



## BOARD OF TRUSTEES NEWSLETTER

# Vice President Cheney Welcome New Ensigns as Distinguished Grad Stresses Diversity in a New Age

Photos by Petty Officer 1st Class David Mosely

Vice President Richard B. Cheney welcomed the Coast Guard Academy Class of 2008 to the fleet during the 127th commencement exercises at Cadet Memorial Field here, May 22.

This year's commencement address was the second one given by Cheney in the past four years. Secretary of Homeland Security Michael Chertoff and Commandant of the Coast Guard Adm. Thad Allen were also on hand to welcome the Class of 2008 to the officer corps.

Before presenting commissions to the 217 graduates, Vice President Cheney

told cadets the war on terror would be won on their watch.

"The war on terror is a lengthy enterprise, but it does not have to go on forever," said Cheney.

"The only way to lose this fight is to quit. That would be irresponsible," Cheney said. "More than that, quitting would be an act of betrayal and dishonor," he said.

"I am absolutely convinced that we will succeed in the war on terror, and I'm also convinced that it will happen on your watch," he said.

Vice President Cheney also stressed the importance and high-visibility of the Coast Guard, especially post-Hurricane Katrina.

"Every night a lot of people are thanking God for the United States Coast Guard," said Cheney.

The other highly discussed speaker at this year's commencement ceremony was distinguished graduate DeCarol Davis.

Davis focused her remarks on diversity in a new age of Coast Guard operations. Davis chose to quote historic figure Malcolm X's speech in which he said, "We declare our right on this earth to be a human being, to be respected as a human being... which we intend to bring into existence by any means necessary."

Davis continued by reinforcing to her classmates and fellow ensigns, "For the Coast Guard, by any means necessary is not a willingness to kill for humankind, but more so a willingness to die. This day marks our legacy. Let us make history."

Davis urged her classmates to look beyond the black and white definition of homeland security by asking them to promote renewable energy, by saving lives while defending the nation and by, "treating all people, whether migrant or felon, with mercy and human decency."



# Steve Blum Becomes First to Earn Back-to-Back Academic All-America Honors

Story by Jason Southard - Sports Information Director  
Photo by Jeff Bartlett

Steve Blum, who graduated from the Coast Guard Academy in May, became the first ever Coast Guard Academy athlete to earn back-to-back Academic All-America honors as he was named to the ESPN The Magazine Academic All-America men's cross country/track and field College Division first team as voted on by the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA).

He becomes just the third Coast Guard student athlete to be named a first team Academic All-American, the first since Lis Bosma (women's basketball) in 2004. Bruce Melnick (football) also earned first team honors in 1971.

Blum, who had a 3.42 GPA in Civil Engineering, was a third-team Academic All-American. He earned third team Academic All-America honors last season.

Steve became the first athlete to win three straight New England Division III Decathlon championships this Spring. He earned All-America honors last season outdoors in the javelin with a 4th place finish and this year he finished 12th in the decathlon at the Division III NCAA Championships.

Blum was a member of the Dean's List every semester

at the Academy and is a member of Alpha Lambda Delta and the American Society of Civil Engineers academic clubs. Steve was also a key member of the basketball program which won back-to-back New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference (NEWMAC) tournament championships. The men's team advanced to the Elite Eight this season for the first time in school history.

Blum was also a member of the NEWMAC All-Academic basketball and track teams for two seasons. He was the only College Division athlete from New England named to the first team or second team.

## Brown Named Academic All-American by CoSIDA

Story and photo by Jason Southard

Bobby Brown, who graduated from the Coast Guard Academy in May, has been named to the ESPN The Magazine Academic All-America men's at-large second team as voted on by the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA).

Brown, a seven-time All-American in swimming, earned All-America status in two events, the 200 and 1,650 freestyle this season. He was also named the New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference (NEWMAC) Swimmer of the Year as he led the Bears to their third straight conference championship.

Brown, who had a 3.51 GPA as a Mechanical Engineering major, earned Academic All-America honors for the first time. He was a member of Alpha Lambda Delta, American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) and the Society of American Military Engineers (SAME). He earned the Gold Star for Academics and was named to the Dean's List six times. He also earned the Silver Star for Military Excellence.



# Coast Guard's Vision of the Future: Good News Superintendent Urges Academy to Shine in Public's Eye

By Jennifer Grogan, The Day - New London, CT - Published on August 21, 2008

New London - At the beginning of last school year, the U.S. Coast Guard Academy superintendent was bombarded with questions from the Coast Guard, Congress and the media about how a noose could be left in a cadet's personal belongings and in a staff member's office.

His responses made headlines. And as a former director of governmental and public affairs for the Coast Guard, Rear Adm. J. Scott Burhoe knew what kind of impact stories like these could have.

Burhoe described his vision for the future of the academy Wednesday, and the first thing he told cadets, faculty and staff is that he wants to see positive stories about the school and its graduates.

He wants to read a New York Times article about the academy's leadership and character development program.

He wants to see the academy on the cover of the Chronicle of Higher Education, as a model for physical, mental and social development.

He wants to read stories about recent graduates, who attribute their success to their time in New London.

"If we are clearly recognized as the institution that can instill leadership and character in young men and women as well or better than anybody else, then the world will beat down the door toward us," Burhoe said in an interview after his speech at convocation, an event held to mark the beginning of the academic year. "Parents will want to have their sons and daughters come here and other schools will be interested in how we do it."

This desired effect could help Burhoe accomplish one of his other goals - diversifying the student body, faculty and staff. The number of minorities in the cadet corps has hovered around 13 to 14 percent, while the number of minorities on staff remains at 6 to 7 percent.

Five years from now, he said, the academy will be a mix of people from different "backgrounds, races, creeds and religions," who are more representative of the U.S. population.

Burhoe is working with Coast

Guard Headquarters to hire more admissions personnel and he asked two lieutenants at the academy to focus on attracting minorities to the school.

Academy officials are marketing the school in different regions that have higher percentages of minorities, hosting educators from these areas to tell them more about the school and bringing more minorities into the summer program, where a majority of attendees eventually apply, Burhoe said.

"It's the same way we have improved the experience for women here," Burhoe said. "By having a greater percentage of women here than any other service academy, it makes the climate better and that's exactly what I want to do for underrepresented minorities."

Burhoe announced plans to create centers for scholarship and innovation, ocean policy, enhanced performance and strategic intelligence, similar to the existing Institute for Leadership, as a way to develop expertise in these areas and further connect the academy with the Coast Guard.

He said he also wants to increase the academy's presence in the community, particularly in the New London school system, where cadets can serve as tutors and mentors and young students can participate in activities on campus designed to foster their interest in science, technology, engineering and math.

These changes, Burhoe said, will make the academy the "model military institution of higher learning."

---

*"By having a greater percentage of women here than any other service academy, it makes the climate better and that's exactly what I want to do for underrepresented minorities."*

*Rear Adm. J. Scott Burhoe  
Superintendent of the United States  
Coast Guard Academy*

---



---

## Faculty Awards - 2008 Convocation

*Distinguished Faculty Award*  
Capt. Mark B. Case - Math

*Naval Order Award*  
Lt. Jamie Smith - Math

*Dean's Trophy*  
Women's Cross Country

*Company Academic Excellence*  
Alpha Company

## Faculty Promotions

*Promotion to Full Professor*  
Dr. Sam Wainright - Science  
Dr. Laurel Goulet - Management  
Dr. Richard Zuczek - Humanities

*Promotion to Associate Professor*  
Dr. Eric Johnson - Math

*Promoted to Level II*  
Ray Laforte - Athletics  
Chris Parsons - Athletics  
Bill George - Athletics

---

## 2012 Receives Class Flag at Mystic Seaport

Photo by Petty Officer 2nd Class Gail E. Dale

Members of the Coast Guard Academy Class of 2012 were presented their class flag at Mystic Seaport during a ceremony August 2.

Coast Guard Academy Superintendent Rear Adm. J. Scott Burhoe was in attendance at the presentation ceremony, which is held annually for the Academy's incoming class.

The ceremony marks the halfway point for the new cadets' passage through "Swab Summer," the seven-week summer training program designed to prepare the freshman class for the rigors of life at a military service academy.

"The Flag Ceremony gives the Class of 2012 an opportunity to show their family and friends the progression they have started to make into becoming cadets and future officers in the U.S. Coast Guard," said Rear Adm. J. Scott Burhoe, Superintendent of the Academy.

"The ceremony is made even more special in that we are able to hold it at the Mystic Seaport since our nation's nautical history and traditions are the foundation of our service," said Burhoe.

All Academy personnel, staff, family members of swabs, sponsor families currently sponsoring swabs, and media were invited to the ceremony at Mystic Seaport, which many attended.



### Class of 2012 at a Glance:

1388 Applicants  
295 Sworn in  
29% Women

*International Cadets from Belize, Tunisia, St. Vincent/Grenadines*

## Capt. David Brimblecom Retires as LDC Director, Aviator After 34 Years of Service

Photo by Petty Officer 1st Class Ryan N. Doss

Captain David S. Brimblecom retired as the Academy's Director, Leadership and Development Center at the Coast Guard Academy May 30, after a distinguished career spanning 34 years of service.

A native of Wellesley, MA, Brimblecom enlisted in the Coast Guard in 1974 and attended basic training in Cape May, N.J. Following Aviation Electronics Technician School in Elizabeth City, N.C., his first operational assignment was at Air Station Traverse City, Mich., where he served as a Radio Operator and Navigator on the HU-16 Albatross.

Selected for and completing Officer Candidate School in 1978, he reported to Naval Flight Training and after earning his wings, was assigned to Air Station Cape Cod, MA, where he flew the HH-52 helicopter throughout New England and on numerous Coast Guard cutter deployments.

In 1983, he was assigned to Air Station Brooklyn, N.Y. There he was one of the first aviators to operate a HH-65 helicopter before being assigned as an HH-65 Instructor Pilot at Aviation Training Center Mobile, AL, in 1988.

In 1993, he was assigned to Air Station Savanna, GA, as the Operations Officer, and in 1996, took over the position of Executive Officer. Later in 1998, Brimblecom began his first aviation command assignment as Commanding Officer of Air Station New

Orleans. In 2000, he was assigned to a staff position as the Chief of Search and Rescue for the First Coast Guard District in Boston, MA. He was selected for his second command in 2002 as commanding officer of Air Station Cape Cod, MA, at which he served until 2005.

He was most recently an Aircraft Commander in a Coast Guard HU-15 Falcon jet and accumulated more than 7,000 flight hours throughout his career.

In August 2005, Capt. Brimblecom reported to the Coast Guard Academy as the Director of the Academy's Leadership and Development Center. His family includes his wife Stevie, son Michael, daughter Lauren, daughter-in-law Meredith, son-in-law Charlie, and three grandsons Matthew, Wesley and Jacob.





## Value to the Coast Guard

# Chase E Annex Opens Room for Renovation

Photo by Petty Officer 1st Class Ryan Doss

The fifth annex to the Coast Guard Academy's Cadet and Officer Candidate School barracks, Chase Hall, was dedicated in a ceremony here on June 13.

The Chase E Annex is the latest addition to the original 1932 home to the corps, and has added an additional 70,000 square feet of space, including dormitory rooms, offices and day-rooms for the Corps of Cadets and Officer Candidates.

"The young men and women who choose to be officers in the United States Coast Guard deserve the very best that we can give them ~ the best boats, ships, planes, and yes, the very best buildings," said Academy Superintendent Rear. Adm. J. Scott Burhoe.

The Chase E Annex was designed to match the original 1932 construction, providing a seamless transition between new and old

Chase E cost approximately \$15 million to complete and incorporates today's technology, such as centralized air conditioning and heating. More importantly it provides space to house the corps and allow for the renovation of the four remaining annexes. Planning for Chase E began in 2001 under Capt. Karl Calvo, COMDT (CG-43).

The Nutmeg Construction Corporation, along with the Academy's Civil Engineering department and Einhorn Yafee Prescott Architecture & Engineering P.C. (EYP) finished construction of the Chase E Annex on time and on budget during the tenure of Capt. Joanne McCaffrey, Commanding Officer of the Facilities Design and Construction Center Atlantic and Capt. Joseph Phillips, former Academy Chief of Facilities Engineering.

## Our Mission

The United States Coast Guard Academy is committed to strengthening the nation's future by educating, developing, training, and inspiring leaders of character who are ethically, intellectually, professionally and physically prepared to serve their country and humanity, and who are strong in their resolve to build on the long military and maritime heritage and proud accomplishments of the United States Coast Guard.

## The Board of Trustees Newsletter Staff

Chief Warrant Officer Harry Craft  
Public Affairs Officer

Petty Officer 1st Class Ryan Doss  
Assistant Public Affairs Officer

Petty Officer 2nd Class Gail Dale  
Public Affairs Staff

Petty Officer 3rd Class Timothy Tamargo  
Public Affairs Staff

The Board of Trustees Newsletter is produced by the United States Coast Guard Academy Public Affairs Office and delivered via email, free of charge.

To subscribe, please contact U.S. Coast Guard Academy Public Affairs Office at 860-444-8270.

To submit subscription requests via U.S. Postal Service, please send a written letter of request to:

United States Coast Guard Academy  
Superintendent (spa)  
15 Mohegan Avenue  
New London, CT 06320