



## ZERO Week

By: Jamie Jones

This year's zero week was planned and executed with the purpose of introducing some brand-new faces into the world of the Fighting Hawk Battalion. We spent two days introducing the new Cadets to our Cadre members as well as returning Cadets in the program. We familiarized them with UND's campus as well as the UND Armory and executed fun team building exercises to get new Cadets used to working with each other and tackling any sort of difficult task that might be thrown at them. For the semester and year to come.

After an intense game of dodgeball, the North Dakota and Minnesota National Guard came in and introduced themselves to the Cadets, while also generously supplying food for a grill out, giving our cadets information on future career opportunities. On the second and final day, we bussed out to the Larimore Dam and the new Cadets got the chance to work with returning Cadets on how to

set up/take down Zodiac boats and participate in a friendly Zodiac battle race. All in all, our Zero Week proved to be a success amongst the new Cadets and got them excited



## Fighting Hawks



## Battalion

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## Fall Commissioning

By: Jamie Jones



Grand Forks, ND- It was a cold, snowy day at the University of North Dakota where the Fighting Hawks Army ROTC held its winter commissioning ceremony. Lieutenant Mallory Kostelecky, Lieutenant Daniel Marschall, Lieutenant Taylor Sagan, and Lieutenant Tatjana Svjetlanovic stood at attention in their crisp, new uniforms, ready to take the next step in their military careers.



The ceremony began with a speech by the COL Jason Mathre, who congratulated the new lieutenants on their hard work and dedication to becoming strong leaders. He praised their commitment to the values of honor, duty, and selfless service, and reminded them that as officers, they had a special responsibility to lead by example.

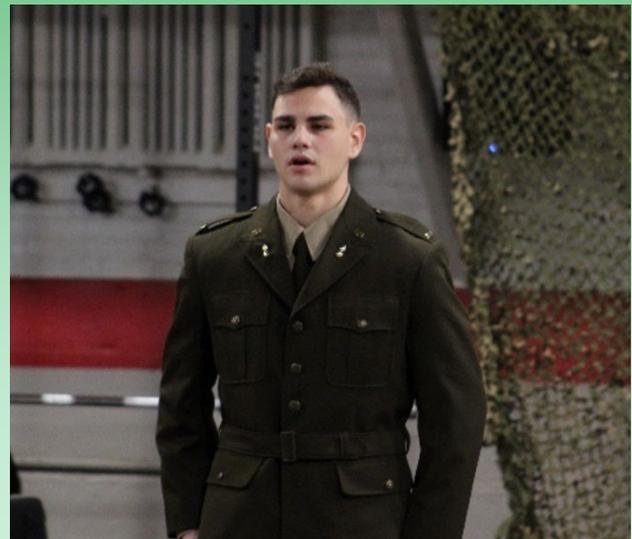
Next, the four lieutenants stepped forward to take their oath of commission. With their hands raised and their eyes fixed on the American flag, they repeated the words of the oath, pledging to defend the Constitution and serve their country with honor.

After the oath was completed, the new lieutenants received their commissioning certificates and shook hands with COL Mathre, their professors, and their friends and family. There were smiles all around as the lieutenants received congratulations and well wishes from those in attendance.

As the ceremony came to a close, the lieutenants knew that their journey as military officers had just begun. They were excited to put their training into action and serve their country with distinction. They were ready to take on whatever challenges lay ahead and continue to grow as leaders in the United States Army.



Congratulations to our new commissioned Officers to the United States Army



## Professor of Military Science By: Colonel Jason Mathre



Winter greetings from North Dakota and the Fighting Hawks Battalion. Another semester has passed, and we just commissioned four outstanding officers this past Friday that now join the officer ranks as they prepare to head off to the Basic Officer Leaders Course in the near future. Since I last wrote, we received some exciting news from the University Administration in that they have submitted a funding request (#2 of 3 submitted) to the state to completely refurbish the Armory. This request to upgrade and update the Armory is long overdue and would put critical upgrades to the classrooms and drill floor that have been in constant use for over 102 years. Depending on the State Legislature, there may be an opportunity for Alumni to help support the needed upgrades as well...we should know in late Spring 2023 the outcome and timeline, so more to follow in future updates.

I want to take a moment to reflect on the accomplishments of the Cadets as we had 14 attend and graduate from Cadet Summer Training at Fort Knox this summer. These future officers are headed into an Army faced with threats from both Russia and China while dealing with the challenges of a recruiting environment where, for the first time in over twenty years, the Army missed their recruiting mission for enlisted Soldiers by 15K recruits. Neither of these are one-year aberrations, but a new normal that will challenge both the dedication of these young lieutenants, but also their leadership skills...skills we are tirelessly working to develop and grow.

Cadets declare their commitment to becoming practitioners of leadership with a willingness to sacrifice personal gain for the greater ethical and moral calling. Your Fighting Hawks battalion has become a truly Cadet led organization where orders are developed, leadership labs are planned, and the execution of events are all conducted by the Cadets. Cadets are expected to function and perform in their staff roles similar to how they will perform once they are in the Army. Beginning the development of critical thinking while they are in college is preparing them for this enormous responsibility of caring for and leading America's sons and daughters. By all indications and their performance this Fall, this next generation of Cadets are up to the task.

The Cadet leadership continues to adapt each year, taking the best elements from the previous year to build the program. This year, our MSII's are getting in on the leadership action by expanding their involvement with the Red River, Central and Devils Lake High Schools through a mentorship program. In addition to being a good recruiting opportunity, your Fighting Hawks are also providing valuable information and coaching for JROTC Cadets that are getting ready for college and those looking to enlist in the service or joining SROTC. With a generation that shows a lower propensity to serve, it is this slightly older peer group that has the most influence convincing them that the Army is a noble and respected option.

From the Staff, Cadre and Cadets of the Fighting Hawks Battalion, I hope that this newsletter finds each of you healthy and happy this holiday season.

## Senior Military Science Instructor

By: Master Sergeant Zachary Carpenter



The Fighting Hawks Battalion at the University of North Dakota has had a busy and successful year so far. As the Senior Military Science Instructor (SMSI), I am proud of the progress that the Cadets have made. The senior Cadets recently completed Cadet Summer Training (CST) and have brought back valuable feedback to help prepare the junior Cadets for their own CST next summer.

In the first month of the school year, we conducted a variety of training exercises to get the unit ready for the Fall Field Training Exercise (FTX) at Camp Grafton. This included Land Navigation classes to prepare for the Land Navigation course, as well as rappelling certifications for the Air Assault qualified Cadets to train and certify leaders for the upcoming rappelling during FTX. The indoor rappelling wall at UND has been a great resource for this purpose.

During the FTX, the Cadets participated in a range of challenging and exciting events, including Engagement Skills Trainer (EST), Rifle Marksmanship (RM) Qualification, Confidence Course (CC), Obstacle Course (OC), Rappelling, and Land Navigation. Despite a 20 mile per hour full value wind, most Cadets were still able to qualify for RM qualification.

Following the FTX, we had a major Career Expo at the Alerus Center near campus, where a variety of agencies were recruiting for a range of career fields. We also conducted Individual Movement Techniques (IMT), Formations and Order of Movement (FOOM), and communications labs to set the Cadets up for success in future operations. In addition, we conducted Squad Attack to establish a baseline of Squad Tactics and to set the baseline of how fire and maneuver work.

During Homecoming week, we conducted a rappelling event off Columbia Hall, a six-story building on campus, as an opportunity for prospects and others interested in the program to try some of the activities that the Cadets do. The program's color guard also participated in the homecoming parade and presented the colors at the homecoming football game.

In October, the Ranger Challenge team was fully invested in training for an event at Camp Ripley, where they placed second overall, beating St. John's University in the process. In addition, we completed basic battle drill tactical labs on offensive operations, including Movement to Contact, Platoon Attack, Raid, and Ambush. The Inspector General also visited from Fort Knox, and we held a Parents and Family Day.

Overall, the Fighting Hawks Battalion is producing lethal leaders who are prepared to defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies. We are proud of the progress that the Cadets have made and are looking forward to continuing to develop their skills and leadership abilities.

That's all I have to report from my fighting position. The Fighting Hawks Battalion continues to win in everything we do.

**Enjoy the holiday break and keep your socks dry. Fighting Hawks!**

## Battalion Commander

By: Cadet Eric Lundstrom



The Fighting Hawks Battalion at the University of North Dakota has been a hub of learning

and development this semester. Cadets in the program have grown both physically and mentally, learning a variety of important skills and making a notable impact in their community.

One of the key areas of focus for the Cadets has been tactical leadership. Through a variety of classroom instruction and hands-on exercises, they have learned how to lead a tactical

mission, how to conduct drill and ceremony, and how to uphold the Army's customs and courtesies. These skills will be essential as they continue their journey toward becoming commissioned officers in the US Army.

In addition to their leadership training, the Cadets have also been actively involved in their community. They have racked up over 1,000 volunteer hours, with an average of 15 hours per Cadet. This dedication to service has made a positive impact on the local community and is a testament to the Cadets' character and commitment to their country.

The physical training program at the Fighting Hawks Battalion has also been a huge success this semester. The average Army Combat Fitness Test (ACFT) scores for the Cadets have

increased significantly, a testament to their hard work and dedication to fitness.

Finally, the Ranger Challenge Team at the Battalion has had a standout semester, taking 2nd place at the Task Force Ranger Challenge Competition. They took 2nd place to the University of Minnesota, which has the largest student body in the country, and beat Saint John's University, which placed 8th in the world last year.

Overall, the Fighting Hawks Battalion has much to be proud of this semester. The Cadets have shown incredible growth and development, both physically and mentally, and are well on their way to becoming outstanding leaders in the US Army.

## Cadet Command Sergeant Major

By: Cadet Cole Dack



After completing CST, the Fighting Hawks Battalion immediately returned to work, planning and preparing for the Fall

2022 semester. We spent many hours cleaning and setting up the Armory in anticipation of the arrival of 18 incoming Cadets and their families for zero week. As the CSM for the Fall semester, I am focusing on

implementing consistent customs and courtesies among all Cadets. It is common for Cadets to start the semester with a strong sense of professionalism and military bearing, but this can sometimes fade as the semester goes on. However, I believe that by instilling these values in the first few weeks of the semester, we can maintain a professional and disciplined environment throughout the year.

After a successful first few weeks, the UND Army ROTC unit embarked on Fall FTX with 57 Cadets. The Cadets were tested mentally and physically, facing challenging conditions on the qualification range with high winds and heavy rain. Despite these conditions,

many Cadets were able to successfully qualify and learn about their own resilience and determination. The rain continued to come down as the Cadets tackled the land navigation course, with all Cadets finding 4 out of 4 points.

I am confident that this year's Cadets have a strong foundation of knowledge and skills, as evidenced by their performance in both individual and leadership roles during the early stages of the semester. As the semester picks up speed, the training wheels will begin to come off as the MSIVs work to prepare a large class of MSIIIs for CST. I am proud to see that the Cadets are showing up eager to learn every week and are motivated to become Army Officers.

## Ralph Engelstad Rappelling

By: Jamie Jones



from the Ralph Engelstad Arena team for a rappel event on November 17, 2022.

Cadet Seibel coordinated with his classmates and delegated tasks to involve as many people as possible. The team met two weeks prior to the event and

sparked interest in incorporating similar performances at future hockey and football games. The Cadets involved are eager to continue working on this project and are confident that it will continue to be a thrilling addition to the game-day experience for fans

Grand Forks, ND— While conducting a volunteer rappelling event at Columbia Hall, one of the tallest buildings on campus, Cadets asked their Cadre if there would be the possibility of rappelling at hockey and football games. COL Mathre informed the Cadets that they could spearhead the project and see if there was any interest. Later that week, Cadet Seibel had gained confirmation

tested their equipment. Air Assault-qualified Cadets Dack and Lundstrom were selected by Cadet Seibel for the rappel. The team practiced hours before the event and were greeted with exhilarating applause during their performance. The Ralph Team was extremely grateful for the Cadets' patience and participation in their game.

The success of this rappelling event has



## Columbia Hall Rappelling

By: Cadet Yatzek



Cadets challenge themselves individually in their confidence and equipment by Rappelling off a 64-foot wall. This course is to have Cadets build confidence and overcome their fear of heights. With the help of experienced MSIVs, Cadets MS I, II, and III got taught how to tie a Swiss seat safely, square knot, complete a four-point safety check, and prepare to descend the

rappelling tower. Before Cadets went on the 64-foot rappel tower, they were taught by the MSIV Cadets how to maintain proper form and technique on a mini rappelling wall (I don't know how tall that one is). MS I, II, and III Cadets used the smaller rappelling wall to fearlessly prepare them to descend the taller tower. The rappel tower challenge Cadets physically and mentally, but in the end, all Cadets

overcome their fears and move on to the next challenging event.



# Fall Field Training Exercise (FTX)

By: Jamie Jones



Camp Grafton, ND—This September the Fighting Hawks Battalion completed their Field Training Exercise (FTX) at Camp Ripley. During these 4 days Cadets were challenged mentally and physically in ways that will prepare them both for Advance Camp at Fort Knox

and their future career in the Army. Cadets proved themselves in Land Navigation, Basic Rifle Marksmanship, the Obstacle Course, Medical Training, a 6 Mile Ruck March, and Field Leadership Reaction Course.

## Land Navigation

Land Navigation contained four separate parts. During the first night, the MSI&IIs participated in a class going over the basics of land navigation including helpful tips from experienced MSIVs. At the same time the MSIIIs demonstrated their knowledge by taking a written test on

land navigation. On the second day, the Cadets showed that not only can they find points on paper, but also take those skills and bring them to the real world by walking through the woods of Camp Ripley and finding points during the daytime and then later at night.



## Obstacle Course

The Obstacle Course tested the Cadets by their physical abilities and their confidence in themselves. While at this event, MSI&IIs moved between obstacles in their squads with an MSIV guiding them along. Some of the obstacles were necessary to work as a team to overcome while others were individual, but sometimes it was

in the process including drills, the engagement skills trainer, zeroing the iron sights, and the actual qualification system.



## Basic Rifle Marksmanship

Basic Rifle Marksmanship tested the MSIIIs on their ability to operate a M4 rifle given the Army's new qualification system. There are 6 tables that must be completed



## Field Leader Reaction Course

The Field Leader Reaction Course (FLRC) gave MSIIIs a chance to lead a squad. The premise of FLRC is that there is a variety of challenges that a squad must accomplish within a time constraint. An example of this is moving a number of boards from one space to another with only being able to be in a couple of spots. These challenges make the leader both think quickly and listen to those around them since everybody has a different idea.

## Flight Training Program

By: Jamie Jones

The Army ROTC Flight Training Program at the University of North Dakota is a prestigious and highly sought-after opportunity for Cadets. The program provides students with the opportunity to receive flight training and earn their private pilot's license while pursuing their degree. Upon completion, Cadets are commissioned as Second Lieutenants in the Army and have the opportunity to continue their flight training and become Army aviators. The program is highly competitive and only a select few are chosen each year to participate.



Cadet Messer from Belle Plain, MN



Cadet Morrison from Pequot Lakes, MN



Cadet Burd from Moorhead, MN



Cadet Rutgers from Fargo, ND



Cadet Marshall from Franklin, WI



Cadet Myers from Weddington, NC

With these students and Cadets participating in the Flight Training Program, they will receive ALL flight fees paid, full tuition and fees paid or \$5000 a semester for room and board, \$600 a semester in books, \$420 a month while in the University of North Dakota of Army ROTC.



## Cadets on Orders

By: Jamie Jones



**Lieutenant Kostelecky** has been selected to attend Med Services BOLC (Basic Officer Leadership Course) in San Antonio, TX. The exact dates are still to be determined, but she is looking forward to the opportunity. During her time there, she will be helping with filing paperwork at the MEDDET and assisting with the hearing booth for PHAs.

She is also excited to share that she has accepted a job as an ER nurse at Bismarck Sanford ER, which she will begin after she passes the NCLEX. Lieutenant Kostelecky is enthusiastic about becoming an ER nurse and has long-term goals of retiring in the Army National Guard and eventually becoming a flight nurse.



**Lieutenant Sagan** is currently awaiting orders for BOLC in San Antonio, Texas while eagerly awaiting the results of her NCLEX (National Council Licensure Examination) to determine their duty station.

Despite the uncertainty, she is extremely excited to begin her active-duty nursing career and is looking forward to meeting new people and making a positive impact in their new role. Her future plans include passing the NCLEX, completing BOLC, and starting on a medical-surgical unit at the Army hospital they are assigned to.

The Fighting Hawks family are proud of our student's dedication and determination to serve their country through their chosen profession. We wish them the best of luck on the NCLEX and in their future endeavors.



## Alumni Corner

By: Trudy Soli



Shawn Manke was raised in Cambridge Minnesota where he graduated high school in 1987. He attended the University of North Dakota from 1987 to 1991 after receiving a four-year Army ROTC scholarship.

During his time at UND in addition to his ROTC activities he kept busy in other areas of the University. He was active in the University Greek system as a member of the Phi Delta Theta Fraternity where he served multiple years on their executive council. In addition to the numerous Greek social functions, he was engaged in multiple intermural activities as a Phi Delt. Shawn was also active in the University's student Government where he served as the Center for Aerospace Sciences student senator.

Reflecting on his time at UND he feels

Shawn graduated as a Distinguished Military Graduate and commissioned as an Army Aviation Second Lieutenant in May of 1991. After attending the Aviation Officer Basic Course and flight school, he was assigned to C Co, 6-159 Aviation Regiment in Giebelstadt, Germany, where he served as an Assault Platoon Leader, Company Operations Officer, and Eagle Flight Detachment Commander while deployed in support of Operation Provide Comfort in Northern Iraq. After attending the Aviation Officer Advanced Course, Captain Manke was assigned to the 4th Aviation Brigade, 4th Infantry Division at Fort Hood, Texas. He served as the Assistant Brigade S3, Division Aviation Liaison Officer, and B Co, 2-4th Aviation Commander. After leaving the active Army as a Captain in 1999, Shawn and his wife Mary moved back to Minnesota to be closer to family, raise their two children, and began a civilian career as an operations manager for US West. In 2003 missing the comradery of the Army CPT Manke joined the Minnesota National Guard as a traditional National Guard Soldier. In 2008 MAJ Manke went to work full time for the Minnesota National Guard as the Aviation Support Facility Commander in St. Cloud Minnesota. While serving in the Minnesota

National Guard, in addition to numerous staff positions he commanded the 2-147th Assault Helicopter Battalion, the 34th Combat Aviation Brigade, and served as the Assistant Division Commander – Operations for the 34th Red Bull Infantry Division. He has deployed while serving in the Minnesota National Guard to Operation Joint Guardian (Kosovo), and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

In August of 2021 MG Manke assumed the duties of The Adjutant General for the Minnesota National Guard where he is responsible for the manning, equipping, and training of nearly 13,000 Soldiers and Airmen in the Minnesota National Guard

He is a graduate of the United States Army War College, Command and General Staff College, Aviation Officer Advanced and Basic Course, Air Assault Course and Airborne School.

MG Manke and his wife Mary of 31 years reside in Cambridge, Minnesota. They have two children, Kalie who is an Engineer Lieutenant serving in Stuttgart Germany and Lucas who is an Aviation Lieutenant serving at Hunter Army Airfield. In his free time, he enjoys spending time with his family, outdoor activities, and travel.

### A Note from Trudy

I decided it would be fun to choose a picture from "back then" – so I believe this one is from the 1999 era – can you guess who the alumni are? Thanks to our Scholarship/Recruiting Operations Officer, Mr. Jamie Jones has made this alumni newsletter bigger and better!!! Please continue emailing me your updates as I love getting messages from you...Are you still in the Army, retired, opted out, family life, what are you doing now, where do you live, anything you would like to share with me, I would love to hear about. With that, I am always looking for alumni that would be willing to be highlighted in our newsletter, so please send me a couple pictures of now and if you have any from "back then" picture(s) along with a bio of sort to (trudy.soli@und.edu).

Lastly, if you are deployed overseas, email me your address and I will be more than happy to send out a little care package to you. Until next newsletter, take care my friends and God Speed....ts



## Sights from Fall 2022



Cadets Vitale, Tesar, Koster, and Kostelecky help with move in day



Cadet Hill showing a new MSI how to read map



Brand new MSI's learn how to conduct Army Physical Training



Cadets helping incoming freshman during move-in week



Cadets, Nayar, Miles, and Jacobs showing off some new "ink"

## Sights from Fall 2022



Cadets contracting ROTC and receiving thousands of dollars in scholarships



Cadet Meehan receiving her weapon



Cadets begin their road march for the Fall FTX



Cadet Scott practicing rappelling



Cadet Messer with her infamous smile. She is always smiling!

## Sights from Fall 2022



US Army Esports beat UND Esports in Rocket League



Cadets Schuster and Owens setting their sights



Major Humble receiving one of his retirement awards



Cadets Jansen and Dack overseeing instruction on squad attack drills

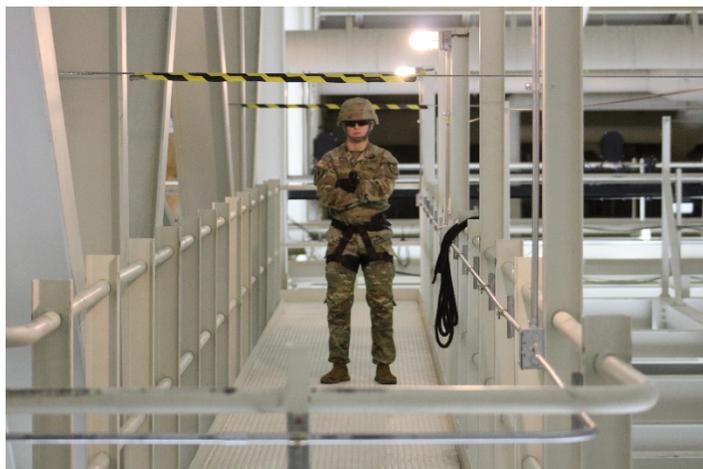


MSG Carpenter showing cadets how to clear a room



UND Army ROTC Cadets lead the colors during the UND homecoming parade

## Sights from Fall 2022



Cadet Dack getting ready to rappel from the rafters of the Ralph



Col Mathre evaluating Cadets on Drill and Ceremony (marching)



MSG Carpenter conducting the final safety checks before Cadet Dack rappels



Army ROTC vs Air Force ROTC flag football



Army ROTC won the flag football game

## Sights from Fall 2022



Cadets Messer, Dennis, and Wickstrom wait for UND to score during a football game to do pushups



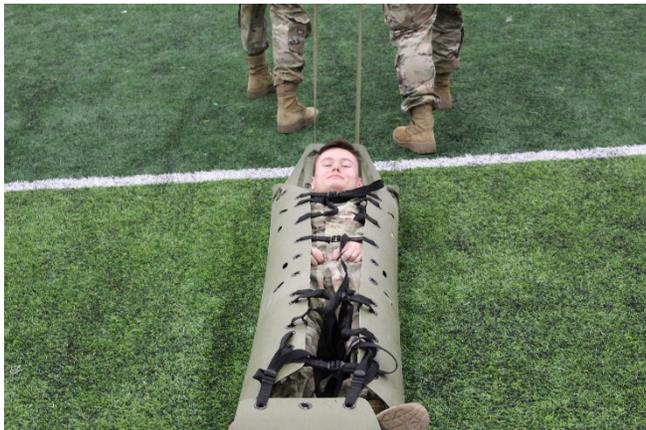
Push-up team during the UND vs SD game



Cadet Vitale receiving the guidon during a Change of Command ceremony



Cadets learning how to conduct first aid



Cadet Severance on the skid

## Spring Semester '23 Upcoming Events



### SPRING SEMESTER '23 EVENT CALENDAR

New Cadet Orientation	09 January 23
Lead Lab 1: PCC/PCI	12 January 23
Teambuilding Lead Lab: BD1A	19 January 23
AFCT	25-26 January 23
Lead Lab 2: TC3 BD1	2 February 23
Lead Lab: 3: Defense	09 February 23
Lead Lab 4: Recon	16 February 23
Lead Lab 6: Raid	23 February 23
Northern Warfare Challenge	24-26 February 23
Lead Lab 6: Ambush	02 March 23
6 Mile Ruck	10 March 23
Mega Lead Lab	25-26 March 23
Lead Lab 7: Land Navigation	30 March 23
Cadet of the Month	30 March 23
12 Mile Ruck	6 April 23
AFCT	19-20 April 23
Cadet Awards and Change of Command	20 April 22
CFTX	22-25 April 23
Cadet Funday	27 April 23
Cadet Dining Out	29 April 23
Spring Commissioning	12 May 23



## University of North Dakota Army ROTC Fighting Hawks Strong!

Army Reserve Officer Training Corps  
255 Centennial Drive  
Grand Forks, ND 58202  
Fighting Hawks Battalion

Phone: 701-777-3498  
E-mail: [trudy.soli@UND.edu](mailto:trudy.soli@UND.edu)

If you know someone who has the potential to be an Army officer, tell them about us! They don't have to be from North Dakota! We have great opportunities for high school and in-college scholarships. Current enlisted Army National Guard and Reserves enrolled at the University of North Dakota are also eligible to participate in Army ROTC and may be eligible for additional scholarship and DoD programs.  
Call (701) 730-4918 or email [jamie.r.jones@UND.edu](mailto:jamie.r.jones@UND.edu) for more information.

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### ***Fall 2022 Edition***

***This issue was compiled by: Cadet***

*Joshua Siebel &*

*Mr. Jamie R. Jones*

***If you are interested in making a donation to help support our UND Army ROTC Battalion, you can make a check out to the Raiders Club and mail it to "UND Army ROTC, Raiders Club (Trudy Soli), 255 Centennial Drive, Grand Forks, ND 58202-8360) or the Raiders Club. You may also electronically send donations through the UND Foundation Website below:***

***<https://undalumni.org/schools-and-colleges>***

***We are so grateful for your continued support of the UND Army ROTC program.***

***Go Sioux!!! Go Hawks!!!***