

THE GOLDEN BUFFALO BULLETIN

Fall 2018

*THE GOLDEN BUFFALO BATTALION VISION: DEVELOP LEADERS OF **CHARACTER** WHO ARE **DISCIPLINED, RESILIENT, AND PREPARED FOR THE FUTURE***

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Friends, Family, and Alumni of the Golden Buffalo Battalion: The Fall 2018 Semester has been one of excitement and success for the Cadets in our program. We hope you enjoy this edition of the Golden Buffalo Bulletin!

Alpha Company

Every year, the Golden Buffalo Battalion receives a group of bright eyed, eager-to-learn incoming freshman. In order to test their grit, Alpha Company organizes a freshman orientation in which these new Cadets focus their energy towards team building challenges. Our Cadet command team planned a day at the high ropes course for this year's freshman experience. MS1 Cadets are given a chance to learn about one another and develop friendships that will last a lifetime, all while suspended 42 feet in the air.

As Alpha Company progresses through the fall semester, juniors and seniors are given opportunities to develop their planning and organizational skills by outlining and executing Thursday labs. Cadets learn a wide array of important Army skills ranging from land navigation and preliminary marksmanship training to individual movement techniques and rappelling. Foundational skills are imperative for Cadets to acquire, as they will be used throughout every Cadet's career during not only Advanced camp or FTX, but also in their careers as Army officers.

The Army ROTC program at CU Boulder is an integral part of the university community. Cadets consistently represent the Golden Buffalo Battalion through participating in stadium clean-ups and representing our nation's colors during Buff football games along with numerous other volunteering opportunities. This semester, Cadets have stepped up to lend an even bigger helping hand to the university than we have ever seen in previous years.



CADET WELSH BRIEFS ALPHA COMPANY ON A PLATOON COMPETITION DURING IMT LAB.

The 2018 Veteran's Day weekend has given Cadets an opportunity to network and speak to professionals in their respective fields. Alpha Company has been given opportunities to participate in Veteran Home outreaches in which Cadets were able to interact with veterans and exchange experiences and valuable information for soon-to-be newly commissioned officers. During this weekend, Cadets also supported multiple color guards. The Boulder Star Lighting ceremony and the military appreciation football game against Washington State University allowed Cadets the opportunity to hone their customs and courtesies while representing our battalion.

Looking forward, the CU Boulder AROTC program will continue to reach out for campus volunteering opportunities in order to foster the relationship between the Company and the community.

Bravo Company

Bravo Company Cadre has settled into their new office, the White House, at the corner of Illinois and 14th Street in Golden, CO. The finishing touches on the new Cadet House have been delayed for now, but all the Bravo Company Cadets look forward to having a new home-away-from-home in the upcoming months.

Bravo Company's Cadet family has once again grown this year, with an incoming MS1 class of 19 Cadets. This new class includes 6 new Cadets from Colorado Christian University, a testament to the recruiting efforts of the Spring 2018 semester.



CADET MATHIEU, ACTING 1SG, LEADS BRAVO COMPANY DURING VETERAN'S DAY EVENT IN GOLDEN, CO.

Bravo Company has welcomed them with open arms and began training in basic soldiering skills through weekly Friday morning labs. Cadets have learned and improved upon their land navigation, tactical casualty care, marksmanship skills, and rappelling, many conquering their fear of heights. Through all these tasks, Bravo has carried an attitude of professionalism, discipline, and—as always—excellence.

Bravo Company has pushed through yet another tough FTX with resilience, enduring freezing temperatures and little sleep with determination and upbeat faces. Bravo Company has also had the privilege of honoring the nation's veterans, their families, and their supporters by once again hosting a Color Guard on the morning of Veterans Day, as well as performing a 21 Gun Salute during the Veteran's Day football game. Bravo Company will continue to reach out to the community in Golden.

Charlie Company

Fall 2018 was remarkable for Charlie Company, consisting of Metropolitan State University, University of Colorado Denver, University of Denver, and Regis University, for they received an influx of Cadets within every rank. The influx extended to both ranks and Cadre members. Captain Valenzano officially took command. Mr. Celestino also occupied a vacant spot. The opportunity introduced Cadets to how leadership shifts happen in the Army. The new Cadets that have their sights on becoming leaders had an orientation, which also acted as an opportunity to start building camaraderie.



CHARLIE COMPANY CONDUCTS A HALLOWEEN PT WHERE THE CADETS GET TO DRESS IN COSTUMES

Charlie Company's Friday labs were heavily integrated with Bravo Company. The labs gave MS3s the opportunity to organize and plan, while allowing MS4s to incorporate and share their knowledge. The labs (land navigation, PMI, and IMT just to name a few) prepared Charlie Company for the grueling FTX at the Air Force Academy.

The Cadets of Charlie Company had the opportunity to participate in several events that provided funding for the battalion. The highlights of volunteering were the Boys and Girls Club where Cadets spoke to club members about ROTC and its benefits. They also enlightened the members about college life and how to apply for college and choose a degree. Charlie Company's Cadets helped the locals build their trails during an event in Nederland. Metropolitan State University instructed incoming freshmen on what ROTC entails by directly speaking to upper-level Cadets. Lastly, Charlie Company had the opportunity to present the flags at the Annual Tri-Institutional Veterans Day Celebration and a hockey game for the University of Denver.

Fall FTX

Over the weekend of October 12-14, the Golden Buffalo Battalion returned to the beautiful and rugged terrain of the Air Force Academy to conduct Fall FTX in the Jacks Valley training area. After arriving by van Friday morning, Cadets reviewed their skills and



CADETS SPEND TIME ON THE RANGE ZEROING IN RIFLES AND PRACTICING SHOOTING BASICS

checked equipment before embarking on the day and night land navigation courses. The courses were long, and they had to overcome dense vegetation and drastic elevation change. Bravo Company had the highest average number of points found and became the first Company to claim the land navigation streamer.

The weather remained fantastic throughout the night in patrol bases and during the second day of activities, facilitating effective and fun training on the confidence, obstacle, and leader's reaction courses. As usual, the Buffs were lethal on the range. A cold wind drove in a storm for the night's exercises, but the Golden Buffalo Battalion plowed ahead, making short work of rescuing a convoy hit by an IED, executing a call for fire, and evacuating a downed pilot, despite the snow and freezing rain. Sunday morning, Cadets braved 20 degree temperatures for a swearing in ceremony in the billowing snow: a fitting start for future officers from Colorado. Our unit demonstrated perseverance and proficiency throughout the weekend, and the training we conducted fostered confidence and teamwork that will serve us well throughout our time in ROTC and the Army.



DURING THE FUNCTIONAL FITNESS LANE AT FALL FTX, CADETS WERE CHALLENGED IN MOVING OBJECTS LIKE LOGS, TIRES, LITTERS, AND EVEN TRUCKS AS A TEAM



THE RANGER CHALLENGE TEAM COMPETES IN THE CBRN LANE IN FORT COLLINS, CO.

Ranger Challenge

Every fall, Cadets from all around the country come together to test their mental and physical abilities against one another in the annual Ranger Challenge competition. While the competition is a true test of one's will and character, it is the training leading up to the competition that truly defines the Ranger Challenge Cadet's experience. The decision to compete for a spot on a team is not something to be taken lightly. From the long ruck marches and runs to the relentless grind of waking up for PT six to seven days a week, the camaraderie and esprit de corps built between the participating Cadets is something that can only be forged in hardship and adversity.

The competition and training is largely physically based. However, what makes Ranger Challenge so unique is its emphasis on teamwork. Having to work within a small team to solve complex problems with

limited resources is strenuous for anyone, but it is the idea of self-sacrifice for the betterment of the team that all Cadets must buy in order to succeed.

While the competition is only one facet of the entire Ranger Challenge experience, it is the training and hard work that goes on behind the scenes that encompasses what it truly means to commit to a team and push your limits.

Tri-Mil Competition

The annual Tri-Mil Service Competition took place October 18th on Farrand Field at the University of Colorado Boulder. Cadets from the Army, Air Force, Navy, and Marine Corps ROTC programs competed to win the competition and the coveted Tri-Mil trophy. Normally, the branches work together on campus to complete their training missions. This is one day out of the year where the different branches come together to battle it out in intense but friendly competition. A team from the Mexican Navy was also present, symbolizing the strong relationship between our nations' forces.



CADETS WIN THE TUG-OF-WAR EVENT AGAINST NAVY ROTC.



THE WINNING TEAM OF THE 2018 TRIMIL COMPETITION.

Alpha Company's Human Performance Officer, Cadet Stuart Wygant, played a large role in coordinating with the other branches and planning the competition. "The goal of the competition was to create a series of high intensity events which would challenge Cadets in similar ways to a combat environment, he said." These events included a litter carry, team "Murph" workout, and, new this year, 1v1 pugil stick matches. As always, the competition was concluded by a tug-of-war between the strongest Cadets of each branch. Army Team 3 won the competition, followed by Air Force and Navy/Marine Corps teams in second and third respectively. With their first place finish, the Cadets from Team 3 secured an Army ROTC victory for the 5th consecutive year.

Military Appreciation Football Game

A game of remembrance to all those who have served and continue to serve.

On an unexpected and unusually warm November afternoon, 45,587 people gathered at Folsom Field to watch the Colorado Buffaloes take on the Washington State Cougars. Other than CU playing for a much needed win after four straight losses, this game held an even greater meaning as it fell on Veterans Day weekend. The meaning of Veteran's Day is not lost on the American people, and it is certainly not lost on Golden Buffalo Battalion Cadets, who hosted and participated in many events on this special game day.

The game started with an open house in the Army ROTC Cadet lounge, where veterans and alumni alike from all military branches could come in and speak with Cadet's/share stories with fellow service members. Alumni from as far back as the early 80s, and recent CU alumni such as LTC Sullivan (a 2002 graduate), were present.

As kickoff approached, Cadets McDermott, Mathis, and Mulcahy participated in a Joint Color Guard ceremony to open the game during the national anthem and to honor our veterans. Meanwhile, Army and Airforce Cadets took the field on the southern end zone to cheer on the Buffaloes and participate in end zone push-ups. Each time Colorado scored, Cadets would line up on the end zone and perform as many pushups as the team had scored so far in the game.

While the Military Appreciation game was a game of remembrance to all those who have served and continue to serve, it was also a special day of remembrance for six Army ROTC Cadets, who had the privilege and honor to be officially sworn in on the field by LTC Jason Lojka between the first and second quarters of the game.

As future service members, it was an honor for every Cadet who participated in this Military Appreciation game to pay homage to our veterans, and is an important reminder of why they signed up to serve the United States.



CADETS PERFORM IN A JOINT COLOR GUARD AT THE CU FOOTBALL MILITARY APPRECIATION GAME.

Military Appreciation Volleyball Game

If you give Cadets free tickets to a game, you're guaranteed to have a good time. On Friday October 26th, 20 Cadets from Alpha Company, Golden Buffalo Battalion, clad in CTU's and smiles, filled into the front row of the south side of the Coors Event Center. Our Cadets were the official start to the game, as Cadets Harris and Phipps maned the traditional pre-game siren. Front and center, the group of Cadets provided a great energy to the whole arena, as the cameras couldn't be kept off of them!



CADETS ARE RECOGNIZED AT THE CU WOMENS VOLLEYBALL GAME FOR THEIR INVOLVEMENT IN ROTC.

After two intense sets of CU volleyball, the Cadets were lead out onto the court in a file and faced the west stands. It was hard to hear the applause and recognition with Chip the Buffalo having a good time, getting cozy with Cadets. This would be a theme for the night. Cadets settled back into their seats as CU led a valiant comeback from being down two sets.

The rising momentum of the game was then solidified by an old-fashioned Cadet competition in front of the loyal Buff fans (and maybe some Washington State fans).

Cadets Gorman and Badger appeared from under the athletic entrance with trash bins secured to their backs via backpack straps. They took positions on the south side of the net as Cadets Schwab and Zitron took positions opposite them and proceeded to launch volleyballs in a fire-for-effect fashion. When volleyballs found their target in a trash bin, the arena was met with applause. The small task force of Cadets did a great job providing our supporters with well-executed entertainment.

Although watching CU fall 3 sets to 1 against Washington State, the Cadets had a great time and fulfilled the commander's intent of representing the Golden Buffalo Battalion for the people of CU.



GOLDEN BUFFALO BATTALION PHOTO FALL FTX 2018



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Program Support

Our Cadets rely on your generous donations to help offset costs associated with events such as Commissioning and Awards ceremonies, annual Dining-Out, Military Appreciation/Veteran's Day events, leadership labs, orientation events, Cadet participation in Ranger Challenge and Bataan Memorial Death March, and summer leadership training programs. Without your support, we would not be able to take advantage of these great developmental opportunities for our aspiring officers.

To donate online, please visit

<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 Colorado School of Mines AROTC, please make check payable to CSM Foundation, and in the Memo section 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, 1020 19th St Golden, CO 80401

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