Greetings from the Golden Eagle Battalion! I can’t believe we are already jumping into spring semester. The fall semester went great with 86 Cadets enrolled in the program, the largest number in many years.

The MSL IV’s did a tremendous job adjusting to their role as the Battalion Staff and ensuring all training was completed to a high standard. On 1 February, the MS IVs rotated to different positions for the spring 2012 semester.

We welcomed our newest members to the Officer Corps with our commissioning on 15 December 2011.

- 2nd Lieutenant DeRandy Butler, Quartermaster Corps
- 2nd Lieutenant Joseph Butler, Nurse Corps
- 2nd Lieutenant Graham Ernst, Aviation Branch
- 2nd Lieutenant Jennifer Frazer, Adjutant General Corps
- 2nd Lieutenant Brian Hughes, Transportation Corps

We are scheduled to commission six Cadets in May and three Cadets this summer. Our projected 14 Lieutenants for FY12 marks consecutive years of making our commissioning mission!

Fall semester was very busy with football games, Homecoming, Military Appreciation Day, Ranger Challenge, Fall Field Training Exercise, Veteran’s Day Parade and the Christmas Party. The Ranger Challenge Team did an exceptional job at the Brigade Ranger Challenge Competition finishing fourth in their tier. They continuously displayed the “can do” attitude, never quit, and demonstrated terrific teamwork. In addition to preparing for the competition, the Ranger Challenge Team also supported the home football games leading the team through the Eagle Walk and doing push-ups in the end zone when the Golden Eagles scored. They continue to set the standard for all Cadets in the program.

The Fall Field Training Exercise was a huge success with the MSL IV’s planning, preparing, and executing a great training event. MS I-IV Cadets participated in the event, completing day and night land navigation, Squad Situational Training Exercises, Road March and the Leaders Reaction Course. Dr. Leah Fonder-Solano, USM’s Foreign Language Department Chair, joined us on Saturday and Sunday. Also, we brought out a photojournalist from the Student Printz for media coverage. It was a great training event!

Military Appreciation Day was a tremendous success. I want to thank all of our alumni who participated and hope to see you again next year. We had a great time on the Top of the Rock overlooking an exciting victory over UCF. Please spread the word so this event will grow, I want to see more of you up there on 17 November against UTEP.

I am looking forward to another exciting semester with a Joint Field Training Exercise, two small Field Training Exercises, marksmanship training, a staff ride to Vicksburg, and our Military Ball and Awards Ceremony. It continues to be an honor and privilege to lead these great Americans. Eagle Strike! Southern Miss To The Top!
**NCOIC – MSG Hall**

Welcome and Welcome back to the Golden Eagle Battalion. I hope everyone’s holidays went well and you were able to enjoy your time with your family and friends!

We are already off to a great start this semester, we already contracted two cadets into the program and a very good performance on our Physical Fitness Test the best one yet after a semester break. We have a lot to accomplish this semester we have to finish training and prep for our Juniors to complete LDAC this summer. We will do that with Labs, Saturday FTXs and our Brigade Joint FTXs. It will be most of our Seniors last semester as we get them ready to be our future leaders as newly promoted Lieutenants!

We also have the task of continuing to train our Freshmen and Sophomores so they can continue to move forward in the program and take the place of their upper classmen to carry on the Golden Eagle Standards.

Have a great Semester and my door is always open.

**MSII - MS Bishop**

Welcome and welcome back for those MS IIIs who are returning for another semester of Military Science and Leadership.

I look forward to getting to know each of you in my first semester as your instructor. It’s great to be back. As USM alumni and a former Cadet from the Golden Eagle Battalion, I believe that this ROTC program is bigger and better than ever before with an outstanding staff (and cadets) from various backgrounds and experiences. Ask questions...pick our brains, as well as, your fellow Cadets all that you can while you are here.

MSG Hall is your NCOIC for MSL 202. Together, he and I will work as a team to ensure that you have been presented (and that you have learned!) the information that you need in order to progress to the next level. I recommend that you read the syllabus thoroughly, read everything on our website, and the textbook. You will contribute to the overall learning experience if you can engage yourself in discussions. Also, read the cadet handbook, and if you can get a bootleg copy of the LDAC TACSOP, start reading and learning that stuff too. As an Army Officer, you won’t always get spoon fed information. If you want it...go get it. A lot of the time, you’ll have to find information on your own and you’ll be expected to know how to do this, but don’t ever be afraid to ask for a starting point....the Army is big.

Embody the Warrior Ethos, live the Army Values, and do your very best in all that you do. Expectations are set high as you pursue a commission in the U.S. Army and will continue as you enter the Officer Corp to lead Soldiers. Always remember that attitude is contagious, communication is always key, and first impressions are the most important.

Be proud to be a part of the Golden Eagle legacy. SOUTHERN MISS TO THE TOP!!
Happy New Year! Welcome to the most critical semester of your Cadet career. This is the semester that you will determine the majority of your order of merit score for accessions and finish preparation for LdAC (Leadership Development and ASSESSMENT Course). Little “d” and big “A”. Not much development, but lots of ASSESSMENT. Your academic, physical, and leadership performance this semester will determine how you perform at LdAC, your component of service, your branch, your initial duty station, and what you do during your career as an Army officer.

“The difference between a successful person and others is not a lack of strength, not a lack of knowledge, but rather a lack of will.” Vince Lombardi

We lost Cadets last semester due to poor academic performance and several others were placed on academic probation. All of these Cadets where fully capable of achieving the standard. Their failure was not the result of lack of grey matter, but lack of character. They failed to attend classes, failed to study for exams, and failed to turn in assignments or turned them in late. Academics is your job. Do your job. Use every tool available to ensure you earn the best grade possible for all of your classes. Plan ahead and have self discipline. This is the last semester to raise your GPA and strengthen your OML score for accessions. It is the last 50 meters to the OBJ.

“If you could kick the person in the pants responsible for most of your trouble, you wouldn't sit for a month.” Theodore Roosevelt

Congratulations to all MS IIIs on their post holiday APFT. All MS IIIs passed the APFT and had the high average as a class for the Army ROTC program. If you scored below 70 points in any event, you are still below last semester’s goal. Your APFT goal for this semester is 260 points with no less than 80 points in any event. Upon completion of the semester you will need a plan to maintain your score until LdAC. Physical readiness is a way of life and a state of mind.

“Fatigue makes cowards of us all.” Vince Lombardi

The highlight of this semester will be the Seminole Spear JFTX 22-26 FEB at Camp McCain, MS. Coordinate with all of your professors to make up any classes, labs, assignments, quizzes, and tests that you will miss. Turn your assignments in early. This exercise will include an APFT, Land Nav Exam, Day Land Nav, Night Land Nav, Garrison Leadership Evaluations, and SSTX w/ variables. This event will not only be used to identify weaknesses that require additional training, but to determine whether or not you are allowed to go to LDAC. The final event for those who fail to meet the standard will be a board with your PMS and the Brigade Commander.

“Accept the challenges so that you can feel the exhilaration of victory.” George S. Patton

This summer you will attend LDAC at Fort Lewis, WA. If you fail your initial APFT or any of the land navigation tests (day, night, or written, exam) the best you can earn on your efficiency report is “satisfactory.” If you fail any of these tests twice, the best you can achieve at camp is “needs improvement.” If you are given camp credit, you will have just destroyed your OML score. If you max your APFT and land navigation tests, you will be on your way to earning a rating of “excellent” and possibly “platoon top 5” and “RECONDO.” The final leadership dimension is “Gets Results.” In the end this is how we will all be judged.

“Winning is not a sometime thing; it’s an all time thing. You don’t win once in a while, you don’t do things right once in a while, you do them right all the time. Winning is habit. Unfortunately, so is losing.” Vince Lombardi

As always, SFC Barberet and I will give you every resource in our control to allow you to be successful. Let’s have a highly successful semester.
We begin another era at the University of Southern Mississippi for the Army ROTC. The Global War on Terror is drawing down and the Army is beginning to shrink. Historically, this is nothing new for our Army. It happened after WWⅠ, WWII, Korea, Viet Nam, Desert Storm, and is it happening again in our Armed Forces. What does this mean for today’s Army ROTC?

It means less money allocated for scholarships. It means reduced training budgets. It means higher entrance requirements and fewer contract positions. However, this is not all gloom and doom. The U.S. Army has survived these tough times before and we will do it again. This means the Army ROTC must become leaner and do “more with less”, just as our counterparts across the Army.

There will be scholarships. But, one must be among the best and the brightest to earn it. Our Cadet Battalion is one of the very best in Cadet Command. We will continue to march. For the Alumni – send us the best in your units, schools, and civic organizations. For the current Cadets – find those students across USM’s campus and in your former high schools that fit Cadet Command’s highest criteria. For the Simultaneous Membership Program Cadets – seek out those prospects like you, who are willing to earn their college degrees while earning their commissions, and are willing to lead from the front.

This is how USM Army ROTC, the Golden Eagle Battalion, will survive another military drawdown. The Golden Eagle Battalion has always been, and will continue to be, a shining beacon for Cadet Command. Cadets, you know what you must do to be successful. Study hard, work hard at physical training, and apply yourself 100% to everything you do. You will not fail.

Now, let’s shift gears. We would like to congratulate Cadets Cemantha Fenley, Michael Kennedy, and Steven Walton for contracting this semester. We wish them good luck in their future endeavors with the Golden Eagle Battalion. For those who are waiting attaining contracting eligibility, don’t ever give up. Keep trying as hard as you can and you, too, will make it.

Let’s give it our all this semester. Let’s finish strong. Southern Miss – To The Top!!
Notes from the Main Office

Welcome to Mrs. Jennifer Mosley—please stop by the main office and say hello. She is the new HRA and will be doing the paperwork for the MS I, II, and III’s—so you will get to know her very well!

As always get your paperwork into the office in a timely manner, it is very important and could effect your pay and contract.

Grades and PT count, make sure you are on top of both!

ROTC has a new website, check it out! www.usm.edu/army-rotc

WORKERS COMP!!!

With the start of the new semester brings reminders and changes, one thing that has not changed is the way we handle Workers Comp. If you are new to the program, or have forgotten, here is the process again to make sure it is done correctly. If you get hurt while training with ROTC:

1. Notify a Cadre member or your Cadet COC AT ONCE!
2. Come see me (Teresa D) and let me make a report.
3. If you (and your instructor) think you need to see a doctor I will do all the paperwork for you.
4. It is NOT guaranteed that workers comp will pay your claim, you must come back after you see the doctor to see me and submit more paperwork.
5. About two weeks after you have finished your paperwork the final step is for YOU to call and get an approved claim number.

**SKIPPING ANY OF THE ABOVE STEPS CAN GET YOUR BILL TURNED OVER TO YOU HAVING TO PAY YOURSELF!**

As always, there are exceptions and things happen, but if you just know the basics of how it works, and keep yourself safe, things should go well this fall!
Military Appreciation Day / Alumni Welcome Back

Our 2nd Annual Army ROTC Alumni / USM Military Appreciation Day was a WONDERFUL success! This time we rented space in the upper deck and had it catered. A great time was had by all. We WILL be doing it again in the Fall, and as always it will be closest home game to Veteran’s day, so make plans now to come on 17 November!

This year we followed tradition with starting the day with our 5th Annual Purple Heart 5K run. We had about 150 runners this year! That number combined with donations from local businesses got us enough money to donate $3240 this year, AMAZING!! (Short story with photos also in this edition of the newsletter about this).

Following the race the day was open to tour around campus and see the changes and do a little tailgating! We again opened the ROTC building for a few hours and asked that the Alumni come by and see us, and again had a wonderful turnout! Always great to talk to and see our Alumni!

EagleWalk was the last big event before the game where we asked our Alumni to walk the in the famed parade with our Ranger Challenge team, followed up with the football game and food, who could ask for more?

Here are a few photos of the event. We can’t wait to see you all again in the fall!!
5th Annual Purple Heart 5K

On November 12, 2011 University of Southern Mississippi (USM) Army ROTC hosted their 5th Annual Purple Heart 5k Race. The Golden Eagle Battalion hosted more than one hundred runners during the Veterans Day Celebration held on USM campus. Through numerous donations, entrants’ fees, and sponsorships from businesses throughout the community, USM Army ROTC donated more than $3,200 to the Wounded Warriors’ Project.

Associate Dean Mark Wrighton, 6th Brigade SGM Bias, BAE MGR Benson St. Lewis, ROTC Battalion Commander LTC Joseph Worley, Race Director Cadet Robert Beidenharn and ROTC Battalion NCOIC MSG Derek Hall presenting the check to the Wounded Warrior Project.
COL Mark Prine Stopped By for a Visit!

COL Prine, Deputy Commander of the 184th Expeditionary Sustainment Command, and class of 1980, visited both MS 402 classes on 2 February. He provided them with senior officer expectations of lieutenants and their fielded questions. All Cadets thank him for time and support to the program!

While he was here COL Prine gave us a list of all the USM ROTC Alumni that served with the 184th Expeditionary Sustainment Command (ESC) in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. We thank them for their continued service and doing USM proud! To The Top!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>RANK</th>
<th>YEAR COMMISSIONED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mark Prine</td>
<td>COL</td>
<td>1980</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Billy Hardin</td>
<td>LTC</td>
<td>1984</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Drago</td>
<td>LTC</td>
<td>1985</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Craig Thompson</td>
<td>LTC</td>
<td>1986</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ailrick Young</td>
<td>LTC</td>
<td>1987</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Craig M. Weaver</td>
<td>COL</td>
<td>1988</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nick Overby</td>
<td>LTC</td>
<td>1988</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Randall Mantooth</td>
<td>LTC</td>
<td>1988</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cheryl Anderson</td>
<td>LTC</td>
<td>1991</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James A. &quot;Tony&quot; Harrison</td>
<td>LTC</td>
<td>1994</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James L. Payne</td>
<td>LTC</td>
<td>1994</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Craig Sumrall</td>
<td>MAJ</td>
<td>1998</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dan Beeson</td>
<td>MAJ</td>
<td>1999</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Look who made 2LT!!

The Golden Eagle Battalion is happy to announce that in December 2011 we commissioned and added 5 more 2LTs to our armed forces and our ever growing alumni base. Congratulations to 2LT’s DeRandy Butler, Joseph Butler, Graham Ernst, Jennifer Frazer, and Brian Hughes on a job well done!

2nd Lieutenant DeRandy Butler branched Quartermaster with the Army Reserves; he will attend his BOLC at Ft Lee, VA. 2nd Lieutenant Joseph Butler branched Nurse Corp with Active Duty; he will attend his BOLC at Ft Sam Houston, TX. 2nd Lieutenant Graham Ernst branched Aviation with Active Duty; he will attend his BOLC at Ft. Rucker, AL. 2nd Lieutenant Jennifer Frazer branched Adjutant General with the MS Army National Guard; she will attend her BOLC at Ft Jackson, SC. 2nd Lieutenant Brian Hughes branched Transportation with the Army Reserves; he will attend his BOLC at Ft Lee, VA.

We have commissioned 1539 officers since we became a battalion. We are very proud of each and every one of you. If you know some of the Alumni of this battalion, please get them to contact us, we are trying hard to build a better outreach! Eagle Strike!
USM ARMY ROTC

118 College Drive
#5042
Hattiesburg, MS 39406-0001

Phone: 601-266-4456
Fax: 601-266-4458
E-mail: armyrotc@usm.edu

DO YOU HAVE A BRICK???
If so, we thank you,
if not.. Why not?
The brick prices are
$75 for the 4*4 and
$125 for the 8*8–
you can get an order form
off our website, or by
calling Teresa D. at the
main office (601) 266-4456 or
by email @ armyrotc@usm.edu

Congratulations to MG Thomas for his recent
induction to the Army ROTC Hall of Fame! Also,
a big thanks from the program for being the
December Commission Ceremony’s Guest
Speaker. His words were moving and a great way to
send off our new leaders. If you need info on
nominating your classmates let us know and we
will be happy to get that to you!

CHECK US OUT!!!
We have a NEW website!!!
Webpage
www.usm.edu/army-rotc

Facebook-
armyrotc@usm.edu golden eagle battalion

YouTube- EagleStrikeUSM

and Battalion email armyrotc@usm.edu