



ON THE PISTOL RANGE

Officers who qualified on the pistol range.

NAME	Rank	Qualified
Easter, J. M.	Lt. Comdr.	M
McGlynn, J. J.	Lt. Comdr.	M
Robinson, J. M.	Lieut.	S
Vanzant, R. B.	Lieut.	M
Rice, H. P.	Lieut.	M
Young, A. L. Jr.	Lt. (jg)	S
Williams, F. P.	Lt. (jg)	M
Harris, D. A.	Lt. (jg)	M
Davis, D.	Lt. (jg)	E
Schanze, E. S.	Lt. (jg)	S
Williams, J. W.	Ens.	M
Murphy, W. C.	Ens.	E
Burdick, R. S.	Ens.	E
Barrows, F. C.	Ens.	E
Kingsley, N. E.	Ens.	M
Condit, W. F.	Ch. Gun.	E
Woodroof, O. C.	Mach.	E
Curry, J. E.	Capt. (USMC)	E

Enlisted men who qualified on the pistol range are:

NAME	Rate	Qualified
Sivak, S.	SK3c.	M
Pawlak, A. A.	BM2c.	M
Machado, M. C.	Cox.	M
Mauchley, A. C.	CM3c.	M
Nielson, R. V.	RM3c.	S
Brown, L. L.	Sea1c.	M
Kollomer, L. A.	WT1c.	M
Aue, W.	MM1c.	M
Fabic, J.	Pvt.	E
Chop, J. J.	Tpr.	E
Withey, C. H.	Sgt.	E
Armiger, C.H. jr.	Ffc.	E
Carlquist, J.F.	Pvt	M
Howard, J. M.	Pvt	S
Mooney, G. E. jr.	Pvt	M
Rotch, R. C., jr.	Pvt	M

Continued on page three.

WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY

February the twenty-second is marked in red letters on the calendar because it is Washington's birthday. George Washington is remembered by every small child as the man who was reputed to have gone through life without telling any lies. That, at least was his story for averting punishment when he was accused of chopping down the cherry tree. I am not trying to substantiate this story that is as old as our country nor am I trying to belittle it; but, I do say that it showed conclusively that he was smart even in his infancy. When the prized cherry tree of his father's orchard was found felled to the ground, it was undoubtedly self evident that no one but George could have done the deed and the young father of our country, smart

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LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY

February also includes the birthday of another great American, Abraham Lincoln, 12 February. Although, not so closely associated with our Navy as Washington was, the years he was in office will always be remembered in connection with the history of our navy. In fact, with the era of Lincoln the modern navy was born. It was during his later life that sails gave way to steam. It was the Navy, thru her blockades, which finally forced the South into submission. It was during the Civil War that the first iron clad ships, the Monitor and the Merrimac, appeared. These ships were not only the fore runners of our modern heavily armed ships; but, they were, also, the first ships to use a revolving,

Continued on page four

U. S. S. SMITH LAUNCHED

At 1155 Thursday morning, Mrs. Yancey S. Williams smashed a bottle of champaign across the bow of America's newest man-of-war and spoke the phrase "I christen thee Smith" at this moment the Smith started to move gracefully down the ways and a minute later she floated completely water borne in mid-stream.

This Smith is the second destroyer to be named after Lieutenant Joseph Bryan Smith, the first was a 700 ton coal burning destroyer launched in 1907 and decommissioned in March 1917. During the Civil war, when the Congress was attacked by the Confederate ram, Merrimac, Lieutenant Smith, in the absence of his captain, took command of the Congress and was killed in the ensuing fray. In memory of his bravery the Smith bears his name.

Continued on page two

UP THE LADDER

The following men are to be congratulated for their step up the ladder.

NAME	From	To
Smith, L. M.	Sea1c.	QM3c.
McMurphy, D. B.	SM3c.	SM2c.
Foreman, J. E.	Sea1c.	SM3c.
Arsenault, A. J.	EM3c.	EM2c.
Horobetz, F. E.	RM3c.	RM2c.
Stark, L. C.	SF3c.	SF2c.
Sinclair, C. J.	Sea1c.	SF3c.
Mayhew, F. T.	MM2c.	MM1c.
Sivak, S.	SK3c.	SK2c.
Widetick, R. A.	Sea1c.	SK3c.
Egerter, E.	SC3c.	SC2c.
Farquhar, W. G.	Sea1c.	SC3c.
Pratt, W. H.	F2c.	F1c.
Nier, R. L.	F2c.	F1c.

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--: THE BLUE BONNET :--

A weekly publication, published by the ship's company of the U. S. S. HOUSTON, Captain G. E. Baker, U. S. N., Commanding and Commander P. K. Robottom, U. S. N. Executive Officer.

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PRINTER G. W. Baker, Sealc.

FEBRUARY 22, 1936

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MARLINSPIKE SEAMANSHIP
DISPLAY

Sometime in April a HOUSTON Knot and Splice board shall be shipped to Dallas, Texas to be exhibited in the Naval section of the Texas Centennial. Most every evening now our marlinspike sailors may be found in the flag office industriously preparing a second and more complete knot and splice board to be sent to the great state of Texas.

Since this board is being presented by the HOUSTON, each member of the crew should feel proud in doing his bit toward making this one of the finest to ever go on display.

A good start is already underway, and if we have anyone in the crew who feels he can produce any useful bit of marlinspike seamanship, he has only to drop around to the office in the evenings.

It is hoped to produce a knot and splice board which shall be a truly outstanding exhibition and a credit to the entire Navy as well as the snappy HOUSTON and her fine crew.

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OFFICER TAKES PROMOTION
EXAMINATIONS

This past Wednesday, Lt. Comdr. Arnold commenced taking his promotion examinations for Commander. Mr. Arnold was selected for Commander last year but only recently received his orders to take his professional examinations. Since coming to the HOUSTON in June 1934 from the Naval Academy, where he taught seamanship and Navigation, he has in turn been Gunnery Officer and Navigator, this last job he has had for the past ten months. Best of luck Mr. Arnold.

BASKETBALL

Houston Hoopmen Win Another
By Narrow Margin

On Monday evening, Feb. 17 the HOUSTON played the U.S.S. TRENTON on the Navy "Y" court, this game turning out to be an excellent exhibition of good defensive play throughout.

With Willmuth out of the lineup with a foot injury, Kennedy off form due to a cold and Adams suffering from an injured knee, our hopes were gloomy at the start of the game.

From the very outset our five played a strictly defensive game, and with Henderson leading the attack the TRENTON found very few openings thus forcing them to shoot from deep in the court. Jones worked fine under the basket taking the ball off the backboard continually. Mustain, Devin and Stoddard turned in a commendable performance in being in the thick of every play, smothering many of the scoring opportunities of the opposition.

Highlights of the game were brought to light in the closing moments of the game when, with the TRENTON leading by six points, Henderson sank three long shots from deep in the court to tie the count and with only a few seconds left to play Mustain made a free throw, this one point being the margin of victory as the time-keeper ended the game. Henderson, by virtue of his 16 point total in this game gave ample proof of his ability, while his defensive work was the spark which carried the injury weakened team to a close victory.

The final score was HOUSTON 21, TRENTON 20.

Houston Five Wins Again In Free
Scoring Tilt

Chalking up their sixth win in a row, our basketeers returned from Vacaville last Wednesday evening after having given the Vacaville All Stars their first defeat of the season on their home court. That the All Stars boast a strong lineup may be gleaned from the fact they have defeated every civilian and service team in Vallejo and Mare Island this season.

Using the tip-off in the first half, our five had things their own way, leading by 22 to 10 at the half.

In the second half the West Coast (no tip-off) rule was used. The All Stars took advantage of this, their favorite sayle of play, and soon overcame our lead.

With only six minutes left to play the All Stars were leading 36 to 28. It was then our boys staged the greatest rally of the season to score 25 points in the closing minutes of the game and win by a score of 53 to 41.

With the exception of Ulrey, the entire team was on hand for the game. With their team mates working smoothly with them, Kennedy and Willmuth copped scoring honors once again, 25 and 18 points respectively. Henderson and Mustain were outstanding in their floor play, their breaking up of the All Stars passing attack being a treat to see.

Jones turned in his best game of the season, always being at the right place at the right moment to break up scoring threats continuously.

Adams, Devin and Stoddard, as always, filled in splendidly in the pinches.

Brown officiated the second half and from comments overheard he proved to be one of the most efficient referees to appear on the Vacaville courts this season.

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Continued from page one.

This ship embodies all the latest principles of warship construction. In many respects, she is similar to the new destroyers, Dewey and Alwin, which are now in the yard undergoing overhaul. She is one of the sixteen 1500 ton destroyers which have been built or are being built with funds allotted out of the N. I. R. A. appropriations, another being her sister ship, the Preston, which, already half completed, is being built in the adjoining ways to where the Smith was built.

The ceremonies preceeding the launching started shortly after ten o'clock when Rear Admiral Yancey S. Williams, Commandant of the yard, introduced Mayor Fred Heegler who praised all those connected with the construction of the ship and gave a short review of the activities of the yard along with a brief outline of the history of the ship. The Commandant

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Continued on page three.



**NOSEY
NEWS
by
EV' BODY**

"It won't be long now" chorus the GG boys, as each passing day finds this battle boat gradually taking on her normal appearance. It means—soon we shall be in the land of sunshine, special liberty and tactical maneuvers. The gunnery schedule should please the boys too—musn't lose them thar sea legs yuh know.

It seems the reason "Nuts & Bolts" Johnson smiles once in a while now is because he is about to reach sweet sixteen (total naval service).

"Main Mountair" Nickle dropped around one recent eve and confidentially related: "The new white hope may be popular as the 'Dinuba Dreadnaught' but did you ever hear of me when I was the famous 'Dinuba Destroyer'?" ? ? ?

"Fibber" McKee it seems, is getting to be very forgetful for recently he was running around accusing every one of borrowing his leaders and air hose only to suddenly discover he had hid them atop the Pilot House ? ? ?

Felix has seemed very elated recently thinking our undercover men did not observe him taking that secret pedicure. It should be remembered, all news items are not always used.

Rainey of the Dit-Da boys would like to know how his ill fame preceded him to the ship. Just another example of how efficient our nefarious sleuths are, Muscles.

Some of the youngest Houstonites recently had a first hand view of the proper manner of applying the holy-stone to its most useful purpose. Quite handy having the Chester alongside.

We have reason to believe "Bill"

Kinhartz has given his whole hearted approval to the installation of the streamlined shields in the main-mast.

"Queenie" (ex) Westerfield says "running into stages" is as good an excuse as any when one has many battle scars of the recent variety.

"Weeping Willie" Yates insists we add the Junior to his handle. Now we do think our shipmates will oblige Willie since it has been brought to their attention.

Now that we shall have sound-power phones, our loud-speaking boys will find their gentle voiced shipmates on an equal footing, much to their chagrin.

Continued from page two.

then introduced his wife, the sponser of the ship, told how the christening of a ship had been a life long desire. She was followed by the commandant, himself, who had told of the man whose name the ship now bears. At the conclusion of the Commandant's speech, the band played the "Star Spangled Banner". This was followed by Chaplain E. H. Groth reading the Navy Prayer. In the intervening minutes between the reading of the Navy Prayer and the turning of the tide, Rear Admiral E. H. Campbell, Commandant of the Twelfth Naval District and Commanding General Paul B. Malone in command of the Ninth Corps. Area delivered addresses praising the yard and the newest of Navy ships.

Shortly following General Malone's speech, Commander Adrain R. Smith gave the signal, that the tide had turned, to Lt. Comdr. W. M. Hague, who was in direct charge of the construction. The triggers holding the craft in place were released; the champagne bottle smashed across her bow and the SMITH slid gracefully into the stream.

After reaching the stream the Smith was towed alongside Quay No. 5 where she will be completed. At the present time her hull is only 78% completed; but, it is expected that she will be ready to join the fleet late this summer bringing the Navy that much nearer the strength that our Navy must have.

BOWLING

Showing great improvement in every match, our bowlers rolled their third and most thrilling match, since arrival in Mare Island, against the Sons of Italy team last Friday, Feb. 14. This match was one of the closest ever witnessed in the Farragut alleys, having the spectators actually standing in their seats before the final frame.

Literally speaking, the lead changed with every frame, and it was a heart-breaker for our boys to lose by the small margin of eight pins, still, they were facing one of the strongest local teams who had familiarity with the alleys decidedly in their favor.

Debri and Standafer, through their consistent form, were our outstanding maple spillers, while Guissani of the Sons won the evenings high match total.

Standafer took the high single honors for the HOUSTON by rolling a neat 198.

HOUSTON

NAME	3 Game Total
Debri	528
Standafer	520
Nielson, Sic	489
Gilliam	460
Devin	460
Total	2457

SONS OF ITALY

NAME	3 Game Total
Guissani	534
Brozzi	504
Bassetti	481
Cassarino	472
Costagali	474
Total	2465

Continued from page one

Chapman, G. W.	Pvt.	M
Burns, C.	Pfc	M
Nielson, H. E.	Pfc	S
Wills, V. T.	Pvt	M
Stipetic, M. F.	Pvt	M
Freiheit, L.W.	Pfc	S
Ulrey, L. M.	Pfc	S
Greenwood, W.A.	Gy. Sgt.	M
Ringheim, J. jr.	Pvt	M
Terpsten, N. D.	Sgt	M
Mitchell, G.M.	C.T.C.	E
Brown, M. T.	GM3c.	E
Lee, M.	SM3c.	S
Fagan, A. G.	Cox.	M
Zeitfuss, W. G.	Bug1c.	E
Smith, H. N.	Seal.c.	S
Veach, C. L.	Seal.c.	S
Brandes, A. A.	RM2c.	S

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LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY

Continued from page one

armored turret. It was the Navy that played such an important part in the victories of the Union armies over those of the Confederacy on the Mississippi which in turn helped to bring the war to a successful conclusion.

Although, nothing remains that shows that Lincoln ever made any specific statement for or against the Navy; and, although he probably never set foot on a vessel larger than a river boat, the modern, armored, steam Navy of today is probably more indebted to him for its early birth than to any one man.

WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY

Continued from page one

boy that he was, realized that there was no use trying to deny that he did the deed but that by immediately pleading guilty with a dramatic speech he hoped that he would be shown leniency. It was undoubtedly this smartness and ability to adapt himself to the situation that gained for him the place that he now holds in our history.

Indeed he must have been a remarkable man to have accomplished all that he did in the little time that he had to do it in. Any visitor to our Atlantic states can not help but be impressed by the amount of sleeping our president did. At least, according to the natives of these states, it appears that he slept in every bed in five hundred miles of Washington, and that would take some sleeping.

Pages could be written and have been written concerning the accomplishments of this remarkable man who has played such an important part in the history of our country. I believe every one is familiar enough with these achievements to permit omitting them here. However, we of the Navy must not forget that this man was one of the first important statesmen and Presidents to realize the important place the Navy has in the welfare of our country and it was largely through his efforts that the American Navy was born.

To this day the Navy pays honors to the memory of this great American. On Washington's birthday, the 22nd. of February, every ship of the Navy

in commission, not underway shall full-dress ship at 8 a.m. and remain so dressed until sunset; at noon saluting guns shall fire a national salute of twenty one guns. At sea the same salute shall be fired with the ensign at the peak. At Naval Stations the ensign shall be displayed from 8 a. m. to sunset, and at noon a national salute be fired.

When naval vessels are passing Washington's tomb, Mount Vernon, Va., between sunrise and sunset, full guard and the band are paraded, the ship's bell is tolled and the colors are half-masted at the beginning of the tolling of the bell. When opposite the Tomb taps are sounded on the bugle, the guard presents arms, and officers on deck stand at attention and salute.

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Grimes, H. P.	Pvt	M
Huges, J. J.	Pfc.	M
Golaszewski, S.	Pfc.	M
Bolan, R. V.	Cpl.	M
Jenner, . A.	Pfc	M
Scarierno, N.	GM2c.	M
Nelson, A.	C.C.M.	M
Slodek, R. J.	MM1c.	M
O'Brien, R. W.	BM1c.	M
Martin, J. T.	SF2c.	S
Godaire, W. A.	SF2c.	M
Horobetz, F. E.	RM3c.	M
Bennett, J. W.	MM1c.	E
Hines, L. R.	EM3c.	M
Gariss, R. S.	C.W.T.	M
Shaw, A. A.	MM1c	M
Abbott, T. T.	MM1c.	S
Campbell, R. P.	RM3c.	M
Redding, J. A.	C.S.M.	S
Rimmer, W. S.	MM1c.	M
Larson, G.G.	F.C.3c.	M
Hickling, H.	F.C.3c.	M
Felts, T. B.	SMM3c.	M
Wommack, N. T	MM1c.	M
Wallace, J. K.	GM1c.	S
French, T.	Csmth2c.	M
Cooley, F. D.	Sea1c.	M
Fox, E.	RM3c.	M
Hoover, H. E.	EM3c.	M
Henry, A. J.	GM1c.	M
Kelso, B. H.	MM1c.	M
Crego, R. N.	EM1c.	M
Walter, A. W.	Sea1c.	M
Winig, C. A.	FC3c.	S
Freeman,	GM3c.	M
Gowler,	QM3c.	S
McKee, R. E.	QM2c.	E
Chaney,	Cox	S
Taylor,	CBM	M
Svenberg, F.	FC1c.	M
Kinhartz, W.A.	GM3c.	M

UP THE LADDER

Continued from page one

NAME	From	To
Chase, H. E.	F3c.	F2c.
Drover, R. M.	F3c.	F2c.
Ellwood, R. M.	F3c.	F2c.
Switzer, G. J.	F3c.	F2c.
Pierce, A. D.	F3c.	F2c.
Hirsch, A.A.	F3c.	F2c.
Durham, B. S.	F3c.	F2c.
Krecklow, R. A.	F3c.	F2c.
Phillips, E. C.	F3c.	F2c.
Lafferty, J. W.	F3c.	F2c.
Starke, W. C.	F3c.	F2c.
Baloga, J. A.	F3c.	F2c.
Mohn, C. H.	F3c.	F2c.
Brown, M. T.	GM3c.	GM2c.
Arthur, R. J.	Sea1c.	GM3c.
Svendberg, F.	FC2c.	FC1c.
Hickling, H.	FC3c.	FC2c.
Westfall, M. E.	Sea2c.	Sea1c.
Jones, C. J.	Sea2c.	Sea1c.
Maze, J. T.	Sea2c.	Sea1c.
Burwell, C. H.	Sea2c.	Sea1c.
Baker, G. W.	Sea2c.	Sea1c.
Crayne, T. F.	Sea2c.	Sea1c.
Small, A. J.	Sea2c.	Sea1c.
Engels, L. H.	Sea2c.	Sea1c.
Oliver, J. K.	Sea2c.	Sea1c.
Myers, D. A.	Sea2c.	Sea1c.
Latiolais, B. J.	Sea2c.	Sea1c.
Bunnell, V. L.	Sea2c.	Sea1c.
Sonneman, J. V.	Sea2c.	Sea1c.
Sumstine, W. F.	Sea2c.	Sea1c.
Hennessy, J. K.	Sea2c.	Sea1c.
Sukow, E. G.	Sea2c.	Sea1c.
Madsen, R. D.	Sea2c.	Sea1c.
Nydegger, W.	Sea2c.	Sea1c.
Ross, R. M.	Sea2c.	Sea1c.
Slough, W. M.	Sea2c.	Sea1c.
Garcia, E. O.	Sea2c.	Sea1c.
Duggan, E. F.	Sea2c.	Sea1c.
Rader, H. H.	Sea2c.	Sea1c.
Willmuth, E. G.	Sea2c.	Sea1c.
Tucker, F. J.	Sea2c.	Sea1c.

OFFICER PERSONNEL

The BLUE BONNET and all hands extend a hearty welcome to ChBosn' G. W. Meyers, recently reported aboard for duty as relief for Bosn' M. B. Self who has been transferred to NavHosp, Mare Island, California.

Mr. Meyers comes to the HOUSTON from the U. S. S. RIGEL, and we all wish him a pleasant tour of duty on the good ship HOUSTON.

MAIL THE BLUE BONNET HOME