

Spring BOILER BAYONET

13 JAN 2025 - 31 MAY 2025

A Word from our PMS:

“What a year for the Boiler Battalion! The training didn’t always go as originally planned, but at the end of the semester, the Cadets were trained and ready to show the rest of the nation what the Boilermakers can do. This summer our Cadets will travel around the world, bettering themselves and the program, from Air Assault School to Airborne School to Mountain Warfare to Sapper School. From Joint Base Lewis- McChord to Camp Humphrey’s Korea and everywhere in between, the Purdue Boiler Battalion Cadets are out there representing this program and University with pride. I also wanted to say thank you to all the Cadets, Alumni, and Friends of the Battalion for all the support to me and my family during our four years here at the PMS. This has been an amazing assignment! I am truly grateful and honored at the opportunity to serve as the PMS, helping to shape the future of our Army for years to come. Boiler Up! Hammer Down! Hail Purdue! Wabash Always Fights!”

– Lieutenant Colonel Kevin C. White

This Spring, the Boiler Battalion embarked on a journey filled with growth, resilience, and community impact. Cadets stepped into challenging leadership roles, tackled an intense and weather dependent Spring Field Training Exercise (FTX) which showcased the Cadet’s abilities to adapt quickly, and deepened their connection with Army traditions and the wider Purdue community. Through a diverse set of opportunities, the Battalion fostered an environment of determination and success.

Key moments such as spring Field Training Exercise (FTX), Change of Command Ceremony, and Commissioning Ceremony showcased the dedication and progress within the Battalion. Additionally, several members of our team finished their time in the Battalion. MSG Duncan and Ms. Boe, thank you for your unwavering dedication to the Cadets. While they were able to finish the semester with us, we will also be losing CPT Torres and CPT Dirienzo over the summer months. Thank you both for all you’ve done for the Battalion during your time at Purdue.

Reflecting on a semester rich with accomplishments driven by dedication, it's evident that the Boiler Battalion continues to shape strong, quality leaders ready to serve with distinction.

Contents

Introduction.....	Page 1
ACFT & CWST.....	Page 2
Spring FTX.....	Page 3
LTC Stephen J. Herczeg Leadership Speaker Series.....	Page 4
Clubs.....	Page 5
Labs.....	Page 6
Baaton.....	Page 7
Dining Out.....	Page 8
Military Appreciation Week.....	Page 9
Color Casing Ceremony.....	Page 10
Spring Commissioning.....	Page 11
Fall Leadership.....	Page 12
Closing.....	Page 13



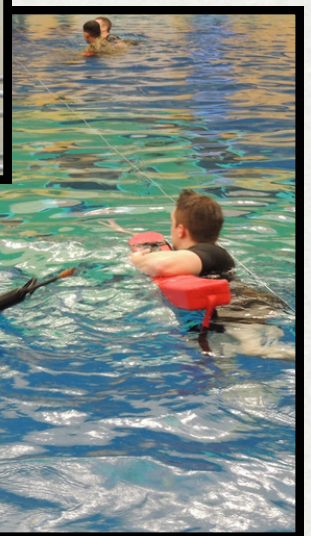


ACFT & CWST

PURDUE ARMY ROTC BOILER BATTALION



From April 14–17, the Boiler Battalion conducted its semi-annual Army Combat Fitness Test (ACFT), with Cadets demonstrating their dedication to physical readiness and continuous improvement. Over the course of the four mornings, Cadets completed the six-event test with discipline and determination, resulting in an average score of 533 across the battalion. This achievement reflects the collective effort, resilience, and commitment of the Cadets, who have worked tirelessly to improve their performance and push one another towards excellence. In the coming semester we will be implementing the new AFT and wish a happy farewell to the standing ball throw.



On the morning of March 5th, the Boiler Battalion conducted its semesterly Combat Water Survival Test (CWST). Cadets were instructed by their upper classmen on various water-based survival abilities before being given the chance to try them all out for themselves. These ranged from a confidence swim, a rifle swim, and an equipment drop, all while wearing their OCPs. This was all aimed at improving the confidence of Cadets when it comes to performing the abilities they may potentially need in their future while being in a safe controlled environment. As always, the battalion showed up eager and ready and ended the CWST with a pass rate of 97%.



SPRING FTX

PURDUE ARMY ROTC BOILER BATTALION



The path to our successful spring FTX was no easy one for our MS4s. Although they completed the MDMP in order to plan out a successful and beneficial joint training event for the other Cadets, there were numerous challengers that posed a risk to the FTX. Despite these changes the Boiler Battalion was able to successfully adapt to harsh weather and flooded training areas in order to execute crucial training.

Cadets began day 1 with land navigation and did this only with a compass, map, and a protractor. Teams of 2-3 were given 5 points and to pass the test Cadets were to find 3 of the 5 points. Cadets attempted to find and mark multiple grid points utilizing their teamwork, critical thinking and overall navigation skills at Martell Forest. This was made difficult due to vast terrain, far placed points, and points that varied between self-correcting and non-self-correcting.

Day 2 was the Situational Training Exercises (STX), and all Cadets performed 2 STX lanes to learn and understand the roles in an attack and ambush operation. Cadets were tested on their leadership, decision making and working under a tactical environment.

Day 3 the Cadets were brought to the armory to work on teamwork and leadership by understanding and presenting an OPORD and briefing the OPORD. Later, MS1 and MS2 Cadets went on a 6-mile Tactical Ruck March around Purdue's Campus with a 35lb ruck sack. Meanwhile, MS3 Cadets performed warrior tasks at the armory to further their understanding in various areas such as weapons systems, radios, and call for fire. In the end, The Boiler Battalion lived out the "fight to train" mantra by navigating the fast changing conditions to make sure that the Cadets got the proper training for their futures while demonstrating grit, perseverance and growth from this overall experience.



LTC STEPHEN J. HERCZEG LEADERSHIP SPEAKER SERIES

PURDUE ARMY ROTC BOILER BATTALION

MG (Retired) Wright discussed key events and stories during his career that demonstrated his determination to serve. Throughout his speech there was a heavy emphasis on doing what is right and advocating for one's self and others despite the possible consequences. His talk helped provide examples and connected what Cadets learn about the Army values to the real world. Cadets also learned about readiness. During his time in the guard MG Wright conducted rescues with little prior notice. He had to be prepared, ready, and confident in his skills at any time. The rescues he discussed also required quick decision making and problem-solving skills. Cadets took away the importance of being familiar with one's capabilities and equipment because of the role it plays in making decisions. Overall, MG Wright's experiences helped Cadets bridge the concepts they've learned in the classroom to real-life scenarios.



LTG Jered P. Helwig spoke to the Boiler Battalion about his career and his journey in the Army. Prior to his current position, LTG Helwig served as the Commanding General of the 8th Theater Sustainment. Other highlights include Serving as the Director for Logistics and Engineering of United States Indo-Pacific Command, and Chief of Transportation and Commandant at the United States Army Transportation School. During his speech he talked about notable moments in his career, what his plans were for the Army at the time, and how they differed from what actually happened. He emphasized how even though one's path in the Army isn't always straightforward, if one trusts in one's self and the people around them, they can achieve your goals. He also stressed the importance of adaptability. Cadets learned valuable information on what to expect in their futures and how to create a supportive environment that both helps them and the people around them achieve their goals.



CLUBS

PURDUE ARMY ROTC BOILER BATTALION

A large part of any organization is the fellowship and camaraderie amongst the members of its team. The Boiler battalion lives this truth through the many different clubs that they offer its Cadets throughout the semesters. Not only do these clubs develop the relationships of the Cadets who choose to participate but also improves upon their abilities and understanding of different Army skills and needs.

Led by CDT Lucarelli, the Color Guard plays an active and prominent role in Purdue's sporting events, the Purdue Grand Prix, military appreciation ceremonies, and other significant vigils and commemorations. This semester, they participated in multiple events. Their dynamic presence enhances each occasion, reflecting their versatility and dedication to community engagement.

COLOR GUARD



TACTICS



Under the leadership of CDTs Schuette, Fortin, and Lucas, the Tactics Club met after lab to further develop tactical proficiency through additional training in M240 and M249 machine guns, warrior skills, STX lanes, and patrol base operations. This club is a prime example of the extra work that not only the upperclassmen, but also the underclassmen put in in order to further develop the skills and strategies needed to succeed not only in the ROTC but as Second Lieutenants in the Army.

POWERLIFTING and PATHFINDERS

Pathfinders Club, led by Cadet Reutebuch and Powerlifting Club led by Cadet Lonzo, provided Cadets with a well-rounded approach to fitness. The Pathfinders focus on high-intensity, CrossFit-style workouts, while the Powerlifting Club emphasizes structured weight training to build overall strength. Both these clubs met once a week to workout and build a community within the battalion. These clubs do a great job of preparing the Cadets for the AFT (formerly ACFT) as well as promoting overall physical readiness.





LABS

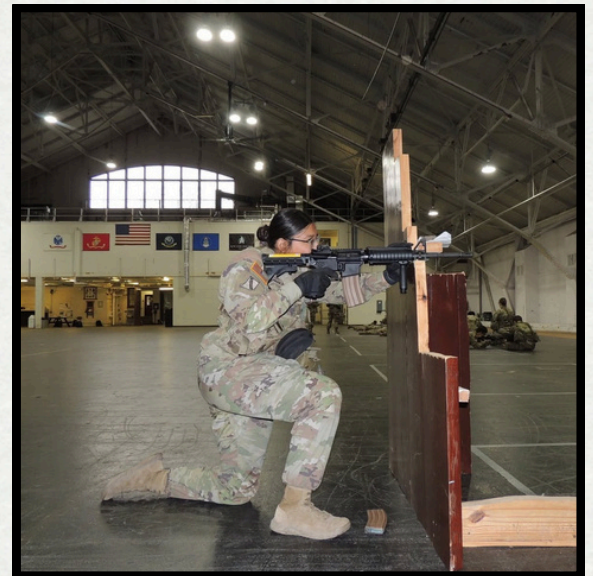
PURDUE ARMY ROTC BOILER BATTALION

During Lab 5, MS2 Cadets focused on learning how to properly emplace and employ a Claymore. Training included identifying the components of the Claymore, understanding its effective range and tactical applications, and practicing safe emplacement procedures in a controlled environment. This hands-on experience provided Cadets with a foundational understanding of how the Claymore supports defensive operations and enhances area security, while also reinforcing key concepts in terrain analysis, safety protocols, and small-unit tactics.



During Lab 9, MS1 Cadets applied the fundamentals, key components, and practical aspects of platoon defense. MS2 Cadets reviewed platoon formations and learned how to maneuver as a platoon to conduct a raid. Meanwhile, MS3 Cadets focused on applying individual patrolling fundamentals and components.

During Lab 11, the Boiler Battalion concentrated on M4 weapons familiarization and preliminary marksmanship training across all Cadet levels. MS1s were introduced to the M4 rifle, building foundational confidence in its operation and grouping techniques. MS2 Cadets focused on Preliminary Marksmanship Instruction (PMI) and further M4 familiarization to prepare for future Table VI transitions. Meanwhile, MS3 Cadets advanced their marksmanship proficiency and trained on the M4, M249, and M240 weapon systems in preparation for Table VI qualification and the weapons lanes at Cadet summer Training (CST).





BATAAN MEMORIAL MARCH

PURDUE ARMY ROTC BOILER BATTALION

At the beginning of the school year the Bataan Team, consisting of Cadets Benbow, Stuart, Helgren, Ellis, Smith, and LaFramboise set out on a strong, consistent training program that started in fall of 2024 to get themselves tuned up to perform at the 2025 Bataan Death March located at White Sands Missile Range in New Mexico. Their training consisted of weekly rucks and a variety of lifts as a team to promote togetherness as well as physical readiness in preparation for the march.



Once arriving in El Paso ahead of the memorial march, the Bataan team was met by Cadets Lynch, Cimino, and Tennent who had independently been training for the march as a group. As a collective group they had the unique opportunity to meet with service members of 4-70th AD and even had the chance to get hands on a M1 Abrams.

Overall, all Cadets involved in the Bataan Memorial Death March were immersed in the culture of El Paso, while also gaining quality experiences with the 4-70th AD. Additionally, they pushed themselves to complete the march, which is a fitting and symbolic way to honor the sacrifice of those who were a part of the Bataan Death March in 1942.





DINING OUT

PURDUE ARMY ROTC BOILER BATTALION

On March 7th, the Boiler Battalion proudly hosted its annual Dining Out, a formal event that brought together Cadets, cadre, and honored guests in celebration of Army heritage, leadership, and unity. This longstanding tradition offers a chance to reflect on our shared values while strengthening the bonds that define our organization.

The evening was highlighted by the presence of Lieutenant General Edmond M. Brown, whose keynote address served as a central moment of inspiration. He shared his “10 Rules for Army Leaders”—a set of guiding principles shaped by years of experience and service. His message emphasized humility, integrity, and mission-first leadership, challenging Cadets to lead with purpose and character. His words resonated deeply across the formation, leaving a lasting impact on the future leaders of the Battalion.

Following the formal program, which included ceremonial toasts and recognition of outstanding performance, the evening shifted to celebration. Cadets, cadre, and guests came together on the dance floor, enjoying a night of music, camaraderie, and shared memories.

Dining Out 2025 was not only a reflection of Army tradition, but also a meaningful reminder of the leadership, service, and connection that unite the Boiler Battalion.





MILITARY APPRECIATION

PURDUE ARMY ROTC BOILER BATTALION

On February 16th, Cadets from the boiler Battalion supported and attended the Wabash Lacrosse Military Appreciation Game. The game was held in honor for all those who served. During the pre-game festivities, CDT Lee performed the national anthem on guitar and color guard presented the colors. At halftime, Cadets worked to set up a functional fitness tic-tac-toe game and competed against students from Wabash in them. Cadets Backus and Navarro played in the Lacrosse game and helped Wabash secure the victory for the Little Giants!

Back at Purdue, the Boiler Battalion participated in two other military appreciation games with LTC White throwing the first pitch and Cadets presented the flag at the April 8th baseball game. On April 17th Cadet Yunkunis threw the first pitch at the women's softball appreciation game while Cadets engaged with fans by throwing out t-shirts.





COLOR CASING CEREMONY

PURDUE ARMY ROTC BOILER BATTALION

At the close of the spring semester, the Boiler Battalion held its annual Color Casing Ceremony, a tradition marking the end of the academic year and the Battalion's training cycle. The casing of the colors symbolizes the temporary conclusion of the unit's active campus duties and serves as a moment to reflect on the year's accomplishments. It honors the legacy each Cadet contributes to and reaffirms the Battalion's continued commitment to excellence.



Throughout the year, the Boiler Battalion displayed exceptional performance across all facets of ROTC training. Cadets excelled in leadership, academics, fitness, and field operations, consistently upholding the values of discipline, teamwork, and selfless service. The Color Casing Ceremony offered a moment to reflect on the Battalion's growth and achievements, with the casing of the colors symbolizing a proud conclusion to a year defined by dedication and resilience.



While the training year has come to a close, the mission continues. With eyes set on future challenges—whether at Advanced Camp, internships, or in continued preparation for leadership roles—the Boiler Battalion stands ready, motivated, and grounded in the values that guide the Army profession.





SPRING COMMISSIONING

PURDUE ARMY ROTC BOILER BATTALION

The Boiler Battalion proudly celebrates the commissioning of sixteen exceptional Cadets as Second Lieutenants in the United States Army. This momentous achievement marks the culmination of years of rigorous training, perseverance, and personal growth, and signals the beginning of a lifelong commitment to leadership and service. These individuals have demonstrated unwavering dedication to excellence, balancing academics, physical training, and leadership development while embodying the Army's core values of loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity, and personal courage. Their commissioning is a testament to their hard work, resilience, and passion for serving a cause greater than themselves. As they take their oaths and don their bars of rank, they carry forward the proud legacy of the Purdue Army ROTC Boiler Battalion, ready to lead with distinction and face the challenges of an evolving world with confidence and determination. The Battalion takes immense pride in their achievements and looks forward to the profound impact they will have on their units, the Army, and the nation.



2LT Bouachoum
Active Duty
Infantry

2LT Brunton
National Guard
Military Intelligence

2LT Campbell
Ed Delay

2LT Cimino
Active Duty
Transportation

2LT Ellis
Active Duty
Engineer

2LT Grow
National Guard
Air Defense Artillery

2LT Hale
National Guard
Engineer

2LT Helwig
Active Duty
Infantry

2LT Larsen
Reserve
Ordnance

2LT Lasecki
Active Duty
Aviation

2LT Little
National Guard
Aviation

2LT Lynch
Active Duty
Armor

2LT Pham
Active Duty
Field Artillery

2LT Riner
Active Duty
Field Artillery

2LT Sanders
Active Duty
Chemical

2LT Spors
Active Duty
Aviation



FALL LEADERSHIP

PURDUE ARMY ROTC BOILER BATTALION

Boiler Battalion c/BC Janelle Pearson

“I am honored to have been selected for this position and am excited to have the privilege of working with this team. We look forward to continuing into the fall semester with hard work and integrity that will continue to grow the Boiler Battalion and shape our future officers.”



c/CSM - Sneed



c/XO - Woodward



c/S1 - Montes



c/S2 - Reutebuch



c/S3 - Ahluwalia



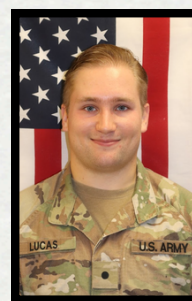
c/S4 - Engle



c/S5 - Pietrzak



c/S6 - Grant



c/S8 - Lucas



c/HHC CDR - Terry



c/A CO CDR - Garza



c/B CO CDR - Hodges



CLOSING

PURDUE ARMY ROTC BOILER BATTALION

FALL EVENTS

Opening Ceremony.....	August 22
9-11 Memorial Stadium Run (Open to All).....	September 11
LTC Stephen J. Herczeg Leadership Speaker Series.....	November 7
Military Appreciation Game.....	November 8
Branch Night.....	December 6
Commissioning.....	December 20

WHERE TO FIND US

At the Armory: 812 3rd St, West Lafayette, IN 47906



Army ROTC Website



Facebook



Instagram



Merch Store



Alumni Facebook



Alumni Instagram

We wish everybody a relaxing and enjoyable summer. We hope to see you all back on campus in the fall!

THANK YOU
FOR THE CONTINUOUS SUPPORT