



## BOILERMAN 2018 - 2019

PURDUE UNIVERSITY NAVAL RESERVE OFFICER TRAINING CORPS



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

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OPENING COVER.....	1
TABLE OF CONTENTS.....	2
LETTER FROM BNCO.....	3 / 4
4/C LETTER HOME.....	5
1/C LETTER HOME.....	6
COTRAMID WEST 2018.....	7
OFFICER CANDIDATE SCHOOL.....	8
NAVY 1/C CRUISE.....	9
FIELD TRAINING EXERCISES.....	10
NAVY AND MARINE CORPS BIRTHDAY BALL.....	11
HONOR COMPANY COMPETITION.....	12
COMMANDER'S CUP.....	13
LEADERSHIP CONFERENCES.....	14
FALL 2018 CHANGE OF COMMAND.....	15
DECEMBER 2018 COMMISSIONED SENIORS.....	16
SEMPER 5K.....	17
OHIO STATE DRILL MEET.....	18/19
SCALLYWAGS SOFTBALL TEAM.....	20
MAY 2019 COMMISSIONING SENIORS.....	21

## LETTER FROM THE BNCO

Naval ROTC is an institution dedicated to the success of its members as students, future armed forces officers, members of the community, and as individuals. No other organization at Purdue University can provide the support, comradery, and challenge that NROTC can. The unique opportunities this unit provides, ranging from full tuition scholarships to student leadership positions, are unrivaled. Midshipmen grow morally, mentally, and physically throughout their four years, learning from other midshipmen and staff, taking on greater and greater responsibilities.

The Fall 2018 and Spring 2019 semesters are no exception to this. This year our unit has welcomed 39 new Midshipmen to the program and a say a friendly “See you in the fleet” to 12 new Ensigns and 2nd Lieutenants in December, and another 13 this May. Most of these new Midshipmen are freshmen who entered this program through an immaculately run orientation process run by MIDN 1/C Anderson and 1/C Alerding. Over the span of a few days, the new Midshipmen were welcomed into the program and familiarized with both ROTC and the University. The result of this outstanding new student orientation was a class of new students fully prepared to meet the rigors of the NROTC program and Purdue academics with ease.

Midshipmen enter the battalion either already on scholarship or in pursuit of one. With great pride, I can report that over a dozen Midshipmen had three- or four-year scholarships activated. It is to no surprise that we had a large amount of scholarships awarded. Every member of the battalion works hard and the approximately 2,000+ volunteer hours conducted in a single year is only one piece of proof to such dedication to excel.

In the Fall of 2018, we celebrated the 243rd birthdays of the Navy and Marine Corps. In a combined ceremony, planned by MIDN 2/C Lushinski, both services were greatly honored. Thanks to MIDN Lushinski and her team of hard-workers, the ball was held at the Purdue Memorial Union; a historical center for the university itself. The ball was stupendous, worthy of celebrating the great legacy of each service.

The Fall semester also saw another victory for the NROTC battalion in the tri-service competition known as Commander’s Cup. This competition includes many competitions where Midshipmen demonstrated their dominance over the Army and Air Force. With this year’s victory secured, no Midshipmen currently in the unit has ever known what it is like to lose to our sister units at Purdue.

Many other events occurred this past year. Leadership conferences were attended at Notre Dame, University of Michigan, and in our nation’s capital. Select Midshipmen took these opportunities to enhance their knowledge, bringing back their lessons learnt to share with the entire battalion. A team of Midshipmen, led by MIDN 2/C Conlisk, formed together to compete in the Notre Dame Flyin’ Irish

Basketball Tournament this spring. This tournament is an extremely competitive event, pitting the skills and teamwork of many ROTC units against each other for the title of champion. But basketball isn't the only sport our Midshipmen competed in. An intramural softball team, affectionately called the Scallywags, led by MIDN 2/C Cleary, has geared up for yet another intense round of matches.

The Spring of 2019 also saw the 2nd annual Semper 5K. This charitable event, led by MIDN 3/C Reilly, is aimed at raising funds for Summit Soldiers; a charity whose mission is to support our veterans. With a team by his side, MIDN Reilly, designed and executed this enormous responsibility to great success and enthusiasm. There is no doubt, that the work done by the 5K committee has benefited the community.

Us seniors cannot forget our chance to attend Dining In. As with Birthday Ball, this is a time-honored tradition for 1/C Midshipmen to attend, celebrate accomplishments, and cherish four years of memories. This event was grand, and the planning of it by MIDN 1/C Papai, Martin, and Anderson was no small task.

Lastly, but certainly not least, is the reintroduction of the NROTC Drill Team. Led by the officer in charge, MIDN 3/C Liberto, with the assistance of our AMOI, GySgt. Calkins, the concept of having a drill team has been realized once again. Consisting of several dozen Midshipmen, the team has practiced week after week in order to prepare for the first ever Military Excellence Competition the unit has competed in in many years.

Individually, all the are incredible accomplishments. Together, they signify a year of unmatched hard work, spirit, and growth. Much more could be said, including discussing the introduction of joint physical training, 1/C led leadership lessons, Marine field training exercises, and the excellent mentorship program, but a year as great as this cannot be summarized in a mere couple pages. Leading the Navy and Marine Corps Midshipmen of the NROTC battalion has been an honor, and a privilege. I am proud to have been able to lead such amazing individuals and humbled to have learned a great many lessons from every Midshipmen, even our newest 4/C.

Boiler Up and Semper Fi,  
MIDN 1/C Joseph M. Tenney

## 4/C LETTER HOME

Dear Mom and Dad,

The commotion and intense atmosphere of NSO was unlike anything many of us had ever experienced before. At times you would lose your voice from screaming “Aye Aye Sir.” The first three days were long and exhausting but well worth it. During this time, some people found that this was not in their best interests. Once the phase of people dropping out was over there was a real group of motivated midshipmen who all shared the same dreams and aspirations as myself. When times would get tough our group clung together and formed a tight bond, like that of my football team back home. Our group continuously pushed each other hard at PT and made sure we were all doing well academically.

Being a college student and a midshipman can be challenging at times. This first semester our goal was to be a sponge and soak in all the knowledge the upper-class midshipmen had and learned how they made both school and ROTC work. Overtime, we learned skills that made us more successful in the Armory, such skills that were useful during the fall field training exercise. I have accomplished many feats that I never would have thought I could have done. The workouts push me harder than I have ever worked out before, and that’s including football practices from high school too.

Walking around campus every day, many students wander without a sense of purpose in their step, unsure of what they want with their lives. They question themselves as if what they intended to come to Purdue for was truly the right thing. That sort of questioning does not happen with me. I walk with a sense of purpose knowing that my fellow midshipmen and I are all are serving a calling unlike any other, the United States Marine Corps and Navy.

MIDN 4/C Matthew Stasell





## 1 /C LETTER HOME

Dear Mom and Dad,

Throughout my four years here at Purdue University I've learned quite a lot. Looking back to NSO my freshman year I was an entirely different person. During my experience I have learned to follow, lead and most of all, I have learned humility. The people I have had the opportunity to meet through Navy ROTC have shaped me quite drastically, from my peers, to the seniors when I was a freshman, all the way to the staff officers that have rotated through here. Each of them having something different to teach me. What I really appreciate about NROTC is the ability to go out and make mistakes, to learn how to live in an environment where not everyone is the same as me. This, I believe, is the important advantage that ROTC has over the service academies. We must be able to interact and lead people who are not on the same path as us who are in our classes or in other organizations that we may be involved in.

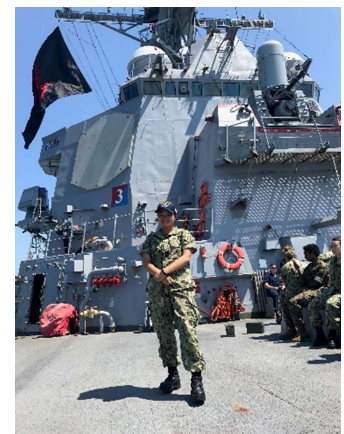
I truly appreciate all that you have taught me during childhood and know that the lessons you imparted on me were essential to my success at Purdue. I will graduate a different man than the one you sent to school four years ago. I came here just an ambitious kid, but I will leave a man who is prepared to lead Marines.

MIDN 1/C Trevor Compton



## COTRAMID WEST 2018

COTRAMID, Career Orientation and Training for Midshipmen, is a summer program designed to show rising 3/C Midshipmen the different career paths possible in the Navy and Marine Corps. While this is the largest and most defined goal in the COTRAMID mission statement, there is the more important side goal of giving ROTC midshipman across the country connections to each other that will span out into the fleet. Schools from coast to coast send ROTC midshipmen to COTRAMID and all these midshipmen make friendships forged in toil and fun that will last well into their professional lives and learn invaluable lessons that will start them on the greatest path of self-discovery of their lives. COTRAMID West takes place primarily in Naval Base San Diego and all its attached facilities including MCAS Miramar, NB Point Loma, NAS North Island, and MCB Camp Pendleton. Midshipmen are moved through these areas in waves, experiencing the best the Navy and Marine Corps have to offer. While going through the 4-week long training program midshipmen are exposed to every single possible community they could be commissioned to upon graduation from ROTC. Midshipmen experience underway time aboard a surface ship and submarine, flight time in various training aircraft, as well as quality bonding time in the barracks and on the firing ranges of Camp Pendleton. Midshipmen are also exposed to the SEAL and EOD communities through quality group interaction with active service members. The most important lessons midshipmen take away from COTRAMID are those not taught in classrooms or simulators. While the time in San Diego was sweet and savory until the last moment, you learn your first fundamental steps in becoming junior officers. Most of us found the lives we were going to live for the next decade. We made the friends that will support us through those professional endeavors. Above all, we learned that success is like respect, it is built and cultivated from positive relationships and a healthy leadership climate.



## OFFICER CANDIDATE SCHOOL

Officer Candidate School is the pinnacle moment of our Marine Option careers here in NROTC. All rising Marine option seniors (1/C), go to Officer Candidate School in Quantico, VA during the summer in one of the two six-week sessions. At Officer Candidate School all candidates are screened and evaluated morally, mentally, and physically in order to determine if they have what it takes to lead marines. My time at Officer Candidate School was challenging. Our unit here at Purdue prepared me extremely well for Officer Candidate School making me confident going into it. Needless the say you can only prepare so much until you reach the point of experiencing it first-hand. The rush of fear, anxiety, and excitement fill your body as you first meet your sergeant instructors only a few days after arriving. These extraordinary men and women will live and breathe with you for the next six weeks testing you and shaping you into successful Marines who have the unique opportunity to earn a commission as an officer in the world's greatest fighting force. While there, you perfect working fast, efficiently, and under pressure with hundreds of other candidates across the country. You are put into leadership positions where you are responsible for a certain number of candidate's actions and overall wellbeing. These positions are meant to put you in uncomfortable situations where the instructors can evaluate you and see if the pressure from a controlled environment makes or breaks you. There they also test your physical capabilities with a multitude of physical fitness events, obstacle courses, endurance courses, runs, etc. Officer Candidate School is challenging and should not be taken lightly. One of my sergeant instructors summed up Officer Candidate School very well, "OCS is not an easy task, its challenging and we make you be comfortable in uncomfortable situations... If you don't learn this there are more people who can and will". With that being said it is not impossible, and if you are motivated and have a goal in mind you will succeed. Officer Candidate School challenged me and shaped me into a better person individually and as a leader. At the end if you pass all the events and make it through you earn your Eagle Global and Anchor. This small badge of honor holds one of the highest prestige's to date; the title of United States Marine.



MIDN 1/C Garret Small

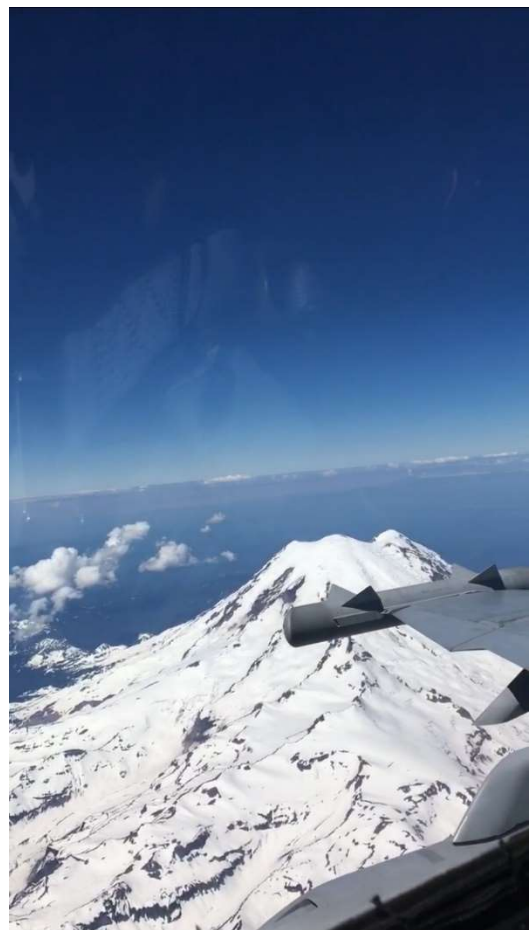




## NAVY 1/C CRUISE

This past Summer, I had the privilege of going on an aviation cruise as a 1/C Navy-option midshipman. Over the three-week duration of the cruise I was attached to two different EA-18 Growler Squadrons out of Whidbey Island, WA. I spent the first half of my cruise with VAQ-136, the Gauntlets, where I shadowed a LT that was one of the squadron's Naval Flight Officers. I was able to learn how the squadron operated from enlisted maintenance crews who inspected every inch of the multi-million-dollar electronic attack aircraft and the officers who took them up and piloted them. The second half of my cruise was spent with VAQ-133, the Wizards, who I was fortunate enough to go up flying with. We took a low-level route through the mountains up in Washington and spent most of the flight in the snow-covered mountain valleys around 500 ft above ground. Apart from the incredible experiences with the squadrons, several other midshipmen and I took the opportunity to explore downtown Seattle and travel north to mountain bike and explore the outdoors. The cruise was a phenomenal experience and surely one that I will remember for the rest of my life.

MIDN 1/C William Kellerhalls



## FIELD TRAINING EXERCISE

One weekend out of each semester Mike Company conducts Field Training Exercise, hereon referred to as FTX. The overall purpose of the FTX is to prepare MIDN for Officer Candidate School (OCS), which takes place in the summer between their 2/C and 1/C years. FTX gives MIDN a chance to grow as leaders through practical application of various techniques and exercises that they will see at OCS onward. The two biggest concepts taught to MIDN are the concepts of Land Navigation and Small Unit Leadership Exercises (SULEs). While both the Fall and Spring FTX are structured in similar ways, they differ in important ways.

The Fall FTX is the first FTX for the incoming 4/C. They do not know what to expect, which makes the overall tone different from Spring FTX. Because the 4/C need to get up to speed, the Fall FTX is more about learning. The goal of the 4/C is to be a sponge and absorb as much information as possible. The 3/C are typically squad leaders and are tasked with helping the 4/C learn. The 2/C are given the higher billets such as Platoon Commander or Platoon Sergeant. The overall tone for Fall FTX for the 4/C is to learn, for 3/C and 2/C it is to teach

The Spring FTX differs from the Fall FTX in a couple of important ways. Concerning the 4/C, this is their second FTX. This means that they now have an idea of what to expect and what will be expected of them. Additionally, the Spring FTX is where Mike Company is integrated with PLC candidates and other ROTC schools. The PLC candidates are those who are going to go to OCS but are not enrolled in the NROTC program. In Spring FTX the 4/C are first introduced to some of the stress of OCS. This is introduced to them by OCS Sergeant Instructors who turn up the heat. They act in the same way to MIDN and candidates that they would at OCS. This includes lots of yelling, lots of MIDN and candidates sprinting, and lots of seemingly pointless, yet tiring, tasks to accomplish. The overall tone for all who go on Spring FTX is to stay engaged and endure.

MIDN 2/C Zechariah Hockenbary



## NAVY AND MARINE CORPS 243<sup>RD</sup> BIRTHDAY BALL

On November 9th, 2018, Purdue Navy ROTC held the 243rd Navy and Marine Corps birthday celebration. The event was held at the Purdue Memorial Union, a hallmark location of Purdue University. The night began with a cocktail hour in which the guests could mingle and talk to each other before the ceremony.

The guest of honor was Command Master Chief Jimmy Haley, the CMC of Naval Training Service Command. He spoke on some new changes coming to ROTC, such as INDOC for incoming freshman and Sea Trails for upcoming 2/C as well as words of wisdom and advice for the future. The sword detail was led by Midshipman 1/C Michael Alerding and entailed MIDN 1/C Dalirifar, 2/C Hockenbary, 2/C McKee, 3/C Liberto, 3/C Sypniewski, 4/C Stasell, and 4/C Jogopolus. Color guard was organized by Midshipman 3/C Jonathon Kesler and entailed MIDN 4/C Stein, Hehmeyer, Fergusson, Eggebrecht and Meeks. The traditional birthday cake was cut by the oldest and youngest members of the battalion, MIDN 4/C Linzey and MIDN 4/C Graler.

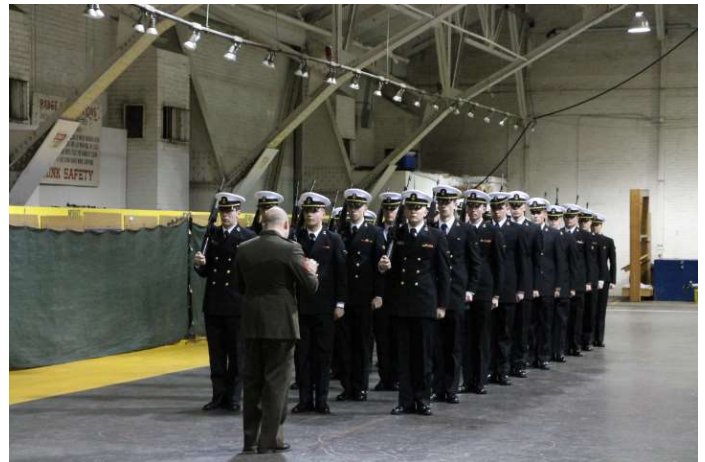
Overall, the night was very successful, and a memorable event for the guests.





## HONOR COMPANY COMPETITION

Honor Company Competition is a competition that consists the four different companies battling to be called the best. Each company is graded in four main events: Battalion Commander Inspection, Battalion Executive Officer Challenge, Drill Evaluation, and athletic events. The company that does the best in these events is declared the Honor Company. In the past MIKE Company, which consists of aspiring Marine Officers, has won the title of Honor Company, but Navy companies, Alpha and Charlie, are coming for the trophy. The Honor Company trophy is presented during the Fall and Spring Change of Command Ceremony each semester.





## COMMANDER'S CUP

In the Fall 2018 semester, Purdue Midshipmen took advantage of an opportunity to participate in a fierce Tri-Service competition known as Commander's Cup. Some of the events included basketball, badminton, dodgeball, football, powerlifting, softball, track, soccer, volleyball, swimming, ultimate ball, and an Iron Man event. Both Midshipmen and Cadets gave their all seeking to claim the coveted Commander's Cup. Through passionate competition, Tri-Service bonds grew strong and esprit de corps ran high. Midshipmen defend the title of Commander Cup Champions for several years in a row and they are ready to once again compete on the field, in the pool, and on the court. GO NAVY!



## LEADERSHIP CONFERENCES

The purpose of Navy ROTC leadership conferences is not only to learn from highly qualified leaders, but to also come together with other units across the country. Many of these leadership conferences consist of how to apply leadership skills in and out of the military. It is important for us as future Naval officers to listen and learn from others' experiences so that we do not go through the same mistakes. The idea behind leadership conferences is to cooperate and share innovative ideas amongst each other and listen to different perspectives.

After attending the George Washington Leadership Conference in October 2018, one of the ideas that myself and five other midshipmen learned was the importance of remaining non-partisan. It is our responsibility to remain loyal and respectful to those above us. We are professionals and it is our duty to try and remain so.

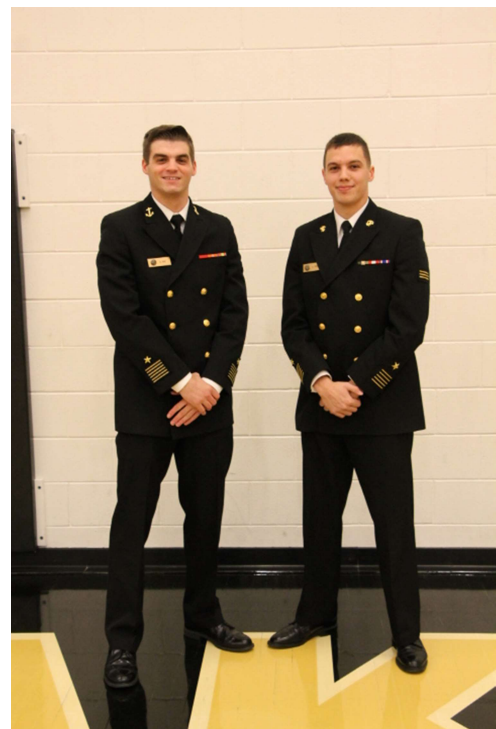
MIDN 2/C Lushinski





## FALL 2018 CHANGE OF COMMAND

On November 30th, 2018 MIDN 1/C Alexander Eib turned over command of the Battalion to MIDN 1/C Joseph Tenney. The ceremony oversaw the awarding of academic and athletic awards as well as scholarships to top performing midshipmen. Some of the larger awards at Change of Command is the MIDN of the Semester and the semester's Honor Company Competition winner. We also honor the commissioning seniors including eleven Navy Ensigns and one Marine 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant.



## DECEMBER 2018 COMMISSIONED SENIORS



### ENS ADAMS

AVIATION

### ENS BARRY

AVIATION



### ENS BEESON

SURFACE WARFARE

### ENS DONNELLY

SURFACE WARFARE



### 2NDLT DUPERE

MARINE GROUND

### ENS EIB

AVIATION



### ENS KARVER

SUBMARINES

### ENS KEATING

AVIATION



### ENS MARTIN

SUBMARINES



### ENS OH

SURFACE WARFARE

### ENS POLLOCK

SURFACE WARFARE



### ENS RAPP

AVIATION

### ENS WHALEN

SURFACE WARFARE



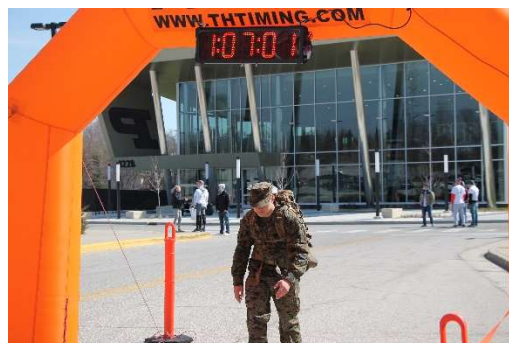


## SEMPER 5K

The Semper 5K is an annual fundraiser hosted by Purdue NROTC's Semper Fortis Society. All the proceeds from each year are donated to organizations who are centered on supporting our nation's veterans. NROTC at Purdue University has a strong and storied history. Purdue NROTC has produced officers who have served in nearly every major conflict around the globe. Naval and Marine Corps Officers from Purdue go on to lead our nation's troops into battle and continue to serve as valuable leaders in their community when they return home. As Midshipmen and Cadets, our units instill within us a sense of community and duty to take care of those who are to the left or right of us, and those who came before us. It gives everyone in the Semper Fortis Society great pleasure to be able to give back to those men and women who fought for our country and way of life in past and present conflicts, by raising money to help combat veteran homelessness, suicide, and PTSD.

This year our proceeds from the Semper 5K will be going to an organization called Summit for Soldiers. The donations will be put to good use aiming to combat the isolation many veterans feel through peer outreach and activities. Every dollar donated can make a difference in the life of a veteran. We aim to make that difference, as well as spread awareness through our Semper 5K in order to support our nation's servicemen and women who put everything on the line in order to ensure our nation's freedom.

MIDN 3/C Trevor O'Connor



## OHIO STATE DRILL MEET

On Saturday, 6 April, Purdue NROTC went to Ohio State University to compete in their annual invitational drill competition. Overall Purdue participated in 8 events:

Platoon Drill: 20 4/C Midshipmen with a guide and unit leader executed a drill card to be scored and judged by a Master Chief Petty Officer. The trained for over 6 weeks leading up to the event and placed 4<sup>th</sup> overall.

Squad Drill: 6 Midshipmen with a unit leader executed a squad drill card to be scored and evaluated by a SSgt and Sgt in the Marine Corps. They trained for 3 weeks leading up to the event and finished 6<sup>th</sup> overall.

Ship Handling: 5 Midshipman were placed on the simulated bridge of an Arleigh-Burke class destroyer to conduct a series of trials that tested their cohesion, navigation, and watch standing knowledge. They also took a quiz on the rules of the road when sailing a destroyer. Had they not had an accidental collision with a tug boat, they would have finished 3<sup>rd</sup> overall, but were instead disqualified.

King of the Circle: One Midshipman was placed in an inflatable hamster ball and battle other Midshipmen in hamster balls to push them out of a circle. We finished 2<sup>nd</sup> overall in this event.

Basketball: A three Midshipman team took place in a double elimination basketball tournament. We finished 2<sup>nd</sup> overall.

Shooting: A team of 4 Midshipman shot 3 different courses as stationary targets with a 22 pistol, then the top shooter was selected to attend another event where they had to perform a PT evolution then shoot. We finished 2<sup>nd</sup> overall.

Color Guard: 5 Midshipman executed a color guard card to be scored and judge by a Master Chief Petty Officer. They were members of Purdue NROTC's regular color guard contingent, they placed 5<sup>th</sup> overall.

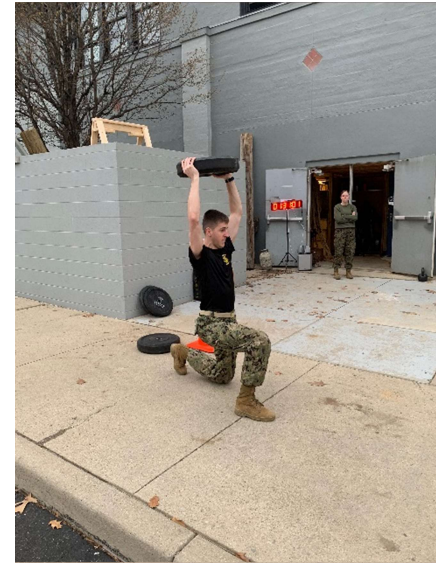
Endurance Challenge: A team of 4 Midshipman took part in a 13+ mile race with 14 stops along the way to conduct a physical fitness evolution, it was a grueling and challenging event, but our team overcame the odds and performed admirably. They finished 5<sup>th</sup> overall.

We finished 5<sup>th</sup> overall at the meet and had a very enjoyable time. We learned a lot and are excited to take this knowledge and improve upon in the future.

MIDN 3/C Ignatius Liberto II



## OHIO STATE DRILL MEET PHOTOS





## SCALLYWAGS SOFTBALL TEAM

The Scallywags are the semi-annual softball team run by Purdue NROTC, composed entirely of the unit's midshipmen. They compete in the Fall season in the Purdue Commander's Cup, playing against rival units, Army ROTC and Air Force ROTC. In the Spring season, typically two teams compete in both a Men's and Co-ed league against other Purdue student organization teams. Scallywags has generally been very competitive, helping bring home the Commander's Cup trophy over the last three Fall seasons, and making it to the Men's league semi-finals during the Spring 2018 season. Typically, the team is composed of former baseball players, but participation is open to midshipmen of all backgrounds. The Scallywags is looking forward to next season, bringing in a new crop of freshmen and aiming to continue the tradition of helping bring home the Commander's Cup once again, as well as an intramural championship.



MIDN 2/C Jack Cleary





## MAY 2019 COMMISSIONING SENIORS

**2NDLT ALERDING**

MARINE GROUND

**ENS ANDERSON**

SURFACE WARFARE

**2NDLT BALZER**

MARINE AVIATION

**ENS BROWN**

SURFACE WARFARE

**2NDLT COMPTON**

MARINE GROUND

**2NDLT DALIRIFAR**

MARINE GROUND

**ENS HARRISON**

AVIATION

**ENS KRANE**

SUBMARINES

**ENS LANG**

AVIATION

**ENS PAPAI**

NURSING

**2NDLT ROBERTS**

MARINE GROUND

**2NDLT SMALL**

MARINE AVIATION

**2NDLT TENNEY**

MARINE GROUND

**ENS YULE**

SURFACE WARFARE

