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THURSDAY OCTOBER 22, 2009



22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit

during Bright Star 2009



CAPT. CLARK D. CARPENTER 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit

forces oalition along with Ma-rines and sailors from the 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit and Bataan Amphibious Ready Group stormed Egyptian beaches near Alexandria during a major amphibious assault demonstration Oct. 12, as part of Exercise Bright Star 2009.

The assault combined the forces of the Egyptian army and navy, Pakistani marines, Kuwaiti marines, U.S. Navy and Marine Corps forces from the MEU and ARG.

Y PAIR

"The amphibious assault demonstration was not only a great demonstration of the co-operation of regional militaries, but it highlighted the amphibi-ous expertise of the Marine Corps, Navy and coalition partners," said Col. Gareth F. Brandl, commanding officer of

the 22nd MEU.

According to MEU operations officer, Lt. Col. David Owen, the MEU has been planning for the exercise since June. Final death of the amphaions consult demonstration were constant that the constant of the sample of assault demonstration were coordinated between coalition participants upon arrival earlier in the week, he added.

"There was a significant amount of detailed planning that went into this event to en-sure success," said Owen. "This sure success," said Owen. "This is a great example of how we can come together with our partner nations in this region, regardless of any language barrier, and plan and execute very complex mission sets like the amphibious assault demonstration today."

Although the demonstration

Although the demonstration did not begin until mid-day, movement of aircraft, personnel and equipment began before the sun had risen. The previous day included a full rehearsal to ensure the precise timing of the landing.

Twelve aircraft from MEU, five landing craft from the Bataan Amphibious Ready Group, two Egyptian landing craft utilities, six amphibious assault vehicles, five Egyptian amphibious tracked vehicles and a host of forces from other partner nations participated in the great

"This was a team effort," said Brandl. "Conducting operations like this with our partner nations now will help ensure we can conduct future missions in proficient and professional manner.

The day's event began as a team of Egyptian special forces inserted on the beach, simulating beach reconnaissance prior to the assault. Shortly after, four AV-8B Harriers from Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 263 (Reinforced), attached to 22nd MEU, streaked over the viewing stand to simulate the targeting of enemy positions on the beach.

SEE BEACH 11A



Photo by Staff Sgr. Matt Epright
(Top) Marines from India Company, Battalion Landing
Team, 3rd Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment, 22nd
Marine Expeditionary Unit, assault the beach during an
amphiblous assault demonstration conducted as part of
Bright Star 2009 in Egypt Oct. 12. (Above) A light-armored
vehicle from Weapons Company, Battalion Landing
Team, 3rd Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment, 22nd Marine
Expeditionary Unit, assaults the beach from a landing
craft utility from Assault Craft Unit 2 during an amphibious
assault demonstration conducted as part of Bright Star
2009 in Egypt Oct. 12.

HELMAND PROVINCE, AFGHANISTAN

2/8 tackles key Taliban re-supply point

MARINES CLEAR TALIBAN FROM BUJI

LEJEUNE SPORTS IB INSIDE LEJEUNE IC CLASSIFIEDS 4C CAROLINA LIVING ID

Marine Expeditionary Brigade Gaining the trust and support of the people of Afghanistan is essential to the mission in Hel-mand province. The Marines with

CPL. MICHAEL CURVIN

Company E patrol the streets of Lakari to do just that. Marines with Company E, 2nd Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment, Marine Expeditionary Brigade – Afghanistan completed two pa-

trols covering the northern and southern areas of Lakari village, Helmand province, Afghanistan,

Oct. 5.
With assistance from the Afghan National Army, Marines built a rapport with the local population, opening lines of population, opening lines of communication and adjusting to the roads in their new area

of operation. While conducting operations here, the Marines are positioned between Lakari market and Garmsir district trying to

stop insurgent movement.
"Us coming here was a big blow to (insurgent forces)," said Sgt. Nathan T. Donoho, a machine gun "Lakari market was one of their resupply points."

resupply points."

Marines worked alongside
ANA soldiers on their patrols, enhancing the Marines' interaction
with the villagers. Speaking in Pashtu, the ANA soldiers give International Security Assistance Forces an edge, making civilians more
comfortable when they speak to
and see their nation's army.

"In the end, we're here work-

"In the end, we're here working together," said Donoho. "It's something that a lot of people look at and they see (both ANA

8th Marine Regiment received in Garmsir District, Donoho said In the north, the population was more hesitant around the Marines, whereas here they seem to

"The people here have been very open and welcoming to us," he said. "They're actually very happy that we're here."

The enemy is not the Afghan people, but evidence of insurgent forces lies among them, said Donoho. Even with such warm hospitality from the local population, Lakari village, and its surrounding areas witnessed some of the harshest fighting in Helmand this past July. The biggest dangers facing Marines here include road-

here, it has been firefights with the Taliban," he added. "In the fields, you'll run into mostly small arms attacks, but going into the more populated areas start seeing more (improvised explosive devices)."

Donoho believes the insur-

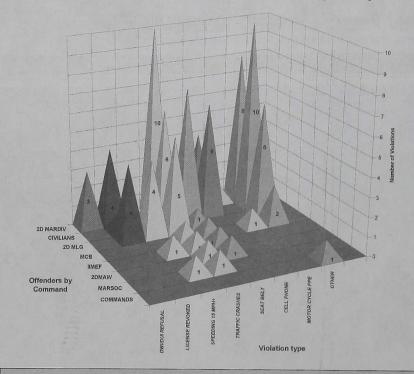
gency uses IEDs in more populated areas to control the amount of damage caused to the general population. With small arms, one has to have accuracy in hitting their target causing stray shots that can hurt or kill civilians.

'Also, they know if they're too close to us, that we can engage them very quickly," Donoho said. "It's a mix of both these things

SFF RE-SUPPLY 11A



Traffic violations aboard Camp Lejeune



This graph represents traffic violations and driving while intoxicated / driving under the influence refusals for Camp Lejeune during the week of Oct. 13 through Oct. 16.

Traffic violations are defined as: driving while license revoked, speeding in excess of 15 mph or over, traffic crashes, seatbelt, cellular telephone and motorcycle personal protective equipment violations.

Source: Command Inspector General's Office for Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune

SemperSafe

How to avoid embarassing and often painful slips, trips and falls

falling causes more work-place injuries than you would imagine. An estimated 300,000 disabling injuries occur each year in the American work force, resulting in 1,400 worker deaths. Slips, trips and falls account for 15 to 20 percent of all workers' compensation costs. To date, Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune has eight recorded mishaps due to slips, trips and falls accounting for 15 percent of the total mishaps. All were preventable if they would have applied the key measures listed below. Think back, were you ever involved in an embarrassing slip, trip or fall or you no-ticed something at home or in your work environment that could cause a slip, trip or fall? The potential is there, but most importantly this

type of mishap is preventable. To prevent this from occurring, you must first un-derstand what causes them.

•A SLIP occurs when

there isn't enough friction or traction between your feet and the surface you are walking on. Ice, water, oil and cleaning fluids are among

the most common causes.
•A TRIP occurs when your foot contacts an object causing you to loose your balance. The most common causes of trips are: clutter, uncovered electrical cords/cables, wrinkled carpet, cables, wrinkled carpet, rugs, a hole, uneven floor or carpet, pavement in your sidewalk or parking lot, poor lighting, open drawers/files in an of-fice, and unseen obstacles

around corners.
•A FALL occurs when you lose your balance and your footing. The most

common cause of a fall at the worksite is the unsafe use of ladders-using ladders incorrectly or using the

wrong type.

Here are some key measures to help prevent these types of mishaps from oc-

*To prevent slips, it's a good idea to always clean up spills promptly and then put up a sign and re-route foot traffic if an area is wet. If you have to walk across a wet surface, shorten your stride to keep the center of balance under you, walk with your feet pointed slightly outward and make wide turns, and if it's a regular occurrence wear slip-resistant footwear.

•To prevent trips, inspect ur work area for cords and clutter, maintain proper lighting and practice good housekeeping. Inspect your

daily for damage or changes in elevation. Changes in elevation of a quarter to half inches can cause a trip. Using signs, caution tape and marking these areas are pre-ventable measures you can

take to prevent a trip.

•To prevent falls, use ladders properly, always use handrails when walking up or down stairs, maintain proper lighting in stairwells, docks and ramps, wear appropriate footwear for the job.

The key to preventing this type of mishap is to remember this: If you drop it, pick it up. If you spill it, wipe it up. Look where you are going, and go where you are going, and go where you are looking. Much like being a "defensive driver" to avoid accidents, one must also be a "defensive walker" to avoid slips, trips and falls.

MAN ON THE STREET

What do you do to get ready fo work?



"Nothing really, I get up and go.'



Steven Stokes ractor ville, N.C.

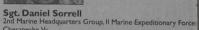


"I wake up an hou and a half before a stretch. Then I take shower, get dresser grab my football ge pop tarts and oran juice, and then I try make it to the gate.

Sgt. Anthony R. Glover Company A. 8th Communication



"I get myself and n kids ready."





"I fight the alarm cla and get out of bed. T I shower, shave, bruk my teeth, and put o deodorant. I usual. skip breakfast then head off to work."



"I exercise with my squad."



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Flip Flop Doodles By Matt Kellogg





larines conduct counter insurgency operations in Lakari village

THE GLOBE, CAMP LEJEUNE, N.C.

Set ready for L. MICHAEL J. CURVIN rine Expeditionary rade - Afghanistan

E STREET

wing really, I been the cornerstone of success of Marines with mpany E, 2nd Battalion, Marine Regiment, Ma-

Expeditionary Brigade-chanistan as combat operaas take them farther south helmand province.

By establishing open lines communication and secufor the villagers in their rent area of responsibility rounding Patrol Base Lari, established Oct. 2, the arines receive information tuable to their efforts to dealf before a "We're trying to defeat the

Then I take emy with unconventional eget dresser eans," said 1st Lt. Patrick football ger and orans, and er with Company E, then I try a fighanistan. "We don't have to the gate is in a (counter insurgency) tht."

The Marines understand at to win this conflict, the self and mopulation must support em, Nevins said. By workg together with the civilians, e Marines have improved curity in a highly volatile ea with aid from the U.S. rmy and Afghan National

ready."

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Taking the time to en-age Afghan citizens and lentify their concerns and sues contributes to efforts

sues contributes to enorse paint the support of the scal population.

By addressing the population's problems, coalition of bed. To come here are preparing the population of bed. To come here are preparing the population of bed. To come here are preparing the population of bed. To come here are preparing the population of bed. To come here are preparing the problems of the proble

nation, Nevins said.
"This is their country," he "This is their country, inc.
said. "Once we leave, they're
going to be the ones responsible for continuing the work
that we've done. They're the
ones that have to live with the results. They have the greatest stake in what we do here."

Speaking with village el-ders before moving through their villages has produced positive results in this region, giving Nevins and his Ma-rines a communication ad-

vantage over the enemy.
"I let them know that I'm here for them," Nevins said.
"If there is anything they need then they can come talk to me. We're just working on building relationships and mutual trust.'

mutual trust."

Nevins says geography
plays a major role in counter insurgency operations
throughout Helmand province. Villagers close to ISAF
installations depend on the
security these compounds offer and the communication
they provide whereas promi they provide, whereas populations living farther away from coalition positions are not able to see what coalition forces are doing for them.

As MEB-Afghanistan continues operations in southern Helmand provinces more and

Helmand province, more and more smiles greet Marines as they patrol through villages and surrounding areas. More often Nevins sees his Marines treated as friends by communities that once met them with ties that once met them with

"They welcomed us with open arms," said Sgt. Anthony D. Matthews, a squad leader with Company E, 2nd Battalion, 8th Marines, MEB-Afghanistan when his

kari village for just the second time since moving into the area. "Even though we didn't

give out stuff last time, they we're all over us."

Often Marines, weighted down with flaks, helmets and weapons, also carry brightly-colored stuffed animals and candy as the walk the village

"They love us," Matthews said. "When we start getting a bigger presence, they'll recognize that we're here for

The patrols have also started to expose a shift in public opinion toward the Taliban and a new willingness by the

Afghans to voice this shift.

"They hate them just like we hate them," Matthews said. "It seems like they learned to live with them"



Photo by Cpl. Michael J. Curvin counter insurgency operations in Lakari village recently, children

come out to greet service members.
and now they realize there is coalition and insurgent forc-

a better life available to them.

The battle for popular support rages on here between

es. With each smiling face, the Marines rest a little easier. The more communication with villagers, the more infor-mation the Marines have to force Taliban fighters out of



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An Afghan National Army soldier provides security at a local school in Nawa District, Helmand province, Afghanistan Oct. 8. Marines with Company B Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, Regimental Combat Team 3, and ANA soldiers visited the school to discuss fixing structural damage.

HELMAND PROVINCE, AFGHANISTAN

turn attention to improving local schoolhous:

LANCE CPL. JOHN M.

Regimental Combat Team 3 Civil Affairs Marines with Company B, 1st Bat-talion, 5th Marine Regi-ment, Regimental Com-bat Team 3, visited a local

with teachers about refur-bishing their schoolhouse.

"We've been there a few times before, asking for the school to be opened," said Sgt. Scott Spaulding, a civil affairs specialist. "This affairs specialist. "This was actually the first time that we saw students being

school here Oct. 8 to talk

According to what locals have told Marines, three to four years ago a group of Taliban militants set off a bomb inside the school to keep children from attend-ing. The explosion caused structural Windows were blown out

Since the bombing, the schoolhouse was closed with no one to look after the building until only recently.

"The whole school needs a lot of improve-ments. Only some of the classrooms are operational right now, and the well they

have is broken," said Sgt. Christopher Velazquez, a civil affairs team chief. "We want to make it a fully functioning school." With this school as their

current focus, the civil af-fairs Marines hope to have more projects like this one in the future.

"Even though the po-ect is moving slowly! I think it is better that ay because it gives us a charce to make sure that things at being done right," Spaid-ing said. "I think we re making a difference, us it is going to take time of things to really change." things to really change.

Col. Patr

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Commander in Chief issues Executive Order on texting and driving

FORCE PRESERVATION

* An Executive Order to eliminate text messaging while driving was signed by President Barack Obama Oct. 1. With nearly 3 million civilian employ-ees, the Federal Government has taken this measure to reduce the dangers of text messaging while driving. Recent deadly crashes involving drivers distracted by text messaging while behind the wheel highlight a growing danger on our roads. This order is summarized in the bullets below. For more information, or to read the order in its entirety, follow this link: http://www.whitehouse.gov/the_press_office/Executive-Order-Federal-Leadership-on-Reducing-Text-Messsaging-while-Driving/

- · Every day, Federal employees drive Government-owned, or Government-leased or privately-owned vehicles on official Government busi-
- Some Federal employees use Government-supplied electronic devices to text or e-mail while driving.
- · A Federal Government-wide prohibition (ban) on the use of text messaging while driving on official business or while using Government-supplied equipment will help save lives, reduce injuries, and set an example for state and local governments, private employers, and dividual drivers.
- This policy is extended to cover Federal contractors as well.

Text Messaging While Driving by Federal Employees:

- ederal employees shall not engage in text messaging while:

 driving a GOV, or when driving a POV while on official Govern-
- or use electronic equipment supplied by the Government while driving.

- USMC Implementation:
 The Marine Corps has had similar "distracted driving" guidelines in place for several years. Distracted driving is defined in MCO 5100.19E
 Marine Corps Traffic Safety Program (DRIVESAFE) and specifically addresses cellular phone use while driving.

 Corps of the Corps Traffic Safety Program (DRIVESAFE) and specifically addresses cellular phone use while driving.
 - Distracted driving, specifically texting, will be further addressed in

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Lt. Col. Patrick J. Cashman, 2nd Battallon, 3rd Marine Regiment battalion commander, sits next to the Afghan National Army commander during a village shura in the Buji Bhast Pass, Oct. 10.

FORWARD OPERATING BASE DELARAM, AFGHANISTAN

Marines clear Taliban from Buji Bhast Pass

LANCE CPL. JOHN P.

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though the oving slowl better that

gives us a ch re that thing e right," Spa "I think we

difference, to take tim ally change. Regimental Combat Team 3

Marines from 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment conducted Operation Germinate to clear Taliban insurgents out of a pass through the Buji Bhast Mountains near here Oct. 6- through 10. The pass is the most direct route from the southern plain here to the dis-trict center of Golestan District in Battaion, 3 Marine Regiment's Company F is located. The first element of 100 Ma-

rines left here by convoy the evening of Oct. 7 headed for the southern entrance to the pass. Hours later, a second airborne contingent of 100 more Marines and Afghan soldiers flew into previously identified positions in the pass to keep the enemy from escaping into the mountains. The Marine and Afghan National Army orces aimed to push the

enemy out – one way or another.
"I figured it was either going to be a ghost town or it was going to be a significant battle," said Capt. Francisco X. Zavala, Company F commanding officer. "Unfor-F commanding officer. "Unfortunately there was some battle, but it was nothing my Marines

couldn'(handle." As the ground-side element rolled through the pass, the rest of the Marines and ANA solof the Marines and ANA soldiers who had been inserted via helicopter blocked the eastern and northern exit routes. Their supporting mission was to stop and searth Afghans fleeing the area and prevent any possible insurgent support from reinforcing their comfades.

It didn't take long for them to attract the wrong kind of

to attract the wrong kind of

"We saw spotters throughout the hills, and we were just waiting for something to happen," said Staff Sgt. Luke N. Medlin, the engineer platoon sergeant and part of the eastern blocking position.

A few hours after they assumed these blocking positions, the Ma-rines and Afghan soldiers started receiving fire from machine guns,



rifles and mortars from enemy

positions in the surrounding hills. The Marines quickly dispatched the initial attackers and called in a UH-1N Huey, an AH-1W Super Cobra and an F/A-18 Hornet to destroy the enemy position further up hill

"We were attacked from a well-fortified fighting position in the hills," Medlin said. "My Marines quickly returned fire, giving us time to maneuver and overwhelm the position with fire

overwhelm the position with fire until air support got there."

Once the sound of gunfire died away, the Marines began searching the mud-brick buildings scattered throughout the pass to ensure they hadn't missed any hidden insurgents and introduce themselves to the people living there.

living there.

The Marines spent the next two days moving from compound to compound, working with the people and maintaining a visible presence in the pass to

keep the enemy from trying to move back in. They did receive some small-arms fire, but it was quickly dealt with.

"During the clearing of one compound, a woman drew a pistol, aiming it at one of the Marines," said 1st Lt. Shane Harden, nnes," said 1st Lt. Shane Harden, weapons platoon commander, Company F "Lance Cpl. (Justin B.) Basham demonstrated extreme composure and great fire discipline not to shoot her. Within a split second he realized that he could use a non-lethal method to disarm her."

to disarm her. At first the people in the Buji Bast pass were skeptical and ner-vous when the Marines came into their villages, Harden said, but after explaining why they were there, the people accepted their

"Luckily the people that were still in the compounds cooperated with us, once they seemed to understand why we were here and what we were doing. It really

helped speed things along," said Lance Cpl. David W. Parrotte, an infantryman with Company F. During the searches the Marines

collected not only weapons and grenades, but also large supplies of improvised explosive device-making materials, like batteries, connecter wires and open radios. They also found 2,000 pounds of ammonium nitrite and 1,500 pounds of sugar, which are both primary components of homemade explo-sives, Zavala said.

In some of the compounds, anti-International Security Assistance Force propaganda was found and confiscated. Some of the contraband was linked to two men who were taken into

custody.

On Oct. 10, the last day of the operation, male and female corpsmen were brought in to treat and assess locals while battalion commander Lt. Col. Patrick J. Cashman held shuras with elders in the villages. These chance to ask questions and put in reimbursement claims for any goods or property damaged dur-ing the searches.

ng the searches.

During the shuras, the medical personnel treated and assessed some of the local population for symptoms of sickness and injury. 2nd Battalion, 3 Marine Regiment's medical personnel treated approximately 300 people.

At each of the meetings, Lt. Col. Sakhra, commander of the

Col. Sakhra, commander of the Afghan 2nd Battalion, 2nd Brigade, 207th Corps, talked to el-ders about actions they should take to keep insurgents out of their towns and the pass. He talked about the power of unity against the Taliban insurgents who threaten their way of life and stressed that they need to trust the Marines and help them

eliminate the threats.
"Lt. Col. Sakhra did a fantastic job pointing out the responsibilities of the elders," said Cashman. "He has the cultural knowledge to tell them where they are wrong and how they need to change to save the lives of their people."

Cashman added that most

Cashman added that most of the problems in these small, isolated towns result from the younger men having no way to younger men naving no way to provide for a family or find legitimate work. So, some of them pick up a gun and take what they want. It is the responsibility of the elders to guide their people and help them prosper without using violence as an easy way to using violence as an easy way to make a living.

After the meetings, the people were given food and water to take home, and instead of leaving immediately, the Marines and corpsmen stayed to give as much time as possible for the villagers to bring their sick and elderly for

a checkup.

This four-day operation clear insurgents out of the Buji Bhast Pass promises safer travel for Afghan people and coalition forces alike. But equally impor-tant are the first building blocks of trust laid down between the Marines and ANA and the resi-



FORWARD OPERATING BASE GERONIMO, AFGHANISTAN

Navy corpsmen teach Afghan soldiers lifesaving technique

CPL. DANIEL FLYNN

In a combat zone, as in life, there are many different skills which are important to have. One of the most important is basic medical training. Without at least a basic knowledge of first aid, a person is limited in the amount of risk they are willing to undertake to ac-complish their goals.

Several corpsmen with 1st Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, Regimental Regiment, Regimental Combat Team 3, work-ing out of the battalion aid station here have been training Afghan National Army soldiers in basic combat lifesaving skills. However, these Navy field medics are not only providing life-saving knowledge. The training is also ooster shot for the local ANA's confidence.

Petty Officer 1st Class Dennis Roseta is one of the instructors at the hourand-a-half-long class every Monday and Wednesday at the ANA compound. The corpsmen teach the Afghan soldiers basic life-saving techniques, such as applying pressure dressings and tourniquets and how to perform cardio pulmo-nary resuscitation.

The need for classes was made clear recently after several badly injured Afghan soldiers were brought to the BAS after an improvised explo-sive device blast. These soldiers still had open wounds which had not been treated because none of the ANA had the knowledge to do so, said Chief Petty Officer

Clarence Dean Conner.
That incident helped the corpsmen realized they could take the combat lifesaver techniques they had been teaching the Marines and start teaching the Afghan soldiers as well

ghan soldiers as well.

Petty Officer 2nd Class
Rowell Salanguit said,
"Most of the casualties the
ANA have are from major
bleeding." This is the reason they decided to start with the basics, teaching them how to perform CPR and dress wounds.
"They are very receptive,

and interested in learning these techniques, and they love the fact that we are willing to teach them," said Roseta, a native of Bremerton, Wash. "They pick up on the training very quick-ly, and it shows during the practical application por-tion of the classes."

Conner said the Afghan soldiers are most receptive to a hands-on style of teaching. Because of the language barrier, simply explaining these techniques through

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an interpreter is much less effective than demonstrat-ing and then coaching the students as they practice on

each other. than teaching More them these basic lifesav-ing skills, they have also provided them with some of their surplus supplies, to include bandages, tourniquets and other medical supplies.

"I take great pride in my corpsman skills, so I like being able to teach the ANA what I know," said Roseta.

More than just here at Geronimo, the corpsmen throughout the 1st Bn., 5th Marines' entire area of operations are passing on as much knowledge as they can to the ANA to enhance the skills the Marines are teaching them

about basic soldiering.

As of now, the corpsmen are planning to include the continuation of this training in their turn-over with who will be replacing them when 1st Bn., 5th Marines is replaced by 1st Bn., 3rd Marines later this year, Conner said

The choices these Afghan men have made to become their country's protectors is a risky one. With the help medical professionals, does hope to enable the achieve greater things their newfound confid and skills to take care of own when the need arise

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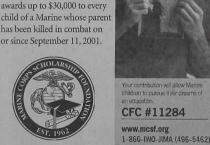
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nique larines teach IA oops special skills

CE CPL. JASON

Feel

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and Military Transition 17 and Combat Loo Vacation

Often

S Battalion 46 consession with Iraquers aboard Camp d, Oct. 2.

ne training program nut in place by MiTT-7 der to offer the Iraqi ers advanced skills etal working and fuel

ms. We're giving the Iraqi nanics lessons on how etter maintain and re etter maintain and re-their vehicles," said Nicholas A. Vincent, ality control chief with 146, "Today, the focus be fuel systems, where I take them through entire fuel system of ral vehicles."

he lessons included cs such as refueling ain vehicles and the is and processes the goes through inside a icle. They also taught Iraqi soldiers how to mose various probability familiar fuel. mose various prob-s with familiar fuel

ems. We want to help them terstand these systems horoughly as possible,"

I Vincent. "They're ng to need these skills r we leave. If we teach m well enough, they'll able to pass on that owledge."

As the Iraqi soldiers igned to Camp Me-

igned to Camp Me-learned more of their de as mechanics, othlearned the skill of tal working. Though, many Iraqis, weldand torch cutting are hing new.

here, the main thing they need is guidance," said Chief Warrant Officer 2 Tony R. Ulep, a motor transport maintenance officer with CLB-46. "We're got to show them how to got to show them how to weld safely and some ad-vanced welding tips." Many of the Iraqi sol-

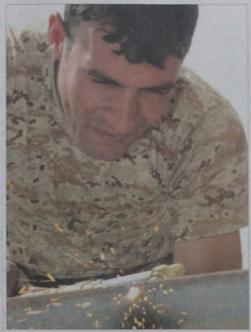
diers have some prior ex-perience with carpentry, welding and basic vehicle repair. But, for the Iraqi soldiers going through the training, it was an eye

opening experience.
The Marines of MiTT-7 brought over members of CLB-46 along with an ac tual oxy-acetylene torch kit, compressed gases and steel beams to be cut. Together, the Marines and IA soldiers operated the weld-ing equipment and ironed common errors Iraqi welders were making.

"It's good that the Americans teach us what Americans teach us what we need to know, it's important," said Cpl. Mohammed Jasim, a tire and undercarriage specialist with the 7th Iraqi Army Division. "We're proud to be part of the process of bringing our country into a new era and beyond."

While the Iraqi soldiers and U.S. Marines trained under the cool morning sun, they did so with the knowledge that the lessons which were taught and

which were taught and learned shall be carried on for several future genera-tions of Iraqi soldiers.





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Photo by Petty Class [Craffmaster Bo Mate 1st Clas Lewis assigned t Craft Unit Two
Landing Craft Un
the well deck of purpose am assault ship US during the comp the Special Coo Marine Air-Grou Force cargo onle WASP and crew alongside A based Squadra Zeroduringathred deployment to be instill interoperab cooperation by U.S. and partner naval forces a variety of example as part of S. Partnership Statio.





(Above) Landing Craft Unit enters the well deck of the multi-plu amphibious assault ship USS Wasp off the coast of North Carolina. Lance Cpl. C.T. Patterson (left) Sgt. T.A. Crouch (middle) and Cp. Maize (right) of Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 461 take a breat work atop a CH-53E Super Stallion and watch the USS Wasp conditional with USNS Patuxent.

Security Cooperation MAGTF embarks USS WA

PETTY OFFICER 1ST CLASS AMIE GONZALES

Security Cooperation Marine Air-Ground Task Force

The Security Cooperation Marine Air-Ground Task Force Marine Air-Ground Task Force embarked the multi-purpose amphibious assault ship USS Wasp Monday for a regularly scheduled deployment to the U.S. Naval Southern Command area of focus as part of Southern Partnership Station 2009.

SCMAGTF is made up of Marines from Marine Heavy

Helicopter Squadron-461, based out of Marine Corps Air Station New River, Company F, 2nd Battalion, 9th Marine Regiment; 8th Communication Battalion, 8th Engineering Support Battalion and Fly-in Dental Echelon from Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune.

"It's important that we get back to our amphibious roots," said Lt. Col. Sean M. Salene, commanding officer of HMH-461. "It's (SCMAGTF) the first of its kind stood up on the East Coast specifically Squadron-461,

on the East Coast specifically

for this mission. We will take the lessons learned and share them with those coming up

them with those coming up the pipeline."

As part of their mission, the more than 300 SCMAGTF Marines will participate in multiple humanitarian civic assistance efforts and military-to-military engagements with U.S. partner nations, including delivering Project Handclasp pallets to needed areas.

Lt. Col. Salene also noted his Marines are ready and trained to provide humanitar-

ian assistance in the event of a natural disaster. They brought on extra supplies and equip-ment in case such an event should happen during the deployment.

ployment.
"We're very pleased to have the SCMAGTF on board WASP, and I'm certain that their presence will only serve to improve our mission and readiness," said WASP commanding officer Capt. Lowell D. Crow. "Further, their expertise – specifically in assisting partner nations – will proing partner nations - will profurther build upon the puinternational reputation the United States Navy a ea

has."

According to a Marine or ey Const.

Times article, SCM.G employs units will be considered et Afghans forward" for the U.S. mi take. But assisting partner nations white next be military training and civ it his man itary operations. They will be out of made up of ground, loss finding and aviation combat elerantal warrand will resemble a Mrn been to Expeditionary Unit. sery, with son his tit for si

> can attempt 130 fe

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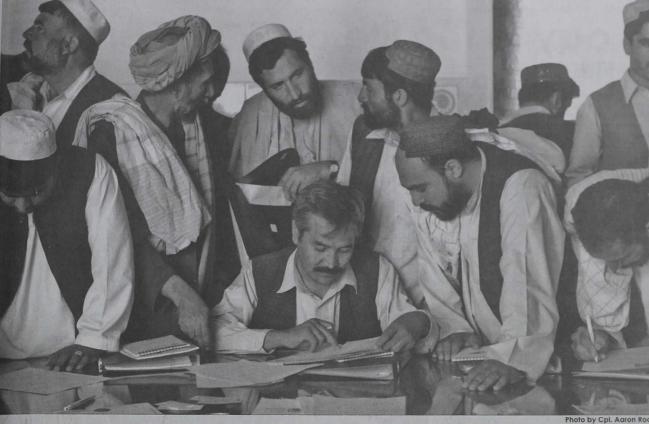




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OCTOBER 22, 2009 9A

Photo by Cpl. Agron Rooks han contractors register with Marine Expeditionary Brigade — Afghanistan to potentially become bidders for military contracts. The are attending the first-ever than Business Conference, Oct. 14, at Helmand Governor, Gulab Mangal's compound in Lashkar Gah, Afghanistan. The brigade, headquartered at nearby mp Leatherneck, hosted the conference to meet with local Afghans to better understand the goods and services available from the Helmand economy and ucate local entrepreneurs on how to bid for contracts with the U.S. military.

LMAND PROVINCE, AFGHANISTAN

h Carolina. (lie) and Cp lake a break Wasp condu Contractor conference es economic stimulus

L. AARON ROOKS rine Expeditionary gade - Afghanistan

upon the p

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ates Navy a Mirwais Nassery, owner d manager of Mirwais to a Marine ussery Construction Comthe U.S. mi ovince. But if he doesn't neg and civild his many employees.

They will be out-of-side the U.S. mi ovince. But if he doesn't net nations id his next build soon, he ng and civild his many employees.

ng and civil d his many employees ns. They w II be out of a job.
ground, log "Finding work for the ombat elemst few years in Helmand mble a M s been tough," said Unit.

Unit. lies on his company's ofit for support. "I'm oking for future ork. We can construct yads, canals, schools ork. We can construct ads, canals, schools

lads, canals, schools of other buildings. We ill attempt anything."
Nassery joined more an 130 fellow Afghan ontractors in Lashkar hah Oct. 14, for the rst-ever Afghan Busiess Conference, hosted y Marine Expeditionary rigade-Afghanistan. The rigade-Afghanistan. The onference was planned ith hopes of providing ocal contractors the op-ortunity to fill military ontracts in Helmand.

The brigade, headquar-

tered at nearby Camp Leatherneck, hosted the conference to meet with local Afghans and better understand the goods and services available from the Helmand community. The brigade also educated lo-cal businesses on how to bid for contracts with the

bid for contracts with the U.S. military.

"The vision of today is to maximize economic growth," said Army Maj. Nathan Winn, the Marine Expeditionary Brigade-Afghanistan contracting officer, introducing the Afghan First Program. "We want to look first to Afghan-owned companies to ensure money spent in to ensure money spent in Afghanistan stays in Af-

ghanistan."

Winn said \$13.5 billion in contracts have gone to Afghan compagone to Alghan Companies in the past two years through the Afghan First Program. Unfortunately, Winn said, this money is going mostly to companies located in Kabul, Bagram and Kaddahar. and Kandahar.

'This initiative is meant to increase opportunities for Afghan companies in Helmand," Winn said. "It economy grow, employ more Afghan people and economy promote reconstruction in

Winn said the U.S. mili-

on military camps and in local communities.

Juma Khan, an engineer with the Afghan Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development, identified many locations throughout Helmand where construction mand where construction projects are planned, as outlined by the Helmand Development Plan, which was structured by Provin-Helmand and approved by the Afghan government. The PRT introduced

the Peace Dividend Trust to the potential bidders fol-lowing Khan's briefing. The PDT is a non-government organization with loca-tions in Lashkar Gah, Ka-bul, Mazar, Jalalabad and Kandahar that assists local

tary needs commodities, such as electrical supplies and gravel, services like delivery of water and re-cycling, and construction workers to build roads, buildings and bridges, both on military camps and in on military camps and in

> businesses in gaining access to military and international agency contracts. Since 2006, the PDT has helped

local Afghan companies gain nearly \$400 million in contracts. "We have the ability to reach out and touch a

lot of people," said Brig. Gen. Larry Nicholson, commanding general, MEB-Afghanistan, in con-MEB-Argnanistan, in conversation with Helmand Governor Gulab Mangal. "We have lots of potential contracts we would

Lt. Col. Zachary Bennett, development officer, 4th Civil Affairs Group, MEB-Afghanistan, said MEB-Afghanistan, said the brigade plans to hold another Helmand Business Conference in the next 90 days at either Camp Leath-erreck or Camp Business erneck or Camp Dwyer



Juma Khan, an engineer with the Afghan Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development, addresses different infrastructure projects in Helmand during the first-ever Afghan Business Conference, Oct. 14. Marine Expeditionary Brigade-Afghanistan needs construction workers to build roads, buildings and bridges, both on military camps and in local communities.



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HELMAND PROVINCE, AFGHANISTAN

in the life on FOB Geronim

Regimental Combat Team 3

People have the ability to adapt to their surroundings Proof of this can be observed in the habitat of the Marines

It's been several months since Marines with 1st Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, Regimental Combat Team 3, first arrived, and even though operations continue 24 hours a day, life for the Marines here is a little more than just

"Life for me is pretty much post, (quick reac-tion force) and sleep," said Lance Cpl. James Pursley, a guard force Marine. But he also added that while the forward operating base may forward operating base may seem meager in compari-son to some of the larger, more-established bases in country, the Marines here have everything they need. Their base includes a mess hall, field-expedient bathrooms, showers and even a Morale, Welfare and Recreation tent with internet and

phone access.

The MWR tent is also the chaplain's tent, where Marines can go and get per-sonal items they are run-ning low on, such as razor blades, shaving cream, soap and snacks. Also, they have a movie night there every Monday, Wednesday, and

Petty Officer 2nd Class Michael Caldera, a religious program specialist, said, "We are here to do as much for the Marines as we can." He added that the MWR/chaplain's tent of-fers many different services and they also have snacks and coffee for the Marines.

"The only things I could do without are the sand storms," added a smiling Pursley. The flat desert terrain is a prime environment for the dust devils that blow through camp almost daily in the summer and are still common during the other

seasons.
The Marines here contin-In Marines here continue the tradition of "practice like you play" by training in the Marine Corps Martial Arts Program, which helps them to prepare for combat. They also have a gym with free weights to give them more to do than just pull-ups and running for

physical training.
"Life on Geronimo is actually pretty good," said field wireman Lance Cpl. Eric Fisher. So, while these Marines

may be half a world away from home, they have adapted to their situation and have done what they can to bring a little bit of normalcy to being deployed



Marines with 1st Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, Regimental Combat Team 3, practice Marine Martial Arts at Forward Operating Base Geronimo in Helmand province, Afghanistan, Oct. 5.

CAMP KOREAN VILLAGE, IRAQ

Logistics battalion aids in retrograde of western Iraq

With the Marine Corps mission in Iraq coming closer to an end, all of the gear and equipment that has been used since Operation Iraqi Freedom first began, now has to be sent back to the states for repair or to support other missions around the world.

Units currently deployed to Iraq are conducting missions to decrease the amount of gear and personnel aboard forward operating bases and combat outposts. One of these units, fourth platoon, Transportation Support Company, Combat Logistics Battalion 46, is conducting missions out of Camp Korean Village, Iraq.

Iraq.

The platoon has been conducting retrograde and resupply missions to smaller bases in western Iraq since they replaced CLB-7 in early September.

So far the platoon has successfully participated in the closing down of one combat outpost and has significantly reduced the amount of gear and equipment aboard the other combat outposts in western Anbar province.

We support every forward operating base and com-

"We support every forward operating base and combat outpost in the western area of operation," said 1st Lt. Jonathan Babineau, the platoon commander. "This applies to both resupply and retrograde support."

The platoon conducts resupply missions every few days, keeping their surrounding bases supplied with essentials such as water and fuel. Babineau explained that on every mission they conduct, the platoon's top priorities are to resupply outlying units with basic necessities such as mail, disbursing and Post Exchange services, and to retrograde unnecessary equipment from the bases.

With every trip, the platoon brings back a load of unneeded gear, which is later sent to Al Asad Air Base or Camp Taqaddum for further retrograde.

Camp Taqaddum for further retrograde.

"Everything we do is in anticipation for when we have to completely withdraw from the bases," Babineau said. "When word comes down that a base needs to be cleared there should be so little gear and equipment left that the process runs smoothly."

As the Marines steadily draw down in Iraq, the focus of logistical missions is switching from supporting combat-operations to a successful drawdown. More than half of the Marines in fourth platoon have previously deplayed to Iraq and have experienced both environ-

hair of the Marines in fourth piatoon have previously deployed to Iraq and have experienced both environments, noticing the extreme difference.

"It's a different fight now," Babineau said. "We are now focused on withdrawing troops and equipment from most areas and turning over the bases to the Iraqi

army."

Even though the change in mission seems drastic to the returning Marines, they still focus on the importance of the responsible drawdown.

"During my first deployment we were setting up COP's and now we are taking them down," said. Cpl. Genesis Yeargin, a motor transportation operator with fourth platoon. "The progress we have made here since the invasion is very visible."

The reduction of gear is only one of many indicators the responsible drawdown is in fully underway. Slowly but surely the Marine Corps' footprint in Iraq will continue to disappear.

tinue to disappear.

Service members coperation with stress of separation from pregnant spouses

CPL. TRIAH PENDRACKI Multi National Force - West

Deployment can be stressful for any service member, but Marines and sailors awaiting the birth of their children endure a different

"Finding out the day before we deployed, we realized all our plans would change," explained Sgt. Jason Murrey, the detainee operations noncommissioned officer in charge at the staff judge advocate office for Multi National Force - West. "All the dynamics and planning up to that day went out the window, but we were excited."

With the stress of pregnancy added to the already difficult sepa-ration of married couples during deployments, it becomes very important for Marines and sailors to communicate with their spouses and their chain of command.

"My leadership was more than helpful during the pregnancy," said Murrey, whose wife recently gave birth to their second son. "Luckily I'm aboard Al Asad, só I have more opportunities to experience." portunities to communicate with my wife than other service members."

The Marines and sailors de-

ployed to larger bases like Al Asad have more outlets for communica-tion. Whether it's via e-mail, phone calls, or video teleconferences, the military commands do their best to facilitate all deployed service members with communication to their

"I actually got to see the birth of my son using Freedom Calls," explained Murrey. "I went to the Morale Welfare Recreation center on base and they set me up."

Although Murrey, with the help of modern technology, was able to see his wife give birth to their child, others occasionally have the op-portunity to schedule their leave to coincide with their wives' delivery

date.

"I was on my two weeks leave when my son was born," said Seaman Ryan McAbee, a corpsman with II Marine Expeditionary Force Headquarters Group (Forward). "Once I held (my son) in my arms, my world and perspective on everything changed. It was a very humbling experience to say the least."

McAbee was very grateful to his own chain of command for their help during his stressful time.

"They actually made sure that I

They actually made sure that I

of some logistical complication he said. "In the end, saying good to my son was hard, but we have mission to complete out here. So we'll all be home though.

Although being a spouse of a service member who is deploy, half way around the world cobe tough, it doesn't have to be edured alone. The military offic several programs and groups help spouses of deployed serving members cone with the stress members cope with the stress

separation from their loved ones
"My wife is the strongest wom
an I know for all that she's been through with this deployment said McAbee.

"We have a very strong family support network that is helpin my wife while I'm not there. I'n thankful for that. I have to remember to change my role when I comhome," Murrey added. "It's tim to be 'dad' again and take the reim from my wife who's have marked. from my wife, who's been running the family with me gone."

Whether these service members are going home in weeks or months, they know they have a new addition to their family welcoming them home with tiny grins.



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he next waves of s consisted of AAVs Egyptian amphibious ult craft which dis-ed the maneuverabili-nd firepower amphibi-vehicles can deliver on ny positions ashore.
last waves brought
MEU's light-armored
cles and the humvees the unit's Combined i-Armor Team to the h aboard landing t utility vessels from ault Craft Unit 2 and iding Craft Air Cush-

d transports from As-lt Craft Unit 4. This type of train-is important because is important because hows us what we can omplish working with er forces from around world," said Cpl. Ga-it. Church, a vehicle nmander with Com-ed Anti-Armor Team, apons Company, 3rd talion, 2nd Marine giment, 22nd MEU, the theater reserve ce, there are endless sibilities of what we y be asked to do - nonnbatant evacuations, manitarian relief or nbat operations. This ining helps keep our

edge sharpened if the situ-ation calls for it." Bright Star, the longest

Bright Star, the longest running exercise in the U.S. Central Command's area of operations, was established in 1981 as a result of the Camp David Peace Accords. The CENTCOM and Egyptian co-sponsored exercise is designed to strengthen military-to-military relationships and improve readiness and interoperability between U.S., Egyptian and coalition forces.

The 22nd MEU, led by Col. Gareth F. Brandl, is a scalable, multi-purpose

a scalable, multi-purpose force of more than 2,200 force of more than 2,200
Marines and sailors. The
unit is composed of its
ground combat element,
Battalion Landing Team
3rd Battalion, 2nd Marine
Regiment (commanded
by Lt. Col. Robert C. Fulford); aviation combat
element VMM-263 (Reinforced) (commanded
by Lt. Col. Paul P. Ryan);
logistics combat element,
Combat Logistics Battalion 22 (commanded by
Lt. Col. Gary F. Keim);
and its command element.
The unit is serving as the The unit is serving as the theater reserve force for

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An amphibious assault vehicle from Battalion Landing Team, 3rd Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment, 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit, launched from amphibious dock landing ship USS Fort McHenry, prepares to storm the beach during an amphibious assault demonstration conducted as part of Bright Star 2009 in Egypt, Oct. 12.

U.S. Central Command.

The Bataan ARG, led by Capt Jack Sotherland, is composed of the multipurpose amphibious as-

sault ship USS Bataan, the amphibious transport dock USS Ponce, the am-phibious dock landing ship USS Fort McHenry,

Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 22, Fleet Surgi-cal Team 6, Assault Craft Unit 2, ACU 4 and Beach-master Unit 2.

RE-SUPPLY FROM 1A

The Marines here The Marines here have taken precautions ensuring safety at all times. The road less trav-eled has a new definition for Company E. Rather than taking paths com-mon to the local popu-lation, they trek through

anion, they tree through corn, cotton and even oggptant or down less traveled footpaths.

"My biggest concern is making sure I get ev-cryone safely back with-counterpostation." out encountering IEDs," said Cpl. Daniel P. Col-lins, a squad leader with the company. "Mostly down here, it's been pressure plate IEDs we've encountered."

Collins hopes that in-surgent aggression will continue to dwindle in Lakari District and that he and his Marines will continue to enrich their relationships with the local population. He says that would be a sign that the enemy is beginning to weaken here. He is confident that the protec-tion provided to the La-kari citizens will push the Taliban out.





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he Walking Dead of 1st Battalion, 9th Marine Regi-

ment Charlie outlasted New River to lay claim to the 2009 Camp Lejeune intramural soccer championship, Monday. With one unanswered goal in both the first and second halves, 1st Bn., 9th Marines finished the season undefeated season undefeated.

season undefeated.

Throughout much of the first half, both 1st Bn., 9th Marines and New River seemed disorganized and nervous. Instead of the crisp passes and thoughtful positioning both teams were known for during the regular season, the

ball caromed around the field like a pinball. With their team whittled down to just 11 players and knowing the 45-minute halves would eventually take a toll, New River played frantically for an early goal.

cally for an early goal.

Leslie Aguilar almost gave
New River the lead, but his
shot sailed just wide of the net.
With 10 minutes to play in
the half, 1st Bn., 9th Marines
striker, Anthony Allen, slipped
through the New River defense
and booted a bouncing shot
into the corner of the goal. The and booted a bouncing shot into the corner of the goal. The Walking Dead nearly struck again, when Luis Ibarra found Justin Miller for a shot that missed the upper corner.

As pressure mounted on the New River goal, it appeared the lack of help from the bench

was affecting the team. 1st Bn., 9th Marines continued to maintain possession in New River's half of the field, and Allen dropped a pass to Ibarra, who was alone in front of the net Ibarra's point-blank shot net. Ibarra's point-blank shot rocketed over the crossbar, and New River escaped a two-goal

deficit yet again.
The minutes ticked away in the opening half and New Riv-er responded with a renewed offensive attack. Alex Monte nearly tied the game twice, hit-ting a floater that sailed across the goal mouth, and cranking a shot off the near post less than

a minute later.
Following the halftime
break, both sides started to play
a more deliberate game that
better exemplified their consid-

New River worked the ball deep into the 1st Bn., 9th Marine end, but the shot was high. Another bid from Aguilar clanged off the crossbar as New

River tried desperately to score. By throwing most of its play-ers into the offense, New River left itself open to counterat-tacks. Ibarra nearly made them

pay with a hard drive that was wide of the goal.

In the end, the final tally of the game came off the foot of David Yeingst, a high-energy substitution from the 1st Bn., 9th Marines bench. Yeingst took advantage off the flag-ging New River midfield and freed himself for a shot from 30

SEE UNDEFEATED 3B



Has there ever been a more perfect day to open North Carolina's Eastern Certainly not in the seven years I've been here. I'm used to trying to plan for heat and humidity, not putting on layers and warm boots for the start of deer season.

temperature on opening morning was 46 degrees, with a low cloud deck and the chance of showers at the coast. I was hunting inland at a small, Duplin County farm, so precipitation was not a concern, though a few light showers would have made conditions even

more perfect.

The only complaint any reasonable deer hunter could have had perhaps was the brisk Northwest wind, but the favorable moon phase (just coming out of new) more than made up for the wind.

I sat in a treestand overlooking some unharvested soybeans and a treeline about 120 yards away. On the way in to our spots, my hunting partner and I had to drive by four deer in the middle of a cutover cornfield, but it couldn't be helped and it only added to the anticipation of the start

of the season.
As the sun rose and legal shooting time came, I scanned the fields through my binoculars. It wasn't until 8 a.m. that I spotted a familiar shape sticking out just above the beans. It was a deer,

maybe 80 yards away, but with only the top of its head visible, I had no

After a short time, the animal bedded down, but I knew it would pop back up eventually and if it moved through an opening, I'd have a

Sure enough, a short time passed and the deer was back up. I still had just a head shot, but through my binoculars I through my binoculars I could tell this was not a very big animal. Closer inspection revealed it was a yearling buck, and I debated whether or not to shoot if the opportunity presented itself.

Normally I'm a doe

Normally, I'm a doe hunter that lets young bucks walk. I've studied as much as I can on judging a buck's age according to its body conformation, and prefer to limit myself to male deer that are 2-1/2 years or older. I have learned that antler size has little value in determining a buck's age. Certainly, the older a buck is, the more likely he will have an impressive set of horns, but some deer simply don't have the genetic make-up to grow a big

I'd like to kill a buck with big antlers as much as anyone, but I don't mind taking a shot at a deer that is mature with a rinky-dink rack. If he's 2-1/2 years old, he's a smart deer and worthy of a well-placed shot in my

This little button buck walk on any other day.

On this day, however, we were operating under the farmer's rules that "if it's brown, it's down." The farm had an abundance of deer and the owner wanted people to shoot regardless of sex or size.

For two hours, the little deer played peek-a-boo with me — getting up to nibble on some beans for a little while, then bedding down for 20 minutes at a time. At around 10 a.m., he started moving toward the edge of the bean field and presented a 45-yard broadside shot, which I

He's certainly not the grandest deer I've taken, but he'll provide for many meals in the coming winter and he won't be eating anymore corn shoots and bean sprouts.

I hope your opening day was as successful, or more so, than mine.

On the fishing side of things, the cold snap has

snapped many gamefish into a feeding frenzy.

Speckled trout, red

drum and bluefish are blitzing the beaches, and the bottomfishing for pompano, sea mullet and

spot has been excellent.
The nearshore action for king mackerel and false albacore is picking up steam. According to Richard Ehrenkaufer, a.k.a. Dr. Bogus, the albacore are fat and strong.

Far offshore, fishing for wahoo has been predictably good as the season turns. Charter boats are also reporting catches of dolphin (mahi-

catches of dolphin (manimahi) and sailfish.

If you're looking for a refresher course on boating safety, check out the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary's one-day course at Coast Guard Station Emerald Isle,

The class runs from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. and costs \$35 for books and materials. For more information, call 252-393-2436.

Until next week, good luck out there.



Photo by Jamle Cameron pair of ears sticking out of a soybean field was enough to give away this deer's location on opening day of gun season.



Have you been on an outdoor adventure lately? Share your photos, send them to jamie.cameron@

NIMRUZ PROVINCE, AFGHANISTAN

NFL cheerleaders pep up Marine team in Afghanistan

LANCE CPL. JOHN P. HITESMAN Regimental Combat Team 3

With bright white smiles and cheery attitudes, five of the Saint Louis Rams cheerleaders visited Forward Operating Base Delaram here recently to put on a show and help boost the morale of the Marines of 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment.

The cheerleaders arrived by helicopter at 9:30 a.m. and were greeted by Lt. Col. Patrick J. Cashman, 2nd Bn., 3rd Marine's battalion commander, Sgt. Maj. Jason E. Patrick, the battalion sergeant major, and Gunnery Sgt. Joshua T. Laverty, Headquarters and Service Company gunnery sergeant.

Although the ladies were there to entertain, the Marines of 2nd Bn., 3rd Marines decided to do some entertaining of their own by putting on a couple of demonstrations for

of their own by putting on a couple of demonstrations for them and giving them a tour of the base.

Laverty was in charge of their security and showing them around along with making sure they had everything

they needed while on site.

"They seemed very excited to be here and to do the things we had planned for them," said Laverty. "They were also extremely receptive to everything we told them about, and they were filled with questions. The whole day was definitely a refreshing change of race."

day was definitely a refreshing change of pace."

While being shown around the base the cheerleaders talked and took pictures with Marines they met. They

taixed and took pictures with manners and the They also gave out posters they had autographed.

"It really shows their character — being willing to come out here and do what they do," added Laverty.

"I'm really thankful for their generosity. What they do

"I'm really thankful for their generosity. What they do really helps boost morale."

The Ram's cheerleaders were shown the mortar pits and given an exhibition on the unit's adopted weapon system, the 120 mm mortar, normally organic to the Army. During the exhibition of the 120mm system, the cheerleaders had their photos taken with the mortarmen while holding some of the 120 mm rounds.

Weapons Co. scout snipers gave the cheerleaders a chance to look out over the city of Delaram through high powered rifle scopes and try on a Marine combat

chaine to look out over the chy of Demain through high powered rifle scopes and try on a Marine combat load – to give them an idea of the amount of weight Marines carry on their body when they are standing post or outside the wire

Before breaking for lunch, the cheerleaders were introduced to the improvised explosive device sniffing dogs. Charlie, one of the dogs, and her handler Sgt



Photo by Lance Cpi. John P. Hitesman
The Saint Louis Rams cheerleaders put on a
performance for the Marines of 2nd Battalion, 3rd
Marine Regiment during a recent visit to Forward
Operating Base Delaram, Afghanistan.

Andrew T. Ustaszewski gave them a demonstration.

"This was all very amazing, and we got to see a lot of cool stuff," said Marybeth, a five-year Rams cheerleader.

"This experience really gave me a new appreciation for what the Marines do."

The cheerleaders started their hour-long show promptly at 3 p.m. in their Rams' cheerleading uniforms. Part of the show was a question and answer portion where the Marines competed for calendars. Marines also earned prizes in the best "touchdown dance" competition.

"I really loved the opportunity to come out here and see what you guys do and how you live," added Marybeth who is also a registered nurse. "Coming out is an honor for us and we really support everything that our military does.'

"This was awesome!" said Megan, the cheerleaders' captain. "I came out last year, and I by far think that this

was a much better experience.

"Everyone was so nice to us and funny too," she added. "Plus everyone we talked to really seemed to have their wits about them and was very knowledgeable."

The whole visit was morale boosting for everyone involved, from the Marines who really enjoyed the change of pace, to the cheerleaders who got to experience what life is like living with the Marines.

TIDE TABLES FO

National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administr

	THURSDAY	
High tide	11:03 a.m.	11:22 0 0
High tide		
Low tide	4:28 a.m.	5:39 p.m
	FRIDAY	
High tide	11:52 a.m.	
Low tide	5:14 a.m.	6:31 p.m
	SATURDAY	
High tide	12:14 a.m.	12:45 p.m
Low tide	6:04 a.m.	7:26 p.m
	SUNDAY	
High tide	1:11 a.m.	1:42 p.m
Low tide	7:02 a.m.	8:23 p.m
	MONDAY	
High tide	2:14 a.m.	2:40 p.m
Low tide	8:06 a.m.	9:16 p.m.
	TUESDAY	
High tide	3:15 a.m.	3:35 p.m
Low tide	9:12 a.m.	10:02 p.m
	WEDNESDAY	
High tide	4:08 a.m.	4:25 p.m
Low tide	10:12 a.m.	10:43 p.m

Mountain bike training

Both veteran and inexperienced mountain bikers are invited to participate in weekly training rides, held every Tuesday and Thursday until Feb. 25, 2010. The rides take place from 11:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. at the Brig Trail aboard Camp Lejeune. Bring your bike, water and helmet and learn how to improve your speed and control at no charge. The rides are open to all authorized patrons, age 12 and up. Cyclists under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. For more information, call 451-8499. Both veteran and inexperienced

Oktoberfest 5K run/walk

The Onslow County Oktoberfest 5-kilometer run/walk is scheduled for Saturday. The race will begin at 8 a.m. at the old railroad station on Railroad at the old railroad station on Railroad Street, in downtown Jacksonville. Participants must register by 7:30 a.m. on race day. Those who pre-register will save money with the reduced cost of \$20. Race day registration is \$25. Proceeds from the event will benefit the Onslow Community Outreach program. For more information, call 455-5733.

Surfing lessons

Marine Corps Community Services is sponsoring weekly surfing lessons through Oct. 30. Sessions are led by experienced instructors at Onslow Beach, Monday through Thursday, and Sunday. There are two sessions on weekdays, one from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. and one from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. The two-hour lessons include surfboard rental and cost \$85. For more information, call 451-1440.





BIKE SW



IDEFEATED FROM 18

rds out. The shot deflected off ew River's goal keeper and Yeingst, no never stopped moving forward, nunced on it for the goal.

With an insurmountable 2-0 lead, ne Walking Dead packed into their fensive end to prevent a New River meback in the final minutes. The lal whistle signified 1st Bn., 9th

ala whistle signified 1st Bn., 9th larines' successful completion of an idefeated season.

"It helped that we were a little deeper in the bench) than (New River)," said it Bn., 9th Marines head coach, James olarczyk. "I knew that the more we ade them run, the better chance we ad of them making a mistake.

"New River has always been a tough."

"New River has always been a tough am to play. They have awesome layers who know the game of soccer. /hen you set about putting a team 7:26 p.m ome in knowing New River sets the andard."

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est eled for at 8 a.m. Railroad ille. 30 a.m.

egister ced cost \$25. enefit

Stolarczyk said his team played uner the 1st Bn., 9th Marines' moniker, ut was in fact a blend of players from he Walking Dead and the disbanded ursenal teams of 2008.

"All of the players on this team nade contributions to this champion-2:40 p.m hade contributions to this champion and property of them aren't see tonight; some of them are detection of them are detection of them are detection of the property o nd satisfying season.



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RSPORTSILE

Photo by Jamie Cameror 1st Battalion, 9th Marine Regiment Charlie shows off their base soccer championship trophy, following their 2-0 win over New River in the final game. The team is comprised of players from last year's 1st Bn., 9th Marines and Arsenal teams.

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Photo by Jamie Car Lejeune High School's Morgan Audsley passes some inspirational graffiti during the Division 1A Coastal Plains Conference cross country meet, held a high school, Oct. 14. The Lady Devil Pups finished second in the team competition.



Photo by Jamie Cameron Lejeune High School's Mark Gray was the first Devil Pup runner across the line at the Division 1A Coastal Plains Conference cross country meet, held aboard Camp Lejeune, Oct. 14. Gray finished sixth overall, with a time of 20:00 over the 5-kilometer course. By virtue of finishing in the top seven places, Gray was named to the Coastal Plains All-Conference Team. Gray and the rest of the Devil Pups will compete next in the Eastern Regional Cross Country Meet, scheduled for Oct. 31 at Northside High School in Pinetown, N.C. Runners that fare well there will go on to the state meet.

JAMIE CAMERON Assistant managing editor

Lady Devil Pup. McKenzie Hallstrom, took top honors at the Division 1A Coastal Plains Conference cross country meet, held Oct. 14 at Lejeune High School. Hallstrom's 21:07 effort

over the 5-kilometer course won the girls' race, earning her the title of Girls' Runner of the Year for the conference and a spot in the Division 1A Eastern Regional meet, scheduled for Oct. 31 at Northside High School in Pinetown,

The Dixon Bulldogs made a clean sweep of the boys and girls team competition. The Bulldog boys were paced by former Lejeune High School student, Avery Mouton Mouton finished the race in 18:37 and, like Hallstrom, was named the conference's Boys' Runner

conference's Boys' Runner of the Year.

"We are very proud of Avery and what he has accomplished so far this year," said Lejeune cross country coach, Alex "Gunner" Nevgloski.
"He is very well-liked by his forcer teampares. by his former teammates here, and we wish him nothing but the best at regionals and the state meet." The Devil Pups did

not qualify in the team competition, as the boys side was whittled down to just four runners due to injuries suffered throughout the regular

Mark Gray was the Mark Gray was the first Lejeune runner across the line. He finished sixth overall with a 20:00 run. Gray was followed by James Clark (15th overall, 21:32) and Charlie Wooley (19th overall, 22:18).

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Teammate, John Dick did not compete. "Mark Gray was a real

surprise coming in sixth,' said Nevgloski. "He's a competitive runner who got out to a good start and held on. Mark and John (Dick) will have their work cut out for them over the next two weeks to improve their times before the regional meet. I'm hoping to get them somewhere into the middle of the

In the girls' competition, the Lady Devil Pups garnered second place as a team. In addition to Hallstrom, Lejeune got great efforts from Anna Wissler (fourth overall, 23:20), Tayler Snipes (eighth overall, 24:54), Marissa Price (ninth overall, 25:40), Miranda Crider (12th overall Crider (12th overall, 27:10), Morgan Audsley (15th overall, 28:27) and Larissa Ryan, who finished out of the scoring column with a 35:22.

Based on their top-

seven finishes, Hallstro and Wissler were nam to the Coastal Plains A Conference Team. The Lady Devil Puj

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had their sights set on conference champions but the Dixon girls wer

just too strong. "We knew we'd hav to have a great effort to beat Dixon, and they got out ahead of us and ran a great race," said Nevgloski. "(The Bulld set the standard for bot the girls and boys in ou conference."

With another solid effort at the regional m Nevgloski likes the girls team's chances to quali for the state cross coun meet in three weeks.
"The girls have a goo

chance to make it as a team," said Nevgloski. "(Hallstrom) competed there last year as a soph more, and if she can anchor us in the regiona and the other girls step like I expect them to, w qualify.





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GAME 5 - VIKINGS VS. STEELERS



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- One entry per contestant per week
- 3. Correct answers consist of picking actual winner of game and advertisement the game appeared in

(example: winner-Atlanta Falcons; ad-Gold's Gym)* In order to win the Cash Pot, the winning entry must have picked all 10 games correctly.

- In the event of a tie between perfect (10) picks, the tie breaker will be closest to total points scored in designated Monday night's tie breaker
- If there is still a tie, the winner will be picked out of a hat.

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GAME 10 - CARDINALS VS. GIANTS



Photo by Cpl. Triah Pendracki Private First Class Dillon Rager, a motor transport operator with Truck Company, II Marine Expeditionary Force Headquarters Group (Forward), hits a softball during some free time at the II MHG (Fwd.) motor pool aboard AI Asad Air Base, Iraq, Oct. 2. The Marines with Truck Company like to relieve the stress built up during the day on fun activities which bring them closer together as a team.

AL ASAD AIR BASE, IRAQ

Truck Company Marines work hard to play hard

CPL. TRIAH PENDRACKI Multi National Force West

Tactical vehicles are staged for the next convoy at the Truck Company, II Marine Expedition-ary Force Headquarters Group (Forward) motor pool and Marines make sure all their gear is ready, it looks like the work day is over for the "Scaven-gers" aboard Al Asad Air

Base, Iraq.
Meanwhile, across
the large lot of sand and
gravel, Marines get ready
to step up to the plate—

literally.
"We do a lot of work in a short amount of time," said Lance Cpl. Terrance Boykin, a motor transport operator with Truck Company, II MHG (Fwd.). "But, sometimes it will take us only half the work day to do a day's work. In those cases, we take the time to relax and have fun.

Even as the operational tempo for the service members with Multi Na-tional Force - West begins Truck Company continue to conduct responsible drawdown convoys from Al Asad.

"After a hard work day getting everything ready for the next convoy, it's nice to use some of that spare time to build morale," says Sgt. Juan Tellor-ios, truck master for Truck Company. "It helps with camaraderie and breaks the monotony of the day."

"Sometimes we do softball or volleyball," added Cpl. Keith Young, a wrecker operator with the company. "We'll go for runs and some of us like to practice (the Marine Corps Martial Arts Program). Mainly, it lets us all get a feel for one another and brings us

closer as a unit."
With many individual ready reserve Marines and several others returning home, Truck Company's size has dwindled. But, their motivation and teamwork has remained at full strength, even as their time remaining in Iraq is just a few short

months.

"We're out here
no matter what," said
Young. "We do the 'Marine thing'. Part of that is
the balance of work and
play and I think we got it
down pretty well."

In their down time during the day, the stern pull

and corporals often pull their Marines together and conduct training which allows them to continue building bonds with their junior Marines. "Our NCOs will sit

"Our NCOs will sit down with us and ask us what we feel like doing, what we've learned and so on," said Boykin. "This makes it very easy for us to approach them if there is ever a problem."

Whether these Marines are playing a friendly game of soft-

friendly game of soft-ball, enjoying a ping pong tournament, or taking steps to further their military education, they are working close together just as they do when they're tackling the bumpy and dangerous roads of Iraq's Anbar CAMP LEATHERNECK, HELMAND PROVINCE, AFGHANIST

Marines bring marath to Camp Leatherneck

GUNNERY SGT. KIMBERLY LEONE Marine Expeditionary Brigade Afahanistan

Lauren Edwards and Erin Demchko love running.

Edwards, a major currently assigned to Combat Logistics Regiment 2, Marine Expeditionary Brigade-Afghanistan, took up running as a 10-year-old girl growing up in Smiths Grove, Ky. More than 24 years later, she finds herself battling the rock-strewn roads and pervasive "moon dust" of Camp Leatherneck in order to get her running fix.

"I love running because it is the one

"I love running because it is the one "Hove running because it is the one time of the day that is really my own," said Edwards. "It is the time of day when I can go out, solve problems, relieve stress, or just enjoy what's around me."

Around here, Mine Resistant Ambush Protected vehicles and colorful jingle trucks stir up clouds of fine sand that exist with washe from how price.

that mix with smoke from burn pits and fumes from aircraft. Throw in the suffocating heat of the Afghanistan summer; the pocked, gravel roadways of the camp, its location approximately 3,000 feet above sea level, and it's "an absolute challenge" to run here, according to Edwards. But Edwards hasn't just run for the fun of it while deployed, she's also training for a

And Demchko, a first lieutenant assigned to Marine Wing Support Squadron 371, Marine Aircraft Group 40, has loped through the puffs of moon dust right next to Edwards. The duo, both members of the All-Marine Running Team and both intent on participating in the 2009 Marine Corps Marathon, started training for the October race as soon as Edwards arrived at Camp Leatherneck in May.

"Last spring I found out that I wouldn't make it back to join the team for the Marine Corps Marathon in D.C.," Edwards said. "But when I heard 'Evil', my nickname for Lt. Demchko, was also deploying, I told coach (All-Marine Running Team coach Joe Puleo) that I wanted to stay in shape as best I could and once I found out the environ-

"In the back of my mind, I the sidered organizing the marathon I she said. "But not knowing the op or how it would be received, I sim threw my racing uniform in the bo of my seabag and buried the thou

of my scabag and buried the thous Shortly after Demchko and Ed-began dedicating the early mornin their deployment to racking up mi their running shoes, Edwards revis-the idea of bringing a satellite Mar Corps Marathon to Camp Leather "Once I discovered how big the of Bastion, Leatherneck, and the a combined really were. I thought

combined really were, I thought at the marathon again," she said. "Iv skeptical as to how it would be rec due to our very high op tempo at tl time, but the (commanding genera extremely enthusiastic about the id Not only did he give me the green

but he also encouraged me to make event as big as possible."

Working with personnel from the gade Headquarters Group, 5th Bat 10th Marine Regiment, Edwards in 10th fied and received approval for a 26. route that wraps around Camp Leaneck, Camp Bastion, and the flight Edwards and a team of helpers from CLR-2 have rounded up volunteers identified supporters in the States w will provide door prizes for some lu

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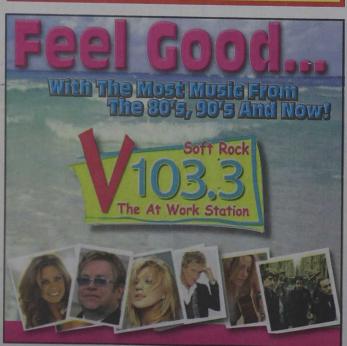
Edwards continues to work with organizers of the official Marine Co Marathon to ensure the Camp Leat neck satellite race is recognized.
"The Marine Corps Marathon is t

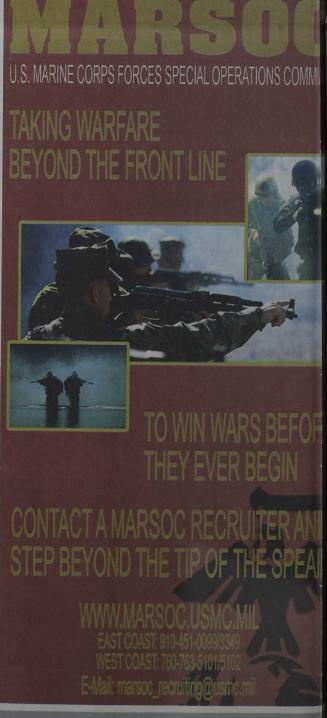
most important race on the calendar the All-Marine Running Team," said Demchko. "We run it every year and we cannot make it because of deploy." we try to run it any way we can."

Demchko returned to the States

late September and will participate the Marine Corps Marathon Saturd Washington, D.C. About 11 hours per to the start of the Washington, D.C. event, Edwards and more than 230 marather than 230 ners will head out in a puff of moor
— participants in the first ever Mari Corps Marathon Afghanistan.







Il is well: Patriots explode for 59

E, AFGHANIST

erneck, and the avere, I thought about, "she said. "I'w wit would be reo

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Vith Jamie Cameron

ink it's safe to as-at this point the New is Saints are the best in the NFL. Drew manhandling of the ce, an offensive clinic,

whi would be received by the world by tempo at its amanding general astic about the ide we me the green aged me to make n against boys aganza. aganza. s also pretty appar-m Brady has finally Group, 5th Bar nent, Edwards in pproval for a 26 a off the rust from his mee injury. Brady's ichdown passes ound Camp Ler n, and the flight 3 New England's n of helpers from ed up volunteers in the States v asting of the hapless ssee Titans (includ-re touchdowns in cond quarter alone) be the start of somees to work with ficial Marine C big for the Patriots as nove forward. It will eresting to see how am, along with the the Camp Lea a Bay Buccaneers, e the trip to London ett Favre manufac-yet another come-behind win against altimore Ravens. has been making of all the doubters iding me). As much islike the way he went tit, Favre's return to IFL has been one of ear's great stories. I'm st ready to start rootor him — almost oser to home, the lina Panthers got a 1-needed win over the

3 and going into a

four-game stretch of win nable football games.

Speaking of winning, my record for Week 6 was 4-1, bringing my eason mark up to 20-10. In case you haven't been keeping track, The Globe's Football Forecast (page 5B) has yet to be claimed. The cash pot is now \$400. All you have to do is go online to camplejeuneglobe. com and fill out the form for your chance to win. On to this week's picks:

Minnesota (6-0) at

Pittsburgh (4-2) In spite of a threegame winning streak, I'm not convinced the Pittsburgh Steelers have figured out what's ailing them. Quarterback Ben Roethlisberger is playing well (as evidenced by the team's 543 total yards of offense against the Cleveland Browns), and running back Rashard Mendenhall has been solid replacing the injured Willie Parker,

BOATS

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but the defense is lacking something. Most would point to Troy Polamalu's injury as the reason the Steelers have allowed lowly teams like the Browns and Lions to stay close. I have already talked about Brett Favre's amazing run as the Minnesota Viking's quar terback, but he's had plenty of help from the league's best running back, Adrian Peterson (130 yards rushing against Baltimore) is a big ason for Favre's success Pick: Minnesota

Buffalo (2-4) at

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Carolina (2-3)
Finally, the Buffalo Bills proved they are a better team than their record would indicate. The overtime win in New York against the Jets was a tribute to this team's tenacity. Don't get me wrong; the Bills are wildly inconsistent and frustratingly timid with their play-calling, but I think they will continue to win a few games against opponents they probably shouldn't as the season progresses. The Carolina Panthers seem to be on the

right track, for now. Jake Delhomme continues to cough up turnovers, and that's going to be a concern throughout the schedule. Pick: Carolina

New York Jets (3-3) at Oakland (2-4)

After starting the season on fire, the Jets have come crashing back to Earth in a big way. Rookie Mark Sanchez threw five interceptions against Buf-falo last week and all the talk about his poise and maturity have gone out the window. Now New York must start treating him like the rookie he is; shortening up the play book and minimizing his ability to hurt the team. The running game is fir-ing well. Thomas Jones and Leon Washington should be able to take up

the task of keeping the Jets on the scoreboard. It also appears the rest of the league is studying the tapes of coach Rex Ryan's relentless blitzing defense. The Oakland Raiders came up with a huge upset over Philadel-phia in Week 6. What can we read into this? I'm not sure. I still think the Raid ers are terrible, but their proves how close all NFL teams are when it comes to talent. Pick: New York Jets

Atlanta (4-1) at Dallas (3-2) The Falcons continue to impress with their win last week against Chicago. Matt Ryan and his dynamic offense are a headache for everyone that opposes them. The Falcons' defense is good enough to keep the opposition in check, and that translates into the

The Dallas Cowboys are coming off a bye week and hosting the game at mag-nificent Cowboys Stadium. Coach Wade Phillips is definitely in the hot seat thanks to the team's unin spiring 3-2 record so far. I think Wade's backside will be getting really warm after this one. Pick: Atlanta

Chicago (3-2) at

Cincinnati (4-2)
The Bears and the Bengals have play off aspira-tions, and whichever team bounces back best will gar-ner a lot of respect from the rest of the league. Chicago's loss to Atlanta is perhaps more forgivable than Cincin-nati's 28-17 blunder against Houston. I'm still not sold on the Bengals' reincarna-tion, but the home field advantage gives me pause. Pick: Cincinnati

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ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS:

- Identify issues or military and/or community concerns that help shape weekly coverage plans.
 Receives assignments or evaluates news leads and news tips to develop story ideas.
- Gathers and verifies factual information regarding story through interview, observation and research.
- *Organizes material, determines slant or emphasis, and writes story according to prescribed editorial style and AP style guide. * Compiles and incorporates supplemental material and background information from a range of sources, such as files, reference libraries, and/or individual knowledgeable sources, as appropriate.
- Guarantees quality assurance with error-free copy and meets all production deadlines. Take photographs to illustrate stories.
- *Be willing to handle occasional assignments that may arise on the beats of team members who are on vacation or otherwise assigned • Contribute to overall newspaper development by participating in regular meetings or story conferences · May edit, or assist in editing.
- Performs miscellaneous job-related duties as assigned. Provides excellent customer service. Adheres to all corporate policies and procedures in the conduct of the business.

BASIC QUALIFICATIONS:

- BA in journalism or related liberal arts degree; at least 1 year work experience in print or online publications, public relations, advertising agency or related fields in lieu of BA will be considered (college newspaper experience helpful).
- * Knowledge of journalism principles and techniques and skill in the use of journalistic research and methods and techniques.
- *Knowledge of editorial and ethical standards for the research and development of journalistic articles and/or presentations.
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills along with excellent people skills.
- Proficient with use desktop or laptop computer and use of MS Office (Word and Outlook); familiarity with newspaper production programs and systems such as Adobe InDesign, Adobe Lightroom and Adobe Photoshop.
- Excellent typing skills of at least 40 words per minute Creative writing experience and photography experience
- * Demonstrated analytical, problem solving, decision making, and priority-setting skills.
- Excellent time management and organizational skills and ability to work well under deadline pressures. • Willingness and ability to work a flexible schedule including nights and weekends. • Comfortable with a collaborative and team approach to managing work
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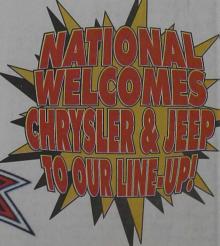
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nsideLejeune



Marine Graduation Foundation Ensuring families are able to attend | 3C

| THE GLOBE

THURSDAY OCTOBER 22, 2009



desolate aboard Camp Lejeune was suddenly interrupted by a large, boom-ing helicopter that produced hurricane-force winds in the faces of the Marines standing

As the hulking CH-53E Super Stallion descended from the sky, its overpowering rotors pressed the ground, turning even the tiniest dirt particles into painful projectiles.

Marines from Landing Support Company, Combat Logis-

port Company, Combat Logis-tics Regiment 27, 2nd Marine Logistics Group, conducted a helicopter support training ex-ercise the evening of Oct. 13,

the movement of cargo in a tactical situation where speed and maneuverability are needed. The aircraft used in the operations, including the Corps' new MV-22 Osprey, have the ability to move humvees, artillery, containers, and even other helicopters.

Helicopter support exercises such as this are conducted in order to familiarize LS specialist and aircraft crew members with the intricacies of airlift operations.

Pfc. Kerry Hotard, a landing support specialist with LS Company, said that during the exercise the Super Stallion pilots hoverd their helicopters a few feet over the Marines as

they hooked up cargo to the bottom of the aircraft.

He said that HSTs can be

dangerous and include the risk of electrocution if not done of electrocution if not done correctly. He explained that these risks can be minimized with the use of an anti-static wand, gloves and other personal protective equipment.

Despite the risks associated with their job, the Marines of LS Company say they love the dangerous and unique responsibilities.

"We have fun. We jump

"We have fun. We jump around, get blown around by the hurricane-force winds and just motivate each other," Ho-

that's exactly what

happened... As the helicopter hovered over the Marines, inching lower and lower, the deafening loudness of the propellers and the force of the winds would have intimidated anyone. Despite the insurmountable cir-cumstances, these Marines skillfully and swiftly got the job done, using hand and arm signals with the aid of glow sticks to communicate with one another.

After each lift, team leader

SEE HELICOPTER 2C

26 years later, we are far from forgetting

Beirut Memorial ceremony

LANCE CPL. JONATHAN

Marine Corps Base

Twenty-six years ago, a horrific terrorist attack was executed against American Marines, sailors and sol-diers as well as French ser-vice members stationed in Beirut, Lebanon, Oct. 23, 1983. It was the deadliest single-day death toll for the American armed forces since the first day of the Vietnam War's Tet Offensive. For the Marine Corps specifically, it was the bloodiest day since the Battle of Iwo Jima in

Such a devastating blow Such a devastating blow against a peaceful military presence has not and shall not be forgotten. This month marks the 23rd annual observance of the Beirut barracks bombing, which will take place at the Beirut Memorial at the Lejeune Memorial Gardens, Oct. 23 at 10:30 a.m., the time of the bombing.

"We try to keep the date and time of the event as close as possible to the original bombing," said Fernando Schiefelbein, operations specialist for base erations specialist for base operations and plans division. "The ceremony itself is dedicated to the families of the names on the wall, so this ceremony means a lot

to a lot of people."

The ceremony will be a day-long event opened by Abe Rosen, chairman of the Beirut Memorial Advisory Board, who in turn will in-troduce Sammy Phillips, mayor of Jacksonville, Col.

SEE BEIRUT 2C

Lejeune welcomes 3/9 with

LANCE CPL. TOMMY BELLEGARDE

As busses carrying the Marines and sailors of 3rd Battalion, 9th Marines, 2nd Marine Division pulled up, a crowd of family and friends greeted them with a robust cheer. Fathers embraced their children and husbands were reunited with wives as the troops stepped off the bus and into the arms of their layed ones.

into the arms of their loved ones.

The battalion completed its first three-month tour to

The battalion completed its first three-month tour to Iraq's Anbar province after returning home to Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune Monday, Oct. 12.

According to Capt. Lawrence Lowman, the battalion's operations officer, the unit was responsible for retrograding equipment in support of the responsible withdrawal of U.S. Forces. The battalion also worked with the Iraqi Security Forces to defeat remaining elements of insurgency,

curity Forces to defeat remaining elements of insurgency, mainly through the facilitation of information operations.

Captain Randy White, the battalion's logistics officer, said the battalion compiled and turned in all excess, damaged and broken down equipment that could be used in other missings as well as green that was deemed non-essentiations. other missions, as well as gear that was deemed non-essential to the mission. In all, more than \$100 million worth of Bear was retrograded, he added.

White feels that the Marines and sailors of the battal-

ion were highly successful in accomplishing this mission, especially given their short time overseas. "Something that as supposed to take seven months was crammed into 30 ys," White said. "We weren't designed to do what we did and we got the job done. White explained that the short length of the battalion's

SEE HOMECOMING 2C

Vice President's wife, Dr. Biden visits community

CPL. JESSICA L. MARTINEZ Marine Corps Base

Marines with 2nd Combat Engineer Battalion, 2nd Marine Division, gathered with their families in the Area 5 Gym to say their goodbyes. Little did they know, there was a special guest who dropped by to also pass on her best wishes to the Marines.

Recently, Dr. Jill Biden, the wife of Vice President Joe Biden, came to visit Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, Marine Corps Air Station New River and Coastal Carolina Community College.

"Dr. Biden has been an educa-

"Dr. Biden has been an educa-tor for the past 28 years and con-tinues to teach English classes at D.C. area community colleges," as stated in her biography. "(She) has a long history of activism in her community and she contineducation, military families, and women's health issues. Given her professional experience and pas-sion, President Obama has asked sion, President Obama has asked Dr. Biden to help highlight the importance of America's com-munity colleges. Dr. Biden fre-quently visits community colleges and speaks with students, parents and teachers around the as part of this outreach."

Although her main reason for visiting the area was to visit with Coastal Carolina Community College, she also wanted to visit the Marines.

While Dr. Biden was aboard



Photo by Cpl. Jessica Martinez Dr. Jill Biden, the wife of Vice President Joe Biden, recently paid a visit to the Marines, sailors and families of 2nd Combat Engineer Battalion, 2nd Marine Division as they prepared to leave on deployment. During her visit, she met with Wounded Warriors Battalion East, local bases and Coastal Carolina Community College.

Camp Lejeune, she not only visited with the 2nd CEB Marines and their families, but visited the Wounded Warrior Battalion – East and ate a Carolina-style barbecue lunch with the wounded warriors

Following her time with the WWBN - E, she paid a visit to the Russell Family Service Center then shortly after that, she boarded an MV-22 Osprey and continued her tour off the base toward

MCAS New River.
Once Dr. Biden had reached
MCAS New River, she talked
with the local media as her trip to Jacksonville came to a close then boarded her plane to head home. Jacksonville, MCB Camp Leje-une and MCAS New River will

remember their special

FATS cuts fat out of budge

CPL. KATIE DENSMORE Marine Corps Base

Keeping the country fe from terror threats requires a great deal of training to ensure military members are familiar with the weapon system they will be using in com-bat. However, getting the necessary training can be very expensive, time consuming and difficult to schedule, but there is a solution that satisfies these problems and gives service members the expe-

rience they need.

The Fire Arms Training Simulator at Courthouse Bay offers training that meets the require-ments of an increased operational tempo and saves

tax-payers money.
"We have fired a combined total of nearly 2.5 bined total of nearty 2.5 million simulated rounds between 1,445 students," said John Sekula the FATS administrator. "To put it in a dollar perspective, during the past 24 months we fired what would have cost \$5.2 million in am-

On top of the mone-tary savings, the simulator also allows students to get more comfortable with realistic problems they may face in battle.

"The use of virtual training systems provides the students with training opportunities that would opportunities that would be difficult or impossible to replicate in the real world, such as repeated immediate action drills," Sekula said. "The simulations also provide the opportunity to train in geographically different environments with instant environments with instant feedback.

The weapons used at the simulator are real, but have been modified for indoor use.

"The weapons operate very similar to real ones," he said. "They are airoperated, so you feel the same amount of recoil. We also have a sound system that replicates the volume of the weapon. When we are training everyone is required to wear ear protection just like on a range.

advanced For more advanced skills the students can use other software programs that use actual video. Computer generated im-agery is also used, making the simulations more like a constantly evolving

video game.

Although the concept of using simulations in-stead of actual ranges is not new, the Courthouse Bay facility differs by incorporating the weapons simulation into training received out on the water from the Joint Maritime

Training Center.
To accommodate the JMTC's needs, Seabased Wireless Integrated Target Systems was created. Sea-WITS uses wireless weapons and a receiver that is attached to different parts of a boat. When a student with a weapon hits one of the receivers on another boat a strobe light goes off and provides immediate feedback. Different

colored strobe lights let the shooter know exactly what part of the boat was

hit.
"SeaWITS allows tactical boat on boat training at full speed with instant visual feedback," Sekula said. "This has never been available before and the students who have been able to use it lave been able to use it love the realism it adds to the training. There is no more guesswork in 'who got who?'"

For Sekula, a retired sergeant major, the op-portunity to train young service members is one of the most important jobs he can do.

"It's extremely satisfying to have the students come in not knowing a thing about these weapons at all, and after about half an hour they leave with the ability to effectively handle the weapon," he said. "The system is not designed to replace live fire training, but to compliment it and make range time more productive.



Photo by Cpl. Katle De Seabased Wireless Integrated Target System wireless weapons and a receiver that is attact different parts of a boat. SeaWITS is one of the u training tools used by the Joint Maritime Center aboard Camp Lejeune.

HOMECOMING FROM 1C

deployment is due to many bases in Anbar transferring authority from Marine Corps commands to Army commands

Sergeant Anthony Soehngen, platoon commander of the bat-talion's Personal Security Detail, said that Marines have been get-ting the job done in Iraq. After deploying to Iraq for a second time, Soehngen said that he saw a great number of improvements in the country since his last deployment in 2005.

"It's a lot more stable," Soehn-gen said. "I think the biggest difference was the ability of the Iraqi Security Forces to take care of themselves. It shows that the training given to them over the last couple of years paid off."

After three months overseas,

Soehngen is happy to be back,

The troops and their families made their way to 3rd Battalion, 9th Marine's barracks where refreshments were served. Eager to make up for lost time, they spent the remainder of the evening enjoying food and good company.

For more information on the II Marine Expeditionary Force, visit the unit's Web site at .iimefpublic.usmc.mil

Photo by Lance Cpl. Tommy Bellegarde Marine with 3rd Battalion, A Marine with 3rd Battalion, 9th Marines, 2nd Marine Division embraces a loved one after arriving at Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune Oct. 12.



BEIRUT FROM 1C

Richard P. Flatau Jr., commanding officer of Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, and Maj. Gen. Paul E. Lefebvre, deputy commanding general of II Marine Expeditionary

The pinnacle of the ceremony is the dual wreath-laying upon the memorial; the first wreath in honor of the Marines, sailors and soldiers killed in the bombing, and the second in honor of the Marines who were killed in training accidents. "The Memorial and

its ceremonies form a sort of unity between the base and the city," said Schiefelbein. "Everyone gets together to make this

happen." There is a separate wreath-laying ceremony aboard Camp Geiger, in honor of 1st Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division, who was stationed out of

Geiger during the attack.

With an expected attendance of approximately 800 civilians and service members, the 23rd annual Beirut Memorial Ceremony is slated to be-gin exactly 26 years after the original bombing for families and friends to pay

their respects. For more information about the ceremony or the memorial itself, contact Fernando Schiefelbein at

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BEIRUT MEMORIAL OBSERVANCE

The 26th Beirut Remembrance v be observed at the Beirut Memc al tomorrow, at 10:30 a.m. Unifor for Marine attendees is Service with Garrison Cap and appropate attire for civilians. The gener public is welcome to attend. Par ing for this event will be at the Verence Cemetery. In the event inclement weather, the ceremon will take place in the Trinity United Methodist Church.

RETIRED MILITARY BREAKFAST

A breakfast has been schedule to take place Oct. 31 at the Bo Center aboard Camp Lejeun The guest speaker is Capt. Rolan E. Arellano, MSC, USN Commanding Officer Field Medical Training Battalion - East. Social hour will be gin at 7 a.m., with breakfast at a.m. For information, contact retired Sgt. Maj. George Meyer of

FERTILITY CARE SYSTEM OFFERED A NAVAL HOSPITAL

The Camp Lejeune Naval Hosp tal's OB clinic will offer a 90 minut introduction to the Creighton Mod el Fertility Care System for couple or single women who would lik to learn more about natural plan ning. The class is scheduled for Nov. 19 at 4 p.m. in the OB confer ence room at the hospital. Inter ested persons can call 450-4564.

HELICOPTER FROM 1C

Cpl. Timothy L. Kackley, discussed with his Marines what they did well at and what they needed to improve upon for the next lift.

The HST lasted for six lifts and Kackley determined the exercise to be a success.

exercise to be a success.

"We had a lot to work with difficulty-wise," he said.
"There was a lot of danger out there tonight – low tires and sling hooks. Overall, I think we overcame it pretty well."

As the exercise came to a close, the LS specialists discussed with each other the fun they had just experienced as they loaded humvees up with their gear.
"I love my job!" exclaimed Kackley.
The LS Marines are recognizable by the distinctive red markings they wear on their uniforms, which date back to World War II when the markings were used to differentiate them from the infantry during crowded amphibious operations in the Pacific Campaign.

them from the mainty during crowded ampinotous opera-tions in the Pacific Campaign.

The height and color of the mark on the leg symbolizes stained fatigues in the bloody waters, said Kackley.

For more information on the II Marine Expeditionary Force, visit the unit's Web site at immerpublic usmc.mil.

Federal Length of Service

Awards

MCCS Hiromi Butts Karen Blaha

Kimberly Holmes Omar Keitches

DPS Timothy Smith Lee Capehart



Thomas Bowers
Judith Ledford
Bobby Shivar
Gloria Voight
James Jones

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S4/S6/BPO Carolyn Harrison Matthew Williams Gary Billings Patricia Hinners Linda Moffett

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Annette Ramsey Angel Tirado

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Off-limits establishments

The following businesses are designated by the base commander as "off-limits"

Bell Auto Salvage II Botta Booms (A.KA. Private Dancer) Carland Cash-N-Advance Centennial Enterprises, Inc.

> Club Mickey's Doll House Easy Money Catalog Sales Fantasies Illusions

Jacksonville Speedway Auto Parts (A.K.A. Auto Parts)

Joshua Experience/Club Access Laird's Auto and Truck Repair Par Tech (A.K.A. Military Circuit of Jacksonville) Playhouse

Pleasure Palace Private Pleasures (A.K.A. Carriage House)

Reflection Photo Smitty's R&R Southern Comfort Student Assistance Company

Talk of the Town II (barbershop is not off limits) Tender Touch (A.K.A. Baby Dolls) Veterans Affairs Service

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136 Abbits Branch Rd., Hubert

4951 Richlands Highway, Jacksonville Richlands Highway, Jacksonville 401 Blue Creek Elementary School Road

200 Golden Oak Court, Virginia Beach, V.A. 1197 Piney Green Rd., Jacksonville 487-A Western Blvd., Jacksonville

6568 Richlands Highway, Jacksonville Highway 17, Jacksonville 5527 Highway 258, Jacksonville

353 Western Blvd., Jacksonville Highway 17, Jacksonville 2004 Highway 172, Sneads Ferry 244 South Randal Road, Suite III Eglin, I.L. 114 Texie Lane, Jacksonville

> Highway 258, Jacksonville Jacksonville

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451-3928 451-2999 451-3928

Aarine Graduation Foundation ensuring their families are there

NCE CPL. JONATHAN WRIGHT

Corps Base

He stands tall and proud, ffing out his chest and cking in his stomach, all while unable to conceal grin perpetuated upon lips. He spotted his parin the spotted his par-ts and two siblings long fore his platoon was dis-issed and the parents of e new Marines rushed to the parade deck. He oks over his mother's oulder as she embraces m and spots a Marine, inding alone, gazing son all the families. The ok in his eyes is like a bult to the heart.

"The most precious mo-ent in a Marine's life is hen he graduates, yet it can the worst when their fames aren't there for them," id John Weant, CEO of the larine Graduation Founda

by Cpl. Katle Den Target Systems of that is attach is one of the unit Maritime Tra

BSERVANCE

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AKFAST

tion. "More than 25 percent of new Marines don't have their families present at their graduation, which is due to financial issues most of the time."

The Marine Graduation Foundation, established in May 2005, is an organiza-tion dedicated to donating funds to families who are financially unable to attend their son or daughter's recruit training graduation. Keeping zero percent of all donated funds and directing them straight to families who have asked for assistance, the MGF has helped 623 families in 48 states.

We realize how expenwe realize how expen-sive trips to graduations can be," said Gretchen Miller, chief financial officer and webmaster for MGF. "It's our way of giving back to the new Marines and their

While the MGF is non-

the only money it collects is from family day personal-ized t-shirts for the families in support of their new Marines' companies. The mon-ey is used for administrative fees, and whatever is left over is also sent to families. All the patrons are volunteers for the organization.

The weekly donation goal is \$3,550, all of which is sent directly to the families who request assistance There have been weeks where achieving that goal has been easy, but recently there has been a trend of only a couple hundred dollars a week being collected, commented Miller.

"Due to the economy being the way it is, dona-tions have been low," said Miller. "It is also the lack of public awareness of our organization; if people knew and had a clear undid, more people would donate for the families."

The MGF is an organiza tion which solely relies on public donations to support families' attendance to their ation training, and the only payment they want is know-ing they're making Marines graduations the most memo

"All I want and get is the satisfaction in helping new Marine Corps families,"

Courlesy photo
Staff Sgt. Steven Colon,
Senior Drill Instructor for
Pit. 3101. Company K.
MCRD Parris Island, S.C.,
stands ready to dismiss
his new Marines, Nov. 7,
2008. Recruit training is a
Marines' foundation, and
their graduation is said
to be one of the greatest
moments in their lives.



Marine Corps Embassy Security Group Screening

The command visit will consist of an introductory video and brief about the MSG program, followed by screening of all interested volunteers for possible assignment to the MSG program.

Marines who are currently in receipt of orders to MSG school are required to be present for the video, brief and

All Marines who desire to be screened must have in their possession a signed and completed commanding officer's screening checklist, (Phase I and financial worksheet; MCO P1326.6d).

The screening team itinerary is as

follows:
• Nov 16- MCAS Cherry Point, T&E Bldg.

Nov 13- MCAS Critishy Folint, Table 4335 at 8 a.m.
 Nov 17- MCAS New River, Station Theater at 8 a.m.
 Nov 18- Camp Lejeune, Marston

Pavillion at 8 a.m.

For more information contact your unit career planner or Master Sgt. Hayes at 451-0376.

Female combat instructors make big impact

LANCE CPL. LIA GAMERO

With more than 300 different jobs in the Marine Corps, it's easy to overlook some of the people that play a very im-portant role in a Marine's training. Their hard work goes unseen and yet they are the ones we look to for guidance during the 29-day combat training. They are the female combat instructors

Female combat instructors are teachers, leaders, role models and support for pipeline Marines at Marine Combat Training.

MCT instructor is a B-billet with a standard duty tour of 36 months. It also fulfills the Special Duty Assign-ment requirement, which may help Marines advance in rank.

"So many people don't know that they can be a combat instructor in-stead of being a drill instructor, going stead of being a drill instructor, going on recruiting duty or working as an embassy guard, just to get the same benefits," said Gunnery Sgt. Jeannine Cressman, company gunnery sergeant for Headquarters and Support Company, Marine Combat Training Battalion, School of Infantry East.

Although MCT has existed since 1989 it was not open to female Ma-

1989, it was not open to female Marines until 1993. This is only a year after the official military occupational specialty of combat instructor was cre ated. Nearly 271 instructors are needed for MCT to operate, and in 2003 only three instructors were female The numbers have not grown much since then, and female combat instructors are now in high demand.

"Female instructors play such a huge part in the training of Marines," said Lt. Col. Chad Sbragia, battalion com-

mander of MCT Bn-East. "They're as important for the males as they are for the females and vital to the Corps.

The female instructors act as role models for females and more importantly as an example for the male Marines. For example, one part of the training is to complete a 5k, 10k and 15k hike. The hikes are usually where the female Marines look to the female instructor for leadership. instructors for leadership.

"As the females are starting to fall back on a hike, I try to be the one to show them that it can be done and what they can do to catch up," said Sgt. Lesa Morrison, a combat instructor with Company H. "To the males, it makes them see that females can keep

up with the other (male instructors) who are usually a lot bigger than us."

During MCT, male Marines interact with female Marines for the first time, so a combat instructor is the first impressions they get of female Marines in the fleet.

"When males come out of boot camp, they sort of have this mindset camp, they sort of have this mindset that females are weak and shouldn't be in the Marine Corps," said Morrison. "Then they come out and see the hard-charging females who can actually pull their own weight and are the ones teaching them the basic combat skills. Then it's like, 'oh hey, they can carry their are Mariner." the job out, they are Marine

Sbragia also commented that male Marines need to see the strong females who are leading them throughout the training, so that they can snap into reality and see the type of women they can encounter in the fleet.

"For me, hearing that the males think I'm weaker has always made me push even harder to prove my-

Morrison has been a combat instruc tor for the past 17 months. As a combat instructor, she teaches new Marines the basics of combat, but also hones her own combat skills. These skills can in-clude continuously demonstrating how to disassemble and assemble weapons such as the M-240B medium machine gun and the M-249 squad automatic weapon, teaching land navigation then going on combat patrols. The instruc-tors also show Marines how to dig fir-ing positions and the procedures to cor-don and clear an area with improvised explosive devices.

Sbragia also commented when com-bat instructors hit the fleet, they are more knowledgeable and competent in their infantry skills, which helps them in their non-infantry billet, and that he would take them out to battle any day.

Being a combat instructor gives fe-males the skills and power to sharpen their traits as Marines, build upon their knowledge and for some, such as Morrison, the chance to prove themselves

to others as an equal.
"I've had male Marines come back after the class ended and say. after the class ended and say, 'You know I had a different picture of female Marines in my head before I got here, but you proved them wrong. You showed that females weren't what I was told they'd be,'" said Morrison. "Hearing that really feels good, because it means that all my hard work is paying off. It means I've done my job as a female combat instructor, to set an example for male Marines."

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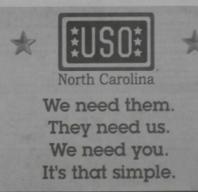
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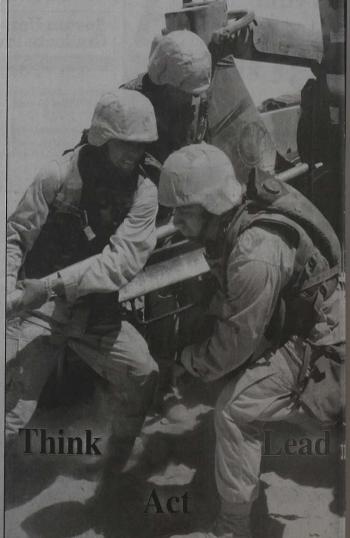
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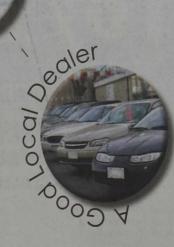






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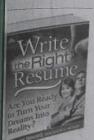
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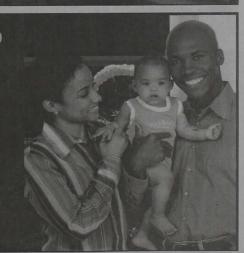
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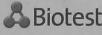
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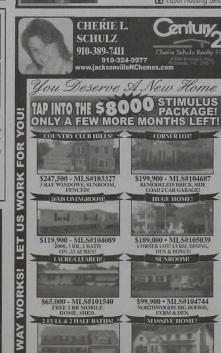
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09 DODGE CHARGER SE BLUE 35K MILES #81246	\$17,90
'09 VW JETTA S BLUE 18K MILES #81317	\$18,35
'09 DODGE CHARGER SE WHITE 33K MILES #81248	\$18,36
'05 LEXUS ES330 BEIGE 32K MILES #81257	\$18.82
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'03 JEEP LIBERTY 4X4 5 SPEED	SOAAG
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SILVER 44K MILES #19194A '05 DODGE DAKOTA CLUB CAB ST	
RED 39K MILES U81024A	^{\$} 11,005
'05 CHEVROLET EQUINOX LT SILVER 59K MILES #29574A	°11,212
'07 SUZUKI GRAND VITARA	
SILVER 25K MILES #19075A	s11,443
'05 FORD EXPLORER XLT 4X4 PEWTER 57K MILES #T295285	\$12,734
'03 CHEVROLET TAHOF IS	
PEWTER 71K MILES #82305A	^{\$} 12,803
'07 JEEP PATRIOT 4X4 SILVER 53K MILES #81060	\$12,781
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RED 70K MILES #19216A	\$13,150
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WHITE 76K MILES T19268A '05 TOYOTA HIGHLANDER	\$17,231
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'08 JEEP LIBERTY SPORT	
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MAROON 53K MILES #19237A	\$14,994
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BLACK 44K MILES #80995.	°15,040
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'08 CHRYSLER TOWN & COUNTRY LX	
MAROON 49K MILES #81003. '08 JEEP COMMANDER	°15,940
BLUE 52K MILES #81026	s16,147
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SILVER 47K MILES #81241	\$16,770

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WHITE 74K MILES M87456.	^{\$} 14,30;
'05 CHEVY COLORADO EXT CAB 4X4 ORANGE 40K MILES	\$14,55
'08 HYUNDAI SANTE FE AWD	
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WHITE 46K MILES #81285	\$17,02
'07 DODGE NITRO R/T 4X4	
BLACK 77K MILES #M87515	\$17,094
'04 FORD F-150 FX-4 4X4 RED 64K MILES #M87374	\$14,487
'08 DODGE RAM QUAD CAB 4X4	
SILVER 20K MILES M87493	\$18,245
'08 DODGE RAM QUAD CAB SLT	\$18,245
BIG HORN EDITION SEVERAL IN STOCK #81324. '07 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE LAREDO 4X4	
SILVER 33K MILES P19003B	\$18,407
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#39097B	\$18,960
'06 HUMMER H3 NAVIGATION	
GREEN 52K MILES #P19292A	^{\$} 19,029
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'08 FORD EDGE SEL ASW	
WHITE 47K MILES P19033	^{\$} 19,375
'09 TOYOTA SIENNA LE	\$20,904
'08 CHEVY SILVERADO LT CREW CAB	
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'08 FORD F-150 XLT CREW CAR	
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'07 CHEVY SILVERADO LS CREW CAB	\$91 419



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The North Carolina Aquarium's annual Trick or Treat Under the Sea event brings out all sorts of little critters. Choose from two nights this year, Oct. 28 or 29.

(Leff) This Halloween, the Battleship North Carolina will transform trom a fascinating piece of history into a chilling maze. Even those who are familiar with the battleship will find themselves lost in a log of fright. (Above) Ghouls goblins and ghosts can celebrate Halloween aboard Camp Lejeune with the Haunted Forest which opens its cobweb-covered, creaky gate Oct. 27, and continues through Oct. 31.

CPL. KATIE DENSMORE

amp Lejeune is nestled in an area filled with ghost stories of pirates, shop owners and Civil War soldiers. It is only natural that Halloween would be a highly celebrated holi-

day.
This Halloween season, Eastern This Halloween season, Eastern North Carolina does not disappoint, with its many frightening options. Wilmington, Beaufort and New Bern all offer ghost walks throughout the year, and for those of legal drinking age, Wilmington's Haunted Pub Crawl puts a terrifying twist on combining spirits and apparitions. But there are several Halloween options that occur only once a year.

options that occur only once a year. For those looking to have a howling good time in Wilmington, the Hal-loween Festival and Battleship North Carolina can scare-up some laughs

and screams.

The Halloween Festival includes a haunted barn and hayride, fortune teller, costume contest and much more. The event is also a fundraiser for the Poplar Grove Foundation, lo-cal schools and fire department.

The Battleship North Carolina will transform from a fascinating piece of history into a chilling maze. Even those who are familiar with the

battleship will find themselves lost in a fog of fright.

"We plan to scare you from all angles," said Heather Loftin, pro-motions director for the battleship.
"You will not be safe from fear even if you are standing in the middle of if you are standing in the middle of

if you are standing in the middle of your group."

This is also the first year for the Batty Battleship's Halloween Bash, which is scheduled for Tuesday. The event will include activities such as bean bag toss, ghost stories, crafts, an inflatable bouncer and a mini-haupted house.

haunted house. haunted house.

"We are enthusiastic to host such a unique event," says Danielle Wallace, programs director for the battleship. "It will be exciting to see all the children's faces and how much fun they will have touring the different areas of the battleship to get their special treats."

Another destination of dread is the Emerald Isle area. The North Carolina Aquarium at Pine Knoll Shores is taking terror below sea level and Emerald Isle is celebrating with a Halloween Carnival.

The aquarium offers a different

with a Halloween Carnival.

The aquarium offers a different spin on the ritual of going door-to-door to collect candy with "Trick or Treat Under the Sea." The aquarium will have a traditional array of Halloween activities; however, they will use a fish-eye view for many of them including divers carving pumpkins under water.

The Halloween Carnival, which has an admission fee of one bag

The Halloween Carnival, which has an admission fee of one bag of individually wrapped candy per child, scheduled for Oct. 30 from 6 to 8 p.m., will include activities such as freaky face painting, outrageous liver toss, murky duck pond pull and identification kits by the police department.

For scaredy-cats who want to have ghastly adventures in the Jack-sonville area, the Onslow County Parks and Recreation Department

SEE HALLOWEEN 30 >





This week's movie fare includes fluff, zombies, lying

by: Vince Vaughn ("The

overburdened, but loving

couple, with two boys who

have never been able to take

a honeymoon; Jason Bate-

man and Kristen Bell, who

man and Kristen Bell, who starred together in "Forget-ting Sarah Marshall," as Jason and Cynthia who are having trouble conceiving and are contemplating di-

vorce; Jon Favreau ("I Love You Man") and Kristin

Davis ("Sex and the City") as Joey and Lucy, a couple who married too young due

to an unplanned pregnancy and who are now unfaithful

to each other instead of fac-

ing their problems head on;

Faizon Love ("The Perfect Holiday") as Shane, newly

divorced from his wife and

already courting a young, fun-loving party girl, Trudy,

Also appearing are Jean Reno ("The Da Vinci Code") as Monsieur Mar-

in a midlife crisis, he is

played by Kali Hawk.

Break Up'') and Malin Akerman ("The Proposal") as Dave and Ronnie, an

Now playing in Jacksonville

"COUPLES RETREAT" (PG-13)

"Couples Retreat" is a romantic comedy about four suburban couples who embark on a journey to a tropical island resort to reinvigorate their marriages

The story centers on the Midwestern couples who settle in at a beautiful tropical island resort for a vacation and are forced to confront their problems.

While one of the couples

is there to work on their marriage, the other three intend to play, enjoy the spa and have lots of fun in the

They soon discover, however, that participation in the resort's couples therapy is

not optional.

What follows is a hilarious look at real-world problems faced by all couples.

The characters who undergo marital counseling at the island retreat are played guru; Peter Serafinowicz ("Run, Fat Boy, Run") as Stanley, the resort official who orders the couples around; Carlos Ponce ("Just My Luck") as the Fabio-like yoga instructor; and John Michael Higgins ("Fred Claus") and Ken Jeong ("All About Steve") as

Actor Peter Billingsley ("Four Christmases," "El The Break Up") makes his feature directing debut with this story line that is based on an original idea of Vaughn, who is at his funny Vaughn, Favreau and Dana Fox put together the screenplay.

The movie was filmed in the dreamy setting of Bora Bora, the French Polynesian paradise.

"Couples Retreat" is pure fluff, but a hilariously funny and entertaining romp that should have been one of this summer's "get-away"

"ZOMBIELAND" (R)

"Zombieland" is a postapocalyptic zombie horror comedy about a band of renegade humans looking for refuge from the flesh

After America is ravaged by a zombie plague, a lone band of survivors fight the living dead while they cross the nation.

(The zombies are infected people who are diseased; they are ferocious and move erratically.) Woody Harrelson ("Semi-Pro," "Seven Pounds," "
Country for Old Men") stars as Tallahassee, who leads the group of survivors on a cross-country road trip to an amusement park, believing they will be safe there and escape the undead

He is the gung-ho leader of the group, an automaticweapon-wielding cowboy and zombie slayer, who is determined to find the

Tallahassee hooks up with Columbus, played by Jesse Eisenberg ("Adven-tureland," "The Village"), a geeky college student who is very much afraid of being eaten by the zombies.

They join forces with two feisty sisters, Wichita and Little Rock, played by Emma Stone ("The House Bunny") and Abigail Bres-lin ("My Sister's Keeper"), who also have found a unique way to survive the zombie mayhem.

Now they have to deter-mine which is worse, relying on each other or succumbing to the zombies.

Also appearing is Amber Heard ("Pineapple Express") as Maggie; and Derek Graf ("Two for the Money") as Clown Zombie.

Bill Murray ("Get Smart") makes a cameo appearance as one of the

First time director Ruben Fleischer created some terrifying creatures who are consuming the remains of humanity

'Zombieland" is a hilarious road movie with an appealing tale; and a smart and lively horror flick all rolled into one. The fun is wicked and the humor vicious - enjoy!

"THE INVENTION OF LYING" (PG-13)

The Invention of Lying" is a romantic comedy that takes place in an alternate reality in which lying does not exist.

Everyone, from politicians, to advertisers, to the men and women on the street, speaks the truth and nothing but the truth with no thought of the conse-

EVERYONE TRUTH... INVENTION

Ricky Gervais ("Ghost Town," "Stardust," "Night at the Museum") stars as Mark Bellison, a downon-his-luck, struggling screenwriter, who lives in a fantasy world where everyone speaks the truth. When the mild-man-

nered Mark suddenly develops the ability to lie and becomes the first person to start telling lies, he quickly finds that dishonesty has its own rewards.

In an environment where every word is assumed to be the absolute truth, Mark easily lies his way to fame and fortune.

He soon becomes the most powerful man in the world.

But lies have a way of spreading, and Mark soon finds out that things are getting out of control.
With the entire world

hanging on his every word, there is only one thing Mark has not been able to the heart of the woman he

Jennifer Garne ("Ghosts of Girlfriends Past," "The Kingdom") co-stars as the lovely and sweet Anna McDoogles Mark's love interest. How ever, she does not think

Mark measures up to e standards.

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Also starring are Jonah Hill ("Forget-ting Sarah Marshall" Frank, Mark's depres neighbor; Louis C.K. ("Role Models") as C: Mark's friend; Jeff Tail ("Hellboy II: The Go: Army") as Anthony; Rob Lowe ("Thank Y for Smoking") as Brac Kessler; Tina Fey ("Bay Mama") as Shelley, Mama secretary; and Fionnu Flanagan ("Yes Man" i Martha Bellison, Mari bedridden mother. Ricky Gervais, the

award-winning creator star of the original BB series "The Office" and HBO's "Extras," share writing and directing d with Matthew Robinso in this work that is mor of a satire than a roma

"The Invention of L ing" is funny and smar written — a hilarious b liant comedic idea that executed with great tale and wit.

Editor's note: Ms. Huneycutt is the Publi Affairs Assistant at the Base Public Affairs

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SAW VI R • DTS • DLP • 1:00 • 2:00 • 3:15 • 4:25 • 5:30 • 8:50 • 7:46 • 9:16 • 10:00 CIRQUE DE FREAK: THE VAMPIRE'S ASSIS TANT PG13 • DTS • DLP • 1:10 • 3:15 • 6:30 • 9:16 ASTRO BOY PG • DTS • DLP • 1:00 • 3:15 • 6:30 • 7:45 • 10:00 STAN HELSING R . DTS . DLP . 11:30 FRIDAY ONLY LEL JACKSON: THIS IS IT PG - DTS -45 - 420 - 7:00 - 9:40 OPENS TUE. NIGHT

OCT. 27TH AT MIDNIGHT CAPITALISM: A LOVE STORY R . DTS . DLP . MAL ACTIVITIES R . DTS . DLP . 1.4 410-0.45-9.15
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WHERE THE WILD THINGS ARE PG+DTS+
DLP+1:30-4-10-7:00-9.25
STEPPATHER PG13-DTS-DLP+1:05-3:35+

UPLES RETREAT PG13 - DTS - DLP - 1:30 -OY STORY 1 & 2 IN 3-D G - DTS - DLP - 1:00 ND R - DTS - DLP - 2:30 - 4:50 - 7:10

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00 - 9:20 DY WITH A CHANCE OF MEATBALLS - DTS - DLP - 2:00 - 4:20 - 6:40 - 9:00 RIOUS BASTERDS R - DTS - DLP - 1:45

CAMP LEJEUNE BASE THEATER

FRIDAY "Love Happens." PG-13, 6:30 p.m.; "The Informant," R, 9:15 p.m. SATURDAY

"Monster vs. Allens" (free)
PG, 3:30 p.m.;
"I Can Do Bad All By Myself,"
PG-13, 6:30 p.m.;
"The Informant." R, 9:15 p.m.
SUNDAY
"Ice Age: Dawn of the
Dinosaurs." (free) PG,
3:30 p.m.;
"Halloween I.J." R, 6:30 p.m.
TUESDAY
"Inglotious Basterds." R,

"Inglorious Basterds," R,

"The Final Destination," R, 7:30 p.m.

MIDWAY PARK THEATER

"All About Steve," PG-13, 6:30 p.m.; "White Out," R, 9:15 p.m. SATURDAY

"Gamer," R, 6:30 p.m.; "All About Steve," PG-13, SUNDAY "Julie & Julia," PG-13, 3:30 p.m.;

"Sorority Row," R, 6:30 p.m.
WEDNESDAY "White Out," R, 7:30 p.m.

NEW RIVER THEATER

"I Can Do Bad All By Myself,"
PG-13, 7 p.m.;
"Campy" B. 8120 p. ...

"Gamer," R, 9:30 p.m.
SATURDAY "I Can Do Bad All By Myself," PG-13, 7 p.m.; "Gamer," R, 9:30 p.m. SUNDAY

"Sorority Row," R, 3 p.m.;
"White Out," R, 6 p.m.
MONDAY "Sorority Row," R, 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY
"White Out," R, 9:30 a.m.;
"White Out," R, 7 p.m.

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Pets Week



Purm! I may be only three months old, but I know a thing or two. For example, a cute guy with short, gray hair. And I know



Hey, there! I'm a three year old blue merle, Australian shepherd. I like to roam and would love to have a yard or farm to call my own. Oh, and I am female. Pet ID#A032721

The Onslow County Animal Shelter is open Monday through Thursday from noon to 7 p.m., Friday from noon to 3 p.m., Saturday from 10 a.m. to noon and 1 to 3 p.m.

To see more photographs of pets available for adoption, visit www.pethorbor.com.

For more information, call the Onslow County Animal Shelter at 455-0182.

What's happenin'

For information on concerts, festivals, special events and classes up and down the Carolina coast, check out What's happenin' Carolina each week. To add your event, e-mail heather.owens@militarynews.com. Space is limited to availability.

Pumpkin painting party

Monday, 6 p.m.
The Onslow County Parks and Recreation Department and Mike's Farm are sponsoring an October pumpkin painting party. This free event is scheduled for Monday at Blue Creek Elementary School beginning at 6 p.m. Children 12 years and under are invited and parents are encouraged to attend. Free pumpkins will be available while supplies last, though you may wish to bring your own. Painting supplies will be provided as well. Door prizes and goody bags will also be distributed. For more information, call 347-5332 or vistt onslowcountync.gov/parks.

The Spirit of Halloween concert

Monday, 7:30 p.m.
Feel the chill in the air as Jacksonville High School's Cardinal Orchestra summons The Spirit of Halloween Monday. The concert, under the direction of Joli Brooks, will begin at 7:30 p.m in the JHS auditorium. The program features music from the hit Broadway shows Wicked and Phantom of the Opera. Other "haunting" melodies will help everyone get into the Halloween spirit. Join the JHS orchestra for this free concert and discover a whole new way to

Spooktacular fun Oct. 30 and 31, 5:30 to 10:30 p.m.

The Onslow County Parks and Recreation Department and Onslow Pines Park Concession Stand Committee invite you to participate in the spook-tacular fun at Onslow Pines Park, Oct. 30 and 31 from 5:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. There will be plenty of fun for all ages, including a haunted trail ride (\$5 for adults: \$3 for children) adults, \$3 for children), games, moonwalks and a train ride. A costume contest is scheduled for Oct. 31 at 7 p.m.; it is open to all ages. All proceeds benefit the Onslow Pines Park concession stand fund. Call 347-5332 or visit onslowcountync.gov/parks for

Halloween costume contest, matinee movie Oct. 31, 9 a.m.

The Onslow County Parks and Recreation Depart-The Onslow County Parks and Recreation Department and Carmike Cinema 16 have scheduled a Halloween costume contest and matinee movie for Oct. 31 at Carmike Cinema 16. The cost for this year's event is three canned goods per person (which will be donated to Onslow County Christmas Cheer). The event is open to all children age 12 years old and under. Prizes will be awarded to costume contest winners in a variety of age groups and free goody bags will be distributed. For more information, call 347-5332.

Cervical cancer: Early detection saves lives

CPL. JESSICA L. MARTINEZ

rk measures up to dards. Also starring are th Hill ("Forget-Sarah Marshall") k, Mark's depres thbor, Louis C.K.. le Models") as G c's friend, Jeff Ti

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Many years ago, cervical cancer was the leading cause of cancer-related death in women, but over the past 40 years that statistic has significantly decreased due to more women

that statistic has significantly decreased due to more women getting regular gynecological care.

Although it is no longer the leading cause of death in women, cervical cancer is still a primary concern for staff members at Naval Hospital Camp Lejeune. The hospital has been conducting cervical and breast exam clinics this week. The final sessions are scheduled to run from 8 to 11:30 a.m. and 1 to 3:30 p.m. today and tomorrow, from 8 to 11:30 a.m. The 20-minute walk-in sessions are open to all TRICARE beneficiaries who need to receive their annual women's cervical and breast exams.

Cervical cancer is mainly caused by the human papillo-

Cervical cancer is mainly caused by the human papillomavirus, but it can be prevented through regular screenings as well as by receiving a vaccine to prevent HPV infections, a common sexually transmitted disease.

The HPV vaccine protects against four types of HPV that cause the most cases of cervical cancer.

Cervical cancer is the easiest female cancer to prevent.

Cervical cancer is the easiest female cancer to prevent with regular screening and follow-up visits.

"Early detection is the key," said Dr. Phyllis MacGilvray, assistant program director with NHCL Family Medicine Residency. "A single test can prevent or detect cervical

cancer."

There are several things women can do to help prevent cervical cancer such as limiting their number of sexual partners, using condoms, delaying first intercourse as long as possible and avoiding smoking, said MacGilvray.

She also gave guidelines about the timing of exams.

"Three years following their first sexual intercourse, or at age 21, women should get their first pap test," she said. "When a woman is 65 years or older, if her tests were normal, or following a hysterectomy that was done for other than cancer related reasons, a woman can stop getting a pap."

Cervical cancer is rare in teens and women in their early 20s. It is more common in women who are in their 30s or older.

"I see more cases of (cervical cancer) in women age 30 or older because it has been five or more years without a pap or they've never once had a pap," said MacGilvray. "Women

should get an annual pap until age 30, but at the minimum get a pap at least every three years. Early detection is the key here that is the reason for the free clinic."

For more information about cervical cancer or HPV visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Web site at cdc.gov/caner. For more information about the cervical and breast exam clinic or to make an appointment call 450.4481 breast exam clinic or to make an appointment, call 450-4481



Naval Hospital observes Breast Cancer Awareness month

CPL JESSICA L MARTINEZ

The month of October is a time to raise aware-ness about breast cancer. Breast cancer is the second leading killer of women in America. Approximately 200,000 women are diagnosed with breast cancer and more than 40,000 die from it each year.

"Breast cancer is a disease in which malignant cells form in the tissues of the breast," according to the National Breast Cancer Foundation Web site.
"It is considered a heterogeneous disease, differing by individual acc by individual, age group and even the kinds of cells within the tumors themselves."

Although breast cancer mainly affects women men can be diagnosed with the disease as well.

Approximately 1,700 men are diagnosed with breast cancer and 450 die from it each year, according to the NBCF Web site.

For those who receive the diagnosis, it can be hard to handle. However, in many cases, it can be effectively treated.

Some factors associated with breast cancer are:
• Age: Half of all women diagnosed are over the

· Weight: Being obese or overweight increases

• Diet and lifestyle: Lack of physical activity, a diet high in saturated fat and an alcoholic intake of

Menstrual and reproductive history: Early menstruation or late menopause, having your first child at an older age or not having given birth, or taking birth control pills for more than 10 years if you are under 35.

Family and personal history: A family history of breast cancer, particularly a mother, sister or a personal history of breast cancer of benign breast disease.

 Medical and other factors: Dense breast tissue, often identified by a mammogram, past radiation therapy to the breast or chest area, a history of hor-mone treatments such as estrogen and progesterone

"A woman 18 years old or older should under-stand why she should be doing self breast exams and be doing (them) routinely every month," said Lt. Cmdr. Marcel MacGilvray, assistant depart-ment head for radiology with Naval Hospital Camp Lejeune. "She will learn her own body and know it better than anyone else."

There are a few common signs and symptoms

conducting their self exam: change in how the breast or nipple feels, such as nipple tenderness, a lump or thickening in or near the breast or in the underarm area and change in how the breast or nipple looks such as a change in the size or shape of the breast or a nipple that is turned slightly inward.

Also, the skin of the breast, areola or nipple may appear scaly, red, swollen or may have ridges or putting that the skin of the property of the skin of the sk

ting that resembles the skin of an orange and nipple discharge when cancer is present. Early detection is important in beating the disease.

The NBCF recommends an early breast cancer detection and the state of the new parts of

detection plan beginning at the age of 20, when women should begin performing self breast exams

and looking for any sings of changes.

From the age 20 through 39, women should

schedule a clinical exam every three years.

Between the ages of 40 through 49, women

Between the ages of 40 through 49, women should have a mammogram every one to two years-depending on the previous findings.

For ages 50 and older, it is recommended women receive a mammogram every year.

"This is a big public health issue," said MacGilvray. "There is no reason not to be screened. We want to detect more cancer. We can't prevent it, but it was a the proper treatment. if we catch it early we can give the proper treatment and prevent mortality."

NHCL has been running a breast cancer screening

Remaining sessions are scheduled for today from 8 .m. to 2:30 p.m. and Friday from 8 a.m. to noon at the

Naval Hospital's radiology clinic.

Mammogram screenings are offered to female
TRICARE beneficiaries age 40 years old and older who
need an initial mammogram or who are not current with their annual mammogram.
"We want to promote awareness in women with

these mammogram screenings we are offering, "said MacGilvray. "We want to make it easy for women to come in. Breast cancer can be cured if it's caught at an early stage and that's the reason for the screenings."

The service is free and is available on a walk-in, first come, first-served basis.

Women who have a pre-existing condition or breast implants require a diagnostic mammogram and must set

up a regular appointment with the clinic.
To set up an appointment for a screening or diagnostic mammogram at NHCL, call 450-4357.
For more information about breast cancer, visit the NBCF Web site at nationalbreastcancer.org.











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RIDING FOR THE

New River Harley Davidso set to host fundraiser ride

HEATHER M. OWENS

"Motorcycle riders have hearts the size of Texas," said Tricia Dyal, a Marine spouse and mother living in Jacksonville. "It's a great, supportive community to be involved with."

For that reason, Dyal, co-founder of Operation Hur. A Hero is call.

of Operation Hug-A-Hero, is calling on the area's biker community to

ing on the area's bluer community to honor and support military children. The non-profit organization, which provides dolls in the likeness of the deployed or fallen warrior to his or her child(ren), has scheduled a combination motorcycle rally and bicycle rodeo for Saturday at New River Harley Davidson.
The "Let's Ride for Operation Hug-A-Hero" motorcycle rally is a fundraiser to provide the Hug-A-Hero dolls to even more young military. dolls to even more young military families, said Dyal.

Registration for the police-escorted ride, which costs \$20 per motorcycle, starts at 9 a.m. The first 100 registrants will receive an event T-shirt. In addition, Dyal said the first 150 registered riders will receive a travel bag full of goodies courtesy of Sportsman's Lodge.

man's Lodge.

Other planned attractions will add to the festive atmosphere, said Dyal.

Harley Davidson has agreed to serve "Harley Dogs" to all

riders upon their return from the ride and local country music station WRNS is scheduled to broadcast live from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Food and other commercial vendors will also

be on hand during the day. Earl

Jones Music

and his students, is also set to per-form live during the day.

"His students are phenomenal," said Dyal. "They can really get dow They play everything from country twang to hip-hop; they can do it all And they are very supportive of the military." military

While planning the motorcycle rally, Dyal got the idea to have a co-current event for children. After all military children are the reason for the fundraiser and the beneficiaries of the rider's support, she said. Though all children are welcome

Though all children are welcome at the rodeo, Dyal said she hopes many children of deployed or deploing service members will participate and receive recognition for the separations they face and the sacrifices they make as military children.

"I just wanted to recognize the little because the holist of a pake.

little heroes left behind and make them feel special," she said. Registration for the bicycle rodeo a free event for children, kicks off at

10 a.m. The first 100 children registered for the rodeo will receive a free T-shirt. Participants should bring their bicycles and are required to wear a helmet.

wear a helmet.

The rodeo will include a series of stations related to bicycles and bike safety. The Jacksonville Police Department is scheduled to conduct bicycle safety inspections. Other stations will include an area for children to decorate their bikes and one for older children to demonstrate their older children to demonstrate their bicycle trick-riding skills.

Grace Seamon, a member of the senior class council at Lejeune High School, rallied other LHS students to organize the bicycle rodeo.

"She's just a very neat girl and she asked 'How can I help?'" said Dyal of Seamon. "She and her friends at the high school said they wished they had these dolls when they were

SEE RALLY 50

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onth, and Geraghty cheduled a book cheduled a book g aboard Camp se today. The event ske place at the e Corps Association tore at the Marine Exchange Annex in bt Point. The signing heduled to take from 11:30 a.m. to 1 for more information aid she hopes eployed or depl s will participat ion for the sepa d the sacrife. y children recognize the nd and make



plonel tells story of Beirut ne said. ne said. ne bicycle rodes, ren, kicks off at children regis ombing in new book

CATIE DENSMORE

bicycles and onville Police led to conductors. Other sta

RALLY SO

numultuous times of civil unrest, the farines can be deployed on short to anywhere in the world. During at 1982, they did just that by entering I. Lebanon, on a peacekeeping mis-However, the mission ended without and a great loss to the American as well as those of France, Italy and

e bombing of the Marine Corps bar and French barracks Oct. 23, 1983, r changed the rules of engagement

g a peace-keeping mission. se Marine who witnessed it all ed not to let his and the story of one who was in Beirut at the time way. Retired Marine Col. Timothy aghty, commanding officer of the Marine Amphibious Unit at the time

"Peacekeepers at War."
s book gives insight into the terrible
yof what occurred leading up to and
at the bombings from the perspecfan officer trying to rationalize an
priate response and coordinate the
aeffort. The same time he had to effort. At the same time, he had to sack the rage of a man who had lost others-in-arms and wanted nothing than to strike out at his attackers. is a tale of conflict, commitment, kes, violence and valor," Geraghty I in the beginning of his book account of America undertaking a mission to assist a war-torn country e own people were their own worst

se escalation of force in the conflict

n well before the bombing. n late August (1983), the environ-definitely changed," he said. "The idic shelling and intermittent ex-ges of small-arms fire increased with

racy and intensity."
ue to the fact the Marines were on a e-keeping mission, their response to tacks was restrained.

Our rules of engagement stated that cre not to initiate any of the ex-les, and when we were forced to re-d, our response should be structured ing to terminate it at the lowest le level and in the shortest period so that it did not escalate into a

fracas," Geraghty wrote. he peacekeeper's restraint and the s withdrawing from the greater area set up the volatile scene for aly the September War, but also the

ober 23, was a Sunday like many The routine was slightly differen most days of the week to give Ma-and sailors much needed rest from nraveling peacekeeping mission, weille was an hour later than normal how was served between 8 and 10 However, at 6:22 a.m., an event oc d which would prove the day to be

A massive explosion rocked our head-

Geraghty stated in the chapter describing the bombing from his office across from the barracks. "Shards of glass from blown-out windows, equipment manuals and paper flew across my office. Fortunately, we had put duct tape on all the windows for such an eventuality, but a large section of the sandbag wall built on the outside ledge, was blasted away." He immediately headed out of his office to find the source of the blast, at

that point believing it was a missile. His ears were ringing from the explosion and the air was thick with a fog of dust, ash and debris, but he continued to search for

Between the ringing and the fog, he hardly had any senses left to guide him. It was then that he ran into a Marine who informed him a truck had driven through the compound and detonated in the bar racks lobby.

"The explosive force of the blast caused the concrete, steel-reinforced four-story structure, which is considered one story structure, which is considered one of the strongest buildings in Lebanon, to completely collapse," he said. "Its total devastation was astounding. I took in this carnage as cries for help pierced the air." He immediately began to focus his efforts on securing the area in the certainty of another eminent attack.

"I instinctively expected follow-on attacks and began organizing revised."

attacks and began organizing revised defenses to thwart them," he said.

Geraghty then enacted new rules of engagement, which included shooting any vehicle that refused to stop when nearing

the compound.

The book further details his actions and the rescue effort, which happened simultaneously to protect and recover everyone at

This experience forever changed Geraghty and everyone who survived the attacks, he said. He honors the memory

of those who fought so valiantly for peace throughout the book. For the 26th anniversary of the bomb-ing, Geraghty is coming to Camp Lejeune for a book signing today from 11:30 a.m.

He also plans to meet with the families and survivors of the attacks.

"I am excited to come back to Leje-une," he said. "I am really looking forward to the book signing and meeting with the families of survivors. I have a pretty jammed schedule for the couple of

days I am in town." Geraghty is not only looking forward to seeing those affected by the bombing, but also to meeting the Marines who have served in today's conflicts of Iraq and

I really miss the Marine Corps Geraghty said. "I see what the Marines are out there doing today in Iraq and Afghanistan, and they are doing a fantastic ob. Their performance is just above and beyond; exactly what I expect from the

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er and their daddy's bicycles will be given away during the day and each registered child will receive one ticket towards that

great people, so we're excited for next year a







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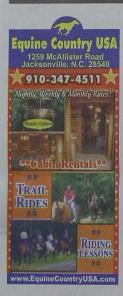
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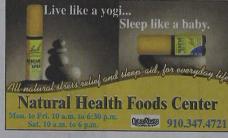
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SSICA L. MARTINEZ

nple fire drill can mean the ce between life and death for children. Knowing what to re to go and having complete tability is vital to ensuring no is left behind in a burning

p Lejeune Fire Protection Divi-nducted their Seventh annual ient Schools, School District-e drill aboard Marine Corps amp Lejeune and Marine Corps tion New River, recently. simultaneous district-wide drill nducted at 1 p.m. drill not only served as the d fire exercise for the month, was meant to keep students ulty mindful of the importance drills and exiting the building and safely in case a heated situ-

ecial _.

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vailable

PONS

e do this to test the fire alarms, ure everyone evacuates in a safe per manner and have account-'said Glenn Zurek, assistant f fire prevention aboard Camp Camp Lejeune Fire and Emergency Services personnel were located at the different schools to evaluate each school's performance during the fire

"It turned out very well," said rek. "We had all the schools' alarms function and transmit properly and, most importantly, we got a follow-up 911 call."

Although there isn't a set time for the evacuations to be completed, Zurek said they try to do it quickly

and safely.

"We make sure everyone evacuates in a safe, efficient manner, making sure we have complete accountability," said Zurek. "In most cases we

are looking at an evacuation time of two minutes or under.

"It's really important to go ahead and conduct fire drills in these facili-ties to make the state of and conduct the drills in these facilities to make sure that students and faculty know that when the alarm does sound: they need to stop what they're doing and evacuate," he said. "They may not see the emergency, but in a facility such as Lejeune High School, it's a very large facility, and you may not always know where the emergency might be. We don't need

to say 'yes the alarm is going off don't worry about it.' Any time the alarm goes off you should evacuate the facility no matter where you are."

The drill involved approximately 3,200 adults and students from seven schools throughout Camp Leigung.

schools throughout Camp Lejeune

and New River.

The base-wide fire drill fell during
Fire Prevention Week. Each year, the
National Fire Prevention Association creates a theme to target different areas regarding fire safety. This year's theme is "Stay fire smart! Don't get burned."

"We continue to do various fire prevention activities aboard the base," said Zurek. "This is just one we do for the school system. Other activities include an essay contest for middle school students, teaching fire safety in all the science classes at Brewster Middle School students, teaching fire safety in all the science classes at Brewster Middle School students. Middle School, performing fire safety shows in all schools aboard Camp Lejeune and participating in static displays at various facilities aboard Camp Lejeune and New River

Editor's note: For more information about fire safety and prevention, call 451-3320.

HAPPY 234TH BIRTHDAY. **DEVIL DOGS!**

2009 Birthday Ball schedule

Nov. 6, Marine Corps Engineer School, Courthouse Bay Gymnasium

Nov. 6, 2nd Marine Division Senior Noncommissioned Officers, Goettge Memorial

Nov. 6, 2nd Marine Logistics Group Officers,

Nov. 7, 2nd Marine Division Officers, Goettge Memorial Field House

Nov. 7, Marine Corps Base Officers and Senior Noncommissioned Officers, Officers' Club

Nov. 10, Il Marine Expeditionary Force, Goettge Memorial Field House

Nov. 10, Headquarters and Support Battalion, New Bern Convention Center

Nov. 14, Retirees, Goettge Memorial Field

Nov. 20, Marine Corps Combat Service Support Schools, Goettge Memorial Field

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HALLOWEEN FROM 1D

The first event is a Pumpkin arty planned for Monday. The free activity at Blue Creek Elementary School is open to children 12 and under. Pump-kins and painting supplies, while available, will be pro-vided for attendees.

The next ominous happening is Oct. 30 and 31, with the Spooktacular Fun at Onslow Spooktacular Fun at Onslow Pines Park. The event includes haunted trail rides, costume contests and a pumpkin junc-tion. All proceeds go to the Onslow Pines Park Concession Stand Fund.

On Oct. 31 at 9 a.m., Carmike Cinema 16 will host a Halloween costume contest and matinee movie. The cost for the event is three canned goods per person. It is open to all children 12 years and under, and parents are encouraged to

For creatures of the night and barracks rats alike, the Single Marine Program has a couple of trips to delightfully-devilish destinations.

The first departs Oct. 30 for the Ghost Walk Tour in Wilmington, and the second sets out Oct. 31 for Howl-O-Scream in Busch Gardens, Va.
For more information on

these trips and other SMP Halloween activities call 451-4642.

Ghouls, goblins and ghosts can celebrate Halloween aboard Camp Lejeune with the Haunted Forest, which opens its cobweb-covered, creaky gate Oct. 27, and lasts until Oct. 31.

Young creepy crawlers under 12 years of age may enjoy the Pumpkin Patch beside the Haunted Forest at Marston

Have a spooky time out

Freedom Calls bring warfigther 'home' from battle

HEATHER M. OWENS

"It is technologically and economically feasible now to have a warfighter 'come home' each night and tuck his children into bed, and we are trying to establish that paradigm," said John Harlow, founder of Freedom Calls, an organization which facilitates satellite video conferencing between deployed service mem-bers and their loved ones back home.

Though the visit is a virtual one, Harlow said it an important advancement.
"We know that a happy warfighter is a focused warfighter," he said.
The nonprofit Freedom Calls Foundation uses corporate donations to buy satellite time and coordinates with military commands in and coordinates with military commands in the field to provide opportunities for service members to visit with their families. Due to the high cost of satellite time, Freedom Calls typically focuses on providing communica-tion surrounding "milestone events," though opportunities to talk at other times are also available.

The birth of a child is a milestone event in ny family's life, and both Onslow Memorial Hospital and Naval Hospital Camp Lejeune work with Freedom Calls to provide video conferences between new moms, their babies and the deployed service member.

Tim Strickland, spokesperson for Onslow Memorial, said the Freedom Calls Foundation

approached the hospital about three years ago regarding the opportunity.

"Our very first Freedom Call was basically a video conference the day after delivery," he said. "Earlier this year, for the first time, we facilitated a video conference during active

Cheryl Bunker, Marine spouse and registered nurse for Onslow Memorial's labor and delivery department, said the opportunity makes for better bonding between the parents and their new halv. and their new baby

"We definitely have a lot more technology today than during the Vietnam era, when fathers didn't even know when their child was being born," she said. "I think (Freedom Calls) is a good thing to be able to do. And, if we have the technology, why not provide the



Marine spouse and registered nurse Cheryl Bunker stands near an infant wood Onslow Memorial Hospital. The laptop in the background demonstrates how pital uses satellite video-conferencing technology to unite mothers, new background fathers from street the control of the processor of the control of the processor of the control of the processor of the control of the deployed fathers from across the miles.

opportunity?"
Cmdr. Jane French, department head of NHCL's maternal child infant nursing unit,

"It makes all the difference in the world to the deployed member to see their child for the first time," she said, adding it is often a stress reliever for the new dad to see with his own eyes that everything is okay with his wife and

For Strickland, providing communication among families is an important way to thank military members for their service. The idea for

multary members for their service. The idea to Freedom Calls was born five years ago based on a news story he saw on television.

"I heard about a National Guard soldier in Rhode Island with a \$7,000 phone bill from talking with his family (while serving overseas on deployment) and the phone company wouldn't give him a break," he said. "I decided the American people should step up and cided the American people should step up and show our appreciation for these families."

Since its inception, Freedom Calls has brought families together to celebrate births, marriages, graduations, and even facilitated one Marine's "presence" at his wife's in vitro fertilization. The service has also helped

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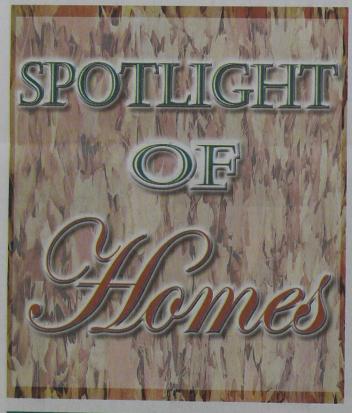
ervice member say goodbye to term loved ones back home

As for the labor and post-birth vid

ences, Strickland said he appreciates port of the participating hospitals.

"We couldn't do this without the setting it up, and it is a significant chafor them," he said, citing technical, lc. legal and administrative issues. "Alm versally, hospitals have stepped up to because they appreciate what military

Editor's note: The first step to setting a video conference with a deployed a member is to contact the Freedom C Foundation at 516-277-2210. The for will then work with the military con to see if a conference is feasible based service member's location. If a confe possible, Freedom Calls will then we the hospital or family to set it up. Str suggests pregnant spouses contact the dation at least a month in advance of baby's due date. For more information the Freedom Calls Foundation, visit site at freedomcalls.org.











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