

THE GLOBE



Deployed Marines develop keen eye for IEDs | 3A

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U.S. Marines working with local police in Qaim

Jim Garamone
American Forces Press Service

CAMPAL QAIM, Iraq — A Marine Corps police transition team is working here to equip and train Iraqi police. While there are many obstacles to surmount, there are signs of progress, U.S. officials said.

When Marine Maj. Robert Marshall, the officer in charge of the Police Transition Team, arrived in April, there were two half-built police stations and three or four officers. Now there are hundreds of police on the rolls and officers to lead them.

The coalition team has 17 members split between U.S. military active-duty and reserve personnel and civilian police officers from the International Police Liaison Office. "The PTT team is a guide to help the Iraqi police stand up and be an effective force in the area," Marshall said.

Unlike Iraqi army soldiers, police officers must be recruited locally. Iraqi men have stepped forward in this predominantly Sunni area to serve. Once selected, police recruits go to a 10-week training academy in either Baghdad or Jordan and report back here.

The Iraqi police are the true local security force, Marshall said. "Most of them live within walking distance of their stations, which is what makes them so dangerous to the insurgents, because they know who doesn't belong in their neighborhoods," the major said. "When something goes wrong, we have no clue what's going on out here, and they are tapped in."

But there are many obstacles. Most police squads do not have adequate vehicles, radios or gear to be effective, Marshall said.

Fallujah and Ramadi — key

cities in the area — get the lion's share of resources in Anbar province. Qaim has a lesser priority, U.S. officials said.

The goal in the area is for 2,000 Iraqi police. But a 40 percent literacy rate in the region cuts the number of potential recruits and makes that goal difficult to achieve. The Iraqi army is more established and drains the pool of recruits even more, officials said.

A saving grace is the good working relationship the police team has with the U.S. Marine Military Transition Team in the area and with the

1st Battalion, 7th Marines — the coalition security force in the region.

Pay is another problem for Iraqi police. Interior Ministry officials are working to deal with the problem, but often the money just doesn't arrive, U.S. officials said.

Marshall said the transition team members thought they would be working to help the police learn investigative techniques. But for the most part, the team is working to strengthen logistics and "giving moral support."

See QAIM page 9A

Bush pays surprise visit

Gerry J. Gilmore
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — President George W. Bush arrived in Baghdad Tuesday on a surprise visit to new Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki.

Bush had been meeting at Camp David, Md., with his national security team to discuss the way forward in Iraq. He was to have met with Maliki and other Iraqi leaders via teleconference Tuesday, but traveled to Baghdad in secret overnight.

He shook hands with a surprised looking Maliki in front of television cameras at the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad Tuesday evening local time.

Speaking at Camp David Monday evening, Bush said the United States is resolved to assist the new democratic Iraqi government, the performance of which will ultimately determine victory or defeat in Iraq.

"We all agree that we have got to continue to help this new government move forward," Bush told reporters after a day of meetings with senior advisers including Vice President Richard B. Cheney, Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, and Joint Chiefs Chairman Marine Gen. Peter Pace.

"Success in Iraq will depend upon the capacity of the new government to provide for its people. We recognize that," Bush said.

The senior-level meetings and Bush's surprise trip come on the heels of two major successes in Iraq. On June 7, the Iraqi government announced the long-awaited appointment of its defense and interior ministers and the country's head of



Staff Sgt. James Sherrill
Bush visits Iraq: U.S. President George W. Bush and Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki walk together outside the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad, Tuesday.

national security, just a day after al Qaeda in Iraq leader Abu Musab al-Zarqawi was killed near Baqubah during an attack by U.S. military aircraft.

Bush yesterday said he was encouraged by progress in the formation of the new Iraqi government, noting the United States recognizes its responsibility to help that new government.

Asked by reporters about Zarqawi's apparent successor, Abu Hamza al-Muhajir, Bush replied: "I think the successor to Zarqawi is going to be on our list to bring to justice."

Reporters also quizzed the president on how the U.S. and the Iraqi government can defeat an insurgency that continues to conduct deadly attacks. Establishing democracy in Iraq, Bush said, is a difficult and dangerous endeavor that's worth the cost.

The insurgents "have no pos-

itive philosophy," the President said. "All they can do is kill and hope that the government splits up or that the American people lose their will."

The Iraqis can help themselves by establishing a strong, fair and capable new government, Bush said.

"The best way to win this war against an insurgency is to stand up a unity government which is capable of defending itself, but also providing tangible benefits to the people," Bush said. Iraq is a rich country, he said, with plentiful resources to share among all of its citizens.

But Iraqis must decide to become a unified people in order to combat terror, defeat the insurgency and live in peace, Bush said. "And the United States and our coalition will help them realize their ambitions if they choose to live in peace and hope, which we believe they will." ■

Autopsies confirm blast killed terrorist leader

Jim Garamone
American Forces Press Service

BAGHDAD — Abu Musab al-Zarqawi died of blast injuries sustained by the coalition bombing of his safe house June 7, coalition officials said recently.

The officials also said that DNA testing proves that the body is that of the terrorist leader. "We have clear evidence he died of blast injuries," said Army Col. Steve Jones, the command surgeon in Iraq. "There is no evidence to suggest that he was beaten and I have no reason to suspect that happened."

Jones and coalition military spokesman Army Maj. Gen. Bill Caldwell briefed reporters on the results of the autopsies Monday.

The results of autopsies on Zarqawi and Sheik Abd al-Rahman - Zarqawi's spiritual adviser - prove that both men died of massive blast injuries. Zarqawi survived for a time, but blast injuries to his lungs stopped oxygen from being absorbed into the blood.

"The cause of death was closed-space primary blast injury of the lung," Jones said. "Blast waves from the two bombs caused tearing, bruising of the lungs and bleeding."

The injuries cannot be seen without opening the body. "All the injuries found were consistent with those found on blast victims," Jones said.

Coalition experts conducted the autopsies to put an end to "speculation, misinformation and propaganda," Caldwell said.

The Iraqi people deserve the facts and the fact "that he was treated better in death than he treated his victims in life," Caldwell said.

Senior DoD pathologists conducted the autopsies. "Two medical examiners participated in each autopsy to ensure it was thorough and there were no questions about the findings," Jones said.

All coalition officials said that the bodies of Zarqawi and Rahman were treated with the utmost respect. "We treated them with the same high degree of dignity and respect that we treat our own casualties," Jones said.

Caldwell said coalition and Iraqi forces conducted 11 raids, mostly in the Baghdad region, on targets from information gleaned from the ruins of the house Zarqawi was killed in. ■



Zarqawi

DoD to inform service members of data loss on pay statements

Sgt. Sara Wood
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — The Defense Department will inform service members who could be affected by the May theft of personal data from the Department of Veterans Affairs through their monthly pay statements, a DoD spokesman said Monday.

DoD is in the middle of an analysis to determine how many active-duty, Reserve and National Guard service members could be affected by the data loss, which occurred when a VA employee loaded personal data onto a laptop, which was then stolen from his home, Army Lt. Col. Jeremy Martin said. The VA initially reported that the data stolen included personal information on as many as 26.5 million veterans, and later updated the report to include as many as 1.1 million active-duty service members, 430,000 National Guardsmen, and 645,000 members of the Reserves as possible victims.

These numbers are preliminary, as the DoD and VA are still working

Conway nominated for CMC



Sgt. Joseph R. Chenelly

Baghdad: Lt. Gen. James T. Conway (left), Col. Steven A. Hummer (center) and Col. Larry K. Brown discuss Operation Iraqi Freedom in Baghdad. Conway was the commanding general of 1st Marine Expeditionary Force. Hummer was the commanding officer of 7th Marine Regiment. Brown was the operations officer for 1st Marine Expeditionary Force. Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld announced Lt. Gen. James T. Conway has been nominated for appointment to the grade of general and for appointment as the commandant of the Marine Corps. The above photo was taken during initial operations in Iraq. Conway is currently serving as the director of operations, J-3, Joint Staff, Washington.

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Man on the street

What advice can you give someone checking-in to a new unit?



"Prepare to train and have an open mind. Your old duty station will be different from your new duty station."

Chief Warrant Officer Carlos V. Cruz
Student
Personnel Administration Officer School
Camp Johnson
McAllen, Texas

"Bring an NCO with you when you buy a car."



Staff Sgt. Frank A. Davis Jr.
Retail Specialist
CLR-27
2nd MLG
San Diego



"To make sure you square away your alphas and are ready for inspection. Make sure you speak loudly and clearly."

Pfc. Joseph L. Diaz
Maintenance management clerk
H & S Co., 3rd Bn., 6th Marines
2nd MarDiv
Bridgeport, Conn.

"It's a new experience for you so don't appear shy."



Lance Cpl. Stefan D. Trimm
Supply warehouse clerk
HQ Co., 2nd Bn., 10th Marines
2nd MarDiv
Covington, Ga.



"Listen to your staff NCO's, don't associate with the wrong crowd and always be a Marine — on and off duty."

2nd Lt. Jason Moore
S-4 officer
2nd CEB
2nd MarDiv
Hebron, S.C.

Public transportation void felt on Lejeune

Lance Cpl. Adam Johnston
Marine Corps Base

As a teenager growing up in the suburbs of Chicago, getting from point A to point B was usually not a problem. Like most urban environments, nearly all of the places I wanted to go were either right down the street or well within walking distance. But no matter how big a city you live in, some destinations are just too far away.

Fortunately for residents of the Windy City, the Chicago Transit Authority has been in service since Oct. 1, 1947. With a fleet of more than 3,190 buses and rapid transit cars, the CTA currently operates the second largest public transportation system in the nation. Like any form of mass transit, the CTA serves its purpose of providing a means of reasonably priced transportation for those without one.

Roughly, as of June, more than 31,000 lance corporals or below are stationed on either Camp Lejeune, Marine Corps Air Station New River or Camp Johnson. However, only about 8,000 of those who are stationed on Camp Lejeune and Camp Johnson have a personally owned vehicle registered with the base vehicle registration office. Based on these numbers alone, I'd say the time is now; the need for a base bus system is real.

Without a POV, there's basically three different ways to get off base:

Carpool — Though effective, your buddy won't always be there to personally chauffeur you around town.

Walk — I'm all for physical training, but roughly a 2 1/2 hour, 8.5 mile trek from the exchange to the mall is a little much; trust me, I've done it on numerous occasions.

And finally, the taxicab — The mode most Marines and sailors must turn to for a way off base.

The moment you set foot in a Jacksonville cab, you're automatically charged \$2.50, also known as a drop fee. For every 1/10 of a mile thereafter, the rate is .17 cents. Therefore, a ride from the exchange to the front gate would cost about \$8.30, while a ride to the mall would run close to \$16.80.

So, how can these taxi companies stay in business with such high rates? When I'm in the market for a certain product or service, I look for the best deal I can find. Why aren't they competing amongst each other for our business?

According to Sgt. Lance Greenwood, a Jacksonville police offi-

cer with the department's property management division, the city council are the ones responsible for regulating taxi rates within the city limits.

"Prior to May 2004, there hadn't been a rate increase in more than 20 years," said Greenwood. "In lobbying for the change, cab company owners talked about how the cost of business had gone up over the years, and yet the rates had stayed the same."

OK, so I can see where they're coming from in this respect; just look at how much gas prices have skyrocketed recently. But in all honesty, taxi rates aren't the real issue here. Cabs were never meant to serve as a means of public transportation; they're too expensive for people to use on a regular basis. Like I said before, a bus system is exactly what this base needs.

Actually, Camp Lejeune already has a bus system, but very few people know about it. It makes stops at Courthouse Bay, Camp Geiger, Camp Johnson and various locations on mainbase. During the weekends, it even offers service to the United Service Organizations of North Carolina out in town.

So, here's the big question — Why doesn't the base bus stop at the mall? Not that there's anything wrong with the USO, but the mall's central location would make it an ideal stop. From there, everything is within a reasonable walking distance.

Unfortunately, I don't have the answer to this one. If I did, then this article would be pointless. But, what I do know is Marines and sailors aren't taking this issue lying down.

While walking to the mall a few weeks ago, a car pulled over to the side of the road and the man inside offered me a ride. Normally, I would never accept one from a complete stranger, but I could tell he was in the service, so I hopped in. Minutes later, he gave me his card.

Military Cab: Cheaper than a Taxi — Go Anywhere.

"Most of the Marines and sailors who use the taxis are E-3's and below," said John Doe, the Military Cab driver who requested that his name remain undisclosed. "These are the guys who are fighting for our freedom over in Iraq; they're the backbone of this community. With what little money they have, it's not right for a taxi ride to cost so much."

When he dropped me off at the mall, I asked Doe how much I owed him. He said the ride was free of charge, but tips

were greatly appreciated.

"I gladly gave the ride, I gladly gave the ride, I gladly gave the ride," said Doe.

Although Doe mentioned Base Order 4651.2, technically an unauthor-

Every taxicab within the laws of the state, the taxicab ordinance issuing municipalities as established according to the ordinance.

One such rule, which the City of Jacksonville Ordinance, Chapter Section 24-63, direct-

It shall be unlawful for an operator of a taxicab in excess of or under provided by the city ordinance.

"Giving a ride to someone or even the occasional ride you don't, is perfectly Mark Vuletic, the be-

"It's when you actively for passengers that this By soliciting passen-

advertising his service the provost marshal's the wrong.

"Even if the ride money you give is simply defray gas expenses, as a business for hire regular basis," said

who is operating an on base may be subject under the [Uniform Justice].

After being informed what he was doing was continued the operation and set out to get the proper channels.

"Hopefully, no late can arrange some sort base and get a shuttle said Doe. "At \$10 per extra money Marines a saving might even be economy. I'm going to within my power to ma-

And that's what I take care of it. Tell noncommissioned offi-

pany commander, you mander, and anyone e-

Reasonably priced and from the mall; no r-

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Semper Safe

Important regulations that affect all of us

How often do you see someone running on the road or riding a bicycle without a helmet and think to yourself, "That isn't safe!" or "What are they thinking?" Unfortunately, it happens a lot. Here are some important regulations from Base Order P5560.2L that affect all of us, one way or another:

Pedestrians (includes jogging and walking)

- Walk, or run, on the left side of roadway facing traffic, stay at least six feet from the edge of the roadway (very commonly violated).
- Do not impede the flow of traffic.
- Use sidewalks when available.
- Must wear reflective gear from evening to morning colors and during reduced visibility.
- Always have the right of way when crossing a road, but ensure that right is given before you cross (note: crosswalks are not required, Drivers!).

Bicyclists (includes mopeds)

- Observe same rules and regulations as motorists. Ride on the right edge of the road with the flow of traffic in single file (commonly violated).
- Riding on Holcomb Blvd. between Brewster Blvd. and Sneads Ferry Road is prohibited.
- May operate at night if equipped with headlights, rear red reflectors, and reflectors in spokes.
- Must wear a helmet that meets SNELL or ANSI standards.
- Must wear a reflective vest as outer garment from evening to morning colors and during reduced visibility (Same vest as a motorcycle rider).
- **Skateboarding and Roller Skates**
- Confined to housing areas and barracks parking lots, prohibited anywhere else.
- Must wear a helmet that meets ANSI standards (MCO 5100.19E).

- Must wear a reflective vest as outer garment from evening to morning colors and during reduced visibility (Same vest as a motorcycle rider) (MCO 5100.19E).
- **Headphones/Earphones**
- Portable headphones, earphones, or listening devices that block both ears are prohibited (commonly violated).
- Stereo volume that invades the privacy of any individual is prohibited.
- Respecting the rights of others by knowing and following the above regulations will ensure adequate traffic flow without jeopardizing pedestrian safety. Particular emphasis must be placed on the protection of our children to and from school, entering and leaving school buses, and playing in military housing areas.
- *As Marines and sailors, we live by our ethos. So think before you jeopardize the safety of your fellow Marines, sailors, civilian employees or family members and remember Semper Safe!* ■

Purple Heart Banquet

All combat wounded veterans are invited June 24 at 6 p.m. at the American Legion Hall. Guest speaker Lt. Gen. James F. Amos. Reservations required by today. Uniform for active duty: Service "A" (higher optional). Retirees: suit and tie. Send proof of award with RSVP to P.O. Box 6 Jacksonville, N.C. 28541. Menu and further details available at www.ncpurpleheart.org. You can also e-mail purpleheart642@ec.r.com or rsvp@ncpurpleheart.org. If you have any questions, call Sgt. Maj. Mac McGee at 455-5372.

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medical team in Indonesia passes 2,000 patients mark



Lance Cpl. Warren Peace

Sewon, Indonesia: Homeless children line the streets begging for money and food after a massive earthquake devastated the island of Java, Indonesia. More than 33,000 people were injured during the disaster.

morphed into a deliverer of a broad spectrum of post disaster health services," said Navy Capt. David A. Lane, the 3rd MEB command surgeon. "These services even include tetanus vaccinations for all patients with open wounds."

3rd MEB vaccinations have augmented efforts by the World Health Organization to address serious concerns about the vulnerability to disease caused by the earthquake.

The earthquake's destruction displaced hundreds of thousands of Indonesians. Many are at risk of contracting tetanus, a devastating bacterial infection that usually originates from a contaminated laceration or deep puncture wound. Tetanus causes prolonged contraction of muscles resulting from rapidly repeated motor impulses, and it is fatal in more than 30 percent of cases.

Several cases of tetanus have surfaced already, and 3rd MEB personnel have started a mass vaccination program, according to Tausch.

"We came here with about 10,000 doses of tetanus vaccine, and we're working to get through all 10,000 doses," Tausch said. "Basically, our mobile medical teams are going door-to-door to support the Indonesian governments' efforts to address the tetanus threat."

Tausch said he believes the teams have already administered about half of the 10,000

doses, and they're trying to administer the remainder as quickly as possible.

"We're going to vaccinate as many as we can while we're here," he said. "Tetanus is threatening their lives here."

Since the relief effort began, KC-130 Hercules aircraft from Marine Aerial Refueler Transport Squadron 152, based at Marine Corps Air Station Futenma in Okinawa, Japan, have provided non-stop trans-

portation and logistical support for the ever-changing operation. The Marines have flown 52 sorties and logged more than 282 flight hours, moving essential supplies and personnel to the overwhelmed area.

The Indonesian government announced recently that it would begin transitioning this weekend from the emergency phase to the recovery phase of relief operations.

Secretary of Defense

Donald Rumsfeld met recently with the Indonesian Defense Minister Juwono Sudarsono. During the meeting, they discussed the combined efforts of U.S. and Indonesian forces in the disaster relief effort, which involves more than 20 countries.

Marine officials reported that Sudarsono expressed his appreciation for U.S. involvement, and Rumsfeld and Sudarsono also discussed a timeline for the

retrograde of III MEF forces.

"We've seen a drastic increase in patients with non-earthquake related ailments at our medical support facility," Tausch said. "And our mobile medical teams that have been working with local medical facilities have indicated that these facilities no longer need our assistance."

Lance Cpl. Warren Peace contributed to this report from Indonesia. ■

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Deployed Marines develop keen eyes for IEDs, suspected insurgents

t. Roe F. Seigle
mental Combat Team 7

I, Iraq — Marines operating in Euphrates Valley city have for locating improvised explosive devices the number one weapon of choice in Al Anbar province.

pl. Robert Gaye, a squad leader from Hawaii-based 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, is also getting a little local populace in finding IEDs to do harm to innocent civilians

ines and Iraqi soldiers conduct security patrols in the volatile area, a city of 30,000 nestled along the Northwest of Baghdad ever that an IED has been placed by an

atrols, in temperatures surpassing 100 degrees, the Marines and Iraqi soldiers put a strong message — insurgency against Coalition Forces will not be tolerated.

thinks the local populace is beginning to turn away from the insurgents from the Hawaii-based 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment in an area of an improvised explosive device on a highly-traveled roadway.

ines were enroute to the location, they spotted two more insurgents on the same roadway only kilometers away. The Marines cordoned off the area to prevent vehicles and entering the area.

oadside bombs was detonated in a Navy explosive ordnance disposal



Sgt. Roe F. Seigle

Euphrates Valley: Sgt. Mennen Suleiman, a squad leader assigned to the Hawaii-based Company K, 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, sifts through a blast site from an improvised explosive device to look for evidence of the type of munitions used in the roadside bomb May 30.

team, without damaging any nearby houses or military equipment. The second IED was disabled without detonation.

"I think the citizens here are beginning to realize that we are not the enemy and want to cooperate with us," said Gaye, 23, a squad leader assigned to Company K after returning from a patrol through the streets of Haqlaniyah.

Still, IEDs have accounted for about 50 percent of all U.S. fatalities in Iraq, according to the Iraq Coalition Casualty Count — an organization which tallies U.S. and Coalition casualties based off

Department of Defense press releases.

However, the Marines from Company K are not being deterred by the threat IEDs pose, said Gaye, a native of Trafford, Pa.

"Looking for signs of an IED...has become second nature to a lot of the Marines," said Gaye, who is a veteran of Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan and has had six personal experiences with IEDs. He saw one explode on a roadway in March, the

month Kilo Company arrived in Haqlaniyah and assumed control of the battle space. He said no Marines were injured because of the amount of protective armor put on the military vehicles.

"When an IED explodes, you do not have time to get scared," said Gaye. "Your first thought is you hope none of the Marines got hurt."

The Marines are developing a keen eye for suspicious individuals. While the Marines were waiting for the explosive ordnance disposal unit to arrive and detonate the IEDs, Gaye and a few of his Marines noticed two men wandering around the area. The Marines had already cordoned off. Gaye's instinct told him the men were up to no good, he said.

Gaye and his Marines ordered the men to stop and conducted a pat-search on both the men. Gaye's suspicions of the men were confirmed when they found large sums of both American and Iraqi Currency, and multiple ID cards on them, among other objects, which cannot be identified in this article due to concerns of operational security. Both were detained and taken to a detention facility for further questioning.

According to 1st Sgt. Vincent Santiago, Kilo Company's senior advisor and a native of Merizo, Guam, the Marines have discovered more than 20 undetonated IEDs — bombs which could have harmed or killed U.S. and Iraqi troops, as well as Iraqi civilians.

"They use IEDs because they do not have the courage to stand and fight the Marines face to face,"

See DEVELOP page 9A

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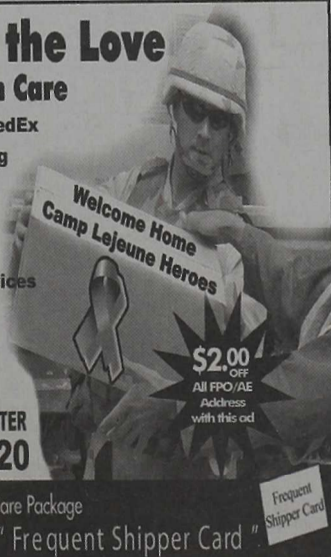
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Marine brings welding skills to fight against insurgents

Cpl. Antonio Rosas
1st Marine Division

CAMP AL QA'IM, Iraq — When he joined the Marine Corps in 2002, Cpl. Joshua W. Dale never thought he would be using his welding experience to defeat insurgents in western Iraq.

The 23-year-old section leader with Company A, 1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, brought his ideas to life by inventing a breaching bumper for a Humvee in his mobile assault platoon.

The breaching bumper is mounted on the front of the Humvee and resembles a large arrowhead made of thick steel. The bumper is used to do one thing — tear through anything that gets in the Humvee's way.

"We needed something on our Humvees to assault through barriers, like locked gates and low brick walls," said the Silver Street, S.C., native. "This bumper will go through just about anything."

While the bumper has not been tested as of yet, other similar devices of lesser craftsmanship have proven somewhat effective. Dale wanted to build something that would not break or bend like those he had seen crudely constructed on the fly by other Marine units.

The bumper, which allows Humvees greater flexibility when assaulting the enemy during raids and cordon-and-knock operations, is an alternative to using any type of explosives — the norm when Marines encounter barriers or walls.

"When you use explosives you risk alerting the enemy from the loud noise of explosions," said Dale. "With this breaching bumper you can rupture barriers and overcome obstacles in less time and without giving away your position to the enemy."

Use of the bumper on barriers also minimizes collateral damage — a priority for the Marines conducting security operations alongside Iraqi Security Forces in Iraq's western Al

Anbar province.

Nicknamed "the destroyer," the bumper is a major asset for mobile assault platoons, or M.A.P. — a security element of Marines in armored humvees with an assortment of infantry weapons. A M.A.P. provides a heavy presence in the community and is used to disrupt enemy operations.

Marines in the region use the mobile assault platoon to provide a steady presence in local communities and to weed out insurgents hiding in local towns, said 1st Lt. Paul D. Quinn, the M.A.P. officer for A Company.

The 24-year-old from Burkittsville, Md., supports Dale's project as it will allow his Marines greater flexibility in performing their job quicker and overcoming obstacles without the use of explosives.

Spending less time tied up with barriers during operations allows the Marines to meet their objective of providing mounted security for ground forces a lot more effectively, said Quinn.

While coalition forces throughout the country already have similar devices mounted on their humvees, Dale wanted to improve on the existing design and use stronger materials.

"I still wanted something that was sturdy enough to rip through just about any barrier the platoon would encounter," said Dale.

"The bumper is incredibly strong," said Navy Chief Petty Officer Charles B. Scholl, a U.S. military reservist and steelworker with 20 years of experience.

Scholl, from Moundsview, Minn., provided Dale with a few pointers on welding techniques.

"The design is structurally sound," said Scholl. "He used the same type of structural steel that we use to hold buildings together."

In order to take the ideas from the drawing board to the shop floor, Dale was going to need time away from his platoon — something he wanted to avoid.

It was only after breaking his foot while performing maintenance on his humvee that Dale found some time to bring his ideas to life and start on his project.

"I drew up blueprints myself and despite not having the right supplies and tools, I made it work," said Dale who spent several years welding before joining the Marine Corps.

Dale said he never saw himself using his welding skills in the Marine Corps. He joined the Marines to fight insurgents, he said.

"I want to make it clear that I am a grunt and not a welder," he said. After installing the device, Dale's invention attracted the attention of other mobile assault platoons from the battalion who deemed the breaching bumper a worthy asset to their humvees. However, before Dale can mass-produce additional bumpers for his team he must await the thumbs-up from top-level Marine commanders at I Marine Expeditionary Force.

Once Dale receives permission from superiors, he plans on outfitting the humvees in his platoon with the breaching device. With the right supplies, Dale said he can produce about four bumpers a week.

Dale is confident that his idea will gain approval from officials as he considers the apparatus a great tool against defeating the insurgency in any area of operations.

Until then, he says he'll continue to weld when he can, providing the Marines who travel Al Anbar province's dangerous roads daily with one more tool to help them get the job done. ■



Breaching bumper: Cpl. Joshua W. Dale, a 23-year-old section leader with Company A, 1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment brought his idea of inventing a breaching bumper for a humvee in his mobile assault platoon.

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- Week 3 (June 26-30)
- Week 4 (July 10-14)
- Week 5 (July 17-21)
- Week 6 (July 24-28)

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AVRAD keeps communication flowing for 3rd MAW

Lance Cpl. James B. Hoke
3rd Marine Aircraft Wing

Thousands of invisible waves of communication flow through the Iraq ionosphere, relaying vital pieces of information to Marines in the air and on the ground. Lance Cpl. James B. Hoke is responsible for transmitting the communications between the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing and Marine Tactical Air Command Squadron 38 (Reinforced), 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing.

"The sole responsibility is to provide unsecured and secure communications from the Tactical Air Command Center in order to communicate effectively to outlying agencies in support of operations," said Sgt. Jason B. Morris, aviation radio technician with Marine Tactical Air Command Squadron 38. "We provide communication to ground forces to help carry out operational missions affected by the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing."

In the desert, the aviation radio Marines have to place their equipment before proceeding further. "The most significant thing about our job would be the initial set up," said Morris, a 23-year-old Bandera, Texas, native. "That is because we are able to determine where we are going in order to provide effective communications. Once everything is set up, the rest of our job is simple. The placement of their gear can be tiresome for some of the equipment that has to be done accurately with no mistakes."

"We set up our communication distribution system components," said Morris. "We then coordinate with the other agencies' communication systems."

With aviation radio work 12-hour shifts every day, Hoke ensures that the mission is accomplished 24 hours a day. Staff Sgt. Crystal R. Brooks, aviation radio technician with 38, said:

"This is a 24-hour job," said Brooks, a 26-year-old native. "The Marines who do this job are very dedicated. They can rely on any one Marine to complete any task with AVRAD."

During times in the combat environment that can hamper the radio Marines' tasks.

"It's hard at times," said Morris. "When we receive indirect notice frequency requests, which is when the Tactical Air Command Center needs a radio changed to a specific frequency, it's a little chaotic. Once we receive a request for a frequency change, we respond quickly in order to provide the Tactical Air Command Center with a quick turn around to communicate with the agencies."

Each day's occurrences decide whether or not the day will become a hectic one.

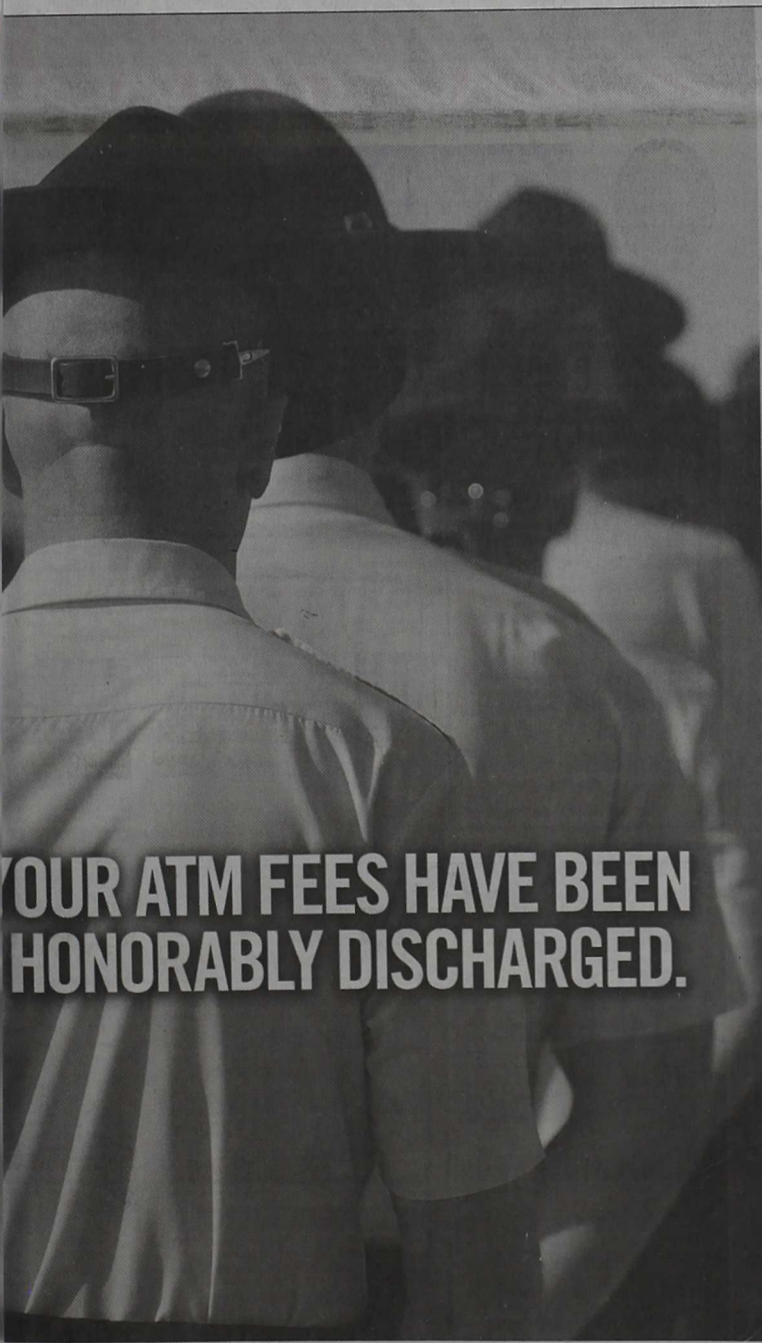
"There are a lot of things to do and missions to complete, our job is to do it," said Morris. "However, at the same time, everything is working well and there are no missions for us to do. Our job can be monotonous."

With aviation radio set up their systems and continue to be operational throughout their stay in Iraq.

"The gear is in place and completely operational, we are waiting for something to happen, like problems within the agencies to change or the change over for our cryptology," concluded Brooks. "Our job isn't the hardest in the wing, nor is it the easiest, but our Marines perform, and we accomplish it without a second thought. They realize the importance of communications in the air wing and put their hearts into maintaining it." ■



Al Asad, Iraq: Lance Cpl. Alvin B. Messina extends the leaves of a satellite communication antenna at Al Asad, Iraq, May 30. Messina is an aviation radio technician with Marine Tactical Air Command Squadron 38, Marine Air Control Group 38 (Reinforced), 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing. He is a 25-year-old native of Texas City, Texas.



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Operation 'Cool Carpet' bridges relationships

Cpl. William Skelton
1st Marine Division

GHARMAH, Iraq — Marines with Company A, 1st Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment — along with soldiers from the Iraqi Army — brought a breath of fresh air to a local mosque.

Operation "Cool Carpet" delivered two new air conditioning units and a box of prayer rugs to the Iraqi people near Gharmah, Iraq.

"This is basically a mission of good will," said Sgt. Juan J. Mendez, a 24-year-old squad leader from Gardena, Calif. "This, hopefully, will help the Iraqi soldiers become more trusted in the community."

Marines from Company A have operated in the area since the battalion's arrival in January. They have built strong relationships with the Iraqi people while fighting the insurgency in the area.

"We have worked closely with the people in this area," said 2nd Lt. Patrick M. Lynch, a 28-year-old platoon commander from Alsip, Ill. "Whenever they voice a need in the community, if we can, we try to help them."

One of the missions of the battalion is to be able to turn over more battle space to the Iraqi Army. The Marines took this opportunity to include the Iraqi soldiers. Soon, Iraqi soldiers will be working these regions on their own. Trust between Iraqi soldiers and locals is just as important as it is for Marines and locals.

"We want the people to know the Iraqi Army is here to help them as well," Mendez said. "This is the first time we have worked

with them. They look pretty sharp from what I can see."

A crowd of people formed outside the mosque as the Marines and soldiers pulled up in their Humvees. The delivery didn't take long, but the reception was warm and welcomed.

"I enjoy coming out and helping my people," said Iraqi Army Cpl. Hussein Abass Hussein, a 24-year-old soldier from Najaf. "I just wish we could do more of these types of events."

Marines, Iraqi soldiers and civilians alike grabbed the units and the box of rugs from the back of a Humvee. The soldiers and the local Iraqi men carried the items into the mosque once they were unloaded from the truck.

"It is great to see that we can help out the people," Hussein said. "It is good for us to do this. One day we will be fully responsible for the area."

Hand shakes and prayers of thanks were shared between the Iraqis and the Marines. As quickly as they came, the forces loaded up and were on their way.

"Today's mission was a success," Lynch said. "Everything went as planned and no one was injured. I couldn't ask for more."

No set dates are in place for the Iraqi Army to take over the company's area of operation. Every day though, the Iraqi Army is taking on more responsibilities in the area.

"We are getting closer to going home everyday that passes," said Mendez. "Things like this are good for the Iraqi soldiers. One day this is all going to be theirs and they will have complete control." ■



Al Asad oasis: Volunteers from units aboard Al Asad, Iraq, pick up garbage the Al Asad oasis, May 20. According to Arabic legend, the Quran and other Islamic texts were written at the oasis. The Al Asad oasis was the campsite of Abraham, a patriarch of the Hebrew bible, during his journey from Ur to Harrah.

Service members volunteer at Al Asad oasis cleanup

Staff Sgt. Raymie G. Cruz
3rd Marine Aircraft Wing

ALASAD, Iraq — Amidst the debris of a war-torn country lies a landmark from biblical history. With a lush green sanctuary of trees and vegetation surrounding a small pool of calm water rests the Al Asad oasis, which has almost been untouched by the war.

According to Arabic legend, the Quran and other Islamic writings, the oasis was the campsite of Abraham, a patriarch of the Hebrew bible, during his journey from Ur, located near the mouth of the Tigris and Euphrates rivers, now named Tellel-Mukayyar, to Harrah, located in south-eastern Turkey, now Carrhae.

The village, then named Eyen Al Asad, which means "Spring of the Lion," is now in ruins due to the Iran-Iraq War which plagued the area in the early 1980s.

Today, the Al Asad air base is inhabited by U.S. forces and the oasis is known as the Al Asad Oasis. Iraqis, U.S. service members and third country nationals continue to visit the landmark during their time in Al Asad.

Because there are so many visitors to the area, garbage builds up on the banks of the pool. To revive the natural beauty of the landscape, a sailor with the chaplain's office, Marine Aircraft Group 16 (Reinforced), 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing, scheduled a cleanup of the location to help preserve the

site for future visitors.

"Although the area has not been destroyed by the war, a lot of people tour the area and leave trash," said Petty Officer 2nd Class Hatondra D. Willis, religious program specialist, MAG-16 (Reinforced) and Reed, Ark., native. "I thought that if people were going to continue to tour the area, it would be better if it were clean, due to its religious significance."

In order to get the job done, the chaplain's office informed the Base Defense Operations Center of the visit and got the word out for volunteers to help.

"We needed to let the BDOC know what our plan was, so that the Military Police that patrols the area would know that we would be there and what we would be doing," said Navy Lt. John R. Logan, MAG-16 (Reinforced) chaplain. "We make sure to keep them in the loop, for safety reasons."

When the group arrived at the oasis May 20, Logan gave a class on the religious significance of the area and delivered a prayer before the cleanup began.

"Just knowing that you are standing on the same ground as a holy man once stood is extremely inspiring," said Chief Warrant Officer Leslie A. Gillen, administration officer, MAG-16 (Reinforced). "It is nice to do a good deed, but to be able to give something back to the Lord is truly a

rewarding experience.

Wearing hard hats and safety glasses, the cleanup crew circled the oasis and made sure every piece of trash was picked up.

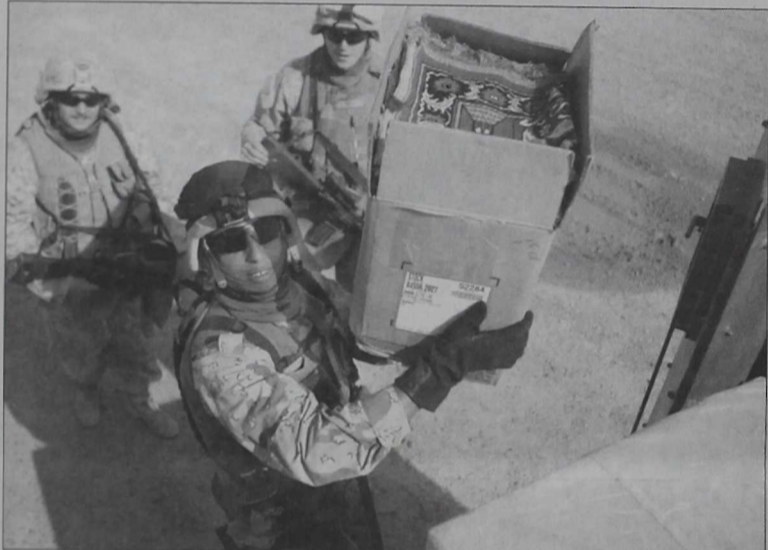
"The oasis is overgrown and we picked up trash from water and plane parts and small pieces of metal."

Although the main focus was to clean up the area, some of the volunteers also took the opportunity to talk to the Iraqis and share their experiences.

"I wanted to let the Iraqis know that we were here and that we were not there to fight them, but to help them. We have been able to build relationships with them and share our experiences with them."

At the end of the cleanup, Logan spoke to the group and thanked them for their service and sacrifice.

"Two of our volunteers, Staff Sgt. Dan Logan and Staff Sgt. James F. Amos, are from Jacksonville, Fla. Staff Sgt. Dan Logan is a member of the Jacksonville Marine Helicopter Squadron (Reinforced) Springs, Colo. Staff Sgt. James F. Amos is a member of the Jacksonville Marine Helicopter Squadron (Reinforced) Springs, Colo. Staff Sgt. James F. Amos is a member of the Jacksonville Marine Helicopter Squadron (Reinforced) Springs, Colo. Staff Sgt. James F. Amos is a member of the Jacksonville Marine Helicopter Squadron (Reinforced) Springs, Colo."



Cpl. William Skelton

Above Operation "Cool Carpet": Iraqi Army Cpl. Hussein Abass Hussein unloaded a box of prayer rugs for a local mosque. Operation "Cool Carpet" combined Marines with Company A, 1st Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment and soldiers from the Iraqi Army to deliver the rugs along with two new air conditioning units.

Left Operation "Cool Carpet": Marines from 1st Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment along with soldiers from the Iraqi Army delivered air conditioners and prayer rugs during Operation "Cool Carpet." A local Iraqi man came to bring thanks to the Coalition Forces.



Cpl. William Skelton

Purple Heart Banquet
All combat wounded veterans are invited June 24 at 6 p.m. at the American Legion Hall.
Guest speaker Lt. Gen. James F. Amos.
Reservations required by June 15.
Send proof of award with RSVP to P.O. Box 6 Jacksonville, N.C. 28541
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Society honors volunteer work

Col. Adele E. Hodges, Commanding Officer of Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, assisted in the presentation of hourly awards. Her remarks praised the volunteer spirit and the dedication of NMCRS volunteers.

Volunteers receiving hourly recognition were:

- 100 hours — Marla Bruton, Teresa Lindsey, Vicki Mullen, Lesa Nelson;
- 300 hours — Erin Regner, Holly Smallwood;
- 300 hours to 500 hours — Kathy Huck;
- 1,000 hours — Shawn Belk, Donna Drury;
- 1,500 hours — Vanessa Alanis.

Other awards presented by Gini Schopfel, Director of NMCRS Camp Lejeune, were:

- Certificates of Appreciation — Jean Balelo-Day, Teresa Lindsey;
- Superior Performance Award



Rita Fountain

Spring Volunteer Recognition Ceremony: Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society volunteers from Camp Lejeune were recognized, May 23, for their hard work and dedication to the NMCRS. The ceremony took place at the Ball Center during the Spring Volunteer Recognition Ceremony.

— Vanessa Alanis; Meritorious Service Award — Kathy Huck, Amy Laredo, Cathy Palermo.

At the end of the ceremony, Maj. Gen. Richard A. Huck,

Commanding General of 2nd Marine Division, personally thanked volunteers by presenting them with a 2nd Marine Division Commanding General coin.

Following the ceremony, vol-

unteers and guests enjoyed a buffet lunch.

If you are interested in working with NMCRS to make a difference in the military community, please call 910-451-5346. ■

Adopt a Pet

Save a life, take home a new friend today

If you would like to adopt a pet, contact The Onslow County Animal Shelter at 455-0182

The Onslow County Animal Shelter is open Monday through Thursday from noon to 7 p.m., Friday from noon to 3 p.m., Saturday from 10 a.m. to noon, 1 to 3 p.m.

3A

A squad of Marines in the out all the insurgents face fight."

to said the threat of a is still present. Last a Company K engaged several insurgents who ves in an abandoned held their ground and until a U.S. military air d the building. Further the building altogether insurgents inside.

like Gaye, who lead rough the unpredictable of Haqlaniyah, believe ndling the stress of possi d small-arms fire quite

ents do not realize is the the more motivated the them back," said Gaye. to determination on the

e been able to spot indi- areas — such as market-

places — who appear suspicious. Usually, it is just the looks on the individual's face that appears suspicious.

More times than not, Gaye said, their suspicions are confirmed when they search the individuals and find contraband on them, such as fake ID cards and anti-Coalition Forces propaganda. These simple observations, Gaye believes, can save lives and get insurgents off the streets of Haqlaniyah.

Sgt. Mennen Suleiman, a squad leader assigned to Company K, couldn't agree more.

"We are [detaining insurgents] almost everyday, who might be involved with or assisting in attacks against us," said Suleiman, a native of Kearney, Nev. Suleiman speaks fluent Arabic and lived in Kirkut, Iraq, until he was 12. He uses his language skills to encourage residents to report attacks before they happen and report individuals who are responsible for the planning and execution of attacks against Marines.

"Marines have been able to see many IEDs up close and personal after we removed and disabled them," said Gaye. "They know what to look for now and Marines are on the alert. This is what is going to save lives out here." ■

QAIM

CONTINUED FROM 1A

There have been disappointments. Marshall said local police have been left waiting for high-frequency radios, digital cameras and ammunition.

"Yet, with all the problems, we still have hundreds show up for work every day," he said. "This is their home. They tell you what it was like here two years

ago. They don't want it to be like that again.

"They want us to leave too, but they understand they can't do it on their own. After the Al-Qaida nutcases they had to deal with out here, they certainly prefer us to them."

Marshall said relationships count for everything out here. "The last time I was out with the [Iraqi police], I slept in their barracks rather than come back out here," he said. "It showed

that I trust them.

"You need to let them know you trust them so then they trust you back," he continued. "When things are down — they are not getting paid, they are not getting uniforms, they are not getting equipment — and they know you actually give a damn about them, then they will stay and keep with you."

"If they think you don't care," he added, "they'd be out of there the next day." ■

STATEMENTS

CONTINUED FROM 1A

to determine exactly what data was on the laptop.

When the analysis is completed in upcoming weeks, the Defense Finance and Accounting Service will inform those service members who are determined to be vulnerable by putting a note on the bottom of their monthly leave and earnings statements, Martin said. The note will include phone numbers and Web sites that will provide more information on identity theft and what troops can do

to protect themselves, he said.

The VA has set up a special Web site and a toll-free telephone number for those possibly affected by the data loss: www.firstgov.gov and 1-800-FED-INFO. Each features up-to-date news and information on the data compromise. The Web site provides steps on how to check credit reports, how to guard against identity theft, and who to call if an individual believes any fraudulent activity is occurring with his or her personal information.

Information relating to the defeat of identity theft also is available at the Military OneSource Web site, at www.militaryonesource.com. ■

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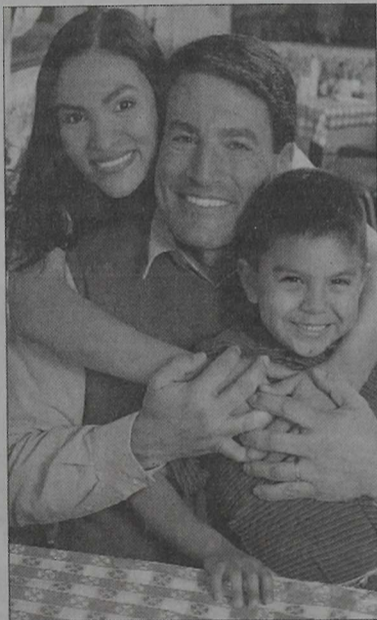
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MBA Term 90 group life insurance is underwritten by Government Personnel Mutual Life Insurance Company, under policy number GP01.

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 or visit our Web site
www.militarybenefit.org

Life Insurance underwritten by Government Personnel Mutual Life Insurance Company. Not available in all states.



Term 90 8/05

Health Services Center phone option changes

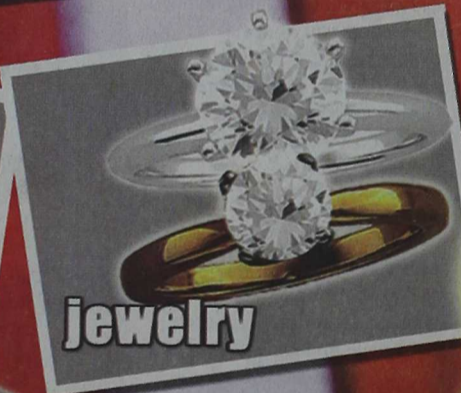
The phone option menu for the Naval Hospital Health Services Center (450-HELP) has recently changed. The new options are:

- 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.



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Onslow County Youth Lacrosse has growing success in first year

Matt Vaughan
 Staff reporter

The Onslow County Youth Lacrosse program recently completed its first season in action. The year was considered incredibly successful and lacrosse has become one of the fastest growing sports in the south. The program ended the season with a total of four teams — Under 11 Boys, Under 13 Boys, Under 15 Boys, and a girls' team. There were a total of 93 players registered who were taught valuable skills by qualified coaches and volunteers.

"It was a good chance for those parents who already had children playing and some who just loved the sport and wanted to see it grow in the area," league coordinator Michelle Leonard said.

The U13 boys finished 5-1, U15 6-0, girls 3-2 and the U11 boys played an intra-league season, so they mainly held team scrimmages.

The process of creating the Onslow Youth Lacrosse Association began in June of 2005, when Leonard applied for an equipment grant through US Lacrosse.

There were more than 100 applicants for the grant and the Onslow organization was one of 34 teams to receive it. The grant gave the program money for pads and sticks for 20 boy players and 20 girl players, plus goalie gear for each squad.

"The grant was incredibly helpful, because we were able to loan pads out to people who were still learning the sport and unsure of whether their child would want to commit or not," Leonard said.

In September, Leonard began to work with Matt Dressel on how to create the organization. They held a meeting at the rec center in Jacksonville and were able to get a board started.

The Board consisted of Gary Herbold, Mike Alford, John Samo, Mat Pfeiffer, Matt Dressel and Leonard.

"Once the Board was organized we incorporated, made a plan, and organized clinics. We then set up tables and got the word out about the organization as best we could and held clinics in November, January and



Youth lacrosse: The girls youth lacrosse team huddles up to talk with their coach during a team practice this season.

February," Leonard said. One of the things that helped make the program so successful was the outpouring of help and support given by volunteers — people who wanted nothing more than to make lacrosse a part of Onslow County.

"At the first clinic we had two Marines who had heard of what was going on the night before and came out to volunteer. They didn't have children of their own, but were former players who wanted to teach kids how to play and see the sport grow," Leonard said.

The teams became part of the East Carolina Youth Lacrosse League, which plays against teams from Greenville, Havelock and New Bern.

The league organizers hope to continue to grow and be able to split into two divisions next year to cut down on traveling.

"We hope next year that our participants will double and we will be able to create more than one team

per age group, and we are also forming a group of parents who are interested in getting lacrosse started in the high schools in Onslow County and the high school at Camp Lejeune," Leonard said.

Many of the local high school athletic departments have expressed an interest in being able to offer another spring sport for students and lacrosse seems to fit the bill.

"Some of the best things I can say about the season are that the kids really had a great time learning the sport and playing it," Leonard said.

"They came to practices anxious to learn and play and could not wait for the games on the weekends. At the end of the season there was such an interest in keeping active in the sport that we are working on creating a pick-up league along with offering clinics throughout the fall and winter next year in preparation for the spring 2007 season."



Youth lacrosse: Boys in the Onslow County Youth lacrosse league look on as a scrum for the ball occurs near the sidelines.

With the great success Onslow County Youth Lacrosse enjoyed in its first season, now is the time to sign up your children and see just how

intense lacrosse is. "One thing that has impressed me most about lacrosse is that it is a life-long love. A lacrosse player is a lacrosse player for

life," Leonard said. To take part in any youth lacrosse programs go to www.onslowyouthlacrosse.org or contact Leonard at 353-7563. ■

Wilmington Sharks give fans a chance to see future baseball stars in the making

Matt Vaughan
 Staff reporter

If you want to be a part of some exciting college baseball this summer just head south down to Wilmington and mark your destination at Buck Hardee Field.

Nestled right next to Legion Stadium — home of the Wilmington Hammerheads — Buck Hardee Field is the home of the Wilmington Sharks.

If you're not familiar with the Sharks, you really need to get keyed in. The Sharks compete in the Coastal Plain League — widely known across the U.S. as one of the most well respected amateur summer leagues.

The CPL is a collegiate summer league, featuring top-notch college players from across the nation. With many summer leagues in operation at the time, there wasn't really one located in the southeastern U.S.

League President Pete Bock first got the idea in the early 1990s when his son, Jeff, a star pitcher for Barton College, was spending his summers playing in the Shenandoah Valley League.

After making several long trips to see

his son play, Bock, a long-time minor league sports executive, began wishing there was a summer league closer to home.

A few years later, he put his ideas into action and the new CPL was formed.

Now, heading into its 10th Anniversary season, the CPL is the biggest summer collegiate baseball league in the country, featuring 15 teams across North and South Carolina, and Virginia. "We're really excited about this season," Sharks general manager Amanda Yerdon said.

"This is our 10th year and that means a lot considering it is the 10th anniversary year. It really is amazing how far the Sharks and the league have come over the past 10 seasons."

Yerdon became the Sharks' general manager last year, making her the first female to hold the top post within the league.

The Sharks began play May 31 and the regular season continues through Aug. 9. This year's team includes players from UNC-Chapel Hill, UNC-Wilmington and local players from UNC-Chapel Hill, UNC-Wilmington and East Carolina university.

One of the more exciting spins on the college brand of baseball is that in this league, the players use wooden bats like in the pros. They do this as a way

to prepare for the major leagues and show off their wooden-bat skills to pro scouts.

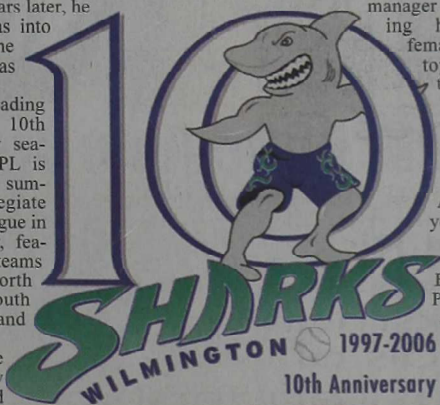
Tickets come at a great price too and all military are admitted in for only \$2 every day of the week. Games begin at 7 p.m. Monday through Saturday and start at 5 p.m. Sunday.

Three UNCW players and former Sharks John Raynor, Matt Poulk and Chris Hatcher were all drafted in this year's MLB draft. If a team has that much promise for pro players it's definitely a spectacle that should be watched.

Some other Coastal Plain alumni in the big league include Boston Red Sox first baseman Kevin Youkilis and LA Angels third baseman Dallas McPherson.

"The stadium looks better than ever and I'm confident the 2006 roster is going to do great things this summer," Yerdon said.

If you want to see the stars of tomorrow go and see exciting Wilmington Sharks baseball. For more information on the Sharks visit www.wilmingtonsharks.com or call the ticket office at 343-5621. ■



Welcome to Hurricane season

Matt Vaughan
Staff reporter

The great state of North Carolina is fortunate to call three major pro franchises its own.

The Charlotte Hornets were the first in 1988, followed by the Carolina Panthers in 1995.

It was tough for both to retain strong fan bases initially, mainly due to the passion we North Carolinians have for college sports.

I mean come on, this is Atlantic Coast Conference territory and everyone knows it.

That, along with a bum of an owner in George Shinn, is the reason the Hornets left and the same reason many people were less than ecstatic about the addition of a National Hockey League team.

It's tough to have a plethora of fans for a sport that requires ice when your state is in the south, but that didn't stop owner Peter Karmanos from making his decision to bring the laughingstock of the NHL to Raleigh.

The Hartford Whalers packed their losing ways and moved from the Hartford Center in Connecticut to the Tar Heel state.

The team was renamed the Hurricanes, which some may see as more of a sick joke than a team name this time of year especially with Alberta rolling through, and began play in the franchise's nineteenth season on Oct. 1, 1997.

The 'Canes had to spend the entire season in limbo while the RBC Center was built, playing their "home" games in Greensboro.

The team finally moved into

their new digs in 2000 where ACC fans who were used to cheering for the Wolfpack or the Demon Deacs, were coming out for hockey games.

Attendance peaked in 2002 as the Hurricanes made a surprising run to the Stanley Cup Finals.

As someone who was living in the Raleigh area at the time — it was an amazing sight to see.

For the first time in my 10 years in the state, people everywhere were wearing the same colors. Red, black, and white could be seen no matter what establishment you set foot in. There was no Carolina or Duke or NC State, now this was Hurricane country.

Even though the 'Canes lost to the mighty Detroit Red Wings, it was evident that people across America had to stop looking at us as hockey infants.

Just as we were becoming more used to being hockey fans, the game had a nasty strike in 2005. With no hockey being played I was afraid when we did get it back, the fans wouldn't be united anymore, afraid that the red, white and black would be traded back in for ACC colors.

Well, a funny thing happened. The 'Canes came back and were one of the best teams in the league the entire season. Fans gradually snuck back onto the bandwagon until there wasn't any room left.

The team from Raleigh dispersed Montreal 4-2, New

Jersey 4-1 and Buffalo 4-3 all in best of seven series, in front of raucous sold-out crowds of 19,000.

Now we wait on our home ice ahead of the Edmonton Oilers 3-1 with the chance to bring the most famous trophy in sports — the Stanley Cup — to Raleigh.

Wouldn't it be almost surreal if the first major sport championship North Carolina receives is for a game played on ice?

So make sure if you haven't jumped on the aforementioned bandwagon yet, that you find a way to hop on. Championships don't come around

often so let's be sports fans and go out and get a bottle of bubbly and hope that one is coming our way tonight.

No NHL team ever has failed to win the Stanley Cup when it comes home after four games up 3-1. The Hurricanes will try to run that record to 19-0 while we sit anxiously awaiting victory.

Center Kevyn Adams put it best Tuesday night.

"We feel good. We've got three, but we know how tough it is. ... The knockout punch is the toughest one to throw" Adams said.

Well Kevin, here's to the knockout punch and a game five victory. And here's to Hurricane season, something that will take on a whole new meaning with Lord Stanley's Cup nestled within the RBC Center. ■



Vaughan

roundup



NFL Football

CHARLOTTE — Plenty of attention will be paid this season to Steve Smith and Keyshawn Johnson, the Carolina Panthers two starting wide receivers.

But backup wide receiver Drew Carter could end up the biggest surprise in 2006 for the Panthers.

The third-year player from Ohio State missed his rookie season with a knee injury but excelled at the end of last year, proving he has the speed to be a deep threat for the Panthers.

That's especially helpful considering that defenses will likely focus their attention on Carolina's dynamic duo of Smith and Johnson.

"Like the coaches say, I feel like I'm kind of the X-factor," said Carter, who is battling for Carolina's No. 3 receiver spot with two-year starter Keary Colbert. "I'm kind of like the quiet guy. I hope people are going to be like, 'Who is this guy who is making the big catches.'"

That's what Carolina fans were saying at the end of last season. Early last summer the media buzzed about the speed and big-play ability Carter displayed in the preseason, but the coaching staff didn't think he was quite ready, so they made him inactive for 13 games.

When Carter saw his first action against the New Orleans Saints in Week 15, he caught a 40-yard strike down the middle from Jake Delhomme on the third play of the game. He caught five passes for 103 yards in the final three games with one touchdown. Carter then accounted for Carolina's only offensive score in a 34-14 NFC Championship loss to the Seattle Seahawks on a 47-yard touchdown reception.

Carter has made several big plays already in the team's summer school practice sessions, although those practices are without pads. Still, his speed even caught Johnson's eye.

"I think for a fifth-round draft pick, they probably stole something if he can stay healthy," Johnson said. "He's pretty polished for a fifth-rounder. I'm not a general manager. I don't pick the talent. But I can sense he's a player with some ability. ... Based on what I've seen in T-shirts and shorts, he looks pretty good to me."

Panthers coach John Fox has thought that for a while.

"For a guy who sat out two years of football to come in during a playoff run, he made some big plays for us," coach John Fox said. "Again, he's a young player that we're developing. Where that ends up I think is too early to tell."

Colbert had a disappointing season in 2005, but that could be attributed to playing most of the season with bone spurs and chips in his right ankle. He will be Carter's biggest competition for playing time.

"We've got a pretty good corps at receiver. It's going to be up to those guys to determine who plays," Fox said. "We're going to put them in competitive situations as we move forward and we'll see."

Carter's biggest attribute is his speed. He's the fastest player on the team, running in the 40-yard dash in the low 4.3's last year.

Coaches feel that if Carter can improve his route running and pass catching he will be tough to handle, especially when teams attempt to cover him one-on-one. "I feel real confident about that I can outrun most DBs," Carter said.

— Associated Press

NBA Basketball

DALLAS, TX — Dirk Nowitzki stepped on the court Friday

Hard to believe — because moment, his nation's soccer World Cup game.

When the Dallas Mavericks stepped into public practice, the World Cup between Germany and Costa Rica was in the 76th minute, the heat was on Nowitzki's homeland — climate lead before 66,000 anxious fans.

Nowitzki, unaware of the coolly went through his routines and interacting with fans. But soon, the Germans would win 2-1 — and Nowitzki, upon news from a messenger in the locker room, clapped and pumped his fist.

"Obviously, a big and a us, especially at home, going," Nowitzki said. "But about it until I got to the game like I couldn't sleep, or that I woke up I had to check something like that, but I was sure that we won."

It's obviously been a good week for Nowitzki; his Mavericks beat the Los Angeles Lakers 90-80 in Game 1 of the NBA Finals Thursday night, finishing the game a few hours before his German teammates opened World Cup play halfway through the globe.

Nowitzki isn't the only international Cup observer here at the arena. Commissioner David Stern is following the soccer action as well.

"I'd like to report that in the score of the football match between Costa Rica, nil," Stern said Friday morning when opening news conference at the arena. "We're keeping track."

— Tim Reynolds, Associated Press

NCAA Football

LINCOLN, Neb. — Starting the Nebraska football team with the same technology NASA uses to monitor body temperature of astronauts to protect players during the heat.

The swallowable capsule contains circuits and a battery. The capsule has a low-frequency radio signal that transmits a patient's body temperature information being picked up by a recorder.

"We're just trying to maintain a conservative approach, especially in the months when the humidity begins to build," said Husker head coach Tom Callahan.

In June and July, Nebraska practices without pads in preparation for the start of training camp in August. At times during these often hot sessions, players' body temperatures can potentially reach dangerous levels.

"If there's a way to find that information, that can be extremely helpful," Dr. Lonnie Albers, Nebraska's athletic medicine.

The pill measures core body temperature as it passes through the digestive tract and it typically stays in the system for a few hours.

During workouts, a trainer uses a device that resembles a remote control and records the player's temperature. If a player is overheating, the device sends a warning signal.

Florida-based HQ Inc. manufactures the pill independently.

The company acquired the licensing rights from NASA in the mid-1980s.

— Associated Press

Scion presents 3-on-3 basketball tournament

Matt Vaughan
Staff reporter

Forget what you're doing July 8 and sign up to show your ballin' skills out on the blacktop for the Scion Slam 3-on-3 Tournament.

Sponsored by Toyota Scion, the event began on Army bases and moved to include the Navy, Air Force and Marines.

The tourney started as a way for active military personnel to face off against each other with a chance to win up to \$1000.

"Marines should be interested because not only can you win money in the 3-on-3 but there is a 3-point shooting contest and free-

throw contest along with a chance to test drive cars and listen to an MC and DJ," Michael Saunders, Single Marine program manager said.

"It will be a day full of fun based around the tournament."

The excitement lasts all day in the parking lot of the Goettege Memorial Field House from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. So grab a couple of your buddies and go to www.scion.com/slam or www.mcslejeune.com or call 451-0084 and sign up by July 7 at 9 a.m.

The slots are filling up fast so make sure you get involved so you can show some chump your back as you drive to the basket. ■

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WILD WORLD OF LEJEUNE SPORTS

Emerald Isle Series Volleyball Tournament

Saturday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
 A player team beach volleyball with money for top two teams. Western Regional Access, Islander Drive, Emerald Isle. Call 252-726-5083 for information.

Mario Williams Day

Saturday
 Starting at 11 a.m., the Friends of Camp Lejeune will host the event celebrating Mario Williams (class of 2003) and his selection as this year's No. 1 pick of the National Football League Draft. The ceremony honoring Williams will be at Richlands High School Football Field, with a special message from N.C. State Head Coach Tom Amato. Also speaking will be his high school coach Kevin Wilson and his mother Mary Williams. Tailgating is allowed and starts at 9:30 a.m. No alcohol, tobacco or glass containers please. For more information, call 252-726-5083.

Basketball Camp

June 19-22
 Open to boys and girls ages 8-17 to come

out and advance their basketball skills. The camp is being held at the Jacksonville High School gym and will run each day from 9 a.m. to noon. The event will be instructed by Russell Stevens. Call 938-2538 for more information.

Nike Golf Junior at Paradise Point

June 19-22
 For the fourth consecutive year, 84 junior golfers, ages 12-15, will compete in a 54-hole stroke play competition. The tournament practice round will take place the Monday at 8 a.m. with tournament play Tuesday, beginning at 7:30 a.m. The competition provides young adults to develop skills and gain entry into other tournaments. Come out and watch for free! Please contact John Egnot for more information at 770-868-4200 or visit the AJGA Web site at www.ajga.org.

Onslow Sports Club meeting

June 22
 The Onslow Sports Club will hold its regular monthly meeting Thursday at 12:15 p.m. The event will take place at Hilda's Cooking and Catering at the Northwoods Shopping Center.

The guest speaker will be former professional football player, Jim Kitt. Kitt played for the NFL's Miami Dolphins, Green Bay Packers and Washington Redskins. He also played in the Arena Football League, World Football League and the XFL. Guests may purchase tickets at the door for \$10. For information, call Greg Cooper at 455-3752.

Advanced Sailing Classes

June 24-25
 If you are an experienced sailor then come out to Gottschalk Marina and become an expert. Registration is open until the day of the classes or until full. Upon completion of basic class, participants will receive a U.S. Sailing Certification. For more information call 451-8307/8345.

All Marine Golf Tryouts

June 24-27
 Open to all active-duty military, qualifiers will represent Camp Lejeune. Proof of handicap must be presented to the Semper Fit Sports office in the Goette Memorial Field House no later than July 21. The golf tryouts will be held at Paradise Point. For information, call 451-2710/2061.

Scion Slam 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament

July 8, 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.
 Got game? Prove it at this one-day, blacktop tournament outside Goette Memorial Field House (inside if it's raining). Three-person teams will compete for cash — first place \$1,000; second place \$500; third place \$250. The event also includes Hip-Hop music entertainment, a Game Zone for kids,

new Scion test drives and the Scion Slam Custom Car Show. To register for one of the limited team slots, call 451-0084.

Tracy Williams Total Achievement Basketball Camp

July 10-14, 9 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
 Boys and girls ages 7-17 are invited to come out and refine their basketball skills in a great camp environment. The camp is located in Morehead City at the Boys and Girls Club and hopes to show children how important the basic basketball fundamentals really are. For more information, call 252-447-5655.

11th Annual Total Football Camp

July 10-14
 Learn the basic fundamental skills of football with supervised training at the Paradise Point soccer fields. The camp runs July 10-14 and is for children ages 6-14. Make sure to register by July 7. For more information, call 451-2177/2159.

Girls Youth Volleyball Registration

July 17-28
 Sign up your daughter to compete in one of the most intense sports around. If you have a daughter between the ages of 10-16 then come in from 8 a.m. to noon. Registration will be at the rec center. Call 938-2538 for additional information.

Volleyball Camp

July 24-28
 Youth sports is holding their volleyball camp at Lejeune High. Fundamental skills will be taught. For more information, call 451-2177/2159.

Junior players return to compete at Nike Golf Junior

Press Release and Staff Report

American Junior Golf Association
 One of the nation's top junior golfers returns to the Gold Course at Paradise Point aboard Camp Lejeune, for the fifth Nike Golf Junior at Jacksonville Monday-

returns after finishing in seventh place. "The tournament is part of the Nike Series for the younger age group that gives them a chance to compete and build up their amateur status," Egnot said.

The Series is a collection of 10 events specifically designed for boys and girls, ages 12-15. The competition provides an opportunity for younger members to develop their skills and earn entry into American Junior Golf Association Open tournaments.

Juniors are limited to a maximum combination of five AJGA Open and Nike Golf Junior All-Star Series events. The series concludes with an invitation-only Nike Golf Junior Championship, Sept. 1 - 3.

The AJGA, the largest association of its kind, has an annual junior membership (boys and girls ages 12-18) of approximately 5,000 junior golfers from 50 states and 30 foreign countries.

More than 160 former AJGA juniors currently play on the PGA and LPGA tours and have compiled more than 300 career tour wins. AJGA alumni include Phil Mickelson, Tiger Woods, Davis Love III, Mike Weir, Charles Howell III, Jim Furyk, Grace Park, Cristie Kerr, Candie Kung and Paula Creamer.

For more information, contact John Egnot at jegnot@ajga.org in the AJGA Communications Department at 770-868-4200. ■

Bobcats make more changes in turbulent front office shakeup

Tim Whitmire
 Associated Press

Two more leading front office figures for the Charlotte Bobcats are out, with the team confirming Thursday that the franchise's top marketing and operations officers are no longer with the organization.

The moves continue a shakeup of the troubled second-year team that began last month with the departure of president and CEO Ed Tapscott. Tapscott, the first employee hired by owner Bob Johnson in 2002, resigned rather than accept a demotion.

Now chief marketing officer Chris Weiller and chief operations officer Peter Smul are out as well, team spokesman Scott Leightman confirmed.

"That's pretty standard that we work with the league on identifying the right candidate," he said.

The Bobcats have struggled to win fans in Charlotte, a city that was fervent in its support of the expansion Hornets in the late 1980s and early 1990s, but soured on the NBA in the years before that team's 2002 move to New Orleans.

Convinced that the problem was Hornets owner George Shinn — and not a

lack of interest in pro basketball — the NBA moved quickly to put a replacement franchise in the city and municipal officials agreed to build a downtown arena that they and voters had rejected for the Hornets.

That \$265 million building, Charlotte Bobcats Arena, opened in October to positive reviews, but the team has failed to secure a naming rights deal for it and attendance was mediocre. Despite a capacity of 19,000 — 4,000 seats less than the old Charlotte Coliseum — the team sold out just seven of 41 home games and ranked 22nd of 30 NBA teams in home attendance.

The team has also made some major marketing missteps, starting with Johnson's decision to put most broadcasts on a startup cable sports network, Carolina Sports and Entertainment Television, that was available only to subscribers of Time Warner digital cable.

Johnson, a resident of Washington, D.C., who made a fortune in cable television as founder of Black Entertainment Television, pulled the plug on that experiment after the team's first season. But the Bobcats remain locked in a long-term deal with Time Warner that has forced them to show their

games on the cable provider's low-rated news channel, which is not available to satellite subscribers.

After raising ticket prices substantially for the first season in the team's new arena, the Bobcats said earlier this year they would drop them for 2006-07. The team has one of the NBA's lowest season ticket bases.

Johnson has not spoken publicly since the departure of Tapscott, which came just weeks after he promoted Tapscott and Smul to CEO and COO, respectively. But he has been criticized in the community by people who believe he used Tapscott as a scapegoat for bad decisions, including the CSET failure, the Time Warner deal and the move to raise ticket prices for year two after the team won just 18 games in its first season.

On the court, the Bobcats improved to 26-56 this season, and coach and general manager Bernie Bickerstaff has said he plans to return for a third season on the bench. The Bobcats have the No. 3 pick in the NBA draft later this month and have been holding workouts for prospective draft picks.

"We're still plugging away," Leightman said. "This (front office shakeup) isn't holding us back." ■

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Food For Thought: lower abs exposed!

Jonathan Hewitt
Athletic Trainer

The Lower Abs: Do they exist?

To ask if the lower abdominals exist may seem like a ridiculous question, but hopefully light will be shed on the reality of the lower abs.

So, do they exist geographically speaking — perhaps allow me to explain.

Imagine asking someone where they lived.

They answer, "South Jacksonville." To the best of my knowledge, there is no "South Jacksonville."

However if we could draw an imaginary line through the middle of the city we could refer to the area below that line as "South Jacksonville" even though it really is all just one city. As Jacksonville is merely one city, likewise the rectus abdominis is one muscle.

When you "work" the rectus abdominis you work the entire muscle not just the south.

"So why do I feel the burn in my lower abs?"

Good question! In order to answer this we will have to take a close look at the gross anatomy of the abdomen. The rectus abdominis (the six pack), attaches to the ribs in the ostensible north and the pubic bone in the south. When performing exercises that claim to focus on the lower abs, the rectus abdominis is only stabilizing the pelvis, preventing it from rotating forward. The primary muscles used during these exercises are the iliopsoas and psoas major.

In most literature, these muscles are combined into one name, the iliopsoas. These muscles, as well as one of the quadriceps (rectus femoris), act as the primary movers in leg flexion exercises supposedly working the lower abs. It is these muscles that cause the burning sensation in the southern area of the abdomen as they lie deeper in the stomach cavity,

under the "six pack." With some exercises, trunk flexion occurs, which will contract the rectus abdominis. However, it is the entire rectus abdominis that is contracted and not just the lower hemisphere.

The invisible six pack.

Every person has a six pack, literally. The reason some are more visible than others is that some of us have a layer of adipose tissue (fat) blanketing the area. You can do ab exercises until the cows come home but it won't make them more visible. Picture a comforter versus a sheet over an object. Because the comforter is thicker, less is perceptible, whereas a sheet would be more perceptible. To turn a "comforter" into a "sheet," energy output, such as cardiovascular exercise, may need to increase and proper nutrition must replace unhealthy, poor dietary habits. See your Semper Fit professionals for more information on abs. ■

An out-of-shape Shaq, out-answers Riley headed for

Jim Litke
AP writer

The two guys with their legacies awaiting only a final chapter did little and said even less about the outcome.

The Heat's Shaquille O'Neal, who already owns three NBA championship rings, but desperately wants another without Kobe Bryant as his sidekick, was outscored and outbounced Sunday night in Game 2 by Erick Dampier — the first time that happened in 25 head-to-head meetings.

Pat Riley, who has four rings from coaching the Lakers, "Showtime" teams but none since, was similarly outfoxed by Mavericks counterpart Avery Johnson — for the second time in as many games.

But before anybody jumped to the logical conclusion, namely that Dallas should pack a broom as the finals head east to Miami for three games, Riley reminded everyone his team has stumbled down this road before.

"Everybody has written our team off, even in Chicago, when we lost two games in Chicago. Then we got buried by New Jersey in the first game and we were history."

"So I'm sure we're history right now," he added. "We'll see what happens at home."

The normally loquacious O'Neal held his tongue after the Mavericks' 99-85 win gave them a 2-0 lead in the series. That bit of restraint cost him \$10,000, and the Heat organization another \$25,000, but saved him at least that much in embarrassment.

Two years ago, not long after Shaq fled L.A. for Miami, Dampier signed a big deal in Dallas and immediately declared himself the second-best center in the league. O'Neal responded by renaming Dampier "Erica," then got a little extra mileage out of the gag by insisting the only place Dampier

would be a dominant center was in the WNBA. And when an injury in the playoffs last year limited his effectiveness, he couldn't resist telling reporters he was "playing like Erick Dampier."

Shaq should be so lucky. Out of shape or patience, or maybe both, he was outplayed by Dampier everywhere on the court and across the stat line. As promised, the Heat pounded the ball down into O'Neal in the post on their opening possession and he dropped in a nifty layup. But the Mavericks settled into essentially the same defense as in Game 1, doubling and tripling O'Neal on every subsequent touch, forcing him to pass the ball out of the post and daring his supporting cast, again, to beat them.

In his prime, O'Neal would have gone over or through Dampier and his second, DeSagana Diop, as often as necessary, but now he needs help. The Heat provided more than the first time around, but not much. They shot 41 percent from the floor, after a frightful 37-percent performance in the opening game.

Dallas, meanwhile, added a variety of screens at the other end of the floor to create room for Dirk Nowitzki to operate, which in turn freed up Jerry Stackhouse for a handful of wide-open jumpers and the outcome was effectively sealed at halftime. Shaq sat most of the second half. Riley conceded, to conserve energy in what was by then a lost cause.

Teams that come out flat in finals series rarely recover — 25 of the 27 that took a 2-0 lead have gone on to win — but

most respond things up in a strong suit as always been opposed to st looks like some out of answers. When he c Van Gundy and the executive s

"O'Neal responded by renaming Dampier 'Erica,' then got a little extra mileage out of the gag by insisting the only place Dampier would be a dominant center was in the WNBA."

fire under us to different than here."

Of course, the after the Heat Game 1. Miami deficit in the effort but it's hardly O'Neal can rotate over game time, but the cast to arrive in time have no answer or Josh Howard. And no matter how rational ploys Riley the locker room out of ideas on foot on the court.

For different Shaq got so swamped that these finals crowning achievement never drew up now it's too late.

Yet when some Dwyane Wade had to change Game 3, he didn't "Everything,"

Month of June treats many retired Marine golfers well

Harold Lail
Tidewater Seniors

The second of two Tidewater Seniors golf tournaments this month was held last week, being played at Minnsott Country Club in Oriental. The annual Tidewater Ryder Cup was played with

Team U.S.A. defeated Team World by a score of 41 — 31. The U.S.A. team was led by retired Marines Larry Judkins, John Bradley, Archie Bobo and Royal Rogers. Team World was led by Bob Newcombe, Wimpy Wimpler, Ray Wiley, Donald Watson and George Dixon.

The Tidewater Seniors continued their season as they played in a golf tournament at River Bend in New Bern the first week of June.

The format was based on individual scoring with each player using their full handicaps. At the conclusion of the event, there were several retired Marine winners.

Gill Richard won low gross in the first flight, shooting a 68. Ron Ambrose won second low net in the third flight, with a score of 62. Bob Andersen won low gross in the fourth flight shooting a 78. George Dixon won low gross in the fifth flight, shooting a 82. ■

Roethlisberger goes through surgery after accident

Joe Mandak
Associated Press

Ben Roethlisberger underwent seven hours of surgery after breaking his jaw and nose in a motorcycle crash and was in serious but stable condition.

The Pittsburgh Steelers standout, the youngest quarterback to lead a team to the Super Bowl championship, was taken to Pittsburgh's Mercy Hospital on Monday morning after the crash.

It was not immediately known whether the accident would affect Roethlisberger's chances of playing this season.

Dr. Harry W. Sell, chairman of the hospital's surgery department, told reporters that four doctors operated on Roethlisberger for multiple facial fractures and that "all of the fractures were successfully repaired."

Doctors are unaware of any other serious injuries, but said Roethlisberger remained in serious but stable condition late Monday night, according to Dr. Daniel Pituch, who led the team of doctors caring for the star player.

"His brain, spine, chest and abdomen appear to be without serious injury and there are no other confirmed injuries at this time," he said.

Roethlisberger's condition was not expected to change through the night, and no updates were expected until Tuesday afternoon. Doctors declined to release further information, at his family's request.

The hospital's chief of trauma, Dr. Larry Jones, said earlier that Roethlisberger "was talking to me before he left for the operating room."

"He's coherent," Jones said. "He's making sense. He knows what happened. He knows where he is. From that standpoint, he's very stable."

Steelers coach Bill Cowher arrived Monday night at the hospital, where several of Roethlisberger's teammates, including defensive end Brett Keisel, had also gathered.

Team president Art Rooney II said the team was "encouraged by the early reports from the medical team" at the hospital.

"I am sure Ben knows that we are praying for his complete recovery," he said.

The 24-year-old Roethlisberger wasn't wear-

ing a helmet, Pittsburgh police said. He has said he likes to ride without one, a habit that once prompted a lecture from Cowher.

Roethlisberger was on his black 2005 Suzuki Hayabusa traveling east on 2nd Avenue toward an intersection at the edge of downtown at about 11:10 a.m., police said. A silver Chrysler New Yorker traveling in the opposite direction took a left hand turn and collided with the motorcycle, and Roethlisberger was thrown from the bike, police said.

The other car was driven by a woman identified in published reports Tuesday as Martha Fleishman, 62, of Pittsburgh. The car was registered in Maine, where she has a summer home, police said. No charges were filed.

"She really feels terrible about the whole thing, and we certainly wish him a speedy recovery," said her husband, Martin Fleishman.

He declined to comment on his wife's condition, except to say, "She's doing as best as she can."

Sandra Ford, of Pittsburgh, was waiting at a bus stop nearby when she said she saw the motorcycle approach the intersection. Seconds

later, she said she heard a crash, in the air and ran toward the crash.

In only his second year, Roethlisberger helped guide the Super Bowl title in February Training camp for next season end of July.

Several teammates, including tight end Charlie Batch, linebacker and safety Mike Logan, arrived in emergency room but did not. Roethlisberger's stepmother was arrived at the hospital Monday afternoon.

Roethlisberger has said in the past prefers not to wear a helmet while riding after Cleveland tight end Kellen Jr. was injured in a motorcycle accident. Winslow tore knee ligaments and the season.

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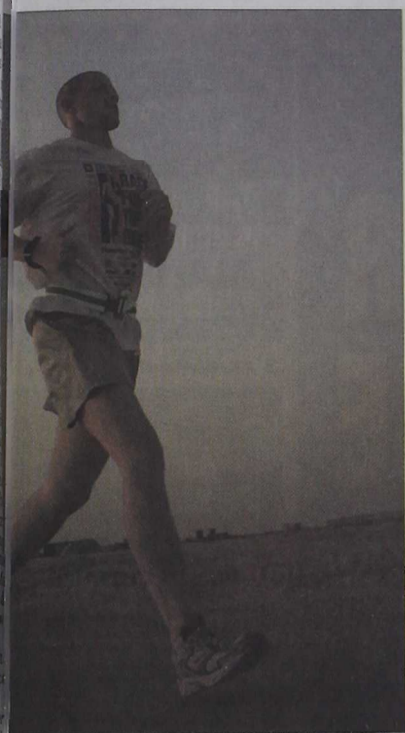
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Marines 'Race for the Cure' at Al Asad



Staff Sgt. Chad McMeen

Staff Sgt. Chad McMeen watches his mother's half-marathon in Al Asad, Iraq, after losing his mother to breast cancer in 2001.



Staff Sgt. Chad McMeen

Race for the cure: Ryan S. Hermance watches from the finish line after completing a half-marathon.

Lance Cpl. Brandon L. Roach
3rd Marine Aircraft Wing

AL ASAD, Iraq — Marines with Marine Wing Support Squadron 274 ran a half-marathon in support of the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation's Race for the Cure June 3.

The drive and motivation for the 14 Marines who participated was explained by Brandon E. Cooley, heavy equipment offi-

cer-in-charge and Ryan S. Hermance, engineer company first sergeant, when they pitched the idea of a run to their co-workers.

Cooley lost his mother to cancer in 2001 and made the commitment to running the Race for a Cure to remember her.

"I had the opportunity to run races for cancer awareness with her after her first battle with cancer," said Cooley. "When she died, I decided to continue the tradition."

The original plan was to run the three miles, arranged by the Al Asad Marine Corps Community Services, but when that was cancelled, the Marines took it upon themselves to organize a run.

"We couldn't back out and it was for a good cause," said Cooley. "Besides, not many people can say they've run a half-marathon in Iraq."

"Everyone knows someone who has been affected by breast cancer," stated

Hermance. "Even though we are deployed to Iraq, we wanted to show our support to the cause and to Cooley."

After two-and-a-half hours and 14 miles, the Marines crossed the finish line.

They raised \$240 for the foundation, which was donated by fellow Marines.

While in Iraq, MWSS-274 operates under the umbrella of Marine Wing Support Group 37 (Reinforced), 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing. ■

SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, June 16th
7:30pm-Until
Military Cadence
Opening Ceremony
2nd Marine Division
Concert Band

works and Movie in the Park

FRIDAY, June 17th
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SUNDAY, June 18th
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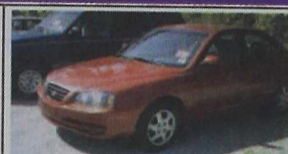
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Where's the bait?

Jamie Cameron
Assistant managing editor

Fishing fortunes have taken a turn for the worse along Bogue Banks this week. The only good news, according to Richard Ehrenkauffer, a.k.a. Dr. Bogus, is, "It's not going to get any worse."

Bogus reported anglers are having a difficult time locating baitfish of any type and when baitfish are scarce, so are the predators that feed on them.

Pier fishermen at Bogue Inlet Fishing Pier in Emerald Isle are catching a little bit of everything - with the operative words being "little bit." There are a reasonable number of big, spring-run pompano and some spots, but pier staples like small bluefish, Spanish mackerel, red drum and

flounder, have disappeared for the time being. When the bait returns, so will the fish.

One piece of good news from the eastern sector was the great participation in the kids fishing derby, held over the weekend at the Bogue Inlet Pier. More than 70 kids came with fishing poles in hand and everyone caught something. Bogus reported that there were little anglers having a good time all over the pier Saturday.

While fishing has been slow in the surf, just offshore there are bluefish, Spanish mackerel and small king mackerel snapping up whatever the trollers put over the side.

Red drum are biting in the lower White Oak River and

western Bogue Sound.

Further west, in the lower New River and Topsail Island, things aren't quite so bleak.

Eric Howell of New River Marina said the fishing hasn't skipped a beat, with anglers catching plenty of bluefish and Spanish mackerel from the piers and the New River producing redfish, speckled trout and flounder. Near the high-rise bridge, croakers, spots and a few black drum are filling coolers.

Ocean anglers have been finding black sea bass on the nearshore artificial reefs and rocks and there are still some cobia around. During the late-spring cobia season, no fisherman should leave the dock without a large spinning rod

rigged for these hard-fighting, great-tasting fish. Cobia often swim near the surface and hang around floating structures like navigation buoys and channel markers. These fish will often hit a well-cast jig or a live bait pitched out in front of their noses. The day you go unprepared is the day the big, 70-pound cobia will swim by the boat — be ready!

If you are "ready" and you do hook a cobia, don't make the mistake of bringing your prize into the boat too early.

Cobia are big, strong fish, but they will sometimes come to the boat long before they tire. An over-anxious gaff-man can result in a trashed boat and serious injuries to its human occupants. Never bring a "green" cobia over the rail — you'll soon regret it.


Affects from Tropical Storm Alberto will likely put a damper on the fishing scene for the next day or so, especially in the rivers. Heavy rains lower salinity levels and chase fish downstream. If you're a "river rat" on the White Oak or New, shift your attention closer to the inlets, where fish will be stacked up following the storm.

When the going gets tough, the tough get going. Think happy thoughts and hold your mouth right! ■

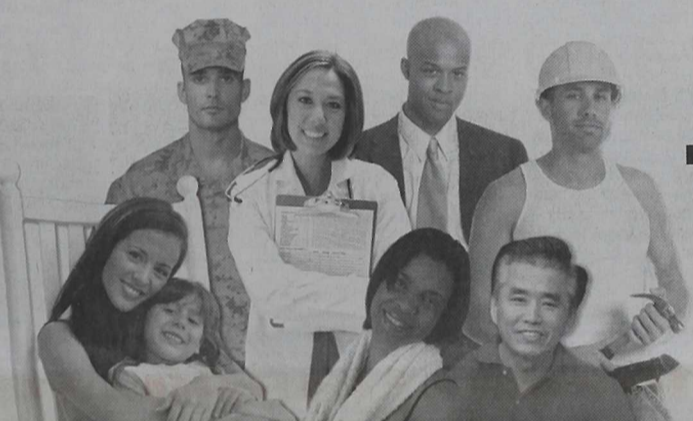


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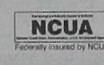
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United States vs. Italy (World Cup)	United States	United States	Italy	United States	Italy	Italy
Sweden vs. Paraguay (World Cup)	Sweden	Paraguay	Paraguay	Paraguay	Sweden	Paraguay
New York Yankees vs. Cleveland Indians	Cleveland	Cleveland	Cleveland	New York	New York	New York
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World Cup unites Iranians

Shaya Tayefe Mohajer
Associated Press

Iran's halting dialogue with the world has stumbled over nuclear proliferation and Holocaust denials. But World Cup soccer is speaking to Iranians everywhere — even those who despise the country's leaders adore the team.

"Politics don't matter in soccer," said Reza Khalili, who watched Iran play Mexico at a Manhattan restaurant with several dozen other expatriates. "I'm an Iranian, these guys on the team are Iranian, so I support them."

It was a sentiment echoed from Tehran to Los Angeles as Iranians gathered Sunday in kebab houses, cafes and homes to watch an opening match 3-1 loss to Mexico.

"We don't like the regime, of course, but we love our team," said Melinda Roodani, whose husband, Khosro, said he was pleased to see men and women watching the game together at a Los Angeles restaurant. Iran's Islamic rulers have banned

women from soccer stadiums.

The government has plenty of opposition overseas and conservative President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad has further isolated Iran with his nuclear ambitions and anti-Israel rhetoric. Regardless of their politics, Iranians everywhere held their collective breath during the game, which was tied 1-1 until Mexico netted two late goals.

Iran's leaders were looking to the World Cup to bolster their global reputation. Kayhan, a conservative daily newspaper, wrote that "the games will be a unique opportunity for Iran to show its political, social, cultural and economic stability."

Streets were relatively empty and many shops were closed in downtown Tehran, where public revelry turned to pro-democracy riots following the country's last World Cup appearance in 1998.

Millions watched the game on state-run television; Iran was one of the few countries in the Middle East broadcasting all games for free.

"I did not open my bookshop in the afternoon because I didn't want to be disturbed," Rahim Yazdi said.

A world away at an Iranian restaurant in Los Angeles, home to a concentration of dissidents who oppose Iran's current government, 100 mostly young fans crowded over traditional breakfasts of flat bread and soup made from cow brains.

Soccer was the other order of the day.

"No matter what the political situation is," said Eusan Sadri of Irvine, "football is a unifying global event that surpasses any geographical or political boundaries."

One local Iranian-American woman watching her first World Cup game was thrilled to see her two worlds join over a plate of kabobs in New York City.

"I recently returned from Iran and I miss the feeling of being among all my family and other Iranians," Farnoosh Fathi said. "It's great to have this chance to get together." ■

Ukraine coach silences critics

Erica Bulman
Associated Press

Ukraine maintained the shroud of secrecy surrounding its World Cup preparations on Monday, preventing the media from accessing its players for the second day in a row.

Reporters and broadcasters were permitted to watch the team warm up for about 15 minutes on Sunday and Monday, before being commanded to leave the stadium. Fans were barred from watching altogether.

Security guards prowled the perimeter of the grounds, making sure reporters were not watching through the bushes.

The team's covertness baffled members of the Spanish media, many of whom made the trip from Kamen — on the West side of the country — where the Spanish team is based. Soccer powerhouse Spain traditionally has open training sessions and allows liberal access to its players.

Even the Ukrainian team's hotel is remote, tucked away in the dark secluded coniferous forests of Potsdam and heavily guarded by security on the look-out for uninvited visitors.

Blokhin's near total ban on contact between his players and outsiders is reminiscent of the secrecy that the Soviet system was once famous for.

Blokhin is the product of a disciple of legendary Valeri who used similar practices to prepare Dynamo Kiev for a Champions League semi-final against Bayern Munich in Germany.

Despite a strict demeanor, sense of regimen, Blokhin on Monday and looked prepared for a party, wearing shorts, a gray broke the team's yellow-and-black and baseball cap.

He playfully kicked Oleg Derishev as the player returned to a run-in with a goal post bandage to his forehead.

Andriy Shevchenko seemed to have discarded a white bandage wrapped his left leg in celebration.

"If he is not wearing a good news for us," team manager Miroshnyschenko said.


The former European player sprained his left knee while playing for AC Milan against Portugal.

Blokhin was cagey about his field Shevchenko in Ukraine against Spain in Leipzig on their is hope for Shevchenko.

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Special olympians make splash at North Carolina Summer Games



Courtesy photo

State games: Kenneth Donovan Mouton competes in the backstroke at the Special Olympics North Carolina Summer Games. Mouton captured second-place in the 100-meter backstroke and finished with two gold medals and a silver.

Jamie Cameron
Assistant managing editor

The 10 athletes who traveled to North Carolina State University Fairgrounds June 3 are no strangers to dedication and hard work.

As members of the Special Olympics Onslow County swim team, the competitors have spent countless hours of training, many of them in Camp Lejeune's Area 2 Pool.

In addition to the 10-member swim team, Onslow County sent nine track and field athletes to the competition at a separate location in Raleigh.

Besides receiving volunteer help from many Marines at the pool, team members had the benefit of two Lejeune High School students, Brian Conner and Daniel Cantu, to assist them in their daily preparations for the state games.

Conner even traveled to Raleigh to cheer his athletes to victory.

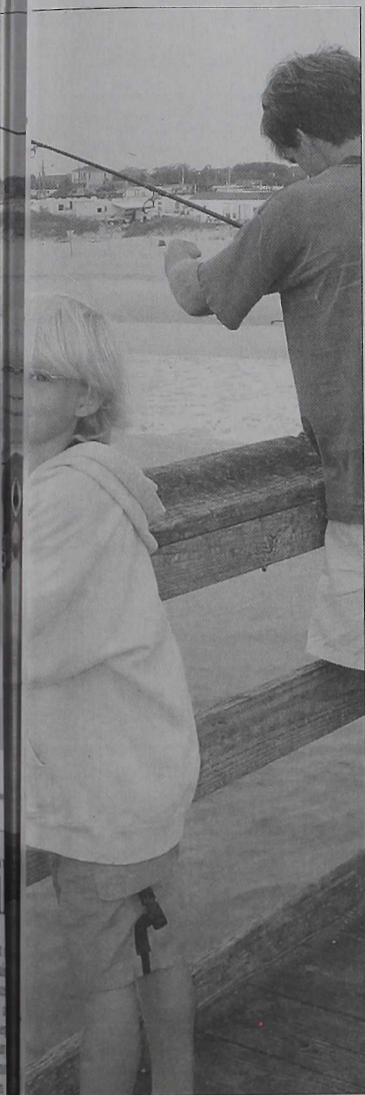
With heart-felt dedication and help from the many volunteers, the swim team brought home an astounding 37 medals from the competition. ■



Courtesy photo

State games: The Special Olympics Onslow County delegation shows off some of the swimming medals won at the state competition, held June 3 at North Carolina State University Fairgrounds.

... fishing



Courtesy photo

Jerby: Tray Moritz waits patiently while his tangles his line at the Bogue Inlet Fishing Pier Saturday. The younger Moritz finished 10th among anglers who competed in this year's Youth Fishing Derby. The fishermen battled tough conditions and a bite throughout the day, but nearly everything. Bogue Inlet Fishing Pier is open for families.

Rockies bring home Youth Sports softball championship

Matt Vaughan
Staff reporter

As the Youth Sports baseball and softball tournaments came to a close Saturday, one exceptional team finished on top of its division in grand style.

The Rockies of the girls softball division, finished the season undefeated by ousting the Blue Jays 12-8 in a hard-fought championship game of the girls softball.

The Rockies squad went 6-0 on the spring season and finished first in its six-team division.

Team organizers thanked Coach Rohn and Coach Free for an outstanding season and the players for all of their hard work and dedication to the game.

To find out more about youth sports opportunities on base contact the youth sports office at 451-2177/2159. ■



Courtesy Photo

Youth Softball: The Rockies celebrate after winning the championship as each girl displays her trophy.

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2nd Marines change of command | 2C

Division Marines, sailors get a taste of 'Big Apple'



Cpl. Lucian Friel

Fleet Week: Marines and sailors aboard the USS Kearsarge head into the city for Fleet Week and Memorial Day weekend. The Marines and sailors participated in various parades and social events throughout the week, interacting with locals.

Cpl. Lucian Friel
2nd Marine Division

NEW YORK — Marines and sailors with 2nd Marine Division recently visited the country's largest city during Memorial Day weekend and were greeted with open arms from the local communities.

Service members with 10th Marine Regiment; 2nd Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment; 2nd

Assault Amphibian Battalion; 2nd Tank Battalion and 2nd Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion were all on hand for New York City's Fleet Week, the city's annual appreciation event for the men and women of the U.S. Armed Forces, May 24-31.

The Marines and sailors aboard the USS Kearsarge, stationed in Norfolk, Va., participated in parades, demonstrations of military operations,

social events, community service activities and other ceremonies during the week.

New Yorkers were given the opportunity to tour the ships and talk to Marines and sailors that have fought in the Global War on Terrorism. Static displays of tanks, amphibious assault vehicles, artillery weapons and light armored vehicles were on board for the locals to experience.

"People seemed to have a good time on the ship," said Lance Cpl. Christopher Tibbs, 21, a tank mechanic with Company B, 2nd Tanks and a Springfield, Ill., native. "They asked us a lot of questions and seemed really interested in what we do. It was really rewarding to see people appreciating what we do everyday."

The Marines and sailors were also afforded the opportu-

nity to explore the city's five boroughs and take in the sights.

One Marine in particular, Sgt. Larry M. Pray, 37, took full advantage of this opportunity, visiting most of New York's popular landmarks, such as the Statue of Liberty. "I'm from a small town in North Carolina and I don't get the chance to experience the city atmosphere too often," explained the Hickory, N.C., native. "My fleet week was outstanding. I found the people to be very courteous. We were treated like celebrities the whole time. It was amazing. I don't know how many times people would stop us and say thank you for what we do."

More than 4,000 Marines, sailors and coastguardsmen, including British sailors, were involved in the festivities, and many agreed that this year's Fleet Week was one to remember.

"I think New York had a great idea in Fleet Week," said Pray, an intelligence chief with 10th Marine Regiment. "It's the perfect way for the city to bond with the armed forces. They opened up their businesses and gave us their hospitality so they could get to know the young men and women that deploy in support of a war that literally started at their front door."

"New York City itself is a symbol of what makes this country great and worth fighting for; it's a symbol of freedom." ■

Drug Education For Youth welcomed at Camp Lejeune

Lance Cpl. Drew Barker
Marine Corps Base

The Drug Education For Youth program was established in 1993 by the Navy's Drug Demand Reduction Task Force. Fully integrated with the President's National Drug Control Strategy and fully funded through the Office of the Secretary of Defense, DEFY has been the Navy's cornerstone for drug demand reduction and has returned this summer for its fourth year aboard Camp Lejeune.

"We are very excited," said Caroline Graham, DEFY program coordinator. "Last year we were able to get a little more than 20 children involved, this year we'd like to double that number."

DEFY's mission statement is to provide commanders with a drug demand reduction program for children that facilitates and enhances family readiness to promote mission accomplishment. More specifically, it helps children between the ages of nine and 12

build character, leadership, and confidence and prepares them to engage in positive, healthy lifestyles as drug-free citizens, according to their Web site, www.hq.navy.mil/defy/.

"We want to give kids the confidence and knowledge to make good decisions about drugs and alcohol," said Graham. "Our overall goal is to strengthen families from the bottom up."

The program, which is available to children of active and retired military members as well as Department of Defense employees, begins in August with an eight-day, non-residential summer camp that includes physical activity, educational field trips, team laser tag and community services and continues on a monthly basis of mentoring throughout the year.

"It's great for kids whose parents might deploy," said Graham. "It gives them another person in their life to serve as a role model and it gives them someone to talk to."

The program is seeking adults who wish to volunteer their services as mentors to help children build the character, leadership and confidence needed to resist drugs, gangs and alcohol.

"DEFY relies on volunteers. We need a minimum of one mentor for every seven kids," said Graham. "A child couldn't ask for better mentors than the Marines and sailors of Camp Lejeune."

According to Graham, the DEFY staff and mentors are all affiliated with the military in some respect. They are primarily active duty personnel who volunteer, but also include reservists, DoD civilians, DoD spouses, and retired persons.

All volunteers must fill out an application, available at the Health and Fitness Division in Bldg. 400 or online at DEFY's Web site and receive a thorough background check. Active-duty service members must also receive command approval before participating.

"Being a DEFY mentor is a lot of hard, but very rewarding work," said

Graham. "They will receive two days of training on June 21 and 22, participate in the summer camp activities and must be available throughout the year for monthly sessions and regular contact with the children."

In only its fourth year here, Graham considers the program to be a huge success.

"The program has proven to be very successful," said Graham. "Surveys have shown that the program is very effective in changing kid's attitudes toward drugs and alcohol use."

Registration for the self-esteem building program will be held at Stone Street Youth Pavilion from 9 a.m. to noon, Monday. Participants and those interested in mentoring are encouraged to attend.

"This is such a wonderful experience for everyone who becomes involved," said Graham. "I would encourage everyone to be a part of it in one way or another."

For more information, contact Caroline Graham at 451-0021. ■

Scientists study, explore Lejeune's lower New River

Lance Cpl. Drew Barker
Marine Corps Base

Edward Teller, the late nuclear physicist informally known as "the father of the hydrogen bomb," once said, "The science of today is the technology of tomorrow."

Although the Defense Science Study Group was created in the late 1980s, nearly 40 years after the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki brought an end to World War II, the concept Teller spoke of still applies to the mission of DSSG and its visit to Camp Lejeune and Marine Corps Air Station New River, June 7.

"We're visiting military installations around the country," said Phillip Gould, DSSG program director. "We toured Lejeune and New River today as part of the first phase of our two-year program. We need to learn about the existing techniques and technologies being used throughout the military community, in hopes of using that knowledge to develop improvements and innovations."

The DSSG program selects young professors and scientists from a variety of fields at many of the country's top universities, to address national security challenges using their unique talents. DSSG is directed by the Institute

for Defense Analyses, which is located in Alexandria, Va., and falls under the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency.

"We bring in the best and the brightest that the academic world has to offer," said Gould. "After being exposed to military practices, they go on to serve as military advisors and researchers."

During their visit, DSSG members toured the Military Operations in Urban Terrain facility, viewed static displays of tanks and aircraft, enjoyed an assault craft ride, experienced a Meal Ready to Eat lunch, witnessed a Marine Corps Martial Arts demonstration and visited the MV-22 Osprey simulator.

"This is an educational process," said Maj. Gen. Robert C. Dickerson, commanding general Marine Corps Installations East. "It gives us the opportunity to expose these brilliant minds to our military and give them some first-hand knowledge."

Technological advantage is fundamental to U.S. national security and both technology and defense needs are changing rapidly. To meet the challenge, strong links must be developed between the national security community and young, emerging leaders of science and technology, according to DSSG's Web site, <http://dssg.ida.org>.



Boat ride: Members of the Defense Science Study Group boarded assault craft to explore the New River and observe military technologies.

"We've always had a strong working relationship with the military," said Gould. "DSSG has made some important contributions over the years that are prevalent in today's military."

During the two-year pro-

gram, participants focus on defense policy, related research and development and the systems, missions, and operations of the armed forces.

"We need to focus on what the fight is going to look like in the future," said Lt. Gen. James

F. Amos, commanding general, II Marine Expeditionary Force. "Developing new techniques and equipment is paramount. Hopefully today's visit will result in new ideas and ways to help the service members who are out there fighting." ■

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Base vet clinic care keeps tails wagging, noses cold

Sgt. Tracee L. Jackson
Marine Corps Base

vide several important services to eligible patients at a low-cost military rate, said Lucas.

The buzz word at the pet clinic this season is the Heartworm Prevention Program. According to Francis, heartworm is a mosquito-transferred parasite that is both preventable and treatable. However, without proactive measures, heartworms can take the life of a pet.

"Pets need monthly vaccinations to prevent heartworms," said Lucas, who further explained that missing a month's treatment can be corrected, but incites the need for a tougher medical remedy.

Army Capt. Genevieve Vega, 32, the clinic's officer-in-charge, discussed another imminent issue for pet owners - spaying or neutering pets.

"Everyone thinks their pets are great and loves them a lot, so the owners want them to have more," said Vega. "But, there are already a lot of pets in the area. There are military families who are coming and going and sometimes when they leave, they can't take their pet with them."

A busy military community can translate to an unstable home for a household pet.

"Sometimes, we'll find abandoned pets and we'll bring them to the shelter to hopefully be adopted," she said, adding that not all pets are that lucky.

So, for a basically-healthy pet just in need of some fine tuning, the on-base vet clinic is the answer to a busy service member. However, before booking an appointment, there are a few things to keep in mind.

"People who want to make an appointment should call two weeks prior," said Jennifer Grooms, a receptionist for the clinic. "If your pet hasn't been here before, they should bring any prior medical records the pet may have."

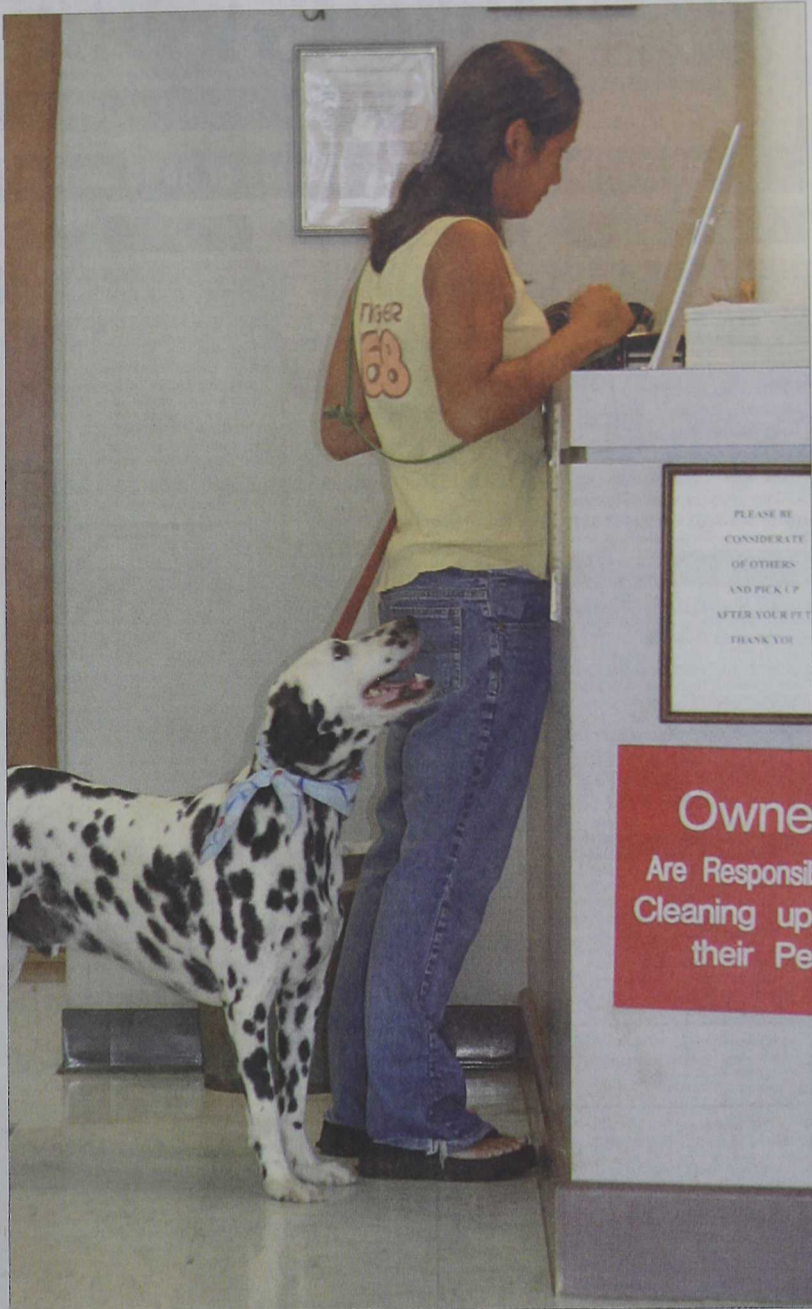
Grooms explained the pet should be accompanied by an adult during its visit to the clinic.

"We don't allow anyone under the age of 12 in the lobby," said Grooms. "It's for their safety because we have military working dogs come in here."

The clinic staff emphasized the importance of following all regulations and guidelines to keep a pet healthy and have successful visits to the base clinic.

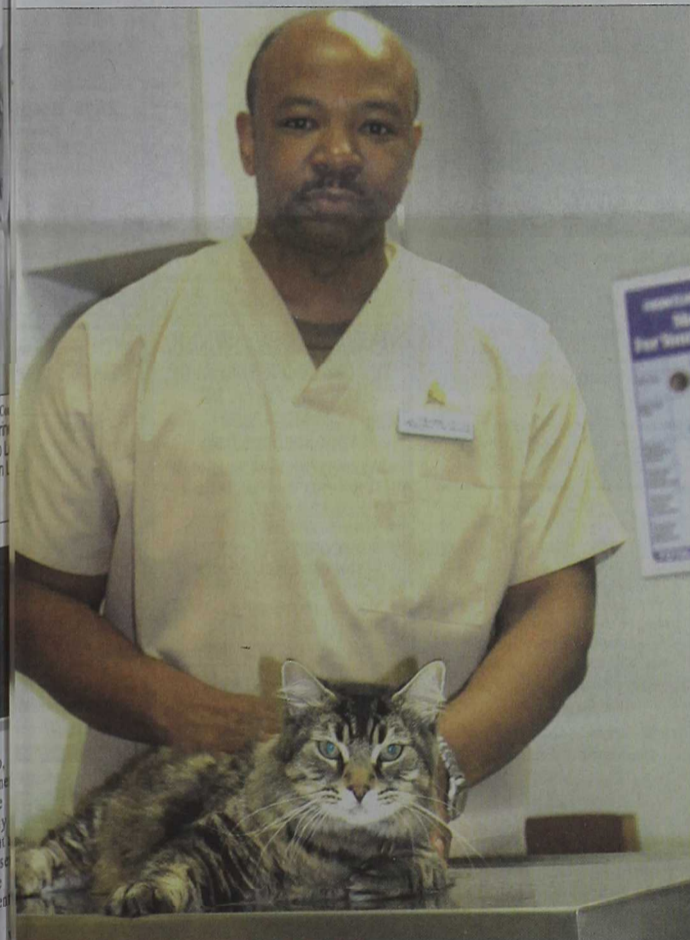
"One of the most satisfying parts of my job," added Lucas, "is when I can educate new pet owners and give them information on how to take care of their pet."

According to Lucas, enduring the drool, hisses and sometimes loopy sedation of both military and privately-owned pets is a small price to pay for the gratification that comes with keeping Lejeune's pet population on all fours — regardless of whether the dogs work or play at the side of a service member. ■



Sgt. Tracee L. Jackson

Base vet check-in: A dog-owner checks in her pet at the base veterinary clinic. Although the primary mission of the clinic is to provide support to military working dogs, the facility also opens its doors to privately-owned pets.



Sgt. Tracee L. Jackson

Check-in: Army Sgt. Frank Lucas, noncommissioned officer-in-charge of the base veterinary clinic, comforts Flower, who is receiving a vaccination to his rear leg.



Sgt. Tracee L. Jackson

Prepping for surgery: Spec. Jason Salinas, 26, of Floresville, Tx and veterinary technician at the base vet clinic shaves a heavily-sedated patient in preparation for minor surgery.



Sgt. Tracee L. Jackson

Operating room: Army Capt. Genevieve Vega, base clinic officer-in-charge, performs a spaying operation while Spec. Jason Salinas, veterinary technician, stands at the ready. Vega

stressed the importance of having pets spayed or neutered to prevent an overpopulation of unwanted animals.

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ASSORTED-Green couch, \$75. Green recliner, \$35. Blue rocker & recliner, \$50. Sewing machine cabinet, \$30. Oak baby crib, \$50. All in good condition. 265-2862.

ASSORTED-light brown sectional, \$150.

Furniture

Coffee table, light wood w/glass center, \$40. 27 in TV, \$150. Crib mattress, \$15. 388-1533.

ASSORTED Small solid cherry desk, \$75. Two large Ethan Allen cherry end tables with cabinets, \$300. 252-448-1562.

ASSORTED-Solid oak pedestal dining table, 42in diameter w/4 chairs. \$175/obo. Wicker shelf unit, \$25. 467-4041.

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BED-King size, includes mattress and frames. In good condition. \$300. 382-1608.

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Furniture

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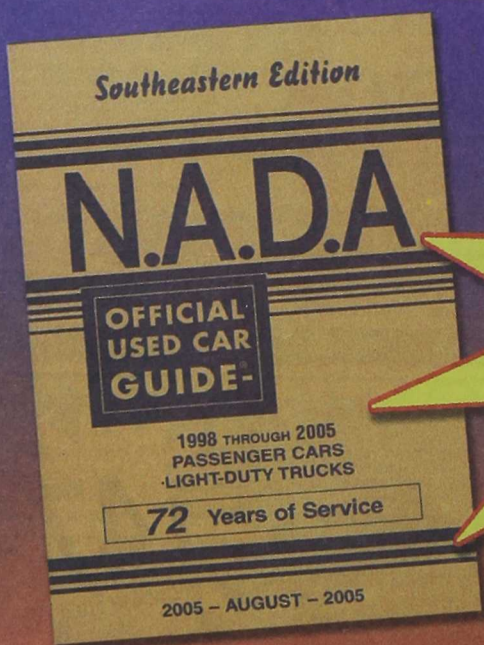
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Miscellaneous

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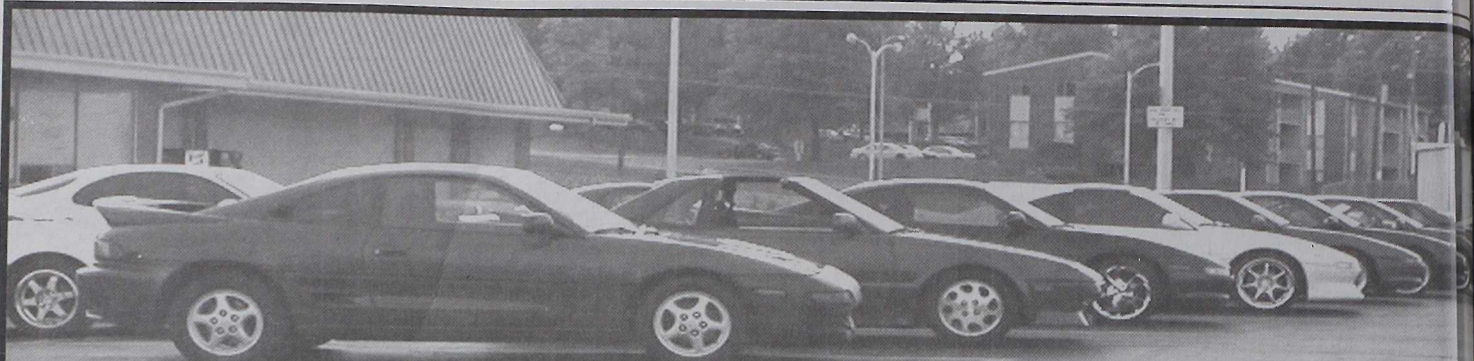
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Automobiles

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Automobiles

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YARD SALE-2901 Seth Williams Blvd. Camp Lejeune, 1 mile away from officers' club toward Stone St. Jun 17th & 18th. 7-3. Furniture, tools, computer w/flat scrn, Kit, table & much more.

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YARD SALE-6/17, 8AM-1PM. Baby items, clothes, maternity clothes, microwave, oak coffee table, TV, household items. 202 Quail Creek, Hubert. 325-0023.

YARD SALE-6/17, opens at 6AM. Furniture, kid's items, knick knacks & more. Berkeley Manor, 5067 Connecticut St.

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Turn to Amy Segreti's travel column to find out where to go in Wilmington | 8D

Globe | Thursday, June 15, 2006 | www.militarynews.com/globe

Children brighten Marines' days

SOI, Camp Geiger chaplains, Wounded Warriors receive awards for volunteer work

Story and photos
Amy Segreti
Staff reporter

Marines have been helping Johnson Primary School students build confidence in reading, writing, vocabulary and math since January. Last Thursday, the School of Infantry received the DoDEA Military Unit Excellence Award in recognition of the exceptional dedication and support the Marines gave to the students. Bob Brinton, Superintendent of Camp Lejeune Dependents Schools, presented certificates of commendation to SOI, the Camp Geiger chaplains and the Wounded Warriors.

At the award ceremony, Johnson Primary students and faculty thanked the Marines who volunteered with them for more

than 2,850 hours this semester. The students performed songs and dances, dressed in Marine gear and presented the Marines with a hand-crafted scrapbook of photos and other memories from the school semester.

Many Marines felt the privilege of spending time with the children was more than enough of a thank you.

Lance Cpl. Josh Mankins and Lance Cpl. John Ritrovato of the SOI had been working with the kids for only a month and already they had grown to absolutely love the work. "We'd volunteer eight hours a day if we could," said Ritrovato.

Marine volunteers worked more than 30 hours a week with the students, mostly on Wednesdays and Thursdays.

Mankins loved spending time with the

children. "We come here and it's so much fun for us. We don't usually get to hang out with kids," he said. "I learn to read better just being here."

Pfc. Richard Gemma said he enjoys being able to help the students cope with their parents being away. "One of the little girls I volunteer with says I'm one of her best friends," he said.

"It meant the world to us to be able to be there for them," said Ritrovato. "They would latch onto our arms and say 'you remind me of my dad.'"

Principal Dr. Jan Kinney nominated the SOI for the award. "I've been in this system for 20 years and never have I had this much support from a support unit," said Kinney.

After Ritrovato accepted the award for the SOI, he looked at his trophy and smiled. "They think we gave a lot to them," he said. "They gave far more to us." ■



Students thank volunteers: Raquel Manzanet (left) and Amber Ward say, "The Marines make our day."

A taste of Marine life: Students at Johnson Primary dress in Marine gear and try out their driving skills on mini-tanks as part of the award ceremony.



Military Unit Excellence Award: Lance Cpl. John Ritrovato accepts the DoDEA award for the School of Infantry.



Riverwalk Festival 2006

Jacksonville's award-winning festival returns with activities for all ages

Amy Segreti
Staff reporter

Hailed as "Best New Event" in its second year by the North Carolina Association of Festivals and Events, the 5th annual Jacksonville Riverwalk festival is back with a myriad of attractions, activities and entertainment this weekend at the Riverwalk Crossing Park.

Although the festival is very popular, it demands a lot of work each year. "Most of it is just hitting the street, begging for money to make this happen," said Lottie Campenella, events coordinator of Bettering Our Local Downtown, a non-profit organization dedicated to the revitalization of Jacksonville commercial and residential districts.

The festival starts Friday at 7:30 p.m. and continues through Saturday from 10 a.m. - 9 p.m. and Sunday 1 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Each day begins with a cadence. "It's a way to start the festivities off," said Campenella. Friday features a military cadence in which two platoons will be doing drills. According to Campenella, 60 Marines will attend to kick off the festival in addition to the 2nd Marine Division band concert.

Festival attendees will have the opportunity to talk with the Marines, see the equipment they use and observe military demonstrations. There will be a pull-up challenge and opportunities to get their faces painted in camouflage by the Marines.

Capt. Richard C. Welton of the Medical Corps, U.S. Navy will give a ceremony speech at 7:45 p.m. Welton joined the Army Reserve in 1970 and later served on active duty in the Army from 1974-1984. His military awards include the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal and other service and unit medals.

Fireworks and a movie in the park, *Daddy Day Care*, will finish off the night.

Saturday begins with a theatrical cadence by the North Carolina School of Performing Arts, along with Raggs, a kids' musical band which stars five high-energy, musically-talented canine characters who sing and dance to their original rock 'n roll music. "I don't know how they're going to do it if it's hot," said Campenella with a laugh.

The day continues with a Keith King BMX bike stunt show and a performance by Kandee. Born and raised in Oklahoma, she arrived in Onslow County in September 2005. Her masters degree in Opera/Music Education brought her to Camp Lejeune as a music teacher in the Lejeune school system and she will be bringing the sounds of oldies and Broadway to the festival.

At 7:30 p.m. on the U.S. Cellular stage, Grammy award-winning country band Shenandoah, made up of singer Mike McGuire, guitarist Jim Seales, bassist Ralph Ezell and keyboardist Stan Thorn, will perform hits. Madonna

An extra special thanks goes out to the Commanding Generals, Commanding Officers and Sergeants Major of the various commands aboard Camp Lejeune and the Coast Guard. They have supported this event with static displays and demonstrations and by allowing their personnel to volunteer their time. To the individual Marines who volunteered: we couldn't have done it without you.

B.O.L.D. of Jacksonville

Norris, a Wilmington country singer, will open for Shenandoah.

Sunday opens with a gospel cadence by St. Julius choir and continues with a wing-eating contest and live entertainment by blues singer Robin Rodgers, who Campenella says is "amazing." "I booked her for the festival as soon as I could," she said.

Throughout the weekend, the event will feature a bungee trampoline, where riders will be attached to bungee cords and allowed to jump up to two stories high, a 24-foot high mobile rock wall with sections divided by skill level and a fossil dig presented by the North Carolina Fossil Club, where visitors will be able to dig for their own treasures. There will be a new car show, a boat show down by the marina and 85 vendors offering food, arts and crafts and jewelry.

An inflatable island featuring an obstacle course with walls, tunnels and tubes, a pedestal joust, big glove boxing and a slide will be available — and not just for children. "The adults are on there sometimes more than the kids are," said Campenella.

Campenella estimated anywhere between 20,000-40,000 festival attendees and warned that parking may be a problem. Festival-goers are encouraged to take the Jacksonville-Onslow Local Transit system, which will be offering transportation to the festival.

For more information, visit www.jacksonvilleriverwalk.com, or call B.O.L.D. at 937-7222. ■

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Mission Impossible III a pulse-racing thrill

Reinhild Moldenhauer Huneycutt
From the front row

MISSION IMPOSSIBLE III (PG-13)

Mission Impossible III is an action thriller and the third installment of the popular series based on the 1960 television series starring Martin Landau.

In this segment, secret agent Ethan Hunt comes face-to-face with an international weapons and information provider with no remorse and no conscience while trying to keep his identity secret in order to protect his girlfriend.

Tom Cruise (*War of the Worlds*, *Collateral*, *The Last Samurai*) reprises his role of Ethan Hunt, the super spy.

Hunt has retired from active duty to train new Impossible Mission Force agents. But he is called back into action to confront the toughest villain he has ever faced, Owen Davian, played by Philip Seymour Hoffman (*Capote*, *Cold Mountain*), a dangerous and sadistic arms dealer.

Hunt assembles his well-connected team of agents, including his old friend Luther Strickell, played by Ving Rhames (*Down of the Dead*, *Envy*), who is reprising his role as the computer expert (he is the only character, besides Ethan Hunt, to appear in all three *Mission Impossible* films).

Among the other team members are Declan, a transportation expert, played by Jonathan Rhys Meyers (*Matchpoint*, *Alexander*); Zhen, a background operative, played by Maggie Q (making her U.S. debut); and Lindsey Ferris, a fresh spy recruit, played by Kerri Russell (*Upside of Anger*, *We Were Soldiers*).

Together, the team travels the globe

pursuing the evil Davian, and rescuing Hunt's love, Julia, played by Michelle Monaghan (*North Country*, *Mr. & Mrs. Smith*).

Costarring is Laurence Fishburne (*Assault on Precinct 13*) as John Brassel, director of the IMF and Billy Crudup (*Almost Famous*) appears as John Musgrave, his right-hand man, IMF's operation manager.

Director and co-writer J. J. Abrams (co-creator and executive producer of TV's *Alias*, *Lost*) experiences his first feature debut and brings us lots of stunts and explosions, all set to the catchy and well-known music theme by Lalo Schifrin.

For *M.I.-3*, Cruise engaged Kanye West to be featured in the series trademark theme, who also recorded an original song, "Impossible," featuring Twista and Keisha Cole. The song is featured over the end credits of the film.

The movie has lots of incredible action, intrigue, suspense and breathtaking stunts and was shot around the globe, including China, Germany and Italy. This time around, the storyline has a sharper focus on who Ethan Hunt really is.

Mission Impossible III is a pulse-racing, mind-bending action film that does not disappoint the fans.

Now playing at Camp



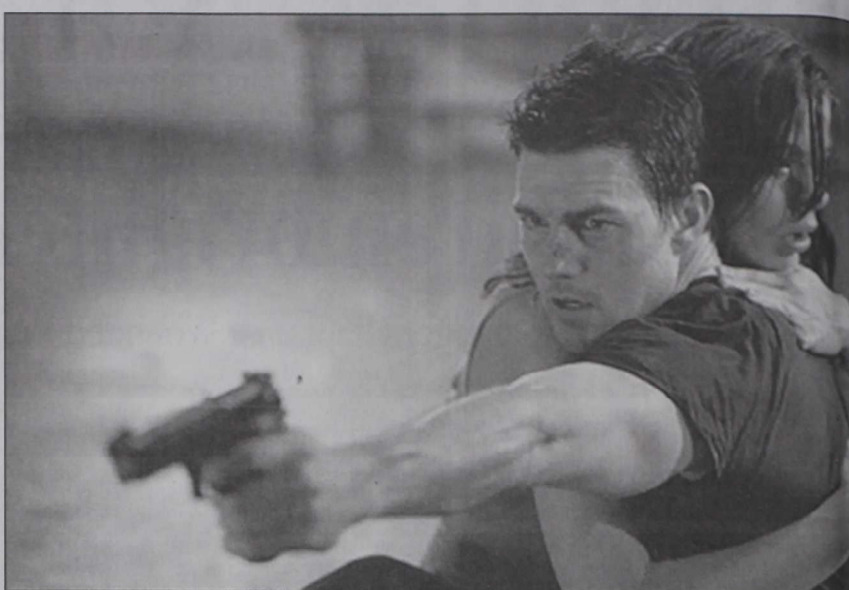
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Lejeune.

THE BREAK-UP (PG-13)

The Break-Up is an anti-romantic comedy about a couple who can't live with each other and can't live without each other. It is a story about a man and woman who fall out of love.

A Chicago couple meets at a Cubs game, falls in love, moves in together, and then, after two years together, they



Mission Impossible III: Ethan Hunt (Tom Cruise) fights a dangerous arms dealer while protecting Julia (Michelle Monaghan).

decide to part ways. However, once they split, neither ex is willing to budge from the condo they bought in happier times.

Jennifer Aniston (*Rumor Has It*, *Derailed*, *The Good Girl*) stars as Brooke Myers, who works at an art gallery.

Vince Vaughn (*The Wedding Crashers*, *Be Cool*, *Mr. & Mrs. Smith*) stars as Gary Grobowski who hosts bus tours of Chicago.

Pushed to the breaking-up point after their latest "why can't you do this one little thing for me" argument, Brooke calls it quits with Gary.

When neither ex is willing to move

out, the only solution is to continue living as hostile roommates until somebody caves.

What follows is a series of remedies, war tactics, overtures, and undermings suggested by the former couple's friends, confidantes and the occasional total stranger.

Costarring is John Favreau (*Wimbledon*, *Daredevil*) as Johnny O, as Gary's best friend; Joey Lauren Adams (*The Big Empty*, *Dr. Dolittle*) as Addie, Brooke's best friend; Jason Bateman (*Dodgeball: A True Underdog Story*) as Riggleman, the real estate agent; Vincent D'Onofrio (*The Imposter*) as Dennis; Judy Davis (*Coast*

to Coast) as Marilyn L

eccentric boss; and Ann

Director Peyton Reec

Down With Love) does ne

film together to convince of the total break up.

Thoughts of the wor

the *Roses* with Kathlee

Michael Douglas keep r

my head.

This *Break-Up* has litt

funny at times, but runs

towards the end.

Now playing in Jacks

Ms. Huneycutt is the

Assistant at the Base

Office. ■

School volunteers win DoDEA awards for excellence

Press release
DoDEA

The "Award for School Volunteers" Recognition Program honored a volunteer from each Camp Lejeune school with the highest honor the Department of Defense Education Activity can bestow to a school volunteer. According to the DoDEA, the overall focus and intent of these awards is to provide recognition to two groups of supporters who provide countless hours of dedicated service. They volunteer in the schools and provide support through military command channels to assist the DoDEA educational mission of higher student achievement.

"Camp Lejeune Schools appreciates the support we receive from all volunteers. We couldn't do it without them," said Rebecca Humphrey, secretary to the superintendent.

The winners included Scott and Denise Billman, Lejeune High School; Jackie Quinn, DeLalio Elementary School; Christina Cox, Johnson Primary School; Lisa Santivasci, Brewster Medical School; Helen LeBlanc, Berkeley Manor Elementary School; Diana Mueller, Tarawa Terrace I Primary School; and Angela Jones, Russell Elementary School and Danni Alcantara, Tarawa Terrace II Primary School. ■



Denise Billman



Christina Cox



Angela Jones



Helen LeBlanc



Diana Mueller



Jackie Quinn



Lisa Santivasci



Danni Alcantara



Movie synopsis

AKEELAH AND THE BEE

Cast: Laurence Fishburne, Angela Bassett, Keke Palmer, Curtis Armstrong, J.R. Villarreal

Rated: PG for some language.

Genre: Drama and kids/family.

Runtime: 112 min

Synopsis: A precocious 11-year-old girl, Akeelah Anderson from south Los Angeles, is discovered to have a talent for words. In spite of the objections of her mother Wanda, Akeelah enters a spelling contest. Her gift takes her to compete in the National Spelling Bee. On the way she is helped by a forthright, mysterious teacher, Dr. Larabee and other members of the community.

UNITED 93

Cast: Opal Alladin, Erich Redman, Ben Sliney, Susan Blommaert, Peter Hermann

Rated: R for some intense sequences of terror and violence

Genre: Drama.

Runtime: 111 min.

Synopsis: United Airlines Flight 93 became the fourth hijacked plane on the day of the worst terrorist attacks on American soil: September 11, 2001. United 93 recreates the doomed trip in actual time, from takeoff to hijacking to the realization by those onboard that their plane was part of a coordinated attack unfolding on the ground beneath them. The film attempts to understand the abject fear and courageous decisions of those who — over the course of just 90 minutes — transformed from a random assembly of disconnected strangers into bonded allies who confronted an unthinkable situation.

HOOT

Cast: Luke Wilson, Logan Lerman, Brie Larson, Tim Blake Nelson, Cody Linley

Rated: PG for mild bullying and brief language

Genre: Kids/Family.

Runtime: 90 min.

Synopsis: When a Montana boy moves to Florida and unearths a disturbing threat to a

local population of endangered owls, three middle-schoolers take on greedy land developers, corrupt politicians and clueless cops. Determined to protect his new environment, the boy and his friends fight to prevent the adults from making a big mistake.

SILENT HILL

Cast: Radha Mitchell, Sean Bean, Laurie Holden, Deborah Kara Unger, Kim Coates.

Rated: R for strong horror violence and gore, disturbing images and some language.

Genre: Action/Adventure and suspense/horror.

Runtime: 125 min.

Synopsis: Rose cannot accept the knowledge that her daughter Sharon is dying of a fatal disease. Over the protests of her husband, she flees with her child, heading for an abandoned town to which the child seems drawn. Sharon disappears in the town and Rose follows her into what seems like an alternate reality.

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Larry the Cable Guy, PG-13, 7:30 p.m.

FRIDAY
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SATURDAY
Hoot, PG, 3:30 p.m.; Scary Movie 4, PG-13, 6:30 p.m.; Mission Impossible III, R, 9:15 p.m.

SUNDAY
The Wild, G, 3:30 p.m.; United Flight 93, R, 6:30 p.m.

MONDAY
no movie

TUESDAY
Final Destination 3, PG-13, 11 a.m.; The Benchwarmers, PG-13, 7:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY
Mission Impossible III, R, 7:30 p.m.

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THE BREAK UP PG-13 12:00 2:20 4:45 7:20 9:50	THE OMEN 6.6.6. R 1:00 4:00 7:00 9:25
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NACHO LIBRE PG 12:50 3:10 5:20 7:40 10:00	THE LAKE HOUSE PG 12:40 3:00 5:15 7:30 9:50

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LCTV-10 | Guide

8:00 a.m.	Consider Michigan!
8:30 a.m.	With the Marines
9:00 a.m.	The Morning Report
9:30 a.m.	Army Newswatch
10:00 a.m.	Cape Fear, Virginia Beach, Diamond
10:30 a.m.	Making of a Marine
11:30 a.m.	Jim Zumbo: Dove Hunt
noon	The Morning Report
12:30 p.m.	Army Newswatch
1:00 p.m.	Life in the Corps
1:30 p.m.	Shooting Gallery: Lazars
2:00 p.m.	Consider Michigan!
2:30 p.m.	With the Marines
3:00 p.m.	Cape Fear, Virginia Beach, Diamond
3:30 p.m.	Jim Zumbo: Dove Hunt
4:00 p.m.	The Morning Report
4:30 p.m.	Army Newswatch
5:00 p.m.	Making of a Marine
6:00 p.m.	Life in the Corps
6:30 p.m.	Shooting Gallery: Lazars
7:00 p.m.	Consider Michigan!
7:30 p.m.	With the Marines
8:00 p.m.	The Morning Report
8:30 p.m.	Army Newswatch
9:00 p.m.	Cape Fear, Virginia Beach, Diamond
9:30 p.m.	Jim Zumbo: Dove Hunt
10:00 p.m.	Making of a Marine
11:00 p.m.	Life in the Corps
11:30 p.m.	Shooting Gallery: Lazars
midnight	Consider Michigan!
12:30 a.m.	With the Marines
1:00 a.m.	Cape Fear, Virginia Beach, Diamond
1:30 a.m.	Jim Zumbo: Dove Hunt
2:00 a.m.	Making of a Marine
3:00 a.m.	Life in the Corps
3:30 a.m.	Shooting Gallery: Lazars
4:00 a.m.	Consider Michigan!
4:30 a.m.	With the Marines
5:00 a.m.	Cape Fear, Virginia Beach, Diamond
5:30 a.m.	Jim Zumbo: Dove Hunt
6:00 a.m.	Making of a Marine
7:00 a.m.	Life in the Corps
7:30 a.m.	Shooting Gallery: Lazars

Stars of the Armed Forces honors military sacrifice

Amy Segreti
Staff reporter

While many people strive to honor the military in their own private way or by attending services on Veterans Day or Memorial Day, Chris Parr did something that others generally wouldn't think of — he created a television show.

"The troops are getting a lot of publicity, but they don't promote enough of the good stuff the guys do," said Parr. "My program is a small, but I'm hopeful that it will help change the atmosphere out there."

The program, *Stars of the Armed Forces*, is intended to honor military members by giving viewers a very human look at veterans and active-duty members. "I'm urging all Americans to honor our military wherever they happen to be, and to thank the Veterans who have been there and done that," said Parr.

On Feb. 25, Parr filmed a live show at Northside High School featuring musical performers including state Sen. Charlie Albertson, Marine veteran Mitchell Johnson and Army veteran and Jacksonville native Don Blalock as Johnny Cash. The six-hour show was recorded and the footage formed the foundation of the program.

Parr will present *Stars* as something of a "weekly journey," both informative and entertaining. The show will feature commemorative ceremonies at locations such as the Beirut memorial, recent homecomings and stories about veterans from Vietnam. "These are not blood and guts stories," said Parr. "These are heartfelt stories of things that have happened to the military that I hope will instill more respect in viewers for the sacrifices made."

The program will also feature footage of Courthouse Bay and the Wounded Warrior barracks in Maxwell Hall at Camp Lejeune, in addition to government-maintained monuments and cemeteries all over the world.

But there is another aspect of *Stars*. "Embedded in our military are people that have theatrical talent," said Parr. "They're

very good, but they don't have an opportunity for exposure, and this enables them to display their talents."

Back in October, Parr and associate producer and Jacksonville native Shelby Taylor conducted a competition called *Raise Your Voices*. Thirty-five Marines and their dependents competed and only three were invited by Parr to be a judge on the show. "I was searching for real talent," said Parr.

Parr has wanted to produce the show for a long time. "I served both in the Air Force and Marine Corps and it's my way of giving back."

Parr started out as an entertainer at the age of 15. After college and serving in the military, he started producing and has been in the business for over 25 years. He won the George Washington Honor medal for promoting patriotism for another show he created titled *Let Freedom Sing*.

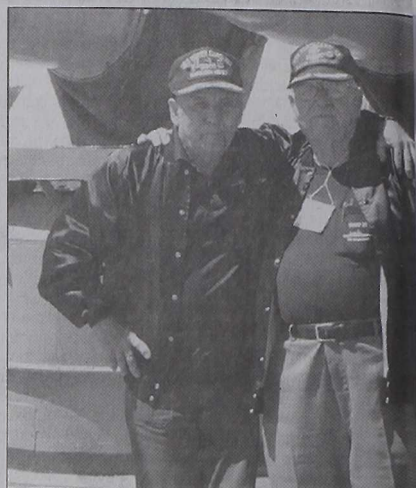
Stars' first half-hour broadcast will air on UPN 48 (Time Warner channel 3) at 6:30 p.m. Saturday. The first episode will give viewers an overview of what they can expect in future weeks. "I'm not going to show too much of any one thing," said Parr. "It will mainly be a sampling of what the future programs will be about."

Parr will hold a program launch and appreciation party for the wounded warriors at Sywanyks on 227 Henderson Drive at 6 p.m. before the viewing of the show. Parr will record the activities to be broadcast on future programs and there will be a small performance featuring some of Parr's vocalists. The after-party will run from 7 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

Parr has plenty of footage for the show, but needs more support to keep it afloat. "I'm hopeful that once the Jacksonville community sees what this show is about, I'll receive more support."

He thanked state Sen. Harry Brown, crediting him as the show's first supporter.

As the show is non-profit, Parr takes no salary from the work he produces. "I just want to bring honor to where it's deserved and to say thank you," Parr said. "We are so prone to forget in this country." ■



Courtesy

Battleship Reunion: Bob Palomar (left) Leininger, gunners aboard the Battleship North Carolina (BB-39) during World War II, will be featured on *Stars*.

Onslow County Library welcomes North Carolina author Priscilla Best

April Mendez
Press release

As a part of the nationwide summer reading program "Paws, Claws, Scales and Tales," the Onslow County Library will host creature tales from North Carolina storyteller, Priscilla Best on June 23 at 10 a.m.

Currently residing in Goldsboro, N.C., Best specializes in family-oriented interactive performances. Best is a native of eastern North Carolina, and before retiring, she served more than 30 years as a teacher/librarian/media coordinator in public schools.

Best enjoys traveling and sharing her stories with listeners all over the U.S. and in South Africa.

The program will take place at the Main Library in Jacksonville. It is a free event, but space is limited. Advanced registration is required. Please call 455-7350, ext. 242 for more information. ■



Real Warriors read The Globe



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➔ Proof of handicap NTL June 21, 2006.

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SOCCER PROGRAM

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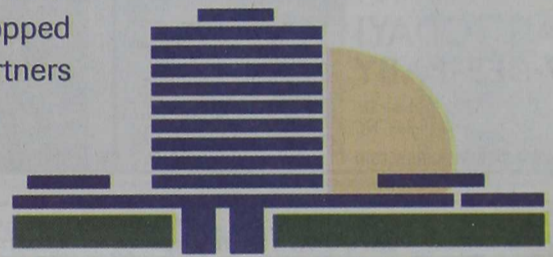
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This is Dorothy. She and her husband, Louis, are celebrating two anniversaries this year: 41 years of marriage, and one year free of cancer. When last year's mammogram showed a spot, Dorothy said a prayer and prepared to fight for her life. Thankfully, the folks at Onslow Memorial Hospital knew what to do. They moved quickly and stopped the cancer in its tracks. And now Dorothy is grateful for two partners in life: Her beloved Louis, and her friends at OMH.

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Dorothy Richlands

Blown Sideways and Chug capture fringes-of-life experience

Amy Segreti
Staff reporter

Everything is just a temporary situation when it comes to the lead characters in the Theatre Exchange's one-act productions, *Blown Sideways Through Life* (written by Claudia Shear) and *Chug* (written by Mike O'Neil) playing at Thalian Hall in Wilmington.

Having no idea what to do with their lives and spending their days grazing opportunities that quickly fail, both Claudia (performed by Rachel Lewis) in *Blown Sideways* and Cardwell Hoover Ubell Garnett Evers (performed by Mike O'Neil) in *Chug* hunt for the center of themselves amidst their fragmented lives.

According to O'Neil, *Chug* is an appetizer and *Blown Sideways* is the meal. "*Chug* is more light-hearted," he said. "There are moments when Chug allows his vulnerability to come through, but basically he's trying to relate to the audience." In *Chug*, audience members become part of the play from the moment Chug walks into his trailer-home kitchen carrying two six-packs of Budweiser Select and trying desperately to keep hundreds of bags of a mysterious material from falling out of the refrigerator, saying repeatedly that he's merely in a "temporary situation." "In theatre they call it the fourth law — you don't make eye contact with the audience," said O'Neil. "But in Chug's case, you're in his kitchen, and he's explaining to the audience how he got into this mess."

O'Neil's most visceral performance occurs when Chug talks about Frida, an eccentric woman he fell in love with the moment he met her at a bar. One can feel the longing buried in his throat when he discusses their quirky relationship and how he loved her not for her body, but because she taught him to listen — to stop moving, stop talking and simply listen to the sounds around him. This is how he came to raise bullfrogs in an attempt to make a living.

His plan starts out innocently enough but winds up getting a bit out of control. After two unsuccessful attempts, Chug manages to raise more bullfrogs than he can handle — and the consequences are both amusing and melancholy. The last cry the audience hears from Chug is a mournful, "Oh, Frida!" and the lights fade, bringing the realization that Chug's situation is not so temporary after all.

The actors directed each other's pieces, which produced a "nice symmetry," said Rob Zapple, producer and managing director of the Theatre Exchange. "There's a line in *Blown Sideways* that says 'Everybody has a story to tell,' and that pretty much sums up what both of them are about," he said.

Queen of the anti-career, Claudia sits, dances and jumps through her living room on the set of *Blown Sideways* as she recounts tales from just a few of the 64 jobs she's held in the past several years. She infuses each of her scattered projects with a zestful passion from the moment she begins each job — whether it's a position as a hostess, secretary or a telephone operator in a warehouse — to the moment she



Chugging through life: Mike O'Neil plays the lead role in *Chug* as a man in a perpetual temporary situation.

(or her employer) ends it, the length of which has ranged from an hour to a few months.

Although they may be short-lived, her job experiences aren't easily forgotten. The people she meets touch her, move her, sometimes to tears, and Lewis does an outstanding job portraying what it's like to drift through life in an ephemeral state — and how it feels to desire that volatile existence and a stable one at the same time. "You could eat a donut and find yourself living in another country," Claudia says.

O'Neil and Lewis were able to perform their roles with such sincerity because they related to their characters on a personal level. "I've not

really had a career, per se. *Blown Sideways* all the jobs to mind," said O'Neil. "It's a situation another person other role, and in seeing it come to life, she spoke to her and the connection," O'Neil said.

Blown Sideways and *Chug* Thursday through Saturday, Sunday at 3 p.m. at the studio Hall. Tickets are \$15 and available to students, seniors and more. For more information visit www.thalianhall.com.

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Riverwalk Festival Schedule 2006

Friday, June 16th

7:30PM	Military Cadence	Depot to Stage
7:45PM	Riverwalk Ceremony Speech	Main Stage
8:00PM	2nd Marine Division Concert Band	Main Stage
8:45PM	Fireworks	Main Stage
9:00PM	Movie in the Park - Daddy Day Care	Main Stage

Riverwalk Festival Schedule 2006

Saturday, June 17th

10:00AM	PARK OPENS		Sat: 1pm, 3pm, 5pm
10:00AM-10:45AM	NC School of Performing Arts Cadance and Show	Main Stage	Visit B.O.L.D Tent for information.
11:00AM-11:30AM	Raggs- Kids Musical/ Band	Main Stage	
11:45AM-12:30PM	Alice In Wonderland- NC School of Performing Arts	Depot Stage	
12:30PM-1:30PM	St. Charles Singers Present: Kande- Oldies, Broadway	Main Stage	
12:30PM-1:00PM	BMX- Keith King Bike Show	W. Railroad St.	
1:00PM-2:00PM	Philip and Henry Magic Show	Depot Stage	
2:00PM-2:30PM	Raggs- Kids Musical/ Band	Main Stage	
2:00PM-2:30PM	BMX- Keith King Bike Show	W. Railroad St.	
2:30PM-3:30PM	Sweater Kittenz- Rock	Depot Stage	
3:45PM-4:30PM	Golden Corral Pie Eating Contests	Depot Stage	
4:30PM-5:00PM	BMX- Keith King Bike Show	W. Railroad St.	
4:30PM-5:00PM	Raggs- Kids Musical/ Band	Main Stage	
5:30PM-6:30PM	The Nefertiti Dance Troupe- Belly Dancers	Depot Stage	
6:00PM-7:30PM	Jay Barnes as Elvis & Madonna Norris- Country	Main Stage	
7:30PM-9:00PM	Shenandoah- Country - Official Sponsor - WRNS	Main Stage	
9:00PM	PARK CLOSES		

Riverwalk Festival Schedule 2006

Sunday, June 18th

1:00PM	PARK OPENS		Sun: 2pm, 4pm
1:00AM-1:30PM	Gospel Cadence - St. Julia Choir	Depot to Stage	Visit B.O.L.D Tent for information.
1:30PM-2:30PM	St. Charles Singers Present: Tami - Country, Top 40, Gospel	Depot Stage	
2:30PM-4:30PM	Robin Rogers- Blues	Main Stage	
4:30PM-5:00PM	Wing Zone Wing Eating Contest	Depot Stage	
5:00PM-6:15PM	Capt. Cook & The Coconuts - Beach Music	Main Stage	
6:15PM-6:45PM	St. Charles Singers Present: Alive!- Medley Mix of Dance/Song	Main Stage	
6:45PM-8:00PM	Capt. Cook & The Coconuts - Beach Music	Main Stage	
8:00PM	PARK CLOSES		

* No pets or outside vending. All Riverwalk Staff and Volunteers are in Light Blue Shirts with US Cellular Lanyards. Please contact them with all questions and concerns. Enjoy the Festival!

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For information on concerts, festivals, special events and classes going on up and down the Carolina coast, check out *What's Happenin'* each week. To add your event, e-mail ena.sellers@militarynews.com. Space limited to availability

4 - 5 p.m.
updates about the Topsail at the new Surf City center on JH Batts Rd. (off on Docksider & Gilligan's). arative and informative for ages K-adult will be your camera but leave drinks in the car. Donations ad.

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ay Dinner Cruise
- 8:30 p.m.
er out for a cruise aboard ll Riverboat on the Cape joy a buffet dinner and Riverboat is located on ck Streets in Wilmington. for reservations.

ty Day with le Police Department
n. - noon
ess Safety Week is June 19 Verizon Wireless offers nation for personal safety day with the Jacksonville ment at the new Verizon located at 1122 Western ants in the Safety Day will

receive free child ID kits that include finger printing and personalized video capture, and parents will receive valuable information to help kick-off National Wireless Safety Week. In conjunction with Child Safety Day, store visitors will receive information on the free Amber Alert text messages, responsible driving, hurricane preparedness, GPS enabled phones and roadside assistance. The Jacksonville Fire Department will also be onsite Monday with the department's fire engine for the public to explore. For more information about Child Safety Day, call 347-6441.

Fourth Friday Gallery Nights
June 23, 6 - 9 p.m.
Come and enjoy evening tours of the downtown Wilmington galleries and art studios. Brightly colored beach balls with the Fourth Friday logo will mark the spot for each of the eleven participating locations. Featured galleries include Barouke; Bottega Art & Wine; Corporate Canvas; Crescent Moon; Era; Independent Art Company; New Elements Gallery; The Golden Gallery; The Wilmington Gallery; The WHQR Gallery; and Three Hounds Gallery. Call 343-8997 for more information.

Third Annual North Carolina Blueberry Festival
June 24, 9 a.m.
Come join the celebration of southeastern North Carolina's largest fruit crop, in conjunction with Bladen and Duplin counties. Located at Pender County Courthouse Square in Burgaw, festivities include art prints by this year's commemorative print artist, nationally recognized Pender County native Ivey Hayes, day-long live entertainment on the festival stage, blueberry recipe and bake-off contest, children's activities, arts and crafts vendors from around the state

and a car show. The event will also feature a blueberry 5K run/walk and a Cape Fear Cyclists Bicycle Ride (under 15 miles) with no fee or pre-registration required, just visit the booth at 9 a.m. Food vendors include Southeastern North Carolina Barbecue and World Famous Paul's Place Hotdogs. A beer and wine garden will also be available. For more information, visit www.visitpender.com/blueberries.

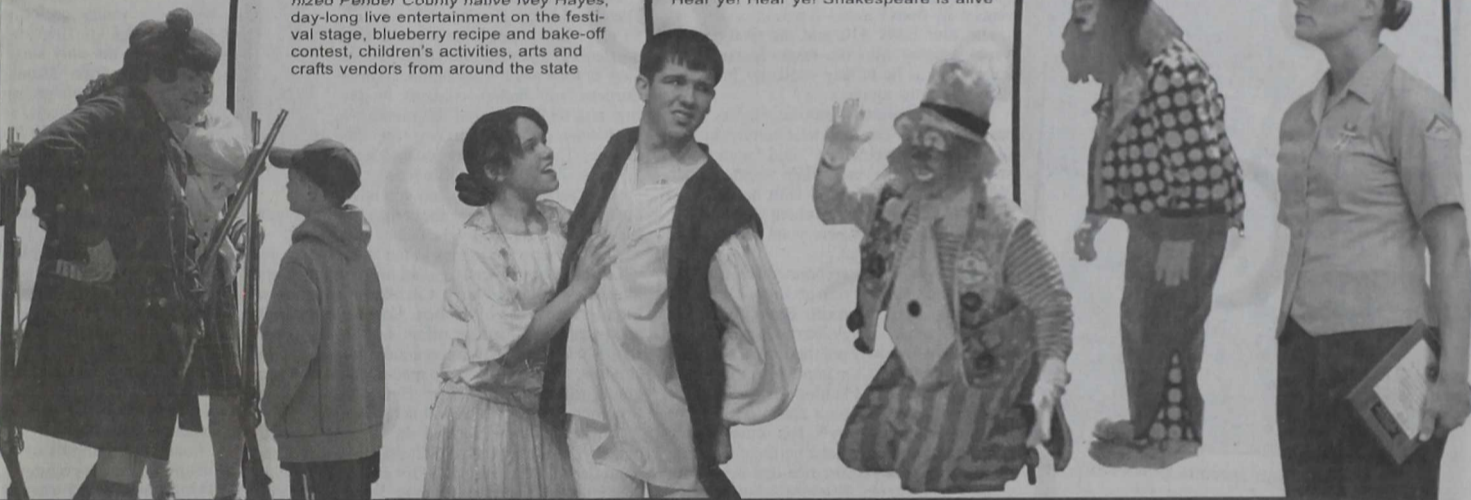
Paws, Claws, Scales and Tales: Summer Reading Program 2006
June 24, noon - 3 p.m.
Join the Onslow County Library for a fun-filled day of games, crafts, prizes and pets. The Summer Reading Program is for children from pre-school age to children in the 8th grade. For more information, call 451-3026.

Pepsi's Americas' Sail 2006
June 30 - July 5
Guest tall ships from around the world will open for touring in Beaufort, hosted by the North Carolina Maritime Museum. Beaufort is the home port of Captain Horatio Sinbad's Meka II, a 54-foot half-scale replica of a 17th century pirate brigantine and winner of the Americas' Sail '02 Jamaica Class B trophy. The victory allowed Sinbad to name his home port as the only stop on the Americas' Sail 2006 tour. For information, visit www.pepsiamericassail.com or call 252-728-7471.

Shakespeare on the Green
Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, 8 p.m. through June 25.
Hear ye! Hear ye! Shakespeare is alive

and well at Greenfield Park. Visitors to Historic Wilmington and North Carolina's Cape Fear Coast can experience live outdoor Shakespearean drama when the Shakespeare on the Green festival takes the stage tonight and every weekend in June at the Greenfield Lake Amphitheater. Wilmington's annual free festival will celebrate its 14th season with Love's Labours Lost, a romantic comedy. Arrive early and picnic or enjoy a snack from the concession stand. Greenfield Lake Amphitheater is located at 1941 Amphitheater Drive in Wilmington. For more information, visit www.shakespeareonthegreen.us or call 762-6393.

Nunsense 2
July 7, 8, 14, 15, 8 p.m.
July 9, 16, 3 p.m.
Sneads Ferry Community Theatre presents the musical comedy *Nunsense 2*, with music and lyrics by Dan Goggin. When faced with mounting repair bills and boosted by the huge success of their first fundraiser show to bury their accidentally poisoned sisters the Sisters of Hoboken prepare a second variety show. Fortified by their now oversized egos and theatrical expertise, the Sisters jump head-first into their new project. The theatre is located at the Sneads Ferry Community Center on 126 Park Lane and tickets are \$10. For information, call 327-2798.



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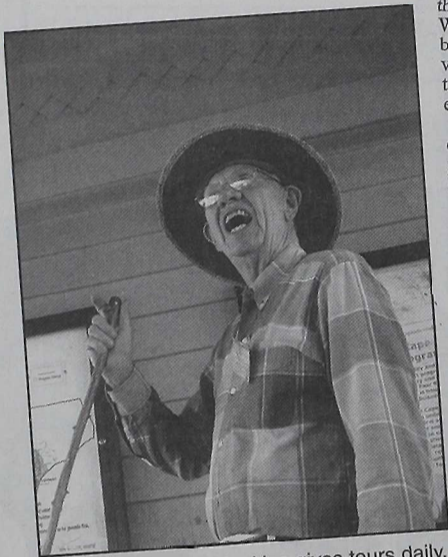
Carolina Travelogue: Exploring the best of Wilmi

Story and photos
Amy Segreti
 Staff reporter

This is the first installment of a periodic travel column inviting you to take a look at some of the surrounding areas highlights, including coffee shops, museums, gardens, theatres, interesting tours and inexpensive-yet-tasty places to eat. Whether you have a day, a weekend or even just a few hours to spare, you'll find that each column's particular destination won't be more than a couple of hours away — in fact, a great deal of them will be much shorter drives. If you know of a unique getaway that might be of interest to fellow readers and that you would like to see explored, send your ideas to amy.segreti@militarynews.com.

There is likely no one else who knows more about Wilmington than lean, cane-toting Bob Jenkins. Although over 70 years old, he is a sprightly man who can be recognized by his straw planter's hat and knee-length socks. Vibrant and sassy, he proclaims that his popular two-hour tour, aptly titled the **Wilmington Adventure Walking Tour** (Jenkins strides at a surprisingly swift pace) can be translated in 22 languages upon request.

A Sneads Ferry native, Jenkins grew up when Camp Lejeune was just rice plantations and pine trees. He remembers the hard times Wilmington fell upon during the 1950s and how he and others fought to revitalize the town in the 1970s, striving to bring back families and businesses. And upon seeing numerous families enjoying a sunny Friday afternoon on Water Street, he recalls brightly, "Back in the 70s there weren't nothing but me and six hookers out after six o'clock."



A brisk walk: Bob Jenkins gives tours daily.

Jenkins' memory, while humorous, is quite a different picture from today's Wilmington. The city (and its tourism and real estate industry) is thriving and the focus of travelers and home-buyers alike are some of the following places. Arranged in a get-up-and-go kind of itinerary, the destinations below give a general idea of what's to be found in Wilmington. Visit some, visit all, but especially take the time to peruse historic downtown and its cultural offerings at your leisure — it's worth the time.

If you get up early, or even if you don't, start your day off at the **General Assembly Coffeehouse** with an excellent cup of java, a muffin or a bagel (toast it if you like — it's do-it-yourself). You can win a free cup of coffee with their daily trivia question, which varies in topic from the *Simpsons* to little-known curiosities of Wilmington history. Opened nearly 10 years ago, General Assembly also sells its gourmet coffee beans by the pound (Snickerdandy, a blend with aromas of cinnamon, hazelnut and a hint of vanilla, is my personal favorite) and is a spot for friends or couples, students or nine-fivers. Best of all, in place of a little-used, dusty gumball machine, the coffeehouse features an espresso bean machine, where you can get seven chocolate-covered delights for just 25 cents — a favorite among students on their way to school. General Assembly is located at 300 N. Front Street and is open from 6:30 a.m. — 6 p.m. weekdays, 7 a.m. — 6 p.m. Saturdays and 8 a.m. — 5 p.m. Sundays.

After a morning snack, meander down to the corner of Water and Market where Jenkins gives his daily tours at 10 a.m. (if you miss it, come back at 2 p.m. for the next one). Jenkins will give you a thorough understanding of Wilmington today and also of the times when "the only reason anyone came to Wilmington was to go to the beach — until we got the battleship," he says, speaking of the World War II **Battleship North Carolina**, which was brought to Wilmington in 1961 and is worth a visit (take 17 South to 74 West and follow signs to the memorial, which offers tours and other events daily from 8 a.m. — 8 p.m.).

The tour costs \$10 and, as pretty much every passerby who has taken Jenkins' tour praises him as he briskly strolls by, it is definitely worth the money.

"Bob is absolutely fantastic. He has a real passion for this city, and tells you the history from the very beginnings," said Laura Cook, who took Jenkins' tour while vacationing in Wilmington last weekend with her husband Don. "He'll even ask you about your heritage and tell you about where your people came from. And he's a hoot."

The best lunch recommendation I can give might throw you at first. It's called **Flaming Amy's Burrito Barn**, located at 4002 Oleander Dr. A burrito barn? Before you begin to slowly put this down, allow me to mention that *Our State: North Carolina* magazine praised Flaming Amy's as one of the best places to get a cheap meal in the state. Flaming Amy's has unbelievably delicious and enormous burritos, featuring not only your regular rice and beans, but tofu, tuna, tilapia, shrimp, chicken or steak.

At only \$6.50 per specialty burrito and \$4 per regular burrito, both of which come with homemade tortilla chips, the barn is definitely a bargain. Go up and get as much salsa as you want, with flavors ranging from pineapple jalapeño to ginger peach to wasabi avocado.

Flaming Amy's is clean, casual and spacious (it has plenty of indoor seating, pool tables and enclosed outdoor seating), and is worth a try. I go there twice a week... I'm not joking.

You simply can't gain a full appreciation of the beauty of Wilmington without visiting 67-acre **Airlie Gardens**, a historic public garden with 10 acres of freshwater lakes, camellias, a 450-year-old live oak, over 100,000 azaleas and a sculpture garden made from bottles, cement and chicken wire. New Hanover County saved the gardens from housing development when it was purchased for \$10.5 million in January 1999. "They were going to build 46 houses here instead," said Nicole Mitchell, environmental and education program coordinator at the gardens.

Visiting hours are 9 a.m. — 5 p.m., Tuesday through Sunday. Admission is \$5 and visitors can bring a picnic (but no alcohol) and meander around for as long as they want. This summer, Airlie Gardens will feature concerts on the first and third Friday of the month — visit www.airliegarden.org for the line-up. The gardens are located near Wrightsville Beach on Airlie Road.

Visit Airlie Gardens when you have the time to, well, not care about time at all. It's quite easy to get entranced by the beauty of it.

Of the many attractions in the Wilmington area which offer both a vast amount of information and interactive fun, the **North Carolina Aquarium at Fort Fisher** is one of the best. Very hands-on in its approach, the aquarium offers surf fishing workshops, canoeing, aqua apprentice workshops for children, a gallery of exotic species and a new program, called "Fort Fisher Hermit's School of Common Sense," which will debut June 22.

The aquarium is located on US 421 approximately 15 miles south of Wilmington, just beyond Kure Beach. Admission is \$8 for adults, \$6 for children ages 6-17, and free for those 5 and under. Visit



Downtown Wilmington: The water front provides an excellent reading and relaxing.

www.ncaquariums.com for more.

Before heading home, excellent downtown cuisine sguide.com/wilmington/ should help you with your personal favorite is **Circa 192** tapas-style restaurant with di mushroom tart to filet miso seared sashimi. The dressed — as you might 1922, and the atmosphere is for dessert? The Crepes Gran white-chocolate Mascarpone with a rich, strawberry sauce is heavenly.

If you're still of Wilmington evening performance Built in 1855 and is the only surviving by John Mont America's prominent architects. 1 years when Wil city in the state, longer the case, regional center

Performance information www.thalianhall.org.

Also worthy of note: what most intuitive site to navigate what hidden places, strangeness etc.), www.insiders.com/wilmington/ useful information about the out its navigational kinks, comprehensive internet so you'll find. For current happy www.cape-ferre.com/Home/ calendar is fully stocked.

Look for highlights of conditions in upcoming columns. Until then, happy travels!



Segreti

Celebrate July 4 with free train ride

Press release
 New Hope Valley Railway

Bonsal, NC — The New Hope Valley Railway will celebrate Independence Day on our Ride Day July 2 this year by providing free rides to all members of all branches of military service and their immediate family members.

As a way of expressing our sincere gratitude and appreciation for the service and dedication of the men and women in all branches of the military, we are offering the one thing we have to give, free rides on our train to those who have so freely given of themselves in the defense of our liberty and the liberty of the world.

"It is very important for us to do this," said Bob Crowley, corporate secretary of the group. "The people of our military services stand prepared to place their very lives on the line for all of us and we should all find some means to thank them. It is just as important for us to include their families in this, for they too serve in their own way."

The general public is encouraged to join in this celebration of appreciation by coming to visit the New Hope Valley Railway and letting our military guests know of their gratitude.

This is a day to remember the founding principals of this country and honor those working to continue to hold those principals high.

Any serving member of the military or their dependents should come to the ticket office in Bonsal on that day and show their Military ID or Military Dependent ID to the ticket agent on duty. They will be issued a ticket for the train and be able to enjoy the ride with our compliments.

Visitors are encouraged to visit our Web site www.nhvry.org for further information, schedules and detailed directions to the facility. Alternatively, they may call 919-362-5416 to speak with the yardmaster on duty.

The East Carolina Chapter NRHS is a non-profit [501(c)(3)] organization dedicated to the preservation of the history and heritage of North Carolina.

We accomplish this through the operation of the North Carolina Railroad Museum at Bonsal, NC, an operating museum, running the New Hope Valley Railway with both diesel and steam locomotives.

The organization maintains no paid staff and all operations are conducted by member volunteers, giving their time and effort in a skilled and professional manner. ■

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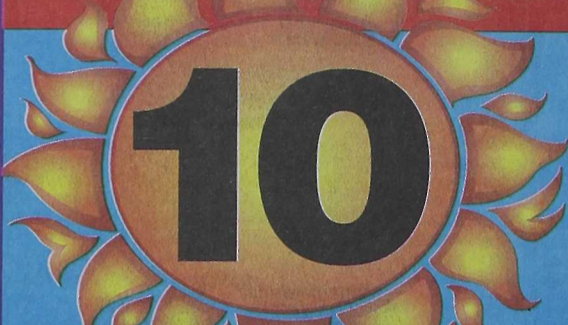
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AT **Sanders Ford**



OF THE **HOTTEST** VEHICLES ON THE ROAD

2006 MUSTANG

N11818



\$293.³⁹ PER MONTH SAVINGS **\$2,820**

2006 FUSION

N1288



\$262.⁸² PER MONTH SAVINGS **\$4,990**

2006 FOCUS ZX3

N12419



\$207.⁸⁷ PER MONTH SAVINGS **\$5,133**

2006 EXPEDITION

T11894



SAVINGS **\$10,572**

2006 FREESTAR

T12003



\$289.⁸² PER MONTH SAVINGS **\$8,469**

2006 RANGER REG.CAB

T12595



\$217.⁷³ PER MONTH SAVINGS **\$5,880**

2006 ESCAPE XLS

T12874



\$282.¹⁴ PER MONTH SAVINGS **\$5,467**

2006 SUPERCREW

T12109



\$324.⁰⁰ PER MONTH SAVINGS **\$8,199**

2006 EXPLORER

T11963



\$318.⁶² PER MONTH SAVINGS **\$6,347**

2006 F-150 REG.CAB

T12762



\$242.⁰³ PER MONTH SAVINGS **\$6,365**

CARS

- P3802 2006 CHEVY IMPALA LS.....
- P3825 2004 VW JETTA GLS WAGON.....
- P3827A 2005 HYUNDAI ELANTRA GLS.....
- P3816 2005 TOYOTA COROLLA CE.....
- P3888 2005 KIA OPTIMA LX V6.....
- P3703 2002 LINCOLN LS, V-8, ROOF.....
- P3716 2005 LINCOLN TOWN CAR SIGNATURE.....
- P3725 2005 FORD TAURUS SEL, V-6.....
- P3747 2004 MITSUBISHI GALANT ES.....
- P3751 2005 FORD FOCUS ZX5, ROOF.....
- P3752 2005 DODGE NEON SXT.....
- P3784 2005 FORD TAURUS SEL, LEATHER.....
- N11931A 2005 VW GTI 1.8T.....
- T12688A 2002 FORD ESCORT ZX2.....
- P3847A 2005 FORD MUSTANG, V-6.....

TRUCK

- P3795 2005 FORD F-150, X-CAB, XLT, 4W.....
- T12145C 2002 CHEVY SILVERADO 1500 X-CAB 4X.....
- P3821A 2002 FORD RANGER REG CAB XLT 5D.....
- P3846 2004 FORD RANGER X-CAB XLT, V-6.....
- P3861 2002 FORD RANGER X-CAB XLT.....
- T12704A 2002 FORD F-150 X-CAB XLT.....
- P3853 2004 FORD F-150 X-CAB, FX4, 4WD.....
- P3850 2005 FORD F-150 X-CAB, STX, 4WD, V.....
- T11315A 2002 DODGE RAM 1500 QUAD CAB SLT.....
- P3766 2002 GMC SIERRA 1500 X-CAB, SLT Z.....
- P3787 2005 CHEVY COLORADO CREW CAB Z85, 4W.....
- P3788 2005 CHEVY SILVERADO 1500 X-CAB, Z-71.....
- P3790 2004 FORD F-150 X-CAB FX4, 4WD.....
- T12296A 2004 CHEVY SILVERADO 2500 CREW CAB.....
- T12627A 2003 FORD RANGER X-CAB, 2WD.....

SUVS

- N12942A 2004 FORD EXPLORER XLS 4WD.....
- P3633 2005 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE LAREDO.....
- P3798 2005 CHEVY TRAILBLAZER LS 4W.....
- P3799 2005 JEEP WRANGLER SPORT 4WD.....
- T12676A 2003 FORD EXPLORER SPORT XLT.....
- P3878 2005 FORD ESCAPE XLT 4WD.....
- T12634A 2003 DODGE DURANGO R/T 4WD.....
- P3868 2006 FORD EXPEDITION XLT.....
- P3796B 2005 JEEP LIBERTY SPORT V-6.....
- N12767A 2003 FORD EXPEDITION XLT 4WD.....
- P3860 2003 KIA SEDONA EX, V-6.....
- P3857 2005 FORD FREESTAR SE.....
- P3615 2005 FORD ESCAPE XLT, ROOF, 4WD.....
- P3660 2006 GMC ENVOY SLT.....
- P3675 2006 CHEVY TRAILBLAZER LS, 2WD.....
- P3857 2005 FORD FREESTAR SE.....

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