

M Hawaii MARINE E

VOLUME 37, NUMBER 20

THOMAS JEFFERSON AWARD WINNING METRO FORMAT NEWSPAPER

MAY 25, 2007



Ugly Angels
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Concert
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Run
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Impatience with progress troubles commandant



R.D. Ward

General James T. Conway, commandant, makes a point during a May 17 media roundtable at the Pentagon. The general answered reporters' questions on a broad range of Corps issues and programs.

Jim Garamone

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Many Marines are concerned that Americans aren't willing to invest enough time for success in Iraq, the Corps' top officer said at the Pentagon May 17.

Commandant Gen. James T. Conway told Pentagon reporters that defense officials must do a better job of communicating to the American people the cost of leaving Iraq too soon.

While Americans disagree on the reasons for going into Iraq, there is much more agreement on what would happen if coalition forces left before achieving success, Conway said.

Americans have to understand that defeating an insurgency is a long-term proposition, he said.

"Historically, (defeating insurgents) has (taken) somewhere between nine and 10 years, with various levels of effort," he said. "I think that there is less of an appetite in our country than we the military might think we need to sustain that kind of effort over that period of time."

The general said coalition forces in Iraq see incremental daily progress. "They want to be able to sustain that progress, because they want to be able to succeed and come out with our credibility high and the credibility of the United States ... where it was when we went in," he said. "So in that context, I think that our servicemen and women would wish for as much time as it takes to do the job, realizing that incremental progress will one day

See *PROGRESS*, A-2



Christine Cabalo

Captain Matthew Tracy (left), company commander, Echo Company, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, stands with 1st Sgt. Darryl Atkins, Echo Company, 2/3, and the guidon outside the company's headquarters aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay.

K-Bay ground commander earns trophy

Christine Cabalo

Photojournalist

Captain Matthew Tracy rebuffs his worthiness as the newest recipient of the Leftwich Trophy for Outstanding Leadership announced April 26 in All Marine Message 024/07.

First presented in 1979, the trophy is awarded to a Marine ground commander who served with the Fleet Marine Force. Tracy said many past recipients were captains who were the greatest men he's ever met.

"I idolized them as a young lieutenant," said Tracy, commander, Echo Company, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment. "They had such magnetic personalities. They were charismatic, articulate and well spoken. All of them were masters of the tradecraft."

Tracy currently commands more than 170 Marines aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay. Never expecting to be considered among such leaders, the captain said winning the trophy has been a humbling experience for him.

The 32-year-old native of Hartford, Conn., is one of six ground commanders who were nominated for the award.

Being a Marine is a specialized profession, and he said it's just like being a lawyer or a painter. The Echo Company commander said the leaders he admires are ones who can balance the "art and science of the Corps."

He said Marines are taught the technical aspects of the profession very well. It's up to the individual Marine to build up skills for good decision-making and effective communication.

His Marines credit the captain's vigilance during their recent Iraq deployment as part of what makes him a top company commander.

"He's the Energizer Bunny," said Gunnery Sgt. James Berger, company gunnery sergeant, Echo Company, 2/3. "The captain really kept going, going and going — just like the commercial. He set the standard, and he got everyone riled up."

While deployed, Tracy had a picture of an infamous regional leader of Al Qaeda on the wall of his living quarters.

"I had his picture directly opposite my bed," he said. "When I went to my bed, I looked at it. When I worked on my computer, I looked at it. When I went to sleep, I looked at it. The Iraqi police would come in and spit on it. They'd ask why I had this picture in my small sanctuary. I told them it helps me keep my priorities straight. When I feel tired or hungry or if I want to quit, I think about this guy first."

One of his main priorities was implementing new strategies against Al Qaeda-in-Iraq forces quickly adapting to regular military tactics.

"They couldn't figure out what we were doing because the captain anticipated them," said 1st Sgt. Darryl Atkins, company first sergeant. "He had us change up how we did things all the time to keep the enemy off balance. He made them react to us."

Described as a go-getter by Atkins and Berger, both said the captain's attentiveness to his job was apparent upon meeting him. Berger said he remembered the captain asking him to remove the company commander's office chair and replace it with a lectern Tracy could stand behind. The captain's desk and chair is still inside his office only at their request.

"He's the epitome of everything the award stands for," said Berger. "I'm not surprised he won. He's a top company commander who always puts himself out there."

Marines gain confidence, camaraderie through training

Pfc. Ethan Hoaldrige

U.S. Marine Forces, Pacific

Leaping over seven-foot walls, climbing 20-foot ropes and swimming hundreds of meters in the ocean were all part of a day's work for U.S. Marine Corps Forces, Pacific service members May 16.

Marines from MarForPac ran the traditional Marine Corps obstacle course and then moved to the beach for more "fun" in the sun as a part of their battalion physical training.

"We were able to get some good physical training, but it was great for building camaraderie among the Marines as well," said Sgt. Alex Velazquez, MarForPac training noncommissioned officer. "We'll definitely try and schedule more events like this in the future, when the rest of the command returns from Thailand."

The Marines were challenged physically and mentally during the training, because it required technique and teamwork.

"It was a great confidence builder to finish the O-Course," said Pfc. Patrick Bennett, MarForPac postal administration clerk. "The calisthenics in the ocean were tough, and the spirit of competition made it fun. I definitely want to do this again."

Marines at MarForPac don't always get to leave the office and participate in events like this, because of mission requirements.

"We know it can be hard to release the Marines from their daily responsibilities at work," said Velazquez. "But it's worth it, because the camaraderie that forms and the physical challenges they overcome build their confidence and they become better Marines for it."



Pfc. Ethan Hoaldrige

Private First Class Patrick Bennett, postal administration clerk, U.S. Marine Forces, Pacific, climbs the rope at the end of the obstacle course for his second time May 16. MarForPac held a battalion wide physical training day to help build confidence and camaraderie amongst the Marines.

NEWS BRIEFS

Post Office Closure for Holiday Observance

The Marine Corps Base Hawaii Post Office will be closed Saturday through Monday, in observance of Memorial Day and will reopen at 8 a.m. on Tuesday. The Post Offices in Kailua and Kaneohe will be open for Saturday service.

If you have questions, please call the Base Post Office at 257-2008.

Asian/Pacific American Heritage Luncheon

A luncheon in honor of Asian/Pacific American Heritage month will be held Wednesday at 11:30 a.m. in the Anderson Hall Dining Facility. The guest speaker will be Army Maj. Gen. Vern T. Miyagi, mobilization assistant to the commander, U.S. Pacific Command.

Clinic Central Appointment Number Changing

In an effort to streamline services and provide greater access to care for beneficiaries of Makalapa and Kaneohe Bay Branch Health Clinics, there will be one combined central appointment line. Medical appointments for either clinic can be scheduled by dialing 473-0247 between 6 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Weekend same-day appointments are available at either Makalapa or Kaneohe Bay Branch Health Clinics by calling 473-0247 between 7 a.m. and 4 p.m. on Saturdays and between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. on Sundays.

Naval Health Clinic Hawaii does have an After-hours Provider Advice Line that enables beneficiaries to speak with a medical provider anytime the clinics are closed. This service is accessed simply by calling the above central appointment phone number and there is an option to speak with an answering service who will contact an after-hours provider. The provider will return a beneficiary's call within the hour.

Increased Air Noise

Residents may notice an increase to noise levels at Marine Corps Air Facility now through June 4 due to annual training from the Marine Corps Reserves.

Weekly Legal Brief

A new weekly brief to aid Marines, Sailors and civilian personnel on Wills and Powers of Attorney will be held at the Legal Services Center, Legal Assistance Office, every Wednesday at 10 a.m. Also included are some important tips on wills and powers of attorney.

Recruiter Assistants Needed

The Marine Corps Recruiting Station in Harrisburg, Pa. is looking for motivated Marines to serve as recruiter assistants. RS Harrisburg covers the following counties in Pennsylvania: Fulton, Franklin, Perry, Cumberland, Adams, York, Dauphin, Lebanon, Lancaster, Chester, Berks, Schuylkill, Wyoming, Luzerne, Lackawanna, Wayne, Pike, Monroe, Northampton, Carbon, Lehigh, Bucks, Montgomery, Philadelphia and Delaware.

For more information about the recruiter assistance program in your hometown area, contact Staff Sergeant Christopher Cunningham at (717) 770-6637.

Important Phone Numbers:

On-Base Emergencies	911
Military Police	257-7114
Child Protective Service	832-5300
Fraud, Waste, Abuse & EEO	257-8852
Business Management Hotline	257-3188
Pothole & Streetlight Repair	257-2380
Base Information	449-7110
MCBH Duty Chaplain	257-7700
DEERS	257-2077

Hawaii MARINE

www.mcbh.usmc.mil

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Staff Sgt. Ronna M. Weyland
Priya S. Jenkins
Christine Cabalo
Sgt. Sara A. Carter
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Staff Sgt. Ronna M. Weyland

Jeremy Pederson, scuba diver trainer and master diver, Ocean Concepts, helps Amanda Verhoff, 9, with her snorkel and mask while Randii Cavanaugh, 10, and her brother Brian, 11, prepare their masks during "Operation Homefront" Pool Party at the Base Pool Saturday.

'Operation Homefront' makes big splash

Staff Sgt. Ronna M. Weyland
Editor

More than 85 people gathered at the Base Pool Saturday for "Operation Homefront's" Pool Party.

Mostly women and children, the patrons at the event represented the families of deployed service members stationed aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay.

"(Marine Corps Community Services) is providing support for 'Operation Homefront' to support deployed Marines' and

Sailors' families," said Master Sgt. Saturnino Velazquez, director, Marine Corps Family Team Building.

The Pool Party was the second of a series of monthly events to take place throughout the year.

"These events will help (the families) participate in family weekend events, which hopefully provide strength and security for the children," said Velazquez. "The events will assist in passing time and will also help in making sure families spend quality time with their family and friends from the unit."

The family members in attendance seemed to be enjoying their time at the pool.

"This program is great," said Sherry Cavanaugh. "The events add to activities for us to do during the deployment. I'm always trying to find things for us to do to keep busy."

During the three-hour event, children participated in relay races, pick-a-duck fishing game, scuba classes and other activities in the pool.

The beginning scuba class seemed to be a big hit. Chaplain (Cmdr.) Gary Carr, officer-in-charge, CREDO, and several

other volunteers from Ocean Concepts gave classes and personal instruction on how to dive.

"We are giving the children a chance to learn scuba diving and discover a whole new world," said Carr.

The next scheduled event for "Operation Homefront" is the Beach Bash held at the Cabanas located near Hale Koa Beach here. Deployed family members interested in attending should get their tickets from either their command, or by calling Marine Corps Family Team Building at 257-2087.

PROGRESS, from A-1

take us over the top."

Conway, who has been commandant for about six months, said he is encouraged by coalition progress in Iraq's Anbar province.

"What we are seeing transpire in the Al Anbar province today is a clear, discernible wedge between the Sunni tribes and the Al Qaeda in Iraq," he said. "It has taken four years for these folks to realize that the Al Qaeda in Iraq could offer no more than a future filled with fear and instability."

Tribal leaders and sheikhs in the Sunni province have thrown their lots in with the Iraqi government.

"Some very brave people have stepped up to speak out against Al Qaeda and encourage their

fellow tribesmen to work together toward an Iraq that is stable and at peace with its neighbors," Conway said. "Now more than ever, it's imperative for the power of the (United States) to continue to support the people of Iraq economically, politically and militarily."

Progress in Al Anbar province has been so great that it has changed strategy in the region, Conway said. At one point, U.S. and Iraqi officials viewed the situation in Anbar province as bleak and forecast that it would be the last province to transition to Iraqi provincial control.

"That has changed," Conway said. "We now have Sunnis in large numbers joining the Iraqi army in the al Anbar province. We have more Sunni tribesmen wanting to become police than we have the opportunity to

train on a monthly basis."

As part of the military surge to quell violence, two battalions are scheduled to go to the province.

"Any plus-up effort ... (is) in a very real sense reinforcing success," Conway said.

The situation is so much better that the additional battalions may be shifted to other areas in the country, Conway said, adding that much of the province could fall under the control of the Iraqi police and army.

Conway said he is pleased with moves to rush procurement of Mine Resistant Ambush Protected Vehicles, which are more effective than up-armored humvees at withstanding the deadly effects of roadside bombs. "These vehicles will truly have a positive impact on our ability to

better protect our Marines and sailors operating at the tip of the spear," the commandant said.

Conway also reported on efforts to increase the size of the Marine Corps to 202,000 personnel through 2011. Recruiters are doing a superb job in a constrained environment, Conway said. He noted that growing casualty lists have made it tougher for recruiters to convince "influencers" -- parents, coaches, teachers etc. -- to encourage qualified young Americans to consider the military.

Surveys show that the propensity for all major ethnic groups in the United States to join the all-volunteer military is down. Still, Conway has tasked recruiters with ensuring that the Marine Corps reflect the ethnic diversity of America, he said.

Patrol Squadron 9 Change of Command



RONDEAU

Commander Aaron Rondeau relieved Cmdr. James Wyatt as commanding officer of Patrol Squadron 9 in Hangar 104 aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, during a ceremony May 18. Wyatt took command in May 2006. Rondeau was the executive officer of VP-9 prior to this tour and will lead the squadron through an Inter-Deployment Readiness Cycle preparing crews for detachments all over the world.



WYATT

Weekend weather outlook

Today



Day — Isolated showers after 10 a.m. Partly cloudy, with a high near 82. East wind around 13 mph. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

Night — Isolated showers. Partly cloudy, with a low around 71. East wind around 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

High — 82

Low — 71

Saturday



Day — Isolated showers. Partly cloudy, with a high near 82. East wind around 13 mph. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

Night — A 20 percent chance of showers. Partly cloudy, with a low around 72. East wind around 10 mph.

High — 82

Low — 72

Sunday



Day — A 20 percent chance of showers. Partly cloudy, with a high near 82. East wind around 13 mph.

Night — A 20 percent chance of showers. Partly cloudy, with a low around 72. East wind around 10 mph.

High — 82

Low — 72

Ugly Angels: 55-years-old, still turning



Lieutenant Col. Brian W. Cavanaugh, commanding officer, Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 362, speaks to the Marines and special guests of the squadron about the "Ugly Angels" history during their 55th birthday celebration April 30 in Al Asad, Iraq.



Staff Sgt. Jaime Cortez, maintenance administration chief and aerial observer, HMH-362, looks for any suspicious activity or enemy threat during a flight April 30. The AO serves as another pair of eyes and hands for the crew chief.

Story and Photos by
Sgt. Anthony Guas

2nd Marine Aircraft Wing (FWD)

AL ASAD, Iraq — History is about being the first at something. Lewis and Clark were first at completing a United States overland expedition to the Pacific coast and back, the Wright brothers were the first in flight, and the Marine Corps is known as the first to fight.

Although the Marine Corps as a whole holds an illustrious history, individual units also have their own stories. The "Ugly Angels" of Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 362, who have their fair share of firsts, recently celebrated their squadron's history, April 30.

"It's our 55th year of excellence," said Lt. Col. Brian W. Cavanaugh, the HMH-362 commanding officer. "This squadron has seen combat in Vietnam and Desert Storm, and has participated in other operations such as Haiti."

The Ugly Angels were the first squadron to receive a CH-53D in 1969. Later, they held the distinction of having served as the first Marine aircraft unit in Vietnam. In March of 2002, HMH-362 opened a new chapter when it became the first CH-53D squadron from Marine Aircraft Group 24 assigned to the Marine Corps' Unit Deployment Program at Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan.

"I have been blessed. It's an honor and a privilege," said Cavanaugh about serving as the Ugly Angels commanding officer. "To command (a squadron) is an honor and when I selected for this squadron I was floored. I served with the Ugly Angels as the maintenance officer before. (The squadron) is better (now), the foundation was laid in the late 90s and it holds sharp still today. It's good to know that the hard work put in over the 55 years is holding strong."

The Ugly Angels, who are based out of Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, are currently serving a seven-month deployment here.

"We are pretty much cargo and troop transport," said Sgt. Joshua Groh, crew chief and mechanic for HMH-362. "Pilots fly the plane, crew chiefs are in charge of the back. We work with the aerial observer to load packs and cargo and move everything from point A to point B."

From the maintenance control to the crew chiefs, everyone in the squadron is putting in their part to accomplish the mission.

"Operations are going smoothly; everybody is working hard, training hard," said

Cavanaugh. "We are prepared mentally and physically."

Safety is an important aspect in the Marine Corps, and for the Ugly Angels that is the number one priority.

"Safety is always the first mission," said Staff Sgt. Jaime Cortez, maintenance administration staff noncommissioned officer-in-charge. "We have the second oldest aircraft in the Marine Corps and some have a lot of flight hours. We take all that into consideration, so we make sure that we dot the I's and cross the T's."

One of the biggest factors that make the squadron so successful is their dedication to their work.

"These Marines bust their butts," said Sgt. Maj. Alphonso Mack, HMH-362 sergeant major. "What I like about the Marines in this squadron is that on the ground side you sound liberty call and they are gone; here you sound liberty call they are not leaving until that bird is up. Their whole thing is that the bird might have to go in and save somebody's life."

"That is the most amazing thing that I have ever seen."

Although the Ugly Angels of past left some pretty big boots to fill, Cavanaugh believes his Marines are strapping them on and running with them, said Mack.

"(The Marines) are holding up strong," said Cavanaugh. "We get e-mails from Vietnam era crew chiefs congratulating them. The Marines are working hard serving their country honorably."

The knowledge that their job can directly affect one of their fellow Marines is motivation for the Ugly Angels.

"I think these guys know what is expected of them, because I didn't let them forget," explained Mack. "I didn't want them to come out here with blinders on because they heard that Al Asad (was easy). Luckily, I have been (in Iraq) before and I was able to share with them my experiences and that those Marines out there need and depend on them. It has made them realize their mission and if something is wrong on one of the birds they are on it quick."

The performance of the Ugly Angels so far has been nothing short of outstanding and serves as an indicator for the rest of the deployment, according to Cavanaugh.

"I think this deployment will go smoothly," said Cavanaugh. "We are going to refine the process, try to make things run more efficient. Try to make things better and create a better product."



Sergeant Joshua Groh, crew chief and mechanic for HMH-362, tries to repair an M2 .50 Caliber Heavy Machine Gun during a flight April 30.



Two CH-53Ds from HMH-362 prepare to take-off after refueling aboard Al Asad, Iraq. The helicopters were returning from testing the on-board M2 .50 Caliber Heavy Machine Guns at a local firing range.



First grade students quietly watch a slide presentation.



Taking a moment to meet the students, Chief Warrant Officer Jay Brewer, officer-in-charge, Meteorology and Oceanography, Marine Corps Air Facility, speaks to first graders before a METOC brief May 17. The brief covered hurricanes, tornadoes and other inclement weather.

Mokapu students get glimpse of how hurricanes, tornadoes, rip tides work

**Story and Photos by
Sgt. Sara A. Carter**

Community Relations Chief

Students from Mokapu Elementary received a taste of Marine Corps Meteorology and learned about unsafe weather during a brief at the school May 17.

The brief, which touched on hurricanes, tornadoes, rip tides and other types of dangerous weather, was given to the students as part of hurricane preparedness month.

"It's good to give these briefs," said Chief Warrant Officer Jay Brewer, officer-in-charge, Meteorology and Oceanography, Marine Corps Air Facility. "It gets the kids thinking in advance about these things."

Brewer believes all of the students, even the kindergartners, received valuable information from the brief.

He hopes they talk to their

parents about what they learned and in turn their parents will start to plan for possible inclement weather.

During the brief the children chuckled as they watched a video of men walking against strong winds and yelled "whoa" as they looked at pictures of the damage hurricanes and tornadoes can do.

Presenter Cpl. Kyle Ash, weather observer, METOC, used the analogy of how a cookie gets soggy in a glass of milk to help the children understand how mud- and land-slides happen.

"I think the students were receptive to our brief," said Lance Cpl. Omar Caraballo Pietri, weather observer, METOC, who also helped give the brief. "They are now aware of what to do when one comes."

Most of the children enjoyed the brief.

"It was good because it taught us a lot of stuff about hurricanes so we can be safe," said 6-year-old Mya Baroln.

It was apparent the brief stimulated the minds of the children when they were given time to ask questions.

Questions like "Can a hurricane knock down the tallest building in the world?" and "How big can a hurricane grow-up to be?" were just two of the many unique questions the children asked.

"(The teachers) don't teach about hurricanes or weather much in school," said Ash. "But kids know what (hurricanes) are so this brief catches their interest."

For Brewer and his Marines the purpose of this event was two-fold. They hope their brief sparked the student's interest not only in weather, but also in science.



First graders Rene Baez (left) and Mya Baroln say "Whoa" as they look at pictures of the destruction made by a hurricane.

June is Hurricane Awareness Month for the state of Hawaii.

Individuals on base are encouraged to prepare for

the unpredictable hurricane season, which lasts from June 1 through Nov. 30.

"A lot of people probably

don't even know a hurricane can hit Hawaii," Brewer said. "It's important that everyone is prepared."

AROUND THE CORPS

Al Qaim medical facility receives upgrade

Cpl. Andrew Kalwitz
2nd Marine Logistics Group

AL QAIM, Iraq — The Health Service Support Element of Detachment 2, Combat Logistics Battalion 2, 2nd Marine Logistics Group (Forward), upgraded its capabilities to support the increased operational tempo of 1st Battalion, 4th Marine Regiment.

Eight Sailors of the Forward Resuscitative Surgical Suite from Al Taqaddum, Iraq, enabled the upgrade by bringing the necessary equipment and expertise to temporarily provide surgical capabilities.

"Normally, we don't have a surgeon around and if a patient needs surgery, we have to medically evacuate them," said Seamen Gabriel D. Florez, a hospital nurse with the HSSE.

The FRSS arrived here May 12 and has already had an effect on the HSSE.

During one of the facility's bi-weekly mass casualty drills May 14, the presence of the FRSS enabled the treatment of patients rather than enacting a rush to fly them to Al Asad for surgery.

"The time it takes to fly from here to Al Asad is anywhere from 40 minutes to an hour," said Lt. Cmdr. Angela S. Earley, a trauma surgeon from Al Taqaddum Surgical Detachment. "That could be the difference between life and death."

Earley, a Xenia, Ohio, native and other members of the FRSS have had an opportunity to trade advice and share experiences with the 18 service members at the HSSE. She said she hopes both teams continue to learn from each other until the FRSS returns to Al Taqaddum.

"I wish we could keep them here longer," said Petty Officer 3rd Class Candee Bost, a hospital corpsman with the HSSE and a Statesville, N.C., native. "They give great feedback. It's

better for us to hear what the OR's side of the house has to say."

Chief Petty Officer Mary D. Weiss-Brandenburg, a hospital corpsman and the senior enlisted leader with the HSSE, agreed with Bost and went on to explain the significance of understanding things from a surgeon's point-of-view.

"We try to anticipate what the surgeons are going to be looking for when they're flown to a higher level medical facility," said the St. Paul, Minn., native.

Weiss-Brandenburg said this will be important to learn before the HSSE no longer has the FRSS and their surgical capabilities.

Petty Officer 3rd Class Robert M. Beal, an advanced laboratory technician with the HSSE and a Harrisburgh, Ill., native said he is certain the capabilities will be beneficial while they're present.

"We hope we never have to use it," he said. "But if we do, I'm more than confident that we're ready."



Cpl. Andrew Kalwitz

Sailors at the Health Service Support Element treat a patient during a mass casualty exercise. The exercises occur twice a week, but this was the first conducted with the Forward Resuscitative Surgical Suite from Al Taqaddum. The eight Sailors from the FRSS are to provide surgical capabilities here for the duration of the increased operational tempo of 1st Battalion, 4th Marine Regiment.

Hawaii MARINE LIFESTYLES

HAWAII MARINE B SECTION

MAY 25, 2007



Members of the United States Infantry Regiment (Old Guard) Fife and Drum Corps practice before the start of the concert.



Staff Sgt. Joshua Lively, percussionist, Marine Forces Pacific Band, performs "Inchon" with the rest of the combined band.

Combined Military Band Concert Tonight at 7:00!

Joint effort makes beautiful music

Story and Photos by
Sgt. Sara A. Carter
Community Relations Chief

No one could miss the big, neon sign outside of the Hawaii Theater in Honolulu that read, "Combined Military Band Concert," or the crowds of people who lined the streets nearly two hours before the concert was to begin Saturday night.

As part of Hawaii Military Appreciation Month, the Hawaii Chamber of Commerce hosted a free Combined Military Band Concert.

Almost every seat in the theater, which holds approximately 1,400 people, was filled with young and old alike. The attendees clapped as the combined band, comprised of band members from all branches of service to include the Army's Old Guard, began to play.

With Army Chief Warrant Officer Gregory Balvanz, Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps on the podium, it was

time to begin the concert. The group started with "Inventions on Marching Songs" by James Barnes and "Who Puts His Trust in God Most Just" by J. S. Bach/Croft

After the applause subsided, Staff Sgt. Tracy Martinez, senior enlisted conductor, Marine Forces Pacific Band took the stage to lead the group. They began with an arrangement by Robert W. Smith called "Inchon."

The soft sound of a flute gently floated through the air. A drum in the back of the theater could be heard being tapped softly. As the beat began to get louder it seemed that all at once drums strategically placed around the theater were beat loudly to represent the landing of a helicopter.

"It sounded like a helicopter was really landing in the theater," a wife whispered to her husband as she grabbed his hand.

Many watched the band as the sound from the drums decreased and the band began to play the intense

music representing the battle that took place on Inchon. After minutes of powerful music, the gentle sound of a flute again tenderly floated through the air.

According to the narrator, the soft sound of the flute represented a prayer being said.

The music again crescendos into beats of drums and loud explosions from various instruments and concluded with the beats from the drums representing the helicopter that was now leaving the scene. The song ended with one, solitary drum being hit softly in the corner of the theater.

The crowd was only silent for a moment then burst into applause.

Martinez then went on to conduct "In Storm and Sunshine" by J.C. Heed.

Other arrangements included "Those Magnificent Airmen and Their Flying Machines," "Each Time You Tell Their Story," "Battle Hymn of the Republic."

A Special performance from 3rd United States Infantry Regiment (Old Guard) Fife and Drum Corps was also included in the program.

After a few more songs, the playing of TAPS and each service's song the program was complete.



Nearly every seat in the Hawaii Theater in Honolulu was filled during the Combined Military Concert Saturday. The event was hosted in honor of Military Appreciation Month during May.

The service members who participated in the concert, which lasted approximately two hours, only had three days of practice said Gunnery Sgt. Stephen Jeremiah, band master, Marine Forces Pacific Band.

"A show like this normally takes about six weeks to prepare for," Jeremiah said. "Very talented musicians and conductors who know the

podium are why this was a success."

Jeremiah, who did not participate in the event but sat with the audience, believes the concert was well received by the public.

"This is one of the top three performances the band looks forward to each year," said Jeremiah. "Having a full house...It doesn't get any better than this."



This concert is the only time all branches of the service come together to perform. The service members who participated in the concert, which lasted approximately two hours, only had three days of practice.

'Easy Rider' stays active, fit

Lance Cpl. Regina A. Ruisi

Combat Correspondent

He's a Sailor, an expecting father and a bodybuilder. Petty Officer 1st Class Andrew Saguid is a busy man. He serves with Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron Light 37, the "Easy Riders," as the aviation administration leading petty officer and the command fitness leader.

The 43-year old can be found frequently at the gym, bulking up for another bodybuilding competition. He is actively competitive in bodybuilding and has qualified to compete on the national level five times.

"It's a lot of fun, and it helps me stay in shape," he said.

Saguid is currently training for another national qualifying competition in November.

"I spend a lot of time at the gym; twice a day, three times a week," he said.

Saguid was born in the Philippines, but moved to the Providence, Rhode Island in 1979 at the age of 15. He joined the Navy out of Boston in 1990 after earning his U.S. citizenship in 1986.

Saguid leaves HSL-37 and Hawaii in July to go to Washington aboard the USS Abraham Lincoln. His time on the Lincoln will be his last tour before his retirement. "I can't wait to be a civilian again," he said after reflecting on his already 17 years of service.

During his time in the Navy, Saguid has been to more than 25 countries. He said he is excited about his tour on the aircraft carrier because it will take him to Australia, one place he hasn't been before. "I haven't been to Australia yet and I'm looking forward to



Lance Cpl. Regina A. Ruisi

Petty Officer 1st Class Andrew Saguid at his desk in the administration office of Hangar 3 aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii. Saguid is the aviation administration leading petty officer for Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron Light 37.

Australia. I'll do that on my last tour on the carrier."

Once he's out of the military, Saguid said he and his wife of three years, Giselle, plan on starting their own business. The couple is expecting their first child this month.

Saguid said right now he only wants one child, not 10 like the family he was raised in.

He was one of six boys and four girls born to the Filipino family. Most of his siblings still live in Rhode Island. Saguid's younger

brother, Jonathan, serves in the Navy as well as a recruiter in Los Angeles. He is also on his last tour of duty before retirement.

Regardless of his time spent in the United States, Saguid still recognizes his Filipino heritage. Saguid

said his personal hero, and motivation for joining the Navy, is General Douglas McArthur.

"He pretty much helped the Philippines," he said. "During World War II, he liberated the Philippines and I'm giving back the favor."

Hawaii Sailor fuels love of mechanics abroad

Christine Cabalo

Photojournalist

When Petty Officer 2nd Class Irene Sotelo wakes up in the morning, it's to the sight of the ocean she's loved since childhood.

For Sotelo, the top perks of being stationed aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, are being near the water and visiting family in Waianae, Hawaii.

Serving in the Navy since 2001, the native Hawaiian said she loves coming home just as much as she enjoys working internationally during her deployments.

"I wanted to join the Coast Guard or the Navy," said Sotelo, aviation machinist's mate, Patrol Squadron 9. "I grew up around the ocean, and I wanted to stay near it."

Annie Sotelo, the Waianae resident's mother, said her daughter has always loved being in the water.

"She's a natural surfer and swimmer," said Annie. "I think if she had her way as a child, she would live at the beach."

Close to her family, Irene took the advice of her uncle and grandfather to join the military. As retired soldiers, they encouraged the aviation machinist's mate to travel and challenge her mechanical skills.

During her childhood, she would help her uncle fix old Ford cars. The Waianae resident said she remembered tagging along with her uncle and always asking him to show her how car engines work.

"She likes getting her hands dirty," said Annie. "She was never an indoor person, she loves being outdoors. My daughter was always

interested in machines."

Irene now works with bigger, more elaborate engines on naval aircraft like the P-3 Orion. It's her job to check each plane's engine for overall integrity, ensuring there are no foreign objects or loose bolts to interfere with performance.

The 27-year-old, who previously worked with the EA-6B Prowler, said working with the P-3 engines is much more complicated. Many systems are connected to the P-3 engines, and the Sailor needs to run tests on other plane parts like the propellers.

Working with naval aircraft engines has taken the six-year veteran out of Hawaii to spots such as Japan and Italy. Being internationally deployed was an exciting new experience, said Irene. Although during the months away, she missed eating traditional food like fish and poi.

Irene said she most enjoyed visiting Naples, Italy, and visiting with the local people reminded her of home. She said the small Italian communities have the same hospitable "aloha spirit" she misses while she's deployed.

In the future, Irene said she would love to go back to learn the language and become a skillful Italian cook.

"I make a really good spaghetti," she said. "When I was in elementary, the cafeteria would serve spaghetti for lunch. The way it was all mushy was great. I know most children don't like it like that, but I loved it."

Irene's method of cooking is to boil the noodles until it's soft, then



Christine Cabalo

Petty Officer 2nd Class Irene Sotelo, aviation machinist's mate, Patrol Squadron 9, stands near the type of P-3 Orion plane she maintains aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay. Sotelo, a resident of Waianae, Hawaii, said she enjoys being stationed near home so she can visit family.

bake the spaghetti. She said making the dish her way reminds her of how she had spaghetti in elementary school.

At a young age she knew what she liked to do, said Annie. While cleaning her home, Irene's mother came across some old elementary school projects.

"I found something she did in the

first grade," said Annie. "It was a sheet where you had to fill out the top ten things you would like to be. Number ten on her list was being a mechanic. Another thing she listed was making surfboards for a living."

Irene said she's spoken at her younger brother's high school about her naval career, and she encourages all Hawaii residents to see what's

outside the state. Her international deployments are sometimes hard for her family, and her mother said it's always difficult to see her daughter go away.

"You never get used to it," said Annie. "I'm so glad though she found something she loves to do. She works hard, but we just party harder when she gets home."

MOVIE TIME

Prices: Friday and Saturday 7:15 p.m., shows are \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for children. Sunday matinee is shown at 2 p.m. Shows are \$2 for adults and \$1 for children. Evening showings on Sunday and Wednesday are at 6:30 p.m. and late shows are shown Friday and Saturday at 9:45 p.m. Cost is \$2 for adults and \$1.50 for children.

For ticket pricing, the Base Theater Box Office defines an adult as a patron 12 and older and defines a child as a patron from 6 to 11. Children 5 and younger are admitted free of charge. Parents must purchase tickets for R-rated movies in person at the box office for children 16 and younger. Patrons must present their military identification card when purchasing tickets. Call 254-7642 for recorded information.

Sneak Preview Policy: One hour and 45 minutes prior to the movie, tickets will be issued to first priority patrons waiting in line, then second and third priority patrons.

In an effort to prevent piracy, the following security measures will be enforced on base for sneak preview screenings: bag checks, confiscation of cameras or cell phones with picture taking capability (items will be returned after screening), magnetometer wand, audience scanning with night vision goggles during screening.

The Base Theater and film companies thank you in advance for your cooperation and hope you will enjoy the show. For recorded information, call the Base Theater at 254-7642.

Blades of Glory (PG13)
Shooter (R)
Meet the Robinsons (G)
Are We Done Yet? (PG)
Firehouse Dog (PG)
Blades of Glory (PG13)
Shooter (R)
Are We Done Yet? (PG)
The Reaping (R)

Today at 7:15 p.m.
Today at 9:45 p.m.
Saturday at 7:15 p.m.
Saturday at 9:45 p.m.
Sunday at 2 p.m.
Sunday at 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.
Friday at 7:15 p.m.
Friday at 9:45 p.m.

Airlines ask frequent flyers to be heroes

Samantha L. Quigley
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Ten airlines are stepping up to the plate for families of injured service members and encouraging their passengers to do the same.

"The president of CNN challenged his staff to do something over Memorial Day weekend," Jim Weiskopf, vice president of communications for the Fisher House Foundation, said.

"They looked around at a couple options and they decided that they would like to do a drive to get us more 'Hero Miles.'"

The Fisher House Foundation is a member of America Supports You, a Defense Department program connecting citizens and corporations with military personnel and their families serving at home and abroad.

It also administers the Defense Department's Hero Miles program, which provides free airline tickets to service members injured during their service in Iraq or Afghanistan and their families.

To get the ball rolling, CNN contacted all 10 of the Hero Miles program's airline partners and asked if they would agree to a challenge.

The airlines agreed to match every frequent flyer mile their passengers

Considering Hero Miles has provided about 9,800 tickets, that's more than \$12

"I use the terminology 'close friends' because if you're young and single, it's nice to have your mother and father there, but you probably really want your boyfriend or girlfriend," he said. "If that will help

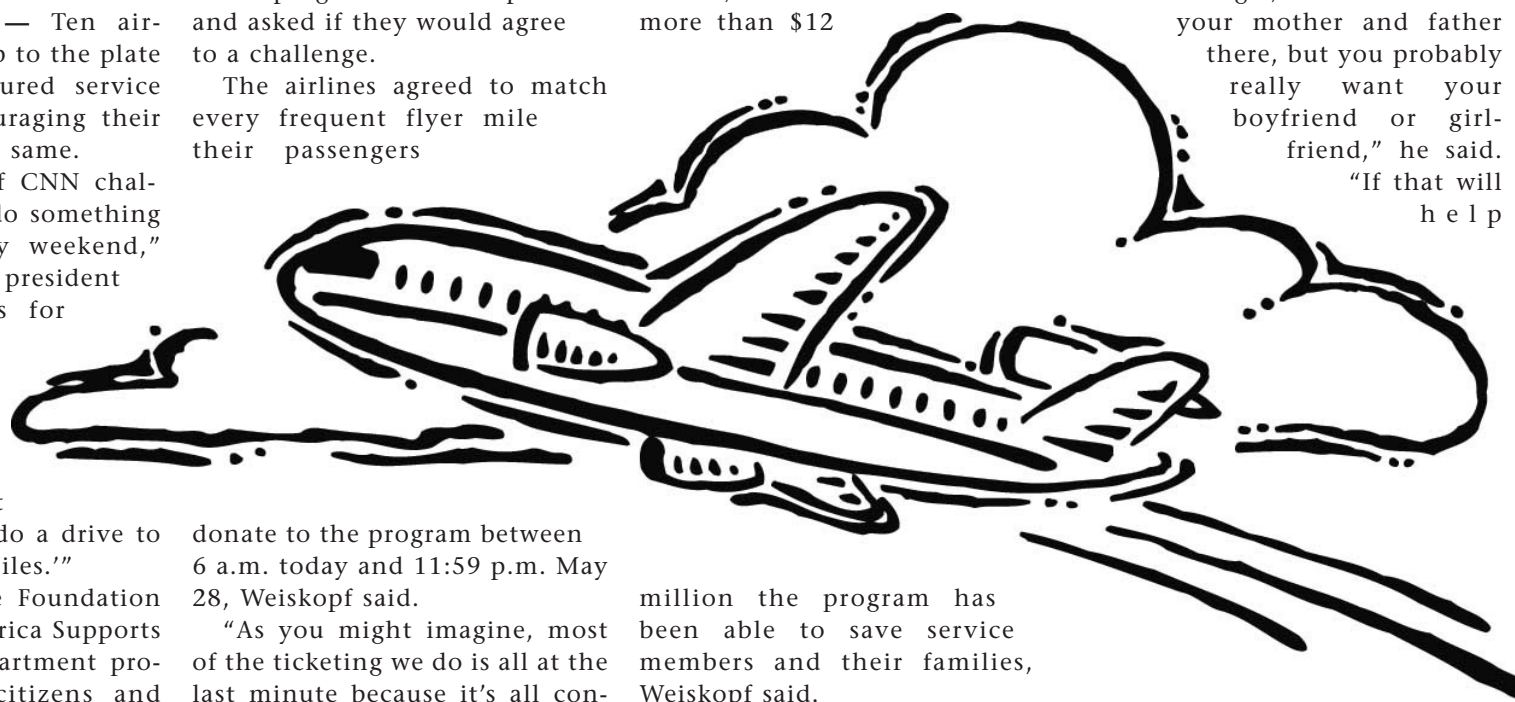
for medically necessary travel only.

Tickets for regular leave requests cannot be accommodated.

Though Hero Miles accepts donations of frequent flyer miles year-round, those who would like to make donations during this weekend when they'll count twice as much can find links on each of the participating airlines' Web sites. AirTran, American Airlines, Alaska Airlines, Continental Airlines, Delta, Frontier, Midwest Airlines, Northwest Airlines, United, and U.S. Airways are participating.

Links to these airlines also can be found on the Fisher House Foundation's "Hero Miles" Web page, www.fisherhouse.org/programs/heroMiles.shtml.

"We are so deeply appreciative for the generosity of the American flying public," Weiskopf said. "Individually, (the airlines) have all told us that this is perhaps the most meaningful frequent flyer program that they have been associated with in the history of the airline because (the miles) are going right to the people who need them most."



donate to the program between 6 a.m. today and 11:59 p.m. May 28, Weiskopf said.

"As you might imagine, most of the ticketing we do is all at the last minute because it's all connected to medical emergencies," Weiskopf said. "Normally, the tickets we're getting today are for flights leaving tomorrow and the day after."

If service members' families had to pay out of pocket, those tickets average more than \$1,300 each.

million the program has been able to save service members and their families, Weiskopf said.

That's the equivalent of about 450 million miles in the three and a half years since the program began.

While Hero Miles makes sure any family member who wants to be at their service member's side can be, it also covers what Weiskopf terms "close friends."

you recover, we'll bring them in."

The same is true for any other person -- pastor or former coach, for example -- in a service member's life who might inspire a speedy recovery, he said. He emphasized, however, that the tickets Hero Miles provides are

Movie review: '28 Weeks Later'



Lance Cpl. Regina A. Ruisi
Combat Correspondent

Editor's note: Hawaii Marine's combat correspondents will provide readers with in-depth reviews and unbiased ratings of a film currently in theaters or one of the many classics of yesterday.

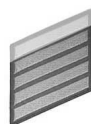
The rating system requires some explanation

before you get started.

If the film being reviewed is currently available for rent or purchase it will be assigned a certain number of "microwaves" on a scale of one to four to rate its "reheat factor."

If the film being reviewed is in theaters, it will be assigned a certain number of service stripes on a scale from one to four.

In other words, the more microwaves or service stripes the film receives, the better and more entertaining it is to watch.



Rating: 4 out of 5 service stripes

When I think of horror movies, the idea of a disease outbreak doesn't really scare me. Actually, it seems more like the kind of movie you'd have to watch in biology class in high school as a hypothetical situation.

The movie "28 Weeks Later" shot down that theory.

The sequel to "28 Days Later," a plot where an epidemic breaks out in England, "28 Weeks Later" picks up where the first part of the movie leaves off. The disease effected people immediately upon exposure to infected blood, and caused people to lose total control. They become violent, rage-

filled bodies, seeking blood for sustenance.

It is now 28 weeks after the infection started. England has since been evacuated and quarantine. The infected persons have been left and starved off. The U.S. Army has moved in and is helping to reestablish London and find survivors from outside areas. Needless to say, the disease breaks out again and chaos ensues across England.

The movie seemed a little silly at times to me, with the Blitzkrieg-style bombing of a deserted city and the attempted helicopter escapes. It was obvious this film had a bigger budget than "28 Days Later," and the director decided to show it off. I guess I'd do the same thing with a few extra million dollars.

The stereotypical characters were also slightly disappointing. There was the brave young boy trying to prove himself, the teenage girl who is angry at the world, the wimpy father, the sympathetic woman and the over-enthusiastic young soldier. The heroes, in true Hollywood fashion, came to their demise trying to save the world.

The movie inspires thoughts on the use of bio-terrorism by making you ask the question of what an entire country would do in such a situation. It evokes emotions of fear.

The movie in itself isn't exactly scary, but the thought a situation like this is possible makes the movie a psychological thriller.



You walk away from the movie thinking about how the world would respond in a situation like that.

It not only delves into the political response, but also the personal responses of the characters and forces you to question what your own reaction would be; would you become one of the infected, or would you be one of the survivors?

Book review: 'Brave New World'

Lance Cpl. Regina A. Ruisi
Combat Correspondent

Remember high school English class, when your teacher made you read books and tried desperately to have them mean something profound and significant to you?

I went through three years of Shakespeare, Twain and Emerson before I found that book. It was my senior year English class and our teacher introduced us to "Brave New World," by Aldous Huxley.

"Brave New World" gives its reader a glimpse of where the world will be if society continues down the path it is on. The seemingly utopian world Huxley thrusts the reader into proves, essentially, to be a dystopia.

There is no poverty, no crime and no war, but there is also no understanding of

words like "home," "motherhood" and "family."

There is a small part of society that questions their utopian lives, dare to get pregnant and fall in love and possess the estranged idea of individualism.

These people are sent to a reservation to live like savages. When one of them is brought into the "real world," he is shocked at the state of affairs the world was in.

Through his character John the Savage, Huxley asks the reader to consider where the failings are with trying to create a "perfect" society. While the idea of a peaceful society is ideal, Huxley asks the reader to consider what price society is willing to pay.

Are we willing to sacrifice all that makes humanity beautiful?

Are we willing to give up all freedom and individuality for a false sense of happiness?

The novel brings to light all that we, society as a whole, take for granted. Things like love and family, even painful things like childbirth and heartache are obsolete in Huxley's "utopia."

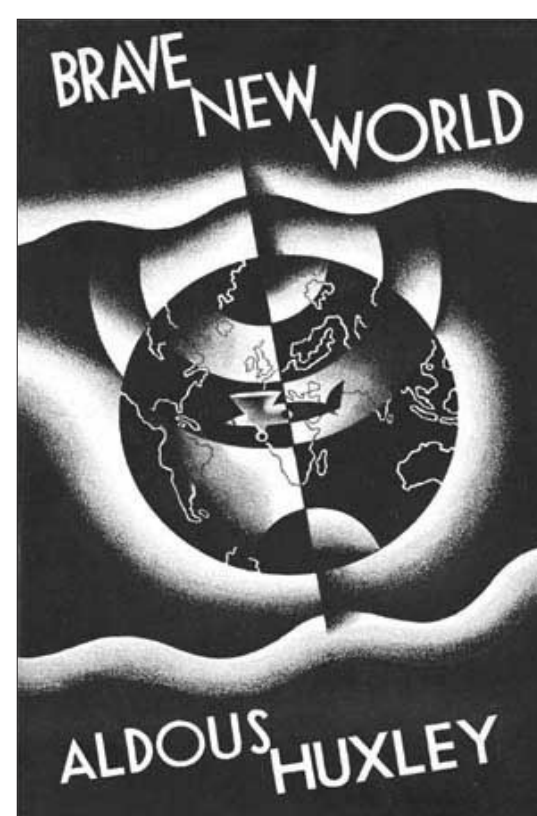
While Huxley argues that it is emotions that bring forth the evils in the world like war and poverty, his novel suggests that it is not worth losing the positive emotions in life to be rid of the negative ones.

In the beginning of the book, the idea of a perfect society seems appealing to the reader, but as the novel continues distaste for the idea grows.

As you read further, you begin to agree with Huxley's warning of embracing science as a means to a perfect world.

"Brave New World" opened my eyes to the world we live in. The society is far from peaceful, it's full of troubles and turmoil, but its imperfection proves that it is still real.

The novel made me thankful for every emotion I've ever experienced, from happy times to broken hearts.



WORD TO PASS

Vail resort honors America's service members with special military package

This summer, the Vail Cascade Resort & Spa in Colorado is providing America's service men and women with a special vacation offer. The property, managed by Destination Hotels & Resorts, is offering a special Military Package, which includes an \$89 per night room rate for active military personnel plus 40 percent off spa treatments at Aria Spa & Club and 40 percent off food and beverage at Chap's Grill & Chophouse.

The resort will offer the Military Package beginning Memorial Day weekend, which historically is a time of remembrance for those who have served in our nation's armed forces. The package is valid now through Sept. 15. Service men and women taking advantage of this special offer must provide valid military identification upon check-in. Other restrictions may apply.

For more information on the Vail Cascade Resort & Spa or to book the property's special Military Package, please visit www.vailcascade.com or call (800) 420-2424. Please use promotional code MILITARY when booking online or reference this code when speaking to a reservations agent.

Hunter Education Classes

Hunter Education Classes are being offered by the Hawaii Dept. of Land and Natural Resources today from 5:45 to 10 p.m. and Saturday from 7:45 a.m. to 4 p.m. The classes will be held at the Waiialua Elementary School cafeteria located at 67-020 Waiialua Beach Road. Subjects to be covered include: firearms and archery safety, survival and first aid, wildlife identification and conservation, and many other topics. The class is open to anyone 10 years of age and above. For more information or to pre-register, call the Hunter Education Office at 587-0200.

Diamond Head Crater Festival

The number one music experience of the year will be held under the stars inside the Diamond Head Crater in Waikiki at 2 p.m. Saturday. For information, call the hotline at 735-7000 or visit www.cratercelebration.com.

Military Day at the Honolulu Zoo

A Military Appreciation Day will be held at the Honolulu Zoo June 2. This special event is open to military personnel and their families. Admission is free and the first 8,000 military ID cardholders can also enjoy a free lunch on the zoo lawn. Fleet bus transportation by Marine Corps Community Services departs the exchange annex at 8:30 a.m. and returns at 3 p.m.

DivorceCare

Seminars and support groups are led by people who understand what you are going through and want to help. You'll gain access to valuable DivorceCare resources to help.

The meetings are held every Thursday evening from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church at Koolau, 45-550 Kionaole, Kaneohe. Childcare provided with advance notification. For more information, go to www.divorcecare.com or call 532-1111.

University of Oklahoma Courses

The University of Oklahoma is now accepting applications and registration for the Summer term. OU is proud to offer a Master of Arts in Managerial Economics on Hickam AFB. Contact OU at 449-6364 or aphickam@ou.edu for more information, or visit www.go.ou.edu.



SM&SP

Bayfest Volunteers needed to drive musical entertainment

Take advantage of this opportunity to be up close and personal with BayFest's bands including Alan Jackson, Gretchen Wilson and Three Days Grace! Runners must be flexible and have a valid driver's license. Contact the SM&SP coordinator 254-7593 or your SM&SP unit representative for more information.

Shank and Slice Golf Tournament

Grab your friends and test your skills in the quarterly Shank and Slice golf tournament June 7 at Kaneohe Klipper Golf Course. Check-in is at 11:30 a.m. and the tournament launches with a shotgun start at 12:30 p.m. This event costs \$32 for E-5 and below and \$38 for E-6 and above and includes green fees, cart, prizes, food and sodas. Register by Thursday at the Semper Fit Center or call 254-7593.

ON THE MENU

AT ANDERSON HALL

Friday

Lunch

Roast turkey
Lemon baked fish fillets
Baked macaroni & cheese
Garlic roasted potato wedges
Mixed vegetables
Lyonnise carrots
Cream gravy
Peach pie
Chocolate chip cookies
Spice cake w/lemon butter cream frosting
Vanilla/chocolate cream pudding
Lemon/orange gelatin
Specialty bar: Country Bar

Dinner

Chili conquistador
Chicken cacciatore
Burritos
Refried beans
Spanish rice
Simmered corn
Green beans
Taco sauce
Desserts: Same as lunch

Saturday

Dinner

Pork roast
Chicken cordon bleu
Mashed potatoes
Boiled egg noodles
Simmered broccoli Polonaise
Simmered succotash
Chicken gravy

Boston cream pie
Shortbread cookies
Yellow cake w/butter cream frosting
Vanilla/chocolate cream pudding
Lemon/raspberry gelatin

Sunday

Dinner

Oven roast
Honey glazed Cornish hens
Rice pilaf
Savory bread dressing
Asparagus w/hollandaise sauce
Simmered squash Creole
Brown gravy
Pumpkin pie
Oatmeal cookies
Devil's food cake
Vanilla/chocolate cream pudding
Strawberry/lime gelatin

Monday

Dinner

Beef stew
Baked fish fillets
Baked macaroni & cheese
Wild rice
French fried okra
Buttered corn
Cream gravy
Pecan pie
Chewy nut bars
Spice cake w/butter cream frosting
Vanilla/chocolate cream pudding
Lemon/strawberry gelatin
Specialty bar: Pasta

Tuesday

Dinner

Turkey ala king
Salisbury steak
Parsley buttered potatoes
Glazed carrots
Club spinach
Brown gravy
Double chocolate chip cookies
Yellow cake w/chocolate chip frosting
Vanilla/chocolate cream pudding
Cherry/orange gelatin
Specialty bar: Taco bar

Wednesday

Lunch

Chili macaroni
Roast turkey
Grilled cheese sandwich
Mashed potatoes
Simmered pinto beans
Simmered mixed vegetables
Turley gravy
Cheesecake w/cherry topping
Peanut butter cookies
Peanut butter cake w/peanut butter frosting
Vanilla/chocolate cream pudding
Lemon/raspberry gelatin
Specialty bar: Hot dog & sausage

Dinner

Meat loaf
Pork ham roast
Mashed potatoes
Tossed green rice
Cauliflower combo

Broccoli w/cheese sauce
Brown gravy w/mushrooms
Desserts: Same as lunch

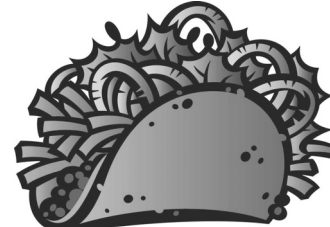
Thursday

Lunch

Swiss steak w/brown gravy
Chicken Parmesan
Rice pilaf
Oven browned potatoes
Corn on the cob
Simmered peas & carrots
Brown gravy
Blueberry pie
Brownies
White cake w/lemon cream frosting
Vanilla/chocolate cream pudding
Lime/cherry gelatin
Specialty bar: Deli bar

Dinner

Beef Yakisoba
Sweet & sour pork
Shrimp fried rice
Steamed rice
Simmered broccoli
Fried Cabbage w/bacon
Chicken gravy
Desserts: Same as lunch





" Now that we know you're Qualified to Join...,
Let's jump right into the Dental Benefits!"



Did you know?

- The estimated number of WWII veterans living in California in 2002 was 475,000, the most in any state. Other states with high numbers of WWII vets included Florida (439,000), New York (284,000), Pennsylvania (280,000), Texas (267,000) and Ohio (208,000).
 - The estimated number of women in 2002 who were WWII veterans was 210,000. These women comprised 4.4 percent of WWII vets.
 - The proportion of all veterans in April 2000 who were WWII veterans was 22 percent.
 - The median age of WWII veterans when the last census was conducted was 76.7 years old.
 - The proportion of WWII veterans who were still employed in 2000 was 11.6 percent.
 - The number of WWII veterans in 2002 who received compensation for service-connected disabilities was 440,000, about half the number in 1990 (876,000) and nearly two-thirds less than the nearly 1.2 million disabled WWII vets in 1980.
 - The projected national expenditure for veteran's benefits in 2004 was \$62 billion.
- Data courtesy of the U.S. Census Bureau.
- The number of U.S. armed forces personnel who served in World War II between Dec. 1, 1941, and Dec. 31, 1946, was 16.1 million.
 - The average length of active-duty by U.S. military personnel during WWII was 33 months.
 - The proportion of U.S. military personnel who served abroad during WWII was 73 percent.
 - The average time U.S. personnel served overseas during WWII was 16 months.
 - A total of 292,000 U.S. soldiers, Sailors, airmen and Marines were killed in battle in WWII.
 - The number of other deaths sustained by U.S. forces during WWII was 114,000.
 - 671,000 U.S. troops were wounded during WWII.
 - 5.7 million World War II veterans were counted in the 2000 Census. The census identified the period of service for World War II veterans as September 1940 to July 1947.

AROUND THE CORPS

Combat Outpost in Iraq gets 'ice cream truck'

Cpl. Ryan C. Heiser
2nd Marine Division

COMBAT OUTPOST RAWAH, Iraq — Combat Outpost Rawah and the Marines who call it home, recently received a permanent post exchange here.

The COP, which is 150 miles northwest of Baghdad and 50 miles east of the Syrian border, has recently undergone numerous changes to improve safety, hygiene, and quality of life. Prior to the permanent exchange, the outpost would get a visit from a mobile exchange about twice each month.

"We are here to provide the Marines, soldiers and sailors with the basic necessities, as well as a few niceties, of home," said Lance Cpl. Daniel J. Daugherty, a retail Marine with 1st Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, Regimental Combat Team 2.

The exchange offers a wide variety of hygiene items, operational gear, electronics, CDs, DVDs, snacks and drinks.

"Knowing we are always here gives them a peace of mind. They know they don't have to worry about running out of something," said Daugherty, a native of New Castle, Penn. "Plus it has a huge impact on morale because now they know they don't have to wait two or three weeks for things they need."

"It's always good to have a PX around," said Pvt. Phillip A. Fowler, a scout with the battalion's quick reaction force. "It improves morale and everyone's everyday attitude. Most of us don't get a lot of packages, so it's nice to have somewhere to go where we can get the same things we have access to at home."

The Marines who work at the exchange say they can see the difference they make on the outpost.

"You can see it on their face. It's like driving an ice cream truck: when people see us around their eyes just light up," said Sgt. Alex R. Soto Lopez, the battalion's retail manager. "We are so isolated here in the desert, the small comfort of being able to buy something that you can get back home has a tremendous impact on your mentality. It can't help but improve the mood and performance here."

The Marines who work at the exchange say they take pride in providing whatever comforts they can to their fellow brothers-in-arms.

"Unlike shops in the civilian world, this place isn't here just for the dollar. It's our responsibility to make sure we provide whatever we can to the troops," said Soto Lopez, a

native of Bayamon, Puerto Rico. "We make sure we get out to even the most remote (traffic control points) so that everyone is taken care of."

The PX Marines say although they know the comforts they provide are no substitute for being home, they hope the things they offer help bring home a little closer to the desert.



Lance Cpl. Daniel J. Daugherty (left), retail Marine, 1st Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, Regimental Combat Team 2, hands a Marine his purchase in the COP's new post exchange.

Cpl. Ryan C. Heiser

Hawaii MARINE SPORTS

HAWAII MARINE C SECTION

MAY 25, 2007



Lance Cpl. Edward C. deBree



Lance Cpl. Edward C. deBree

Runners begin their four-mile run after hearing the airhorn Wednesday at the Lodge at Kaneohe Bay. Service members from various units on base participated. The campaign is to give the Marines and Sailors on base an alternative to drug use and the use of excessive alcohol.

A Marine points the way to the finish line as another carries him.

Running for 101 Days of Summer

Lance Cpl. Edward C. deBree
Combat Correspondent

More than 250 Marines and Sailors participated in the 101 Days of Summer four-mile fun run Wednesday at the Lodge at Kaneohe Bay here.

The fun run is the first athletic event of the 101 Days of Summer Campaign, which is designed to give service members aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii an alternative to drug use and alcohol abuse.

Runners made their way around the Nuupia Ponds before making their way back on Mokapu Road and heading back to the Lodge.

The first runner to complete the course was Micah Herbert of 3rd Radio Battalion and the first female to finish was Juliet Barnes of Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 24.

The purpose of the race was to bring all the units together, have a good time and promote a healthy lifestyle.

"This was a pretty good run," said Alan Rollins, cryogenics technician, MALS-24. "I didn't have to push myself that hard and it was a fun course. I like the pond run because of the scenery and it's flat. It was a good time. I will do this again if I'm here next year."

According to Dan Dufrene, health promotion coordinator, Semper Fit Center, Marine

Corps Community Services, this year's run had great success.

"This is the largest run turnout we have had to date," he said. "There was a large turnout from Headquarters Battalion and MALS-24. Third Radio Battalion was also well represented here today. Those were the three units that had a lot of people participate."

The campaign gives points to the different units who have the most people show up and based on performance. The unit with the most points at the end of the campaign receives a \$750 prize to be used in the unit's discretionary funds with a few exceptions to purchases.

"The unit that wins the prize money at the end cannot spend their winnings on alcohol," said Quentin Redmon, drug demand reduction coordinator, Substance Abuse Counseling Center. "We have had units in the past that came in first and wanted to use the money to buy alcohol for the unit. I'm the one that awards them with the money and I will not give it to them if they are going to use it to buy alcohol. You cannot buy any type of alcohol with the prize money."

The 101 Days of Summer Campaign began May 17 and will end Sept. 3.

MALS-24 stomps on Good Timers, 10-5

Lance Cpl. Regina A. Ruisi
Combat Correspondent

Tight defense and aggressive offense led the Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 24 softball team to a 10-5 defeat over the Marine Corps Air Facility Good Timers Tuesday at Annex Field here.

The Good Timers stayed close on MALS-24's leading heels until six runs in the bottom of the third pulled MALS-24 ahead to an unstoppable win.

The win gave MALS-24 a 7-3 record, while the Good Timer's record dropped to 4-6.

The Good Timers started out the game confident for a win. Good Timers' coach Mike Gorombol said,

"We've played them twice and beat them last time. They've got some new players today. There's no competition."

Proving to be competitive, MALS-24 brought in three runs during the first inning.

"We just show up to play and have fun. If we win, that's a bonus," said coach Alan Rollins, MALS-24.

The Good Timers attempted a comeback in the top of the second.

A home run by power hitter Timothy Morris brought them in three runs, bringing the score to 4-3 for a Good Timers lead. "That's the second game in a row he's done that," Gorombol said of Morris's home run.

"They got some lucky

hits," said Rollins. "We've got to start hitting now."

The Good Timers defense didn't prove as successful as their offense in the bottom of the third. After filling the bases with walked batters, MALS-24 managed to bring in six runs and take an overwhelming lead.

One run at the top of the third didn't spark a comeback for the Good Timers.

The bottom of the fourth inning proved more successful for Good Timers' defensive line up. First baseman Steven Verhoff tagged out two runners before they reached the base.

"That was a good defensive inning," Gorombol said to his team. "Step up the offense now. Gentlemen, it's time for a comeback."

However, MALS-24 didn't allow the Good Timers to step up the offense, providing flawless defense at the top of the inning.

"I can't complain with three up, three down. They didn't score any," Rollins said. "We got into their heads and now they're not playing well. They're scared."

Finishing off the game at the bottom of the fifth, MALS-24 batted in another run and brought the final score to 10-5.

"It was an awesome game. It just comes down to good defense and today we were really awake. We won our game yesterday and two wins in a row is really great," said Rollins.



Cpl. Mark Fayloga

Estepan Saenz, Assassins right mid, attempts to slip by Daniel Rosales, Eagles mid field, during an Intramural Soccer League regular season game at Pop Warner Field Monday night.

Assassins poach Golden Eagles, 6-0

Cpl. Mark Fayloga
Combat Correspondent

Aggressive play, consistent passing and good communication led Headquarters Battalion Admin Assassins to a 6-0 slaying of the Patrol Squadron 9 Golden Eagles during an Intramural Soccer League regular season game at Pop Warner Field here Monday night.

Devon R. Cassells, Assassins mid field, was the game's most aggressive player and led his team in scoring with two goals. Sergio A. Hernandez, Assassins forward, was another key asset to the win scoring one goal of his own and racking up two assists.

Neither the Assassins (1-2) or the Eagles (0-2-1) had yet to put a slash in the win column prior to the night's game and both teams were hungry for their first victory. The Assassins' coach had been working his players on the fundamentals and was hoping it would pay off during the game.

"We've been practicing every day at (5 a.m.)," said Jorge Alvareznunez, Assassins coach and right mid. "I'm hoping they'll get their game together and get those passes

going. That way we can get control of the game."

The Assassins took control of the game from the first blow of the whistle. During the first half the ball spent over 75 percent of the time on the Eagles' side of the field. Although the Assassins had control of the game, they couldn't seem to slip the ball past the Eagles goalie, Charles Swan.

Swan had multiple saves during the first half, but with just over a minute and a half left before halftime Cassells managed to slip one in after being delivered a flawless cross pass from Hernandez.

At the end of the half the Assassins had a 1-0 lead. When the second half began the Assassins didn't waste any time adding to their lead. They continued with the aggressive style of play. Great communication between Hernandez and Jorge Lainez, center mid, garnered the Assassins their second goal of the game.

On a corner kick by Hernandez, Lainez spotted an opening and using hand signals



Lance Cpl. Regina A. Ruisi

Good Timers' left fielder Rashaun Harris steps up to the plate during the game versus MALS-24 Tuesday.

See POACH, C-2

Semper Fit Classes

Cardio Kick

If you're trying to get rid of pent up frustration or just looking for an awesome workout, this is the class for you! This high-energy class incorporates punches and kick combos to improve endurance, speed and agility while burning calories and increasing muscle tone.

Boot Camp

This class is an extremely intense cardio workout with a tough strengthening portion that is sometimes held in the basketball court for a more intense workout.

Stretch/Flexibility Training

Reach for those toes. Tired of having someone else scratch your back? Time to limber up. A class working on getting back the flexibility you once had or just stretching out those over-worked muscles. Stretch is a great way to reduce your chances of getting injured from tight muscles.

Core Conditioning

Ever wanted a stronger core? This 30-minute abdominal and back class will help you to develop a stronger core through various abs and back exercises.

Cycling

Tired of those boring 3-mile runs? Well, come for a ride with us. This class uses specialized stationary bikes that help you burn a large amount of calories and tone up while improving your core strength. Set to specialized music as you peddle off the pounds.

Cycle Express

For a high-intensity workout, try this one-hour class. It is sure to challenge your endurance levels through the use of various interval trainings while riding on a bike.

Gut Cut

You've heard the stories. Come experience it for yourself – or are you scared? This 30-minute abdominal class is designed to strengthen your core muscles.

Pilates

This amazing class uses a powerful series of non-impact exercises for total body sculpting. This class will help develop strength, flexibility, balance, and weight loss to sculpt lean, long muscles and reshape your body from head to toe.

Muscle Conditioning

Not coordinated for a traditional aerobics class? This class has minimal choreography so this is safe. A muscular endurance workout using hand weights and bands to work all muscle groups.

Step

This is a tried and true classic. Fads come and go, but step endures all. This fundamental class focuses on getting a great workout on the steps with basic choreography — nothing fancy — just hard work and a ton of sweat.

Step it Up

Step it up is a challenging 45-minute to one-hour step class incorporates one, two, or multiple steps with fun and choreography.

Step Challenge

To step it up even more. This class is for the seasoned stepper or for those just looking for a challenge. This class is a full hour of fun and challenging choreography.

Strength and Conditioning

Geared toward active duty personnel who get up early. This class focuses on strengthening the body utilizing hand weights, steps, bands and balls. This is a great alternative to running, running, and more running.

Water Aerobics

This non-impact workout is excellent for cardiovascular conditioning, flexibility and strengthening. Aqua training is a terrific way to gain fitness without the stresses of gravity experienced in land-based training.

Semper Fit Center Offers Array of Group Exercise Programs

New classes are now being offered and include a variety of workouts.

The class schedule for Fridays is as follows:

8:45 to 10 a.m.

Step Challenge

11:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

Gut Cut

4:45 to 5:45 p.m.

Cycling

5:45 to 6:45 p.m.

Pilates

7 to 9 p.m.

Aikido



Pic. Ethan Hoaldrige

Marines from Camp H.M. Smith demonstrate stretching exercises before the Annual Pearl City Complex Track Meet for eight different local elementary schools at Pearl City High School May 14.

Volunteer Marines meet, mentor, motivate local elementary students

Pfc. Ethan Hoaldrige

U.S. Marine Forces, Pacific

Pearl City, Hawaii — There were 2,000 bright yellow, blue, purple and white t-shirts funneling into a high school track field creating a collage of children, but ironically it was the olive-drab t-shirts worn by U.S. Marines that stuck out the most.

Marine volunteers from Camp H.M. Smith helped run the Annual Pearl City Complex Track Meet for eight different local elementary schools at Pearl City High School May 14.

Once the Marines stretched and warmed up the students, the children went on to their respective events.

The students participated in the long toss and long jump, but the main events took place on the track.

Hundreds of students, teachers and family were in the stands sending waves of roaring cheers for each race; the 100- and 200-meter dashes and the 400- and 800-meter relays.

Each event was coordinated by Marines, teaching staff and PCHS students to ensure safety of the students, escort the children to each event and to enforce the rules and regulations for the track meet.

"The Marines are a blessing to the students and the teaching staff as well," said Dr. Susan Hirokane, principal, Pearl City Elementary School. "We really appreciate the sacrifice they make to come out and mentor the children in so many different ways."

The Marines also come and read to the



Pic. Ethan Hoaldrige

Sgt. Joseph Kuehner, left, and Cpl. Edwin Ortiz, right, both U.S. Marine Corps Forces, Pacific Adopt-a-School Program volunteers, ran the long-jump event during the Annual Pearl City Complex Track Meet.

children and conduct physical education as part of the Adopt-a-School Program.

"Their service is an excellent example of the great partnership the Marines share with our community," said Hirokane.

The experience from volunteering is also beneficial to the Marines.

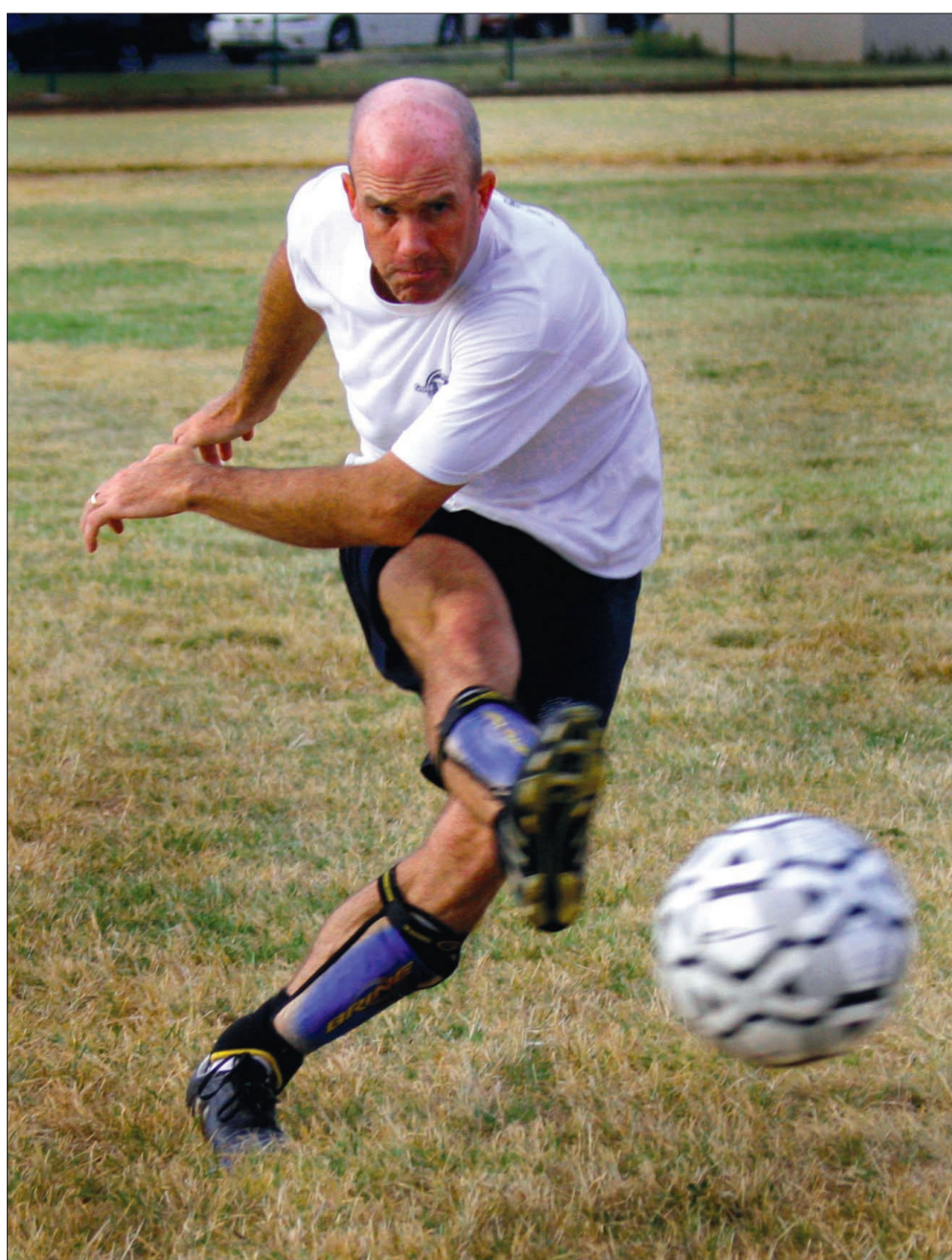
"It's a phenomenal experience for the Marines to teach and mentor kids who might be two grade-levels behind in reading," said Staff Sgt. Obi Rogers, coordinator, Camp H.M. Smith Adopt-a-School Program. "When the children progress it shows that our influence is making a last-

ing positive impact on the community."

The children made their gratitude evident with every high-five, hug and smile exchanged with the Marines during the track meet.

"This is my first time volunteering with the Adopt-a-School Program," said Cpl. Nevoy A. Dyson, administration non-commissioned officer, G-3. "It's gratifying to see the kids having this much fun."

Service members or civilians aboard Camp H.M. Smith who are interested in volunteering can contact Staff Sgt. Obi Rogers at 477-8955.



Cpl. Mark Fayloga

Steven K. Perry, Assassins center mid, boots the ball down field during an Intramural Soccer League regular season game at Pop Warner Field Monday night.

POACH, from C-1

pointed it out to Hernandez. With the precision of a laser guided missile Hernandez booted the ball right into the open territory in the midst of four defenders. Lainez came flying through and hammer-kicked the ball before any defender knew what was what.

"We were up one to nothing and I knew we needed another goal to give ourselves a better chance at winning," said Lainez. "I saw the wide open spot, put my hand up to Hernandez and he delivered a really good pass. The goal felt great."

Down two goals and with a little over twenty minutes left in regulation the Eagles needed to step up their game. Unfortunately for the Eagles, the Assassins had enough players on the bench to field fresh replacements, a luxury the Eagles didn't have. With fresh players on the field the Assassins continued their domination.

"The fresh players definitely played a factor in the win," said Alvareznunez. "After running up and down the whole field for about 15 minutes you get tired. So, if you get a replacement in there you keep yourself fresh. You get new players out there and you win the game."

With fresh feet the Assassins continued their onslaught with four more goals coming in from Pierre Beckford, Cassells, Hernandez and Steven Perry. The Eagles were given a last minute chance to put points on the board but failed to capitalize on a penalty kick. With the team's first win of the season the Assassins were riding high and are looking forward to more wins.

"We started gelling in this game and really came together," said Alvareznunez. "We're looking for another win and if we keep the communication up and the clean passes we should have that win."

SPOTLIGHT ON SPORTS

Sports Briefs

Varsity Men's Softball applications are still being accepted for players.

The Women's Softball team meets every Thursday at 6 p.m. at the Annex Field. The team is still looking for players to participate.

Varsity Men's and Women's Basketball coaches are needed. Applications are currently being accepted.

The All Marine Golf team is now accepting applications for qualified players. Qualified men must have a handicap of 4 or lower and qualified females must have a 14 or lower handicap. For more information, call Meghan Brophy at 254-7590 or stop by Building 219 for an application. The following are the dates and locations of the tournaments.

- All-Marine (Sept. 14-20) MCB Lejeune
- Armed Forces (Sept. 21-27) NAS Oceana, VA
- CISM (Sept. 30 - Oct. 6) Pretoria, South Africa

Commander's Cup stats

Team Standings													
Place	Team Name	Points Won	Points Lost	Team Ave	HDCP	Pins plus Handicap	Place	Team Name	Points Won	Points Lost	Team Ave	HDCP	Pins plus Handicap
1	AINOKEA	49	19	636	130	39905	11	4th Force Recon	36	32	549	199	38296
2	Illegal Affairs:ReDux	44½	23½	655	114	40182	12	Flaming Hookers	34	34	615	147	38613
3	Team Whidbey	41½	26½	588	169	38895	13	Pinheads	32½	35½	544	204	38441
4	3 Putts	41	27	562	188	38734	14	Big Ern's Kids	27	41	545	202	33873
5	Ghost Team	39½	28½	596	162	39258	15	The Blue Ballers	25	43	543	205	35607
6	BANNED	39	29	615	146	38778	16	Team 3	25	43	609	151	31405
7	Team 17	38	30	455	274	38141	17	Da Pin Droppers	24	44	456	274	38086
8	VP-9	38	30	529	215	38125	18	The Untouchables	24	44	460	270	36999
9	Golden Eagle's	36	32	623	141	39096	19	The Happy Team	23	45	521	222	35834
10	Effin'H	36	32	596	162	38881	20	Team Ramrod	22	46	469	263	35310

Results of Last Week's Bowling....

Lanes	Team Name	-1-	-2-	-3-	HDCP Total	Last Wk WON	Team Name	-1-	-2-	-3-	HDCP Total	Last Wk WON
1-2	The Untouchables	660	720	716	2096	1	Team 17	798	748	697	2243	3
3-4	BANNED	717	746	817	2280	0	The Blue Ballers	895	851	825	2571	4
5-6	Team Ramrod	698	684	671	2053	0	AINOKEA	763	844	749	2356	4
7-8	VP-9	780	846	742	2368	4	Big Ern's Kids	727	730	725	2182	0
9-10	Golden Eagle's	804	822	769	2395	4	The Happy Team	754	746	729	2229	0
11-12	Da Pin Droppers	737	701	703	2141	0	Team Whidbey	761	784	767	2312	4
13-14	Effin'H	697	816	773	2286	3	Team 3	713	757	754	2224	1
15-16	Flaming Hookers	737	769	741	2247	0	3 Putts	783	778	856	2417	4
17-18	Ghost Team	790	703	767	2260	3	Illegal Affairs:ReDux	656	771	730	2157	1
19-20	Pinheads	748	756	747	2251	1	4th Force Recon	725	772	787	2284	3

*** Last Week's High Scores for Immediate Release ***

	Scratch Game	Scratch Game	Scratch Series	Scratch Series
Men	233 Salvatore Taibi	209 Marc Gonsalves	612 Salvatore Taibi	
	228 Jim Martin	206 Adam Ayotte	572 Richard Weiss	
	227 Jason Gilbert	205 Richard Weiss	571 Marc Gonsalves	
	221 Joshua Peterson	205 Salvatore Taibi		
	217 Matthew Tumbrick	203 Shawn Harrison		
	212 Scott Hammond	201 Marc Gonsalves		
Women	212 Melenie Nixon	187 Kumi Martin	572 Melenie Nixon	493 Kumi Martin
	204 Anet Marsh		534 Anet Marsh	



Intramural Softball Standings

TEAM	WINS	LOSSES
CSSG-3	11	0
3RD RADIO BN	8	3
MALS-24	7	3
2/3 "WEAPONS"	5	5
HQBN	5	5
VP-9	3	4
MCAF "BYE WEEK"	4	6
2/2	4	6
HSL-37	4	6
VP-47	4	6
MCAF "GOOD TIMERS"	3	7
MALS-24 "SUPPLY"	2	9

* standings as of May 22

Dance Movement Academy and K-Bay Gymnastics

Dance and Gymnastics classes are available for youth between the ages of 1 and 18.

Classes are held Monday through Saturday and encompass areas of interest such as Team Gymnastics, Cheerleading, Tumbling & Trampoline, Jazz & Tap Dancing, Hula and others.

Interested participants are offered one FREE trial class.

Just call 808-479-3273 to arrange your free class.

Fees will vary according to class frequency and length.



2007 Intramural Soccer Standings

TEAM	WINS	LOSSES	TIES	PTS
3RD RADIO BN	2	0	0	4
CSSG-3	2	0	0	4
MALS-24	1	1	1	3
VPU-2	1	1	0	2
HQBN	1	2	0	2
HSL-37	1	2	0	2
VP-9	0	2	1	1

* standings as of May 22



Indy Motor Speedway salutes service members

Gerry J. Gilmore

American Forces Press Service

INDIANAPOLIS — Amid the howl of revved-up racecars, the Indianapolis Motor Speedway May 20 showcased its 27th Armed Forces Day program with a group enlistment of recruits from all services and other military-themed events.

The track held its Armed Forces Day activities in conjunction with final timed qualifications, called "Bump Day," to fill out the 33-car field for the Indianapolis 500 race Sunday.

Near the entrance of the track's green-tinted glass "Pagoda," U.S. Sen. Richard G. Lugar of Indiana gave the oath of enlistment as 61 Indiana young people raised their right hands to join the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force or Coast Guard.

"The whole community wants to honor the people who've made the decision you've made to serve your country," Lugar told the recruits before the swearing-in ceremony. "Thank you so much for being here and for your commitment."

Lugar thanked speedway president and chief executive officer Tony George, noting this is the 27th year the track has hosted Armed Forces Day events. Lugar was among several prominent officials who participated in the Armed Forces Day program, which preceded the start of the day's qualification runs.

Lugar presented a \$105,000 college scholarship to each of four Indiana recruits who plan to obtain ROTC-sourced commissions upon graduation.

The speedway is among the more than 250 businesses and organizations nationwide that participate in the Defense Department's America Supports You program, which recognizes citizens' support for military men and women and communicates that support to members of the U.S. armed forces here and abroad.

The speedway "is proud of this special tradition today honoring the men and women of the armed services, past and the present, who with great ability have defended our country," George said, adding the speedway "is proud, also, to be the location of this enlistment ceremony and the (oath of enlistment) service provided by Sen. Lugar."

Allison Barber, deputy assistant secretary of defense for public liaison and internal communications, hailed George and his staff for their support.

When the America Supports You program was launched three years ago, Barber said she'd approached Tony George and his staff if they'd be interested in helping to support the troops.

"And, the folks at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway said: 'Sign us up,'" Barber recalled. "Tony, thank you for your support."

Barber said she's impressed with the patriotism evidenced by the new military members and their families.

"When you see that kind of determination and tenacity and focus on mission, it gives you a great sense as an American citizen that we have young men and women in the military who say, 'We want to serve our country,'" Barber said.

Tracy Funk's 17-year-old son, Mitchell, joined the Air Force during the enlistment ceremony. Funk said she's proud of her son's decision.



Gerry J. Gilmore

U.S. Sen. Richard G. Lugar of Indiana gives the oath of enlistment as 61 young people raise their right hands to join the Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force or Coast Guard on May 20 at Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

"His dad is retired Air Force, and Mitchell has always wanted to follow in his dad's footsteps. We're very proud of him," the 40-year-old mother and Brownsburg, Ind., resident said. "I believe in the training, and I'm confident that he'll be safe."

Funk believes a lot of young people "are missing out" by not joining the military. "To serve your country is an honor, and it's a privilege," she said.

Mitchell, who wants to become a helicopter gunner, said he's not worried about being deployed overseas.

"We enjoy our freedom because of the men and women serving right now, and I am very proud that I get to do that," he added.

Indiana Army National Guardsman Staff Sgt. Patrick Shannon was on hand to take three laps around the track with three-time Indy winner Johnny Rutherford at the wheel of the 2007 Chevrolet Corvette pace car. Shannon also waved the green flag to start the day's qualification trials. A member of Indiana's 38th Infantry Division, based in Indianapolis,

Shannon was wounded in Ramadi, Iraq, in November.

Shannon said he was inspired to see the speedway and America Supports You honor the nation's servicemembers.

"Any time that a company or individuals appreciate the military is outstanding," Shannon said. "It's a great feeling to know America's behind you and that people support you."

Several teams, including Indianapolis-based Playa del Racing, will sport America Supports You decals on the engine covers of their racecars during the Indy 500 race.

The troops "really do a great job of representing our country," David Morgan, Playa del Racing's team manager, said as mechanics prepped the team's two 650-horsepower, Honda-V-8-powered machines. "It's important to support what they're doing."

2007 Sport Hall of Fame induction ceremony announced

Press Release

Headquarters, Marine Corps

MARINE CORPS BASE QUANTICO, Va. — The Commandant of the Marine Corps will host the 2007 U.S. Marine Corps Sports Hall of Fame induction ceremony here at the Clubs at Quantico, Aug. 17, at 11 a.m.

Gen. James T. Conway will induct former Marines Angelo Bertelli, Leo Nomellini, Gil Hodges, and Robert Wanzer at a luncheon ceremony that will celebrate their achievements.

Bertelli, a former Marine captain, was the 1943 Heisman Trophy winner and is a member of the College Football Hall of Fame. Nomellini, a former Marine staff sergeant, was a six-time All Pro and a member of the College and Pro Football Hall of Fames.

Hodges, a former Marine sergeant, was an eight-time All-Star and the 1969 Major League Baseball Manager of the Year. Wanzer, a former Marine corporal, is a five-time NBA All-Star and a member of the National Basketball Hall of Fame.

The United States Marine Corps Sports Hall of Fame honors former Marines who have excelled both on and off the athletic playing field. Established in 2001, Hall of Fame inductees will be enshrined in the National Museum of the United States Marine Corps at the Heritage Center near Quantico Virginia.

Twenty-one former Marines have been selected for the Hall of Fame since it was founded in 2001. Past inductees include baseball legend Ted Williams, Olympic great Robert B. Mathias, International Boxing Hall of Fame member Ken Norton, and Pro Football Hall of Fame member Arthur Donovan Jr.

Also to be honored at the induction ceremony will be numerous Marine champion athletes to include the 2006 Marine Corps Male and Female athletes of the year.

For more information about the Marine Corps Sports Hall or the Marine Corps Athlete's of the Year, please contact Steven Dinote, HQMC Semper Fit, (703) 784- 9542, or email steven.dinote@us mc.mil.

AROUND THE CORPS

5K run to benefit Bob Woodruff Foundation

Lance Cpl. Tyler J. Hlavac
MCB Camp Butler

KADENA AIR BASE, OKINAWA, Japan — It's five minutes before the run, and the starting line is packed with active duty service members, civilians and children as young as six. They're here to help support a charity started by a man who knows all too well the dangers service members in combat zones face every day.

That man is Bob Woodruff, an ABC news correspondent who was injured by an improvised explosive device while embedded with the Army's 4th Infantry Division in Iraq. He suffered multiple wounds in the attack, including a blow to the head that resulted in a severe brain injury. A joint Army and Air Force neurosurgical team in Iraq stabilized him long enough to safely transport him back to the United States for further treatment at the Bethesda Naval Hospital in Maryland.

According to the account of the incident posted on the Bob Woodruff Family Fund Web site, Woodruff spent five weeks in a medically induced coma at Bethesda before waking up March 6, 2006. With injuries to the left frontal lobe of his brain, he had difficulty retrieving words and remembering things — he could not even remember the names of his brothers or his children. The doctors had removed 14 centimeters of his skull to relieve the pressure on his brain.

As a result of his injuries and the subsequent care he received from the military, Woodruff decided to open the Bob Woodruff Family Fund for Traumatic Brain Injury to raise money to assist members of the military with cognitive rehabilitation and other care needs following a traumatic brain injury suffered during service to their country.

A group of nurses from the 18th Air Medical Evacuation Squadron on Kadena Air Base took notice of the organization and decided to do something to contribute to what they said was a very worthy charity. The group regularly conducts fund raisers for charities and found this one particularly appealing.

"We chose the Woodruff fund because it gives to all branches of service equally

and because traumatic brain injury happens to many service members who are injured in Iraq," said Capt. Cindy McCullough, a flight nurse with the squadron.

Some of the runners in the field had already experienced firsthand the effects of a traumatic brain injury.

"My husband is currently serving in Iraq and his sister was involved in a car accident and suffered brain injury, so this run is important to us," said participant Jenny Dumpert, who attended the race with her two children. She said it meant a lot to her that service members who suffer the same injuries can benefit from the Woodruff charity.

The event raised \$541 and 100 percent will be donated to the Bob Woodruff Fund, said Capt. Jeannette Ward, a flight nurse with the squadron.

For more information about the Bob Woodruff Family Fund for Traumatic Brain Injury visit the organization's Web site at <http://www.bobwoodrufffamilyfund.org>.



Lance Cpl. Tyler J. Hlavac

Participants cross the starting line during a run on Kadena Air Base to raise money for the Bob Woodruff Family Fund, an organization established to help service members who suffer from traumatic brain injuries.