunny and warm, and the company operations flip-flopped. Alpha moved to the Land Navigation site while Bravo conducted STX and the road march. After two days of operations, there were many cadets with roughed-up feet, bruises and some with twisted ankles, though no major injuries to report.

On our last day, cadets woke up to a clear day with hot chow. The morning was spent cleaning the barracks to immaculate, drawing weapons, and moving out to school formations. Cadets received a debriefing and congratulations for the hard work and success, and each school returned to their respective hometown.

The JFTX as a whole was seen as valuable training, since it forced cadets from other schools to work with those who may do things differently – similar to conditions at LDAC. MSIIIs faced some confusion during their short leadership rotations, but it gave them a hint as to what to avoid during their month at Ft. Lewis.

## Hard Orphan Life Reaps Rewards

BY: John Rothleutner

MSIV

Sak pase...N'ap boule! That means "What's good with ya...everything is good!" in Creole. Though most people don't know, I look African American but am actually from Haiti. I was born in Ganthier, Haiti, not far from my orphanage in Port Au Prince.

I was told that I was born and lived on the streets with my mother until I was about two years old. My real name is Jean but it was later changed to John when I arrived in America. When I was brought to the orphanage I remember the care takers pointing out my little brother when he arrived. We were two peas in a pod. I rarely left his side, he was all I had.

I remember the orphanage as a place of play, housing, and death. Haiti is a third world country; however, seeing it first hand is a sad reality. I saw many kids that were malnourished; I was too, as well as my younger brother. It looked like both of us were about eight months pregnant. I was a happy go lucky kid who saw kids die due to extreme illness and advanced stages of diseases. I somehow I recovered from my malnourishment and only had the problem of wetting the bed. I thank the Lord that was all that was wrong with me. I always remembered feeling hungry all of the time. We were always looking for something to eat. They were sad but good times.

I remember the green color of the plantation that was owned by my orphanage. The cool breeze of the Caribbean would glide through my soul in the countryside. The sweetness of the sugarcanes, yams, and coconuts embraced my taste buds like a long lost friend. I felt that I was the luckiest boy in the world. For sport we used to play in the canal that irrigated the land, and I played soccer with anything short of broken glass.

During my stay at the orphanage a white lady named Erica came every few months. She always came bearing gifts with a letter from my sponsors from America, David and Rose Rothleutner (my adoptive parents). They were supporting kids all over the world through a non-profit organization based in phoenix called "All God's Children". They had three children of their own, but for about \$0.70 per day, they made sure that we received medicine, clothing, and toys during the holidays. I used to smile and enjoy the candy. I never saw Sally Struthers making commercials but the program worked for me.

There was an opportunity to adopt some of the kids they sponsored. My mother said that when it came to reviewing the files and pictures of me and my brother, her heart just melted. They began the adoption process; however, the civil unrest towards then dictator president Jean-Claude Duvalier slowed the process. The already arduous process was further delayed due to the government collapsing. After an exhausting effort to locate my mother to ask her permission for adoption, though she was never found, I was adopted and made my way to the United States. At the Haitian Airport after the sugar

rush of my first Pepsi, I remember I clinched my brother's hand, as I often did in the orphanage when he was scared, I told him that no matter what happens I would never leave him and always take care of him. On that bright peaceful day we flew over the beautiful blue Caribbean Sea and I remember thinking that never seeing it again would have been a deal with the devil that I could make without regrets. I closed my eyes and left everything into God's hands.

When I arrived in Phoenix, I remember thinking that my parents were actually my grandparents. There were people surrounding us, but none of them spoke Creole, including another boy that I recognized from the orphanage who had been in the U.S. for two years. My mom cried, but I didn't understand why – I thought we were supposed to be happy.

I was an ESL student for about four years, but I never understood why I needed it especially since I spoke better English than my teacher. It was a different transition from preschool and kindergarten in Haiti, where we had nuns who taught us; and who often had it out for me with that ruler.

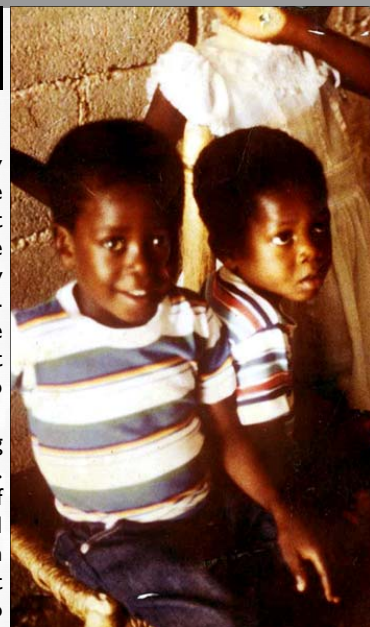
My parents later pulled me out of public school and put me into private tutoring with our church. Though I lost some social experiences, that changed when my parents put my brother and I into soccer, where we were superstars. They couldn't understand our immediate skills, but they didn't realize how much we played at the orphanage. Unfortunately when my father became ill, money matters were tight and we couldn't continue with soccer.

As time progressed, my dad's illness made life a little stranger in our house. This once rancher and tough guy was my hero, even though he was sick. He always told me that I needed to learn to speak well to others, that it was the only way to get ahead in life. I used this during my time at Chandler High School, and it earned me the nickname of "Carlton Banks," though I was popular and a football and track star.

I joined the army at the beginning of my senior year and later went to basic training to FT. Leonard Wood, MO. I deployed to Afghanistan in spring of 2002. I had both good and bad times, but overall it was great—most of my army knowledge is from my time there. I was a sergeant at that time and I feel that I matured the most after that assignment. I made staff sergeant after my deployment and completion of the Basic NCO course.

I now have my beautiful daughter Saidah, who is the love of my life. She is truly my little princess. I am a single father who believes that the father plays the most important role in a child's life. Taking care of her can be a strain, but the little things she does makes it worth it. She often runs up to give me a peck on the cheek and to tell me she loves me more than anything in the world.

My plans after graduating with an urban planning degree are to go back to Haiti and help build it to its full potential. I want to help eradicate the poverty through building homes and establishing zoning and codes for safer dwellings. I love America and the opportunities it's brought me, but my heart sets like the sun for Haiti forever.



John and his brother at the orphanage in Haiti. Photo courtesy of John Rothleutner.



## TOP's Corner

BY: MSG John Garrison  
Battalion TOP

The difference in exceeding the standard and just meeting the standard is attitude. As future officers in the Army, you will be expected to strive for excellence in all that you do. If mediocrity is what you strive for, you have chosen the wrong profession. As leaders we must set the example by striving for excellence in all we do.

To excel in something is not always easy and most of the time requires hard work and dedication. For example, one doesn't just show up to take an APFT and get a 300 score. In order to achieve a maximum score on an APFT, it requires you to take the initiative and do more than what we do during our morning PT sessions.

First, to achieve excellence you must have the drive and motivation to do so. Then you have to map out your goals and determine how you achieve your goal. If you need to improve your run time of the APFT in order to achieve the maximum score, you need to focus your attentions towards improving your run time.

Once you have set your goal and determined how you can achieve your goal, it is time to put your plan into action. This follow through is the difficult part of achieving excellence. Obtaining your goal will require consistent hard work on your part. Goal accomplishment requires that you take the initiative and do what you know you have to in order to achieve your goal of excellence.

As a leader you set the standards for excellence within your organization. If you set low standards for yourself, your subordinates will do the same. On the contrary, if you consistently strive for excellence and accept nothing less from your subordinates, excellence will become the standard.

**BE THE STANDARD  
KNOW THE STANDARD  
ENFORCE THE STANDARD**

## Commander's Corner

BY: LTC Kirk McIntosh  
Battalion Commander

Greetings Sun Devils! I'm sad to say that this is my last Commander's Corner as I will be handing over the reigns of command on 22 Jul 2009. It's been a great ride and I've got to say that I'm extremely proud about the direction in which our battalion is headed. The quality and motivation of cadet that I see has improved every year. I'm seeing things that I did not see in my first two years in the battalion. You, the cadets, are now taking charge and accepting responsibility for everything that you do...training, recruiting, and mentoring. You are taking ownership. You are taking control. You give a damn about our mission and your fellow cadets and are willing to take the extra time and effort to take care of others, to improve your technical and tactical skills, and to set the standard. You are starting to police your own and make corrections to cadets when they are doing the wrong thing—something very hard for younger cadets to do, but something very important if you are going to police your own. I'm proud, not because of what I've done to affect this but of what you and the cadre have done together. You are on the path to excellence in everything we do here on campus as well as off. I expect great results at LDAC, LTC, Airborne, Air Assault, Ranger Challenge, Bataan, and every other challenging training event we have going on. Keep in touch and let me know how things are going and don't be afraid to call if I can help you with something. My replacement, LTC Hammond, is a lucky man to get to work with such motivated and talented cadre and cadets. It's definitely been my honor. SUN DEVIL 6 – OUT!

*"Feel the Heat!"*

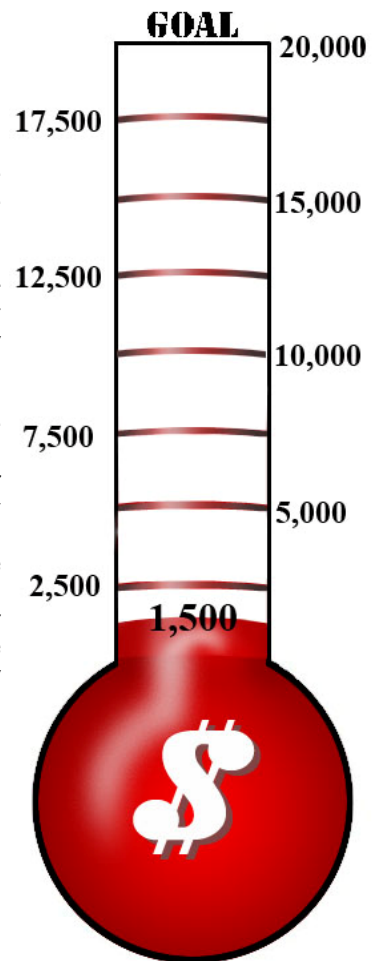
## Help Our Battalion

Last semester, cadets were required to work two or more fundraisers through the university and outside organizations.

By working sporting event concession stands, car washes, and other community events, we raised nearly \$8,000. But our funds were tapped out by the successful Military Ball, our trip to Bataan and Camp Navajo, the upcoming Staff Ride, and our Ranger Run—the semester finale. We anticipate approximately \$1,500 at the end of the semester, leaving our incoming class with little to work with.

If you would like to help out our Battalion with a donation, please make checks out to the "ASU Army ROTC Cadet Fund" and send them to:

Department of  
Military Science,  
Arizona State University  
ATTN: Cynthia Mitchell  
P.O. Box 874901  
Tempe, AZ 85287-4901



## Best of Luck to the Commissioning Cadets!

Commissioning will be  
on the 13th of May

### Contact for Scholarship Information:

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