

# ROTC Wildcat Roar

Fall 2020 Issue

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# ROTC Wildcat Roar

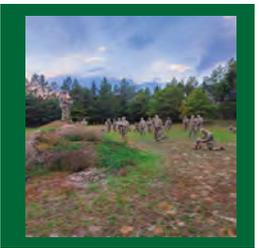
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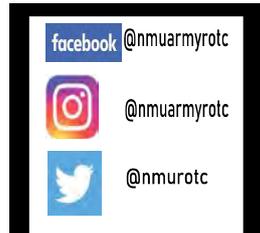
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## **LTC Timothy Harris**

*Department Head &  
Professor of Military Science*



## **CPT Jessica Copi**

*Assistant Professor  
of Military Science*



## **MSG Donald Clemons**

*Senior Military Science  
Instructor*



## **MSG Joshua Ingram**

*Military Science Instructor*

# *Message From LTC Harris*

Welcome back to the PMS' corner, I hope everyone has enjoyed their holiday break and that you and your families are staying healthy. I know that the fight against COVID has become a slog, but as members of the Wildcat BN, we have a responsibility to continue to comply with all School, State, Federal, and CDC guidelines. Your health is a "pacing item", please take care of it. I am very impressed with the way we have responded to the COVID Pandemic. We have all, Cadets and Cadre, worked hard with the University to get back to safe training through the Fall and I just wanted to recognize that. I would also like to acknowledge our Alumni and friends of the Battalion and wish you a great new year. I would also encourage you to stay in touch with us through our Social media accounts on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

Unfortunately, we had to say goodbye to one of our outstanding Cadre members, Master Sergeant Ingram, has moved on to his new assignment. MSG Ingram's contributions to our Battalion were tremendous. The most notable was his creation of the "Dungeons & Ingram" table top game to provide additional tactical training for our junior level Cadets. When COVID struck, this became our primary course of action for tactical training and helped us get through our labs. We wish him and his family the best at FT Drum. Additionally, we are happy to welcome SFC Jenkins to the team. Another Field Artillery Forward Observer, he joins us from FT Stewart, Ga.

As we move forward to tackle the new semester, we can't just act like the pandemic is over. We need to stay safe, strong, and tough to continue to get after our goals through creative and innovative methods. These challenges provide us space outside our comfort zone to grow and develop as leaders. In 5-10 years from now, you will look back and take the lessons we have learned here to be more flexible and adaptive leaders. However, as we all know, moving icons on a power point map over Zoom does not equal strapping on snowshoes and conducting a Raid out at the Sandlot. We will get back to what makes us strong and successful at CST and in the Army; when we do, take advantage of it and build yourself stronger. No matter what obstacles are in our way, we will, as a team, create the toughest and strongest leaders to excel in the Army.

# Farewell MSG Ingram!



"Master Sergeant Ingram was honestly one of the best instructors I have had throughout my entire time at Northern Michigan University. He really cared about all of the cadets and helped them become great leaders. He was a mentor, leader, teacher, and a great friend. He helped me become more mentally resilient when I was struggling and he put in extra time during summers to make sure cadets were at their peak physical fitness. I know everyone in the ROTC program wishes him the best as he continues his career at Fort Drum."

- CDT Wright MSIII

"In October of 2017, the Army gifted me the opportunity to teach, mentor, and develop its future leaders at Northern Michigan University's ROTC Program. I did not know it at the time, but by the end of my time at the program, my own understanding of the Army and its Officer Corps grew significantly. Throughout my time, I was blessed to see some of the Army's best and brightest Officers graduate from NMU to go on and do amazing things within the Active Duty, National Guard, and Reserve Forces. My greatest hope is that the other Cadre and I have provided enough knowledge and confidence for each student to be the success they desire to be, regardless of which profession they enter. It has truly been an honor and my personal privilege to grow with you all during my three-plus years with the Wildcats. May your minds be sharp, your bodies be strong, and your spirits be high."

Sincerely,  
1SG Joshua R. Ingram





This semester presented new challenges to the Wildcat Battalion, as the pandemic altered our ability to train.

Our cadets, instructors, staff members and the entire university worked all year to continue training while prioritizing safety.

Throughout all of our training, cadets were required to follow CDC and NMU health guidelines, to include mask wearing, social distancing, using face shields during specific training,

at times moving towards virtual training, and complying with university regulations within the classroom.

Because of the willingness and dedication of cadets to adapt their training and accept new guidelines, the Wildcat Battalion was able to have a successful semester that ended with a culminating "Superlab."

CDT Jacobs, the Cadet Battalion XO, shared his thoughts on the semester.

"As the pandemic stretched into the new school year, we were very vigilant with our changes, and safety was our number one priority.

Our cadets adapted quickly, and it was impressive how welcoming the changes were taken. It is a great learning experience planning and executing with the new guidelines, and it's only making us stronger and more prepared." - CDT Jacobs MSIV



# MSIV Class



## Cole Baleczak

Criminal Justice Major

Hoping to branch Air Defense Artillery, Active Duty.



## Noah Brown

Construction Management Major

Hoping to branch Engineers in the Michigan National Guard.



## Joshua Gosseck

Finance & Risk Management Major

Branching Military Intelligence in the Army Reserves.

# MSIV Class



## Nate Jacobs

Multimedia Journalism Major

Branching Logistics  
in the Michigan National Guard.



## Kyle Maki

Finance & Risk Management Major

Branching Aviation  
in the Michigan National Guard.



## Shawn McIntyre

Exercise Science & Health Major

Branching Engineer  
in the Michigan National Guard.

# MSIV Class



## Alex Niculescu

Physics Major

Branching Engineer  
in the Michigan National Guard.



## Thomas Schmidt

Surgical Tech. / Clinical Science Major

Branching Logistics  
in the Army Reserves.



## Seth Steele

Wood Working Major

Branching Logistics  
in the Army Reserves.

# Staff Roster

BC - CDT Gosseck

XO - CDT Jacobs

S1 - CDT Niculescu

S2 - CDT Brown

S3 - CDT Maki

S3A - CDT Schmidt

CHOPS - CDT McIntyre

TAC - CDT Steele

S4 - CDT Baleczak

S9 - CDT Franco

CRT - CDT Wright

PAO - CDT Reichard

# Summer Training

## Operation Agile Leader

This past summer, the MSIV class completed Operation Agile Leader (OAL) at Fort McCoy, WI.

OAL was Cadet Command's adaptation of Advanced Camp, a usual requirement for commissioning.



“The shorter duration (ten days) of OAL presented its own challenges. There was always another hit time and we were training at a fast pace. This required us to:

- 1) Show up ready to perform
- 2) Be prepared to complete the training under additional constraints. I'm thankful for the coordination of our cadre and Cadet Command that allowed OAL to take place.” - CDT Gosseck MSIV

# Basic Camp

This summer was a unique experience because of the modified length and structure of Basic Camp. We packed a lot of learning into just a short amount of time, a little over a week. The cadre and cadets participating were some of the most motivated and professional individuals that I have had experience working with since beginning my career.

To sum up my thoughts on the experience, I would do it all over again a thousand times without hesitation. - CDT Deering MSIII



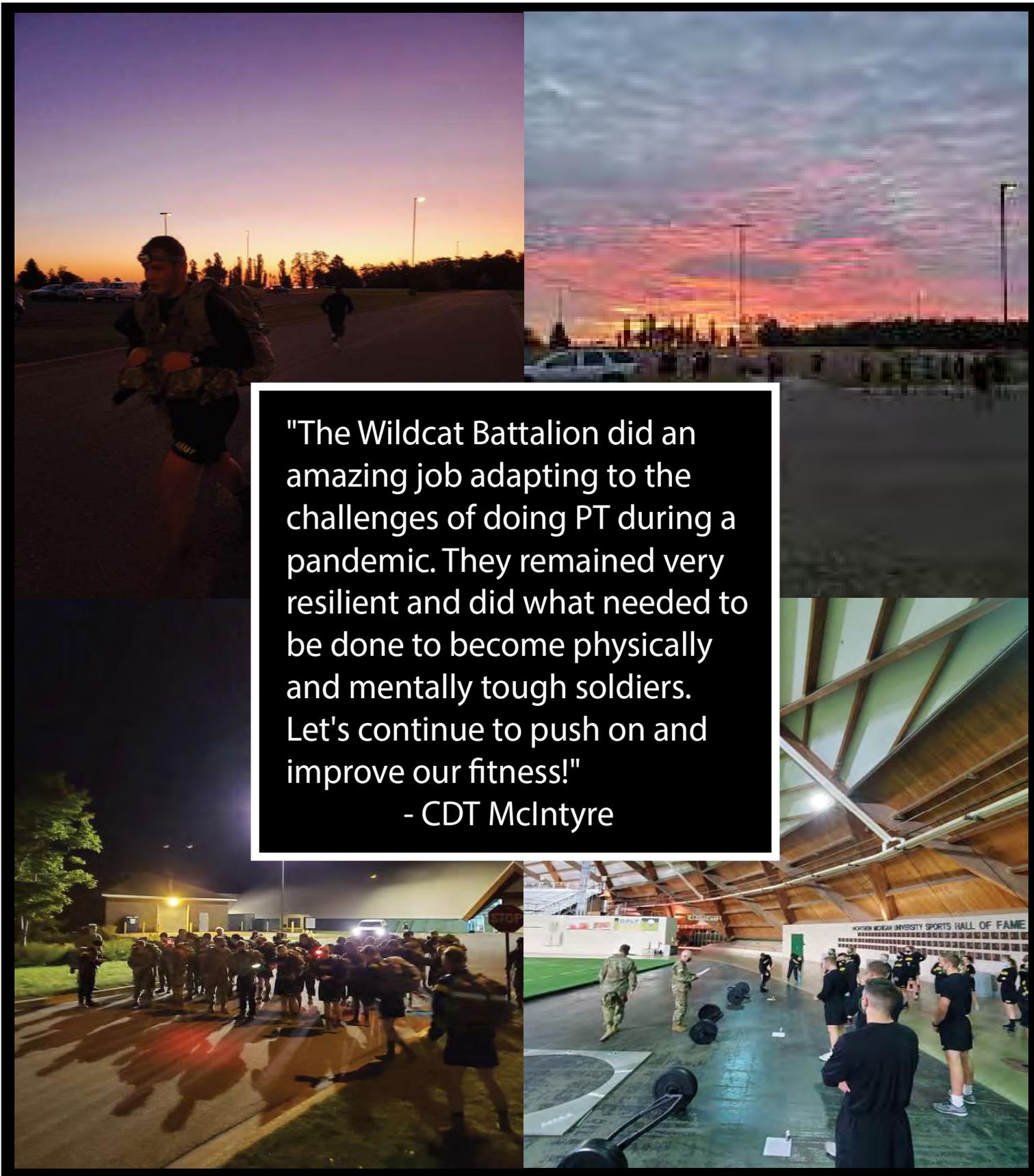
# MI National Guard Annual Training



“As an SMP Cadet I had the opportunity to perform a number of tasks with my unit, the 1437th EN CO, during our annual training, that will prepare me for when I commission as an Army Officer. These tasks included teaching battle tactics, creating OPORDs, & helping make DRAWS.”

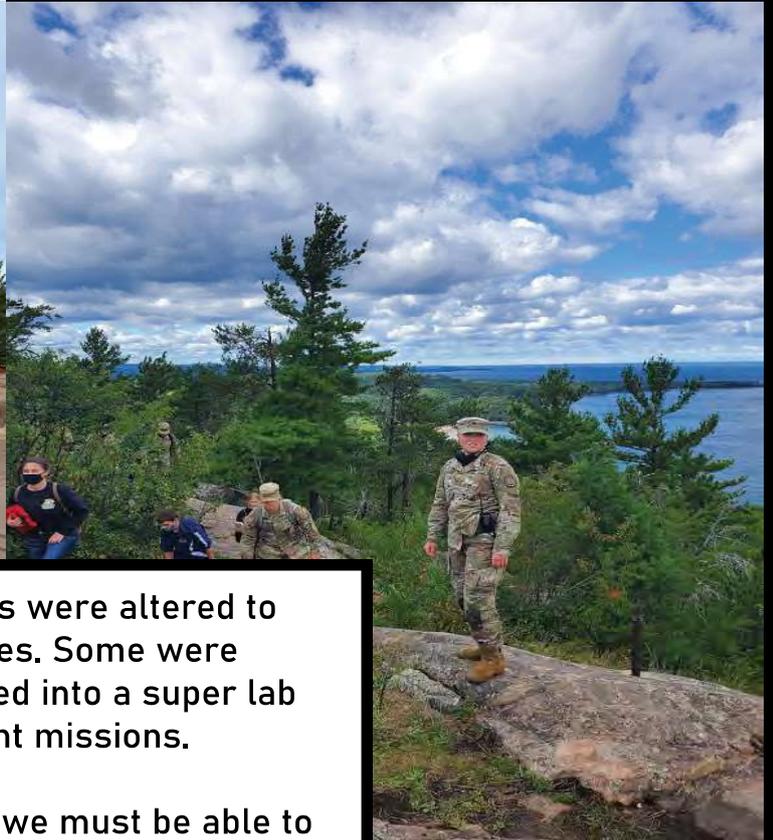
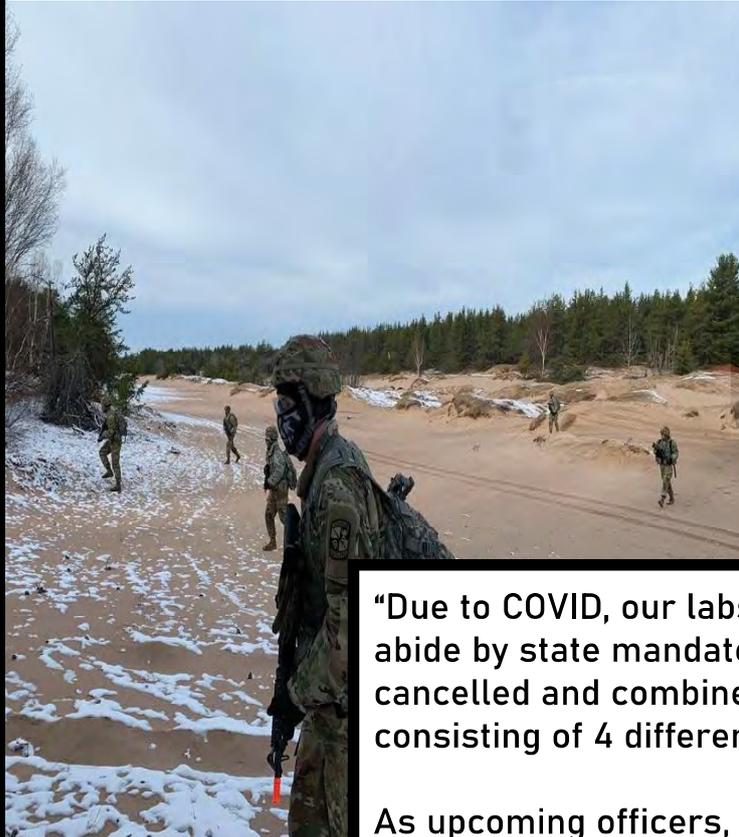
- CDT Reichard MSIII

# PT



"The Wildcat Battalion did an amazing job adapting to the challenges of doing PT during a pandemic. They remained very resilient and did what needed to be done to become physically and mentally tough soldiers. Let's continue to push on and improve our fitness!"  
- CDT McIntyre

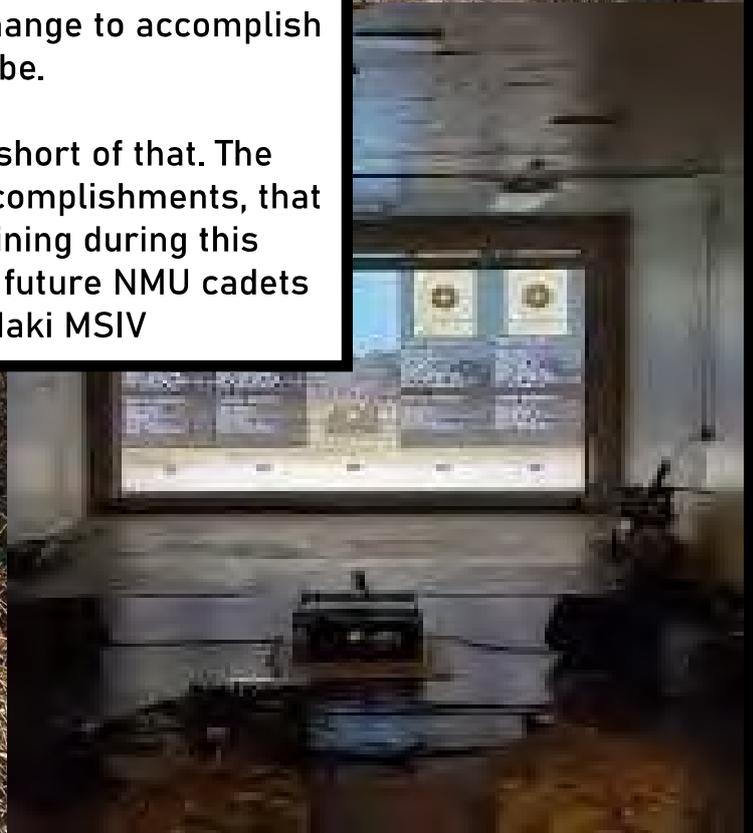
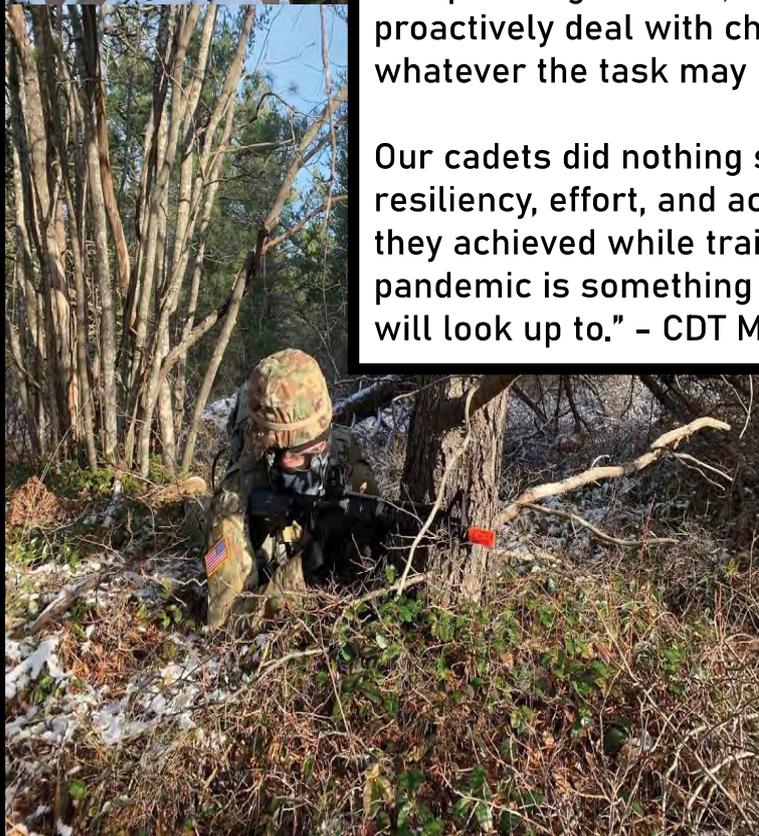
# LAB



**“Due to COVID, our labs were altered to abide by state mandates. Some were cancelled and combined into a super lab consisting of 4 different missions.**

**As upcoming officers, we must be able to proactively deal with change to accomplish whatever the task may be.**

**Our cadets did nothing short of that. The resiliency, effort, and accomplishments, that they achieved while training during this pandemic is something future NMU cadets will look up to.” - CDT Maki MSIV**



# F.T.X



This past August the Wildcat Battalion traveled to Fort McCoy, WI for our annual Fall Field Training Exercise (FTX).

NMU cadets improved a number of their tactical skills, including battle drills, rifle marksmanship, land navigation, knot tying, and other important subjects.

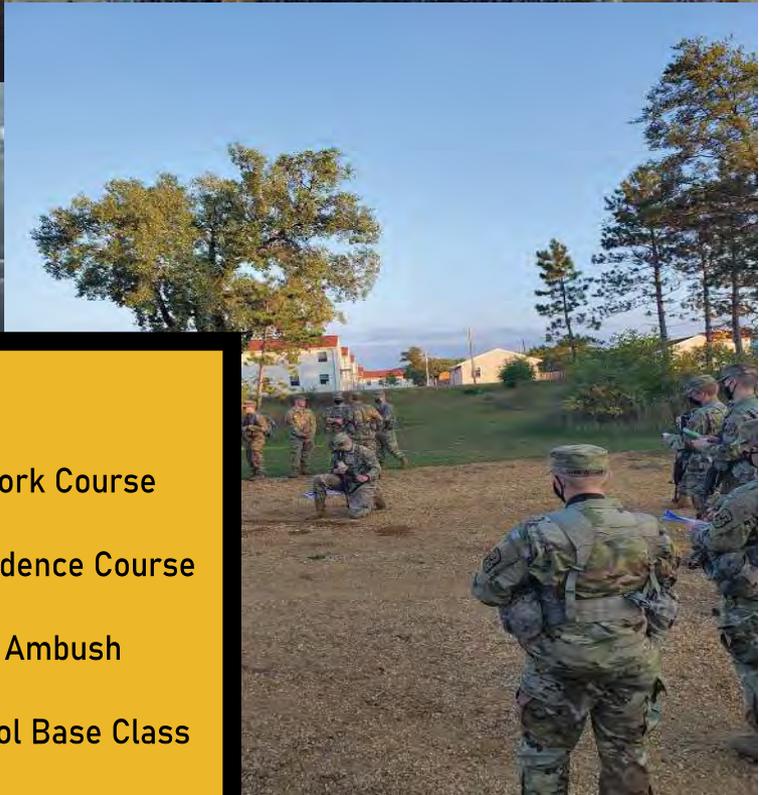
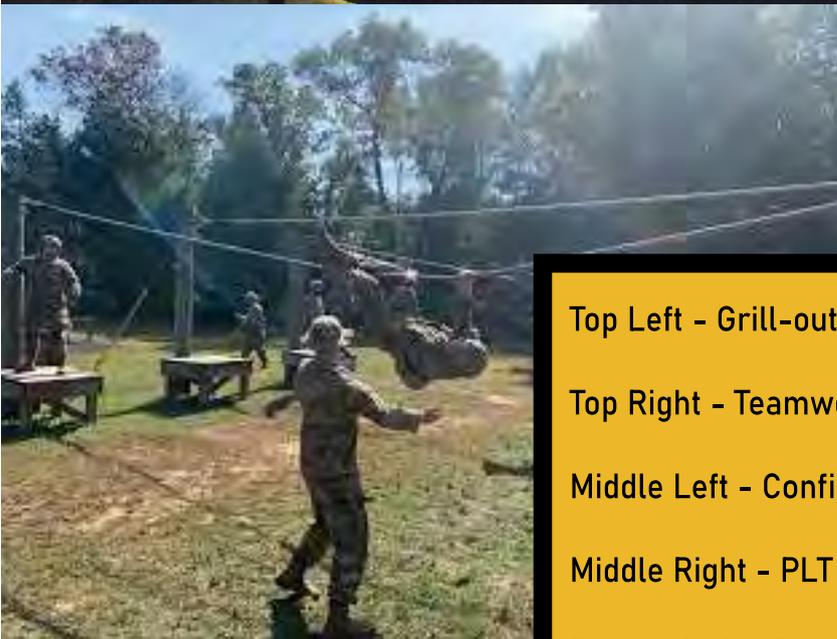
Throughout this training event, the battalion continued to take the necessary steps to mitigate the risk of COVID-19.

“This year at FTX was huge for me. I really learned a lot and I had a good time while doing it. The biggest thing that I learned while at Fort McCoy was how to operate as a team in the Army. I’ve been part of other teams before, but the way the Army operates is different, and getting to be a part of that was a good experience. Overall I thought that FTX went well, and it was a good learning opportunity.”

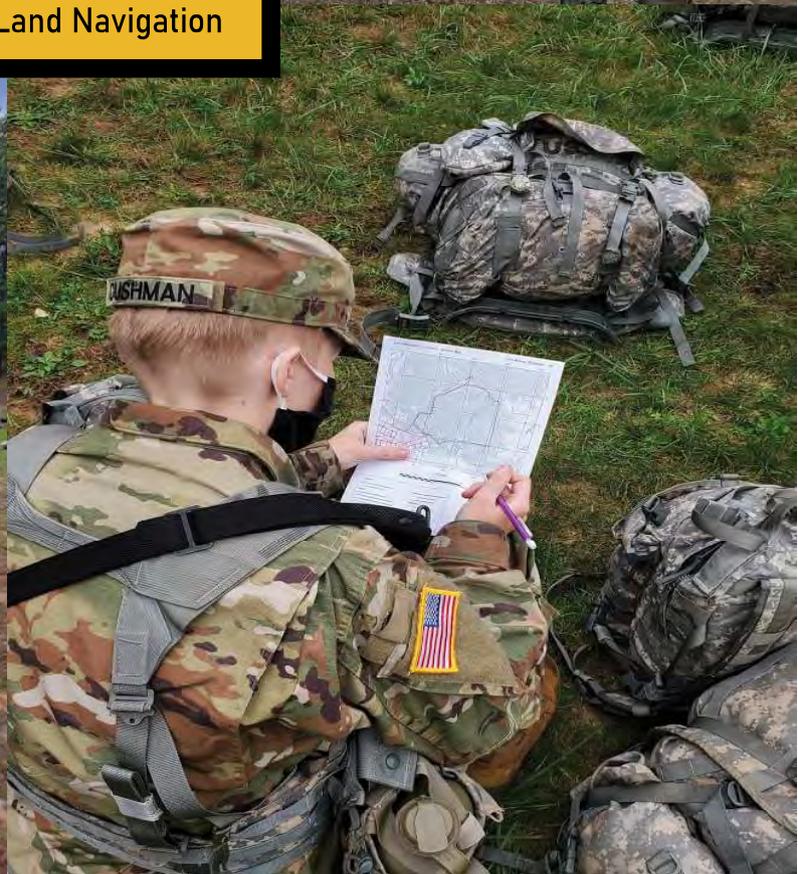
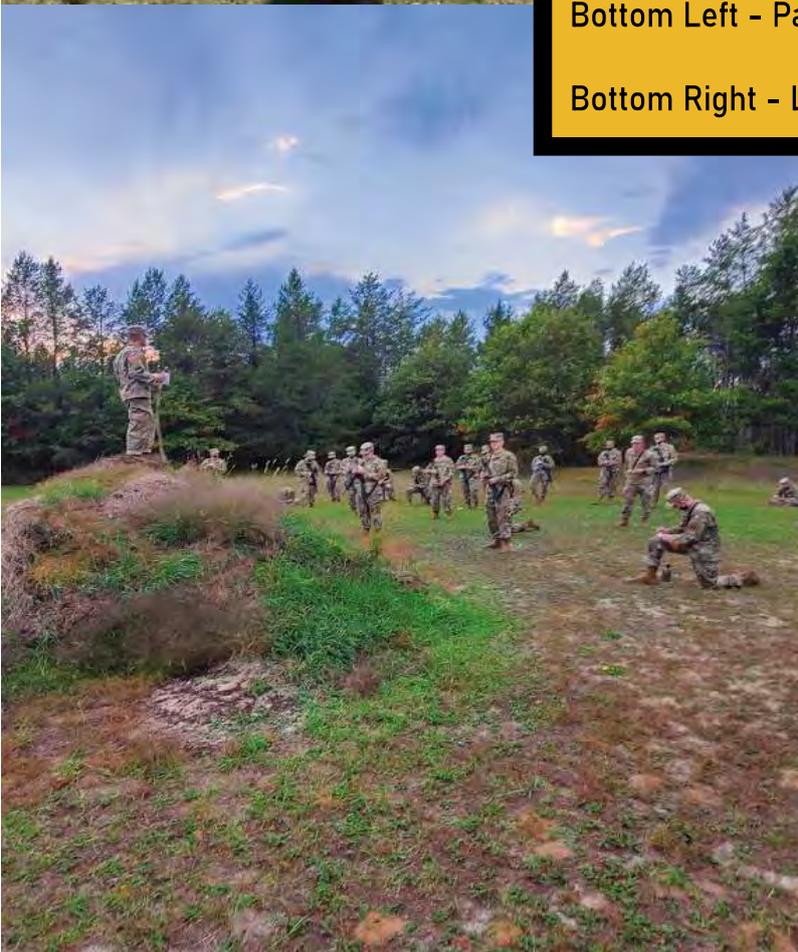
- CDT Golding MSI

“I personally enjoyed this past Fall FTX. We went over new ways to conduct different missions that are useful in every situation. We were able to test our skills as individuals in the Confidence Course/Land Nav, but are able to come together and work as a team in Squad Tactics Lanes and Field Leadership Reaction Courses. The FTX helps new cadets learn the program and those in it, while giving the senior cadets chances to test their knowledge and skills on various tasks required of an Army Leader.”

- CDT Elder MSIII



Top Left - Grill-out  
 Top Right - Teamwork Course  
 Middle Left - Confidence Course  
 Middle Right - PLT Ambush  
 Bottom Left - Patrol Base Class  
 Bottom Right - Land Navigation



# RANGER

The Ranger Challenge competition for the Wildcat Battalion took place in October at Fort McCoy, WI this semester. The competition consists of a number of tactical stations to include rifle assembly / disassembly, casualty assessment, call for fire, etc. Cadets rucked to each station, and completed roughly 18 miles.

Both NMU Ranger Challenge teams used their months of training to represent our program well during the competition.



# CHALLENGE



With the fall semester having an abundance of indefinites and uncertainty, we were unsure if Ranger Challenge would even occur. Nevertheless, Ranger Challenge is a consequential part of our battalion, so we started off the year training hard for the competition. There was a lot of physical and mental growth from the years prior that I was happy to see. The team worked well together and remained positive through all of the unknowns and strenuous activities.

- CDT Polomsky (MSIII)

# Nursing

# Collaboration

"I think that the nursing lab during the Fall semester was a great opportunity to introduce cadets into a different aspect of the Army. This lab helped to show the medical side of the Army and how to properly treat a casualty if your battle buddy was to go down. Along with this, there was collaboration with the final semester NMU Nursing students that were able to participate and treat different casualties. Overall, I thought this lab was well-constructed and helped to teach and improve trauma readiness for everyone involved."

- CDT Newton MSIII

"The nursing lab this past semester couldn't have gone any better. The teaching aspect was very useful because cadets were able to have a different first aid perspective from the nurses. The best part of the lab was when the training came full circle when the cadets assessed a casualty situation and transported that casualty to the nurses. This lab was also very useful for the nursing cadets because they were able to get the TCCC training and also observe the nurses working on the casualty from a hospital perspective."

- CDT Dickie MSII



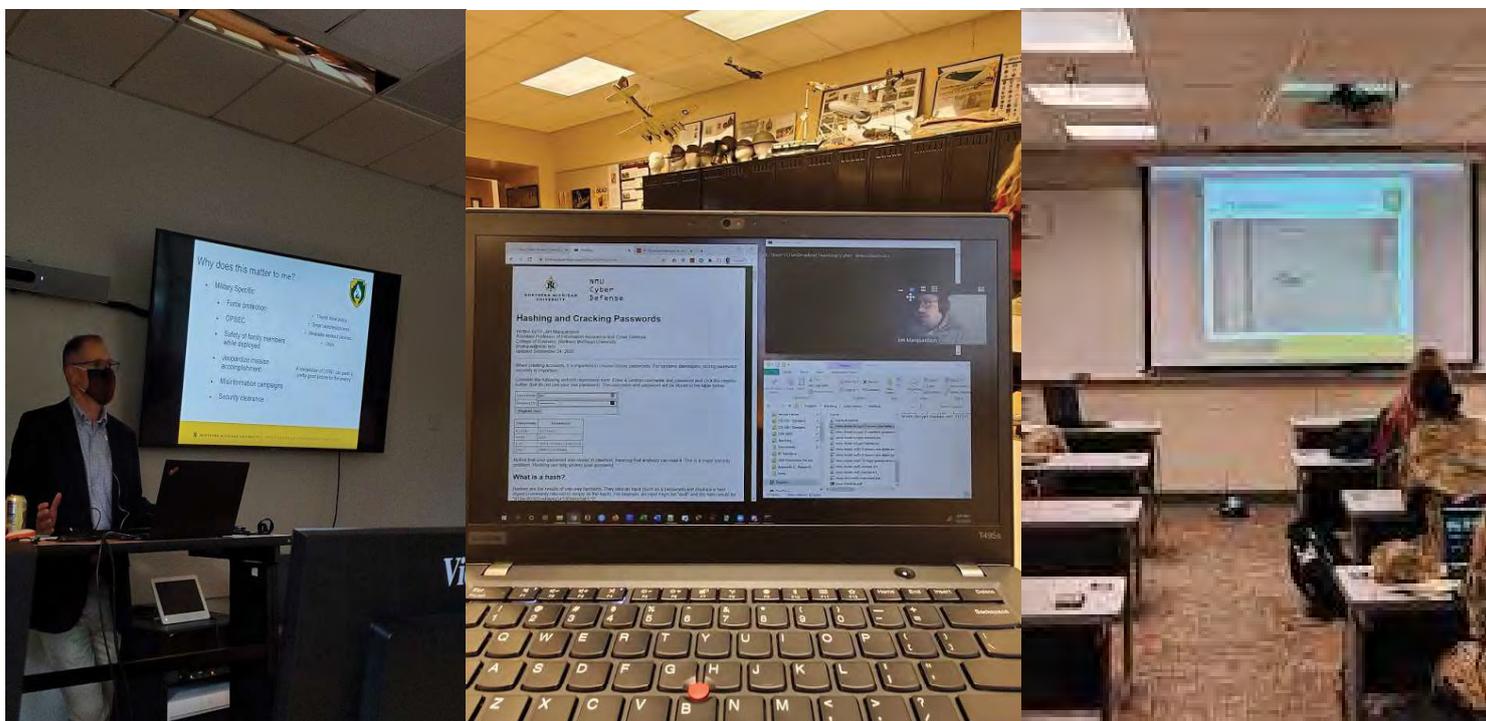
# Cyber

# Collaboration

In addition to our collaboration with the Nursing Department this past semester the Wildcat Battalion held a Cyber Awareness Lab in collaboration with the U.P. Cyber Institute. With the Cyber Branch being the newest branch of the United States Army, the Wildcat Battalion is making efforts to continue to build well-rounded cadets who may one day go on to work within the cyberspace domain in their Army careers.

This lab focused on a number of cyber topics to include hash functions, coding, decoding cyphers and more. Our program would like to thank Mr. Doug Miller from the U.P. Cyber Institute, NMU Assistant Professor Dr. Jim Marquarson and Mr. Matt Landers from Lucidcoast.

Next semester our program will continue our efforts to increase our cadet's cyber knowledge by forming a team to compete in the Atlantic Counsel Cyber Challenge.



# Air Assault!



## Congratulations CDT Teichman!

"This past November, I attended the Saba lauski Air Assault School located at Fort Campbell, Kentucky. While at the school, I completed three phases of training which consisted of instruction on helicopter safety as well as hand and arm signals, sling load operations, and rappelling. The culminating exercises for these phases included two written exams, a hand and arm signal practical exercise, an inspection on four individual sling loads, two timed runs, two timed foot marches, and rappelling out of a CH-47 Chinook hovering sixty feet above the ground." - CDT Teichman MSII



"All in all, the experience was one that I will never forget. It was informative, challenging, and very well executed by all of the instructors involved. Also, going to Air Assault led me to forging new friendships with many incredible and hard-working cadets. In summary, anyone attending this training must be highly motivated, attentive to details, and willing to embrace the suck. That last part is highly important when waking up at 2:30 a.m. to complete the 12 mile foot march before graduation."

Air Assault!



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OR LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR PROGRAM ONLINE.

[www.nmu.edu/militaryscience](http://www.nmu.edu/militaryscience)



## Alumni Updates Requested

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Graduation Date (month/year): \_\_\_\_\_

Major/Degree: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Employment Status: \_\_\_\_\_ Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Please feel free to update/share anything else with us that is important to you: (along with any memories that you wish to share)

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Please mail above form to: NMU ROTC, 1401 Presque Isle Ave, Marquette, MI 49855 or send via email to [military@nmu.edu](mailto:military@nmu.edu)

If you wish to support the NMU Wildcat Battalion, please make checks payable to NMU Ranger Fund and mail your check to: NMU Ranger Fund, 1401 Presque Isle Ave., Marquette, MI 49855. Feel free to email us at [military@nmu.edu](mailto:military@nmu.edu) to learn more about specific projects that the ROTC Ranger Fund may be seeking support for!

# Leadership Excellence



**For more information about joining the  
Wildcat Battalion, contact Mark Blumenthal,  
the Scholarship and Enrollment Officer  
at 906-227-2687 or email at  
[arblumen@nmu.edu](mailto:arblumen@nmu.edu).**