

The Boilerman

2011 - 2012



Purdue University Naval ROTC





Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps

Table of Contents

“Only at Purdue”	4
CORTRAMID WEST 2011	6
FOREXTRAMID Japan 2011	8
Purdue vs. Notre Dame Football	9
Navy and Marine Corps Birthday Ball 2011	10
Honor Platoon Competition 2011-2012	12
Commander’s Cup 2011-2012	13
Notre Dame Flyin’ Irish Basketball	14
Freshmen Orientation 2011	16
Sailing Practical Application	18
Self– Defense Application	19
Volunteering at Indiana Veteran’s Home	20
United States Marine Corps Marathon 2011	22
Fourth Class Letter Home	24
First Class Letter Home	25
Battalion Staff	26



***Never tell
people how to
do things. Tell
them what to
do and they
will surprise
you with their
ingenuity.
-George Patton***

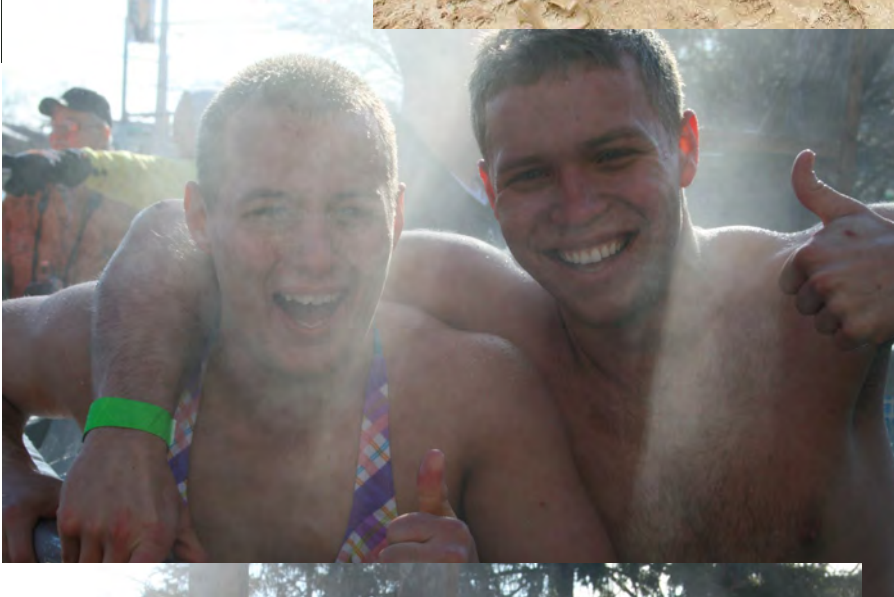
“Only at Purdue”

Purdue is a college of military tradition. The Purdue Memorial Union itself is named for the Purdue alumni who gave their lives in the first World War and all subsequent wars. During World War II, virtually every faculty member and department at Purdue was involved with military research or training. During this time, Purdue physicists made leaps and bounds towards making the first transistor. After the conclusion of WWII, Purdue expanded its academic opportunities and began to grow into the unique Big 10 school we know it as today.

In the fall semester, Purdue football had a rocky season. The team eventually got it together for the Purdue-IU game, attaining an early lead and maintaining it most of the game. With a score of 33-25, Purdue won back the Old Oaken Bucket from IU. With this win in hand, Purdue football went to Detroit in December for the Little Caesars Pizza Bowl, where they won against Western Michigan 37-32. The basketball team also, had a trying season, with fan-favorite Robbie Hummel ending his final game in the second round of the NCAA Tournament against Kansas University with a score of 60-63.

Of course, Purdue’s proud traditions still continue. A young tradition, the 5th Annual Nearly Naked Mile took place at the end of March in the suddenly warm weather, raising money for the Purdue Transitional Foundation. The Big Bass Drum, Purdue Pete, and hundreds of students singing “Hail Purdue!” accompanied all of the sports games, showcasing Purdue’s signature Boilermaker spirit. With little to no snow, there was little sledding on Slayter Hill in the 2011-12 winter, but students still have a lot of unique Purdue fun to look forward to with Fountain Runs when the fountains start flowing again, as well as the 55th annual Grand Prix Race at the end of April. Only at Purdue can these experiences help us grow and remind us why we’re proud to “Boiler Up!”

By Midshipman 1/C Burk





Leadership: The art of getting someone else to do something you want done because he wants to do it.
-Dwight D. Eisenhower

COTRAMID WEST 2011

This summer I attended COTRAMID out in San Diego, CA for four weeks. Over these four weeks we attended briefs and training from each warfare community including the Marine Corps. The schedule for my company was to attend the following weeks in order; Marine week, Surface Week, Aviation Week, and then lastly Sub week. Each week contained different training to help the Midshipman get a better idea of what the United States Navy is all about.

Marine week was held at Camp Pendleton where the midshipmen stayed in barracks for the week and got a snapshot of the Marine life. This week included a Combat Fitness Test, weapons familiarization, IED briefs, and a brief on gathering intel from an insurgents' house. For Surface week I was onboard the USS Sampson (DDG-102) for three days and two nights. We had the chance to watch a helicopter complete deck landing training as well as learn damage control. For the rest of that week we completed more damage control training in the wet trainers on base in San Diego, and also learned some fire fighting skills.

After Surface week we had a bit of a break with Aviation week. This week the midshipmen had the opportunity to fly in a SH-60 helo as well as a T-34 training plane. Then for Submarine week the Midshipmen got under way with the USS Maine for one night. While onboard the submarine, the crew took us around and briefed us on the different parts and tasks of an Ohio class submarine. The rest of that week was filled with a brief from an Admiral as well as visiting the Commander Third Fleet building.

By Midshipman 3/C Nelson





***Do not follow
where the
path may lead.
Go instead
where there is
no path and
leave a trail.***

***-Harold
McAlindon***

FOREX Japan 2011

As NROTC Midshipmen approach the summer before their senior year, they are given the option to attend summer cruise in the community of their choice, whether it be aviation, surface warfare, submarine, etc. Beyond that, though, there is a lesser known, and much more competitive choice: Foreign Exchange Cruise.

For the summer of 2011, I was one of 20 American Midshipmen from all over the country who were selected to represent the United States Navy on a two-week joint cruise in Japan. When we arrived in Yokosuka, Japan, we were assigned a Japanese Midshipman as a "running-mate", basically a glorified take on the buddy system. From there, we were split up into two groups of 20 (10 Americans and 10 Japanese) and boarded either the USS Lassen (DDG-82) or the JMSDF Harusame (DD-102), and were underway to Kure, Japan.

Luckily for me, I was assigned to the Harusame, giving me an unprecedented look into the cultural and operational differences of the Japanese Maritime Self-Defense Force. It was a very unique experience that was enhanced by the fact that we were able to converse and relate so easily to our counter-parts, as well as spend a fair amount of liberty with them in places like Yokosuka, Kamakura, Etajima (the location of their Maritime Officer Candidate School), and even Hiroshima. They were probably the best tour guides we could have had, teaching us the different intricacies of their culture, opening us up to new foods, and making some lasting friendships and memories with us all. Although, I do have to note that the passageways on Japanese ships are clearly lower than on American Ships.

During our visit to Hiroshima, we were able to visit the Hiroshima Peace Park and Museum, located on the site of the atomic bomb's detonation, including the Peace Dome, which survived the blast while less than 200m from ground-zero. It was by far the most sobering experience of my life, leaving most of us speechless for hours. The most amazing theme of the museum however, was how the Japanese people understood why such vicious actions had to be taken, and looked past it in hope of helping the world to prevent similar events from ever happen again. The Peace Park was not a revengeful monument to those who were massacred, but instead, an attempt to help move the world in the right direction, and to prevent the use of nuclear weapons on anyone else.

I wish the two weeks that I spent in Japan could have been three, or even four, because I learned so much more about the people, culture, and military than I ever could have from a book. People would stop us on the street and ask us if they could take pictures with us, they would ask how we liked Japan, and where we were from. By far, they were the nicest people I could have ever hoped to meet, and I truly hope to one day be stationed in Japan because of it.

By Midshipman 1/C Bellavia

Purdue vs. Notre Dame Football

This past fall, in the heart of the college football season, Purdue hosted its huge rival Notre Dame for a showdown at Ross-Ade Stadium. Because of the extra hype for this event, the game was broadcasted on ESPN. In order to help the broadcast, ESPN asks for volunteer workers to assist with the cameramen's duties. The Purdue Navy ROTC battalion was asked to provide the necessary amount of manpower to get the job done, and numerous midshipmen answered the call.

On a chilly day, October 1st, 2011, the midshipmen who volunteered gathered at the Armory about 3 hours before kickoff. From there, they were divided into two groups, one which would help out with the 3D cameramen and one with the 2D cameramen. At the stadium, each midshipman was given a specific job in each of the groups. However, the types of jobs varied greatly. One small group of midshipmen was given the task of holding the parabolic microphones for capturing the noises of the game from the sidelines. Most of the other midshipmen were tasked with wrapping up and carrying cords behind a cameraman. One midshipman held a light which brightened up the face of ESPN analyst Holly Rowe every time she was reporting from the sidelines.

The final score may not have been what the Boilermaker fans wanted, but the midshipmen that worked on the sidelines definitely learned something. Every time one of us turns on ESPN, it is hard not to think of what it takes behind the scenes in order for that video coverage to make it to the television.

By Midshipman 3/C Evans





***A general is
just as good or
just as bad as
the troops
under his
command
make him.
-General
MacArthur***

Navy-Marine Corps Birthday Ball

This being my first year as a part of the Purdue NROTC unit, I experienced many new things. One of the more memorable events was attending the Birthday Ball. This being my first Birthday Ball I was excited to see how it was going to be. After hearing the upperclassmen talking about how it is a night for celebrating the Navy and Marine Corps birthday, I saw it was also a night to recognizing graduating seniors. Along with a celebration come the many traditions and customs. One of the traditions that I was able to take part in was being in the sword detail at the beginning of the ceremony.

This was a great experience because I had the opportunity to learn how to drill with a sword, along with having the opportunity to be a part of the ceremony. Being a part of the detail was fun and important to me because I was able to contribute to the ceremony as a fourth class.

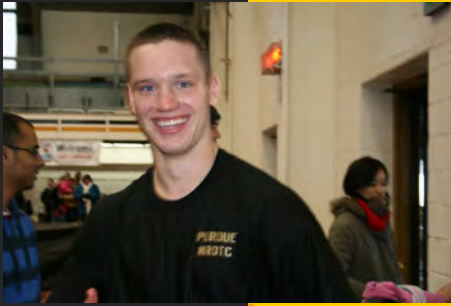
We also heard from a Purdue Alumni, CAPT Matthew Danehy, who is a NFO in the E2-C Hawkeye. This was really neat to hear all of the things that he has done, knowing that he graduated from Purdue and led a great career. It was inspiring and rejuvenated me to continue doing well in school and ROTC.

After all of the speakers were through and dinner was finished we proceeded with the dance portion of the night. Of course this was the most fun part because we were able to interact with the upperclassman and staff in a semi-formal setting. Watching everyone dance together doing the Cha-Cha slide and Cotton Eye Joe is definitely an event and a night that I will never forget.

By Midshipmen 4/C Piña



Honor Platoon Competition 2011



*If your actions
inspire others
to dream more,
learn more, do
more and
become more,
you are a
leader.
-John Quincy
Adams*

HPC, arguably one of the most intense and passionate physical training sessions of the entire semester, the Honor Platoon Competition allows the midshipmen of NROTC Purdue to compete platoon against platoon for precious bragging rights in the lounge. All are striving towards victory; all are intent on beating the other platoons handily. The events of HPC heavily emphasized both teamwork and strength of heart and body. Events from second semester included those that were for time such as pull-ups, tire flips, sprints, and ammo can presses along with the intense games of dodge ball and ultimate ball and the tug-of-war competition.

The close proximity of the scores of the platoons during second semester HPC is a testament to the competitive spirit among the platoons. There was some significant platoon accomplishments during second semester's HPC. Bravo 2, despite being the smallest platoon in all of NROTC by a significant number of Midshipmen, pulled together to handily defeat all other platoons. As expected, both Mike platoons absolutely destroyed the Navy platoons in the pull-ups and ammo can presses. Charlie 1 earned first in the tire flip and both Alpha platoons did well in the three-legged race. In the end, Mike 1 came in first overall followed closely by Bravo 2.

The Honor Platoon Competition is an excellent opportunity for the platoons of NROTC Purdue to come together as a unit and compete. The lessons learned at Purdue, even those that transpire during a couple of early morning platoon competitions, help to prepare the Midshipmen of today for the challenges of tomorrow.

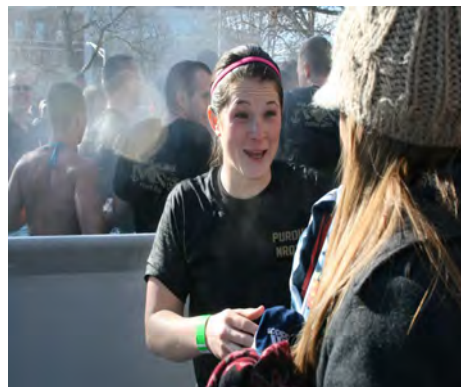
By Midshipman 4/C Clausen

Commander's Cup

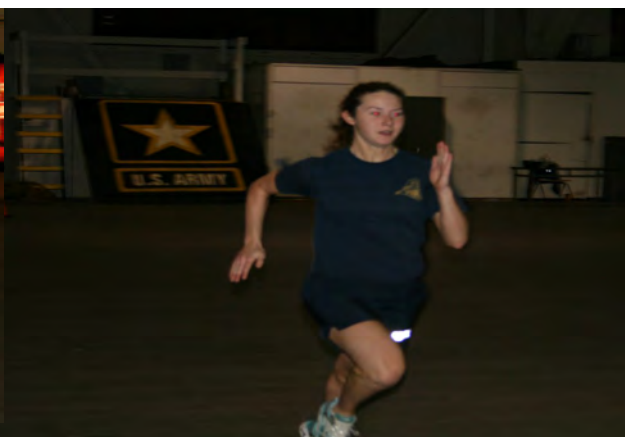
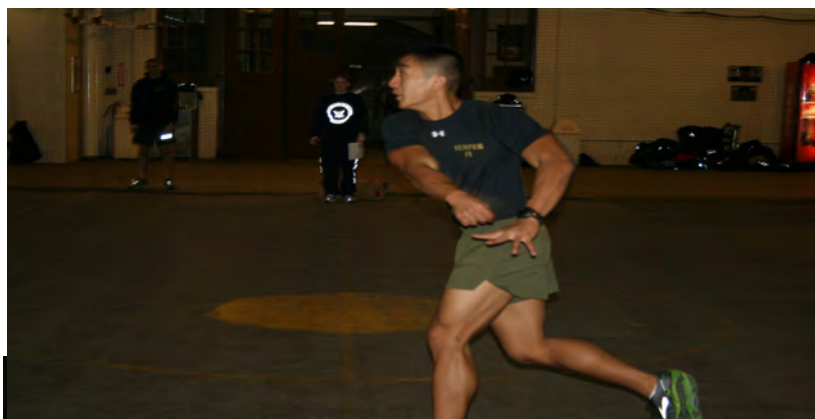
Commander's Cup is a tri-service competition that goes on throughout the school year. Midshipmen and cadets from each of the three ROTC units compete in a variety of sporting events. At the end of the semester, the program with the highest total score is awarded the prized Commander's Cup. This year the events included basketball, soccer, track events, frisbee, tennis, etc. Each ROTC program strives to be the best and be known as the "fittest" and most athletic program. In the past years, each branch was within one or two points of first place. The winners of Commander's Cup are constantly changing.

Competition is still going on and the results are not in but it looks like it is going to be another close call. Competition forces Midshipmen and Cadets to improve physically as well as represent their service and we thank all of the Midshipmen and Cadets who have participated in the events thus far. Who will win this years Commander's Cup? Only time will tell... Go Navy and Boiler Up!

By Midshipman 3/C Flynn



UPDATE—Naval ROTC placed 2nd in the 2011-2012 Commander's Cup. Air Force ROTC took 1st place.





*The ultimate
measure of a man
is not where he
stands in
moments of
comfort, but
where he stands
at times of
challenge and
controversy.
-Martin Luther
King Jr.*

Notre Dame Flyin' Irish Basketball

During the weekend of February 24, 2012 the Purdue NROTC basketball team competed in the 26th annual University of Notre Dame Flyin' Irish Basketball Tournament. The tournament was comprised of teams from various Reserve Officers' Training Corps units from across the nation. The Purdue NROTC team was made up of fourteen Midshipman, Officer Candidates, and MECEPs.

During the weeks leading up to the tournament the basketball team practiced three times per week. Under the leadership of Officer Candidate Trindle and Staff Sergeant Robinson the team was able to devise a playbook and build a competitive team in under a month. The team played a total of four games during the tournament in South Bend, Indiana. The first game was against Ohio State University's Air Force ROTC, and although they were a challenging team the Purdue team was able to win handily. On the following day our team played the University of Wisconsin and Syracuse ROTC units, which both fell victim to the talent that our team possessed. These wins won the bracket and gave our team a six out of sixteen seed.

On the last day of the tournament we played the University of West Virginia. Although our players played a hard fought game, they were unable to better the play of West Virginia, losing 31-34. Even though the loss came in the first round of the tournament, the Purdue NROTC basketball team showed that with dedication, hard work, and a considerable amount of preparation, a competitive basketball team can be formed.

By Midshipman 4/C Morgan



Freshman Orientation 2011



*Anyone can
hold the helm
when the sea
is calm.*

*-Publilius
Syrus*

From August 25th through the 28th Purdue NROTC held its annual Freshman Orientation for its incoming freshman class, or the 'Fourth Class.' Run entirely by Midshipmen, freshman orientation was a grueling four-day training preparing the prospective Fourth Class midshipmen for the rigors of four years in Purdue's elite NROTC Battalion. Led by Midshipman 1st class Paul Beauchamp and aided by other senior midshipmen, officer candidates, and MECEP's the young men and women of 'India Company' endeavored to achieve new heights of personal excellence.

Following initial processing, a haircut and a swearing in ceremony the members of India Company began their journey toward becoming Naval Officers. Expected to take in huge volumes of new information in a very short and fast paced manner, these new Midshipmen excelled. Classes on military customs, uniforms, and general knowledge were attended. Lectures on current US Navy policy were absorbed, and the basics of survival swimming were all taught. Beginning each day at 0530 they were introduced to Navy and Marine Corp. PT, led by Purdue's own resident SEAL Officer Candidate 'Abe' Trindle. It was an introduction they will never forget.

Finally, on Sunday August 28th, these prospective midshipmen who endured the rigors of freshman orientation were inducted into the brotherhood that is Purdue NROTC, and reunited with their proud parents. The path before them is still long and fraught with personal pitfalls but with the leadership and mentorship they received during those first hectic days of Freshman Orientation they are well prepared to meet this challenge.

By Officer Candidate Shen



Sailing Practical Application



*A ruler should
be slow to
punish and
swift to
reward.
-Ovid*

It was a sunny, yet chilly Saturday morning when Bravo Company departed from the Armory on Purdue's campus. We all loaded into two vans and headed out towards Rockville, IN to Raccoon Lake in order to practice and perfect our sailing skills and in the end, become Skipper B qualified.

A few weeks prior we had gone through a "basics on sailing" course during our drill period where we were taught the basics of sailing, such as how to rig a two-person sailboat, and what we needed to do in order to become Skipper B qualified. This brief introduction to sailing was very informative; ending with a competition to see how quickly each group of Midshipman could assemble and rig their two-person sailboat, I remember a particularly moment that occurred. While a set of three Midshipman hurried to assemble a sailboat, about fifteen Marine ROTC Midshipman that were across the Armory ran over, picked up the sailboat in the middle of the competition, and carried it about 75 feet away. It was definitely a moment to remember.

We arrived at the lake at about mid-morning and began pulling the sailboats onto the shore and rigging them to sail. We paired off and prepared to take to the water to qualify (I distinctly remember how cold the water was). As pair after pair went, my partner and I awaited for an available boat since there were only five. When it was finally our turn, we put on our life vests, plunged into the icy water, and swam out to get to our boat. There are two positions on the sailboat: one person steers while the other deals with the actual sail. Each person was required to fulfill and succeed in each role in order to become Skipper B qualified. My partner and I both exchanged roles, steering the boat to "capture" the wind, practiced tacking (a sailing maneuver that involves sailing into the wind and turning the boat's bow so that the direction from which the wind blows changes from side to side), and performed other various roles that proved we had a basic knowledge and understanding on how to operate a two-person sailboat.

After all of us had qualified we were about to sail for fun and enjoy our time at the lake. Instead, we ended up having a cook out and grilled hot dogs and burgers. It was an absolute blast, and a great time for all of the new freshmen to become better acquainted with the rest of the company. In the end it proved to be a very fun and educational trip, where nearly the entirety of Bravo Company was able to become Skipper B qualified.

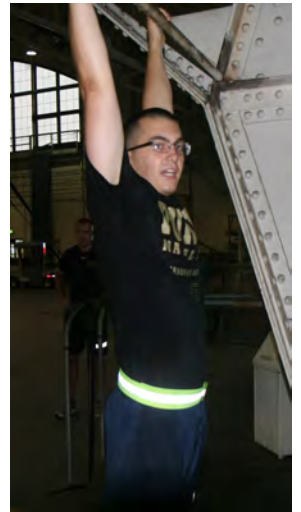
By Midshipman 2/C Murphy

Self-Defense Practical Application

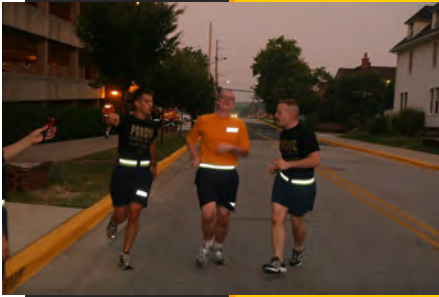
During the fall of 2011 Bravo Company's practical application drill was focused on doing more things that would be highly applicable during their time as Naval Officers. One of these practical applications was a self-defense exercise that had been brought together by the company commander at the time, ENS Beauchamp. The first words I remember hearing were this is not about getting into fights; this is about being able to defend yourself with as little injury to yourself as possible. One of the major points of focus during the entire application period was not to seek out a confrontation, but rather be aware of possible threats around ourselves and those with us. The exercises consisted of punches and kicks like most people would imagine, but after this we started getting into more lethal techniques; elbows, knees, along with other, more grappling based abilities were thrown in, the type of things that would make sure that anyone who would think to assault you wouldn't come back for seconds. After the basics were practiced more the instructor started to link them together, showing us how to transition from a left straight, to a right elbow into a palm strike to down a potential assailant in a few short seconds. One after another, partners would switch and try different particular muscle combinations that comprised the movements, trying to personalize each motion to our own bodies. After a good amount of time we were brought in together to see another attack, to which we all were drawn in, then dispersed out and practiced it with our partners, showing each other where we think the other could improve, and where we think we might be messing up and would correct it.

Looking back on this experience I believe that this practical application was a great allocation of Bravo Company's time. The more time we spent repeating each motion the more comfortable each one got, the more natural each combination felt. As a hopeful future member of the United States Navy, I believe that knowing some form of self-defense is needed in case of the inevitable occurrence of hand-to-hand combat. Even the basics are better than nothing, and being taught by someone who specializes in self-defense is one of the most rewarding experiences.

By Midshipman 3/C Ross



Indiana Veterans Home



This school year an organization started by MIDN 3/C David Long called the Armed Forces Volunteer Service Organization has been active in the community around Purdue. The group has done three different volunteer venues, a drill completion as judges to benefit a local NJROTC unit, and helping at a local humane society.

The main action the group does however, is helping out at the Indiana Veterans Home (IVH) near Purdue's campus.

Every Sunday afternoon a group of around ten Midshipmen volunteers goes to IVH to help with the weekly bingo game. The members bring down veterans to the auditorium and then help the veterans that cannot play for themselves. As a member of AFVSO, I can attest that going is very rewarding. Sometimes we get to hear straight from the veterans themselves about their stories of World War II or the Korean War. But the biggest reward is when the person that you are helping wins and gets a large smile on their face.

I believe that getting involved in volunteering for IVH has gone very well this year and as one of the high ranking members in this organization I hope that by the time I am a first class, the organization will have grown and will continue to provide many new learning experiences.

By Midshipman 4/C Adamson

***Go as far as
you can see;
when you get
there, you'll
be able to see
farther.
-J.P. Morgan***



USMC Marathon 2011



*Leadership
and learning
are
indispensable
to each other.*

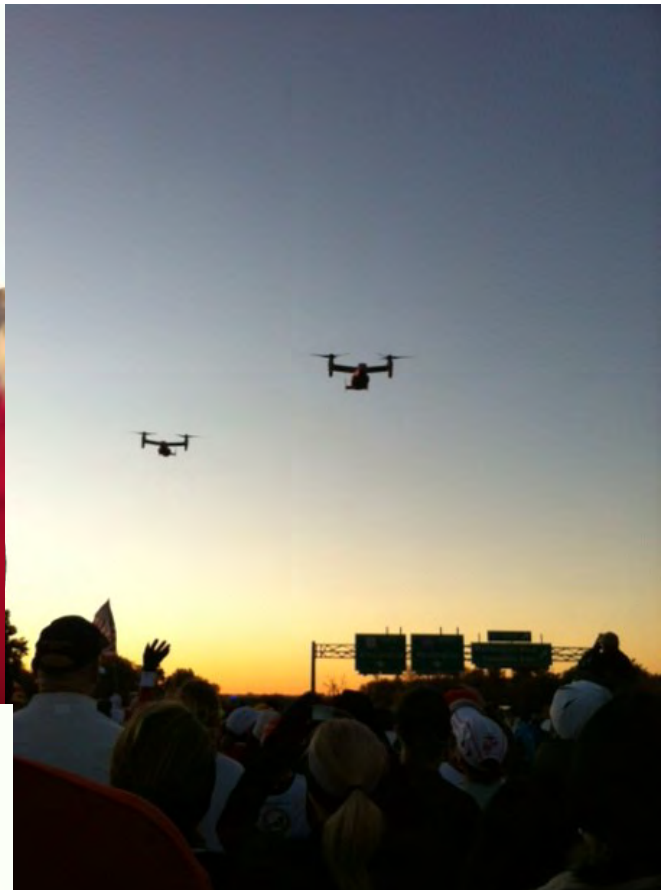
*-John F.
Kennedy*

On the morning of October 31, 2011, several Purdue NROTC midshipmen lined up on the starting line of the 36th Marine Corps Marathon in Washington D.C. These midshipmen had been training and fund-raising since February when they had joined the Injured Marine Semper Fi Fund's community team. The 36th Marine Corps Marathon was the fourth largest Marine Corps Marathon in the event's history: 21,250 people started the race and 20,895 people finished. All of the Purdue NROTC midshipmen that ran finished the race. Finish times ranged from low 4 hours to 6 hours.

The Marine Corps Marathon is also known as "the people's marathon" and a good first-marathon experience. The course starts in Arlington, VA and winds through Georgetown and the National Mall. Along the way, the streets are lined with people and entertainment. There isn't a stretch of the race where there aren't people cheering for the runners. The excitement of the runners and the enthusiasm of the cheering crowds gives runners the necessary motivation to push themselves for 26.2 miles.

The midshipmen that ran the Marine Corps Marathon were running for a greater cause other than just a personal bucket-list goal. These midshipmen were raising money for the Semper Fi Fund. The Semper Fi Fund is a non-profit organization that provides immediate financial assistance to injured Marines, Sailors, and their families. Together, the Purdue NROTC team raised \$2,443. Several members of the 2011 Purdue NROTC Semper Fi Fund team, along with new team members, are returning to Arlington in October 2012 for the 37th Marine Corps Marathon. They plan to beat their times from last year and raise more money.

By Midshipman 2/C Hughes





Effective leadership is not about making speeches or being liked; leadership is defined by results not attributes.
-Peter Drucker

4/C Letter Home

Dear Mom and Dad, if you would have sat me down and asked me how I would define the words “difficult” and “endurance”, I probably would have said that “difficult” meant figuring out a math problem and “endurance” meant staying up late because I procrastinated until the last minute. These definitions have an entirely new meaning to me, and in a good way. This change of heart did not come to me easy, however. From the training I have received thus far as a Marine Corps Option Midshipman with Purdue NROTC, my life will be changed forever.

As soon as I saw Gunnery Sergeant Gonya and the screaming midshipmen cadre my first day of Freshman Orientation, I knew the path ahead of me was not going to be an easy one. Here I was, a high school graduate from California, entering into a program specifically designed to train me to serve as an officer in the United States Marine Corps and to lead men into combat. Freshman Orientation was an “awakening” of sorts that made me realize that I can no longer be concerned with living my life as comfortable as possible. It all began with how early we rose: 0430 hours. At that point in my life, I could count on my fingers how many times I woke up that early. Now, no longer. Then there was the screaming. Oh how we all loved it when as we moved closer and closer to the Armory on those hot summer mornings, the yelling became increasingly louder, and it was *just* for us. We had our chance to yell back though, and yell back we did – a lot. “Sounding off” is a term that we are all too familiar with now, which is screaming at the top of your lungs acknowledging that you have been given an order and are going to carry it out. “AYE AYE COMPANY CHIEF!!” you would hear from one corner of the Armory and “AYE AYE PLATOON SERGEANT!!” from another corner. There was not a moment during this time where I was not sweating. We ran everywhere, whether it was to make a head call (bathroom “break”), or to chase after your canteen that had been thrown across the Armory drill deck as hard as possible by a cadre. For all of us, it was chaos. None of us have ever experienced something quite like Freshman Orientation. For our cadre, they gave us chaos for a reason. Undoubtedly in the fleet we will experience chaos on a whole different level, chaos that is real and that cannot be stopped by simply stating “hey ok that’s enough” to your enemy. Lives will be at stake, and we as officers will be responsible for each and every one of them. I am grateful that our awakening was difficult. It set the tone necessary for us realize the seriousness of our training ahead.

Here I am 8 months later, and I still wake up at 0430 four days a week, I am still sounding off, and I am still running around everywhere. I have gone through Field Training Exercises simulating Marine Corps Officer Candidate School, I have become a member of the Color Guard and participated at football games and the Navy and Marine Corps Birthday Ball, I was Midshipman of the Month, but most importantly, I have become part of the Purdue NROTC family. The vastness of the experience I have gained and the humbling you receive as a Midshipman is something I will always value. I look forward to my future here.

By Midshipman 4/C Davis

1/C Letter Home

Dear Mom and Dad,

It's hard to believe that in less than a year I'll be finishing my time at NROTC, graduating, and receiving a commission in the Navy. Not too long ago, I was unsure about what I was going to do for college and what career path I was going to pursue, especially during Freshman Orientation. Now I know that I have made the right choice in pursuing a career in the Navy.

NROTC has provided me with knowledge about my career to come and some of the tools I will need for the future. I have had a lot of good experiences and have made a lot of friends while I was here, and I will hold onto those memories once I graduate. Although I will miss Purdue, I am extremely excited to graduate, receive my commission, and start my career.



Your son, Matt

By Midshipman 1/C McQuillin

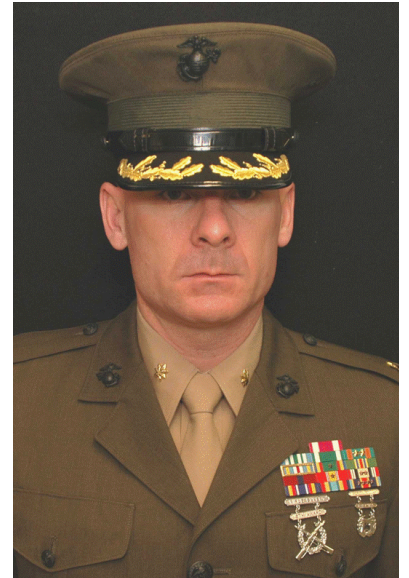
Battalion Staff



CAPT Jones



CMDR Huff



MAJ Butts



GnySgt Gonya



LT Garcia



LT Ballinger

Battalion Staff



LT Greenspan



LT Guard



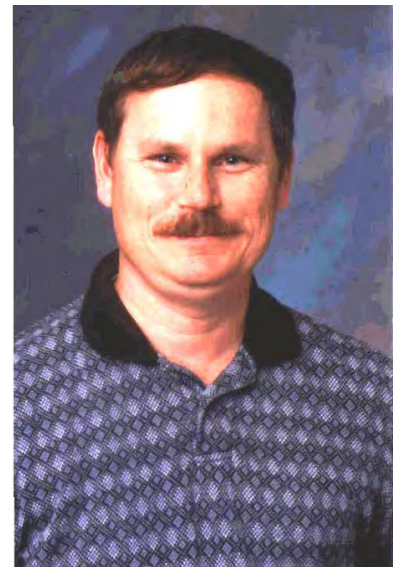
Mr. Tanner



Mr. Randall



Mrs. Matthews



Mr. O'Malley

Boilerman Staff

Student Editor

MIDN 3/C Samuel Reimer

Unit Editor

LT Evan Ballinger

Special Thanks

Student Writers

Mrs. Elaine Matthews

The views and opinions expressed within this outstanding issue of the Purdue NROTC Boilerman do not necessarily reflect the views of Purdue University, NROTC Purdue staff, or the United States Navy. They are solely the views of the authors.

Boiler Up!

