



ALBATROSS



MARK IX, MOD III

Oregon State University Naval ROTC

Spring, 1979



Captain Charles W. COLE, USN

COMMISSIONING 1979

Sunday, June third, marks the long awaited end for the seniors in the battalion as commissioning and graduation ceremonies take place.

LT MILLER, the senior class instructor, is in charge of the commissioning program which will be held in Mitchell Playhouse.

Early commissioning, for seniors who want someone special to commission them, will be at 0900. The regular commissioning ceremony will begin at 1030 with an inspection by the commissioning officer of the Honor Guard. An invocation by the unit Executive Officer, CDR R.H. REILEY, will follow. The commissioning officer, Capt. Charles W. COLE, USN, OSU NROTC Class of '50, will then be introduced and will deliver remarks to the graduating class. Dr. McVICAR, the President of OSU, and the Commanding Officer, OSU NROTC, CAPT C.D. BALL III, will also speak.

Then comes the moment that the seniors have been working toward for four or five long years, the culmination of hard work, fun and some tears; the actual commissioning. Each man will have his name read and as he comes forward to accept his commission in the Navy or Marine Corps, he will sign the commissioning log, his first official act as a new Ensign or Second Lieutenant. Afterwards, everyone will file outside where family and friends will observe the pinning on of the single gold bar.

The Drum & Bugle Corps will then given an exhibition and the battalion will be dismissed while the newly commissioned officers relax with family and friends before commencement at 1400.

After June third, the graduating class will no longer play a part in the OSU life they have participated in for so long, but will go on to their new assignments as the graduating class of 1979, carrying on the long and proud tradition of the NROTC unit here at OSU.

Good luck to you all in the future.

—Midn 3/C Erica BODNER

THE CLASS OF 1979

Commissioned ENSIGN, United States Navy:

Robert A. Adamski	Charles P. Irwin
Raymond E. Bellant, Jr.	Budd L. Manias
James D. Darnell	James J. McLean
Daniel C. Disbrow	Edward R. Mroczynski
Norval E. Doddridge, Jr.	Steven L. Newcomb
Patrick W. Gherrity	Robert J. Palmquist
Vincent C. Gomes	Daniel V. Philpot
Edward R. Goodman	Daniel L. Pierce
William M. Hellemn	James R. Ryan
Rudolph C. Hooven	Allen E. Smith
Dennis J. Hunt	

Commissioned ENSIGN, United States Naval Reserve:

Robert F. Bomber

Commissioned 2ND LIEUTENANT, United States Marine Corps:

Robert T. Bohannon, Jr.
Norman Richard Cobb
Richard A. Dale
Russell George
Gregory P. Lockett
Douglas G. McPherson
David J. Mollahan

Commissioned in March 1979:

Mark C. Foote
Bruce T. Howard
Brian B. Linde
Donald E. Palmrose
Leeann K. Pierce

To be commissioned in coming months:

Stephen R. Banham
Lynette M. Brickey
Michael L. Buse
Walter J. Carston
William D. Doner
Jeffry L. Duncan
Mark T. Jaskowski
Michael D. Lauzen
John M. Myrah
Hironori Peterson
Terry J. Pleasant
Clifford H. Ratte', II
Roger E. Rouleau
Richard A. Schoenberg, Jr.
Gary L. Swearingen
Guy L. Varland
Scott A. Wilkening

OSU DRILL TEAM:



Staff Photo

Drill Team with their spoils from the Tulane Invitational Drill Meet.

OSU NROTC TAKES FIRST AT TULANE INVITATIONAL DRILL MEET

A tremendous amount of hard work, dedication, and grueling hours of practice paid off for the members of the Oregon State University Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps Drill Team when they scored an upset victory at this year's Tulane Invitational Drill Meet during the Mardi Gras Festival. Getting there to begin with was no small task. Only four schools west of the Mississippi were invited. The team undertook numerous fund-raising projects to finance their trip to this prestigious competition in addition to long hours of preparatory drill, exhibitions, and competitions inter-mixed with their demanding academic schedules. Coming off a walk-away victory in the drill team phases of the Northwest Navy Competition, they were primed for Tulane.

The meet was held on the 23rd of February at Tulane University and featured fourteen standout drill teams from various Army, Navy, and Air Force Units around the country. The competition consisted of four phases; Inspection, Regulation Drill, Squad Basic Drill, and Exhibition Drill. Regulation and Inspection were combined into one sequence of the competition. As anticipated, it was a closely contested competition from the beginning. OSU won this first sequence with a score of 724 points out of a possible 1000 points with the third place team only 21 points behind. The next sequence consisted of the Squad Basic phase, an event new to the OSU team. At the completion of this event, OSU's Drill Team was in fifth place overall. Down by 52 points, they faced the most demanding sequence of the meet, Exhibition phase. To compound the difficulty in this outdoor meet, it was raining, making men and uniforms wet and the highly polished weapons slick. Undaunted, the Oregon State Team came through with style, overwhelming the competition and carrying this phase and the meet. The only team not to drop a weapon under these trying conditions, they swept this final phase and established their right to claim the victors trophy for the overall meet.

OSU's final cumulative score placed them in the first place position by 26 points. It was an extremely close meet and by the exceptional quality of the competing teams, a competition in which not only the victors, but all who earned the right to compete, should be justifiably proud.

--Staff



Precision marching.

Staff Photo



Midn 2/c Tom Jardine

Drill team begins regulation phase.



Midn 2/c Tom Jardine

The team stands ready in the hot, Tempe sun.

A SUCCESSFUL YEAR

DRILL TEAM AT TEMPE

For the second year in a row, the Drill Team has emerged victorious in the Governor of Arizona Invitational Drill Meet at Tempe, Arizona. This prestigious competition is well known for its high quality of standards as displayed by the participating teams such as the U.S. Air Force Academy, University of Southern California, U.C.L.A., Arizona State University and the New Mexico Military Institute (N.M.M.I.).

The meet involves four separate phases of competition consisting of Inspection, Regulation, Exhibition and Individual Exhibition with arms.

During the inspection phase, each member of the team is inspected on military knowledge, weapon information and appearance in uniform. With one inspecting officer per squad and approximately thirty minutes allowed for the total inspection, this leaves five to six minutes of inspection time for each member of the team. One "gig" (minus point) is issued for each erroneous answer or faulty uniform/weapon part. Therefore, any team that does not "know its stuff" will soon be outclassed by the others. One thousand points is issued to each team as they enter the inspection deck. When they leave, the total number of gigs is tallied and deducted from the original thousand. This year, O.S.U. took Second place with 928 points in inspection, losing first to U.S.C. by three points.

Regulation phase is the basic precision marching of a specified sequence within a certain time limit and deck size. Not only are dress, weapon alignment and position, cadence and snappiness of movements looked at by the judges, but the commander of the team is observed as well as time and boundary violations. This puts quite a strain on the C.O. because if he makes an error, sixteen gigs are issued (16 man team) for not following the sequence or crossing a boundary, etc. The team placed second in the regulation phase, losing by sixteen points to A.S.U.

Exhibition phase is the one most looked forward to by both the team members and observers on the outside. This phase is designed by the individual teams to their own taste and anything is legal--almost. Buttstroking the judges as you pass by is not widely accepted as legal although team members have been known to attempt it in the past!

The phase is judged mostly on precision, complexity of maneuvers, formations and weapon spins, and crowd pleasing effects. There are generally as many types and styles of exhibition phases as there are teams participating, however, from year to year, portions of one teams phase may show up being incorporated into another teams phase. The Air Force Academy, with a twenty four man team, took first place in this event by twenty eight points, leaving O.S.U. with second place.

The individual exhibition is not a required phase for the team to be considered for the sweepstakes trophy. Since participation is voluntary, not all teams are represented. This year the Drill Team decided to enter Midn. 4/C Roger BURTON with a carefully designed and coached individual phase, as it is judged on the same basis as the team exhibition. This extra time and planning obviously paid off as Midn. BURTON walked away with the first place award. In all phases of the competition, aggressiveness and military bearing are weighed heavily in the judging.

At the awards banquet that evening, the placing teams were announced and trophies distributed. The first place sweepstakes went to O.S.U. with the Air Force Academy and U.S.C. receiving second and third places respectively. The sweepstakes trophy is based on the total number of points earned for all three phases combined. Eleven collegiate "with arms" teams competed for these trophies.

The Governor of Arizona trophy (the biggie) was taken for the second year in a row by O.S.U. This trophy has only been offered by the meet for the last two years. It is based on the total percentage of points earned by each team. Twenty-five teams were vying for this trophy as there are several high school drill teams along with various without arms teams at the meet that were not in competition with our Drill Team for the above mentioned awards.

The team looks to have a very promising staff next year with eight returning freshmen and four returning sophomores. Their billets are as follows:

Team C.O. -- Midn. Lt JG Tony WALTERS

X.O. - Midn. Ensign Tim ZIEGLER

MPO - Midn. MPO Robert Alvick

CPO - Midn. CPO Scott SHAVER

Squad Leaders - 1st Midn. PO 2/C Tom BRICE. 2nd Midn. PO 2/C Roger ANGEL. 3rd Midn. PO 2/C Chris ROACH. 4th Midn. PO 2/C Wayne STEENSON.

Second Year Men - Roger BURTON, Mark CANTRELL, Jim HALFERTY, Domingo SALAZAR.

Was it a successful year (with the exception of a few grades biting the proverbial bullet)? You judge for yourself.

Northwest Navy Competition
1st place Commanders trophy
1st place Inspection phase
1st place Regulation phase
1st place Exhibition phase
1st place Best Drill Team

Tulane Invitational Drill Meet
1st place Commanders trophy
1st place Inspection phase
1st place Regulation phase
1st place Exhibition phase
1st place Best Drill Team
3rd place Individual Exhibition - taken by Midn. PO 2/C Tony WALTERS

Governor of Arizona Invitational Drill Meet
2nd place Inspection phase
2nd place Regulation phase
2nd place Exhibition phase
1st place Sweepstakes
Governor of Arizona Trophy
1st place Individual Exhibition - taken by Midn. 4/C Roger BURTON

--Midn. CPO Jerry OSGOOD





Captain C.D. BALL III, USN, Commanding Officer, OSU NROTC.

Captain's Corner

As yet another year draws to a close, I think it appropriate to reflect briefly on our accomplishments this academic year. We began with a new Freshman Orientation program that proved the initiation of a highly successful year. Our competitive and exhibition teams have represented us well both locally and on the national level. Many of next year's Freshmen began looking at the NROTC program after they had seen our Drill Team or Drum and Bugle Corps perform. Our rifle team continued its dominance in the western United States while our pistol team is nationally recognized. Our Color Guard has been more visible than ever before, thrusting the OSU NROTC into the public eye. Nearer home, the excellent relationship this unit enjoys with the local community has been enhanced by your company projects. Academically, the unit continues its overall excellent performance. It is fair to give our Drill Team a special kudo as they have unequivocally established their preeminent position among all drill teams nationally.

As you go forth on your summer cruises, I charge you to represent us well. You each individually will be the only impression of OSU and our unit that many will have to judge us by. And when you return next year, strive to make it an even better year.

To our graduating seniors, I trust we have given you the metal to meet the challenges bearing down upon you. We are proud of you. Good luck and God's speed.

C.D. BALL III



THE YEAR OF THE RIFLE

1979 was indeed the Year of the Rifle. The OSU Navy Rifle Team started the season slowly with a second place finish at the Bengal Trophy Match in Pocatello, ID. They quickly gained momentum going into Northwest Navy, emerging with the H.D. Powell award for High Rifle Team for the fifth straight year, a first in Northwest Navy history, by outdistancing their nearest competitors, Washington, by over 40 points.

Next came the Silver State Invitational Rifle Match in Reno, NV and the results were almost unbelievable. Combining with OSU's Varsity Team to take everything in sight, the Navy team not only took 1st ROTC Team, but High Overall Team as well, a very unusual occurrence. Midn 1/C Dan PIERCE fired a 512, followed by the team Captain, Midn LT jg Pat GHERRITY with a 508 and Midn 3/C David DESMON, the team CPO, with a 501. The team totaled a 2045 as all members broke 500 for the 1st time in 2 years. Midn 4/C Tim DYKSTRA got in on this one too, firing for the 1st Varsity Team none other than OSU again. Tim's score was a very respectable 506, combining with his teammates to take overall, 2nd only to the Navy team. By the way, Tim had never shot a rifle until taught to shoot by the Navy team in September.

Next in the list of Rifle Team conquests came the Hearst Trophy Match. Hearst, a postal match sponsored by OSU, is a nationwide match against some of the nation's best. Once again the OSU Navy team blasted their way to the top. When the smoke cleared, and the results were all mailed in, OSU stood alone in 1st place. The team 1053 soundly defeated 2nd place University of Virginia's 1017 and 3rd place University of Idaho's 1000. OSU's outstanding performance was once again spurred on by Midn BUSE with a sizzling 271, followed closely by Midn PIERCE's 266, (these two took 3rd and 4th individual high scores for the match), with a neat wrap up by Midn GHERRITY and DESMON with identical 258's. Midn BUSE and PIERCE also tied for high kneeling score with a pair of 93's.

Still to come in this year's rifle season are: Carter Trophy Match, an annual contest with the OSU Army team, in which the Army hasn't seen the trophy in 5 years, and results from the nationwide Secretary of The Navy and Society of American Military Engineers Postal Matches.

Also still in the offing is the High Power competition season with the Region Championships at Medford being the main attraction. The OSU Navy team has a group of strong returning High-Power shooters and the first-year-men are already showing outstanding promise. A likely conclusion to the '78-'79 season is the National Championships at Camp Perry, Ohio this summer. This is a grueling 2 weeks of High Power shooting that at least 3 of the midshipmen hope to attend. This time, the true champions will separated from the pack and it's a safe bet OSU Navy will make its presence known. Midn BUSE and GHERRITY have attended the past several years, with an outstanding 2nd place finish in the Sharpshooter class for Midn BUSE last year.

Although rifle shooting is not much of a spectator event, this high-scoring team deserves all of our support and enthusiasm as they push on to conclude one of the most outstanding competitive seasons the NROTC Unit has yet seen.

--Midn 3/C David DESMON

NEW SOPHOMORE INSTRUCTOR

It's welcome back and welcome aboard for LT. Tom HAGEN and his charming wife, Mari. LT. HAGEN is a product of our own OSU NROTCU, graduating in 1974 with a BS in Business Administration. While a midshipman, he published the first unit newspaper and was the Fall '73 Battalion Commander. On campus, LT. HAGEN was the president of Beta Gamma Sigma, the business honorary, during his senior year. He met his wife on campus; she had the room next to him in Bloss Hall. After graduation, LT. HAGEN went to Pensacola for flight training, then on to the A6 Replacement Air Group for training as a bombardier-navigator. He then reported to VA-34 in Oceana, Va. He reports to us with over 300 traps (carrier arrested landings) and just under 1000 hours in the "Intruder," flying in the Atlantic and Mediterranean.

It's great to have the HAGEN's back at OSU to share their experiences with us. LT. HAGEN will be taking over as the Sophomore Instructor. We wish him a great tour of duty.

--Staff

MILITARY BALL 1979

The Military Ball is a Tri-Service, annual event sponsored by Scabbard and Blade for the enjoyment of all midshipmen and cadets in the OSU ROTC programs. It is traditionally a formal dance held in the Memorial Union Ballroom complete with refreshments and live band. This year's music was provided by the Air Force band "Impact." Cadets and midshipmen began arriving at 1930 and after going through the receiving line, helped themselves to refreshments and joined in conversation until the band began to play. A large number of staff from the ROTC Units and their wives were also in attendance.

One of the highlights of the evening was the announcements of new members, next year's officers of Scabbard and Blade, and their procession through the traditional arch of crossed swords.

The evening was a fine success, offering good food, good dancing and good friends. Congratulations to the Scabbard and Blade for the 58th Military Ball.

--Midn 3/C Erica BODNER



Mid 3/c J.P. Kehoe

Midn 3/c Curt CAIN and his date obviously enjoy the Ball.



Mid 3/c J.P. Kehoe

CDR and Mrs. Reiley greet guests.

S.A.M.E. BANQUET

The S.A.M.E. Spring Banquet was held on Wednesday, the second of May, at Nendel's of Corvallis. The evening went smoothly with a full schedule of events. About 40 midshipmen, cadets and officers attended the function which began with a cocktail hour. A delicious dinner followed and then the speaker for the evening, Professor Otto Dalky of the Mechanical Engineering Dept. at OSU, presented a slide show. Professor Dalky showed several planes he helped to engineer from 1920 to his retirement, and he discussed the V-2 rocket and the Titan missile. He told several anecdotes about his early life in Germany as an engineer in an unknown field (Aeronautics), being captured in France during World War II, and escaping back to Germany.

After Professor Dalky's speech, LT COL R. CHANDLER presented Midn 1/C Bill HELLEMN, this year's President, with a pair of binoculars for being the outstanding member of the Corvallis Post. LT COL CHANDLER also announced that the post was nominated for the fourth year in a row as the outstanding national student post.

MIDN HELLEMN then introduced his staff and announced Midn 3/C Ken GREEN as next year's President. Afterwards, Midn GREEN introduced his staff who are: Midn 4/C Randy PERSON, Vice President; Midn 3/C Marty DREVES, Secretary; Midn 2/C Bruce VANDENBOS, Treasurer, and Midn 3/C Dave LEINGANG, Programs Chairman.

This officially ended a very successful spring banquet.

--Midn 3/C T. PARLIER

MOM'S WEEKEND

The first weekend in May was a special one for OSU students. It was Mom's Weekend and many special events were planned to enhance the stay of visiting moms. As has been our tradition as far back as anyone can recall, our nationally acclaimed Drill Team and award-winning Drum & Bugle Corps presented exhibitions Saturday morning. The event opened with a Tri-Service Color Guard and the National Anthem. Next out was our crack Drill Team, presenting their exhibition phase performance. Our widely traveled Drum & Bugle Corps provided a musical interlude, greatly entertaining the crowd assembled in Gill. The final presentation was by our sister service, the AFROTC Drill Team Without Arms in their first outing this year. An open house followed the exhibitions at the Naval Armory and one of the largest groups in recent memory participated. All in all, it was a great kickoff for Saturday of Mom's Weekend.

--Staff

MARINE ORIENTATION



FIELD TRIP

This year's Marine Orientation Field Trip was a tremendous success and a marked improvement over last year's event. Ten midshipmen from Oregon State joined with approximately forty other students from the Universities of Utah, Idaho, and Washington in a journey to southern California. Spirits were somewhat dampened by arriving at El Toro, MCAS in the midst of a downpour while the fantastic weather of the Northwest was still fresh in everyone's minds. After a short brief, the group boarded two Sea Stallion helicopters and were choppered down to San Onofre (part of Camp Pendleton), where they spent the night.

The next day began early when the middies were bussed back up to El Toro to view Marine Corps aviation. There was a static display of planes and helos which included the Harrier, the vertical landing and take-off jet. Students were also given some "hands on" time in the A-4 and C-130 simulators. The C-130 simulator was especially impressive as it had a visual presentation plus movement all tied in by computer which made it seem very realistic. Lunch was followed by a trip to Disneyland under cloudy, but rainless skies. The weather cleared up and Thursday was spent in the field at Camp Pendleton. The first activity was the always popular firing of the 105 mm Howitzer. This was done in conjunction with an explanation of how artillery is used in support of the infantry and how shots are corrected. Middies then saw a direct fire demonstration by both the 105 mm and 155 mm Howitzers.

Major General C.G. COOPER, USMC, who is presently the Commanding General of the 1st Marine Amphibious Force and 1st Marine Division at Camp Pendleton, made a special point of greeting the midshipmen after a tank demonstration. His stay was brief, but his concern was appreciated none the less.

Major General COOPER's visit was followed by a static display of a variety of Marine Corps equipment, from radar to meteorological gear, a reconnaissance presentation and, at last, a welcomed lunch of combat rations (fondly known as "C-rats") with an air power demonstration for mealtime entertainment.

The romance of C-rats was somewhat marred by eating them while sitting in bleachers, but the air power demo was superb. The leading players were the Bronco, Harrier, Cobras, A-4's and A-6's. The Bronco, basically a forward observer, led the attack by marking the target which the other aircraft homed in on when dropping their ordinance. The most impressive performances given were those of the A-4's dropping napalm and the A-6's dropping 500 pounders. The shock wave from the 500 pounders was readily observed as it emanated from the point of impact.

The final event of the day at Camp Pendleton was the firing of the M-16 rifle and the M-60 machine gun. Each midshipman had the opportunity to fire fifty rounds on the M-60 and about twenty rounds through the M-16. Before firing, each weapon was explained and safety precautions emphasized to avoid any accidents due to ignorance or carelessness. During the explanations, as throughout the day, students' questions were encouraged and answered. The middies, many by this time tired, welcomed the bus ride down to the Marine Corps Recruiting Depot (MCRD) at San Diego which followed.

There wasn't much doubt that MCRD was the highlight of the trip. First, the middies were treated to a performance by the 8th and 1st Marine Corps Drum and Bugle Corps, Silent Drill Team, and Color Guard. These elite representatives of the Marine Corps were outstanding. The Drum and Bugle Corps marched with precision and were equally well accomplished musically. The Drill Team cannot be matched. The crowd was awed by their drill maneuvers as the sun glinted off of their fixed bayonets. It was quite a performance!

After watching the end of a recruit graduation the middies got to their first practical event--repelling off of a fifty foot tower and dropping through the "hell hole." Everyone gave it a try, including the women, though many confessed to having had second thoughts just before going over the edge.

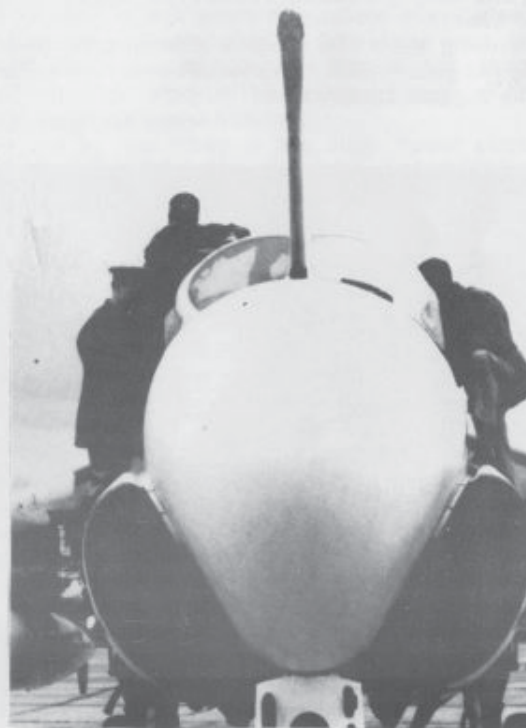
The group moved on to pugil stick fighting which simulates fighting with a rifle and fixed bayonet. The fighting was done on a three foot wide bridge over a pool of water. The winner of the bout was the one who remained on the bridge. It was a popular event even for those who took a swim.

Running the confidence course finished up the day. While none of the obstacles were terribly difficult they required a certain amount of courage to attempt. Many of them were very high and had the ability to intimidate even the hearty souls of the group. A favorite was the "Slide for Life" which was a cable angling down from a 35 foot platform over water. The object was to slide down the cable at first, balanced on top of it and then hanging underneath. A number of midshipmen went swimming here too.

Friday evening, the middies congregated at the MCRD Officer's Club for "Animal Night" to rehash the events of the previous few days and spend time with new-found friends from the other schools. It was a happy and satisfied group. They had a great opportunity to view the various areas of the Marine Corps. Some went to make a decision concerning their choice of service branch and others just went to have fun.

From the atmosphere in the O-Club, it was apparent that, whatever the outcome, everyone had had a great time!

--Midn Lt. (j.g.) Vivian I. MADISON



Midn Lt. (jg) Vivian I. Madison

Marine A-6 "Intruder."



Midn. Lt. (jg) Vivian I. Madison

Midshipmen carefully examine the "Harrier."



Midn. Lt. (jg) Vivian I. Madison

Midn 3/C Pat BARDEL inside the COBRA helicopter.



Midn. Lt. (jg) Vivian I. Madison

Midn 4/C Wayne STEENSON and 4/C Midn Roger ANGEL learn the ropes.



Midn. Lt. (jg) Vivian I. Madison

Midn 3/C Brian CALKINS and Midn 4/C Roger BURTON.



Midn. Lt. (jg) Vivian I. Madison

Loading the 105 mm Howitzer.



Midn. Lt. (jg) Vivian I. Madison

Ah, Pooh Bear!



Staff Photo

Our spring term
Battalion Commander,
Midn Capt. Jim RYAN.

From the Battalion Commander

Spring term this year has been a busy one, as always. I have been pleased with the way the battalion has come through in response to the many challenges so far. Tri-Service Review is coming up soon and we should be able to show the Army and Air Force how it should be done.

As I look around the unit though, I sometimes find what I can only label as a lack of pride. Pride in both the unit and the battalion as a whole. Pride in the unit is easy to show. It means picking up a coke bottle, even if it isn't yours, as you walk through the lounge, or doing one's best to keep things neat and clean.

Pride in being a midshipman in the battalion should come even easier than this. Those on the teams have an impressive record and obviously can build on that. The rest sometimes feel left out, but they shouldn't. As I look back on my four years here at OSU I find that NROTC has played an important part. The invaluable experience I have received in leadership, management, and just plain working with others could not have been gained elsewhere. In addition, I have traveled to many parts of the world as part of my summer cruises. The freshmen especially should be looking forward to this.

Each one of you has, or will have the same opportunities I did. OSU NROTC has a reputation in the fleet for being excellent, based on former midshipmen who took their experiences here and built on them. So the next time you put on your uniform, don't start thinking of how soon it will be before you can take it off, instead step off with pride.

--MIDN CAPT Jim RYAN

THE SPIRIT OF COMPETITION

The battalion is at its finest when Platoon and Company competition arrives. Many hours are spent in polishing shoes, brass, and memorizing information in preparation for these events.

Platoon competition took place at the end of winter term and saw First Company, First Platoon, under the leadership of Midn Lt. (jg) Bill HELLEMN as number one.

Company Competition was held on 8 May, and was won by Second Company. Although all three companies looked sharp, Second Company, under the command of Midn Lt. Vince GOMES, took the contest by a wide margin. The final point totals (out of 1000) were:

2nd Company 740
1st Company 699
3rd Company 639

Third Company won the inspection phase, but Second Company outdid both of the other companies on the drill deck to claim first place in the overall competition.

Congratulations to all participating members and particularly Midn HELLEMN and Midn GOMES for their fine leadership and well earned wins.

--Midn 3/C Brian CALKINS
--Midn Lt. (jg) Vivian I. MADISON

FAREWELL TO THREE OFFICERS

As the year draws to an end, the unit and the Navy will lose three fine officers from her ranks; CAPT C.D. BALL III, LT C.A. SMITH and LT S.C. THOMPSON.

CAPT BALL, who is retiring in August following 30 years of military service, came to the unit here at OSU in 1976 from Atsugi, Japan, replacing CAPT DIMON as Commanding Officer of the unit. CAPT BALL had never worked directly with midshipmen until his tour here, but he says, "I've enjoyed my time here and have been impressed with the midshipmen at this unit." CAPT BALL says the thing he enjoyed most was being able to "help mold the ways," of the young people in the battalion. Once retired from the Navy, CAPT BALL hopes to be flying for a commuter airline at Whidbey Island, Washington which his years in naval aviation have trained him for.

LT C.A. SMITH, the sophomore class instructor, will also be leaving in June. He will work on his masters here at OSU in the School of Business. LT SMITH has been the sophomore class instructor since he came here in 1975 from VA-153, NAS Lemoore, California, where he was deployed on USS ORISKANY. Probably the most well-rounded sophomore instructor, he has taught something different each year from courses in American Military Affairs and National Security Policy, to the Sea Power and two terms of Weapons currently taught. LT SMITH said, "It's been an education for me." He also feels that one of the most rewarding aspects of his tour here is being a potential influence on students. "I've enjoyed my time in the Navy very much and I'll always root for the Navy at the Army-Navy game."

The freshman class instructor, LT S.C. THOMPSON, came here from the Destroyer JOHN PAUL JONES out of San Diego. He will resign his commission and stay in Corvallis to get his Masters degree in Business Administration with the intention of joining a family business. He has enjoyed working with the freshmen, especially because "It is really exciting to see young people come in, unsure about everything and develop into people who are competent and willing to work and take responsibility." He says he loves the Navy and doesn't think "there is anywhere better for a college graduate to be than in the Navy as a junior officer."

The unit owes a great debt of gratitude to these three officers and their absence will be noticed.

Good luck to all of you in the future and from all of us, thanks for the help and guiding words.

--Midn 3/C Erica BODNER



Midn. Lt. (jg) Vivian I. Madison

Midn Lt Vince GOMES and the battalion stand ready for inspection.

SPRING PFT

At 0700, on Saturday, 14 April, sleepy midshipmen began arriving at the unit for Spring PFT. After completing the pull-ups and sit-ups portion of the exam, they lined up, on this drizzly morning, to enjoy the brisk 3 mile run ahead of them. While the rest of the Battalion set off in their best marathon form, Midn 3/C Don BOOTH decided to do something different; he decided to walk the 3 miles using the Olympic Stride. His time was 28:37, which is only 37 seconds longer than the time required for the run.

After the last runner (walker) came in, we all headed for Avery Park for a Bar-B-Que. The hamburgers were quickly demolished by the hungry PFTers.

Immediately following the Bar-B-Que, we adjourned to the baseball diamond for Battalion Athletics. At first we thought that the games would have to be postponed because of the rain, but the players agreed to play, rain or all. First Company won Battalion Athletics with a score of 3 wins and 0 losses. All-in-all everyone had a good time and everyone went home damp, but happy.

--Midn 4/C C.S. VAN BUSKIRK



Midn 1/c R.A. Adamski

Midn 3/C Pete LANE warms up for the big game.



Midn 1/c R.A. Adamski

Midn 1/C Ray BELLANT and friend.



Midn 1/c R.A. Adamski

LT THOMPSON, caught in the heinous act of hoarding potato chips.

DRUM & BUGLE CORPS

April 7th and 8th saw the Drum & Bugle Corps in Puyallup, Washington. The team had a great time and made an excellent showing at the Daffodil Festival. The festival consisted of three parades in three towns. Although there were a lot of sore feet and tired lips, the team came home with first place in their division.

To commemorate the excellent year that the Drum & Bugle Corps enjoyed, the annual Drum & Bugle Corps Banquet was held on 27 April. A savory meal was followed by an awards ceremony where each class presented awards for various achievements throughout the year. Later that evening, billets were announced. Midn 3/C Curt McNEW was named Commanding Officer of the team for the 1979-80 school year and Midn 3/C Darrell TIPPLES will be his Executive Officer.

The banquet was a success with everyone looking forward to a fantastic next year.

Good luck and congratulations for a fine year.

--Midn 3/C Jennith MORRISON



Staff Photo

The Drum & Bugle Corp performs in McALEXANDER Field House.



Midn 1/C Walt CARSTON and his date seal the ceremony with a kiss.

RING DANCE

The smiles seen on every face at the 1979 Ring Dance attested to its success Wednesday, May 9, at the Corvallis Elks Lodge.

"It was super" exclaimed LCDR ROBERTSON, advisor of the junior class, who sponsored the dance for the graduating seniors.

A theme of "Where Do I Go From Here?" was selected for the annual formal affair.

Between 250-300 midshipmen, staff and their dates or wives attended the dance, more than has attended the dance in several years.

"I was pleased with not only the always good attendance of the juniors and seniors, but also the many freshmen and sophomores who came!" said LCDR ROBERTSON.

Following the 1930 no-host cocktail party at the Lodge (many also attended private cocktail parties), the receiving line began at 2000.

The highlight of the evening came at 2130 with the ring ceremony for the seniors. Each senior, with his date, walked through an arch of swords, presented by the drill team, to a pomp replica of a ring at the side of the ballroom. The midshipman then untied a ribbon, which held his class ring, from around his date's neck. She dipped the ring in a golden bowl of water from the Seven Seas, placed it on his finger, and the ceremony was sealed with a kiss. The soon-to-be officer's duty station following commissioning was announced as the couple was congratulated by Captain and Mrs. BALL.

The new battalion staff for Fall 1979 was announced following the ring ceremony: BTN CO, C.R. LETHIN, BTN XO, JH ALAMEDA, and BTN OPS, D.R. BECKER.

An evening of dancing continued until midnight when all adjourned to post-dance parties or home.

Bravo Zulu to the following midshipmen second class for a job well done on Ring Dance 79:

Loren BROOKS - Chairman

Dale BURROWS - Protocol

Dwain MEYERS - Finance

Dave ECKLUND - Refreshments and decorations

Vivian MADISON - Mistress of Ceremonies

Tony LAIRD - Master of Ceremonies

--Midn 3/C Monica SMITH



Midn 1/C Russ GEORGE and date Michelle proceed under the arch of swords.



Albatross Eggs

Three people from our unit were selected by Chief of Naval Education and Training to undergo Airborne Training. Midn 2/C David BECKER, 2/C Dwain MEYER, and 3/C Tim ZIEGLER will soon be jumping out of planes and earning those silver jump wings.

The Commanding Officers inspection took place on Tuesday, May 1. The results were favorable as the battalion looked sharp and was prepared for the occasion. Keep up the good work!

Midn 3/C Jeff KEHOE was recently awarded an NROTC scholarship by Chief of Naval Education and Training. Congratulations Jeff for a fine achievement.

The battalion will be reorganized next fall. Changes will include having only two companies instead of three (besides HQ Company) and the participation of seniors in battalion billets down to squad leader level. Everyone will be giving his/her best and the battalion should be better for it!

The rifle team participated in the Carter Trophy Match on 14 May, and won for the fifth straight year. Individual scores were Midn 3/C Dave DESMON - 283, Daniel PIERCE - 283, Pat GHERRITTY - 279, 4/C Tim Dykstra - 266, and 2/C Mike BUSE - 263, giving a total score of 1374 vs. the Army's score of 1343. Keep it up Rifle Team!

--Editor



Midn 3/C Jeff KEHOE is sworn in after receiving a NROTC scholarship.

FAREWELL FROM LT. SMITH

As most of you know, I am leaving the Navy at the end of June. I plan to obtain a Masters in Business Administration at Oregon State. It has been my privilege to work with each of you and I am confident of your ability to meet the leadership needs of the Naval Service. As I go, let me leave the following with you:

"Those who go down to the sea in ships,
Who do business on great waters;
They have seen the works of the Lord,
And His wonders in the deep.
Let them give thanks to the Lord for His loving kindness,
And for His wonders to the sons of men!"

I consider it an honor to have had the opportunity to serve in the finest Service in the world.

--LT Smith

THE SENIOR-STAFF SOFTBALL GAME

Friday afternoon, 11 May, was dry with a high blue sky. This weather, seemingly so uncommon in Western Oregon, had been especially ordered for the annual Senior-Staff softball game. The staff members this year were well practiced and eager to vindicate themselves of a close 10-11 loss to last year's seniors. The seniors, however, were equally determined to carry on the tradition of a winning senior class.

The contest was close to the end, but the staff finally emerged victorious. The seniors scored first with two in the second inning, but the staff put five runs on the scoreboard after the arrival of their liquid courage, the ever present keg; some actually playing with the beer cup in hand. The seniors stayed away from the keg, but only managed to score one more run before the ninth inning.

The seniors made a comeback attempt. With the score standing at 5-3, the seniors started a rally and scored one run, but their momentum was snuffed out leaving runners on first and third. The final tally was a narrow 5-4 win for the staff.

The game, of course, was not without its rhubarbs. A few close calls by the umpires, Carl CARPENTER and Larry VELLUCCI, resulted in a couple of hostile words, but nothing out of the spirit of the game. All disputes were quickly settled and play resumed.

It may be noted that some of the players went home somewhat worse for the wear. The good weather inspired shorts and a good deal of bare skin. This fact was quickly forgotten in the excitement of the game, but suddenly and painfully remembered in the zealous slide for homeplate. It was especially painful to those who were called out as they did not have the benefit of victory to act as a salve.

The staff was feeling rather cocky after beating the seniors and rashly accepted a challenge from their wives and a few female middies to play another game. The score was not known, but it was clear that the women handed their men a solid defeat. The men did bat left-handed and made a few "minor" allowances for their wives (though not for the middies), but the women were sure that it was their fine play which actually determined the outcome of the game.

Umpiring the game was difficult as there seemed to be a different set of rules and an entirely different attitude toward the opponents as compared to the first game. For example, was it a foul of sorts for LT SMITH to kiss his wife on first base? Not to mention the fact that LCDR ROBERTSON had a habit of patting the basewomen on their behinds as he ran by! Also LCDR ROBERTSON repeatedly stopped at third base when he could have made it home just so that he could ogle the third baseman.

Whatever the complications, the games were both enjoyable and everyone had fun. Congratulations to the staff, but just wait until next year and the Class of '80!

--Midn LT (jg) Vivian I MADISON



Midn Lt (jg) Vivian I. Madison

LT HAGEN has a definite out as Norval DODDRIDGE sprints to base.



Midn Lt (jg) Vivian I. Madison

LCDR ROBERTSON corrupts daughter, Teresa, at an early age.

MOFEX

MOFEX, the annual highlight for upper class Marine Options, took place this year on 18-19 May. The yearly Marine Option Field Exercise, known by the acronym MOFEX, is the culmination of the curriculum for Spring Term designed mainly for Junior Marine Options who will attend Officer Candidate School this summer.

The course is intended to serve as a preparatory class for those Juniors going to OCS, or BULLDOG, as it is sometimes called, and is instructed largely by Seniors who attended BULLDOG last year. The purpose of MOFEX is to provide the candidate the opportunity to demonstrate the skills and knowledge he has developed in the classroom during the course this term under conditions somewhat similar to those he will encounter this summer at OCS. This opportunity for the candidate to put to practical application knowledge that has been disseminated to him serves as an adequate evaluative tool for the Seniors to determine how much the candidate has learned and his growth potential.

During MOFEX, each candidate will be graded on his knowledge of things like fire team tactics and formations, troop leading procedures, combat operations order, squad tactics and formations, the lensatic compass and land navigation. Additionally, he will be graded on how well he has prepared himself physically and mentally, and his ability to think quickly and clearly under stressful situations.

MOFEX was held this year in an area located in the Coast Range near Harlan, Oregon, approximately 40 miles west of Corvallis.

--Midn 1/C Richard DALE

Candid of the Term



Midn Lt (jg) Vivian I. Madison

Craig Thompson, "I'm not worried, fortunately Daddy doesn't make his living as a ball player."

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