

OBSERVATION Post

MARINE CORPS AIR GROUND COMBAT CENTER

JULY 20, 2007 SERVING THE TWENTYNINE PALMS COMMUNITY SINCE 1957 VOL. 50 ISSUE 28

Marines play for vets in NorCal

LANCE CPL. NICOLE A. LAVINE
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

Military veterans wearing their old uniforms and medals congregated under the shade of canopies, talking among themselves and making comments on how sharp the Marines in front of them looked.

They were referring to the Marines in the Combat Center's band preparing to perform for the veterans.

The band performed a concert for the opening of the F.D. Roosevelt Annex Memory Care Center Dedication at the Veteran's Home of California, Yountville, July 11.

The care center was built to provide the highest level of care possible for veterans suffering mind dementia diseases such as Alzheimer's.

The band's half-hour performance earned them more than a warm round of applause from audience members.

"When we play for the Vet's, they love it," said Warrant Officer Stephen B. Giove, band officer-in-charge, who conducted the band throughout the performance. "And that makes us feel good."

After the ceremony, veterans, staff



LANCE CPL. NICOLE A. LAVINE

The Combat Center percussion section plays a drum solo for military veterans at the opening ceremony of the F.D. Roosevelt Annex Memory Care Center in Yountville, Calif., July 11.

See MCAGCC BAND, A6

MWTC braves Denali



See DENALI, A4

Marine witness, reacts to collision

LANCE CPL. NICOLE A. LAVINE
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

The definition of training according to Webster's II New Riverside University Dictionary is: 1.) To coach in or accustom to a mode of behavior or performance. 2.) To make proficient with special instruction and practice.

Marines are trained constantly to insure the efficiency of their performance on and off the battle field.

Cpl. Jacob Thacker is an instructor and mentor for units before they deploy to combat in the fundamentals and principles of operations in the urban environment at exercise Mojave Viper through the Tactical Training Exercise Control Group, said Capt. Ryan B. Cohen, commanding officer of the urban assault lane at the warfare training center.

Thacker demonstrated the importance of good training and exercised sound moral standards July 12.

That day, Thacker was headed east bound on the U.S. Highway 62, when he witnessed a Jeep collide head-on with a station wagon. The Jeep flipped frontward and rolled a few times, coming to a stop on its side. The station wagon that was hit by the jeep slammed to a stop.

"The guy was trying to turn across traffic, across another street," said Thacker. "When I saw the accident, I was about 60 meters behind it. I pulled a u-turn, pulled off on the side of the road and ran to the accident.

When I saw the guy in the jeep, he was dangling, unconscious, with his seatbelt on."

Thacker said as he was helping the man in the jeep, he told two by-standers to call 911 and go check on the woman.

"The guy got the worst of it," said Thacker.

After Thacker helped the man out of his Jeep, he said that that the man acted very confused and disoriented, asking Thacker to help him push his Jeep upright so he could leave.

"I told the guy to relax, that he had just been in a bad accident and he needed to sit on the curb and wait for the paramedics to get there," said Thacker.

The distressed man started acting frantic, shouting that he needed to go, and pushed people out of his way before taking off on foot.

That is when Thacker chased after him, tackled him, and detained him until the officers of the San Bernardino Sheriff's Police Department arrived several minutes later.

"After I tackled him and he had his hands behind his back, one of the guys who was helping me search him said he could smell alcohol on the man," said Thacker.

"When the cops got there, they ran the guy's name through and found out he already had a warrant for his arrest for a DUI [driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs]."

Thacker is modest about his actions, saying he would expect any good citizen to act the same way.

"If I was in a wreck like that, I would



LANCE CPL. NICOLE A. LAVINE

Cpl. Joseph Thacker, Tactical Training Exercise Control Group, stands outside Hopkins Hall, the TTECG headquarters building, on base July 18.

expect someone to help me," said Thacker. "It was just a spur of the moment thing where you just have to react."

Cohen said Thacker is the type of person and Marine who would be expected to perform in such a way.

"Cpl. Thacker is a very compassionate person," said Cohen. "He is a solid figure in the team who cares not only about the personal welfare of Marines he works with, but he's also very centered on mission accomplishment. He's a real team player."

Weekend Weather

Friday		103/74 Sunny
Saturday		101/78 Sunny
Sunday		104/79 Sunny

Inside this issue

- A5: JIEDDO protects from IED
- A7: Band plays on in San Francisco
- A9: CG employs new enlisted aide

Observations



MCCES crushes TTECG

This Day in Marine Corps History

— July 21, 1861 —
Maj. John G. Reynolds leads a battalion of 365 Marines to fight in the battle of Bull Run.

C.O.P. Corner

Community Oriented Policing

The proactive voice of crime prevention



Presented by the Provost Marshal's Office Crime Prevention Section

Domestic Assaults

Some of the victims of a Domestic Assault don't even admit that it really happened. Then they don't leave and it happens again and again and again. Domestic violence happens anywhere and everywhere. Most of the time it is because victims don't have the right information to help them out.

Here are some tips to help prevent and keep verbal altercations from escalating into an Assault/ Domestic Violence.

The first step is anger management. In order to keep situations from escalation you have to control your anger.

Controlling Your Anger

- Admit that you're angry: Talking about your feelings can help to calm you down.
- Deal with it: Talk about the problem or just count to 10.
- Don't brush it off: Ignoring your feelings can make anger worse.
- Identify and understand the cause: Figure out what caused you to get angry.
- Walk away: To keep the situation from getting out of hand, leave the area.

Redirect The Anger

- Find a hobby: Add something new to your usual routines, for example, take up painting or collecting things.
- Exercise: This will help you to blow off some steam.

If you think that someone is being abused but don't really know, here are some warning signs. Injuries and Excuses: When there are frequent injuries seen by others, the one being battered may talk about being clumsy, or have elaborate stories of how the injuries occurred. The truth about the source of injuries will not usually be told unless the one listening can be trusted and/or the victim wants help to end the relationship.

Absences from Work or School: When severe beatings or other trauma related to violence occurs.

Accusations of Having Affairs: This is a common tactic used by batterers as an attempt to isolate their partners and as an excuse for a beating.

Personality Changes: A very outgoing person, for instance, becomes quiet and shy around his/her partner.

Fear of Conflict: Conflicts with co-workers, friends, relatives, and neighbors can create a lot of anxiety.

Blaming Others for Everything: For example, a simple drive somewhere could turn into a violent situation if the batterer blames the partner and/or children for getting them lost.

Self-blame: You may notice someone taking all of the blame for things that go wrong.

Aggressive or Care-taking Behavior in Children: Often the class bully is a child who sees violence in his home (directed at mom, or at some or all of the children in the home). Children who seem very grown-up and are sensitive and attentive to others' needs may see violence at home as well.

For more information on domestic violence and how to prevent it, visit websites www.ncpc.org or www.msu.edu.

The following services are available to on-base personnel and residents through Crime Prevention: literature, briefs, education, crime assessments, safety tips, the Stranger Danger program, McGruff the Crime Dog, the Officer Friendly program, the Property Marking program, and the Child Identification and Fingerprinting program. For more information call Crime Prevention, 830-6094/5457.

Presented by the Provost Marshal's Office Crime Prevention Section

Sempertoons

By Gunnery Sgt. Charles Wolf



FREE OBEDIENCE CLASSES



The combat center military working dog handlers are offering free obedience classes to pet owners.

Tomorrow at Felix Field

Classes start at 7:30 am and last until 10:30 am

All dogs are welcome, young or old, big or small, trained or untrained. You don't need to bring a dog to attend or have to own a dog to come out. If you have a dog with some "bad" behaviors that you need a little help with please bring them out around 9:00.

All owners and dogs will be given personal attention. We will have some obstacles (hurdles, tunnels, stairs and an "A" frame) set up if you want to let your dog play on them.

All dogs must be maintained on a leash at all times.

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Date/Time _____

Driver _____

Total fee _____

Pick up at _____

ID # _____

Name _____

Destination _____

Marines, Sailors, and cab drivers: MCOS will reimburse ANY licensed cab company for transportation to the Main Gate, Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center. Drivers: please legally record information from your fare's military I.D. card. Thank you for participating.

Centerspeak

"Whose shoes would you like to be in"

Opinions expressed in Centerspeak

are not necessarily those of the OBSERVATION POST, the Marine Corps or Department of Defense.



CAPT. TYLER FOTHERINGILL
2ND RECONNAISSANCE BATTALION



STAFF SGT. MICHAEL RIEDE
COMPANY B, HEADQUARTERS BATTALION



CPL. ADAM HOLMQUIST
2ND RECONNAISSANCE BATTALION

"I want to be in my own shoes because of my wife, family and career are great."

"Tiger Woods so I can golf pretty much all day."

"Mine because I just bought new boots."

What's on your mind?

Centerspeak welcomes questions or submissions from service members, Department of Defense civilians and family members.

Call the Public Affairs Office at 830-5472 or 830-6213

Or go to: www.29palms.usmc.mil/dtis/pao

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HOT TOPICS

MCCES CHANGE OF COMMAND

Colonel Marshall I. Considine III will relinquish command of the Marine Corps Communication - Electronics School to Colonel Kevin J. Nally at a Change of Command/Retirement Ceremony to be held at the Lance Corporal Torrey Gray Field today at 9 a.m. The uniform for spectators is the combat utility uniform with garrison cover or appropriate civilian attire.

JT SALOON NO LONGER OFF-LIMITS

The armed forces disciplinary control board announced last week that the Joshua Tree Saloon is no longer off-limits to military personnel. The board based its July 3 decision to lift the restriction mostly on the owner's efforts to improve safety and security at the saloon.

DEL VALLE ROAD REPAVING PROJECT

Del Valle Road will be closed from Adobe Road to Tenth Street for an additional two weeks beyond the original completion date due to the limited availability of the special rubberized asphalt plant equipment. Del Valle is now scheduled to re-open August 3. Please be attentive to all traffic control signs. Reminder 1: POV traffic should utilize Brown Road to get across Mainside. Reminder 2: The temporary dirt road from Adobe Road to Bourke Road detour is intended for semi-trailers. Del Valle Road has long needed a facelift due to load damage from heavy vehicles. This construction project will repave Del Valle from Adobe to Tenth Street, and the project includes a special rubberized asphalt overlay manufactured from recycled tires to reduce cracking, reduce noise, and increase pavement life. Traffic lights will also be installed at the Third Street and Fifth Street intersections to assist with left turns onto Del Valle during lunch and at the end of the workday.

CALL 830-3333/3334 OR 830-FIRE FROM YOUR CELL PHONE TO REPORT EMERGENCIES ON BASE

Reporting emergencies that occur on-base by calling from a cell phone should be reported by calling (760)830-3333, (760)830-3334 or (760)830. Failure to report an emergency at MCAGCC from your cell phone using one of the dedicated emergency lines may result in an unnecessary delay of emergency response due to long distance routing of cellular 9-1-1 calls.

RECRUITING SCREENING TEAM VISIT TODAY

The Headquarters Marine Corps Recruiting screening team is coming to the Combat Center today. The team will be at the Protestant Chapel from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Marines not pre-selected for screening but interested in assignment to Recruiting Duty should see their unit Career Retention Specialist for screening prior to the visit. All Marines to be screened should have a completed Commanding Officer's Recruiting Duty Screening Check-list and Financial Worksheet. For more information, contact the Combat Center CRS GySgt McAllister at 830-6171 or see your unit CRS.

MSG SCREENING TEAM VISIT

The Marine Corps Security Guard Screening Team is coming to the Combat Center on July 26th. The team will be screening qualified Marines for this demanding special duty assignment. The screening will be at Bldg 1707 Classroom A from 0800 to 1630 and begin with an introductory brief on MSG Duty. All Marines who are in receipt of orders to MSG school must attend and have their SRB, Health Record and a current BIR/BTR. Marines who desire to be screened must have a completed and signed Commanding Officer's Screening Checklist (Phase 1 and Financial Checklist) and have initiated an NACLAC investigation to obtain a Secret Security Clearance. For more information, contact the Combat Center Career Retention Specialist, GySgt McAllister at 830-6171 or see your unit CRS.

GERBER RECALL

The Defense Commissary Agency has pulled Gerber Organic Rice, and Organic Oatmeal cereals from the shelves due to a potential choking hazard. This is a voluntary recall by Gerber after finding that products may contain lumps of cereal which do not dissolve in water or milk. There is a chance of choking but no injuries have been reported.

All codes of Gerber Organic Rice and Organic Oatmeal cereals in 8oz boxes. The following UPC numbers can be found on the bottom right side of the box:

Gerber Organic Rice, UPC Code 15000 12502
Gerber Organic Oatmeal, UPC Code 15000 12502

Commissary patrons who have either of these products at home should stop using it and return the product to the store from which they purchased it for a full refund. Consumers can also call the Gerber Parents Resource Center at 800-443-7237 or 231-928-3000 to return the product and receive a full refund.

LEISURE ITEMS

OCOTILLO GATE NOW OPEN AT 0500

To assist with traffic flow during the Del Valle construction project, the Ocotillo gate will now be open from 5 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily.

OFFICERS CLUB POOL OPEN FOR LAP SWIM

The Officer's Club is open Monday through Friday from 6 a.m. to 8 a.m. for morning lap swim. For more information please call the aquatics program manager at 830-6212.

CHRISTIAN WORSHIP

ROMAN CATHOLIC SERVICES

Immaculate Heart of Mary Chapel

Sun 7:30 a.m. Rosary
Sun 8 a.m. Catholic Mass*
Sun 9 a.m. Military Council of Catholic Women (Bldg 1551)
Sun 9:15 a.m. Confessions+
Sun 10 a.m. Rosary
Sun 10:30 a.m. Catholic Mass
Sun 10:30 a.m. Children's Liturgy of the Word
Sun 4 p.m. Choir Practice
Sun 4 p.m. Life Teen/Youth Group
Sun 4:30 p.m. Rosary
Sun 5 p.m. Catholic Mass
Sun 6 p.m. Cyrus Young Adult Group 18-35 years of age married or single (3rd Sunday of the month)
Fri 12:15 - 4:30 p.m. Exposition/Adoration Most Blessed Sacrament (1st Friday Each Month)

Holy Days of Obligation Masses

12:30 p.m. Immaculate Heart of Mary Chapel

VILLAGE CENTER

Sun 9 a.m. Military Council of Catholic Women*

NON-DENOMINATIONAL CHRISTIAN SERVICE

Christ Chapel

Sun 8 a.m. Sunday School*

Sun 9 a.m. Worship*

Wed 7 p.m. Praise & Worship*

PROTESTANT LITURGICAL SERVICE

Christ Chapel

Sun 11 a.m. Worship

LAY-LED INDEPENDENT BAPTIST SERVICE

Christ Chapel

Sun 11 a.m. Worship

LAY-LED GOSPEL SERVICE

Christ Chapel

Sun 12:30 p.m. Worship

MID-WEEK EVENTS

MONDAY

Immaculate Heart of Mary Chapel
Mon-Fri 11:45 a.m. Catholic Mass

TUESDAY

Immaculate Heart of Mary Chapel
5 - 7:30 p.m. Catechist Meeting (Second Tuesday of the month)
6 p.m. Baptism Class 1st Tuesday each Month

C&E Mess Hall Bldg 1660

11:30 a.m. Bible Study
Chaplain Flint 830-6187

WEDNESDAY

Village Center

11:30 a.m. Prayer Meeting in the Prayer Room contact Chaplain Flint 830-6187

Christ Chapel

5:30 p.m. Catholic Choir Rehearsal
6:00 p.m. Praise & Worship Rehearsal
6:00 p.m. Pre-Service Food/Fellowship

7:00 p.m. Lay-Led Gospel Bible Study

7:00 p.m. Praise & Worship Service

1ST THURSDAY EACH MONTH

7 p.m. Knights of Columbus

DEPLOYMENT SUPPORT GROUP FOR WOMEN

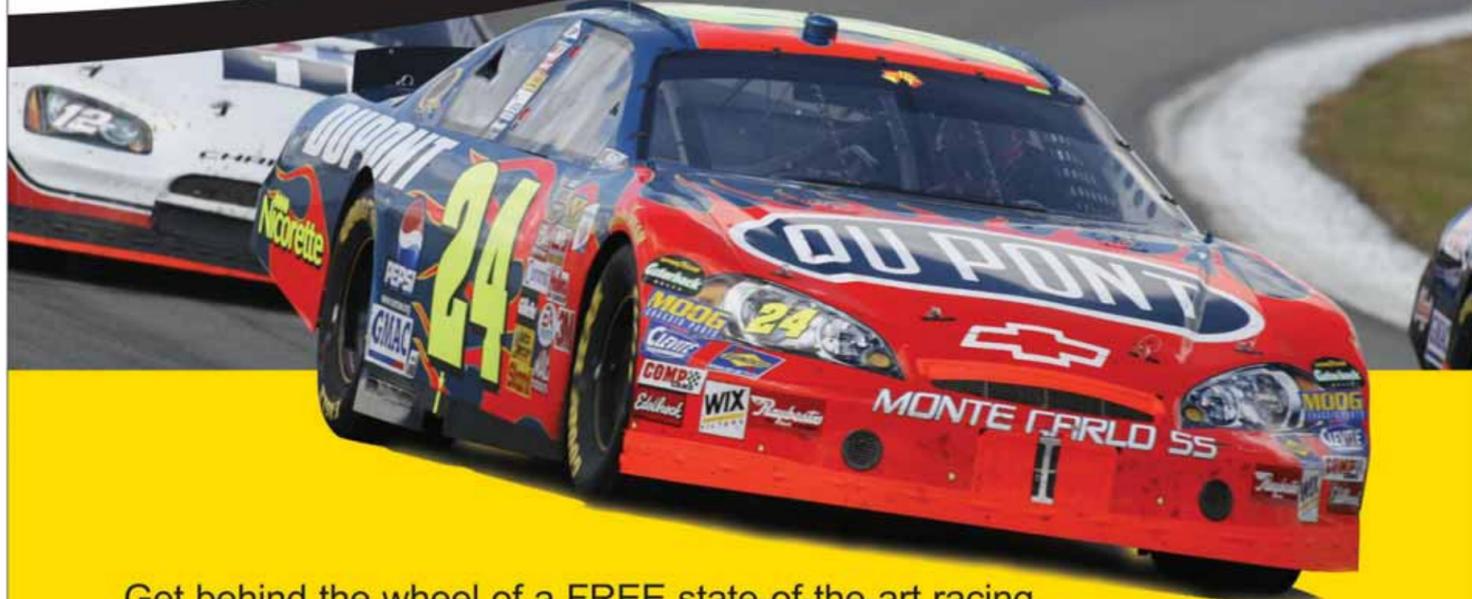
Christ Chapel

9 a.m. June 19, July 17, & August 21

LEGEND

*Indicates Child Care Provided
+Appointments can be made for Confessions by calling 830-6456/6646

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MWTC takes on brutal environment in Denali, Alaska

CPL. REGINA ORTIZ
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

In an effort to provide relevant and extensive mountain and cold weather training, two service members from the Marine Corps Mountain Warfare Training Center, participated in a National Park Service Ranger patrol in Denali, Alaska, from May 4 to June 5.

Following pre-deployment training, Navy Lt. Dave Moore, the Formal Schools officer-in-charge, and Staff Sgt. Steven D. Morris, Mountain Leaders Course staff noncommissioned-officer-in-charge, deployed to Denali National Park in order to extend their knowledge of needs and concerns of operating in high altitude and cold weather environments.

Moore and Morris were also able to further familiarize themselves with the medical hazards in the environment.

"The purpose of this trip was for the MWTC instructor to gain more experience in an alpine, glacial environment, as well as gain exposure to high altitude," said Morris. "It broadens our

knowledge on mountainous environments and how it affects individual and group operations, so we can take our knowledge and apply it to our instructor roles."

To prepare for the deployment, Moore and Morris climbed Mount Whitney in Lone Pine, Calif., to review glacier travel techniques, including ice axe employment, crampon use, and rope work. The climb also allowed them to become familiar with expedition specific equipment and gain exposure to high altitude. In addition, they reviewed glacier travel and crevasse rescue at the MWTC base gym and the Carson Pass area.

"More glacier training, rescue training and exposure to high altitude could've helped," explained Moore. "But overall, we were well prepared after the pre-deployment training we went through."

"The training at MWTC sets a strong foundation for anyone to be able to go to adverse climates and extreme altitudes," added Morris.

Accompanied by an NPS



Patrol members stabilize a patient with HAPE and HACE at Denali National Park's 14,000 ft camp.

NAVY LT. DAVE MOORE

ranger and two other volunteers, Moore and Morris began their patrol at Kahiltna glacier at 7,200 ft. above sea level, and moved to 17,000 ft. over the course of 27 days.

During this movement, the patrol stopped at the 14,000 ft. camp, where they assisted with four mountain casualties. Two were deceased and the patrol performed body recovery procedures. One of the climbers evacuated was a 63-year-old male who had suffered from a possible stroke and the other climber was a male from Germany suffering from high altitude pulmonary edema and high altitude cerebral edema, said Moore.

The two altitude illnesses, HAPE and HACE, occur

when the climber ascends more rapidly than the body can adjust, according to the Web site www.high-altitude-medicine.com.

These are scenarios covered in the courses at MWTC, but not everyone gets the opportunity to work hands-on in real-life scenarios. This helped the men gain experience to bring back to the Marines and sailors going through the courses.

"Now that we're back, it's a dissemination of knowledge," said Morris. "We have those experiences to reference to our students while we're teaching; also it's a great attention-getter."

At 17,000 ft., Denali's advance base camp, the patrol experienced intense weather

and altitude effects, such as lack of appetite and fatigue. The NPS patrol was also responsible for treating any serious medical conditions of climbers on Denali.

"We gained a better appreciation of high altitude over 14,000 feet, as well as rugged environment" said Morris. "Every action, every step, is affected by the elements and variables of the weather. Every ounce of weight is going to affect the timeline, energy levels of the movement. It's a domino effect and we learned better planning processes, preparations to take to accomplish the task and mission."

The two men also learned more effective travel techniques for individual and

group movements, how to pack, what to pack and the patience when climbing to avoid altitude sickness, all to pass on to their students, explained Morris.

Some of the rescue techniques and rope systems used by the Army Rangers and Air Force Pararescue Jumpers on Denali will be evaluated at MWTC for possible incorporation into their programs of instruction, particularly the mountain casualty evacuation protocols, added Moore.

"We are better educated now and can apply all of it to our instructor roles," said Morris. "This will overall benefit the fleet Marine Corps, other services and allied forces we teach."



NAVY LT. DAVE MOORE

Denali10: Other climbers ascend on fixed lines in route to the 17,000 ft Advanced Base Camp.

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PFC. JARED J. BUTLER

Retired Master Sgt. Will Wells, contractor for Marine Center of Excellence, Joint Improvised Explosive Device Defeat Organization, shows the Marines of Battery I, 3rd Battalion, 11th Marine Regiment, how to operate the Hunter System on the 7-ton truck outside the Sunset Cinema movie theatre here July 13.

JIEDDO prevents IEDs, protects service members

PFC. JARED J. BUTLER
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

The Joint Improvised Explosive Device Defeat Organization works to find every possible solution to prevent improvised explosive devices from harming service members.

The joint service organization is divided into the Joint Center of Excellence and the four Service Centers of Excellence that directly influence the IED training for over 36 brigade combat teams and 35 Marine Corps battalions.

"The JIEDDO's mission is to focus all Department of Defense actions in support of combatant commanders' and their respective Joint Task Forces' efforts to defeat IEDs as weapons of strategic influence," said Air Force Lt. Col. Jay Delong, Marine Center of Excellence, JIEDDO.

Over 5,692 individual Marines, soldiers, sailors, and airmen have been trained by the JIEDDO to carry out training and to pass knowledge within their own units.

The JIEDDO prevents IED detonation by attacking the network, defeating the device, and training the force.

"Service members must prevent the emplacement of the IED by attacking enemy vulnerabilities at multiple points in the IED system,"

said Delong about attacking the network.

Delong said that in order to defeat the device, the IED must be defeated once it is emplaced and detected.

"To train the force, the JIEDDO facilitates the establishment and growth of Coalition and partner nation counter-IED capability," said Delong.

The advancements made in the prevention and studies of IEDs and their tactics have allowed the creation of devices to counteract them, such as the Chameleon Electronic Counter Measure (ECM) System and the Hunter System.

The Chameleon (ECM) System and the Hunter System are crew devices placed on humvees and 7-ton trucks that counteract efforts to remote control IEDs and disable them.

The Chameleon and the Hunter are devices that can be changed to respond to new situations, said Delong. This gives them the ability to stay effective and avoid becoming out of date.

"We are primarily focused on the training aspect of the crew devices," said Delong.

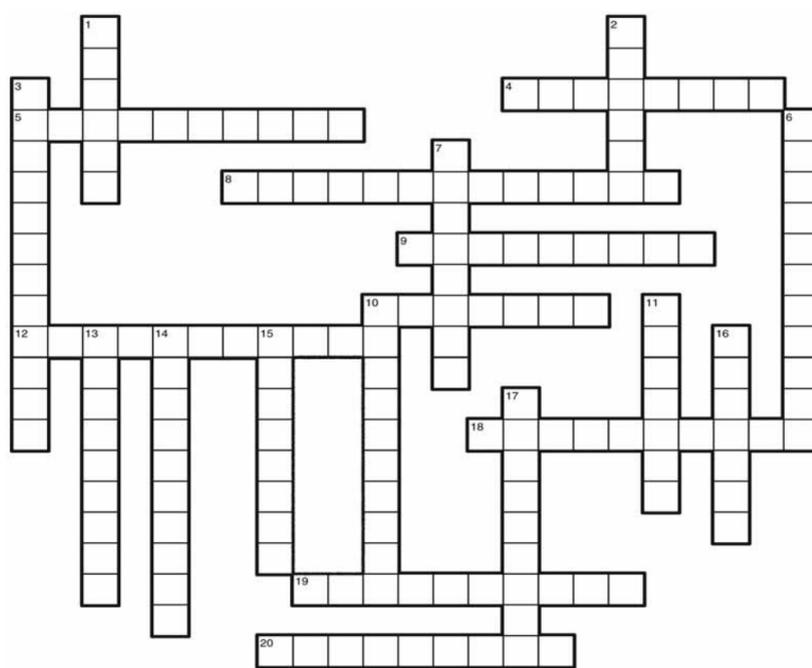
The Marine COE aboard the Combat Center is involved in the construction of the IED training that Marines

experience in Mojave Viper, including IED awareness and crew device training.

"The Marine COE's mission is to facilitate individual, collective and unit training, validate and propagate IED defeat tactics, techniques, procedures and lessons learned in order to enable joint forces to proactively defeat the IED threat in current and future combat operations in expeditionary operating environments," said Delong.

The JIEDDO will continue working to collaborate intelligence between services to ensure that the best possible solutions are in effect to stop IED's and protect service members.

SPELL CHECK 2



ACROSS

4. In the style of the Middle Ages.
5. To magnify beyond the limits of truth.
8. The act of giving hope or support to someone.
9. To introduce a serum, vaccine, or antigenic substance into (the body of a person or animal), especially to produce or boost immunity to a specific disease.
10. Hateful; odious; abominable; totally reprehensible.
12. To make suitable or consistent.
18. Unequivocally; positively.
19. An officer in a police or fire department ranking below a captain.
20. An exact copy, as of a book, painting, or manuscript.

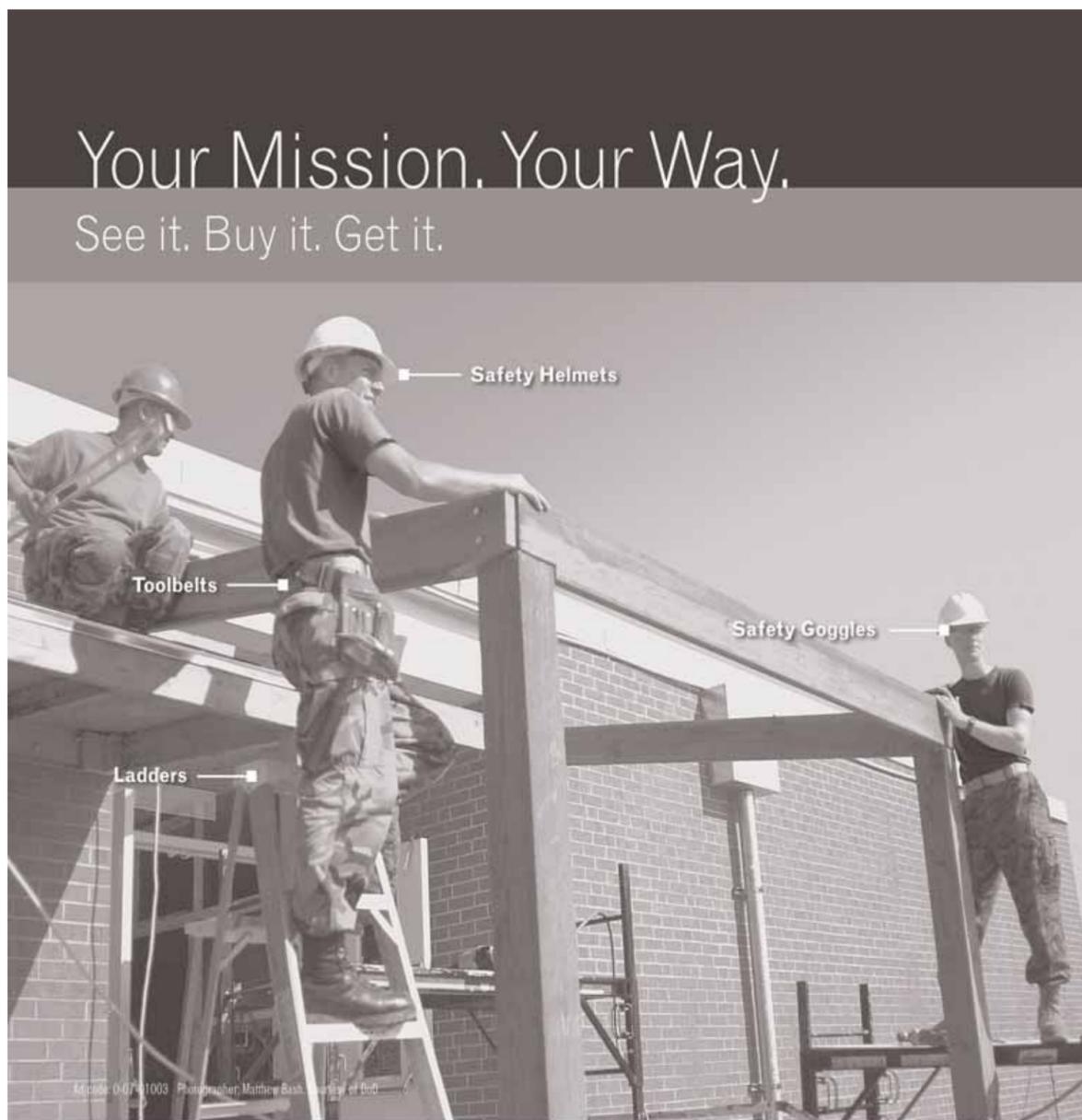
DOWN

1. To trouble by repeated attacks and incursions.
2. Rise or derivation from a particular source.
3. A steady persistence in a course of action.
6. A situation or condition favorable for attainment of a goal.
7. A yellow discoloration of the skin.
10. A profuse discharge of blood, as from a ruptured blood vessel; bleeding.
11. To come into possession or ownership of; get as one's own.
13. Majority of opinion.
14. A period of 1000 years.
15. An iced cocktail of rum, lime or lemon juice, and sugar.
16. Permission to do or not to do something.
17. A body of persons employed in an organization or place of work.

[Solutions on A11]

Freedom is Not Free

The Military Order of the Purple Heart Chapter 2929 invites Marines and sailor Purple Heart Award recipients, along with their families, to honor California's Iraq and Afghanistan Purple Heart Award recipients and the 225th Anniversary of the Purple Heart Award at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library in Simi Valley, Calif., August 4 at 10 a.m. As much as 1,500 people are anticipated to be in attendance including representatives of every branch of California's military, state and local leaders. More than 200 Iraq and Afghanistan campaign Purple Heart Award recipients will also be in attendance.



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U.S. General Services Administration

MCAGCC BAND from A1

and Marines enjoyed a barbecue meal that was hosted by the

Marines Memorial Association.

The barbecue gave veterans the opportunity to admire three Marine Memorial Racecars, owned

by famous photographer Kevyn Major Howard.

Howard and his staff have made several visits to the Combat Center

to put the race cars on display, show support for military functions or just to stop by to talk to service members and their families.

Marines also took the opportunity to mingle and exchange stories with eager veterans.

Even though some veterans were not physically able to leave their rooms, Marines made time to visit them in the Nelson Holderman Hospital across the street from the Memory Care Center.

"It's been so long since I have seen women in uniform," said Gene Creswell, a former member of the Army Nurse Corps, to three female Marines standing in front of her.

Lillian N. James, prior service Coast Guard and roommate of Creswell, said she was very pleased to see Marines.

"Thank you all so much for coming to visit us here," James said to the Marines standing around her bed. "It's nice to see you young people in uniform and serving this country."

After visiting with more residents of the hospital, Marines made their way to the main courtyard of the care center, where they continued to play music.

As the band played the Marine's

Hymn, former Marines in wheelchairs got to their feet and stood proudly at attention until the last note was played, said Staff Sgt. Joseph W. Streeter, band drum major.

"It's important to be around those people because of the legacy they built," said Streeter. "Those guys are the ones who made it happen. We try to bring some of that pride back to them through our music."

Before the band returned to San Francisco, they gathered in a semi-circle formation around Howard's three Marine Memorial Racecars, one of which is covered in the names of all Marines who have fallen since the beginning of the Global War on the Radical Islamic Movement.

Sgt. Robert Roman, assistant enlisted conductor of the band, played taps on his trumpet as a tribute to all fallen service members and to bid farewell to the sparse crowd of remaining residents, staff of the care center and staff of the Marine Memorial Racecar Foundation.

"We have a sense of pride for where we are at this time, but we know they paved the way for us," Giove said about veterans.



LANCE CPL. NICOLE A. LAVINE

Cpl. Courtney Barron of the Combat Center band shakes the hand of Simone Sacco, a former soldier and resident of the Nelson Holderman Hospital, while she and fellow band Marines visit military veterans in Yountville, Calif., July 11.

Internet scams: "too good to be true"

PFC. JARED J. BUTLER
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

The Navy Marine Corps Relief Society recorded at least four reported incidents in the past ten months of service members losing large sums of their financial assets to internet scams.

The leading form of the financial scams is through predatory e-mails that appear to offer some benefit to the victim.

The deciding factor that most fraudulent messages rely on is to obtain the victim's personal information.

Other messages involve victims in the transfer of funds within their own accounts that leave them in overwhelming debt.

"If it sounds too good to be true, that's where it lies," said Ginger Harvey, Relief Services assistant, NMCRS, about identifying the scams.

The e-mail scams come in many different forms, such as messages claiming the victim has won the lottery, messages involving inheritance money, false bank alerts and false auction account alerts.

Jany K. Wasdin, Personal

Financial Management Program coordinator, said the easiest way to identify predatory internet scams is to delete all e-mails from unfamiliar senders.

Scams regarding false bank alerts are sometimes difficult to identify, and it is important that victims take the right steps to avoid releasing their personal information to the wrong party, said Wasdin.

"In situations regarding problems with personal funds, never click on the given link or call the given number," said Wasdin. "It is best to look on the internet yourself for the

corporate number of those in charge of your funds and personally find out if there's a problem."

There are other financial traps that aren't as popular with scammers as e-mails, but are just as dangerous and can be carried out over the phone, through the mail and in advertisements.

Other scams include: false magazine subscriptions, scammers impersonating legitimate lenders, fake credit report Web sites, secured credit card marketing and automatic debit withdrawals.

Among the many scams service members are subject to,

the leading cause of financial trouble service members get themselves into is bad money management.

The number of service members in debt due to their inability to pay off high interest loans has doubled this past year.

"A lot of service members are young and financially inexperienced," said Harvey. "It is important they learn about the things that can be financially harmful to them before they are harmed."

If you have any questions or request additional information on these matters, please contact Jany Wasdin at (760)-830-7342.

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<p>OASIS COMMUNITY CHURCH 6631 Utah Trail, 29 Palms Service Times Sunday 9:00 am, 11:00 am Nursery provided at 9:00am & 11:00am 367-7812 www.oasiscommunitychurch.com</p>	<p>Hi-Desert Missionary Baptist Church Interim Pastor Charles Eillis Come Worship As A Family Wed. Night Bible Study 7:00 pm Sunday School 9:45 am Morning Worship 11:00 am 61960 Mt. View Cir. • Joshua Tree 366-7938</p>	<p>Yucca Valley Church of the Nazarene 9:45 am Morning Worship 8:30 am Sunday School (All ages) 6:00 pm Evening Service 56248 Buena Vista, 365-7819 www.yvnazarene.com</p>	<p>First Southern Baptist Church Sun. Worship 10:45am • 6:00pm Sun. Bible Study 9:30am Wed. Potluck 6:00pm Wed. Bible Study 7:00pm 6088 Sunset Road JT (760) 366-9211</p>

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Band leaves their heart in San Francisco

LANCE CPL. NICOLE A. LAVINE
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

Men and women clapped and cheered as Marines marched down a dimly-lit isle of the theater with their instruments gleaming.

The Combat Center band performed a concert at the Marine Memorial Association in San Francisco, Calif., as an introduction to the continuation of the George P. Shultz Lecture Series July 10.

The Marine Memorial Association is a hotel and historical memorial which serves not only as excellent lodging for military members, but also as a sponsor for speakers and events which give credit to the men and women in uniform today.

Before the lecture and concert took place, the seven-man party band played music for a crowd waiting outside the association and for by-passers on the street.

The theater in which the lecture and concert was held was filled with veterans of every branch, active duty Marines and family members of Marines.

Special guest, Gen. James T. Conway, the commandant of the Marine Corps, treated the theater to an informative report on the progress of the War on the Radical Islamic Movement, the role of the Corps in this war, and a question and answer period for those in the audience with questions.

Conway's speech also aired Monday evening on the KQED public radio station called "It's Your World."

"We want to inform the public what our Marines are doing and what's happening in Iraq," said Conway.



Sgt. Douglas Hardey, Sgt. Alan Phillips, Cpl. Chris Forkner and Sgt. Kevin Oess with the Combat Center party band played "Butter Beans" for a crowd outside the Marine Memorial Association in San Francisco, Calif., July 10.

After Conway's speech, he and retired Marine Maj. Gen. J. Michael Myatt, president and chief executive officer of the Marine Memorial Association, invited all to a reception on the tenth floor.

The reception gave veterans and active duty Marines a chance to intermingle, exchange stories and meet the commandant.

It also gave the commandant a chance to tell the

band staff what an excellent job they did.

"I'm very proud the Twentynine Palms band could make it out to a place like San Francisco and represent us," said Conway. "They did a marvelous job."

Warrant Officer Stephen B. Giove, director and officer-in-charge of the band, said it was an honor to play for the commandant.

"It's great to be able to represent

the face of the Corps for people," said Giove. "It makes it even better when we play for an audience who appreciates what Marines do and give honor to those in harm's way."

Staff Sgt. Joseph W. Streeter, band drum major, agreed.

"Many of our missions put us as the only Marines people see," said Streeter. "We have to exemplify the precision and

power expected of Marines from any realm."

Kevyn Major Howard, a famous photographer and organizer of the Marine Memorial Racecar Foundation, attended the concert to show his support of the band and the Marine Corps.

Howard said staff members of the band have helped him and his staff greatly in aligning with the Marine Corps and making them feel like family.

"The band members are all so talented," said Howard. "There's nothing like a great song played great."



NCIS seeks 4 Marine witnesses of Palm Springs arson incident

Palm Springs, Calif., Fire Department Deputy Fire Marshal Ron Beverly contacted Naval Criminal Investigation Service of Twentynine Palms, Calif., requesting assistance locating four U.S. Marines who saw a civilian suspect set fire to Pope's Bar & Grill in Palm Springs July 14 at around midnight.

According to Beverly, the suspect caused a disturbance at the bar and was escorted out by the manager with the assistance of four unidentified Marines. The suspect returned minutes later, doused the exterior of the occupied building with gasoline and set fire to it.

Witnesses at the scene stated the four Marines helped bar staff extinguish the fire and purportedly left the scene after the situation calmed.

The four Marines are being sought as eye witnesses to this aggravated arson felony crime. Anyone with information as to the identity of the four Marines are requested to contact NCIS, located in Combat Center's bldg. 1031, at (760) 830-6275 or call Deputy Fire Marshal Beverly at (760) 322-8364 ext. 8614.

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CG employs new enlisted aide

LANCE CPL. NICHOLAS M. DUNN
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

With only so many hours in a day, how can a commanding general possibly complete every single task without an aide?

Cpl. Brian D. Carrier began working for Brig. Gen. Melvin Spiese, the Combat Center's commanding general, June 29.

Carrier said Spiese is the first assignment he has received since he completed training to become an enlisted aide. As the commanding general's enlisted aide, Carrier has several daily responsibilities.

"I cook for the general, clean his house every day, and take care of his uniforms by taking them to the cleaner's and putting on his stars and ribbons," said Carrier. "However, I really only cook when people come to visit, like the commandant or foreign dignitaries."

Carrier said he generally arrives at the commanding general's house between 8 and 8:30 a.m.

"I stay until about 4 p.m. cleaning and making sure the general's uniforms are squared away," said Carrier. "If there is a party coming up, I also prepare menus."

Carrier said he came into the Marine Corps September 2004

as a food service specialist at the age of 29. He said being an enlisted aide is strictly a volunteer position and it is a full-time job and it is a job he enjoys.

"I chose that specific job for this purpose," he said. "I heard more about the program when I was at the food service NCO course at Fort Lee, Va., and I decided to volunteer."

"So far it's worked out good," he added. "The people I've worked with are happy with the work I've done."

Carrier said he trained for the enlisted aide position at Marine Barracks "8th and I" in Washington, D.C., working for the commandant and Gen. Peter Pace, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

When Carrier returned to the Combat Center, he heard the commanding general was looking for an enlisted aide, so he volunteered for the job.

Before Carrier enlisted in the Marine Corps, he said he did a number of things involving culinary arts. One year after he graduated high school, he attended Johnson and Wales University in Charleston, S.C. for a year. Between Johnson and Wales, and the Marine Corps, Carrier said he cooked in many different restaurants.

"I've done just about everything from casual family dining

to fine dining," said Carrier. "I love to cook. I've been doing it since I was 15 years old."

Carrier has also cooked food in a combat environment. From February to September 2006, he was deployed with Combat Logistics Battalion 7 to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Carrier said he also supported 1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, in Husayba, Iraq, while he was deployed.

Carrier believes his past experiences in culinary arts have helped prepare him for his current assignment. He said he plans to make a career out of what he does.

"I want to do this as long as I'm in the Marine Corps," he said. "When this general leaves, depending on where he goes, he can take me with him, or I can stay here and wait for the next general, or I can go find a new general."

"This is something I would love to do in the civilian world too," he added. "Typically, movie stars and rock stars will pay a lot of money for services like this."

Carrier recently cooked for the commanding general's Fourth of July party and hopes to continue to be an enlisted aide for the duration of his Marine Corps career.



LANCE CPL. NICHOLAS M. DUNN
Cpl. Brian D. Carrier bakes cookies at the commanding general's house for the Single Marine Program's Pirate Party Saturday.

Havoline offers free oil changes for deployed, injured service members' families

PFC. JARED J. BUTLER
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

Havoline is offering free oil changes to families of deployed and injured U.S. service members from now until December 31, 2007.

The free oil changes fea-

turing Havoline Motor Oil with Deposit Shield will be available at all participating Texaco Xpress Lube locations nationwide to eligible military families.

"We want to support the military on our behalf," said Sandy Sullivan, spokesperson

for Havoline Motor Oil with Deposit Shield, Chevron Products Company. "It's one little thing we can do to show our appreciation for what our service members do for our country."

Operation Havoline Star, Havoline's new program for

assisting military families in need, is working with Operation Homefront to help families of service members through hard times.

One thousand free gift certificates for the oil changes will be available to the military families with financial needs

through Operation Homefront.

Operation Homefront is a non-profit organization dedicated to the welfare of dependants of deployed and injured service members.

"We provide services across the country to the families of the deployed and injured who need help," said Amy Palmer, Operation Homefront.

Sullivan said Operation Havoline Star primarily began because the majority of Havoline customers are military personnel, and service members and their families are approximately four times more likely to use Havoline Motor Oil products than civilian customers.

Operation Havoline Star is considered a "loyalty program"

that allows Havoline to recognize their loyal customers.

"Giving free oil changes is something we can do to give back to our military customers," said Sullivan.

Getting the oil changed and maintaining a vehicle is important, said Sullivan. That's why Havoline is giving free oil filters and lubes to all customers who receive a free oil change.

Gift certificates for the free oil changes can be obtained by applying online at the Operation Homefront Web site or visiting a local chapter of Operation Homefront.

If you have any questions, please contact the Operation Homefront office at (714)-444-0075, or visit www.operationhomefront.net.

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PFC JARED J. BUTLER

Fly it High

Marine Corps Communications Electronics School students Pvt. John A. Frausto, Pfc. Dusty E. Kutz and Pvt. Rajin R. Nanku of Company A, Organizational Maintenance Training Section, raise the national flag at the Van Heusen house in Yucca Valley July 4. The flag was raised at the Van Heusen house, former home of famous songwriter Jimmy Van Heusen, for the first time since President John F. Kennedy was scheduled to visit there in 1962. The new owners of the property, Bill Flynn and Tom Cribb, requested the flag be raised to celebrate the beginning of the restoration of the house so it can be open to the public next year, as a local historical site and tourist attraction.

MCCS weekly CONNECTION

JULY 21, 2007

www.mccs29palms.com

Get your golf balls together for **“TWILIGHT TUESDAYS!”** Golf League at Desert Winds Golf Course. July 31 thru October 30th at 5 p.m. \$15 buys you golf, cart and prizes. Format of play will vary from week to week.

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Recreation and Special Events

Enjoy a night out with the whole family at the Combat Center Officers' Club. Each Wednesday Night is Steak Night from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Attendees will enjoy a grilled to order steak, baked potato, texas toast, and salad. Prices are \$9.75 for members, \$10.75 for non-members. Reservations are requested. Families will be seated in the Mesa Room. Call 830-6610 for details and reservations.

Lifelong Learning Library has a Book Club. Join them on the second Monday of each month at 6 p.m. You purchase and read the book; they will provide the stimulating conversation. August 13th and September 10th are the next two scheduled meetings dates with books TBA. The Lifelong Learning Library offers music Cds, VHS & DVD movies, audio books and FREE internet access. For more information, call 830-6874.

July 21st
5-8 p.m.

Summer Dining at Duffer's Retreat

Enjoy an evening of grilled edibles.

- Angus Top Sirloin Steak • Roasted Red Potatoes • Cowboy Ranch Style Beans
- Salad • Garlic Toast • Dessert • Refreshment
- Children's menu available

Reservations encouraged, call 830.6132.
www.mccs29palms.com

The Combat Center Officers' Club is hosting Right Hand Man Night Wednesday, July 25 from 4:30 - 8 p.m. Keep the tradition! Invite your right hand man to join you at the pub. Call 830-6610 for more details.

The Combat Center Officer's Club is hosting Splash Night with the family! Grab a pool towel and head on over for BBQ chicken, hamburgers, hot dogs, baked beans and potato salad on Friday, July 27 from 5 - 7:30 p.m. Good times to be had by all! Members \$6.50; Non-members \$8.50. For more information, call 830-6610.

Desert Winds Golf Course is offering FREE Golf Lessons by a PGA Professional starting July 30th. Join us Monday - Thursday from 4:30 - 5:30 p.m. For more information, call 830-6132 for more details.

Desert Winds Golf Course is hosting a Glow Ball Tournament on Saturday, August 11 starting at 5:30 p.m. Participate in a 4 person scramble or be placed with a team. 9 holes at twilight and 9 holes Glow Ball. Golf, cart, food and prizes are all included for \$30. For more details, call 830-6132.



\$1 MOVIES

WEEKLY MOVIE SCHEDULE



20 Friday	21 Saturday	22 Sunday	23 Monday	24 Tuesday	25 Wednesday	26 Thursday
GRACIE 6 p.m. 97 min. PG-13	SHREK THE THIRD 2 p.m. 93 min. PG	SURFS UP 2 p.m. 85 min. PG		FANTASTIC FOUR: RISE OF THE SILVER SURFER 7 p.m. 92 min. PG	SHREK THE THIRD 7 p.m. 93 min. PG-13	OCEAN'S THIRTEEN 7 p.m. 122 min. PG-13
PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN AT WORLD'S END 9 p.m. 168 min. PG-13	GRACIE 6 p.m. 97 min. PG-13	SHREK THE THIRD 6 p.m. 93 min. PG-13	BUG 7 p.m. 107 min. R			
	OCEAN'S THIRTEEN 9 p.m. 122 min. PG-13	KNOCKED UP 9 p.m. 129 min. R				



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Friday

Hi-Desert Nature Museum, Tues. – Sun., 10 a.m. – 5 p.m., Exhibit: “Sing me your story, dance me home.” 57090 29 Palms Hwy., Yucca Valley

Line dancing class with Jim Jory, 10 a.m. at the Yucca Valley Elks Lodge; 55946 Yucca Trail, 365-2314.

Bingo, 5:30 p.m. at Blessed Sacrament School; 6555 Sage Avenue, Twentynine Palms, 367-3341.

“High School Musical” gala opening, 6 p.m. at Theatre 29; call 366-8471 for reservations.

Jeffery Hafler, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. at Twentynine Palms Inn; 367-3505.

Ritmo Loco, 7:30 p.m. at Pappy and Harriet’s in Pioneertown; 365-5956.



Saturday

Hi-Desert Nature Museum, Tues. – Sun., 10 a.m. – 5 p.m., Exhibit: “Sing me your story, dance me home.” 57090 29 Palms Hwy., Yucca Valley

Farmer’s Market, 8 a.m. to noon at the Yucca Valley Park and Ride; Kickapoo Trail and Twentynine Palms Highway.

Sky Village Marketplace and Swap Meet, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Old Woman Springs Road, behind Barr Lumber, 365-8999.

Pioneer Posse Old West shows, 2:30 p.m. on Mane Street in Pioneertown.

“High School Musical,” 7 p.m. at Theatre 29; 73637 Sullivan Road, Twentynine Palms, 361-4151.

Beverly Derby and Bill Church, 7 to 10 p.m. at the Twentynine Palms Inn; 367-3505.

007 and The Souls, 5 p.m., Dave Gleason’s Wasted Days, 8 p.m. at Pappy and Harriet’s in Pioneertown; 365-5956.

Summer Music Festival: Prince Diabeté, 7 p.m. at the Yucca Valley Community Center.



Sunday

Hi-Desert Nature Museum, Tues. – Sun., 10 a.m. – 5 p.m., Exhibit: “Sing me your story, dance me home.” 57090 29 Palms Hwy., Yucca Valley

Breakfast, 8 to 11 a.m. at the Joshua Tree VFW Post; 6402 Veterans Way, 366-2717.

Sky Village Marketplace and Swap Meet, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.; on Old Woman Springs Road, behind Barr Lumber, 365-8999.

Callan, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and **Chris Walters,** 6:30 p.m. at Twentynine Palms Inn; 367-3505.

Thrift Store Allstars, 7 p.m. at Pappy and Harriet’s in Pioneertown; 365-5956.

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New vehicles support Marine mission in Anbar

SGT. STEPHEN M. DEBOARD
REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM 6

CAMP FALLUJAH, Iraq -- Marines with Regimental Combat Team 6 recently got their hands on the Marine Corps' newest counter to attacks by terrorist forces in Anbar Province.

The Joint Explosive Ordnance Disposal Rapid Response Vehicle, or JERRV, is the latest melding of technology and combat firepower to find its way onto the battlefield in Iraq. Like any new weapon fielded to Marines, instructors are needed to certify potential operators in its use.

One of the JERRV operator instructors for the regiment is Cpl. Miarco T. McMillian, a motor transportation operator with Headquarters Company. He is one of a handful of instructors responsible for training the Marines who will be driving the trucks on combat and logistics patrols throughout Al Anbar Province.

The JERRV is one type of vehicle in the category of Mine Resistant Ambush Protected vehicles, or MRAPs. It's the usual alphabet soup of military acronyms that all boils down to one thing: protecting Marines in combat. Unlike the humvee, the current workhorse of the American vehicle fleet, the JERRV chassis was designed with heavy bomb-proof armor in mind.

"There's a higher sense of security with brand new vehicles. They're designed to carry the weight of the armor," said

McMillian, a Las Vegas native and 1998 graduate of Meadows High School. "The JERRVs are 40,000 lbs. but they can go up to 52,000 lbs. with extra modifications. Being surrounded by all that armor makes you feel safe."

Gunnery Sgt. Matthew A. Larson, the motor transportation maintenance chief for RCT-6, echoed McMillian's sentiment.

"They're like no other vehicle I have ever driven," Larson said. "They are like riding in a bank-vault with wheels. You can't help but feel safer in the JERRV than in an armored humvee. These vehicles will definitely save lives."

Larson said the process of training Marines on the JERRV will be a "continuous process."

"The intent is for RCT-6 instructors to train instructors in all of the subordinate units, while simultaneously teaching all potential operators in the RCT headquarters," said Larson, a Hubert, N.C., native. "When all is said and done, we should have in the ball park of

700 or so Marines trained to operate the MRAPs."

RCT-6 will need every one of those operators to man the fleet of vehicles it is slated to receive. Around 500 MRAPs, including the JERRV and other variants, will make an immediate impact on the mission in Anbar Province, according to Capt. Russell W. Wilson, the motor transportation officer for RCT-6.

A versatile vehicle requires a versatile operator. This is the value in having Marines like McMillian in the instructor seat, said Wilson.

"The Marine Corps is one of the only places in the world where a corporal, with relatively minimal training, teaching, and public speaking experience, can get out there and teach all ranks and grades with confidence and professionalism," he said. "With the training of Cpl. McMillian and the cadre of instructors like him, we aim to safely and rapidly field the MRAP for convoy security and give Marines a better fighting chance against the tactics of the enemy."



COURTESY PHOTO

The 6 x 6 Armed Mine Protected Vehicle, dubbed the Cougar, is currently being used during combat operations in Iraq.

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OBSERVATIONS

JULY 20, 2007

MCCES schools TTECG 7-1 to end regular soccer season

LANCE CPL. NICHOLAS M. DUNN
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

Marine Corps Communications-Electronics School dominated the soccer field Wednesday at 7 p.m. with a final score 7-1 when they took on Tactical Training Exercise Control Group at the Combat Center's Felix Field.

The game officially ended the regular season of the Commanding General's Intramural Soccer League.

"So far it's been a good season," said Isaac Solorio, a forward for MCCES and one of the team's captains. "Hopefully we will win the season. We're feeling pretty good right now."

The game began with MCCES in control of the ball. An intense battle raged in the middle of the field until Ryan Kent, a forward for MCCES, scored the first goal early in the first half.

TTECG fought back and Nesrodene Ghassoul, a forward for TTECG, scored their first goal by burying the rebound of an indirect kick. However, it was not enough to stop MCCES. Solorio scored a second goal for MCCES during a face off at midfield.

MCCES continued to dominate the field in the first half. Kent scored a third goal and assisted Adam Rivera, a midfielder for MCCES, with the fourth. At half time, MCCES was in the lead with a score of 4-1.

The second half began



Isaac Solorio, a forward for MCCES, kicks the ball between two TTECG players during the final game of the Commanding General's Intramural Soccer League Wednesday at the Combat Center's Felix Field.

with TTECG in control of the ball. A flourish of blue and white jerseys battled for control in the midfield for much of the half. TTECG fought hard, but proved no match for the MCCES players.

MCCES finally seized the ball and Juan Perez, a forward for MCCES, scored a fifth goal.

Several minutes later, Rivera scored a sixth goal for MCCES, which was followed closely by the seventh

and final goal scored by Micheál "Irish" Allen, a striker for MCCES.

Both teams fought valiantly, but MCCES was able to claim victory over TTECG with a final score of 7-1.

"We had really good teamwork out there tonight," said Allen. "We all have really busy schedules with school and we still make time to come out and play soccer."

"Tonight was the most

dominating game we ever played," added Josue Ruiz, a sweeper for MCCES.

The league's first playoff game will begin Monday at 5:30 p.m. at the Combat Center's Felix Field.

Underdog team wins bowling championship

LANCE CPL. KATELYN A. KNAUER
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

The sailors of Navy Personnel bowling, team NavPers, battled it out from the underdog position and defeated team Go-Get-R's from Exercise Support Division in the Commanding General's Intramural Bowling League championship at the Sandy Hill Lanes Bowling Alley July 12.

NavPers ranked number one out of 16 teams in this season and defeated team Go-Get-R's 34-33.

It was intense as the NavPers entered the three-game championship knowing that they would have to win all three games to place as the number one team.

NavPers team captain for the season was Jared R. Naab and the team captain for Go-Get-R's was Anthony Strong.

The season required a lot of commitment, time, practice and team work from all members said the two teams.

"Most of our team had never been in a bowling league or had prior bowling knowledge," said William

D. Cangemi, team NavPers. "Our games improved every week and everyone took turns carrying the load for each win we earned."

"This was a true team effort and this game not only brought us together as a competitive force to be reckoned with, but it also has made us a better team within our office," he continued.

Throughout the season, both teams said they saw things that went well and things that needed improvement. "The season was good," said Gerald G. Russell, team NavPers. "We just tried to make sure everyone received equal time on the lanes no matter what. We win or lose as a team, so everyone bowls."

Sandeep Kumar, team NavPers, agreed.

"The season went pretty good, especially with the number of people who participated in the tournament, including sailors, Marines and civilians," he said. "Any improvements needed for next years tournament would be more practice because practice makes perfect."

For team Go-Get-R's, who played a competitive season and walked away with a close second place, said it all came down to better averages and just enjoying the game.

"The season went well, a good group of people participated," said Julie McClay, team Go-Get-R's. "We could improve on our averages and take first place instead of second place."

"First and second place results came down to the very last frame of the third game to decide the championship," she continued. "Even though our team lost, it was very exciting."

As for next year's championship, team NavPers plans on coming out and defending their title, said Kumar.

"Most of the team will be stationed here next year, so look forward to us coming back with the determination that we had this year but with more improved skills next year," said Cangemi.



LANCE CPL. KATELYN A. KNAUER

Anthony Strong of team Go-Get-R's competes in the Commanding General's Intramural Bowling League July 12.



Team NavPers entered the championship as the underdog and ended up defeating team Go-Get-R's to end the season with a team win, on July 12.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Active Duty Marines & Sailors, who are single, are eligible to participate in all SMP events! You're here. You're single. You're in.	2	3	4 4th July Celebration @ Victory Field! Event begins @ 4 p.m.	5	6 FIRST TO FIGHT Video Game Tournament @ The Zone, 6 p.m. Cost: \$5	7 SMP Trip to Medieval Times Dinner Theater Depart The Zone @ 11 a.m. Cost: \$35
8 Sponsored by: AMERICAN FRIENDS AFAF OF OUR ARMED FORCES	9	10 SMP Committee Meeting, 9 a.m. @ THE ZONE SMP Pool Tournament @ The Zone @ 6 p.m. \$5 entry fee	11 SMP FREE Bowling & Pizza @ Sandy Hill Lanes @ 7 p.m.	12 MCCS MARINE CORPS	13	14 SMP Trip to SOAK CITY Depart The Zone @ 9 a.m. Cost: \$15
15 For More Information Call The SMP Office @ 830-4767	16	17 SMP Pool Tournament @ The Zone @ 6 p.m. \$5 entry fee	18	19	20 SMP Chess Tournament @ The Zone 6p.m. FREE!	21 FREE! PIRATE PARTY 2 p.m. @ The Zone FREE grub!
22 SMP Web-Site: mccs29palms.com Check it out!	23	24 No endorsement of the sponsors is intended by the federal government or the USMC.	25 Desert Mail Call 2:30 P.M. Donate CDs, DVDs, Batteries & more! (Volunteers needed)	26	27	28 SMP Trip to ONTARIO MILLS MALL Depart The Zone 9 a.m. Cost: \$5
29 SMP Trip to PAINTBALL Depart The Zone 7 a.m. Cost: \$20	30	31 RISK Board Game Night @ The Zone, 6 p.m. FREE!	RISK Board Game Night Tuesday, July 31 Remember the days of times past? Remember when there were less than 100 channels on your TV? Remember family night? SMP wishes to bring back the days of old with RISK Board Game Night! Come hang out @ The Zone with your peeps and plan a night of			

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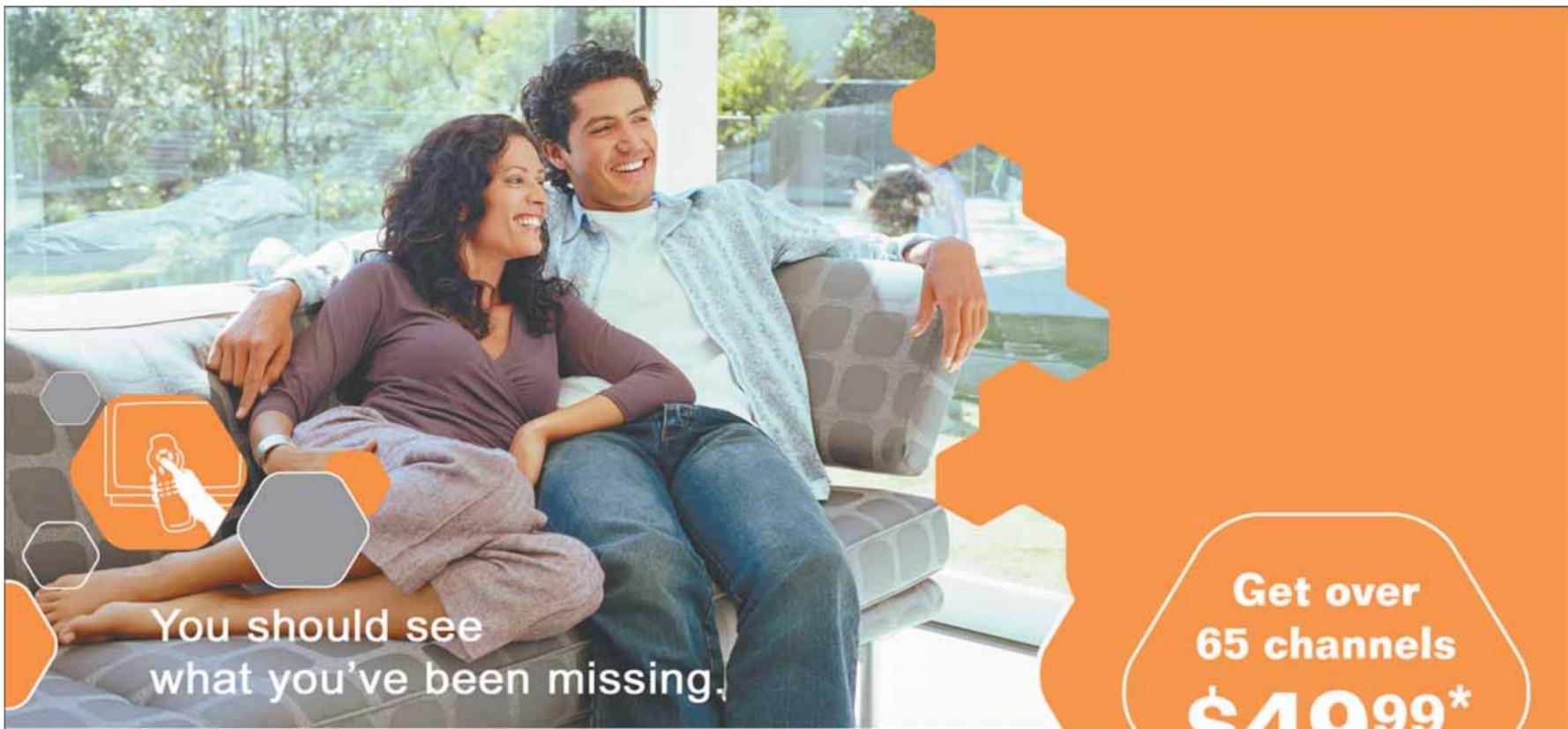
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