



**DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY**  
OFFICE OF THE COMMANDANT OF MIDSHIPMEN  
UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY  
101 BUCHANAN ROAD  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21402-5101

10 May 2010

Dear Parents, Relatives, and Friends,

As summer quickly approaches, I wanted to take this opportunity to reflect on the semester and showcase some of the Brigade's recent accomplishments. It has been a great spring semester, thanks to the hard work and commitment of the great Class of 2010. Their leadership and dedication are truly admirable and I can't emphasize enough how proud the Naval Academy family is of this group of young men and women about to join the Fleet as commissioned officers in the United States Navy and Marine Corps.

With final examinations beginning this week, the Brigade is already shifting focus to Commissioning Week and beyond. The majority of Midshipmen have started packing up their belongings and preparing for summers full of valuable training, leadership opportunities and some well deserved leave. This semester has been extremely demanding for our young people, but as usual the Brigade has managed to stay positive and productive throughout. Some recent events include hosting the Naval Academy Foreign Affairs Conference, winning the National Security Agency's annual Cyber Defense Exercise, honoring our faculty and staff in the annual Dedication Parade, and hosting the Anne Arundel County Special Olympics. Additionally, a team of Midshipmen took home first place in the Inter-Service Academy Design Competition with their grenade-dropping helicopter.

Inside the walls of Bancroft Hall, the Class of 2011 is beginning to take over the leadership roles from the Class of 2010 in preparation for a great semester in the fall. Those members of 2011 selected for Plebe Summer Detail are also preparing themselves to accept the great responsibility of training the incoming Class of 2014. Our Midshipmen have also excelled on the athletic fields, with an exciting win over Johns Hopkins in Men's Lacrosse, a Patriot League Championship for the Women's Lacrosse team, a fourth consecutive Patriot League Championship for the Men's tennis team. The Men's and Women's Track teams finished third and second, respectively, in the Patriot League Championships. The Football team visited the White House last week to accept the Commander-in-Chief trophy from President Obama, the seventh year in a row Navy has taken home the trophy!


We are all looking forward with anticipation to the events of the next two weeks. On 18 May, the Class of 2013 will battle their way through Sea Trials. The Class of 2012 will be celebrating the end of the year and their upcoming PROTRAMID deployments with a mid-week luau. Members of the Class of 2011 are excited to carry on the traditions of Ring Dance and then participate in their last summer training. Finally, the Class of 2010 is patiently awaiting the day they can finally call themselves Ensigns and Second Lieutenants. They literally can taste Commissioning Day.

As we continue to look forward to the many important upcoming events during the highly anticipated summer, I thought you would find the following list helpful in solidifying your plans and schedules:

- Intersessional Leave Expiration 16 May 2/C, 3/C, 4/C MIDN (2200)
- Intersessional Leave Expiration 18 May 1/C MIDN (1800)
- Sea Trials 18 May All Day
- Commissioning Week 22-28 May
- Class of 2010 Graduation 28 May
- Class of 2014 I-Day 01 July

As this is my first correspondence with you, I wanted to let you know how absolutely thrilled I am to be back home as your 84<sup>th</sup> Commandant. After over 25 years in the Submarine Force, it is truly an honor to be back here where I started my career. I am looking forward to working with our faculty and staff, along with our extended family including all of you, in developing our future Navy and Marine Corps Officers.

All The Best & GO NAVY!



Robert E. Clark II  
Captain, U.S. Navy