



THE WILDCAT



VOLUME 4

2009-2010

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

This has truly been a year of great accomplishment, great joy, and great sadness for the Wildcat Battalion. We began the year with the largest Cadet enrollment in the history of the program (post-all-volunteer Army). The fall semester brought accomplishments from our Ranger Challenge Teams, a tremendous Veteran's Day Parade, the implementation of a newly overhauled leadership development program that implemented more rigorous physical training and additional leadership labs for our MS III Cadets, and the successful commissioning of two great Army 2nd Lieutenants. The tragic loss of our Cadet Battalion Commander, Lora Marietta, in a car accident over Christmas break served as a reminder to how precious life is and to how one person can have such a significant and positive impact on so many. It also served as a call to action for the Cadet Battalion to ensure that Lora's legacy at Kansas State would be that of a unit that refused to accept anything but excellence. I am proud to say that the Wildcat Battalion Cadets accepted that call and after honoring their fallen leader in a Memorial Service charged off to attack the spring semester with a new vigor and continuation of accomplishments. Our Cadets again attended the Bataan Memorial Marathon, competed well in the Ranger Buddy Competition, and dominated in the 5-school FTX and MS III Mini-Camp exercises culminating the year with the commissioning of 12 new 2nd Lieutenants for the Army and the posthumous commissioning of 2nd Lieutenant Lora Marietta. I am proud to be part of this team – Wildcat Strong!

MESSAGE FROM THE CADET BATTALION COMMANDER – CDT/LTC JACOB REBO

In late December of last year, just days before Christmas, I got a call telling me that my good friend and our Wildcat Battalion Cadet Commander, Lora Marietta, was tragically killed in a car accident. I will never forget the feeling as I hung up the phone. I will always miss Lora and remember her for the amazing person that she was. But, true to the Army, and I know in accord with what Lora would have wanted, the Wildcat Battalion marched ahead with the same dedication to training and excellence that she always embodied.

We began the spring with the finest memorial service for a fallen Soldier I have ever been to in my 10 years of active service. Despite the hurt, we continued forward, focusing on building the proficiency of the underclassmen, and putting the finishing touches on the skills of the MS III class in preparation for LDAC. We shone a bright and positive light on the outstanding program at K-State when we participated in a record breaking ESPN Game day at Bramlage. We incorporated new leadership positions as we continued to implement a two-Company Battalion and established the return of our Pershing Rifles Company. Now, not a day goes by that you don't walk by Myers Hall and see Warriors spinning rifles. I have no doubt that it will be a very short time before we see a National Championship trophy decorating our halls again. We also had an outstanding presence at the JFTX. I can honestly say that the Wildcat Cadets excelled above the other schools, thanks to the dedication of our Cadets and the excellence of our Cadre. We absolutely will never forget the Military Ball of 2010. This year's Military Ball saw the introduction of a new tradition of making class parody videos and as the formal part of the evening was over, the dance floor opened and stayed packed for hours. We had a break-dance-off, followed by a conga line that wound around the room several times. Truly epic!

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IN MEMORY

In Grateful Memory of Lora Elizabeth Marietta

May 28th, 1987 - December 21st, 2009

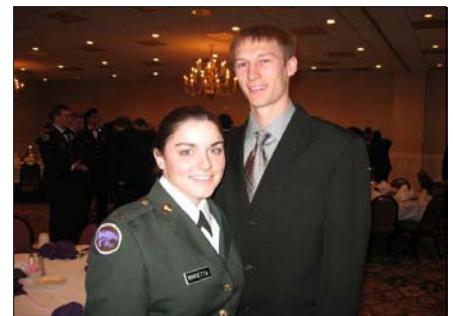
"On December 21st, 2009 the Wildcat Battalion lost its leader, a friend, a mentor, and a shining example of all that is right in the world today. Cadet Battalion Commander Lora Elizabeth Marietta died in a car accident at the age of twenty-two near Hoxie, Kansas while travelling home to visit family for the holidays."

Lora was born in Oberlin, Kansas to Alan and Judith (Schreiber) Marietta. She and her two sisters and twin brother grew up in Oberlin and attended Oberlin Elementary School and Decatur Community High School (DCHS). Lora was a standout student and athlete at DCHS participating in several sports, band, choir, and 4-H as well as power lifting which she continued to do into college; placing 3rd nationally during her sophomore year. Lora graduated from High School in 2006 and entered college at Kansas State University where she pursued a degree in psychology and pre-occupational therapy. As a student, Lora excelled, maintaining a 3.87 cumulative GPA and listed continuously on the Dean's list from her first semester at Kansas State. As a Cadet, Lora set the standard by maintaining a 4.0 ROTC GPA, consistently exceeding the maximum score on the Army Physical Fitness Test, participating every year in Recondo Club, competing as a varsity member of the Ranger Challenge Team, and achieving the highest rank of Cadet/Lieutenant Colonel.

Lora's other military training and schools included the US Army Airborne School (awarded the Army Parachutist Badge) at Fort Benning, GA; The Leadership Development and Assessment Course (Top five Cadet in her platoon & graduated with overall Excellence evaluation) at Fort Lewis, WA; and Cadet Troop Leading Training in Germany.

Lora was designated a Distinguished Military Student at Kansas State and Distinguished Military Graduate for the US Army Cadet Command (being ranked 25th out of 4,783 nationwide 2010 graduating Army ROTC Cadets).

Lora was posthumously commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Army Medical Services Branch on 14 May 2010. Second Lieutenant Marietta's posthumous commission was presented to her parents and her sisters received her posthumous Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology at the College of Arts and Sciences commencement the next day.



LASTING LEGACY

The Basic Course Classroom in the General Richard B. Myers Hall was dedicated to Second Lieutenant Lora Marietta on the morning of her commissioning. A plaque was placed above the classroom door and a display case containing her uniform, photo, distinguished graduate saber, and a reflections book was unveiled at the classroom entrance to honor Lora.

The Marietta Family has established the Lora Marietta Scholarship Fund through the Kansas State University foundation. The scholarship will provide \$1000 per academic year to a non-federal scholarship Cadet that displays the ideal characteristics of leadership, scholarship, and physical fitness that Lora displayed throughout her time as a Wildcat Battalion Cadet. Additionally, the Cadre and Cadets of the Wildcat Battalion have established the Lora Marietta Mentorship Excellence Fund through the Kansas State University Foundation. This fund will support mentorship events and activities throughout each academic year. This fund will provide social activities for new Cadets to integrate into the Wildcat Battalion; enhance tutoring for Cadets at academic risk; provide for Cadet attendance at leadership seminars and conventions; supplement funding for Cadets participating in the Bataan Memorial Marathon and Army 10-miler as well as campus intramurals; team building activities; and provide funding for freshman Cadets' fitness/wellness evaluations.

Charitable tax donations to either the Lora Marietta Scholarship Fund or the Lora Marietta Mentorship Excellence Funds can be given as an outright contribution, a pledge, a deferred gift, a corporate matching gift, or gift designation. An outright contribution (one time donation) is payable by check, credit card, property, stocks, securities or real estate.



Please make donations for the Mentorship Excellence Fund payable to KSU Foundation and indicate foundation account F31300 - Lora Marietta Mentorship Excellence Fund. Please make donations for the Scholarship Fund payable to KSU Foundation and indicate foundation account Q28810- Lora Marietta Scholarship Fund. 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. Please consider contributing to these worthwhile endeavors and help us commemorate Lora Marietta's life while ensuring her lasting legacy.

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We also gained some Wildcat Cadre this year. 1LT Jeremiah Johnson filled a new position to help teach the MS II's, and MAJ Ryan Hofstra established himself as an invaluable addition to the MS III program. SFC Brown is headed off to Ft. Polk to return to his duties as an Infantry Platoon Sergeant, but SFC Whitty, his replacement, is definitely up to the task of training the Wildcat Juniors. The new positions have been picked, and congratulation is in order for Cadet Rory Sharp, next year's Wildcat BN Cadet Commander. I know that he will work very hard and will learn as much from LTC Bridegam and from the experience as I have.

The 2009-2010 year was filled with accomplishments, successes, and advancements for the Wildcat Battalion. But it was also scarred by a deep and profound loss. We mourn for Lora Marietta, but we will also honor her by Soldiering on. Lora was a Soldier, and one of the finest caliber. She would be proud of all that her Wildcat's accomplished this year. Wildcat Strong!

WELCOME COOK OUT



Each year we welcome new Cadets to the Wildcat Battalion with a cook out on the front lawn of General Myers Hall on the Friday before the fall semester begins. This event seeks to integrate new Cadets into the program and show them they have a place to belong to while here at Kansas State. At the cook out, our new Cadets are given the opportunity to meet one another, the Cadet Chain of Command, and our department Cadre and staff. This past fall we added a new dimension to this event by contracting our incoming freshman federal scholarship winners.

During the morning, Ms. Janet Sain and the Cadets were incredibly busy completing all the pre-contracting paper work. This marked the first year we were able to conduct a contracting ceremony as part of the welcome cook out. More importantly, by contracting these Cadets at the cook out, their families were able to be present and observe these future warrior leaders swearing their oath of office. This was a very inspiring ceremony where more than one parent shed a tear or two.

ALLISON SCHOLARSHIPS

The Kansas State Army ROTC program has benefited in many ways from our alumni and friends of the program. This year we want to highlight the Allison Army ROTC Scholarship Program. This scholarship was established by Brett Allison and his family in 2003. That year seven Cadets were each awarded \$2000 scholarships. These students were not receiving federal scholarship benefits so this generous gift allowed many of them to attend Kansas State, complete college and achieve their goal of becoming a commissioned officer. The Allison family remains a committed supporter of the Wildcat Battalion, and to date this scholarship has benefited dozens of Cadets. This year the Allison Scholarship was awarded to: Nicholas Corey, Michael Hernandez, Cody Loose, Wesley Morris, Anthony Magllanes, Breana Perry, Jade Reeves and Dionysius Theres.

ALUMNI TAILGATE

The annual Kansas State Army ROTC Alumni Tail-Gater at the Bill Snyder Family Stadium on a day where the Wildcats handed Texas A&M a severe beat-down. The purpose of the Alumni Tailgate is to continue to build strong ties between current Cadets and ROTC alumni in a relaxed atmosphere. In attendance were 63 alumni and 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, September 25th, 2010 versus the University of Central Florida and will coincide with K-State's celebration of Fort Riley Day and 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 on the current address list.

With the Pershing Rifles Company G-7 newly re-activated, next fall's Tailgate promises to provide plenty of entertainment as our Precision Drill Team will perform in the halftime show with the K-State Marching Band. The Wildcat Battalion would like to take this opportunity to thank the Crosby Family for their gracious donation that allows for this great event to happen every year. Be on the look-out for your invitation and we hope to see you there!



ALUMNI SUPPORT THROUGH SCHOLARSHIPS

Army ROTC Cadets are fortunate to have an abundance of both federal and state scholarship opportunities but what makes K-State Army ROTC unique is its relationship with its former alumni and their great and generous contributions towards additional scholarships for our most deserving Cadets. Every fall and spring, Cadets are selected by their Cadre and in some cases their peers to receive the honor, prestige, and financial aid that our alumni scholarships provide. 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 and selected by both the Cadre and active Recondo Cadets of the Wildcat Battalion. 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

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and to provide financial assistance to students properly enrolled in Army ROTC and the College of Arts and Sciences in good standing. All of these scholarships, along with the Allison ROTC and Lora Marietta Memorial Scholarship, are further examples of the tremendous support that our great alumni and friends of the program provide to our Cadets and Kansas State University - we thank you for your continuing generosity and support!

You have ensured that your legacy lives on at K-State and that the Cadets of the Wildcat Battalion enjoy the benefits of a world-class program.

KSU RECONDO



This past year in Recondo was a great year. With the Wildcat Battalion growing larger every year, Recondo is reaping the benefits with record numbers this year. Nearly 50 Cadets participated in the weekly meetings and training. Having one third of the battalion enrolled in an organization that helps prepare underclassmen for the rigors of the Leadership Development and Assessment course (LDAC) is a great accomplishment.

Fall semester started with basic skills training which taught the Cadets all of the building blocks needed to be successful for the remainder of the year. It also provided the Cadets with the opportunity to earn the coveted Redondo T-shirt.

As the semester drew to an end, Recondo was conducting two to three Squad Tactical Exercise lanes per week. The fall semester culminated with the Task Force Dodge Regional Ranger Challenge Competition. The Wildcat Battalion sent two highly motivated teams

to Camp Dodge, Iowa for the competition with the varsity team placing 6th out of 18 teams overall. Ranger Challenge is a physically and mentally challenging competition which pits teams of nine Cadets against five other school's teams from across the Midwest. In addition to the strong finish of the varsity team, the Wildcat Battalion also had the highest APFT winners, both male and female (Chris Robinette and Lora Marietta), at the event.

Adequately named "15 Hours of Pain", Ranger Challenge consists of eight events that tested the metal of all participants. The Physical Fitness test, orienteering, and the 10 kilometer road march measured the Cadet's physical fitness and stamina while the grenade assault course, field leader's reaction course, basic rifle marksmanship, weapons assembly and disassembly, and one-rope bridge measured their tactical and technical knowledge. Overall, it was a great event and the Wildcat's represented the battalion and school well.

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The focus of the spring semester was preparation for RIP week, or Recondo Indoctrination Program. RIP week is a new program established at Kansas State Army ROTC to “qualify” Recondo Cadets and allow them to earn the right to wear the Recondo beret. During RIP week, the Cadets were put through a series of events that once again measured their physical and mental ability. It also tested the technical skills that were taught throughout the year. The week started on a Monday at 0430 with a Physical Fitness test and continued through the week with a five mile run, written exam under stressful conditions, numerous hands-on evaluations and culminated with a six mile road march and a board conducted similar to a promotion board. Of the 25 Recondo Cadets that started the week, 18 earned the right to wear the Recondo beret. The Wildcat Battalion will continue to conduct RIP week once a semester in the future.

In April, 13 Recondo Cadets volunteered to compete in the Ranger Buddy Competition hosted by Kansas University in Lawrence, KS. Similar to Ranger Challenge, the Ranger Buddy Competition pits two-man teams against other teams from 26 different schools from all across the United States. Our “thirteenth” Cadet was Cadet Christopher Pierson who teamed with his brother who attends Kansas University to form a joint “Wildcat-Jayhawk” team - who’d have ever thought that was possible? (kidding) Once again, the Wildcat’s represented well and had a great time challenging themselves throughout this great event. Recondo culminated the year

with their annual Recondo FTX, which gave the Cadets an opportunity to use all the skills they learned throughout the year. Recondo was organized into a platoon with three squads and a head-quarters element. The platoon was led by the members of Recondo who were chosen to be the chain of command for next year. The FTX kicked off at 0300 with an operations order at the General Richard B. Myers Hall.

The Cadets feverishly planned for the next four hours on how they were going to conduct a helicopter assault, move on foot 1.5 kilometers, and ultimately execute a raid to secure an urban village on Fort Riley. The planning and rehearsals paid off as the platoon loaded three UH-60 Blackhawks (thanks to the Kansas Army National Guard) in the parking lot of Snyder Family Stadium to start their mission at 0700. After a 30 minute low-level helicopter assault, the Cadets touched down at LZ Cat and started their tactical foot infiltration towards the objective. After a couple of “incoming” indirect fire exercises and a skirmish or two against insurgents, the platoon reached Objective Willy, where they skillfully executed the plan and secured the village. The end result was three highly motivated MS IV OPFOR Cadets secure on the objective and the completion of a safe, fun, and challenging FTX.

With another great year of Recondo behind us, we look to the future as we continuously search for ways to challenge the fine, young Wildcat Cadets and teach them the skills they will need to be successful on campus, at LDAC, and throughout their time as leaders in the Army.





NATIONAL SOCIETY RETURNS TO KANSAS STATE

In the past months K-State students may have witnessed an unusual and somewhat amazing scene in front of General Richard B. Myers Hall. Army and Air Force Cadets practicing their Exhibition Drill technique with non-firing 1903 Springfield Rifles. Who are these Cadets and what exactly are they trying to accomplish?

These dedicated Cadets are members of a unique national society known as Pershing Rifles. The purpose of the National Society of Pershing Rifles is to develop, to the highest degree possible, outstanding traits of leadership, military science, military bearing, and discipline



within the framework of a military oriented, honorary fraternity. The Society was started by General of the U.S. Armies John J. Pershing in 1894. Noteworthy alumni of the Society include Gen. Colin Powell, G. Gordon Liddy, James Earl Jones, and Gen. Curtis LeMay. The vast majority of membership is composed of ROTC Cadets but this isn't a prerequisite to pledge. Membership doesn't require enlistment or a contract within the Military.

Kansas State's Company of Pershing Rifles is designated as G-7 and is a member of the 2nd Regiment. The Pershing Rifles have a rich and proud history at K-State. The University's affiliation with the Pershing Rifles dates back to before World War II. Company G-7 has served as Honor Guard to Servicemen whose remains were returned to Kansas immediately following World War II. The Company has served as the escort to President Dwight D. Eisenhower upon his return to Kansas. The Kansas State Pershing Rifles was also the first student organization on campus to integrate black students into their ranks with the membership of P/R Cadet Robert Thompson in 1949. The Company was also summoned by the Campus Police and Riley County Sheriffs department in 1968. G-7 assisted local Law Enforcement by patrolling the campus; this was in response to arsonist attacks on campus. Company G-7 also gained national recognition for winning the 1969 Exhibition Drill National Championship.

During the mid 1970s membership in the Pershing Rifles dwindled due to the Vietnam anti-war movement on campus. The unjust treatment of Cadets and disrespect for Military Personnel ultimately lead to smaller numbers of Cadets enrolling in ROTC. The lack of membership eventually lead to G-7 being disbanded.

As of May 10th, 2010 Company G-7 of the National Society of Pershing Rifles has officially re-activated at Kansas State with a membership of 19 students thanks in large part to the dedication and determination of our Pershing Rifles Alumni. Kansas State ranks as one of the largest Companies within the Society. G-7's long term goal is to return the Exhibition Drill National Championship to Kansas State and to become the premiere Company within the Society.

LDAC

FT. LEWIS, WASHINGTON

Again this year, our MS III Cadets have been intensively preparing for the Leader Development and Assessment Course, or LDAC. Last year's results served as our starting point and then sought to improve from there. During LDAC 2009, our Cadets met or exceeded all expected standards of performance. The Wildcat Cadets exceeded national averages for almost all of the numerically measured events to include APFT, Land Navigation and overall "E" camp

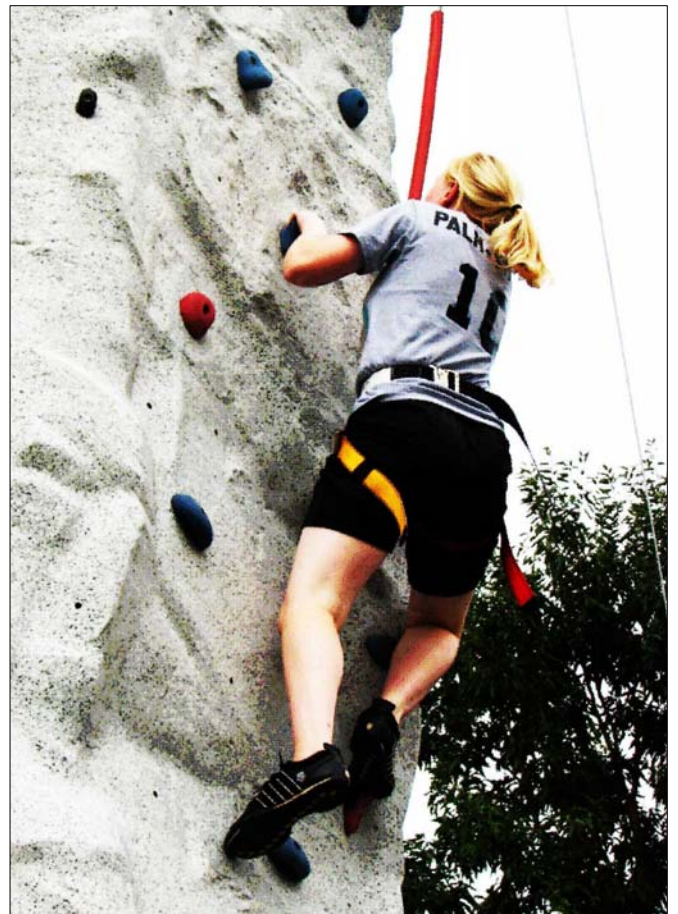
evaluations. The 32 K-State Cadets who will attend Warrior Forge 2010 will be required to pass both day and night land navigation, conduct NBC Training, the field Leader's Reaction Course, and spend 10 days in the field for Squad Situational Training Exercises and Patrolling lanes.

We have integrated the lessons learned by both Cadre and Cadets from 2009 to revitalize the training program this group has participated in. We capped off the LDAC preparatory events with a three day mini-camp experience that fine tuned their skills and will result in even higher marks by this year's cohort. The size of this year's junior class is significantly larger than anything we have seen in the last two decades. Kansas State University will undoubtedly make a mark at LDAC and Fort Lewis once again this summer.

LEADERSHIP LABS

LEADERSHIP- the process of influencing people by providing purpose, direction and motivation while operating to accomplish the mission and improve the organization. So, how do we take a freshman or new Cadet with no prior military or leadership experience and make him or her into a leader in four short years? Everything we do revolves around leadership. The four year progression model is simple: Freshmen (MS Is) and sophomores (MS IIs) learn basic Soldier skills, fundamentals of leadership, and focus on academics. Juniors (MS IIIs) continue to hone their leadership skills and are evaluated in leadership positions at squad, platoon, and company level throughout the year. Seniors (MS IVs) culminate the model with battalion level leadership positions and mentor the underclassmen with their experience. It is a time-tested model that produces some of the finest leaders in the world, but where do we start?

It all starts in September of each year with a series of leadership labs and continues throughout the year with leadership events that test the mettle of our fine Cadets.



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The first lab is the Welcome Back Lab. This is the first opportunity to get the entire Wildcat Battalion together and gets the Cadets familiar with their squads and platoons. The Welcome Back Lab is planned by the MS IV class and is the first time the MS IIIs are in charge of their squads, platoons, and companies. This past year, the lab consisted of sporting events that pitted the squads against one another in friendly (most of the time) competition and culminated with a BBQ at the end of the day. Our fine counterparts in the Manhattan Army Recruiting Company provided a rock-climbing wall which really added to the overall competition and provided the Cadets an opportunity to try something most of them had never done before.

Next, the battalion conducted a Drill and Ceremony Lab. The MS IIIs led their squads through various marching movements that were evaluated by the MS IVs. It also gave the freshmen a chance to learn basic marching skills. It was fun to watch the lab from start to finish; they definitely came a long way in three hours. The Team-Building Lab was up next and was also a competition that put the squads through a series of mentally and physically challenging events that tested the leadership skills of the MS IIIs. Squads, led by an MS III, rotated through 12 stations and completed each task in the shortest time possible. The lab not only improved the leadership skills of the juniors, it also developed the critical-thinking skills of all involved and continued to build the team cohesion.

Our final fall lab was the Military Stakes Lab which

again focused on leadership skills, but more importantly, it taught the Wildcat Battalion the basic skills they would need for the rest of the year. Land navigation, weapons and radio familiarization, a grenade assault course, and evaluating a casualty were the stations conducted this year. The big event, however, was rappelling. Every Cadet conducted one 60 foot rappel from the Kansas State Fire Department tower. It took some Cadets a little longer than others to inch out over the edge of the tower, but at the end of the day, every Cadet had completed the event and gained confidence to overcome their fears. Additionally, the MS IIIs got some additional labs to hone their ability to conduct STX lanes and land navigation prior to completing the fall semester.

In the Spring, leadership labs shifted towards preparation for the multiple Field Training Exercises and focused on the Field Leaders Reaction Course, Confidence Course, additional team building at the College Day Experience and multiple MS III only STX and Land Navigation labs. As we completed the year, we were confident the underclassmen had the building blocks needed to progress and succeed for the next three or four years in the Wildcat Battalion. The MSIIIs were challenged with numerous "leadership opportunities" that helped them prepare for the rigors of LDAC that face them this summer, and the MS IVs have commissioned and are now prepared to tackle the responsibilities of being an Army Leader. We continue to find ways to improve our "model" and can only hope that next year is as successful and rewarding as this past year has been. Kansas State Army ROTC producing leaders for our Nation since 1863!



FIELD TRAINING

During Field Training Exercises (FTXs), Cadets head to Ft. Riley or Tuttle Creek to train in team building events, Squad Tactical Exercises (STX), and Day/Night Land Navigation. Leadership labs present Cadets with opportunities to build leadership styles and techniques, but FTXs require direct application of those lessons learned to be used in a tactical environment.

In the fall, MS III Cadets led Squad Tactical Exercises (STX) lanes with fellow MS IIIs as squad members. The underclass Cadets conducted team building exercises such as capture the flag with paintball guns and received classes on various tasks to prepare them for STX lanes such as Individual Movement Techniques (IMTs) and battle drills. As the year progressed, and the MS IIIs began to grasp and develop their tactical acumen as small unit leaders, MS I and MS II Cadets were integrated into the squads alongside their MS III leadership.

Afternoons and nights were filled with Land Navigation. Cadets were required to find 5 of 8 points in 8 hours of Day Land Navigation and 3 of 5 points in 5 hours for Night Land Navigation. MS IIIs executed the land navigation course (which required 6-10 kilometers of movement) on their own while MS IIs were paired in buddy teams and MS Is were split into groups and paired with an experienced MS IV Cadet. While finding a point on a map using only a protractor, compass, and pace count may seem trivial, basic navigation is paramount in the development of a leader and something most Cadets must work hard at developing prior to attending LDAC.

FTXs provide Cadets with a much-needed chance to utilize the skills and lessons taught in the classroom and leadership labs throughout the school year. Not only do Cadets hone their tactics and work on Land Navigation techniques during FTXs - they also build esprit de corps, further friendships and continue the one-on-one mentorship opportunities that make the Wildcat Battalion Wildcat Strong!



MILITARY BALL

On February 27, 2010 the Wildcat Battalion held their annual Military Ball at the Clarion Hotel in Manhattan. The Cadets of the Wildcat Battalion were exposed to the finest of Military Traditions as the Recondo Company prepared and administered a concoction they referred to as Punch. However, all seasoned veterans know that this elixir is actually "The Grog." The ingredients presented were both bizarre and sometimes disturbing but surprisingly held a pleasant taste and aroma. The Grog lived up to its reputation. It can be used as a bore cleaner for rifles or cure all ailments; a brew only the bravest of hearts could enjoy.

The night was filled with fine dining and laughs by all. The entire Battalion took pleasure in roasting the Senior Class. Each class painstakingly created a skit highlighting a Cadet Officer's glorious reign as the leaders of the Wildcat Battalion. The Class of 2010 will always be thanked for allowing the little people within the Battalion to laugh at their expense. It was the opinion of the Cadre that the Seniors were now truly ready to become 2nd Lieutenants. It was further agreed upon that the humbling effect was very productive to their education as future officers.



Events ended with the Cadets dancing the night away to the smooth sounds of Mr. Big Daddy Brooks who honored the Senior class with their class song; "Jump on It" by Sir Mix a lot. However, the Battalion will never forget the shock and surprise that followed when it was revealed that Lady Gaga's ballad Paparazzi was actually an ode to the PMS. This amazing tune was actually inspired by the center of the universe and Cadet S3 (Ryan Kirkeby) for his mentor and his "Papa ROTC", LTC Bridegam.

It was a night full of class that will forever be remembered as nothing less than special. I'm sure the MS IV Class of 2010 will never forget it no matter how hard they may try.

FREEDOM IS NOT FREE

'Freedom is Not Free' was the theme for the 2009 Veteran's Day Parade in Manhattan, Kansas. The Kansas State Army ROTC Wildcat Battalion is responsible for the planning and execution of the parade each year for the Manhattan community. Several thousand people gathered to watch the largest Veteran's Day event in the area with over 80 entries in the parade. A highlight of the parade included a 'Fly Over' by helicopters from Fort Riley. Entries included the Parade's Grand Marshal (Commanding General of the 1st Infantry Division and Fort Riley - MG Vincent Brooks), the Commanding General's Mounted Color Guard, the 1st ID Band and over 450 soldiers of the 1st ID, Color Guard units from various military organizations, Boy



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Scout troops, 4-H clubs, local government officials, floats and vehicles representing many local organizations wanting to honor veterans, high school bands and over 1500 school children.

K-State Army ROTC has been responsible for the parade for about 10 years. Preparation starts about 11 months out with monthly meetings at the Manhattan Chamber of Commerce with the Flint Hills Veterans Coalition and other community volunteers as they begin to plan for the next years Veterans Day events. It requires Army ROTC Cadre and half the Cadet Battalion to complete all assigned tasks including things like publishing the Operations Order for the event, obtaining the parade permit, maintaining a database of parade

participants and sending invitations, coordinating with community, school and Ft. Riley leaders throughout the year, deciding the parade order of march and assembly of all participants in the staging area, handing out programs and Veteran's Day medallions to the school children participating, and providing cadet road guards and barricades at road intersections along the parade route.

MAJ Dave Ehlers was the Officer in Charge of the parade from Kansas State University's Army ROTC program. The parade is an important Veterans Day event in the area because it allows the public to salute our veterans and allows K-State Army ROTC to give back to those who have given so much.

COL H. DUANE AND BONNIE SAUNDERS ARMY ROTC EXCELLENCE AND NANCY ALLISON PERKINS ARMY ROTC ELITE FUNDS

Ever wonder how K-State Army ROTC is able to participate in so many great training events and provide our Cadets with opportunities far and beyond that which most ROTC programs can offer? It is due largely to the generosity of our many friends of the program and our alumni. Among our biggest supporters 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 provides substantial financial assistance to the Wildcat Battalion and ensures that our Cadets can participate in multiple programs above and beyond the standard as well as off-set costs that ensure our commissioning ceremonies and formal events are world-class - without which our Cadets would be forced to conduct numerous fund-raisers reducing their time available to develop their leadership acumen. Their contribution to the Saunders Barracks apartment

building at Jardine Residential complex on campus has created a world-class living opportunity for Cadets that is second to none. We salute COL and Mrs. Saunders and their leadership and thank them for ensuring that K-State Army ROTC remains an elite program focused on developing the best Lieutenants in the Army. We are also fortunate to have friends of the program who, though not alumni, consistently support us through their time, financial support, and mentorship. Topping the list are Brett Allison, his mother Nancy Perkins Allison, and the entire Allison family. The Nancy Allison Perkins Army ROTC Elite Fund provides substantial financial assistance for multiple Cadet Programs and specifically has led the way in development of the program's Cadet Lounge and our new indoor cross-functional fitness gym. Both provide the Wildcat Battalion with state of the art facilities for our Cadets mind, body, and spirit. We thank the Allison family for their continued generosity and support!

CADETS MARCH IN BATAAN MEMORIAL



On March 21st, 2010, eleven Cadets from KSU Army ROTC participated in the 21st-Annual Bataan Memorial Death March at White Sands Missile Range, New Mexico. The Bataan Memorial Death March is a challenging march through the high desert terrain of White Sands Missile Range, N.M., conducted in honor of the heroic service members who defended the Philippine Islands during World War II, sacrificing their freedom, health and, in many cases, their very lives.

Cadets Lauren Palmquist, Halston Ladd, Scott Johnson, Joshua Oelschlaeger, and David Zeller all participated in the march for the first time. To prepare for this event they recruited Cadet Aaron Scherffius to coach and mentor them. Cadet Scherffius, who participated

in two previous marches, assisted with recruiting additional Cadets from the Wildcat Battalion. They were Terry Battison, Stephen Wiemers, Ryan Kirkeby, Jake Piscal, Kevin Warnecke, and Matthew Fust.

Wildcat Cadets participated in the heavy and light categories and several did the half marathon. The KSU Army ROTC Wildcat Battalion placed 17th overall and finished in 8 hours in the Heavy Team ROTC category. Cadet Oelschlaeger placed 8th out of 378 in male military light category with a time of 5:03:01, Cadet Zeller placed 59th in 6:17:08 and Cadet Fust placed 65th in 6:25:14. These Cadets gained valuable experience that they can apply to next year's event and their future leadership roles as 2nd Lieutenants.

The Wildcat Battalion would like to extend a special thank you to the Marietta family for graciously paying for a portion of the hotel costs for the Cadets attending this tremendous event.

WILDCAT STRONG

This year we conducted a joint commissioning ceremony with the K-State Air Force ROTC program in December and an Army commissioning ceremony in May. Both were great events that the new Lieutenants and their family members thoroughly enjoyed. The December joint ceremony was a tremendous opportunity for our new officers to get a glimpse of joint and inter-service operations which will be prevalent throughout their career as officers in the Army. The commissioning officer and guest of honor for the ceremony was BG Randal Dragon, Deputy Commanding General for Support of the 1st Infantry Division, and Fort Riley, Kansas. Two Army Lieutenants and five Air Force Lieutenants were commissioned. We were honored to

have a living legend and Distinguished Alumni, LTG (Ret) Richard Seitz (class of 1939), the former Commanding General of both the 82nd Airborne Division and XVIII Airborne Corps and World War II veteran of the Battle of the Bulge to officiate for our Spring commissioning. The new Lieutenants received an outstanding talk on leadership from LTG Seitz that highlighted a tremendous achievement by the Army's newest leaders. The Cadet Battalion also had the honor of paying tribute to its former Battalion Commander when Lora Marietta's family accepted her posthumous commissioning certificate as part of the ceremony. Our warmest wishes to the officers and families of the commissioning class of 2009/2010.

CONGRATULATIONS

TO OUR NEWLY COMMISSIONED OFFICERS

ANDREW ADAM

INFANTRY - DISTINGUISHED MILITARY GRADUATE

TERRY BATTISON

INFANTRY - DISTINGUISHED MILITARY GRADUATE

DAVID BLANKEN

FIELD ARTILLERY

MATTHEW CAVANAUGH

ARMOR

ERIC COOK

MILITARY POLICE (US ARMY RESERVE)

PAUL HERRINGTON

BRANCH TBD - END OF LDAC COMMISSIONEE

EDNA KELLER

CHEMICAL CORPS DETAILED FROM ADJUTANT
GENERAL'S CORPS

RYAN KIRKEBY

AVIATION - DISTINGUISHED MILITARY GRADUATE

LORA MARIETTA

MEDICAL SERVICES (POSTHUMOUS)
DISTINGUISHED MILITARY GRADUATE

CHAD MAULSBY

AVIATION - DISTINGUISHED MILITARY GRADUATE

EVAN NAVE

SIGNAL CORPS - END OF SUMMER COMMISSIONEE

JACOB REBO

TRANSPORTATION - DISTINGUISHED MILITARY
GRADUATE

AARON SCHERFFIUS

ENGINEER CORPS

JACY SCHMIDT

TRANSPORTATION

DANIEL SWEENEY

FIELD ARTILLERY (US ARMY NATIONAL GUARD)

YVETTE THOMPSON

MILITARY INTELLIGENCE

DAVID ZELLER

INFANTRY DETAILED FROM MILITARY
INTELLIGENCE



LTG (RET) SEITZ GIVES THE COMMISSIONING OATH TO THE
ARMY'S NEWEST LEADERS



MAY 2010 COMMISSIONING



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 Military Science Excellence Fund provides financial support of the overall Wildcat Battalion Army ROTC program. Donations can be made payable to the KSU Foundation – please indicate foundation account F32725 – Military Science 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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