

OBSERVATION POST

NCIS Crime Reduction Program targets identity theft

PETTY OFFICER 1ST CLASS KRISTEN ALLEN
NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

WASHINGTON (NNS) – The Naval Criminal Investigative Service is currently focusing its crime reduction program campaign on identity theft.

“Identity theft is one of the fastest growing crimes in our country,” said NCIS Special Agent Carrie Nelson, CRP coordinator. “This campaign is designed to highlight the protective actions individuals can take to safeguard themselves from becoming a victim.”

NCIS has been working closely with the Federal Trade Commission to provide the

most current information on identity theft to all Marines and sailors during this campaign. Victims can report identity theft by writing to the FTC, completing an online complaint form at <https://www.ftccomplaintassistant.gov/>, or calling FTC’s toll free hotline 1-877-ID-THEFT (877-438-4338). Complaint forms and identity theft information

materials are available in English and Spanish. Broder said service members can have particular problems with identity theft because their Social Security numbers are so closely intertwined with their identities, and Social Security numbers are often what identity thieves are looking for to open up new accounts. Deployments and

being stationed overseas also put Marines and sailors at risk. Broder advised service members to be vigilant when handling personal identifying information, especially for those living on ships, or in barracks or other communal living areas where it may not be as easy to protect information. She said personal information needs to be protected whenever possible to prevent identity theft, even if it’s on a computer.

“With computers, every file that has information about you should at least be password protected, and you should have appropriate filters and firewalls to help prevent electronic ID theft,” said Broder. Broder explained members

See ID THEFT, A8

3rd CEB mourns lost brothers



CPL. M. C. NERL

Marines with 3rd Combat Engineer Battalion aboard the Combat Center, march off after placing boots on the battlefield crosses of four Marines with the battalion who were killed in action during the unit’s last deployment in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in 2010. The ceremony took place at the Combat Center’s Lance Cpl. Torrey L. Gray Field Jan. 12.

CPL. M. C. NERL
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

Third Combat Engineer Battalion gathered with family and friends to mourn four Marines lost during their last deployment in support of Operation Enduring Freedom Wednesday at the Combat Center’s Lance Cpl. Torrey

L. Gray Field. The ceremony included passages from the Holy Bible, as well as flowers for those left behind and other memorials. Those deceased included Staff Sgt. Michael Bock, an assault breacher vehicle

See MEMORIAL, A8



CPL. M. C. NERL

Marines with 3rd Combat Engineer Battalion present flowers and words of encouragement to family members of four Marines who were lost in support of Operation Enduring Freedom during the unit’s memorial service Jan. 12 at the Combat Center’s Lance Cpl. Torrey L. Gray Field.

Renewable energy vital to success in Afghanistan

GUNNERY SGT. WILLIAM PRICE
1ST MARINE DIVISION

FORWARD OPERATING BASE JACKSON, Afghanistan – The Marines and sailors of 3rd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment have tapped into a vital renewable energy source – the sun – to help take the fight to the enemy in Sangin District.

Since deploying to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, Company I, 3/5, has been working with a new program called ExFOB, or “Experimental Forward Operating Base.”

“ExFOB has provided immediate energy to my boys,” said Gunnery Sgt. Willy Carrion, Co. I, company gunnery sergeant. “Logistics and resupply to my men is essential to our mission accomplishment. Marines can sustain themselves on little food and water, but the time we have saved on convoys for fuel and batteries has been crucial.”

The Marines and sailors of Dark Horse 3/5 have been using an array of solar equipment since their pre-deployment workup, Enhanced Mohave Viper, at Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, in Twentynine Palms, Calif., in July. While there, the Marines were able to save up to eight gallons of fuel per generator per day.

At Patrol Base Sparks, an outpost of Forward Operating Base Jackson, Staff Sgt. David Doty has become the resident expert of the solar-powered



GUNNERY SGT. WILLIAM PRICE

A Marine with Company I, 3rd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, sets up a Solar Portable Alternative Communications Energy System (SPACES) at Patrol Base Sparks in Sanguin District, Afghanistan, Dec. 31, 2010.

gear and is very pleased with this new asset. “Our generators typically use more than 20 gallons of fuel a day. We are down to 2.5 gallons

a day,” said Doty, 3rd Squad Leader, with 1st Platoon, Company I, and Fulton, Mo.

See ENERGY, A5



CPL. ANDREW S. AVITT

Corporal Jonathan Dowdell’s former unit, Company K, 3rd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, gathers around to congratulate him Jan 7, after receiving a Navy Marine Corps Achievement Medal with Combat Distinguishing Device for bold actions and courageous sacrifice in support of Operation Enduring Freedom while he was deployed with the unit in June.

Wounded warrior honored in front of Marine family

CPL. ANDREW S. AVITT
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

Although Cpl. Jonathan Dowdell was confined to a wheelchair, it was his bravery and relentless optimism that made him stand out among the Marines and sailors of his former unit, Company K, 3rd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, as he accepted his Navy Marine Corps Achievement Medal with Combat Distinguishing Device Jan. 7.

While conducting clearing operations in support of Operation Enduring Freedom June 23rd 2010, Dowdell stepped on an improvised explosive device

while trying to gain access to a suspected bomb manufacturing facility causing the loss of both legs and nearly his life, his citation read. “I remember most of it,” said the 24-year-old Decatur, Ill., native, after the ceremony at the 3/7 barracks. “I remember the blast and the quick response of all the guys around me. They did what they needed to do, put tourniquets on me and got me out of there.”

Despite the quick reaction of his comrades, the loss of blood was so great that Dowdell required two massive blood transfusions during his medical evacuation. “There’s no question

that they saved my life,” he said. “I feel blessed. The fact that I am here, it could have gone either way.”

The trip from the Wounded Warrior Battalion in San Diego to his former unit aboard the Combat Center was well worth the trip, said Dowdell. Having the very same Marines and sailors who saved his life at the ceremony made the day just that much sweeter, he said. “It was nice to see everyone,” he said. “It’s tough being in San Diego, to be away from everyone. 3/7 just has a

See WOUNDED, A8



Visit the official MCAGCC facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/thecombatcenter>



3rd CEB mourn four of their lost brothers Wednesday. Visit the MCAGCC facebook page to see more photos.

The four risks you didn't know about cervical cancer

BY SHARI LOPATIN

TriWest Healthcare Alliance

You may have heard that a virus called HPV is a risk factor for cervical cancer, but did you know taking birth control pills can be one too?

While the best way to survive cervical cancer is to catch it early by screening regularly with a Pap test, here are four lesser-known risk factors for this disease:

1. Birth control pills

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), using birth control pills for five years or more can increase one's risk for cervical cancer. However, the American Cancer Society stresses that the risk returns to normal about 10 years after the pills are stopped.

2. Giving birth to three or more children

Although no experts can pinpoint why this is a risk factor, the American Cancer Society's website explains a few theories:

A. Studies have indicated hormonal changes during pregnancies could make a woman more receptive to HPV or developing cancer.

B. Pregnancies might weaken a woman's immune system, also making her more susceptible to HPV infection or cancer development.

3. HIV

According to the CDC, having HIV, the virus that causes AIDS, or another condition that makes it hard for the body to fight infection is a risk factor for developing cervical cancer. The American Cancer Society states that HIV also makes it more difficult for the body to fight off the HPV infection, which is a large risk factor for cervical cancer.

4. Smoking

"Women who smoke are about twice as likely as non-smokers to get cervical cancer," the American Cancer Society website says. This is because smoking exposes the body to cancer-causing toxins and elements that affect other organs, besides the lungs.

Above all else, remember to get regular Pap tests to screen for cervical cancer. They are a TRICARE-covered benefit, so take advantage of them.

For more healthy living tips and news articles, follow TriWest on Facebook and Twitter: <http://www.facebook.com/triwest>, <http://www.twitter.com/triwest>.

Centerspeak

Who do you think is going to make it to the Super Bowl?

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



LANCE CPL. TONY VANG
COMBAT LOGISTICS BATTALION 7

"The Packers, because the rest of the teams are bird teams."



CAPT. MICHAEL MCNEIL
HEADQUARTERS AND SERVICE CO.,
3RD BATTALION, 7TH MARINE REGIMENT

"The Patriots, because they're doing so well this season."



SGT. MICHAEL MORENO
MARINE CORPS
COMMUNICATION-ELECTRONICS SCHOOL

"The Ravens, because of their defense."



HMS ERICA MURPHY
ROBERT E. BUSH NAVAL HOSPITAL

"The Patriots; that's just my guess."

Hot Topics

WINTER SCRAMBLE

The Desert Winds Golf Course is hosting a Winter Scramble Jan. 17. It will be played in four-man teams, and you may sign up as a team or as an individual and be placed on a team. Show time is 8 a.m., and the shotgun start at 9 a.m. Cost is \$45. For more information, call 830-6132.

HEALTHY LIFESTYLES

Get fit and in shape with Healthy Lifestyles. Sign up at the East or West Gyms, or the Community Center from today through Jan. 17. The program will run from Jan. 17 through Feb. 27. For more information, call 830-3381.

FUN WITH SCIENCE!

Bring your children to the "Fun with Science!" program at the Lifelong Learning Library Jan. 20 and enjoy 14 different experiments to learn more about the joys of science. There will be prize drawings, giveaways and more. The event runs from 6-7:30 p.m. For more information, call 830-4497.

DSTRESS LINE

From combat related stress to the everyday stressors of life, stress can affect even the strongest Marine. The DSTRESS Line was developed by the Corps to provide professional, anonymous counseling for Marines, their families and loved ones when it is needed most. Call 1-877-476-7734.

Marine Corps History

Jan. 16, 1991

Operation Desert Shield became Operation Desert Storm as forces of the allied coalition launched an all-out air campaign against targets in Iraq and occupied Kuwait in an effort to liberate Kuwait and enforce the resolutions of the United Nations Security Council.



Eagle Eyes

Report any suspicious activity immediately which may be a sign of terrorism, including:

1. Surveillance
2. Suspicious questioning
3. Tests of security
4. Acquiring supplies
5. Suspicious persons
6. Trial runs
7. Deploying assets

830-3937



SEMPERTOONS: CREATED BY GUNNERY SGT. CHARLES WOLF, USMC/RET.

SUDOKU #2053

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5	2		6		3		
	7	9		4			

CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU PUZZLES COURTESY OF © 2010 HOMETOWN CONTENT

UNSTEADY STEPS

[Puzzle solutions on A4]

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ACROSS

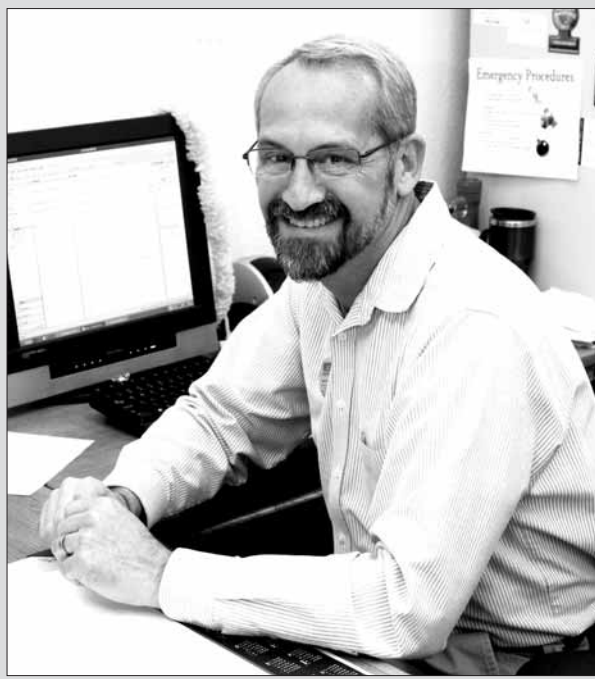
1. Headquartered
6. Lovers' skirmish
10. One "36" of 36-24-36
14. Prefix with physicist
15. Dinghy propellers
16. 440-yard-long path, perhaps
17. Lloyd Price #1 hit of 1959
19. Turkey's monetary unit
20. Peppermint Patty, to Marcie
21. Billionaire Bill
22. What "i.e." stands for
23. "___ the money ..."
25. Part of a ship above the water line
27. Atlas enlargement
29. Atom with a charge
30. Maya Angelou's "Still ___"
33. Pain-in-the-you-know-what
35. Euphoric feeling
39. "The Satanic Verses" author
41. Mortarboard attachments
43. Teamster's rig
44. Sign away
46. Ribbed fabric
47. Bill, the "Science Guy"
49. Met performance
51. Useless member of an entourage
55. President Zachary
59. Chemically nonreactive
60. Social justice org.
62. Clark's "Mogambo" costar
63. Push a pawn
64. Chorus director's sounders
66. Garfield's pal
67. Gibson of oaters
68. Three-time Wimbledon winner
69. "Mogambo" cartoonist
70. Concerning, legally speaking
71. Formation at a river's mouth

DOWN

1. Low man at the Met
2. John of "The Addams Family"
3. Blank look
4. Bit of work
5. Dad-blasted
6. Put into piles
7. Portrait painter's handful
8. Joe Cocker's "You ___ Beautiful"
9. Mao ___-tung
10. Dominating
11. Like Wrigley Field's walls
12. Dissect grammatically
13. Mattress supports
18. Huskers' units
22. Prefix with thermal or metric
24. Line holder
26. Gyro bread
28. Pointless Olympic event?
30. Apr. addressee
31. Feel remorse about
32. Doctrine
34. Interval from C to D, musically
36. Waikiki souvenir
37. Right-angle bend
38. Immigrant's subj.
40. Torte topper
42. Hard up for dough
45. Contributor to a cause
48. To this point
50. Inscribe indelibly
51. Sidelines TV greeting
52. Battery terminal
53. "On the Beach" penner
54. Vidalia or Bermuda
56. Place for a squirting flower
57. Open to view
58. Jamaican cultist
61. Entr' ___ (play break)
64. Honor society letter
65. "___ been had!"

Combat Center Spotlight

Name: David Petrovich
Hometown: Pueblo, Colo.
Job title: Relocation Specialist
Duties: Teaches PCS briefs and puts together PCS packages
Favorite part of the job?: "I am a retired Marine, I have been to every base you can go to except Afghanistan, I enjoy working with Marines again."
Significant achievements: "Helping hundreds of Marines and their families be prepared before they PCS to a new base."
Hobbies: "Riding my Harley and watching movies."
Years of service: 27
Years aboard the Combat Center: Six



OBSERVATION POST

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BLT 1/7 returns home to smiles, cheers

**STORY AND PHOTOS BY
DIANE DURDEN**

PUBLIC AFFAIRS SPECIALIST

The excitement of the crowd continued to build as someone shouted, "They're at KFC on the highway." Families and friends gathered at the Del Valle soccer field Jan. 6-8 to welcome home the Marines and sailors of Battalion Landing Team 1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit.

During the last eight months, BLT 1/7 conducted training with allied nations, honed and utilized their amphibious assault skills and conducted humanitarian and disaster relief missions.

"We were able to train together as a battalion to be an amphibious battalion," said battalion commander Lt. Col. Todd Simmons of the unit's successful deployment. "The ability to do that really shows the strength and leadership of the NCOs."

After the Philippines was devastated by Super Typhoon Juan, BLT 1/7 stepped in to provide humanitarian assistance.

"It was gratifying to do be able to help somebody. To train for it and then do good," Simmons said.

For family members anxiously waiting the return of their Marine, a successful deployment meant learning to be on their own and filling their time constructively.

This was harder for some than others.

Experiencing a loss was the hardest part of the deployment for MaryJo Brown, wife of Lance Cpl. Kyle Brown, a rifleman with BLT 1/7. Just days into her husband's deployment, MaryJo miscarried their child. Being alone, however difficult, helped her gain confidence in her ability to be independent, she said.

In order to fill her time, Allissa Skow, wife of machine gunner Lance Cpl. Jason Skow, attended classes at California State University San Bernardino.

Ten-year-old Collin Wade



Eight-month-old Aristotle Tuvera, Jr., says hello to his dad Petty Officer 1st Class Aristotle Tuvera, a corpsman with Battalion Landing Team 1st Battalion, 7th Regiment. Tuvera returned home Jan. 8 from an eight-month-long deployment.

is an expert at deployments. Collin, son of Staff Sgt. Jonathan Wade, a platoon sergeant, has weathered five deployments.

To help him deal with his dad being gone, he attended classes offered by his school, Friendly Hills Elementary, in Joshua Tree, Calif. In one activity, students drew pictures of their favorite memory of their dad. It helped him by getting his mind off his dad being away from home.

But Collin gave another important person in his life most of the credit for helping him cope. "I have a really awesome mom," he said.

Other than simply coming home to those they'd left behind, some of the Marines and sailors returned to a larger family than when they'd left.

"I can't even explain it," said Seaman Justin McNiel, a corpsman with BLT 1/7, trying to explain how it felt to hold his 2-month-old son, Matthew, for the first time. "It's the happiest I've ever been."

Through eight months of cramped quarters and globe-trotting, it is stories like McNiel's that made this homecoming one of the sweetest ones yet for the men of BLT 1/7.



Four-year-old Destiny Sparks, daughter of Sgt. Heath Sparks, a training noncommissioned officer with BLT 1/7, holds a sign she painted for her dad.

SJA CORNER

Free tax preparation at base tax center, itemizers must wait

CAPT. DAVID SEGRAVES

LEGAL ASSISTANCE OFFICE

On Jan. 24, the Base Tax Center will begin providing free federal and state tax preparation for active duty service members, retirees and their qualifying family members. Most taxpayers will be able to start filing upon the opening of the Tax Center, but due to late action by Congress, some taxpayers will need to wait until mid-February.

Congress's late-breaking tax law changes have caused the Internal Revenue Service to delay accepting certain tax filings as they modify their systems. If you claim the Educator Expense Deduction (an up-to \$250 deduction for out-of-pocket expenses paid by K-12 teachers) or if you itemize your deductions because you pay mortgage interest on your personal residence or have other qualifying expenses, i.e. large charitable contributions, you are able to schedule appointments for Feb. 22 or later. Likewise, if you need to amend a prior year's return, you will need to schedule an appointment for Feb. 22 or later.

The Tax Center is in building 1651 located on 7th Street across from Enterprise Rent-a-Car. Tax center hours are Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. While appointments are recommended, especially for those with complex tax returns, walk-ins are available for taxpayers with only W-2s, interest and dividend statements and dependent care expenses. Beginning Jan. 24, call the tax center at 830-4829 to schedule appointments. The first few weeks of the tax season are the busiest. Taxpayers who can wait until March will find shorter wait periods.

We encourage unit leaders to call the tax center to set up appointments for their units. This year we have a mobile team that can push out to units to prepare taxes. Unit leaders may contact the Legal Assistance Office at 830-6111 prior to Jan. 24 to schedule appointments or call the Tax Center at 830-4829 after the Tax Center opens.

While some service members will be tempted to go to a civilian tax preparer, please remember this instant gratification comes at a steep price. Civilian paid preparers often charge between \$75-\$200 for preparation and then tack on between \$70-\$200 on average in bank fees for "Refund Anticipation Loans." The Tax Center electronically files clients' taxes so the refunds can be directly deposited into taxpayers' accounts on average within two weeks of filing. A little patience can be worth hundreds of dollars.



Seaman Justin McNiel holds his son, 2-month-old Matthew for the first time. McNiel, a corpsman with BLT 1/7 returned home Jan 6 from an eight-month long deployment.

Camp Wilson turns to battle simulations for license

LANCE CPL. SARAH ANDERSON
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

As armor and technology have improved on military vehicles, handling characteristics have changed, forcing Marines to relearn how to handle vehicles they have driven for years. This upgrade caused a dilemma for Marines. The solution was the formation of the operator driver simulator.

When 7-ton vehicles attained the new armor, Marines training in the Enhanced Mojave Viper, the installation's premier combined arms pre-deployment training exercise, were rolling an average one-to-two motor transport vehicles a week, said Douglas Peercy, an instructor at the Battle Simulation Center at Camp Wilson.

The ODS was originally designed to prevent rollovers, particularly in 7-ton vehicles. As its effectiveness positively impacted the Marines driving abilities, the ODS was given interchangeable panels to fit every motor transport vehicle upgraded with the new amour.

Over time, another use for the simulator was discovered. Because of its



LANCE CPL. SARAH ANDERSON

Lance Cpl. Ridge Saverance, a Marine from 3rd Combat Engineer Battalion, uses the operator driver simulator at the Battle Simulation Center in Camp Wilson Tuesday. Saverance is utilizing the simulator to attain his Humvee license.

accuracy and numerous scenario feature, the ODS can be now used by Marines who wish to get a tactical vehicle license.

Marines can put up to 50 miles in the simulator toward earning their license, said Gunnery Sgt. Hector Viramontes, a combat tactics instructor at the Battle Simulation Center.

The simulator offers scenario training that sharpens the driver's ability to handle the vehicle, such as backing skills, left handed driving for Marines headed overseas and maneuvers under

extreme weather conditions, Peercy said.

"It recreates the actual weight size, stopping distances, cornering on on-road, off-road, day, night, [and night vision]. You can learn to drive any way you want," Peercy added. "We can throw flat tires and traffic in there to make sure they are paying attention."

Sergeant Jason Pattee, the battalion license non-commissioned officer for 3rd Combat Engineer Battalion chose to utilize the ODS while helping his Marines attain their humvee licenses.

"We use it for off-base mileage," Pattee said. "Getting off-base is time feasible. This is easier to train for real-life scenarios impossible off-base. We can't practice with traffic and snow on the highway."

Pattee said the ODS gives the Marines an edge during real situations and allows them to make mistakes without bad repercussions.

"In the ODS if a Marine makes a mistake, all we have to do is hit the reset button," Peercy said. "It's a great way to get behind the wheel and familiarize yourself with any motor transport vehicle. It's the closest we can get to virtual reality."



LANCE CPL. ANDREW D. THORBURN

Lieutenant Col. Donald J. Tomich receives the colors from Lt. Col. John M. Reed during the 2nd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment's change of command ceremony at Lance Cpl. Torrey L. Gray field Jan. 7.

Change of Command held for 2nd Bn., 7th Marines Commanding Officer

LANCE CPL. ANDREW D. THORBURN
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

Marines and sailors with 2nd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, welcomed Lt. Col. Donald J. Tomich as he assumed command of the battalion from Lt. Col. John M. Reed during a ceremony at Lance Cpl. Torrey L. Gray Field Jan. 7.

Tomich, from Chicago, comes to the battalion after serving as director of the Regional Command Southwest, I Marine Expeditionary Force (Forward) Special Operations Command and Control Element.

"There isn't an individual I would have wanted to hand those battle colors to, other than you," Reed said to Tomich. "You and your family are 100 percent right for 2/7. You have their 100 percent loyalty."

Reed was also thanked and recognized for his time with the battalion.

"John, as you pass the 2nd battalion, 7th Marines' colors, you can be justifiably proud of your accomplishments," the narrator read from a letter from the 1st Marine division commanding general, Maj. Gen. M. R. Regner. "You took command of your battalion and focused them on warfighting."

Reed assumed command of 2/7 in February 2009. He trained and formed 2/7 for service with the 31st MEU for duty in the Pacific Command Area of

Responsibility in 2010.

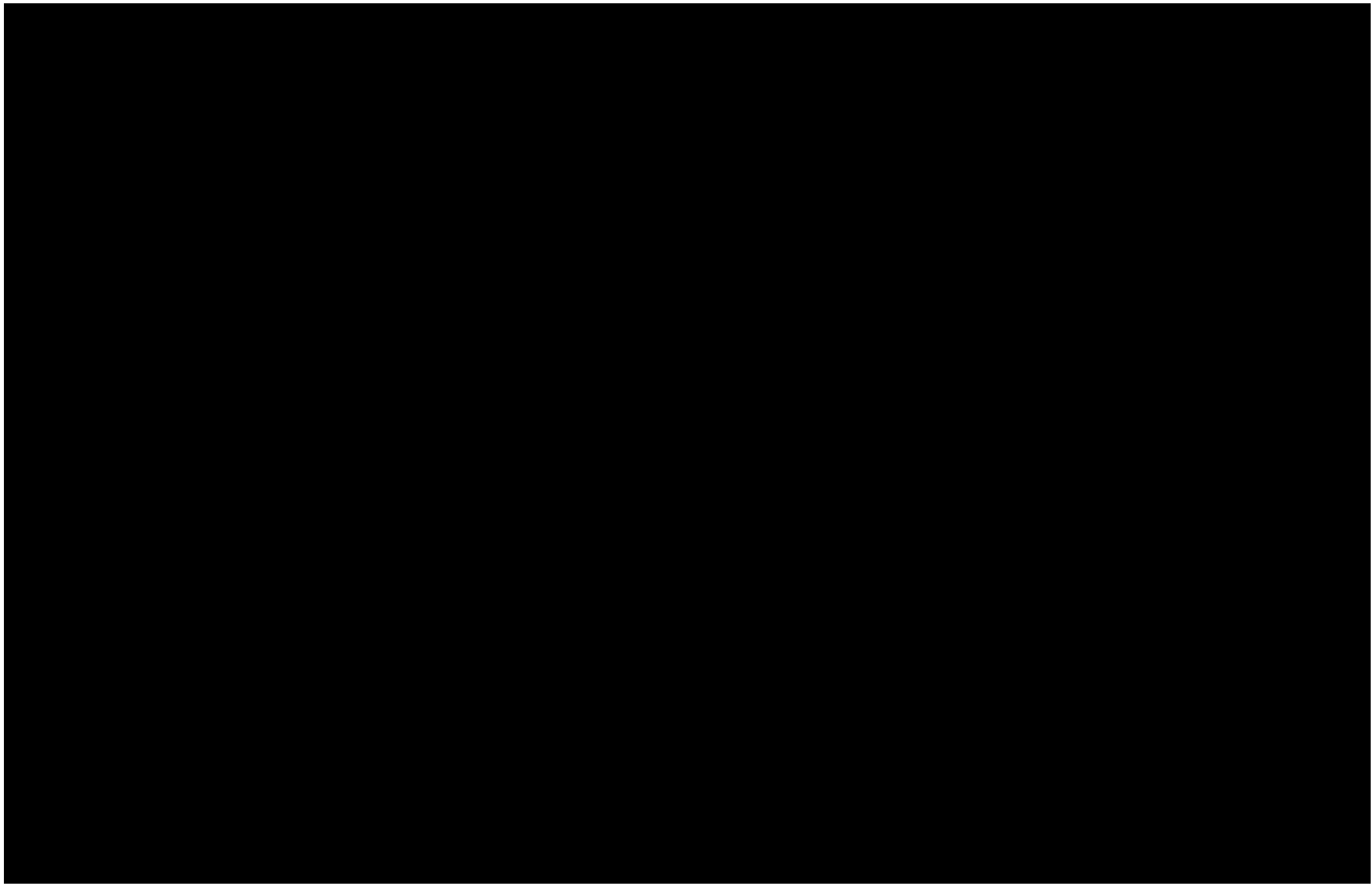
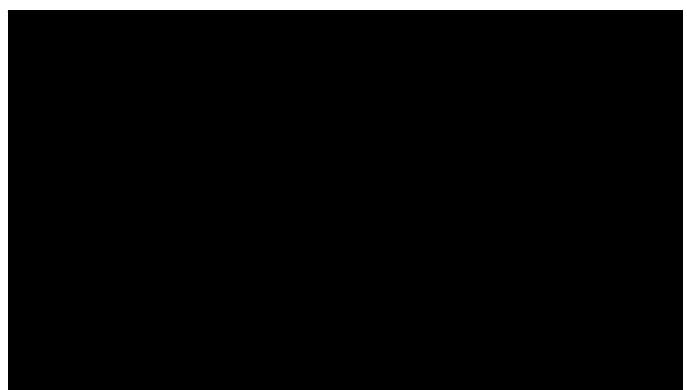
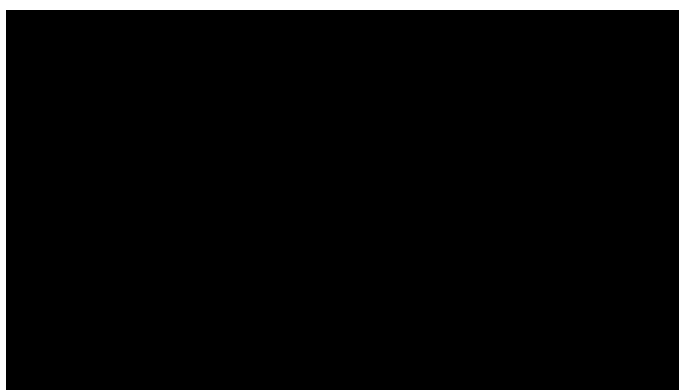
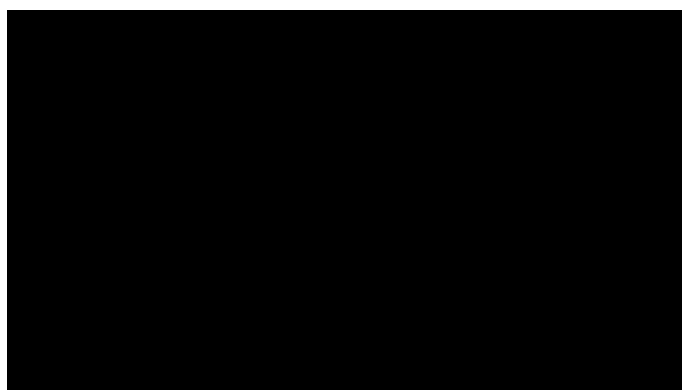
"Lieutenant Col. Reed, thank you for all your hard work," Tomich said. "You have done a great job, and it is an outstanding battalion to be taking over."

During his 17 years in the Marine Corps, he has served aboard the Combat Center as both rifle and weapons platoon commander and company executive officer in Company F, 2/7; as the regimental reconnaissance platoon commander with 7th Marines; and as the assistant operations officer for 3rd Light Armored Reconnaissance Bn. During his tour with Marine Corps Security Force Company, Bangor, Wash., in 1998, he deployed with Battalion Landing Team 2/1 and the 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit and engaged in combat operations supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom. Upon his return, he was assigned to 4th Light Armored Reconnaissance Bn. where he served as the inspector instructor for Company C, in Riverton, Utah.

His personal decorations include the Bronze Star Medal with "V;" Defense Meritorious Service Medal; Meritorious Service Medal; Joint Service Commendation Medal with OLC; Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal; Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal with gold star in lieu of second award; Army Achievement Medal; and Combat Action Ribbon.

SUDOKU								
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5	8	2	4	1	6	7	9	3
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CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS								



ENERGY, from A1

native. "The system works amazing. By saving fuel for generators, it has cut back on the number of convoys, meaning less opportunity for one of our vehicles to hit an IED."

His platoon commander, 1st Lt. Daric Kleppe, agreed, the less convoys, the better. "The enemy will exploit every soft target we have," said the Vista, Calif., native. "A refueling vehicle becomes a screaming [easy] target."

The Marines, sailors and the Afghan National Army soldiers with Co. I are also using solar energy to recharge their batteries.

"As a platoon commander, if I don't have 'comm' with my troops and my higher-ups, I am lost," said 1st Lt. Josef Patterson, 2nd platoon commander, and Owasso, Okla., native. "On the longer patrols, we pack the solar blankets and can continuously charge our radio batteries. This also allows more room to pack things like ammunition."

The Marines are also able to conserve their energy during the day, to light up their command operation centers and their tents at night.

According to Staff Sgt. Greg Wenzel, the platoon sergeant for 1st platoon, this has helped PB Sparks' security when the sun goes down. "It's way more tactical not running the generators at night," said the Altoona, Pa., native. "At night the noise of a generator can carry a long way, become a calling card for insurgents."

Throughout Co. I's area of responsibility, they are using four components of the ExFOB.

The Solar Portable Alternative Communication Energy System, or "SPACES," is a flexible solar panel, able to be carried by a Marine. SPACES is mostly used for smaller items, like radio batteries. The PowerShade, or "Shades," is a larger solar tarp that fits over a standard Marine Corps tent. It can provide enough energy to power the tent's lighting system. The Ground Renewable Expeditionary Energy System, or "GREENS," is a solar panel array capable of providing enough energy to run a platoon-sized COC, or four computers at a time. The largest power source is the ZeroBase Regenerator. With its six outsized solar panels



GUNNERY SGT. WILLIAM PRICE

Marines and sailors of India Company, 3rd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, and their Afghan national army counterparts, pose in front of a modified ZeroBase Regenerator at Patrol Base Sparks, in Sangin District, Dec. 29, 2010.

funneling energy into one battery, it can power more than 20 lighting systems and 15 computers at one time.

Recently, a forward operational assessment team with the Marine Corps Operational Test & Evaluation Activity came to run tests on the systems and collect data concerning the future of ExFOB.

"The Marines all saw the value in the ExFOB and all its capabilities," said Chris Huiett, MCOTEA operations analyst. "They brought us everywhere we needed to be and took great care of us. The Marines and sailors of Co. I, 3rd Bn., 5th Marines, are all American heroes!"

Maj. Sean Sadlier, the Expeditionary Energy Liaison Officer, with Regional Command Southwest, escorted the three-man team from MCOTEA to FOB Jackson and its patrol bases.

"The Marines were very innovative and came up with ways to use the equipment that was not even thought of before their deployment. The Marines were frank about what worked well and what needed improvement," said Sadlier. "Many of the recommendations would have been impossible to make during the pre-deployment training program. Only through use dur-

ing actual combat operations would the Marines be able to realize the capabilities of the equipment and the capabilities they would like to see."

Sadlier and the MCOTEA team will process their results to see what the future holds for ExFOB throughout the Fleet Marine Force. For now,

the Marines and sailors of Co. I, 3/5, are no longer doubting the capabilities of the ExFOB, but wondering where they would be without the renewable energy program.

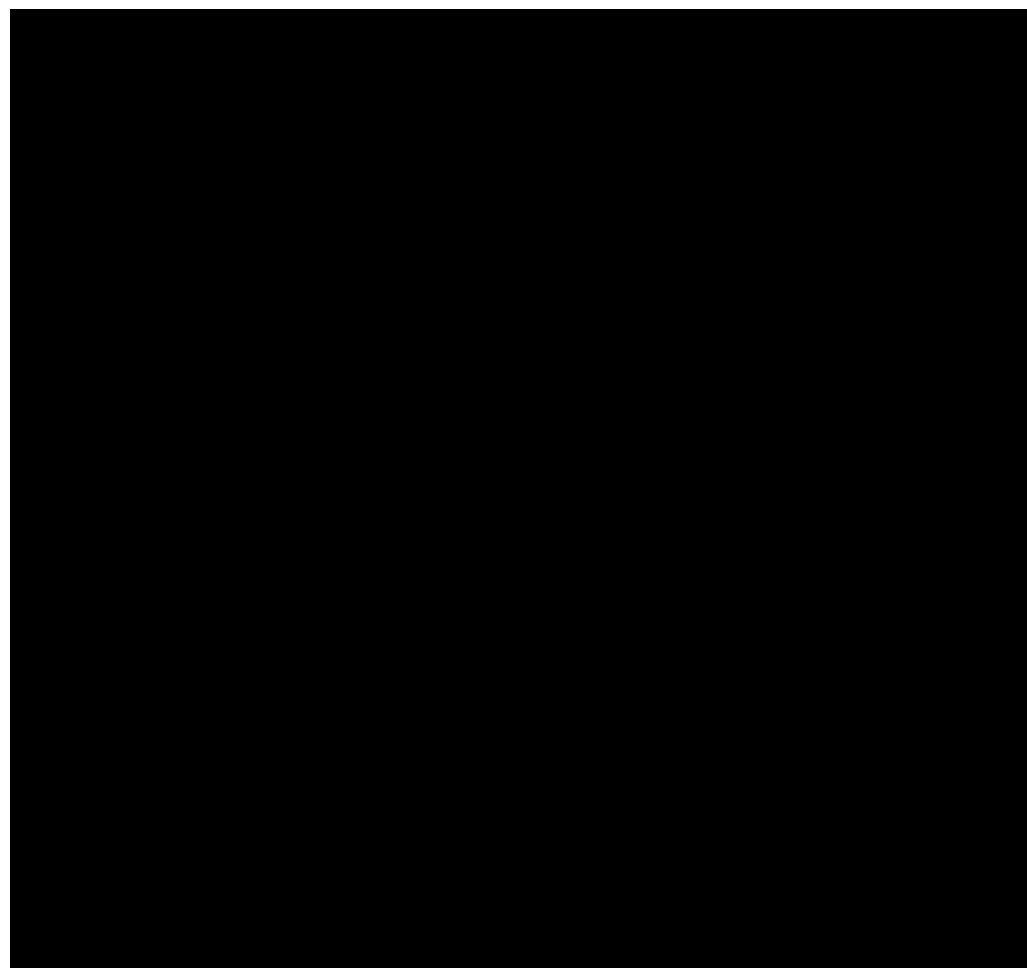
"When we first got the gear, I was a skeptic. As Marines, we do not always like change. I expected ExFOB to

be a burden," added Carrion, a native of Philadelphia. "Now that we are in theater, and we have so many PBs set up, we all see the how crucial and important renewable energy is. Every infantry battalion should have the ExFOB, it has proven to be an extremely valuable asset!"



GUNNERY SGT. WILLIAM PRICE

Sergeant David Doty, a squad leader with 1st Platoon, Company I, 3rd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, shows his platoon's solar energy data to Maj. Sean Sadlier, the Expeditionary Energy Liaison Officer, with Regional Command Southwest, at Patrol Base Sparks in Sangin District, Dec. 29, 2010.



Marines see school attendance soar in Afghanistan

LANCE CPL. GLEN SANTY
REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM 2

FORWARD OPERATING BASE CAFFERETTA, Afghanistan – As Marines entered the school, chants of children hushed to a whisper as teachers welcomed them to their classrooms with warm greetings of “Salaam Alikum.”

When the Marines of the civil affairs team in support of 1st Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment, Regimental Combat Team 2, arrived to Now Zad, an estimated 200 students were in attendance at the schools in the local area. Now nearly 500 children attend classes here daily.

“We’re extremely happy with the number of kids we see in the school right now,” said Cpl. Dustin Brians, a civil affairs specialist, in support of 1st Bn., 8th Marines, RCT-2. “There are more and more kids there every week, and attendance continues to grow.”

One teacher noted that classroom attendance has

more than doubled in recent months, indicating that the local children in the area want to learn.

During class, students learn about the Koran and other religious studies. Their classes also include mathematics, geography, spelling and even some English.

“When we got here, we almost always had to speak in Pashtu to the children,” said Lance Cpl. Bowen Yu, a civil affairs specialist, in support of 1st Bn., 8th Marines. “Now when we’re walking down the street, they’ll come up saying ‘What’s up?’ or ‘How are you?’, which is great.”

In the expectation of more students, Marines and teachers have already laid plans for major renovations on the current building.

“The old school the kids were going to was basically destroyed,” said Brians, 24, from Annapolis, Md. “The roof had collapsed in a lot of the rooms. The glass windows were all shattered and broken, and the doors were



LANCE CPL. GLEN SANTY

Barekzai students take a break from their lessons as their teacher talks to Marines from the civil affairs team, in support of 1st Battalion, 8th Marines, Regimental Combat Team 2. When the Marines first arrived here, an estimated 200 students were in attendance, now nearly 500 children attend classes daily.

off their hinges.”

Brians and his team, along with local Afghan workers, have since helped to clean up

the schools, and are working to improve the existing buildings the children currently receive classes in.

Once the funding and paperwork is complete, the construction phase of renovating the school will begin.

Working together with local contractors, the people of Now Zad and Marines are building a brighter future for Afghanistan.

“This is a great program for Afghanistan,” said Yu, 23, originally from Hong Kong and recruited out of Las Vegas. “When we’re gone, these kids will be running this place. Giving them a place for an education is the least we can do.”



LANCE CPL. GLEN SANTY

Staff Sgt. James Jordan, with the civil affairs team, in support of 1st Battalion, 8th Marines, Regimental Combat Team 2, helps distribute school supplies at a local school in Now Zad, Afghanistan, Jan. 9. The civil affairs Marines have been working with the teachers since they arrived here in December of last year, giving out supplies such as pens, pencils and papers.

ADVERTISEMENT

TOUGH MINDED OPTIMISM by Lou Gerhardt



As we look forward to observing Martin Luther King, Jr. Day next Monday, I would remind you that Dr. King was a tough minded optimist.

I met Dr. King in 1961 when he was the guest of honor at a reception and dinner in our church in Seattle. He spoke to us that night in a way that made us feel that he was totally committed to a course of action that would ultimately prevail but only after an extremely difficult struggle that would require heroic sacrifices by many people.

Read these words spoken only hours before he was shot and killed April 4, 1968: “We’ve got some difficult days ahead but it really doesn’t matter with me now because I’ve been to the mountaintop. I won’t mind. Like anybody I would like to live a long time—longevity has its place—but I’m not concerned about that now. I just want to do God’s will and he’s allowed me to go up the mountain and I’ve looked over and I’ve seen the Promised Land. I may not get there with you but I want you to know tonight that we as a people will get to the Promised Land. So I’m happy tonight and I’m not fearing any man—mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord.”



COMBAT CENTER BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS



D'MONTE BENJAMIN RICHARDSON

Son of Sgt. Walter Richardson and Sharhonda Richardson, born Jan. 1.

CALEB MARK LISH

Son of 1st Lt. Marco Lish and Kristen Lish, born Dec. 29, 2010.

SYLAR FRANCISCO

BASSETT

Son of Sgt. Phillip Bassett and Sandra Bassett, born Dec. 28, 2010.

BRAYDEN NATHANAE

MURRAY

Son of Cpl. Nathanael Murray and Stephanie Murray, born Dec. 27, 2010.

CAROLINE NOELANI

BLAKE

Daughter of Sgt. Frank J. Blake III and Genevieve Blake, born Dec. 27, 2010.

JOSIAH LEROY

ROSALES

Son of Cpl. Ralph S. Rosales and Stormy Rosales, born Dec. 26, 2010.

HAGEN JACOB CUMMINS

Son of Lance Cpl. Jacob Cummins and Samantha Cummins, born Dec. 20, 2010.

JAIDEN RYEN JOYNER

Son of Lance Cpl. Andrea Shapiro and Lance Cpl. Jonathan Joyner, born Dec. 21, 2010.

KENSHI JOSHUA CLAISER

Son of Sgt. Calvin R. Clasier and Keiko Claiser, born Dec. 22, 2010.

KAYLA ELIZABETH

WILMOTT

Daughter of 2nd Lt. Eric J. Wilmott and Christina Wilmott, born Dec. 21, 2010.

PETER JAMES ACOSTA

Son of Major Jessica Acosta and Mr. Eric Acosta, born Dec. 15, 2010.

KEIRA CANDACE PIERCE

Daughter of Lt. Katherine Pierce and Robert Pierce, born Dec. 14, 2010.

JACOB JAMES WATSON

Son of Lance Cpl. T.J. Watson and Nicole Watson, born Dec. 11, 2010.

GARRETT WILLIAM

HUMPHERYS

Son of Capt. Barry Humpherys and Alisa Humpherys, born Dec. 10, 2010.

JAKOB KEEGAN FOX

Son of Staff Sgt. Anthony W. Fox and Regina Fox, born Dec. 9, 2010.

KARTER ZAILYN PASCAVIS

Daughter of Lance Cpl. Joshua Pascavis and Elizabeth Pascavis, born Dec. 8, 2010.

GRACE ELIZABETH ADAMS

Daughter of Cpl. Benjamin D. Adams and Amanda Adams, born Dec. 8, 2010.

BENJAMIN RAY TIMOTHY

CHANDLER

Son of Staff Sgt. Timothy Chandler and Emily Chandler, born Dec. 7, 2010.

HANNAH VIOLET ENSLEY

Daughter of Lt. Rebecca Ensley and Tyler Ensley, born Dec. 6, 2010.

JULIAN EDWARD VENTURA

Son of Sgt. Ricardo Ventura and Catherine Ventura, born Dec. 4, 2010.

COLE BRANDT WARMAN

Son of Cpl. Brandt Warman and Jacklyn Warman, born Dec. 4, 2010.

JACK EIDEN KENYON

Son of Lance Cpl. Lukas Kenyon and Erica Miller, born Dec. 2, 2010.

LUCAS TYLER QUINTANA

Son of Sgt. Andres Quintana and Holly Quintana, born Dec. 1, 2010.

MASON JAMES EDGINGTON

Son of Lance Cpl. Ryan Edgington and Mandy Edgington, born Nov. 30, 2010.

JERRY EARL

EARNHARDT

Son of Lance Cpl. David Earnhardt and Jessica Earnhardt, born Nov. 29, 2010.

DAVID MASIMILIANO CRUZ

Son of Staff Sgt. Tim Cruz and Claudia Cruz, born Nov. 29, 2010.

MICHAEL LEE

JARVIS III

Son of Lance Cpl. Michael Jarvis and Gina Jarvis, born Nov. 29, 2010.

AIDEN JOSH

MCGINTY

Son of Lance Cpl. Joshua McGinty and Rocio McGinty, born Nov. 29, 2010.

ADDYSON SPIGLER

Daughter of Sgt. Cody Spigler and Amanda Spigler, born Nov. 27, 2010.

KYLEE FAITH MARCHAND

Daughter of Cpl. Jesse R. Marchand and Larissa Marchand, born Nov. 28, 2010.

ALEX VELASQUEZ

Son of Cpl. Jose Velasquez and Zaira Velasquez, born Nov. 25, 2010.

ZENOBI MURRAY

Daughter of Staff Sgt. Michael Murray and Monique Murray, born Nov. 26, 2010.

SCARLETTE ROSE RICE

Daughter of Staff Sgt. Rice and Jamie Rice, born Nov. 25, 2010.

EMILY ALDRICH

Daughter of Sgt. Jeremy Aldrich and Rachele Aldrich, born Nov. 23, 2010.

NATHAN MICHAEL

CUMMINGS

Son of Cpl. Christopher Cummings and Jenna Cummings, born Nov. 21, 2010.

XAVIER ANTHONY HAWKINS

Son of Lance Cpl. Jordan Hawkins and Cheryl Hawkins, born Nov. 20, 2010.

EDWARD JAMES STALKER

Son of Sydney Stauts and James Stalker, born Nov. 21, 2010.

RENJIRO ISAMU

MATSUMURA

Son of Staff Sgt. Glenn Isamu Matsumura and Ratsamy Khaivilay, born Dec. 8, 2010.

Combat Center Trader Ads

AUTOMOTIVE

2008 TOYOTA YARIS.

\$10,000 OBO. Approximately 46K miles. Good condition. Consistent maintenance. Call 622-4562.

2000 NISSAN XTERRA.

4x4, auto, PDL, PW, roof rack, tow pkg., newer timing belt, 31" BFG's, 132K miles, \$5,000. Call 957-5630.

MISC.

BUNK BED.

Double/twin. Upgraded mattresses. Pooh Bear bedding included. Like new. \$225. Call 413-4015.

GIBSON LES PAUL

ELECTRIC. 1995 hard shell case. Excellent condition. \$1,500. Call 413-4015.

BICYCLE, BABY ITEMS:

Schwinn Stingray bike, solid wood baby crib, baby walker, stroller, wooden horse and more. All in excellent condition. Call 217-3310.

MISC. ITEMS. Ball gowns, navy blue size 9-10, navy blue size 6 \$50 each. Golf set \$20. Baby swing, baby stroller \$40 each. Call 361-3509.

The deadline for submitting Trader Ads is noon Wednesday, for the upcoming Friday's newspaper.

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: 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 830-6213.

ID THEFT, from A1

of the armed services who are deploying can place an active duty alert on their credit file, which serves as a red flag to help prevent fraudulent accounts from being opened. If someone attempts to open an account in the service member's name while they are away from their home duty station, it will alert the creditor to ask the applicant for more information and pieces of identification. She also suggested checking a credit report before and after deployments.

"You are entitled to one free credit report per year from each of the three credit reporting agencies," said Broder. "It's a good idea to check one before you deploy to make sure everything is okay, and then check a report from another agency when you return from the

deployment to make sure no fraudulent accounts were opened in your absence."

Along with consistently monitoring credit reports, Broder said there are other important steps service members and their families can take to prevent identity theft. They include shredding documents with personal information; not carrying Social Security numbers in wallets or purses; safeguarding military IDs; not giving out personal information on the phone, through mail, or over the Internet unless a person knows who they're dealing with; not lending out credit cards or account information; not clicking on unsolicited e-mails; not letting mail pile up if unable to collect it; and not using obvious passwords like your birth date, mother's maiden name, or the last four digits of your Social

Security number.

For those who do fall victim to identity theft, Broder said the first thing to do is put a fraud alert on your credit file. Service members can call one of the credit reporting agencies to place the alert, and they will convey the alert to the other two agencies. All fraudulent accounts need to be closed as soon as possible by phone and followed up in writing, and the service member needs to keep good records of all papers and correspondence sent out regarding the fraudulent accounts.

Identity theft victims need to file a police report in order to pursue their rights and start clearing their name and credit reports. Personnel deployed or stationed overseas, can file a report with base law enforcement.

Broder also advised bringing the issue to the attention of your command because it may

require quite a bit of time to resolve the issues, and reporting identity theft issues to the FTC.

The FTC's main identity theft Web site is <http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/microsites/idtheft/>. The site contains links for consumers, businesses, military, law enforcement, and a reference desk with resources including pamphlets and brochures.

The CRP is an initiative in which NCIS works in conjunction with the Judge Advocate General, Public Affairs, Navy Fleet and Family Support Center, Marine Corps Community Services and other Navy and Marine Corps commands to proactively fight crime within the military community.

For more news from Naval Criminal Investigative Service, visit <http://www.navy.mil/local/ncis/>.

MEMORIAL, from A1

commander and native of Leesburg, Fla., Sgt. Jesse Balthaser, a squad leader from Columbus, Ohio, Cpl. Paul Miller and Cpl. Jeffrey Standfest, both from Michigan. Miller was a fire team leader and Standfest was a dog handler with the battalion.

"Today we are again reminded of the value of life," said Lt. Col. James H. Bain the commanding officer of 3rd CEB.

Bain took time to reminisce about those lost, and how their character affected the others in their unit.

"These men were not perfect, but they were United States Marines," he said. "They were good men who decided not too long ago to take a different and difficult path and join the Marine Corps. They all volunteered to join in a time of war, knowing that they would eventually participate in that war.

"This desire to risk was accepted so that our mission and purpose might be accomplished," he added.

WOUNDED, from A1

lot of camaraderie. We forged a tight bond over there."

"Once in Kilo, always in Kilo," said Capt. James Lindler, the company commander of Co. K after pinning the green and orange medal to Dowdell's chest. "It is a great honor to have him with us today. From Bethesda to the Wounded Warrior Battalion, observers have noted his determination, his positive attitude and the way he tries to inspire other wounded Marines to stay in the fight."

After the brief ceremony, his former unit gathered around to offer their congratulations, but more so to catch up, exchange a few jokes and remember the times they had together. Dowdell stated proudly that he will always be a part of Co. K.

For now, Dowdell is continuing his rehabilitation in San Diego, where he is learning to walk again using two new prosthetic limbs.

"Being positive is the only way to be. You're not going to get anywhere by kicking yourself in the head," he said.

For some, Dowdell's injuries might have embittered them towards the Marine Corps, but Dowdell said his outlook has actually improved.

"Every person I've met, either prior service or active duty, gives me a phone number and tells me if I need anything to give them a call," he said. "Everyone has been willing to help wherever they can."

It's that caring family attitude from others and his positive outlook that keeps the smile



CPL. ANDREW S. AVITT

Corporal Jonathan Dowdell received the Navy Marine Corps Achievement Medal with Combat Distinguishing Device in front of his former unit, Company K, 3rd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, Jan. 7.

on his face today. Dowdell said it is that same optimism that will strengthen his steps so one day he might be returned to active duty.



Basketball League a slam dunk



Kevin Neal, a player with 23rd Dental, shoots a free throw during a game against 23rd Dental for the Commanding General's Intramural Basketball League at the West Gym and Fitness Center Monday.



An HQBN player shoots for three points during a game against 23rd Dental for the Commanding General's Intramural Basketball League at the West Gym and Fitness Center Monday.

**STORY AND PHOTOS BY
 LANCE CPL. ANDREW D. THORBURN**
 COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

The Commanding General's Intramural Basketball League began at the West Gym and Fitness Center Monday when eight teams brought their skills to the floor.

Sixteen teams are playing in two heated divisions this year, with the top four teams in each division competing in the playoffs.

"We had been around 12, so we have grown by about four teams," said Skip Best, the Combat Center's

athletics director. I am anticipating for the rest of the year that each sport is going to increase in number as well [due to Marines returning from deployments]."

The games are scheduled for every Monday and Wednesday at the East Gym and Fitness Center starting at 5:30 p.m.

"It is very fair and very well organized," said Kevin Neal, a player with 23rd Dental.

Best said he did everything he could to equal out the two leagues.

"I went to every pre-season game and gauged

See LEAGUE, B3



An HQBN player shoots for two points as 23rd Dental's defense attempts to block him during a Commanding General's Intramural Basketball League game at the West Gym and Fitness Center Monday.

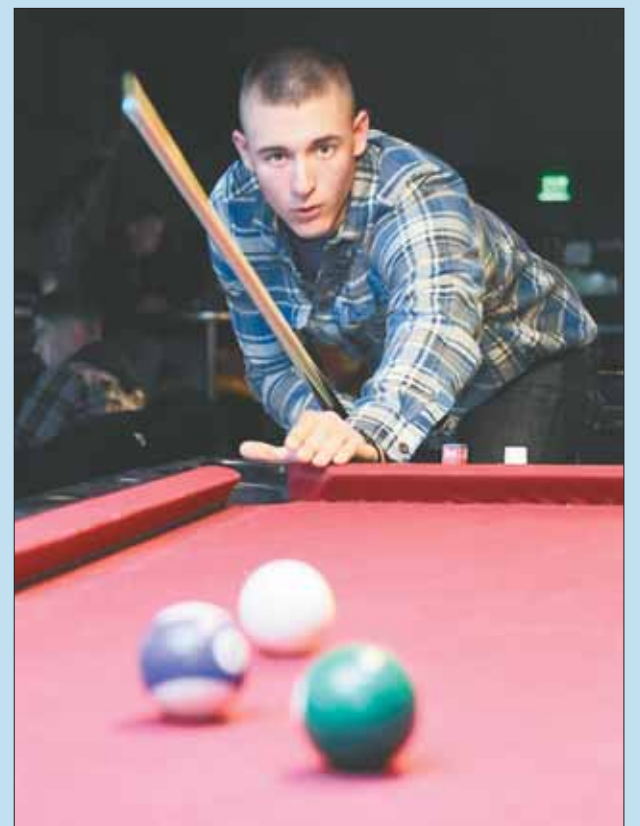
Combat Center's Fight Club crushes opponents



LANCE CPL. SARAH ANDERSON

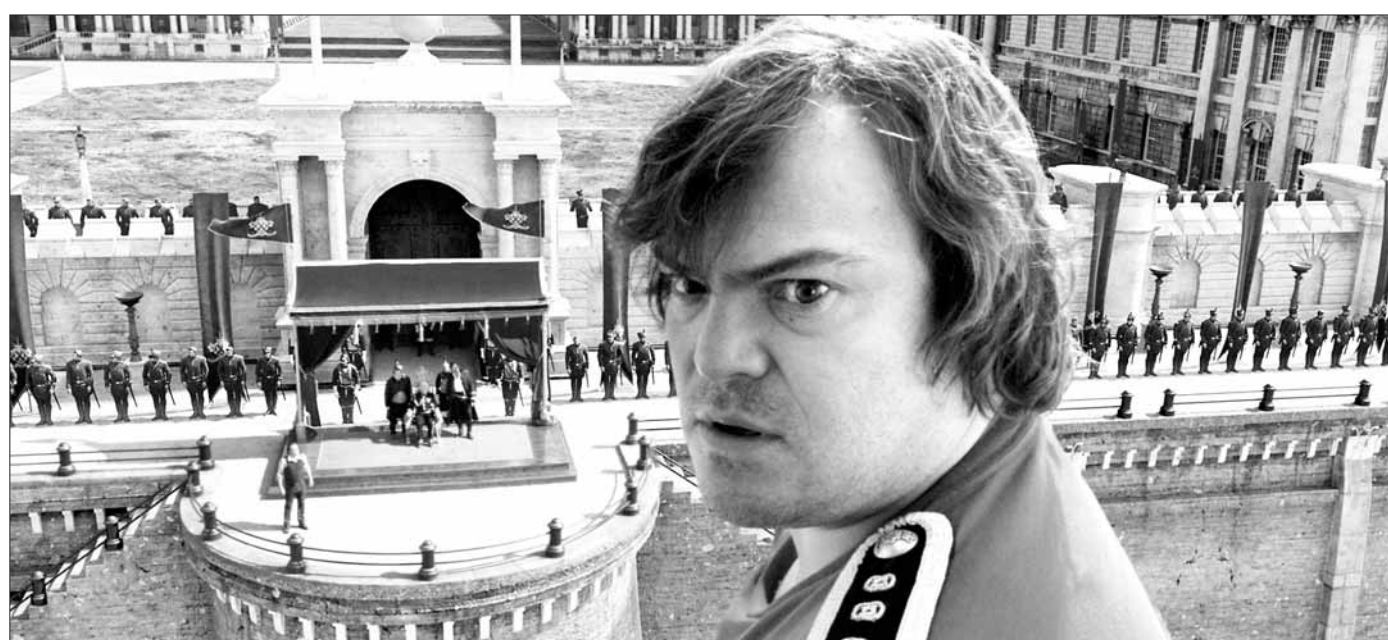
[from left top row] Bill Harington, silver medalist, Kyle Stewart, silver medalist, coach Mark Geletko, Dom Waters, silver medalist, Edwin Nunez, fourth place, [bottom] Arthur Powell, silver medalist, Mario Martinez, bronze medalist, and James Clark, gold medalist, earned their places at the Fight League Pro-am Grappling Classic in San Bernardino hosted by Adrenaline MMA on Dec. 18, 2010.

SMP 'Zone's in on pool tournament



LANCE CPL. SARAH ANDERSON

A Marine watches his ball travel down the billiard table during the Single Marine Program Pool Tournament Tuesday at the Zone. The tournament had three prizes. First place was Lance Cpl. Chris Mckee, winning a pool stick. Second place was Pfc. Peter Schmidt, winning a Nerf blaster system. Third place was Pfc. Mark King, winning a \$10 gift card to the Main Exchange and a Dance Dance Revolution running belt.



COURTESY PHOTO

Giant Lemuel Gulliver, played by Jack Black, has a fateful meeting with Lilliput's royal family in Hollywood's latest version of the classic novel by Jonathan Swift.

Jack Black rock 'n' rolls as new 'Gulliver'

NEIL POND

AMERICAN PROFILE

"Gulliver"
Rated PG-13

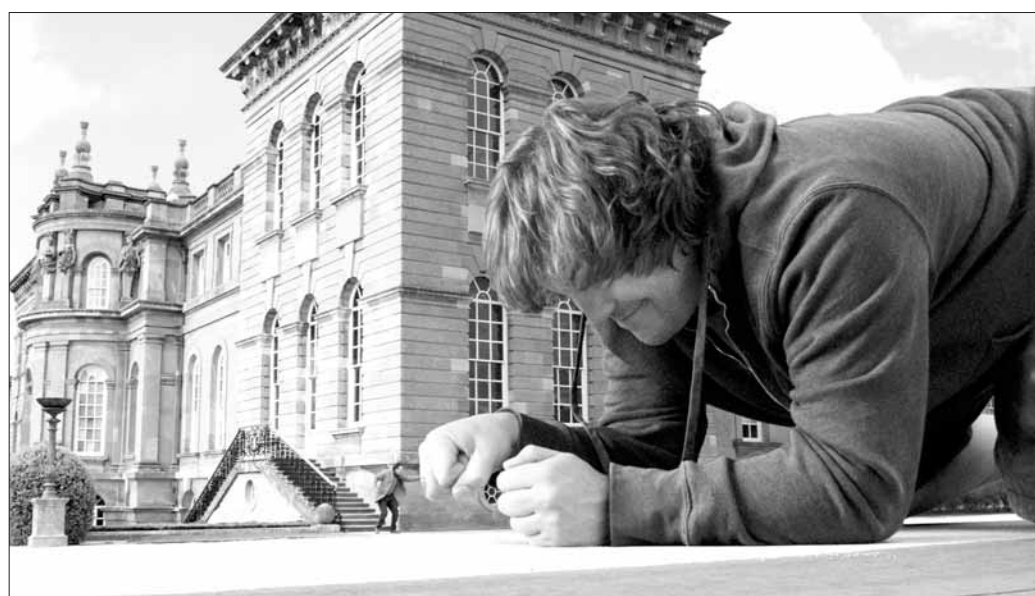
Written in 1726, Jonathan Swift's "Gulliver's Travels" lampooned the conquer-the-world culture of 18th century British imperialism. Its best-known section recounts an encounter with a nation-state of tiny people, who consider Gulliver a giant.

If you're wondering how Hollywood's latest version treats the classic novel's literary and satirical skewerings, your questions will be answered when Jack Black, the new Gulliver, topples backward into an assembly of teeny folk, his shorts and underwear ominously at half-mast.

Guess where one unfortunate little soldier, unable to get out of the way fast enough, finds himself after the surprise "moon landing"?

Masterpiece Theater this ain't.

If you're a fan of Black from his breakout comedy



COURTESY PHOTO

Gulliver, played by Jack Black, and his new best pal Horatio, played by Jason Segel, seal their friendship with a fist-bump.

"School of Rock" or his heavy-metal parody duo Tenacious D, you'll find ample PG-13 giggles here as he rock 'n' rolls through his role as Lemuel Gulliver, a "little" mail-room employee at a "big" New York magazine, where Lem has a crush on the attractive travel editor, Darcy, played by Amanda Peet from TV's "How I Met Your Mother."

On a trial writing assignment from Darcy, Lem finds himself on a boat in the Bermuda Triangle, where a storm washes him onto the beach of Lilliput.

There he discovers a thriving kingdom of little people with quaint customs, rigid rules of social conduct and a beautiful princess, played by Emily Blunt, pining for the lowly commoner, Horatio, played by Jason Segel, who's been imprisoned for trying to court her.

Soon, everyone is caught up in Gulliver fever, captivated by his heroic acts and his amazing story spun from "Star Wars," "Titanic" and other shreds of pop culture with which they are naively unfamiliar.

He helps Horatio woo the princess with lyrics from a Prince song, puts on a rock festival by blasting Guns 'N' Roses from his iPhone, dresses up Lilliputians as KISS to play an improvised version of Rock Band and gets the royal court and its citizens to let their hair down — everyone except a

pretentious general, played by Chris O'Dowd, who sees Gulliver as a threat.

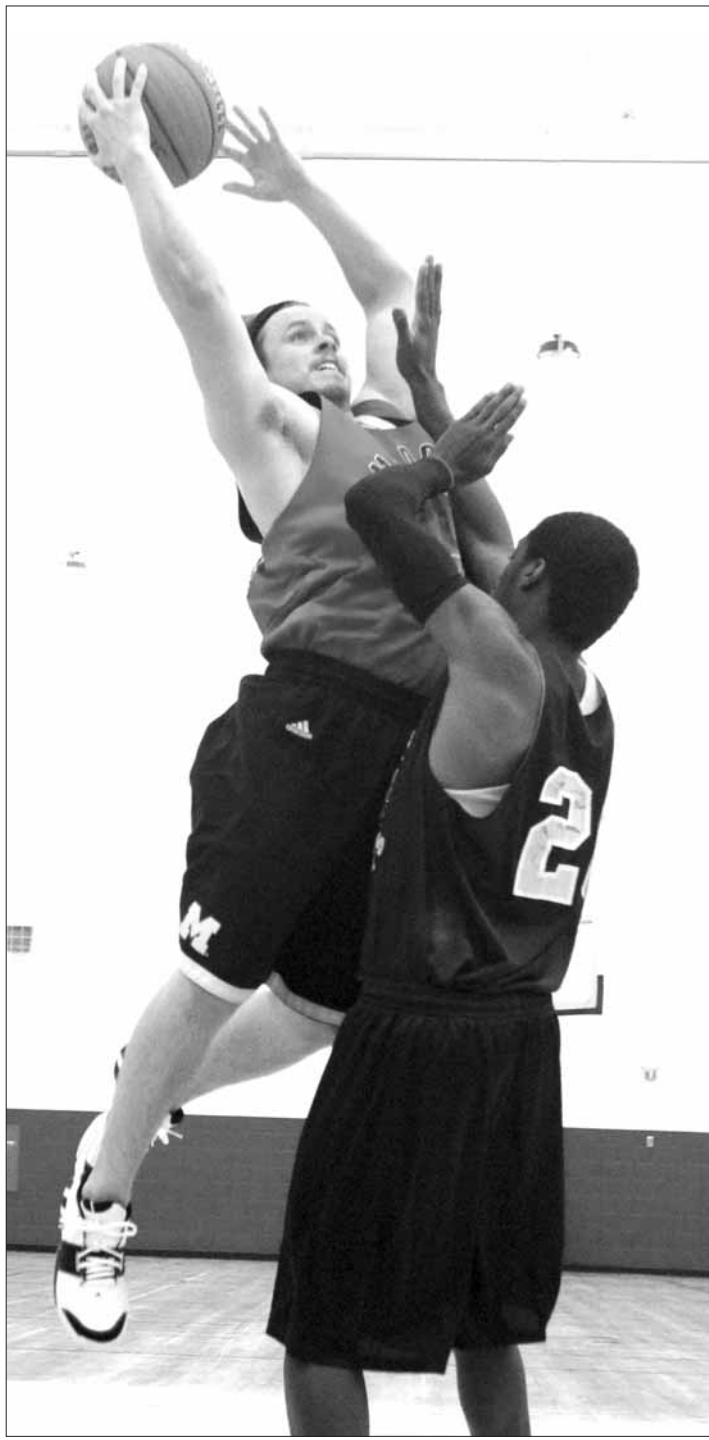
Movie technology has come a long way since Hollywood first brought Gulliver to the big screen in the early 1900s. In this version, camera tricks and special effects make it quite convincing that Black's character is sharing scene with people the size of toy action figures.

And despite its broad strokes of goofball, sometimes gross-out comedy tailored to Black's gonzo style, the movie does echo some of the novel's farcical observations of class, military pomp and the foibles of human behavior, no matter what size the humans happen to be.

Eventually, this modern Gulliver ends the long conflict between Lilliput and its vaguely France-like foe with an everybody-dance-now, in-the-streets boogaloo to "War, What Is It Good For."

Jonathan Swift might not recognize the tune, but he'd probably agree with the message.

Combat Center Sports



LANCE CPL. ANDREW D. THORBURN

An HQBN player shoots for two points during a game against 23rd Dental in Commanding General's Intramural Basketball League at the Combat Center's West Gym and Fitness Center Monday.

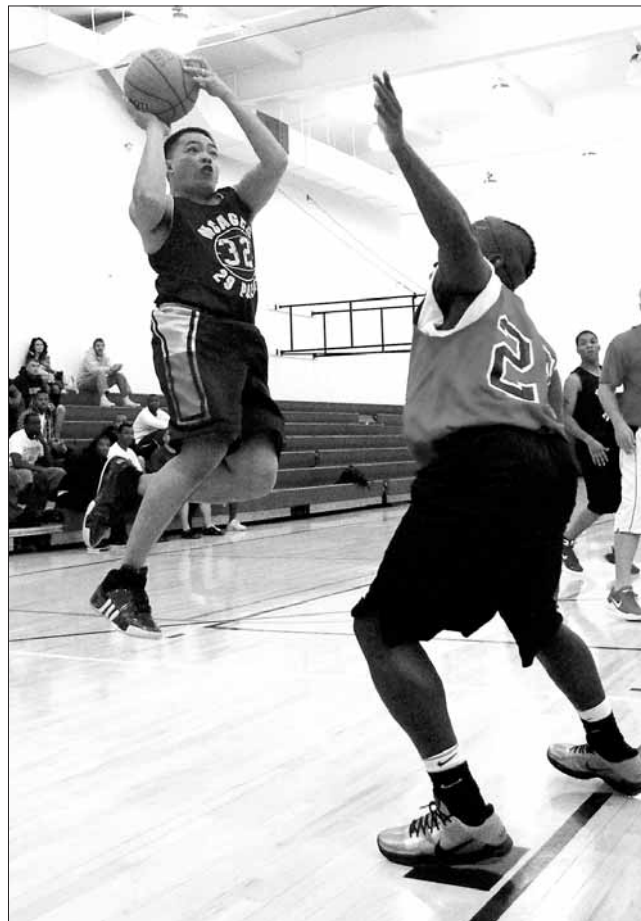
LEAGUE, from B1

the strength of all the teams," he said. "I think that all the talent is spread out over the base, so the teams are pretty evenly matched."

With all the teams having already finished not only the pre-season game, but also their first regular season game, most think the next game or two will help them solidify their teams.

"The first few games are practice for us to get everybody in and get them to know each other," said Gerome Hopkins, a player with 3rd CEB.

For more information on the League and other sports call 830-4092.



LANCE CPL. ANDREW D. THORBURN

Francis Paje, a player with 23rd Dental, goes for a two pointer during a game against HQBN for the Commanding General's Intramural Basketball League at the West Gym and Fitness Center Monday.

Did you know?

If you are active duty, retired military or a family member you can place a FREE ad in our Combat Center Trader Ads
See page A7 for details and limitations

Athlete of the Week



Name: Jeanette Hogan

Unit: Company B, Marine Corps Communications-Electronics School

Hometown: Newport, R.I.

Recognition: A player in the Basketball League

Favorite aspect of the sport: "It is an opportunity for the female students who are going through the school since it is a traveling team."

Advice for aspiring players: "It is something positive to do and a good mentorship opportunity for the students."

