

**NORTHWESTERN STATE
UNIVERSITY
DEMON REGIMENT**

**LATE SPRING 2023 TO
SPRING 2024**

**A YEAR IN
REVIEW**

ARMY ROTC ALUMNI NEWSLETTER



Largest Freshman Class in Over 25 Years!

NATCHITOCHEES – Northwestern State University’s Department of Military Science conducted an Activation Ceremony for the 74th Demon Battalion on 24 Aug 2023. The military tradition allows the commander to assess the readiness and discipline of the unit and commemorates the unit’s history and lineage. ROTC’s curriculum and training ensures Cadets’ scholastic, athletic, and leadership abilities are developed and tested, preparing each for their unique career paths.

“We are so excited for the new year. Not only is this our largest freshman class in over 25 years, but these Cadets are strong academically and physically,” said Lieutenant Colonel Josh Drake, professor of Military Science. “While we do not expect all of them to contract with the Army, although it would be amazing if they did, the Demon Battalion has boundless potential. It is an honor to teach and mentor them as each Cadet begins their lifelong journey.”

Joining the program this semester are Erica Babers of Natchitoches, pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Nursing; Rachel Bell of Shreveport, pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Computer Information Systems; Jamar Benjamin of Natchitoches, pursuing a Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice; Kyra Cole of DeRidder, pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Psychology; Mya Dunn of Shreveport, pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Nursing; Miguel Flores of Ball, pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Industrial Engineering Technology; Megan Franchino of Santa Rita, Guam, pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Industrial Engineering Technology; Camryn Huff of Leesville, pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Nursing; TaLayja Jefferson of DeRidder, pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Psychology, and Angelina Jones of Lafayette, Scholars’ College, pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Biology; Grace Kerney of Barksdale Air Force Base, pursuing a Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice.

Also joining are Malaiah Ledet of Alexandria, pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Nursing; Jemena Leopoldo of Vivian, pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Health and Exercise Science; Miriam McDaniel of Natchez, pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Nursing; Jacob Mullikan of DeRidder, Scholars’ College, pursuing a Bachelor of Arts in History; Ariel Rhodes of Shreveport, pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Nursing; Jackson Sabbides of Pineville, pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Biology; James Shelton of Lafayette, pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration; Molly Stilly of Lafayette, pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Nursing, and Corneilya Williams of Leesville, pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. Devonte Tanner and Cameron Willett are students at Louisiana State University-Alexandria. NSU’s Department of Military Science serves as their ROTC host program.

Also new to the Demon Battalion is Demarkus Lawson of Fort Johnson, pursuing a Master of Science in Homeland Security. With over three years as an enlisted soldier, Lawson joined the program under the Army’s Green to Gold program. After completion of the program and graduation, he will commission as an Army officer.



CHIEF OF STAFF COMMENTS

Greetings Fellow Alumni,

Next year will mark the 75th anniversary of the ROTC program at NSU. Special plans are being developed to celebrate this momentous occasion and more information will be provided in the coming months.

We will begin the academic year with the activation of the 75th Demon Battalion during this Fall semester. Our ROTC program has commissioned over 1100 cadets as 2nd Lieutenants during those 75 years, averaging about fifteen cadets commissioned per year.

The Fall semester of 2024 will be underway soon. As we approach the start of this academic year, our usual major events on the calendar are:

- Aug 29—Activation Ceremony
- Dec 5—Fall Awards Ceremony
- Apr 12—Military Ball
- May 1—Spring Awards Ceremony
- May 15—Commissioning Ceremony

You will receive more information on these events as their calendar date approaches.

This past year also marked our 6th Annual Legacy Campaign fundraising event. It ran from 15 October 2023 through 15 April 2024. This six-month event offers our members ample time to donate \$25 or more to the campaign, which enables the NDR to accomplish its yearly fundraising goal. Because of your generous donations this past year, the campaign received over \$7,000 toward enhancing the Cadets' experience, training, knowledge, and development. Please watching your mailbox or inbox for information on the 7th Annual Legacy Campaign coming this October.

Since our last newsletter was published, a major change in leadership has occurred. Our long serving Honorary Colonel of the Regiment, LTG (R) Joseph Cosumano decided to resign to focus on Family and retirement pursuits. LTG Cosumano provided guidance to the Executive Council for over 15 years, and we wish him well in new endeavors and retirement.

I am pleased to announce that COL (R) William Gates (24th Battalion, Class of 1974) has assumed the role as the Second Honorary Colonel of the Regiment. COL Gates will help usher in a new era of continuous success for our alumni group.

If you wish to volunteer your talents in support of the NDR, please contact me at ltsmalleyretired@gmail.com to discuss the current vacancies or other ways you may contribute.

The NDR is continuously recruiting to fill vacancies on the Executive Council. We are always looking for new talent to bring a

new perspective and thought process to serving our alumni group. Your involvement also helps toward continuing the success of this great ROTC program.

As I always mention, the NDR database is a constantly changing document. Valid email and postal mailing addresses are crucial for the distribution of information. Since our members are steadily on the move, there are old or invalid addresses in the database. Therefore, we need accurate contact information to ensure everyone is receiving the latest newsletter, event notices, and reports of current ROTC Cadet accomplishments. You can visit our joint website at www.nsula.edu/rotc (on the left sidebar, click on Roll Call & Correspondence then Form-Update my Info) to update your contact information. Please also check out the ROTC Alumni Roll Call link to let us know if we've missed a classmate as well as other great alumni and ROTC news and information.

As always, your ideas, questions or concerns are welcomed as we continue forging the legacy of the NSU ROTC program.

Fork'em Demons!!

ARTHUR J. SMALLEY
LTC (USA Retired)
Chief of Staff
Northwestern Demon Regiment
29th Battalion, Class of 1979



Demon Battalion Alumni,

By the time you see this, Cadet Summer Training will have just ended to wrap up our year. With your support, 2023-2024 was very productive for the ROTC program. In addition to the many ceremonies and events we produce and participate in, we've expanded our recruiting strategy, which is really paying off. Last year, we had the largest freshman class of the program's past 25 years. We've continued to refine our recruiting strategy, and we're expecting to top last year's recruiting record for the fall semester. Such a great accomplishment for the Demon Battalion!!

Retention is almost more important than recruiting, and I am happy to report it is also much improved. While Cadre can take much of the credit for recruiting, Cadets have earned the credit for retention. Not only do they mentor and assist each other with studies, but they've instituted family activities to form stronger bonds to care for one another. After all these years of Soldiering, it is truly wonderful to watch how the younger generation has identified the need to care for one another so early in their careers.

In addition to the excitement of the selection of our new university president, Dr. James "Jimmie" Genovese, former Associate Justice for the Louisiana Supreme Court, we're excited for Demon Challenge, football, and other activities around campus. Athletics is building an annex to the field house, and the Alost Hall Academic Center, the largest capital outlay project in NSU history, will benefit all students.

If you haven't been to campus in a while, stop in for tailgating or attend any of our ceremonies. Please mark your calendars for **Homecoming** on

Notes from the Professor of Military Science



26 Oct and **Military Appreciation Day** on 16 Nov. We will celebrate the **Demon Battalion's Diamond Anniversary (75 years)** during the **Military Ball** on 12 Apr 2025. We hope this will be our biggest and best Ball yet, but we need you to join us to make it so!

I am honored to introduce this past year's commissionees:

2LT Peyton Bordelon – graduated *Cum Laude* with a Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice and a minor in Military Leadership. Working to become a MEDEVAC pilot and flight officer, he is serving in the Louisiana Army National Guard. 2LT Bordelon will attend the Basic Officer Leaders Course in September and helicopter flight school soon thereafter where he will train to fly the UH-60 Black Hawk.

2LT Loren Higginbotham – commanded the Demon Battalion this past year and, having scored in the top 20% of Cadets nationwide, was recognized as a Distinguished Military Graduate. He earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with a major concentration in Marketing and a minor in Military Leadership. 2LT Higginbotham is serving as an active duty Infantry officer.

2LT Breanna James – graduated *Cum Laude* with a Bachelor of Science in Psychology and a minor in Military Leadership. 2LT James is continuing her service in the Louisiana Army National Guard and is assigned to the 528th Engineer Battalion in Monroe as an Adjutant General officer.

2LT Andrew Wesley – graduated with a Bachelor of General Studies with a major concentration in Computer and Natural Sciences and a minor in Military Leadership. A Chemical officer, 2LT Wesley's initial assignment is with the 3-2 General Support Aviation Battalion, 2nd Combat Aviation Brigade "Talon," 2nd Infantry Division, Camp Humphreys, South Korea.

Cadet Arianna Astorga – is finishing her internship and will commission this August with a Bachelor of Science in Health and Exercise Science with a major concentration in Pre-Occupational Therapy and a minor in Military Leadership. She has assessed Quartermaster Corps and will serve in the US Army Reserve.

Again, thank you for your support! Please feel free to reach out to me at 318-357-5176 or drakej@nsula.edu.

JOSHUA R. DRAKE
LTC, IN
Professor of Military Science
Northwestern State University

Fork 'em!



Key events at the 2023 Military Ball



Receiving Line



Presentation
of the Seniors

Color Guard

Adding 73rd Streamer



Photos are from the April 17, 2023 edition of Natchitoches Parish Journal. They were donated courtesy of the Journal and photographer, Kevin Shannahan.

NSU Army ROTC Celebrates 73 Years of Excellence



“Cadet Michael Shamblin was awarded the MG (R) Erbon W. Wise Touchstone Award and three distinguished alumni were inducted into the Demon Regiment’s Hall of Fame during the 73rd annual Demon Battalion Military Ball April 15th. NSU’s Department of Military Science and the Demon Regiment co-host the event annually to honor graduating Cadets and recognize supporters of the program. In an event steeped in military tradition, the Ball featured graduating seniors presented through an Arch of Steel, formal toasts, a streamer ceremony, and recognition of Cadets and dignitaries.

The Touchstone Award is the Department’s highest honor and is presented annually to a Cadet who is the model of good citizenship. The honoree not only embodies the Army Values and Warrior Ethos but is recognized for contributing beyond the expected and encourages others to do the same. Shamblin was also peer-selected as this year’s Legacy Cadet.

The Hall of Fame inductees were **COL(R) Ronald R. Wilkins, CPT(R) Donald R. Davis, and the late 1LT(R) Thomas P. McCullough**. Individuals are selected for their service to the nation and their communities, each having made a lasting impact to serve as examples for cadets to emulate throughout their careers.” More details about each inductee follow on pages 6 and 7.

The keynote speaker was COL Matthew Hardman, Commander, Operations Group, Joint Readiness Training Center and Fort Johnson. Hardman most recently served as commander of the 3rd Brigade, 10th Mountain Division. He has previous deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan and as the Light Task Force Trainer and was the Senior Brigade Combat Team Trainer at the National Training Center in Fort Irwin, California.”

Hall of Fame Inductees



COL(R) Ronald Wilkins’ induction into the NDR Hall of Fame. Presenting the honors are LTC(R) Arthur Smalley , left, and LTG(R) Joseph Cosumano, Jr., right.



CPT(R) Donald Davis, induction into the Demon Regiment Hall of Fame.



Barbara McCullough, center, represented her husband, the late 1LT Thomas McCullough, upon his induction into the Demon



2023 Hall of Fame



COL Ronald R. Wilkins **US Army Retired**

COL Wilkins commissioned in 1989 in the Army Transportation Corps upon his graduation from Northwestern State with a degree in Business Administration. He served in the Louisiana Army National Guard as well as the Texas Army National Guard prior

to serving in the Active Guard and Reserve (AGR) program.

In 2006, he earned a Master of Business Administration with academic honors, *magna cum laude*, from Touro University International. COL Wilkins' military education includes the Transportation Advanced Course, Combined Arms and Services Staff School, Command and General Staff College, Defense Strategy Course, and the Joint Warfare College. He is also designated a Joint Qualified Officer.

COL Wilkins' initial assignment was serving as a Platoon Leader with the 1087th Transportation Company and deployed with this unit in support of Operation Desert Storm. Following company command, he joined the Texas Army National Guard where he culminated with the position of Division Transportation Officer for the 36th Infantry Division.

In 2004, he transitioned to the AGR program where he served with the Army National Guard Bureau as a Program Manager in the Operations Directorate. Other assignments include Program Manager for Weapons of Mass Destruction, HQDA G4; Branch Chief, G3 Mobilizations; and Deputy Director of Mobilization in the Office of Assistant Secretary of Defense for Mobilization and Readiness. In 2011, he deployed as the Senior Army Guard Advisor for US Forces Afghanistan. Following other assignments, he deployed to Afghanistan in 2018 to serve as the Chief of Staff for the Minister of Interior. COL Wilkins concluded his Army career in 2021 as the Chief of Sustainment (G4), III Corps Headquarters, Fort Hood, TX.

COL Wilkins' award and decorations include the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal, and others. He also holds the Office of the Secretary of Defense Identification Badge, Army Staff Identification Badge, Joint Meritorious Unit Award, and the Army Superior Unit Award.

During his years at Northwestern State, COL Wilkins was a top track and field athlete. He was an integral part of the NSU 1985 and 1987 Track and Field Gulf Star and Southland Conference Championship Teams. COL Wilkins is a Master Certified USA Track and Field Official and has more than 35,000 community service hours for youth and collegiate track and field events.

COL Wilkins' life of service to his Family, community, and country are in the highest traditions and values we all hold dear. His career is outstanding and unique, and is a testament to his outstanding knowledge, management, and leadership abilities.

CPT Donald R. Davis **US Army Retired**



CPT Davis was designated a Distinguished Military Graduate and commissioned in the Medical Services Corps upon his December 1987 graduation from Northwestern State with a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology. His

military education includes the AMEDD Basic and Advanced Officer Course, Air Assault School, the Combined Arms Service Staff School, and other specialty and developmental courses. He later earned a Master of Arts in Human Resources Development from Webster University, a Master of Business Administration from the University of Phoenix, and Doctor of Divinity from the Omega Bible Institute and Seminary.

CPT Davis began his military career as an enlisted Soldier in 1976. He held a variety of leadership positions ranging from Medical Company Squad Leader to Platoon Sergeant and finally Company Commander. He served with various medical units from battalion through installation level. He is a Distinguished Member of the Army Medical Department Regiment and belongs to the Order of Military Medical Merit. For his military service, CPT Davis was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal with nine Oak Leaf Clusters, the Combat Medical Badge, and additional awards and decorations.

He is a Life Member of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. His membership into the fraternity was initiated through the Theta Chi Chapter at NSU in 1986. He has served in many leadership roles in Alpha chapters nationally and worldwide. CPT Davis served as the Southwestern Region Officer for Hurricanes Katrina and Rita spearheading the Fraternity's recovery efforts.

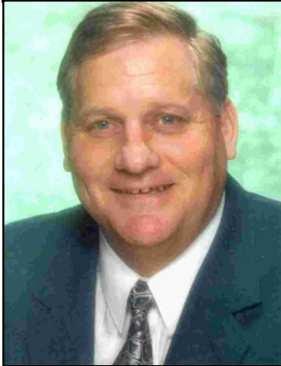
After his military retirement in 1998, CPT Davis became an active member of his community. He is the Associate Minister of Greater Emmanuel Family Worship Center and was the executive director of their youth outreach center. He began his second career in the education field and has worked as a JROTC Senior Army Instructor for more than 20 years. He was named Distinguished Educator Scholar and JROTC Instructor of the Year. Following his educator career, he was elected to the Spring Independent School District School Board for three terms. In 2013, he was appointed as a Director of the Spring ISD Education Foundation and served as a member of the Career and Technical Education Advisory Board. CPT Davis currently serves as a key member on the Spring ISD Bond Steering Committee and Political Action Committee.

CPT Davis is the proud father of two daughters, Sharon, and Dieatra. In 2000, he helped create the Nellie Marshall "D'Ray" Educational Scholarship in honor of his great-grandmother, noted as the first Black female business owner in Gilbert, LA. A writer, CPT Davis entitled his first book *Imagery-From Whence I Come*, which is the true story of Donald Ray Davis inspired by his great-grandmother.

His career, life accomplishments, and contributions are notable examples of "duty, honor, and country."



HALL OF FAME (continued)



1LT Thomas P. McCullough
US Army Retired

1LT McCullough commissioned as an Infantry officer in May 1969 upon his graduation from Northwestern State with a Bachelor of Science in English. His military education includes the Infantry Officer Basic Course, the Basic Airborne Course, and Ranger School. In 1979 he earned a Master of Science in Public Administration from the National University of San Diego.

In June 1970, he deployed to Vietnam where he served as a Platoon Leader with A Company, 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry Regiment, 23rd Infantry Division. Within a few months, he was selected to command A Company. During this period, he received severe combat wounds while conducting operations near Quang Ngai. With less than six months into his deployment, he was shot through his back and right arm resulting in paralysis for nearly 52 years.

For his bravery during the Quang Ngai operation, he was cited for “consistently manifesting exemplary professionalism and initiative while serving as Company Commander. His rapid assessment and solution of numerous problems inherent in a combat environment greatly enhanced his unit’s effectiveness against a determined and aggressive enemy. He distinguished himself on two consecutive days by heroic action and clear operations.”

1LT McCullough was awarded two Silver Stars for heroism, three Bronze Stars for meritorious achievement, and the Purple Heart for injuries in Vietnam. He received these awards at a ceremony held at Northwestern in October 1971, where NSU President Dr. Arnold Kilpatrick proclaimed October 7, 1971, as Thomas P. McCullough Day.

After a lengthy hospital stay, surgeries, and rehabilitation, in 1971, 1LT McCullough was placed on the Permanent Disability Retired List. In 1973, he entered a Veterans Administration training program for prosthetics and later accepted a position as the VA Chief of Prosthetics for the State of Oregon. He held this position until 1976. In 1989, 1LT McCullough became involved with the Boys and Girls Club of Rogue Valley, Oregon. He later served as a member of their Board of Directors, and was named Emeritus Board Member until his passing in 2022.

1LT McCullough was active in community service and political organizations. He was a member and Campaign Treasurer of the Kiwanis Club and was on the Josephine County Parks Advisory Board. He was recognized as a Founding Sponsor of the National Museum of the U. S. Army located at Fort Belvoir, VA.

For over five decades, 1LT McCullough was the premier example of courage, determination, and perseverance. Our recognition of 1LT McCullough as a member of the Demon Regiment Hall of Fame provides a lasting record of someone who has served with distinction.

Teal Run for Sexual Assault Awareness & Prevention Month May 2023



The cadets completed the run and learned how one can help another affected by sexual assault. Thanks to all who participated & @nsu_sigmas for their support!



Four NSU Cadets Commissioned as US Army Officers



Northwestern State University graduating seniors taking the Oath of Office during Commencement, 11 May 2023.

2LT Cade J. Davis, Distinguished Military Graduate – 2LT Davis commanded the 73rd Demon Battalion his senior year. He graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in History and a minor in Military Leadership. He is serving on active duty in the Military Intelligence Corps with a branch detail to Infantry. While thanking his wife, Davis said, “Amanda, thank you for always encouraging me to pursue my dreams, and thank you for not just tagging along on this military journey of mine but embracing it as ours.”

2LT Jimmy Lara, RECONDO Award – 2LT Lara served as the Battalion Command Sergeant Major his senior year. He graduated with a Master of Science in Health and Human Performance with a concentration in Sport Administration. A Green to Gold participant, Lara is continuing his service on active duty as a Signal officer. He thanked his wife, Cindy, who he said has been his stable rock throughout. “Thank you for the sacrifices you have made throughout our 11 years together. I can’t wait to see what life has in store for you, me, and our beautiful baby girl, Zoey Mae.”

2LT Michael T. Shamblin, Touchstone Award – 2LT Shamblin served as the Battalion Executive Officer. He was the 2023 recipient of the Touchstone Award, the Department’s highest honor. 2LT Shamblin graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Computer Information Systems and a minor in Military Leadership and is an active duty Aviation officer. Shamblin credited his parents for his success. He thanked his mother for her assistance throughout school, and his father, LTC Darryl Shamblin, U.S. Army Retired, for guiding and training him to become an officer.

2LT Taylor P. Dixon, Distinguished Military Graduate – 2LT Dixon served as the Operations Officer and Special Projects Officer. She graduated *Magna Cum Laude* with a Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice and a minor in Military Leadership. In her remarks, Dixon thanked her family and friends and included SFC Russell Mason, U.S. Army Retired, who was her JROTC Army instructor and mentor in high school. She said, “I would also like to thank SFC Mason for starting me on this journey. Before I met you, I never even thought twice about joining the military.” SFC Mason joined her on stage to render the first salute. 2LT Dixon is an active duty Infantry officer and notably, the first female Infantryman in the Demon Battalion’s history!

NSU Army ROTC Commissions its First Female Infantry Officer



2LT Taylor Paige Dixon

Northwestern State University's Army ROTC Demon Battalion made history as the program's first female Infantry officer was commissioned Thursday, May 11. Second Lieutenant Taylor Dixon is a 2019 alumna of Shreveport's Southwood High School where she was the captain of the soccer team and member of the National Honor Society.

2LT Dixon performed superbly during her tenure at NSU, earning a three-year national Army ROTC scholarship. She excelled in the classroom, earning a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice with academic honors, *Magna Cum Laude*. She was a member of Blue Key Honor Society among other extracurriculars.

In ROTC, she was selected to commission as an Infantry officer on Active Duty. Additionally, she is a Distinguished Military Graduate, an honor recognizing the top 20 percent of Army cadets nationwide. She made history at her alma mater, being the first female from NSU's Army ROTC program to be selected for one of the hardest and most sought-after branches in the Army, the Infantry.

Second Lieutenant Dixon will report to the Infantry School at Fort Moore in June for the Infantry Officer's Basic Course. She will then go on to the Army's Ranger and Airborne schools before becoming an Infantry platoon leader.

NSU Army ROTC Two Cadets Complete Air Assault School



Cadet Loren Higginbotham and Cadet Caiden Matthews completed US Army Air Assault School (AAS). AAS is a 10 day course that trains Soldiers in Air Assault operations, sling-load operations, and rappelling. Upon graduation of the course each Soldier is able to perform skills required to make maximum use of helicopter assets in training and in combat to support their unit operations.



Cadet Higginbotham, left, with a classmate while at the AAS Course.



Cadet Matthews receiving his badge upon completion of the AAS Course.



Northwestern State University Army ROTC (NSULA)



74th Demon Battalion Activation Ceremony



NSU's Department of Military Science conducted an Activation Ceremony for the 74th Demon Battalion on Aug. 24, 2023. The military tradition allows the commander to assess the readiness and discipline of the unit and commemorates the unit's history and lineage. ROTC's curriculum and training ensures Cadets' scholastic, athletic, and leadership abilities are developed and tested, preparing each for their unique career paths.

The Demon Battalion Commander and Command Sergeant Major, Cadet Lieutenant Colonel Loren Higginbotham and Cadet Command Sergeant Major Andrew Wesley, attached the streamer of the 74th Demon Battalion symbolizing the activation of the Battalion.

In his remarks, Higginbotham offered this advice to the new cadets.

"This program is what you make of it. Apply yourself and push to exceed the standard. Work to make each day better than the last and embrace the family we have established here," he said.

Cadets were then recognized for their summer achievements.

ROTC Advanced Camp is a 35-day training event designed to develop cadets' critical thinking and problem-solving skills and forge them into tough, adaptable leaders who can thrive in ambiguous and complex environments. Higginbotham, Bordelon, Astorga, James, and Wesley completed Advanced Camp at Fort Knox, Kentucky.

Army ROTC Basic Camp is a 32-day training event designed to develop cadets' leadership skills, train them on individual

and junior leader tasks, and develop and reinforce the Warrior Ethos and Army Values. Cadet Lawson Turner of Haughton completed Basic Camp at Fort Knox.

Sophomore cadets stand in as the "enemy" on the opposing forces to facilitate Advanced Camp field training exercises. Cadet Christian Holmes volunteered for this duty, which will help to prepare him for Advanced Camp next summer.

Cadet Troop Leader Training provides the opportunity to shadow Army officers and learn first-hand how active duty units operate and conduct training. Three Demons participated this summer:

Cadet Astorga served with the 92nd Civil Affairs Battalion, U.S. Army Special Operations Command, Fort Liberty, NC.

At Fort Riley, KS, Cadet Bordelon served with the 541st Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 1st Sustainment Brigade, 1st Infantry Division and with A Company (Black Cats), 3rd Battalion (Assault Helicopter), 1st Aviation Regiment, Combat Aviation Brigade.

Cadet Wesley served with Comanche Troop, 5th Squadron, 7th Cavalry Regiment (Garry Owen), 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, Fort Stewart, GA.

(Article continues on Page 22)

We had the unique opportunity to nominate a Center of Influence for the U.S. Army Parachute Team Tandem Orientation Program. We reached out to our very own NSU President, Dr. Marcus Jones, and he was immediately ready to embrace the experience.

On September 5, 2023, he completed his tandem jump! Was he afraid? Maybe... Did he show it? Nah!!

Great job Dr. Jones! and thanks to #USACC & @6thbrigadearmyrotc for the opportunity to take part in the jump!

U.S. ARMY PARACHUTE TEAM TANDEM ORIENTATION PROGRAM



Patriot Day September 11, 2023

NSU's Student Government Association led a Patriot Day remembrance and moment of silence at 0746, Monday, 11 September. As NSU's ROTC lowered the United States flag to half-staff, a men's vocal ensemble led the group in singing the National Anthem. In addition to faculty, staff and students, the event was attended by local Veterans and officers from NSU Elementary Lab's 4-H Club.



2023 HOMECOMING PARADE

On Friday, November 3, 2023, NSU ROTC Cadets participated in the homecoming parade and placed 3rd in the float division.



The Corps of Cadets with Dr. Marcus Jones, NSU President, and Cane, his Great Dane.



Pulling the float: CPT Davis, APMS, and MAJ(R) Richard Hooter.



CDT Matthews and CPT Davis



2023 Fall FTX

The cadets attended the Field Training Exercise at Alcorn State University the weekend of November 10-12, 2023 along with Grambling State where they trained on land navigation, squad tactics, and radio communication.



2024 DEMON CHALLENGE

(Top right) Sydney Anne Bryant and Brayden Sanders from Natchitoches Central High School were among over 70 JROTC students from nine area high schools who participated in the ROTC Demon Challenge at Northwestern State University Friday, March 1. Also pictured is NSU ROTC Cadet Lieutenant Colonel Loren Higginbotham of Jennings, Demon Battalion Commander and Command Sergeant Major, assisting with the challenge.

JROTC cadets participated in a series of physical and leadership activities modeled on the U.S. Army's Ranger Challenge modified for high school students.

NSU's Department of Military Science hosted the event that included academic, fitness, leadership and confidence-building tasks intended to inspire excellence in the JROTC cadets and encourage them to grow as citizens and as future leaders.



Sydney Anne Bryant, Brayden Sanders, and Cadet Lieutenant Colonel Loren Higginbotham



Key Events at the 2024 Military Ball



Demon Regiment Change of Command



Presentation of
the Seniors

Color Guard



Cutting of the Cake



Thanks to Natchitoches Parish Journal and photographer, Kevin Shannahan for donating photos!

Military Science, Demon Regiment co-host 2024 Military Ball



In an event steeped in military tradition, Northwestern State University's Department of Military Science co-hosted their annual military ball with their alumni organization, the Northwestern Demon Regiment, Saturday, April 13. The ball featured graduating seniors presented through an Arch of Steel, formal toasts, the Fallen Soldier's Table, a streamer ceremony, change of command and recognition of the program's supporters.

The peer-selected Legacy Cadet is Cadet Arianna Astoria of New Iberia. She credited her parents' military service as her inspiration for training to become an Army Logistics officer. She thanked the Corps of Cadets, cadre, and alumni for their support throughout her journey.

Cadet Loren Higginbotham of Jennings, Commander of the Demon Battalion, was awarded the Major General Erbon W. Wise Touchstone Award. The department's highest award is presented annually to a cadet who is the model of good citizenship. The honoree not only embodies the Army Values and Warrior Ethos but is recognized for contributing beyond the expected and encourages others to do the same.

The keynote speaker was Colonel Derek Johnson, Deputy Commander, Operations Group, Joint Readiness Training Center and Fort Johnson. Colonel Johnson served in numerous command and staff assignments across Airborne, Light, Ranger and Mechanized units and has deployed multiple times to Iraq and Afghanistan.

Two distinguished alumni of the university's ROTC program were inducted into the Demon Regiment's Hall of Fame. Inductees are Colonel (Retired) Wayne R. Sears and the late Lieutenant Colonel (Retired) Richard "Dickie" Rogers. Individuals are selected for their service to the nation and their communities, each having made a lasting impact to serve as examples for cadets to emulate throughout their careers.

Later in the evening, a Change of Command ceremony was held to pass the mantle of Demon Regiment leadership from Lieutenant General (Retired) Joseph Cosumano Jr. to Colonel (Retired) William Gates. The passing of the colors demonstrates to the unit that the outgoing commander has passed the mantle of leadership to the new commander and with it must also pass their loyalty.

Northwestern State's graduating cadets will commission into the Army during a ceremony at 2 p.m., Thursday, May 9, in the Student Union Ballroom. The Demon Battalion will celebrate its diamond anniversary during the 75th Demon Battalion Military Ball scheduled for Saturday, May 12, 2025, at the Student Union Ballroom.

Touchstone Award



Cadet Loren Higginbotham, Commander of the Demon Battalion, right, was awarded the Major General Erbon W. Wise Touchstone Award. The PMS, LTC Joshua Drake presented the award.

Hall of Fame Inductees



COL(R) Wayne R. Sears was inducted into the Demon Regiment Hall of Fame. Sears graduated from NSU in 1975. From left are LTC(R) Arthur Smalley, Sears, and COL(R) William Gates.



The late LTC(R) Richard "Dickie" Rogers was inducted into the NSU Demon Regiment Hall of Fame. He graduated from NSU in 1962. From left are Smalley, Mrs. Leah Rogers, wife, their son, CPT Ryan Rogers, and Gates.



Second Honorary Colonel of the Regiment



COL WILLIAM P. GATES **US ARMY RETIRED**

Colonel Gates was commissioned in December 1974 after earning a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Northwestern State University..

His military service began with the 4013th US Army Reserve Garrison, Bossier City, LA, where he served as Finance Dispersing Officer, Finance Personnel Services Officer, Administrative Officer, Motor Officer (branch transferred to

Transportation Corps), Plans and Operations Officer, and Transportation Officer, 1975-1990.

He then served with the 1192nd Terminal Transportation Unit, New Orleans, LA as a Vessel Operations Chief. During this time, he was mobilized to the Port of Beaumont, Houston, TX, for Operation Desert Storm.

Colonel Gates then transferred to the 1st Battalion, 377th Regiment, 95th Division (IT), Alexandria, LA, where he served as the Operations Officer until he assumed the duties of Deputy Director and Director of the Port Support Activities located at Fort Polk, under the 4013th USARG. In 1997, he assumed command of the 1st Battalion, 378th Regiment, 95th Division (IT), Lafayette, LA. After, he served as the Deputy Commander of the 1190th Terminal Transportation Unit, Baton Rouge, LA.

Colonel Gates was the Deputy Commander of the 336th Finance Command, Lake Charles, LA, serving as rear Commander prior to being deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom as the Forward Commander. Upon demobilization, he continued his service as the Deputy Commander until his retirement in 2005.

Colonel Gates' awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal (with two Oak Leaf Clusters), and the Joint Service Commendation Medal.

Colonel Gates is married to the former Connie Marie Bower of Shreveport, LA. They have one son, Raymond; a daughter, Martha; and three grandchildren. He was inducted into the Northwestern State Demon Regiment Hall of Fame on 16 March 2013.



2024 Hall of Fame



COLONEL WAYNE SEARS
US Army, Retired

COL Sears graduated from Northwestern State in 1975 with a Bachelor of Science in Wildlife Resources Management and commissioned as

an active duty Infantry officer. He flew the Cobra helicopter and commanded HHC, 82nd Combat Aviation Battalion, before returning to Fort Rucker as an instructor. He transitioned to the OH-58C Kiowa and the AH-64 Apache and he commanded TF -112, a helicopter testbed unit.

COL Sears next served in the 82nd Airborne Division where he deployed AH-64s into Panama for Operation Just Cause. He then deployed to Saudi Arabia for Operation Desert Storm.

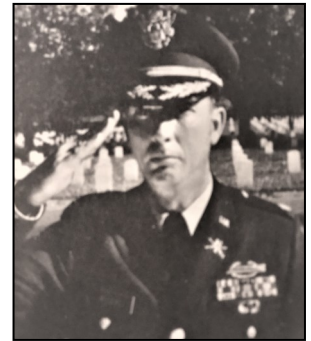
He served with US Army Special Operations Command, Fort Bragg, NC, before commanding 6th Squadron, 6th Cavalry Regiment, Illesheim, Germany. Later, he served within the US Special Operations Command at MacDill Air Force Base, FL.

COL Sears commanded the 229th Aviation Group (Airborne) and returned to Fort Rucker as the Chief of Evaluations and Standards for Army Aviation. He then served as Chief of Staff of the Aviation School until his retirement in 2001.

COL Sears obtained a Master of Science in Public Administration from Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania. He completed the Infantry Officer Basic and Advanced Courses; Airborne, Ranger, Jumpmaster, Pathfinder, and Air Assault Courses; Initial Entry Rotary-Wing Course and numerous aviation qualification courses; the Command and General Staff College; and the US Army War College.

For many years since his retirement, COL Sears has been a mentor and teacher to kids as an Earth Camp Volunteer. He also instructs archery, canoeing, and firearms safety for the Cross Creeks National Wildlife Refuge.

**LIEUTENANT COLONEL
RICHARD ROGERS**
“DICKIE”
US Army, Retired



LTC Rogers graduated from Northwestern State in 1962 with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration and

commissioned as an active duty Infantry Officer. He joined the US Military Assistance Command Program and deployed to Vietnam to serve as a Battalion Advisor to Vietnamese ground forces. LTC Rogers was awarded the Silver Star for his combat actions in the fall of 1965.

He was a company commander for the 2nd Battalion, 28th Infantry, 1st Infantry Division. LTC Rogers deployed again to Vietnam in 1967 and was awarded a second Silver Star for combat actions in the battle of Fire Support Base Julie.

LTC Rogers was the Assistant Professor of Military Science at the University of Arkansas and then a staff officer for the 2nd Infantry Division. He attended the Command and General Staff College and was invited to remain as an instructor. He commanded the 2nd Battalion, 50th Infantry Regiment before returning to Fort Leavenworth as an instructor for the Combined Arms and Services Staff College.

In 1982, LTC Rogers retired after 20 years of service to the nation. He earned a Master of Science in Business Administration from the University of Arkansas. His military education includes the Infantry Officer Basic and Advanced Courses, Airborne Course, Defense Language Institute (Vietnamese), Electronic Warfare Officer Course, the Command and General Staff College, and the US Army War College. His military awards included the Combat Infantryman's Badge, the Parachutist Badge, two Silver Stars, four Bronze Stars, three Meritorious Service Medals, two Air Medals, the Army Commendation Medal and other Foreign Awards.

Lieutenant Colonel Rogers retired in Heber Springs, AR, where he was an active member of the First Baptist Church of Heber Springs until his passing in 2019.

**2024 SPRING
AWARDS**
(pages 19-21)



**Leadership Excellence
Award**

Cadet Caiden Matthews of Shreveport received the Leadership Excellence Award from Battalion Commander, Cadet Lieutenant Colonel Loren Higginbotham.

Cadet Matthews has been selected to command the Demon Battalion in Fall 2024.

Cadet Matthews was the recipient of the following awards as well: Dean's List, ROTC Honors, PMS Scholastic Excellence Award, PMS PT Attendance Award, AUSA-ROTC Award, Color Guard Certificate, Recruiting Certificate, and the Heroes of the Battlefield Honor.

**ALUMNI-PROVIDED
SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED**



Layla Theriot, Colton Wood, Andrew Wesley, Brendan Campbell, and Demarkus Lawson

Thanks to the generosity of ROTC alumni and friends of the Demon Battalion, we awarded \$3,000 in scholarships to 6 Cadets during the Awards Ceremony.

NSU ROTC Alumna Captain Brittany Jeanice: The Jeanice Leadership and Excellence Scholarship is awarded to an MS II non-contracted cadet who has a high GPA and is a member of 2 or more organizations or teams. The \$250 scholarship was awarded to CDT Layla Theriot.

NSU ROTC Alumna Captain Kristen Daisy: Captain Daisy established the **Malcolm Daisy Scholarship** in her father's name because it is given as a reward for perseverance against adversity and drive to serve one's country as an Army officer. It is awarded to a hardworking, loyal, and dedicated Cadet who exhibits all Army Values and volunteers on a regular basis. The recipient of the \$500 Malcolm Daisy Scholarship was CDT Colton Wood.

NSU ROTC Alumnus Alexandro Cespedes: With the requirements of a high GPA, PT score, Army Values, and Core Leader Competencies, the **Andrea Rene Cespedes "Above the Best" Scholarship** is a tough one to achieve. The recipient of the \$500 scholarship was CDT Andrew Wesley.

The **Harris Family Scholarship** was established by **Brett Harris**, son of LTC Walter B. Harris, Jr., NSU PMS 1977-1982. The recipient must be an MS III or IV who demonstrates Army Values and Core Leader Competencies. The recipient of the \$250-dollar scholarship was Cadet Brendan Campbell.

NSU ROTC Alumnus CPT (R) Donald Davis: The Nellie Marshall D'Ray Educational Scholarship is awarded to a contracted Cadet who displays high leadership potential, Army Values and Warrior Ethos. The \$1000 scholarship was awarded to CDT Damarkus Lawson.

2024 SPRING AWARDS (Continued)



Cadet Kyra Cole

Held April 25, 2024, the Spring Awards Ceremony honored Cadets achievements. During the program, **Cadet Ariel Rhodes** of Shreveport took the Oath of Enlistment, administered by LTC Joshua Drake. By choosing to contract, Rhodes demonstrates physical fitness, academic excellence, and the desire to serve in the U.S. Army.

Cadet awards are as follows:

Cadet Jan Amutan of Bossier City – President’s List (4.0 GPA), ROTC Honors, PMS Scholastic Excellence Award, PMS Commendation Medal, Knights of Columbus Award,

Cadet Peyton Bordelon – Dean’s List, ROTC Honors, PMS Scholastic Excellence Award, Silver Medal Athlete, Color Guard Certificate, Leadership Excellence Award

Cadet Brendan Campbell of Pearland, Texas – President’s List (4.0 GPA), ROTC Honors, PMS Scholastic Excellence Award, PMS Commendation Medal, Top MS III Cadet/Superior Cadet Award, Award of the Military Officers Association of America, Color Guard Certificate, Recruiting Certificate, Make Yourself at Home Award.

Cadet Kyra Cole of DeRidder – Veterans of Foreign Wars Award, ROTC Honors, Color Guard Certificate, Recruiting Certificate.

Cadet Miguel Flores of Ball – Dean’s List, ROTC Honors, PMS Scholastic Excellence Award, Gold Medal Athlete, Recruiting Certificate.

Cadet Megan Franchino of Santa Rita, Guam – PMS Athletic Award, Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War Award, ROTC Honors, PMS Scholastic Excellence, Cadet Honors, Color Guard Certificate, Recruiting Certificate, Leadership Excellence Award, RSO Public Relations Officer.

Cadet Todd Gladish of Willis, Texas – Dean’s List ROTC Honors, PMS Scholastic Excellence Award, PMS Commendation Medal, PMS Achievement Medal, Silver Medal Athlete, Military Order of the Purple Heart Leadership Award, Color Guard Award, Recruiting Certificate.



Cadet Recruiting Award

Cadet Todd Gladish of Willis, Texas – Dean’s List ROTC Honors, PMS Scholastic Excellence Award, PMS Commendation Medal, PMS Achievement Medal, Silver Medal Athlete, Military Order of the Purple Heart Leadership Award, Color Guard Award, Recruiting Certificate.

Cadet Christian Holmes of Shreveport – National Sojourners Award, Recruiting Certificate, Leadership Excellence Award.

Cadet Camryn Huff of Leesville – Dean’s List, ROTC Honors, PMS Scholastic Excellence Award, PMS Commendation Medal, PMS Recruiting Award, PMS PT Attendance Award, Lion’s Club Award, Color Guard Certificate, Recruiting Certificate, Outstanding Service Award/RSO Vice President, Leadership Excellence Award, Helping Hand Award.

Cadet Breanna James – Dean’s List, ROTC Honors, PMS Scholastic Excellence, AUSA Military History Award, Recruiting Certificate.

Cadet Jaylon James of Stonewall – Dean’s List, Bronze Medal Athlete, American Legion Military Excellence Award, Recruiting Certificate.

Cadet TaLayja Jefferson of Natchitoches – Cadet Scholar, Recruiting Certificate, Ground Assault Award.

Cadet Angelina Jones of Lafayette – Dean’s List, ROTC Honors, PMS Scholastic Excellence Award, Color Guard Certificate, Recruiting Certificate.

Cadet Ethan Jones of Montgomery – ROTC Honors, Color Guard Certificate, Recruiting Certificate.

Cadet Grace Kerney of Barksdale AFB – President’s List (4.0 GPA), ROTC Honors, PMS Scholastic Excellence Award, PMS Commendation Medal, PMS PT Attendance Award, Military order of Foreign Wars Award, Color Guard Certificate, Recruiting Certificate, Outstanding Service Award/RSO Secretary, Leadership Excellence Award, Airborne Cadet Award.

2024 SPRING AWARDS (Continued)



Color Guard Award

Cadet Damarkus Lawson of Fort Johnson—Excellence Award, Military Order of the World Wars, Recruiting Certificate, Nellie Marshall D'Ray Educational Scholarship, President's List (4.0 GPA), ROTC Honors, PMS Scholastic Award.

Cadet Jemena Leopoldo of Vivian – Society of the War of 1812 Award, ROTC Honors, Cadet Scholar, Recruiting Certificate.

Cadet Miriam McDaniel of Natchez – ROTC Honors, Recruiting Certificate.

Cadet Jacob Mullican of DeRidder – Dean's List, ROTC Honors, PMS Scholastic Excellence Award, PMS Commendation Medal, PMS PT Attendance Award, Silver Medal Athlete, Top MS I Cadet/Superior Cadet Award, AMVETS, ROTC Award, Color Guard Certificate, Recruiting Certificate, Leadership Excellence Award, Heroes of the Battlefield Honor, RSO Representative, PT Stud Award, Ruck Yea Award.

Cadet Kaleb Prince of Zwolle – Color Guard Certificate, Recruiting Certificate, Lost and Found Award.

Cadet Ariel Rhodes – Silver Medal Athlete, Cadet Honors, Military Order of the World Wars, Recruiting Certificate, Leadership Excellence Award

Cadet Jackson Sabbides of Pineville – Sons of the American Revolution Award, ROTC Honors, Color Guard Certificate.

Cadet James Shelton of Lafayette – Cadet Honors.

Cadet Molly Stelly of Lafayette – ROTC Honors, Military Order of the World Wars, Color Guard Certificate, Recruiting Certificate.

Cadet Devonte Tanner of Leesville – Dean's List, ROTC Honors, PMS Scholastic Excellence Award, USAA Spirit Award, Joker Award.



Superior Cadet Award

Cadet Layla Theriot of Gheens – Dean's List, ROTC Honors, PMS Scholastic Excellence Award, PMS Commendation Medal, PMS PT Attendance Award, Sergeant York Award, Top MS II Cadet/Superior Cadet Award, Daughters of the American Revolution Award, Color Guard Certificate, Outstanding Service Award/RSO President, Leadership Excellence Award, Heroes of the Battlefield Honor, Nike Award.

Cadet Hannah Tingle of Natchitoches – ROTC Honors, PMS Scholastic Excellence.

Cadet Lawson Turner of Houghton – Dean's List, ROTC Honors, PMS Scholastic Excellence Award, Supreme Council of the Scottish Rite of Freemasonry ROTC Award, Cadet Recruiting Award, Leadership Excellence Award.

Cadet Andrew Wesley – PMS Academic Award, PMS Commendation Medal, Bronze Medal Athlete, Reserve Officers Association Award, Cadet Honors, Recruiting Certificate, Leadership Excellence Award.

Cadet Jeremy Wade of Shreveport – ROTC Honors, I'm Here Award.

Cadet Colton Wood of Ragley – PMS Commendation Medal, PMS PT Attendance Award, Color Guard Certificate, Recruiting Certificate, Outstanding Service Award/RSO Treasurer, Leadership Excellence Award, Heroes of the Battlefield Honor, GPS Award.

2024 ROTC COMMISSIONING



Left to right are 2LT Breanna James, 2LT Loren Higginbotham, 2LT Andrew Wesley, and 2LT Peyton Bordelon.

Northwestern State University's 74th Demon Battalion and Department of Military Science hosted a commissioning ceremony May 9 for graduating seniors who took the oath of office to serve as second lieutenants in the U.S. Army. The event was held in conjunction with spring commencement exercises in which the four earned undergraduate degrees as ROTC cadets.

The new officers are 2LT Peyton Bordelon of Alexandria, 2LT Loren Higginbotham of Jennings, 2LT Breanna James of Stonewall and 2LT Andrew Wesley of Shreveport.

Bordelon earned a Bachelor of Arts in criminal justice with a minor in military leadership. Working to become a Medevac pilot and flight officer, he will train to fly the UH-60 Black Hawk as an Army aviator in the Louisiana Army National Guard.

Higginbotham earned a Bachelor of Science in business administration with a major concentration in marketing and a minor in military science. He has assessed Infantry and will serve on active duty, U.S. Army.

James earned a Bachelor of Science in psychology. She has assessed Adjutant General's Corps and will continue service in the Louisiana Army National Guard. Her initial assignment will be with the 528th Engineer Battalion in Monroe.

Wesley earned a Bachelor of General Studies with a major concentration in computer and natural science and a minor in military leadership. He has assessed Chemical Corps with the U.S. Army and will serve on active duty. His initial assignment is with the 3-2 General Support Aviation Battalion, 2nd Combat Aviation Brigade "Talon," 2nd Infantry Division, Camp Humphreys, South Korea.



**LTC Henry Burns
US Army Retired
Induction into NSU
Long Purple Line**

LTC(R) Henry Burns was a two-term member of the Louisiana House of Representatives from District 9 in Bossier Parish. He served 15 years on the Bossier Parish School Board and is a well-known area entrepreneur. Burns often lectures at public schools on the keys to success in life, with emphasis on perseverance. Until the late 1980s, Burns was an independent petroleum and natural gas operator. After the oil market crashed, he launched his bakery, The Wooden Spoon. Despite the odds against success and Burns having to learn the business from scratch, the Wooden Spoon was an enormous success for over 22 years. The Wooden Spoon brought Burns many awards from the Bossier Chamber of Commerce including Small Businessperson of the Year in 1994, Outstanding Business of the Year in 2001, and Outstanding Businessperson in 2006.

Burns graduated from Northwestern with a Bachelor of Arts in Upper Elementary Education and commissioned through NSU’s ROTC Program in 1970. While a student, he was named Mr. NSU. He is a member of the NSU Foundation Board of Directors and was appointed to serve on the board of the Louisiana War Veterans Museum. Burns also served as the last chair of the Northwest Louisiana Delegation for the funding and feasibility committee to complete the I-49 corridor which finally became a reality. In 2016, Henry joined the BOM Bank family as the Business Development Consultant for Bossier and Caddo Parishes. Since joining BOM he has been heavily involved in the community by joining civic clubs, organizations, committees, and boards.

Burns is one of 6 alumni to be honored during the Long Purple Line Luncheon on Friday, Oct. 25 at 12 p.m. at the Natchitoches Events Center. Tickets are available at <https://nsulalongpurpleline.eventbrite.com>.

**The Northwestern Demon Regiment
congratulates one of our own!**

“It’s always a great day in the Army when we get to promote deserving officers to the next rank” said LTC Josh Drake, Professor of Military Science.

We had the opportunity to watch as our Assistant Professor of Military Science, CPT Joseph K. Davis, was promoted to the rank of Major. Congratulations Major Davis! We look forward to your continued mentorship.



LTC Drake administered the Oath of Office.



Major Davis’s rank was pinned on by his Family. His wife, Tiffany, sons, Wyatt and Meyer, and his father assisted with the promotion.



Alumni Corner



Congratulations Ms. Brittany Jeanice!

We love to recognize our alumni too!
Ms. Janice won the Human Resources Senior Civilian of the Year Award 2023 at Military Personnel Division, United States Army Garrison Bavaria.

She is a 2013 graduate of @nsula and commissioned through NSU ROTC. She was also a member of @phimunsu.

Congratulations again @britjeanice!

Keep up the outstanding work!

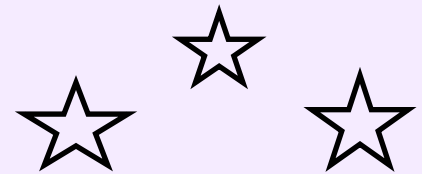
#ForkEmDemons

74th Battalion Activation Ceremony (continued from page 10)

The scope of the Army Air Assault School is to train on missions performed by rotary wing aircraft, aircraft safety, aero-medical evacuation procedures, pathfinder operations, principles and techniques of combat assaults, rappelling techniques, and sling-load operations. **Cadets Higginbotham and Matthews** were recognized for earning their Air Assault wings. Both agree with the school's moniker, "The Ten Toughest Days in the Army."

Before closing out the ceremony, Wise Family Foundation Scholarships, established by the family of Major General (Retired) Erbon W. Wise of Sulphur, were awarded to first-year **Cadets Jamar Benjamin, Megan Franchino and Molly Stelly.**

Information on Northwestern State's ROTC program is available at <https://rotc.nsula.edu/>.



NORTHWESTERN DEMON REGIMENT

100-PLUS HONORARY CONTRIBUTORS ACADEMIC YEAR 2023 – 2024

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| LTC(R) URSON BACLE | LEGACY CAMPAIGN |
| MAJ RAYMOND BIJOLLE | LEGACY CAMPAIGN |
| CPT ALEJANDRO CESPEDES | ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIP |
| CPT KRISTEN DAISY | ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIP |
| CPT(R) DONALD DAVIS | ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIP, LEGACY CAMPAIGN, & MILITARY BALL TICKETS |
| MR. LARRY DEBLIEUX | LEGACY CAMPAIGN |
| MAJ(R) TED DUGGAN II | LEGACY CAMPAIGN |
| MR. EDWIN DUNAHOE JR. | MILITARY BALL TICKETS |
| COL(R) RICK FENOLI | NDR GENERAL FUND |
| MAJ(R) TED FOWLER | LEGACY CAMPAIGN & MILITARY BALL TICKETS |
| MR. WILLIAM GAINES, JR. | LEGACY CAMPAIGN |
| COL(R) WILLIAM GATES | LEGACY CAMPAIGN |
| MR. S. PAT GERHARDT, JR. | LEGACY CAMPAIGN |
| LTC(R) ALLEN HAINES, SR. | LEGACY CAMPAIGN |

This listing recognizes alumni who generously contributed \$100 or more to Demon Battalion and Demon Regiment activities and the Annual NDR Legacy Campaign.

NORTHWESTERN DEMON REGIMENT

100-PLUS HONORARY CONTRIBUTORS ACADEMIC YEAR 2023 – 2024 (PAGE 2)

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| MAJ(R) RICHARD HOOTER | MILITARY BALL TICKETS |
| LTC(R) REGINALD HORTON | LEGACY CAMPAIGN |
| CPT BRITTANY JEANICE | ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIP |
| MR. FRANK KEARNEY | LEGACY CAMPAIGN |
| LTC(R) GLENN KRAMEL | LEGACY CAMPAIGN |
| MR. JACK LEGGETT | LEGACY CAMPAIGN |
| MR. JACK MCCAIN, JR. | LEGACY CAMPAIGN |
| LTC(R) CHARLES L. MCNEELY | LEGACY CAMPAIGN |
| LTC(R) MATTHEW MULARONI | MILITARY BALL TICKETS |
| MG(R) CLAUDE ROBERTS, JR. | LEGACY CAMPAIGN |
| COL(R) RANDY SEXTON | LEGACY CAMPAIGN |
| LTC(R) ARTHUR SMALLEY | LEGACY CAMPAIGN |
| COL(R) RALPH STAPLETON | LEGACY CAMPAIGN |
| DR. NEAL TRENT III | LEGACY CAMPAIGN |
| COL(R) RONALD WILKINS | LEGACY CAMPAIGN |
| LTC(R) CHRISTIAN YOUNG III | LEGACY CAMPAIGN |
| DR. GEORGE YOUNGER | LEGACY CAMPAIGN |



Other upcoming events include:

| | DATE | TIME |
|----------------------------------|-------------|------|
| Activation Ceremony | 29 August | 1600 |
| Homecoming/Tailgating | 26 October | 1400 |
| Military Appreciation/Tailgating | 16 November | 1300 |
| Fall Awards | 5 December | 1400 |
| Spring Awards | 1 May | 1400 |

DEMON REGIMENT EXECUTIVE COUNCIL



LTC(R) Arthur Smalley
Regimental Chief of Staff



LTC Joshua Drake, PMS
24th Colonel of the
Regiment



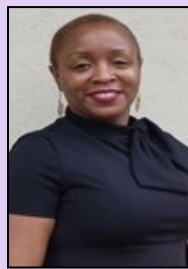
Mrs. Sid Hall
ROTC Program Manager/
NSU Military Affairs
Coordinator

Vacant
Deputy Chief of Staff

Vacant
Operations Officer



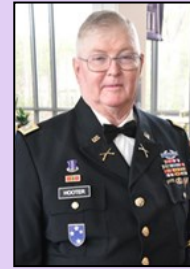
Vacant
Administrative Officer



CPT(R) Donald Davis
Communications Officer



Mrs. Margaret Bell
Financial Officer



Mrs. Deanna Fowler
Heritage & Historical
Officer



MAJ(R) Richard Hooter
Marketing Officer

MAJ(R) Ted Duggan II
Personnel Officer

NORTHWESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY
Department of Military Science
Natchitoches, LA 71497

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**The Demon Regiment, a rich Heritage —
built one Cadet Legacy at a time!**