



WEDNESDAY
January 15, 2007

Volume 69
Edition 07

News Watch

Warriors

Qua J. Frazier, 24, of Virginia, died Feb. 6 conducting combat operations in Al Anbar province, Iraq. Frazier was assigned to II Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton, Calif.

Staff Sgt. M. Parcell, 20, of Maryland, died Feb. 7 reporting combat operations in Al Anbar province, Iraq. Parcell was assigned to III MEF, Camp Pendleton, Calif.

Staff Sgt. 1st Class Linjares Jr., 31, of Texas, died Feb. 7 in a helicopter crash in Al Anbar province, Iraq. The cause of the crash is under investigation. He was assigned to 2nd Aircraft Wing, Cherry Point, N.C.

Staff Sgt. 3rd Class A. Ruiz, 21, of Maryland, died Feb. 7 in a helicopter crash in Al Anbar province, Iraq. The cause of the crash is under investigation. Ruiz was assigned to II MEF, Camp Pendleton, Calif.

Staff Sgt. Joseph J. Ellis, 40, of Ohio, died Feb. 7 conducting combat operations in Al Anbar province, Iraq. Ellis was assigned to I MEF, Camp Pendleton, Calif.

Staff Sgt. Jennifer J. Harris, of Evanscott, Mass., died Feb. 7 when the helicopter was flying in Al Anbar province, Iraq, while supporting combat operations in Al Anbar province, Iraq. Harris was assigned to I MEF, Camp Pendleton, Calif.

Staff Sgt. M. Landaker, of Bear City, Calif., died Feb. 7 when the helicopter was flying in Al Anbar province, Iraq, while supporting combat operations in Al Anbar province, Iraq. Landaker was assigned to I MEF, Camp Pendleton, Calif.

Staff Sgt. D. Pfister, 27, of Washington, died Feb. 7 when the helicopter was flying in Al Anbar province, Iraq, while supporting combat operations in Al Anbar province, Iraq. Pfister was assigned to I MEF, Camp Pendleton, Calif.

Staff Sgt. Thomas E. Saba, 30, of New Jersey, died Feb. 7 when the helicopter was flying in Al Anbar province, Iraq, while supporting combat operations in Al Anbar province, Iraq. Saba was assigned to III MEF, Camp Pendleton, Calif.

Staff Sgt. R. Tijerina, of Mesquite, Texas, died Feb. 7 when the helicopter was flying in Al Anbar province, Iraq, while supporting combat operations in Al Anbar province, Iraq. Tijerina was assigned to I MEF, Camp Pendleton, Calif.

Staff Sgt. Matthew P. Thomas, 21, of Ballwin, Mo., died Feb. 7 while conducting combat operations in Al Anbar province, Iraq. He was assigned to 4th Marine Division, Bridgeton, N.J.

Staff Sgt. B. Hill, 19, of Farmington, Mich., died Feb. 7 while conducting combat operations in Al Anbar province, Iraq. Hill was assigned to 4th Marine Division, Mount Clemens, Mich.

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The Globe

MCIEAST

Twins

Marine delivers one of his twins | 7A



MCIEAST leaders focus on security, troops plus-ups

Maj. Nat Fahy
Marine Corps Base

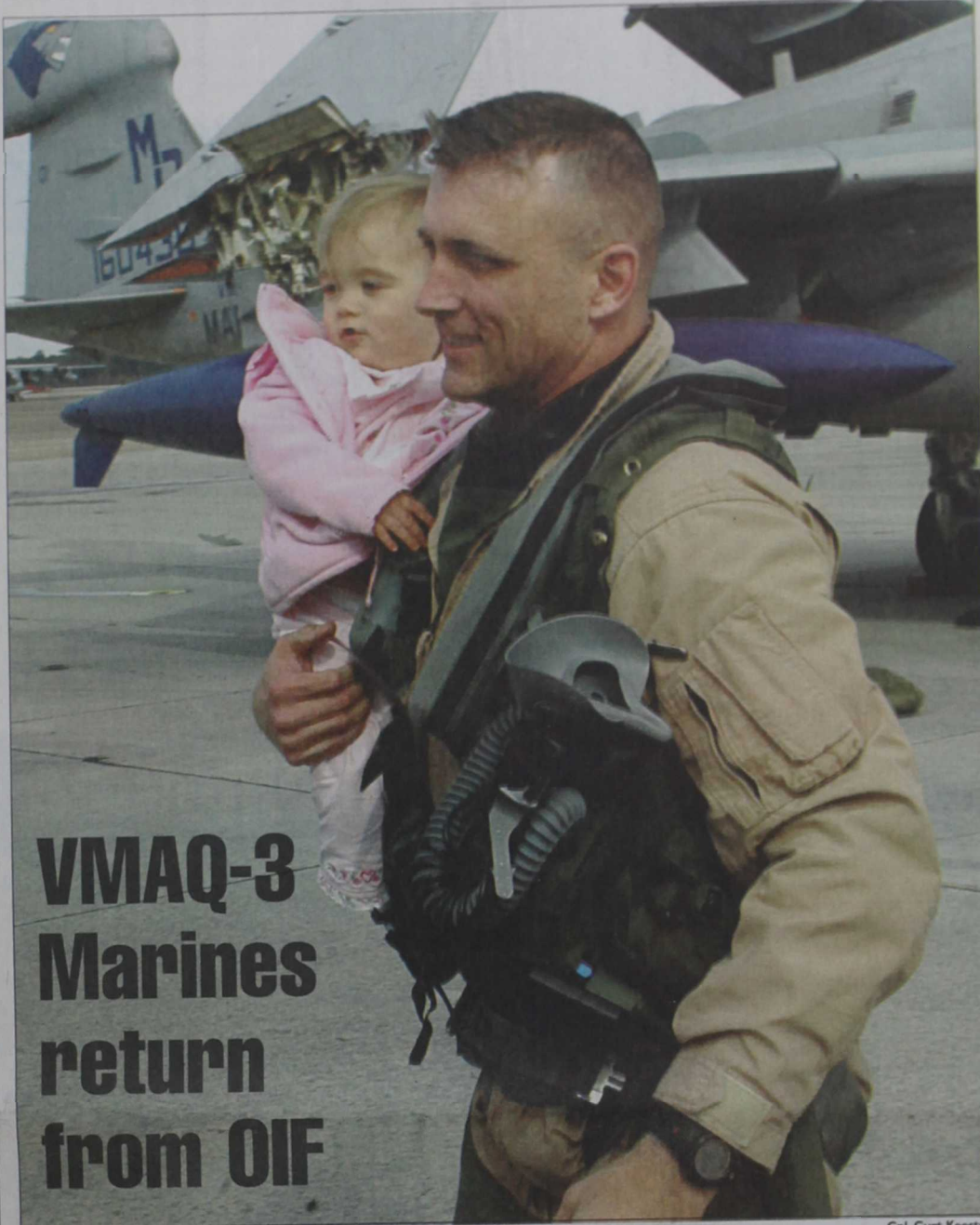
MARINE CORPS LOGISTICS BASE, ALBANY, Ga. — The seven installation commanders of Marine Corps Installations East, accompanied by their sergeants major gathered at the base's officers' club here Jan. 24 for an intensive two-day conference with Maj. Gen. Robert C. Dickerson, Commanding General, MCIEAST and his headquarters staff. The meeting's purpose was not only for MCIEAST to provide a progress report to each command, but also to promote a healthy discourse on some of the more vexing challenges each installation has had to face while the nation continues on a wartime footing.

The meeting came on the heels of recent proposals by Congress to authorize the Marine Corps an end-strength increase to 205,000 troops by 2012 and by the Commandant to achieve a 1:2 deployment-to-dwell ratio while still ensuring that the Corps maintains a balanced MAGTFs fully prepared for employment across the conflict spectrum. Col. Stephen L. Forand, MCIEAST Chief of Staff, acknowledged today's demanding realities:

"The pace that we're all operating on is not going to slow down," he acknowledged. "The requirements are growing, both identified and unidentified."

Forand added that a

See MCIEAST page 9A



VMAQ-3 Marines return from OIF

Cpl. Curt Keester

Home sweet home: Lt. Col. Marshall Denney III, commanding officer of Marine Tactical Electronic Warfare Squadron 3, holds his daughter after returning home Jan. 23, from a seven-month deployment in Iraq.

Cpl. Curt Keester

Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION CHERRY POINT, N.C. — After a nearly seven-month deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, 173 Marines, sailors and five jets from Marine Tactical Electronic Warfare Squadron 3 returned to Cherry Point from Al Asad, Iraq.

The "Moon Dogs" of Marine Tactical Electronic Warfare Squadron-3 returned in three groups Jan. 23 and 25.

"We're happy it was a safe and

successful mission," said Lynn Denney, the stepmother of VMAQ-3's commanding officer. "All the Marines came home safe and sound, and we're very proud of what they did."

While in Iraq, VMAQ-3 successfully conducted its mission supporting ground forces through the use of electronic warfare.

The unit also reached a new historic milestone for "Prowler" squadrons across the Marine Corps by surpassing 4,000 hours flown in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

"This deployment, we provided

more hours of electronic warfare support than any of our predecessors," said Lt. Col. Marshall Denney III, the commanding officer of VMAQ-3. "That doesn't mean they [their predecessors] are any less than we are. [It's just that] each squadron that goes out improves the process for the next."

Denney said he believes his Moon Dogs have provided the means for Marine Tactical Electronic Warfare Squadron 1, the squadron that replaced them in

See RETURN page 9A

Message from the Commandant of the Marine Corps

Gen. James T. Conway
Commandant of the Marine Corps

Marines, as many of you know, the president has approved our request for the Marine Corps to grow from its current end strength of 175,000 Marines to 202,000. I want to pass on why this is important to our Corps and what this increase means for us.

The current operational tempo of the long war has resulted in strain on our Marines and on the Corps as an institution. While the morale of our Marines remains high I am nevertheless concerned with the stress of multiple deployments on our Marines and their families. The second effect of this high operational tempo is that it challenges the essence of our Marine Corps. By this I mean that our Corps has significantly less opportunity to train for other missions to fulfill our congressionally-mandated mission to be "the nation's shock troops."

An active duty component end strength of 202,000 Marines will go a long way toward reducing the

See MESSAGE page 9A

Sywanyks holds C.A. 'Mack' McKinney awards

Staff Sgt. Michael Mink
Marine Corps Base

Lt. Gen. James F. Amos and Marian Rooney received the coveted C.A. "Mack" McKinney Awards from the Down East Chapter of the North Carolina Noncommissioned Officers Association at Sywanyks, Friday evening.

This marks the 15th anniversary since the award's inception.

McKinney awards are presented to military members who have demonstrated professionalism, dedication and service to our country and its military over a sustained period of time. It is also awarded to members of the local community who have demonstrated a strong support for our military community and their families.

"Lieutenant General Amos and his wife Bonnie are people who look after Marines, sailors and all service members first, before themselves," said Joe Houle, retired sergeant major and 1999 recipient of the Mack McKinney award. "Their efforts in establishing the Wounded Warrior Barracks are incredible."

With that said, Lt. Gen. Amos, Commanding General Marine Corps Combat Development Command in Quantico, Va., received his award and took the lectern with some breaking news.

"At 10 o'clock this morning the Commandant of the Marine Corps made the final decision at a briefing that we were giving him to stand up a Wounded Warrior Battalion at [Marine Corps Base] Camp Pendleton, [Marine Corps Base] Camp Lejeune and Wounded Warrior Regiment in Quantico, Va. That will cement all the work the wounded warriors have done over the last 10 months."

Amos served as commanding general of II Marine Expeditionary Force from July 2004 to August 2006 and had a huge hand in the development of the Wounded Warrior Barracks, aptly named Maxwell Hall at Camp Lejeune. Following Amos' comments, Rooney received her award.

Rooney is the first female to receive the award. "We didn't really do too much debating over Marian being our first lady recipient,"

See MCKINNEY page 7A

Index

News	1B
Local	1C
Classics	3C
Living	1D
Index	2D

MAN on the street

What are you doing for the Presidents' Day holiday?



"Our unit is at [Fort A.P. Hill, Va.] doing raid training and weather training so we are going to meet them there and train."

Pfc. Albin Hughes III
Rifleman
2nd Marine Division
Mims, Fla.

"I will be watching the Daytona 500 on the 18th. I'm rooting for Kurt Bush."



Petty Officer 2nd Class Bryan Callahan
Corpsman
Naval Hospital Camp Lejeune
Las Vegas



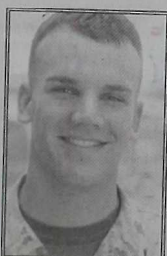
"I'll be getting ready to go to Iraq and I will be enjoying time with my family before I go and of course do a traditional barbeque."

Cpl. Luis Roche
Supply administration clerk
2nd Marine Logistics Group
El Paso, Texas

"I'm just spending time with my wife. I have a school coming up so we are just spending time together before I leave."



1st Lt. Jason Moore
Supply officer
2nd Marine Division
Hebron, S.C.



"I'm probably going to go home and see my family because it will be my last chance to see them before I go to Iraq."

Lance Cpl. Ryan Mallek
Basic metal work
2nd Marine Logistics Group
Ploder, Wis.

Marine Corps behavior standards apply to leave

Staff Sgt. Jonathan C. Moor
Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point

Semper Fidelis is not a pass-word meaning, "I'm in the cool club." It's an abbreviated declaration for being always faithful to all that is true to God, Country and fellow Marines mentioned in the Staff NCO Creed.

Marines are called to uphold the Corps' core values of honor, courage and commitment on duty and off.

"There's nothing more important Marines can do than keeping their honor clean, like it says in our Marines' Hymn," said Sgt. Maj. George H. Mason, the 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing sergeant major.

"The personal standards we should hold ourselves to as Marines are the same professional standards Marines are taught to perform or live up to, whether we are on leave, liberty or duty," Mason elaborated.

As the Marine Corps marched through the dawn of a new year, Secretary of the Navy Donald C. Winter tasked Marines to rededicate themselves to the ethical principles that guide their conduct on a daily basis.

In Marine Corps Order P1050.3H, the order covering regulations for leave, liberty and administrative absence, leaders

are told to emphasize to their Marines the importance of making a favorable impression on the public when they are on leave and liberty.

Ethical decision-making is not solely a function of whether a law or regulation permits us to do something, said Secretary Winter.

"We must also consider whether the action sets the right example and is the honorable thing to do," he said.

Honorable actions often require courage to resist internal or external pressures to do wrong.

"Courage should be displayed in the form of moral courage, the integrity to do the right thing, whether people are looking or not," Mason stated.

If it doesn't seem right, it probably isn't, Secretary Winter explained. "If you have questions about whether something is appropriate, ask."

"Commanding officers and others in positions of authority have an obligation to help you find the answer," Secretary Winter said.

Leaders should, by personal example, teach Marines about liberty conduct, Mason instructed.

"It's all part of the counseling and mentorship process. If you are talking to Marines about their off-duty activities, remind

them to stop and think about what they are doing to decide whether actions will lead to more than honorable consequences.

Once Marines are taught the difference between right and wrong, enforcement is the next step.

"We must make sure we enforce ethical behavior," Secretary Winter said. "Command and I are going to be looking at this as one of our main objectives."

According to Marine Order P1050.3H, designated officers are authorized to take corrective measures, if a member is committing conduct or any offense credits the Armed Forces or off.

"Depending on the situation, it is not always appropriate to take direct action," Secretary Winter said. "If the situation isn't direct action, Marines are to identify and report the individual."

"It's supposed to be a Marine," Mason said. "We are Marines to figure out how to have fun while exercising judgment, common sense and discretion." ■

Marines on TV

"The Marines," airing February 21, from 9 to 10:30 p.m., on PBS, examines the unique "Warrior Culture" of the smallest but fiercest branch of the U.S. armed services. With significant access to Marine training facilities in Parris Island, South Carolina; Quantico, Virginia; and Twentynine Palms, California, "The Marines" reveals what it takes and what it means to be a Marine - from the first moments of arrival at boot camp.

"The Marines" offers extensive coverage of the often grueling Marine Corps training, including the Arts Program, confidence course and intense rifle range instruction. The program also demonstrates how the Marines evaluate and shape their future leaders with the rigorous Officer Candidate Leadership reaction course and infamous "Quigley" exercise. More than 30 current and former Marines of all ranks, authors and military correspondents were interviewed to tell the story of the rich traditions and continuing importance of the Marine Corps and the warrior ethos it instills.

"How the Warrior Culture is engrained and how it sets the Marines apart from other armed forces branches are critical aspects of Marine development and understanding," said producer/writer John Grant. "This program offers an in-depth and unvarnished look at the rigorous physical and logical training employed to create this tenaciously loyal, highly-skilled breed of combatant ready to defend their country and comrade at any cost."

Other segments of The Marines focus on the Wounded Warrior Barracks in Camp Lejeune, North Carolina; the new Marine Corps Museum in Quantico, Virginia; and women in the Marines. The program also travels to the country's largest Marine base in California, where Marines are seen training in Iraqi villages just weeks before deployment overseas.

If you know Marines who are being highlighted, let us know by calling 451-7423

Semper Safe

Get involved in your Units Motorcycle Safety Program

Many Marines and sailors ride motorcycles for numerous reasons, such as recreation, commuting, touring, image, sport riding and competition. Regardless of the reason, safety is important, especially since we lose an average of 17 service members, every year, to motorcycle-related mishaps and numerous other serious injuries, many of these mishaps could have been prevented had the individuals used their training properly.

The Motorcycle Safety Foundation's Basic Rider Course teaches basic and complex physical and mental skills as well as risk management that is typically a lacking element found in most motorcycle mishaps. In accordance with Marine Corps Order 5100.19E, "Operators of government or pri-

vately owned motorcycles, mopeds, motor scooters, or ATVs must successfully complete a rider or operator course prior to operation on any DoD installation. The training must also be completed by all active-duty military operating motorcycles whether on or off base."

The safety course must include the MSF or Specialty Vehicle Institute of America approved curriculum taught by MSF or SVIA certified or licensed instructors. The locations for the training are Coastal Carolina and Lenoir Community Colleges, as well as Camp Johnson. One of the great things about this required training is that it's all free.

The decision to ride, accepting the risk: When service members decide to ride a motorcycle, they

select a unique and challenging form of transportation. The first step in making a responsible decision to ride is to have a complete understanding of the high level of risk involved in riding. The risk can be lowered through our attitudes, and by developing mental and physical strategies through training.

Motorcycle operator checklist: If riding a motorcycle, use the following checklist to assess your "preparation to ride." Has your license expired? Do you have the proper endorsement on your license to operate a motorcycle? Is your motorcycle registration, state inspection, insurance and base decal current?

Required personal protective equipment:

- DOT or Snell-approved helmet

- Protective eyewear (goggles or full-face shield attached to helmet)
- Reflective vest (MSF approved. Backpacks should not be worn over the vest)
- Long-sleeved shirt or jacket
- Long trousers
- Full-fingered leather gloves
- Hard-soled shoes with heels

Leaders and supervisors, you are responsible for the safety of your personnel. It is your duty to ensure that your personnel abide by the elements of the motorcycle safety program. To assist you in your duties, a "Leaders Guide" is provided to you at <https://intranet.mcieast.usmc.mil/C19/usis/default.aspx>. For more information contact your Unit Safety Officer or your Base Safety Representative anytime. Remember as Marines and sailors, we live by our ethos. ■

The Globe

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Commanding Officer, Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune
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Marine Rain' battalion impacts citizens of local towns

Cpl. Bryce C.K. Muhlenberg
Marine Division

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Camp Lejeune
Marines. The
seen training

line of massive,
overed humvees sat
small compact cars,

sport utility vehicles and motorcycles carrying local commuters. The Marines waited for a spotlight to change. The light flashed green and the convoy made a right turn into the bank parking lot.

The Marines, most from non-combat arms or civil affairs backgrounds, have been together for more than four months and have prepared to learn and perform their civil affairs role during this final exercise.

"Victor four is parked right outside the bank," O'Neil mutters over the vehicle radio before jumping out of the vehicle to join Cpl. Russell S. Mullis and other Marines who were setting up security and entering the bank.

Upon entering the bank, Mullis asked employee Kathy C. Notter detailed questions about the bank, its customers and employees.

After getting pertinent information, the other Marines asked questions and listened intently as Mullis explained the information he received from Notter which will allow him and his unit to formulate plans and strategies to help improve the business and lives of the employees.

"This is my first time doing training like this, but I can really see how this will help me in Iraq when I'm gathering information to make life better for the people over there," Mullis said.

Notter said the learning experience was mutual.

"I don't mind the Marines coming here. I'm very impressed to see how civil affairs is actually done. It's so personal and face-to-face, but then again, how else can these Marines get that real experience. It just feels good to be part of something so important, because our service members risk their lives every day whether they are in combat or civil affairs," she said.

The civil affairs Marines finished up their assessment of the banking facility, returned to their humvees and headed back through the bustling town to the airfield.



Lance Cpl. Bryce C.K. Muhlenberg

Outside Pollocksville: Cpl. Russell S. Mullis, a Marine with 5th Battalion, 10th Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division, sets up security outside Pollocksville Elementary School during the battalion's civil affairs training.

The convoy then departed for the battalion's main operations and transportation area, bustling with service members preparing to depart for another mission.

O'Neil, Mullis and the rest of Detachment One, Team Four, hopped out of their humvees and sank into the cold, muddy ground of the vehicle staging area and prepared for an operational debrief.

While the team prepared for their debrief, Warrant Officer Harold T. Kiser, officer-in-charge of Team One, explained the civil affairs group's upcoming mission of the day, which will take them to the Pollocksville elementary school to learn the basics of proper education and the elements required.

"We need to assess this elementary school to get a true look at what makes a school work properly and how it is structured for success, because in Iraq we will need to assess different areas and build their infrastructure up so we can get them back on track," Kiser

Pfc. Zatrack Z. Webber and at least 15 other Marines rushed out of humvees and scattered across the front of the school, taking cover behind signs, trees and other natural camouflage. This detail is just another element of training he would take part in.

"Security is important here," Webber said. "It's a little cold right now, but it's an important aspect of any Marine Corps operation and we've got to make sure we get it right."

The Marines stood security among the mix of bright, yellow school buses and dull, brown, black and green humvees as children from the elementary school filtered out of class to run, jump and play inside and around the vehicles. Leathernecks handed out Marine Corps stickers to the youngsters and answered the children's questions.

"The kids really enjoyed getting up close instead of only seeing us on (television) and in the movies," said Lance Cpl. Michael H. Benoit, an artilleryman by trade. "Although we are going to a completely different country, hopefully we can give the children of Iraq a new understanding of the Marine Corps and that we are trying to help them."

Maj. Andy L. Dietz, the commander of Detachment Three, offered some thoughts on how the civil affairs process begins and how he thinks the Marines are responding to the training.

"We do an open-source

search on the Internet to get a picture of any specific town or area to get any information we can, so when we go out there in person to do the man-on-the-street conversations, we can validate or invalidate the information we got from our initial inquiry," Dietz said. "From there, we can determine what problems there are and how to fix them and how long it will take to do it."

As the children played, the teachers explained the Marines' jobs while another group of Marines were inside the school talking to Jo Anne A. Stone, the principal of Pollocksville Elementary. She took them on a walking tour, showing them the entire facility and explaining the finer details concerning school policy, security, programs, parenting and most of all community support.

Bright colors of every spectrum mixed with the tan color of the Marines desert camouflage combat utilities as they entered a first grade classroom and children jumped up from their seats, running to give the service members much appreciated hugs. The children laughed and giggled while the service members asked each child where they were from and what their favorite part of school was. Stone said she was impressed to see how the Marines and sailors actually performed their civil affairs missions.

"This is the first time having the Marines to the school and I've really

See TOWN page 9A

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Feb. 24

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Social hour will begin at 7 a.m. with the breakfast at 8 a.m.

All retirees and active-duty military are invited to attend the breakfast.

Come and share some of your fascinating stories!

For more information contact Retired Sgt. Major Meyer at 938-1610.

Subcontracted Iraqi nationals support community



Role players: An Iraqi national watches as Lance Cpl. Leonard M. Shamus, squad leader, 3rd platoon, Company A, 1st Bn., 1st Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division, helps an Iraqi role player that is simulating a wounded victim situation during a combat scenario in Urban Terrain town here Feb. 13. Iraqi nationals currently living in the United States are helping various units prepare for their deployments to Iraq by acting as role players to create a realistic training environment. The Iraqi Nationals are contracted by Defense Training Systems, a civilian company based out of Alaska. "They're out here to support the community and said Brian Walsh, project manager for Defense Training Systems. "They support the military effort and want to see us free in

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⁵ Price based on MSRP less cash back. Tax, title, license, dealer fees, and optional equipment extra. See dealer for details. Take delivery by 2/28/07.

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Egyptian-born Marine uses language skills to connect with Iraqis



Egyptian born Marine: Pfc. Fady N. Nessim, 20, from Orlando, Fla. speaks to an Iraqi citizen while on patrol with Company I, 3rd Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment. Nessim speaks Arabic and is able to bridge the language gap between the Marines and the Iraqi people.

Lance Cpl. Christopher Zahn
2nd Marine Division (Forward)

CAMP HABBANIYAH, Iraq — One of the biggest challenges Marines face in Iraq is overcoming the language barrier between them and the Iraqi people. Not speaking the same language makes it difficult to interact with the locals beyond pointing and some very basic Arabic vocabulary. Earning the trust of the local population is a fundamental tenet of victory in counterinsurgency operations like those currently taking place in Al Anbar province; communication is key to gaining trust.

One Marine with Company I, 3rd Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment, is boosting his fellow leathernicks over the language barrier: Pfc. Fady N. Nessim, a rifleman in the company's 2nd Platoon, was born in Egypt and

moved to the United States when he was 1 year old. He was exposed to both English and Arabic growing up and speaks both languages equally well. However, he didn't reveal his language skills when he joined the Marine Corps.

"I didn't say anything because I'm not fluent; I can't read or write it," said Nessim, 20, from Orlando, Fla.

While the Arabic dialects spoken in Iraq are generally divergent from those spoken in Egypt and other parts of the Middle East, enough words and concepts are alike to enable Nessim to make a big impact during his unit's operations. Arabic-speaking service members are a relatively rare commodity, so finding one ready-made within their ranks was like finding a diamond in the rough for the 'Teufelhunden' Battalion, based

out of Camp Lejeune.

"As war fighters we don't think of an interpreter as a combat multiplier," said Todd M. Seibert, battalion operations officer, 3/6. "But we are interacting with people a skill like this have."

While the battalion part in a pre-deployment exercise, Nessim did reveal his secret. The was met with surprise squad members, most of been kept in the d Nessim.

Now that his unit is combat operations in Anbar province, Nessim leverage his skill to make even more effective. "It makes things because if I'm there we

See IRAQIS page

Vehicle immobilizer system to be installed at gates

Pfc. Brian D. Jones
Marine Corps Base

The front gate to any military facility is its first line of defense to deter and stop any kind of hostile attack on the service members and their families within.

To aid in combating these threats Camp Lejeune and surrounding installations will be installing the Catsclaw command operated, retractable tire deflation device inside vehicle gate security entranceways February to September.

These additions are being funded by anti-terrorism force protection funds from Headquarters Marine Corps at the cost of \$1.1 million dollars, said Navy Lt. Neil E. West, assistant resident officer in charge of construction, with the Resident in Charge Office, Company A, Headquarters and Support Battalion, Marine Corps Base.

The Catsclaw tire shredder system is a specially designed retractable row of tire-destroying blades that allow sentries to selectively immobilize a target vehicle by rendering all tires useless and cause the vehicle to come to a halt, according to the Catsclaw manufacturer's Web site www.sigcom.net.

The system of blades immobilizes large and small, military or civilian vehicles and provides a non-lethal technological alternative to opening fire on vehicles making it the most effective and safest means to stopping hostile vehicles, according to the manufacturer's Web site.

Once activated, the system will stop all inbound and outbound traffic, said West. Steel posts filled with concrete will be installed on both sides of the roadway to prevent vehicles from driving around.

While the system is not activated the device will be level with the road and will not impede the flow of traffic, said West.

Warning signs with yellow flashing lights will be placed along the roadways to alert drivers to the location of these devices, said West. A large red flashing light will be activated at the same time as the Catsclaw blades to warn drivers that these systems have been deployed.

During the installation, various gates and streets will be closed. However, the gate closures will not overlap keeping traffic disruption to a minimum, said West.

The traffic plan is as follows:

Tarawa Terrace I Gate will be worked on from Feb. 19 to March 9 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday and during weekends and holidays. The gate will be closed except for school traffic. The Tarawa Terrace II Gate will be closed from March 12 through April 4. All traffic will use the Tarawa Terrace I gate.

The Camp Johnson Gate will be worked on from April 9 - 26 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday and during weekends and holidays.

The Piney Green Gate will be closed May 21 - June 1 during the duration of construction. Traffic will be routed to the Triangle Outpost Gate.

Sneads Ferry will be worked on June 4 - 18, Monday through Friday and weekends and holidays. Traffic will be reduced to one lane.

Stone Bay will be worked on June 21 - July 3 during working hours and weekends. Traffic will be reduced to one lane.

Work will be done on the Main Gate July 7 - Aug. 15 during working hours and weekends. One inbound and outbound lane will remain open continuously during construction.

"I would like the community to know that the construction dates are tentative and the contractor will strive to complete the work as quickly and with as little interruption to the traffic flow as possible," said West.

Additional information will be posted on road construction signs at each gate for exact times of road closure and rerouted traffic patterns. ■

Base and housing pet regulations

Effective immediately, all stray animals picked up by Military Police or Domestic Animal Control will be held three business days after capture. Unclaimed animals will be euthanized. Please ensure your pets are properly tagged, micro-chipped, and restrained.

If your pet is lost, call:

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Marine delivers one of his twins

Cpl. Angel Velasquez
Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point

CHERRY POINT, N.C. — On 2:30 a.m., the wife of Capt. Brad Higgins got up to make a routine bath. On her way back to the bedroom, she felt an uncomfortable pressure and found herself on her bathroom sink. At the beginning of an unforgettable delivery, Higgins and his wife who was 34 weeks pregnant with twins. When Mrs. Higgins felt her pain coming on, she immediately called her husband to her aid. "As I was calling me," said Capt. Higgins, "I noticed that she was breathing."

"At that moment of stupidity, I asked a paramedic to come to the house. I was 4 weeks pregnant with twins. I was all right?" As expected, her reply was "Alerted by his wife's distress call, I immediately got out of bed. It was wrong. In pure boot camp, I was shot out of bed and was changed. That would have made Superman said Capt. Higgins, an air tasking planner with Marine Wing Squadron 2. "Once I was alerted, I asked her what she needed. Mrs. Higgins explained to her that she felt something was not

right. A decision of whether to make the normal ride to the hospital or call for an ambulance had to be made. Seconds later, he called 911. "I got back to the bathroom and explained to (my wife) that the woman on the phone said she needed her to lie down," Capt. Higgins said. "Still braced against and standing in front of our sink, she assured me she could not."

After realizing she couldn't lie down, Mrs. Higgins reported she thought a baby was coming. Capt. Higgins then told the operator to hang on, set the phone down, grabbed a clean towel and helped deliver his child.

"My child was coughing, so I instinctively turned him onto his chest and pat his back," Capt. Higgins explained. "With just a couple of pats, the coughing changed to crying, which is, ironically, a good sign." Capt. Higgins was then instructed by the operator to tightly tie something around the umbilical cord about six inches from the baby.

The situation was turned over to the paramedics as soon as they arrived. Capt. Higgins's wife was quickly put on a stretcher and wheeled to the ambulance. Less than an hour and a half later, their second son, Brad, was delivered with no complications.



Courtesy photo

Double the joy: Capt. Brad A. Higgins and his wife sit side by side with their newborn twins. Higgins delivered the first of the two boys.

Capt. Higgins was a delayed departure for an individual augment seat in Al Asad, Iraq. In fact, he was scheduled to deploy the day before his situation began, but the decision was made to let him stay back in case of complications.

Clearly, if Higgins' deployment had not

been delayed, there could have been a considerable complication, he said.

"With twin 10-day-old boys, a 23-month-old daughter, and mom all safe at home, I am ready to focus on my responsibilities in Iraq," said Capt. Higgins. "Honestly, as I tell my wife, I'm going on vacation." ■



Staff Sgt. Michael Mink

presentation: Lt. Gen. James F. Amos, commanding Marine Corps Combat Development Command, Fort Belvoir, Va., and Marian Rooney received the C.A. "Mack" McKinney award at Sywaryks Friday evening. Pictured here are (left) Joe Houle, sergeant major retired, Lt. Gen. Amos, and her husband Michael Rooney and Paul Siverson, both sergeants major.

MCKINNEY CONTINUED FROM 3A

recipient of the Mack McKinney award, who was named to present Marian with her award.

"I hope I continue to do good work, for the community and the service members," Marian Rooney said.

The Sgt. Maj. C. A. "Mack" McKinney Award is presented in honor of Sgt. Maj. Mack McKinney, who retired in 1971 after 30 years of service. He died at age 17 in 1942 and served in WW II, Korea and Vietnam. Following retirement, he continued to serve for more than 34 years, lending his time and efforts to improving the recruitment and retention of the Armed Forces. He was a member of the House of Representatives and the Senate, and a member of the National Congress for military compensation and benefits commensurate with the extraordinary demands and sacrifices associated with military service. He served as the NCOA's legislative director.

"I thought the night went really well," said Paul Siverson, retired sergeant major and 2004 Mack McKinney award recipient. "There were a lot of young Marines in attendance, more than 100. I think that it is great that these younger Marines come out and are able to rub elbows with generals and senior enlisted. It is a real lifetime experience for some of them."

Siverson added that the decision to award Amos and Amos this year was an easy process. Lieutenant General Amos' involvement with the United Warrior Barracks and his continual involvement with all Marines and sailors made him an easy choice," he added, who is the secretary of the International Board of Directors for the NCOA and also the secretary for the Down East Chapter. "Marian's total involvement and commitment to every organization that she is involved in made it easy to choose her as the first woman to receive the Mack McKinney award."

Siverson reflected back to when he received his Mack McKinney award and its importance. "It was the last year that Mack was in attendance and presented me the award," he said. "Although Mack is no longer presenting the award, the award has not lost any of its prestige." Siverson said that Mack is always there with them, there is a table set aside where the awards are given to the recipients — the table has a portrait of the Mack McKinney proudly displayed.

Other notable Mack McKinney recipients are: Sgt. Maj. H.G. Overstreet, 12th Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps; Gen. Carl E. Mundy, 30th Commandant of the Marine Corps; Gen. James Jones, 32nd Commandant of the Marine Corps; Dr. Donald Lingle, President, Coastal Carolina Community College and 2001 recipient; Gen. Peter Pace, current Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. ■

Third party ticketing on or off base

Officers and staff noncommissioned officers who observe unsafe driving behavior among suspected Marines and sailors on or off base are expected to report such behavior using the following procedures:

1. Do not commit unsafe/unlawful acts to get a license plate or vehicle description.
2. Record the vehicle license plate, state, vehicle description, driver description, alleged traffic offense, time and location.
3. Send an e-mail requesting a complaint form to 1st Lt. Swanson at gabriela.swanson@usmc.mil from your official government address. You may also use the following Web site to send in a complaint: www.lejeune.usmc.mil/mcb/pmo.pdf.
4. Provost Marshal's Office will use this information to take appropriate action.

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Twins

Set to begin new Marine adventure

Cullen James
Marine Corps Logistics
Base Albany

MARINE CORPS LOGISTICS BASE ALBANY, Ga. — As any recruiter will tell you, the Marine Corps is full of opportunities. Pay, travel and medical benefits often spring to mind, and then college benefits such as the G.I. Bill and tuition assistance make the deal even sweeter.

Two Marines have recently taken advantage of the Marine Corps' benefits and career opportunities. Sgt. Melissa Lewallen, an enlisted manager at the base Marine Corps Exchange and her twin sister Cpl. Melinda Lewallen, supply administrative clerk, Marine Corps Communications-Electronics School, Twentynine Palms, Calif., were accepted into the fiscal year 2006 Marine Corps Enlisted Commissioning Education Program.

The program allows for Marines to remain on active duty while attending college and candidates will be commissioned as second lieutenants upon successful completion of their undergraduate degree. The Marines must attend a college with a Navy Reserve Officer Training Corps program and must complete a degree in four years or less.

During her eight years

in the Corps, Melissa thought about applying for MECEP a few times, but never went through with it. Melinda always planned to become an officer, so when she saw the announcement for the MECEP board, she contacted Melissa and got her sister to apply as well.

"We put our packets in June 1 and found out we'd been accepted Oct. 20," Melinda said.

If

it weren't odd enough that twin Marine sisters were both accepted into the MECEP, they're also going to attend the same college, the University of Arizona in Tucson.

"I think it's great. We wanted to be stationed together and now we get to be together for the next couple of years," Melissa said. "Being twins

and being separated is very hard."

Separation is something the Phoenix natives have lived with for the past eight years.

Melissa joined the Marine Corps shortly after graduating high school. Melinda went into college and joined the Air Force after getting her associate's degree.

"We always wanted to be Marines," said Melinda. "We were in Marine (Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps) in high school."

"We had full scholarships to go to college," Melissa added. "But I guess I was ready to go into the Corps when I graduated high school."

Melissa did go on to get her associate's degree while on

active duty. Melinda was in the Corps for four years in the 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, before switching to the Marine Corps Depot, San Diego, in February 2006.

Though stationed at Camp Lejeune, Melinda is in Albany on reserve duty so she can attend the Marine Corps Depot, San Diego, then report for school at the University of Arizona.

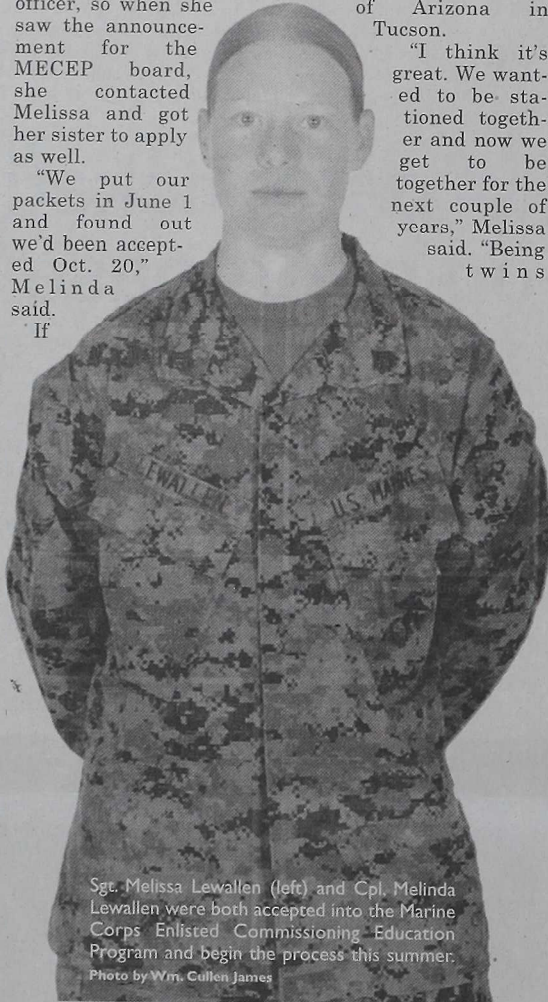
"While at school, we'll be attending the ROTC program and participating in the activities," Melissa said.

Melissa plans to attend the University of Arizona in a deaf studies program. Melinda plans to attend the University of Arizona in a nutrition program. Though they had no mishaps, they both speak to the officers in the Corps.

"We both kind of liked things that we'd like when we're out of the Marine Corps," said. "The Corps is to put you where you need you, but I'd like to supply."

"Same here," Melinda echoed. "I'd like to supply."

The MECEP board meets annually. More information about the eligibility requirements can be found at <https://web.mcrs.usmcrs.com/G3/Officer/MECEP> or in Marine Corps 1560.15L. ■



Sgt. Melissa Lewallen (left) and Cpl. Melinda Lewallen were both accepted into the Marine Corps Enlisted Commissioning Education Program and begin the process this summer.

Photo by Wm. Cullen James

New military housing for MCLB

Capt. Steve A. Butler
Marine Corps Logistics Base Albany
Public affairs officer

MARINE CORPS LOGISTICS BASE ALBANY, Ga. — Plans to convert 250 family housing units aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Albany from government to contractor management via Public/Private Venture will begin this fall.

Public/Private Venture is a program that turns military housing, construction, maintenance and management over to private industry. Since Congress passed legislation in 1996 authorizing the Department of Defense to team up with private developers, this concept, also commonly known as privatization, has been successfully executed at numerous military installations nationwide.

"Good housing is extremely important to military morale and retention," said Col. C.N. Haliday, commanding officer, MCLB Albany. "While still functional, the military housing here is dated and has not kept pace with private sector housing in terms of space and amenities. Increases in housing allowances over the past decade have made more spacious, more modern housing in the private sector attainable for more servicemembers and their families. PPV will help us to offer

a competitive alternative with the traditional benefits of a military housing community. We are planning for a smooth transition to PPV and those who currently reside in housing can expect a series of town hall meetings in the coming months to describe how we will roll out the program and how it will impact families."

With PPV, both the government and private contractor benefit. Servicemembers will be provided larger and more modern, affordable housing. For the contractor, the guaranteed occupancy and security of these properties provides predictable cash flow. Rent is tied to regional basic allowance for housing. Military families will pay their full BAH to the PPV partner. Rent is equal to the servicemember's BAH, but this does not mean they can't move up in size. If a family wants to upsize, they will pay out-of-pocket what their BAH doesn't cover.

The declining quality of military family housing was the primary reason that Congress passed this PPV legislation in the 90s. With the then-aging military housing structures having limited space and requiring costly repairs, military families were sometimes on waiting lists for years in order to get a house that could be half-a-century old.

"The private housing industry exists in a dynamic market that adjusts quick-

ly to adapt to supply and demand," said Navy Lt. Cmdr. Phillip Knauss, director, Installation and Environment Division. "The PPV partnership provides a low risk, limited investment alternative that allows the Department of the Navy to deliver quality homes and responsive maintenance to our servicemembers. Further, the partnership allows the investment partner to realize a stable return on the investment while concurrently enabling the Marine Corps to apply a larger share of net cash flow to other high priority operations and maintenance initiatives."

PPV funding is considered a method of getting more housing for the same dollars, not the same housing for less

money. Any military savings achieved through PPVs will be reinvested in military projects.

Overall, privatization is intended to be more economical than owning military property. Costs associated with ownership are either transferred to the contractor or diminished by the process.

"The PPV program has been proven successful at many military installations and we are excited MCLB Albany has been selected," Knauss. "We anticipate demolishing current housing and subsequent construction of an initial 110 replacement units beginning in October and progressing over the next two to

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of his M-2 .50 cali-
ine gun mounted
behemoth M-1A1
ain battle tank, Sgt.
lcom kept his eyes
range despite the
er weather aboard
une, Jan. 31.
temperatures dip-
the freezing point
-spotted showers
ing, the semi-annu-
bolstered the tank
ability to identify
targets in a timely

toon from Weapons
3rd Battalion, 8th
egiment, spent the
ays zeroing weapon
and maintaining the
he four tanks were
high status down the grade
of Camp Lejeune's
Range 10 blasting
lmany on a host of
which had little
survival. The pla-
ested on their abili-
tter the computer
heated targets in
and daytime sce-
Corps 1-
San Dm
nting on his crew

of four Marines — a stacked
deck of Iraq war veterans —
Alcorn said with confidence.
"Since our Marines have all
deployed, we'll work well
together."

"We were brought togeth-
er last Thursday, so we still
have a few kinks to work
out," added the Carroll
County, Ga., native. "But, the
longer a crew is together, the
better they'll be."

Cpl. Richard A. Matrenga,
a gunner from Ronkonkoma,
New York, said, "The weath-
er doesn't make it easy to
qualify, but you never know
what you'll come up against.
All in all, it's good training."

The Abrams provides
long-range observation capa-
bilities with heat sensitive
sighting equipment, cover for
infantry units, speed and the
devastating long-range clout
of the 120mm smoothbore
tank gun.

Entering U.S. military
service in 1982, the Abrams
remains the most heavily
armored vehicle among mod-
ern armies.

"It's pretty tough to pene-
trate the armor on a tank,"
said Alcorn.

"Riding in the tank is a
fun experience," said Lance

Cpl. Ryan J. Schemmel, a
New Bremen, Ohio, native.
"It's an adrenaline rush
every time I slam another
round into the chamber."

The 20-year-old rides deep
within the foreboding vehicle
and heaves mile-per-second

High Explosive shells, or
armor-piercing uranium
slugs into the breach of the
120mm cannon.

The only crew member not
riding within the confines of
the turret, Lance Cpl.
Brandon Pollock, pilots the

menace using two black joy-
sticks locked away in the
guts of the machine.

"Who wouldn't have fun
driving around in a 68-ton
metal box?" Pollock joked.

Commanding the platoon
for its upcoming deployment

is 1st Lt. Josh P. Zaffos, a
Houston native.

Commenting on the pla-
toon's performance, Zaffos
said, "They've been hitting
the targets. So far, they're
doing awesome. They make
this look easy." ■



Sgt. Ezekiel Kitandwe

Semi-annual training: An M1A1 Abrams Main Battle tank, belonging to Weapons Co., Battalion Landing Team, 3rd Bn, 8th Marines, posts at the ready during a field training exercise aboard Camp Lejeune, N.C., Jan. 31.

RETURN CONTINUED FROM 1A

to be successful and build on the
set by VMAQ-3.

loon Dogs were working seven
at a pace of almost 700 per
our op-tempo back home, and we
out injuring people, no one was
had no aircraft mishaps and no
fishaps," Denney said. "So I think
to the high level of profession-
every one of these Marines."

members, friends and co-work-
for the five planes and several
arrive at the Moon Dogs'
building where they had staged
separate homecoming receptions.

was a wonderful deployment," said
L. Lieb "We set new [standards]
thing; had great successes over
d everybody came home safely
ve planned."

Lieb was welcomed home by his wife,
who is seven-months pregnant, his moth-
er, who celebrated her birthday the day he
returned and his father, a Marine who
served during the Vietnam War and is a
two-time Purple Heart recipient.

"If you think about all of the elements
it takes for a squadron like this to go out
[to Iraq] and perform at 700 percent of
our op-tempo at home, it still takes Key
Volunteers and families back home to
help reassure each other when a problem
pops up," Denney said. "This whole net-
work that stayed behind helped us stay
focused on that nearly 700 percent op-
tempo forward. If you're worried about
all the stuff that's going on back home,
you're not focused on what you have to do
forward in Iraq and that's when you start
to have people injured and [an inability]
to do that op-tempo. It takes all these ele-
ments to come together in order to have
the success we had out there and we were
very successful." ■

MCIEAST CONTINUED FROM 1A

potential increase in troop levels natu-
rally brings with it a whole host of
other issues installation commanders
must consider.

"You've got to feed, house, equip and
take care of those additional Marines,"
Forand explained. "And as you add
Marines and equipment, you've got to
take into account lifecycle issues as
well."

While the question of exactly how
the Marines are going to be distributed
across the region has yet to be
answered, the commanders and staff
wasted no time considering its impact
on their respective infrastructures.
New military construction options were
weighed against the backdrop of the
Commandant's 2006 BEQ plan which
proposes a "2x0 assignment stan-
dard"—another way of saying BEQ
rooms will contain no more than two E-
3s-and-below per room by 2012. "It's
always challenging to do a mission
analysis in this case, especially when
the mission is still evolving. You have
to get this right as the new infrastruc-
ture will be with the Marine Corps for
years to come," said Maj.Gen.
Dickerson.

As the conference continued, the
group was briefed on a number of recent
initiatives that will contribute to the
overall safety and security of the
region's facilities. In the near future, for
example, MCIEAST will likely be able
to access and deploy a rapid response
vehicle which will provide interoperable
communications for 300 personnel dur-
ing disasters and other significant
events over areas in excess of 30 miles.

Finally, the staff and commanders
learned they will soon take part in a vir-
tual table top pandemic exercise
designed to evaluate and test coordina-
tion linkages between community lead-
ers and military personnel in the event

of a natural disaster or terror strike.
"This will present a great opportunity
for us to identify where our gaps are
and where we will need support from
the community," said Linda McGowan,
Deputy Assistant Chief of Staff for the
Department of Public Safety.

During the latter part of the day,
sub-regional Marine Corps Community
Services Assistant Chief of Staff Jay
Sollis took the floor to discuss variances
in pricing for certain services across the
region.

"It's incumbent upon all of us to
compare notes to ensure that dispari-
ties in costs are reduced," Sollis said.
"While we try to keep our prices some-
what in the ball park, the economic
climate is vastly different at each
base, so it's somewhat difficult to
achieve a balance."

Sollis also reported on the future of
several officers' clubs whose viability
has occasionally been in doubt. He
introduced a Headquarters Marine
Corps study to develop a set of per-
formance indices to preserve their
long-term role as an ideal place for pro-
fessionals to gather in a relaxed set-
ting. "It is critical that we elevate the
visibility and financial performance of
the clubs, especially to our current and
future members," he said.

The main aspect of the conference
concluded with several talks about
regionalizing various services in order
to standardize procedures, eliminate
redundancies and return more Marines
to the operating forces.

Afterwards, the MCIEAST head-
quarters staff visited with local coun-
terparts while the commanders
resumed discussions in closed-door ses-
sions. Overall, the conference was a
resounding success, according to
Forand.

"This was a great opportunity for
all of us to exchange ideas, bring to
light those thorny issues that are
specific to each installation and most
importantly find solutions to shared
problems," he said. ■

MESSAGE CONTINUED FROM 1A

both on individual Marines and on
the institution. Make no mistake, this
is for an end strength increase in
the Marine Corps. From, indeed it pre-dates, the
plus-up operation in Iraq.

If the end strength increase is support-
ed by Congress, our first task will be to
fill three new infantry battalions and
acquired supporting structure of
approximately 4,000 Marines. We will
grow by approximately 5,000
units per year.

The end strength will do more than
fill the much needed infantry battal-
ions. We will balance the Marine Air
Task Force and reduce the strain
on military occupational specialties that
are experiencing a 1:1 deployment-to-
ratio or less. These include rotary
wings, squadrons, military police, intelli-
gence units, engineers, and other combat
support and combat service support fields.
In growing our Corps, we plan to

gradually lengthen our dwell periods, so
that our Marine Corps will continue to
be the two-fisted force our nation
expects: Equally adept at counterinsur-
gency as well as full spectrum opera-
tions. It will also allow Marines to spend
more time with their families. Our goal
is to achieve a 1:2 deployment-to-dwell
ratio for active component units and 1:5
for reserve units.

Since more than seventy percent of the
proposed Marine Corps end strength
increase will consist of first-term Marines,
we are making plans that will enhance
our recruiting and retention.

Marines, this is an important time in
history to serve our country. Many of you
joined the Corps after our nation was
already at war; you joined expecting to go
into harm's way and have shouldered
that duty with courage and determina-
tion. You are a special breed of America's
warriors and I salute your stalwart serv-
ice and sacrifice.

Semper Fidelis, James T. Conway,
General, U.S. Marine Corps,
Commandant of the Marine Corps. ■

TOWN CONTINUED FROM 3A

ed lot of admiration and respect for how they
people over there," Stone said. "We welcome
service and hope to have them back."
he Marines and sailors visited almost every
son in the school and noted numerous details
ring them of just exactly what was required of
school, its teachers and its children to function
well.
he Marines said their goodbyes and exited the
dirt calling back all security and mounting their
els for the trip back to Oak Grove Airfield.
he Marines stopped the convoy next to a wall of
trees and scrub-brush, which made up the border
where the Marines would spend the cold night
and sleeping bags and where the command
center and humvee road began.
he Marines assembled outside of the humvees
to conduct their mission debrief. They discussed
good and bad of the operation and how they

ave leadership
xperience?

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could do better next time.

When the Marines finished, they scattered across
the airfield breaking open Meals, Ready to Eat and
relaxed, taking advantage of the down-time before
their next mission to visit the mayor of Pollocksville
and the James County Health Department.

Dietz said this process helps missions go much
smoother and bears greater morale, which he believes
is shown through Marines at the airfield.

The temperatures dropped as the operational com-
munion subsided and Marines began bedding down for
the night.

Lt. Col. Christopher T. Mayette, the battalion com-
mander, who stayed up to make sure everything was
prepared for the next day's events, finished the night
off saying, "These Marines have done an exceptional
job and have put a lot of energy into this mission. They
have taken this great opportunity and given it a per-
fect finish. They are prepared for Iraq." ■

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Sports

Football

Football
The gymnasium was abuzz waiting for Lejeune High School running back Jimmie Blair Jr., to make his entrance. What a birthday present for Blair Jr., who signed to play football with the University of Alabama at Birmingham, Feb. 7, in front of hundreds of fellow students.

Coaches

Baseball, softball, golf coaches
Applicants must be 18 years old to coach. For more information, please contact John Karratti at 215-912-2159.

Lacrosse

Lacrosse seeks coaches
The Youth Lacrosse season will be soon. The program is looking for adults to coach. If you have experience in lacrosse, please check out the Web page at www.youthlacrosse.org or contact John Sarno at 215-912-2157.

Soccer

Marine Women's Soccer
The Marine Women's Soccer team will take a break from April 17 to May 7 aboard the Air Station. For more information or to submit an application, interested parties should call 215-912-710 or e-mail dmcmcc@usmc.mil.

Sports

Youth Sports
The Camp Lejeune Youth Sports program is currently accepting applications for the 2007-2008 season. The program is open to all youth ages 5 to 17. For more information, please contact the Youth Sports Coordinator at 215-912-710 or visit the website at www.camplejeuneglobe.com.

Basketball

Annual Onslow County Youth Basketball Tournament
The annual Onslow County Youth Basketball Tournament will be held at White Oak High School. The tournament will feature boys' and girls' teams from all over the county. For more information, please contact the tournament director at 215-912-710 or visit the website at www.camplejeuneglobe.com.

Devilpup signs with University of Alabama at Birmingham

Staff Sgt. Michael Mink
Marine Corps Base

The gymnasium was abuzz waiting for Lejeune High School running back Jimmie Blair Jr., to make his entrance. What a birthday present for Blair Jr., who signed to play football with the University of Alabama at Birmingham, Feb. 7, in front of hundreds of fellow students.

At 6 feet, 200 pounds, the Devil Pup running back recently went to Duke University's Combine where he ran the 40-yard dash in 4.66 and leaped 31 inches during the vertical jump portion.

Blair — the son of Sgt. Maj. Jimmie Blair, Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 26 at MCAS New River, chose UAB, for a number of reasons, not the least of which was location — both of his parents were raised in Birmingham.

With a skill untouched by most in the area, Blair rushed for more than 1,000 yards as a junior and was selected to the Coastal Plains Conference all-star team. Despite a tibia fracture in the second game of his senior season, in a game in which he'd

already run for 120 yards on 13 carries, Blair also received offers from the University North Carolina, North Carolina State, Tennessee Tech, the Citadel, Army and Virginia Tech.

The road to recovery hasn't been an easy one, but with hard work the elder Blair said Blair Jr.'s comeback was not a surprise.

"He trained a lot over the summer — the school was well-aware of his injury, it was not a surprise that he was going to come back just as strong," said the career Marine, who, along with his wife, also made it a point to

give credit where credit is due.

"I am really happy with Lejeune High School's faculty and all the support they have given to him," said Joann Blair.

Sgt. Maj. Hayward Williams, Marine Tiltrotor Operational Test and Evaluation Squadron-22 sergeant major and friend of the family took time away to be there in support of the Blairs.

"It is great to see a guy coming from a [Department of

Defense] school and going to the big leagues," he said. "He represents all military kids."

Like most military kids and families today, the Blairs had the added stress of parental deployments.

"The comment was made that it takes a village to raise a child, and that is exactly what happened," said Williams, who offered support to Joann and Blair Jr., while the senior Blair was deployed to Iraq, pushing Jimmie to spend time on his schoolwork as well as the field, in his dad's absence.

"All I did was make sure that he kept hitting the books, I am sure that the sergeant major would do the same for me," said Williams.

Blair's enthusiasm on the fields in unquestionable. Though off the field, he is yet to pick a major. His varied fields of interest include dentistry, biology and accounting.

The senior, who turned 18 Sunday, was sure about one thing.

"I am overjoyed, this is a dream come true," said Blair. ■



Staff Sgt. Michael Mink
Jimmie Blair Jr. signs with the University of Alabama at Birmingham as his parents, Joann and Sgt. Maj. Jimmie Blair look on.

MCAS New River running trails get overhaul

Maj. Melvin L. Love
Marine Corps Air Station New River

As Marine Corps Air Station New River continues to expand in size, so will the daily number of contractor vehicles, equipment and personnel entering and exiting the Air Station. This increase in daily traffic flow, especially during the morning and afternoon rush hours has presented a safety concern to the Air Station.

Many Marines, sailors, their families and government employees enjoy jogging, running and physical training on New River and measures are being taken to ensure that everyone can continue to enjoy their daily outdoor exercise activities in a safe manner.

The Air Station will continue its growth over the next several years, which means that more personnel, military and civilian workers, will come aboard the Station to include family members and a greater volume of traffic.

Consideration has also been given to pedestrian and vehicular traffic entering and exiting Camp Geiger at the intersection of 'A' Street and Curtis Rd.

Several measures have been taken by the Air Station to help improve safe physical training aboard New River for today and into the not-too-distant future.

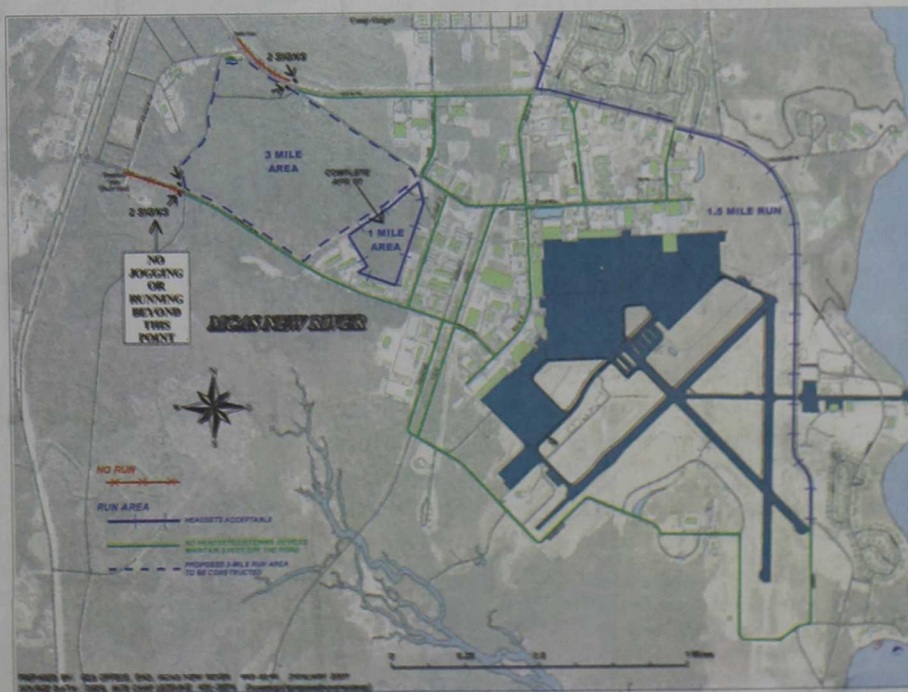
1. A change to the Air Station Order 5100.12G Motor Vehicle and Traffic Regulations provides guidance to all personnel on the following areas that are:

- Prohibited from jogging or running. (see base map legend, highlighted in red)
- Considered safe for jogging or running with headset/listening devices. (see base map legend, designated paved and unpaved trails highlighted in blue)
- Required for all personnel jogging or running along New River roads to remain at least three feet off of the paved surface of the roads and headsets/listening devices are prohibited, only exception is for actual hearing devices (see base map legend, highlighted in green).

2. Buildings and Grounds personnel in conjunction with Station Safety posted red signs on Curtis Rd. adjacent to the pistol range and on Douglass Rd. adjacent to the Hicks Run and Douglass Rd. intersection indicating the boundaries that limits jogging/running toward the front and back gates, respectively.

3. The Order also restates the use of reflective belts/vests IAW MCO 5100.19E, from evening colors, until morning colors, or during periods of reduced visibility these devices shall be utilized by all personnel.

4. Personnel are also reminded that it is prohibited for anyone to jog or run past ordnance barrier gates (poles) when they are down in the horizontal position. The gates are placed in the horizontal position



Running trails: Many Marines, sailors, their families and government employees enjoy jogging, running and physical training on New River and measures are being taken to ensure that everyone can continue to enjoy their daily outdoor exercise activities in a safe manner. A change to the Air Station Order 5100.12G Motor Vehicle and Traffic Regulations provides guidance to all personnel on the following areas that are: prohibited from jogging or running, (highlighted in red); considered safe for jogging or running with headset/listening devices, (designated paved and unpaved trails highlighted in blue); and required for all personnel jogging or running along New River roads to remain at least three feet off of the paved surface of the roads and headsets/listening devices are prohibited, only exception is for actual hearing devices (highlighted in green).

tion to keep pedestrian, as well as vehicular traffic from enter the blast zone during ordnance operations should a mishap occurs. Do not go around these barriers.

5. The Station S-4 has contracted for a new run trail (see map) that is currently under construction and will be completed by April 07. This 1 mile trail will be located behind the enlisted barracks (Bachelor Billeting) where the use of headsets/listening devices are considered safe. A three mile trail is also planned for construction. This trail will be located adjacent to the 1-mile trail and will extend between Curtis and Douglass Rd.

The trails will be six feet wide and lighted to also better accommodate troop runs.

All roads remain open to personnel for

jogging/running and physical training, except where signs are posted when headed out toward the front and back gates. The requirement for personnel to maintain at least three feet off of the pavement, unless otherwise absolutely necessary and the non-usage of headsets/listening devices when adjacent to roads cannot be overstated. When utilizing the base's paved and unpaved trails headsets/listening devices may be worn. Reflective belts/vests shall be worn by all personnel in accordance with Marine Corp. Order 5100.19E and Air Station Order 5100.12G.

All units are asked to read and post the Air Station Order 5100.12G, change 4, and get the word out to their personnel. ■

Record holding

Retired Marine has run 113 marathons

Heather Owens
Staff writer

Lee Cooper is a ground-pounding original.

He's been pounding since his early days as a 19-year-old engineer and shore party man in the Marine Corps at the "Frozen Chosin" in North Korea. Despite having a badly-injured leg, he walked out of the reservoir.

In fact, he pounded ground for two and a half tours in Korea and two and a half tours in Vietnam. He would have stayed, too, but they wouldn't let him. (Later, he wanted to pound some ground during the first Iraq war but his reenlistment paperwork didn't go through prior to the end of the war).

He's also pounded ground with his Marines as a Drill Instructor in San Diego.

But at age 47, while stationed at Cherry Point, he modified his pounding from marching to competitive running. Now 76, the Carteret County resident has run 113 marathons including 20 of the famed Boston variety. (Cooper's also run dozens of half-marathons and hundreds of smaller races as well.)

He's run marathons upon marathons. One time, he ran book-end marathons a week apart from each other. Another year, when he was 71, he ran eight marathons. Why? "Because I could," he said.

"I don't run to be healthy. I run to relax, because I like the fresh air. I run to get ready for races," he said, adding, "I like to kick butt. Anything I do, I try really hard."

Up until October, he was running 30 miles a week, getting ready for his Marine Corps Marathon. It would have been his 18th Marine Corps Marathon. Then a reoccurrence of cancer set him back. In fact, he has four types of cancer in his body — liver, bone, prostate and lung — from his exposure to Agent Orange in Vietnam.

Ten years ago, he was diagnosed with prostate cancer, and in July 2004 he had three-fourths of his left lung removed due to the lung cancer.

Yet, Cooper, a retired master gunnery sergeant, kept pounding ground through it all. In 2005, he completed his 20th Boston Marathon.

After crossing the finish line of his 100th marathon in 2002 — fittingly the Marine Corps Marathon in Washington, D.C. — Cooper was told that he was the first retired Marine to complete 100 marathons.

Running more than 100 marathons is not his only record. Most recently, he took the Marine Corps Marathon course record for 70-and-over

male finishers, with a time of 3:51:59.

"He sets records and then breaks them again," said Cooper's friend Pete "Too Tall" Winther, who has also served in the Marine Corps. "No offense to John Wayne, but [Cooper] is so tough that he makes John Wayne look like a punk."

You have to be tough to make it through the things that Cooper has been through. Not only did he survive the frigid temperatures and fighting in Korea, the heat and fighting in the jungles of Vietnam and the pain of cancer, he has rebounded from several accidents while running. He has been cut up and injured by soda cans thrown from moving vehicles and in 1992 while running he was hit by a car.

"I was running home and a car hit me going 50 miles an hour. I went through the window on the passenger side and then when he hit the brakes I was thrown 43 feet and broke my neck," said Cooper. "I was paralyzed for seven months and had to wear a halo to stabilize my neck."

Later, after much of his recovery was complete, his wife got him a cane. Then, as he said, "I could walk a mile in 40 minutes."

"If I can't run, I walk, if I can't walk, I crawl," he said only half-joking.

Talking with Cooper, as this reporter did one afternoon last

week, is like sitting at the feet of a master p and black-belt sensei all rolled into one — Gu if you will. He tells stories in the simple, direct of a Marine.

Yet it is the stories that he doesn't talk about that are more telling. According to family, Winther, Cooper and another engineer once, up under a bridge that the enemy had wired v sives and saved scores of Marine's lives in the that was marching toward the bridge by un explosives in time for their river crossing.

So Cooper is in the history books for his feeding ground as a Marine as well as his a pounding pavement as a marathon

But likely it was his training as that gave him so much intestinal on the road. No matter how hot got while running — and no m tough the run — he said, "It coul bad as the Chosin Reservoir. T vated me."

Sometimes, being tough isn't. "The cancer will always win. you can hope for is remission out in July that I have termin In the end, Mr. Cancer is going said Cooper.

All in all though, it's been run. "I enjoyed the competitio kicking butt," he said.

Editor's note: Right before pr Wednesday morning, Lee Coope battle with cancer. ■



Tough character:

At 74 years old, Lee Cooper, of Peletier, N.C., has completed an astonishing 113 officially-certified marathons. He has also competed in untold hundreds of shorter races. A Marine Corps veteran of Korea and Vietnam, he is a survivor of the brutal battle of Chosin Reservoir. Cooper holds multiple road-running records, including several age-based time records for the Marine Corps Marathon. Cooper has battled various forms of cancer for the last 10 years, including lung cancer that required the removal of

most of his left lung. Last summer, he learned that the cancer will eventually take his life.

Cooper was a Drill Instructor in San Diego and ended his Marine Corps career stationed at Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point in Havelock, N.C.

BIG WINNERS!

Football Prognosticators take home the bucks!

Stevenson Auto Group recently sponsored in partnership with **Landmark Military Newspapers** (civilian publisher of *The Globe* and *RotoVue*) a **Super Sunday Football Contest**. The contest was open to active-duty military personnel. The contest was promoted each week in the Thursday edition of *The Globe* newspaper and on both *The Globe* and *RotoVue* Web Sites. Stevenson Auto group provided \$1,750 dollars of prize money to three winning contestants. The contestants were required to answer accurately more than 15 questions related to the football contest. There was no purchase necessary to enter the contest. The Stevenson Auto Group was very happy to sponsor this contest and add some additional excitement to Super Sunday for active-duty military who do such an outstanding job in service to our country.



GRAND PRIZE WINNER

\$1,000

JASON GIRBACH

Pictured are Jason Girbach (middle) and his wife Michelle. Dennis Koballa, general manager of Stevenson Auto Group, presents Jason with a check for \$1,000 as grand prize winner. They are the proud parents of Joseph, 14, who is a big football fan and Sierra, 11, who loves horse riding. Jason arrived in the area last November from Twentynine Palms. He is a Lions fan and was neutral on who won the Super Bowl. He used the cash for savings and Valentine's money.

SECOND PLACE WINNER

\$500

IAN LAMPMAN

Pictured is Ian Lampman (right) second place winner. Dennis Koballa, general manager of Stevenson Auto Group, presents him with a check for \$500 as second place winner. Ian is a Giants fan and married to Jennifer. They are proud parents of Morgan, 7, Lucas, 2 and new arrival, Logan, who was born on Feb. 9. Ian was really happy to win the prize. Ian mentioned it was his wife who told him to play. He plans on using the money to help purchase a new vehicle for his recently expanded family. Ian recently sustained injuries during his service in Iraq.

THIRD PLACE WINNER

\$250

RICHARD LOVE

Pictured is Richard Love (middle) his wife Jessica and his son Richard II, 3. Dennis Koballa, general manager of Stevenson Auto Group, presents him with a check for \$250 as third place winner. Richard's brother is a Colts fan and is a bit happier than Richard who "unfortunately is a Bengals fan." Richard and Jessica have been in the area for three years. Richard plans on paying some bills with the cash.



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Hockey returns: The new hockey court awaits future play from the upcoming intramural hockey league. The court features newly designed interlocking joints that allow the surface to sustain the use of outside use. Renovation of the hockey facilities spearheaded by the Marine Corps Community Services athletic staff.

Lance Cpl. Charles E. Mckelvey

Hockey returns to Cherry Point

Story and photos by
Lance Cpl. Charles E. Mckelvey
Marine Corps Air Station
Cherry Point

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION CHERRY POINT, N.C. — Cherry Point hockey players are looking forward to the return of the intramural hockey league thanks to the renovation of the hockey facilities spearheaded by the Marine Corps Community Services athletic staff.

"The hockey league was suspended back when the court was shut down [in 2005] due to safety reasons," said Gil George, assistant athletic director, MCCS. "The court had old tiles that were originally designed for indoor use."

"We had Marines come in and tell us how games had to be canceled due to bad court conditions," George said. "From that point we realized that we needed to update the facilities."

After visiting a couple local hockey courts and making phone calls, the staff decided what route they would take in the refurbishing process.

"Chris Guertin from Sports Resource Group presented us with a new design that was tested to endure the outdoor conditions," George said. "The guys who came to do the work did a great job. From the time they started until the last piece was in place

took about 15 hours."

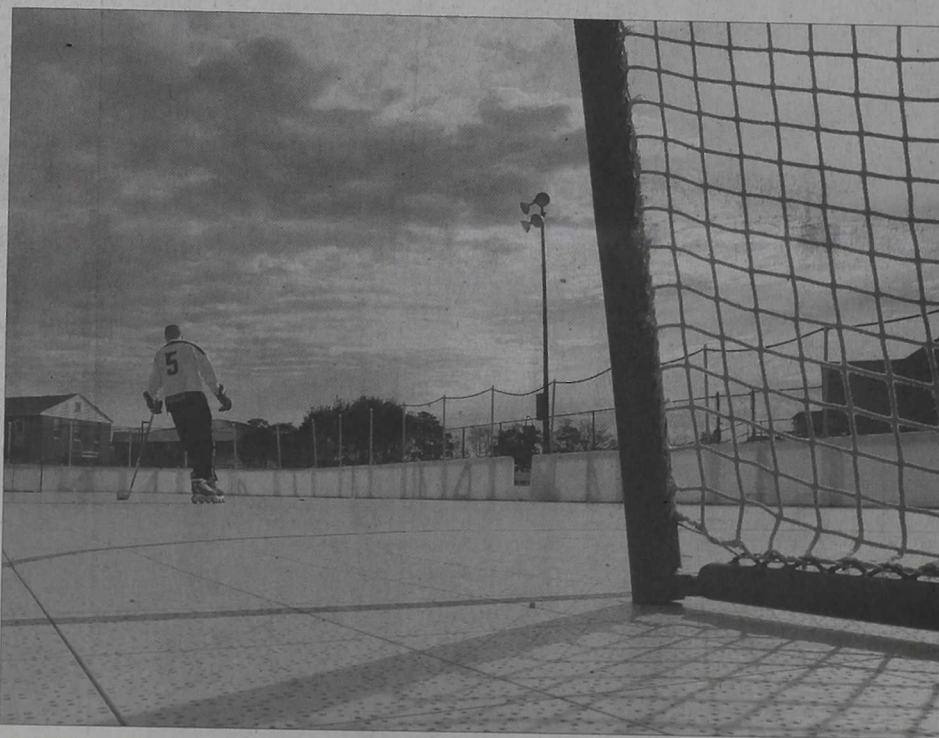
The entire project cost was \$54,000. This included the unexpected addition of new hockey goals, nets, dasher boards, lights and goalie pads to make the hockey league run smoother, said George.

"We spent less than we thought," George said. "We ended up having enough money to buy other things, and we're not finished with improvements either. We still plan on improving the fencing and possibly even adding a cover to the court."

Although it took almost a year of planning, in the end the project could not have run smoother, George said.

"With the support of the MCCS contracting officer Joe Andrews, Director Steve McNeeley and Deputy Director Paul Pisano along with the hard work by George this is as successful as it is now because of them," said Bryant Searcy, MCCS athletic director.

"The results far exceeded what was initially planned. We were able to provide new equipment as well for less than we planned on spending for the surface," Searcy said. "When MCCS said that nothing was too good for our Marines, they meant it. MCCS, along with George, did everything capable to get the best for our Marines. We now not only have a facility that is ready to be enjoyed and



played on, but one that the Marines are waiting for and have been anticipating. The expected turnout is already four to five teams larger than the last time we had a hockey league."

There is no fee for use of the court and making reservations would be preferable. The court is open for players of all ages.

For more information on using the refurbished hockey court or the intramural hockey leagues contact the athletic office at 466-2930.

For information on youth sports contact Dave Guthrie at 466-5493.

Hockey equipment is also available to check out through the front desk at the Marine Dome. ■

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MS: East Carolina University • DPT: Simmons College
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• Graduate work in neurology-caudate nucleus
• 20 years in Army Reserves-served in Desert Storm
• Author: Book: Lower Limb Amputations: A Guide to Rehabilitation
• Over 10 grants funded
• Over 60 professional presentations
• Over 39 years experience in Aquatic therapy
• Associate Professor of PT at ECU for 10 years
• Adjunct Faculty: Army PT program/Baylor U. TX
• NC State Arthritis Advisory Committee
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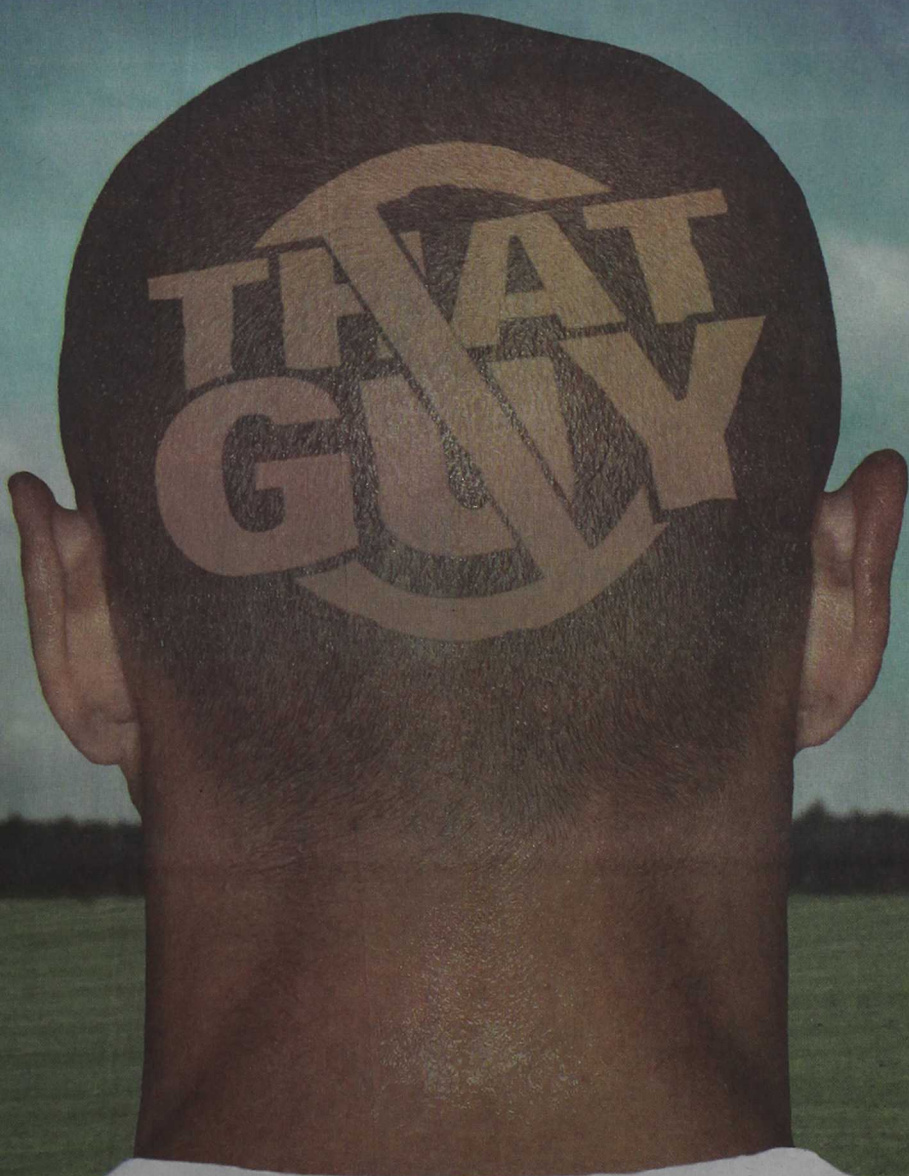
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jeune rls op one Dixon

Heather Owens
Staff reporter

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final score was a close
50 in favor of the Dixon
bulldogs.

Lejeune had four players
le figures. They were



Heather Owens

Jumper: No. 30 Dimetria "Me Me" Edwards sends a jumper to the basket Jan. 8 as two defensive players attempt to block the ball. The Lejeune Lady Devilpups took on the Dixon High School Lady Bulldogs. Edwards scored 14 points and made 10 rebounds during the game.

senior Candus Slade with 14 points, sophomore Dimetria "Me Me" Edwards also with 14 points, senior Quinika Benton with 10 points and freshman Aisle Quinlan also with 10 points. Edwards also picked off 10 rebounds while Quinlan pulled down six boards.

Wagner said that Slade's showing was one of her best for the year. "She was two-for-two for three pointers. She had a very good game," said Wagner.

Lejeune is 5-16 overall for

the season and 4-6 in conference play.

Lejeune High School honored its senior team members after the game. Slade plans to go to college to become a physical therapist. Benton plans to study business at East Carolina University.

"Both of them worked hard this year to lead the team. They had to work hard because we have such a young team. But they worked really hard and did a good job," said Wagner. ■

Devilpup boys top Dixon Bulldogs at home

Heather Owens
Staff reporter

With a steady drum-beat of shots, the Lejeune High School Devilpups defeated their rival Dixon High School Bulldogs at home Feb. 8.

The Devilpups won the tip out of the gate, and senior Jimmie Blair made the first shot of the game.

Despite the fact that, with four treys, Dixon had a real outside game, the Devilpups were able to drain enough field goals and free throws to stay ahead for the majority of the game.

Chris Reed, a junior, scored 18 points during the game. Junior Brandon Jones had 17 points and 14 rebounds. Another junior, Curtis Brooks, added 14 points and 14 rebounds.

Additionally, Coach Doug Erny praised one of his players for his defensive work against Dixon spitfire Jordan Davis. "I think someone who did a great job for us during the game was Daryl Davis who did a great job for us on defense guarding Jordan Davis," said Erny. "Both teams played really hard. Our defensive intensity was really hard. When we got down a little bit, our defense picked up which helped out our offense as well."

The Devilpups were up five points at 15-10 at the end of the first quarter. They were tied at 27 at the end of the half. At the end of the third quarter they were up three points with a score of 45-42. The final



Heather Owens

Face off: No. 15 Curtis Brooks drives to the hole while a Dixon High School Bulldog defends. Brooks had 14 points and 14 rebounds during the game Jan. 8 against Dixon. The Devilpups won the game 70-61.

score was 70-61.

Lejeune is overall 9-13 for the season and 5-5 in conference play.

Thursday was also "Senior Night" at Lejeune High School. Graduating team members were honored along with their par-

ents before the boy's game. Blair has signed with the University of Alabama at Birmingham to play football (see related story on 1B). Senior Arthur Harris plans to attend Johnson C. Smith University in Charlotte, N.C. ■



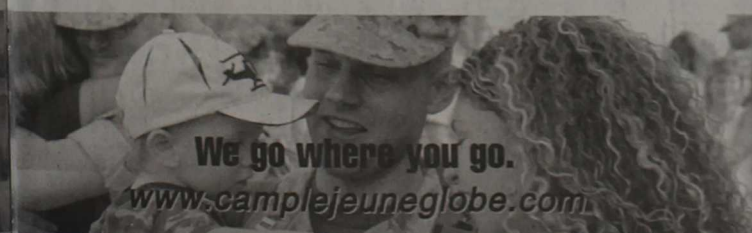
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Intramural Basketball Today

The Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune Intramural basketball schedule for today is as follows: 6 p.m., Headquarters and Support Battalion takes on Group Consolidated Administrative Center 2, 2nd Marine Logistics Group; 7 p.m., 2nd Maintenance Battalion takes on 2nd Tank Battalion; 8 p.m., II Marine Expeditionary Force Headquarters and Service Company takes on Naval Hospital Camp Lejeune. All play takes place at the Goettge Memorial Field House.

Intramural Basketball Tuesday

The Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune Intramural basketball schedule for Tuesday is as follows: 6 p.m., 2nd Assault Amphibian Battalion takes on Medical Logistics Battalion; 7 p.m., 4th Maintenance Battalion takes on Group Consolidated Administrative Center 2, Marine Logistics Group; 8 p.m., 2nd Assault Amphibian Battalion takes on Headquarters and Support Battalion.

Intramural Basketball Wednesday

The Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune Intramural basketball schedule for

Wednesday is as follows: 6 p.m., Group Consolidated Administrative Center 2, Marine Logistics Group takes on 2nd Maintenance Battalion; 7 p.m., Medical Logistics Battalion takes on 4th Maintenance Battalion; 8 p.m., 2nd Tank Battalion takes on II Marine Expeditionary Force Headquarters and Service Company.

Intramural Basketball Thursday

The Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune Intramural basketball schedule for Thursday is as follows: 6 p.m., Naval Hospital Camp Lejeune takes on the 2nd Maintenance Battalion; 7 p.m., 4th Maintenance Battalion takes on Headquarters and Support Battalion; 8 p.m., Group Consolidated Administrative Center 2, 2nd Marine Logistics Group takes on Medical Logistics.

Toughman Competition Saturday

The Beast of the East Toughman Competition with special guest "Bone Crusher" Smith will be held at the American Legion behind Navy Federal Credit Union on Highway 17. Doors open at 6 p.m. and the show starts at 7 p.m. Tickets cost

\$12 and are available at Information Tickets and Travel office at the Marine Corps Exchange. Winners will receive up to \$2,000 in cash.

Dodgeball Tournament Feb. 28

The Single Marine Program Dodgeball Tournament will take place Feb. 28 at the French Creek Fitness Center Gym. Players must arrive at 4:30 p.m. and play will run until the last team is standing. Players must be 18 or older to participate. Teams must consist of 7-10 players. The first four teams to register will receive free t-shirts. Trophies will be awarded to first and second place winners. For more information, call 451-1058.

Dietitian on Deck Feb. 28

Certified sports dietitian and strength coach Chris Halagarda will be on hand Feb. 28 from 11 to 11:30 a.m. at the Courthouse Bay Fitness Center. For more information, call 451-0824.

Polar Bear Plunge March 3

The Onslow County Special Olympics will sponsor a Polar Bear Plunge March 3 at Topsail Beach to raise money for the Onslow County Special Olympics. The cost to participate is \$50 per person or \$200 for each team of five. For more information on the event or to volunteer, contact Onslow County Special Olympics coordinator Dot Hochstrasser at 388-1462.

Rifle and pistol competition March 2

The first team meeting for Eastern Division Rifle and Pistol Competition will be March 2 at The Eastern Division Rifle and Pistol Competition will take place at Bay March 14-April 6 in RR Stone Bay. Points of contact are 3 Dutton at 450-2712 and 1 Pendley at 450-2705.

St. Patricks Festival Road Race March 17

An 8K road race sponsored by Emerald Isle Parks and Recreation Department will begin at 8 a.m. March 17 at Eastern Ocean Regional Access at Emerald Drive. The course follows a loop out-and-back route from the 1 briefly down Hwy. 58, and then along Ocean Drive. Pre-registration information for the race are available online at www.emeraldisle-nc.org, contacting Dena Julius at 252-364-6100, djulius@emeraldisle-nc.org. Registration and packet pick-up for the race begins at 6:45 a.m. at the access and will sharply at 7:30 a.m., with no further entries being accepted after that. Fees for the race are \$15 before March 1 and \$20 thereafter. The first 100 entries will receive a free t-shirt and award be presented to participants in several different age categories.

Hook Line & SINKER



Hook Line & Sinker

with

Jamie
Cameron

The weather and water temperatures have not moved much in the past week, but for some reason, something in those tiny fish brains triggered the local red drum that it was time to eat. Just because it's the middle of February and as cold as it's been all year doesn't mean a thing when you hear the dinner bell ring! I can relate to that.

Richard Ehrenkauser, a.k.a. Dr. Bogus, reported a strong redfish run along the shoals from Bogue Inlet to Brown's Inlet, all the way to Onslow Beach, often within 200 yards of the beach. For those who were quick to take advantage of the hot action, the rewards were great. The fish were running up to 15 pounds apiece and some boats were boasting of 50 releases a day. That kind of fishing will definitely warm you up.

Top baits for these winter reds included white Gulp! grubs, either retrieved very slowly or simply allowed

to sit motionless on the sandy bottom. Most of the fish measured over the allowed "slot" length and so required a quick and efficient release to ensure their survival. For that reason, many anglers elected to rig their soft plastics on circle hooks.

There are also a few red drum and speckled trout prowling the backwaters and creeks between Swansboro and Morehead City.

If you're after striped bass, you'll need to head to the Neuse River and points further north. The anticipated striped season along the Cape Lookout Shoals never materialized this season.

Fishermen should be aware of new flounder regulations that took effect as of Feb. 8. Now, no person may possess flounder less than 14-1/2 inches in total length taken from the ocean for recreational consumption. The minimum size for flounder caught inside (sounds, rivers and creeks) remains 14 inches and the daily bag limit for all flounder is still eight per person.

If you haven't taken advantage of the fishing classes at the Aquarium at Pine Knoll Shores, be sure to check out the schedule of lectures by going online at www.ncaquariums.com.

You know what they say in fishing camps — keep pluggin' away.

Have fun and stay warm.

Cameron is an enthusiastic, but seldom-successful angler who finds it easier to write about other people's great fish than to actually catch them himself. ■

Tide tables for New River Inlet

National Oceanographic and
Atmospheric Administration

Today		
High tide	5:32 a.m.	5:46 p.m.
Low tide	12:03 a.m.	11:46 p.m.
Friday		
High tide	6:19 a.m.	6:35 p.m.
Low tide		12:45 p.m.
Saturday		
High tide	7:05 a.m.	7:23 p.m.
Low tide	12:38 a.m.	1:26 p.m.
Sunday		
High tide	7:50 a.m.	8:11 p.m.
Low tide	1:29 a.m.	2:07 p.m.
Monday		
High tide	8:35 a.m.	9:00 p.m.
Low tide	2:21 a.m.	2:49 p.m.
Tuesday		
High tide	9:21 a.m.	9:50 p.m.
Low tide	3:13 a.m.	3:32 p.m.
Wednesday		
High tide	10:09 a.m.	10:43 p.m.
Low tide	4:08 a.m.	4:17 p.m.

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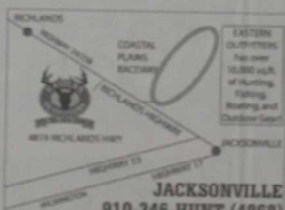
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On attack: Chris Brown, a center with the Marine Attack Squadron 542 Raging Tigers, makes his way through the Spades defense to get into position for a lay-up. The Tigers made a second half come back and forced the Spades into overtime.

Raging Tigers claw their way past Spades

Story and photos by
Lance Cpl. Charles E. Mckelvey
Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION CHERRY POINT, N.C. — The Marine Attack Squadron 542 Raging Tigers defeated the VMA-231 Spades 56-55 in an overtime victory, Jan. 22, at the Marine Dome.

Despite losing half of their team to unit deployments, the VMA-231 Spades still managed to command most of the game until the Raging Tigers forced overtime play. The score was tied at 51 by the end of regulation play.

Key players for the Spades were the starting five; Charnele Jackson, center; Baskerville, forward; Billy Harper, guard; Steven Blassingame, forward; and Casey Hinman, guard.

"When we play 542, it's a huge rivalry between the two of us," said Gary Baskerville, the forward and assistant coach with the Spades. "It's sort of our Ohio State and Michigan rivalry game. It always ends up being a close one."

The Spades are a first-year team and currently have a 1-4 record.

"We could have played much better on offense," said Chris Brown, the small forward and captain of the Raging Tigers. "We ended

up getting most of our points from our defense. We can run our trap [defense] very well."

The starting five for the Raging Tigers are Brown, center; Christopher Robinson, shooting guard; Adam Clark, point guard; Cedrick Williams, center; and Christopher Elawar, power forward.

"Robinson and Clark were crucial in the victory," said Brown. "They made up the majority of the points we scored and played the most."

Another important player was Corey Smith, center, who came into the game late, Brown said.

"Smith came in late, but once he was in the game, he was the big guy on the court and helped us keep the Spades from scoring more than they did in the second half," said Brown.

"It was great to see our team win. This week will be the last week most of the guys will get to play with each other as we have the majority of our team deploying," Brown said.

To catch an intramural basketball game in action, head to the Marine Dome Monday, Wednesday or Thursday nights, between 6 and 9 p.m. For more information on the intramural basketball league or any other sports, call the athletic office at 466-2390. ■

Pro Bowl weekend offers one last look at NFL

Greg Beacham
AP sports writer

HONOLULU — Drew Brees lived every player's Pro Bowl nightmare Saturday, dislocating his left elbow on his first play as the NFC's starting quarterback. The injury to the Pro Bowl quarterback's injury seems unlikely to end the season, but the threat of injury exists in any game — even a low-key, halfhearted affair such as this all-star game.

"You never want to see anybody get hurt in a game like this. It's just an exhibition," said Kansas City tight end Tony Gonzalez, a veteran of eight Pro Bowls. "I hope it's not something big."

The ever-present threat, serious injuries are common in the Pro Bowl — and even moderate injuries usually take at least three months to heal before most clubs can camp.

The most infamous Pro Bowl injury didn't even occur in the game. New England running back Robert Groves' career was ruined when he seriously injured his knee during a rookie flag-football game on the beach after the 1998 rookie season. Though Edwards made a comeback four years later, he ended up with a career-ending injury.

Effective players typically don't deliver their hardest hits in the Pro Bowl. Brees — who throws right-handed — didn't get hit particularly hard while throwing a fourth-down completion on the NFC's second offensive series.

Washington safety Sean Taylor ignored those rules of decorum in the third quarter when he hit Buffalo's Brian Moorman hard enough to knock the punter's legs at least two feet off the ground. But Moorman, who had been attempting a fake run, popped up and ran onto the field to say hello to Taylor.

"Believe it or not, it wasn't as bad as it looked," Moorman said.

Peyton's Place

Peyton Manning led the Indianapolis Colts to a championship last week, and he already holds most of the Pro Bowl's career passing records from his first six trips to Honolulu.

He had earned the right to play two series and then watch the rest of Saturday's game from the sidelines.

Manning went 5-of-12 for 67 yards before watching MVP Carson Palmer and rookie Vince Young finish up the AFC's 31-28 victory. Manning was thrilled to take a backseat before heading back to real life, including an upcoming series of talk-show appearances.

"It is good to get back to a little bit of normalcy," Manning said. "It was an exciting past two weeks and it was fun to share it with some guys over here, but also with [fellow Pro Bowlers] Marvin and Reggie [Wayne] and Tarik [Glenn] and Jeff [Saturday]. That really makes it special."

Wayne caught six passes for 137 yards in his first Pro Bowl, including a 72-yard TD throw from Palmer — but he had a sly dig for the Bengals star.

"He is always one of the top guys in the league," Wayne said. "It was great to catch a pass from someone other than Peyton Manning. I guess that you can say that he is the second-best QB in the league."

Meeting Belichick

For several AFC stars, the most interesting part of Pro Bowl week was the opportunity to investigate Bill Belichick.

Sure, the New England coach is widely respected after leading his club to three Super Bowl victories. But his competitive nature and sometimes ruthless personnel decisions left some players wondering what he would be like in such a relaxed setting.

"I never really met Belichick before, and you always hear about how he's a mean guy," Baltimore linebacker Adalius Thomas said. "But it's real interesting to see how he reacts with different players, how he gets comfortable over here. He's actually a really nice guy. I was surprised."

Belichick got the job running the AFC squad after the Patriots lost to the Colts in the conference championship game. He kept his practices comfortable and quick in Hawaii, clearly enjoying himself — though he repeatedly said he would rather have been coaching last week in the Super Bowl.

"For Bill, this is his peace on the football field," league MVP LaDainian Tomlinson said. "He's definitely happier out here. This is where he loves to be. Out here, I get to talk to him and understand the man." ■

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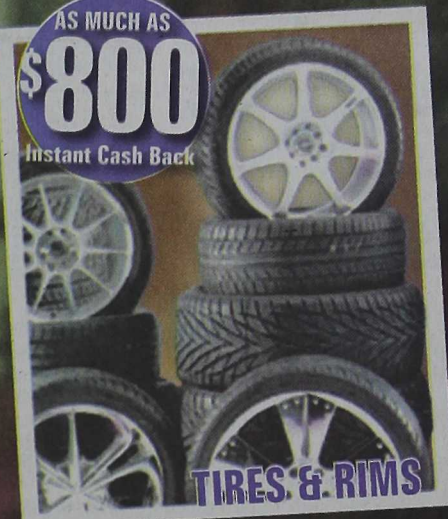
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Controlled burns promote base wildlife, training

Story and photos by
Cpl. Brandon R.
Holgersen
Marine Corps Base

Every year infernos are lit in the training areas and impact zones here, but unlike a raging forest fire that is ignited by a single cigarette butt, carelessly tossed from a speeding car window, these fires are meticulously orchestrated and planned.

These are the prescribed fires, which are used to clear away invasive plants and dead wood, create safe training areas and an ideal environment for many of coastal North Carolina's native plants and endangered species, said Danny Becker, the Forest Protection Section program manager overseeing the Environment Conservation Branch of the Environmental Management Division, Installations and Environment, Marine Corps Base.

The prescribed burning, conducted from December through July, are beneficial for a variety of reasons, said Becker.

From a military aspect, it maintains the line of sight at the training ranges and allows for increased maneuverability, said Becker. It creates a safer training environment because a person

can easily keep in contact with his unit. It also reduces the amount of fuel for fires that can be sparked by artillery and other pyrotechnics.

"The burning helps to maintain that open under story that is historic in the Southeast," said Becker.

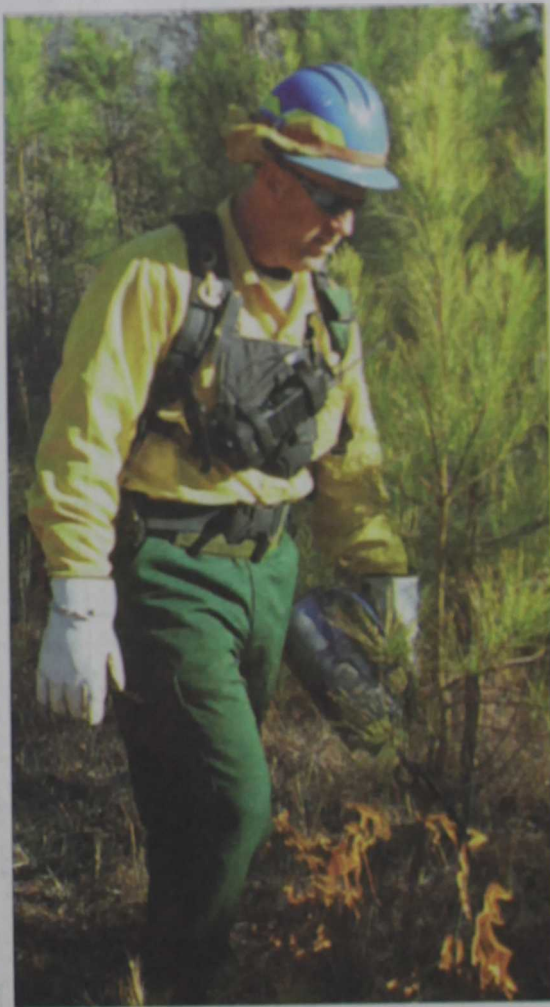
The Southeast has traditionally had a very open forest floor because of natural fires, said Becker.

The burning also helps native species of plants and animals, which occupy the area to flourish, said Becker.

"We have a lot of [native] plant and animal species that have evolved in natural fires and Native American [set] burning," said Craig Ten Brink, the Threatened and Endangered Species program manager.

The endangered red-cocked woodpecker is only one of those species that benefit from the fires. The woodpecker, which occupies Camp Lejeune, likes these open pine forests with very few hard woods, said Ten Brink. The fires also help to protect the rough-leaved loosestrife that grows in the ecotone, the area bordering a wetland and dry land. The fires work to maintain the ecotone and keep the loosestrife safe from invasive species. This also

See BURNS page 2C



Slow burn: In these photos, Brian Geller, a forest equipment operator with the Forest Protection Section, Environment Conservation Branch, leaves a trail of flames as he sets fire to clear invasive plants from inside a training area marked for prescribed burning Jan. 27. Prescribed fires are used to clear away invasive plants and dead wood, create safe training areas and an ideal ecological environment for North Carolina's native plants and endangered species.

Aid coming to base Lemon Lot program

Lance Cpl. Patrick M. Fleischman
Marine Corps Base

In a small corner of the commissary parking lot, service members and their dependents have been selling pretty much anything that has rubber on steel using the Marine Corps Community Services' Lemon Lot Program. But users of the lot will be experiencing some big changes.

In order to provide a more professional, secure and organized selling space, MCCS will be consolidating the area into one lot with 114 individually numbered and painted parking spots, which will be assigned exclusively to the seller of the vehicle, said Wynn Hildreth, Deputy Director of MCCS.

"The current lot is so disorganized," said Hildreth. "We have cars parked all over that side of the lot and it's hard to tell if it is on sale or just left there while a person is away."

These changes will not come without a cost explains Hildreth. With the new plan sellers will have to pay \$20 per space and there will be a maximum period of three months to sell their vehicle such as a car, truck or motorcycle. Larger vehicles such as a recreational vehicle, that needs two spaces, will cost \$40.

The fee is to offset the costs associated with painting, maintenance and the personnel needed to keep the program organized, said Hildreth.

In order repaint the lot and provide assigned spaces, MCCS will be contacting all owners who currently have a



Cpl. Brandon R. Holgersen

Browsing: Petty Officer 1st Class Tony Benson, a corpsman with the Emergency Department, Naval Hospital Camp Lejeune, looks inside a Jeep parked at the Marine Corps Community Services' Lemon Lot.

vehicle located in the lot and asking them to move their vehicle no later than Feb. 28.

Vehicle owners are asked to move their vehicle behind the yellow line into sections P, Q, R, or S of the parking lot.

To obtain a new Resale Lot Authorization Form visit Videos 'N' More store in the Marine Corps Exchange Mall

Huffing inhalants is dangerous

Pfc. Brian D. Jones
Marine Corps Base

While drug screening within the Marine Corps works as an effective deterrent to keep Marines from damaging their minds, bodies and lives with drugs, not all substances abused are detectable.

Inhalants are the fourth most abused substances in the United States; alcohol, cigarettes, and marijuana are the top three, according to the National Drug Abuse Intelligence Center Web site.

Huffing is inhaling chemical fumes from common household products to industrial strength chemicals found in the workplace for a quick, short-term effect that is similar to alcohol intoxication.

"It is possible that individuals, who have used drugs prior to coming into the military, are looking for a way to get high, that does not fall under illegal status, could choose to use inhalants," said Caroline S. Graham, alcohol abuse prevention specialist of the Semper Parit Health Promotion program. "However, many may not be aware that the Marine Corps Order P1706.24B addresses

Saturday Night Day Care offers a night off for mom

Lance Cpl. Patrick M. Fleischman
Marine Corps Base

You have been working hard all week, or maybe you have been at home with your children taking care of them and now the weekend is upon you. You would like a little time to yourself or maybe go on a date with your spouse, but there is no one to watch the children, so you stay home. You don't have to do this weekend after weekend — there is a program that can help.

Marine Corps Community Services offers Saturday Night Day Care for active-duty service members, their families and civilians employed aboard the base to get that time you need.

"We come almost every Saturday night," said Heather Bush, full-time mother. "It gives us some alone time to catch a movie or dinner together and we don't have to worry about the people watching our children."

There are two centers for care, said Maria Talley, administrator of Children's Youth and Teen Programs here. Tarawa Terrace Child Development Center provides



Lance Cpl. Patrick M. Fleischman

Personal time: Ready for her night off Heather Bush, full-time mother, drops off her two children Riley, 3, and Devin, 1.

See CARE page 2C

See HUFFING page 2C

HUFFING

CONTINUED FROM IC

huffing as wrongful use of a chemical as an inhalant."

Abusers inhale chemical vapors directly from containers, bags, balloons, soaked rags or particles placed on their clothing such as a sleeve or collar, spraying aerosols, or by the use of other devices.

Peer pressure, spur of the moment decisions, boredom and wanting something that feels good are reasons that may cause Marines to get involved in such an activity, said Staff Sgt. Michael R. Abballe, substance abuse control officer, Headquarters and Support Battalion, Marine Corps Base.

"Huffing inhalants is mostly recreational and experimental," said Graham. "There is no evidence of it being a physical habit but it can be a psychological one."

Minor side effects users may experience are drowsiness, dizziness, nausea or vomiting and hallucinations, but the real threat comes from the possibilities of serious and sometimes irreversible damage to the user's heart, brain or other organs, according to the NDIC.

Brain damage may result in personality changes, diminished cognitive functioning, memory impairment, slurred speech and even worse, death,

according to the NDIC.

Sudden sniffing death may result within minutes of inhalant abuse from irregular heart rhythm leading to heart failure, according to the NDIC. Other causes of death include asphyxiation, aspiration, suffocation or overall impairment that leads to vehicle accidents or sudden falls.

Long-term inhalant abusers suffer weight loss, muscle weakness, disorientation, inattentiveness, lack of coordination, irritability and depression, according to the NDIC.

Research suggests that chronic or long-term inhalant abusers are among the most difficult drug abuse patients to treat. Many suffer from cognitive impairment and other neurological dysfunction and may experience multiple psychological and social problems, according to the National Institute on Drug Abuse Web site.

Punishments for Marines caught misusing chemical inhalants are confinement, discharge, loss of educational and veteran benefits and court martial with a felony conviction, according to the Naval Criminal Investigative Service.

"We need to educate to prevent it and Marines should speak up about it to stop it before something bad happens," said Abballe.

The act of abusing inhalants is punishable by the



Misused and abused: Many common household products can become addictive and destroy the lives of the abusers and those around them.

Uniformed Code of Military Justice under article 134.

The cost of treatment for active military and dependents is free of charge at the

Substance Abuse Rehabilitation Program. Those seeking help with substance abuse can call 451-0256. ■

CARE

CONTINUED FROM IC

Care for ages six-weeks old to kindergarten and Tarawa Terrace Youth Pavilion cares for children ages kindergarten to 12 years. Both are Department of Defense Licensed facilities and are accredited by the National Association for Education of Young Children. All the staff is also trained in Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation, first aid and are given child development training.

"A lot of parents don't have a baby sitter or they don't feel comfortable with the idea, so this can be a good option for them," said Talley.

The night care is not just for the parents to get away, the children have a lot of fun by spending time with the other children, doing art activities and, weather permitting, children can play outside, said Talley.

Regular care is \$3 per hour per child, but with a purchase coupon from MCCS the night is free, explains Talley. To redeem a coupon, make a purchase at the Marine Corps Exchange for more than \$50, go to the information desk, show the receipt and get the coupon.

To have your Saturday night out, call 450-1646 for TT Child Development Center or 450-1422 for TT Youth Pavilion. Parents are strongly encouraged to call early in the week due to space availability, concluded Talley. ■

BURNS

CONTINUED FROM IC

helps the Venus fly trap, which is a state rare plant.

Some species of plants are dependent on the fires, said Ten Brink.

"Wire grass will only produce when their seeds are burned into the ground," said Ten Brink.

This wire grass also provides a natural habitat for ground based birds such as quail, said Ten Brink.

Small plants are not the only ones that benefit from the burns, said Becker. The long leaf pine also benefit burning because it keeps invasive hardwoods from invading pine forests.

"This keeps a long-leaf pine forest a long-leaf pine forest," said Becker.

Clearing the brush is not only a way to keep the environment and training safe but it is also a way to keep the community safe, said Becker. Without the fires, the base would stand the chance of a catastrophic damage of natural resources, property damage and burned scenery.

"If you let that fuel get out of control you run the risk of losing a forest that takes decades to grow," said Becker.

Before one fire is lit, the Forest Protection Section goes through extensive planning to check on weather conditions, the amount of fuel in the area and to prioritize, which areas need to be burned at different times of the

Base Tax Center ready to help

Press release
Base Tax Center

The Base Tax Center opened Jan. 16 to prepare 2006 tax returns. Operating hours are as follows: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. Wednesday unit/individual appointment day 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. For unit appointments call Gunnery Sgt. Joseph 451-5287, for individual appointments, call 451-0771. Saturday 8 a.m. - noon.

When you go to the tax center, you will be asked to fill out a client intake sheet, which will help tax center personnel prepare your return. It also provides a checklist of required information and documents.

Required Items:

- W-2 (wages from employment during the year)
- Disability income
- Interest from checking or savings account, bonds, CDs, or brokerage accounts
- State tax refund (if itemized last year)
- Alimony income
- Pension and/or IRA distribution (1099)
- Unemployment
- Social Security or retirement
- Self employment
- Other income such as prizes and jury duty
- Education expenses
- Home mortgage payments (1098)
- Charitable contributions
- Child/dependent care (Child care provider SSN)
- Estimated tax payments
- Amounts of other income
- Bank account information to electronically return (voided check deposit slip)
- Social Security or spouse married year 2006
- Power of Attorney a joint return if spouse not present
- Social Security or ITIN for all dependents on tax return
- Dividend information if claiming income
- Old Tax Record (2005) For State Tax Return and School District

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- Unemployment
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- Self employment
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year, said Becker. Wind is an important factor to when they plan to burn. The section tries to keep smoke blowing in toward the base so that it does not over Jacksonville. It also determines where the starts the fires.

The section uses three kinds of fires, said Becker. Back fire, head fire and flanking fire are used. The back fire is a set so that it backs into the wind and is slow, a head fire is set before the wind and is fast, a flanking fire is set perpendicular to the wind and with great intensity. These fires are used in different combinations with each other to create burn lanes and the area burned.

To light these fires members of the Restoration Section use drip torches, which contain a mixture of diesel fuel, said Becker. This and other tools help to maintain the target 25,000 acres burned each year.

The section uses dirt roads, bulldozers with fire to make containment areas for the fire, said Becker. The team is also equipped with forest fire fighting tools the fire jumps to another area.

The first controlled burning order was established in 1946 and the base has been setting controlled fires since, said Becker. This has helped to maintain the effectiveness and a healthy environment for the species and plants here.

"It is one of the best tools that we have," said Becker.

Courts Martial

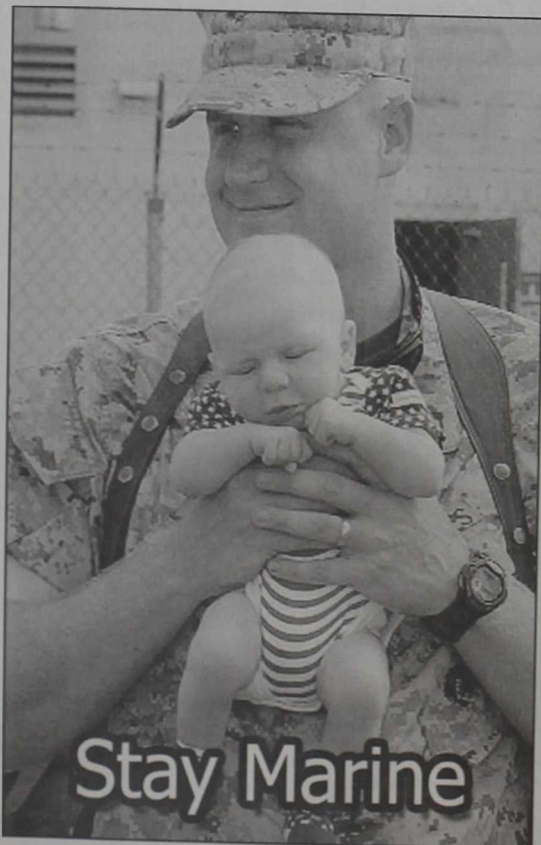
Sgt. Jude V. Loiseau, a member of 2nd Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, 2nd Marine Division, was convicted of one count of a violation of a general order, one count of wrongful possession of marijuana with intent to distribute, one count of wrongful possession of ecstasy with intent to distribute and a wrongful possession of Methylenedioxymphetamine with intent to distribute. He was sentenced to confinement for a period of two years,

total forfeitures, reduction to the pay grade of E-1 and a bad-conduct discharge.

Sgt. Jeremy L.S. Short, a member of 2nd Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, 2nd Marine Division, was convicted of one count of wrongful use of cocaine. He was sentenced to confinement for a period of 30 days, a reduction to the pay grade of E-3 and a letter of reprimand.

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Stay Marine



Off-limits establishments

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

Doll House	Highway 258 West, Jacksonville
Easy Money Catalog Sales	233-F Western Blvd., Jacksonville
Fantasies	4951 Richlands Highway, Jacksonville
Illusions	Richlands Highway, Jacksonville
Jacksonville Speedway Auto Parts	401 Blue Creek Elementary School Road
Playhouse	6568 Richlands Highway, Jacksonville
Pleasure Palace	Highway 17, Jacksonville
Private Pleasures	5527 Highway 258, Jacksonville
Reflection Photo	353 Western Blvd., Jacksonville
Smitty's R&R	Highway 17, Jacksonville
Talk of the Town II	114 Texie Lane, Jacksonville
Tender Touch	Highway 258, Jacksonville
Veterans Affairs Services	La Miranda, Calif.
Club Classics	New Bern
Club Liquid	240 US 70 West, Havelock
Bell Auto Salvage II	136 Abbots Branch Rd., Hubert
Botta Booms	3054 Wilmington Highway, Jacksonville
Cash-N-Advance	2235 Lejeune Blvd., Jacksonville
Laird's Auto and Truck Repair	1197 Piney Green Rd., Jacksonville
Par Tech	487-A Western Blvd., Jacksonville
Southern Comfort	2004 Highway 172, Sneads Ferry

Hotline numbers to report fraud, waste, abuse and corruption

Department of Defense	800-424-9098
Inspector General, Marine Corps	703-614-1348/1349/1698
Camp Lejeune (Recorded line)	451-3928
Hearing impaired	451-2999
To report business fraud	451-3928

No cell phones in POVs unless the operator has a hands free device on the phone.

MEF SOTG hones snipers' skills

pl. Christopher Lytle
Expeditionary Force

graduates of the per Basic Course, a Special Weapons ops officials from S.C., are improving at capabilities in a k Urban Sniper Course at Stone Bay Special Operations Group, II Marine Expeditionary Force. The overall focus of the course is to get shooters to understand the capabilities of weapons systems," Travis Toney, sniper course leader, SOTG, II MEF, train students to instant incapacitate an enemy in a situation.

Course helps snipers control and accuracy and handling weapons systems, the M-40 A3 rifle, in an urban environment. The described key the course to and law enforcement snipers alike, to their skills previously learned from scout school. The first one, the course with shooters a zero with their his [calibration] their point of aim with their point of aim on a target," Toney said. The second day, the weapon used to the correct target. Cpl. Eric Rue, sniper course leader, described the important shot of the training day, called a cold bore shot.

A rifle may contain in the barrel, and

the first shot will always differ from the rest after the barrel has built up carbon and copper residue," Rue said. "Every training day, snipers will collect data from a cold-bore shot. We put the biggest emphasis on it because a sniper's first shot is his most important."

During their training and for combat purposes, the importance of the cold-bore shot involves an accurate hit in a silhouette target's T-box, which is a sketch of a combatant's face, with an outlined T-shaped section. Toney said a round striking an enemy's lower brainstem through the T-box will cease all functions of the body, including voluntary and involuntary motor skills, eliminating the threat.

After a cold-bore shot, color dot drills are performed, which consist of multiple targets that shooters engage on their own silhouette.

"Color dot drills get the shooters' mind sets on looking for color targets, emphasizing a common trend for shooting multiple threats. Each drill is conducted with five rounds fired in 12 seconds. While firing, shooters exercise rapid bolt manipulation, which resets the rifle for follow-on shots."

In week two, color dot drills are combined with command drills, enabling shooters to fire on an instructor's commands.

"A team coordinates on assigned numbers," Rue said. "Each number corresponds to an action performed by members of a crisis team to create a deliberate assault on a key target."

Commands given dur-



Lance Cpl. Christopher Lytle

On target: Marine snipers hit their mark. In two-man teams, Marines check for accuracy as the first round, known as a cold bore shot, hits its mark from 100 yards during an Urban Sniper Course with Special Operations Training Group, II Marine Expeditionary Force, Feb. 5.

ing the drill require close attention from shooters. For realism, they lay in a prone position wearing a full combat load. As they prepare to fire from 100, then 200 yards, preparatory commands are recited. Shooters will hear a repeated, "I have control, standby," followed by either a countdown from five, a short count from three, a command to compromise and fire, or to abort fire.

Toney said the command drills are performed in a series of actions and when performed correctly, help achieve a shock and surprise on an enemy.

In week three, shooters continue their rigorous training schedule with events such as explosive window breaching, aerial platform shooting and .50-caliber weapons. They also conquer the stress course, which tests their ability in firing, moving

and maintaining communication among team members.

The Urban Sniper Course takes qualified snipers and allows them to further their accuracy training, understand evolutions of warfare and execute in a crisis situation. Will Rivera, a former scout observer with 1st Battalion, 10th Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division, will take this training back to Rock Hill where he serves as a

patrol officer and SWAT team member.

"I've completed two other civilian sniper schools, and this is far and beyond what SWAT members learn anywhere else," Rivera said. "The instructors are extremely knowledgeable and thorough. The training here for long-range shooting is impeccable. Also, training at Camp Lejeune really brings back memories."

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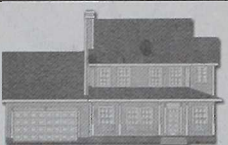
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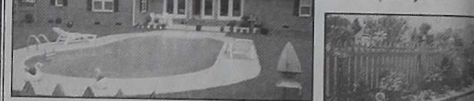
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Pine headboard & foot board. Includes mattress & box in great condition. \$700.	ASSORTED-Bowflex, \$750/obo. Treadmill, top of the line, \$500. Will take \$1000 for both. 581-1211.	GUITAR-From Pottery Barn. Blue dog quilt, bumper, & crib skirt. Like new, asking \$50. 219-1705.	DOG KENNEL-Large, black, folds flat. \$40. 812-961-8867.	ROOMMATE-3BR/1BA home in Jacksonville. \$500 includes bedroom with cable, internet, water, trash & electric. 443-4250.	1990 CHEVY CAMARO-T-tops, new exhaust, runs good, \$1500/obo. Will consider trade. 404-1043.
DOM FURNITURE-Couch that sofa bed, loveseat, cocktail end tables and a recliner. Blue. 781-2.	ASSORTED-Compag computer, \$75. Never used monitor, \$70. Used STD monitor, \$30. Floor flower lamp, \$20. 561-901-1797.	GUITAR EQUIPMENT-Guitar, amp and multi effects pedal. Great condition. Sell all or separately. 346-1087.	FERRETS-3 w/cage & accessories for \$300. 548-9507.	ROOMMATE-3BR/2BA house in quiet neighborhood, 5 min from main gate. \$450/mo, utilities included, prefer mature SNCO or Officer. 389-4766.	1991 FORD BRONCO-4x4, runs good, looks good. Tons of extras, a true toy 120,000 miles. \$6000/obo. 526-1392.
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DOM SET-Couch, love seat, blue, tan, burgundy plaid, pilby Kroehler, treated with stain \$0/obo. 330-1832.	ASSORTED-Full size, almost new. Used occasionally in our second home. Oak entertainment center, TV, CD player, VCR, bookcase, microwave. Call 910-261-2906.	HEART LISTENER-Bebe Sounds prenatal heart listener. New in box. \$12. 548-4355.	GERMAN SHEPHERD PUPPIES-AKC, Germany's finest bloodlines. Parents Schutzhund Titled. 326-6394.	CAR CARRIER-Thule \$200. 389-9390.	1992 CADILLAC SEDAN-Deville \$2500/obo. 325-1725.
New white wicker mirror, oval 20. Medium brown wicker mirror, \$20. 252-422-1598.	ASSORTED-Girls clothes 3m-24m, \$5/set. Fisher Price toys, \$10/each. Female uniforms, \$25+/garment. Female designer clothes, \$25+/garment. 376-1844.	MAGIC CARDS-Magic The Gathering trading cards from early on to Ice Age. Includes several foils. Approx 200 cards. Looking for best offer. 787-2934.	HUSKY MIXES-Looking for loving families. Will be ready to go Feb 26th. 4 females, 2 males. \$50. 660-553-1777.	ENCLOSED CARGO TRAILERS-5ft x 8ft. & up. Store & haul motorcycles, mowers, ATVs, tools, & personal effects. F&R Sales. 910-325-0002.	1992 FORD F150 XLT-Sell or trade, short bed, fair side, 5.0, AT, PS, PB, PM Mags, diamond plate tool box. 743-8931.
CHAIR-Wood base & arms, moisterly on seat & seat back, que style, good condition, has holstered & spring supports re-\$100. 326-7475.	ASSORTED-Johnson 150 amp, \$450. Johnson J12 foot control system, \$75. Sure SM58 mic, \$60. Guitar wireless system, \$45. All for \$600 firm. 455-5271.	ROUTER-Rockwell overarm router/shaper with platform bench. Heavy duty 1/2 inch shaft. \$150. AWH 327-0852.	KENNEL-Large 6 foot tall chain link dog kennel. Excellent condition. \$175/obo. 581-1782.	HOIST-CM 1 1/2 ton with come along. \$75. 743-0098.	1992 HONDA ACCORD EX-146k miles. Runs great & interior in great shape \$3000. 353-0119.
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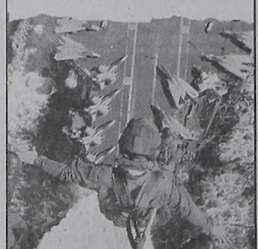
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Auto Miscellaneous

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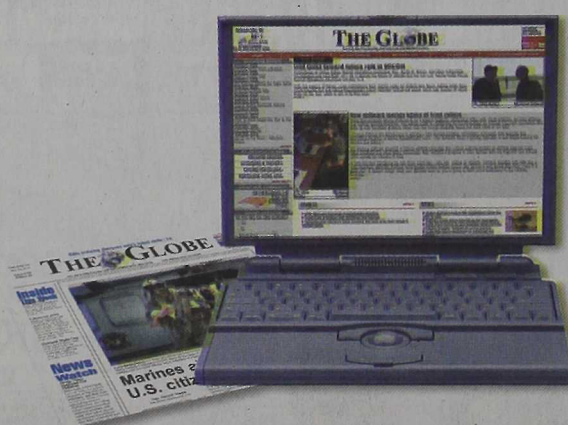
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Carolina Living

The Globe | Thursday, February 15, 2007 | www.camplejeuneglobe.com

Lejeune happenings

Yard sale
Conville VFW Post's monthly yard sale will be held Feb. 16 from 8 a.m. - noon; Ladies Auxiliary will host a bake sale the same day. Doors open to vendors at 6 a.m. and the public is invited to attend. Free parking is available to schools and non-profits. The Post is located at 1450 Piney Hill Rd. in Conville. To reserve space for a nominal fee, call 353-6810.

Music classes for 18 months - 3 years

Music classes for children ages 3-12 years are offered at the Lejeune Community Center. Children can learn ballroom, jazz and basic dancing, as well as singing and performing. The classes are part of a program called, "Miss Miller's School of Music." Classes are held Mondays and Wednesdays. An emphasis is on putting what children have learned together into performable pieces, using discipline and teamwork and learning to perform for an audience. For those little children, a creative movement class is held Thursday mornings for 18-month to 3-year-olds. It teaches children to listen to music, move their bodies to the music by using songs. They also learn how to be creative using scarves and props. Basic tumbling is also taught. For more information, call 353-5966.

Voices Shouldn't Hurt

Voices Speak needs help to stop violence. The "Voices Shouldn't Hurt" show will take place Saturday at Lejeune High School, 1:30 p.m. For more information go to [angelsvoices.org](http://www.angelsvoices.org) or call 455-6057.

Great American Race weekend

Grab a ticket to the 19th Annual Daytona 500 and the Daytona 300 NASCAR Cup Series races that take place Friday and Sunday through your MCCA ticket office and more money. For more information, visit www.daytona500.com.

Work around at Auto Body Shop

Advance your hobby with high tech equipment at the Auto Body Shop. The shop has a full-service paint shop and features Marvin Williams automotive paints for sale. The shop also houses a service welding shop. It is located at Birch St. extension, building 1249. Operating hours are Wednesday - Friday, 2 p.m. - 5 p.m. and Saturday - Sunday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. For more information, call 451-2042.

Cooking for the future

Culinary arts students win \$77,000 in scholarships, prepare for national competition

Amy Segreti
Carolina Living Editor

Lejeune High School student Nina Carter initially enrolled in the school's Culinary Arts program because she felt it was absolutely necessary for her survival.

"I didn't have a sense of smell, and I didn't want to die when I got out of school and had to fend for myself," joked Carter.

She won't have to worry. Carter recently won a scholarship worth \$11,000 to be used at either Johnson & Wales University in Charlotte, N.C. or at the Orlando Culinary Academy in Orlando, Fla. Carter has chosen — and already been accepted to — Orlando Culinary Academy, which she'll be attending in the fall.

Carter is one of a small group of culinary arts students to win a combined \$77,000 in scholarships at the S.C./N.C. Student Invitational in Myrtle Beach, S.C. Jan. 29 and 30. The students made up two teams at the competition — the culinary team, which consisted of John Burt, Troy DeRuijs, Antwon Graves and Sam Hernandez, and the management team, made up of Carter, Evan Aguirre, Amanda Pintos and Holli Tibbetts. Brian McKinnon and Alex Brosovich served as alternates for the two teams respectively. All students are seniors except for Graves, who is a junior.

The culinary team won second place in the competition, bringing home \$8,250 in scholarship money. The management team won first place, an honor worth \$11,000 to each student in scholarship money and qualifying all of them for the sixth annual National ProStart Student Invitational that will take place April 20-22 in Charlotte, N.C.

"It was hard, but let me tell you, these kids accepted the challenge and they went head on into it. I could not have been any prouder," said culinary arts teacher Shirley Bryan.

Culinary Arts is the most sought after course at LHS, according to Bryan. "We can never put every child who requests it into the course," she said.

The program began at the high school just a few years ago. "The administration realized that we had students who had other interests besides going to a four-year academic college," said Bryan. The Professional and Technical Skills program was implemented and under that umbrella fell food management, which evolved into culinary arts three years ago.

"Understand, this is not just home economics," Bryan said. "This is an introduction to the food industry. These kids have to learn and understand sanitation, safety, nutrition,

methods of cooking, equipment — and they have to cook." At the end of the course, students have to complete a cooking exam and a national written exam.

The exam comes from the National Restaurant Association Educational Foundation based in Chicago. "I get the exam two days beforehand, straight from Chicago," said Bryan. It consists of cooking and presentation aspects, including composing a guide for calories, fats and other elements to ensure the meal is nutritionally balanced, allowing students to research and apply their knowledge.

The culinary arts program has three levels. The second is more in depth involving topics presented in the first course in addition to customer service. The cooking lessons are more comprehensive as well.

"These kids need to learn how to make stock from scratch, from sweat and bones, just like the kind you'd find if you went to a restaurant," said Bryan. Students also learn how to use fresh herbs and spices and how to present their dishes.

The third level involves an internship at either Golden Corral Buffet & Grill or Michelangelo's Pizza & Subs. "The kids go to their work site during my class time and they get paid for it — so they're earning money, learning the business, working, getting experience and everything," said Bryan.

In early January, Bryan heard about the competition in Myrtle Beach and gave her students some tests to pick which ones would qualify to go. She and the students had three weeks to prepare, whereas competitors had known about the event since October 2006.

Because North Carolina recently became one of the 45 states involved with NRAEF's ProStart program, a program designed to teach high school students about careers in the restaurant and food service industry, it doesn't have its own state competition yet. So the Student Invitational combined students from both North and South Carolina; 14 schools competed from South Carolina, and two competed from North Carolina.

The other school from North Carolina was Parnell Sweat High School in Pembroke, N.C.

The culinary team was given two one-burner butane stoves to cook with, which was an initial shock to the students. "No one had ever used one of those little things," said Bryan. "I had to walk away because the teachers weren't allowed to help and it's really hard to watch your kids struggle."

The students pulled together and with a time limit of one hour were instructed to prepare a protein entree, a starch side, a vegetable side, a starter and a dessert.

The students also had to pack and deliver



Courtesy photo

Cook-off: Lejeune High School senior John Burt faces off against student chefs from 15 other schools at the Student Invitational in Myrtle Beach, S.C. Jan. 30.

the food items properly stored, separated (protein, vegetables and fruits and starches), and at the correct temperatures. No electricity or refrigeration was allowed or given and no items could be pre-prepared.

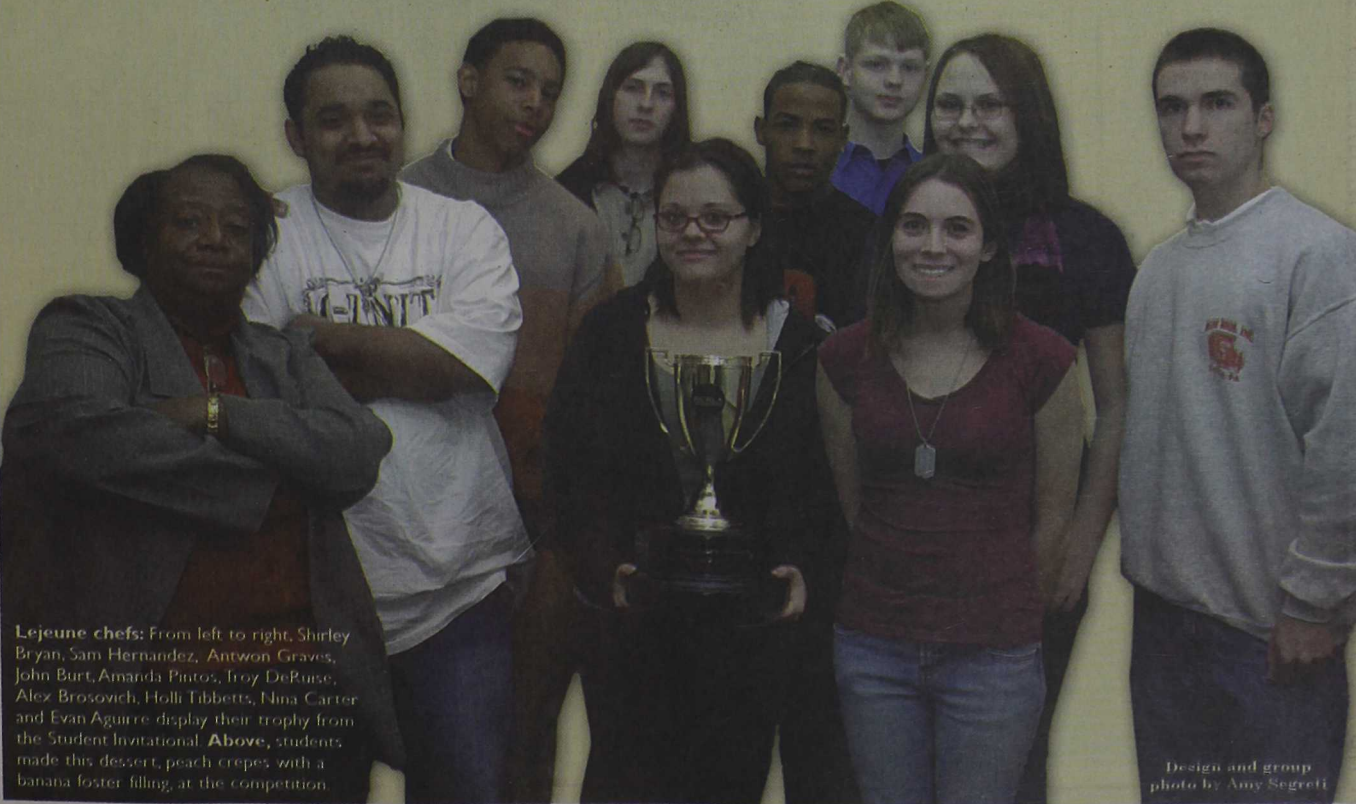
"Everything had to be from scratch. They even had to prepare their own seasonings and sauces," said Bryan.

The menu included a mix spring salad with raspberry-balsamic vinaigrette dressing, banana foster crepes, seared salmon in a butter garlic white wine sauce, rice pilaf and citrus glazed asparagus and carrots.

Their efforts won the team first place and a chance to cook at the national competition in April, which will put winners from 35 states to the test. "They compete as if they were on Iron Chef," said Bryan. Students come up with a menu, judges ensure the food is safe and students have 30 minutes to prepare a full meal including an entree, a starch, a vegetable side, a starter and a dessert.

The management team had to work together to solve case studies from the point of view of a restaurant manager.

See COOKING page 3D



Lejeune chefs: From left to right, Shirley Bryan, Sam Hernandez, Antwon Graves, John Burt, Amanda Pintos, Troy DeRuijs, Alex Brosovich, Holli Tibbetts, Nina Carter and Evan Aguirre display their trophy from the Student Invitational. **Above:** students made this dessert, peach crepes with a banana foster filling, at the competition.

Design and group photo by Amy Segreti

'Freedom Writers' a touching story about hope for the future



From the
front row
with

Reinhold
Moldenhauer
Huneycutt

Now playing at Camp Lejeune

'FREEDOM WRITERS' (PG-13)

"Freedom Writers" is a drama and an adaptation of the real-life story of teacher Erin Gruwell, who taught a class of at-risk kids tolerance along with grammar.

It also is the story of high school students, forgotten by the system, who discover hope for their futures by writing about their pasts.

Hilary Swank ("Boys Don't Cry," "Million Dollar Baby") stars as Erin Gruwell, a young idealistic and dedicated English teacher who is ready to take on the world.

The year is 1994, and she is assigned to a gritty Long Beach, California, high school, where she finds herself teaching a class of a diverse group of racially charged teenagers from different walks of life.

Challenged by what she sees and after a tragedy shook the student body, she finds unique ways to unify her disadvantaged, racially divided students, and to improve their grasp of academics.

Knowing that every one of her students has a story to tell, Erin encourages them to keep a daily journal of their thoughts and experiences about their violent, troubled lives.

After sharing these stories with one another, the students see their shared experience for the first time and open up to the idea that there are possibilities in life outside of making it to the age of eighteen.

As the students' diaries transform from schoolwork into life preservers, Erin's commitment to them grows and affects her in ways she did not imagine.

April Lee Hernandez plays Eva, a young Latina who, after witnessing her boyfriend committing a crime, becomes conflicted by guilt and the ramifications of testifying against him.

The Grammy nominated artist Mario plays Andre, a tough teen who is dealing with his brother being sentenced to life in prison and a mother suffering from fading health as a result of extended drug use.

Patrick Dempsey (TVs "Grey's Anatomy") costars as Scott, Erin's husband; Imelda Staunton ("Vera Drake") is seen as Margaret Vail, Erin's superior teacher and greatest adversary; and Scott Glenn ("Training Day") appears as Steve, Erin's father.

Director Richard La Gravenese ("Living Out Loud"), who also wrote the screenplay, used material from the 1999 book *The Freedom Writers Diary: How a Teacher and 150 Teens Used Writing to Change Themselves and the World Around Them*.



Photo courtesy of...

'Freedom Writers' In this movie adaptation of the real-life story of teacher Erin Gruwell and her students, director Richard La Gravenese tells the story of giving hope to children who've forgotten the importance of their futures.

"Freedom Writers" is an inspirational tale and testimony to courage, hope and the human triumph over intolerance.

Now playing in Jacksonville

BECAUSE I SAID SO (PG-13)

"Because I Said So" is a comedy about a well-intentioned but over-zealous mother who goes on a mission to find Mister Right for her youngest unmarried daughter.

Diane Keaton ("The Family Stone," "Something Gotta Give," "Father of the Bride") stars as Daphne Wilder, a single lady of a certain age and a proud mother of three grown daughters.

Daphne is a normal, over protective, overbearing and over-the-top mother whose love knows no boundaries.

She worries incessantly about the love life of her youngest daughter, the insecure and adorable Milly, played by Mandy Moore ("Racing Stripes," "A Walk to Remember"), and decides to set her up with the perfect man.

Little did Milly know, however, that her mom placed an ad in the personals to find him.

Comic mayhem unfolds as meddling Daphne continues to do the wrong thing for the right reasons, all in the name of love.

Daphne's other daughters are portrayed by Lauren Graham ("Lucky 13") who plays Maggie, the stable psychologist; and Piper Perabo ("Prestige") who plays the sexy Mae.

Gabriel Macht ("Bad Company," "The

Recruit") costars as Johnny, a charming musician, who falls for Milly.

Also appearing is Tom Everett Scott ("Cruel Intentions") as Jason, the handsome architect, who responds to Daphne's personal ad; and Stephen Collins (TVs "7th Heaven") as Joe, Johnny's father.

Director Michael Lehmann ("40 Days, 40 Nights," "Truth About Cats and Dogs," "My Giant") brings us a delightful and light-hearted romantic comedy.

"Because I Said So" is entertaining and funny and somewhat corny, and will certainly appeal to all the mothers and daughters out there.

HANNIBAL RISING (R)

"Hannibal Rising" is a prequel to the blockbuster and award-winning thriller "The Silence of the Lambs."

"Hannibal Rising" goes back to the beginning and tells the story of Hannibal's formative years.

Gaspard Ulliel ("Strayed," "A Very Long Engagement," "The Last Day," "Brotherhood of the Wolf") stars as Hannibal Lecter.

His experiences begin at the end of World War II when a young Hannibal, portrayed by Aaron Thomas, watches as his parents violently die.

Hannibal survives the horrors of the Eastern Front and eventually flees to France to find relatives.

His uncle's Japanese widow, Lady Murasaki Shikibu, played by Gong Li ("Miami Vice," "Memoirs of a Geisha"),

takes him in; however even her kindness cannot help his constant nightmares.

Hannibal, with his talent for surgery, is accepted into medical school, serves to further his skills and put the knowledge to seek justice for criminals who are constantly tortured.

This need for revenge will eventually start his insatiable lust within a killer who was not born, but made.

Costarring are Rhys Ifans ("Enigma") as Vladis Grutas, the lead of a brutal group of Lithuanian collaborators; Kevin McKidd ("Kingdom of Heaven") as Inspector Pascal Poitras; and Dominic West ("The Wire") as Inspector Peter Webber.

Director Peter Webber ("Girl with a Pearl Earring") brings us the human side of what will become the sinister Hannibal Lecter.

Webber enlisted the help of Thomas Harris in writing the screenplay. Harris is known best for his previous novels about Hannibal Lecter, all made into hugely popular movies. The series began with "The Manchurian Candidate" in 1986, followed by the 1991 blockbuster "Silence of the Lambs," and continued with "Hannibal" in 2001, and "Red Dragon" in 2002.

"Hannibal Rising" is a very violent graphic movie that contains images, cannibalism, torture and some battle scenes.

Ms. Huneycutt is the Public Assistant at the Base Public Office. ■

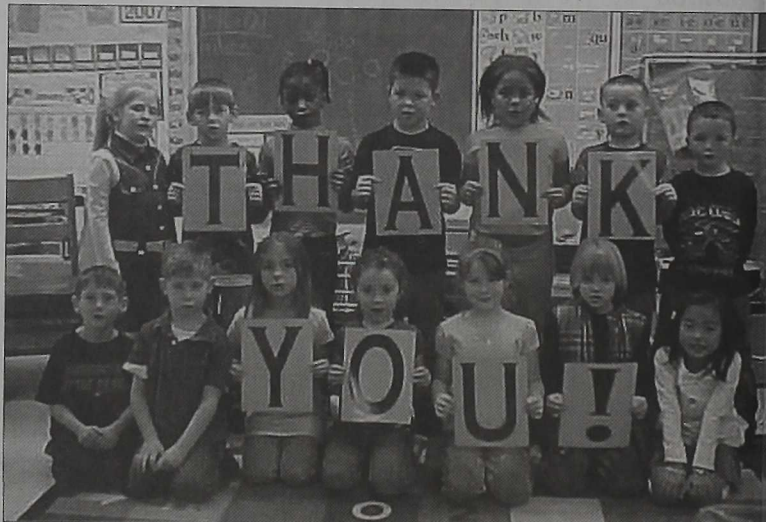
Tarawa Terrace students honor the value of literacy

Tarawa Terrace I Primary School first grade teacher Diane Cantrell and her students celebrated recruiting 100 volunteer readers since the beginning of the school year Feb. 12, the 100th day of school. Volunteers have included student's parents, fellow colleagues from Camp Lejeune Dependent Schools and community volunteers.

"It has been an amazing experience for her and her students and I think it was such a great idea," said Reading/Math support teacher Kelly Phillips.

Cantrell wanted to reinforce the value of literacy to her students. Each of the 100 volunteers read and Cantrell took a picture of the volunteer holding the book and created a special bulletin board highlighting the volunteers and their books.

In addition, the volunteers were given a certificate as a way to say "thank you" to everyone who took the time to share their love of literacy (photo at left). ■



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BRIDGE TO TERABITHIA PG-DLP
1:05 3:20 5:35 7:45 9:55

DADDY'S LITTLE GIRLS PG-13-DLP
1:00 1:15 3:15 3:30 5:45 5:50 8:00 8:15
(10:15 10:40 FRISAT)

BREACH PG-13
1:45 4:30 7:15 9:45

MUSIC & LYRICS PG-13-DLP
1:00 4:00 7:00 9:45

LAST SIN EATER PG-13-DLP
3:45 9:40

NORBIT PG-13-DLP
1:30 4:15 7:00 9:30

HANNIBAL RISING R
1:45 4:30 7:10 9:50

BECAUSE I SAID SO PG-13-DLP
1:30 4:15 7:00 9:30

THE MESSENGERS PG-13-DLP
1:00 3:10 5:20 7:30 9:40

SMOKIN' ACES R-DLP
1:45 4:15 7:15 9:40

EPIC MOVIE PG-13-DLP
1:15 3:15 5:15 7:15 9:15

PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS PG-13-DLP
1:00 7:00

STOMP THE YARD PG-13-DLP
(NO 1:00 3:25 SAT/SUN) 5:55 8:30

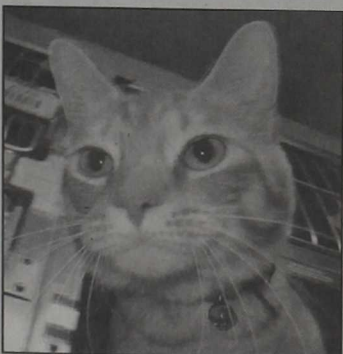
NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM PG-DLP
1:15 3:45 7:00 9:45

LITTLE ROBOTS G-DLP
(1:00 3:00 SAT/SUN)

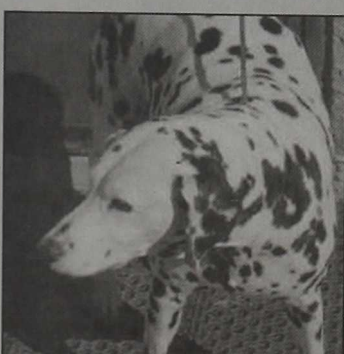
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For more information, call the Onslow County Animal Shelter at 455-0182.

Photos courtesy of the animal shelter

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"Code Name: The Cleaner," PG-13, 6:30 p.m.;

"Alpha Dog," R, 9:15 p.m. (free for Single Marine Program)

SATURDAY

"The Astronaut Farmer," PG, 3:30 p.m.

SUNDAY

"Night at the Museum," PG, 3:30 p.m.;

"Freedom Writers," R, 6:30 p.m.

MONDAY

no movie

TUESDAY

"Happily N'Ever After," PG, 7:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

"Black Christmas," R, 7:30 p.m.

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COOKING

CONTINUED FROM 1D

"For example, a restaurant has a special lobster and shrimp night, they overbooked, the fridge stopped working and three people called in sick — students have to answer how they would handle that situation," said Bryan.

"I was told that our kids did outstanding," said Bryan proudly.

Cooking is a passion for most of the students in the group, especially John Burt, who's been cooking longer than he can remember. He took culinary arts courses in Philadelphia before he moved to Camp Lejeune and though his favorite food to cook is Italian, he's learning a lot more about "down home southern cooking."

He'll be attending Baltimore International College in Baltimore, Md. to study the culinary arts in the fall. As for his post-college plans, he's leaving things open.

"I don't really want to go to any one place after school, but that's another thing I like about this. I can work anywhere as a chef. I just want to travel and cook," said Burt.

Most of the students in the group hope to attend a higher learning institute after high school. Hernandez wants to go to Johnson & Wales and DeRuijs hopes to go to Orlando Culinary Academy.

Bryan, who used to teach biology, is proud she chose to teach the culinary arts course.

"Somebody had to step up to the plate and cooking is a passion for me. My mother was a cook and my siblings and I used to go to work with her, so I've been cooking since I was 8 years old," said Bryan.

Bryan feels the program has been extremely beneficial and hopes to expand the program by adding a second teacher.

"I knew that there were kids who had to do something else other than go to school for a year or a semester and fail because that's not where they really want or need to be," explained Bryan.

"And honestly, these kids have talent. I couldn't ask for a better group." ■

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Strolling through eclectic, historic New Bern



Carolina Travelogue

with

Amy Segreti

New Bern makes for an interesting dichotomy. You'll encounter a large majority of small, family-owned businesses (which always puts a smile on my face), including coffee shops, art stores, restaurants, wine shops and bookstores. Some establishments have a long family history. Some were started by people who came — willingly and enthusiastically — from big liberal cities like San Francisco. Others opened just a few days ago.

But all of them exude a cozy, inviting atmosphere that makes you want to spend hours in the small box-like area that is downtown New Bern.

However, while you stroll amidst these friendly businesses, you'll also encounter some things that garner high-profile attention. New Bern is the home of Tryon Palace, a beautiful estate originally built between 1767 and 1770, as the first permanent capitol of the colony of North Carolina.

New Bern is also the birthplace of Pepsi, and so the original location where it was

invented is a bit of a landmark.

Then there's Capt. Ratty's Seafood Restaurant and Steakhouse, which seems like a well-established independent restaurant to begin with — and then you take a look at the menu and realize it's been featured two years in a row in "Wine Spectator" as one of the top restaurants in the world for their wine collection. In the world.

That being said, New Bern is an eclectic mesh of attitudes and ideas. Head over there for a day or even a weekend — it's only 40 miles up Highway 17N — and you'll fall head over heels for this pocket-sized town.

Start your day with an Americano at Trent River Coffee Company (208 Craven St., 252-514-2030). An Americano is like coffee, but bolder — it's made by adding espresso to hot water, giving it a more robust flavor than regular drip coffee. Many people say the caffeine in it is more potent as well, which is something you might need after spending some time surrounded by the quirky locals that frequent this shop. They often feverishly discuss politics from firmly grounded standpoints — including the owner, Ed Ruiz, who moved to New Bern from San Francisco.

"I like the social aspect of coffee shops. There's kindred spirits to be found in them," said Ruiz, who tries to gather people in intellectual discussion at his shop.

See NEW BERN page 8D



Photos by Amy Segreti

New Bern delights: Top, a view of historic downtown. Above, Trent River Coffee Company houses a piano for live entertainment.



Classic New Bern: Above, visitors can buy memorabilia at Birthplace of Pepsi in addition to sitting down at the bar for Pepsi drink straight from an antique dispenser. Left (photo by Jason Sellers), the gardens at Tryon Palace span three centuries of gardening styles.

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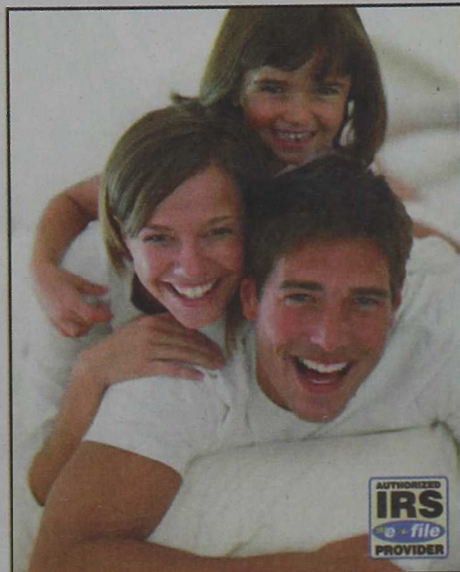
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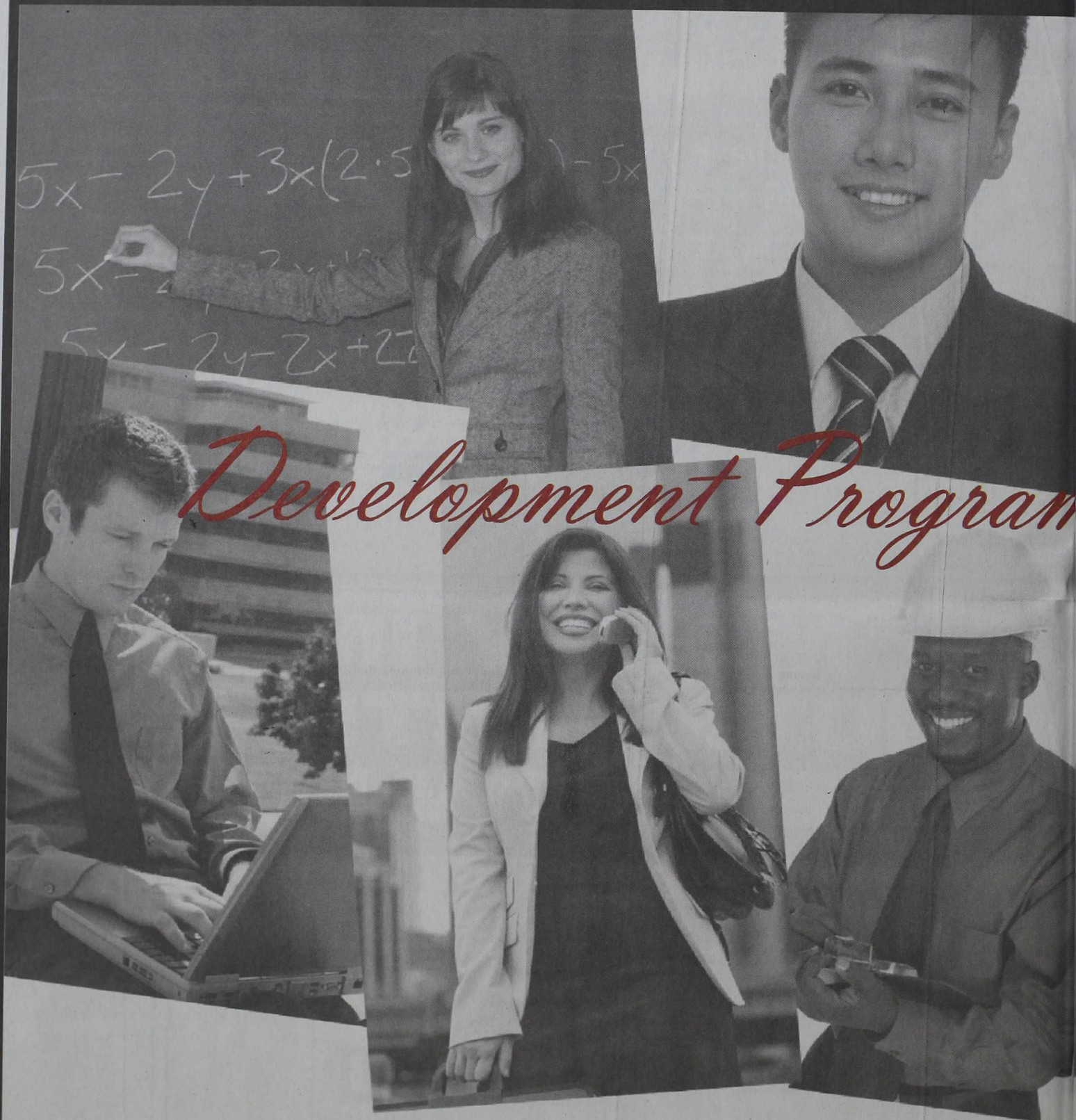
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Courtesy photo

Rockpoo pigeon: This animal is also known as the magnificent dove.



Courtesy photo

Exhibit: A savanna monitor lizard rests at the North Carolina Zoo's Africa Pavilion exhibit. The North Carolina Zoo will be at the Harriotte B. Smith Library aboard Camp Lejeune Feb. 24.

North Carolina Zoo visits Camp Lejeune

Cpl. Steven King
Marine Corps
Community Services

The great poet, Martin Luther King once said, "An animal's eyes have the power to speak a great language." Service members and their families will have the opportunity to test this wisdom for themselves when animals from the North

Carolina Zoo come to the Harriotte B. Smith Library aboard Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune Feb. 24 from noon until 3 p.m.

The small assembly of mammals, reptiles and birds will motivate and inspire attendees about the wonders of our natural world. "Utilizing their senses, attendees will have the chance to

learn about the natural coverings of various animals, and why these coverings are important to their natural habitats," said Jackie Howell, Harriotte B. Smith library program coordinator. Other topics discussed will include various animal species, habitats, life spans, as well as diet. Animal crafts, demonstrated by zoo

staff members, will stimulate a speedy learning process for the children who attend.

The North Carolina Zoo, located in Asheboro, N.C., is nationally recognized as one of the nation's finest zoos. It was the first American zoo designed around the "natural habitat" philosophy, presenting animals and plants in

exhibits that closely resemble the habitats in which they would be found in the wild. "Most people in this area don't even know that there is a zoo here in North Carolina, so this event will not only educate service members and their families about certain types of wildlife, but also familiarize them with the North Carolina

Zoo in general," said Howell.

The Harriotte B. Smith Library zoo exhibit will be open to all individuals who have base privileges, including retirees, military spouses and children, and civilian Marines. For more information contact the library at 451-6196 during regular business hours. ■

Fuzzy child thrown off a flight; Are we becoming that intolerant?



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I don't know what time it was for my body but in Denver, it was 6 a.m. The plane was quiet and half empty. My daughter was in her coloring book and talked to me when the juice might come. My 3-year-old son flew his Batman around our plane.

Suddenly, a woman whipped over the front of us.

"These are the worst behaved children I've ever seen in my life," she scolded. "I'm the flight attendant change my seat, because I could not imagine sitting in front of them all the way to the East Coast."

I lowered my head.

"I'm sorry. We're military and we're just flying home from Japan and ..."

"I don't care where you are coming from."

"These children do not belong on a plane!"

The kids both burst into tears. The flight attendant and other passengers tried to

reassure us that the children were not bad and that the lady was a psycho. But 10 years after the fact, I've got to admit that I'm still not over it. I still wake up wondering how you are supposed to get a toddler home from Japan without flying in a plane.

I was appalled when I saw that story about Air Tran throwing Elly Kulesza, 3, off a flight in January. The kid couldn't stop having a tantrum. So, the airline deplaned the whole family.

I expected an uproar. Although the parents appeared on Good Morning America and other media outlets, Air Tran did not get a whole lot of bad press on this incident. Parenting groups did not storm the ticket counter. Instead, the flying public voted with the airline. When GMA surveyed its online audience, 62 percent voted that the girl should have been thrown off the flight because kids are loud and a nuisance to other passengers and the crew. The other 37 percent voted no, a child having a tantrum is just being a child and it's unfair to kick them off.

A lot of the people I talked to seemed to feel the same way. People with allergies would rather see a chihuahua, in a purse, in the seat next to them. Or a cat with matching luggage. Some suggested there could be a glassed-enclosed kid section like at the back of church or that kids could be checked with the baggage. The collective feeling was

that other people's children are only slightly more welcome on a plane than a terrorist.

Geez, are we really becoming that intolerant of children? Or are we just a whole lot less tolerant of parents who can't control their kids? I could go either way. As a mom, I know that anyone wearing a Pull-Up is a time bomb just waiting to go off. It ain't easy being three. I remember being on that 12-hour flight and thinking there ought to be a round of applause when my son's head did not explode.

But as a frequent air traveler, I don't exactly embrace other people's children with open arms. I was on a five-hour flight last month with a dad who brought no snacks, no juice, no stories, no toys for two little girls both under 4 years old. We weren't in the air 20 minutes before these girls were fussing and crying and kicking my seat. The dad told the girls to just go to sleep. When they didn't, every woman in a 17-seat radius searched her carry-on for candy, cookies, markers and paper just to make them stop. One woman started folding origami and sending it over to the girls. Nice, but were these kids really our responsibility?

On the flight before that, I sat on with a fourth grader and his Gameboy. The kid had the volume turned all the way up with no earpiece. His mother ignored him and fell asleep in the seat ahead of us. She was the

only one who could sleep. Another passenger leaned over the seat and asked the boy to turn down the volume. The kid shrugged and ignored him.

That is not right. But would yelling at these parents have done any good? I doubt it. Instead, that would just use up a lot of the good will the rest of the world has for parents and children. The rest of us get on the plane with our kids and see nothing but a lot of hostile faces.

Plane travel is often a fact of military life. If "Lulu" is ever going to see her granny, she is going to have to get on a plane from time to time. We do the best we can do. We pack our coloring books, our juice, our portable DVD player and every Batman and Polly Pocket in creation. We teach our kids to be quiet when we're in an enclosed space. We prep them the best we can. But that will not always be enough. Sometimes babies are inconsolable on flights. Sometimes toddlers have tantrums. As long as the parents are doing their best to fix the situation, some understanding is in order. The empathy of an origami crane floating over the back of the seat can make all the difference in the world.

A 19-year military spouse, Jacey Eckhart is a nationally syndicated columnist with CinHouse.com and the host of "The Jacey Eckhart Show for military Families." (www.cinhouse.com/jacey) ■

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NEW BERN

CONTINUED FROM 4D

Ruiz and his wife moved to New Bern because his wife was from Greenville and they thought New Bern would be a nice place to raise their 6-year-old daughter.

The coffee shop features all types of brews and breakfast pastries, in-house copies of several daily newspapers (including the "Washington Post," a rare find in this area) and live jazz and acoustic guitar on Saturday nights. Feb. 23, Robin Greenstein, a female guitarist from New York will be playing at 8 p.m. (admission is \$13 for adults and \$8 for students). On nights without live entertainment, the shop's operating hours are 7 a.m. - 5 p.m.

After you leave the shop, step outside, pick a direction and wander. The downtown area is perfect for walking. Among the places you might come across are the Birthplace of Pepsi, Tryon Palace Historic Sites and Gardens and the New Bern Civic Theatre.

The Birthplace of Pepsi (256 Middle St., 252-636-5898) isn't too exciting on its own, but it's one of those places you walk by and say, "Oh ... let's just go in for a second." The store was built on the spot where Caleb Bradham invented the drink in 1898 in his pharmacy. The store opened on the 100th anniversary of Pepsi-Cola in 1998 and is currently owned by Pepsi-Cola Bottling Company.

Larry Cook has worked at the store for nine years and says that it used to house several antiques that were quite valuable — bottles worth \$3,000 each — but they were stolen a few years back. The shop now carries more modern memorabilia, such as Pepsi-insignia books, clocks, jewelry (the little bottle cap earrings are interesting), postcards, stuffed bears, lamps and shirts. At 11 a.m., 1 p.m., 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. every day, a 30-minute video tells the history of Pepsi-Cola as told by Walter Cronkite. The store's operating hours are 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

One place you can't possibly miss is the Tryon Palace Historic Sites and Gardens (610 Pollock St., 252-514-4900). The site includes the beautiful palace itself, named after Governor Tryon who lived in it for over a year with his wife Margaret Wake Tryon and their daughter Margaret in 1770 and 14 acres of gardens including an 18th-century wilderness garden with native plants that the first European settlers came to find in this area, lush Victorian displays and 20th-century colonial interpretations of earlier periods.

The style and furnishings of the palace are primarily English. An inventory of Governor Tryon's possessions was used as a guide in refurbishing the reconstructed Palace and tour guides in period dress conduct tours of the building.

The gardens, designed by Morley Williams at the time of the Palace restoration, are open until 5 p.m. through Feb. 28, until 6 p.m. March 1 - May 31 and even later in the warmer months.

Other sites at Tryon Palace include the historic homes: the 1830 George W. Dixon House, the John Wright Stanly House (an example of

Georgian architecture) and the 1805 Robert Hay House. The New Bern Academy Museum rounds things out; it served as a school for nearly two centuries and now houses several displays, including a Civil War exhibit.

A number special events are offered during the year, such as a Parlor Talk about George Washington Feb. 22 at noon and a discussion about the influence of the 1929 pageant on the design of the palace Feb. 27 at 7:30 p.m. More information can be found at www.tyronpalace.org.

If you're just beginning to feel your stomach rumble, stop by The Next Chapter (320 S. Front St.) bookstore before dinner — Judy Bryan, store owner, opened it just over a week ago.

The store has a small collection (about 2,000 books) of non-fiction, fiction and children's books, but there are definitely some gems to be found. The books are Bryan's own collection in addition to the collection of some friends and family. "I told people this is what I was doing after I retired and friends from around the country sent me boxes and boxes of books," said Bryan.

She charges just \$3 for paperbacks and \$6 for hardcovers. She'll also gladly buy your books and give you \$1.50 for paperbacks and \$3 for hardcovers.

For dinner, I suggest Captain Ratty's Seafood Restaurant and Steakhouse (202 Middle St., 252-633-2088). The storefront restaurant is draped in fish netting and colorful pennants listing the names of patrons' boats. Sandwiches and wraps are popular lunch items; seafood and steaks, obviously, are the primary choices for evening meals and can run a bit high in price, but they're worth it. Try the fresh catch of the day (which is truly fresh and not frozen) or if you're looking for a good deal, try the shrimp pasta dish for \$14.95 — it comes with a colossal amount of shrimp.

What's especially great about Capt. Ratty's is that it was voted by "Wine Spectator" as one of the top restaurants in the world for its wine collection, which features more than 150 different wines — and they store them correctly, which isn't found in a lot of places. There is a wine cellar in the lobby where diners can view the wines. All reds are kept at 65 degrees and all whites are kept at 45 degrees.

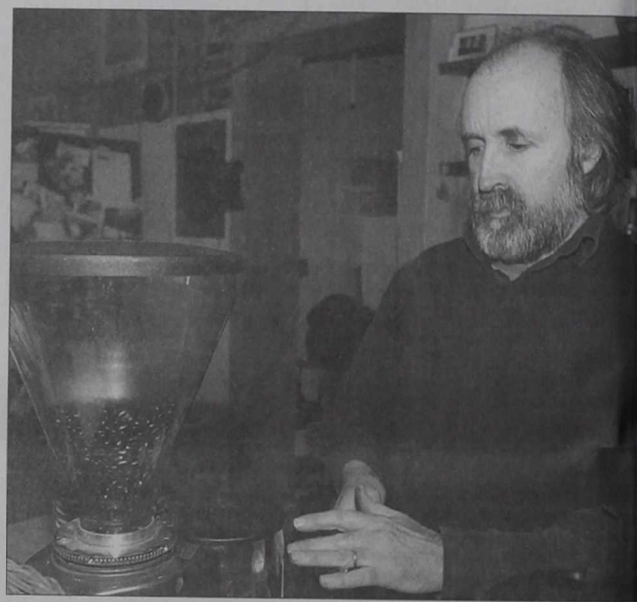
Live entertainment on weekend evenings draws a large crowd, which is nice because the place is big and it feels desolate otherwise. Reserve a table upstairs — this is where the piano bar is set up or where the acoustic guitar player performs, depending on the night. Captain Ratty's also has a banquet room that seats 70 and is used for wedding receptions, among other things.

Before the night is over, take in a performance at the New Bern Civic Theatre (412 Pollock St., 252-633-0567), housed in the original Athens Theatre building constructed in 1910. A family-friendly musical version of Charlotte's Web is playing in Marth and "The Fantasticks," the longest-running musical in the world, will be showing at the end of April through May. Ticket prices range from \$5-20.

And finally, a tip for service members: if you're looking to stay in historic New Bern for more than day, the Aerie Bed & Breakfast (509 Pollock St., 800-849-5553) offers a 10 percent discount to all active-duty military personnel for a two-night stay Sunday through Thursday, and the Antebellum Meadows Inn (212 Pollock St., 252-634-1776) offers year-round varying military appreciation specials.

Whether you stay in New Bern for a weekend or a few hours, whether you have a planned itinerary for your travels or you go where the wind blows you, you'll surely encounter a wide range of people, places and attitudes — but you'll find friendly faces everywhere.

Amy Segreti is the Carolina Living Editor and an avid lover of travel. ■



Around town: Top, New Bern's historic downtown has cozy alleyways with patios and tons of benches for stopping to admire the sights. Above, Ed Ruiz, owner of Trent River Coffee Company, grinds up coffee beans to make an Americano. Unique wildlife art can be found at Art of the Wild (218 Middle St.), where Claudia Lindsey displays local, national and family-made works of art.



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What's happenin'

For information on concerts, festivals, 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 amy.segreti@militarynews.com. Space is limited to availability.

Signing

1 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
They will be signing copies of his *My Drill Instructor* at the Marine Corps Bookstore. Former Georgia Governor and U.S. Senator Zell Miller said, "It's a beautiful, wonderful book that I hope all Marines read and enjoy it." For more information, e-mail amy.segreti@militarynews.com or to find out more about the book, visit ParrisIslandDaze.com where a sample chapter is available.

es of Montford Point screening

5 p.m.
University of North Carolina Wilmington presents *Lines of Montford Point: Fighting for Freedom* at Feb. 15, at the Northside High School in Jacksonville, N.C. The event is free and open to the public. The hour-long documentary, written and produced by UNCW, chronicles the untold story of the first African-Americans in the United States Marine Corps. Montford Point veterans will attend the screening of this moving and poignant film, which

documents their loyalty and service in the face of prejudice and discrimination. Recruited as a result of America's entry into World War II, these African-American Marines began receiving basic training at the segregated Montford Point Base adjacent to Camp Lejeune, North Carolina in 1942. More than 20,000 African-American Marines were trained at this segregated facility from 1942 to 1949. During WWII, those trained at Montford Point saw action in the Pacific Theater and as support units in the U.S. and overseas. The documentary was written and directed by Melton McLaurin, UNCW Professor Emeritus, who has taught extensively on the South and race relations. UNCW's involvement stems from a chance meeting between McLaurin and Clarence Willie, Lieutenant Colonel, Ret., United States Marine Corps and former superintendent of schools in Brunswick County, N.C. After securing funding, Willie and McLaurin interviewed more than 60 Montford Point veterans in order to highlight their stories in the documentary. Academy Award winner Louis Gossett, Jr., narrated the film and Dustin Miller, director of the UNCW Department of Media Production, served as executive producer and editor. The film was shot and further edited by UNCW Television. Plans to roll out the documentary to national and inter-

national cable outlets are currently underway. To obtain a copy of *The Marines of Montford Point: Fighting for Freedom*, contact Dustin Miller at 962-4082.

Locks of Love

Sunday, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

The New River Officers' Spouses' Club presents this event at Misty's Salon on 2422 Commerce Rd. in Jacksonville. Locks of Love is a non-profit corporation that relies on donated ponytails and funds to provide hairpieces for children under the age of 18 with medical hair loss. Most of the children suffer from a condition called alopecia areata, for which there is no known cure. Hair must be 10 inches or longer, clean and dry, bundled in a ponytail or braid, not chemically damaged or bleached (dyed or permed is OK). A free post-cut hair style will be given courtesy of Misty's Salon. Locks of Love will also accept financial contributions for the custom-made hairpieces. Reservations are encouraged but not required. For more information, please contact Charmaine at 353-5434.

50s Sock Hop

Feb. 23, 6 - 8 p.m.

Come kick-start the celebration of Emerald Isle's incorporation at our all-ages 50s Sock Hop. Greasers, squares, prom queens, cheerleaders and all other 50s characters welcome. Sock hoppin' fun includes a half-hour dance lesson, costume contest for best-in-show male and female, as well as light refreshments for a nominal fee. Admission is free. Call 252-354-6350 for more information.

Onslow Beach reservation booth open

Through Feb. 23

The Onslow Beach booth is now open at the Main Exchange to make reservations for Onslow Beach facilities. Onslow Beach has something new — a two-night rental package starting at \$25. The facilities are newly renovated and space is limited. Check in on Mondays, Tuesdays or Wednesdays only for the two-night specials. This promotion runs through Feb. 23. Booth operation hours are: Monday - Friday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. The booth is closed for lunch from 2 - 2:30 p.m. For more information, call 450-7502.

Colonel Lamb's Pets

Through Feb. 28

Come see a display of two pieces of British-manufactured horse artillery used by Confederate soldiers at Fort Fisher to patrol the beaches and protect shipwrecked Confederate blockade runners during the Civil War. Captured by Union naval forces in 1863, these two unique and long-range weapons are on temporary loan from the U.S. Navy Yard museum in Washington, D.C. The display will be at

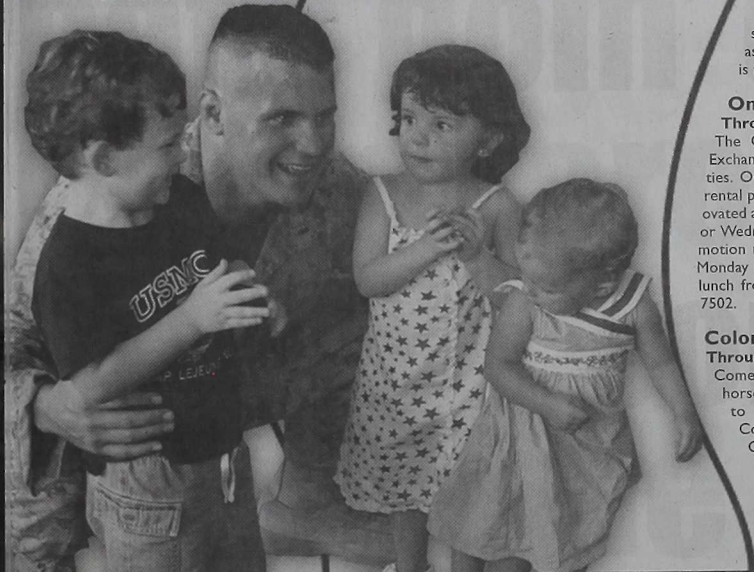
the Fort Fisher State Historic Site on 1610 Fort Fisher Blvd. in Kure Beach, N.C. Call 458-5538 for details.

How to feed the baby birds

March 10, 10 - 11:30 a.m.;

March 15, 10 - 11:30 a.m.

Orientation and training sessions are scheduled to teach volunteers how to feed baby birds at the Possumwood Acres Wildlife Sanctuary in Hubert, N.C. Eleven baby ducklings less than a week old came in Wednesday and volunteers are recruiting new volunteers to help with the feedings, particularly those with an interest in native birds, who are able to come to the sanctuary on a regular basis and help feed the baby birds. The sanctuary will soon have many mouths to feed — some as often as every 15 minutes for the newborns, and older juveniles, which need feeding every hour. Call 326-6432 to register.



MCCS EVENTS AND INFO

MCCS Personal Readiness & Community Support

ABCs of Buying & Selling A Home

✓ Pros & Cons

✓ Financing

✓ Qualifying

✓ Reference Library

✓ VA Info and much more!

**Thursday, February 22nd
from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM**

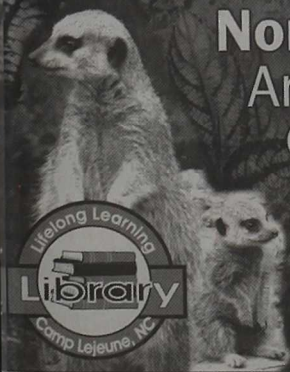
Information / Registration:

910-451-3212 Ext. 202 or 910-451-1055 / 1056
mccslejeune.com/ReloAssist.html

North Carolina Zoo Animals, Animals @ your library!

**Sat, February 24th
Noon to 3:00 PM**

Info: 910-451-3026



**GRAND PRIZES
\$1,000 • \$500 • \$100**

**Saturday, February 17th
6:00 PM - 9:00 PM**

**Goettge Memorial
Field House**

Camp Lejeune, NC

Information: 910-382-4020
or ddnc20@earthlink.net

11TH ANNUAL JUNIOR STEP SHOW COMPETITION

MCCSLEJEUNE.COM

SEMPER FIT YOUTH SPORTS REGISTRATIONS

February 20th - March 9th • Monday - Friday, 9:00 AM - 4:30 PM

Registration Deadline: March 9th at 4:30PM

Additional Registration Times For Your Convenience:
Wednesday, February 28th and Wednesday, March 7th,
9:00 AM - 8:00 PM ONLY at Camp Lejeune

YOUTH SPORTS

\$20 PER PERSON



BASEBALL/SOFTBALL

BASEBALL	
Tee Ball	5 & 6 year olds
Coach Pitch	7 & 8 year olds
Mustang	9 & 10 year olds
Bronco	11 & 12 year olds
HS Federation	13 - 15 year olds

SOFTBALL Slow Pitch	
Pee Wee	7 - 8 year olds
Midget	10 - 12 year olds
Major	13 - 15 year olds

Child must be
listed age as of
June 16th, 2007



GOLF

10-15 year olds

REGISTRATION SITES

**Camp Lejeune
Youth Sports Office
(Across from Berkeley Manor
7-Day Store on Stone Street)**

**MCAS New River
Youth Sports Office
(Located in the old Gym
next to the Bowling Alley)**



TRACK

Midget	5-9 Year Olds
Major	10-15 Year Olds

For More Information,
Call Camp Lejeune Youth Sports, 910-451-2177/2159
Or MCAS New River, 910-449-6714.



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& Take The

FUSION
CHALLENGE**\$199.94**

PER MO.

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60,000 MILE
POWERTRAIN
WARRANTY**COME TAKE THE FUSION CHALLENGE AND FIND OUT WHY**

WITH A WARRANTY THAT WORKS AS HARD AS YOU DO!

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2005 FORD RANGER P4326 EDGE, X-CAB, 4WD \$293.03 PER MO.	2006 DODGE RAM 1500 P4355 CREW CAB XLT \$369.64 PER MO.	2004 FORD F-150 LARIAT P4229 X-CAB, 4WD \$382.91 PER MO.	2006 CHRYSLER SEBRING P4329 TOURING \$209.99 PER MO.	2005 MAZDA 3 T13383D I \$218.51 PER MO.	2005 FORD FOCUS P4268A ZX4 \$157.26 PER MO.	2006 FORD EXPLORER P4388 EDDIE BAUER \$397.55 PER MO.	2005 DODGE CARAVAN T13223A SE \$199.00 PER MO.	2004 CHEVY TAHOE LT P4216 4WD, LEATHER \$370.37 PER MO.
2006 GMC SIERRA 1500 T13433A SLE \$290.91 PER MO.	2006 FORD F-150 XLT P4394 CREW CAB \$351.50 PER MO.	2005 FORD RANGER P4325 X-CAB, EDGE, 4X4 \$275.53 PER MO.	2004 DODGE NEON SRT-4 P4291A ROOF \$212.79 PER MO.	2005 FORD FOCUS ZX4 N13252A ST, 5SPD \$184.63 PER MO.	2006 SATURN ION P4360 3 \$223.40 PER MO.	2004 FORD ESCAPE XLT T13815A 4WD \$241.87 PER MO.	2004 FORD EXPLORER T13487A XLT, 4WD \$205.42 PER MO.	2005 FORD ESCAPE T13651A XLT \$252.79 PER MO.
2006 DODGE RAM 1500 P4355 CREW CAB XLT \$369.64 PER MO.	2006 FORD F-150 P4368 CREW CAB XLT \$335.70 PER MO.	2006 FORD F-150 P4375 X-CAB, XLT \$305.47 PER MO.	2006 SUZUKI FORENZA P4198B 5 SPEED \$143.63 PER MO.	2004 CHEVY CAVALIER P4413A 5 SPEED \$127.08 PER MO.	2005 HYUNDAI ACCENT GLS P4342A 5 SPEED \$132.78 PER MO.	2006 JEEP LIBERTY P4297 SPORT \$262.25 PER MO.	2005 MAZDA TRIBUTE S N13310A LTHR, ROOF \$270.91 PER MO.	2003 FORD EXPEDITION T13582A E.B., 4WD \$318.08 PER MO.
2006 FORD RANGER SPORT P4359 X-CAB, 4X4 \$295.63 PER MO.	2006 CHEVY SILVERADO 1500 P4395 X-CAB, LT \$322.39 PER MO.	2006 DODGE DAKOTA SLT P4392 QUAD CAB \$298.45 PER MO.	2005 DODGE NEON P4415 SXT \$170.00 PER MO.	2006 SCION T13504A TC \$264.15 PER MO.	2004 DODGE STRATUS R/T P4401 2 DOOR \$237.99 PER MO.	2006 GMC ENVOY T13013A SLE \$225.14 PER MO.	2007 FORD FREESTAR P4398 SE \$204.26 PER MO.	2005 FORD ESCAPE P4387 XLS \$200.37 PER MO.
2007 FORD RANGER X-CAB T13544A XL, V-6 \$251.64 PER MO.	2006 FORD F-150 XLT P4376 X-CAB \$304.84 PER MO.	2002 FORD F-350 LARIAT T13086A 4WD, CREW CAB \$399.27 PER MO.	2006 TOYOTA CAMRY P4399 LE \$270.99 PER MO.	2004 FORD MUSTANG T13427C V-6 \$162.10 PER MO.	2005 PONTIAC P4393 G6 \$236.76 PER MO.	2005 DODGE DURANGO T12233B SLT, LEATHER \$240.87 PER MO.	2004 NISSAN PATHFINDER T13269A LE, 4WD \$295.42 PER MO.	2005 DODGE GRAND CARAVAN P4386 SXT \$264.28 PER MO.

All payments include all available rebates and incentives including military, plus tax, tags, & \$249 doc/admin. fee. All payments based on 72 months at 5.9%. Fusion payments based on 39 month lease with \$2,000 down WAC. See dealers for details.

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