Military Science
Level IV Cadet Michael Shannon is the Royal Warrior Battalion’s 2014 George C. Marshall Award winner. Each year Army Reserve Officer Training Corps programs across the Nation send their top Cadet to the campus of the Virginia Military Institute to take part in the George C. Marshall Conference. This year the conference will be held 16-18 April. During the course of the conference the Nation’s top ROTC Cadets have the opportunity to hear from and interact with senior leaders from the Military, State Department and other government agencies.

Cadet Michael Shannon attends Wilkes University where he majors in Accounting and is a member of the varsity wrestling team. Cadet Shannon currently serves as the Cadet Battalion Executive Officer for the Royal Warrior Battalion.

Cadet Shannon is a graduate of the U.S. Army Airborne School at Fort Benning Georgia. His other military training includes the U.S. Army Cadet Command Leader Training Course at Fort Knox, Kentucky and the Cadet Command Leader Development and Assessment Course held at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington.

Cadet Shannon earned an overall LDAC course rating of “Excellent” this past summer.

Cadet Shannon participated in the 2013 Army Ten Miler as a member of the Royal Warrior Battalion Ten Miler Team. He was a member of the Battalion’s 2012 Ranger Challenge Team, taking part in the Brigade level competition at Fort Dix, New Jersey. Cadet Shannon was also selected as the 2013 Colonel Robert L. Strayer Scholarship Award winner by the Philadelphia Chapter of the Military Order of World Wars. In December, 2013 Cadet Shannon was selected by the unit’s Cadre as the Military Science Level IV Cadet of the Semester for Fall 2013.

Cadet Shannon shared the following upon learning of his selection for the Marshall Award, “General George C. Marshall exemplified leadership, scholarship and statesmanship, I am humble to be the recipient of this honor. I would like to thank the Cadre for their leadership and mentorship, it is a privilege to have the opportunity to represent the Royal Warrior Battalion at the George C. Marshall Leadership Seminar”.

Cadet Shannon was recently named a Distinguished Military Graduate by U.S. Army Cadet Command and was ranked in the Top 10 percent of the command’s National Order of Merit List for Accessions. Cadet Shannon was selected to serve on Active Duty as an Infantry Officer upon his graduation from Wilkes University and commissioning.
Royal Warriors Selected To Take Part In Mission Commander's Conference At West Point

Cadets Christian Burne and Michael Shannon were recently selected by 2nd ROTC Brigade to take part in the United States Military Academy’s Mission Commander’s Conference. This event is the capstone leadership exercise for senior Cadets at West Point and each year is open to about 100 Army ROTC Cadets. This marks the fourth consecutive year that at least two Cadets from the Royal Warrior Battalion have been selected to take part in the forum. During the course of the conference which is conducted each year in late April Cadets hear from Army leaders on issues and challenges at the tactical, operational and strategic levels.

Cadet Christian Burne is a Military Science Level IV Cadet at the University of Scranton and currently serves as the Cadet Battalion Commander. Cadet Michael Shannon is a Military Science Level IV Cadet at Wilkes University and serves as the unit’s Cadet Battalion Executive Officer. Both Cadets were selected by U.S. Army Cadet Command as Distinguished Military Graduates and will serve on Active Duty.

Battalion Commissions Two Second Lieutenants During January Commissioning Ceremony

On Friday, 17 January Cadets, Cadre and friends of the Royal Warrior Battalion gathered on the campus of King’s College as the Royal Warrior Battalion commissioned Cadets Nathan Daniels of East Stroudsburg University and Nyugen Le of Wilkes University. Cadet Daniels was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Pennsylvania Army National Guard, while Cadet Le was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Army Reserve. 2LT Daniels will serve as an Aviation Officer following completion of flight school and his Basic Officer Leader Course. 2LT Le will serve as a Quartermaster Officer with a U.S. Army Reserve unit headquartered in Danville, Pennsylvania.

MS II Cadets Earn 2.5 Year Scholarships

Congratulations to the following Military Science Level II Cadets who recently earned 2.5 year Campus-Based Army ROTC Scholarships based on their outstanding performance in both the classroom and Military Science courses.

Cadet Christopher Campbell—East Stroudsburg University
Cadet Emilio Eriksen—King’s College
Cadet Nathan Silverthorn—East Stroudsburg University
Cadet Zachary Zanetti—East Stroudsburg University
Lieutenant Colonel Marc P. Beckage a 1997 commissionee of the Royal Warrior Battalion assumed command of the Edinboro University Army ROTC program this past summer. Edinboro is one of forty three Army ROTC programs assigned to the 2nd ROTC Brigade.

Lieutenant Colonel Marc P. Beckage joined the Pennsylvania Army National Guard in May 1993 and completed Basic Combat Training at Fort Jackson that summer. His first assignment was as an Infantryman in 1st BN, 109th Infantry. He completed four years of Army ROTC at the University of Scranton, and in June 1997 he was commissioned as a Distinguished Military Graduate in the Infantry.

Following the Infantry Officer Basic Course and Ranger School, LTC Beckage was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment (Wolfhounds), 25th Infantry Division (Light) from April 1998 to May 2001. While stationed in Hawaii, he served as a Platoon Leader, Company Executive Officer, and Battalion Logistical Officer. LTC Beckage graduated from the Infantry Officer Advanced Course in 2001 and was assigned to the 3rd Brigade Headquarters (Iron Brigade), 2nd Infantry Division. While stationed in Korea he served as the Brigade Logistical Planner.

LTC Beckage was next assigned to the 3rd Brigade (Iron Team), 4th Infantry Division. During this period, he deployed to Iraq from 2003-2004 and served as the Brigade Logistical Planner and then as the Brigade Adjutant. Upon redeployment, he was assigned as the commander of Alpha Company (Attack Company) 1st Battalion, 8th Infantry Regiment ( Fighting Eagles) which realigned into 1st Battalion, 68th Combined Arms Battalion (Silver Lions). He deployed back to Iraq from 2005-2006 as both a Company Commander and as an Iraqi Army Battalion Training Team Leader.

LTC Beckage served as a Capability Manager focusing on Infantry communication platforms at Fort Belvoir, VA from 2007-2009.

LTC Beckage was next assigned to 1st Squadron, 89th Calvary Regiment (Wolverines), 2nd Brigade (Commandos), 10th Infantry Division (Light). He served as the Squadron’s Operations officer and Executive officer from 2010-2013. He then served as the Brigade’s rear detachment executive officer until his present assignment as the Professor of Military Science, 2nd ROTC Brigade, at Edinboro University.

LTC Beckage holds a BS in Psychology from the University of Scranton, and a Master of Science in Management with a specialization in Army Operations and National Security from the University of Maryland University College. His military education includes the Infantry Officer Basic Course, Infantry Officer Advanced Course, Combined Arms and Service Staff School and Command and General Staff College.

His awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal (1 OLC), the Meritorious Service Medal (1 OLCs), the Army Commendation Medal (1 OLCs), and the Army Achievement Medal (4 OLCs). He has also been awarded the Ranger Tab, the Parachutist Badge, the Combat Infantryman’s Badge, the Expert Infantryman’s Badge, and the Air Assault Badge.

LTC Beckage and his wife of 16 years, Kate, have two children: Olivia and Ian. They currently reside in Edinboro, PA.

Looking For Professional Reading Material???

Check out five books and one essay Battalion Operations Officer and Military Science Level III Instructor Captain Thomas Angstandt recommends every Cadet read during his/her time in ROTC as a part of their professional development:

A Message to Garcia by Elbert Hubbard
The Killer Angels by Michael Shaara
We Were Soldiers Once . . . and Young: Ia Drang—the Battle That Changed the War in Vietnam

by Harold G. Moore and Joseph L. Galloway
Platoon Leader: A Memoir of Command in Combat by James R. McDonough
In the Company of Heroes by Michael J. Durant

Descent into Chaos: The United States and the Failure of Nation Building in Pakistan, Afghanistan, and Central Asia

by Ahmed Rashid