UNIT STAFF

<table>
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<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Commanding Officer</td>
<td>CAPT Christopher Murdoch</td>
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<td>Executive Officer</td>
<td>CDR John Barrett</td>
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<td>Marine Officer Instructor</td>
<td>Capt Troy MacDonald</td>
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<td>Alpha Company Advisor</td>
<td>LT Ryan Peterson</td>
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<td>Bravo Company Advisor</td>
<td>LT Matthew Moss</td>
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<td>Assistant Marine Officer Instructor</td>
<td>SSgt Francisco Olivas</td>
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<td>University Administrative Assistant</td>
<td>Ms. Pam O’Connor</td>
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<td>Supply Technician</td>
<td>Ms. Sarah Wells</td>
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<td>Human Resources Assistant</td>
<td>Mr. Aaron Sarbacker</td>
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"Integrity, Discipline, Legacy"
Captain’s Corner
Captain Christopher Murdoch

University of Wisconsin Naval ROTC supporters—THANK YOU for all you do for these young men and women who have chosen service over self. In the pages that follow, you will get a small glimpse of the dedication and professionalism of our remarkable midshipmen. In athletics, drill, community service, and leadership, this team produces—and becomes the better for it. And many of these opportunities could not have been possible without your support.

1610 University Avenue will be undergoing a significant renovation of the classrooms, offices and heads this summer. But please do not let that prevent you from stopping by any time you are in the neighborhood. I welcome any time that you can spend sharing your ideas, experiences with me, the staff and midshipmen.

Integrity, Discipline, Legacy.

From the BNCO
MIDN 1/C Brendan Page

As the semester comes to a close, I can’t help but reflect upon what an honor and a privilege it has been to serve as the Student Battalion Commanding Officer. Comparing myself from when I first came to the unit to where I stand today, all of the accomplishments in both my personal and professional life would not have been possible without Naval ROTC. This unit has provided my fellow classmates and I the unique opportunity to develop our leadership and management skills that other University students are not as fortunate to have. NROTC taught me military discipline through drill, the importance of public outreach through community service, and how to properly present myself around campus. Above all of the life lessons I have learned while here, those greatest are the importance of organization and preparation. All tasks that NROTC demands, from the very small to as large as planning and running the Spring Ball, require preparation and organization. These lessons I have learned I hope to be able to apply in the Fleet.

When I assumed command of the Battalion, I wanted to give back to both the unit and community that had given me so much in the last four years. I made it one of my personal goals for the semester to encourage group community service events. This helped strengthen camaraderie, and left a positive impact on the community. The unit this semester was able to help construct a home for Habitat for Humanity, clean up the UW-Arboretum, and take part in the Lakeshore Preservation Cleanup. Through these initiatives, the Midshipmen Battalion was able to develop our public image and proudly represent the United States Navy and Marine Corps. I hope the improvements the Battalion leadership has made this semester improve the daily lives of each Midshipman and will have a lasting impact on the unit for the years to come. I feel confident that my replacement, MIDN 1/C Kyle Burke, will be able to continue to seek and make improvements within the Battalion and the surrounding community. Thank you and Semper Fortis.

Midshipmen Win Tri-Service Blood Drive – Again!
MIDN 2/C Aaron Ahlgrimm

The University of Wisconsin Army and Air Force ROTC units will be flying the Navy flag above their units as a result of losing the fall 2014 ROTC Blood Drive Competition. The Wisconsin Naval ROTC unit was able to pull out a victory over both units during the final blood drive of the semester, held November 19th at the Navy unit, under supervision of Midshipman Aaron Ahlgrimm. The ROTC unit was able to
recruit 51 people to come out and donate blood.

In the Madison area the Red Cross enlisted the help of the three ROTC units on campus to host three different blood drives at each ROTC’s respective units. The Army, Air Force, and Naval ROTC members got together and decided to make it a friendly competition. Whoever was able to recruit the most people to donate blood at their unit would be dubbed the victor. The other two units would have to hoist the flag of the winner’s military branch above their unit for a full week.

A pint of blood has the ability to save the lives of three people. The Red Cross will be able to utilize those donations to save the lives of 162 people in desperate need. There is an ever-present need for blood that the ROTC units did their part to try and fulfill. However, the Red Cross is always looking for more donations. If you are interested in donating, there are blood drives being hosted all around the local area and nationwide, including the three ROTC units, who will host additional Blood Drives in the coming semester.

During the winter months the need for blood is dire and due to the combined efforts of the Red Cross and the ROTC units at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, hundreds of people will be given the gift of life, a gift you could also give by simply getting out there and donating.

The American Red Cross leads a national effort to amass blood donations for people in need. However, the Red Cross cannot do it alone.

Col. Thomas X. Hammes Visits Badgers

On Thursday, February 26, 2015, retired U.S. Marine Corps Col. Thomas X. Hammes visited the UW-Madison Naval ROTC unit and spoke as a guest lecturer at the program’s Leadership and Ethics class. This class, which is taught by Commanding Officer Capt. Christopher Murdoch, is one of the required classes for members of the Naval ROTC program and serves as a capstone course for seniors who will soon commission and serve as junior officers. The course focuses on ethical dilemmas that midshipmen may face in the future as military leaders.

Hammes, a veteran officer himself, served 30 years in the Marine Corps and is now Senior Research Fellow at the Institute for National Strategic Studies, National Defense University. Commissioning from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1975, he went on to command rifle, weapons, and intelligence companies, an infantry battalion and the Chemical Biological Incident Response Force. During his service he participated in stabilization operations in Somalia and Iraq and worked to train insurgents in various places.

The retired Colonel is now a specialist in counter-insurgency warfare and was in Madison to speak at the university on the topic of “U.S. Defense Forces for the Fourth Generation of Warfare”. Hammes’ lecture was sponsored by the Madison Committee on Foreign Relations and International Studies.

During his visit to the Naval ROTC unit, Hammes spoke to members of the class for over an hour discussing his own philosophy about leadership as well as the challenges that will need to be overcome as military leaders. He emphasized the importance of getting to know your own people and the high standard of respect that helps to create successful teams. Specifically concerning ethics, he stressed the level of trust that must exist between leaders and followers and the significance of service that leaders should exhibit for their own followers. In addition to that, Hammes spoke about what it means to be a leader and the responsibility that the title carries. He encouraged the midshipmen to lead their Sailors and Marines by keeping them always informed so that they may adapt and strive to accomplish their mission.

The midshipmen were eager to hear this advice and greatly enjoyed hearing the guest lecturer’s ideas. Ensign Sara Dillon remarked, “I really enjoyed Col Hammes’ lecture because he gave us very concrete advice about command philosophy and how to lead people, but also left each of us to examine our character as leaders in the future.” She continued, “An important take-away I received was when he said that the military creates a linear process for everything including dealing with personnel issues—so called ‘nonlinear problems’. Getting to know your people takes effort and time, but it shows you care and makes that person issue easier to manage.”

As she and her shipmates soon leave their ROTC days behind, the advice of Col. Hammes and that of the
Badgers Participate in Naval Leadership Weekend at Notre Dame

MIDN 2/C True Kaddatz

Over the weekend of February 26th through March 1st, the Badger Battalion sent four Midshipmen to South Bend, Indiana to participate in the 20th annual Notre Dame Naval Leadership Weekend (NLW). This two and a half day event was an opportunity to learn and discuss issues critical to our development as future Navy and Marine Corps Officers. We were able to join midshipmen from all across the country and collectively step outside of our traditional classrooms. We stepped into an environment that promoted the critical examination of principles of leadership combined with current challenges leaders face in the Navy today. NLW was a complete success because of the hard work and dedication that the Notre Dame Battalion put into the planning for the weekend. The theme of NLW this year was Leadership in Navy Culture.

The guest speakers included Admiral Michelle Howard (Vice Chief of Naval Operations), Admiral William Gortney (Commander, U.S. Northern Command), Admiral Michael Rodgers (Director, National Security Agency), Vice Admiral Jan Tighe (Commander, U.S. Fleet Cyber Command), Rear Admiral Scott Stearney (Commander, Navy Warfare Development Command), and Sergeant Major William Sowers (Marine Corps Training Command). In addition, participants engaged in group discussions and debates on various topics dealing with leadership and ethical issues that were facilitated by Notre Dame Professor Joseph Holt.

Popular topics covered included: leadership in an age of technology; moral boundaries in cyber warfare; the path to success when creating a family culture with high morals; and how to lead when working with highly introverted personnel.

These high ranking speakers had a lot to say and said it in a way that resonated with the Midshipmen. Midshipmen 3/C Huisinga from University of Southern California stated, “Not only will I remember coming to Notre Dame for a leadership conference but I will remember all the wisdom that was shared with me here.”

Midshipmen 1/C Halverson from the University of Notre Dame stated, “Being able to not only hear the speakers but being able to interact with them professionally and talk to them one on one was what was most rewarding for me.”

Unanimously, the Midshipmen attendees agree that the conference was a highly valuable and rewarding experience that all will remember for years to come.

Colorado Invitational

MIDN 1/C Alexander Fox

A team of 50 midshipmen from University of Wisconsin - NROTC program traveled to Boulder, Colorado for a Navy ROTC drill meet during the weekend of March 5-8. The battalion left Thursday night and competed at the University of Colorado-Boulder on Friday and Saturday. The event was a great opportunity for midshipmen to meet and compete with their peers while performing the skills that they had been practicing for the weeks leading up to the event.

Midshipman 1/C Riley Hoffman commented on the event saying, “This semester’s drill meet was one of the most rewarding, honorable moments I have had within the Naval ROTC program. I saw both interaction as well as improvement throughout the entire battalion preceding this event.” Multiple teams from Madison diligently prepared for and participated in competitions that included rifle and pistol shooting, platoon drill, squad drill, color guard, and the urban adventure race (UAR).

The drill meet in beautiful Boulder, Colorado was rewarding because it allowed midshipmen from the battalion to test the skills they had been fostering the understanding of what leadership looks like.
practicing so much and also to appreciate the successes of their dedication regardless of whether they took home an award or not. Reflecting on his experience as the rifle and pistol team commander, MIDN 3/C Sherman said, “I had the privilege this year of attending the 2015 Spring Drill meet in Boulder, Colorado as the University of Wisconsin-Madison's rifle and pistol team OIC. The team spent every Thursday at the range and it was great to watch them improve dramatically as the drill meet approached. When we got to Colorado, the team shot one of their best courses of fire that I had observed. While we did not place this year, it was surely a performance that we can take pride in. Reflecting on his experience as the rifle and pistol team commander, MIDN 3/C Sherman said, “I had the privilege this year of attending the 2015 Spring Drill meet in Boulder, Colorado as the University of Wisconsin-Madison's rifle and pistol team OIC. The team spent every Thursday at the range and it was great to watch them improve dramatically as the drill meet approached. When we got to Colorado, the team shot one of their best courses of fire that I had observed. While we did not place this year, it was surely a performance that we can take pride in.

On top of the competition aspect of the event, the drill meet was also a great success because it allowed the midshipmen form the battalion to interact with each other in an environment outside of the normal lab and classroom settings. Midshipman Hoffman had the following to say about that part of the experience. “Overall I would say this was the largest accomplishment I saw amongst the battalion through this drill meet. I saw freshman talking to seniors about classes, summer cruise, and general questions about college in a relaxed environment where they felt comfortable to approach them. I know for myself I spent more time talking with freshman and sophomores that weekend than I had all semester.”

Although the Badger Battalion did not bring home many trophies this time around, the drill meet included great successes such as the top finish of the UAR team and the rewarding experiences of meeting other midshipmen in the program. After the meet, MIDN 1/C Goldstein described the mindset of the UAR team stating, “The tenacity of our team was unmatched. Every team member had his or her own struggles throughout the race, but overcame them to achieve victory. Our goal to take first place as a team took precedence over any pain or discomfort we faced. This was unquestioned.”

With another successful spring drill meet gone, the badger battalion will continue to look toward next year’s competitions as new challenges with room to improve as always. The next drills meet will take place on campus in Madison in the fall.

Midshipmen and Cadets Receive Accolades

The University Wisconsin-Madison Army, Naval, and Air Force Reserve Officers’ Training Corps (ROTC) units held their annual Joint ROTC Awards Ceremony to celebrate the end of a semester and the specific achievements of individual cadets and midshipmen, April 24.

Lieutenant Colonel Henderson, Army ROTC Commander and Professor of Military Science, served as the guest speaker for the event. More than 100 awards were presented with various gifts including officer swords, plaques, medals, and thousands of dollars in scholarships. The cadets and midshipmen were recognized by their commands as well as retired military members, military family members, and civic organizations in Wisconsin.

“Tonight is about the recognition of the potential that we see in you. But today is not just about potential. Today is about what you’ve accomplished over the last year,” said Henderson. “You’re getting these ribbons and they should mean something to you. They mean that what you’ve done and how hard you’ve worked over the last year is recognized.” Following the speech, Henderson handed out awards with civic and veteran organization leaders, as well as Navy Captain Christopher Murdoch and Air Force Lt. Col. Greg Goar, the commanding officers of their Service’s respective ROTC units.

Naval ROTC Midshipman Avery Moore, who was awarded the Midshipmen of the Year said, “I joined the ROTC program when I was 18 years old, and my entire family has been in the military so it was kind of a long time coming. The award consists of an engraved Ka-Bar knife and it’s kind of a culmination of everything that I’ve worked for over the past four years. It’s a good reminder of how much work I’ve put into this program.”

One of the events top honors went to SSgt Steven Hoffman, winner of a Marine Corps. Sword as part of the
John W. Sterling Award. “To me the Naval ROTC program has been a wonderful experience as far as getting to know the future leaders of the Navy and the Marine Corps and having an opportunity to affect their future potential by teaching them what I can. I think it’s a great program.” Hoffman continued, “The officers that come out of here are well prepared and are going to do great things when they get to the fleet. As far as the award, I’m honored to receive it and I feel that I’m part of a prestigious group now that has come before me and hopefully I can carry on the legacy that they have set. I’d like to thank the University of Wisconsin ROTC programs and the supporting agencies for lending their support and participating together to put tonight’s ceremony together.”

Spring Ball

Dr. John Hall, assistant Professor of History at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, was the guest of honor at this year’s University of Wisconsin-Madison Reserve Officers’ Training Corps Spring Ball at the Memorial Union in Madison, Wisconsin. On April 25, 2015, Hall, who has taught many midshipmen in his military history classes, celebrated the accomplishments and achievements the Midshipman Battalion has made over the Spring Semester.

The evening began with a social hour for the unit and their guests, followed by the entrance of the color guard and the posting of the colors. After dinner was served, the guest of honor provided a few remarks to the battalion and their guests.

Ten awards were presented to the midshipman during the evening of the Spring Ball. The first five awards were graciously funded by the UW NROTC Alumni Association and consisted of a scholarship check. The Professor of Naval Science Freshmen Spirit award, which is presented to the top freshmen Midshipman who has demonstrated excellence, enthusiasm, and participation in unit activities, was awarded to Midshipman 4/C Allie Zeman. The award was in memory of LTJG Erdman Pankow, and consisted of an engraved pewter mug and scholarship check. Next, the CAPT David J. Lueder scholarship award was given to Midshipmen 1/C Monge and Zenobian for excellence in demonstrated leadership abilities, participation, and future potential for service as a Naval or Marine Corps officer. The LCDR John S. Lyman Scholarship award was then presented to three midshipmen who have demonstrated leadership abilities and potential for future service in the Navy or Marine Corps. Recipients included Midshipman 4/C Raymond, Midshipman 3/C Poellinger and Midshipman 1/C Holbeck. The final Alumni Association award, The CDR William T. Arnold memorial scholarship, was given to Midshipman 1/C Peterson, for embodying the spirit of devotion and country demonstrated by Commander Arnold.

The rest of the awards presented during the evening were provided through the families of distinguished alumni of the Badger Battalion. The CAPT John W. Peterson award was given to Midshipman 1/C Burke, who demonstrated superior character and ethics as personified by Captain Peterson. In memory of Major Dennis A. Dogs, a 1985 UW NROTC graduate who died during flight operations on 10 May 1997. A Marine Officer Jewelry box was presented to Staff Sergeant Steven Hoffman. The next award, consisting of a Marine Officer sword in memory of Major Norman K. Billip, a 1966 graduate of the UW NROTC program who was lost during flight operations 6 May 1969. The award was presented to Midshipman 1/C Darian Chavira. The last two awards consisted of a Naval Officer’s sword, and were provided in memory of LTJG Nick Norris (’61) and ENS Duane Hofhine (’87), both graduates of the UW NROTC program and naval aviators who died during flight operations. These awards were presented to Midshipman 1/C Colin Gallaher and Midshipman 1/C Brendan Page.

Following the awards, the Commanding Officer provided closing remarks and thanked not only the Badger Battalion for their hard work during his first year as the Commanding Officer but also the parents and friends in the audience who support the Badger Battalion. Following the Commanding Officer’s remarks, the Badger Battalion enjoyed the dance portion of the evening and the ball was concluded.
Ten Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps (NROTC) midshipmen were commissioned as naval officers by Major General Donald Dunbar, Wisconsin Adjutant General, at a joint-service commissioning ceremony held during the University of Wisconsin’s spring commencement exercises in Madison, on Saturday May 16th.

The 7 Navy-option and 3 Marine-option midshipmen were among 30 University of Wisconsin graduates to be commissioned into the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps in front of an audience of more than 400 people.

Ensign Holbeck’s mother, Colleen, said watching her son be commissioned by the General was an extremely proud moment for her. “My husband, Neal, and I are so proud of our son for joining the service and accomplishing his goal of becoming a naval officer. We feel proud that he is carrying on the family name in a profession that requires selflessness and service.” she said.

“Major General Dunbar’s message to my fellow commissioned officers and me provided good advice and direction in the character we should strive to exhibit as an officer.” said Ensiny Aaron Holbeck, one of the newly-commissioned officers. Holbeck added “I am humbled, excited and eager to begin what hopefully will be a very challenging and rewarding career as a naval officer.”

During his remarks, Major General Dunbar expressed words of encouragement to the assembled newly-commissioned officers, while briefly discussing some of the challenges they will face. He concluded by administering the oath of office to the new officers and congratulated them.

Referring to the overwhelming support displayed by the crowd for the new officers, Ensiny Holbeck commented, “It is such an honor and privilege to be representing our great Nation and to have the support of such thankful and appreciative Americans is a humbling feeling.”

“The Joint Commissioning Ceremony this year was a great opportunity for the three ROTC programs on campus at the University of Wisconsin to celebrate the accomplishments of their cadets and midshipmen together. We are very pleased with the support the University community has shown these young men and women, who have chosen service over self in completing their ROTC commitment and by taking an oath to uphold the Constitution of the United States.” said Captain Murdoch, the UW NROTC Commanding Officer.

2ndLt Darian Chavira
ENS Sara Dillon
ENS Aaron Holbeck
ENS Richard Summer

2ndLt Steven Hoffman
ENS Daniel Goldstein
ENS Jesse Metcalf
ENS Riley Hoffmann
ENS Lauren Monge

Midshipmen to be commissioned later this summer after successful completion of commissioning requirements.

MIDN 1/C Brandon Klewicki
MIDN 1/C John Peterson
Student Awards: Presented Fall 2015
Midshipman of the Semester
MIDN 2/C Fritz

Physical Fitness Award (Navy PFA≥Outstanding, Marine PFT≥285)
MIDN 3/C Ahlgrimm, A.
MIDN 1/C Ahlgrimm, J.
MIDN 3/C Bernhardt
MIDN 3/C Bowers
MIDN 3/C Brueckbauer
MIDN 1/C Chavira
MIDN 4/C Cunha
MIDN 3/C Day

Midshipman of the Semester MIDN 2/C Fritz

Leadership Excellence Award (Top of respective class)
MIDN 4/C Zeman

Academic Excellence Award (Term GPA≥3.75)
MIDN 1/C Chavira

Academic Achievement Award (Term GPA≥3.5)
MIDN 2/C Ahlgrimm, J.

Academic Accomplishment Award (Term GPA≥3.25)
MIDN 3/C Bowers

All-Around Performance Award (Meets criteria for Physical Fitness, Leadership Excellence & Academic Excellence)
SSGT Poellinger

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Student Battalion Structure: Fall 2015

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*Bold names denote squad leaders.*
For those Alumni, Parents, and Students, the UW-NROTC Store offers the following to show your Badger Battalion pride:

Ball Caps $10

Unit Polo’s $25 (Navy Blue) Semper Fi Polo’s $20
Sweatpants $10

Two types of Challenge Coins $5

Water Bottles $5

These items along with new merchandise will soon be available on the UW-NROTC website for purchasing.

If you wish to purchase Badger Battalion gear today, please contact

MIDN Leland Raymond: lpraymond@wisc.edu