

**Binnacle**

VALLEJO  
LONG BEACH  
SAN DIEGO

HAWAII

TAHITI

NEW ZEALAND

DECEMBER 1975

CALIFORNIA  
MARITIME

## News in General

### Cruise Itinerary

Well, it's that time of the year again. The Winter months are closing in fast. Dreary days, rain, absence of fun in the sun and moon tans. But cheer up KEEMA, "cause cruise is comin'!"

Nights out on the town in foreign ports, gay towns and cities! Where to this year? Well, who knows! This reporter can only go on information supplied from a reliant, notable source (thanks J.K.).

As you know 1st, 2nd and 4th class (some 3rd class also), you will be departing (E.T.D.) on Jan. 12th, 1975 and go for 4 days of sea training. (Well don't sweat it because it builds the whole man.) This will take place around San Clemente, CA. On that glorious 5th day, if nothing goes wrong (did I say that?), you should be near or possibly in Long Beach, CA, the home of the glorious Queen Mary (tourist trap #638); don't worry 4th class, you'll learn!

After spending time in Long Beach, CA you will be readily whisked away by the beautiful, trouble-free (as long as there aren't any emergency full asterns), luxurious T.S.G.B. to Tahiti. The stay will be nice and sweet, but don't forget, the fun doesn't really start until the next port . . . Auckland, New Zealand! The ratio of everything is supposed to be something like 2 to 1 . . . have fun, middies!

Next is Hilo, Hawaii for the beach buffs and lovers of exotic paraphelia. If you haven't done it yet, you'd better do it now, because soon you'll be on your way to beautiful downtown San Diego. Home Again! (Oh, weary sailor.) On March 12, 1976, Vallejo, CA is the next stop, but not before the smoker and channel fever make the spirits rise (and make CMA bearable again).

Sounds like a good cruise? Well, word has it that if a certain 2000 barrels of fuel oil are not received, the cruise will be to no farther than the nearest other continent (South America?). Well, there is an approximate 75% chance of getting the oil, so don't let it bother you . . . too much!

## Winter Term!

(Or Would You Like to Go to Rory Miller's College by the Sea?)

The Winter term will be here soon and the 3rd class are very anxious to start the New (Or)Deal. (Well, would you believe almost ready to start?)

This will be a new experience for KEEMA students, and in the air is a feeling of mystery. Will it be tough? Who knows! But one thing is for sure, the work load will increase because of the increased frequency of classes.

Some students haven't had the same classes every day since grammar school, while for others this will make them relive their high school days.

On the positive side, there will be field trips scheduled every week. Well, something has to be done to relieve the hum-drum syndrome and the burnt-out boredom . . . perhaps this is the key.

The watches aren't going to be too bad with only one person left behind on weekends to act as M.A. if anything goes wrong, and he'll be sleeping on the T-boat at nights. However, revisions to these statements may be in the making. No watches at all during the school hours, only because of the tremendous school load put on the Middies.

In the evening, the watch will consist of the J.O.D. and the messenger, who will have equal shares of the responsibilities while at the watch desk. This will have to be done in order to catch all emergency phone calls. A sentry will be on the watch bill to perform the usual 2-hour stretch at the "Hot Box" (Sentry Gate).

The M.A. will have the usual overall responsibility and he will sleep on the T-boat on the evenings during the week as well as on the weekends. Equal distribution of watches will be spread equally throughout the Corp, and if the rumors are true, all divisions will be lumped together as one so that equal distribution will be possible.

## What Is A Midshipman?

A Midshipman is a guy who is worked too hard, gets too little sleep, takes verbal abuse no civilian would tolerate, never seems to get paid, seldom gets a jump ahead of the system, rarely has a spare moment, is often asked the impossible — yet he stubbornly refuses to give up. You may wonder why this fellow is willing to stand watch 'til he's dead tired, to serve extra duty for numerous petty offenses, to lose the precious little liberty he rates, to sacrifice the many privileges most people take for granted. It's not because he likes it, he doesn't; it goes much deeper than that. This fellow is looking ahead. He has weighed the possibilities and sees, somewhere beyond the horizon, much to be gained. What he often doesn't realize is that he's learning things many fail to assimilate in a lifetime. He's learning to forget the words "impossible" and "discourage," to face a job squarely regardless of its difficulties, and, most of all, to combine knowledge and ambition with common sense.



The BINNACLE is a monthly publication of the California Maritime Academy, Vallejo, California. The opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of the Corps, Administration, faculty or our staff. All newsworthy items should be submitted to the Editor by the 20th of each month.

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## SPORTS

### Basketball — The Best Year Yet?

The season has started and what a start it has had. With four wins solidly under its belt (along with a loss), the Keelhauers are heading for a packed schedule in the next two weeks. The team has 11 members, which is an exceptionally small squad, as compared to last year's squad.

In addition to the team's smallness, it is a comparatively young ball club with only two Seniors, Mike Betz and Steve Wanderer. The returning starters from last year's club are only two in number, Ron Manley and Kim Estes. These veterans are given the job of getting the team on its feet for the '75-76 season.

The first two games resulted in victories over Sonoma State and College of Notre Dame. The third had a different outcome. In the rematch with Sonoma State the Keelhauers were overcome by the Cosacks early in the game and really never regained their composure as the ball game proceeded. But the Keelhauers showed what it was like to bounce back on their feet. They defeated Dominican College (setting 8 school records in the process), and College of Notre Dame during the Thanksgiving holidays. At press time, the Keelhauers will face Simpson College and College of the Redwoods during the coming week.

This year's team shows a lot more depth than last year's. With the addition of Mike Hilgers and John Cronin in the starting line-up and ready reserves Scott Abel, Jeff Mudget, Stu Potter, Chuck Newman, Scott Strong and Steve Wanderer, this year's team offers the ultimate in excitement for the KEEMA student.

By the way, the team is looking for some cheerleaders who will lead the cheers (rude or otherwise) for the cheering section. Experience is preferred but will accept new blood. Any volunteers?

This month's schedule is:

11/25 Simpson — THERE  
11/28-29 College of the Redwoods — THERE  
12/5 Mendocino — THERE  
\*12/6 Napa College — HOME

\*The Napa College game may have a dance afterwards.

### *In Memory of Dave Costa I-D Class of 1979 — Cal Maritime*



A profound and mysterious beauty is inherent in the swirling gloom of the fog as it creeps across the water and spills over the hills to envelope the land.

The distant moan of a fog horn and the clang of a bell in the mist easily enable a person to momentarily isolate himself from his surroundings and to drift away into a dream of ocean voyages to distant and enchanting lands. There is an intangible lure in the haunting mist which easily draws the mind into a dream, and from within that dream silently out of the gloom emerges the great black form of a freighter which has piled the oceans of the world for many long and strenuous years. Her sides are scarred and bleeding; long streaks of rust issue from her wounds as testament to the numerous battles she has fought and won with the nearly overwhelming forces of the sea. As she glides up the channel with a certain air of majesty about her, one can almost feel the raging power of the great tempests which she has battled in her years of heavily burdened service. Innumerable times the giant waves have pounded against and over her attempting to batter and crush her hull under hundreds of tons of dark cold water. The screaming winds have torn at the hair of her rigging, and the black swirl of the salt laden seas is ever attempting to eat through her skin. If only she could speak, a wealth of experiences would surely be recounted. But it is not really necessary that oral communica-

cation be established, for even as she glides silently by an unforgettable story is told in a language which is understood by all seafaring people. She has met her element, and although she bears many scars from her battles, there is none more ready and willing to brave the seas once more. Who dares to suggest that ships are not in some special way alive?

### Body of Vallejo Man is Found

RICHMOND — A Vallejo man was found dead on the beach at the Point Molate Fuel Depot yesterday, Richmond police reported.

The man, identified as David Joseph Costa, was found about 3:30 p.m. by police following a phone call from a person who said a body was lying on the beach.

Officers report the man was lying face down in the sand, his clothes were wet, and his body was partially decomposed. There was no indication of foul play.

**"Buenos Aires Maru**, cargo-passenger vessel, 9,624 tons. Sunk by an unknown U.S. aircraft, position 2° 44'S, 149° 15'E." So reads the only known account of the fate of this luxurious vessel.

Her pre-war history is equally as vague, for it is only known that the 468-foot ship was built in a Japanese shipyard in 1928.

Unlike her prototype, the scale model of the "Maru" fate when she was doomed to the depths of the Academy's corporation yard.

The model was acquired by the Academy during World War II. She was first displayed in the old Administration Building where a fire charred the hull, and the model was, then, crated and moved into storage. There she lay dormant until the Spring of 1962, when Midshipmen Vacin and Whittier embarked on their restoration project.

Approximately 400 man-hours of labor, many fathoms of small line, and the financial sponsorship of the Propeller Club contributed to the restoration of the model. She has recently emerged from the workshop, a true beauty with her sparkling brightwork and waxen hull.

The model of the **Gropo Maru** has been placed in the Midshipmen's Lounge for the enjoyment of the Corps.

12/8 Stanislaus State — THERE  
12/9 Mendocino — HOME  
12/11 West Valley — HOME

### SEE YA AT THE BALL GAME!

#### Intramurals During Winter?

As of now there are no intramurals scheduled for the Winter trimester (3rd class). If there are any suggestions, please contact Mr. Harry Diavatis and he'll get in touch with the present intramural coordinator.

## Scuttlebut . . . .

(Or Isn't It True?)

As far as the Commandant's Office knows, no one knows who's going or who's staying during the Winter term. Will the 3rd class capture the Bird or will the privilege go to the "Cruise Group?" Well, may the best men win . . . .

..... From the Mess Deck 20 steaks were pilfered. The bandits had to be from good backgrounds because they cleaned up the glass they or he broke to get in.

Word has it that the steaks aren't too good for the bar-b-que pit, but if you're going to cook 'em, let the BINNACLE staff in on it . . . .

..... Glad to hear it, but your Friendly Neighborhood Commandant (Heron) is out of the hospital, after being in for treatment again. As always, you can expect Smiles. (Those must be some awful good treatments . . . .)

..... Lots of Thanks to Mr. and Mrs. P.M. Seiler (Bos'n) for the beautiful COLOR (yes, I did say color) T.V. set. The present school T.V. will go on the ship during the cruise trimester, the new donation will remain in the hands of the 3rd Class. (Staying may have its advantages, huh???) The Maintenance Department may also install a community antennae on the Res. Hall building. Could this be possible???

..... A new Assistant Commandant? No, we're not getting rid of Yinger, but we may have two (yes, two) Assistants to the Commandant-of-Midshipmen. Now, won't that be fun. Less places to hide. One was bad enough, but now three (3)???

..... Merry Christmas to the Corps from the Staff . . . .

..... In case you're interested, there are 5 new lathes for Mr. Lombard. Approximately \$5,000 apiece was spent. The first NEW LATHES since about 1968. Good luck, Mr. LaBombard! . . . .

..... Also, if you're still reading this

paper you'll want to know that for the first time since 1970, BOTH T-boats are running . . . at the same time! Good going T-boat hands . . . .

..... Mr. Behm and Mr. Keever have the work schedules for Dockside steaming, engineers and deckies, respectively. They should be ready by the time the paper is off the presses . . . .

..... Hey, 3rd Class! How about a College Week where we dress and even act like college students? Yeh, it's in the planning for Rory's College by the Sea! More details after the plans are done . . . .

..... Congrats to 1-D Intramural Football Champs (Chimps??) . . . .

..... How about a theatrical movement during the Winter trimester? Plays to do while at school. Think about it, those who started in the high school plays . . . .

..... Congrats to M/S J. (Boo-Foo) Atkinsons who captured a 1st and 2nd place in the sailing festivities awhile back. He sailed against Berkeley, Sonoma, and various other organizations and if you know anything about sailing, you know it wasn't easy to get a first. (Good Sailing, Jess.) . . . .

..... The Cadet Officers Committee, whose names are Mr. Yinger (Chairman), Mr. LaBombard, Mr. Barron, and Mr. Viargues, had chosen M/S K. Estes as the Third Class Commander, and M/S R. Manely as the Third Class X.O. Good Luck Cadets! (You'll Need It!!!) . . . .

..... Watch out for (Commandant?) Mr. Miller; word has it that after the big cheeses are gone he goes into an act that is unbelievable. They say that he's clad in complete uniform with swager stick. Rumor also has it that he will be the Cruise Trimester Commander!!! ('nuff said.) . . . .

..... Good Luck Color Guard and Drill Team on coming performances (Woodland?) (Good job MURK and DOUGHERTY) . . . .

..... Thanx a lot to a certain secretary in a certain office for the typing (Thanx, A.T.).

## A Message

Two questions which have been brought to my attention with a good deal of frequency of late are, "What is a midshipman officer?", and, "What are his duties and responsibilities?"

Both of these questions seem really to be superficial verbalized queries which front for the real question, "Why should these dudes get all those good privileges?" Well, let me answer the first two, and maybe the answer to the third will come naturally.

A midshipman officer is very basically, the person who has proven to his classmates, as well as to the faculty and Administration, that he can get things done. It's true, he is frequently the fall guy who carries unpleasant orders from the "Green Building" to you. But he is also the brave cat who takes the interest of the midshipmen to the Administration and fights for these interests. He is responsible for the appearance, performance, and behavior of his T-boats, Division, or Corps as a whole. His tail gets chewed when something displeases the Indians. His duties involve all the paper work. He has to be fair, knowing that someone will gripe anyway. He is the one who sees the Captain for changes, while midshipmen can only look mean when changes don't materialize immediately.

For all of these things the freak who wears that collar device gets only two evenings of extra liberty. Would you do the same thing for that kind of wages? The guy who decided to take this road didn't take it for two nights of liberty, so don't hold that against him. He is now an officer; give him a break.

*(By John Keever,  
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..... Congrats to Paul Murk as Adj.; Paul Hager and Phil Eichenburger the new Div. Coms., and John Crowley and Matt Fiske the new X.O.'s . . . .

..... The third class will not have to stand T-boat watches in any way shape or form . . . .

..... Thanx to the people of 2-E who made up the clean-up committee after the dance on Saturday . . . .