



Dream. Believe. Achieve.



ISSUE: 5502

THE BLUEGRASS BUGLE



Stronger Every Week

What once felt new and challenging has become part of the daily routine as cadets continue balancing schoolwork, physical training, personal wellness, and the many responsibilities that come with life at BCA. The hard work is beginning to show. Cadets are pushing toward their next rank, with many working toward Level 2 and Level 3 while gaining confidence along the way. Each week brings new accomplishments, new challenges, and plenty of opportunities to see how far they've come. Class 55 has already shown that they're willing to put in the work, support one another, and keep moving forward. With plenty of the journey still ahead, they're building the habits and mindset they'll need to finish strong.

STUDENT COUNCIL ELECT FOR CLASS 55!



Every cycle, our cadets step up to the plate, ready to represent their classmates and make their voices heard on the student council. It's a classic tradition around here that gives everyone a hands-on feel of how leadership and democracy actually work—skills that will pay off long after graduation. These student council leaders don't just sit back; they actively gather feedback from their platoons, bounce ideas around, divide up tasks, and get real projects over the finish line. Leading up to election day, every candidate brought serious energy and shared big goals for the school, making this one of our most competitive and exciting races yet.

Without further delay, here are the official results for the Class 55 Student Council Election:

- President: Cadet Henderson
- Vice-President: Cadet Lawrence
- Secretary: Cadet Reed

Each platoon also nominated a representative from Squads 1 and 2, and one for Squads 3 and 4!

1st Platoon Wolfpack: Cadet Clark & Cadet Pohl

2nd Platoon Bulldogs: Cadet Angle & Cadet Gerald

3rd Platoon Blackhawks: Cadet Robinson & Cadet Swain

STUDENT COUNCIL INITIATIVE

I am truly blessed to have been elected president for student council. I want to thank all of the cadets who put their trust in me with their vote. We are trying to work on getting several things added to our daily routine: possible cadet on cadet tutoring, more shower time, and possibly more chow time. These are just a few things that the student council and myself are working towards, in addition to the new ideas brought to each meeting by our peers. I will try my hardest to fight for these ideas that the student council has brought to our meetings. We will change the BCA for the better, whether it is a small change or an enormous one, the student council of Class 55 will change the BCA!

**Cadet Henderson
Class 55 President**



GIVING BACK, ONE ACT AT A TIME



Community service is an important part of the Bluegrass Challenge Academy experience, giving cadets the opportunity to step outside their normal routines and see just how much of a difference they can make. Through community service, cadets build character, develop leadership skills, and learn the value of giving their time and effort to help others.

That spirit of service was easy to see when the American Red Cross visited campus for a blood drive. More than half of the cadet population signed up to donate, willingly stepping forward to give something that could help save a life. It was a great example of cadets putting compassion into action and making a difference for people they may never even meet. Experiences like this remind cadets that serving others isn't just something they are required to do, it's an opportunity to grow, give back, and become better citizens along the way. Whether they're helping out locally or supporting a lifesaving cause, our cadets are proving that serving others isn't just about making a difference today, it's about growing into the kind of thoughtful leaders our communities need.

Upcoming events

Sept. 12/13: Skating

Sept. 26/27: Vine Grove Bluegrass Festival

Oct. 19/20: Roberts Family Farm

Oct. 27: Blackhawk Ride

Oct. 31: Fall Festival / Virtual Family Day

Nov. 25 - 29: Thanksgiving Pass

Dec. 12: Graduation



STAFF SPOTLIGHT

SFC Minter
Cadre

SFC Minter brings a unique combination of leadership, compassion, and dedication to her role as cadre at the Bluegrass Challenge Academy. She is always willing to step in and support the cadets, whether she is helping with daily responsibilities, assisting with activities, or simply being there when someone needs a little extra guidance. Her calm and approachable nature has made her someone many cadets feel comfortable seeking out when they just need a few minutes to talk, be heard, or work through whatever may be on their mind. Beyond her responsibilities as a cadre, SFC Minter leads by example and genuinely cares about the success and well-being of every cadet. Her ability to balance high expectations with compassion has made a meaningful impact on the cadets of the Bluegrass Challenge Academy!

A WEEKLY DOSE OF ENCOURAGEMENT

Every week at Bluegrass Challenge Academy, cadets have opportunities to learn, grow, and challenge themselves in ways that go beyond the classroom. One of those opportunities comes each Tuesday evening when the Academy hosts Pleasant View Baptist Church from McQuady, KY for a time of worship and fellowship.

Led by Brother Josh Calloway and the Pleasant View ministry team, these weekly gatherings have become a welcome part of the cadets' routine. They give cadets a chance to slow down, reflect, hear some words of encouragement, and spend time together in a different setting. The continued support from Pleasant View has helped create a strong connection with BCA and has given cadets another place where they can feel encouraged and supported throughout their journey.

The partnership also brings some exciting opportunities for cadets outside of the weekly services. Electives such as culinary arts, carpentry, hunting and tracking, and electrical work give cadets the chance to try something new while building practical skills they can carry with them after graduation. From learning a new trade to simply having a place to recharge each week, these experiences add another layer to the BCA journey and help cadets prepare for what comes next.



MARCHING FORWARD



Anticipation has been building all across campus as everyone gears up for the upcoming IntraState competition. Our cadets will go head-to-head with our sister program, the Appalachian Challenge Academy, later this cycle in a lineup of events meant to test both grit and sharp thinking. They've already been putting in serious work—including wrapping up their very first 3.5-mile road march of the cycle—while spending hours refining their skills, dialing in teamwork, and stepping out of their comfort zones. Some of the activities the cadets will be participating in include chess, a spelling bee, a drill and ceremony demonstration, flag football, volleyball, and several other events!

As much as both teams want to bring home the win, this meetup is about way more than just the final score. It's a chance to show off the discipline, unity, and resilience they've been building together every single day. No matter who takes top honors, the real victory comes down to the bonds they form, the character they build, and how much they grow along the way.

Cadet Q & A: We asked several of our cadets what the most difficult part adjusting to life at the BCA has been, as well as what they hope to accomplish during the cycle!



"The hardest part adjusting to life at the BCA for me has been being around other people 24/7, the corrective training, and not seeing our friends and family. While I'm at the BCA, I hope to build more confidence, self-respect, and so much more." - Cadet McNutt

"The most difficult part of adjusting to the BCA has been not letting others control my emotions, and being myself. While I'm here at BCA, I hope to better myself in decision making and improving on anger issues." - Cadet Adams



"The most difficult part of adjusting to life at the BCA would be being away from home. Also, getting used to the other girls and the routine, strict structure, and standards that we are held to has been to adjust but that's part of the challenge. I hope to become a better version of myself, I've made many mistakes in my life and I have a lot to make up for. I hope to prove to my family that I can make them proud." - Cadet Page



"The most difficult part is trying to be cordial with fellow cadets and trying to be both a leader and a follower. At the BCA, I want to work on better communication and social speaking, and to have better decision making skills and discipline." - Cadet Reed



"For me the most difficult part of adjusting here at the BCA is finding the good moments in the rough moments. I really hope to improve my self courage and be more proud of myself, so I can make my loved ones proud." - Cadet Huffer

"The most difficult part of the BCA is probably just adjusting being away from my family, I've never been away from them for this long. Here at the BCA, I hope to improve my time management. Before I got here, it was hard to be on time for activities." - Cadet Chronister



"The most difficult part I would say is getting used to everyone else, and adjusting to your area. While I'm at the BCA, I hope to change my attitude and improve on my mental health." - Cadet Lozano



"The most difficult part about adjusting to life at BCA are the girls. I've been homeschooled almost my entire life, so going from no interaction with other kids/teens my age to having to live 24/7 for 6 months with 21 other girls was and sometimes still is a challenge for me. While here, I hope to catch up on my school work. I also hope to improve on my coping skills because I know that will help me in the future." - Cadet Martinez-Gonzalez



Dream. Believe. Achieve.



ISSUE: 5502

CENTER STAGE CADETS



Cadet Clark, 1st Platoon Wolfpack

“The most difficult part adjusting to life at the BCA was probably having a strict schedule, like when to use the restroom and things like that. At home, I’m the only girl out of all my brothers, and the oldest at that, so I’m not used to being around girls 24/7. Missing out on things like birthdays or celebrations is hard too. What I hope to achieve or improve on while I’m here at BCA is my self-confidence and non-people pleasing. I want to improve on being comfortable in my own skin, that I don’t need to be perfect for someone else, I need to learn how to be perfect for me. When I graduate the program, I want to go to school for business, acting, and R&B singing.”



Cadet Swain, 3rd Platoon Blackhawks

“The most difficult part of adjusting at the BCA has to be staying disciplined and keeping your cool. I hope to achieve getting all of my credits I need in school before I leave. I wish to improve on how I see myself. After graduating the program, I want to go to college for ROTC/military science, and go straight into becoming an officer.”

Bluegrass Challenge Academy Leadership

“It’s hard to believe that the cadets are nearing the halfway mark for Class 55. We have some amazing cadets that are putting in the work to reach the goals they have set for themselves. Please continue to keep them in your prayers and thoughts. The best part is yet to come!”

Mr. Hampton
Director



“The effort and determination the cadets of Class 55 have demonstrated thus far are commendable, but the expectations remain high. The challenges ahead will require perseverance, accountability, and teamwork. This is the time for cadets to build on the progress they have already made and continue raising the standard for themselves and one another. Success will not come without effort, but this class has demonstrated that they are capable of meeting the demands placed before them!”

Mr. Jensen
Deputy Director



“Class 55 continues to make great progress, and it’s exciting to see how far the cadets have come in such a short time. They are putting in the effort, supporting one another, and continuing to work toward the goals they set for themselves when they arrived at BCA. There are plenty of challenges still ahead, but this group has already shown that they are ready to take them on. There is still plenty of time for growth, accomplishments, and memories to be made—and we’re looking forward to seeing what comes next!”

SGM Mitchell
Assistant Commandant



INTERESTED IN ENROLLMENT?
FOR APPLICATION INFORMATION, CALL
(877) 599-6884
www.bcachallenge.com

HAVE A QUESTION ABOUT HOW YOUR CADET
IS DOING IN SCHOOL?
E-MAIL PRINCIPAL JODY LEAGUE:
JODY.LEAGUE@EMINENCE.KYSCHOOLS.US
FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!



/bcachallenge



/bcayouthchallenge