



# Class of 79 News

## June 2017

### Omnes Viri News

---

#### PREZ SEZ

(From May 12<sup>th</sup>)

I have quite a bit to pass along this time so please stay with this to the end.

We still need your money to support the Trident Scholar Program portion of our 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Legacy Gift.

And it is once again time for the All Academy Challenge - The fourth annual All Academy Challenge, a contest pitting Navy against our rivals at Army, Air Force, Coast Guard and Merchant Marine (last year's champion), kicks off 31 May and continues for 7 days. The rules are simple: the service academy with **the highest percentage** of alumni making a gift in support of their alma mater wins. Last year, Navy—the all-time leader in All Academy Challenge dollars raised—brought in more than \$1 million. That's terrific, **but we were trounced** in participation by Merchant Marine, Coast Guard AND West Point. The fourth time's the charm—victory WILL be ours this year! Make your gift at [navy.allacademychallenge.com](http://navy.allacademychallenge.com). Any gift of \$5 or more counts toward your participation in the Challenge. As long as your gift is received between May 31 and June 6, you will be counted.

I joined Chuck Dixon, Dave Jackson, Nick and Kathy Harris, and Jeff and Ann McFadden at the Annual Trident Scholar Program banquet on 4/29. Each year

members of our class get to dress up and meet the best of the best Midshipmen and see first-hand the many projects being undertaken by our Trident Scholars. Andrew Phillips, the USNA Academic Dean and Provost, and host for the evening, sent me the following message to pass along –

“I want to personally thank you and your Class of 1979 classmates for kindly attending our 2017 Trident Scholar Program banquet on Saturday evening, April 29, 2017. It was very special for us to share the evening with representatives from the Class of '79. Your presence during the reception and your interest in the projects by the 2017 Trident Scholars left each midshipman some real-world validation of their research efforts over the 2016-17 Academic Year. We are greatly appreciative of the support from the Class of '79 to aid the Trident Scholars in their projects and in their development.

On behalf of everyone in the Naval Academy family, please accept my sincere thanks for visiting us to see what our talented students have been able to produce. Thank you also for your continuing support of this and other Naval Academy programs.”

On May 1<sup>st</sup> I was back in Annapolis to attend the Council of Class Presidents Meeting, this time held at the N-Star Room at the Stadium. My report from that – there were directed topics for our Decade Breakout sessions. The 70's discussed the good and bad of Reunions and I have a few

good ideas for our 40<sup>th</sup> in 2019 from those discussions. Our general formula is a good one – Thursday kickoff with Golf and a Crab Feast Dinner, Friday Supe Meeting/Brief and Parade, then a Casual-dress / Spirit Wear Friday dinner, Saturday Tailgate and Football Game, with informal Company Receptions that evening, and Sunday Services and head home (or stay an extra day or two). We are going for Homecoming Weekend October 24-27, 2019. We will have the Westin Annapolis as our Headquarters Hotel and Friday evening venue. (All subject to change as we have not locked in anything yet). And all of your Class Officers will be up for election for the new ten-year terms.

So among the things that seem to work well – goodie bags are being replaced with you selecting items from the Class Store that will ship to you before the reunion. The Class of 71 sold 645 Under Armor Navy Football Jerseys with 71 as the number, and because of the order size, your name on the back. Their classmates loved them. We also discussed mini-reunions in off years outside of Annapolis – San Diego being a popular venue.

Besides Reunions, Bob Natter briefed the circumstances that led to Jim Webb '68 declining his selection of the Distinguished Graduate Award (DGA). The DGA has been around for 19 years and the selection process is well established, but some unspecified changes will be made for future selections. Bottom line, it was Jim Webb's decision to decline the award – he was not asked or forced to decline.

The Superintendent, VADM Ted Carter briefed the state of USNA. He has one more year in his post. There were 16,500 applications for the Class of 2021 (Average SAT was 1400).. They will bring in 1,155 people for the class. The Class of 2017 is graduating about 1,040 on May 26<sup>th</sup>. The

new Cyber Major, Cyber Building, and Parking Garage were also discussed.

The Athletic Director, Chet Gladchuk, who always speaks to us, briefed us on Navy Sports and facilities, but I did not write down any notes to pass along.

Finally, we elected a new Chairman and Vice Chairman to lead the COCP. The new Chair was a groundbreaking selection – our first Marine, first Active Duty, and first from a Class closer to the back of SHIPMATE than the front – Major Jeffrey “Murph” McCarthy Class of 2000. That's my COCP Report.

On a personal note – my thanks as always to those of you who ask about my Parkinson's and support me with your thoughts and prayers. Turning 60 in February (Most of the class turns 60 this year) seems to have been just the start of another phase of my journey. My left arm is still what is primarily effected but I also have a horrible time typing – though I was never any good at that anyway. So – not too big of a change in my condition and I am hanging in there! Keep those prayers coming – especially for a cure to all of these neurological diseases.

BEAT ARMY!!! Sean

(From May 26<sup>th</sup>)

Greetings 79ers,

As I type this I am listening/watching a live stream of the graduation ceremony for the USNA Class of 2017. We welcome them to our ranks of Alumni and wish them the best in their service to our great nation.

I sincerely hope that you will be able to find and watch this ceremony online. Why? Because the Class of '79 was well-represented at this ceremony by the Acting Secretary of the Navy Sean Stackley, and the Marine Corps representative, LtGen Bob

Walsh. Sean Stackley is just a phenomenal speaker and you will not be disappointed to watch him deliver his remarks. Bob also gave stirring remarks to “His” Marines!

Further, the torch passes from VADM Joe Mulloy our last Active Duty Navy Officer (He retires May 30th – 38 years to the day we were commissioned), to his son, Connor.

Look for a link to the ceremony on the Alumni or USNA website.

I mentioned Joe Mulloy – on the 30th I will proudly join many of my classmates to honor Joe and Beth’s many years of service to our Navy and nation. What an honor to be associated with such tremendous people!

I wish each of you a great June and look forward to addressing you in the July Prez Sez!

Beat Army!

O/V 79, Sean

P.S. Don’t forget to support the ALL ACADEMY CHALLENGE!!

**[MISSING '79 CLASS CREST PIN](#)**

A Classmate’s mom lost her 79er Class Crest Pin. Does anyone have an extra? Contact Sean at [sean.cate@1979.usna.com](mailto:sean.cate@1979.usna.com).

**[NAVY FOOTBALL 2017](#)**

Here’s the Navy Football schedule for this fall:

2017-2018 SCHEDULE						
		Overall	Conf.	Home	Away	Neutral
		0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0
Date	Opponent / Event	Location	Time / Result	Media		
09/02/17	at Florida Atlantic	Boca Raton, Fla.	TBA	TV: TBA	RADIO: NAVY RADIO NETWORK	<a href="#">MOBE</a>
09/09/17	vs. Tulane*	Annapolis, Md.	3:30 p.m. ET	TV: <a href="#">ESPN2</a>	RADIO: NAVY RADIO NETWORK	<a href="#">MOBE</a>
09/23/17	vs. Cincinnati*	Annapolis, Md.	3:30 p.m. ET	TV: <a href="#">ESPN2</a>	RADIO: NAVY RADIO NETWORK	<a href="#">MOBE</a>
09/30/17	at Tulsa*	Tulsa, Okla.	TBA	TV: TBA	RADIO: NAVY RADIO NETWORK	<a href="#">MOBE</a>
10/07/17	vs. Air Force	Annapolis, Md.	3:30 p.m. ET	TV: <a href="#">ESPN2</a>	RADIO: NAVY RADIO NETWORK	<a href="#">MOBE</a>
10/14/17	at Memphis*	Memphis, Tenn.	TBA	TV: TBA	RADIO: NAVY RADIO NETWORK	<a href="#">MOBE</a>
10/21/17	vs. UCF	Annapolis, Md.	3:30 p.m. ET	TV: <a href="#">ESPN2</a>	RADIO: NAVY RADIO NETWORK	<a href="#">MOBE</a>
11/03/17	at Temple*	Temple	TBA	TV: ESPN OR ESPN2	RADIO: NAVY RADIO NETWORK	<a href="#">MOBE</a>
11/11/17	vs. SMU*	Annapolis, Md.	3:30 p.m. ET	TV: <a href="#">ESPN2</a>	RADIO: NAVY RADIO NETWORK	<a href="#">MOBE</a>
11/18/17	at Notre Dame	Notre Dame, Ind.	TBA	TV: <a href="#">ESPN</a>	RADIO: NAVY RADIO NETWORK	<a href="#">MOBE</a>
11/24/17	at Houston*	Houston, Texas	TBA	TV: ABC OR ESPN FAMILY OF NETWORKS	RADIO: NAVY RADIO NETWORK	<a href="#">MOBE</a>
12/02/17	AAC Championship Game	TBA	TBA	TV: ABC OR ESPN	RADIO: NAVY RADIO NETWORK	<a href="#">MOBE</a>
12/09/17	vs. Army West Point	Lincoln Financial Field	3:00 p.m. ET	TV: <a href="#">ESPN SportsCenter</a>	RADIO: NAVY RADIO NETWORK/WESTWOOD ONE	<a href="#">MOBE</a>

**Schedule Key**  
 Home Event  
 Away Event  
 \* Conference Event

Go Navy! Only 3 months away! I have season tickets this year. See you all there!

**[ACADEMY GRADS & SPORTS](#)**

**No early dismissals to military athletes to play pro sports, Pentagon says**

On Thursday, the Air Force notified the Air Force Academy that it would no longer approve requests to waive active-duty military-service commitments, a decision that could have affected the draft potential of wide receiver Jalen Robinette.

Monday, the Pentagon announced that the policy was in effect across all military-service academies.

Air Force won't waive active duty for draftees

Air Force wide receiver Jalen Robinette went undrafted after the Academy decided just this week to require cadets to serve two years of active duty before they can join a professional team.

In a statement, a spokesperson for the Pentagon said, "Our military academies exist to develop future officers who enhance the readiness and the lethality of our military services. Graduates enjoy the extraordinary benefit of a military academy education at taxpayer expense.

"Therefore, upon graduation, officers will serve as military officers for their minimum commitment of two years."

After Navy standout quarterback Keenan Reynolds was drafted by the Baltimore Ravens last year, the defense department changed its policy for service-academy athletes who are offered the opportunity to play professionally, saying they could receive reserve appointments upon graduation and start their pro careers immediately rather than serving two years of active duty first.

In rescinding that waiver, Monday's Pentagon statement noted: "The department has a long history of officer athletes who served their nation before going to the pros including Roger Staubach, Chad Hennings and David Robinson. The change takes effect with this graduating class."

Robinette went undrafted. Now he will have to wait until 2019 to test the waters in the NFL.

### **NEVIN CARR**



### **Leidos VP Nevin Carr Joins AUVSI Board; Roger Krone Comments.**

Nevin Carr, a vice president and U.S. Navy strategic account executive at Leidos, has been named to the Association for Unmanned Vehicle Systems International's board of directors.

AUVSI is a nonprofit organization consists of 7,500 members from over 60 countries and works to promote the development of unmanned platforms and robotics systems, Leidos said Thursday.

"Nevin's proven track record of driving growth and cultivating innovation make him a natural fit for the AUVSI board," said Roger Krone, Leidos chairman and CEO.

Krone, an inductee into Executive Mosaic's Wash100 for 2017, added Carr's experience would help AUVSI advance unmanned platforms in support of armed forces' missions.

Carr, a 34-year Navy veteran, oversees growth strategies for Leidos' naval and maritime business and leads efforts to identify and implement strategic initiatives meant to help Navy clients achieve mission objectives.

The retired rear admiral previously served as chief of naval research, deputy director of surface warfare for combat systems and commander of the USS Arleigh Burke destroyer and USS Cape St. George cruiser ship.

### **DC SACC**

The 2017 DC SACC was the largest EVER. There were 121 companies, 21 universities, 720 candidates, and over 750 recruiters. What a busy day!

There were four 79ers participating. In this first picture was Dave Krueger (candidate), Kirk Michealson (volunteer), and Dick Tobey (representing CSRA).



In the second picture is Chuck Dixon talking with a candidate at the First Command table.



**ALL ACADEMY CHALLENGE**



Five teams, seven days, one mission ... the fourth annual All-Academy Challenge approaches. That's right, it's time to mark your calendars for 31 May–6 June to beat Army (and Air Force, Coast Guard and Merchant Marine) for the first time. Alas, we have never won, so this is our year. It's about participation numbers, so rally your class and friends.

The fourth time's a charm! Private gifts from alumni, parents and friends play an essential role in the Naval Academy's ability to achieve its vision. The Naval Academy

has consistently outpaced our rivals in dollars raised each year during the All Academy Challenge. This year, we want the top spot in participation, too. It's time to show our rivals what it means to bleed blue and gold by [supporting Navy in the All Academy Challenge](#) from 31 May to 6 June. This year, victory WILL be ours! Go Navy! Stay tuned for further announcements by email, website and social media.

**SERVICE ACADEMY CYBER UPDATE**



Want to know what the service academies are doing to improve cyber security education? [Hear the latest](#) from Superintendent VADM Ted Carter '81, USN; USMA Superintendent Lt. Gen. Robert Caslen, USA, USMA '75; and Lt. Gen. William Bender, USAF, Office of the Secretary of the Air Force, during the 2017 Joint Service Academy Cyber Security Summit at the Academy.

**ADMIRAL HARRY HARRIS Jr '78**



**Harris '78 on North Korean Threat: "It's Real"**

ADM Harry Harris Jr. '78, USN, said he has no doubt that North Korean leader Kim Jong Un intends to fulfill [his pursuit of a nuclear-](#)

[tipped missile](#) capable of striking the United States. While there's uncertainty over how far along North Korea's nuclear and missile programs are, it's not a matter of if, but when. "There is no doubt in my mind," Harris said.

### [USNA SEA TRIALS](#)



The end of the school year means the end of plebe status for nearly 1,200 men and women at the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis. But before they become midshipmen, they must first endure a grueling, 14-hour day of so-called Sea Trials.

Like a CrossFit session on steroids – with sprinting, crawling, lifting and lunging – the Sea Trials are the ultimate test of each plebe class.

"It's just something that's been pumped up, hyped up throughout the year," said Naval Academy plebe Matthew Lee.

"It's really exciting. A big weight off my shoulders," said plebe Lili Pantaleon.

The Sea Trials tradition started in 1998. The event is organized and led by upper class midshipmen, who know firsthand the physical endurance and mental toughness needed for each challenge.

Midshipman Zachary Moore said, "Before a ship goes out to sea, a ship is tested in sea trials. And so essentially what we're doing is testing them as a class."

Between all the activities, there is very little time for rest. Plebes are expected to run from station to station.

By the end of the day, it's estimated they will have run the equivalent of a half marathon on top of all of the other physical challenges.

The morning of the Sea Trials, they wake up around 2:00 a.m. with activities from 3:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. The entire day is designed to test teamwork and reinforce unit cohesion.

The unit with the best performance is then recognized with the Iron Company award. This company is also honored with the first attempt [to place a plebe hat at the top of the greased up Herndon Monument](#). That annual event, officially ending the plebe year, is set for Monday.

### [HERNDON 2017](#)

#### **Midshipman climbs greased Herndon Monument: 'It was pure joy'**



It's a rite of passage unlike few others.

The Naval Academy's tradition of plebes making their transformation to midshipman by climbing the Herndon Monument.

The young midshipman, Chris Bianchi, literally reached the top, placing a midshipman's cap atop the monument.

We are told the lucky midshipman who manages to place an officer's hat on the monument officially ends the torment of plebe year.

Bianchi managed to place the hat atop the monument in one of the fastest times ever, we are told.

"It was pure joy at the end," he told us. "My favorite part was being on the bottom with all my classmates tackling me everyone was asking me if the fall hurt [But] no, cause' everyone was catching me on the way down."

There's more to Bianchi than this great feat, however. He proudly shows off a large tattoo on his back -- a tribute to his father, Kevin, an academy graduate killed in a helicopter crash when Chris was just 7.

"It kind of just signifies that he always has my back," he said.

Chris' mother was in the crowd as he was climbing his way to the top on Monday. She was praying to her husband in heaven to lift Christ to the top.

"My mom was loving it. She was really emotional about it," Chris said.

Chris is proud to follow in the footsteps of his father and uncle, who is also an Aviator killed in a crash.

Legend has it that the midshipman who gets the hat up on the top of the monument will be the first in his class to become an Admiral. It's never happened, but perhaps Bianchi will be the first?

### **USNA '07: USMC COMMERCIAL**

#### **Naval Academy graduate stars in historic Marine Corps recruitment video**



A Naval Academy graduate is the star of a new Marine Corps recruitment commercial, making it the first advertisement from the military branch that solely focuses on a woman.

Capt. Erin Demchko, a 2007 graduate, is featured in the corps recruitment campaign "Battle Up," where the 30-second clip depicts her evolution from spunky kid to well-trained Marine. Most of the commercial was filmed in Baltimore, according to a news release.

The commercial depicts Demchko as a young girl who stands up to bullies, a rugby player defeating a defender and a leader in a combat situation. The final scene shows Demchko helping the homeless.

The goal of the "Battle Up" campaign is to inspire the younger generation to think more about the Marines and if their personal values align with the military, according to the release. The Marine Corps, which has the famous slogan "The few, the proud," has the smallest population of women of the military branches.

Maj. Gen. Paul Kennedy, head of Marine Corps Recruiting Command, told CBS News that the goal of the message is for potential recruits to "not think that we are only looking for a few good men, that we're actually using all of our recurring efforts to find good women as well."

Demchko applied to the Naval Academy following the 9/11 terrorist attacks, according to the the Marine Corp's website. She earned a Combat Action Ribbon for her actions in Operation Enduring Freedom, as well as trained officer candidates and led a

female engagement team in support of combat operations.

"I am extremely humbled to be a part of such a big production," she said to CBS. "Professional actors can keep their jobs, though. I'd rather be a Marine."

## **8 USNA TEAMS NCAA HONORS**

### **Eight Naval Academy Athletic Teams On 2017 NCAA Apr Honors List**

The eight Navy teams posted multi-year APR scores in the top 10 percent of all squads in their respective sports

The Navy football, men's cross country, men's gymnastics, men's lacrosse, men's tennis, men's track, rifle and women's soccer teams received 2017 Academic Progress Rate public recognition awards this afternoon by the NCAA. Air Force had five teams honored and Army West Point had three.

The eight Navy teams posted multi-year APR scores in the top 10 percent of all squads in their respective sports. The public recognition awards are part of the broad Division I academic reform effort. These awards are based on the most recent APR numbers that represent the combination of scores from the 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16 academic years.

The APR provides a real-time look at a team's academic success each semester by tracking the academic progress of each student-athlete on scholarship. The APR accounts for eligibility, retention and graduation and provides a measure of each team's academic performance.

## **USNA 79er DATABASE, ETC.**



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

Updates include: Andy Adamshick.

## **DC AREA 79er COORDINATOR**

HOME – [Kirk.Michealson@1979.USNA.com](mailto:Kirk.Michealson@1979.USNA.com)  
or [Kirk.michealson@gmail.com](mailto:Kirk.michealson@gmail.com)  
Cell – (407)375-3440