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In a league of their own | P. 12

# IWAKUNI APPROACH

Issue No. 23 Vol. 4 | Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan

## Station says goodbye to influential leader

Cpl. Claudio A. Martinez  
IWAKUNI APPROACH  
STAFF

The former Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 242 sergeant major reported for duty as the station sergeant major during a relief-and-appointment ceremony hosted at the Building 1 parade deck here today.

Sgt. Maj. Steven L. Brown succeeded Sgt. Maj. David J. Wimberly, who is slated to report for duty as the Marine Aircraft Group 42, Detachment B sergeant major in Norfolk, Va.

Wimberly has served as the station sergeant major since July 9, 2008 and has had a significant influence aboard the air station since his arrival.

"It's been very rewarding," said Wimberly. "It is not

often that someone has the opportunity to work so closely with the complete running of an air station or the plans for MCAS Iwakuni's future in regards to the (Defense Policy Review Initiative) and all that entails."

During his three years here, Wimberly has been a part of the station's reconstruction projects and the opening of the runway.

Wimberly said the opening of the new runway was one of the most significant events he was a part of during his time as the station sergeant major.

"I remember when this was just a plan that was in the works back in 1994 when I was stationed here during my last tour," said Wimberly.

Capt. Anthony K. Sutton, station adjutant,

has worked closely with Wimberly while handling some of the station's administrative duties.

Sutton said Wimberly has had a profound effect on the station by being involved with numerous programs aboard the air station.

"He's had his hands in just about everything from (Marine Corps Community Services) to just the general maintenance and running of the command," said Sutton. "He's had a hand in just about all of the various activities and functions throughout the air station."

Some of the programs and activities Wimberly has been involved in included the Single Marine Program, the station's Corporals Course and the construction ideas for the

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## MAG-12 hosts first WESTPAC MDTC

Lance Cpl. Charlie Clark  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

KADENA AIR BASE, Japan — Marine Aircraft Group 12 continues its job as the command element for the Marine Division Tactics Course here Monday.

Col. Christopher J. Mahoney, MAG-12 commanding officer, shared his vision for MAG-12 with the Marines of Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 314 and Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 533, who are supporting the MDTC students during the course.

"My vision is this: tactical excellence," Mahoney said. "Whether it be fighting in the air, maintaining the aircraft or support through logistics. Tactical excellence is what makes the Marine Corps America's 911 force in readiness."

Tactical excellence is what MDTC promotes and instills in its students.

MDTC is a graduate-level course for pilots to

SEE COMMAND ON PAGE 3

## ARFF Marines christen new burn area with blazing fire



CPL. CLAUDIO A. MARTINEZ

Cpl. Lance B. Ladwig (Right), Sgt. Joshua R. Teaff and Lance Cpl. Gerald R. Clark, Station Aircraft Rescue Firefighters, ignite their newly constructed burn area located at the south end of the old flightline next to Penny Lake here to conduct fire-training exercises June 3. The location of the new burn area allows the ARFF Marines to conduct their training without interrupting flight operations at the newer flightline.

Cpl. Claudio A. Martinez  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Station Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting Marines conducted a training exercise at their newly constructed burn area located at the south end of the old flight line next to Penny Lake here June 3.

The new burn area took approximately seven months to complete and will be used temporarily until construction on the permanent burn area is completed. Date for completion on the future burn area is still pending.

"(The new burn area) is a little more environmentally safe than the last set up," said Staff Sgt. Jason Nickell, an ARFF training staff noncommissioned officer. "It also doesn't interfere as much with the station's (aerial operations)."

The old burn area was located near Building 5119, next to the new flight line and interfered with flight operations when it was used. The black smoke stacks, which reach several hundred feet into the air, reduced visibility making it dangerous for aircraft in the area. To avoid creating dangerous conditions for the flying aircraft, ARFF was forced to schedule their training on weekends.

The location of the new burn area now allows ARFF to conduct their training

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# CHAPLAIN’S CORNER

## ‘Haven’t got time for the pain?’

Lt. Robert E. Mills  
DEPUTY COMMAND  
CHAPLAIN

For many of us on the air station, the past few weeks have been particularly challenging. In the past three weeks, we have lost a popular, charismatic junior chaplain and a well-respected, much-loved retired sergeant major. In this process, I have lost a great colleague and friend and I find myself, like many of you, deep in the process of grief.

We don’t like to talk about grieving very much – mostly because it hurts!

We associate grief with pain, and rightly so, because grieving is a painful process.

Over the years, various counselors, psychologists and social scientists have identified many stages that we go through in the grieving process, with some of them writing that there are as many as seven

separate, distinct stages we go through when grieving.

I’m not sure we need to go through each stage in detail here, but I do think it’s important to note there are three broad categories of feeling and thinking that we all go through in grief. (I am borrowing the language for this from one of my clinical textbooks, Practical Psychology for Pastors by William Miller and Kathleen Jackson.)

The first of these phases is a time of profound numbness and shock.

This can last from several hours to several weeks in length and can be extremely disorienting.

Many people going through this stage describe feelings of disconnection from friends, family members and, somehow, especially from God.

This is one of those times when we have to walk by faith and not by

sight.

Second is a time of emotional distress, which is often very intense. Anger and depression are common hallmarks of this phase. We often feel like challenging God or asking him to tell us why he took the one we loved. This phase is often quite lengthy and can include changes in appetite, sleeping and other everyday activities.

Fortunately, there is a final phase in grieving – a phase of recovery, when the most terrible distresses have passed and the grieving person begins the process of rebuilding a life.

They recognize life will be much different from before, but they come to a point of realization and reality in the bereavement journey.

There are many texts that talk about this process, but perhaps the one that speaks most directly to me is found in the Christian Scriptures in the book

of II Corinthians 12:9, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my strength is made perfect in weakness.”

When we grieve, we are going through a weak time, but it is good to know that there is strength available to help us through it.

Perhaps the best way to help somebody who is going through profound grief is to just take the journey with them. There is really nothing you can say that will take away the pain and make them feel better, but just being present is incredibly important.

Finding practical ways to help will often take a little of the load off of the bereaved person or persons and will make the new life just a little bit more tolerable. Most of all – love them.

We are a small community here in Iwakuni, and when we take care of each other, it brings out the best in all of us.

With our recent losses, we now have fresh opportunities to turn toward each other in mutual support and love. Blessings and peace to all of you!

## Swimming pool safety

### If a child is missing

- Always look in the pool first, seconds count.
- Knowing how to swim does not make a child drown-proof.
- Never use Flotation devices as a substitute for supervision.
- Learn cardiopulmonary resuscitation
- Your children are yours, no one else’s. Watch them.

Submitted by  
STATION SAFETY

Fifty four percent of the U.S. population enjoys swimming as leisure activities.

Total participation in aquatics exceeds all other popular activities such as walking for pleasure, cycling, golf, tennis and boating. Unfortunately, roughly 4,000 people drown annually in the U.S., an average of 11 a day.

Drowning and near-drowning tend to occur on the weekends between the months of May-August. Typical medical costs for a near-drowning victim can range from \$75,000, for initial emergency room treatment, to \$180,000 a year for long-term care. The cost of a near-drowning that results in brain damage can be more than \$4.5 million.

Those most at risk of drowning in the U.S. are males, 5 years-old and younger, and males

between 15 and 29 years old. Males have higher drowning rates than females, and for most age groups, they account for eighty percent of drowning victims in the United States.

In swimming pools it is important to follow the rules and obey the lifeguards.

The lifeguards are there to prevent an emergency from occurring and to respond if and emergency would occur.

Waves are the single most naturally destructive occurrence on any shoreline.

As large waves crash against the beach or rocks, their weight and force can be measured in tons-per-square inch.

Virtually, all sports that involve riding waves can be considered hazardous.

Human body mass can pick up a lot of speed moving on a wave.

Coming to a sudden stop means that a lot of energy is being displaced, and the impact of slamming into another

### Use layers of protection

To prevent swimming pool drownings, layers of protection are essential. Place barriers completely around the pool and closely supervise young children even if it’s a kids’ pool in the yard.

object can cause broken bones, lacerated skin and bruised muscles.

Swimmers should be aware of surf conditions and exercise caution when going into the water, even if they are familiar with the area.

If the waves seem large and beyond one’s swimming abilities, than they should remain on shore.

Every year people are caught by large waves and swept out to sea.

Waves have the ability to pull people standing on the shoreline into the water.

If you are in open water, a person needs to be aware of hidden dangers.

They could consist of rocks, tree stumps and debris.

Make sure to, “look before you leap” before entering water where the bottom isn’t visible.

It is estimated that more

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## ARFF Marines train in new burn area

**BURN** FROM PAGE 1

during the week without interrupting the station’s aerial operations. The burn area is also equipped with a new fuel/water separator that cleans the water used during training before it is pumped back into the sea. It is also equipped with a secondary containment system, which pumps the water into Penny Lake to protect the surrounding environment in the unlikely event the fuel/water separator should fail.

The training done at the new burn area is compliant with Naval Air System Command 80-R-0014, Naval Air Training Operating Procedures Standardization. NAVAIR 80-R-0014 NATOPS is a program, which sets standards the ARFF Marines are required to meet in order to be ready in the event of an aircraft mishap.

“We want to beat these safety rules into their head while they are out here and allow them to make the small mistakes here,” said Nickell. “That way, they won’t make

those mistakes in an actual emergency. They will be able to execute perfectly when they get out there and handle an actual emergency.”

ARFF conducts night and day fire training weekly in order to keep their skills sharp. The training involves filling the burn area with water and fuel and lighting it on fire. The ARFF Marines are then required to put out the fire using the various tools and techniques at their disposal. The Marines are also tasked with safely reaching an empty capsule in the middle of the burn area, which stands in as a fallen aircraft.

Sgt. Joshua Teaff, an ARFF Marine has participated in several fire training exercises and now stands in to watch the overall safety of the exercise.

“This (fire training) is just like a real fuel fire,” said Teaff. “That fire is going to go where it wants. No one is going to turn that fire off except (the ARFF Marines).”

Teaff said while the regular fire training keeps their firefighting skills sharp, it teaches the

younger Marines that the hand-line at the end of their water hose is like their M-16, and it’s how they fight their battles.

For some of the ARFF Marines using the new burn area, it was their first experience out of the schoolhouse fighting a real fire. For Lance Cpl. Andrew Pepe, an ARFF Marine who has been here for five months, it was something both new and different. Before joining the Marines, Pepe was a firefighter in New York. While he isn’t inexperienced, he considers what he learned in the burn area fire training invaluable.

“It’s a whole different animal,” said Pepe. “It’s nothing alike. I just had structural fires. The way you fight fires here is totally different.”

Pepe said what he experienced during the training was more unpredictable and challenging than what he experienced fighting structural fires.

ARFF is currently planning to conduct more fire training at the new burn area nearly every Friday and occasionally on Saturday nights.

## Station receives new top advisor

**APPOINTMENT** FROM PAGE 1

station.

Sutton said Wimberly is very detailed and very knowledgeable when it came to working on some of the station’s administrative duties.

One of the station’s programs Wimberly successfully reinvigorated and improved during his time here was the station’s Corporals Course.

Corporals Course is a program designed to teach up-and-coming corporals the basics of being effective noncommissioned officers. “We’ve had the (Corporals Course) for a while, but it wasn’t up to standard,” said Sutton. “He basically took it to the next level. All of the graduates from the Corporals Course were graduating with high (physical fitness test scores) based off his guidance to the Corporals Course instructors.”

Staff Sgt. Anabell Nevells, station freight operations chief, served as the Corporals Course chief

instructor from December 2010 – April 2011. Nevells had the opportunity to work closely with Wimberly during that time.

“He was involved,” said Nevells. “He insured we policed the corporals and they got the proper tools to take back to their shop to enforce regulations and to make sure they were good corporals to their Marines.”

In an effort to be involved, Wimberly took time out of his day to speak with the Marines during his director’s brief. He also directed that sword manual and close-order drill be taught to the corporals during the course.

Nevells has been stationed here since October 2008 and has been able to witness Wimberly’s involvement not only in Corporals Course but also within the community.

Nevells said she’s seen a lot of improvement in the quality of life here since Wimberly came aboard.

## MAG-12 commands, supports, organizes, ensures MDTC flies high

**COMMAND** FROM PAGE 1

improve their efficiency in the air-to-air arena.

This course is the first MDTC to be conducted outside the continental U.S.

“What we are trying to do with this course is bring the western pacific region training to a level it hasn’t been before,” said Mahoney. “We’re Marines. If we can’t make something of ours expeditionary, it will hold lesser value.”

MAG-12 is the host and sponsor of this MDTC. As host, it is MAG-12’s responsibility to organize and pay for all the support that went into getting the MDTC students trained. The cost of the whole course is approximately \$ 1.7 million.

“When you bounce that dollar value against the training that is happening, I think it is money well spent,” Mahoney said. “The Marine Corps will look back and say, this was a good investment. We got off cheap.”

MAG-12 is now sharing the responsibility with the other MAGs in the U.S. to ensure the aircrews get trained.

This MDTC is a great way for MAG-12 to test its capabilities, said Capt. Daniel Flatley, the MAG-12 MDTC action officer.

It took the help of many different MAG-12 elements to support this massive undertaking. Flatley worked to ensure the MAG-12 elements meshed perfectly with the other units and squadrons participating in the course.

Flatley ensured the Air Force’s 18th Wing would be able to fly as enemy aircraft during the course, the Marine Aviation Weapons and Tactics Squadron One instructors and students would be taken care of while in WESTPAC, and the squadrons would lend the support of approximately 500 Marines, sailors and airmen to keep the course running smoothly.



PHOTO COURTESY OF CAPT. MATTHEW D. HUMPHRIES

**KADENA AIR BASE, Okinawa —** Pilots with Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 314 fly a training mission alongside an aircrew with Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 533 here May 31. Marine Aircraft Group 12 organized to have VMFA(AW)-533 and VMFA-314 train together; meanwhile command selected aviation students prepared for the Marine Division Tactics Course.

“This product that Flatley has worked so hard to give us has been in the works since late summer of last year,” Mahoney said. “2010 is when this course started to take shape, and that shows the amount of forethought put into this kind of training.”

The Marines who support MAG-12, the course and the students work around the clock to ensure the mission runs smoothly.

“That shows me how dedicated these Marines are to their job,” said Lt. Col. P.J. Kerr, MAG-12 operations officer. “Their job is to keep this green machine running like clockwork.”

The plans for this MDTC have formed from a rough draft in the summer of 2010, to a working outline by the new year and has become the operation that approximately 500 Marines and sailors are supporting to keep the Marine Corps’ F/A-18 aircrews trained and ready for anything.

“I’m happy to put my name on this event and to put the MAG-12 patch up there with all the other squadrons who participated in this course,” Mahoney said.

MAG-12 will continue to be the head of MDTC and the front line of historic training.



# M.C. Perry Students stay committed, graduate with honor



CPL. MARCEL BROWN

Samantha Niemann, Matthew C. Perry senior, receives the Marine Corps Aviation Association Joe Foss Squadron Scholarship during an awards assembly in the M.C. Perry gymnasium here June 10. Niemann also received the President's Education Award, an award is given to students who have a GPA of 3.5 or higher and score above a 500 in reading or math on the SAT.



CPL. MARCEL BROWN

Kelli Clark, Matthew C. Perry senior, receives a four-year Army Reserve Officer's Training Corps scholarship to the University of Santa Clara during an awards assembly in the M.C. Perry gymnasium here June 10. ROTC admission standards are extremely high since individuals who graduate receive a commission as a second lieutenant.



CPL. MARCEL BROWN

A proud Jennifer Krenek hugs her son Nick Krenek, Matthew C. Perry high school senior, after Nick received the Defense Commissary Agency commissary scholarship during an awards assembly in the M.C. Perry gymnasium here June 10. Krenek also received a \$2,500 scholarship from the Officer Spouses Club and a \$650 scholarship from the M.C. Perry Booster Club.



CPL. MARCEL BROWN

Mr. Matt Barker, Matthew C. Perry Booster Club president, presents four \$650 Booster club scholarships to M.C. Perry high school seniors. (From left to right), Samantha Niemann, Nick Krenek, Charlene Brown and Bre'Onna Ray during an awards assembly in the M.C. Perry gymnasium here June 10. Throughout the assembly over \$20,000 in scholarships were given to students who proved their commitment to higher learning.



## Recorders on the green presents musical stylings



LANCE CPL. CAYCE NEVERS

Matthew C. Perry Elementary School Rockin' Recorders third-graders, Erick Wilson (Right) and Kamrin West (Left) play their recorders during a Recorders on the Green concert held at the M.C. Perry Elementary School lawn here June 9. The Rockin' Recorders is an after school recorder club made up of third-graders and one fourth-grader.

## Strong through end, retired sergeant major passes on

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

Retired Sgt. Maj. Kenneth M. Runyan, 66, previous Marine Wing Support Squadron sergeant major, recently passed away.

A memorial service was held at the Marine Memorial Chapel here June 10.

During the service, retired

Master Gunnery Sgt. Michael S. Mullen, Station Safety explosive safety officer, called roll call which was followed by a 21-gun salute.

Immediately following the service, the station honored Runyan's request to be buried at sea.

"You are gone but never forgotten," said Chief Warrant Officer 3 Manuel R. Redon, Combat Logistics Company 36

maintenance motor transport officer.

Runyan never complained and never wanted someone to feel sorry for him, said Mullen. Life is unexplainable, many times unfair and his life passed too quickly for Runyan, he added.

"Sgt. Maj. Runyan was a biker and a great friend," said Redon. "If I needed anything, he was the

one I could go to for advice or for help."

Runyan lived a life that seemed very simple, but it was anything but simple, said Mullen.

"Ride on brother and ride free," said Redon. "Fair winds and fallen seas my friend, Semper Fidelis, Marine."

Runyan is survived by his wife and children.



CPL. ANDREA M. OLGUIN

Lance Cpl. Vincent H. Wong, Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron rifle detail presents arms during retired Sgt. Maj. Ken Runyan's memorial service at the Marine Memorial Chapel here June 10.



CPL. ANDREA M. OLGUIN

The photo of retired Sgt. Maj. Ken Runyan is put on display along with his medals and the American flag during his memorial service at the Marine Memorial Chapel here June 10. Runyan was buried at sea as his final request. He is survived by his wife and children.



# MAG-12 snatches win away from MWSS-171

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

Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12 took the crown against Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 in an ultimate Frisbee tournament hosted by Semper Fit at Penny Lake field here June 10.

The tournament, which took place from June 8-10, was part of the 2011 Commander's Cup challenge. The challenge is a series of contests taken place throughout the year.

This last game was part of a double-elimination tournament.

MAG-12 came into the game confident after beating many of their opponents by double digits the previous days.

MWSS-171 had other plans.

The first round was hard fought and fast paced. MAG-12 was the first team to score. MWSS-171 scored just as quickly. Neither team eased off playing as they fought for control of the Frisbee.

Players wholly committed their bodies to catching the Frisbee as it came overhead. Several times throughout the first round, players collided and slammed into one another in an effort to secure the Frisbee.

"We were just playing physical," said William A. Chatman, MAG-12 player.

The opposing teams intercepted throws several times from one another throughout the first game, keeping the score dead-locked.

MWSS-171 made one last attempt to steal the game from MAG-12 with a desperate pass to the end zone. Edwin F. Jackson, MAG-12 player, made a leaping swat to end the first game. The score was 9-9.

The tie caused some confusion between the two teams. The teams did not want to play two more games to decide the winner. They agreed to play one more full-length game. The winner of that game would be the overall champion of the tournament. The two teams took a 15-minute break before taking the field.

MWSS-171 started off the second game with the lead. A series of quick interceptions, along with single man coverage, allowed MWSS-171 to put points on the board. MAG-12 found itself playing behind much of the first half

down by at least three points.

MWSS-171 managed to keep MAG-12 from scoring throughout most of the second half. That changed late in the second half.

The score was 11-8 with MWSS-171 in the lead. With less than two minutes left to play, MAG-12 fought its way to within a one-point deficit. MWSS-171 fought to keep the team out of the end zone whenever they took possession of the Frisbee by throwing high away from their opponents. The quickness of MAG-12 neutralized that strategy, as the players regain possession swatting the Frisbee several times and. MAG-12 sprinted down the field with less than a minute left, making several well-placed throws to tie the game with a score of 11-11.

The series now stood with two ties.

"We were equally matched," said Kevin L. Williams, MWSS-171 player. "If we had 10 more minutes, we would've gone to triple overtime."

The two teams, tired and bruised from their rough, physical play, made the choice of having one five-minute game.

Chatman said MAG-12 was able to win the game because of their willingness to win.

Fatigue had set in by this point for both teams.

"There was a moment where I felt like I couldn't move my legs anymore," said Ryan C. Marshall, MAG-12 player.

MAG-12 scored first with a diving catch by Chatman.

MWSS-171 responded with a touchdown of its own. Both teams fought for possession of the Frisbee.

The game then came down to the wire with MAG-12 making one last catch in the end zone to put them ahead 2-1.

MWSS-171 tried to score again but MAG-12 denied them the opportunity.

After the tournament, MAG-12 was awarded the first place trophy.

MAG-12 received 30 points toward the Commander's Cup and \$100 toward its party fund. 27 points were awarded to MWSS-171 along with a \$75 party fund. The third place winner received 25 points. All the teams that participated received 20 points.



LANCE CPL. KENNETH K. TROTTER JR.

A Marine Aircraft Group 12 Frisbee player throws a Frisbee to an open player against the Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12 during the Commander's Cup Ultimate Frisbee Tournament at Penny Lake Field here June 8. MAG-12 dominated the first day of the tournament before meeting an equal in Marine Wing Support Squadron 171. MAG-12 won 2-1.



LANCE CPL. KENNETH K. TROTTER JR.

Travis E. Coffey, a Marine Aircraft Group 12 Frisbee player, and a Combat Logistics Company 36 Frisbee player collide as they both jump to catch the Frisbee during the 2011 Commander's Cup Ultimate Frisbee Tournament at Penny Lake Field here June 8. MAG-12 went on to win both of their games that day against CLC-36 and Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12 before advancing to the finals June 10.



LANCE CPL. KENNETH K. TROTTER JR.

Edwin F. Jackson, a Marine Aircraft Group 12 Frisbee player, leaps to catch the Frisbee as several Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12 players attempt to stop him during the 2011 Commander's Cup Ultimate Frisbee Tournament at Penny Lake Field here June 8. Throughout the tournament Jackson often wholly committed himself to making the catch, several times colliding with opposing players. MAG-12 went on to win the game 11-7.



LANCE CPL. KENNETH K. TROTTER JR.

Ryan C. Marshall, a Marine Aircraft Group 12 Frisbee player, and Jose R. Camberos, a Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 Frisbee player, collide as both jump to snatch the Frisbee away from one another during the 2011 Commander's Cup Ultimate Frisbee Tournament at Penny Lake Field here June 10. After a series of hard-fought, twice tied games, MAG-12 finally won with a score of 2-1.



CORPS NEWS

HIGHLIGHTING MARINES AND SAILORS AROUND THE GLOBE

Marine light attack helicopter squadron answers call to duty

Cpl. Samantha H. Arrington  
2ND MARINE AIRCRAFT  
WING (FORWARD)

**CAMP DWYER, Afghanistan** — The commanding officer of Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 269 received a phone call from his higher headquarters in May. More attack helicopters were needed to support Marines and their coalition partners in southwestern Afghanistan in preparation of the fighting season.

Within a few weeks of receiving that phone call, the squadron disassembled its AH-1W Cobra attack helicopters and loaded them onto several cargo airplanes headed for Afghanistan’s Helmand province.

“The intent for us departing so quickly was to arrive in theater prior to the fighting season kicking off and having more close air support assets in theater,” said Lt. Col. Allen D. Grinalds, HMLA-269 commanding officer, and a native of Augusta, Ga. “The compressed timeline [four weeks] from notification to departing the states was very quick.”

So with limited notice, nearly 100 Marines and sailors with HMLA-269 departed their homes at Marine Corps Air Station New River, N.C., for a scheduled seven month deployment to Camp Dwyer, Afghanistan.

“It’s been a really quick process of getting ready, deploying and finally getting here,” said Sgt. Maj. William Sweeney, HMLA-269’s sergeant major, and a native of Loveland, Colo. “But as Marines do, we accomplished the mission.”

Sweeney explained that the



CAMP DWYER, Afghanistan — Cpl. Justin A. Maze, a crew chief with Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 269, watches as an AH-1W Cobra launches for flight on Camp Dwyer, Afghanistan, June 6. Almost 100 Marines and sailors with HMLA-269 deployed out of Marine Corps Air Station New River, N.C. The squadron will provide close air support to Marines and their coalition partners on the ground in the Regional Command Southwest area of operations in southwestern Afghanistan.

squadron’s mission during the deployment will be to support ground troops and bring every Marine who deployed with the squadron home safely.

“I want to make sure we do everything that is asked of us out here, and when that’s finished, to bring every Marine home,” said Sweeney. “That’s what we are here for, to support everyone on the ground.”

During the deployment, the squadron will provide intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance, as well as close air support and escort flights in support of Marine Corps coalition and Afghan National Army operations.

“Some of our flights are to just let our presence be known,” said

Grinalds. “When Cobras are over head, things tend to get quiet.”

The squadron could only bring a small detachment of Marines with it to Afghanistan, so Grinalds said he had to make the decision to leave more than three-fourths of his squadron behind.

“Every Marine on this deployment raised their hands to come here,” said Sweeney. Every single one of the Marines wants to be here.”

After just a week at their new home in Camp Dwyer, Grinalds said the squadron is settling into its deployed routine and adapting to their new duties.

“The deployment is going really well so far. I want to do anything I can to help the guys on the

ground,” said Lance Cpl. James Stokes, an aircraft ordnance technician with HMLA-269, “The best part of the deployment is feeling like I’m a part of something bigger than myself, of course I miss my family back in the states, but this is where I’m supposed to be.”

The Marines will continue to do whatever they can through this deployment.

“I am very confident in my Marines. We worked very hard to get to this point,” said Grinalds. “The mindset of my Marines is to take care of each other and accomplish the mission. They all feel very fortunate to be here and don’t look at it as a sacrifice but rather as an honor.”

COMMUNITY BRIEFS | CLASSIFIEDS

Briefs

**Naha Consulate Visit**  
State Department personnel from the U.S. Consulate in Naha will be in Iwakuni July 12-14 conducting 30 minute interviews for I-130 petitioners. They will see petitioners from Iwakuni and Sasebo. An I-130 Petition is the beginning of the process to obtain immigration status for a foreign relative. For more information, contact Junko Sakamoto at the Legal Assistance Office at 253-5594

**Origami Class**  
Japanese American Society will be hosting an origami class June 30 7 p.m. – 8 p.m. Admission is free. For more information, call 253- 4744.

**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.

**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.

**TriCare Coverage Change**  
A new TriCare program is offering coverage for young adults, dependents under 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>.

**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.

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

**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.

**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.

**Mitsubishi Guppy**  
JCI good until May 6, 2013. Four door, less than 55,000 km. Asking \$1500 OBO. For more information, call 080-

3700-7559.

Vehicles

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

**Brief and Classified Submissions**  
*To submit a community brief or classified ad, 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. Submit a brief or ad 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.*

Jobs

Taking a dip, precautions to consider before going in

SWIMMING FROM PAGE 2

than eighty percent of all surf-related rescues are attributed to rip currents.

Most people associate rip currents with their more common erroneous names of “undertows and rip tides.”

Although some beaches are more prone to rip currents than others, these currents occur in almost every coastal location around the globe, including the Great Lakes.

Rip currents are hard to spot by the untrained eye.

If you become caught in a rip current, you’ll be able to tell when you have great difficulty while trying to swim to shore.

The current won’t pull you under; it will simply pull you away from shore.

The best thing to do is to remain calm and stay afloat.

Rip currents are usually fairly narrow, about 20 or 30 yards across.

Try swimming sideways through the current until you are out of it, and then swim to shore.

Another option is to let the current carry you out until it reaches the point called the rip head, usually outside the surf zone.

It is here that the current begins to break up and you will no longer feel the water pulling you out.

Now swim at an angle away from the current and back towards the beach.

When dealing with any aquatics environment, remember, the number one way to stay safe in and around water is to develop a respect for the water, and use common sense.

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.

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.



CAMP DWYER, Afghanistan — Cpl. Brandon D. Shaw, an aviation ordnance technician with Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 269, inspects ordnance loaded on an AH-1W Cobra prior to flight here, June 6. Almost 100 Marines and sailors with HMLA-269 deployed out of Marine Corps Air Station New River, N.C. with limited notice.



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



The Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron rifle detail presents arms during a memorial service for retired Sgt. Maj. Ken Runyan here June 10. 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, June 17, 2011**  
7 p.m. Your Highness (R)  
*Premiere*  
10 p.m. Scream 4 (R)  
*Premiere*

**Monday, June 20, 2011**  
7 p.m. Hanna (PG-13)  
*Last Showing*

**Tuesday, June 21, 2011**  
7 p.m. Source Code (PG-13)  
*Last Showing*

**Wednesday, June 22, 2011**  
7 p.m. Thor (PG-13)

**Thursday, June 23, 2011**  
7 p.m. Water for Elephants (PG-13)  
*Premiere*

**Saturday, June 18, 2011**  
1 p.m. X-men: First Class (PG-13)  
*Premiere*  
7 p.m. X-men: First Class (PG-13)

**Sunday, June 19, 2011**  
1 p.m. Kung Fu Panda 2 (PG)  
4 p.m. Soul Surfer (PG-13)  
*Premiere*  
7 p.m. Scream 4 (R)  
*Premiere*

*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.**

Oriental Tigers prey upon MWSS-171, triumph 5-2

Lance Cpl.Cayce Nevers  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

The Matthew C. Perry Oriental Tigers and Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 managed to headbutt and kick their way to the championship game of the 6-Man Summer Soccer Tournament that was held June 6-9 at the Penny Lake soccer fields here.

MWSS-171 lost in its second game of the tournament, bringing it down to the loser’s bracket. For the Oriental Tigers, it had not yet lost a game.

MWSS-171 worked its magic by winning all the losers’ bracket games and returning to play in the championship game.

Oriental Tigers won its two games that brought them to the championship game against the Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron logistics “Legends” and the Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12 “Gunnery”.

“We wanted to play MWSS-171 since we haven’t played them yet,” said Tyelor Apple, Oriental Tiger coach and midfielder. “We wanted to get a taste of all the teams so we were hoping MWSS-171 would win.”

Throughout the tournament, the teams substituted players and changed positions constantly.

Both MWSS-171 and the Oriental Tigers started the game off strong. MWSS-171 brought the ball to the Oriental Tigers’ territory. The Oriental Tigers cut off MWSS-171 from scoring.

As MWSS-171 brought the ball down the field again, Antonino Mautino, MWSS-171

forward, took a shot.

Bryant Ray, Oriental Tigers goalkeeper, dived for the ball but missed it by inches.

MWSS-171 took the lead 1-0.

With time running out, the ball was kept in play with no one scoring most of the first half.

With a little luck, the Oriental Tigers stole the ball from MWSS-171 players and streaked down the field.

Yuta Flemming, Oriental Tigers forward, dodged past MWSS-171 players and took a shot.

Christopher Perry, MWSS-171 goalie, attempted to catch the ball but it hit the net before he could come close.

Oriental Tigers scored their first goal.

The first half ended in a tie score 1-1.

After a five-minute halftime, the teams lined up center field.

The whistle blew and the Oriental Tigers took the ball down the field, catching MWSS-171 off guard Sean Barker, Oriental Tigers forward, scored.

Oriental Tigers brought the score to 2-1.

MWSS-171 was given a penalty for a slide tackle, allowing the Oriental Tigers to a penalty kick.

Apple took the penalty kick and upped the score to 3-1.

MWSS-171 took the ball and headed toward enemy territory.

Mautino received the ball, dribbled past the Oriental Tigers defender and scored.

The score was 3-2.

The Oriental Tigers, wanting to keep the lead, retrieved the ball from MWSS-171 and

sent the ball downfield.

Barker took the opportunity to kick and the Oriental Tigers scored another goal.

The score was 4-2 in favor of the Oriental Tigers.

For the remainder of the game the Oriental Tigers and MWSS-171 went back and forth down the field.

Finally, Barker took the ball, drove it downfield and kicked into the goal.

Perry dove and missed.

The crowd cheered as the Oriental Tigers brought the score to 5-2.

The whistle blew and the championship game was over.

“I didn’t know that high school could have such great soccer players,” said Adam Santana Jr., MWSS-171 midfielder. “They are a good team and play well together.”

The Oriental Tigers took the championship 5-2.

“It feels good to be out here playing with the adults,” said Barker. “Back at the high school we are kids playing soccer, but out here we are adults playing and we won.”

This tournament was just a pre-examination of what teams will be up against in the upcoming season.

The tournament was just a fun way to get prepared for the upcoming season, said Julio Bernal, MWSS-171 assisting coach for the night.

Not only is there a soccer season coming up, but the base team itself will start shortly to prepare for the regionals that take place in Okinawa in September.



Sean Barker, Oriental Tigers forward, lunges in front of a Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 player and attempts to steal the ball during the 6-Man Summer Soccer Tournament championship game at the Penny Lake soccer fields here June 9. This tournament was just a small preview to the upcoming soccer season.

Mess Hall Menu

**Monday**  
Cream of broccoli soup, turkey pot pie, chicken vega, Cajun baked fish, steamed rice, mashed sweet potatoes, cauliflower combo, collard greens, vegetable gravy, apple dressing, dinner rolls, macaroni salad, potato salad, coleslaw, standard salad bar bear claws, quick apple coffee cake, apple crunch, marble cake with chocolate frosting, macadamia cookie, chocolate pudding parfait, jellow parfait.

**Tuesday**  
Chicken gumbo soup, shrimp scampi, barbecue pork ribs, sweet and sour chicken, peas with onions, wax beans, steamed rice, oven browned potatoes, mushroom gravy, dinner rolls, macaroni salad, potato salad, coleslaw, standard salad bar banana nut muffin, quick apple coffee cake, blueberry pie, devil’s food cake with chocolate frosting, peanut butter cookies, coconut cream pudding, jello parfait.

**Wednesday**  
Tomato soup, lasagna, roast pork, fried breaded shrimp, au gratin potatoes, steamed rice, whole kernal corn, mixed vegetables, brown gravy, garlic bread, macaroni salad, potato salad, coleslaw, standard salad bar, snails, pecan rolls, cherry crunch, Banana cake with chocolate frosting, sugar cookies, chocolate pudding parfait, jello parfait.

**Thursday**  
Minestrone soup, barbecued ribs, chicken on orange sauce, steak and vegetables, steamed rice, pork fried rice, vegetable stir fry cabbage, peas and carrots, brown gravy, dinner rolls, macaroni salad, potato salad, coleslaw, standard salad bar, kolaches, blueberry muffins, apple pie, spice cake with buttercream frosting, brownies, vanilla pudding parfait, jello parfait.

**Friday**  
Cream of mushroom soup, baked tuna and noodles, salisbury steak, fried catfish, mashed potatoes, steamed rice, brussels sprouts, cream style corn, brown gravy, corn muffins, macaroni salad, potato salad, coleslaw, standard salad bar kolaches, quick French coffee cake, Boston cream pie, double layer carrot cake with lemon butter cream frosting, oatmeal raisin cookies, vanilla pudding parfait, jello parfait.



# Blue Falcons soar above competition

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

The Blue Falcons defeated JP-5, 30-1, in an intramural softball game at the main softball field here June 8.

The Blue Falcons were in complete control in every phase of play. A series of fly balls and home runs quickly cranked the Blue Falcons to over 10 runs.

JP-5's center fielder, Ashley N. Marks, finally got the Blue Falcons off the field, by catching every fly ball that came center field.

JP-5 attempted to put runners on base, but the Blue Falcons caught every pop-up and ground ball, swiftly derailing JP-5's chances of scoring. At the end of the first inning, the score was 18-0.

"We've never been that high up in the first inning before," said Justin M. Penn, Blue Falcons outfielder. "I was just waiting to see what they had to offer with their batting."

At the start of the second inning, the Blue Falcons realized their previous mistake of hitting to center field and adjusted accordingly when they took the field again.

JP-5 changed their defensive strategy, shifting players to different positions at the start of the second inning. The defensive switch did not help as the team seemed to be more out of position than before.

A triple and two singles resulted in bases loaded for the Blue Falcons. Travis W. Goodwin, Blue Falcons outfielder, hit a grand slam to left field, making the score 22-0 at the bottom of the second inning.

JP-5 was unable to rebound from the ever-escalating deficit, finishing the inning with no runs.

The Blue Falcons continued to crack fly balls deep over to left field, recording several

home runs in the process, upping the score to 26-0 at the bottom of the third.

A series of pop flies close to home plate by the Blue Falcons resulted in JP-5 up to bat again.

The team seemed to finally have its hitting down, sending several balls to center field. The hits didn't result in any runs for the team as the Blue Falcons got JP-5 off the field yet again. The score was 26-0 at the end of the third.

The Blue Falcons finally capped their score for the night, making four more fly balls deep between center and left fields, with a score of 30-0.

JP-5 continued to play, finally scoring with a fly ball to center field.

JP-5 was its own worst enemy throughout the game. The loss was not too heartfelt said Princess V. Woodside, JP-5 centerfielder.

"We came out here to have fun," said Woodside. "We had our heads held high, and that's all that matters."

Even with the score as one-sided as it was, the Blue Falcons felt there was still room for improvement. The score did not reflect their true talent said James A. Engels, Blue Falcons second baseman.

The Blue Falcons took what would be a weakness to most teams and turned it into a strength.

"We never consistently play with nine guys," said Penn. "It's always different because we're shift workers, but we're able to pull together."

The softball season continues with more teams rising and falling throughout the season, the ultimate goal is to win the softball championship. It remains to be seen whether JP-5 can rebound from this setback and progress forward in time for the playoffs.



LANCE CPL. KENNETH K. TROTTER JR.

Justin M. Penn, Blue Falcons player, runs to third base against JP-5 in an intramural softball game at the main softball field here June 8. The Blue Falcons would go on to win the game with a staggering score of 30-1.



LANCE CPL. KENNETH K. TROTTER JR.

Shawn W. Whitecavage, a Blue Falcons player, strikes the ball over home plate in an intramural softball game at the main softball field here June 8. The Blue Falcons quickly ramped up the score to 18-0 in the first inning before capping their score for the night 30-1.