



An F-35B Lightning II Joint Strike Fighter, Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 121, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing, performs a conventional take-off at the Strategic Expeditionary Landing Field during Exercise Steel Knight 2016 aboard the Combat Center, Dec. 11. This year's iteration of Exercise Steel Knight works to advance 1st Marine Division's warfighting capabilities, to include interoperability between the ground and air forces and integration of the F-35B.

# 'Rhinos' support Steel Knight 16

STORY AND PHOTOS  
 BY LANCE CPL.  
 LEVI SCHULTZ

The F-35B Lightning II Joint Strike Fighter personifies great strides in modern air dominance capability. Among its characteristics of radar-evading stealth, supersonic speeds, fighter agility and advanced logistical support comes the capability to perform vertical take-off and landings.

Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 121, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing, is the first Marine Corps unit to reach initial operational capability with the F-35B and is utilizing the aircraft during Exercise Steel Knight 2016, an annual training operation designed to prepare

See **Rhinos** pg. A6



Marine Wing Support Squadron 374 Marines responsible for the construction of a new vertical landing and take-off pad stand on their completed work at the Combat Center's Strategic Expeditionary Landing Field, Dec. 10.

## Eagle Eyes Program Keeps Combat Center Safe

BY THE PROVOST MARSHALS OFFICE

The base encourages all service members and civilians to watch, report, and protect their community with the United States Marine Corps Eagle Eyes program. The program allows users to report any suspicious and potentially dangerous activities.

The intent of the Eagle Eyes Program is to leverage the tens of thousands of eyes and ears of our Marines, sailors, and civilians that work aboard and in the vicinity of the Combat Center to assist us in identifying any suspicious activity.

Eagle Eyes is a way for Marines and civilians to report activity that will be seen and analyzed by Law Enforcement professionals.

Reporting anything that gets ones 'sixth sense' or 'gut' that something isn't right about a situation or individual. The reports can be made anonymously and the users only need to leave as much information about the suspicious individual or event as they are comfortable with.

The most important part of making a report is for the reporting individual to capture and share as many pictures of the suspicious activity as can be safely taken. A cell phone photo of someone in public is not considered personally identifiable information, and these pictures assist the police to make accurate reports required to keep the base and surrounding community safe.

Individuals should report any conduct that looks out of the ordinary or out of place, such as surveillance, elicitation, probes and dry runs. While it is important to report any signs of terrorism or criminal activity, that is not the only way this program can be used.

Eagle Eyes is also useful for Marines to report any suspicious activity of a fellow service member who may be suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder. The individual could be having suicidal thoughts and it is important for someone to be aware of the situation.

When suspicious activity is seen, the individual should visit the Eagle Eyes website at [www.USMCEagleEyes.org](http://www.USMCEagleEyes.org) or dial the hotline, enter their station and provide any information they have about the activity and the suspect. It is also important to remember that this program is not meant for emergencies. If an individual witnesses an emergency they should call 911 immediately.

Marine Corps Base Quantico was the first Marine Corps base to use Eagle Eyes and the program has since spread to other bases on the East coast as well as the bases and air stations in California and Arizona.

The program works in conjunction with the Naval Criminal Investigative Services "If You See Something, Say Something" public awareness campaign, which is a program used to raise awareness about the signs of terrorism and the importance of reporting those signs to law enforcement.

Reporting to Eagle Eyes is important because this program assists law enforcement in determining threat patterns before an incident occurs.

All are encouraged to call (760) 830-3937 or go to <http://www.usmceagleeyes.org> to report anything suspicious. It may assist in deterring, detecting or defeating a terrorist attack.

## Uniform board decision updates hair regulations

STORY BY CPL. ARIA HERRERA

The 37th Commandant of the Marine Corps Gen. Robert B. Neller approved lock and twist hairstyles in uniform, Monday.

The results of Uniform Board 214 and 215 were released as part of Marine Administrative Message 622/15.

"The Marine Corps works tirelessly every day to get better and to find areas for refinement or improvement," said Col. Christian F. Wortman, the president of the uniform board. "Uniform Regulations are no different."

In 2014, former Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel

See **Hair** pg. A6



PHOTOS BY CPL. KIRSTIN MERRIMARAHAJARA

Staff Sgt. Cherie Wright, Supply Chief with 2nd Air Naval Gunfire Liaison Company, Camp Lejeune, N.C., shows off her hairstyle, Wednesday, which was recently approved by the Marine Corps. Her research and submission resulted in MARADMIN 622/15, which includes the authorization of both twist and lock hairstyles, benefiting many females in the Marine Corps.

## Marine Corps' Top Shot

Every week, thousands of fans cast their votes for the best photograph posted on the Corps' Facebook page. This week's top shot comes from Lance Cpl. Brianna Gaudi.



A Marine with Alpha Company, 2nd Assault Amphibian Battalion, awaits the order to lock down the hatches as the unit prepares to conduct company-level beach operations on Camp Lejeune, N.C. Dec. 5.



**UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS  
MARINE CORPS AIR GROUND TASK FORCE TRAINING COMMAND  
MARINE CORPS AIR GROUND COMBAT CENTER**

Police Letter 4-15  
From: Commanding General  
To: All Hands  
Subj: POLICY CONCERNING MAGTFTC "PROTECT WHAT YOU'VE EARNED" CAMPAIGN

Ref: (a) Published message form the 37th Commandant of the Marine Corps

1. Purpose. To establish policy for the MAGTFTC "Protect What You've Earned" Campaign to bring Awareness to the misconceptions of alcohol use/abuse in the Marine Corps, reduce alcohol related incidents, and develop a culture of responsible alcohol consumption throughout MAGTFTC.

2. Information. Reference (a) mandates the Marines be physically, morally and mentally fit, and that the use of illegal drugs and abuse of legal drugs and alcohol are not conducive of this goal. In every clime and place, the Majority of Marines and Sailors continue to serve honorably and professionally but a small percentage persist in acting irresponsibly and, in doing so, put their professional reputation, careers, fellow service members and families at risk.

3. Scope. Recent Studies show a false perception among service members that a large number of their peers engage in high-risk drinking. In reality, this appears to be the exception and not the norm, with most Marines and Sailors drinking responsibly, or choosing to abstain. This false perception not only perpetuates irresponsible alcohol consumption and abuse, as service members attempt to align to perceived peer group behavior, but it impedes force preservation, degrades operational readiness and negatively impacts the quality of life for our Marines, Sailors and family members. Defining your Legacy starts with a Choice! Protect what you've earned!

a. This is more than a campaign that leaders are throwing their weight behind. It's a message meant to start conversations between Marines, Sailors, civilians and family members that promote the development of peer support system, and responsible actions and decision making. I, therefore, task Commanders, Supervisors, Marines, Sailors, and civilians at every level to:

- (1) Get the word out on this initiative to every Marine, Sailor and civilian aboard the Cdombat Center.
- (2) Develop a culture of responsible alcohol consumption that helps ensure our Marines and Sailors protect what they've earned, and avoid destructive behavior that places them at great personal and professional risk.
  - (a) Don't be the 1 out of 7 Marines that drink irresponsibly.
  - (b) Be a part of the 85% of Marines that drink responsibly.
- (3) Engage your subordinates, co-workers, and fellow Marines and Sailors to promote responsible decisions, actions, and choices in all facets of their life.
- (4) Protect the investments made in your family, life, career, and relationships. You have worked too hard not to!

*Lewis A. Craparotta*  
LEWIS A. CRAPAROTTA

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**SUDOKU**

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**Difficult**

**CROSSWORD**

"Sight Unseen"

**Across**

- 1 Pale with fright
- 6 English distance
- 11 Sleazy paper
- 14 County, in Britain
- 15 Nabisco cookies
- 16 Get on
- 17 Stealthy gift giver
- 19 Roof material
- 20 Antlered critter
- 21 Period
- 22 Fuse
- 24 Neatnik's opposite
- 26 Baseball card brand
- 30 Off yonder
- 31 Comedian Wanda
- 33 Handle for a poodle
- 34 Hummus scooper
- 35 Singer Rawls
- 37 Change one's \_\_\_\_
- 39 Wiggler
- 40 Newspaper feature
- 44 Rebel Guevara
- 45 \_\_\_\_ Romeo
- 46 Director Wenders
- 47 Oil of \_\_\_\_
- 49 Barber's supply
- 51 Pavarotti, notably
- 55 Single
- 56 Rand McNally product
- 58 Director Ephron
- 59 Sch. in Madison, N.J.
- 61 Yuletide beverage
- 63 Comic Conway
- 64 Grant-in-\_\_\_\_
- 65 Detectives for hire
- 70 Wedding words
- 71 Leg part
- 72 Justice Kagan
- 73 Stimpal pal
- 74 Pope's "An Essay \_\_\_\_"
- 75 Little cat

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**Down**

- 1 Size up
- 2 Like mollusk-laden beaches
- 3 Wild Bill of the Wild West
- 4 Be off base
- 5 Requisite
- 6 Make the \_\_\_\_ (profit from)
- 7 Slice of history
- 8 Gymnast's goal
- 9 Twaddle
- 10 Jacob's twin
- 11 Like constitutional amendments
- 12 Disturbs
- 13 Across-the-board
- 18 Trike rider
- 23 Forty winks
- 25 Actor Lugosi
- 27 Hidden hazard
- 28 "Bah, humbug!"
- 29 Toughness
- 32 Slammin' Sammy
- 36 Court org.
- 38 Cut, maybe
- 40 Salt, for one
- 41 Used for support
- 42 "\_\_\_\_ first you don't succeed..."
- 43 "You got that right!"
- 44 Arctic blast
- 48 Evergreen shrub
- 50 Palestine, in the Bible
- 52 Procrastinator's reply
- 53 Set straight
- 54 Chef Gordon
- 57 Drunk
- 60 \_\_\_\_ snuff
- 62 Nerd
- 66 Thousandth of a yen
- 67 Maker of Watson
- 68 \_\_\_\_ Appia
- 69 Teacher of Samuel

Last week's answers

C	H	E	S	T		C	O	P	S	E		C	O	N		
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2	8	3	6	9	4	1	5	7
5	6	4	1	3	9	8	7	2
7	3	8	4	2	5	9	1	6
1	2	9	8	7	6	5	4	3

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- Angelo's Kars, 226 S. Coast Hwy, Oceanside, Calif., 92054
- In San Diego:**  
- Club Mustang, 2200 University Ave.  
- Club San Diego, 3955 Fourth St.  
- Get It On Shoppe, 3219 Mission Blvd.  
- Main Street Motel, 3494 Main St.  
- Vulcan Baths, 805 W. Cedar St.
- In National City:**  
- Dream Crystal, 15366 Highland Ave.  
- Sports Auto Sales, 1112 National City Blvd.

- In Twentynine Palms:**  
- Adobe Smoke Shop, 6441 Adobe Rd.  
- STC Smoke Shop, 6001 Adobe Rd.  
- K Smoke Shop, 5865A Adobe Rd.
- In Yucca Valley:**  
- Yucca Tobacco Mart, 57602 29 Palms Hwy.  
- Puff's Tobacco Mart, 57063 29 Palms Hwy.
- In Palm Springs:**  
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- Whispring Palms Apts., 449 E. Arenas Road  
- NYPD Pizza, 260-262 N. Palm Canyon Drive

For the complete orders, but not off-limits, check out the Combat Center's official-website at <http://www.29palms.marines.mil>

## WHAT I'VE LEARNED

# Rosalinda

San Antonio, Tx. Purchasing agent, Marine Corps Community Services

# TREVINO

Rosalinda Trevino has been working for Marine Corps Community Services for 40 years and is retiring on Dec. 26, 2015. She has worked in different positions within MCCS in several locations such as Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego; Washington D.C.; Iwakuni, Japan and Twentynine Palms, Calif.

**>I met my husband in junior high** and we got married in high school. We were taking night school and summer school and he was also working full time.

**>After high school** he joined the Marine Corps and I stayed in San Antonio. While he was gone I worked and after all of his training he was shipped out to Okinawa, Japan. He was going to go to Vietnam but they modified his orders and he stayed in Okinawa, which was a blessing.

**>After Okinawa he got** stationed at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego. That was our first tour together and we were there for six years.

**>When he was away,** I would stay with the children. I took care of them while going to school and working.

**>I started working** for Marine Corps Community Services in 1974. I was a ticket booth clerk for the base theater at MCRD.

**>I enjoyed San Diego.** We were young and it was nice there. We had a good time even though he did not have much rank at that time so there was a little struggle, but we made it through just fine.

**>Some of my most memorable times working at San Diego** were the times that the recruits would come to the theater. They would be on liberty and they would get brought to the theater by the hundreds and be able to enjoy one day off from training.

**>After that, we were moved** to Washington D.C. I worked at the Henderson Hall Exchange. I started as a clerk and moved up to the supervisor of the military clothing section. At the time the embassy guard training school was there so I would sell a lot of equipment to the people training for embassy duty.

**>I had to learn all the ribbons and ranks** for the Marine Corps and the Navy. My area was down in the basement so I had no windows but it was nice and I enjoyed working there.

**>We went to Iwakuni, Japan next.** They did not have any openings in the higher positions so I was a clerk once again. I worked my way up to becoming a buyer and we would purchase things from Korea and the states to make sure the people living there had what they needed.

**>That was a difficult position.** I had several departments under me. At that time there was not a main MCCS point that shipped out everything the different places needed like now. I had to make sure everything we needed was shipped out to us.

**>We had to get things that were different** than other exchanges at the time. We needed to get clothes and shoes for all the families living there. When school started, we needed to get supplies for the children and making sure the shelves were stocked.

**>We came to Twentynine Palms after** Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni. When I first came here it was a shock. This place grows on you though. I don't see myself living anywhere else now.

**>Here I started as a jewelry sales clerk.** From there I moved to customer services, to accounting to becoming the purchasing agent here.

**>I have been here since 1983.** Things have changed significantly throughout my time here. The town was so small when I got here, now it has grown so much. The systems we use are always being innovated and becoming better every year.

**>It is nice to be able to give** back to the people who sacrifice to protect us. Even now as a purchasing agent we work with the Family Readiness Officers by helping them purchase things for the Marines. It is always military first.

**>The reason I enjoyed working** at MCCS was because I had the opportunity to serve the Marines and sailors and that has been the best part of all of my years working.

Interviewed and photographed by Lance Cpl. Thomas Mudd



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# Adding Lightning to Steel Knight 16



PHOTOS BY CPL. CAMERON STORM

Exercise Steel Knight is the first time the F-35B Lightning II is participating in an integrated live fire exercise with the 1st Marine Division. The Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 121 provided close air support from units with 1st Marine Division maneuvering throughout a realistic training environment to develop skillsets necessary to maintain a fully capable Marine Air Ground Task Force.

**STORY BY SGT. ERIC KEENAN**

Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 121 and Marine Operational and Test Evaluation Squadron 22 performed the first ever expeditionary test of the F-35B Lightning II during Exercise Steel Knight aboard the Combat Center, Dec. 10.

The pilots carried out close air support drills, or CAS, and conducted expeditionary scenario missions supporting the ground forces of the 1st Marine Division.

“Getting the opportunity to come out here and do this for the first time for

the program is a milestone,” said Capt. John Stuart, a pilot with VMFA-121. “A lot of things down the line are going to be predicated on how we integrate with the ground units, how we adapt to this environment and how we execute our mission sets.”

The F-35B is a single seat, single engine, stealth, multi-role fighter planned to replace Marine Corps’ battle tested fixed wing AV-8B Harrier, F/A -18 Hornet and EA-6B Prowler.

“Everything the three of those could do, this [F-35B] can do in one aircraft,” said Gunnery Sgt. Christopher Ames, the

ordnance staff non-commissioned-officer-in-charge for VMFA-121.”

The Marine Corps’ version was designed to be a STOVL aircraft, or short take-off and vertical landing variant. This function allows the aircraft to use expeditionary airfields to refuel and reload, which can be established anywhere.

“We’re working on MAGTF [Marine Air Ground Task Force] integration,” said Staff Sgt. Martin Aldrete, a maintenance controller with VMFA-121.

“This is the first time using this platform, supporting ground troops, supporting

ground operations and we’re proving a lot of the concepts laid out by the Marine Corps.”

In the near future, the F-35B will stake its claim as the primary fighter aircraft of the Marine Corps and the familiarity of its crew and pilots are critical to its success.

“That’s one of the biggest things to take from this, having a good after-action report to say what we did wrong and what we did right,” said Stuart. “So the next time we are going to do this, we’re going to do it exponentially better and eventually have it down to a science.”

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An F-35B Lightning II aircraft stands ready for flight operations during Exercise Steel Knight aboard the Combat Center, Dec. 10. The F-35B is a single seat, single engine stealth multi-role fighter bringing the Marine Corps into a whole new generation of aircraft. Exercise Steel Knight allowed for Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 121 and Marine Operational and Test Evaluation Squadron 22 to train on integrating the F-35B and find its place in the Marine Air Ground Task Force, while giving the ground forces of 1st Marine Division the ability to become familiar with it.



Cpl. Luke Somers links a power cord to an F-35B Lightning II aircraft in preparation for a weapons functional test during Exercise Steel Knight aboard the Combat Center, Dec. 10.



Sgt. Peter Jacobson performs a weapons functional test on an F-35B Lightning II aircraft during Exercise Steel Knight aboard the Combat Center, Dec. 10.



Marines link a power cord to an F-35B before a weapons functional test during Exercise Steel Knight aboard the Combat Center, Dec. 10.

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*Happy Holidays*  
from  
**THE OBSERVATION POST**

We will not be publishing on December 25, 2015 or January 1, 2016

# Rhinos from pg. A1



An F-35B Lightning II Joint Strike Fighter, Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 121, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing, prepares for a conventional take-off at the Strategic Expeditionary Landing Field during Exercise Steel Knight 2016 aboard the Combat Center, Dec. 11. This year's iteration of Exercise Steel Knight works to advance 1st Marine Division's warfighting capabilities, to include interoperability between the ground and air forces and integration of the F-35B.

the 1st Marine Division for deployment as the ground combat element of a Marine Air Ground Task Force. This year's exercise, taking place throughout Southern California aboard Naval Base San Diego; Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton; and the Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Twentynine Palms, Calif.; was designed to improve upon the interoperability of ground and air forces as well as the inte-

gration of the F-35B. To facilitate testing of the aircraft's VTOL capabilities in an expeditionary environment, Marine Wing Support Squadron 374 constructed a 204 ft. by 200 ft. VTOL pad at the Strategic Expeditionary Landing Field. In addition, the support squadron constructed a 150 ft. by 96 ft. taxiway to connect the landing zone to the main landing field and hangar. "The primary purpose

of this landing zone was to test the F-35B on this type of matting to ensure it would not melt during its VTOL," said Lance Cpl. Stephen Garcas, surveying and drafting specialist, MWSS-374. "It certainly passed the test." According to Capt. Jonathan H. Royer, assistance operation officer, MWSS-374, the landing zone will serve for emergency purposes throughout the remainder of Steel



The newly completed vertical landing and take-off pad located at the Combat Center's Strategic Expeditionary Landing Field supports Exercise Steel Knight 2016 and future exercises, serves as an emergency landing zone for the F-35B Lightning II Joint Strike Fighter, capable of performing vertical landing and take-off.

Knight 16 but has the potential to be utilized in future training. "Because this is the first time the F-35B is out here on an expeditionary landing field we built the [VTOL] Pad in the event that there is an emergency so they have more than one option to get the aircraft on the deck," said Royer. MWSS-374 undertook the project of creating the landing zone in just under

two and a half weeks, a task that was projected to take two months. The task depended on the heavy equipment required, to remove four inches of concrete before any other work could be done on the site. "One of the biggest challenges we face in the construction of a landing zone is getting the sand to compact as needed," said Staff Sgt. John A. Vasquez, engineer equip-

ment operator, MWSS-374. "It took my Marines 17 long days to ensure the pad was put together." According to Royer the project was an opportunity for the 'Rhinos' to show off their capabilities. "It was a good test of detailed planning and communication," said Royer. "With the backstop of the requirements and the strict deadline, the Marines had very little room for error."

# Hair from pg. A1

ordered the military branches review their hairstyle policies. During this review, the proposed addition of locks and twists was initiated by Staff Sgt. Cherle Wright.

Wright, a supply chief with II Marine Expeditionary Force, submitted a recommendation letter with the proposed changes to her command. From there, her proposal grew to a discussion and a survey, until she was briefing then Commandant Gen. James Amos about her proposal.

"While briefing Marines, my focus was about awareness and professionalism," said Wright. "Once the information and facts were presented, the perceptions of many Marines changed."

Lock and twist hairstyles are authorized as long as they are neat and maintain a professional military image. The hairstyles must be secured with no hair exceeding the bottom edge of the collar and not have bulk, other than the bun, exceeding two inches from the scalp. Hairstyles must not interfere with the wear of covers.

"These changes were made to provide additional options to our female Marines that are professional in appearance, easier for some of our female Marines to maintain in an expeditionary environment, and less costly and time consuming to maintain than some currently approved options,"

said Wortman.

A lock is defined as a section of hair that is twisted at or near the root of the hair to the end of the hair and may be worn with short, medium or long hair.

A twist is defined as two sections of hair twisted together to form a rope-like appearance and may be worn with medium and long-length hair.

A braid is defined as three or more sections of hair interlaced and may be worn with medium and long hair.

When worn loose, the individual locks, twists or braids will be no more than three-eighths an inch in diameter and be no more than three-eighths an inch apart. When worn secured, the twist or braid will be no more than three-eighths an inch in diameter. Mixing of hairstyles is not authorized.

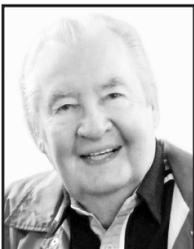
For additional information, reference the standards provided in paragraph 10047.b of Marine Corps Order P1020.34G change 5. An instructional video is also available at the youtube link.

For Marines interested in submitting a uniform recommendation, they can do so by submitting a naval letter through their chain of command to CMC (MCUB), 2200 Lester Street, Quantico, VA 22134.



Staff Sgt. Cherie Wright, Supply Chief with 2nd Air Naval Gunfire Liaison Company, Camp Lejeune, N.C., shows off her hairstyle, Wednesday, which was recently approved by the Marine Corps. Her research and submission resulted in MARADMIN 622/15, which includes the authorization of both twist and lock hairstyles, benefiting many females in the Marine Corps.

**TOUGH MINDED OPTIMISM**  
by Lou Gerhardt



Wilha Hudson was a dear, dear friend of mine. I brought her to our Detroit Church in 1973 and our magnificent choir honored her with an inspiring rendition of her beautiful words, put to the music of composer Alfred Burt. Wilha said she was so motivated by her theme that she wrote it in a matter of hours on a beautiful December evening. The title is "Some Children See Him."

Some children see Him lily white,  
The baby Jesus born this night,  
Some children see Him lily white,  
With tresses soft and fair.

Some children see Him bronzed and brown,  
The Lord of heaven to earth come down;  
Some children see Him bronzed and brown,  
With dark and heavy hair.

Some children see Him almond-eyed,  
This Savior whom we kneel beside,  
Some children see Him almond-eyed,  
With skin of yellow hue.

Some children see Him dark as they,  
Sweet Mary's Son, to whom we pray;  
Some children see Him dark as they,  
And ah! They love Him, too!

The children in each different place  
Will see the baby Jesus' face  
Like theirs, but bright with heavenly grace,  
And filled with holy light.

O lay aside each earthly thing,  
And with thy heart as offering,  
Come worship now the infant King,  
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This column sponsored by:

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# Civilian earns award for meritorious service

PHOTOS BY LANCE CPL. LEVI SCHULTZ



Tina Miller, deputy director, Business Performance Office, receives the Meritorious Civilian Service Award from Combat Center Commanding General, Maj. Gen. Lewis A. Craparotta, at the Commanding General's Conference Room, Dec. 9.



Tina Miller, deputy director, Business Performance Office, stands with her husband at the Commanding General's Conference Room, Dec. 9.



Tina Miller, deputy director, Business Performance Office, talks about the honor of receiving the Meritorious Civilian Service Award at the Commanding General's Conference Room, Dec. 9.



Combat Center Commanding General, Maj. Gen. Lewis A. Craparotta, presents the Meritorious Civilian Service Award to Tina Miller, deputy director, Business Performance Office, at the Commanding General's Conference Room, Dec. 9.



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# Naval Hospital spreads holiday cheer



STORY AND PHOTOS BY LANCE CPL. THOMAS MUDD

Robert E. Bush Naval Hospital held its annual Command Holiday Party at Smith's Ranch, Dec. 10. Approximately 320 people attended the event held by the Naval Hospital's command and the Bob Hope USO.

The event gave families the opportunity to take pictures with Santa Claus, ride ponies, and enjoy a holiday dinner and cake. The event had a performance from the USO Show Troupe. Families were also given the opportunity to donate gifts for children in need and create holiday decorations for their home.

Gabriella Flores, 2, rides a pony with her mother, Jennifer, patient relations officer, Robert E. Bush Naval Hospital, during the hospital's Command Holiday Party at Smith's Ranch, Dec. 10. The Naval Hospital's command hosted the event with the help of the Bob Hope USO.



Jennifer Flores, patient relations officer, Robert E. Bush Naval Hospital, takes a picture of her daughter, Gabriella, 2, with Santa Claus during the hospital's Command Holiday Party at Smith's Ranch, Dec. 10.



Navy Capt. John A. Lamberton, commanding officer, Robert E. Bush Naval Hospital, cuts a cake with representatives from the Bob Hope USO during the hospital's Command Holiday Party at Smith's Ranch, Dec. 10.

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# US Navy Corpsmen, Marines Contribute to Life-Saving Efforts in Iraq



U.S. Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class Bryan Rileysilva, a hospitalman with Company B, 1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, Special Purpose Marine Air Ground Task Force – Crisis Response – Central Command, treats an Iraqi soldier for combat-related injuries, Iraq, Nov. 28.

**STORY AND PHOTOS  
BY SGT. RICARDO  
HURTADO**

As the battle for Ramadi and Fallujah continues near Al Taqaddum, Iraq, members of the Iraqi armed forces conduct counterattack missions as part of the efforts to regain control over the Islamic State of Iraq and Levant-occupied cities.

Near the fight, personnel assigned to Task Force Al Taqaddum (TFTQ) are standing by to provide medical aid to Iraqi soldiers seriously wounded during these counterattack missions.

The medical personnel are part of advise and assist teams based out of Camp Manion, where coalition personnel have re-established presence for the first time since June 2015.

In addition to TFTQ providing advise and assist support, the task force also contributes to the fight by aiding Iraqi soldiers wounded in action.

Wounded Iraqi soldiers are brought to the gates of Camp Manion, where U.S. Navy corpsmen and Marines with Company B, 1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, Special Purpose Marine Air Ground Task Force – Crisis Response – Central Command, are the first responders to treat their injuries.

Bravo Company Marines provide security for the camp by conducting patrols, standing post and employing a quick reaction force (QRF) team.

Personnel assigned to the QRF must maintain a high level of readiness, and are capable of responding at a moment's notice.

As casualties approach the entrance check point of the camp, QRF Marines and corpsmen

are called to respond. Personnel quickly move to the entry control point (ECP) where the Marines immediately set up security, search the vehicle carrying the casualty and the persons in it.

Once the vehicle and personnel have been cleared, corpsmen move into action and start to aid the wounded Iraqi troops.

"The majority of the casualties come from Ramadi," said U.S. Marine Capt. Charles Dotterer, the company commander for Bravo Company, 1st Bn., 7th Marines. "They are in the front lines in the Ramadi counterattacks, so if something bad happens to them there, they bring them to [Al Taqaddum] for medical care."

As first responders, the corpsmen assess the patients' injuries, stabilize the casualties and perform emergency procedures on the spot, if necessary. Based on the corpsman's assessment, it is determined if a patient will be admitted for further care. That assessment must meet the medical rules of eligibility to determine if the corpsmen are able to provide care. Iraqi soldiers who are in danger of losing their life are seen immediately, where more routine injuries may be referred to local hospitals.

"[The corpsmen] defi-

nately make a difference. They are the first people to see the [patients], they do the triage at the gate and call us back on the radio to report what they injuries are, and how accurate that assessment is allows us to decide whether we can accept them or not," said U.S. Army Lt. Col. Christina Hahn, a general surgeon and the officer in charge of the forward surgical team (FST) for TFTQ. "[The corpsmen] are very accurate [with their assessments]."

The Marines and Sailors of Bravo Company, 1st Bn., 7th Marines, arrived to Camp Manion in early October 2015 and within a 2-month period have treated more than 130 casualties.

"They are doing a phenomenal job, they are getting a lot of good combat triaging experience, and they're getting a lot of real-world experience with treating casualties," said Dotterer. "Very few corpsmen in the Marine Corps are getting this type of real-world experience, and I am very proud of what they are doing."

Petty Officer 3rd Class Bryan Rileysilva, a hospitalman with Bravo Company, 1st Bn., 7th Marines, said that it is a rewarding feeling to help save somebody's life by



A U.S. Marine with Company B, 1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, Special Purpose Marine Air Ground Task Force – Crisis Response – Central Command, searches an ambulance carrying an injured Iraqi soldier at Al Taqaddum, Iraq, Nov. 28.

utilizing his training and skills in real life cases.

"Not only are the corpsmen doing assessments, and are incredibly accurate, but they're also doing a lot of emergency treatment that needs to be done right away," said Hahn. "Every single second counts, and [the corpsmen] have done life-saving maneuvers right at the gate like needle decompressions ... where it's just a matter of seconds, so what they do is crucial."

Saving someone's life has become an everyday occurrence for the corpsmen of Bravo Company, 1st Bn., 7th Marines, and they are happy to see that their efforts matter.

"I look at these Iraqis

not just as anybody else because they are fighting for their country, they're facing the enemy to protect their land and whatever we can do to help out is very rewarding," said Seaman Apprentice Ryan Spencer-Smith, a hospitalman with Bravo Company, 1st Bn., 7th Marines. "It also helps build our relationship with the Iraqis, and it shows them that we care and that we are trying to help them. I feel good about what we do."

The patients don't stay at Camp Manion for a full recovery, once they have been treated by the FST and remain in stable condition, they are transported to hospitals in the region.

The FST sends patients out with a form taped to their chest containing every single detail regarding the casualty. The paper contains information about the injuries the patient sustained, the conditions in which they were when they arrived to Camp Manion, the procedures performed, medicine administered and instructions for follow on treatment.

The corpsmen and Marines of 1st Bn., 7th Marines, continue to aid those in need in contribution to Combined Joint Task Force - Operation Inherent Resolve, which focuses on defeating ISIL in the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility.

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# Racing to save lives at Steel Knight 16

PHOTOS BY LANCE CPL. MELODIE BARNHISEL AND SGT. JUSTIN BOLING



A Navy hospital corpsman assesses a simulated casualty during Exercise Steel Night's mass casualty drill aboard the Combat Center, Saturday.



Navy hospital corpsmen have class before the mass casualty drill during Exercise Steel Night's mass casualty drill aboard the Combat Center, Saturday.



Navy surgeons operate on a simulated casualty during Exercise Steel Night's mass casualty drill aboard the Combat Center, Saturday.



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Marine Corps Communication-Electronics School Marines participate in a Toys for Tots Fun Run aboard the Combat Center, Dec. 9. More than 2,000 participants purchased and ran with toys to donate to the U.S. Marine Corps Toys for Tots Program.

## Marines run to donate

# TOYS FOR TOTS

STORY AND PHOTOS BY  
 LANCE CPL. LEVI SCHULTZ

It's not every day Marines are afforded the opportunity to give back to the community while improving physical fitness. Marine Corps Communication-Electronics School did just that during the Toys for Tots Fun Run aboard the Combat Center, Dec. 9.

More than 2,000 Marines with MCCES participated in the run, in which they carried toys purchased to donate to the U.S. Marine Corps Toys for Tots Program.

"Here today, we witnessed the dropping off of the toys," said Col. Harold B. Eggers, commanding officer, MCCES. "What we don't get to witness is the distribution. Everybody here today who put a toy in one of those boxes made a difference in the life of another human being."

Marines selected a large variety of toys to donate; ranging from stuffed animals to board games. According to Staff Sgt. Michael A. Perez, instructor, MCCES, the Marines' donations yielded more than 1,200 gifts.

Many of the participants said they felt that giving back to the community we serve through programs like Toys for Tots is simply part of being a Marine.

"I think it's a wonderful way for Marines, as a whole, to show our character," said Lance Cpl. Zach Lopez, ground radio operator, MCCES. "It shows that we aren't just thinking about ourselves and are thinking about those that we serve."



Marine Corps Communication-Electronics School Marines display toys to be donated during a Toys for Tots Fun Run aboard the Combat Center, Dec. 9.



A Marine Corps Communication-Electronics School Marine displays a toy to be donated during a Toys for Tots Fun Run aboard the Combat Center, Dec. 9.



Marine Corps Communication-Electronic School Marines collect toys during a Toys for Tots Fun Run aboard the Combat Center, Dec. 9.

# Liberty Call



## Combat Center Events

**MCCS** is taking registration for the 2016 Winter Dodgeball League starting Feb. 10. The league is open to active duty military, family members and NAF/DOD employees. To register, download the sign-up sheet at [mccs29palms.com](http://mccs29palms.com). For more information, call (760) 830-6857.

**Sandy Hill Lanes** is hosting the 2nd Annual Challenge Tournament Dec. 17 at 6pm. The top six players of eight different bowling challenges will win a cash prize. Entry fee is \$10. For more information call (760) 830-1574.

**Sandy Hill Lanes** invites you to the New Year's Bowling Bash 2016, Dec. 31. Youth and teen hours are from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Pre signups are recommended. Adults only times are from 8:30pm to 12 a.m. For more information, call 760.830.6422.

**Registration and Coaches meeting for the Winter Basketball League** will end Jan. 5. The season starts on Jan 12. There can be 12 participants per roster and a minimum of seven. The event is open to all active duty personnel, MCCS employees and DOD civilians. Registration is free for active duty personnel and all other personnel will have a \$20 fee.

**Looking to provide support for our troops?** Head to building 1433 for a Caregiver Peer-to-Peer Support Forum. You can meet new people and support wounded, ill or injured service members. The next forum will take place January 19 from 9 to 10:30 a.m. For more information, contact Teri Templeton at 909-963-8776.

## Sunset Cinema

### Friday, December 18

5:30 p.m.- The Peanuts Movie, G  
8:00 p.m.- The Hunger Games: Mockingjay Part 2, PG-13  
11:00 p.m.-The Night Before, R

### Saturday, December 19

12:00 p.m.- The Peanuts Movie (3-D), G  
3:30 p.m.- SNEAK PREVIEW, Point Break (3-D), PG-13  
7:30 p.m.- Spectre, PG-13  
10:30 p.m.-The 33, PG-13

### Sunday, December 20

12:30 p.m.- Spectre, PG-13  
4:00 p.m.- The Hunger Games: Mockingjay Part 2, PG-13  
7:00 p.m.- The Night Before, R

### Monday, December 21

4:30 p.m.- The Nightmare Before Christmas (Free Admission), PG  
6:30 p.m.- Our Brand Is Crisis, R

### Tuesday, December 22

4:30 p.m.- Home Alone (Free Admission), PG  
6:30 p.m.- Steve Jobs, R

### Wednesday, December 23

2:30 p.m.- A Christmas Carol (Free Admission),PG  
4:30 p.m.- Home Alone 2 (Free Admission), PG  
7:00 p.m.- The Hunger Games: Mockingjay Part 2, PG-13

### Thursday, December 24

2:00 p.m.- Arthur Christmas (Free Admission), PG-13  
4:00 p.m.- The Grinch (Free Admission), PG  
6:30 p.m.- Spectre, PG-13  
9:30 p.m.- The Night Before, R

### Friday, December 25

1:00 p.m.- The Good Dinosaur (3-D), PG  
3:00 p.m.- Creed, PG-13

## 'Creed' soars as new Rocky saga

NEIL POND

### "Creed"

Starring Michael B. Jordan, Sylvester Stallone & Tessa Thompson

Directed by Ryan Coogler

Rated PG-13

"No one cares about Balboa anymore," sneers "Pretty" Ricky Conlon (Tony Bellew), the young British boxer itching for a fight in Creed.

It's been nearly 40 years since the first Rocky movie introduced the plucky palooka, which Sylvester Stallone continued to play in five sequels. Rocky Balboa became a boxing icon, a rock-'em, sock-'em legend and a rags-to-riches tale for the ages.

But, does anyone care anymore?

In Creed, the first Rocky movie in which Stallone doesn't put on the gloves, Rocky is coaxed out of retirement to train the son of his late friend and former rival Apollo Creed.

The son, Adonis "Donny" Johnson (Michael B. Jordan), comes from L.A. to seek Rocky out at Adrian's, the Italian restaurant named after his late wife that he now runs in his Philadelphia hometown. A born scrapper who grew up in a juvenile facility before finally being adopted by Apollo's former wife (Phylicia Rashad), Donny appeals to Rocky's own hardscrabble instincts—and their shared legacy, which Donny says makes them "like family."

Can the grizzled former superstar help the feisty greenhorn learn the ropes, come to grips with his own legacy and face the cockney challenger from across the ocean, who'd love nothing more than to draw blood from a Creed—and the protégé of a Balboa?

Writer-director Ryan Coogler, who worked previously with Jordan as the star of the powerful true-story drama Fruitvale Station (2013), draws deep on Rocky legacy while masterfully building a compelling, contemporary story that stands strong on its own, focusing on just a few central characters. Tessa Thompson brings sweetness



and spunk as Bianca, an aspiring singer who lives in the apartment beneath Donny, whose music at first keeps him from sleeping—then later soothes his fighter's soul.

Tony Bellew has a real swagger as the undefeated British heavyweight champ—because he really is one. As Apollo Creed's widow, Phylicia Rashad (who played Bill Cosby's TV wife, Clair) frets that boxing will wreck Donny the way it did her husband. "Your daddy died in the ring," she tells him. "You're better than that."

Coogler's technique is almost a character in itself, placing the camera inside the ring, between, behind and in front of the fighters, darting, shifting, bobbing and weaving along with them. One entire match is filmed as one breathlessly long, unbroken take, from the dressing room into the ring, through the final bell.

The blows land hard, and so does the sentiment—especially when the story shifts in the second act to another kind of "fight" that turns the tables on Rocky and Donny's relationship. Creed packs a punch, in more ways than one.

There's a lot to like and more to love about this movie, but most of it comes down to Jordan, whose performance as Adonis is raw, rousing and moving, and to Stallone, who at 69 does some of his best acting in years.

In one impactful scene, Adonis and Rocky ascend the steps of the Philadelphia Museum of Art, immortalized in the original movie. "When you get to the top, you think you can fly," says Rocky, this time a bit out of breath.

In making us care about Rocky Balboa again, in a big, big way, Creed indeed soars.

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# Santa visits Combat Center

PHOTOS BY LANCE CPL. THOMAS MUDD



Combat Center family members greet Santa Claus the Combat Center Marine Corps Exchange, Dec. 11.



Ayanna, 3, Arianna, 9, and Alayna Hunter, 5, daughters of Sgt. Zachrous Hunter, motor transportation maintenance chief, Tactical Training Exercise Control Group interact with Santa Claus at the Combat Center Marine Corps Exchange, Dec. 11.



Kumi Priestor, face painter, creates a design on Arianna Hunter, 9, daughter of Sgt. Zachrous Hunter, motor transportation maintenance chief, Tactical Training Exercise Control Group, during a visit from Santa Claus at the Combat Center Marine Corps Exchange, Dec. 11.



Brinley, 6, and Jocelyn Long, 8, daughters of Staff Sgt. William Long, unit leader, 1st Tank Battalion, sit on Santa Claus' lap during his visit to the Combat Center Marine Corps Exchange, Dec. 11.



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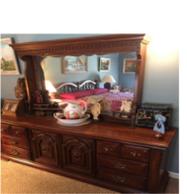
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Applications available at Town Hall/Yucca Valley or visit the website at http://www.yucca-valley.org for application, job announcement and job description.

Closing date: Tuesday, December 22, 2015 at 5:00p.m. EOE/ADA THANK YOU.

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# WINTER SPORTS SCHEDULES

## YUCCA VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL TROJANS VARSITY BOYS BASKETBALL

Dec. 27	5:30 p.m.	At Santa Rosa Academy
Dec. 30		At Linfield Christian
Dec. 31		At Linfield Christian
<b>De Anza League play begins</b>		
Jan. 6	6 p.m.	At Big Bear
Jan. 8	6 p.m.	At Shadow Hills
<b>Jan. 11</b>	<b>6 p.m.</b>	<b>Vs. Desert Mirage</b>
Jan. 15	6 p.m.	At Desert Hot Springs
<b>Jan. 20</b>	<b>6 p.m.</b>	<b>Vs. Rancho Mirage</b>
Jan. 22	6 p.m.	At Twentynine Palms
<b>Jan. 25</b>	<b>6 p.m.</b>	<b>Vs. Big Bear</b>
<b>Jan. 27</b>	<b>6 p.m.</b>	<b>Vs. Shadow Hills</b>
Jan. 29	6 p.m.	At Desert Mirage
<b>Feb. 5</b>	<b>6 p.m.</b>	<b>Vs. Desert Hot Springs</b>
<b>Feb. 8</b>	<b>6 p.m.</b>	<b>Vs. Twentynine Palms</b>
Feb. 10	6 p.m.	At Rancho Mirage

## YUCCA VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL TROJANS VARSITY BOYS WRESTLING

<b>Dec. 18</b>	<b>5 p.m.</b>	<b>Vs. Big Bear</b>
Jan. 2	9 a.m.	At Ontario
Jan. 7	5 p.m.	At Rancho Mirage
<b>Jan. 12</b>	<b>5 p.m.</b>	<b>Vs. Desert Mirage</b>
Jan. 21	5 p.m.	At Shadow Hills
Feb. 19	TBA	At CIF Individuals
Feb. 27	TBA	At CIF Masters

## YUCCA VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL TROJANS VARSITY GIRLS WRESTLING

Dec. 21	10 a.m.	Ponsford Classic Tournament
Jan. 9	9 a.m.	At Corona
Jan. 16	10 a.m.	Trojan War Tournament
Feb. 6	TBA	At CIF Qualifying
Feb. 12	TBA	At CIF Masters
Feb. 13	TBA	At CIF Masters
Feb. 26	TBA	At CIF State Meet
Feb. 27	TBA	At CIF State Meet

## TWENTYNINE PALMS HIGH SCHOOL WILDCATS VARSITY GIRLS BASKETBALL

Dec. 28-31	TBA	At Ayala Tourney
<b>De Anza League play begins</b>		
<b>Jan. 8</b>	<b>6 p.m.</b>	<b>Vs. Big Bear</b>
Jan. 9	TBA	At Run 'n' Gun Showcase
Jan. 11	6 p.m.	At Desert Hot Springs
<b>Jan. 13</b>	<b>6 p.m.</b>	<b>Vs. Shadow Hills</b>
<b>Jan. 15</b>	<b>6 p.m.</b>	<b>Vs. Rancho Mirage</b>
Jan. 20	6 p.m.	At Desert Mirage
Jan. 22	6 p.m.	At Yucca Valley
Jan. 27	6 p.m.	At Big Bear
<b>Jan. 29</b>	<b>6 p.m.</b>	<b>Vs. Desert Hot Springs</b>
Feb. 3	6 p.m.	At Shadow Hills
Feb. 5	6 p.m.	At Rancho Mirage
Feb. 6	TBA	At JSerra Showcase
<b>Feb. 8</b>	<b>6 p.m.</b>	<b>Vs. Yucca Valley</b>
<b>Feb. 10</b>	<b>6 p.m.</b>	<b>Vs. Desert Mirage</b>

## TWENTYNINE PALMS HIGH SCHOOL WILDCATS VARSITY GIRLS SOCCER

Dec. 28-30	TBA	At Loma Linda Tourney
<b>De Anza League play begins</b>		
<b>Jan. 8</b>	<b>5 p.m.</b>	<b>Vs. Big Bear</b>
Jan. 11	5 p.m.	At Desert Hot Springs
<b>Jan. 13</b>	<b>5 p.m.</b>	<b>Vs. Shadow Hills</b>
<b>Jan. 15</b>	<b>5 p.m.</b>	<b>Vs. Rancho Mirage</b>
Jan. 20	5 p.m.	At Desert Mirage
Jan. 22	5 p.m.	At Yucca Valley
Jan. 27	5 p.m.	At Big Bear
<b>Jan. 29</b>	<b>5 p.m.</b>	<b>Vs. Desert Hot Springs</b>
Feb. 3	5 p.m.	At Shadow Hills
Feb. 5	5 p.m.	At Rancho Mirage
<b>Feb. 8</b>	<b>5 p.m.</b>	<b>Vs. Yucca Valley</b>
<b>Feb. 10</b>	<b>5 p.m.</b>	<b>Vs. Desert Mirage</b>



DANIEL STRASBERGER The Desert Trail  
Varsity Wildcat AnnaMarie Hanson (21) pushes the ball down the field.

## YUCCA VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL TROJANS VARSITY GIRLS BASKETBALL

Dec. 26	7:30 p.m.	Vs. Kelso (tournament)
Dec. 28	12 p.m.	Vs. Marymount (tournament)
Dec. 29	12 p.m.	Vs. La Quinta (tournament)
Dec. 30	TBA	TBA (tournament)
<b>De Anza League play begins</b>		
Jan. 6	6 p.m.	At Big Bear
Jan. 8	6 p.m.	At Shadow Hills
Jan. 11	6 p.m.	At Desert Mirage
<b>Jan. 15</b>	<b>6 p.m.</b>	<b>Vs. Desert Hot Springs</b>
Jan. 20	6 p.m.	At Rancho Mirage
<b>Jan. 22</b>	<b>6 p.m.</b>	<b>Vs. Twentynine Palms</b>
<b>Jan. 25</b>	<b>6 p.m.</b>	<b>Vs. Big Bear</b>
<b>Jan. 27</b>	<b>6 p.m.</b>	<b>Vs. Shadow Hills</b>
<b>Jan. 29</b>	<b>6 p.m.</b>	<b>Vs. Desert Mirage</b>
Feb. 5	6 p.m.	At Desert Hot Springs
Feb. 8	6 p.m.	At Twentynine Palms
<b>Feb. 10</b>	<b>6 p.m.</b>	<b>Vs. Rancho Mirage</b>

## YUCCA VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL TROJANS VARSITY BOYS SOCCER

Dec. 18	5 p.m.	At Coachella Valley
<b>Dec. 28</b>	<b>12 p.m.</b>	<b>Vs. Buena Park</b>
Dec. 29	TBA	TBA
Dec. 30	TBA	TBA
<b>Jan. 4</b>	<b>4:15 p.m.</b>	<b>Vs. Sultana</b>
<b>De Anza League play begins</b>		
Jan. 6	3 p.m.	At Big Bear
<b>Jan. 8</b>	<b>5 p.m.</b>	<b>Vs. Shadow Hills</b>
<b>Jan. 11</b>	<b>5 p.m.</b>	<b>Vs. Desert Mirage</b>
<b>Jan. 15</b>	<b>5 p.m.</b>	<b>Vs. Desert Hot Springs</b>
Jan. 20	5 p.m.	At Rancho Mirage
<b>Jan. 22</b>	<b>5 p.m.</b>	<b>At Twentynine Palms</b>
Jan. 25	5 p.m.	Vs. Big Bear
<b>Jan. 27</b>	<b>5 p.m.</b>	<b>At Shadow Hills</b>
<b>Jan. 29</b>	<b>5 p.m.</b>	<b>At Desert Mirage</b>
<b>Feb. 5</b>	<b>5 p.m.</b>	<b>At Desert Hot Springs</b>
Feb. 8	5 p.m.	Vs. Twentynine Palms
Feb. 10	5 p.m.	Vs. Rancho Mirage



JOSH ALLEN Hi-Desert Star  
September Shaw-Fryer sizes up a defender before taking the ball to the rack for Yucca Valley High School.

## TWENTYNINE PALMS HIGH SCHOOL WILDCATS VARSITY BOYS BASKETBALL

Dec. 18	630 p.m.	At Cathedral City
Dec. 26-30	TBA	Century Tournament
<b>De Anza League play begins</b>		
Jan. 8	6 p.m.	At Big Bear
<b>Jan. 11</b>	<b>6 p.m.</b>	<b>Vs. Desert Hot Springs</b>
Jan. 13	6 p.m.	At Shadow Hills
Jan. 15	6 p.m.	At Rancho Mirage
Jan. 16	TBA	At Palm Springs Showcase
Jan. 18	TBA	At MLK at Los Osos
<b>Jan. 20</b>	<b>6 p.m.</b>	<b>Vs. Desert Mirage</b>
<b>Jan. 22</b>	<b>6 p.m.</b>	<b>Vs. Yucca Valley</b>
<b>Jan. 27</b>	<b>6 p.m.</b>	<b>Vs. Big Bear</b>
Jan. 29	6 p.m.	At Desert Hot Springs
<b>Feb. 3</b>	<b>6 p.m.</b>	<b>Vs. Shadow Hills</b>
<b>Feb. 5</b>	<b>6 p.m.</b>	<b>Vs. Rancho Mirage</b>
Feb. 8	6 p.m.	At Yucca Valley
Feb. 10	6 p.m.	At Desert Mirage

## TWENTYNINE PALMS HIGH SCHOOL WILDCATS VARSITY BOYS SOCCER

Dec. 18-19	TBA	At West Shores Tourney
Dec. 28-30	TBA	At Loma Linda Tourney
<b>De Anza League play begins</b>		
Jan. 8	5 p.m.	At Big Bear
<b>Jan. 11</b>	<b>5 p.m.</b>	<b>Vs. Desert Hot Springs</b>
Jan. 13	5 p.m.	At Shadow Hills
Jan. 15	5 p.m.	At Rancho Mirage
<b>Jan. 20</b>	<b>5 p.m.</b>	<b>Vs. Desert Mirage</b>
<b>Jan. 22</b>	<b>5 p.m.</b>	<b>Vs. Yucca Valley</b>
<b>Jan. 27</b>	<b>5 p.m.</b>	<b>Vs. Big Bear</b>
Jan. 29	5 p.m.	At Desert Hot Springs
<b>Feb. 3</b>	<b>5 p.m.</b>	<b>Vs. Shadow Hills</b>
<b>Feb. 5</b>	<b>5 p.m.</b>	<b>Vs. Rancho Mirage</b>
Feb. 8	5 p.m.	At Yucca Valley
Feb. 10	5 p.m.	At Desert Mirage

## YUCCA VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL TROJANS VARSITY GIRLS SOCCER

Dec. 18	3:15	At Coachella Valley
Dec. 28	12 p.m.	Vs. Ontario Christian
Dec. 29	TBA	TBA
Dec. 30	TBA	TBA
<b>De Anza League play begins</b>		
<b>Jan. 6</b>	<b>5 p.m.</b>	<b>Vs. Big Bear</b>
Jan. 8	5 p.m.	At Shadow Hills
Jan. 11	5 p.m.	At Desert Mirage
<b>Jan. 12</b>	<b>5 p.m.</b>	<b>Vs. West Shores</b>
<b>Jan. 15</b>	<b>5 p.m.</b>	<b>Vs. Desert Hot Springs</b>
Jan. 20	5 p.m.	At Rancho Mirage
<b>Jan. 22</b>	<b>5 p.m.</b>	<b>Vs. Twentynine Palms</b>
Jan. 25	3 p.m.	At Big Bear
<b>Jan. 27</b>	<b>5 p.m.</b>	<b>Vs. Shadow Hills</b>
<b>Jan. 29</b>	<b>5 p.m.</b>	<b>Vs. Desert Mirage</b>
Feb. 5	5 p.m.	At Desert Hot Springs
Feb. 8	5 p.m.	At Twentynine Palms
<b>Feb. 10</b>	<b>5 p.m.</b>	<b>Vs. Rancho Mirage</b>



JOSH ALLEN Hi-Desert Star  
Connor McClay elevates to get to the rim during a recent home win for Joshua Springs.

## JOSHUA SPRINGS HIGH SCHOOL LIGHTNING VARSITY GIRLS BASKETBALL

Dec. 17	5 p.m.	At West Shores
Jan. 5	5 p.m.	At Desert Chapel
Jan. 7	5 p.m.	At Desert Christian Academy
Jan. 8	5 p.m.	At Redlands Adventist Academy
<b>Jan. 12</b>	<b>5 p.m.</b>	<b>Vs. Excelsior Charter</b>
Jan. 14	5:30 p.m.	At Palm Valley
<b>Jan. 19</b>	<b>5 p.m.</b>	<b>Vs. Bloomington Christian</b>
Jan. 21	5:30 p.m.	At Mesa Grande Academy
<b>Jan. 26</b>	<b>5 p.m.</b>	<b>Vs. Redlands Adventist Academy</b>
<b>Jan. 28</b>	<b>5 p.m.</b>	<b>Vs. Desert Chapel</b>
<b>Feb. 2</b>	<b>5 p.m.</b>	<b>Vs. Desert Christian Academy</b>
Feb. 5	3:15 p.m.	At Nuview Bridge
<b>Feb. 8</b>	<b>5 p.m.</b>	<b>Vs. San Jacinto Valley Academy</b>
<b>Feb. 9</b>	<b>5 p.m.</b>	<b>Vs. Palm Valley</b>
Feb. 11	5 p.m.	At Bloomington Christian

## JOSHUA SPRINGS HIGH SCHOOL LIGHTNING VARSITY BOYS BASKETBALL

Dec. 17	5 p.m.	At West Shores High School
Jan. 5	6:30 p.m.	At Desert Chapel
Jan. 7	6:30 p.m.	At Desert Christian Academy
Jan. 8	2:30 p.m.	At Redlands Adventist Academy
<b>Jan. 12</b>	<b>6:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Vs. Excelsior Charter</b>
Jan. 14	7 p.m.	At Palm Valley
<b>Jan. 19</b>	<b>6:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Vs. Bloomington Christian</b>
Jan. 21	7 p.m.	At Mesa Grande Academy
<b>Jan. 26</b>	<b>6:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Vs. Redlands Adventist Academy</b>
<b>Jan. 28</b>	<b>TBA</b>	<b>Vs. Desert Chapel</b>
<b>Feb. 2</b>	<b>6:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Vs. Desert Christian Academy</b>
Feb. 5	5 p.m.	At Nuview Bridge (Nuevo)
<b>Feb. 8</b>	<b>6:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Vs. San Jacinto Valley Academy</b>
<b>Feb. 9</b>	<b>6:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Vs. Palm Valley</b>
Feb. 11	6:30 p.m.	At Bloomington Christian

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# Cloudy with a chance of steel rain



Marines with Battery I, 3rd Battalion, 11th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, fire an M777 Howitzer during the opening day of live-fire operations for Steel Knight aboard the Combat Center, Dec. 10. The tough, realistic training is intended to develop combat skills necessary to operate as the ground combat element of the I Marine Expeditionary Force.



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