**Specialist Dakota Michel**

Soldier of the Year Kentucky Army National Guard for 2020

3rd PLT, A Company, 1/149th Infantry Battalion

A native and resident of Middletown, Kentucky, Dakota graduated from Eastern High School and additionally pursued an associate’s degree in heating, ventilation and air conditioning. He is currently pursuing a bachelors in business administration at Sullivan University and intends to extend his education in architectural design. After completing his education, it is his intention to enter the family business.

In addition to his extensive coursework, Dakota is currently serving his third year with the Kentucky Army National Guard where he is a weapons squad team leader in the 1/149th infantry battalion. When his advanced education is completed, his goal is to receive his commission as an officer.