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# IWAKUNI APPROACH

Issue No. 27, Vol. 3 | Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan

## Patriot Express show time changes in effect July 3

CPL. KRISTIN E. MORENO  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Changes to show times for Saturdays Patriot Express flights departing to Yokota Air Base, and final destination of Seattle, Wash., went into effect July 3.

The changes were made to reduce the aircraft's time on ground from three hours to two hours.

"We as the Air Terminal Division had to make the time changes to give the passenger agents ample time to process passengers without any delays," said Staff Sgt. Dominique G. Laboy, passenger section staff noncommissioned officer-in-charge here.

The check-in time for space-available passengers is now 8 a.m.

The check-in time for passengers travelling on permanent change of station or temporary additional duty orders is 9 a.m.

Passenger agents have to check in and process the weight of baggage and passengers, get accountability of passengers and then get everyone through security before passengers can enter the aircraft.

"With the old show times, the bird was already on deck before passengers were processed," said Lance Cpl. Mathew Young, passenger agent here.

Several factors can slow down the check-in process, such as excess baggage and passengers travelling with pets, said Young.

The change in show time gives the agents more time to process passengers before the aircraft arrives and reduces the stress of travelling.

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## Women Marines make special club

CPL. KRISTIN E. MORENO  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

The Iwakuni Torii Chapter here was recently recognized as an official chapter of the Women Marines Association.

The WMA is a non-profit veteran organization established in 1960 and comprised of women who have served or are serving honorably in the Marine Corps active or reserve components. The organization aims to preserve the history of female Marines and keep their legacy alive.

In December 2009, Cpl. Cynthia Sosa, founder of the Iwakuni Torii Chapter, first began the process of establishing the local chapter.

Sosa belonged to the local WMA chapter in San Diego and said she missed the camaraderie that came with belonging to a local chapter when she came to Iwakuni.

"I thought having a WMA chapter (in Iwakuni) could provide some great support for the women here," said Sosa. "As small as Iwakuni is, I know that I don't know all the women Marines, especially prior service. Having a chapter here would allow us to get together on serious topics or just to build comradeship."

Cpl. Julia Henley is the president of the Iwakuni Torii Chapter. Lance Cpl. Melissa Pondi is the vice president, Lance Cpl. Melinda Schulz is

SEE WOMEN ON PAGE 3



CPL. KRISTIN E. MORENO

Sailors with Helicopter Mine Countermeasures Squadron 14 Detachment 1 out of Pohang, Korea, hook simulated cargo onto an MH-53E Sea Dragon during an external vertical replenishment exercise at the airfield here July 8. The training was held here due to the lack of resources in Pohang.

## HM-14 visits station for training

CPL. KRISTIN E. MORENO  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Sailors with Helicopter Mine Countermeasures Squadron 14 Detachment 1 out of Pohang, Korea, visited the station to conduct external vertical replenishment training July 8.

HM-14 is homeported at Naval Station Norfolk, Va., and its mission is to stand ready to deploy anywhere in the world within 72 hours to provide airborne mine countermeasures and vertical onboard delivery support, as well as humanitarian and disaster relief.

Vertical replenishment is used to transport equipment or supplies to seaborne vessels or remote locations inaccessible by any other means.

"External vertical replenishment training is important for consistency," said Petty Officer 2nd Class Erik Cotton, aviation structure mechanic with HM-14 Det. 1. "Our aircraft is used for many different things, and the crewmen need to be familiar with everything."

The aircraft used for the training was an MH-53E Sea Dragon, which is similar to the CH-53E Super Stallion used in the Marine Corps.

The main difference is that the CH-53 is able to drop its fuel tanks and has dual lift points, whereas the MH-53E's fuel tanks are attached to the aircraft and only has a single lift point, said Lt. Troy Kelly, helicopter aircraft commander for HM-14 Det. 1.

"We're one of the few heavy-lift squadrons in (the area)," said Kelly. "(Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force) HM-111 has the same aircraft, but their capabilities are a little different from ours."

Due to the fuel capacity of the MH-53E, the aircraft is capable of staying on scene for about five hours or indefinitely with aerial refueling, said Kelly.

The training was held on the airfield here due to the lack of resources in Pohang.

SEE HELICOPTER ON PAGE 3





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# CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

## 'A New Start'

LT. ROBERT E. MILLS  
STATION CHAPLAIN

As I counsel Marines, sailors, civilians and family members in my office, I often see a repeating pattern.

Something bad has happened to a person – sometimes a single event, but more often, a series of things that add a lot of stress to that person's life. Most of the time, the people who I'm talking to would be a lot happier and have a much better life if they knew how to handle the stress that life brought their way. Fortunately, nature and na-

ture's God have provided all of us with eight sure-fire ways to beat the stress we are under. They even can be arranged into a nice acronym:

**N for Nutrition:** Eating a variety of well-prepared healthy foods.

**E for Exercise:** Engaging in regular cardio-vascular, strength and flexibility exercise.

**W for Water:** Drinking 6-8 glasses of pure water per day and bathing regularly.

**S for Sunlight:** Getting outside and experiencing nature's light in moderation.

**T for Temperance:** Using good things moderately and avoiding harmful things.

**A for Air:** Breathing deeply of God's most common resource –

fresh air.

**R for Rest:** Getting 7-9 hours of sleep every night – the best hours are before midnight.

**T for Trust in God:** Getting to know and trust the one who made us.

These eight sure steps to stress-reduction are free or at least don't cost very much (in the case of good food).

While many counselors talk about advanced stress-reduction techniques, here are some of the very best – from the loving hand of nature's God. Try them today.

The Christian Scriptures say: "Beloved, I wish above all things that you may prosper and be in good health." III John 2. Here's to good health and a new start for you.

## Safety tips for typhoon awareness

SUBMITTED BY  
STATION SAFETY OFFICE

Are you ready for the Typhoon season?

Here are some general facts you should know about Tropical Cyclone Conditions of Readiness (TCCOR), typhoon categories, emergency shelters and phone numbers.

### Tropical cyclone condition of readiness tropical conditions:

**TCCOR IV** - The trend indicates a possible threat of a tropical cyclone within 72 hours. Typhoon season is from 1 June to 30 November annually during which MCAS Iwakuni remains at a minimum TCCOR IV for the duration.

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

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

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

**TCCOR IC** - Winds of 34 to 49 knots are occurring on Station.

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

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

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

**TCCOR All Clear** - All tropical cyclone imminent dangers have passed. Return to Condition IV.

**Tropical Storm** - Tropical cyclone with maximum sustained winds of 34-63 knots.

**Typhoon** - Tropical cyclone with maximum sustained winds of 64 knots or greater.

**Super Typhoon** - Tropical cyclone with maximum sustained winds greater than 129 knots.

### Emergency shelters & Phone numbers:

**Disaster shelters** - The Southside Gymnasium, BLDG 1010, 253-6578 and M.C. Perry Gymnasium, BLDG 555, 253-3447

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

To get the current Typhoon conditions, call Station Weather at 253-3005.

### Prepare your typhoon kit:

- Flashlight (keep batteries separate).
  - Battery powered radio (keep batteries separate).
  - Batteries.
  - Canned and packaged food with can and bottle opener (2 to 3 days supply).
  - 2 to 3 days of water supply (1 gallon of drinking water per person per day).
  - First aid supplies.
  - Prescription medication (if applicable).
  - Baby articles (if applicable).
  - Hand cleaner / wet naps.
  - Inventory check list (keep your kit updated).
- Don't forget to refresh your supply once used.

## Local motorcycle club gives back to community

LANCE CPL. CLAUDIO A. MARTINEZ  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Members of the Iwakuni Motorcycle Club visited the Oshima Island and Iwakuni city mayors to donate money to both communities July 9.

The club donated approximately 200,000 Yen to the community of Oshima Island and also donated approximately 100,000 Yen to the community of Iwakuni City.

"Our goal, as the Iwakuni Motorcycle Club is to help foster a friendship between the Americans of Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni with the Japanese communities," said Michael Gingles, Iwakuni Motorcycle Club president.

Although maintaining the relationship is important, helping the local community through the donations given is also an important goal, Gingles added.

The money donated was raised by the Iwakuni Motorcycle Club during an annual two-day motorcycle rally organized by the club this past April 10 and 11.

Gingles said he hopes the club will be able to raise more money for next year's donations.

This was the seventh year the Iwakuni Motorcycle Club donated money to the Oshima Island community and the third year money was donated to the com-

munity of Iwakuni City.

Yoshihiko Fukuda, Iwakuni City mayor, received the money on behalf of the people of Iwakuni City.

Fukuda said he planned to give the money to various welfare projects around the city.

"I really do appreciate (the donation)," said Fukuda.

What the Iwkauni Motorcycle Club is doing is a great thing, and they should keep doing what they're doing to keep building on community relations, Fukuda added.

Takumi Shiiki, Oshima Island mayor, received the money donated by the motorcycle club on behalf of the people of Oshima Island.

Shiiki said his city has developed a reading program, which encourages parents to read to their children and he planned to use the money donated to buy books for the program.

"For the children, (who benefit most from the donation) they don't know who's American and who's Japanese," said Shiiki. "They just understand people with good hearts are helping."

Shiiki said he believed it would be a great thing if the young children can understand it doesn't matter if you're American or Japanese, but how you help others is what matters.



Takumi Shiiki, Oshima Island mayor, receives a donation of 200,000 Yen from Michael Gingles, Iwakuni Motorcycle Club president at the Oshima Island town hall July 9. The money donated was raised during this year's annual two-day motorcycle rally organized by the Iwakuni Motorcycle Club this past April 10 and 11.

## Patriot Express decreases ground time

PATRIOT FROM PAGE 1

The air terminal will continue to offer early check in for passengers travelling on PCS orders from 3 to 6:30 p.m. Fridays.

"Early check in is great for big families," said Laboy. "They can check in their bags without all the passengers present so they won't have to worry about carrying all their luggage and family members on travel day."

Families can also benefit from

early check in because they'll get a choice of seating, which is assigned on a first-come, first-served basis, said Laboy. It'll help speed up the process on travel day.

The time changes made here will not affect other Patriot Express stops.

For additional information, contact the Air Transportation Division passenger service agents at 253-5509.

## Iwakuni forms local WMA chapter, keeps legacy of female Marines alive

WOMEN FROM PAGE 1

the treasurer, and Lance Cpl. Gabriela Venegas is the secretary. The chapter will meet at least once a quarter but aims to meet once a month.

The majority of the chapter is active duty, so deployments and training exercises tend to inhibit the chapter's ability to meet monthly, said Henley.

The chapter will sponsor activities to improve community relations with Japanese nationals, conduct programs for charitable and educational purposes, and get involved in the Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps and Lunch Buddies Program at Matthew C. Perry Elementary School.

"Having a local chapter does great things when it comes to unifying female Marines as a whole (outside the contiguous United States) and increasing the camaraderie between female Marines throughout the Corps," said Henley.

The local chapter has more than 25 members and is steadily

growing.

"The WMA is an association dedicated to upholding the history and progress of women in the Marine Corps," said Henley. "Not only do we uphold the rich history, but we also educate the younger female Marines on what kind of legacy they're helping to continue as a female Marine."

Henley encourages female Marines to join because the WMA builds camaraderie and provides support for and from other females on station.

The WMA also provides female Marines with information and career options open to them they might not have known about otherwise.

The 26th biennial Women Marines Association Convention and Professional Developmental Conference "A Walk Through Time" will be held Sept. 3-7 in Denver, Colo.

For more information about the convention and how to attend, refer to Marine Administrative Message 254/10.

For more information on the Women Marines Association or how to join, visit [www.womenmarines.org](http://www.womenmarines.org), or contact your local chapter president by e-mail at [julia.henley@usmc.mil](mailto:julia.henley@usmc.mil).



Sailors with Helicopter Mine Countermeasures Squadron 14 Detachment 1 out of Pohang, Korea, stand ready to hook simulated cargo to an MH-53E Sea Dragon during vertical replenishment training held at the airfield here July 8. HM-14 is homeported at Naval Station Norfolk, Va.

## Vertical replenishment crucial for success

HELICOPTER FROM PAGE 1

"Where we are in Korea, we haven't been able to do any external (vertical replenishments) so our pilots are out of practice," said Kelly. "A lot of aircrew in order to make it to the next level of their training have to get sign offs, so they're kind of put on hold until we can get (the training done)."

Pilots are required to maintain a certain number of flying hours in order to keep their credentials, so this training will go toward their hours, said Kelly.

"A lot of places you go, they just try to keep their bare minimums," said Kelly. "That's just to stay current. That's not proficient. We try to fly as many hours as we possibly can."

HM-14 also conducts training regularly in night operations, pattern work, navigation, approaches, towing devices in water, and classifying and neutralizing mines.

## "Blast from the Past"



A live 2-hour radio show featuring the best of the 50s, 60s and 70s. Every Monday 7 - 9 p.m. on Power 1575.



# Station Cryogenics shows how cool science can be

LANCE CPL. MARCEL BROWN  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

August 1991, a young navy cryogenic technician assigned to the USS Independence was creating a small amount of liquid oxygen in a liquid oxygen pan.

Not exercising proper safety, the sailor stepped in the pan, and the small amount of pressure from his foot was all it took to create an explosion that incinerated the sailor instantly and blew a hole through four upper levels of the ship.

The Station Cryogenics Division here works with some of the most dangerous elements on the air station to provide liquid and gaseous oxygen and nitrogen primarily for Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12, but also for many other units on station.

After World War II, scientists discovered metals frozen to low temperatures could withstand more wear, which sparked the study of cryogenics.

Today, the production of liquid and gaseous nitrogen and oxygen serves a huge role in the military, especially in aviation and medical operations.

Gaseous oxygen is used at the Robert M. Casey Medical and Dental Clinic for patients under anesthesia, and used in F/A-18 Hornet pilots' oxygen masks while in high altitude flights where oxygen is scarce.

Gaseous nitrogen is used for propelling aircraft warheads, activating pilots' ejection seats and inflating aircraft and tactical vehicle tires.

Although highly convenient in liquid and gaseous forms, the creation of these elements is a process that has the potential to be very harmful.

"If you take a half pound of liquid oxygen, which is equal to about one cup, and you take a half pound of dirt, just those two together have the same explosive force as one pound of TNT," said Chief Petty Officer Bill Ostrander, station cryogenics leading chief petty officer.

Although the elements used in cryogenics are retrieved from the air in the atmosphere, when separated, oxygen and nitrogen can be some of the most dangerous elements to work with.

"You have to keep your head on a swivel," said Petty Officer 2nd Class Chris Candela, Station Cryogenics technician. "You just have to make sure that you're not becoming complacent because you're working with stuff that has extreme hazards involved."

The military takes these hazards very seriously. The military occupational specialty as a cryogenic technician is only available for E-4s and above and E-3s with a waiver.

Candela said in the Navy, E-3s or below, in most cases, would never get assigned to the cryogenics field without completing at least one duty station.

Not only do the sailors have one complete duty station rotation, they also have to meet intelligence standards.

"You have to have a certain (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery) score. Your



Petty Officer 2nd Class Thomas Armstrong, Station Cryogenics Division technician, purges a cryogenic hose over a liquid oxygen pan at the Navy Cryogenics Division building here July 9. The process of purging clears the hose of excess oxygen or nitrogen particles.

math and English have to be at a certain level to be able to qualify for the school," said Candela.

Having wits is just one part of the job. With the harmful substances they deal with on a regular basis, they must exercise safety and common sense.

"Since it is so dangerous, safety is always taught from day one, and safety is something we always train on," said Ostrander.

The Station Cryogenics Division has what they call a production period where they spend 8 - 10 days out of the month producing liquid nitrogen and oxygen.

During this period, technicians work

24-hour shifts with two people operating a production unit at a time.

"The top watch is the person who will make adjustments to the (production unit). They maintain purity and product flow," said Candela. "The other (person) would be the messenger who will be there to take readings and get trained to be a top watch."

The production amount depends on the needs of MALS-12 or the rate of nitrogen and oxygen being used on station.

With a staff of 12, the Station Cryogenics Division continues to conduct its dangerous daily duties providing MALS-12 and the air station with a cool cryogenic surplus.



A Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 212 pilot snags the wire with his F/A-18C Hornet during an arrested landing on Marine Corps Air Station Futenma, Okinawa, Feb. 13, 2007. The arrestment gear used at Futenma is the same as what is used on station here.

## Recovery crucial component of airfield operations

CPL. KRISTIN E. MORENO  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Being the only air station in the area with arresting gear puts a lot of pressure on the Recovery Marines here.

Recovery is solely responsible for installing, inspecting, repairing and operating arresting gear, visual landing aids, airfield AM-2 matting, and airfield lighting and markings.

Recovery is oftentimes mistaken for Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting, and while their jobs coincide with each other, they're exceedingly different. ARFF is primarily responsible for rescuing victims involved in aircraft crashes and fighting fires but has little to no involvement in arrestments.

If a pilot needed to make an emergency or precautionary landing, recovery would be called to the scene.

"If an aircraft malfunctions and the brakes go out, or the left or right engine go out, or they're low on fuel, the aircraft will have to make an emergency landing. It's our job to make the arrestment," said Lance Cpl. Robert R. Jones, aircraft recovery specialist with station Recovery.

The air station's runway is equipped with three sets of E-28 arresting gear with three more sets scheduled to be installed in the future.

Arresting gear is a series of components used to stop an aircraft by absorbing its momentum in the case of an emergency landing or aborted takeoff. However, the gear is not effective for all aircraft.

"In order for aircraft to be caught here, they must have a tail hook," said Jones.

Some aircraft with tail hooks include the E-2C Hawkeye, F/A-18, F-15 and F-16.

As the aircraft hits the runway, its hook catches on the cable of the arresting gear lying across the runway. The cable stretches out much like a rubber band until the aircraft comes to a halt. The cable and aircraft are then reeled back in to the original catch point. ARFF assists in pinning the landing gear and taxiing the aircraft off the runway.

An arrestment happens fast and only takes

about two minutes from start to finish, said Jones.

An arrestment typically takes 4-5 Marines, but because it doesn't happen very often, all available Recovery Marines are sent to help for training purposes.

Training classes are also held weekly for the Marines to ensure they stay proficient when practical application of the skills are unavailable.

"We have actual training classes where we make our own scenarios up," said Staff Sgt. Carlton Broadnax, runway supervisor for Recovery.

"If something did happen, say where an aircraft skids off the runway because he had a locked up brake main, we give them scenarios like that so if something does happen they'll know what to do."

While arresting operations are almost infallible here due to the amount of training the recovery Marines endure, it's possible for the gear to fail if not properly maintained.

"If the gear is not maintained, which is part of our mission to do, then arrestments definitely can fail," said Broadnax. "If the Marines aren't doing their job here, then the arrestment will fail."

If that happens, the aircraft won't be able to stop. It will go right through the arrestment gear, break the tail hook, continue down the runway, and end up causing damage to the aircraft, airfield and possibly injure personnel, said Broadnax.

One thing that makes Recovery unique here is the availability of M-31 expeditionary arresting gear in addition to the E-28 gear installed on the flight line.

There aren't many stations that have both sets of gear available, and it's not unusual to get a Marine in the shop who is only familiar with one of the systems, said Jones.

Recovery isn't just beneficial to the station's air operations. It's also important to all aircraft flying over the area.

"If we didn't have arrestment gear here in Iwakuni, (aircraft) would have to either fly to a ship offshore, a carrier or fly to Okinawa for any type of emergency situation," said

Jones. "We're the only air station (mainland Japan) with arrestment gear."

So, whether it's an emergency or just a precautionary measure, pilots can rest assured Recovery Marines here will be on the scene to bring their bird to a stop safely.



Staff Sgt. Carlton Broadnax, runway supervisor for Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron Recovery, and Cpl. Samuel Mantz, assistant crew leader inspect the arresting gear on the flightline here July 1. Without proper maintenance arresting gear can fail.



# 2010 Independence day celebration

LANCE CPL. MARCEL BROWN  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Japanese civilians, Marines, sailors and family member gathered around to witness the vibrant coordinated explosions over the Penny Lake skies during the 2010 Independence Day celebration here July 4.

Independence Day is an American federal holiday that celebrates the signing of the Declaration of Independence July 4, 1776.

Although an American holiday, during this year's Fourth of July celebration here, the Japanese locals outnumbered the American population by double.

"What purpose do we have walking around with our heads held high if we can't (celebrate) with our fellow (Japanese locals) out here," said Staff Sgt. Anita Angell, Postal assistant operations chief here.

Since the Marines and sailors stationed here are usually away from the U.S. for long periods at a time, Kevin Williams, University of Maryland University College employee here, said having holiday events overseas is important in giving troops a slice of home away from home.

"This is a celebration just to show the world what we're about," said Angell. "It gives Marines a chance to come together and build a little camaraderie."

Provost Marshal's Office Marines worked diligently to keep order and control of people and vehicles traveling in and out of Penny Lake.

Lance Cpl. John Magress, military police officer, said the PMO Marines worked in five hour shifts the whole day to give the Marines an opportunity to still have time off for the holiday.

"The event was very well organized," said Williams. "It was easy to get out here, and everybody is coming and going with ease, so I thought (PMO) did pretty well."

Snacks, cooked food and beverages were offered to people attending the celebration, and for the children, large bounce-houses are what caught their attention during this event.

The fireworks display began around 8:30 p.m., bringing the crowd of people to a mass silence. Throughout the performance crowds clapped and cheered several times, thinking the huge crescendos in the performance were the grand finale, but the true grand finale caught the audience by surprise.

"I enjoyed it a great deal," said Williams. "I really liked the ending. It was really impressive. I think they should have fireworks here the fourth of every month."



A Japanese civilian family poses for a picture during the 2010 Independence Day fireworks display at Penny Lake July 4. For the celebration of an American holiday, the attendance of Japanese spectators was ironically about double the amount of American spectators.



A Japanese civilian prepares hot dogs and hamburgers for all spectators during the 2010 Independence Day fireworks display at Penny Lake, July 4. Cooked food, snacks and beverages were offered to everyone who attended the event.



A young Japanese child smiles after receiving a dollar from his father during the 2010 Independence Day fireworks display at Penny Lake, July 4.



Orchestrated explosions of fireworks explode over the Penny Lake skies during the 2010 Independence Day fireworks display July 4. Spectators watched in amazement as the grand finale lit up the entire Penny Lake.



Children bounce away inside a bounce-house before the start of the 2010 Independence Day fireworks display at Penny Lake July 4. Young children were given the opportunity to stay inside any of the four available bounce-houses free of charge.

LANCE CPL. MARCEL BROWN

LANCE CPL. MARCEL BROWN

LANCE CPL. MARCEL BROWN

LANCE CPL. MARCEL BROWN



# CORPS NEWS

## HIGHLIGHTING MARINES AND SAILORS AROUND THE GLOBE



GUNNERY SGT. STEVEN WILLIAMS

**CAMP BASTION, Afghanistan** — Marines with Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 369, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing (Forward), prepare a UH-1Y Huey for flight July 16 before heading out on a combat assault support mission to provide eyes in the skies for a ground unit in the area. HMLA-369 Marines provide CAS, overwatch and assault support when troops are in contact with the enemy on a daily basis in southern Afghanistan.

# Hueys take to skies supporting ANSF, NATO troops

GUNNERY SGT. STEVEN WILLIAMS  
3RD MARINE AIRCRAFT WING  
(FWD)

**CAMP BASTION, Afghanistan** — Marine Corps aviation assets in Afghanistan bring a huge advantage for Afghan national security forces and NATO troops who are constantly ambushed by an enemy that rarely sticks around to fight. So, while the insurgents hide behind their surprise tactics, Marines with Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 369 are bringing a little surprise of their own. It's called the UH-1Y Huey. Bell Helicopter named it the "Venom." Marine pilots and crew fondly call it the "Yankee." But no matter what you call it, the thought of it alone is striking fear in the enemy. "A lot of times we'll get a call for troops in contact," said Staff Sgt. Jonathan Lee, an HMLA-369 crew chief, "and we'll scramble out of here, get down to the contact point and just the sound of us coming into the overhead is the fight stopper because the Taliban and insurgents realize that they just lost any illusion of fire superiority when we came on station." Outfitted with an M134

minigun, a GAU-17/A .50-caliber machine gun and 2.75-inch rockets, the Huey is rigged for dominance. Its four-blade rotor provides intense power for getting to the fight in a hurry even with the massive firepower attached to it. And some high-tech tools in the cockpit give the pilots an edge, including the capability to downlink with UAVs in the area to see what they can see. But as with any machinery or weaponry, the Huey is only as strong as the crew using it. Lee and his partner, Sgt. Trevor Cook, another crew chief, work hard to meld as a seamless team. "We have to learn each others' tendencies," said Lee. "You also have to learn the pilots' tendencies and build the crew coordination concept that it's one team, one fight inside the helicopter. You have to coordinate everyone's actions so they come off smoothly without any notice that there are actually four guys flying the helicopter — it seems like one." As a Huey of one, the team becomes a lethal weapon system. However, HMLA-369 also serves another critical mission for ANSF and NATO forces — many times acting as eyes in the skies.

Teamed up with the AH-1W Cobra on some occasions, Huey Marines roll out at the request of ground forces to scan the area for threats. No matter what they're airborne to do, the Huey Marines stay armed and dangerous and they're proud of the fact that ANSF and NATO forces below know that the mere sound of helicopter blades pounding in the air above signals a sure victory. "And we just hope we get down there fast enough that we don't lose another Marine or any coalition forces," said Lee. "We're trying to keep them as safe as possible. And if the time comes, we'll throw it down and hopefully take the heat off the ground guys and make the bad guys wish they had never messed with us." "There is no better feeling than protecting your brother," said Cook. "And that's exactly what we're here to do." It's a mission all of the Huey crews take pride in as they take the skies, hoping to quell the enemy attacks before another coalition partner or Afghanistan civilian falls victim to the enemy's savage attacks.



GUNNERY SGT. STEVEN WILLIAMS

**CAMP BASTION, Afghanistan** — Staff Sgt. Jonathan Lee, a UH-1Y Huey crew chief with Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 369, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing (Forward), peers at the ground below looking for any suspicious signs of possible enemy activity during a combat assault support mission for a ground unit here July 16.

# COMMUNITY BRIEFS

### Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School is being offered at the Marine Memorial Chapel 5:30 - 8 p.m. Aug. 9-13. Ages 3-11 may attend. For more information, stop by the chapel, call 253-6470 or e-mail natali\_godoy@yahoo.com.

### Coupon Distribution Program

Stop by Building 411 and pick up free coupons to use at the commissary. Coupons are accepted up to six months past the original expiration date. Coupons are donated by various organizations. The biggest coupon saver contest is ongoing until July 31. For more information, call 253-6161.

### Mammography Van

The Mammovan is scheduled for another visit here from Aug. 3 - 6. Beneficiaries wishing to

make use of this service must obtain a referral from their Primary Care Providers. Starting July 12, patients must schedule an appointment with the Branch Health Clinic at 253-5257 before setting an appointment with radiology.

### 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, 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.

### New consular fee schedule

The U.S. Embassy in Tokyo has published a new consular fee schedule. The new fees go into effect July 13. The web site for the new fee is at <http://tokyo.usembassy.gov/e/acs/tacs-fees-20100613.html> and the new fee chart is listed at [http://www.travel.state.gov/news/news\\_5078.html](http://www.travel.state.gov/news/news_5078.html). For more information, contact the Station Judge Advocate at 253-5591.

### 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 are required to check-out items and the program is by appointment only. The lending locker is located in Building 411 room 101. Appointments are from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. For more information, call 253-6161.

### Summer Reading Program

The station library will

hold "Voyage to Book Island" summer reading program through Aug. 4 and will be open to readers ages 5-12 years. Summer reading participants will meet every Wednesday at 2 p.m. at the station library and participate in games, art and craft projects and story time. For more information, stop by the library circulation desk, call 253-5156 or email [pughbj@usmc-mccs](mailto:pughbj@usmc-mccs).

### Emergency Phone Numbers Reminder

- Anti-terrorism force protection hotline: 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.

### 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 visit the Marine Memorial Chapel, room 148.

### Sexual Assault

To make a confidential report of sexual assault, 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 SARC at 253-6556 or 080-5865-3566.

### Brief Submissions

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

## Chapel Services

### Roman Catholic

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

### Protestant

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

### Church of Christ

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

### Latter Day Saints

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

### Teen Programs

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

Call 080-4177-2060 or e-mail [jletaw@ClubBeyond.org](mailto:jletaw@ClubBeyond.org)

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

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

# SAKURA THEATER

**Friday, July 16, 2010**  
7 p.m. The A-Team (PG-13)  
10 p.m. MacGruber (R)  
*Premier*

**Monday, July 19, 2010**  
7 p.m. Robin Hood (PG-13)

**Tuesday, July 20, 2010**  
1 p.m. Letters to Juliet (PG)  
7 p.m. The A-Team (PG-13)

**Saturday, July 17, 2010**  
1 p.m. Toy Story 3 (G)  
4 p.m. Letters to Juliet (PG)  
7 p.m. Twilight Saga Eclipse (PG-13)  
*Premier*

**Wednesday, July 21, 2010**  
7 p.m. MacGruber (R)

**Sunday, July 18, 2010**  
1 p.m. Shrek Forever After (PG)  
4 p.m. Knight and Day (PG-13)  
7 p.m. MacGruber (R)

**Thursday, July 22, 2010**  
1 p.m. Shrek Forever After (PG)  
7 p.m. Knight and Day (PG-13)

*The movie schedule is subject to change. Please check [www.mccsiwakuni.com/sakura](http://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](http://www.mccsiwakuni.com) or call 253-5291.**

253-5291



# CLASSIFIEDS

## Automobiles

### Honda NSR250SE

Great for all riders. Super rare fast bike. New tires and chain. JCI will be renewed upon purchase. Asking \$5,000 OBO. For more information, call 080-3524-3462.

### Mitsubishi Town Bee

JCI good until July 2012. New front tires, well maintained and good air conditioning. Perfect for driving in Japan's narrow streets. Asking \$3000 OBO. For more information, call 080-3524-3463.

### 1997 Toyota Noah

Good condition, runs well. Power windows, locks, steering, CD player, two sun roofs. JCI good until Aug. 2011. Asking \$1,300 OBO.

For more information, call 253-2154 or 080-3474-8858.

### 2002 Mazda Sport Coup

JCI good until Jan. 2. Asking \$2,500. For more information, call 080-4181-8705.

## Jobs

### Thrift Store Job Openings

Immediate Opening for paid positions at the station's Thrift Store. Please deliver your resume to Building 1117 or email Gwen Peterson at gwenkaypete@yahoo.com.

### Dental Assistants

The Robert M. Casey Medical and Dental Clinic is seeking two certified dental assistants for a great opportunity in dental healthcare services. For more information, stop by the dental clinic in Building 111 or call 253-5252/3331 to speak with HM1 Taft or HMC Hunter.

### NMCRS Volunteer Opportunities

Be that friendly person who lets them know they've come to the right place. Client Services Assistants volunteers greet clients and guide them through the initial intake process. To apply, call 253-5311.

### USNH Yokosuka Openings

Registered nurse, family practice provider and physician assistant positions open at

Branch Health Clinic Iwakuni. Family nurse practitioner position open at Branch Health Clinic Sasebo. Performance improvement coordinator, ob nurse and dental assistant positions open at Yokosuka Clinic. For more information, call 243-6835 or 046-816-6835. Interested applicants should register with the Central Contractor Registration at <https://www.bpn.gov/ccr/default.aspx>.

## Miscellaneous

### Sony Bravia 38" and Entertainment Center

One year old. Asking \$500 OBO. For more information, call 080-4181-8705.

## Real Estate

### Jacksonville, N.C.

Beautiful four bedroom, two and a half bath room home for sale by owner. 102 E. Carrington Way, Jacksonville, N.C. Great location, near schools in quiet cul-de-sac. Near Marine Corps Air Station New River and Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune. Asking \$204,900. Email sparulis@ec.rr.com for pictures.

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

## Mess Hall Menu

### Monday

Cream of mushroom soup, Creole soup, steak ranchero, braised pork chops, mashed potatoes, macaroni and cheese, succotash, carrots, dinner rolls, brown gravy, potato salad, mixed fruit salad, standard salad bar, congo bars, marble cake double layer, butter cream frosting, blueberry crunch. Specialty Bar: Pasta

### Tuesday

Cream of potato soup, chicken noodle soup, cajun meatloaf, baked salmon fillet, potatoes au gratin, steamed rice, French fried cauliflower, mix vegetables, dinner rolls, macaroni salad, deviled potato salad, standard salad bar, chocolate chip cookies, spice cake, butter cream frosting, lemon meringue pie. Specialty Bar: Taco

### Wednesday

Cream of broccoli soup, vegetable soup, turkey pot pie, oven roast, noodles jefferson, steamed rice, brussels sprouts, broccoli combo, biscuits, brown gravy, potato salad, country style tomato salad, standard salad bar, peanut butter cookies, double layer devil's food cake, butter cream frosting, cheese cake. Specialty Bar: Barbeque

### Thursday

Cream of chicken soup, tomato soup, Swiss steak with mushroom gravy, honey glazed rock cornish hen, parsley buttered potatoes, buttered pasta, green beans southern style, vegetable stir fry, chicken gravy, dinner rolls, macaroni salad, German tomato salad, standard salad bar, sugar cookies, strawberry shortcake, whipped topping, vanilla cream pie. Specialty Bar: Deli Bar

### Friday

Tortilla soup, minestrone soup, Beef Fajitas, chicken fajitas, chili con carne, refried beans, beef burritos, Mexican corn, salsa, jalapeno corn bread, potato salad, spinach salad, standard salad bar, banana bread, shortbread cookies, Dutch apple pie. Specialty Bar: Hot Dog

## July, August primary dates

- |                         |                        |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Alaska - August 24      | Louisiana - August 28  |
| Arizona - August 24     | Michigan - August 3    |
| Colorado - August 10    | Missouri - August 3    |
| Connecticut - August 10 | Oklahoma - July 27     |
| Florida - August 24     | Tennessee - August 5   |
| Georgia - July 20       | Washington - August 17 |
| Kansas - August 3       | Wyoming - August 17    |

*The general election is Tuesday, Nov. 2. This election information is current as of August 2009. Check your state election Web site or [www.fvap.gov](http://www.fvap.gov) for updates or additional details.*

**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 by e-mail at [iwakuni.pao@usmc.mil](mailto:iwakuni.pao@usmc.mil), call 253-5551 or stop by Building 1, Room 216.



Team Torii first baseman, Chad Roach, unleashes his anger for work on the slow-pitched softball for an in-the-park home run during the first inning of play against Sasquatch and the Dislexic Abominable Rastas at the main softball field here July 9. With a 13-11 loss, Sasquatch and the Dislexic Abominable Rastas dropped to a season record of 2-6 while Team Torii remains undefeated.

## Another team ousted by undefeated Team Torii

CPL. KRISTIN E. MORENO  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Team Torii remains undefeated in the Intramural Softball season after a narrow 13-11 victory over Sasquatch and the Dislexic Abominable Rastas at the main softball field here June 9.

Sasquatch's gut-wrenching loss to Team Torii leaves them with a 2-6 record while Team Torii remains the team to beat.

Sasquatch came out swinging, but couldn't heat up their bats, only running in two. Team Torii, on the other hand, came out of the dugout with their bats on fire, going around the lineup and earning 8 runs off multiple back-to-back home runs for a 8-2 lead early on.

Sasquatch was able to get runners on base in the second but didn't have the sticks needed to bring them in. Luckily, it didn't affect the score because Team Torii went three and out.

In the top of the third, Sasquatch loaded the bases off three singles but was unable to capitalize on the good position, holding them at two runs.

With consistent base hitting, Team Torii managed to squeeze three runs out of Sasquatch's defense in the bottom of the third, bringing Team Torii to a 11-2 lead.

The fourth inning was a short one with the Sasquatch once again unable to get any type of momentum going at the plate; however, they were able to force Team Torii to go three and out.

It wasn't until the top of the fifth that Sasquatch was able to heat up their bats, bringing in 6 runs by taking advantage of Team Torii's sloppy play and capitalizing on their several errors.

"I told (my team) to take their time, wait for their pitch and they started hitting the ball," said Christopher Burke, Sasquatch coach and second baseman. "I let the players do their thing. Everybody started getting a feel, started getting rhythm and started running bases."

At the turn of the inning, Team Torii coach Rodney Buentello huddled up the team to motivate them as the game was quickly on its descent.

"I yell at them all the time, but it's just a morale booster because we don't play like (we did tonight)," said Buentello, Team Torii coach and second baseman. "I know we can play at a hard level, and we're playing at an intermediate level. It's kind of embarrassing for us because we don't play like that."

With motivation ringing in their ears, Team Torii was only able to bring in two runs, leaving the fifth at 13-8.

Sasquatch short stop Kevin Maynard drove the ball into left field in the top of the sixth, bringing in two much-needed two runs. First baseman Rory Duane knocked the ball into right field to in turn bring Maynard home.

After finally finding their groove, Sasquatch held Team Torii to 13 runs in the bottom of the sixth, bringing the score to 13-11.

With one inning to go and Sasquatch closing in on the lead, Team Torii anxiously hoped the 1-hour game time limit would come into play and the game would be called at the bottom of the sixth.

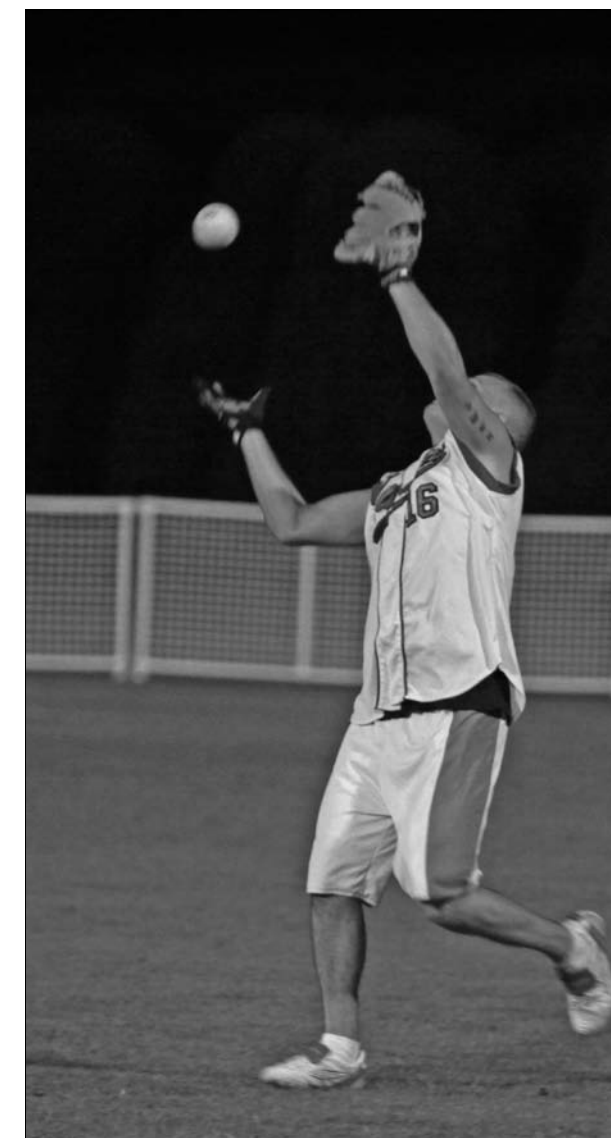
However, it didn't and both teams moved into the seventh uneasy.

"When you're on top, it's lonely on top," said Buentello. "When you take that for granted and start playing the way we (did tonight), any team can beat you at any given time."

The pressure was on. Sasquatch, the underdog with an overall losing record, only needed to bring in three runs and hold Team Torii for the win. However, neither team was able to score any runs.

Team Torii left the field with a 13-11 victory over Sasquatch, miraculously keeping their perfect record.

"I'm like Ricky Bobby; all I do is win," said Buentello. "A win is a win no matter how you look at it."



Sasquatch and the Dislexic Abominable Rastas coach and second baseman, Christopher Burke, commits a rare error by dropping a sure catch in a losing effort against Team Torii at the main softball field here July 9. Team Torii ousted Sasquatch and the Dislexic Abominable Rastas 13-11 after six and a half innings.





LANCE CPL. JENNIFER PIRANTE

Daniel Rodriguez, outfielder for the Bad News Bears, steps up to bat as Michael Pritchard, catcher for the Dragons, gets ready to catch the softball during an intramural softball game at the main softball field here July 1. The Dragons stayed awake and on the ready for any balls the Bad News Bears hit into the outfield.

## Dragons obliterate Bad News Bears 18-2

LANCE CPL. JENNIFER PIRANTE  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

The Dragons smoked the Bad News Bears 18-2 during an intramural softball game at the main softball field here July 1.

"We drew blood today, and we played strong," said Aaron Marsh, pitcher and coach for the Dragons.

The Dragons started the first inning by scoring two runs.

Sean Regan, right center fielder for the Dragons, and Marsh both made their way around the bases to home plate to put the team in the lead 2-0.

The Dragons stayed awake and on the ready for any balls the Bad News Bears hit into the outfield.

After a double play and a quick throw to first base, the Dragons were up to bat in no time.

The Dragons kept their lead during the second inning by adding five more runs to their score.

Regan managed another infield home run by making sure to hit the ball keeping it low to the ground.

"We want to make sure we are getting a level swing when we bat," said Nico Esparza, short stop for the Dragons. "We just try to put the ball low to the ground because we don't want pop-ups."

The Bad News Bears managed to score two runs during their half of the second inning but were still down by five runs.

Brandon Chew and Garrit Fox, outfielders for the Bad News Bears, both managed to score infield runs giving their team a chance to catch up.

The Dragons continued to lengthen the

gap and keep the team ahead by scoring five runs during the third inning and six more runs during the fourth and final inning.

Runs were scored by Marsh, Regan, Michael Pritchard and Ajene Webley.

The game ended with a final score of 18-2.

Players and spectators on the field stopped for a moment to render honors to their nation's colors as the United States and Japanese flags were lowered.

Bodies froze and time stood still.

"It was pretty inspirational," said Sellers. "It happened during the last three games we have played. It helps us stay motivated."

The intramural softball season has gone well for the Dragons overall.

"In the beginning of the season we started rough," said Marsh. "The more we play together, the better we get."

In spite of a few losses, the Dragons have managed to defeat opposing teams with strong leads.

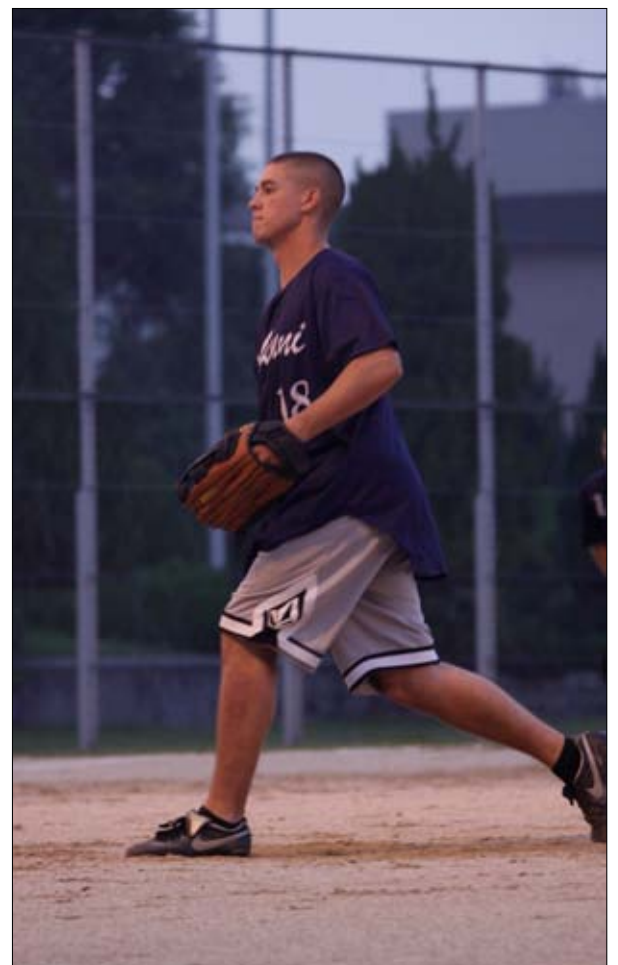
"We had a couple of games where we were down but came back," said Regan. "We lost one game a couple of weeks ago but we didn't let that get in the way of our moral."

Due to the Dragon's fierce sportsmanship and heavy hitting, hope for a chance to win the tournament might not be far-fetched.

"Throughout the season we'll just keep progressing and hopefully when the tournament comes, we will play well," said Regan.

Softball play-offs are slated to begin July 20.

For more information about upcoming games and other intramural sports events, call 253-3067.



LANCE CPL. JENNIFER PIRANTE

Bryan Broyle, pitcher for the Bad News Bears, steps up to pitch a softball during an intramural softball game at the main softball field here July 1. The Bad News Bears stay alert and ready for the hit.