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    Farewell Mrs. Herring!
Rattlers! This fall semester has begun "fast and furious" and it will continue! We had an excellent LDX at Pat Thomas and as promised, we will always physically and mentally challenge you to your potential. The Rattler Battalion is strong, but as ambassadors of this leadership program, I am asking all of you to go out and spread the message that this is the best leadership course on FAMU. Recruit and we’ll retain. We are the best HBCU in 6th Brigade, but the metrics are based on YOUR performance, i.e. APFT scores, GPAs, etc. Always do your best in everything you do. We bid farewell to Mrs. Herring, an incredible woman who has supported this program for many years. We also welcome CPT Lewis from Poland and I’m truly excited about her energy.

Mission First, People Always. #RattlersStrike
This past summer, our Rattlers participated in Cadet Summer Training (CST). Within CST, there are several training opportunities available. Training opportunities include:

CIET (Cadet Initial Entry Training): CIET is an introductory camp into the Army lifestyle and way of life. It is designed as a Basic Combat Training (Drill Sergeants included) with a focus on leadership development. Station Location: Fort Knox, Kentucky.

CLC (Cadet Leadership Course): CLC is often called the Advanced Camp. Every cadet must attend this camp to become a Second Lieutenant (2LT). Initially, CLC was designed as an evaluation camp; it has now evolved into an instruction based evaluation camp. Here you will learn how to become a better leader before commissioning. Station location: Fort Knox, Kentucky.

Airborne School: 3 Week course designed to teach soldiers and cadets how to properly conduct airborne jumps. During this course, cadets will jump over 5 times from 2, 250 ft. Airborne All The Way!! Station Location: Fort Benning, Georgia

Air Assault School: 10 Day course to teach cadets how to properly Rappel, and hook up equipment for air transport. Some call this “The Ten Hardest Days in the Army” which includes a grueling ruck march with full equipment. Station Location: Fort Campbell, Kentucky

CLET (Cadet Troop Leader Training): This internship program places Cadets in actual Army units acting as real Lieutenants! This three to five week challenge is a definite learning experience, and allows Cadets to gain a perspective on what they will be facing as future officers.

CULP (Cultural Understanding Language Proficiency): A great opportunity to travel abroad; Cadets are able to travel to a foreign country and learn a variety of skills and immerse themselves within the culture. The application window is now OPEN!!
Ranger Challenge

The Ranger Challenge Competition is a one-day event this year that develops Cadets' critical thinking skills, adaptability and builds esprit de corps. The events include a multitude of demanding physical fitness tasks, first aid lanes, the infamous rope bridge and a knowledge exam. The events this year will take place at the campuses of FAMU and FSU, here in Tallahassee. The competition reaches its zenith with a final 10-mile Road March (down St. Mark's Trail southeast of the city).

COMBAT WATER SURVIVAL TEST (CWST)

The Combat Water Survival Test (CWST) is a requirement for Cadets to pass in order to commission. Before taking the actual CWST we must assess who are the strong swimmers, so that we can help encourage the weak swimmers. Once the distinction is made, the strong swimmers tread water for a total of 5 minutes and swim laps back and forth for a total of 10 minutes (without stopping or touching the wall) before moving on to complete the other events. This test is broken up into three events: 1) 25 meter swim with a M-16; 2) Gear drop with a LBV (Load Bearing Vest) and M-16, resurface and swim to the edge of the pool. 3) Blindfolded diving board jump.
LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENTAL EXERCISE (LDX)

The Leadership Developmental Exercise (LDX) is designed to place our Cadets in a tactical environment and apply the training learned during weekly labs.

Cadets train on the following:

- Grouping and Zeroing a Weapon
- Clearing a Room/Building
- Medical Treatments
- Key Leader Engagement
- Cover and Concealment

This Exercise also builds comradery amongst the Cadets and high morale in the battalion.
The Rattler Battalion commissioned 8 Second Lieutenants during the Summer Commissioning Ceremony. These following Cadets serve as a reminder of our future goals and aspirations to become Army Officers.

2 LT Kimberly F. Alexis: United States Army Reserve Military Police Officer

2LT LaMicah Harris: United States Army Reserve Transportation Officer

2LT Jennifer Hulse: Active Duty United States Army Adjutant General Corps Officer.

2LT Erode Jean: United States Army Reserve Military Police Officer

2LT D’Vante Morales: Active Duty Armor Officer

2LT Terrance Jamal Stewart: Active Duty Infantry Officer

2LT Joshua Thomas: Active Duty Armor Officer

2LT Melody Traylor: United States Army Reserve Transportation Officer

Congratulations to the new officers on their achievements and may they always go beyond the standard!
GET INVOLVED!

Congratulations to CDT Dorothea Rhodel on being crowned Miss ROTC. This pageant is an annual affair where the Cadets compete for the esteemed title. The event consists of evaluations on APFT scores, attitude, wear of the uniform, personal appearance and performance.

We have many recruiting events throughout the year to increase the populace at the Rattler Battalion. We are able to engage college students and give information based on experiences while in the program. To sign up for recruiting events, look for events posted on the recruiting board in the Main Hall or talk to Ms. Lucas.

Color Guard is an auxiliary group, usually consisting of 2 guards (rifles or sabers) and 2 flag men. Color Guard is an honor unlike others where you will present the colors at requested events in one of those positions. To get a Color Guard tab, one must complete 3 details first. To sign up for the Color Guard team, contact CDT Schulte.
Upcoming Events!!!

Ranger Challenge 02-03 Oct 2015
FAMU Home Game Support 10 Oct 2015
Homecoming Convocation 16 Oct 2015
FAMU Home Game Support (Homecoming) 17 Oct 2015
FAMU Pink Tie Ball (Tentative Date) 23 Oct 2015
FAMU Home Game (Halloween/Military Appreciation) 31 Oct 2015
Final Semester Record APFT 09-10 Nov 2015
Veteran’s Day 11 Nov 2015
Teen Second Harvest Dinner (Community Event) 18 Nov 2015
Orlando Classic Game Support 19-21 Nov 2015
Thanksgiving Holiday 26-27 Nov 2015
Cadet Christmas Party 04 Dec 2015
Commissioning Ceremony/Graduation 11 Dec 2015

FAREWELL!

Mrs. Mary Herring, the FAMU Army ROTC Senior Secretary, announced her intentions to retire from her position as Senior Secretary for the Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University (FAMU) Army ROTC program, effective October 1st, 2015. Mrs. Herring has given over 50 years of dedicated and selfless service to this program. We are so very appreciative of her service and friendship!

Affectionately known as “Colonel Herring” amongst alumni in the FAMU ROTC Rattler Battalion, Mrs. Mary Herring, is currently employed as a Senior Secretary in the Army ROTC Department. She graduated from the Old Lincoln High School located in Tallahassee, FL, June 1958. After graduation, she completed Typing and Bookkeeping at Old Lincoln Vocational Trade School.

She continued her education at Florida A&M University part time in Business Administration.

She has held numerous administrative support positions throughout her career. She began her employment history August 1960 through February 1966, as a Secretary/Bookkeeper at Old Lincoln High School maintaining all the bookkeeping records for the school and performing routine typing; March 1965 through July 1967 at Florida A&M University Army ROTC Department as Student Records Clerk; July 1967 through September 1967 at Martin Army Hospital, Fort Benning, GA, responsible for issuing ID cards to soldiers and routine typing. Mrs. Herring was employed by the U. S. Government as Chief Military Personnel Clerk at Florida A&M University, Army ROTC Department, and September 1967 through February 1996. In this position, she was in charge of the military personnel clerical functions pertaining to cadre and student personnel, and other administrative duties in support of the ROTC mission; February 1996 through October 31, 2007 she was a Senior Secretary at Florida A&M University until her retirement. After retirement, missing the work at the “Rattler Battalion” and realizing retirement was not all that she had expected, she did volunteer work full time at the “Rattler Battalion” until she returned to work as Senior Secretary in May 2008.

From March 1965 to the present, she has worked for 17 Professors of Military Science. Of the 1446 Cadets commissioned Second Lieutenants at Florida A&M University, she has witnessed 957.

She is the recipient of numerous awards: Florida A&M University Superior Accomplishment Award, the Rattler Pride Award, the Florida A&M University Special President’s Award, FAMU Rattler Battalion CDR’s Award, Honorary PMS Award, Department of the Army Commander’s Award for Public Service.