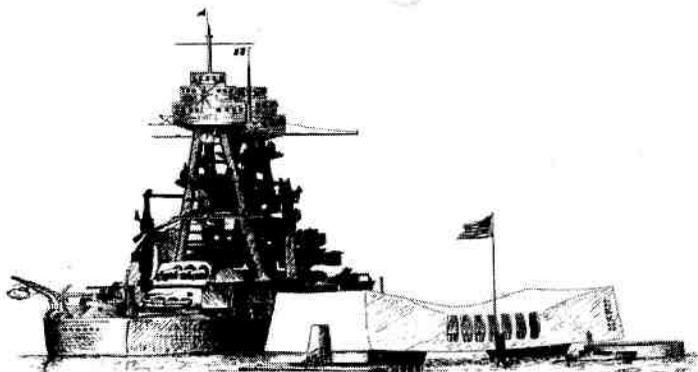


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**POC: MCC David Rush 473-3788**

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## **Navy shares oceanographic experience with ‘Sea Scholars’**

**(PEARL HARBOR, Hawaii)** -- This summer, the Navy selected 13 men and women to sail the high seas as unconventional Navy sailors—teachers. Oceanographers at Naval Oceanographic Office (NAVOCEANO) and the University of Southern Mississippi selected teachers from schools across the country to participate in Sea Scholars, a well-established program that helps teachers merge real-life scientific applications into classroom topics.

Sea Scholars allows K-12 math and science teachers to travel aboard an operational oceanographic survey ships for a real seven- to ten-day oceanographic survey. By eating, sleeping and attending class onboard the ship, the teachers gain an understanding of what life is like for oceanographic surveyors, the complexities and importance of the work and how to incorporate some of what they learn into their class lesson plans.

The 2006 class of Sea Scholars will soon board the 329-ft. USNS Pathfinder in Pearl Harbor and begin taking part in many everyday ship activities including deploying over-the-side sensors, launching weather balloons, processing bathymetric data, examining mud, listening to underwater ocean noise and studying bioluminescence (plankton that emit light).

*Preceding Information provided by Naval Oceanographic Office, Public Affairs, Lanee Cooksey, Phone: (228) 688-5649, Fax: (228) 688-4920, <https://www.navo.navy.mil>*

***Media interested in interviewing participants onboard USNS Pathfinder on Monday, Aug. 7, please contact Chief David Rush at (808) 473-3788 by noon, Friday, Aug.4 at the Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs office. Media will be met at Pass and ID Parking Lot at 8 a.m.***

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