



NROTC Quarterly

From Commander, Naval Service Training Command



NROTC Midshipmen Surface Warfare Officers Select First Ships



GREAT LAKES, Ill. (Feb. 23, 2016) In a video screen capture, North Carolina State University Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps (NROTC) Officer Candidate Brianna Muth, from Erie, Penn., participates in the annual Surface Warfare Officer Ship Selection via Google Hangouts with Navy Personnel Command Surface Warfare Assignments. Rear Adm. Stephen C. Evans (lower left), commander Naval Service Training Command (NSTC), Navy Personnel Command's PERS-41, and four other NROTC midshipmen also participated in the ship selection via Google Hangout.

Story by Naval Service Training Command Public Affairs

More than 280 Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps (NROTC) midshipmen at 70 colleges and universities around the country chose their first ships of their Navy career February 23-25.

Ship selection is one of the most significant events for midshipmen as they take their first step toward joining the U.S. Navy surface warfare officer (SWO) community in the fleet.

"This is an exciting day," said Rear Adm. Stephen C. Evans, commander, Naval Service Training Command (NSTC), which oversees the NROTC

program. "We have some of the finest talent in our nation and we have the opportunity to marry them up with some of our finest teams in our fleet. You all should be excited, because you have a great future ahead of you on some of our best platforms around the world, leading from the front as part of America's away team. Congratulations and well done to everyone and we'll see you in the fleet."

Midshipmen are ranked according to their grade point average, aptitude scores, and physical fitness assessments.

ADMIRAL'S CALL

Over the past six months, I have been traveling across the country conveying a common theme: This is the best first Flag duty in our Navy.

Over the next six months, I have the pleasure of describing exactly what makes Naval accessions training so rewarding.

I am going to focus on each component of the Naval Service Training Command domain and there is no better place to start than with Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps (NROTC).

Please see Admiral on Page 3

The top five midshipmen made their picks via Google Hangout with Cmdr. Jonathan Schmitz, branch head for Junior Officers Detailing at Navy Personnel Command in Millington, Tennessee. This is the first time NROTC has used an innovative social media platform to conduct ship selection, providing midshipmen a memorable start to their careers.

AROUND NROTC

University of Illinois

University of Illinois NROTC 1st Class midshipmen visited Commander, Naval Service Training Command (NSTC) and toured Recruit Training Command (RTC), Nov. 13.

The midshipmen visited the Navy's only boot camp and sat down with CNSTC, Rear Adm. Stephen C. Evans to discuss leadership in the Navy.

University of Wisconsin

University of Wisconsin NROTC midshipmen conducted a Lakeshore Nature Preserve community service cleanup event on campus Nov. 7.

More than 50 students volunteered at the preserve and park, also called Muir Woods that consists of a seven-acre tract on Lake Mendota near the central part of the campus. It's many wooded trails and close proximity to

university classrooms provide recreation opportunities for students and faculty throughout the year.

University of Maryland Baltimore County

U.S. Navy and Baltimore community leaders participated in a signing ceremony, Nov. 30 that formalized the creation of Maryland's first Navy Recruit Officer Training Command (NROTC) host unit.

Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Energy, Installation, & Environment Mr. Dennis McGinn and University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC) President Freeman A. Hrabowski III were in attendance to sign the historic documentation.

University of Michigan

Rear Adm. Stephen C. Evans, CNSTC, observed the commissioning of seven University of Michigan NROTC midshipmen and Marines as Naval officers during a ceremony in the League Ballroom on campus, Dec. 18.

University of Wisconsin

Rear Adm. Stephen C. Evans, CNSTC, commissioned five University of Wisconsin NROTC midshipmen as Navy and Marine Corps officers during a ceremony in the Senate chamber of the state capitol building near campus, Dec. 23.

University of Utah

Retired Vice Adm. Richard K. Gallagher visited the NROTC unit at the University of Utah to discuss naval service and leadership, Feb. 11.

Gallagher spoke with the entire unit for two hours with topics ranging

from his history to ethical challenges and leadership.

Prairie View A&M University

Rear Adm. Stephen C. Evans, CNSTC, visited the NROTC Houston Consortium Unit at Prairie View A&M University, Jan. 27-28.

Evans, who is making his first visit to the unit, briefed the midshipmen on leadership and how to set themselves up for success in their naval careers.

Texas A&M University

The NROTC unit at Texas A&M University hosted the 23rd Annual NJROTC Area-10 Field Meet, Feb. 26-27.

The meet, known as the Texas State Championship, hosted more than 600 students from 16 high school NJROTC units across the state, with more than 150 NROTC midshipmen volunteering over the weekend to assist with scoring and execution of the meet.

Virginia Tech University

The NROTC unit at Virginia Tech University hosted retired Marine Corps Maj. Gen. Charles Bolden as their Guest of Honor at their annual mess night, Feb. 26.

The NROTC Quarterly is an authorized production of the NSTC Public Affairs Office.

Questions regarding information published in the NROTC Quarterly or submissions should be directed to the Public Affairs Office at (847) 688-2201 or NSTC_PAO@navy.mil.

The NSTC PAO staff solicits stories, photos and ideas, which may be of interest to members of the NROTC Program.

Rear Adm. Stephen C. Evans

Commander, NSTC

Capt. Robert Fink

Deputy Commander, NSTC

Capt. Richard Wood

Director of Officer Development / NROTC Program Manager

Lt. Sean Brophy

Public Affairs Officer

Please keep submitting stories to be included in the next quarterly newsletter.

Admiral continued from Page 1

NROTC is an excellent Naval accessions training option for civilians transitioning to military as well as enlisted aspiring to earn their undergraduate degree and commission as an officer.

I am a proud graduate of the NROTC program at The Citadel in Charleston, South Carolina. During my recent visit and conversations with midshipmen, it was clear that the tradition of excellence lives on.

The NROTC program is directed by military and civilian experts from our Officer Development (OD) department in Pensacola, Florida. They represent the highest standard of professionalism and diligently manage the accessions training program for midshipmen, from their acceptance in to NROTC to commissioning as the newest officers of our Navy and Marine Corps.

OD commendably sustains a monumental responsibility; overseeing 77 NROTC host units and 89 cross town affiliates at 166 colleges and universities across the country. I want to express my gratitude to OD for welcoming me to their annual business meeting in Pensacola, where I was able to meet all the NROTC CO's and XO's – keep up the great work!

This is quite an exciting year for NROTC, including a significant milestone marking the 90th anniversary of the program. In a letter dated July 20 1926, Secretary of the Navy Curtis D. Wilbur formally announced the beginning of the program with the original six universities. Students began classes in fall of 1926 at Harvard, Yale, University of California Berkley, Georgia Tech, Northwestern and the University of Washington.

With the return to Yale in 2012, we now have NROTC back at all of the original six campuses.

I am also very happy to share that University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC) is our newest school to host NROTC. In a ceremony this winter, I joined U.S. Senator Barbara Mikulski, Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Energy, Installations & Environment Dennis McGinn, and UMBC President Freeman Hrabowski to officially sign the proclamation. Their first Naval Science classes will commence this fall.

For those midshipmen who are still in training, keep striving for excellence and set your goals high!

I commend your commitment to earning both a degree and your commission as an officer in the Navy or Marine Corps. It takes a lot to balance those two and I look forward to seeing you in the fleet.

ISU Continued from Page 1

"This is very exciting, and as the admiral said, this is your first opportunity to make an impact on your fleet assignment, and that's something that carries over as a theme in surface warfare," said Schmitz. "We're the only community in the United States Navy that affords our officers this much choice based on your performance. So for the top five, I want to applaud you for your hard work up to this point. We're very happy that you're joining our team and that you're going to be part of our community; your community. There's nothing more exciting than selecting your first ship. The next step will be getting there and doing great things."

Midshipman 1st Class William Orsborn, from Embry-Riddle University in Daytona Beach, Florida, was the top-ranked NROTC midshipman and first to select a ship. He selected one of the Navy's newest ships, the Zumwalt-class guided-missile destroyer USS Zumwalt (DDG 1000), to be homeported in San Diego.

"It was an honor to be the first person to make a ship selection," said Orsborn, from Mt. Vernon, Washington. "I'm excited to be part of a brand new ship. It will be a good start to my career, working on a ship with new technologies. It will be a great opportunity to be part of the history of that ship and that new class of destroyer."

To Orsborn's surprise, Zumwalt's commanding officer, Capt. James A. Kirk, joined the Google Hangout to be the first to welcome his newest officer aboard.

"Hey Midshipman Osborn, this is Capt. Kirk up at Bath, Maine," he said. "We're finishing up construction of your future ship. Welcome aboard, shipmate, on behalf of the 125 Sailors here today, we look forward to seeing you here aboard our ship. Congratulations!"

Next to select was Midshipman 1st Class Baylee Smith from

Oakham, Massachusetts, and a student at Spelman College, part of the Atlanta NROTC consortium. Smith selected the Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer USS John Finn (DDG 113) homeported in San Diego.

Midshipman 1st Class Abigail Kaiser, from Frederick, Maryland, and a student at Villanova University in Philadelphia, selected the Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer USS Donald Cook (DDG 75) homeported in Rota, Spain.

Officer candidate Brianna Muth from Erie, Pennsylvania, and student at North Carolina State University selected the Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer USS Carney (DDG 64), also homeported in Rota, Spain.

"As a prior-enlisted Sailor, I never had the opportunity to go to Spain, so that was part of my thought process," said Muth, who was an electronics technician third class and nuclear-qualified Sailor in the Navy's Seaman-To-Admiral program before joining in the North Carolina State NROTC unit. "I also liked the close-knit community of being on a destroyer so that was the best fit for me."

The final top-five selection was made by Midshipman 1st Class Connor Culley, from Virginia Beach, Virginia, a student at the Virginia Military Institute, who selected one of the Navy's newest San Antonio-class amphibious transport ships, USS Somerset (LPD 25), homeported San Diego.

"Those were great picks!" said Evans. "I'm glad to see that our future surface warfare officers are choosing to live the adventure that many of us have seen throughout our careers. You should be excited because you have a great future ahead of you on some of our best platforms. And to you at PERS 41 in Millington; I'm a big fan of yours and what you're doing. This has been a great morning for everyone."

Following commissioning and graduation, from May to July, all the newly commissioned SWOs will be on their way to their first shipboard assignments as Navy ensigns.

Yale and Notre Dame NROTC Units Host Leadership Weekends

Story by Lt. Sean Brophy, NSTC Public Affairs

NEW HAVEN, Conn. (NNS) -- Midshipmen from the Yale University NROTC hosted their inaugural "Leadership in Motion" weekend to discuss the dynamics of leadership and security in the context of a rapidly evolving military and world Feb. 12-13.

More than 150 students and faculty, as well as midshipmen and cadets from 26 ROTC units around the region took part in the two day conference. Guests had the opportunity to participate in panel discussions and simulation workshops on adaptive leadership in joint military operations, asymmetric security environments, geopolitical wargaming, crisis response and humanitarian assistance and disaster relief operations.

Experts leading the panels shared their experiences from both military and civilian organizations. Each discussion examined past, present and hypothetical future scenarios, which helped construct a toolkit of best practices for participants to develop their leadership skills.

Vice Chief of Naval Operations, Adm. Michelle J. Howard, the keynote speaker for the conference, stressed the increasing importance of cyber warfare and challenged midshipmen in the audience to embrace emerging technologies and explore new ways technology can help them lead in rapidly shifting environments.

"As leaders, we need to be worthy to lead the men and women who serve our country," said Howard. "That is what you are preparing for in the NROTC program. You can help us all become better warfighters by exploiting benefits of technology that already exists. I really am looking forward to when you join us in the fleet and bring with you fresh eyes and experiences."

Additional speakers included retired Vice Adm. Melvin Williams, associate provost for military and veterans affairs at George Washington University, who gave the opening remarks on the tenets of leadership: character, courage, commitment, caring, communication and community.

Retired Vice Adm. Mike LeFever, senior advisor at the McChrystal Group, spoke about the primacy of relationships as the cornerstone of effective leadership. He highlighted how the best leaders provide details about their decisions to build trust among the men and women they lead.

Providing perspectives from the civilian world, Rosalinde Torres, BCG senior consultant, presented on adaptive leadership in the 21st century and Emma Sky, director of Yale World Fellows and former political advisor to retired Army Gen. Raymond Odierno, gave an insider look at leadership lessons from Iraq.

Six members of the Naval War College faculty led simulation workshops, which presented real-world scenarios to small groups who then developed and briefed possible Navy responses to the rest of the conference. Examples of scenarios included international relationships in the South China Sea, potential threats to Suez Canal commerce and peacekeeping in the Middle East.

"Yale is one of the original six NROTC units and we wanted to continue in the tradition of leadership," said midshipman 3rd Class Christina Bartzokis, master of ceremonies for the conference. "To be able to engage with such experienced leaders is such a special opportunity. We learned a lot from our amazing panelists and their diverse experiences."

"Our midshipmen have demonstrated extraordinary initiative, one of the CNO's 'core attributes,' by challenging themselves to make this conference happen," said Capt. Vern Kemper, Yale University NROTC commanding officer. "They developed the idea to host a leadership weekend, planned and executed it all on their own, and I could not be more proud of them."

Story by Notre Dame NROTC Public Affairs

NOTRE DAME, Ind. (NNS) -- The University of Notre Dame Naval Reserve Officers' Training Corps (NROTC) hosted its 21st annual Naval Leadership Weekend Seminar to discuss issues critical to their roles as future leaders in the Navy and Marine Corps Feb. 26-27.

More than 140 midshipmen and staff members from nearly 48 universities across the country attended this year's leadership event

Keynote speaker Adm. Philip S. Davidson, commander, U.S. Fleet Forces Command, addressed the midshipmen in attendance at the closing dinner.

Davidson drew on his experience in offering thoughts on leadership development and underlined four rules for the crowd of soon-to-be junior officers. In the first of these rules, he emphasized the importance of holding a worldview founded on strong morals.

In addition to integrity, Davidson told the midshipmen other essential tools for a future junior officer including an unrelenting work ethic, a sense of humility, and recognition of opportunity.

He spent the remainder of his time taking questions from the midshipmen on matters ranging from specific foreign policy to future capabilities and responsibilities of the U.S. Navy.

Throughout the weekend, midshipmen were able to meet and listen to Marine Maj. Gen. James W. Lukeman, commanding general, Marine Corps Training and Education Command, Rear Adm. Peter A. Gumataotao, deputy chief of staff, Strategic Plans and Policy Supreme Allied Command Transformation, retired Navy Rear Adm. John Kirby, Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs and Department spokesperson at the Department of State, Marine Sgt. Maj. Justin D. LeHew, Marine Corps Training and Education command sergeant major, retired Navy Capt. Paul Rinn, and Mike Seamon, director of Gameday Operations for University of Notre Dame football.

Midshipmen also had the opportunity to participate in ethical decision-making games. The exercise gave the midshipmen an opportunity to support and defend their decisions and use the discussion to develop and amend their decision-making skills.

Midshipman 1st Class Joseph Rauenhorst, an Iowa State NROTC senior in industrial technology, went to the conference for the first time and said the whole experience was motivating.

"All of the speakers spoke very bluntly about the different leadership challenges we will face as junior officers in the Navy and Marine Corps," said Rauenhorst. "They also gave us different topics and shared their experiences to help us overcome those challenges."

For 20 consecutive years, Naval ROTC midshipmen from around the country have met once a year at the University of Notre Dame to learn and discuss issues critical to their roles as future leaders in the Navy and Marine Corps. This two-and-a-half day event provided an opportunity for midshipmen to step outside their classrooms and into an environment that continues their education and training as leaders by promoting a critical examination of the principles of leadership.

It was a chance for midshipmen to hear from successful leaders in both the military and civilian communities, providing them with the tools and information that will guide them to success beyond the realm of college and into their future challenge to become superior military officers.

Photos around NROTC



PHILADELPHIA - Philadelphia NROTC Consortium Midshipman 3rd Class Nick Kinoshian determines the altitude of the sun using a sextant on the campus of University of Pennsylvania, Feb. 29. Celestial navigation is the method used to find the ship's position using a sextant and the position of the sun and stars. Celestial navigation training is part of the curriculum today for NROTC midshipmen.



NOTRE DAME, Ind. - Midshipman 1st Class Kathleen E. Waller leads an ethical decision group exercise during Naval Leadership Weekend. The Notre Dame NROTC unit hosted their 21st annual Naval Leadership Weekend to discuss issues critical to their roles as future leaders in the Navy and Marine Corps. More than 140 midshipmen and staff members from nearly 48 universities across the country attended year's event.



NEW HAVEN, Conn. - Vice Chief of Naval Operations (VCNO) Adm. Michelle Howard polls the crowd on their use of technology at the inaugural Leadership in Motion weekend at Yale University. The conference discussed the dynamics of leadership and security in the context of a rapidly evolving military and world.



MADISON, Wis. - Rear Admiral Stephen C. Evans, commander, Naval Service Training Command (NSTC), administers the Oath of Office to five University of Wisconsin Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps (NROTC) midshipmen during a commissioning ceremony in the Wisconsin State Capitol.



AMES, Iowa. - Midshipmen from the Iowa State NROTC unit participated in Military Appreciate Night hosted by the Iowa State University hockey team, Jan. 29. The midshipmen competed against the cadets from the Air Force and Army ROTC units in friendly competitions between periods of the game.



GREAT LAKES, Ill. - University of Illinois NROTC midshipmen attend a capping ceremony where recruits received their Navy ball caps after completing Battle Stations 21 (BST 21) here Nov. 13. The midshipmen toured RTC, and also attended a weekly recruits Pass-In-Review (PIR) graduation and visited with Rear Adm. Stephen C. Evans, CNSTC.

First African-American Woman from NROTC Selected for Nuclear Submarine Service

Story by Michael Miller, NSTC Public Affairs

BATON ROUGE, La. (NNS) -- The first African-American woman from Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps (NROTC) has been selected to serve aboard U.S. Navy submarines.

Southern University and A&M College Midshipman 1st Class Nsombi Roberts, from Palm Bay, Florida, was interviewed Oct. 29 by Adm. James F. Caldwell, Jr., the director, naval nuclear propulsion program and the top Navy officer in the submarine force in Washington, D.C.

After passing her technical interviews and the interview with Caldwell, Roberts was selected for submarine service.

"I really liked the challenge, and that's why I wanted to go nuclear sub," said Roberts. "I really want to be on a fast-attack sub but my ultimate aspiration is to command a submarine."

Leadership at Southern University NROTC provides mentorship for all midshipmen leading up to their service selection.

"We gauge incoming freshmen and let them know it's okay to go the sub route and that a very select few are selected, so if given the chance, take it," said Cmdr. Tremayne Criner, the executive officer at Southern University NROTC. "Interest in application and selection has gone up since the arrival of our nuclear programs officer, Lt. Kevin Zimmerly."

According to Roberts, she considers herself fortunate to have a nuclear programs officer at the university.

Midshipman Roberts was motivated the moment I met her and definitely excited about the nuclear submarine program," said Zimmerly, who came from King's Bay, Georgia, after being stationed aboard the Ohio-class ballistic

missile submarine USS West Virginia (SSBN-736). "I serve as mentor to our midshipmen and there is also a lot of support we receive from the NROTC program headquartered in Pensacola, Florida.

Midshipman Roberts, who attended Bayside High School, also participated in the Navy Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (NJROTC) program and ascended to the rank of battalion commander. She continues to be heavily involved in her school work and extracurricular activities in college. While majoring in chemistry with a minor in mathematics, she is also a member of the university's quiz bowl team as well as Zeta Phi Beta sorority.

"The NROTC program has allowed me to balance many things in my life," said Roberts. "My father was in the Army and I've been taught to balance lots of things in my life. I feel the pressure to succeed but it is good and helpful pressure."

Midshipman Roberts is among more than 4,000 students enrolled in the NROTC program at 166 colleges and universities throughout the country. Upon graduation and completion of the NROTC program in May, she will commission as an ensign in the Navy.

Following her commissioning and graduation, Roberts will attend Nuclear Propulsion School in Charleston, South Carolina, Prototype (Nuclear Power Training Unit) at one of several locations in the country and Submarine School in Groton, Connecticut, before being assigned to her first submarine. The whole training process is expected to take 15-18 months.

What's going on at your unit? Please send us stories, photos and video to help continue to market your units and the program.

The NROTC program, overseen by Rear Adm. Steven C. Evans, commander, Naval Service Training Command (NSTC) at Naval Station Great Lakes, Ill., was established to develop midshipmen mentally, morally and physically and to imbue them with the highest ideals of duty, loyalty and Navy core values. Once the college graduates are commissioned as Naval officers, they will possess a basic professional background, will be motivated toward careers in the naval service and have a potential for future development in mind and character so as to assume the highest responsibilities of command, citizenship and government.

NSTC oversees 98 percent of initial officer and enlisted accessions training for the Navy, as well as the Navy's Citizenship Development program. NSTC includes Recruit Training Command (RTC), NROTC units at more than 160 colleges and universities, Officer Training Command (OTC) at Naval Station Newport, R. I., and Navy Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (NJROTC) and Navy National Defense Cadet Corps (NNDCC) citizenship development programs at more than 600 high schools worldwide.

For more information about NROTC, visit <https://www.nrotc.navy.mil/>. For more information about NSTC, visit <http://www.netc.navy.mil/nstc/> or visit the NSTC Facebook pages at <https://www.facebook.com/NavalServiceTraining/>.

For more news from Naval Service Training Command, visit www.navy.mil/local/greatlakes/.