Upcoming events:

- 5-NOV-Ruck March
- 11-Nov- Veterans Day
- Soldiers’ Home Visit
- 15-Nov-LandNav QMCB
- 18-Nov-ROTC Thanksgiving Potluck

In this issue:

Commander’s Corner 1
Making the Headlines 1
Bison in Action 2
Ranger Challenge 2008 3
Alumni Spotlight- Dr. Harry Robinson, PhD 3
Joint FTX 4
Alumni Support 4

~ COMMANDER’S CORNER

Upfront, I would like to personally thank our Army ROTC Company President Roy Montgomery and his entire teams for helping our program win the most active AUSA ROTC Company in the nation during their annual AUSA Convention. This prestigious AUSA award recognizes the ROTC Company that provides the most support on campus and in their community. Bison’s you should be extremely proud of your accomplishment; and the outstanding service and unwavering support you provide to our community at large.

I would also like to publicly acknowledge and congratulate our Ranger Challenge Team for placing second in both land navigation/orienteering and the 6-Mile Road March. This feat was even more impressive when you compare our team composition and makeup. Our team was led by Junior/MS III Ciera Hopewell, with four freshmen, and four females. No other ranger challenge team had more than one female Cadet. The team has gotten better and better each year since my arrival June 2006. Sergeant First Class Kenneth Norris has been very instrumental over the past two years in much of our success. His hands-on and direct involvement, coaching, teaching, training, preparation and oversight were nothing short of amazing.

Finally, in a joint effort with the Air Force ROTC program, the Bison helped plan and execute our 15th Annual ROTC Day. I would like to commend both Army and Air Force SROTC Cadets for putting on another first-class drill and ceremony competition for 15 JROTC Teams from the Nation’s Capital. In addition, a special thank you goes out to the George Washington Chapter of AUSA for their continued support and sponsorship. Again, this year’s ROTC Day provided local JROTC student-cadets an opportunity to compete in a friendly environment and help our program fulfill the second part of our mission; which is to motivate young people to be better citizens. The ROTC Day culminated on a high; as the US Army Drill Team performed for the JROTC Cadets; they demonstrated drill, precision and professionalism at the highest level.

~LEADERSHIP AND PRIDE! LTC Debbie L. Williams Sr.

Bison Battalion welcomes the new Gold Bar Recruiter 2LT Peter Samuel to the team

Bison Battalion welcomes the new Recruiting Operations Officer, CPT Cameron Smith and his family to the team

HU ROTC Company 220193 was recognized at the AUSA Convention for being the most active company in the nation.

Bison Battalion welcomes the new Gold Bar Recruiter 2LT Peter Samuel to the team

~ BISON HEADLINERS

- Congratulations to the “Bison Battalion” Ranger Challenge Team for an outstanding performance at this years Brigade Ranger Challenge competition
- Special thanks go the “Bison Battalion” Cadets for participating in the 2008 HU Homecoming Parade
- A job well done to both Army and Air Force ROTC volunteers for the Annual JROTC Day. More than 15 JROTC schools participated and the event culminated with a performance by the Army Drill team.
- A special thanks to our Alumni who made our Alumni Homecoming Luncheon a memorable event for all of us!
- HU ROTC Company 220193 was recognized at the AUSA Convention for being the most active company in the nation.
- Bison Battalion welcomes the new Recruiting Operations Officer, CPT Cameron Smith and his family to the team
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Education isn’t how much you have committed to memory, or even how much you know. It’s being able to differentiate between what you do know and what you don’t...
~ Anatole France

844-1924

Greetings to my fearless Bison,

“The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy.” When I think of the Howard University Bison Battalion, I think of Dr. King’s vision of this “ultimate measure of a man.”

As the horrific season of mid-terms slowly dissipates, each of you have displayed the diligence and discipline to balance being an Army ROTC Cadet, while keeping in mind that you are always a STUDENT FIRST. There is one essential element you all must remember in this journey to officer ship, and that is, with any great reward comes great sacrifice.

You all have witnessed within the course of this past month, that weekends are virtually non-existent and that ROTC is not only an extra-curricular activity, but it is a lifestyle. However, do not think for once that your efforts have been in vain.

I would like to personally commend the Bison Battalion on the following accomplishments: 1) being honored in September’s Edition of Ebony Magazine, 2) receiving the AUSA Ribbon as the MOST ACTIVE COMPANY IN THE NATION and 3) successfully completing the 2008 Ranger Challenge competition. I am extremely proud of each and every one of you. As the holiday season slowly approaches and finals are within arms reach, I challenge you all to stay focused on your goals. Remember, THE BEST IS YET TO COME!

THE BEST IS YET TO COME!
~LEADERSHIP AND PRIDE! C/LTC George Johnson III

~BISON PRIDE

Howard University Army ROTC Newsletter

November 2008

Volume 3, Issue 3
...Don’t tell people how to do things, tell them what to do and let them surprise you with their results. ...
~George S. Patton

BISON BATTALION
SY 2008-2009

US Army Drill Team closed the 15th Annual ROTC day with a magnificent performance

More Bison in action Photos in our album at http://www.coas.howard.edu/departments/#army

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~ ALUMNI CORNER – Harry Robinson, PhD

In the heady days of the end of the 1950s I entered Howard University and began a journey that I could not have imagined. Those Thursdays on the drill field would become the vessel that formed my core values on leadership - and, life. In the long shadows and watchful eyes of Professors of Military Science Colonel Hyman Y. Chase and Major Arthur Fearing, the Cadet battalion drilled and became steeped in chain of command thinking. I was a graduate of Washington, DC public schools and had three years of Army JROTC training “under my belt.” Very quickly, I found myself acting squad leader.

It was on that drill field that I developed my lifelong connection with the military mind and the many lessons that have sustained me to this day. It was, also, on that drill field and in Army ROTC classes that I was engaged with classmates who were committed to becoming leaders. The ROTC program was, I believe, the only environment in the University focused exclusively on leadership and, life. The power of this commitment was palpable and ever present in all that we did as students and later in life. We talked about it, were surrounded by it and lived it - we looked forward to starting our lives as Army officers, to wearing the gold bars of 2nd Lieutenants.

My second TDY assignment after Engineer Officer basic Course was Ft. Benning, Georgia – the Army Ranger School. Everything that I ever needed to know I learned in Ranger School... not nursery school. Well, actually, it was about applying what I knew in very special ways and to quite different ends. It didn’t hurt that I was a graduate of Howard’s architecture program and could build models. Those hastily assembled landforms came in handy when I led patrols and needed to brief my teams on what the terrain looked like and how we would use it to complete successful operations. It was the ranger experience, during the tenure of Colonel Charles Beckwith as commander of that school that was a catalyst for how I approach my life. “Rangers lead the way.”

A brief tour in Vietnam in 1967, a longer period in Walter Reed and I was at the end of my 2-year commitment to military service. I often wonder if I had not been MEDEVAC from that field outside An Loc on the 4th of July 1967 what my life may have been. When I entered active duty in 1966, slightly more than a year earlier, my plans were to have a career as an Army officer as had other members of my family.

Instead, I found myself back in civilian life at a time when our Nation was embroiled in a struggle for civil rights and justice for all and our major American cities were sustaining citizen unrest and disorders. My ability to adapt to the changing urban environments in which I was, then, practicing and teaching city planning was grounded in my military experience and the lessons that I learned during those two years on active duty and during my ROTC training.

Cumulatively, those experiences prepared me for responding to the unknown and leading when the way was not defined. Or, as the great military leader Hannibal wrote: Inveniam Viam Aut Faciam, find a way or make a way.

-Dr. Robinson is currently a professor in the Architectural Department at the Howard University School of Engineering
The lazy Sunday morning was interrupted by a bellowing “HU, YOU KNOW!” from the mouths of the mighty Bison Battalion as they prepare to conquer the obstacle course on their FTX at Ft. AP Hill. As the determined company of University of Maryland had their thoughts focused on completing the obstacle course in a record fast time, the Mighty Bison Battalion had a different but more so clever strategy in mind; remember and uphold the Four Tenets of the Warrior Ethos.

The Bison Battalion meditated their objective to complete the course in record time. In order to achieve their goal, the Bison Battalion was quiet in respect to preparing for the greatest challenge of the FTX. As each squad charged for the first obstacle, they chanted “ARMY, STRONG” to motivate one another. This course had to be completed regardless of how tired they may have felt from their excellent performance on the shooting range, land navigation, and repelling. Some of the Cadets struggled over some of the obstacles in the course. Neither members of the team quit for they were steadfast in achieving their goal which was completing the mission of the obstacle course.

University of Maryland came in with a record time of 6:05 in completion of the course. Bison Battalion came in second. “We made sure our whole squad was together. All of us at one time struggled with one obstacle, but we never left a fallen comrade. That’s the way the Army trained us. Never leave a fallen comrade,” Bison Cadet Cashia Thomas stated. So the University Maryland may have been the fast and the swift individually, but the Mighty Bison Battalion won together as one unit. Hooah!