

## Franklin American Mortgage Music City Bowl

On 30 December, Texas A&M played the Louisville Cardinals in the Franklin American Mortgage Music City Bowl in Nashville, Tennessee. Although our Fightin' Texas Aggie football team got outscored, our Corps was well represented at the game and gave a great showing to all who attended. Our Yell Leaders kept the crowd fired up throughout the game and helped our team keep the game close. The Officers of the Day from Company E-1 stood tall and proud on the sidelines, and were clearly seen on national television many times yelling loudly for their team as the Twelfth Man. The Aggie Band captivated the crowd with another flawless halftime performance, showcasing their exceptional precision and military bearing in front of a very grateful crowd. Despite being outscored on the field, it was still a great way to close out the 2015 football season for our Corps. The seniors who attended the game will have a memory of this bowl game that will last a lifetime. I am very proud of all of our cadets who attended the bowl game, and the way they once again represented our Corps and our University with pride and dignity. Well done by all! We are already looking forward to the start of the 2016-2017 football season, which kicks off on 3

## Fall Semester Update

Congratulations to the Corps of Cadets for posting an overall 2.99 Grade Point Ratio (GPR) for the Fall 2015 semester! This is the highest GPR the Corps has ever recorded, and represents a superb effort by our cadets, the staff and cadre, and our academic advising team to achieve such excellent results. 180 cadets posted a 4.0 GPR this Fall. 1360 cadets (57% of the Corps) posted a 3.0 GPR or higher. The fish posted an overall 2.90 GPR - higher than the overall university freshman GPR. We are extremely proud of our cadets for achieving such an exceptional academic milestone - a first for our Corps. In a highly competitive global market, our cadets are committed to preparing themselves academically to compete successfully in that market upon graduation. Our cadets represent the very best that our country has to offer, and this significant academic achievement is another indicator of their commitment to excellence in all that they do. A special thanks to Ms Meredith Simpson, the Assistant Commandant for Academics, and her team for helping our cadets achieve this academic milestone. Congratulations again to our cadets for this outstanding achievement! Well done by all! We are all very proud of all of you! Whoop!

September at Kyle Field against UCLA. Beat the Hell Outta UCLA!

To view photos of the game [click here](#).

To see the halftime performance of the Aggie Band [click here](#).



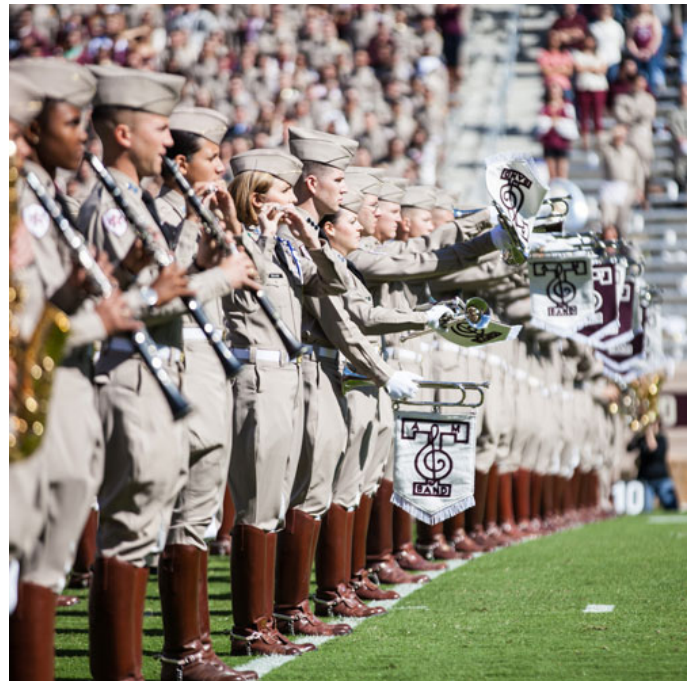
## Air Force Detachment

Texas A&M's Air Force ROTC Detachment 805 was named the #1 AFROTC Detachment in the nation for 2015! I am very proud of Texas A&M's Air Force Detachment 805 for this very prestigious recognition of being named the #1 Air Force ROTC detachment in the nation! Congratulations to COL Hugh Hanlon, the Professor of Aerospace Studies and his entire staff for doing such a superb job of preparing our cadets to become some of the finest officers in the United States Air Force! Congratulations also to our Air Force cadets who consistently exceed the standard in all that they do! The US Air Force is in good hands with our Aggie Lieutenants! Well done by Air Force Detachment 805! #1 in the Nation - as it should be! Whoop!

To read more about AFROTC's accomplishment [click here](#).

## Army ROTC FTX Winter Challenge

Cadets in the Texas A&M Army ROTC program participated in the annual Army ROTC FTX "Winter Challenge" last week at Camp Swift, Texas, near Bastrop. All cadets seeking a commission in the Army, as well as cadets who are members of the Texas A&M Ranger Challenge Team participated in the FTX. Cadets trained in a wide variety of situational scenarios which challenged their leadership skills under difficult circumstances, and got to experience some very high level military training that can't be trained at Texas A&M. Army ROTC cadets got to perform air assault training using Chinook helicopters from the Texas Army National Guard, planned and executed an assault on a fictional village, and performed an assault on a "shoot house" that tested their ability to conduct urban assault and room clearing operations. Cadets from the Ranger Challenge Team trained on a wide variety of military skills in order to prepare them for the Bold Leader Challenge Competition which they will participate in this spring at Fort Knox, Kentucky. All of the training was conducted safely and to standard, under the experienced supervision of the Army ROTC cadre. Army ROTC, Rudders Rangers and Ranger Challenge Team worked hard and made this FTX a great hands-on experience for all who participated.



## Cadet Feature

Chance Terrell Graves '16 is an Electrical Engineering major from Houston, Texas, and is the son of Michael and Debra Graves. He is currently serving as the Recruiting and I.G. officer for Squadron 16 for the 2015-2016 school year

Active within the Corps, Chance is a Texas Armed Services Scholarship (TASSP) recipient and the Commanding Officer for the Cultural Awareness and Diversity Expansion Team (C.A.D.E.T.), a special unit that focuses on serving the Corps with opportunities for professional and social development through cultural, international, professional, and outreach programs and events. As C.A.D.E.T. Commander, his duties include leading, organizing, and overseeing events within C.A.D.E.T. that prepare members for global leadership in a diverse environment. As a member of Squadron 16, Chance has served as a Fire Team leader, I.G. Sergeant and Chaplain, and now the Recruiting and I.G. officer.

Outside the Corps, Chance serves as the Conference Planning Chairperson for the Texas A&M student chapter of the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE), and is a member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE). He is currently also an Eta Kappa Nu (HKN) Honor society candidate for the Gamma Nu chapter of IEEE at Texas A&M. As Conference Planning Chair, Chance coordinates travel and participation objectives for the chapter's attendance at NSBE Conferences. He is currently an undergraduate researcher with NSBE's Space Special Interest Group (SIG), which is comprised of professional engineers and scientists who promote and contribute to projects geared towards Space exploration. He is involved with the Macho Mengi project team, where he is developing a simulation for imaging astronomical objects via telescopes and characterizing its optics and photonic behavior. He was previously an undergraduate researcher within the Device Science and Nanotechnology group in the Electrical and Computer Engineering department, and an Executive co-director of programming for the MSC Woodson Black Awareness Committee during the 2014-2015 school year.

This summer, Chance will serve as a Platform Applications Engineering Intern for Intel with their Datacenter Group, where his responsibilities include developing new tools and debugging issues for multi-processor servers for customers in a laboratory environment. Upon graduation in May 2017, Chance plans to join the Air National Guard and attend Graduate school, where he will pursue his Masters of Science in Electrical or Aerospace Engineering. He hopes to work in Research and Development in the Space Industry after graduate school.

Best wishes to Chance as he continues to excel in all of his pursuits in the Corps and at Texas A&M. I have every confidence that he will one day make all of us proud as a leader in the Space Industry! Proud of Chance Graves – one of our very best!

## Upcoming Events

- [Aggieland Saturday](#), February 13, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas
- Fightin' Texas Aggie Band, [Houston Stock Show Parade](#), Saturday, February 27, Houston, Texas
- Fish Drill Team, [Tulane NROTC Mardi Gras Drill Meet](#), Friday, February 5, New Orleans, Louisiana
- Fish Drill Team, [Krewe of Iris Parade](#), Mardi Gras, Saturday, February 6, 11 AM, New Orleans, Louisiana
- Ross Volunteers, [Krewe of Rex Parade](#), Mardi Gras, Tuesday, February 9, 10 AM, New Orleans, Louisiana

During the school year, the weekly Commandant's e-newsletter is distributed to those who wish to be kept up-to-date on the Corps of Cadets. To be added to this mailing list, submit your email to [http://bit.ly/cmdt\\_parents](http://bit.ly/cmdt_parents).

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