

Station teens win scholarships

MARINE CORPS COMMUNITY SERVICES PRESS RELEASE

The Marine Corps Community Services Youth and Teen Center here is proud to announce that two teens have won \$1,000 Presidential Freedom Scholarships.

The Presidential Freedom Scholarship program is designed to highlight and promote service and citizenship by students and to recognize students for their leadership in those areas.

The MCCS Youth and Teen Center, an affiliate of the Boys and Girls Club of America, selected and nominated Thomas Williamson, enrolled at Morehouse College in Atlanta, Ga., and Jazman M. Thompson, a senior at Iwakuni's Matthew C. Perry High School, for their outstanding leadership and service to the Iwakuni community.

When faced with challenges such as illiteracy, poverty, crime and environmental problems, our nation has always relied on the dedication and action of citizens.

Now, more than ever, service regarding homeland security, disaster preparedness and public safety is

see **SCHOLARSHIPS** Page 5

Station, Mima Town renew old friendship

LANCE CPT. CRISTIN K. BARTTER
Combat Correspondent

Station Commanding Officer Col. Michael A. Dyer visited a small town in Southern Japan Dec. 14, to strengthen the bond of a 44-year-old friendship.

Mitsuru Osaka, Mima Town Mayor, invited Dyer to attend the unveiling of a new monument memorializing the friendship between Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, and Mima Town.

Osaka and Masafumi Kitaoka, President of Kitaoka-gumi, welcomed Col. Dyer to the town.

The friendship between MCAS Iwakuni and Mima Town began Oct. 17, 1960, when Atsugi-based pilot Navy Lt. Clancy L. Priddy was forced to make an emergency landing in his Grumman TF-1 in a riverbed on Shikoku Island.

The Grumman suffered minor damages, and was repaired by mechanics from MCAS Iwakuni. The Navy then faced the dilemma of finding a way to move the aircraft.

However, "The people of Mima Town came to our rescue," wrote Priddy.

More than 10,000 Mima Town locals helped a construction company build a temporary runway on the riverbed, and by Dec. 1, 1960, the aircraft was safely home.

Then Station Commanding Officer Col. Arthur C. Lowell presented Mima Town with a monument - a token of the



Lance Cpt. Cristin K. Bartter
Mima-Town Mayor Mitsuru Osaka (left), Commanding Officer Col. Michael A. Dyer and Commanding Officer of Japan Maritime Self Defense Force at Tokushima Training Squadron Capt. Kenzo Udo presented the new monument to Mima-Town.

Air Station's gratitude.

After a few years, relations between the two communities diminished, and remained so until several months ago.

"Then," said Osaka, "local residents decided to rekindle what is very important to them - friendship."

Col. Dyer celebrated the renewed friendship with a visit to a local school, a tea ceremony and a formal dinner.

INSIDE

Grey Wolves welcome new skipper
Electronic Attack Squadron 142 undergoes change of command here.

Page 3

Steamers roll over competition
Steamers dodge competition, score win during Station's first dodgeball tournament.

Page 11

IWAKUNI WEATHER

Today
Rain
High: 53

Saturday
Partly Cloudy
High: 55

Sunday
Partly Cloudy
High: 53

www.iwakuni.usmc.mil

Sobriety checkpoints part of holiday safety campaign

LANCE CPT. LYDIA DAVEY
Combat Correspondent

The Station Provost Marshal's Office is taking part in this year's "You Drink, You Drive, You Lose," campaign in an effort to prevent incidents involving drunk driving here.

Sobriety checkpoints, along with

education about the dangers and consequences of driving under the influence of alcohol, are two of the tools PMO will use to combat drunk driving this holiday season, said Sgt. Ryan Wilkinson, Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron Accident Investigation Division chief.

The checkpoints will be conducted

aboard the Station today through Jan. 1, 2005, said Wilkinson.

"We hope [the checkpoints] will serve as a deterrent, and that people will think twice before driving after drinking," he noted. "Our goal is to educate people about the dangers of irresponsible behavior."

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), about three in every ten Americans will be involved in an alcohol-related crash at some point in their lives.

The risk of alcohol-related fatalities increases each year between Thanksgiving and the New Year, stated a report by the NHTSA.

During 2003, Station PMO dealt with four instances of individuals driving under the influence or driving while intoxicated. Three of those instances occurred between Dec. 24 and Dec. 27, said Wilkinson.

see **HOLIDAY** Page 5

Holiday Safety Tips

- Never get behind the wheel of your vehicle if you've been out drinking.
- If impaired, call a taxi - use mass transit if available - or call a sober friend or family member to come and get you.
- Or, stay where you are and sleep it off until you are sober.
- If you are hosting a party this holiday season, remind your guests to always plan ahead to designate a sober driver; always offer alcohol-free beverages during the event, and make sure all of your guests leave with a sober driver.
- *Friends don't let friends drive drunk.* Take the keys and never let a friend leave your sight if you think he is about to drive while impaired.



Torii Teller

**Commanding Officer/
Publisher**

Col. Michael A. Dyer

Public Affairs Officer

Capt. Stewart T. Upton

Public Affairs Chief

Master Sgt. Lesli J. Coakley

Press Chief

Lance Cpl. Lydia Davey

Operations Chief

Cpl. Dave Boni

Combat Correspondents

Lance Cpl. Cristin K. Bartter
PFC Lukas J. Blom

Information/Editorial

Specialist

Yukiko Mitsui

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

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 *Torii Teller* 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 can be edited for clarity and space. Letters can be dropped off at the Public Affairs Office or sent via e-mail to daveylm@iwakuni.usmc.mil or coakleylj@iwakuni.usmc.mil.

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

The Mima of Christmas

CAPT. STEWART UPTON
Public Affairs Officer

It was a cloudy November night in 1960 and we needed help. We had an aircraft with a U.S. Senator on board, and were flying over Japan with no power and low visibility, looking for Iwakuni's landing strip.

The pilot, remembering the last weather reports he had heard, banked the aircraft towards the east and was able to identify a dry riverbed.

The pilot nailed the wheels-up landing with no injury to the crew, and minimal damage to the aircraft.

From all sides the local populace appeared.

That night, Mima Town residents helped secure the aircraft and take the crew to the local police station. From there, the crew was transferred to Marine Corps Air Facility Iwakuni (as the Air Station was known at the time).

Work crews from the Air Facility fixed the aircraft, but faced the

dilemma of moving it from the riverbed. Yet, with the help of approximately 10,000 local residents and a local junior high school teacher translating, a Japanese construction company built a runway out of dirt, and by late November the aircraft was safely returned to the Air Facility.

Moving forward...

It was Dec. 14, 2004, and a new monument to the events of 1960 was unveiled in Mima Town.

The faces of those who attended the rededication ceremony showed the effects of time, but their hearts showed what we refer to as hometown USA.

The residents of Mima Town now have American kin. Not by choice ... for who ever has a choice?

They had some folks that needed help that came to their neighborhood; they took them in, gave them shelter

and set them back on their path.

Now, the U.S. military service members were a part of Mima Town's family because their guidance had influenced another's life.

In the town's eyes, the military personnel of Iwakuni are family ... their kin.

No judgment, just acceptance.

It is a testament on how at times we need to look into our own lives when people show up in our communities (or at our door) ... especially during this time of the year.

Here is a town and its residents that not only took us in, but built us a runway.

Many thanks to the people of Mima Town for all of their kindness and generosity.

If you are interested in participating in cultural/language exchanges with the town and schools of Mima City, please contact Ms. Wada at the Public Affairs Office.

Careful days mean a year well spent

CDR. DONALD P. FIX
Chaplain's corner

As we close out another year it is that time once again to make a list of lessons learned and apply them to the goals or resolutions for 2005. I recently came across a quote from well-known Catholic author and theologian, Henri J. M. Nouwen, that reads,

"I often think: A life is like a day; it goes by so fast. If I am so careless with my days, how can I be careful with my Life?"

I usually say at the end of every year that I can't believe the year is over, and where did it go? Many times to be honest I would say that the reason I don't know where it went was because I forgot to treasure each day - that by

my always looking ahead I miss what I have here and now.

When I become, as Henri Nouwen seems to recommend, careful with my days - I think I must add a few more steps into my daily routine to ensure that I will not let another year go by filled with even one empty day.

Perhaps I need to start off my morning with telling myself that today is a great day that is waiting for me. A day rich with countless blessings and hidden surprises and one that I will look back on and be able to say, "what a wonderful day it has been!" That will lead me on a good start and open me to look for all those surprises and blessings and not miss anything because I was staring into the future.

The other aspect that I probably need to add to my day is something at the end where I stop before I lay my head to

see CAREFUL Page 5

CHATTERBOX

Question: "What is your favorite Christmas memory?"



"My favorite Christmas memory was the last time my whole family got together in New York. It was the last time I got to see my uncle before he passed away."

Lance Cpl.
Stephen G. Vega
St. Cloud, FL



"When I got my first car; it's what I always wanted. There's nothing like Christmas in Hawaii!"

Lance Cpl.
Christian M. Geronimo
Waipahu, HI



"I got married to my wife, Saltanat, on Christmas day two years ago. Merry Christmas and happy anniversary honey."

Staff Sgt.
John A. Knighton
Salt Lake City, UT



"Back when I was a senior in high school, I loaded up my truck with a ton of gifts and ran around town handing them out. Seeing peoples' faces light up when they got a gift was great."

Cpl. Jeffrey P. Giansanti
Superior, WI

Station team nominated for award

Iwakuni Runway Relocation Project gains recognition, acclaim

CL. DAVID REVERE
Combat Correspondent

The Iwakuni Runway Relocation Project was nominated for the United States Army Corps of Engineers Project Delivery Team of the Year Award in recognition of the massive land reclamation project scheduled for completion here in 2009.

Although the team did not win the award, nomination represents significant recognition of the accomplishments here during the past three years.

IRRP is the largest land reclamation project in Department of Defense history. Construction of this multi-year project began in 1997 and involves a three-phase land reclamation of 533 acres, construction of a new 8,000 foot runway, airfield facilities, port facilities and all supporting utilities.

According to Grant Sattler, public affairs officer, Japan Engineer District, the PDT has distinguished itself through continual excellent performance over the past three years. The team successfully executed a multitude of projects through the planning, criteria, design and construction phases resulting in construction of 15 facilities at an estimated cost of \$700 million.

According to Sattler, the project is a massive undertaking that can best be visualized from the rim of Atago Moun-

tain, located about a mile southwest of the Station. Atago is the source of the estimated 18.3 million cubic meters of fill material being used to create a one kilometer extension of the existing runway. In addition to a new port and related facilities, the estimated \$2 billion project will improve flight safety and reduce jet noise in the surrounding community.

"This is the largest construction project that the government of Japan has done and will be the only U.S. government controlled deep-water port and

"The Government of Japan has provided excellent facilities and has been a significant asset for the U.S. Forces with this runway relocation project."

Mark Nedzbala
Resident Engineer

heavy-lift airfield in Asia," said Mark Nedzbala, resident engineer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. "The Government of Japan has provided excellent facilities and has been a significant asset for the U.S. Forces with this runway relocation project."

The IRRP Project Delivery Team involves a multitude of agencies and representatives, including: Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni Facilities department, U.S. Forces Japan Logistics Construction Branch, Marine Corps Forces Japan, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Japan Engineer District, Omaha District, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Japan Defense Facilities Administration Agency, Hiroshima Defense Facilities Administration Bureau, Japan Maritime Self Defense Forces and other Government of Japan agencies.

Gray Wolves welcome new skipper

STORY AND PHOTOS BY
LANCE CHL. CRISTIN K. BARTTER
Combat Correspondent

Cmdr. James D. Haugen took the reigns of Electronic Attack Squadron 142 "Gray Wolves" from Cmdr. Jeffrey R. Graham in a change of command ceremony here, Dec. 16.

"I will do everything in my power to continue the traditions of the squadron," said Haugen. "We will remain mission ready, and no matter what challenge faces us, we are going to meet it head on."

Haugen graduated from the University of Washington in 1982 with a Bachelor's in Business Administration. After completing Aviation Officer Candidate School in 1985, he earned his "Wings of Gold" at flight training school in Sept. 1987.

Haugen reported to Electronic Attack Squadron 129 "Vikings" for instructor duty in 1991, and served as a weapon systems instructor, landing signal officer, standardization evaluator, schedules writer and Naval Air Training Operating Procedures Standardization instructor.

In 1996, Haugen went onboard the USS Constellation to serve with Electronic Attack Squadron 131 "Lancers." During his three-year stint with the unit, Haugen served as the Administrative Officer and Maintenance Officer. He also flew missions supporting Operation Southern Watch in an Arabian Gulf Deployment and flew from Prince Sultan Air Base, Saudi Arabia, in 1998.

In 1999, Haugen was sent to Stuttgart, Germany, for Operation Plans at European Command Headquarters. There he was directly involved with the plan-



Station Commanding Officer Col. Michael A. Dyer shakes the hand of Electronic Attack Squadron 142's new skipper, Cmdr. James D. Haugen.

ning and execution of Operations' Allied Force and Northern Watch. He was then deployed to Central Command in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom from Jan. - May 2003.

Haugen's personal decorations include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal, Joint and Navy Commendation Medals and other service medals, ribbons and unit awards.

Graham, who has served as VAQ-142's commanding officer since Sept. 2003, will report to a Naval Research laboratory in Washington D.C., for duty.

During Graham's command, the "Gray Wolves" excelled, winning an Air Force Outstanding Unit Award Wing Pacific Safety "S" Award for 2002, and the Commander Pacific Fleet Retention Excellence Award for Fiscal Year 2003.



Electronic Attack Squadron 142 stood at parade rest during the change of command ceremony here, Dec. 16.

NEWS BRIEFS

CENTRAL TEXAS COLLEGE

The registration for Term three is open Jan. 3-14. Term dates are Jan. 17 through March 12. Call 253-3631 for more information.

COMMISSARY HOURS

Hours of operation for New Year's week are as follows:

- Monday 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- Tuesday 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- Wednesday 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- Thursday 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- Dec. 31 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Jan. 1 Closed
- Jan. 2 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

TORII TELLER POSTPONED

There will be no *Torii Teller*, Dec. 31 and Jan. 7, due to the New Year's holiday. We apologize for the inconvenience. For further information, contact the Public Affairs Office at 253-5551.

CLARIFICATION

The *Torii Teller* received many calls in regard to the story last week that focused on the medals for the Global War on Terrorism. The featured medal was indeed the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal.

Honey Bears sweeten things up

STORY AND PHOTOS BY
PFC LUKAS J. BLOM
Combat Correspondent

The Chicago Honey Bears roared through Iwakuni recently with stylish costumes and flashy dance moves, bringing a bit of sweetness to many service members' holiday season.

The Station hosted the Chicago Honey Bears' Dance Company, Dec. 19 through today. The six-member group spread holiday cheer to local residents through four musical dance performances, and other events held here throughout the week.

The group's first show kicked off Dec. 19 at the Eagle's Nest. The bears were greeted by thunderous applause from a crowd that was anxious to see just how sweet the Honey Bears really were.

The bears started out with a country western performance, which was heavily favored by the country-night crowd.

After their first routine, the bears donned more festive costumes complete with bright red Santa hats. The dancers then brought members of the audience onto the stage to help them sing carols and dance.

"They're awesome," said Lance Cpl. Leandro A. Diego, Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 bulk-fuel specialist. Diego was invited on stage



Audience members from the Chicago Honey Bears Dec. 19 show were invited on stage to help Lisa Michelle sing Christmas carols.

to help Michelle perform her songs.

"The Honey Bears are all very talented, plus you can tell they enjoy being here," said Lance Cpl. Scottie Riddle, Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron postal clerk.

Before and after each of the Honey Bears' shows, they took time to sign posters and meet their fans.

"They were all really nice," said Riddle. "They didn't mind sticking around and just hanging out."

This is 12th visit to Iwakuni for the Honey Bears, who have toured more than 170 military bases worldwide. The group's holiday tours usually take them all over the world, but for this Christmas season, Iwakuni was their only stop.

"It's such a rewarding experience to come out here and meet everyone," said Michelle. "Iwakuni is special; we love coming out here because it's almost like family."

The professionally trained dancers performed their family-friendly dance routines at the Staff Non-Commissioned Officers club and Officers club during

their stay. They also led the Jingle Bell Jog in Santa's sleigh and visited a local orphanage.

"Though their next visit is not scheduled at this time, the girls are already excited to come back; they just love it here," said Greg Schwartz, Chicago Honey Bears producer and director.

The members of the team have been trained in a variety of dance forms for many years – some from the time they were two years old. Each Honey Bear must survive a rigorous audition process with a 90 percent attrition rate.

"Thank you for having us; it's been an honor and a pleasure to perform and meet you all," said Michelle. "We hope you all have a great holiday season."



Lisa Michelle sings "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas," and other holiday favorites during the Bear's performance here.



The Chicago Honey Bears sing holiday songs to bring some Christmas spirit to the Eagles Nest crowd here, Dec. 19.



"I feel like a woman" Lisa Michelle, line captain and singer for the Chicago Honey Bears, sings a cover of the famous Shania Twain song at the Eagles Nest.

Station Marine hero to Livingston, Mont., natives

STORY AND PHOTOS BY
LANCE Cpl. LYDIA DAVEY
Combat Correspondent

Five-foot-high flames licked at the dry wooden porch with fierce red tongues as Livingston, Mont., native Amy Daem and her young son slept on in the house that October morning – completely unaware of the rapidly growing danger nearby.

Just a few houses away, 27-year-old Lance Cpl. Austin Stallard was saying his good-byes to family and friends.

Stallard, on leave and visiting his parents after completing Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting School in Texas, was scheduled to board a bus back to his home in Washington in less than an hour.

However, the sight of smoke billowing from the small house down the street propelled Stallard, along with his brother's girlfriend, Nicole Alexander, to assist.

"I took off running [toward the house]," said Stallard. "I threw my cell

phone to Nicky and told her to call 911."

Upon reaching the scene of the fire, Stallard assessed the situation and directed Alexander to use a side door to check the house for occupants as he worked to control the flames.

Alexander evacuated Daem and her son, while Stallard used a garden hose to extinguish the fire.

"I was trying to hold [the fire] back until the fire department came," said the soft-spoken, yet intense Montana

native. "I was surprised that I was able to put it out."

Soon, the Livingston Fire Department arrived on scene and saw Stallard, garden hose in hand, standing in front of the smoke-blackened house.

According to a report by the Livingston Enterprise, Fire Chief Jim Mastin said Stallard's experience played a key role in extinguishing the fire.

"Someone that has his training and experience could do quite a bit with a garden hose," Mastin said in the report. "He (Stallard) did an exceptional job."

After a brief conversation with the fire chief, Stallard hurried back to his parent's house to finish his farewells. He made it to his bus just in the nick of time.



Lance Cpl. Austin Stallard, Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron aircraft rescue fire fighter, dons his bunker gear, or "silvers," in preparation for an exercise here Dec. 22.



Lance Cpl. Stallard, aircraft rescue fire fighter, fills the tank of his P-19A ARFF truck with water after the wet check Dec. 22.



Stallard mans the turret of a P-19A Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting truck during the daily "wet check." The check ensures that the pumps and hoses are in good working order.

SCHOLARSHIPS from Page 1

significant to our nation. That is why President George W. Bush has called on every American to dedicate 4,000 hours (the equivalent of two years of their lives) of service to their community, our country and the world.

In an effort to support the call to service and fulfill eligibility requirements for the scholarship, Williamson and Thompson contributed at least 100 hours of volunteer service within the past year.

In addition to the scholarship, the two students will receive a certificate from the President and a Student Service gold pin.

For details about the scholarship, visit: www.nationalservice.org/scholarships.

HOLIDAY from Page 1

Already this year, that number has more than tripled, he noted.

"The consequences to drinking and driving are serious and real," Wilkinson said. "The risks range from loss of life to losing your driver's license here and in the States, to a Court Marshal and jail time."

Wilkinson recommends that Station residents take the following precaution against drunk driving: Always have a plan that includes a licensed designated driver or a way to get home.

"Remember," said Wilkinson, "if you catch a buzz, catch a ride."

CHANGE from Page 2

rest and list one or more things that happened that day that I'm grateful for and perhaps even write them down. This will ensure that I don't let a day go by without first celebrating in some fashion all the blessings that I have experienced that single day of my life. I don't want another day or year to go by so fast that I miss opportunities of growth and joy that waits for me in a day and it will add up to a year well spent instead of a spent year with many "careless" days.

"I still smelled like smoke," he remembers.

One week later, Stallard, a former civilian fire fighter and Emergency Medical Technician, landed aboard Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni.

Here, he is a Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron aircraft rescue fire fighter, and carries a strong passion for his work.

"I love learning," said Stallard. "I consider myself a lifelong student. Whatever task I'm assigned, my goals are to master it and learn to teach others.

"I have my work cut out for me here," he added. "I've got to learn everything there is to learn about aircraft rescue fire fighting."

Stallard, a former pre-med student disillusioned by his experience with the politics of the civilian medical field, joined the Marine Corps early in December of 2003.

"Volunteer fire fighting, along with two years of service in AmeriCorps, helped me develop a strong ethic of service to my country," noted Stallard. "I decided that if I was going to join the military, I wanted to be part of the elite – so I joined the Marine Corps."

Stallard said he was also drawn to the Marine Corps because of the strong bond he observed between retired Marines in the civilian fire fighting sector.

"They have a really tight brotherhood, and that was attractive to me," he said.

Stallard is grateful for the training provided him by the Marine Corps.

"The military training definitely gives me an edge," he said. "If I chose not to reenlist at the end of my contract, my training will have put me so far ahead of the civilian competition that it's not even funny."

However, until Stallard, who reached his year-mark with the Corps Dec. 8, reaches the end of his contract, he'll remain enthusiastic about his job.

"Fire fighting is a unique career," said Stallard. "You get to do things no one else gets to do, and responding to calls is such an adrenaline rush.

"I'm hooked," he said.



ABOVE RIGHT: A paper mache Santa Claus, the work of art made by the orphans, watched over the children as the festive activities took place at the Garden of Light Orphanage, Dec. 18.



RIGHT: Pfc. Laura K. Mellinger, crash fire rescue, Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron, makes sure to hold onto Yumiko Nakamura, 7, who enjoys playing chicken with her friend Miki Tanaka, 7, who couldn't get enough of Lance Cpl. Jeremy D. Palmer, ground supply, Marine Aircraft Group.



CENTER: Just hanging around with Spiderman, is what Oko Fudo, 6, enjoyed at the Garden of Light.

RIGHT: Miki Tanaka was nothing but smiles when the Marines started to pour into the Garden of Light visit. She had been looking forward to a day of excitement and fun.

BELOW: The Station visited the Garden of Light Orphanage, to play with the children in holiday spirit. One of the more popular activities was the merry-go-round where the children enjoyed getting dizzy with the visiting Marines.



Sgt. Edward J. Tagle, Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 212 administrative clerk, was active on the playground with the children. He may have been a little bigger than the kids, but he enjoyed it just the same.



Volunteers brought the children soccer balls, hoola-hoops, jump ropes, dodge balls, basket balls and other sporting equipment for the Garden of Light Orphanage visit.

Volunteers spread spirit of St. Nick to orphans

STORY AND PHOTOS BY
LANCE Cpl. CRISTIN K. BARTTER
Combat Correspondent

Station service members and their families visited 73 orphans at the Garden of Light Orphanage, Dec. 18, and spent the day enjoying the holiday season together.

The visit began with a barbecue, and continued with the singing of Christmas carols, gift giving and a bountiful amount of playtime with the children.

"I enjoyed watching the kids meet the Marines and families," said Lt. Cmdr. Brent D. Johnson, group chaplain, Marine Aircraft Group 12. "They got the chance to reach out and touch somebody who cares about them."

Miki Tanaka, a seven-year-old orphan, said she likes it when Marines and families come to play. Her favorite part is sitting on the giant Marines' shoulders.

As much as the kids enjoy the walking jungle gyms that visit them, the Marines and families who volunteer enjoy their time with the orphans.

"I know that our presence with these kids means so much to them, and I get such a feeling of satisfaction knowing that I have fulfilled a need for these children," said Pfc. Laura K. Mellinger, crash fire rescue, Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron.

This year, the spirit of selfless giving was exemplified by the orphans when they were asked what gifts they wished to receive, said Johnson. After careful consideration, they decided that they

wanted presents that would benefit the entire orphanage rather than individual children.

Upon learning of their request, volunteers purchased gifts that all of the children could play with; soccer balls, hoola-hoops, jump ropes, dodge balls, basket balls and other sporting equipment.

There were enough visitors to provide gifts for all of the children to enjoy.

Chaplain Johnson acknowledged the spirit that Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni has. He had an abundant amount of volunteers who came forward to provide their services, and he and the people they have touched are very thankful.

For more information on volunteering, call 253-5212.

Chicken Shack serves dish of culture

STORY AND PHOTOS BY
PFC LUKAS J. BLOM
Combat Correspondent

The food is great, the atmosphere is peaceful, shopping is good and culture is everywhere. Trust me, this is much more than a shack.

Sanzoku, or as local Marines call it, "the chicken shack," is one of the most popular restaurants for local Marines and Sailors, and for good reason. Not only is Sanzoku a delicious restaurant, it's a small getaway that can take many hours to explore.

The chicken shack is nestled on a hillside, which adds to the serenity of the environment. The restaurant has been in the Iwakuni community for

more than 30 years, and been advertised through word of mouth since the restaurant was established.

Large light displays adorn the hillsides and are usually the first thing that anyone notices when approaching Sanzoku. This time of year the displays include a 50-foot Santa Claus and a large Christmas tree made of paper lanterns.

A small flight of stairs leads to the main indoor dining area, and friendly staff await to escort customers to their seat. The main dining area is divided into many smaller



A sign reads "The garden of Ebisu," while two statues of lucky gods, representing fortune and luck, stand guard at the entrance of one of the many bridges surrounding Sanzoku.

spaces, many designed for only one party. If reservations were made prior to the arrival of a party, the food will be prepared and on the table waiting.

Sitting at the traditional low Shokutaku tables, Sanzoku patrons can cook their own food on the Shichirin (portable clay cooking stove).

Outside dining areas are available, weather permitting, in order to enjoy the sights and sounds of local waterfalls running down the hillside into small ponds filled with statues and Koi fish.

Once patrons are finished with the meal, shopping and sight-seeing are on the menu.

A covered alley on the side-entrance of Sanzoku gives off a

traditional Japanese feel to the restaurant. Vendors, their stands extending all the way into the restaurant, offer many different products from souvenirs to food items.

Trails moving farther into the natural wooded area lead to some of the more secluded dining areas. Guests who follow the washi lanterns along the quiet trails will find bridges spanning small streams filtering through the valley. Stone statues of ancient Japanese warriors guard each of the bridges.

"It's a beautiful place," said Lance Cpl. Joseph W. Hanson, Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron weather observer. "It's definitely one of the nicer places to visit in Iwakuni."

With a perfect blend of culture, food, shopping and natural beauty, Sanzoku will continue to be one of the highlights for Iwakuni and Station residents for years to come.

For directions, contact the Information, Tours and Travel office.



A Sanzoku patron beats on a drum in front of vendor's stands just outside the restaurant. The "chicken shack" is one of the most popular restaurants for Marines and Sailors aboard the Station.



Cpl. David P. Revere bites into his "chicken on a stick" at the Sanzoku restaurant. Many believe this is one of the reasons Sanzoku picked up a nickname, "the chicken shack."



OUT THE GATE

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

Chinkasai Festival

A festival appreciating fire including prayers for prevention of fire disaster, is scheduled at the Mikasanohama beach near the Itsukushima Shrine, Miyajima Island, Dec. 31, 6-7 p.m. Admission is free. The event will be not cancelled in case of rain. Call 0829-44-2020 for more details.

The Treasures Of The Hermitage Museum

This exhibition is held at the Hiroshima Prefectural Art Museum in Hiroshima City today through Jan. 30, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The museum is closed from Saturday to Jan. 1, and Monday except Jan. 3 and 10. An admission fee is required. For details, call 082-221-6246.

First Visit Events At Hiroshima Gokoku Shrine

Visitors can view events celebrating the new year, such as a Kagura performance (a Japanese sacred music and dance) Jan. 1, mid-

night, Japanese music performance Jan. 2, 1 p.m. and Japanese archery performance Jan. 3, 10:30 a.m. at the Hiroshima Gokoku Shrine in Hiroshima City, near the Hiroshima Castle. For further information, call 082-221-5590.

Otake Sunday Market

A market is scheduled Sunday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Harumi Daiichi Park, next to You Me Town Otake. Booths will be set up to sell fresh vegetables, fish and more. A flea market will be held at the same time. The market will not be cancelled in case of rain. Call 59-2131 for details.

TORII TELLER CLASSIFIED ADS

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

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

AUTOMOBILES

Nissan Laurel, 1993, 4 door, sedan, excellent condition, 6 disc CD player/changer, automatic, P/W, P/L, JCI until Aug. 2006, \$2,000 obo. Call SSgt. Eldridge at 253-3838 dwh or 253-2812 awl.

Toyota Mark, 1994, 4 door, excellent condition, 6 cylinder, cold A/C, 4 wheel drive, P/S, P/W, P/L, great gas mileage, smooth comfortable ride, good tires, available approximately Jan. 12.

Mitsubishi Delica Exceed, 1994, 4x4, 2.8 liter inter-cooler turbo diesel, black/silver exterior, gray cloth interior, dual A/C, keyless entry, power everything,

134,000 km mileage, JCI until Sept. 2005, \$4,000 obo. Call HM2 Morish at 253-5227 dwh or 253-2355 after 5 p.m.

Toyota Lite Ace, 1989, 7 passenger, leaving in Jan., must sell, JCI until April 2006, \$600 obo. Call SSgt. Joseph Boland at 253-4170 dwh or 253-7608 awl.

OTHER ITEMS

Misc., Kenwood home theater system, 600 watt receiver with dolby pro logic 2 decoding for intensely great surround sound, includes 5 full range speakers with subwoofer, multiple DVD/VCD/CD/MP3 player with remote, all components are silver and come with

original box, \$350. Call Jerry Morish at 253-5227 dwh or 253-2355 awl.

JOB OPENINGS

WIC (243-9426)

A part time position as a nurse/nutritionist is open at the WIC Overseas Program in Iwakuni. Position requires a BS in Nursing, Nutrition, Dietetics or Home Economics, and experience in prenatal, maternal or infant nutrition. E-mail your resume, cover letter and copy of your driver's license to williamsd@nhyoko.med.navy.mil or fax it at 243-2614 attn: Denise Williams.

CHRO (253-6828)

MCCS:
-Supervisory Education

Services Specialist, world wide
-Substance Abuse Counselor, world wide

Facilities:
-Interdisciplinary Engineer, world wide
-Architect, world wide

Clinic:
-Occupational Health Nurse, world wide

Commissary:
-Teller, Iwakuni wide
-Store Worker NTE 1 Year (Student Temporary Employment Program), full or part-time student

MCCS (253-3030)
(The following jobs are open at MCCS Personnel)

MCCS Job Listing:
-Senior Sales Associate, Main Complex
-Material Handler, Warehouse, civilian only

-Material Handler Supervisor, Warehouse, civilian only

-Food Court Operations Assistant, Food Court

-Club Operations Assistant, Club Iwakuni

-Operations Assistant, Youth/Teen Center

-Program Assistant, CDC

-Public Relations Specialist, Marketing, civilian only

-Graphic Artist, Marketing

-Recreation Assistant, Athletics

-Public Relations Assistant, Marketing

Continuously Open Jobs Announcements (FT, PT, FLX)
MCCS Executive Administration Office

Loss And Prevention:
-Security Guard (Loss And Prevention Agent)

Business Operations Division

Retail Branch:
-Laborer
-Sales Clerk
-Store Worker

Food Service Worker

(Auto Mini Mart)
Food & Hospitality:
-ID Checker

-Waiter/Waitress
-Food Service Worker

Services Branch:
-Car Rental/Service Station Attendant

-Car/Washer/Laborer

-Recreation Attendant

Marine And Family Service Division

Library Branch:
-Library Technician
-Library Aid

Child Development Center/School Age Care Branch:
-Program Assistant
-Operations Assistant

Youth/Teen Center Branch:
-Recreation Attendant
-Operations Assistant

Semper Fit Division

Athletics Branch:
-Recreation Attendant
-Lifeguard

SMP, Sakura Theater Branch:
-Recreation Attendant

Go to www.mccsiwakuni.com for a complete job listing.

SAKURA THEATER



OCEAN'S TWELVE

It's been three years since Ocean and his crew pulled off one of the most audacious and lucrative heists in history, robbing ruthless entrepreneur Terry Benedict of every dime stored in his impenetrable Las Vegas vault. After splitting the \$160 million take, each of the Ocean's crew have tried to go straight, lay low and live a legit life, but that's proven to be a challenge, much to the chagrin of Danny's wife Tess. (25 minutes)



RAY

Born in a poor town in Georgia, Ray Charles went blind at the age of seven shortly after witnessing his younger brother's accidental death. Inspired by a fiercely independent mother who insisted he make his own way in the world, Charles found his gift behind a piano keyboard. The singer gained a reputation and then exploded with worldwide fame when he pioneered incorporating gospel, country, jazz and orchestral influences into his inimitable style. (153 minutes)



TEAM AMERICA: WORLD POLICE

A group of superhero-style adventurers travel the world fighting terrorism and other evils. Specifically, the story focuses on a typical "action hero" who is recruited to join Team America for a special mission, as a satire of the typical Hollywood action movie, using a combination of wood marionette-driven action sequences. (105 minutes)

FRIDAY

7 p.m. Ocean's Twelve (PG-13)
10 p.m. The Grudge (PG-13)

SATURDAY

1 p.m. The Incredibles (PG)
4 p.m. Surviving Christmas (PG-13)
7 p.m. Ray (PG-13)
10 p.m. The Grudge (PG-13)

SUNDAY

4 p.m. The Incredibles (PG)
7 p.m. Ocean's Twelve (PG-13)

MONDAY

7 p.m. Ray (PG-13)

TUESDAY

7 p.m. Team America: World Police (R)

WEDNESDAY

7 p.m. Ocean's Twelve (PG-13)

THURSDAY

7 p.m. Alfie (R)

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

EDUCATION

Test Schedule
Tuesdays/Fridays - CLEP, DSST
January 13 - EDPT
January 19 - SAT
January 20 - ACT
January 26 - DLPT
January 27 - ASVAB
January 31 - DLAB

For more information call 253-3855.

MCCS

CRMC Classes (253-6439)
 ■ **Hello U.S.A.:** Wednesday, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. For foreign-born spouses.
 ■ **Local Employment Overview:** Jan. 4, 9-10 a.m.
 ■ **Preparation/Transition Assistance Program Workshop:** Jan. 10-14, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
 ■ **Teaching English Tips:**

Jan. 11, 9-10:30 p.m.

Club Iwakuni
 ■ **Christmas Day Grand Lunch Buffet:** Saturday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Ballroom. \$3.95 for children ages 4-10 and \$8.95 for adults. Reservations can be made by calling 253-5416.
 ■ **New Year's Eve Bash:** Dec. 31, 8:30 p.m. to 2 a.m. in the Ballroom with a Bash Buffet 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. Enjoy two specialty bars featuring frozen margaritas and daiquiris for \$2.25. Live Band "Muziki" will perform. Buffet includes beer steamed Polish kielbasa, cajun catfish, sweet & sour meatballs, kim chee, Caesar salad, corn bread, sliced fresh fruit tray, chocolate mousse cake, berry cobbler and more. Admission is \$10 per person.

MCX (253-5641)
 ■ **Santa:** Children can visit

Santa at the MCX at the following hours:
 ☞ Today, noon to 4 p.m.
 ☞ Saturday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Single Marine Program (253-3585)
 ■ **New Year's Eve Party:** Dec. 31, 8 p.m. Free food, drinks, music and games.

School Age Center (253-4769)
 ■ **Monthly Birthday Party:** Tuesday, 4-5 p.m. Celebrate your birthday this month with cake, games and friends. Members born this month receive a coupon redeemable at Iwakuni's Route 2 McDonald's.
 ■ **Power Hour Party:** Jan. 7, 4-5 p.m.

Youth & Teen Center (253-4769)
 ■ **'70s Dance Party:** Jan. 14. Youth ages 10-12 dance 6-8:30 p.m. and teens ages 13-18 dance 9-11:30 p.m.
 ■ **Torch Club Kudamatsu Ice Skating Trip:** Jan. 15, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call for details.

Christmas Buffets
 ■ Today at the Hornet's Nest from 12 p.m. until all of the food is gone. Free and exclusively for single and unaccompanied service members. Enjoy lots of food, drinks and games. Call 253-3585 for details.
 ■ Saturday at the Marine

Lounge from 12 p.m. until all of the food is gone. Free and open to MCCS patrons and guests age 18 and older, in addition to all service members. Visit us on the second floor of Crossroads Mall.

New Year's Day Party & Super Pool Tournament
 Win \$500 Jan. 1, noon at the Marine Lounge. Open to all MCCS patrons and guests ages 18 and older, in addition to all service members. Enjoy food and beverages from the Food Court. The pool tournament, with cash prizes and no entry fee, begins at 2 p.m.

Thrift Savings Plan
 Enrollment is open through Dec. 31 for the Thrift Savings Plan. Visit the Financial Fitness office in Building 411, Room 217 to receive information about the five different types of funds to invest in. Call 253-6250 for more information.

Beating The Holiday Blues
 Tuesday, 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. For more details, call 253-4526.

Write Your New Year Resolutions In Japanese
 Community members are invited to submit their New Year resolutions to the Library staff Jan. 1-7 for the staff to translate into Japanese and post on a large banner at the library. Call 253-3078 for details.

Santa's Sleigh
 ■ Santa visits the Monzen

and northside housing today, 10:30 a.m. to noon and 4-5:30 p.m.
 ■ Santa visits the Barracks, Monzen and Northside housing Saturday, 10:30 a.m. to noon.

COMMUNITY

Australia Travel Club Yard Sale
 This club will sponsor a yard sale Jan. 29, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the triangle. Club members will pick up all donated items. The last day for donations is Jan. 27. Contact numbers for donated items are 253-2417 and 253-5029. The club consists of some of the seniors graduating with the 2004-2005 class. The Travel Club is in no way associated with any school.

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

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

Rewarding Faithful Service



Cpl. Amber Castro

Station Commanding Officer Col. Michael A. Dyer presents Telephone Collection Agent Yoko Michinaka with flowers during a ceremony here Dec. 20, as her husband, Tetsuo Michinaka, looks on. Michinaka retired Dec. 21 from her 22-year career aboard the Station, and was honored during the ceremony for her hard work during those years.

Cleveland Steamers dodge competition at tournament

STORY AND PHOTOS BY
PFC LUKAS J. BLOM
Combat Correspondent

"If you're going to learn to be true dodgeballers, then you've got to learn the five D's of dodgeball; *dodge, duck, dip, dive and... dodge.*"

These words were spoken by Patches O'Hoolihan, seven time American Dodgeball Association of America all-star, and a central character in the movie "Dodgeball: A true underdog story."

The first Station Dodgeball tournament was held at the Ironworks Gym here Dec. 10 to introduce the popular sport to Station residents. The Cleveland Steamers took the five-D's all the way to the champion's platform, and were the first Station Dodgeball champs.

"It's a great sport because anyone can play," said Chris M. Butler, Operational Weather Services Division



Jay B. Runyan of the Cleveland Steamers steps into a throw against the Air Wing Ninjas. The Cleveland Steamers threw their way to the Championship round and were named the Station's first dodgeball champions.

team captain. "In basketball, baseball or football you've got to have specific talents, this is something anyone can excel at."

The double-elimination tournament kicked off at 9 a.m. with twenty teams looking to take the championship trophy. The teams could have up to six players and as many "ball-shaggers" (members of the team who grab loose balls for the players on the court) as they wanted. Each game consisted of three matches, and the team who won two out of three was declared the victor.

The day was filled with high spirits and competitive players.

"I've seen better arms on rocking chairs," said Billy Allbright of Jordan's Guatemalan Circus Midgets (G-Midgets) team. Allbright and the rest of the G-Midgets taunted the opposing teams mercilessly.

In the biggest upset of the day, the Air Wing Ninjas defeated the G-Midgets, who many favored to win the tournament, in two straight matches, bringing the crowd to their feet.

"We knew we were going to beat them," said Air Wing Ninjas team captain, Ken J. Mimitsch. "We just came out quiet and won."

As the teams dwindled down to



Jeremiah C. McCulley eliminates one of his opponents while the rest of the Cleveland Steamers, who had one of the most unique uniforms in the tournament, size up Jordan's Guatemalan Circus Midgets in the Championship round.

four, the competition was heating up.

The Cleveland Steamers, who dodged their way through the competition to the quarterfinals, dominated the Air Wing Ninjas in the winners' bracket to lock in a seat in the finals.

The G-Midgets fought their way back from the losers' bracket to play against the Recovery team in the semifinals.

Overpowering Recovery, the G-Midgets secured their spot in the finals in their own "true underdog story".

The G-midgets went into the finals knowing that they had their work cut out for them. They had already been defeated once, and the Cleveland Steamers were

undefeated up to this point. In the nature of a double elimination tournament, the G-Midgets knew they would have to win a total of four matches to be crowned the champs, but the Steamers only needed two.

"Ready? ... Dodgeball!"

It all came down to one man for the G-Midgets; Damon Wilson was the last man standing as he faced four Steamers.

Wilson eliminated two of the Steamers before, "whoosh!" he got nailed by a speeding Steamers' dodgeball.

"I'm sweating more than I thought I would," said Joel C. Dietz, Cleveland Steamers team captain. "We had an awesome time, I wish they had a league set up."

"A dodgeball league is the ultimate goal," said Keith Carr, Semper Fit sports coordinator, who had been planning the tournament since April.

"The competition was great, a lot of teams showed up and everyone had a fun time," said Carr.



Damon Wilson of Jordan's Guatemalan Circus Midgets takes cover as his teammates sight in their throwing arms in preparation for the championship game against the Cleveland Steamers.

IWAKUNI SPORTS SCENE

YOUTH BASKETBALL SKILLS CAMP

Free for children ages 4-15, Wednesday, 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Sports Courts in IronWorks Gym. Food and drinks will be provided afterwards. Learn basic basketball fundamentals, including dribbling, rebounding, shooting, defense, court rules and passing. Call Eugene Clark at 253-4803 for details. No sign-up is necessary.

NEW YEAR'S EVE BOWLING BASH

Dec. 31, 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. Open to the first 70 bowlers (S.O.F.A. status only) with a \$25 entry fee. For further information, call 253-4657.

NEW YEAR'S EVE BOWLING SPECIAL

Dec. 31, 1-6 p.m. \$1 per game at the Bowling Center. Call 253-4657 for more details.

YAMAGUCHI ICE HOCKEY TEAM

This team is looking for any Station residents interested in playing ice hockey at Kudamatsu Kenko Park Skate Link, Wednesday and Sunday, 9-10:30 p.m. For further information, call Norio Ooba at 24-3357 or 080-5059-2171, or e-mail to norio.ooba@pfizer.com

FAMILY APPRECIATION BOWLING DAYS

Jan. 1, 1-5 p.m. All games are half price at the Bowling Center.

PERSONAL TRAINING SERVICES

One-on-one personal training and small group personal training are available at the IronWorks Gym. Fitness assessments include a detailed printout of blood pressure, weight, measurements, body fat, aerobic fitness testing, strength testing, and flexibility testing using the Microfit System. Call 253-5051 for fees and details.

CHAPEL SERVICES

Roman Catholic

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

Protestant

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

Cooperative Chapel Ministries

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

LAY LED SERVICES

Church of Christ

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

Seventh-Day Adventist

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

Jewish

Friday 6:30 p.m. Shabbat

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints

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

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

Broncos buck Cowboys, 18-12

STORY AND PHOTOS BY
PFC LUKAS J. BLOM
Combat Correspondent

The Broncos closed out their undefeated flag football season in a nail-biting overtime victory over the Cowboys, 18-12, at Penny Lake Field here, Dec. 14.

With the best record in the league (7-0), the Broncos went into the flag football game against the Cowboys confident they would capture their eighth notch in the win column.

Broncos' head coach Bobby Carter Jr., and assistant coaches Mike Lasyone and Chad Collins knew the Cowboys were a tough team and would be a worthy contender in the heavyweight match of the 7-10 year-old flag football league.

"Do you have butterflies in your stomach?" Carter asked his team to which they responded, "Yes."

"Okay, put your hands on mine and go bzzzzzz. Now, the coach has butterflies and you all are playing



The Broncos' Trevor Vann goes out for a pass while covered by two Cowboy defenders in the final game of the season for both teams.



Broncos' Quarterback, Nick Forti, weaves through the Cowboy defense for a 25 yard gain. The Broncos closed their season with an undefeated record of 8-0.

worry-free football," said Carter.

On the opening drive, the Broncos marched methodically down to the 20-yard line behind the offensive leadership of their quarterback, Nick Forti. Forti finished the game with 80 yards on the ground and 110 in the air.

Three minutes into the game, the Broncos bucked with J.D. Stone, tight end, turning a swing pass into a 20-yard scamper for a touchdown.

"We watched the Cowboy defense and shifted everyone left except J.D. The defense focused on the left side, leaving J.D. open for the score," said Carter.

The extra point conversion was stopped by the Cowboys' defense.

The Broncos kept the momentum going on the ensuing Cowboy drive. Although the Cowboys made it to the Broncos 10-yard line, Stone nabbed a pass for the first turnover of the game.

The Cowboys were quick to return the favor. Jawaun Stanley intercepted a pass from Forti to give the

Cowboys another shot at the end zone in the first half.

Punching through the Broncos defense, Blake Stintsman dashed 35-yards for the Cowboys' first score. The Cowboys could not convert the extra point, thanks to the prowess of defensive end Courtney Buono, and



Broncos' Quarterback, Nick Forti, dances along the sideline to slip into the end zone for his second touchdown of the night. The Broncos went on to beat the Cowboys 18-12.



"The Broncos Rock." The young Broncos team stampedes through a banner, made by parents, in the opening of their game against the Cowboys.

the game was left tied 6-6 at half time.

"You are 7-0 for a reason; don't show me, show them," said Carter.

The second half started with the Cowboys' Walter Rickett returning the kick off 50 yards for a touchdown.

The Cowboys now led 12-6.

"Suck it up," the Broncos said to

each other. The team was not used to being in the underdog position, according to the coaches.

The Broncos then went airborne.

"One of the key plays of the game was in the beginning of the second half," said Carter. "It was fourth and five and Tristan Carter took a cross back right and got the crucial first down which seemed to give us the momentum of the game."

With no time to spare, the Broncos nailed a touchdown, mustering up enough points to set the score even with the Cowboys, and advance the game into overtime.

"Our team captain, Andy Pritchard, made a lucky call on the coin and we received the first chance in overtime, which set the tempo for the rest of the game," said Carter.

The overtime rules stipulated that each team start at the 20-yard line and get four opportunities to score.

The Broncos did just that on an end reverse pass back to the quarterback, Forti, and clinched the victory.

At the end of the game, the entire Broncos team was awarded the team's Most Valuable Player award, an honor usually reserved for one player on the team.

"The Cowboys were without a doubt the best team we've seen out here all season," said the Broncos head coach.

The Broncos were very proud of their accomplishments, and look forward to repeating their winning season next year.

"We worked together and played hard, but we still had a lot of fun," said Forti.