



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

COMMANDANT OF MIDSHIPMEN
U.S. NAVAL ACADEMY
101 BUCHANAN ROAD
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21402-5100

3 November 2009

Dear Parents, Relatives, and Friends,

Now that we have reached the second of three exam periods this semester and are rapidly approaching the holiday season, I would like to bring all of you up to speed on the hugely impressive achievements of the Brigade. Recently, the Brigade hosted several hundred members of the Annapolis community, to include over 300 elementary school children and the Mayor of Annapolis for the 234th birthday celebration of the United States Navy and the 164th Birthday of the Naval Academy. Merging these exciting and prestigious events with the very supportive local community proved to be a fantastic opportunity to recognize our important neighbors, the city of Annapolis and Anne Arundel County. It also served as a means for the midshipmen to interact with the city's youth, setting an outstanding example through their professional and enthusiastic demeanor.

I'd like to take a moment to recognize some of our committed athletic teams who have already achieved the season's ultimate accomplishment by defeating Army. We have posted four victories against Army this fall, with the women's soccer team decisively defeating Army 2-0, the men's soccer winning 1-0 in dramatic fashion in overtime, sprint football persevering and prevailing 7-6, and the men's cross country team defeating Army 19-41, placing 7 runners in the top ten. The spirit and commitment while preparing for these contests was inspiring and in keeping with the tradition of both healthy competition and the camaraderie that surrounds meeting our brothers and sisters in arms on the playing field. Whether in victory or defeat, our midshipmen have represented the Navy and Marine Corps Team, the Naval Academy, and themselves exceedingly well and are to be commended for their super efforts!

Our football team enjoyed tremendous success during two back to back trips to Texas, resulting in a decisive victory over Rice University and a thrilling overtime win versus Southern Methodist University. I am so incredibly proud of our team, its supporting staff, and all of our midshipmen who made the long trip to Texas to support our team. The spirit of the midshipmen and other Navy fans in the crowd resonated throughout and left a lasting impression on everyone in the stadium! I am also truly grateful for the generous support that our extended Naval Academy Family provided in hosting our midshipmen throughout each weekend. The football team then returned home to churn out another relentless run against Wake Forest culminating in a 4th quarter Homecoming victory in front of over 30,000 tremendous alumni and community supporters. I am certain USNA could not succeed in its mission both on and off the field without your dedicated support!

Finally, I would like to provide a new update on our H1N1 and seasonal flu situation. I am pleased to inform you that as a result of the exceptional response of the Naval Academy's Health Clinic Staff, working in conjunction with my key staff members, we have seen a marked decrease in the number of midshipmen experiencing flu-like symptoms, enabling us to secure our isolation ward. The remaining affected midshipmen have returned to designated isolation rooms within company spaces and continue to receive the same important level of personal care. We

have recently learned the anticipated delivery of the H1N1 vaccine is now not expected to occur for active duty military until sometime later this month. The Brigade medical staff has developed an effective plan to inoculate all midshipmen upon the arrival of these designated vaccines. For the most current information regarding preventative measures and cases, please continue to refer to the CDC website at www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/ . I will continue to keep you updated as any new H1N1 related developments arise.

Please accept my sincerest thanks and gratitude for your support of the Brigade's endeavors both on and off the Yard and I look forward to continuing our interaction during this fall season. I expect to send out another update before the December holiday season and always with you the best of health.

NAVY BLUE & GOLD FOREVER!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matt J. Klunder", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Matt Klunder
Captain, U.S. Navy
Commandant of Midshipmen