

THE IWAKUNI APPROACH

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Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan

New order addresses **MCBJ's** Leave and liberty

PRESS RELEASE
MARINE CORPS BASES JAPAN

MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP S.D. BUTLER, Okinawa, Japan — Lt. Gen. Richard C. Zilmer, commanding general of III MEF and MCBJ, signed a new Liberty Campaign Order Sept. 29.

The order effectively combines all orders and directives relating to leave, liberty and special liberty. The order provides simple guidance and expectations of military members assigned to MCBJ and III MEF within Japan while in an off-duty status.

"This order includes measures designed to prevent misconduct and promote responsible and mature behavior," said

Zilmer. "I expect the highest degree of responsibility, maturity and self-discipline from Marines and sailors, family members and civilians here in Japan. We are all ambassadors and must serve as good neighbors to our Japanese and Okinawan hosts."

The most significant change as a result of the new order is an end to the midnight curfew for all Marines and sailors, which has been in effect since early April. However, the midnight curfew still applies to red liberty card holders who must observe a midnight to 5 a.m. curfew and are required to have a liberty-buddy during off-base liberty. Gold liberty card holders now have no curfew.

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Town Hall meeting to be held here Oct. 22

SGT. JOSH COX
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

In an upcoming Town Hall meeting here, the Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni commanding officer will examine and respond to critical questions and comments from station residents.

Col. Michael O'Halloran will host the town hall meeting Oct. 22 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Station Chapel.

This meeting is designed to update

station residents on the current state of affairs and to respond to community questions.

O'Halloran will be accompanied by his department heads and representatives from Marine Corps Community Services and the Branch Health Clinic. The event is open to all air station residents, and submitting questions or comments prior to the meeting is encouraged.

Please submit questions in advance by dropping them off at the Town Hall

drop box at the Commissary, sending them via e-mail at iwakuni.pao@usmc.mil, by calling the Public Affairs Office at 253-5551, or by using the Interactive Customer Evaluation (ICE) Web site.

To access the Town Hall concerns comment card on the ICE Web site, click the ICE icon on the bottom left side of the station homepage (<http://www.iwakuni.usmc.mil>).

Then click on either "Administration" or "Communication."

Combined Federal Campaign begins on station

LANCE CPL. DAN NEGRETE
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Getting an American astronaut on the moon, supporting the civil rights movement, and inspiring a beautiful blonde celebrity to sing Happy Birthday to him on live television were among

President John F. Kennedy's most notable achievements.

Another was his push to formalize charitable solicitation into one trustworthy program, known as the Combined Federal Campaign.

For more than 50 years, the Combined Federal Campaign has maintained

its policy of promoting legitimate and reputable charitable organizations that have already been approved by the Internal Revenue Service.

"All the charities have also been screened by the CFC to make sure they

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Representatives showcase the benefits of college to Marines during the 2008 College Fair at the Crossroads Mall here Aug. 22. Photo by Pvt. Ashley M. Howard

Fair promotes college learning experience

PVT. ASHLEY M. HOWARD
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

The education center held its 2008 College Fair at the Crossroads Mall here Aug. 26, in pursuit to promote education opportunities to Marines and sailors aboard the station.

Field representatives from the University of Maryland University College and Central Texas College were on hand to take questions about taking the schools' courses and programs offered here.

"We want people to take advantage of the opportunity to go to school for free," said Beth Limones, the Texas Central college field representative.

Tuition is free for military members, however the books required for a class must be purchased by the student.

The two colleges offer classes online as well as face-to-face courses in Building 411.

Online classes are two weeks longer than the in-room classes which take approximately six to eight weeks to complete.

"We have classes during lunch and night classes Mondays and Wednesdays or Tuesdays and Thursdays," said Liz Montalvo, field representative for UMUC. "UMUC also allows people to earn their associate's degree or their bachelor's degree."

"Central Texas College also offers the same class schedule," said Limones. "We offer an associate's degree that people can take to another school and earn their bachelor's."

The colleges permit students to take

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CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Lt. Cmdr. Denis Cox
MAG-12 CHAPLAIN

It can't be October already.

Tonight is the Fall Festival and next week is the Navy Ball. Soon it will be time for the Marine Corps Ball then Thanksgiving.

Before we know it, it will be 2009.

Have I done what I wanted to do?

Have I been able to accomplish my list or completed my goals for 2008 yet?

Where has all the time gone?

There are almost 1,000 references to the use of time in the Bible. There is a time for everything, a time for every season under the sun.

Make sure that your time is used wisely, we don't have too much of it left. Before you know it, you'll be getting ready to change stations and all the things you wanted to do and all the places you wanted to visit will have come and gone.

Job familiarity takes time. No one would ever be expected to

fly one of those F/A-18's sitting on the tarmac unless they put hundreds of hours in the classroom and simulator. Proficiency takes time. That's why the most responsibility is only given to those with a lot of years under their belt.

Relationships take time. Make sure you're putting enough time into the relationships that mean the most to you. We usually get into the most trouble when we try to get away with only putting a few moments of time into a relationship and then expecting a lot from that same relationship.

It's also true in our relationship with the Lord.

The more time we are willing to put into our relationship with God will give us rewards that we cannot imagine. Too many of us want our relationship with the Lord to be a quick thing. We want to get in, pass on our prayer requests and get out without wasting any time.

Slow down, take your time, and make sure we are giving enough into the relationships that mean the most.

Before we know it, the kids are grown, our time at this command is gone and we find ourselves scratching our heads and wondering where all the time went.

Crime Prevention Month begins



Col. Michael A. O'Halloran signs a proclamation here Sept. 30 declaring October 2008 Crime Prevention Month aboard the air station. Crime Prevention Month is a community effort to win the battle against criminal activities and promote personal safety and security. Photo by Lance Cpl. Dan Negrete

Corps Question

Q: What is the Combined Federal Campaign?

A: The CFC encourages federal employees, regardless of pay grade and title, to donate money to the charities closest to their hearts. The specific charities and information on how to make a donation are available on the CFC Web site (www.opm.gov/cfc).

Editor's note: Feel free to e-mail the editor with your Corps Question at iwakuni.pao.usmc.mil.

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The new order also prohibits all military members from patronizing bars or clubs offbase as well as consuming alcohol off base after 2 a.m.

Service members may be in eating establishments after 2 a.m., but the purchase of alcoholic beverages is prohibited.

The new 70-page Liberty Campaign Order is the result of a series of actions taken by Marine Corps leadership to improve the conduct of service members during off-base liberty on Okinawa.

Many of these measures are a result of a series of off-base liberty incidents earlier this year that garnered significant negative reaction from U.S. and Japanese officials, local leaders and the Okinawan community, the most significant of which was the abusive sexual contact of an Okinawan girl by a Marine in February.

Among the changes made over the past seven months were an expansion of uniformed courtesy patrols, changes to the liberty card policy, checks of outgoing vehicles at U.S. Marine Corps installations and additions to the Newcomer's Orientation Welcome Aboard (NOWA) Seminar.

The new Liberty Campaign Order addresses leave and liberty regulations, the off-base liberty card program, the liberty risk program, liberty buddy order, the courtesy patrol program, prohibited activities, civilian clothing regulations, and the alcohol abuse and de-glamorization policy.

Over the next few months, a series of articles will be published about the various aspects of the new order to highlight what Marines and sailors should know.

The new MCBJ/III MEF Order 1050.7 Liberty Campaign Order can be accessed online at the MCB, Camp Butler adjutant SharePoint homepage at the following CAC-protected site: <https://wss.mcbbutler.usmc.mil/G1/Adjutant/default.aspx>.

Some of the significant policy changes found in the new order include:

Liberty Card Policy

No liberty card will be issued until completion of the NOWA Seminar and the Standards of Conduct Class for all newcomers, regardless of rank. Newcomers are not allowed unaccompanied liberty without their sponsor until receiving the NOWA Seminar and Standards of Conduct Class.

Company commanders and company grade officers designated by battalion/squadron-level commanders may assign red liberty cards to deserving Marines and sailors.

Only battalion/squadron-level commanders will assign gold liberty cards based upon recommendations of company, battery, and section team (CO, XO, 1stSgt) for those who have earned it through demonstrated maturity, judgment and superior conduct.

Service members E-4 and E-5 will normally be issued a gold liberty card.

However, commanders may grant red liberty cards to those who, in the commander's judgment, have not demonstrated those traits outlined in the Order.

Service members E-6 and above will normally be issued a gold liberty card.

However, the commander may consider initially issuing a red liberty card, should he/she desire a period of observation.

Off-base liberty for service members issued a red liberty card is secured to their home camp from midnight to 5 a.m.

All service members issued a red liberty card must have a liberty buddy during off-base liberty. Service members issued a gold liberty card are authorized "overnight" liberty

and are not required to check in, unless directed by their commander.

Drinking alcohol off-base is secured at 2 a.m., and no service members are allowed in bars/clubs off-base past this time, regardless of color of liberty card or rank.

Service members may be in eating establishments after 2 a.m., but purchase of alcoholic beverages is strictly prohibited.

Local leave in Japan does not dismiss the requirements to adhere to the rules of the Red and Gold Liberty Card Program.

Red card holders on leave and in possession of valid leave papers may be offbase and are not required to check in, but must be indoors (hotel or private residence) between midnight and 5 a.m. when officially signed out on leave and in possession of valid leave papers.

Outbound Gate Checks

At a minimum, all open access control points, on all Marine Corps camps and stations will have a noncommissioned officer or petty officer or above present (in a duty status) for outbound traffic checks between the hours of 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. on weekends and holidays.

Liberty Buddy Policy

Marines and sailors, E-3 and below, and all Red Liberty Card holders must have a liberty buddy for off-base liberty.

The requirement for a liberty buddy applies to all liberty periods, including after working hours, over weekends, and during special liberty hours.

Marines and sailors serving an accompanied tour are to have a liberty buddy in the event their family member is not available to accompany him/her during one of the above periods.

Marines and sailors traveling between their residence and base do not require a liberty buddy for such travel, so long as they are traveling directly between base and residence and make no stops along the way.

If liberty buddies become separated, they must report their separation to their command within 30 minutes.

While becoming separated from a liberty buddy in and of itself does not represent a violation of this Order, failing to report the separation is a violation of this Order.

Alcohol in the Barracks

E-3s and below who live in the barracks shall not possess more than six 12-oz beers, wine coolers, malt liquor beverages or one bottle of wine per occupant of legal drinking age (20 years old).

Hard liquor is not authorized to be purchased by, consumed by, possessed by or stored in barracks of E-3s and below regardless of age.

This includes those E-3s and below who are in a TAD or leave status.

Hard liquor is defined by the order as any beverage with an alcohol content of 10% or higher (20 proof or higher).

Noncommissioned officers or petty officers (E-4/E-5) who live in the barracks shall not possess more than one 750 ml container of hard liquor or twelve 12-ounce beers/wine coolers/malt liquor or two (2) bottles of wine per occupant of legal age.

Hard liquor will be locked up at all times when not being consumed.

An example of "securing" hard liquor would be locked within wall lockers or desk secretaries in the barracks room.

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two classes per term.

However, if an individual wants to take more, he or she will be required to turn in a written request to the school's representatives. Because taking two classes is considered attending school full-time, the schools don't want to overload

people with more classes than necessary, Limones said. Registration for the next term of college classes here begins Oct. 13 through Oct. 24, and the term runs from Oct. 27 through Dec. 21. To register for classes with Central Texas College, an administration form and registration form must be filled out and submitted. The forms can be picked up from

room 109 in Building 411.

Registering for UMUC is done on the college's Web site.

There are no requirements for a military member to enroll in classes, and credits earned can be transferred to another institution if desired.

For more information, contact the college representatives at 253-3631.

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use their funds responsibly," said Capt. David S. LaCharite, the community area project manager.

The CFC has added several new charities to their list in response to the damages caused by Hurricane Gustav on the Gulf Coast of the United States.

The specific charities and information on how to make a donation are available on the CFC Web site (www.opm.gov/cfc).

"The campaign officially kicks off Oct. 1, and service members can expect to be contacted in some form or another before Dec. 3 on how they can donate," said LaCharite.

Key persons are responsible for making 100 percent contact within each unit to afford everyone the opportunity to participate in the campaign, added LaCharite.

Aside from being able to make donations to national and internationally qualified charities, Service members can also donate funds to family support and youth programs sponsored by their base or installation.

"This money will go directly back to their community and improve their local schools, playgrounds, sports programs, etc," LaCharite said.

Last fiscal year, Marine Corps Bases Japan achieved 41 percent participation for the Combined Federal Campaign.

"This is because the CFC makes it possible for service



members to donate as little as \$1 per month, directly drawn from their paycheck," said LaCharite.

The total funds drawn from the CFC last year totaled more than \$5.4 million with a total of 2,889 units participating.

Of those funds, \$123,252.04 came from Iwakuni, which had a participation rate of 39.6 percent, and an average donation rate of \$139.27 among those who donated.

"In the end, it's not how much you give, but that you give," said LaCharite.

"There are so many charities available through the CFC that it's impossible not to find one that has touched you in some way."



Meet the King

Lance Cpl. Pablo Rey, or more commonly known as Iwakuni's own Elvis, performs in front of an audience of more than 1,200 people at the Summer Music Festival here Aug. 30. Rey has performed 12 shows here and will perform one last time next month before changing stations. Photo by Sgt. Josh Cox

LANCE CPL. DAN NEGRETE
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Growing up came fast for Lance Cpl. Pablo Rey, who at the age of 12 already worked two jobs just to help his single mother Lalai make ends meet.

"When your mom is from Thailand and your dad isn't around, you'll learn that your family's survival depends on you to do your part," Rey said. "That's why my twin brother and I never had any toys or video games growing up."

Rey and his identical twin brother, Orlando, either walked or rode city buses to and from their after-school and weekend jobs.

They worked at places like K-Mart, UPS, a pool construction company, a tent manufacturer, fast food restaurants and grocery stores.

Like their mother, they worked up to seven days a week and counted hours on one, two, and sometimes even three jobs. They spent less time together and more time working.

"We never resented our mom for never being home or because she depended on us to have our own jobs," Rey said. "We actually enjoyed working as hard as we did, especially knowing how proud we made her."

"We could just tell by the way she'd look at us that she was proud to see how mature and hard-working we both were," he humbly added.

Their hard work and sacrifice forced the two brothers to grow fast. Nevertheless, Rey and Orlando still took time out of their busy schedules to have fun like the rest of their peers.

They had something unique going for them that made them especially popular at school and within their hometown of Orlando, Fla.

The two identical twins bore striking similarities to Elvis Presley despite their mixed backgrounds, and they each learned how to sing like Elvis by listening to albums and other Elvis recordings.

They gave performances at talent shows, birthday parties, football games and in front of their teachers and classmates.

Rey's turning point performance was when he sang in front of 7,000 screaming spectators at an Orlando Predators semi-pro football game when he was 16.

"It was such an adrenaline rush," said Rey. "It was at that point that I discovered the thrill of entertaining masses of people."

While Rey and his brother were beginning to have incredible success with their Elvis gig, Rey saw an opportunity to better his future by joining the Marine Corps.

"I joined the Marine Corps at 17 because I was eager to go out and see the world," said Rey. "I did it for my country, but I also did it for myself because I knew what kind of education benefits I'd be entitled to once I got out of the military."

Rey brought his spirit of sacrifice with him to the Corps. He serves as a basic water support technician with Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 here but also hosts tables at Club Iwakuni four days a week for extra income.

He sends the extra money he makes to his mother in Florida.

"It makes me feel better when I know I'm still helping her out," said Rey. "I don't mind working as hard as

I do, especially since I'm still young and have the energy for it."

Energy is not something Rey lacks. He'll engage in physical training eight times a week between his full-time Marine Corps job and part-time restaurant job.

Rey gets up at 4:30 a.m. to train with his unit three times a week, but he also willingly attends morning and afternoon remedial PT sessions just for the added fitness.

On top of his two jobs and intense PT regimen, Rey is currently taking online college classes. He has thus far completed courses in psychology, Japanese language and culture, and algebra.

For the next term he plans on taking a speech and communications class.

Despite his hectic schedule, Rey still finds the time to entertain station residents with his Elvis gig, which he also brought with him to the Corps.

So far, Rey has performed 12 shows while stationed here and two others while deployed with his unit in Korea.

His latest performance was during the Summer Music Festival, where he sang six Elvis songs in front of 1,200 cheering fans.

The next time Rey takes the stage will be his final performance here.

Rey's two years on station have come up, and on Dec. 20 he will be travelling back to the states on a permanent change of duty stations to Cherry Point, N.C.

He will perform at the Sakura Theater on a to-be-announced date prior to his PCS.

"I invite anyone to come to my final performance," said Rey. "I'll be singing 20 of my favorite Elvis songs and bid farewell to a base that has done so much for me."

History of operational security

GUNNERY SGT. JOSE R. PALOSCHAVEZ
CONTRIBUTED

The concept of OPSEC can be traced as far back as the Colonial and Revolutionary War.

As a matter of fact, George Washington, our first president, was known as an OPSEC practitioner.

He is often quoted with saying:

"Even minutiae should have a place in our collection, for thing of a seemingly trifling nature, when enjoined with others of a more serious cast, may lead to valuable conclusion."

George Washington's use of "minutiae" is defined by the common dictionary as "small or trivial detail."

No matter how small or insignificant the information may be, when intercepted by the adversary it may lead to a valuable conclusion.

Although the concept of OPSEC was known and used during this period, it would have greater application in the future conflicts.

The OPSEC "process" was actually conceived during the Vietnam War.

Commanders and operational planners were hard pressed to conceal their intentions from the adversary.

The adversary clearly had an advantage against the U.S. armed forces.

The adversary was known to seemingly be able to anticipate every move, choose the time and place of confrontation, and retreat with ease from engagement with the allied forces. Intelligence sources often indicated that the enemy forces consistently received advanced warnings of allied intentions.

As a result, resources were directed to catch spies, weaknesses in security and handling of classified material was later tightened.

Minor discrepancies were identified and corrective

measures were taken.

However, the enemy ability to predict military operations continued.

A different approach was required to address this pressing problem.

The OPSEC process was finally created and put into use by U.S. armed forces.

This process attempted to analyze military operations, identify the sources of the enemy's abilities to determine allied actions in advance, and more important to implement effective countermeasures.

Personnel were later dispatched to interview, and

"An effective OPSEC posture is everyone's responsibility."

exploit any known vulnerabilities throughout the area.

Any information on how the enemy was collecting the information was also launched.

The findings of the interviews and procedures were shocking. There was no indication that the enemy was exploiting information that was protected by traditional security programs — stored in secure or restricted areas.

The enemy was cleverly hanging around common areas observing and gathering unclassified information. The enemy was piecing all unclassified information into a complete puzzle.

This included physical characteristics, events, and communications that ultimately gave the enemy insight of our intentions, operations, and how the war was conducted.

Commanders and operational planners were able to

enhance the OPSEC process with their findings.

Information, regardless of its classification (classified or unclassified), would be better protected.

In addition, these changes also significantly enhanced the overall operational efficiency.

The Vietnam War undoubtedly shifted OPSEC from a "concept" that was merely used during the Colonial and Civil War into a "process" that would have greater applicability.

Additionally, OPSEC finally received the attention and immediate recognition as a national program.

OPSEC is not applicable just in combat operations. It is applicable to every day life in and out of the military uniform.

In addition, today's businesses thrive or fold without some form of OPSEC program.

For example, Apple Inc. and Google are renowned for keeping their products and programs away from peering eyes until made public.

Remember to adhere to our station commander's message about being "vigilant." Vigilance may also be applied when protecting valuable and personal or critical information from being openly distributed via the Internet.

What is vigilance?

According to the Merriam-Webster Online Dictionary, vigilance is defined as, "alertly watchful especially to avoid danger."

In conclusion, no matter how small or insignificant, classified or unclassified information may be, if the adversary gets it they will have insight of our intentions, operations, and how we conduct war or training.

This could compromise readiness and combat effectiveness.

Bottom line — an effective OPSEC posture is everyone's responsibility.

Station Marines overcome obstacles

Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron warriors build camaraderie, endurance during unit physical training



A Marine hoists himself over a log while running the Obstacle Course here Sept. 25. The event was part of a Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron unit physical training session. Photos by Staff Sgt. Michael Kropiewnicki



Service members from Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron negotiate the Obstacle Course here Sept. 25.

Urban Search & Rescue



Station firefighters work as quickly as possible to rescue victims caused by a simulated earthquake during their final exercise in urban search and rescue training here Sept. 25. In the foreground, Stephen Wright, lead instructor with Urban Search & Rescue Consulting International, provides additional information related to the rescue process for a victim trapped within the concrete box that station firefighters were attempting to clean breach. In the background, a firefighter prepares a large piece of concrete to be removed from a trapped car using a crane. Firefighters had rescued one victim from the vehicle but were attempting to locate the driver. Photo by Lance Cpl. Joseph Marianelli

Station firefighters rescue the driver of a crushed vehicle during their final exercise in urban search and rescue training here Sept. 25. The driver rescue took the firefighters more than three hours to properly execute once they had located the unconscious victim. For the entire exercise, firefighters rescued 12 victims and made two recoveries. Photo by Lance Cpl. Joseph Marianelli



Station firefighters practice skills

LANCE CPL. JOSEPH MARIANELLI
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Station firefighters completed their month-long urban search and rescue training with a two-day final exercise here Sept. 24 and 25.

During the exercise, firefighters spent approximately 16 hours in two 8-hour shifts rescuing 12 victims and making two recoveries.

The setup to the exercise was a simulated earthquake striking the Iwakuni area measuring 7.2 on the Richter scale.

The firefighters were broken up into a command element where all dispatched teams had to report back their findings and status.

Along with that, the firefighters had to establish

a communication plan, safety strategy and reconnaissance plan.

The simulation included multiple types of structures and enclosed spaces, including a business building, observation tower, crushed car, even a plane downed by the earthquake, that might be encountered after a destructive event.

During the final exercise, firefighters were required to use lessons and techniques they had learned in the urban search and rescue course and anything they could bring to the table from prior to the course.

The firefighters had to observe all the precau-

tions they would during a real event such as checking air levels for harmful gases, proper handling of victims and safety techniques.

To keep the simulation more realistic, Urban Search & Rescue Consulting International instructors would "create" aftershocks to make the environment more fluid like an actual catastrophe.

"The whole month we've been here I've never seen anyone with the teamwork they do," Mark Hair, instructor with US&R Consulting International said. "They did a hell of a job."



Station firefighters use camera gear to search otherwise inaccessible rubble for victims as part of their final exercise during urban search and rescue training here Sept. 25. Using the cameras allows firefighters to see the specific situation and relative condition of a victim. Without the cameras, firefighters would only get a relative position using dogs or listening for help cries. Photo by Lance Cpl. Joseph Marianelli



A station firefighter is trapped underneath a simulated 2,000-pound piece of rubble while attempting to rescue a victim during a final exercise in urban search and rescue training here Sept. 25. During the final exercise, Urban Search & Rescue Consulting International instructors would augment the rescue simulation by adding kinks to the process, such as the aftershock that caused the rubble to fall during the rescue. Photo by Lance Cpl. Joseph Marianelli



A station firefighter drills another hole into concrete in preparation to make a clean breach into an enclosed area where a victim is trapped during a final exercise in urban search and rescue training here Sept. 25. The purpose of a clean breach, as opposed to a dirty breach, is to prevent as much rubble and debris as possible from falling in and further injuring the victim. Photo by Lance Cpl. Joseph Marianelli



Station firefighters repair shoring they had built the day before during their final exercise in urban search and rescue training here Sept. 25. Aftershocks caused damage to the shoring firefighters had put up the first day of the exercise. The purpose of shoring is to secure the structure for firefighters to enter, but also shoring provides warning signals if a structure is going to collapse farther. Photo by Lance Cpl. Joseph Marianelli

CORPS NEWS

HIGHLIGHTING MARINES AND SAILORS AROUND THE GLOBE



Maj. Mark DeVito, team leader, 3rd Civil Affairs Group, TF 2/7, and San Diego native, along with his British Army counterparts talks to a local Afghan man near Patrol Base Nabi, during a patrol Sept. 2. By constantly patrolling "outside the wire" and regularly engaging the local populace, CAG Marines can determine the needs of the Afghan people and identify the best ways to improve quality of life for local residents. Photo by Cpl. Steve Cushman.

Marines host 'shura' to address Afghan needs

CPL. STEVE CUSHMAN
2ND BATTALION, 7TH MARINES

HELMAND PROVINCE, Forward Operating Base Sangin, Afghanistan—At a patrol base near the Sangin District Center here, a group of Marines joined a "shura," or meeting, held by local village leaders Sept. 3.

By participating in the shura, which is similar to a town hall meeting, the Marines can determine what the villagers need and identify the best ways to improve quality of life for local residents.

Since deploying here in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, Task Force 2nd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, Combined Joint Task Force Phoenix, has focused its efforts on bringing peace to the Afghan people.

"The people think highly of the Afghan National Army; they want to support the government, and they want the Taliban out," said Maj. Mark DeVito, team leader, 3rd Civil Affairs Group, TF 2/7, and San Diego native. "As a community, they need to determine what affects the most people. They sometimes have a hard time working on the prioritization for the projects they want completed."

CAG Marines have found that trying to influence young men is important

because they feel they are more likely to be negatively influenced by the Taliban.

"We had around 20 young adults show up for the first teenage shura. One of the biggest things they wanted was jobs," said Cpl. Eric E. Cuevas, a civil affairs non commissioned officer.

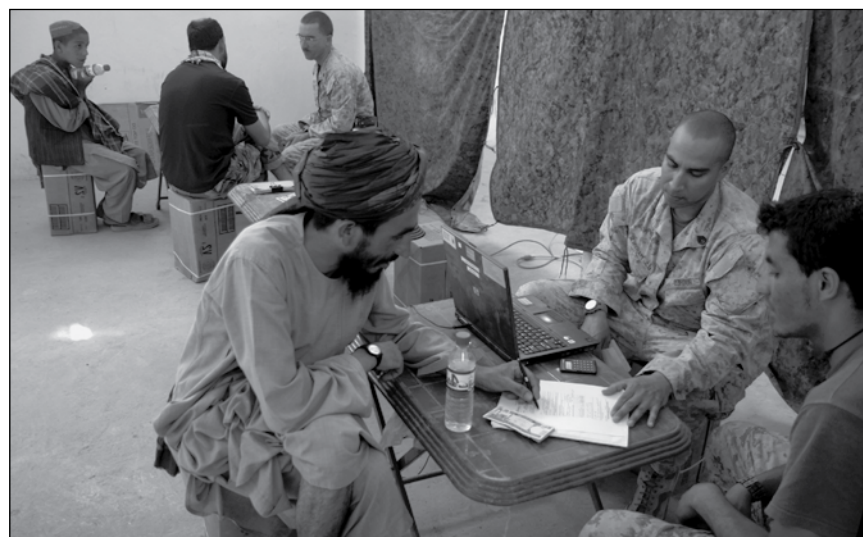
"When we asked them what they needed to benefit their community, they responded by saying a mosque. No matter how we tried to get around it, they kept saying they wanted more mosques," Cpl. Cuevas explained.

Helping the Afghans rebuild their schools is one of the Marines' top initiatives. The teens and younger children have also expressed a desire to return to school.

"The teens said they wanted a school. They said they haven't been going to school since the Taliban destroyed their school," Cpl. Cuevas said.

Another tool the CAG Marines have at their disposal is the Civil Affairs Transition Training Team, which teaches civil affairs practices to the Afghan National Army, Afghan National Police and Afghan National Civil Order Police which are all invited to accompany the CAG team during its patrols – a concept that proved effective in Iraq.

"We need to teach and mentor civil affairs operations to Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF)," said Staff Sgt.



Staff Sgt. Kelly R. Hughes, team chief, 3rd CAG, and Carlsbad, Calif., native, gives monetary compensation after listening to a local man's claim of property damage following military activity near his home. Providing compensation to local Afghans has helped the CAG Marines strengthen relations with local Afghans. Photo by Lance Corporal Chad J. Pulliam.

Kelly R. Hughes, the CAG team chief. "If we can teach them how we conduct business, they can monitor the projects, gather information from the villagers, and handle humanitarian aid.

"It's working out here," Hughes continued. "We've got our ANP officers with us. Everything we do, they're doing along with us – patrol briefs, debriefs and humanitarian aid. We just hope that it catches on. They're starting to pick it up pretty well."

While shuras and other engagements

with the local populace have resulted in a more meaningful relationship, the Marines have embarked on a host of other civil affairs projects aimed at educating the people.

"The biggest thing is that we hit the ground constantly," said Sgt. Brian A. Blumenthal, a civil affairs NCO. "We're seeing a lot of success. We're seeing a lot of success. There is a heavy Taliban influence in the area. But, because we're constantly going out, we're getting the 'fence sitters' to turn to our side."

Community Briefs

Family night at the movies

Tomorrow, 4 p.m. at Sakura Theater. Get movie night right. Come enjoy a movie with family and friends at Sakura Theater to celebrate Unity Day. Unity Day is a day of celebration for the local community to show the best of who we are. Free popcorn for all children 16 and younger. For more information, contact MCCS Marine & Family Services Division at 253-4526.

Screen to prevent abuse

Monday, 7:30 a.m. at Branch Health Clinic. Healthcare providers will educate patients about the importance of assessing for domestic violence, as well as the long-term health effects of domestic violence and lifetime exposure to violence.

Clothesline display project

Wednesday, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. at Crossroads Mall. The first acts of violence that most children witness are not on television or at the movies, but in their own homes. The Clothesline Display was developed to raise awareness about the impact of Domestic Violence and show parents there is a silent witness to the abuse.

Hispanic Heritage Month

Wednesday, 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., Club Iwakuni Ballroom. The station Equal Opportunity Council and MWSS-171 would like to invite all station personnel to the Hispanic American Heritage Month Observance. We will be celebrating Hispanic Culture and Traditions with a

Hispanic Grand Buffet, music by DJ Fernando, and various dance demonstrations. Please come out and show your support. For more information, call 253-3308.

One-man play, "You the Man"

Thursday, begins at 9 a.m., 1 p.m., and 3 p.m., at Sakura Theater. "You the man" is a one-man play, featuring six different characters. It presents unhealthy relationships, dating abuse and sexual assault as issues. The issues are not resolved in the play, which will give us an opportunity to examine our own responses and consider what we ourselves might do in one of these situations.

Potty training workshop

Thursday, 10 - 11 a.m. at Room 219, Building 411. Parents learn the steps for successful toilet training. Signs of readiness, handling set-backs, and great tips will also be addressed. For more information, contact MCCS Marine & Family Services Division at 253-4526.

Daddy's Baby Boot Camp/ Mom's Basic Training

Oct. 17, 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. at Room 219, Building 411. This is a fun and informative one-day class focusing on postpartum and infant care. Couples communication, community resources for expectant/new parents, organizational tips, and parenthood are also covered. For

Chapel Services

Roman Catholic

Saturday 4:30 p.m. Confession
5:30 p.m. Mass
Sunday 8:30 a.m. Mass
9:45 a.m. Religious Education
Tuesday - Friday 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
11:00 a.m. Seventh-Day Adventist Devine 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 p.m. 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 Activities

Jewish

Friday 6 p.m. Shabbat (small chapel)

Teen Programs

For times, call 253-5183: high school meetings, junior high meetings, HS and JR Bible studies, retreats, service projects, mission trips, Special Events Volunteer Training and Mentoring, Parent Support Groups

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

more information, contact MCCS Marine & Family Services Division at 253-4526.

Iwakuni academic advisor visit

The Iwakuni Academic Advisor will be visiting Oct. 20 to 23. Appointments must be made in advance by contacting the Iwakuni UMUC Office at 253-3392. Each appointment will be 30 minutes in duration, in a private classroom, "one-on-one" with an academic advisor. For more information, contact the Iwakuni UMUC Office at 253-3392.

Tantrums, time outs & toddlers

Oct. 29, 9 a.m. - 11 p.m. at Room 219, Building 411. Learn effective positive discipline techniques as well as how to handle temper tantrums. This class also covers use of rules and routines and ways to have an enjoyable dining experience out with your young ones. For more information, contact MCCS Marine & Family Services Division at 253-4526.

Power outage

There will be a station-wide power outage Nov. 8 from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The power outage is necessary in order to perform maintenance to essential parts and equipment for the continuous safe and reliable electrical service to MCAS Iwakuni.

"Go green"

Free Compact Fluorescent Light (CFL) bulb to all MCAS residents. Turn in the old incandescent bulbs and receive one CFL bulb per person (max is four CFL bulbs per household). Housing residents can contact the housing office/self help, and barracks residents can contact the

barracks manager for replacement of bulbs.

Iwakuni Enlisted Spouse's Club

There is a new face in town, and we are looking for your ideas, comments, concerns and interests. We are the Iwakuni Enlisted Spouse's Club, and we would like to hear from you if you are interested in joining our club. For all questions, comments, concerns and ideas, please e-mail to jessarroyo2002@yahoo.com.

Girl Scouts

Since 1912, Girl Scouts has been a way for girls from different backgrounds to join together in friendship, learn new life skills and develop leadership skills. On Oct. 1, girls and adult volunteers will begin their journey of the 2008 Girl Scout year. For further information please call 253-3035 or Iwakunigs@gmail.com. Iwakuni Girl Scouts are more than just cookies.

Boy Scouts, Troop 77

Troop 77 would like to welcome and invite anyone interested in joining to attend one of their weekly meetings. The meetings are every Monday, 6 - 7:30 p.m. at Bldg. 1111 (one block down from the Chapel). For more information, call Hut at 253-3305.

Community Brief and Classified Information submission criteria

The deadline for all submissions is on Mondays at 4:30 p.m. Advertisements will be posted in the Iwakuni Approach and on Channels 21 or 17 on Fridays. To extend a previously submitted ad for an additional week, notify the Public Affairs Office at 253-5551.

Sakura Theater

Friday, Oct. 3, 2008

7 p.m. Nights in Rodanthe (PG-13)
Premier
10 p.m. Eagle Eye (PG-13)
Premier

Saturday, Oct. 4, 2008

1 p.m. Star Wars: The Clone Wars (PG-13)
4 p.m. Eagle Eye (R)
7 p.m. Pineapple Express (R)
10 p.m. Nights in Rodanthe (PG-13)

Sunday, Oct. 5, 2008

1 p.m. Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants (PG-13)
4 p.m. Nights in Rodanthe (PG-13)

7 p.m. Eagle Eye (PG-13)

Monday, Oct. 6, 2008

7 p.m. Pineapple Express (R)

Tuesday, Oct. 7, 2008

7 p.m. Eagle Eye (PG-13)

Wednesday, Oct. 8, 2008

7 p.m. Step Brothers (R)

Thursday, Oct. 9, 2008

7 p.m. Nights in Rodanthe (PG-13)

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

THE IWAKUNI APPROACH

Classifieds

Automobiles

1993 Honda Prelude

Silver 2-door. Asking \$600. Will negotiate price. JCI till March 2009. Road taxes paid until April 2009. Great gas mileage. Some body damage but runs great. For more information, call 253-5392 (work) or 253-7607 (home).

Dirt Bikes

- Kawasaki KX-85, 7 yrs old. Bought new, orig. \$3,500. Asking \$1,300 OBO
- KC-110, 3yrs old. Bought new, orig. \$800. Asking \$500 OBO

Helmets and other gear available w/bike purchase. For more information, call 253-2221 (home) or 080-3519-7273 (cell).

Mess Hall Schedule

MONDAY

Manhattan Clam Chowder, Chicken and Rice Soup, Sauerbraten, Jerk Style Chicken, Steamed Rice, Oven Browned Potatoes, French Fried Okra, Calico Cabbage, Brown Gravy, Dinner Rolls, Coconut Raisin Cookies, Double Layer Almond Cake, Chocolate Cream Pie
SPECIALTY BAR: PASTA BAR

TUESDAY

Beef Noodle Soup, Chicken and Mushroom Soup, Swiss Steak w/ Gravy, Szechwan Chicken, O'Brian Potatoes, Noodles Jefferson, French Fried Cauliflower, Broccoli Parmesan, Brown Gravy, Cheese Biscuit, Butterscotch Brownies, Apple Pie, Spice Cake w/ Butter Cream Frosting
SPECIALTY BAR: TACO BAR

WEDNESDAY

Tomato Noodle Soup, Chicken and Mushroom Soup, Sweet and Sour Pork, Yakisoba (Hamburger) Fried Rice, Brussels Sprouts, Simmered Corn, Hot Dinner Rolls, Peanut Butter Cookies, Sweet Potato Pie, Whipped Topping, Coconut Cake, SPECIALTY BAR: BBQ

THURSDAY

Minestrone Soup, Cream of Broccoli Soup, Fried Chicken, Beef Stroganoff, Buttered Pasta, Candied Sweet Potatoes, Okra and Tomato Gumbo, Southern Style Green Beans, Chicken Gravy, Cheese Biscuits, Devils Food Cake w/ Coconut Pecan, Frosting, Pumpkin Pie, Oatmeal Raisin Cookies, SPECIALTY BAR: DELI BAR

FRIDAY

Beef Barley, Spanish Soup, Lemon Baked Fish, El Rancho Stew, Steamed Rice, Potatoes Au Gratin, Cauliflower Combo, Black Eyed Peas, Hot Dinner Rolls, Brown Gravy, Fruit Turnovers, Bread Pudding, Crisp Toffee Bars, Chocolate Pudding w/ Whipped Topping
Southside Specialty Bar: Mongolian BBQ
Northside Specialty Bar: Hot Dog/Polish and Sausage Bar

Job Openings

Program coordinator

University of Phoenix is now hiring a part-time (30 hours/week, \$11 per hour) program coordinator at the education center at MCAS Iwakuni. This is open until Oct. 10. Applicants must be a U.S. citizen or possess proper documentation to work for a U.S. company. For more information or to send a resume, contact the area coordinator for the University of Phoenix at DSN: 634-5083 (Okinawa) or e-mail: Summer.Vanpelt@phoenix.edu.

Miscellaneous

Beautiful red ball gown for sale

Fits size 16-18. Adjustable lace up back. Comes with shear wrap. \$125. Call 253-2611 or dawn_larrabee@yahoo.com.

Eddie Bauer stroller car seat combo for sale

Includes base, and infant head rest, \$140. Purchased at MCX for \$200, only used for 7 months. Call 253-2611 or dawn_larrabee@yahoo.com.

BOWFLEX TREADCLIMBER TC5000

Purchased for \$2,600 w/shipping 2 years ago. Slightly used. \$1,800 firm. Call 253-2611 or dawn_larrabee@

yahoo.com. For more information on the machine, visit <http://www.bowflex.com>.

Items for sale

- COACH Gallery watch w/5 interchangeable bezels. Complete w/box and certificate. Only worn 3 times. Excellent condition. Originally \$389. Asking \$275.
- COACH Bucket Hats. Signature, Leather, Plaid, to name a few styles. Originally \$89-\$119. Asking \$25-\$45.

Please call 253-2221 (home) or 080-3519-7275 (cell).

Items for sale

Call 253-2505 (home) for more information.

- Baby Excersaucer \$30 OBO
- Rainforest Papasan Swing \$80 OBO
- Spiderman table set \$5
- 27 inch TV \$90
- Corner TV Stand \$50
- 15 inch TV \$30
- Pub table with 2 chairs with back and 2 stools \$150 OBO
- Bumgenius Diapers set \$200 for all OBO
- Baby girl crib set (quilt, bumper pads and skirt, pink, yellow and green with flowers) \$50 OBO

Items for sale

Please call 080-3474-8856 (cell) or e-mail for pictures to potwic@gmail.com.

- Dyson DC 15 (The Ball) vacuum cleaner. It is used but in good shape. I cleaned it regularly (\$389 New - make offer)
- Transcend 8GB SDHC Card. Brand new, never used \$25
- Laptop Memory. SODIMM 512x2 (1GB) PC2-4200 DDR2 533MHZ Hynix Brand CL 4-4-4-12. Used but no problems \$20 OBO

Crime prevention dispatch

Residents aboard MCAS Iwakuni are highly encouraged to abide by all Air Station and Marine Corps Bases Japan regulations. In accordance with MCBJO 5800.2E, children must be at least 7 years old to walk to or from school without supervision. In addition, children must be 12 years old to babysit siblings 6 and under while walking to or from school. For more information concerning this topic, please call the Crime Prevention section at 253-5105.

THE SAMURAI'S EDGE

News from M.C. Perry Shools



Approximately 750 students and faculty members of Matthew C. Perry Schools here participated in an evacuation drill Sept. 23. Children safely moved to the parking lots of the Kintai Inn and Club Iwakuni for student accountability. Photo by Pvt. Ashley Howard

Pre-season football champs



Mighty Shrikes' quarterback Cody Harpole takes a snap during the pre-season flag football championship against the Da Fam at north side field here Monday. The Da Fam would go on to narrowly win 13-12 with a crucial second half interception to stop the Mighty Shrikes' extra point attempt. Photos by Lance Cpl. Joseph Marianelli.

LANCE CPL. JOSEPH MARIANELLI
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

The Da Fam, representing Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12 supply, squeaked past the Mighty Shrikes of Strike Fighter Squadron 94 13-12 in the pre-season intramural flag football championship at the north side football field here Monday.

The killing blow came with about 9 minutes remaining in the second half when Da Fam's quarterback Samuel Anderson blitzed through the defense, ducking and weaving to score their second touchdown to put the game at 13-6.

Through the first quarter the game had been a defensive battle with the Da Fam scoring moments before the end of the first half in a pass connection to wide receiver Ross Cooley and an extra point to boot when running back Justonn Scott sped into the left corner of the end zone.

Kicking off the second half, the Mighty Shrikes went down the field quickly and quarterback Cody Harpole and wide receiver Joshua "Blackjack" Aaron connected, making it 7-6.

But, with 8 minutes remaining and the field growing damp from the drizzle by the Mighty Shrikes were looking at 13-6 and they needed a touchdown and extra point just to tie.

Three cover sacks later by Da Fam's defensive lineman Bradley Gutierrez and the Might Shrike's were giving the ball right back.

On the Da Fam's first play, Might Shrikes defensive lineman Nathan Heflin intercepted the ball and ran it back within 20 yards of the end zone.

Three plays and a holding call on the defense later

and Might Shrike's quarterback Harpole threw to the back of end zone for a touchdown connection with wide receiver Aaron.

Aaron had scored the Might Shrike's earlier touchdown on a quick dump to the left corner of the end zone.

With 2 minutes remaining, the Mighty Shrikes opted to go for one, but Harpole took a time-out after seeing the defensive lineup.

Despite the time-out, Da Fam's Scott intercepted the pass giving the Da Fam the ball on the 20 and allowing them to maintain their one point lead.

Using their remaining time-outs, the Mighty Shrikes put the Da Fam on third down with 1 minute 25 seconds remaining.

In a play becoming more common in college football, Anderson acted as running back, taking the handoff, swinging out right as if to run, but instead passed to center Marcus Rodriguez for a first down.

The Mighty Shrikes could not stop the clock anymore and the 50 seconds began ticking away.

Anderson ran the ball a few more times and the clock hit zero.

"I guess I don't really know what happened," said Might Shrike's defensive lineman George Baxter. "It was tough."

With a score of 13-12, it was clear both teams deserved to be in this final game and it could have gone either way, but the Da Fam had stronger resolve.

"From the beginning we said we were gonna win," said Da Fam's coach Roderick Jelks. "They stayed together and worked hard."

Scott was named most valuable player for the Da Fam.



Scrambling for the first down, Da Fam quarterback Samuel Anderson reaches out for extra yardage during the pre-season flag football tournament championship here Monday. Anderson's speed was critical in the Da Fam's second touchdown run.

Hobos steal Longballs' win 14-8



George Baxter, Hobo's center fielder, steps in to blast this ball out of the park during Game 1 of the intramural summer softball season championship here Sunday. The Hobos went on to win the championship in Game 2 14-8. Photo by Lance Cpl. Joseph Marianelli

LANCE CPL. JOSEPH MARIANELLI
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

The Hobos of Strike Fighter Squadron 94 edged out the Longballs 14-8 in the summer softball season championship tournament here Sunday.

Although there was no dominating performance from either side, the Hobos put more balls on the ground and in the gaps allowing them to outscore the Longballs who were plagued by easily caught pop-ups.

It must have been kismet for these two teams to face off in the finals. The Longballs suffered a loss in the regular season to the Hobos but knocked the Hobos to the losers' bracket in the tournament.

Battling back, the Hobos won the losers' bracket in the double elimination tournament for a showdown with the Longballs.

In order to claim first place, the Hobos would have to defeat the Longballs twice, back-to-back.

The first game was a close battle tied at 3-3 going into the bottom of the fourth, but Hobos' left-center fielder George Baxter ripped a triple bringing in designated hitter Ray Thompson and left fielder Brett Crozier putting the score at 5-3.

The Longballs scored in the top of the fifth making the score 5-4, but were unable to keep the momentum going, and the Hobos responded with a number of singles and an infield homerun by Cody Harpole in the fifth and sixth innings to put the score at 10-4.

The Longballs went three up, three down in the top of the seventh ending in Game 1.

In Game 2, The Hobos quickly took a commanding lead 8-0 with contributions coming from virtually the entire team including a two RBI home run by right fielder Ernest Anderson in the first, a two RBI double by second baseman Stan Jones, and a two RBI single by shortstop Sean "Juice" DiCarlo in the second.

Rallying in the bottom of the second, the Longballs were able to chalk up three runs when left fielder Eric Dobbs smashed a double to the center field gap for two RBIs.

Center fielder Ryan Baer followed by knocking one into the center gap bringing Dobbs home and making it 8-3.

In retaliation, the Hobos brought home four more runs in the third with catcher Mike Mulhern belting a grounder that hopped over the Longballs' shortstop for a double and Thompson hitting a double of his own to bring home pitcher Steve Woody.

Some single contributions by Crozier, Baxter and Jones pushed the score to 12-3.

Showing signs of life yet, the Longballs initiated a scoring run of their own.

First baseman Justin Rodriguez caught a lucky break when a fielding error allowed him a single. Shortstop Aaron "Rough Knuckles" Warner followed with a double, and a follow up single by third baseman Matthew Tobin loaded the bases.

Dobbs popped a lobber right over the first baseman forcing Hobos' right fielder Anderson to pick up the slack, but two runs had already come in.

A caught Baer pop-fly allowed another runner to tag-up, but the scoring would end there for the Longballs at 12-8.

The last four innings went by rather uneventfully with both teams playing solid defense. Only the Hobos would manage to bring in any more runs with an RBI double from Woody in the fourth and an RBI single by Jones in the seventh.

"They played the better game," said Baer. "They were just swinging the bats."

The final score was 14-8, the same score as the first playoff meeting between these two that had knocked the Hobos to the losers' bracket.

"One of our mainstays has been hitting," Hobos' coach Mike "The Duke" Crowley said.

Overall, the Hobos attribute their success to team synergy and support.

"The best thing about this team is they play together," said Crowley. "We're a combination of all the ranks."

Baxter echoed the sentiments, "We had a good coach — he killed us with positive reinforcement."

Of course, any team needs its fans, and the Hobos wanted to especially thank their most loyal fans, Jamie Fleck and Carla Valencia, for supporting them the entire season, said Crowley.