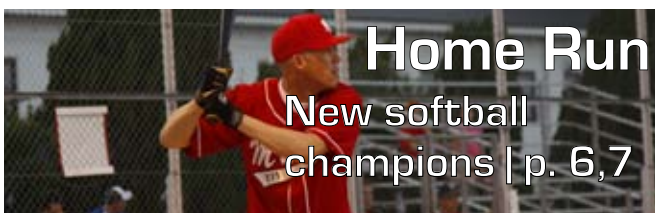
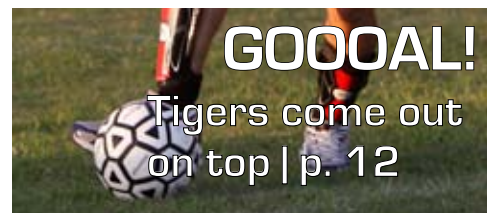




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THE IWAKUNI APPROACH

Issue No. 29, Vol. 3 | Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan



LANCE CPL. JENNIFER PIRANTE

PMO conducts quarterly training

LANCE CPL. JENNIFER PIRANTE
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Marines from the Provost Marshal's Office here familiarized themselves with their weapons during quarterly live fire training at the Indoor Small Arms Range here July 20.

Marines were divided into two relays to shoot the 9mm Beretta pistol and the Benelli M1014 shotgun, weapons most commonly carried by military police in the Marine Corps.

"We carry these weapons on bases, so we have to be qualified to use them," said Lance Cpl. Manual Lopez, gate sentry patrolman with PMO.

Using the pistol, Marines learned and practiced how to unload, clear the weapon, conduct immediate actions and engage targets effectively in total darkness and low light visibility.

Military Police with the Provost Marshal's Office conduct quarterly live-fire training at the Indoor Small Arms Range here July 20. Marines practiced firing the 9 mm Beretta pistol and the Benelli M1014 shotgun, weapons commonly carried by military police in the Marine Corps.

SEE FIRE ON PAGE 3

Pentagon assesses leaked confidential documents

SGT. 1ST CLASS MICHAEL J. CARDEN
AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — The Pentagon today condemned the actions of the group Wikileaks.org, which released thousands of classified U.S. military documents on its Web site last night.

"The leaking of classified information is something we take very seriously," Marine Corps Col. Dave Lapan, a Pentagon spokesman, told reporters today.

"We are in the process right now of assessing the documents," Lapan added.

The documents, reportedly given to several U.S. and international media weeks ago, are said to detail field reports from Afghanistan, as well as Pakistan relationships with the Taliban. The more than 90,000 documents cover the period from January 2004 through December 2009, according to news reports.

The Pentagon has yet to confirm the impact of the reports, as it's still early in the assessment process, Lapan said.

"As they are made available, we will be looking at them to try to determine potential damage to lives of our servicemembers and our coalition partners; whether they reveal sources in methods and any potential damage to national security," he said. "Since this was just released last night, we're still in the process going through that assessment."

SEE LEAK ON PAGE 3

Southern Frontier: Dropping warheads on foreheads

CPL. JOSEPH MARIANELLI
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Marines with Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12 Ordnance headed to Sasebo Naval Base, Japan, in the first leg of their journey to the land down under for exercise Southern Frontier July 19.

The Marines will travel via boat with a plethora of ordnance for use during the exercise slated to begin Aug. 30.

Southern Frontier is an annual unilateral training exercise hosted by the Royal Australian Air Force allowing Marine Aircraft Group 12 Hornet squadrons the opportunity to focus on offensive air support training in order to improve squadron readiness.

The ordnance Marines will provide a critical service by escorting the munitions to their final destination RAAF base Tindal, Australia.

"Our main purpose for the boat

ride is to not only escort the ordnance items but to make sure they are clean and ready to clear customs in Darwin," said Sgt. José Maltos, station Ordnance magazine crew noncommissioned officer-in-charge attached to MALS-12 Ordnance for the exercise. "Apparently, the customs inspection is very tedious."

Transporting ordnance isn't just tossing the bombs on the boat, wiping them down and carrying on.

"One thing people don't realize is that it takes quite a bit of equipment to build and transport bombs," said Maltos. "All this equipment is held to the same customs standard."

Getting the bombs on location is one of the most important aspects of this exercise to complete training objectives.

In general, the ranges squadrons typically have access

SEE FRONTIER ON PAGE 3

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CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

'Do you possess a smart weapon'

LT. FULGENCIO L. LEGASPI
MAG-12 DEPUTY CHAPLAIN

The modern world today belongs to the world of smart weapons. A display of smart weapons means that technology is a success, not a failure. The difference between success and failure lies within one's ability to persevere.

Perseverance is the key to success in almost all situations. For me, "success" is spelled as p-e-r-s-e-v-e-r-a-n-c-e. Young children need to persevere in order to walk. Children are trained to persevere in school, sports and hobbies in order to be successful.

In all walks of life as adults, perseverance is needed in terms of relationships, business, work and family stability.

There are times that our efforts seem to be in vain. We can be tempted to give up or feel too exhausted to try again. It is then that we must be renewed internally, both mentally and spiritually.

We must cling to hope and keep trying. A couple had a baby after they prayed for 13 years. Their prayers were heard by God. An old, familiar saying goes, "If at first you don't succeed, try and try again."

Life demands perseverance. It can become a daily struggle to see our goals in life in this changing world. One time, my eyes were fixed to a poster bearing the caption "smart weapon." Looking at it again, I saw a Marine sniper in the picture aiming ahead. In life, one of our smart weapons that

we should aim ahead and possess in order to excel is to cultivate the virtue of perseverance.

Perseverance is effective when it is applied to prayer. For a Christian, he draws strength through persistent contact with God; otherwise his or her Christian life declines. Phillip Brooks said, "I pray to God not for a lighter load but a stronger back."

Prayer is like an inexhaustible well. We are the thirsty who need to make time to go to that well always and be refreshed. We need the fresh water of hope, promise and peace that only the well of prayer can provide us daily.

Let us renew ourselves daily in the virtue of perseverance and persistent prayer. It is going to the well of strength and power. Edwin Harvey said, "A life without prayer is a life without power." Do you possess that smart weapon?

Senior chief retires after 26 years of service



Senior Chief Petty Officer Lemuel G. Oconer, outgoing Harbor Operations Division officer, salutes during his piping ashore as part of his retirement ceremony at the Marine Memorial Chapel here July 16. Oconer served 26 years, and his personal decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal, Navy Commendation Medal and Navy Achievement Medal.

Road rules: Driving safely in Japan

SUBMITTED BY
STATION SAFETY CENTER

In Japan, cars are driven on the left side of the road and have the driver's seat and steering wheel on the right side. The legal minimum age for driving is 18 years old. Road signs and rules follow international standards, and most signs on major roads are in Japanese and English. Drinking and driving is strictly prohibited.

The typical speed limit is 50 - 62 mph on expressways, 25 mph in urban areas and 31 - 38 mph elsewhere.

Most roads in Japan are toll free with the exception of expressways and some scenic driving routes.

Road conditions tend to be good, although side streets in the cities can be rather narrow. Traffic congestion is a frequent problem in and around urban centers.

Some dangers on Japanese roads include drivers speeding over intersections despite the traffic light turning red, people stopping their vehicles at the edge of the street in a way in which they block traffic and cyclists driving on the wrong side of the road.

Here are some tips for driving in Japan:

- When children are raising their hand on the side of the road, it is a sign that they are going to cross.
- Scooters use the shoulder of the

road. Be aware that a scooter may be right next to you when attempt to make a left turn.

■Be aware that bicycles may show up anywhere when you are driving.

■Drive slowly when driving on a narrow road, especially where there are many side streets connected. Pedestrians and bicycles may suddenly appear from a side street.

■Expect heavy traffic during rush hours and when it is raining.

■No turns are permitted on red lights unless a green arrow light is illuminated in desired direction. Report all traffic accidents to the Provost Marshal's Office SDO at 253-3303 or call the PMO commercial cell at 0827-79-3303.

LEAK FROM PAGE 1

Of the reports the Pentagon has seen, they fall into a category of basic, unit-level reporting, Lapan said.

"We've only seen a fraction of the documents that are reported to be out there, so until we get a look at all of them, we can't know exactly what the extent of the damage may be," he said.

It could take the Pentagon weeks to make such determinations, Lapan said. But much of what the Pentagon has discovered early in the investigation is that the documents are classified at a "secret" level, and not "top-secret," which is reserved for more sensitive material, he said.

The disclosed documents reveal "the type of reporting that goes on at the tactical level on a routine basis," the colonel said, noting examples such

"As we've said, we put a great deal of trust and confidence in individuals not to betray their oath to their country."

Col. Dave Lapan
Pentagon spokesman

as roadside bomb incidences, civilian and military casualty reports and intelligence and information gathering. "There's nothing we've seen so far that is particularly relevant," Lapan added. At this point, he said, the Pentagon is concentrating

on the information that's been made public, and is not investigating the source of the leak. Lapan explained that any number of military and civilian defense employees have access to such documents.

Also, the Pentagon is not looking to limit the number of people with access to "secret" material, he said.

"We have lots of systems in place," Lapan said. "And at the very top of that is the responsibility that those who are entrusted with access to that type of information protect that from unauthorized disclosure."

The Pentagon, however, will eventually attempt to narrow down the source of the leak, he said. However, Lapan could not disclose whether a formal investigation on the matter would take place.

For more information visit www.defense.gov.

In light of the reported posting of government documents to the WikiLeaks Web site, All personnel are instructed or reminded to:

- Not access the WikiLeaks Web site on government owned computer systems. This action is necessary to eliminate the proliferation of potential electronic spillages (ES).
- Not to confirm or deny information contained on the Web site.
- Report any security anomalies and/or suspicious activity to the their unit security manager and maintain heightened situation awareness regarding their surroundings.
- Refer all press inquiries to the station Public Affairs Office at 253-5551 or iwakuni.pao@usmc.mil.

First wave heads out for Southern Frontier

FRONTIER FROM PAGE 1

to while in Japan do not allow for the same level of shock and awe destruction.

"The ranges we have down in Australia are probably the least restrictive for dropping ordnance," said Maj. Brendan O'Connell, MAG-12 plans officer. "It's one of the best opportunities in this (area of responsibility) to go ahead and do that kind of training."

Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 224 will provide the jets for close air support while joint tactical air controller augments from 3rd Marine Division identify targets on the ground for summary destruction.

The exercise will allow the squadron and the augments to get integrated fire training, which is difficult to do anywhere else, said O'Connell.

The flexibility of the Australian ranges provides a much richer feature set for customizing ground layout and target

structure.

"There is a lot more capability that we have there as far as just different target sets and different abilities to drop different bombs on them," said O'Connell.

Beyond the added training set, Southern Frontier represents one of the few opportunities for integration with the Australian military.

"(Southern Frontier is) one of very few actual security cooperation exercises we do with the Australians as far as getting American military on the deck in Australia and working with them," said O'Connell.

Because so few exercises take place there, Marines supporting the jets could be in for some surprises not experienced outside the outbreak.

"I suppose conducting an operation in a location that only a few people have been to is a challenge," said Maltos. "We have an awesome crew going, so I don't anticipate any problems we cannot conquer."



Marines with the Provost Marshal's Office here take a knee to conduct tactical reload drills during live-fire training at the Small Arms Range here July 20.

PMO train with pistols, shotguns

FIRE FROM PAGE 1

"This training gets (the) Marines acclimated with their weapons in different conditions," said Lance Cpl. Michael Gallo, combat marksmanship coach with PMO. "As PMO, we work day and night, so we have to be prepared for anything."

A series of drills, which included a starting position from the holster, then moving into the tactical ready carry before firing a single shot during a series of five rounds, were also conducted.

"As military police, we always have our weapons holstered," said Gallo.

"If anything were to happen, we train to draw and fire from the holster."

Marines also performed a tactical reload, administrative reload, engaged targets and shot the weapon from seven and 15 yards away.

MPs are also equipped with a flashlight and must learn to use positioning to assist them

in total darkness and low-light conditions.

"When firing with a flashlight, you keep one hand on the pistol and one hand on the flashlight," said Gallo.

Training helps PMO get used to using the flashlight to stabilize their weapon properly.

"It takes a bit of practice and seems awkward at first, but you get used to it as you get the muscle memory down," said Lopez.

Marines spent time on the firing line and gained familiarization with maneuvering and firing the Benelli M1014 shotgun.

The Benelli M1040 shotgun is a joint service combat weapon that has been used by special operations and security forces over the past two decades.

"Everyone has a lot of fun firing the shotguns," said Lopez.

Annually, Marines are sent to Camp Schwab in Okinawa, Japan, to qualify on the rifle range, but having a small arms range on base allows PMO Marines the convenience to get in and practice

as often as they can.

"We like to get down here and use our gear as much as possible," said Gallo. "Instead of just annual training at the (known-distance) range, we come down here and conduct different types of training."

MP Marines are prepared for a diverse mission, said Staff Sgt. Julian Perez, physical security specialist with PMO.

Marines must be prepared to stop any unforeseen terrorist attack, hostile situation or threat at any time.

Marines with PMO also take time regularly to apply practical application to their training.

PMO practical applications consist of learning how to complete and file paperwork, pull over vehicles in traffic and conduct sobriety tests.

PMO is trained to handle the situation safely and professionally under extreme circumstances.

"If a situation ever did arise, these Marines can do their job," said Gallo.

Retirement savings critical for financial security



CPL. KRISTIN E. MORENO
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

With today's economy and the uncertainty of what your future has in store, it only makes sense to start saving for your retirement now.

The amount you need to save for retirement differs for everyone. Several factors could affect the need to save more or less. If you plan on exploring the world after retirement, you might want to plan on pocketing a few extra bucks to facilitate those dreams.

"A lot of times people think a military retirement paycheck will be enough for them to just get by, but it's not," said Bonnie Lewis, personal financial manager here. "They need to start setting up as early as possible, putting away money to be able to have access to funds whenever they actually retire."

The sooner you begin to save, the less you'll have to save each month in order to obtain your goal, and the more you save, the more comfortably you'll live in retirement.

"The Thrift Savings Plan is an investment in your financial future," said Lance Cpl. Juan Chaconvega, TSP contributor. "It puts money away I can't touch until I need to touch it. It's one of the many ways of ensuring financial security after retirement."

The TSP is basically the Marine Corps' 401K plan. It's a tax-deferred federal government-sponsored retirement and savings plan designed to supplement your military retirement paycheck.

"A lot of times people say they can do better than what's in the TSP, 'I can invest my money and get a greater return', but the problem is they don't research it," said Lewis. "They don't actually do anything. They don't start investing."

The first step to investing is becoming informed, so below is the basic information pertaining to the Thrift Savings Plan.

For additional information, contact your local personal financial management office at 253-6250 or visit the Thrift Savings Plan Web site at www.tsp.gov.

Benefits:

- Voluntary participation
- You select the percentage of your base pay you want to contribute
- Automatic transfer of funds
- Tax-deferred, pay taxes when you withdraw.

Things to keep in mind:

- \$16,500 contribution limit for 2010
- \$49,000 contribution limit for 2010 in combat zone (won't be taxed on withdrawals)
- Can begin receiving funds at 59 and a half without penalty, mandatory withdrawals start at 70 and a half
- Various calculators are available on the TSP Web site

Investment options:

	G FUND	F FUND	C FUND	S FUND	I FUND	L FUND
Description of Investments	Government securities (specially issued to the TSP)	Government, corporate, and mortgage-backed bonds	Stocks of large and medium-sized U.S. companies	Stocks of small to medium-sized U.S. companies (not included in the C Fund)	International stocks of 21 developed countries	Invested in the G, F, C, S, and I Funds
Objective of Fund	Interest income without risk of loss of principal	To match the performance of the Barclays Capital U.S. Aggregate Bond Index	To match the performance of the Standard & Poor's 500 (S&P 500) Index	To match the performance of the Dow Jones U.S. Completion TSM Index	To match the performance of the Morgan Stanley Capital International EAFE (Europe, Australasia, Far East) Index	To provide professionally diversified portfolios based on various time horizons, using the G, F, C, S, and I Funds
Risk	Inflation risk	Market risk, Credit risk, Prepayment risk, Inflation risk	Market risk, Inflation risk	Market risk, Inflation risk	Market risk, Currency risk, Inflation risk	Exposed to all of the types of risk to which the individual TSP funds are exposed - but total risk is reduced through diversification among the five individual funds
Volatility	Low	Low to moderate	Moderate	Moderate to high - historically more volatile than C Fund	Moderate to high - historically more volatile than C Fund	Asset allocation shifts as time horizon approaches to reduce volatility

What if I don't want to stay in the military?

There are a couple different options if you plan on getting out of the military. You can either transfer the funds to another plan with no penalty or you can just leave it alone. You won't be able to continue contributing money to it once you get out, but it will still accumulate interest until you decided to withdraw it.

Where can I get additional information?

For additional financial advice, contact your local personal financial management office at 253-6250 or stop by Building 411, room 201 to make an appointment.

How do I sign up?

Service members can sign up for the TSP by logging on to their myPay account at www.mypay.dfas.mil or by visiting their local Installation Personnel Administration Center pay and maintenance office.

VMA-542 brings unmatched flexibility to Iwakuni

CPL. KRISTIN E. MORENO
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Marine Attack Squadron 542 of Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point, N.C., arrived here July 7 as part of the Unit Deployment Program.

The Unit Deployment Program is a program set up by the commandant of the Marine Corps and is aimed toward deploying units to the Western Pacific for periods of approximately six months.

While here, VMA-542 will be supporting Marine Aircraft Group 12 and the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit, and participating in various training exercises.

"Our mission is whatever the MAG-12 commanding officer and 31st MEU commander wants and to deploy the Harrier," said Capt. Brian Stevens, Harrier pilot with VMA-542.

"So, our mission can be anything from air-support to air-ground missions and anything in between."

By participating in the unit deployment program and deploying to different locations, VMA-542 will learn to tackle several new challenges of working from a deployed location.

"Supplies are a little harder to get out here, it's a little bit more humid than it is back home and it rains a little bit more, but as far as the way we work, it's pretty much the same," said Lance Cpl. Travis Wolfgram, powerline mechanic with VMA-542. "No matter what, we get our job done."

Supplies aren't the only thing slowing them down. The maintenance crew has to adjust to working in a new climate, and pilots have to get used to flying in unfamiliar air spaces and communicating with different air traffic controllers than they're used to. Everyone's part is critical in achieving mission

accomplishment.

"I feel that all of our jobs are important. Without one shop in this command, those aircraft would not be able to fly, so my job is just as important as the tool room issuing out tools," said Cpl. Wesley Peck, Harrier avionics technician with VMA-542.

VMA-542 operates with the AV-8B Harrier II Plus, a multi-mission, short-takeoff vertical landing tactical strike aircraft.

"The Harrier is unique from other aircraft in the inventory. It's the only jet aircraft that can take off vertically," said Stevens. "We have over seven different types of landings we can do and five different types of takeoffs, so we can work in austere conditions. We don't necessarily have to have a runway for it. We can find a patch of ground, and the Harrier is completely operational from that patch of ground."

Because of the AV-8B Harrier II Plus' advanced capabilities, it offers flexibility that is unmatched by any other fixed-wing aircraft.

"The Harrier is very good at air-to-surface," said Stevens. "There's probably nobody in the Marine Corps who can do it better. We're very good at air-to-surface and getting close-air support for forward-deployed troops. We take pride in being good at that and being able to get bombs on target on time."

Stevens said that by being here they're able to work out all the kinks before they transition to the 31st MEU and actually begin operating off ship, and VMA-542 is also looking forward to exploring the local area and seeing what Iwakuni has to offer to service members.

"It's a great opportunity to experience Japanese culture, which is totally different from North Carolina obviously, and it's a great opportunity for the unit



CPL. KRISTIN E. MORENO

Capt. Aaron Hamblin, AV-8B Harrier II Plus pilot for Marine Attack Squadron 542, climbs into his aircraft before taking off during a training exercise here July 7. VMA-542 is in Iwakuni as part of the Unit Deployment Program. Their mission while here is to support Marine Aircraft Group 12 and the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit.

to build cohesion working in a deployed environment and with the challenges and obstacles that come with moving to different locations," said Stevens.

"So overall, the unit should be

a lot more effective in its mission by the end of this deployment."

"542 takes pride in that we're good at what we do, so this just allows us as a unit to get even better," said Stevens.



CPL. KRISTIN E. MORENO

Marine Attack Squadron 542 arrived here July 7 as part of the Unit Deployment Program. "The Harrier is very good at air-to-surface," said Capt. Brian Stevens, VMA-542 AV-8B Harrier II Plus pilot. "There's probably nobody in the Marine Corps who can do it better. We're very good at air-to-surface and getting close-air support for forward-deployed troops. We take pride in being good at that and being able to get bombs on target on time."

Team Torii dominates intramural softball championship 19-4

CPL. JOSEPH MARIANELLI
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron Team Torii defeated Marine Aircraft Group 12 19-4 in the intramural softball season championship here July 23.

MAG-12 clawed their way up from the losers' bracket for the rematch after losing in the quarterfinals to Team Torii.

As expected, the rematch began with a typical barrage of friendly banter and trash-talk.

Going into the bottom of the third, the game was shaping up to be a tight contest with score at 6-4.

Team Torii went on an absolute tear, letting their bats do the talking and putting on a hit clinic.

"It was close, and then we started putting on a hitting show," said Team Torii coach Rodney Buentello.

MAG-12 contributed to the proverbial merry-go-round with MAG-12 pitcher Charles Van Allen walking two to load the bases early and followed by a crucial fielder error allowing three runs.

Opening the bottom of the third, Rodney Buentello, Team Torii coach, was walked.

A single to left by right center-fielder James Mitchell and another walk of first baseman Bryan Tanner loaded the bases and brought up Team Torii pitcher Frank "The Tank" Meraz.

Meraz belted a frozen rope straight to the left-fielder who couldn't snag the ball, giving Meraz a triple with three RBIs.

The sudden swing in momentum was only a taste of what was to come.

Right fielder Wylie Rakestraw was walked followed by a rip to dead center by third baseman Joseph Campbell to bring Meraz home and put runners on second and third.

Steve Debruyne, Team Torii shortstop, smashed one to right where another error allowed Team Torii to chalk up two more runs and put the score at 12-4.

Left fielder Adam "Skoot" Sanders dropped a shot into the center field gap and was quickly brought home on left center-fielder Carlton Kholer's ground-rule double.

Team Torii proceeded to generate a combination of hits and tag-ups to push the score up another four runs and exit the inning 18-4.

The top of the fourth proved unfruitful for MAG-12, who came up with one hit to show for their efforts.

Team Torii locked-up the win in the bottom of the fourth.

Campbell was walked and Debruyne cranked one to right. With Campbell threatening from third, Sanders jacked one to center. The play was made at second but that was all the time Campbell needed to tag-up.

The game was called at 19-4.

The odds may have been stacked against MAG-12 because Team Torii boasts six players from the station team.

"We knew we were going to play MAG-12," said Debruyne. "They're definitely the second best team."

Despite the loss, MAG-12 players said they had a lot of fun playing and emphasized that everyone on their team was from the same unit.

They ended the season with a final war cry, "Baaaaaa."



CPL. SALVADOR MORENO

Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron Team Torii pitcher Keith "Apples" Applegate, unloads a strike on a batter during an intramural softball playoff game at the main softball field here July 22.



CPL. SALVADOR MORENO

Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 third baseman Brian Melin attempts to tag out a Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron Team Torii base runner during an intramural softball playoff game at the main softball field here July 22. Team Torii was able to out run, out hit, and out field the rest of the league, making them the 2010 Intramural Softball champions



CPL. SALVADOR MORENO

Team Torii coach and second baseman Rodney Buentello checks the official for the call after a Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 player tries to play safe when he was clearly out during an intramural softball playoff game at the main softball field here July 22.



CPL. SALVADOR MORENO

Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron Team Torii outfielder Michael Coletta awaits his perfect pitch during an intramural softball playoff game at the main softball field here July 22. Although Coletta was walked, he was able to round the bases during their win against Marine Wing Support Squadron 171.



CPL. JOSEPH MARIANELLI

Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron Team Torii coach Rodney Buentello holds up the intramural softball season championship trophy after the championship game held at the main softball field here July 23. Team Torii defeated Marine Aircraft Group 12 19-4 in the championship game.

CORPS NEWS

HIGHLIGHTING MARINES AND SAILORS AROUND THE GLOBE



LANCE CPL. JEREMY FASCI

GARMSIR DISTRICT, HELMAND PROVINCE, Islamic Republic of Afghanistan — Cpl. Joel Ramirez with Headquarters and Service Company, 3rd Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment provides security during a patrol through the Hazer Joft bazaar June 2. Marines from H&S Co. regularly escort people to the district governor's compound and provide security for the large number of local residents who own stores and shops in the bazaar.

Marines keep Garmsir bazaar safe on busiest day of week

LANCE CPL. JEREMY FASCI
REGIMENTAL COMBAT
TEAM 7

GARMSIR DISTRICT, HELMAND PROVINCE, Islamic Republic of Afghanistan — Maneuvering through the bazaar crowd during the week's busiest day, Marines from Headquarters and Service Company, 3rd Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment patrolled the Hazer Joft bazaar in Garmsir, Afghanistan, June 2 to provide security and interact with bazaar patrons.

Fridays at the Hazer Joft bazaar is the most crowded day of the week, and the most challenging day for Marines to patrol. Local residents sell all kinds of food, electronics and clothing to Afghans from neighboring villages.

Daily patrols through the bazaar help the people feel more comfortable in the area. Maintaining the high level of security in the area helps the local businesses thrive.

"Providing security makes them feel comfortable to come out of their homes and establish their business," said Sgt. Marvin H. Tario, the sergeant of the guard with H&S Co., 3/1.

The Marines spoke with many of the store owners and other people in the local populace throughout the patrol. Keeping the high level of security and good relationship with the people allows for a better flow of information.

"We were talking to some of the storekeepers and the local citizens of Garmsir about the

security that the Afghanistan forces and Marines have been providing and what areas they believe to be dangerous. The battalion is focused on providing security for the people of Garmsir and the development of the Afghanistan forces," said 1st. Sgt Michael P. Perez, the company first sergeant for H&S Co., 3/1.

Building on the relationship established with the local people is an important mission for the Marines in Garmsir District.

As the people feel safer, they are more inclined to come forward with information and avoid Taliban pressure and influences.

Afghan National Police and the police mentoring team placed at the district center, is very secure, it is still very important to provide as much security as possible.

"I think it is very important that local Afghans feel confident that they can go and wander about their community and bazaar freely," said Perez, 34, from San Bernardino, Calif.

The ultimate goal for the Marines at FOB Delhi is the training of the ANA and ANCOP to provide the security without the aid of Marines.

"The bazaar itself is already pretty secure with the ANA, the ANP and the police mentor team, but us showing face gives them a little more security," said Cpl. Rene Sanchez, a squad leader with H&S Co., 3/1.

"It just backs up everything the Marines before us built up."



LANCE CPL. JEREMY FASCI

GARMSIR DISTRICT, HELMAND PROVINCE, Islamic Republic of Afghanistan — Sgt. Marvin Tario, a member of Headquarters and Service Company, 3rd Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment, walks up and down the street making sure to keep accountability of his Marines while on a patrol through the Hazer Joft bazaar June 2. Accountability on busy days is one of the most important things for the Marines patrolling the bazaar where crowds can engulf the streets.

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.

Mammography Van
The Mammovan is scheduled for another visit here Tuesday - Thursday. 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.

New consular fee schedule
The U.S. Embassy in Tokyo has published a new

consular fee schedule. The new fees went 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. For more information, contact the Station Judge Advocate at 253-5591.

Summer Reading Program

The station library is holding "Voyage to Book Island" summer reading program through Wednesday 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 e-mail pughbj@usmc-mccs.org

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.

Sexual Assault

To make a confidential report of sexual assault or harrasment, 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.

54th Iwakuni City Culture Festival

The 54th Iwakuni City Festival is scheduled Sunday 1:30 - 4:30 p.m. at the big hall, Iwakuni Civic Hall. Free admission. For more information, contact

Iwakuni City Board of Education at 0827-29-5211.

Mikawa Summer Festival

The Mikawa Summer Festival is scheduled Saturday at the Mikawa Moo Valley and Mikawa Deai Shinsui Park area from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Fish catching, wood crafting, and sawing classes will be held. Each event will require fees. Parking is available. For more information, contact Yamashiro Shokokai at 0827-76-0100.

Yasaka Lake Summer Picnic

The Yasaka Lake summer picnic is schedule Sunday starting 9 a.m. at Yasaka Lake area, Miwa-cho, Iwakuni City. Various nature experience events, such as canoe lessons water skiing lessons and golf lessons, will be held around Yasaka Lake. Most events are free, but some of them require a fee. Parking is available. In case of light rain, the event won't be cancelled. For more information, contact Yasaka Lake Information Center at 0827-95-1123.

Nishikigawa Water Firework Festival

The Nishikigawa Water Festival is scheduled Aug. 7 at the Kintai Bridge area from 8 p.m. to approximately 9:30

p.m. Depending on the condition of the Nishiki river, the event could be postponed to Aug. 28. For more information, call 0827-41-1477.

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. The biggest coupons saver contest is ongoing until tomorrow. call 253-6161.

Brief Submissions

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

Chapel Services

Roman Catholic

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

Protestant

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

Church of Christ

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

Latter Day Saints

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

Teen Programs

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

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

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

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

SAKURA THEATER

Friday, July 30, 2010

7 p.m. The Sorcerer's Apprentice (PG) Premier
10 p.m. Splice (R) Premier

Saturday, July 31, 2010

1 p.m. Despicable Me (PG)
4 p.m. The Last Airbender (PG)
7 p.m. Prince of Persia: Sands of Time (PG-13)

Sunday, August 1, 2010

1 p.m. The Last Airbender (PG)
4 p.m. The Sorcerer's Apprentice (PG)
7 p.m. Splice (R)

Monday, August 2, 2010

7 p.m. MacGruber (PG-13)

Tuesday, August 3, 2010

1 p.m. Shrek Forever After (PG) Last showing
7 p.m. Grown Ups (PG-13)

Wednesday, August 4, 2010

7 p.m. Prince of Persia: Sands of Time (PG-13) Last showing

Thursday, August 5, 2010

1 p.m. Toy Story 3 (PG)
7 p.m. Splice (R)

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

General Admission: Ages 12+ are \$2.50/ Ages 6-11 are \$1/ Children ages 5 and under admitted free. For more information, visit www.mccsiwakuni.com or call 253-5291.

253-5291

CLASSIFIEDS

Automobiles

1996 Honda Stepwagon

Seats 8, JCI good until March 2011. Well maintained and good A/C. CD player, two sunroofs and convertible seats. Asking \$1,500 OBO. Call 080-3097-8461.

1997 Toyota Noah

Good condition, runs well. Power windows, locks and steering. Equipped with CD player and two sunroofs. JCI good until August 2011. Asking \$1,300 OBO. Call 253-2154 or 080-3474-8858.

Yamaha Vmax

Runs, looks great. 200 miles and stateside ready. JCI good until May 2012. Asking \$6,400 OBO. Call 253-2096.

Suzuki R. Wagon

84,000 kilometers. JCI good until April 2011. Only 3,000 Yen for road tax. Asking \$2,800. Call 080-3752-5440.

Mitsubishi Town Bee

JCI good until July 2012. New front tires, well maintained and good A/C. Asking \$3,000 OBO. Call 080-3524-3453.

2002 Mazda Sports Coup

JCI good until January 2011. Asking \$2,500 OBO. Call 080-4184-8705.

Honda NSR25

Rare and fast bike. New tires and chain. JCI will be renewed upon purchase. Asking \$5,000 OBO. Call 080-3524-3462.

Jobs

Thrift Store Job Openings

Immediate opening for paid positions at the station's Thrift Store. Deliver your resume to Building 1117 or e-mail Gwen Peterson at gwenkaypete@yahoo.com.

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 at <https://www.bpn.gov/ccr/default.aspx>.

Miscellaneous

Household items for sale

40 inch HDTV Sony with entertainment center for \$500, and love seat for \$150. 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. Carlington Way, Jacksonville, N.C. Near Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune. Asking \$204,900. E-mail sparulis@ec.rr.com for pictures.

Ad Submissions

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

Bean with bacon soup, shrimp gumbo soup, savory baked chicken, oven roast beef, oven brown potatoes, tossed green rice, succotash, green beans and mushrooms, brown gravy, dinner rolls, potato salad, cucumber and onion salad, standard salad bar, peanut butter brownies, double layer marble cake, butter cream frosting, banana cream pudding.
Specialty Bar: Pasta

Tuesday

Tomato soup, vegetable soup, turkey pot pie, Salisbury steak, mashed potatoes, tangy spinach, steamed cauliflower, buttered noodles, brown gravy, dinner rolls, country style tomato salad, coleslaw, standard salad bar, cherry pie, Boston cream pie, oatmeal raisin cookie.
Specialty Bar: Taco

Wednesday

French onion soup, cream of broccoli soup, Caribbean chicken breast, beef cordon bleu, O'Brien potatoes, chicken gravy, Creole green beans, savory summer squash, dinner rolls, cabbage, apple and celery, three bean salad, chocolate chip cookies, Dutch apple pie, butter cream frosting, devil's food cake.
Specialty Bar: Barbeque

Thursday

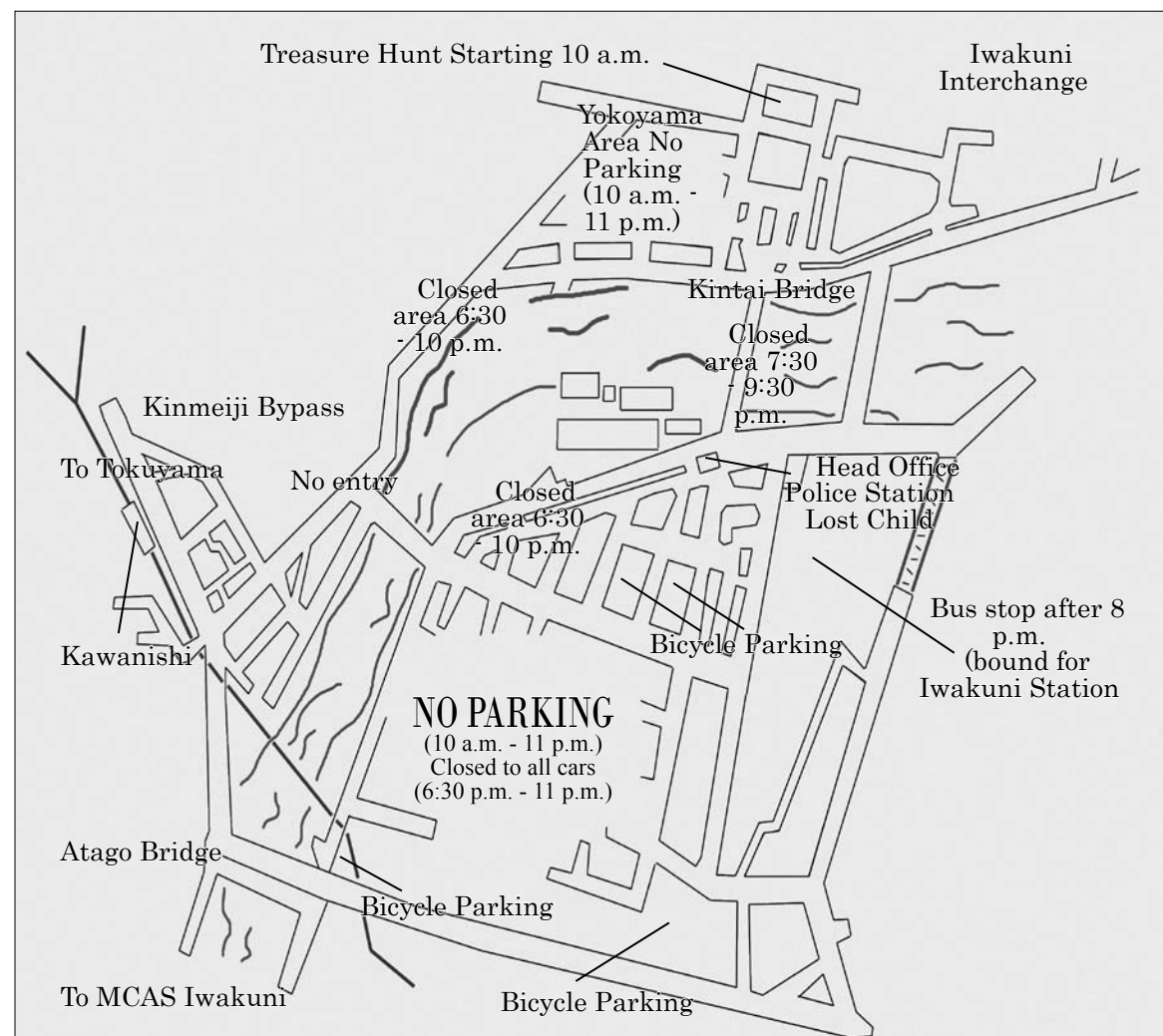
Manhattan clam chowder, split pea soup, cantonese spare ribs, turkey curry, steamed rice, macaroni and cheese, Southern style green beans, corn on the cob, dinner rolls, macaroni salad, mixed fruit salad, sugar cookies, German chocolate cake, whipped topping, banana cream pie.
Specialty Bar: Deli Bar

Friday

Chicken noodle soup, cream of mushroom soup, baked fish, yankee pot roast, home fried potatoes, steamed rice, calico corn, simmered white beans, vegetable gravy, dinner rolls, potato salad, country style tomato salad, coconut raisin drop cookies, double layer Florida lemon cake, butter cream frosting, chocolate cream pie.
Specialty Bar: Hot Dog

43rd Nishikigawa River Festival

Traffic Restrictions are in affect July 30. Shuttle buses are available between JR Iwakuni Station and the Kintai Bridge. Shuttle buses will depart once full. Times may fluctuate.



MWSS-171 continues Commander's Cup dominance

CPL. JOSEPH MARIANELLI
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Marines representing Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 took first place in the Commander's Cup Bowling Challenge. James Hayes, William Janssen, Eric Taylor Jr. and Roy Whitener boasted a total score of 2,231 putting them on top, earning their unit 30 points in the overall Commander's Cup standings and \$100 toward their party fund.

The challenge was a close match between one of the Branch Health Clinic's teams.

In the end, BHC's top team composed of Andrew Barr, Joseph Freitas, Cornell Hewitt and Tam Nguyen took second with a combined score of 2,148 and earned their unit 27 points in the standings and \$75 toward their party fund.

Third place went to Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron with a total of 1,927.

For the Bowling Challenge, four-man teams played three games each in a nine-pin no tap format.

The team with the highest total score would take first place. MWSS-171's success may have come from their secret weapon.

"Back in the states I was a big bowler," said Taylor, MWSS-171 competitor. "I used to go every Saturday."

Taylor said he hadn't played since being in Iwakuni, but after the practice rounds his skills came back.

For Taylor and his teammates, the focus was more on challenging each other.

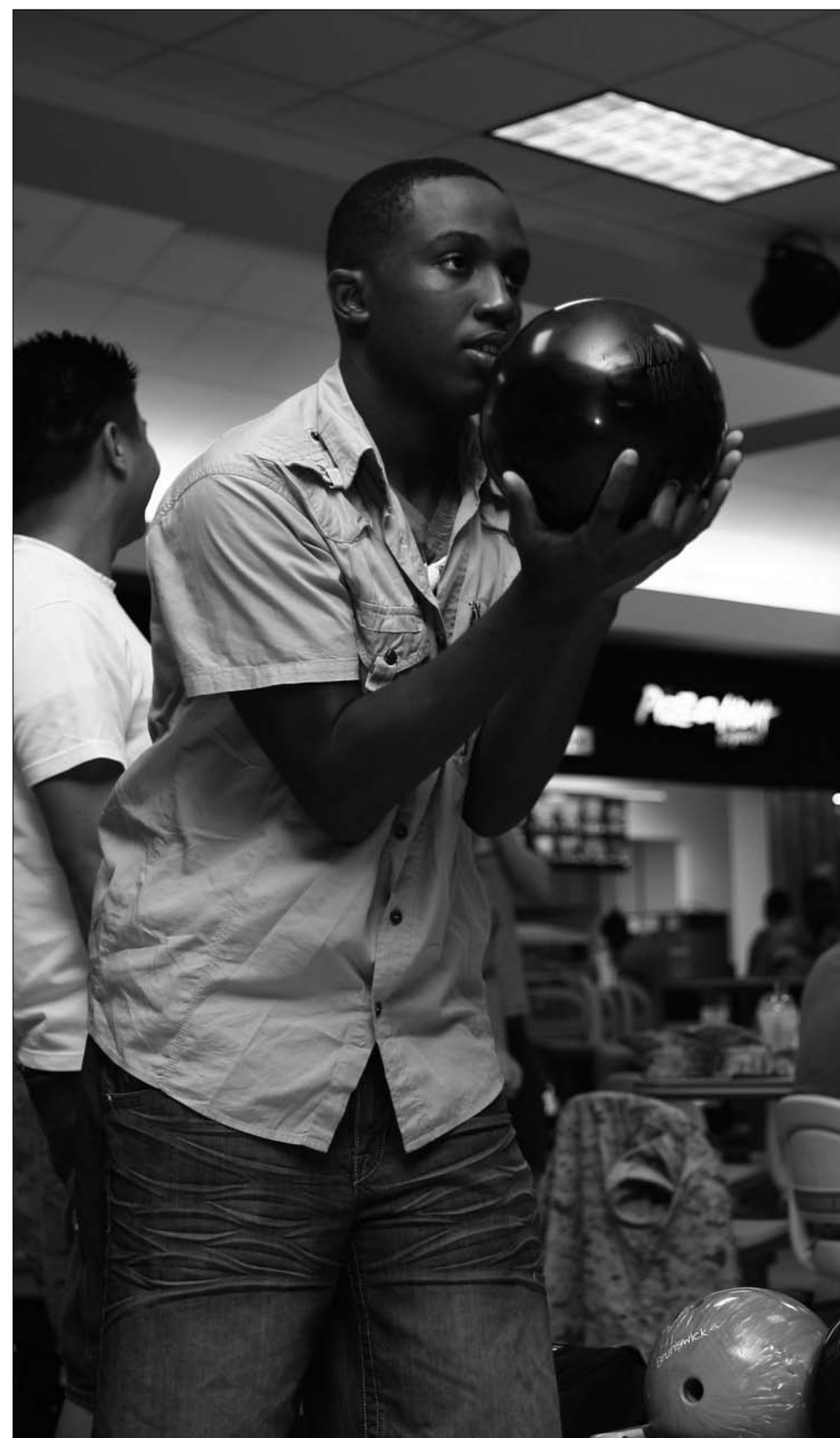
Taylor said they tried to beat each other and then see how they were doing against other teams as a second factor.

Taylor boasted the highest overall individual combined score of 664.

Most events in the Commander's Cup have tended to be on the physically demanding side of things, but the bowling challenge provided a change of pace to allow more unit participation.

"A lot of (Commander's Cup events) are physically challenging," said Barb Roman, Commander's Cup Bowling Challenge coordinator. "(The events are) a variety. So I want to make sure that everyone has a chance throughout the year to show off their strengths for their unit."

While Commander's Cup events can get people focused on the competitive side, the overall goal is getting unit members together and fostering unit camaraderie.



CPL. JOSEPH MARIANELLI

Devonn Flu, representing the Branch Medical Clinic, aligns himself for his first practice roll during the Commander's Cup Bowling Challenge at the Strike Zone here July 16. The BHC took second place overall with a combined score of 2,148.



CPL. JOSEPH MARIANELLI

James Hayes, representing Marine Wing Support Squadron 171, prepares to loose his ball during the Commander's Cup Bowling Challenge at the Strike Zone here July 16. Hayes and teammates William Janssen, Eric Taylor and Roy Whitener took first place in the challenge with a total score of 2,231.



CPL. JOSEPH MARIANELLI

Andrew Barr, representing the Branch Health Clinic, unleashes his bowling ball during the Commander's Cup Bowling Challenge at the Strike Zone here July 16. Despite a solid performance, the BHC was edged out of first place by Marine Wing Support Squadron 171.

Orient Tigers defeat Blood, Swear, Beer

LANCE CPL. JENNIFER PIRANTE
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Orient Tigers defeated the Blood, Swear and Beer team 5-0 during a six-man intramural soccer game at Penny Lake here July 20.

Orient Tigers kept its defense tight and did not give the Blood, Swear and Beer team any leverage to score a single goal during the first and only half of the game.

On offense, Orient Tigers played with intensity and took advantage of every chance to score.

As soon as Taskashi Soubeh, right middle position for the Orient Tigers, managed to find an opening, he took the shot and made the first goal.

Andre Bugawan, forward position for the Orient Tigers, headed the ball into the net after it was passed in from the corner.

For the rest of the first half, when the Orient Tigers reached five goals, the game was called on the mercy rule. The Orient Tigers maintained their momentum until the game was called because the team had managed to score five goals in a single half.

The last few goals were scored by Tyelor Apple, right middle position for the Orient Tigers.

One goal was scored when he managed to maneuver the ball past opposing players for an open shot straight into the net.

"If a team takes lead by five goals at any time, the game is considered to be a mercy rule," said John Bass, intramural soccer referee. "The game has to be called."

It was a short but hard-fought victory for the Orient Tigers.

"We had fun and it showed out there," said Apple. "We scored a lot of points."

The team benefitted from the differences between games played during the high school season and the intramural season.

"These games are played on short field, so there is a lot more passing and good touches on the ball," said Apple. "It helps us in the physical aspect of the game."

Orient Tigers is made up of a small group of high school students from the Matthew C. Perry boy's soccer team and a few adult Japanese players who participated during the intramural soccer season last year.

Since the high school students were released for the summer months, they looked for a way to keep up their game until the next chance to bring their team back together for the next season.

"Our season ended before the school year ended, so we formed an all small boys team so we could play in between seasons," said Apple. "We also have soccer club that starts up in the beginning of the school year, so we try to play all year round."

Orient Tigers tied against the MALS-12 Gunners 4-4 in their first game of the intramural soccer season after many games were postponed due to inclement weather conditions.

The team currently has several games to look forward to as the weather clears and the hot, sunny days of summer lie ahead.

"We're just out here having fun," said Apple.

For more information about intramural sports, call 253-3067.



LANCE CPL. JENNIFER PIRANTE

Andre Bugawan (right), forward position for Orient Tigers, attempts to overtake Lon Stedman (left), forward for Blood, Swear and Beer during an intramural soccer game at Penny Lake here July 20.



LANCE CPL. JENNIFER PIRANTE

Taskashi Soubeh, right middle position for Orient Tigers, speeds past Edgar Castaneda, forward for Blood, Swear and Beer, with the soccer ball during an intramural soccer game at Penny Lake here July 20.



LANCE CPL. JENNIFER PIRANTE

Ryan Damarcus, forward for Blood, Swear and Beer, gains possession of the soccer ball and attempts to take it down field during an intramural soccer game at Penny Lake here July 20.