

# In command

## Pennell becomes second woman to take charge of ROTC cadet group

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For only the second time in its 34-year history, a woman has been selected to command the YSU ROTC Cadet Corp.

Jacqueline Pennell, senior, Business, has been selected Cadet Battalion Commander of the ROTC Cadet Leadership program with her promotion to top rank of Cadet Lieutenant Colonel.

Rank promotion is determined by the cadets' general performance throughout their career and performance at advanced camp, Richard Pletcher, military science, said.

Pennell's honors include serving as treasurer of Pershing Rifles and being designated a distinguished military student.

Selected number one in her platoon at ROTC Advanced Camp this summer at Ft. Lewis, Washington, Pennell, along with the other 23 cadets of her platoon underwent six weeks of military training which included marching, field training, physical training, and tactical training.

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LT. COL. JACQUELINE PENNELL

Two thousand cadets from across the United States attended the summer advanced camp. "We're a good corp and we made YSU known while we were at camp," Pennell said.

After advanced camp, Pennell participated in Cadet Troop Leader

Training at the United States Army Air Defense Center, Ft. Bliss, Texas.

Of the 24 YSU cadets, seven are women. "We are treated as equals," she said. "There is no discrimination or favoritism."

Prior to 1972, Pletcher explained,

women did not participate in the ROTC program. Statistically there have been more male personnel in the program than female, and since 1972 YSU has had two women holding the top rank of Lieutenant Colonel, Pletcher stated.

Pennell will command the YSU Cadet Corp for one year. Besides carrying 20 credit hours this fall quarter, Pennell and her staff of 23 cadets will coordinate the training program for this year.

"It's a lot of work," Pennell admitted, "but if you have a good staff like I do, it makes my job much easier."

With a military career in sight upon graduation in June, Pennell is hoping to be stationed in Germany where she will continue her military studies and pursue a graduate degree in advertising.

Pennell added that military science classes are basic management classes. "We are taught to lead people," she said.

Lead people she will, as more than 200 cadets expected to participate in the YSU ROTC program this year welcome Lieutenant Colonel Pennell.