



# The Shamrock

Newsletter of the Fightin' Irish Battalion



The purpose of the Shamrock is to be both an informational and enjoyable publication for both current and prospective cadets, cadre, alumni, and friends of the Fightin' Irish Battalion.

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For comments and suggestions for future editions, please contact: c/CPT Silio or c/2LT McDonnell at: Army@nd.edu

Fightin' Irish Battalion,

First let me congratulate all of you for being a part of our Notre Dame Fightin' Irish Battalion. Whether this is your last year in the program or your first, I hope you take advantage of every opportunity presented to you here. Notre Dame remains a special place. While your future careers will take you all around the world, the values and friendships you build now will continue to bring you back to Notre Dame. If you continue to work on developing yourself and your peers you will achieve many future successes.

I would like to recognize all who are returning from summer training such as Airborne School, Advanced Camp, CTLT, Basic Camp and yes Northern Warfare training. The cadets of this battalion used their summer to enhance their military skills and knowledge. Their efforts have strengthened our Army ROTC community and stand as examples we should all strive for.

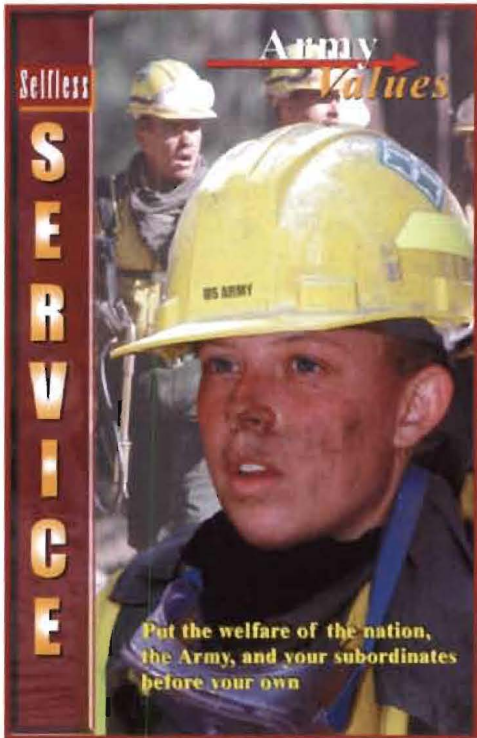
Another success for the Battalion was this year's Freshman Orientation. The extensive training and social activities helped to acquaint our new cadets to the program will at the same time fostering the friendships that will last over the course of their college careers. I would personally like to thank all the cadets who volunteered to assist in the orientation. Your efforts ensured a smooth transition for the new incoming members to the Battalion.

The first test for the MSIV's ability to organize and manage the battalion was our first major event, the Fall FTX. Under the direction of the c/S-3, Bridget Yearwood, the cadet staff managed to organize a challenging weekend of training. The basic military skills needed by leaders in the Army, as well as more advanced tactical lessons were the focus of this exercise. MSIs were able to learn how to navigate in the wilderness while MSII's experienced their first tactical exercises as part of eight to nine man squads. MSIII's combined all of the skills they have learned over the course of their first two years serving as the cadet NCOs of the battalion and leading their squads in the STX lanes. The highlight of the FTX for all cadets had to be the redeployment to Notre Dame in UH-60, Black Hawk helicopters. This weekend helped the Battalion become more cohesive by overcoming the combination of difficult missions and individual challenges.

I would like to thank all of those cadets who have volunteered to take part in Battalion extracurricular activities. This year we had a large turn out for Ranger Challenge. The intense daily training paid off for the two nine-man teams as they finished 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> respectively in the Ranger Challenge Competition held at Camp Atterbury. In addition, a large number of cadets have joined the Color Guard and have spent hours training for this year's activities. Whether it is at a sporting event or a ceremony, the Color Guard's professionalism continues to reflect the honor of the Army and enhance esprit-de-corps for all. The Rifle Team, the newest extracurricular outlet of cadets has proven to be extremely popular. Cadet Bielecki has proven to be an excellent leader as well as marksman.

As one of my goals for the Battalion this year, I hoped to encourage more interaction with the community, and support of service for others. We have already had the opportunity to volunteer for a local run that raised money for medical research. Currently, we are working with two Notre Dame undergraduates and local high schools to assist in the Veteran's History Project sponsored by the Library of Congress. Many of our cadets will mentor high school students as they document our nation's history through the stories of this nation's veterans. I believe this will be an invaluable experience not only for the younger students and veterans, but also for our cadets. We are also looking forward





to other upcoming projects that will assist the elderly in South Bend. I am proud of our cadets' dedication to serving this nation in all regards.

As we as a nation continue to struggle to overcome the violent hatreds that threaten the stability of our lives, it is fitting to take a moment to reflect on the importance of developing honorable leaders. Someday soon, the cadets of the Notre Dame Fightin' Irish Battalion will be asked to guide the men and women who serve in the United States Army. Their lives will be in the hands of our cadets. To say that their lives are in the hands of our cadets is not to say that every decision will be one of life or death. Instead, it is to focus on the fact that the decisions they make will greatly affect the lives of their soldiers. Leadership is more than just giving orders. It involves the guidance of individuals towards group goals. Leadership in the Army involves a dedication towards making oneself, and one's subordinates better so that they can serve others to the best of their ability. Whether it is on the front line or in the supply room, soldiers work for each other and thus work for the nation as a whole. I am confident that the training provided to cadets at Notre Dame helps to highlight the importance of this teamwork. We will either succeed or fail as a team.

The Fightin' Irish Battalion has gotten off to a phenomenal start this year already, but a number of challenges remain. The Veteran's Day Ceremony, Army Ball, Dixon Challenge as well as the Commander's Cup competition are all on the horizon. With the terrific leadership of the MSIII class and the guidance of the MSIV class, I am sure all of these endeavors will be successful. I feel honored to lead you all into this coming year. The support I have received from my staff as well as the guidance given to me by the cadre has been of great assistance. Thank you all for your efforts. Keep up the hard work. And remember, "The height of your accomplishments will equal the depth of your convictions" (William F. Scolavino).

Sincerely Yours,  
c/LTC Ryan J. Kenny



The distinguished guest speaker at the Army Ball was BG Kenneth Hunzeker, accompanied by his wife Patti. When they arrived, they were welcomed and introduced as they passed through a saber arch.

# **Welcome to the 1st Edition of the Shamrock.**

Hello, this your assistant S-6, and OIC of Colorguard. YEAH COL-ORGUARD!!!! This is our first newsletter of the year, and I think it turned out very nicely. I want to thank everyone that took the time to contribute articles. WE are more than halfway done with the semester, and all of us MSIV's will soon find out how ROTC will affect their lives. Please utilize this newsletter as a recruiting tool, to inform other students of what we do in ROTC. I have included some scholarship information and Army ROTC links below that might be helpful. Enjoy!!  
—C/CPT Patrick Murphy

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# TRI-MIL NEWS



Another year, another tournament. Commanders' Cup volleyball was entertaining-a 'bonding experience,' if you will, which built esprit d'ecorps. Army lost to both Air Force and Navy... volleyball is for sissies. Unfortunately, even with the help of Cadet Smith, the Army wasn't able to win football either. With the brute strength Army cadets display, combined with their lightening fast reflexes and ability to make decisions in a split second, there is no doubt Commanders' Cup soccer will be an Army triumph.

The Veterans' Day Ceremony and Tri-Military Ball have been a great experience for all. Colonel Regan was the guest speaker. He is a retired Marine colonel living in the South Bend area and he's very excited to be given the opportunity to address the ROTC cadets-especially the Army cadets! The Tri-Military Ball was the same night at the Century Center. There was a vegetable and cheese trays, a DJ, dancing, and a cash bar. I hope everyone had fun with their dates, because I sure did.

Commanders' Cup soccer and a Freshmen Retreat are in the works and there will be more about them in the next issue. Until then, Hoo-ah!

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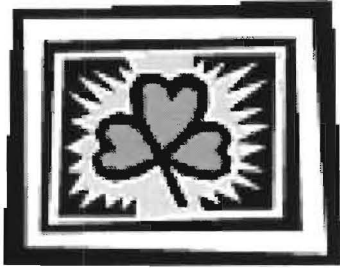
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# COLOR GUARD



The football stadium was filled with over 80,000 people on October 6, and for at least a few minutes, all eyes were focused on the majestic flags of Our Nation, The US Army, and the Fighting Irish Battalion, as they emerged from the legendary tunnel of Notre Dame Stadium. Cheering fans, players, coaches and students, all looked on as the colors blew proudly in the wind and the band played our national anthem. Five members of the Irish Marauders were honored to carry these symbols of our national pride. The Marauders had another opportunity to perform this honor on October 13, at the West Virginia game.

The color guard practices on a weekly basis. The practice sessions focus on preparing for the exhibition drill competition held in the spring. The Marauders will continue to assist in the opening of sporting events, such as hockey and basketball games on campus. They will also serve as the color guard for the Veterans Day Ceremony later this semester.

In this time of National tragedy and heightened tensions, the symbols of our pride and loyalty to our country are all the more important and comforting. Our flags waving proudly lift our hearts and strengthen our spirits.

-Cadet Erica Kane

## C.T.L.T. (Cadet Troop Leadership Training)

CTLT is a great program that gives recent advanced camp graduates an opportunity to learn what it is like to be a platoon leader. Many cadets took advantage of this over the summer and traveled to army bases both in the US and abroad. As a CTLT cadet, one gets to both shadow and act as a platoon leader. The experience gained is invaluable because it lets the cadet learn about the role of the lieutenant in the platoon and company. Cadets gain valuable insight into the relationship between the officer and the NCO while also learning what the soldier does on an average day. The cadet takes on the responsibility of writing operations orders, going to training meetings and overseeing daily work. The greatest benefit is being able to make mistakes and learn from them without terrible consequences. Overall, CTLT is a great experience and anyone who can, should make use of this valuable tool.

--C/CPT McCoy

# Bravo Company's Commander's Corner

## To the Nuts of Bravo Company

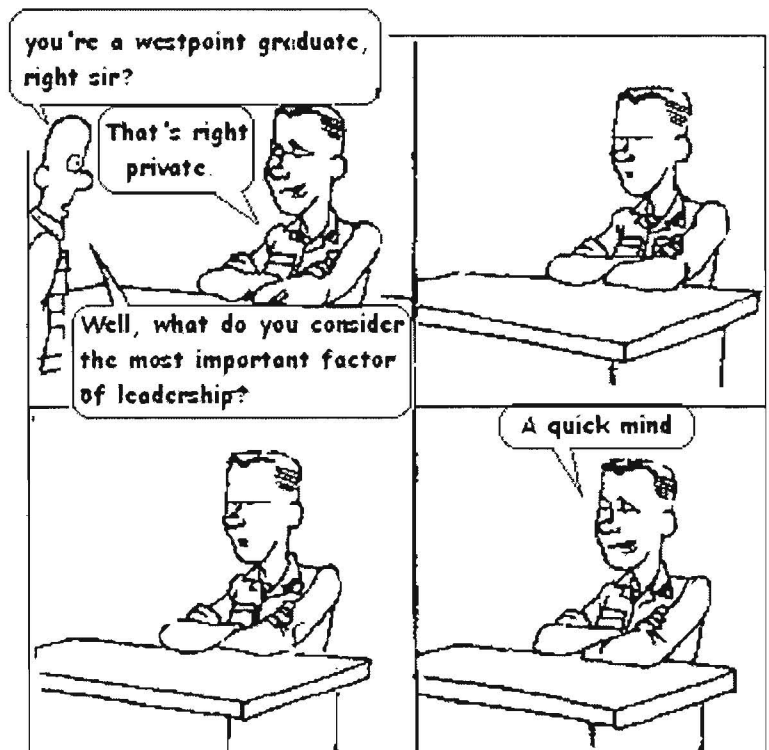
First off, I must say, you have all made me proud by choosing a motto we can all rally behind. I know you are all dying to get to know the real me, seeing as I am your company commander for the semester. My majors are biology and philosophy, I live off campus, enjoy long walks across campus ... I look forward to a relaxed semester where I will hopefully have to do absolutely no work (since my cadets will do all the work for me).



I want to lay out some goals for my cadets. First, I want us to win the pt-streamer, thereby demonstrating the extreme physical dominance we all possess. Second, I want one of our platoons to win the Dixon challenge, since by that time you should all have the necessary subject matter mastered. Third, during all other battalion functions you are all welcome to demonstrate your superiority in every other way not specifically mentioned as my cadets. Lastly, some things that are expected of all my nuts. You will show up on time, dressed appropriately and prepared. My cadets will always be clean-shaven. When unable to attend ROTC events, my cadets will always have an excuse approved by the proper cadre member. I expect my nuts to always give it their best effort, nothing less. That being said, Go Giants!



In a couple of months this is how Army cadets will have to get to PT in the morning.



# A Narrative of the Fall FTX, through the eyes of one of our own—C/CPT Ben Baughman

Walking up to LeMans Military Academy I was peppered with questions by the two reporters who accompanied me, “What was that noise?” “What does that do?” “Who are those guys?” It was interesting being able to see our Battalion through new eyes.

The first stop was the TOC where the Battalion Commander, Executive Officer, and S3 were busily coordinating the days events. The fall FTX was the culmination of hundreds of hours, and gallons of coffee spearheaded by these 3 cadets.

After allowing the reporters to fire some blanks from the M16 we moved towards the stick lanes (STX). Searching for some action we stumbled upon a squad pulling 360 security in the woods. After observing them for a while two camouflaged cadets emerged from the tree line returning from a reconnaissance mission. “I didn’t even see or hear them,” one reporter admitted.

We then had the opportunity to see an attack on a bunker. As the cadets approached the bunker they were engaged by C/ILT Colin Welch and C/CPT Nate Hicks acting as OPFOR (opposing forces). Welch and Hicks remained calm under fire from forces four times their size. They would lob ammo back and forth and run, jump, and dodge their way to new fighting positions. Each time Welch or Hicks landed a shot we heard the ring of death emitting from the slain cadets MILES gear. In the end the evaluator had mercy on the decimated squad and disabled the OPFOR.

We next observe another new feature of the fall FTX. Instead of participating in the STX lanes, the freshman were introduced to Land Navigation. During the day they were expected to find points in the woods and at certain points were challenged on their knowledge and skills. Although the day came to a conclusion for the press the cadets still had one exciting event left. The cadets were returning to campus in style; in the back of a Black Hawk Helicopter.

After a safety briefing the cadets began to board the 1<sup>st</sup> of 3 lifts. In a gust of wind they were gone. After anxiously awaiting my lift I was finally able to hop in the back of one of the birds. We smoothly lifted off and were on our way. During the flight the pilot gave us a roller coaster ride dipping and swaying and taking hard turns back and forth. A few times I felt as if I were floating. Before I knew it the Golden Dome appeared in the horizon and soon enough we were circling campus. We received the most beautiful view of campus most will ever see. All too soon our trip ended as we landed at St. Josephs High School, but the grins didn’t wear off the rest of the night.



-C/CPT Benjamin Baughman

# Welcome to the 1<sup>st</sup> Edition of *The Shamrock*

To introduce myself, I am c/2LT Jeanine McDonnell, your assistant S-6 and OIC of *The Shamrock* for the Fighting Irish Battalion. I, along with many others, have worked very hard to create this first issue to publicize the events in which the Battalion has taken part for the first half of the fall semester. I want to thank all of those who took the time out of their rigorous schedules to submit articles and design this issue. Please take a few minutes to read about some of the wonderful events that the cadets here in the Battalion have been a part of and have also lead. We have a wonderful group of cadets and cadre here at Notre Dame and they all deserve to be recognized for their hard work and active involvement in and exceeding the standard requirements for ROTC.



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Alpha Company, welcome to the best company in the battalion. Although I just recently became your Company Commander, and we have only had one formation together so far, I look forward to getting to know all of you over the next several months. For those

# ALPHA

of you who don't yet know me, I am Cadet Captain Joe Rollin. The MS-IIIs this year have done a great job in their leadership positions, and both the MS-IIIs and MS-Is are showing great promise for the coming years. While everyone tries their best to accomplish all that is asked of them and pay attention to what they are being taught, we all need to focus on the important areas of leadership development and PT. Any time you get a chance to get in front of a formation, to lead drill and ceremony for example, go for it. Anytime you get the chance to lead an activity, volunteer for it. All of this will really pay off as practice leading troops, whether it be with your peers in Army ROTC or as an officer in the Climbing Club, is what will allow you to excel in the near future as an Army officer. While you are thinking about this, don't forget that every good leader must first be a good follower. Improve yourself as you enjoy your time here at Notre Dame, stay in shape and work hard at PT, and put adequate time into your classes. Listen to what your leaders here in ROTC and elsewhere have to tell you, and follow them to the best of your ability. Finally, if you get a chance, talk to the seniors about camp, CTLT, airborne and other special schools that many attended this past summer, and ask any prior service cadets about their experiences as well. Good luck on the remainder of the semester, and remember that I am always available if you need help in any way.

# BRAVO BRAVO

Hello Bravo Company. As I'm sure you all know by now my name is c/CPT Glen Galeone, your company commander for the semester. Let me start out by saying that I've really enjoyed meeting and getting a chance to know all of you in my company. Each and every one of you brings a unique element, through your different personalities, skills, and backgrounds, which combine to make Bravo Company the best company in the battalion.



From PT to lab to a number of other events, I've had the chance to observe all of you in action this semester. From leading a squad through a lane at the Fall FTX to cutting a rug at the Army Ball, I've seen many of you at your best as well as your worst. I've truly been impressed with the dedication, effort, and time that all of you have put into making yourself, your peers, and your company the best that they can be. The successes you've experienced already this semester, both individually and collectively, will no doubt continue for the rest of the semester and the rest of your lives if you bring this same winning attitude to all that you do. I'm looking forward to a challenging second half of the semester, where I expect to reclaim the PT and Honor Company awards, and place our platoons 1st and 2nd in Dixon Challenge. Congratulations so far on a job well done Bravo Company, and keep up the good work.

# COLORGUARD

While focusing primarily on rifle drill for our practices, the color guard aspect of the team plays out the strongest in the fall semester. We provide the color guard for every kind of event under the sun. The most public events we cover are obviously the home football games. These are the highlights of the color guard experience. The games we covered against Michigan and Boston College reminded us of why we participate in color guard. Everyone can agree that there is nothing like the ND campus on a home football weekend. In that same vein, there is no comparison to being on the field and carrying the colors in front of 80,000 fans and NBC cameras.

The Irish Marauders Drill Team and Color Guard allows anyone and everyone interested to not only get a behind the scenes look at how the athletic events are run, but also to represent our Fightin' Irish Battalion and the United States Army before hundreds, if not thousands of people.

-c/ISG Dave Dean



# FRESHMAN ORIENTATION

Two weeks ago, I left my seldom acknowledged and extremely small state of Rhode Island to embark on what will probably prove to be the single greatest adventure of my entire life: the process of becoming a soldier in the most powerful, most elite army in the world. When I arrived at the Pasquerilla Center for my first day of orientation, I felt extremely excited that I had been granted such a unique and life-altering opportunity. Any anticipation or apprehension I might have experienced on my trip out to Notre Dame was relieved and completely eliminated as I was warmly welcomed by the cadre who so generously volunteered their time and summer vacation to initiate us into the Army ROTC program at the University of Notre Dame. Our orientation was extremely well organized and provided the perfect balance between classes, physical activity, and social events. Personally, my



favorite events throughout the week were the rope bridge demonstration, the scavenger hunt tales and the Black Hawk helicopter. I am thankful not only for the dedication, skill and genuine concern of our cadre but also for my fellow first year ROTC cadets who are now members of my new family here at Notre Dame. My experiences during the week of ROTC orientation were all positive and served to reinforce and enhance my desire to serve in the United States Military. If that week was any indication of what is to come this year and in the future, I cannot wait to experience more.

- c/Margaret Lero

# R A N G E R

The Ranger Challenge Team enjoyed great participation this year. With a roster of over one-third of the battalion, the team's involvement surpassed that of the color guard and even some battalion formations. The one and a half months of training prior to the October 18 competition focused on pt, ruck-marching and skills training. Monday morning ruck-marches tested everyone's mettle as cadets experimented with their rucks; first adding and later subtracting weight. Afternoon training focused on rope bridging and grenade tossing.

The A Team, led by c/CPT Corcoran, had a solid performance, taking 7<sup>th</sup> place overall. Taking first place in the FM7-8 knowledge test and finishing near the top in PT, land navigation and grenades, the Irish were seated third and eyeing first going into Sunday morning's 10k ruck march. "This event is really our bread and butter" c/CPT Corcoran remarked before the event. And so it would have been but for a medical complication and consequent penalization. The underclassmen on B Team, led by c/CPT Silio, showed promise for the future. "With only four of twenty-eight people on the team graduating we expect to improve well into the 21<sup>st</sup> century" c/CPT Silio mused.

"I'd really like to see the formation of a full time Ranger Company here," c/CPT Corcoran reflected. Emphasizing participation he added, "And remember, you can't spell 'Return to Glory' without 'you'".

-c/CPT Rich Knox

# C H A L L E N G E

## NORTHERN WARFARE

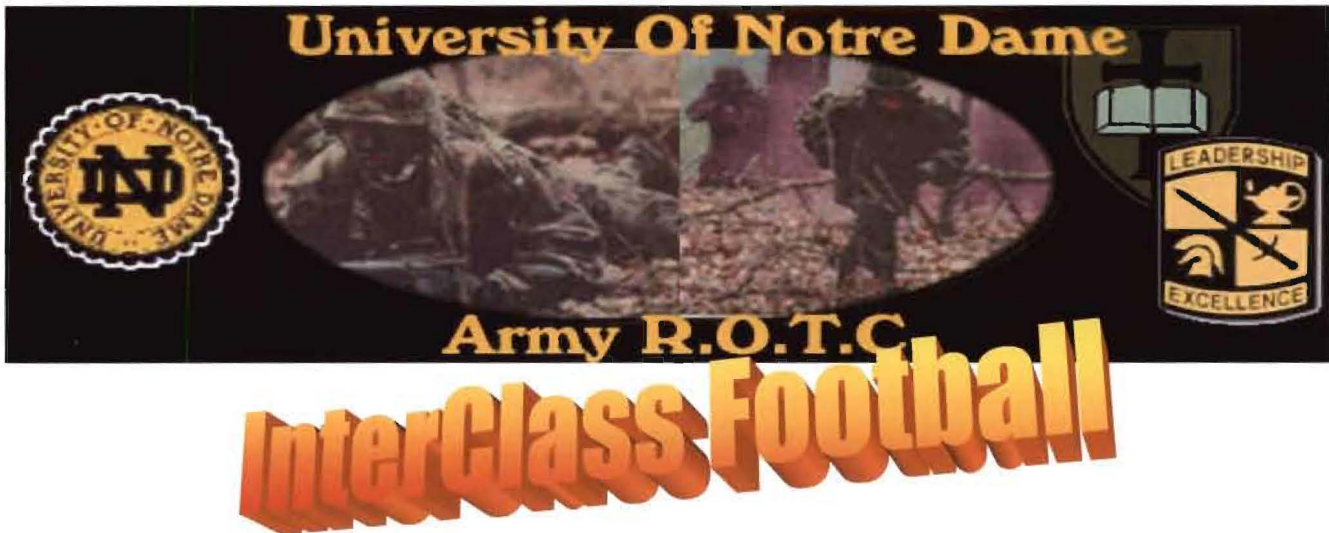


Last semester I applied to our Brigade for a chance to head to Alaska and attend the U.S. Army's Basic Mountaineering Course (BMC), known throughout cadet land as Northern Warfare School (NWF). I was fortunate enough to earn one of the 24 spots awarded annually to ROTC cadets around the country. I spent my summer hiking, climbing mountains, and learning various knots in preparation for what was sure to be a challenging two weeks up North. I arrived at Ft. Wainright along with 12 other cadets, who like myself, had no clue what to expect from BMC. We met up with the other 24 students enrolled in the course and boarded a bus which took us to Black Rapids Training Center (BRTC) in the heart of the Alaska Range. I stepped off the bus, grabbed my duffle and ruck and gazed at what was to become my playground for the next two weeks. Surrounded by majestic mountains and numerous glaciers, I felt a rush of excitement at the thought of what was to come.

The days were long and the hours were busy, but much was gained in the process. Topics covered at the course included: Mountain weather and the environment, knots and rope management, basic anchors, fixed rope and movement techniques, rappel installation and techniques, belay installation and techniques, party climbing, rope-bridges, transport carrying systems, rope bridges, rock climbing, and river crossing techniques. Not only did I learn everything I need to know about leading small units through the mountains, I had a great time in the process.

If you're looking for adventure and a unique opportunity to test your skills as a leader, Northern Warfare is the school for you. Hiemes Oppugnatus et Montes Superamus. Battle Cold and Conquer Mountains.

-c/CSM Colin Moran



Here in the Fightin' Irish Battalion, inter-class athletics are a source of class pride. This year, the MS-IV's dominated in both basketball and football. Thus far, the seniors are undefeated...

The seniors' dominance in inter-class football hasn't always been the case. Last year, the juniors went undefeated, crushing the seniors. Back in 2000, the sophomores rolled over their rival classes. But it all started in 1999 when the freshmen crushed the sophomores and won the championship in a heated battle with the juniors.

While the games for the Class of 2003 have always been a challenge, none will ever be as epic as the battle for the championship back in 1999. Years from now, the ND Army ROTC class of 2003 will sit back and recant tales of ROTC football. Fondly, they will recall that day when their coach and instructor, MAJ Mike Schellinger, led them to glory with a flawless strategy and a witty defense against comments from the juniors' instructor (CPT Lacy).

This year, all four of the classes have the talent to win any of the remaining sports. Play hard; play to win!  
-c/CPT Tom Silio



*Army ROTC Battalion Football Champions: Class of 2003*

*Back row:* MAJ Mike Schellinger (ND '88), Joe Rollin, Tom Silio, Susan Kutz, Mike Grabenstein, Nick Anhut, Glen Galeone, Bridget Yearwood. *Kneeling:* Brooks Hartnett, and Connie Quinlan