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**SAMURAI**

Puts up fight, goes down kicking | P. 12

# IWAKUNI APPROACH

Issue No. 20 Vol. 4 | Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan

## Marines, JASDF implement enhanced simulated air-to-air combat training

Lance Cpl. Jennifer Pirante  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Marine Aircraft Group 12's Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 242 pilots launched four F/A-18D Hornet jets from the runway here May 19 to conduct ongoing simulated air-to-air combat training with elements of the Japan Air Self-Defense Force.

VMFA(AW)-242 wrapped up its third week of the newly implemented air-to-air training with the Western Air Defense Force 8th Air Wing's F-15J 304th and F-2A 6th JASDF Tactical Fighter Squadrons from Tsuiki Air Base.

"What we are developing is a consistent air-to-air regime to train with," said Capt. Frederick Gallup, a VMFA(AW)-242 pilot. "It's two countries developing good working relationships with each other as well as getting good training and making assets available for both parties."

U.S. Hornet squadrons usually only conduct this type of training during annual large-scale exercises, but both U.S. and Japanese forces agreed more could be done to enhance and strengthen communication between the two allies.

Keen Sword 2011, conducted Dec. 3-10, 2010, marked the 10th combined-bilateral training exercise conducted by U.S. military forces and Japan Self-Defense Forces since 1986 and



LANCE CPL. JENNIFER PIRANTE

A Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 242 ordnance technician salutes a VMFA(AW)-242 pilot and a weapon systems officer before they take off from the flight line here May 19. VMFA(AW)-242 launched its jets to conduct ongoing simulated air-to-air combat training with elements of the Japan Air Self-Defense Force. VMFA(AW)-242 wrapped up its third week of the newly implemented air-to-air training with the Western Air Defense Force 8th Air Wing's F-15J 204th and F-2A 6th JASDF Tactical Fighter Squadrons from Tsuiki Air Base.

SEE TRAINING ON PAGE 3

## Station bids farewell



STOCK PHOTO

Lt. j. g. Bruce B. West, 41, Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron chaplain, a native of Williamsburg, Va., died Saturday in a bicycle accident near Yasaka dam. See story on page 2.

## Ready Group to receive new commander

Cpl. Claudio A. Martinez  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

The former Marine Aircraft Group 12 executive officer is slated to report for duty as the MAG-12 commanding officer during a change-of-command ceremony at the Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 242 hangar here scheduled today.

Col. Christopher J. Mahoney is scheduled to succeed Col. Stephen G. Nitzschke, who is slated to report for duty as the J-54 chief of Strategic Engagement Division with the U.S. Special Operations Command MacDill Air Force Base, Fla.

Nitzschke assumed command of MAG-12 nearly two years ago on June 19.

During his time as the MAG-12 commander, Nitzschke continually focused on improving the MAG's ability to live up to its name, "The Ready Group."

Nitzschke references two memories that happened under his command as the most significant to him during his time with the MAG and the most telling of The Ready Group's abilities.

One happened on July 13, 2010. MAG-12

participated in Invincible Spirit, a 12-day exercise, which proved the group's ability to respond rapidly in preparation to an attack on South Korea.

The second was on March 30. The MAG successfully flew 36 aircraft at the same time and had 24 F/A-18 Hornets land safely at Pohang Air Base, South Korea, to close out exercise Foal Eagle 2011.

Nitzschke said those moments represent what the MAG is all about, which is readiness and its ability to respond when the nation calls, and he credits the Marines under his command for the MAG's capabilities.

"The Marines have responded phenomenally," said Nitzschke. "Everything that I have asked them to do, they have delivered in a tremendous fashion. I have been very proud and a bit humbled by what they have done."

1st Lt. Joel Saravia, MAG-12 adjutant, has worked with Nitzschke since he first took command.

"He is one of the most honest and genuine

SEE COMMANDER ON PAGE 3



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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

## 'Preparing for change'

Lt. Robert E. Mills  
DEPUTY COMMAND  
CHAPLAIN

Human beings are creatures of routine.

We tend to establish life rhythms for ourselves and, for the most part, we stick to them.

We usually get up at nearly the same time.

We find favorite foods we like to eat and we have special clothes, which are comfortable and which we like to wear when we're not in public.

Routine can be really good for us, or it can lead to complacency and

stagnation, which is not good.

One of the difficult facts of life is things change. Our normal routines get upset, our clothes wear out and get holes in them, and sometimes our tastes change.

Change is upsetting for many people, and even change, which we invite and look forward to, can be upsetting in some ways.

I'm sure by now you've learned change in the military is constant.

We can count on many changes, unlike our civilian friends and relatives, during our

military service.

Some examples are permanent change of station moves every two to three years for an entire career, constantly changing work conditions, many different schools for children to attend, the constant need to make new friends, say goodbye to old friends and colleagues, get acquainted with new bosses at work every few months or years and especially the changes that come with living in foreign countries.

There are some techniques we can use to help us with change.

One of these is to learn the fine art of quickly adjusting to new situa-

tions.

If you learn how to be comfortable in a variety of circumstances, the fear of change lessens because you are adaptable and can quickly move from one situation to another with minimum anxiety.

Another way to deal with change is to expect it and look forward to it.

If you learn the art of looking at life like an adventure, you will be better able to find each change as an opportunity and not a burden.

Military life is a great adventure both for adults and for children; the change that comes along can be a great part of the fun. Enjoy your changes.

## Station chaplain dies in bicycle crash

Cpl. Marcel Brown  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Lt. j.g. Bruce B. West Jr., 41, Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron chaplain, a native of Williamsburg, Va., died in a bicycle crash near Yasaka dam Saturday morning.

A memorial service in his honor was held Thursday at the Marine Memorial Chapel.

"We're all sad over here," said Lt. Robert Mills, Deputy Command Chaplain, in a Stars and Stripes article.

West was endorsed by the Evangelical Church Alliance and had a Masters Degree in theological studies from Reformed Theological Seminary,

Mills said.

"The community should remember him as full of life. That's what he was," said Seaman Recruit Jose Rodriguez, H&HS religious program specialist.

"For the time he was with us, he taught us to really enjoy life to the fullest and to always look at things from a positive perspective."

West joined the Navy in August 2010 and arrived at Iwakuni in November.

"Out of all of us here, he was the happiest one. He had the biggest smile coming in and out of the office," said Rodriguez. "He was by far the most cheerful and genuine person I've met."

West is survived by his wife and three children.

## Typhoon Awareness

To get the current Typhoon conditions, call 253-3005

### Prepare your typhoon kit

- Flashlight
- Battery-powered radio
- Batteries (keep batteries separate)
- Canned and packaged food with can and bottle opener (2 to 3 days of supply)
- 2 to 3 days of drinking water supply (1 gallon of water per person per day)
- First-aid supplies
- Prescription medication (if applicable)
- Baby articles (if applicable)
- Hand Cleaner / Wet Naps

Keep an inventory check list and keep your kit updated

### Emergency shelters & phone numbers

#### Disaster shelters

IronWorks Gym, Building 1010, 253-6578 and Matthew C. Perry Gymnasium, Building 555, 253-3447.

#### Off-base residents

Are accepted at on-station shelters after TCCOR II has been set. A stay for 48 hours should be anticipated.

### Tropical Cyclone Condition of Readiness

TCCOR IV – The trend indicates a possible threat of a tropical cyclone within 72 hours. Typhoon season is from June 1 to November 30. During this season MCAS Iwakuni remains at a minimum TCCOR IV.

TCCOR III – Destructive winds of 50 knots or greater are possible within 48 hours.

TCCOR II – Destructive winds of 50 knots or greater are anticipated within 24 hours.

TCCOR I – Destructive winds of 50 knots or greater are anticipated within 12 hours.

TCCOR IC – Winds of 34 to 49 knots are occurring on station.

TCCOR IE – Destructive winds of 50 knots or greater are occurring on Station.

TCCOR IR – Destructive winds of 50 knots or greater are no longer occurring. Emergency crews, Safety, and Facilities' personnel assess air station readiness for normal operations. All personnel should remain in shelters until All Clear is set.

TCCOR Storm Watch – Although destructive winds have subsided or are currently no longer forecast, there is still a possibility of danger due to the proximity of the storm and unpredictable changes in storm track and/or strength.

TCCOR All Clear – All tropical cyclone imminent dangers have passed. Return to condition IV.



CPL. CLAUDIO A. MARTINEZ

POHANG AIR BASE, South Korea – Twenty-four Marine Aircraft Group 12 F/A-18s from Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 242 and Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 314 safely landed here March 30 to bring their portion of exercise Foal Eagle 2011 to a close. Col. Stephen G. Nitzschke, MAG-12 commanding officer, referenced this moment as one of the most significant to him during his command of MAG-12 because it serves as testament to The Ready Group's abilities. Nitzschke is scheduled to be succeeded by Col. Christopher J. Mahoney as the MAG-12 commanding officer during a change-of-command ceremony today.

## Marine Aircraft Group 12 to receive 97th commanding officer

COMMANDER FROM PAGE 1

people I have met in the Marine Corps so far," said Saravia. "It's really nice, because he actually cares about his officers. He actually cares about his Marines. A lot of commanders tend to get so busy with 'tops'; they don't take the time to talk to the Marines, but Col. Nitzschke is really good about that." Saravia said he has noticed how some of the junior Marines are taken aback when Nitzschke walks up to them for a

conversation.

"It's not something you would expect from a colonel," said Saravia. "Normally, with a colonel, you stand to attention when he walks into your office space and he walks and talks to the officer and that's about it."

Sgt. Cristhian Santana, MAG-12 Section 1 personnel chief, has been in the Marine Corps more than seven years and has worked under several commanding officers. Santana remembers a day when he and three other Marines were smoking at

the smoke-pit and were surprised when Nitzschke stopped to talk to them.

"He has the Marines in mind," said Santana. "He differs from other people because he leads from the front. Other people are like, 'Hey, let the squadron gunny and everybody else do it.' He's into it. He's definitely more involved."

Santana said he believes Nitzschke will be missed when he leaves.

Mahoney will be MAG-12's 97th commanding officer.

## Marines, JASDF simulated air-to-air to be regular operation

TRAINING FROM PAGE 1

capped the 50th anniversary of the Japan-U.S. alliance.

VMFA(AW)-242 and Japan Air Self-Defense Forces decided together to up the ante by implementing ongoing air-to-air training throughout the year to further improve relations and tighten military cohesion.

"During Keen Sword, we had two Japanese JASDF officers here for two weeks, so we were able to build a relationship with them," said Lt. Col. Jeffrey Ertwine, VMFA(AW)-242 executive officer. "We started talking to them about potentially working together more often. They told us they thought it was a great idea."

Planning came full circle when MAG-12 and VMFA(AW)-242 command elements visited JASDF counterparts at Tsuiki AB in March. Command elements exchanged proposals and plans of operations and intended to meet both Marine Corps and JASDF training requirements.

"It's the first time in many years we have essentially integrated unit-level training between the squadrons," said Capt. Bijan Derakhshan, VMFA(AW)-242 operations officer. "It's essentially dissimilar air combat tactics so we can get used to training against a platform different from our own to make us more well-rounded."

U.S. Marines presented a crawl, walk, run analogy with a plan to begin small-scale operations, which would eventually become more complex over time.

"We went down to Tsuiki AB and gave a presentation on what

we would like to accomplish with them and how we would like to build a long-term relationship with Tsuiki AB," said Ertwine.

The simulated training is carried out much like bad-guys verses good-guys where U.S. and Japan forces alternate roles.

Training together also serves as an advantage for both forces because the aircraft can be told apart.

"When we go out and fight each other all the time and it is Hornets versus Hornets, you can't really tell who is the good-guy and who is the bad-guy," said Ertwine.

"Now we have, for example, two F-15s and two Hornets. Everybody knows who is the good guy and who the bad guy is."

VMFA(AW)-242 and JASDF brief prior to carrying out the training and debrief to exchange feedback and ensure the mission was accomplished. Meetings consist of distant correspondence as well as face-to-face interaction to establish effective communication and a complete understanding of the common mission.

Conducting ongoing simulated air-to-air training with the



LANCE CPL. JENNIFER PIRANTE

Cpl. Nicholas Fortier, Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 242 aviation fixed-wing aircraft Airframes technician, tightens the screws on the panel of an F/A-18D Hornet jet before final check on the flight line here May 19. VMFA(AW)-242 launched four jets to conduct simulated air-to-air training with Japan Air Self-Defense Forces Squadrons from Tsuiki Air Base.

JASDF this way is also beneficial for VMFA(AW)-242 logistically and administratively. Operating right out of Iwakuni means less maintenance and administrative coordinating.

Communication has continued to be a significant element after the training sessions have been conducted and when it is time for Marines and JASDF to exchange feedback.

Ertwine said it can be tricky because the different sides have different rules on how to

implement aspects of training, but working together will help them to overcome.

"We are trying to find a common working relationship where we all agree to what the training rules are," said Ertwine. "We're doing a good job and it has been very successful so far."

The simulated air-to-air operations are still in the infancy stages as Marines and JASDF continue to communicate, work together and establish future training goals.

# Fixed-wing aircraft mechanics ensure pilots' safety, aircraft mission readiness

Lance Cpl. Charlie Clark  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF



LANCE CPL. CHARLIE CLARK

KADENA AIR BASE, Japan — Gunner Sgt. Keith M. Christopher, the Marine All-Weather Attack Squadron 533 Airframes staff noncommissioned officer in charge, checks the main-body latch for the right stabilizer wing of one of VMFA(AW)-533's F/A-18s here May 9. Christopher worked along side his junior Marines to get the F/A-18 mission ready.



LANCE CPL. CHARLIE CLARK

KADENA AIR BASE, Japan — Lance Cpl. Cory M. Veilleux, a Marine All-Weather Attack Squadron 533 Airframes mechanic, prepares the main-body latch for the right stabilizer wing of a VMFA(AW)-533 F/A-18 here May 9. Airframe mechanics work every day to keep the aircraft safe for the pilots.

**KADENA AIR BASE, Japan** — A team of Marines sprint through a morning downpour to a silhouetted object like a fire team scurrying to a rally point. Their target, an F/A-18 Hornet.

Seamlessly, they scour the various flight surfaces that make up the body of the aircraft.

They search for dents, or any other damage, in the armor of the aircraft.

"If for some reason a flight surface or panel is dented or damaged, we make sure it gets replaced," said Lance Cpl. Cory M. Veilleux, a Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 533 fixed-wing aircraft mechanic.

Any damage would make the aircraft awkward to fly and unsafe for pilots.

"We make the aircraft fly straight," Veilleux said.

Veilleux inspects the flight surfaces and the hydraulic lines that run through the entire aircraft.

The hydraulic system of the aircraft is much like the veins in a human body. The tubes hold the hydraulic fluid, which make the various flight surfaces, such as the air brakes and rudders to the landing gear, work.

Hydraulic fluid runs through the hydraulic lines that connect to servos, which are actuating cylinders. The servos are attached to the different flight surfaces.

Think of the servos as joints in a body, and the flight surfaces as limbs. Without the hydraulics, the limbs can't move.

The pilot acts as the brain of the whole operation. Pilots can manipulate the flight surfaces from the cockpit to control the aircraft during flight.

Pilots wouldn't be able to control the aircraft in flight without being able to get off the ground first.

Maintaining the landing gear is essential to aircraft safety.

To ensure the landing gear is working properly, the aircraft is jacked up like a car until the landing gear isn't touching the ground.

One of the mechanics will be in the cockpit to flip the switch that raises the landing gear.

The auto-locking system for the wheels of the landing gear has a certain number of seconds to stop before it is considered unsatisfactory and will be repaired.

"We make sure the landing gear goes up and down when it's supposed to," Veilleux said.

Fixed-wing aircraft mechanics inspect the aircraft from top to bottom before and after every flight.

"We make sure the pilots are safe," said Sgt. Gregory S. Banks, a VMFA(AW)-533 fixed-wing aircraft mechanic. "We want our boys to come home safely."

After the pilots get suited up and climb into the cockpit, they need to be directed down the flight line to take off.

Fixed-wing aircraft mechanics ensure the aircraft are taxied on and off the flight line safely using hand and arm signals.

"We can't see what's under the aircraft while in the cockpit," said Capt. Ernie Drake, a VMFA(AW)-533 F/A-18 pilot. "The aircraft mechanics can see the whole picture."

The fixed-wing aircraft mechanics make sure the pilots have plenty of clearance and don't run into foreign objects while the aircraft is taxied down the flight line.

"Those guys have a vital role on the flight line," said Drake. "They have saved aircraft and pilots lives on more than one occasion."

The fixed-wing aircraft mechanic Marines continue day in and day out to ensure the safety of the pilots and keep the aircraft ready for any mission.

# Volunteers, parents, station residents celebrate Kid's Day with child's play

Cpl. Marcel Brown  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

The Headquarters Family Readiness Office hosted Kid's Day at the Monzen side baseball field here May 20.

"Everybody has been working so hard with Operation Tomodachi and things like that, so we wanted to put something on that the family members can participate in and relax with their children," said Diane Heard, H&HS family readiness officer.

The event took months of planning and countless hours of preparation, but with the diligent work of volunteers in conjunction with the FRO, Kid's Day kicked off successfully.

"We have a lot of events going on for parents to try to increase morale; well, the kids need morale too," said Heard. "They need things that they can look forward to when their parents are away or still here. So we like to put on events like this so the children and the parents can have some bonding time together."

The event included free food and drinks, a cotton candy machine, sumo suits and a sumo wrestling ring, a dunk tank occupied by H&HS Executive Officer Maj. Travis K. Brittain, bounce houses, and a pie-eating contest for all ages.

"We tried to create somewhat of a carnival atmosphere here," said Heard. "They have a lot of festivals in Japan, but they don't have a lot of carnivals. I know that's one thing I enjoyed as a kid."

Although the cotton candy and bounce houses complemented the carnival theme, the laughter, smiles and companionship between volunteers, children and parents attributed the primary



LANCE CPL. KASSIE MCDOLE

Staff Sgts. Jason Nickell and Jason Scott compete in a pie-eating contest during a family day party sponsored by Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron here May 20. H&HS held a family day party and cookout to boost the moral of Marines, sailors and their families.

theme: we're all one big family.

"The unit comes together. If you look around the field you'll see there are single Marines and sailors, who have no family here, who took time out of their day to come out and help. So I think it strengthens the entire unit when you have events like these," said Heard.

Volunteers expressed their excitement to get out of the everyday work routine and bond with the community.

"It feels good to help out the Marines, sailors and their families. It's nice to know that I'm helping someone," said Lance Cpl. John A. Moore, station ordnance techni-

cian and event volunteer. "I think this really brings us together as human beings and Marines. For the squadron, I think it improves our unit cohesiveness."

The family readiness office stated events like these would not be possible without the participation and feedback of the local community.

"We like to get feedback on what types of events we can have for the future and we always welcome feedback," said Heard.

Some of the event attendees took advantage of this offer and gave some feedback of their own. "I think they should incorporate more things for the older kids

in the future," said Michael Coletta, 13, Matthew C. Perry 7th grade student. "They have a lot of activities for the younger kids here, but it's a good time for families to come together and meet new people."

The FRO is planning an upcoming daddy/daughter dance and a father/son bus trip to a Fukuoka baseball game in honor of Father's Day.

For questions, suggestions or to give feedback for future FRO events, contact the H&HS FRO at 253-3526 or visit the H&HS Family Readiness Office on the first floor of Building 1 next to room 113.



CPL. MARCEL BROWN

A sumo suit wrestling match takes place during Kid's day at the Monzen side baseball field here May 20. Along with sumo wrestling matches, the event included free food and drinks, a dunk tank occupied by Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron Executive Officer Maj. Travis K. Brittain, bounce houses and a pie-eating contest for all ages.



CPL. MARCEL BROWN

Lance Cpl. Austin Mckenna, Installation Personnel Administration Center personnel clerk, attempts to dunk his Executive Officer Maj. Travis K. Brittain during Kid's Day at the Monzen side baseball field here May 20.

# Amazing Race challenges stamina, marksmanship, sports, knowledge

Lance Cpl. Cayce Nevers  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Station residents ran around the entire station competing for the best time during the annual Amazing Race here May 20. Team members dripped with sweat as they crossed the finish line after running all over the station to complete 14 stops and activities.

The winning team, Station Steve's Band Club finished all stops and placed first at the 2011 Amazing Race for the second time. Station Steve's Band Club each received a \$100 gift certificate for taking first place with a time of 1 hour, 22 seconds.

Second place and \$75 gift certificates were given to each member of the team called Better with Beer with a time of 1 hour, 8 minutes, 32 seconds.

Finally, third place and \$50 gift certificates were given to each member of the team called 171 with a score of 1 hour, 10 minutes, 17 seconds.

"This event is to give station residents a good time and test their knowledge in all areas," said Darci Kruse, Semper Fit assistant director.

The participants answered questions about Marine Corps Family Team Building, Marine Corps, movies, and general knowledge.

Each of the 14 stops around the station had a different activity to test how well the members of each team worked together.

At the parade deck station, team members had to run with a ball between their legs, leapfrog over each other and run in flippers.

The Marine Lounge proved to be a challenging task for many. Each member had to build a house out of a deck of cards.

At the laundry mat, pictures of knots were provided and each team member needed to tie and untie a knot before being able to continue to the Sakura Theater stop.

At the theater stop, movie trivia also proved to be challenging and time consuming for many teams.

Once done at the theater, teams ran to Yujo Hall where they chose a question about Marine Corps Family Team Building and needed to answer it before being able to continue.

Next, participants ran to the Hornet's Nest where two members of the team worked together to build a LEGO structure.

The team members were back-to-back; one had a completed LEGO structure while the other had Lego pieces.

The team member with the completed structure had to explain to the other team member how to build the structure to match the one in their hands.

"I think the LEGOs are what messed us up," said Vonace Creswellmdermet, Beast Mode team member.

From there, basketball was the next task at the northside basketball court, and then onto the golf course for some golf.

"The golfing was easy," Creswellmdermet said. "We got a time bonus on that event."

Next, teams headed to Building 411 where their knowledge was put to the test in the library and education office.

At the paintball range, team members dizzied themselves with drunk goggles.

From there teams went to the obstacle course where one team member shot water balloons from a slingshot while another tried to catch them in a bucket.

Afterward, obstacle course participants ran to Penny Lake, carrying sandbags from one cone to another.

Once done at Penny Lake, the teams went to IronWorks Gym and proved their knowledge of the human body.

Finally, teams went to the field in front of Barracks 314, where they looked at pictures and figured out what the differences between the two similar scenes in front of them.

Once all stops were completed, the teams ran back to the parade deck to cross the finish line and receive their time.

After all the teams were finished, times were totaled and time bonuses earned throughout the course added and awards were given out.

The team members of Station Steve's Band Club enjoyed participating in the Amazing Race event.

"It is a good experience," said Michael J. Pritchard, team member of Station Steve's Band Club. "It lets us spend time with station residents and see each team having fun."

While everyone at this event had a great time, teams completed the event in less than the three hours provided.

"This was the second time I have won the Amazing Race, and I am hoping that the next time I can make it a third win," said Pritchard.

The teams showed up early and after the event was over stayed at the finish line and talked about how well they all did.



LANCE CPL. CAYCE NEVERS  
Hott Mammass team members Stephanie Mifflin (left) and Mandy Apple, hold the slingshot at the obstacle course station here during the 2011 Amazing Race May 20. Heather Denardo puts a water balloon in the slingshot preparing to shoot it into a bucket to pass the station. The team completed the 14 stations with a time of 1 hour, 10 minutes, 40 seconds, missing out on third place by only 23 seconds.



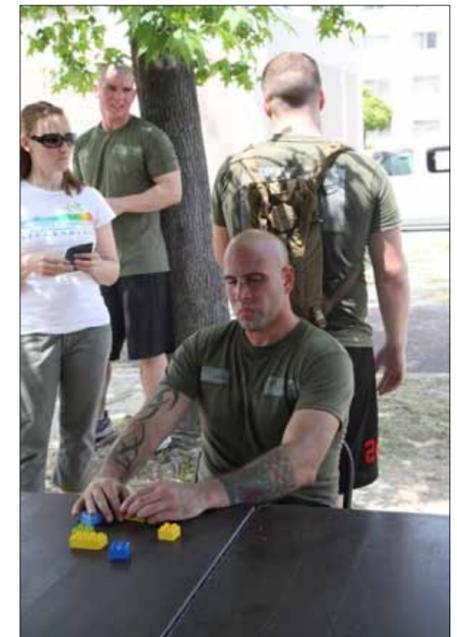
LANCE CPL. CAYCE NEVERS  
Adam Santana Jr., Beast Mode team member, attempts to run at his fastest pace while wearing flippers at the parade deck station here during the 2011 Amazing Race May 20. Santana and his teammates tried to complete the three different sections of the station as fast as possible before moving on to the next station and another team could catch up to them.



LANCE CPL. CAYCE NEVERS  
Vonace Creswellmdermet, Beast Mode team member, jumps over Israel Martinez, Beast Mode team member, at the leapfrog section of the parade deck station here during the 2011 Amazing Race May 20. The two team members bound over each other as fast as they could without getting hurt to complete their portion of the three section station.



LANCE CPL. CAYCE NEVERS  
Israel Martinez, Beast Mode team member, putts a golf ball into a hole at the Torii Pines Golf Course station here during the 2011 Amazing Race May 20. All four team members had to make a golf ball in the station's hole from four different distances before moving onto the next station and within 40 attempts to receive the time bonus.



LANCE CPL. CAYCE NEVERS  
Jason Hulette, Population Control team member, attempts to build a LEGO structure with directions given to him by Seth Hershberger, Population Control team member, at the Hornet's Nest station here during the 2011 Amazing Race May 20. Two team members of each team were chosen to complete this station without the help of the other two. One team member would build the structure while the other gave directions.



LANCE CPL. CAYCE NEVERS  
Vonace Creswellmdermet (left), Adam Santana Jr. and Justin Browning, Beast Mode team members, attempt to find the difference between the picture and the scene in front of them at the field in front of Barracks 314 here during the 2011 Amazing Race May 20. This station was one of 14 stations with different activities.



LANCE CPL. CAYCE NEVERS  
Vonace Creswellmdermet, Beast Mode team member, builds a second house of cards at the Marine Lounge station here during the 2011 Amazing Race May 20. Team members had to build three card houses. Once one was built the next team member added on to the previous, building the next house, a fourth house gave a time bonus.

## CORPS NEWS

HIGHLIGHTING MARINES AND SAILORS AROUND THE GLOBE

## 2nd Air-Naval Gunfire Liason Company watches over Georgian forces



LANCE CPL. BRYAN NYGAARD

COMBAT OUTPOST SHUKVANI, Afghanistan — Cpl. Lucas Boyle, a forward observer with Supporting Arms Liaison Team Chuck, 2nd Air-Naval Gunfire Liaison Company, scans the terrain in front of him while providing overwatch for a Georgian convoy May 8. Marines with 2nd ANGLICO have spent the past six months partnered with 32nd Georgian Light Infantry Battalion, assisting them with command and control while providing close-air support.



LANCE CPL. BRYAN NYGAARD

COMBAT OUTPOST SHUKVANI, Afghanistan — Sgt. Joseph Graham, a forward observer with Fire Control Team 5, Supporting Arms Liaison Team Chuck, 2nd Air-Naval Gunfire Liaison Company, manages Landing Zone Judas at Combat Outpost Shukvani May 4. In addition to directing air support, ANGLICO Marines coordinate safe arrivals at landing zones and medical evacuations.

Lance Cpl. Bryan J. Nygaard  
II MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE

**COMBAT OUTPOST SHUKVANI, Afghanistan** — In a combat environment, the word liaison represents a means of communication for ensuring mission accomplishment, which is exactly the mission of 2nd Air-Naval Gunfire Liaison Company.

Second ANGLICO provides Marine commanders with liaison capability among joint, allied and coalition forces. During the past six months, Marines of Supporting Arms Liaison Team Chuck, 2nd ANGLICO, have provided this capability to Regimental Combat Team 8 by partnering with the 32nd Georgian Light Infantry Battalion.

Operating from Combat Outpost Shukvani, near Sangin, the Georgians have been working to clear nearly 15 square kilometers of insurgent forces.

ANGLICO Marines have supported them in this endeavor by coordinating patrols and promoting an understanding of the Marine commander's intent.

"They help things run smoothly," said Capt. Taniel Makharashvili, the deputy commander of 32nd LIB. "They've given us helpful advice in many different situations, especially patrolling. With their help, we've killed a lot of Taliban."

However, where 2nd ANGLICO really shines is in making bombs drop on the enemy. With ANGLICO assets located in the combat operations center at Shukvani, the fire control teams engage insurgent forces with close air support.

These teams consist of multiple forward observers and radio operators who accompany the Georgians on patrols, or sometimes the Marines will just provide overwatch from observation posts.

"We're an extension of the patrol," said Lance Cpl. Timothy Boudrieau, a radio operator with FCT 5, SALT C, 2nd ANGLICO. "We provide overwatch and look for anything suspicious. If they take contact from insurgents, we try to get eyes on at where they are taking fire."

Once the Marines are able to locate insurgents, they call in a request for air support from the joint terminal attack controller at the combat operations center.

From there, the Georgian ground commander decides whether or not he wants to make fire rain from the sky on the insurgents. If the request is approved, the JTAC then communicates with aircraft flying over the area where to drop the bombs.

"When the call for fire gets cleared hot, we know the Taliban are about to have a real bad day," said Boudrieau, a native of Rindge, N.H. "They didn't wake up in the morning thinking they were going to get a bomb dropped on their heads. Watching aircraft drop a bomb or do a gun-run — it never gets old."

In addition to directing air support, ANGLICO Marines coordinate safe arrivals at landing zones and medical evacuations.

"Their supporting fire was extremely helpful and whenever we needed a medical evacuation, they had a helicopter here right away," said Lt. Col. Phridoa Tereladze, commanding officer of 32nd LIB. "ANGLICO is excellent. All of the ANGLICO Marines, from enlisted to officers, have helped us."



LANCE CPL. BRYAN NYGAARD

COMBAT OUTPOST SHUKVANI, Afghanistan — A portable lightweight designator rangefinder, used by Marines of 2nd Air-Naval Gunfire Liaison Company, is set to mark targets for close air support May 8. Marines with 2nd ANGLICO use PLDRs against insurgents who engage Georgian soldiers who are on patrol.

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS | CLASSIFIEDS

## Briefs

**TriCare Coverage Change**

A new TriCare program offers coverage for young adults, uniformed services dependents less than 26, unmarried, and those not eligible for their own employer-sponsored health care coverage may be qualified to purchase TYA, which offers TriCare standard coverage for monthly premiums of \$186. A premium-based TriCare Prime benefit will be available later this year. For more information visit <http://www.tricare.mil/mediacenter/news.aspx?fid=706>.

**NMCRS Quick Assist Loans**

The Iwakuni Navy Marine Corps Relief Society is providing Quick Assist Loans to prevent active duty service members from falling prey to predatory lenders. These loans are designed to assist with short-term living expenses up to \$300, interest free and must be repaid within 10 months. For more information, call the Iwakuni NMCRS at 253-5311 or stop by the Marine Memorial Chapel, Room 148.

**Birthday Break**

The birthday break is an ongoing promotion held every Friday at 9:15 a.m. on Power 1575 radio. The promotion is open to anyone with a birthday. Just visit [www.mccsiwakuni.com/birthdaycake](http://www.mccsiwakuni.com/birthdaycake), fill out the form and let Power 1575 and Marine Corps Community Services take care of the rest. Every

Friday, birthdays from the previous week will be announced and on the last Friday of every month there will be a random birthday cake giveaway for one birthday in the upcoming month.

**Temporary Mess Hall**

Building 240 is designated as a temporary mess hall. Hours of operation are 6 – 7:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Monday – Friday. The special shuttle bus will continue to run during the dinner and dinner/brunch meal periods. A sandwich bar is also available from 1:30 – 5:30 p.m.

**PMO Lost and Found**

Contact the Provost Marshal's Office Lost and Found if you have lost anything around the installation. Examples may include: Cell phones, keys, digital cameras, bicycle helmets, etc. To recover lost items or for more information, call 253-4929.

**Fellowship Breakfast**

Christian fellowship and group discussion breakfasts are scheduled 6:30 – 7:15 a.m. every Wednesday at the north-side mess hall. For more information, call John Cordero at 253-5301 or 080-3217-3205.

**Lending Locker Program**

The lending locker program is available to provide small home appliances and utensils for incoming and outgoing command-sponsored members for up to 60 days inbound and 30 days outbound. A copy of PCS orders is required. The lending locker is located

in Building 411 Room 101. For more information call, 253-6161.

**Emergency Preparedness for Family Members Course**

The station safety center is offering a free voluntary noncombatant respirator course at 3:30 p.m. every other Wednesday until May 30. For more information or to sign up, call 253-6381.

**Mothers of Preschoolers Volunteer Opportunities**

Mothers of Preschoolers is looking for volunteers to work with their MOPPETS ages 0-5 years old. If you would like to help, call at 253-2031.

**Crime Stoppers**

To report a crime, call 253-3333. Callers can leave a detailed message without having to speak to a live person.

## Jobs

**Engineering Technician**

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is looking for an engineering technician to work in Iwakuni. The job pays \$27,431–\$35,657 annually. For more information, call the Central Resume Processing Center at 410-306-0137 or e-mail [applicationhelp@conus.army.mil](mailto:applicationhelp@conus.army.mil).

**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@cwtsatottravel.com](mailto:mkenat@cwtsatottravel.com). No phone inquiries.

**Commissary Merchandiser**

SARVIS Inc. is currently looking for a part-time commissary merchandiser, 48-hours per month. Workplace is Iwakuni Commissary/DeCA CDC. Experience in retail or commissary merchandising is preferred. For more information, e-mail Mr. More at [tmore\\_sarvis@yahoo.com](mailto:tmore_sarvis@yahoo.com).

**English Teachers**

Two positions are available to teach English in Tokuyama every Friday 6 – 8 p.m. For more information, call 253-6868.

## Pets

**Free Cat**

Two years old, spayed cat named Rose looking for good home. She is loving and cute. For more information, call Billie Scott at 080-3272-5902.

## Vehicles

**1998 Mitsubishi Diamante**

Very well maintained. Has power mirrors and windows, navigation system, radio and 5-disc player. Asking \$4,000 OBO. JCI expires May 2013. For more information, call 080-4073-2834 or e-mail

[flor25@rocketmail.com](mailto:flor25@rocketmail.com).

**2003 Honda Life**

Four door, black, seats four, has only had one owner. Has 50,000 km. JCI is good until October 2012. Road tax is paid. Asking \$3,500. For more information, call Zach at 080-4057-2172.

**1995 Mitsubishi Diamante**

Reliable good car. Excellent working AC/Heater. Stereo with Pioneer compact disc player. JCI paid until July 2011. Asking \$2,200 OBO. For more information, call 253-6417 or 253-7871.

**Brief and Classified Submissions**

To submit a community brief or classified advertisement, send an e-mail to [iwakuni.pao@usmc.mil](mailto:iwakuni.pao@usmc.mil). Include a contact name, a phone number and the information to be published. You may submit your brief or advertisement in person at the Public Affairs Office, Building 1, Room 216 or call 253-5551. Provide all requested information to simplify the request process. 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.

## 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 1575.

## Got News? Got News? 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](mailto:iwakuni.pao@usmc.mil), calling 253-5551 or stopping by Building 1, Room 216.

## Emergency Phone Numbers

- Antiterrorism Force protection: 253-ATFP (2837)
- Life, limb or loss of vision threatening emergencies while on the air station: 119 or 911. From a cell phone or for bilingual capability: 082-721-7700.
- For security issues, contact the Provost Marshal's Office: 253-3303.
- To report without talking to a person, Crime Stoppers: 253-3333.
- Sexual Assault: To make a confidential report of sexual assault or harassment, contact the victim advocate at 253-4526 during working hours.
- For after hours, weekends and holidays, call 090-9978-1033 or 080-3427-0835.
- You can also call the installation Sexual Assault Response Coordinator at 253-6556 or 080-5865-3566.

# INFOTAINMENT

## 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 7 a.m. Men's Ministry  
 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  
 4:30 p.m. Lutheran Holy Communion Service (Small Chapel)  
 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**  
 Tuesday 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.*

## Photo of the week



Maj. Travis K. Brittain waits in a dunk tank for children to hit the target during a family day party sponsored by Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron May 20. H&HS held a family day party and cookout to boost the moral of Marines, sailors and their families. Have your own photo to submit? Submit photos to the Public Affairs Office by e-mailing them to iwakuni.pao@usmc.mil or submit them in person at the Public Affairs Office in Building 1 Room 216. Entries will be judged by the Iwakuni Approach Staff and the top selection will run in the next edition of the Iwakuni Approach. For more information call 253-5551.

## SAKURA THEATER

**Friday, May 27, 2011**  
 7 p.m. Thor (PG-13)  
*Premiere*  
 10 p.m. The Lincoln Lawyer (R)

**Monday, May 30, 2011**  
 1 p.m. Hop (PG)  
 7 p.m. Thor (PG-13)

**Saturday, May 28, 2011**  
 1 p.m. Diary of a Wimpy Kid (PG)  
 4 p.m. Hop (PG)  
 7 p.m. Source Code (PG-13)  
*Premiere*

**Tuesday, May 31, 2011**  
 7 p.m. Source Code (PG-13)

**Sunday, May 29, 2011**  
 1 p.m. Rio (PG)  
 4 p.m. Sucker Punch (PG-13)  
 7 p.m. Thor (PG-13)

**Thursday, June 2, 2011**  
 7 p.m. Paul (PG-13)

*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.**

## Mess Hall Menu

**Monday**  
 Manhattan clam chowder, chicken and rice soup, sauerbraten, jerked-style chicken, fried rice, oven-browned potatoes, french fried okra, calico cabbage, chicken gravy, dinner rolls, macaroni salad, confetti rice salad, standard salad bar, coconut raisin cookies, double-layer almond cake and chocolate cream pie with whipped topping.

**Tuesday**  
 Beef noodle soup, navy bean soup, Swiss steak with gravy, Szechwan chicken, O'Brien Potatoes, noodles Jefferson, french fried cauliflower, broccoli parmesan, brown gravy, cheese biscuit, three bean salad, cucumber and onion salad, standard salad bar, butterscotch brownies, apple pie, and spice cake with buttercream frosting.

**Wednesday**  
 Cream of broccoli soup, knickerbocker soup, turkey curry, Chinese five-spice chicken, pork fried rice, mashed potatoes, vegetable stir fry, corn, egg rolls, chicken gravy, dinner rolls, potato salad, spring salad, deviled potato salad, standard salad bar, peanut butter cookies, coconut cake and sweet potato pie with whipped topping.

**Thursday**  
 Minestrone soup, pepper pot soup, fried chicken, beef stroganoff, buttered pasta, candied sweet potatoes, savory summer squash, southern style green beans, chicken gravy, cheese biscuits, potato salad, spinach salad, standard salad bar, double-layer devil's food cake with coconut pecan frosting, pumpkin pie with whipped topping and oatmeal raisin cookies.

**Friday**  
 Beef barley soup, tomato soup, lemon baked fish, el rancho stew, steamed rice, potatoes au gratin cauliflower combo, black eyed peas, dinner rolls, mixed fruit salad, Italian style pasta salad, standard salad bar, apple or cherry turnovers, bread pudding and crisp toffee bars.

## Golf tournament helps build esprit de corps, unit cohesion

Lance Cpl. Kenneth K. Trotter Jr.  
 IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Marine Aircraft Group 12 hosted an 18-hole golf scramble tournament at the Torii Pines Golf Course here to promote unit cohesion between its squadrons May 20.

The overall winner of the tournament was the group comprised of Rodney M. Buentello, Jamie L. Mohn, Wylie L. Rakestraw and Dustin Thompson. Mohn was also awarded first place in position closest to the pin. Andrew P. Reed was the longest drive winner.

"It's always great when we win," said Buentello. "When we come out and play as a team; it's great." The team's secret to success was simple.

"Our short game was what helped us win," said Mohn. "When it came to getting closest to the pin, it was just luck."

The golf tournament was also a send-off of sorts for Col. Stephen G. Nitzschke, who is scheduled to be succeeded by Col. Christopher J. Mahoney as the commanding officer of MAG-12 during a change-of-command ceremony today.

Nitzschke offered his appreciation to all the participants for coming out and supporting MAG-12 that day.

More than 40 Marines and sailors from Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12, Headquarters

and Headquarters Squadron and MAG-12 Headquarters participated in the event.

The golfers were divided into four-man teams.

During the tournament, each player in the team teed off on each hole. The team then decided which teammate had the best shot. From there, the players attempted to make their shot from within club length of where the best shot had landed. They repeated this until they had finished the hole.

Marines laughed and joked as they made their way from hole to hole. Many had never even played golf before the tournament and were out here simply for the camaraderie.

"I think it would be great for unit morale if we could do something like this once a month," said Joshua R. Whitfield, a golfer in the tournament. "Even the Marines who are always busy are out here enjoying the day and taking in a few swings."

The players were also treated to food and drinks throughout the tournament. Anyone who was at the tournament was invited to eat as well.

"At the end of the day, we're all family," said Mohn. "It doesn't matter who really won or not. It was just about coming out here and having fun."

Whitfield said Nitzschke would be missed and he appreciated his bringing the Marines together one last time before Nitzschke left.



Rodney M. Buentello lines up his golf club before swinging during the Marine Aircraft Group 12 sponsored golf tournament at the Torii Pines Golf Course here May 20. The purpose of the tournament was to bring about unit cohesion and morale. More than 40 Marines and sailors took part in the tournament.



Francisco J. Sacasa takes a swing at his golf ball during the Marine Aircraft Group 12 sponsored golf tournament at the Torii Pines Golf Course here May 20. The overall winner was the group comprised of Rodney M. Buentello, Wylie L. Rakestraw, Jamie L. Mohn and Dustin Thompson. Mohn also took first place in closest to the pin. Andrew P. Reed was the longest drive winner.

# Samurai edged out in Far East championship

**Lance Cpl. Cayce Nevers**  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

The Matthew C. Perry High School girls soccer team competed against the Osan American High School girls soccer team in the Department of Defense Dependents Schools 2011 Division II Far East Girls Soccer Tournament championship game at the M.C. Perry soccer field here May 19.

The Far East Tournament is a two-day, double elimination tournament.

The M.C. Perry girls' soccer team took second place in the tournament.

"The tournament went smooth," said Sung H. Plourde, Osan's head coach. "The weather was great and we all had a great time."

With seven teams competing for one title, all teams were determined to win.

"I thought the tournament was awesome," said Bre'Onna R. Ray, M.C. Perry girls soccer team captain and forward. "Everyone came out for one goal, to win, and everyone played their hardest."

M.C. Perry competed against Edgren High School during the first day of the tournament. Perry devastated Edgren 6-0.

Following the match was Osan against Daegu American School.

The regulation game ended in a tie 1-1, leading them to overtime.

Neither team scored during overtime, causing the teams to perform penalty kicks. On the second set of penalty kicks, Osan won with the very last kick. The final score was 3-2.

M.C. Perry overwhelmed the Morrison Christian Academy players and won 4-0.

M.C. Perry beat Osan 1-0 during their first game.

"The team was outstanding," said Rick T. Stanford, M.C. Perry head coach. "We came such a long way and exceeded all of our expectations."

Osan and Morrison played each other to determine who went up against M.C. Perry for the championship. Osan beat Morrison 1-0.



LANCE CPL. CAYCE NEVERS

**Bre'Onna R. Ray, Matthew C. Perry girls soccer team captain and forward, attempts to retrieve the ball from Lydia Kim, Osan American High School girls soccer team captain and midfielder, during the Department of Defense Dependent Schools 2011 Division II Far East Girls Soccer Tournament championship game held at the M.C. Perry soccer field here May 19. Osan took the tournament title 2-1 in penalty kicks after both teams fought valiantly to a 0-0 finish in regulation.**

"This has been such a big turnover from last year," said Ray. "Last year we came in dead last. This year we made it to the championship."

Osan started scoring early. Courtney Ouellette, Osan team captain and forward, dribbled her way toward the goal, swung her leg back and kicked the ball.

Ashlie Rasmussen, M.C. Perry goalkeeper, dove for the ball. It grazed her fingers and bounced off the netting. Osan had scored.

M.C. Perry, trying to get the ball back to score a goal, used every approved part of the body allowed in soccer. They head-butted the ball, kned it, kicked it and stopped it with their bodies.

In the second half of the game, the ball went back and forth between the two teams.

Then Hilary Bliss, Osan midfielder, took the ball, dribbled it down the field and kicked it in. The team screamed and yelled and hugged each other as they brought the score to 2-0. The referees blew the whistle, the Osan girls cheered. M.C. Perry had its first loss of the tournament.

With the championship so close the girls were amped and ready to play their final game of the tournament, season and for some, last game ever.

"Everyone stepped up their game and kept running," said Lydia Kim, Osan team captain and midfielder. "Far East is where we became a real team and played as a real team."

There was tension all around as the teams battled on the field for the title. Throughout the final game the score remained 0-0. Once the whistle blew M.C. Perry and Osan took the championship game to penalty kicks.

Hannah Wolf, Osan midfielder, scored the first goal. Samantha Herrit, M.C. Perry forward scored one. Ouellette scored next for Osan leaving the score 2-1. M.C. Perry was unable to respond with a score so Osan won the championship.

"Words can't even describe how we feel because this is the third Far East tournament I have been in and it is the third tournament we won," said Kim.

While Osan players rejoiced, M.C. Perry players, although upset, were happy to have made it so far.

"It's always hard to lose a championship," said Stanford. "But we lost to a better team."

M.C. Perry players left the fields upset but with their heads held high.



LANCE CPL. CAYCE NEVERS

**Iray Hylton, an Osan American High School girls soccer team midfielder, attempts to return the ball to Osan players by blocking Madison Byers, a Matthew C. Perry High School girls soccer team defender, and kicking the ball out of M.C. Perry possession during the Department of Defense Dependent Schools 2011 Division II Far East Girls Soccer Tournament championship game May 19. Osan and M.C. Perry played each other in three games throughout the two-day, double elimination tournament. M.C. Perry beat Osan 1-0 in the first game, while Osan beat M.C. Perry 2-0 in the second game.**