

# GOLDEN BUFFALO BATTALION

## SPRING 2018 BULLETIN

The Golden Buffalo Battalion develops leaders of character who are **disciplined**, **resilient**, and **prepared for the future**.

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### To the friends, family, and Alumni of the Golden Buffalo Battalion,

The 2018 Spring semester has yielded yet another incredible collection of training, exciting community events, and exceedingly fulfilling character growth for the 172 Cadets of the program. We sincerely hope you enjoy this edition of the Golden Buffalo Battalion Bulletin and thank you for your continued support of our program's initiatives to foster the growth of the future leaders of our Nation's Army!

### THE UPS AND DOWNS

Cadets recount their experience on the Golden Buffalo Battalion's 10th Annual Hut Trip

Just as night begins to set in, heavily layered and armed with all manner of Ranger snacks, 18 Cadets from the Golden Buffalo Battalion, led by Mr. Hodge and SFC Freund, finally reach the summit of Weston Pass. Their faces red from the cold, they pile into the 20-man hut set into the side of the mountain to unload and assign tasks to prepare for the night. The promise of homemade lasagna was a better motivator than any fire.

Set above the timberline of Colorado's Mosquito Range, Weston Hut looks over a valley of broken rock and grass that rolls downward to a rise of evergreens which, until the last mile, protect the 6.7 mile trail leading to its doorstep. The trail, although a bit rocky and steep in some areas, was an easy climb for most of the Cadets who passed the

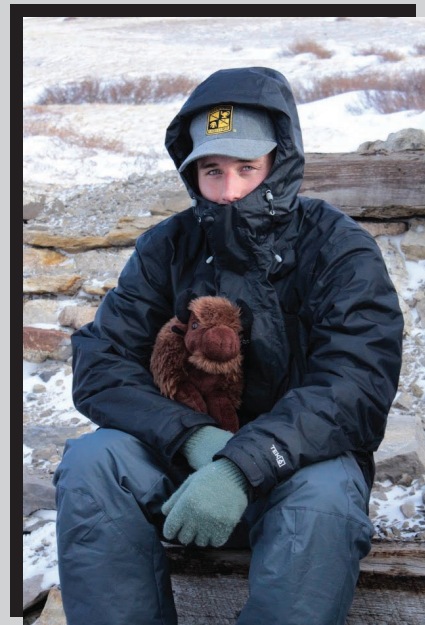
time getting to know each other and sharing stories. At the hut, chores were completed and a warm meal was enjoyed as Cadets played card games, studied, and readied themselves for what would be an amazing night's sleep.

The Battalion's 10th Annual Hut Trip was finished off with a hot breakfast and a quick descent that highlighted by stunning views of the mountains that had been lost in the snow the day before. It was an experience enjoyed by all and an opportunity greatly appreciated by the Cadets.





## IMAGES FROM THE UPS AND DOWNS





## ALWAYS HAVE A RANGER BUDDY

Golden Buffalo Battalion Cadets participating in the University of Kansas' Ranger Buddy Competition

In April, the Golden Buffalo Battalion sent four Cadets to the University of Kansas to participate in the annual Ranger Buddy Competition. Cadet Zander Wiesehuegel and Cadet Enrique Munoz competed as the primary team along with Cadets Ashleigh Embrey and Christine Russ serving as the alternates. The competition started with a 15k forced ruck march and was followed by 16 events including physical skills like grenade throws and buddy carries, as well as proficiency tasks like calling a 9-line MEDEVAC and knot tying. To finish the

competition, Cadets had to complete a 5k buddy run with dummy rifle and FLC. Cadets Wiesehuegel and Munoz finished 8th overall which is very impressive considering only 23 percent of competing teams were able to finish in the allotted time. Both Cadets thoroughly enjoyed the event, citing it as a great way to challenge themselves mentally and physically as well as building camaraderie and trust with each other. Cadet Wiesehuegel hopes that their success will promote greater participation from our Battalion in the years to come, and next year intends to bring the cup back to Colorado.



## KEEP IT SUPER(LAB)

All companies came together for a great day of training in the foothills of Golden, Colorado

On 17 April 2018, the Golden Buffalo Battalion conducted a Superlab at Beverly Heights Park in Golden, Colorado. This event focused on strengthening the Cadets' grasp on squad and platoon level tactics. Underclassmen focused on familiarizing their roles in their squads and improved their competencies as team leaders and riflemen.

Upperclassmen, specifically the MS-3 class, concentrated on strengthening their leadership capabilities as squad leaders, platoon leaders and platoon sergeants in preparation for the upcoming Field Training Exercise (FTX) and this summer's Advanced

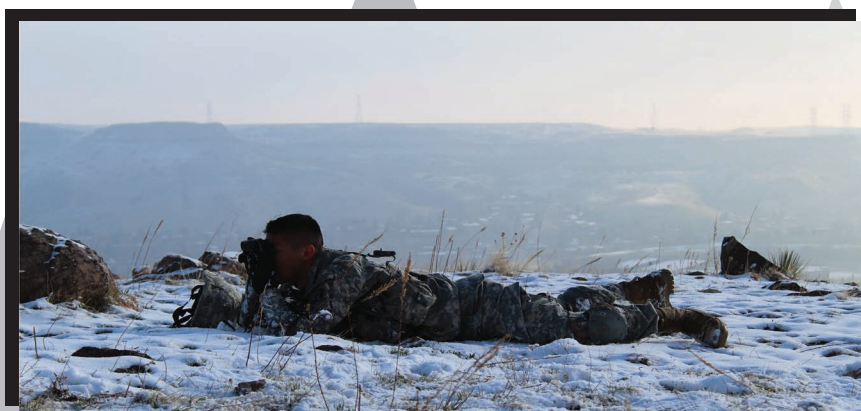
Camp. MS-3's rotated through leadership positions to ensure they were able to master leadership techniques within platoon level roles. The platoons worked on everything from route reconnaissance, movement to contract drills to ambushes to OPORD planning. All in all, the Battalion bolstered their resilience in dealing with the inclement weather and stressful situations, but this definitely paid off as the Cadets gained new knowledge and improved their abilities.





# PHOTOS FROM THE FIELD

**SUPERLAB 2018**





## HAVING A BALL AT THE MILITARY BALL

The battalion celebrates it's senior Cadets at the annual Military Ball in Broomfield, CO

Our AROTC program has seen an increase in enrollment this school year. This means more Cadets participating in military leadership courses, a larger element conducting operations, and more future leaders in the making. The more the merrier, right? On March 16, 2018, the Golden Buffalo Battalion hosted their annual Military Ball at the Omni Interlocken Hotel in Broomfield, CO. The event allowed Cadets to build unit cohesion in a professional setting and recognize achievements within the Battalion.

Cadets and guests had the opportunity to participate in traditional components of a military ball. The evening began with a receiving line where Cadets and their dates shook hands with senior and non-commissioned officers and honored guests. Attendees then proceeded to find their seats in the ballroom as the Color Guard team posted the Colors to officially mark the beginning the ceremony.

There is no surprise that such an old organization would have several traditions. Cadets toasted to the Nation's President, the U.S. Army and recognized fallen comrades and those missing in action as well as those in harms way.

One new tradition Cadets were introduced to is the grog bowl ceremony. Various Cadets added symbolic ingredients to the Grog bowl recipe and acknowledged adversities the Battalion overcame throughout the year.

The event also allowed the Battalion to recognize accomplishments of Cadets through the award and pinning ceremonies. 300 attendees celebrated the remarkable group of 23 young men and women who will take their place as Army officers upon



graduation. Cadets Joseph Hinton and Cooper Patch were also recognized as Distinguished Military Graduates (DMGs).

CU's Army ROTC will continue hosting military balls to honor the past and continue carrying on the future.



# ADVENTURES IN BOULDER

This year's Amazing Race superlab explored the beauty of Boulder, CO

On a brisk Saturday morning, Cadets from the Battalion gathered at the campus of University of Colorado at Boulder to compete in the Amazing Race. This year, the Battalion was honored to have a few new special guests in attendance: select high school students and CU's very own Presidents Leadership Class. This event has been on the minds of the Cadets for a long month. Now was the time for them to show off their physical and mental strength.

For the race, the Cadets were broken up into teams and raced around the city of Boulder, completing a variety of events surrounding historical and prestigious monuments. All throughout Boulder, the teams conducted photo-scavenger hunts, tackled team building exercises, negotiated cross-fit workouts, and even tried their luck on an archery range. Exhausted but motivated, the average team traversed over 13 cumulative miles stretching from the Flatirons to as far east as the touristy Pearl Street would stretch.

For four years in a row, the Battalion has implemented its own version of the Amazing Race. Each year, the Cadets familiarize themselves with peers from different schools which builds trust, fosters camaraderie, and helps the Cadets mature and encourage diversity in the workplace to develop a well-rounded and capable force.



# ANOTHER MARCH TO THE DEATH

Golden Buffalo Battalion Cadets take on the brutal 26.2 mile ruck marathon in White Sands, NM

On March 23, 2018, the Golden Buffalo Battalion set out to the White Sands Missile Range near Las Cruces, New Mexico. 52 Cadets participated in the 26.2 mile ruck march/ run that is held in memoriam of World War II Soldiers who endured a 69 mile march at the hands of the Japanese in the Philippines.



The Bataan Memorial Death March is a treacherous race that takes participants through the hills of the New Mexico desert, surrounded by canyons and extreme hot weather. Historically, the Golden Buffalo Battalion has always accepted the challenge of the Bataan Memorial Death March and succeeded along the way. This year was no exception. In 2018, the Golden Buffalo Battalion brought some of its best participants that competed in the ROTC Heavy, Light, Individual, and Team divisions. Congratulations to all participants for a job well done! Way to go out and make a presence for our Battalion as we normally do!

We encourage everyone to participate in the Bataan Memorial Death March. As CDT Dahm always says, "It is a life changing experience", and that is no understatement. Listed below are the results of our Cadets.

## 2018 BATZAN RESULTS

### **ROTC HEAVY**

3rd Place  
Alpha Team

Espinoza  
Schwab  
Woods  
Kraynik  
Koch

### **ROTC INDIV. HEAVY**

1st Place: Dahm, D.  
2nd Place: Campbell

**ROTC INDIV.  
LIGHT FEMALE**  
3rd Place: Nahrgang

### **ROTC INDIV. HEAVY MALE**

1st Place: Barker  
4th Place: Keenan  
5th Place: Wygant  
6th Place: McDermott  
8th Place: Frazier



## COLD FEET TACTICS

Buffalo Battalion Cadets face another frigid and frantic FTX in Jack's Valley

Courage and Grit.

These two staples were only a few of the many characteristics tested by the Cadets of the Battalion during the 2018 Spring FTX. As Cadets deployed to the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, CO, their mettle was to be tested in platoon and staff operations in a simulated combat environment. As select Cadets launched from Boulder Municipal Airport onboard UH-60 Blackhawks, the Battalion's key leaders were establishing a Tactical Operations Center (TOC) and finalizing the training grounds for the weekend. Forecast: The Weather Gods deemed it necessary to pound them with strong wind and rain,



that brought in snow all the way through the second day. As the platoons left their compound, they traveled in Platoon Column Fire Team Wedges to the Recon and link up sites and gathered Intelligence to pinpoint enemy forces. Over the weekend, they were challenged with establishing Patrol Bases in four inches of snow, leading reconnaissance missions, recovering downed aircraft crew members, closing in on the enemy with violence of action, deliberate attacks and ambushes that were well rehearsed. Cold, wet, hungry and tired, the Golden Buffalo Battalion drove on without mentioning the word quit, and continued to drive hard, work smart, and bring back their platoons with zero injuries and all equipment accounted for.

Though the annual Spring FTX culminates the years training for the Cadets of the Battalion, they still must recover quickly and head back to their respective campuses and prep for the end of semester exams and final projects.



# COLD FEET TACTICS PHOTOS

Buffalo Battalion Cadets face another frigid and frantic FTX in Jack's Valley





## WORD FROM THE FRONT, BRAVO COMPANY

Bravo company fills us in on this semester's activities in their AO of Golden, Colorado

For years, the Cadets at Bravo Company have enjoyed having their own home away from home situated on the corner of the Colorado School of Mines' campus. Cadets played Xbox, ate food, completed their last-minute homework, prepared for their training activities, met for PT, and even slept in their aging, but cozy, military bungalow. And so, it is with great sadness that we say goodbye to our beloved Cadet House. However, plans and renovations are underway, paving the foundation for a new Cadet House properly named the White House.

Bravo Company has pushed through yet another resounding year. Tactical Thursdays remains a foundation of the Bravo mentality and engages the Cadets to become more tactically efficient. This year, the Company volunteered at the Food Bank of the Rockies in Denver, and packed enough food to feed over 4,000 individuals in need.

COL Spaulding served as the PMS for the CU Boulder ROTC program from 1973-1975. COL Spaulding also served as the Registrar and Associate Dean of Students for the Colorado School of Mines (CSM). For 11 years, he taught courses in Management and Communications for the ROTC program as well as courses in Economics and Business for the student body at large.



During his time at the Colorado School of Mines, he took honors students to Washington DC to meet Colorado legislators and to visit foreign embassies to understand public policy and leadership better. He also assisted CSM in

developing the Petroleum Institute in the United Arab Emirates, and in preparing the Student Policy Manual and course schedule.





# WORD FROM THE FRONT, CHARLIE COMPANY

Charlie company reports on the goings-on of the Denver AO

Veterans Day, 2017: University of Denver Pioneers battled St. Cloud State Huskies in the 2017 National Championship, in which proceeds from the pre-reception tickets of this event were donated to the Veterans Initiative Fund. After the pre-reception, DU Cadets kicked off the game by performing the Color Guard ceremony and a Veteran was given the distinguished honor of dropping the puck. Charlie Company had the privilege of hosting BG Peter Zwack for a foreign relations leadership conference, as well as extending the invitation out to all Cadets to attend a formal meeting with General George W. Casey.



## WHO IS ROOFY?

The unit mascot is a time-honored tradition in the Army. The mascot can be anything relevant to the unit's accomplishments or notable leaders and is typically an animal, fictional or real. This year the Golden Buffalo Battalion has embraced this tradition by adding a new member to its ranks, Roofy. Roofy is a consummate professional that accompanies the Cadets wherever they go. He has traveled to the terraced vineyards of Italy, the Mosquito Mountain Range in Colorado, and over a hundred miles of ruck marching, with many more locations with more to come. Every month the Battalion selects a Battalion Cadet of the Month and he or she is given the honor of carrying our new mascot to build on its legacy and develop themselves further into the Profession of Arms. If you're interested in seeing what Roofy and the Cadets have been up to, follow us on Instagram and Facebook, or stop by the ROTC lounge and shake hands with a future leader of this great Nation, and maybe share some stories of your own.



# GOLDEN BUFFALO BATTALION CLASS OF 2018 COMMISSIONEES

## COLORADO CHRISTIAN, METRO, AND MINES

Sobczak, Lucas Stephen	AD	Ordnance	CCU
Patch, Cooper James	AD	Infantry	CCU
Lebaron, Christopher Shem	USAR	Engineer	MINES
Lee, Peter Seunghan	USAR	Ordnance	MINES
Daly, Brent Eugene	AD	Quartermaster	METRO
Soper, John Franklin	AD	Field Artillery	METRO

## UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO DENVER AND DU

Jones, Germain Marcell	USAR	Transportation	CU DENVER
Mendoza, Juan Pedro	USAR	No VHR	CU DENVER
Jackson, Keith Thomas	AD	Military Intel.	DU
Veleris, Dimitri Basil	ARNG	Armor	DU
Hinton, Joseph Robert	AD	Infantry	DU
Pfluger, Grace Elizabeth	USAR	Transportation	DU

## UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER

Steele, Samantha Jane	AD	Ordnance
Brown-Malone, Eric Senica	AD	Field Artillery
Burns, Christian Kyler	ARNG	No LOA
Frazier, Brendon Dean	ARNG	Field Artillery
Hughbanks, Aaron Alan	AD	Engineer
Kang, Eric Sunwook	ARNG	Field Artillery
Leicester, Maxwell Andrew	AD	Infantry
McCormick, David Ciletti	AD	Infantry
Sheneman, Andrew John	AD	Military Intel.
Truong, Wesley Quangkhai	ARNG	Field Artillery
Park, Louis Sangjun	EOCC	Unassigned
Stokes, Taylor Jeremy	EOCC	Unassigned



# CONGRATULATIONS 2018 GRADUATES!



# PROGRAM SUPPORT

The Golden Buffalo Battalion at the University of Colorado Boulder relies on your generous support to provide the experiential learning opportunities to help offset costs associated with events such as commissioning, award ceremonies, annual dining-out, military appreciation/Veteran's Day events, leadership labs, orientation events, cadet participation in Ranger Challenge and the Bataan Memorial Death March, and summer leadership training programs.

Please visit our website to learn more about how your support directly benefits the Golden Buffalo Battalion cadets at [www.colorado.edu/arotc/support-arotc](http://www.colorado.edu/arotc/support-arotc)

To make a check donation, please make your check payable to the CU Foundation and in the memo section, state "Army ROTC Program Fund #0121348." Please mail all checks to the following address:

University of Colorado Foundation  
P.O. Box 17126  
Denver, CO 80217-9155

To make a donation to the Colorado School of Mines AROTC, please make checks payable to CSM Foundation, and in the memo section state "645188 Military Science Development", as well as the purpose for your donation.

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## CREDITS

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Cadre Oversight  
BN APMS, MAJ Kristin Stelzer

Coordination and Project Management  
BN/ACO S5, MSIV CDT Aaron Hughbanks

Secondary Coordinator  
BCO S5, MSIII Seraphine Nguyen

Photography  
Asst. S5, MSIV CDT Brendon Frazier  
Asst. S5, MSIV CDT Eric Kang  
Asst. S5, MSIII CDT Bailey Miclette  
Asst. S5, MSII CDT Pranay Malla

Writers  
MSIV CDT Eric Kang  
MSIV CDT Aaron Hughbanks  
MSIV CDT Brendon Frazier  
MSIV CDT Grace Pfluger  
MSIII CDT Parker Bolstad  
MSIII CDT David Gorman  
MSIII CDT Seraphine Nguyen  
MSII CDT Pranay Malla

Additional Contribution  
Iconography  
Christy Presler  
Christiano Zoucas  
External Imagery  
Wisconsin Natl. Guard,  
"Team Juggernaut" p.7  
Jesse Varner,  
"Flatirons" p. 1

