

OBSERVATION Post

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MARINE CORPS AIR GROUND COMBAT CENTER

AUGUST 1, 2008

SERVING THE TWENTYNINE PALMS COMMUNITY SINCE 1957

VOL. 51 ISSUE 31



5 WWII hero visits the Combat Center



6 Soccer's undefeated meet for showdown



9 Sandy Hill Lanes hosts bowling league playoffs



10 Nine Iraqi policemen graduate

This Day in Marine Corps History

-August 1, 1944-

After nine days of battle Marine V Amphibious Corps secured the island of Tinian.



CPL. NICOLE A. LAVINE

Fight Club 29 member Dominique Waters, prepares to swing at an opposing teammate clinging to his leg during the USA National Pankration Team Championships tournament held at Santa Ana High School in Orange County, Calif., Saturday.

Fight Club 29 competes in Pankration tournament

CPL. NICOLE A. LAVINE
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

The Combat Center's Fight Club 29 participated in California's highest level amateur Pankration tournament at Santa Ana High School in Orange County, Calif., Saturday.

Six Fight Club 29 members and one 155-pound stand-in teammate from Los Angeles competed in the USA National Pankration Team Championships against

nine other amateur teams from across the state.

Before the tournament began the fighters replenished the weight and energy they lost during the week by sipping drinks, eating fruit and mentally prepared themselves to throw down with their opponents.

Edward M. Gonzalez, a 165-pound fighter, expressed his confidence by

See FIGHT, A7

NREA keeps Combat Center, wildlife safe

CPL. NICOLE A. LAVINE
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

The Combat Center Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs division responded to a wildlife call inside the Exercise Support Division motor pool compound Tuesday.

The call came after Billy Fleig, tank mechanic, walked by a tank to gather some tools from his shed. He said as he stepped near the track of an M1A1 Abrams Main Battle Tank, he heard the chilling and familiar sound of a rattle.

"It sounded so close that I start-

ing looking out and around," said Fleig. "But then I looked down and it was right there. I've never seen one that close before."

A 3-to 4-year-old speckled rattle snake laid curled in the shade of the tank less than two feet from Fleig's foot.

Fleig said he jumped back and immediately called his boss, Ron Davis, tanks section supervisor, and warned fellow workers about the reptile. Davis then called NREA to report the find.

Steve Selser, NREA biology scientist

See SNAKE, A5



CPL. NICOLE A. LAVINE

Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs responded to a wildlife call of a speckled rattle snake found within the compound of Exercise Support Division motor pool Tuesday. NREA biology scientist technician Steve Selser said the snake was around 3 years old. It was released in the hills behind the Combat Center Range Residue Processing Center.

Taking on summer heat



LANCE CPL. ZACHARY J. NOLA

Marines with 1st Combat Engineer Battalion, out of Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif., practice moving an injured team member at the Combat Center's live-fire convoy course July 24. The Marines were given a scenario where their vehicle had been hit by an improvised explosive device, forcing them to apply medical aid to their wounded and prepare him for aerial transport out of the area.

LANCE CPL. ZACHARY J. NOLA

COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

Marines and sailors from 1st Tank Battalion were joined by Marines and sailors of various units from Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif., to participate in 1st Tanks' semi-annual three-phase exercise Summer Heat July 16 through 26 here at the Combat Center.

Capt. Stephen Campbell, 1st Tanks operations offi-

cer, said Summer Heat is essentially the battalion's version of Mojave Viper, a month-long pre-deployment training evolution, and uses Marines and sailors who have recently returned from deployments to train their fellow Leathernecks for future missions.

"It's very similar to Mojave Viper, except we are not only the training audience, but the instructors as well," said Campbell,

See TRAINING, A8

Transporting alcohol, weapons the right way is the smart way

BY LANCE CPL. NICOLE L. BALLINGER
COMMAND INSPECTOR'S OFFICE

Most Marines enjoy firing weapons and drinking alcohol – hopefully not simultaneously.

How do you get your weapon to the range to shoot it or your drink home so you can drink it?

If you're 21 years old or older and your drinks are sealed, you're in the clear. What about if it's not sealed? Most of us believe that as long as it's out of reach of the driver, it's okay. Wrong!

California Vehicle Code Section 23225 states that it's unlawful for anyone to transport any alcoholic beverage that has a broken seal, unless it's being stored in the trunk of the vehicle. If the vehicle doesn't have a trunk, it has to be kept in some other area that's not occupied by the driver or passengers, for example, the bed of a truck, not the glove box or any other compartment.

Section 23224 states that it's illegal for any person under the age of 21 to drive a vehicle carrying any alcoholic beverage unless the person is accompanied by a parent or legal guardian.

In California, to own or transport a firearm or ammunition, you must be 18 years or over, a U.S. citizen and not an individual legally restricted from possessing a firearm. All firearms must be stored unloaded and if you have a handgun or a registered assault weapon, it must be kept in either the trunk of a car or a locked container – not the glove box or any other compartment. Unless you have a permit to carry a concealed weapon, never carry a weapon to or from your vehicle outside of its locked container. To obtain a concealed weapons permit, contact the local Sheriff's Office or Police Station. To research California Firearm Laws, refer to the Department of Justice Firearms Division Web site at <http://www.ag.ca.gov/firearms>.

Never transport any weapons aboard the Combat Center or any other military installation without having it registered at the Vehicle Registration Office of the base first. All you have to do is download the Weapons Registration Form from <http://www.29palms.usmc.mil/base/pmo/vehreg.asp#wpns>, fill it out and turn it in to the Vehicle Registration Office. It'll only take five minutes and it's free.

Weapons that must be registered aboard military installations include but are not limited to any firearms, BB guns, paintball guns, air soft guns, cross bows and any knife with a blade length of four inches or greater. All enlisted personnel residing in the bachelor enlisted quarters (BEQs) are required to store their weapons at their unit's armory, not at or near the BEQs. If you have any further questions, contact the Provost Marshal's Office at 830-6800, extension 8.

In case you haven't heard, the Marksmanship Training Unit (MTU) facilities are now closed for recreational use.

If you didn't know before, you do now. Have fun but be safe. We all know more service members are killed or injured during liberty periods than wartime. Don't become a statistic!

ATHLETIC WOES

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14					15				16			
17					18				19			
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	42				43				44			
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53					54	55	56			57		
58					59				60	61	62	63
64					65				66			
67					68				69			

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ACROSS

- | | | | |
|--|--|---|------------------------------------|
| 1. Secret store | 42. Yodeler's perch | 1. "That's all __ wrote" | 30. Knitted cap |
| 6. Iron-gloved god | 43. WWII-era pope | 2. Cowpoke's moniker | 31. Important work |
| 10. Rod Stewart | 44. Former Three Stooges associate | 3. Aardvark's morsel | 32. Naked __ jay bird |
| 14. Skater-turned-actress Sonja | 45. Bonn's river | 4. Impersonal letter opener | 34. Father of 6-Across |
| 15. Novelist Jaffe | 47. Nurses, at a bar | 5. If may keep fast food warm | 36. Car dealer's offering |
| 16. Small, at Starbucks | 48. Claro residue | 6. Doggie bonus | 37. Fabric created by DuPont |
| 17. Actor in a crowd scene | 51. One in a six-pack | 7. Kachina doll-making tribe | 39. Prefix with center or dermis |
| 18. Cast-of-thousands | 52. Suffix with acetyl | 8. "Come __, the water's fine!" | 40. Nasal woe |
| 19. Essayist's alias | 53. Hurt athlete's least favorite system of reasoning? | 9. Talladega 500, e.g. | 41. 1/1 song title word |
| 20. Hurt athlete's least favorite vegetable? | 58. Cookie holders | 10. Words after "slowly I turned..." in a comic routine | 46. FDR's successor |
| 23. Apt. extras | 59. Male porker | 11. "Roots" author Alex | 47. Mattress problem |
| 26. Tennis do-over | 60. French fries source, slangily | 12. Name after "a.k.a." | 48. Storage place |
| 27. Bottomless pit | 64. "Bus Stop" playwright | 13. __ jaw (pug's liability) | 49. 59-Across, e.g. |
| 28. Not of the cloth | 65. "Arrivederci, __" | 21. Fam. member | 50. Piece of hardware on a 55-Down |
| 30. Yes-man | 66. "The Gift of the Magi" literary device | 22. Pop | 51. Reef makeup |
| 33. __ salts | 67. Middling grades | 23. A Baldwin brother | 54. River of Spain |
| 34. Klutz's comment | 68. Taken by mouth | 24. "It's a Wonderful Life" director Frank | 55. Way in or out |
| 35. __-mo replay | 69. Name in fine china | 25. Rope fiber | 56. Tibetan monk |
| 38. Hurt athlete's least favorite | | 29. Makes morecompact | 57. Fish for gefilte fish |

[Solutions on A8]

Road Construction Update

Aug. 11-Sept. 5: Traffic access to patient parking at hospital effected during paving project. Phase One of the Sturgis Rd. paving project will begin August 11 and continue through August 22. Sturgis Road will be repaved from Adobe Road up to half the hospital parking lot entrance. Patient parking lot in front of the hospital will remain accessible from the West. Access to the Naval Hospital will be maintained with detours and traffic control. Phase Two will run from August 25 through Sept. 5 and will involve paving Sturgis Road from the remaining half of the hospital parking lot entrance to Third Street. Patient parking lot in front of the hospital will remain accessible from the East. Ambulance traffic to and from the Helo pad will be detoured off the back of the Helo pad and across the back of the hospital on the dirt road during both phases of the project. Please observe and adhere to detour and road closure signs. Thank you for your cooperation."

Employee Spotlight

Name: Mika Ball
Employer: Marine Corps Community Services Quickstop deli shop.
Job Title: Food services supervisor.
Job Duties: Manage food orders, inventory, cleanliness and operation of deli shop.
Hometown: Hyroshima, Japan
Hobbies: Spending time with my dogs, outdoor sports and watching movies.
What do you like most about your job: When we provide food service for customers, they are satisfied. I love making people smile and be happy.
Significant achievements since coming to the MCAGCC: Teaching base and local residents Japanese language and culture.
Military Service: none
Time on base: 9 years



Centerspeak

If you could decide how you died, how would you go?

Opinions expressed in Centerspeak are not necessarily those of the OBSERVATION POST, the Marine Corps or Department of Defense.



SEAMAN APPRENTICE
BENJAMIN CARTER

RELIGIOUS PROGRAM SPECIALIST, CLB-7

"I would just like to die quickly, so it wouldn't be painful, there's no good way to die I think."



SEAMAN APPRENTICE
EDDIE CHUTE

ADULT MEDICAL CARE CLINIC

"I would like to die like Leonidas, fighting off enemies. It would be cool to die like a champion."



1ST LT. JAMES SEARELS
ADJUTANT, 1/7

"I would like to die in a way that I would benefit my family and friends. I hope it would not be in vain, and that it would be for a good cause, and not cause too much suffering."

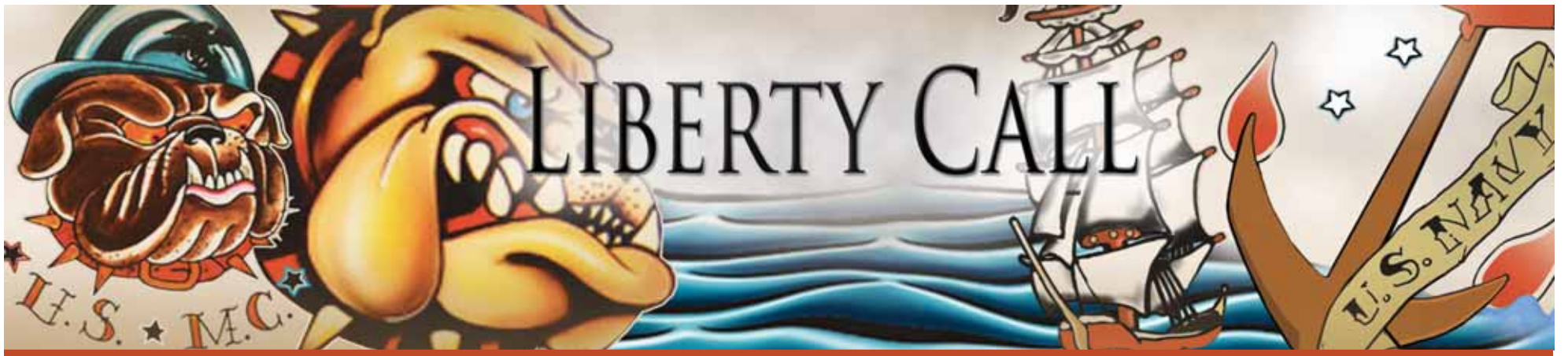
OBSERVATION POST

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FRI. 8/1 Ringo Starr Concert Time: 8 p.m. Where: Fantasy Springs Resort Casino, 84245 Indio Springs Pkwy., Indio For more info call 342-5000 or visit http://www.fantasyspringsresort.com	FRI. 8/1 New Moon Drum Circle Time: 7-9 p.m. Where: Joshua Tree Retreat & Event Center, 59700 29 Palms Hwy., Joshua Tree For more info call 365-8371 or visit http://www.jtrcc.org	FRI. 8/1 THROUGH 9/14 Art: Impressionists and 20th Century Painting Time: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Except Thur., 12-8 p.m. Closed Mon. Where: Palm Springs Art Museum, 101 Museum Dr., Palm Springs For more info call 325-7186	SAT. 8/2 Family Fun Day Time: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Where: Hi-Desert Nature Museum, 57090 29 Palms Hwy., Yucca Valley For more info call 369-7212 or visit http://www.hidesertnaturemuseum.org	SAT. 8/2 YV Summer Music Festival "Upstream" - Reggae Time: 7 p.m. Where: Yucca Valley Community, 57090 29 Palms Hwy., Yucca Valley For more info call 369-7211
SAT. 8/2 Buddy Guy and George Thorogood Concert Time: 8 p.m. Where: Spotlight 29 Casino, 46-200 Harrison St., Coachella For more info call (800) 585-3737 or visit http://www.spotlight29.com	SAT. 8/2 Environmental Music Concert: Ken Davis, Peter Sterling, Brent Lewis Time: 6:30 p.m. Where: Joshua Tree Retreat & Event Center, 59700 29 Palms Hwy., Joshua Tree For more info call 365-8371 or visit http://www.jtrcc.org	TUES. 8/5 Art & Science Tuesdays "Butterflies" Time: 10 a.m. Where: Hi-Desert Nature Museum, 57090 29 Palms Hwy., Yucca Valley Call to register 369-7212 or visit http://www.hidesertnaturemuseum.org for more info.	WED. 8/6 NEW Wednesday night Blues Jam Time: 7 p.m. Where: Kokopelli's Kantina, 57154 29 Palms Hwy., Yucca Valley For more info call 369-6660	THURS. 8/7 Free Evenings at Palm Springs Art Museum Time: 4-8 p.m. Where: Palm Springs Art Museum, 101 Museum Dr., Palm Springs For more info call 322-4000 or visit http://www.psmuseum.org



LANCE CPL. MONICA C. ERICKSON

A jungle gym in Luckie Park is used by some of the local children and their parents Wednesday. Baseball fields, racquetball courts, soccer fields, three picnic areas, three full basketball courts, playgrounds, a skateboard park, and pool are all offered inside the park.

Luckie Park: a place for family fun

LANCE CPL. MONICA C. ERICKSON
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

Luckie Park is made up of multiple grassy fields located in Twentynine Palms, Calif., which was designed as a recreational area for everybody throughout the community and Combat Center.

The park works with the Combat Center and surrounding community to provide everybody a place for leisure activities such as youth and adult sports, instructor classes, camps and a wide variety of community programs.

Baseball fields, racquetball courts, soccer fields, three picnic areas, three full basketball courts, playgrounds, a skateboard park, and pool are all offered inside the park.

ball, volleyball, flag football, teen basketball and indoor soccer. Softball, basketball and soccer are available for adult leagues.

"After we started working with

It offers youth soccer, basket-

See PARK, A11

Teens summer activities beat the heat

ELAINE LEWIS
YOUTH OBSERVERS

During hot summers, teens reach for "cool" ways to have fun in the sun.

There are a lot of things teens can do in the summer to stay out of trouble.

Elizabeth Fleck, 14, says she enjoys swimming, going to the park, playing volleyball, and going on walks.

"It's nice to be able to hang out with friends during the summer," she added.

Natasha Goehring agrees she likes to be outside during the summer.

"I like going swimming of course," said the 14-year-old. Goehring added she also enjoys going to the beach and concerts.

Holly Johnson, 13, says her favorite part of summer is all star softball season.

"It's over now but it was still fun because I really liked playing one of my favorite sports with my friends and All Star season makes it more competition," she said.

Johnson played for an All-Star team at the beginning of summer.

Although being outside is nice, Eliza Bolding, 13, said

she prefers to be inside.

"I like to hang out at the movies with my friends," she said. "It's nice to hang out with friends and watch some movies."

With air conditioning and concessions, Bolding says who wouldn't want to hang out at the movies?

Aaron Hernandez agrees saying he also likes going to the movies.

"I like to hang out at the pool with friends," said the 13-year-old. "I love going to the movies."

Hernandez said he also likes to go shopping at the mall in Palm Desert, Calif.

Some like being outside, while others like being inside, but 14-year-old Kaitlin Kelly has her own opinion about things.

"I like going to the movies, I love going to the pool and of course,



ELAINE LEWIS

There are many things teens find to do to have fun during the summer, including swimming, watching movies, listening to music, sports and just hanging out.

shopping beats all," she said.

One thing is happening this summer, teens have different views of doing things, but they're still hanging out with friends and enjoying their summer.

Cinema 6

Showtimes Effective 8/1/08 - 8/7/08

MOVIE TIMES 365-9633		
The Mummy: Tomb Of The Dragon Emperor (PG-13) Everyday 1:30, 4:00, 6:30, 9:00	Step Brothers (R) Everyday 1:30, 4:00, 6:30, 9:00	The Dark Knight (PG-13) Everyday 1:30, 6:00, 9:00
X-Files (PG-13) Fri - Tues 1:30, 4:00, 6:30, 9:00	Pineapple Express (R) Wed - Thurs 1:30, 4:00, 6:30, 9:00	Coming Soon 8/13: Tropic Thunder 8/15: Star Wars: The Clone Wars www.cinema6theatre.com

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Get To Palm Springs!

RIDE MBTA

15 MCAGCC-Palm Springs Friday							
Base Post Exchange	Building 1664	Subway	29 Palms Community Center	29 Palms Staters	Joshua Tree Park Blvd.	Stater Bros WalMart	Palm Springs Airport
5:00	5:25	5:30	5:40	5:45	6:00	6:10	7:00
15 MCAGCC-Palm Springs Friday							
Palm Springs Airport	Indian Canyon & Andreas (Casino)	Indian Canyon & Tacheva (Hospital)	Stater Bros WalMart	MCAGCC			
7:00	7:10	7:15	7:50	8:30			
15 MCAGCC-Palm Springs Saturday/Sunday*							
Base Post Exchange	Building 1664	Subway	29 Palms Community Center	29 Palms Staters	Joshua Tree Park Blvd.	Stater Bros WalMart	Palm Springs Airport
10:00	10:25	10:30	10:40	10:45	11:00	11:10	11:45
4:00	4:25	4:30	*4:40	*4:45	*5:00	*5:10	*5:45
15 MCAGCC-Palm Springs Saturday/Sunday*							
Palm Springs Airport	Indian Canyon & Andreas (Casino)	Indian Canyon & Tacheva (Hospital)	Stater Bros WalMart	MCAGCC			
12:00	12:10	12:15	12:50	1:35			
*6:00	*6:10	*6:15	*6:50	*7:35			

*SUNDAY SERVICE BEGINS AT 29 PALMS COMMUNITY CENTER. All weekend service is for Saturday only except for the final return trip which includes both Saturday and Sunday service.

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Tips for lowering power consumption

LANCE CPL.
ZACHARY J. NOLA
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

Earlier this week the Combat Center's Public Works Division released a statement requesting all units reduce power consumption to the minimum extent possible, and warned that if the consumption continues to rise, PWD will have to

begin involuntary shut down of cooling systems, and other power distribution circuits to avoid a base wide outage.

Gary L. Morrissett, energy manager with PWD, said the Combat Center's energy consumption has been rising an estimated 10 percent each year.

The Combat Center's population growth, cou-

pled with high humidity and increased use of air conditioning units has put a strain on PWD's ability to comfortably support the Combat Center's electrical needs, said Morrissett.

Morrissett added, the standard temperature set point for the barracks is 78 degrees, but the PWD has been granted permission to lower that temperature to 76 degrees.

PWD is currently putting forth millions of dollars into improving the base's cooling system, but increased energy consumption may stretch budgets and therefore hinder the upgrade process.

All hands can help fight rising energy level consumption and make life a bit cooler for all by following the tips and recommendations listed below.



COURTESY PHOTO

In order to avoid an involuntary shutdown of cooling systems aboard the base, the Combat Center's Public Works Department is urging personnel on base to conserve energy.

Advice for those who live in the barracks:

- When the room is not being occupied turn off all lights.
- Close all window blinds.
- Make sure all windows are shut.
- Turn off all electronic devices not being used (computers, radios, televisions, etc.).
- SHUT ALL DOORS!
- The current air conditioning system in the barracks is designed in such a way that one room's door being open can raise the temperature of all rooms in the local vicinity.

Advice for those who live off base:

- Use your microwave to cook. It uses two-thirds less energy than your stove.
- Let your dishes air-dry.
- Keep your fridge full because food in the fridge keeps it from warming up too fast when the door is open.
- Turn up your thermostat.
- Set your thermostat to 78 degrees when you are home and 85 degrees or off when you are away. Using ceiling or room fans

allows you to set the thermostat higher because the air movement will cool the room.

- Use appliances wisely.
- Avoid running appliances during peak hours (4 to 6 p.m.).
- Do your laundry efficiently by using the warm or cold water setting for washing your clothes. Always use cold water to rinse clothes.
- Line dry clothes whenever you can.
- When you need to use the dryer, run full loads, use the moisture-sensing setting, and clean the clothes dryer lint trap after each use.
- Run the dishwasher only when it is fully loaded, and turn off the dry cycle.
- Operating swimming pool filters and cleaning sweeps efficiently.
- Reduce the operating time of your pool filter and automatic cleaning sweep to four to five hours, and only during off-peak time.
- Eliminate wasted energy.
- Turn off appliances, lights and equipment when not in use.

- Unplug electronic devices and chargers when they aren't in use. Most new electronics use electricity even when switched "off."
- Turn computers and printers off at the power strip.
- Unplug or recycle any spare refrigerators if you don't really need them.

Inexpensive Energy Saving Tools:

- Replace air conditioner filters
- Dirty filters restrict airflow and can cause the system to run longer, increasing energy use. Replace filters monthly for maximum benefit.
- Plug leaks in your home.
- Weather-strip, seal, and chalk leaky doors and windows and install foam gaskets behind outlet covers.

Energy Saving Investments.

- Install a house hold fan.
- A whole house fan is permanently installed in your attic and draws cool air into your home through the windows while forcing hot air out through your attic vents. Use after sundown when

the outside temperature drops below 80 degrees, and in the early morning to cool your house and help reduce your air conditioning use.

- Install window shading.
- Install patio covers, awnings, and solar window screens to shade your home from the sun.
- Solar control window films applied to existing glass in windows and doors is an effective method to reduce peak demand during hot months and conserve energy anytime air conditioning might be required.
- Invest in a new air-conditioning unit.
- If your air conditioner is on the way out, replace it.
- Seal your ducts.
- Leaking ductwork accounts for 25 percent of cooling costs in an average home. Have ducts test and have any leaks or restrictions repaired by a qualified contractor.
- Increase attic insulation.
- If existing insulation level is R-19 or less, consider insulating your attic to at least R-30.

Children at risk when left in cars in the summer heat

LANCE CPL. MONICA C.
ERICKSON
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

Every so often people hear about a child that has died from hyperthermia after being left in the car for hours. Sometimes people grumble about child neglect or wonder how a parent can forget their child so easily. What they don't realize is that this story is a reoccurring problem that is happening across the country. Approximately 36 children die each year from being left in a car.

The desert has the perfect environment to create a deadly scenario for unattended children in vehicles. The sun is constantly

glaring down throughout the area reaching temperatures of 120 degrees with hardly any cloud coverage.

Sgt. Rebecca Wilebski, a Provost Marshal's Office accident investigator, urges parents to either leave children at home with a supervisor or bring the children inside with them while running errands.

"I'm a parent myself and I don't understand how people can forget their kids in their cars," said Wilebski, a Marathon, Wis., native. "There have been cases in Palm Springs [Calif.] where children and even elderly people have died after being left in the car."

North Carolina Department

of Health and Human Services performed multiple tests in 1999 to find out how fast a car heats up with different outside temperatures.

The tests showed that with an outside temperature of 93 degrees, inside the car can reach

125 degrees in only 20 minutes. In 40 minutes, the inside reached 140 degrees.

A car parked in direct sunlight in 80 through 100 degree outside temperatures can reach 131 to

See CHILDREN, A11



PFC. JEFFREY CORDERO

Even a quick trip to the post office can result in serious consequences for unattended children, and it is also against the law.

CONCEALED WEAPONS PERMIT

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HOT TOPICS

SCHOOL AND SPORTS PHYSICAL RODEO SCHEDULED

The Robert E. Bush Naval Hospital is offering a School and Sports Physical Rodeo in the Primary Care Department Aug. 5 and 6, and again Aug. 19. Please call 830-2752 to make your appointment. You will need to bring your child's immunization card, school and sports physical forms, medication school release forms, and your child's military identification card.

ADULT MEDICAL CARE CLINIC: PREVENTIVE HEALTH ASSESSMENT PROCESS

To comply with DOD 6200.4 and OPNAVINST 6120.3, all permanent party active duty members of Headquarters Battalion and the Marine Corps Communication-Electronics School must schedule a Preventive Health Assessment with the Adult Medical Care Clinic during their birth month. The PHA process takes approximately 30 minutes to complete. Adult Medical Care Clinic maintains a database of PHAs performed and provides reporting of monthly compliance to unit commanders. To schedule a PHA, call 830-2621, email Bradley.Wiens@med.navy.mil, or stop by the clinic. PHAs are not performed on Thursdays.

CAUTION WHEN USING O-COURSE ROPES

Safety Division requests that Marines not "fast rope" when using the Obstacle Course due to safety concerns with the ropes there. This technique causes premature fraying of the ropes creating a requirement for them to be replaced, which then causes the O-Course to be shut down for undetermined periods awaiting the replacement ropes.

ALL-MARINE'S WOMEN SOFTBALL SIGNUPS

The Marine Corps Community Services All-Marine Women's Softball Team signup deadline of Aug. 2 is fast approaching. To sign up or learn more about the team, call Master Gunnery Sgt. Dan Sullivan at 830-6407 or 397-3537.

AUGUST SMOKING CESSATION CLASS SCHEDULED

Kick the habit and learn to become tobacco free! The Robert E. Bush Naval Hospital Health Promotions Program offers tobacco cessation classes in the hospital. Classes start Aug. 5, and are offered at two convenient times of noon and 5:30 p.m. To sign up, call 830-2814.

World War II hero visits base, shares his story

LANCE CPL. MONICA C. ERICKSON
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

A World War II hero visited the Combat Center to tour the base and meet some of the Marines aboard the base Wednesday.

Wearing his old army uniform and moving around in a red motorized scooter, Ivan Glen Speer, a Wayne County, Iowa, native, immediately drew interest from the Marines around him. As he shook their hand and asked their hometown, he would recall a time he had visited their home state, making an instant connection with each Marine.

"It's great he came to visit our base," said Sgt. Justin Bowers, with Exercise Support Division. "We always get caught up about what people are doing now, we have a tendency to forget about what they did before us."

While sitting down for lunch, Speer shared his story about his time during

World War II and all the hardships he and his battery had to endure.

Speer was one of the first 18-year-olds to be drafted to go to war. By the time he hit Omaha Beach, Normandy, France, he was 19 years old and in charge of a M4 18-ton high-speed tractor, which he named "Hitler's Crawl-in' Coffin."

As an Army veteran he served with Battery D, 110th Anti-Aircraft Artillery Gun Battalion with the 29th Infantry Division. Speer said he was on the front lines during the invasion of Omaha Beach and was responsible for shooting down the first German aircraft on French soil.

He spoke about the hard-working men in his battery, constantly referring to them as "my boys", and their efforts to stay alive during the constant fighting and nature's hardships while they traveled through Europe.

He spoke of his time in Paris, France, and the constant sniper fire and his



LANCE CPL. MONICA C. ERICKSON

Marines line up at Phelps dining facility Wednesday to shake the hand of Ivan Glen Speer, an Army veteran who served during World War II. Speer was one of the first 18-year-olds to be drafted to go to war. By the time he hit Omaha Beach, Normandy, France, he was 19 years old, and in charge of a M4 18-ton high-speed tractor, which he named "Hitler's Crawl-in' Coffin".

never-ending fear of being shot.

"We got into Paris August 25, and from that day until we left we had snipers firing at us," said Speer.

As his unit continued to travel through Europe they went to Belgium and helped

break through Axis powers during Battle of the Bulge.

"It was always cold," said Speer as he reminisced about how some of his fellow

See HERO, A11



CPL. NICOLE A. LAVINE

Steve Selser, Environmental Affairs biology scientist technician, uses a specialized hook to place a young speckled rattle snake found at the Exercise Support Division motor pool compound in a plastic bin to be relocated to the wilderness Tuesday.

SNAKE, from A1

technician, responded to the call, bringing the necessary capture gear.

When Selser arrived, he used a hook to snag the snake and placed it in the bin.

Selser explained snakes are less active during daylight hours and are usually found when somebody comes across one that is napping.

"Snakes generally seek shade during the day to stay cool," said Selser. "If someone finds a snake in a populated area, we need to get it and take it back into the wild."

Wildlife found in populated or occupied areas on base are relocated to their environment depending on the type of animal and where it is found.

"About 10 percent of wildlife calls we get are ones found in an office building or house," added Selser.

After the snake was confined to the bin, Selser put it in the back

seat of his four-wheel drive vehicle and headed down a nearby dusty, vacant road.

The snake was safely released in the hills behind the Combat Center Range Residue Processing Center.

Brian Henen, NREA ecologist, said the safety of monitoring and protecting wildlife goes hand-in-hand with training missions.

"The Marines are here to train, and we support that," said Henen. "Our safety precautions include issues we are trying to address with the prospect that wildlife may cause risks to those training. We are here to support the mission and protect the environment."

In recent months NREA has relocated a bobcat, spotted skunk, multiple rattlers and various birds including a Great-Horned owl, Red-tailed hawk and an American Kestrel.

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Headquarters battles 3rd LAR for playoff spot

PFC. MICHAEL NERL

COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

July 24 saw a showdown between the two remaining undefeated



PFC. MICHAEL NERL

Daniel Martinez, Headquarters Battalion, kicks the ball back into play during the game July 24.

teams of the Commanding General's Intramural Soccer League as Headquarters Battalion defeated 3rd Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion 1-0 at the Combat Center's Felix Field.

Headquarters entered the game with a record of 4-0, and 3rd LAR entered the game with their record of 3-0.

"It was a tough game," said Ronahldino Gaucho, a forward with Headquarters. "We played the best team we've played all season, and they put up a good fight."

The showdown began at 7 p.m. with 3rd LAR in control of the ball. Headquarters gained a foothold with their offensive skill, and the two teams battled back and forth for the majority of the first half.

Possession of the ball seesawed until late in the first half, where



PFC. MICHAEL NERL

Aaron Scarborough, 3rd Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, rushes past Ronahldino Gaucho, Headquarters Battalion, and attempts to tie the score before the game ends. 3rd LAR lost to Headquarters Battalion during the July 24th game.

Jamie Meza, a player for Headquarters scored the first and only goal of the game.

The rest of the first half played out with 3rd LAR des-

perately trying to match the goal before halftime, but the defense of Headquarters was too much for them.

The second half of the game remained a tug-of-war between the two teams. Neither side scored any further goals, which led to the game drawing to a close with Headquarters on top by one.

Both teams reflected on their performances and their opponents after the game ended.

"It was a very competitive game from start to finish," said Marco Madrid, a player for Headquarters. "Everybody on both sides played with a lot of heart, it made the game a real war."

The 3rd LAR team lost the game, but did not let it hinder their resolve to keep working and prepare for their next game, said Hector L. Torres, the coach for 3rd LAR.

"We controlled the game I thought," said Torres. "They got that one good shot on us, and it ended up being the only score needed to win. However, we did well I think."

Both teams may meet again in the playoffs. Headquarters, with their victory over 3rd LAR will have the first seed in the play-

offs, due to their first place standing, having defeated every other team in the league. Third LAR still has yet to determine their place in the playoffs and will be competing with other teams for their spot.



PFC. MICHAEL NERL

Tim Smith, Headquarters Battalion, keeps a high pass from a teammate inbounds during Headquarters Battalion's game with 3rd Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion on the night of July 24.

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FIGHT from, A1

making jokes and small talk before show time.

"I feel very, very, very confident," said Gonzalez, a Detroit native. "I'm going to hurt somebody today."

Gonzalez, who has 14 years of fighting experience in freestyle wrestling and Muy Thai, followed through with his word when he dominated opponents from each team Fight Club 29 bouted.

Fight Club 29 competed



CPL. NICOLE A. LAVINE

Mark M. Geletko, Fight Club 29 coach, encourages one of his fighters during the USA National Pankration Team Championships tournament held at Santa Ana High School in Orange County, Calif., Saturday. The members of 29 competed against nine other teams from across the state. The team ended the day with a 3-2 winning score.

against Team Vicious out of San Diego, varsity sports Team Apex from Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif., Team Vo out of Fountain Valley, Calif., Team Cleber out of Huntington Beach, Calif., and City Boys from the Sacramento College wrestling team in Sacramento, Calif.

Klaus K. Springer, heavy-weight fighter, Fight Club 29, said it took him the beginning of the second round before he was in a warrior's mindset.

"During the first match, I wasn't concentrating as much as I should have," said Springer, a Brooklyn, N.Y., native, who won the silver medal in the last Pankration tournament in March. "But in the second match I was more focused. I came out aggressive, and I ended up winning."

Since a full team billet called for nine weight classes and Fight Club 29 filled only six of those, three other stand-in fighters were called from an MMA pool to fill in the gaps, said Mark M. Geletko, Fight Club 29 coach.

Only one of the three stand-in players, Tony Penluaus, arrived, thus disqualifying the team to compete in the final rounds of the tournament and subtracting team points at the beginning of each match.

Gonzalez, along with teammates Omar Askew and Tyler Mougé, each held at least four

wins over opposing teams, with two other teammates bringing winning scores to the table.

Defeating three teams and losing to two others, Vo and Apex, brought the team to fourth place overall.

Geletko said although the team's time on the mat was cut short due to the lack of teammates, he is proud of how well each individual member fought.

"We did really well, and I'm very pleased with their performances," said Geletko. "Especially considering that we had the most inexperienced fighters out there. Three quarters of our team were beginners."

Geletko added although most of his fighters are novices, he is very optimistic for the future of the team due to its potential and team members' work ethic. He said he believes they will make it to the finals in the next Pankration tournament.

"On our day off, I saw three of my guys hitting the gym and working out," said Geletko. "They said 'coach, we got a day off yesterday.' Their work ethic is boundless."

The team, which is still looking for experienced fighters interested in joining, is slated to compete in a grappling tournament in Escondido, Calif., Aug 9.

To learn more about the team, call Geletko at 830-6330.



CPL. NICOLE A. LAVINE

Edward Gonzalez, representing Fight Club 29, mounts and strikes an opponent from team Vicious during the first match of the USA National Pankration Team Championships tournament held at Santa Ana High School in Orange County, Calif., Saturday.



CPL. NICOLE A. LAVINE

Tyler Mougé, Fight Club 29, grapples Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton team fighter Chris Herrera in a match during the USA National Pankration Team Championships tournament held at Santa Ana High School in Orange County, Calif., Saturday.



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TRAINING, from A1

a native of Enid, Okla.

The training period, which was started in 2005 and typically lasts 26 days, is divided into three stages and incorporates both live-fire and dry-fire events, added Campbell.

The first stage incorporates training tools to familiarize the tankers with mounted improvised explosive devices, urban assault tactics, and cultural awareness of the Middle East, while stage two involves live-fire drills like tank platoon gunnery exercises and a convoy live-fire course.

Stage three is slated to be completed when the battalion returns to the field in September, and will include both live- and dry-fire mission rehearsals for Operation

Iraqi Freedom, in which Marines must deal with and overcome predetermined events and situations, and how they react to those situations determines what happens next in the scenario.

Cpl. Michael Medina, tank gunner, Company D, 1st Tanks, said the Combat Center's weather, temperature, and terrain gives participants a good feel for what they may encounter in areas such as Iraq.

"I think that it is extremely realistic in the environment we're in," said the Ever Beach, Hawaii, native, who has deployed twice, once with the 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit and once to Iraq with 1st Tanks.

He said he thought the training was extremely realistic compared to other training exercise he had been through.

Medina also said the exercise's ability to adapt to situational changes allows observers, such as himself, to safely control the training evolution and observe tactics, techniques, and standard operating procedures of participants.

"Every Summer Heat that comes around seems to get better and better," said Medina.

Pfc. Mark Hickok, a combat engineer with the 1st Combat Engineer Battalion based out of Camp Pendleton, Calif., put it in more simpler words when he said Summer Heat has been the best training he's gone through since he joined the Corps and the live fire and maneuver drills have been especially helpful.

"It's been pretty kickass," said the Cleveland native who

is scheduled to deploy to Iraq in October.

In addition to Marines and sailors from 1st CEB, 1st Tanks were also joined by members of 3rd Assault Amphibian Battalion, who supported 1st Tank's command element with communication facilities and equipment.

Both Summer Heat and Mojave Viper play crucial roles in preparing Marines and sailors for deployments. Summer Heat, like Mojave Viper, exists so Marines are prepared for what they may face in theater, so they can continue to bring the fight to the enemy and return home safely once the mission has been accomplished.

"This is definitely worth it, because the Marines who are about to deploy get the training they need," said Medina.



LANCE CPL. ZACHARY J. NOLA

Cpl. Jesse Weinberger, combat engineer, 1st Combat Engineer Battalion out of Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif., applies a tourniquet to Pfc. Mark Hickok, combat engineer, 1st CEB, at the Combat Center's live-fire convoy course July 24. Weinberger and Hickok were taking part in Summer Heat, a semi-annual pre-deployment training exercise sponsored by 1st Tank Battalion.

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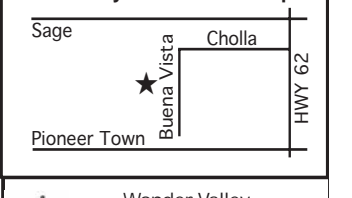
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Intramural Bowling ends with a come from behind victory

PFC. MICHAEL NERL

COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

The Commanding General's Intramural Bowling League ended its season when Three Balls and a Chick took the championship over Sports This in a showdown between the two



PFC. MICHAEL NERL

Glenn Helms, a bowler with Sports This, bowls a strike in the first of three games in the Commanding General's Intramural Bowling League Championship. Sports This was defeated by Three Balls and a Chick in the championship game Wednesday night at the Combat Center's Sandy Hill Lanes.

teams Wednesday night.

Trophies were presented to the first and second place teams, along with individual awards given in recognition of performances throughout the season.

The two teams made up of service members, retired military members and civilians played each other to a shocking ending. Three Balls and a Chick started the game as underdogs and played a hard game to beat the favored team.

The first of three games began with both teams bowling slow. Both teams picked up their play but by the tenth frame each team played slightly below their averages. In the end of the first game, Three Balls and a Chick came out on top.

"The fact that the other team bowled higher than Sports This in the first game was because of the handicap that they had, and that we just didn't bowl like I know we can," said Sports This' Christopher Shotwell.

The second game came to a close much in the same way that the first one did. However, both teams played much better than they did in the first game.

"We both played kind of sloppy in the first game, as did they," said Shotwell. "But they did play a very good game, and they did come out on top with their second win," he added.



PFC. MICHAEL NERL

Jamie D. Alvarez, a bowler with Three Balls and a Chick, starts off the final of three games in the Commanding General's Intramural Bowling League Championship. Three Balls and a Chick defeated Sports This in the championship game Wednesday night at the Combat Center's Sandy Hill Lanes.

The final game of the championship played out different, but ended all the same for Sports This. The team on top going into the championship round was knocked off in a sweep by the underdogs, and came in second place for the second year in a row.

"This is the second consecutive time that my team has come in second due to handicaps, we had to fight a nearly 300-pin deficit every game this round, we bowled well, but it was tough," said Shotwell.

In the other lane, the bowlers for Three Balls and a Chick were happy for what they had accomplished after the 20-week season drew to a close.

"It feels great to come out on top," said Jamie D. Alvarez, from Three Balls and a Chick. "It was our first season as a team, and we didn't even have a full team, Anthony McWilliams couldn't

make it tonight, so we played without him."

After the bowling ended, Randy Husted, a sports specialist with Marine Corps Community Services, handed out the champions and runner-up trophies, along with the four other individual awards for the entire season.

The Men's Scratch Game went to Chris Shotwell, while the Women's Scratch Game went to Julie McClay. The Men's Scratch Series went to M. Kent West, and the Women's was awarded to Sharon Holten. The Men's Handicap Game Award was received by Chris Wright, along with Melanie Wren for the women's. The highest overall Handicap Series Award went to Philip Laroya.

For more information on bowling events call Sandy Hill Lanes at 830-6422.



PFC. MICHAEL NERL

Christopher Shotwell, a bowler with Sports This, finishes the last of three games in the Commanding General's Intramural Bowling League Championship. Sports This was defeated by Three Balls and a Chick in the championship game Wednesday night at the Combat Center's Sandy Hill Lanes.

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Sun 9:15 a.m. Confessions+
Sun 10 a.m. Rosary
Sun 9:30 a.m. Catholic Mass
Sun 9:30 a.m. Children's Liturgy of the Word
Sun 4 p.m. Choir Practice
Sun 4 p.m. Life Teen/Youth Grp.
Sun 4:30 p.m. Rosary
Sun 5 p.m. Catholic Mass
Sun 6 p.m. Cyrus Young Adult Group age 18-35, 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

Non-denominational Christian Service Christ Chapel

Sun 8 a.m. Sunday School*
Sun 9 a.m. Worship*
Wed 7 p.m. Praise & Worship*
Wed. Bible Study: 7 p.m.

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

Midweek 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 (2nd Tues. of the month)
6 p.m. Baptism Class 1st Tuesday each Month

Wednesday Village Center

11:30 a.m. Prayer Meeting in the Prayer Room contact Chaplain Flint 830-6187
6 p.m. RCIA, building 1551

Christ Chapel

5:30 p.m. Catholic Choir Rehearsal
6 p.m. Praise & Worship Rehearsal
6 p.m. Pre-Service Food/Fellowship
7 p.m. Lay-Led Gospel Bible Study
7 p.m. Praise & Worship Service

1st Thursday each month 7 p.m. Knights of Columbus Legend

*Indicates Child Care Provided
+Appointments can be made for Confessions, call 830-6456 or 830-6646

Faith Lessons at Lunch

A DVD series titled "Faith Lessons on the Promised Land. For more information call 830-6187



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Iraqi police ready to make waves

LANCE CPL. PAUL TORRES
REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM 5

HADITHA, Iraq — Nine Iraqi policemen stood ready to receive their graduation certificates July 15. The policemen graduated from a 21-day course put together by the Navy Riverines with Riverine Squadron 3, Detachment 2, 3rd Battalion, 4th Marine Regiment, Regimental Combat Team 5, who instructed them in basic boating skills. The training was to prepare them for the eventual turnover of security of the Haditha Dam and the surrounding area.

"We will use this training to patrol Lake Qadisiyah and to make the dam secure," said Bushar Muhiye Khanaf, through an interpreter, who has been on the Iraqi Police force for two years. "The training was very

helpful because now that we have learned the basics on how to patrol the river and the lake, we will help train others to make this area a secure place."

The group of Iraqi policemen were the first to undergo this training with the Riverines.

"I was a fisherman before I joined the police so I am a good swimmer, which is why I got picked to participate in the training," said Ahmad Hamad Equial, who has been with the Iraqi Police for 20 months. "There were a few obstacles because this is the first course, but if my superiors let me, I want to come back to help and receive more training."

The policemen and Riverines spent time with each other six days a week for 21 days with the last day punctuated by a graduation cere-

mony and traditional Iraqi meal.

We had to figure out how to teach them these skills, and in the process we got to learn about their culture," said Petty Officer 2nd Class Tom W. Endress, 25, from Orlando, Fla., who is an instructor with Riverines Squadron 3. "I really loved teaching them because they came out here, they are excited and they can't wait to get wet."

The enthusiasm of the both the instructors and the students contributed greatly to the success of the first course taught by the Riverines.

"The Iraqis received a strong sense of patriotism by completing this training," said Lt. j.g. Daniel W. Harkins, 32, from Philadelphia, who is the officer-in-charge of training for Riverines Squadron 3. "They are just as eager to take



LANCE CPL. PAUL TORRES

Iraqi Policemen stand in line waiting to receive their certificates of completion for a basic water patrol course they graduated from July 15 at the Haditha Dam, which is near Haditha, Iraq.

over as we are to leave."

As the Riverines prepare for their next batch of students, they are also hoping some of the graduates of the course will be

able to return to learn how to teach the course.

"The Riverines were very helpful, and I want to thank them for all of their efforts," said Ahmad.



CPL. NICOLE A. LAVINE

Students in team four of the Lean Six Sigma Continuous Improvement Process green belt course discuss ideas on their backboard for streamlining the time frame of a project and reducing the amount of resources used in a simulated business process.

Business Performance Office hosts first process improvement course

CPL. NICOLE A. LAVINE
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

More than two dozen Combat Center directorate and unit leaders graduated from the base's first ever continuous process improvement course at building 1707 Friday.

The course, called Lean Six Sigma, trained 25 students at a green belt training level to better manage valuable resources aboard the base and was hosted by the

Business Performance Office.

The mission of the Business Performance Office is to provide performance management solutions that improve installation capability to support the war fighter, according to its mission statement.

The green belt course, which is the next step up from yellow belt, is the second level in the continuous process improvement training and is available to leaders on a first-come, first-serve basis, said Dr. Alex Pacheco, Business Performance Office director. After completing a green belt course, students may pursue the black belt, and later, the master black belt.

Pacheco explained that Lean Six Sigma borrows martial arts ranking terminology to show progression in their Lean Six Sigma career paths.

"We don't make the processes and services," said Pacheco about the purpose and significance of the course. "We make the processes and services better. We impact the Marines indirectly."

Tina Miller, Business Performance Office deputy director, added to Pacheco's explanation.

"We provide analytical solutions and teach them how to apply business problem solving to their job processes," she said about students in the course.

Pacheco said some students from the green belt course have already been selected as small unit leaders to take care of the grunt work required in assisting the team in some black belt level projects.

"We are taking a slow, methodical approach to implementing CPI aboard the installation because we want to get this right,"

said Pacheco. "They need to have knowledge to transfer and help sustain an organization."

Making good time and preserving resources are two of the primary elements Pacheco, Miller and other black belt members focused on throughout the course.

Josie Nemeth, military manpower section adjutant at the Combat Center command deck, said she was happy to volunteer for the course and learn all she did.

"I wanted to learn all about it and get educated on the processes," said Nemeth about CPI. "In my office, I can try to assist streamlining the admin side of things and make sure things are done the right way and on time. This is definitely going to help out the process."

Although leaders from different offices attended the course, many said the skills they learned can apply to their individual duties and offices.

Gunnery Sgt. Herrick Ross, equal opportunity officer, Company B, Headquarters Battalion, said like all others who took the course, he learned how to better manage time and improve business processes.

"The less processes you do, the more money you save and can use to go back into the organization," said Ross, a Fort Lauderdale, Fla., native. "You also spend less time taking away from the mission."

Although a second course has not yet been scheduled, information about the course is available upon calling the Business Performance Office at 830-5140.

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CPL. NICOLE A. LAVINE

Andrew Lei, resident officer in charge of construction with the Combat Center logistics directorate, makes a list of plans for improving the use of an artificial process at building 1707 July 23.

Combat Center Trader Ads

AUTOMOTIVE

2000 BMW 323CI. \$10,000 OBO. Excellent condition. Smooth ride, great handling, leather interior. Contact Buzz for more info (808) 217-6340. 8/1/08

'05 YAMAHA R1 w/ matching helmet. Dual under-tail Micron exhaust, great on gas, asking \$7,500, neg. Contact Lt. Thomas at (404)993-7391 or e-mail thomasmf@uga.edu. 8/1/08

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'98 FORD EXPLORER XLT. V-6 SOHC, Eclipse CD player, 12" Punch P2 Sub w/ MTX 5-channel amp. Asking \$4,000, neg. Contact Lt. Thomas at (404)993-7391 or e-mail thomasmf@uga.edu. 8/1/08

2005 5TH WHEEL 32 ft River Canyon/2 slide outs many up grades space 68 on base RV park (915) 217-3588. 8/1/08

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2001 FORD ESCAPE 4WD, Excellent condition, great mpg. Asking \$5400 OBO. Call 362-1384. 7/25/08

GOODYEAR MT/R TIRES 245/75/R16. 3 pairs, all are road worthy. Newest have only 7K mi on them. Make an offer. 368-1931. 7/25/08

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MISC.

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GARAGE SALE. Sat 8/2 and Sun 8/3. 6263 Encelia Ave. 29 Palms. (760) 367-2842. 8/1/08

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2 DOT APPROVED MC HELMETS never worn. Men's Flaming Skull SZ LG Woman's Tribal Butterfly Med. \$30 each. 830-6958. 7/25/08

VARIOUS ELECTRONICS: PS2 \$150 w/GH2 \$200. PSP \$225 w/(5)Games \$275. Dell Computer (P4) \$350. 19" LCD Comp. Monitor \$100. Call 910-9516 7/11/08

OLDER KENMORE WASHER/DRYER. Used, Good Condition. \$75 EA or \$100 for both. Call 910-9516. 7/11/08

USED WEBER GRILL \$25. Patio Table w/2 Chairs \$100. Call 910-9516. 7/11/08

BOXER PUPPY. Very Adorable. 6 weeks old \$550. Call 910-9516. 7/11/08

The deadline for submitting Trader ads is noon Wednesday, the week prior to publication.

Trader Ad Forms are available at the Public Affairs Office and may be filled out during normal working hours at Bldg. 1417.

Ads may also be submitted through e-mail, but will only be accepted from those with an @usmc.mil address. If you are active duty, retired military or a family member and do not have an @usmc.mil address you can go to the PAO page of the base

Web site at: <http://www.29palms.usmc.mil/dirs/pao/> and complete a request to publish an ad.

The limitations for ads are: there is a 15-word limit, limit of two ads per household and the Trader may be used only

for noncommercial classified ads containing items of personal property offered by and for individuals authorized to use this service. Such ads must represent incidental exchanged not of sustained business nature.

Ads for housing rentals will not be considered for the Combat Center Trader.

To have a "House For Sale" ad run in the Observation Post, applicants must provide Permanent Change of Station orders and have the ad

approved by Base Housing. This ensures the Combat Center Trader is not used for commercial real estate endeavors. Ads are run on a first-come, first-serve, space available basis. If you have questions please call 830-3762.

PARK, from A3

the youth sports program on base our participation went way up," said Larry Bowden, Luckie Park's recreation superintendent. "We normally get all of our volunteer coaches and referees from the base from the parents."

Although some of the same sports are offered aboard the Combat Center, the two different programs give the teams a chance to compete against each other and experience different levels of competitiveness.

Instructor-led classes are also offered throughout the year if instructors are available. Typical classes include dance, guitar, tennis, swing dance, gymnastics, martial arts and swim lessons.

The park has also just begun a new program called Movies in the Park, where people are invited to the park every Thursday evening and watch a kid-friendly movie projected onto a white sheet in the middle of the park.

Kary Minatrea, Luckie Park's recreation supervisor, grew up in Twentynine Palms and participated in many of the programs offered through the park. She explained the park is never crowded and always has something to offer to community members.

"We have all kinds of programs and things to do," said Minatrea, "When people get active in their community they keep out of trouble."

Summer camps hosted by the



LANCE CPL MONICA C. ERICKSON

The newly remodeled Luckie Park Pool is used for swim lessons, senior swim, in the mornings and is open to public use from 1 to 5 p.m. Playgrounds, picnic areas, grills and cabanas are placed around the park for visitors to lounge and hold a get-together.

park are also available throughout the season, which include day camp, golf camp, basketball camp, volleyball camp, bowling camp and dance camp. Day camp, which runs throughout the entire summer, is especially popular with community members because it gives parents another option other than day care.

Playgrounds, picnic areas, grills and cabanas are all around the park for visitors to lounge and hold a get-together. Visitors can call ahead and rent a cabana or picnic area, which ensures they will have the area to themselves. Without reservations they are available first come, first serve.

"We get a lot of units that have their family days out here," said Bowden. "It is great to come out

here and see 400 Marines and their families running around having fun."

The park is also open to programs that are offered by outside entities such as Little League Baseball, Junior All-American Football, theater productions by Theatre 29, Dolphin swim team and Reach Out Morongo Basin.

"Every so often I'll come out here and see the Marines have begun a game of roller hockey in the basketball courts," said Kevin Cole, Luckie Park recreation supervisor. "The park is always open to anyone wanting to come. We try to make this a place for people of all ages."

For more information contact Luckie Park's recreation office at 367-7562.

HERO, from A5

soldiers' feet froze. "I sat on corpses to eat my rations so I wouldn't sit in the snow and freeze like the others."

"All those boys have been through hell you know," he continued, as his voice took on a sharper edge in attempt to not cry. "I always dream these bad dreams about our time. It never leaves my head."

As Speer and his fellow soldiers broke through the Bulge, they were given orders to turn their attention to the final defeat of Germany.

"We were at the Remagen Bridge," said Speer. "I saw this jet

airplane dropping bombs near us. I jumped up on my tractor and just began to fire at it."

The explosions caused the bridge to collapse, resulting in more than 90 American casualties.

As the war turned for the better, American's began turning over their camps to the Soviets and prepared the 110th AAA to go home.

After nearly a full year of touring Europe and constant fighting and death, Speer

and his men were able to go back to the United States.

"The first thing I did when I got back was go to the [Post Exchange] for a chocolate sundae," said Speer, remembering

how happy he was to have food he hadn't had in almost a year.

"As I walked in, I saw a stand with hotdogs, and decided I wanted one of those too."

As Speer finished his meal at Phelps dining facilities, and moved to see the rest of the base he continued to talk to other Marines about their time in the Marine Corps, as he compared it to the old times he had in the Army.

"This is something he wanted to do for a long time," said Shirley Button, a long-time friend of Speer. "He just loves people, and after everything he did he deserves to be around his fellow people again."

CHILDREN, from A4

172 degrees after only 15 minutes. It takes children a matter of minutes to die or suffer permanent disability after being exposed to such extreme temperatures.

California law states that it is illegal to leave a child under the age of six years old unattended in a vehicle unless they are with someone 12 years old or older.

The San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department gives safety tips to parents to help prevent this deadly disaster.

"If a parent has a lot of running around to do they should try using the buddy system," said Arden Wiltshire, the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department public information officer. "Have a friend watch your kids while you are out, and return the favor when they need to run some errands."

Wiltshire also suggested planning all the errands on the same day instead of running them throughout the week.

"It not only saves the hassle and temptation of leaving children in the car, it also saves on gas and time," said Wiltshire, a Yucca Valley, Calif., resident.

According to an article written by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, children ages 4 and younger are more susceptible to

becoming ill due to temperature changes. The article continued to explain how a car's window acts like a greenhouse, trapping heat inside, turning the car into an oven.

"Children are more at risk to heat injuries," said Navy Lt. Matthew Green, Robert E. Bush Naval Hospital nurse corps officer. "Children can't regulate their body temperature as well as adults. When you leave your kid in the car you are essentially leaving your kid in the oven."

Green described what happens to a child when left in the car, saying they initially go through heat stroke, which begins to shut down major organs and the heat could eventually kill them.

Pets are also susceptible to dying from heat exposure and hyperthermia if left in the car for too long. The San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department has records of sending people to jail for animal cruelty after their pet has died in the vehicle.

"Leave your pet at home in the summer time," said Wiltshire. "It is just too hot in your car."

If someone should find a child having difficulties while being left unattended in a car they should call 9-1-1 and make sure the child is extracted from the car and taken to the hospital.

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