THE GOLDEN EAGLE BATTALION 2016

Golden Eagle Battalion Color Guard

GOLDEN EAGLE BATTALION 2016
The University of Southern Mississippi
By Artem Jordan
It has been a tremendous year! Including the Commissioning of seven Second Lieutenants in December, we are on track for nine additional commissionees in May with one at the completion of Cadet Summer Training (CST) for a total of 17 this year (Mission Set 16) and will be moving into Mission Set 17 with 25 MSIVs pursuing their academic degree and commission in the United States Army. Similarly, our recruiting efforts continue to set conditions for long-term program viability with 18 contracted Cadets for Mission Set 2018.

I am particularly proud of our community outreach efforts this year. In the fall, 2LT Doug Estes, planned and executed an exceptional event at Oak Grove High School enabling Cadets to read and participate in sports with special needs students. During the Spring Semester, Cadets Hartfield and Ranshaw planned and executed a 5K Race & Fun Run that raised awareness for the Homes of Hope for Children and the Lupus Foundation of America culminating with monetary donations to these local and national programs—the Army Values personified and exemplified.

Our Contracted Cadets continue to demonstrate scholastic excellence boasting a 3.20 cumulative GPA for the Fall 2015. For summer, 21 Cadets programmed to attend the Cadet Leadership Course and seven Cadets poised for Cadet Initial Entry Training (CIET) at Fort Knox, Kentucky.

USM Battalion will have Cadets engaged across the U.S. Army footprint in both Continental United States (CONUS) and Outside Continental United States (OCONUS) serving in lieutenant level leadership positions as part of the Cadet Troop Leader Training (CTLT) Program. This summer, Cadet Carter will serve with USASOC, 75th Ranger Regiment; Cadet Vorhoff will serve with 8th Army, South Korea; Cadet Lewis will serve with 3-2 Infantry, Fort Wainwright, AK; Cadet Chapman will serve with 1st Cavalry Division, Fort Hood, TX; and Cadet Miller will serve as a Drill Cadet (DCLT) at Fort Jackson, SC. USM Battalion will also have two Cadets in Africa participating in the Cadet Command Cultural Understating and Language Program (CULP) – Cadet Herty will be in Djibouti and Cadet Mikell will be in Asia. Cadet Landrum will be at Airborne School and Cadet Cullinane will be attending Air Assault School.

As my first year as the Professor of Military Science at the University of Southern Mississippi comes to an end, I am in awe of your dedication to scholastic, athletic and leadership endeavors. It’s truly an honor to be a part of this distinguished team of professional Cadre. I look forward to the extremely promising future of the storied program, the continuance of relationship building with our Active Duty and National Guard partners at Camp Shelby, and proudly say SMTT & Eagle Strike!

“My experiences at USM triggered my decision to join the MS National Guard. The physical training, as well as the education, well prepared me for initial entry training and advanced individual training.” – CDT Flanagan
Meet The Freshman

This has surely been an adventurous and interesting year for me, but the OPTEMPO is slower compared to my previous assignment. I reported to USM on May 4, 2015. I am a member of the MS Army National Guard. Prior to this assignment, I was the Battalion Logistics Officer (S4) for the 106th Brigade Support Battalion headquartered in Monticello, MS. This is my 2nd time being an APMS, so I kind of knew what to expect. I also serve as the Officer in Charge (OIC) for all of the Simultaneous Membership Program Cadets, (SMPs). As the MSI instructor, I introduce students to Senior Army ROTC. The MSI class is open to all students and it is taken for various reason, i.e. I want to become an Army Officer, I want to work out with you guys and lose weight, my parents were in the Army, and the list goes on. I’ve tried to create an environment where my students are eager to come to class as well as show them the importance of team work.

I’ve had a lot of fun. Students are faced with so many outside stressors and often do not know how to deal with them. In my class, we talk about the latest video games to Army Values, from what we are doing on the weekend to the Soldier’s Creed. They have learned that in the Army we work hard and we play hard. I’ve taken them on field trips to Camp Shelby. I have developed great working relationships with some of the Faculty and Staff and I am now looking forward to planning ROTC Week, prior to the Military Appreciation Game. There is no doubt that the Eagle BN is going to the top.

Last but not least, I hope that I have left a good and positive lasting impression on the MSIs as well as convincing them to stay the course and commission through the Eagle Battalion Army ROTC.

Major Mack-Lewis
Assistant Professor of Military Science

Golden Eagle Battalion Crew

MSL1 Camp Shelby Tour

Freshmants 2016
Hello, Golden Eagle Battalion. This is MSG Toris Knight the Senior Military Science Instructor at The University of Southern Mississippi. I arrived in November of 2015 from Fort Benning, Ga where I served as a First Sergeant of Bravo and Headquarter Batteries in 1st BN 1-10 Field Artillery. During my twenty-five years of service it has been an honor to serve with numerous Soldiers and continue to serve this great country. As the Golden Eagle Battalion Senior Military Instructor I am looking forward to this great opportunity to Teach, Train, Coach, and Mentor MSII Cadets on various military learning objectives such as Military Decision Making Process, Counseling, Leadership, Planning, Drill and Ceremony just to name a few of the many areas of military classes. There are a lot more hands-on duties and responsibilities that come with working with Cadets than with Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and Enlisted Soldiers at active Army units. As a cadre member, we have a demanding responsibility to groom Cadets from college students to future officers in support of our Active Duty Army, National Guard and Army Reserve Components. Over the past five months I had the experience to witness Cadets plan, rehears, and execute training events (LABS), change of command ceremonies, color guards, a military ball, 5K runs, and commissioning.

As a facilitator, I will continue to emphasize professionalism, commitment to excellence, and esprit de corps. As a native of Hattiesburg, I am very excited to be here and watch these young men and women grow and achieve their goals. “EAGLE STRIKE”. I will be an MSL 2 instructor in fall 2016. I am looking forward to share my experience with this class and as a senior NCO I will coach and mentor this class to prepare them for their future adventures in the Army ROTC.
Let me first say that this has been a phenomenal couple of semesters, all because of the motivation and teamwork of the Cadets Golden Eagle Battalion. For those who are not familiar with my background, I am a scout reconnaissance helicopter pilot with assignments as an Air Cavalry platoon leader and assistant operations officer for the 3rd squadron 17th Cavalry regiment at Hunter Army Airfield, Savannah GA, and most recently, a flight troop commander in 7th Squadron 17 Cavalry regiment at Ft. Campbell, KY. I am currently the MSIII instructor.

The biggest challenge that all ROTC Cadets face, and consequently, the event that creates the most stress is the Cadet Leader Course (CLC). The ultimate goal of this course is no longer to “rack and stack” Cadets based on knowledge or abilities. At CLC, LEADERSHIP is the most important skill. We want to make sure that as a newly minted 2LT, USM ROTC alums will be strong leaders, adept critical thinkers and problem solvers.

During the MSIII year, Cadets can expect to be challenged with leadership positions at the Cadet Company level, which prepares them by placing them in positions that mirror those they will have at CLC, and subsequently, their units after BOLC. We also have the MSIIIs acting as the primary instructors for the ROTC labs that are conducted once a week. These provide training to not only the MSI and MSII Cadets, but reinforces to the MSIIIs that they have the requisite knowledge and ability to lead other Cadets, and ultimately our most important assets as leaders, Soldiers.

Advice for my MSIIIs (other MS levels take heed), ALWAYS take care of your Soldiers, place their interest ahead of yours, and make sure that you are taking care of them holistically (i.e. family, professional and personal) and they will take care of you in any situation you find yourselves. Soldiers are our most important asset, never forget that.

“Whoever said the pen is mightier than the sword obviously never encountered automatic weapons.” - Douglas MacArthur
Golden Eagle Battalion
Commissioning 2016

CDT Dishmon is a Senior Social Work major from Jackson, MS. Her favorite memory from ROTC is when she did her very first mud PT. At the time, she was not contracted and wore sweatpants that weighed her down throughout the entire exercise. By the end of the PT, she was down to a pair of muddy basketball shorts and a T-shirt in the 45 degree weather. To this day, she still doesn't know where her sweatpants ran off to.

CDT Joffrion graduates with a Political Science degree and a minor in Military Science. He is commissioning as an Active Duty Armor Officer, duty station TBD. Cadet Joffrion’s goals in life include traveling the world and becoming a Federal Law Enforcement officer after his career in the Army. Biggest motivational quote has been, “Pain is nothing compared to what it feels like to quit” – So never give up! Advice for all the Cadets, like they told us at CLC, “Shut up and color.” ROTC has been one of the most rewarding experiences of his life and it has help mold him into the person he is today. Cadet Joffrion has had many great mentors and learned many lessons during his time here, and he is excited for what the future holds.

CDT Barnes graduates with a degree in Business Administration with a minor in Military Science. He will branch Ordnance in the United States Army Reserve. His goals in life are to start his own business while coaching high school football on the side. His advices to Cadets are stay strong and keep their eyes on the prize. Even when everything seems lost, success is just another push away. His motivational quote is, “Pain is temporary achievement is forever.

CDT Jordan tells all Cadets to work hard in academics and physical fitness to be successful. He says, “The library is open until 2am - use it”. His advice to Cadets is to ask questions and learn from mistakes. MSL3, don’t skip PT and stay motivated and always do your job, own it and be on top of it. Do the right things when no one is looking! The more effort you put in helping with all ROTC events, the more experience you will get out of it! Get involved. SMTTT!!!

ROTC has helped develop him as a leader through the mentorship of the different Cadre members he has been under throughout his time here. His advice to the MSIs & MSIIIs is to make sure they seek help from Cadre members; their knowledge will take you a long way.

CDT Holiday major is Psychology with a minor in Communications Studies. He branching AG and is currently staying in the National Guard. His goals in life are to become a Principal of a High School or a President of a small college or university. One of his funniest moments in ROTC would be when he and Cadet McFarland got lost during land nav and the cadre had to drive miles to get them. Advice that CDT Holiday will give to the Cadets would be to always give your full potential and stay highly motivated. Since CDT Holiday has been in ROTC he has learned so much from the staff and Cadets, each of their great aspects developed him in ways he would like to display his leadership. MS3s and MS2s word of advice, be involved as much as you can because you never know who you may meet.

CDT Ranshaw is graduating with a Bachelor's degree in Interdisciplinary Studies, with concentrations in Music Theory and Military Science. He is branching active duty Military Intelligence branch detail Infantry. His goals in life include getting married, building a farm in Texas, and continuing his career in the Army. A funny memory he has is when he first joined the program and Mr. Mitchell was explaining to everyone at Summer PT the process of how we are natural born predators and that our canine teeth aren’t for cutting carrots. His advice to other Cadets is to make sure they take care of each other.
CDT Fulcher is a senior at The University of Southern Mississippi (USM) currently majoring in Business Management Administration with a minor in Military History. In addition to being a full time student, Tyler is also currently serving in the Mississippi Army National Guard as an SMP Cadet. Academically, Tyler has maintained a GPA of 3.67 while at USM and was named to the Dean’s list in 2013 and 2014. Due to his strong academic success Tyler has been selected for initiation into two premier honor societies; the Golden Key Honor Society & Beta Gamma Sigma Professional Business Honor Society. Although Tyler’s schedule has kept him very busy, his past participation in clubs and volunteerism is worth mentioning. While in High School, Tyler achieved the title of Eagle Scout and was recognized for his volunteer efforts with the Presidents Volunteer Service Award, United Way Volunteer of the Year Award, and Reston YMCA Volunteer Appreciation Award.

CDT Hartfield graduates with Bachelors in Interdisciplinary Studies. His concentrations are Business Administration and Military Science. His selected branch is Ordnance in the Mississippi Army National Guard and is currently with 3656th Maintenance Company. His goals in life consist of achieving a Masters in Logistics, Trade and Transportation, raising a healthy and happy family, and continuing to broaden his knowledge in the Army as a Logician. His favorite memory was from the Spring 2015 Ranger Challenge Competition from rucking in the pouring rain and conducting land navigation with CDT Williams. His advice to all Cadets is to keep academics first, physical fitness second, and dedication to being a committed future officer always. These three attributes in ROTC will lead to success in obtaining a commission. ROTC has developed him as a leader due to the opportunity to take commands from various leadership styles of the entire cadre during his three years in the program. His Does and Don’ts for the MS II’s & III’s. Do: study; listen; carry your own weight; mind your military bearing, discipline, and customs and courtesies. Don’ts: disrespect your superiors and Cadet Leadership; act like ROTC is not worth the time; fail classes; fail your APFT.

CDT Wikstrom is graduating with a Bachelor’s of Science in Architectural Engineering Technology. He will commission as an Active Duty Infantry Officer, and is tentatively assigned to the 101st Airborne at Fort Campbell, Kentucky. Cadet Wikstrom’s goals are to serve honorably in the Infantry, and make a twenty plus year career out of it. Following the military, he plans to pursue a career in the Engineering industry. His advice to the Cadets is to keep their grades, and heads up, and their run times down. ROTC is the entry to a lifelong obligation. Learn from your Cadre and fellow Cadets. A true leader must be a follower first. Do’s and Don’ts for the MS II’s & III’s. Do: study; listen; carry your own weight; mind your military bearing, discipline, and customs and courtesies. Don’ts: disrespect your superiors and Cadet Leadership; act like ROTC is not worth the time; fail classes; fail your APFT.

CDT Conn will graduate as an RN with a BSN degree in May. He will commission after Camp over the summer. Austin will remain in the Army National Guard and will join the 168th ENG Group out of Vicksburg, MS. He plans to work in the ICU at University of Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson, MS. Advice to the Cadets: Keep your head down and your grades up! SMTTT!

CDT Turner came to the University of Southern Mississippi in Fall 2011. After attending college for a year, he enlisted in the Mississippi Army National Guard as a Military Police officer. He served with the 113th MP CO DET 1 until December 2015. He contracted with ARMY ROTC in October 2013. While being in ROTC, he was privileged to earn his German Armed Forces Proficiency Badge. He served as Golden Eagles Company Commander and Assistant S3, his senior year. He will be commissioning as an Active Duty Engineer Officer.

CDT Williams has a Master degree in Biological Science. He is 70H National Guard. He wishes to become a doctor. His quote comes from the Bible: Jeremiah 29:11, “For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord,” plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future”. Everyone has opportunities. I do not believe they are determined either by luck or by circumstances; they are determined instead by our priorities, principles, and choices. MS 2’s or MS 3’s - it is important to develop your mind and your God given talents to the point where you become a valuable Commander to the people or Soldiers around you. For that we need quality Soldiers because it helps us understand the past, cope with our present, and determine the
Senior Class 2016
“I was awarded the opportunity to take part in a CULP mission in Romania. I got the chance to work with the Jandarmaria, a professional police force tasked with maintaining public order and guarding important personnel, items, and places throughout the country. I learned a lot about another nation’s way of life, which opened my eyes, and allowed me to be a better soldier and citizen. The men that I met taught me so much about their country and allowed me to take a step back from my everyday life to be more appreciative and even more accepting of another nation. I feel deeply as though I have been set up for success, by getting that opportunity, I hope that anyone given a similar opportunity will take and appreciate the chance to immerse him or herself in another nation’s culture.” – CDT Landrum, CULP in Moldova.

“I spent a few days in the field and on the weekends, I explored the beautiful city of Seoul and experienced the Korean culture. I followed a 2LT platoon leader and was mentored by other platoon leaders. Besides Army Training, I spent time with Katusa-local Korean forces working a long side US.” – CDT Jordan, CTLT in South Korea

“I had the opportunity to attend CTLT at Fort Hood. I was there for a month and got to experience multiple environments in the Active U.S. Army. I was assigned to an EOD unit. However, they had CLS training for a week so I got to follow an LT that was in charge of tank maintenance. I also shadowed a USM Army ROTC Alumni. He is an MP LT at Fort Hood. I got to help in pulling the engine out of a tank and also getting bit by a MWD (military working dog). When I was with the EOD unit, I got to wear the “Demon Suit”, run different IED lanes, and perform daily tasks with my LT. This was amazing training. I would be way behind if I had not gone to this training. Being a scholarship Cadet, I never really understood how the Army worked abroad until I attended this training.” – CDT Linton, CTLT in Texas

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“Prior to this mission, I have never been outside of the United States. This was a very eye opening experience for me. I attended many different events that ranged from language classes, visiting monasteries, history museums, soccer games, and Olympic Day, to meeting and interacting with the US ambassador. When we met with the ambassador we learned a little about why we were in Moldova and some of the ways in which we were helping improve their country. This was a great experience to meet and interact with someone such as an ambassador. One of the many take a ways that I got from this cultural emersion trip was to be open to the way people in other parts of the world do things. Not everything will be done the same as it is here in the US, so being culturally sensitive to the norms and beliefs of people in other parts of the world could be the difference between ally’s and enemy’s.” – CDT Landrum, CULP in Moldova.
Golden Eagle Battalion Ranger Challenge Team 2016. The Ranger Challenge is an annual military skills competition that demonstrates both individual and team proficiency and stamina in various technical and tactical scenarios.

German Proficiency Badge — Cadets competed to earn the German Proficiency Badge. Congratulations to CDT Jordan, Ranshaw, Hartfield, Rubble, Hollingsworth on getting Gold. Congratulations to CDT Vorhoff and CDT Chapman on getting silver. Congratulations to CDT Rosser on getting bronze.

Air Assault School — CDT Herty and CDT Dubose have earned their Air Assault Badges.

CLC - Contracted MSL 3s completed Cadet Leadership Course in order to progress towards commissioning as 2LTs. The purpose of the course is to train U.S. Army ROTC Cadets to Army standards, to develop their leadership skills, and to evaluate their officer potential. Most Army Cadets attend CLC between their junior and senior undergraduate years after having contracted to join the Army. Successful completion of CLC is a prerequisite to becoming an Army officer through ROTC.

Airborne School - CDT Ranshaw has earned his Airborne Badge.

CWST – Combat Water Survival Test. The event tests Cadet’s stamina in the water while completing a series of events. Cadets must first swim laps for ten minutes without touching the sides or bottom of the pool. Cadets receive a five-minute break, and then must tread water for another five minutes without touching the bottom or sides of the pool. All Cadets must pass Combat Water Swimming Test while in ROTC.

CIET - the Cadet Initial Entry Training is the premier leadership program of its kind in the United States. Several USM Cadets successfully completed CIET. CIET is an intense four-week introduction to Army life and leadership training of the Reserve Officers’ Training Corp. The goal of the course is to motivate and qualify Cadets for entry into the Senior ROTC program.
Golden Eagle Battalion Fun Events

5K Fun Run commemorating the 100th Anniversary of JROTC! This event is part of a worldwide event that includes JROTC units from across the globe all participating in celebrating 100 years of JROTC. Golden Eagle Battalion Cadets and cadre worked hard to make JROTC 5K a memorable experience for different high schools. SMTTT!

Oak Grove Youth Group conducted physical training with the USM Army ROTC Cadets. Their main objective for the day was to learn to overcome physical and spiritual obstacles. They participated in events such as, rope and wall climbing, litter carries, and low crawls in the vicious sand pits. The day was concluded by a motivational speaker!

Cadets: Estes, McFarland, Dubose, Landrum, Stapleton, Hartfield and MAJ Mack-Lewis spent the morning playing Basketball and reading to students at Oak Grove High School.

Special Thanks to Mrs. N. Estes, Mrs. A Brewer, Mrs. J. Thomas, Mrs. J Bounds, and Mrs. C. Keys for allowing us to interact with your students.
Golden Eagle Battalion Fun Events

Golden Eagle Battalion conducted Physical Fitness in style. Cadets dressed up in costumes for Halloween and executed a Battalion Fun Run around the campus. The pictures show winners of the costume contest. SMTTT!

Golden Eagle Battalion Participated in **Trial Battle Run and an Actual Battle Run** hosted by Anatomies. The Battle is a race that incorporates various military-style obstacles. The obstacles are designed to challenge the toughest fitness enthusiast as well as offer an opportunity for beginner fitness competitors to challenge themselves while having a blast with family and friends. The race brought community together and teams that participated build a cohesive relationship. USM ROTC placed first over all. Good job LTC Swindle, CDT Estes, CDT Hartfield, and CDT Ranshaw.

Team Work at PT sessions! USM at the Rock for Football Games! Fun times at the Lazer Mania!
The three most important things I have learned in Army ROTC are to be organized and manage your time wisely, form relationships with your fellow Cadets and cadre – they will guide you in the right direction if you let them, and do PT. That last one has a lot to do with being organized, but it seriously is one of the most important things you can do in the program. Do push-ups, sit-ups, and run as often as possible. You will thank me in the long run. The only thing I would have done differently is to have pushed myself harder as a freshman.

Grades are another important factor that the Army looks at when commissioning for active duty soldiers (out of academics, physical fitness, and leadership capabilities). So study, run, and stand out as a Cadet and you will be contracted and on your way to becoming a second lieutenant in the United States Army. Eagle Strike”!

I love hearing college students complain about how hard their day is and I can only think, “Oh wow. That’s nothing man.” Sometimes it even makes me laugh. I have always loved the Army and my dream has always been to serve this country. ROTC lets me do it in a way I never imagined. I am constantly learning about the traditions of the Army and how to react in battlefield scenarios; it’s a great experience. USM ROTC tests you both mentally and physically but it is worth it in every way”. - CDT Junek, MSL 1

“I thoroughly enjoy the experience. It has something to offer to both sides of the spectrum, in my eyes. I can consistently have fun and enjoy myself with a brotherhood/family of friends, while also being able to attend class, PT, and labs where I’m able to improve myself and learn what I need to know to become an officer. While some extra time is required to be put into the program, such as waking up at 5am four days a week, I firmly believe that one may reap what one sows. Extra time and effort put into the program easily leads to more beneficial experiences as well as leadership knowledge that otherwise wouldn’t be achieved. I’ve also learned to appreciate stairs a whole lot more”! - CDT Rubble, MSL 2

“While I knew college would be challenging, I didn’t realize how challenging it would be while also doing ROTC. I usually wake up for PT at 0430 after a long night of studying and then go to my 0900 class afterwards. Although I am usually tired and worn out, it gives me a sense of pride that normal students just can’t obtain.

“USM has always been at the top of my list of schools to attend. I did Army JROTC at Hattiesburg High and that thoroughly informed me about all the Army has to offer. I also love my country, so the Army was a perfect fit. I love the idea of discipline, uniformity, brotherhood, and everything the Army Values represents. A normal day for me looks like 0511 wake-up with PT and then class. If the season is in, I will likely have intramural sports later in the evening. Let us not forget my part-time job. I have made many friends in the program. Even those that have left the program/commissioned I keep close ties to. ROTC, like the real Army, relies heavily on unity. That is exactly what keeps us all together. Being a Cadet vs. a student is very comparable. There is the responsibility of being where you are supposed to be at any given time and the amount of work that goes into being a Cadet compares to the student life. Also, just like being a student, in the end it is all worth it. Seeing the fruits of your labor by watching the company of Cadet’s runs smoothly through various events makes it all the more worth it.

“CDT Chapman, MSL 3

“CDT Junek, MSL 1

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“CDT Chapman, MSL 3
The 5K brought in a total of 55 people from around the community and included multiple sponsors such as the Army National Guard, Material Girls, One80 Fitness, The Crowne Apartments at Long Leaf Trace, The Cottages of Hattiesburg, Corner Market, Road ID, Hattiesburg Coca-Cola, Crescent City Grill, Soccer Locker, Academy Sports and Outdoors, Team RWB, Palm Beach Tan, and Fetiche Shoe Boutique. The total amount of proceeds raised equaled $1,872.22 with $500 dollars each going to the National Lupus Foundation and Homes of Hope for Children. $872.22 will be added to the USM Army ROTC Cadet Fund in order to cover expenses for the USM Army ROTC Ten Miler Team. Thank you for your support!

CDT Hartfield and CDT Ranshaw Community Outreach Project 2016.

Golden Eagle Battalion conducted a Staff ride to Battle of Vicksburg. Great history was learned about detailed battles over Vicksburg. Both Confederate forces and Union forces strategies, and tactics were discussed.
I’m Sergeant First Class Harrell Terrell from Baton Rouge LA; I was previously stationed at the 1st SBCT 1st Armored Division located at Fort Bliss in El Paso, TX. I held the position of Platoon Sergeant, Reconnaissance Platoon Sergeant, Company First Sergeant, and BN/BDE S3 Operations NCOIC. I currently hold the position of Military Science Instructor (MSI) where I can bring my tactical and technical knowledge and leadership experience to help foster and develop the relationship between officer and enlisted personnel. Working with ROTC students gives me the opportunity to train and mentor someone who will have an immediate impact on their unit and possibly the entire Army as a whole. Make sure your leadership style is not too rigid. Nothing matters more than the capacity to adapt to change, especially now that change occurs faster, more often, and more dramatically than before. I really don’t have a memorable moment with the Cadets, but I do look forward to making quite a few! Resiliency is character strength of all great leaders. Continue to be a student of life, and strive to be a master of your chosen profession.”

Mr. /CPT Johnson
Michael.l.johnson@usm.edu

“I was born in Birmingham, Alabama, and have served in the Army National Guard 14 years, and the Army Reserve for one year. I have been a part of Cadet Command for the last 5 years. Prior to working here at USM, I spent the last four years at the University of Alabama, Birmingham as the Training Officer. Some of my responsibilities here at USM include ensuring all tasks are being met, all locations for training are scheduled, and the training calendar for each semester is complete. The goals for MS III’s to be successful are simple. First you have to commit to the program. There is a wealth of knowledgeable professionals as cadre in this program, and all you have to do is tap into that knowledge. Second, you must apply yourself. There is nothing too great in this program that you cannot conquer. Apply yourself when it comes to PT, Labs and other requirements. Everything we do throughout your MS1-MSIII year prepares you for CST. Every summer members of your cadre support Cadet Summer Training. When these cadre members return, they bring with them the latest and greatest training Cadet Command has to offer, in order to continue making USM a successful program. Leadership advice: You heard this saying before but only few understand it, “know what you don’t know”. There will be several times throughout your career when you will be faced with difficult questions and decisions. Those are the times that challenges you know what you don’t know. Dig in, and don’t be afraid to read, research and respond. Get an understanding of every situation, or be able to guide someone in the right direction. My most memorable experience with any Cadet I have ever encountered, is watching them commission. The expression on their face after they see their hard work has paid off. Remember why you are here, remember the sacrifices of those before you, and last but not least be the person you want to be remembered as you.”
Mr. Chuck Mitchell  
**Recruiting Officer** for Golden Eagle Battalion.  
**Phone:** 601-266-4460  
Charles.s.mitchell@usm.edu

Our current recruiting environment has its challenges. The economy is improving, unemployment is easing, and stocks are up. The wars are “over” and the Army is facing downsizing and budget cuts. All this means that there are more options available to potential Army officers the same time benefits are being reduced. Reserve component commissions will be a higher percent of total commissions. Active duty will become increasingly competitive. If you want to be competitive for active duty you will need to have a higher and higher order of merit score. If you do not wish to compete for active duty, check out the benefits of a guaranteed reserve forces duty (GFRD) contact. Committing early will earn you more benefits and a higher probability of getting your reserve component job of choice. Officers who commission into the reserve component will be citizen Soldiers. This means you will need to find a full time civilian job in addition to your Army duties. I highly recommend that all Cadets entering the reserve component take advantage of the **Partnership for Youth Success (PAYS) program.** This program guarantees that you will get an interview with a particular company of your choice.

The Army also started a new program the **Reserve Component Cadet Career Opportunity Network (REC3ON).** This program helps prepare Reserve Component bound Cadets for a civilian career through a Mentorship Program with Business Leaders, and Internship Programs during the MSII or III summer. All RC bound Cadets are eligible, but participation is mandatory for Cadets w/ GRFD or DED scholarships. Sign up at [www.rec3on.org](http://www.rec3on.org).

Alumni, I am going to ask you to assist us in jobs leads for our Cadets. If you or anyone you know is interested in higher quality college graduates with leadership training and experience, let us know! We have lots of exceptional future officers.

**Cadets,** the more you put into academics and ROTC the more you will get out of them. Your GPA, APFT, and weight are your personal responsibility and reflect on how you lead yourself and your potential for leading our Soldiers. Mission first. Never Quit. Never accept defeat. If you are **not contracted**, get with myself or Ms. Haley and find out what you need to do to get contracted. You are wasting time and money if you are taking your time to contract. There has never been a better and easier time to contract than now. To contract, you must have 2.0 GPA, no arrest records, and be a full time student. See me for more details. To earn a scholarship, you must have 19 ACT score and 2.5 GPA.

**The Leaders Training course (LTC)** is an accelerated 28 days training event. It focusses on critical military skills and leadership skills taught the first two years of the Army ROTC Basic Course. Upon completion, Cadets are qualified to enroll in the Army ROTC Advanced Course – the next step towards becoming an Army Officer. Visit [www.goarmy.com/rotc/ltc](http://www.goarmy.com/rotc/ltc)

**Blue to Green Program**- Air Force Cadets can transfer to Army ROTC. If interested please contact me at 601-266-4460
Captain Eugene Ellis
commissioned as a Regular Army second lieutenant in the United States Army Chemical Corps in May 2010, as a distinguished military graduate of the Reserve Officer Training Corps Program at Campbell University, Buies Creek, North Carolina. Throughout his 19 year service tenure, Captain Ellis has served in a variety of leadership and staff positions. Assignments include CBRN Officer in 3rd Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, NC. Leadership assignments include Infantry Team and Squad leader; Chemical Platoon Sergeant and Platoon Leader in 21st Chemical Company, Fort Bragg, NC., served as an Assistant Professor of Military Science at The University of Southern Mississippi ROTC. Captain Ellis’ military education includes Primary Leadership Development Course, Basic Noncommissioned Officers Course, Advanced Noncommissioned Officer Course and Basic Officer Leaders Course. Equal Opportunity Advisor Course, Biological Detection System Course, Battle Staff Course, Jumpmaster Course, Airborne and Air Assault School. He holds a Bachelor in History Degree from Campbell University. Captain Ellis’ awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal, the Army Commendation Medal (one oak leaf clusters), the Army Achievement Medal (two oak leaf clusters), Army Good Conduct Medal (4), Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Korea Defense Service Medal, Expert Infantry badge, Senior Parachutist Badge and the Air Assault Badge

Thank you for your mentorship and commitment to the Golden Eagle Battalion. We appreciate your hard work and all the motivation you give to the Cadets during physical training!

SGT Kerry grilling out with the Cadets on the 100th JROTC anniversary 5k.

Thank you SFC Kerry for all your hard work and dedication to Golden Eagle Battalion!

SMTTT!!!
Office Notes

Ms. Missy McIntyre, Administrative Assistant
Melissa.mcintyre@usm.edu

Some of my duties as they pertain to Cadets:
- Adding students to MSL classes
- Schedule meetings with the PMS (LTC Swindle)
- Update USM website and oversee Facebook.
Send me your suggestions for updates.
-Alumni POC

Ms. Sequitta Haley, Human Resource Assistant
Sequitta.haley@usm.edu

As the Human Resource Assistant, my primary duty is to manage the Cadet Records of every Cadet that is enrolled in the Army ROTC program at The University of Southern Mississippi. From the time a Cadet enrolls into the program until the Cadet commissions from the program, I process and manage the Cadet’s record. I also initiate and process ROTC stipend pay and scholarship payments to the Cadet or the University. **For the MS I and MS II Cadets**, Basic course enrollment paperwork will be processed along with additional documents i.e. birth certificate, social security card. **For the MS III and MS IV Cadets**, Advanced course enrollment paperwork will be processed along with required documents (i.e. 104R, scholarship election benefits forms, direct deposit forms, MEPS physicals (less than two years old), request for SMP agreements, Accessions process, Summer Camps (CLC, CIET, LTC, CTLT) and commissioning paperwork. **MS V and Completion Cadets** are required to keep the PMS updated on their academics and graduation dates. They are also required to meet APFT and height and weights standards prior to Commissioning.

**The most important and always asked documents** are the 104R, CC form 139, CC form 136, CC Form 137 which are required to be completed every semester. All Contracted Cadets are required to have a CAC card. All Contracted Cadets must have a USM email AND an Enterprise (mail.mil or AKO) email. All Scholarship Cadets must complete their Scholarship Benefit Package Election from every year starting in August. All William Carey University Cadets must complete a ROTC Registration form every semester. Beginning the winter 2016 and Spring 2017 Semesters, the Army will be implementing GOARMY.ED for the processing of scholarship payments (tuition and fees/room and board). Finally, All Contracted Cadets must notify Cadre and Staff, if there are changes of ANY kind to personal health and well-being, change of academic major, academic problems/issues and anything deemed important.
In memory of Andrew Nicholas Maitner

It is an honor to have produced such a great Soldier and friend to many. We, the Golden Eagle Battalion, will always remember the days you walked the halls of our great Battalion. It is Soldiers like you that make this country so great and you will never be forgotten. CPT Maitner was commissioned in summer 2011 and he served as a Gold Bar recruiter. He visited classrooms and local training areas and trained Cadets. Andrew loved the Army, USM, Golden Eagle Battalion, and we all loved him. Rest easy, brother!
EAGLE STRIKE!

USM ARMY ROTC

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