

# Three Houghton seniors make 2nd Lieutenant

HOUGHTON – Three Houghton College seniors and members of Reserved Officer Training Corp (ROTC) made the move from cadet to 2nd Lieutenant as they were sworn into the U.S. Army, to be on active duty on May 31.

Joining roughly 2,000 other officers of the Seneca Battalion, David Allen of Branchburg, N.J. was sworn in as a member of the Military Police. Alec Dagg of Coventry, Conn. was sworn in as an Engineer and Matthias Williams of Marcellus was sworn in as a member of the Medical Service Corps.

The first Houghton College ROTC Commissioning Ceremony took place in 1979, marking this year as the 31st annual presentation. Allen, Dagg and Williams were the 46th, 47th and 48th commissioned officers from Houghton.

Remarks were given by Lt. Col. Thomas G. Leitch, professor of Military Science at St. Bonaventure University.



Photo submitted

**2nd Lieutenants Matthias Less William, Alexander Brian Dagg and David Scott Allen stand as newly commissioned officers in the U.S. Army.**

“This is a significant accomplishment,” he noted and assured the audience that, “these are the best of the best.”

Addressing the cadets, he added, “You will inherit the honor, responsibility and prestige that comes with the title of 2nd Lieutenant.”

Lt. Col. Leitch also presided over the individual swearing presentation of each cadet. The bars were pinned to Allen, Dagg and Williams by their friends and family

members.

Houghton College President Shirley Mullen also stood to commend the cadets on their accomplishment. She acknowledged the difficult time that the military currently faces and reminded the cadets that today’s military calls them to be leaders of strong intellect and wise judgment.

Leitch concluded the ceremony by challenging the newly commissioned officers to, “Lead from the front, take

care of your soldiers and strive for excellence each and every day.”