Greetings to all of our alumni around the world. I hope that this Newsletter finds you safe, healthy, and happy.

I want you to know that you can be very proud of your ROTC program and the quality of cadets that it produces. These fine young men and women are the right blend of Scholar/Athlete/Leader (SAL) that our Army needs. Three of our 10 commissionees this year will be Distinguished Military Graduates, defined as being in the top 20% of all cadets nationwide. Cadet Jon Degreffe and Cadet Paul Bobich will be going on Active Duty and Cadet Yunhui Voelker will serve her commitment in the National Guard. Together, these three are a part of a senior class that has led this program well. ROTC has changed since I went through Temple University over 20 years ago. I don’t remember cadets having as much responsibility in running an ROTC program then as they do today. Our cadets are much more prepared for the Army than in decades past. They have to be. With today’s Global War on Terrorism, cadets could be in harm’s way within a year from commissioning.

Your ROTC Program is healthy and continues to grow. We will make line mission this year for the first time since 2001 and only the second time since 1993. We are also programmed to make mission next year as well as we have far exceeded our contract mission. Through the hard work of our cadre, MSU ROTC will be known throughout our BDE, Region, and Cadet Command as a top producer of future Army Lieutenants.

Be proud of your program. We are. HOOAH!!!!

STATE OF THE PROGRAM

Senior Accessions: (Remember anxiously waiting for your branches and assignments??)

All MS IVs — 5 are going Active Duty, 8 are going National Guard

Branches: 2 OD, 3 EN, AR, FA, SC, MS, QM, IN, IN/SC, IN/MI

There are new options now to increase the Cadets’ ability to control their accessions. Through an Active Duty Service Obligation option they add 3 years to their active duty commitment in order to get their top branch or duty station assignment, or to attend graduate school. Not everyone who wants Active Duty will be assessed AD. Currently there is a push to fill the vacant officer positions in the Reserves and National Guard. Increasingly, the Cadets have more control over their branches, assignments and duty type. However one aspect that has not changed is the emphasis on the OML, weighted heavily by APFT, Grades and Leader Development and Assessment Course (formerly known as Advance Camp).
ROTC Cadet Selected as George C. Marshall Award Winner

Yunhui Voelker, an Elementary Education major and a distinguished Cadet in the MSU Army ROTC program, was selected to represent the university at the 31st George C. Marshall Award Seminar. Cadets are selected by the cadre of their college or university Army ROTC Detachment as the outstanding Army ROTC cadet for the year.

In November 1976, then Chief of Staff of the United States Army, General Bernard Rogers and Marshall Foundation lifetime trustee retired General Maxwell Taylor agreed to “the establishment of an annual George C. Marshall Award for outstanding members of the Army ROTC.” Since that time, the Marshall Foundation, in partnership with the United States Army, has brought close to 9,000 outstanding college seniors to the Foundation in Lexington, Virginia to receive the Marshall ROTC Award and participate in the Marshall Seminar on the National Security of the United States.

On April 15, 2008, 276 senior cadets from colleges and universities with ROTC detachments and cadets from the United States Military Academy at West Point, will gather in Lexington again for the 31st annual George C. Marshall ROTC Award Seminar.

Throughout the week, the cadets will participate in various roundtable discussions on topics such as Peacekeeping and the U.S. Military; Homeland Security and the Role of the Military; the Media and the Battlefield; Ethics: An Officer’s Character; Conflict in the Persian Gulf; Southwest Asia - Afghanistan, Pakistan, and India and Security Issues for Latin America. Cadet Command will also provide Officers and Non-Commissioned Officers to lead a series of roundtable discussions on the Role of the Platoon Leader and the Non-Commissioned Officer.

Cadet Voelker is most deserving of this selection. She carries a 3.78 grade point average and is very active on campus. Besides her extensive ROTC responsibilities, she is or has been a Resident Assistant in the dormitories, a Learning Community Coordinator, and an intramural sports coach. She also participates in the ROTC Color Guard, Ranger Challenge Team, and on the Bataan Death March Team. She is the most physically fit female in the ROTC program with a 312 score on the Army's Physical Fitness Test.

Cadet Yunhui Voelker is ranked #1 in her senior class of 19 cadets. Her goal is to be an elementary school teacher while fulfilling her commitment in the Army National Guard.
ALUMNI UPDATES

CPT Michael Bundt (01) is stationed at Fort Hood, TX. He and his wife Shannon are expecting their second child July 08. He will be deploying for his third tour to Iraq in June 08. He is currently the Commander of HHB, 41st Fires Brigade.

CPT Sara (Livingston) Woods (02) accepted a position at MSU as the Enrollment and Scholarship Officer for the ROTC department. She is a Reservist assigned to the 88th RRC at Fort Snelling, MN.

CPT Josh Hansen (02) and his wife Beth welcomed twin girls on April 15, 2007. Maya Joy and Lauren Joy Hansen were born at 33 1/2 weeks and both weighed 5 lbs 2 oz. The Hansen family currently lives in Beaver Dam, WI. Josh is serving as the Ops and Training officer (AGR) for 4th BDE, 98th DIVIT.

MAJ (P) Will Greene (91) returned from a 8-month deployment in Baghdad in Oct 07. Currently on reassignment orders, Program Executive Office Command Control Communications Tactical (PEO C3T) position, to the Naval Support Activity in Panama City, FL in Jul 08.

CPT Bobby Johnson (04) is currently the S3 assigned to a MiTT team in Iraq. His tour is scheduled to be finished in July 2008.

Erin Jacobson (03) is a 1st Grade teacher at Gibbon Elementary school. She and her husband Ryan are expecting baby #2 in March. They have a 2 year old daughter named Marti.

MAJ Mark Moeller (93) is currently mobilized to FORSCOM TDA as a 51C working with Army Sustainment Command - Forward, as a program manager overseeing logistical contract operations at Forts Benning, Stewart and Bragg.

LTC Jeffrey Meister (85) is currently assigned to Headquarters, Department of the Army at the Pentagon. He will be retiring from Active service Fall 2008.

CPT Michael McGuire (02) During the summer of 2007 attended the Adjutant General Advance Course. He is currently a BOLC III instructor at Fort Jackson, SC. The last summer he also got married. They live in Colombia, SC.

Patty (Degonda) Payne (85) lives in Bloomington and works as a Security Manager for the Transportation Security Administration.

1LT Nate Miatech (06) is currently serving as the Supply Platoon Leader for A Co 173d BSB. He is deployed to FOB Fenty, Afghanistan in support of OEF VIII.

1LT Chris Donlin (03) is attending law school and serves with the 34th Infantry Minnesota National Guard.

CPT Pete Marston (02) transitioned into the Reserves in October 2007. He lives in Raleigh, NC where he works as a Project Manager for a contract research organization specializing in clinical trials for drug companies and new drug development.

CPT Christian Bjornson (00) is currently stationed at Fort Bragg, NC where he serves as the Company Commander for C Co, 3rd PSYOPS BN, 4th PsyOps Group.

MAJ Roy Behne (92) is currently stationed at Offutt AFB. He is assigned to J66 USSSTRATCOM and serves as SATCOM International Partners.

MAJ Aaron Baugher (96) is serving in the IA National Guard at Camp Dodge, IA as the State Collective Training Manager (AGR) and 1-168IN BN XO.

Maya and Lauren Hansen (Josh Hansen)

Van graphics courtesy of the MSU Sign Shop!
COL Eric Ahlness (86) serves as the Director of Government Relations for the MN National Guard in his civilian life. He is also the Strategic Planner for Joint Force Headquarters—Minnesota (JFHQ-MN).

LTC Alan Dorow (89) is currently assigned to the 81st Heavy BDE Combat Team. He is the BN Commander for the 181 BSB, WA.

BG Alan Dohrmann (83) is serving as the Deputy Adjutant General/Land Component Commander at the Joint Force HQ—NDNG.

LTC David Deyak (89) is currently assigned to the Pentagon in the Joint Staff as the Chief, Counter Proliferation Branch, Combating WMD Division, J-5.

CPT Dan Clark (04) is in the 64th BSB, 38CT, 4ID at Ft. Carson, CO. He serves as the Assistant S3-Current Ops, General Services Officer. He is currently deployed to Iraq.

CPT Tara Earley (99) is serving as the 380th QM Company Commander (AGR) in Evansville, IN.

MAJ Seth Graves (99) is currently stationed at Ft. Hood, Commander of 15 PSB.

MAJ(P) David Cole (87) is currently deployed to Iraq. He is assigned to the Joint Reserve Intelligence Support Element, RIA-Midwest and serves as a Counter Terrorism Analyst. In his civilian life he works for Telford Aviation in UTAMS and CLAW systems operations.

LTC Larry Herke (85) is the Battalion Commander for the 1-34 BSTB in MN. In his civilian life he is the Chief of Logistics and Readiness Officer for the MN National Guard.

Thomas Harper (85) is a professional Land Surveyor for the Dept of Transportation in Minnesota.

1LT Justin Heinze (05) is the S-1 for the 1-340th TSBN, 181 IN BDE, Fort McCoy, WI.

CPT Brian "Jake" Jacobson (98) is the S6 for 1/25 SBCT stationed at Fort Wainwright, AK.

CPT Brian Guseyn-Zade (05) is stationed at Fort Riley, KS. He is the Scout Platoon Leader for 2-16 IN deployed to OIF.

LTC Eric Endries (90) is the 4th ID (Mech) Division G3, stationed at Fort Hood.

2LT Joe Fee (06) is serving in the Reserves, Wausau, WI as the Disbursing Officer. In his civilian life he is an accountant.

MAJ Brett Lindberg (98) is stationed at the Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey as a graduate student in Modeling and Simulations. His current unit is Modeling, Virtual Environments and Simulations (MOVES).

CPT Carrie (Hanson) Husnik (01) is deployed to Iraq. She is the BN S2/ UH-60 Pilot. She is serving in the Aviation branch with MI duty. Her home station is St. Paul, MN.

LTC David Langfellow (90) is serving with the EUCOM JAC ARE DET 4, Fort Snelling, MN as the Chief of Joint Operations / Det Commander.

MAJ Steven Kvaal (90) is an AG in Arden Hills MN. He assigned to the 13th PSYOPS as the S3.

MAJ Dennis Kellen (92) is stationed at Ft. Belvoir and is assigned to the Dewitt Healthcare Network as the Chief of Logistics and Facilities Management.

LTC Duane Dannewitz (85) is stationed at Ft Huachuca. He is assigned to the US Army Intelligence Center and serves as the Inspector General.

Anyone missing Lead Labs in the snow???
ALUMNI UPDATES CONT...

**MAJ Steven Dittrich** (91) is assigned to the 214th Legal Support Org, Fort Snelling. He is a Client Services Officer. In his civilian life he is a Lawyer.

**MAJ Dwayne Eden** (94) currently serves in the 734th RSG, IANG. In his civilian life he is a Deputy Sheriff.

**MAJ Stephen Johannsen** (92) serves as the information operations office, WA ARNG. He is assigned to the BDE HQ, 81st HBCT. In his civilian life he is an automotive consultant for GM Corp.

**LTC Kent Jones** (88) is stationed at Kirkland AFB, NM. He is the Chief, Test Fielding Branch assigned to the Defense threat Reduction Agency.

**Scott McBride** (88) is a police officer and lives in Kenai, AK.

**LTC David Oberlander** (88) is currently the Professor of Military Science for the Bison Battalion Army ROTC, NDSU in Fargo, ND.

**LTC Arvin Olson** (81) is the Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff, G4 at the 88th RRC, Fort Snelling MN.

**MAJ Bradley Ommott** (90) is assigned to the JFHQ -2 MNNG at Camp Ripley, MN. In his civilian life he is a project manager for highway construction.

Cadets Piepho, Milstead and Debruzzi, along with MAJ Bohl participated in the 2008 Bataan Death March at White Sands Missile Range.

NEW CADRE BIOGRAPHIES

**MSG Donald Friend** joined our staff March 2008. He arrived straight from his latest deployment to Afghanistan. He enlisted in Nov 1985 and has been an active duty career Field Artilleryman. He has completed all NCOES requirements through the 1SG Course. A few of his distinguished awards include the Bronze Star, the Defense Meritorious Service award, 3 MSMs, German Proficiency badge—Gold, the honorable order of St. Barbara and SGT Audie Murphy. His vast experience included countless deployments to countries around the world—Japan, Russia, Ukraine, Iraq, Afghanistan and many more. MSG Friend believes the most significant event in his career was his time as a 1SG. He said it was there that he was able to be the most influential in the lives and careers of his Soldiers. He will be a Senior Military Science Instructor for the program.

MSG Friend is married to Rebecca, who is a Registered Nurse. He has two sons—Stephen (7th grade) and Dawson (6th grade). The family lives in St. Peter, Minnesota.

**CPT Sara Woods** joined our staff January 2008. She is a 2002 graduate and commissioned from MSU. She spent four years on active duty as an Air Defender and now serves in the Reserves at Fort Snelling, MN. CPT Woods believes the most significant event in her military career was her time as a Platoon leader. She enjoyed the camaraderie and the direct training and mentoring aspect of her platoon. She will be the Recruiting Operations Officer.

CPT Woods has two girls—Anna (age 4) and Hailey (age 2). They live in Janesville, MN.
The 2008 Commissioning Ceremony will be held on Friday May 9th. The location will be at the Gustavus Alumni Room, Gustavus College. With much anticipation we are looking forward to commissioning 10 new 2LTs this year.

The keynote speaker for the event is Congressman Tim Walz. Alumni are always invited and welcome to attend.

If you are interested, please RSVP to the dept NLT 25 April 08.

507-389-5835/6229

CURRENT CADRE AND STAFF

LTC Thomas Cooper—PMS
507-389-5832
Thomas.cooper@mnsu.edu

MAJ Gerald Bohl—APMS/XO
507-389-5088
Gerald.bohl@mnsu.edu

MAJ Amy Ninneman—APMS/TPU
507-389-6220
Amy.ninneman@mnsu.edu

CPT Sara Woods—ROO
507-389-5835
Sara.woods@mnsu.edu

MSG Don Friend—SMSI
507-389-5833
Donald.friend-1@mnsu.edu

MSG John Moore—SMSI/S3
507-389-5834
John.moore@mnsu.edu

MSG Riehm—SMSI/TPU
Andrew.riehm@mnsu.edu

Jean Andresen (HRA)—
507-389-6229
Jean.andresen@mnsu.edu

Lori Olinger—
507-389-6226
Lori.olinger@mnsu.edu

Kristina Boyce (Supply)—
507-389-5838
Kristina.boyce@mnsu.edu

Dept of Military Science
316 Wiecking Center
Mankato, MN 56001

Alumni Visits: The Department of Military Science maintains an open request for any Alumni in the area or passing though, to stop in and speak to cadets regarding their military experience. Please contact the office if you’d like to share your story.

Thanks!

Fundraising: Have you ever been contacted by MSU’s alumni relations department during their fund drives? Did you know that you could designate your donation to the ROTC department though the College of Education and the Alumni Relations Department? Donations are used in various aspects for training, scholarships and cadet activity support.