

**MWSS-171 FACE-OFF**

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BE CREATIVE

Station library invites children to visit new worlds | P. 4

FEATURE

IWAKUNI APPROACH

Issue No. 22, Vol. 2 | Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan

Healthcare meeting discusses positive upcoming changes

LANCE CPL. KRISTIN E. COTE
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

The Robert M. Casey Medical and Dental Clinic, a branch of U.S. Naval Hospital Yokosuka, hosted a town hall meeting at the station chapel June 4 with senior health-care leaders to discuss the health-care concerns of service members and their families aboard the air station.

Rear Adm. Richard R. Jeffries, medical officer of the Marine Corps, Rear Adm. Christine M. Bruzek-Kohler, commander of Navy Medicine West and Naval Medical Center San Diego, Capt. Raquel Cruz Bono, chief of staff, deputy director, TRICARE Management Activity, along with other senior leaders and subject-matter experts, were present to answer questions from community mem-

SEE **MEETING** ON PAGE 3

Reenlisting: Be prepared, don't lose your MOS

CPL. JOSEPH MARIANELLI
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Marine Administrative Message 330/09 establishes the reenlistment guidelines for Marines with an end of current contract between Oct. 1 – Sep. 30, 2010.

Marines who have an end of current contract in fiscal year 2011 may reenlist under certain circumstances.

First-term, fiscal year 2010 Marines requesting reenlistment in their primary military occupational specialty may submit requests beginning July 1, 2009.

"The key thing is ... get your package in by July and you'll be good," said Gunnery Sgt. Eric

SEE **MOS** ON PAGE 3

MALS-12 bash kicks off summer



LANCE CPL. CLAUDIO A. MARTINEZ

Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12 family members enjoy a cultural performance orchestrated by the Unada Group by the marina here June 6 during the MALS-12 Summer Bash. MALS-12 offered a fun atmosphere packed with cultural performances, live music, family games, a children's train ride, barbeque, popcorn and cotton candy. Read more on page 5.

Indoor pool to close for renovations starting July 1

LANCE CPL. CLAUDIO A. MARTINEZ
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

The indoor pool at the IronWorks Gym here is scheduled to close July 1 due to renovations and slated to reopen Oct. 1.

Both the WaterWorks and Club pools are scheduled to remain open while the IronWorks pool undergoes its needed renovations.

Pool renovations will involve the replacement of heat exchangers and more than 200 floor tiles.

"This project was planned for and approved," said Stephanie Brown, the aquatics director at the IronWorks Gym. "We must have the repairs done now while the funds are available or risk not having the funds at a later date."

The heat exchangers regulate

the temperature of the pool water, particularly in the winter.

While the heat exchangers in the pool are still operational, it's better to replace them now instead of being left in a worse situation by waiting for them to be completely inoperable, Brown said.

The floor tiles are seen as a potential safety risk.

"The floor tiles are broken and need to be replaced," said Brown. "They can get to be a slip or trip cut hazard and we don't want anybody getting hurt."

Some station members who regularly use the indoor pool have begun to express frustration at the pool closing.

"I think it's disappointing," said Soraya Applegate, a regular swimmer at the indoor pool. "I've only been here a few months, and

the first three months I was here it was closed."


Applegate sent an e-mail to find out why the pool was re-closing and why the additional work wasn't done during the last closure.

"I did get a very nice reply to my comment," said Applegate. "Basically the funding wasn't there to do it at that time."

Applegate said she believes they know what they are doing and is sure that what is being done needs doing.

Hours of operation for the WaterWorks pool are 11 a.m. – 7 p.m. weekdays and 11 a.m. – 8 p.m. on weekends and holidays.

Hours of operation for the Club pool are 5 a.m. – 8 p.m. weekdays and 9 a.m. – 8 p.m. Saturdays with Sundays and holidays operating from 11 a.m. – 8 p.m.



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Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the Public Affairs Office of Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan. All queries concerning news and editorial content should be directed to the Public Affairs Office, Building One, Room 216, MCAS Iwakuni, Japan. Call 253-5551.

The Iwakuni Approach welcomes Letter to the Editor submissions. Letters must include a full name and unit, if applicable. Anonymous letters and comments will not be published. Letters are the opinion of the writer only. Submissions may be edited for clarity and space. Letters can be dropped off at the Public Affairs Office or sent via e-mail to iwakuni.pao@usmc.mil. Please submit all content at least two weeks in advance of projected publication date for review.

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CHAPLAIN’S CORNER

‘Dreams Come True’

Lt. CMDR. DENNIS COX
MAG-12 GROUP CHAPLAIN

There are many folks who come in and out of Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni. Most of us are permanent party, but there are many Marines and sailors who come through here deployed through the Unit Deployment Program (UDP). Whether we are permanent party residents or UDP personnel, every one of us have goals and dreams and reasons why they joined the Marine Corps or Navy.

Dreams and goals provide us motivation to either stay in the service or get out and pursue other goals.

Many folks join the military with hopes of getting an advanced degree or certification in a technical field.

With the new GI Bill, this is possible. Many folks here have professional goals like promotion or Collateral Duty Inspector or other training, and many other folks have goals of learning Japanese or travel. Whatever your goals and dreams are, they can come true.

Sadly, however, these goals and dreams don’t often come true during our time in Iwakuni.

The problem much of the time is either poor time management, circumstances getting in the way or just plain laziness. Henry Ford once said, “You can’t build a reputation on what you’re going to do.” This is true with just about anything.

We start out highly motivated to accomplish our goals and find ourselves six months later stuck in the same position. Many of our goals never even get off the ground. What happened?

What happened to your goals and dreams since you’ve been here? Do you still have them? Have you learned the Japanese language, have you gotten that degree, have you been certified Collateral Duty Inspector?

Here’s what I do when I set my goals and plans, it’s twofold: I hold my self accountable to someone and I commit my plans to the Lord. The bible tells us, “Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and your plans will succeed.” (Proverbs 16:3 New International Version)

I know that when I do this, two things happen. Someone is going to keep me in line and God is going to bless what I do. When I do this, all things are possible, and I know that dreams can come true.

Youth soccer camp registration to begin July 1

Registration for 2009 Marine Corps Community Services Semper Fit and the Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 Youth Soccer Camp is slated to go from July 1 through the 25 at the IronWorks Gym open to children ages 5 to 15.

The camp, which is limited to 85 participants, will take place at Penny Lake field July 27 through the 31. Participants will receive shin guards, a camp T-shirt, a certificate, a post-camp barbeque lunch, and training and drills to develop soccer skills.

Camp fee for one child is \$25, \$20 for a second and \$15 for a third. For more information call the IronWorks Gym at 253-3239/5777

JUNE PROMOTIONS

CLC-36
Sgt.
Metayer, Walnes
Sosa, Daniel

Cpl.
Diaz, Raul
Perez, Renzo A.
Zentmire, Doron L.

Lance Cpl.
Delisle, Sukey A.
Hornburg, Anthony A.
Norita JR, Gus J

MALS-12
Sgt.
Durham, Ryan S.

Cpl.
Baker, Ryan D.
Breaux Jr., James E.
Farmer, William D.
Gutierrez, Bradley A.
Kramer, Patrick D.
Mcconnaha, Daniel L.
Sahinyilmaz, Kemal

Lance Cpl.
Blake, Presanta A.
Carrington, Zachary S.
Garcia, Jason A.
Gil Jr., Juan

Haysloft, Christophe D.
Hughes III, Robert D.
Serrano, Kevin A.

MAG-12
Master Sgt.
Milton, Abram D.

Sgt.
Wu, Zuyao

Cpl.
Casler, Jason R.
Dang, Josephvu T.

Lance Cpl.
Weixler, Daniel

MWSS-171
Cpl.
Ahmed, Hytham A.
Franklin, Travis M.
Shapirokinghorn, Aisha

Lance Cpl.
Bankes II, Raymond E.
Carlston, Forbes
Castro, Thomas B.
Davis, Samuel J.
Degenhardt, Alexander R.
Delfrate, Christophe J.

Esparza, Nico A.
Garcia, Valerie
Hoffman, Bradley W.
Mccaskil, Barron J.
Oliver, Troy R.
Redvay, John A.
Roby, Trey T.
Scott, Phillip B.
Shank, Bobby A.
Vaughn, Stevie N.

Wyché, Kevin L.

VMFA-242
Capt.
Allison, Justin E.

Sgt.
Cruz, Justin M.
Smith, Tanner R.

Cpl.
Mohl, Andrew C.

Lance Cpl.
Sandella, Jeffrey B.
Trolio, Kayla S.

Pfc.
Altepeter, Robert L.

Community feedback necessary for health care services progression

MEETING FROM PAGE 1

bers.

“Our mission is to listen to you and find out what’s going on, what the real concerns are and see what we can do about it,” said Jeffries, medical officer of the Marine Corps.

Town hall meetings were first held at Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, Marine Corps Air Ground Task Force Training Command Twentynine Palms, and a combined meeting for Marine Corps Air Station Beaufort and Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island to discuss the specific problems with access to and availability of medical services. Due to the success of those meetings, gatherings of the same sort are taking place for Marine Corps Bases Japan.

Some of the concerns voiced by community members at the meeting were issues such as the desire for an obstetrics and gynecology practitioner aboard the air station, hardships associated with medical evacuation procedures, and the development of the Educational and Developmental Intervention Services program here.

“We have to work out a reasonable way to have resources here for what people need, use civilian resources as possible and have what other kinds of support that people need,” said Cmdr. William Wike, officer-in-charge at the branch health clinic.

To address the OB/GYN issue, Wike stated that the construction of a new family health care facility is currently being planned by senior medical staff and construction is slated to begin in 2012.

Some suggestions were made as a temporary solution to the problem until the construction of the new facility is completed.

The family practitioners here are fully capable of doing female exams, and local resources, such as Dr. Takashi Shoji, are available, said Wike. Also, community members can take advantage of visiting specialists from Yokosuka, such as mental health specialists, OB/GYN specialists, and ears, nose and throat specialists by talking to their primary care doctor.

One community member told of the problems she encountered when she had to undergo a medevac. Her husband was deployed, so she was left with the choice to either leave her child with someone or pay out of pocket to bring her child with her.

Capt. Kevin D. Moore, commanding officer of USNH Yokosuka, suggested community members in need of similar assistance should contact the local American Red Cross chapter.

They have several programs to help families in times of need and can provide additional links to assistance if necessary.

Another concern was the replacement of Cmdr. Mark Russell, a psychologist with EDIS, who is retiring.

“EDIS is a program for children 0-18 years with developmental or emotional disabilities,” said Lt. Linda Amell, an occupational therapist and the EDIS division head here.

“We are trying to bring in more support and currently looking for approval for the position to be filled by a civilian,” said Amell.

“We are also looking at several options to further develop the EDIS program to benefit families,” added Amell.

Several health care service changes are already in the planning process or scheduled to take place in the near future, but community feedback is a necessity to continue improving the services aboard the air station.

Community members are encouraged to attend town hall meetings in the future to voice their concerns.

There are a variety of other methods to provide feedback, such as using the Interactive Customer Evaluation program, submitting in-clinic comments, and completing the customer satisfaction surveys mailed home after each visit.

“Whatever methods you have to give feedback are actually relayed to the places that need it so we can take it as far as we need,” said Moore.

“Your input, your statements, your feedback is indispensable for us to do better,” Moore said.

Reenlisting demystified: Rules you need to know about FY10 retention guidelines

MOS FROM PAGE 1

Grembowiec, station and Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron career planner.

First-term Marines with an end of active service or end of current contract in fiscal year 2011 who are in receipt of permanent change of station orders may be considered on a case-by-case basis if they have one of the following primary MOSs: 0231, 0261 0321, 0431, 0451, 0811, 0861, 1371, 2621, 2671, 2673, 2674, 2676, 2821, 2831, 2844, 2847, 2887, 5974, 6531, 6062, 6092, 6114, 6154, 6173, 6174 and 7257.

Fiscal year 2011 first-term Marines may request early reenlistment if they reenlist with Marine Security Guard Duty as their duty station incentive.

Reenlistment responses will begin August 2009.

First-term Marines requesting a 24-month reenlistment do not rate any incentives and will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

The MARADMIN identifies 50 MOSs as fast-filling based on historical data, but every MOS has the potential to become classified as fast-filling. For the full listing, check <http://www.marines.mil/news/messages/Pages/MARADMIN0330-09.aspx>.

Other MOSs identified as fast-filling will be announced via a separate MARADMIN.

Reenlistment requests for fast-filling MOSs must be submitted July 1 – July 31, 2009.

With July approaching fast, it’s important to consider all possibilities.

“I would definitely weigh out their options,” said Grembowiec. “We want them to make an adult, informed decision and not get out on impulse.”

Reenlisting Marines attempting to make a lateral move with an end of active service date between Oct. 1 and March 31, 2010 can have an extension until May 31, 2010 with their commander’s approval.

Lateral move requests will be accepted Dec. 1 for all MOSs and July 1, 2009 for the following MOSs: 0211, 0231, 0241, 0261, 0321, 0431, 0451, 0689, 0811, 0861, 2336, 2621, 2671, 2673, 2674, 2676, 2834, 3044, 4133, 4821, 5821, 5974, 6062, 6092, 6114, 6154, 6173, 6174, 6531 and 7257.

Out of fiscal year first-term Marines requesting a lateral move will only be considered for the following MOSs: 0211, 0241, 0321, 0451, 0689, 0811, 0861, 2336, 2621, 2671, 2673, 2674, 2676, 2834, 3044, 4133, 4821, 5821, 5974, 6062, 6092, 6114, 6154, 6173, 6174, 6531 and 7257.

Due to training length requirements, a 60-month contract will be required for lateral moves into the 26XX, 28XX and 59XX occupational fields.

Lateral move requests will not be considered for MOSs designated as closed.

The Quality Reenlistment Program for fiscal year 2010 will allow up to 100 boatspaces for first-term Marines in closed MOSs who have exceptional performance records.

The QRP should be considered as a last resort, said Grembowiec.

First-term Marines who are authorized reenlistment in their primary MOS may request duty station assignments with their reenlistment request.

But Marines who have been on station less than two years should defer their duty station incentive until six months prior to completing their current assignment.

Assignments are on a first-come, first-served basis based on the needs of the Marine Corps, billet vacancies and Marine preference.

Requesting Marine Special Operations Command as a duty station incentive may require a 60-month reenlistment.

Marines submitting requests without duty station preference will be assigned based on the needs of the Marine Corps.

All first-term Marines who reenlist for 48-months are eligible to receive 60 bonus points for their composite score.

Selective Reenlistment Bonus Program information will be posted via another MARADMIN no later than July 1, 2009.

Even though specific bonus information has not been released, remembering all the benefits of a military career besides the pay is important.

“There are a lot of benefits to staying in right now because of the economy,” said Grembowiec. “Maybe four more years will make them more marketable.”

Transportation office to move to new location

The Transportation Office is slated to move to Building 236 next to the Southside Mess hall June 18-26.

During that time services provided will be limited to arranging moves and scheduling air and train transportation.

There will be TMO personnel in Building 163 until June 22.

All phone lines will remain the same, and TMO is scheduled to be completely moved in by June 26.

For further information call the Personal Property Section at 253-3358.

VA to present Post 9/11 GI Bill

Station members are invited to hear Vesta Gueschkova, the station’s Veterans’ Affairs Representative, speak on the Post 9/11 GI Bill at the Sakura Theater here June 23 and 25.

All active duty military, spouses, retirees, ect. can listen to Gueschkova during her presentations slated for the following dates:

June 23 from 09:00-10:30 and 3:00-4:30

June 25 from 09:00-10:30 and 3:00-4:30

Be creative, express yourself at your library

Station library offers new worlds to children through summer reading program

LANCE CPL. CLAUDIO A. MARTINEZ
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

With school coming to a close and children faced with the temptation of spending too much time in front of the television or computer screen, the station library here is offering an alternative. The library is inviting children ages 5 to 12 to have fun and be creative through its 2009 summer reading program starting June 23. “Our theme this year is, ‘be creative and express yourself,’” said Rebekah Strange, a library technician with the station library.

“We’re going to teach the children how to express themselves through music, art, poetry, dance and theater.”

Participating children will sign a contract with the librarian, deciding how many minutes they plan to read, and receive a time log to keep track of minutes read.

Station children who will be traveling during the summer months can also participate in the program.

“Books are portable. They can read them anywhere,” said Belinda Pugh, the supervisory technician at the station library.

Children can sign up and take their time log with them while traveling and turn it in to the library when they return.

As part of the summer reading program, the library has scheduled guest speakers and a variety of art and craft projects open to all reading program participants every Tuesday at 10 a.m.

Musicians, artists and performers have been invited to speak to the children who will then help them create everything from little tumbourines to collages, said Strange.

Participants will also read a different story together during the scheduled programs and be able to participate in different contests ranging from photography to poetry.

“We’re getting a whole bunch of books that are about these different subjects,” said Strange.

Books on art, poetry, dancing and theater will be offered to the children to take home and read.

After the children finish reading and fill out their time logs, they can take their logs to the library once a week and receive small prizes

for minutes read.

“One of our goals is to help the children maintain their reading comprehension skills during the summer,” said Pugh. “If they don’t read during the summer, they sort of have to start at square one and regress a little bit once school starts.”

“If they just read 15 minutes a day, it really will help them maintain that comprehension level,” added Pugh.

Children who wish to read other books from the library will have the opportunity to browse though its collection and choose one for themselves.

“We have cool books. Whether it be a chapter book or a picture book or something like that, there is something for everybody,” said Strange.

“The library is a good resource. It expands their world and promotes education — shows them there’s so many things out there they wouldn’t know of and helps them as a person to be more whole, more educated, more aware.”

- Rebekah Strange

The library is a good resource. It expands their world and promotes education — shows them there’s so many things out there they wouldn’t know of and helps them as a person to be more whole, more educated, more aware.”

While the age bracket is 5- to 12-year-olds, children of younger ages have signed up to participate.

“They’re considered a family reader,” said Strange. “Right now, I have a couple of 2-year-olds registered, and as a family reader, they’ll sit down and read the books with their mom. We’re not really putting a cap on it.”

Parents and children have already started signing up for the program.

“I’ve never participated, but it sounds like a really good thing,” said Shannon Legette, a mother of two children. “They can meet new friends and just expand their reading.”

Some parents and children always say there is nothing to do over the summer, but this is a great thing for them to do weekly, Legette said.

Children interested in participating in the summer reading program can sign up from now until the end of the program — slated for July 28 at the station library.

“Come in, get signed up and have some fun.” said Strange.

Important home safety tips to remember

SUBMITTED BY
STATION SAFETY

We should all be thinking of outdoor safety especially as we approach the summer season. But don’t forget that unpleasant incidents could also happen inside the house if we are not careful. Please take time to review these items and keep your home safe.

Slips and Falls

- Keep the floor clear. Reduce clutter and keep telephone and electrical cords out of walkways.
- To reduce the chance of slipping or tripping, secure area rugs with a piece of foam carpet backing, double-sided tape, or a rubber pad.
- Use a sturdy step stool with handrails when trying to reach high places.

Extension Cords

- Never run an extension cord under a rug.
- Do not consider extension cords part of your home’s electrical system—use them only for temporary situations.
- Replace old and damaged extension cords.
- Make sure the cords you buy are approved by an independent testing laboratory.
- Never overload an extension cord; that

could cause a fire. Check the rating labels on the cords and the appliance. If necessary, upgrade to a higher-rated cord.

Ladders

- The distance from the base of the wall to the base of the ladder should be 1/4 the height of the ladder. Most ladders have a graphic on the side to help you determine if the ladder is set at the proper angle.
- Make sure the ladder’s footpads are secure on the ground.
- Test the ladder to be sure it will not shift. If necessary, tie it off to keep it in place.
- Keep all ladders — especially metal ladders — away from electrical lines and pay attention to overhead lines when moving an extended ladder into position.

Hand and Power Tools

- Always wear safety glasses when using any power tool.
- Always follow the manufacturer’s recommendations for using their tools and materials.
- Dull tools are unsafe and can harm the work. Always work with sharp cutting blades.
- Unplug power tools before loading them, changing blades or bits, or making adjustments.

Child proof your home

- Use safety latches and locks for cabinets and drawers in kitchens, bathrooms, and other areas to help prevent poisonings and other injuries. Safety latches and locks on cabinets and drawers can help prevent children from gaining access to medicines and household cleaners, as well as knives and other sharp objects.
- Use door knob covers and door locks to help prevent children from entering rooms and other areas with possible dangers. Door knob covers and door locks can help keep children away from places with hazards.
- Use window guards and safety netting to help prevent falls from windows, balconies, decks, and landings.
- Use corner and edge bumpers to help prevent injuries from falls against sharp edges of furniture and fireplaces. Corner and edge bumpers can be used with furniture and fireplace hearths to help prevent injuries from falls or to soften falls against sharp or rough edges.
- Use outlet covers and outlet plates to help prevent electrocution. Outlet covers and outlet plates can help protect children from electrical shock and possible electrocution.

MALS-12 Summer Bash dedicated to Marines, families

LANCE CPL. CLAUDIO A. MARTINEZ
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Marines and family members gathered by the marina here June 6 during the Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12 Summer Bash.

The morale building event gave Marines an opportunity to spend time with each other and their families.

“You got to make sure that you bring the families together with the Marines,” said Sgt. Maj. James Kirkland, the squadron sergeant major for MALS-12. “Your family will be with you for the rest of your life, and it’s important to remember them.”

The Summer Bash was dedicated to the families as a way to say thank you to them for the moral support they provide for their Marines, Kirkland said.

Community members from the counseling center, local schools and the local Kumon center were also invited to the event.

Kirkland said they’ve tried to say thank you to almost every agency that helps support the families and the squadron here.

Marines, families and community members spent the afternoon relaxing and enjoying barbeque while the children scuttled about, playing in blow up bouncy cages and slides as they ate popcorn and cotton candy.

“It’s a great opportunity to bring out the family and mingle with the rest of the unit,” said Staff Sgt. Raymond Ortiz, a section five ground safety officer with MALS-12. “We get so caught up with the everyday hustle and bustle. It’s a good time to just take a pause right at the beginning of summer.”

MALS-12 offered a fun atmosphere packed with family games, a children’s train ride and a cultural performance filled with paper maché fire breathing dragons orchestrated by the Uanuda Group.

“I have a 1-year-old and a 7-year-old, and I knew it was a very family-friendly atmosphere,” said Ortiz. It’s important to spend time with the family at events like the Summer Bash because if a Marine is happy at home, a Marine is happy at work, Ortiz



LANCE CPL. CLAUDIO A. MARTINEZ

Marine Avation Logistics Squadron 12 Marines and family members enjoy a ride on the children's train ride during the MALS-12 Summer Bash by the marina here June 6. The Summer Bash was also to be Sgt. Maj. James Kirkland's, the squadron sergeant major for MALS-12, last morale building event with the Marines of his unit. Kirkland is slated to leave MALS-12 during a post and relief ceremony June 11.

added.

Also offered at the event was a variety of live music, a taiko drum demonstration, free jet ski rides at the marina, rope for tug-of-wars and a rock wall participants could climb.

Sgt. Dennis Laferty, a logistics chief with MALS-12 said events like this give families something to look forward to.

“This was Sergeant Major Kirkland’s idea,” said, Laferty.

The main idea of the event was for Marines and their families to have fun, interact and build unit cohesion, Laferty added.

MALS-12 tries to hold morale-building

events like the Summer Bash for their Marines about once a month, but one thing set this event apart from the others.

“This is Sergeant Major Kirkland’s last big shindig with the unit,” said Laferty.

Kirkland is slated to leave MALS-12 during a post and relief ceremony June 11.

While part of the event was paid for by the MALS-12 morale and welfare fund, the other part was paid for by Kirkland.

“Some of it is for me to say thank you to the squadron for the past three years,” said Kirkland. “I’m extremely grateful to the squadron for supporting me as their sergeant major for the last three years.”

Local girl scouts make transition, dedication during bridging ceremony

Local girl scouts learn to hula dance during a pre-registration hula party at the M.C. Perry Elementary School here Saturday. A bridging ceremony, a ceremony marking a girl’s move from one level of girl scouting to another, was held before the party where the young girls crossed a makeshift bridge as they were welcomed by the other girls they will be joining. Bridging is an important transition in a girl scout’s life. It’s a defining moment when a girl becomes aware of her achievements and is ready for new adventures and responsibilities. During bridging ceremonies, girls are honored for their progression and growth.



PFC. MIRANDA BLACKBURN



PFC. MIRANDA BLACKBURN
A member of the engineer team does the last of his five pull-ups before pulling himself over the bar during the obstacle course portion of the field meet outside of the IronWorks Gym here June 5. The obstacle course kicked off the day's events at 6:30 a.m.



PFC. MIRANDA BLACKBURN
Members of the Air Fuel Operations team laugh as they struggled to race down the field during the three-legged race during the sports day at Penny Lake here June 5. The field meet had been in the works for about three months to give Marines of Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 a well-deserved day off.

MWSS-171 SPORTS DAY



PFC. MIRANDA BLACKBURN
Engineers from Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 show off the well-earned trophy after taking first place in a field meet at Penny Lake here June 5. The engineers won seven out of 11 events held during the sports day.

Marines enjoy day of friendly competition

PFC. MIRANDA BLACKBURN
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Marines from each company in Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 competed against each other in a field meet at the IronWorks Gym and Penny Lake here June 5.

Teams from air fuel operations, engineers, motor transportation, and headquarters participated in a total of 11 events throughout the entire day.

"We requested a sports day, a day off and a day in civilian attire," said Lance Cpl. Hershel Hunt with Air Fuel Operations. "We ended up getting it all in one day."

The motivated hoots and hollers coming from right outside the IronWorks Gym were heard from the fourth deck of Barracks 314 at 6 a.m. that morning as MWSS-171 got ready to kick off some friendly competition.

The first half of the day consisted of running the obstacle course, volleyball and basketball.

Team members cheered on their fellow competitors as they sped through the obstacle course as fast as they could. While some flew through with ease, others needed the extra motivation.

Basketball and volleyball both turned into heated competitions as Marines started to play more aggressive.

Headquarters, representing their company in white T-shirts, headed over to Penny Lake in the lead after winning both basketball and the obstacle course.

The engineers trailed right behind, claiming the volleyball portion as their first win.

After arriving at Penny Lake, Marines split into teams for ultimate football and soccer.

Rowdy Marines yelled at the top of their lungs every time their team scored. Engineers got louder and louder as they continued to win more events.

The smell of barbeque drifted through the air while Marines finished up the last games of soccer and football.

"We're not here for the trophy. We're here for the food," joked Hunt, whose team happened to be in fourth place at the time. "It doesn't matter what place you get as long as you come out and have fun."

Participants congregated in the grass and at picnic tables under tents while waiting for the food to finish.

A prayer was said over the food and the Marines were reminded that even though they were competing against each other they were all still one unit and one family.

Marines took a break from the friendly rivalry and gathered around tables to enjoy the afternoon meal while laughing, conversing and enjoying a couple games of cards.

After letting their food settle, participants were ready to get back into action and finish out the last six events of the competition.

The events included a fireman's carry portion, a stretcher relay race, dizzy-izzy, push-ups and crunches, and a three-legged race which led to the final and most competitive event — the tug-of-war.

"One, two, three, pull! One, two, three, pull!" cheered the crowd.

The final two, air fuel operations and motor transportation, dueling it out to the very end with motor transportation pushing just enough to win the final event.

"Tug-of-war was the best part of today," said GySgt. Jose Aguirre, with headquarters MWSS-171 and the director of the field meet, "It simplified all of the events planned for the day."

The exhausted Marines all gathered around into a school circle for the announcement of the winner. It was no surprise when the engineers were given the trophy after winning seven out of 11 of the events.

"It was a well-deserved day off," said Aguirre. "We've been planning this for about three months now and the Marines had a lot of fun. They not only showed their pride in 171 but in each of their companies."



Lance Cpl. Amber Pate, with air fuel operations, carries her partner across the field during the fireman's carry portion of the field meet at Penny Lake here June 5. Teams of two had to carry their partner to the end of the field, switch and run back to the other end during the sixth event of the day.



PFC. MIRANDA BLACKBURN
A member of the motor transportation team cranks out his crunches during the eighth relay of the sports day at Penny Lake here June 5. During this relay, Marines ran from one end of the field to the other to perform 20 push-ups and 40 crunches as fast as they could and then ran back to tag the next teammate.

CORPS NEWS

HIGHLIGHTING MARINES AND
SAILORS AROUND THE GLOBE

Father, son serve under same colors in Iraq

Young corporal learns from and understands his father while serving side-by-side in the Corps

CPL. BOBBIE A. CURTIS
2ND MARINE
LOGISTICS GROUP

CAMP AL TAQADDUM, Iraq — When Cpl. Jared P. Lopez joined the Marine Corps in September 2006, he always knew there would be a possibility that he would deploy at the same time as his father, who has served in the Marine Corps for nearly 20 years — but he didn't think that they would end up on the same base in Iraq.

Much to his surprise — that's just what happened. In February 2009, Master Sgt. Juan Lopez, the operations chief for the 1st Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment Security Detachment, arrived at Camp Al Taqaddum, Iraq, where his son had already been serving for a month.

Both Marines agreed that having family near them on the deployment has made it easier on them and the rest of their family.

"I can always talk to him if I have any questions," stated Cpl. Lopez, a data/wire technician with Communication Company, 2nd Marine Logistics Group (forward). "It's good to have a mentor that knows about life and the military."

He said that his father helps him through everyday life and gives him advice on the military that he has learned during his long career.

"You can define leadership but I think there's a difference as far as the military and civilian sides of it," Lopez continued, pointing out his father's well-rounded knowledge. "He has given me good insight."

Master Sgt. Lopez said the best part of having his son serving with him in the still relatively dangerous country is the positive impact it has had on Cpl. Lopez's mother.

"His mom's doing well," the



CPL. M.M. BRAVO

CAMP AL TAQADDUM, Iraq — Master Sgt. Juan Lopez, the operations chief for 1st Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment Security Detachment, stands with his son, Cpl. Jared P. Lopez, a data/wire technician with Communications Company, 2nd Marine Logistics Group (forward), aboard Camp Al Taqaddum, Iraq, May 23, 2009. The two Marines found themselves serving side-by-side when both their units deployed to Camp Al Taqaddum in early 2009.

senior Lopez said. "She's very happy with her husband and son over here at the same time. It makes her feel a lot more comfortable."

The younger Lopez said he thought about following in his father's footsteps many years before their faithful uniting in Iraq.

"I always wanted to join since I was young," he explained.

Lopez said that after high school he decided that college was not the path he wished to initially follow.

"I took some college, like two classes ... I said I'd rather put my time in, join the Marine Corps and serve my country, and that way set myself up for college at the same time."

One of Master Sgt. Lopez's other three sons, Cpl. Dane Lopez, an intelligence analyst with 1st Radio Battalion, 1st Marine Division, was originally scheduled to deploy to Iraq at the same time as his father and brother, before sudden changes were made. His father remembers having a good hunch that his two sons may join the Corps, recalling some good indicators from their childhood.

"I just knew that this was probably something they would do," he said. "They were always talking to Marines, wearing Marine gear and doing Marine things."

For Cpl. Lopez, growing up as a "military brat" and then joining the Marine Corps shed some light on all the things he

observed while living with his father through much of his long career as an infantryman.

"Experiencing the Marine Corps firsthand was different," he explained. "As a dependent all you had to worry about was school. I knew my dad was going to deploy, be in the field, and be gone for two weeks at a time for training."

"After witnessing the fleet, I understand more and more ... where his certain mannerisms came from and why he was the way he was," he continued. "When he said he was worn out and had to wake up early, now I see why he went to bed."

Recently, Lopez beat out about 50 of his peers to win honor graduate at the 2nd MLG (fwd) Corporal's Leadership Course here.

He explained that having his father in the Marine Corps contributed to his success and pushed him to excel at everything he does.

"He definitely inspires me to give everything my best," he said.

Lopez said that he is still deciding if he is going to make the Marine Corps a career as his father did. He added that he may follow in his father's footsteps by doing the same special duty as him.

"I love being a Marine," he said. "Now that I am getting closer and closer to the end (of my first term), I want to do MSG (Marine

Security Guard Duty). If that takes me into the next enlistment, that is fine."

Both Marines said they have been grateful for the opportunity to serve side-by-side with their family members.

"I think it's an honor to be able to serve with your family," said Cpl. Lopez. "It's definitely made things a little easier."



CPL. M.M. BRAVO

CAMP AL TAQADDUM, Iraq — Cpl. Jared P. Lopez, a data/wire technician with Communications Company, 2nd Marine Logistics Group (forward) sits next to his father, Master Sgt. Juan Lopez, the operations chief, for the 1st Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment Security Detachment on Camp Al Taqaddum, Iraq, May 24, 2009. The two Marines found themselves serving side-by-side when both their units deployed to Camp Al Taqaddum in early 2009.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

H1N1 Flu Virus Prevention Tips

There is evidence that the H1N1 virus is present in the Kansai (Osaka) area. Travelers are encouraged to use due caution including implementation of the CDC recommended preventative measures in this vicinity. We encourage everyone to engage in these healthy prevention practices:

- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing; if a tissue is not available, cough or sneeze into your upper sleeve or elbow, not your hands.
 - Wash your hands after coughing or sneezing, wash with soap and water, or clean with alcohol-based hand cleaner.
 - Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- For more information, please visit the CDC Web

site: http://www.cdc.gov/flu/swine/key_facts.htm#

Coupon Distribution Program
The Coupon Distribution Program is available for all personnel aboard the air station courtesy of Marine and Family Services. Coupons are donated by various donors and are good until six months past the expiration date. Stop by Building 411 and pick up your free coupons, look for the baskets marked "Free Coupons". For more information, please contact Marine and Family Services at 253-6161.

The Biggest Saver Coupon Contest
The Personal Financial Management Office is conducting a contest for all authorized patrons of the MCAS Iwakuni

commissary May 1 – July 31.
Take your receipts to the Personal Financial Management Office in Building 411, Room 201. Once a month, a coupon class will be conducted in Building 411, Room 217, to assist patrons with finding the right coupons and discussing savings options. For more information, call 253-6250.

MAG-12 Fraud, Waste and Abuse Information
The new Fraud, Waste, and Abuse officer for all MAG-12 units is Capt. Augusto D. Ramirez. Please report any instances of FWA to the MAG-12 FWA hotline number, 253-6123. For immediate action, call 090-6861-7127 at any time.

UMUC Term V Classes
University of Maryland University College registration for online classes runs until June 15 and classes run June 15 – Aug. 23. For more information, contact your local UMUC field representative at 253-3392 or visit www.asia.umuc.edu.

New Taijutsu Group
A new taijutsu group is in the works here in Iwakuni, any Takamatsuden is ok. This will not be an official dojo, simply a place to learn, share and maintain proficiency. Those interested and for further information, e-mail iwakuni.taijutsu@gmail.com.

Father's Day Fishing Trip
A Father's Day Fishing Trip will be held at the Nakayamagawa Dam 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. June 19. Open to SOFA status only. Sign up at the Youth and Teen Center or call 253-5549 for more information.

Fukuoka Canal City/Hard Rock Trip
The Youth and Teen Center will be taking a trip to Fukuoka Canal City/Hard Rock 8 a.m. – 8:30 p.m. June 13. Canal city has a variety of restaurants and familiar shops, such as Nike, Gap/Gap Kids and L.L. Bean. The trip is limited to 35 participants 10-18 years old. Sign up ends Thursday. For more information, call the Youth and Teen Center at 253-5549.

New Spouse Volunteer Recruitment Brunch
The American Red Cross will host a New Spouse Volunteer Recruitment

Brunch at the American Red Cross office, Building 1100, 10 a.m. – noon June 26. This is a great way to meet new people, make new friends and learn about the base and its surroundings. As well as learn about what the American Red Cross has to offer and ways to help out. This brunch is free and children are welcome. For more information, call 253-4525.

Baptist Revival Services
Evangelist Richard Harper, from Charleston West Virginia, will be preaching revival services at Faith Baptist Church Iwakuni, Japan. These meetings will be daily at 7 p.m. starting June 14-19. For more information, contact Pastor Parker at 080-3882-5331

American Red Cross Volunteer Orientation
An orientation for the American Red Cross Volunteer Program will be held 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. June 18-19. Ages 10-17 can attend. During this orientation youth will learn about American Red Cross, workplace etiquette, Places available to volunteer on MCAS Iwakuni and the benefits to volunteering. Lunch and snacks will be provided. To sign up, call the American Red Cross MCAS Iwakuni at 253-4525.



"Eat your 80s" - A live 1-hour radio show that features the best of 80's music. Noon to 1 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, except holidays, on Power 1575.

SAKURA THEATER

Friday, June 12, 2009
7 p.m. 17 Again (PG-13)
Premier
10 p.m. Fighting (PG-13)
Premier

Saturday, June 13, 2009
1 p.m. 17 Again (PG-13)
4 p.m. Up (PG)
7 p.m. Fast and The Furious 4 (PG-13)
Last Showing
10 p.m. Observe and Report (R)

Sunday, June 14, 2009
1 p.m. Up (PG)
4 p.m. 17 Again (PG-13)
7 p.m. Fighting (PG-13)

Monday, June 15, 2009
7 p.m. Angels and Demons (PG-13)
Last Showing

Tuesday, June 16, 2009
7 p.m. Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian (PG)

Wednesday, June 17, 2009
7 p.m. 17 Again (PG-13)
Last Showing

Thursday, June 18, 2009
7 p.m. Dragon Evolution (PG-13)
Last Showing

General Admission: Ages 12+ are \$2.50/ Ages 6-11 are \$1/ Children ages 5 and under admitted free. For more information, visit www.mccsiwakuni.com or call 253-5291.

CLASSIFIEDS

Automobiles

1991 Toyota Town Ace
JCI until March 2011. Road Tax only 7500 yen/year. Seats 8, back seats fold up, middle seats spin around. Awesome gas mileage, runs great. Must sell by June 16. \$1,500. For more information, call 253-2611 (home) or 080-3488-5688 (cell).

1991 Toyota Celica Convertible
JCI until September 2011. 4-passenger. Red with grey interior leather. Polymer coating over paint. AM/FM/MP3 stereo. Remote start. 167,000 km. Available now. \$3,500 OBO. For more information, call 253-2744.

Mess Hall Menu

Monday

Manhattan clam chowder, chicken and rice soup, sauerbraten, jerked style chicken, steamed rice, oven browned potatoes, French fried okra, calico cabbage, brown gravy, dinner rolls, coconut raisin cookies, double layer almond cake, chocolate cream pie with whipped topping
Specialty Bar: Pasta

Tuesday

Beef noodle soup, chicken and mushroom soup, swiss steak with gravy, Szechwan chicken, o'brien potatoes, noodles jefferson, French fried cauliflower, broccoli parmesan, brown gravy, cheese biscuit, butterscotch brownies, apple pie, spice cake with buttercream frosting
Specialty Bar: Taco

Wednesday

Tomato noodle soup, chicken and mushroom soup, sweet and sour pork, yakisoba, pork fried rice, brussel sprouts, corn, dinner rolls, peanut butter cookies, sweet potato pie, coconut cake with whipped topping
Specialty Bar: Barbeque

Thursday

Minestrone soup, cream of broccoli soup, fried chicken, beef stroganoff, buttered pasta, candied sweet potatoes, okra and tomato gumbo, green beans, chicken gravy, cheese biscuits, double layer devil's food cake with coconut pecan frosting, pumpkin pie with whipped topping, oatmeal raisin cookie
pecialty Bar: Deli sandwich

Friday

Beef barley soup, Spanish soup, lemon baked fish, el rancho stew, steamed rice, potatoes au gratin, cauliflower combo, black eyed peas, dinner rolls, brown gravy, apple and cherry turnovers, bread pudding, crisp toffee bars, chocolate pudding with whipped topping
Specialty Bar: Hot Dog

Miscellaneous

Fisher Price Aquarium High chair
Seat height adjusts to 7 positions, reclining seat, folds up for easy storage, easy to remove dishwasher safe food tray and teething toys. Seat cover and straps can be washed in washing machine. \$35. For more information, call 253-2611.

8 Month Old Puppy

8 month old puppy, up to date shots, good with kids, loves the outdoors. Free. Call 253-2107.

To submit an advertisement request, follow the classified link on the station Web site and click on the advertisement request form link. Submit the form via the Web site, or send the e-mail to iwakuni.pao@usmc.mil. Alternatively, you can submit in person at the Public Affairs Office, Building 1, Room 216.

- The deadline for submissions is Mondays at 4:30 p.m.
- Requests are effective for one week. If you want to extend a previously submitted ad for an additional week, notify the Public Affairs Office at 253-5551.

Station Inspector's Office

The Station Inspector's Office is having a meeting with all private organizations on June 26 from 8-10 a.m. in the Building 1 auditorium. All private organizations must attend. We will discuss new report requirements and banking procedures.

Sending your student to college? TRICARE goes too!!!

When it's time for your child to go to college, you'll face many decisions as a family and continued health care coverage is one of them.

TRICARE covers your eligible student until he or she turns 23 as long as they attend school full-time.

One decision you will have to make is determining which TRICARE option will work best for your child.

Although you and your family may be enrolled in TRICARE Overseas Program Prime, this may not be the best choice for your college-bound son or daughter.

If your student's college or university is located in an area where TRICARE Prime is offered, you can transfer their Prime enrollment. It is not necessary to have all family members enrolled in the same region.

To assist you can enroll online at <https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/appj/bwe/indexAction.do>.

Retirees should keep in mind that although Prime is not an OCONUS option, it may be available in the region where your child will reside.

However, there is an enrollment fee for Prime for retirees and their family members.

Be sure your student understands the rules in the new TRICARE region pertaining to pre-authorization for care.

Failure to abide by these rules could result in costly Point-of-Service charges.

While traveling to the new region, your

Job Announcements

NMCRS Job Opportunities

Asking for help is hard. Everyday sailors, Marines and their families come to the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society in emergencies. Be that friendly person who lets them know they've come to the right place. Client Services Assistants volunteers greet clients and guide them through the initial intake process. Use your winning smile and good people skills to help our clients. To apply for this opportunity, call 253-5311.

IronWorks Co-Op Program Openings

There are now openings with the IronWorks Co-op Program. This program is open to parents with children 5 and under. Meetings are held 9:15 - 11:15 a.m. every Mon., Wed., Fri. For more information about the program, call 253-2836 or e-mail heather_long@yahoo.com.

2009 Intramural 6-man Soccer Tournament



LANCE CPL. KRISTIN E. COTE

Front (from left to right): Johei Cedillo, Taylan Batuman, C. Orozco, Rafael Dominguez-Garcia, Kemal Sahinylimaz, Ricky Maldonado. Back (from left to right): Jose Canseco, Carlos Santana, Hector Delgadomelara, A. Sanchez, Cody Sherman, Kei Etter, Augusto Ramirez. The Gunners (pictured above) won first place over the Tigers, 8-2, at the 2009 Intramural 6-man Soccer Tournament held at the Penny Lake fields here Saturday. The Gunners started practicing three days a week one month prior to the tournament. "The Tigers have beaten us in the last two years in the two tournaments, the preseason and regular season, so my mentality was for the team to have no mercy and go out there and just get the job done," said Rafael Dominguez-Garcia, Gunners center left midfielder.

Hand Selected swats Bats into losers bracket, 52-38

LANCE CPL. SALVADOR MORENO
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron's Hand Selected proved it is the team to beat, cruising by the Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 242 Bats, 52-38, during the 2009 Intramural Spring Basketball season playoffs held at IronWorks Gym here June 3.

Guard Clarence Lampkin was Hand Selected's leading scorer with 14 points and no fouls.

The final score of the game does not tell the real story of what took place on the court June 3. It was tough defense and quick breaks that led Hand Selected to victory.

The Bats got out to an early lead in the first half but fell behind just as fast once Hand Selected got in its groove.

"It took a little while to find our tempo, but once we found our rhythm, we played solid basketball," said Hand Selected coach Jason Scott.

The Bats did manage to close to within four points at two minutes with a score of 21-17, but Hand Selected extended its lead just before the half with a shot at the buzzer by forward Charles Williams to end the half, 23-17.

The second half started off slow for Hand Selected, just like the first, as the Bats came off the



LANCE CPL. SALVADOR MORENO

Hand Selected's guard Clarence Lampkin goes to the hoop for a lay-up as Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 242 Bats try to defend. Lampkin was Hand Selected's leading scorer with 14 points total and no fouls.

bench fired up and ready to play.

With a pumped up defense and reenergized offense, the Bats managed a couple of steals and quick breaks to tie it up at 23-23.

"They came out with a push at the half, but we didn't have to call a timeout or anything," said Scott.

The Bats' hopes of taking the lead early on was short lived thanks to Hand Selected's Williams once again putting up

needed points with a finger roll lay up to make it 25-23.

"We started off good but came out short. The other team was really hyped up," said Bats point guard Tyson Bare.

Ronrico McGee, another guard for Hand Selected, followed Williams' points with three of his own to extend the lead some more.

With 16:15 left in the game, the Bats were trailing 30-23 and

knew they had to step up their defense to stay in the game.

After a few missed opportunities by Hand Selected, the Bats rebounded and took it up court for some easy baskets bringing the score to within one with less than 14 minutes left to play.

Hand Selected regained its composure after Scott made a lay-up and stole the ball for another quick basket to once again further the lead to 34-29 with 13:08 left on the clock.

It was a close game during the final 10 minutes of play as the Bats kept Hand Selected on the heels, scoring point for point, steal for steal, never really letting Hand Selected take full control of the game.

"They had us outsized, but our big guys controlled rebounds and blocked shots," said Scott.

In the final two minutes, the Bats frantically tried to put up points, but due to sloppy play and poor decisions, Hand Selected was able to make easy steals and capitalize on them.

Hand Selected never let up until the final buzzer. It held its defense and took advantage of every mistake the Bats made.

The Bats fell into the lower bracket but still have a chance while Hand Selected moves on to face Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12 in the quarter finals.



LANCE CPL. SALVADOR MORENO

El Unit pitcher Justin Rodriguez beats the ball to third base as he does a head first slide. Rodriguez went four for five batting in three runs and holding Swingn Styx to only three runs. After the game Rodriguez said, "We just came out to hit. We told everyone we are the team to beat. We had a few errors last game but we fixed them and came out swinging."

El Unit throws out Swingn Styx, 24-3



LANCE CPL. SALVADOR MORENO

Swingn Styx coach Cameron Higgins slides into third base just as the ball gets there to beat the call. Higgins went one for two in four innings of play.

LANCE CPL. SALVADOR MORENO
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Another week of the 2009 Intramural Summer Softball season swung into action at the main softball field here June 2 where Swingn Styx was on the business end of a 24-3 romping by El Unit.

Swingn Styx loss to El Unit leaves them with a 1-2 record while El Unit improved to 2-3.

Swingn Styx had a tough time getting into the groove going three and out in the first. El Unit, on the other hand, came out swinging, earning four runs off of six hits.

"We understand they are a hitting team. We have to be a hitting team as well," said Swingn Styx second baseman Charles Cruz before the game.

The second inning was better than the first for Swingn Styx as they were able to bring home three before being retired to the dugout.

However El Unit had a huge second inning, bringing in six runs to up the score, 10-3.

Swingn Styx did get a hit in the third but were unable to get anything going and were once again sent to the dugout searching for runs and motivation.

On the contrary, El Unit didn't lack motivation. It was exactly what they had going into the top of the fourth.

"The fourth was our rally inning. We

just got pumped," said El Unit pitcher Justin Rodriguez.

El Unit went through the entire line up during the fourth inning before getting put down. They batted in 10 runs, four of which came from a grand slam by first baseman Julian Briones.

"I was just going for a good hit. I thought it was going to drop short," said Briones.

Going for a good hit did Briones well as he set the tempo for the rest of the team. They all followed his lead and earned more hits and runs.

El Unit left center fielder Damon "El Damon" Wilson didn't quite pull off a grand slam, but he was able to hit an infield home run, which was just as exciting.

With time running out, Swingn Styx knew it was the fourth inning that would be the deciding factor of the game and whether or not they would make a comeback. However, it was not so as they once again were unable to earn any runs.

El Unit again came out swinging just as they said they would bat in five more runs before being tagged out to end the inning and the game.

"They got some good sticks. They hit pretty well. They are a good team all around," said spectator and Shamrocks third baseman Christopher Derrick as he watched El Unit deliver Swingn Styx another loss.