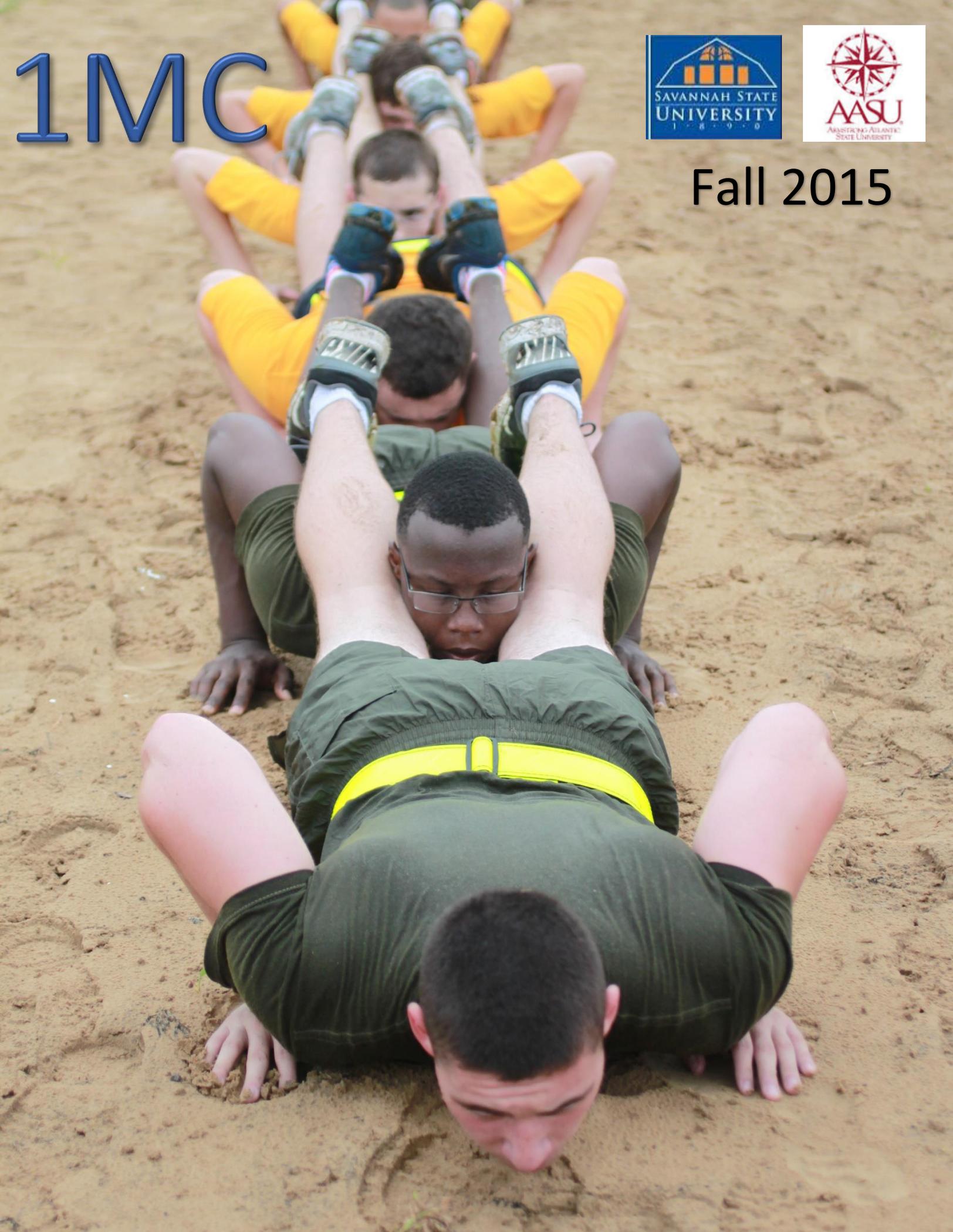


# 1MC



Fall 2015



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# WELCOME ABOARD

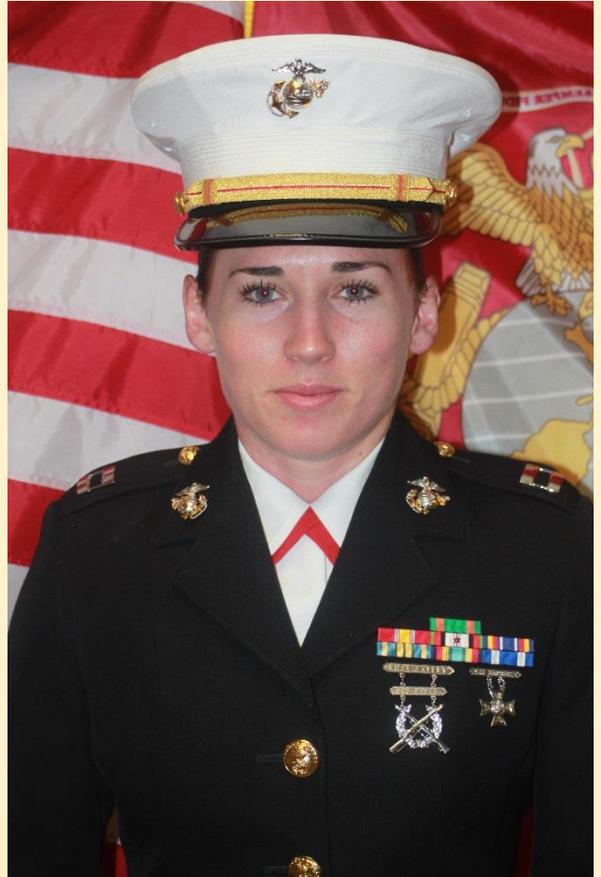
Captain Amanda Mathew was raised in Imperial Beach, California and Roatán Bay Islands, Honduras. After graduating high school in California, she attended the University of Arizona in Tucson, Arizona with the Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps scholarship. In May 2011, she graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps.

Second Lieutenant Mathew reported to The Basic School in July 2011, and completed the Basic Officer's Course in January 2012. Following the completion of The Basic School, Second Lieutenant Mathew reported to Logistics Officer's School in Camp Johnson, North Carolina with orders pending to Okinawa, Japan. Midway through Logistics Officer School, Second Lieutenant Mathew was selected to proceed in the Exception to Policy program and report to 1st Combat Engineer Battalion, 1st Marine Division as the first female to serve at this combat arms unit.

Upon graduation of Logistics Officer School, Second Lieutenant Mathew checked in to 1st Combat Engineer Battalion where she served as the Battalion Assistant Logistics Officer until January 2013, when she was transferred to serve as the Maintenance Management Officer. Promoted to First Lieutenant in May 2013, First Lieutenant Mathew completed the Animal Packer's Course in Bridgeport, California as the first female to complete this course. In August 2013, First Lieutenant Mathew completed Logistics for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century at the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill, through the Institute of Defense and Business. In October 2013, First Lieutenant Mathew deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom 13.2 to Helmand Province, Afghanistan as the Battalion Assistant Logistics Officer and Maintenance Management Officer.

On December 1, 2013, First Lieutenant Mathew was abruptly transferred to serve as the Operations Platoon Commander for Engineer Support Company. Upon redeployment in April 2014, First Lieutenant Mathew was transferred to serve as the Motor Transport Platoon Commander and Executive Officer for Engineer Support Company. In December 2014, First Lieutenant Mathew was transferred to serve as the Arms, Ammunition and Explosives Officer and Armory Officer for the Battalion.

In May 2015, First Lieutenant Mathew was awarded the 2014 United States Marine Corps Motor Transport Officer of the year and promoted to the rank of Captain.



# NSO

Beginning NROTC, myself and 25 others attended our weeklong orientation. At this orientation, we learned and/or brushed up on a large quantity of different activities, such as drill, P.T., and even how to properly conduct ourselves in a public setting. Sunday, August 2nd, began our week of N.S.O. at Parris Island, South Carolina. On this day, we received a uniform, sea bag, P.T. gear, a military backpack, and a Midshipman handbook. Each and every one of these items played a key role in our time at Parris Island. Upon arrival at N.S.O., we (as candidates) were assigned a rack and rack mate. Ground rules were laid down to us very carefully and in detail. We were direct representatives of SSU NROTC and would conduct ourselves as such. We were not allowed to speak unless spoken to and would show the upmost respect for our troop handlers. We had a strict schedule that we would stick to and the only way to do so would be to “move with some intensity.” The goal of our time at Parris Island was to be trained and taught as candidates so that we would become promoted to and take on the responsibility of being a midshipman, which is the first step to commissioning. We underwent a tough time that week, but as mentioned before it all held a very valid and beneficial purpose. We had to learn to adapt and overcome. The staff taught us discipline. We had to learn the simple tasks such as to address ourselves as “this candidate” instead of “I” or “cadet”. These tasks were done to instill in us that we are not individuals, we are a team and we must work together to overcome. We had a rough time, but it was a huge bonding experience with the staff and one our classmates. We completed the first step toward commissioning; we graduated from candidate to Midshipman. This was the first week of a four year plan in college to get a direct commission into the military.

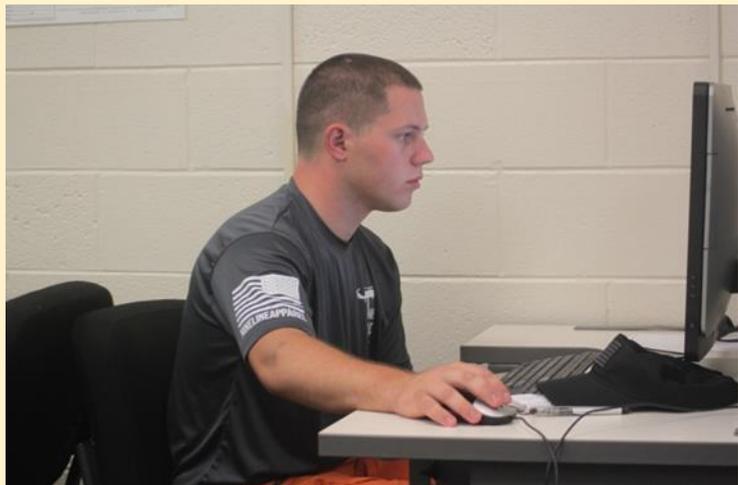
-MIDN 4/C Cherilus



# BACK TO SCHOOL: THE FIRST WEEK

The first few days started off routine, going over syllabi's and getting acquainted with the rules. Along with the class aspect of the first week back, there was returning to NROTC. With one year down already, I somewhat knew what to expect. However, it was strange to walk into the NROTC building and be bombarded with "Good Morning Sir!" by all of the freshmen. Also, as I had heard every month of my freshmen year, I was told that I would have to stand watch. As I look forward to the rest of this fall semester, I see that I will face many challenges. With my classes, I am going to make sure I maintain good grades. I have a feeling this will be my hardest semester, so I plan to push myself just as hard. The summer is over; so welcome back to school for me.

-MIDN 3/C Bazemore



**"It was time to come back, although it seemed like the summer ended too soon." – MIDN 1/C Gordon**

## A TALK WITH THE PRESIDENT: DR. DOZIER



**“You Can Get  
Anywhere From Here”  
-SSU Slogan.**

Dr. Dozier started her leadership experience in high school. There she helped other students so much that her counselors gave her an office in order to mentor and guide other students more. This is the point when she determined that she wanted to help people. Therefore, she went to college to get a degree in social work. Dr. Dozier worked in the college center in Athens and from there went on to shadow those whose position she wished to be in one day. She researched those positions, so she would know exactly what was required of her in order to get there. All of her hard work paid off, as she was granted the opportunity to become the president of Savannah State University. Her main goal while holding this title is to make sure every student gets there degree in four years and if needed five years. Through listening to Dr. Dozier speak, it taught me that anything you want will have to be worked for. Nothing was handed to her and nothing will be handed to me. It was motivating to hear all the research and background work she did to get to where she is.

-MIDN 4/C Eubanks



# THE MAYOR OF SAVANNAH SPEAKS: MRS. EDNA BRANCH JACKSON

Mayor Jackson entered the room with a glowing attitude that caught everyone's attention immediately. The way she spoke to us with so much energy kept us in tune with everything she was saying and if I must say so myself, had me interested in learning the history of Savannah that she described. She spilled out all of her wisdom and great advice in regards to leadership, education, and motivation. I believe every midshipmen took along with them something to apply to their lives after leaving the auditorium that day.

-MIDN 1/C Pitre



# FUN IN THE SUN!



“It was sensational!”

- MIDN 1/C Hulik



The midshipmen of the SSU NROTC unit decided it was time to treat themselves to some recreational fun for their hard work so far this year. All the midshipmen came together and put some of their funds towards getting a blow up water slide for a Saturday. There was an unlimited amount of food for everyone to enjoy one another's company and relax for a job well.

-MIDN 1/C Hulik

# BLUE AND ORANGE RUN

The SSU NROTC unit wakes up early (as usual) for PT, but instead of wearing gold and blue or green on green, they showed their tiger pride. For homecoming, midshipmen dressed in orange and blue to support their schools upcoming football game. Along with giving the support to the football team, they were also running with multiple volunteers who also decided to show school spirit for homecoming early that morning.

-MIDN 1/C Gomes



## WORDS FROM CAPTAIN DONNIE L. COCHRAN (RETIRED)



With open arms, Captain Donnie L. Cochran (Retired) came to speak with the midshipmen and give his words of wisdom and guidance to help them learn valuable leadership traits from his experiences. Cochran was the first African-American aviator assigned to the United States Navy Flight Demonstration Squadron (Blue Angels) in 1986 and later assumed command of the Blue Angels in 1994. On the same day, the NROTC unit celebrated the Navy's birthday with a cake cutting ceremony.

-MIDN 2/C Keyhea



# ANNUAL HALLOWEEN RUN!

One of the unit's highly favored events, the annual Halloween run, was one for the books. The run is seen as what some would describe as "fun PT session" in replacement of drill. Midshipmen dress up in whatever creatively appropriate costumes they can come up with and take a run around campus; showing the school what we do on a regular basis. The best part about the run was with Master Sergeant James; we believe he finally came around and decided to dress up in a costume! With that alone, it was a memorable run for most (if not all) of the midshipmen.

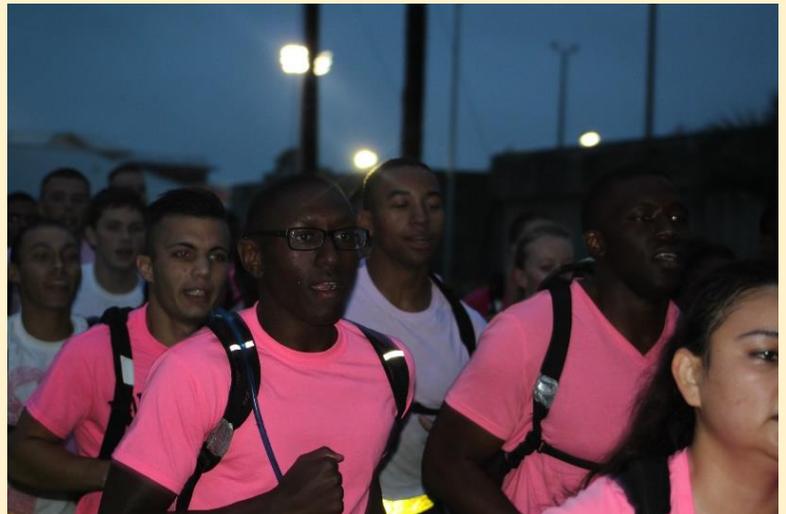
-MIDN 2/C Lynn



## BREAST CANCER AWARENESS PINK RUN

In support of a family member of the unit who was recently diagnosed with breast cancer, the unit decided to switch things up for PT. We switched out our yellow and blue and our green on green PT gear to wear pink and white for our session. We took a before and after picture to show the hard work we put in, showing our strength to keep fighting through a strenuous PT session. We support breast cancer awareness!

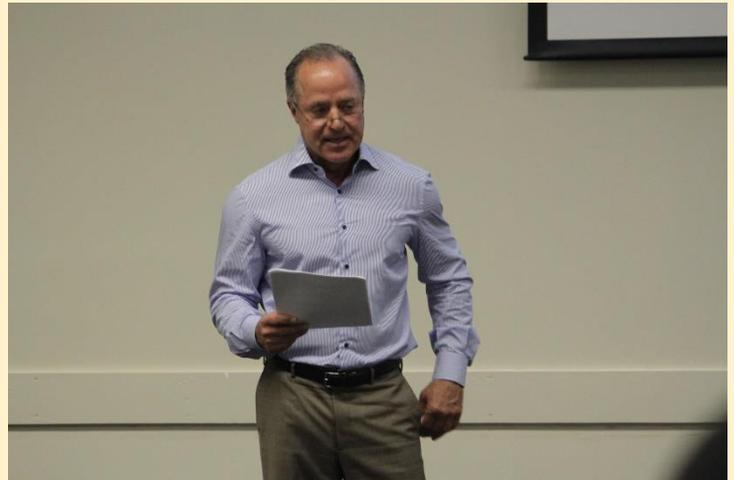
-MIDN 1/C Butler



# MR. PARKER CAME TO SEE SSU NROTC

Successful people seem to be the most motivating. The CEO of Parker's (the gas station chain), Mr. Parker, came to speak to the unit about how he became successful and to give us tips on leadership, determination, and success. It was motivating to know that for three years, through sickness and all, he worked every day at his gas station without a day off. That takes a tremendous amount of willpower and it motivated me to push through everything!

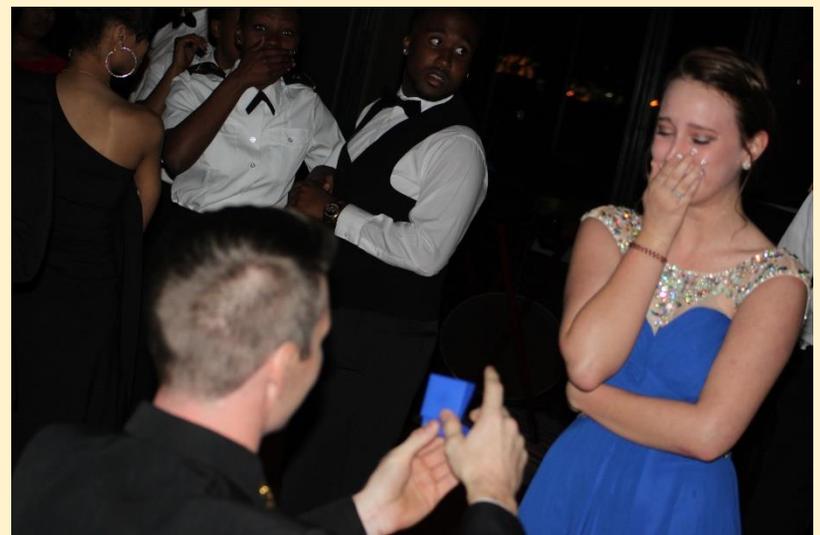
-MIDN 1/C Teague



# GOOD OL' MILITARY BALL!

Quality! The only way someone could define the military ball this year. Along with great music and a great location, some great things happened after dinner was served. Captain Lacy (middle picture) broke out a cigar and shocked the male midshipmen by smoking alongside with them. That was a great moment within itself but the most shocking moment was when MIDN 1/C Landers proposed to his girlfriend, now fiancé, in the middle of the dance floor (bottom picture). It seems that proposals at the ball are becoming a trend. The only question left is who will be next to propose in 2016? Stay tuned to see how it all goes down, next time with SSU's NROTC military ball!

-MIDN 1/C Pitre, K.



# ALUMNI SHOUT OUT!

Hello and seasons greetings to you all!

We kindly ask that you consider making a donation of *any amount* for direct assistance to our midshipmen company. We can all remember what it was like to be a “poor college kid” and we are really trying to reach out to scholarships and funding opportunities. So much is lost when midshipmen have to work long hours to cover bills, and we are working on finding different solutions to help. Any contribution **will help** us in our pursuit in serving this nation as Navy and Marine Corps Officers. Should you like to make a donation for a specific cause (IE, funds are to go towards those who received a 3.5 GPA), please feel free to list this and it will be honored (picture to follow of the presentation). If no preference is annotated, the funds will be distributed among the scholarships we have established (picture to follow of the presentation). Thank you very much and may you have a great holiday!

