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MARINE CORPS AIR GROUND COMBAT CENTER

OCTOBER 17, 2008

SERVING THE TWENTYNINE PALMS COMMUNITY SINCE 1957

Vol. 51 Issue 42



3 Heat Fest rolls into Palm Springs



5 MCCES Marines compete during field meet



8 Attention class 4 yuck mouths: Visit the dentist



RCO, other M-16 attachments authorized for rifle range score 295/08, but MARADMIN 529/08 replaced

COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

As of Oct. 1, Marines are authorized to use rifle combat optic scopes and vertical fore grips, along with other modular attachments, when shooting their annual rifle qualification for score.

Previously, if Marines qualified with modular attachments they would be exempt from that year's rifle qualification per Marine Adminstrative Message 295/08, but MARADMIN 529/08 replaced that order Sept. 19.

The new modular attachments allowed for use are not only limited to the 4x magnification RCO, or the vertical fore grips, the use

See RCO, A10

LANCE CPL. MICHAEL NERL Sgt. Casey McCullar, a machine gunner with Company A, 1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment watches Marines as they battlesight zero their rifle using rifle combat optics at the Combat Center's rifle range.

Combat Center enforces new clothing regulations

CPL. NICOLE A. LAVINE

Combat Correspondent

A new clothing order for Combat Center personnel will start being enforced today.

Combat Center Order 1020.11N on uniform and civilian attire addresses local regulations, including appropriate footwear in public areas, following policies of sleeves-up or sleeves-down on uniforms, appropriate locations for wearing Marine Corps combat utility uniforms, and the rotation of Marine pattern desert and woodland camouflage utility uniforms.

The newest change to the clothing order regarding footwear prohibits all Combat Center personnel from wearing "shower shoes" in all areas but ones designated in the order, said Sgt. Maj. Susan M. Bellis, Combat Center sergeant major.

According to the order, "No plastic or rubber type shower shoe (resembling basic training issue) is authorized unless around pool areas, gymnastic shower areas, family housing or billeting areas. This includes decorative shower shoes, bare feet and scuba, water shoes as well. At no time will any open footwear be worn in the chow halls. All uniform personnel and dependants 18 years of age and older must comply with the above when aboard MCAGCC (Marine Corps

See REGULATIONS, A7

"Our Marines and sailors know right from wrong. We need to have the moral courage to do the right thing. This means not running into one of the seven day stores with your sleeves down because you are willing to take the chance you won't get caught. That's not what we do and it's not what we will accept. Keep in mind this order applies to everyone 18 years of age and older and all uniform personnel aboard the Combat Center. You are not exempt just because you don't wear a uniform. It is a privilege to serve and live aboard not only the Combat Center, but every military installation, not a right. By the same token, we also need to exercise common sense – again, this is why we specifically addressed the new order's applicability to all uniformed personnel and all others 18 years of age and older."

> ~ Sgt. Maj. Susan M. Bellis Combat Center sergeant major

12 MCCES still running undefeated

This Day in Marine Corps History -Oct. 17, 1820-

Archibald Henderson appointed commandant, holds position for 38 years until his death.

Children, Youth & Teen Program provides free child care for families

CPL MARGARET HUGHES

Combat Correspondent

Spouses of deployed service members have a tough job on a daily basis-maintaining their homes, paying bills and acting as single parents.

The Children, Youth & Teen Program now offers families of service members deployed to combat zones 10 hours of free child care a month to help alleviate some of the stress deployments may bring on families.

The free child care became available Oct. 1. Although other military bases have provided similar services, this is the first year the Combat Center has taken part in this program. "We are always looking for avenues to help maintain and improve family readiness and give families additional support," said Mae Ford, the Children, Youth & Teen Program administrator for Marine Corps Community Services.

The program provides spouses an opportunity to run errands without their children or simply give them some well deserved rest and relaxation time, Ford said.

"This will be a great benefit for the base," said Diane Gillaspie, the resource and referral/supplemental programs and services manager for MCCS. "It allows spouses to

See CHILD CARE, A14



CPL. MARGARET HUGHES

2-year-old Jandyn Weaver plays with a toy train during daycare provided by the Children, Youth & Teen Program at the Combat Center's New Horizon building Wednesday.

Ronan Takuto McCoy

Son of Cpl. Daryl McCoy and wife, Hiroko McCoy. Born Sept. 15, weighing 7 pounds, 7.7 ounces and measuring 20.7 inches.

Alexis Jazel Lizarraga

Daughter of Lance Cpl. Carlos Lizarraga and wife, Jessica Lizarraga. Born Sept. 13, weighing 7 pounds, 2.5 ounces and measuring 20.2 inches.

Mariana Araceli Rosas

Daughter of Petty Officer 2nd Class Gracie Rosas.

Born Sept. 16, weighing 4 pounds, 1.6 ounces and measuring 17.8 inches.

Liliana Cristina Rosas

Daughter of Petty Officer 2nd Class Gracie Rosas.

Born Sept. 16, weighing 5 pounds, 11.2 ounces and measuring 18.1 inches.

Joel David Foster

Son of Sgt. Stephen Foster and wife, Irene Foster.

Born Sept. 18, weighing 7 pounds, 13 ounces and measuring 21.3 inches.

Abigail Desiree Singletary

Daughter of Lance Cpl. Christopher Singletary and wife, Bambi Singletary. Born Sept. 18, weighing 7 pounds, 7 ounces and measuring 20.6 inches.

Kayla Marie Jervik

Daughter of Lance Cpl. Kevin Jervik and wife. Jessica Jervik.

Born Sept. 19, weighing 6 pounds, 6 ounces and measuring 19.4 inches.

Antonio Adriel Duarte

Son of Lance Cpl. Antonio Duarte and wife, Selina Duarte.

Born Sept. 17, weighing 8 pounds, 1 ounce and measuring 20.3 inches. Rosalyn Taboada

Daughter of Lance Cpl. Rafael Taboada and wife, Yesenia Taboada. Born Sept. 21, weighing 6 pounds, 11 ounces and measuring 19 inches.

Anna Ruth Hietpas Daughter of 1st Lt. Andrew Hiet and wife, Sherry Hietpas.

Born Sept. 21, weighing 7 pounds, 8 ounces and measuring 20.5 inches.

Landon Davis Sipe

Birth announcements 📈

Son of Lance Cpl. Eric Sipe and wife, Patricia Sipe.

Born Sept. 23, weighing 4 pounds, 8 ounces and measuring 20.7 inches. Hayden Rose Mitchell

Daughter of Lance Cpl. Christopher Mitchell and wife, Whitney Mitchell. Born Sept. 25, weighing 7 pounds and

measuring 19.5 inches. Ethan Craig Wible

Son of Cpl. Matthew Wible and wife, Charlotte Wible.

Born Sept. 25, weighing 7 pounds, 11 ounces and measuring 22 inches.

Annika Belle Arianne Schellhaas

Daughter of Capt. Ross Schellhaas and wife, Kristine Schellhaas.

Born Sept. 25, weighing 8 pounds, 8 ounces and measuring 21 inches.

Natalie Ann Simpson

Daughter of Timothy Simpson and wife, Jessica Simpson.

Born Sept. 26, weighing 7 pounds, 5 ounces and measuring 19 inches. Jayden Al Delacruz Ekong

Son of Seaman Apprentice Alqadir

Ekong and Janice. Delacruz Born Sept. 27, weighing 7 pounds, 3.2 ounces and measuring 20.5 inches.

Haylie Katherine Box

Daughter of Pfc. Jordan Box and wife,

Alyssa Box. Born Sept. 27, weighing 6 pounds, 14

ounces and measuring 20 inches.

Haley Marie Lavigne

wife, Tara Lavigne.

Born Sept. 28, weighing 7 pounds, 1 ounce and measuring 18.5 inches.

Employee Spotlight

Name: Valerie Coulman

Hometown: Los Angeles

Job Title: Mobile Sales Clerk

Job Duties: Delivering mobile canteens to the Combat Center's Camp Wilson, rifle range, and throughout main side.

Hobbies: Crafts, working on my Masters of Business Administration.

Significant Achievements: All of my six grandchildren. I'm proud of all of them.

Military Service: None

Time at the Combat Center: Three years



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[Solutions on A8]

Centerspeak

What is your favorite movie involving the military and why?

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



MARINE REGIMENT

classes

41. Gen. Robert_

40

"To a ..." poem

LANCE CPL. TIMOTHY HOLLAND 2ND LT. JASON BARNES COMPANY B. 1ST BATTALION, 7TH BATTERY K. 3RD BATTALION, 11TH MARINE REGIMENT



Tony, e.g.

27. Cereal pitchman

28. Ending with pay



55. Poor marks 58. Tokyo, formerly

54. Oklahoma city

STAFF SGT. SAMUEL SIMMONS COMPANY A MARINE CORPS COMMUNICATIONS-FLECTRONICS SCHOOL



Daughter of Cpl. Joshua Lavigne and

My favorite is 'Saving Private Ryan'. It was a really detailed movie. It put a lot of effort into describing the people in the military."

t was 'Black Hawk Down' because I like how many bodies get dropped in that movie."

liked 'Full Metal Jacket,' because I saw it when I was young, and I wanted to see if I could put up with the hell those people went through."

OBSERVATION POST

Commanding General

Brig. Gen. Charles M. Gurganus

Public Affairs Officer Jennie E. Haskamp Gunnery Sgt. Chris W. Cox Public Affairs Chief

Editor Cpl. Michael S. Cifuentes Press Chief Lance Cpl. Corey A. Blodgett Layout, Design Leslie Shaw

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FRI. 10/17 & SUN. 10/19	FRI. 10/17 & SAT. 10/18	FRI. 10/17 & SAT. 10/18	FRI. 10/17	SAT. 10/18
Pioneer Days - 29 Palms Time: 11:30 a.m10 p.m. Where: Luckie Park Utah Trail at Two Mile 29 Palms For more info call 367-7562	Fearie Tales Haunt Every Fri. & Sat. till 10/31 Time: 6 - 10 p.m. Where: Theatre 29 73637 Sullivan Rd., 29 Palms For more info call 361-4151 or visit http://www.theatre29.com	Way Out West Fest Time: 6 p.m. Where: Pappy & Harriet's 53688 Pioneertown Rd., Pioneertown. For more info call 365-5956 or visit http://www. pappyandharriets.com	Where: Art Queen 61855 29 Palms Hwy.	Comedy: Wanda Sykes 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. 10/18	SAT. 10/18 & SUN. 10/19	WED. 10/22	THURS. 10/23	THURS. 10/23
Open Studio Art Tours 2nd Weekend Time: All day event Find programs at the Public Affairs Office, building 1417 or the 29 Palms Art Gallery For more info call 366-2226 or visit http://www.arttours2008.com	Fantasy Luxury Toy Expo Time: Sat. 4–10 p.m. Sun. 9 a.m.–2 p.m. Where: Fantasy Springs Resort Casino, 84-245 Indio Springs Pkwy. Indio. For more info visit http://www.fantasysprings resort.com or call 800-827-2946	Adult Excursion: Oak Glen Trip Time: 9:30 a.m. – 5 p.m. Leaves from: Yucca Valley Community Center 57090 29 Palms Hwy. Yucca Valley For more info call 369-7211	Angel View Fashion Show & Luncheon Time: 10 a.m.–2 p.m. Where: Melvyn's at the Ingleside Inn 200 West Ramon Rd., Palm Springs For reservations or info call 322-2440	Jazz concert: James Hurley Time: 7 p.m. Where: Water Canyon Coffee Co. 55844 29 Palms Hwy., Yucca Valley For more info call 365-7771 or visit http://www.myspace.com/water canyon

American Heat biker fest rallies in Palm Springs

LANCE CPL. M. C. NERL Combat Correspondent

Motorcycle riders and enthusiasts had a chance to enjoy the biker culture and see new bikes from various companies at the 8th annual American Heat Motorcycle Rally in Palm Springs Calif., the week-end of Oct. 10 through Sunday.

The event returned to downtown Palm Springs, specifically Palm Canyon Drive, for the first time in four years, said Michelle Cirone-Collier the event coordinator and military liaison for the City of Palm Springs. The rally had numerous shows, featuring live performances by The Best of Times,

The Saddle Tramps, the Jay Gordon band and the Blue Monsters. The Army show band, known as The Volunteers, also made an appearance at the rally, added the Long Island, N.Y., native.

Other than musical entertainment, events such as the American Heat Poker Run, America's Finest All Women Biker Show and the Open Competition Ride-In Show, all took place during the weekend event.

One event had multiple showings throughout the entire rally; Monte Perlin's Globe-O-Cross Stunt Show ran every day, featuring the J.C. and Us Ministries, headquartered in Sacramento, Calif. J.C.

and Us Ministries is ran by Rich and Jennie Hardesty, a husband and wife who together wish to reach out to bikers and others about religion, specifically Christianity.

"Our goal is to reach out to those who are enthusiastic about riding," said Rich. "The Lord watches over us while we're doing our ministries and while Monte and his son Sam Wagner are performing their stunts in the globe." Perlin and Sam "The Man, No

USMC

See BIKER, A6



LANCE CPL. MICHAEL NERL

Lance Cpl. Pejhomme Williams, a maintenance management specialist with Exercise Support Division and a native of Worthington, Ohio, examines a chopper sled-style bike made by Big Bear Customs at the American Heat Motorcycle Rally Sunday in Palms Springs, Calif.

College Degree for Marines Your Tuition Assistance Pays for School

Allied American University





LANCE CPL. MICHAEL NERL

Bikers cruise down the street Sunday morning looking for a place to park their motorcycles. The American Heat Motorcycle Rally, took place Oct. 10 through Sunday in downtown Palm Springs, Calif.

C it MOVIE T	IMES 3		Showtimes Effective 10/17/08 - 10/23/08			
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Beverly Hills ((PG) Fri-Sun: 2:15, 4:3 Mon-Thurs: 2:30	0, 6:45, 9:00	Coming Soon Oct. 24 SAW 5	ALL SHOWS • ADULTS \$8.00 BEFORE • SENIORS \$6.00 6:00 PM \$6.00 • CHILDREN \$6.00 www.cinema6theatre.com			
U-HAUL REN	TALS 29 P		a Tree • Yucca Valley - 7141			

Allied American University, 22952 Alcalde Drive Laguna Hills, CA 92653

2009 National defense bill to benefit service members

LANCE CPL. ZACHARY J. NOLA

Combat Correspondent

On Sept. 27, the United States Senate passed by unanimous vote the Duncan Hunter National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009, clearing the bill for approval by the White House

and paving the way for new benefits specifically aimed at aiding members of the armed services.

According to the bill's title, it will authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2009 for military activities of the Department of Defense, military construction, defense activities of the Department of Energy, military personnel strengths for the fiscal Congress has made to our troops year and other purposes.

Upon the bill's approval by the Senate, representatives of both political parties were quick to praise its commitment to the men and woman of America's armed services.

"This bill follows through on the commitment that this

Major actions as part of the bill

- Requires, with respect to eligibility for retirement due to disability, a presumption that a disability was incurred on active duty unless there is clear and unmistakable evidence that the disability existed
- before entering into active duty and was not aggravated by active service. The provision of referrals for legal assistance, where appropriate, to wounded warriors, their families, and their primary caregivers.
- Authorizes members and veterans present but not in uniform during the playing of the national anthem to render the military salute in the same manner as members in uniform.
- Requires dependents separated from service under the Department of Defense surviving son or daughter policy to receive separation pay, transitional health care, and transitional commissary and exchange benefits.
- Authorizes an additional weight allowance of up to 500 pounds for the shipment of professional
- books and equipment belonging to the spouse of a member making a change of permanent station. Authorizes the retirement of regular warrant officer of the Navy, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard 60 days after the completion of 30 years of active service.
- Removes as a condition for a posthumous commission or warrant that the death be in the line of duty. Provides as a new condition a certification by the Secretary of the military department concerned that at the time of death the member was qualified for appointment to the next higher grade.
- Increases from six to eight years the maximum period of reenlistment for members of the regular Armed Forces.
- States that only members separating under honorable conditions are eligible to use educational assistance provided under the Montgomery GI Bill for up to 10 years after such separation. Authorizes programs intended to provide or make available to spouses of military personnel on
- active duty education and training to facilitate the pursuit of a portable career. Allows male service members up to 21 days of leave in connection with the birth of a child.
- Authorization of a 3.9 percent pay increase, effective Jan. 1.
- Makes permanent the prohibition on charges for meals received at military treatment facilities by members receiving continuous care at such facilities for an injury, illness, or disease incurred in or
- aggravated during active duty. Authorizes each department Secretary to carry out a pilot program, under which regular officers and enlisted members may be inactivated from active duty in order to meet personal or professional needs, and afterward return to active duty.



and their families to provide them the support that they need and deserve," said Sen. Daniel Kahikina Akaka in a congressional record statement posted Sept. 27 to http://akaka.senate.gov.

Rep. Terry Everett said he was pleased with the bi-partisan effort to aid the nation's service members and security.

This is a good bill that provides vital resources for our armed forces and strengthens our nation's strategic forces," said Everett in a floor statement posted Sept. 23 to http://www.everett.house.gov.

While the bill deals with a wide variety of issues, such as the procurement of weaponry, matters relating to Iraq and Afghanistan, missile defense programs, and matters relating to foreign relations, the bill also addresses such issues as military pay, leave, and retirement.

'Most importantly, this legislation takes care of our men and women currently serving in the military and provides them the resources and authorities to provide for our nation's defense," said Sen. John Thune in a press release posted Sept. 29 http://thune.senate.gov. to "This bill also authorizes active duty end strengths for the Army and Marine Corps of 532,400 and 194,000 respectively, an increase of 7,000 soldiers and 5,000 Marines from 2008 authorized levels."

As part of the bill, service members will see a basic pay raise of 3.9 percent, effective January 1, 2009, the prohibition of increasing fees and deductibles for military retirees enrolled in TRICARE Prime, and the requirement that dependents separated from service under the Department of Defense's surviving son or daughter policy receive separation pay, transitional health care, and transitional commissary and exchange benefits.

Another aspect of the bill gives the Secretary of Defense the authority to establish a pilot program meant to encourage members of the Senior Reserve Officer Training Corps to study foreign languages. Under such programs, the DoD could pay bonuses, subsistence allowances, and incentive pay to qualified students.

Additional benefits include the reimbursement or provision of transportation to a member of the reserves on active duty for more than 30 days, makes permanent the prohibition on charges for meals received at military facilities by members receiving continuous care for injuries incurred or aggravated during active duty, an increase from six to eight years as a maximum period of reenlistment, and allows male service members 21 days of leave in connection with the birth of a child.

PHELPS HALL WILL **CLOSE AFTER**

BREAKFAST FRIDAY Phelps Hall Messhall 1460 (located on third St) will close after breakfast Friday. The Messhall will close in order to support the Combat Center Challenge. The Messhall will reopen Saturday under normal operating hours. POC: GySgt Young at 830-8821, June Richardson at 830-0483

MMOA TEAM VISIT TO MCAGCC

The Manpower Management Officer Assignment Team will be aboard MCAGCC Oct. 21-23 to meet with all available and interested Officers regarding their careers and future duty officer PME will be given at 1 p.m. on Oct. 21 for all Company and Field Grade Officers at the Protestant Chapel. Appointment-based interviews will be conducted in class rooms 1 & 2 at TTECG building 1587. The Web-based appointment scheduler can be accessed via MAGTFTC Home http://www.29palms Page: .usmc.mil. Please see available times and dates via the Web scheduler for interview appointment. For more information contact Robin Whitten at 830-7348 or Velvet Dixon at 830-7088. Officers working aboard the Combat Center, come and "Meet Your Monitor" at the CCOC - Oct. 22 at 5 p.m.

MCCES FUN RUN

The sixth consecutive MCCES Fun Run is scheduled for 7 a.m., Oct. 31. This event will include a 5K Halloween costume contest fun run, a 10K race, an individual half marathon, and a 5-person team half marathon. The start/finish line is located in front of MCCES Building 1831. Register in advance and receive a T-shirt. The registration tent will open at 5:30 a.m., Oct. 31. Prizes for the best Halloween costumes. Medals will go to the top three overall and age group male and female finishers for the 5K, 10K and individual half marathon. Also, medals will go to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place 5-member team half marathon competition. Finisher certificates to all finishers. Point contact is Capt. Roberts at 830-6786.

FALL FESTIVAL AT THE PROTESTANT CHAPEL

Oct. 31– Nov. 2 at 5:30 p.m. the Protestant Chapel will be holding a Fall Festival. Throughout the three days there will be a host of activities for young Marines, teenagers, school age and pre-school kids. Games, prizes, a movie and refreshments will also be offered during this event. Nov. 1 at 4:30 p.m. Guest artist from surrounding cities will be performing during the Praise expose', 7 p.m. and on Sunday, Nov. 2 at 11 a.m. will be church service. For more information, contact Gunnery Sgt. Jeffery Davidson at 830-5811 or e-mail at jeffery.davidson@usmc.mil.

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MCCES field meet raises morale, bragging rights

LANCE CPL ZACHARY J. NOLA

Combat Correspondent

The Marines of the Marine Corps Communications-Electronics School's Company B are currently strutting around the schoolhouse all chesty with their heads held high.

Marine students, instructors and civilian personnel of MCCES gathered at Victory Field Oct. 10 to take part in the culmination of the school's annual field meet.

Sgt. Maj. Michael B. Gray, the school's sergeant major, said the main goal of the five-day meet, which began Oct. 6, was to raise the morale of the unit.

"This is one of the biggest things we can do to raise morale and build cohesion," said Gray, a native of St. Louis.

Events included basketball and softball tournaments, a 10-kilometer run, pull-up and flexed-armhang competitions, a humvee push, and a tug-of-war contest. After each event was completed, each of the school's four companies were awarded a certain amount of points depending on where they placed in the event with the company receiving the most points being declared the overall winner.

Gray drew from personal

experience to emphasize the longevity of the meets.

"I went through this school 20 years ago, and we were doing it then," said Gray.

Gray also said due to academic schedules and coursework the schoolhouse will not be released to participate in the upcoming Combat Center Challenge, so the meet served as a way of allowing the MCCES community to partake and test themselves in events similar to those of the Combat Center Challenge.

Lt. Col. Charles K. Carroll,

See FIELD MEET, A13



LANCE CPL. ZACHARY J. NOLA

Lance Cpl. Jamaal Bess, a Marine Corps Communications-Electronics School student with Company A, buddy-carries a fellow MCCES student with Company A during a relay race at the Combat Center's Victory Field Oct. 10 as part of the school's annual field meet.

VMU-1 kicks up sand, heads to Iraq

LANCE CPL. MONICA C. ERICKSON

COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

Marines and sailors of Marine Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Squadron 1 huddled with friends and family inside VMU-1's hangar during a cold morning Sunday before they departed the Combat Center on a seven-month deployment to Iraq.

VMU-1, call sign "Watchdogs," will be deploying to Al Anbar Province, Iraq, to support infantry units by accompanying them during convoys and patrols with sur-



LANCE CPL. MONICA C. ERICKSON Lance Cpl. Will Vinson, an unmanned aerial system operator with Marine Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Squadron 1, holds his daughter, 2-monthold Kyrie Art, one last time before leaving the Combat Center on a seven-month long deployment to Iraq Sunday. veillance missions by their unmanned aerial systems.

"We can tell we're making a difference by the way grunts are requesting us during their deployments," said Capt. Julian Rosemond, the officer-in-charge of VMU-1's Remain Behind Element. "They now have the option to see a full-motion video of what is going on when it is happening in a birds-eye view.

"It is a lot safer for them to be patrolling, and in many instances it has saved lives," added Rosemond, a Cary, N.C., native. "We are capable of telling patrolling Marines where insurgents are, and pretty much give them directions to where they need to go."

VMU-1 also deployed with their new commanding officer, Lt. Col. Richard Jordan, executive officer, Maj. Lance T. Arp, and sergeant major, Sgt. Maj. William P. Toves, who have worked with the Marines under them to make their deployment a success, Rosemond said.

"VMU-1's new commanding officer knows what needs to be done," Rosemond said, "And the Marines want to do what he says. It is a recipe for success. I can tell the Marines really appreciate what he stands for and how hard he works to accomplish the mission."

Lance Cpl. Derrick Baisa, an aviation supply specialist with VMU-1, also said he had confidence in his leaders, knowing they will take care of all the Marines deployed with the unit.

"I know we're going to do a

See DEPART, A7





23rd Annual Run and Walk, October 25, 7am

Benefits Police Activities League

760 324-7069 kleinclarksports.com

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PALM SPRINGS

BIKER, from A3

Hands" Wagner are both motorcyclists who ride together inside a large, steel globe and let go of their handlebars while they spread their arms out wide. Sunday's spectators also got a special addition when Rich stepped into the globe and had Wagner ride around him on his bike. Wagner removed Hardesty's hat several times as he passed, and then put it back on the next time around.

Other facets of entertainment were available for attendees as well. Vendors were at the rally selling things ranging from motorcycles to motorcycle accessories, to include clothing and custom parts. Vendors offering deals on motorcycle insurance were also present offering

information and contracts.

Several Marines came from the Combat Center to enjoy the event, and examine motorcycles while showing off their own.

Lance Cpl. Pejhomme W. Williams, a maintenance management specialist with Exercise Support Division, made his way down to Palm Springs to enjoy the scenery and motorcycles at the event. "I didn't drive my bike down here today. I rode with a friend, but there are all kinds of cool bikes here," said the Worthington, Ohio, native. "I like the bike I have now, but after seeing the multitude of bikes here, it has made me want to get a cruiser, rather than my Kawasaki. I've really enjoyed the entertainment here too. The globe show was pretty cool. It looked like the guy was going to get run over a few times during the show. That made it pretty intense."

With strong crowds expected again next year, the event is still in the planning stages. Locations, attractions and dates are still to be determined.

For more information on upcoming bike rallies, you can visit http://www.road-shows.com.



* Plus government fees and taxes, any finance charges, any dealer document preparation charge, and any emission testing charge. Photos are for illustration purposes only. Offer ends close of business 10-22-08

Copper Mountain College offers 'How to go to college' class

LANCE CPL. MONICA C. ERICKSON

COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

You know what it is like to procrastinate. But didn't you find out it was easier to start a task once you learned how to go about tackling it? For many people, going to college is a lot like that. Uncertainty about perceived obstacles sometimes puts off this important educational step.

Copper Mountain College is inviting military family members to participate in the new program Steps to Success Jan. 13–16 at CMC's Combat Center office in building 1526.

The program is available through Copper Mountain College by Title V, a federal grant that addresses educational issues and concerns centering on academic success in basic skills and removing barriers to educational opportunities.

R & B Auto Center in Fontana, Calif., is sponsoring the Steps to Success Program and will donate \$100 to the program for each vehicle they sell to military personnel aboard the base. "We're aiming this program to the spouses of sergeants and below," said Jeff Fourier, the branch head of Lifelong Learning. "They are the future to our society. We want them to go to college, so when our generation retires there is someone there to take our place."

Steps to Success begins with three hours of classes a day that teach and assist students in overcoming barriers that sometimes keep people from going to college, including registering for child care, school-related paperwork, financial aid, time management and transportation isses.

"This program was made by a Marine spouse for the Marine spouse," said Kelly Nekvinda, an instructor with and founder of Steps to Success. "We're trying to get them to understand that being a Marine wife and going to college may be difficult, but not impossible."

All the spouses who participated in the classes will then be registered with CMC and begin college the week after the program ends. They will also receive free textbooks for their classes. "A lot of these women are afraid to go to college," said Nekvinda, a Christchurch, New Zealand, native. "Most of them don't even know where to start. They don't understand the forms they have to fill out or they think they don't have enough time, and everything goes down hill from there."

During the program, Nekvinda and Sheri Holbrook, the Title V coordinator for CMC, will guide participants through financial aid, college admissions and registration, credit evaluations, time management and personality and career assessments.

"A lot of woman come to us and say they were unsuccessful in high school," said Holbrook. "It doesn't matter though. We're here to give them so much support and help them succeed and secure their future."

At the end of the four-day course, spouses will be invited to a celebration luncheon and a job fair to help them figure out what careers they might be interested in pursuing.

As the spouses begin college, the instructors of Steps to Success will hold weekly meetings



LANCE CPL. MONICA C. ERICKSON

Kelly Nekvinda, an instructor with and founder of Steps to Success, discusses the program to interested students at Copper Mountain College Wednesday. Steps to Success begins with three hours of classes a day for four days that teach and assist students in overcoming barriers to go to college, including registering for child care, school-related paperwork, financial aid, time management and transportation issues.

with fellow college members with the same goals.

"These spouses will not be let go and expected to swim," said Nekvinda. "We will have weekly meetings with a support group and free tutoring from qualified volunteers. We try really hard to make the first semester as easy as possible."

For more information e-mail Nekvinda at ksweetman@ cmccd.edu.

REGULATIONS from, A1

Air Ground Combat Center)." This order creates a distinction between a shower shoe and a flipflop.

Staff Sgt. Joel Couto, a training section guide with Company A, Marine Corps Communications-Electronics School, said he believes the order was written with a good amount of common sense.

"I think this will help clarify where some of those gray areas are," said Couto, a Warwick, R.I., native. "This could give more perspective to people."

In addition to the footwear regulation, wearing utility uniforms off base is prohibited with the exception of traveling from residential areas to work in personally owned vehicles, using drive-through services and in bonefide emergencies, according to All-Marine Message 035-07 and Marine Corps Order P1020.34G.

"This is not new," said Bellis about wearing utilities off-base improperly. "The ALMAR was published over a year ago and is very specific. If you know you need gas, then don't use the excuse of am emergency for the convenience of just stopping at the pump on the way into work the next morning. Do the right thing because it's the right thing to do."

Cpl. Jon Chaline, a supply ware-

house chief with Headquarters and Service Company, 1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, said he believes service members stand out after they pass the Combat Center gates.

"This is a military town," said Chaline, a Magnolia, Texas, native. "People out here can tell if you are a Marine or not. That doesn't change the fact it's still a security measure."

Bellis emphasized the importance of maintaining proper regulations during periods of leave, liberty, and when coming from field training to mainside.

"If a Marine is not physically in the field or at the range, then they need to have their sleeves up until such time as we transition to sleeves down. On your way to the field or just getting off the range is not acceptable. If a Marine has time to visit the PX [Marine Corps Exchange] or any facility not out at Camp Wilson or at the range, then that Marine has time to roll their sleeves."

Bellis added she believes it is essential to keep the high standards Marines have become notorious for.

Bellis explained there is a difference between not knowing the rules, and knowing the rules but breaking them anyway.

"I don't have a problem in the world with a Marine who has a 28-minute run time and still has heart," said Bellis. "But this is an area where we cannot allow our leadership to become lax."

For more details on the Combat Center clothing regulations, refer to the following: U.S. Navy Uniform Regulations, NavPers 156651; MCO 91020.34G; MCO 5100.19E; ALMAR 035-07; ALMAR 007-08; and Combat Center Order 1020.11N.





LANCE CPL. MONICA C. ERICKSON

DEPARTS from, A5

good job, but I still want the deployment to be a speedy seven months," said Baisa, an El Paso, Texas, native. "This is my second deployment, so I know all the stress is just getting there. When we get to Iraq, I just want to do my job and come home to my family."

Throughout the summer, VMU-1 completed more than 250 hours of training at the Combat Center's Expeditionary Airfield in conditions similar to what they will experience while deployed. "This is my fourth deployment to Iraq," said Sgt. Daniel McKelvey, a field radio operator from Clemson, S.C. "I'm ready and excited to get over there."

Rosemond also said the unit was well-prepared due to the new leadership and family readiness officer, who helped the deploying Marines deal with family issues before their deployment.

"A lot of stress Marines have in Iraq is from family problems back home," said Rosemond. "Because of the support and help these Marines received before going over, they don't have that family stress looming over them."

Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Squadron 1 shuffle onto the buses at VMU-1's hangar to begin their seven-month-long deployment to Iraq Sunday.





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Dental clinic produces squeaky clean smiles



Lt. Cmdr. Kelly Goodin, a 23rd Dental Company oral surgeon, and Seaman Phil Nghe, a 23rd Dental Company dental technician, perform oral surgery on Lance Cpl. Tyler Berry, a tank crewman with Company B, 1st Tank Battalion Oct. 8. Isabella Lauer, a dental technician at the clinic, assists in the operating room.

LANCE CPL. NICHOLAS M. DUNN

Combat Correspondent

In order to ensure active duty personnel aboard the base are up to speed before deployments, they have to be properly trained, and mentally and physically ready. Part of that pre-deployment preparation is being dentally fit.

The sailors and civilians of the 23rd Dental Company work hard to meet the dental needs of the Combat Center units, as well as the units here for training before they deploy overseas.

'Our mission is to provide quality oral health care to war fighters and improve operational readiness," said Cmdr. Kurt Brockman, the 23rd Dental Company commander. "Essentially, we are a support and report organization.

"We're not responsible for the unit readiness – that lies with the unit commanders - but we're here to support them," added the Newport Beach, Calif., native.

The first step to a dental appointment at the clinic is to simply call and book it. When patients arrive at the clinic, they are checked in, then sent to get X-rays.

We have three types of oral X-rays here," said Seaman Christian Torresdiaz, a 23rd Dental Company X-ray technician. "We have bite wing, periapical and panoramic."

Bite wings are placed on either side of the patient's mouth and used to x-ray for potential cavities, added the Lares, Puerto Rico, native. Periapicals, which look similar to bite wings, help focus on the roots of teeth, and panoramic X-rays provide dentists with a photograph of the entire mouth.

Many appointments are simple, routine check ups, which all active duty personnel are required to attend once a year. However, the oral surgery section is also booked constantly, most often for the removal of wisdom teeth.

Lt. Cmdr. Kelly Goodin, a 23rd Dental Company oral surgeon, said the two ways to book an oral surgery appointment are to be referred during an annual examination, or if the patient suffers from pain or swelling in their teeth.

"If you're in pain and we need to treat you the same day, we usually do, but we like to have them sit through a pre-surgical consult," said Goodin, a Doylestown, Pa., native. "Typically, we remove all four wisdom teeth at the same time. During the procedure, the patient should feel a little pressure or vibration, but no real discomfort.

'Our biggest challenge here is

See DENTAL, A9





LANCE CPL. NICHOLAS M. DUNN Seaman Michealla Argumedo, a dental technician with the 23rd Dental Company clinic, conducts a routine oral cleaning on Lance Cpl. George Kindler, a Light Armored Vehicle crewman with Company D, 3rd Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, at the clinic Oct. 8.

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LANCE CPL. NICHOLAS M. DUNN

The steady hands of Seaman Phil Nghe, a 23rd Dental Company dental technician, holds open a patient's mouth while Lt. Cmdr. Kelly Goodin, a 23rd Dental Company oral surgeon, stitches a patient's gums during oral surgery Oct. 8.

DENTAL from, A8

treating all of the units that are organic to this base, but also having to treat tons of deploying units that come through here to train," she added.

With 17 providers and 48 support personnel, the clinic has the ability to treat a large number of patients and cover a wide variety of oral health care specialties.

"We have every specialty covered here except for orthodontics and pediatric dentistry," said Brockman, a comprehensive dental specialist who is able to treat patients with more complex dental cases.

Brockman added the clinic treats approximately 200 patients every day, which can add up to a total of 5,600 teeth. However, being able to treat such a high volume of patients is not without its disadvantages.

"Our biggest frustration is probably that we can't serve every need of every unit aboard the base because 42 percent of our business goes to treating units out here training," he said. "We have over 11,000 Marines here with an additional 32,000 per year that are here for training.

"We have to balance between the training population and the in-garrison population," added Brockman. "The Marines training are the ones going to war, and we have to support them too."

Patients with appointments are seen Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., but emergencies are handled 24 hours a day.

For more information or to schedule an appointment call 830-7052 or 830-7053.

ONE DOLLAR



Pvt. Joshua Goodman, a supply administration and operations specialist with 2nd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment's Remain Behind Element holds steady while Seaman Christian Torresdiaz, a 23rd Dental Company X-ray technician, prepares the X-ray camera to photograph his teeth at the clinic Oct. 8.

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RCO, from A1

of laser aiming devices as well as a host of other attachments are also available for use.

Chief Warrant Officer 2 Frederick Keeney, the Combat Center - Marksmanship Training Unit's range officer and a native of Spring Hill, Kan., said the RCO is a revolutionary piece of equipment, and its allowed use is a welcome change for the Marine Corps.

'The RCO is the latest and also the primary sight system used by Marines in combat," said Keeney.

Keeney added that while it is very effective gear, like any new system, Marines must be trained in its usage before they

Pastor

become proficient with it.

"The Marines on this base do not have enough time to work with fundamentals of marksmanship when they are doing their annual qualification," said Keeney. "Marines need more time; more hands on practice. With more teaching they will become better with the weapons, and the RCO will be more accepted. Now that the new attachments are legal for score, Marines who take the choice to use them need more time and experience to adapt to the new technology. Like all new things, people are not proficient with it yet, or even think it sucks if they do not understand it."

Marines such as Gunnery Sgt.

Sundays:

Youth Groups:

Evangelical Free Church

Bill Wilcox, Senior Pastor Marcus McDaniel, Youth Pastor

Worship 10:00 AM

Wednesday: Adult Bible Study 6:30-8:00 PM

Jr High Wednesday 6:30-8:00 PM

High School Sunday 6:30-8:30 PM

6804 Mohawk Trail, Yucca Valley, CA 92284 (760) 228-1747

Sunday School 9:00 AM

Nursery and Chidren's Church Available

Refinery (young adults) Saturday 6:30-8:30 PM

AWANA (during school year) 6:15-8:00 PM

Francis Hill, the Company A gunnery sergeant with 1st Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, and a native of Norway, Maine, has deployed before and used the sights in a combat zone.

The RCO is a pretty awesome piece of gear," Hill said. "The Marine Corps had optics for everything accept our M-16's. I found it very easy to use when I even first was trained on it."

Hill added the simplicity of the RCO makes it so easy, two Marines can even trade weapons, fire them and still be accurate.

"One time this staff sergeant and myself were both shooting with RCO's and we traded rifles with one another and were still

able to hit black on the target with a totally new weapon," he said.

Hill said the only reason for slowness to change with the RCO's has been due to how people do not like to get away from techniques or systems they are used to.

"Ever since Belleau Wood we have been showing the world how good we are with rifles," said Hill. "Every Marine since the beginning of the Corps has been trained in fundamentals of marksmanship. Old things are hard to change, but I feel that when Marines finally do make the changeover and begin learning with RCO's while still applying the fundamentals, it will be a welcomed change."

Hill added while he believes the benefits of the RCO are great, we should still indoctrinate the usage of iron sights into every Marine when they are learning the fundamentals of marksmanship throughout their training.

As of Oct. 15 only deployable units aboard the Combat Center have been issued the RCO. As other units are issued the equipment and receive the training, those Marines will have the chance to use them on their annual rifle regualification.



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Church of God



72nd Annual Pioneer Days moseys on down

CPL MARGARET HUGHES

Combat Correspondent

The Twentynine Palms Chamber of Commerce kicked off the 72nd Annual Pioneer Days at one of their monthly mixers Oct. 9 outside 29 Palms Realty.

Pioneer Days is a multiday celebration that features parades, rides, booths, exhibitions, fundraisers and fun activities for all ages.

The celebration is a community event to try and bridge the military with the Twentynine Palms community, said Jessica Schultz, the interim director for the Chamber of Commerce.

Although the Chamber of Commerce holds a mixer every month, this one not only kicked off the annual celebration, but also set the tone by displaying a fire truck, naming the honorary judge and sheriff contest winMaster contest for Pioneer Days.

The Little Miss and Little Master contest is a chance for children in the area to show their talent and charisma. The children go on stage, answer a few questions and sing or show another talent. The spectators then vote for a little miss and little master, who will receive a crown, a sash and a place in the annual Pioneer Days Parade.

This year's Little Miss and Little Master is Courtney Collins and Gabriel Alexander Loman-Rangel. All five contestants received a trophy for their performance, but Collins and Loman-Rangel will ride in a convertible in the 72nd Annual Pioneer Days Parade 10 a.m. Saturday.

"Pioneer Days is the one time of year that everyone in the community looks forward to," said Sunshine Pritchard, a member of the Twentynine Palms community

ners, and holding the Little Miss and Little and mother of this year's Pioneer Days Little Miss.

> The main attractions for the event are the carnival and the annual parade, said Rob Fleck, the Chamber of Commerce events chair for Pioneer Days.

> "The parade is my favorite part of Pioneer Days because there are so many people that join in," Fleck said. "We are not a very large community, so when everyone lines the streets for the parade, it's just a great feeling,"

> The Chamber of Commerce and the Combat Center's Single Marine Program is working to have a shuttle between the base and Luckie Park on a regular basis Thursday through Sunday to allow Marines without vehicles to get to the celebration, Fleck said.

> For more information or to see the schedule for the 72nd Annual Pioneer Days, visit http://www.29chamber.com/Pioneer Days.83.0.html.



The 72nd Pioneer Days Little Miss Courtney Collins reveals her chaps while showing off her singing skills at the Twentynine Palms Chamber of Commerce monthly mixer Oct. 9 outside 29 Palms Realty.

Ball gown giveaway saves spouses time, money

CPL. NICOLE A. LAVINE

Combat Correspondent

With the Marine Corps and Navy Birthday Balls about a month away, Combat Center Marine Corps Community Services and Armed Services YMCA put together an event to help military wives look their best and save a few bucks at the Community Center Saturday.

The "From Her Closet to Yours" event offered all Combat Center spouses a chance to rummage through more than 1,000 dresses donated from the local ball-gown exchange and the ASYMCA t Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif., said Anita Neu-Fultz, the ASYMCA executive director.

Nearly 280 spouses lined up outside the Community Center gymnasium, where racks of dresses, divided by size, and tables of jewelry and purses bordered dressing rooms in the center of the gymnasium.

When the doors opened, 20 women were permitted to enter the gymnasium to avoid over-crowding. Each group of spouses was

given 20 minutes to pick, try on and take away a dress of their choice.

For those who finished quickly, appetizers were also offered in the far corner of the room.

Many wives said the gift of a free dress took one of the biggest worries of the season off their minds.

"This was a really good idea," said Monica Poindexter, wife of Sgt. Corey Poindexter, a motor transportation platoon sergeant with 7th Marine Regiment Headquarters. "This allows for other expenses. You don't have to spend \$200 to look nice.'

Kira Taormina, wife of Lance Cpl. James Taormina Jr., a field radio operator with Headquarters and Service Company, 1st Battalion, 7th Marines, said the gown giveaway not only saved her money, but a lot of driving time.

"I had no idea where I was going to shop around here," said Taormina, a Saddle Brook, N.J., native. "Online shopping gets way too expensive."

Kelly Coe, MCCS special events program coordinator, said there is a push to make the gown give-away event an annual one.

"We're going to try starting earlier next year to give women more time to empty out their closets," said Coe. "We were very pleased with the turn out."

For information about next year's "From Her Closet to Yours" event or to donate a dress call 830-5086.



Lauren Lee, wife of Staff Sgt. Tommy Lee, a light armored vehicle mechanic with 3rd Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, sorts through a rack of dresses at the From Her Closet to Yours gown giveaway event at the Combat Center Community Center Saturday.



CHRISTIAN WORSHIP

Sunday

Roman Catholic Services Immaculate Heart of Mary Chapel

Faith Formation/CCD-8 a.m. Confessions+ - 8:45 a.m. Rosary - 9 a.m. Catholic Mass* - 9:30 a.m. Children's Liturgy of the Word 9:30 a.m. Confessions+ - 4:15 p.m. Choir Practice - 4 p.m. Rosary - 4:30 p.m. Catholic Mass - 5 p.m.

Tuesday **Christ Chapel** Christian Women's Fellowship* -9 a.m., (September – May) **Immaculate Heart of Mary** Children's RCIA - 4–5:30 p.m. Catechist Meeting - 5–8 p.m. (Second Tuesday each month) Baptism Class - 6–7:30 p.m. (First Tuesday each month) **C&E Barracks Building 1666** Bible Study - 6:30 p.m. Chaplain Hester 830-6187

Protestant Services Christ Chapel

Lay-Led Independent Baptist Breakfast, West Wing - 8:30 a.m. Non-Demominational Service Worship - 9 a.m. Children's Church - 9 a.m. Sunday School - 10:15 a.m. Youth Group 6 p.m. Pastor-Led Lutheran Worship Worship-NHTP Chapel-11:15 a.m. Lay-Led Gospel Service Worship - 11:30 a.m.

Legend

* Indicates Child Care Provided +Appointments can be made for Confessions by calling 830-6456/6482 Weekday Events **Immaculate Heart of Mary** Catholic Mass Mon-Fri - 11:45 a.m. (except holidays)

Monday Christ Chapel

Praise & Worship Rehearsal-4 p.m. **Immaculate Heart of Mary** Catholic Mass, Mon-Fri -11:45 a.m. (except holidays)

Christ Chapel Praise Band Rehearsal - 6 p.m.

Wednesday

Food/Fellowship - 6:30 p.m. Non-Denomination Bible Study-7 p.m. Lay-Led Gospel Bible Study-7 p.m.

Immaculate Heart of Mary Military Council of Catholic Women* - 9:30 a.m. Sept. - May

Youth Teen - 6 p.m. Knights of Columbus - 7 p.m. (1st Wednesday each month)

Thursday

Immaculate Heart of Mary RCIA-6-7:30 p.m. Resumes Sept. 11 C&E Barracks Building 1666 Bible Study - 11:30 a.m., Chaplain Moran 830-6187

Friday Christ Chapel

Gospel Rehearsal - 5 p.m. **Immaculate Heart of Mary** Exposition/Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 12:15-4:30 p.m. (First Friday each month)



MWSS-374 falls short against MCCES

LANCE CPL. MICHAEL NERL

Combat Correspondent

The Commanding General's Intramural Football League's only undefeated team, Marine Corps Communications-Electronics School, defeated yet another opponent, Marine Wing Support Squadron 374, during the league's fourth week of football at the Combat Center's Felix Field.

MCCES defeated MWSS-374 for the second time this



LANCE CPL MICHAEL NERL Marine Wing Support Squadron 374 quarterback Charles Baker gets sacked by Marine Corps Communications-Electronics School defensive players on a failed drive during their game at Felix Field Oct. 8.

season with a 20-0 shutout.

The game began with MWSS-374 receiving but fumbling it on a run, which MCCES recovered beginning their first possession of the game.

MCCES looked strong as ever, marching down the field inside their opponent's 20-yard line, where their offense stalled. The MWSS-374 defense held the line and picked up a fumble.

The game remained scoreless, giving both teams an early confidence in the abilities of their defense.

Two quarters and no ticks on the board later MCCES began the third quarter with a push downfield where they got in their opponents' red zone again, only to settle for a field goal from kicker Tobias Sheers.

MWSS-374, piloted by quarterback Charles Baker, stood ready and motivated to score on their drive after they returned the kick.

MCCES surprised even the people in the stands by attempting an onside kick and recovering



Marine Corps Communication-Electronics School running back Curtis Miller evades the Marine Wing Support Squadron 374 defense on his way to a first down during their game Oct. 8 at Felix Field.

it inside the 50-yard line.

MCCES drove downfield quickly, scoring on a pass to wide receiver Jovon McKinley, making the score 10-0 after the extra point was sent home by Sheers.

MWSS-374 got an interception to close the first half with what would have been a touchdown, but the referee made a call ruling the play dead, which was disputed by both the team and fans alike.

MWSS-374 head coach Christopher Bankhead, a native of Spring Hill, La., contested the call made by the officials until the end of the half.

At halftime MCCES still sat on top with a score of 10-0 in their favor.

"We cannot beat ourselves," said Bankhead. "Right now it seems like we have everyone in here working against us. That includes the referees, the other team, and for some strange reason us too. The score is still 0-0, play like you're trying to set the tempo for the game on every play. We can't be against ourselves like this. It's time for us to come through on this one."

The third quarter began with MCCES stampeding out of the gates strong again, scoring on their opening drive and then tacking on the extra point to make the score 17-0.

MWSS-374 failed on offense again as their next possession resulted in a punt and gave the ball right back to MCCES.

MCCES began their drive down field, but were stopped short again when the MWSS-374 defense stood their ground and forced a fumble from MCCES' sacked quarterback.

The MCCES defense stood their ground after the offense's folly and held MWSS-374 from making it into the end zone again.

MCCES defensive-end and linebacker Joshua Clark, a native of Hendersonville, Tenn., made several tackles for losses and also



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"They're not going to score on us at all tonight," said Clark motivating his team. "Defense, they're not going to move this ball on us at all tonight!"

In the fourth quarter, both defenses played well, giving only one more scoring opportunity for either team.

MCCES was the only team to come up with points when Sheers kicked the final field goal in the game. The final score came with less than two minutes in the fourth quarter, ending the game with a score of 20-0 in favor of MCCES.

MCCES remains the only undefeated team in the league. Be sure to watch the next games starting at 6 p.m. at the Combat Center's Felix Field Oct. 29.

FIELD MEET from, A5

the executive officer of MCCES, said opportunities for the school's estimated 2,500 students to come together as a whole are rare, and this year's meet helped emphasize Corps values and the spirit of competition.

"The important thing here is to come together, increase esprit de corps and the camaraderie between the Marines," said Carroll, a native of Santa Maria, Calif.

Carroll also said in addition to raising morale through friendly competition, the meet is also a stress reliever for the students and faculty.

"It is the spirit of competition," said Carroll. "But it's good old-fashion fun too."

Lance Cpl. Jamaal Bess, a MCCES student with Company A, said the meet was successful at providing students with a break from their studies and increasing the bond between companies.

"It's been fun stuff," said Bess,

a native of Lakewood, Wash. "It forces everyone to come together and get along.'

Pvt. Brandon Warner, a MCCES student also with Company A, and native of Kansas Čity, Mo., said in addition to providing Marines with bragging rights, the meets also allowed MCCES students to meet new people and hear about what other MCCES students are training for and participating in.

Once all the events were completed, and the scores were tallied, the companies were put into formation, and the final results announced. were Headquarters Company finished fourth, Company C finished third, and Company A finished second, making Company B the victor and recipient of one year of bragging rights and the 1st place trophy, which was awarded by Col. Kevin J. Nally, the commanding officer of MCCES.



Students and instructors from the Marine Corps Communications-Electronics School compete in a tug-of-war competition on the Victory Field volleyball court Oct. 10.



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OBSERVATION POST

CHILD CARE, from A1

have a little bit of 'me' time."

Not only does this service give parents a break from their daily activities a few times a month, it also allows them to do so without draining their pocket.

"A lot of families, even when

their husbands are deployed, still have a tight money situation and every little bit helps," said Kelly Schulz, a Marine wife and mother who has used the services. "It allows wives that couldn't afford child care before to get a break every now and then."

For a family to qualify for free

child care, the sponsor must be deployed with a unit in a combat zone and must be on that unit's list for eligible spouses. A parent must then fill out a packet of required information at the Children, Youth & Teen Program resource and referral office.

provided for walk-ins, it is Friday. The hours cannot be strongly recommended that a reservation be made beforehand because of limited available space, Ford said. Reservations may be made up to two weeks ahead of schedule.

Child care hours are from 7 Although child care can be a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through

rolled over to following months if they are not used, Ford said.

For more information or to find out if your family is eligible, call the Children, Youth & Teen Program resource and referral office at 830-3227, extension 230.



A15 OCTOBER 17, 2008

Drama Killers, Outkast school opponents in softball

LANCE CPL ZACHARY J. NOLA

Combat Correspondent

The Coed Winter Softball League hosted two one-sided games Oct. 9 when Drama Killers defeated South Beach Bodies 14-4 and Outkast dominated Dental Pain 20-2 at the Combat Center's Felix Field.

Before the games started, Randy Husted a sports specialwith Marine Corps ist Community Services, reflected on the eight-year-old league's first three weeks.

"It's been good softball," said Husted. "It's been really competitive and had really close games."

Despite Husted's remarks, the third week of the league did not resemble the first two.

Drama Killers took advantage of some poor pitching in the first inning and quickly assumed a 5-0 lead over South Beach Bodies.

South Beach Bodies responded and made the score 5-3 after one inning played, thanks to some strong hitting.

However, after the first inning the Drama Killer's bats also came alive, and barraged South Beach Bodies throughout the next few innings with hit after hit.

Even with the superb play of South Beach Bodies short stop Stephen D. Selser, South Beach Bodies could not mount a

come-back, due in part to the strong hitting of Drama Killer's shortstop T.C. Gray who belted an in the park home run in the second inning.

The game was eventually called after five innings because of the league's mercy rule, which states games be ended if one team is ahead by 10 or more runs after five innings of play.

After the game Drama Killer's outfielder Daniel Sullivan, was quick to praise his team's female players.

'We've got a good team," said Sullivan, a native of Columbus, Ohio. "When the women can hit, you're going to win."

Sullivan, who also plays in the Commanding General's Intramural Softball League and for the Combat Center's Varsity Softball Team, was also quick to emphasize this league's more relaxed style of play.

"This is just about having fun," said Sullivan.

After a great display of team and individual skill by the Drama Killers, Outkast put on a display of their own during the second game of the night.

Thanks to their powerful bats, Outkast produced two back-toback five-run innings for a 10-0 lead after only two innings played.

Although Dental Pain produced a strong defensive effort, their bats were unable to mount a

counter-attack, and could only watch as Outkast continued to put runs on the board.

In the fifth inning Outkast blasted two in the park home runs to make the score 20-0 before Dental Pain was finally able to score two runs of their own. Despite Dental Pain's never-give-up attitude, the game was called with a final score of 20-2, again because of the leagues mercy rule.

After the game, Outkast outfielder Robert Taylor, said his team's victory was due in-largepart to the team's cohesion and that the team was hungry for more wins.

"We've all been here for years, so we're a family team," said Taylor. "We're one and one, and



Drama Killers catcher and head coach Debra Sullivan connects with the ball during the Drama Killer's 14-4 Co-ed Winter Softball League win over South Beach Bodies Oct. 9 at Felix Field.

we're hoping to win a lot more." The next scheduled games are Thursday at 6:45 p.m. and 8 p.m. at Felix Field.

For more information about the Coed Winter Softball League contact Randy Husted at 830-4092.

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The deadline for submitting Trader ads is noon Wednesday, the upcoming Friday's paper. 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.29 palms.usmc.mil/dirs/pao/ and complete a request to publish an ad.

The limitations for ads are: 15-word limit, limit of two ads per household and the Trader may be used only for \$50.00 for each gown, Call 368-7976, 10/17/08

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