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HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS FROM ACROSS THE NATION LEARN, STUDY HISTORY ON USS WISCONSIN

Norfolk, VA (CNRMA) – More than 400 students, local and from out of state, will visit the USS WISCONSIN this week as part of the Hampton Roads Naval Museum's on-going educational mission that teaches young people about U.S. naval history and compliments standards of learning requirements.

Tonight (6 p.m.), 120 students from Harrisburg High School from Harrisburg, PA, Naval Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (NJROTC) will visit the historic battleship and the largest artifact at the Hampton Roads Naval Museum in downtown Norfolk. This is the fourth year in a row the group has included a visit to the ship as part of the military program. An integral mission of the naval museum is to aid the recruitment effort of all of the nation's armed services. The program has attracted JROTC students from as far way as Michigan.

Saturday, afternoon more than 250 high school students from various cities in Wisconsin (three different schools in three different cities) will visit the ship as part of a historical tour that includes visits to Richmond, Williamsburg and Washington D.C.. This is the 3rd year in a row the students from the battleship's namesake state have visited Norfolk.

Since the Navy opened the battleship to public visitation in 2001, more than 40,000 students have participated in the educational programs offered by the naval museum. "Working with educators, we have developed programs that support the Virginia SOLs," said Kathryn Shaffner, coordinator of the ship's educational programs. Shaffner said teacher advisory groups, and social studies coordinators from local school systems have worked closely with the museum to put together meaningful and interesting programs at the museum on the downtown Norfolk waterfront.

For information on visiting the ship and Hampton Roads Naval Museum call 757-322-2987 or visit the museum's web site, <http://www.hrnm.navy.mil/>.

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MEDIA NOTE: Media desiring interviews, photo/b-roll opportunities regarding this release may contact the Navy's Mid-Atlantic Public Affairs Office at 322-2853.