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Photo courtesy of MIDN 3/C Nguyen

MIDN stand by while drill pad is being put together. Pictured left to right are MIDN Carter, Moore, Bolteada, Cordova, Nguyen, Pyo & Whyte.

GT NROTC Assists Duluth HS NJROTC

MIDN 4/C Abusaid

Early Saturday morning January 26th, GT NROTC midshipmen travelled to Duluth High School to conduct a mock drill meet. There, midshipmen conducted a personnel inspection and judged the Duluth Naval Junior Reserve Office Corps drill team in five drill routines: armed exhibition, unarmed exhibition, armed basic, unarmed basic and color guard.

During the personnel inspection, midshipman graded cadets not only on their uniform appearance, but their overall knowledge and ability to maintain bearing. On the basic and color guard routines, cadets were judged on their ability to execute their respective drill cards with intensity and accuracy.

During the exhibition drill routines,

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cadets were challenged to use their imagination to create a drill routine to entertain and captivate the audience. This gave the cadets of the Duluth NJROTC an understanding of where they are as a drill team and what needs to be improved on. The experience also gave midshipmen an opportunity to put their drill knowledge to practice. At the end, cadets and midshipmen discussed drill routines and college life in NROTC to cap the successful day.



Photo courtesy of MIDN 3/C Nguyen

Duluth HS NJROTC Cadets are instructed in basic close order drill.

GT NROTC Color Guard Starts Year Off Busy



Photo courtesy of MIDN 3/C Kim

Below, color guard performs at the Georgia Chamber of Commerce Eggs & Issues Breakfast. Above, they present the colors in McCamish Pavilion before Georgia Tech takes on no. 12 Virginia Tech. Color guard has also carried the colors at Georgia Tech Women's Basketball games, Volleyball, and other community events thus far this semester.

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Photo courtesy of MIDN 3/C Nguyen

Midshipmen are ready to judge as the sun rises.

Photo courtesy of the Georgia Chamber of Commerce



Q&A with the Battalion Commanding Officer



MIDN 1/C Lehmann

MIDN 3/C Ward

The *Lookout* conducted a Q&A with Battalion Commanding Officer MIDN 1/C Lehmann to talk about the upcoming semester and her experience at Georgia Tech NROTC.

Lookout: As the Battalion Commanding Officer, what are your goals for the semester?

MIDN 1/C Lehmann: I want to focus on the development of three

Left: GT NROTC color guard marches on stage at the Georgia Chamber of Commerce Egg & Issues Breakfast as Atlanta mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms looks on.

things this semester: Academics, Accountability, and Aptitude. I know that it can be hard at times to balance classes, ROTC responsibilities, and a personal life, but I want MIDN to really strive to find ways to effectively manage everything without having grades plummet. I want to express the reason and the importance of everything we do as unit, and to eliminate the ineffective or inefficient tasks. Lastly, I want to stress the importance of cruise, no matter if it is your first or your last summer training. I want every MIDN to feel prepared, ready, and excited to go out on summer cruise.

Lookout: What excites you most about leading the battalion this semester?

MIDN 1/C Lehmann: I always love the big events that accompany the Spring semester; more specifically, Naval Ball and Commission-

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ing. It is a very exciting semester, and I am humbled that I get to lead the 4/C to CORTRAMID, the 3/C into new leadership positions and newly implemented summer trainings, the 2/C into their Officer Cruise where they (hopefully) will be able to decide what they want to service-select, and the 1/C into commissioning. Overall, I am excited to be able to take all of the knowledge and training that the unit has given me so far and be able to give it back and pass it on to the rest of the battalion.

Lookout: What has shaped your outlook as a leader while in Naval ROTC?

MIDN 1/C Lehmann: My outlook has been shaped by realizing what amazing opportunities we are given in this program. The people we get to meet, the training that we get to participate in, and the many hardships (academically, personally,

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Photo courtesy of the Georgia Chamber of Commerce

etc.) we are put through are all going to make us better leaders. We get the opportunity to meet people that we will likely never get the chance to meet again (the CNO, the SgtMaj of the Marine Corps, a Medal of Honor recipient, high ranking officers from all over the Navy and Marine Corps, just to list a few). They have so much wisdom and experience, and they want to share it with us; that's why they come to visit.

Listen, take notes, and ask questions while you have the chance. Another thing I have learned is that now is the time to make mistakes. Not intentionally, of course, but the purpose of all this training is to be strong and confident leaders when we hit the fleet. No one is a perfect leader when they step up to be a squad leader for the first time, but that's okay, as long as you learn and grow throughout your time in the program.

Lookout: What advice do you have for underclassmen to achieve success?

MIDN 1/C Lehmann: I think I could hold an entire seminar on things I have learned while at Georgia Tech and as a part of the ROTC program. I'll only talk about a few

important ones.

Like I mentioned before, ask questions. This does not only apply to the guest speakers we have at drill.

When you go on cruise, ask to do things! The worst thing that anyone says is "no" and much of the time, you get to do some pretty awesome things. Asking a simple question is what allowed me the opportunity to conn a submarine from on top of the bridge and do barrel rolls in a T -34.

Figure out effective time management methods that work for you. College is difficult and it can be challenging trying to balance ROTC responsibilities with academic expectations and a personal life. Work hard to figure out the best way for you to keep up with everything and stick to it.

Do something that scares you. I went solo skydiving. That was a bit out of my comfort zone to say the least, but a math test now seems a bit less stressful after you jump out of a plane at 14,000 feet. If you haven't learned this already, the Navy (and life) doesn't exactly function on routine and perfect plans. By learning to get out of your comfort zone, you'll be able to handle changes in every aspect of

your life with a clearer head and more flexibility.



Photo courtesy of ENS Medrano MIDN 1/C Lehmann speaks to the battalion during the semesterly awards ceremony.