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Sailor First Class Brooks Robinson of Fleet Diving Unit (Pacific), prepares for underwater activities during Exercise TradeWinds 22. Master Corporal Matthew Tower

Canadian sailors mentor Caribbean divers

"It's always wonderful to have the opportunity to increase someone else's skill by sharing your own knowledge and mentorship."

~Sailor First Class Michael Raco

Peter Mallett Staff Writer

A team of five divers fans out across the Caribbean Sea floor. The divers follow GPS coordinates of possible contraband locations, provided by the United States Coast Guard. With no special equipment on hand, they must rely on their eyes to scan the ocean floor.

Two Clearance Divers of Fleet Diving Unit Pacific (FDU(P)) track the progress overhead on a Mamba inflatable boat.

"Our purpose was to show other nations how we conduct our operations, from initial planning to completing a task at hand," says Sailor First Class (S1) Brooks Robinson.

S1 Robinson and S1 Michael Raco were part of a 13-member dive team of the Canadian Armed Forces personnel participating in the United-Statesled training Exercise TradeWinds 2022 (TW22) in Belize, May 7 to 21. The team also included six clearance divers from Fleet Diving Unit (Atlantic), a port inspection diver, an engineer, a supply technician, a medical technician, and doctor of the Canadian Forces Health Services Group.

The training scenario represents a typical mission of Clearance Divers to recover contraband, explosives, and other debris on the ocean floor, says S1 Raco.

S1 Raco and S1 Robinson trained diving teams from Belize, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, Guyana, St. Kitts and Nevis, and Barbados on the proper procedures of underwater search and recovery techniques. These included line-and-circle searches and developing a mission plan to locate items.

"It's always wonderful to have the opportunity to increase someone else's skill by sharing your own knowledge and mentorship. The learning was a two-way street; I found it beneficial," he says.

The diving training was one component of TW22. The multi-dimensional exercise is led by the U.S. Southern Command, with the goal to build the capacity of partner nations to counter organized crime and conduct humanitarian disaster relief operations.



bygling runner claims Nevry Run 5K title



A fleet-footed 'joggler' set another personal record during Canadian Forces Base Esquimalt annual Navy Run on June 18.

Lieutenant (Navy) Michael-Lucien Bergeron of Naval Reserve Division *HMCS Queen Charlotte* in Charlottetown, P.E.I., recorded the fastest time in the Men's 5KM category while performing a circus-style juggling act for the entire race, known as 'joggling'.

"Many were impressed and I heard a lot of 'wows' – some called me a 'showoff' – but I think overall everyone enjoyed the show," Lt(N) Bergeron said. "It does show that anything is possible if you put your mind to it."

Lt(N) Bergeron crossed the finish line with an impressive time of 17:03 with his three juggling

balls suspended in mid-air. It is not the first time Lt(N)

Bergeron 'joggled' his way to a win. Four years ago he won the navy 10KM race and the Blue Nose 5KM race in Halifax. The last race he won while joggling was a 10KM race in Summerside DEL in huly 2021 Lt(N) Bergeron is

Halifax. The last race he won while joggling was a 10KM race in Summerside P.E.I. in July 2021. Lt(N) Bergeron is also the Guinness Book of World Records holder for 'Faster half marathon joggling with three objects', which he set in Toronto in 2018. Lt(N) Bergeron said his strategy in the race was fairly simple.

"I wanted to stay in the top five and then noticed the leader of the race was having some difficulty running up the hills on the course," he says. "So, with 600 metres to go in the race I made a surge to take the lead and managed to keep it until the finish line. It feels great to be a champion and to have won navy races on both coasts."

Lt(N) Bergeron began running when he was 13 and learned juggling when he was in high school. He combined the two activities on a dare from a university friend. He then set the goal to juggle in a real race, which he achieved in 2014 when he entered the 5KM Navy Run in Halifax. His next goal is to break the Guiness Book's record for a 10KM race while juggling.

Lt(N) Bergeron beat his closest competitor, Matthew Carlson of Victoria, by 11 seconds.

"It's definitely a racing experience I will not soon forget and I was quite surprised an amazed how fast he could run while juggling," Carlson said.

Carlson, who works as a Projects Officer at Base Executive Services, has been hitting personal bests in his 5KM and 10KM times for the past year. He recently recorded a Top Ten finish in the Times Colonist 10KM run in April 2022.

"It feels great to be a champion and to have won navy races on both coasts."

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~ Lieutenant (Navy) Michael-Lucien Bergeron

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Défense nationale National Defence

Canadian military to aid planting of TOO BILLION TREES

Department of National Defense

The Department of National Defence (DND) will plant two billion trees by 2030 as part of the federal government's \$3.2-billion plan to help reduce Canada's greenhouse gas emissions.

The federal government is signing long-term agreements with partners, including provinces and territories, Indigenous organizations and municipalities to plant and grow the trees.

"Planting trees is an important part of our plan to fight climate change, protect biodiversity and create good jobs," said Natural Resources Minister Jonathan Wilkinson.

One of the partners, the Canadian Forces Housing Agency (CFHA), will plant trees at most of its locations across Canada during the next seven years. Half the cost of planting will be covered by the program, with CFHA absorbing the other half, plus long-term tree maintenance. The number of trees to be planted at specific locations will be determined annually by proposals from individual properties.

Millions of conifers have already been planted in British Columbia. Oak, maple, hickory and black walnut trees have been planted in Ontario and Quebec. Although the national program got off to a slow start, in 2021 more than 30 million trees were planted in 500 projects throughout the country.

"Trees are a critical part of our plan to combat climate change and curb biodiversity loss," said Steven Guilbeault, environment and climate change minister.

The tree program will help Canada transition to a net-zero economy, protect and conserve Canadian ecosystems, secure urban resilience to extreme weather events, improve public health, and build a naturepositive future. It is also expected to create more than 4,000 jobs across the country.

"Trees are a critical part of our plan to combat climate change and curb biodiversity loss."

> -Steven Guilbeault, Minister of Environment and Climate Change, Canada

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The Haida, an Indigenous group, has traditionally occupied Haida Gwaii (Queen Charlotte Islands), an archipelago off the coast of British Columbia, for over 12,000 years.

Indigenous sailor embraces navy lifestyle

Royal Canadian Navy Public Affairs

It's a long way from Haida Gwaii, B.C., to Halifax – both in distance and culture, but that did not stop a member of the Haida from joining the Royal Canadian Navy (RCN).

Sailor Third Class (S3) Jesse Ryan comes from a proud family of Haidas who have made it their home for generations. His decision to join the RCN opened up a world of new possibilities.

"Our family's livelihood comes from living off the land and embracing what nature has provided," he says. "I was a commercial fisherman before I joined the navy, much like the rest of my immediate family."

S3 Ryan joined the RCN just over a year ago and is training as a Weapons Engineering Technician in Halifax. Leaving his 450-person home village of Skidegate in Haida Gwaii, where Indigenous people make up most of the community, was a culture shock.

"I have to remind myself a lot of Canada didn't grow up working alongside or interacting with Indigenous people. Sometimes they don't know how to approach someone of a visible minority or ask a question about their culture appropriately" S3 Ryan says. "It's nice so many fellow members of the navy are interested in my culture and would like to know more."

S3 Ryan is aware of the unique Raven Program, hosted by the RCN for Indigenous youth from across Canada. This national program is designed to build bridges with Indigenous communities throughout the country and offers youth the potential for part-time or full-time employment with the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) upon completion.

Whether or not graduates choose to continue with a career in the CAF, Raven helps develop skills such as self-confidence, selfdiscipline, teamwork, time management, respect, and physical fitness.

"One of my instructors during Basic Training was part of the Raven Program," says S3 Ryan. "Master Corporal Brendan Ryan-Lewis was a lot of help during my basic training, printing off drill commands in Haida for me and informing me about the Raven Program. Needless to say, I was very excited to hear about that program."

S3 Ryan has some ideas about how to improve the recruitment of Indigenous people into the military.

"There needs to be more education about the Raven Program in smaller populated areas, whether it be ads on social media or actual recruiters going to smaller locations. There is always an event of some type being held in a village and if there was a knowledgeable military person there to promote the CAF I'm sure the recruitment rate would be much higher.

"I think a lot of Indigenous shy away from the thought of joining the military because they feel like there wouldn't be a place for them to fit in, and that's far from the truth."

S3 Ryan is currently undergoing his trade training and will be posted back to the West Coast this summer.









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HMCS Margaret Brooke completes warm weather trials

Joanie Veitch Trident Staff

HMCS Margaret Brooke returned to homeport in Halifax after nearly a month of warm weather trials.

"We were seeking air temperatures at a maximum of 35 degrees Celsius and a sea water temperature of 29 degrees Celsius. We knew we had to go south; the question was how 'south' did we need to go?" says Lieutenant (Navy) Jennifer Grant, Information Management Officer with HMCS Margaret Brooke.

Canadä

Like the cold weather and ice trials, the warm weather trial program tests various ship systems in different conditions, such as the ability to cool the engines and deal with humidity through the heating, ventilation and air cooling (HVAC) system.

The trials demonstrate the ship can operate safely in both the icy Arctic waters and the warm southern seas.

After analyzing weather conditions for their sailing plan, the ship's crew decided to conduct the trials off Nassau, Bahamas, and Key West Florida.

"Everything went really well." Lt(N) Grant says. "We weren't

able to get to the exact temperatures we were looking for, but we were very close."

"We're monitoring the engine room, the temperature and how well the HVAC system is able to cool, and ensure enough ventilation to keep things cool without creating condensation," she said.

The ship responded well to the various trials, and the crew could identify small issues such as the converters operating at high rpm, which created a domino effect with other systems.

"When we were ramping up the rpm for the shaft, the temperature in the engine spaces increased. That was handled adequately enough by our HVAC system, but the cooling of the converter was so fast it created a risk of condensation. The system picks that up and sends it into an alarm which would then lock out the shafts," she said.

As Senior Mechanical Specialist onboard Margaret Brooke, Master Sailor Matthew Keenan was key in determining what needed to be done during the ship's various work periods.

"I add my recommendations to the priority list for the items that need to be rectified," he says.

During the trials, he stayed in touch with the mechanical and electrical managers to figure out

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"It's those types of issues we're testing because, obviously, we don't want the system to go into red," says Lt(N) Grant. "That's part of the trial, to identify where we have those problems and how we can either rectify them or tweak the system."

With the latest trials wrapped up, Margaret Brooke is a step closer to commissioning, scheduled to take place this fall. The ship and crew will be staying busy until then; after finishing a short work period they'll be back to sea in late July in preparation for Operation Nanook in August and September.

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CANADIAN AND AUSTRALIAN RANGERS TAKE ON THE B.C. INTERIOR



Exercise Northern Lights 2022

Western Sentinel

The Canadian Army's 4th Canadian Ranger Patrol Group welcomed members of the Australian Army's Regional Force Surveillance Group (RFSG) in a joint Exercise Northern Lights 2022, held during the Canadian Rangers' 75th anniversary celebrations.

"We like to come over here and learn about how [the Canadian Rangers] do business, and we enjoy when they come out to Australia and we reciprocate," says Warrant Officer Class Two (WO2) Lucas Boyes, Sergeant Major of the Australian Army's NORFORCE.

Following the Canadian Rangers' 75th anniversary celebrations, the Australians were whisked away to 100 Mile House, where they learned to live off the land before being left to their own devices. The training included ATV safety, an austere gun range for predator control, and how to build a shelter, light a fire, and acquire water and food.

100 Mile House Canadian Ranger Patrol Commander Sergeant Clayton Bennett explained the training came via the Basic Wilderness Survival Training course. Once the training was over, the Australians were dropped off in different locations in small groups to fend for themselves.

Being from a vastly different environment meant the Australians had to adjust from their previous training and life experiences.

"My big bugbear is the cold here," says WO2 Boyes.

WO2 Boyes explained RFSG likes to partner and train with the Canadian Rangers because both entities serve similar purposes in their respective countries – they are both 'the eyes and ears' in the less-accessible regions of their nations.

"We haven't died yet, so that's a bonus," laughed WO2 Boyes.



-Warrant Officer Class Two Lucas Boyes, Sergeant Major, Australian Army



4th Canadian Ranger Patrol Group conducts a wellness check on members of the Australian Army's Regional Force Surveillance Group during training. Pictured here: (L-R): Sergeant Colin Stephen, Warrant Officer Class Two Lucas Boyes, Corporal Leah Price, Major Naisbitt, Canadian Ranger Sergeant Clayton Bennett, and Warrant Officer Kirk McColl.



Canadian Ranger Sergeant Clayton Bennett shows a member of the Australian Army's Regional Force Surveillance Group how to start a small fire during Exercise Northern Lights 2022 in 100 Mile House, B.C. Photos by Captain Natasha Tersigni, 4th Canadian Ranger Patrol Group



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A race participant celebrates as they cross the finish line. Photos by John's Photography

Navy Run sets new records

Peter Mallett Staff Writer

A trailblazing female runner from Nanaimo not only took the title for the women's category in this year's Navy Run's 10KM race, male competitors in the dust

"This is a big deal, it is very hard racing against me so happy when I finished the race and the top male finishers," said Natasha Westwood Lake. Parsons following her victory.

Parsons took fifth ing time of 38:27. vate school teacher began was not fast enough." running races three

Parsons, formerly a member of the men, so I ran most of the race on Morale and Welfare Services, and British Military Royal Engineers. my own, which was difficult with Since then she has competed and nobody to pace against," she said. won multiple road races, triathlons A sea of smiling faces and duathlons.

but also left the majority of her B.C. Provincial Duathlon Championships in Penticton, B.C. in registration numbers. According said Catte, with \$7,660 in dona-That qualified her for the ITU to race organizers, 837 competitors tions raised, compared to \$5,965 World Championships in Standard the men and it made Distance Duathlon in 2020, but 673 in 2021, 660 in 2020, and 735 the event was cancelled due to in 2019. COVID-19. Recently, she won The 2022 event was the first time Canada, Bell Media, Kids Physio, realized, yes, I am multiple races in the Vancouver runners could participate either Pure Body, and Used Victoria. right up there with Island Race Series, and a Vancouver virtually or in-person. Heather All of these logistical factors Island Trail Series 17KM race at Catte, Navy Run Director and

because she 'just ran'.

"Normally in races I try to find a place among all com- guy who is running slightly faster numbers. petitors, with a scorch- than me as this keeps me more motivated," she said. "But the guy I

Parsons tried to narrow the gap in-person event," she says. years ago after throughout but was still nearly moving to four minutes slower than the top finishing male in the race.

In 2019, Parsons won the a behind-the-scenes success story.

registered this year, compared to in 2021.

Senior Manager, Personnel Support overwhelming success, concluded Parsons says her victory came Programs, says offering a virtual race option was a big success and substantially boosted participation safely enjoy coming together as a

"We found virtual participation was so widely praised during the participation in base events," she The 36-year-old pri- was running with in the Navy Run height of COVID-19 restrictions said. "This year's in-person event when we were unable to offer an was a sea of smiling faces, and

This year also marked the second year the Navy Run has partnered lenge themselves. Virtual particiwith Soldier On for fundraising pants were able to find their own "I was not fast enough to catch purposes. The support program challenging routes to run."

Canada with her husband Henry up with the lead pack of four is managed by Canadian Forces contributes to the recovery of ill and injured Canadian Armed Forces members and veterans by This year's Navy Run was also providing sport, recreational, and creative activities. Soldier On The run saw a substantial up-tick fundraising also increased this year,

> Title sponsors for the event included Seaspan Victoria, Babcock

made the 2022 Navy Run an Catte

"The participants were able to community to support each other, get active and start returning to people were truly excited to get back on the race course and chal-







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SUPPORT Wounded Warriors, save big with ACTION PACKS



Peter Mallett Staff Writer

A local fundraising initiative by Wounded Warriors Canada invites you to save money in uncertain financial times while helping a worthwhile cause.

"This fundraising and awareness product is a rare win-win-win formula – with consumers receiving totally free product/service vouchers from over 10 participating local businesses, all while raising major dollars for Wounded Warriors Canada," says Marlene Dube, Campaign Coordinator for Victoria Region.

Wounded Warriors Canada is partnering up with Winnipeg-based MediaScene's Action Pack fundraising and awareness program in Victoria for the second year. Wounded Warriors funds veterans and first responders support programs for the ill and injured veterans. The Action Packs complementary voucher sheets sell for \$25 but have a retail value of over \$250 in redeemable vouchers. A portion of sales proceeds provide service dogs for those overcoming Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) for within the Wounded Warriors Canada program. Victoria businesses offering free

products and services include float house (flotation and sensory deprivation therapy), axe throwing at Wild Play, a trip to BC Aviation Museum, Victoria Bug Zoo, Bosleys by Pet Valu Dog Wash, Whisker's Urban Ranch dog daycare, a free car wash at Victoria Car Wash Ltd., tire rotation at Midas, oxygen yoga, and a meal at Montana's restaurant.

Action Packs 2022 campaign launched on March 1 and concludes on Dec. 31. The vouchers purchased by consumers are valid until June 30, 2023.

The concept of saving

money in uncertain financial times while helping a worthwhile cause is an important selling point for Action Packs, Dube says. A small identifiable team offers Action Packs from booths at the main entrances of major retailers in Victoria, and at local community events. Marlene Dube can be reached at 604-501-9592.





ADVERTORIAL

Plans well underway for 2022 Okanagan Military Tattoo

Get ready for two hours of heart-pounding, fast-paced family entertainment when the 7th annual Okanagan Military Tattoo returns to Vernon in July.

The Okanagan Military Tattoo will stir your heart and feed your soul. It is Vernon's largest annual indoor event and Western Canada's only military tattoo.

The Tattoo will take place at Kal Tire Place with an evening performance on Saturday,

July 23 at 7:00 p.m., and a matinee on Sunday, July 24 at 2:00 p.m.

Over 400 performers will take part, including First Nations, massed pipes and drums, highland dancers, military and civilian bands, cultural troops, precision drills, singers, and the poignant refrain of the Lone Piper against the stunning backdrop of "the Castle".

Plans for the 2022 Okanagan Military Tattoo include the 35 member Naden Band of the

Royal Canadian Navy, and the Pipes & Drums of the Canadian Scottish Regiment. The Langley Ukelele Ensemble will wow the audience, as will the Okanagan Tattoo Dancers.

The annual "Tribute to the Veterans" segment of the program will commemorate the 80th anniversary of the Dieppe Raid.

Tickets are now on sale at Ticketseller in Vernon 250-549-7469, toll free 1-866-311-1011 or online at ticketseller.ca. Special ticket pricing is available for seniors, veterans and groups of 10 people or more. Second World War and Korean War veterans are invited to attend free of charge with their partner or caregiver. All seating is reserved and the shows are indoors with air conditioning.

For more information, check out the Okanagan Military Tattoo website at OkanaganTattoo.ca

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New ship position focuses on respectful relationship building

Joanie Veitch Trident Staff

HMCS Margaret Brooke has created an Indigenous Liaison Officer position as part of the new Arctic Offshore Patrol Ships (AOPS) mandate.

The Indigenous Liaison Officer will work towards building respectful relationships with Indigenous communities in Canada's North. The goal is to promote a greater understanding of the rich history and diverse culture of Indigenous people across Canada.

"This is new, it's something unique to *Margaret Brooke*," said Sub-Lieutenant Emily Gjos, a Naval Warfare Officer with *HMCS Margaret Brooke* and the ship's Indigenous Liaison Officer. "Some ships in the fleet have unit cultural advisors, but this is a newly created position for our ship."

As part of her role, SLt Gjos will advise *Margaret Brooke's* command team and the wider ship's company on Indigenous issues. For their first learning opportunity, the ship's company took part in a blanket exercise marking National Indigenous Peoples Day on June 21 at the Mi'kmaw Native Friendship Centre in Halifax. The day honours the heritage, diverse culture and achievements of First Nations, Inuit and Métis people across Canada.

"It's a powerful exercise that begins a conversation around our shared history, how that relationship has impacted Indigenous people, and what that means for contemporary Indigenous people in Canada today," said SLt Gjos. "It's very emotional and reflective, it helps build awareness in a very approachable way." SLt Gjos is from the Sault Ste. Marie Métis community. She was an elected council member with the Métis Nation of Ontario in Ottawa before joining the Canadian Armed Forces in September 2019. After she joined the military, SLt Gjos continued her diversity and inclusion work through the Defence Aboriginal Advisory Group. She credits Honourable Captain (Navy) Debbie Eisan as a guiding influence in her new role.

"I never thought I'd be able to have a position like this, especially so early in my career," said SLt Gjos. "This is a really positive step. It shows that junior officers like myself can have a role to play in supporting strategic outreach and finding opportunities for respectful relationship building."

"Some ships in the fleet have unit cultural advisors, but this is a newly created position for our ship."

-Sub-Lieutenant Emily Gjos

Sub-Lieutenant Emily Gjos is the Indigenous Liaison Officer with HMCS Margaret Brooke. Joannie Vietch, Trident staff

NAVY MARINE



FLEET NAVIGATION OFFICER COURSE GRADUATION CEREMONY

Presented by Lieutenant-Commander Christopher Maier, Deputy Commandant Naval Fleet School (Pacific) on June 10 Photos by Sailor First Class Mike Goluboff, MARPAC Imaging Services, Esquimalt



Lieutenant (Navy) Vanessa Watts receives a certificate of Military Achievement during the Fleet Navigating Officer Course 2201 graduation ceremony.



Lieutenant (Navy) Sasha St Louis-Hodgins receives a certificate of Military Achievement during the Fleet Navigating Officer Course 2201 graduation ceremony.



Lieutenant (Navy) Liam Moors receives a certificate of Military Achievement during the Fleet Navigating Officer Course 2201 graduation ceremony.



Lieutenant (Navy) Liam Moors receives a Commander's Shield of Excellence, awarded to the top student of the Fleet Navigating Officer (FNO) course 2201 during the FNO course 2201 graduation ceremony.



Graduates of the Fleet Navigating Officer (FNO) course 2201 take a moment for a group photo after receiving their Naval Warfare Officer Badge during their FNO course 2201 graduation ceremony. 14 • LOOKOUT

RECRUIT OFFICER TRAINING PROGRAM CEREMONY

Presented by Lieutenant-Commander David Dallin, Attestation Officer at the Canadian Forces Recruiting Centre in Victoria, B.C. on June 16

Photos by Sailor First Class Mike Goluboff, MARPAC Imaging Services



Officer Cadet Ahnaf Zahin receives a Certificate of Enrollment during the Recruit Officer Training Program Enrollment Ceremony.



Officer Cadet Alexandra Vinzenz receives a Certificate of Enrollment during the Recruit Officer Training Program Enrollment Ceremony.



Officer Cadet Ryan Porteous receives a Certificate of Enrollment during the Recruit Officer Training Program Enrollment Ceremony.



Officer Cadet Keiran Ho-Gillis receives a Certificate of Enrollment during the Recruit Officer Training Program Enrollment Ceremony.



Naval Cadet Michael Ho receives a Certificate of Enrollment during the Recruit Officer Training Program Enrollment Ceremony.



Officer Cadet Ana Clara De Souza Anacleto receives a Certificate of Enrollment during the Recruit Officer Training Program Enrollment Ceremony.



RECRUIT OFFICER TRAINING PROGRAM CEREMONY

Presented by Lieutenant-Commander David Dallin, Attestation Officer at the Canadian Forces Recruiting Centre in Victoria, B.C. on June 16

Photos by Sailor First Class Mike Goluboff, MARPAC Imaging Services



Officer Cadet Gian Bellosillo receives a Certificate of Enrollment during the Recruit Officer Training Program Enrollment Ceremony.



Naval Cadet Egor Grib receives a Certificate of Enrollment during the Recruit Officer Training Program Enrollment Ceremony.



Officer Cadet Natalino Covelli receives a Certificate of Enrollment during the Recruit Officer Training Program Enrollment Ceremony.



Naval Cadet Donald Brown receives a Certificate of Enrollment during the Recruit Officer Training Program Enrollment Ceremony.



Commander Stephan Gresmak presents Naval Cadet Aidan Gresmak (left) with a Certificate of Enrollment during the Recruit Officer Training Program Enrollment Ceremony.



Officer and Naval Cadets take a moment for a group photo during their Recruit Officer Training Program Enrollment Ceremony on June 16.

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