



Marines take part
in memorial bike
race
Page 1B



8th Engineer Support
Battalion bridges the
gap
Page 1C



Sneads Ferry
Shrimp Festival
a success under
sunny skies
page 1D

THE GLOBE

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THURSDAY AUGUST 13, 2009

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CHAE S. CIFUENTES
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SAHL SINJAR AIRFIELD, IRAQ



Photo by Sgt. Eric C.
Schwartz

Light armored
vehicles with
Regimental Combat
Team 8, traverse the
rocky terrain of the
Sinjar Mountains.

WOLFPACK

sees OIF from start to finish

SGT. ERIC C. SCHWARTZ
Regimental Combat Team 8

From the Rumaylah
oil fields in Operation
Iraqi Freedom I to Op-
eration Phantom Fury
during the retaking of
Fallujah to patrolling the western
border of Iraq, and now providing
security and training for the 11th
Iraqi Army Brigade, the Wolfpack
Marines have fought our country's
battles in light armored vehicles.

The Marines of Task Force 3rd
Light Armored Reconnaissance
Battalion were one of the first LAR
battalions to get their treads dirty with
Iraqi soil and will be the last LAR
battalion to do so during Operation
Iraqi Freedom.

The battalion has deployed five
times throughout Operation Iraqi
Freedom's eight-year transformation,
conducting varied operations from
the initial invasion to fighting an in-
surgency, to rebuilding and training
the Iraqi security forces.

"I see victory all over Iraq today,"
said Lt. Col. Kenneth R. Kassner, the
battalion commanding officer.

However, Kassner has also wit-
nessed a great deal of struggle during
his previous deployments with TF
3rd LAR that show how it has taken
many years for the people of Iraq to
be victorious.

"There was a time when you
wouldn't see a kid in the street,"
Kassner said. "The fact that kids
are playing outside and you can see
adults playing a soccer match is a
victory."



Photo by Sgt. Eric C. Schwartz

Lance Cpl. Jordan Hawkins, a light armored vehicle crewman
with Company C, Task Force 3rd Light Armored Reconnaissance
Battalion, Regimental Combat Team 8, quickly changes a damaged
LAV tire in Ninewa province, Iraq, July 9.

These small victories are from
several years of sacrifice, given to
sustain a strong Iraqi government
and ISF.

Kassner stepped on deck with the
battalion in May 2004 and deployed
soon thereafter as the battalion ex-
ecutive officer, constructing battle-
plans to retake Fallujah in Operation
Phantom Fury. He also deployed
with TF 3rd LAR to conduct coun-
ter-insurgency operations along the
western Iraqi border the following
year. Now he is back as the battalion
commander.

"The ISF have a greater capabil-
ity and willingness than ever before,"
Kassner said.

Through his past deployments, he
has been witness to the progress that
has occurred in Anbar and the pro-
fessionalization of the ISF.

"The enemy was much more ag-
gressive then," Kassner said.

Using fear tactics and attacks
against their own people, the insur-
gents tried stopping civilians from
helping coalition forces.

"There were people who wanted
us here, but they couldn't express
their gratitude because of what would
happen to them," said Cpl. Aaron
Garner, an LAV crewman with
Headquarters and Service Company,
TF 3rd LAR, originally attached to
Company D, TF 3rd LAR, during

Operation Phantom Fury.

"During their first (national)
election, it was really creepy," said
Master Sgt. Bill Denman, the op-
erations chief for Company B, 3rd
LAR. "Sometimes it would be really
quiet and sometimes we would get
shot at."

With weakened security, Iraqi
political officials had a hard time
enforcing laws and governing their
populace.

"Often times the local government
was unwilling or unable to effectively
govern," Kassner said.

The Iraqis weren't alone in the
attacks. During the first half of Op-
eration Iraqi Freedom, Marines were
repeatedly targeted by the same in-
surgents attacking the ISF and the
government of Iraq.

"Even though the enemy was
quite elusive, he would constantly
attack coalition forces with (impro-
vised explosive devices) and indirect
fire," Kassner said.

During his first deployment to
Iraq, Garner's vehicle was struck
by multiple IEDs, indirect fire and a
rocket-propelled grenade.

"An RPG landed about 25 feet in
front of my vehicle," Garner said. "It
knocked me off the vehicle and I sus-
tained a class three concussion and a
perforated eardrum."

With help from 3rd LAR and
many other coalition force units, the
ISF began to build a stronger force,
protecting key leadership from ter-
rorist attacks and allowing the rule
of law to govern.

SEE WOLFPACK 8A ▶

CAMP TAJI, IRAQ

Marines return captured weapons to Iraqi government

CPL. M. M. BRAVO
2nd Marine Logistics Group

Marines with the 2nd Marine Logistics
Group (Forward), delivered roughly 900
captured enemy weapons to the Taji National
Maintenance Depot aboard Camp Taji, Iraq,
July 28.

This was one in a series of transfers that have
taken place since 2004 under an agreement re-
quiring enemy weapons captured by the U.S.
military to be turned over to the Iraqi govern-
ment for future use by the Iraqi army and Iraqi
police.

Staff Sgt. Alex P. Barros, the Maintenance
Chief for engineer ordnance maintenance
platoon, 2nd Supply Battalion (Reinforced), ex-
plained the weapons they delivered have been
found and captured by units operating in Com-
bined Area of Operations East within the last
year, acquired primarily from weapons cache
sweeps conducted in the region.

"We're a collection point for the MLG and
a consolidation point for the drop off to Taji,"
Barros said. "Anyone who's in the area that

acquires weapons, they bring them to us."

Barros explained the detailed process they go
through with every weapon they receive. Each
weapon is identified and classified by type and
serial number; they are inspected for ammuni-
tion, and classified for their serviceability.

"When classifying (the weapons) as service-
able or unserviceable, we perform a quick func-
tion check to see if the weapons' main parts
operate," Barros said. "With the weapons that
fail the function check, we look for what would
make the weapon serviceable."

"If it's something simple, like missing a fir-
ing pin or spring, we still classify it as service-
able, since it can be easily rebuilt in Taji. Rust-
ed weapons and those missing a lot of parts are
unserviceable."

Once the weapons have been identified, in-
spected and classified, the information is then
reported to the MLG's Equipment Readiness
Section while the actual weapons are safeguarded
by engineer ordnance Marines. When they
have collected approximately 1,000 weapons,



Photo by Cpl. M. M. Bravo

Marines with engineer ordnance maintenance
platoon, Maintenance Company, 2nd Supply Battalion
(Reinforced), 2nd Marine Logistics Group (Forward)
sort captured enemy weapons at the Taji National
Maintenance Depot aboard Camp Taji, Iraq, July 28.

SEE WEAPONS 8A ▶

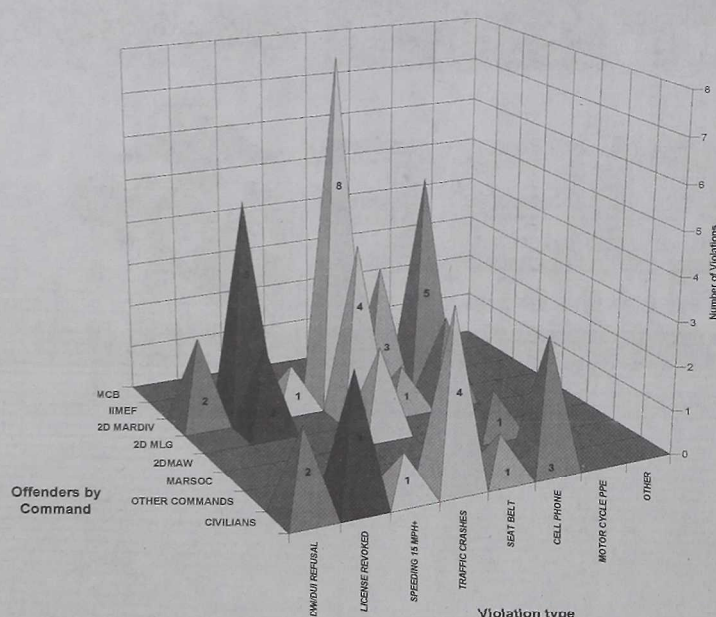
IDE THE GLOBE



OL BASE
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CONSTRUCTION
A: 7A

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A: LINA LIVING 1D

Traffic violations aboard Camp Lejeune



This graph represents traffic violations and driving while intoxicated / driving under the influence refusals for Camp Lejeune during the week of Aug. 3 through Aug. 7.

Traffic violations are defined as: driving while license revoked, speeding in excess of 15 mph or over, traffic crashes, seatbelt, cellular telephone and motorcycle personal protective equipment violations.

Source: Command Inspector General's Office for Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune

Semper Safe

Parents, guardians and motorists... it's that time of the year

The new school year is here. Bus stop, school bus, and school zone safety might be the last thing on your child's mind and many of yours as summer fun ends and the new school year begins.

Tragically, each year throughout the United States we injure and lose some of our precious children due to accidents within the confines of these critical areas. As we prepare our kids for the school year, please take a moment to reiterate to your child the importance of bus stop, school bus, and school zone safety.

Refresh yourself regarding your responsibilities as a motorist when you approach and travel through a school safety zone or bus stop area.

If caught passing a school bus that has stopped and is in the process of loading or unloading children, motorists can expect a very hefty fine. Those convicted of this traffic law can be fined

between \$100 and \$500 and will have their driver's license suspended.

The safety of our school children depend upon drivers slowing at designated school zones when children are present and stopping when a school bus is loading. It is a fact that most school bus fatalities occur when the bus is stopped and the child is NOT on the bus. In today's automobiles, external flashing lights have a hard time competing with the cocoon we create with cell phones and stereos.

Brief each child on these life saving tips:

- When you are waiting for the school bus, you should wait at the bus stop and stand well back from the curb.

- When you get off the bus, look to the rear of the bus before you step off the bottom step.

- Our friends at the Pupil Transportation Safety Insti-

tute tell us more and more motorists are passing stopped school buses on the right shoulder - where the door is.

- Take five giant steps straight out the bus door and out of the danger zone.

- Make sure you have eye contact with the driver and wait for the driver to signal you before you cross in front of the bus.

- Never go back for anything you have left on the bus.

- Never bend down near or under the bus.

Be part of the solution:

- Walk your children to school whenever possible. If they are old enough to walk to school on their own, teach them how to walk safely to school, and always encourage them to use the crosswalk.

- Share rides with other families to reduce the number of cars around each school.

- Do not park in red zones or block bus unloading areas.

- Park legally, even if it's

away from the school. Walk your child from your parking location to the school grounds, if necessary.

- Do not double park by the school. Pull up to the curb to drop off or pick up your child, then safely move away. If no approved curb area is available park away from the school and walk your child to school.

- Do not allow your children to cross the street mid-block if you drop them off or pick them up across the street from the school. Insist that they walk down to a crosswalk before they cross the street. Lead by example.

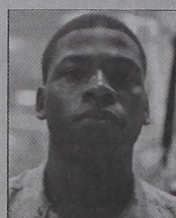
- Do not make U-turns near the school. Drive around the block or follow a different route home after you leave the school.

Obey all traffic signs and school crossing guards.

For more information contact your unit safety officer or installation safety office.

MÁN ON THE STREET

What is your favorite Marine Corps battle and why?



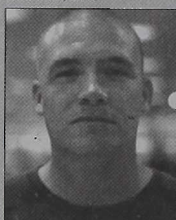
Lance Cpl. Jason Cardwell
Combat Logistics Battalion 6, 2nd Marine Logistics Group
Atlanta

"Pearl Harbor, because it enabled us to set up in the Pacific after it was invaded."



Chief Warrant Officer 2 Bobby Garza
2nd Explosive Ordnance Disposal Company, 8th Engineer Support Battalion, 2nd Marine Logistics Group
Freemont, Ohio

"Our push into Fallujah was the company I kept over was like being among heroes."



Cpl. Travis Cossey
1st Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division
Chesapeake, Va.

"Two Jima, because it turned the tide of the country's morale up."



Sgt. Aaron Langston
Weapons Training Battalion, Marine Corps Base
Conway, S.C.

"Two Jima; we were doing so well during that time, but then we got flag up."



Sgt. Raymond Swaney
8th Engineer Support Battalion, 2nd Marine Logistics Group
Crystal Lake, Ohio

"Fallujah, November 2007. We weren't used to that warfare, yet under those weeks we took over the city."

News Watch

The parking lot for the Exchange Annex has begun the repaving process. To reduce the inconveniences, paving will be done in three stages. The project's length will be based on weather conditions. Cars left in the parking lot overnight will be towed. For information and explanation of the project, visit www.mccslejeune.com/bldg84.

Flip Flop Doodles

By Matt Kellogg



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ND PROVINCE, AFGHANISTAN

afghan soldiers, 2/8 Marines conduct SECURITY operation in Helmand

ANCE CPL. DANIEL A. FLYNN
Regimental Combat Team 3

About 40 soldiers with the Afghan National Army and two squads from Company F, 2nd Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment, Regimental Combat Team 3, executed a "cordon and knock" operation July 28.

The main focus of this operation was to re-establish security in the area with the ANA out in the field and show the local populace that Afghan and U.S. forces are there for their protection. A "cordon and knock" mission typically involves setting up a security perimeter around a specific objective with a maneuver element that conducts voluntary searches inside the cordon.

"With this operation we were able to get the Marines and ANA working together and let the enemy know, it's not just Marines, but ANA coming after them," said Sgt. Thomas Williams, squad leader.

The 12-hour mission was conducted on foot and started from one of 2nd Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment, patrol bases at 4:45 a.m. The movement was approximately two miles over tough terrain to their objective, where the Marines posted security while the ANA conducted the questioning and voluntary searches of the residents' homes.

"One of the main obstacles we faced was the terrain," said Lance Cpl. Steven Keller, team leader. "There was a lot of mud and can-

nals, as well as the tree lines which disrupted our line of sight."

Almost as soon as the Marines and ANA reached the objective, the first improvised explosive device detonated and small-arms fire was exchanged.

First squad tried to link with a squad from another platoon who was under fire, but triggered another IED which kept them from reaching their fellow Marines. The fight only lasted a short time, but once it was over, the ANA were able to start voluntary questioning and searches of the village.

"With the searches, we wanted the ANA to go in first," said Staff Sgt. Michael A. Garrett, platoon sergeant. "They have been working here for years, so they knew

what questions to ask and also who was suspicious."

According to Garrett, local residents told the ANA that insurgents were active in the area and they told them to stay in their homes.

The town was rigged with IED's, as well as command wire which was hidden in multiple places, according to Williams.

"But we had some pretty good (Combat Engineer Battalion) guys who helped us out, and used the mine sweepers to find pretty much everything," he added.

Overall the operation was a success. There were no casualties and the ANA did their job well. Their actions will only improve the effectiveness of upcoming operations, said Garrett.

ND PROVINCE, AFGHANISTAN

Female Marines connect with Afghan women during patrols

JRT STAHL

Regimental Combat Team 3

counterinsurgency struggle where the people is the key to victory, and with the female population is

Female Marines from Combat Logistics Battalion 8 and one female civilian attached to Regimental Combat Team 3 linked up with Company F, 2nd Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment for a three-day patrol with the specific purpose of engaging the Afghan women, July 29.

Leaders from the strategic to tactical have constantly reinforced the need to build relationships with the local populace in order to win this popular war. Female Marines can play an important role when it comes to reaching women in Afghan society.

Understanding the nature of the environment and the culture here, women are out in public often. This was a way out to half of the population," said Leonard DeFrancisci, detachment leader of 4th Civil Affairs Group, an asset of RCT-3. "It is a good in the perspective of women in Afghanistan, especially since there was a recent of Marines in the area."

Female Marines started their mission by traveling in a convoy by village, where they dismounted to interact with the locals.

They asked basic questions to try to understand their perspective and what important to them," said Lance Cpl. A. Gagnon, a civil affairs Marine T-3 and the only female Marine



Photo by Gunner Sgt. Chris W. Cox

Lance Cpl. Jasmin A. Gagnon is a field radio operator currently deployed to Helmand province, Afghanistan, with the 4th Civil Affairs Group, attached to Regimental Combat Team 3. Gagnon is part of an all-female patrol team that helps build relationships with the local populace.

attached to the regiment. "The Afghan women definitely felt more comfortable interacting with other women, and some of them just wanted to talk."

As a civil affairs Marine, Gagnon is specifically trained in effective techniques to interact with locals and gauge their needs and concerns. The primary concerns of the local women were security and education for their children.

"In one of the villages we visited, a man and his wife invited some of the members of the patrol into the house after we knocked on their door," said Gagnon, who used a male Afghan interpreter to communicate with the residents. She explained the man

of the house was grateful to the Marines for respecting their culture by knocking on the door rather than entering the house forcibly. The team visited one village per day, and they were able to interact with numerous Afghan women during the patrols.

One local woman approached the female Marines crying, Gagnon recalled. "She said, 'thank God the Marines are here because I know things will be better now.'"

Gagnon, who is on her first deployment, considered their mission a success.

"I would like to go out and do it again," she said. "I think it is important for the women of Afghanistan to know we are here to listen and help them."

Registration of motorcycles aboard Camp Lejeune

Recently there have been several infractions against motorcycle owners who have placed a Department of Motor Vehicle decal on their motorcycle in a location not visible to sentry or patrol officers. In addition, several owners have placed the decal on a removable magnet utilizing the decal only when entering base. Due to the amount of motorcycles being confiscated and the cost associated with the process, a policy change is necessary to ensure strict compliance with the base order.

Effective immediately, all motorcycles requiring a DoD decal will have the motorcycle present and the decal will be fixed on the motorcycle by a vehicle registration employee. The decal will be placed on a permanent part of the motorcycle in a location clearly visible to the gate guard when in motion.

For more information, call the services chief for the Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune's Provost Marshal's Office at 451-4336.

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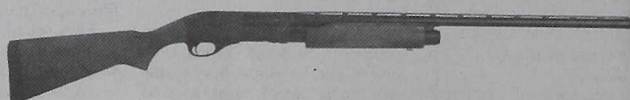
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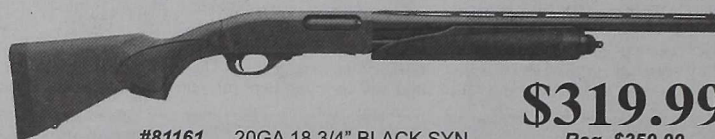
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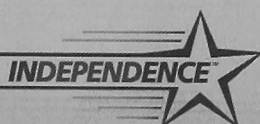
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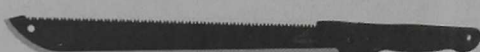
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WASHINGTON, D.C.

Sergeants Major discuss Corps issues, future

OTT SCHMIDT
Reports Marine Corps

sortment of the Marines' top enlisted commandants in Washington, D.C. for Sergeants Major Symposium 27 through 30, to discuss current issues and the future of the Corps.

A week-long forum yielded discussion on an array of issues, including suicide prevention.

The symposium was held at the Regency Hotel in Washington, D.C. The focus was on the Marine Corps, its families, and the future of the Corps.

Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps, Sgt. Maj. William F. Fitzgerald, was the keynote speaker.

Staff noncommissioned officers "came with a focus on the Marine Corps, its families, and the future of the Corps."

The key was to talk about issues facing the Marine Corps and the future of the Corps.

Those key issues were: the future of the Marine Corps, its families, and the future of the Corps.

The forum also opened up discussion on family readiness issues.

The role of a sergeant major in dealing with family readiness "is to assist the family readiness officer and the commander with addressing the issues for the families so that when the (Marine) is deployed, the family knows the resources that are available to them," said Sgt. Maj. William F. Fitzgerald.

The staff noncommissioned officers "came with a focus on the Marine Corps, its families, and the future of the Corps."

The key was to talk about issues facing the Marine Corps and the future of the Corps.

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Michael Timmerman, personnel and family readiness sergeant major.

Recent numbers have shown roughly 19 percent of a 100,000 civilian survey size commits suicide. Timmerman said this is a mark the Corps has come unfortunately close to and that suicide is a human problem.

The response to the growing problem, however, is unique to the Marine Corps. A new suicide prevention program will put experienced non-commissioned officers at the forefront of the fight.

"This is a problem that, knowing it is a human problem, can be controlled at the peer group level," Timmerman said.

Kent explained the corporals and sergeants are critical in preventing suicide because "The NCO is the one closest to the Marines and that's why we're educating them and giving them the tools to understand the issue and to know where they can send a Marine to get help."

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the sergeant major of Marine Forces South.

Fitzgerald said the symposium allowed sergeants major to "cross pollinate" their ideas and concerns and offers a unique line of communication between the individual Marine and Corps leadership.

"It gives a Marine the opportunities to address issues up his chain of command," Fitzgerald said of the symposium. "Then we bring it here and vent these issues amongst our peers."

Training and education command sergeant major, Sgt. Maj. Dave Howell, explained though more discussion was given to some agenda items, it was hard to pinpoint what may be considered the most pressing.

"It's all about readiness. It's all about good order and discipline. It's all about developing and taking care of your Marines and leaders as well," said Howell.

According to Howell and other sergeants major, the next step is to implement some of the agenda topics because "the bottom line is if something is on the commandant's radar screen then it's a priority."

The sergeant major of the Marine Corps said the recommendations he will make to the commandant will be based on what agenda items aren't working well.

"We had numerous agenda items come up and we didn't put any of them on the back burner," Kent explained. "The ones we forward to the commandant are the ones that aren't working right now and the ones we felt we're important to the future of the Marine Corps."

Marines improve security, stability in the country



Photo by Staff Sgt. William Greeson

Maj. Jay Lappe, an operations officer with 1st Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, provides security during a road reconnaissance patrol in the Nawa District of Helmand province, Afghanistan, Aug. 1. The Marines are trying to improve transportation for civilians and Afghan National Army soldiers by improving damaged roads and bridges. The Marines are deployed to support NATO's International Security Assistance Force and will participate in counterinsurgency operations. They will train and mentor Afghan National Security Forces to improve security and stability in the country.

Deployed 'docs' show

Intelligence in Iraq

H PENDRACKI
Marine Corps - West

Marine unit conductors in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom has one common: dedicated corpsmen always pre-empt with illnesses and both great and small. The corpsmen with II Expeditionary Force, 1st Marine Division (For) with Marine and across the Anbar and provide quality care at a moment's notice their fellow service members.

Recently came back from the Diamond out by the 1st Marine Division, said Petty Officer 1st Class Josua Badillo, with the II MHG, 1st Marine Division. "We went out to go to any unit in the MEF (Fwd.), some five weeks, some more."

These 'docs' are not just with units, they are the GAS aboard Al Base, Iraq, caring for different units under the 1st Marine Division (Fwd.) with services like call, dental and medicine.

Provide medical care command element, teams, intelligence and 8th Communi-

cations Battalion," said Seaman Derek Meluzio, a hospital corpsman with II MHG (Fwd.) GAS.

The staff at the GAS, like most other Marine and naval units, are very close with one another.

"Meluzio and I went to boot camp and corps school together," said Badillo.

"It was a wild time at corps school at Great Lakes (Illinois) with him," added Meluzio.

"It's funny how we are like a big family of brothers and sisters," joked Petty Officer 1st Class Jordan Brown, a corpsman at the GAS. "I seem to be more like the mom of the bunch though, always keeping them in check."

While these docs daydream about what cars they're going to buy when they get back from Iraq, and exchange playful insults with willing patients, they all realize how important their obligations are to their fellow service members.

"No one can do anything without a corpsman," explained Petty Officer 2nd Class Chad Mangrum, a corpsman at the GAS. "Sailors don't leave their ports and Marines can't leave the wire without one of us. Every unit that has Marines and sailors needs corpsmen; there's no way around it."

Upcoming CSC, EWS seminar programs

The College of Continuing Education's Command and Staff College and Expeditionary Warfare School seminar programs for academic year 2010 will commence the last week in September. Enrollment requests must be received prior Sept. 1. The on-site seminar groups meet once a week for a couple of hours in the evening from September through May. For CSC students who are deployed or employed, there is also an online seminar opportunity. To enroll or discuss your particular situation, please contact the CCE regional coordinator's office at 451-9309 or send an e-mail to rccamplejeune@cotc.com.

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HELMAND PROVINCE, AFGHANISTAN

Patrolling in the Helmand River Valley near Patrol Base Hasanabad



Photo by Lance Cpl. Daniel A. Flynn
Lance Cpl. Zachary Zimmerman, a squad automatic weapon gunner with 2nd Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment, Regimental Combat Team 3, slides into a canal while patrolling around Patrol Base Hasanabad, recently.

Photo by Lance Cpl. Jason Hernandez
Lance Cpl. Helmut Eggle, a squad automatic weapon gunner with 2nd Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment, Regimental Combat Team 3, holds his M-9 pistol above water while patrolling around Patrol Base Hasanabad, recently.

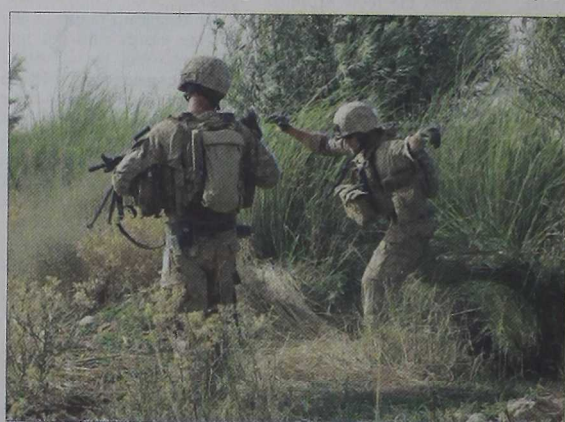


Photo by Lance Cpl. Jason Hernandez
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Marines with 1st Combat Engineer Battalion, put rod stabilizers in place on a Hesco barrier during construction at Patrol Base Jaker. Marines with 1st CEB, along with heavy equipment operators from Combat Logistics Battalion 8, have been working day and night building barriers and observation posts at PB Jaker, Helmand province, Afghanistan.

Patrol Base Jaker, Afghanistan

Patrol Base Jaker: Under construction

CPL. JOHN M.

1st Combat Team 3

1st Battalion, 5th Regiment's Headquarters Services Company at this location in mid-July. British soldiers were killed daily by insurgent attacks. It was nothing more than a "hot LZ" according to the Marines. Within days of their arrival, the number of elements of the battalions B and C. With stronger numbers and firepower, the insurgents began to get the point. There hasn't been a fire in the vicinity of the base since July 21. That was one of the July 2 kick-off Operation Khanjar, a offensive in which Marines read across the Helmand valley to deny the freedom of movement and provide security for the region.

Now, this small outpost is big enough for the few British and the reinforced force of Marines is get-

ting a face-lift.

Marines with 1st Combat Engineer Battalion, along with heavy equipment operators from Combat Logistics Battalion 8, have been working day and night since July 29 to expand PB Jaker, building barriers and observation posts and improving overall security.

"It was so small before. Now we're going to be able to fit a whole company in here. It's really going to open the place up," said 1st Lt. Rodney Malone, a combat engineer with 1st CEB.

Malone and his Marines have been conducting the same operation at four other forward operating bases throughout the province for nearly a month with the help of CLB-8.

"It's kind of the same basic thing," he said. "Once you get going, it's like clockwork getting all the Hesco barriers set up."

The barriers are basically giant sand bags — metal mesh and fabric filled with dirt — that create a wall around what used to be an open field. By increasing the size of the patrol base, the Marines will improve security by establishing more



Cpl. Stephen Maloney, a combat engineer with 1st Combat Engineer Battalion, constructs an observation post at Patrol Base Jaker, July 26. Marines with 1st CEB, along with heavy equipment operators from Combat Logistics Battalion 8, have been working day and night since July 29 to expand PB Jaker.

observation posts at locations around the base.

"There's no standardized way to make an observation post. We try something new whenever we build, but it comes down to what we have

available to us," said Staff Sgt. Brian Polst, a combat engineer.

The new observation posts are different from those 1st CEB built in Iraq. With experience, the engi-

neers have learned how to improve the basic design of an observation post. These new OPs will give watch standers increased visibility and more range of motion if they have to engage the en-

emy. There's also a bonus gift from the engineers.

"We try to make them as strong as possible," Polst said. "Building a roof that can

SEE PATROL 8A ►



Photo by Lance Cpl. John M. McCall

Marcus Todd, a combat engineer with 1st Combat Engineer Battalion, constructs a ladder for a new observation post at Patrol Base Jaker. Marines with 1st CEB, along with heavy equipment operators from Combat Logistics Battalion 8, have been working day and night since July 29 to expand PB Jaker, constructing barriers and observation posts to improve overall security.

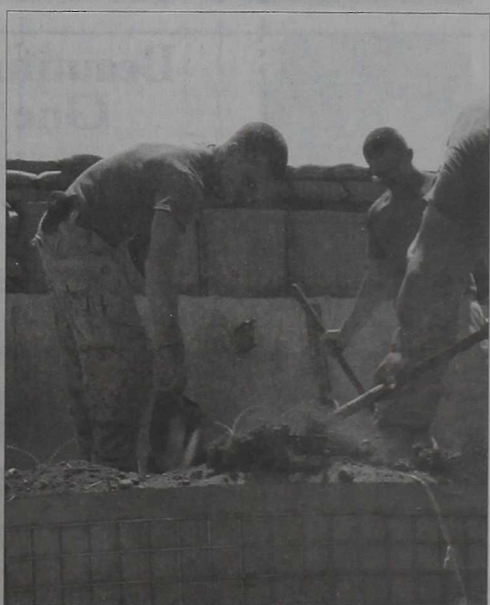


Photo by Lance Cpl. John M. McCall

Staff Sgt. Brian Polst Jr., a combat engineer with 1st Combat Engineer Battalion, supervises his Marines as they construct a new observation post at Patrol Base Jaker, July 26. Marines with 1st CEB, along with heavy equipment operators from Combat Logistics Battalion 8, have been working day and night since July 29 to expand PB Jaker, constructing barriers and observation posts to improve overall security.



Marines with Company C, Task Force 3rd Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, Regimental Combat Team 8, provide security while two of their Marines quickly change a damaged LAV tire in Ninewa province, Iraq, July 9.

Photo by Sgt. Eric C. Schwartz

WOLFPACK FROM 1A

"Everything we do now is by, with and through the Iraqi government," Denman said.

"Iraq has been made safer by the battalion doing its part fighting the insurgency and showing a strong presence during its deployments," Garner said.

Kassner, Denman and Garner see a big difference in Iraq today.

"The differences I see now are enhanced ISF security, more effective local governments, increased willingness to work with coalition forces and a significant decrease on coalition-force dependence," Kassner said.

"I go through a lot more water than ammunition now," Denman said.

With time, the ISF have built a strong military and police force to combat insurgent activity. "We combine our efforts (with the ISF) to interdict and disrupt foreign fighters and smugglers," Kassner said.

In the past few years, coalition forces have given the roads back to the GOI and ISF. Now, Iraqis can be seen driving past Marine convoys with Iraqi children waving to the drivers in the tan, behemoth, mine resistant ambush protected vehicles.

Kassner said that for the past six years, all Iraqis knew about the rules of the road was to get out of the way of Marines driving along the roads. This was to prevent any attempts to attack coalition forces with vehicle-borne IEDs.

"I remember driving on the other side of the road to not allow any VBIEDs to hide with the other (passing) vehicles," Kassner said. "Our LAVs were attacked by them in the past."

Kassner has seen the good and bad of Iraq. He's seen the Iraqi people make the brave choice to help co-

alition forces, knowing their lives and their family's lives were in danger, and he's seen the ISF put the citizens' fears to rest.

Being able to see the beginning and the end of Operation Iraqi Freedom has allowed Kassner and other Iraq veterans to contemplate the sacrifices their fellow brother and sister warriors have made to make Iraq what it is today.

To Kassner and the Wolfpack, those sacrifices were not made in vain and will be remembered as the legacy of LAR in Iraq comes to a close.

PATROL FROM 7A

withstand indirect fire and sides strong enough to hold up against a rocket propelled grenade."

Marines with 1st CEB have constructed FOBs many times before and fortified established positions similar to PB Jaker during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

"We built up a lot of positions in Ramadi in 2006," Polst said of his Iraq tour. "It's a little different here. The area is a more rural environment. When I was in Iraq, it was an urban environment - a lot more dirt work here, building from scratch. 1st Battalion, 5th Marine

Regiment is trying to leave as little a footprint as possible in Afghanistan. They're trying to avoid taking over houses and buildings."

In September, 1st Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment hopes to open a local school in a building currently housing Company C. The expansion of PB Jaker will allow those Marines to vacate that building and begin improving and readying it for the first day of school.

Once construction is complete here, the 1st CEB and CLB-8 Marines will move on to the next FOB and start making improvements there.

WEAPONS FROM 1A

the Marines are ready to make a trip to the weapons depot at Camp Taji, the central collection point for all captured weapons in Iraq.

From all of the captured weapons that have been at Camp Taji over the past year, only authorized weapons currently used by the Iraqi army will be refurbished and sent back to IA soldiers and Iraqi police for reuse.

"I think in a way it's a two-fold thing," Barros said. "Keeping the weapons out of the insurgents' hands and sending them to the Iraqi government to safeguard them is safer for Iraqi citizens and coalition forces operating in the area."

Some of the weapons the Marines turned over were as old as the early 1900s. There were weapons from Belgium, China, Germany, Egypt and Iraq.

Lee F. Omoso, a small arms advisor at the depot, oversees the weapons turn-in process to ensure that everything goes smoothly. He said the depot receives anywhere from 1,000 to 2,000 weapons a week.

"Our job is to go through everything, decide what to give to the Iraqi small arms shop and destroy the rest," Omoso said.

Turning over the weapons to an Iraqi small arms shop allows the Iraqis to fix the weapons they will be using.

"This will give them an opportunity to learn how to maintain their equipment and take pride in it," Omoso said. "They do at the depot is important, because it takes weapons out of the enemy's hands."

"For every weapon that is sitting here, it's one that's not being used for shooting or killing," Omoso said.

Working as a team, the Marines from EO platoon, service members and civilians at the depot sorted and delivered weapons easily and quickly.

"The operation went really well," Barros said. "We received a lot of help (from our Transportation Support Company and from our liaisons at the depot), that made it easy. An evolution that only took a couple days would have taken a couple weeks without their help."

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Photo by Sgt. Scott Whittington
1st Sgt. Mike E. Sparkman,
Company D, 2nd Assault
Amphibian Battalion,
Regimental Combat Team
3, greets a local Afghan
villager near Camp Dwyer.



Photo by Sgt. Scott Whittington
1st Sgt. Mike E. Sparkman,
2nd Assault Amphibian
Battalion, talks with local
villagers through an
interpreter, Aug. 1.



Photo by Sgt. Scott Whittington

Marines from 2nd Assault Amphibian Battalion walk from their mine-resistant ambush-protected vehicle to conduct a neighborly visit and recon to local villages near Camp Dwyer, Aug. 1 to assess the community's concerns and search for Taliban presence.

SHOR SHORAT, AFGHANISTAN

Marines make neighborly visits to local villages

SGT. SCOTT WHITTINGTON
Regimental Combat Team 3

Some of the scariest ghost stories involve the dark, but the dark doesn't always have to deal with lack of light. Sometimes it is simply the unknown.

Marines from Company D, 2nd Assault Amphibian Battalion, Regimental Combat Team 3, ventured into the unknown Aug. 1 and 2, to visit local villages near Camp Dwyer where no international forces have ever been.

"It's always a good idea to come out here," said 1st Sgt. Mike E. Sparkman, company first sergeant. "If we're not out among the people, the enemy will be."

During their mission in Afghanistan, the Marines who would normally be operating with amphibious assault vehicles are serving as the RCT's only mine-resistant ambush-protected vehicle company.

The primary purpose of the neighborly visits was to engage with the local villagers who hadn't seen any foreign military here, and get a sense of what issues are important to them. A secondary, but equally important, reason was to recon the village in search of Taliban insurgents or weapon storage.

"We asked what they needed. The people seemed to like that we were there," said Sparkman. "I would say our visit was a success, but it could have gone a different way."

Insurgents have been known to set ambushes against international forces in and around communities like these. All the villagers that Sparkman spoke with

expressed their fear of the Taliban and said insurgents hadn't been around this village near a Helmand River tributary in nearly a year. One villager said he wouldn't be standing outside speaking to the Marines if the Taliban were around.

"If the Taliban had shown up, the Marines could have used their skills," said Sparkman. "We would have loved to beat them back across the river."

This wasn't the first time these Marines rolled up on a village that had never seen a foreign military. Last month, Sparkman's crew visited other villages in the area.

"I was looking forward to seeing how they lived out there and their culture," said Lance Cpl. Michael H. Stubbings, a tracker. "They've done pretty well for themselves for having near nothing."

Local Afghans live in huts made from hay and mud and stay mostly indoors during the day when the temperature breaks the 120 mark. At night, using flashlights, they come outside to tend to their crops and livestock.

The villagers, mostly farmers, were spread throughout the village. The village itself encompassed groups of homes spread over a few miles. Some wells were nearly dried up, which hindered their crops' growth, and the water they did have wasn't completely sanitary. Their crops range from wheat and watermelons to cannabis and poppy.

"We're out here, not only chasing the enemy. We're trying to help the average Afghan," added Sparkman. "If we can help the locals see that the Afghan government is better than the Taliban, the Taliban will leave."



Photo by Sgt. Scott Whittington

Cpl. Michael H. Stubbings, tracker with 2nd Assault Amphibian Battalion, scans the horizon during a meet near Camp Dwyer Aug. 1. The Marines ventured to this nearby village to speak with the locals and to recon the area for Taliban presence.



Photo by Sgt. Scott Whittington

Marines with 2nd Assault Amphibian Battalion return to their convoy after meeting with local villagers a few miles from Camp Dwyer, Aug. 1.

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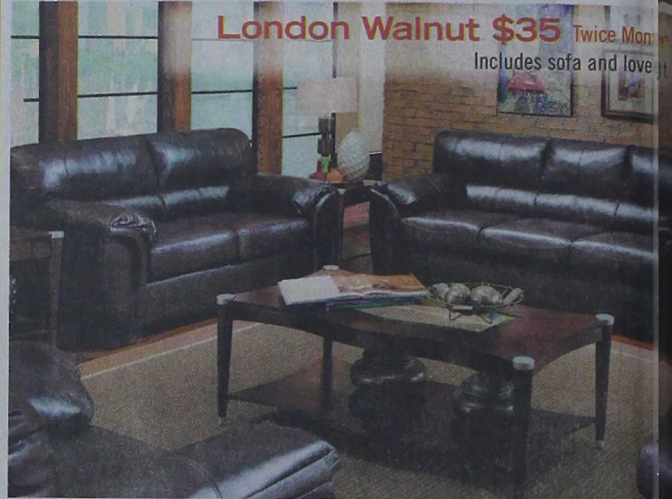
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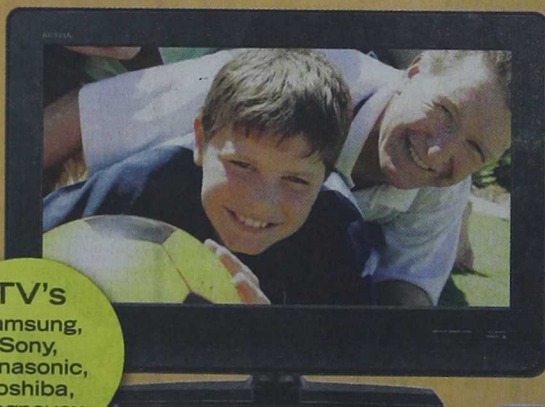


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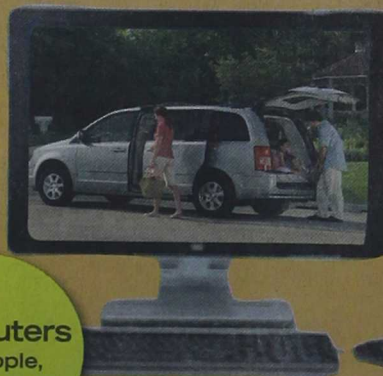
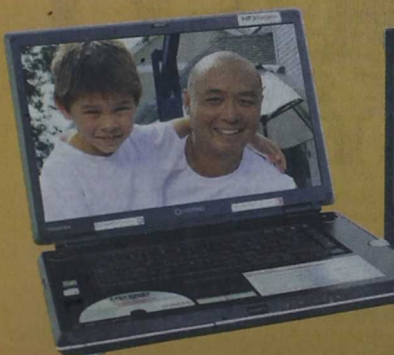
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Wounded warriors ready themselves on their hand cycles before the start of the 2nd annual Soldier Ride — The Hamptons, in Sag Harbor, N.Y., July 25. Marines with 1st Battalion, 9th Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division, traveled to Sag Harbor to participate in the ride, which was dedicated this year to the memory of their fallen brother, Lance Cpl. Jordan C. Haerter, to raise money for the Wounded Warrior Project.

Photo by Lance Cpl. Brian D. Jones

1/9 Marines ride in memory of FALLEN BROTHER



Photo by Lance Cpl. Brian D. Jones
JoAnn Lyles, mother of Lance Cpl. Jordan C. Haerter, who was posthumously awarded the Navy Cross for extraordinary heroism in his actions during Operation Iraqi Freedom, shows her support for bicyclists in the 2nd annual Soldier Ride — The Hamptons, in Sag Harbor, N.Y., July 25.

LANCE CPL. BRIAN D. JONES
2nd Marine Division

On April 22, 2008, Christian Haerter was in Sag Harbor, N.Y., listening to the news at work when a broadcast announced two Marines were killed in Iraq. Christian took a step outside for a breath of fresh air and shortly afterward, saw a sight every parent fears.

Two Marines in dress blues were heading his way with his ex-wife, JoAnn Lyles, following closely behind in tears.

"You never see Marines here, not in the Hamptons area," said Christian. "Everyone that drove past knew exactly why they were here."

On that day, their only child, Lance Cpl. Jordan C. Haerter, a rifleman with Weapons Company, 1st Battalion, 9th Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division, was killed during a suicide bomber's attack in Ramadi, Iraq.

Jordan and another Marine, Cpl. Jonathan T. Yale, an infant

ryman with 2nd Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division, were manning a defensive position outside their unit when a suicide vehicle-borne improvised explosive device roared toward the entry control point they protected. The pair remained at their post and poured fire into the oncoming truck, stopping the explosive-laden truck short of its intended target and forcing a premature explosion, thus saving the lives of several dozen Marines, sailors, Iraqi police and civilians at Joint Security Station Nasser.

For their actions that day, Haerter and Yale were posthumously awarded the Navy Cross, the nation's second-highest award for battlefield valor.

"I'm absolutely certain that every moment of his life led up to those six seconds in Ramadi," said Jordan's father.

"He didn't do anything different from what any other Marine would have done," Christian believed this is what his son would have said.

Just over a year later, emotions were high for both parents July 25, 2009, when 23 Marines

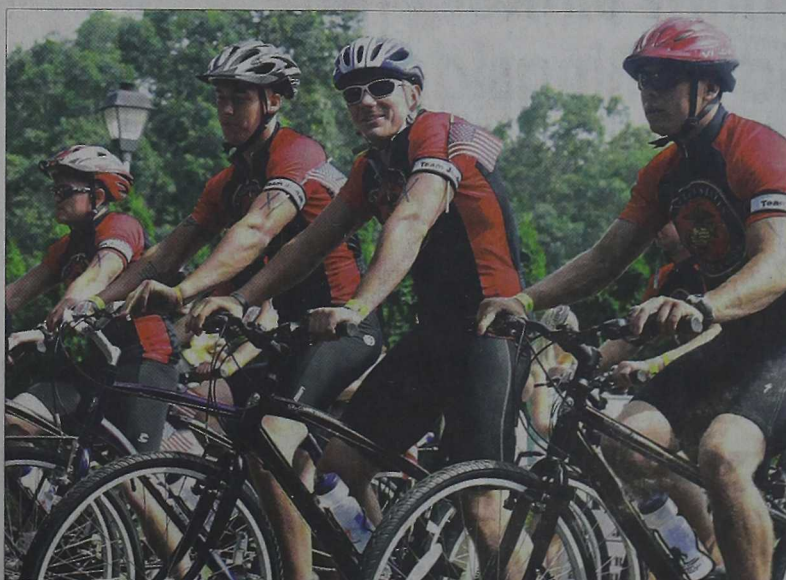


Photo by Lance Cpl. Brian D. Jones
Marines with 1st Battalion, 9th Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division, await the start of the 2nd annual Soldier Ride — The Hamptons, in Sag Harbor, N.Y., July 25.

who served in the same platoon as Jordan arrived in Sag Harbor — not as bearers of dreadful news, but to ride in the 2nd annual Soldier Ride — The Hamptons, in honor of Jordan and his family's sacrifice.

"I am thankful to 1st Battalion, 9th Marines for supporting Jordan," said JoAnn. "It puts life in me when these guys are around. They have taken me in as family, they've extended that to me and it's really nice."

The ride was an organized fundraiser for the Wounded Warrior Project and dedicated to the memory of Jordan. The fundraiser was a success, bringing in an estimated \$230,000 in donations.

"The importance of this weekend was threefold," said 1st Lt. Daniel J. Runzheimer, Jordan's platoon commander. "Honor one of our brothers, raise awareness and support for wounded veterans and most importantly, to show

Jordan's family the Marine Corps does not forget its families."

Sag Harbor welcomed the Marines from 1st Battalion, 9th Marines with open arms, donating Marine Corps biking jerseys and the bikes they rode, as well as a dose of New York hospitality.

"(The ride) showed the support of the American public for its service members and we got to honor our fallen brother, Jordan C. Haerter, and ensure that he is never forgotten," said Cpl. Corey L. Teague, a Marine who was saved by Jordan's actions.

A bus filled with wounded warriors from all branches of the military arrived at the start and finish point of the ride, American Legion Hand-Aldrich Post 924. All riders with disabilities were provided the adaptive equipment they needed to cycle and led the Marines on the 65-mile ride through the Hamptons.

Local motorcyclists with the

American Legion Riders of Post 924 cleared the roadway for approximately 186 riders who participated. Another several hundred more participated in a four-mile walk or run event to help raise money for the occasion.

"It's a huge honor to have Jordan's name associated with something that's going to help so many people, and having the Marines here made it very special to me," said Christian.

Since their son's death, Christian and JoAnn actively participate in anything they can to help make the lives of returning veterans better. Christian said he looks to veterans as selfless heroes, who sign up to serve their country during a time of conflict and do the job most people would never volunteer to do.

"It was important to be here for a good Marine and a better

SEE RIDE 7B ▶

King mackerel action solid around area reefs, wrecks



Lejeune Outdoors

With Jamie Cameron

It would appear we've finally come through the August heat wave. That's not to say there won't be a late August heat wave, or a September heat wave, but for the rest of this week anyway, we can bask below the seasonal average temperature of 89 degrees Fahrenheit.

If it's uncomfortably hot for humans, you can assume it's uncomfortably hot for fish. The bathwater along area beaches is not conducive to great fishing, but there always are a few cage fishermen who persevere.

One way they do it is by focusing their efforts to the coolest parts of the day; early morning, early evening and even during the night. Nighttime is the right time for catching sea mullet from the ocean fishing piers. As fall approaches, spot will start to join the mullet in overnight anglers' coolers.

Both fish are bottom feeders and will take a variety of baits, including pieces of shrimp, mole crabs, squid strips and, in the case of spot especially, blood worms.

Another way to beat the heat is by fishing deep. The water is cooler down there and gamefish will wait out the hottest parts of the day where they can be comfortable. Because fish are not as active now, natural baits will catch more of them than lures. Try fishing a live mullet minnow

or small menhaden on a Carolina rig on the deep side of your nearest oyster reef and wait for the telltale tap-tap-tap of a flounder taking the bait. Some would advise you set the hook immediately, but I side with the traditionalists who wait for line to start peeling off the reel before I hit him between the eyes.

If all else fails, Richard Ehrenkaufer, a.k.a. Dr. Bogus, suggests you go crabbing.

Anglers with a valid recreational saltwater fishing license can catch as many as 50 blue crabs a day. How you accomplish that feat is up to you. Blue crabs are attracted to all sorts of dead and decaying matter in the water. A wire crab trap with a fish head in the bait basket can catch crabs all day long without supervision. For those who prefer a little action, a handline and a dip net can be fun and effective. Simply head out to your favorite dock or jetty, bait the handline with a fish frame or a chicken neck and throw it out into the deep. When you feel a crab tugging on the line, slowly bring the rig in, making sure not to allow the crab to break the surface of the water or it will let go and swim away. When the crab is close enough, slip the dip net underneath and scoop it up — crab bisque anyone? Hardcore sportsmen forego the bait and simply stalk the shallows with a net in

hand. It may not be the most effective method, but it will help prepare you for squirrel hunting. Blue crabs must be at least five inches long across the shell and if you catch a female with eggs, let her go to help perpetuate the species. Oh, and watch out for those claws.

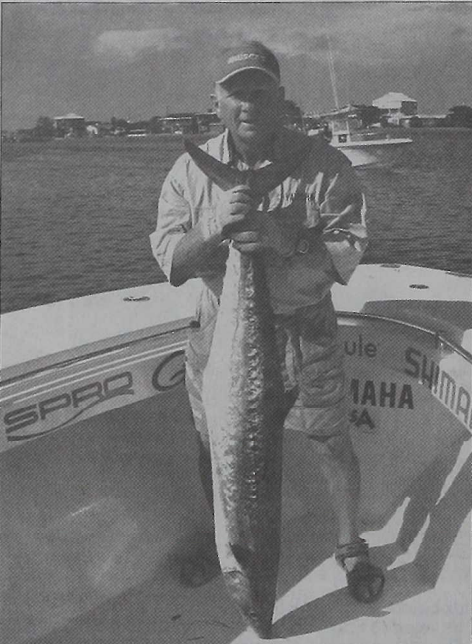
Topsail Island piers are producing some Spanish mackerel, black drum, speckled trout and sea mullet. There are also flounder and a mixed bag of bottomfish to be had.

The nearshore king

mackerel fishing has been good, not great, but there are more and bigger fish a little farther offshore. As usual, slow trolling live menhaden has produced the biggest kings. Smaller specimens can be caught on trolling spoons and rigged ballyhoo.

Out in the Gulf Stream, reports of scattered dolphin (mahimahi), wahoo, blackfin tuna and sailfish are keeping the charter fleets busy.

Until next week, good luck out there.



Courtesy photo

Stan Jarusinski hoists a 36.96-pound king mackerel, Aug. 1. The fish earned the Swansboro-based Mister Stanman Fishing Team second place overall in the 25th annual Raleigh Saltwater King Mackerel Tournament.



Have you been on an outdoor adventure lately? Share your photos, send them to jamie.cameron@militarynews.com

KANSAS CITY, MO.

Marines strike gold at Ringside

JAMIE CAMERON
Assistant managing editor

The future looks very bright indeed for the All-Marine Boxing Team, thanks to standout performances from Cpl. Angel Garcia and Lance Cpl. Melissa Roberts during the recent Ringside Boxing Championship in Kansas City, Mo.

The tournament, held Aug. 4 through Aug. 8, is one of the largest open events in the boxing year. More than 1,300 fighters competed over four days, with Garcia and Roberts laying claim to the 152-pound novice and 125-pound female open divisions respectively.

For All-Marine boxing coach Ron Simms, the Ringside tournament was a highlight of his time with the team, stationed aboard Camp Lejeune. The fact that both of his fighters came home with championship belts is only part of the story.

"It was awesome," said Simms. "We had two Marines there and every time they stepped into the ring, the civilian spectators were cheering for the Marine Corps. It was like they were celebrities, and it brought a tear to my eye."

For Garcia, the Ringside tournament marked a return to competitive boxing after a four-year hiatus. The 24-year-old Marine started boxing when he was 16 in Orlando, Fla., but put it aside when he joined the Corps in 2004. "I've deployed to Iraq twice since then, but when I came to Camp Lejeune three weeks ago, I saw the opportunity to get back to the sport I love. It's truly a blessing."

Simms admitted he would not normally consider taking a boxer to a national competition after just 2-1/2 weeks with the team, but he saw something special in Garcia.

"Some unfortunate circumstances kept me from bringing the Marines I intended to take, but after watching Garcia spar in the gym, I saw he had the heart to maybe go to Kansas City and do something, and he did."

Garcia fought four times on his way to the title in a division with more than 20 boxers from across the nation. In his first two fights, the newest All-Marine said he felt confident and in control. The final two bouts, however, took all of the strength and determination he had. "The last fight (against Angel Snow, of Toledo, Ohio) was really hard. That guy hit really hard and was a solid fighter, but I managed to pull it off."

In Garcia, Simms said he has a boxer who throws a lot of punches and can see opponents' punches coming. "I'm not going to say his conditioning is where it needs to be, because it's not," said Simms. "We're going to mold him into doing things the proper way, so he expends less energy, and we're going to get him into shape."

For his part, Garcia said he is ready for the challenge. "(Joining the All-Marine team) has made me happier. I hope to fight for as long as I can here."

In the women's featherweight division, Roberts proved her ability to adapt by overcoming a taller, international fighter in the final. Though New Zealander Alexis Prichard held a



Photo by Ron Simms

Cpl. Angel Garcia (152 pounds) and Lance Cpl. Melissa Roberts (125 pounds) show off their new hardware after winning their respective divisions at the Ringside Boxing Championship, held Aug. 4 through Aug. 8 in Kansas City, Mo.

distinct reach advantage, Roberts moved in close and worked her opponent over with a persistent overhand hook. Roberts was announced the winner when Prichard did not answer the bell in the second round.

"It was my first international fight and she (Prichard) fought Olympic-style, straight up and straight forward," said Roberts. "I don't like fighting girls who are taller than me because they make me look small. It brings out the fire in me. I felt nervous before the fight, but my coaches, Mr. Simms and Andre Rosier, hyped me up. I thought, 'I'm from the U.S. and I can do this.'"

Simms said he could not be more pleased with Roberts, who is expected to transfer from New York to Camp Lejeune and start training with the All-Marine Boxing Team in September. "Melissa is a beast," he said. "She understands everything you tell her to do and does it. She stepped into her opponent and let her hands go, and that's all it took."

TIDE TABLES FOR NEW RIVER IN

National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration

THURSDAY

High tide 12:38 a.m. 1:29
Low tide 6:48 a.m. 7:55

FRIDAY

High tide 1:34 a.m. 2:31
Low tide 7:43 a.m. 9:04

SATURDAY

High tide 2:38 a.m. 3:38
Low tide 8:46 a.m. 10:15

SUNDAY

High tide 3:48 a.m. 4:44
Low tide 9:53 a.m. 11:19

MONDAY

High tide 4:57 a.m. 5:45
Low tide 11:01 a.m.

TUESDAY

High tide 6:00 a.m. 6:42
Low tide 12:17 a.m. 12:04

WEDNESDAY

High tide 6:59 a.m. 7:35
Low tide 1:09 a.m. 1:04

SPORTS

Traveling soccer team

Players interested in joining a Jacksonville area traveling soccer team should call Louis Cisneros at 546-1600.

Lejeune varsity golf tryouts

The Camp Lejeune Varsity Golf Team has scheduled a qualifying tournament for potential team members, Sept. 17 through 20. For more information, call 451-2710.

'All Camp' Skeet Competition

The "All Camp" Skeet Competition is scheduled to take place Aug. 27 at the McIntyre Skeet Range. Teams consisting of five primary shooters and one alternate will compete for top shooting honors. Each team must have at least four active-duty service members. Official team rosters and letters of intent must be handed in to the Intramural Sports Office by Aug. 24. There will be a mandatory coaches meeting Aug. 26, at 3:30 p.m. at the skeet range. For more information, call 451-2061.

Family fun run

The Tarawa Terrace Family Fun Run/Walk is scheduled for Saturday at the Tarawa Terrace 1 Community Center picnic area, starting at 9 a.m. Participants are encouraged to show up before the start of the 1-mile race to register. For more information, call 450-1687.

Intramural flag football season

The Camp Lejeune intramural flag football season is scheduled to begin Sept. 7. There will be a mandatory coaches meeting Aug. 20, 6 p.m., at Goettge Memorial House. Call 451-2061 for more information.

Powerlifting competition

The first 9/11 Military Bench Press Championship and Press Challenge is scheduled to take place Sept. 11, in remembrance of the 8th anniversary of Sept. 11 terrorist attacks and in honor of those who died. The competition is open to everyone, and is set to take place at the Gym in Jacksonville, starting at 5 p.m. A portion of the proceeds will benefit Help the Warriors — a non-profit organization that helps wounded service members and their families. For more information, go online to rawpowerlifting.com.

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Rangers welcome wounded warriors

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On July 18, Rangers Ballpark became more than a baseball field — it was a field of dreams for wounded service members from Brooke Army Medical Center.

Hope For The Warrior, a national non-profit organization that assists wounded service members and their families, transported the heroes from San Antonio to Arlington, Texas, with the help of four volunteers from the Fire Department, New York VFW Post 12033.

The service members and their families were greeted with Texas Rangers' souvenirs and gifts from the state-of-the-art facility. Coaches, players and fans of the Texas Rangers ball club greeted the honored guests, shaking hands and signing autographs. As the players took to the field for batting practice, the wounded service members were also getting warmed up for the activities.

During the opening ceremonies, the wounded service members and their families, along with the Hope For The Warrior staff and the Y volunteers were escorted behind home plate and introduced to the entire stadium. The crowd rose to its feet as gratitude poured from the hearts of the Texan hearts.

The day spent at Rangers Ballpark was a day that came true for these service members," said John Kelleher, Hope For The Warrior president and CEO. "The Texas Rangers ball club was amazing and we are so very appreciative of their generosity. It's the support from grateful fans and events like these that restore hope and help these service members move forward, making a significant impact on their recovery."



Wounded service members, their families and volunteers pose outside Texas Rangers Ballpark.

Courtesy photo

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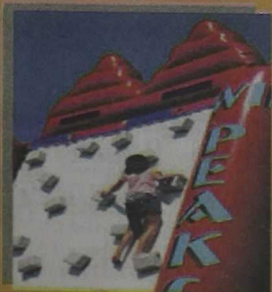
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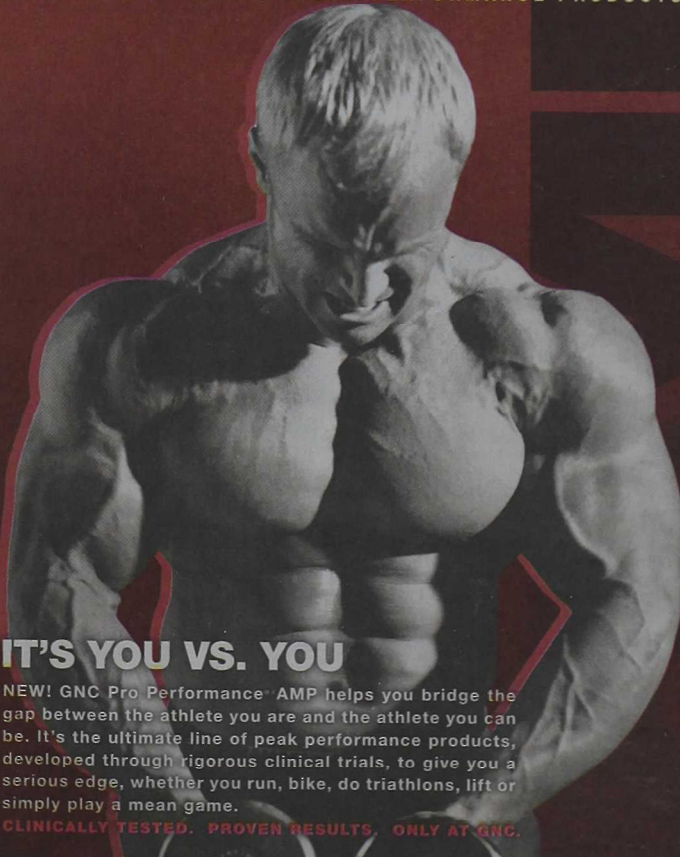
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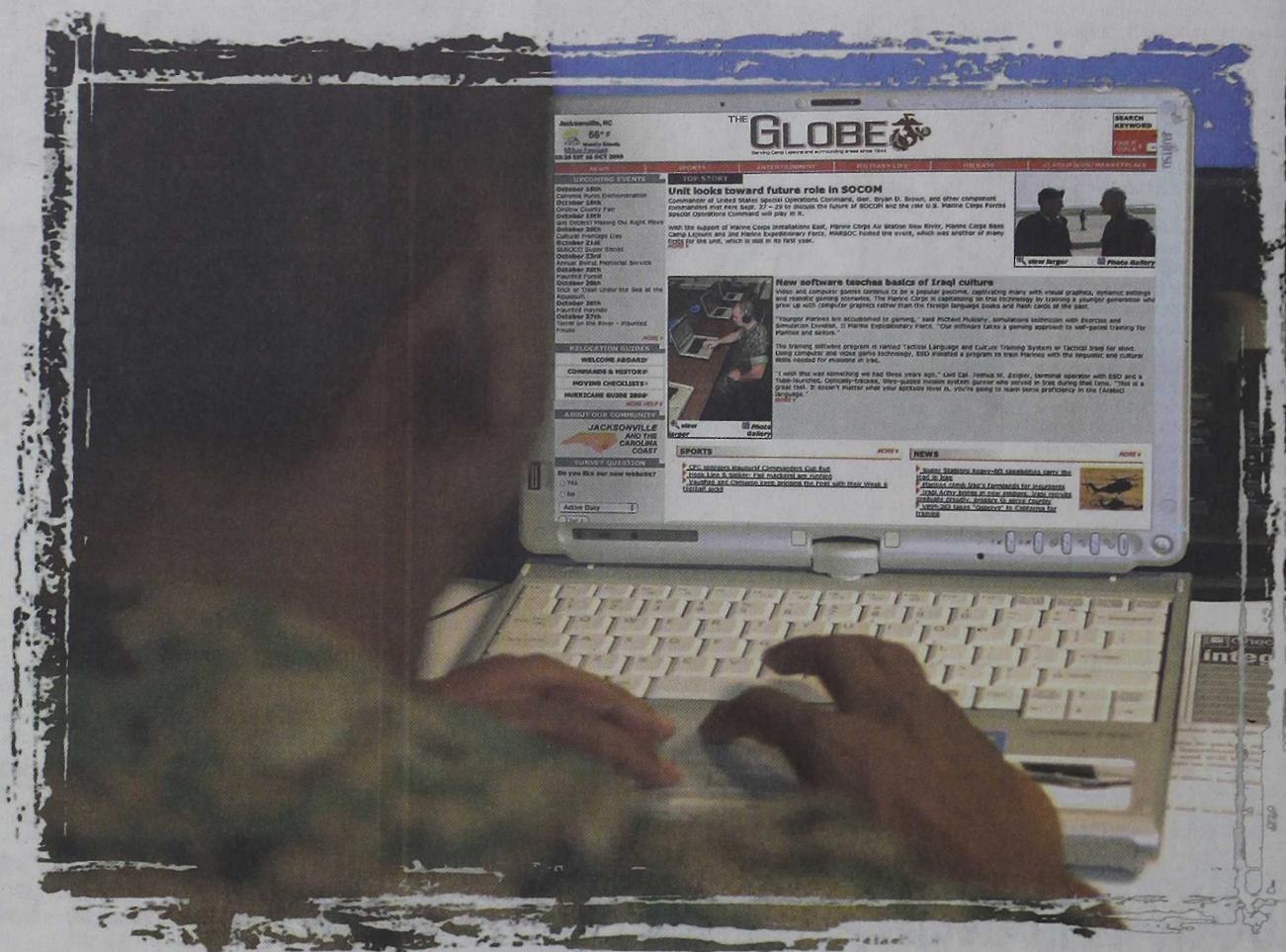
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Photo by Jamie Cameron

Wint (No. 40), of Combat Logistics Battalion 6, rises above the Disbursing defense for a jump shot during the opening round of Camp Lejeune's summer basketball tournament, Monday. CLB-6 went on to win the game, 69-68.

CLB-6 dishes out 69-68 loss to Disbursing in Round 1

Summer Basketball Tournament underway

JAMERON
managing editor

A mid-summer lull in Camp Lejeune's intramural sports action, the summer basketball tournament is back with the annual Summer Basketball Tournament. The competition got off to a furious start Monday's match-up pitting Combat Logistics Battalion 6 against Disbursing.

The game featured lanky, athletic players that made for an exciting, see-saw battle which CLB-6 won in the final seconds with a 69-68

Disbursing took the early lead, with James Young Kwak running the offense and Woodel Pierre slashing to the basket. After the first five minutes, Disbursing held a hard-fought 13-10 lead. Zac Ruggles and Darius Jenkins kept CLB-6 close with key shots and several offensive rebounds.

Disbursing's passing and a renewed effort by CLB-6 allowed them to claim the lead at the end of the first half, but Steve Jenkins got hot for Disbursing and led his team to a 36-32 advantage at the half.

Disbursing opened the second half with a strong defense. Craig Holland took over the offense and Pierre attacked the basket with success. With 15 minutes left in the game, Disbursing had staked out a lead and appeared to be on the way toward victory.

Minutes later, the tables had turned as the CLB-6 offense was firing on all cylinders and Disbursing was helpless to stop a series of fast-break points, made easy by CLB-6's efficient outlet passing. With

10 minutes to play, Disbursing's lead had been cut to just 1 point.

The scoring barrage continued, and CLB-6 retook the lead, jumping to a 63-56 advantage with five minutes remaining. Disbursing would not fade away, however, scrapping and clawing to stay close. The final showdown started with Disbursing's James Gales' lay-up and a foul with 1:43 to go. Gales completed the 3-point play at the foul line, which cut CLB-6's lead to 1.

Disbursing continued its improbable comeback when Dontay Harden scored an uncontested lay-up to go up 68-67, but it just wasn't enough.

On its next possession, CLB-6 sent Jenkins to the line, where he tied the game by making one of two free throws. CLB-6 got the defensive stop it needed as the seconds ticked away and Disbursing was hit with a double-whammy as it tried to regain the ball.

In the process of committing a shooting foul on Jamel Stewart, Disbursing was whistled for a technical foul at the end of the play. With 16 seconds left, CLB-6 had four free throws to put the game away. Armando Rodriguez made one of his technical shots, and it was enough to put an end to the Disbursing rally.

"We had players step up toward the end of the game and hit key shots," said CLB-6's Ronnie Smith. "We couldn't get any rebounds in the first half, but they started falling our way in the second."

"If we're going to keep winning, we need to learn how to play with each other and keep our composure out there."

The Summer Basketball Tournament final will be played tonight at Goettge Memorial Field House. The tip-off is set for 7 p.m.



Photo by Jamie Cameron

Zac Ruggles (No. 22), of Combat Logistics Battalion 6, goes into the paint against Disbursing's Steve Lavigne during their game at Goettge Memorial Field House, Monday.

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OUR TOP 10 THINGS TO DO THIS SUMMER
 Great ways to have fun with your family.

Diving into fitness

Aqua Fit classes at Area 2 Pool

T.D. SMITH
Corps Base

Want to get a great workout without a lot of sweat and tear on the joints? The Area 2 Pool, at Camp Lejeune, has a new offering to offer. Aqua Fit is a shallow-workout offered daily and Thursday, 1:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. It focuses on using all muscle with opposing force in all directions, as well as unidirectional strokes that use free weights and machines. After workout also includes weight loss resistance training. It has been coming both to the pool and the gym, said Phyllis Casey, Aqua Fit participant. She lost 23 pounds and is feeling better. "I love going to the pool, because it's refreshing," said Pfc. Christopher Calmon, an embark chief with 2nd Supply Battalion, 2nd Marine Logistics Group. "This is the first time I've brought my wife. It's a lot of fun."

from an injury, the aquatic Semper Fit staff can help achieve anyone's goals.

There is also the added benefit of camaraderie and encouragement from fellow participants to push everyone along.

"I love the instructor (Denise Martin)," said Casey. "She always changes things up to keep it interesting."

In addition to a quality staff, the class offers other incentives for diving in. It creates a relaxed atmosphere where active duty, retired military members and their families can take a break to improve focus for the rest of their day and attack work with a renewed vigor.

"I love going to the pool, because it's refreshing," said Pfc. Christopher Calmon, an embark chief with 2nd Supply Battalion, 2nd Marine Logistics Group. "This is the first time I've brought my wife. It's a lot of fun."

The students aren't the only ones having fun. Instructor Denise Martin enjoys the time in the pool just as much as the attendees.

"This is my favorite class to teach," said Martin. "I love being in the water. It's a great workout and you don't get sweaty."

Even though the water is refreshing and fun to be in, that doesn't mean there aren't challenges and benefits to the class. The workout offers a great way to continue physical fitness training while breaking up the monotony of lifting or running.

"I challenge anyone to come out and see for themselves what the class can do for them," said Martin. "Some come out here and think it's going to be easy, but it's not. It's a demanding total body workout."

For more information, call the Area 2 Pool at 451-1316.



Photo by Sgt. T.D. Smith

Participants in the Area 2 Pool Aqua Fit class experience a total body workout without ever breaking a sweat.



Photo by Lance Cpl. Brian D. Jones

Christian Haerter and JoAnn Lyles (front) pose for a photograph with Marines of 1st Battalion, 9th Marine Regiment, who were posthumously awarded the Navy Cross for extraordinary heroism while serving in Operation Freedom. The Marines of 1st Battalion, 9th Marines traveled to Sag Harbor, N.Y., to participate in the 2nd Annual Soldier Ride - The Hamptons, July 25, which was dedicated this year to the memory of their fallen brother, Pfc. Jordan C. Haerter, to raise money for the Wounded Warrior Project.

FROM 1B

"I," said Lance Cpl. Paul A. Menzies, one of Jordan's fellow Marines from 1st Battalion, 9th Marines. "Marine who is a hero, such as Jordan, is worth being here to support him, his friends and family."

Menzies said the ride and other activities made him realize the impact his son's life had on the community.

"It's unbelievable how Jordan's life touched others' lives," he said. "Jordan went on to tell the stories of a stranger carrying a black case, a trumpet inside asking his permission to play taps over Jordan's resting place, and how he has witnessed a master gunnery sergeant stop Jordan's resting place almost every day for a moment of silence."

Lance Cpl. Ernesto Trevizo, another Marine saved by Jordan's actions, expressed how he and the other

Marines would go to the end of the world and back for Jordan's mother, if that is what it took to support her.

By riding with the wounded warriors to raise money and awareness, the Marines from 1st Battalion, 9th Marines experienced many Americans' gratitude. They rode not only in memory of Jordan, to give a little back to their brother who gave all, but also supported and paid their respects to his family, while meeting and thanking many wounded warriors for their sacrifices along the way.

"It is important now, but was equally important before Jordan's death, that these Marines bond and form a tight family," said Runzheimer. "They become responsible for one another and go to great lengths to take care of each other. When a Marine knows he is truly part of a family, there is no limit to what he will strive

to accomplish."

Soldier Ride is a program of the Wounded Warrior Project that provides key rehabilitation opportunities for this generation of wounded warriors and raises public awareness for those who have been injured while fighting overseas.

The Wounded Warrior Project is a non-profit organization, whose mission is to honor and empower wounded warriors, offers numerous services and programs to assist injured servicemen and women upon their return and throughout their rehabilitation and to aid in the transition from hospital bed to an independent, productive life. More information can be found at: sr.woundedwarriorsproject.org, or empirestatechallenge.org

For more information on the II Marine Expeditionary Force, visit the unit's Web site at imefpublic.usmc.mil.

AKRON, OHIO

LeBron wants options open

TOM WITHERS
AP SPORTS WRITER

LeBron James indicated Aug. 7 that he is unlikely to accept a contract extension from the Cleveland Cavaliers until after the 2009-10 season and presumably will become a free agent.

At an event in his hometown to unveil Nike Air Max LeBron VII, the latest sneaker in his signature line, James made his strongest comments yet about his future. The NBA's reigning MVP said he signed a three-year contract in 2006 to give him more options once it expires.

"I signed a contract in 2006 with an option, and it would make no sense for me to sign that contract if I didn't keep my options open," he said. "I'll let you fill in the blanks."

The Cavaliers offered James a contract extension on July 18, the three-year anniversary of the signing of his current contract. The team could offer the extension — at the highest salary allowed — of up to three years. James can sign the extension offer anytime before June 30, 2010.

James, who will make \$15.7 million next season, also has an option in his current contract that can extend his deal through the 2010-11 season.

The 24-year-old superstar said his agent, Leon Rose, and Cavaliers general manager Danny Ferry have had "a great conversation." But James remained noncommittal about his plans beyond the upcoming season, one he hopes ends with the Cavs, who acquired All-Star center Shaquille O'Neal shortly after their season ended, winning their first NBA title.

James was similarly positioned in 2006, when he decided to sign a three-year extension with the Cavs.

Despite James' insistence that he's happy in Cleveland, his choice to delay his decision is certain to spark more speculation that he'll sign with another club next summer. James has maintained that he's pleased with the Cavs' direction, owner Dan Gilbert and Ferry's attempts to add more talent to Cleveland's roster.

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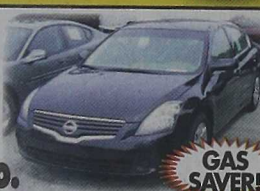
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Inside Lejeune



Retirement
Colonel dedicates
29 years to the
Corps | 2C

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THURSDAY AUGUST 13, 2009

Photo by Lance Cpl. Dwight A. Henderson
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8th Engineer Support Battalion

BRIDGES THE GAP



Marines from Company A, 8th Engineer Support Battalion, Combat Logistics Regiment 25, 2nd Marine Logistics Group, push a Mabey & Johnson Ltd. Logistics Support Bridge across a simulated gap during a training exercise aboard Camp Lejeune, July 29.

NCE CPL. DWIGHT A.
NDERSON
d Marine Division

Working as one, the Marines moved the long, heavy support beam and braced it against their chests as they moved in unison toward the partial-

ly-completed bridge. Pressing the beam against two truss panels, other Marines moved in quickly with bolts, nuts and sledge hammers to attach the beam to the bridge.

Wiping the sweat from their brows and taking a quick breath, the 30 Marines from Company A, 8th Engineer Support Battalion, Combat Logistics Regiment 25, 2nd Marine

Logistics Group moved on to the section of the bridge requiring their attention.

The bridge-building exercise aboard Camp Lejeune, July 29, was designed to teach the Marines how to assemble and employ the British Mabey & Johnson Ltd. Logistic Support Bridge. The Marine Corps has fielded the LSB since 2003, however, this is the first time Marines con-

structed the bridge aboard Camp Lejeune.

Alan D. Pearson, a training officer from the British company that manufactures the bridge, was on hand to teach the Marines how to properly assemble and deploy the bridge.

"The Marines are very enthusiastic, they're highly motivated," he said. "This is something that is completely new. There's no-

body taking part in this training that has ever done it before."

With some bridge components weighing well over 1,000 pounds, and the high temperatures and humidity conspiring to sap the Marines' strength, the bridge construction proved to be tougher than most other bridge builds.

"The Marines are enjoying the challenge of doing

something different, learning more aspects of their job and a different type of bridge system," said 1st Lt. Anthony D. Rowley, the Company A commander. "They're looking forward to being able to apply this in (Afghanistan)."

The Marines took two days to build the 130-foot bridge, but in the field, a

SEE BRIDGE 3C ▶



Photo by Pfc. Walter Marino

Brown, the wife of Sgt. Maj. Steve Brown, 2nd Combat Engineer Battalion, 2nd Marine Division, fires the M-249 squad automatic weapon, aboard Camp Lejeune, July 25.

Family members get a taste of Marine life

PFC. WALTER MARINO
2nd Marine Division

Instead of gearing up to do yard work, shop, take the kids to sports practice or head to jobs of their own, nearly 80 military family members donned blue jeans and t-shirts or pieces of their loved ones' uniforms to see how the Marines and sailors of 2nd Combat Engineer Battalion spend their days.

July 25 was dubbed "Jane Wayne Day" and hosted by 2nd CEB, 2nd Marine Division, and was a break from the routine for the attending spouses, children and parents as they got some trigger

time behind rifles and machine guns, ate their fill of meals ready-to-eat and experienced an explosive demonstration.

"I think Jane Wayne day is a great experience for wives or anybody," said Shelly Brown, wife of 2nd CEB's senior enlisted Marine, Sgt. Maj. Steve Brown. "It gives you insight (into) what your spouse or son does."

Wives, sons, daughters and grandmothers fired the M-16 A4 assault rifle, M-249 squad automatic weapon and M-9 Beretta pistol. Among those who got behind the weapons was Sgt. Maj. Brown's mother.

"Oh my, it was great! The weapons

were powerful, but I think I did well. I think arcade games helped," she commented with a smile. "This is the very first time I've ever done anything like this before."

After putting rounds on target, the family members grabbed a traditional expeditionary meal - a MRE. While they ate, a loud explosion in the distance caught some off guard as billows of smoke and debris rose up from a demolitions range where other engineers were setting off controlled detonations.

"It's great for the spouse and it gives

SEE FAMILY 2C ▶

Watching surf: Recon Marines helo-cast into open water, swim to shore

CPL. JAMES W. CLARK
2nd Expeditionary Force

Swimming over the choppy Atlantic off the coast of Camp Lejeune's Beach, CH-53E Super Stallion helicopters maintained a steady elevation as they dropped from the rear of the helicopter during a helo-casting operation.

Helo-casting is an insertion method that allows Marines jump from an aircraft into the water with weapons, diving gear and any additional equipment they need to make it to shore to accomplish their mission.

"It's an excellent insertion method that allows the Marines to be dropped stealthily into any water deep enough, whether it's a river or a lake," said Staff Sgt. Anthony D. Slate, the school's chief instructor for 2nd Reconnaissance Battalion, 2nd Marine Division.

Approximately 30 Marines participated in the training exercise during which they were dropped into water approximately 100 yards from shore. The operation is an example of a traditional reconnaissance mission.

"It's good training for a perishable skill, and Recon Marines must re-qualify for it on a yearly basis," said Slate, who has helo-casted approximately 20 times. "The exercise marks a return to the traditional reconnaissance Marines - who are a forward observation element, a light assault element."



Photo by Lance Cpl. James W. Clark

Marines from 2nd Reconnaissance Battalion, 2nd Marine Division, pull their Zodiac Boat from the water after swimming 500 meters to the shore of Onslow Beach near Camp Lejeune, July 23, during a helo-casting exercise. Helo-casting provides Marines with a stealthy waterborne insertion method and is a required skill for all reconnaissance Marines.

The Marines conducted the helo-cast with the dive propulsion device, a system that allows the Marines to go under water and approach the beach undetected and not fatigued, Slate said.

The system had only been helo-casted once before, and that was by the Camp Pendleton, Calif.-based 1st Reconnaissance Battalion.

Master Sgt. Rob Achee, the battalion

training chief for 2nd Reconnaissance Battalion, was one of the Marines to pilot the dive propulsion device after helo-casting it.

"We're developing standard operating procedures for helo-casting the DPD out at sea," Achee said. "Helo-casting in itself is a potentially dangerous operation,

SEE RECON 2C ▶



Photo by Lance Cpl. Dwight A. Henderson

Backblast from a tube-launched optically-tracked wire-guided missile explodes out of the back of a M-41 Saber Improved Target Acquisition System after being fired by a Marine from Weapons Company, 2nd Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division, during training aboard Camp Lejeune, July 19.

2/2 trains with new Saber ITAS system

LANCE CPL. DWIGHT A. HENDERSON
2nd Marine Division

A Marine sat in the turret of his humvee sweating in the hot afternoon sun and eyeing his target - a tank that sat motionless 1,000 meters away. He leaned over, pressing his eyes to the black rubber eyepiece that covered the optics that allowed him to clearly see his target and aim his weapon.

Checking the backblast area directly behind the humvee to ensure it is clear of stray personnel, he returned to his optics, took a deep breath, and with the pull of a trigger, sent a 50-pound tube-launched optically-tracked wire-guided anti-tank missile hurtling toward its target at nearly 300 meters per second. Seconds later, the missile impacted on the gunner's target in a flash of debris, fire and smoke.

SEE TRAIN 2C ▶

Colonel dedicates 29 years to Corps

LANCE CPL. DWIGHT A. HENDERSON
2nd Marine Division

Family, friends and colleagues gathered under red and gold canopies outside II Marine Expeditionary Force's headquarters building aboard Camp Lejeune, to reflect on the career and achievements of Col. Robert G. Sokoloski during his retirement ceremony, July 31.

Sokoloski's 29-year career began in December 1980 when he was commissioned a second lieutenant and subsequently trained as an infantry officer. He remained in the infantry for the next four years, serving as a platoon commander and company executive and commanding officer. After completing the Excess Leave Law Education Program and graduating the Naval Justice School, Sokoloski became a staff judge advocate for the Marine Corps.

Subsequent SJA and command assignments included tours with Marine Corps Development and Education Command, 2nd Force Service Support Group, the Navy-Marine Corps Trial Judiciary, Headquarters Marine Corps and the Department of Defense. Upon his promotion to colonel in March 2003, Sokoloski served as the SJA for 2nd Marine Division, and later, the unit's chief of staff before assuming his final Ma-



Photo by Lance Cpl. Dwight A. Henderson
Col. Robert G. Sokoloski, Staff Judge Advocate for II Marine Expeditionary Force, receives his retirement flag from Maj. Gen. Mastin M. Robeson, the commander of Marine Corps Forces Special Operations Command, during his retirement ceremony aboard Camp Lejeune, July 31. Sokoloski, whose career spanned 29 years, first served as an infantry officer before making the transition to staff judge advocate.

rine Corps billet as the SJA for II MEF, during which time he deployed to Iraq as the chief of staff for II MEF (Forward).

In addressing the audience attending his early morning retirement ceremony, Sokoloski thanked his family and friends for their support throughout his years of service.

"Thank you for being there," said Sokoloski. Turning to Maj. Gen. Mastin M. Robeson, commanding general of Marine Corps Forces Special Operations Command, who was present to officiate the ceremony, Sokoloski commented, "You were always a great role model."

"On behalf of a very

grateful Marine Corps, thank you for your time in service, good luck as you go into the retired community," said Maj. Gen. Robeson. "God bless you and Semper Paratus."

For more information on the II Marine Expeditionary Force, visit the unit's Web site at iimefpublic.usmc.mil.

Hadnot Point CDC offers part-day care programs

CPL. JESSICA L. MARTINEZ
Marine Corps Base

Parents often have appointments to attend, or need a little break from the kids to pamper themselves or even just take care of the grocery list. Luckily, due to a new child development center opening, there is a place to drop off the little ones while taking care of business.

The Hadnot Point Child Development Center on Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune recently opened its doors to offer part-day preschool and toddler play groups, as well as hourly care.

The Hadnot Point CDC differs from the rest on base, whereas it is not a full-time care facility.

"Childcare is in major demand and the waiting list is huge," said Debbi Killian, director for Hadnot Point CDC. "A lot of spouses just need a little break, a few hours to themselves to do whatever they need to do, go to a doctors appointment, get groceries at the commissary, or even go to the spa, and our facility allows us to help with that."

The new facility can accommodate 104 children, ages six weeks to five years old, in the following categories:

- Eight spaces for infants (six weeks to 12 months old).

- 20 spaces for pre-toddlers (13 to 24 months old).

- 14 spaces for toddlers (24 to 36 months old).

- 14 spaces for toddlers enrolled in the part-day play group.

- 24 spaces for preschoolers (three to five years old).

- 24 spaces for preschoolers enrolled in the part day program.

Out of the 104 spaces available, 66 are set aside for hourly care.

Hadnot Point CDC is open 6 a.m. until 6 p.m., Monday through Friday, except



Photo by Cpl. Jessica L. Martinez
Scotty Howard, a 2 year old at the new Hadnot Point Child Development Center, sits at a table and plays with some toys as he pretends to eat a burger.

for federal holidays. Patrons may call up to two weeks in advance for drop-in care reservations.

Unlike regular childcare options at the other CDCs, the availability of programs at the Hadnot Point center are not determined on deployment or employment status, said Louise Gomez, assistant director with Children, Youth and Teens Programs. The programs are open to service members, government and Marine Corps Community Services employees.

Prior to dropping off a child at the center, you must register with the CYTP branch at the Resource and Referral office. Applications must be filled out for the part-day care and toddler play groups and will begin being accepted Aug. 14.

"Hourly care costs \$3 per hour," said Gomez. "There is a limit of three reser-

vations per week when using hourly care regardless of what CDC other reservations have been made. For the part-day programs, the cost is based off the total family income."

Instead of 'nap time,' parents can expect a quiet activities period, said Killian. During this time, children who are sleepy and want to lay down for nap may do so, but those who arrive later in the day may play or participate in other activities.

Several more CDCs are already in the works to be built aboard the base and estimated to be completed by 2011.

For more information about the play groups, hourly care or any other programs offered by the Children, Youth and Teen Programs branch aboard the base, call the Resource and Referral office at 451-1315 or go to mccslejeune.com.

RECON FROM 1C

but, with the dive propulsion device you must be cautious because you're depending on the equipment to get you to the shore and back to the extraction site."

The reconnaissance Marines understand the risks associated with this training exercise as well as the dangers they face in their role as the forward tip of the Marine Corps' expeditionary spear.

"We dry run everything that we might be called upon to do in combat, so when you have to go on a mission and insert using this technique, you have experience doing it and you're confident in your gear and in your abilities," said Cpl. Andrew M. Simich, a reconnaissance Marine with the battalion. "The more you do it in training, the more comfortable you'll be while out on an operation."

No matter how many times Simich jumps out of helicopters, or plunges into the cold ocean to swim ashore, it still takes some getting used to.

"I honestly think it's a little scary jumping out of the helicopter and into the water like that," said Simich, who was on his fourth helo-casting exercise. "Every time I get into the bird it's exciting, but you still get that nervous feeling just before you jump."

From noon until just before sunset Marines boarded helicopters, abruptly disembarked into the ocean and swam to shore, only to do it again - hoping to make the most out of the training.

For more information on the II Marine Expeditionary Force, visit the unit's Web site at iimefpublic.usmc.mil.

TRAIN FROM 1C

This was the scene repeated more than 20 times aboard Camp Lejeune, July 19, when Marines from Weapons Company, 2nd Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division, tested the new M-41 Saber Improved Target Acquisition System which replaced the decades-old M-220 TOW weapon system.

"The (firing) range, overall, went very well," said Gunnery Sgt. Edward Palacios, the Weapons Company platoon sergeant and the range's safety officer. "It gave us a chance to make sure all the systems coming into the battalion function properly."

The Marines practiced with the new weapon system for five weeks, including classroom instruction and time in the field before getting the chance to fire the weapon.

"I feel a lot more comfortable now that I've actually shot the Saber," said Pvt. Andrew R. Visscher, a TOW gunner with Weapons Company. "You can do all the training you want, but actually getting behind it and feeling that blast as it takes off and hearing how loud it is; it's pretty cool." Normally a unit only

fires four to five during training, unique opportunity for Marines of Weapons Company to fire more than one live TOW missile at Camp Lejeune. Capt. Matthew K. Palacios, the commanding officer of Weapons Company, said the order to do so was a close down of this side of the range to have 20 live in one range."

Palacios said the on is designed primarily against other armored vehicles but is now being used in Afghanistan to destroy enemy fortifications.

The shoot was a success, the Marines trust the weapon system's upcoming deployment.

"We gained confidence in the system and the unit validated all the training we received in the weeks of training," Kutilek. "It was a shoot, it went very well."

For more information on the II Marine Expeditionary Force, visit the unit's Web site at iimefpublic.usmc.mil.

FAMILY FROM 1C

them an appreciation for what their spouses go through the capabilities of the engineer field," added Gunnery Sgt. Michael Samson, a combat engineer with the battalion.

"I wanted to experience some of the things Samson's wife of nearly six years. "I've never seen about the different explosives, but I've never seen the was awesome! It's given me a better understanding of my husband experiences."

For more information on the II Marine Expeditionary Force, visit the unit's Web site at iimefpublic.usmc.mil.

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2. Record the suspected vehicle license plate, state, vehicle description, driver description, alleged traffic offense, time and location.

3. Use the following Web site to submit your complaint: www.lejeune.usmc.mil/mcb/3rdparty. Complaints may also be submitted in person at Bldg 43. The point of contact for all traffic complaints is the PMO Operations Division at 451-4316 or 451-4316. For PMO dispatch, please call 3004/3005.

4. For on-base complaints submitted by active-duty officers and SNCOs, PMO will write a citation and notify the suspected Marine of the traffic court date.

The complainant will be required to be present at traffic court to describe the offense. For off-base complaints, PMO will obtain the suspect's citation from law enforcement data bases. PMO will then contact the suspect Marine's command to notify them of the alleged offense.

We appreciate your willingness to participate in ensuring base safety.

Children share moment with U.S. representative

ESSICA L. MARTINEZ
Corps Base

ral young children sat in chairs around a listening excitedly to a mouse adventure in the United States.

Rep. Walter B. Jones of Naval Hospital Camp Lejeune's Pediatric Clinic to a small group of children as part of Reach Out and Read on Aug. 4.

Reach Out and Read is a national, non-profit organization, which began in 1989. The program was started by the Boston Hospital, currently at the Boston Medical Center. Pediatricians, family doctors, nurses and early childhood educators with parents joined together to note early literacy to children.

Reach Out and Read was based on a simple premise: encourage parents to read to their children and give them the tools, books and information as stated by the Reach Out and Read Web

Web site also mentions the National Defense Authorization Act of 2007, which provides funding for implementation of a project on pediatric early at 20 military health facilities in the U.S. and is laying the foundation to one day reach all families with young

children. The program targets children 6 months to 5 years old. The pediatric primary care provider gives a devel-

opmentally-appropriate children's book to the child at their pediatric checkups for them to keep and take home with them. Then the care provider encourages parents to read aloud to their young children at home.

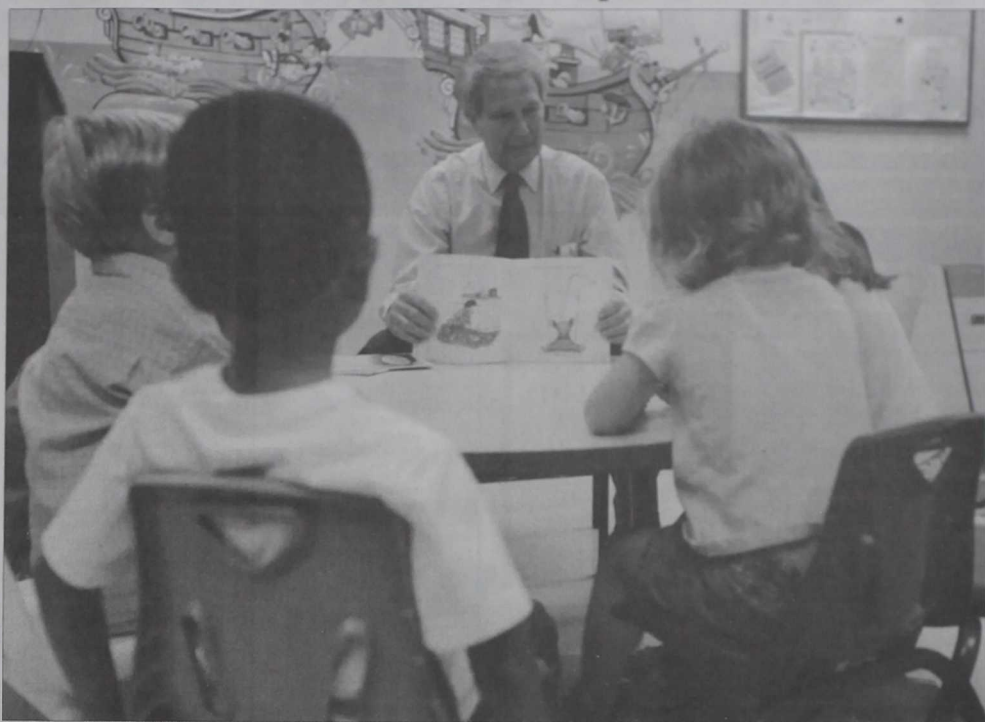
"Early language skills are essential for the healthy development of young children," as stated by the Web site. "ROR presents a unique opportunity to support and strengthen military families with young children by helping parents to understand the developmental stages, build routines, which reassure children and develop skills and knowledge that are essential for families being tested by separation and deployment."

Reading aloud to children is a proven technique to help them cope with stress and anxiety, whether it is because of natural disaster, separation from a parent or another difficult situation.

Since the program was implemented in military health care facilities, 32 bases offer the program with more than 90,000 children of military families participating. Annually, there are more than 180,000 new and developmentally-appropriate books distributed to children on military bases.

Nationwide, there are more than 4,535 ROR programs serving more than 3.8 million children annually. More than 6 million books are given away to families each year.

"Children are a gift from God," said Jones. "You never know which of them will be the next president. It's important for families to take



U.S. Rep. Walter B. Jones visited Naval Hospital Camp Lejeune's Pediatric Clinic to read a few books to a small group of children as part of the Reach Out and Read program, Aug. 4. The Reach Out and Read program is a national, non-profit organization which began in 1989. The program targets children ages 6 months to 5 years. The pediatric primary care provider gives a developmentally-appropriate children's book to each child at their pediatric checkups to keep and take home. The care provider encourages parents to read aloud to their young children at home.

Photo by Cpl. Jessica L. Martinez

the time and read to their children. This is a wonderful and critical program that tries to inspire families to get their children to read."

The congressman said the reason he visits military bases is because all children are important, and children who live on a military base live in

a 'different world.'

"My heart aches for the military families because they are under so much pressure with deployments and separation," said Jones. "Reading to children helps military families to cope with these difficult times."

The Naval Hospital

aboard Camp Lejeune has been handing out books to families and their children since December 2008. For more information about the ROR program, visit the Web site at reachoutandread.org.

"We love the program, and parents and kids love it too," said Navy Lt. Jorge

Martinez, a division officer with the pediatric clinic, Naval Hospital Camp Lejeune. "It's helpful not only as a developmental tool and in improving literacy, but it also helps children deal and cope with deployments. In the month of July we gave out 215 books alone."

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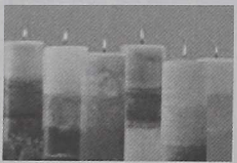
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Real Estate For sale

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This position supervises and coordinates the activities of the independent distribution contractors in the delivery of newspapers. Ensures that the newspapers are properly packaged and placed at each military installation residence and other on-base and off-base distribution locations on a timely basis. Maintains distribution racks and boxes and ensures they are kept clean and in good working order. Looks for new locations and ways to improve distribution. This position will maintain a close and effective working relationship with the Distribution Manager. Career advancement is possible.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS:

- * Responsible for assisting in the oversight of an effective and efficient route distribution system, assuring all newspapers are delivered to all distribution points in accordance with the high standards of the respective military installation staff.
- * Responsible for assisting in the task of screening, selection, training, development and performance of all independent distribution contractors. Takes constructive corrective action to remedy service and performance related issues.
- * Enforces work flow systems to assure the timely and responsive management of newspapers from printer to the Business office to all distribution points which range from inside racks to outside mechanical boxes to on-base home delivery.

BASIC QUALIFICATIONS:

- * Must have valid drivers license and proof of insurance and clean driving record.
- * Must have a van or covered truck.
- * Must be able to acquire military installation vehicle registration.
- * Minimum high school diploma.
- * Willingness and ability to work varied schedule as needed including some nights and weekends.
- * Excellent verbal and written communication skills and good interpersonal skills.
- * Basic knowledge of desktop and/or laptop computers and MS Office (Excel, Word).
- * Ability to repeatedly lift up to 50 pounds.
- * Ability to walk, stoop, kneel and climb stairs.

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS:

- * Knowledge of military installation
- * Experience in newspaper delivery weekly or daily
- * Customer service experience
- * College degree or military service

HOURS:

- * PT hours – approximately 20 hours per week, includes some nights and weekends.

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Auto Miscellaneous

Miscellaneous

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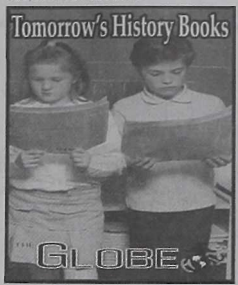
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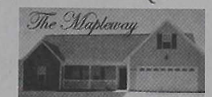
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109 CORRAL WAY



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221 ZACHARY LANE

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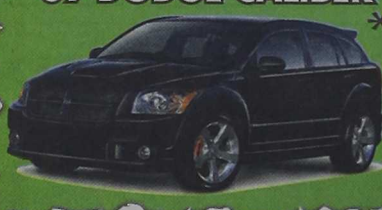
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CARS
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THURSDAY AUGUST 13, 2009



Photos by Lance Cpl.
Randall Little
The 39th annual
Sneads Ferry Shrimp
Festival kicked off at
10 a.m. Saturday with
a 2.1 mile parade
through Sneads Ferry.
The parade included
a variety of floats, fire
engines and a half-
dozen Sudan riders,
including clown
cars, miniature semi-
trucks and yellow,
classic sports cars.

SNEADS FERRY SHRIMP Festival

gives patrons a reason to party

LANCE CPL. RANDY LITTLE
Marine Corps Base

Although the summer sun has been blazing lately, the heat didn't stop patrons from celebrating the coastal region's shrimp fishing tradition.

The 39th annual Sneads Ferry Shrimp Festival, held on the second weekend of August every year, kicked off the festivities Aug. 8, with a parade followed up by two days of activities, including vendors, music and lots of events for the children.

Activities included nine different bounce houses, a face-painting booth, a fossil pit for the kids to dig for sharks teeth in and a bungee jump.

"The festival was a huge success," said Dave Noble, president of the Sneads Ferry Shrimp Festival Committee. "We took our experiences from last year's event, made some adjustments and I think it made this year even better."

Noble said he thinks the event is not only about celebrating the shrimping season, but also about bringing the Sneads Ferry and Camp Lejeune communities together.

Noble said the 2nd Marine Division Band was a huge hit during the parade, and that's why he put the band in the front.

"The band is one of the best parts of the parade," said Noble. "I think if we didn't have the band we would probably be hanging from the trees. Everyone expects the band to be out here every year."

"We have a lot of Marines who live in the area and come out to the event every year, and I think it's good to maintain that relationship," said Noble. "That's why it was so important to get the base involved in the parade."

After the parade the festival grounds opened and patrons were able to explore more than 70 different vendors, military static displays and live music throughout the weekend.

"We had something for everyone at the festival," said Noble. "We had the 'shrimparoo' dinner, the beer and wine garden, lots of stuff for the kids and a 17-minute fireworks display."

Noble said the fireworks display was one of his favorite parts of the event because he was able to relax, enjoy it and not have to run around to make sure everything was running smoothly.

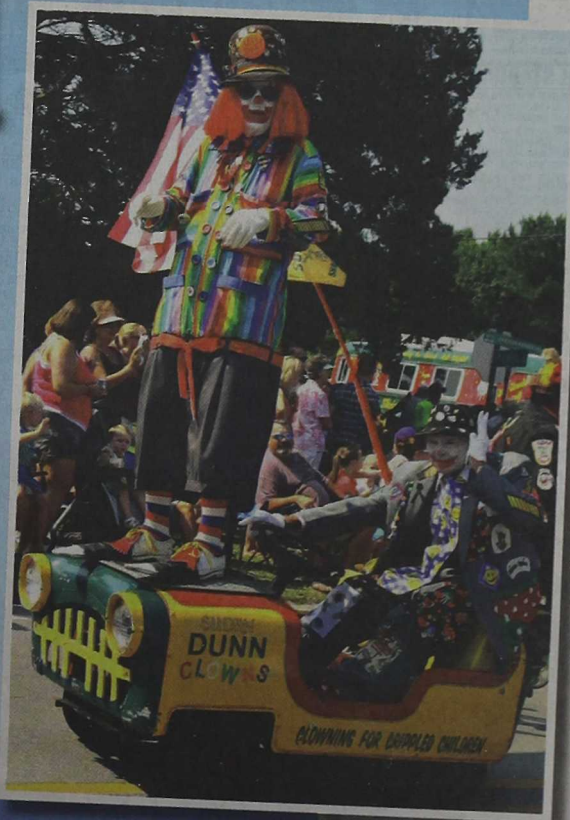
The festival also offered a wide variety of memorabilia like T-shirts and key chains, and for those who forgot to bring money, the festival had its very own ATM machine this year.

"We were glad we brought the ATM machine out to the grounds," said Noble. "After the first day, the ATM actually ran out of money, which tells us it was a good idea."

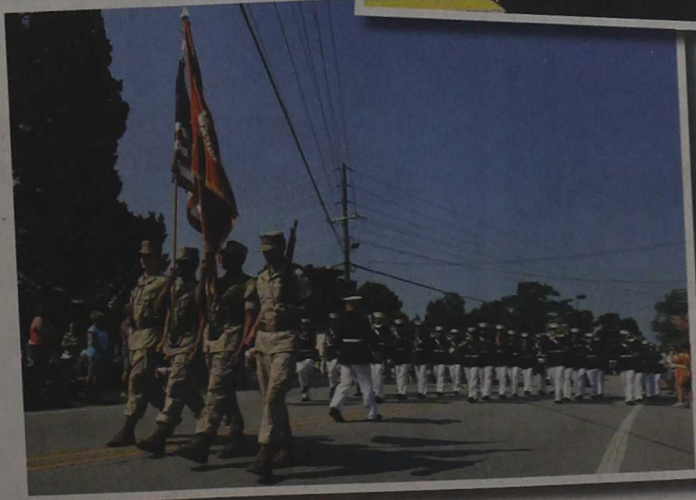
For entertainment, the festival featured two stages, with music playing throughout the weekend by Billy Scott and the Prophets, and the Craig Woolard Band.

"The bands were great," said Noble. "There was music playing constantly between the bands and DJ, and I received nothing but great feedback."

The event was deemed a huge success by the festival committee, and all who attended the festival were treated to a great time.



Photos by Lance Cpl.
Randall Little
The 2nd Marine
Division Band,
shown at left,
lead the parade
along with a color
guard from Camp
Lejeune.





MovieReview



From the front row with Reinhild Moldenhauer Huneycutt

'The Hurt Locker:' Film focuses on military heroes

"THE HURT LOCKER" (R)
"The Hurt Locker" is an Iraq War drama about a U.S. Army Explosive Ordnance Disposal team.

The story centers on the military's most unrecognized heroes, the technicians of the bomb squads, who battle insurgents and each other as they seek out and disarm a wave of roadside bombs on the streets of Baghdad.

These heroic technicians spend their days sneaking up on improvised explosive devices and disassembling them before they blow up.

Jeremy Renner ("28 Weeks Later") stars as Staff Sgt. William James, a brash and charismatic bomb defuser with the extreme skills and nerves needed to get the job done.

Anthony Mackie ("Eagle Eye") portrays Sgt. J.T. Sanborn and Brian Geraghty ("We Are Marshall") is SPC. Owen Eldridge, members of the elite Army EOD team serving in Baghdad during 2004.

When James is joining the unit and takes over for a team leader who has just been killed, the two are not thrilled

with his cocky, reckless and arrogant attitude.

Having only 38 days to complete their tour of duty, they are afraid that James blurs the line between bravery and bravado and it seems only a matter of time before a disaster will strike.

Also appearing are Christian Camargo ("National Treasure: Book of Secrets") as Col. John Cambridge; David Morse ("Disturbia") as Col. Reed; and Evangeline Lilly ("The Long Weekend") as Connie James.

Making brief cameo appearances are Ralph Fiennes ("The Reader") as a British commander and Guy Pierce ("Traitor") as Sgt. Matt Thompson.

Director Kathryn Bigelow ("K19: The Widowmaker," "Point Break," "Strange Days," "Blue Steel") shot this film in Jordan and based the story on recent declassified information about a U.S. Army EOD team in present-day Iraq.

Mark Boal ("In the Valley of Elah"), a freelance writer who was embedded with a bomb squad in Iraq in 2004, wrote the screenplay.

The title of the movie is derived from a box holding remnants of disabled bombs which James keeps under his bed, mementos of his many close calls with death.

"The Hurt Locker" is an intense and gripping battle-field film, a non-political war movie, and a brilliant psychological portrait of courage under fire.

"FUNNY PEOPLE" (R)

"Funny People" is a funny film about a serious story, that of a dying comedian.

Adam Sandler ("Bedtime Stories," "Click," "Spanglish") stars as George Simmons, a seasoned comedian, who has a near-death experience.

When George learns he has a terminal, inoperable health problem, he reevaluates his life and his desire to form a genuine friendship takes over. He takes a relatively green performer under his wings and makes him his opening act.

Seth Rogen ("Observe and Report," "Nightmares") co-stars as Ira Wright, an up-and-coming comic writer and deli worker, who benefits from George's condition when he is hired as his assistant.

George is also trying to rekindle his relationship with an old flame, Laura, played by Leslie Mann ("Knocked Up"), who is now married with children. Eric Bana ("Munich") plays her husband, Clarke.

Co-starring are Ken Jeong ("The Hangover") as Davey's Dad; Jonah Hill ("Forgetting Sarah Marshall") as Leo; and Jason Schwartzman ("Walk Hard: The Dewey Cox Story") as Mark Taylor Jackson.

Writer and director Judd Apatow ("Knocked Up," "The 40-Year-Old Virgin"), who penned among many others the recent "Pineapple Express," is doing it again with this bitter-sweet but funny new movie.

"Funny People" is a more grown-up and mature comedy than Apatow's previous films. However, don't let the serious theme confuse you, the story is interlaced with generous help-

ings of raunchiness.

"Funny People" is a great mix of comedy, drama and a little bit of romance.

"G-FORCE" (PG)

"G-Force" is an animated and live action 3-D comedy by Disney about a specially trained squad of guinea pigs.

These genetically-altered rodents have been groomed to form an elite team of spies for the U.S. government.

The film revolves around the highly trained team, called the G-Force, out for a big mission to stop the evil billionaire industrialist Leonard Saber, played by Bill Nighy ("Pirates of the Caribbean"), who is creating a dangerous, mechanized army.

But before the team can accomplish what they set out to do, FBI agent Kip Killian, played by Will Arnett ("Monsters vs. Aliens") and the government shuts the mission down and sends the rodents to a pet shop.

The voices of the G-Team consist of: Sam Rockwell as Darwin, team leader; Tracy Morgan as Blaster, weapons expert; Penelope Cruz as Juarez, martial arts professional; Nicholas Cage as Speckles, a star-nosed mole with cyber intelligence; and the fly, Mooch, a mute reconnaissance expert.

Also appearing are Jon Favreau as Hurley, the guinea pig in the pet shop; and Steve Buscemi as Bucky, the hamster.

Zach Galifianakis plays Ben, a nerdy scientist who trained the rodents.

First time director Hoyt Yeatman, an Oscar-winning effects specialist, inspired by his son's guinea pig, drew up some art and brought it to the attention of super-producer Jerry Bruckheimer. It is action guru Bruckheimer's first 3-D film.

"G-Force" is a comedy adventure for the young at heart.

Editor's note: Ms. Huneycutt is the Public Affairs Assistant at the Base Public Affairs Office.

GamingIntel

Harry Potter comes to

DANIELLE L. KIRACOFF
Stars and Stripes

As a fan of the Harry Potter books, I've always wanted for the chance to be a wand-waving, spell-casting, potion-making witch. So the chance to play Electronic Arts' Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince for the Wii seemed like the closest I could ever get to doing just that.

The E10-rated action game didn't disappoint. Playing armed with a "wand" (the Wii remote) and a nunchuck, direction, instantly jump into the movie Potterverse, opening at The Burrow (home of the Weasleys) with friends Ron Weasley and Hermione Granger at your side.

After learning a couple charms spells and how to Quidditch, you're off to school on the Hogwarts Express and hiking up the hill with good friend Luna Lovegood.

As the game progresses through the school year, mostly as Harry Potter, learn more charms and combat spells. The latter spells come from duels — some in some impromptu (and no, you do not have Avada Kedavra to use against Slytherin and plotter, Draco Malfoy). loved getting to flick the Wii remote to cast a fireball. Stupefy spell at my opponent.

Another really helpful trick is Nearly Headless Nick, who appears on request and will lead you to your destination. It's great because it would be pretty challenging to remember the castle's layout. It also gives you the chance to check out the castle, which looks exactly like the movie.

However, for every fun moment, there's a "follow and so to this destination" and some occasionally tedious potion-making. The walking gives you a chance to check out the castle, which looks exactly like the movie, but that's also pretty tedious and sometimes boring.

Also, you'll get interrupted by exposition scenes, including an amusing one with Slughorn and Ron.

The graphics are pretty good. Be careful while you're in the castle, though, because some of the directions are a bit off, and the music is fantastic.

The play is fairly realistic except for two things. Your wand isn't always Harry's wand. It sometimes will be a purple dot on the screen to help you pick up items. Also, I found that some combat spells were confusing. To cast Expelliarmus, you have to flick the wand and the nunchuck at the same time, but sometimes, I get Protego instead.

On the whole, I really enjoyed playing the game. It's a witch for a few hours, which, for this fan of Harry Potter, is pretty cool. Enchanting!

Platforms: Wii (tested), Xbox 360, PlayStation 3, PlayStation 2, PC
On the Web: harrypotter.ea.com

Editor's note: This story is used with permission of Stars and Stripes. Copyright 2009 Stars and Stripes.

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PONYO • G • DTS • DLP • 1:40 • 4:20 • 7:00 • 9:30

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THE TIME TRAVELLER'S WIFE • PG-13 • DTS • DLP • 1:15 • 3:55 • 6:35 • 9:15

THE GOODS: LIVE HARD SELL HARD • R • DTS • DLP • 1:00 • 3:10 • 5:20 • 7:30 • 9:40

G.I. JOE • PG-13 • DTS • DLP • 1:00 • 1:20 • 3:50 • 4:10 • 6:40 • 7:00 • 9:30 • 9:50

A PERFECT GETAWAY • R • DTS • DLP • 1:30 • 4:00 • 6:30 • 9:00

JULIE & JULIA • PG-13 • DTS • DLP • 1:05 • 3:55 • 6:50 • 9:45
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FUNNY PEOPLE • R • DTS • DLP • 1:45 • 4:05 • 6:30

G-FORCE • PG • DTS • DLP • NO PASSING DISCOUNT • 1:40 • 4:00 • 6:20 • 8:40

3-D SPECIAL EVENT SURCHARGE APPLIES

THE UGLY TRUTH • R • DTS • DLP • 2:00 • 4:30 • 6:55 • 9:25

THE ORPHAN • R • DTS • DLP • 1:05 • 4:00 • 6:55 • 9:50

HARRY POTTER AND THE HALF-BLOOD PRINCE • PG • DTS • DLP • 1:35 • 4:50 • 8:25

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CAMP LEJEUNE BASE THEATER

BLDG 10 on Matherly Blvd

FRIDAY
"I Love You Beth Cooper," PG-13, 6:30 p.m.;
"Away We Go," R, 9:15 p.m.

SATURDAY
"Ice Age: Dawn of the Dinosaurs," PG, 3:30 p.m.;
"I Love You Beth Cooper," PG-13, 6:30 p.m.;
"Public Enemies," R, 9:15 p.m.

SUNDAY
"Ice Age: Dawn of the Dinosaurs," PG, 3:30 p.m.;
"The Proposal," PG-13, 6:30 p.m.

TUESDAY
"I Love You Beth Cooper," PG-13, 7:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY
"Public Enemies," R, 7:30 p.m.

MIDWAY PARK THEATER

BLDG 4314A in Midway Park

FRIDAY
"My Sister's Keeper," PG-13, 6:30 p.m.;
"Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen," PG-13, 9:15 p.m.

SATURDAY
"Year One," PG-13, 3:30 p.m.;
"My Sister's Keeper," PG-13, 6:30 p.m.;
"Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen," PG-13, 9:30 p.m.

SUNDAY
"Year One," PG-13, 3:30 p.m.;
"Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen," PG-13, 6:30 p.m.

TUESDAY
"Year One," PG-13, 7:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY
"My Sister's Keeper," PG-13, 7:30 p.m.

NEW RIVER THEATER

BLDG AS240 on the Air Station

FRIDAY
Special event: Magician Ran'D Shine, 5:30 p.m.;
"Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen," PG-13, 8 p.m.

SATURDAY
"Ice Age: Dawn of the Dinosaurs," PG-13, 7 p.m.;
"Public Enemies," R, 9:30 p.m.

SUNDAY
"Ice Age: Dawn of the Dinosaurs," PG, 3 p.m.;
"Public Enemies," R, 6 p.m.

MONDAY
"Ice Age: Dawn of the Dinosaurs," PG, 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY
"Away We Go," R, 7 p.m.

What's happening in CAROLINA

For information on concerts, festivals, special events and classes up and down the Carolina coast, visit What's Happenin' Carolina each week. To your event, e-mail heather.owens@militarynews.com. Space is limited to availability.

Guardian ad Litem informational session
Wednesday, 2:30 p.m., Swansboro Branch
Aug. 26, 2 p.m., main library in Jacksonville
The Onslow County Library system is sponsoring informational sessions regarding the Guardian ad Litem program. Participants will learn how the voice for a child in the legal system. For information, call 455-7350.

Family Walk and Run in the Sun
Saturday, 9 a.m.
Families are invited to meet at the Tarawa Terrace Community Center picnic area for the Family Run event. Registration takes place the day before. For more information, call 450-1687.

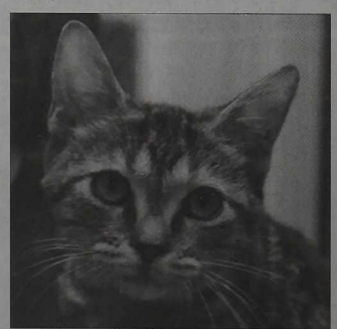
"Lejern" Luau
Saturday, 7 p.m.
Marine Corps Installations — East and Marine Base Camp Lejeune are sponsoring the "Lejern" Luau to take place at the Paradise Point Officers Club. All authorized patrons and their guests are invited. Tickets are \$20 per person. Admission includes dinner, entertainment and a special beverage. Childcare will be offered for this event at the Tarawa Terrace Child Development Center and Tarawa Terrace Youth Pavilion. Advance childcare reservations must be made by Friday, call 450-1646. Children must be registered in the Children, Youth & Teen Programs. For information about the luau, call 451-2465, or stop by the officers' club.

Prostate Cancer support group
Tuesday, 8 to 9:30 a.m.
The Man-to-Man Prostate Cancer, Information, Education and Support Group will meet in the Wing class room off of the cafeteria of the Camp Lejeune Memorial Hospital, Tuesday. The group provides an opportunity for men who have been diagnosed with prostate cancer to talk to other men who are newly diagnosed, who are recovering from prostate cancer, or who are recovering from prostate cancer. For information, call Robert Kimbrough at 347-6211.

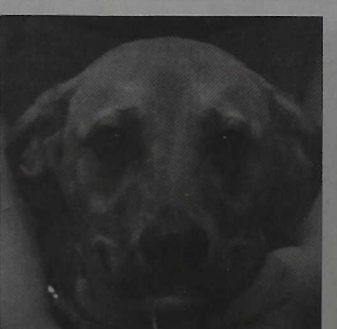
Barbecue fundraiser
Wednesday, 4 to 7 p.m.
Veteran's of Foreign Wars Post 9133 has scheduled a barbecue fundraiser for Wednesday. The barbecue will be eaten at the post or taken home. Choice of sides, salad and dessert. Each plate \$7. The post is located at 1450 Piney Green Road. Post's award-winning chef is set to make the food which often sell out early. For more information, call 353-6810.

of the Pets Week

Photos by Kelli Huffman



Howdy! I am a brown tabby domestic shorthair. I am 6 months old, and I would like a new friend to cuddle with.
Pet ID # A030624



Hi, I'm Bella. I am a Labrador retriever and Rhodesian ridgeback mix. I'm a cute girl, and I'm 6 months old. Please take me home!
Pet ID # A030955

The Onslow County Animal Shelter is open Monday through Thursday from noon to 7 p.m., Friday from noon to 3 p.m., Saturday from 10 a.m. to noon and 1 to 3 p.m.
To see more photographs of pets available for adoption, visit www.petsharbor.com.
For more information, call the Onslow County Animal Shelter at 455-0182.

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Daycations with Densmore



With Cpl. Katie C. Densmore

fully exploit the summer experience, sometimes a change of scenery. However, this change not have to be a drag-one; sometimes it can be an hour away. Kinston, N.C., comes as a great summer vacation. The drive is simple. Turn at Camp Lejeune's gate onto Highway 24. Remain on the way after it merges with way 17. At last turn is onto way 258. There are plenty of signs to ensure you don't get lost. I headed into Kinston, happened to glance to the first traffic light and saw exactly the I was hoping to find: Kinston Visitors Center. People there were friendly and knowledgeable about everything you have to offer. "If you are going to Dis-world, you'd better like Lucy Mouse," said Lucy, the tourism direc-

tor for the visitor center. "If you travel here, we offer a wide variety of things to do. Kinston is like a wheel with spokes. It is not just one thing that draws people here. There is a little something for everyone."

Kinston is the epitome of a southern American town, with car races and baseball games, but the entertainment doesn't stop there.

Kinston also offers planetarium shows, an art center, fine dining, shopping and pretty much everything in between.

"We see a lot of people from Jacksonville here for the Kinston Indians and the drag strip, but there is so much more to do," she added. "We have several stocked ponds for fishing and plenty of camping. We have the only life-size replica of a Confederate gunboat in the world. We are even in the process of developing the Civil War battlefields. Pretty much, we can entertain the fisherman, his family and anyone he has ever met on or off of the water."



The gift shop for the Big Daddy Express train ride is a restored caboose. The store sells souvenirs for visitors to remember their visit to Neuseway Park.

After discovering there is quite a bit more to do in Kinston than I realized, I had to decide which attractions I wanted to visit.

The first place I chose was one of Kinston's most diverse and family-friendly attractions, Neuseway Park.

The park alone is a perfect place to spend the day, as long as you bring plenty of bug spray.

It is filled with activities perfect for families. There is a playground, but even the playground has a surprise for young explorers.

There is a "fossil dig" area, which has several hidden treasures for children to find.

After I walked past the playground, I couldn't help but notice a small train go-

ing around a track.

As I approached the Big Daddy Express, I noticed the authentic train caboose, which serves as a gift shop.

The store is filled with train memorabilia and other trinkets which are perfect for aspiring conductors.

I left the Big Daddy Express to explore the planetarium and Health and Science Museum.

Both are free. The planetarium holds several different shows appropriate for all ages.

The museum has several exhibits that focus on Lenoir County, but one of the most popular is a replica of the mouth, stomach, and intestines where you can actually crawl through them.

The park hosts the "Sand

in the Streets" downtown concert series, which happens every other Thursday in the park at 6 p.m.

It was one of the events I wish I could have experienced, but I was there on the wrong day.

I decided it was time to get some culture and Kinston has just the place, the Community Council for the Arts.

The center looks like a gallery straight out of New York with its exposed rafters and vaulted ceilings.

It is filled with sculptures, paintings and photographs by local artists, but the center is also known for holding national and even international exhibits throughout the year.

After enjoying my stroll through some of the best art

North Carolina has to offer, I then headed out to a ballgame to top off the evening.

Kinston's Granger Stadium is beautifully maintained with plenty of room for large crowds.

Although the weather was perfect that day, the stadium has covered areas to keep fans dry in the event of rainy weather.

Kinston is truly a place to visit, where each time you go the experience can be entirely different.

From high speed drag races to lazy afternoons fishing, Kinston has plenty of attractions for everyone.

Editor's note: For more information on activities and sites to see in Kinston, visit visitkinston.com.

Patrons may receive stress-reduction training

T.D. SMITH
Marine Corps Base

Facing stress is just a fact of life, and service members often have added stressors due to the nature of their jobs.

Marine Corps Community Services offers a variety of programs to help active-duty military, retired service members and family members reduce the ill effects of stress.

Temper Fit Health Promotion's stress management class aims to improve the wellness of students.

The course explains how stress can induce physical symptoms, which includes weight loss, weight gain, exhaustion and sluggish thinking. All of these things can reduce the effectiveness of a Marine or sailor.

The class also covers how stress manifests itself emotionally as well.

Anxiety, anger and depression are just some of the emotional problems stress can cause.

These moods may affect the way a person interacts with others.

As Marines and sailors are a part of a unit,

stress can have a broader impact.

"You might be more prone to fight, because you're angry," said Lisa Rivers, a public health specialist with MCCS. "You start arguing with your friends, co-workers or your partner."

Additionally, the curriculum covers how stress can have behavioral implications.

There might be an increase in tobacco or alcohol use.

Also, there may be a greater propensity to avoid tasks.

This could lead to a backlog of work, thus adding to the stress until it becomes overwhelming, but the class offers ways to cope.

"People need to retrain themselves to break bad habits," said Rivers. "You can't keep it bottled up, and denying the problem won't make it better."

The class also provides information and materials to help reduce stress. Positive thinking, improved time management, and making free time for oneself were some of the suggestions.

The class also covers how brain chemicals affect stress levels.

"Exercise is another great stress reliever,"

said Rivers. "That's because it releases certain chemicals that elevate your mood."

Keeping a diary was another suggested way of mitigating stress.

Also, keeping a log of what caused stressful events and how stressful the incident was, is recommended.

Breathing techniques were also suggested and students were able to practice respiratory skills at the end of the class.

A yoga instructor was on hand to take the students through a yoga and meditation class.

With lights off and soft music playing in the background, the students stretched and focused on relaxation.

"Breathing in through the nose and out the same way relaxes the body and mind," said Verna Richardson, a yoga instructor with MCCS. "The meditation helps people focus on peace of mind and peace within themselves."

Editor's note: Authorized patrons interested in promoting a healthier lifestyle through stress reduction, may attend the classes. For more information, call Semper Fit Health Promotion at 451-2865.

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www.marines.mil/reading

Quotable quotations:

"Some people wonder all their lives if they've made a difference. The Marines don't have that problem." - President Ronald Reagan, 40th president of the United States

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Courtesy photo
Marine spouse Jessica Caputo recently published "The Other Side of War," a book about her experiences during her husband's deployment. She is pictured here with her husband, Staff Sgt. Anthony Caputo, of the 8th Communications Battalion, and their children, Giavanna and Dominic.

Marine spouse pens deployment book

HEATHER M. OWENS
Carolina Living editor

When her Marine deployed to Iraq on Valentine's Day 2003, Jessica Caputo did not know what to do.

She was in the middle of her senior year at a Pennsylvania college and, since she and her longtime boyfriend Anthony Caputo were not yet married, she did not have the support of his unit's Key Volunteer Network.

Not knowing exactly how to cope with the roller coaster of emotions, Caputo set about finding ways to support her boyfriend. She and a friend went to a local supermarket to buy items for Anthony's first care package. Besides the usual snacks and comfort items, the package's feature was a bright yellow sand bucket with an attached blue shovel.

"He was thrilled," she remembered. "He thought it was hysterical because it was my personality. And, other than being a joke, he actually got some use out of it. He washed his laundry in it and used the shovel to dig holes."

Caputo soon became an expert at preparing care packages. "They barely had anything when they started. I packed his favorite foods, but I also made sure he had inserts for his boots," she said.

With that deployment under her belt and then another less than one month after their marriage, Caputo gained a great deal of first-hand experience in surviving a Marine wife's life.

She decided to write a book to help others cope with deployment.

With the encouragement of two good friends, Caputo started the book soon after her marriage.

"The Other Side of War," which was released earlier this year, has been a journey nearly five years and five re-

writes in the making. Caputo set out to write a handbook, but ended up telling her own deployment survival story.

"It was empowering at first, but then, once I started getting my first 50 rejections from agencies, I started to get down on myself," said Caputo. "I had two friends that stayed with me the entire time. They reminded me of the different things I had left out of the book. (Finally), the three of us were confident that it was finished."

Having completed her book, Caputo was not deterred by the publishers' lack of interest in it. She decided to publish the book herself. She found a company with good credentials and hired them.

"A couple months later, I got my proof of the cover (art)," said Caputo.

The publisher, AuthorHouse, prints the book on demand when someone orders it. Caputo said she has sold more than 420 copies since February and she is "still counting."

She held a book signing at the Jacksonville Barnes & Noble store, May 21. Later, she found out a Colorado Springs, Colo., Barnes & Noble had begun selling her book.

In addition to being a full-time mother to her children, Dominic, 3, and Giavanna, 9 months, Caputo continues to shop her book around to publishers.

"I am definitely considering writing more. I want to write from the perspective of a military wife with children. I haven't been through a deployment with children yet," she said. "I have been through field operations, but I know it's different being a parent with children when a husband or wife is deployed."

Editor's note: Caputo may be found on the Web at myspace.com/jessicacaputo.

Base Retired Activities Office offers pre-retirement classes for spouses

HEATHER M. OWENS
Carolina Living editor

There is the old saying which goes, "What you don't know, won't hurt you."

However, when it comes to retirement planning, what you don't know can cost you money and benefits.

Randy Reichler, Camp Lejeune's Retired Activities Office coordinator, has been running pre-retirement classes for military members regularly during his 14 years as a coordinator.

He has found that spouses rarely attend pre-retirement courses with the military member.

"We have 170 Marines and sailors attend the class per quarter. We only have five percent or less of spouses who attend in any given audience," he said. "When you think about it, the spouse is the financial manager in the family, the health care manager and the relocation manager. And they're not getting this information."

That means only the service member is receiving the information which will affect the families' well-being into the future. Sometimes, a Marine or sailor will fail to apply for a benefit which is rightfully theirs.

"A typical service member is going to make well over \$277,000 in 30 years if they have a 50 percent disability. But, if they don't file for it, they won't get it," he said.

Other times, a Marine or sailor will make a decision which will limit their spouses' ability to live out the retirement years comfortably.

"The biggest thing is the Survivor Benefit Program," said Reichler. "When the retiree dies, the retirement check stops, unless you have the SBP."

With a deduction of only 6.5 percent of the retirement income, the retiree's spouse may receive up to 55 percent of the monthly retirement benefit with a guaranteed yearly cost of living increase once the retiree passes away, said Reichler.

Failing to prepare for the death of a retiree before the spouse can have dire consequences, said Reichler.

"I do casualty calls for retirees. I average 87 a year. Of those, 23 percent have no insurance and no SBP," he said. "Five spouses during the last 12 months have lost their home. If the spouses were more informed, this would not have happened."

For that reason, Reichler, has started a pre-retirement class for military spouses. He has scheduled the classes, which will take place once a month, during the evening, from 6 to 9 p.m.,



Photo by Sgt. Br...

Gen. James T. Conway, commandant of the Marine Corps, presents Gayle Goodman, wife of Lt. Gen. Goodman, with a Superior Public Service Award during her husband's retirement ceremony, Aug. 10. Couples should be planning for their retirement before the retirement ceremony. Camp Lejeune's Retired Activities Office now holds evening pre-retirement classes specifically for spouses.

to make it easier for spouses to attend. Class dates through the end of the calendar year are: Aug. 20, Sept. 17, Nov. 1 and Dec. 10.

Spouses need to be present to get their questions answered. "The issues we discuss are very complicated issues, need to hear it to understand it," said Reichler.

Reichler suggests attending the class a year or two before retirement, so the spouse and military member may be retirement planning process early.

Though the evening classes are designed for spouses, military member is welcome to come along. However, stresses the evening class will not replace the mandatory time pre-retirement classes for the military member.

"It's a really great deal for the spouses to get all the information they need in one night," said Reichler.

For more information or to register for a class, call the Retired Activities Office at 451-0287.

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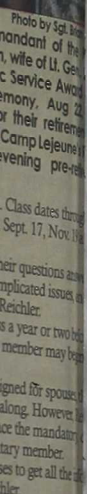
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Class dates through Sept. 17, Nov. 11

their questions about complicated issues

camp participant laughs as he falls off his board into the surf. Marines, sailors and their families gathered on Onslow Beach to attend the Quiksilver Surf Camp Aug. 6. The event was set up by the Marine Corps Exchange Headquarters Office in conjunction with the main exchange on Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune. This year marked the third time Quiksilver has sponsored the free event on the base.

SSICA L. MARTINEZ
Corps Base

weather was ideal for a day of surf-
was high and shining bright, a
m breeze blew through the air and
r was cool to the skin; a great com-
for a day filled with fun.

arines, sailors, and their families
l on Onslow Beach, the brightly
surfboards and swimsuits speckled
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er Surf Camp held Aug. 6.

event was coordinated by the Marine
exchange Headquarters Buying Of-
in conjunction with the main exchange
is year marked the third time
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Bernie Wheeler, surfer and sales representa-
tive for Quiksilver. "Any time we can do a
free camp, we love doing it for the Marine
Corps. Who wouldn't want to give back to
the military? We love interacting with the
kids, and we are all kids at heart. We look
forward to coming back each year. It just
keeps getting bigger and bigger."

Wheeler said they are thinking about
hosting two separate camps, possibly over
two days in the future; a Roxy Surf Camp
for the girls with female surfers to instruct,
and a Quiksilver Surf Camp for the boys
with male surfers to instruct.

"Seventy-five people participated
with the surf camp this year," said Carol
McReynolds, softlines divisional manager
with the exchange. "This is quite an event

weather was ideal for a day of surfing as high and shining bright, a m breeze blew through the air and r was cool to the skin; a great com- for a day filled with fun.

arnes, sailors, and their families l on Onslow Beach, the brightly surfboards and swimsuits speckled h. They were gathered there for the er Surf Camp held Aug. 6.

event was coordinated by the Marine xchange Headquarters Buying Of- onjunction with the main exchange is year marked the third time er has sponsored the free event for

was once in the top 10 of the Association of Surfing Professionals world tour, retired from professional surfing, and works for Quiksilver as director of product development. "I've learned a lot by this a lot," he said. "It's a way to give back. I love working with the kids. The favorite part is seeing the look on a kid's face when they stand up on the board for the first time; it's priceless. For a lot of us, this is the first time they've been on a surfboard, and it's fun to see their expressions go from one of fear to joy as they learn to surf." Quiksilver provided everything the parents needed.

idea for a surf camp was presented
er and we jumped all over it," said

"Seventy-five people participated with the surf camp this year," said Carol McReynolds, softlines divisional manager with the exchange. "This is quite an event for Marines and their families. It's a great and wonderful opportunity to surf with big name surfers. We don't typically get too many vendors who will sponsor free events like this, and who spend their time and money."

As the event concluded, participants slowly made their way to shore and the Quiksilver surfers grilled hotdogs for everyone to enjoy.

Editor's note: The Hurley Surf Camp also sponsored two camps, one for children and one for adults, two days later, Aug. 8.

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Student registration at Camp Lejeune Dependents Schools

up Lejeune Dependents' student registration for year 2009-2010 is in progress for students in preschool through 12th grade.

Dependent children, living with military sponsor in assigned quarters, who are 4 years old by September 1 are eligible for the half-day school program.

Half-day preschool programs are available at:

- Marine Air Station New River
- Tarawa Terrace I Primary (Tarawa Terrace I & II and Midway Park residents)
- Johnson Primary School (Preschool through 2nd grade for Camp Lejeune residents)
- Bitz Intermediate School (Grades 3rd through 5th for Camp Lejeune residents)

All recognized, legal dependents residing in permanent, assigned family housing in all Camp Lejeune/New River areas in grades 6, 7 and 8 attend Brewster Middle School. Students in grades 9 through 12 attend Lejeune High School.

Initial registration requirements for the biological children of the active-duty member include:

- Child's certified birth certificate; immunization record; family housing voucher; and sponsor's PCS orders (or other verification of active-duty status).
- Stepchildren or non-biological legal, recognized dependents of the active-duty member must be approved by the district registrar at the Superintendent's Office, 855 Stone St., Camp Lejeune, prior to enrollment in school. Before authorization to enroll will be granted, the following documentation must be presented:

- child's original, certified birth certificate; sponsor's DD Form 1746, application for assignment to housing; family housing voucher or completed lease agreement; custody document showing spouse has legal custody of the child.

Failure to provide required documents will delay the child's enrollment in school.

New students enrolling in grades 1 through 12 should provide the name and address of the previous school attended along with the last report card or withdrawal grades from that school.

Parents of new students may visit the school offices to register, between 8 a.m. through 3 p.m., Monday through Friday. If you are unsure of your district school, please contact the Office of the Superintendent for confirmation at 451-2461.

CLDS 2009-2010 school calendar

AUGUST	20	School starts
SEPTEMBER	7	Labor Day
	23	Professional Development Day; No school for students
OCTOBER	12	Columbus Day
	26	Staff work day; No school for students
	27	Professional Development Day; No school for students
NOVEMBER	2-4	Kindergarten through 8th grade first-quarter report cards; early dismissal for parent/teacher conferences
	3-4	High school early dismissal for first-quarter parent/teacher conferences
	11	Veterans' Day (observed)
	25-27	Thanksgiving break
DECEMBER	21	Winter break begins
	25	Christmas Day
JANUARY	1	New Year's Day
	4	School resumes
	18	Martin Luther King Birthday (observed)
	19	Staff work day; No school for students
FEBRUARY	15	Presidents' Day
	25-26	Parent/teacher conferences for mid-term reports; Kindergarten through 8th grade early dismissal
MARCH	3	Professional development day; No school for students
	29	Staff work day; No school for students
APRIL	4	Easter Sunday
	5-9	Spring break
	12	School resumes
MAY	12	Accelerated withdrawal date for students of sponsors with PCS orders
	31	Memorial Day
JUNE	8	Last day of pre-school classes
	9	Fourth quarter ends; Last day of classes for kindergarten through 12th grade
	10	Lejeune High School graduation

Hours of instruction

School students
Morning session: 8:30-11:30 a.m. Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri.
Afternoon session: 1:30-3:15 p.m. Tues., Thurs., Fri.
Preschool classes: Wednesday

Daycare schools, grades through 12th
8 a.m. to 3:20 p.m. Tues., Thurs., Fri.
9 a.m. to 1:45 p.m.

High school, grades 9th through 12th
8 a.m. to 2:26 p.m. Mon. through Fri.

Child nutrition programs: Children need healthy meals in order to learn

Camp Lejeune Dependents Schools offer healthy meals every school day. Full price breakfast for students in Pre-kindergarten through 12th grade costs \$1.25. Lunch for pre-kindergarten through 5th grade lunch costs \$2.25. Lunch for grades 6 through 12 is \$2.35.

The free and reduced price meal program is available for families who need assistance in paying for their child's meals. Applications for school meal benefits are available at all school offices and may be completed and submitted any time.

For children who qualify for free or reduced price meals, the reduced price for breakfast is 30 cents; and the reduced price for lunch is 40 cents for all students.

Parents of Camp Lejeune students who received benefits last school year must complete a new application for the 2009-2010 school year. If a new application for SY 09-10 is not filed by Sept. 25, parents are responsible for paying for any meals charged at the full price until a new application is completed, submitted

and processed.

A la carte items such as extras of menu items, bottled water, juice, pretzels, yogurt and school baked items are also available. Adults are welcome to select from the menu at the a la carte rate.

A central menu is published every other month. All schools offer the central menu on a daily basis. In addition to the central menu, individual schools may feature additional choices to complement the published menu.

School Meal Accounts

Every child that attends CLDS is assigned his/her own school meal account. Parents are highly encouraged to prepay for their child's meals. Parents may prepay for their child's meals and view their child's school meal account at lunchprepay.com. Students may charge meals only in emergency situations. There is a limit of \$10 that may be charged on a child's account. Parents will be notified if a child has charged. Prompt payment of charges is expected and appreciated.

Immunizations

The Department of Defense Education Activity reminds parents to review their child's immunization record to ensure their vaccines are current prior to the start of the school year. Before enrolling in a DoDEA school, students are required to have immunizations that are outlined in the DoDEA Immunization Requirements Form, which is available at: dodea.edu/foia/ioc/pdf/2942_0_M_F1.pdf.

Parents and students can access more information, including the bus schedule, by visiting the Camp Lejeune Dependents School's Web page at am.dodea.edu/lejeune

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at 20 Wing Night
at 26 Country Buffet
at 28 Happy Hour

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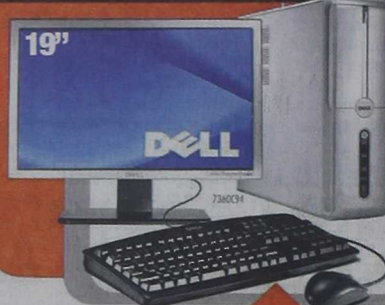
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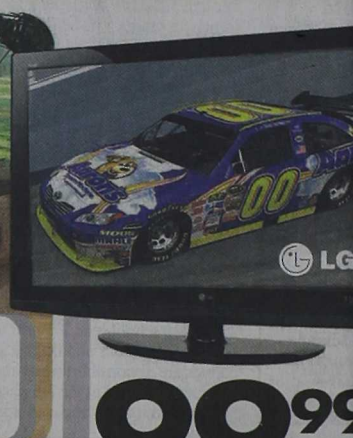
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