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WEDNESDAY  
August 23, 2007  
Volume 69  
Edition 28

## Inside Week

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## News Watch

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///I, Iraqi army perform

## Joint census operations

Story and photos  
**Cpl. Wayne Edmiston**  
2nd Marine Logistics Group

**SIN ADH DHIBBAN, Iraq** — Marines with Battery K, 1st Battalion, 11th Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Logistics Group (Forward) and soldiers with 2nd Battalion, 3rd Brigade, 1st Iraqi Army Division conducted joint census operations here Aug. 16.

The operation was designed to help secure the local village by documenting its residents. The operation consisted of a joint foot patrol, which allowed them time to interact with the local population.

Colonel Mohammed Karim Mohammed, the commanding officer of 2-3-1, explained the purpose of performing these patrols.

"In this new sector, we are doing a census and

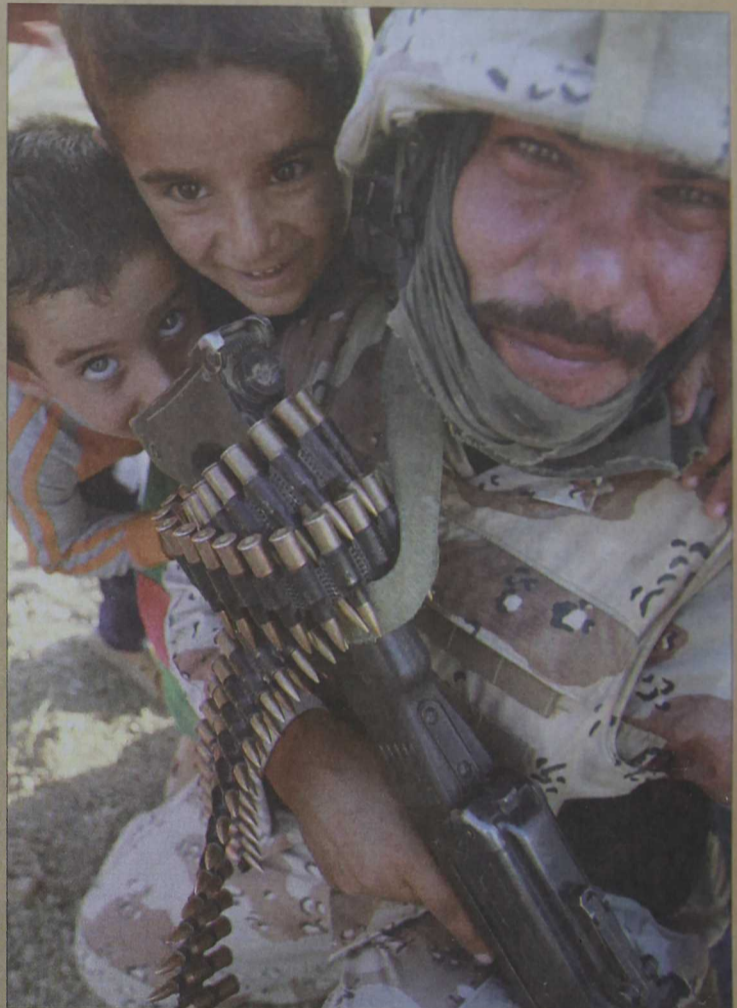
also sweeping for caches and looking for any bad guys in the area," Mohammed said through an interpreter.

Responsibility for this sector of the village currently lies with 1st Bn., 11th Marines, but will eventually be turned over to the Iraqi Army who patrols most of the village.

The military transition team attached to the Iraqi army unit will often request to perform joint patrols in areas where battle space is overlapping, explained 1st Lt. Douglas J. Piller, a platoon commander with Battery K.

"The Iraqis are the key to success in our (area of operations)," said Piller, a Goshen, N.Y., native. "It bolsters their confidence to take over operations."

During the census portion of the operation, they



collected key data that includes ages of family members, the number of vehicles per household, the name of the male head of household as well as any standard of living complaints, Mohammed explained.

"In the future, we take the information and decide what the needs of the population are," he continued.

The information is also taken to recruit members

See **CENSUS** page 10A



**Census:** A Marine looks for anything suspicious through his scope while on a patrol in Sin adh Dhibban, Iraq. Marines with Battery K, 1st Battalion, 11th Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Logistics Group (Forward) and soldiers with 2nd Battalion, 3rd Brigade, 1st Iraqi Army Division conducted joint census operations here Aug. 16.



Cpl. Ryan C. Heiser

**Recon:** Marines with Battery R, 5th Battalion, 11th Marine Regiment, attached to Task Force Highlander, Regimental Combat Team 2, man Phyxius, an M198 Howitzer artillery cannon, during a direct-fire training mission. Phyxius is known in Greek mythology as the god of flight.

## Highlander Arty trains to prevent bloodshed

Cpl. Ryan C. Heiser  
2nd Marine Division

**COMBAT OUTPOST RAWAH, Iraq** — Zeus, according to Greek mythology, was the king of the gods and could be called upon in times of need to strike down the enemy with lightning from the sky. Phyxius, literally translated as, "to put to flight," was known as the god of flight and was sometimes used as a surname of Zeus. Today, the two of them can still be found raining lightning and destruction across the western Euphrates River valley, in the form of two M198 Howitzer artillery cannons.

Second Platoon, Battery R, 5th Battalion, 11th Marine Regiment, attached to Task Force Highlander, Regimental Combat Team 2, has been providing artillery support for 1st Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion since the start of their deployment to Iraq in

March earlier this year. On Aug. 1 the platoon held a direct-fire training mission, followed by an illumination mission in support of the battalion.

"Artillery is a huge piece of combat," said Cpl. Miguel A. MedranoMedina, a section chief with the platoon. "Arty provides a key tool for protecting yourself and eliminating large enemy threats. For instance, direct fire can take out a tank; with indirect fire we can take out a sniper in a building that the guys on the ground might not be able to see, and with illumination rounds we can provide light for the grunts out in the city so they can see at any time."

Staff Sgt. Bryan R. Hunter, a platoon sergeant with the battery, said he and his Marines enjoy their position in support of the battalion and the task force.

See **ARTY** page 9A

## 22nd MEU hosts Maltese visitors

Sgt. Matt Epright  
22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit

**MAGAZINE WHARF, Malta** — The Marines and sailors of the 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable) and USS Kearsarge hosted several local tour groups aboard the ship during a recent port visit to Malta.

Throughout the day, Marines and sailors stood by displays of their vehicles, weapons and equipment in order to tell local Maltese citizens about their jobs in the military.

One of the tour groups was made up of boys and girls from St. Paul's Bay Primary School who came for a field trip from their summer classes. It was their first time seeing the military hardware on display.

Collette, one of the junior teachers at the school and tasked with summer school duties, said some of the high-energy children can be a handful sometimes, but the ship visit gave them a chance to focus their excitement on a positive learning experience.

"They are enjoying it," she said. "Especially the boys." One of the more popular stops on the tour was manned by Marines from both India and Weapons Company, Battalion Landing Team, 3rd Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment.

The spread featured a cross-section of the weapons and gear that BLT 3/8 Marines use in their role as the 22nd MEU(SOC)'s Ground Combat Element.

"People get to come in and see actually how we get to work," said Weapons Company infantryman Cpl. Keith Smith.

The individual Marines working with the tour groups were handpicked by their leaders for their knowledge of the gear, plus their outgoing manner and ability to relate well to civilian visitors.

See **VISITORS** page 9A

# MAN on the street

What do you think about the educational opportunities the Marine Corps offers?



"The benefits are good for Marines but our dependents should be able to get those benefits, too."

Lance Cpl. Jonathan Price  
Pittsburg, Pa.  
Machine Gunner  
2nd Marine Division

"The benefits are good but I'm constantly in the field so I don't have the time to take advantage of the educational opportunities on base."



Lance Cpl. Kenneth Wilson  
Fort Myers, Fla.  
Assaultman  
2nd Marine Division

"I think the benefits are good, but depending on your job, some Marines don't have the time to take advantage of these opportunities."



Sgt. Tamyko Ellis  
Queens, N.Y.  
Artillery chief  
2nd Marine Division

"It's great that we get the opportunity, but depending on what unit you are with, you may not have the time."



Sgt. Ruben Salazar  
Colton, Calif.  
Radio Operator  
II Marine Expeditionary Force

"The opportunities are great but not everyone knows about the educational opportunities the Marine Corps offers."



Staff Sgt. Michael Jackson  
Beaufort, S.C.  
Motor Transportation Mechanic  
II Marine Expeditionary Force

# This week in history

Aug. 24, 1814: Captain Samuel Miller's 100-man detachment from Marine Barracks, Washington, fought in the battle of Bladensburg in the defense of the national capital. After helping to fight back three British charges, Miller was wounded and the enemy began to work around both flanks of the American force. Almost encircled, the force of sailors and Marines was forced to retreat to avoid capture. The Marines lost 8 and 14 were wounded.  
- [www.usmchangout.com/this-daymchistory.htm](http://www.usmchangout.com/this-daymchistory.htm)



Courtesy of the Library of Congress

**This Week in History (Aug. 24 - 30)** — It's probably the most liked question on a history exam: When was the war of 1812? Although the American colonies had fought and earned their freedom long before this war, the War of 1812 proved to be the final major battle between the rising force of the United States and a declining Great Britain.

Like many wars at the time, the battle was not about territory. It was about economic sanctions enacted against the U.S. and the seizure of U.S. sailors. When the war was over, no land exchanged hands and no borders would change. But never again would Britain and the U.S. engage in full-scale war, leading to a two-century long peace across the Atlantic Ocean.

The Americans declared war June 18, 1812 in response to two major events. The first was the American outrage over Great Britain essentially kidnapping sailors and forcing them to fight against Napoleon. The second reason was economic and trade restrictions Britain was imposing due to that war.

The battle of Bladensburg however, took place toward the end of the war. Napoleon had been defeated in Europe and England had more

**American memory:** Capture and Burning of Washington by the British, 1814, wood engraving, 1876.

troops to send to the U.S. The British soon developed a plan to attack on two fronts: New York and Maryland.

U.S. Secretary of War John Armstrong planned for the New York invasion and believed that British troops would skip over the strategically unimportant city of Washington and head straight to the militarized city of Baltimore. He was wrong.

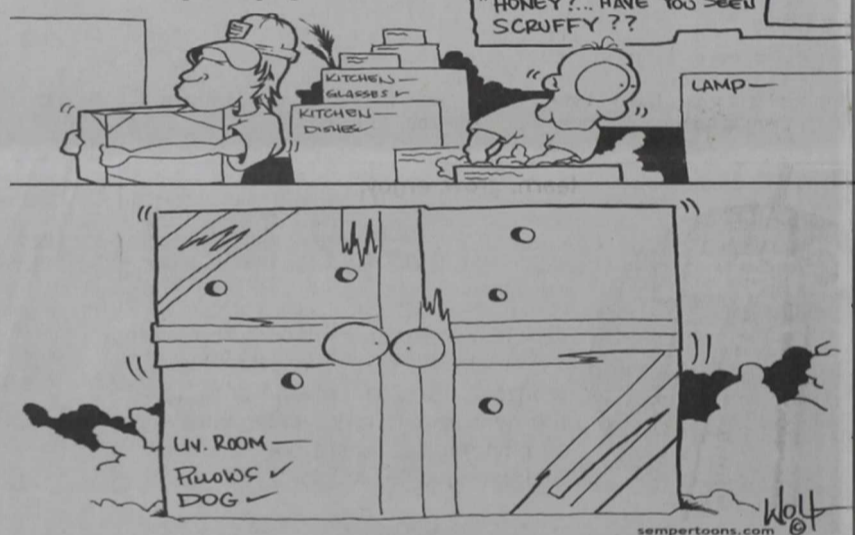
By Aug. 24, 1814 the British forces made their move and were met by a combination of American militiamen, sailors and Marines. Although the Americans had superior force in numbers, almost all of them were poorly trained and lacking military discipline. The British quickly broke through the ranks and seemed destined to move almost unopposed to the Capital.

A 100-man Marine detachment from the nearby Marine Barracks in Washington led by Capt. Samuel Miller joined with nearly 1,000 militia men led by Commodore Josiah Tatnall and managed to hold off the British before finally being forced to retreat through the city.

While the Americans could not keep the British from capturing Washington, American forces repelled the British from the 25 hour bombardment of Fort Mifflin. During that attack, the only light that could be seen from the fort was the light of the shells exploding in the air. The sight of the shells illuminated by the shells of Francis Scott Key to write "The Star Spangled Banner."

# Sempertoons

by Gunny Sgt. Charles Wolf



sempertoons.com

# Semper Safe

## Don't let the heat stress you

High humidity, added to hot weather creates a dangerous combination because they interfere with the body's ability to cool itself. Long exposure to hot, humid weather can result in heat cramps or heat exhaustion, and if heat stress continues, a person may suffer a heat stroke, which can be fatal. See the accompanying heat-index chart that shows heat and humidity combinations that can be hazardous and Marine Corps Order 6200.1E fluid replacement guidelines along with the following information can help you ensure the summer heat doesn't get the best of you.

**What Causes Heat Stress?** Factors leading to heat stress include high temperature and humidity, direct sun or heat, limited air move-

ment, physical exertion, poor physical condition, some medicines, and inadequate tolerance for hot workplaces.

**Symptoms of Heat Exhaustion:**

- Headaches, dizziness, lightheadedness, or fainting.
- Weakness and moist skin.
- Mood changes, such as irritability or confusion.
- Upset stomach or vomiting.

**Symptoms of Heat Stroke:**

- Dry, hot skin, with no sweating.
- Mental confusion or losing consciousness.
- Seizures or convulsions.

**Preventing Heat Stress:**

• Know signs/symptoms of heat-related illnesses; monitor yourself and coworkers.

• Block out direct sun or other heat sources.

• Use cooling fans/air-conditioning; rest regularly.

• Drink plenty of water — about 5 to 7 ounces every 15 to 20 minutes.

• Wear lightweight, light-colored, loose-fitting clothes.

• Avoid alcohol, caffeinated drinks, or heavy meals.

• Know and follow your unit's SOP for physical training and operations in hot environments.

**What To Do for Heat-Related Illness:**

Call 911 (or local emergency number) at once.

As Marines and sailors, we live by our ethos. ■

to a cool, shaded area; loosen or remove heavy clothing; provide cool drinking water, fan and mist the person with water.

**Commanders and Leaders:**

It is your responsibility to help ensure your personnel avoid potential heat related injuries on and off-duty. To assist you in your duties, a "Leaders Guide" is available at the following Camp Lejeune Safety Division Web site. For more information contact your unit safety officer or base safety representative for more details.

<https://intranet.mciea.st.usmc.mil/C12/Workplac%20Safety%20Information%20S/default.aspx>

As Marines and sailors, we live by our ethos. ■

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MCEAST/ICB  
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MGB Press Officer  
2nd Lt. Craig Thomas  
craig.thomas@usmc.mil

MGB  
Public Affairs Chief / Press Chief  
Staff Sgt. Michael Mink  
michael.mink@usmc.mil  
451-7408

Distribution Manager  
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347-9624 ext. 107

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Eva Sellers  
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Assistant Managing Editor  
Jamie Cameron  
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# Country Control Point Marines keep dangers 'outside the wire'

Andrew Kalwitz  
Marine Logistics Group

TAQADDUM, Iraq — Service members came to the base to keep the dangers in Iraq out of their entry out of their country to help the Iraqi army to operate safely, but to operate safely, they also work to keep the dangers remain on the premises of the base, or what's outside the wire.



Cpl. Andrew Kalwitz

**Watch:** Lance Cpl. Carl M. Dorris watches over an entry control point here. The ECP is the first line of defense against the dangers present outside the wire. Dorris is a Fresno, Calif., native.

During that time, the American Marine Corps didn't take a step back at the ECP? Sgt. Justin Smith, the 1st platoon leader with Battery K, 11th Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Logistics Group, said "it would be a disaster."

Booker said the Marines in his platoon have been refreshed by the change. He expressed great confidence in their ability to take on the tasks they face at the ECP. "I respect them as men and I respect them as a great deal as Marines," said Booker. "I can go to bed at night knowing my platoon is doing the best they can."

Booker said the Marines in his platoon have been refreshed by the change. He expressed great confidence in their ability to take on the tasks they face at the ECP. "I respect them as men and I respect them as a great deal as Marines," said Booker. "I can go to bed at night knowing my platoon is doing the best they can."

Such attacks are rare today, but not unheard-of. According to recent reports, 75 Taliban militants coordinated an attack on Firebase Anaconda in southern Afghanistan Aug. 8. The attack was an attempt to overrun the base, leaving more than 20 militants dead. Coalition forces reported no casualties.

Smith, a Philadelphia native, also explained that just doing his job enables his fellow Marines to leave the majority of dangers outside the wire. "They can come back here and feel a little safer than they are outside the wire," he said.

# Taqaddum's PMO protects those who protect a nation

Cpl. Wayne Edmiston  
2nd Marine Logistics Group

AL TAQADDUM, Iraq — Within the confines of the base here service members can feel relatively secure. Armed guards watch the entry control points and perimeter of the base continuously to keep the enemy out of our territory.

But within the wire, just like any community in the United States, law enforcement personnel work to keep people safe. Military police officers with the base Provost Marshal's Office manage a precinct which is home to thousands of critical war-fighters in this area of operations.

"We are responsible mainly for base security and making sure people are being safe on base," said Cpl. Brent W. Thurston, a military policeman with the PMO here and an Exton, Pa., native. "We also respond to any other dispatches that may come our way."

The Marines patrol the base 24 hours a day. Only half of them are military police by trade.

One of their main missions is enforcing traffic laws, which can be a challenge on a base where thousands of drivers representing dozens of countries navigate Taqaddum's roadways.

"It's bad enough we lose Marines in combat but to have someone run a stop sign and hit a vehicle, killing them, is a waste," Thurston explained.

The Marines also assist in maintaining good order and discipline amongst both military and civilian populations. Stress levels can rise quickly in a war zone and, although rare, disputes can turn physical. If that happens, the military policemen of PMO step in to mediate.

For this small group of Marines it is all about keeping their comrades in the fight to stabilize Iraq and help this growing democracy.

Lance Cpl. Christopher L. Shelby is an acting military policeman with PMO. Before this current assignment, Shelby loaded aircraft as an embarkation specialist. He has since ventured away from the flight line and onto the roads.

"It makes us feel good that we are part of the security of the base," the Winnsboro, Texas, native explained.

The staff noncommissioned officer in charge of the Provost Marshal's Office could not say enough about his small group of Marines who have a precinct size that would be respectively manned by an entire police station in the United States.

"They do an outstanding job with the amount of work and people we have," said Gunnery Sgt. Michael A. Allen, an Indianapolis, native.

Thurston explained that as long as service members, contractors and third-country nationals on base are doing what they are supposed to, then the job of military policemen is easy. ■

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# Green Knights ensure Marines arrive alive, stay alive

Cpl. Zachary Dyer  
2nd Marine Aircraft Wing (FWD)

**AL ASAD, Iraq** — The saying goes that the Marine Corps is winning the war abroad, but losing the war at home. Some Marines are coming home from successful deployments with a sense of invulnerability, and hurting themselves or getting into trouble.

In an effort to keep their Marines alive when they return from their deployment later this year, the "Green Knights" of Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 121 have embarked on an Incident Free Liberty Campaign.

"This is just as critical to the Marine Corps as our combat mission here," said Lt. Col. Joseph Craft, the Green Knights' commanding officer. "It's not as sexy, but it's just as vital. We're fooling ourselves if we think we are successful when we're just successful at our tactical mission. We need to succeed at both missions."

Craft created two task forces, Victor and Kilo, each comprised of Marines from all ranks. At their initial meeting at the beginning of July, Craft assigned each task force the job of coming up with a course of action to keep their peers alive when the squadron returns to the United States. While the focus of the campaign is alcohol related incidents, each team was instructed to consider other hazards faced by Marines, such

as motorcycle safety.

Craft believes that Marines are more likely to abide by the plan when they create it themselves. If it is by the Marines, for the Marines, it will be better received by the squadron.

At their next meeting, on July 17, the two task forces presented their plans. The strategy presented by Task Force Kilo focused on what the squadron could do to keep Marines out of bad situations. The Marines suggested things like liberty buddies and a designated driver for each section. The plan also called for every Marine in the squadron to take a tour of a prison facility shortly after arriving home and to be issued a breathalyzer keychain.

Task Force Victor's plan called for providing the Marines the tools they need to keep themselves out of trouble. The Marines suggested setting aside time each week for each section to go over safety issues.

"Our idea is to give Marines time to think about the hazards they face, whether it be alcohol, domestic violence, or motorcycle safety," said Chief Warrant Officer 3 Michael Malone, the Task Force Victor leader. "And to provide guided discussions so that we give them the time to sit down and think about what they're doing."

Craft was pleased with the courses of action his Marines presented, and believes that between the two task forces they covered all the bases needed for

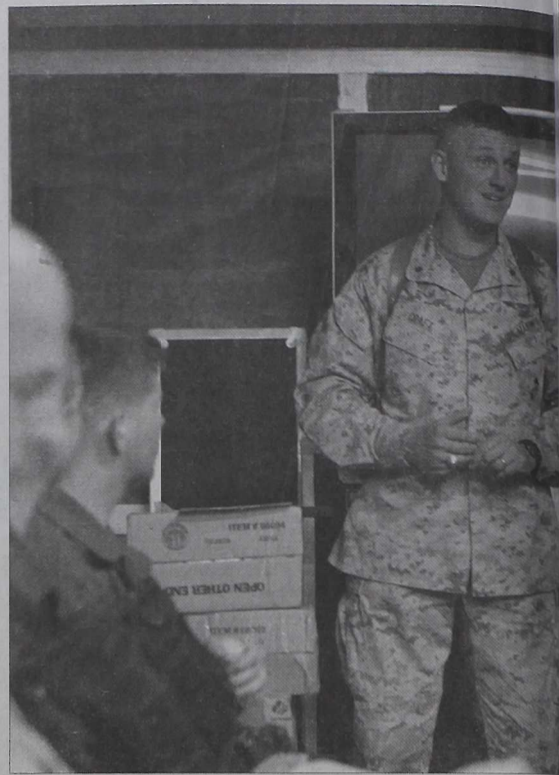
a safety plan.

"I compare it to mishap prevention, because this is essentially avoiding personal mishaps, for lack of a better term," explained Craft. "When I think of preventing aircraft mishaps, I think about two things that happen — we train Marines the best we can to make sure that they don't make errors when they're out on the flightline. But we don't assume that they won't make mistakes. We have safeguards, backups, people watching over them and other items there to catch the mistakes that do occur. A good safety program sets out to not only prevent mistakes, but to catch mistakes. I think collectively we have all the pieces there."

The Marines themselves look forward to seeing how their new campaign will affect the squadron once they return home.

"We touched on some very good things that will have an impact on the numbers, on the statistics," said Sgt. Reece Taylor, a Green Knights flight equipment technician and a member of Task Force Kilo. "I think, without a doubt, that this will have an impact. It will definitely change things for the better."

Craft says he knows he can not keep his Marines from drinking or having a good time, but that will not keep him from making sure they do it responsibly. What he will not accept is the idea that there is nothing you can do to prevent an incident.



**Campaign:** Lt. Col. Joseph Craft, the commanding officer of Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 121, speaks to the Marines taking part in the squadron's Incident Free Liberty Campaign during the initial meeting.

"I won't accept that it's inevitable," said Craft. "I have six kids. There is no way that I would accept the loss of one of my kids. Some would say 'well, it happens.' No, I don't accept that. I feel the same way about a squadron; the difference is we have almost 200 people in a squadron." ■

# Fallujah Veteran returns to new Iraq

Cpl. Rick Nelson  
2nd Marine Division

**BARWANAH, Iraq** — In the Fall of 2004, 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines fought in the Battle of Fallujah. It experienced some of the Marine Corps' most intense urban fighting since Vietnam's Hue City. That deployment left a lasting affect on this battalion and the individuals involved. Although they are mostly stationed elsewhere or out of the Marine Corps, 1/3 still has a few of its Fallujah Veterans through its ranks and companies. These Marines bring much knowledge and determination with them, and

they play a large role in the success this task force has achieved in the Hadithah Triad.

Sergeant Adam R. Morrison, a squad leader with 2nd Squad, 1st Platoon, Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, Regimental Combat Team 2, decided to enlist into the Marine Corps in Sept. 2002 after speaking to a recruiter.

"I was originally going to go to college to wrestle but that fell through," said Morrison. "A gentleman who used to come to our wrestling matches was a Marine Corps recruiter, so I spoke with him and signed up as a 0311 infantryman."

Morrison described himself as an indoor person before joining the Marine Corps and didn't know what to expect from bootcamp and the School of Infantry.

"When I enlisted, it was during [Operation Iraqi Freedom] I, so my mother was really worried," said the Puyallup, Wash. native. "My father, on the other hand, knew it would be a good experience for me and would help me in the long run."

Upon completion of boot camp, Morrison began training at the School of Infantry at Camp Pendleton, Calif., and then checked into 1st Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, where he was assigned

to 2nd Squad, 1st Platoon, Company.

"I've been with my squad since I joined the fleet," said the 22-year-old. "I remember when I first checked in, I had a ton of gear that wanted nothing to do with combat. I never had it too bad when I got there because I always did what I was told and tried to improve myself."

Morrison soon deployed with the 1st Marine Expeditionary Unit. The unit was conducting training in Iraq when it was ordered to sail to the Persian Gulf in order to support Operation Enduring Freedom II. The sudden change to

See IRAQ page 10A

### Retiree Appreciation Day

Maj. Gen. William Matz, U.S. Army ret., and Congressman Walter B. Jones will be guest speakers at Marston Pavilion on Sept. 22.

Breakfast at 7 a.m. Speakers at 9 a.m. Health/Information Fair from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Free lunch from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Come out and bring your family. For more information and to RSVP, call Randy Reichler 451-3212 ext. 205.

### Retiree Military Breakfast

at the Ball Center Saturday Social hour starts at 7 a.m., breakfast at 8 a.m. For more information, call Retired Sgt. Maj. Meyer at 938-1610.

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# Finding your military history

Cpl. Patrick M. Fleischman  
Marine Corps Base

ing a Marine's career, tremendous amount of paperwork is created. But what do service members, their family and seekers do when the records are lost or damaged? Marines recently separated prior to 1997, it can be as easy as online, but for those separated prior to 1997, it is complicated.

The National Archive's Personal Records is responsible for all service records prior to 1973, said Ron Hindman, director of NPRC. The only records to this are Medical records created after 1994, which are sent to the Department of Veterans Affairs. These records have value in documenting a son's military career, said Hindman.

Genealogy seekers can get the information of service members, dependents, if kin as well other auxiliary information listed on records, said Hindman. The records were, for the part, filled out very accurately and can open up branches of a family tree. So, records on notable names such as Lt. Gen.

Lewis "Chesty" Burwell Puller can be ordered for research purposes, said Hindman.

"We receive quite a few requests for the records of famous service members, but we are not only here for them," he continued.

Although the NPRC processes many requests for history seekers, more than 50 percent of requests are for the military discharge form DD-214 to prove family benefit eligibility, he said.

The requests do not come without restrictions, explained Hindman.

A living veteran has to have been out of the military for 62 years before anyone can request his records without his permission, he said. This is the amount of time the Department of Defense has dictated before a record is placed in the public record for anyone to access.

"It's uncommon to have someone alive 62 years after they have left the service, thus protecting their information," said Hindman. "We also screen requests to only provide information pertinent to the purpose of the query and if information is sensitive we make an effort to ensure the query is of a legitimate nature."

Processing the more than 1.5 million requests per year doesn't come with-

out a cost, he said. Records prior to 1945 typically cost \$50, except for benefit requests, which are provided at no cost.

Records dating from 1945 to 1999 are free. The \$30 fee is assumed by the Marine Corps, he said.

With only 520 employees pulling records from three buildings with more than 4,000,000 cubic feet of storage, the NPRC is still able to average less than 10 work days to process a request of a DD-214 and most other requests in less than 15 work days, said Hindman.

"We use very advanced systems to maintain accountability for these records," he said. "Our specialists are

trained to handle these records to ensure they are here for generations to come."

Records in the permanent public archive are taken care of with the same importance as the U.S. Constitution or the Declaration of Independence due to the federal requirements, said Hindman.

"In the early 1950s the Department of Defense recognized the need to consolidate the storage for all military services records to ensure their protection," he continued.

In the years that followed the first consolidated record office was constructed by the DOD in St. Louis, he said. Over time the DOD recog-

nized that storing records was not its primary mission. As a solution, the DOD transferred authority over to the General Services Administration, he said. The GSA then created a unit that ultimately became the NPRC, which is a unit of the National Archive that is responsible of storing all our national records.

This storage has not been without issues, he explained.

A major fire in 1973 destroyed the entire sixth story of the building, said Hindman. Luckily very few Marine Corps records were lost.

Also, it is important to note there is no truth to the rumors that the records

were going to be scanned and destroyed. In fact it's just the opposite, he continued. The National Archive is building a facility to protect these valuable records hundreds of years into the future.

"We're building this new facility, but our mission of storing new records of military service is really at its conclusion," he said. "Our more than 56 million military records, for the most part is a closed collection."

Records in the Marine Corps after Dec. 31 of 1997 are stored at the Personal Management Support Branch at Headquarters

See HISTORY page 10A

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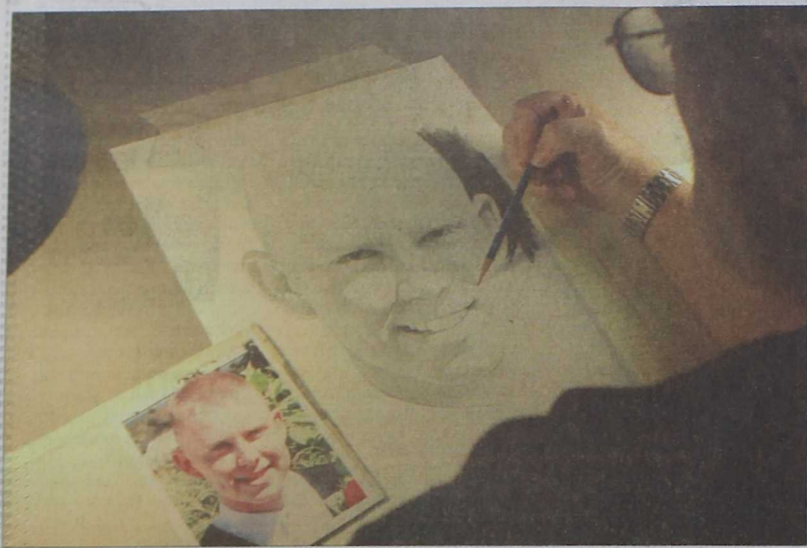
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Cpl. Lucian Friel

Artist: Michael Reagan, 60, a Seattle native, sketches a portrait of Army Pfc. Jeffrey A. Avery, a soldier who died while serving with the 571st Military Police Company, 504th MP Battalion, 42nd MP Brigade, in Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

# The faces of freedom: honoring heroes with the touch of a pencil

Cpl. Lucian Friel  
2nd Marine Division

EDMONDS, Wash. — It's about two in the morning on the West Coast. While many people are just going to bed or have been asleep for a few hours now, one man, with coffee on the pot and the sounds of the '60s echoing in the background of his den, is setting up his drawing board and pencils preparing to start the day's work. He knows he has a lot to accomplish today.

His job is one that not too many people have the heart or the skill to do. The work he does is non-profit in the monetary sense. Instead, the reward for his efforts is a phone call or a letter from a person whose loved one made the ultimate sacrifice in service of their country, thanking him for giving them a lasting memory of their brave hero.

Three and a half years ago, veteran Marine Cpl. Michael Reagan, 60, from Seattle, dedicated his life to draw portraits free of charge for any family of a fallen service member.

Reagan has produced more than 800 portraits of these heroes and continues to touch more lives than he ever thought possible and could ever comprehend.

"This is something that I have to do," Reagan explained. "I have to do it. These portraits are doing something incredible when they get back to their families and that's wonderful."

Reagan, who is no stranger to combat himself, joined the Marine Corps in 1966 and deployed to Vietnam with Company K, 3rd Battalion, 4th Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, in 1967. He spent the majority of his time close to the Demilitarized Zone in the area near Con Thien.

During his tour there, he spent a lot of his downtime drawing portraits of some of the other Marines deployed in the fight with him.

"[Drawing] is something I've always enjoyed doing," he said. "In school I was always the guy who got in trouble for drawing on the desks."

Reagan's skill became an asset to his unit as he was able to draw out maps of areas they patrolled on the ever-changing battlefield. Unfortunately, like many service members who served in Vietnam, Reagan continuously engaged the enemy and witnessed fellow service members die next to him. After his return home from the war in April 1968, he did not really understand why he was spared or what his purpose was in life.

"When I came home from Vietnam I believed I was okay; I had no Purple Hearts or scars and I was in the DMZ when a lot of the bad stuff was going on," he explained. "I had no idea why I made it through when the guys to the left and right of me were dying."

He said it wasn't for another 35 years, that he would finally discover that purpose.

After honorably serving his country, Reagan got out of the Marine Corps in 1969. He attended the Burnley School of Professional Art in Seattle a year later and graduated with a degree in commercial art in 1972. Shortly after, he got a job with the Seattle School District doing software programming and graphics. Then in 1979, he got a job as the director of trademarks and licensing at the University of Washington, where he worked for the next 27 years.

He continued to draw portraits throughout his career and became a well-respected

See PENCIL page 10A

# Sailors take reins from soldier prepare to support warfighter

Cpl. Zachary Dyer  
2nd Marine Aircraft Wing  
(FWD)

AL ASAD, Iraq — With units rotating in and out of Iraq on a near constant basis, transfers of authority are fairly routine. One unit assumes the role and responsibilities of their predecessors, fulfilling the mission until it is their time to return home and be replaced. However, it is uncommon for a unit from one service to assume the role that has long been held by another service.

That is exactly what happened when the Army's 226th Area Support Group transferred authority to the Navy's Base Command Group.

"While we're here, our number-one mission is going to be support for the warfighter," said Navy Capt. Joseph Stuyvesant, the BCG commanding officer. "So anything from infrastructure, like water and electricity, to coordinating and contracting, and billeting. Our job is to provide the best possible support to the Marines, soldiers and sailors that operate out of Al Asad."

The BCG is taking over for soldiers who have been on deck for a year. The BCG is a composite force made of service members drawn from commands throughout the Navy. There are even a few soldiers sprinkled among the sailors. The group is taking responsi-



Cpl. Zachary Dyer

Ceremony: Navy Captain Joseph Stuyvesant, left, the commanding officer of the Navy Base Command Group and Master Petty Officer Randy Spence, the BCG command master, replace the placard hanging under the sign outside the headquarters building during a Transfer of Authority ceremony.

bility of the long-held Army position to help relieve the load on the Army and allow more soldiers to focus on war fighting, according to Stuyvesant.

"This mission, operating a base, is not something that an area support group normally does," explained Stuyvesant. "The Navy has certain skill sets that they are able to put forth. So the Chief of Naval Operations has gone out to look for places that the Navy can bring those skill sets and relieve some of the Army soldiers and Marines that are working so hard and doing so many rotations."

What the ASG has done during their deployment, and what the BCG will continue to do, has a big impact on the service members aboard Al Asad,

according to Army Col. David White, the commanding officer.

"Our customer is that young soldier, sailor, man and Marine that's outside the wire every day, and the things we do here are certainly a combat enhancer to that young serviceman," White said. "That's always been our focus."

For their part, the soldiers of the ASG are proud of what they have accomplished and are looking forward to well deserved rest according to White.

"The deployment went very well," said White. "Early on we sat down with [3rd Marine Aircraft Wing (Forward)] and established goals that we needed to accomplish while we were here."

See REINS page 10A

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Around the world



**Qualification:** Marines move from the standing to kneeling position during an M-4 carbine qualification recently.



**Blast:** Marines stack behind a wall to avoid the blast of a breached door.

# Assault course prepares recon Marines to go deep

Story and photos  
Lance Cpl. Richard Blumenstein  
MCB Camp Butler

**CAMP HANSEN, OKINAWA, Japan** — Shooting in both day and night while weighed down by a full combat load, reconnaissance men and explosive ordnance disposal technicians on Okinawa wrapped up the Dynamic Assault Course Aug. 6-10 to the sound of rounds firing, brass hitting the deck and doors exploding.

The five-week course on Camp Hansen trained the Marines who will serve as the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit's Deep Reconnaissance Platoon.

"Once they graduate this course, they will be the 31st MEU's primary source for raids," said Staff Sgt. Mark Frease, a dynamic assault instructor with the III Marine Expeditionary Force's Special Operations Training Group.

The course trains Marines to be proficient shooters in any environment and improves on their close-quarters battle skills to prepare them for reconnaissance operations, according to Staff Sgt. Jonathan D. White, a close-quarters battle instructor with SOTG.

The Marines were put to the test during the final week with six qualification drills and numerous live-action scenarios. During the scenarios, Marines encountered simulated enemy aggressors and addressed threats commonly encountered in urban operations, said Frease.

"They pretty much train for any scenario they could run into," Frease said.

The course also emphasized target discrimination — the process of distinguishing between enemy aggressors, potential threats and civilians at a moment's notice, Frease said.

The Marines applied tech-

niques to the Dynamic Assault Course that they learned earlier this year during the Dynamic Entry Course. These included the use of explosive charges and mechanical methods to destroy obstacles such as doors and walls during raids.

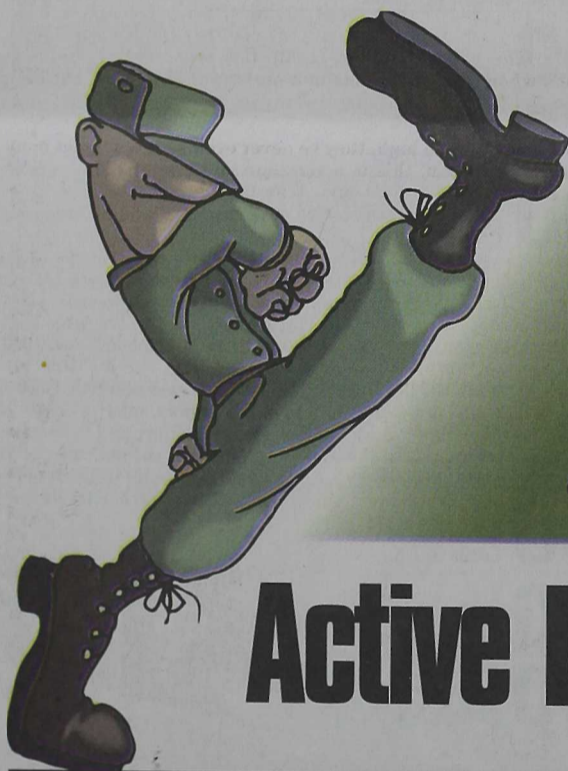
"By inducing shock and surprise, they gain a tactical advantage prior to entering the objective," White said.

During the live-action scenarios, the Marines used special-effect small arms marking system or SESMS rounds against role players during day and nighttime raids in the Central Training Area's Combat Town. They also conducted live-fire exercises focusing on room clearing without role players.

"Each time they run through the house, it's different," Frease said. "We move furniture and block off hallways. It's basically going to prepare the Marines to adapt to any environment." ■



**Target:** A Dynamic Assault Course instructor grades a target during a low-light rifle qualification recently at Camp Hansen's Range 16.



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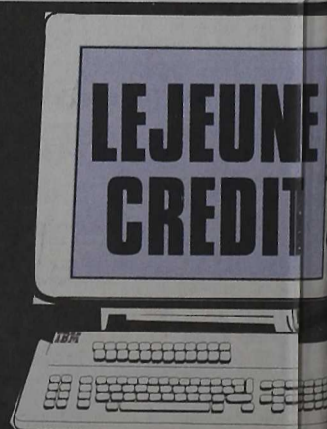
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# Retired Marine, Vietnam veteran returns to the Corps

By Andrew Kalwitz  
Marine Logistics Group

AGADDUM, Iraq — Most Christopher Harty's posit choose just to get paid king it easy on a Florida ough the option was avail- the Marine Corps Chief Officer 5, he seems to find satisfaction in hard work. often desired feature for a nt package.

more than 30 years of mili- rice, the 56-year-old retired gan working with New Department of Treasury, of Taxation and Office of Investigation. He left that ck to work for the Corps 2004 with the Logistics e Coordination Center, tion and Logistics, arters Marine Corps, an l reserve unit.

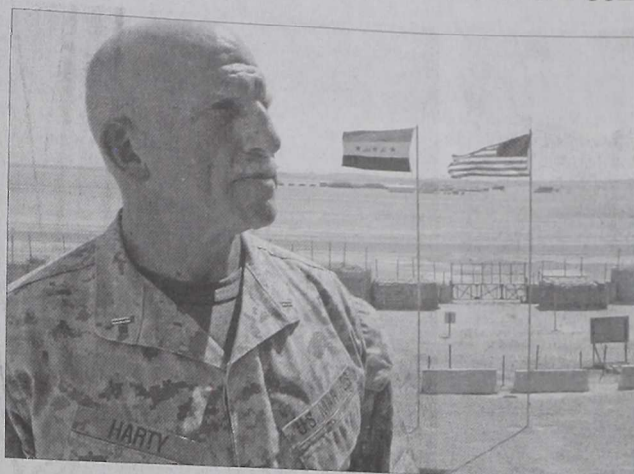
isn't the first time the Corps has called upon the Vietnam veteran. He was lled for six months in April aving behind his job at the y Department as well as a at Camden County College Criminal Justice Studies.

was provided the opportu- deploy when the Marine enter for Lessons Learned, LL, required a senior rank- ne to serve here as a liaison for 2nd Marine Logistics Forward).

t my meat-hook in the air l 'Hey, pick me.' And they rty said.

his 38 years of service, reserved many of the char- es he had when he enlisted 8. He certainly doesn't seem lost his willingness to serve try.

whole reason I joined the Corps at that time was to go



Cpl. Andrew Kalwitz

Range: Chief Warrant Officer 5 Christopher Harty stands atop his workspace in Iraq overlooking the American and Iraqi flags. The 56 year old was recalled from retirement for the second time to serve a deployment here as a liaison officer.

to Vietnam," said Harty. "I never was, and I pray to God I never become, one who ducks an obligation. You get duties and responsibilities; you meet them, face them and do them. You might not always like it and it may not always be pleasant, but too bad."

Harty explained that enlisting in the Marine Corps during the Vietnam era not only allowed him to serve his country, but also had additional incentives as well.

Many employers refused to hire young men who didn't have draft deferments. This didn't leave Harty many options. Interview after interview, he was turned down for the likelihood of being drafted.

Harty also said he and his father had "a really contentious relationship," which also inspired him to join. His father, a former sailor, didn't approve.

"I was going anyway. When I

joined, I was invited out of the house," Harty said. "Never went back. That's just part of life. That's how it is. Things happen."

Many things happened as the years went on. He enlisted January 1969 to serve as a repair shop machinist. Four years later, his contract ended and he began serving as a reservist and a uniformed police officer with the Cherry Hill Police Department in New Jersey. Harty earned the position of detective five years later.

Harty said he may have faced more dangers in Cherry Hill than he did with the Marine Corps. As a police officer, he sustained a shotgun blast to one hand and rolled a vehicle on the other during two separate incidents. But he didn't let Vietnam's dangers turn him off and he wasn't going to let New Jersey's either.

Shortly after making detective,

Hunter said he agreed the Marines' performance was excellent, but he expected no less from them.

"This is how I explain it to them: our school is about five weeks long. They have been here for over four months doing cannon-crewman jobs. So they better be good," Hunter laughed. "And on their off time I still expect them to perform their regular duties in their primary MOS."

In addition to this, the Marines also control one of the task force's traffic control points, and stand guard in shifts throughout the day.

"My crew knew before they got here they would have to be two Marines, and do two jobs; sometimes three. They are all outstanding guys that I'm honored to lead, and words can't express the level of work they have accomplished since we got here," Hunter said.

The Marines said they liked the rare opportunity to do a job they would otherwise not get to enjoy.

"You don't hear much about cannons being used in Iraq anymore, and I guess that's a good thing. Early in the war we were used quite a bit and the cannons were throwing their thunder all the time, but that isn't in anyone's best interests anymore," said Giraldo. "It doesn't do any good to level a city block or a city nowadays, not like the past when you would see entire villages of insurgents. I believe it is good, and it shows we are affecting this country in a positive way. Hopefully it continues to improve like it has in the past, but until we leave we will always be practicing and preparing for the worst."

Not unlike the Greeks who worshipped Zeus and Phyxius of old, the Marines continue to live by an ancient proverb, "Sweat now prevents bloodshed later."

## ARTY

CONTINUED FROM 1A

Force Highlander enjoys employing all weapons systems, and makes sure every- constantly getting good training on their e weapon system. It's great for our guys ho may not get the gun time if they were here else. It shows this unit is ready to atever assets it may have to rid the area urgency and protect the local citizens," unter, a Spokane, Wash., native.

illery affects the minds of the enemy. n hear these cannons all the way on the le of the city when we use them," said Cpl. Christian F. Giraldo, the platoon's nition technician. "They do massive dam- and are a huge show of force. We don't even o be close to our target to provide support ground guys; we can engage targets from 0 miles away."

r guns together provide better coverage rsecting fire," said Medrano, a Salinas, native. "When used together multiple ns can keep constant fire suppression on rget."

e cyclic rate for a cannon going non-stop crew pushing themselves to the edge of stion is about one round every 15 seconds, decreased exponentially for every cannon to the team.

e artillery ammunition is split into four Giraldo explained. The first is the round, ctual projectile that hits the target. The d is the fuse, which is attached to the l and can be set to go off on impact, before t, or on a timer. The third is the powder, o comes in many different sizes and is color for easy recognition on the battlefield. y, the primer goes on, and is the final link e chain that sends the d downrange.

love my job," said do, a Miami native. a true powder mon- l love the sound of the watching the impact, everything. It's great; only downside is that round weighs about pounds."

aring the training, later the illumination ion, the cannon crews l be seen doing their ke clockwork. A group arines would load a d, another would load powder charge, two ld adjust the sights, finally one would pull lanyard and start the ess all over again.

The amazing thing is at half the section t even in artillery Ss (military occupa- al specialties)," said rano, who is serving his second tour in sup- of Operation Iraqi dom. "Any training get like this is great use they have to learn econd job, and they t get the luxury of ig to school first. So far I've done a great job, I'm proud."

Harty and his partner needed to apprehend a 17-year-old kid. After about a half hour of talking, the young man began moving toward his room where he had a bayonet collection. Harty had enough.

"I said, 'Ya know what? Talking's done.'"

That's when Harty made a move to strong-arm the juvenile, taking him down. Harty was able to apprehend the individual but sustained a serious injury during the melee. The suspect had struck Harty over the head with a telephone.

"Opened me up from one side to the other. I just drug him down the steps. Bled all over, but I still got him cuffed," Harty said. "... That was just one of the many times I came home kind of broke and battered. She was always there to kind of put the pieces back together."

The "she" Harty refers to is Monica Harty and the two have been married as long as he has been married to the Corps.

Harty considers himself to be very lucky for the wife he describes as a "strong, loving woman" who has been invaluablely supportive, tending to his wounds whether physical or emotional.

The Harty's lost their oldest son, Chris, in 1995 to a vehicle accident. He was 25 years old. Harty described the loss as "a scar that never truly heals."

"It's something you learn to live with. Maybe that's what closure is; living with it," Harty said. "But life does go on. Not easily, but it goes on."

In addition to the loss of Chris, Monica has stood by her husband through the dangerous nature of his work, including military deployments and a law enforcement career that included approximately 17 years with the SWAT team.

"I have worried about him every

time he left the house, but yet trust- ed that he was well-trained because of the training he received while in the Marines," Monica explained.

She went on to explain she understood who and what she fell in love with. Though she worried for her husband's safety, she said she did not object to the service he so willingly provided.

"To prevent him from doing so would be unconscionable," she explained. "He would not be happy with himself and, if he is not happy, how can we be happy as a couple or a family?"

As much time as Harty may have spent away from his family, Monica explained that they have, in many ways, also benefited from his Marine Corps experience.

"The Corps had an immense effect on him as a father, husband, police officer and all around human being," she said. "He also instilled those qualities in his sons and continues to instill them in our grand- children."

"Harty's guidance seems to have especially had an impact on his youngest son, Aaron, who served as a Marine Corps infantryman for four years.

"He never pressured me to enlist," said Aaron. "I could see firsthand, on a daily basis, the kind of positive impact the Marine Corps can have on a person. I knew I needed to be that kind of person. We are Marines through and through."

Harty returned from a deployment in support of Operation Desert Storm only two days before Aaron graduated basic training. He said he immediately headed south to Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island, S.C., to see his son graduate.

See RETIRED page 10A

## VISITORS

CONTINUED FROM 1A

"We want them to be enthusiastic, to reach out to these people who have never seen these weapons or handled them," said BLT 3/8's Headquarters and Service Company First Sergeant, 1st Sgt. Ronald Jenks.

Another of the groups that came during the day consisted of two scouting groups from different countries meeting together in Malta.

The local Maltese Qrendi Scout Group has seen several American naval vessels when they have come into ports over the years, but their visitors, the Nebil Scout Group from Tunisia, have never had such an opportunity.

"Tunisia's security is so high, they've never even seen a ship let alone come aboard, so for them, this is a very special occasion," said Qrendi Scout Group leader David Schembri. "The fact that they've even been allowed to touch the armaments; this has been an added bonus for them."

Later in the evening, the officers of the Kearsarge and the 22nd MEU(SOC) welcomed a group of young entrepreneurs and diplomatic students from a local college-level foreign relations school with a tour of the ship and a reception in the ship's Ward Room.

Each of the tour groups was welcomed with open arms and hopefully will spread news of the welcome they received from the Marines and sailors of the 22nd MEU(SOC) and the Kearsarge, said one tour leader.

"Public relations are not what you see in the papers, what you see on television, but what you actually touch," said Schembri as he watched his young scouts interact with the Marines. "You can get nothing better than good public relations by educating the young children, because they will grow to appreciate what things actually are rather than reading about them on the news." ■

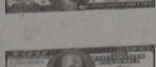
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**PENCIL**

CONTINUED FROM 6A

and successful artist. "I was voted the most commercial artist in my class," he explained. "I knew how to make money out of rocks, so to speak. I was always working two jobs trying to make a living as an artist."

Reagan has drawn more than 1,600 portraits of celebrities and notable personalities including Elizabeth Taylor, Katherine and Audrey Hepburn and Harrison Ford. He has drawn every Heisman Trophy winner and a majority of the National Football League's Hall of Fame members. Almost every portrait is signed by the celebrity and Reagan would have them sign multiple drawing boards so he could sell more. A lot of his profits went to charity organizations. He has raised more than 10 million dollars for charities across the country.

He has also drawn portraits of six U.S. presidents, including President George W. Bush and first lady Laura Bush. Reagan personally presented the original portraits to them in 2002, and they currently hang in the White House.

Reagan knew how to market his work and made a lot of money doing it. He owned a few of his own art studios throughout the Edmonds community. His life was, as he thought at the time, going in the direction he wanted it to — to be "the" great artist.

But it was an unexpected meeting with a service member's widow a year and a half later that would change Reagan's life forever.

Cherise Johnson, a resident of Boise, Idaho, and wife of Michael Johnson, a soldier who died during the beginning of Operation Iraqi Freedom, heard about Reagan's work in an NBC broadcast of the story of Reagan's work with charities. She found his e-mail address through his Web site and asked him one simple question.

"She asked me 'how much would it cost for you to do a portrait of my husband?'" Reagan explained. "I told her that I would do it for free."

Reagan had found his purpose. Before he knew it, more requests started to come his way.

"I decided that I had to do them all," he said.

As the war continued and word of Reagan's project spread, the requests from

families asking for portraits multiplied.

In June 2005, Reagan decided it was time to devote himself to these portraits full-time and retired from his job with the University of Washington.

"There was no way I could do what I was doing and still have time to keep working," he explained. "This is my duty now."

On average, Reagan completes two portraits per day. Each drawing can take up to five hours to finish.

The veteran doesn't just draw a portrait of the service members, he learns about their lives and who they were.

"Their families will send me videos and pictures and tell me stories, and I take this all in before I draw their picture," he said.

As one can imagine, a task like Reagan's can be emotionally draining. So Reagan takes regular walks around his quaint, evergreen-covered neighborhood. The walks help him relax and deal with the raw emotions he endures on a daily basis.

From the time he receives a request until the time he finishes a portrait, Reagan feels the service member's presence with him.

"I'm not a real religious

person, but I can feel their energy as soon as I start on their portrait until I put it in the mail to be sent to the family," he said. "When I send a portrait to a family, that person's energy goes with it, and when the family opens that package, it's there with them."

Reagan makes himself available to every family member he speaks with and stays in contact with them even after they receive their portrait.

On May 11, Marsha Mattek, the mother of Lance Cpl. John Mattek Jr., a 24-year-old Marine with the Camp Lejeune, N.C. — based 2nd Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, 2nd Marine Division, who died in Iraq after wounds received June 8, 2005 in the Al Anbar province, sent Reagan a letter after receiving the portrait of her son.

"I just received the portrait of our son, Johnny," she wrote. "There truly are no words to express to you the beauty of this portrait. You brought out the magic that Johnny held so well in his smile. Instead of tears, when I opened the portrait your beautiful work brought a smile to my face and warmth to my heart, as you truly captured what our son loved doing and that was

anything in my life rewarding than this do it all over again."

The unbelievable love that goes into a portrait is evident in Reagan's unending commitment to the families of his loved ones.

"I'm a Vietnam Marine doing portraits every bit of love and I have inside of me explained. 'I will be as long as I may have as long as families keep for them.'"

Throughout his life of drawing, Reagan has given him back the feel and has changed his outlook on life.

In Vietnam, he was a country when it came to him. Now he is a man calling by giving those who have sacrificed so much.

So every morning long as it takes as long as he can, Reagan will sharpen his pencil set up his drawing boards, preparing a new hero's story and telling it. And as long as there are faces of the men and women that give America will never be forgotten.

ments will not degrade the amount of time needed to process a request and easier to update the OMPF, often, said Piriak. It works for all parties involved.

For more information regarding OMPF's for records, contact the Personnel Management Support Branch at 800-268-3710 or for prior to 1997 visit the eVetRecs Web site at [www.archives.gov/veterans/trecs/index.html](http://www.archives.gov/veterans/trecs/index.html). ■

**IRAQ**

CONTINUED FROM 4A

Marines of 1st Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment to Fallujah.

"It was a shocker, and I'll admit I was a little nervous when I found out," he added. "I look back at it now, and the lack of sleep stands out a lot. We were always on the move. The first couple of weeks we were there was like hell on Earth. I can say now, it was the worst time in the world, but at the same time we got to be Marines and do what we were trained for."

Morrison said many events happened during the deployment he will always remember, but one stands out among all others.

"November 14, 2004, that's the day I'll always remember. It puts chills down my spine when I think of it," said Morrison. "It was the day Sergeant Peralta gave his life for the rest of us. When we cleared a room, it all happened so fast. Before I knew it, Peralta had taken the grenade and saved the rest of us. I know if it wasn't for him, the rest of us would've been injured a lot worse and some probably wouldn't have made it out."

Morrison described Peralta as a hero and said he may not be here today if it wasn't for his bravery.

Peralta is currently being considered for the Medal of Honor for his actions that day.

"I think being in the Battle of Fallujah as my first deployment put things in perspective for me. I now relate everything to combat and trying to keep my Marines safe," said Morrison.

Lance Cpl. Christopher J. Telles, a team leader in Morrison's squad, said it's comforting to know his squad leader has experience in Iraq and trusts him completely.

After returning from his first deployment to Iraq Morrison returned to Hawaii and began training with his squad for his next deployment to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and departed with 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines

in January 2006.

"Afghanistan was a lot different because we were constantly hiking up mountains. It was a different world compared to Iraq," said Morrison.

While in Afghanistan, Morrison's squad was involved in Operation Mountain Lion and was awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal with Combat Valor for their actions during the operation.

"A deployment is a deployment, but I liked Afghanistan better because I felt like we had more of a reason to be there because of the attacks, Sept. 11," he added.

After Afghanistan, Morrison returned to Hawaii and had to decide if he would extend or re-enlist and report somewhere else.

"I originally re-enlisted and wasn't going to deploy with 1/3 again. However, I cancelled my orders to deploy with 1/3," he said. "I did it for my Marines. I wanted to help them out because I was expecting the next deployment to be similar to the first. It feels good when you put your



Morrison

training to use. In combat you're never going to know how exactly to act; every situation determines how you react and training plays a big role in that."

Currently in Barwanah, Morrison is assisting in the fight to help the Iraqi people achieve a state of self-governance.

Morrison said the toughest part of the deployment for him is making the transition from combat to winning the hearts and minds.

"I recently re-enlisted to be a Mountain Warfare instructor at Bridgeport, Calif.," he said. "I'd like to deploy again to Afghanistan when I get there, but we'll see."

After his next enlistment, Morrison said he would like to be part of the Special Weapons and Tactics team for the Seattle Police Department.

"I will admit, there's no better job than being a squad leader. If you have a good squad leader then you'll have good Marines. It's an NCO war, so I can't think of anything else I'd want to be if I stay in." ■

**HISTORY**

CONTINUED FROM 5A

Marine Corps in Quantico, Va., said Doris Piriak, assistant branch head of the Personnel Management Support Branch.

The process of obtaining records is completely digital, said Piriak.

Marines requesting records only need to fill out a Records Request Form located in the forms section of the MMSB Web site at <https://www.mmsb.usmc.mil/>.

The process is simple, said Piriak. Submit the form to the address listed with the specific documents needed, and usually within five business days the person ordering will receive a CD with all of the documents in a digitally readable format.

"The goal is to eventually have a completely electronic OMPF," said Piriak. "This would eliminate the need for paper copies and will save time and risk of it being lost when Marines change duty station."

This method ensures these doc-

uments will not degrade over time. It reduces the amount of time needed to process a request and easier to update the OMPF, often, said Piriak. It works for all parties involved.

For more information regarding OMPF's for records, contact the Personnel Management Support Branch at 800-268-3710 or for prior to 1997 visit the eVetRecs Web site at [www.archives.gov/veterans/trecs/index.html](http://www.archives.gov/veterans/trecs/index.html). ■

**CENSUS**

CONTINUED FROM 1A

for the Iraqi army and police.

It also serves a tactical purpose by clarifying the Iraqi army's picture on who is coming in and out of their assigned area, making it easy for them to watch for potential insurgents.

This area may be a familiar site to the Marines from Battery K, but they also learn from their counterparts in the Iraqi army.

"The nature of the war we are fighting now is more of a policing operation and this was very educational for my Marines," Piller said.

Mohammed explained that coordination from the local people is what helped bring the vio-

lence in his area of operations to an all-time low.

"First, I give credit to coalition forces who are in-hand with the Iraqi police and Iraqis but most importantly I give credit to the people. They have been very cooperative in helping kick the bad guys out and provide good intel for our area of operation," he said.

This increased security in Anbar could be many reasons but one that seems to hold most weight with the local population is the presence of Iraqi Forces.

"Things in our AO have been quiet for several months and that is due to the Iraqi army police being extremely well-trained and leadership even being on par with ours," Piller said. "(The people) would rather be peace than their own instead of us." ■

**RETIRED**

CONTINUED FROM 9A

Aaron now has children of his own and a wife to help raise them.

"That's another woman who runs my life," Harty joked. "I have a great daughter-in-law who is a fine mother to those three grandchildren. So God's blessed me. I'm very, very fortunate."

Aaron also explained he feels fortunate. Not only to have his wife, but to have his father.

"He is one of the most dedicated, disciplined and motivated individuals around," he said. "Is it hard for all of us that he's over there again? Of course it is. But if I could, I'd be there too and I understand and appreciate what he's doing."

"I'm actually a little jealous," he said. "I want to see him and look forward to him coming home."

Along with Aaron and the rest of the students at Camden County College in Jersey await his return. Harty will miss his position there as a professor, which he held from January 1996 until he was promoted in 2003.

Until Harty returns home, the Marines at Camp Lejeune are the closest things Harty has to a teaching job and a present family.

"As far as family goes, they are a great group of relatives. As long as you're a Marine you're always going to have friends when you're other Marines around," Harty explained. "My wife thinks it's time for me to grow up and playing with the boys." ■

**REINS**

CONTINUED FROM 6A

Everything we set, we accomplished, and we accomplished that with [2nd Marine Aircraft Group (Forward)]. It's been a good tour for us."

The members of the BCG are excited about getting their chance to contribute to the mission according to Stuyvesant.

"I think all my folks are looking forward to it," said Stuyvesant. "We went through a lot of hard work, and people kept focused on coming out here and doing the mission. I think we have a very excited group. We're happy to be here and are looking forward to working with everybody." ■

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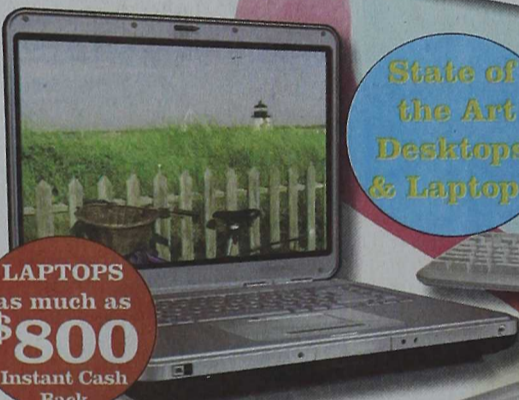


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## Intramural soccer kicks off

Story and photos  
Pfc. Ryan E. Turnage  
Marine Corps Base

It's the beginning of the season for the Camp Lejeune men's intramural soccer league; four teams played their first game Aug. 16, at WPT Field House.

The first game pitted the 2nd Assault Amphibian Battalion against the 2nd Light Armored Reconnaissance team at 6 p.m.

The 2nd LAR side started off strong with an early goal by Lawrence Lee, giving them a 1-0 lead that survived through the first half. 2nd AA Bn. fought back in the second half with a late goal to tie the game 1-1.

"Both teams are prepared for this game so either team has a chance at this point," said a spectator in the stands.

The game remained tied through the final whistle.

Jared C. Peters plays forward for the 2nd LAR team. Practices are tough, he said, combined with physical training and a long day of work.

"It's all in good fun. Most of the players volunteer because they love the game," Peters said.

John A. Gogan, 2nd AA Bn.'s assistant coach, said proper hydration and practice is the key to a successful game.

"Deploying to Iraq is good practice in itself," Gogan said.

Each team practices

before and after their routine physical training to prepare for the season.

Although neither team came out on top during the game, they both were able to see where they stood in their ability to play soccer as a team.

The second game of the night pitted 1st Battalion 9th Marine Regiment against Combat Logistics Battalion 24.

1/9 took the field as soon as the first game was over and began running practice drills to prepare for the game. CLB 24 shortly followed and began their own practice session.

When the whistle blew, 1/9 took possession and proceeded down the field. They took the lead with an easy goal by Crisor Boyer. Both teams kept their composure and played the game.

At the end of the first half 1/9 dominated 2-0. CLB 24 came out looking for a win but couldn't "seal the deal" against the much-prepared 1/9.

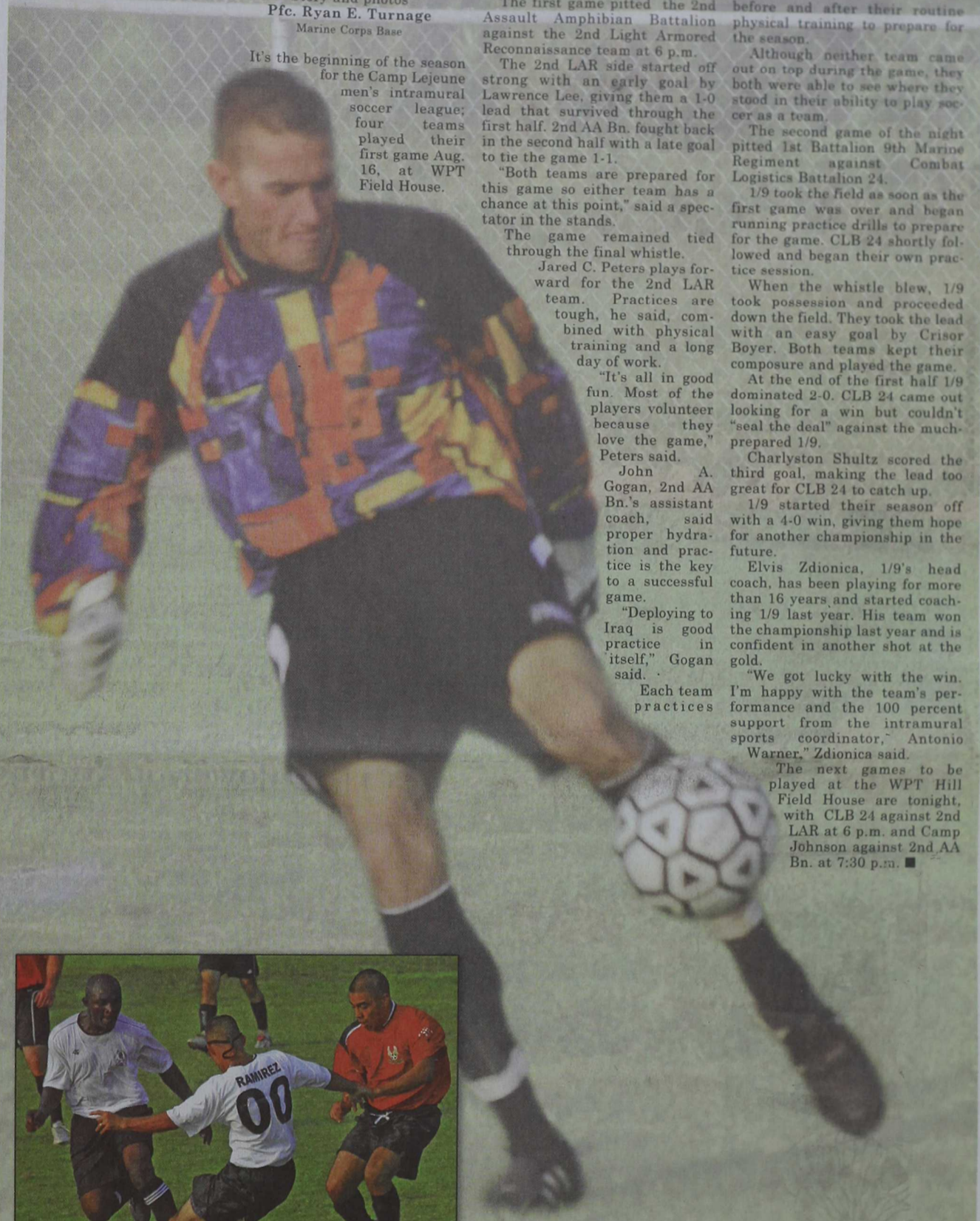
Charlyston Shultz scored the third goal, making the lead too great for CLB 24 to catch up.

1/9 started their season off with a 4-0 win, giving them hope for another championship in the future.

Elvis Zdionica, 1/9's head coach, has been playing for more than 16 years and started coaching 1/9 last year. His team won the championship last year and is confident in another shot at the gold.

"We got lucky with the win. I'm happy with the team's performance and the 100 percent support from the intramural sports coordinator," Antonio Warner," Zdionica said.

The next games to be played at the WPT Hill Field House are tonight, with CLB 24 against 2nd LAR at 6 p.m. and Camp Johnson against 2nd AA Bn. at 7:30 p.m. ■



**Season opener:** Above, Xavier Ramirez with the 2nd Light Armored Reconnaissance team tries to get around a defender from the 2nd Assault Amphibian Battalion. The two teams fought for possession but Ramirez came out with the ball. At right, Matthew Ledet with the 2nd LAR, traps the ball in front of 2nd AA Bn.'s goal. He attempted a shot but was unsuccessful in scoring a goal to win the game.



Design by Kelli Huffman

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# Not all drum are puppies: An angler's dream

## Hook Line & SINKER



Hook Line & Sinker

Jamie Cameron

There is a place in coastal Carolina where a fisherman's dreams can come true.

To get there, you need to trailer your boat through the unspoiled pocosins and marshlands of "Down East" Carteret County, through the tiny watermen's villages of Stacy and Sea Level and Merrimon. Somewhere at the end of the road (it doesn't matter which road) you will come to the shores of the lower Neuse River, near where it enters the Pamlico Sound. It is here that the mature red drum come up to feed on the abundant blue crabs, mullet and menhaden, to bulk up before heading back out to sea to spawn.

According to Brian Degan of Beaufort, the adult or "grown" drum as they are known to Down Easters, enter the lower Neuse River in early to mid-August and may stay through September, depending on the salinity levels in the water. Heavy rain events, like hurricanes, will lower the salinity of the river and drive the drum back out to the ocean — thus ending the river run for the year.

Brian was kind enough to invite my wife, Sue, and I on the

first "grown" drum expedition of the season last Saturday night. We were also joined by Jacqui Jenkins, a veteran drum angler and sea-faring lass from Newfoundland, Canada.

Nighttime is the right time when targeting big drum in the summer. As the sun sets, the fish move up from deeper channels where they have spent the heat of the day, to feed on crabs and baitfish in the shallows.

By 7 p.m., Brian had us positioned on the edge of a natural depression on the river bottom where the depth went from 6-7 feet down to 16-18 feet. Once the boat was anchored, we set out a chum slick of freshly-ground menhaden (caught in a cast net on the way to our fishing hole) and cast out five stout rods baited with chunks of mullet.

Then we settled into the monotonous chore of keeping the hooks baited amid the onslaught of crabs, bluefish, rays and lord knows what else while waiting for the big bite. Of course, watching the orange globe of the sun sinking behind the opposite shoreline and the picturesque town of Oriental made the situation quite tolerable.

We had been soaking baits for more than an hour when the first drum hit — a steady pull against the drag was all it took for the fish to hook itself in the corner of the mouth, thanks to the specially-designed circle hooks we were using. Someone handed Sue the rod and told her to hang on through the drum's initial run.

When the line stopped peeling off the reel, Sue started cranking and the fight was on — a good 10 minutes of back and forth that became more intense once the fish had its first glimpse of the flat-bottomed skiff we were fishing from.

Like a well-trained professional, my wife brought her first big drum to the net and Brian expertly scooped the fish and hauled it onto the deck. A quick pause for pictures and measurements (48 inches in length, 28 inches in girth, approximately 50 pounds) and we gently placed the fish back into the river.

Adult drum are protected in North Carolina to ensure plenty of fish for the generations of anglers to come. It is a small price to pay for the privilege of catching these great fish and we gladly released the copper-colored beauty so it could spawn and renew the resource.

By the time we had our second hit, the sky was completely dark and we had taken to wearing headlamps to keep track of the lines.

As a "grown" drum first-timer, I was elected to the fish and so I settled in against the powerful and dogged determination of the beast at the end of the line. Eventually, I was able to bring the drum to for measurements and photos. My fish measured 48 inches and probably weighed around 30-35 pounds as big as Sue's trophy, but a fine fish nonetheless.

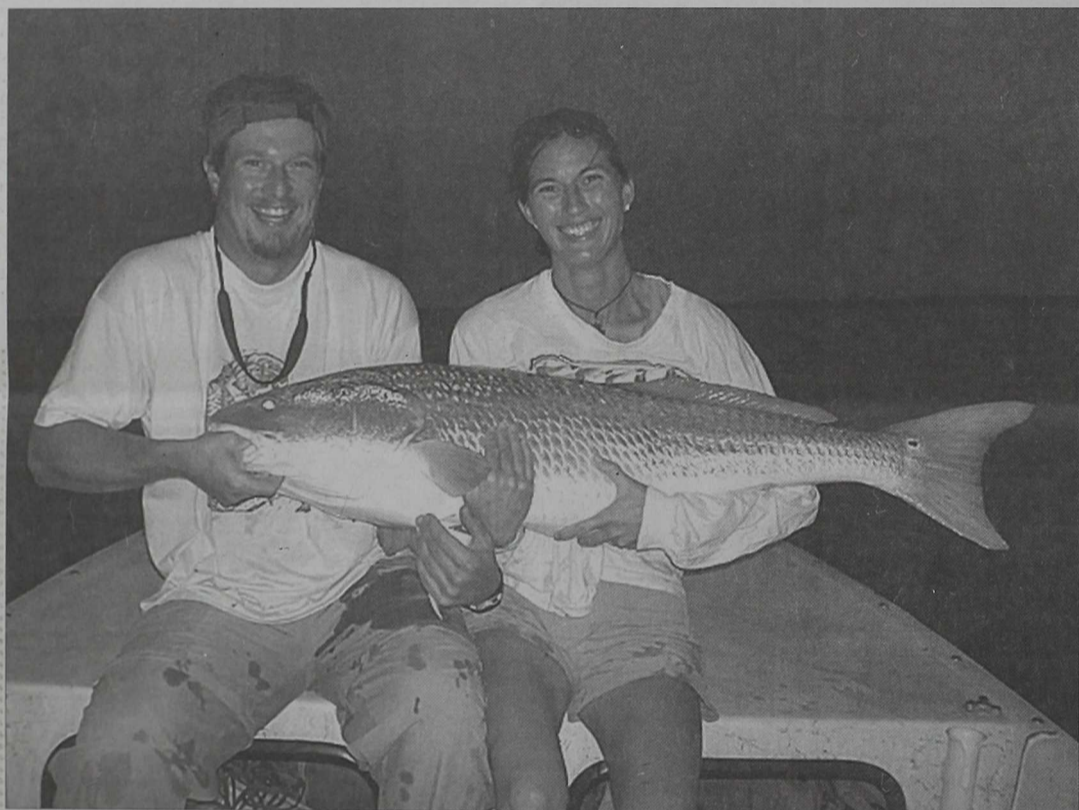
We waited around for another hour or so, hoping for another bite, but the bait ran out and the wind up several notches — it was time to head for home.

Running a boat at night is dangerous. A spot essential, even on familiar waters. Crabbers a stantly shifting their traps and nothing can ruin a night of fishing faster than a crab pot wrapped the prop.

Luckily, Brian is a seasoned boater and feels comfortable on the Neuse River. His expert hand and Jacqui's timely spotlighting got us back to the safe and sound.

I laid my head down on the pillow some time around midnight and drifted off with visions of big red drum dancing in my dreams. Some guys just can't get enough.

*Editor's note: Cameron neglected to include inadvertently clobbered his wife on the head with a 10-ounce lead sinker shortly after she landed her first big drum. Fishing at night, especially on a small boat with crew can be dangerous. Luckily, Sue only suffered a small but deep cut on the top of her head. She bled profusely for a short time, but Sue toughed her ham-handed husband could catch a fish. She will continue to be as forgiving throughout the remainder of the marriage.* ■



Jamie Cameron

**Big fish:** Brian Degan and Susan Cameron pose with a 50-pound red drum Cameron caught and released last weekend. The red drum is North Carolina's state fish and protected by strict harvest restrictions to prevent over-fishing.

## Tide tables for New River Inlet

National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration

Today		
High tide	3:37 a.m.	4:32 p.m.
Low tide	9:35 a.m.	11:13 p.m.
Friday		
High tide	4:39 a.m.	5:25 p.m.
Low tide	10:35 a.m.	
Saturday		
High tide	5:34 a.m.	6:14 p.m.
Low tide	12:01 a.m.	11:31 p.m.
Sunday		
High tide	6:25 a.m.	6:59 p.m.
Low tide	12:44 a.m.	12:24 p.m.
Monday		
High tide	7:12 a.m.	7:42 p.m.
Low tide	1:24 a.m.	1:14 p.m.
Tuesday		
High tide	7:59 a.m.	8:25 p.m.
Low tide	2:04 a.m.	2:04 p.m.
Wednesday		
High tide	8:45 a.m.	9:09 p.m.
Low tide	2:43 a.m.	2:54 p.m.

## THE WILD WORLD OF LEJEUNE SPORTS

### Bicycle Rodeo

**Saturday**  
The Onslow County Parks and Recreation Department will sponsor a bicycle rodeo for children ages 4-14 Saturday. The rodeo will be held beside the Jacksonville Mall. The event will be from 8:30-10 a.m. The event includes minor bike repairs, helmet fitting, bike skills course and bike registration. Free helmets will be handed out while supplies last. For more information, call 347-5332 or visit [www.co.onslow.nc.us/parks](http://www.co.onslow.nc.us/parks).

### Intramural skeet shoot

**Aug. 30**  
Teams of five shooters and one alternate must submit a letter of intent to the Camp Lejeune Semper Fit Sports Office no later than Aug. 20. The forms can be picked up outside the Intramural Sports Office in Goettge Memorial Field House. Intent forms must have command endorsement. Each team must have at least four members in active-duty status. Civilian employees or contractors assigned to the unit may also participate, but cannot take up more than two positions on a team. There will be a mandatory captain's meeting

Aug. 29 at 3:30 p.m. at McIntyre Skeet Range aboard Camp Lejeune. For more information, call Mike Singhas at 451-2061.

### 2007 Bob Kropinack Memorial Soccer Tournament

**Sept. 1-2**  
The 2007 Bob Kropinack Memorial Soccer Tournament, Sept. 1-2, welcomes Classic, Challenge and Rec teams, U-9 thru U-18 girls, U-9 thru U-14 boys, for the competition. Costs are \$275 for U-9 thru U-10 teams, \$300 for U-11 thru U-14 teams and \$325 for U-15 and up. Winners and finalists of the younger age groups will receive a team trophy and medals. Winners and finalists of the older age groups will receive a team trophy and teeshirts. Visit the Swansboro Soccer Association Web site at [www.ssa-nc.com](http://www.ssa-nc.com) for the application. Call the tournament director at 910-358-3484 or e-mail him at [dkropinack@ec.rr.com](mailto:dkropinack@ec.rr.com).

### Free Duke football game

**Sept. 1**  
The Duke University football team

will host Military Appreciation Day Sept. 1 when it plays the University of Connecticut. Active-duty, reservist and retired service members can receive up to four free tickets with their military identification card. For more information, call 1-877-357-DUKE.

### Goettge Memorial Field House closure

**through Sept. 10**  
Goettge Memorial Field House is closed for scheduled improvements until Sept. 10 (opening date is tentative at this time). The French Creek Fitness Center's gym (open daily) and Area 4 Gym (5:30 a.m. - 8 p.m. Monday-Friday) are available for your convenience. For additional information on the availability of gym space, please contact the Semper Fit Sports office at 451-0022.

### Marine Corps Half Marathon

**Sept. 29**  
The Marine Corps Half Marathon begins and ends at Russell Marine and Family Services Center. The run takes place on a certified, flat, fast, asphalt surface with a minimum of turns, which is conducive to establishing numerous record-setting performances within the one event. Any runner wishing to run for record at these distances must contact the Race Director for

further instructions. Aid stations will be located every two miles with water and Gatorade. Awards will be presented to the top three male and female overall and overall masters finishers, and to the top three male and female finishers in the following age categories: 12 and under, 13-16, 17-19, 20-24, 25-29, 30-34, 35-39, 40-44, 45-49, 50-54, 55-59, 60-64, 65-69, 70 and over. Top overall finishers are not eligible for age group awards. This race is open to everyone. The entry fee is \$25 if received by noon, Sept. 24. Late registration fee will be \$30 for all entries received after noon on Sept. 24 and on race day, Sept. 29, at the race site from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 a.m. The registration fee is non-refundable. For convenience, credit card registration is available online at [www.active.com](http://www.active.com). For more race information, call 451-0092.

### Infant of Prague 5K 1-Mile Fun Run

**Oct. 12**  
Runners can register for the 5th Annual Infant of Prague School 5-Kilometer and 1-mile Fun Run by going online at [www.active.com](http://www.active.com). Entry forms can also be picked up at IOP School from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday through Friday. All entry forms must be returned no later than Oct. 12th. Entry fees include refreshments and T-shirts for all participants and awards for top finishers.

### Taking the troops fishing



Gunnery Sgt. Clinton A. Parks (center) and his wife Kay (right) pose with their guests, Ryan Tatum (second from the left) and Bryan Massie (left), Marine Corps Air Station New River Marines and their big catch, a nice king mackerel.

### Pre-season preview: Wide receivers



Inside Fantasy Football with Ryan Hurst

Unless you can draft the 1984 version of Dan Marino, fantasy rule #1 is don't draft a quarterback in the first six picks of a fantasy football draft. Really, unless you are going to get Peyton Manning, a QB in the first round is almost always a bad idea. Doing the math, this pretty much means you shouldn't even be looking for a wide receiver until the fourth round at the earliest.

However, this doesn't mean you can neglect the receiver position. Depending on your league, you may be able to start up to three receivers. This can be great if an injury takes down your leading rusher or if a QB has a down year. Receivers are the toughest position to follow each week because they are dependant on the quarterback to get them the ball, but if they have a big week, it can often mean an easy win.

#### Wide receivers:

Steve Smith is the most explosive receiver in the NFL. He plays for a team with two strong-armed quarterbacks who both lock onto receivers and will throw into triple coverage. While this makes them both fantasy poison (see last week's article) Smith is poised to have a huge year.

I know the Rams are going to be bad. But I also know that they have an offense that is going to score a bunch of points. They have a stud running back, a top-five quarterback and a proven touchdown-scoring receiver in Torrey Holt. He has had seven consecutive 1,000 yards seasons and is the only go-to receiver the team has.

Marvin Harrison/Reggie Wayne are practically the same receiver. Take either one and you are going to get a touchdown and close to 100 yards every week. The Colts offense is a machine, and taking any of their skill position players will work out well.

Ocho Nocho has already stated that his goal this year is to score a touchdown each week so he can unveil a new dance. Last year, the creators of the Madden football video game incorporated his touchdown dances into the game, which has inspired Chad Johnson to try and get 16 new dances into next year's game. He may not be consistent, but when Carson Palmer looks his way, fantasy owners can expect huge weeks.

Terrell Owens is the biggest headache in the NFL — outside of Michael Vick. But he is amazing. He is so strong and so fast nobody can guard him. Despite leading the league in drops, he scored 11 touchdowns and has a quarterback who will throw to him 10 times a game. Lucky for fantasy owners, they don't have to deal with his attitude — only his production.

This is the last week of fantasy player projections. Next week I am going to look into coaching and the effect it has on both fantasy and real-life teams. One of the most overlooked aspects of professional football, a bad coach can absolutely bury a talented player — while a good coach will allow even the most mediocre player to excel. ■



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# Devilpups win season opener: 5-0 shutout



**Gooooooallll!** In the photo sequence above, Lejeune High School's freshman midfielder Alex Thoele makes his run down the sideline, beating his Northside High School defender and then sends the ball into the net after side-stepping the opposing goaltender.

Story and photos by **Jamie Cameron**  
Assistant managing editor

Five different Devilpups scored in Lejeune High School's 5-0 soccer triumph over Northside High School Monday.

The non-conference away game was Lejeune's season opener.

"I saw things that I liked," said Devilpup head coach Glen Davis. "I like that I have found a few guys who can take the ball and finish with it."

The Devilpups "finished" early and often against their larger, 2A rivals. The game was barely underway when sophomore midfielder Zach Meneses Kynast tossed a throw-in down by the Northside goal to Christian Kohlmann. The junior midfielder gave the ball one touch before

sending it past the Monarch keeper for the first tally of the 2007 season.

Less than halfway through the first half, the Devilpups struck again; this time off a set piece. Sam Gallagher sent a corner kick through the Northside box that found the head of Marvin Whitehurst. Whitehurst set the table for his teammate, Jordan Willis, and the freshman scored his first varsity goal to make the score 2-0.

Lejeune kept pressure off its goal with aggressive midfield play and stout defense. The Devilpup backs effectively neutralized Northside's dangerous strikers and foiled several runs through the middle of the field. Gallagher, a junior defender, was especially active throughout the game in driving the opposing attackers back across midfield.

In spite of the oppressive heat and humidity, the Lejeune players kept up the pressure in the second half. The home-standing Monarchs came out of the break with several strong runs and appeared to be winning the battle for possession of the ball.

The Devilpups weathered the storm and put the game out of reach when freshman midfielder Alex Thoele made a great run down the sideline, beating his defender and pulling the Monarch keeper out of the net. Thoele finished the play with a solid blast into the upper corner of the net, increasing the Lejeune advantage to 3-0 with 28 minutes to play.

Just 10 minutes after that, freshman forward Caleb Sommers collected a loose ball in front of the Northside goal and chipped a 35-yarder over the keeper's


head to make the score 4-0.

Northside's Monarchs never let up at their home opener. The Monarch keeper continued to press Lejeune's defense, forcing goalkeeper Patrick Sokol to make several saves, including a spectacular punch-out that was sent into the far upper corner with just minutes left in the game. Lejeune's senior co-captain elevated to the celebration and preserved the shutout.

The Devilpups padded their lead with a final tally in stoppage time. Fishhook defender Justin Noboa snuck into the net and flicked a shot over the goalies' heads left on the clock for the 5-0 shutout.


"We need to work on our fitness and staying together on defense," said Davis after the game. "But believe me, I'm happy to get this win." ■

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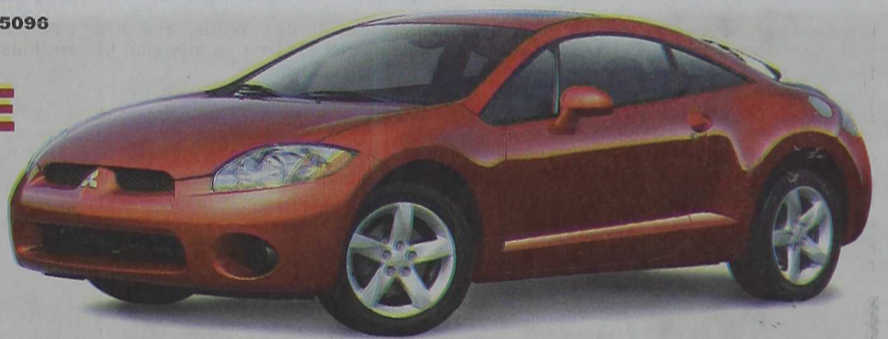
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## Devilpups' tennis team readies for season



Jamie Cameron

**Volley:** Paulina Pine, Lejeune High School girls tennis team co-captain, hits a return during a recent practice session. The team competes in the 1A Coastal Plains Conference and, according to head coach Sam Jones, is looking to peak mid-season as the conference tournament approaches. "We're a promising young team working on developing our skills at the varsity level," said Jones. The Lady Devilpups open their season Aug. 28 in an away match against Richlands High School.

## Lejeune High School Tennis Schedule

Date	Team	Site	Time
Aug. 28	Richlands	Home	3:30 p.m.
Aug. 29	Jacksonville	Away	3:30 p.m.
Aug. 30	Richlands	Away	3:30 p.m.
Sept. 5	Topsail	Home	4:00 p.m.
Sept. 11	Dixon	Home	4:00 p.m.
Sept. 12	East Carteret	Away	4:00 p.m.
Sept. 19	Jones Sr.	Home	4:00 p.m.
Sept. 24	Topsail	Away	4:00 p.m.
Sept. 25	Jacksonville	Home	3:30 p.m.
Sept. 26	Dixon	Away	4:00 p.m.
Oct. 1	East Carteret	Home	4:00 p.m.
Oct. 4	Jones Sr.	Away	4:00 p.m.
Oct. 10	Conference Tourney	Topsail	TB
Oct. 11	Conference Rain date	Topsail	TB
Oct. 16	Dual Team 1st RD		
Oct. 19-20	Regional 1st RD Singles		
Oct. 26-27	States 1st RD Singles		

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# Marines and Iraqi police host Youth Soccer Day

**Gunnery Sgt. Eric Johnson**  
2nd Marine Division

**HADITHAH, Iraq** — The morning of July 4 started out like any other day inside the Hadithah Police Station. The Iraqi police conducted morning police call, uniforms were set straight, and reports were prepared. The Marines of the Hadithah Police Transition Team gave guidance to their Iraqi counter-parts, making corrections wherever necessary. As the heat began filling the building, the anticipation for the day's events grew.

Within the building's multi-purpose room, the morning formation lined up. However, the formation wasn't made up of Iraqi police officers standing at attention, ready for drill practice. In fact, no one was standing at attention. July 4 was the first Youth Soccer Day held at the Hadithah Police Station.

More than 200 local children gathered at the police station for a chance to play soccer with their police officers. The police and children were equally excited for the day's festivities.

The first hour was spent posing for pictures. After the initial photo opportunity and introductions, soccer balls were passed out. Through donations from friends and

family back in the United States and from some Iraqi police officers, more than 100 soccer balls were given to the kids. Along with the soccer balls, hundreds of toys, stuffed animals, and backpacks were also donated.

Lt. Col. Mazher Hasan Khazal, the Hadithah police chief said, "today is a great day, not only for the Iraqi police, but for all of Hadithah. We will never forget what our Marine brothers have done to make this possible."

The current Iraqi Police Station is actually a hardened building, which once served as the city's Youth Center. The Marines and Iraqi police took over the building in October 2006. For the past several years, there hasn't been a need for a youth center, most of the city's children would rarely go outside.

The need for some type of outlet for the kids during their summer school break, a time when terrorists recruit young children, prompted the PiTT Marines to come up with a youth-oriented soccer program.

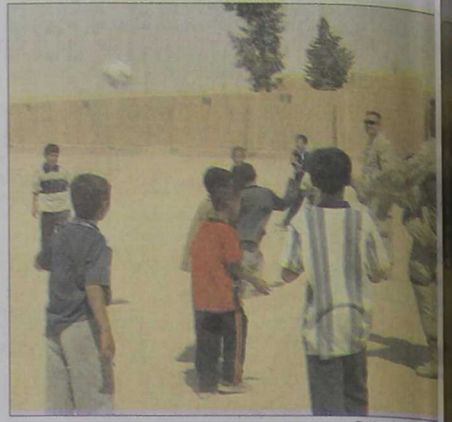
Members of the PiTT team were sitting around talking about their families one night with the Iraqi leadership. They tried to explain the Boy and Girl Scouts of America to the police chief, and he asked

if they could help set something like that up in Hadithah. That's when the PiTT came up with the idea for a soccer camp. The police chief loved the idea.

Friendliness from the locals toward Marine and Iraqi Forces over the last few years has been minimal. Anyone approaching a Marine or Iraqi patrol was looked at as a possible insurgent, and not allowed to get too close. The city has seen a shift in the security and the attitude of the local people. The success of the Youth Soccer Day proved the rebirth this city has seen. Marines and police alike were covered with hugging hands and grabbing fingers.

"I thought that at one point the kids were just going to mob me over," said Cpl. Joseph Dayner, PiTT communications advisor. "I just kept pushing through the crowd passing out toys."

The Youth Soccer Day was a testament to the successful counter-insurgency campaign. 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines is conducting in the Hadithah Triad. The Iraqi police have played a large role in the city's stability. The force is a lot larger, more professional, and the people of Hadithah readily accept them. It is a sign of hope that the situation here has turned the right corner. ■



**Play time:** Gunnery Sgt. Eric Johnson, operations Hadithah PiTT plays soccer with local Iraqi children in Iraqi Police Station.

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# Marine Expeditionary Unit strengthens international ties during soccer match



Sgt. Ezekiel R. Kitandwe

match: Alex Torres defender for the combined Marine/Navy team takes on a right-winger during a friendly soccer game Aug. 17. The game, part of an effort to strengthen international relations, saw the "Blue/Green" team fall to the Maltese armed forces 1-1.

Sgt. Ezekiel R. Kitandwe  
22nd MEU

ATA — "For someone to win, you have to lose," said Col. Douglas L. the commanding officer for the Marine Expeditionary Unit (Operations Capable). But, even though both sides are dealt a winning hand, one side won a game, both sides are building friendships.

Marines and sailors from the 22nd MEU (SOC) and their Navy counterparts from the USS Kearsarge combined to take on the Maltese armed forces in a much-anticipated intramural soccer match. As evident that the "blue/green" team was headed for trouble from the start, conceding their first goal in the first minute of the match, they were forced to come apart at the seams. The Marines still managed to keep in step with the seemingly well-oiled Maltese team. The effort is there; all that's missing is the work," explained two-time all-time soccer-team player Cpl. Gabriel Torres.

Marines and sailors, who had never together only once before this time, were faced with yet another challenge in form of a gravelled field. The

field was more akin to a cement parking lot covered in powdery dust with rocks that could slice open flesh like a razor, said one player.

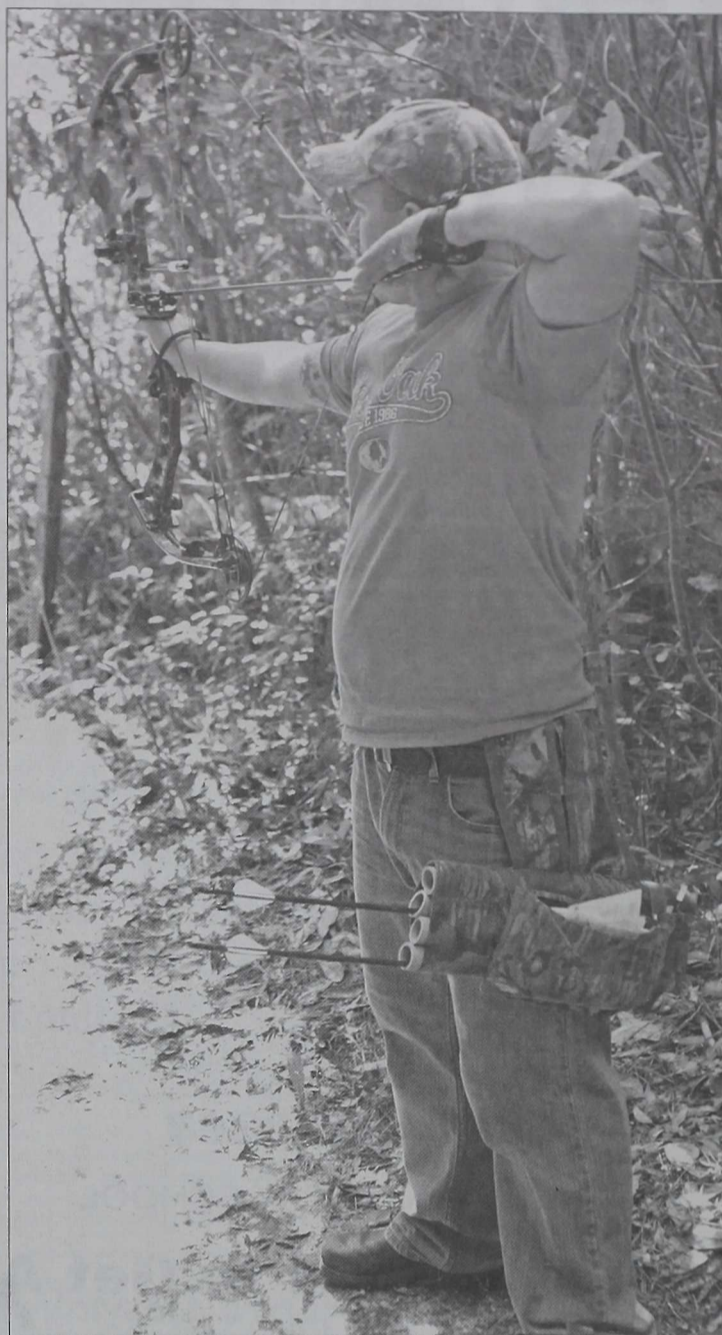
This hindered the Marines as they struggled to keep their footing, and slowly lost the advantage of youth, speed and agility to the older, more experienced home team fielded by members of the Maltese armed forces.

"This is my first time playing on a gravelled field," said Seaman Miguel Montoya, a corpsman with the MEU. Although the Marines and sailors only had one practice the day before the match, Montoya said it helped him maintain his footing on game day.

While talking to his Marines and sailors at the end of the game, Stilwell stressed the importance of good sportsmanship and thanked the players for a good clean game. Even though the game ended in a 5-1 victory in favor of the home team, the Marines and sailors achieved a greater victory by reinforcing a lasting friendship between the two countries.

The 22nd MEU (SOC), part of the Kearsarge Strike Group, is currently underway on a scheduled six month deployment. ■

# Archers compete in 3-D tournament



Lance Cpl. Thomas Hermesman

Archery: Clint Ursprung holds his draw and focuses downrange on his target, Saturday at a 3-D target competition on the Camp Lejeune archery range. Ursprung was one of 50 stick and string enthusiasts competing in the event. The competition was put on by both active-duty and retired Marines, all of whom are active hunters and competitive archers.

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## Sea turtles assault Onslow beach

Lance Cpl. Patrick M. Fleischman  
Marine Corps Base

Camp Lejeune works hard to maintain a balance between training the nation's 911 force in readiness and protecting its natural resources.

Maintaining that balance are the personnel of Environmental Conservation Branch, who excavated a nest of Loggerhead sea turtle eggs by hand on Onslow Beach Aug. 16.

The Loggerhead is listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act of 1978, requiring federal installations such as Camp Lejeune to make efforts to preserve the species, according to <http://www.epa.gov>.

"These turtles nest all over Onslow beach and outlying islands," said John Stuebe, a wildlife technician for the ECON branch. "This part where we are excavating these eggs rests on the training side of the beach."

Since May, 30 nests have been discovered during daily beach patrols, said Stuebe.

"It's a very straightforward process when we discover a nest," he explained.

"Upon discovery of a nest, ECON personnel immediately log the event,

mark the area and place a cage over the nest protecting the eggs from natural predators."

The process of handling a discovery may be straightforward, but morning patrols can be confusing at times, explained wildlife technician Sara Hodge.

"We have had 84 total events with 54 false crawls," said Hodge.

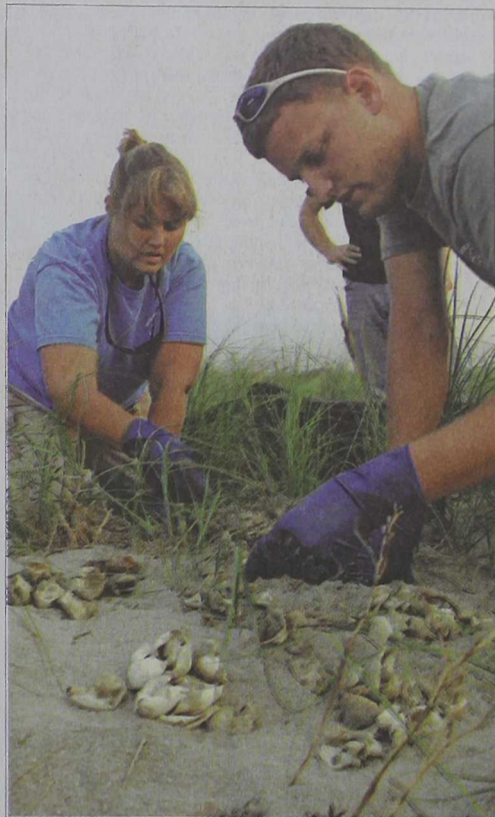
A false crawl is when a turtle surfaces, crawls onto the beach and returns to the ocean without laying eggs, she said.

Although waking up for early morning egg hunts can be trying, the job is very rewarding, she explained. "This is a great job."

It allows the Marines to do what they do without damaging the natural habitat of the base, said Hodge.

"I love working here because we make sure Marines can complete the mission of training on Camp Lejeune, while I get to see and experience nature while protecting the environment," concluded Stuebe.

Anyone who visits the beach and discovers a caged nest is required to leave it alone or face punishment under federal law. If you discover a nest, call the Environmental Conservation Branch at 451-5063. ■



**Getting dirty:** John Stuebe and Sara Hodge, wildlife technicians for Environmental Conservation Branch, excavate a nest of Loggerhead sea turtle eggs on Onslow Beach. This is part of an ongoing effort by Camp Lejeune to preserve the endangered species aboard this installation, said Stuebe.

## MSOAG; speaking the language

Lance Cpl. Joseph H. Stahlman  
MARSOC

Marine Special Operations Advisor Group team members deploy across the globe to accomplish the key U.S. Marine Corps Forces, Special Operations Command task of Foreign Internal Defense. Marines and sailors of MSOAG train, advise and assist friendly host-nation forces to enable them to support their governments' internal security and stability, to counter subversion and to reduce the risk of violence from internal and external threats.

Before the Marines are capable of deploying, they must first graduate from a six-month MSOAG training pipeline. During this time, the team members receive extensive cultural and language instruction, along with various teaching techniques necessary to pass their skills on to the militaries of friendly foreign nations.

According to Wesam Mahmoud, MSOAG's language unit lab coordinator, one of the most important and essential tools MSOAG teams need to accomplish their mission is understanding a foreign nation's culture and language.

To help accomplish this, Mahmoud recruited 15 other personnel with the goal of teaching the Marines of MSOAG a variety of languages, including Arabic, Spanish, French, Russian, Tagalog, Indonesian and Thai.

"The Marines go through 200 hours of language training during the pipeline," he explained. "After they graduate, they go through eight hours a week of language sustainment training."

The Marines learn the culture and language of host-nations they will deploy to. While some nations may have familiar customs and cultures, others may present more of a challenge for the Marines.

According to Ann Annunziata, a native of Bangkok, Thailand, and MARSOC Thai language and culture instructor, Thai can be one of the most challenging languages to learn due to the dissimilarities to any

## Wood hobby shop offers wholesome experience

Lance Cpl. Patrick M. Fleischman  
Marine Corps Base

The Wood Hobby Shop offers service members and their dependents a healthy and creative outlet aboard the Base.

Visitors can build just about anything they can think of here, said Eddie Vasquez, an attendant at Wood Hobby Shop here.

In addition to providing tools, an air-conditioned space and a well-lit environment, Vasquez explained the shop offers all domestic hardwoods on the market at very low prices.

"Our prices are really tough to beat compared to out in town," said Vasquez.

To use the shop, one must take a safety course that lasts about one hour. It explains all safety procedures, like how to use the power tools in the shop safely and effectively, said Vasquez. The course is held Wednesday - Friday at 11:45 a.m., with two classes Saturday and Sunday at 9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

Patrons can pay by the day, month or year to use the shop, said Vasquez. The daily fee is \$3, a 30-day block is \$15 and the annual fee is \$45.

A feature appealing to car enthusiasts is the ability to build speaker boxes for car stereos, said Vasquez. They also sell medium-density fiber board used to make quality speaker boxes at nearly



**Sawing away:** Jeff Demarest, a retired Marine, uses a saw to add features to a swan that he is working on in the Wood Hobby Shop here Aug. 17. Saws are just one of many tools shop visitors can use to produce items themselves.

half the cost it would be to buy one commercially.

"Marines can pay more than \$300 for a speaker box out in town. Instead we offer them the option of

producing it here for a quarter of the price," said Vasquez.

Visitors can find any tool, service

See **HOBBY** page 3C

See **MARSOC** page 2C

## Keeping your car safe for Labor Day road trips

Lance Cpl. Thomas Hermesman  
Marine Corps Base

With Labor Day weekend on the way and travel plans being made, keeping your vehicle maintained will be the key to trouble-free travel in the heat.

Vehicles are made to operate in most extreme conditions, but if not attended to, the systems designed to keep the engine running cool will fail and leave you stranded.

Most cars owner's manuals list suggested intervals for changing fluids and parts that routinely wear down.

"Changing the fluids on a very regular basis will make the car last longer and run better in these conditions," said Camp Lejeune's Auto Hobby Shop manager Steve Trubilla.

Flushing the radiator is one of the best

things that can be done to keep the cooling system running right, said Trubilla. Flushing the system cleans out debris and dirt that build up from regular driving.

"Having a standard flush done on the radiator once a year is the best idea," Trubilla explained.

The cooling system is just one of the many intertwined systems in a car that need to be serviced regularly.

Most things that need to be maintained on regular basis can be done with almost no professional help. One example is keeping the coolant mixed 50 percent with distilled water in the summer months, said Trubilla. This simple step saves money on coolant and helps ensure the vehicle can keep its temperature regulated.

Basic inspections of the vehicle's engine

compartment can also keep you moving this summer.

"Make sure the belts are tight and there are not any cracks in them," Trubilla said. "Rotating your tires after every other oil change will help with gas mileage and performance of the car."

Trubilla also suggested a seasonal emergency kit be put into the car just in case it is ever needed. Some things he suggested to be included in the kit are bottles of water, blankets, first aid kit and equipment to change a tire. Another thing that can help is to ensure that someone has a cell phone and charger at all times.

"If proper preplanning for a trip is taken almost all mishaps can be handled quickly and safely, and make sure some one knows where you go just in case," advised Trubilla. ■

# Order aims to preserve base security

1st Lt. Craig W. Thomas  
Marine Corps Base

All citizens who have legitimate business to conduct aboard Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune are welcome. The current emphasis on strengthening security is necessary to keep positive control of who comes on Base in order to keep service members, their families and military assets safe.

Base Order 5560.2M states Department of Defense non-affiliated personnel need a military sponsor in order to gain base access. The sponsor does not have to be active-duty military and may include active-duty family members, retired military members and civil service employees. To speed the process of obtaining a visitor's pass, the sponsor may notify the visitors' center at the main gate of their guest's pending arrival. The following questions were recently posed by a local paper. The base's responses are provided below.

**Question:** Will civilians be allowed to use the walking/biking trails that are going to be connected to the off-base trail system and the newly built pedestrian bridge? Will they be required to get a pass or have a military escort to walk or ride their bike on Base?

**Answer:** Civilians will be allowed to use the trails on the perimeter of the base up to the Visitors Center at the main gate. A sponsor is required for any non-affiliated personnel to access the Base.

**Q:** Will the public still be able to use the golf courses on base? Will they need a military escort?

**A:** Golfers may still use the golf course. Verbal

declaration of intent to go to the golf course must be made at the visitors' center. No sponsor is required, but guest must still obtain an appropriate vehicle day pass.

**Q:** Will parents and fans of opposing teams be able to attend sporting events at Lejeune High School? Will they need a military escort to get their passes?

**A:** Sports attendees will be allowed the same "privileges" as golfers, that is, make a verbal declaration that you're attending X game/competition, have no military sponsor, and need a one day pass.

**Q:** Will people hoping to take the self-guided tours need a military escort to get a pass?

**A:** Tourists may still take the self-guided tour unescorted. Verbal declaration of intent to conduct the self-guided tour is required at the Visitors Center. No sponsor is required, but guest must still obtain an appropriate vehicle day pass.

**Q:** Will people with base boat permits be allowed to come on base without a military escort/additional pass?

**A:** Yes. Personnel who currently have boat passes may use the facilities until the pass expires as long as they have a boat in tow. No sponsor is needed. The base is not currently issuing any more boat passes. People may use local launch sites in Jacksonville, Sneads Ferry, and Emerald Isle.

**Q:** How will civilians attending events at the Officer's Club (such as weddings or parties) gain access to Base? What will they need to get a pass?

**A:** Special events rate special event passes. The host should contact Robert Ceklosky of Installation



**Security regulations:** The current emphasis on strengthening security is necessary to keep positive who comes on Base in order to keep service members, their families and military assets safe.

Safety and Security at 451-0146 to gain information on these passes. He requires at least 10 business days to process and issue the passes.

**Q:** Will dependents who live on base be able to serve as a military sponsor, or will they need to go through a different process if they wish to have guests when the military member is deployed or at work?

**A:** Anyone with a valid DoD identification card may sponsor personnel on Base.

**Q:** Do civilians attending large-scale events such as the Sand Jam and July 4th celebration need to get a special pass to attend? Will they need to have an escort?

**A:** If the base commanding officer chooses to open the base to the public, a pass and sponsor are not required.

**Q:** If a military member is not able to come to the front gate, what is the process they must take to sponsor a visitor?

**A:** The sponsor must notify the visitors' center.

**Q:** Are there any other special situations that would have requirements that would be different than a regular pass?

**A:** Yes. Special situations will be handled on a case-by-case basis.

The current threat level dictates the measures that are implemented on Base. These measures are in place to maintain the highest level of safety and the base retains the right at any moment to refuse base access to anyone.

For more information about the pass process, call the main gate visitation office at 451-2197. ■

## MARSOC CONTINUED FROM 1C

Latin language alphabet.

"The Thai alphabet has 44 consonants and 32 vowels," said Annunziata, who is the newest language instructor for MSOAG. "The Marines I teach are studying Thai six days a week."

Along with the many other training exercises that test the Marines' readiness to enter a foreign nation and successfully accomplish their missions, the MSOAG teams must pass the Defense Language Proficiency Test.

"The DLPT is a two-section, eight-hour test," explained Mahmoud. "The Marines are tested on their abilities to read, write and speak the language they have been studying."

To help with learning foreign languages, the Marines are encouraged to immerse themselves in the language and culture as much as possible.

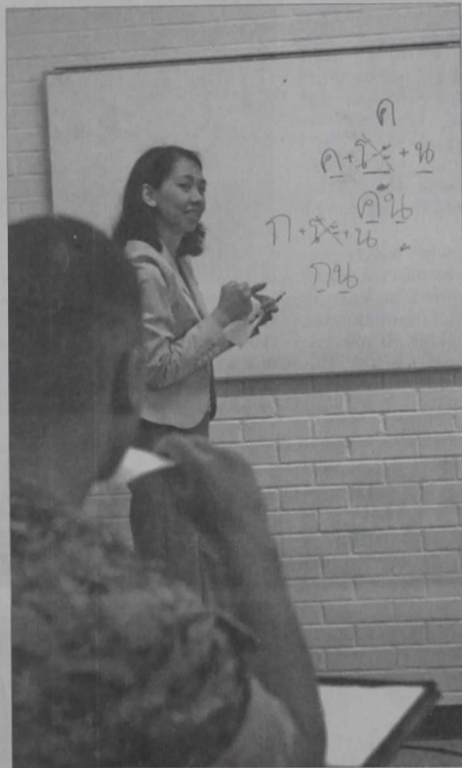
"Flash cards, pictures, movies and being around others who speak the language can help tremendously," explained Annunziata, who uses a variety of techniques to teach her students.

They study a variety of culture differences ranging from politics to common courtesies.

"Knowing the culture and having the ability to speak the language of the nation you are in is respected and appreciated by the militaries these Marines will be training," said Mahmoud. "With this training, the Marines will be able to break through any communication barriers they might come across while deployed."

By not only knowing the language, but having an understanding of the culture, the Marines and Sailors are prepared to create strong bonds with the foreign militaries they are sent to train. With this knowledge and expertise, the MSOAG Marines will be better prepared to successfully accomplish FID in any foreign nation they are deployed to.

MARSOC is looking for experienced, mature Marines who are willing to tackle the challenge of learning foreign language and culture in order to accomplish unique special operations missions. To learn whether you may qualify for assignment to MARSOC, visit us online at [www.marsoc.usmc.mil](http://www.marsoc.usmc.mil) or contact the Marine Special Operations School at 450-2720/2721 (DSN 750-2720/2721). ■



Lance Cpl. Joseph R. Stahlman

**Learning languages:** Marine Special Operations Advisor Group's Thai language and culture instructor, Ann Annunziata, teaches Thai to Marines during their six-month pipeline training course. During this training, the Marines complete more than 200 hours of cultural and language training, along with various teaching techniques necessary to pass their skills on to the militaries of friendly foreign nations. After graduating the course, the Marines deploy to countries around the world to accomplish the key U.S. Marine Corps Forces, Special Operations Command task of Foreign Internal Defense.

## Keeping the Marine Corps drug-free

Lance Cpl. Thomas J. Hermesman  
Marine Corps Base

Drugs, underage consumption of alcohol and steroids are various issues that affect the work and lives of Marines, which is why the Marine Corps conducts random urinalysis testing to aid in the reduction of these issues.

Marine Corps Order P1700.24B states all Marines are subject to testing whether scheduled or random. Also, anyone suspected of using drugs is subject to testing at any time, although consultation with a judge advocate is highly encouraged. If found guilty, punitive action can be taken by the Marine's command.

"We regularly test a randomly-selected 10 percent of the command as a deterrent," said Cpl. Christopher T. Hamilton, a urinalysis program coordinator with Company A, Headquarters and Support Battalion, Marine Corps Base.

To preparing for testing, coordinators like Hamilton gather the supplies needed to carry out the test and inspect them for contaminants, said Hamilton. This includes the boxes that the samples are shipped in, the bottles for urine, biohazard marking stickers, contaminant proofing bags that go inside the boxes and the bags used for shipping.

"When a Marine comes in I take his name off of the list and he checks his information to see if it's correct," said Hamilton. "After that I check his records for medica-

tions, which could affect the accuracy of the test. Then I administer the test."

After all the Marines have been tested, the samples are sent to the Navy Test Lab in Jacksonville, Fla.

When the samples get to the lab, they first go through an initial test, and if the samples show no signs of drugs, they are discarded.

Michael R. Muni, a Demand Specialist here, said if a Marine does 'pop' or shows signs of drugs, it will be tested again to ensure the validity of the results. Once a positive result is received, a second positive result will be required to move on to additional testing.

"The test breaks down every single molecule in the urine," said Muni. "We even separate the molecules from the oxygen in the urine."

All drugs except marijuana are checked for in the service member's urine. A record is kept to ensure there are no 'false positives' for prescribed drugs, he said. None are found, the samples are sent to a certifying officer to check for any mistakes. Then sent to a final certifying officer.

Finally the results are sent back to personnel Muni and the rest of the command. It is at this point that legal actions can be taken, at the discretion of the command.

Urinalysis testing is one of many programs used by the Marine Corps to ensure that Marines are healthy and able to not only 'fight' but 'fight to win'.

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It's on you during your off-duty hours to ...

- carry the same values from work to your off-duty behavior. If you wouldn't do it during duty hours, you should not do it during off time either.
- conduct yourself in a professional image off-duty. Remember, you're an ambassador of the United States Marine Corps and people look up to you.
- take care of each other. Be a good, solid and responsible friend and don't be afraid to step in and call "knock it off." Many off-duty related injuries could have been prevented if friends had intervened.
- not succumb to "road rage." Be the courteous driver and don't be in a hurry - plan your trip in advance and give yourself buffers so you will not feel rushed.
- be attentive while you drive. Most accidents are caused by not paying attention to the road. Cell phones, switching radio stations and other distractions are the cause of most rear-end collisions.
- seek out required training and become aware of the dangers should you decide to undertake a new hobby or sport.
- travel with friends or a group when enjoying the outdoors. Be in good physical condition for the activity and remember to drink plenty of water.
- watch out for the terrible "T's" when swimming: too tired, too cold, too far from shore.
- stretch before a game, but not when your muscles are cold. Warm up a little first, and then stretch gently. Afterwards, if you have had a vigorous workout, you can stretch more intensely. Learn stretches that are appropriate for your sport.
- never consume alcohol before operating a boat, ATV or other recreational vehicle.
- understand that you are responsible for your own safety both on- and off-duty.
- be alert and perform a pre-use safety inspection on your own equipment at home. Whether it be a lawn mower to your own vehicle. Ensure everything is in operating condition before use.

## Base and housing pet regulations

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:

Monday-Friday from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Animal Control: 451-2695  
451-5143  
Afterhours PMO Desk Sergeant: 451-2555

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# MARSOC and 3/2 go green



Lance Cpl. Joseph R. Stahlman

**for skills:** Cpl. David Pizana (left), a motor transportation mechanic with Marine Special Operations Support Group, Marine Corps Forces, Special Operations Command, executes a push kick on Staff Sgt. Mark Suto, an infantryman with Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division. While MSOSG members provide specialized support for foreign defense, unconventional warfare, direct action and special reconnaissance missions, they are Marines first and marine basic warrior skills expected of all Marines. MARSOC hosted a 15-day Marine Corps Martial Arts Program green-structor course as part of an ongoing warrior skills training program. Marines from MARSOC and 3/2 participated in the event and endured more than 121 hours of training to earn the title of green-belt instructor. The new MARSOC and green belt instructors will train their fellow Marines and help keep their hand-to-hand skills sharp to ensure survival access on the modern battlefield. MARSOC is looking for mature, experienced Marines and sailors to take on the challenge of Special Operations training and missions. To learn more, visit us online at [www.marsoc.usmc.mil](http://www.marsoc.usmc.mil) or contact the Marine Special Operations School at 450-2720/2721 (DSN 750-2720/2721).

## HOBBY

CONTINUED FROM 1C

or help they may need to get any job done, from fixing a chair to building a book case, said Vasquez.

The shop has a large array of patterns and plans but they are not always required for building what a person wants, he added.

"You could come in with a picture and we can help you develop templates and plans for it so you can build it," said Vasquez.

Anything a person can think of can be made at the shop from large to small items, he said.

"We have people who build shadow boxes [a small case used for display-

ing things such as medals], and then we've had people come in and craft a canoe," he said.

Fabricating things yourself produces a higher-quality product and there is a great feeling of satisfaction, said Reid Dahart, a 66-year-old retired Marine.

"To buy this equipment and put it in your garage would be so dirty and cost a fortune," said Dahart, who is currently building a hall bench at the shop. "I have built a variety of things here for myself, but at this point I'm making them for my children."

Camp Lejeune's Wood Hobby Shop is located on Birch St. in building 1249. For more information, contact the shop at 451-5191. ■

## 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](mailto: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](http://www.lejeune.usmc.mil/mcb/pmo.pdf).
4. Provost Marshal's Office will use this information to take appropriate action.

We appreciate your willingness to participate in ensuring base safety.

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**RET POINT DR** Sneads Ferry. 4 bdrm 2.5 bath home with racy fenced yard in lovely Creeks community. Minutes to gate of Camp Lejeune and the Topsail Island beaches! Best neighborhood at only \$9. Strader Realty 910-346-1297.

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**SBA Townhome**, \$725 per month, 1 garage and grounds. \$400 No smoking, no pets. 9-5305.

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227 Easy Street	2/2	\$600
1095 W. Pueblo	2/2.5	\$650
1964 W. Brandyhill	2/2.5	\$675
2065 Brandyhill	2/2.5	\$725
802 Springwood	2/1.5	\$750
108 Pete Jones #2	2/2.5	\$750
406 Timberlake	2/2	\$750
108 Pete Jones #22	2/2.5	\$765
210 Palace	2/2.5	\$765
206 Palace	2/2.5	\$765
11 Pirates Cove	2/2.5	\$775
103 Vandergriff	3/2	\$775
57 Pirates Cove	2/2.5	\$775
36 Pirates Cove	2/2.5	\$775
506 Sheffield	3/1.5	\$775
40 Pirates Cove	2/2.5	\$795
205 Grey Fox Run	3/2	\$800
204 Glenwood	3/2	\$825
246 Winners	2/2.5	\$825
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**3BR/2BA** Mobile home approx 3 miles from MCAS. \$425 per month, \$425 security. 238-0347.

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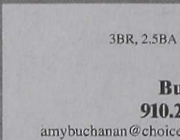
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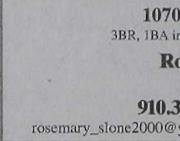
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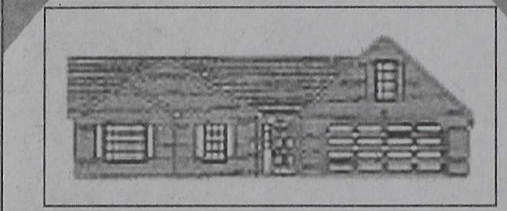
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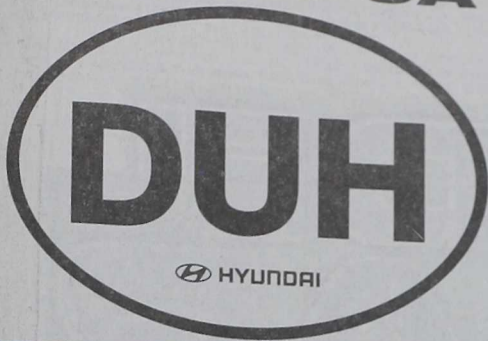
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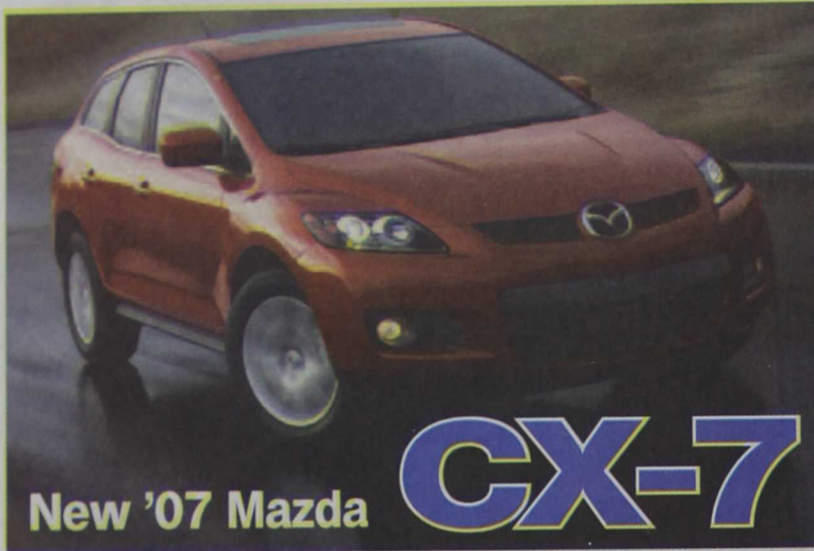


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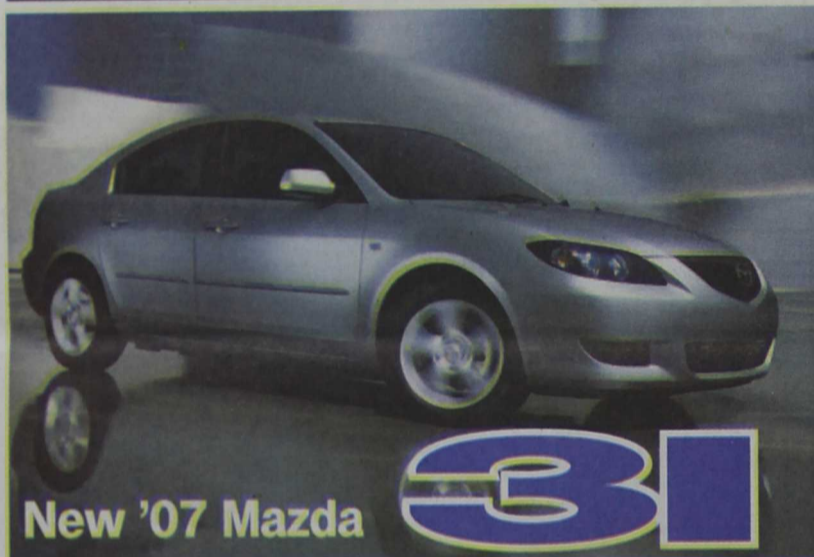


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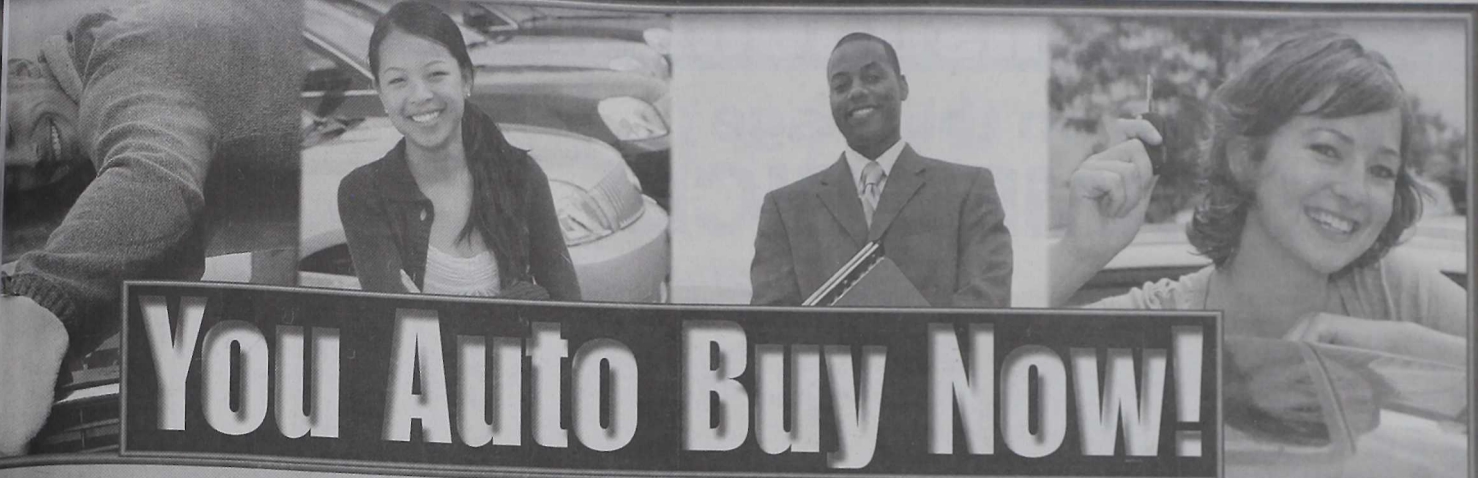
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## Lejeune Openings

**Luau**  
The Jacksonville Jaycees are sponsoring a charity benefiting Hope for Warriors. The event is scheduled to take place on Sept. 7 at Marston Park, starting at 6:30 p.m. There will be a professional dance troupe, a hula performance and a Polynesian buffet. For more information or to purchase a ticket, call 545-234-1111.

**Air**  
A dog show is scheduled to be held at the Goettge Field House from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. It is sponsored by the Lejeune Community Center. There will be prizes for dogs of all breeds. Micro-chipping is available at registration. This gives pet owners the opportunity to combine their base policy, by having their pets vaccinated and micro-chipped. Prizes will be awarded in the dog show, the dog tail contest, the dog tail contest, the dog tail contest, the dog tail contest, the dog tail contest. For more information, call 450-1607.

**End of**  
The retreat is designed to meet the needs of those struggling with grief, emotional/behavioral infidelity and forms of compulsive behavior, a special retreat has been planned for Sept. 7-9. Navy Lt. Howard is teaming with Chaplains Religious Education Development to lead this retreat. The retreat is held at the Community Center in Pine Shores, N.C., and is free of charge. For more information, call 450-1673.

**Conservation**  
Lejeune's Environmental Conservation has planned a grass planting project Sept. 14 on Pleasure Beach. Volunteers are needed to plant water sea oats on Pleasure Beach. Become a conservation volunteer at Camp Lejeune. Learn about the barrier island ecosystem while your part to protect natural resources. If you'd like to participate in dune planting, please call in at Korenek at 451-5063 or e-mail in.korenk@usmc.mil.

**Child Care Center**  
The Child Care Center has openings for their 2007-2008 school year. The morning preschool (4-5 year olds) class. The afternoon preschool (3-5 year olds) class. The class is held Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 12:15 p.m. to 2:15 p.m. All children entering must be 4 years old by Oct. 16. If your child is ready for a day of preschool, transportation is available from Johnson's Daycare. To register your child, call PCCC at 51-8875 or stop by the center at 799 Water Blvd.

## CREDO enhances lives through learning retreats

Heather Owens  
Carolina Living editor

The word *credo* comes from Latin and means "I believe." For those in the Navy and Marine Corps community, CREDO stands for "Chaplain's Religious Education Development Operation."

Though, for many it might also mean that they believe in themselves enough to make positive changes in their lives, for the CREDO program encompasses a variety of retreats to enhance the lives of Marines, sailors, Coast Guard personnel, members of the Department of Defense, military retirees and their families.

Established in the early 1970s to assist Marines and sailors returning from Vietnam to reintegrate, CREDO now offers retreats and seminars to enrich marriages, empower singles, provide reflection and personal growth, bring dads and children closer and help teens increase confidence.

Chaplain Harold "Cas" Caserta, a Navy commander, is the new CREDO director. He is assisted by Chaplain Ted Crandall and reservist Chaplain Lee Becknell.

Caserta explained the cornerstone retreat in the CREDO repertoire is the personal growth retreat. "The personal growth retreat has the potential to change the lives of those that attend in a positive way in that they will never be the same," said Caserta.

The PGR, as it is known, allows individuals an opportunity to reflect and review their lives and explore life issues which may be preventing them from living full and happy lives. Caserta said this retreat helps people work through issues in life that may be holding them back in a loving, caring environment in order to become a happier, more complete individual.

The great thing about the retreat is that it will provide personal growth and enrichment to both the 30-year careerist who is about to retire as well as a young private first class who has only been in military service for eight months, said Caserta.

"I actually went through a personal growth retreat in 1994 and it changed my life. My hope for other people is that a CREDO retreat will change their lives in a positive way as well."

CREDO also offers two marriage enrichment retreats that help couples "better understand the love of their life." The first marriage retreat allows individuals the opportunity to explore their strengths and weaknesses and build on their strengths to produce a happier marriage. It is CREDO's most popular retreat.

The second marriage enrichment retreat picks up where the first one left off. The pur-

pose of this retreat is to help couples learn to better relate with one another. It also helps identify the different "love languages" that each individual in a couple might have and then helps them communicate in a way which they can best be understood by their partner.

Popular among youth, CREDO offers separate teen retreats for middle schoolers and high school students. Caserta said these retreats help teenagers develop and enhance self image, improve communication skills and develop avenues of trust. The weekend includes the opportunity for teenagers to challenge themselves on a ropes course. The middle school students have the opportunity to test themselves on the low ropes course and the high schoolers develop self-confidence on the high ropes course which is 40 feet off the ground.

"It teaches them to trust and really develop a sense of confidence," said Caserta about the retreats.

The Dads, Lads and Gals retreat allows fathers the opportunity to get away with their offspring to enjoy a weekend of quality time. Dads and kids get to spend time together hiking, fishing, swimming, canoeing, paddle boating and enjoying evening campfires. Attendees are afforded the opportunity to select from a variety of fun lodging options including cabins, tree houses or their own tent or trailer.

The retreats are funded by CREDO and the only expense attendees incur during the weekend might be gas usage to and from the retreat site. Meals and lodging are picked up



Courtesy photo

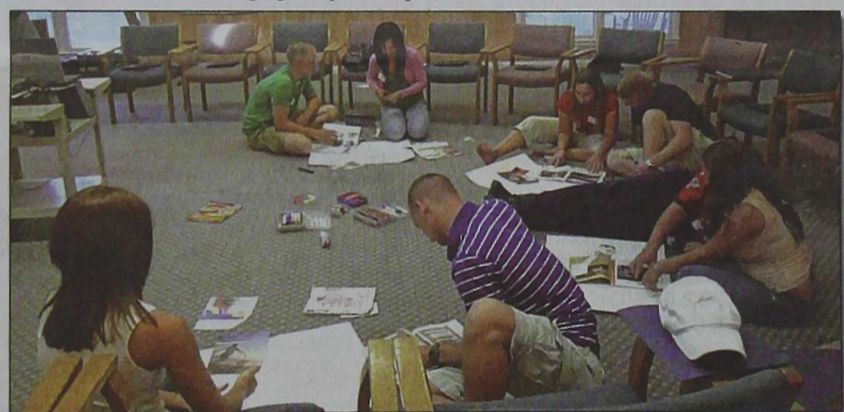
by CREDO and its parent organization Marine Corps Community Services.

CREDO offers informative seminars as well. These events usually take place at CREDO's spacious offices on 1401 West Road, or building 2461 on Tarawa Terrace. A single seminar helps singles learn how to date smarter. The morning is spent learning about the pattern of human behavior that people fit into. The afternoon offers singles the opportunity to learn about the five bonding dynamics associated with the "Relationship Attachment Model," and five predictors for determining whether one could happily live a lifetime with their dating partner.

The CREDO chaplains have plans to offer even more retreat and seminar opportunities in the near future, including a possible "care for the caregivers" retreat to assist chaplains and religious program specialists with their care-giving responsibilities and the development of warrior transition and integration programs.

Caserta said being a CREDO chaplain is the best job in the world because it allows him to produce wonderful ministry with people and be as creative as he possibly can be and "having the time to do with individuals and couples things that you wish as a battalion chaplain that you could do."

For more information on CREDO and to learn more about upcoming events, call 450-1668/1673 or visit the Web site at [www.mccslejeune.com/credo.html](http://www.mccslejeune.com/credo.html).



Courtesy photo

Coming together: At CREDO couples retreats such as in this picture and the one above, spouses have the opportunity to build their relationships. One activity is to create collages about couples' lives together.

## Girl Scouts help girls build skills, self esteem

Heather Owens  
Carolina Living editor

School is starting and with it, all of the fun and enriching school year activities begin again. One of those activities, near and dear to many girls' hearts, is the Girl Scouts.

Girl Scouts is an excellent developmental organization that teaches leadership and the opportunity for older girls to be a sister to every Girl Scout, said Cynthia Bennett, service unit manager of Girl Scouts for Camp Lejeune and New River Air Station.

Bennett and Gunnery Sgt. Cory W. Willis, of Wounded Warrior Battalion East, volunteer communications specialist for the Camp Lejeune and New River Girl Scouts recently sat down with *The Globe* to preview the upcoming season of Girl Scout activities aboard the two Marine installations.

First up will be two recruitment events to bring girls into the new season. One event will be a fun, educational activity for girls ages 5 to 9. The other will be a swimming party for girls ages 9 to 18. Read *The Globe* for more information about these upcoming programs.

Upcoming fall activities include a haunted house at the Camp Lejeune Scout Hut for the Halloween holiday, the Juliette Gordon Low Fall Festival in honor of the birthday of the Girl Scout USA founder and, of course,

the cookie time kick-off.

The name of this year's cookie drive is "Ready, Set, Go 2008 Cookie Rally." During this year's event, there will be the "Amazing Cookie Race" in which each girl will be able to participate in an event based on television's "Amazing Race" with a parent.

In February, World Thinking Day will take place. The World Association of Girl Scouts and Girl Guides is the inspiration for this event where each troop selects a country to represent and all girls have the opportunity to learn about the food, customs, dance and currency of other countries around the world.

March is reserved for the "father/daughter" dance, a fun dress-up event that takes place at the New River Officer's Club. Of course, if fathers are deployed or not available, other adult males or even mothers are able to step in and participate with the Girl Scout. In April, there will be a "mother/daughter" event with the same policy.

In May, there will be the Annual Camporee at Camp Hardy near Washington, N.C. At this event, girls will have the opportunity to participate in archery, canoeing, orienteering, team building and, of course, learn basic camp-making skills.

"It's educational in the development of these children," said Willis of the camping curriculum. "A lot of

kids come from the city, they don't know thing one about putting up a tent. We have a whole camping badge that they work for and it encompasses setting up a basic campfire, to safety, to good water, bad water, erecting the tent and sanitation. There's a whole bunch of educational things."

Girl Scouting is a wonderful opportunity to grow girls mentally, physically and spiritually. "It makes them better individuals now and adults later in life. If you reach one girl and

you instill courage, confidence and character in them, who's to say that she might not be a future president of the United States?" said Bennett.

For more information about joining or volunteering for Girl Scouts aboard Camp Lejeune and New River, call Karen McRory at 346-1344 or e-mail her at [girlscouts4you@yahoo.com](mailto:girlscouts4you@yahoo.com). For more information about Girl Scouts out in Onslow County, call Traci Valdez Patton at 265-9086.



Courtesy photo

Growing together: Troop 975 of New River relaxes at a recent Camporee.

# 'Hairspray:' Entertaining musical for whole family



From the front row with

Reinhold Moldenhauer Huneycutt

Playing at Camp Lejeune's Theater

**"HAIRSPRAY" (PG)**

"Hairspray" is a musical and the movie version of the popular Tony award-winning Broadway musical, which was based on the original 1988 film by John Waters.

Newly-discovered Nikky Blonsky plays Tracy Turnblad, a big girl with big hair and a big heart growing up in 1962 Baltimore. Her dream is to appear on Baltimore's hippest dance party on TV, the *Corny Collins Show*.

But her plus-sized figure has always set her apart from the cool crowd. However, nothing can deter Tracy, and after catching the eye of Collins at her high school dance, she lands a slot on the popular TV show and becomes an instant sensation.

Brittany Snow ("The Pacifier") costars as Amber von Tussle, the show's reigning princess, who is not pleased with the newcomer's success. That also includes her mother, Velma von Tussle, played by Michelle Pfeiffer ("White Oleander," "What Lies Beneath"), who runs the TV station.

In addition, Amber's sweetheart, Link Larkin, played by Zac Efron ("High School Musical") has also taken a liking to Tracy.

As the dance party soon gets hotter, and as the two girls are competing and feuding with each other, the time at school opens Tracy's eyes to a much bigger issue.

Seeing the racial inequality among her friends, she leads a march to fight for integration along with radio DJ Motormouth Maybelle, played by Queen Latifah ("Chicago," "Last Holiday," "Beauty Shop"), who is the hostess of *Negro Day*, a monthly show on the *Corny TV* show.

John Travolta ("Wild Hogs," "Ladder 49," "Saturday Night Fever," "Grease") stars as Edna Turnblad, Tracy's overly protective plus-sized mother, a middle-aged frumpy suburban housewife, who is by Tracy's side as she overcomes 1960's racism, plus-size snobbery and big hair.

Also appearing in this fabulous, talented cast are Christopher Walken ("Man of the Year") as Wilbur, Edna's husband; Amanda Bynes ("She's the Man") as Tracy's best friend, Penny Pingleton; Allison Janney ("Over the Hedge") as Penny's mother, Prudy Pingleton; James Marsden ("Superman Returns") as Corny Collins; and the outstanding young newcomer Elijah Kelley ("Take the Lead") as Seaweed J. Stubbs, the handsome son of Motormouth Maybelle.

Director and choreographer Adam Shankman ("Cheaper by the Dozen 2," "The Pacifier," "A Walk to Remember," "The Wedding Planer," "Bringing Down the House") has assembled an excellent and wonderful ensemble for this long-awaited musical film and has an instant hit on his hand.

The entire starring cast is outstanding and Blonsky, who was dipping ice cream at Coldstone before landing this plum role, certainly holds her own among all the fire power.

"Hairspray" is like a breath of fresh air. The old-fashioned musical is a flashy and energetic spectacle with its show-stopping dance numbers that keep you tapping your toes. If you like musicals, this is one of the best made in recent times.

"Hairspray" is a highly entertaining musical film for the entire family.

Playing at Midway Park's Theater

**"A MIGHTY HEART" (R)**

"A Mighty Heart" is a film about the



'Hairspray:' This film is one of the best musicals made in recent times. It will keep you and your family entertained with its energetic dance

memoirs of the life of Wall Street Journal reporter Daniel Pearl and his wife, Mariane.

The movie is based on Mariane Pearl's account of the terrifying and unforgettable story of her husband; his life and their marriage; and her intense search for her husband and his captors. Daniel's colleagues, law enforcement and government officials also helped in the search.

Daniel Pearl, who was the South Asia bureau chief for the Wall Street Journal, was beheaded by terrorists in Pakistan in early 2002. This film raises difficult questions about how reporters cover war, America's role in the Middle East and the danger of religious fundamentalism.

Angelina Jolie ("Mr. & Mrs. Smith," "Taking Lives," "Lara Croft: Tomb Raider") portrays Mariane Pearl, the wife of the slain reporter. Mariane was six months pregnant with her first child when the ordeal began.

Dan Futterman ("Enough," "The Bird Cage") plays Daniel Pearl, who was kidnapped in Pakistan and eventually slain on tape, for the world to see, by al Qaeda operatives.

Also appearing are Irrfan Khan ("The Namesake") as the sympathetic Pakistani official, known as Captain, who is leading the investigation; Denis O'Hare ("Take Me Out") as John Bussey, one of Dan's editors; Will Patton ("Remember the Titans") as Randall Bennett, U.S. Embassy Security agent; Archie Panjabi ("Bend It Like Beckham") as Asra Q. Nomani, Dan's longtime friend and colleague.

Director Michael Winterbottom ("Road to Guantanamo," "Welcome to Sarajevo," "Tristram Shandy," "Code 46," "Under the Sun") shot the film primarily in India; however the filmmakers also decided to shoot on location and traveled to the dangerous parts of Pakistan where the story actually unfolds, including the Village Restaurant where Daniel was to meet his contact and the hotel where he met the man who was later identified as one of his accused murderers.

"A Mighty Heart" could have been a contemporary thriller; however, due to its subject matter, it is presented in a more documentary style.

The material was taken from the 2003 book "A Mighty Heart: The Brave Life and Death of My Husband Danny Pearl," written by Mariane Pearl. She wrote the book for her son, Adam, as an introduction to the father he would never meet.

Jolie's excellent portrayal brings a lot



'A Mighty Heart:' This film is about the memoirs of the life of Daniel Pearl, played by Futterman and his wife Mariane Pearl, played by Angelina Jolie.

of heart and soul to this political drama, showing how Daniel and Mariane were very deeply in love and equal partners in what they both worked for. The movie also conveys the courage and compassion Mariane displayed after the ordeal.

Note: Pearl is one of 230 journalists who have been murdered since 2002.

Playing at Jacksonville's Theater

**"THE LAST LEGION" (PG-13)**

"The Last Legion" is the story about the beginning of King Arthur's legend.

The film begins shortly before the coronation of Romulus as emperor in 470 B.C.

The Roman Empire, a mighty force for almost 500 years, is being threatened.

On the eve of 12-year-old Romulus Augustus' crowning ceremony to become the new emperor, Barbarian general Odoacer arrives in Rome to make a deal with Orestes.

Odoacer makes demands of the Roman Empire in fair exchange for his decade-long support of the Roman legions in the east.

But Orestes refuses.

As the Roman Empire crumbles, young Romulus Augustus flees the city

to avoid certain death. With the help of Aurelius and his life-long friend, Ambrosinus, he embarks on a perilous voyage to Britannia to track down a legion of supporters and defeat the barbarian attackers.

The stars of this fighting adventure are Colin Firth ("Bridget Jones's Diary"), Aurelius, Romulus' protector; Ben Barnes ("House of Sand and Fog") as Ambrosius, the wise old man; Aishwarya Rai ("The Young Woman Warrior"; "Meteor Garden"; "Children of Men") as the barbarian warrior and Thomas Sangster ("Tristan and Isolde") as the young Romulus Augustus.

Director Doug Leffler ("Dragonheart 3: A Simple Plan") took the source material from the 2003 Italian novel by Umberto Eco and Manfredi by the same name. The movie is loosely based by the events of 5th century European history.

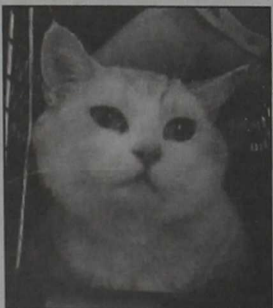
"The Last Legion" has an interesting story with a few surprises. The film has a strong playing cast, great action fighting scenes, and is well put together.

"The Last Legion" will appeal to those who enjoyed the recent "300," the classic "Braveheart," or are fascinated by the old historical and legendary adventure tales about King Arthur in Roman times.

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

## Pets of the Week: Save a life today.

The Onslow County Animal Shelter is open Monday through Thursday from noon to 7 p.m., Friday from noon to 3 p.m., Saturday from 10 a.m. to noon and 1 to 3 p.m. To see more pictures of pets available for adoption, visit [www.petharbor.com](http://www.petharbor.com).



This is a silver tiger domestic shorthair. He is about 2 years old and is in need of a new home. Pet ID #A010693



Rusty is a male, red cocker spaniel. He is about 2 years old. Adopt him today. Pet ID#A010668

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

Photos courtesy of the Animal Shelter

## Don't be late. Have your ID ready at the gate.

Pricing: \$2 Adults, \$1 Children • No Movies on Mondays

### MIDWAY PARK THEATER

BLDG 4014A in Midway Park

**TODAY**  
"A Mighty Heart," R, 7:30 p.m.

**FRIDAY**  
"License to Wed," PG-13, 6:30 p.m.;  
"Transformers," PG-13, 9:15 p.m.

**SATURDAY**  
"Surf's Up," PG, 3:30 p.m.;  
"License to Wed," PG-13, 6:30 p.m.;  
"A Mighty Heart," R, 9:15 p.m.

**SUNDAY**  
"Surf's Up," PG, 3:30 p.m.;  
"Transformers," PG-13, 6:30 p.m.

**TUESDAY**  
"A Mighty Heart," R, 7:30 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY**  
"License to Wed," PG-13, 7:30 p.m.

### CAMP LEJEUNE BASE THEATER

BLDG 19 on McHugh Blvd.

**TODAY**  
"I Now Pronounce You Chuck and Larry," PG-13, 7:30 p.m.

**FRIDAY**  
"Hairspray," PG, 6:30 p.m.;  
"I Know Who Killed Me," R, 9:15 p.m.

**SATURDAY**  
"Ratatouille," G, 3:30 p.m.;  
"Hairspray," PG, 6:30 p.m.;  
"Sunshine," R, 9:15 p.m.

**SUNDAY**  
"Ratatouille," G, 3:30 p.m.;  
"I Know Who Killed Me," R, 6:30 p.m.

The Camp Lejeune Base Theater will be closed Aug. 27 to Sept. 27 due to painting of the theater.

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**NANNY DIARIES** PG13-DLP  
1:30 4:15 7:00 9:30

**SEPTEMBER DAWN** R-DLP  
1:30 4:15 7:00 9:30

**MR. BEANS HOLIDAY** G-DLP  
1:30 4:15 7:00 9:30

**WAR** R-DLP  
1:30 3:15 5:30 7:45 10:00

**RESURRECTING THE CHAMBERLAIN** PG-13-DLP  
1:30 4:15 7:00 9:30

**SUPERBAD** R-DLP  
1:30 3:50 7:00 9:00 NO DISC TRACK

**LAST LEGION** PG13-DLP  
1:30 4:05 7:05 9:25

**THE INVASION** PG13-DLP  
1:30 3:50 7:05 9:25

**RUSH HOUR 3** PG-13-DLP  
1:30 3:50 7:00 9:40

**STARDUST** PG13-DLP  
1:30 4:25 7:00 9:40

**DADDY DAY CAMP** PG-DLP  
3:00 5:00 7:00

**BOURNE ULTIMATUM** PG13-DLP  
1:30 4:05 7:00 9:30

**HOTROD** PG13-DLP  
4:00 (NO 9:00 THURS)

**UNDERDOG** PG-DLP  
2:00 5:00 8:00

**THE SIMPSONS** PG13-DLP  
2:20 7:20 9:20

**CHUCK & LARRY** PG13-DLP  
2:00 4:30 7:00 9:30

**HARRY POTTER: PHOENIX** PG13-DLP  
3:00 5:00 7:00

**TRANSFORMERS** PG13-DLP  
2:00 5:00 8:00

**KIDTOON: CAR BEARS** G  
1:00 TUES/WEDS

**LAUGH FACTORY** R-DLP  
7:45 9:45 THURS/FRI

\*ALL SHOWTIMES INCLUDE PARK-FEATURE CENTER

# 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 [heather.owens@militarynews.com](mailto:heather.owens@militarynews.com). Space is limited to availability.

## Back-to-School" Music Series

**High August**  
Onslow County Parks and Recreation Department and Onslow County Public Library are sponsoring a "Back-to-School" music series. Concerts will be held outdoors at the Onslow County Public Library Thursday evenings. Times for each concert are 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. The library is located at 58 Doris Ave. Performers are:  
10: Craven Brass Quintet — Baroque  
10: Grassy Creek — Bluegrass  
Events are free and open to the public. Bring lawn chairs and blankets. Join us for a variety of fun. In case of rain, the concert will be held indoors at the library. The program is funded by the North Carolina Arts Council, a state agency, awarded through the Onslow/Onslow Council for the Arts. Call 347-5332 or visit: [www.co.onslow.nc.us/parks](http://www.co.onslow.nc.us/parks)

## Cycle Rodeo

**Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m.**  
Onslow County Parks and Recreation Department, in addition to other organizations, are planning a Cycle Rodeo for children ages 4-14 on Saturday. The rodeo is scheduled to be held beside the Jacksonville Mall from 8:30 to 10 a.m. The event will include minor bike repairs, helmet fitting, a bike skills course and bike registration. Free helmets will be distributed while supplies last. For more information call 347-5332 or visit the Web at [www.co.onslow.nc.us/parks](http://www.co.onslow.nc.us/parks).

## Project CARE Clinic

**Monday, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. and 4 - 6 p.m.**  
The Jacksonville Onslow Chamber of Commerce would like to invite all its members, the community of Jacksonville and media to come join us for our second Project CARE Clinic. This clinic is focused on financial information. We will have a series of seminars that will cover financial matters such as saving and financial planning. The clinic is scheduled to be held at the Jacksonville Onslow Chamber of Commerce located at 1099 Gum Branch Road Monday from 9 to noon and then 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. For more information, call Amy Rivera at 347-3141, ext. 226.

## Onslow County Job Fair

**Wednesday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.**  
The 9th annual Onslow County Job Fair is scheduled to be held Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Jacksonville Commons Recreation Center. Approximately 100 businesses and organizations will be looking to fill positions in management, sales, customer service, construction, food service, medical, clerical, administration and more. The job fair is open to all members of the local community. Attendees should bring their resumé and dress professionally for possible on-site interviews. For more information on participating organizations, positions and salaries, visit the job fair's Web site at [www.coastal.cc.nc.us/career\\_center/job\\_fair\\_home.htm](http://www.coastal.cc.nc.us/career_center/job_fair_home.htm) or call 938-6309/451-3366. The job fair is sponsored by Coastal Carolina Community College, Marine Corps Community Services Camp Lejeune and the City of Jacksonville.

## Camp Lejeune Young Marines

**Sept. 5**  
Boot camp for the Camp Lejeune Young Marines is scheduled to begin Sept. 5. Registration for the boot camp will be held Wednesday nights

from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the Area 4 Gym aboard Camp Lejeune, running now until the start of boot camp. The registration fee is \$40. In addition to potential new Young Marines, the program is also looking for a few good active-duty men and women to volunteer with the program. For more information, call Rebecca Vollwieler at 455-2064 or e-mail her at [sadinok@yahoo.com](mailto:sadinok@yahoo.com) or call Salinda Merritt at 301-752-3677 or e-mail her at [slrennick@hotmail.com](mailto:slrennick@hotmail.com).

## Emerald Isle's 50th birthday celebration

**Sept. 22, 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.**  
Emerald Isle makes a huge splash with a full day of entertainment to mark the town's 50th birthday and celebrate five decades of family fun at the beach. Musical entertainment will take place from 11 a.m.-6 p.m., featuring The Impressions (Motown), The Breakfast Club (80s cover band), Captain Cook and The Coconutz (Jimmy Buffet and more), BackBeat (Beatles cover band) Sammy O'Banion and Mardi Gras (beach music). A soon-to-be announced national recording artist will represent today's musical era. There will also be amusement rides, food vendors, a beer garden, magicians and face painters. The right of way along Highway 58 from Emerald Plantation Shopping Center to Lighthouse Mini-Golf will serve as the venue, as Highway 58 will be the site and traffic will be detoured to an alternate route on Reed Drive. Other events for the day include a

classic car show and a beach volleyball tournament. The day's festivities will be rounded out with an astounding fireworks display from the end of Bogue Inlet Pier at 9 p.m. For more information, contact Alesia Sanderson at Emerald Isle Parks and Recreation, 7500 Emerald Drive, phone her at 252-354-6350 or e-mail her at [asanderson@emeraldisle-nc.org](mailto:asanderson@emeraldisle-nc.org).



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# Local youth crowned Miss North Carolina

Press release  
National American Miss Pageant

Chrissy Ann Carpenter, daughter of Lt. Col. Jerry and Crystal Carpenter, was crowned National American Miss North Carolina Junior Pre-Teen at the state pageant held July 26-28 at the Renaissance Hotel in Charlotte, N.C.

She received her official state crown, banner and trophy, plus a \$1,000 cash award. She will also receive her transportation costs to the national pageant to be held in Anaheim, Calif., during Thanksgiving week along with a special day in Disneyland and a tour through the famous streets for two. She also received a modeling scholarship.

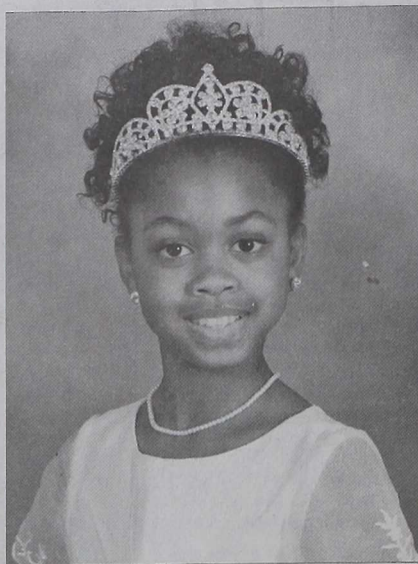
The National American Miss Pageant events are dedicated to celebrating America's greatness and encouraging future leaders. Each year, the pageant awards thousands in scholarships and prizes to recognize and assist the development of young

women nationwide. All activities are age appropriate and family-oriented. Pageants are held in each state for girls ages 4 - 18 in five different age divisions.

The National American Miss Pageant events are for today's girls and tomorrow's leaders. The pageant program is based on inner beauty, as well as poise, presentation, and offers an "All American Spirit" of fun for family and friends. Emphasis is placed on the importance of gaining self-confidence, learning new skills, learning good attitudes about competition and setting and achieving personal goals. The pageant seeks to recognize the accomplishments of each girl while encouraging her to set goals for the future.

Carpenter's activities include piano, dance, surfing the Web, reading, ice skating and hanging out with friends.

Carpenter is 9 years old and in the fourth grade at Jacksonville Commons Elementary School. ■



Courtesy photo

All smiles: Chrissy Ann Carpenter, daughter of Lt. Col. Jerry and Crystal Carpenter, was crowned National American Miss North Carolina Junior Pre-Teen.

## The cost of freedom

What does it cost, to walk down the street? To go see a movie? To get something to eat?

What does it cost, to buy a new car? to go on a roadtrip, and travel afar?

It costs the lives of our military, who are so far from home. As we try and write letters, and talk on the phone.

It costs time from thier kids, no trips to the park, cause their patrolling the streets, long after dark.

It costs missing a Christmas, or going trick or treat. A first day of school, with new teachers to meet.

It's missing the birth, of their very first son. It's missing a birthday, when their daughter turns one.

It's missing those days, of fixing things 'round the house. It's missing those "date nights," spending time with their spouse.

It's listening to critics, everyday of the week. The very people that we are giving, the freedom to speak.

This is part of the cost, we endure everyday, to maintain the life, you are used to today.

All families give some, but some families gave all. Their spouse never again, to come home or call.

All that we need, are your prayers and your thoughts. And your understanding, of just what freedom costs.

by Chief Warrant Office  
Maria P. Pettu

## Young marriage has ups, downs, but can lead to a lifetime of love



### Operation Homefront

with

Jacey Eckhart

My husband celebrated our 20th wedding anniversary by giving me my favorite gift: words. Lots and lots of words. At one point, he got all expansive about his theory of young marriage.

"Marrying young is like investing in an aggressive mutual fund," Brad told me. "The risks are enormous. You can put everything you have into it and still lose all you've got right quick. You could lose things you didn't even know you had. You could get stuck paying off the debt of it for years."

"That's your happy thought of the day right there," I said, thinking that maybe I should have asked for a nice big diamond anniversary band instead.

"On the other hand, if you do marry young and it all works out, the payoff is huge. It's HUUUUUUUUUGE."

I'm glad he thinks so. I know I do. Though sometimes I look back at that initial investment in such a young relationship and shiver. We had only the scantiest evidence that we could make this marriage pay off. We had no clue about what the military was all about. Surely someone should have talked us out of it — or not.

It seems that this kind of lucky foolhardiness is common to an awful lot of long-married couples. This was really brought home to me a couple of weeks ago when I wrote about Lacie and Chad, a Marine couple in their very early 20s who were getting married. I worried that maybe you shouldn't encourage such young people to get married — especially in the middle of a war.

I did get a couple of letters from

commanders who had 19-year-old husbands in their units who were miserable with a wife who had filed for divorce. But the vast majority of readers were quick to respond in favor of young marriage.

So many people wrote to tell me how they too had married young and could afford only popcorn and Kool-aid at the beginning of their relationships. They dealt with all the poverty and separation that the military deals to very young couples and now they wouldn't change it for the world.

"Twenty-two is not too young to get married," wrote Jim Beauchamp who just celebrated his 50th wedding anniversary. "After two years in the Navy, Joan and I married, she 18 and me 19. Like you, we remember the lean years, we were parents the following year when I was an E-3. It wasn't always easy, especially in the early years, but love and Joan's wisdom and patience, got us here."

That kind of respect for a partner's strengths was present in so many of the letters. These people delivered a lot of devotion, when their partner supported them, while they finished a degree. They also admired partners who could hold it all together during hard times.

"Sometimes, when you marry young and it works, there's a lot of luck involved," wrote Lt. Cmdr. Rob Anselm of Newport News. "All the odds were against my wife and me when we got married in 1991, in Adak, Alaska. I was a 22-year old E-5 and she was a 19-year-old E-4. Our first night of marriage (our honeymoon) was spent in a hunting shack on the frozen tundra in sub-zero temperatures with a fireplace that didn't work and no electricity."

The Anselms were pregnant within three months of getting married. The baby was born prematurely and spent the first three months of his life in the neo-natal intensive care unit. "That time in our lives alone should have

ended us, but it probably sealed a lifetime together. We couldn't be two more different people, but we did grow up together and we did lean on each other," Anselm wrote. "When she got out of the Navy, I supported us while she got her degree. When I got out of the Navy, she supported us while I went to law school. When I went into the judge advocate general corps, I supported us while she went back to school. Her weaknesses are my strengths and my weaknesses are her strengths. There's no way that two young, lonely kids could have known that 16 years ago."

He is absolutely right there. So many of the readers commented on how you really couldn't know whether the relationship would work out or not. Midge and Bob Callis of Norfolk were told they were too young to marry.

"He was 19 years old, 20 days shy of being 20. I was 18. Even though we were officially engaged, we eloped. We had found out that Bob was going to be sent overseas for three years and wanted to be married before he left," Midge Callis wrote. "So many people told us we were too young. Maybe we were, but we didn't worry about age, just being together. If we had it to do over again, would we wait until we were older, more educated, better financially fixed? No. Every moment in life counts and we did not want to waste any time apart. We have never regretted that choice. I thank God for that."

From reading all your kind letters I'm walking away with a renewed conviction that there aren't any guarantees with a young marriage. There are only a lot of promises, an awful lot of blind hope and a deep conviction that the payoffs in this young relationship will be huge.

A military spouse for 20 years, Jacey Eckhart is a nationally syndicated columnist with CinCHouse.com and the host of "The Jacey Eckhart Show for Military Families" www.cinchouse.com/jacey. ■

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\$3500 toward closing, bldr warranty, security systems 1st year paid by builder. Can pick color selections now, some empty lots to pick from bldr floorplans.

# Pleasure Island

## gem of the South

Story and photos by  
Heather Owens  
Carolina Living editor

Nestled on the southeastern coast of North Carolina, between the Atlantic Ocean and the Cape Fear River, just over 15 miles south of Wilmington, one can find the charming communities of Carolina Beach, Kure Beach and the Fort Fisher Recreation Area.

Tagged "Pleasure Island" by the travel community, this slice of coastal heaven is also part of the 31 miles of beaches in the Cape Fear region.

Though many people drive great distances to visit this popular vacation destination, Camp "Lejeune-ites" can go from their front door to the beach in just over an hour.

Once reached, there is plenty to do and see, though many may choose to just relax by the ocean and just "be." Lifeguards watch over the beach from Memorial Day through Labor Day. Though the summer tourist season is winding down, a fun beach vacation can still be had in this region.

Britts Donut Shop on the boardwalk in Carolina Beach has been serving up hot, glazed donuts since 1939. These marvelous donuts cost 65 cents a piece and can be washed down with a piping hot cup of coffee for 80 cents or a dollar. The shop opens at 8:30 a.m. each day from Memorial Day through Labor Day. After Labor Day, the shop will only be open on weekends, and it will close for the season by early October.

For those with a real sweet tooth, a trip to The Fudgeboat, located around the corner from Britts on 107 Carolina Beach Road, is also in order. The delicious cream and butter fudge has been featured in *The Southern Living* magazine and is available for purchase each day from 1 to 10 p.m. in the summer and Friday through Sunday in the fall and spring. The winter schedule varies, so it is best to call ahead at 910-458-5823 to verify operating times. Around Christmas-time, the shop offers candy cane and eggnog fudge in addition to its many other delectable favorites. The Fudgeboat can also be found on the Web at [www.fudgeboat.com](http://www.fudgeboat.com).

Sharing the same building as the Fudgeboat and owned by the same family in fact, is the Wheel Fun rentals. This business rents out unique bicycles and surreys for the whole family to enjoy. For reasonable prices, beachgoers can tour the local area through their own pedal-power. Wheel Fun also has surfboards and other beach gear for rent. Visitors to Carolina Beach Lake Park can also rent paddle boats at Carolina Beach Lake Park. For more information on rentals, Wheel Fun can be reached at 910-458-4545.

The boardwalk also includes an arcade with a bountiful supply of electronic games and pool tables, a few shops and a miniature golf course.

Various-priced eateries abound around the city. Out on 104 North Lake Park Blvd. is the colorful Pop's Diner. A throw-back to the 1950's-style diner, with bright-red booths and a black-and-white checkered floor, Pop's is a great place to get a hotdog. Patrons can select from a reasonably-priced menu of hot dogs, Coney Island dogs, hamburgers, cheese steaks, chicken wings and more. Each entree comes with one side item, which includes cole slaw, French fries or corn on the cob. Pop's also offers homemade ice cream at this location and down the road at a stand on 110 North Lake Blvd. The diner has plans to try to remain open through the fall and winter this year.

For those with a taste for seafood, Michael's Seafood Restaurant (1206 North Lake Park Blvd.) located in the Cross Bridge Shopping Center is the place to go. Choose from a variety of creative seafood dishes, dine from the surf and turf menu or try Michael's award-winning seafood chowder. Michael's is on the Web at [www.michaelsfood.com](http://www.michaelsfood.com).

A visit to Pleasure Island is not complete without spending time at Kure Beach and Fort Fisher. So once you've relaxed on the beach and seen the Carolina Beach sites, it's time to get back in the car and head

south down Highway 421.

Kure Beach, founded in 1947, is celebrating its 60th anniversary this year. Driving through the beach community offers views of colorful and gigantic million dollar beach homes. Most of the homes are built off the ground on support beams to help weather storms and are painted in a palette of bright pastels.

Though the homes are priced for the life styles of the rich and famous, military families can still afford to stay in the region. Just down the road a ways is the Fort Fisher Air Force Recreation Area. Open year-round, this resort gem offers a variety of accommodations for active-duty military, reservists/national guard members, retirees and government civilians, other authorized Department of Defense identification cardholders and their families from tent camping to cottages that sleep up to 12 people. There is also a recreational vehicle campsite and onsite mobile home park. Prices are reasonable year-round, but are cheapest during the winter months from Nov. 1 through March 31. Reservations may be made by calling 910-458-6549.

The compound also offers a friendly reception center staffed by retirees; a convenience store; a gift shop; the Beach House Bar and Grill; a recreation hall, which includes a paperback library and fitness room; an outdoor swimming pool and various outdoor recreation areas. There is also a static display of various military vehicles. The "Toy Box" rental center also offers a variety of rental items such as beach chairs, boogie boards, fishing poles and more.

Back at Kure Beach, be sure to check out the wonderful Kure Beach Fishing Pier on K Avenue. Various forms of the pier have been in the Kure Beach area since 1923. For only \$5 for one rod and reel, you can fish until midnight. Join the salty regulars and relaxed vacationers for a great day fishing the surf.

When you're ready for lunch, try the Jack Mackerel's Island Grill just up the street at 113 K Avenue. You can dine on any of the various outdoor decks and feel the sea breeze while you eat. If seafood is your game, you may want to try Big Daddy's across the street on 206 K Avenue. You can't miss the big sign and you will be delighted at the variety of seafood, steaks, prime rib and chicken on the menu.

Once you've had your fill of fishing, strolling the beautiful beach and dining at Kure Beach, you'll want to get into your car and head south. After you pass your temporary living quarters at the Fort Fisher Air Force Recreation Center, you will come to the Fort Fisher State Historic Site. The last sea defense stronghold of the Confederacy during the Civil War, Fort Fisher now includes a visitor's center with Civil War artifacts, educational materials, a video presentation and gift shop. A quarter-mile tour trail surrounds what remains of the fort, with scenic views of both the Cape Fear River and the Atlantic Ocean. Admission is free and though the hours vary by season, the site is open year round excluding major holidays.

After you've taken the walking tour of the Fort Fisher State Historic Site, you will want to cross the street to take in the Fort Fisher State Recreation Area. Feel the sea breeze on your face while you take in the breathtaking views of the Atlantic Ocean. Then it's time to get back in your car and head south again to the North Carolina Aquarium at Fort Fisher.

The aquarium is a must-see and a rare treat for the whole family. Stroll through the Cape Fear Conservatory and see tree frogs, box turtles, snakes and alligators in beautifully reconstructed habitats. Then you'll want to head through the doors into the upper level of the Marine Building. There you will be able to



**Hot donuts:** Bobby Nivens, owner of Britts Donuts, a Carolina Beach tradition since 1939, prepares his hot, glazed donuts on a recent morning.

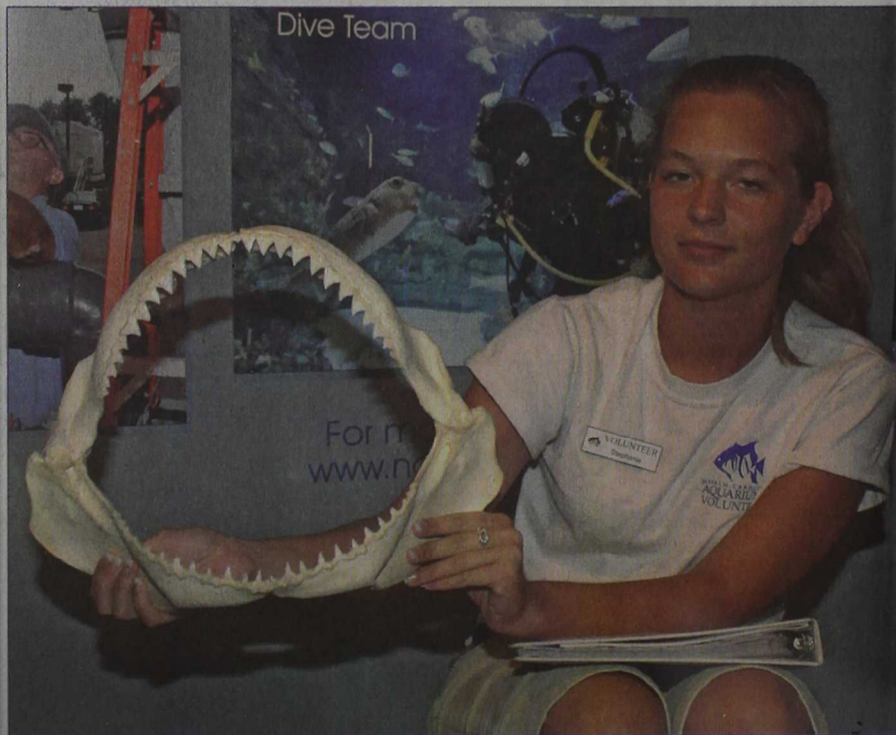
experience the touch pool where family members young and old will delight in being able to actually touch various fun sea life. You'll also have the opportunity to talk with a turtle expert about the native Loggerhead turtle.

But the main attraction is the Cape Fear Shoals. You want to catch one of the two shows a day where some equipped divers jump in the huge, two-story tank with nearly 300 sea animals. The diver will answer questions from the audience while highlighting the many beautiful creatures in the tank. Once you've seen all you can upstairs, head downstairs for more breath-taking views of colorful fish, including the delightful clown fish of "Finding Nemo" fame, in tanks set up to mimic their native habitats. There are also a nice gift shop and a concession deck at the aquarium, which includes soft drinks, frozen yogurt and other tasty treats.

"Pleasure Island," or Carolina Beach, Kure Beach and the Fort Fisher area, is a delightful and relaxing vacation destination for the whole family. The Fort Fisher Air Force Recreation Area is a gem that allows military families to stay in the area at a most-reasonable price. Though summer is certainly a wonderful time to visit the island, the fall can provide many surprising treats as well. There are several music and seafood festivals in the area during October and November and the aquarium offers a trick-or-treat event Oct. 25. As a marketing literature for the area proclaims, you'll definitely want to "come and play" at Pleasure Island.

For more information, visit these helpful Web sites:

- Cape Fear Coast: [www.capefearcoast.com](http://www.capefearcoast.com)
- Carolina Beach: [www.carolinabeach.org](http://www.carolinabeach.org)
- Fort Fisher Air Force Recreation Area: [www.ftrmilitary.com](http://www.ftrmilitary.com)
- Fort Fisher State Historic Site Civil War Exhibit: [www.ah.dcr.state.nc.us/sections/hs/fisher/fisher.htm](http://www.ah.dcr.state.nc.us/sections/hs/fisher/fisher.htm)
- North Carolina Aquariums: [www.ncaquariums.com](http://www.ncaquariums.com)
- Pleasure Island (Carolina Beach, Kure Beach and Fort Fisher): [www.pleasureislandnc.org](http://www.pleasureislandnc.org)
- Kure Beach: [www.visitkure.com](http://www.visitkure.com)
- Kure Beach Fishing Pier: [www.kurebeachfishingpier.com](http://www.kurebeachfishingpier.com) ■



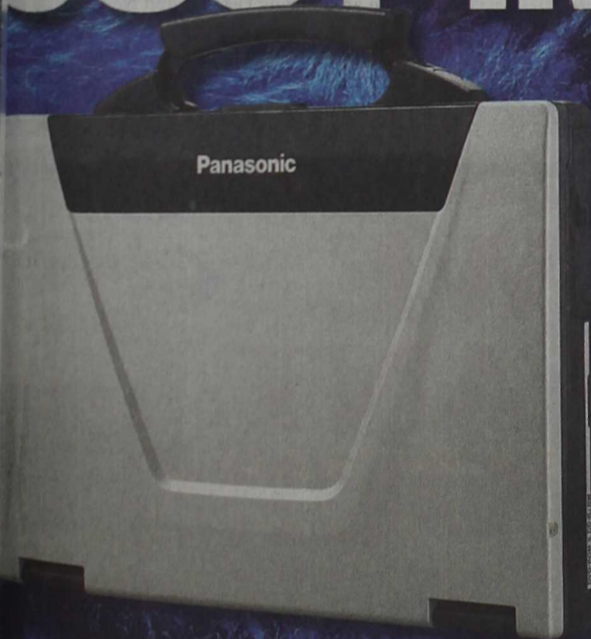
**Attractions:** Spending time on the Kure Beach Fishing Pier is a must during any trip to Pleasure Island. At left, Bob Hamm takes a break from fishing King Mackerel recently. A resident of West Virginia, Hamm has been fishing at Kure Beach for a year for the past 30 years. "I used to come up with my brother and before long I got hooked," he said. At right, Stephanie Rudloff, a volunteer at the North Carolina Aquarium at Fort Fisher, shows off shark's teeth. The aquarium, a must-see attraction, is located on the southern tip of Pleasure Island just past Kure Beach in Fort Fisher. A trip to the aquarium affords the opportunity to visit with many of the delightful creatures of the sea including small sharks, sting rays, and various colorful fish. Check out the clown fish of "Finding Nemo" fame located on the first deck of the aquarium.



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### Spouses night out



**Jason Sellers**  
**Fun:** Dozens of military spouses and dependents gathered at the Midway Park Community Center Friday for an evening of fun at the Spouses Night Out event, which featured a fashion by Vogue Modeling directed by Modeling Instructor Oletha Sloan. Models of all ages delighted the crowds with their charm and style. Above: Ashley Eaton, 5. Left: Linda Moffett.

## Camp Lejeune Chaplain's department job opportunities

### Director of Religious Education: (QTY 2 positions Protestant and Catholic)

- Prerequisites:
- Possess a baccalaureate degree of not less than 120 semester hours\*
  - Director of Religious Education experience
  - Experience working on a church staff
  - Significant experience working with young adults
  - Teacher training and experience and possessing knowledge and skills to train and mentor volunteer teachers
  - Experience working in the military chapel community
  - Sensitive to religious pluralism and willing to work with those with diverse religious beliefs.
- \*Prerequisite can be met by 5-10 years of Director of Education experience in a military chapel.
- Must be registered through Central Contractor Registration [http://www.lejeune.usmc.millcontracting/govt\\_business.html](http://www.lejeune.usmc.millcontracting/govt_business.html)

### Marine Corps Base Chapel Musicians (QTY 9 positions) to perform for the following chapel sites from Oct. 1 – Sept. 30, 2008: Main Catholic Chapel, Main Protestant Chapel, Tarawa Terrace Chapel, Midway Park Chapel, Camp Johnson Chapel (Protestant and Orthodox service), Camp Geiger Chapel and Brig Chapel.

- Pre-requisites:
- Must be able to play piano and/or organ
  - Experience working in the military chapel facility
  - Familiarity with liturgical and contemporary worship services format
  - Ability to play liturgical and contemporary Christian music
  - Must be registered through Central Contractor Registration [http://www.lejeune.usmc.millcontracting/govt\\_business.html](http://www.lejeune.usmc.millcontracting/govt_business.html)

### Orthodox Priest to perform Orthodox liturgy services at Saint Nicholas Chapel, Camp Johnson (QTY position 1)

- Pre-requisites:
- Must obtain an ecclesiastical endorsement from your faith group. This endorsement should certify that you are:
  - A clergy person in your denomination or faith group.
  - Qualified spiritually, morally, intellectually and emotionally to serve as an Orthodox Priest.
  - Sensitive to religious pluralism and able to provide for the free exercise of religion by all military personnel and their family members.
- Education Requirements:
- Possess a baccalaureate degree of not less than 120 semester hours.
  - Possess a master's degree in divinity or a graduate degree in theological studies, which includes at least 72 semester hours
  - Must be registered through Central Contractor Registration [http://www.lejeune.usmc.millcontracting/govt\\_business.html](http://www.lejeune.usmc.millcontracting/govt_business.html)

Applicants can fax resume and any letters of endorsement to 451-2193 or deliver resumé and supporting documents to Contracting Office in building 1116, at Camp Lejeune no later than Sept. 4.

### 2nd Annual Senior Enlisted (E-9) Picnic and spectacular weekend of events

**Location:** Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune  
**Date:** Sept. 21-23 (rain or shine)

**Information Contact:** Office of the Sergeant Major 451-7972 or John R. "Mainstreet" coordinating agency 351-1111

### Make a Difference: Join the Camp Lejeune Dependents Schools Network of Partnerships. Become a CLDS School Board Candidate

Support your children, who are our students, and the goals of the Department of Defense Education Activity Community Strategic Plan.

- Goals for every child:**
- Goal 1: Highest student achievement
  - Goal 2: Performance-driven, efficient management systems
  - Goal 3: Motivated, high-performing diverse workforce
  - Goal 4: Promoting student development through partnerships and communication

Pick up an application at any school location or the superintendent's office. Completed candidate applications are due by 4 p.m., Aug. 27.

### Updated bus schedule posted online

An updated version of the bus schedule for Bitz Intermediate and Johnson Primary Schools will be posted on *The Globe* Web site at [www.camplejeuneglobe.com](http://www.camplejeuneglobe.com).

Share your photos online, log on to [www.camplejeuneglobe.com](http://www.camplejeuneglobe.com)

### Free preschool program and free screenings

Camp Lejeune Dependents Schools' has a preschool program for children who will be 4 years old by Oct. 16 and who live in a housing unit or whose sponsor holds a 90 day housing letter. The program is located at Johnson Primary School, Tarawa Terrace and Delalio Elementary. The only exceptions to the age requirements are for children 3 or 4 years old who have development delays and are on an Individualized Education Program by the Camp Lejeune Dependents Schools specifying preschool education as a service.

Preschool is a half-day program with morning and afternoon sessions Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Wednesdays are aside for parent workshops, home visits, parent-teacher conferences, team planning and for staff development activities. There is no fee for attending this program. Transportation is provided for children who live 1 1/2 or more miles from the school to a Base Child Development Center or have transportation as a needed service on an Individual Education Plan.

If you would like to enroll your child for the preschool program, registration is now taking place at all of the elementary schools. If your child is 3 or 4 years old and you have concerns about any of his/her development and would like a free screening, you can contact Student Services at the Superintendent's office at 246-2461, ext. 220 or 241 to schedule an appointment.

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# Helping all children: Help make scrapbook for troops

Press release  
Connect and Join

Connect with the Troops Project continues to help teachers and students create the largest and greatest scrapbook with messages for the troops.

In July of 2006, Connect And Join, a support and education service company, announced the launch of [www.connectwiththetroops.com](http://www.connectwiththetroops.com) portal. At the launch, the company held a wide scrapbook initiative to have children create the world's largest scrapbook in support of the Troops Project. Connect And Join has received hundreds of scrapbook pages from across the country to date and is using the project to attempt a goal of 100,000 pages.

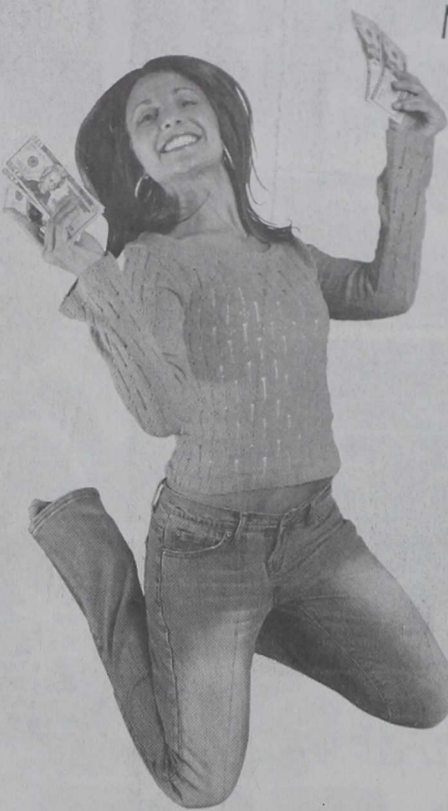
Connect with the Troops portal provides tools that allow teachers, students to communicate with and support for U.S. troops or individuals, while tying patriotism into the classroom. The tools include scrapbooking

instructions, as well as lesson plans and suggestions on how teachers can make an archival activity into a standards-aligned learning experience for students. Lesson plans include a virtual visit to the Library of Congress, a road trip visiting our nation's monuments, the United States flag, a hometown brochure activity and more.

Connect And Join founder, Linda Dennis, was so overwhelmed by the response for the initial project that she visited several of the schools that participated in the project. A trip to Virginia, Iowa, South Carolina and Indiana convinced her that continuing this project is a must.

Students of all ages are asked to show their support for the troops by sending in their letters, scrapbook pages and warm wishes.

If you have any questions please contact Kim Poepelmeier at [kim@kehcomm.com](mailto:kim@kehcomm.com), or via phone at 410-975-9638. To learn more about Connect And Join or its support for the Troops project, visit the Web sites at [www.connectandjoin.com](http://www.connectandjoin.com) or [www.connectwiththetroops.com](http://www.connectwiththetroops.com).



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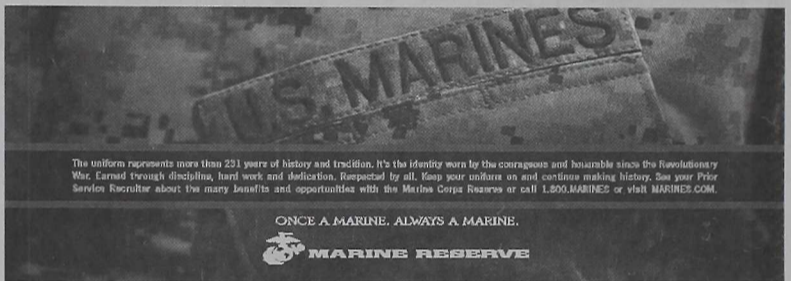
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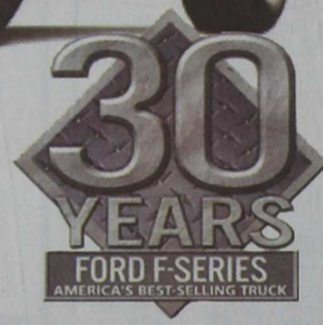


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