FALL 1988

Riptide

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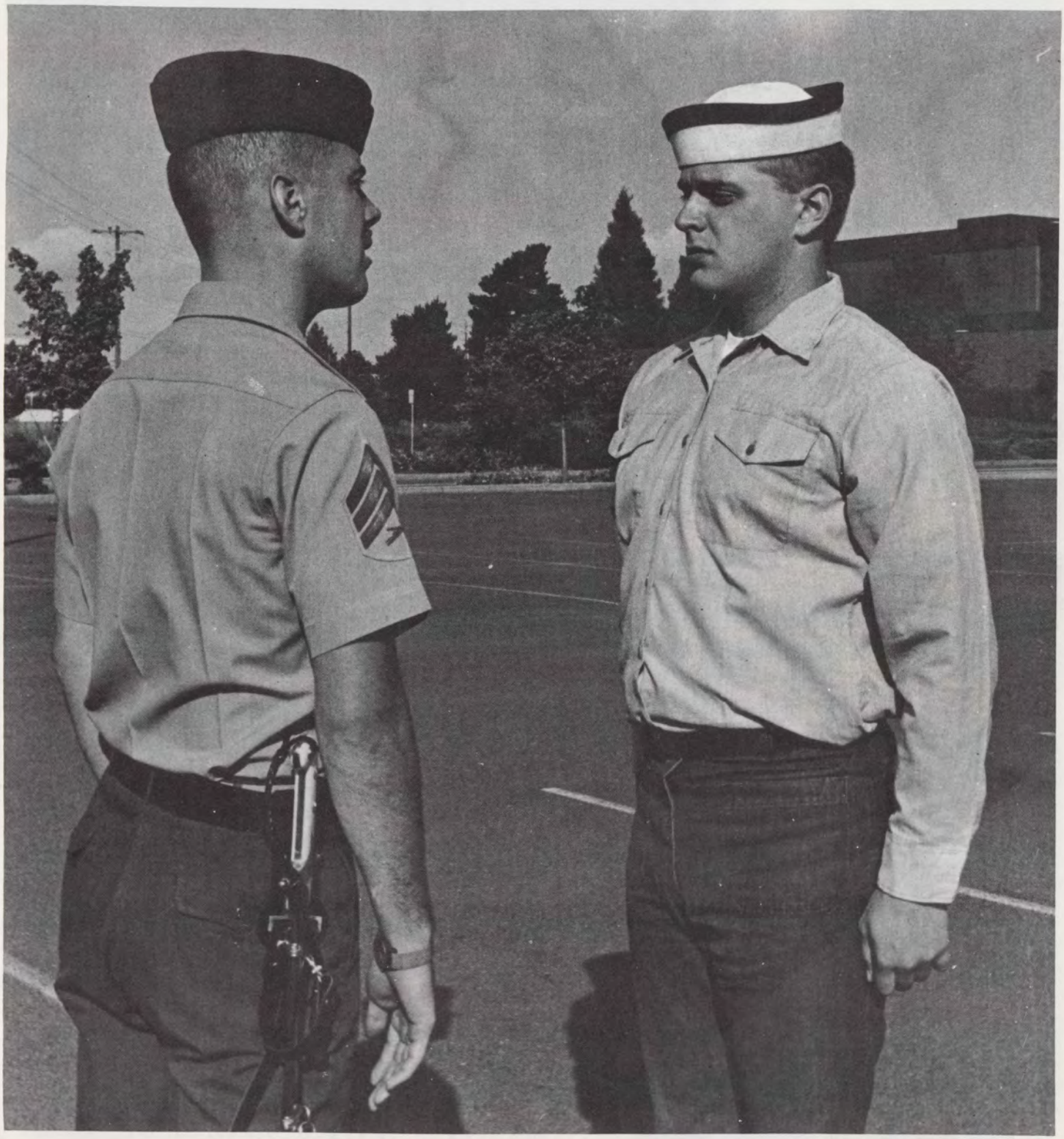

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EDITOR'S NOTE:

I hope that you enjoy this issue of the RIPTIDE. The above mentioned staff worked hard and long hours to get this to you.

Please understand that this is not a complete overview. Because of the time constraints and copy length we are not able to cover all of the events wanted. To fully appreciate the special unit we have here, I encourage you to visit.

Speaking for the Riptide and Photo crew, we appreciate any comments you would like to offer.

Please write to the address on the back of this issue care-of Midn Gregory Hicks.

Gregory R Hicks

DISCLAIMER:

Opinions expressed by the editor and writers herein are their own, and are not to be considered as an expression by the Department of the Navy or the Oregon State University NROTC Unit. Any comments or complaints should be directed to the RIPTIDE editor.

INSIDE THE RIPTIDE ...

ROOKIE-O
P.6,7

Physical fitness, informative lectures, drill instruction, and swimming are included in a grueling Rookie-O week. See the inside story from a rookie, a squad leader, and a bystander as this week goes on.

Photo by S.L. Gueck

CRUISES
P.8,9

Our midshipmen visit the fleet over summer. Read their "Sea Stories."

Photo by T.G. Himstreet

INTRAMURALS
P.11

Aggressively capable and overwhelmingly dominant OSU NROTC teams take to the field and the court.

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About The Cover ...

SGT. Whitehead instructs Midn 4/c Gelker during Rookie-O week.

Photo by S.L. Gueck

COLONEL'S CALL

How hard have you thought about why you are going to college or why you joined this unit? Ideally, I would hope you all have lucid answers to those questions, but I know from practical experience, that some of you are "just here."

I'll make the assumption that you all want to be successful in life. With that assumption in mind, let me outline the profile of successful people. People who are successful, set and then strive to achieve high goals and standards for themselves. They are highly motivated and have a strong desire to match their performance to their potential. They focus their attention and energy to the tasks at hand and are willing to defer immediate gratification for long term gain. Do you practice the above traits? Only you can answer that question.

Naval ROTC at Oregon State University is no cake walk. We expect you to get good grades, be involved in unit activities, and assume increasingly more responsible positions of leadership. This program isn't for everyone, and I accept that fact right from the start. What I do expect however, is for everyone to give the program their best shot. This is not a spectator sport and half-steppers will not be tolerated. Like most other situations in life, you will get out of the unit what you put in. For almost everyone of you, I take great pride in observing your dynamic personal growth as you meet and solve challenges. That's what life is all about and whether you are in the fleet or in corporate America, those who learn and apply success oriented traits here should be successful elsewhere.

One of the big advantages you have here is that we want you to succeed. We make no promises about making it easy but, keep in mind, anything worth having is worth working hard for. On the topic of hard work, Northwest Navy is closer than you think (February 17-18, 1989). My goal this year is to not just win, but to DOMINATE NWN !! NWN takes a lot of effort by EVERYONE. Are you involved? If not, why not?

I wish you all a great fall quarter.

COL. R.G. Leidich

BNCO'S CORNER

The Riptide has given me an opportunity to make a few brief comments. In my opinion, it is the goal oriented person who succeeds. As a battalion we have several goals, and we should all be doing our part to achieve them.

One of these goals is to continue our total domination at NorthWest Navy. I have already seen a lot of hard work put in by the teams, but more can be done. There is still room on the teams, so get motivated and participate.

Another goal of ours is to maintain a high level of academic performance. This battalion has always maintained a GPA above that of the university. We have all heard it before, but academics are the key to your success here. Much of your aptitude is determined by your academic performance.

Finally, we need to keep in mind our ultimate goal, and that is earning a commission in the United States Navy or Marine Corps. We are here to learn how to be officers, and all of our other goals should help us do that. This unit provides us an opportunity to develop and hone our leadership skills. Take advantage of this opportunity, stay motivated, and strive for that level of excellence that has always been a hallmark of this unit. Semper Fi BNCO

MIDN CAPT. V.F. Swinney

PORTLAND ROSE FESTIVAL

1988 UP-RIVER CRUISE WITH THE USS CHANDLER

by MIDN 4/C STEVE THOMSON

Around 1:30 a.m.10 June 88 we boarded two NROTC vans bound for Astoria, Oregon. Lt. Pavlat and about twenty or so tired midshipmen looked forward to the long day ahead.

Once again we traveled the long road to Astoria to board a Navy ship that would be coming to the Port of Portland for a few fun filled days.

We were fortunate to be invited as guests aboard the guided missle destroyer USS Chandler (DDG-996) as it traveled from Astoria to Portland via the Columbia River.

After about a four and a half hour road trip from Corvallis, we reached the Port of Astoria. Exiting the vans, we noticed that many tour buses filled with civilians were welcomed aboard as part of a special Rose Festival travel package. Fortunately, as Navy Midshipmen, we were allowed to board the shuttle boats first.

The boats took us to meet the Chandler. Upon first seeing the Chandler, anticipation began to build. This was going to be my first time aboard a Navy ship that was actually moving. The ship and the grace with which it moved through the water was impressive. After requesting permission to come aboard the ship from the officer of the deck, we were finally aboard.

Aboard we couldn't wait to secure our gear and explore the ship. We were given no real restrictions, so we were free to go anywhere not sectioned off or where we would interfere with routine ship operations.

First stop, the bridge. Walking into the Combat Information Center was like entering a high tech video arcade. The room was dark except for the bright green and red luminescent lights from the computer screen and various surveillance equipment. The room was bustling with the activity of personnel as they monitored and made adjustments to the equipment. This gave us a good opportunity to witness the team work and individual responsibility involved in ship operations.

While viewing the small helicopter on the landing deck of the ship, a pilot and a Naval Flight Officer introduced themselves to us. They were eager to talk about their experiences as aviators, and we were very eager to listen. Both men had recently been in the Persian Gulf working 18 to 20 hour days. They said they were glad to be back, but had learned a lot and gained some very valuable experience.

"WALKING INTO THE COMBAT INFORMATION CENTER WAS LIKE ENTERING A HIGH TECH VIDEO ARCADE. THE ROOM WAS DARK EXCEPT FOR THE BRIGHT GREEN AND RED LUMINESCENT LIGHTS FROM THE COMPUTER SCREENS AND VARIOUS SURVEILLANCE EQUIPMENT."

As a small group of us were exploring other areas of the ship, we met two midshipmen from the Naval Academy who were on their summer cruise. We talked for an hour or so about life as midshipmen and compared differences and similarities of the NROTC program and the Naval Academy. We had much to talk about, after all, we did have the same goal: to be commissioned as Naval Officers.

Finals week and the long van ride had taken its toll, and sleep was desperately needed. An officer happily directed us to his room and invited us to help ourselves to the bunks. This was a perfect opportunity for us to test the living and sleeping conditions aboard a ship. Although an eight man room was a little crowded, the bed was comfortable and the atmosphere was relaxing. After a few hours of sleep, we were ready to resume our tour of the ship.

I also met many civilians while aboard Because of our uniforms (summer whites), they kept asking us for directions. We had to explain that we were just as lost as they were.

The big news of the day was the fact that CINCPACFLT Adm. David Jeremiah was visiting the ship. He flew in specifically for the Rose Festival with the Chandler being his flagship.

The missle silos of the ship were very impressive. The amazing speed of the loading/unloading process of the missles was impressive. The full rotation of the missle platform was incredible because of its precision and range of motion.

Although the weather was mostly rainy, the trip was a lot of fun. Portland cheerfully welcomed the fleet with all its strength. Without a doubt, the best part of the day was the people I met. Talking to the officers and enlisted personnel gave us the opportunity to hear their experiences first hand and to see many of them in action.

It was also very interesting to see in operation the systems and equipment that we've learned so much about in Naval Science classes. Although the crew numbered over three hundred, it felt much smaller because of the team work and comaraderie of the crew. All in all the trip was very rewarding and is a highly recommended field trip for midshipmen..

BATTALION WELCOMES NEW OFFICERS

LCDR MILLER SOPHOMORE INSTRUCTOR

LCDR. G.G. Miller

Photo by S.L. Gueck

This is a year of firsts for LCDR Gary G. Miller. This is the first time he has been stationed in the Northwest and the first time he has ever taught a class of midshipmen.

LCDR Miller is the new sophomore instructor at the Naval R.O.T.C. Unit in Corvallis, OR. Origonally from Tuscon, Arizona, LCDR Miller went on to enlist in the Navy in 1971. After bootcamp at San Diego, and then to Aviation-A school in Memphis, LCDR Miller spent the next two years in the fleet. From the fleet, LCDR Miller went on to the University of New Mexico and graduated with a bachelor of science degree in Electrical Engineering in May of 1978.

His first assignment was to Naval Flight Officer/Aviation Indoctrination program in Pensacola, Florida. From Florida, LCDR Miller went to Maritime Navigation School at Mather Air Force Base where he earned his wings in 1979.

Subsequent to 1979, LCDR Miller has been stationed with VQ-4 in Patuxent River, Maryland, USCINCPAC ABNCP (Blue Eagle) at Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii, and spent the last two years stationed with VQ-3 out of Barbers Point, Hawaii.

During his service in the Navy, LCDR Miller has earned the Department of Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Navy Achievement Medal, and is qualified as a Pistol Expert.

With LCDR Miller in Corvallis are his wife Anna, and his two children, Tony, 13 and Dana, 10. LCDR Miller ended by saying that his family already misses the "Sun and Beaches" of Hawaii.

LT ZAHM JUNIOR CLASS INSTRUCTOR

LT. L.L. Zahm

Photo by [illegible]

In his tours of duty, LT. Lance L. Zahm has been to Pearl Harbor, Annapolis, and San Diego, to name a few places. He has cruised off the coast of Portugal, Japan, Italy, and the Phillipines.

LT. Zahm, originally from Boise, Idaho, is the new junior class instructor. After he graduated from high school in 1977 LT Zahm went on to Boot Camp at San Diego, Ca. on June 23 rd. He went through the Sonar Tech pipeline taking one and a quarter years to complete the schooling. In his schooling he finished first in all his classes. Seeing an open opportunity for admittance into the United States Naval Academy, LT Zahm grabbed it by the horns. For 8 weeks he was aboard the USS Whipple out of Pearl Harbor and from there went to Naval Academy Prep school for 9 months. Graduating from the Naval Academy with a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering in 1983, LT Zahm finished 99 th out of his class of 1068 finishing with a 3.44 Grade Point Average. His goal was to finish higher than former President Jimmy Carter did in his class.

Since then, LT Zahm has seen the world and much of it through a periscope. He has been on a "riding tour" for two and one-half months with the USS Pintado (SSN 672), a West-Pac that showed him Japan and the Phillipines. From there, LT Zahm served aboard the USS Pargo (SSN 650), before coming here.

LT Zahm has distinguished himself by earning the Navy Achievement Medal, the Expeditionary Medal, a Sea Service ribbon, and recognition as an expert with both the rifle and pistol.

LT Zahm likes his new assignment to Oregon State University. "It's a blast. The challenge is to teach well enough so that these young men and women can walk into a situation and use what I have taught them without second thought," he says.

1988 ROOKIE

OVERCOMING !

by JEFF REVELS

Rookie Orientation week was indeed a "motivating" experience. It was an opportunity for both new midshipmen and prior enlisted personnel to acquaint themselves with the NROTC way of life. In addition, it afforded the Rookie - O staff, comprised of returning midshipmen, the opportunity for "hands on" leadership training.

The orientation week was challenging for everyone. For prior enlisted persons the challenge was one of patience, and for the new midshipmen it was conforming to a new way of life.

Some of the challenges were 0545 musters, a circuit course, physical training and the obstacle course. These challenges soon became just a few of our (rookie's) accomplishments.

The midshipmen staff deserves a round of applause. What the staff lacked in experience, they compensated for with enthusiasm. Their tireless devotion to duty coupled with genuine concern, made Rookie-O a success.

When it was all over, there was no doubt that everyone benefitted from the experience.

Staff gets 'dunked' as swim ends.

Photo by S.L. Gueck

LENDING A HELPING HAND

by CHRIS HOFFER

Midn J. Garcia leads her squad during Rookie-O.

Photo by S.L. Gueck

Preparations started four days before the new midshipmen "Rookies" would arrive for those involved in Rookie - O. These four days were called Staff - O and it was a demanding week for everyone involved.

Early morning scheduled events allowed everyone to adjust their sleeping schedules to ensure full staff attendance during Rookie - O. Squad leaders and MPO's learned their drill manuals, platoon and company commanders learned their sword manuals, and the rest of the staff and volunteers learned what they were going to do for the next week.

I remember spending many hours in Staff - O participating with everyone to ensure that we were in good physical and mental condition. This was done to give the new midshipmen a good first impression of our unit and the naval service in general. When the new midshipmen arrived on Monday for supply issue, we were ready.

The week went smoothly. Motivation was high and Rookie - O was a positive experience for staff and Rookies alike.

The preparation that went into Staff - O paid off handsomely. The Battalion Staff did an excellent job in aiding the new midshipmen in their transition from civilian to military life. From what I've seen, the class of 1992 will be a tremendous asset to our unit.

The week is over, but the learning continues. Stay motivated and study hard.

ORIENTATION

A TIME FOR REMEMBERANCE

New Midshipmen await swearing in on their last day.

Photo by D.M. Linch

On Saturday, 1 October, the freshman class at OSU NROTC was sworn in as Midshipmen, climaxing a grueling week of Rookie Orientation. After the ceremony the new midshipmen finally had the opportunity to "blow off some steam" at the Saveker Day picni and games. Saveker Day is, for many freshmen, the first time they get the opportunity to casually meet and make new friends in the unit. They enjoyed the sporting events with the upperclassmen, who, for the week before were known only as "Sir." A few football games, a picnic, and assorted other events highlighted the day's activities. According to one Midshipman, "It was nice to see all the staff acting a little more relaxed than in Rookie-O."

The day is held in memory of Richard Lloyd Saveker, who passed away while a member of our unit. His father, Captain David R. Saveker, in appreciation for the friendship and support Richard received from his fellow Midshipmen, has made an annual donation to the unit so that the tired but proud 4/c midshipmen can enjoy some fun and games after the rigors of Rookie-O.

SUCCESS WAS INEVITABLE

by MIDN3/C KISSINGER

Midn. 3/c Kissinger was not a member of the Rookie - O staff, but was a frequent observer. Here is his view of how Rookie - O passed.

Rookie Orientation... last year, I remember that it was a long week. We, the freshmen, were slightly apprehensive as to what we should expect. All in all though, we learned a lot, and got off to a good start.

This year was no different. I visited the grinder a few times to watch the rookies drill. The staff was very patient. Watching the future officers trying to learn basic marching skills and facing maneuvers brought back fond memories. It seemed that getting everyone to snap-in at the same time was a big chore; but, with patience, as well as perserverence, the staff won again.

By the end of the week, everyone looked ready and eager to be sworn in as Midshipmen Fourth Class. There is still a lot of work for them to do, but they are off to a good start.

Rookies learn rules of the road at drill

Photo by Gueck

MIDSHIPMEN

MIDSHIPMEN GAIN VALUABLE

Photo by S.L. Gueck

by MIDN 1/C D.E. ROBERTSON

When I received my orders for my first class cruise, I was more than excited. Four weeks aboard the USS Leftwich (DD-984), a Spruance class destroyer, homeported in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii would be a fabulous way to spend a summer. My first thought, "this has the potential to be an awesome experience." Was I ever RIGHT!

15 August 1988 I reported to the midshipman training officer only to find out that I would be one of two females aboard a ship with a crew of 320. There were a few disadvantages to this. For example, the other female and I returned to the ship after taps, and the OOD assumed that we were visitors and wouldn't let us aboard. It took several minutes of explaining and showing our ID cards WITH the ship's sticker affixed to it to finally convince him we were NOT visitors.

Next I met my running mate, LTjg Nickerson, division officer for A-gang. "What's A-gang?" I asked. "Engineering," he replyed with an evil grin, thinking I wouldn't like it. I showed him! I borrowed a set of coveralls and took apart and put back together two low pressure air dehydraters, loaded live ammo from NAVMAG and played number one "nozzle-person" on the flight deck.

We were underway about 12 days going through such training exercises as TRE, SWTA, and REFTRA. I still have dreams of this voice over the 1MC saying,"This is a drill, this is a drill; general quarters, general quarters..." I was assigned to Repair 5 for GQ, so we were busy! This gave me the opportunity to fully participate in all the drills, from patching pipe to fighting fires in the main spaces. I had fun!

Not only did I learn much about engineering and damage control, but more importantly, I learned how to deal with people. My running mate was (is) a superb example of leadership. He went out of his way to take care of his people by keeping two way communication open, showing true concern for their welfare, and maintaining a positive attitude. He showed me how to gain the respect of my subordinates; a valuable lesson.

In between all the training exercises, I managed to squeeze in a few days at Waikiki Beach, a couple of mai tai's and a lot of shopping. All in all, my first class cruise was awesome!

by MIDN 2/C

At Lindberg Airport, San Diego, you pick up your seabag at a centralized baggage terminal. If you survive the crowd and the security checks, you drag your next 30 day supply of worldly belongings to the curb out the front entrance alongside other second class midshipmen awaiting the van to their new "home." Without fireworks or fanfare, Career Orientation Training for Midshipmen (CORTRAMID) 88 has just begun for these nervous individuals.

The first midshipman to get to the Amphibious Base from a particular alphabetized section is privileged to be that section's platoon commander. None other than Oregon State's own Jon Stueve arrived first, to assume command of the S through Z section or Delta section. It wasn't long before the rest of Delta section discovered Jon's unique last name which has a high-low sing song about it, like "STOOOO-VEEEE." During an organzational march to a lecture, Delta section and its commander would become famous with Capt. Baynard USMC and the rest of the CORTRAMID officers in charge. To break the monotony of the march, Jon broke his familiar "left-right, left-right" cadence with what can only be described as sounding like a cross between a Bavarian yodel and a bad Van Halen guitar solo. All of Delta section lost their bearing and broke into a chorus of laughter, including those in Charlie section within earshot. From that point on, Stueve was immortalized by his subordinates.

As for Capt. Baynard, USMC, his tense look would come to his face everytime the entire section had to march anywhere because, he knew he could count on the highly motivated Delta section to break into a very audible version of the new-found cadence.

Ironically, this cadence seemed to bond Delta Section members together into some kind of fraternity. It would only take one motivated Delta brother to begin the cadence and the rest of the clan would spring to life in unison to finish "the call."

"The call" for the remainder of Cortramid could be enjoyed by our Charlie section roommates and the rest of the company, in the

CRUISES 1988

EXPERIENCE IN THE FLEET

D. A. WILKENING

head, in the recreation room, on buses, in short EVERYWHERE! "The call" was great. Thanks to Jon Stueve the week we spent with the surface community floating ships, the week we spent with the submarine community sinking ships, the week we spent with the aviation community flying a different kind of ship, and especially the week we spent with the Marines doing absolutely nothing with ships seemed to go by quickly and be that much more memorable.

"THE CALL" WAS GREAT. THANKS TO JON STUEVE, [CORTRAMID] SEEMED TO GO BY QUICKLY AND BE THAT MUCH MORE MEMORABLE.

Photo by S.L. Gueck

by MIDN 3/C J.R. HEFFNER

I had an extremely varied and educational cruise. I was aboard the USS Flint, an ammunition ship homeported out of Concord, California.

We proceeded north to Adak, Alaska where I had the opportunity to take part in some helo-hops. From Adak we steamed over to the infamous Philippines, known to many as the paradise of the Pacific. In less than one week we went from wearing foul-weather gear to basking in the sun in neatly cut and hemmed cut-offs.!

One memorable experience I had aboard the USS Flint illustrates the uneasiness that I, as a 3/c midshipman, felt being out in the fleet for the first time.

I was standing bridge watch with the seaman I was assigned to. It was my first time on the bridge and I had the illustrious job of pulling the fog horn handle every one and a half minutes since we were going through thick fog at the time. The first time I pulled the horn I did so without enough pull. When I did this the fog horn gave out a sound like a frog with laryngites. Not to be embarassed again, I was determined to do this duty right the next time. So, when another minute and a half rolled around I put all my weight into the pull. This time the fog horn gave off a beautiful, long bellow... but ended with a terrible screeching sound. Well, I stuck out like a sore thumb, and everyone on the bridge looked around and finally rested their glares on me. The ship's boswain, a big red haired warrant officer, who had been enlisted since the beginning of the Navy yelled, "Who did that!"

Thinking I had broken the fog horn, I replied,"I did,Sir!"

"Why?," he demanded in a thundering way that sent shivers through my body.

My only response, like a little kid, was "I didn't mean to, Sir."

He replied with "O.K., that wasn't you. It was someone on the signal bridge."

To hear that coming from the warrant officer was like a giant rolaids pill - Relief!

What had happened was that the lookouts on the signal bridge, having gotten bored, would amuse themselves by yelling down the voice tube whenever the fog horn blew, knowing full well that their voices would be drowned out. Well, one of them made a mistake and yelled just a little too long. I doubt that he did it again.

Unfortunately, I was to learn later that someone did break the cable to the fog horn by pulling it too hard.

All in all my cruise was a great time and I am glad that I had the opportunity to see the fleet in action.

Congratulations, ROTC, on your achievements!

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HISTORY: TEAM EXCELLENCE...

DRILL TEAM MARCHES TO VICTORY

Drill Team shows off below the colors.

Photo by G.R. Mengelberg

"Half full is not enough!" is the motto for the OSU Navy Drill Team, and it shows when you look at their history. This year is their 40th anniversary, and they have surpassed all expectations. They have won over 250 first place trophies and awards, marched in parades and events in 10 states, and defeated some of the best teams ever, including USC, Texas A.& M., and the Air Force Academy. The secret to our success is simple: professionalism, and this goes with its members out into the fleet. Major Cotten was the MPO of the team in 1974 and is a perfect example of pride and professionalism at its finest.

The team's major goal is to sweep Northwest Navy, which they have done time after time. The most recent victory was two years ago when every trophy was brought home. This year looks like another winner, with a dedicated staff and motivated rooks leading the way. Victory is sweet, and the Drill Team can vouch for that.

COLOR GUARD —OUR— OLDEST TEAM

The Navy Color Guard, established in 1946, one year after our NROTC Unit was established, was the first of the special unit teams organized. The Color Guard was not a recognized platoon within the battalion. It consisted of volunteers who put their time into the Color Guard as an extra-curricular activity.

Perhaps the only recorded history of the Color Guard is in its awards and trophies. It has successfully participated in exhibitions and competitions since 1979 in Portland Trail Blazer games to the Linn County Veterans Day Parade in 1984 to NorthWest Navy in 1987.

The Color Guard competes against other color guard teams from the military services all across the west. It has competed against Air Force and Army units and has emerged victorious in 1984,1985,and 1987. The Color Guard has presented the colors at ceremonies here on campus including basketball games and Mom's Day, as well as military ceremonies performed in Independence, Corvallis, and Albany,Oregon. In 1987, the Navy Color Guard was given the honor to present the colors at Governor Goldschmidt's inauguration.

Since its beginning as a volunteer activity, the Color Guard has continuously gained exoertise and skill.

AWARDS CEREMONY

The battalion is called to attention and in front the awardees stand proudly in the place of honor. A term of hard work, dedication, and hours of studying have paid off for these midshipmen, officer candidates, and MECP's. These students stand as an example to the whole battalion. These honored students have received a term G.P.A. of 3.5 or better without a grade of incomplete, unsatisfactory, or no pass while taking twelve credit hours or more of classes. This achievement shows their desire to succeed and to be the best. Congratulations to the following men and women for a joo well done :

FIRST CLASS	GPA
Joe Betchart	4.0
Carl Crabtree	3.5
Michael Lewis	3.83
Brian Nelson	3.50
Timothy Rorher	3.73
Aaron Rondeau	3.83

SECOND CLASS	GPA
Tina Groshong	3.61
Mark Underhill	3.53

THIRD CLASS	GPA
Philip Cardwell	4.0
Bryan Grappe	3.5
Stephen Gueck	4.0
John Heffner	3.75
Cyrus Kelly	3.69
John Klein	3.73
Samuel Pontier	3.73
Michael Schafer	3.71

OFFICER CANDIDATES	GPA
Andrew Beebe	3.69
Thad Biggers	3.59
Bryan Delp	3.54
Robert Field	3.54
Michael Pawlowski	3.53
James Ryan	3.50
Dillon Sanders	3.75
Robert Tatum	4.0
Gary Tave	3.61
George Van Rijn	3.75
Stephen Van Kolkow	3.50
Matthew Weller	3.63
Jerry Windle	4.0
Micheal Younger	4.0

IM'S STRIVE FOR EXCELLENCE

by STEVE HARBICK

For many schools, going to Northwest Navy and bringing home a single trophy signifies a notable accomplishment. However, Oregon State's Naval ROTC journey to the competition is fueled by the desire not only to win a few awards, but to dominate all aspects of the competition. For OSU, domination is a realistic goal and the expectation.

Representing OSU NROTC on the hard-wood at Northwest Navy will be the varsity basketball team. Comprised of eleven players, the team is hungry for their challenge. "We are the team to beat at NW Navy," boasted the second year varsity coach LT. Pavlat. OSU has dominated NW Navy for years in the past and has now become the standard by which other competitors prepare for.

In addition to NW Navy, the team competes in the Corvallis Parks and Recreation City League. Playing in the top division of the National League, the team is faced with many experienced and aggressive opponents.The city league provides for very competitive play which is a good warm-up for Northwest Navy.

The team's strengths lie with speed and quickness. LT. Pavlat states: "We're going to blow everybody off the court, plain and simple." The team will combine it's speed with strong outside shooting and its ability to move the ball. Quickness will also pay off on defense, where the team relies on man-to-man coverage. Although height helps in a game, OSU will make up for its lack of height through its ability to beat their opponents up and down the court.

Another part of the basketball program is the NROTC's Junior Varsity team. In their second year, the J.V. team plays an important role in Oregon State NROTC basketball. While providing more opportunities for midshipmen to play, Chief Rose (coach/advisor) explains, "it also creates a system to replenish the varsity team." With three or four returning J.V. members this year, next years varsity can expect to receive players coming up with experience in the NROTC basketball system.

Although the J.V. team does not compete at Northwest Navy, they do compete in the Parks and Recreation City League. With the players they have, Chief Rose believes they have the potential to have a winning season. The team has some mobile, big men for domination inside.

As far as OSU NROTC is concerned, it's basketball teams represents the unit well. Exemplifying principles of the NROTC unit, first year player Midn 4/c Steve Thomson explained, "We work as a team....to win."

In response to the need for playing old fashioned physical and aggressive football, the Army, Air Force, and the Naval service designed the Interservice ROTC Flag Football Championship. This year's NROTC objective: aggressiveness with sweet revenge!

This season marks the third year of the interservice competition. The first year, Navy soundly beat the Air Force 28 - 8 for the first championship and possession of the trophy. Last year, Air Force came back and rudely upset the "Navy's winning tradition"...but only temporarily.

What does the NROTC plan to do about this? Defensive coach OC Sanders (out this season due to knee injury) explained, "We're going to play our game, not their game." Army and Air Force can expect nothing less than an experienced defensive barrier and a talented offense.

The defensive unit this year carries its strength from its many returning players. In the past, the defense has always been a strong unit. This year appears to be no exception with a quick, aggresive line forcing bad passes through an ever-present threat of sacks. The defensive backfield will maintain its coverage with help from the pass rush with a bag of tricks containing varied coverage schemes.

Head Coach/offensive coordinator Chief Rose explains the offense as "aggressively capable." Again, using speed and quickness, the offense remains highly mobile. With many new players, the offense has developed into a solid scoring machine. The threat will be particularly strong having two quarterbacks with reliable receivers.

The process for the Championship trophy involves a co-contender game which this year has NROTC versus the Army followed by the actual Championship game with Air Force defending against the first game's winner. Current preparation has entailed practices two days a week, and running offensive scrimmages against the defense. The team is already looking forward to the Championship game.

For the most efficient use of the Navy's speed and quickness, the actual games will probably be played at Parker Stadium. With the earmark of vengence, the Championship series looks to be a physical one. Amidst the rubble and ruins, there shall exist one champion. The Navy will no longer tolerate the absence of their trophy.

If one can't judge a book by its cover, then one must not judge a team by its name. The Navy ROTC women's intramural flag football team, the "Unknowns," represent a perfect example of the modified cliche.

"We're one of the teams that everyone is afraid to play," stated Midn 4/c Joanna Garcia. The Unknowns stormed through the season like warriors in combat, establishing a winning season.

The team, coached by Midn 3/c Jo Garcia practiced one time per week and then had one game each week. Competitive as they were, they still found time to have fun. At the games, they had their regular spectators cheering them on as opponents watched yellow jerseys crushing the opponents victory hopes.

Like other unit teams, the Unknowns relied on their speed. It was a matter of quick strength versus mass. The stategy worked, as evident by their winning season.

The "Uknowns" fame extends the Naval ROTC Unit's reputation into the added dimension of intramurals. The "Unknowns" certainly maintain the unit tradition of domination, leaving very few "not knowing" who the Navy is.

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BIRTHDAY BALL 1988...

by STEVE HARBICK

For two hundred and thirteen years, the Navy and Marine Corps have shed their sweat and blood for the cause of freedom and democracy. Their contribution has meant the existence of our nation today.

Each year, the Oregon State Naval ROTC Unit celebrates the birthday anniversary by having its Navy-Marine Corps Birthday Ball. The Birthday Ball ceremonies rendor honor and remebrance to the past, yet celebrates the present and future.

The cake cutting at the unit on 13 October kicked off the ceremonies. With the drill team presenting it's sword arch, Colonel Leidich and Commander Michael carried out the procedings. After the birthday message was read by the Commander from the Chief of Naval Operations, the Colonel cut the birthday cake, giving the first pieces to the oldest and youngest members present at the unit. Once the ceremony was completed, cake was then served to everyone while staff and midshipmen enjoyed the time off from their daily routines.

The weeks preceeding the big night of the Birthday Ball, 28 October, were filled with planning, promoting, frantic searches for dates, and freshman anxieties over the Receiving Line. The Events Committee's organization of the Birthday Ball required a blitz of advertising and refined sales techniques from its members. The preparation at the Elks Lodge also demanded a great amount of the committee's time. Their diligent efforts resulted in extravagant decorations and a large crowd.

As the Events Committee was remaining busy, midshipmen appeared to have their hands full too. What would seem to be a simple process of finding a date, turned out for many to be a rapid countdown to a major crisis. Lt. Pavlat became a fine impersonator of Chuck Woolary of "Love Connection," by seeing to the interests of anxious ladies looking for escorts.

For many fourth class midshipmen, having dates wasn't the end of their worries, the receiving line was yet to come. As MIDN 4/c Phil Kase explained, "If it was so easy, then why did they have to print the instructions so often." But with age comes experience; as many freshmen found out, the process of getting in wasn't bad at all.

When the night finally came, Events Committee's major work had been done and escorts were secured. The dinner saw about a hundred and twenty people served with their choice of a seafood or prime rib platter. According to the opinions of many people, the dinners were actually good, (a difficult accomplishment when serving a large number of people).

Following dinner came the long awaited receiving line and then the official birthday ceremony. It was a time to pay tribute to the unit, the services, and the nation. Exhibitions by the unit teams included a brilliant performance of the "changing of the guard." It displayed the Drill Team's outstanding discipline and brought awe to both unit members and civilian guests alike. After presentations by Colonel Leidich, Commander Michael, and Major Cotten, the ceremonial cake was cut. "It was a unique experience to go through the formal ceremonies, and then break free on the dance floor afterwards," recalled MIDN 4/c Martin Balakas.

After the traditional rituals drew to their close and the dance floor was cleared, the mood changed as jackets covered chairs, ties loosened, and high heels came off. The music picked up and couples filed onto the floor. For the remainder of the evening, fun appeared to be mandatory.

Dancing and socializing carried the Birthday Ball to its end, unfortunately not to be experienced for another year. For many underclassmen, it was their first taste of a military ball. For many upperclassmen, this was their final Birthday Ball experience at Oregon State. For all, it was the opportunity to celebrate the Navy and Marine Corps'Birthdays and have a great time doing it.

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