

# University of Notre Dame Fightin' Irish Battalion

## The Shamrock

Volume 7, Issue III

April 2007

### Pass in Review: Capstone of the Year

On 18 April 2007, the three Notre Dame ROTC units participated in the annual Pass in Review. The Pass in review was originally used as a way for generals could inspect their troops before going off into battle. At Notre Dame, the Pass in Review is used to showcase the accomplishments of the units and individuals throughout the year. The reviewers are Father John Jenkins, CSC, the president of Notre Dame, and the tri-mil commander, Captain Michael Neller, USN.

This year, the Pass in review was held at the JACC. The ceremony started at 1730 with the Navy Band playing patriotic marches. All the units wear their dress uniforms, looking sharp for friends and family members in the audience. The Fightin' Irish



*The Fightin' Irish Battalion stands at attention after the annual Pass in Review held 18 April 2007 at JACC*

Battalion was led by c/Maj Gabriel Samudio since c/LTC Moran was at the Marshall Conference in Washington DC. Cadets Kamykowski, Moran, Henebery, and Ryan Larson received leadership awards during the course of the ceremony. Navy won the coveted Commander's Cup trophy.

After a speech from Father Jenkins, commending the cadets and midshipmen for an outstanding year and the service that they will give to their country,

*Cadet DeMoss leads his company at the Pass in Review*



the cadets and midshipmen conducted the parade. This year, commanders used sabers to guide their troops. Everyone did an excellent job displaying the discipline and attention to detail needed to conduct a military. Tri-mil commanders as well as audience members were pleased and impressed by the University of Notre Dame cadets and midshipmen.

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## CFTX

The PCI, the ride to Ft. Custer, the snide remarks from SFC Gibbs all were familiar, but the experience for the MSIII class was anything but ordinary. The MSIII class went on a CFTX, which is short for combined FTX, from March 30 to April 1. It included cadets from WMU, EMU, CMU, MSU and UM. Before our departure, LTC Jordan set the bar high and told us that the other schools are striving to outperform Notre Dame. But the training, the confidence, and the will were already deeply seated in the MSIII class. No extra motivation was necessary; excellence was ours to lose.

Since our MSIII class is small, we were able to separate Notre Dame cadets from each other. We were all in squads without any familiar faces. The situation forced us to learn how to work with different personalities, interact with

unfamiliar people, and build a team from the ground up.

We interacted with our squad in our barracks and set up SOPs, but the real test came the next day with the squad STX lanes. Understanding different “techniques,” leading your peers, gaining respect, and succeeding on your lane all were interconnected challenges. Although the lanes varied little from the battle drills in FM 7-8, working with new people presented additional challenges for each lane. Among the difficulties with working with new people, were learning opportunities. We were able to learn new techniques and benefited from participating seven more STX lanes. (Continued on page 5).

## ND FTX by c/Olson



*Cadets Collins, Fitzgerald, Blomstrom, Henebery, and Mike Pearl conduct an AAR after a STX lane at ND FTX*

On April 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> the Army ROTC’s MS1 and MS2 classes gathered for a few days of fun and educational experiences. The MS1’s and 2’s went on a combined FTX to train and to learn. This FTX was centered around the MS2’s getting a chance to be put in leadership positions as well as the MS1’s getting a little more one on one time. Not only were MS2’s put in the positions of squad leaders, but the MS1’s were able to have leadership opportunities like being team leaders and sometimes even squad leaders. The FTX consisted of many events including force on force paintball, patrol base operations, and STX lanes, to name a few. The MS1’s and 2’s were also able to have the opportunity of using paintball guns in all of these activities opposed to rubber ducks, which gave the events more of a real feeling and made certain events more complicated than usual. Also, by having paintball guns instead of rubber ducks, squad leaders and their teams were put in some sticky situations.

If a squad leader were to die, suddenly the team leader is in charge, and in many cases the team leaders were MS1’s. This FTX not only provided good experiences but it also gave the MS1 and 2 classes a chance to get to know each other and a chance to see how one another are able to handle themselves in the field. Over all the FTX was a success, and the MS1 and 2 classes were able to come out of the weekend with new positive experiences.



*Cadets Janke, Fu, Brown, and Leyva present the colors at CFTX*

### Ms I verse MS II Paintball by c/Howard

For the week of March 26 lab, the freshman and sophomore classes took part in their annual paintball battle. Officially the cadre maintains that the paintball lab is a retention and recruiting event, but it is common knowledge that the real purpose is to separate the strong from the weak, as well as an opportunity for each class to obtain bragging rights over the other. The MSI class utilized its human wave strategy to take advantage of its vastly superior numbers. Their numbers were further bolstered by the addition of a few prospective recruits, as well as the crack mercenary force of MSG Wood's sons, who eventually switched sides for better pay. "Advisors" were also sent to each side from the MSIV class to aid in the conflict. Fearless Tahnee



*MS II's try to show their dominance in paintball*



*MS I's think that they are the better class*

was also present for the MSIs, who tallied her highest life achievement to date by scoring a kill on the elusive c/Gen Howard.

The MSII's were forced to rely on their superior training and intelligence to combat the horde they faced that day. Military historians are already likening the battle to the 1993 conflict in Somalia, and a book is already in the works, to be titled MSII Down. Many heroic feats were recorded by these fearless cadets, too numerous to mention. In their final Alamo-like struggle in the fortress (the second year in a row they have been stuck there) the barbarian horde could not weaken their defenses enough to grab the flag, with the MSII's winning the battle.

Overall the lab was another success, with most agreeing that it was the most enjoyable lab of the year. The MSI and MSII classes were able to put their differences aside after the conflict and were seen trading stories during the van ride home. Hopefully in future years we can continue this tradition in order to increase awareness about Army ROTC, keep morale high, and flaunt the superiority of the Class of 2009.

### Rock Climbing by c/Frechette



*MS II Courtney Collins scales the rock*

"Rappelling was so fun!" This quote by Justin Figueredo really summed up exactly how the MSI & MSII classes felt when we took on the rock wall and the Knute Rockne Athletic Center. For those who participated in rappelling at the beginning of the year during FROSH-O, rappelling on a rock wall was far different than rappelling off of the fire department building. "I liked the fire building better," Matt McGeehan said. "The rock wall was fun but I felt that it did not give us the super HOOAH training that would be applicable for such Army experiences as Air Assault." The focus of the rock wall was the process and personal courage getting up a studded wall rather than the thrill of coming down a flat building exterior. Regardless, it was a great bonding experience for the MSI & IIs. It allowed for all of us to come together and have fun, while applying prior rappelling experiences from FROSH-O. As in the words of Scott Vitter and Jim Pearl (in unison followed by a high five), "I love rappelling!"

## Rifle Team by c/Iacovo



*Cadets Saurer, Iacovo, and Garcia shoot at the Rifle Competition*

On March 3, 2007 five members from the Fighting Irish Battalion Rifle Team along with MSG Wood made the two hour trek down to Purdue to compete in its first competition in several years. The site was the Boiler Battalion's indoor range and members from the Purdue cadre assisted with scoring in order to make sure everything ran smoothly. The competition was divided into three parts. Shooters had 20 minutes to shoot 20 shots from the prone position, 40 minutes to shoot 20 shots from the standing position, and 30 minutes to shoot 20 shots from the kneeling position.

All things considered cadets Saurer, Garcia, Janke, Blomstrom, and I made a pretty good showing. While Purdue won the overall competition, we were able to take the victory in the standing portion of the event with cadet Saurer posting the highest individual score in this event out of the 12 shooters from both schools.

Saurer also finished in third overall, a day after showing his skills with the MSIII's at Fort Custer, while I came in sixth and Garcia, Blomstrom, and Janke were not far behind. Consider the fact that Purdue has an indoor range on campus that they shoot at once a week at least and you can see that the Rifle Team has some natural born shooters. After the event the Purdue cadre provided all the shooters with some pizza and pop and all the cadets mingled with each other and talked about life in ROTC and our plans for our future careers as leaders in the U.S. Army. The experience was a learning one for all those involved. Both teams shared tips on how to be better shooters – something that will be nice to know come time for LDAC and of course after commissioning. Since none of our members had shot in a competition before the experience gained will be very valuable for our competitions that we have planned for next year. (Continued on page 5)

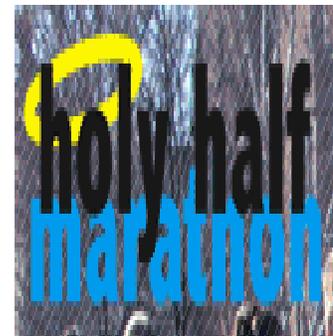
## Holy Half Marathon by c/Vitter

On Sunday, March 25, over 300 runners ran a tough 13.1 miles to complete the Holy Half Marathon. The Holy Half course consisted of two loops that wound through Notre Dame's campus and around the lakes. In only its third year, proceeds from the Holy Half Marathon benefited those affected by Hurricane Katrina. Specifically, the funds were directed to Operation Helping Hands, an active Catholic charity.

Conditions during the race were perfect; all participants enjoyed the bright sunlight complemented by a slight breeze. Though a fun experience, it was particularly daunting to finish the first 6.5 mile loop, only to realize that there was another yet to come. Overall, the race ran smoothly, although a few runners required medical attention at the finish line.

A fast pace for the race was established at the onset by a group of gifted runners. In the end, graduate student Dan McGrath finished first in 1:11:03 (5:25 min/mile). Army ROTC runners also fared very well: Scott Vitter finished No. 41 with a time of 1:36:31 (7:22 min/mile), Jim Devereaux finished No. 69 with a time of 1:40:43 (7:41 min/mile), and Elaine Kamykowski finished in 1:58:59 (9:05 min/mile).

The run gave me a new appreciation for the endurance training undertaken by marathon and Iron Man participants. Personally, I benefited by running with a partner for most of the 13.1 miles. Were it not for the company and the scattered fans lining the course, the race would have been monotonous bordering on unbearable. For many, monotony or boredom discourages regular physical activity. Running in the Holy Half Marathon taught me a lot about the mental discipline that must accompany physical fitness in elite endurance athletes. I strongly encourage more cadets to participate in the race next year. By doing so, they will improve themselves and help



**RACE TO RE-  
BUILD  
NEW ORLEANS**

## Army Ball by c/Figueredo



*C/Palm and her date walk through the saber arch at Army Ball*

On 23Feb07 in the Monogram Ballroom of the Joyce Athletic Convocation Center, I was privileged to take part in one of the many traditions the Army has. While dining-in, I quickly learned Army etiquette and proper table manners thanks to the help of my splendid date, c/CSM Piscal. During the elegant evening of fine dining and light conversation, I was awed by the exquisite uniforms of the cadre and other visiting soldiers. Major Hennessey was the guest speaker for the evening. MAJ Hennessey delivered an excellent speech, as did LTC Jordan. Also in attendance was the first graduate of AROTC from Saint Mar's College with her husband.

After dinner, dessert, and speeches, I was honored to watch inductions into the most revered group our program has. The Military Order of the Holy Cross inaugurated two Knights 3<sup>rd</sup> Class, c/Garcia and c/McGeehan, and on dame 3<sup>rd</sup> class, c/Frechette M into

their prestigious family. Cadets Hicks, Piscal, and Saurer were promoted from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 2<sup>nd</sup> Class and cadets Kamykowski, O'Brien, and Henebery were promoted from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 1<sup>st</sup> Class. Most unexpected, c/Bassett bypassed the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Classes and was inducted as a Knight 1<sup>st</sup> Class, a feat unknown to many. Also, I witnessed an event that will forever go down in the history of the Military Order of the Holy Cross. c/Moran, who had upped the ranks from 3<sup>rd</sup> through 1<sup>st</sup> Class, was ordained a Knight Commander, only preceded by Sean Pearl in 2006. From all of us so desperately desiring to be part of such a group displaying all of the Army values, I congratulate each and every one of you. You all represent our battalion and your Order with a great sense of pride and leadership.

The night ended with dancing and socializing, starting with the first dance between LTC Jordan and his wife. Shortly after, followed the much anticipated dance-off between c/Devereaux and c/Piscal and Co. comprised of c/Frechette M and Midshipman Lynda Pearl in which c/Devereaux single-handedly took home all of the glory.

Thanks to all of you, I was able to experience a night of fun while learning Army traditions and etiquette. Although I will attend two more Army Balls in the future, it will take a lot to surpass my amazing experience at this years' dinning-in.

## Rifle Team *(continued from p. 4)*

The Rifle Team hasn't closed up shop for the year yet. We're still planning an intra-squad competition at the F.O.P. range so that all of our members have a chance to test their skills against each other. We would love to have more members so if you have any interest just let me, Garcia, or Saurer know and we'll tell you everything you need to know. Spending a Saturday afternoon with rifles, Kevin Garcia, and of course MSG Wood, what could be better than that?

## CFTX *(continued from p. 2)*

After the lanes, land navigation, garrison positions, and a regimental deactivation ceremony, which included c/Hayden Piscal as Regimental CO and c/Phil Hicks as Regimental CSM, we were all ready to go home. Brimming with war stories of ridiculous techniques or getting lost on land nav, we packed up and headed home. With the last FTX prior to LDAC under our belts, we are going out to Washington with confidence and competence necessary to excel.



*Cadets Samudio, White, and Pearl eat dinner while attending to staff duties.*

## Battalion Run/Unit Olympics

On 24 April 2007, the Fightin' Irish Battalion conducted its final PT session of the year. According to c/LTC Moran, it was the finest morning we have had all year to have PT, and it is the last PT session the MS IV's will have as a member of the Fightin' Irish Battalion. The PT session began with a light battalion run, a way to build esprit de corps. Each company belted out cadences and proudly displayed their guide-ons as the battalion went around the eastern edge of campus. Following the battalion run, each squad participated in a five by 400 race. Next, everyone divided into four groups and tried to be the last cadet standing to earn points for their respective platoon. The events were push-ups, leg lifts, flutter kicks, and jump rope. Everyone pushed themselves physically in order to reach the final four.



After the results had been calculated, the *Bravo Company, led by c/Palm, on the Battalion Run*

winner was B2 led by c/Saurer. He received the pink cammo ribbon of excellence and raised the ceremonial unit Olympic torch in celebration. A1, winner of the Dixon Challenge Competition held last semester, replied that winning the Dixon Challenge still meant it was the best platoon. A1 and B2 will have to wait until next year to prove

## Muddy Sunday



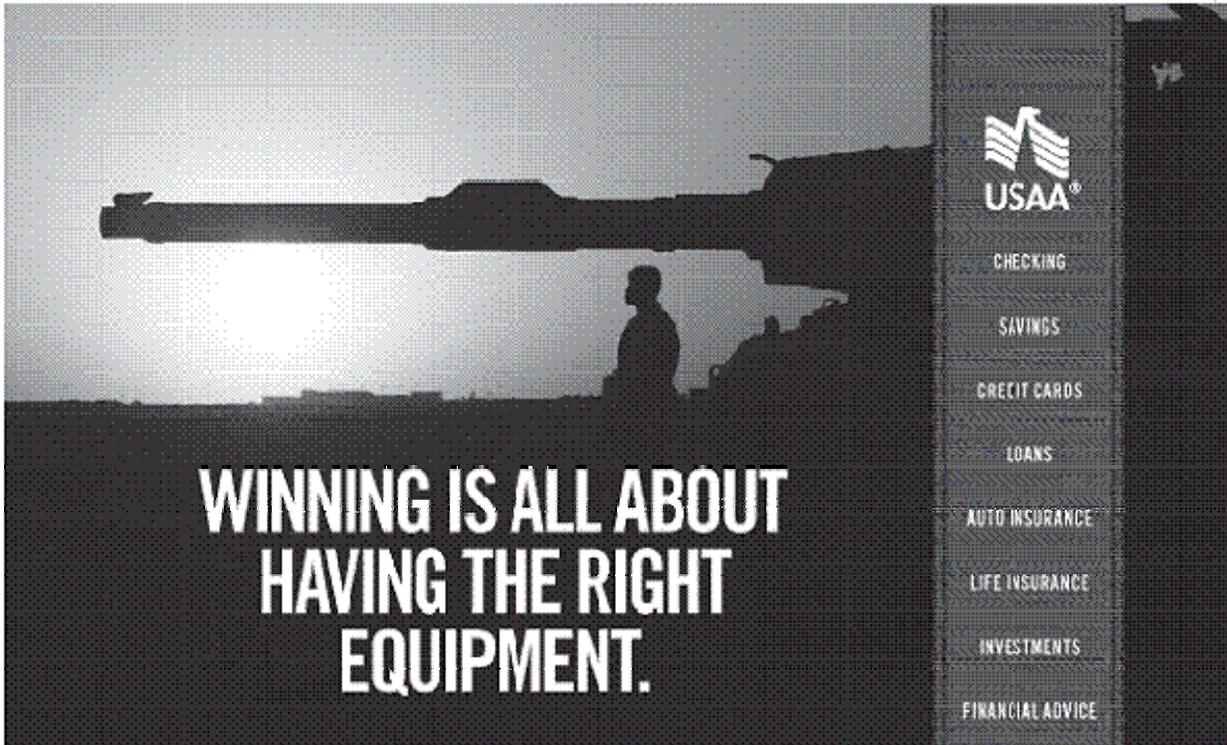
*c/Piscal and Laura Frechette exit St. Mary's Lake after cleaning off some of the mud from mud volleyball. In the background are*

On 22 April 2007, a gorgeous Spring day, two Army ROTC teams participated in the annual Muddy Sunday sponsored by Keenan Hall. The event is a mud volleyball tournament held on Holy Cross Hill, which is between the two lakes. This year, ninety-three teams of eight to twelve people competed in the tournament. All the proceeds, about \$8000, went to Habitat for Humanity.

Team Army ROTC, captained by c/Walerko, had cadets Blomstrom, McGeehan, Hull, Bassett, Gallagan, Teske, Kamykowski, Rodriguez, and Macmillan. c/Gallagan led the team with his amazing spikes. Team Army ROTC won the first game, but then lost the next two.

The other team, led by c/Samudio, appropriately titled Friends of Gabe had cadets Adams, Piscal, Laura Frechette, Meg Frechette, and Henebery. They advanced to the second

round. Cadet Mauro cheered the Army teams on from the concession stand, where he sold pizza and t-shirts to the competitors. Everyone enjoyed the beautiful spring day, rolling around in the mud, the occasional mud fights, the music, and just having a good time with friends.



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## Get in Shape!

So you are an MSIII preparing for camp, a MS IV about to enter a unit, or an underclass cadet ready to enter leadership roles in the battalion. The fastest way to make a good impression is to do well on your PT test. The following is a guide to improve your scores, so you can max your next PT test and be a PT stud. To maintain and improve your scores, you have to workout at least five times a week. This is a suggestion to gain a few extra push-ups, sit-ups, or a few seconds off your run time.

# of PU	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50	55	60	65	70	75	80	85
PU	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24	26	28	30	32	34
Close hand	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Wide arm	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Turn + bounce	5	6	7	8	9	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24	26	28	30

# of SU	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50	55	60	65	70	75	80	85
Sit-ups	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24	26	28	30	32	34
crunches	4	5	6	7	8	8	9	9	10	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Flutter kick	5	6	7	7	9	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24	26	28	30
Leg spreader	5	6	7	8	9	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24	26	28	30

Run time	12+	13+	14+	15+	16+	17+	18+	19+
1 mile	5:30	6:00	6:30	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00
2 mile	11:30	12:30	13:30	14:30	15:30	16:30	17:30	18:30
220 yd sprint	1:07	1:15	1:23	1:30	1:38	1:46	1:54	2:02
440 yd sprint	2:45	3:00	3:15	3:30	3:45	4:00	4:15	4:30

Okay, this looks like a bunch of confusing numbers. Let me explain how to work this to your advantage. Say you usually do 65 pushups, 70 sit-ups, and run a 14:15 min 2 mile. Follow the number for how many pushups you currently do. For one set then, you will do 26 pushups, 13 close hand, 13 wide-arm, and 22 turn and bounce. Take a minute break, and then repeat the set two more times. Next do sit-ups. One set will be 28 sit-ups, 13 crunches, 24 4count flutter kicks, and 24 4count leg spreaders. Take a minute break, and then do two more sets. After doing this workout three or four times, increase the each number by three. For example, you started with 26 pushups, now you will do 29 pushups. Try to do this program every other day. On off days, you can mix it up with different types of exercises, swims, or lifting.

For running, you run a 14:15, so you will start in the 14+ box. On day 1, you will try to run 1 mile in 6:30 and then finish with a 20-30 minute run. On day 2, you will do the sprint workout 3 to 5 times and then go for a 20-30 minute run. You will continue this pattern until you meet the goal of the 1 mile run. You will then move up to the 2 mile run with alternate sprint workout. When you accomplish the goal of the 2 mile workout, move a column to the left and increase the difficulty. Start over again with trying to run the 1 mile time of the harder column.

The beauty and challenging part of this workout is that it is all on you. You have to be motivated to complete the workout and follow the guidelines. If you do follow this, I guarantee you will improve on your APFT.

Word Find

r m e d i c a l a t  
 a l n n t l v a e y  
 p a e u b n i d m k  
 u s h e r m a n r t  
 h i n f a n t r y p  
 s t n a e o i t g e  
 u u e r m t o f l h  
 p p g m n t n p c d  
 l t o o c a a a t u  
 e c a r c p a o v f

Find the amount of words in each category:

- Generals (4)
- Common abrv. (3)
- Pt test (3)
- Branches (4)
- Part of Dixon Challenge (2)

Sudoku (medium)

	2	3	1	9				
	6				2	3	4	1
	5		7		6			8
	8	2				4		5
5				6				2
3		6				9	8	
1			4		7		5	
6	4	5	8				2	
				5	3	8	1	



C/Howard fight in Bengal Bouts



c/ White, Frechette, Piscal, and Obrien at



c/Larson and Donnelly at Army Ball



Ms I and II's eating dinner at ND FTX



c/Iacovo and Garcia show off their guns



C/Mooney runs through the woods on a STX lane



c/Devereux sad about a paintball shot



STX Lanes



c/Figuerdo and Blomstrom enjoy dinner

## Advice to MS III's (10 keys to camp)

1. Gather as much information as you can about the Army, whether it be technical data on weapons systems and vehicles, unit and Army history, or from the field manuals. Make each day a new effort to learn some new facts about the military, because you never know when knowing or not knowing seemingly useless things can give you instant credibility amongst your peers. Knowledge impacts many other domains of leadership: Conceptual, Mental, Planning, Interpersonal, Technical, et&. A knowledgeable leader is at a great advantage compared to his peers, because knowledge is intertwined with effective leadership.
2. Confidence, even if you are wrong, don't second guess your self. Make a decision and stick with it. Run what you think will work and if it doesn't, this is why we have training, to make mistakes and learn. You are not subject matter experts on infantry tactics so you are going to make mistakes sometimes. Don't worry about. Be strong, and confident in yourself. Know you can do it, and you will achieve success.
3. Pay attention when your platoon TAC, your platoon NCO, any class instructor, or any other member of the LDAC staff is addressing you. They are there not only to evaluate you, but to teach you. LDAC is not just about the E, but about a learning environment. If you listen, they can teach you great things.
4. And if I could offer you only one tip for LDAC, sunscreen would be IT.
5. Have Fun, not all days are going to be great, but it's important to make the best out of them.
6. When you are placed in non-evaluated leadership positions, take it as a compliment, it means the cadre trust you. These are opportunities that will reflect in your overall evaluation. It's a good thing
7. Reread 7-8 so the Drills are fresh in your mind. You will see CDT who have not refreshed and they are not ready.
8. PT, PT, PT, nothing will set you up for success better than getting 270 or better on your PT test.
9. Be a team player. Volunteer for the cruddy fire guards and details no one wants to do.
10. Bring an unopened bottle of vitamins (Flintstones, one-a day) and an unopened bottle of pain reliever (Tylenol, Advil). You will definitely need these things and they don't let you keep it if it has already been opened.

## Advice to All Cadets (20 little things for everyday college/ROTC life)

1. Use post it notes
2. Take Naps
3. Take walks around the lakes
4. Read Harry Potter
5. Try not to worry too much about life and the future...everything pretty much turns out how it is supposed to
6. Take everything in ROTC with a grain of salt
7. We spend a lot of our time doing things for ROTC, why not try and make it a positive experience-you're only making yourself more miserable by not even trying to enjoy it
8. Talk to MSG Wood...he's kind of a funny person
9. Do anything you can to study abroad
10. When you want to buy something (whether it is a Kevlar or a WoW Collector's Edition T-Shirt) it is imperative to shop ebay.com first.
11. When traveling, stay in a hostel
12. Don't worry, be happy
13. Organization is key. Keeping a busy schedule helps with that.
14. Know your limits, but work hard to meet your potential.
15. Have fun because college is short.
16. Don't Stress Out. Try to Relax and have fun as much as possible.
17. You're only in College once so go out and do the things you've always wanted to do while you can.
18. Travel everywhere if you can. But be responsible. You never want to look back on a time in your life and think that you could have done something better and regret it. Keeping everything balanced is key.
19. Go to at least one bowl game while you are here
20. Meet deadlines. It will make your job easier and other people's lives less chaotic.



*Cadets Walerko and Brown at CFTX*

## Good-bye MS IV's

MS IV	Branch	Post	Unit
Ryan Adams	Infantry	Vilseck, Germany	
John Barry	MP	Reserves	428th MPCo South Bend, IN
Gregory Bassett	Armor	Ft. Hood, TX	1st Armored Brigade, 4th ID
Peter Demoss	ADA	Ft. Hood, TX	4th BN 5th ADA Regt
Matthew Donnelly	MI	Indiana Nat. Guard	76th BCT
Laura Frechette	MI	Texas Nat. Guard	Austin
Benjamin Harm			LDAC
Steven Harvey			LDAC
Daniel Henebery	Infantry	Ft. Lewis, WA	2nd ID
Michele Johnson	Engineer	Ft. Shafter, HI	25th ID
Elaine Kamykowski	Medical	Bethesda, MD	Uniformed Services University
Ashley Larson	MI	Kansas Nat. Guard	Topeka
Ryan Larson	Medical	Ft. Richardson, AK	4th Brigade, 25th Infantry
Philip Mauro	Armour	Vilseck, Germany	2nd Armored Cav Regt
Liam Moran	Aviation	Ft. Rucker, AL	
Tara O'Brien	JAG	ED DELAY	Roger Williams University
Kerstin Palm	Quartermaster	Ft. Carson, CO	2nd ID
Christine Pearl	Chemical	Ft. Bragg, NC	82nd Airborne
Gabriel Samudio	Infantry	Ft. Hood, TX	1st Cav
Kristopher Schmautz	Aviation	Indiana Nat. Guard	G Co. 238th Bat.
Charles Schnake	Ordnance	Ft. Campbell, KY	3rd Brigade, 101st Airborne
W. Peryn White	Ordnance	Ft. Stewart, GA	1st Brigade, 3rd ID

## Send Me a Letter

Send a letter to the MS III's, giving them words of encouragement, advise, or just a few words saying hello. Write To:

Cadet **FULL NAME**

ROTC WARRIOR FORGE

\_\_ Regiment \_\_ Company \_ Platoon (you do not need co/pl info to send letter)

Box 339543

Fort Lewis, WA 98433-9543

MS III	Regiment	Dates
Patrick Brown	11th regiment	July 9-August 11
Russell Fu	7th regiment	June 25-July 27
Benjamin Harm	1st regiment	June 5-July 7
Steven Harvey	13th regiment	July 15- August 16
Phillip Hicks	11th regiment	July 9-August 11
Guy Hippleheuser	4th regiment	June 14-July 16
Joseph Janke	6th regiment	June 22-July 24
Stephanie Leyva	12th regiment	July 12-August 14
Cat Macmillan	5th regiment	June 19-July 21
Ted Martin	12th regiment	July 12- August 14
Hayden Piscal	10th regiment	July 6 -August 8
Mark Sauer	12th regiment	July 12-August 14
Meagan Walerko	7th regiment	June 25-July 27

## LTC Jordan Bids Farewell

As I write my final column for the Shamrock, I find it hard to believe that my time as “Irish 6” is coming to an end, and so I will take this time to reflect on what has transpired since I arrived in June 2003. I was sent here to help revive a sagging program, I was told that I would likely face the greatest leadership challenge of my career, and I heard very few favorable comments regarding the program as I prepared to assume command. All of these aspects turned out to be accurate, but what I was not prepared for was the superb quality of the cadets and cadre and the unparalleled opportunity to not only save a program in trouble but to transform it into one of the best programs in the country. After my first summer here at Notre Dame, I was convinced that many had underestimated this organization, and I set about doing what I could to help the program “Return to Glory.”

If I was to be successful, I would have to ground my actions in sound doctrine. As I had done so many times in the past, I turned to the Army’s existing doctrine for guidance, and I was truly impressed with what I found and how helpful it was and would continue to be.

I began with using the Army’s definition of leadership – influencing others – by providing purpose, direction, and motivation – while operating to accomplish the mission and improving the organization – as my start point. Over the past four years, we have been able to more than satisfy this definition together. The process of transformation began with conducting a thorough assessment of the organization, which culminated with the writing of a mission statement that focused on educating, training, developing, and inspiring participants in the program to become leaders of character for the Army and the nation. This mission statement indicated that the program would have to adopt an intent-based focus that empowered cadets and cadre alike. Empowered cadets in leadership positions, especially MS IVs, began to make a difference in the battalion’s training, especially for the MS IIIs. As a result of this empowered and intent-based focus, and using methods and ideas already in place, synergy took over, and in one short year we were able to transform the battalion from one that resided in the bottom 20 percent of the nation to one that has become a national leader and which is a perennial top 15 percent program.

After making these changes, we began focusing on our recruiting mission, again empowering cadets and using them as our best assets and most effective recruiters. We added the verb “recruit” to the mission statement, and we have begun the process of transforming our recruiting efforts in the same dramatic fashion as we did for our training efforts. We as a program are poised to commission this year the highest number of officers in over a decade, which is the best possible demonstration of our success in this area.

I am extremely proud of what the program has been able to accomplish over the past four years, and you should be as well, since it could not have occurred with your efforts. It has been the most rewarding assignment of my career, and I thank everyone who has been involved with the battalion during my time here for their advice, counsel, support, hard work, and professionalism. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve with each and every one of you, and I will cherish this experience forever.

My charge to those who remain is to take ownership of our accomplishments, carry on the work we began, and make the program even better. Continue to influence, operate, and improve this program so that all participants may learn to “Lead Like Champions.” Our shared legacy will be the sustained success of this program, and while I have enjoyed the successes we have shared, nothing would make me happier than to see the battalion continue to “Keep Up the Fight” and thrive for many more years to come.

*LTC Jordan was instrumental in reviving the Army ROTC program at Notre Dame to make it one in the top 15% of the nation. He also helped redesign the patch. The three colors of the background represent the motto of the Fightin’ Irish Battalion, “God, Country, Notre Dame.” The gold at the top represents the Golden Dome of Notre Dame, the host school of the ROTC program. The gold also represents Valparaiso University. The red on the right represents Holy Cross College. The blue on the left represents Saint Mary’s College and Bethel College. The shamrock is an easily recognizable symbol of our battalion. We wear this patch to remember to always “Keep Up the Fight” as both cadets and future officers in the US Army.*

