

THE GLOBE



St. Patrick's Day parade / 1D

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Cpl. Athanasios L. Genos

Camp Lejeune: Marines with 3rd Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment packed their bags and said their goodbyes yet again as they begin their journey to Iraq for their second tour in just over a year. Everyone loaded up with rifles in hand as their families watched on as the buses carried their heroes away.

3/8 saddles up for fight

Cpl. Athanasios L. Genos
2nd Marine Division

The bags were being loaded and the emotions ran high as the Marines of 3rd Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment were getting ready to ride back into Iraq to continue the fight against the Global War on Terrorism as they left Monday. Many of the Marines from the battalion returned last year in August from a seven-month deployment in Fallujah and Karmah, Iraq. The experience and knowledge of what is tak-

ing place there is a part of many men's preparation for what they'll be getting back into.

"The short turn around for us has been a challenge to the families, but has kept our proficiency at a high level," explained Capt. Mark Liston, Weapons Company Commander.

The Marines began gathering their things as they stood with their family members one last time before loading the buses and heading off to catch their flight. Although the Marines have not been home

for very long, they know what their mission is, explained Liston.

The doors opened and the Marines climbed in, as they waved one last time to their fellow Marines and family members who were seeing them off to another successful tour in Iraq protecting the freedoms of the United States.

The first leg of the battalion made their way out of Camp Lejeune to meet the Marines they will replace. Their missions

See FIGHT page 11A

Cheney: Victory in war on terrorism will be victory for freedom

Sgt. Sara Wood
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Supporting political freedom and peaceful change in Iraq and the Middle East will require long-term commitment and difficult work, but it is something the U.S. must do to protect itself and its allies from terrorism, Vice President Richard B. Cheney said recently.

"If the people of that region are given the rights of free men and women and live under elected, accountable governments and have a chance to work and succeed in hopeful societies, then the flow of radicalism and hate will one day come to an end," Cheney said at a conference of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, a pro-Israel lobbying group. "The survival of liberty in our own land increasingly depends on the success of liberty in other lands."

Terrorists are a ruthless enemy with a strong set of beliefs and ambitions, Cheney said, but the U.S. has a strategy to defeat them. Key elements of the U.S. strategy are to prevent terrorist attacks before they occur, deny safe haven to terrorists, halt the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, and deny terrorists the control of any nation they would use as a base for terrorist attacks, he said.

Another crucial element in

the strategy for victory is to replace hatred and resentment with democracy and hope, making the Middle East an environment unfriendly to terrorists, Cheney said. "As democracy advances, ideologies that stir anger and hostility lose their appeal, and terrorists lose recruits, safe havens and sources of funding," he said.

Progress in Iraq has not been easy, but it has been steady, Cheney said. In less than two years, Iraqis voted for a transitional government, drafted a democratic constitution in the heart of the Arab world, approved the constitution in a national referendum and elected a new government under its provisions, he

said. "Iraqis have shown that they value their own liberty and are determined to chart the future of their own country," he said. People in the Middle East have known nothing but dictatorship, bitterness and violence for decades, Cheney said, but they now have hope for a future. The promise of democracy in that region rests on free elections and the ability of free peoples to hold accountable those who govern them, he said. A functioning democracy also requires institutions that endure beyond a single vote, the protection

See CHENEY page 8A



Vice President Cheney

Mass. state residents get welcome home bonus

Sgt. Tracee L. Jackson
11 Marine Expeditionary Force

Active-duty and reserve service members who are legal residents of the state of Massachusetts may be eligible to receive a chunk of change from their state government.

According to the state's official Web site, www.mass.gov, the 'Welcome Home' bonus program is administered by the state Treasurer's office. It pro-

vides a one-time \$500 or \$1,000 tax-free payment to service members activated since Sept. 11, 2001. Those who have served in Afghanistan or Iraq will receive \$1,000, and those who have served domestically or in other foreign countries for a period of six months or more will receive \$500.

Peg McCobb, "Welcome Home" Bill administrator, explained service members should be sure they submit

complete information to have their claims processed. To apply, for the welcome home program, active-duty service members should have three years of active-duty service after Sept. 11, 2001. Reservists should have 6 months on the books.

Required paperwork includes a residence certificate, a copy of discharge papers or a form from the commanding officer for active-duty claimants, and a photocopy of their military ID

with documentation of where they served. All forms requested are available online.

"Claims take about 6 weeks to arrive once the request has been processed," said McCobb. "This is an expression of our gratitude to the people who serve our country," said Treasurer Tim Cahill. "I am pleased to offer this bonus to servicemen and

See BONUS page 11A

Gen. Jones puts Afghan violence in perspective

Jim Garamone
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — The Taliban and Al-Qaida cannot start a major insurgency in Afghanistan, but the country still faces huge problems, Gen. James Jones, supreme allied commander in Europe, said recently.

NATO will take over all operations in the country by the end of the year, Jones said during a Pentagon news conference.

"From my standpoint, ...the way to understand the level of violence in Afghanistan is to not limit it to the rather simple discussion of the Taliban and Al-Qaida. It's more complex than that," the general said.

"Afghanistan is on the way to recovery, but is also fighting some internal demons," he continued. "One is certainly the narcotics culture and the dependence of the economy on narcotics, which, from my standpoint, is probably the most serious problem facing the restructuring and the new path that Afghanistan would like to go on."

There is also a fair amount of corruption in the country, and the rule of law has not taken root everywhere there, he said. "[Afghanistan] can be a fairly violent place at

times," Jones said. "But I would not discount the criminal element from simply their role in the social fabric, because it is there."

He said remnants of Al-Qaida and the Taliban are still in pockets around the country, but Afghan and coalition forces are moving in to more areas, leaving fewer and fewer havens for these insurgents. "There are military forces going there security forces going there, and that's causing another uptick in violence," he said.

As NATO troops move in to the southern portion of Afghanistan, centered around the city of Kandahar, Jones said he expects more attacks. "But I want to make a strong statement to say that the nations that are coming into the southern part of Afghanistan are coming in without any caveats or restrictions, that we will have thousands more troops on the ground than ever before in southern Afghanistan and more military capability than ever before," he said.

"And I think that if there is a test, that the outcome is going to be swift and decisive," he continued. "And then I think that you'll see that the terrorists or whoever it is that's doing it will take their business elsewhere." ■



Lance Cpl. Samuel D. White

Marine Corps Air Station New River: Gen. Robert Magnus, assistant commandant of the Marine Corps, talks about the capabilities of the MV-22 Osprey.

VMM-263 ready to write next chapter in Osprey program

Lance Cpl. Samuel D. White
Marine Corps Air Station New River

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION NEW RIVER — The future of Marine Corps aviation took a large step forward as hundreds of Marines, sailors, airmen, soldiers and family members gathered to watch a ceremony in which the first operational MV-22 Osprey squadron was activated March 3.

"Commissioning [Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron-263] is a historic day for the 'Thunder Chickens,' for our Corps and for our nation," said Maj. Gen. Thomas L. Moore, 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing commanding general. "We have introduced a transformational aircraft into our nation's forces with the 'Thunder Chickens.'"

A transformational aircraft because it capitalizes on both the best aspects of the rotary wing and the best aspects of the fixed wing turbo-propeller, Moore explained.

"The [Osprey] is much more survivable than the [CH-46E Sea Knight] because of its range and its speed," said Moore. "It's a much more capable aircraft and we expect it to perform [excellently] in battle."

A capable aircraft that has been in the making since the early 1960s, some feel the delay has produced the best result.

"I have to tell you, waiting for something this good has been worth while," said Gen. Robert Magnus, assistant commandant

See OSPREY page 11A

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Man on the street

Should Swim Qualification count towards promotion?



"All the training we do is important, there's no reason that any of it shouldn't count."

Cpl. Maryerline D. Gratini
Warehouse Clerk
Supply Co, 2nd Supply Bn.,
2nd MLG
Dominican Republic

"No, because some MOS require a higher swim qualification level, and that wouldn't be fair to other Marines in boards."



Staff Sgt. Sharone L. Blue
Assault Amphibious Vehicle Section Leader
Company D, 2nd AABN
2nd MarDiv
Jacksonville, Fla.



"As far as I know, Marines are still deploying on ships, so we still need it."

Cpl. Tabitha L. Crowl
Radio Operator
Communications Co., HQ Bn.,
2nd MarDiv
Alta Loma, Calif.

"Yes, because it applies to many of the things we're doing over in Iraq."



Pfc. Clifford J. Byron
Tow Gunner
Weapons Co., 3/2,
2nd MarDiv
Miami



"Yes, because you can't lead your Marines into combat if you're dead at the bottom of the ocean."

Capt. O.J. Weiss
Forward Air Controller
3rd Bn., 2nd Marine Regiment
2nd MarDiv
Canton, N.Y.

To ink or not to ink that is the question

Guest Commentary
Cpl. Rose A. Muth

As I walked into the brightly lit shop, I noticed numerous people looking at framed pictures on the wall — some displaying looks of confusion, and others with eyes full of pure pleasure.

The slight buzzing noise in the background and the girl leaning over a chair getting her back tattooed did not even phase me, as this was just one trip out of many I have made to a local tattoo parlor — I was with my best friend for her first tattoo and I was the last customer of the evening to get my third piece of skin art.

I picked a piece that I have been eyeing for two years, a beautiful red Japanese koi fish surrounded by blue waves and pink cherry blossoms I wanted placed on my ankle going up the side of my leg.

I spent three hours enduring the pain of a tattoo needle. I was happy with the end result, and had no way of knowing that those three hours of what I thought was pain would be nothing compared to the two weeks that lay ahead.

Two days after receiving my tattoo, I got up to get ready for work and noticed that I was feeling slightly faint in the shower. I looked at my leg, to check out my cool artwork, and realized that the area around my tattoo was really red and had started to swell. Not being new to the world of tattoos, I knew it might take time to heal. So, I went to work all day, slightly limping. As the day passed, the pain started steadily increasing, but I didn't want to complain.

Waking up the third morning was some of the most enduring pain I have ever felt in my life. My ankle looked like it had suddenly become pregnant. When I set my foot on the floor to walk, it felt like a thousand swords were stabbing me in the shin.

I knew something was wrong, so I called my office to let them know I would be going to the group aid station. Being concerned they asked the nature of the problem — I'm sure the sounds in the background were just coughing that sounded like laughing...

I arrived at the GAS and told the corpsman what I was experiencing, and after a shuffle of people in and out to check the leg, I talked to a chief petty officer and a Navy lieutenant. They told me I had an infection, handed me some pills and I was on my way.

I had an appointment for the next week for a follow up, but that wasn't soon enough for my bloated appendage.

I went back to the clinic the next morning — day four — and the pain felt 10 times worse. Not only was it swollen, it looked as if a 5 year old had grabbed a purple sharpie and attempted to enhance the artwork on my leg. After a few exams it was determined I had cellulitis in my ankle.

I was sent to Naval Hospital Camp Lejeune for X-rays to determine if there was anything wrong with my leg and ankle bones. I ultimately ended up in the orthopedics department, where I had a yet another needle inserted into my leg. This one went into the ankle joints to make sure the infection had not spread. Luckily, I was in the clear.

I was admitted into the hospital after my podiatrist told me that I would be on a series of antibiotics, oral and through an intravenous tube in my arm, until the swelling lessened. A cast was placed on my leg, with a heating pad inside to increase the blood flow to my ankle to get the antibiotics working faster.

Stuck in a hospital bed, I thought about how the symbol of my tattoo meant good luck, but there I was with a raging leg infection and a cup of pudding in hand to top off my delightful hospital meal.

My first night in the hospital, I was roused a couple times to receive yet another I.V. of antibiotics and to take my pills.

I woke to the smell of scrambled eggs and bacon the next morning, brought by the seamen on duty. The fun for the day kicked off with a trip to the cast room to remove the cast and to be re-examined by my doctor.

"You still have some red around your ankle, but it looks like the swelling has gone down," I heard my podiatrist say. But then he added "and we're going to probably keep you here another night or two."

Not that I wasn't thrilled to spend the weekend with my new friends who staffed the hospital, but I couldn't help but hide the long face. However, at least I knew the infection was steadily decreasing.

The next few days were the same routine — get up, go to the cast room and get my ankle looked at, then go back to my room and start my antibiotic regimen for the day. Despite the entertainment of climbing out of bed every couple of hours to try to walk around, the boredom of lying in bed all day was consuming me — I just wanted to crutch myself out of there.

I was given seven days of convalescent leave after I was discharged and I thought I was on my way to a speedy recovery. I was released and given a week's worth of antibiotic pills and some cream for my skin so that it didn't dry out too much.

The first couple hospital were a little had been used to be not maneuvering ar But I was happy to l my belongings and would come by and

The fourth day ou — yes, folks, arou noticed little spots o didn't really pay tha to them. They got a able when I woke up ing and was itchy and

Despite my discou tured out to the mal the Marines who I back from Iraq and some clothes. I notic ing and redness was and one of the guys y out that I was breaki I never had hives in that day, so I put on a was freaking out on t

After being told "y I decided that it coul of a deal.

After dinner with I changed my mind, my room and told my that I needed to go to room since the itchi able. It was then, that mirror and noticed bright red, and the development — n swollen as well. It loo a fight with a beehive

I drove to the en with my friend in tow ed immediately, as my bad they were afraid l anaphylactic shock.

steroid shot, bendry another I.V., all of together to knock me gave me a ride home f tal and then I went to night.

Day 13, I woke swelling had lessened were slowly starting. No longer taking the r my cellulitis, I was bendryl pill regimen 72 hours. The pills m dizzy so I stayed home

By this time, I was thinking the whole koi I went to medical morning and the hive much gone and the almost gone. The doc my ankle and confirm observation.

Coming back to wo wracking because of ev happened to me.

However, everyone was very supportive an ing — now dubbed dahlia, they assured me laughing with me ... no

THE AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY'S MAN-TO-MAN PROSTATE SUPPORT

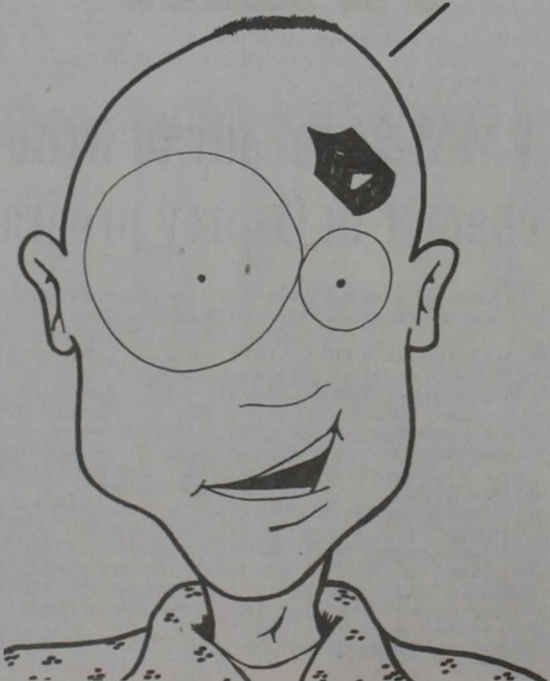
The Onslow County/ Military Man-to-Man Prostate Cancer, Information, Education and Support Group meets Saturday of each month at 8 a.m. at the Onslow Memorial Hospital cafeteria for breakfast. Attendees are responsible for the cost of their meal. The meeting is to follow at 8:30 a.m. in the west wing classroom off of the cafeteria. There is an open discussion to talk with new members and relate to them. Man-to-Man is designed to provide information and an opportunity to talk to men that have questions on prostate cancer, newly diagnosed prostate cancer patients, those undergoing treatment and also patients who have completed treatment. Attendees will have the opportunity to talk openly with each other and with health care professionals about the disease. For additional information call The American Cancer Society at (800) 282-4914 or Robert Kimbrough 347-6224.

Sempertoons

by Staff Sgt. Wolf

"You guessed it!....."

My wife promoted me and I wouldn't have it any other way!!"



Wolf

sempertoons.com

THE GLOBE

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This DoD newspaper is an authorized publication of the Department of Defense, Office (CPAC), Camp Lejeune, N.C. Published by Landmark Military Newspapers, N.C., a private and in no way connected with the Department of Defense. Marine Corps, under exclusive written contract with Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune, N.C.

Around the Corps



Cpl. Martin R. Harris
Leyte, Philippines: Marines with combat engineers detachment, 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit, shovel gravel to level off a hill on the road they are building to the landslide disaster area in Southern Leyte, Philippines.



Cpl. Martin R. Harris
Southern Leyte, Philippines: Marines with combat engineers detachment, 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit, are using logs cut from nearby trees as foundation for a road they are building to the landslide disaster area in Southern Leyte, Philippines.

MEU engineers build road, assist on landslide disaster area rescue

Cpl. Martin R. Harris
Expeditionary Unit

SOUTHERN LEYTE, — Numerous governmental and nongovernmental organizations joined to the request from the Philippine government following a landslide that destroyed the village of San Juan on Feb. 17. The rescue operation has been limited to handling heavy rain and continuous rainfall at the area, but even if it has not stopped, the Marine Expeditionary Unit's consolidated engineer platoon is making every effort to help each of the disaster

Brager, a combat engineer with the detachment. The engineers are using large logs, cut from nearby bamboo trees, and mixing bags of concrete with the gravel to build a sturdy foundation for the roads. "It's very difficult to keep anything from sinking in the mud," said Brager, the 23-year-old Chattanooga, Tenn. native. "The rain is almost constant and the logs will hopefully keep the road from sinking or washing away."

According to Staff Sgt. Stephen Short, the motor transport maintenance chief with MEU Service Support Group 31, the challenge of building the road in adverse conditions will contribute a great deal to the search and rescue operation, as well as help them in the long run.

"The Marines know how important this road is to the operation," said Short, a 32-year-old Timberlake, N.C. native. "This is something they have never done before and it's definitely an experience that will help in their Marine Corps career."

The road, when completed will be the only means of entry and exit from the disaster area, other than helicopter or on foot.

"The faster we get this road built, the more likely it is we might find someone alive," said Short, who has been helping direct 7-ton dump trucks in and out of the disaster area. "If there aren't any roads we can't get front loaders in to excavate on a large scale."

Through innovation, determination and a sense of urgency, in soggy and inopportune condi-

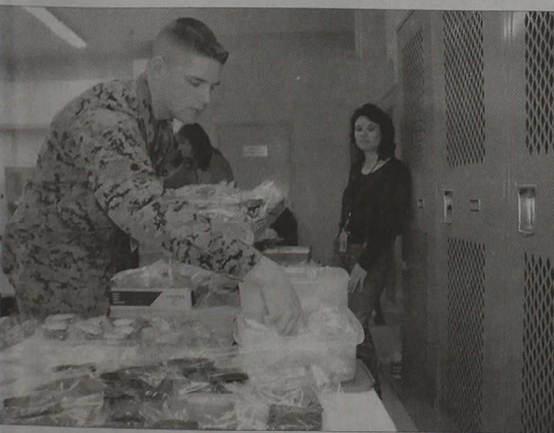
tions the combat engineers have found a way to push forward with the search and rescue operation and continue to support the Philippine government by all means necessary.

"The Marines are very motivated about getting this road built," said Rushing. "They are doing a spectacular job. I couldn't ask for anyone better to handle this responsibility." ■



Cpl. Martin R. Harris
Southern Leyte, Philippines: Marines with combat engineers detachment, 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit, are mixing bags of concrete to help the gravel mess with the logs.

Meet tooth, sweet returns, Key Volunteers 'Returning Heroes Fund' proves successful



Sgt. Christopher D. Reed
Indian Head, Md.: Cpl. Kevin A. Reese, satisfies his sweet tooth while supporting the Key Volunteers "Returning Heroes Fund" at the Chemical Biological Incident Response Force recently.

Sgt. Christopher D. Reed
Chemical Biological Incident Response Force

INDIAN HEAD, Md. — Key Volunteers from the Chemical Biological Incident Response Force did not realize how many Marines and sailors at the unit had a sweet tooth until they sold \$430 worth of baked goods recently.

Two hours after the "Returning Heroes Fund" bake sale began, it became abundantly clear that a simple idea like selling baked goods to raise funds for Marines and sailors returning from Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom would be a success.

As the shadow of the third anniversary [March 19th] of the Iraqi conflict approaches, Sheryl Brochu, the Key Volunteer Coordinator for CBIRF sheds light on why the grassroots simplicity of this event was such a success. This effort is one way the CBIRF community can take care

of their own and welcome home their brothers and sisters who have served in OIF and OEF, explains Brochu.

"Every time a Marine or sailor comes home they will receive a gift basket, which is paid for by the fundraiser," said the Slatersville, R.I., native. "The Marines and sailors of CBIRF understand how important it is for the families and the single guys to have something to look forward to when they [the veterans] come home."

The success of the event is directly affected by the support of the surrounding Charles County community as well, said Brochu.

"All we [the Key Volunteers] want is to be able to continue the program for Marines and sailors returning home," Brochu said. "The gift baskets we give to the Marines and sailors contain gift certificates from local restaurants and businesses, some valued at \$20 or more."

The success of the heartfelt mis-

sion was also due, in part, to the commitment of several Key Volunteers, said Brochu.

"Twelve of our volunteers helped bake," said Brochu with unmistakable pride. "Some of the volunteers dedicated hours of their time baking."

Sgt. Johann Oubre, a field radio operator, supported the fund drive not only because he likes tasty treats, but because he understands how it feels to be in country.

"I came to support this program because I have been over there," explains Oubre, an OIF and OEF veteran. "It is an outstanding idea and I think we should branch out to really get the community involved."

According to Oubre the far reaching impact of programs like the "Returning Heroes Fund" serves as a succinct reminder to the community of the sacrifice Marines and sailors make daily.

Marine Corps Installations East

Volunteer shares stories of Iwo Jima

Cpl. Justin J. Shemanski
Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island

MCRD PARRIS ISLAND, S.C. — In the spring of 1944, the United States was flexing its unstoppable military might during the island-hopping campaigns of the Pacific theater as thousands of young, seemingly fearless men committed themselves to the cause.

William J. Bryan was one of these men.

Now a volunteer with the Parris Island Museum, Bryan can be found there two days a week archiving new donations and artifacts into the museum's database, but more than six-decades ago, he was fighting for his life on the war-torn island of Iwo Jima.

He hails from the small, Midwestern town of Springfield, Ohio, and enlisted in the Marine Corps in April 1944.

"The war was going on and they were drafting people," said Bryan. "I had two older brothers who had gotten deferments and they were both married and had children. I was one of those gung-ho high school kids and I figured if [I] went in and joined the Marine Corps, I could save them from getting drafted."

Though his mother was not really onboard with the whole idea, she still supported her 17-year-old son's decision. She signed his papers and he was off to MCRD Parris Island for recruit training.

After he had graduated from Parris Island, the green, new Marine was sent north to Camp Lejeune for advanced infantry training, and it was there he learned he would soon be headed overseas.

"They formed a replacement draft to go overseas and had asked for volunteers," said Bryan. "They called us out in ranks and then told the first three ranks to take three paces forward. Those men would be going overseas in the replacement draft and they said for anyone who did not want to do that to take three paces back. Naturally, no one did. They put me in the 31st Replacement Draft and I went over to Hawaii and joined the



Parris Island Museum: William J. Bryan, a volunteer with the Parris Island Museum, gazes past a statue of the flag raising on Iwo Jima, a war-torn rock, that he spent nine days on during the bloody World War II battle. Bryan also underwent recruit training aboard the Depot.

5th Marine Division."

Once he arrived at his new duty station, Bryan and a handful of other Marines were attached to 2nd Battalion and were split up among its three companies, where they would all serve as litter bearers. But, shortly thereafter, he was off to war.

"We landed in the fifth wave, which was just 17 minutes after the first," said Bryan as he vividly recounted his experiences. "I was a cocky young kid ... I was 18 then. When we were coming in on the Amtrak, some of the older fellas that had been in combat were pretty solemn and I said, 'What are you all so worried about? There's not going to be a live [Japanese soldier] on

the island the way they have been bombing it. It's going to be a snap."

Bryan said it was at that moment that a piece of shrapnel or something hit the side of the boat and the danger he was in had become a reality.

"I thought, God, they're shooting at us, and I hunkered down a little bit," he said. "The Amtrak was supposed to take us to the far end of the island, and then we were supposed to start moving north. But then we hit the beach, the driver dropped the ramp and said, 'This is it boys. This is as far as we go.' We had to go into the lines and get the wounded and then bring them back to be evacuated. It was complete hell."

During his nine-day stay on Iwo

Jima, Bryan said he had never seen so much devastation.

"We didn't see very many [Japanese], though," he said. "They were all in caves, and finally they started using demolition or flame throwers to seal up the caves. The most we saw were dead Marines."

With so much death and destruction, morale was running low, and by his fourth day, the misery could be seen in the faces of his brothers in arms. Then, they had all heard some of the most exciting news they could have hoped for. The flag was raised on Mount Suribachi.

"Everybody could turn around and look up there and see the flag ... I'll

never forget it," said Bryan. "It was raining that day, and we were chos on and we were We were moving north. A tenant told us they got Suribachi. It was quite Every time I go to a football game, some kind of sporting they raise the flag, it's that comes to mind."

Another memory that comes to mind is the day he got back on the island for a week, braving enemy fire, fellow litter bearers and fallen counterparts, who was hit.

"I was hit on the 27th," he recalled. "A piece of shrapnel hit my leg and became lodged in my knee. A corpsman came and gave me a shot of morphine and a tourniquet on it and my leg was back to the aid station. A couple days later I was transferred to a hospital ship."

On his road to recovery, Bryan spent the next several months in Guam, Pearl Harbor and San Diego. He spent months in the Corps at Naval Station, Ill., and went home when they declared Japan. After his leave, he went back to Great Lakes, Ill., where he signed his papers and ended his military career.

He spent the next three years as a plate-maker for his home town, and after retiring, he moved back to Parris Island, S.C.

"We came down here and we just loved it ... Parris Island," said Bryan. "I could come over here and be near the Marine Corps."

Bryan's feeling for Parris Island kept him closer to that young 17-year-old who went to boot camp in Hawaii.

"I've told many people about my experience I had couldn't say Bryan. "You couldn't count on dollars to go through like that." ■

Marines show New Orleans swinging good times

Cpl. Lydia M. Davey
Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point

NEW ORLEANS — Raucous crowds, cold beverages and colorful beads were only a part of New Orleans' Mardi Gras celebration this year, as 31 members of the 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing were welcomed in style by an ecstatic city recently.

"We're so happy to have [the Marines] here," said Gwyneth James, a Thibodaux, La., native and Mardi Gras regular. "It means a lot to see they're willing to invest in the city's future. It brings us hope."

The 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing Band and the Marine Wing Headquarters Squadron 2 Color Guard participated in two of the carnival's largest events: the Proteus and Rex parades — each of which followed a winding six-mile route through the city.

Distance and the Louisiana heat presented a challenge that the band met head-on.

"Our parades are normally about two miles long," said Gunnery Sgt. Michael Montoya, drum major for the 2nd MAW band. "Two six-mile parades in two days takes a lot of muscle endurance for a musician."

Montoya, a Mardi Gras veteran, knew some preparation was in order.

"I knew we needed to hit the streets for two, three, four hours at a time," he said. "During training, the [Marines] were pushed beyond their normal capabilities, but in the end we presented an exceptionally good product for the people of New Orleans."

Sgt. Rachel Barringer, musician with the 2nd MAW band, agreed.

"[The practice] helped enormously," she said. "I can't say it was fun, but it definitely paid off. We kept our concentration and focus and did a great job."



Mardi Gras' Rex parade: A Color Guard from the 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing's Marine Headquarters Squadron 2 pauses during Mardi Gras' Rex parade in New Orleans.

Barringer, a Mardi Gras newcomer, said that the extent of the festivities for her was participating in the parades.

"I didn't want to walk a single step more," she said.

Cheering crowds weren't the only ones to take notice of the band's work. Lt. Gen. John W. Bergman, commanding general of Marine Forces Reserve, and Marine Forces North, sent his thanks through Col. James J. Kinnerup, deputy commander of MFR New Orleans, during a special visit with the band.

"General Bergman would like to extend his thanks for your participation in this year's Mardi Gras," said Kinnerup. "I saw you marching in the Rex parade yesterday, and I want to say that you represented the Marine Corps as only a Marine Corps Band can."

Kinnerup also took the opportunity to present challenge coins to Sgt. Justin Lienemann, trumpet player, Cpl. Eric Kyne, saxophone player, and Cpl. Colin Martin, trombone player, in recognition of their superior performance.

"I know it was a tough job," said Kinnerup. "But, we're grateful to have you here in New Orleans. Thank you for a job well done."

During the week following Mardi Gras, as street sweepers and cleaners make their way slowly down Bourbon Street and up along Canal, all signs of this year's carnival season will be erased. But, the memory of the Marine Corps marching proudly through the city is one that New Orleans and her visitors will not soon forget. ■



Mardi Gras' Rex parade: Elvis takes a moment to pose with a Color Guard from the 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing's Marine Wing Headquarters Squadron 2, in New Orleans.

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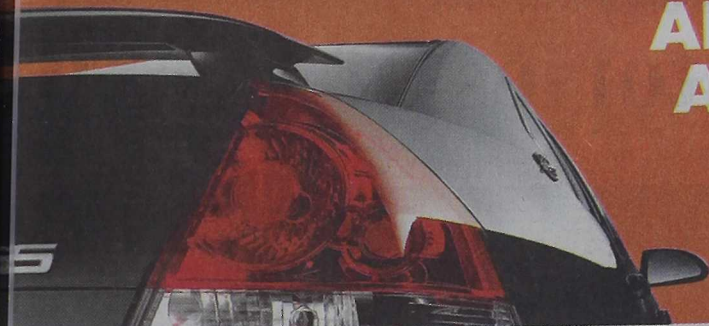
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News from Iraq

Marines patrol with Iraqi Army

Cpl. William Skelton
1st Marine Division

SUBIYHAT, Iraq — The sight of Marines and Iraqi soldiers patrolling the streets together is becoming more common throughout villages on the outskirts of Fallujah.

A squad from 1st Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment conducted joint patrols with soldiers from the Iraqi Army recently.

The battalion is assigned to Regimental Combat Team 8, supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom.

A squad of Marines from the battalion's Company B combined with soldiers from 1st Battalion, 4th Brigade, 1st Iraqi Army Division for the joint operation. Together, they performed searches of the area for illegal weapons and interviewed local residents gleaned information about insurgent activities.

The Marines' role was to coach the Iraqi soldiers, or IAs, as the Marines referred to them.

"Our role as a squad is to aid the IAs in patrolling the area," said Cpl. Philip J. Krabbe, a 25-year-old squad leader from Ridgecrest, Calif. "We are here to give advice on the procedures they should take to conduct a patrol correctly and to provide security during the operation."

Throughout the patrol, Marines and Iraqi soldiers searched for weapons caches, set up a vehicle checkpoint and performed sweeps for improvised explosive devices. The patrol didn't turn up any illegal weapons or uncover anyone on a wanted list, but did have lasting effects.

"The day was productive in that we showed a strong Iraqi presence in [the] area," said 1st Lt. Glenn P. Baker, a 27-year-old from Lake Arrowhead, Calif., serving as Company B's executive officer.

Constant vigilance is a mantra among Marines walking miles and searching homes. Dry holes are expected, but with each hidden weapon they do uncover, they chalk it up as a success.

"The weapons searches we perform are important because if we find the weapons before the insurgents use them, it is less lives that are put at risk; both military and civilian," said Lance Cpl. Kenneth D. Mayfield, a 20-year-old assaultman from Denver, who took part in the patrol.

Mayfield added that vehicle check points — snap VCPs as Marines call them — were set up to catch insurgents on the move or to look for suspicious people in the area.

"We usually have certain vehicles that we are on the look out for when we go out in an area to patrol," Mayfield explained. "If we see vehicles that fit the description or we see vehicles from out of the area, we will check their papers to see if they are who we are looking for."

Interaction with local citizens

was one of the most productive efforts of the day, though. Information gained from conversations with residents helps both Iraqi soldiers and Marines tighten the noose on insurgents. Additionally, residents see their own troops taking a lead role in protecting their own country, a source of pride among Iraqis.

All of the residents questioned were cooperative and seemed to appreciate the military presence in the community, according to Krabbe.

"The confidence the IAs show is great to see," Mayfield said. "I was surprised at how much they seemed to have learned and retained from the training they've received."

Krabbe — on his third tour to Iraq — said he is seeing progress since his previous tour. The mood is different in the communities and the area of operation as a whole.

"The people in the area seem to accept the IAs and seem to understand they are here to help," Krabbe said.

The 1st Battalion Marines will continue to train and work with the Iraqi Army throughout the deployment. As Iraqi soldiers gain strength and increase their capabilities, Marines plan on turning over more battle space to them in the coming months.

"I am very impressed with the professionalism and abilities of 1/4/1," Baker said. "And as always the Marines performed like Marines." ■



Subiyhat, Iraq: An Iraqi soldier peers around a corner during joint operations with Marines from 1st Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment. The Marines trained and provided input on patrolling tactics to the Iraqi Security Forces, boosting ties as they assume greater roles and responsibilities in their own country.



Subiyhat, Iraq: From top to left, Cpl. Philip J. Krabbe, 1st Lt. Glenn P. Baker and Pfc. Aaron D. Payne check the global positioning system and radio to headquarters during a patrol in the eastern Al Anbar province.



Subiyhat, Iraq: Cpl. Philip J. Krabbe keeps watch during a patrol in the eastern Al Anbar province. He conducted weapons searches and interviews with the Subiyhat community.

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Civil Affairs Marines clear rubble, path for the new Iraq

Sgt. Jerad W. Alexander
6th Civil Affairs Group

AL QA'IM, Iraq — The 6th Civil Affairs Group, in concert with local contractors, have begun the rubble clearing of municipal buildings in Husaybah. The rubble was a result of Operation Steel Dawn, a coalition offensive against insurgents in the Al Qa'im region of the western Al Anbar province. During the operation, insurgents would dig and compounds were used and concealed, leading to the destruction of these buildings when forces used air power to engage the

of the buildings during the fighting. The rubble was used by the local militia. Without these, the local Iraqi government process has slowed according to Westfield, a private Maj. Sean M. Minter, a civil affairs team leader with CAG. According to Master Sgt. Minter, civil affairs in the 6th Civil Affairs Group is a native of Hawaii. "It is the job of the civil affairs team to work with the local officials — mayors, city officials and police — to increase their importance in the government you are working with. It is the job of the civil affairs team to get the government you are working with to get the leadership — people who are together for the common good," said Minter.

A \$190,000 has been allocated for rubble clearing projects in combat operations in the Husaybah area, a city of approximately 10,000 people, according to Minter.

The area is being cleared of rubble. The town's hospital, five schools as well as several open markets are designated as the sites of rubble clearing and a new police station. The construction of new municipal buildings and a police station are integral to getting a fledgling government on its feet.

The process of rubble clearing is a complex one. Civil Affairs Marines work with the Al Qa'im Reconstruction Committee, a committee comprised of local leaders to determine which areas require immediate attention. The sites are identified, and civil affairs Marines solicit bids from local contractors. Estimated costs for the rubble. Whenever a local contractor is selected, the money and work is given to local Iraqis to spur economic growth.

"I want money to go to the local contractors," Minter said. "Once they say the work is done, we check up on it. When it's completed, then we pay them."

In addition to rubble clearing, the Marines of Civil Affairs have other projects in the area, according to Hurley. Projects to repair the railway and a water treatment plant are on the horizon, as well as projects to the local judicial system and government fuel. Damage claims are also being processed from local Iraqis to receive payment for incidental damages caused by coalition forces. A number of schools in the region have also been marked for rebuilding. "Without it you don't have schools that make progress: power, etcetera," Minter said. "We've made tremendous progress so far."



Sgt. Jerad W. Alexander

Husaybah, Iraq: A smiling Iraqi girl holds up a pair of tennis shoes given to her by Marines of the 6th Civil Affairs Group in Husaybah, Iraq.

Military engineers bring skills to the southwest

Cpl. Matthew Rainey
Marine Corps Air Station Yuma

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION YUMA, Ariz. — Marines from Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune arrived in Yuma, Ariz., recently, ready to beef up our nation's border protection as part of Joint Task Force North.

Since then, engineers from the 8th Engineer Support Battalion have been focused on constructing two miles of border roads and one mile of fencing on the east side of the San Luis, Ariz., port of entry.

In response to a request for assistance submitted by the Yuma sector of the U.S. Border Patrol, JTF North, the Department of Defense agency responsible for providing homeland security support to the nation's federal law enforcement agencies, has deployed two military engineer units to Yuma, Ariz., to execute two border engineer support missions, stated Armando Carrasco, JTF North public affairs officer.

The U.S. Army engineers of the 642nd Engineer Support Company are working on a stretch of land west of the San Luis port of entry.

The military's mission is not to police

the border, but to complete their construction projects.

"Our focus is to build the fence," said Sgt. Damian Rodriguez, 8th ESB combat engineer. "We don't have time to be chasing down illegals. We have the Border Patrol for that. We have radios if we need to alert the Border Patrol of some suspicious activity, but nine times out of 10 they're so close we don't even need the radios."

The U.S. Border Patrol has more to worry about than catching illegal immigrants as long as the engineers are on the border.

"The Border Patrol's job is to protect the engineers," said Ron Colburn, U.S. Border Patrol Yuma Sector chief. "There are Border Patrol units hovering nearby whenever military engineers are working."

The Marines were called in for this job for a variety of reasons.

"It's a win-win situation," said Army Col. Steve Baker, engineer mission planner.

"The Army and Marine Corps are providing a service and a product for border protection against transnational threats, while they receive technical training."

See ENGINEERS page 11A

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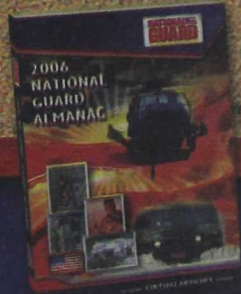
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Marines lend helping hand in Virginia Beach

Staff Sgt. Demetrio J. Espinosa
24th Marine Expeditionary Unit

NAVAL STATION NORFOLK, Va. — Every night in the Command Logistics Operations Center, the Marines of Marine Expeditionary Unit Service Support Group 24 plan for the next day's operations. Most involve moving Marines and gear around the city. But one mission request came in to help the local community. It is a relatively simple mission, so a reconnaissance team is sent to assess the situation and recommend a course of action to the MSSG-24 commander.

The 24th MEU Marines are conducting their Training in an Urban Environment Exercise in the Hampton Roads area of Virginia.

The community-service mission to demolish and remove two old foot bridges from a local park is an example of the same type of requests they would receive in Iraq. Operating in the city provides the Marines a perfect training environment.

"It gives us the opportunity to work in an urban environment," said Gunnery Sgt. Carl Zador, a combat engineer with MSSG-24.

"It is the closest thing we can get," said the Townsend, Mass., native.

The missions are not the only important training; just putting his Marines through physical and environmental stress is important. That type of training will prepare them physically for their upcoming deployment, said Zador.

"We are all out here wearing our gear. We are getting [our] bodies conditioned," said Zador. "We pushed out security like we would on deployment. We also kept our eyes open for things to look for on the convoy."

The training mirrored mis-



Virginia Beach, Va.: Combat engineers attached to the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit, tear down two bridges at Salem Woods Residential Park in an Urban Environment Exercise.



Virginia Beach, Va.: Gunnery Sgt. Carl Zador, a combat engineer with MSSG-24, breaks a metal hand rail that used to be attached to an old foot bridge at Salem Woods Residential Park.

sions Cpl. Justin Muir, an engineer with the MSSG, went on during his tour in Iraq with the 24th MEU in 2004.

"When we were in Iraq, we did things like help distribute food and water. We also rebuilt an orphanage," said



Virginia Beach, Va.: Cpl. Kaleb P. Griffel, 24th MEU, rips wood planks from a foot bridge being demolished at Salem Woods Residential Park.

Muir. "We helped clean up bases for the Iraqi police." Marines operating around the city, driving on local

streets and working in a neighborhood park didn't go unnoticed. But residents were glad to have them in

the neighborhood. "When I saw the [Marines] called my husband Monica Garrison, who lives near the park. I have seen a lot of people by and look to see what the Marines are doing."

According to Garrison, whose son plays in the park often, the Marines were trying to get rid of a safety hazard in the park.

"The bridges were kind of old. They were unsafe," said Garrison.

Although the job is tiny, the Marines are happy to have the opportunity to train and to thank the community.

"We wanted to give back to the community," said Garrison. "They are real suppo-



Naval Station Norfolk Va.: Boy scouts from Troop 196 and 45 observe a CH-46E Sea Knight, which belongs to HMM-774 in Naval Station Norfolk Va. recently. HMM-774 is also providing their hanger to the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit for their Training in Urban Environment Exercise.

Boy Scouts visit 24th MEU during the unit's training

Cpl. Matt Lyman
24th Marine Expeditionary Unit

NAVAL STATION NORFOLK, Va. — With a deployment looming for the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit, the main focus is on their Training in an Urban Environment Exercise, currently underway in the Hampton Roads area of Virginia. Even so, the Marines found time to tend to America's future first.

The Marines hosted a group of Boy Scouts from local troops 196 and 45 recently, guests of the MEU's host, Lt. Col. Joseph Whitaker, commanding officer of Marine Aircraft Group 42, Det. B, whose hangar the MEU is using to house its combat operations center.

Whitaker began the tour by showing the scouts a CH-46E Sea Knight helicopter.

The scouts were able to walk through the aircraft, sit in the pilot's seat, and have their questions answered by Whitaker, who also is a CH-46E pilot.

According to Whitaker, the tour was a way for his unit to thank the community for its support of his Marines. Allowing the young scouts to meet and talk to members of the 24th MEU also enhanced the experience for the visiting Marines.

Charles Robson, a scoutmaster for 37 years, takes his boys on field trips like this once a month to make sure his scouts get to see as much as they can of the world around them.

"I think it's wonderful for us to be able to see the helicopters and how a MEU operates," said Robson.

While visiting the MEU,

the boys were given the opportunity to see how the MEU's Combat Operations Center operates and watch the COC personnel track vehicles and keep tabs on all of the MEU's assets.

"It is an awesome tour. I saw helicopters and stuff today, and we saw some ships and submarines yesterday," said Justin Farry, a sixth-grader from Troop 45 and an aspiring Eagle Scout.

"This is the first stop in our tour, and so far it's been extraordinary," said 12-year-old Billy Tobin, whose father is a retired Marine.

The 24th MEU will be based at Naval Station Norfolk for the duration of the TRUEx, the MEU's first fully integrated exercise in its pre-deployment training program. The MEU is scheduled to deploy in the spring. ■

CHENEY

CONTINUED FROM 1A

of minority rights, religious liberty, equality before the law, freedom of expression and an inclusive society in which every person belongs, he said.

The newly elected government in the Palestinian territories has the duty to create an institution that supports the peaceful aspirations of its people, Cheney said. Palestine is still living with a legacy of corruption, broken promises, abject poverty, the collapse of the rule of law, and ultimately the outbreak of a terrorist campaign on Israel's doorstep, he said, adding that Hamas candidates now have a chance to change that.

"The Hamas candidates pledged to fight corruption and to improve social services and they'll be held to that standard by the Palestinian people," he said. "If the leaders of Hamas desire the help of America and the international community to build an independent, prosperous Palestinian state, then the way forward is very clear: the Palestinian government must recognize Israel's right to exist."

America also supports democratic aspirations of the people of Iran, Cheney said. Iranians have endured a generation of repression at the hands of a fanatical regime that is one of the world's pri-

mary state sponsors of terror, he said, not current president has spoken openly of America and Israel off the map. The U.S. is exploring all options open in dealing with absolutely will not allow Iran to have a weapon, Cheney said.

"Iranians desire and deserve to be free of tyranny and oppression in their own home," he said. "Freedom in the Middle East is freedom for the Iranian people, and America forward to the day when our nation can be a close friend of a free and democratic Iran."

In the past five years, the U.S. has made considerable progress in the Global War on Terror, Cheney said. The Taliban and al-Qaida have been killed or captured, and Saddam Hussein wakes up every day in a cell, he said.

"Because we've been willing to act on our convictions, we live in a better world today," Cheney said. "We cannot know every turn that lies ahead, but we will be patient and we will be confident because the supporters of democracy will help and the enemies of democracy will fail. And we will be confident because we are moving in the direction of human liberty."

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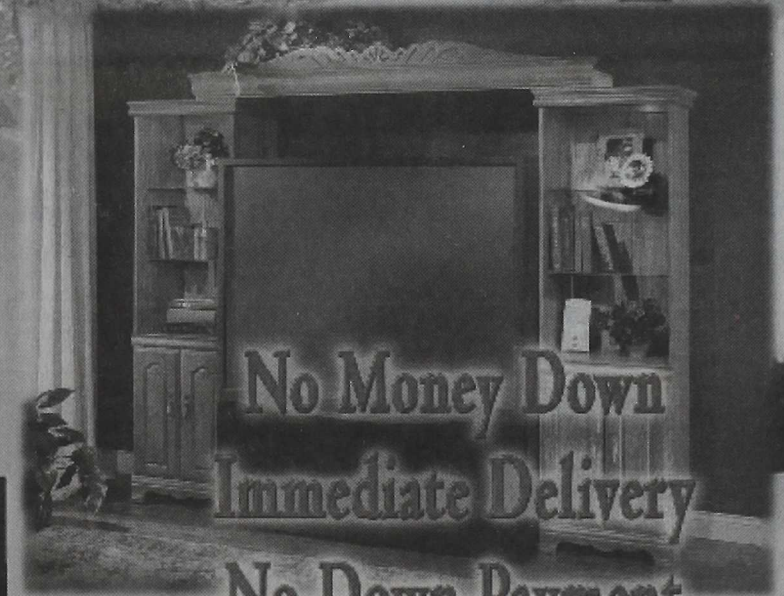


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Cpl. Adam C. Schnell

Alus, Iraq: Marines with Company I, 3rd Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment cross a bridge to an island in Alus, Iraq, during Operation Minotaur.

Marines leave no place for insurgents to hide in Al Anbar province

Cpl. Adam C. Schnell
1st Marine Division

KHAFFAJIYAH, Iraq — Marines in the Haditha Dam region continued to keep insurgents on their heels during another counterinsurgency operation recently.

The latest operation, dubbed Minotaur, was aimed at clearing more than nine kilometers of riverbank and several small villages south of Haqlaniyah — a town along the Euphrates River in Al Anbar province, northwest of Baghdad.

Although this is usually an inactive area, the Marines said they want to leave no stone unturned in their quest to hunt down insurgents.

"The quiet places are where the insurgents feel safe to hide," said Staff Sgt. Jacob M. Geary, platoon sergeant for Weapons Platoon, Company I, 3rd Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment. Geary's platoon spearheaded the operation. "If they [insurgents] are hiding here and using it as a planning site, we want to show them we will be around to disrupt their plans."

The Camp Pendleton, Calif., Marines have spent almost six months in Iraq's western Al Anbar province conducting counter-insurgency operations and providing stability to the "Triad" area of Haqlaniyah, Barwanah and Haditha.

Operation Minotaur focused on Khaffajiyah and southern outlying areas including the island of Alus. The Marines went house-to-house looking for insurgents and used metal detectors to sweep the river bank for weapons cache.

"We just wanted to throw something different at them," said Geary, a Helmville, Mont., native. "They see mounted troops, but it isn't very often they see dismounted Marines go to their homes and search the area."

Approximately six weeks ago, the Marines swept through the area and found numerous weapons cache buried along the river bank. This prompted the battalion to continue to sweep through this area, maintain-

ing a vigilant presence to remind insurgents that there is no place to hide.

"If we continue to operate in these areas, they will never get a chance to execute [their] plans," said 1st Lt. Jared W. Burgess, a platoon commander with the company's Weapons Platoon.

During the next month or so, the battalion will be gradually replaced with another Marine infantry unit. The Marines want to leave this once insurgent-heavy area in good shape for the new unit, the Hawaii-based 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, said Burgess. The more secure the area is prior to the new battalion's arrival, the easier the new Marines will be able to jump into the "driver's seat" and continue current counter-insurgency operations.

"It's good that we do one more sweep of this area before turning it over," said Lance Cpl. Lawrence A. Parkhill, a 20-year-old team leader from Temecula, Calif.

While the Marines' focus is on disrupting insurgent activity and further training Iraqi soldiers, thoughts of home are beginning to surface. For Parkhill, his thoughts turn to riding his motorcycle in southern California. Like many of the Marines, he is focused on the job at hand, but thinks more and more about the loved ones waiting for him and the hobbies he has missed since arriving here nearly six months ago.

"I miss the sunny weather in California and just cruising around with my girlfriend on my bike," said Parkhill.

Even though the Marines are nearing the end of their time in Iraq, the battalion shows no signs of slowing down their hunt for insurgents. They'll continue actively seeking out and Iraqi forces and paving a path for their replacements' success.

The battalion's redeployment to the U.S. is part of a regularly scheduled rotation of forces in Al Anbar. More than 25,000 Marine and sailors of Camp Pendleton, Calif.-based I Marine Expeditionary Force are replacing the Camp Lejeune - based II MEF. ■

Unsung heroes keep aircraft flying high

Staff Sgt. Sergio Jimenez
11th MEU

ABOARD THE USS PELELIU — Many have heard or read about the many heroes in Marine Corps aviation history. Pilots like Col. John Glenn, who went on to become the first man to orbit the Earth and then to become a United States senator, or Maj. "Pappy" Boyington, the storied World War II fighter pilot from Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 214, known as the "Black Sheep," who shot down countless enemy aircrafts during WWII, or risk takers like Lt. Gen. Thomas H. Miller Jr., who set a world speed record in an F4H-1 in 1960 and became the first American to fly the AV-8B Harrier.

However, very little has been written about the maintenance Marines and sailors in the background, who made it possible, through their hard work and dedication, for the Marine pilots to achieve their feats.

"They are the unsung heroes, the money makers," said Gunnery Sgt. Gordon H. Neilson, Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 166, MCAS Miramar, San Diego. They are the sleep-deprived, grease-covered maintenance men and women with dirty fingernails, who toil through the hot and humid days and dark and lonely nights in oily coveralls, reeking of jet fuel and hydraulic fluid.

They are Marines like Cpl. Sean A. Skinner, an AV-8B Harrier mechanic, with the Black Sheep from Marine Corps Air Station, Yuma, Az.

Skinner, whose Squadron is currently attached to HMM-166 for the deployment, said he was aware of and proud to be a part of a squadron with such a distinguished history, but modestly rejects the idea that he is an unsung hero.

Although mechanics rarely get to experience the limelight, that doesn't bother Skinner. Our job is to maintain and repair the aircrafts so that pilots can maintain their flight qualifications and in order to carry out missions. "We are a team," said Skinner. If pilots do something good, it reflects on the whole command, he said. "No one part of an airplane can fly itself," said Skinner.

Another Marine who is not with the limelight is Sgt. Amy CH-46 Sea Knight airframes HMM-166, from Hayward, said she was perfectly content in the background. According to her, she is simply a Marine mechanic job and that any special recognition is unnecessary. Follet said she is satisfied simply by seeing the launch in well-maintained aircraft watching them return to the safely.

Follet's view was echoed by A. Imhoff, an airframes quality inspector, HMM-166, from Skinner, a friendly and me who is quick to laugh when described by his supervisors who works until he drops. Marine few outside his unit nize because he spends most with his face buried inside the aircraft.

Imhoff credits his work mother. "She was a single student and worked very hard bills and raise me and my Imhoff. "I just try to work the Marines around me will said. "I remember when I corporal seeing some sergeant around and not work. I that's not the kind of example."

Setting the example is reason he works so hard, said "I love what I do," he ocean rushed past him just about 12 knots.

Working on multi-million craft and serving his country important deployment is a Imhoff said he will never forget. "When I hear the Cobra see a Huey take off with me and GAU-17 Gatling Gun close air support to the ground, I get this motivation that's hard to describe," said Cpl. Marrison M. Rivera, Stallion helicopter flight instructor from San Antonio, Tx., gets when she sees and hears a

See AIRCRAFT page 11

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SEERS
FROM 7A

ange, we also support the Air Station pre-deployment," said Colburn. "The country receive a product, with Marines and the equipment, the cost of the project goes down dramatically. It helps to literally cut the government in half," Colburn said. "We're trying to be more efficient every day we come out, while still maintaining a safe atmosphere," explained the native of Pasadena, Texas. "Our teams keep accomplishing more than what I ask of them and they continue to exceed expectations." Some Marines attribute their swift pace to the teamwork taking place between the military branches. "The Army has some hard workers. We've got some of their welders who are making things go fast. We're broken down into three sections," said Rodríguez. "We have a trench crew, a crew that erects the actual

ship skills and how to adapt and overcome out here. They are learning that things aren't always going to be ideal in a deployed environment. That's one of the best things we can take away from our time spent out here. "We're trying to be more efficient every day we come out, while still maintaining a safe atmosphere," explained the native of Pasadena, Texas. "Our teams keep accomplishing more than what I ask of them and they continue to exceed expectations." Some Marines attribute their swift pace to the teamwork taking place between the military branches. "The Army has some hard workers. We've got some of their welders who are making things go fast. We're broken down into three sections," said Rodríguez. "We have a trench crew, a crew that erects the actual

fence and a panel crew." "On a good day we can put up 80 to 100 feet of fence," added the native of Newark, N.Y. The Marines are erecting the wall quickly, said Rodríguez, despite being out of their element. "Building is our job field, but we are a bridge company so this is considered cross training," he explained. Some of the younger Marines are getting familiarized with equipment they haven't been told to operate before. "I've built fences before, but nothing like this on this large of scale," said Pfc. Daniel Royal, 8th ESB combat engineer. "I've been operating the man lift [machine]. We wouldn't use it for building bridges. None of this really compares to what we usually do." One of the training benefits that brings many units to Yuma

is the climate. "I got back from Kuwait five months ago. This environment is almost identical to what it is over there," said Rodríguez. "It's good for the younger Marines so that they know what they can expect." Some Marines are just happy to get out, see the country and do what they signed up to do. "It's good to get a change of scenery," said Royal, a Savannah, Ga., native. "It's nice to get away from what I'm used to. My wife isn't too happy, but she understands." "I think what we're doing is a good thing. I'm not against immigration, but some people who cross over illegally ruin it for the people trying to do it the right way," he explained. "We're here to protect America, and that's why I signed up." ■

BONUS
CONTINUED FROM 1A

women of Massachusetts for their dedication and commitment." In order to download forms and address individual concerns, visit www.mass.gov/treasury/veteransbonus/welcomehomebonus.htm or contact the Massachusetts Treasurer's office at (617) 367-9333. According to the Web site, Treasurer Cahill's office also administers a bonus program for veterans of World War II, Korea and Vietnam and the Office of Veterans Services administers a bonus program for Gulf War veterans. ■

CRAFT
FROM 10A

hours working on lift. Rivera goes as far as to say that she almost got attached to the plane. "I don't mind standing in the shadows." "We know that the aircraft crews and the Marines on the ground have families who are counting on us to do our job," said Rivera. "Our entire shop works very hard and nobody stops until the job is done and the mission is accomplished," said Rivera. The job may be done when the bird gets in the air, said Rivera. "But the mission won't be accomplished until everyone is back home safely from this deployment." For more information on the 11th MEU (SOC), visit the unit's Web site at www.usmc.mil/11thmeu.

of ownership and inspect in such incredible detail that it borders on being obsessive compulsive. "Sure we may not get the recognition that others in the unit get, but that's not important to us," said Rivera. "There are other more important things in life," she said. "I don't mind standing in the shadows." "We know that the aircraft crews and the Marines on the ground have families who are counting on us to do our job," said Rivera. "Our entire shop works very hard and nobody stops until the job is done and the mission is accomplished," said Rivera. The job may be done when the bird gets in the air, said Rivera. "But the mission won't be accomplished until everyone is back home safely from this deployment." For more information on the 11th MEU (SOC), visit the unit's Web site at www.usmc.mil/11thmeu.

SUCCESSFUL
CONTINUED FROM 3A

"Due to the size and location of this base [Naval Surface Warfare Center], a lot of people forget that the Marines and sailors of CBIRF are serving in Iraq or Afghanistan also," said the New Orleans, La., native. "This is a reality check for the community to realize that we are out there fighting for our country as well." Some of the CBIRF personnel like Master Sgt. Alan R. Prebyl donated money in addition to buying baked goods. "I've been on a lot of deployments where I've come back and the only thing I've gotten is a key to a barracks room," said Prebyl. "Those Marines and sailors coming back deserve something better than just a cold barracks room." The commitment and dedication to duty of the returning heroes has, for at least two hours, given some sweet-toothed warriors a reason to indulge. "I'm a sucker for good causes," said 1st Lt. Danielle Robins, the executive officer for CBIRF's Reaction Force Company. "Anything like this for a good cause doesn't count for real calories, so I can eat anything I want." ■

OSPREY
CONTINUED FROM 1A

of the Marine Corps. "This is a tremendous aircraft. While we are at war, it is a tremendously more survivable platform for the Marines who are in the fight." VMM-263, home to more than 150 Marines and the successor to Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron-263, which cased its colors in June 2005, will carry on the proud name, "Thunder Chickens," and also the legacy of the former CH-46E Sea Knight squadron. Honored to carry on the name, "Thunder Chickens," the Marines of VMM-263 are thrilled by the chance to become the first operational Osprey squadron, said Sgt. Maj. Grant VanOostrom, VMM-263 sergeant major. "They are very excited because they see it as a culmination of those who have gone before them," said VanOostrom.

"They just happen to be the chosen ones who get to bring it into its current existence; we get to reap the rewards of others." And VMM-263 can be expected to reap the almost countless rewards, such as being able to travel at speeds of nearly 300 mph, twice the speed of any current helicopter, have up to five times the range of travel and carry three times the payload. "The Osprey will allow us to self-deploy these aircraft from New River, or [Air Station] Miramar, across the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, to anywhere this great nation wants to plant its flag within two to three days," said Magnus. Uncertain of the exact date when the Osprey will be supporting ground forces overseas, the squadron feels assured that it will be in the near future. "There are two things the American people should know about this aircraft," said Gen. Michael W. Hagee, 33rd commandant of the Marine Corps, during his visit to Marine Corps Air Station New River recently. "One, it will change the way we fight; it's faster, larger, air refuelable and the technology is state of the art. Two, it's the safest aircraft in our inventory. It's been tested and proven ready to perform." And though tremendous efforts will have to be made by the "Thunder Chickens" before the first Osprey squadron is ready to deploy, a sigh of relief can be breathed by the Marines, families and friends of the program who sacrificed so much to get to where the stand up could be possible, said Moore. "We are bringing forth the new capability to replace what has been the backbone of Marine aviation in the CH-46," said Moore. "With that capability, we take rotary wing assault support, now tiltrotor wing assault support, ahead into the future and assure the success of Marines in battle. We are committing the Osprey to the gunfight." ■

FROM 1A

changed slightly from us deployment. "The unit we are replacing has had much success and we will incorporate what they have done with our past success to overcome the enemy." As the night drew to a close, the families wiped away their tears as they watched their heroes depart for the next chapter in their lives. The streets were cleared and the Marines of the battalion had started their voyage to a far off land where they will fight not only for their families and friends' freedom, but also for those in Iraq. ■

training has made us ready to accomplish the missions to which we will be tasked," Liston explained. "The unit we are replacing has had much success and we will incorporate what they have done with our past success to overcome the enemy." As the night drew to a close, the families wiped away their tears as they watched their heroes depart for the next chapter in their lives. The streets were cleared and the Marines of the battalion had started their voyage to a far off land where they will fight not only for their families and friends' freedom, but also for those in Iraq. ■

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Charlotte wins race for NASCAR Hall of Fame

Tim Whitmire
Associated Press

CHARLOTTE (AP) — After a yearlong race for NASCAR's first Hall of Fame, Charlotte finally appears ready to arrive in Victory Lane.

An afternoon announcement was scheduled for the Charlotte Convention Center, near the proposed site of the shrine to stock-car racing.

Felix Sabates, who with fellow team owner Rick Hendrick helped spearhead the city's campaign, said the deal was completed Friday after negotiations between the city and NASCAR that went late into the night March 1 and 2.

Dale Earnhardt Jr., one of the series' most popular drivers and a resident of suburban Charlotte, has said he wants the hall near his home.

"Because I am sure NASCAR is going to ask the drivers to make a few appearances over there and I wouldn't have to go too far," Earnhardt said.

Sabates reiterated Earnhardt's point over the weekend when he told the www.NASCAR.com Web site that the

proximity of many racing teams and drivers to Charlotte — more than 90 percent of teams are headquartered within 60 miles of North Carolina's largest city — helped boost Charlotte's bid.

"The most important factor was all the drivers are there," Sabates said. "To make a Hall of Fame successful, they need drivers to make appearances."

Sports marketing experts have described the hall as a once-in-a-generation opportunity to spur tourism among NASCAR's famously loyal fan base.

Five cities — Charlotte, Atlanta, Daytona Beach, Fla., Richmond, Va., and Kansas City, Kan. — submitted bids for the hall; the field was cut to three this year.

When Charlotte submitted its bid last May, it valued the package at \$137.5 million. Under the proposal, the city would build and operate the facility, financing it with a 2 percent point increase in the city's hotel/motel occupancy tax and corporate donations.

The state would pay to reconfigure a nearby highway interchange.

It is not clear how NASCAR would share in proceeds from the hall or what additional concessions the city might have made to the sanctioning body during negotiations, which have taken place in secret.

The city touted its proposal with architectural drawings by I.M. Pei, noted designer of the famous pyramid addition to the Louvre in Paris and the east wing of Washington's National Gallery.

Those drawings are dominated by a banked curve that encircles the building, evoking the shape of a speedway. Over the main plaza entrance to the museum, the curve twists over on itself, in the manner of a Mobius strip.

From one corner of the building, a latticework tower emblazoned with the NASCAR logo rises, reminiscent of the towers that display race standings from the infield of most speedways.

AP Sports Writer Jenna Fryer in Charlotte contributed to this story. ■

USA Today/ESPN Top 25

The top 25 teams in the USA Today-ESPN men's basketball poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, recorded through Sunday, points based on 25 points for a first-place vote and one point for a 25th-place vote and previous records.

Rank	Team	Record	Pts
1.	Connecticut (30)	27-2	773
2.	Villanova	24-3	733
3.	Duke	27-3	676
4.	Gonzaga	26-3	665
5.	Memphis	27-3	661
6.	George Washington	26-1	613
7.	Ohio State	23-4	599
8.	Texas	25-5	549
9.	Illinois	25-5	537
10.	North Carolina (1)	21-6	458
11.	Boston College	24-6	447
12.	UCLA	24-6	440
13.	Washington	24-5	358
14.	Florida	24-6	351
15.	Tennessee	21-6	339
16.	Pittsburgh	21-6	332
17.	LSU	22-7	266
18.	Kansas	22-7	252
19.	Oklahoma	20-7	194
20.	Iowa	22-8	177
21.	West Virginia	20-9	174
22.	North Carolina State	21-8	100
23.	Georgetown	19-8	79
24.	Nevada	24-5	74
25.	Alabama at Birmingham	22-5	57

Others receiving votes: Bucknell 40; Michigan Marquette 21; Arkansas 10; San Diego State 9; Air Force 7; Wisconsin 7; George Mason 6; Carolina-Wilmington 6; Wichita State 6; Hofstra 4; A Colorado 2; Murray State 2; Texas A&M 2; Florida Indiana 1; Western Kentucky 1.

— Associated Press

Cole hurt in Hurricane win

Hurricanes beat Penguins 7-5; team won't elaborate on player's neck injury

Alan Robinson
Associated Press

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Losing a player as valuable as Erik Cole to an injury was bad enough for the Carolina Hurricanes.

The way it happened — with Cole being run over from behind, in a game against the NHL's worst-record team — made them even more upset.

Cole scored two goals for the second night in a row before getting hurt in the third period, and the Hurricanes chased both Pittsburgh goalies in a 7-5 victory over the Penguins Saturday night.

Cole left the ice in visible pain with 14 1/2 minutes remaining, clutching his right arm, after being driven headfirst into the boards by the Penguins' Brook Orpik.

Orpik drew a five-minute boarding major and a game misconduct.

Cole, tied with Cory Stillman for second on the team in scoring with 60 points, was taken to a hospital to be examined for what coach Peter Laviolette said was a neck injury, but the team disclosed no other details.

"I understand playing hard, but you don't run guys from behind — ever," captain Rod Brind'Amour said. "I mean, I have played 100 years and I've never run a guy from behind. That's one of the best players in the league, Erik Cole, and we need him, and these guys aren't really playing for anything. It's frustrating."

Coach Peter Laviolette also was upset, saying, "It was not a clean hit. Somebody is going to get hurt. Hopefully, our guy is not as severely hurt."

Laviolette added, "He clearly could have let up on the hit and he decided not to. He knew exactly what he was doing, he should have let up."

Brind'Amour said Orpik has a reputation for hitting late and from behind and, he said, "So put those two together, that's pretty much what happened there."

If Cole's injury is serious, it could be a major setback to the Hurricanes, who lead the NHL with 88 points after winning four in a row, 10 of 13 and 19 of 23.

Cole scored a goal in each of the first two periods Saturday, after scoring twice in a 5-2 victory at home over Florida on Friday night.

"Hopefully he's all right, because he's a big part of

our team," said Eric Staal, who had a goal and three assists to give him a team-high 82 points. "We are going to need him."

Mark Recchi had the Penguins' first three-goal game since Alexei Kovalev did so on Jan. 25, 2003, but it wasn't enough to prevent their fifth consecutive home loss and 10th in 11 games in Pittsburgh.

The Penguins have allowed seven short-handed goals and scored only one at home. They are 7-18-6 at home.

Just as they did in a 4-3 loss to Ottawa on March 1, the Penguins fell behind big early — then it was 4-0, this time it was 5-0 — before unsuccessfully mounting a rally.

"We've got to get off to better starts," Recchi said. "You keep falling behind 4-0, 5-0, it's pretty tough."

The matchup of the NHL's best- and worst-record teams got off to a predictable start as the Hurricanes opened a five-goal lead in less than a period.

Sebastien Caron was lifted after allowing power-play goals to Staal and Ray Whitney among the first five shots he faced, but replacement Marc-Andre Fleury was even worse — he also was pulled after allowing goals by Cole, Kevyn Adams and Rod Brind'Amour on four shots.

Caron came back to start the second period and finished the game, stopping 21 of 25 shots.

The Hurricanes, who lost to Pittsburgh 4-3 Feb. 10 in one of only five home losses all season, seemed to relax with such a big lead and the Penguins got goals in the second from Recchi, John LeClair and Konstantin Koltsov — Koltsov's first since March 27, 2004.

Cole's second of the game and 30th of the season came midway through the period and made it 6-2.

The Hurricanes got the seventh and final goal 35 seconds after Orpik's hit injured Cole, with Stillman scoring their third power-play goal and fourth special-teams goal of the game.

Stillman's goal and two assists gave him four goals and six assists against Pittsburgh.

Cole's first goal came on a short-handed breakaway that made it 3-0 and was followed by Adams' 11th less than a minute later.

The 38-year-old Recchi scored both Penguins goals in the third period, giving him 24 for the season.

He could be an attractive pickup for a contending team before Thursday's trading deadline, and seems to be altering his stance that he didn't want to leave Pittsburgh for a second time.

"I care about the Pittsburgh Penguins, and if they came to me and said they had to do something, if they could get a younger player, I'd have to think about it," he said. "I care about where the Penguins are going." ■

Pittsburgh Steelers cut Maddox, Williams

Alan Robinson
Associated Press

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Tommy Maddox, who lost his starting quarterback's job shortly after Ben Roethlisberger's arrival in 2004, was released Friday by the Pittsburgh Steelers in an expected move.

Also cut was Willie Williams, a cornerback on the Steelers' 1995 Super Bowl team who unexpectedly became a starter again after returning to the team in 2004. He was deactivated for most of last season after being beaten out by Ike Taylor.

Maddox became one of the NFL's unluckiest success stories in years when, after retiring from football and becoming an insurance agent, he returned after a six-year absence and a short stay in the NFL to lead the Steelers to a 10-5-1 record and the second round of the playoffs in 2002.

Maddox, becoming an NFL starter for the first time at age 31, completed 234 of 377 passes for 2,836 yards, 20 touchdowns and 16 interceptions and set a Steelers single-game record of 473 yards passing against Atlanta that season. His breakthrough season came only months after the former Broncos first-round draft pick was the NFL's one and only MVP.

But Maddox, whose ascension to starter pushed longtime Steelers QB Kordell Stewart off the team, subsequently lost his job following a 6-10 season in 2003 — after the Steelers restructured an offense that had long been built around the run to fit Maddox's downfield throwing.

After Maddox injured an elbow during the second game of the 2004 season, first-round draft pick Roethlisberger replaced him and has been the starter since, except for five

games missed to injury. He started and lost last season to Charlie Batch, who replaced him as Roethlisberger's backup.

The Steelers' two quarterbacks, Batch and Maddox, at quarterback the reasons they finished had to go on the road to AFC playoffs while the Steelers' first team to win three games and the Super Bowl.

Maddox fell out of favor with coach Bill Cowher after three interceptions and a fumble in the 23-17 over Jacksonville on Oct. 16. Maddox started the 16-game season in Baltimore because Roethlisberger were hurt.

Maddox was to make plus bonuses of \$200,000 cap value of \$1.7 million. The Steelers hoped Batch to remain as Roethlisberger's backup.

Williams was to make million next season.

With Jerome Bettis, the Steelers also are at restructuring running back Staley's contract, according to *Pittsburgh Tribune-Review*.

Staley, a three-time rushing leader who has played getting hurt at midseason scheduled to make \$2.5 million and \$4.3 million against the Steelers next season.

The Steelers also will back Pro Bowl center J. V. Johnson if they can again restructure a contract that has been rewritten. Hartings is to make \$8.1 million the cap in 2006, and \$750,000 roster bonus.



national sports news

NCAA men's basketball

DURHAM (AP) — North Carolina's precocious freshmen earned another victory on the road, in perhaps the toughest setting.

They ruined Senior Night at Cameron Indoor Stadium.

Tyler Hansbrough scored 27 points, fellow rookie Danny Green came up with the key defensive stop and the 13th-ranked Tar Heels (21-6, 12-4 Atlantic Coast Conference), held off No. 1 Duke 83-76 Saturday night in the final home game for J.J. Redick and Shelden Williams.

Bobby Frasier, yet another first-year player, converted two clutch free throws with 23 seconds remaining, and Hansbrough later made two more.

That made it a five-point game, and the Blue Devils (27-3, 14-2) were done when DeMarcus Nelson missed everything with a 3-pointer on the other end.

Redick scored 18 points despite missing 15 of his final 16 shots.

— Associated Press

pionship with a victory over Louisville.

The Huskies (27-2, 14-2) won at least part of the regular season title for the 10th time by winning their fifth straight game overall and 16th of 17. Connecticut, which was No. 1 in *The Associated Press*' Top 25 for four weeks before losing to Villanova on Feb. 13, should move back to the top of the poll since No. 1 Duke lost at Florida State on Wednesday and to No. 13 North Carolina on Saturday.

Juan Palacios had a career-high 29 points for the Cardinals (18-11, 6-10).

— Associated Press

NBA

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — Kobe Bryant became the youngest player to score 16,000 points in his NBA career Friday, passing his latest scoring milestone in the first quarter of the Los Angeles Lakers' game at Golden State.

Bryant was 27 years and 192 days old — four days younger than Wilt Chamberlain when the Hall of Famer scored his 16,000th career point on March 5, 1964. Michael Jordan was the third-youngest, reaching the mark at 28 years and 31 days.

Just two months earlier, Bryant became the youngest player to score 15,000 career points. But Bryant, who entered the NBA straight out of high school 10 years ago, did it in 657 games — only the 29th-fastest in league history. He scored his 16,000th point in his 684th career game, 22nd-fastest in terms of games played.

Bryant is the NBA's leading scorer, averaging 34.9 points per game — including 43.4 over 13 games in January, the eighth highest-scoring month in league history.

Bryant finished the first quarter with 12 points against the Warriors.

— Associated Press

NASCAR

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Boris Said, a road-course specialist born in New York, won the pole and two Mexican drivers placed in the top five Saturday for the Telcel-Motorola 300, the second race south of the border in NASCAR's Busch Series.

Said averaged 1 minute, 28.295 seconds while reaching a top speed of 102.665 mph. Most of the top finishers from Friday's practice took the track after him but were unable to post faster times.

Second was Denny Hamlin, who finished 0.134 seconds behind Said with a speed of 102.509 mph. He is still looking for his first career Busch Series win, but finished fifth in the points last year, his first full season.

Johnny Sauter went around the 2.518-mile road course at Autodromo Hermanos Rodriguez just once, but his time of 1:28.449 was good enough for third place.

Mexican Adrian Fernandez, an open-wheel racing veteran who knows the Mexico City course better than almost anyone else, took fourth, followed by countryman Jorge Goeters, who stunned the field by taking the pole last year, the first Busch Series race in Mexico.

Saturday's times were slower than the 1:27.696 posted by Goeters, who set a track record with a speed of 103.366 mph in winning the pole.

Qualifying was interrupted several times by crashes, many of which came in curves NASCAR inserted into the long front straightaway to reduce accidents around the first turn.

That's the fastest part of a track that was originally built for open-wheel racing.

Stacy Compton shredded the back end of his No. 59 Ford after careening into the grass and spinning into a wall on the seventh turn.

"This was a great race car," Wood lamented. "But they can put some things on the other race car to make it just as good."

Officials used a group qualifying format associated with road course races, but not in place for several years in the Busch Series.

Jon Wood, who finished first in practice, had some trouble keeping his No. 47 Chevrolet on the course a day later, settling for 17th. The group qualifying meant the fastest cars from Friday started last Saturday, encountering a track that was especially hot and slippery.

"I don't know how this qualifying stuff is going to work," Wood said before taking the track. "I'm a little confused about that."

— Will Weissert, Associated Press

Major League Baseball

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP) — Orlando Hernandez pitched two scoreless innings Saturday against the team he helped win the World Series last season, as the Arizona Diamondbacks routed the Chicago White Sox 13-2.

Hernandez, traded to Arizona along with Luis Vizcaino and Chris Young for Javier Vazquez, shut down his old team in his Diamondbacks' debut.

"Right now Arizona is my team. Chicago is in the past," Hernandez said. "I am feeling good and it worked out very good."

Hernandez completed two innings and gave up just a single to Paul

Konerko in the second inning.

is now 3-0, while the White Sox are 0-5.

Hernandez was part of the Sox starting rotation last year but shoulder tightness put him on the disabled list twice. El Duque, who failed with a 9-9 record and a 5.12 ERA.

His one inning of relief against Boston in the American League Divisional Series was something the White Sox club still talks about. Hernandez, out of a bases-loaded, no-out situation to retire the side, maintaining run lead to preserve a White Sox victory.

"It was a crazy inning," he said. "It was good for my life baseball history."

El Duque also pitched effective relief in Game 3 of the World Series against Houston, a 14-inning marathon the White Sox even won.

Hernandez (1-0) has a 70-4 record and wanted to be a star. He will get that opportunity with Diamondbacks.

Arizona had plenty of Saturday against a sluggish White Sox offense that has been outscored after five spring games.

Arizona took a 2-0 lead. Brandon McCarthy (0-1) in the Orlando Hudson scored the first after reaching with a double and the plate on a Luis Gonzalez did right field. Gonzalez later scored a White Sox error.

Gonzalez was 2-for-3, while Snyder went 2-for-2 with three hits. Chicago was led by Konerko, who went 2-for-3. Joe Borcherd also hit for the White Sox.

— Associated Press

's tourney time at Lejeune

MCAS Pistons score undefeated season, No. 1 seed



Lance Cpl. Samuel D. White

Youth Basketball: Mike Bowdry, Pistons point guard, scans the court for a teammate to pass the ball to. Bowdry, along with eight other Pistons teammates, went undefeated during the 2006 basketball season.

Lance Cpl. Samuel D. White
Marine Corps Air Station New River

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION NEW RIVER — No, they aren't the 1992 "Dream Team." They don't have Larry Bird, Magic Johnson, Charles Barkley or Michael Jordan, and they certainly don't have the ability to do behind-the-back, foul line slam dunks.

So what makes these two very different teams so very similar? A drive and passion for basketball that not only the players feel, but the spectators feel from watching these young men pour their heart into every shot, lay up and free throw.

Not to mention an undefeated record and a dominance over teams that has not been seen since the days of M.C. Hammer.

Retired Marine John Mackrell and Staff Sgt. Ryan A. Swan, coaches of the Marine Corps Air Station New River Pistons, have taken their team back to practicing the long forgotten fundamentals of basketball. With that came an undefeated record of 5-0 and a number one seat in the playoffs.

"This is a big accomplishment for the players because it shows them that no matter what the odds are, you can achieve anything you set your mind to," said Swan, Camp Lejeune communications battalion information assurance chief and Pistons assistant coach. "It is a major accomplishment for New River Air Station, because up until about five or six years ago, there wasn't even a youth sports

league on the air station for any sport."

Once the New River sports teams were established, other bases would look at the station as, "an easy win," said head coach Mackrell.

With motivating fuel to prove the other teams wrong and nine hungry 14-year-olds, Mackrell and Swan were equipped with the essentials to have a winning team. They pushed their players to their limits, constantly practicing drills and running laps around the gymnasium.

"I don't believe there are any easy wins in any sport, just different challenges that teams have to face from game to game," Swan said. "I do believe that the air station youth sports teams will be taken a little more seriously in the coming seasons."

And outside forces will take the Pistons a little more serious, as they are the No. 1 contender during the 2006 playoff season.

"We have been successful because we've worked well as a team; if you don't work together, you won't accomplish anything," said John Mackrell Jr., a Pistons guard. "During the playoffs, we will continue to do well if we continue to work together."

So, with motivation similar to the Dream Team, a lot can be expected from the Pistons team as they work their way to the gold.

"The team worked extremely hard to get where they are today," Swan said. "They are a great group of young men and every one of them has the potential to go the distance if they stay focused." ■

ry and photos by
Brian Berger
Line Sports staff writer

Final Four Tournament doesn't start until next week, but aboard the hoops season has kicked into gear.

Last week, children in the sports basketball program were competing in a tournament of their championships slated for this week.

Next up for the Bucks are the Warriors, who knocked off the Blazers Monday night. The Minor Pistons have also advanced to the quarterfinals, but their opponent has yet to be determined.

They will face the winner of the No. 2 Raptors, No. 10 Hornets game. In the Majors, it was the Pistons from Marine Corps Air Station New River who earned the No. 1 seed.

The Pistons defeated the Rockets 40-16 Monday to advance to Wednesday's quarterfinal, where they will face the Celtics, who defeated the Lakers Saturday.

In the other Major quarterfinal showdown, the No. 2 Hawks will face the No. 6 Magic. Those games were played Wednesday night, after press time.

The Major Championship Game is at noon Saturday at Brewster Middle School. The Minor Championship Game precedes that game at 10:30 a.m., also at Brewster Middle School.

The first game of the day features the SOL and Sting from the Minor Girls League, a three-team league, whose championship will be decided at 9 a.m. at Brewster Middle School.

"It's been a good season," said Amanda Hicks, youth sports spokeswoman. "A couple of teams have been really surprising late in the season, like the Hornets [in the Minor league], who have won their last couple games with some buzzer-beating heroics." ■

but not a novice at coaching youth basketball. He coached his eldest son's team at Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island for the previous five seasons.

Taylor has a lot of faith in his kids, but also praises the other teams in the league. "They're competitive," Taylor said. "They won't give up." He noted the Hawks, who play really good defense, as an example.

The Bucks earned the top seed in the Minors. Next up for the Bucks are the Warriors, who knocked off the Blazers Monday night.

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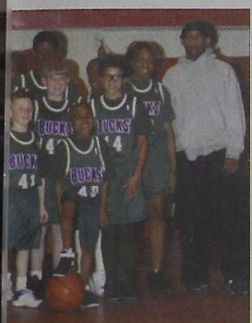
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Basketball: The Bucks will face the Warriors in the Minor tournament.



Basketball: The Bucks earned a No. 1 seed in the Minor tournament during regular season.

SOCCER

WED FROM 1B

experience at the intermediate level. The team is 1-1, their first game 3-1 dropping the second.

This season marks a new chapter for the Marines. Last year, the team was unable to field a team due to deployments to the field, the time spent and practicing is evident as each player reacts to his teammates.

The familiarity — combined with superior speed — has helped the Marines to make the opponent's goal by defenders.

In their most recent game, the Marines were able to break loose for a number of one-on-one situations but failed to convert to goals.

Closing out the Cape Fear season in May, the Marines will head to North Carolina State to compete in June.

They hope they will have a successful Cape Fear championship before heading into tournament.

These games will give us a chance to know where we stand," Cisneros said. ■



Brian Berger

Soccer: Luis Guzman sets up a cross-field pass.



Brian Berger

Soccer: The Lejeune Marines soccer team competes in the Cape Fear Soccer Association's highly-competitive A League.



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Intramural golf league

Camp Lejeune will host an intramural golf league Wednesdays beginning April 19. The league will continue May 3, 10, 24 and 31 and June 7, 14, 21 and 28.

Letter of intent forms are available at the Intramural Sports Office in the Goettge Field House. The league is open to all active-duty service members, Marine Corps Community Services and civilian employees.

There will be nine tournaments of various formats, designed to allow maximum participation. The formats will be announced at a later date. For more information, call 451-2710.

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No. 1 Tar Heels take women's ACC title

Aaron Beard
Associated Press

GREENSBORO (AP) — With another conference championship in hand, top-ranked North Carolina can finally start thinking about making a run at the national championship.

Erlana Larkins had a career-high 26 points and 12 rebounds to lead the Tar Heels past fourth-ranked Maryland 91-80, giving the program its second straight Atlantic Coast Conference title and likely locking up a No. 1 seed for the NCAA tournament.

Ivory Latta also scored 26 to earn MVP honors for the second straight year for North Carolina (29-1), which ranks second in ACC history with seven tournament titles.

The win allowed the Tar Heels to avenge their only loss, a 98-95 overtime home defeat last month to the Terrapins (28-4).

But more importantly, it allowed coach Sylvia Hatchell to use her gold scissors again, the same ones

the Tar Heels used to cut down the NCAA championship nets in 1994.

The scissors apparently were not used again until North Carolina beat Duke last season to win its first tournament title in seven years.

"I was happy to be able to use those gold scissors because they have a lot of special memories," Hatchell said, "and we would like to use them again."

It was one of the most memorable seasons in Hatchell's 20-year tenure in Chapel Hill.

This season, the Tar Heels' athleticism, depth and trapping up-tempo style have kept them atop a league ranked No. 1 in RPI.

"I've got great kids, they're playing their hearts out for each other and for me," Hatchell said. "We're healthy, we're an exciting team, we've got great chemistry. This is the kind of team a coach dreams of because these young ladies are like my daughters."

It was a disappointing end to the tournament for the Terrapins, who

have won a league-best eight titles but none since 1989. They advanced by beating second-ranked Duke in Saturday's semifinals to end a 14-game losing streak in the series, which might have put them in position for a top seed.

Jade Perry scored 18 points to lead five players in double figures, while Ashleigh Newman scored all 14 of her points in the second half. Marissa Coleman, the ACC's rookie of the year, also scored 14.

"They played like warriors," Maryland coach Brenda Frese said of Perry and Newman. "They played like champions. That's why this team is so dangerous when you see the players and the rotation. That's what you have to have to be a championship team."

Maryland certainly had reason to be confident after winning last month's thriller against the Tar Heels. In that game, the Terrapins rallied from a 14-point second-half deficit and forced the extra period on a buzzer-beating 3-pointer by Newman.

This time, North Carolina led nearly the entire way and didn't let up.

"Remembering that we lost to Maryland before was pressure on us," said Camille Little, who scored 11 of her 13 points in the second half after early foul trouble. "We felt like we had something that we had to do because we didn't want to lose at home this year."

The Tar Heels led by seven at halftime and increased that margin to as many as 13 points. Maryland got as close as three points late, but Larkins and Latta kept the Tar Heels from repeating that first collapse.

The 6-foot-1 Larkins, a first-team all-ACC pick, went 9-for-14 from the field and 8-for-10 from the line. Latta, a 5-6 point guard and ACC player of the year, also had four assists to go with five steals.

They even worked together in celebration, with Latta giving the ball to Larkins to dribble out the clock before the sophomore threw the ball skyward at the horn.

Behind Larkins, Newman controlled the inside in the paint, including a half-point from the free-throw line.

They also took a 48-24 advantage with 20 minutes left — an emphasis that Hatchell gave her players Tuesday night: "WRR: Wild Women if they outrebounded them."

After building a 42-16 lead, North Carolina was sure on by forcing the Terrapins throughout the second half.

"Coach always tells them off balance," Latta said. "You're driving the hole, and you're throwing the ball."

Maryland came with a layup by Newman with Larkins answered with a driving hole, followed by a runner in the lane from Newman.

Then, Larkins grabbed the rebound and put it in for a 3:26 left to end the game with a final flurry. ■

Youth wrestling workshops

Members of the USMC Wrestling Team, in conjunction with the Onslow County Wrestling Club, will present two wrestling workshops for middle- and high-school students.

Attendees can learn the techniques and strategies of Greco-Roman and freestyle wrestling that will help them develop during their prep career.

The workshops are Wednesday at Richlands High School and Thursday at New Bridge Middle School. Both workshops are from 6 to 8 p.m.

The workshops are free and open to the public. For information, call 388-0386.

Camp Lejeune will host the 2006 Armed Forces Wrestling Championship March 23 and 24 in the Goettge Memorial Field House. For information, call 451-3636.

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Greensboro catches March Madness

Will host 28 including conference championships

Paul Nowell
Associated Press

GREENSBORO (AP) — Talk about the excitement of March Madness, the Greensboro Sports Commission. "From a customer standpoint, we want to have as much energy and enthusiasm on March 18 as we had on March 2."

Among the teams playing: The No. 1 Duke men and No. 2 Duke women, although the men's team could drop a spot or two; the No. 1 North Carolina women and No. 13 North Carolina men; and three other ranked teams, including the No. 22 N.C. State men's team.

More ranked teams are sure to arrive for the NCAAs, with a good chance that at least one team from the state will be "at home" to start the national tournament.

This is the 21st time Greensboro has hosted the men's ACC tournament and the seventh straight year the city has hosted the women's ACC event.

But even with an experienced crew running the show at Greensboro Coliseum and hundreds of dedicated volunteers fanning out across the city to welcome out-of-town fans, it's a daunting logistical challenge.

"I think the volunteers are a big key to Greensboro's success over the years," Brown said. "It's one of the most unique things you'll ever see. The people in this community are enthralled with the ACC and it carries over into the NCAA events."

At the coliseum, there is a new basketball court, video screens and lights.

A huge banner hangs on the building's facade to welcome fans to "Tournament Town," and March 1, workers touched up paint and carpet in the coliseum's lobby.

The ACC men's tournament is so popular that tickets have not been sold publicly since 1966 — fans have to buy them through their school.

The NCAA games are also sold out, but tickets to the women's tournament are easier to come by.

Alex Peabody, a 34-year-old school teacher from Greensboro, was buying ACC women's tickets Wednesday for a fourth-grade field trip.

"This is my first time, so I don't really know what to expect," said Peabody, a transplant from Alabama. "This is obviously a big deal here. It's got to be good for the local economy."

Allen Purser, the interim president of the Greensboro Chamber of Commerce, said the successive tournaments are projected to pump about \$40 million into the local economy.

Along with ticket sales, out-of-town fans will also be in the market for hotel rooms, dinner reservations and rental cars.

"When anything is going on in downtown Greensboro it really helps," said Carla Roland, the manager of Natty Greene's, a brew pub and restaurant near the coliseum. "With all the tournaments coming to town, we expect to be a lot busier. It's been phenomenal for business."

And then there is the side benefit of the attention the events will draw to the city, attention Greensboro officials hope will cement the city's reputation as one of the top communities in the country for major collegiate sporting events.

"The economic impact of this tournament may be about \$40 million, but the residual value cannot be measured," Purser said.

With all the hoopla, will all other commerce come to a halt for the next three weeks?

"It adds excitement and a buzz to the community and it might actually generate more business," Purser said, before adding, "I have a feeling the TV will be on a bunch in the Chamber of Commerce break room." ■

Maryland edges out Virginia, 71-70

Kurz Jr.
Associated Press

CHARLESVILLE, Va. — Mike Jones inter with 1:11 left, J.R. Reynolds inter that would tie Virginia at the as the Terrapins game at University of Virginia.

8-11, 8-8 Atlantic City got a needed lead into the contest as the No. 6 Terps.

ers (14-13, 7-9), consecutive blowout led a huge rally, but the final game in

41 seasons at University Hall. The men's and women's programs will move to the \$129.8 million John Paul Jones Arena next year.

Nick Caner-Medley led Maryland with 16 points and, more importantly, made all 12 of his free throws on a day when the rest of the Terps were just 5-for-14 at the line.

Caner-Medley made four of them in the final 3:11, each time allowing the Terps to pull back to even moments after Virginia had taken its first lead of the half.

Then Jones calmly pulled up to the left of the key, let fly with the go-ahead shot and the Cavaliers were unable to find one more comeback. Sean Singletary

had a shot blocked by James Gist, then failed to inbound the ball, drawing a 5-second violation.

After Maryland's D.J. Strawberry was called for a charge at the other end, the Cavaliers inbounded the ball with 22 seconds to play, worked the ball to Reynolds and took a contested 3-point from right of the key, but the ball missed badly.

The Cavaliers trailed most of the way, but took their first lead of the second half at 66-64 on Singletary's fallaway 15-footer with 3:53 to play.

Caner-Medley made a pair of free throws before Reynolds scored on a drive and Caner-Medley made two again.

After two free throws by Reynolds with 2:09 left, Jones hit the last basket.

Reynolds took control with Singletary on the bench with four fouls in the second half. He scored 12 points during a 30-12 run that lasted more than nine minutes, turning a 50-32 runaway for Maryland into a 62-all deadlock with six minutes to play. ■

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Mexico beats Diamondbacks

Mexico wins 6-1 in World Baseball Classic tuneup

Associated Press

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP) — Mexico tuned up for its World Baseball Classic opener against the United States by beating an Arizona Diamondbacks split squad 6-1 Saturday.

Esteban Loaiza of the Oakland Athletics pitched 2 2-3 effective innings and Luis Carlos Garcia hit a grand slam in the eighth, delighting a near-capacity crowd of 11,834 filled with Mexico supporters.

Baltimore pitcher Rodrigo Lopez was scheduled to start when Mexico played its first game in the inaugural WBC against the United States on Tuesday in Phoenix.

"That's going to be really outstanding," Loaiza said Saturday. "It should be a great experience. I know everyone here is looking forward to Tuesday."

Fernando Valenzuela, the 1981 National League Cy Young pitching award winner with the Los Angeles Dodgers, threw out the ceremonial first pitch.

Valenzuela is one of the coaches for Team Mexico, along with former Arizona starter Armando Reynoso and ex-Milwaukee Brewers pitcher Teddy Higuera.

"It was a lot of fun," Diamondbacks manager Bob Melvin said. "Not only did they bring their team, they brought their crowd. It's good to see everyone all fired up about it. We got a taste of what the WBC is going to be."

Loaiza started and struck out two.

"This is what it is all about," he said. "It's a very special thing for all of us to be representing Mexico. Now we just need to keep winning when the tournament starts."

Claudio Vargas started for Arizona, throwing two strong innings as he continues to bid for the No. 5 spot in the Diamondbacks' rotation.

"(Vargas) threw the ball well," Melvin said. "Velocity was good and he pounded the bottom part of the zone, which we've been stressing to him."

Edgar Gonzalez, a pitcher in the Diamondbacks' minor league system, threw one scoreless inning for Team Mexico. ■

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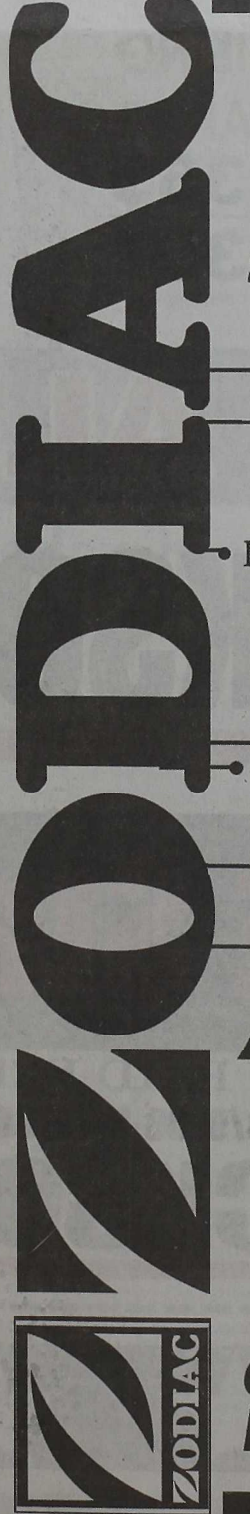
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Combat photographer / 3C



Camp Lejeune: Cpl. Jeffery A. Raider, an infantryman with 2nd Assault Amphibian Battalion, 2nd Marine Division, struggles to maneuver through the obstacle course during his fifth consecutive trip.

Marines learn teaching skills

MAIC teaches Marines about mind, body and spirit

Lance Cpl. Adam Johnston
Marine Corps Base

Since its launch in October 2000, the Marine Corps Martial Arts Program has been preparing Marines for unarmed combat in a wartime scenario. The purpose of the program is to train Marines how to use the most lethal weapon in their arsenal, the mind. But to become a Martial Arts Instructor, you'll need more than brainpower alone to succeed.

MCMAP is an integrated martial art program designed for, and executed by, all Marines throughout their careers, according to Marine Corps Order 1500.54B. It is a synergy of mental, character

and physical disciplines with application across the full spectrum of violence. In concert with proven Marine Corps leadership, rigorous training in these three disciplines enhances the Marine both on and off the battlefield.

"When Marines first come here, they are usually very surprised at the emphasis placed on the academic portion of the program," said Sgt. Christopher Beard, the chief instructor trainer of the Martial Arts Instructor Course aboard Camp Geiger. "We generally give two classes each day on issues ranging from sexual harassment to components of wellness."

Students of the MAIC also



Camp Lejeune: Cutting off the flow of oxygen to his brain, Gunnery Sgt. Jermal L. Rogers, the Staff Noncommissioned Officer of the Martial Arts Instructor Course aboard Camp Geiger, tries to squeeze the life out of Cpl. Terence D. Hardy, a M1A1 tank crewman with Company B, 2nd Tank Battalion, 2nd Marine Division, during a training exercise.

learn about Marines who have achieved the Bronze Star or higher for heroism, specifically those who were involved in close combat situations.

"We discuss the Warrior Case Studies because it's important to learn about the Marines who have gone before us," said Gunnery Sgt. Jermal Rogers, the Staff Noncommissioned officer in charge of the MAIC aboard Camp Geiger. "By studying their experiences, students can get a feel for how important this training really is."

The course, which is about

three-weeks long (15 training days), goes from 7 a.m. until 4 p.m. Most days begin with a form of physical training known as combat conditioning.

"In war, there is no second place," said Rogers. "That's why it's crucial for these students to be able to consistently execute at a maximum level, regardless of how fatigued they are. Combat conditioning drills, like the fireman's carry, simulate what Marines in a real combat situation will come

See SKILLS page 2C

Support Group reaches out to family members

Staff Sgt. A.C. Mink
II Marine Expeditionary Force

"To anyone who has lost a loved one or has experienced the wounds of war I extend my deepest sympathy. Casualties of war are not only those lost, but also those left behind. For the departed, the family feels the loss most. For the wounded, it is both the Marine and those who love them who experience the void of a past life free from disabilities. But, in each case the sacrifice of the Marine was freely given, an outward sign of his or her faithful sense of duty to a cause larger than themselves, committed the day they proudly held up their hand and took their oath." - Shannon Maxwell, wife of Lt. Col. Tim Maxwell, who while the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit operations officer, was wounded in Kalsu, Iraq. Lt. Col. Maxwell sustained a traumatic brain injury from mortar fire shrapnel.

Returning from combat, labeled a "wounded warrior," without question can be the beginning of a painful, difficult, sometimes confusing and perhaps frightening path. That path can be more easily navigated with help and Marines take care of their own.

More than a motto to II Marine Expeditionary Force, "Semper Fidelis" is a way of life as we work with and continue with the support individuals throughout their redeployment and healing process.

"These are our Marines and sailors and we will continue to see that they are

See FAMILY page 2C

Development program aims to better civilian leadership

Lance Cpl. Drew W. Barker
Marine Corps Base

More than 40 of Camp Lejeune's civilian employees received training certificates during the 2006 Civilian Leadership Development Awards Luncheon at the Officers' Club recently.

The Civilian Leadership Development Program provides a means for civilian employees to develop competency skills

needed for supervisory, managerial and executive positions through self-study, formal training, developmental assignments or job shadowing.

"The Marine Corps has strong leadership principles and traits," said Col. Adele Hodges, commanding officer of Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune. "Most of the civilians in this program live and operate by them."

The CLD is designed to pro-

vide learning opportunities for aspiring leaders as well as employees who already occupy leadership positions and desire to enhance their knowledge, skills and abilities through joint training, education and development.

The main goal of the CLD is to enhance the leadership and managerial skills of all civilian employees to maximize their potential, thereby increasing job satisfaction, productivity and employee retention. This in turn will support Marines by providing essential goods and services to enable them to concentrate on their primary mission of defending our national interests and providing humanitarian aid.

After completion of the CLD training period, civilians will have enhanced their knowledge, skills and abilities, and will become a more valuable member of the Marine Corps team.

"This is a really outstanding program," said Hodges. "I hope more of our civilians take advantage of this."

The Civilian Leadership Development Program is open to all Camp Lejeune area civilian employees (NAF and Civil Service) who are in permanent, career conditional, or term positions. For information, please contact Eddie Quinn, CLD Administrator, at the Workforce Learning Center, by calling 451-4794. ■

Morning madness brewing on base

Lance Cpl. Ryan M. Blaich

II Marine Expeditionary Force

Nineteenth century novelist and highly regarded poet, Oliver Wendell Holmes Sr., once said, "The morning cup of coffee has an exhilaration about it which the cheering influence of the afternoon or evening cup of tea cannot be expected to reproduce." That can be interpreted to suggest, the morning is for coffee lovers and the rest of the day is just a remainder in the equation of life. So, how does a liquid with negative stereotypes and hard found evidence against it survive in a health-conscious environment such as the Marine Corps?

Easy, it works.

Coffee is grown all over the world, in more than 50 countries, making it truly international. Two thirds of the world's coffee production comes from Central and South America. Brazil turns out 35 percent of the world's coffee and leads the way in the coffee trade, according to www.expressotech.com.

Coffee originated in the plateau of Ethiopia around 600 A.D. Ironically, coffee berries were first used for medicinal purposes and later

drank for religious meditations, according to the Web site.

Fast-forward a few thousand years to a line forming upstairs inside the H-1 building. The crowd is a mix of Marines, sailors and civilians, ranging from officers to lance corporals. All are waiting for coffee.

"What happened to the other machines?" asked a gunnery sergeant in the back of the line. Referring to the coffee makers taken from the store earlier this month, he asked, "How could you let them take your machines?"

"I didn't let them take it," explained Elizabeth Banks, operations assistant for the Marine Corps Community Services convenience store. She said that due to low sales of coffee, the owners of the machines, removed them from the store. "They didn't take into account the free coffee mugs," she said while filling a coffee filter with fresh coffee grounds. "I've stood here and filled this one machine for a solid hour," Banks revealed.

Banks noted some Marines are big on coffee, and keeping the coffee fountain flowing

See MADNESS page 2C



Camp Lejeune: Col. Adele Hodges presents Brenda D. Chapman with a training certificate during the Civilian Leadership Development Awards Luncheon at the Officers' Club recently.

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Harvard University breaks down financial barriers

Lance Cpl. Drew W. Barker
Marine Corps Base

At a press conference in 2004, the president of Harvard University, Lawrence H. Summers, announced that his school would begin a tuition assistance program for students from low-income families.

"When only 10 percent of the students in elite higher education come from families in the lower half of the income distribution, we are not doing enough," said Summers.

One of the biggest reasons students do not apply to Harvard and some of the other Ivy League universities is the daunting tuition fees and expenses, which can total more than \$50,000 per year, according to Melanie Brennan Muller, an admissions and financial aid officer at the school who co-directed the Harvard Financial Aid Initiative.

"We felt like there were stereotypes about the cost of going to Harvard that would shy students away," said Muller. "We wanted to make sure talented young students weren't afraid to apply because of the thought that they couldn't afford it."

According to the initiative, a student coming from a family with an annual income of less than \$40,000 may qualify for the financial aid, which covers nearly 95 percent of all expenses related to attending the university, according to Muller.

"Our tuition assistance is always need based," said Muller. "And we have a number of other resources that students can turn to for assistance and financial help."

Students seeking the assistance offered by the initiative must be accepted to the school first, which presents a different myth about Harvard.

"It's a common misconception that we only accept four-point honor students and valedictorians," said Muller. "We're actually very, very flexible. Usually, we accept students who are in the top 10 to 15 percent of their class. We like to see a difficult course load, including honors and [advanced placement] classes, distinguished extra curricular activities and an overall well-rounded person."

The message sent by Harvard's initiative has resonated throughout the education community and should be recognized for its potential benefits in regards to military service

members and their families.

"Students from military families bring a unique aspect to the classroom," said Muller. "They've been raised in an environment that exemplifies excellence and resilience and they reflect those qualities in their studies, that can make for a great student."

Military families have interesting and unique circumstances economically that may help them qualify for the monetary backing.

"If we're looking at the less than \$40,000 per year bracket, a lot of military families might fall into that category," said Muller.

The program also allots substantial aid for families with earnings between \$40,000 and \$60,000 per year, which may make this opportunity available to a wider spectrum of military families.

"There are a lot of sacrifices being made by our service members," said Muller. "And I think it would be great if some of them could benefit from this initiative."

For more information about Harvard University and the Harvard Financial Aid Initiative, visit Harvard's Web site at www.harvard.edu.

On the lookout

March is designated as 'Workplace Eye Safety Month'

Eric Quinn
Base Safety Office

Eye injuries of all types occur at a rate of more than 2,000 per day. Of these, 10 percent to 20 percent will be disabling because of temporary or permanent vision loss. A recent survey by the Bureau of Labor Statistics found that three out of five workers who suffered an eye injury wore no protection. And, of those who did, 40 percent wore the wrong kind. You should wear safety eyewear whenever there is any chance that machines or operations present the hazard of flying objects, chemicals, harmful radiation or a combination of these or other hazards.

Anyone working in or passing through areas that pose eye hazards should wear appropriate protective eyewear at such times.

What is the difference between glass, plastic and polycarbonate safety lenses?

Industrial-thickness glass, plastic and polycarbonate lenses meet or exceed the requirements of the eye protection standard. In general, each type of lens does offer cer-

tain advantages and disadvantages. Glass lenses provide good scratch resistance and also accommodate a broad range of prescriptions. But glass is heavy and uncomfortable. Plastic and polycarbonate lenses are lighter weight, provide protection from welding splatter and are not flammable. Unless specially coated, these lenses are not as scratch resistant as glass. They do not accommodate as wide a range of prescriptions as glass lenses.

For more information contact the base safety office at 451-5725 or visit the Web site at <http://safety.lejeune.usmc.mil>: 7778/wsis.

the severity of injury in at least 50 percent of all accidents. Eye protection is the most effective way to prevent eye injury.

Also, remember to utilize eye protection during your off-duty time while playing sports, yard work, weed eating or any hobby that poses eye hazards. Whatever your job or hobby, protect your eyes with appropriate protective eyewear always.

For more information contact the base safety office at 451-5725 or see our Web site at <http://safety.lejeune.usmc.mil>: 7778/wsis.

FAMILY

CONTINUED FROM 1C

taken care of," said Lt. Gen. James F. Amos in a recent interview.

During the healing process, the focus is on recovery and support for those individuals. However, they are not the only ones who face new challenges, and family members say that they can begin to feel alone.

"None of your neighbors, none of your families - no one unless they've gone through what you are going through - will understand," said Becky Klepper, wife of Sgt. Karl Klepper, who was injured in an IED explosion, when his

vehicle flipped over, crushing his ankle and breaking the bone on the opposite side through the skin.

Shannon Maxwell, Becky Klepper and Alison Sturla, wives of wounded warriors here at Camp Lejeune, recognized that other spouses like themselves, might need support of their own, as they assist their family members to cope with physical and mental challenges caused by wounds of war.

"Our Marines and their families hold their heads up high and continue to find hope in life beyond recovery," said Maxwell.

Meeting at 6:30 p.m. on the third Wednesday of each month in the Key Volunteer Center, Building H14, the

Wounded Warrior Spouses' Support Group offers that assistance, in an open forum where spouses, significant others and friends affected by a wounded Marine can find knowledge and strength in shared experiences with those who have walked a mile in their shoes.

"We realized in helping our husbands through their recovery that there were challenges, uncertainties and stressors we were experiencing that were hard for others to understand," said Maxwell. "Our roles changed for a time as we became the caregiver at home."

Guest speakers offer assistance and clarification on issues such as Veterans Affairs benefits, financial assistance,

combat stress and post traumatic stress disorder and rehabilitation resources.

"Being able to share these things with someone and realizing that we were not alone in what we were going through was an enormous comfort - one that we hope to extend to others," said Maxwell.

More than a support group, the WWSWG provides Marine commanders feedback that will assist them in the mission to improve quality of life for wounded service members and their families and will work to expedite the fulfillment of those needs.

"So they understand the difficulties and challenges involved for family members during this process," said

Klepper, whose family lives in Texas. "That it's not just a Marine or sailor."

The guest speaker discussed the Traumatic Stress Group Life Insurance Supplemental section on the WWSWG Web site.

The next Warrior Spouses' Support Group meeting will be held on March 16, 2006, at 6:30 p.m. in the Key Volunteer Center, Building H14. The speaker will be Navy Lt. Col. Robert J. Kessler, who will cover the Traumatic Stress Disorder signs, how to help your loved one when to seek help.

For more information, call Becky Klepper at 451-5725 or Shannon Maxwell at 451-5725.

MADNESS

CONTINUED FROM 1C

takes significant attention. She said that officers are the overwhelming consumers of coffee, but she has also noticed more and more lance corporals buying the mugs, which allows for an unlimited fortune in coffee for as long as the sturdy plastic mug lasts.

Coffee's addictive personality, www.dig.com says, come from the main chemical, caffeine. And although coffee has never been linked to cancer, caffeine is an acknowledged carcinogen.

Caffeine, along with other chemicals found in coffee, interfere with the brain's chemical, adenosine, which causes a calming effect, and in return creates stress in those who drink it on a daily basis, according to www.dig.com's research.

The Web site explains that coffee is generally not good for those who drink it. This is not a new idea and seems to beat a dead horse, but realize there are some hard facts: some coffee is sprayed heavily with pesticides. Coffee can stain your teeth. When drunk after meals, coffee may cause problems with blood sugar control in people with type 2 diabetes. It decreases the quality of sleep and is dire for those who are at risk of heart attack, stroke and blood clots. But is there another side to the story?

There are scientific studies that refute most, if not all, the negative side effects of coffee, according to www.dig.com. Many of the studies that put a negative spin on coffee are outdated. Studies show that boiled or percolated coffee is at a high risk of

containing carcinogens because of the temperature and amount of time the water soaks in the coffee bean. Prior to 1975, coffee was regularly made without using filters, which removes much of the chemicals that elevate cholesterol levels.

Today's coffee studies, according to www.dig.com, show that caffeine increases intellectual activity when fatigued or bored and that it speeds up the metabolism during exercise while reducing hunger. Coffee has a protective effect against cirrhosis of the liver and helps fight off and prevent colon cancer. There is belief that the theophylline in coffee protects in opposition to asthma. The Federal Drug Administration recognizes caffeine to be "generally recognized as safe." By reducing the release of histamines from mast cells, coffee can be considered to have anti-allergic properties.

With all these studies crossing paths, it seems clear that common sense must overcome. One thing that all the researchers state however, is, no one who is pregnant or is believed to be pregnant should ever drink coffee or high levels of caffeine. For everyone else, moderation should be the approach to coffee guzzling.

The Web site recommends to drink plenty of water, which prevents dehydration, and take a vitamin/mineral supplement to replace lost electrolytes when coffee intake is greater than once a day. They mention that organic coffee does not use pesticides, herbicides, and chemical fertilizers, therefore, is better for you. So relax and enjoy your morning cup(s) of joe, evidently it is not the poison everyone once believed it to be. ■

SKILLS

CONTINUED FROM 1C

come in contact with."

After combat conditioning and academics, it is time for the students to begin the physical portion of the course. Instructors teach the techniques using the Explain, Demonstrate, Imitate and Practice method.

"Each day they're here, the students are constantly being evaluated," said Beard. "Our jobs as Instructor Trainers is to make sure the Marines who complete this course are ready, both mentally and physically. But even if a student passes all the academic and physical requirements, that still doesn't mean they'll graduate. We have the authority to drop Marines from the course who we feel aren't mature enough and lack the character to be an instructor."

The culmination of the MAIC is a four-hour event known as the "Final Drill." Similar to the Crucible at the end of boot camp, students are constantly moving from station to station with little rest in-between. Events in the "Final Drill" include ground fighting matches, pugil stick bouts and multiple trips through the obstacle course.

"It's a gut check," said Beard. "To make it through, you really have to want it; you definitely need heart."

For those who pass the final test, they

will graduate the following day as a Marine Corps Artillery Instructor. As a MAIC graduate, they are authorized to train other Marines at the current belt level, but can only certify tests at one level.

"When I was deployed to Iraq, the biggest thing I noticed was more training in unarmed combat," said Sgt. David McFadden, a sergeant with Company E, 2nd Battalion, 12th Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division, who recently graduated from the MAIC. "This course taught me the importance of the force continuum and how to transition from escalating to an exit strategy. I'm going to take what I learned to my unit and teach it to the Marines."

To be eligible for the MAIC, a Marine must be a Corporal or above, have a class Physical Fitness Test score of 100, be Water Survival-2 qualified, wear a gray belt and have one year of active-duty left on your contract.

"If you're looking for a challenge and the freedom to teach your Marines at a moment's notice, then this is for you," said Rogers.

For more information, e-mail Sgt.Rogers@jermal.rogers.usmc.mil or go to the MCMAP Web site at www.tbs.usmc.mil and click on the Arts link. ■

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| Centennial Enterprises, Inc. | Thousand Oaks, Calif. |
| Joshua Experience/Club Access | 200 Golden Oak Ct., Virginia Beach, Va. |
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| Hearing impaired | 451-2999 |
| To report business fraud | 451-3928 |

HEALTH SERVICES CENTER PHONE OPTION CHANGE

The phone option menu for the Naval Hospital Health Services Center (450-HELP) has recently changed. The new options are:

- Press 1 to make or change an appointment
- Press 2 to speak to an advice nurse
- Press 3 for assistance with referral management
- Press 4 for the command assistance team
- Press 0 for general information.

Home bound after a year long deployment

Sgt. Ryan S. Scranton
2nd Marine Division

The Marines, sailors, soldiers and airmen of the 2nd Marine Division are returning home after completing a successful year-long deployment in western Iraq's Al Anbar province.

The division conducted combined counter-insurgency operations alongside its Iraqi Security Force counterparts from March 2005 to February 2006 and transferred authority of the province to the Camp Pendleton, Calif.-based 1st Marine Expeditionary Force (Forward) before returning to Camp Lejeune.

The 2nd Marine Division was the ground combat element for II MEF (Forward) and was supported by 2nd Marine Logistics Group (Forward) and 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing.

In addition to commanding the 2nd Marine Division, Maj. Gen. Richard A. Huck took command of II MEF (Forward) from Maj. Gen. Stephen T. Johnson as they transferred operational control and authority of the Al Anbar province with a handshake ceremony Jan. 31.

The division also focused its efforts on training, integrating and operating with Iraqi Security Forces.

"The work done by these young Marines, sailors, soldiers and airmen was superb," said Huck. "Everyone who contributed, including families, friends and loved ones who supported us, helped write a new chapter in Marine Corps history. They should be proud of their accomplishments."

Bringing security to the province was not easy. The thousands of square miles of terrain bordering Syria, Jordan and Saudi Arabia posed a significant challenge to the division. To seal off the porous Iraq-Syria border became a key mission for the division.

Insurgents would transport men, money and material across the border and work their way down the Euphrates River from western to central Iraq. From there, insurgents would attack indiscriminately killing Iraqi citizens, Iraqi soldiers and police as well as Coalition Forces.

It was the division's mission to help strangle Al-Qaida in Iraq's logistical support. So through a series of operations in western Al Anbar beginning in early summer and ending in the late fall, the division focused its efforts.

"We had a lot of success out west because the population finally realized that Al-Qaida in Iraq has nothing to offer them," said Huck. "Up and down the Euphrates River, from cities such as Husaybah, Karabilah, Ubaydi, Rawah, Haditha, Hit, Ramadi to Fallujah, the division took the fight to the insurgents and terrorists denying them any base of operation or area to rest."

The 2nd Marine Division did not go it alone during these operations. It was a strategy of

"clear and hold," sweeping through towns and rooting out insurgents and weapons cache alongside Iraqi Security Force counterparts.

"One of the keys to successfully root out the insurgents was the integration of Iraqi Forces alongside the Marines and soldiers," explained Huck. "Once the division and Iraqi Forces cleared the area of weapons and insurgents, we had to stay and set up a long-term security presence to show the citizens that we were there to provide security and ensure stability."

The "train, integrate and operate" philosophy in working with the Iraqi Forces is beginning to pay dividends. When the division first arrived in 2005, there were limited Iraqi Security Forces, which were centered on the population centers of Fallujah and Ramadi. Just one year later, approximately 24,000 Iraqi men are now in uniform preparing to take over security roles across Al Anbar.

Strengthening the physical security in the numerous cities and towns in Al Anbar was brought about through the continuous training and recruitment of Iraqi civilians willing to fill the ranks and files of the Iraqi Security Force and to work the streets as police officers and highway patrolman. Iraqi border security units also worked to stop the flow of weapons, men and materials across the Iraqi border.

The division took the lead on numerous operations during the year, but when it came to providing security for the Iraqi Constitutional Referendum in October and the National Elections in December, it was Iraqi Security Forces squarely out front. In June 2004 the Coalition Provisional Authority transferred sovereignty to the Iraqi Interim Government.

The citizens of Al Anbar for the most part stayed away from the polls in January of 2005, when Iraqis elected a Transitional Government, but in October 2005, they took their first timid steps toward democracy. By the December elections, the majority stepped up to the polls to vote. The Iraqi Security Forces proved that they were up to the task with only a minimum of violence taking place province wide.

The citizens' outpouring of support for their national government spurred extra efforts in the division's efforts to help mentor and coach the local fledgling democracies cropping up throughout the province.

Through the use of civil affairs teams across the province the division was able to engage both the people and local government leaders to turn the tide against the insurgency and diminish its ability to continue its aggressive terror and intimidation campaign.

"The work accomplished here will not be forgotten, nor will our fallen brothers' and sisters' sacrifices go unremembered," said Huck. "History will record our deeds and sacrifices and we will know that we were part of that history."

Combat photographer shares experiences, lessons learned

Lance Cpl. Andrew D. Young
2nd Marine Division



Lance Cpl. Andrew D. Young

Hit, Iraq: Lance Cpl. Shane S. Keller, a combat photographer with Regimental Combat Team-2, was deployed to Iraq for a year.

era, flak jacket and helmet in 130 degree weather, so being there definitely got me used to carrying all the gear combat photographers are required to have," he said.

Keller's gear came in handy during some close calls in combat. He recalled one event that almost took his life.

"I was in the town of Haqlayniah with 3rd Battalion, 25th Marines when we found a weapons cache inside a house," Keller explained. "The people that owned the building said that they didn't know about the weapons and that they rented the building out (to another person)."

The Marines and the owner of the house then traveled in military vehicles to meet with the renter of the house for questioning. When Keller's vehicle reached an intersection on the way, one of the antennas on the vehicle was caught on a low power line.

Keller stood up in the back of the vehicle to untangle the line, when a rocket-propelled grenade was shot into the building wall about five feet away

from him. The blast knocked him back into the vehicle, breaking his camera. Reacting to the attack, Keller assumed the role of a rifleman.

"After the RPG hit, we began taking AK-47 fire from down the road," Keller explained. "I stood up and Cpl. [Eric] Ely, another combat photographer, and I fired back. We then dismounted the vehicle and began searching the area for the person who shot that RPG."

A few minutes later, another RPG was shot and landed about 10 feet away from me. I was lucky to escape from that situation, and it changed my outlook on things in life."

After returning to Camp Lejeune, Keller explained how a year in a combat zone impacted him and will affect him in the future.

"Being in Iraq for that long helped me learn to be able to do more with less and survive with the bare minimum," Keller continued as he unpacked his dusty gear. "This experience has taught me the importance of living everyday to the fullest and to never take the little things in life for granted."

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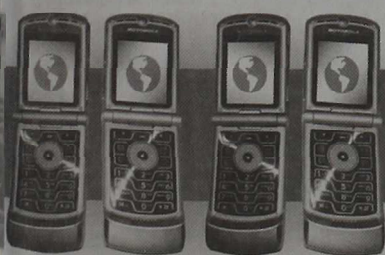
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<p>2005 Dodge Neon SXT Air Conditioning, Automatic Transmission, Power Brakes, Power Steering, Power Windows, Tilt Steering Wheel \$11,555 938-1417</p>	<p>2005 Dodge Neon SXT Air Conditioning, Automatic Transmission, Power Brakes, Power Steering, Power Windows, Tilt Steering Wheel \$11,869 347-3777</p>	<p>2005 Dodge Stratus SXT Air Conditioning, Automatic Transmission, Power Brakes, Power Steering, Power Windows, Tilt Steering Wheel \$12,575 938-1417</p>	<p>2004 Dodge Caravan Air Conditioning, Automatic Transmission, Power Brakes, Power Steering, Power Windows, Sunroof, Tilt Steering Wheel \$14,360 938-1417</p>
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<p>2005 Chrysler Sebring Air Conditioning, Automatic Transmission, Power Brakes, Power Steering, Power Windows, Tilt Steering Wheel \$11,950 938-1417</p>	<p>2005 Dodge Stratus SXT Air Conditioning, Automatic Transmission, Power Brakes, Power Steering, Power Windows, Tilt Steering Wheel \$11,655 347-3777</p>	<p>2005 Dodge Stratus SXT Air Conditioning, Automatic Transmission, Power Brakes, Power Steering, Power Windows, Tilt Steering Wheel \$13,365 347-3777</p>	<p>2004 Dodge Intrepid Air Conditioning, Automatic Transmission, Power Brakes, Power Steering, Power Windows, Tilt Steering Wheel \$11,260 938-1417</p>
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938-1417

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347-3777 or 938-1417

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 Anti-Lock Brakes, Automatic Trans., Power Brakes, Power Steering
\$9,968
938-1417

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 AC, Front Wheel Drive, Power Brakes, Power Steering, Power Windows, Tilt Steering Wheel
\$5,678
938-1417

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'02 GRAND AM
\$8,444



'02 GRAND PRIX
\$10,985



'03 JEEP LIBERTY 4X4
\$15,995



'03 TAHOE Z71
\$24,995



'98 SIERRA X-CAB Z71
\$11,695



'05 RENDEZVOUS
\$20,900



'02 KIA SEDONA
\$8,995



'98 CHEVY MALIBU
\$5,995



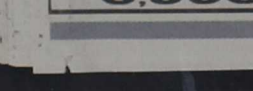
'84 CHEVY DURANGO TRUCK
\$9,995



'02 PONTIAC GRAND AM
\$6,988



'02 SUNFIRE
\$6,988



'99 GRAND AM
\$6,995

Wanted

ROOMMATE-Officer/Prof. to share 2800 sq. ft. home in Sneads Ferry, 1 mi. from gate. Private gated comm. w/clubhouse, pool, & boat launch. Multiple water views. \$500/mo. (+) Util. (240) 462-8102.

SHED-Wooden, 8'x10' or 10'x10'. 353-7442.

Auto Miscellaneous

ASSORTED-383 stroker engine kit, \$900. Dodge SRT-4 exh., \$75. Srt-4 stock rims, \$150. 00-03 Dodge Neon pacesetter dual exh., \$50. 2 kicker amps, \$100. 2004 Dodge Ram & neon stock tail lights, \$50 ea. All are neg. 325-6271.

ASSORTED-Protective front cover & rear cargo area tray for Chrysler T&C Van, \$75 & \$35 ea. Protective front cover for Ford Explorer, \$75 ea. 252-393-2723.

BED LINER & TAILGATE PROTECTOR-8 ft. for 2002 or older Dodge. \$100/obo. 346-9554.

BODY KIT-For 1995-99 Mitsubishi Eclipse, side skirts, 23 fenders, & rear bumper. \$100/obo. 326-3162.

BRAKE PADS-Bosch, top of the line, F/R for 1996-2002 Ford Expedition XLT or EB. \$100 firm. 353-5774 1/m.

CAMPERSHELL-From a 1997 Chevy S10, black, a little damage to liner, you pick up, FREE! 743-0225.

CAR PART-SB 350 out of 1972 Nova. Ran when pulled. In box can deliver, best offer. 545-1430.

CAR TRAILER-16 ft., Carson brand, full steel floor, electric brakes, wood sides that go on and come off. \$1500 firm. 526-2417.

ENCLOSED CARGO TRAILER-6X14' ramp door, side door, white, V-front, heavy duty frame, exc. cond. \$3400. 743-0244.

ENCLOSED CARGO TRAILERS-5ft. x 8ft. & up. Store & haul motorcycles, mowers, ATVs, tools, & personal effects. F&R Sales. 910-325-0002.

FUEL TANK-94Gal, never used, gas/diesel, can be used on boat/camper/truck or gas carrier. \$200. 340-2449.

FULL BODY KIT-For 99-00 Honda Civic, 4dr. Incl. quest front bumper/avenger polyurethane side skirts & rear bumper. \$350. 545-3353.

GRILL-For 2005 SCION TC, chrome, brand new in box. \$150/obo. 989-2880.

RIMS & TIRES-For Dodge Ram 1500, 17", chrome. Michelin LTX 245/70 R17 tires, approx. 32,000 mi. Rims in excellent shape Incl. center caps. \$300/obo. 330-6435.

RIMS (4)-Stock alloy w/computerized air sensors for a Chevy Suburban, valued at \$500 ea., asking \$200 for all. 389-4581.

RIMS-18" hpd spinout w/Nitto tires, \$2,300/obo. Excellent cond, a must see. (305)335-4186.

RIMS-For 2000 BMW M5, 18" w/Nitto S55 tires. \$2000/obo. (305)335-4186.

SUBWOOFER BOX-For 2 10's. Stealth box for truck under back seat of a Silverado. May fit other trucks. \$75. 265-8823.

SUBWOOFERS-2 kicker comp vr 12". Also 1 mtz amp. \$300/obo. 934-2011.

SUMMIT ROLL BAR-40hx41w at top, tappers to 55w at bottom, horse shoe shaped, fits behind front seats. New, never mounted, \$100. 743-0098.

TIRES & RIMS (3)-For 1998 Dodge Ram 1500, 1 tire has cut in side wall & needs to be replaced. Only 13k mi. on them. No center caps or lug nuts Incl. \$75. 478-997-1094.

TIRES & RIMS-20" tires, Kumho ECSTA's 275/45/R20, \$700. American Racing rims, \$1000. Both, \$1200. Came off 98 Navigator, only 2 mos. old. 252-714-2897.

TIRES (4)-265/70/17 BFG Rugged Trail/TA. Brand new for 1996-2006 Expedition. \$600 firm. 353-5774 1/m.

TIRES-205/50R/15 Falken High Performance, all-season, complete set, \$200/obo. 376-6253 before 9pm.

TIRES-New, from Toyota Corolla 185/70R13 Firestone 865 M+S (FR380) (3), \$20/obo ea. 324-7587.

TIRES-Used (sets of 4), Michelin LTX M/S P255 70R 16 \$120/obo. Michelin MXV4 P205 60R 16 \$200/obo. 252-393-2723.

Automobiles

1959 VOLKSWAGEN BEETLE-Ragtop sunroof, red w/white int. \$3200/obo. A must sell, deploying again. Lots of extra parts. 546-0231.

1975 CORVETTE-Too many new parts to list, \$10,000 firm. 545-1206.

1981 FIAT SPIDER 2000-64K mi., original mi. Ferrari red w/tan int. & newer canvas top. Fuel injected & rare factory a/c. Mechanically excellent. Looks great. PCSing, \$6,300/obo. 324-6807.

1984 CHEVY DURANGO TRUCK-Body in very nice shape, needs a carburetor. \$600. 330-8897.

1984 FORD TRUCK-Runs good. As is. \$600. 324-2060.

1986 DODGE W150-Full size truck w/35 in. tires. Pretty good condition, needs a little TLC. Most everything has been rebuilt. \$2500/obo. 265-6077.

1987 FORD F-700-2-ton w/370 4 valve, only 79K mi., 5-spd trans. & 2-speed rear end. 18' flat bed. Body in great shape, tires in fair to new cond. Many new parts. Runs strong. \$5,000/obo. 353-5147.

1991 GMC SIERRA 1500 SLE-2 dr truck, white, blue int., V-8 auto, a/c, cruise, all power, am/fm/cass., tool box, bed protector, tires like new. Painted 2 yrs. ago. \$2750. 389-5719 1/m.

1992 CHEVY BLAZER TAHOE-4wd, air, auto, tow pkg, 120k mi., good paint, runs good, \$2800. 743-0244.

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Automobiles

1992 HONDA ACCORD EX-Auto, loaded, new tires, cd player, sunroof. \$3,000/obo. 389-6789.

1992 JEEP CHEROKEE-4 dr, great interior, decent body, needs computer. Asking \$1,000/obo. 376-4653.

1993 FORD THUNDERBIRD-V8, new tires, tune up, oil change, runs great, brand new cd player, am/fm, heat/ac. \$1200/obo. 545-7644.

1993 HONDA ACCORD LX-\$3200. 1993 Civic Hatchback. \$2800. 910-381-0554.

1993 HONDA CIVIC-4dr, loaded, \$3100. More. Honda Man. 910-381-0554.

Automobiles

1993 JEEP WRANGLER-Lots of extras, asking \$3500/obo. 376-0914.

1994 LEXUS GS 300-Runs great, rebuilt motor, \$5500. 252-342-3262.

1995 FORD ASPIRE-2 dr, green, grey int., 4 cyl, auto, a/c, am/fm/cd, exc. tires, lots of new parts, runs super. \$1450. 389-5719 1/m.

1996 BUICK CENTURY SP-Low miles, good condition, \$3500/obo. 989-2791.

1996 CHEVY TAHOE-4 dr, 4x4, loaded, 69K mi., new tires, very nice. \$8700/obo. 934-2011.

1997 FORD EXPLORER XLT-Great

Automobiles

1997 LINCOLN CONTINENTAL-miles, moonroof, new tires, \$4,800/obo. 346-9253 or 346-9254.

1998 ACURA INTEGRA-w/amp, 12" JBL audio, many mods, & new on gas. (973) 391-7263.

Place your ad: militarynews@earthlink.net

Automobiles

1997 HONDA CIVIC DX-Good cond., 5spd, 2dr, black. Pipe, intake, headers. \$4,500/obo. 803-479-0391.

1997 HONDA PRELUDE SH-All pwr w/mnrf. Black w/black int., looks & runs great, 145K. \$4995/obo. 526-1718.

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WORSHIP DIRECTORY

- ANGELIC**
- Hatfield Primitive Baptist Church
507 Country Club Rd.
Jacksonville, NC 28546
- Jenkins Chapel Missionary Baptist Church
Sneads Ferry, NC 28460
- JT Kerr Memorial Baptist Church
150 LP Winghamam Pkwy.
Jacksonville, NC 28540
- ANGLO-CATHOLIC**
- Man Hollow Missionary Baptist Church
55 Marshollow Church Rd.
Hampstead, NC
- ANGLO-CATHOLIC ZION**
- New Life Baptist Church
104 Drummer Kellum Rd.
Jacksonville, NC 28546
- Provident Baptist Church
Church 406 E. Ocean Rd.
Holy Ridge, NC 28445
- St. Louis Missionary Baptist Church
188 Quaker Bridge Rd.
Jacksonville, NC 28546
- Truth Fellowship Church of Jacksonville
Hawes Run Rd.
Jacksonville, NC
- Victory Baptist Church
1830 Wilmington Hwy.
Jacksonville, NC 28540
- Washington Chapel Missionary Baptist Church
347 Bell Fork Rd.
Jacksonville, NC 2854
- BIBLE CHURCHES**
- Jacksonville Bible Church
501 Anne St.
Jacksonville, NC 28540
- CHRISTIAN CHURCHES**
- Community Christian Church
200 W. Hargett St.
Richlands, NC 28574
- Jacksonville Christian Church
2429 Commerce Rd.
Jacksonville, NC 28546
- Mount Olive UCC
105 Matlocks Ave.
Mayville, NC 28555
- Union Chapel Christian Church
147 Union Chapel Church Rd.
Richlands, NC 28574
- St. Mary's Church of Christ
245 Liberty Park Rd.
Jacksonville, NC 28540
- CATHOLIC**
- St. Mary's Gate of Heaven
Jacksonville, NC 28540
- St. Michael's Catholic Church
Hwy 24
Swanboro, NC 28584
- St. Mary's Gate of Heaven
420 N. Topical Dr.
Surf City, NC 28445
- CHURCH OF GOD**
- Church of God
5054 NC Hwy 24
Newport, NC 28570
- Faith Outreach Church
703 Augusta Blvd.
Jacksonville, NC 28540
- New Covenant Ministry
1611 Murrell Hill Rd.
Jacksonville, NC 28540
- New Hope Church of God in Christ
507 5th St.
Mayville, NC 28555
- Abundance of Love and Learning Center
1518 Gum Branch Rd.
Jacksonville, NC 2854
- EPISCOPAL**
- St. Anne's Episcopal Church
711 Henderson Dr.
Jacksonville, NC 28540
- St. Peter's By-the-Sea Episcopal Church
503 Broad St.
Swanboro, NC 28584
- FULL GOSPEL**
- River of Life Foursquare Gospel Church
231 Zack Cr.
Jacksonville, NC 28540
- Christian Community Church
732 Nine Mile Rd.
Richlands, NC 28574
- Abundant Life Baptist Church
1518 Gum Branch Rd.
Jacksonville, NC 28540
- Believer's Fellowship
614 Richlands Hwy.
Jacksonville, NC 28540
- Full Gospel Baptist Church Fellowship of NC
200 Veterans Dr.
Jacksonville, NC 28546
- Christian Life Center
23 E. Doris Ave.
Jacksonville, NC 28540
- HOLINESS CHURCH**
- Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
300 Stryan Mann Rd.
Jacksonville, NC 28546
- Full Gospel Tabernacle Holiness Church
1006 Country Club Rd.
Jacksonville, NC 28546
- Gospel Temple Holiness Church
Gum Branch Rd.
Jacksonville, NC 28540
- New Hope Holy Church
136 Arnold Rd.
Jacksonville, NC 28546
- House of God Belgrade
Spring Hill Rd.
Mayville, NC 28555
- Morgans Chapel Holiness Church
1235 Haws Branch Rd.
Beaufort, NC 28518
- ISLAMIC CHURCHES**
- Islamic Center of Wilmington
6336 Myrtle Grove Rd.
Wilmington, NC 28409
- Masjid Muhammad
719-12 Castle St.
Wilmington, NC 28401
- INDEPENDENT BAPTIST**
- Amazing Grace Baptist Church
307 Center St.
Jacksonville, NC 28546
- Bible Baptist Church
402 Timothy Rd.
Mayville, NC 28546
- Born Again Baptist Church
1284 Hwy 210
Sneads Ferry, NC 28460
- Emmanuel Independent Baptist Church
120 Bell St.
Cedar Point, NC 28584
- Fellowship Baptist Church
7 East Dr.
Jacksonville, NC 28546
- Grace Baptist Church & School
114 Roosevelt Dr.
Jacksonville, NC 28540
- Liberty Baptist Church
834 US Hwy. 17 S.
Holy Ridge, NC 28445
- Maranatha Baptist Church
1375 Onville Dr.
Jacksonville, NC 28549
- Bethel Word Ministers
1675 Hollowton Rd.
Jacksonville, NC 28546
- Military Christian Center
575 Corbin St.
Jacksonville, NC 28540
- Temple Baptist Church
121 Chaney Ave.
Jacksonville, NC 28540
- St. Mary Holy Church
173 Doris St.
Richlands, NC 28574
- PHILADELPHIA HOLINESS CHURCH**
418 Georgetown Rd.
Jacksonville, NC 28540
- Providence Holiness Church
325 Piney Green Rd.
Midway Park, NC 28546
- Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses
1288 Old Maplehurst Rd.
Jacksonville, NC 28540
- Shiloh Pentecostal Holiness Church
130 Bell Fork Rd.
Jacksonville, NC 28540
- JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES**
- Jehovah's Witnesses - Swanboro Congregation
42 Hammock Rd.
Swanboro, NC 28584
- Awakening Lutheran Church
103 Fall Dr.
Jacksonville, NC 28540
- Whitely's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church
8156 Hwy 41 W.
Richlands, NC 28574
- Union Missionary Baptist Church
5980 Richlands Hwy.
Jacksonville, NC 28540
- LATTER DAY SAINTS**
- Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
300 Stryan Mann Rd.
Jacksonville, NC 28546
- Calvary Lutheran Church
206 Pine Valley Rd.
Jacksonville, NC 28546
- LUTHERAN**
- Ascension Lutheran Church
1815 Gum Branch Rd.
Jacksonville, NC 28540
- Lutheran Church of Our Savior
1115 Lejeune Blvd.
Jacksonville, NC 28540
- Hawes Run Church of the Nazarene
768 Hawes Run Rd.
Jacksonville, NC 28540
- MISSIONARY BAPTIST**
- Faith Chapel Church
2080 Blue Creek Rd.
Jacksonville, NC 28540
- First Missionary Baptist Church
90 Jenkins Ave.
Mayville, NC 28555
- Sandy Run Missionary Baptist Church
1503 Hargett St.
Jacksonville, NC 28540
- White Oak Missionary Baptist Church
3602 White Oak River Rd.
Mayville, NC 28555
- NAZARENE**
- Faith Church of the Nazarene
1125 Piney Green Rd.
Jacksonville, NC 28546
- United Kingdom Ministries
4781 Gum Branch Rd.
Jacksonville, NC 28540
- Hawes Run Church of Nazarene
768 Hawes Run Rd.
Jacksonville, NC 28540
- Victory Deliverance Temple Church
183 Andler Moore Rd.
Maple Hill, NC 28454
- Victory Faith of Jacksonville
8021 Richlands Hwy.
Richlands, NC 28574
- Victory in the Word Worship Center
4367 Gum Branch Rd.
Jacksonville, NC 28546
- White Oak Community
6121 New Bern Hwy.
Mayville, NC 28555
- Ward of Faith Church
1308 Lejeune Blvd.
Jacksonville, NC 28540
- Word of Life Fellowship Ministries
800 Bell Fork Rd.
Jacksonville, NC 28540
- Christians Unite Fellowship
117 Henderson Dr.
Jacksonville, NC 28540
- DELIVERANCE EVANGELICAL TEMPLE**
120 Country Club Rd.
Jacksonville, NC 28546
- Community Prayer House
4827 Hwy 41
Trenton, NC 28585
- Cornerstone Church
117 McGowan Rd.
Jacksonville, NC 28540
- Faith Body of Christ Assembly
124 Poplar St.
Jacksonville, NC 28540
- The Ecclesia Ministries
303 E. Franck St.
Richlands, NC 28574
- Emma Anderson Memorial Chapel
1100 S. Anderson Blvd.
Topical Beach, NC 28445
- First Baptist Church Youth Annex
1925 Gum Branch Rd.
Jacksonville, NC 28540
- Faith Prayer House
688 Hunter Creek Rd.
Mayville, NC 28555
- Faith Tabernacle
4480 Richlands Hwy.
Jacksonville, NC 28540
- Free & Independent Apostolic Church
115-B Liberty Dr.
Jacksonville, NC 28546
- God's House of Deliverance Praise & Worship
2542 Onslow Dr.
Jacksonville, NC 28540
- Gospel Light
213 Houston Rd.
Trenton, NC 28585
- PENTECOSTAL**
- Christian Life Fellowship
111 Summerall School Rd.
Jacksonville, NC 28540
- Freedom PFM Church
2211 Blue Creek Rd.
Jacksonville, NC 28540
- Good News Ministries
102 Doris Ave. E.
Jacksonville, NC 28540
- Iglesia de Dios Pentecostal
1042 Country Club Rd.
Jacksonville, NC 28546
- Lighthouse Assembly
2316 Onslow Drive
Jacksonville, NC 28540
- SOUTHERN BAPTIST**
- Barlow Vista Baptist Church
22340 US Hwy. 17 N.
Hamstead, NC 28443
- Beaer Creek Baptist Church
118 Great Neck Landing Rd.
Hubert, NC 28539
- Bethany Baptist Church
1077 Nine Mile Rd.
Richlands, NC 28574
- Bethel Missionary Baptist Church
173 Bivaneck Rd.
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4764 Gum Branch Rd.
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1251 Burgaw Hwy.
Jacksonville, NC 28540
- Brookwood Baptist Church
903 Henderson Dr.
Jacksonville, NC 28540
- Calvary Baptist Church
122 Thompson St.
Jacksonville, NC 28540
- Catherine Lake Baptist Church
2054 Catherine Lake Rd.
Richlands, NC 28574
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- Faith Tabernacle
4480 Richlands Hwy.
Jacksonville, NC 28540
- Free & Independent Apostolic Church
115-B Liberty Dr.
Jacksonville, NC 28546
- God's House of Deliverance Praise & Worship
2542 Onslow Dr.
Jacksonville, NC 28540
- Gospel Light
213 Houston Rd.
Trenton, NC 28585
- Christian Life Fellowship
111 Summerall School Rd.
Jacksonville, NC 28540
- Freedom PFM Church
2211 Blue Creek Rd.
Jacksonville, NC 28540
- Good News Ministries
102 Doris Ave. E.
Jacksonville, NC 28540
- Iglesia de Dios Pentecostal
1042 Country Club Rd.
Jacksonville, NC 28546
- Lighthouse Assembly
2316 Onslow Drive
Jacksonville, NC 28540
- SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST**
- Calvary Seventh Day Adventist
270 Court St.
Jacksonville, NC 28540
- Jacksonville Seventh-Day Adventist Church
453 College St.
Jacksonville, NC 28540
- Synagogues**
- B'Nai Israel Synagogue
2801 Chestnut St.
Wilmington, NC 28405
- Beth Hallel Messianic Synagogue
1901 Castello Hayne Rd.
Wilmington, NC 28401
- Temple of Israel
1 S 4th St.
Wilmington, NC 28401
- UNITED METHODIST**
- First United Methodist Church of Sneads Ferry
Hwy. 172 N.
Sneads Ferry, NC 28460
- United Church of Christ
175 Cattah Lake Rd.
Mayville, NC 28555
- Mayville United Methodist Church
301 Eighth
Mayville, NC 28555
- Pine Valley United Methodist Church
910 Pine Valley Rd.
Jacksonville, NC 28546
- Northwoods United Methodist Church
1528 Gum Branch Rd.
Jacksonville, NC 28540
- Oak Grove United Methodist Church
394 Bear Creek Rd.
Hubert, NC 28539
- Queen's Creek United Methodist Church
324 Hubert Blvd.
Hubert, NC 28539
- Richlands United Methodist Church
161 E. Hargett St.
Richlands, NC 28574
- Trinity United Methodist Church
301 Marine Blvd.
Jacksonville, NC 28540
- Swanboro United Methodist Church
895 Corbett Ave.
Swanboro, NC 28555
- UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**
- United Church of Christ
175 Cattah Lake Rd.
Mayville, NC 28555

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1914 Wilmington Hwy.
Jacksonville, NC

If your business would like to support these churches, please call Becky at 347-9624

Automobiles

1998 DODGE GRAND CARAVAN-Hunter green, 3rd row seating, dual sliding doors, ac, cruise, great condition. \$4300, 382-8198.

1998 DODGE RAM PICK UP-Low miles, bed liner, side step rails. Asking \$7,500, 355-2248.

1998 MAZDA 626-Auto, 4dr, white, excellent cond., \$4,500/obo, 539-3854.

1998 TOYOTA CAMRY LE-Runs great & excellent mileage, serviced reg., a/c, cd player, tinted windows, all power. 757-344-2575.

GRAHAM MOTORS, INC.
"Come Get A Honey Of A Deal!"

- '99 Buick Park Avenue.....\$6,995
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 - '98 Chevy S-10.....\$5,895
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 - '95 Mitsubishi Mirage.....\$2,195
 - '95 Pontiac Grand Am.....\$2,195
- Rental Cars Available**
353-9900
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1998 VW JETTA GLX-Green, all power, 5spd, sunroof, leather, a/c, 6 disc cd, 381-8037.

1999 CHEVY SUBURBAN-162K mi., 350ci, leather, dvd, at, pdl, pw, cc, tw, 3rd row, towing pkg., 219-7838.

1999 CORVETTE CONVERTIBLE-Torch red/oak top & interior. Great condition, low miles (58,000). **THE CAR YOU'VE ALWAYS WANTED. ONLY \$24,900.** 252-633-0097.

1999 FORD F-150-Extended cab, 5.4 V-8, auto, 4x4, off-road & tow pkg, a/c, p/w, p/l, c/c, & 82K mi. \$12,500/obo, 526-8431.

1999 HONDA CIVIC-4 dr, cd player, new

Automobiles

tires, only 65k mi. Discharging from military. \$9000/obo. 376-6739.

2000 CHEVROLET BLAZER-Black, good condition. Need to sell ASAP \$8000/obo. 704-241-7745.

2000 CHEVY BLAZER LS-54K mi. 2 door, all power. Runs good, serviced reg., nice paint. \$8900/obo. 353-7054.

2000 CHEVY S-10 PICK UP-Excellent cond. 65,000 mi. \$6500, 353-4185.

2000 CHEVY VENTURE VAN-Seats 7 w/4 captain chairs, fully loaded, power sliding door, asking \$6900, 548-1967.

2000 CHRYSLER SEBRING-82,500 mi. 2 dr, convert., brndy, 6cd changer w/single disc. New tires. \$6500/obo. 265-0016.

2000 JEEP WRANGLER SE-Forest green. Brand new top, tube bumpers, K&N filter. Nice jeep & well kept. 83k mi. \$7500, 265-8823.

2000 TOYOTA CAMRY-59,000 mi., good condition. \$7000, 554-1709.

2001 CHEVY BLAZER-4dr, red, 87K mi., runs great, looks great, tow package, full sz. spare, all power, must sell, \$9,000/obo. 467-4227.

2001 CHEVY S10 XTREME-59k mi., 5spd, cd, power locks, windows, custom paint & tires, bedliner, \$8200, 545-8021.

2001 FORD TAURUS SES-55,000 mi., \$5,500/obo. 376-2979.

2001 GTI VR6 GOLF-5 spd, leather int., all power, moonroof, 54K hwy. mi., \$13,000/obo. 570-220-6191.

2001 JEEP CHEROKEE SPORT-Blue, 63k mi., cd, all power, 3 in. lift, 31 in. tires w/mag rims, great condition, \$11,500/obo. 325-6145.

2001 VW JETTA GLS-Wolfsburg Ed, 1.8 turbo, 5sp, remote entry, power moonroof, locks, windows, brks, ABS, ASR, Elbach suspension, 26/40 MPG,

Automobiles

48K highway miles. Must see. \$12,500/obo. 346-1550.

2001 VW JETTA GLX-V6, sport ed., manual, black w/tan lthr int., all power, sliding sunroof, seat warmers, climate control, 6 cd, runs great & good on gas. \$12,500/obo. 546-8773.

2002 CHRYSLER SEBRING LX-4 dr, V6, a/c, abs, power windows, power driver's seat, tilt wheel, 26,000 mi. \$9,995, 327-2972.

2002 NISSAN PATHFINDER-4x4, 68K mi., sunroof, BOSE, \$16,000, 910-616-0617.

2002 PT CRUISER-Limited Ed, mint cond., 10,000 mi. \$16,000, 381-7326.

2002 TOYOTA SOLARA SE-V6, gold, auto, sunroof, alloy wheels, 109K mi., very nice. Asking \$11,000, 327-2813.

2003 DODGE DURANGO SLT-3rd row, 7 seater, 43k mi., warranty, cherry red, only \$14,950/obo. 265-4800.

2003 TOYOTA TACOMA PRERUNNER-cd, tilt/crs, reese trailer/hitch, tool box, mint condition. \$15,500, 455-0785.

2003 TRAILBLAZER LT-Extended. Fully loaded, dvd, 3rd row seating. Asking \$16,500 firm. 743-9973.

2004 CHEVY SILVERADO-Blue, ac, cd player, cruise, tow pkg, extra tire w/rim, bed liner. 18k mi. Great condition! \$17,000/obo. 304-952-1485.

2004 CHRYSLER PT CRUISER GT-32,962 mi., 9592P \$17,268. National Dodge. 347-3777.

2004 DODGE DAKOTA CLUB CAB-28,390 mi., 9484P \$14,950. National Dodge. 347-3777.

2004 DODGE DAKOTA SLT-22,166 mi., 3521P \$15,250. National Dodge. 347-3777.

2004 FORD MUSTANG-Yellow, V6, auto, is in great condition, tinted windows,

Automobiles

Interior upgrade, pony package, & only 21,500 mi. 546-7808.

2005 DODGE GRAND CARAVAN SE-18,373 mi., 9572P \$15,729. National Dodge. 347-3777.

2005 DODGE GRAND CARAVAN SXT-15,600 mi. Must sell. \$25,000/obo. 252-626-3707.

2005 DODGE NEON SXT-18,829 mi., 9586P \$11,465. National Dodge. 347-3777.

2005 DODGE NEON SXT-19,486 mi., 9581P \$11,229. National Dodge. 347-3777.

2005 DODGE RAM 1500 4x2-21,390 mi., 9496P \$19,868. National Dodge. 347-3777.

2005 DODGE RAM 1500-7,504 mi., 9588P \$24,268. National Dodge. 347-3777.

2005 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE-4x4-19,148 miles. 9574P \$21,355. National Dodge. 347-3777.

2005 JEEP LIBERTY LIMITED-12,936 mi., 9583P \$19,755. National Dodge. 347-3777.

2005 LEXUS 430 LS-Black/tan, \$49,000/obo. 228-6393.

2005 NISSAN MURANO-9,000 mi., SL AWD package, power everything, leather, sunroof, roof rack, BOSE sound w/6cd. 389-7665, \$28k/obo.

2005 OLDSMOBILE ALERO-Gray, V6, tinted windows, profile tires, 33,000 mi., runs great, excellent condition. \$15,000, 938-6948.

2005 TOYOTA TACOMA 4X4-Ext. cab, V-6, auto, 3,000 mi., asking \$25,500, 353-3199. Consider your 95-2000 P/U 4x4 ext. cab, V-6, as equity. 353-3199.

Boats & Recreation

1996 DUTCHMAN RV-28' 5th whl w/lrm slide, incl. hitch & many extras. Sleeps 8, V/G cond. \$7,500, 346-8876.

1996 TROPHY WALKAROUND-175 merc, offshore 21'. Good for all types of boating, many extras. \$12,000/obo. 340-9400.

2001 CAROLINA SKIFF-16 ft., w/2001 load trailer & 30 hp Yamaha. \$3,000/obo. 355-2435.

2002 HONDA CR 250 DIRT BIKE-Excellent condition, very well maint. Ready for Spring riding. Many extras included. \$3200/obo. 330-0919.

2002 SUZUKI 400 DIRTBIKE-Must see, low hours w/extras, \$3000/obo. 252-259-3069.

2002 SUZUKI 50 4WHEELER-Like new condition, has oil injection, & speed control. Perfect starter bike, paid \$1900 asking \$850/obo. 324-2134.

2003 415 FSXBMX BIKE-Specialized, blue. Bought for \$319. Asking \$50, 353-3255.

2003 HONDA 400EX 4WHEELER-Runs great, \$2,900, 252-342-3262.

Boats & Recreation

2004 KAWASAKI 700 ATV-Mint cond. Must sell or will trade for boat or dirt bike of equal value. \$4570, 340-2449.

2005 CRF-450-4-stroke, excellent shape, low hours, must see. \$4750, 346-2406.

2005 YAMAHA GRIZZLY 660CC-Winch, back seat, snorkle kit, lots more. 90 hrs. Will throw in 7'x14' trailer for right price. \$6500/obo. 347-1568.

2005 YZ-250 MOTOCROSS-2-stroke, excellent shape, must see. Has many mods, \$3950, 526-6807.

2006 KTM 250 SX-F-4-stroke. Perfect condition w/less than 8 hours riding time. \$5,495/obo. 526-8431.

BICYCLE BABY TRAILER-Built for 2 kids to ride in. Connects to bicycle, or convert to a jogging stroller. \$80, 546-0148.

BICYCLE-Girls, small & pink w/ training wheels. Perfect for a 1st bike. Well used, but in good cond. \$20, 546-0148.

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BOAT-Fiberglass, 40 ft. 324-7841.

CAJUN BASSBOAT-17.5 ft., 90hp merc, galv. tri w/new wiring, 3 new tires, onboard charger, 24v-65lb thrust w/spare props, 3 batt., 2 fish finders & many extras. \$8500, 326-1506.

CANOE & KAYAK-New, 934-3422.

HPI NITRO GAS POWERED RACER-w/3 extra motors, 2 bodies, & many more extras, runs good. \$250/obo. 467-1731.

KYMCO SCOOTER 250CC-Excellent cond. 100 mpg. \$2,900/obo. 325-5719.

LITTLE TIKES JEEP-4x4, 6v, red, runs great. \$30, 252-447-2007.

MOTOR HOME-2004 Georgetown, Fully

Boats & Recreation

loaded. Model 3 rear view mirror. \$72,500, 326-1434.

RACING BIKEY-excellent cond. appreciate. \$750

YAMAHA 350 w/mint condition. \$5

Motorcycle

1993 HONDA CB brothers pipe & s incl., runs gr 545-1206.

1995 ZX600 NIN work. Great start \$500, 382-2570.

1999 HARLEY 12 mi. Lots of c hypercharger, new kept. Very nice bike 324-3568.

2000 H-D ROAD chrome controls, windshield, 2 sea clean. \$13,700/ob

2002 KAWASAKI class, low miles, gr 50-60 mpg, pro \$4900/obo. 358-1

2002 YAMAHA condition, only 3k r too many acc. to 324-9928.

2003 HD 883 SPO ed., drag pipes, star dark blue, excellent must sell, \$7,500/

2003 HD 883 S anniv. ed. \$7,200 showroom conditio 353-1942 after 5pm

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Traders is a free service provided by the Public Affairs Office and submitted for a military personnel and their dependents, and civilian personnel aboard Camp Lejeune. Ads must be received each week and reach the Public Affairs Office by the following week's publication. Ads should be submitted on a Trader Form, available from the Public Affairs Office. Ads are reserved for the exchange or sale of personal goods only. Ads or businesses may not be printed. The Public Affairs Office reserves the right to deem inappropriate for any reason. Official phone numbers CANNOT be printed. If the Public Affairs Office receives more ads than space, ads will not be published until the following week.

- Individual forms must be filled out for each "category" of items, typed and written legibly.
- No more than 25 words per form.
- Trader ad submissions cannot be accepted by phone, guard mail, or are reserved for official business only.

Submit your ad by dropping it off at the Public Affairs Office or visit www.military.com

Mail to: Commanding General (Attn: Public Affairs Office) Marine Corps Base PFC Box 2004 Camp Lejeune, NC 28542-004

Trader Form

Category: _____

Ad: _____

(25 Words for Form - Write legibly.)

I certify that I have read and understood the above information. I certify that I am not involved in any activity that might be considered a conflict of interest, and I am not a member of the military or a dependent of a military member.

Signature: _____

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'05 KAWASAKI NINJA  \$3,995	'02 PONTIAC MONTANA Loaded, 4 Door!  \$167 Per Month	'98 MERCEDES ML320 SUV!  \$254 Per Month	'99 CHEVY SUBURBAN  \$254 Per Month
--	--	--	--

'02 PONTIAC GRAND PRIX GT 4 Door!  \$217 Per Month	'00 BUICK LESABRE SPECIAL OF THE WEEK! Loaded, Leather.  \$128 Per Month
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2000 HD ROAD King. Runs 324-3588.
2002 KAWASAKI Ninja. Runs 324-3588.
2002 YAMAHA V-Max. Runs 324-3588.
2003 HD 883 Street. Runs 324-3588.
2003 HD 883 Street. Runs 324-3588.

Motorcycles
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2004 SUZUKI GSXR 600 - Blue/white w/many extras incl. scorpion carb fib exh., alarm. Incl. 5x8 trailer. 455-1066.
2004 YAMAHA FZ6 - Silver & black, 2100 mi., 1 owner, garaged, excellent condition, incl. bags & helmet. \$5100/obo. 252-259-4063.
2006 HARLEY HERITAGE FLST - 643 mi., cobalt blue, factory warranty. \$17,000/obo. 358-9185.
2006 YAMAHA R6SVC - w/144 mi., has scratches on the left side. Locally driven, asking for payoff, \$11,500. 934-0735.

Motorcycles
HD SOFTAIL PARTS - Custom painted tanks & fenders, Screaming Eagle exhaust & coil w/wires, & saddle bags. All like new, \$50-\$600. 743-0098.
Yard Sale
GARAGE SALE - March 11th. 609 Raspberry Court, Hubert. Former day care closing. Baby girl's clothes up to 2. Household items, stove, & miscellaneous. 219-1156.
GARAGE SALE - March 18th from 7am-10am. Everything needs to go! 405 Dawn Ct. 388-0321.





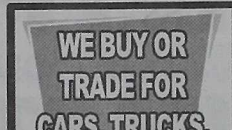


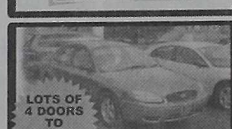

Yard Sale
MOVING SALE - Sat., Mar. 11, from 8am to 1pm, 224 Newport Drive in Williamsburg Plantation. Furniture, yard equipment, Christmas decorations, clothes, etc. 346-6146.
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Children 15 months to 12 years welcome. **PAY BY THE HOUR!!!**
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www.kidzbuzz.com
CHILD CARE - In my home. 330-447-1934.
FREE PICKUPS - Your left over yard sale or moving items. Donations also accepted at Yesterdays, 2417 Lejeune Blvd. No appliances. All items must be in donating condition. Call 910-330-6354.
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Lost & Found
LOST - Small, old beagle missing from Bryn Marr area. Needs medicine. Reward of \$100 for safe return. Answers to "Buddy" or "Sparkplug". No questions asked. 252-448-1562.
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ACADEMY OF WREATH DESIGN OFFERING CLASSES - First of it's kind! 2 hr. class to learn how to make your own exquisite wreath! Early enrollment discount. First class Sat. 3/25 @ 11:00 a.m. Call today to register 347-0087.
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YARD SALE - 4126 Self Court TT1, Sat. March 11th 7-? Lots of Baby stuff. Most never used/gently used! 545-6508.
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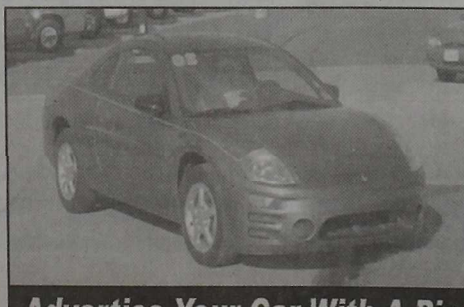
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	NEW '06 JEEP WRANGLER LIST: \$19,605	\$17,625 <small>or get 0%</small>
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	'02 VW JETTA GLS 40K MILES, M86068 LIST PRICE: \$15,775	\$13,800 <small>BLOW-OUT PRICE</small>		'05 MAZDA RX-8 20K MILES, 20K MILES, #M86057 LIST PRICE: \$25,901	\$22,700 <small>BLOW-OUT PRICE</small>
	'05 CHRYSLER PT CRUISER #C86091 LIST PRICE: \$17,900	\$13,800 <small>BLOW-OUT PRICE</small>		'05 CHRYSLER 300 28K MILES #C86028 LIST PRICE: \$26,900	\$22,900 <small>BLOW-OUT PRICE</small>
	'02 CHEVY MONTE CARLO SS 45K MILES, #M86066 LIST PRICE: \$15,960	\$14,700 <small>BLOW-OUT PRICE</small>		'02 BMW 330ci COUPE 46K MILES, #C86096 LIST PRICE: \$28,900	\$24,700 <small>BLOW-OUT PRICE</small>
	'05 MAZDA 6-i 25k miles, #m86060 LIST PRICE: \$16,950	\$15,600 <small>BLOW-OUT PRICE</small>		'01 BMW 325 CONVERTIBLE 64K MILES, #M86064 LIST PRICE: \$26,575	\$24,900 <small>BLOW-OUT PRICE</small>
	'03 JEEP LIBERTY SPORT 42K MILES #C86052 LIST PRICE: \$17,900	\$15,700 <small>BLOW-OUT PRICE</small>		'03 LEXUS GS300 54K MILES #C86080 LIST PRICE: \$28,900	\$26,700 <small>BLOW-OUT PRICE</small>
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	'05 TOYOTA SCION XB 17K MILES #M86050 LIST PRICE: \$17,900	\$16,800 <small>BLOW-OUT PRICE</small>		'05 LEXUS IS300 2K MILES #C86052 LIST PRICE: \$31,900	\$28,900 <small>BLOW-OUT PRICE</small>
	'04 HYUNDAI SANTE FE LX 25K MILES #C86021 LIST PRICE: \$19,900	\$17,800 <small>BLOW-OUT PRICE</small>		'05 ACURA TL 3.2 15K MILES, #M86053 LIST PRICE: \$34,900	\$31,700 <small>BLOW-OUT PRICE</small>

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St. Patrick's Day

A day to celebrate all things Irish



Wilmington: A member of the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians shows her Irish spirit in last year's parade.

Jennifer Moore
Carolina Living staff writer

Dig out a derby hat and pile on the green garments: St. Patrick's Day is coming.

The Friends of the Hibernians of New Hanover County will host a parade to celebrate all things Irish in Wilmington Saturday at 11 a.m.

The parade is a chance "to celebrate your Irish-ness, and everybody seems to have at least a little," said Steve McEnaney, parade committee chairman.

"We're kind of the harbingers of spring. We bring a lot of celebration and joy," he said.

The parade will begin in front of the Coast Line Convention Center on Nutt Street, turn left up Red Cross Street to 2nd Street, turn right on Second to Market Street and right again on Water Street to return to the convention center.

About 40 units will participate in the 7th Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade — approximately 250 marchers.

Participants will include motorcycle clubs, dune buggies, beauty queens, the Drake School of Irish Dance, bagpipers, the police mounted division and Marines from Camp Lejeune.

This year's grand marshal is James Quinn, treasurer of the local division of the Ancient Order of Hibernians. The grand marshal is chosen for service to the St. Brendan the Navigator Division, according to McEnaney.

The Ancient Order of Hibernians is an Irish Catholic men's fraternity.

The group for women is the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians.

McEnaney started the local division of the Hibernians organization after moving to Wilmington from New York and noticing the large number of Irish residents.

The group meets once a month and welcomes new members.

For more information about the 7th Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade, or about the Ancient Order of Hibernians, call McEnaney at (910) 686-5498.

For information about the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, call Pat Johnson at (910) 395-2568.

March 17, revelers can celebrate St. Patrick's Day with a concert by Tommy B. & the Stingers at Water Street Restaurant.

The concert will feature Irish songs and kilt-clad musicians. Tommy B. & the Stingers is an award-winning blues, R&B, retro-rock and boogie band.

For reservations, call (910) 343-0042.

At Camp Lejeune, Atlantic Marine Corps Communities will host "Luck O' the Irish" parties Tuesday from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. in the John A. Lejeune Continuing Education Center gym and the Tarawa Terrace Community Center.

The free parties will include a craft and inflatable moonwalk for children.

For more information, housing residents can call their community manager or 219-6401. ■



Wilmington: Rolling Thunder rolls into town.



Wilmington: The Sudan Band marches to the beat in last year's St. Patrick's Day parade.



Wilmington: The local division of the Ancient Order of Hibernians — an Irish-Catholic men's fraternity — marches in last year's St. Patrick's Day parade.



Wilmington: Grand Marshal Kevin O'Donovan leads last year's St. Patrick's Day parade. This year's grand marshal is James Quinn.

The man behind the holiday

Jennifer Moore
Carolina Living staff writer

Whether your forefathers hail from the Emerald Isle or not, chances are you have partaken in some St. Patrick's Day fun.

But, as you donned your green garb and yelled "Erin Go Bragh!" to everyone within a five-foot radius, have you ever stopped to wonder who St. Patrick was and why people of all races and nationalities celebrate the patron saint of Ireland?

And what does "Erin Go Bragh" mean, anyway?

St. Patrick was born in Scotland in 387 to Romans living in Britain.

In his teens, he was captured and taken to Ireland to herd sheep as a slave. After many years, he had a dream in which God told him to leave Ireland by going to the coast.

He walked for hundreds of miles, finally arriving at the coast, where he found a British ship to take him home.

After returning to Britain, Patrick had a dream in which the people of Ireland called for him to return. The dream spurred him to become a priest, so he could convert the pagan Irish people.

He studied for the priesthood and returned to Ireland in 433.

Patrick preached the gospel

throughout Ireland, incorporating local traditions to help the people understand his message — he used a shamrock to explain the Holy Trinity and incorporated a sun symbol into the cross, creating what is now known as the Celtic cross.

One popular legend holds that Patrick expelled all snakes from Ireland, but the legend is false. There were never any snakes in Ireland; rather, snakes symbolized paganism, which he overcame with his preaching.

Patrick died on March 17, 461.

Though Patrick's death has been observed as a religious holiday in Ireland for thousands of years, the first St. Patrick's Day parade was in New York.

According to the History Channel, "Irish soldiers serving in the English military marched through New York City on March 17, 1762."

Irish immigrants continued to celebrate the day, and Irish groups — such as the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick and the Hibernian Society — flourished. The groups would host annual parades with bagpipes and drums.

Then, after the Great Potato Famine in Ireland in 1841, thousands of poor Irish Catholics flooded into America.

Like other poor immigrants before and after them, the Irish

were mocked and despised. But, once the immigrants began to organize, they realized the power they could wield.

Soon, St. Patrick's Day parades "became a show of strength for Irish Americans, as well as a must-attend event for a slew of political candidates," according to www.historychannel.com.

President Harry Truman attended the New York City St. Patrick's Day parade in 1948, which was "a proud moment for the many Irish whose ancestors had to fight stereotypes and racial prejudice to find acceptance in America," according to the Web site.

Now, St. Patrick's Day is celebrated around the world, with some of the largest celebrations happening in Ireland, the United States, Canada and Australia.

In Ireland and many cities with large groups of Irish residents, the celebrations last an entire weekend, and include parades, games, concerts and more.

Thousands of Irish people and non-Irish alike wear green, hoist Irish flags, and yell, "Erin Go Bragh" — Ireland Forever.

Information for this article came from www.historychannel.com, www.catholic.org and www.saint-patrick.com. ■

Did you know?

- In the United States, it's customary to wear green on St. Patrick's Day. But in Ireland the color was long considered to be unlucky, according to Bridget Haggerty, author of *The Traditional Irish Wedding* and the Irish Culture and Customs Web site. Irish folklore holds that green is the favorite color of the Good People (the proper name for fairies). They are likely to steal people, especially children, who wear too much of the color.
 - New York's St. Patrick's Day parade is the longest running civilian parade in the world. This year, nearly three million spectators are expected to watch the production and some 150,000 participants plan to march.
 - Dublin's St. Patrick's Day parade is little more than 75 years old. This year, festival organizers will launch 15,000 pounds (7 metric tons) of fireworks to cap their celebration, which is expected to draw 400,000 spectators.
 - The Blarney Stone is a stone set in the wall of the Blarney Castle tower in the Irish village of Blarney. Kissing the stone is supposed to bring the kisser the gift of persuasive eloquence (blarney).
 - More than 20 U.S. Presidents have been of Irish descent.
 - An Irishman designed the White House.
 - Henry Ford, founder of the Ford Corporation, is the son of an Irish immigrant.
- Sources: www.theholidayspot.com, www.news.nationalgeographic.com, www.saint-patrick.com. ■

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Entertainment

Thompson tames seven naughty kids in *McPhee*; Lathan chucks checklist in *Something New* shows interracial romance



Nanny McPhee: The children are literally swinging from the chandeliers in this witty children's movie, now playing at Camp Lejeune.



Something New: Kenya, left, played by Sanaa Lathan, gets advice from her girlfriends in this romantic comedy about an interracial relationship.



Nanny McPhee: Colin Firth stars as the widowed Mr. Brown, a mortician with seven ill-behaved children, in this imaginative children's comedy.



Something New: Simon Baker, left, and Sanaa Lathan, right, star in this romantic comedy.

Reinhold Moldenhauer Huneycutt
From the front row

NANNY MCPHEE (PG)
Nanny McPhee is a fanciful, dark and witty children's film.

Seven motherless children are being very naughty and have just lost their 17th nanny. Their father is frazzled and clueless.

Colin Firth (*Bridget Jones's Diary*, *Love Actually*, *Girl with a Pearl Earring*) stars as the recently widowed Mr. Brown, a mortician with seven ill-behaved children, who finally finds a nanny up to the job of taming his kids.

Emma Thompson (*Love Actually*, *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban*, *Sense and Sensibility*) stars as Nanny McPhee who looks like a witch, with her big nose, hairy wart, snaggle-tooth and somewhat magical powers. In her, the children may have met their match.

The children, led by the oldest boy, Simon, played by Thomas Sangster (*Love Actually*), have managed to drive 17 previous nannies away and are convinced they will have no trouble getting rid of this one, too.

As Nanny McPhee attempts to tame the unruly children, they begin to notice their vile behavior leads swiftly and magically to rather startling consequences.

The magnificent Angela Lansbury (TV's *Murder She Wrote*, *Mrs. Santa Claus*) appears as the children's scheming and domineering Aunt Adelaide; and Kelly Macdonald (*Finding Neverland*, *Gosford Park*) plays Evangeline, the scullery maid who has a crush on Mr. Brown.

Also appearing are Imelda Staunton (*Vera Drake*) and Derec Jacobi (*Underworld*).

Kevin Jones (*Waking Ned Devine*) directed this comedic tale adapted from the *Nurse Matilda* books by Christianna Brand, a British mystery writer.

Thompson, who wrote the script for the film, does her job with a delicious deadpan and glint of magic.

The Oscar-winning actress has many talents; she received an Oscar in 1995 for her screenplay *Sense and Sensibility*. *Nanny McPhee* is a wonderful movie

with more heart than humor. Mary Poppins it is not, but it is imaginative and very funny.

Nanny McPhee is a magical adventure for all ages, and truly a great treat for the little ones.

Now playing at Camp Lejeune.

SOMETHING NEW (PG-13)

Something New is a romantic comedy about an interracial relationship.

A professional black woman, determined to get married, is shocked to discover she is falling in love with a white man.



Huneycutt

Sanaa Lathan (*Out of Time*, *Brown Sugar*, *Love and Basketball*, *Alien vs Predator*) stars as Kenya McQueen, a single career woman who knows exactly what she wants in a man, and has the checklist to prove it.

As a very educated professional and beautiful black woman in Los Angeles who lives a privileged and affluent life, she is very picky when it comes to dating, and knows it will be difficult to find a suitable mate.

According to statistics, 42.4 percent of African-Americans have never been married. She is determined to do something about it.

However, her world is turned upside down when she finds herself falling for a gardener who is not the guy she, or her family, expected.

However, Kenya's girlfriends Cheryl, Suzette and Nedra are there for her with advice and support. The girlfriends are played by Wendy Raquel Robinson, Golden Brooks, and Taraji Henson.

Simon Baker (*The Ring Two*, *The Missing*, *Red Planet*) is Brian Kelly, a landscape architect. He drives a truck, has a dog, enjoys world music and the outdoors and is white.

Blair Underwood (*Malibu's Most Wanted*) appears as Mark, the perfect African-American guy for Kenya, who comes along at the wrong time.

Alfre Woodard (*Beauty Shop*, *The Forgotten*) plays Joyce McQueen, Kenya's control-freak mother. Donald Faison (TV's *Scrubs*, *Remember the Titans*) is Kenya's

brother, Nelson.

Also appearing is Mike Epps (*Fighting Temptations*) as Walter.

Director Sanaa Hamri makes

ture debut with this light and sweet comedy.

Lathan and Baker have perfect chemistry and help make this movie irresistible.

Something New is the perfect date movie. It is one of those rare romantic comedies where romance and work perfectly together.

Now playing at Camp Lejeune.

RUNNING SCARED (R)

Running Scared is a tough action-crime thriller.

Paul Walker (*Eight Below*, *Blue*, *2 Fast 2 Furious*) stars

Gazelle, a low-level mob "cleaner" in charge of dumping hot guns and mob killings.

For over a decade, Joey has successfully juggled his conflicting roles as a family man and employee.

Italian Perello mob in Grimley, N.C. However, when Joey ignores the explicit instructions to dispose of a used in the fatal shooting of a cop during a bungled drug buy, he unspools his entire family in immediate

The chase is on when the used back out on the street.

His son's friend steals this gun a cop's shooting, and Joey must down before the police or the mafia do.

Vera Farmiga (*The Man Candidate*, *Down to the Bone*) plays wife, Teresa, and Alex Neuberger, Nicky, their son.

Chazz Palminteri (*Analyze This*) stars as Detective Rydell; also Cameron Bright (*Godsend*, *The Effect*) as Oleg Yugorsky; Kareem Abdul-Jabbar (*Hellboy*, *Bulletproof Monk*) as "Duke" Yugorsky and Johnny Lee Miller (*Hostage*, *Spartan*) as Tommy Perello.

Wayne Kramer (*The Cooler*) directed this intelligent, ultra-violent, your-face crime drama.

Running Scared is a gritty gangster full of strong brutal violence and guage.

Now playing in Jacksonville.

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

Movie gossip, rumors & more

Witherspoon's lucky number
Twenty-nine is turning out to be a lucky set of digits for Reese Witherspoon. It's the age at which she found herself snagging her first Best Actress Oscar nod, and now it's the number — in millions — of dollars she'll earn to star in her next flick, making her the highest-paid actress in Hollywood history. Yes, she's even topped Julia Roberts' hefty paydays. She'll be raking in the big bank for the thriller *Our Family Thing*, about a new mom who returns to her Tennessee hometown and becomes frightened that an evil spirit is intent on harming her young son. Let's see, \$29 million ... if the movie's two

hours long, that's almost a quarter of a million dollars a minute, people.

Hanks' advice to winners
OK, OK, we get it, Tom Hanks; you've won two Oscars, back to back even, and you know how to get up in front of a lot of people and thank everyone properly. No wonder the Oscar folks asked you to star in their little instructional DVD, *An Insider's Guide: What Nominees Need to Know*, which was distributed to 150 nominees for this year's ceremony. The DVD is a reminder about Oscar show producer Gil Cates', uh, reminder to the nominees that they should

keep their speeches short (they have 60 seconds to get to the stage and complete their speeches, he says). It features Hanks sitting in the theater and advising group winners to ask a representative to deliver their speeches for a "one for all" solution, telling all winners to "lose the list" of people to thank and suggesting that it's important to say something memorable. But wait, didn't Hanks once inadvertently out a gay teacher in one of his awards show acceptance speeches? Is that an official do or don't?

This column is brought to you by www.movies.com.

LCTV-10 | Guide

8 a.m.	Triumph in the Desert
9 a.m.	The Morning Report
9:30 a.m.	Army Newswatch
10 a.m.	Ambassadors in Blue: The Marine Security Guard Battalion
10:30 a.m.	Inside R/C: Cactus Classic
11 a.m.	Liberty Call: Puerto Rico & The U.S. Virgin Islands
Noon	The Morning Report
12:30 p.m.	Army Newswatch
1 p.m.	A Face of War
2:30 p.m.	Consider the Possibilities ... Boston University
3 p.m.	Triumph in the Desert
4 p.m.	The Morning Report
4:30 p.m.	Army Newswatch
5 p.m.	Ambassadors in Blue: The Marine Security Guard Battalion
5:30 p.m.	Inside R/C: Cactus Classic
6 p.m.	A Face of War
7:30 p.m.	Consider the Possibilities ... Boston University
8 p.m.	The Morning Report
8:30 p.m.	Army Newswatch
9 p.m.	Liberty Call: Puerto Rico & The U.S. Virgin Islands
10 p.m.	Triumph in the Desert
11 p.m.	Ambassadors in Blue: The Marine Security Guard Battalion
11:30 p.m.	Inside R/C: Cactus Classic
midnight	A Face of War

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FRIDAY
Gone in 60 Seconds, PG-13, 11 a.m.; *Something New*, PG-13, 6:30 p.m.; *Big Momma's House 2*, PG-13, 9:15 p.m.

SATURDAY
Nanny McPhee, PG, 3:30 p.m.; *Big Momma's House 2*, PG-13, 6:30 p.m.; *Something New*, PG-13, 9:15 p.m.

SUNDAY
Hoodwinked, PG, 3:30 p.m.; *Nanny McPhee*, PG, 6:30 p.m.

MONDAY
Final Destination, R, 11 a.m.

TUESDAY
Kiss Kiss Bang Bang, PG, 11 a.m.; *The Ring*, PG-13, 7:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY
X-Men, PG-13, 11 a.m.; *Munich*, PG-13, 7:30 p.m.

THURSDAY
Cheaper By The Dozen 2, PG, 11 a.m.; *Underworld: Evolution*, R, 7:30 p.m.

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CURIOUS GEORGE G 2:00 4:00	THE SHAGGY DOG PG 12:45 3:00 5:15 7:30 9:45
PINK PANTHER PG 7:00 9:10	16 BLOCKS PG-13 1:30 4:30 7:15 9:45
MADEA'S FAMILY REUNION PG-13 1:45 4:30 7:00 9:30	EIGHT BELOW PG 1:30 4:15 7:00 9:40
FINAL DESTINATION 3 R 2:00 4:15 7:05 9:20	DAVE CHAPPELLE'S BLOCK PARTY R 1:50 4:40 7:20 9:40
UNDERWORLD EVOLUTION R 1:30 4:15 7:00 9:30	DATE MOVIE PG-13 2:15 4:15 7:15 9:15
RUNNING SCARED R 1:15 3:50 7:05 9:45	THE SHAGGY DOG PG 1:00 3:20 5:40 8:00 (10:15 FRI & SAT)
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THE HILLS HAVE EYES R 1:45 4:20 7:00 9:30	

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Onslow County Museum Celebrates 30 years

Jennifer Moore
Carolina Living staff writer

Onslow County Museum will celebrate 30 years of history Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The museum has spent the decades of Onslow County's vast and rich history," said Matt, assistant director of the museum. "We're celebrating not only cultural history, but history," she said. "It tells the story of the people who were here: the first settlers, the American Revolution, the coming of the Civil War, the Marine Corps." The celebration includes behind-the-scenes tours, a fossil find and admission to the museum galleries. Fossil find, children and adults are invited to the museum, to Duppstadt. Finders are participants can take home

anything they dig up. Onslow County commissioners will join in the celebration with a cake-cutting ceremony at 1 p.m. "We're celebrating what we've given to the community and what the community has given to us," Duppstadt said. This special open-house event honors the museum's work to protect, preserve and celebrate Onslow County's history. "We are the keepers of their history, and we preserve their past," Duppstadt said. "It's a past for everyone." Admission to the museum is normally \$2 for adults and \$1 for children. The museum is located at 301 S. Wilmington Street in Richlands. For more information about the anniversary celebration, call 324-5008 or e-mail museum@co.onslow.nc.us. Visit the Onslow County Museum on the Web at www.co.onslow.nc.us/museum. ■

Onslow County program helps 'send a little sunshine'

Jennifer Moore
Carolina Living staff writer

Spring in North Carolina, spring brings flowers, sweet breezes and moderate temperatures. Marines and sailors deployed in Iraq, spring may not bring much sunshine. But the happiness of a Carolina family is being shared with troops overseas, the Onslow County Parks and Recreation Department, Onslow County Board of Education and the Marine Corps Air Station New River are teaming up to "Send a Little Sunshine." Onslow County residents - children and adults - are invited to create Easter cards for service members overseas. Cards will be mailed to Jacksonville-based sailors. For more information about the program, call 347-5332. ■

and we feel as if they'd be missing home, missing this time of year," said Carol Trott, assistant recreation supervisor for the Onslow County Parks and Recreation Department. "We would just want them to know that we're thinking about them." This is the fifth year the program will send cards overseas. Trott said they usually receive approximately 5,000 cards. Cards must be made with paper, but any type of materials can be used to decorate the cards - cotton balls, felt, crayons, markers, glitter and more. Children must include their name, grade, school and city on the back of the card. All cards must be received by 5 p.m. March 24. Cards can be mailed to or dropped off at the Onslow County Parks and Recreation Department at 1244 Onslow Pines Road, Jacksonville, N.C. 28540. For more information about the program, call 347-5332. ■

Read Across America



Johnson Primary School: Lt. Gen. James F. Amos, commanding officer of II Marine Expeditionary Force (above) and his wife, Bonnie Amos (right), read stories to kindergarten and first-grade pupils here March 2. General and Mrs. Amos were a few of the many special guests who read stories to children in all Camp Lejeune Dependent Schools for Read Across America week, a celebration of reading which coincided with what would have been author Dr. Seuss' 102nd birthday. Other guest readers included Elizabeth Middlemiss, deputy director of education for Department of Defense Education Activity; Col. Adele Hodges, base commanding officer and Jan Slagle, Jacksonville mayor.

photos by Jennifer Moore



Spring Romance Charity Black Tie

Onslow Women's Center, Inc.
Celebrating 25 Years



Ena Bravo

Onslow County Club: The Onslow Women's Center celebrated 25 years of community service Friday at the Spring Romance Charity Black Tie. The purpose of the event was to raise funds for a new van for the women's shelter, as well as to honor sponsors for the OWC's court advocate program. Seated from left to right are Shawn Glantschnig, financial administrative manager; Deborah Hall, Finders Keepers thrift store manager; Mary Hunter, court advocate volunteer; Dixie Mosher-Hill, court advocate; Morgan Flores, Hispanic outreach/volunteer coordinator; Donald Shreve, executive director; Lorriane Du Tremble, OWC shelter's manager; Robyn Layton, children's program coordinator and Jessica Miller, domestic violence counselor. The event raised approximately \$14,000.



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Kelley L.I.N.K.S.

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song

ong you are sure ows and hum the our child recog-g, he or she can

sing the song. If he or she does not guess it, keep humming until he or she remembers. Take turns humming and guessing the song.

Letter talk

Take turns choosing a letter of the alphabet. Call out anything you see out the window that starts with that letter. A good one to start with is the letter T. There are trucks, trains, trees, tires, telephones, tables, trailers, telephone poles, traffic, triangles, etc. Count the numbers of words you guess for each letter. Try to beat your own record with trying another letter, such as S or B.

Arts and crafts

Create an art bag for your child. You can purchase very inexpensive blank canvas bags at a craft store. Go home and decorate the bag for your travels with your child(ren's) help. Decorate the bag with old buttons, puffy paint, markers, ribbon, felt or whatever scraps you have laying around.

Next, let your child enjoy filling it with crayons, colored pencils, construction paper, stickers, a glue stick and so on. This will encourage your child to get excited about the car ride and take ownership in the activities that he or she will be doing.

In order to draw with a flat surface, you may want to give them a cookie sheet with an edge to catch the crayons or colored pencils.

With the new home as your final destination, have your little artist design their new room layout. They can position where they want their bed, dresser, toys and so on.

Another idea would be to draw what they see outside as they drive through cities.

You can assist by offering

details on the landscape and sky, building colors and the type of clothing on the people you pass.

At the end of the trip they can staple all the pictures they created together and develop a book of memories of their move from Camp Lejeune to the new duty station.

In-car movies

The newest trend to help occupy children during travels is a DVD player in the vehicle. From personal experience, it is a very handy tool if not abused by constant use. I purchased one at an extremely reasonable price from the Exchange that simply attaches to the back of the driver and passenger head rests (great for multiple children).

I personally like this removable feature because I only put the screens in place on long trips.

If you have a DVD player already installed in the vehicle, don't use it for some time prior to the trip so your children will see it as a special treat.

You can make it a game of sorts by stating that the trip to your new duty station is going to take X number of days, so we need to save up X number of days of watching the DVD player. You can plan ahead

prior to the move and get DVDs that have something in common with your destination.

For example, maybe on your way to your new duty station, you will make a stop at a zoo or Sea World. You could pick up *Madagascar*, *Baby Noah (Baby Einstein)*, *Finding Nemo*, or *Free Willy*. You get my point — a little planning can go a long way with this concept.

Traveling books and games

If you need to really pay attention and focus to the road and do so with quiet, add to the art bag that was mentioned earlier. You can purchase some fun traveling books such as the *Mr. Potato Head* magnet book or a vinyl sticker book.

These books don't create a mess and you can reuse them again and again.

Crayola now makes a mess-free marker and paint set called *Color Wonders*. The markers are applied to the special paper and it only appears there and not all over — amazing indeed!

Another good traveling item are the magnet puzzles. You can get these in large sizes for older children or small sizes for little fingers.

One final gadget on the market is the traveling *Ech-A-Sketch* and *Magna Doodle*. These are great for tic-tac-toe or hangman.

Personal music

If you have older children — and in particular multiples — a small yet a beneficial investment would be personal walkmans or CD players for each to listen to their own music.

You could be a really hip parent and purchase one of their new favorite singers and surprise them with something new to listen to during the trip.

For those with little ones, there are several CDs out there to listen to as a family when you go through the mountains or a barren area.

Baby Einstein has a collection called *Traveling Melodies* (upbeat classical) and Disney has several CDs that rise to this occasion,

ranging from princess songs to the best silly songs.

Kids love to sing and it helps to get out some of their frustration about sitting so long. Who knows, it may help you too, so sing away!

How did our parents ever survive with all these new tools to use while traveling? Oh yes, I remember, counting those unique state license plates sure did make the time go by. I suppose when all else fails, this oldie but goodie just might work!

Good luck on your travel to your new duty station and as we say at L.I.N.K.S., a military spouse always grows where she or he is planted, so start spreading those roots as soon as you arrive!

Some of the information for this article was taken from *The Kidfun Activity Book* by Sharla Feldscher and Susan Lieberman and *Play Time* by Fred Rogers.

Kelley is a mentor for Marine Corps Community Service's L.I.N.K.S., which was designed to educate Marine wives about the Marine Corps in a fun, interactive, non-rank environment. E-mail her and other L.I.N.K.S. mentors at mceslelinks@usmc-mces.org with questions about military life.

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