

Feb. 21, 2025

NEX Yokosuka Hosts a Valentine's Day Event



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KHS Boys Basketball Wins Far East Tournament Championship

Story by James Kimber, CFAY Public Affairs Photos by Lauren Casey, Nile C. Kinnick High School

okosuka's Nile C. Kinnick High School boys basketball defeated Setagaya's St. Mary's International 76-70 in double overtime, Feb. 5 in front of a home crowd.

Tournament MVP Isaiah Kimbrough led the 21-7 Red Devils with 22 points and Tournament Defensive MVP Gregor Tolar displayed his two-way versatility pitching in 17 points to push the YoHi boys to their second consecutive Far East Tournament Division I title.



The impressive season record, convincing victories, and the ability to muster enough grit to outlast a hot-handed Titans squad, were all from the lessons learned throughout the 28-game season.

The defending champs looked rusty coming out the gate and picked up unexpected early losses in the process.

"It felt like we had a target on our back the entire season. Everyone played harder [against us] this year than last year," Kimbrough said during lunch while sitting in head coach Robert Stovall's classroom. The entire classroom is full of both varsity and junior varsity basketball players. Kimbrough and several of the team's core players are in the middle of the room eating lunch and reflecting on the season.

"Getting the team chemistry right was the hardest part early on," he said. "It's an entirely different set of players. Some were called up from JV and others had to step up from last season even though they didn't get a lot of playing time last year."

The junior continued saying the team "spent a lot of time at Fleet [Recreation Center] playing five's and ran conditioning drills." Some of those events were scheduled and some were during the players' off-time.

"You know, we spend a lot of time together off the court just hanging out, studying, playing video games," Kimbrough added.



Kinnick's bumpy early season start wasn't seen as a roadblock, but instead treated as a detour.

Taishi Boye, one of the team's returning players, said everyone's willingness to be open about their own mistakes helped the team mature as a unit and as individuals.

"For me specifically, it was turnovers," said Whyte. "I needed to slow down to cut those down. We used that time to analyze the problems, set in game goals to work toward, and reflect on the plan's success or what to fix."

Those goals seem small in the beginning. Fundamentals like turning the ball over one less time this game compared to last, collecting one more rebound than last game, committing one less foul.

"It doesn't sound like much, but it helped me focus on the right things," Boye said.

"We also took advantage of open gym time to rework the mistakes that came in losses, and even in ours wins," Kimbrough said. "We tried to replay the mistakes. Figure out what we did wrong. Just get more repetitions."





Those extra reps became extremely important by January.

Choufu's American School in Japan hosted the 7th Annual Kanto Classic, a mid-season tournament held almost immediately after the area schools' winter break. Kinnick finished fourth ending the tournament on a sour note with losses to eventual Classic champion Father Duenas Memorial High School from Guam and a 41-29 loss to Okinawa's Kadena High School. Kinnick was held to single-digits in the first, second and fourth quarters.

"The Guam game was the eye-opener," Kimbrough said. "We watched and learned from them; their movement, their chemistry, the plays the called, when they called them. We had a lot of injuries, but this is the level we gotta be at for Far East."

The injury bug bit the Devils hard after the holidays. Several starters sat during the Tokyo tournament forcing the bench players – some who had not logged a single minute against any team's starters – to step up. While the results that weekend were disappointing, the ingame experience for the younger players became invaluable.

"[The bench] played the top players from the top teams. It was a real challenge for a lot of them. The other teams were older, more experienced, had better chemistry, but our younger players saw they can keep up. We knew we had a deep bench," Kimbrough said.

By the time Far East rolled, Kinnick had established they were the favorites. The starters had healed in time and the bench kept growing through their unexpected boost in playing time.

Most importantly, Kinnick was the host and had the advantage of the home crowd.



"The energy was amazing!" Kimbrough said. "The student section was loud and a lot of our parents were able to be there to support."

Most of the group around Kimbrough remained quiet letting their captain do most of the talking. But Boye jumped in between bites of sandwich to say, "Thanks mom!" for the support.

"Last year, I think we only had like five parents who were able to travel with us to Okinawa," the cool-headed Nicholas Whyte said. Whyte said he didn't feel a lot of pressure this year and tried to think of each Far East Tournament game as if they were just like any other game. And focus on each game one game at a time. "This year, it was so loud. I could feel the energy. I think everyone could. I had so much motivation."

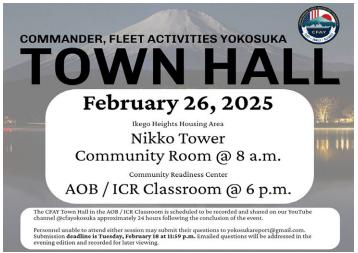
"There was a lot of expectations coming into Far East," Kimbrough continued. "It was always energetic. Obviously, it gives all of a little boost. You know, confidence. I was like, 'Yep. This is the time. It's ours. We can't mess it up.' We have so many people here rooting for us. Let's show them who we are. I loved it, but I also felt the pressure."

The Devils stormed through the two-day season-ending tournament with a 90-78 victory over Humphreys High School, a DODEA school from Camp Humphreys in South Korea.

They followed that with an 83-56 win over American School Bangkok before being locked in a defensive bout with the Titans for the crown.

"I couldn't be prouder of these guys," Stovall said. "They truly bonded over the year and overcame every obstacle thrown at them. They did everything and earned the right to be champions."







American American Red Cross Winter Classes

CPR/AED/First Aid Course (\$18)

- Monday March 3, 3 to 6 p.m.
- Thursday March 6, 1 to 4 p.m.
- Saturday March 8, 8:30 to 11:30 a.m.
- Thursday March 13, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.
- Saturday March 2, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Basic Life Support (\$12)

• Thursday March 20, 1 to 4 p.m.

Babysitting Basics and First Aid/CPR (\$15)

Recommended for ages 12-17

• Saturday March 1, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.



Classes may be added based on community need and instructor availability. All classes are Blended Learning Courses with an online and an instructor led classroom skills session

To register, email: Yokosuka@redcross.org with the class and preferred date/ time. You will receive a payment link and be asked to send your receipt in order to guarantee a spot in the course.

FFSC WEEKLY

More details on CFAY FFSC YOKOSUKA FB page





SAPR VA Initial Training

Feb 24-28 at 0730

TAP Core Curriculum

Feb 24-26 at 0800

Emergency Evacuation

Program (EEP) Overview

Feb 24 at 1000

Everyday Japanese

Feb 24 at 1000

Emergency and Disaster

Preparedness

Feb 24 at 1130

AOB/ICR

Feb 25-27 at 0800

CFS Refresher

Feb 25 at 0830 (Virtual)

Ikego Japanese Language

Series

Feb 25 at 1200

CFS Forum

Feb 26 at 0900 (Virtual)

Japanese Spouse Group

Feb 26 at 1030 (Hybrid)

Volunteer Orientation

Feb 26 at 1100 (Virtual)

ESL/EFL (Ikego)

Feb 26 at 1300

Active Japanese

Language

Feb 26 at 1500

Teen Dating Poetry Slam

Feb 26 at 1630

Shogi Workshop

Feb 26 at 1700

My Education Track

Feb 27-28 at 0800

Sponsorship Training

Feb 27 at 0900 (Virtual)

Ombudsman Advanced

Training

Feb 27 at 1000

Preparing Children for

Deployment

Feb 28 at 0900 (Virtual)

Enjoying Japanese Food

Feb 28 at 0930

ESL/EFL

Feb 28 at 1300

See something you like? Sign up via email: ffscinfo@us.navy.mil

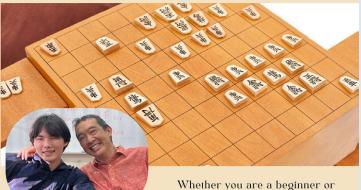




SHOGI



Master the Art of Japanese Chess



ROBERT UYEYAMA AND SON

have some experience with chess, Shogi offers a fun challenge for anyone looking to improve their strategic thinking or enjoy the art and culture of Japan.

- Fun fact, the son is ranked 2 kyu by the Japan Shogi Association and studied under a 6-dan pro.
 For western chess, he took 2nd place in the Japan Chess Federation's National UI2 tournament.





243-3372 / 046-816-3372 | FFSCinfo@us.navy.mil



COMMAND FINANCIAL **SPECIALIST FORUM**

"As specified in OPNAVINST 1740.5 series, this quarterly forum allows discussion on personal financial issues and additional training to meet the four elements of the PFM program (Education, Counseling, Consumer Advocacy, and Information & Referral). This forum is open to all CFSs, Senior Enlisted Advisors, and Command Career Counselors."



Virtual





For more information or to register, please call 243-3372 or email FFSCinfo@us.navy.mil



SLAM





Open to all youth in grades 9-12. Participants may recite original poems on one of the following 3 topics: What is Love, Signs of a Healthy Relationship, & Red Flags of an Unhealthy Relationship. Judging criteria include expression, delivery, and emotional impact.

2 Movie Tickets 2nd PLACE 1 Move Ticket 3rd PLACE

Certificate

4:30-6:30pm Kinnick HS Little Theater

INFORMATION

For more information contact FFSCinfo@us.navy.mil

RESILIENT READY

DEPLOYMENT SUCCESS VIRTUAL CLASSES







Gain tools to manage emotions and challenges associated with deployment.

- > POSITIVE ASPECTS OF DEPLOYMENT
- > CONSTRUCTIVE COMMUNICATION
- MAINTAIN STRONG CONNECTIONS

DATE & TIMES

- FEB 3 SINGLE SERVICE MEMBERS & **DEPLOYMENT @ 1300**
- **FEB 28 PREPARING CHILDREN** FOR DEPLOYMENT @ 0900

COMMAND REQUESTS AND ONE-ON-ONE CONSULTATIONS ARE AVAILABLE.



REGISTRATION IS EASY!

EMAIL: FFSCinfo@us.navv.mil OR CALL: 243-3372 / 046-816-3372









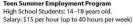
AMERICAN FOOD - BEVERAGES - SHIP VISITS

Activities Yokosuka's Spring Festival. For more information

please, email MWR_Yokosuka_Special_Events@us.navy.mil.

Enjoy the sights and sounds during Commander Fleet





Additional Tranings

March 4 at 1:30 - 2:30 p.m. at Benny Decker Theater.
Resume Building conducted by FFSC.

March 7 at 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. at Benny Decker Theater.

NAVY CYP





- NAF Human Resources conducting introduction to USA Jobs and will also provide information on how to access the online sign-in process.

 • Yokosuka Teen Center conducting training on interview

For more information or to sign up call or email our School Liaison Officer at MWR_Yokosuka_School_Liaison@us.na-vy.mil or scan the QR code below





BEYOND THE GATE



Miura Sakura Festival Until March 9 (Sunday)

Along the road from Keikyu Miurakaigan Station (KK-71) to Misakiguchi Station (KK-72).

Come see the Miurakaigan's Kawazu Sakura trees. Enjoy Sakura Festival food such as cherry Dorayaki (pancake-like confectionery), cherry rice cookies and radish shochu. The Kawazu cherry tree in front of the Miurakaigan station is also illuminated.



Kannonzaki Park Sakura Festival

Feb. 22 (Saturday) - 24 (Monday)

10 a.m. to 3 p.m. | Kannonzaki Park Area (15-minute bus ride for Kannonzaki from Keikyu Uraga Station, KK-64 or or 35-minute bus ride from JR Yokosuka Station, JO-3) There will be food trucks dog park (no reservation required) and more!



Taura Plum Grove Festival Until March 2 (Sunday)

Anytime | Taura Plum Grove, (25-minute walk from JR Taura Station, JO-04)

The Taura area wafts with the smell of blooming plum blossoms from mid-February to early March. Enjoy the hilltop scenery and view over Tokyo Bay. There will be various food booths on Feb. 23 and March 2 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.



Strawberry Festival 2025 Feb. 6 (Thursday) - March 2 (Sunday)

10 a.m. to 6 p.m. | Yokohama Red Brick Warehouse (15-minute walk from JR Kannai, JK-10 or Sakuragicho, JK11 Stations, 6-minute walk from Minatomirai Line Nihon Oodori, MM-05 or Bashamichi, MM-04 Stations)

The Yokohama Strawberry Festival showcases a wide range of ways to enjoy these delicious seasonal fruits.

A number of vendors will be selling strawberry themed merchandise, including jewelry, key chains, umbrellas, and more. If that wasn't enough, the family-friendly event will also feature a strawberry shaped bounce house and playground for the kids. ¥500 for entry, but an additional fee applies.

https://www.yokohama-akarenga.jp/strawberryfes/

NEWS AND NOTICES

UPCOMING MOTORCYCLE TRAINING BASIC RIDER COURSE 1

A Motorcycle Safety Foundation Basic Rider Course 1 class is scheduled for March 1-2 at NAF Atsugi. Enrollment process is through the Enterprise Safety Applications Management System (ESAMS) website. https://esams.cnic. navy.mil/ESAMS_GEN_2/Login. Seats are limited. For information on motorcycle licensing requirements or ESAMS enrollment, please contact the CFAY licensing office at 243-9089/6721/5647, or email: license@us.navy.mil.

USO PRESENTS FREE VIRTUAL WELLNESS EVENT

Join the largest virtual wellness event for military and veteran spouses! March 3-7. Free registration ends soon. Get access to 10 interviews with experts designed to help you cultivate connections with yourself, your spouse, friends/others, your community, and your home. Service life can be isolating, but it doesn't have to be. Secure your spot now and get ready to relax, rejuvenate, and connect with others who understand you best. Register for the ninth annual InDependent Wellness Summit: Cultivate Connections today: https://in-dependent.org/wellness-summit/

USNH YOKOSUKA PATIENT FAMILY PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL

Want to effect change and be a part of healthcare solutions that affect our Sailors and their families? Join the Patient and Family Partnership Council at USNH Yokosuka. Engage directly with hospital leadership in matters that concern the health and welfare of CFAY. Join us at the upcoming meetings on March 5 from 4 to 5 p.m. at Community Resource Center 4th floor Haru Room. To learn more, please email: dha.yokosuka.Yokosuka-NH.list. pfpc@health.mil, visit https://yokosuka.tricare.mil/Patient-Resources/Patient-and-

Family-Partnership-Council

POST OFFICE SERVICES NOTICE

Click-N-Ship Application Upgrade. Beginning Feb. 20, customers using the Legacy Click-N-Ship application must switch to the Enhanced Click-N-Ship application to create and purchase new labels.

Key Date:

- Now until Feb. 19, 11:59 p.m. Customers can continue creating and purchasing shipping labels on Legacy Click-N-Ship.
- Feb. 20-26, 11:59 p.m. New label creation will be unavailable on the Legacy Click-N-Ship application, but customers will be able to access their Legacy Shipping History and print existing, active labels. Customers can purchase labels on Enhanced Click-N-Ship during this Period.
- Feb. 27 Full transition to the Enhanced Click-N-Ship application.

If you have any questions, call 243-6711, or send email to yokosukapostoffice@fe.navy. mil.

VOLUNTEER NOW FOR THE AMERICAN RED CROSS

Disaster Action Team

Help provide immediate assistance on scene of an emergency, and participate in base exercises. Help with emergency messages and during large scale emergencies.

Also available:

- Youth Preparedness Team
- MTF Professional and Admin Help
- CPR/BLS/Babysitting Instructor
- Library
- PAWS
- Vet Clinic
- Post Office
- Youth ClubsHow to volunteer:
- 1. Use a desktop or laptop computer.
- 2. Search and go to Red Cross Volunteer Connection.
- 3. Use the Yokosuka FPO zip code 96349.

- 4. Complete the on-line training.
 5. If you have any problems, email:
- 5. If you have any problems, email: yokosuka@redcross.org, or call 243-7490.

CONSTRUCTION AND CLOSURES

Yokosuka: The bike rack area near Womble Gate will be closed for all bicycles until 4 p.m., Feb. 28. This closure is for a project to replace the gravel area with concrete.

• Vandegrift Lane: Full road closure until October 2025.

King Street partial closure. Closure period from Jan. 27 to Feb. 27. Crane work for building B-37. Half of B-37 parking lot to be closed. Two way traffic will be maintained.

- Gravel lot across from berth 9 Blue Ridge to be repaired (Feb. 2-21, 2025)
- The parking lot immediately in front of ATG is secured through 2027 in support of the NSST Shiphandling Trainer construction. Additionally, half of the 12-hour parking lot is also secured to support NSST construction material laydown and management.
- 50 percent of Defense Logistics Agency parking lot secured until February 2025.
- McCormick Street and Leahy Street. Full road closure for underground utility works until Feb. 28, 2025.
- Vandegrift Lane: Full road closure until October 2025.

Ikego: Shisagi Street partial closure. 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.until March 7. Install communications conduit. Partial road closure of Shisagi Street, full closure of adjacent parking spaces.

- A Government of Japan Contractor will perform excavation work on Shisagi Street until Aug. 31, 2025. Working hours will be between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m., Monday through Friday. Excavation site will be controlled as one-way alternating traffic control road during the daytime work. After daily working hours, road should be re-opened.
- 50 perent of Ikego NEX/MWR Parking Lot secured until the end of February 2025.

f Commander Fleet Activities Yokosuka





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