



THE WILDCAT



VOLUME 5

2010-2011

MESSAGE *from* THE PROFESSOR OF MILITARY SCIENCE – LTC R. SCOTT BRIDEGAM

We had another great year and the Wildcat Battalion has continued its tradition of excellence. Fall 2010 started with another record enrollment increasing our Battalion strength to 165 Cadets. The fall semester again brought outstanding accomplishments from our Ranger Challenge Teams, another tremendous Veteran's Day Parade, and the addition of two Army Ten-Miler teams to the Cadet Battalion who traveled to Washington D.C. and participated in the annual AUSA convention as well as a great week of leadership professional development. We officially opened the new Allison-Perkins Cross-functional Fitness Facility, known as "The Pit" to our Cadets, and have seen amazing increases in overall warrior fitness throughout the Cadet ranks. The annual Alumni Tailgater was attended by nearly 150 alumni, Cadets, and friends of the program and our own Company G-7, Pershing Rifles conducted a silent drill exhibition with the K-State marching band during the half-time show of the K-State / Central Florida football game. We continued to prepare our largest class of MS IIIs for the Leadership Development and Assessment Course (LDAC) conducting numerous leadership labs, an FTX, and several MS III only Situational Training Exercise (STX) lanes, a patrolling lab, and land navigation lab. In December we commissioned five outstanding Second Lieutenants for the Army and came back from the Christmas break ready to start the spring semester. This spring our Cadets again attended the Bataan Memorial Marathon, competed in the Ranger Buddy Competition, the National Society of Pershing Rifles Drill and Ceremony National Championships (where we brought home the national championship trophy for platoon exhibition drill and were designated the top Company in the nation), conducted a spring FTX, a 5-school FTX, a Recondo FTX, and MS III Mini-Camp exercise culminating the year with the commissioning of nineteen more Second Lieutenants for the Army. I continue to be proud to lead this team and be part of the rich tradition of the Wildcat Battalion. Your friendship and support continues to make us all Wildcat Strong!

MESSAGE *from* THE CADET BATTALION COMMANDER – CDT/LTC RORY SHARP

This year was a busy but very exciting one for the Wildcat Battalion. As the accessions results came in, the Battalion was able to deliver excellence again. We had the second largest commissioning class in the Big XII behind the Corp of Cadets at Texas A&M, 20 Cadets selected for Active Duty, 5 for Reserves or National Guard, 7 Distinguished Military Graduates, 4 of which were in the top 3% in the nation. This accomplishment could not have been achieved if it wasn't for the Cadre and the class before us who were diligent in their efforts to prepare us. We have continued to grow as a program, which speaks highly of our reputation to produce great leaders, so we emplaced new positions for the upperclassman; positions such as Battalion, Company, and Platoon TAC officers. These new positions have been very instrumental in allowing more one on one coaching-teaching-mentoring of the MSIII's who are preparing for LDAC. The MSIII's have displayed great potential during this school year by tackling leadership responsibilities with confidence and zeal. It

should not be a surprise next fall when expectations of those accessing are met and exceeded. The freshman and sophomore Cadets have displayed potential in their efforts and participation in Battalion training events. This was evident during this year's Joint Field Training Exercise (JFTX) when all Wildcat Battalion Cadets were above their peers during all facets of training. Currently discipline is at a high level, providing an appreciative morale among Cadets. This has set progression and success for the Wildcat Battalion for years to come. Kansas State University's Army ROTC program has proven itself as a solid entity, which has and will continue to produce knowledgeable and effective future Army leaders. Wildcat Strong and Go State!

Kansas State University Army ROTC



Wildcat Battalion Fall 2010
Producing Leaders for the Nation since 1863

Welcome Cook Out

Enrollment trends in the Wildcat Battalion remained positive for school year 2010/11. Our initial enrollment for the fall 2010 term was 165 Cadets. This marks the 6th year in a row that our enrollment has increased. The increase in enrollment this year is particularly noteworthy as the overall scholarships available have declined. The increased enrollment is in large part due to the strong desire on the part of incoming students at Kansas State desiring a first class leadership development experience and a commitment to serving their country. These increases in our program over the last several years are beginning to reflect in the size of our graduating

commissioning class. This year we commissioned twenty-four and anticipating increasing to twenty-eight for next year. Growth in the size of the Wildcat Battalion would be meaningless if the growth did not also bring with it exceptionally high quality young men and women who will uphold the time honored traditions of those who have gone before them. The future of the Wildcat Battalion and our Army remain in good hands. These future warrior leaders were welcomed at our annual cook out held the Friday before classes started. This event provided an opportunity for the new Cadets



to meet one other as well as the Cadre and the Cadet Chain of Command. Earlier in the day, we were able to contract many of our freshman High School Scholarship winners so they could immediately begin to receive benefits. The contracting process concluded with the future Wildcats giving their oath surrounded by their families.

Alumni Tailgate

The annual Kansas State Army ROTC Alumni Tail-Gate at the Bill Snyder Family Stadium once again occurred on a beautiful fall day where the Wildcats handed the University of Central Florida a solid defeat. The purpose of the Alumni Tailgate is to continue to build strong ties between current Cadets and ROTC alumni in a relaxed



atmosphere. There were over 75 alumni present. We are hoping to increase participation in the coming years. The Alumni Tail-Gater is held in Cat Town and can be identified by the Wildcat Battalion COL Saunders Jeep. Food and beverage is free to all alumni, family and friends of the KSU Army ROTC Battalion. The date for the next Alumni Tailgate is Saturday, October 1st, 2011 versus the Bears of Baylor. This will again coincide with K-State's celebration of Fort Riley Day as well as the annual Pershing Rifles Company G-7 Alumni Reunion. Invitations will be sent out via e-mail to all alumni and friends of the program who are on the current address list. This year's Alumni Tailgater will have a few new opportunities for alumni to tour Myers Hall and interact with current Cadets so plan to be there. The Wildcat Battalion would again like to take this opportunity to thank the Crosby Family for their gracious donation that allows this tremendous event to happen every year. Be on the look-out for your invitation, and we hope to see you there!



KSU Recondo



Recondo is an extra-curricular activity that Military Science Cadets are strongly encouraged to participate in to enhance their skills for their annual training at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, WA. Recondo's mission is to develop, educate, and provide readiness for Cadets to excel at the Leadership Development and Assessment Course (LDAC) and in their roles as future Second Lieutenants in the United States Army. Recondo accomplishes this mission through lectures, hands-on training, and practical simulations. Through class-room lectures, Recondo instructs Cadets how to call for fire, how to complete a 9-line medevac request, and how to build a squad level operation order. Recondo also teaches hands-on knots tying, enemy prisoner of war (EPW)

searches, map reading, and claymore set-up. In addition, it also helps our Cadets exceed with simulations such as squad and platoon level field training exercises, black hawk familiarization flights, and military operations in urban terrain (MOUT) training. Finally, Cadets are run through a demanding Recondo induction process (RIP). During this process Cadets participate in a rigorous five day test that pushes them to their extreme limits. This test includes a 10 kilometer foot-march, a 5 mile run, an APFT, a combat fitness assessment test (CFAT), multiple written and hands-on testing of basic combat skills, and an obstacle course called the "Crucible". The Crucible is an event consisting of grenades assault course, a 9-line medevac request, a fireman's carry, a call for fire request, barrel carries, rope climbing, and a SALUTE report all while running a total of 1 ½ miles. The test also includes knot skills, navigation, claymore set-up, and a written assessment of their knowledge. When a RIP qualified Cadet passes these different combinations of training, they are rewarded with the authorization to wear the Recondo beret and flash which distinguishes them from their peers. Recondo helps make K-State's ROTC one of the most successful programs in the country. RECONDO!

Ranger Challenge

Ranger Challenge is the premier intercollegiate competition for Army ROTC Departments across the country. It is considered the Varsity sport of ROTC. Ranger Challenge is a grueling, nonstop competition nicknamed "Fifteen hours of pain" designed to provide the ultimate physical and mental challenge to Cadets. The competition consists of the following events: Army Physical Fitness Test, Grenade Assault Course, Basic Rifle Marksmanship, Crucible, One Rope Bridge, Weapons Assembly/Disassembly, 10k Ruck March, Land Navigation, and Sensitive Sight Exploitation. The annual competition was held at Camp Dodge, IA on 16 October 2010. Teams consisted of 9 members including at least 1 female Cadet. The Wildcat Battalion sent two teams this year. The Varsity Team members were Benjamin Novak (MSIV) team captain, Christopher Dirks (MSIV), John Allred (MSIII), Joshua Oelschlaeger (MSIII), Matthew Prem (MSII), Dionysius Theres

(MSII), Scott Johnson (MSIII), Lauren Palmquist (MSII), and Robert Kessler (MSI). The Junior Varsity Team members were Morgan Hamilton (MSIV) team captain, David Ghormley (MSIV), John Swanson (MSIII), Yamil Rivera (MSIII), Thanh Orr (MSII), Halston Ladd (MSII), Andrew Davis (MSII), Cody Loose (MSII), Nikolas Soto (ASII/AF), Alternate: Stephanie Keith. The Ranger Challenge teams consisted primarily of top Cadets in the program. Practice started in mid September and continued up to the competition on the 16th of October. In addition to regular PT on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday; practices were held on Tuesday and Thursday mornings, as well as in the afternoon. The competition started off with the APFT, but with a twist, the Cadets wore ACUs and tennis shoes. What followed then was a nonstop race to the finish kicked off by a 10K ruck march, which turned into a run at select areas. When the ruck march was completed, the teams received

grid coordinates of 18 points with several events dispersed among the points. The long trek with full rucksacks would last well into the night. The first event was the hand grenade assault course, followed by weapons assembly/disassembly, one-rope bridge, basic rifle marksmanship, sensitive sight exploitation and the crucible. The crucible was a series of tasks to be performed under a clock. The tasks included were, stretcher carrying the wounded to a landing zone, getting across a makeshift one rope bridge, and answering basic knowledge questions. The 15 hours of pain turned into more like eighteen. The long day of marching paid off for the alpha team which placed 4th in the overall land navigation course. Both teams learned a good lesson in endurance and persevering to the end. Ranger Challenge continues to be a great opportunity for the Wildcat Battalion Cadets to enhance their skills as future leaders!



Pershing Rifles



The National Society of Pershing Rifles is a military fraternal organization for college-level students, founded by then 2nd Lieutenant John J. Pershing (later General of the Armies of the United States) in 1894 as a distinguished drill unit at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Recently reestablished in the spring of 2010 at Kansas State University, Pershing Rifles is a student organization that allows Army and Air Force ROTC Cadets, as well as Kansas State students, to be a part of a military-like organization without any military commitment.



In Pershing Rifles, the students learn about military history, tactics, and specialize in drill and ceremonies. In under a year, the K-State Pershing Rifles Company, dubbed Company G-7 "Headhunters," has increased its membership from the four original members to twenty-four active riflemen, becoming one of the largest Pershing Rifles units in the nation. Company G-7 has quickly built a reputation for itself around the K-State campus and within the community. This year, Company G7 performed a number of ceremonies for K-State, Fort Riley, the city of Manhattan, and the State of Kansas and included the World War II Memorial dedication ceremony, the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Ceremony, a football game halftime show, and many other events. This past March, Company G-7 attended the annual National Competition at The Ohio State University where they competed against some of the best Pershing Rifles units across the country in drill and ceremonies.

The company performed exceptionally well, placing in all but one of their chosen competitions. These awards include a 1st Place Trophy in Platoon Exhibition drill, a 2nd Place Trophy in competition Color Guard, and a 3rd Place Trophy in Solo Exhibition drill. Company G-7 also received the highly sought after “Best Company” award for 2011 for their outstanding performance throughout the year, which they received during their first year as a reestablished company. Two Pershing Riflemen were also awarded for their individual achievement. Air Force Cadet C/Lt Col Stephanie Jones received the Pershing Rifles Gold Achievement Award, and K-State student Travis Jennings, received the Pershing Rifles Bronze Achievement Medal. Within the first year, Company G-7 has reestablished itself as a force to be reckoned with within the Pershing Rifles community, as well as a respectable student organization at K-State. Their future goals include increased membership, community events, and to bring home the overall National Championship Title. We thank all of our Pershing Rifle alumni whose generosity, vision, and leadership not only funded the resurgence of Company G-7 but gave the current Headhunters a foundation of excellence to build upon!



The Army Ten Miler

On Friday, 22 October, the Kansas State Army ROTC Battalion sent 12 Cadets and 2 Cadre to run in the Association of the United States Army (AUSA) 10 mile race in Washington, D.C. Traveling in two SUVs (donated by Briggs Auto) the trip required an overnight stop at Fort Knox, Kentucky where Cadets slept in the



barracks. After two days of travel, the team stayed at Fort Belvoir for the race and AUSA convention activities. The AUSA race began at 9:00 am on Sunday, 24 October 2010 with 30,000 runners grouped according to their running ability. There were multiple starts for different running groups to reduce the amount of congestion on the streets. At the beginning of the race, Wildcat Cadets could not even see the runners like the World Class Athlete Program's (WCAP) Maj. Dan Browne who placed 4th or Ethiopians Alene Reta and Tesfaye Sendeku who placed first and second. To cross the starting line it took at least 5-7 minutes of

slow walking and waiting for compacted group of runners to begin moving. After crossing the starting line, a small chip on the shoes of every runner would start and record their individual time for the race. Starting the race near the Pentagon, the ten mile race allowed runners to view or pass by many of Washington D.C.'s monuments. In order, the race path included running by the Arlington National Cemetery, crossing over the Arlington Memorial Bridge, then on to the Kennedy Center, the Lincoln Memorial, the Washington Monument,

the Smithsonian Castle, the Capitol Building, and the Jefferson Memorial, crossing back over the Potomac River via the George Mason Memorial Bridge, and finally returning to the Pentagon. Cadets Carrera, Boeschling, Reynolds, and Burkhalter finished in the top 1000 runners. They placed in the in the top 10% of all teams that completed the race. Cadet Edwards individually placed 9th in her division. In the evening, Cadets had the chance to view the Holocaust Museum, the famous Smithsonian museums, and other national monuments. On Monday, the Cadets were given the opportunity to tour the Pentagon guided by LTC Bridegam and MAJ Snyder, a friend of the program who currently works there. An ROTC luncheon followed. This included a performance by the Army band called "Down Range" and a speech by the first female to become a 4-star General. In the afternoon, there was an industry convention that featured the new and upcoming military developments from defense companies such as L-3 Communications, Boeing, Lockheed Martin, and General Dynamics. In addition, Army Space Command had astronaut Shane Kimbrough, a former U.S. Army helicopter pilot, in attendance signing autographs. On Tuesday, the final day of the trip included a more in depth tour passing by the White House, the Washington Monument, the Lincoln Memorial, the Vietnam War Memorial, and the Arlington National Cemetery. In the evening, the Fort Riley AUSA Chapter hosted a reception for the 1st Infantry Division from Fort Riley and the Kansas State Cadets from the ten miler team. After riding the Metro back, the Cadets and Cadre packed and drove two days back to Kansas State University arriving Thursday evening. Overall the Wildcat Battalion set a few records, one as an individual accomplishment and the other as a top team finisher. The most outstanding runner who led the way for the Wildcat Battalion in her age group was 19 year old Sophomore **Candice Edwards** finishing with a time of 1:21:11. She finished 9th out of 130 runners in her age group and placed in the top 7% of 9,619 female runners. This was a remarkable accomplishment, and this was her first ever Ten-Mile race. Another remarkable accomplishment for the Wildcat Battalion was on behalf of the Alpha Team, which was led by the amazing efforts of Senior and MSIV's **Esteban Carrera** and team captain Nic Boeschling. These amazing Wildcats finished 8th out of 59 teams. Congratulations to Alpha Team and to all Cadets that were selected to represent K-State, which also includes Bravo Team: Cheryl Cleary, Joe Nesley, Matthew Lutz, Geoffrey Bradbeer, Candice Edwards and Rosita Fregoso.

8 **Kansas State Army ROTC Team 1**

Name	Sex-Age	Time
ESTEBAN CARRERA	M 21	1:04:35
NATHAN REYNOLDS	M 20	1:05:25
NICOLAS BOESCHLING	M 21	1:06:21
ROY BURKHALTER	M 23	1:09:36
LAWRENCE MOSS	M 19	1:11:41
ERIC JOHNSON	M 24	1:13:19

Homecoming Parade

This year for the Homecoming Parade the Army ROTC program volunteered to help out by building a float and marching in the parade. The MSI's were instructed to build and decorate the float with two MSI Cadets Walden and Raney taking charge of production and resources. All MSI Cadets participated in the Homecoming parade whether it was helping put the float together, marching beside it in uniform while throwing candy and singing cadences, or dabbling in a bit of everything. Everyone did something. Another great ROTC addition to the parade was by Wildcat Battalion Distinguished Alumni and Hall-of-Famer, Colonel (retired) Duane Saunders, who drove his purple Cadillac with the grim reaper as his chauffeur and whose contributions to our program are immeasurable. The total estimated time of hard work and preparation for the ROTC float was approximately three weeks, in which the MSI class got to spend time getting to know each other and working together towards a common goal. It was definitely a group effort that everyone enjoyed.



2010 Flint Hills Veterans Day Parade

In the early morning cold of Thursday November 11th 2010, the Kansas State Wildcat Battalion Cadets began work in earnest on the annual Flint Hills Veterans Day Parade. This year's parade experienced a record number of participants in the parade as well as spectators. Of those participants some 2,500 of them were students from surrounding schools. This included local favorites of Manhattan High School Marching Band as well as the Rock Creek High School Marching band. As with all things involving large numbers of children there were



unexpected levels of chaos and confusion. Throughout the staging process CDT/MAJ Fregoso with the help of her team stepped up and wrangled all of the children into their place in time for the morning festivities.

No less daunting of a task was that given to CDT/CSM Kip Burba, with the marshalling of all the parade entry vehicles. This year's parade reached an all time high with over 70 vehicles traveling along the patriotic route.



There were representatives in classic cars, old military vehicles, and even EMS and Fire departments. C/CSM Burba, successfully negotiated the task of aligning these vehicles and kept the procession moving along. At the end of the event Wildcat Cadets had successfully marshaled over 4000 participants into the south end of Manhattan Town Center Parking lot and ushered them the length of an outstandingly patriotic Poyntz Avenue.

With the showcase entry of the 1st Infantry Division leading the way, and the 2,500 plus students and parents showing their support, this year's Veterans Day Parade was a great success. Their coordinated effort and teamwork exemplified the service that these future leaders are dedicated to. This year's Honorary Grand Marshal was Kansas State Wildcat Battalion Class of 1950 and current Hall of Fame member, the late COL (ret) Richard Jepsen. Col. Jepsen was a founding member of the Flint Hills Veterans Coalition and a proud alumnus of the Wildcat Battalion. His lifelong commitment to civics and public service are with the long standing and continued traditions of the Wildcat Battalion Cadets.

The Pit

"You can cry, but you can't quit," reads the last rule for the Pit. This summarizes the new culture of physical fitness that the Kansas State Wildcat Battalion is building. The new state-of-the-art cross-functional fitness facility completed its first phase in August, and Cadets have been pouring in to become part of a new wave of physical fitness sweeping the Army. Designed to create world-class athlete leaders, as well as to increase APFT scores, the Pit has become part of a daily routine for many Cadets and Cadre in the Wildcat Battalion.



The basement of the Military Science building before construction of the Pit.

The idea was to “create a culture of physical fitness,” said MSG Brian Waterman, as well as “expose Cadets to another form of physical fitness.” So far the “gains have been amazing,” said LTC Scott Bridegam, “APFT averages have increased in every class due to the Pit.” The third year Cadets earned an average of 272 for their spring physical fitness test. The facility and equipment encourage cross-functional fitness. The Cadets can now train for Olympic weightlifting, gymnastic movements, increasing of the metabolic pathways, and short high intensity workouts. In short, this is results-driven training. Cross-functional fitness has been a rising trend in the military; units such as Army Special Forces Command, the Navy SEALs, and the 160th SOAR have built cross-functional facilities. Many units across the military use this type of physical fitness training to prepare for the rigors and stresses of combat. The facility also provides a home for the Cadets who now no longer have to rely solely on Kansas State University's recreational facility as a place to work out. The Pit has its own hours and



the specialized equipment needed to fit the needs of the Wildcat Battalion.

The facility was built from the generous donations of Mr. Brett Allison and Mrs. Nancy Perkins, who saw potential in the goals of this new facility, and

who saw its value to the Army ROTC Cadets and Cadre. Due to continued donor support, the Pit added Phase II that added equipment with a focus on cardiovascular exercises such as running, training multiple metabolic pathways, and jump rope. Three treadmills, elliptical, and spin cycles, three climbing ropes, one poly box set, a gym timer, and a multitude of other equipment was added to the Pit, with the goal of giving Cadets a place to conduct a full body workout year-round regardless of outside weather. Phase II is scheduled to be completed this summer. “The Pit



After construction of Phase I one of the Pit

will rival any fitness facility in the Army,” said LTC Bridegam. Cadets are also getting a chance to team up with other local Cross-Fit organizations in Manhattan, Ft. Riley, and Leavenworth through partnerships. Currently the Wildcat Battalion is working on obtaining a military affiliation and sent a second Cadre member, MSG Waterman, and one Cadet, CDT Ryan Easterling, to receive their level one certification in Cross-Fit. Cadets and Cadre are enjoying the new facility immensely, and its construction has brought a new level of physical fitness to the Wildcat ROTC Program. We cannot thank Mr. Allison and Mrs. Perkins enough in helping make us Wildcat Strong.

Alumni & Friends Support Through Scholarships

Wildcat Battalion Cadets are fortunate to have an abundance of both federal and state scholarship opportunities but what keeps K-State Army ROTC strong and provides for its world-class programs continues to be our relationship with alumni and friends of the program. Their unprecedented and generous contributions towards additional scholarships for our most deserving Cadets provide the Wildcat Battalion an edge over other programs. The Allison Army ROTC Scholarship Program, established by Brett Allison and his family in 2003, continues to help many of our "walk-on" Cadets that are not receiving federal scholarship benefits and has helped over 100 Cadets complete college and achieve their goal of becoming a commissioned officer. The 2LT Lora Marietta Scholarship, established by the Marietta family in memory and honor of our former 2009 Cadet Battalion Commander, provides financial assistance to Cadets that uphold the tradition of excellence that Lora set as a scholar, athlete, and leader throughout her time as a Wildcat Battalion Cadet. The BG Bruce Adams (class

of 1969) ROTC Scholarship is provided to a rising sophomore or junior non-federal scholarship Cadet. The LTC Gerald F. Ely Army ROTC Scholarship, which perpetuates the memory of LTC Gerald F. Ely – a 1935 graduate of K-State, provides financial assistance to students properly enrolled in any degree curriculum and in good standing in Army ROTC. The 2LT Mike Goins Memorial Scholarship was established by former classmates of 2LT Goins, CPT (Ret) Lonnie Moore, and former PMS – LTC (Ret) Art DeGroat to perpetuate the memory of 2LT Mike Goins and provide financial assistance to the top Recondo Cadet of the year which is selected by both the Cadre and Cadets. The Archie R. and Dorthy Hyle (class of 1943) Engineering Scholarship provides financial assistance to an Army ROTC Cadet enrolled in the College of Engineering in good standing. The Ivy Fuller Olds Scholarship in Military Science was established to perpetuate the memory of Ivy Fuller Olds financial assistance to students properly enrolled in any degree curriculum and in good standing in Army ROTC.

COL H. DUANE & BONNIE SAUNDERS ARMY ROTC EXCELLENCE FUND

Wildcat Battalion Cadets also benefit immeasurably from alumni of the program that contribute to their ongoing leadership development through financial support and through critical support to Cadet residential accommodations on campus. Leading the way in this endeavor is Class of 1961 Alumni, COL (Ret) H. Duane Saunders and his wife Bonnie, whose leadership and service to our nation has continued through their generosity and support our current Cadets. The COL H. Duane and Bonnie Saunders Army ROTC Excellence

Fund ensures that our Cadets do not have to conduct numerous fund-raisers reducing their time available to develop their leadership acumen. Additionally, their leadership vision in establishing the Saunders Barracks apartments at Jardine Residential complex has provided a world-class living environment for many of our Cadets as well as been a catalyst for other alumni and friends of the program to be able to contribute through our Room and Board Offset Excellence Fund. We are truly fortunate to have COL Saunders' tremendous leadership on our team!

NANCY ALLISON PERKINS ARMY ROTC ELITE FUND

Not only do Wildcat Battalion Cadets benefit from alumni support of the program but also from patriotic friends of program who, though not alumni, consistently support us through their time, financial support, and mentorship. For nearly a decade Brett Allison, his mother Nancy Perkins Allison, and the entire Allison family through the Nancy Allison Perkins Army ROTC Elite Fund have provided substantial financial assistance for multiple Cadet Programs. The Fund ensures that our

Cadets can succeed even during tightening of the Department of Defense budgets that the Army is seeing during an era of persistent conflict. Their support has contributed to the Wildcat Battalion in numerous ways as well as fostered the Kansas State and Fort Riley partnership through support of the Fort Riley Day football event and tailgater. We cannot thank the Allison family enough for their continued generosity, friendship, mentorship, and support!

CONTINUING 2LT LORA MARIETTA'S LEGACY OF EXCELLENCE

The 2LT Lora Marietta Mentorship Excellence Fund that her fellow Cadets and Cadre established in the spring of 2010 in Lora's memory has taken the Wildcat Battalion to the next level in mentorship. This fund supported mentorship events and activities throughout school year 2010-2011 and provided funding for social activities for new Cadets to integrate into the Wildcat Battalion. It also enhanced our tutoring program for Cadets at academic risk; provided Cadet attendance at leadership seminars



and conventions such as the AUSA national convention; and supplemented funding for Cadets participating in the Bataan Memorial Marathon as well as campus intramurals; team building activities; and for our freshman Cadets' fitness/wellness evaluations. We are positive that with Lora, we have an angel in heaven that looks after our Cadets and the program through this incredible mentorship program and our current Cadets are focused on continuing Lora's legacy.

Leadership Labs

Kansas State Army ROTC continuously produces top Cadets and outstanding Second Lieutenants year after year. This pattern of excellence results from a structured sequence of individual and team building leadership labs. Six labs, conducted at the beginning of fall semester, form the foundation that allows Cadets to continue to grow into future American leaders. The Welcome Back Lab occurs at the very beginning of fall semester. It allows



new Cadets to meet other new members and seasoned veterans of the Wildcat Battalion in an informal setting. Through a series of sporting competitions, the Cadets begin to form a sense of squad and platoon unity. Here MSIII's receive their first opportunity to command their respective elements. Aside from team development, the Welcome Back Lab honors the summer achievements of Cadets that successfully completed one of the many military schools available. The MSI Boot Camp consists of several instructional classes. Intent on familiarization, MSIII's instruct new Cadets on essentials such as



correct uniform wear and TA-50 gear assembly. This lab also allows for the MSIII's to be evaluated on their leadership skills. The MSI Boot Camp offers a great chance for individual improvement. Drill and Ceremony Lab encourages individual and team development as Cadets are trained to give and follow commands used in formation. Scheduled at the Bill Snyder Family Stadium parking lot, MSIII's utilize the open space to guide their units through a series of commands. MSIII's again receive evaluations on their leadership skills. Both company commanders are evaluated on their overall performance in an inter company rivalry to



win the commander's cup.

As one could surmise from the name, the Team Building Lab directs emphasis towards team development. A series of obstacles, both mental and physical, challenges the MSIII led squads to work together to complete the difficult tasks within time. Aimed at strengthening leadership skills and building a strong unit, the Team Building Lab remains a crucial link in Wildcat success. A yearly favorite, the Military Steaks Lab gives Cadets a fun look into the adventure side of the Army. Here Cadets rotate through events like the grenade assault course, the rappel tower, enemy prisoner of war, and weapons assembly. These events will further basic knowledge and



prove helpful as the Cadets continue their ROTC training.

Instead of PT, Cadets get to rise dark and early one



morning to complete combat water survival training (CWST). CWST consists of five basic, individual tasks. Each Cadet must complete an unaided ten minute swim; tread water for five minutes in ACUs; a twenty-five meter swim in ACUs with an LBE and weapon; a gear shed; and a blindfolded five meter freefall into the pool. This lab assesses the Cadets swimming skills and gives a few Cadets a chance to face their fears.

Bataan Memorial Death March

On the 27th of March 2011 six Cadets from Kansas State Army ROTC participated in the 23rd Annual Bataan Memorial Death March. The Bataan Memorial Death March honors a special group of WWII heroes. Tens of thousands of American and Filipino soldiers were marched in the scorching heat for days through the Philippine Jungle. The American servicemen were from all branches of the military, to include the 200th Coast Artillery, New Mexico National Guard. The conditions this year were especially taxing on the marchers and made the experience even more memorable. The day began with 40 degree weather with wind gusts up to 20 mph and turned into 71 degree weather with winds gusts up to 31 mph. Our marchers this year endured one of the most physically demanding marathons in the United States. We had three military light (Combat uniform, boots, and camel back) individuals compete: Dionysius Theres (7:43:32), Jacob Gardner (9:52:41), and Joshua



Oelschlaeger (4:41:01). Joshua Oelschlaeger finished 15 out of 421 marchers. Josh Oelschlaeger also finished 1st overall in the male military light division. We also had three military heavy (Combat uniform, boots, 35lb ruck, camel back) individuals compete: Matthew Prem (10:10:10), Floice Kemp (10:10:13), and Joseph Reichard (10:40:52). Both categories, heavy and light, marched a total of 26.2 miles with an elevation range of 1,225 ft to 1,650 ft. This year there were more than 6,500 marchers and made a record in the Bataan Memorial Death March record books. In the end the Cadet marchers earned a better respect for those who had served in the Philippines and for all those who have served our country and given their blood, sweat, and tears or paid the ultimate sacrifice. A special thanks to Wildcat Battalion alumni John Hummer and his wife Amy for their gracious hospitality and generous gift for lodging and a superb dinner with our teams!

Ranger Buddy Competition

On 2 April 2011 Kansas State University selected eight Cadets to compete at the annual Ranger Buddy Competition located at Lawrence, Kansas. Four teams participated in the Ranger Buddy competition. This teams consist of; Team 1: Kessler (MSII) and Straford (MSII). Team 2: Davis (MSI) and Rosendhal (MSI). Team 3: Coker (MSIII) and Oelschlaeger (MSIII). Team 4: Prem (MSII) and Geidel (MSII). This event tests a Cadet physically, mentally,



and how well the Cadet can work as a team. All Cadets wake up at 0400 and start the day off with a 10K ruck march. After the teams finish the march they are pressed forward into a round robin of five events. K-State's first event was the grenades where the Cadets either had to low crawl, high crawl, or sprint to each foxhole. Each foxhole was 30 meters away from each other and one teammate would pull security while the other performed the correct grenade posture. The Cadets threw grenades at targets ranging from 10-30 meters. To achieve a hit the Cadets had to have the grenade land within five meters of the target, which some had materials defending the targets. On this event Team 1, Kessler and Stafort, finished third out of over 60 teams.



The next event that the Cadets participated in was the weapons assembly/disassembly. Cadets ran 10 meters to find a M16A1 either assembled or disassembled and had to take the correct actions to get the weapon functional. They then ran 10 more meters to find another M16A1 assembled/disassembled, opposite from the first, and take the correct actions for that weapon as well. To achieve maximum points the Cadets had to pass a functions check on the M16A1 that they just assembled. After weapons assembly/disassembly the Cadets rotated towards knots where there were 5 stations situated 20 meters from each other. At each station there were two knots that the Cadets had to tie. The Cadets had to endure various obstacles between each station. The obstacles included; buddy carry, sandbag carry, low crawl, and sprinting. After the knots

event the Cadets rotated towards the assessing a casualty event. Here the Cadets ran up a steep hill to find a down casualty which they had to assess and put on a litter. The Cadets then had to carry the casualty up a hill, under barb wire, through a simulated mine field and finally over a small wall. After this event the Cadets rotated towards the Crucible. This event tested the Cadets over everything they learned into one long



exhausting course. Events on this course included a buddy carry, land navigation, team work exercises and low crawling through the mud. This event truly tested the teams mental and physical toughness. After this event the Cadets rotated towards the last event, the 5K run. This was ran in ACU top and bottom with boots. This was the last test for these Cadets as they ran up and down 5 kilometers worth of hills. At the days end all teams were exhausted

but they were stronger for having completed the challenge and closer to each other than ever before.

Field Training Exercises

The Wildcat Battalion's Fall Field Training Exercise kicked off in the crawl/walk/run phases as the new MSIIIs get to take all of their lab training and apply their skills in one weekend. The junior class comes in the night before to get a hand at garrison OPORDs and to learn and how to lead in a garrison environment. During this phase of training the MSIII's are given the OPORD for the next day's training. The MSIII's start the first day off rising early and begin to prepare for the day by distributing MREs, figuring out the bus order for transport, and weapons accountability for the entire weekend. When the battalion arrived at Fort Riley they began the day with the day land navigation course where each Cadet needs to find five out of eight



points in five hours. Cadets then get to do the same course at night, but only having to find three out of five points in three hours. That night the MSIII's continue improving their garrison OPORDs and living in a garrison environment. The next day is started very early to begin STX lanes. MSIII Cadets are given the opportunity to lead a lane in order to prepare them for LDAC the following summer. At the completion of STX lanes the Cadets conduct recovery operations and redeploy. While the MSIII's are training the MSI' and II's also train along side with the MSIII's as they do the day and night land navigation course. While the MSIII's are doing STX lanes the MSI's and MSII's complete the paint ball course. The Wildcat Battalions Spring Field Training Exercise is where the junior class has had almost a full year to prepare for LDAC. It is also their last weekend in preparation for the Joint Field Training Exercise. This weekend is the running phase for the MSIII's as we test their ability to lead from the front. It also gives the Cadets a feeling of "I'm ready and confident to go

to LDAC this summer." During the Spring FTX Cadets completed the FLRC course, the obstacle course, and begin training for patrolling lanes. The Wildcat Battalion's annual Joint Field Training Exercise went off without a hitch. In attendance at the training exercise were five schools including the Wildcat Battalion, Kansas University, Pittsburg State University, University of Central Missouri, and Missouri Western University. The



Cadets assembled Friday afternoon, drew rations and weapons and moved out to the training area on Fort Riley, Kansas. The Wildcat Cadets joined the Cadets from the other schools and formed integrated companies and then proceeded to conduct garrison operations in preparation for training to take place over the next two days. On Saturday the companies alternated between tactical exercises and land navigation. After training concluded, the two companies joined together for a much needed hot meal and then conducted night land navigation. At the conclusion of the exercise,

the Cadets bedded down for the night and awoke early the next day to conclude training. The Cadets of the Wildcat Battalion conducted patrolling exercises while the Cadets of Pittsburgh State and Missouri Western Universities trained on the FLRC course and the Cadets of Central Missouri and Kansas University ran through the obstacle course. At the conclusion of the Field Training Exercise all the Cadets and Cadre returned to their respective schools and refitted and reorganized to continue more training in preparation for the MSIII Cadets attendance this summer at LDAC at Joint Base Lewis-McChord.

CONGRATULATIONS

TO OUR NEWLY COMMISSIONED OFFICERS

December 2010:

This past winter we conducted an Army commissioning ceremony. The ceremony was a great event that the new Lieutenants, their families, and mentors enjoyed and will remember for the years to come. The commissioning was held on campus in Forum Hall. The commissioning officer and guest of honor for the ceremony was Wildcat Battalion Hall of Fame alumnus Major General (Ret)

Donald Jacka, whose final assignment was as J4, Deputy Director for Global Sustainment Operations on The Joint Staff, Pentagon, prior to his retirement in September 2008. MG Jacka



From Left to Right by Name and Branch:
 Anthony A. Kleinsorge, Engineer; Christopher L.
 Pierson, Armor; Jessica M. Williams,
 Transportation; Jonathan R. Dokos, Infantry;
 Stephen W. Weimers, Infantry

is now the CEO and Member of the Board of Directors of The Kansas Homestead Rehabilitation Corporation, a private, non-profit financial corporation. Five Army Second Lieutenants were commissioned and two of them received the Distinguished Military Graduate honors. The new Lieutenants received a motivational and inspirational talk on leadership from MG Jacka that gave personal life lessons for the Lieutenants to use in their upcoming adventure in the Army.

May 2011:

On the 13 May 2011, 19 Cadets from our Wildcat Battalion raised their right hand and recited the oath of office, officially commissioning them into our proud officer corps as Second Lieutenants. The ceremony was held within the Kansas State Student Union at Forum Hall. Five of the cadets were selected as distinguished military graduates and ranked in the top 20 percent of Cadets nationwide. The ranking was based upon grade point average, Army physical fitness scores and leadership abilities. The guest speaker for the ceremony was the Commanding General of III Corps and Fort Hood, Lieutenant General (LTG) Donald M. Campbell. LTG Campbell was part of Kansas State's Army ROTC class of 1978 and a member of the Wildcat Battalion Hall of Fame. Each newly commissioned officer listened intently to LTG Campbell's speech, which emphasized various aspects of Army Leadership. Above all, he focused on leading by example, striving to exemplify the Army Values, and maintaining flexibility in an ever changing wartime environment. He closed with a focus on family, and reminded us that we could not do our job without their support.

Following the ceremony families joined their new Army officers upstairs for some commemorative cake and refreshments. It was an amazing time of camaraderie, and a fitting beginning for the rest of their careers. Each new Second Lieutenant is pictured below by row, from left to right.

Top Row: 1. Tyler Goldsby, Quartermaster | 2. Kyle Cordas, Signal | 3. Raymond Colston Jr., Transportation
4. Brandon Churchill, Field Artillery | 5. Christopher Dirks, Armor | 6. Adam Beckman, Transportation

First Row:

1. David Ghormley,
Transportation
2. Henry Huguley,
Transportation
3. Wellyn Gacad
Adjutant General
4. Chris Robinette
Signal
5. Asucena Romero
Chemical
6. Kipton Burba
Military Intelligence
7. Rosita Fregoso
Medical Service



Second Row:

1. Rory D. Sharp
Dental
2. Chris C. Connell
Aviation
3. Ethan Bezzek
Military Police
4. Richard Stromberg
Armor
5. Jacob R. Piscal
Armor
6. Nicolas Boeschling
Military Police

Our Next Big Thing

Creating the Joint ROTC Operations Center & Leadership Laboratory



DEVELOPING TOMORROW'S LEADERS TODAY

Leadership excellence, warrior ethos, core values and service — these are the cornerstones of the Army and Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps programs at K-State. For more than 100 years, through a rigorous and demanding cadet-led, cadre-managed leadership experience, these programs have produced some of the nation's top leaders — lieutenants who lead our soldiers and airmen in an increasingly complex operational environment around the world.

The Wildcat Battalion and Wildcat Warrior Wing both provide a hands-on leadership practicum for 250 cadets enrolled in the two programs. Throughout the academic year, these cadets plan, synchronize, and execute more than 100 training and development operations that have a significant impact in ultimately commissioning the future leaders of the U.S. Army and Air Force.



THE ARMY/AIR FORCE JOINT ROTC OPERATIONS CENTER AND LEADERSHIP LABORATORY AT GENERAL RICHARD B. MYERS HALL

The Army/Air Force Joint ROTC Operations Center and Leadership Laboratory aims to offer a world-class learning environment for our cadets to instill the leadership theories taught in the military science and aerospace studies curriculum — and apply those theories through leadership-in-action. In turn, an enhanced facility will equip them with the tools needed to effectively run a Cadet Battalion and Cadet Wing — and foster the skills, confidence and vision they need to take their leadership beyond the walls of Gen. Myers Hall.

Because of the successes that both programs have achieved, it has become more apparent the Departments of Military Science and Aerospace Studies require a full-time, joint-use facility for cadets to fully realize their potential, prepare for the challenges they'll face in their future — and train for their roles as leaders of our military forces. With input from our alumni, administration and friends of the Army and Air Force ROTC, we have developed and designed a plan that will elevate these programs to a level that provides cadets with a technologically advanced, state-of-the-art educational facility.

Phase I — Refurbishment, furnishing, and ADP for classrooms 206 & 211— \$32,300.00

Phase II — Remodel/renovate main floor walls

Phase III — Remodel/renovate main floor walls

Phase IV — Remodel/renovate west entrances



CREATING AN IMPACT

In order to bring this vision to fruition, the Military Science and Aerospace Studies Departments require resources to initiate the four-phase renovation. Supporting this project will provide the Army and Air Force ROTC with a world-class facility to match their highly renowned programs — both of which have a great impact in training the next generation of leaders.

As K-State continues its progress toward its K-State 2025 vision of building a connected, diverse, empowered, engaged, participatory culture of learning and excellence, the Joint ROTC Operations Center and Leadership Laboratory will be

the catalyst for the Army and Air Force ROTC programs' ability to continue to attract highly talented students recognized for producing outstanding graduates for the military profession.

YOU CAN HELP

YOUR DONATIONS TO ANY OF THE GREAT PROGRAMS BELOW WILL ENSURE THAT THE WILDCAT BATTALION CADETS CARRY ON YOUR LEGACY AND THAT K-STATE ARMY ROTC REMAINS WILDCAT STRONG!

- **The Joint ROTC Operations Center & Leadership Laboratory Excellence Fund is our #1 development priority** and provides the funding to support all of the Phases of development of our new Joint Operations Center and Leadership Laboratory and future renovation of Myers Hall. We are looking to raise \$33K in SY 11/12 to get this project off the ground. Donations can be made payable to the KSU Foundation – please indicate foundation account F28300 – Joint ROTC Operations Center & Leadership Laboratory Excellence Fund on your gift and pledge form.
- The Army ROTC Room & Board Excellence Fund provides financial assistance in offsetting the cost of room and board for enrolled Cadets in good standing in the Wildcat Battalion. Donations can be made payable to the KSU Foundation – please indicate foundation account F02110 – Army ROTC Room & Board Excellence Fund on your gift and pledge form.
- The Lora Marietta Mentorship Excellence Fund provides financial support for the Wildcat Battalion mentorship activities and program. Donations can be made payable to the KSU Foundation – please indicate foundation account F31300 – Lora Marietta Mentorship Excellence Fund on your gift and pledge form.
- The Pershing Rifles Alumni Excellence Fund provides financial support for the Cadets of Company G-7 Pershing Rifles activities and overall program. Donations can be made payable to the KSU Foundation – please indicate foundation account F35520 – Pershing Rifles Alumni Excellence Fund on your gift and pledge form.

To access the KSU Foundation Gift or Pledge Form please go to the Kansas State University Foundation website at: <http://www.found.k-state.edu> and click on “Give Now”, go to Giving Options then click on #2, Pledge/Gift Form. Once you have completed the form - mail it to: KSU Foundation Center, 2323 Anderson Ave, Suite 500, Manhattan, Kansas 66502-2911, Attention Damon Fairchild. If you have any questions, Mr. Fairchild can be reached at 785-532-7524 or damonf@found.ksu.edu. For more information regarding any of these funds or how you can assist the Wildcat Battalion in any other way, contact us at armyrotc@ksu.edu or 785-532-6754 – thanks for all you have done and continue to do – you make us all Wildcat Strong!

STORIES & PHOTOS BY CADRE AND CADETS OF THE WILDCAT BATTALION

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