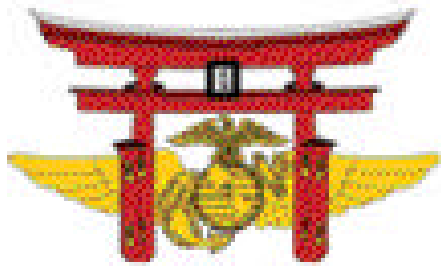


Torii Teller



VOLUME 49 NUMBER 31

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION IWAKUNI, JAPAN

AUGUST 20, 2004

Voters event targets military

OFFICIAL PRESS RELEASE

The Department of Defense announced plans recently for Armed Forces Voters Week, which begins Sept. 3.

This event is being held to encourage all citizens voting under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act, who have not registered to vote or requested an absentee ballot this year, to do so as soon as possible.

Commanders and voting assistance officers will use this event as an opportunity to inform these U.S. citizens about obtaining an absentee ballot for remaining state primaries and the Nov. 2 general election.

They will conduct final voting workshops and registration drives for all eligible personnel and their family members.

The voting assistance officers also will join together and enlist the help of other on base organizations, such as wives clubs, family services, Boy and Girl Scouts and other groups to help get out the vote and coordinate voter outreach events.

During these events, command-

see VOTE Page 5

Lancers strengthen bonds in Australian outback

CPL. DAVE BONI

Combat Correspondent

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE BASE TINDAL, Australia — Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 212 deployed here, Aug. 8 for what hopes to be another successful deployment to exercise Southern Frontier.

Like years passed, VMFA-212, with the aid of various supporting units, plans to make use of various bombing sites and training capabilities not available to them at Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan.

The Lancers come prepared with their usual chariot, the two seat F/A-18D, but also bring a few single seat F/A-18Cs' to participate in the exercise. Despite having two planes to work on, maintenance and ordnance Marines stand ready to keep the birds flying and bombs dropping.

"The focus of Southern Frontier is on air-to-ground exercises (dropping live ordnance)," said Lt. Col. Mark E. Hall, VMFA-212 commanding officer. "Our daily operations will run day and night to include forward air control. We will also have KC-130's supporting us in aerial refueling exercises."

According to Hall, Australia not only offers favorable



Maj. Douglas Glover

Marine All-weather Fighter Attack Squadron 533 and Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 212 pilots conduct aerial refueling en route to Australia. The squadrons arrived for exercise Southern Frontier, Aug. 8.

bombing ranges and training scenarios, but also great hosts who are very gracious and hospitable.

"The Australians are great people and I am looking for-

see LANCERS Page 4

INSIDE

Squadron tests waters in exercise
Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 provides alternative water source during training. *Page 3*

Tower, radar keep skies safe
Air traffic controllers use training, technology to ensure flight safety on and above ground. *Page 6*

IWAKUNI WEATHER



Today
T-Storms
High: 88



Saturday
Partly Cloudy
High: 88



Sunday
Isolated T-Storms
High: 90

www.iwakuni.usmc.mil

Suicide: another casualty for military

LANCE CPL. RUBEN D. CALDERON

Combat Correspondent

Suicide, the 11th leading cause of death in the United States, claims more than 30,000 people per year. That equates to one suicide per every 15 minutes.

The Marine Corps has the highest rate of suicides of all military services. It rates among the top causes of death for the Marines.

During operations in Iraq and Afghanistan in 2003, the Army saw a spike in suicides- up to 17.3 suicides per 100,000 soldiers.

Suicide rates for all military branches were 12.1 per 100,000 in 2003. Historically, the Marine Corps has the highest number of suicides, with a rate of 3.5 people per 100,000 in 2004.

To counter this growing epidemic, in 1999, "the surgeon general of the United States issued a 'Call to Action,'

rallying the nation around the cause of promoting awareness about suicide and suggesting strategies to combat the problem," said Navy Lt. Cmdr. Shaun S. Brown, Marine Aircraft Group 12 chaplain.

Considerable gains have been made concerning the understanding of suicide since the "Call to Action."

"Experts seem to agree that, generally, it works like this: at the heart, a person may be suffering from a psychological predisposition (depression or manic-depressive disorder— especially in the wake of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom — Post Traumatic Stress Disorder). Add to that stress and a person may be pushed to a suicidal brink. For the military population, stress can be a variety of things: work problems, disciplinary problems, alcohol abuse or other addictions (gambling, drug, sex), financial

woes, mental or physical exhaustion, feelings of loss or isolation," said Brown.

"Many people believe that a suicidal person becomes so overwhelmed that only one solution appears feasible: death. High on the list of stressors are marital or relationship difficulties. That could even be loss of a loved one through death, divorce, and separation. What may seem OK to you or me may be devastating to others. Often, suicidal people suffer in silence."

Warning signs of suicide to watch for are sadness, a change in personality, or any talk about death.

"The bottom line is that 'sucking it up' is a strategy that does not work. Problems unattended usually just get worse over time. And for the person who is vulnerable, get help. Why suffer in mis-

see SUICIDE Page 4



Torii Teller

**Commanding Officer/
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Col. Michael A. Dyer

Public Affairs Officer

Capt. Stewart T. Upton

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Staff Sgt. Nicholas P. McLaren

Press Chief

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Combat Correspondents

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Lance Cpl. Lydia Davey

**Information/Editorial
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Yukiko Mitsui

“This weekly newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the military services stationed overseas and their families. Its contents do not necessarily reflect the official views of the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense or the U.S. Marine Corps, and does not imply endorsement thereof.”

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**PSC 561 Box 1868
FPO AP 96310-0029
Phone 253-5551
Fax 253-5554**

Green outs save greenbacks

CHIEF PETTY OFFICER RICHARD ROBINSON

Letter to the editor

Let's take a short walk down memory lane for a moment. Think back to when we were kids living with our parents or guardians, what fond memories do we think of? Playing outside with our friends until the streetlights came on? Having sleepovers with everyone sleeping on the floor in the living room? Camping out in our backyards underneath a blanket strung up over a clothesline so the rain wouldn't fall on us while we were sleeping? Do any of these thoughts bring back memories of your childhood?

Now, how many of us remember our parents or guardians telling us to close the door because the air conditioning was on? How many of us were reminded that we're not supposed to cool the "great outdoors?" How many of us grew up without the luxury of A/C in our homes at all? Quite a few of us probably have some of these words and memories ringing in our ears from such a long time ago.

Let me ask you this question then. Have we forgotten what our parents taught us? If not, then why do so many of us walk through doors at the Exchange, Crossroads, clubs or other buildings without closing the doors behind us? Do you know why our parents kept telling us to keep the doors closed? It's because they didn't want to pay high electrical bills! They also didn't want the A/C to break because it was being overworked.

What happened to change the way were raised? Our parents wanted to save money. They wanted to keep the things they paid their hard earned money to buy, such as A/C units, in working order. Most of our parents would correct our friends if they left the doors open as well. So what changed? The only thing I can think of is, we as individuals, don't pay the electric bill on base. But when you think about it, we actually do pay that bill.

The commanding officer of MCAS Iwakuni pays the electric bill each month out of his operations and maintenance (O&M) fund.

Where does that money come from? Our tax dollars!

There is no separate fund for paying electric, gas, water,

or steam bills. This same O&M fund pays for quality of life and morale type projects! So the more money he spends on electricity the less he gets to spend on improving the way we live on the station.

I know most everyone out there has heard about "green out." I know a lot of us support this program. But for those newly arriving personnel let me bring you up to speed and educate you on what green out is all about.

Green out is a voluntary program designed to help the Station keep from breaking our electrical peak demand limit. We ask that all unnecessary electrical items be shut off, A/C systems fan speeds be turned to low or shut off, turn off A/C systems in unoccupied rooms, not to do washing or drying of clothes until after 5 p.m. and turning off lights that are not needed.

We have a contract with Chugoku Electric Company that states we will not use more than a specified amount of electricity. If we break that limit then we are breaking a contract with them. The results would be a penalty for us which would be thousands of dollars plus our rates will go up for the remainder of the multi-year contract. No matter how small the amount we go over our limit, it's still a breach of contract.

So now you can see why we stress green out so much. We want to save the Station's money, so we can improve the quality of life for everyone. And, we want to keep our relations with the local community high.

All of your support in conserving energy and specifically electricity is a necessity, not a nicety. Saving energy started with your parents teaching you and it continues now through you reminding your peers and teaching your children.

On a Roll ...

Rolling green out – What is it? This is a backup plan to the voluntary green out program. Green out has been successful for the last three years in "peak shaving" our

see **GREEN** Page 4

Free to choose but not free to determine

Editor's note: This is the final article in a 10-part series.

CHAPLAIN STEPHEN M. COATES

Letter to the Editor

I have based this series of articles on the premise that, if Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni is to be the assignment of choice in the Marine Corps, it will be because of the choices made by people in Iwakuni. We have considered a variety of methods good people have used to decide what is the best course of action in tough situations. This, my final piece in this effort, may be the most controversial. For me, it is the most important.

I believe in human freedom. I believe you have an incredible capacity to forge your character, your future, and the welfare of others by the choices you make. However, there are many things you cannot determine.

You cannot choose to be President

of the United States. You may aspire to that position and you may even attain it because of other choices you make throughout life but you cannot choose to assume the office. That decision lies with the Electoral College.

You do not have the option of choosing the core values of the Marine Corps – honor, courage and commitment. You had the choice of whether or not to enlist. Now that you are a Marine, you have other choices. You can choose to live in accordance with those core values. You can choose to honor the oath you took.

On the other hand, you have the freedom to live in direct violation of those core values. You might even be able to still draw your paycheck and wear the uniform like it means something.

In your power to choose, you even have the freedom to select what system of ethics you will utilize in making decisions. You may base your ethics on results or rules or self-interest or care of others. In other words, you have the freedom to

choose how you personally settle on right and wrong. However, in my opinion – and it is my editorial – you have absolutely no freedom to determine what actually is right and wrong. And here, the controversy begins.

Some hold to a system of ethics known as Divine Command Theory – behavior is right because God commands it or wrong because God forbids it. I do not care for that definition because it begs the question. "Why does God command this and forbid that?"

I believe a stronger theory rests on Divine Character. Right behavior is simply that which is in line with who God is. That which is wrong stands in opposition to God's nature. Loving others is right, not because God commands it, but because it is in line with God's being. Racism is wrong because God is not defined by race. Discrimination against women is wrong because God is not limited by human sexuality.

see **FREE** Page 5

Medical officers celebrate 57th birthday

LANCE CPL. DAVID REVERE
Combat Correspondent

Medical Service officers at the Branch Medical Clinic gathered to celebrate the 57th birthday of the Medical Service Corps in a ceremony, Aug. 4.

The ceremony was attended by honored guest Navy Capt. Richard Beane, Third Marine Expeditionary Force surgeon, and included remarks from Cmdr. Rachel D. Haltner, BMC commanding officer.

"Keep doing the right thing every day to provide the best health care to our patients, whether they be war-fighters or their families," Haltner encouraged. "Do the best that you can every day."

Haltner's words reflect a tradition of excellence maintained by the Medical Service Corps since its birth in 1947.

According to the United States Naval Medicine Web site, the need for an

all-officer category composed of individuals trained in administrative, professional, and scientific specialties related to medicine had long been recognized before the official institution of the Medical Service Corps in 1947.

During World War II, 1,429 officers were given temporary appointments in the Hospital Corps.

In addition, a total of 845 pharmacists, optometrists, and other specialists and scientists in the fields of medicine and dentistry were given temporary appointments as Naval Reserve officers.



Lance Cpl. David Revere

Lt. Michael Sunman, optometrist, and Lt. Cmdr. Mladen Vranjican, pharmacist, cut the cake during the birthday celebration at the clinic here, Aug. 4.

The role played by these two groups of officers in the accomplishment of the wartime mission of the Navy Medical Department further emphasized the need

for a permanent officer category to compliment the existing officer corps that compromised the Medical Department.

The Navy Medical Service Corps was created with four specialty sections: Supply and administration, optometry, allied sciences, and pharmacy.

The authorized personnel strength of the Corps was limited to 20 percent of the number of Medical Corps officers.

Today, the Medical Service Corps is the most highly diversified Corps within the Navy Medical Department. An integral part of Navy medicine, it is comprised of a team of commissioned Naval officers in clinical, scientific, and administrative health care fields. It has more than 3,500 active duty and reserve officers in the grades

see MEDICAL Page 5

Squadron provides alternate water source

LANCE CPL. LYDIA DAVEY
Combat Correspondent

Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 Marines conducted a water purifying training exercise here Aug. 3-5, with three missions in mind.

Under normal circumstances, drinking water from Penny Lake or Iwakuni Harbor is not advisable. However, once Marines from MWSS-171 have finished purifying it, the water is more pure than nearly any source commercially available.

"Our first mission was to test our gear and give the younger Marines an opportunity to practice using it," said Chief Warrant Officer Jeff Hare, MWSS-171 utilities platoon commander. "Our second mission was to allow Base Environmental the opportunity to test the quality of the water we're putting back into the harbor and lake.

"Our final mission," he added, "was to solidify our disaster plan."

In case of an emergency or natural disaster, the Marines of MWSS-171 can begin producing clean water for Station residents within an eight-hour period, said Hare.

"We can purify water contaminated by chemical, biological and nuclear waste," noted Lance Cpl. Matthew Travis, MWSS-171 hygiene equipment operator. "We can purify anything."

According to Travis, the first step in the purifying process involves "raw water" (water that has not been treated) being pumped into a 3,000-gallon raw water holder.

The water is then moved through a series of filtration devices and separated: contaminated water through a waste pump and clean water, with appropriate chemicals added, to a 3,000-gallon pottage tank.

A Total Dissolved Solids meter measures how many parts of contamination per million is in the finished product, said Travis.

"The water we produce is the cleanest you can get," stated Gunnery Sgt. Paul Woods, MWSS-171 staff noncommissioned officer in charge. "Our water has about 90 parts contamination per million, while most commercially available water has any-



Lance Cpl. Lydia Davey

Lance Cpl. Ryan Murphy, MWSS-171 water purification, hygiene and sanitation equipment operator, works to secure a hose to the Reverse Osmosis Water Purification Unit Aug. 5.

where from 120-180 parts."

The most difficult aspect of such an operation is setting the gear up, said Travis.

"After that it's not too labor intensive," he added. "Quality control and equipment maintenance become our main focus."

Each Reverse Osmosis Water Purification Unit can produce 600 gallons of clean water each hour and 5,400 gallons daily, said Travis.

"We have enough ROWPUs here to sustain all Station residents during a time of crisis," said Staff Sgt. Colin Cooper, utilities maintenance chief.

Practical training is an important part of the unit's job, said Staff Sgt. Christopher Amancio, the operation's detachment officer in charge.

"We have a lot of young Marines out here, and this exercise gives them an idea of what to expect based on real-world-events," said Amancio. "The exercise also allows us to take care of troubleshooting. We can make repairs and changes here."

Amancio praised the efforts of his Marines, stating, "their motivation and spirit has been high and their performance has been outstanding.

"We've been working long hours these past few days, but they prefer to be out here operating the gear."

NEWS BRIEFS

GOSPEL CHOIR OF IWAKUNI ASSOCIATION

The association is looking for individuals that desire to make a joyful noise unto the Lord. If you enjoy singing, praise dancing, playing gospel music or just would like to volunteer in any form to support this outreach ministry, call Gunnery Sgt. Chambers at 253-2911, Jennifer Jones or Gunnery Sgt. Jones at 253-2097.

NAVY BALL

Navy Ball will be held Oct. 15. The special guest speakers Rudy Boesch, retired Navy Seal and reality television star, along with Brig. Gen. Frank Panter, commanding general, 3d FSSG, Okinawa. The tickets will be on sale starting Aug. 1. Call Petty Officer 1st Class Wimbush at 253-3371 for more information.

OBON FESTIVAL AND CULTURE DAY

Experience a day of Japanese customs culminating with the colorful, traditional Obon dance, Saturday, beginning at 2 p.m. on the parade field. Evening festivities begin at 5 p.m. with a procession of local dancers carrying 30-foot white snake. Featured performances include Kuga Daiko Drummers and the Iwakuni Obon Dancers. Call 253-3727 for more details.

Sponsors train to teach new residents the ropes

Training class provides tips on sponsoring families moving to Air Station

LANCE CPL LYDIA DAVEY
Combat Correspondent

"To offer brave assistance, to lives that stand alone ... is human - but divine." These words, penned by famed poet Emily Dickinson, are as meaningful today as they were in the 19th century.

Marines trained for the task that Dickinson called "human - but divine," during a sponsorship training class at the Community Services Building, August 5.

"Offering assistance as a sponsor is an important task," said relocation specialist Victoria Miner. "You don't have to be a specialist - just think back to your own experience here with your sponsor."

The majority of Marines who attended the class recalled positive experiences, and expressed a desire to provide the same level of assistance to new families being sponsored.

"The treatment that I received was outstanding,"

noted Gunnery Sgt. Richard Bryan, Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron, Southside Mess Hall manager.

"My sponsor went above and beyond. He was waiting for us at the terminal, took care of lodging and transportation, and his family even provided us with food for the first mornings."

According to Miner, sponsorship begins before the new member arrives.

"Relocating can be stressful," stated Miner. "It helps to know someone at your new location."

Miner encouraged class members to write a brief letter to the new member, learn about the person and forward a

welcome aboard packet. She also recommended a variety of methods to prepare for the member's arrival.

"Once the new Marine arrives, he or she will need assistance checking in," said Miner. "This may involve providing transportation, introducing children to the Teen Center or Child Development

Center or just being available to answer questions."

Often Marines are assigned to sponsor new members, but anyone interested in doing so may contact his unit sponsorship coordinator, said former unit sponsorship coordinator Master Gunnery Sgt. Kelvin Mosley, Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12 maintenance chief.

"You can't underestimate the value of a good sponsor," said Mosley. "The sponsor is the new member's first impression of their duty station - seeing a smiling face can really make a difference."

Sponsors are, as often as possible, paired with new members of a similar grade and family demographic, said Mosley.

"And, although not every situation or question can be anticipated, sponsorship training can equip a Marine with appropriate points of contact," he added.

"I highly recommend that every sponsor attend [the training]," said Bryan. "The class, along with the great experience I had with my sponsor, have really prepared me to sponsor new members and make them feel like part of a family."

Sponsorship training is held the first Thursday of every month at the Community Services Building. For more information, please call 253-3311.

"You can't underestimate the value of a good sponsor"

Master Gunnery Sgt. Kelvin Mosley
Marine Aviation Logistic Squadron 12

LANCERS from Page 1

ward, as I am sure most of the Marines are, to seeing the sites and enjoying the culture," he said.

The Lancers have a wide range of units supporting the exercise to include Marine Aircraft Group 12 Headquarters, Marine Wing Support Squadron 171, Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12, Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 533, Aircraft Rescue Firefighters, Air Traffic Control, Marine Aerial Refueler Transport Squadron 152, out of MCAS Futenma, Okinawa and Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 112, a reserve squadron out of Fort Worth, Texas.

"Having a composite squadron like this makes it a very unique exercise and a great training environment," said Hall, who is making his first deployment to Australia as the Lancers commanding officer. "The Marines are all very excited and ready to get to work."

Another Marine making his first trip to Tindal said training with various units will only strengthen abilities for everyone involved.

"This sort of training is very beneficial to our overall competencies because we are combining two different types of squadrons as well as working with our allies, the Aussies," said Lance Cpl. Chivaz Whipple, VMFA(AW)-533 aviation operations specialist. "I am also looking forward to exploring the outback and learning about the Australian culture."

Whipple and his fellow Marines will have plenty of time for both as Southern Frontier is set to run into the middle of September.

"I'm ready to get to work and get this exercise underway," said Whipple.

SUICIDE from Page 1

ery needlessly? Therein lies the rub: many people who suffer may not have the means to get the help they need. Marines should take care of their own," said Brown. "That's why suicide awareness & prevention training is essential."

For more information on suicide prevention or where and how to seek help, please contact the chaplain's office or Navy Lt. Lloyd Davis, clinical psychologist for the Branch Medical Clinic.

GREEN from Page 2

consumption to remain below the contract electric peak demand with the power company.

Rolling green out is not a voluntary program like green out, this is a plan to ensure we're not going to break our electrical peak demand limit!

How does it work you might ask? In a nutshell it means that we're going to turn off a preset number of barracks and possibly midrise A/C systems for an hour or more. Now, before anyone gets all spun up about this, let me give you some background information. In 2001, Facilities Utilities Division was faced with having to renegotiate our electrical contract, because the Station had broken the electrical peak demand limit twice that summer.

Our electric rates were going to be raised and the Station was going to have to pay a penalty for breaking our contract peak demand limit with the power company. A meeting with Chugoku Electric Company was held. From the negotiations, the Station and Chugoku Electric Company came to an agreement: they wouldn't raise our rates if we could give them assurance that we would take stronger measures to avoid breaking our limit in the future.

Our voluntary green out program was presented to the power company, but they were not impressed. They suggested we do what the companies in Japan have practiced for years; shut off power to noncritical buildings.

It was realized shutting off power was not going to be easily accepted by residents of the Air Station, so a plan had to be conceived to shut down A/C systems to reduce the peak consumption and to minimize discomfort.

The basic plan was to shut off buildings in

groups for an hour at a time to accomplish these goals. Tests were performed shutting down the A/C system in a barracks and midrise and measuring power reduction and the temperature before and after. Tests found the temperature only rose about two degrees in one hour. The rolling green out plan was finalized and Station Order 11500D was signed in 2002, but it has never been necessary to implement it due to the great support from people and organizations simply doing their part by voluntarily saving energy. Now bear in mind no doors or windows were open during this test so, if windows are open in rooms or housing units (with the A/C on, all doors and windows should be closed) the temperature will climb a couple degrees more!

Continued strong support by the Air Station for the voluntary green out program will make the rolling green out plan unnecessary this year too.

This informational article is letting you know two things: First, the Air Station needs everyone's support in saving energy especially during the voluntary green out program. Second, remind your troops, employees and family that if they're not saving electricity it could result in A/C systems being shut off.

Last year we only went over 13,000-kilowatt hours (kwh) once! The highest then was 13,185-kwh on Sept. 5, 2003. This year temperatures have been hotter in July and we have gone over 13,000-kwh 29 times. Our highest reading so far was hit twice at 13,467-kwh.

August is normally the hottest month of the year and this month should be a real challenge for the Station to remain below the peak demand limit.

If you have any questions about this program, please contact me at 253-6148.

Lending Locker assists inbound, outbound Station residents

LANCE CPL LYDIA DAVEY
Combat Correspondent

Moving to a new duty station can be stressful enough without having to “improvise, adapt and overcome” until household goods arrive.

The Lending Locker provides an easily accessible resource to inbound and outbound military members, civilians and contractors who find themselves without basic appliances, furniture and kitchenware.

Items ranging from alarm clocks to dishes to vacuums are available for use, said Stephanie Sutton, branch manager of personal readiness and community support.

“Newly arrived accompanied and unaccompanied personnel may check items out for 60 days,” said Sutton. “Outgoing accompanied and unaccompanied personnel may check out items for 30 days.”

According to Sutton, the Station Lending Locker is unique in its variety and scope.

Petty Officer 1st Class Deloris Davis-Stewart, Marine Aircraft Group 12 religious programmer, agrees.

“The Lending Locker had everything I needed,” stated Davis-Stewart.

“Also, the customer service was outstanding. Lacy Wilson didn’t stop working until I got the things I needed.

“I’ve never made use of a lending locker before now, but I highly recommend it,” she added.

Prerequisites for checkout are simple: permanent change of station orders and an understanding of the user’s responsibility to maintain the items borrowed.

“Our inventory is supplied through government funding,” said Sutton. “What we have is budgeted for. If an item gets lost or broken, we don’t charge a fee, but we do ask the borrower to replace that item.”

Patrons are also asked to clean and sanitize all items prior to return, Sutton noted.

The Lending Locker is open Monday to Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4 p.m., and is closed the last Friday of every month for inventory.

For further assistance, please contact the Information and Referral Relocation Office at 253-6161 or stop by the Lending Locker in Building 411, Room 101.

Items available for lending

- Alarm Clocks
 - Bed Rails
 - Bowl Sets
 - Car Seats (Infant and Toddler)
 - Child Safety Gates
 - Clothes Hampers
 - Coffeemakers
 - Colanders
 - Cooking and Eating Utensils
 - Crock Pots
 - Cutting Boards (Large)
 - Dish Drainers
 - Dishes
 - Fans
 - Futons
 - Hand Mixers
 - High Chairs
 - Irons
 - Ironing Boards
 - Laundry Baskets
 - Microwaves
 - Portable Cribs
 - Pots and Pans
 - Rollaway Beds
 - Space Heaters
 - Strollers
 - Telephones
 - Toasters
 - Toaster Ovens
 - Vacuums*
 - Kitchen Sets (Including measuring cups, knife set, dinnerware set, etc.)
- *Vacuums can be checked out for a maximum of three days.

FREE from Page 2

I do not have space to adequately defend how we as humans can properly discern God’s nature. I cannot write in a few lines how we resolve the tensions between diverse religious understandings of God. I contend we use the same criteria we hold for other matters of truth: logical consistency, empirical adequacy, experiential relevance, etc. For now, I can only state my belief, without

apology, that right and wrong are determined by an objective, unchanging absolute – that would be God.

By any standard, I have proven that I am not good. I have violated every ethical system I know. Therefore, I could never determine what is good. I am not the standard. My personal convictions are not the standard. At best, I believe we are granted the privilege of discerning, but not establishing, what actually is good.

I hope you can tell that I am not attempting to write coercively. I am simply setting forth one of the most prominent grids real people use in seeking what is right and wrong – the belief in One who *is* absolutely good.

We do not determine right and wrong. We simply choose how to conduct ourselves. Therein lies freedom and its limits. I am thankful for the present privilege of conducting my life here with you at MCAS Iwakuni, the assignment of choice.

VOTE from Page 1

ers and voting assistance officers will emphasize the importance of registering to vote and requesting an absentee ballot.

They will also use this opportunity to remind eligible personnel to return their voted ballots as soon as possible to allow sufficient transit time back to their local election official.

The support of commanders and voting assistance officers is critical to the success of the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP), which can be contacted through the DoD Voting Information Center (VIC). Citizens may reach the VIC toll-free from 66 countries using the toll-free numbers listed on the FVAP Web site at <http://www.fvap.gov>.

In the U.S., call toll-free at 1(800) 438-VOTE (8683) or use DSN 425-1584. Additionally, the FVAP can be reached via e-mail at vote@fvap.ncr.gov.

MEDICAL from Page 3

of ensign to rear admiral.

Health care scientists and clinical care specialists make up about 60 percent of the total Corps, serving in 22 different specialties performing countless duties on multiple platforms continuing the mission. Health care administrators comprise the remaining 40 percent.

“Today is when our community gets to stand out in time and tell people who may not be familiar with our Corps what we do,” said Lt. Phillip Hanson, BMC physical therapist. “We fill many different positions. We’re really the men behind the scenes.”

Medical Service Corps officers serve in more than 250 Naval and medical commands throughout the world. About 65 percent serve in facilities delivering direct patient care and 35 percent serve in operational units, training and research commands, occupational and preventive medicine units, material and logistic support commands and headquarters commands.

Courts-martial

- A lance corporal from Marine Aircraft Group 12 was found guilty of violating UCMJ article 123a (wrongfully and unlawfully making and uttering bad checks) in a special court-martial and sentenced to 89 days confinement, forfeiture of \$167.00 pay per month for 12 months and reduction to private.

- A lance corporal from Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron was found guilty of violating UCMJ articles 125 (sodomy) and 134 (adultery) in a summary court-martial, Aug. 12, and sentenced to 60 days restriction, 2/3 pay withheld for one month, and reduction to private first class.

- A private first class from Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 was found guilty of violating UCMJ articles 125 (sodomy) and 134 (adultery) in a summary court-martial, Aug. 11, and was sentenced to 60 days restriction and 2/3 pay withheld for one month.

Tower, radar: Keeping skies, runn

STORY AND PHOTOS BY
LANCE CPL. RUBEN D. CALDERON
Combat Correspondent

Iwakuni is known as a deployment hub for various aircraft squadrons throughout the Marine Corps and Navy deploying in the Pacific Theater. The Station's runways are occupied with a constant flow of traffic from the ground and the sky.

On a day-to-day basis, Air Traffic Control Marines from the tower and radar bunker guide aircraft in the vicinity and those inbound or outbound from the Station.

"The tower keeps a safe and expeditious flow of traffic within five miles of the Station," said Sgt. Andrew J. Dykes, tower supervisor.

The tower is comprised of four different manned posts: ground controller, tower flight data, local controller and tower supervisor.

"Ground control is responsible for the movement of all vehicles on or

around the flight line," said Dykes. Vehicle traffic they monitor can range from a government owned vehicle on the way to the terminal to a Crash Fire Rescue fire truck on the way to an emergency landing.

The second aspect of ATC, the tower flight data, receives all of the information on aircraft departing and arriving here.

"They coordinate with other outside agencies (i.e. airports) to ensure that we are aware of all pertinent information needed to provide air traffic control services," added Dykes.

The local controller controls all aircraft within five miles of Iwakuni below 3,000 feet and establishes separation between the landing and departing aircraft.

"(The local controller) is the one who actually clears someone to land and clears them for takeoff," said Dykes.

The tower supervisor is the person

in charge in the tower and is qualified in all three positions. The supervisor's job is to make sure all of the rules are being applied correctly and safely.

"They make sure that all of the required training in the tower takes place," said Dykes. "They maintain a log of facility operations; their job is basically just ensuring that everything is safe and expeditious."

Marines from the tower aid aircraft from the Navy, Air Force and Japanese military, in addition aircraft from the Marine Corps.

"On the average we do about 200 operations per day," said Dykes.

"They could come to pick people up for deployments or they could come for aerial refueling. It's always something new everyday."

The Marines from the tower make sure that all arrivals or takeoffs are coordinated.

The radar bunker also provides services for aircraft and interacts with the tower.

"There is constant communication between us and the tower," said Sgt. Jeffrey T. Pitman, radar watch supervisor.

The Marines from the radar section keep a watchful eye out, up to 60 miles, guiding inbound and outbound aircraft.

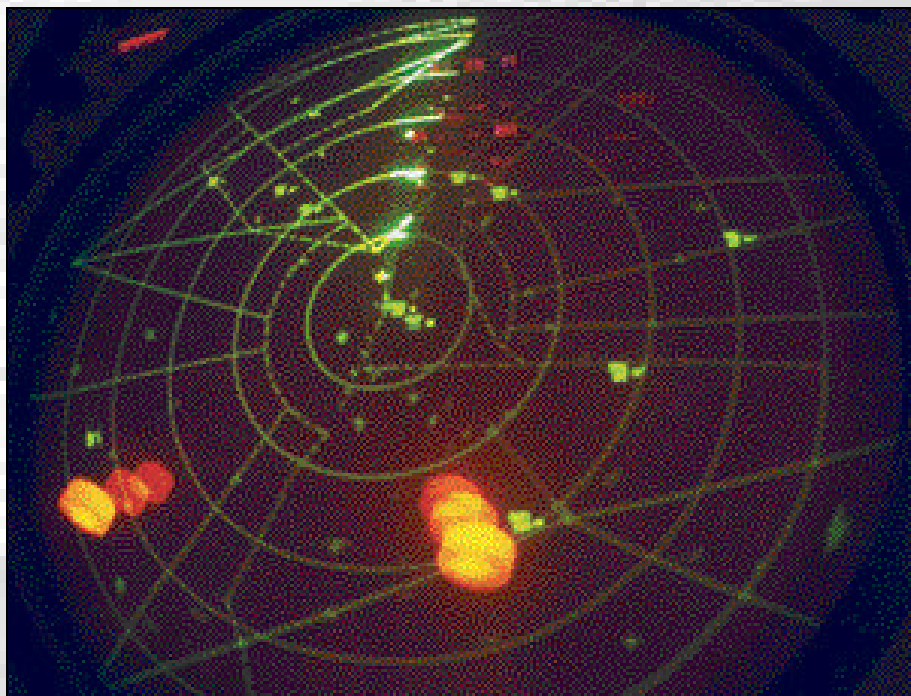
"We inform incoming aircraft about weather conditions or change in the flight schedule," said Pitman.

The pilots use two rules to determine how they will land, depart or travel at a close proximity to the runway: instrumental flight rule and visual flight rule.

Instrumental flight rule is when the pilot is flying and relying on the aircraft equipment and radar controllers to guide and keep the aircraft a safe distance from other planes.

Visual flight is the rule pilots use when they rely upon tower controllers for traffic advisory information.

"The pilots determine which type of rule they would like to follow prior



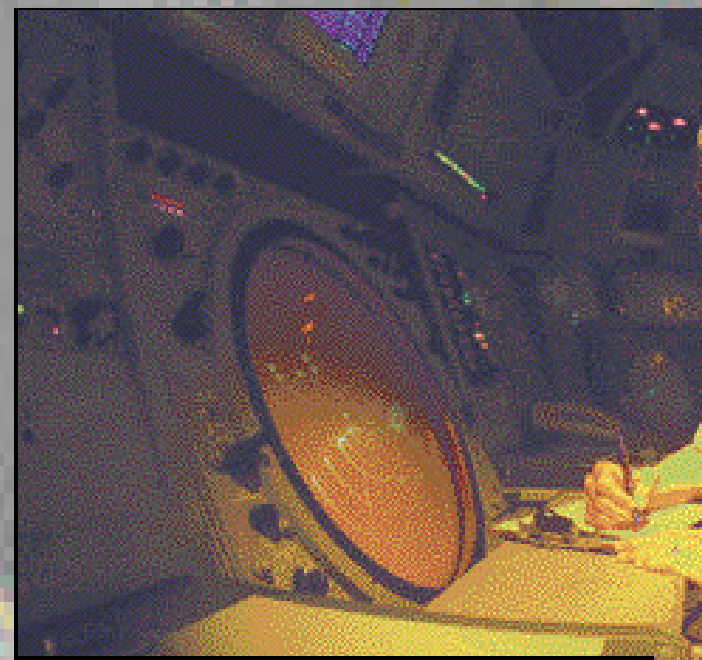
Signals in the radar indicate aircraft that is traveling to, from or around the Air Station. The radar covers 60 miles of air space.



Marines from the tower keep a watchful eye communicate with Marines from the radar bu



Lance Cpl. Mark Rinker, air traffic controller, updates a flight progress strip for an aircraft departing from the Station.



Sgt. Jeffrey T. Pitman, Air Traffic Control rad nicates with pilots and signals them to land c

y safe

They may also choose to
 time," said Pitman.
 ls aircraft that use the
 flight rule, but on
 ls aircraft requesting
 ation for visual flight.
 se of visual traffic
 equests, the pilot is
 or flying his aircraft as he
 imply inform him of other
 area," said Pitman.
 ith instrumental flight
 we tell the aircraft the
 tion and altitude to fly
 order to avoid other
 area."
 aircraft departs the
 os from using instrumen-
 . The radar then aids the
 they have arrived at their

many levels of communi-
 through for just one
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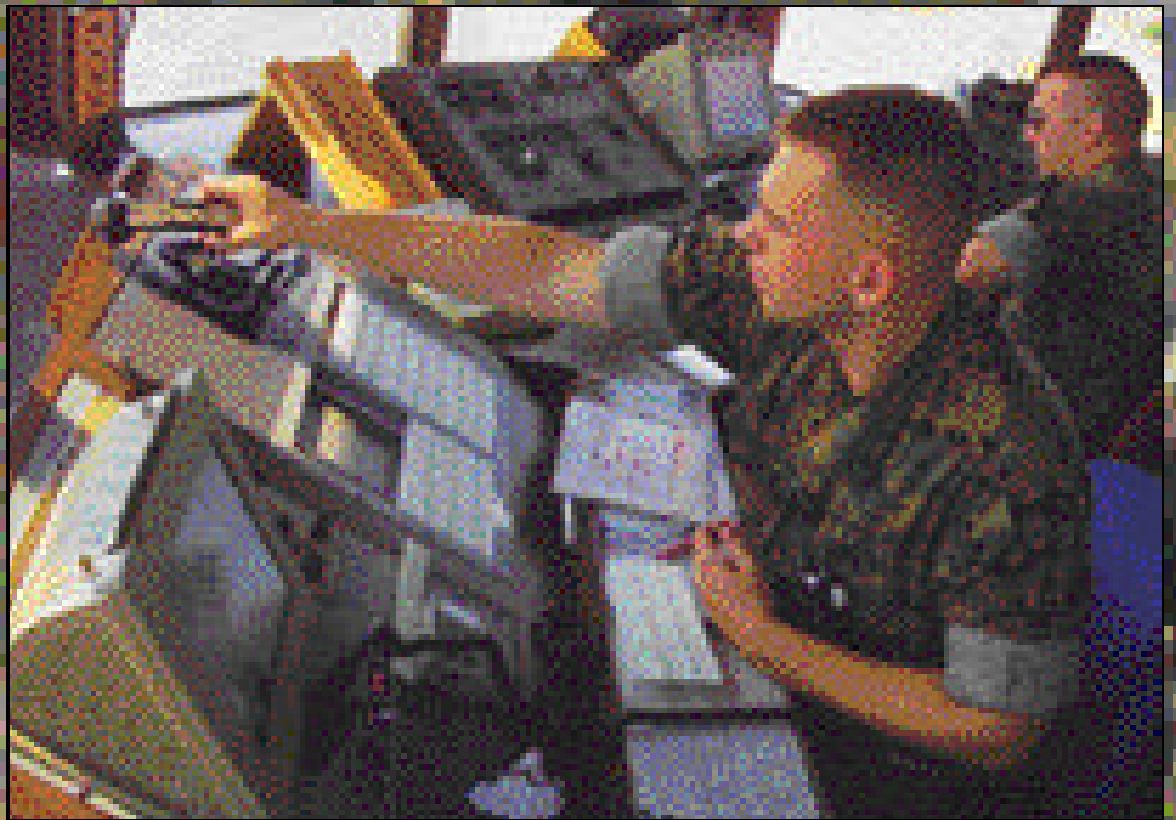


on the runway and constantly
 ts.



ervisor commu-
 y.

Pfc. Joshua Dandurand, air traffic con-
 troller, grabs the telephone to call and
 verify a safe landing for an aircraft.



Authentic Indian cuisine within reach

STORY AND PHOTOS BY
LANCE CPL. RUBEN D. CALDERON
Combat Correspondent

On an average weekend, hundreds of people journey through the narrow back roads of 188th street, past the neon lights advertising bars and clubs, and into an Indian-style restaurant.

The restaurant is hidden from most passersby, but has grown a reputation for its delightful and authentic cuisines.

"When I first got here, right after joint reception, that's all people would talk about- the Indian restaurant Ganesh," said Pfc. Monica Cazares, Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron combat videographer.

The Indian-style restaurant has become part of a weekend trend for many service members here.

"I go to Ganesh every weekend with my coworkers and friends," said Lance Cpl. Heather Beckham, H&HS postal clerk. "It's become a part of my routine. Even though I'm in Japan and



One of the most popular dishes at Ganesh, the chicken butter masala, is cooked and ready to be served.

enjoy sushi, I do indulge in the taste of Indian food."

Two chefs make the food: Manda Lal and Tila Ram Gaire. In the kitchen of Ganesh, the two chefs brew up an array of authentic meals ready to delight customers.

"We have more than 40 meals on our menu," said Rupa Gaire, hostess of the restaurant. "We welcome everyone to try and experience the meals here."

The meals vary from meat cooked in an Indian oven to their famous curry.

The different styles of curry include chicken, beef, pork, seafood or vegetable.

"Our most popular meal is probably the Chicken Tika Kabab (spicy boneless chicken) or the Chicken Butter Masala (spicy tomato curry with butter)," said Manda Lal.

The spiciness is a key ingredient in Indian food. According to www.Thokalath.com, "most Indian cuisines are related by similar usage of spices."

"Many kinds of spices are part of Indian food," said Rupa, "including cardomin, cloves, cinnamon, and ginger."

Cardomin, cloves and



Ruba Gaire, Ganesh hostess, prepares a small salad to go with a meal. Ganesh offers many types of Indian foods and styles of curry including beef, pork, chicken, seafood and vegetable.

cinnamon are used to flavor curries and certain vegetables. Ginger is also used but it is not an essential Indian spice.

Chili can be used powdered, fresh or dried. It is a basic Indian spice and

used mainly for its strong and spicy taste.

The levels of spiciness can be chosen at one's leisure, but the exotic flavors of India will be tasted by all who visit the restaurant.



Manda Lal Gaire, one of two chefs from Ganesh, tosses around dough that would be the Indian bread, nan.

OUT THE GATE

Note: Japanese who do not speak English may answer the phone numbers provided.

Van Gogh, Millet And The Barbizon Artists' Exhibition

This exhibition, displaying nearly 100 pieces of art, will be held Tuesday through Oct. 17, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Hiroshima Museum Of Art. It will open at 10 a.m. only on Tuesday. An admission fee is required. For more information, call 082-223-2530.

Asa Zoo Stays Open After Hours

The Asa Zoo in Hiroshima City stays open 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. (enter by 8:30 p.m.), Saturday and Aug. 28. Visitors can observe animals at night. Admission fee is required. Call 082-838-1111 for more details.

Recycle Plaza Flea Market

The flea market will be held in the parking lot of the Iwakuni City Recycle Plaza Aug. 28 from 9 a.m. to noon. Call 32-5371 for more information.

Kinsenkai Japanese Dance

There will be Japanese dance

performances at the main hall, 2nd floor in the Iwakuni City Auditorium, Sunday, starting at 12 p.m. The admission is free. For details, call 29-5211.

The 10th International Animation Festival In Japan

There is a comprehensive animation film festival, including special screenings, workshop and exhibits, at Aster Plaza in Hiroshima City until Monday, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. The admission is required. Call 082-245-0245 for details or research the Web site at www.urban.ne.jp/home/hiroanim/.



TORII TELLER CLASSIFIED ADS

To submit your ads or announcements: *Torii Teller* accepts ads/announcements from nonprofit organizations and groups only. Briefs run on space-available and time-

priority basis. Deadline for briefs is noon Thursday. *Torii Teller* reserves the right to edit to fit space. Stop by Building 1, Room 216 to fill out a form.

AUTOMOBILES

Nissan Skyline, 1992, 2 door, sports exhaust plus original stock exhaust system, Atexi air intake filter, HKS blow off valve, engine mount bar, engine timer, 45x4 Kenwood CD/stereo, fast and reliable, JCI until July 2006, \$3,000. Call Leroy at 253-5509 dwh or 090-6438-0685.

Subaru Impreza, 1994, 4 door, silver, automatic, P/W, P/D, AM/FM/radio/CD player, cold A/C, great condition, JCI until Sept. 2005, \$2,500 obo. Call SSgt. Potter at 253-6776 dwh or 253-2553 aw.

Mazda MS-8, 1996, blue, AM/FM/CD player, excellent condition, JCI until

March 2005, \$2,000. Call 253-6994 dwh or 253-2020 aw.

Suzuki Escudo, 1994, 4 door, A/C, CD, P/W and P/L, Rhino Racks included, good family car, great for camping and touring Japan, JCI until June 2005, \$2,000. Call 253-6199 dwh or 32-5259 aw.

Toyota Windom, 1994, same as Lexus GS 300, 5 passengers, 4 door, radio/cassette, P/W, P/D, excellent condition, JCI until Aug. 2005. \$3,000 negotiable. Call Anna at 253-2676.

Subaru Impreza, 1994, 4 door, silver, automatic, P/W, P/D, cold A/C, AM/FM/CD, great condition,

JCI until Sept. 2005, \$2,500 obo. Call SSgt. Potter at 253-6776 dwh or 253-2553 aw.

Suzuki Escudo, 1994, 4 door, A/C, CD, P/W and P/L, Rhino Racks included, good family car, great for camping and touring Japan, JCI until June 2005, \$2,500. Call 253-6199 dwh or 32-5259 aw.

Honda Ascot, 1990, 4 door, automatic, P/W, CD player, A/C, runs great, JCI until Jan. 2006, \$1,000. Call Capt. Spurlock at 253-5232 dwh or 253-2161 aw.

Mazda MPV, 1992, 7 passenger van, CD player, P/W, sunroof, leather interior, runs great, JCI until Sept. 2005, \$2,000 obo.

Call Tina at 253-2161.

Nissan, 1990, fully loaded, JCI until Feb. 2005, \$1,200 obo. Call 253-6170 dwh or 253-2703 aw.

OTHER ITEMS

Misc., Pentium 4 2.3Ghz desktop computer with monitor, \$300 obo; Light wood entertainment center, \$15; Giant suede bean bag (love seat size), \$200 obo. Call 253-2843 aw.

Misc., 11ft. flat bottom boat, 42 thrust trolling motor with front mount, carpeted with 1 seat, \$400 obo. Call Chris at 090-3792-4554.

Misc., kerosene heaters with gas tank, very good condition, \$30. Call Leroy

at 253-5509 dwh or 090-6438-0685.

Misc., two A/C, less than 2 years old, 5,000 b.t.u., \$50 each obo. Call Lauri at 253-2118.

Misc., toddler bed with mattress, \$30; baby swing, \$50; double jogging stroller, \$80; crib bedding quilt, bumper and bedskirt, \$15; Dell 4100 computer, monitor, keyboard, mouse; \$200. Call 253-2844.

WANTED

Misc., artificial Christmas tree to use for a program at the library, 6' high, need by Nov. 1. Call Belinda Pugh at 253-5156 dwh or e-mail to pughbj@usmc.mccs.org

JOB OPENINGS

CHRO (253-6828)

Clinic:

–Occupational Health Nurse

MCCS:

–Financial Fitness Counselor

–Family Team Building Director

–Information, Referral & Relocation Coordinator

Logistics:

–Supply Management Officer

Military Housing:

–Housing Management Assistant

Facilities:

–Interdisciplinary Engineer

S-6:

–Information Technology Specialist

DECA:

–Customer Service Manager

–Sales Store Checker

MCCS (253-3030)

(The following jobs are open at MCCS Personnel)

MCCS Job Listing:

–Program Assistant

–Deputy Director Business Operations

(Go to <http://www.mccs.iwakuni.com> for a complete job listing.)



MOVIE SCHEDULE

FRIDAY

11 a.m./5 p.m. Daddy Day Care (PG)
2 p.m./8 p.m. Runaway Jury (PG-13)
11 p.m./5 a.m. Pitch Black (R)
2 a.m. Wonder Boys (R)

SATURDAY

11 a.m./5 p.m. Honey, I Shrunk The Kids (PG-13)
2 p.m./8 p.m. The Count Of Monte Cristo (PG-13)
11 p.m./5 a.m. Analyze That (R)
2 a.m. Underworld (R)

SUNDAY

11 a.m./5 p.m. Johnny English (PG)
2 p.m./8 p.m. Pirates Of The Caribbean (PG-13)
11 p.m./5 a.m. Alex And Emma (PG-13)
2 a.m. The Last Castle (R)

MONDAY

11 a.m./5 p.m. Summer Catch (PG-13)
2 p.m./8 p.m. Meet The Parents (PG-13)
11 p.m./5 a.m. Daredevil (PG-13)
2 a.m. We Were Soldiers (R)

TUESDAY

11 a.m./5 p.m. Mr. Bones (PG)
2 p.m./8 p.m. Hearts In Atlantis (PG-13)
11 p.m./5 a.m. All About The Benjamins (R)
2 a.m. Terminator 3 (R)

WEDNESDAY

11 a.m./5 p.m. Master Of Disguise (PG)
2 p.m./8 p.m. Under The Tuscan Sun (PG-13)
11 p.m./5 a.m. Girlfight (R)
2 a.m. Shaft (R)

THURSDAY

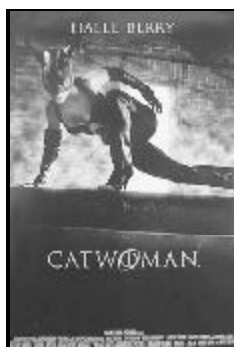
11 a.m./5 p.m. The Grinch (PG)
2 p.m./8 p.m. Stuck On You (PG-13)
11 p.m./5 a.m. Out Of Time (PG-13)
2 a.m. U.S. Marshals (R)

SAKURA THEATER



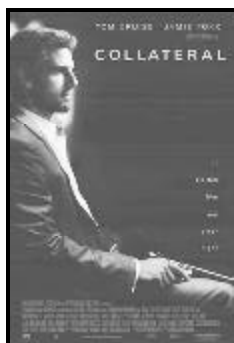
SLEEPOVER

In the summer after 8th grade, with high school looming before them, four teenage girls have a slumber party at Julie's house which ends up being one of the most eventful nights of their lives thus far. The party becomes an adventure when they end up competing against a group of "popular girls" in an all-night scavenger hunt that sends them out into the city. (90 minutes)



CATWOMAN

Patience Philips is a woman who can't seem to stop apologizing for her own existence. She works as a graphic designer. When Patience inadvertently happens upon a dark secret her employer is hiding, she finds herself in the middle of a corporate conspiracy. What happens next changes Patience forever. In a mystical twist of fate, she is transformed into a woman with the strength, speed, agility and ultra-keen senses of a cat. (104 minutes)



COLLATERAL

Max is a failed comedy writer living in Los Angeles who makes a living as a cab driver. This movie focuses on one very tumultuous day for Max, as he figures out that the fare he's been driving around all day is a contract killer, committing a series of hits. Now, it's up to him to somehow stop the killer from executing the last witness as well as himself. (116 minutes)

FRIDAY

2 p.m. Sleepover (PG)
7 p.m. White Chicks (PG-13)
10 p.m. The Village (PG-13)

SATURDAY

1 p.m. Spiderman 2 (PG-13)
4 p.m. Catwoman (PG-13)
7 p.m. Manchurian Candidate (R)
10 p.m. The Village (PG-13)

SUNDAY

4 p.m. Collateral (R)
7 p.m. Bourne Supremacy (PG-13)

MONDAY

2 p.m. Around The World In 80 Days (PG)
7 p.m. White Chicks (PG-13)

TUESDAY

7 p.m. Catwoman (PG-13)

WEDNESDAY

2 p.m. Sleepover (PG)
7 p.m. Around The World In 80 Days (PG)

THURSDAY

7 p.m. Stepford Wives (PG-13)

This schedule is submitted by the Sakura Theater and is subject to change. For show times call the Sakura Theater at 253-5291.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

EDUCATION

Test Schedule

Tuesdays/Fridays - CLEP, DSST
 September 8 - SAT
 September 9 - ACT
 September 15 - DLAB
 September 16 - DLPT
 September 22 - ASVAB
 September 23 - EDPT

For more information call 253-3855.

CHRO

CHRO Training

■ **New Employees Orientation:** Sept. 15, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
 ■ **EEO Update For EEO Counselors:** Sept. 28-29, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information and nomination, call 253-6828 or send e-mail to shiomuram.jp@iwakuni.usmc.mil. Classes will be held at Building one, Room 102.

MCCS

CRMC Classes (253-6439)

■ **Local Employment Overview:** Tuesday, 9-10:30 a.m.
 ■ **Hello U.S.A. Workshop:** Wednesday, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
 ■ **10 Steps To Federal Employment:** Thursday, 1-3 p.m.

Club Iwakuni

■ **All Ranks Alternative Rock:** Today, 8 p.m. in the Ballroom.

MCX (253-5641)

■ **Jessica McClintock Gowns:** Ladies, get ready for the Navy and Marine Corps Birthday Balls. Many styles are available for you to choose from. Call 253-5641 ext. 206 for an appointment Monday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 4-6 p.m. or e-mail billingsd@usmc-mccs.org.

School Age Center (253-4769)

■ **Farewell BBQ for Summer Camp Counselors:** Today, 3-5 p.m.

Teen Center (253-6454)

■ **Sasebo Teen Center Trip:** Aug. 28, 7 a.m. to 11 p.m.

Single Marine Program (253-3891)

■ **Dinner Night Out - Sushi!** Friday: Today, 6 p.m. \$10 transportation, plus extra yen for dinner.

■ **Hiroshima Baseball, Carps vs. Giants:** Saturday, 3 p.m. \$10 transportation, ¥1,500 admission, bring extra yen for dinner, snacks and souvenirs.

■ **Space World Trip:** Aug. 29, 8 a.m. \$20 transportation. Bring at least ¥5,000 for admission and lunch.

L.I.N.K.S. Session

Aug. 28, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Yujo Hall. Learn tips from fellow spouses about PCSing, the Marine Corps, services available to dependents and life as a military spouse. Call 253-3754 for more details.

Youth & Teens Sponsorship Program

We are recruiting youth and teens ages 13 to 18-years-old to be sponsors for other children moving to Iwakuni. Ages

and interests will be matched as closely as possible and parental consent is required. Call 253-3311 for more information or visit the Relocation Assistance Program Office in the Marine & Family Services Center for an application.

Family Appreciation Day

Southside Bowling Center all games half-price Saturday, 1-5 p.m. Call 253-3657 to find out more.

COMMUNITY

WIC Overseas

WIC Overseas is a supplemental food and nutrition education program. Eligible participants are pregnant, postpartum or breast-feeding women, infants and children up to their 5th birthday. Financial eligibility is based upon total family income and size. Call 253-4928 for details.

Officers' And Spouses' Club

OSC membership kickoff night is held at Quarters 2, Sept. 2, 6:30 p.m. Open to all spouses of officers, officer equivalent civilians (GS-7 and above), officers, DOD employees and retired officer spouses. Lots of great prizes! Come join the fun. Call 253-3684 for questions.

Breast Feeding Basics

Learn about breast-feeding Tuesday, 2:30 p.m. at CDC training room. Call 253-4928 to register.

Crime Stoppers

If you have any information pertaining to a crime please call "Crime Stoppers" at 253-3333. Crime Stoppers is an answering service designed for anonymous callers to give information that would assist the Provost Marshal's Office in solving and preventing crime.

43rd Annual Japanese Speech Contest

The contest is Oct. 24, 12 p.m. at Sinfonia Iwakuni. Participants must be non-native speaker. Application is due Oct. 8. Call JAS office at 253-4771 for more details.

Thrift Store

The Thrift Store is open Mondays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Wednesdays from 5-7 p.m. and the last Saturday of each month from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. in Building 1117, located next to the Chapel. Volunteers and donations are always welcome. Call 253-4721 for more information.

Iwakuni Toastmasters

Toastmasters (TM) International provides an excellent opportunity to learn and practice proper public speaking and invaluable leadership skills. The TM experience also looks very good on your resume. The class meets every 2nd Thursday evening and 4th Friday at lunch. Japanese with intermediate or better English skills are welcome. Call Sallie Donahue at 253-5328 for more information.

CHAPEL SERVICES

Roman Catholic

Saturday 4:30 p.m. Confession
 5:30 p.m. Mass
 Sunday 9:30 a.m. Mass
 10:45 a.m. CCD

Protestant

Sunday 8 a.m. Non-Denominational Christian
 9:30 a.m. Worship Service
 11 a.m. Sunday School/
 Adult Bible Fellowships
 Gospel Worship Service

Cooperative Chapel Ministries

3rd Saturday 8 a.m. Men's Fellowship Breakfast

LAY LED SERVICES

Church of Christ

Sunday 9:30 a.m. Bible Study
 10:30 a.m. Worship Service
 Wednesday 7 p.m. Bible Study

Seventh-Day Adventist

2nd & 4th Saturdays
 9:30 a.m. Sabbath School/Worship

Jewish

Every other Friday
 6 p.m. Shabbat

Latter Day Saints

Sunday 1 p.m. Priesthood/RS Meeting
 2 p.m. Sunday School
 3 p.m. Sacrament

For information regarding divine services, religious education or any other Command Religious Program/Chapel activity, call the Station Chapel at 253-5218.



Linda M. Wynkoop

Dragons volunteer for local kids

Marines from Combat Service Support Detachment 36 take a break from volunteering at the National Kids Day Expo behind Crossroads Mall, Aug. 7. The event was sponsored by Marine Corps Community Services and with the help of Marine volunteers was a success for local youths.

Samurai team faces poor turnout for preseason pigskin

STORY AND PHOTOS BY
CPL. ROBERT W. WYNKOOP
Combat Correspondent

For more than two weeks Matthew C. Perry High School football players have been conditioning their bodies in preparation for the upcoming season.

The team has been practicing twice a day since Aug. 2, according to Samurai head coach Kevin Crone, but the team is in danger of being unable to participate in the Department of Defense Education Activity sports program due to a lack of student participation.

The players attending the conditioning practices make up a good base, Crone said of the team, "but I can't ask these guys to run both ways (playing offense and defense) the entire season."

There are currently 13 players who consistently show up for the 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. daily training sessions, held at the practice field behind the Youth Center here, but the team needs a minimum of 17 players before they scrimmage with a local Japanese team, Sept. 5, or the program may fold, Crone said.

Crone said 17 players is a minimum, but he could use 25 or 30 players. The high school has 64 registered males eligible to play football, but if he gets only the minimum 17 it is possible to see a repeat of 2003 season, where Crone ran a squad of 14. The season resulted in a disappointing zero wins with eight losses.

"Last year we had eleven on the field and three (substitutions)," Crone explained. The team was forced to forfeit twice because they didn't have enough players to take the field.

The lack of substitutions means Samurai players will again be forced to play offense and defense with little or no breaks during the games. To prepare for this, Crone uses a conditioning drill he dubs the "circle of death." Players begin by running in a circle and at the sound of a whistle players stop and



M.C. Perry High School junior, Ryan Marshall (left) makes a block for senior Adam Krievs during practice Monday. Practices began Aug. 2 to prepare for the coming season.



Samurai fullback, Adam Krievs drinks water during a break from conditioning practice, Monday.

present at any given practice, even drills like Crone's 'circle' might not be enough to match other team's fresh players on the sidelines.

"After the first week, they were hurting," said Crone, who is beginning his second season as the Samurai head coach. "I'm just trying to get them to understand that sweat during our 'two-a-days' turns into strength when the season starts."

Crone says there are many students who talk about playing football but just won't come to the practices.

"We get a lot of talking but no walking," Crone said. "We have a lot of kids who want to come out and play without doing the conditioning."

The current players are showing promise, but

perform calisthenics - like crunches and push-ups. At the next whistle the players run the opposite direction and prepare for the next whistle blow. This continues for 12 minutes - the equivalent of one quarter of football, Crone said.

Despite the efforts of the dozen or so athletes

putting forth a good effort. They're going to be the guys who will make the team (successful) in the coming seasons," Crone said.

Once the school year starts, players will continue to have to put forth effort both on the field and off. The Department of Defense Dependents Schools require students to hold a 2.0 grade point average to play, meaning players with a failing grade or a D would have to have high marks in other classes to continue to play. Crone, however, raises the bar.

"I check grades every week. Team policy is no Ds or Fs. If they fail or have a D, they spend that week with me or another teacher after school for one hour studying. Then they go to practice," Crone explained.

Dedication to the team is very important to the small squad. Not only do players have to earn their positions on the field, they have to earn their gear as well.

"We just got our helmets," Crone said, "but they have to show up to 10 practices before I give it to them." Six more practices will give a player a set of pads, which should arrive here this week.

Crone challenges other teens to step up and represent the Samurai. Any interested males or females should show up to the morning or afternoon practices on the practice field behind the Youth Center.

IWAKUNI SPORTS SCENE

PONTOON PARTY BOAT AVAILABLE FOR RENT

The boat is available Saturday and Sunday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., and on weekdays with a 24-hour notice. Attending a boat safety class is required prior to reservation. The cost to rent the boat is a minimum of \$60 for four hours and \$15 for each hour thereafter, for a maximum of eight hours. Alcohol is not allowed on the boat. For more information, call Outdoor Recreation at 253-3822.

FAMILY APPRECIATION DAYS

Saturday, 1-5 p.m. All games at the Bowling Center are half price. Call 253-4657 for details.

YOUTH SOCCER & CHEERLEADING

Registration for both activities is available for \$30 until Monday at the IronWorks Gym. Coaches for both events train Monday and Tues-

day at 5 p.m. in the Wellness Room. Late registration is accepted until Sept. 3; \$40 for soccer. Opening ceremony for soccer is Sept. 11, 9 a.m. at Penny Lake. Closing ceremonies will be Oct. 30, 9 a.m. at the Penny Lake Soccer Field. For more details, call 253-3239.

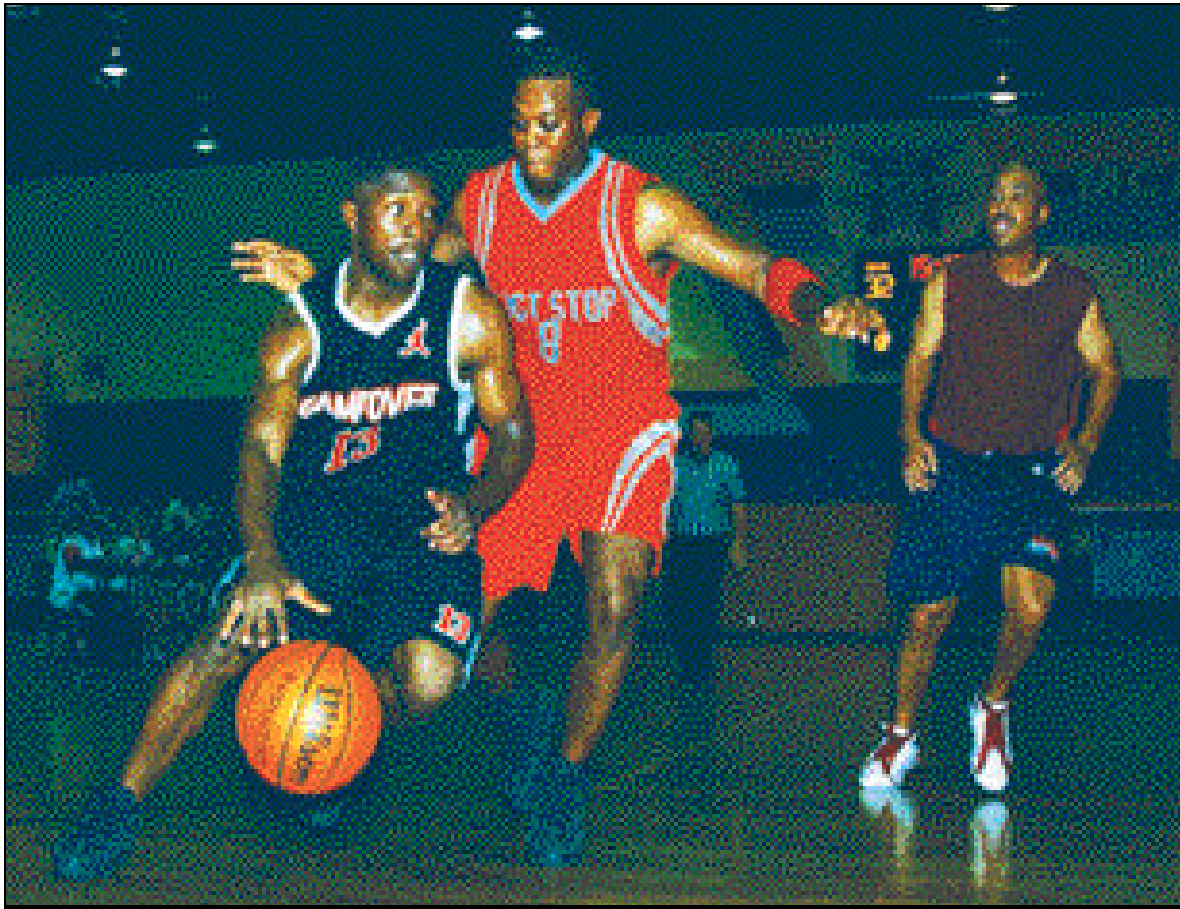
SIX-MAN SOCCER

Coaches meet Tuesday, 10 a.m. in the IronWorks Gym Wellness Room. Season starts Sept. 6. Call Athletics at 253-5777 to sign-up.

YOUTH CHEER CAMP

Sept. 4. Camps are for children age 7-9-year-olds and 10-15-year-olds. The camp for 10-15-year-olds is open to boys. Interested coaches for cheerleading are invited. Youth will learn basic chants, cheers, stunts and a dance routine. Youth should wear tennis shoes, have their hair up, and t-shirts tucked in. Call 253-3239 to sign-up.

Last Stop says it's game over



Julius Johnson, Game Over team player, drives past Last Stop's LaMont Wilson.



(ABOVE): Intramural Basketball League champions, Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron Last Stop, pose for a victory photo with their families. Last Stop defeated Game Over in the championship game, 64-44.

(RIGHT): Lee Woodbridge, Last Stop team player, drives past Nakia Witherow and Terry Bonds, Game Over team players, to score a lay-up.



STORY AND PHOTOS BY
LANCE CPL. RUBEN D. CALDERON
Combat Correspondent

Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron Last Stop came out victorious over H&HS Game Over at the IronWorks Gym for the Intramural Basketball Championship game, Aug. 11, beating them 64-44.

The victory was a long and hard road to travel for Last Stop, despite their strong record of 16 wins and only one loss. Game Over had the upper hand on game night.

"Last Stop has to win twice tonight in order for them to win the championship," said Gabriel Maldonado, Game Over head coach, during the first game.

The game ended up being a doubleheader due to Game Over beating Last Stop earlier in the season and Game Over winning the winners bracket in the playoffs.

That was the task that Last Stop had. They overcame it. "There will be two games tonight," said Lee Woodbridge, Last Stop team player, minutes before the opening tip-off.

During the first half of the first game both teams displayed why they were both in the championship game. A juggernaut of shots and lay-ups were made at both ends of the court. The first half ended at 25-25.

Tension arose due to a call that resulted in head coach Maldonado getting ejected from the game. Game Over played the final half without their coach; they played without their leader.

"Being suspended for the first game really hurt us and it's something that my teammates tried to overcome but couldn't," said Maldonado.

The final score for the first game was 61-53, resulting in a second game for Game Over. This time around, Maldonado was back. But so was the Last Stop with an armada of shots. Most notable, was Last Stop team player Benjamin Akins, racking up 24 points during the second game.

"This is for the gusto," said Woodbridge of the second game. By the end of the first half of the second game, Last Stop was on top with the score 28-22.

"Game Over? I don't think so," shouted Woodbridge at the start of the second half.

An onslaught of shots came from Last Stop.

Although a tough game was put forth by Game Over, Last Stop's offense overcame and won the championship, 67-44.

Both teams were given trophies but only Last Stop took home the championship trophy. The most valuable player award was given to Akins.

"I want to thank the other teams for playing this season and for keeping us on our toes because the championship was not just given to us – we earned it," said LaMont Wilson, Last Stop head coach.



The Intramural Basketball league's most valuable player, Benjamin Akins, Last Stop team player, scores two points for his team during the second game.