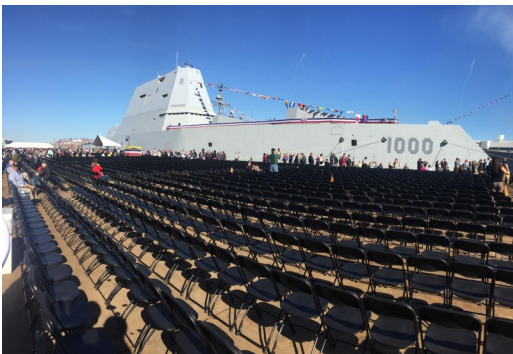


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New Student Orientation 2016

NROTCU Rutgers-Princeton welcomed 24 new 4/C Midshipmen this past August for our 5th annual New Student Orientation. Of the 24, 15 were attending Rutgers, with 9 attending Princeton; our number of Princeton Midshipmen only continues to grow! A hand-selected group of our 1/C and 2/C Midshipmen took on the roles of MIDN Staff for the week, including the group's first ever MIDN Corpsman, MIDN 3/C Noristz! By 1600 that first day, we led our new 4/C out to Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, NJ for new student orientation into the unit. Throughout the four days on base, the Midshipmen woke up each morning for physical training, drill instruction, and briefs on various topics ranging from how to wear their uniforms to recommended guidelines for nutrition and sleep. The Midshipmen completed their inventory Physical Fitness Tests/Physical Readiness Tests and swim qualifications as an official evaluation of their physical

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physical readiness. And finally, they completed their first fast-paced hike as a unit. In the end, there was no doubt that our 4/C Midshipmen proved their mettle and officially retook their Oath of Office before our Commanding Officer.

Written by MIDN 3/C Noristz

SCARLET DAY OF SERVICE



The Midshipmen of NROTCU Rutgers-Princeton participated in the Scarlet Day of Service on October 1st. Along with hundreds of Rutgers students, Midshipmen helped serve the community surrounding the Rutgers campus and New Brunswick area. After sign-ups, participants received breakfast and a packed lunch. After choosing from countless service sites to attend, students were bussed to their sites and got briefed on the work they were going to do. The majority of the NROTCU Rutgers-Princeton Midshipman went to Franklin Sports Complex to do field maintenance on a baseball park. This required a lot of hard labor to include pulling weeds, removing rocks, replacing ropes and fences, reapplication of soil and removal of trash. The students broke for lunch and finished up the work around two o'clock. After the work was done, the administration of the park thanked all of the students greatly for all the hard work they provided. Reflecting on the service they had done, the Midshipmen talked about the reasons they

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chose to participate in this event and the importance of community service. They agreed they felt a responsibility to give back to their community and they enjoyed the feeling they received after helping others. It was special seeing the progress they made from the start of the day to the end. After the reflection, the students were bussed back to campus, concluding the Scarlet Day of Service.

Written by MIDN 3/C Malinoski

USS JOHN P MURTHA Commissioning Ceremony



On 8 October, 2016, a group of 15 NROTCU Rutgers-Princeton Midshipmen and unit leadership made the trip to Penn's Landing, Philadelphia, PA for the commissioning ceremony of the USS JOHN P MURTHA (LPD-26). This amphibious ship is the 10th San Antonio-class amphibious transport dock vessel to join the United States Navy, and will serve on missions for both military and humanitarian operations. It is the namesake ship of John Patrick "Jack" Murtha, Jr., a well-decorated Marine Corps Vietnam veteran and a representative of Pennsylvania's 12th congressional district in the United States House of Representatives for 45 years. The USS JOHN P MURTHA is best known for its streamlined grey exterior and impressive interior well decks. With its cutting-edge reconnaissance and surveillance

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capabilities, it represents its class as one of the finest ships the United States Navy has to offer. Midshipmen in attendance were able to see the capabilities of the ship for themselves on a tour given by Ensign Myisha Bryan, a member of the first class of Naval officers to matriculate through the NROTCU Rutgers-Princeton program. We wish her the best of luck as she begins her journey in the service of this country aboard the USS JOHN P MURTHA.

Written by MIDN 2/C Onianwa

USS ZUMWALT Commissioning Ceremony



On 15 October, 2016, a group of NROTCU Rutgers-Princeton Midshipmen and officers traveled to Baltimore, MD for the commissioning ceremony of the USS ZUMWALT. Speakers at the ceremony included The Honorable Ray Maybus, Secretary of the Navy; Chief of Naval Operations, Admiral John Richardson, and many other distinguished guests. The ZUMWALT is the first warship in a new class of destroyers (DDG 1000's). Perhaps most recognized by its sleek, "futuristic" exterior, the USS ZUMWALT features a new electric propulsion system and boasts Anti-Air, -Submarine, and -Surface Warfare capabilities. LT Anthony LaVopa, a for-

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-mer Assistant Professor of Naval Science at NROTCU Rutgers-Princeton and the current Weapons Officer of USS ZUMWALT, spoke about some of these new capabilities prior to the ceremony. It was an honor to witness this milestone in ship innovation as we continue to lead the world with the most advanced and technologically capable fleet.

Written by MIDN 3/C Rhodes

Holy Cross Military Excellence Competition

Members of the Rutgers-Princeton Navy ROTC Unit attended the Military Excellence Competition (MEC) hosted annually by the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, MA, on October 29. Other participants included NROTC and Air Force ROTC units from Holy Cross, Yale, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, and Worcester Polytechnic Institute. The Midshipmen and staff made the trek up to Worcester to participate in the six events that would make up the MEC, including: the Warrior Challenge, Iron Man, Iron Woman, Squad Drill, Color Guard, and basketball competitions.

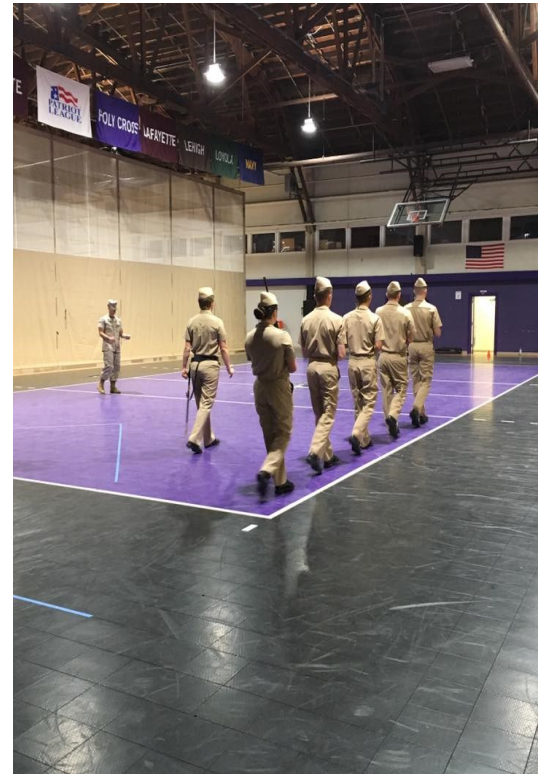
The premier event of the Holy Cross MEC, the Warrior Challenge was designed to push participants to the point of mental and physical exhaustion. To complete the event, a team of two had to run with a modified combat load over approximately 3 miles of rugged terrain, conduct fireman carries, tire flips, pull-ups, rope climbs, memory challenges, and other exercises, all on a timed course. Congratulations to MIDN 3/C McGowan and MIDN 2/C Ligon from Rutgers, who earned the top spots in the Warrior Challenge.

The Iron Man and Iron Woman competitions were similarly timed events where teams of four participants had to do pull-ups, push-ups, curl-ups, burpees, and a two-and-a-half mile run. The NROTCU Rutgers-Princeton team comprised of MIDN Dolan, Rubner, Westerbeke, and Kapr, prevailed as the fastest team to complete

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the Iron Woman challenge, earning them the trophy in that event.

NROTCU Rutgers-Princeton also won first place in the Squad Drill and basketball competitions, and third place in the Color Guard competition. Once all of the competitions were concluded, all of the participants were assembled for award presentations. NROTCU Rutgers-Princeton was named the overall winner and awarded the trophy for the 30th Annual Holy Cross MEC. Midshipman Cameron, the battalion commanding officer, expressed his pride in his teammates saying “I am very proud of how well we did, how we were able to represent Rutgers NROTC, and how we conducted ourselves as a unit.”



Written by LT Virgil Humes

Fall 2016 FEX

Over a November weekend, NROTCU Rutgers-Princeton Special Warfare and Marine Options took part in a FEX, or field exercise. A weekend long endurance training event, the FEX simulates the life in the field these MIDN may face in the course of their career. The staff and MIDN arrived at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst and began this training with the obstacle course that consisted of a short loop with challenges scattered every few paces; instruction was received on the safe and fast completion of these events. Following this was the confidence course. As the name implies, it is designed to build up an individual's mental fortitude by exposing them to heights and steep descents that would cause anyone to briefly hesitate. After successful completion and chow, the midshipmen moved to

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land navigation, an event consisting of finding and retrieving markers from posts in the woods, all based on grid coordinates found by a map and a compass. Midshipmen in pairs returned before the time limit with their markers. Upon nightfall, they commenced a new course in the pitch black of night. Upon completion of the land navigation course, a patrol was done in order to practice small team tactics. After a brief sleep at our camp location, the MIDN began the last hike of the semester, a total of 9.5 miles through the roads and trails of Fort Dix. When asked about the FEX, MIDN 3/C McGowan, one of our Special Warfare interested students, said “It was an excellent training opportunity for future Spec Warfare and Marine Options to get some basic hands on experience.”

Written by MIDN 3/C Tighe

Turkey Bowl Champs 2016

The Turkey bowl is a yearly football tournament that takes place right before Thanksgiving break and is played between AROTC, AFROTC, NROTC, and the Veteran’s House, the veteran organization on the Rutgers campus. This year, Navy took on Air Force in the 1st round, and Navy delivered a crushing defeat to Air Force, 35-0 under the coaching of SSgt Newman. The Vet House beat Army in a nail biting overtime upset, 20-14. The next day, Navy played Vet House for the championship, and as said by MIDN 3/C Van Kleeff, “We went in, took care of business, and came out with a trophy”. Referring of



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course to the valiant and glorious 27-6 victory by Navy to take home the championship. The Midshipmen will be looking for new leadership next year, as their previous coach, SSgt Newman, graduated and commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps. Be sure to come out and support Navy next year as the team is eager to dominate the field once again.

Written by MIDN 3/C McGowan

Admiral Harris (Commander, US Pacific Command) Visit

On Monday, 14 November, NROTCU Rutgers-Princeton Midshipmen had the opportunity to meet ADM Harry Harris Jr., the 4-star commander of the United States Pacific Command. The Midshipmen attended a brief reception with the Admiral before he gave a public lecture in McCosh Hall. At the reception ADM Harris discussed both his career and the geopolitical situation in East Asia. All Midshipmen in attendance were fortunate to receive advice from such an accomplished leader!

During an hour-long presentation, ADM Harris discussed the changing power dynamics in the Pacific theater, placing special emphasis on the rise of China and North Korea, and the resurgence of Russia. He emphasized the importance of maintaining an American forward naval presence in the Pacific, for both deterrence and humanitari-



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-an purposes. He concluded by offering a brief look into the future of US relations with regional allies, including the Philippines, South Korea, Japan, and Taiwan. In a tumultuous Pacific, the US Navy is fortunate to have the steadfast leadership of ADM Harris representing American interests in the region. NROTCU Rutgers-Princeton wishes him the best of luck as he continues to serve his country admirably.

Written by MIDN 3/C Greenbaum

USS NEW JERSEY VISIT

Midshipmen from NROTCU Rutgers/Princeton headed to Camden, New Jersey on 12 November to attend a symposium aboard the battleship USS NEW JERSEY. The Midshipmen had a brief tour of the ship, including the inside of a gun turret and the crew berthing. The tour guide shared some astonishing facts about the capabilities and operations of the giant 16 inch turret. After the tour, Midshipmen gathered in the wardroom to hear two speakers, Dr. Michael Golda, Chief Technology Officer at Naval Surface Warfare Center, Philadelphia Division, and Dr. James Holmes, Professor of Strategy at the Naval War College. They gave talks about the history of battleships and the use of “small stick diplomacy” in the South China Sea. The Midshipmen were happy to have the chance to hear the speakers share some insight about various aspects of naval history as well as the current interests of the Navy. On the speakers, Midshipman 3/C Rhodes commented, “I got an essence of the strategic thinking coming from the Navy's War College.” The symposium, held on a historical battleship, made it a special opportunity for all who attended. Midshipman 1/C Hinrichs noted “While we are aware of our country's construction and use of battleships, many of us never understood how truly massive and powerful these ships were.” There will surely be more opportunities for Midshipmen to see and learn about the Navy's historical

ships in the future.

Written by MIDN 3/C Jung

Princeton Crisis Simulation

On November 19th, 2016, Princeton's Center for International Security Studies (CISS) hosted over 100 students in its annual fall Crisis Simulation, including 10 NROTCU Rutgers-Princeton Midshipmen. The Midshipmen worked alongside Princeton undergraduates, cadets from West Point, Naval Academy Midshipmen, and several high ranking military and State Department officials, to tackle a hypothetical geopolitical crisis. This year's crisis involved political instability in Pakistan creating regional unrest and raising the possibility of a confrontation in South Asia. The Midshipmen were divided amongst 5 teams - the United States, India, Iran, Pakistan, and China - with each team acting in accordance with its geopolitical interest. During the 10 hour event, the Midshipmen worked closely with their civilian and service academy counterparts to attempt to solve the crisis peacefully. Speaking to the willingness of the participants' attempts to solve the crisis peacefully, senior State Department official Osman Tat said, "this glimpse of the world's next generation of national security leadership offers hope for the future." The Midshipmen look forward to next year's event!

Written by MIDN 3/C Greenbaum

News from the Fleet (What Our Officers are Doing Today)

On May 16th, 2016, NROTCU Rutgers-Princeton commissioned its first group of officers into the Navy and Marine Corps. Currently Ensign Robert Kertz, a future submariner, has graduated Naval Nuclear Power Training Command ranked 2nd out of 98 in his class in Charleston, South Carolina. He has since moved to Ballston Spa, NY to begin his training at Naval Nuclear Power Training Unit.

2ndLT Shevar Daley is currently undergoing training at The Basic School (TBS) in Quantico, Virginia where he is learning how to lead Marines while being ranked against his peers to compete for their MOS selections at the completion of TBS.

Ensign Myisha Bryan has finally arrived in sunny San Diego, California with her ship, USS JOHN P MURTHA, after visiting many ports in the Caribbean and East Coast following the ship's commissioning in October.

Ensign Mikal Thames has been cruising the western Pacific aboard two different ships. After arriving in Yokosuka, Japan, she was temporarily assigned to the USS MCCAMPBELL to begin working on her Surface Warfare qualifications. She then returned to her own ship, USS MUSTIN, to continue her qualifications while making port calls in South Korea, Guam, and Vietnam.

Ensign Peter Park reported to the USS ARLINGTON in Norfolk, VA and has been to a few northeastern ports. He is currently going through Basic Division Officer School.

Ensign Brian Foley finally detached from NROTCU Rutgers-Princeton in late October to report to Charleston, South Carolina to start his path towards becoming

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-ing a submariner. He is currently in the Naval Nuclear Power Training Command.

Written by MIDN 1/C Moeller



Winter Commissioning Ceremony

On January 21st, 2017, NROTCU Rutgers-Princeton commissioned three officers into the Navy and Marine Corps, Ensign James Oshel, Ensign Sehee Kim, and our first MECEP graduate, Second Lieutenant James Newman. Ensign Kim has already reported to her ship, the USS WINSTON S. CHURCHILL, down in Norfolk, VA. Ensign Oshel and 2nd LT Newman are currently serving aboard NROTC Rutgers-Princeton. Ensign Oshel will be leaving for Flight School in Pensacola, Florida this March and 2nd LT Newman will be reporting to The Basic School in Quantico, VA in the Fall. Congratulations to our three newest officers and good luck to them as they enter the fleet!

