



The Crimson Tide Battalion News
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The University of Alabama Army ROTC
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Crimson Tide Battalion Commissions 18 in 2005-06! For the third consecutive year, the battalion made its commission mission by pinning bars on 18 new Second Lieutenants—actually exceeding mission by one line officer. 2LT Tyler Vest (Infantry) will stay on until January 2007 as our Gold Bar Recruiter.

Farewell to LTC (Ret) Jeffrey Reilly and Mr. John Garrett. LTC Reilly left the battalion in July for a new position with the Air Command and Staff College at Maxwell AFB. We will still see him periodically as he is scheduled to defend his doctoral dissertation this fall. Mr. Garrett accepted a position in South Carolina and departed in mid-September to join his family there. Both cadre and cadets will miss our friends' spirit and insights and hope they'll stay in touch.

Welcome to our new staff members. With LTC William's departure for another command, MAJ Clark arrived in July as the new PMS; a Capstone alumnus, he was formerly the Provost Marshal at the Army Reserve Medical Command in Pinellas Park, Florida. On 5 Sep 06, two new arrivals to our cadre team reported in. MAJ John Dollar is the new Recruiting Operations Officer and arrived from Cadet Command's Easter Region Marketing Division. Mrs. Angela Wilkerson is the new Supply Technician and previously served in that position at the University of North Alabama. Both are glad to be a part of our team and back in Tide Country!

Homecoming Rapidly Approaches! With football season now underway, mark your calendars for 28 Oct and come out to support the Crimson Tide as it takes on Florida International. This is the second year the battalion is hosting its alumni and henceforth the Army ROTC alumni, Crimson Tide of the Army Battalion (CTAB), will meet on Homecoming Day for its annual reunion. Along with the Corps of Cadets, the Alabama Army National Guard is supporting with food and refreshments. Bring your families and enjoy the fellowship with the cadets, cadre and Army ROTC alumni.

Army ROTC Capital Campaign Gets Underway. At the urging of many CTAB members, the battalion is launching a capital campaign to raise funds for the Crimson Tide Society Endowment (CTSE). This is a 10-year campaign with the goal of raising \$1,000,000 to support the Corps of Cadets' annual operating expenses and fund educational support projects. The UA Office of Advancement has agreed to assist and advise the battalion and CTAB as this develops. We urge all alumni and newly-commissioned 2LTs to consider an initial pledge of \$500 (\$100 over 5 years) to jump-start the campaign. (We are also researching the possibility of commissioning an official "Alabama Corps of Cadets" print to supplement the campaign.) Interest generated from this endeavor will benefit the Corps of Cadets for many generations to come. We welcome all donations—including volunteer time and advisement—from alumni and friends as we embark on this unprecedented capital campaign.

Battalion Alumni Are Successful At BOLC II. Reports from the 2005 and 2006 commissionees who have graduated from the Basic Officer Leader Course (formerly OBC) are positive. One common theme all have stressed is the importance of physical fitness.

Battalion Enjoys Successful Summer 2006 Training Cycle. This past summer, 20 MS3s completed Warrior Force (formerly Advanced Camp) at Fort Lewis, Washington; four of them went on to attend Cadet Troop Leader Training. Five more cadets graduated from the Leader Training Course (formerly Basic Camp) at Fort Knox, Kentucky and three contracted as MS3s. Seven cadets earned their Parachutist Badge and one graduated from Air Assault School.

Contracted enrollment continues its steady climb. The battalion now numbers 73 contracted cadets—the largest in several years. Including the 3 completion cadets, there are now 46 in the Advanced Course. For the third straight year, the number of contracted cadets climbed more than 10% over the previous year. This upward trend is due to several factors: near-perfect retention in the Advanced Course, more Reserve Component Soldiers contracting as SMP cadets and a sharp increase in 4-year scholarships (12 this year vice the normal 3). No single factor accounts for this trend; however, the combined effect of recruiting, effective student advising, administrative support, physical training, comprehensive Leader Development Program and counseling have created a holistic learning environment not available in traditional college programs. Our increasing number of 4-year scholarship applications, greater visibility on campus and in cyberspace, and program momentum indicate this trend will continue.

Cadets earn high academic marks in Spring 2006. Our contracted cadets posted high marks last semester. Nearly half of the MS4s have at least a 3.4 cumulative GPA and 20 cadets overall made the Spring 2006 Deans List. It is apparent that the Crimson Tide Battalion is recruiting and retaining bright young students who will go on to great careers leading Army Soldiers.

Please Check the Bama Cadet Website! We encourage all alumni to periodically visit the CTAB alumni website at <http://www.bamacadet.com> to update their information and check for new information and events. Mike Hackney (Class of 1979) keeps it updated between his travels and tracks alumni email correspondence. The Internet is a wonderful tool for staying in touch and we greatly enjoy hearing from alumni through Bama Cadet.

REFERRALS: We welcome all prospect referrals! If you know college-bound high school students, please tell them about Army ROTC. If you have sharp young NCOs in your units, encourage them to submit a Green to Gold packet. If you know Soldiers who are getting out for college or have sharp ones in your Army Reserve or Army National Guard units, tell them about the Simultaneous Membership Program. More information is available on our website.

We invite your input! Please direct all questions, comments and prospect referrals to Major Dollar at armyrotc@bama.ua.edu or (205) 348-1056. We invite you to stop by and visit us in the Bureau of Mines Bldg 1 (BOM 1) whenever you're on campus for whatever reason. We also encourage you to visit our website at <http://www.bama.ua.edu/~armyrotc/>.

GO BAMA!! ROLL TIDE!!