



HAPPY BIRTHDAY NAVY

Sailors celebrate 235 years of honor, courage, commitment | P. 4



IWAKUNI FESTIVAL

Iwakuni streets flood with color of culture | P. 6 and 7



OLYMPIAD

Special Olympics hits station streets, fields, courts | P. 12

IWAKUNI APPROACH

Issue No. 40, Vol. 3 | Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan

LANCE CPL. MARCEL BROWN
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Marines touch-and-go in Philippines

CLARK AIR FORCE BASE, Republic of the Philippines — Four Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 224 pilots participated in one of the first flight training exercises during exercise PHIBLEX here Oct. 15.

The unit-level training exercise was conducted to give pilots position-approach training, which covered basic fighter maneuver training, aerial refueling and arrestment landing.

BFM training, or “dog fighting,” was the first exercise during the training in which pilots simulated close aerial combat against enemy fighter jets.

“In the event that we were to encounter an adversary airplane and were unable to take a beyond-visual-range shot, then we would have to attack them in visual range. That’s the kind of training we were doing today,” said Maj. John Dinh, VMFA(AW)-224 pilot.

After the dog fighting training was complete, the pilots received additional aerial refueling training by refueling from a C-130 with 8,000 pounds of fuel.

“Aerial refueling is another proficiency that we need to maintain,” said Dinh. “Whenever we get the chance to do it, it’s always good, and it keeps us proficient.”



LANCE CPL. MARCEL BROWN

CLARK AIR FORCE BASE, Republic of the Philippines — A Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 224 F/A-18 Hornet is arrested during landing after completing a basic fighter maneuver exercise during PHIBLEX 11 here Oct. 15. Marine Wing Support Squadron 172 expeditionary airfield specialists conducted the arrestment and restaged the arrestment gear in approximately seven minutes.

SEE **ARRESTMENT** ON PAGE 3

Red Ribbon Week: What’s your anti-drug

CPL. KRISTIN E. MORENO
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

The station is scheduled to kick off its annual Red Ribbon Week anti-drug campaign Saturday.

Red Ribbon Week, which is the nation’s oldest and largest drug prevention program, was started to promote a drug-free lifestyle and provide information on drug abuse prevention.

According to the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, “Special Agent Camarena was an 11-year veteran of the DEA

assigned to the Guadalajara, Mexico, office where he was on the trail of the country’s biggest marijuana and cocaine traffickers. In 1985, he was extremely close to unlocking a multi-billion dollar drug pipeline. On Feb. 7, 1985, he was kidnapped, brutally tortured and murdered by Mexican drug traffickers. His tragic death opened the eyes of many Americans to the dangers of drugs and the international scope of the drug trade.”

As a result of this, Congressman Duncan Hunter and Henry Lozano, a high school friend of Camarena, started Camarena Clubs in his hometown of Calexico, Calif. Hundreds joined and pledged to be drug free to honor the sacrifice Camarena made.

At a national conference of parents combating youth drug

SEE **RED** ON PAGE 3

Marine Corps aviation ... still safe, now even safer

LANCE CPL. CLAUDIO A. MARTINEZ
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Fiscal year 2010 was recognized as the safest year on record for Marine Corps aviation Oct. 1.

FY10 documented four Class A flight mishaps, which is an improvement from last year’s record-setting performance.

The accomplishment continues a six-year trend, which started in 2005 when the reduction in Marine Corps aviation mishaps first began.

According to All Marine Corps Activities 035/10, issued by Gen. James F. Amos when he was the Marine Corps assistant commandant, this historical trend is even more noteworthy as it occurred during a time when Marine aviation is supporting combat operations in two theaters while undergoing extensive platform transitions in the fleet.

The number of how many Class A, B or C flight mishaps occur during a fiscal year is looked at to determine how safe the year was.

The Marine Corps Center for Lessons Learned safety corner

SEE **SAFETY** ON PAGE 3



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CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

'I'm bored!'

LT. ROBERT E. MILLS
STATION CHAPLAIN

It is truly incredible how often I hear those words.

Many people who come to see a chaplain come because they are struggling with some problem or other.

Most of the time, they come to the chaplain because they know they will have a sympathetic listener who may be able to help them find ways to deal with their issues.

Unfortunately, much of the time, those who come for counseling are people in some type of trouble, either with their command, their spouse or somebody else.

Often, these people get into trouble because they are bored and start doing things they know are unwise.

What causes boredom?

For most of us, boredom is caused by a perceived lack of exciting things to do.

We all have our favorite things to do when we have free time and after a few minutes or a few hours of doing those things, we

get a feeling of laziness and time seems to slow down.

We might begin looking for other things to do, but it is a half-hearted effort, and we often revert back to unhealthy behaviors or a desire to be entertained instead.

Often these behaviors are the very things that get us into trouble.

For example, we might begin indulging in alcohol, even though we know we have a problem with drinking; we might begin gambling, compulsively shopping or going to unhealthy places on the Internet, even while realizing we can't afford it.

So what is the antidote for boredom?

Simple — it is action.

Active people are seldom bored.

Many times, the answer to boredom lies in making yourself do something difficult.

Learning a new language is never easy, but the rewards are huge.

Getting a degree, or another degree, requires major time and energy commitments. The constant workload for several years will almost guarantee you won't have time to get bored.

If you are out of shape physically, getting to the gym or

up on the seawall on a regular basis for a workout can also help you out of your boredom.

The basic idea is to make yourself active in some way.

Activity and boredom cannot coexist.

I have found in my life, when I relax and want to be entertained, boredom is seldom far behind, but when I seek out active ways of engaging with my surroundings, I am almost never bored.

Here are a couple of examples: Going to the library and reading several articles on a particular subject instead of watching a movie about the same subject; playing a board game with family members in the evening instead of sitting in front of the TV for three hours after dinner.

As you can see, eliminating boredom takes effort, and even a lifestyle change, but then again, so do most good things in life.

The Christian Scriptures say, "I have come that they (that's us) might have life and have it abundantly." (John 10:10).

Abundant life does not leave room for boredom. Live life to the fullest, enjoy it, take the harder way, learn something new every day and you'll never be bored.

Registering guests for Halloween

The following information was submitted by the Provost Marshal's Office.

■Trick-or-treating is authorized from 5 – 7 p.m.

■Status of Forces Agreement personnel may sponsor guests, up to 10 per family. All guests must be escorted by the sponsor at all times while aboard the air station.

■Sponsors must pre-register their guests at the Provost Marshal's Office administration section, Building 608, prior to 12 p.m. Oct. 27.

■Master Labor Contractors and IHA employees may sponsor their immediate family members; i.e., spouses, children, children's spouses, brothers, sisters, parents and spouse's parents up to 10 per family.

■Sponsors must meet their guests at the contractors' gate between 4 and 5:30 p.m. All guests may exit the station via the

main gate after the event.

■Guests' vehicles are prohibited from parking at the Bachelor Officers' Quarters, Bachelor Enlisted Quarters or housing areas.

■Trick or Treating will be limited to the housing areas only. BOQs, BEQs, and office spaces will be off limits.

■5 – 7 p.m. Oct. 31, no one will be allowed to sign guests aboard the installation unless they have been pre-registered with the PMO administration section. All other visitors must be signed on before or after these times.

■The Monzen bridge and the inbound lane of the Monzen gate will be closed to vehicle traffic 5 – 7 p.m.

For more information, contact the PMO administration section at 253-4843 or Staff Sgt. Perez, PMO physical security section at 253-3306.

See page 10 for Halloween safety tips.

BOOT SCOOTIN' ROUNDUP

A live 1-hour radio show featuring the best country music.
Kick up your boots 9 - 10 a.m. Mondays- Thursdays on
Power 157.5.

One week, one life: Commit to Red Ribbon Week

RED FROM PAGE 1

use, the pledges from the Camarena Clubs were delivered to First Lady Nancy Reagan.

In response, numerous state parent organizations joined the cause. They asked community groups to wear red ribbons during the last week in October as a symbol of their drug-free lifestyle.

Congress proclaimed the first national Red Ribbon Week in 1988, which was chaired by Reagan.

Red Ribbon Week isn't only aimed toward youth, said Terrence Riley, substance abuse control officer for Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron here.

Riley said it's important to educate parents because there are always new substances being abused which differ from the substances parents were exposed to as children.

The station will host several events in support of the anti-drug campaign. On Saturday, exercise your right to be drug free at the Matthew C. Perry Elementary School gym 9 – 11 a.m. There will be Zumba and

gifts for the first 50 participants. Ribbons will be handed out at the main gate Monday. Community members are encouraged to unite and take a visible stand against drugs by wearing the ribbon. Tuesday through Thursday, Counseling Services here will be hitting the streets with educational materials and fun activities. At noon on Oct. 29, a fun walk and run will be held in support of the campaign. Free towels will be given to all participants. For more information on station Red Ribbon Week events, contact Counseling Services at 253-4526.

Matthew C. Perry Elementary and High School ran a six-week anti-drug program in support of Red Ribbon Week.

Throughout October, students watched movies with a message, which wrapped up Oct. 20 with an essay on what they have learned through the movies, how the movies relate to Red Ribbon Week and how the movies will prevent them from abusing drugs in the future. First place in the essay contest will be awarded a bicycle, second place a \$25 reel card for

the Sakura Theater and third place a \$15 gift certificate to the book store.

M.C. Perry High School is scheduled to host a Red Ribbon Halloween Dance today. There will be a costume contest and prizes.

Monday through Oct. 29 will be Spirit Week where students will dress according to the theme for each day. A carnival will take place Nov. 4, and grades 9-11 will compete in a team challenge Nov. 19.

Also, the seventh grade drama club will put on a performance for the elementary school Nov. 27-29 to raise drug abuse awareness.

For more information on M.C. Perry red ribbon events, contact the high school adolescent substance abuse counselor Midge White at 253-4693.

The most important thing to take away from the campaign is to consider how drug abuse impacts your future and how decisions impact others around you, said Riley. He encourages parents to sit down and talk with their children and to keep the avenues of communication open.

Aircraft under arrest after completing flight training during PHIBLEX



CLARK AIR FORCE BASE, Republic of the Philippines — Maj. Jeremy Wall and Capt. Nicole Jansen-Hinnenkamp, Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 224 pilots, prepare to take off for a basic fighter maneuver flight training exercise during exercise PHIBLEX 11 here Oct. 15.

ARRESTMENT FROM PAGE 1

The final segment of the training was an arrestment landing in which pilots had to simulate a landing failure and their aircraft had to be arrested by Marine Wing Support Squadron 172 expeditionary airfield specialists.

"Being (home), we don't get much time to actually train with the gear at our base, so the best training comes while we're deployed," said Sgt. Gordon L. Llewellyn, MWSS-172 production control chief. "Our sole purpose in life is to be there for an emergency, not for practice."

When a plane performs an emergency arrestment landing, the tail hook on the end of its aircraft catches a steel cable on the runway, which unwinds and slows the plane while allowing the pilots to maintain control.

The exercise is not only beneficial for the pilots, but it also affords Marines, like MWSS-172 expeditionary airfield specialists, a chance to improve their response time between their day-

on, day-off 24-hour shifts.

"Without these exercises, we wouldn't have the real-time training that's required to perform our jobs in wartime," said Llewellyn.

After the arrestment landing, the pilots made their way back to their respective spots on the flight line and were debriefed on the training.

The pilots then returned to the ready room and talked about how the exercise was conducted, what flaws they encountered and how they could have improved performance.

Dinh said the run was smooth, the pilots had few issues, and overall, the exercise was a success.

"It's always good to go to a different place, somewhere unfamiliar, somewhere not home field and exercise the expeditionary asset of Marine Corps aviation," said Dinh.

VMFA(AW)-224 was slated to run flight exercises daily for the remainder of PHIBLEX, but due to inclement typhoon conditions, exercise PHIBLEX was canceled for the safety of our Marines and Philippine counterparts Oct. 16.

Aviation clocks record year of safety

SAFETY FROM PAGE 1

defines Class A mishaps as the resulting total cost of damages to Department of Defense property in an amount of \$1 million or more.

A Class A mishap also includes an injury or occupational illness resulting in fatality or total disability.

A Class B mishap is defined as the resulting total cost of damages to DOD property \$200,000 or more, but less than \$1 million.

Class B mishaps also include injury or occupational illness resulting in permanent partial disability, or when three or more personnel are hospitalized for inpatient care as a result of a single mishap.

MCCLL defines Class C mishaps as the resulting total cost of damages to DoD property \$20,000 or more, but less than \$200,000.

Also falling under Class C mishaps are nonfatal injuries that cause loss of time from work beyond the day or shift on which it occurred or a nonfatal occupational illness that causes loss of time from work to include disability.

Amos said in ALMAR 035/10 that this year's achievement serves as a milestone and not a culmination as Marine Corps aviation continues to move toward its goal of zero preventable Class A, B or C mishaps.

The ALMAR also reads that Marine Corps aviation must continue to improve its progress toward a zero-mishap environment by cultivating processes, which make high standards of safety an integral part of its everyday culture.

Many of the unit safety officers agree with the thoughts expressed in ALMAR 035/10.

"There are always improvements that can be made in any program, in any application," said Maj. Edward Bahret, Marine Aircraft Group 12 director of safety and standardization. "To say we just need something different to affect another radical change in our numbers — improvement is the key word, not just change. We need to actively pursue the same goals that we used to attain this (achievement)."

Bahret said he believed Marine Corps aviation will continue to do its best to meet the goal by aggressively pursuing the safest ways in aviation through training and successful implementation of that training.

Records used for historical comparison for Marine Corps Aviation safety statistics run from 1981 to present.

Hoooyah Navy: Happy 235th



CPL. ANDREA M. OLGUIN

Petty Officer 2nd Class Julian Finkel rings a bell as the guests of honor enter the banquet hall during the 235th Navy Birthday Ball here Oct. 15. The ringing of the bell pays respect to high-ranking officers just as a bell is rung on ships to honor high-ranking officers and guests.



CPL. ANDREA M. OLGUIN

Seaman Zachary Hallowood, youngest sailor present, eats the first piece of cake, while Cmdr. Sheri Coleman, oldest active duty sailor present, watches during the Navy Birthday Ball here Oct. 15. By tradition, the oldest active duty Navy member present passes the first piece of cake to youngest to symbolize the passing of the proverbial torch to the future naval leadership.

LANCE CPL. JENNIFER PIRANTE
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

The birth of the Navy began when the Continental Congress met in Philadelphia to outfit two armed vessels to cruise in search of munitions ships supplying the British Army in America.

Each ship was armed with ten carriage and swivel guns, and approximately 80 crewmembers. The Continental Congress also authorized a naval committee to supervise the mission.

Over the course of the War for Independence, the Continental Navy sent approximately 50 armed vessels to sea and successfully took over approximately 200 British ships.

Today, more than two centuries of heritage and history brought sailors and fellow service members together to celebrate the 235th Navy birthday at the annual Navy Birthday Ball held at Club Iwakuni here Oct. 15.

"It really is good to see all the sailors on the air station here at one time," said Seaman Zachary Hallowood, corpsman with the Branch Health Clinic here. "It's really cool to meet up in one place once a year and really feel that pride that being in the Navy gives us."

The ceremony kicked off with homage to the colors.

Everyone in the room stood at attention as Hallowood and Seaman Amanda Snyder, corpsman with BHC, walked down the center of the audience with fellow sailors, carrying symbols of their unit and country; the Navy, American and Japanese flags with riflemen armed on each side.

According to Snyder, the color guard plays a significant role in traditional military ceremonies.

"The Navy has a tradition of pride and honor," said Snyder, who participated as a rifleman in the color guard during the ceremony. "Being able to represent my nation, my Navy and my colors is a particular honor."

"I represent the head rifleman on the color guard, and for us, it means protecting our colors," she said. "It's an additional symbolism of the position that we're given of protecting our nation."

After a short reminiscence of Navy heritage, the ceremonious dinner followed.

Hallowood not only held the honor of carrying the Japanese flag during the color guard ceremony but was also the youngest sailor at the ball.

Being the youngest sailor allowed Hallowood the opportunity to participate in the annual cake cutting ceremony.

"Being the youngest just means I was the youngest one to put my name on a piece of paper," said Hallowood. "It just shows that in this nation, as a whole, it doesn't matter what your age is because you're contributing something to everyday life and the well being of others."

According to Snyder, the youngest and oldest sailor participation in ceremonies has been a long-standing tradition in the Navy.

"It represents the new generation coming into the old traditions," said Snyder. "What the older commanders, officers and enlisted personnel can teach us is all entailed in that one particular ceremony to represent every generation."

The night was a celebration of not just history but history in the making as past and future generations joined together.

"I like what I represent," said Snyder. "I'm a medic in the Navy and I like the fact that I am responsible for protecting my fellow sailors, fellow Marines, everybody that depends on each other to be able to go out and do their job."

Today, the U.S. Navy employs approximately 600,000 active and reserve sailors and Navy civilians.

The branch stands strong with more than 3,700 aircraft, and more than 288 ships and submarines.

More than 30 years later, this DJ keeps on rockin' in the free world

CPL. JOSEPH MARIANELLI
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Walking into the American Forces Network studio on station that morning, I half-expected to meet a washed-up, old man trapped in his former glory days as a disc jockey looking like the epitome of a 60s car salesman complete with tight leisure suit, under-sized peace sign T-shirt and gold chain.

Instead, I met a former Marine truly driven by his passion and love of music. And no, he wasn't decked out in polyester, though he probably could have pulled it off.

To sum up Bob Bullion, more commonly known these days as DJ Bob, driven, yet relaxed.

He was gracious for the interest and welcoming. His relaxation was so palpable I felt too tense, but how could he not be relaxed; he was in his element, his mental home doing what he was born to do, entertaining with tunes.

"I always wanted to be a DJ," said Bullion. "When I was young I would make a microphone out of Tinkertoys."

When Bullion was seven, his grandmother gave him a transistor radio to play with.

Bullion's grandmother played a defining role in his upbringing and contrasted sharply with the other molder of his childhood, his father.

"My father was very strict ... so when I got to bootcamp, the drill instructors were nothing because my father was much worse," said Bullion.

Bullion's father grew up on the streets with six older brothers all travelling across the country and most of whom went off to World War II.

Following suit, Bullion's father joined the Navy when he was old enough.

Ironically, though, he did not speak of his father angrily or with much emotion at all for that matter.

Bullion's tone was simply calm and understanding as he explained why his father had been tough on him as a child.

He remembered his father's go-to phrase as simply, "Be strong."

While these words stuck with Bullion, they were not the words he chose to live by.

Naturally, Bullion's grandmother ended up on the much more maternal aspect of his upbringing.

Bullion recalled frequent visits to her home where two enormous tables were stacked with food. This was apparently his grandmother's only sticking point.

"You had to have something to eat," Bullion said emphatically. "If you didn't eat, she got mad," he added with just the tiniest

hint of repressed fear.

Beyond the requirement of food consumption, Bullion spoke very fondly of his grandmother as the understanding, explanatory guardian opposite the rigid disciplinarian his father was.

Besides her nourishment of sustenance, she also provided the words Bullion would come to identify as an almost personal mission statement.

"If you want something bad enough, the world is at your mercy, but you have to really want it," said Bullion.

In his youth, Bullion had grown enamored with the radio and even joined a rock band in high school.

For the time-being though, Bullion's dreams had to be put on hold for the changing world.

In 1969, he joined the Marine Corps.

"If I didn't join, I would have been drafted," he said.

Proving you're never too old to be a "boot," he recounted the tale of the day his draft paperwork arrived at the recruit depot.

The drill instructors would ritualistically summon all the recruits to the quarterdeck and have the now draftee stand before his fellow recruits for his draft letter to be read and to be told, "Now your (butt) is really mine."

The same year, Bullion was shipped off heading for Vietnam; however, the war was drawing down and he ended up in Iwakuni for the first time.

At the time, he was in aviation supply and because he was promoted to staff sergeant in five years, Bullion was never able to make a lateral move into the field he truly desired.

Even before the latter state of affairs arose, Bullion volunteered to do anything he could, as much as possible at the then Allied Forces Network.

He described lengthy night sessions of taping film together because the film would snap in machines.

Everything in radio had to be timed down to the second.

In the end, his dedication to his true passion paid off and he performed his first live radio show April 1976.

Just as music has evolved, so too has Bullion's DJ call sign. Originally, he began as Disco Bob, later moving to Mr. B and then took on his present name, DJ Bob.

"The word consistent wraps him," said Gunnery Sgt. Troy M. Ruby, affiliate superintendent for AFN here. "He does a good, solid radio show."

DJ Bob has been gracing the Iwakuni airwaves consistently since 1990 when he retired from the Marine Corps and settled down in Japan.



COURTESY PHOTO

Bob Bullion, known as DJ Bob, joined the Marine Corps in 1969. Bullion was fixated on becoming a disc jockey and through his own personal drive and dedication he achieved that goal. He performed his first live show in April 1976 and stuck with it ever since. Today Bullion has performed more than 1,000 live shows and announced for numerous Japanese beauty contests. He continues his DJing whenever possible in Japan and hosts two shows, Golden Memories 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. every Wednesday and Urban Assault 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. every Thursday, on the American Forces Network radio station here, Power 1575.

Bullion's recipe for success is simple, play what people want to hear.

"I try to play as much continuous music as possible and not interrupt with announcements," he said. "One thing I've always been famous for is playing requests. A lot of DJs will take them, but they won't play them."

Bullion's commitment is not missed by the stewards of AFN. "He's somebody who comes on and knows when to stop talking," said Ruby.

OK, so he has one more criteria he sometimes invokes to keep his shows fresh — the DJ Bob test. "If it sounds good to me then I'll play it and usually, if it's good to me, it's a hit," said Bullion.

He did clarify that he rarely never turns down requests unless the requested song has already played multiple times.

The most telling example is a story Bullion told about a job he had at a Compton, Calif., high school in the 80s.

The principle asked Bullion

what he planned to play for the school's prom.

"I'll play whatever the hell they want," he said.

DJ Bob was asked back the following year to the same high school.

This commitment to the audience supersedes even his own tastes.

"Some of these songs, I don't even know how they become popular," he said.

To date, Bullion has hosted more than 1,000 live shows and announced for numerous Japanese beauty contests.

"I've done a lot of things most people couldn't dream of," he said.

His most memorable moment was being able to introduce James Brown.

DJ Bob currently hosts two shows on AFN's radio station Power 1575. Catch him 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. every Wednesday for his Golden Memories show. Or if oldies aren't your bag, catch his Urban Assault show 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. every Thursday.



LANCE CPL. CLAUDIO A. MARTINEZ

Lance Cpl. Elizabeth Thompson, a Combat Logistics Company 36 maintenance management specialist, puts a kevar helmet on a local attending the 54th annual Iwakuni Festival hosted in the downtown area by the train station Sunday. More than 20 Marines with Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 and CLC-36 went to the festival dressed in their favorite uniforms to meet and greet locals. Approximately 98,000 people attended the festival hosted by the city of Iwakuni, Iwakuni Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Iwakuni Tourism Association.

Iwakuni city hosts 54th annual festival

LANCE CPL. CLAUDIO A. MARTINEZ
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Trumpets blared and the roar of drums echoed through the downtown streets of Iwakuni to announce the beginning of the 54th annual Iwakuni Festival Sunday morning.

The city of Iwakuni, Iwakuni Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and Iwakuni Tourism Association hosted the festival.

Approximately 98,000 people flooded into the downtown area to attend the festival, which was filled with live music, dancing in the streets, parades and food.

Their cheers resonated off the buildings as various school bands paraded down the streets playing their instruments and waving their ribbons.

"This is a great occasion which allows an exchange between the local community members," said Yoshihiko Fukuda, Iwakuni City mayor through an interpreter. "(The community can) enjoy the local traditional food, use some of the local products and watch some of the local musical groups. It's an occasion for everyone to exchange friendship, information and to share a communal feeling together."

Several blocks by the downtown train station were closed off for the festival.

After the opening parade finished, a small flea market was assembled, offering different foods, clothing and art. Stages were erected, providing a scene for local musical performances.

A number of dance groups entertained festival attendees as they moved to the beats of Michael Jackson or traditional Japanese music.

More than 20 Marines with Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 and Combat Logistics Company 36 Marines came out to the festival dressed in their blues, charlies and cammies.

The Marines set up a tent to shake hands and take pictures with the local community.

Members from the Japan Maritime Self Defense Force also set up a tent with the Marines to spend time with the community. Fukuda said the Marines and JMSDF are part of Iwakuni, and he really appreciated their participation in the festival, which he believed to be an example of an active and lively Iwakuni.

Lance Cpl. Estrella Borrego, a CLC-36 supply specialist, came to the festival to help strengthen community ties.

"Hopefully (the local community) will be able to look at us and see us as people who like to have a good time with them and want to experience the things that they have to offer to learn more about their culture," said Borrego.

A small downtown park was transformed into a site offering dog races, pony rides, magic shows and rides aboard a miniature train.

The people's laughter filled the area as they enjoyed themselves on the various forms of entertainment.

"It's been so much fun. I really enjoyed myself," said Hiromi Sakamoto, a local who attended the festival. "It's been a great occasion to exchange friendship with people from the base and with others from the local region."

Sakamoto said she has been to the festival many times now and has always enjoyed herself with her family. As the morning wore on into the afternoon, Taiko drums echoed and announced the beginning of the closing parade.

Clubs from the local area and musical groups danced and paraded through the street by the train station until the music ended announcing the close of the festival.

Proving the festival a success, it ended the way it began: with the drums echoing and people cheering while clapping their hands.



LANCE CPL. CLAUDIO A. MARTINEZ

Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force members parade down the street during the closing parade of the 54th annual Iwakuni Festival hosted in the downtown area by the train station Sunday. JMSDF members set up a tent alongside Iwakuni-based Marines during the festival to shake hands and take pictures with the local community.



LANCE CPL. CLAUDIO A. MARTINEZ

A festival performer dances down the street with a decorative umbrella during the closing parade of the 54th annual Iwakuni Festival hosted in the downtown area by the train station Sunday. Various clubs from around the station also participated in the closing parade dressed in traditional yukatas or decorative costumes.



LANCE CPL. CLAUDIO A. MARTINEZ

The Iwakuni fire department raises and lowers a father and son in the air aboard their fire truck ladder during the 54th annual Iwakuni Festival hosted in the downtown area by the train station Sunday. Several local community services were also present at the festival offering games and entertainment to the festival attendees. Several blocks by the downtown train station were closed off for the festival, which offered live music, dancing in the streets, parades and food.

CORPS NEWS

HIGHLIGHTING MARINES AND SAILORS AROUND THE GLOBE



SGT. MARK FAYLOGA

FORWARD OPERATING BASE GERONIMO, Afghanistan — Cpl. Josh Mapes, an organizational automotive mechanic with Headquarters Company, 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, works on a vehicle at the motor transportation lot here Oct. 7. Currently at 93 percent, 3/3 Motor-T has the highest vehicle readiness percentage of any infantry battalion in Southern Afghanistan.

Dirty Fingernails: For mechanics in Afghanistan, filthy hands means finished repairs

SGT. MARK FAYLOGA,
REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM 1

FORWARD OPERATING BASE GERONIMO, Afghanistan — Grease covered palms, black dirt caked under the fingernails and oil tracing his fingerprints ... his identity.

Cpl. Dustin Truscott sits beneath Sarah, a 7-ton truck, finishing up one of the many repairs the truck has needed for months in the 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, Motor Transportation lot at Forward Operating Base Geronimo, Oct. 8. As he fastens a spring into place, his hand slips and smacks into a spindle, splitting his fingernail. He examines the fingernail, hand slightly shaking. Without a word, he pulls off the loose portion of the fingernail and goes back to fastening the spring.

"Dirty hands and lots of busted knuckles -- that's just something that comes with the work," the organizational automotive mechanic with Headquarters Company, 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, said.

After a few more attempts, Truscott fastens the spring and quickly moves on to further repairs. Today, for the first time since 3/3 has arrived in Afghanistan, Sarah will be ready to hit the road.

The truck, with its laundry list of necessary repairs, became a pet project for Truscott and Sgt. Joseph Parcel, a fellow mechanic with 3/3. The two Marines would make repairs on Sarah whenever parts came in

and when they'd have the time between other jobs.

As it happens, there are plenty of other jobs. Six mechanics are responsible for repairs at Geronimo, with two others are pushed out to other positions. The men have spent more than 1,800 hours on repairs and opened 500 equipment repair orders, said Sgt. William Boyd, the mechanic responsible for maintaining Motor-T's work orders.

Just recently have the mechanics fallen into something resembling a regular work schedule.

"The first four months here, they were worked ragged," said Staff Sgt. Justin Johnson, the 3/3 Motor-T maintenance chief. "There were a lot of long hours. These guys have worked through sandstorms for 15 to 16 hour days."

The long hours have paid off though. The 3/3 mechanics have brought the battalion's vehicle readiness percentage from 65 percent to 93 percent, the highest readiness percentage for any infantry battalion in Southern Afghanistan.

Increasing readiness has come with plenty of filthy hands, but the mechanics know that each tightened bolt and each new layer of grime makes a difference.

"It's rewarding," Truscott said. "I'm here for the grunts."

"The last thing an infantry guy should need to worry about is whether his vehicle will run properly," added Johnson. "We take pride knowing they don't have to worry."



SGT. MARK FAYLOGA

FORWARD OPERATING BASE GERONIMO, Afghanistan — Cpl. Josh Mapes, an organizational automotive mechanic with Headquarters Company, 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, watches fluid drain into an oil pan while working on a vehicle at the motor transportation lot here Oct. 7.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Special Commander's Corner

Power 1575 is scheduled to have Lt. Col. Thomas Wagoner, air station staff judge advocate, on air 9 - 10 a.m. Monday. Have your legal questions answered live by calling 253-1575 or send a generic question to power1575.radio@usmc.mil before Saturday.

Free Child Developmental Screening

Educational and Developmental Intervention Services is scheduled to hold free child development screening for children 4-6 months Wednesday and Thursday at Matthew C. Perry Elementary School. Child specialists can screen the five major areas of child development. For more information, call 253-4562.

Hiroshima Food Festival

Hiroshima Castle and neighboring areas in Hiroshima are scheduled to host a festival 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Oct. 30 - 31. The festival will feature free food samples, cooking demonstrations, cultural displays and more. Admission is free, but there is no parking in the area. For more information, call 082-222-1133.

3rd Annual Arts and Crafts Fair

The fair is scheduled 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Nov. 6. Vendor application packets are ready. For more information, call 253-2199.

American Red Cross

The Red Cross offers an Adult, infant and child first aid and CPR class: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Saturday.

Japanese American Society

The Japanese American Society is scheduled to hold its 49th annual Speech Contest at Sinfonia Hall in Iwakuni 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Nov. 6. Students grades 1-12 may compose a speech to showcase their Japanese and English skills for a live audience and compete for prizes. For more information, call 253-4744.

UMUC Registration Fall Session II

Students can register for Fall Session II classes with University of Maryland University College, located in Building 411, Room 110. Registration dates are now until Monday and class sessions will run Monday - Dec. 19. For more information, call 253-3392.

PMO ComRel Office

The Provost Marshal's Office Community Relations Office has new hours of operation for fingerprinting, flight-line access, passport reentry stamps, and the lost and found. New office hours are 7:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Red Ribbon Week

Exercise your right to be drug free at IronWorks Gym 9 - 11 a.m. Saturday. Free gift for the first 50 participants.

Educators Day

Educator's Day is an annual event conducted in educational complexes throughout the Japan District. The opening ceremony is scheduled to begin at Matthew C. Perry High School 8 a.m. today. The day is open to teachers, counselors, administrators, parents and all professional educators. Educators can learn new techniques, share ideas and work with new technologies. For more information, call 253-3447.

Brief Submissions

To submit a community brief, send an e-mail to iwakuni.pao@usmc.mil. Include a contact name, a phone number and the information you would like published. You may submit your brief or classified ad in person at the Public Affairs Office, Building 1, Room 216. The deadline for submissions is 3 p.m. every Friday. Submissions will run the following Friday on a space-available basis. The Iwakuni Approach staff reserves the right to edit submissions for space and style.

Chapel Services

Roman Catholic

Saturday 4:30-5:15 p.m. Confession
5:30 p.m. Mass
Sunday 8:30 a.m. Mass
9:45 a.m. Religious Education
Tues. - Fri. 11:30 a.m. Weekday Mass
Wednesday 6 p.m. Inquiry Class for adults

Protestant

Saturday 9:30 a.m. Seventh-Day Adventist Sabbath School
11 a.m. Seventh-Day Adventist Divine Worship
Sunday 9:30 a.m. Sunday School, Adult Bible Fellowship
10:30 a.m. Protestant Service
11 a.m. Children's Church
Wednesday 6 p.m. Awana (Bldg. 1104)
6:15 p.m. Adult Bible Study (Capodanno Hall Chapel)

Church of Christ

Sunday 9:30 a.m. Bible Study (small chapel)
10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Latter Day Saints

Weekdays 6:30 a.m. Youth 12-17 Activities

Teen Programs

- High School Meetings (Club - grades 9-12)
- Junior High Meetings (Club JV - grades 7-8)
- HS&JR Bible Studies
- Retreats
- Service Projects
- Missions Trip
- Special Events Volunteer Training & Mentoring
- Parent Support Group

Call 080-4177-2060 or e-mail jletaw@ClubBeyond.org

For information regarding divine services, religious education or any other command religious program or chapel activity, call the Marine Memorial Chapel at 253-3371.

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

SAKURA THEATER

Friday, October 22, 2010

7 p.m. The Switch (PG-13)
Premier
10 p.m. The Social Network (PG-13)
Premier

Saturday, October 23, 2010

1 p.m. The Secretariat (PG)
4 p.m. The Lottery Ticket (PG-13)
7 p.m. The Switch (PG-13)

Sunday, October 24, 2010

1 p.m. Legend of the Guardians: The Owls of Ga'Hoole (PG)
4 p.m. Nanny McPhee Returns (PG)
7 p.m. The Social Network (PG-13)

Monday, October 25, 2010

7 p.m. Vampires Suck (PG-13)
Last Showing

Tuesday, October 26, 2010

7 p.m. The Switch (PG-13)

Wednesday, October 27, 2010

7 p.m. The Social Network (PG-13)

Thursday, October 28, 2010

7 p.m. Life as We Know It (PG-13)
Premier
10 p.m. Going the Distance (R)
Premier

The movie schedule is subject to change. Please check www.mccsiwakuni.com/sakura often for updates, or call the Sakura Theater at 253-5291 for the latest schedule.

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

Jobs

Travel Counselor

CWTSatoTravel has a travel counselor position available at the government travel office here. This position is responsible for booking air, car and hotel reservations for military travelers in official duty status using the SABRE CRS. Desirable for the candidates to have travel agency or airline experience, and SABRE CRS experience.

Knowledge of government travel regulation is also preferred. Send all inquiries and resumes to mkenat@cwtsatotravel.com. No phone inquiries.

Mess Hall Menu

Monday

Bean with bacon soup, shrimp gumbo soup, Caribbean flounder, country-style steak, steamed rice, macaroni and cheese, hush puppies, broccoli combo, calico cabbage, dinner rolls, potato salad, cucumber and onion salad, standard salad bar, peanut butter brownies, double layer marble cake with butter cream frosting, banana cream pudding.
Specialty Bar: Pasta

Tuesday

Tomato soup, vegetable soup, lasagna, roast pork, potatoes au gratin, whole-kernel corn, mixed vegetables, toasted garlic bread, cream gravy, country style tomato salad, coleslaw, standard salad bar, cherry pie, Boston cream pie, oatmeal raisin cookies.
Specialty Bar: Taco

Wednesday

French onion soup, cream of broccoli soup, baked tuna & noodles, breaded pork chop Creole, garlic roasted potatoes, carrots, mixed steamed vegetables, dinner rolls, mushroom gravy, cabbage, apple, and celery, three bean salad, standard salad bar, chocolate chip cookies, Dutch apple pie, devil's food cake with butter cream frosting.
Specialty Bar: Barbecue

Thursday

Manhattan clam chowder, split pea soup, chicken parmesan, Italian sausage, buttered pasta, oven browned potatoes, eggplant parmesan, cauliflower gumbo, alfredo sauce, marinara sauce, garlic bread with cheese, macaroni salad, mixed fruit salad, standard salad bar, sugar cookies, German chocolate cake, banana cream pie with whipped topping.
Specialty Bar: Deli Bar

Friday

Chicken noodle soup, cream of mushroom soup, Southern-style fried catfish, savory baked chicken, french fried cauliflower, macaroni and cheese, candied sweet potatoes, southern-style greens, jalapeno corn bread, cream gravy, potato salad, country style tomato salad, standard salad bar, coconut raisin drop cookies, double-layer Florida lemon cake with butter cream frosting, chocolate cream pie.
Specialty Bar: Hot Dog

NMCRS Volunteer Opportunities

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. To apply, call 253-5311.

Miscellaneous

Free Translator

Stay at home mom looking to help others in spare time. For more information, e-mail nakahashimikiko@msn.com.

Rainbow Home Daycare

Rainbow Home Daycare has openings for children ages 2-5. Hours are 8 a.m. to noon. Personnel are first aid and CPR certified. Has fourteen years of experience working in child care centers. Has a degree in early childhood education. Also specializes in teaching pre-school age children in a structured environment that prepares them for kindergarten. For more information about openings, call 253-2246.

Ad Submissions

To submit an ad request, e-mail iwakuni.pao@usmc.mil. Include a contact name, one phone number and the information you wish to be published. Or, submit your ad in person at the Public Affairs Office in Building 1, room 216. Deadline for submissions is 3 p.m. every Friday. They will be run the following Friday on a space-available basis. We reserve the right to edit submissions for space and style.

WANT SPARE CASH?
EARN IT IN YOUR SPARE TIME!



Check out available
MCCS Jobs|listings|at:
www.mccsiwakuni.com/hr
Click on the Employment link
for more information!

MCCS
MARINE CORPS

got news?

Do you have an idea for a story or need coverage for an event? We are here for you. Contact the Public Affairs office two weeks in advance of projected publication date for review by e-mailing iwakuni.pao@usmc.mil, call 253-5551 or stop by Building 1, Room 216.

Halloween safety tips

Halloween on Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni can be a great time for residents of all ages. The Provost Marshal's Office asks that every member of the community consider the following tips and help to make this Halloween safe and enjoyable for all of our young trick-or-treaters.

Pedestrian Safety:

- Parents are highly encouraged to accompany their children in accordance with Marine Corps Bases Japan Youth Supervision Guidelines.
- Plan your children's routes and ensure you have a designated place to meet them in case you and your child become separated.
- Children should use flashlights and stay on sidewalks.
- Children should cross the street at crosswalks and not between parked cars.
- Vehicle operators should drive slowly and watch carefully for children.

Costume Safety:

- Children should never go into homes - stay outside of the residence when asking for treats.
- Children should never talk to strangers or get into a stranger's car.
- Wear clothing that is bright, reflective and flame-retardant; wear short clothing to prevent tripping.

- Wear sneakers or comfortable shoes.
- Use face paint (non-toxic, hypoallergenic) and avoid masks - especially if the eye holes obstruct the child's vision.
- Children should not wear floppy hats or wigs that slide over the child's eyes. Also, children should not wear oversized, long, baggy, or loose costumes or oversized shoes.
- Children should avoid toy weapons - if desired, use costume knives and swords that are flexible, not rigid.
- Stay away from pets. The pet may not recognize the child and become frightened.
- Children should travel in small groups and be accompanied by parents or an authorized adult chaperone.
- Children should know their home phone number and their parents' cell phone numbers, in case they are separated from one another.
- Children should bring treats home before eating them so parents can inspect them.

Military Police bicycle and foot patrols will be assigned to each housing area.

If at any time you or your child needs assistance, please call the military police desk sergeant at 253-3303 or for emergencies dial 911.

More than 190 run, walk 5K to fight breast cancer

PFC. VANESSA JIMENEZ
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

More than 190 people gathered on the seawall behind IronWorks Gym to participate in a 5K walk/run to support breast cancer awareness month Saturday.

"I am so pleased to see such a great turnout in such a small community," said Darci Kruse, Health Promotions assistant director. "This is a great way for our community to come together and show our support for breast cancer."

The walk/run this year was a success with more than quadruple the amount of participants from last year. There were only about 35 participants last year.

Mindy Garner, coordinator for the event, was one of the three breast cancer survivors among the participants for the run. Garner helped coordinate the event with her son.

"My son, Jacob Garner, has done so much," said Garner. "His Boy Scout troop became involved so they could also show their support."

Boy Scout Troop 77 set up, made display boards and posted as road guards for the event.

Garner is the third woman on this base to be diagnosed in the past year.

"Breast cancer is more prevalent than we know.

Early detection is the key," said Garner.

Breast cancer is one of the leading killers of women today, killing more than 44,000 yearly. One in every 10 women will be diagnosed, but with all the research and awareness, nearly nine out of 10 can survive it.

"If you are diagnosed, know that you're chances are high because of all the money that has been made and all the research that has been done," said Garner.

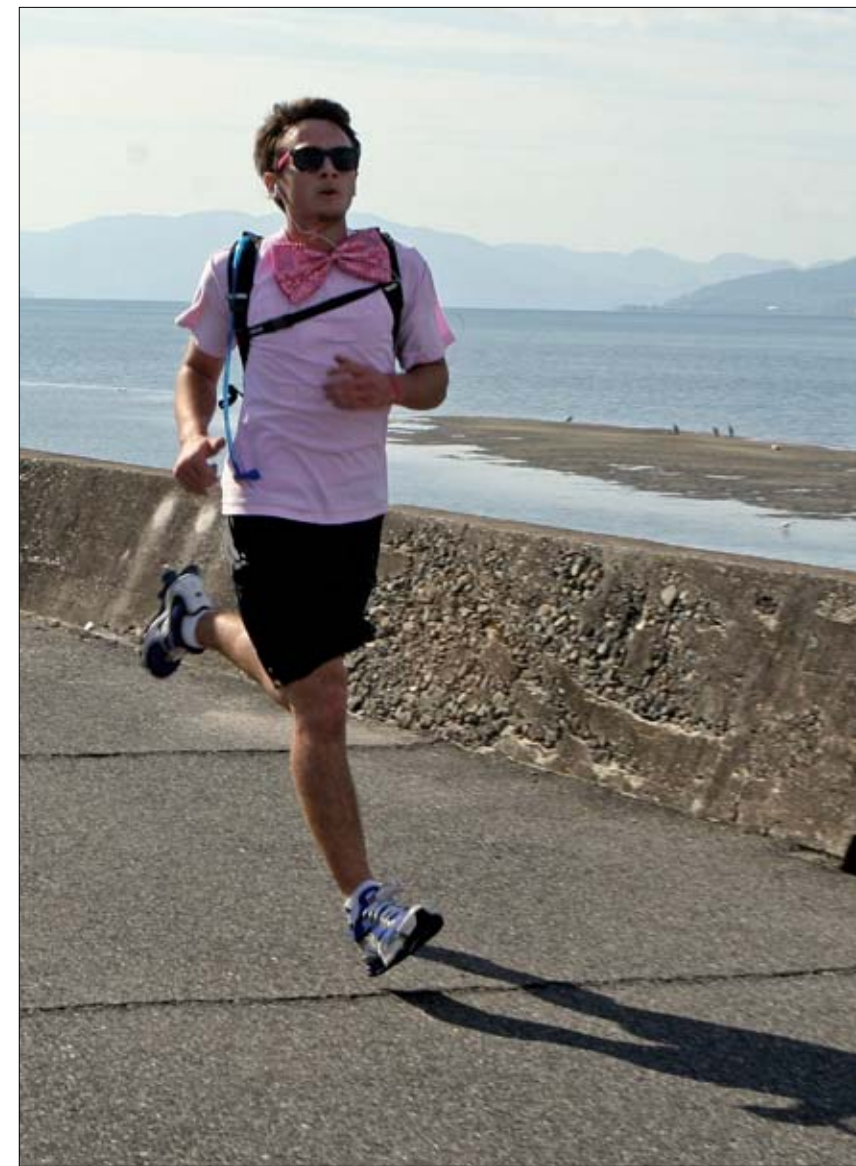
Eating healthy, exercising and cutting smoking are all ways to help prevent cancer.

"The most important thing is to take care of your body," said Garner. "As a wife and mother, I know what it's like to get carried away thinking of other things, but it's OK to be selfish with your health."

Self exams and annual mammograms are important steps in staying cancer free.

"Men also play a big role. My husband found my lump," Garner said. "More and more men are finding the lumps every day."

Awareness will continue to spread throughout the base with weekly one mile walks being conducted every Friday afternoon throughout the month of October.



Wearing a stylish oversized, sequined pink bow, Tylor Apple runs toward the finish line at the end of the 5K walk/run to show his support for Breast Cancer Awareness Month on the seawall behind IronWorks Gym here Saturday. Apple joined his mother who brought her own flair by sporting a glamorous pink boa.

MAG-12 sends H&HS home Kuni cupless in golf tournament

PFC. VANESSA JIMENEZ
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Golfers from Marine Aircraft Group 12, and Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron came out Friday for the first ever Kuni Cup Golf Tournament at Torii Pines golf course here Oct. 15.

A trophy and all the bragging rights were awarded to MAG-12 with a combined score of 567 to H&HS's 595.

First place for the lowest net score went to Bryan J. Ruppel and Matthew L. Doyle with a combined score of 63.

"This is a good win. H&HS was great competition," said P.J. Kerr, claiming the trophy for MAG-12. "I can't wait to play against Lt. Col. Coletta again next year."

Kerr took home the award for the longest drive and Bill G. Slack won the closest to the pin competition.

There were 46 competitors from H&HS and MAG-12.

Pairs from each team competed against each other making groups of four.

The weather was sunny, and throughout the day there was an abundance of laughter and sunscreen as competitors lathered up to keep from getting sunburned during the competition.

The groups golfed 18 holes together, taking the best score from each pair and contributing it into their final score.

Competitors were able to buy a mulligan when they registered.

The tournament lasted all day with a lunch break midway through.

The Family Readiness Program provided grilled burgers, hot dogs and complimenting



P.J. Kerr claims the Kuni Cup and bragging rights for Marine Aircraft Group 12 at the first ever Kuni Cup Golf Tournament at Torii Pines Golf Course here Oct. 15. MAG-12 took the cup with a combined score of 567 and left Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron begging with a score of 595.

side snacks.

The purpose of the tournament was to create some friendly competition, said Kerr.

When participants finished their last hole, they gathered to tally the scores.

"Sure it was a competition, but the most

important thing is having fun," said Richard K. Grainger, coordinator from H&HS.

Money raised through the tournament will help fund the Marine Corps Birthday Balls and Family Readiness Programs of the respective commands.



LANCE CPL. MIRANDA BLACKBURN

A soccer participant shoots the ball into the goal during a Special Olympics game at Penny Lake here Sunday. Approximately 120 athletes from Hiroshima and Yamaguchi Prefecture competed in the event. In total, more than 300 visitors attended the event. More than 60 station members volunteered their time to help support the internationally-recognized event.

Station welcomes more than 100 special olympians

LANCE CPL. MIRANDA BLACKBURN
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

The Special Olympics is a program designed to give special-needs athletes the chance to test their strength, speed and skills, to build their confidence and to show them they are as competitive as everyone else.

In tradition of an event that has been going on for more than 40 years now, approximately 120 athletes from Hiroshima and Yamaguchi Prefecture competed in the regional Special Olympic Games hosted here Sunday.

In total, more than 300 visitors attended the event.

More than 60 station members volunteered their time to help support the internationally-recognized event.

Competitors participated in cycling, basketball games hosted at the IronWorks Gym, soccer at Penny Lake and bowling at the Strike Zone.

"Because of their disabilities, a lot of these kids don't feel like they're 'normal'," said Brian Wilson, assistant athletic director. "Being able to come and participate in things that their peers are able to do on a regular basis and interact with the station personnel really makes a difference."

Participants competed against one another and also played in friendly games with the volunteers.

"Some of them are better than us," said Bradley Robinson, a Special Olympics volunteer.

Robinson said he has previously volunteered for Special Olympics events and helping out children is something important to him.

"It's important to make sure your kids have a good foundation and that they're happy, because eventually that's what they are going to build from," said Robinson.

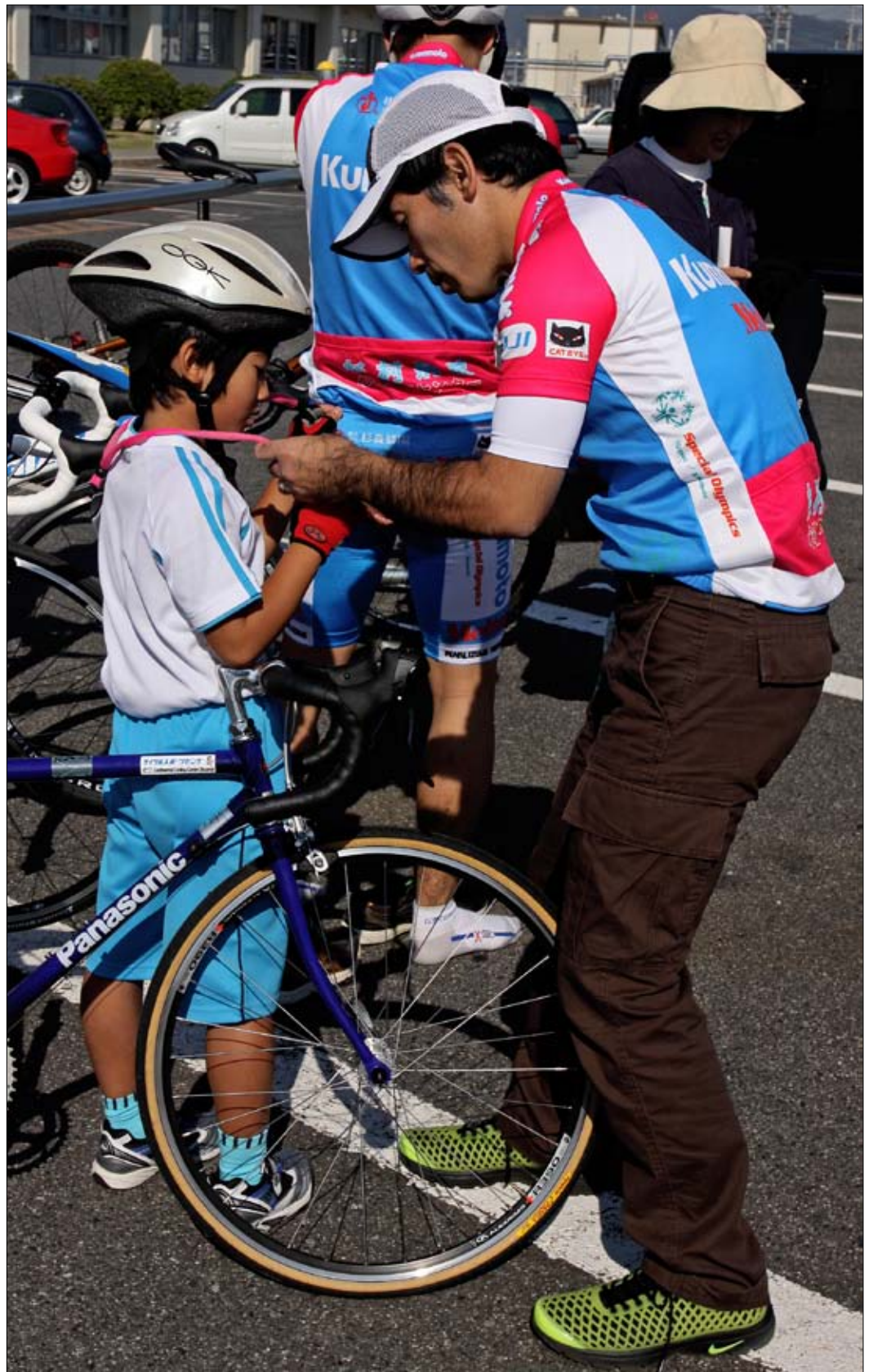
Many of the volunteers said they enjoyed being able to get involved with the children through the different events.

"I absolutely loved being part of the day's activities," said Katia Williams, a Special Olympics volunteer who participated in the bowling portion of the day.

After eating lunch at the Crossroads, the Special Olympics competitors made their way back to the IronWorks Gym for the closing ceremony.

Each participant was given a medal to congratulate the competitors for their efforts during the event.

For next year's event, the IronWorks Gym plans on inviting even more participants from the local area and making it even more competitive.



LANCE CPL. MIRANDA BLACKBURN

A Special Olympics volunteer helps a cycling participant with his equipment before starting the race during the cycling portion of the Special Olympics outside the IronWorks Gym here Sunday. Competitors participated in cycling, basketball games hosted at the IronWorks Gym, soccer at Penny Lake and bowling at the Strike Zone.



LANCE CPL. MIRANDA BLACKBURN

A basketball player on the Yamaguchi Shooting Stars prepares to lay-up a basket during a Special Olympics game at the sports courts in the IronWorks Gym here Sunday. Participants competed against one another and also played in friendly games with the volunteers. Many of the volunteers said they enjoyed being able to get involved with the children through the different events.