

The “All For One”

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From the Commander’s Desk

By: Michael Kulas, Cadet Battalion Commander

Greetings friends and family of the Xavier University “All-for-One” Battalion,

As the spring semester unfolds, the battalion will be facing many new transitions, as well as, finishing another year filled with noteworthy accomplishments. We are very pleased to welcome our new commander, Lieutenant Colonel Shane Ousey. The Cadets are also excited to meet several other new faces in the battalion. Major McDonald, Major Gray and Sergeant First Class Sayles all make their first tour in ROTC this semester here at Xavier. Following the rich tradition of cadre in the past, I am confident they will continue cultivating and developing the exceptional Cadets for which Xavier University is nationally recognized.

Our MSI’s are eagerly finishing up their last semester as the low men and women on the totem pole and are looking forward to having greater responsibility and more challenging leadership roles both within ROTC and the University as a whole. They have demonstrated tremendous growth this year and are well on their way to becoming excellent MSII cadets. The current MSII’s view this semester as their final refuge before next year’s ascendance into ROTC’s advanced curriculum, which entails an intense year of preparation and training for success next summer at Leadership Development

and Assessment Course (LDAC)

Consequently, this is the final semester before the MSIII’s travel across the country to Fort Lewis, WA to participate in LDAC. LDAC represents a pivotal moment in a Cadet’s life; it represents 31 grueling days of evaluation, measurement, and comparison. Each cadet must apply their three years of ROTC training to an unending series of tasks and leadership challenges, while simultaneously competing and measuring themselves against the other 4500 cadets in the nation. I have the utmost confidence that our juniors will continue Xavier’s tradition of excellence and match the achievements and accolades of previous classes.

Finally, for my fellow seniors, four years of hard work and dedication are coming to an end. This May, no longer will we have to balance the dual life of being both a college student and a Cadet. We have spent half our college career across Victory Parkway, whether in biology labs, nursing clinicals, lectures, seminars or in the library pounding away on computer keyboards throughout the night. While, the other half belongs to Saint Barbara’s Hall and the Armory where on any given day you can find us conducting early morning PT sessions, lab rehearsals, JFTX’s, and weekend Land Navigation training. Our graduation from Xavier signifies a mo-



mentous turning point in our lives, as we say farewell to the place that has been our home for the last four years and begin a new chapter of our lives, as we leave the shelter and security of Xavier’s campus, for the unknown challenges that await us as Army officers. As scary and intimidating as this new mission may be, it is a challenge and moment in our lives we have been anticipating for nearly twenty-two years.

Despite these mixed feelings of nostalgia, uncertainty, and even excitement for what is to come, there is training that still must be conducted. Towards the end of March, we have a Joint Field Training Exercise with Indiana ROTC programs at Camp Atterbury, which promises to be an interesting weekend of training. Moreover, preparations for our annual Awards Ceremony and Military Ball are well underway. We also have two additional land navigation exercises left. While later this month, the MSIII’s travel to Wright-Patterson Air Force Base to train on the Field Leader’s Reaction Course. Finally, Tuesday morning Labs continue to infuse new lessons, ideas, and techniques within Xavier’s Corps of Cadets. With all this in mind, it is shaping up to be an exciting and enriching semester.

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- *Learn about the training that the Battalion will be doing in the coming months:*



"All For One Battallion" LTC Shane Ousey, PMS, Xavier University ROTC

Greetings and salutations from Saint Barbara's Hall. Some of you are looking at the picture to the right and wondering when did LTC Hampton grow hair? Well he did not. Pat Hampton has completed his time here in the All For One Battalion and moved on to Fort Campbell, KY. In another testament to the excellence of this program he was selected to take a second command of a battalion in the 187th Infantry. To be honored by the Army and chosen for a second command is truly a rare event. I know Pat would give all the credit to the fantastic Cadets, cadre and supporters of Xavier University for his selection. We all wish Pat great fortune as he trains his Soldiers for his upcoming deployment.

I am the luckiest Lieutenant Colonel in the United States Army. Why is that you ask? For the first time in my 20 plus years of service I actually got the job I asked for, at the time that I asked for it. For those of you that have worn the uniform you know that is nothing short of a miracle and for those of you that have not I assure you it truly is amazing.

I am not going to list my biography here. It is available on our website if you need some bedtime reading. Most recently I have returned from a deployment to Kuwait as a part of the US Army Central Headquarters, not nearly as fun a job as being "Muskie 6". My wife Cindy and son Trevor will soon be joining me once school ends this summer.

My wife is holding down the homestead in Columbia, SC as an elementary school teacher and my son is spending all my money as a sophomore at Indiana University in Bloomington. My two step daughters and 5 grandchildren join Cindy and me in spirit.

Since I am doing the geographical bachelor thing for a few months the cadre and Cadets here have become my adopted family....and they love all the attention from their new dad. It seems like a few minutes ago I walked in the door to an empty email inbox and an armory full of great ideas. The pace has been hectic but entirely enjoyable and I know I will not get a chance to look up until this summer. Some of the folks around here think I am actually living in the basement of St Barb's and only drive around the block in the morning to make it look like I go home. Rest assured I do have a small hovel I am staying in while I shop for the dream house for my wife.

I have been totally impressed by my initial impressions of the "All For One" Battalion. From Cadets to cadre to civilian support staff the high standards here are truly impressive. No one here settles for good enough for government work. The Cadets lead that effort. They demonstrate unmatched drive and spirit. This is not my first venture into ROTC so I have a few other schools that I can compare the battalion to and it is clear to me that Xavier is deservedly recognized as one of the best in the country. That is not Xavier jingoism speaking, but demonstrated excellence with the results to back it up.

As always though, a new commander with a fresh set of eyes tends to focus on new areas. To steal a line from a current bestseller we are going from "Good to Great". I guess really I could coin a new phrase from "Great to Superb" but it is not as catchy. We are all tightening up our rucksacks and loading in a few more rocks as we climb the mountain of achievement. Of course I am not doing this by



myself; the staff plays an integral role as well.

We have been fortunate enough to welcome some new Cadre to the staff. Major Brian McDonald, his wife Melissa (XU ROTC Class of '96) and two daughters, Haley and Samantha and Major Peter Gray, his wife, Maggy and their sons, Jackson and Owen all came on board in February. We are excited to have them all here and look forward to them being part of the Xavier family. Of course you never get new without having to say goodbye to someone. Master Sergeant James Hassall will be heading out to Fort Knox to take over as a 1SG in a newly formed unit. We won't say goodbye to his wife Sylvia though as she and their son Christopher will remain in the Cincinnati area as part of our extended family. MSG Hassall has been an invaluable member of this Cadre and carried a huge portion of the load for a long time. Also heading out is CPT Emory Hayes. He will be taking his wife Bethany and daughters Isabella and Sophie with him as he heads off to Korea to take command of a battery of big guns.

(Continued on Page 3)

CPT Hayes did all those unloved jobs as the junior officer in the battalion and he did them magnificently. Most of all he served the last year as my Recruiting Officer, a job yours truly did as well. Talk about lots of hours and having no fear of rejection. MSG Hassall and CPT Hayes...good luck and we will see you on the high ground.

Just so you can start filling in your calendars, I want to share a few upcoming dates with you. Our 73rd Annual Military Ball and Awards Ceremony will be on Friday, April 24th starting at 4:30PM. It will be a little different than last year. It is on Friday not Saturday and starts a little later and there will not be a big gap between the two events. Invites are going in the mail as I write, so watch your mailboxes and please RSVP as soon as you can. The ballroom only holds about 340 folks and from what I am told it does fill up.

We will also hold a Best Ranger Competition here at Xavier on 18 April. It runs all day starting at 6:00AM until about 10:00PM. This is a great way to spend a spring Saturday. If you are not too far away come on out and watch Cadets from ROTC programs from as far away as TN and MI demonstrate their skills and proficiency as they compete to win the title of "Best Ranger". We will be taking the Cadets out to the field for our annual Spring Field Training Exercise from 26-29 March. Cell phones and email are not allowed so if your

child disappears into a black hole for those 3 days, don't worry I've got them and more importantly if you do get an email or text let me know so I can be sure to help them train harder. The big one, Commissioning, will be on 15 May at 1:00 PM. That is the day before Xavier's Commencement.

As always, you are all invited out anytime to come observe training and to visit. If possible just give us a heads up so we can make sure we get your Cadet extra dirty and sweaty so you feel like they are earning their scholarship dollars.

Again, I cannot express my absolute joy at having been chosen to lead the "All For One" Battalion. I am truly blessed to be in such a great environment, surrounded by incredibly dedicated people. I vow to you I will give nothing less than 100% every day to ensure the training and development of the Cadets is absolutely the best that it can be, and that we will always seek ways to make it better. Feel free to contact me anytime at ouseys@xavier.edu or via phone at 513-745-3646. I am never too busy for family and you all are now part of my extended family. ALL FOR ONE!

Support Our Troops

By: Cadet Michelle Trauger

Parents, friends and alumni of the Xavier University "All for One Battalion," I am cadet Michelle Trauger and last year I had the pleasure of being the Cadet NCO in charge of our Support Our Troops fundraising program. Last year, through the Support Our Troops program Xavier University and the "All for One Battalion" were able to raise over 600 dollars and collect well over 10 boxes of donations for two Xavier Army ROTC graduates stationed overseas.

I am writing this letter to all of you to inform you that once again Xavier University and the "All for One Battalion" will be collecting donations to send to former Xavier Army ROTC graduates.

A donation of either much needed personal items or money would be greatly appreciated to help support the troops. All monetary donations will be used to purchase miscel-

laneous personal items to send to the soldiers, or to help pay for shipping costs. All monetary donations are tax deductible.

This year's program is under the supervision of cadet Bethany Gortner. If you are interested in donating money or personal items please contact Cadet Gortner at 513.218.2787 or email at gortnerb@xavier.edu or Cadet Trauger at 513.252.3575 or email at trau-germ@xavier.edu for further information.

Additionally the "All for One Battalion" will be collecting donations at the Military Ball on April 24th. Thank you for your continued support of the "All for One Battalion" will be collecting donations at the Military Ball on April 24th. Thank you for your continued support of the "All for One Battalion" and its graduates.



Senior MSIV Cadet:
Michelle Trauger

Want more information on the best leadership course in America?



Contact:
Major Peter Gray
(513) 745-1062
grayp3@xavier.edu



Additions to the "All For One Battalion"

By: Major Peter Gray and Major Brian McDonald



Recruiting Operations Officer
Major Pete Gray

MAJ Gray was commissioned as a 2LT in the Field Artillery from Virginia Tech in 1998. After the Field Artillery Officer Basic Course he served as a Company Fire Support Officer in the 2nd Infantry Division, Republic of Korea. His tour of Korea included duty in the Quick Reaction Force for the United Nations' Mission in the De-militarized Zone.

MAJ Gray's next assignment was at Fort Bragg where he served in a number of duty positions to include Support Platoon Leader and Firing Platoon Leader/Executive Officer in "The World's Only Airborne 155mm Cannon Battalion." During this time, MAJ Gray also deployed to Kosovo as part of the NATO Mission.

MAJ Gray then attended the Marine Corps' Expeditionary Warfare School (EWS) at Quantico, Virginia. Upon completion of EWS, MAJ Gray was assigned to the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault). He completed two combat tours of Iraq serving as a Battalion Fire Support Officer for 1-187 Infantry from 2003-2004 and as a Battery Commander in 3-320 Field Artillery from 2005-2006.

In between combat tours, MAJ Grays erved as the Battalion Assistant Operations Officer for 3-320 Field Artillery. Prior to his

assignment to the Xavier Army ROTC Program, MAJ Gray earned his Masters Degree in Terrorist Operations and Financing from the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, CA.

MAJ Gray's military schooling includes the Field Artillery Officer Basic Course, the USMC Expeditionary Warfare School, the Combined Arms Service and Staff School, Airborne School, Air Assault School, and the Jumpmaster School.

His awards and decorations include the Bronze Star (2nd Award), the Meritorious Service Medal, the NATO Service Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, the Air Assault Badge, and the Senior Parachutist Badge.



Executive Officer
Major Brian McDonald

MAJ McDonald was commissioned a 2LT in the Infantry from United States Military Academy in 1995. He has had duty assignments at Fort Monmouth, NJ; Fort Benning, GA; Fort Riley, KS; Fort Bragg, NC; Heidelberg, Germany; and Newport, RI. He has primarily served in Mechanized and Airborne Infantry units as a Platoon Leader, Company Commander, and Staff Officer. He has deployed to Bosnia, Iraq and Afghanistan.

MAJ McDonald's schooling includes the Infantry Officer Basic and Advanced Courses, Combined Arms Service and Staff School, Naval War College, Airborne School, Jumpmaster School, Pathfinder School and Ranger School.

MAJ McDonald's is from the Cincinnati area (Born and Raised in Lawrenceburg, IN). He is married to Melissa (Carr), a Xavier Graduate commissioned from the Xavier ROTC Program in 1996 as a 2LT in the Engineers. He has two daughters Haley (9yrs) and Samantha (7yrs).

Additions to the "All For One Battalion"

By: Sergeant First Class Brad Sayles

SFC Sayles enlisted into the Army in 1989. He was awarded the MOS of 12B Combat Engineer at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri in December 1989. After completing Basic Training and AIT he served as a Combat Engineer squad member in Germany with Delta Company 78th Engineer Battalion. While stationed in Germany he deployed to Saudi Arabia during Operation Desert Storm in 1991. Following this assignment he was assigned to Fort Knox, Kentucky where he was promoted to the rank of sergeant.

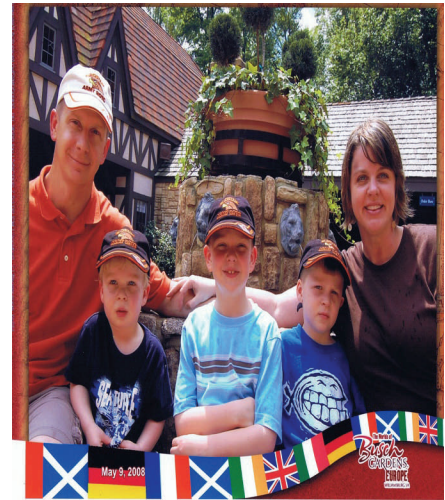
He was a Team Leader of a Combat Engineer squad in Alpha Company 19th Engineer Battalion. During his assignment at Fort Knox he conducted multiple training exercises which took him to Fort Irwin, California, and Canada to name a few. Following that assignment he was assigned to Schofield Barracks, Hawaii where he was introduced to the 25th Light Infantry Division. His highest rank was Staff Sergeant at this location serving as a Squad Leader of a Light Combat Engineer Squad in Bravo Company 65th Engineer Battalion.

He conducted training in Hawaii, Thailand, and Japan. After this assignment he returned to Fort Knox where he took on the role of a trainer, training young Lieutenants at the Armored Officer Basic Course. He then went off to Korea where he worked as the Operations NCO for the Alpha company 44th Engineer Battalion. Following this assignment he went to Fort Carson, Colorado where he

was promoted to the rank of Sergeant First Class, serving as a Platoon Sergeant. He deployed with the Alpha Company 4th Engineer Battalion, 4th Infantry Division during their initial push into Iraq. After three years with the 4th ID SFC Sayles conducted an on post move to the 1/361 Engineer Battalion, his responsibilities were to train, evaluate, and mobilize Army Reserve, National Guard, Air Force and Navy units for deployment to Iraq and Afghanistan.

Prior to his assignment to Xavier University he completed his Bachelor's degree in Business Administration/Management. He continues to pursue higher education by pursuing an MBA, which he anticipates completing over the next year. SFC Sayles is married to his wife Deanna for over 14 years, and they have three young boys Evan, Noah and Levi who are ages 9, 5, and 3.

SFC Sayles Military schooling include: Warriors Leaders Course, Fort Knox, Kentucky, Air Assault, Schofield Barracks Hawaii, Basic Non-Commissioned Officer Course, Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, Instructor Trainer Course, Fort Knox, Kentucky, Advance Non-Commissioned Officer Course, Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, Battle Staff Course, Fort Bliss, Texas



Operations NCO
Sergeant First Class
Brad Sayles

His awards and decorations include: Meritorious Service Medal 2, Army Commendation Medal 5, Army Achievement Medal 3, Army Superior Unit Award 1, Army Good Conduct Medal 6, National Defense Service Medal Ribbon 2, Korea Defense Service Medal 1, Southwest Asia Service Medal Ribbon 2, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal Ribbon 1, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal Ribbon 1, Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon 3, Army Service Ribbon 1, Army Overseas Service Ribbon 3, Saudi Arabian Medal Ribbon for the Liberation of Kuwait 1, Kuwait Liberation of Kuwait Medal Ribbon 1, Air Assault Badge, and Drivers Badge tracked Vehicle

The "All For One Battallion:
By: Cadet Kirsten Luffy



Xavier University Army ROTC
3904 Winding Way
Cincinnati, OH 45229
Phone: 513-745-3946
Fax: 513-745-1062
Email: hayese@xavier.edu

