SUMMER TRAINING

Warrior Forge/LDAC

In keeping with tradition, MSIIIs excelled at Warrior Forge/LDAC (formerly Advanced Camp) at Ft. Lewis, Washington.

Cdt Phillip Kroll finished first in his platoon and received an overall “E” rating. After LDAC, Kroll interned with the highly-selective National Guard MI program in Virginia.

Cdt Mike Gerboth also received an overall “E” for his performance at LDAC. Following graduation from LDAC, Gerboth headed to MI CTLT at Fort Gordon, GA.

Other CTLT attendees were Cdt Casey Lyells, Ft. Polk (IN) and Tim Opheim Ft. Sill (FA).

Cdt Dan Tengwall was a solid LDAC performer as well, garnering four “E” ratings, barely missing an overall “E” rating while finishing with an overall “S.”

On the whole, the MSIIIs from the Maverick Bn averaged 96 on the land navigation segment at Ft. Lewis, which is notoriously difficult because of thick vegetation and winding trails and roads.

Special Schools.

MS III cadet Nick Fougner; MS IV Lisa Paradee and MS II Paul Bobich all completed the rigorous Airborne school at Ft. Benning, GA.

Nursing Cadet Betsy Yang (MS III) successfully completed Leader’s Training Course (LTC) at Ft. Knox, KY. Completion of LTC qualifies a cadet, typically college juniors, for the ROTC advanced course and the SMP program.

HOMECOMING

MSU homecoming is approaching fast. We encourage all alumni to participate, it will be a great opportunity to catch up with fellow alumni while staying up to date with the program as it enters another year of training excellence.

Events will take place all through 26 SEP-1 OCT.

The football game is set for 1:00pm at Blaksee Field, this year’s opponent will be the University of Minnesota-Duluth Bulldogs.

Before the game, meet up with MSU alumni and chat with ROTC cadre. The Touchdown Tent, located at the Ostrander Student Bell Tower and Alumni Plaza will have family activities and a Taste of Mankato event. The tent will also serve as a meeting point for ROTC alumni—ROTC cadre will be present as well.

Continued on pg. 6
Greetings to all cadets past and present! As the newest member of the Maverick Battalion, let me tell you, its great to be a part of one of the best ROTC programs in the country! I’ve been extremely impressed with the high quality, enthusiasm, and commitment of our cadets; the thorough professionalism and dedication of the cadre; and the cooperation and support of the university. Together, this is establishing a record of success that has few peers.

I look forward to a superb year this fall. This class of incoming seniors has proven they are ready to bring this unit to the next level, and we have some fantastic cadets among the freshman, sophomores, and juniors who will provide the backbone to another wonderful year. Seniors, carry that mantle proudly for this outstanding unit. I’m extremely proud of each and every one of you as you strive for Leadership Excellence and pursue that coveted commission in the United States Army. It is a noble profession and one in which you should take a great deal of pride.

I look forward to getting to know each of you well in the coming year. Together, we’ll share MAVERICK PRIDE!

LTC Thomas Cooper

**LTC Cooper’s Biographical Information**

After completing the Signal Officer Basic Course at Fort Gordon, Georgia, LTC Cooper’s first assignment was as a platoon leader for HHC, 63rd Signal Battalion in Massweiler, Germany. His next assignment was as a platoon leader and executive officer for A Company, 63rd Signal Battalion where he participated in Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. LTC Cooper then returned to Fort Gordon, Georgia for the Signal Officer Advanced Course. His next assignment was in Fort Lewis, Washington where he served as the Battalion Signal Officer for the 864th Engineer Battalion, S-4 for the 29th Signal Battalion, and Company Commander of D Co, 29th Signal Battalion. After attending the Combined Arms Services Staff School in Leavenworth, Kansas, LTC Cooper was assigned as the lead engineer for the tactical Defense Message System program in Arlington, Virginia. He then served as Executive Officer for the Vice Director of the Defense Information Systems Agency and Commander of the Joint Task Force – Computer Network Defense in Arlington. He then attended the Command General Staff College in Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. While there he earned his Master of Science Degree in General Administration from Central Michigan University. LTC Cooper’s follow-on assignment was to Fort Gordon, GA where he served in two positions, Battalion XO for the 551st Signal Battalion and Brigade S3 for the 15th Signal Brigade. He was then selected for assignment as Aide-de-camp for the Deputy Commanding General/Chief of Staff of the Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC) in Fort Monroe, VA. LTC Cooper’s current assignment is as the Professor of Military Science (PMS) for Minnesota State University, Mankato.

LTC Cooper’s awards and decorations include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal (2 OLC), the Army Commendation Medal (2 OLC), the Joint Service Achievement Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, and the Southwest Asia Service Medal.

LTC Cooper is married to the former Gina Briesath of Madison, Wisconsin. They have one daughter, 7-month old Lauren.

“I’ve been extremely impressed with the high quality, enthusiasm, and commitment of our cadets” -LTC Cooper, new PMS at MSU ROTC.
IN MEMORY OF LT FASNACHT

1LT Michael John Fasnacht (class of ’03, Janesville, MN) was killed in action while on reconnaissance patrol in Ad Dawr, Iraq on June 8th 2005. Fasnacht was a platoon leader with Baker Company, 1st Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division.

As a cadet at Minnesota State University, Fasnacht completed both Air Assault and Airborne schools and graduated first in his platoon at Advance Camp in Ft. Lewis, WA earning him Distinguished Military Graduate honors.

His awards include the Bronze Star Medal, Purple Heart, Army Achievement Medal, Iraqi Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Ribbon, and the National Defense Service Medal.

He is survived by his wife, Tresa Fasnacht and his parents Ray and Marny of Janesville, Minnesota.

In honor of Fasnacht’s service and sacrifice, the “ROTC Alumni and Endowment Scholarship” will now be known as the “Michael J. Fasnacht Army ROTC and Endowment Scholarship.”

The remainder of this page remains empty in remembrance of Mike.
Greetings alumni. I hope this newsletter finds you safe and doing well. The main intent of the newsletter is to let you know how the program is doing and to act as a forum for alumni to be aware of what their former classmates are up to. The program is doing well in light of the current world situation and recruiting climate. We have increased our enrollment numbers in each of the last two years and are looking to increase it again this fall. Our cadets continue to do well at LDAC (Leader Development and Assessment Course, formerly known as Advance Camp) and on the national order of merit list. We continue to provide color guards for football and hockey games and participate in other university events.

I encourage you to stop by the office if you’re ever in the area or try to make it back for Homecoming if possible. Some of you may want to consider participating in the Special Recruiter Assistance Program (SRAP). Officers who are currently located in CONUS and have served in support of Operation Enduring Freedom or Operation Iraqi Freedom may request to participate in SRAP, where eligible personnel can serve up to 14 days on temporary duty at a recruiting station (or ROTC program) nearest their hometown. In addition to being a veteran, interested officers must be 28 years old or less, look the part of an Army officer, display a positive image, and be articulate and enthusiastic about what they do. In addition to claim-

expenses and per diem allowance for the 14-day temporary duty, approved SRAP Soldiers may combine the SRAP TDY with their ordinary leave, essentially extending their stay in their hometown. For more information, e-mail Maj. Van Hout at Van-houtMD@USACC.army.mil or call him at 757-788-3076 or DSN 680-3076 or visit www.usarec.army.mil. If you have any suggestions for additional information you’d like to see in the newsletter, or any comments, please feel free to share them. Continue to do great things for the Army and our country and stay safe.

**Upcoming Training events:**
- *29 AUG MSU classes start*
- *9 SEP Fall awards BBQ*
- *16-18 SEP: Fall FTX @ Camp Ripley*

For more information, email: gerald.bohl@mnsu.edu

**4 Year Scholarship Winners:**
Dan Dahlgren (Watertown, WI)
Adam Falk (Rochester, MN)

**3 Year Scholarship Winners**
Karl Anderson (Duluth, MN)
Charles Wyckoff (Fairbault, MN)

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**“We have increased our enrollment numbers in each of the last two years and are looking to increase it again this fall.”**

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**05-06 Cadet Chain of Command**

**Cadet Bn Cdr:** Phillip Kroll (Public Administration, MSU)

**Cadet Bn XO:** Joseph Fee (Accounting, MSU)

**Cadet Bn S-1:** Nathan Miatech (Economics, GAC)

**Cadet Bn PAO:** Devanie Viaene (Public Relations, MSU)

**Cadet Bn S-2:** Mike Gerboth (History, MSU)

**Cadet Asst. S-3:** Dan Tengwall (Political Science, GAC)

**Cadet Bn S-4:** Garret Hoelzel (Art, MSU)

**Bn CSM:** Timothy Opheim (Political Science, GAC)

**1st PLT TAC:** Lisa Paradee (Law Enforcement, MSU)

**2nd PLT TAC:** Casey Lyells (Political Science, GAC)

**Cadet Asst. S-3:** Hayato Kikuwata

Broomball at MWW Civic Center Dec 04
ALUMNI UPDATES

2LT Dave Adams ('04, MI, 134 Sig Bn) is the new head football coach at Wabasha Kellogg High School.

LTC Eric Ahlness ('86, MI/IN) assumed command of 1st Battalion (OCS), 175th Regiment for the Minnesota Army National Guard on 1 JUL 05.

Thomas Harper ('85) retired on 1 JUL 05 and is working as the Principal Land Surveyor for the MN DOT.

Doug Groh ('86, TC) is currently in the IRR and holds the position of Mower County Treasurer.

2LT Jonathan Johnson ('05, AG, HHC 34th ID) served as Gold Bar Recruiter for MSU. In August, Johnson will be teaching at the University of Iowa in the School of Art and Art History while pursuing a doctorate-level degree in photography and multimedia.

Jason Piccolo ('99) is a Special Agent with the Department of Homeland Security and is assigned to 2-128th IN (WI).

MAJ Kent Jones ('88) is the Technology Development Directorate at The Defense Threat Reduction Agency, Lakespur, CT.

MAJ David Langfellow ('88, CA) received the BSM and CAB during his tour in Al Maimudiyah, Iraq as the commander of his Civil Affairs unit. Langfellow worked with several units during his tour in Iraq: 2BCT-1st CAV Div, 2/24 Marine Expeditionary Unit, TF 2-70 Armor, 2/10 Mountain Div, and 3rd ACR.

MAJ Langfellow at the FOB

2LT Stephen Stock ('05, IN) is the Assistant PAO for the Leadership Development and Assessment Course (LDAC), formerly known as Advanced Camp or NALC, Ft. Lewis, WA.

LTC (Ret.) Randy Zimmerman ('85) retired on 1 JUL 05 and has since started up a consulting firm focused on improving Army Battle Command.

MAJ Kent Jones ('88) is the Technology Development Directorate at The Defense Threat Reduction Agency, Lakespur, CT.

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MAJ Langfellow at the FOB

2LT Dave Reinsbach ('05) is the acting HHC Cmrd for 147th Finance Bn.

NEW CADRE: MSG PUTNAM

Our latest addition to the MSU ROTC Cadre is Billings, MT native, MSG William Putnam. MSG Putnam will serve as Senior Instructor of Military Science.

MSG Putnam has undergone Advanced Urban Combat Training, Anti-Terrorism/Force Protection Level 2.

MSG Putnam has two combat tours under his belt, one during Operation Desert Storm, the other with OIF II. He also served in Kosovo and Macedonia as part of Operation Joint Guardian.

MSG Putnam is married to Diana, and has one daughter, Brandalyn and three sons: Cody, Tristan and Dylan.

Have an alumni update you want to share? E-mail them to military.science@mnsu.edu
Welcome Maverick Battalion ROC alums to our inaugural Alumni Newsletter! With so many MSU/GAC/BLC ROC graduates doing great things around the world, it seemed overdue that we share these bits of news with the alumni community.

In this issue you will find alumni updates as well as news about current cadets and the recently commissioned.

The new Battalion Commander, LTC Thomas Cooper reflects on his recent transition and the excitement and challenges that lie ahead. Page 2

A segment dedicated to the memory of MSU alumni 1Lt Michael J. Fasnacht can be found on page 3.

The new Cdt chain of command has been announced—see page 4.

If you have any news or updates to your contact information, or any suggestions for the Alumni Newsletter, please email CPT Jerry Bohl at gerald.bohl@mnsu.edu.

Homecoming continued from pg. 1:
For more information on homecoming, check out the following link:
http://www.mnsu.edu/alumni/events/homecoming05.htm
Hope to see you there!

*Above right: the new Distinguished Unit Insignia for the MAV BN.