



MSIV Cadets before completion of their 12-mile ruck march.

# Bearkat BATTALION

Mid-Semester | 2020 | Sam Houston State University

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## Pursuing Excellence, Strength and Honor!

The month of October has been busy for the Bearkat Battalion. As you will see in this newsletter, MSIs conducted the High-Ropes Training Course and their first modified Diagnostic Army Combat Fitness Test (ACFT). CDT Dilworth (highlighted on page 3) was select

for his outstanding dedication to the program!

Additionally, MSIIIs have been hard at work with their Tactical Labs and Weapons Range, in

(FTX). We also had two more Cadets officially contract, taking their first steps to becoming future Army Officers!

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# SHSU Faculty, ROTC Alumni, Local Community Supporters, and Families.

Wow approximately 5 weeks left in this unique semester! Our senior class remains resilient and flexible during these unprecedented times, ensuring our underclassmen Cadets receive the best quality program. An example of this creativity is on page seven of this newsletter, authored by Cadet Eric

component selections as they are one step closer to serving as commissioned officers. To the bottom right, are the component selections. In addition, 5 of our seniors were selected as distinguished military graduates (top 20% in the nation, to include 2, who are in the top 10%, among cadets in over 270 R.O.T.C. programs across the nation). A huge congratulations to these young leaders as they will shortly embark on their journey in leading our sons and daughters.

The leadership of our seniors permeates to our underclassmen and is one reason we continue to grow as a program. Our underclassmen admire the upperclassmen and mentors as noted by two freshmen cadets on pages four and five. Similarly, we recently contracted two more cadets (Britney Loerwald and Elaine Bishop) and they too, acknowledged the outstanding mentorship they have received from their upperclassmen senior mentors (Lynnsey Steele and Nikki Stone). Britney is from League City, Texas, and is on a 3-year Army R.O.T.C. Scholarship, while Elaine is from Vine Grove, Kentucky, and is on a 4-year Army R.O.T.C. Scholarship. We are elated that Britney and Elaine declared their intent to the Army to commission after graduation. We are looking forward to observing them grow as leaders and excited for them to be leading our Soldiers in the future.

Finally, I will once again close my comments by recognizing the SHSU Military Science Alumni Club (MSAC) and its members. Our Alumni Spotlight on pages 9-11 of this newsletter, highlight the MSAC President, Brigadier General (Retired) Richard Mills and his two sons, Troy and Travis, both of whom served as battalion commanders. These three outstanding selfless leaders continue to provide their time and support to our program. In addition, we want to thank two young SHSU Alumni Captains (Patrick Nguyen and Michael Akeroyd). Patrick provided our program a briefing on Army Officer Career Planning this past month, while Michael volunteered to host our Cadets at Fort Hood, Texas, during the Spring 2021 Semester. As you receive this newsletter, understand your Cadets are training at Gibbs Ranch, during our Fall Field Training Exercise. We appreciate your continued support and hope everyone safely enjoys Halloween tomorrow evening.

## Strength and Honor!

Lieutenant Colonel Joe Contreras



Cadets Britney Loerwald (left) and Elaine Bishop (Right) after contracting.

FY 21 Component Results		
Active Duty		
Alay Banks	David Mueser	Andrew Stokley
Britney Loerwald	Elaine Bishop	Eric
Reserves		
Britney Loerwald	Elaine Bishop	Eric
National Guard		
Bill Woodburn	Steven Cardenas	Tristian Chudej









# October In Pictures





## Alumni Spotlight    The Mills Family Legacy

### **BG (R) Richard Mills**

BG (R) Richard W. Mills is married with two sons, LTC Troy Mills and LTC Travis Mills, who are both currently

# Alumni Spotlight The Mills Family Legacy

