

University of Michigan Wolverine Battalion

The Wolverine Tribune



October 2024 Edition

By Cadet Katherine Wys



Cadets from this summer's 2nd Regiment Cadet Summer Training, featuring our own Jonathan Li

Cadet Summer Training

This fall we welcome back our seniors from Advanced Camp, a 35 day summer training program which takes place at Fort Knox, Kentucky. Throughout their training, cadets are faced with intense adversity as they navigate the challenges of leadership and resiliency while their tactical skills are tested. Cadet Summer Training has taken on a number of forms over the course of its history as it is adjusted each year to best assess and prepare cadets for the ever-changing needs of

the Army. This year, cadets were required to participate in and graded on marksmanship, rucking, obstacle courses, and an extensive period of field training.

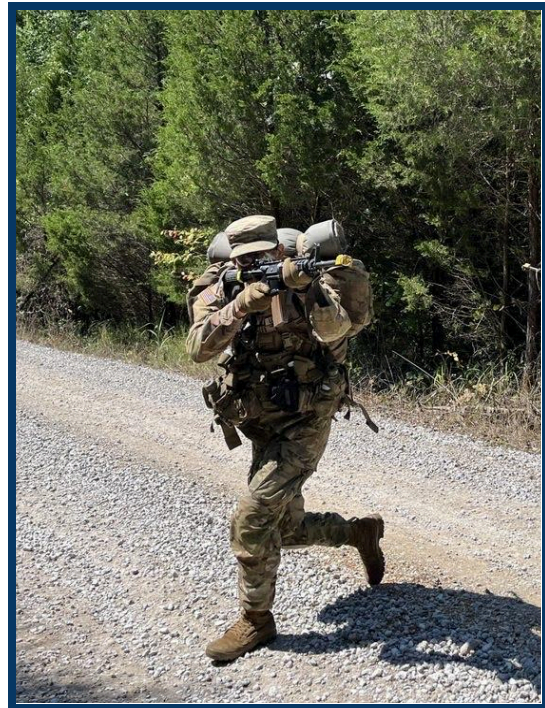
We are proud to announce that two of our cadets have earned the Reconnaissance Commando Badge, otherwise known as RECONDO. This esteemed badge is awarded to cadets who have met a number of extremely strict criteria and demonstrated a high competence throughout their time at summer training. Included among the many high standards required of this year's cadets to achieve RECONDO were a score of at least 80 on each Army Combat Fitness Test event,

successful completion of all 10 obstacles on the Confidence Course, a score of "Expert" on the Hand Grenade Assault Course, and a score of Sharpshooter or higher on the weapons qualification.

Through their hard work and years of preparation for summer training, these cadets have acquired invaluable skills and experiences which will allow them to succeed in their Army careers. Notably, the incredible performance of the Wolverine Battalion's seniors at CST placed our program as second throughout the entirety of 7th Brigade. Congratulations to our seniors for their completion of Cadet Summer Training.



Cadet Aaron Camarena



Cadet Joseph Lin

Project GO: Developing the Intercultural and Language Capabilities of Future Leaders

Project Global Officer is a summer study abroad opportunity for cadets to travel across the world and develop their abilities in critical languages. Cadets undergo a rigorous academic routine in addition to cultural activities designed to enhance their understanding of the country hosting their studies. Offered to cadets of all language levels, Project GO is a program designed to both enhance their language skills and develop their intercultural abilities, ultimately developing cadets into well-rounded leaders and capable future Officers able to effectively engage with our allies and adversaries alike.



Leopold Hoang, Sophomore:

“I studied in Meknes, Morocco over the summer. Project GO gave me the opportunity to explore a different culture and language I’ve always been curious about. I was welcomed to an extremely hospitable culture that I can always call home. I saw some of the most scenic parts of the world there and enjoyed the most delicious Moroccan tajines. I recognized that my future is shaped by the tiny efforts I put in everyday.”



Taylor Henry, Sophomore:

“Through the East Africa Field School (EAFS) I met so many wonderful people from across the U.S that I will truly remember forever. This program gave me such a unique experience within East Africa as we traveled and lived with locals, spoke swahili in town, and ate traditional pilau, ugali, and sukumawiki. I learned a lot about who I am and how to be brave in a totally new place. A great deal of experiences come when you take a risk, and this was a risk that paid off in more ways than I can count.”

**David Roshu, Junior:**

“I got the chance to spend 8 weeks in East Africa learning Swahili as my Project GO experience both in the summers of 2023 and 2024. The program not only made me proficient in a critical military language but it gave me the opportunity to explore such a unique part of the world and interact with people from a wide variety of cultures and areas ranging from the Maasai in southern Kenya to students at the University of Dar es Salaam in Tanzania. I can not overstate how amazing of an experience Project GO has been for my professional and personal development and there's nothing else I would've rather done with my summers.”

**Reagan Aylor, Sophomore:**

“My PGO program was an 8-week intensive Russian program in Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania and Riga, Latvia. Our group went to daily Russian classes, cultural sites, and during the abroad portion of the program, we got to practice our Russian skills in the real world. My favorite part of PGO was the cultural experience of living in Riga. I learned a lot about Latvia and the Baltic region during my time there, and one of the most interesting parts was the history, and how the impact of the Soviet and German occupations is still felt in the region today.”

SAGE Eagle with Special Forces

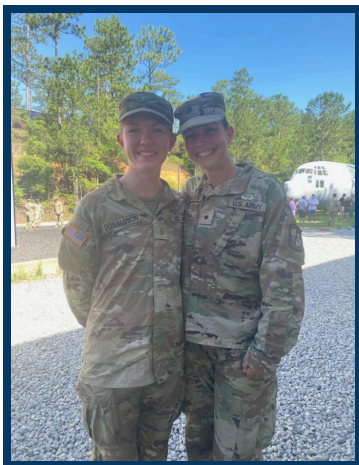
This summer, Cadet Marisa Lucero had the incredible opportunity to participate in SAGE Eagle, an intense training event taught by Army Green Berets. Cadets spend 12 days in a simulated combat environment which seeks to develop participants' competencies and leadership skills as they meet a variety of challenges. This opportunity provides cadets with the chance to experience tactical scenarios while preparing them for the challenges of leadership. Congratulations to Cadet Lucero for her successful completion of this program.

“Sage Eagle is easily the coolest thing I’ve done in ROTC. I learned so much from the Special Forces group I was with by watching how they communicated and ran through the missions. We trained urban night operations which was new and very exciting to me. I enjoyed it so much I didn’t mind the Fort Bliss heat at all!”



Air Assault

Congratulations to our three graduates of Air Assault school from this summer. Every year, we are offered a limited number of slots for cadets to attempt to earn their Air Assault wings. We are incredibly proud of these cadets who have risen to the challenge and successfully completed this intense training.



Cadet Lily Haghpassand (Right)



Cadet Sam Roberts



Cadet Jack Bartish (Right)





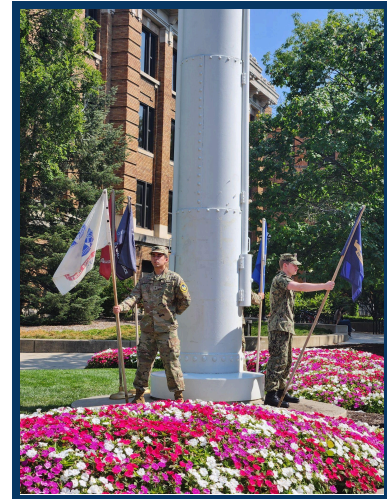
Honoring the Fallen of 9/11

Big House Stair Run

On Wednesday, September 11th we continued our annual tradition of gathering all three service branches of cadets from our Army, Air Force, and Navy programs to the Big House Stadium. To honor the lives lost from this tragic event in American history, our workout consisted of running 28 sets of stairs together, rotating throughout the stadium to reach this goal. The total number of stairs from this workout comes out to match the 2,071 stairs of the World Trade Center.

Flag Pole Vigil

Continuing our mission of honoring the fallen Americans from the events of September 11th, cadets across all three service branches once again united in order to provide constant vigil in front of the Diag flagpole. This joint effort provided a constant presence to defend our flag and provide a reminder of the tragic loss of life that occurred on this day 23 years ago, operating in shifts throughout the day.



Alumni Activities

Visit from the Class of 1994

This fall, alumnus and retired LTC Daniel Allmacher coordinated a return visit to our ever-changing campus for the football game against the University of Arkansas on September 14th. Army cadets on the game's Color Guard Detail had the meaningful opportunity to meet with the class at their tailgate prior to the game. Following its conclusion, our Professor of



Military Science, CPT Louis Goldstein, and a number of our cadets gave the class a tour of our current facilities. Historical photos related to the Class of 1994 and plaques were displayed as part of a broader effort to find, categorize, and preserve our battalion's rich history. CPT Goldstein and the cadets excitedly divulged plans about our future ROTC building at Observatory Hall, which the program plans to move into this coming summer. Cadets additionally spoke on our current activities, including the new Army curriculum, the Norwegian Foot March and Bataan Death March, and our yearly senior staff ride to Normandy. This was an emotional reunion of classmates, some of which had not seen each other in 30 years, and a unique opportunity to connect current cadets to past graduates.

If you or your class would like to coordinate a return to Ann Arbor, please reach out to CPT Goldstein.

A Special Thank You: Book Contribution

Over the summer, alumnus Franklin Lindbolm (Class of 1966) donated an incredible 92 books to our program. Covering a vast range of topics in military history from Napoleon's campaigns to World War II and beyond, this donation represents a valuable source of enrichment for our cadets in developing us into future leaders in the United States Army. We sincerely thank Mr. Lindbolm for his generous contribution to our program.

Cadet of the Month: Marisa Lucero

This fall we begin our tradition of selecting a Cadet of the Month, an esteemed award to recognize and celebrate the excellence of one of our own. Selected by the MSIIIs and MSIVs, Cadet Marisa Lucero stood out for her incredible work and initiative in the battalion this semester.

“My upperclassman and fellow cadet Lily Haghpassand told me I earned this award because of my initiative taken as a mentor, my activity in the recruitment committee, and my self-initiative to seek answers to questions others aren't asking. I feel grateful for the selection and it is nice to know that I'm leading my squad well. Now that we are doing cadet of the month again, I hope others will be motivated to strive for it and work hard alongside me.”



Our Military Science Curriculum

MSI: “The first year military science class is about teaching basic soldier skills and laying a strong foundation on which to build leadership skills. We’ve learned basic first aid, map reading, drill and ceremony, and team movements, all reinforced with practical exercises in lab. Our goal is to turn ourselves into competent soldiers through study and training so that we may later succeed at a higher level.”

-Cadet Grace Connelly

MSII: “Thus far this semester, the military science course corresponding to the MS2s has been focusing on reading and interpreting OPORDS, FRAGORDS, WARNOS, and more. In addition, they have been practicing Drill and Ceremony and refreshing our knowledge on land navigation and infantry Army tactics.”

-Cadet Cecilia Jacuzzo

MSIII: “This fall, our military science course has so far revolved around developing our abilities as leaders and being able to understand dysfunction in the team environment. We’ve been reading through the works of author Patrick Lencioni in pursuit of this area of competency as we prepare to lead soldiers and deal with complex group dynamics. In addition, we’re balancing our leadership studies with practical skills such as land navigation and squad tactics.”

-Cadet Katherine Wys

MSIV: “We have been learning to define and contextualize multi-domain operations. We examined Vicksburg 1863 to create a baseline definition of the synergy of arms in a time period where this concept did not yet exist. We have built off this foundation for our presentations during our France staff ride. We are also reading Corie Weathers’ *Military Culture Shift*. The examples and stories from the book meshes well with our leadership case studies into Operation DRAGON STRIKE.”

-Cadet Jonathan Li

Meet Our Cadre



Captain Louis D. Goldstein

An esteemed officer in the United States Army Reserve, CPT Louis D. Golstein commenced his military career in November 2002. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Communication Studies from Saint Cloud State University and a Master of Science in Management with a Graduate Certificate in Nonprofit Leadership from Southern New Hampshire University.

He earned the MOS of 12B (Combat Engineer) following Basic Training and Advanced Individual Training. During his 12.5-year tenure as an enlisted Soldier, he rose to the rank of Sergeant

First Class. He distinguished himself as a Route Clearance Squad Leader in Afghanistan (2010-2011), where he was twice wounded and awarded the Army Commendation Medal with a “V” device for valor.

Post-deployment, CPT Goldstein served as Operations Officer for the 305th Engineer Company, overseeing Route Clearance mission training and preparation. Subsequently, he was appointed Battalion Plans Officer and HHC Company Commander with the 389th Engineer Battalion in Dubuque, Iowa. There, he spearheaded the memorialization of the Battalion Headquarters in honor of a local Soldier and established the “King of the Castle” Battalion competition. He also led the Battalion’s Suicide Prevention program.

CPT Goldstein has been assigned to the Army ROTC since Fall of 2023. He currently is the acting PMS and teaches the MSIII and MSIV classes.

Meet Our Cadre



Sergeant First Class Kyle N. Barth

SFC Kyle N. Barth, an esteemed Non-commissioned officer in the United States Army, commenced his military career in August 2006. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Professional Studies and Associate of Science in Professional Studies from Purdue University.

SFC Barth enlisted in the United States Army Infantry, earning the MOS of 11B (Infantrymen) following Basic Training and Advanced Individual Training. During his 18-year tenure as an enlisted Soldier, he rose to the rank of Sergeant First Class. SFC Barth has four Combat

Deployments, three with the 101 st ABN DIV (AASLT) and one with the 1 st Armored Division.

He distinguished himself as a Machine Gunner in a 15-month Combat Deployment to Iraq (2007-2008) and as a Fire Team Leader, Weapons Squad Leader and Platoon Sergeant in three Combat Deployments to Afghanistan (2010-2011) (2012-2013) (2015), where he was twice awarded the Bronze Star. SFC Barth also served as a Drill Sergeant at Fort Moore, Ga from 2017-2019 and a Combat Military Advisor at Fort Liberty NC from 2021-2024.

SFC Barth has been assigned to Army ROTC since Fall of 2024. He currently is the acting SMSI and teaches the MSI and MSII classes.

Upcoming Events

- We will be conducting a Field Training Exercise at Fort Custer on October 18th-19th to practice land navigation, shooting, and participating in the Confidence Obstacle Course
- On Friday, October 25th a number of our cadets will be participating in Alex's Great State Race, a relay-style run from Ann Arbor to Lansing to honor Alex Powell, a student from MSU who received cancer treatment at UM
- The Bold Warrior Challenge, formerly known as Ranger Challenge, will be taking place on November 1st-3rd
- At the beginning of December, we will be holding our annual Dining In ceremony where our seniors will find out their Army branch

PMS Corner

Greetings,

I'm CPT Louis Goldstein, the Professor of Military Science for the Wolverine Battalion at the University of Michigan. It is both an honor and a privilege to serve in this role and be a small part of the incredible journey our cadets are on as they grow into tomorrow's leaders.

The contents of this newsletter are just a glimpse into the many outstanding things our cadets are accomplishing as they balance the rigorous academics of the University of Michigan with the demanding requirements of ROTC. It is their tireless efforts, commitment, and drive that continue to propel our program forward.

No matter the task at hand, every action, every challenge, and every opportunity is a step forward in pushing the mission, purpose, and end state of the Wolverine Battalion.

Mission:

The Wolverine Battalion transforms cadets into successful, well-adjusted leaders, fully prepared for their military careers as Second Lieutenants.

Purpose:

To cultivate the next generation of leaders who will guide the Army into the future.

End State:

Cadet experiences at the University of Michigan serve as the foundation of their military career.

To the Parents:

Thank you for entrusting our program with your son or daughter's development as a leader. The weight of this responsibility is not lost on the cadre or the staff, and we do not take it lightly. We are deeply appreciative of the support you give your cadet as they grow into future leaders, and we are committed to ensuring they have the tools and experiences to thrive both academically and in their military training. Your involvement and encouragement are vital to their success, and we thank you for your continued partnership.

To the Alumni:

It is your legacy that we build upon each day. The example you set, both in service and in leadership, is one we take very seriously as we look toward the future of the Wolverine Battalion. We are always eager to hear from you and learn how your experiences here have shaped your military and civilian careers. Your continued engagement is invaluable to us, and we hope to find new ways to connect and collaborate with you in the near future. Thank you for your ongoing support and for the example you continue to set.

Thank you all for your continued support as we embark on this journey together.