

News release



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Everett High School Sea Gulls NJROTC color guard champions on and off the field

All-girl team earns championship and receives compliments for great sportsmanship



Cerna Tarpley, Sammy Durr, Susanna Komp, Kelsey Southwick stand proudly with Principal Sally Lancaster.

Hours and hours of practice, motivated by determination, passion and perseverance, pay off! The Everett High School's NJROTC Color Guard Team One competed in the *NW Regional Drill Championships* in Oak Harbor and won the championship. They out-shown twenty-three other schools (Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Air Force) from Oregon and western Washington.

Everett High School has one of the few all-girl color guard teams and includes: **Susanna Komp, Kelsey Southwick, Cerna Tarpley and Sammy Durr.**

"Additionally, **Sammy Durr** and **Henrick Kiaer** competed in *Unarmed Drill Down* against nearly 70 other cadets," said Commander Rick Gile. "In this event, cadets respond to drill orders and are judged by their precision in executing them. Any mistake, however slight, takes them out of the competition. The event goes on until only one is left standing.

"This year two of the three left standing were Everett's own **Sammy Durr**, who earned a gold medal, and **Henrick Kiaer**, who earned a bronze medal. Very cool – two Everett cadets made it to the end," said Gile.

"As proud as I am with their achievements, I must also say how proud I am of Everett cadets' sportsmanship!" continued Gile.

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Presenting colors at recent Everett Public Schools Foundation annual breakfast

"While competing in a physical fitness event, the team we were competing against did not have enough of their own cadets to hold feet for sit-ups. The judges solicited the crowd for volunteers and Everett Cadets jumped in to help the other team! Also, out on the track, as Everett runners finished, they ran back down the track to genuinely cheer on the other team's runners.

"I overheard comments from spectators saying they rarely see sportsmanship like this at drill competition," said Gile.

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