

THURSDAY April 17, 2008

> Volume 70 **Edition 16**

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News Watch

aw praise for stage rescue Tense Department cials praised Iraq's urity forces for sterday's rescue of S journalist Richard tler, who was Inapped in February. 1e operation showed eat initiative and monstrated the reasing capability of iq security forces to se on the terrorists d extremists who e trying to derail e progress in Iraq,' id Pentagon Press cretary Geoff Morrell a news conference ıtler was kidnapped nile on assignment as cameraman in Basra. 1e Iraqi soldiers acted 1 a tip and raided a ouse outside of Basra here Butler was eld. One terrorist was The [Iraqi] military fill has a long way to

o, however it is slowly ut surely becoming a rofessional fighting orce," Morrell said. n the news conference, forrell fielded uestions ranging rom troop presence in Afghanistan to April 5's car bombings in raq and how long t will take to select new commander or U.S. Central command. Morrell called the nombings "tragic," but aid he does not believe violence is getting worse in Iraq. 'All the statistics,

everything that we monitor, in terms of violence, civilian deaths, sectarian killings, all the trend lines are pointing down. They have been for months. They continue to trend that way," Morrell said.
"At this point I have heard no one in any position of authority pronounce any concern the progress we have made security-wise is unraveling or trending in the wrong direction.

Morrell also fielded questions about how long the U.S. will have a troop presence

in Afghanistan. A commander there was reported to have said that U.S. troops will serve there until at least 2011.

To read the complete story visit www. defenselink.mil.

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Memorial honors fallen brothers | 9A

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Comics Marine brings super



26th Marine Expeditionary Unit hones skills at Fort Pickett



Lance Cpl. Joseph Lourenco clears a room during a portion of the urban assault course at Fort Pickett, Va., April 4. The live-fire training was held to prepare Battalion Landing Team 2/6's Company E for their upcoming deployment this fall. To read more on the 26th MEU, turn to page 7A. Cpl. Jason D. Mills

Local Iragi court now in session

Cpl. Billy Hall Regimental Combat Team 5

AL QA'IM, Iraq - Having a fully-functional legal system is essential in maintaining stability and justice. With the gradual return of stability to al-Qa'im, Iraq, justice now has the opportunity to take a seat at the forefront of society.

The Court of al-Qa'im in Husaybah, Iraq, is undergoing a transformation intended to ensure the law of the land stands to protect its people.

With the assistance of Task Force 3rd Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment, Regimental Combat Team 5, the recently revamped Court of al-Qa'im is now running more efficiently and effectively.

The goal was to make the courthouse more professional and modernized by bringing them electricity, internet, furniture, copy machines and filing cabinets," said Capt. Korvin Kraics, staff judge advocate for 3rd Bn., 2nd Marines. Everything was written by hand. They had no filing system. They had nothing that we in a modern legal

system are used to."

The courthouse has a 13person staff, including five judges and they have been steadily increasing their workload with all the recent

improvements. "Now we're able to get much more work done," said Judge Ausamah Abd Alrazak. "The Coalition forces have helped us more than

anyone else."

year ago, the Court of al-Qa'im was barely op-erational, but now the local judges and staff are ready to reclaim order in the region.

"Most of all, I think we're seeing improvements from a time a year ago when the judges weren't willing to work," said Kraics.

An additional focus of the renovations was to allow the judges the ability to see cases in a functioning courtroom.

"The judges were working cases out of their own office; so literally, the citizens were piled outside of the offices waiting to be the next in line," said Kraics. "What we wanted to do was give them a public forum, so the judges could use their offices as a private working area.

The dedication of the local judges in their pursuit of justice will be the determining factor for the future of the region's legal system.

"My hope is that rule of law dictates," said Kraics. "It is natural in the Iraqi system to allow tribalism to take over and I'm hoping that the power of law will begin to shape the local environment.

As the pieces of the puzzle come together for the Court of al-Qa'im, the local judges seem ready to stand their ground against corruption and injustice.

"I have high hopes for the future," said Alrazak. "I am a judge and I will continue to do my duty. To me, a judge is the shadow of God here on

Marines, IPs work together

HIT, Iraq - Marines know it's important to get Iraqi forces involved in stopping insurgent activity. Recently, they showed that knowledge by getting Iraqi policemen involved in their patrol.

Marines with Company I, 3rd Battalion, 4th Marine Regiment, Regimental Combat Team 5, recently conducted a patrol through Hit, Iraq, and along the way picked up assistance from the Iraqi

"We were doing a security patrol," said Lance Cpl. Ray E. Alvarado, 21, a rifleman with Co. I from Anaheim, Calif. "We hooked up with the IP to integrate them into our squad so they could do their part in keeping Hit

Marines arrived at the IP station here and arranged for four policemen to join them as part of their patrol through the city. Within minutes, Iraqi policemen ready to join them.

"They seemed pretty excited," said Lance Cpl. Austin L. Barnhill, 23, a rifleman with Co. I, from Riverside, Calif. "None of them were disappointed or had a bad attitude about going out with us."

The Iraqi policemen impressed Marines in the squad during the patrol.



Lance Cpl. Brandon M. Barnes, 21, a team leader with I Company, 3rd Battalion, 4th Marine Regiment, Regimental Combat Team 5, patrols through the city of Hit, Iraq, April 9. Cpl. Erik Villagran

They took it very seriously and performed well, Barnhill said.

"They were very cooperative," Alvarado said. Because of the language barrier and us not having an interpreter, we couldn't direct them as well as we liked, but it looked like they knew what they were doing."

As the patrol ended, Marines were invited to stay and interact with the policemen before they carried on with the rest of their patrol. They obliged and spent around 30 minutes attempting to communicate with the policemen through broken English. They spent the better part of the half hour showing policemen their gear or joking with them and also took photos with some of the policemen.

Marines know that patrols with the Iraqi Security Forces not only help build trust between them,

but show the people of Hit that Marines are attempting to work with the local security.

"I think patrols like this make it easier on us because the locals see that we want to work with the local police," Barnhill said. "They see we're not doing our own thing, but that it's a group effort to maintain security.

The Marines said they were satisfied with how the patrol turned out and how willing the policemen were to participate in their patrol, and they were so pleased with the patrol that they agreed to return to the police station again to conduct more integrated patrols.

"The patrol was very smooth," Barnhill said. "We didn't run into any problems. There was language barrier, but we managed to get

through that and have a good patrol."

Intramural softball

The crack of the bat, the sharp smell of freshly-conditioned leather and the comforting sound of friendly dugout chatter. Intramural softball aboard Camp Lejeune has begun. Read about the first game on IB.



Welcome home

Behind each welcome home sign which lines the chain-link fences of Highway 24, there is a story. Read about one of them on ID.



Civilian Law Enforcement coming

When driving expecting to be stopped by a military police officer for proof of identification. Read about who is going to be that identification in the future on IC



What do you do to stretch your money?

 $\label{lem:problem} \begin{array}{lll} \textbf{April is Financial Awareness Month. Go to the MCCS Web site $www.} \\ mccslejeune.com/health/healthfinance.html \ \text{to learn more.} \end{array}$



"Each paycheck, I put a certain amount of money into my savings account and try not to spend it. I also try to only spend a little money each paycheck."

> Lance Cpl. Jessica Roybal m, Field Radio Operator Los Alamos, NM

"I try to put more money into my savings and only buy things I need. I eat at the chowhall to save money as well."

> Pfc. Josh Williams nm, Field Radio Operator Courdand, Va





"I try to spend less money. I spend more time at home with my son or we go to the park. I try not to drive that often because gas is so expensive."

Sgt. Nicole Dehoyos Corps Installations East, Protocol Noncommissioned Officer Houston

"I add up my outgoing money and my incoming money and make sure you have higher incoming than outgoing. To compensate for the high gas prices, I have two cars and I drive the one that gets better gas mileage.

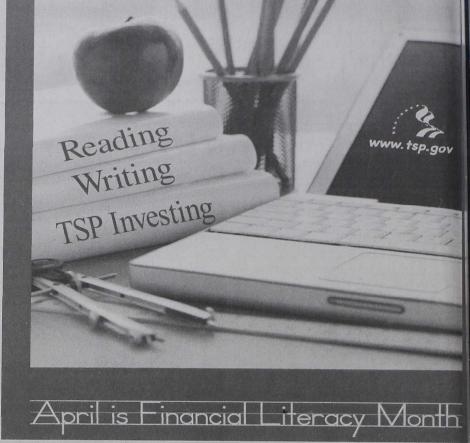
John Clifton Hadnot Point "C" Store Bellefontaine, Ohio





"I have allotments for all of my bills set up and I am starting up a savings account with my bank. I live in the barracks so it makes it easier.

Lance Cpl. Robert Agu 1/8, Infantryman Oklahoma City, Okla.



Stripes was right to let service branches disagree in pr

Dave Mazzarella

Stars and Stripes' letters page has been spiced by a couple of interlocking controversies lately. The umbrella theme: interservice pride or rivalry, if you prefer. In the end, Stripes itself came in for criti-

It all started with a letter from Army Sgt. Erik Wacker, from Illesheim, Germany. He was irked by an American Forces Network television spot about the Air Force's Airman's Creed, specifically a passage in the creed that states. "I will never leave a fallen airman behind." To the sergeant, that sounded as if the Air Force was being too stingy with its rescue operations. He argued that the Army's Soldier's Creed is less restrictive. It says, "I will never leave a fallen comrade."

Three Air Force members quickly wrote in to assure readers that all members of their service — among them Jolly Greens, U.S. Air Force combat search and rescue helicopter crews and para-rescue - would rescue anyone. Air Force Staff Sgt. Travis Peterson, writing from Iraq, said that "not only do the members of the Air Force take care of their own by not leaving anyone behind, we also will not allow any of our sister services or civilians to be left

Striking the same note, Tech. Sgt. Marlene Booth of Ali Al Salem Air Base in Kuwait, wrote: "We are all soldiers no matter what branch of the service we are in." That set off another argument. Two retired Marines wrote to remind readers: Never call a Marine a soldier. Staff Sgt. Richard Rutledge (retired) from Camp Taji, Iraq, said: "Calling a Marine a soldier is telling that Marine he is not Marine material and is an insult to that Marine.'

That statement smacked of an "elitist mentality," wrote an Air Force man from Kabul, Afghanistan, Senior Master Sgt. Robert B. Jackson. "When your loyalty to your service exceeds your loyalty to your nation, it's time to evaluate your priorities," he said.

Then came the knock on Stripes from letter writer 1st Lt. Carlos De Castro Pretelt, from Camp Speicher, Iraq. He took the Air Force members' side, accusing the retired Marines of "insulting or demeaning" other services. But he reserved his strongest criticism for Stripes. He said the paper was irresponsible for having printed "such blatant exclamations." He said if a better letters page was desired, "please choose different subjects" and "do not let your

newspaper become the idiots b

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Newspapers don't choose subjects for their letters page course; the letter writers do. the lieutenant's criticism poin a question worth examining: V do the editors decide to edit or r a letter?

Brooks E. Bowers, who together the opinion pages Stripes in Washington, cites paper's letters policy, which i Stripes' Web site and is published occasionally. It says: "We res the right to edit for taste, cla and length. ... If a letter is po tially libelous, slanderous or pears to have been written malice or harmful intent, it be edited or rejected." The po says it will allow letters that 'valid without malice.'

Bowers' assessment of the ba of the creeds and of the soldier Marine titles: "To me, the initial" ters met this criterion of 'valid w out malice' and he [Pretelt] has assurance that Stripes will upl those standards.'

I would have come to the sa conclusion, chiefly because Army, Air Force and Marine Co members who wrote in were out: ken in their views but stopped sl of flinging real mud.

Reprinted with permission.

Why we serve: Marine captain talks about Corps pride

Fred W. Baker III

WASHINGTON - Marine Capt. John Sand knows what it takes to be a good college student: go to class, read the book and take good notes. And, for him, first spend four years in the Marine Corps.

This realization came after Sand spent a few years as a not-sogood college student after high school, he said.

"I had a 0.8 grade point average for the semester when I left school. That's very hard to do. I pretty much flunked everything and didn't really care much about school," Sand said.

Sand grew up in the small Illinois town of Ottawa. Both of his parents were career educators; his father was a counselor and his mother a grade-school teacher. After high school graduation in 1988, Sand accepted an Army ROTC scholarship to attend college. But after a few years, both Sand and his parents accepted that he needed to do something different.

"I flushed a scholarship away, basically. I wasn't paying for school. I was having a little too much fun. I

needed to get some discipline and more control over where I wanted to go," Sand said.

His father, once in the Navy, suggested the Marines and Sand agreed. In 1991, Sand enlisted as a Morse code interceptor.

He said he did indeed learn self-discipline and that he enjoyed his tour, which took him twice to Somalia on deployments. But Sand had promised his parents that at the end of his enlistment he would return to college.

He made good on that promise and returned to study criminal justice.

"It was a complete 180 from my experience the first time at college. Four years in the Marine Corps made coming back to college kind ... simple," Sand said

The former dropout then made the dean's list and played tennis competitively. In the 60 credit hours he amassed to finish his degree, Sand received

nearly perfect grades. Still, he missed the Corps, Sand said. After graduation, he returned to

the Marines as an officer. "When I enlisted in 1991, did I think I'd be doing this in 2008? No, I didn't, but it nicians who cleared the roads

led me down that road, and I really enjoy it," Sand said.

Now Sand, as part of the Defense Department's the country, telling his story to community, business and veterans group audiences and at other gatherings. Fresh from a deployment to Iraq, Sand said he hopes to convey the efforts of service members there.

"It's important what we're doing in the Global War on Terrorism. I think it's important that they hear it from the service member's perspective," Sand said. "In Iraq, there's a lot more to it than guns and tanks. There's a lot of humanitarian assistance. There's a lot of nation building. We definitely do a lot of work for the Iraqi people, alongside the Iraqi

people, to better their lives.' Sand served as an artillery battery commander in Iraq, returning in October. His battery provided a regimental combat team with artillery fire in support of operations in and around Fallujah. They also performed nonstandard missions such as providing security for explosives techof bombs. His battery went on more than 500 combat patrols.

"I like to talk about my "Why We Serve" public-out- Marines a lot. I'm very proud reach program, is traveling of what my Marines did in Iraq and I think that the a really good story there," Sand said. "It's hard work over there. A lot of times they are out for long patrols. They don't get a lot of sleep. They don't get a lot of time off. But they do their job, and they're proud of what they do."

During his tour, Sand said, he saw the tangible signs of

"Things got better while we were there. When we initially showed up, we were shooting quite a bit. By the time we were leaving ... we might go a week or more without ever pulling the lanyard on a howitzer," Sand said. "If we're not shooting as much, to me that's a sign that things are better there."

As a father of three children, being around the Iraqi children sometimes made him homesick, but also served as reminder for why he was there, Sand said.

"Seeing the little kids playing soccer, it's like

See PRIDE, 9A



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Cpl. Alex C. Guerra 24th MEU

KANDAHAR PROVINCE, Afghanistan — The 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit tested the new Target Location, Designation, Hand-off System, called the StrikeLink, outside friendly lines here, April 12. This marks the first time a Marine Expeditionary Unit, and only the second time ever a unit has used this device in a combat environment.

StrikeLink is a digital targeting system, which provides forward air controllers, forward operators and reconnaissance teams the ability to observe and quickly acquire battlefield targets for indirect fire and close air support in almost any weather condition.

"The Marine Corps determined they needed a digital fire-support capability," said Maj. Brian J. Newbold, liaison officer, Marine Corps Systems Command. "SYSCOM hired Stauder Technologies to develop and build the system. [For more than a year] it went through testing and safety inspections. After waiting for it to be validated as a legitimate piece of gear, we are at the last step in the process—field testing."

field testing."

The 24th MEU (along with 2nd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment) seemed ideal to receive and employ the system because of their upcoming combat operations in Afghanistan, said Maj. Philip A. Williams, air officer, 24th MEU, NATO-International Security As-

sistance Force.
Stauder Technologies dispatched technicians to Afghanistan to teach Marines about operation and maintenance of the system for use in upcoming missions.

"I want to see StrikeLink utilized by Marines as effectively and efficiently as it was designed to, which is to take out the enemy," said Jim J. Davey, training instructor, Stauder Technologies.

The hands-off system

allows observers and controllers to paint a better picture of the battlefield than the human eye alone ever allowed.

Compared to what was used in the past; it's night and day," said Capt. Ryan B. Ward, AV-8B weapons tactics instructor, Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 365 (Reinforced), 24th MEU, International Security Assistance Force. "In the past, we were using binoculars, compasses and maps to plot out a target and then send the coordinates via radio. That method really hasn't changed since the Vietnam War."

"Now, we use digital binoculars that give the distance and range of a target and transmits that information through StrikeLink directly to aircraft or artillery batteries," said Newbold, an AV-8B Harrier pilot by trade. "The system completely reduces human error and time."

In addition to being an efficient communication tool, the system is able to side-step some of the enemy's countermeasures. "In an environment where we could have an enemy trying to jam our signal or listen into our transmission, this process is all done in a manner where the enemy can't listen to what we are doing and has no idea of what is going on," said Ward.

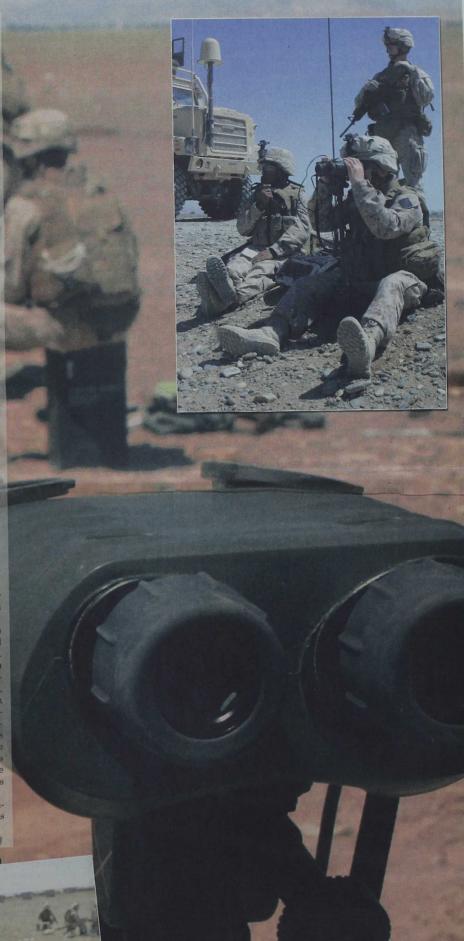
Among the host of new features the StrikeLink offers, scout observers never loose sight of what matters

most.

"This piece of gear is to support the ground troops," Staff Sgt. David S. Baldock, artillery liaison chief, Headquarters Platoon, Weapons Company, Battalion Landing Team 1/6, 24th MEU, NATO-ISAF. "When an infantryman is taking fire, he needs that support fast. We're not talking about minutes to get that support: we're talking seconds he wants

that support.

"Anytime I can save minutes on the battlefield, it is lives saved," he said.



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Planning the needs of the Corps, no small task

Cpl. Jason D. Mills

Alexander the Great said, "My logisticians are a humorless lot. They know if my campaign fails, they're the first ones

Centuries later, warfare has changed, but the needs of troops have proven logistics is as important as ever. Moving approximately 2000 Marines and sailors of the 26th Marine Expeditionary Unit to Fort Picket, Va., is no small task, but it is an important one.

Oftentimes people take for granted some of the things they use on a daily basis such as food, water, vehicles, toilet paper, computers and even electricity. This is the job of logisticians; they make sure everything required to effectively run a unit is where it needs to be when it needs to be there. That is no small task and one that requires practice.

You get better by training," said Gunnery Sgt. Michael Tellis, the MEU's logistics chief. The Fort Pickett exercise is the first unit-wide training evolution for the 26th MEU since it formed Feb. 15. The MEU will train throughout the summer before its deployment this fall.

"We are here to train as a (Marine Air Ground Task Force)," Tellis said, "to come together as a command element, as a battalion landing team, as a combat logistics battalion and as an air combat element. We need to come here and work out our kinks and establish working relationships with each other and we have to practice and we have to get it wrong and get it right - here, so when we head out on this upcoming deployment for real, we'll have our game faces on and have our stuff together. So, essentially, we come here to practice, so we can execute for the float.

According to Tellis, without this in-

dispensable training, it would be impossible to adequately train and prepare for missions the MEU could be called upon

"Some of the headaches that you tend to go through, especially when you take tactical vehicles, and you convoy up - you have vehicles that break down," he said. "You have Marines, or you have bus operators that take wrong turns or people who wander away. Some of those little things cause a big ripple.'

Although some of these exercises are somewhat redundant, they are important practice for the real thing, Tellis said, because without it, it would be impossible to know whether or not the logistical needs of the MAGTF were being

"This is important practice for the logistical Marines here because we have to be able to ensure that the MAGTF, as a whole, is getting the support that it needs" he said. "If you don't practice it here you'll get it wrong out there and the bottom line is that, that's our mission, to provide support to the MAGTF. Ensuring that the Battalion Landing Team has its fuel, has its chow, make sure that the vehicles are up and running, make sure that the maintenance is getting done. We work through these issues here, practice it here, so when it comes time to do this for real if we get called into some foreign country to have to do this, we know what we're doing. We go through the muscle memory of practicing this stuff, rehearsing, training and training, so when we get there we're not stumbling over ourselves.

During their time here some of the logisticians will be ensuring everyone's vehicles are being maintained and others will be providing maintenance support,

See TASK, 9A

Dozens train to react environmental threat

Lance Cpl. Andrew S. Avitt Marine Corps Base Camp Butler

CAMP FOSTER, Okinawa, Japan — Members from the Coast Guard's National Strike Force, Pacific Strike Team, travel to Marine Corps bases in Japan once a year to train volunteers as first responders during emergencies - particularly emergencies involving chemical hazards.

The course addresses the basics of safety and health issues encountered in hazardous waste spills and the possible effects on the environment. Other elements of the course include the wear end use of personal protective equipment, laws and regulations relating to hazardous materials management, handling and decontamination.

The team, which specializes in reducing the effects of chemical and oil spills natural disasters, taught two courses March 17-21 and 24-28 and two one-day refresher courses March 31 and April 1 for volunteers who had taken the course before.

The team trains military and civilian personnel to make Marine Corps Bases Japan more self-sufficient in dealing with chemical emergencies, said Coast Guard Ensign Chris M. Kimrey, training officer for the course. Graduates of the course can be called upon to respond if an incident ever



A student in the Waste Operators and Emergency R Course monitors a 300-foot perimeter around a moch ical spill site on Camp Foster March 21. Sgt. Rudolfo Ton

The first trained personnel to arrive at the scene of an incident are firefighters, but it is important to have trained volunteers to augment the first responders, Kimrey said.

In the final two days of training, students suited up in fully encapsulated protective suits. The suits protect wearers from harmful elements while providing an oxygen supply.

The students spent many hours learning how to function in the suits. Instructors had them throw footballs and Frisbees to one 10 to help them become win for the M comfortable in the sus

Students put t knowledge and ti to the test during. exercise that teste t ability to respond emergency situation deal with a hazardesn We are look terials incident.

Kimrey said the tu helped establish a mental force capablof sisting emergency rep agencies on Okinav hazardous

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an invitation to the Luncheon Awards Ceremony in the next few we

All Heroes at Home, 2008 Military Spouse Award Nominees will rec Watch for the invitation in your mailbox and please reply promp Nominee Nominator Nominee Nominator Balacy, Gay Therese Leilani Muniz Rivera, Eric Muniz McCaleb, Sandra E McCaleb, Robert E Bartels, Joyce R Bartells, EE McCarroll, Sarah McCarroll, Mark Beck, Melissa Beck. Kyle Migliori, LeAnne Light, Carmen Betancourt, Esther Betancourt, Gary Miller, Brooke Minton, Jennifer Bibona, LeighAnn Bibona, Andrew J Smalls, Natasha Miller, LaTish Boyd, Tammy Miller, LaTisha Boyd, Scott J Miller, LaTisha Brady, Michelle Brady Mitchell, Shauna Miller, Kate Bristow, Andrew Warren, JR Bristow, Robin Monette, Cheryl Cline, Matt Brown, Kathleen Bown, Zachary Moore, Dahanae Thompson, Ana Butts, Crysta Butts, Matthew Moore, Susan Davis, LaShell Cano, Leigh Ann Van Trump, Pamela Mouton, Robin Mouton, Kennet Nelson, Lauren Clendenning, Ruby B. Clendenning, Carl Nelson, Thomas M. Corry, Nichole Corry, Michael Nichols, Shannon Crossley, Carolyn Craft, Lisa Notine, Patricia Dollar, Nikkia Notine, James Crossley, Carolyn Baker, Peggy Parker, Joan Parker, T.M. Dunaway, Amy Dunaway, Anthony Perreault-Ornoski, Ashley L. Ornoski, Thomas Eddleman, Samantha Eddleman, James Popp, Katrina Donahue, Sherri English, Amanda Ruth English, Danial T. Rawlings, Angela M. Rawlins III, Glendon Ford, Matilda C. McCaleb, Robert E. III Rhoads, Lorrie Allen, Amy Gossin, Andrew T Robinson, Janice Robinson, Byron Gutierrez, Joe Roland, Cassady Roland, Cassad Gutierrez, Joe Hammond-Wilonsky, Holly Wilonsky, Mike Rollins, Bonny Betsy-Ross Rollins, Nathan Silvester, Michelle Harris, Jerusha Sangster, Colleen
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Thank you! and Congratulations on being nominated.

Orlando, Fl d to Logistics rting Maria e nation-w ard deploye nes in Iraq an We're pu

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eact Iobile Maintenance Team goes on the road to assist reser

LBANY, Ga. t Mobile Maintenance m dedicated to support rine Forces Reserve ed out of Maintenance nter Albany Monday in est of a new mission and ater capabilities

This Proof of Principle t run, providing prevene maintenance support reserve sites in Hialeah, st Palm Beach, Tampa, d Orlando, Fla., could d to Logistics Command oporting Marine Forces serve nation-wide, if it determined that this prom would be beneficial.

'It is all about posturmaintenance capability far forward as we can in der to best support our arines. We're providing ward deployed maintence support to our Manes in Iraq and Afghanian. We're pushing our novative maintenance ca-Emergency Ra ibility forward in support raroundamod II Marine Expeditionary orce, and now Mainteance Center Albany Moto one a le is on the move. This is win for the Marines and consistent with Marine put orps LOGCOM's strategic edge and trision of providing added test during capability and value to the se that tested larines we support," Col. to respond vaniel J. Gillan, MCA comncy situation ander, commented.

"We are looking forward o this PoP. We are going to rey said the trake sure that it is not only establish a sood for the Marine Corps force capable nd Marine Forces Reserve, emergency reput more importantly good on Okinaw or the individual Marine on manage he ground," Capt. Shawn Daley, MARFORRES G-4 Maintenance Officer noted.

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Light, Carmen

Misson, Jesnife

Miller, Kate

Cline, Matt

Davis, LaStell

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Allen, Arry

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"Maintenance is normally performed by minimally staffed inspector/instructors and their reserve Marine counterparts. With only a limited number of raining days a year, the amount of time eliminated on performing routine preventative maintenance will allow the Marines to focus on training, fault isolation, and trouble- shooting, thus providing more highly skilled mechanics to the total force and extending the total life cycle of our equipment," Daley continued.

The PoP will determine if it is cost effective and mission enhancing to have the maintainers come from Maintenance Center Albany and perform maintenance on equipment at the reserve sites.

"After you return home from a deployment, your gear is going to be there, either fixed or with corrective maintenance problems identified, waiting for you. You can go right back to training, without any down time needed," Daley commented, regarding the Marine Reservists who would benefit from the program.

In January, Daley identi-ed a requirement for MAR-FORRES to increase the maintenance capability for Marine Forces Reserve. He solicited LOGCOM, based at Marine Corps Logistics Base Albany, to assist MARFORRES in finding solutions for maintenance on their ground equipment. The team will do maintenance on both wheeled and tracked vehicles

Once MARFORRES requirements were identified, Daley and his maintenance branch worked closely with CWO-3 Eric Gilmer, head of the MMT, and his team to develop a mobile maintenance capability solution. Gilmer and his team then developed a product in-house to meet that need. "And in only a couple months we're ready to go on the road. We started from

we fixed it up, purchased some stuff and built it ourselves," Gilmer observed. His crew outfitted two semi trucks with a parts container and mobile tool room, then built a mobile lubrication delivery system, and finally provided two vans for passenger

MARFORRES that the maintenance team be transparent to the unit, meaning it be a seamless event that doesn't impact the reservists training

"It's because there's very little wrench-turning time at the reserve site. So they are asking us to bring our

Gunnery Sgt. Anthony Kratz, Mobile Maintenance Team Leader, introduces his team to the local media here Friday. The team traveled Monday to the first of four reserve sites to assist with maintenance of ground combat equipment.

expertise to their situation." said Gilmer. "They are asking us to assist them, to take that rock out of their pack, turn wrenches on their ve-

to add to their capabilities."

"The reservists need to do other things besides

hicles, and this will help phenomenally. The MMT will get in there while they are out doing their training, and they'll come back to see their vehicles fixed." Gunnery Sgt. Anthony Kratz, MMT Leader, pointed out.

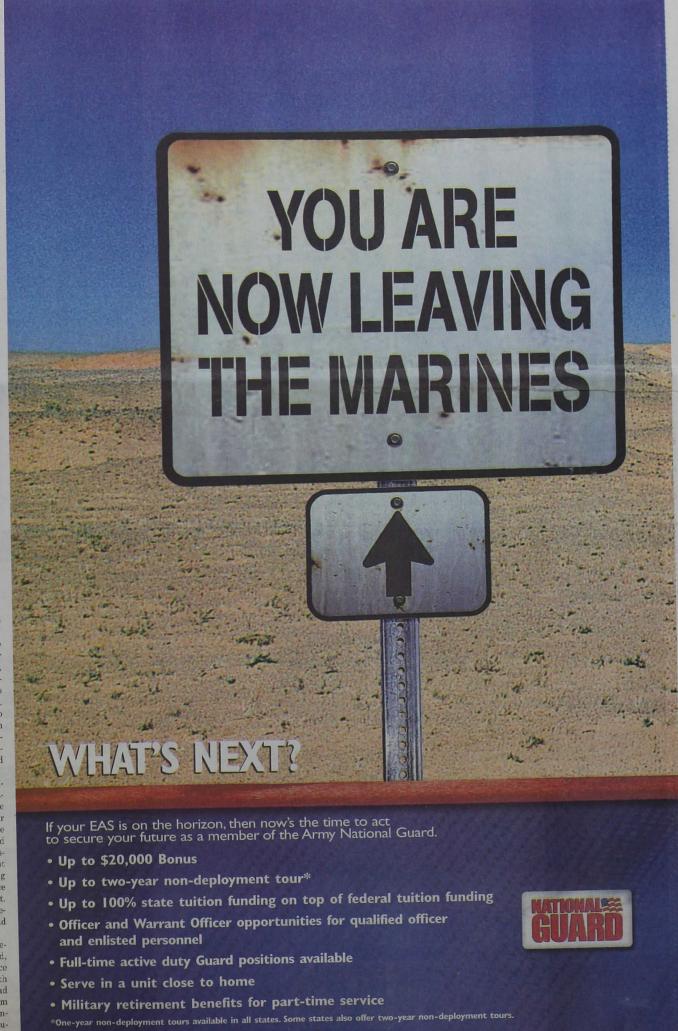
MARFORRES. COM, and MCA worked closely together to make this happen. "We briefed the requirements for this team to LOGCOM in January, and together we've come up with solution sets on how to make this happen in just a few months. This takes nothing away from the Marines, it only enhances MARFORRES capabilities," Daley remarked.

Marines and 10 civilian-Marines who are committed to enhancing the reservist's ability to focus more on warfighting and less on turning wrenches.

"I'm ready to go, I think its going to be a wonderful help for the reserve units," Cary Murray, heavy mobile mechanic said. "I'm proud to support the Marines. That's what I'm on this team for, to do my part as a civilian to sup-

After the PoP, if they find it proves cost effective, LOGCOM may provide multiple MMTs across the U.S.

See RESERVISTS, 9A



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man Nicole M. Beckwith, a corpsman with Combat Logistics Battalion-26, 26th Marine Expeditionary Unit, tends to nulated casualty during a mass casualty evacuation exercise at Fort Pickett, Va. April 12. The unit's training is the overall MEU exercise in the six-month pre-deployment training cycle. Cpl. Agron J. Rock

6th MEU Marines conduct nass-casualty exercise

FORT PICKETT, Va. Marines and sailors m the 26th Marine Exditionary Unit's Combat gistics Battalion-26, gistics Battalion-26, ttalion Landing Team 3 and Marine Medium elicopter Squadron-264 ein) worked to perfect eir mass casualty evacuon operation skills here er a three-day period.

The Marines and Navy cpsmen worked on perting their execution of e complex process with series of increasingly fficult scenarios which sted them in every asct of the exercise.

From taking off at the rfield, to securing the ass casualty scene and eating the simulated isualties, to evacuating I involved back to the unch point, every aspect the evolution was moniored and critiqued by in-cructors from the II Mane Expeditionary Force pecial Operations Trainig Group.

A mass casualty hapens when the amount of ounded overwhelms the mount of medical care mmediately available.

This can occur in a umber of circumstances 455-750 MEU might encounter, 326-999 uch as natural disas-ers, accidents, combat or errorist attacks. Hospi-alman Michael J. Price, 50TG instructor in charge of the training, said the nass casualty evacuation cenario is an essential part of the training MEUs must assimilate.

"It's important because part of a MEU's mission is to respond to a [mass casualty scenario]; this gives them the best ability to respond to, plan and execute a mission," he said.

Price explained that the total mission package involves much more than just getting off of a heli-copter and treating the

"This deals with not only the response of the corpsmen but also the security of the landing zone and site," he said, adding, "They also need to be able to respond not only to U.S. personnel, but also civilians and insurgents who may be injured."
Price said mass casu-

alty scenarios are often a part of other missions with which the MEU may

"Going by real-world events, mass casualty situations are the norm," he said, adding that often the mass casualties are in conjunction with other missions like a noncombatant evacuation operation or a humanitarian assis-

tance operation.
Lt. Col. John Giltz, commanding officer of CLB-26, said the mass casualty scenario is impor-tant because, "This is one of those things we could be called on to do; we have to be able to respond quickly, assess the casualties and return them safely home."

Giltz explained that being proficient in this mission is especially important for the morale of units who

"They have to know we can get to a scene of a mass casualty, recover

them and get them back to the rear," he said. The MEU's mission makes it especially well-suited to being able to do these types of missions ex-

plained Giltz.

"Most of the things a MEU does are because bad things are happening in bad places, or we have to do good things for people who happen to be in bad situation," he said.

In addition, he said because the MEU is a complete Marine Air Ground Task Force, it can plan, carry out and complete these types of missions without

any outside assistance.

Giltz said that happens because "there is not a single mission that single element [of the MEU] can do; they require the cooperation of all the elements and the and the elements and the assistance of the Navy." The 26th MEU is at Fort Pickett to do the first MEU-wide training exercise of the six-month pre-deployment training period. This means the units inside the MEU are working to build unit cohesion with team-building

The MEU begins complex training evolutions such as mass casualty exercises, noncombatant evacuation operations and humanitarian assistance operations so early in the training cycle because many of the pieces inside the elements came togeth-

time to build the team and personal skills necessary to perform missions smoothly, said Giltz. "I have gotten 200 Ma-

rines new to the CLB in the last seven weeks and we have to get to know each other and learn to work together," he said. CWO 3 Todd McAllis-

ter, maintenance officer for CLB-26 and marshalling area coordinating of-ficer for the CLB-26 mass casualty team, agreed it is essential to start training for these types of missions the beginning of the

training cycle.
"There are so many Ma rines from different [military occupational specialties] involved in this and it is such a complex operation that you have to start training for it now," he

Giltz explained that throughout the course of the training period Marines will assimilate all the skills necessary for the upcoming deployment.
"Simple things are hard

right now, but the hard things will become simple by the end of the pre-deployment training period,"

The training at Fort Pickett is only the first step in the pre-deployment training process, which will take the disparate elements of the MEU and form them into a cohesive, versatile unit able to quickly respond to any mission it may be tasked with when it leaves on its upcoming, scheduled deployment in



Staff Sgt. Erick A. Horsley, staff noncommissioned of-ficer in charge of the 2nd Marine Special Operations Battalion armory, U.S. Marine Corps Forces, Special Operations Command, inspects an MK-11 sniper rifle. Armorers who work in the 2nd MSOB armory work with weapons they would not usually be exposed to outside of U.S. Special Operations Command units.

SOF weapons go hard Corps

Lance Cpl. Stephen C. Benson MARSOC Public Affairs

Inside the confines of the armory of 2nd Marine Special Operations Battalion, U.S. Marine Corps Forces, Special Operations Command are a group of dedicated Marines, working hard to learn the intricacies and maintenance of the Special Operations Forces specific weapons used by their fellow Marines. and sailors of the battalion. These weapons are used by service members who deploy to conduct special operations missions requiring exceptional amount of skill and precision. The missions are often highly sensitive and of great strategic importance.

The weapons used by these special operators are the tools they trust to save each other on the battlefield. The armorers of 2nd MSOB know this all too well and remind themselves of it daily, as they work to keep these weapons in the best condition possible.

"Those weapons are their primary line of defense," said Staff Sgt. Erick A. Horsley, staff noncommissioned officer in charge of the 2nd MSOB armory. "If you don't have them running, the operators have no way to fight back."

When armorers enter the Marine Corps, they do

their initial military occupational specialty training at the small arms repair course in Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md. Once armorers come to 2nd MSOB and other U.S. Special Operations Command units, they have the ability to attend the Joint Armorers Course in Crane, Ind., where they spend two weeks learning about the SOF weapons they will be charged with

they will be charged with maintaining.
"It was an enjoyable course because you get a
lot of knowledge from very good instructors," said

lot of knowledge from very good instructors," said Horsley. "I got to learn about weapons I had never even seen before."

According to Horsley, he frequently holds presentations on weapons in the armory to keep his Marines knowledgeable and up to date on new additions. The presentations also serve to refresh their knowledge of equipment they have used for a longer time. Much of the presentations and course material which Horsley used while attending the Joint Armorers Course is now used to help teach his Marines. is now used to help teach his Marines.

"We're here to keep those weapons running so they can save their life or somebody else's life while in battle," said Horsley.

Upon getting orders to come to 2nd MSOB, Horsley said he was excited that he would be able to work

with weapons that were exclusive to USSOCOM units, and to learn more about his MOS.

"I have always liked working with weapons," explained Horsley. "I like working with SOF weapons because they're new and genuinely fun to work with." to work with."

According to Horsley, he is proud of the Marines he works with and the important work that they do. The weapons they employ require a particular amount of care and knowledge, and he is confident the Marines who work in the armory have the skills and dedica-tion to ensure the operators will get the tools they

need to be successful on the battlefield.

Active-duty Marines and sailors interested in joining MARSOC can contact the Marine Special Operations School at 451-0099/3349 (DSN 750-3349/3123).



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Aerial Refueler Transport Squadron 152's new aircraft makes refueling efficient

Lance Cpl. Ryan Wicks Marine Corps Book Camp But

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION FUTENMA, OKINAWA, Japan — To smoore rendiment. Maximus from Maximus Aorial Refluiter Transport figuadron 152 conducted a fixed wing serial refluit training mission Ageil 7 off the west count of Okinawa with Maximo All Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 242.

VMGR-152, also known as the flumes, utilized the newsort KC-126J in its inventory during the three-hour mission, refusing two FIA-18D Hornets from VMFA/AW)-242.

Normally the mission would have taken a little longer because the older model planes weren't as easy to managers.

"The new plane is state of the art," said Maj. Constantinos Koutsoukos, an aircraft commander with VMGR-152. "All we do is give it the information that we have gathered, and it hasically takes over. It is a fully automated plane. I could even sit there with my arms crossed the whole mission and have hardly have to do anything."

As advanced as the system is, however, there is still much to be done beforehand by pilots and crew to ensure a successful mission.

Crews must first gather detailed data such as weather conditions, cargo and crew weight, fuel requiesments and mission timeline, Koutsoukes said. Then the execution phase begins by preparing the sircraft's internal operating system.

For the April 7 mission, Koutsenkos, pilot 1st Lt. Joseph Lemm and crew chief Master Sigt. Ian Kuhicki took all the data they gathered and entered it into the plane's operating system used that information to adjust in-flight settings according to the variables such as weight and weather.

Besides having a better "hrain," the KC-136J also has more brawn, according to Koutsoukos.

"We can go higher and move faster than before, which makes it much easier for the jets to refuel and allows them to get back to the fight faster." And getting the fighters back in the fight is the "bread and butter" of the squadron, he said.

give it the information that
we have gathered, and it
hasically takes over. It is
a fully automated plane.
master that skill," he said.

Lenox also emphasized the importance of efficient refueling missions.

"In Iraq, for example, the jets provide air support for troops on the ground," he said. "If (the jets) had to go back to base every time they ran low on gas, it would waste time, fuel and potentially lives."

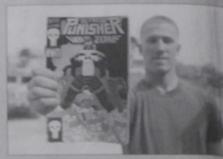
With that type of focus, personnel of VMGR-152 conducted the refueling exercise as if it were the real thing.



An F/A-18D Hornet from Marine All Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 242 is refueled by the state of the art KC-130J April 7. The refueling was part of a training mission conducted by Marine Aerial Refueler Transport Squadron 152. Lonce Cpl. Ryon Wicks

"Everything was run as if we were in Iraq and fighter planes needed refueling support," Koutsoukos said. "The only difference is that we did not wear any [personal] protective gear or armor."

The exercise concluded with two Hornets topped off with fuel and a Sumo crew more confident than ever in their aircraft's ability to save lives on the battlefield.



Lance Cpl. Brandon M. Barnes, 21, a team leg from Fairbanks, Ala., assigned to Company I, Battallon, 4th Marine Regiment, Regimental C bat Team 5, holds out one of the comic books? Marines pass out to Iraqi children at Camp Iraq. Cpl. Erik Villogron

Marine bring super heroes to Iraq

Cpl. Erik Villagran Regimental Combat Team 5

HIT, Iraq — Lance Cpl. Brandon M. Barnes is a Marine who grew up reading tomic books and idolizing the super heroes in them. His passion for comics continues, and he's sharing it with the children of Hit, Iraq.

Barnes, 21, a team leader with Company I, 3rd Battalion, 4th Marines, Regimental Combat Team 5, from Fairbanks, Alaska, and the Marines in his team have been passing out comics to lucky kids during their foot patrols through the city. The mission, which they've labeled Operation Bringing Iraq Super Heroes, wouldn't have been possible without Barnes' family.

"My uncle and mom

sent me a bunchcomic books because
like them," Barnes a
"They bought them,
bulk and there's a bo,
I don't like, so I figur
I'd pass them out tokids. Who doesn't
comic books?"

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Early into their of ation, Marines have found a child who does want a comic. We they patrol throughe the city, kids approchamment the color covers of the coma. They take the beam without hesitation.

"At first they wong what the comics are cause it isn't candy," a Lance Cpl. Miguel F 1 varez, 20, a rifleman fa La Habra, Calif. "Ca they look at the pictor

See HEROE



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Memorial honors fallen brothers

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Cpl Miguel P.

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'amily, friends, loved ones fellow service members I respect to their fallen felservice members during the Marine Expeditionary Force d) Operation Iraqi Freedom 08 memorial service held e, April 11.

ommanders from 2nd Marine ision, 2nd Marine Air Wing, Marine Logistics Group and Army's 1st Brigade, 3rd Intry Division spoke to famifriends and fellow service mbers about their fallen loved s' bravery.

These warriors we have lost re special people," said the vision's commanding general, ıj. Gen. W. E. Gaskin.

The memories of the fallen nained fresh in the hearts d minds of those present.

still serve as an inspiration to us all," said Brig. Gen. Charles M. Gurganus, the division's deputy commanding general.

Navy Capt. Michael Langston, the division chaplain, said although they served in a time of conflict, these men and women died for peace and not for

"Peacemaking is a divine work," Langston said. "They were active participants of peace in a country of conflict. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they are the children of God."

These men and women represented their separate branches respectfully but fought as one common cause, to strive for peace.

"They were a part of the Marine Corps legacy that has always answered our nation's call and now they stand with God,' said Langston.



Helmets rest on the butt-stock of M16A4 service rifles, adorned with identification tags of every II Marine Expeditionary Force (fwd) service member killed in action during Operation Iraqi Freedom 06-08. Marines, soldiers, and sailors paid respect to their fallen fellow service members during the II MEF (fwd) memorial service held here, April 11. Cpl. Erik C. Schwartz

bought the OES, from 8A

like, so I feld igh, they get excited."

s them out to nd that is exactly the reaction Who doesn't ares wanted. He hands out comic is so the kids could have somely into their of g to hold on to. They still hand Marines hard candy, but the kids seem to enjoy child who doed comics just as much, if not more. a comic. W [think they're a little better than atrol through dy because they actually can y. kids appro p it to look (again)," said Barnes. ey'll be able to look at it and reand are quit ey'll be able to look at it and to to the color nber the Marine who gave it to

Aarines in Barnes' team said they

agree with the idea of giving the kids something to look at for a long time. They know the children can't read the books, but will still enjoy flipping through the pages.

'I think it's cool to give them stuff like this," Alvarez said. "I know they don't all have televisions to see cartoons, so we give them something to look at. Since the pages are cartoons, you know they are going to like

Occasionally, after Marines handed a kid a comic book, the child's parents called their child over to see what Marines had handed them. This didn't

bother Barnes because he had already taken precautions prior to handing out the comics. "We look through the comics to make sure there is nothing (offensive to) their culture in them," Barnes said.

Barnes' efforts have illustrated a little about his character and his willingness to bring joy to Iraqi children.

"It's great that he's not selfish," Alvarez said. "He gives something to kids who have nothing just so they can be

And now, children in Hit, like Barnes once did, may dream of growing up to become super heroes.

"I think that's a big deal. You keep doing it because the guy next to you

part of that organization that would have somebody of that character. That makes you want to stay," he

the uniform. I'm proud to be a Marine, and I want to get that message out there - that it's a very honorable service and that we're proud to serve the American people," Sand said. TASK, from 4A

if needed, to the MAGTF, along with ensuring everyone who needs a special vehicle license gets one, so the CLB, BLT and the ACE have the required drives they need to support their missions.

"I'm the maintenance management chief for the command element, which means all the readiness issues, as far as, if we have a weapons system go down or if we have a truck go down, whatever it may be, it really impacts on the logistics side of the house," said Sgt. James Gilliam. "It's a lot of moving parts; you actually get to see everything come

together as one."

While working in logistics Gilliam said that he has learned how imperative it is that even the smallest detail is accounted for. "You actually see how much one piece of gear can mean, especially weapons systems," he said.

"If you don't have logistics then you can't fight, you can't train, you can't do anything. If we are providing timely support to the MEU as a whole then the MEU can train and become more lethal war-fighters. The less they have to think about our job the more they can concentrate on getting stronger at theirs; there should never be any doubt about your logistical support."

he comics are RIDE, from 2A

low, I miss spending the time with y kids," Sand said. "On the other ora, Calif. "O and, it makes you feel like we're doig something good over there. The niles, the little conversations -See HEROES ometimes just with hand gestures

r kicking a ball around, that makes ou feel good that day.

Sand said he also hopes to convey at service members are typical peoe, Sand said.

"Military people are your average bes," he said. We do a lot of the same nings. I'm a husband. I'm a father. m also a Marine

In fact, his family is a big part of

why he continues to serve in the Marine Corps, Sand said.

"That's very important to me. I want them to grow up in a country where they (continue to) have the freedoms that we enjoy," Sand said. "And so I'm willing to serve to ensure that they grow up in a place where they don't have to worry. I want to ensure that they have a good childhood experience and continue to reap the benefits of the country that we live in.

Sand continues his service also because of the sense of camaraderie he feels for his fellow service members and the sacrifices of those who have fought before him.

is counting on you," the captain said.

He is in awe for those who have given the ultimate sacrifice for their country, Sand said.

"It's just amazing to think that I'm

"I serve because I'm proud to wear 'That's why I do what I do."

RESERVISTS, from 5A

to perform maintenance on up to 15,000 pieces of reserve equipment.

"We're testing this and making sure we got everything set up right. If this goes beyond the PoP, then maybe we'l go ahead and hit all 185 reserve sites across the country That might involve building multiple teams across the nation," Gilmer surmised.

"This increases the capability of the Marine Corps at the enterprise level. Not just for the Marine Forces Reserve, but for Marines everywhere. This PoP, although we don't know if it is the way of the future yet, does allow the warfighter to concentrate on training for his mission When you look at MARFORRES, there are a lot of training requirements, and only a limited amount of time. This doesn't take away the Marine's responsibility for corrective and preventative maintenance but it does allow them to focus on warfighting, and contributes to the total life cycle of our equipment," Daley said.

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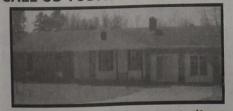
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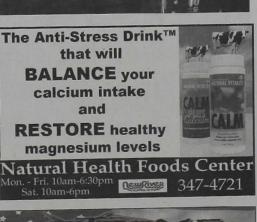


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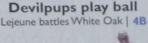
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LejeuneSports

The Globe | Thursday, April 17, 2008 | www.camplejeuneglobe.com





slow Sports

FEATURIN

Onslow Sports Club hold its regular athly meeting April at the Jacksonville atry Club. The guest aker will be Aiden iney, mens soccer ch at the University North Carolina at mington. For more ormation, call Greg per at 455-3752.

ropean Cross ountry 10K e Marine Corps and Prix Series itinues with the mp Devil Dog ropean Cross Coutry K Trail/Mud Run d Healthy Heart ilk, scheduled April The race is open to eryone who registers until start time. e challenging course gins and ends at imp Devil Dog in rona, N.C., located ar miles south of e Marine Corps Air ation New River ain Gate on Hwy. 17. is designed to test e strength, stamina id endurance of eginners and elite hletes alike. Points ill be awarded to all nishers competing CKARD 1 the Grand Prix eries — a variety of occification using events spaced roughout the year dividual awards ill be given to top nishers in several age visions for both men nd women. For more iformation, call Grand rix Series Coordinator like Marion at 451-

lun for the

Varriors 'he third annual Run or the Warriors 10K, K and one-mile fun un has been scheduled or May 17. The event, ponsored by Hope for he Warriors, is a leg on he 2008 Marine Corps Grand Prix Series. For nore information, call Amy Koury at 910-938-1817 or check out www. ropeforthewarriors.org.

Military Appreciation Night in Kinston

The Minor League Kinston Indians will show their appreciation for military personnel this season by extending free admission to active-duty, retired service members and their families at every home Wednesday game. At all other home games throughout the season, military members enjoy reserved seating for \$4. The Kinston Indians begin their 2008 Carolina League campaign Friday. For more information, call 252-527-9111 or go to their Web site at www. kinstonindians.com.

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1-0555 17-1330

Baseball players sought

The Coastal Carolina Baseball Federation is open to players 19 years and older. Players and coaches are needed to fill out the Camp Lejeune team. For more information, at 252-622-4201 or e-mail him at gonehuntin@ec.rr.com

Softball season starts with a bang

Jamie Cameron The crack of the bat, the sharp smell of freshly-conditioned leather and the comforting sound of friendly dugout chatter; there's no denying it — spring is back and with it, the intramural softball season has begun aboard Camp Lejeune.

Among the first slated games during Opening Night Monday, 2nd Marine Division's 9th Communication Battalion took the field against the Storm Chasers.

As is the case with most slow-pitch softball leagues across America, the game showcased plenty of offense and more than a few defensive gaffs. In the end, the Storm Chasers were able to hold off 2.9 by the score of 7-6. In the top of the first inning. Kevian Weems got the Storm Chasers' offense going with his two-out double, which scored Elvin Ortega. Three more outfield errors allowed the Storm Chasers to collect four runs in the first.

The ketters from 2/9 struck next in their allowed the Storm Chasers to collect four runs in the first.

The batters from 2/9 struck next in their half of the first. Patrick Mullally, the Storm Chasers' starting pitcher, had control problems early on and walked his first two batters. Warren Stevens, 2/9's flashy first baseman took advantage of the situation and ripped a one-out single to score Razy Molina. Chris Fritz, the Storm Chasers' first baseman, showed his range around the bag and got the out to end the inning.

In the second, the Storm Chasers scored a run when Ryan Webster scooted under the tag of 2/9 catcher Anthony Paulo. In their half of the bracket, 2/9 got things going with Paulo's single to put runners at the corners. Two infield errors later and 2/9 had cut the score to 5-4.

The Storm Chasers continued to chip away at the plate, bringing home a run on Keith Baker's one-out single and helped along by two walks issued by 2/9's Matthew Quinton.

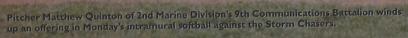
2/9 climbed right back into the game, started off with Baron Fontanella's man and

Quinton.

2/9 climbed right back into the game, started off with Baron Fontanella's one-out double and a subsequent walk. The Storm Chasers limited the damage, thanks in large part to leftfielder John Paszkiet's terrific throw to the plate, which ended in a tag-out by catcher Brian Arndall.

With the score tied at six going into the fourth inning, the Storm Chasers got all the runs they needed with Hollis Versyp's RBI single.

Neither team scored in the final inning and a half and the Storm Chasers' thin lead held up for their first win of the 2008 season.





Storm Chasers' catcher Brian Arn-dall takes his eye off the throw-in as Juan Toledo of 2nd Marine Division's 9th Communications Battalion crosses the plate. The Storm Chasers were able to hold off their first opponents of the season by the score of 7-6.

Turkey season off to a good beginning





Lejeune Outdoors By Jamie Cameron

running through thousand different ways my opening day turkey hunt would unfold (the vast majority of which ended without bagging

turkey) I am happy to say there is a bird in my freezer, though it didn't go down like any of the scenarios I'd imagined.

My friend Nate Bacheler from Morehead City drove up the driveway at 5 a.m. Saturday, ready to head out to the Jones County farm we had been scouting for the last month. Sitting in the passenger's seat was his wife, Salinda Daley, but she was not going as a passenger for the adventure ahead. Salinda had decided several months ago that she would like to hunt wild turkeys this spring. Saturday was her first

When we got to the farm I split from Nate and Salinda to set up on a longbeard I had heard on the roost several weeks ago. On two subsequent pre-dawn scouting trips I had not heard the bird I was after, but I hoped he was just uninspired then and would make his appearance when I gave him my best rendition of turkey talk.

I set up near the end of a windrow dividing two open fields and put out a single inflatable hen decoy where it would be visible to the gobbler only if he walked around the corner. My ambush was against a large tree on the edge of the windrow facing the corner I expected him to come around. I was not well-hidden, but it really wouldn't matter with the sight angles and shooting lane I was anticipating.

Dawn broke and the mosquitoes descended. I had sprayed my hands and face with bug spray, but it didn't seem to matter. These early spring mosquitoes are starved for blood and pay little heed to deterrents like DEET and citronella.

I waited for the big boss tom to

sound off from his roost branch, as all male turkeys are wont to do before they fly down to start the day's activities, but I heard nothing. As the sky pinked up, I heard other turkeys gobbling — two not terribly far away and one way off in the distance. I kept thinking my tom was just being lazy and would eventually break his silence, but he

I finally ran out of patience as I imaged the other turkeys in the neighborhood already on the ground and let out a short series of soft yelps from my box call — no response. I took to calling every five minutes or so, getting louder with my efforts as my anxiety grew.
With daylight breaking out all

over, I put down the soft call and picked up my loud and raspy box call made by Lynch — the one that just doesn't sound right unless you really wail on it. I gave the Lynch's World Champion my best effort and received an interested gobble from one of the birds away to the west.

I remember thinking it was nice to be so honored by a real turkey. I immediately considered making a move to get closer to the interested bird, but thought better of it as impatience is the kiss of death in the turkey woods. Five minutes went by and I hit the call again. Again there was an immediate gobble in response to the west. I desparately wanted to go after that bird, but I just knew the "big boy" was about to come around the corner and walk into my lap. When I called a third time, the bird to the west fired right

back and sounded much closer than before. Generally speaking, a male turkey won't go too far out of his way to impress a hen, but this one sure seemed like he wanted to close the distance.

position to deal with a turkey coming perpendicular to the direction my shotgun was pointed. My entire right side was exposed to a bird that would have to travel about 100 yards across an open field to get within range. Feeling the need to do something drastic, I jumped out of my spot, looked frantically for a spot where I would be both hidden and facing the right direction and settled on jumping into a gnarly patch of greenbriars where I kicked myself out a little hole and a window to see

I made it just in time. Within seconds of getting my gun pointed in the new direction, not one, but two turkeys appeared on the other side of the field and they were running towards my decoy At 60 yards, one of the birds puffed himself up and went into a full display, with his tail fan out and naked head radiating blue. When "hen" didn't respond, the two interlopers came forward once again, though not as quickly as before. I already had the safety off and was trying to pick out the bird with the longest beard, except I could not see a beard on either. They were jakes immature males, a year and a

When it comes to turkey hunting, am an equal-opportunity shooter. If I can get a legal bird within range, I shoot. And so I did, at the first chance I had through my tiny window in the briars. Just 40 minutes into the 2008 turkey season and I had punched my tag

Though Nate and Salinda did not fire a shot, they too had encounters with gobblers, including a tom that stayed quiet and just appeared in full display at the corner of their vision. If that old boy had taken just few more steps, Salinda would have dropped the hammer on him. No matter, she had a great time on her first hunt and appears to be well

on her way to addiction.

I can't blame her. I can't wait to get back out there and try for No. 2.

I hope you had an excellent opening day and wish you all success

Browns battle staph infection of the staph in

Joe Milicia Associated Press writer

CLEVELAND - Browns wide receiver Joe Ju contracted a staph infection following knee surrecoming the sixth Cleveland player in four years

Jurevicius is recovering well and is expected ticipate in team activities in May and minicamp *The Plain Dealer* first reported the infection Frid anonymous sources

The Browns released a statement saying Jurev his knee scoped in early January.

"At some point following that procedure, he acq infection from which he is recovering. He has been tating here in Cleveland and is expected to take pa team's offseason activities," the team said in the sta

Jurevicius underwent surgery at the Clevelan Hospital spokeswoman Eileen Sheil said the sta tion didn't occur until later.

"The onset was two weeks after his surgery was traveling on the West Coast," Sheil said Friddon't believe it was related to the surgery."

Other Browns players who have contracted sta tions over the last four years are center LeCharl ley, tight end Kellen Winslow, receiver Braylon I and former Browns safety Brian Russell and lin

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High tide	6:32 a.m.	6:51 b.m
Low tide	12:19 a.m.	12:33 p.m
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Low tide	1:08 a.m.	1:09
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High tide	7:46 a.m.	8:07a.m
Low tide	1:52 a.m.	1:43 p.m
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High tide	8:23 a.m.	8:42 j.m.
Low tide	2:32 a.m.	2:16 p.m.
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High tide	9:34 a.m.	9:53b.m
Low tide	3:49 a.m.	3:21 p.m
Wednesday		

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All-Marine Women's Soccer Team trials

April 23

Marines interested in trying out for the All-Marine Women's Soccer Team must submit their applications to the Sports Branch Office in Goettge Memorial Field House no later than April 23. Applications must contain endorsement stating the player will be available to attend all events if she is selected and the player's past soccer experience and tournaments played in the last two years. Applications can be found online at www.usmc-mccs.org/ sports or the Semper Fit Athletic Office in Goettge Memorial Field House For more information, call 451-2710.

Beginning tennis
lessons
May 5
The Onslow County Parks and Recreation
Department is offering beginning tennis
lessons for youth ages 7-15 and adults.
Lessons are scheduled to start May 5 at
Constal Constal County County Coastal Carolina Community College and continue Mondays and Wednesdays. Tuesday and Thursday classes are also scheduled at Onslow Pines Park. Pre-register online at www.onslowcountync.gov/parks or call 347-5332.

Boating safety class
May 20-29
The Onslow County Parks and Recreation Department, Onslow County Public Library and New River Sail and power squadron have scheduled a boating safety course, to be help Tuesday and Thursday

evenings, from May 20-29 at the Swansboro Public Library. Classes will run from 6-9 p.m. and focus on instruction in boat operation, navigation, engine trouble-shooting, personal watercraft and much more. Pre-register at the Onslow County Parks and Recreation Department Web site at www.onslowcountync.gov/parks or call 347-5332.

Cherry Point Sprint

May 31
The seventh leg of the 2008 Marine Corps Grand Prix Series is scheduled to take place May 31 aboard Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point. The Cherry Point Sprint is open to service members and civilians alike. Throughout the year, point are awarded to Grand Prix participants at each event. For more information, call

Swim team

Ongoing The Camp Lejeune Swim Team is looking for new members. Anyone interested is invited to stop by the Area 2 Pool or email camplejeuneswimteam@yahoo.com.

Running Club

Ongoing

The Camp Lejeune Running Club is free to anyone who wishes to earn a little extra credit for their exercise program. Record your training miles at any area fitness center and receive a free performance t-shirt after 500 miles. Starting March 4, track workouts will be held every Tuesday, from 11:30 a.m. 12:30 p.m. at Goettge Memorial Field House. To

learn more, call 451-7002 or e-mail

Semper Fit Challenge Passport Ongoing

High tide

Low tide

Pick up your Semper Fit Challenge Passport and win up to \$300 in Marine Corps Exchange gift cards and other prizes. Pick up your passport at any Semper Fit Fitness Center. For more information, call 451-7002.

Mixed martial arts and combat fitness classes Ongoing

Marine Corps Community Services Semper Fit presents World Extreme Cagefighting champion Brian Stann, a Marine and mixed martial arts professional fighter. Stann is justructing the new program, which combines MMA. yoga therapy and combat fitness to help veterans deal with combat stress. For more information, call 451-0826.

Yoga and pilates classes Ongoing

Emerald Isle Parks and Recreation Department sponsors weekly yoga and pilates classes, taught by certified instructors. The classes focus on basic yoga postures and exercises for students who wish to strengthen their foundational skills. Call 252-354-3424

Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu classes

Ongoing

Marine Corps Community Services Semper Fit Sports presents Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu instruction, scheduled for Tuesday and Thursday nights, from 7:30-9 p.m. Classes are provided by Club Jiu-Jitsu of Jacksonville. Sessions take place in Bldg. 1742, adjacent to the Protestant

Chapel on McHugh Boulevard. Ea training session includes 15 minus of warm-ups and drills, 15 minutes technique work and one hour of sparing. For more information, call 58 0077 or visit www.clubjtujitsu.com.

10:10 a.m.

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Crystal Coast Canoe and Kayak Club

Ongoing
The Crystal Coast Canoe and Kay
Club welcomes new members intested in pursuing the "quiet" was
sports. The club is scheduled to me
the first Wednesday of every month 7 p.m. in the Emerald Isle Commun Center. The goal of the organization is to bring people together in the co mon interest of canoeing and kaya ing and enjoyment of paddling spo in coastal North Carolina. For me information on the club, go online

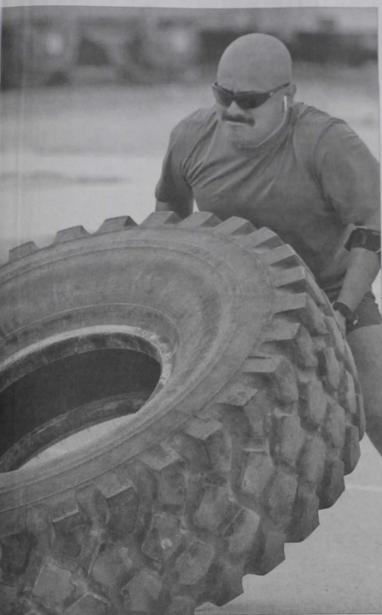
Intramural lacrosse league

Ongoing Camp Lejeune's Semper Fit spo program is seeking Marines and sa ors interested in playing intramulacrosse. Anyone interested in bei a part of this first-time league shou call Bob Ferst at 267-456-5258.

Roller-hockey spring league

Ongoing
Hockey players and hockey-play
wannabes from Camp Lejeune a
being sought to form an inline roll being sought to form an inline rolle hockey team to play in the Marii Corps Air Station New River sprii league. Experience is not required The season is expected to start som time in March or April. For more if formation and a practice scheducall Brandon Kjartansson at 910-545-8070.

ower to persevere: Service members take on Endurance Challenge



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oel Rivas, a riverine with Rivron Squadron 2, Detachment 1, Task Force 3rd Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment, Regimental Combat Team 5, flips a 7-ton truck tire during the Endurance Challenge hosted by the Morale, Welfare and Recreation Center at Camp Al Qa'im, Iraq, March 30. Cpl. Billy Hall

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AL QA'IM, Iraq - Enduring a deploy ment is a true testament to the physical and mental stamina innate in service members who have long taken pride the completion of obstacles set before

Holding firm to this mentality, Marines, soldiers and sailors from Task Force 3rd Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment, Regimental Combat Team 5 undertook the Endurance Challenge, hosted by

the Morale, Welfare and Recreation Cen-ter at Camp Al Qa'im, Iraq, March 30.

The crowd of service members arrived at the event willing to put it all on the line and conquer any obstacle in their

The timed course began with a set of suicide sprints and the completion of a high-step tire obstacle. Competitors were then required to carry a 100-pound weight 75 yards until they reached the 7-ton truck tire, in which they flipped roughly 10 times to reach the next station.

With the feeling of fatigue apparent in the faces of the challengers, they then took on a grueling 30 box jumps. The final portion of the course was to carry 15 sand bags to the finish line. Determined competitors chose to carry three at a time as they staggered to complete the event.

"It was definitely an eye-opener, both mentally and physically," said Anthony Inman, the engineer chief for Task Force 3rd Bn., 2nd Marines. "You use similar muscle groups from station to station, so you have to fight through the urge to

After several competitors lumbered

We were considering shutting down the event, but everyone was motivated to finish, so we pushed through it," said Bryan Bradford, an MWR coordinator. "You could barely see in front of you, but these guys were still going.

The event was the first of its kind for service members at Camp Al Qa'im.

"We promoted this event for a while because we knew [service members] would enjoy it," said Bradford, "We had done some speed and strength drills in the past, but we came up with the idea to link them together."

At day's end, most who accepted the Endurance Challenge were physically worn down, but their spirits were high, "We got a good challenge out of it, and we were able to find out what our limits were," said Inman, "It was just a good opportunity to break out of the monotony of ur normal routines and meet some new

Having their fellow service members at their side cheering them on was an undeniable force in fighting through the

fatigue.
"I think these types of events really when help build camaraderie, especially when your buddies are pushing you on through the pain," said Bradford.

The fastest time for the course was by

Adam Greene with a time of 5 minutes.

As members of Task Force 3rd Bn., 2nd Marines proudly endure through their deployment to Iraq, they continue to find the power within to persevere through any new challenge.



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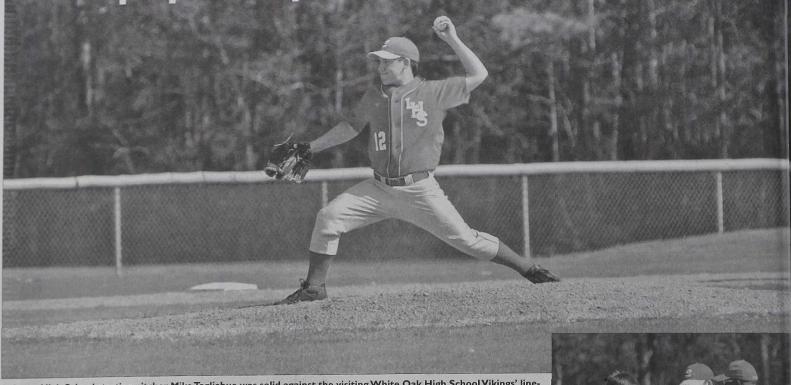
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Devilpups drop non-conference contest



Lejeune High School starting pitcher Mike Tagliabue was solid against the visiting White Oak High School Vikings' line-up. Lejeune made a late rally, but fell short in its bid to upset the division 3A Vikes.

Jamie Cameron

The Lejeune High School baseball team took on division 3A White Oak for the second time in a week Friday and still could not figure out a way

to beat the Vikings.

Though the Devilpups lost 11-7, their furious five-run rally in the bottom of the seventh inning made the non-conference game exciting for the home players and fans.

Lejeune's starting pitcher Mike Tagliabue gave a good account of himself over seven innings, tallying three strikeouts and allowing four earned runs.

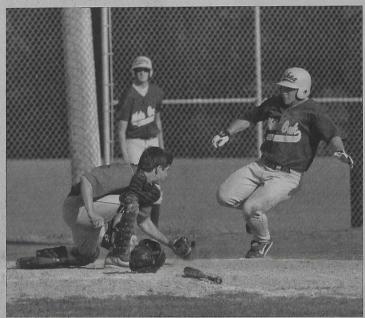
After letting the Vikings jump out to a 4-0 lead after three innings, the Devilpups got on the board, thanks to a one-out double by Drew Dubbs. Dubbs advanced to third on a field-

er's choice and trotted home on a clutch single from Tagliabue.

The Devilpups had trouble putting together the hits they needed through the middle innings. Mikey Elkins' lead-off double in the second went for nought as did D. I. March went for naught, as did D.J. Marshburn's one-out single in the fourth and Dubbs' second hit of the game

a one-out single in the fifth. Trailing 8-1 going into the bottom of the sixth inning, the Devilpups' line-up started to stir. Elkins hit a single with one out, followed by Marshburn's nifty piece of hitting as he sat on an off-speed offering and collected his second hit of the game. With two men on, second baseman Angel Aranda hit a line drive down the third base line to score Elkins

and cut the lead to six.
White Oak struck back in the top



Drew Dubbs is in perfect position to tag out a White Oak baserunner in Friday's non-conference match-up.

of the seventh with three runs of their own and appeared to be well on their way to an easy victory, but the Devilpups made them sweat it out all the way to the last out in the

Dubbs continued to swing a hot at, scorching a lead-off double. Sam Gallagher pushed the lead runner to third base with an infield hit. Gallagher quickly stole second to set the table for Tagliabue in his last at-bat. The Devilpup starter didn't disappoint, with a no-out single that

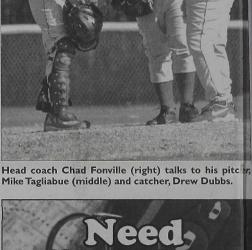
scored two to make the tally 11-4. Quinton Mason came to the plate with two men on and still no outs. The rangy shortstop drilled a pitch into centerfield, scoring two more.

The Devilpups scored one more run before White Oak was able to secure the final out and the game they

were once in complete control of.

Lejeune's next match-up will be a home game against Topsail High School Friday at 4 p.m.

For more pictures from the game, go online to www.camplejeuneglobe.com.



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U.S. should consider sitting out Beijing Olymp



In the Batter's Box

It is appropri-ate for sports fans to have an opinion on the upcoming Summer Olym-Summer pic Games hosted by China. With a storyline of possible boycotts, terrorist plots and unhealthy levels of air pollution in Beijing, there's a lot to consider.

A lot of what I've

read has come from true sports fans who feel the Games should be kept separate from any political influence. They want the Olympics to be about the athletes and the spirit of competition and sportsmanship.

That's a nice thought and, up until recently, I would have agreed, but then I heard someone bring up the fact that there are around 125 democratic countries in the world and about 70 dictatorships. Why would the International Olympic Committee select one of the dictatorships to host the 2008 Summer Games?

What's done is done and Beijing is the place. How could anyone not expect some nations to at least threaten to boycott? I would love to believe the Olympics were truly about fellowship and goodwill among the greatest athletes of the world and nothing more, but the live of the trule of trule of the trule of trule of trule of the trule of trul that is pie-in-the-sky thinking. The Olympic

Games have a long and storied history of boycotts exclusions, starting with the 1952 Games in Hel-sinki, Finland. At the height of the Cold War, the Soviet

Union trotted out with many Warsaw Pact nations, including the newly-formed East German contingent. East Germany was not allowed to compete as a separate team from West Germany, though the West Germans were allowed to participate in all of the events.

In Melbourne Australia in 1956, China itself started its 24-year Olympic boycott over the IOC's recognition of Taiwan. That same year, Switzerland, Spain and the Netherlands boycotted in protest of the Soviet Union crackdown on political and social freedom in Hungary.
Of course there was the famous U.S. boy-

joined the U.S. and the equally-famous "eye-for-an-eye boviet Block boycott of the 1984 Los Angeles was

Olympics — take that, you capi-talist pigs. So if you can

agree that we have established a long track record of political influence on who shows up at the Olympics, the question remains; do the democratic, freedom-loving nations of the

world have a case to take a pass in Beijing? China has refused to exert any pressure on Sudan to solve the humanitarian crisis in Darfur; is in the middle of a social and political crackdown in Tiwho saw the opportunity to global community's attention plight); and has pursued a cour id industrialization that has le around the host city of Beijing unbreathable. In fact, I believe ple who argue to "let 'em play less of China's obvious shor as a world power are more-i in hearing the "Star Spangled being played at the podium t are in social justice. We Ameri winning and we're good at it. V incentive to make a stand in I any greater if Team U.S.A. we ed to do poorly? I bet it would.

So, as much as I'd like to se Phelps win seven gold meda pool and the track and field te nate, I have to ask myself the "If not now ... when?"



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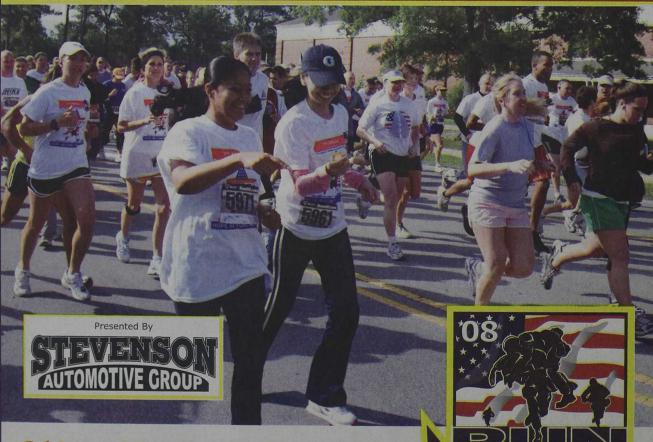
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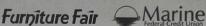
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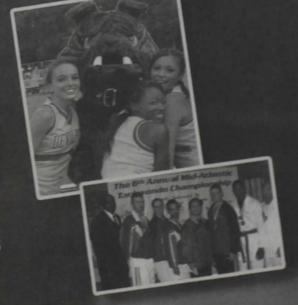
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WeightWise: The first step on the road to good healt



Food For Thought By CDR Vickie Weaver Community Health Nurse

of failed diets and want to look and feel better? The staff at Naval Hospital Camp Lejeune Health Promotion and Wellness De partment is dediated to helping individuals stay healthy and fit, but in order to be healthy and stay fit, an individual has to commit to

making lifestyle changes. Those changes include the development of good nutritional and exercise habits. However, without support, this is easier said than done.

Studies have shown that 60 percent of the people living in the United States are overweight and 30 percent of those are considered obese

There are many factors that contribute to this problem, but two of the biggest culprits are simply bad eating habits and a lack of exercise — both of which put the individual at risk for developing diabetes, increased blood pressure, increased cholesterol and heart disease in addition to many other health risks.

Are you one of the individuals whose health is at risk due to bad eating habits or a lack of exercise? If you are and your goal is too lose weight or if you just want to feel healthier, here are some tips that

can help you get started: • Always begin your day by eating a healthy breakfast. Breakfast is the most important meal of the day. It helps fuel your body and gives you energy. By eating breakfast you burn five percent more calories throughout the day and are less

likely to overeat at other meals. Don't skip meals. When you deprive yourself of food your body reacts by slowing down your metabolism. It's your body's way of conserving energy. Your body works harder to preserve the food it gets



Eating your recommended daily dose of fruits and vegetables can decrease your risk of weight gain, heart attack, diabétes and other weight-related illnesses. Jamie Cameron

by storing it as fat. That's why people who regularly diet have higher percentages of body fat than non-dieters do. Therefore, it is better to limit your fat and sugar intake than it is to count calories.

· Limit your amounts of excess fats and sugars in products such as regular soda, candy bars, ice cream and potato chips. Instead, look for the healthier alternatives such as granola bars, pretzels, graham crackers, rice cakes and diet soda. •Water intake is essential for good

health. The average person needs 6 to 8 full glasses of water per day to maintain proper hydration. Drinking adequate amounts of water can help you feel full so you avoid excess snacking and overeating.

• Eat slowly and when you start to feel full, stop eating! It is not necessary to finish every item on your plate. Save the extra food and eat it later as leftovers.

• Set realistic goals. Losing more than two pounds per week is unhealthy. Weight is not put on overnight and it shouldn't come off overnight. Studies have shown that those individuals who lose weight slowly are more likely to succeed at keeping it off.

· Make small changes in your eating habits. If you try to change everything all at once, it will be hard to maintain. You are more likely to succeed if you make one change at a time, like switching from regular soda to diet soda.

• When eating out, look for the healthier items on the menu. Many restaurants are now offering healthier choices such as grilled chicken or salads and other low-fat alternatives. Be sure to use a reduced fat or calorie dressing as well. You may even want to consider asking for your dressing on the side, as opposed to them putting huge amounts of fat on your salad.

A meat portion should be no bigger a deck of cards. Raw vegetable po can be a cup full, but when cooked, s be about half of that. Choose leane of meat. Consider having chicken of more often than beef and cut the ε fat off your meat before you eat it 1 dition, you might want to try orderin child's portion, taking part of your home for later, or better yet, sharing portions with a friend.

· Limit alcohol intake. Alcohol calorie free; each gram of alcohol cor seven calories. Try substituting yo cohol with water or diet soft drinks.

• Above all get out and get movi good exercise plan can be fun and he

and is extremely important for maining a healthy heart and weight α The exercise program you choose s last approximately 30 to 60 minutes 5 times per week, remembering to in warm-up, stretch and cool down foll exercise periods. A good fast-paced w slow jog is good for the heart. Reme being active is safe for most people, ever, those with pre-existing health tions may want to check with their pr before beginning an exercise program

The Naval Health Promotion and all ness Department is available to assi with your goal of getting healthie staying fit. If you are interested in ing more about healthy eating an to get off the diet rollercoaster, che ou "Weight Wise" offered at Health I no tion in building 4. It is a multi-dime al weight management program de: ne to teach participants good eatin in exercise habits, how to change eati be haviors, and the keys to long-term ugh management success. Participants of for one-hour a week for four-conse in weeks. For more information or to gi ter for a class call Health Promotican Wellness at 451-3712. While you're you may want to take advantage o of the other health programs offered Diabetes Management, Healthy

Football players visit Wounded Warrious

Lance Cpl. Katie Mathison II Marine Expeditionary Force

Twelve members of the Wolfpack football team out of North Carolina State University, Ra-leigh, N.C., Tom O'Brien, the head coach and several Wolfpack staff members ate dinner with the Marines of Wounded Warrior Battalion-East, Wounded War-rior Regiment, Manpower and Reserve Affairs April 7

At the beginning of the event, Ray Baronie, the battalion's executive officer, gave a speech thanking the football players for their visit.

'We appreciate athletes like you coming down here," Baronie said. "You guys are all heroes in our book.

The Marines shook hands with the athletes and spoke to them about their experiences in the Marine Corps.

Some of the athletes got a closer look at the barracks. Bobby Joseph, a wounded warrior, took a few of the players to his room to show them photos from Iraq.

"I showed them pictures of my

injury and talked about the foot patrol I was on when I got hurt, Joseph said. "It gave them a bet-ter understanding of what we have gone through.

The Marines enjoyed the players visit to the barracks.
"It was a lot of fun," said Ter-

rance James, the 2nd squad leader. "The players coming to the barracks showed they actually cared and volunteered, but it would have been nice if they could have spent the whole day instead of a couple hours.

The Marines appreciated the support of the players.

"It's always nice to get with the community," said Kimani Boyea, a wounded warrior. "This is a great opportunity to see people are supporting what we do."
When the gathering came to

an end, the players loaded onto their team bus, but they left the Marines a N.C. State banner, signed by all the players, and a promise from the coach. O'Brien, a Marine veteran, told the Marines he would give them free tickets to attend any of the



Derrick White, a fullback with the Wolfpack football team, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, N.C., and Lance Cpl. Anson Roberts, a wounded warrior with the Wounded Warrior Battalion-East, Wounded Warrior Regiment, Manpower and Reserve Affairs, enjoy dinner together April 7. Lance

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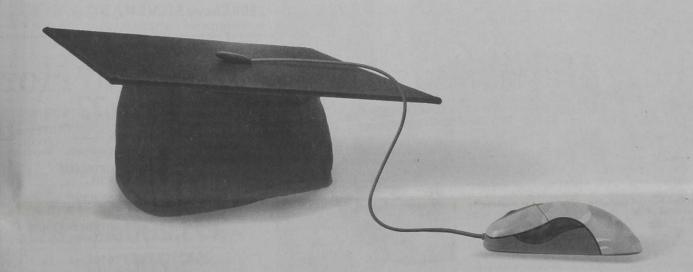


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shots

idge closure slow Beach Bridge will closed for repairs May June 30. Vehicles and s will not be permiton the beach. A beach less ferry and shuttle service on each side 1 be operating daily, ..m.- 9 p.m. for official siness and 9 a.m.- 9 n. for authorized pans and guests.

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oad closure mbat Logistics Regi-ent-25 is scheduled to ld a Change of Comand ceremony Friday building 2 aboard imp Lejeune. Traffic 11 be blocked off from Street to H Street and om the traffic circle builling 2 from 3:30-30 p.m.

esident survey eadline ne deadline to submit

ie Atlantic Marine orps Communities esident Satisfaction urvey is April 22. ompleted surveys utomatically enroll ie respondant to win reat prizes, including flat-screen television nd one month's free ent. Completed surveys hould be mailed in to 250 Western Blvd. #L2, MB 109, Jacksonville, J.C., 28546. For more nformation, call 219-

Vavy Retiree Reunion

'he 29th annual Navy Downeaster reunion is cheduled for April 26 at he Jacksonville Moose Lodge. For more infornation, call Jim Sirmon it 346-6764.

National Day of Prayer Breakfast

A prayer breakfast is scheduled to take place May 1, from 7- 9 a.m. at Marston Pavilion. The guest speaker will be Dr. Edward Williamson, general superintendent of the Evangelical Meth-odist Church. Military members and civilians are welcome to attend this free event. For more information, call 451-

Base Command

Photos Base Combat Camera conducts command pho-tos Mondays, Wednes-days and Fridays, from 8 11:30 a.m., on a walk-n basis. Appointments receive head-of-line privileges, but personnel attending are advised to be prompt, so as not to have their appointments rescheduled.

NCOA convention

The Noncommissioned Officers Association has scheduled its annual convention and business meeting for July 15-18 at the Golden Nugget Hotel in Las Vegas. Complete information is available at www. ncoausa.org.

Driver

improvement

Service members, ages 26 and younger, are required to participate in the National Safety Council Driver Improvement Course on base. For more information, call 451-5903/2776.

uick Military police to receive helping hand

Civilian cops prepare to augment Marines

Lance Cpl. Ryan Turnage Marine Corps Base

When driving on base you're usually expecting to be stopped by a military police officer for proof of identification. Soon, that expectation might change with the addition of civilian police

Currently, there are 22 Marine Corps Police Academy candidates conducting advanced training as part of a nine-week course to become police officers aboard Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, Marine Corps Air Station New River and MCAS Cherry Point.

"We will fill the positions of Marines who are unable to work due to special orders, such as Temporary Additional Duty or other reasons," said Tom Biller, the lead instructor for the MCPA.

Most of the candidates involved in the academy are being put to the test mentally and physically. They run physical fitness tests, similar to the Marine Corps' and will be working the same shifts as the Military Police on base.

"These candidates were hired by civil services [a government service in which individuals are hired by use of competitive examinations]," said Biller. "They had full background checks, interviews and

had to pass physical fitness requirements."

Candidates will be selected, trained and attached to installations during the next four to five years, explained Biller. "All of us out here have law enforcement

backgrounds, whether it's civilian or military," said Mark Martinez, a retired Marine and MCPA candidate. "We all knew what we were

stepping into when we took this opportunity."

Law enforcement officers are necessary to keep the streets safe, or in this case our base and these civilian policemen are here for that reason. They will be patrolling in vehicles, guarding the gates and providing assistance

Candidate Dan Fandrich peeks through a window in search of any possible threats before he and his partner enter the building during a training exercise. Lance Cpl. Ryan Turnage

Lance Cpl. Ryan Turnage Marine Corps Base

Survivors helping survivors

Coping with a death during wartime can be a difficult and lonesome experience, but the Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors is always ready to help. This nonprofit Veterans Service Organization, based in Washington, D.C., held an adult National Military Survivors Seminar and a Good Grief Camp for children at the Russell Marine and Family Life Center April 12 aboard Camp Lejeune.

"TAPS is bringing together men, women and children who are affected by military death," said Carole Hilton, whose husband died in combat in 2004.

The program is giving these individuals the re-

The program is giving these individuals the resources needed to recover from their losses and meet others who are in the same situation. The Good Grief Camp for children is designed to provide a nurturing environment to the child by allowing them to talk and interact with one another

with the assistance of a mentor.
"I'm most grateful for what TAPS has done for my kids. They get together with kids of similar age

groups who are going through the same situations and realize they aren't the only ones," said Hilton.

Not many people have had to deal with the loss of a loved one in combat and TAPS is a program designed to provide an environment where families

See SURVIVORS, 2C



Nelson leaves Engineer School, Center of Excellence



Engineer School to Col. David McMiller. Christi Prickett

COURTHOUSE N.C. — If you were in the Courthouse Bay area April 4, you would have seen a grand display of engineering equipment and an enormous American flag hanging in Ellis Field. The 2nd Marine Division band played energeti-cally, the Marine Corps flag was passed with precision, and Engineer Students were

These activities were part These activities were part of an observance of the Marine Corps Engineer School Change of Command in which Col. Niel Nelson relinquished command to Col. David McMiller as Commanding Officer. Nelson has served a two-year tour before manding Officer. Nelson has served a two-year tour before moving onto his new billet as Chief of Staff, II Marine Ex-peditionary Force (Fwd). VIPs in attendance were Lt. Gen. John Sattler, Director for

Lejeune prepares to celebrate Earth Day



Blooming dogwoods are just one of the many natural wonders visible aboard Camp Lejeune. Jamie Cameron

Lance Cpl. Randy Little Marine Corps Base

On April 22, 1970, 20 million people across America celebrated the first Earth Day. Today, Earth Day is celebrated annually around the globe and this year's observance is again on April 22. Through the combined efforts of the U.S. government, grassroots organizations and regular citizens, what started as a day of national environmental recognition, has evolved into a world-wide campaign to protect our global environment.

An Environmental Open House and as an Energy Efficiency Fair are scheduled to take place at Marston Pavilion aboard Camp Lejeune April 22 from 10 a.m.- 3 p.m. Representatives from both Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune and Marine Corps Air Station New River's environmental staff, along with supporting contractors will be on-site to discuss their

role in maintaining environmental programs aboard the Base and Air Station, Attendees will learn about how the military manages the environment and protects the health of those living and working aboard the installations and within the surrounding community. Tours for Camp Lejeune Dependent Schools will be provided. In addition to displays and photos related to various program initiatives, actual equipment related to many of the following program areas will also be available for viewing:

• Installation Restoration

· Spill Response

Archaeology

Air Quality
 Water Quality

• National Environmental Policy Act

See EARTH DAY, 2C

SURVIVORS, from IC

can come together to find

the strength needed to continue their lives.

Since the beginning of the program in 1994, Bonnie Carroll, the founder and chairman of TAPS and widow of Brig Gen. Tom widow of Brig. Gen. Tom Carroll, who lost his life in a military plane crash in 1992, has been organizing the efforts to provide comfort and care among fellow surviving families. "TAPS has representa-

tives of every demographic, whether it's fathers, mothers, sons, daughters or siblings," said Carroll.
"One of the toughest parts

of dealing with a military death is the separation families make from their military lives."

Initiatives created by TAPS have helped more than 25,000 family members throughout the world who have lost their loved ones in training accidents, terrorist attacks and combat.

For more information about TAPS or to get involved with the program, visit www.taps.org.

Survivors met April 12 for the National Military Survivors Seminar and Good Grief Camp for kids aboard Camp Lejeune.

Lance Cpl. Ryan Tumage



EARTH DAY, from IC

- Conservation Law Enforcement
- Threatened and Endangered Species
- Underground/Aboveground Fuel Storage Tank Management
 Bird Aircraft Strike Hazard

- · Environmental Management
- System
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Procurement Program
Also happening this year will be an Energy Efficiency Fair sponsored by Atlantic Marine Corps Communi-ties in partnership with Actus Lend Lease and the U.S. Department of Energy. In a project-wide energy conservation initiative, AMCC is

ERGY STAR's Operation-Change a Light – Military Challenge. These efforts will replace 35,000 incandescent light bulbs with ENERGY STAR qualified Compact Fluores. cent Light Bulbs. The last light bulb will be officially changed out by Department of Energy Secretary, Samuel Bodman and other guests at an Atlantic Marine Corps Communi-ties home on Camp Lejenue. Operation Change Out fliers have already been distributed to Base Housing Residents

The ENERGY STAR Recycle My Old Fridge Art Exhibition is being coordinated with Brewster Middle School and during the Energy Efficiency Fair, attendees will be able to leave their own mark on the interactive booth. Attendees will be available to decorate a recycled refrigerator donated by Atlantic Marine Corps Communities.

hensive amphibious training facility in the world, the Base faces a number of unique environmental challenges. This 143,000-acre facility has 26,000 acres of rivers and estuaries, 11.5 miles of beachfront, 450 miles of roads, a 15 million gallon-per-day wastewater treatment plant, five drinking water plants and a municipal solid waste landfill.

Eight federally-listed plant and

animal species reside aboard Camp Lejeune. Some of the threatened and endangered animal species are the red-cockaded woodpecker; piping plover, loggerhead and green turtles; rough-leaved looses trife plant; seabeach amaranth plant; American bald eagle; Florida manatee; northern, right, fin, sei, hump-backed and sperm whales migrating along the coastal waters and other migrating species.

Knowing your mone Lance Cpl. Randy Little Marine Corps Base Money can be a sensitive subject to talk al

because everyone has different views and opin when it comes to spending it. However, if ser members don't understand their income strucand don't have realistic financial goals, they o find themselves in a difficult situation

April is Financial Literacy Month and Mar and sailors are being encouraged to take advanof financial management programs offered on b

"The biggest problem most service members faced with when they first start out is they war buy a lot of things such as a car, a computer or a TV," said Roy Ells, personal finance education spe ist for Camp Lejeune. "They get buried too deepl-debt and debt will hold you down like an anchor t you come to grips with getting it under control."

Ells said his job is to educate service members give them examples of how to get rid of their deb.

'In some situations we help service members on one and help put together a debt repayment) that works for them," said Ells. Ells said it is important service members bec

more financially literate so they make better c sions for themselves

Although April is dedicated to Financial Lite: Month, Ells said he holds financial managen classes year round that are available to milimembers and their families.

"I want to have spouses come to these classe-well as older teenagers," said Ells. "When mee with Marines who are married, I prefer to have the Marine and their spouse there to educate the Another issue service members have with the

nances is managing their direct deposit and checl accounts, said Ells. People get into trouble really with their chain-of-command if they start boun

"Any leader in the military can sit down and with their service member when they identify Marine or sailor is having a problem financially creates added stress and is distracting them f

mission accomplishment," said Ells. Staff non-commissioned officers and company gr officers can also attend a command financial specia class on how to develop a personal financial man ment training program at the unit level, said Ells.
"All service members are encouraged to att

any of the financial management classes," said Everyone can benefit from becoming literate their personal finances," he concluded

For more information about financial managen classes call Ells at 451-0174 or visit the Marine Co Community Services Web site at www.mccslejeune.co

'Going Green' by focusing on low energy use lighting as part of EN-Predatory auto financing: Part II

April is Financial Literacy Month!

For more financial management tips,

counseling, and upcoming classes,

visit www.mccslejeune.com/health/

healthfinance.html or contact Finan-

cial Specialist Roy Ells at 451-0174.

Officer-in-Charge of Legal Assistance

Editor's note: This is the second installment of a twopart series on predatory auto loans. The first article ran in the April 10 edition of The Globe. Most service members cannot simply write a check

to buy a car. They need a loan. All too often, inaccurate credit reporting can prevent you from getting the loan you deserve. Furthermore, auto financing through a car dealer is a target rich, free fire zone for cheats, deceptive salesmen and predatory lenders. Here are some

tools to avoid being victimized.

Deceitful, unfair antics associated with vehicle financing. Deceitful, unethical, illegal practices perpendicular to the control of the c trated by car salesmen in the financing of vehicles are common. These practices include, but are not necessarily limited to, the following:

Yo Yo Sales. In this predatory trick, you sign the purchase contract, give the dealer your trade in and rade in and as well. The

maybe make a down payment seller lets you drive the car off the lot even though your financing is not "final." A day or so later you get an ominous call; "there's a ominous call; "there's a problem with financing," says the seller. He jerks you and the car back to the dealership, like a yo-yo on a string. He says that those low rates aren't available to you, but

how about a terrible loan at a terrible rate? You tell him to cancel the sale because he isn't fulfilling his promise to get you the original loan. You want your down payment back and your old car, too. The dealer tells you that you're not getting that down payment and besides, he's already sold the trade in car. This practice is an illegal trick, a fraud designed to give the dealer a second opportunity to negotiate a deal with you. Contact your legal assistance officer, the consumer protection section of the state attorney general, and the Department of Motor Vehicles fraud inspector. Better yet, don't ever drive a car off the lot until

financing has been completed and finalized.

Bait and Switch Financing. The advertisement says that wonderful cars are available at great prices and interest rates. However, when you get to the car lot, you are told that you don't qualify for that low interest rate or for that large a loan, but how would you like to buy this jalopy at 22 percent interest?

Fraudulent Financing Applications. That salesman wants to sell you a car, but what happens if you don't qualify for a loan, because you have insufficient income, because you don't even have a valid driver's license, or because the size of the loan is completely out of whack

with the value of the car? None of that is a problem for the crooked salesman, he just takes your driver's license or LES or other documents, whites out the parts he doesn't like and replaces it with phony information. Or presents a statement to the lender falsely stating that the car has additional options, artificially increasing its value. The documents are then faxed to your credit union or bank and, voila, you are approved for a loan. Three problems: First, there's probably a good reason you don't qualify for the loan-like you can't afford it. Secondly, the loan is all based on fraud. There can be problems if the lender finds out. Maybe the lender decides to cancel because the application was all a lie. Then where are you? Thirdly, if you yourself knowingly assist the dealer to perpetrate this fraud, you may have civil or criminal liability, or both.

Product Packing. In this scam, the salesman tells you what your interest rate is, and then, when he calculates the monthly payments, he adds in additional products that greatly increase the cost: credit life insurance, disability insurance, gap insurance, and an extended service contract. Maybe he doesn't even tell you about these

tell you how much each of these items add to the cost. or he simply says they are car, never telling you that they are options you can choose not to buy.

Interest Rate Mark Up. In this extremely common trick, the dealer lies

to you about the "buy rate;" that is, the interest rate that you qualify for based solely on your credit worthiness. Instead of charging the buy rate, the dealer throws on an additional three percentage points or more and tells you that's the best rate he can get. The higher interest rate results in additional profits for the lender and the dealer and thousands of dollars more cost to the consumer. For example, the dealer contacts lenders and learns that you qualify for a loan at five percent interest. Instead of offering a five percent loan, the dealer tells you that you qualify only for a loan at eight percent interest. The dealer then finances you at eight percent, earning all the excess interest. Or the eight percent loan is financed through the lender that the dealer contacted, and the two of them split the excess interest. Avoid this trick by shopping around for a car loan, or, better yet, get pre-approved by a financial institution before going to the dealer finance office.

Your chain of command, your command financial advisor. and the legal assistance office can help you to get the credit you deserve and to combat the tricks of some car salesmen. The legal assistance Web site www.lejeune.usmc.mil/legal/ provides additional tips for negotiating a reasonably priced

Military Retiree Health Carr **Town Hall Meeting**

Navy Capt. Mark C. Olesen, commanding officer of Camp Lejeune Naval Hospital, is scheduled to host til quarterly Military Retiree Health Care town hall med ing today at 2 p.m. and at 6:30 p.m. in classrooms A air B at the hospital. This is a chance for military member and family members to get updates ask questions am express concerns about health care issues. A present tion will be given on Diabetes.

> For more information, call Raymond Applewhite at 450-4463.

Third party ticketing on or off base

Active-duty officers and staff noncommissioned officers who observe unsafe driving by suspected Marines or sailors may report such behavior using the following guidelines:

- 1. Do not commit unsafe or unlawful acts get license plate or vehicle description, to include speeding to catch up to a vehicle. For your safety, do not attempt to confront suspect drivers.
- 2. Record the suspect vehicle license plate, state, vehicle description, driver description, alleged traffic offense, time
- 3. Use the following Web site to submit your complaint: www.lejeune.usmc.millmcb/3rdparty.pdf. Complainants may also submit complaints in person at Bldg 43. The POC for all traffic complaints is the PMO Operations Division at 451-5702 or 451-4316. For PMO Dispatch please call 451-3004/3005.

4. For on-base complaints submitted by active-duty officers and SNCOs, PMO will write a DD1408 citation and notify the suspected Marine of their traffic court date.

The complainant will be required to be present at traffic court to describe the offense. For off-base complaints, PMO will obtain the suspect's information from law enforcement data bases. PMO will then contact the suspect Marine's command and notify them of the alleged offense.

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pic Plans and Policy, J-5; Maj. Gen. Robert Dick-Commanding General, MCIEast; Brig. Gen. Meliese, Commanding General, Marine Corps Airl Combat Center and Rear Adm. Albert Garcia, Commander, First Naval Construction Divimong many others. Brigadier Gen. James Laster, ring Officer Commanding General, Training and tion Command, was present and spoke highly of is undertakings as CO during his speech. COM has about 75 subordinate schools, detachand commands spread across the country, said "Of those 75, about 26 are commanded by colowill tell you that few of them have made the immake the influence, that Colonel Nelson has

will tell you that few of them have made the im-ir make the influence, that Colonel Nelson has is tenure here the last two years." is influence reaches far beyond Camp Lejeune," continued. "Since Nelson took command, he im-tely saw that the Engineer School could do more out out engineer students. He saw that more could ie in the doctrinal areas, more done in coordina-nd systems development with the other services, and. He got the resources and the people, so now much more than an Engineer School, it is now a r mon

m r of Excellence."

T : Engineer Center of Excellence is the front-runging engineer-related Training and Education, Capablet to talk as a Improvised Explosive Device-Defeat techniques, and Explosive Device-Defeat techniques, lews and on the control of the cont to take adv. 10 es in the operating forces on how to defeat the IED is offered on in t. In fact, it is anticipated that they are probably govice member reach out to 7,000 students this quarter. This man ut is they we will put his mark on the engineer community."

computer or Miller, a Marine reservist who has served in mulculation spa billets throughout the Marine Corps while mobilized the service of the service of

is excited about his upcoming position as CO.
ke an anchor der control 1 to the highest level it's been," McMiller said. "Stuof the Engineer School, I challenge you to keep trainid of their deltar everything you can about engineering because
vice members of you are going to war as soon as you graduate. Staff,

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ave, you are taking over a great command and inancial Liter eguys are truly a magnificent group of heroes," he "They work so hard for what they do, and I'm sure will enjoy every day like I did. For the rest of us, rial management lable to milit engineer family: keep working together, keep up the t. We have done so much; you guys are going to it to the next level." . "When meet

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Faithful service celebrated



Col. Steven J. Thompson and his wife received awards for their long and faithful service to the Marine Corps at his retirement ceremony, here, April 4. Thompson retired after 31 years of service that brought him to various places including the Philippines, Japan and Virginia. Cpl. Mikaela Bravo-Cullen

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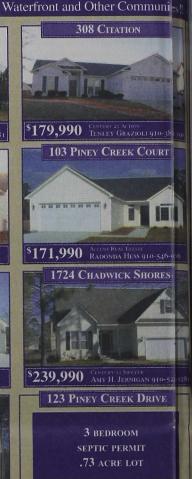
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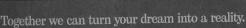
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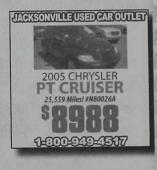
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49-9704 or 451-1055.

Heather Owens They appear like an e-mail message popping into your in-box, yet they take much more thought and preparation from the creator before they make their debut.

Though the welcome home signs which line the chain-link fences of High-

way 24, rotate frequently, they may seem like just a part of the landscape after awhile. Yet behind each sign is a Marine and

a family or group of supporters.

For one Marine family, "this is the

rest of the story," as radio personality Paul Harvey might say. Amanda and Gunnery Sgt. David

Covel, geospatial chief for topographic platoon, 2nd Intelligence Battalion, have been married about five years. Their first deployment as a married couple came just after they moved to Hawaii at the start of their marriage.

September, when their baby girl Rebecca was just one month old, when David and

It ended just a couple of weeks ago.

"It was sad, scary and lonely, but he was going to do the job that he does," says Amanda. "I knew that it would be over eventually and he would be home

plaint; take them more as a stoic Marine

use and proud American.

Amanda's "rule of thumb" when dealing with the long separation from her Marine is "count your blessings." Her advice to new military spouses facing their first deployment, "Be proud to be a Marine Corp. wife he roud of the a Marine Corps wife, be proud of the job your spouse is doing and be proud to be an American."

Though parenting her new baby was one of her highest priorities during her husband's deployment, the other was keeping Rebecca's father apprised of her growth and development. "I really focused on trying to keep Daddy from missing her. I tried to send photos at least every other

day via e-mail," says Amanda.

For his part, David says that receiving the photos was great. "It was show and tell [when the photos came in], a proud dad showing pictures of his baby girl."

Her work as an archivist of Rebecca's first year also helped Amanda through the separation. That was probably what got me through the most, was keeping him up-to-date on what was happening

with his dad, says Amanda.

When she finally received her onemonth window of the unit's homecoming date. Amanda kicked into
high gear. You spend the last month taking care of business, making sure everything is perfect, so they come home to a well-organized and main-

tained home," says Amanda.

Her preparations also turned to the Her preparations also turned to the surprise of creating a home coming banner. Amanda had a vision of a couple embracing inside a heart and turned to artistic friend Shelley Myers and her daughter Ember, also members of a Marine family, to make it happen. "I cannot and will not take all of the credit," says Amanda. "It was my vision and they made it happen better than I even expected it to.

Gunnery Sgt. David Covel stands by his me home sign on Route 24 with his wife do and baby Rebecca. Heather Owen At left holds Rebecca while posing by another sign

"With me doing the signs, it would have taken me probably two months to complete with having to watch my daughter while I painted]," says Amanda. "With the three of us together, it took about two and a half

In fact, the trio ended up creating two signs, one of a couple embracing for the fence and one of a father and haby which Amanda hung at the house.

Amanda has some advice for military families who wish to make a home coming sign. "Make it heartfelt," she says. "Take some time to put thought into it your loved one will feel your emotions by looking at it."

Since the last weeks before a homecoming are busy, Amanda advises peo-ple to accept help. "A lot of people out there don't have time to make a sign by them selves, just like I didn't, so recruit

Also," adds her husband, the gunny keep it tasteful.

For the Covels, the reunion was, indeed, sweet. David says he most re-members "looking through the window on the bus at all of the loved ones out there and spotting my wife and lovely

It was an emotional moment. "I'm not going to say a big man can't cry," he

says, "but it was coming."
"For the record," says his wife, "he didn't [cry]." And that, is the rest of the story



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'The Bank Job:' A British heist thriller of not Playing at the Camp Lejeune Theater



From the front row With Reinhild Moldenhauer Huneycutt

"THE BANK JOB" (R)

The Bank Job" is a British heist thriller and cinematic account of the infamous 1971 London bank robbery which baffled authorities and fascinated the public.

Jason Statham ("Crank," "Trans-

"The Italian Job") stars as Terry Leather, a used-car dealer with a shady past, trying to lead a new life with his family, and avoiding scams.

Saffron Burrows ("Reign Over Me," "Troy," "Enigma") costars as Martine Love, a beautiful model who knows Terry from his old neighborhood.
When she offers him a lead on a foolproof bank hit, Terry thinks about the opportunity of a lifetime.

Martine outlines a target of safe deposit boxes where millions in cash and jewelry is supposed to be stored.

What Terry and his assembled gang don't know is that the boxes also contain certain dirty secrets that will thrust all of them into a web of corruption and scandal, involving the London's criminal underworld, highlyplaced government officials and the Royal Family

Richard Lintern ("Syriana") plays Tim Everett, Martine's married lover and a member of the British spy organization M15, who outlined the initial plans for the heist.

The large film cast includes Stephen Campbell Moore ("The History Boys"), Daniel Mays ("Atonement"), James Faulkner ("The Good Shepherd"), and Peter Bowles ("Freebird").

Director Roger Donaldson ("The World's Fastest Indian," "The Recruit," "Dante's Peak," "White Sands," dian," "The Recruit," "Dante's Peak," Write Sanus,
"No Way Out") put together an interesting, suspenseful and solid thriller that took its inspiration from a real-

life bank robbery. The real heist took place at the Lloyds Bank in Maryle-

bone London. The crime was never solved.

A band of thieves tunneled their way into a safe deposit vault, taking millions of dollars in cash and jewelry. The robbery made headlines for several days, but then all reporting stopped as a result of a government gag order.

"The Bank Job" is a highly-charged and intriguing

thriller, interweaving facts and fiction. The film depicts crimes, involving murder, corruption and a sex scandal with links to the Royal Family. Ultimately, the thieves are among the most innocent involved.

Finally, a down-to-earth good old-fashioned crime caper that is dirty, gritty and believable.

Playing at the Midway Park Theater

"JUMPER" (PG-13)

'Jumper" is an action adventure and science fiction fantasy yarn.

A genetic anomaly allows a young man to teleport himself anywhere. He discovers his gift has existed for centuries and finds himself in a war that has been rag-ing for thousands of years between 'Jumpers' and 'Paladins' who have sworn to kill them. Hayden Christiansen ("Awake," "Shattered Glass," "Star

Wars") stars as David Rice, a gifted teenager who discovers his proficiency to teleport from one place to another. This 'globetrotter' also finds out his carefree life comes with a price.

Rachel Bilson ("The Last Kiss") plays Millie Harris, David's childhood pal he has a crush on and who he

takes on one of his many trips.

Samuel L. Jackson ("Black Snake Moan," "Home of the Brave") stars as Roland Cox, a member of the Pala-



Jason Statham stars as Terry Leather, a used car dealer, in 'The Bank Job,' a British heist thriller and cinemat count of the infamous 1971 London bank robbery which baffled authorities and fascinated the public. movies a

din organization, whose goal is to kill Jumpers who are

Jamie Bell ("Flags of Our Fathers") plays Griffin, a fellow jumper with whom David has a vendetta. Costarring are Diane Lane ("Untraceable," "Under

the Tuscan Sun") as Mary Rice, David's mother, who abandoned her son when he was very young, and Michael Rooker as William Rice, David's father.

Also appearing are Max Thieriot ("The Pacifier") as

the young David Rice; and AnnaSophia Robb ("Because of Winn Dixie") as the young Millie Harris. Director Doug Liman ("Mr. & Mrs. Smith," "The Bourne

"Swingers") missed the mark with this confusing experiment which is based on the 1992 science fiction novel of the same name written by Steven Gould.

"Jumper" has some highlights in showing beautiful scenic photos of various locales around the world; otherwise the film lacks imagination and inspiration.

Playing at the Jacksonville Theater

is a drama based on the real-life story of how a few MIT students took millions of dollars from Vegas by counting cards while playing Black Jack.

Kevin Spacey ("Fred Claus," "K-Pax," "Beyond the Sea") stars as Micky Rosa, an unorthodoxed mathematics teacher and statistical genius, who trained six Massachusetts Institute of Technologystudents to become experts in card counting in order to win large sums of

money from casinos in Las Vegas.

Jim Sturgess ("Across the Universe") stars as Ben Campbell, a shy but brilliant math whiz and senior MIT student who needs financial help in paying his upcoming Harvard Medical School tuition.

Ben is recruited to join a group of the school's most ¿ students, who are heading to Vegas every weekend, a with fake identification information, to beat the od

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Aretired master guart in the at 27 years in the training, deploy

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With Rosa's help and expertise, they have cracke code. By counting cards and employing an intricate sy of signals, the team can beat the casinos in a big way.

Ben is soon seduced by the money and the Vegas life and also by his smart and sexy teammate, Jill Taylor, p by Kate Bosworth ("Superman Returns," "Blue Crush" He begins to push the limits.

Counting cards is not illegal, however the stakes are and the challenge becomes more difficult. Keeping a numbers straight and staying one step ahead of the ca menacing enforcer, can take its toll.

Laurence Fishburne ("The Matrix" series) costa

Cole Williams, one of the casino's enforcers.

The rest of the secret team of gambling student played by Liza LaPira ("Domino") as Kiana; Aarol ("Disturbia") as Choi; Sam Golzari as Cameron

Josh Gad as Miles. Robert Luketic ("Monster-In-Law," "Win a Date Tad Hamilton," "Legally Blonde") directed "21," the

story of the very brightest young minds in the cou The film is an adaptation from Ben Mezrich's Bringing Down the House: The Inside Story of Six Students Who Took Vegas for Millions.

"21" has a slick and fascinating storyline and performances but the clever film lacks a little o Vegas style excitement. The so-called card the starts slow, but does reel you in when the real gam starts, however, it will not help learn how to play jack or count cards.

Ms. Huneycutt is the Public Affairs Assistant (Base Public Affairs Office.

MIDWAY PARK CAMP LEJEUNE THEATER BASE THEATER BLDG 4014A in Midway Park TODAY ries will.b. TODAY 'Semi-Pro," R, 7:30 p.m. FRIDAY rming Arts Spring Break Camp Graduation SATURDAY "Step Up 2: The Streets," PG-13, 3:30 p.m.; "Jumper," PG-13, 6:30 p.m.; "Definitely, Maybe," PG-13, 9:15 p.m. SUNDAY

FRIDAY

"Penelope," PG, 6:30 p.m.;

"The Bank Job," R, 9:15 p.m.

SATURDAY

"College Road Trip," G, 3:30 p.m.;

"10,000 B.C.," PG-13, 6:30 p.m.;

"The Bank Job," R, 9:15 p.m.

SUNDAY

"College Road Trip," G, 3:30 p.m.;

"Penelope," PG, 6:30 p.m.;

TUESDAY

"Semi-Pro," R, 7:30 p.m. "Step Up 2: The Streets," PG-13, 3:30 p.m.;
"Definitley, Maybe," PG-13, 6:30 p.m.
TUESDAY "Semi-Pro," R, 7:30 p.m.
WEDNESDAY "Step Up 2:The Streets," PG-13, 7:30 p.m. WEDNESDAY "Witless Protection," PG-13, 7:30 p.m.

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NEVER BACK DOWN PG13-DLP - 1:30 7:00



on illicit con-versations with my no-tell lover. was simply burning to get back online to look at houses on Realtor.com.

That's when I knew I had a problem.

myself. Breathe

be Brad will think you are

asleep and then

you can get up

I wasn't get-

ting online to

look at porn. I

wasn't carrying

in and out. May-

It wasn't a problem with the idea of moving again. In our military family, we've moved 15 times. Moving is what we do. But this particular online real estate lust was nagging at me. It kept reminding me of a service member I had once interviewed for an article about pornography. The guy would get up from his bed, from his warm sheets, from the side of his living, breathing, satin-skinned wife and sneak out of his

bed to look at porn online.

At the time, I thought that was insane. What kind of person would do that? What kind of person would feel so compelled? I guess if we're talking about wood floors, fireplace and a sign that screams bring all offers, I would.

I ain't proud.
Since the last time we looked at hous-, the amount of information available online has exploded. On Realtor.com, I can find every house in a certain area in my price range. If you haven't moved lately, you gotta know that I'm not talking about a listing of every 4-bed/2-bath/eat-in kitchens in Northern Virginia. Instead they have a dozen pictures of each house. Virtual tours. Floor plans. Satellite photos that show the nearest strip mall. Exact distances to the Pentagon and the local Target.

I've spent so much time online I

can now tell if a real person lives the house or whether this was a hou somebody flipped. I recognize the sig that someone has been watching "I signed To Sell" on the Home and Gi den channel. I get a little zing eve time I go to Zillow.com to find out he much the sellers paid for their house It isn't just the house itself th

obsesses me either. I can get greatschools.com and compare to scores for different high schools a read testimonials from parents a students. I can find out which hi schools have lacrosse teams and wh their records were last year. I can lo at team pictures and try to figure c whether my kid is tall enough to pla I can Google the coach to see if he w ever arrested.

I search and search. It feels like good thing. It feels like I'm helping u family. I even feel like a good pare when I'm brushing the kids off to g their own snacks, go watch TV, lea me alone because I'm online, by gol I'm finding out all the information need to make an informed decision as make our lives better.

Am I really?

I tell myself I am. Then I hear the pornography addict in my head telli-me that being online was so addictibecause you can tailor the kind of formation you take in to exactly syour tastes. That there is always t lure of more. That you are always of tain that the next thing is going to

the perfect thing.

It's easy to fall into that trap duing a move. We crave control during an uncontrolled time. While inform tion about houses and schools an neighborhoods does help us make better decision, at some point we had to know that there is a line where reasonable amount of information his been collected — and the rest is re

A military spouse of 20 years, Echart is a nationally syndicated column nist with CinCHouse.com.

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Fough: Language guru, proud Heroes at Home judge

got to tell you, if there is any person I ct more than my parents and my fellow nes, it's my wife. I never had to look over houlder, I could focus better on my job ing that my wife was there taking care e really important things -he house," said Joe Hough.

retired master gunnery sergeant, Hough t 27 years in the Marine Corps with all training, deployments and separations such a life entails. His last billet before ing was with II Marine Expeditionary s. As such, he knows a thing or two about military families go through during a

lept. 11 really was a watershed," he said. really got to see military spouses shine.

nk that military spouses these days are really shining examples of what my parents and grandparents went through in World War II, Korea and Vietnam."

Furthermore, Hough said he respects the young military families today who are taking care of business. "I just have a great deal of any for the

have a great deal of awe for these young men and women who watch their spouses go off to Iraq and then be here for them when they come home," said Hough, who is currently a language consultant for Shee Atiká Languages, a professional foreign language services

Recently, Hough's spouse, Ellen, a real estate broker at Exit Home Place Realty in town, asked him if he would be interested in being a Hero at Home judge. She had heard about the initiative at "For the past few years, Landmark Military Media, the proud civilian publisher of $The\ Globe$ and RotoVue has sponsored the Heroes

At Home Military Spouse Awards in the Virginia military community to offer service members an opportunity to recognize the unsung heroes in their lives — the military spouse," said Jim Connors, publisher of *The Globe* and *The Roto Vue*. "This year we are extending the opportunity for the Camp Lejeune and Marine Corps Air Station New River Marines and other mili-tary service members in Eastern North Carolina to recognize their

hard-working spouses." Hough said he was pleased to become a Hero at Home panel judge because, when it comes to military families, it takes one to know one. "No one can honor these spouses

Currently in the middle of reading through his package of nominees when he was inter-viewed for this story, Hough said, "Every one [of the nominees] is someone you would want to shake their hand and say, 'You're doing a

Editor's note: Nominations for the Heroes at Home Military Spouse Awards were closed as of March 30. Nominations were received from each of the services. The nominees and their spouses will be invited to a luncheon May 15 at the Officers' Club aboard Camp Lejeune where the 2008 Military Spouse of the Year will be revealed. The spouse of the year, who could be a military wife or husband, will receive a 42-inch flat screen television cour-tesy of USA Discounters. Additionally more than \$5,000 in prizes will be divid ed among the finalists.

Administrative professionals to be ionored at breakfast, award ceremony

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Marine Corps Community Services, f Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, cooperation with the Jacksonville-Inslow Chamber of Commerce, Coast-I Carolina Community College and acksonville-Onslow-Lejeune Chapter f International Association of Admin-strative Professionals invite you to elebrate the contributions and suc-esses of Onslow County's adminis-rative Professionals. The 5th annual Administrative professionals' Celebraion with a breakfast event and speial award presentation for the Ad-ninistrative Professional of the Year s scheduled to take place April 29 at Marston Pavilion aboard Camp Leje-ine. This event is sponsored by First Citizens Bank.

The breakfast celebration will fea-ture motivational speaker Gail Hayes, whose presentation, "Discovering Your Five Points of Power," will direct participants to discover their unique points of power, to celebrate the remarkable person they are inside and the contributions they make each and day. Participants are guaranteed to laugh, cry and come to a deeper understanding of their own life's purpose. "This is truly an excellent way to recognize our administrative professionals and thank them for all that they do for their respective work sections and departments," said Maria

Brinton, event committee member. The cost is \$12 per person and includes breakfast. Seating is limited and reservations are first-come-first-served. Registration is currently being accepted by calling 451-2777. Pre-reg istration is required. Event passes will be available at the Chamber of Commerce for those who need a base pass and register with the Chamber prior to April 23. Those who register after the April 23 and do not have a base sticker, must stop at the main gate for a base pass. Check-in will begin at 8 a.m. on the day of the event. For more information, 451-2777. To nominate a deserving administrative professional, visit www.jacksonvilleonline.org.





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* = 3 | = 2008 LHS students study issues of the day



Above, Jane Burgess' Contemporary Issues students at Lejeune High School debate the issues of the 2008 presidential campaign at a recent school mock debate. Each student took on the persona and politics of their favorite candidate.



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Story and photos by Heather Owens

Ladies and gentlemen, we now go live to the Lejeune High School auditorium where 'Debate 2008' is underway.

That's right, students in Jane Burgess' Contemporary Issues class have been study-ing the election process, the candidates and their issues since January when their semester began.

Last Friday, several of the students took to the podium to try their hand at convincing other students about the merits of their candidate of choice while acting out the part of their favorite candidate.

Meet Britny Sawn, 19, who is playing the part of Green party candidate Ralph Nader.

"I made my speech up - the entire thing. I went online and found out what he stands for and just kind of pieced everything together," she says.
Why does she want to portray Nader dur-

ing the debate? Because I love Nader. At our mock elec-

tion at our old school, I voted for him because
I believe in what he stands for," she says.
Meet Jasmine Mack, 17, who is playing
the part of Democratic candidate Hilary

"I went on her Web site and read about what she believes in and I looked at her speeches. Since I was going to be speaking to my school, I put it in language students would understand and I picked issues that mainly

affected us at this moment,"

says.

oming election. Yet she says she would vote for Clinton if given the opportunity. "Most of the things she stands for, I believe in—like pro-choice and immigration and helping schools out and the war," she explains.

Meet Te'Kiah Croskey, 17, who is playing the part of Democratic candidate Barack

At 17, Mack is too young to vote in the up-

She likes Obama because "he's for everyone." However, she says she learned some in-

teresting things about the other candidates

from the students' speeches.

Meet Brian Wright, 17, who is playing the part of Republican candidate John McCain. "I actually used a part of his speech and I put it in a format of how high school students would best receive the information," Wright says of putting together his McCain

speech.
Wright says he benefited from his classroom and special campaign activities. "I've learned a lot about government and about political stuff, mostly about how to make things work," he says.

Meet Kiara Harris, 18, project director for the debate and other election-related activities the students have planned. For now, she is playing the part of moderator. She gets right down to busines

encourage students to register to vote and vote if they are of age when the time comes," she says.

As the moderator, she's not too shy to say who she would like to see win the race. "I really like Barrack Obama, not just because he's African-American, but because of what he stands for.'

Enter Jane Burgess, an educator of 35 years, who has master-minded this educa-tional activity. "I have been doing an elections project every four years since I walked into the classroom.

Her reasons for the project are simple. "I

The "candidates" are, above from left to right. Kiara Harris, the project director for the debate and other election-related activities the students have planned; Brian Wright, playing the role of Republican candidate John Mc-Cain and Jasmine Mack, playing the role of Dem-ocratic candidate Hilary Clinton. At left, Britny Sawn poses for the Green party. Sawn played the role of Ralph Nader. At right, Te'Kiah Croskey plays Barack Obama.

think it's very important for students to simulate real life experiences so they can walk into that life as an adult citizen prepared to

be involved," she says. In preparing students for future adult responsibilities, Burgess and her class have planned a mock registration for April 24 - 25 and May 1 - 2. Students and staff will have the opportunity to register to vote in an upcoming LHS mock election which is scheduled to take place, May ,6 the day of the real North Carolina primary. Additionally, Rose Whitehurst, director of Onslow County Board of Elections, will be at the high school April 24 from 11:15 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. to register both students and staff over the age of

18 for the November election.

To prepare for the mock election, student candidates will hold separate Democratic and Republican rallies at the school starting

a 6 p.m. May 5.

"Gosh, I'd love to see the whole community show up," says Burgess of the event. Students, parents and members of the Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune community are invited to the school to participate in the ral-lies and become excited about the election.

After all, voting is a precious and hardfought right.

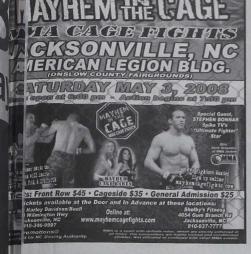
"It's extremely important to vote because if we become truly apathetic as a society we can pay the price in poor leadership. I think it's a necessary responsibility to vote if we want to maintain our freedom," says Burgess, adding, "Our forefathers won that right for us with their blood and our troops right

now are doing the same thing."





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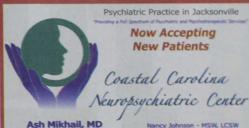
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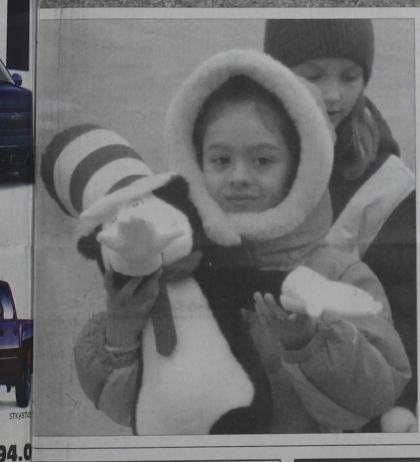
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arawa Terrace I students celebrate Literacy Week



At left, Brig. Gen. James A. Kes sler, commanding general of 2nd Marine Logistics Group, reads to children at Tarzwa Terrace I Primary School. Kessler, sitting on a camp stool in front of a tent. mesmerized students with his rendition of the camping tales in the book he read. Barbara Mellon, who wears the three hats of menator and gifted resource teacher at Tarawa Terrace I, organized the school's Literacy Week. The school typically observes Literacy Week in conjunction with National Library Week. However, that week coincided with the school's week coincided with the schools spring break this year, so it was celebrated early. "We [celebrate Literacy Week] to show kids how important reading is," said Mellon. "The whole idea is 'literacy is all around us' and any way we can get children motivated and excited about reading, we're go-ing to do it." Marshall White





The school's Literacy Week celebration kicked off last Monday morning with a literacy parade. Students dressed up as or carried books or mementoes of their favorite literary characters. At left, Patricia Carmona Perez, a kindergartner in Rose Guthrie's class, carries a Cat and the Hat doll. Rianna Hughes marches right behind her. Deborah Swain Above, a member of the 2nd Marine Division Band talks with children after the parade. The band, led by conductor Sgt. Mark Giblin, played marching songs for the students during the parade. A color guard, comprised of students from the Lejeune High School Marine Junior Reserve Officer Training Course, presented the colors during the ceremony. Barbara Mellon

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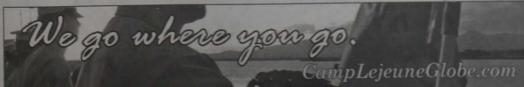
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WHAT'S HAPPENIN'

special events and classes going on up and down the Carolina coast, check out What's Happenin' each week. To add your event, e-mail heather.owens@militarynews.com.

Space is limited to availability.

ing group

rs in grades two through five may join aff at Harriotte B. Smith Library for a discussion and trivia. The book is "The le with Tuck," by Theodore Taylor. ration is required and may be made ling 451-3026. The first 20 to sign up e a free copy of the book (one free

rday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
s' Voices Speak Up, Inc., a local nonorganization, has scheduled an Arts
trafts Fair at the Infant of Prague gymn, Vendors are needed and the fee is en, vendors are needed and the fee is er table and 10 percent proceeds from ales go to Angels' Voices. For more in-ition, visit www.angelsvoices.org or call Marks at 455-5242.

Guitar will be teaching the basic shapes to draw Manga characters at the Camp on Library. Registration is required by g 450-0844. Seating is limited, so be to call early.

iny Cash with the Mustache

rday, 6 p.m. - 9 p.m. nyks Scarlet and Gold Traditions and S Entertainment have planned the Johnny Cash with the Mustache" feag Don Blalock. Doors open at 6 p.m. food, snacks and dancing until 9 p.m. ticket price is \$10 and covers both the and food. For more information, call at 382-3840.

il 19, 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Onslow County Farmers Market opens I 19 and will remain open Tuesdays and rdays 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. through Oc-er 18.The market is located at 4024 Rich-Highway (U.S. 258) on the right hand

side as you head towards Richlands. Vendors include fruits, vegetables, eggs, herbs, mushrooms. baked goods, jam and jellys, plants, flowers and a wide variety of arts and crafts. Live Music on Saturdays from 10 a.m. to noon. For additional information, check out the market's Web page

Starlight Fridays

April 25, 6:30 p.m. The Jacksonville Recreation and Parks Department has planned Starlight Fridays of the month through June. Festivities will include live entertainment, children's activities, food and outdoor movies. All events will start at 6:30 p.m. with an outdoor movie starting at dusk. For April 25, a movie about an ogre and his donkey with entertainment by Jor-dan Sutherland is scheduled for the Jacksonville Commons Recreation Complex. Bring your chair or blanket. For more information check their Web site at www.ci.jacksonville. nc.us or call Susan Baptist at 938-5317.

Legends concert April 26, 6:30 p.m.

Eddie's Entertainment presents the Legends Concert featuring Elvis impersonator Pastor Jay Barnes and a Tribute to Johnny Cash with Don Blalock. The show will be held at the Warsaw Middle School in Warsaw, N.C. Tickets are \$10 each. Children 12 and under are free. Tickets are available at the following locations in Warsaw: Piggly Wiggly, Pizza Village, General Auto Parts, Glaspie Cab, Aztian Mexican Restaurant or by calling 389-3737.

Administrative Professionals Day April 29, 8 a.m.

Several local organizations have planned the 5th annual Administrative Professionals' Celebration to take place at Marston Pavilion. Check in starts at 8 a.m. and the program starts at 8:30 a.m. There will be breakfast, door prizes, the presentation of the Administrative Professional of the Year award and an inspirational keynote address by Dr. Gail Hayes. The cost is \$12 and pre-registration is required by calling 347-3141, ext. 235. Community yard sale

Paradise Point Child Care Center is having a huge community yard Sale fundraiser, with all proceeds to benefit the center. The sale is scheduled to be held May 3 on the circular driveway in front of the Russell Family Service Center adjacent to PPCCC. The sale will offer great visibility, lots of room and plenty of parking. It will take place rain or shine. To help, you can participate as a yard sale seller or donate items to be sold at the event. To sign up to be a seller, register at the PPCCC front desk. For \$10, sellers will receive a spot and a 60 inch table. Sellers may bring extra tables if they wish. The registration fee goes to PPCCC and any money a seller makes at the sale goes to

them. To participate as an item donor, bring in baby/child-related items to PPCCC from Monday through May 2, and volunteers will sell your do-nated items at the PPCCC sale table. All proceeds will benefit the Center. Set up starts at 6:30 a.m. and the sale starts at 7:30 a.m. For more information, call Bryndis Rubin 577-1578 or contact the PPCCC.

Military Appreciation Day

May 10, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.
The Swansboro Area Chamber of Commerce Military Affairs Committee and Hammocks Beach State Park will host Military Appreciation Day. The event is scheduled to take place at Hammocks Beach State Park in Swansboro. All active-duty and dependents are welcome. The event will include games, storytellers, park exhibits, free ferry rides and free drinks and hotdogs with all the fixings. For more information contact the Swansboro Chamber of Commerce at 326-1174.

Stroke prevention seminar May 14, 12:30 p.m.

Sena Preziosi, health service coordinator for Life Line Screening, is scheduled to present a stroke prevention and aware-

ness program at the Onslow County Depart ment of Social Services Training Center located in the New River Shopping Center. Tickets for the lunch and learn, hosted by Onslow County Community Health Improvement Process, Inc. are \$10 and include registration and box lunch Seating is limited and a reservation is requested to the Onslow CHIP office at 577-2238 or at email onslowchip@yohoo.com by May 9. Tickets at the door will be \$5 and do not include lunch. The event is open to the public. The mission of Onslow CHIP is to bring together concerned citizens to form partnerships to improve the quality of life in Onslow County. For more information about Onslow CHIP or the lunch and learn, log on to www.onslowchip.org.



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April is the Month of the Military Child

Here are just some of the upcoming great things planned for your children:

- Midway Park Community Center will have Free child camouflaged dog tags
- (while supplies last) The Wood Hobby Shop will have craft kits for all children who visit. (mini bird house)
- Thu, April 17 Teen Kayaking through the Creek, 1:00-3:00 PM at Gottschalk Marina
- Sat, April 19 Youth Sports Hitting Camp (register by April 19)
 Youth Sports Office, Call 910-451-2177 / 2159 for information.
- Fri, April 25 Family Movie Night Tarawa Terrace Community Center, 6:30 PM Mr. Magorium's Wonder Emporium, Rated G.
- · Sat. April 26 Teen Job Fair, 9:00 AM Noon, Tarawa Terrace Youth Pavilion
- Sat, April 26 Curious George will be appearing at the Main Marine Corps Exchange. 11:00 AM-1:00 PM.
- · Sat, April 26 Semper Fit Teens Scavenger Hunt, 1:00-4:00 PM, Russell Marine and Family Services Center, Bldg 40.
- Sun, April 27 Klutz Build-a-Book Workshop, Harriotte B. Smith Library, 2:00-4:00 PM Where kids walk in and authors walk out! Visit the web page for more details

For a complete and up to date list, visit mccslejeune.com/family

Sat, April 26 - FUNTASTIC! Grand Finale Event 1:00-4:00 PM Russell Marine and Family Services Center, Bldg 40.



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