

## THIS MONTH WE CELEBRATE A WOMAN OF MERCY WHO EXEMPLIFIES THAT A MERCY GIRL IS RESPECTFUL, HARD-WORKING, OPEN-MINDED, WELL-ROUNDED, AND APPRECIATIVE.

**Montana White '15** is a new graduate of Virginia Military Institute, earning a BS in Psychology, with a minor in Writing and Rhetoric. Montana notes her first year at VMI "was challenging both physically and mentally because all incoming freshmen or 'Rats' are trained by upper classmen on how to be a VMI cadet. This training, consisting of marching, rifle manual, proper wearing of the uniform, and physical fitness, was in addition to academic requirements."

Regarding her Mercy education Montana reflected, "I am so grateful my parents decided to send me to Mercy because I met people who genuinely cared about me and my future success, particularly my adviser, Mr. Stoddard, and Ms. McGinty, Ms. Stoddard, and Ms. Mason." "My experience at Mercy, and later at VMI, taught me to work hard for what you want, especially academically. Nothing you want in life is ever just handed to you. I believe you get out what you put in, and all of the time that I spent studying paid off. I became a member of the National Honor Society at Mercy and the Psychology Honors Society at VMI. As a Cadet, I maintained above a 3.5 each semester, earning me academic stars for my uniforms."

"I have always been open-minded to different experiences and respectful of those around me. These traits were cultivated at Mercy, and I carried them with me to VMI. Without being open-minded, I would never have been able to make it through VMI and respect its system. I enjoyed my time at both Mercy and VMI. They have made me the person that I am today and have brought many of the people and relationships that I cherish into my life."

Montana has accepted a job with the Logistics Company (TLC) at Aberdeen Proving Ground and is currently waiting to receive security clearance in order to start working on base.

Montana's drive and determination together with her respect and inclusiveness make her another wonderful Woman of Mercy!