

# THE GOLDEN BUFFALO BULLETIN



Spring 2016



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## ROTC 100 Year Anniversary

Racing through the rocky running trails of Golden, CO, the Cadets of the Golden Buffalo Battalion celebrated the 100th anniversary of ROTC with a plethora of events. The events started on March 31st with a panel discussion from the Society of American Engineers at Mines University. On April 1st, Cadets began the day with a battalion run, followed by sports activities, a fun way to compete with fellow Cadets after a long semester of hard work. Later in the



day, leaders from the 4th Infantry Division joined Cadets to discuss their different branches and give Cadets insight into future challenges and opportunities they will encounter in the Army. Events concluded with speeches from Colonel Rich Morales, Commander of 5th Brigade, United States Cadet Command, and Major General Anthony Funkhouser, Commander of the Center of Initial Military Training. Both speakers also discussed the necessity of STEM and critical thinking for future officers, and praised the superior performance of the Golden Buffalo Battalion in developing leaders of character. The day concluded with the Military Ball, where Cadets enjoyed the Army tradition of “dining out”. In addition to conversation and camaraderie, Cadets with outstanding performance earned scholarships and awards. MSIV Cadets conducted their annual branch pinning ceremony and Colonel Douglas Sims, Chief of Staff of the 4th Infantry Division, gave remarks as the ball’s keynote speaker. Colonel Edward G. Rapp, retired, was also inducted into the Army ROTC Hall of Fame. The events of April 1st gave Cadets a chance to unwind and build camaraderie with students from different companies. Although the battalion faces intense training later in the month, these events set a positive tone for the close of the semester.



“The military ball was a really enjoyable formal event that truly embodies the Army’s standards, recognizes outstanding Cadets and reflects upon the battalion’s accomplishments.” -Cadet Peter Zwack

## Super Lab

The third and final Super Lab of the semester was conducted on April 9th at Jacks Valley Training Area in Colorado Springs. Cadets took part in Key Leader Engagements (KLE) with role-players in order to enhance their awareness and understanding of other cultures. Village role-players and opposing forces were played by members of the Colorado Ar-



my National Guard, CU Student Veterans Association, and prior service military personnel. Even though the action took part in the fictional country of Atropia, the realistic scenarios provided invaluable experience while operating in a stressful situation. “I think it was a really unique experience. In 21st century leadership you will be interacting with people from different cultures, backgrounds, and languages. You can’t get this type of training just by being on a college campus.” stated Cadet Kyle Willis. After the KLE operations, Cadets took the information they gained from village elders to conduct a simulated raid on a hostile weapons

cache. With adrenaline still running high, each of the four platoons of Cadets were able to end the day with a ride aboard a CH-47 Chinook helicopter. Cadet Michael Pelletiere was thrilled with the opportunity to fly, “that was my first time in a helicopter, it was a blast. I can’t wait to fly in one again.” This training event will pave the way for the Gold-

en Buffalo Battalion’s semester capstone, the four day Joint Leaders Development Exercise held at Camp Guernsey, Wyoming.



## Bataan Memorial Death March

Golden Buffalo Battalion Cadets took first place at the Bataan Memorial Death March during Spring Break at the White Sands Missile Range in New Mexico. The University of Colorado-Boulder Bravo Team won the ROTC Heavy Division. They completed the 26.2 mile race in 5 hours, 23 minutes and 56 seconds.

The first place team included Cadet Roberson, Cadet Dahm, Cadet Campbell, Cadet Sullivan and Cadet Leicester. The Bataan Team trains week after week, adding more weight and speed every week. Their training begins with 35 pounds and a ten mile ruck on the Boulder Creek Path. Before they know it, the race is upon them and according to Cadet Roberson “your pack is not that heavy, because you have carried more, and it is not so steep because you have climbed mountains...with your teammates and friends you’ll discover it is conquerable for those willing to fight for it.”



## MSIV Offsite

“I really appreciated talking to actual platoon leader/platoon sergeant teams. I took a lot of helpful advice away from the discussions and it was extremely interesting to listen to what they deal with on a day to day basis”.  
-Cadet Eric Brink

On Saturday, March 5th all of the MSIVs in the Golden Buffalo Battalion attended the Task Force White Mountain 2016 Senior ROTC Capstone. The seniors spent the day at the Colorado National Guard Centennial RTI where they participated in a series of informational, educational and inspirational events while being able to interact with other MSIVs from other universities. The day started off

with two discussions, the first on leadership led by the 4th Infantry Division Commanding General, Major General Ryan Gonsalves, the second on citizen Soldiers led by Colonel Michael Stowell, Colorado ARNG. After lunch, the seniors participated in small group discussions on topics ranging from commander expectations and first year as a second lieutenant to common Soldier issues and ethical dilemmas in small units. Led by current company command teams and platoon leader/platoon sergeant teams, these discussions gave the soon-to-be commissioned Cadets valuable insight they can keep in mind during their first job and for the rest of their careers in the Army.

## Adventure Race Lab

On February 2nd, Golden Buffalo Battalion Cadets experienced an entirely new training ground, Denver, during the Adventure Race Lab. The lab tested urban orienteering skills as well as mental resiliency. Between 0700 and 1200, Cadets competed against one another to locate



various waypoints throughout Denver in as little time as possible, while holding a delicate item that had to stay intact throughout the race. Cadet Aiden Stowell remarked how “the race forced me to work with teammates of various skill levels and with Cadets from other schools, improving my teamwork skills and inter-battalion camaraderie.” In the middle of the race, Cadets found themselves upon Tivoli’s 5th St. parking garage, where they competed in various strength oriented workouts such as tire-flips, pull ups, and dips. Cadet Liam McHugh felt that “the circuit workout added an entirely unexpected element to the race, testing physical strength on top of cardiovascular stamina.” In all, the Adventure Race Lab challenged Cadets physically and mentally while negotiating unfamiliar territory.

## Graduating Seniors

Listed below are the Golden Buffalo Battalion's graduating seniors who will commission this May:

Austin Albin-Active Duty, Military Intelligence

Scott Baker- Active Duty, Infantry

Emily Brocklander-Active Duty, Signal

Jesse Bunce-Active Duty, Field Artillery

Ted Crichton-National Guard, Military Police

Robert Faass-Reserves, Military Police

Lauren Gulick-National Guard, Field Artillery

Charles Heidbreder-Active Duty, Infantry

Alexander Jessen-Active Duty, Engineer

Jake Johnson-Active Duty, Engineer

Benjamin Kaufhart-Active Duty, Infantry

Grant Lee-Reserves, Military Intelligence

Gregory Lefevre- Reserves, Signal

John Mason-Active Duty, Aviation

Nathan Meyer,-Active Duty, Infantry

Logan Michaels-National Guard, Armor

Taylor Mullane-Active Duty, Engineer

Zachary Ota-National Guard, Quartermaster

Jessica Pinyan-Active Duty, Military Intelligence

Travis Reddick-Active Duty, Ordinance

Tyler Ruder-Active Duty, Armor

Stephanie Sjoroos-Active Duty, Ordinance

Hayden Smead-Active Duty, Armor

Christofer Taylor-Active Duty, Ordinance

Julian Uy-Active Duty, Ordinance

Kyle Willis-Active Duty, Field Artillery

Bridgette Zuckerman-Reserves, Medical Services Corps

## **Award Winners**

This Rippetoe Saber award was given to Cadet Benjamin Kaufhart for his outstanding performance and leadership potential. The award is in tribute to the life and service of CPT Russell Rippetoe, a 1999 graduate of the Metropolitan State College of Denver who was killed in action on April 3, 2003 while serving with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment in Iraq.

The CPT Lynn Scutellaro Memorial Scholarship was awarded to Cadet James Pettigrew for his sincere commitment to the program and superior academic achievement and physical fitness. This scholarship preserves the memory of CPT Lynn Scutellaro who served as an Aviation Officer in the Colorado Army National Guard and deployed to Iraq in 2005, where she piloted a UH-60 Blackhawk Helicopter in support of the 101st Airborne Division.

The 1LT Melissa Hoffman American Spirit Award was awarded to Cadet Julian Uy for his positive attitude and strength of character. 1LT Hoffman was wounded in action when her vehicle hit an improvised explosive device during a convoy near Baghdad in April 2004. Melissa was one of the most positive and spirited Cadets this program has known.

## Alumni

Thank you for your support and contributions. Please join us at the Golden Buffalo Battalion alumni dinner the night prior to the University of Colorado-Boulder military appreciation game in November. Additionally, the battalion area will be open at half time during the game.

## Program Support

Army ROTC welcomes donations of all amounts, and all gifts directly support the program and our Cadets. If you would like to make a donation to Army ROTC at CU Boulder online please visit [giving.cu.edu/arotc](http://giving.cu.edu/arotc). Please make checks out to the University of Colorado Foundation with the memo “Army ROTC Program Fund at CU Boulder #0121348” and to the following address:

P.O. Box 17126  
Denver, CO 80217-9155

The University of Colorado Foundation contact information is 303-541-1290, [giving@cu.edu](mailto:giving@cu.edu) and <https://giving.cu.edu>. If your are interested in making a leadership gift to Army ROTC, please contact Katie Bullock at [katie.bullock@colorado.edu](mailto:katie.bullock@colorado.edu) or 303-492-3898. Thank you for your support in the Army ROTC program at CU Boulder!

To make a donation to Colorado School of Mines, please make checks payable to CSM Foundation, and in the Memo section of your check, state “645188 Military Science Development”, as well as the purpose for your donation. If you have questions, please call 303-273-3275. All checks should be mailed to the following address:

CSM Foundation  
1232 W. Campus Road, Building 4  
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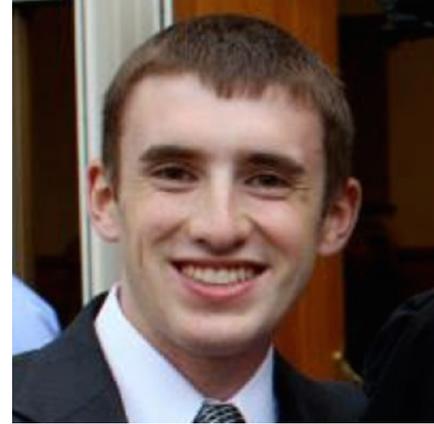
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## About the Authors



Adam Lee is from Lafayette, California and is a junior at the University of Colorado-Boulder. He is majoring in Media Studies, and is interested in branching Armor. His hobbies include lacrosse, guitar, and biking.



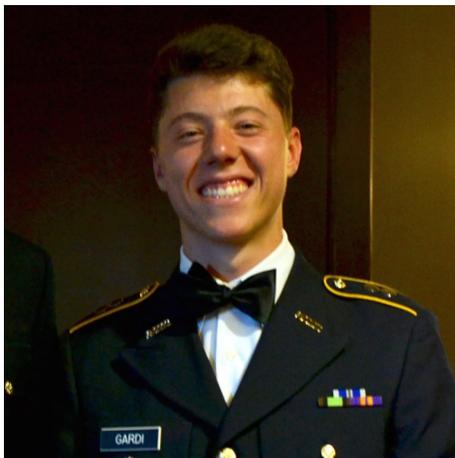
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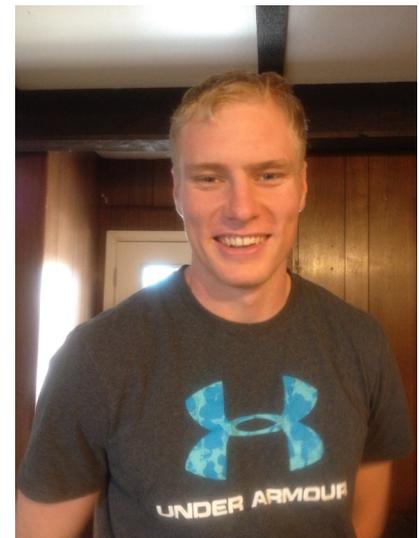
Dimitri Veleris is from Chicago, Illinois and is a sophomore studying at the University of Denver. He hopes to branch Infantry, and his hobbies include backpacking, hunting, fishing, running, biking, and guitar.



Emily Brocklander is from Thornton, Colorado and is a senior studying at the University of Colorado-Boulder. She is majoring in Political Science and Journalism. She branched Active Duty Signal. Her hobbies include hiking and traveling.



Marco Gardi is from Naples, Italy and is a senior studying at the University of Colorado-Boulder. He is majoring in Mechanical Engineering and hopes to branch Corp of Engineers. His hobbies include photography, skiing, hiking, and cooking.



Jacob Roberson is from Colorado Springs, Colorado and is a junior studying Mechanical Engineering and hopes to branch Corp of Engineers. His hobbies include board games, cooking and climbing.