



SUMMER 2021

University of Minnesota Army ROTC "Dig Deep"



Golden Gopher Battalion Army ROTC's newest Cadets

2021 Cadet Summer Training

By Cadet Scotti Martin



Ft. Knox, KY—Starting May 23rd, Cadets from around the U.S. began to arrive at Fort Knox, Kentucky, for their 38-day capstone summer training event, Advanced Camp. This was the first time since summer 2019 that Advanced Camp had taken place at Fort Knox, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Cadets and Cadre were eager to begin training to prove all they had learned and will learn through ROTC in this culminating event. CST '21 consisted of eleven regiments of Cadets beginning in May and ending in August. Upon arrival at CST, Cadets went through a ten-day quarantine period in which they conducted PT, administrative tasks, and began to develop platoon

SOPs. After the first ten days, Cadets met their regimental Cadre, who had just completed all the FTXs they would soon experience. A typical day in garrison consisted of practicing platoon level tactics, further developing platoon SOPs, and completion of various graduation requirements. These activities included grenade familiarization, confidence courses, weapons qualification, 6-mile ruck march, OPAT, ACFT, land navigation, call for fire, tactical combat casualty care, and CBRN. About halfway through camp, Cadets entered the three FTX phases. First, Cadets were introduced to AO Wolverine, where Cadre led and assisted them through completing three types of missions for three days. At the end of Wolverine, Cadets rucked 8 miles to their next AO, Panther. After a refit day, the three days of AO Panther began. Cadets were asked to complete three missions a day, in addition to a patrol base (PB) occupation. Cadre began to complete blue cards during this phase to meet everyone's requirement for two garrison and two field leadership positions. Once AO Panther was completed, Cadets had another refit day then moved to AO Grizzly. The final FTX is the chance for Cadets to show what they have learned under more stress and constraints than the previous FTXs. Cadets can expect to come into contact with "civilians" while their Cadre are also testing their leader-

ship abilities with curveballs to see how they will adapt and overcome. After completion, Cadets rucked 12 miles back to a celebration for their work. I will say that everything in CST depends on your Cadre, especially your experience in the field. I made many good friends and connections within the Army. The days are long and hot. It's important to remember why you are there and soak in as much knowledge as possible from everyone around you. If you stay positive and remember the end goal, the 38 days will fly by.

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From the Professor of Military Science

By Lieutenant Colonel Melissa Hoaglin



We are starting our 2021-2022 school year with some significant accomplishments this summer.

Points of pride- Cadets Summer Training (CST)

2021, congratulations to our four Cadets who earned the RECONDO Badge (Dalton Ness, William Hawley, Paul Timm, and Luke Vandenberg), six Cadets were ranked #1 by their peers (Caleb Brooks, Danielle Camperchioli, Grant Collinge, Kathryn Kruta, Austin Morrow, and Addison Scufsa), Cadets Luke Vandenberg was ranked #1 of his Regiment, and overall 18 of our Cadets who attended CST this summer ranked among the top 50%. CST was not the only area our Cadets excelled. Cadets Sarah Bissen, Vitaly Brown, and Luke Vandenberg earned their Air Assault Wings, and Cadets Kathryn Kruta graduated from Mountain Warfare School. Eleven of our Cadets completed CTLT across ten different installations and two overseas assignments, both Cadets Macallister Karrick and Alexander Olson specifically receiving letters of excellence from the units they trained with. We were awarded the largest AUSA participating ROTC program (5th year in a row) and will be recognized at the 2021 National Conference for the Association of the United States Army. Our Army ROTC team also won the AUSA Golf Mixer Joint History Trivia competition and our Social Media Team (Second Lieutenant Joshua Kim and Cadets Danielle Camperchioli) won the 3rd Brigade, USACC Top Performers Social Media Incentive Award.

In addition to all that our outstanding Cadets have accomplished, our Cadre

have also been building the reputation of the Gopher Battalion this summer. Captain Matthew Cordell won the Society of American Indian Government Employee (SAIGE) Military Meritorious Service Award for his contributions and honorable service with multiple Tribal agencies and increased cultural awareness across military events. Mr. Jon Degreeff was also recognized by his regimental Cadre at CST 2021 for taking great care of the 650 Cadets who went through the 2nd Regiment this summer. Mr. Alberto "DJ" DeJesus won the United States Army Cadets Command Recruiting Operations Officer of the Year Award. We have gained two new Cadre members over the summer, Master Sergeant Andrew Hale, our new SMSI and Major Derek Zeman, who will take over as our Executive Officer this winter. **Thoughts and contemplations on leadership observations from this summer:** Am I growing and continuing to add to my kit bag just as much as I am encouraging our Cadets to grown and build their kit bags? This is an area I have struggled with, not the wanting to grow but actually dedicating time and thought to ensure that I am deliberately trying to do it. Learning something new each day is easily obtained through fruitful interactions with others, but is that enough? At this point in my career, I am finding myself wanting more personal development as I watch these up-and-coming leaders grow and apply their lessons learned in new and challenging situations. I am constantly amazed at the variety of solutions each finds, even when provided the same problem sets. I am confident their perspectives and experiences, diversity and problem framing skills will continue to improve our Army and the corporate companies they will run once they complete this pro-

gram. Reflecting on this, I have recently started reading "Leading Quietly", by Joseph L. Badaracco, Jr., which was recommended to me by one of my mentors, COL(R) Elizabeth Litvin. Multiple concepts within this book caused me to self-reflect. I also noticed I am spending more time analyzing leadership challenges and situations more methodically, utilizing the concepts from the book. Looking more at things such as: what are the motivations of all parties involved in a situation, what are the goals of all parties involved, benefits of each action, key players, who is a hidden key player, am I wargaming or playing out the multiple potential outcomes in regular decisions or critical scenarios like I would if I were conducting the steps of the military decision-making process when generating an operations order? Moreover, if time does not permit, am I reflecting, playing it out later and reassessing to learn from my actions? A key take-away from the book is that many successful leaders within an organization are not the onesie twosies at the top or significant change-makers within an organization; instead, the larger portion of leaders who create success are those that grind day-to-day operations and work to improve the organization through small daily actions. Additionally, Badaracco utilizes a multitude of leadership scenarios and walks the reader through the pros/cons of different actions, alternate ways to view a problem set, and alternate ways to handle a situation to provide a variety of outcomes depending on goals and motives. So, overall reflection/thoughts...our Gopher Cadets keep pushing me to improve myself. I look forward to seeing the great things they will accomplish and how they will continue to challenge me to improve myself as a leader over the next year.

From the Commandant of Cadets

By Master Sergeant Andrew Hale



Minneapolis, MN - As I transition into the Senior Military Science Instructor position, and as the Commandant of Cadets, I would first like to thank

the Cadre of this prestigious program for welcoming me and my family to the Golden Gopher Battalion. 1SG (R) Troy Hill, LTC Melissa Hoaglin, and the rest of the team, have been the pinnacle of professionals and we are grateful to them for helping us through this transition. These are great leaders and it would explain why my interactions with the Cadets in these short few weeks have all been positive. I am encouraged by the Cadets' desire to perform at the highest levels, and look forward to the semester starting in just a few short weeks. They have already put in hard work this summer with the Cadet Color Guard, representing the Army and the University at the Aquatennial Celebration in this year's parade, and our MS III's have

been down at Fort Knox, KY displaying their skills and knowledge as they compete for their future branch assignments. Led by Cadet Esbe, the Cadet Color Guard began practicing for a full year of duties supporting the University and surrounding areas, and I have no doubt they will continue to be a sought out team. I am impressed with all of the Cadets' flexibility, dedication to excellence, and ability to get things done, even when most students are home on break. As I review the course material, assess Cadre performance, and see the results of this year's Cadet Summer Training (CST), I have no doubt we are on a glide path to another successful semester. We look forward to Welcome Week beginning on August 30th where we will get an opportunity to bring in the newest members of the Army ROTC program and begin developing the latest future leaders we will offer our Soldiers in Active Duty, Guard, and Reserves. The lessons learned, and experienced gained by our MS III's will pay dividend to our MS I's as they begin the program. Some of the

major events this semester include our Fall Field Training Exercise, the Army 10-Miler, two Ranger Challenge competitions, and the Norwegian Foot March. These events, along with the curriculum, will continue to diversify and balance our Cadets in the traditions of this program. The University of Minnesota ROTC has a lengthy History of providing some of the best Officers for over 150 years. Since 1869 it is estimated that this program has trained over 100,000 students, and we are poised to continue to produce high quality Commissioned Army Officers for many years to come. This Battalion has been successful due to the dedication of its staff and Cadre. In August, we will say goodbye to Mr. Kraemer who has been with the Battalion for just over a year, but has served this country for over 38. On behalf of the Golden Gopher Battalion, I would like to thank you for your service to this great nation. I look forward to the semester ahead, and seeing this program continue to produce the highest quality of Officers. Gopher Strong!

Alumni Corner

By Captain Austin Hultman



Minneapolis, MN - Eight years after commissioning from the University of Minnesota Army ROTC program, this Minnesota boy is complet-

ing the full circle. I have returned to the roots of my success as a commissioned officer. Having commissioned into active duty as an Infantry Officer, I have served in Airborne, Stryker, and Special Operations units during my service. Coming back to the University of Minnesota

was not what I had originally planned as part of my career timeline. Having successfully finished company command, I initially planned to return to Fort Benning, GA and the 75th Ranger Regiment, but things always happen for a reason. The Army deemed it fit that I be hand-selected to return as a Cadre member in the Golden Gopher Battalion based on my knowledge, skills and abilities. As the MSIII (junior Cadets) instructor beginning this fall, my goal is to set these Cadets up for successful careers. Looking back at my time as a Cadet in this great program and where I am now

in my military career, I can honestly say that I have been successful and fortunate in all my military opportunities because of the Gopher Battalion. From day one they instilled the Army Values, and the Army's core competencies and attributes to be successful in any organization and position. A lot has changed in ROTC and the University of Minnesota over the last eight years but the things that have maintained are the Gopher Battalion's high standards and its dedication to commissioning great Second Lieutenants into the United States Army.

Cadet Battalion Commander's Corner

By Cadet Kellie Schmidt



Minneapolis, MN - University of Minnesota Gopher Battalion ROTC has shown extraordinary perseverance and adaptability this past year and summer. With COVID-19 being a constant concern, the Gopher Battalion had to come up with safe yet effective ways to maintain a high level of training, making sure our MSIII's were prepared for camp and the underclassmen continued to develop within the program. This summer, we were able to put all of that training to the test at Cadets Summer Training, as well as at various schools and internships that Cadets attended. This summer, we have Cadets training all the way from Hawaii to Germany, and many places in between. These unique experiences will allow individuals to return in the fall semester with new experience and perspective to share with their peers. The opportunities made possible by the Gopher Battalion ROTC program not only work to provide individuals with personal growth and development, but through that, to contribute to the continuous improvement of the program as a whole. As

we move into this new semester, we must continue to push through the challenges that come our way, and celebrate the milestones which take us one step at a time closer to our goals. Incoming MSIV's look forward to using the knowledge gained at camp and follow on trainings to provide first hand experiences to the MSIII's, and help them begin to prepare for CST, the capstone event of their ROTC career. We also look forward to continuing the mentorship program which links an underclassman Cadets with an upperclassman counterpart in hopes of providing one on one guidance on balancing college life with ROTC, and facilitating personal and professional development of the mentees. There are many exciting things in store for the coming months. The first is the welcome barbeque at the end of August, which gives incoming Cadets the chance to meet their new peers and upperclassmen, and begin integrating into the program. It's one of the most exciting times of the year. It's a fresh start where everyone reconvenes after a summer apart, ready to jump back into training as a Battalion. A common sentiment I heard from MSIV's about camp was that as much as we all bonded with our platoons and the people we met at Fort Knox, KY

we could not wait to get back our fellow Gophers. There is something special about the community here. We care for and support each other as a family does. We push and challenge each other to be the best we can be. We are fortunate to have amazing Cadre who share with us a wealth of knowledge, and help guide us on our journey to commissioning. We train hard, and hold ourselves to a high standard. This coming semester, Cadets will participate in Leadership Labs and an Field Training Exercise to develop leadership skills, tactical knowledge, and to celebrate our unit camaraderie. Cadets will also have the opportunity to participate in a number of specialty teams such as Ranger Challenge, Army 10miler, Norwegian Foot March, as well as being a part of the Color Guard. Not only do these teams allow Cadets to learn additional skills and challenge themselves in unique ways, they are a great way to create closer bonds within the program and operate within a team environment. We look forward to seeing the outcomes of whatever opportunities Cadets choose to take advantage of this semester. The staff is ready to jump into training and hit the ground running. We are all ready for another great semester being a part of this Battalion. *Gopher Strong!*

Welcome New Cadets

By Ms. Maggie Marchesani

Minneapolis, MN—Welcome to the Golden Gopher Battalion! New Cadets, you are now part of a remarkable corps of Cadets who will push you to excel and make you a better leader. We have a distinguished history, dating back to 1869 when the University of Minnesota was designated a land-grant institution and the Army ROTC program was created. Our program will give you the tools, training and experiences that will help you succeed in any competitive environment. On August 30th and 31st, 2021 the Army ROTC Golden Gopher Battalion hosted the annual New Cadets Orientation. Last year we held the first virtual ROTC Orientation. It was a condensed version of our traditional event. While still taking all necessary precautions but with loosened state and CDC COVID-19 restrictions, we were excited to return to our typical, in-person, two-day New Ca-

dets Orientation format. The new Cadets were able to receive the full experience, which helped to set them up for success in ROTC. Cadre and Cadets leadership answered questions and gave presentations on ROTC and military lifestyle. Cadets also completed a Physical Fitness Assessment and received their standard issue of U.S. Army ROTC gear. Of course, we also provided time for the Cadets to socialize and get to know their Chain of Command. The University of Minnesota's fall semester will begin on September 7th, 2021. We plan to welcome approximately 50 new Cadets for School Year 2021-2022. Of those 50, we anticipate over 30 Cadets will be joining ROTC with a scholarship offer already in hand. These Cadets join us from hometowns across the nation, and they attend schools throughout the Twin Cities metro area, including Augs-

burg University, the University of Saint Thomas, Bethel University, Hamline University, the University of Northwestern and the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities. Within this group of new Cadets, we also expect that we will have one of the largest populations of SMP Cadets (those currently serving in the USAR or ARNG) that we've seen in several years. We are excited to welcome them into our ranks. We know that last year was challenging and unpredictable in many ways and we hope this year will bring somewhat of a return to normalcy. We are eager to get back to in-person classes and field training. We have been very impressed with the quality of new Cadets and have every confidence that all will serve as excellent additions to the Gopher Battalion as they work toward the ultimate goal of becoming the next leaders of the U.S. Army!

2021 Basic Camp

By Cadet Josh Dolezal

Ft. Knox, KY—This summer I spent a month at 1st Regiment, Basic Camp. It was a unique opportunity for me to grow not only as a soldier but also as a leader, follower, and as a person. While at Fort Knox, we learned from incredible instructors, officers, and drill sergeants. Many of whom were combat veterans or recent graduates of ROTC (Reserve Officer Training Corps), and all of them provided great advice and instruction. Drill Sergeants are very polarizing, you either love them or hate them, and as time went on and the drill sergeants began to take the foot off the gas, many people came to appreciate them and all that they had instilled into us. Having a drill sergeant in ROTC is rare, but I am grateful to have had the opportunity to learn from some of the best. It is something that I think all ROTC Cadets should endure and I believe that all potential officers would learn and benefit from the drill sergeant experience. The drill sergeants were typically around from 5:00AM to 9:00PM. I was gifted the name “Applesauce” by the drill sergeants but

that is a good story for another time. I will never forget being called Applesauce for 16 hours a day, 7 days a week. I became very proficient at the front-leaning rest position, aka the push-up, courtesy of Applesauce’s drill sergeants. Our officers provided advice for life as a college student and ROTC Cadets. We had many newly commissioned lieutenants and experienced officers briefing us on the correct procedures for life in the military and various situations that they encountered throughout their career. Wounded veterans and amputees shared their stories about adversity and triumph with all the young, aspiring officers. The friends that I made in Alpha CO, 1st Platoon are from every corner of America and even from Guam. It was a privilege to be able to work and learn with them everyday at Fort Knox and I plan on traveling to see them again or to try new foods that I have heard so much about! I would never have predicted that I would trust all of them as much as I do now after only 30 days with them. I met many amazing people and it was sad when we had to go

our separate ways. Basic Camp was a period of growth for me personally and for our whole platoon as we grew together. The confidence course and land navigation were two of the experiences that tested individual courage and fostered growth for our whole platoon! The past 32 days at Fort Knox provided me with a good military bearing, many great adventures, and the opportunity to meet incredible people and friends. It was pivotal in cementing my decision to join the Army.



CDT Dolezal during Basic Camp at Ft. Knox, KY

U.S. Army Reserve Annual Training

By Major Jon DeGreeff



Ft. Lewis, WA—The US Army Reserve (USAR) is centered around the idea of hosting a strong series of units and personnel in “reserve” that can plus up any active duty force within the US Army. That concept is put into use within the

Army ROTC using Troop Program Unit (TPU) Cadre. These Cadre members can be used to fill in any area that the Professor of Military Science deems useful to the execution of operations, logistics or administration. Here at the University of Minnesota, the TPU Cadre are most often used to as adjunct professors, or as platoon coaches during leadership labs and larger training events. Annually, the TPU Cadre congregate to exchange best practices and train up on new ideas. The University of Minnesota, Twin Cities (UMN-TC) Cadre traveled to Joint Base Lewis-McChord from 25-30 July 2021, to participate in their annual training with their parent organization, the 4-414th SROTC Training Battalion. This Battalion is comprised of reservists who serve at a college or university in one of 25 states, west of the Mississippi River and all the way to Guam. During this year’s annual training, a focus was put on the concept of coaching. In support of this concept, training was centered

around instruction of some of the US Army’s newest training events, the Army Combat Fitness Test, as well as the newly minted M4 rifle qualification. In order to generate conversation around the topic of coaching, the 4-414th enlisted a guest speaker by the name of Jim Zorn. Mr. Zorn was the quarterback coach for the Seattle Seahawks, Baltimore Ravens and Kansas City Chiefs, as well as the head coach for the Washington Redskins and Seattle Dragons. Mr. Zorn’s speech was centered around the three questions: Where do I want us to be? Where are we? How do we close the gap? Overall, this week long training event was most useful in providing the reservists with an opportunity to share informally some best practices learned from experience with their own universities, and to allow the reservists to network, thus expanding the availability for new thought and resources that could be made available to the Cadets at their home university or college.

Air Assault School

By Cadet Sara Bissen



West Point, NY—Attending The Sabalauski Air Assault School at West Point was an amazing opportunity that I am glad to have experienced. Through the hands-on and written tests and the ruck marches and runs, the 10-day course was most certainly challenging. As soon as it was confirmed that I would be going, I needed to be as prepared as possible. I started to assemble my gear according to the packing list and increased the intensity of my daily workouts. As my departure date got closer, I only got more excited and more nervous, and when I finally got to

the campus, I couldn't wait to get started. Before officially becoming an Air Assault student, we each had to pass zero-day. Zero-day consisted of a timed two-mile run, an obstacle course, and a gear inspection. I was most nervous for this day because it is one of the most physically demanding days of the course and is a test of resilience and physical capability. I had a huge sense of relief once I had completed zero-day, but I knew that to make it to graduation, I had to be extremely motivated and work with my peers. The course was divided into three phases: Aircraft orientation, Sling load operations, and rappelling. The first phase consisted primarily of classroom instruction on the different types of rotary-wing aircraft and their capabilities. Because of my background in Army Aviation from being prior-enlisted, I was familiar with some of the information being taught. Going in-depth for each aircraft and their purpose for the Army was inter-

esting. The second phase was challenging due to the strong need for attention to detail required while inspecting a sling-load. I had the most fun in the third phase, where I learned how to rappel off a 34-foot tower and out of a Blackhawk. Even though the rappel height from the Blackhawk was more than twice the height of the rappel tower, it was exhilarating, and I would gladly do it again. After completing the 12-mile ruck and getting my wings pinned on graduation day, I felt like my hard work and training had officially paid off. Overall, I am grateful to have gone to Air Assault School, and I owe a huge thank you to the Cadets and Cadre at Gopher Battalion who supported me and made this opportunity possible. Being a part of the Air Assault Legacy gives me a great sense of accomplishment and pride!



Cadet Summer Internship

By Cadet Mac Karrick

Württemberg, Germany —This summer I had the pleasure of attending the EUCOM Voluntary Internship program (EVIP) in Stuttgart Germany. For this internship I was assigned specifically to the EUCOM J7 Wargaming Committee. In the Wargaming Committee my job was to learn about the basics of strategic level war gaming and how it fits into functionality of EUCOM. Our department is all about evaluating different courses of action developed for use against our adversaries through complex and realistic war-games. We are constantly developing more ways to increase the accuracy and efficacy of these war-games by evaluating and innovating accordingly our techniques for adjudication, play medium, coordination, representation, and many other things. This has really helped put me in the mindset of thinking how our adversaries approach different problem sets and what capabilities they are prone to utilizing. Not only did I get a phenomenal look into a really cool department

here at EUCOM, but during my time in Germany I was able to travel during the weekends. While in Germany I made it to Garmisch, Dresden and Lichtenstein castle. While abroad, I traveled to Poland, Luxembourg, Belgium, France, and Austria, my trip to France being a 5-day staff ride learning about WWII history. In these countries I made it to historical sites like Bastogne (Belgium) and Auschwitz, but also saw popular cities like Krakow (Poland) and Strasbourg (France). Being my first time in Europe, it was a lot to take in and I didn't see nearly as much as I would like to someday, but this internship absolutely provided me with an opportunity to broaden my horizons and see the world. I had a wonderful time at this internship and learned so much about the Army that I only could have learned by coming here. I hope future Cadets take advantage of these opportunities and apply for internships and other summer training. It is an amazing way to not only develop your military skill-

set but also your personal skillset, and explore beyond the horizons you previously knew. I hope everyone had an amazing summer and I am looking forward to seeing Gopher Battalion in the Fall! DIG DEEP!



CDT Karrick standing on the bluffs at Lichtenstein Castle

Mountain Warfare

By Cadet Katherine Kruta



Camp Ethan Allen, VT — The day before heading in the field portion of Advance Camp, I was offered a slot at Mountain Warfare School. Knowing

nothing about the school, other than I would go to a holding company for four days after Advance Camp graduation and fly to Vermont for an additional two weeks of training, I accepted. The third day of Mountain School was one of the hardest if not the hardest day. That was the first day we went on a ‘walk’, as they would describe it. Essentially, with a 45 plus pound pack, we walked up hills to immediately turn around and go down the hill to go back up a different hill, for 3 hours. To finish out the walk there was a timed portion of walking a mile uphill, and if you didn’t make the time hack you receive a minor negative spot report. This day was obviously very physically demanding, but it was equally mentally demanding. Five people dropped out during that day. For me subsequent days didn’t feel as bad because I knew that if I could get through that first walk, I could do this. Academically, the

school was fast paced. There were nine tests (hauling techniques, high lines, basic mountain casualty evacuation, rappelling, climbing, fixed ropes, basic knot tying, land navigation, and a written test) all within five days. Throughout this school, though, I was able to participate in activities I never would’ve before, like high angle shooting. High angle shooting is shooting at a target that is at an elevation below you; we were shooting at targets 300-500 meters away and 200-300 meters below us. There was 64 students that started the course and 49 of us graduated. I finished the course with a 5.0 Grade Point Average, earning 100% on every test which put me in the running to be the Honor Graduate. All in all, I had a great time and learned a lot. I highly recommend this school for anyone looking for a challenge.



Congratulations to Scholarship Winners!

Army ROTC is one of the largest scholarship producing entities in the world. This summer, the University of Minnesota Golden Gopher Battalion was able to award a wide array of scholarships, ranging from the traditional National Scholarship to the Minuteman scholarship. We would like to congratulate the future Golden Gopher Battalion members who have won and accepted Army ROTC scholarship. We are looking forward to seeing you all in the 2021 Fall semester.

Minuteman Scholarship National Guard Recipients

*Kayla Becker
Henry Geiger
Kinsey Brandt
Audrey Heard
Bladen Hopkins
Isaiah Wildenberg
Justin Toweh
Caden Riewer
Thunder Finberg
Adam Larson*

Minuteman Scholarship Army Reserve Recipients

*Haley Wolff
Margaret Fliszar
Kaitlyn Fox
Keller Coester
Seth Mlodozyniec*

National HS Scholarship Recipients

*Andrew Carlson
Cort Doyle
Charlie Frattalone
Nathaniel Grube
Joshua Johnson
Mason Kanooihuizen
Ryan Porter*

Campus Based Scholarship Recipients

*Jacob Cahill
Grant Higgins
Cole Cayard
Luisa Bernia
Michial Foy
Cyline Ogega
Kaitlyn Kirby
Makenna Larson
Emma Revoir*

Cadet Troop Leader Training (CTLT)

By Cadet Christina Theis

Grafenwohr, Germany-This summer I had the opportunity to complete a CTLT in Grafenwohr, Germany. I spent five weeks shadowing an Engineer Officer within the 2nd Cavalry Regiment Engineer Squadron. Throughout my time, I was able to not only observe the day to day duties of a Engineer Platoon Leader, but also put my knowledge to the test and actually lead the platoon. The platoon I shadowed was a counter mobility platoon made up of various Engineers (Combat, Horizontal, and Bridge) that design and build obstacles in order to slow down, fixate, or deter the enemy. Being outside the continental U.S. (OCONUS), many training exercises are conducted with foreign nations. Because of this, I had the opportunity to work alongside German Soldiers and learn about their capabilities. It was very interesting seeing the similarities and

differences between us and our North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) counterparts and how we come together to fight the same battle. From sitting in meetings at all echelons, engaging with the platoon, operating vehicles and equipment, and blowing things up, I was able to see all sides of the Engineer branch. This experience not only helped me solidify my branch preference, but also gave me a sneak peek into what my future career entails. I would urge all Cadets to seek out experiences such as this in order to familiarize themselves with their branch of choice. There's no better way to gain confidence in your branch preferences than to actually experience the job itself. I would also encourage Cadets to find mentors and sponsors from branches they're interested in. It's never too early to prepare for your own future.



Cadet Theis operating machinery during her CTLT experience.

2021 Summer Commissioning

By Second Lieutenant Taylor Lyons



This summer, we commissioned two brand new Second Lieutenants into the Army. I had the pleasure of attending the commissioning ceremonies of Second Lieutenant's Kristie Uhren, and Quinne Johnson. Lieu-

tenant Uhren commissioned into the Army National Guard as an Ordnance Officer right here in the state of Minnesota. Lieutenant Johnson received an education delay — an opportunity where recently commissioned lieutenants can attend a graduate school program to return back to the Army as an active duty officer. She will be attending Pittsburgh University to study Occupational Therapy. Seeing how much these Cadets grew over the course of ROTC was incredible and seeing them commissioning was even better. It was an honor to be able to attend their ceremonies and see them all one last time before they attend

their respective courses. I wish the best of luck to the Army's newest officers and have the utmost confidence that they will be successful leaders in the force.



2LT Johnson during her Commencement Ceremony



2LT Uhren during her Commissioning Ceremony

Sights from Summer 2021



Cadet Dolezal during at 2021 Basic Camp



Cadet VandenBergh being awarded a sabre for ranking #1 in his regiment



Cadet Bissen's Air Assault School graduation at West Point, NY



Joint Color Guard at the 2021 Aquatennial Parade



Cadets Villaluz and Rybachek during CST 2021



8th Regiment Cadets with LTC Hoaglin during CST 2021

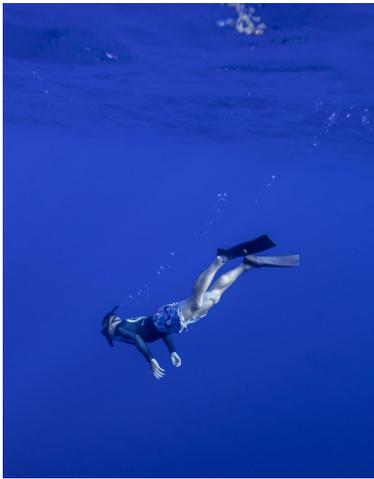
Sights from Summer 2021



CDT Villaluz at Ft. Hood, TX w/ 3 SFAB Army Advisors Infantry Unit



CDT Schmidt at Ft. Wainright, AK during her AMEDD Internship



CDT VandenBergh during the INDOPACOM Voluntary Internship Program based out of Oahu, HI



2LT Lyons & CDT Miller recruiting at the Minnesota State Fair



2LT Johnson receives her first salute from her father 1SG Johnson



Cadets Roddell & Schmidt upon completion of CST '21

Fall 2021 Events Calendar

Classes Begin	7 Sep 21	Army Ten-Miler	10 Oct 21	Veterans Day	11 Nov 21
Sr. Patching Ceremony	8 Sep 21	Task Force Ranger Challenge	15-17 Oct 21	Norwegian Foot March	20 Nov 21
BN SHARP/ACE Run	27 Sep 21	Mega Lead Lab	23-24 Oct 21	Dining Out	10 Dec 21
Fall FTX	16-19 Sep 21	12 Mile Ruck March	10 Nov 21	Commissioning Ceremony	22 Dec 21

Virtual Leader Development Lunches: Not in town but want to join us for an event? We will conduct virtual leader development lunches via zoom this semester using the Meeting ID: 957 3222 1022 and Passcode: 3nDZQh. Just log into zoom using this information for some great discussions! VLPDs start at 1200 central on: **28 Sep 21**-When in Charge; Confidence vs Arrogance; **13 Oct 21**-Public Speaking; and **9 Nov 21**- Competition vs Being a Team Player.



AUSA—Voice of the Army

Consider joining the Golden Gopher Sub-chapter of AUSA. Since 1957, the Association of the United States Army has worked to support all aspects of national security while advancing the interests of America’s Army and the men and women who serve. AUSA is a private, non-profit educational organization that supports America’s Army—Active, National Guard, Reserve, Civilians, Retirees and family members. AUSA provides our Cadets numerous Professional Development Opportunities at a variety of events both local and national. All new Cadets are qualified for 2 years complimentary AUSA membership.

Visit the MN Vessey Chapter’s website at <https://vesseychapter.org/> or call Mr. DeJesus at (612) 625-3062 to learn more.

If you are interested in making a donation please contact (612) 624-3080 or send to Attn: Campus Life Program Cadets Fund, 15 Church St. SE, Minneapolis, MN 55455

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If you know someone who has the potential to be an Army officer, tell them about us! They don’t have to be from Minnesota!

We have great opportunities for **high school and in-college scholarships**. Current enlisted Army National Guard and Reserves enrolled at the University of Minnesota are also eligible to participate in Army ROTC and may be eligible for additional scholarship and DoD programs.

Call (612) 386-8491 or email arotc@umn.edu for more information.



Golden Gopher Battalion



Army Reserve Officer Training Corps
15 Church Street S.E.
Armory Building Room 101

Phone: 612-625-3062
E-mail: arotc@umn.edu

**This issue was compiled by:
2LT Taylor Lyons and Mr. Alberto DeJesus
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