

THE IWAKUNI APPROACH

Issue No. 38, Vol. 1

Friday, October 10, 2008

Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan

Library offers free tutoring service online

LANCE CPL. DAN NEGRETE
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

The station library now offers patrons free access to an online tutoring service that is quick and easy to use.

By logging into www.usmc-mccs.org, and then clicking on the tutor.com link, patrons can receive one-on-one help from a certified subject matter expert by means of chat screens, drawing boards, and through Web site and file sharing.

"These tutors are not there to give you the answers," said Belinda J. Pugh, the station's supervisory librarian. "Instead, they're there to give you a learning path so you can follow and find your own answers."

Anyone in grades K - 12, college introductory courses, or adult learners can login and receive help in one of 12 different subjects.

"Most of the online tutors are actual teachers who teach conventional classes during the day, and then assist students over the internet at night," said Pugh.

Tutor.com is the largest online tutoring company with more than 2,000 certified, background checked tutors.

"Typically, civilians will pay up to \$4,000 a year for this service," said Pugh. "However, Headquarters Marine Corps has negotiated a contract with tutor.com so that the service is free of charge to all Marines and sailors serving on a Marine Corps base."

Those interested can contact Pugh at 253-3078 to obtain a username.



6 P.M. - 8 P.M.
STATION CHAPEL

TOWNHALL MEETING | OCT. 22

* Open to all air station residents

Col. Michael O'Halloran, station commanding officer, will host a 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.

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.



A day at the office

A MH-53E Sea Dragon helicopter from Helicopter Mine Countermeasures Squadron 14 Detachment 1 prepares to depart Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni on a familiarization flight Oct. 1. Marines and sailors from various station units had the opportunity to experience the aircraft's capabilities during the afternoon flight. Photo by Lance Cpl. Dan Negrete

Residents discover inner workings of PMO at its open house

LANCE CPL. DAN NEGRETE
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

The Provost Marshal's Office here hosted an open house Oct. 4 to give station residents an inside look into its facility and other day-to-day operations.

"We want the community to see what we're all about," said Sgt. Joshua C. Deeds,

customs and traffic noncommissioned officer-in-charge. "We want to show residents that we're more than just pulling people over and handing out tickets."

To achieve this, PMO personnel gave guided tours of their entire facility and put together live demonstrations to entertain and inform guests. Visitors were able to see firsthand the inner workings of PMO's

crime investigation lab, emergency control center, military working dog unit and confinement facility.

"We're giving visitors an exclusive look inside the brig, and a mock indoctrination of what a new resident will go through within the first couple hours of checking in," said Deeds.

PMO personnel demonstrated with

yells, aggressiveness, and their own actors, the process of getting an inmate re-familiarized with military discipline.

Spectators stood in amusement, noting how reminiscent the process is to the first phase of recruit-training.

Some laughed, and others felt eager to

SEE OPEN ON PAGE 3

INSIDE IWAKUNI



Gear Issue:
Hit the slopes in style

4



Fall Festival raises funds for school

6-7



Youth Soccer League keeps on rolling

11

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Lt. Juan Cometa
DEPUTY COMMAND CHAPLAIN

"The spirit of man is more important than mere physical strength and the spiritual fiber of a nation than its wealth."

Dwight Eisenhower
34th U.S. President

Stephen Covey, author of highly acclaimed "Seven Habits of Highly Effective People," strongly encouraged every individual to balance the four aspects of man — physical, social, intellectual and spiritual. According to him, people who are highly effective are physically and spiritually fit, socially capable and intellectually able. To be physically fit, we have to eat the right kinds of foods, do regular exercise and get sufficient rest. To be socially fit, we need to develop and establish healthy and good relationships with others. As the saying goes, "No man is an island."

To be intellectually or mentally fit, we need to hone and expand our minds through continuing education. Let me zero in now on the spiritual aspect. This is the most neglected and most misunderstood.

To be spiritually fit does not necessarily mean we have to be religious. As Covey emphasized, the spiritual dimension is our core, our center, our commitment to our value system that guides us to do what is right and what is wrong, which acts to perform and refrain from. He added this is a very private area of life and a supremely important one. We need to nurture our spiritual life.

A high rate of misconduct in any institution can be largely

attributed to gross neglect of the spiritual aspect of man.

When I joined the military, there are standards I have to meet. I have to pass my PRT every cycle and must maintain the weight standard otherwise I will be processed out. I know some good sailors who are now out of the military because twice or thrice they failed their PRTs.

To meet the standard, I have to PT regularly and eat the right foods until it becomes a lifestyle or a habit.

On the other hand, I ask myself, how do we determine if a Marine or sailor is spiritually fit?

Can we come up with spiritual readiness test, or SRT? How can we determine if a sailor or Marine has internalized the core values of honor, courage and commitment they learned at boot camp?

As a Christian, my spiritual exercise or discipline includes prayer, reading of God's Word, meditation, fasting, fellowship and witnessing.

As one Christian wrote, "Just like regular exercise builds our muscles and removes excess fat from our bodies, making us healthier, spiritual exercise removes the weight of our secret sins, (bad habits) our past sins and help us to resist temptation (make right choices) more easily thus making us healthier, spiritually."

God wants us to be healthy physically, socially, intellectually and spiritually. The apostle John wrote, "Beloved I wish above all things that you may prosper and be in health, even as your soul (spiritual life) prospers." 3 John 2

Regardless of your personal belief or faith group, why not start nurturing your spiritual life today? It will go a long way toward spiritual wellness.



Commanding Officer/Publisher
Col. Michael A. O'Halloran

Public Affairs Officer
Maj. Guillermo A. Canedo

Public Affairs Chief
Master Gunnery Sgt.
John A. Cordero

Operations Chief
Sgt. Andrew Miller

Editors
Sgt. Josh Cox, Managing
Lance Cpl. Kyle T. Ramirez

Combat Correspondents
Lance Cpl. Joseph Marianelli
Lance Cpl. Dan Negrete
Pvt. Ashley M. Howard

Webmaster
Yukie Wada

Community/Media Relations
Hiroko Soriki
Hiromi M. Kawamoto

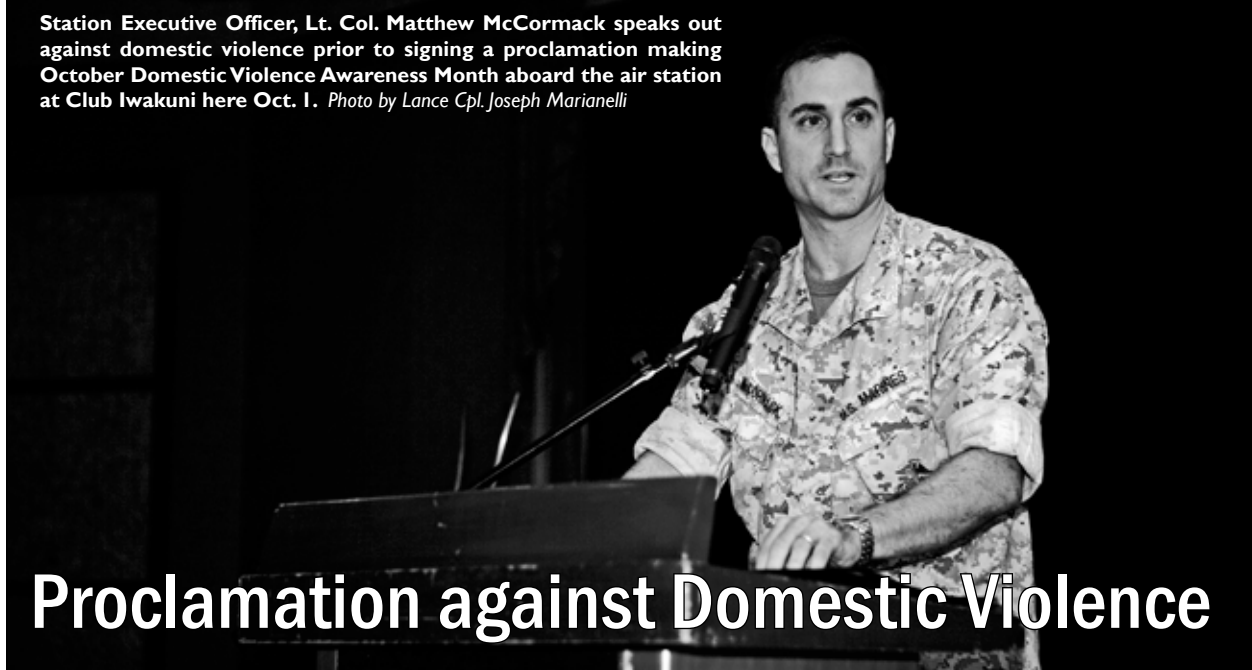
Administration
Hiro Sumida

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

Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the Public Affairs Office of Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan. All queries concerning news and editorial content should be directed to the Public Affairs Office, Building One, Room 216, MCAS Iwakuni, Japan. Call 253-5551.

The Iwakuni Approach welcomes Letter to the Editor submissions. Letters must include a full name and unit, if applicable. Anonymous letters and comments will not be published. Letters are the opinion of the writer only. Submissions may be edited for clarity and space. Letters can be dropped off at the Public Affairs Office or sent via e-mail to iwakuni.pao@usmc.mil.

PSC 561 Box 1868
FPO AP 96310-0019
Phone 253-5551
Fax 253-5554



Station Executive Officer, Lt. Col. Matthew McCormack speaks out against domestic violence prior to signing a proclamation making October Domestic Violence Awareness Month aboard the air station at Club Iwakuni here Oct. 1. Photo by Lance Cpl. Joseph Marianelli

Proclamation against Domestic Violence

Corps Question

Q: What was the purpose of the Helicopter Mine Countermeasures Squadron 14 (HM-14) detachment's deployment to MCAS Iwakuni?

A: For the past year, two MH-53E Sea Dragon helicopters from HM-14, Detachment 1 from Norfolk, Va., have conducted bilateral airborne mine countermeasures here with their Japanese counterparts flying the same aircraft with JMSDF HM-111.

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

PMO entertains guests with guided tour of facility

OPEN FROM PAGE 1

continue the tour as if reminded of a past experience.

A livelier demonstration came in the form of showing-off the skills of military working dogs and their handlers.

Handlers like Cpl. Agustin G. Garcia demonstrated military working dogs' capacity to obey commands, peruse an adversary, subdue him and then back off. Spectators watched as the animal responded to a variety of commands.

"PMO has done this very well," said Lt. Cmdr. Denis N. Cox, Marine Aircraft Group 12 chaplain. "They're very professional and thorough in all that they do -- even here, they've kept in mind the fact there were going to be kids."

Aside from watching military working dogs in action, children also took a special delight in checking out the gear and weaponry used by the special reaction

team.

"The special reaction team is equivalent to SWAT out in the civilian world," said Cpl. Eddie L. Garcia, special reaction team leader. "Ultimately, our job is to use our skills to keep the community safe."

The team members were fully dressed in their combat gear; wielding an array of weapons, shields, and battering rams. Children flocked to see them.

"It was great for our children to see what goes on inside PMO," said Karen D. Cox, a mother and spouse. "Also, this helped put a human face to PMO and let us know they're regular people just doing their job to help us."

"Too often, people have a negative opinion of what PMO is all about," said Master Sgt. John D. Wade, PMO operations officer. "In actuality, we strive for professionalism and customer service, and that's what we hoped to show people today."



Staff Sgt. Donnell L. Graves fits a protective suit on a young visitor at the Provost Marshal's Office open house held here Oct. 4. PMO hosted the open house to give station residents a better picture of what their mission entails and how they're ultimately here to provide security for the station and respond to emergency situations. Photo by Lance Cpl. Dan Negrete



(Above) Military working dog handlers put on a show for station residents at the Provost Marshal's Office open house held here Oct. 4. Spectators took a special delight in observing the working dogs' ability to respond to a variety of commands and subdue acting assailants. (Right) Cpl. Eddie L. Garcia, Special Reactions Team leader, shows visitors the weaponry and equipment his team trains with. Photos by Lance Cpl. Dan Negrete



News Briefs

Mammograms by appointment at BHC

Mammograms will be conducted via an on-site van at the Branch Health Medical and Dental Clinic Iwakuni here from Oct. 27 to 31. Contact central appointments by calling 253-3445 to set up a mammogram through your primary care doctor. Once the order is requested by your primary care doctor, appointments will be made by radiology.

M.C. Perry Samurais

The M.C. Perry Samurais played against the E.J. King Cobras in Sasebo Japan Oct. 3 and 4.

Oct. 3: M.C. Perry	220 349 - 20
E.J. King	002 010 - 3
Oct. 4: M.C. Perry	412 020 - 9
E.J. King	522 010 - 10

Sponsor the Samurai's for \$20 and receive VIP seating at every home game. Contact Carrie at 253-2651 or 080030817918 (cell).

Station A/Cs now off

All air-conditioning (A/C) systems on base, with the exception of buildings with A/C waivers, were turned off Oct. 2, 2008. This includes the window type units. Oct. 2 was the fifth day MCAS Iwakuni had a heat index below 78F/26C. MCAS Iwakuni order 11300.6A, 3B states that A/C season will terminate when the heat index remains below 78F/26C for five consecutive days. If you have any questions, contact the energy conservation manager at 253-6148.

GEAR ISSUE



Gear issue offers standard style skis like those at left as well as mini or "trick" skis free for check out to station residents.

Photo by Lance Cpl. Joseph Marianelli

WINTER BRINGS NEW SPORTS OPPORTUNITIES

LANCE CPL. JOSEPH MARIANELLI
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

With the Waterworks pool closing, the air conditioning being turned off and temperatures dropping, winter seems to be right around the corner.

For some, the advent of winter may be disheartening as the thought of icy cold temperatures invading the station and forcing residents to bundle up or stay home fill the mind.

But, winter in Japan also brings along a redefinition of outdoor sports and allows for everyone, young and old, to experience the excitement of the snow.

Besides the impromptu snowball fight, those seeking a more defined recreational means to fight Jack Frost on his territory might want to look into snowboarding or skiing.

Station residents who own their own snowboard or skis can have their gear waxed for a nominal fee at gear issue.

Those not fortunate enough to own their own equipment have a couple of options available on station.

The Ironworks gym's gear locker contains several possibilities for traversing snowy terrain including snowboards and skis, trick and standard, with the related



protective equipment.

Sleds, saucer and toboggan styles, are also available for children.

Looking at the front entrance of the Ironworks gym, entering from the right side of the building and taking an almost immediate right is the location of gear issue.

As an alternative, single and unaccompanied Marines can check out snowboards from the Single Marine Program at the Hornet's Nest.

Both places offer a standard two day rental for gear; however, snowboards and skis generally have added flexibility with both SMP and gear issue allowing for over-the-weekend rentals.

Returning gear promptly is important though because late fees will accrue and are based on the popularity of an item, Clint Hurda, the outdoor recreation manager, said.

Naturally, snowboards and skis are popular items distributed on a first-come-first-served basis, so coming early is highly recommended.

Gear issue plans to permit snowboard and ski checkout for the weekend on Thursdays with a Monday return date, said Hurda.

The busiest times for rental, as expected, fall when large groups of base personnel have a holiday.

In particular, there is a larger demand at the beginning of the season that tapers off as the season continues, said Hurda.

Beginning in January, the SMP will be hosting trips virtually every weekend until mid-March, but those too antsy to wait can probably get away with a mid-December adventure.

At the moment, SMP and Information Tours and Travel are the primary means of getting out to the slopes unless one can establish their own means of transportation.

Unfortunately, none of those options permit neophytes to the sport much opportunity to learn effectively.

Currently, outdoor recreation does not have trips planned for the upcoming snow season, but Hurda said the intent is to offer outings with lessons for those wishing to break into snowboarding or skiing.

For those wishing to learn the sport, now is a good time to start preparing. "Start a little early getting in shape," said Hurda. "It's always demanding on the legs."

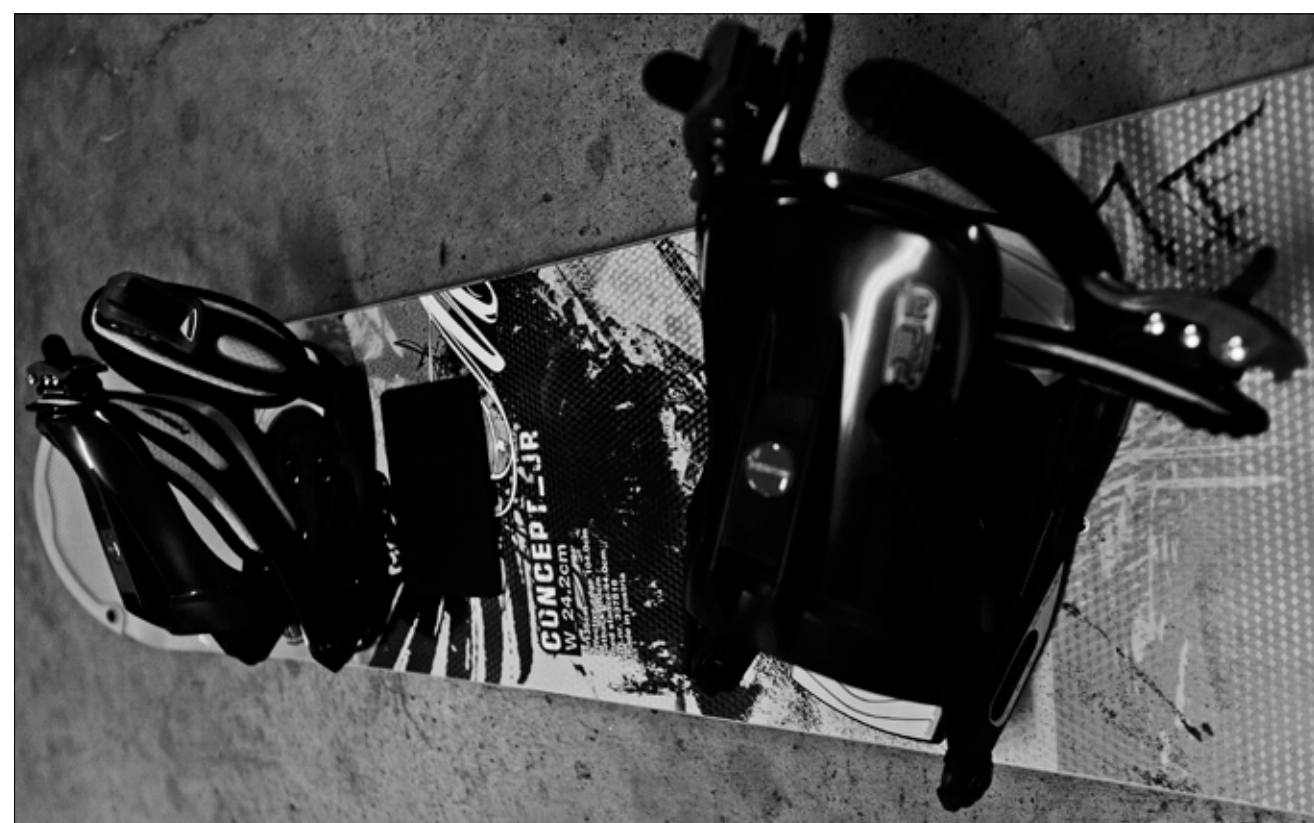
Besides physical preparation, Hurda suggested checking over any checked out gear.

"A big thing is to look at your gear when you take it," said Hurda. "We look at it, but sometimes we're busy and miss things."

Ensuring that nothing is broken prevents liability issues later when the gear is returned.

Philana Pinto-McKinnie, SMP secretary, said, "Just don't damage it," when it comes to SMP gear. Depending on the extent, a person may not be able to check out anything from SMP again.

For more information about trips or gear for the upcoming snowboarding and skiing season, contact outdoor recreation at 253-3822, SMP at 253-3585, or IT&T at 253-4377 or check out their respective Web sites through the www.mccsiwakuni.com Web site.



Snowboards, boots and safety gear are all available for check out at gear issue. Check out is generally a two-day agreement, but gear issue plans to allow items like skis, snowboards and related safety equipment to be checked out for the weekend. Although at present there are no trips planned by Outdoor Recreation, the intent is to have outings with lessons. Photo by Lance Cpl. Joseph Marianelli



Combat Assault Battalion Marines from 3rd Marine Division interact with local children during their visit to the Shin-sen Orphanage Sept. 14 near the conclusion of an exercise at Camp Fuji. Photo by Cpl. Jenn Calaway.

Marines visit children in Shin-sen orphanage

CPL. JENN CALAWAY
CONTRIBUTED

YOKOHAMA CITY, KANAGAWA, Japan (September 26, 2008)—Marines from the Schwab-based Combat Assault Battalion crowded the playground as they joined children from the Shin-sen Orphanage for a day of fun Sept. 14.

The 3rd Marine Division Marines and sailors made the visit to the orphanage at the end of almost a month of field operations at Combined Arms Training Center Camp Fuji.

"I feel like I'm back home with my brothers and sisters not on deployment training," said Lance Cpl. Terrell C. Hagins, an administration clerk with the battalion's Headquarters and Service Company.

The visit was a good opportunity for the Marines to break away from training to learn about local culture, said Chief Warrant Officer Ivory Johnson, a communications officer with H&S Company.

"This is a training tool we can utilize to show we have a focus and a mission of humanitarian assistance, not just combat operations and war fighting," said Johnson. "It's part of our job to build schools, help infrastructure, and serve those who are in need. This is just one small way to do that."

Some Marines went the extra mile to make the visit memorable for the children at the orphanage, Johnson said.

"It's Sunday, this is the Marines day off, but they volunteered to come out here," he said. "Some even brought stuffed animals and candy; they spent their own money. They really stepped up to come out here and have fun with these kids," he said. "It shows me that you don't have to tell a Marine to be a good person, they just are."

The Marines and sailors ended the day with heartfelt goodbyes to their new friends and lasting memories.

"I just picture them in bed trying to fall asleep and asking their (caretakers) 'when are the Marines coming back,'" Hagins said

Operational Security Guidance for Family Members

GUNNERY SGT. JOSE R. PALOSCHAVEZ
CONTRIBUTED

First of all, thank you for taking time to read this guide. Our goal is to provide you with a greater understanding of our installation's security concerns. The information provided is not intended to frighten you or make you suspicious that everyone you meet is a secret agent or terrorist.

As a family member of the military community, you are a vital player in our success and we could not do our job without your support. You can protect your loved ones by protecting the information that you know. This is known in the military as, "Operations Security", or OPSEC.

OPSEC is keeping potential adversaries from discovering critical Department of Defense information. As the name suggests, it protects U. S. operations — planned, in progress and those completed. Success depends on secrecy, so the military can accomplish the mission more quickly and with less risk. Enemies of freedom want this

information, and they are not just after the military member to get it. They want you, the family member. The posting of pictures and information that is pertinent to your loved ones military unit to personal or family websites has the potential to jeopardize their safety and that of the entire unit. Contact any of your unit's security representatives or the Stations Publics Affairs for any OPSEC questions or clarification. Please do you part in contributing to OPSEC and keep our U. S. forces safe.

What Information Is Sensitive?

1. Detailed information about the mission of assigned units.
2. Details concerning locations and times of unit deployments.
3. Personnel transactions that occur in large numbers.
4. References to trends in unit morale or personnel problems.
5. Details concerning security procedures.

Puzzle Pieces

By being military family member,

you will often know some bits of critical information. These bits of information may seem insignificant.

However, to a trained adversary, they are small pieces of a puzzle that highlight what U. S. forces are doing and planning. Where and how you discuss this information is just as important as with whom you discuss it. Determined individuals can easily collect data from cordless and cellular phones and even baby monitors using inexpensive receivers available from local electronics stores.

What Can You Do?

1. Be Alert — foreign governments and organizations can collect significant amounts of useful information by using spies. A foreign agent may use a variety of approaches to befriend someone and get sensitive information.

This sensitive information can be critical to the success of a terrorist or spy, and consequently deadly to Americans.

2. Be Careful — there may be times

when your spouse cannot talk about the specifics of his or her job. It is very important to conceal and protect certain information such as flight schedules, ship movements, temporary duty locations and installation activities, just to name a few.

3. Protecting Critical Information — even though this information may not be secret, it is what the Department of Defense calls "critical information." Critical information deals with specific facts about military intentions, capabilities, operations or activities.

If an adversary knew this detailed information, US mission accomplishment and personnel safety could be jeopardized.

It must be protected to ensure an adversary doesn't gain a significant advantage. By being a member of the military family, you will often know some bits of critical information.

Do not discuss them outside of your immediate family and especially not over the telephone.

M.C. Perry hosts Fall Festival



As nightfall approaches over Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, station residents participate in M.C. Perry school's annual Fall Festival Oct. 3. Photo by Sgt. Josh Cox



M.C. Perry Elementary School sixth-grade teacher Richard Dysinger begs to be bailed out of jail during the school's annual Fall Festival Oct. 1. The teacher's jail was a highlight for the students. Photo by Sgt. Josh Cox



Karla Montanogalaz, a parent and Fall Festival volunteer, places a temporary tattoo on LeiLani Betancourt during the M.C. Perry School's annual Fall Festival Oct. 3. Photo by Sgt. Josh Cox

SGT. JOSH COX IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

The hot dogs were on the grill, children bounced around in inflatable castles and moms hoped to win big at the cake walk. Hundreds of station residents attended M.C. Perry Elementary School's annual Fall Festival Oct. 3.

The festival featured games, food, static displays and activities provided by agencies like the Provost Marshal's Office, the Station Fire Department, and the school's Parent Teacher Organization.

"It's a fundraiser — the PTO holds fundraisers throughout the year," said Karin Hudson, the elementary school's PTO president.

The PTO coordinates the event every year to raise funds for educational materials for the school.

"All of our money goes right back into the school for educational materials — large items that will benefit the whole school. The other reason was for the fun."

"It's just a little festival to bring the school community together," she added.

Hudson said the PTO is specifically trying to raise money to purchase new library books for the student body.

Service members, parents and teachers volunteered to setup the event, prepare food and supervise games.

For service members like Lance Cpl. Perry Cole, the event was an opportunity to get out of the barracks and interact with other station residents.

"I like to volunteer a lot," said Cole, who works with new joins at the Joint Reception Center. "It keeps me from getting in trouble in Japan. I like to get out as much as I can and help people."

Hudson said a huge percentage of volunteers were service members.

"A lot of these service members were very excited to volunteer," Hudson said. "We had 38 service member volunteers."

For the children, the festival was an easy way to apprehend favorite teachers in the M.C. Perry Jail.

For a few tickets, students could arrest and detain a teacher. A few more tickets could bail a teacher out of the jail. Other games included a ring toss, arts and crafts and putting.

The Station Fire Department was on hand to give children tours of fire trucks, and PMO provided its mobile command center for display.

"During the event there were giggles and there were smiles," Hudson added. "It was a success because of the money (raised), but I measured the success by the smiles."



Lance Cpl. Perry Cole cooks hot dogs for the M.C. Perry Fall Festival Oct 3. The event gave service members like Cole an opportunity to volunteer and interact with the local community. Photo by Sgt. Josh Cox

CORPS NEWS

HIGHLIGHTING MARINES AND SAILORS AROUND THE GLOBE

Iraqi Police discover stockpile

BY LANCE CPL. JOSHUA MURRAY
REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM 5

HADITHA, Iraq — Almost 9,000 pieces of ordnance lined the recently excavated trenches. Iraqi Police officers and Marines smiled and congratulated each other on preventing such a large explosive-remnants-of-war (ERW) stockpile from falling into the enemy's hands.

The IP officers discovered the large ordnance stockpile near Haditha on a combined patrol with the "Warlords" of 2nd Platoon, Company E, Task Force 2nd Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment, Regimental Combat Team 5, Sept. 22.

"This is the biggest (stockpile) we've ever found," said Muhammed Jassim Muhammed, a member of the National Iraqi Intelligence Agency. "When we arrived, there was a 70-meter wide hole dug, but (the insurgents) had not finished burying everything.

"We are extremely happy to find this (stockpile)," Muhammed said. "We scored a victory on the bad guys and prevented upwards of two-hundred possible vehicle-borne-improvised-explosive-device attacks. With every find we make, Iraq becomes a safer place."

Through the help of local Iraqi citizens, the police received information on



Marines with Task Force 2nd Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment, Regimental Combat Team 5 and Iraqi Security Forces stand near an explosive-remnants-of-war (ERW) stockpile of over 10,000 pieces of ordnance near the city of Haditha, Iraq, Sept. 25. The stockpile consisted of mortar rounds, artillery rounds and rockets. A joint patrol consisting of Marines from Co. E, 2nd Bn., 2nd Marines and Iraqi Police officers discovered the stockpile. Photo by Lance Cpl. Joshua Murray.

the location of the stockpile.

"The Iraqi Police are 100 percent responsible for finding this (stockpile)," said Staff Sgt. Robert Fertal, 26, platoon sergeant with 2nd. Plt., Co. E. "Their hard work and sacrifice has created an environment where Iraqi nationals freely offer information."

The ordnance Co. E normally finds is less in quantity than this one.

"We have never uncovered this

amount of ordnance in the same location," said Fertal. "Our typical finds are usually five to 10 rounds and almost always classified as ERW. On average, we find ERW about twice a month. We also find unexploded ordnance (UXO) from previous controlled detonations. UXO is found more frequently."

With the response time of the IP and the help of citizens, Iraqis are preventing insurgency operations in Iraq.

Step by step they are becoming self-reliant.

"This find demonstrates the post PIC (Provincial Iraqi Control) capabilities of an Iraqi Police force in the lead, using its own intelligence to take the fight to the enemy by depriving him of a significant supply of ammunition," said Lt. Col. Steven J. Grass, the battalion commander of TF 2nd Bn., 2nd Marines. "It was a big win."

Coalition Forces help those in need

BY CAPT. PAUL GREENBERG
REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM 5

CAMP KOREAN VILLAGE, Iraq — Reserve Marines from 2nd Battalion, 25th Marine Regiment and 2nd Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, both attached to Regimental Combat Team 5, spent Sept. 24 delivering food supplies for economically disadvantaged families in Rutbah, a town in western al-Anbar province.

Navy Lt. Ray Rivers, the 2nd LAR chaplain, created "Operation Widow" in June to provide both non-perishable food items and fresh fruit, milk and juice to widows and their families in Rutbah.

"This has definitely improved relations between the Coalition forces and the Iraqis," said Rivers, a native of Sumter, S.C., who was himself a Marine Corps infantry officer for seven years before going back to school for his master's degree in divinity in 1993.

"It has helped those who are the most helpless," said Rivers. "It shows not only the generosity of the United States, but it gives the City Council credibility in the people's eyes."

Operation Widow has provided parcels for more than 110 families since June. Each parcel contains enough nourishment for a family of four to eat well for several weeks.

Rivers explained that the program, in addition to providing needed aid, breaks down religious barriers between people of different faiths. After the food is taken to the Rutbah City Council, Rivers, personally meets with the city's key Muslim spiritual leader. The two men look for common ground between the different faiths and troubleshoot any issues that arise between Coalition forces and local residents.

"The imam was key in forming this relationship," said Rivers.

Mahmoud Ahmed Nudin Obid, the gray-bearded imam of Rutbah, expressed his deep appreciation for Coalition forces' efforts in his city and the importance of working together to improve the lives of impoverished families.

"According to the Koran," said Obid, "if you help the crying of the widows, God will bless you." "We must take care of them ... this is our religion. We love everybody. Our God orders us to open our hearts toward others. There is no difference between Christians, Jews and Muslims."

As Rivers' seven-month tour in Iraq comes to a close, he took the opportunity Sept. 24 to introduce 2nd Bn, 25th Marines' chaplain, Lt. Cmdr. Kobena Arthur, to city council leaders.

The Reserve battalion will assume management of many infrastructure and development programs in



Navy Lt. Ray Rivers (center), the chaplain with 2nd Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, Regimental Combat Team 5, introduces Lt. Cmdr. Kobena Arthur (front, left), the chaplain for 2nd Battalion, 25th Marines, RCT-5, to Capt. Mohammed Atalla, an Iraqi Police officer on Sept. 24. Atalla supervises the delivery of weekly food supplies. Photo by Capt. Paul L. Greenberg.

Rutbah that were previously spearheaded by 2nd LAR Bn. as control of the region is gradually handed over to the Iraqi Security Forces.

Arthur pledged his commitment to not only continuing Operation Widow, but to help it evolve into a larger program incorporating non-governmental organizations which can sustain the pace of economic and educational development after the U.S. Forces leave the region.

"This is not a new beginning," stated Arthur. "This is a continuation of the work my predecessor has done."

Community Briefs

Volunteers needed

Iwakuni Festival is scheduled for Oct. 19. American volunteers are needed to participate in the festival. Interested parties wishing to volunteer or for more information, contact the Public Affairs Office at 253-5551 or via e-mail: iwakuni.pao@usmc.mil.

Base air-conditioning turned off

All air-conditioning (A/C) systems on base, including the window type units, with the exception of buildings with A/C waivers, were turned off Oct. 2. If you have any questions, contact the energy conservation manager at 253-6148.

Boy Scout

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 253-3505.

Central Texas registration

Oct. 13 - 24. Early registration is accepted. Class dates are Oct. 27 to Dec. 21. Distance learning and traditional classes are available. For more information, contact the Iwakuni office of Central Texas College via e-mail: iwakuni.jpn.pfec@ctcd.edu, or stop by Room 109, Bldg. 411.

Military Outreach Days

Thursday, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Crossroads Mall. As Marines return home from war zones, many struggle with processing their

exposure to violence. As a result, domestic violence among families of veterans is on the rise. Marine and Family Counseling Services hopes to raise awareness about this silent problem, and enlist the help of military personnel in aiding victims and their abusers. For more information, contact Marine & Family Services Division at 253-4526.

CHOICES

Oct. 17, 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. at the Station Chapel. Lunch is provided. Marine and Family Counseling Services is dedicated to raising awareness of domestic violence and encourages you to do the same. Through community education we are able to transform the social response to domestic violence. For more information, contact Marine & Family Services Division at 253-4526 or 253-5032.

Candlelight Vigil

Oct. 17, 7 p.m. at the Station Chapel. Marine and Family Counseling Services will hold a candlelight vigil for victims and survivors of domestic violence, and a U.S. military tribute to victims of domestic violence. This event is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Marine & Family Services Division at 253-4526.

Smart Dating

Oct. 20, 5 p.m. at Teen Center. The Youth and Teen Center's Smart Girls and Torch Club members will receive Teen Dating Violence

and Prevention Training. The focus of this program is to teach teenagers how to recognize the signs of an abusive relationship. For more information, contact Marine & Family Services Division at 253-4526.

Workshop: Responding to DV

Oct. 21, noon - 1:30 p.m. at the Station Chapel. Victims of domestic violence often turn first to spiritual leaders when confronting abuse and violence in the home. It is crucial that clergy and other spiritual leaders are equipped with the knowledge and resources to guide parishioners through this life-changing experience. The Station Chapel is pleased to offer training for clergy and lay leaders. For more information, contact Marine & Family Services Division at 253-4526.

DV Awareness Information table

Oct. 22 and 29, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. at Crossroads Mall. Come and learn what you can do to prevent domestic violence. Marine and Family Counseling Services staff will have informational handouts, books and videos available on display regarding domestic violence. For more information, contact Marine & Family Services Division at 253-4526.

Married Couples PREP

Oct. 25, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. at Capodanno Hall, the Station Chapel. Childcare and lunch provided. PREP seminar is a training course that enhances couples communication. This class includes knowledge on handling conflict, solving problems and making decisions. Register by calling the Station Chapel at 253-3371. Deadline is COB Oct. 22.

Girl Scout Dance Party

Join Iwakuni Girl Scouts on Oct. 27 from 2:30 - 5 p.m. at MC Perry Elementary School's Gym to learn some new dance moves or show off some of your skills! Snacks, beverages and cake will be served. All girls are welcome to join the dance party but space is limited so please RSVP via e-mail: Iwakunigs@gmail.com or 253-2159.

Mammograms

Mammograms will be conducted via onsite van at Branch Health Clinic Iwakuni from Oct. 27 to 31. Contact central appointments at 253-3445 to set up a mammogram through your primary care doctor. Once the order is requested by your primary care doctor, appointments will be made by radiology.

Children's Halloween Party!

Nov. 1, 3:30 - 6:30 p.m. at Marifu Children's Park, downtown Iwakuni. Come and enjoy a fun filled intercultural Halloween event! The event is open to anyone who loves to play games, carve pumpkins and eat the sweet stuff! For more information or if you wish to volunteer during this event, contact via e-mail: jackie@allenintl.com.

IESC Elections

Nov. 3, 6 - 7 p.m. at the Station Chapel. The Iwakuni Enlisted Spouse's Club (IESC) will be electing the 2008-09 advisory board, committee chairs and forming interest groups. If you would like to participate, share comments/concerns/interests, learn about the group or ease your curiosity please join us. For more information, contact via e-mail: jessarroyo2002@yahoo.com.

Sakura Theater

Friday, Oct. 10, 2008
7 p.m. The House Bunny (PG-13)
Premier
10 p.m. Mirrors (R)
Premier

Saturday, Oct. 11, 2008
1 p.m. The Longshots (PG)
Premier
4 p.m. Mirrors (R)
7 p.m. Nights in Rodanthe (PG-13)
10 p.m. The House Bunny (PG-13)

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2008
1 p.m. The Longshots (PG)
4 p.m. The House Bunny (PG-13)
7 p.m. Mirrors (R)

Monday, Oct. 13, 2008
1 p.m. Beverly Hills Chihuahua (PG)
Premier
4 p.m. The Longshots (PG)
7 p.m. The House Bunny (PG-13)

Tuesday, Oct. 14, 2008
7 p.m. Beverly Hills Chihuahua (PG)
Last Showing

Wednesday, Oct. 15, 2008
7 p.m. The Mummy (PG-13)
Last Showing

Thursday, Oct. 16, 2008
7 p.m. For The First Time
Free Admission

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

1997 Honda Odyssey

Asking \$3,200 OBO. Great gas mileage. Excellent condition and runs well. JCI until May 2010. Road tax until April 2009. For more information, call 253-2203 (home) or 253-6170 (work).

1994 Nissan March

Great on Gas, JCI until May 2009. 99,000 km, in good condition, and good A/C and heat. Asking \$1,500 OBO. For more information, call 253-5328 (work) or 253-2492 (home).

1997 Mazda Demio

The color is red, the car is in good condition, JCI until September 2010. I owned the car for six months but rarely drove the car. Asking \$2,400. The car seats 4

comfortably, has good A/C, heat, and CD player. Good trunk space and ideal to drive in town. For more information, call 253-2482 (home) and leave a message.

1998 Honda Accord Wagon

Black in color, power locks and windows, CD player in dash and changer in back, JCI until July 2009, recent oil change, back seats fold down for large loads, great A/C and heat. Must sell by Nov. 6. Asking \$2,500. For more information, call 253-2213 (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. Call 253-2221 (home) or 080-3519-7273 (cell).

Miscellaneous

Items for sale

Please call 253-2482 (home) and leave a message.

- Toddler bed (mattress included). Excellent condition and purchased in February. Thomas the train engine bed. Asking \$150.
- Fluffy brown suede couch. Couch is in excellent condition and purchased in June. Asking \$250.
- Granite kitchen island cart. Has only been used to hold kitchen appliance on, good condition. Asking \$80.

Dress Blue Blouse w/ NCO trousers for sale

Tailored pin holes ready for removable anodized buttons. Fits the size of a 68" to 69", 175 lbs Marine. Asking \$100 firm. Please call 253-2863 (home).

Items for sale

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

- COACH Gallery watch w/ 5 interchangeable bezels. Stainless steal. Complete w/ box and certificate. Only worn 3 times. Excellent condition. Orig. \$389. Asking \$275.
- COACH Bucket hats. Signature, leather, plaid, to name a few styles. Orig. \$89-\$119. Asking \$25-\$45.

Beautiful red ball gown for sale

Fits size 16-18. Adjustable lace up back. Comes with shear wrap. Asking \$125. Call at 253-2611 (home) or e-mail dawn_larrabee@yahoo.com.

Eddie Bauer stroller car seat combo for sale

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

BOWFLEX TREADCLIMBER TC5000

Purchased for \$2,600 w/ shipping 2 years ago. Slightly used. Asking \$1,800 firm. Call 253-2611 (home) or e-mail dawn_larrabee@yahoo.com. For more information on the machine, visit <http://www.bowflex.com>.

Items for sale

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

- Dyson DC 15 (the ball) vacuum cleaner. It is used but in good shape. Cleaned regularly. \$389 new, make offer above \$150.
- Transcend 8GB SDHC card. Brand new, never used. Asking \$25.
- Three 802.11G wireless routers. Asking \$10 each.

Mess Hall Schedule

Monday

Beef w/ Bacon Soup, Shrimp Gumbo Soup, Caribbean Flounder, Country Style Steak, Steamed Rice, Macaroni and Cheese, Hush Puppies, Broccoli Combo, Wax Beans, Dinner Rolls, Peanut Butter Brownies, Marble Cake, Butter Cream Frosting, Banana Cream Pudding, SPECIALTY BAR: PASTA BAR

Tuesday

Tomato Soup, Vegetable Soup, Lasagna, Roast Pork, Au Gratin Potatoes, Toasted Garlic Bread, Whole Kernel Corn, Mixed Vegetables, Cream Gravy, Cheese Biscuits, Cherry Pie, Boston Cream Pie, Oatmeal Raisin Cookie, SPECIALTY BAR: TACO BAR

Wednesday

French Onion Soup, Cream of Broccoli Soup, Baked Tuna Noodles, Breaded Pork Chop, Mushroom Gravy, Garlic Roasted Potatoes, Carrots, Mix Vegetables, Hot Dinner Rolls, Chocolate Chip Cookies, Dutch Apple Pie, Devils Food Cake w/ Butter cream Frosting, SPECIALTY BAR: BBQ

Thursday

Manhattan Clam Chowder, Split Pea Soup, Chicken Parmesan, Italian Sausage, Buttered Pasta, Oven Browned Potatoes, Eggplant Parmesan, Cauliflower Gumbo, Alfredo Sauce, Marinara Sauce, Garlic Bread, Sugar Cookies, German Chocolate Cake, Banana Cream Pie, SPECIALTY BAR: DELI BAR

Friday

Chicken Noodle Soup, Cream of Mushroom Soup, Southern Style Fried Catfish, Chicken Cacciatore, Steamed Rice, Candied Sweet Potatoes, Southern Style Greens, French Fried Cauliflower, Cream Gravy, Jalapeno Corn Bread, Coconut Raisin Drop Cookies, Florida Lemon Cake w/, Butter Cream Frosting, Chocolate Cream Pie, SPECIALTY BAR: Southside: HOTDOGS/POLISH SAUSAGE Northside: MONGOLIAN BBQ

October Promotions

H&HS

Lance Cpl. Brown B.E.
Lance Cpl. Didomenico III A.J.
Lance Cpl. Gomez L.O.
Lance Cpl. Ikemoto B.Y.
Lance Cpl. Leach B.J.
Lance Cpl. Nunezguzman Y.G.
Lance Cpl. Ramos V.G.
Lance Cpl. Tucker II D.W.
Lance Cpl. Vanness J.A.
Cpl. Boisselle C.J.
Cpl. Callahan B.P.
Cpl. Duran T.V.
Cpl. Gilton K.N.
Cpl. Jakob C.M.
Cpl. Norton Jr. T.W.
Cpl. Pearson K.R.
Cpl. Rickert N.P.
Cpl. Rodriguezperez S.M.
Cpl. Simons R.K.
Sgt. Hammell D.M.
Sgt. Harris G.Z.
Sgt. Milner A.C.
Sgt. Pardo B.
Sgt. Teel J.A.
Staff Sgt. Laboy D.G.
Staff Sgt. Valadez M.E.
Gunnery Sgt. Eckert W.E.
Gunnery Sgt. Navarro J.
Gunnery Sgt. Rausch M.

MWSS-171

Pfc. Barnes G.R.
Lance Cpl. Barrage L.S.
Lance Cpl. Cherry Jr. K.W.
Lance Cpl. Evans C.L.
Lance Cpl. Gazey M.S.
Lance Cpl. James D.E.
Lance Cpl. Perrault P.D.
Lance Cpl. Rivers J.M.
Lance Cpl. Speicher D.M.
Lance Cpl. Unwin T.W.
Lance Cpl. Vann J.L.
Cpl. Campbell D.J.
Cpl. Campbell K.J.
Cpl. Clarke M.C.
Cpl. Cruz Jr. C.M.
Cpl. Fischetti Jr. R.H.
Cpl. Gomezmoreno J.
Cpl. Hylton R.T.
Cpl. Layne T.M.
Cpl. Nelson R.M.
Cpl. Peterson A.J.
Cpl. Ramsey M.I.
Cpl. Sangreo M.J.
Cpl. Swain I.R.
Cpl. Valville A.D.
Cpl. Wofford S.S.
Cpl. Wright C.D.
Sgt. Jones D.A.
Sgt. Mendoza J.G.
Gunnery Sgt. Arellano J.P.

Gunnery Sgt. Covington T.L.

CLC-36

Lance Cpl. Tiner A.J.
Cpl. Cornwell K.J.
Cpl. Haney K.J.
Cpl. Leachman M.S.
Cpl. Salinas M.A.
Cpl. Tobin M.D.
Cpl. Torres R.X.
Staff Sgt. Flynn K.B.

MAG-12

Lance Cpl. Gouchie G.J.
Lance Cpl. Hill J.B.
Lance Cpl. Medrano L.Y.
Sgt. Crane C.S.
Sgt. Little Jr. A.L.

MALS-12

Lance Cpl. Criss J.M.
Lance Cpl. Plasencianava G.
Cpl. Alvarez J.C.
Cpl. Chang K.S.
Cpl. Dohrn R.E.
Cpl. Greyeyes A.H.
Cpl. Macutkiewicz J.M.
Cpl. Morales J.A.
Cpl. Todd S.D.
Cpl. Williams T.N.
Staff Sgt. Evans A.M.

Staff Sgt. Vega R.

VMFA-242

Lance Cpl. Catron M.L.
Lance Cpl. Cleary M.E.
Cpl. Locke J.A.
Cpl. Moore M.L.
Cpl. Pacula T.P.

VFA-121

Cpl. Mourtou J.W.
Cpl. Parker S.T.
Cpl. Vargas L.A.
Sgt. Soler Jr. D.

11th Dental Co. 3rd BN

Chief Petty Officer Simeon Cadavos

1st MAW

Chief Petty Officer Francis Albert Arcilla

FAW WestPac

Chief Petty Officer Travis Young

YOUTH SOCCER



Collapsing on the ball, the Strikers are able to stave off Strike Force's attempt to score during a Youth Soccer League game at Penny Lake Field here Tuesday. Both teams fought fiercely throughout the game for control using the skills their coaches had taught them during practice. The Youth Soccer season has almost come to an end with the double elimination tournament scheduled to begin Oct. 18. Photo by Lance Cpl. Joseph Marianelli

Not how they started, but how they finish

LANCE CPL. JOSEPH MARIANELLI
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

As the Youth Soccer sports team Nitro moved down the field against its competitors, the Roughnecks, both teams seemed to exhibit a fluidity.

Errors were made, but both teams appeared to be much more focused on fundamentals rather than looking like a rag-tag cluster of children surrounding a ball.

"Playoffs start the 18th, and because of the coaching, any one of these teams could win it all," Jim Mocariski, Nitro's assistant coach, said.

As another season of Youth Soccer winds down, it's time to reflect on how the children began the season and how they have progressed as the final tournament hangs on the horizon.

"Just being novices to the game they have to learn it's not just about kicking a ball," said Mocariski. "The have to learn to control the ball."

Surveying the Penny Lake soccer fields, all the games look as well organized as can be expected with a clear amount of dispersion between players on the same team.

"They don't gather around the ball anymore," said Mocariski. "They spread out."

Together, with their respective teammates, children of every team attempted to move the ball around via pass instead of uncontrolled punting up the field.

"The progression — they're a little bit more crisp," said Mocariski. "You can see them thinking through the game."

Mocariski wasn't speaking about his team only; he saw improve-

ment in every team.

"All the teams have gotten better and made progress throughout," said Mocariski. "There's no doubt about it."

Besides teaching the skills associated with soccer, the coaches have also tried to instill the element of sportsmanship — a quality that certainly seems to have been instilled in at least one player.

"Every time it's a change in soccer," Miranda Allen, Strike Force forward, said. "You've got to get along and realize everybody counts."

This is Miranda's second season as a youth soccer player and as a veteran of sorts she appreciates the knowledge of the game

Keston Lashley, her coach of two years, has imparted to her. "He's definitely helped me with learning how to shoot," she said. "He basically taught me how to play."

Just observing the teamwork and ball movement exercised by each team's players demonstrates an unselfishness and focus on teamwork rather than individual glory.

Just as in adult sports, the teams line up at the end of the game, led by their coaches, and genuinely congratulate each other for a good game.

Ultimately, having fun, imparting knowledge of the game and instilling the foundations of fair play are the goals.

"They've learned a lot of skills at practice and they have applied them in the game," said Mocariski. "That's what you want to see as a coach."

"You've got to get along and realize everybody counts."



Thrift Savings Plan

PUT YOUR INVESTMENTS ON CRUISE CONTROL



WITH THE **L FUNDS**

www.tsp.gov

L FUNDS



L 2040



L 2030



L 2020



L 2010



L Income

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT FINANCIAL PLANNING AND INVESTMENTS, CONTACT YOUR FINANCIAL FITNESS COUNSELOR AT 253-6250 TO SET UP AN APPOINTMENT.