



# Class of 79 News

## August 2016

### Omnes Viri News

#### JULY NEWSLETTER

79ers, I apologize. I just looked through my files and I believe I didn't send a July Newsletter. I guess I got too busy.

Well, on the bright side, this will have 2 months of inputs!

#### PREZ SEZ

Greetings Class of 1979,

Happy August everyone!

Janet and I have now officially evicted enough boxes to declare ourselves "Moved In" to our new home at Lake Frederick, VA.

One of the critical things that must be done in conjunction with a move is updating your new address in all the myriad databases, including Kirk's Newsletter database. I have done that, but saw that several close friends have old job or other information in that forum. Please open the Database Excel, find your information, and send an updated version to Kirk. Let's keep him busy! I'm looking at you Ray, Frank, and Dave!

Also – the USNA Alumni Association database is MY way of contacting you via email or other means. Please keep your Alumni Profile up to date.

With the Football Season just around the corner, prepare for the best in Tailgating and AAC Football. Should be a fun season!

In the "It's a Small World" Department – about three weeks ago, Janet and I were at Sunday Mass at Sacred Heart of Jesus Church in Winchester. A family joined us in our pew and the one in front. I noticed the little boy had on a USNA polo shirt so after Mass I asked Dad what the USNA connection was. He said his daughter had just finished Plebe year. And oh by the way, he was a Grad. "What year" I asked? 79 came the reply from Mark Decker (12th Company and sometimes Winchester area resident). What are the odds?

Finally, does anyone have sway with Comcast? The only real glitch in our move has been the lengthy delay in getting our Cable/Phone/Internet service established. It is looking like the late August timeframe for that.

BEAT ARMY!

Omnes Viri 1979, Sean

#### NAVY FOOTBALL – 2016

Here is the 2016 Football schedule:

2016 FOOTBALL SCHEDULE				
Overall	Conf.	Home	Away	Neutral
0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0
Date	Opponent / Event	Location	Time / Result	
09/03/16	vs. Fordham	Annapolis, Md.	12:00 p.m.	
09/10/16	vs. UConn	Annapolis, Md.	3:30 p.m.	
09/17/16	at Tulane	New Orleans, La.	7:00 p.m.	
10/01/16	at Air Force	Colorado Springs, Colo.	3:30 p.m.	
10/08/16	vs. Houston	Annapolis, Md.	3:00 p.m.	
10/13/16	at East Carolina	Greenville, N.C.	7:30 p.m.	
10/22/16	vs. Memphis	Annapolis, Md.	3:30 p.m.	
10/28/16	at USF	Tampa, Fla.	7:00 p.m.	
11/05/16	vs. Notre Dame	Jacksonville, Fla. (EverBank Field)	11:30 a.m.	
11/12/16	vs. Tulsa	Annapolis, Md.	12:00 p.m.	
11/26/16	at SMU	Dallas, Texas	TBA	
12/03/16	AAC Championship Game	TBA	12:00 p.m.	
12/10/16	vs. Army West Point	Baltimore, Md. (M&T Bank Stadium)	3:00 p.m.	

Starts in a month! Are you ready for some football!

### FOOTBALL TAILGATES

Valerie hasn't selected the themes for the home football games yet, but soon will. If you are going to be in town and aren't on Valerie's tailgater group list, please send her an e-mail at [platweeding@aol.com](mailto:platweeding@aol.com) and ask to be placed on the list.

Now that I'm back in Tidewater, I'm looking forward to driving up for the UCONN and Memphis games. See you all there! GO NAVY!

### NAVY-TULANE GAME

Valerie Gerheiser is coordinating a 79er visit to New Orleans and the French Quarter for the Navy Tulane game on Saturday September 17<sup>th</sup>. In the group of 26 are:

- Fred & Valerie Gerheiser- 2
- Kirk & Sherrill Michealson- 2
- Sean & Janet Cate- 2
- Mike & MaryEllen Doyle- 4
- Pete & Leanore Parsons- 4
- Nat & Debbie Green- 2
- Craig & Tami Grabrowsky- 2
- Tom & Kathy McLernon- 2
- Bill & BJ Jones-6

Valerie found a hotel for our home base right in the French Quarter behind Jackson Square. Very convenient location. Hotel is Bourbon Orleans at 717 Orleans St.

This should be a great time! Go Navy! Beat Tulane!

### GOING PRO?

**DOD clears the way for military academy graduates to jump straight to pro sports**



High-caliber cadet-athletes at the three Department of Defense run service academies can thank former Navy Midshipman standout Keenan Reynolds for changing service academy protocol.

The quarterback was drafted by the Baltimore Ravens with their sixth-round pick after lighting up college football. Reynolds broke records, including those for most rushing touchdowns in NCAA Division I history (85), most career total touchdowns (88) and yards rushing by a quarterback (4,559).

Reynolds's success prompted the Department of Defense to take a second look at its policy regarding the mandatory 24-month active duty stint upon graduation. On Monday, the Air Force Academy provided an updated policy to The Colorado Springs Gazette, making it clear that a professional sports career is possible directly upon graduation.

The old Department of Defense Pro Sports Policy reads: "Officers appointed from cadet or midshipman status will not be voluntarily released from active duty principally to pursue a professional sports activity with the potential of public affairs or recruiting benefit to the DoD during the initial 2 years of active commissioned service. A waiver to release a cadet or midshipman prior to the completion of 2 years of active service must be approved by the ASD(M&RA).

Exceptional personnel with unique talents and abilities may be authorized excess leave or be released from active duty and transferred to the Selective Reserve after completing 2 years of active commissioned service when there is a strong expectation their professional sports activity will provide the DoD with significant favorable media exposure likely to enhance national recruiting or public affairs.”

That essentially meant a service academy graduate would not be eligible to be placed on reserve status for the purpose of pursuing pro sports until serving 24 months on active duty. But the policy, which was changed in May, now reads: “A service member can request to be tendered an appointment in the reserve upon graduation and satisfy their commissioned service obligation in the Ready Reserve.”

Jim Knowlton, the Air Force athletic director, told the Gazette any graduate can request to have a reserve appointment instead of serving active duty, but each decision would be looked at on a case-by-case basis by the branch. Knowlton added a secured contract or binding commitment with a professional sports team is required.

Air Force Academy assistant football coaches are touting this policy change as a “huge” change that “immediately levels the playing field.” The coaches spoke [off the record](#) to the Gazette as they were not allowed to publicly comment on the situation. They said during recruiting visits, other teams “routinely use the two-year commitment against Air Force.”

Because of the old rule, military academies haven’t been breeding grounds for professional athletes, even if that’s not what they were ever intended for. To date, only 89 MLB players in the history of the league [hailed from federal military academies](#) (13 attended the Naval Academy, 60 attended

West Point, 15 attended the Air Force Academy, one attended the Coast Guard Academy). 84 NFL players have graduated [from federal service academies](#) (31 attended the Naval Academy, 32 attended West Point, 15 attended the Air Force Academy, one attended the Coast Guard Academy, three attended the Merchant Marine Academy). [Two federal military academy](#) graduates have been on NBA or ABA rosters (One attended the Naval Academy, one attended West Point). No professional MLB or NBA athletes have come from the United States Merchant Marine Academy, which isn’t under the department of defense, but rather the Department of Transportation. The U.S. Coast Guard Academy is part of the Department of Homeland Security. Meaning, athletes at the the USMMA and the USCGA still have to fulfill their two-year active duty commitments before turning pro.

Out of all 170 professional athletes produced by federal service academies, all of them but two have not fulfilled their two-year active duty commitments: Reynolds and Garrett Griffin.

Griffin is currently in limbo, as he [already has his orders](#) for the two-year active duty commitment.

Even [Navy’s Roger Staubach](#) and [David Robinson](#) and [Air Force’s Chad Hennings](#) served at least two years before turning pro.

“[Service academies] exist to instill young men and women with a mindset of selfless service to the country,” retired Army Lt. Tom Slear wrote in a [recent Post editorial](#). “There is no other justification for the significant public expense that supports them.

“Professional football, on the other hand, is about service to oneself. It has its place, but not for academy graduates who haven’t fulfilled their obligations to their fellow

citizens. Each time one of them leaves early, the ethos diminishes a bit, and the taxpayers are cheated.”

The approximate price tag on a service academy education is \$400,000.

Knowlton told the Gazette that isn't the way he looks at the situation.

“My view is we recruit cadets to come to the academy to develop over four years as leaders of character and then go out and serve our nation in the Air Force,” Knowlton said. “There are many different ways that cadets can serve our nation.”

### [130<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY - USNA](#)



“The formation of an association such as we now propose seems to be a natural consequence to the establishment and development of our institution of learning,” said RADM Edward Simpson (Class of 1846) back in 1886. “The object is to promote kindly feeling and social intercourse among the members, and to foster the memories of the alma mater.” [130 years later, his legacy lives on.](#)

### [MINI-79er REUNION](#)

(From Dan Chang)

We had a class reunion in Southport, CT to celebrate the wedding of my son Jacob and Eliza. The wedding festivities were great and it was a great time and particularly special with 79ers Steve Brooks, Steve Squires, Dana Swenson and Scott Whitney

there to celebrate it with Paula and I. It was nice to party with some great classmates who are close family friends. Also, it was a gathering of USNA alumni with Dave Kern (81) and Bob Alpigini (96) enjoying the party. We proved that the old guys can still hang with the young folks!



### [79ers: ARKANSAS PROFS](#)



Greg Hutto and Kirk Michealson met at the University of Arkansas annual faculty meeting for the Masters of Science for Operations Management. Two Operations

Analysis majors from the class, Professor Greg teaches Project Management, Quality Management, and Principles of Operations Research. Professor Kirk teaches Excel for Operations Management and Decision Models. Greg has been with the program a few years and Kirk just joined last year. At the faculty meeting, Kirk received the award for the 2016 Rookie Instructor of the Year.

We are both glad Navy doesn't play Arkansas (and for me Virginia Tech doesn't play Arkansas) in football!

### [ALL ACADEMY CHALLENGE](#)



The bad news? Navy came in 4th in terms of participation in the 2016 [All Academy Challenge](#). The good news? We raised more than [\\$1 million in support](#) of the Naval Academy and the Brigade of Midshipmen! Thank You!

### [MCCAIN RECOUNTS FELLOW POWS' BRAVERY](#)



“I witnessed many acts of heroism ... I saw people taken to interrogation and not coming back for days. I saw people who literally died rather than betray their country.” Members of the Senate released Memorial Day video tributes to fallen troops, including this piece from [Sen. John McCain III '58](#) on what the holiday means to him.

### [HALSEY FIELD HOUSE](#)



Remember the little workout room in the front of Halsey? It sat empty and unloved until recently. [A gorgeous new interactive exhibit](#) that shuttles visitors from Gate 1 to the Visitor Center went up in less than two weeks. Here's a [time-lapse look at the construction](#).

### [I-DAY – CLASS of '20](#)



The Class of 2020 is here and sweating it out during Plebe Summer. We have plenty of Induction Day coverage, beginning with the story of [two Academy barbers and their final cuts before retiring](#) and an [embedded local reporter](#) going through as a plebe, plus our [Facebook photo album](#), [I-Day video](#) inside the chaotic Alumni Hall and USNA's recent [“Hi Mom! Hi Dad!”](#) video. We have photographers capturing all of the Plebe Summer action as it happens [for members of the Alumni Association](#) (login required) to follow as well. Here's a [public photo album](#), too.

### [CLASS of 2020 – BY THE NUMBERS](#)



**PROJECTED CLASS SIZE:**

Men.....853  
Women.....331  
Total.....1,184

**APPLICATIONS:**

Men.....12,763  
Women.....4,280  
Majority.....10,784  
Minority.....6,259  
Total.....17,043

**CLASS OF 2020 STATS**

**WOMEN & MINORITIES:**

The Class of 2020 includes 331 women (28%) and a total of 399 minority midshipmen (34%).

**GEOGRAPHIC REPRESENTATION:**

Midshipmen were admitted from every states in the U.S., as well as the District of Columbia, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

**INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS:**

The Class of 2020 includes 17 international students from: Bulgaria (1), Cameroon (1), Honduras (1), Kazakhstan (1), Korea (1), Marshall Islands (1), Mexico (2), Micronesia (1), Philippines (1), Peru (2), Poland (2), Singapore (1), and Tunisia (2).

**ALUMNI SONS AND DAUGHTERS:**

The Class of 2020 includes 53 sons and 19 daughters of Naval Academy alumni (6%).

**EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:**

The Class of 2020 includes 29% from college and post high school preparatory programs, which include:

- 208 from Naval Academy Preparatory School (NAPS) in Newport, R.I.
- 45 from the U.S. Naval Academy Foundation Program/Civilian Prep Program.
- 84 students have completed at least six months of study at a college or university.

**MILITARY BACKGROUND**

**TOTAL FORMER ENLISTED:**

Navy.....66  
Marine Corps.....9  
Total.....75

**OLYMPICS**

**Snyder '06, King '11 and Swimmer Mids  
Prep for Rio Gold**



There are mids and alumni galore who have 2016 Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in their sites. [Paralympian Bradley Snyder '06](#), [rower Edward King '11](#) and [16 midshipmen and alumni swimmers](#) (including three plebes) are training or have already been to trials.

**BILLY HURLEY '04 – PGA CHAMP**



For someone who had not won on the PGA Tour entering the Quicken Loans National, [Billy Hurley III](#) summoned championship mettle when it mattered most, birdieing consecutive holes on the back nine Sunday to pull away for a cathartic triumph at Congressional Country Club.

The 2004 graduate of the Naval Academy and Leesburg native collected his first winner's check in 104 career starts since turning pro in 2006, a year before he began serving on a destroyer as part of his military commitment. The win also came less than a year after Hurley's [father died from a self-inflicted gunshot wound](#).

“It’s been a hard year. It’s been a really hard year,” Hurley said while holding back tears just off the 18th green, where his family gathered along with supporters holding Navy flags. “It’s nice to have something go well.”

Hurley carded a final-round 2-under-par 69 to finish 17 under for the tournament, three strokes clear of [Vijay Singh](#), who at 53 was seeking to become the oldest player to win a PGA Tour event. [Jon Rahm](#) and [Bill Haas](#) tied for third at 13-under 271 on a course that played the second longest among non-majors this season and has hosted three U.S. Opens and one PGA Championship.

*[\[Thomas Boswell: A win befitting an officer and a gentleman\]](#)*

The victory is life altering for Hurley on several fronts. First, the two-time honorable mention All-Met at Loudoun County High earns full exempt status on the PGA Tour for the next two years. Hurley had been splitting time between the PGA and Web.com tours. Other perks include a spot in the year’s final two majors — the British Open and PGA Championship — as well as a berth in next year’s Masters.

Hurley entered the tournament No. 607 in the world golf rankings and had missed the cut in four out of his past six events. His highest previous finish this season was tied for 41st at the Byron Nelson in late May.

“You know, I’m not really sure it’s all sunk in yet, but I couldn’t think of a better tournament to make my first PGA Tour victory,” said Hurley, whose home course is just down the road at TPC Potomac at Avenel Farm, the venue for next year’s Quicken Loans National.

The dramatics began for Hurley at the 490-yard, par-4 15th, where a 294-yard tee shot wound up in a right-side fairway bunker. Hurley blasted out roughly 35 yards short of

the green. With a gap wedge in his hands, he pitched onto the green and watched as the ball landed, rolled and disappeared into the cup, much to the delight of the surrounding gallery.

Hurley pumped his right fist in the air several times and celebrated with caddie Peter Cunningham, but that unlikely birdie was only a prelude to another masterful hole.

At the 579-yard, par-5 16th, Hurley launched his ball 286 yards off the tee and sent his second shot some 190 yards. Hurley’s approach settled a little more than 27 feet from the pin. An aggressively struck putt rolled on a perfect line and into the hole, again drawing raucous cheers audible throughout the grounds.

“You know, it all happened so fast there,” Hurley said. “Holing the wedge shot, the pitch on 15 and then making the putt on 16. Yeah, it’s cliché, but a dream come true. This is the stuff I remember being in plebe summer at the Naval Academy telling one of my teammates I was going to play on the PGA Tour, and he kind of chuckled at me.

[Hurley began the day with a two-shot lead](#) and promptly made a birdie at the 402-yard, par-4 first. His tee shot sailed 291 yards, quite a rip for one of the shorter hitters on tour, and his approach came to rest inside of 14 feet. Hurley sank the putt to jump-start the most memorable round of his career, one that included four birdies and two bogeys.

[Ernie Els](#), who was Hurley’s playing partner in the final pairing, also made birdie at No. 1 but was battling his swing for much of his round, which included a double bogey at the par-3 10th. There, the strapping South African, who was seeking his first win since 2012, deposited his tee shot into the water, took a penalty drop and two-putted.

A member at Congressional and a fan favorite, Els, 46, won the U.S. Open here in

1997 for the second of his four major championships but finished five shots back after shooting 1 over in the final round.

“I love the game, you know,” Els said. “I want to still play at a high level. I still feel like I still have something to offer the game and maybe squeeze something out of it before I’m really over the hill. But I feel physically fine, and the technical side is coming back, and my mental side’s a lot better, so I can start enjoying it again.”

### **VIKING RIVER CRUISE FOR 79ers**

Sean Cate asked me to include this.

I’m Dan Morio, Class of 1991, and my wife and I own a Cruise Planners Franchise. A couple of months ago Sean sent out a brief (thank you Sean) description of the group cruise that we’ve been working with Paul Gehring and Sean on. There is still room in the group with slight price differences and a modified, although almost as good, International Air Discount promotion through Viking River Cruises. With the help of Paul and Sean, we have created an outstanding opportunity to bring together classmates on a wonderful Rhine Getaway River Cruise aboard the Viking Longship Kvasir, sailing from Basel, Switzerland to Amsterdam, The Netherlands from 06-13 September 2017.

The group block of cabins pricing starts at \$3199.50 per person (the rate listed on my website is discounted off the Viking rate by \$50 per person, additionally I will reduce the web fare by another \$200 per person that I am offering because of our shared affiliation with the Naval Academy). This offer is only good through 31 July 2016. You can also save up to an additional \$1000 per person if you take advantage of the Early Bird Discount Viking Air Promotion. This promotion offers low airfare (i.e. \$395 per person including ground transfers to and from the ship in Europe) from gateway cities like Boston, New York, Newark,

Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, or Washington D.C., other cities are also available at a slightly higher rate.

If you are interested in the cruise, please call me (540-479-8317), email me ([dan@GoNavyTravel.com](mailto:dan@GoNavyTravel.com)) or visit our web page for this cruise ([www.GoNavyTravel.com/group/VRG2017](http://www.GoNavyTravel.com/group/VRG2017)).

As a veteran, Naval Academy alumni owned, small business, I would greatly appreciate your business as well as the opportunity to assist you and your classmates in experiencing all the highlights of the legendary Rhine River on this 8-day cruise. If you or your fellow classmates have other travel or vacation ideas for group or individual travel, please let me know. Go Navy! Beat Army!

Thanks, Dan Morio (’91)

[dan@GoNavyTravel.com](mailto:dan@GoNavyTravel.com)

[www.GoNavyTravel.com](http://www.GoNavyTravel.com)

540-479-8317

### **DISTINGUISHED GRAD AWARDS**



[Nominations for the 2017 U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association Distinguished Graduate Awards](#) will be accepted until 1 November 2016. Candidates must be living graduates of the Naval Academy who have demonstrated strong support of the Navy and the Academy, have provided a lifetime of service to the nation or armed forces and have made significant contributions to the nation through public service.

## TIDEWATER GOLF TOURNEY

(Same as last month) For those in the Tidewater area, Dan Chang sent info on a charity golf tournament.

### **Second Annual Operation Turbo Golf Tournament Fund Raiser**

Operation Turbo

([www.OperationTurbo.org](http://www.OperationTurbo.org)) is a recognized 501 (c) (3) Non-profit organization. We send “Boxes of Home” to our deployed service members. Our “Boxes of Home” help make deployment just a little bit easier.

Sewells Point Golf Course, Norfolk Va:  
October 14 2016—Shotgun Start at 1 pm

Format: Captains Choice Scramble  
Entry Fee (includes Donation, Greens and cart fees, range balls and dinner)  
Foursome \$260  
Individual \$65 (Will put together teams)

Other contribution opportunities: (1) Hole Sponsorship: \$30 and (2) Mulligans: \$5/mulligan (up to 3 per person).

Please contact Dan Change by 7 October to: Dan Chang at [danchang4@gmail.com](mailto:danchang4@gmail.com) (pay on day of event). Please indicate if you would like to sponsor a hole and what you would like on the sign.

Thanks, Dan!

## 79ers IN THE NEWS



1 – Welcome to the Area / Newsletter –  
New additions this month include: None

Updates include: Andy Adamshick, Sean Cate, Ed Huyer

As Sean mentions in his Prez Sez, I need some updates. Please review the database and let me know your updates.

### DC AREA 79er COORDINATOR

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