

CLOUD BUSTER

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U. S. Navy Pre-Flight School, Chapel Hill, N. C.

Saturday, April 1, 1944

Personnel Changes

Seven officers and one enlisted man were detached from this station during the past week, while one officer and one enlisted man reported here for duty.

The officers detached included Lieut. James E. Wadsworth, USNR, battalion officer, Lieut. Paul E. Hawk, USNR, assistant coach, soccer, and Ensign Clarence A. Miller, USNR, platoon officer, all transferred to Commander Fleet Air West Coast, San Diego, Calif.; Lieut. Alan H. Vrooman, USNR, instructor ENS, transferred to Naval Flight Preparatory School, University of Texas at Austin, Texas; Lieut. Robert S. Watts, USNR, senior watch officer, transferred to the Office of the Port Director, New York City; Lt. (jg) Horace Montgomery, USNR, instructor ENS, transferred to Flight Preparatory School, DePauw University, Greencastle, Ind.; and Lt. (jg) J. B. Handrahan, USNR, platoon officer, who is to report to ComAirLant.

Lieut. (jg) Thomas V. Murray, MCVS, has reported here from inactive duty and will be attached to the Naval Dispensary.

John B. Walsh, Sk1c, was detached to PHIBTRABASE, Little Creek, Va.; and Norman William Hildreth, PhM1c, reported aboard from RS-NS, New Orleans, La.

Cadets May Attend Dance Tonight, 2100

A dance, to which cadets are invited, is scheduled from 2100 to 2400 tonight in Woollen Gymnasium. Music will be furnished by Freddie Johnson and his orchestra.

Sponsored by the Order of the Grail on the University campus, admission will be 75 cents, either stag or couple.

Semi-formal attire will be worn by the men, while the coeds will come formal.

Leaders of the Band



THE BIG FOUR of the Navy Pre-Flight School band are pictured above, standing left to right, Melvin L. Wall, Mus2c, co-leader of the swing section, James B. Parsons, Mus1c, leader of the entire band, and William H. Cole, Mus2c, co-leader with Wall of the swing section. Seated in the center is James D. Morgan, Jr., Mus2c, drum major and assistant to Parsons.

From teaching music, business administration, and mathematics in a peacetime world, to guiding a band through colorful regimental reviews, jam sessions, and the diversity of assignments that come to a Navy band in wartime was the step taken by the Big Four of the Navy Pre-Flight School Band when they entered the service in 1942.

Each of the quartet was a professional musician before entering the Navy, and each a college graduate.

Leader of the band, James B. Parsons, Mus1c, received the BA and BM degrees in 1934 from James Millikan University and Conservatory of Music, located at Decatur, Ill. Following graduation he became field agent for Lincoln University (University of Missouri), Jefferson City, Mo., and served successively there as freshman dean and instructor of music until 1938 when he was appointed acting head of the music depart-

ment. In 1940 he was granted sabbatical leave from Lincoln to become director of instrumental music for the Negro school system in Greensboro, N. C.

Drum major of the band and assistant to Parsons is James D. Morgan, Jr., Mus2c. Morgan was graduated from the Agricultural and Technical College, Greensboro, N. C., with a BS degree in 1941. He majored in mathematics. See BAND LEADERS, page 4

Navy Won't Reach Maximum Strength Until Next Year

The Navy is still expanding and will not reach its maximum strength until some time in 1945 under present plans. The significance of the Navy's continuing need for officers, men and WAVES is reflected in the following figures:

The number of ships in commission increased from 913 on January 1, 1942, to 4,167 on January 1, 1944. In 1941 The Bureau of Naval Personnel manned an average of one ship per day; in 1942, 3.4 ships were commissioned each day; in 1943 the number was 5.6 ships per day; in calendar year 1944 the estimate is an average of 11.7 ships commissioned each day. This number includes only ships in commission and does not include district craft such as oil barges, small miscellaneous amphibious craft, etc., which are also manned with Naval personnel.

To meet its needs for enlisted personnel the Navy is proceeding according to plan by gradually increased Selective Service quotas.

Since the urgent need for technically trained young officers continues the Navy plans to continue the Navy College Program and the capacities of Naval Reserve Midshipmen's Schools have been increased. Young, seagoing officers under 35 years of age are particu-

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Movie Schedule

Sat., April 1—Free movies at Village Theatre, "Ridin' High" with Dorothy Lamour & Dick Powell. Feature starts at 1400, 1538, 1930, 2108. Complete show 1 hr. 38 min.

Sun., April 2—Free movies at Village Theatre. "The Iron Major" with Pat O'Brien. Feature starts at 1310 and 1445. Complete show 1 hr. 35 min.