

## Local teen achieves honors at Naval Sea Cadet recruit training boot camp

**Posted:** Tuesday, January 8, 2008 10:53 AM CST

Special to the Daily News

JOHNSTON — Gunnar Shipley of Newton is among 14 cadets from the Central Iowa Division of the United States Naval Sea Cadet Corps who recently completed a 12-day Naval Sea Cadet recruit training boot camp at Camp Dodge in Johnston.

Twenty-eight cadets from around the Midwest graduated in a ceremony on Saturday in Johnston.

Cadet Shipley, the son of Ted and Kala Shipley of Newton, distinguished himself at training by earning the Honor Cadet award, the highest honor that can be earned at recruit training. The award is presented to the individual cadet who displays an uncommon level of motivation, physical readiness, determination, esprit de corps and effort throughout the training cycle. For his efforts, Cadet Shipley has been awarded the Meritorious Recognition Ribbon by the Naval Sea Cadet Corps.

Sea Cadet training is conducted by Marine Corps Non-Commissioned Officers and Sea Cadet Officers and Midshipmen. During the highly intensive training, cadets received an orientation to military life, military heritage, Navy Corps Values, military customs and courtesies, watch standing, military drill and ceremony, marksmanship and weapons safety, weapons qualification, physical training, swim qualifications, fire fighting, damage control, personal and professional ethics, healthy lifestyles and general military knowledge.

“The Camp Dodge recruit training is an intense, demanding training. Cadet Shipley did an outstanding job at training,” said LT Eric Goslinga, commanding officer of the Central Iowa Division. “At all times Shipley performed at a very high level and represented his unit, family and community with distinction. He is a young man of integrity.”

Sea Cadets is an activity open to all males and females ages 10 to 17 who have an interest in an adventure program with a military structure. Many cadets enrolling in the program have an interest in pursuing military academy appointments, ROTC Scholarships or enlisted careers in the Armed Services, although there is no military obligation attached to program participation. Cadets have the opportunity to travel world-wide for various training opportunities. For more information about participation in the program, visit the Central Iowa Division Web site at [www.iowacadets.org](http://www.iowacadets.org) or call (641) 752-0861.



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