

# Torii Teller

VOLUME 50 NUMBER 10

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION IWAKUNI, JAPAN

MARCH 18, 2005

## INSIDE...

**Marines, Seabees build morale**  
Marines assist Seabees at Camp Fuji with constructing a basketball court to boost morale

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**Adventurers ascend Three Peaks**  
Station residents threw on their

packs and climbed the massive mountain during a recent Outdoor Recreation trip.

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**New sports program for kids**  
Children aboard the Station can now start earning points for prizes by participating in sporting events, team sports and individual recreation.

Each activity is worth a certain amount of points.

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## Engineers ensure safe landing

**Pfc. MARK FAYLOGA**  
*Combat Correspondent*

**CAMP FUJI, Japan** — Combat engineers from Marine Wing Support Squadron 171, currently deployed to Camp Fuji, performed airfield damage repair training, March 3.

The exercise consisted of a mock airstrip being attacked, causing craters in the runway. Airfield damage repair was then performed to provide a landing strip for aircraft.

"During airfield damage repair, heavy equipment operators will fill in the crater and then we (combat engineers) come in and either unroll a fiberglass folding mat or lay down fiberglass reinforced plastic (FRP) to cover the crater and provide a surface for aircraft to land on," said Sgt. Winfred R. Murphy, MWSS-171 combat engineer squad leader.

The Marines conducted the training exercise using FRP. Laying down FRP consists of placing panels over the crater like a giant puzzle, said Murphy. Once each piece is combined they're bolted together then the entire panel is bolted to the airstrip.

"We conduct this exercise regularly in Iwakuni to keep the Marines refreshed. So, if an attack on the airfield occurs, the process of laying down the FRP will be second nature to them," said Murphy.

Conducting the airstrip damage re-

"My goal for this exercise was to have the younger Marines lead each other without any help from the non-commissioned officers," said Murphy. "They did an outstanding job without any help. They went out there and whipped it on. And when it's time to perform, they perform."

For some Marines, the exercise was the same as those performed many times before, but the first time as project leader.

"It was different because you have to know exactly what's going on and what needs to be done next. Instead of just worrying about your own job, you have to make sure everyone else is doing theirs," said Williamson.

"At first, it seemed unnecessary to perform ADR training in Fuji considering how often the combat engineers train in Iwakuni," said Williamson. "Once we got out there in the cold and on the gravel with full gear I noticed how much different it was from Iwakuni and that you need to be prepared to do your job wherever and whenever."



Pfc. Mark Fayloga

**Pfc. Mark P. Wishcer (left) and Lance Cpl. Justin R. O'Quin, Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 combat engineers, fasten two portions of fiber reinforced plastic together during an airfield repair exercise at Camp Fuji, March 3.**

pair exercise while in Camp Fuji compared to Iwakuni had the added difficulty of dealing with gravel instead of asphalt, laying it down on a slope instead of level ground and having to work with M-16s and gas masks, said Pfc. Richard E. Williamson, MWSS-171 combat engineer.

## Smallpox vaccination program moves to Pacific

**LANCE Cpl. LUKAS J. BLOM**  
*Combat Correspondent*

The Department of Defense Smallpox Vaccination Program, which began in January 2003, has now been expanded to the Korean peninsula and all personnel in the U.S. Pacific Command Forward Deployed Naval Forces, according to Marine Administrative Message 560/04.

All service members aboard the Station are currently receiving education and screening for the Small-

pox vaccination, which is being administered now through May 1.

Due to the increased threat of biological weapons since 2001, all service members in Central and Pacific commands are required to be screened for the vaccination as a conservative precautionary measure, said Lt. Cmdr. Eugene Garland, Branch Health Clinic environmental health officer.

The vaccination is a pox-like virus itself, when introduced to the human immune system the body develops antibodies and immunity to the Smallpox virus.

The vaccinia virus has successfully been used to combat Smallpox since 1796. The vaccination is also given credit for eradicating all naturally occurring Smallpox viruses and has passed all tests administered see **SMALLPOX** Page 4



Sgt. Amber Castro

**Col. Michael Dyer, Station commanding officer, receives his Smallpox shot, March 3.**

## Marine helicopter squadron conducts external operations

**STAFF SGT. FREDERICK HAGGETT**  
*HMH-363 Intelligence Chief*

The northern extremity of the Station's airfield was a flurry of activity recently, as combat-proven CH-53D helicopters delicately dangled a two-ton block of concrete 50 feet in the air.

A congregation of aviation enthusiasts, photographers and onlookers who assembled in the baseball field north of the airstrip had quite a sight when the

Red Lions of Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 363 conducted external operations for the first time in recent memory.

As pilots and aircrew hovered overhead, the Helicopter Support Team hustled to secure the load and ensure safe operations despite the blowing wind and rain. The Red Lions initiated external operations aboard the Station in an attempt at maximizing training opportunities during their Unit Deployment Program before returning to their home base at Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii.

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Torii Teller

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# Hospitality along the tracks

**LT. CMDR. BRENT JOHNSON**  
*Chaplain's Corner*

The tracks of the Burlington Northern Railroad ran straight across the prairies and through my hometown on the Great Plains of North Dakota.

The train yard was a favorite place to play when I was in grade school. All the young boys I knew liked to explore the side of the tracks looking for castoff treasures or chances to meet travelers. We even dreamed of putting pennies on the tracks for the big diesel engines to flatten, but very few of us dared to carry out such a tempting deed.

There were interesting people at the yard. Burlington Northern still hired a man to patrol the tracks looking for illegal riders, and keep us kids away from danger. Occasionally we spotted travelers who were riding the rails hopping off and scurrying into town to find a bite to eat.

Sometimes we found marks left by these riders. People called the riders hobos or tramps, and their vagabond lifestyle was strange to boys who had homes and families to return to each evening. The hobos would leave chalk drawings that signaled safe places to visit and other sites to avoid.

If there was a home where a kind woman lived, someone who gave them respect and a bite to eat, a simple line drawing of a cat would appear. It was the sign of a good woman, a person who gave hospitality to wayfaring strangers. Often time the hobos would do small chores for such women, even without being asked. Yards would be cleaned, sidewalks swept, a loose board repaired in the fence. They were showing how grateful they were for the hospitality.

Hospitality is a disappearing art in our world. If hobos came to any of the neighborhoods I lived in recently, I wonder how many cat chalk drawings would be left behind?

It isn't that people are meaner than they used to be.

There are still lots of pleasant people, the kind who care about others, around our towns. The problem is people have accepted a cocoon lifestyle and wrapped themselves in homes that rarely acknowledge the world outside their doors. There are few examples for us to follow of extending hospitality to strangers. In fact, we are warned that strangers are dangerous. That is sad, because violent behavior is usually committed towards someone close to

the perpetrator. Very few violent crimes are actually committed by strangers acting out against unknown victims. Strangers just make good scapegoats.

In the Biblical books of Leviticus and Deuteronomy there are passages that call on the Children of God to show kindness to strangers who come amongst them. Deuteronomy 10.19 calls on believers to "befriend the stranger, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt." In Leviticus 19 believers are told, "When a stranger resides with you in your land, you shall not wrong him." Here again the people are told to remember their own time in Egypt as strangers.

Current freedom and the ability to enjoy the comfort of home are not reasons to forget what it felt like to be lonely and wronged in the past.

Hospitality is one of the signs of a follower of God. It isn't the only one, and there are followers who need to learn how to be hospitable, but there should be some effort made to give comfort and care where it is needed.

Be ready to offer kindness to the stranger at your gate. It is a living example of faith in action. Maybe someone will draw a cat outside your door one day. God will notice your random acts of kindness.

## Girl Scouts give thanks to Iwakuni community

**TONI KEATING**  
*Iwakuni Resident*

The Girl Scouts of Iwakuni will be ending the sale of Girl Scout Cookies on March 19.

We would like to thank the Iwakuni community, especially our young Marines and Sailors. The support they have provided has been amazing – from the heartfelt stories of young women telling us about when they were Girl Scouts to the many young Marines buying cookies because they have sisters at home selling cookies to the unbelievable generosity of one anonymous Marine who has bought \$200 worth of cookies the past two years and donated them directly to the Single Marine Program.

Additionally, we would like to give a special thanks to the Manning family who alone collected over \$1,000 in donations.

With the donations collected this year, we are supporting our deployed troops by sending cookies directly to individuals deployed from Iwakuni. From your unbelievable generosity, we will be sending 45 cases of cookies (540 boxes). We have been told by a Marine recipient of two cases of cookies that not only are they enjoying 'a taste from home,' but they are able to use the cookies as goodwill for the children they encounter.

Thank you Girl Scouts, thank you troop leaders, but especially, THANK YOU IWAKUNI for supporting our girls.

## CHATTERBOX

### Question: "What do you miss most while you're in the field?"



**Sgt. Sonny J. Limon**  
*Corpus Christi, Texas*

"I miss having the freedom to go do what I want, because when you're in the field you're stuck out there."



**Lance Cpl. Uverne Peralta**  
*Los Angeles*

"I miss my bed, because I don't have to worry about it being hard or cold."



**Sgt. Tian L. Jackson**  
*Chattanooga, Tenn.*

"It doesn't matter to me, in the field or in the rear, I still do the same job it's just a different environment."



**Pvt. William D. Aubrey**  
*Louisville, Ky.*

"I miss showers, because I hate going to sleep dirty and waking up dirty."

# Corps suffers 29 percent spike in suicides

**LANCE CPL. CRISTIN K. BARTTER**  
*Combat Correspondent*

The Marine Corps has endured a 29 percent increase in suicides through the last year, reaching the highest amount in more than a decade.

In 2004 alone, 31 Marines committed suicide compared to 24 in 2003. All of the suicides in 2004 and 2003 were enlisted men. The majority were under 25 years of age and had taken their lives with gunshot injuries, according to Marine Corps statistics.

"Although it is impossible to predict with 100 percent accuracy who will attempt or complete suicide, there are many factors that increase one's risk," said Dr. Beth Davis, Marine & Family Services Counseling Center, family counselor. "These include having a history of psychological disorders, particularly mood disturbances, use of drugs

and alcohol, increased life stress (relationship issues, work stress), feelings of hopelessness, family history of suicide and an impulsive/reactive personality style. Research tells us that while women are more likely to attempt suicide, men are significantly more likely to complete suicide," added Davis. "A common ingredient among persons who are contemplating suicide is hopelessness. People often view their circumstances as intolerable and unlikely to change. They need to realize that suicide is a permanent solution to a temporary problem."

On Dec. 13, the Commandant of the Marine Corps, Gen. Michael W. Hagee, expressed his thoughts on the reason for the suicide peak.

"This problem is pervasive and is impacting Marines throughout the Corps, not just those who have been deployed in support of the Global War on Terrorism," stated a memo by Hagee.

"The increased operational tempo our Corps is experiencing may be affecting the ability of our Marines to deal with perceived overwhelming stresses associated with relationship, financial and disciplinary problems."

In general, the Marine Corps has experienced the highest suicide rate among the Armed Forces and about 70 percent of the suicides over the past four years have been caused by problems related to individual relationships.

Although many Marines may show obvious signs of suicidal characteris-



Lance Cpl. Cristin K. Bartter

**Some factors of an individual contemplating suicide may include the use of drugs and alcohol, increased life stress, feelings of hopelessness and an impulsive/reactive personality style.**

tics, many Marines do not, expressed Hagee. Persons who are contemplating suicide may feel stigmatized for seeking help with such matters.

"They may feel it is not acceptable to ask for help because they don't want to be labeled as 'weak' or 'defective' in the eyes of their subordinates, peers, or leaders," wrote Hagee.

He added that commanders must increase efforts to make their Marines feel

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## Annual road taxes, recycling fee due

**LANCE CPL. CRISTIN K. BARTTER**  
*Combat Correspondent*

Station community members who own vehicles must pay an annual road tax fee before renewing their Status of Forces Agreement decals by April 30. In conjunction with the annual road tax, residents must also pay a vehicle-recycling fee.

The annual road tax fee is broken down into two categories, heavy and light vehicles. All heavy vehicles tax can be paid at the Provost Marshal's Office on April 11 and 12 for plate numbers 500Y, 33E, 33Y, 300E, 100Y, 500E and 44Y; Apr. 18 and 19 for plate numbers 300Y, 329Y, 330Y, 331Y, 400Y, 529Y, 530Y, 531Y and 55Y; and April 22 for all other vehicles. The office hours for these dates are 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. No other business will be conducted on these dates, i.e. sale transactions, de-registrations, licensing, fingerprints, etc.

For lightweight vehicles, plate numbers 40A, 50A and 580A, owners can pay the recycling fee and road tax at Iwakuni City Hall, Marine Corps Community Services Auto Hobby shop or dealers off base for a small fee. Once the fees are paid, owners can bring the receipt to PMO anytime during the month of April to receive a new decal.

For motorcycles with A, B, or C series plates, only the annual road tax is required. Motorcyclists do not

have to pay for the recycling fee, however they do need to bring in the tax fee receipt to PMO to get the new decal.

The recycling fee, ranging from 7,000 to 22,000 yen, varies by the size and options of each vehicle. To get a quote on the recycling fee for each vehicle, contact MCCS Auto Hobby Shop or a dealer off base. There will be a small fee for this service. It is a one-time only fee and is transferable between owners.

The vehicle-recycling fee is collected when a vehicle is purchased, re-registered to a new owner, the Japanese Compulsory Insurance is renewed, or the vehicle is disposed of. The fee can be paid with the assistance from the Auto Hobby Shop or a dealer off base.

The recycling fee covers the cost to de-register vehicles with the government of Japan before the vehicle is disposed of. The fee also allows the recycling companies to dispose of the vehicles in an environmentally safe manner.

For vehicle owners who have not paid the road tax and recycling fee, they need to go to PMO on the dates indicated for their vehicles. This will allow the vehicle owner to pay all fees for their vehicle and receive their new decal at one time. For personnel who have already paid the recycling fee and road tax, they need to go to PMO at anytime during the month of April to receive the new decals for the year 2005.

### Assigned Dates for Plate # (Heavy) to Pay Fee at PMO

Apr 11-12	500Y, 33E, 33Y, 300E, 100Y, 500E, 44Y
Apr 18-19	300Y, 329Y, 330Y, 331Y, 400Y, 529Y, 530Y, 531Y, 55Y
Apr 22	All other Vehicles

### Road Tax Fee for Heavy Vehicle

100Y	¥32,000	
33E, 33Y, 300Y, 300E, 329Y, 330Y, 331Y	4,501cc and over	¥22,000
	4,500cc and below	¥19,000
44Y, 400Y, 55Y, 500Y, 529Y, 530Y, 531Y, 500E		¥7,500

### Road Tax Fee for Light Vehicle/Motorcycle

50A, 40A, 580A	¥3,000
YAMA, B	¥1,000
IWAKUNIA, B, C	¥500

\* If you have paid your Recycling Fee and Road Tax before these dates, you will be able to come to PMO anytime during the month of April to receive your new decal for the year 2005.

## NEWS BRIEFS

### SEASONAL UNIFORM CHANGE

The optional period for wearing sleeves up on the utility uniform begins on the third Monday in March and ends on the first Monday in May. Sleeves must be worn up beginning on the first Monday in May.

### PROTEST

A protest will be conducted Sunday, at 1 p.m. between the Iwakuni gymnasium and the Iwakuni City hall, marching to the North gate of MCAS Iwakuni. Station residents are advised to avoid areas where protest activities are taking place.

### RAKUGO PERFORMER SHOW

Rakugo, a Japanese sit-down comedy show in English, by Aobatei, will take place March 25, 12-12:30 p.m. at Community Service Building 411, room 115.

### COL. RICHARD A. CHRISTIE MEMORIAL AWARD

For enlisted Marines leaving the Marine Corps, a scholarship is offered to those who have demonstrated exceptional courage and integrity in the face of great obstacles. To download the application, log on to [www.christiememorial.org](http://www.christiememorial.org). The deadline for the application is July 31 for the 2005-2006 school year.

## Station requires pet registration on, off base

LANCE Cpl. LUKAS J. BLOM  
Combat Correspondent

According to Marine Corps Air Station Order 10570.1L, all pet owners stationed here and living on base, are required to register their pets with the local veterinary clinic and personnel living off base need to register with the Iwakuni City Hall.

To get pets registered, all cats and dogs must have current vaccination records including rabies. Off-base residents can obtain the registration forms from the veterinary clinic or Housing Office. Once the vaccination record is complete, the animal must be microchipped.

"All dogs and cats aboard the Station must have a microchip implanted upon arrival if they do not already have one," said Army Capt. Sandi K. Parriott, Station Veterinary Clinic chief. "Animals less than six months of age will be microchipped once they reach the age of six months."



Army Capt. Sandi K. Parriott, Station Veterinary Treatment Center chief, examines a puppy while Beverley Suther, animal health technician, holds him down.

The microchip, which is the size of a grain of rice, is placed underneath the skin between the animals shoulder.

This process allows the animal to be identified by a hand held scanner,

taking the place of a traditional collar.

If the animal is lost, this process allows a pet's owner to be reunited with them sooner. Furthermore, this will also reduce the number of animals being

euthanized. Animals who are caught astray in Japan are euthanized four days later unless the owner can be contacted according to government regulations.

Moreover, the registration also adds a level of security ensuring all pets are accounted for and up to date on vaccinations, reducing the number of stray animals.

"In a (Noncombatant Evacuation Operation), the pets won't necessarily go with their owner, they will usually come after," said Parriott. "This process allows us to link up pets to their owners much faster."

The procedure can be done on a walk in basis; however, it is recommended that you call ahead to ensure personnel are available to perform the procedure. The procedure costs \$15 and is only required to be done once in the pet's lifetime.

"This program is working pretty well," said Parriott. "Not only does it keep the pets healthier, if a pet runs away we'll be able to track it and return them to the owner much faster."

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by the Food and Drug Administration.

The inoculation creates a small blister on the skin. The blister contains the vaccinia virus and is imperative that proper precautions are taken to prevent spreading the virus to other parts of the body or other people. The inoculation will protect the patient from the Smallpox virus as soon as three days after being administered and will last an average of five years.

While in the 21-day process of inoculation, the blister must always be covered by proper dressing until the scab falls off, which personnel at the Branch Health Clinic will change every three to four days.



Lance Cpl. Cristin K. Bartter  
Col. Howard Barker, Marine Aircraft Group 12 commanding officer, leads from the front as he is one of the first receiving his shot.

During the inoculation period, the patient must be vigilant about hygiene such as wash hands often, wash clothes separately from family members, do not wear sleeveless shirts, keep the site dry, have BHC change dressing every three days, and if the dressing falls off, dispose of it by flushing down the toilet or give to BHC in sealed a plastic bag.

After vaccination, patients are also not allowed to go swimming or take baths due to the chlorinated water rendering the inoculation useless. Proper care of the vaccination site will minimize adverse effects on the patient as well as others.

All patients are highly encouraged to speak with family, friends, and contacts about the Smallpox vaccination and safety precautions.

"There will be some people that you work with

that will have the inoculation, there is no need to be concerned," said Lt. Col. James C. Stewart, Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron commanding officer, who was inoculated March 3. "I PT, I run, I workout just like normal. This is not a risky procedure, it's been in use for over 200 years."

Common side effects of the vaccination are usually rash, fever, head and body aches. For these symptoms, everyone who receives the vaccination will also be given medications to diminish the side effects as much as possible.

Historically, Smallpox was a devastating virus that claimed the lives of approximately 30 percent of those infected. The course of the virus may take anywhere from seven to 19 days to complete its life cycle. Although it is a very contagious virus that can be transmitted by person-to-person contact and by aerosol droplets, there has not been a natural Smallpox infection since 1972.

Questions and concerns about the program should be directed to the Branch Health Clinic at 253-3419.

to fill the ground responsibilities of the operation.

With the block and team in position, the Red Lion aircraft arrived and started the anticipated external lift. The ground crew braved the downwash, static electricity, and adverse weather to provide landing site control for the operations.

Petty Officer 3rd Class Jesse Roddy, HMH-363 hospital corpsman, was standing by with stretcher and field kit just in case.

"It was rainy and cold, but we were happy to be there to support this important exercise," said Roddy.

Multiple lifts were completed safely as the ground team continued to improve their efficiency and met the challenges of rapidly changing conditions. Inside the aircraft, crews labored to perfect their precision hover and placement skills.

Sgt. Christopher Nino, HMH-363 crew chief instructor, said he appreciated all the effort put forth by all the planners and crews involved to ensure an effective training operation. "The training was essential to improve our core skill proficiency and combat readiness," he added.

Although this was the first time this type of operation was conducted by a UDP squadron aboard the station, it certainly will not be the last.

"We look forward to conducting this type of training quite soon. MW has received great support from Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni and MWSS 171, and plan on reaping the rewards for some time to come," said Campbell.

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"External operations are the preferred method of cargo loading for Marine Corps CH-53 helicopters, and proficiency allows us to quickly execute our assault support mission," said Lt. Col. Paul Fortunato, Red Lions commanding officer.

The Marines made it look easy, but the casual observer could not imagine the effort and improvisation required to bring it all together. For starters, there was no existing training aid for such an operation, so the hard-working Marines of Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 built one.

"We hoped to provide a block that simulated the full lift capability of this massive helicopter" said Sgt. Jason Kesner, MWSS-171 HST leader, "but we had to settle for 4,000 pounds of concrete and iron, which was a feat in itself."

After the construction process, the block was transported with a forklift and pallet to the north grass portion of the airfield where the CH-53D helicopters conduct tactical training.

With the block problem solved, HMH-363 assistant operations officer, Capt. Jade Campbell, set to work assembling the HST. After locating the only HST trained Marine on station, Campbell recruited Red Lion augments and taught them proper procedures for rigging, hookup and staging cargo. Led by Kesner, flight line mechanics, avionics technicians and logisticians sacrificed their time

## Marines claw down for Foa Eagle

LANCE Cpl. CRISTIN K. BARTTER  
Combat Correspondent

**CHEUNG JU, Republic of Korea** – Debarking from an Australian high-speed vehicle, Marine Aircraft Group 12 Headquarters, Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12, Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 122 and Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 Marines and Sailors arrived for Foa Eagle, Mar. 11.

The squadrons disembarked the HSV and met with a small advanced party sent a week and a half earlier, all participating in the training exercises.

The Marines and Sailors will provide aviation ground support for MAG-12 in order to establish a forward air base and conduct flight operations, said 1st Lt. Luis F. Mejia, communication officer for Foa Eagle.

"As the advanced party, we got here and set up everything. In half a day we put up 30 tents," said Cpl. David M. Wheeler, MWSS-171, military police. "Overall it was tough, but we wanted to get everything established before the other squadrons came in."

During the course of the week, MWSS-171's mission was to prepare everything necessary for over 250 Marines and Sailors arriving.

Although nowhere near the demilitarized precinct, the squadron is dealing with hostile conditions since arriving here. The freezing environment is tough to endure because of temperatures as low as 18 degrees Fahrenheit at night.

"We would have a layer of frost on our sleeping bags and along the inside of the tent," said Lance Cpl. Shana L. DuBois, MAG-12 fiscal clerk. "The ceilings and walls would be covered with ice. It would be like waking up in a meat freezer."

The Marines worked nine to 12 hour days in the cold, setting up tents and facilities in preparation for the incoming squadrons.

"The first couple of days it was really cold but we just had to adapt and overcome," said Hernandez. "We had a palate of 2x4's that were frozen together because of the rain and snow. It would take time to hammer them apart whenever we would need a 2x4."

It was the construction platoon of Marines who worked through the winter nights to provide strong back frames, dividers, and reusable tables for tent city.

The long hours in frosty conditions paid off in the end now that tent city is up and running with showers, a mobile exchange and a chow hall.

"When the Marines come through the line, they all seem pretty happy to be getting hot chow instead of having Meals Ready to Eat everyday," said Lance Cpl. David M. Hammell, MWSS-171 aircraft recovery augmented to food services. "I am glad to be serving these Marines and help them out while they are accomplishing the mission."



Lance Cpl. Nathan M. Thomas, MWSS-171 combat engineer, hammers in a nail to reinforce a strongback in the medical center in Korea for Exercise Foa Eagle 2005.

## Marines, Seabees build morale with Bull Dozer

Pfc. MARK FAYLOGA  
Combat Correspondent

**CAMP FUJI, Japan** — Marines from Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 currently deployed to Operation Bull Dozer, took a break from their training schedule to assist Camp Fuji's Navy Mobile Construction Battalion 40 in the renovation of outdoor basketball courts, March 2.

Lance Cpl. Justin M. Heitmeyer and Pfc. Joshua J. Henderson, MWSS-171 heavy equipment operators, aided the Seabees in renewing the courts by excavating land and doing backfield work for the new court site.

"The Seabees run all projects on a Seabee level-three chart, which is basically a timeline of when each stage of a project must be completed," said Petty Officer 3rd Class Jared L. Bowman, NMCB-40 crew leader. "If we fall behind on one stage, then each stage after gets pushed back and the project won't be completed in time."

For the Seabees, completing a project on time is essential because there is always another project that needs to be started.

"Having these Marines come out and lend a hand in the excavating and leveling portion of the project has been really helpful," said Bowman.

The Seabees were not the only ones benefiting from the extra assistance.

"I was excited to come help out and get some stick time behind new equipment," said Henderson. "The Seabees showed me how to operate the backhoe and the dump truck, so this was a great learning experience."

With most bases, morale is extremely important, and sports are great for boosting morale and camaraderie as well as improving physical fitness. The Marines said they were just happy to help out fellow service members who will reap the benefits of their hard work.

"It's awesome getting to help out Camp Fuji because they've taken care of us since we've got here, so it felt good to return the favor," said Heitmeyer. "It was interesting to see how the Seabees operate their heavy equipment. They use different gear and slightly different methods compared to MWSS-171."

According to Bowman, thanks to the Marines



Pfc. Mark Fayloga  
Pfc. Joshua J. Henderson, Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 heavy equipment operator, helps out Camp Fuji's Navy Mobile Construction Battalion 40 with renovating outdoor basketball courts by excavating dirt where the new courts are to be placed, March 2.

hard work, the project should be completed in time.

"I really appreciate the extra help from these Marines," said Bowman. "It's been great to work with them and it's good to know that you can count on your military family to pitch in and help out."

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more comfortable in revealing their unique stressors that could possibly lead to suicide.

Along with the efforts of commanders, Marines thinking of suicide also need to stop and think.

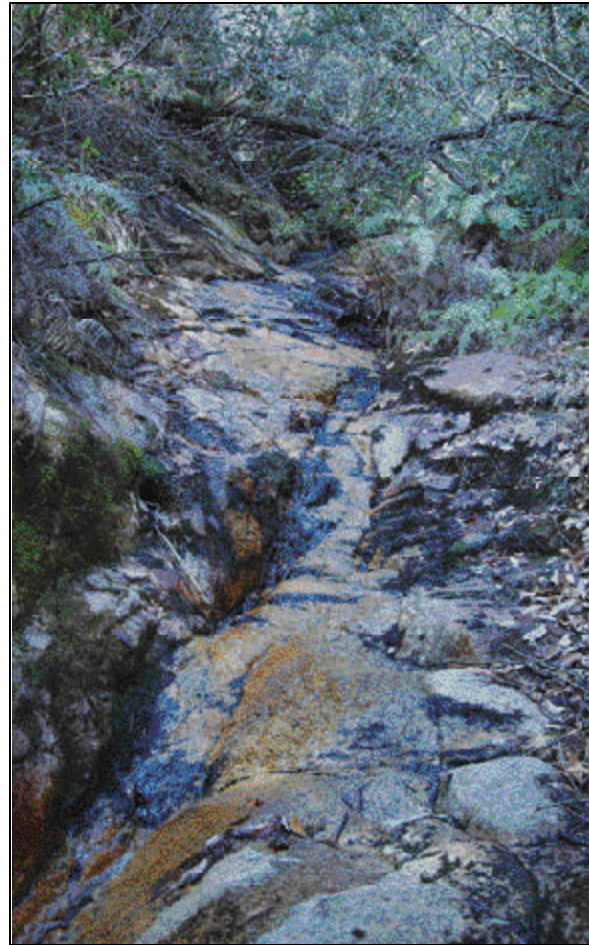
"They (Marines) need to understand that no one wins or comes out on top after suicide; no one ben-

efits," said Sergeant Maj. David M. Allison, Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni sergeant major. "If you kill yourself because you're overwhelmed with problems, all you are doing is passing your burden on to someone else. They (Marines) need to know that if they need help they need to ask, it's that simple."

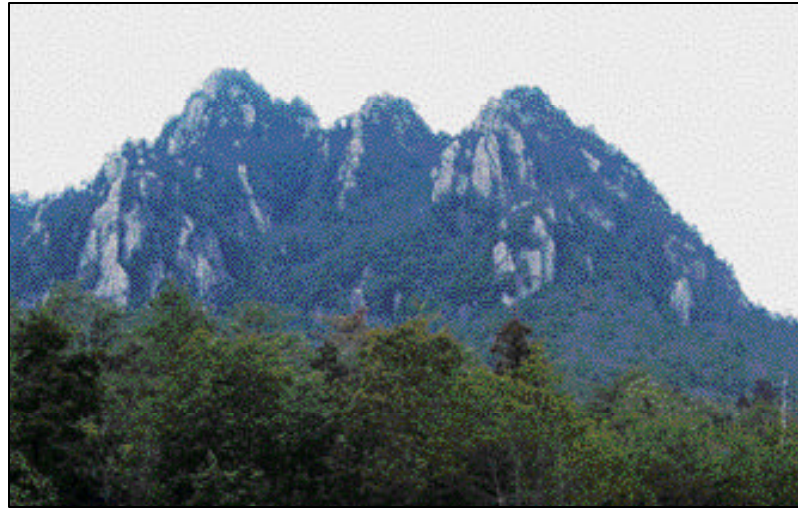
Due to the increase in suicides the Marines have launched an "operational stress control and readiness

program" that embeds health professionals among Marine divisions in Iraq. A prevention tool is also being developed for commanders called "a leaders guide for managing Marines under stress," to be issued early this year.

If anyone is showing signs of suicide contact Urgent Care at the Branch Health Clinic at 253-5571/5572 or Counseling Services Branch manager at 253-4526.



One of many streams that run through Three Peaks trickles down a rock face of Mt. Mikura. Semper Fit Outdoor Recreation took a group of 10 Station residents to Three Peaks Park, March 12.



ABOVE: Mt. Mikura, more popularly known to Station residents as Three Peaks, stands 702 meters above sea level and is located at the northern limit of Otake City. BELOW: Pfc. Kendra Kimble takes in the view from atop Mt. Mikura during a Semper Fit Outdoor Recreation trip to Three Peaks Park, March 12.



STORY AND PHOTOS BY  
LANCE Cpl. LUKAS J. BLOM  
*Combat Correspondent*

Seemingly on the top of the world, 10 Station residents enjoyed the view from atop Mt. Mikura during a Marine Corps Community Services Outdoor Recreation trip to Three Peaks Park, March 12.

Surrounded by lush green flora and numerous streams meandering throughout the mountainsides, Mt. Mikura, better known as Three Peaks to Station residents, is an exciting and beautiful adventure for all Station residents seeking a short vacation in nature.

Mt. Mikura is a granite mountain,

which lies at the northern limit of Otake city, 702 meters above sea level and a mere 30 minute drive from the main gate of the Station. The mountain has three different summits which sprout from the ground like knuckles of a fist: Asahidake, Nakadake and Yuhidake.

The granite rock changes with each season to reveal new beauty, especially with fresh green leaves in spring and red, golden, and bright yellow foliage in the fall. The landscape makes it an ideal site for rock climbing or just taking a relaxing hike through its many trails. There is also a camping site in the forest at the foot of the mountain.

The numerous trails offer different levels of hiking difficulty from a stair-

stepped trail to a steep rugged path that takes a more direct route to the top.

"The hike up was somewhat challenging, but everyone made it up to the top without problems," said Phillip Beal, MCCS Semper Fit Outdoor Recreation coordinator. "The hike is half the fun."

Whether looking for a physically challenging hike or just out to enjoy nature's beauty, all the hikers took their time to enjoy the awe inspiring view from the summit of the highest peak.

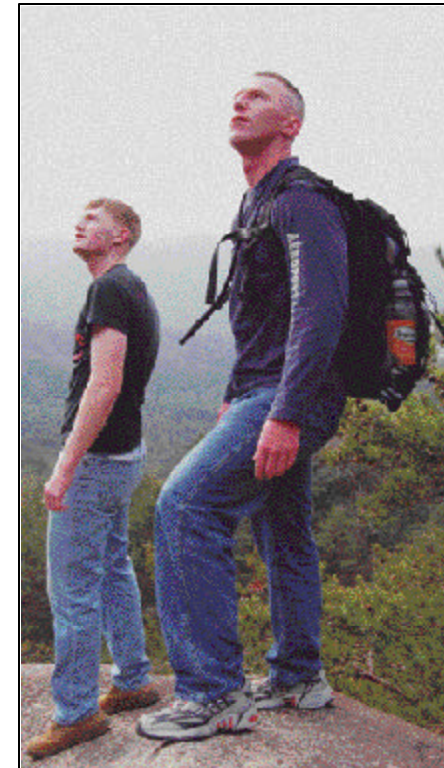
"Once we got up to the top of the mountain the view was amazing," said Beal. "It's a beautiful hike up, and you can't beat the view from that high when you finally get to the top."

After taking all their photos and soaking up the view from the top of Mt. Mikura, the group of 10 began their descent.

"Coming down was quite a bit easier, but you had to be sure of your footing so you didn't twist an ankle or fall," said Beal.

Once at the bottom of the towering three peaks, the hikers stood with shaky legs and admired the beauty of the massive rock from the bottom, a half a mile lower than they were just hours before.

"This was a great trip," said Beal. "Not only do you get a chance to see another part of Japan, but you also get to enjoy being outside and hiking around some pretty incredible land."



ABOVE: Lance Cpl. James D. Darville rappels down one of the many faces of Mt. Mikura while Lance Cpl. Carl Rice watches from the bottom for safety reasons during a Semper Fit trip to Three Peaks. LEFT: Lance Cpl.'s Carl Rice and James D. Darville stand at the half way point of Mt. Mikura and gaze up to the summit of the mountain more popularly known to Station residents as Three Peaks. FAR LEFT: A water wheel outside of the entrance to the mountain churns water while the late winter snow falls.

# Crusaders adopt Japanese school, build friendships

**STORY AND PHOTOS BY**  
**CAPT. ROY NICKA**  
VMFA-122 Powerline Officer

The United States' diplomatic relationship with Japan is undoubtedly one of its most important political bonds and is essential to its national security.

U.S. forces forward deployed to Japanese ports, bases and air stations are the heart of the Pacific Theatre, and during these tumultuous times provide an immediate response to any threat in the Far East. Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 122 is doing their part to foster that relationship by adopting a preschool near here.

Recently, five Crusader Marines accompanied the Marine Aircraft Group 12 chaplain, Lt. Cmdr. Brent D. Johnson, to Asahi School in Iwakuni for an initial visit. The purpose of this trip was to meet with school administrators and arrange future visits. The Marines were also able to meet with the children.

In Japan, children begin learning English at age four. Asahi School had arranged a program to show off the children's bilingual speaking skills. The program included a medley of English and Japanese children's songs.

The presentation concluded with the children wishing happy birthday to all the students who had

birthdays in February. Johnson and Crusader intelligence chief, Staff Sgt. Peter A. Surck, joined the February birthday honorees.

After the show, the Marines split up and got to meet the children in small groups. This opportunity to meet Americans thrilled the children.

The children were very enthusiastic and excited to talk to the Marines. Each one wanted to try their newfound language skills.

At first, communicating with the children was difficult for the Marines, but according to Crusader



**ABOVE: Staff Sgt. Peter Surck (left) and Lt. Cmdr. Brent Johnson play a game with children during a recent visit to the Asahi School in Iwakuni. Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 122 has adopted the school and is planning future trips there. BELOW: Lance Cpl. Chris Garrity gets down to the children's level during the Crusaders' visit to the school. Garrity said he learned more from the children than they learned from him.**



**Staff Sgt. Peter Surck gets bombarded by children at the Asahi School in Iwakuni. Surck is part of a group from VMFA-122, who made their first visit to the school after signing up for the adopt-a-school program run by the Station Chapel's Office. The Crusaders are planning more trips to the school for all the Marines in the squadron.**

Lance Cpl. Jennifer Natesomez, "Turning into a kid again made the language barrier take a back door."

The Crusaders weren't the only teachers though. The Marines learned some Japanese expressions in turn from the children such as greetings, and common questions such as "What is your name?"

"I believe I learned more from the kids than they learned from me," said Lance Cpl. Chris Garrity, VMFA-121 operations clerk.

The learning isn't over for the kids or the Marines. Crusaders



plan on visiting Asahi School at least once a month. More VMFA-122 Marines will go on these visits. Future plans include working more with the children in small groups and doing service projects around the school grounds.

At the lowest levels, the Crusaders are ensuring a continuing friendship with Japan.

## OUT THE GATE

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

### Otake City 50th Anniversary Events

The events will be held March 27 in Otake City. Kamei Castle Festival will take place at the Kamei Park, near You Me Town Otake, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Visitors can enjoy a Japanese drum performance. A flea market and Otake Sunday market are scheduled 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at

the Otake City Hall parking lot. Dance, band, Japanese drum and Kagura performance will be held on a stage in the parking lot at the same time. A fire engine and a crane truck will be displayed. The events will not be cancelled in case of rain. Call 53-5800 for more information.

### Flea Market

There will be a flea market at Asa Zoo in Hiroshima City Sunday and Monday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. The zoo is open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. It will be cancelled in case of rain. An admission is required in order to enter the zoo. Call 082-838-1111 for details.

### Hina Dolls Display

Visitors can view Hina dolls display at 22 houses along the White Wall Street and the Retro Street, Yanai City now through March 31. For further information, call 0820-22-8077.

### Kiyomori Shrine Festival

A ceremony is scheduled at Kiyomori Shrine on Miyajima island Sunday, 11-11:15 a.m. Visitors can enjoy a Bugaku performance, Japanese court dance and music, at the Itsukushima Shrine Sunday, 11:30 a.m. Call 0829-44-2020 for more 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**  
\$2,800 obo. Call George Jacoby at 090-3175-7317 or 0829-32-6677 aw. **Nissan Largo**, 1993, van, diesel, CD player, good condition, JCI until Feb. 2007, \$2,200 obo. Call Lt. Pedden at 253-4319 dwh or 253-2634 aw. **Nissan Skyline GTS-T**, 1993, A/C, AM/FM/CD/MD, P/W, P/S, JCI until Jan. 2007, \$2,700. Call Sandman at 253-2540.

**Nissan Rasheen**, 1995, 4 cylinder, new spare tire, sunroof, JCI until Nov. 2006, \$3,500. Call George Jacoby at 090-3175-7317 or 0829-32-6677 aw. **Toyota Celica**, 1994, A/C, CD player, JCI until July 2006, \$2,000. Call Lt. Cmdr. Garland at 253-3419 dwh or 253-2132 aw.

**Isuzu Mu 4x4**, 1991, 2,800cc, 37,000km, diesel engine, great running truck, JCI until Aug. 2005. **Suzuki Bandit 400 GSF**, 1994, good condition, new tank paint, recent carb work done, \$800 obo. Call

Lt. Pedden at 253-4319 dwh or 253-2634 aw.

**Harley Davidson Ultra Glide Classic**, 1988, many extras, JCI until April 2005, \$7,500 obo. Call Sean or Jolyn at 253-5549 dwh or 253-2291 aw.

### OTHER ITEMS

**Misc.**, love seat and couch, great condition; Japanese wooden antique furniture. Call Cynthia at 253-2778.

**Misc.**, uniquely designed Korean desk with curved

shape and intricate hardware, wood desk breaks down into three pieces for easy transport, foot rest to match desk included. Call Kelly at 253-2745.

**Misc.**, Sony 61" Real Projection TV, excellent condition, model #KP61V85, a few years old, manuals, remote, packing box, \$1,100 obo. Call Jon at 253-2511.

**Misc.**, baby swing, Fisher-Price, \$60; carpet, burgundy red, 9x12, \$30; stroller, \$20; sports stroller, \$40; Winnie the Pooh crib mobile, \$10. Call Irina Stocker at 253-2275.

### JOB OPENINGS

**Dental Clinic**  
A temporary contract chairside dental technician position is open. Call DTC Olaes at 253-5252 for information or application.

**CHRO**  
English instructors are needed. For details, call Keiko Hironaka at 253-4344 or send e-mail to hironakak.jp@iwakuni.usmc.mil.

**CHRO (253-6828)**  
Go to www.iwakuni.usmc.mil/HRO/default.htm for a complete job listing. Contact CHRO, Building 1, room 104 for details.

**MCCS (253-3030)**  
Go to www.mccsiwakuni.com for a complete job listing.

## The Last Supper



Laura Coates

**On March 24 at 7 p.m., the Station Chapel will present the powerful re-creation of the famous painting by Leonardo da Vinci; The Last Supper. Leonardo chose what he considered to be the most dramatic moment of The Last Supper, that moment just after Jesus said, "One of you will betray me." In this dramatization, the 12 apostles speak their minds to themselves, to each other and to their Lord, in light of the tragic words they just heard. There will be a second showing of the performance on the Commander's Channel, Ch. 5 at 4 p.m. on Easter Sunday.**

## MOVIE SCHEDULE SAKURA THEATER

**FRIDAY** - 7 p.m. Are We There Yet? (PG); 10 p.m. Closer (R)  
**SATURDAY** - 1 p.m. Racing Stripes (PG); 4 p.m. Elektra (PG-13); 7 p.m.; Are We There Yet? (PG); 10 p.m. In Good Company (PG-13)  
**SUNDAY** - 4 p.m. Elektra (PG-13); 7 p.m. In Good Company (PG-13)  
**MONDAY** - 7 p.m. M.C. Perry High School Band Spring Concert  
**TUESDAY** - 7 p.m. Closer (R)  
**WEDNESDAY** - 7 p.m. White Noise (PG-13)  
**THURSDAY** - 7 p.m. Are We There Yet? (PG)  
This schedule is submitted by the Sakura Theater and is subject to change. For show times call the Sakura Theater at 253-5291.

## MCTV CHANNEL 19

**FRIDAY** - 11 a.m./5 p.m. Grease (PG); 2 p.m./8 p.m. My

Boss's Daughter (PG-13); 11 p.m./5 a.m. Thelma And Louise (R); 2 a.m. Nat'l Lampoons Van Wilder (R)  
**SATURDAY** - 11 a.m./5 p.m. The Hunchback Of Notrre Dame (G); 2 p.m./8 p.m. Garden State (PG-13); 11 p.m./5 a.m. 40 Days 40 Nights (R); 2 a.m. Matrix Revolutions (R)  
**SUNDAY** - 11 a.m./5 p.m. Shark Tale (PG); 2 p.m./8 p.m. I, Robot (PG-13); 11 p.m./5 a.m. Daredevil (PG-13); 2 a.m. Minority Report (PG-13)  
**MONDAY** - 11 a.m./5 p.m. Miracle (PG); 2 p.m./8 p.m. Taxi (PG-13); 11 p.m./5 a.m. I Heart Huckabees (R); 2 a.m. Lost In Translation (R)  
**TUESDAY** - 11 a.m./5 p.m. Jersey Girl (PG); 2 p.m./8 p.m. The Village (PG-13); 11 p.m./5 a.m. Passion Of The Christ (R); 2 a.m. Say It Isn't So (R)  
**WEDNESDAY** - 11 a.m./5 p.m. Field Of Dreams (PG); 2 p.m./8 p.m. Pearl Harbor (PG-13); 11 p.m./5 a.m. Wicker Park (PG-13); 2 a.m. An Officer And A Gentleman (R)  
**THURSDAY** - 11 a.m./5 p.m. Princess Diaries 2 (PG); 2 p.m./8 p.m. Zoolander (PG-13); 11 p.m./5 a.m. S.W.A.T. (PG-13); 2 a.m. Gothika (R)

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS CHRO

**CHRO Training**  
■ **Supervisor's Role in Human Resources Management:** April 11-14, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
■ **Ethics/Privacy Act/POSH:** April 20, 9-11:30 a.m.  
For more information and nominations, call 253-6828 or send e-mail to shiomuram.jp@iwakuni.usmc.mil. Classes will be held at CHRO training room. Building one, Room 102.

### MCCS

**Club Iwakuni**  
Lunch buffet menus are available at www.mccsiwakuni.com

■ **Armed Forces Entertainment presents Viki Nova (Rock 'n' Roll from Washington, D.C.):** Tuesday and Wednesday, 9 p.m. in the Ballroom.  
■ **2nd Annual International Women's Day Celebration:** March 29, 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Event includes keynote address by Cmdr. Rachel Haltner, parade of nations, Ikebana demonstration, kimono-wearing demonstration, Latin dancing, clogging and more. Wear any international costumes you may have to the event. Continental breakfast will be provided. Call 253-4526 to sign-up. Limited childcare is available.

**Single Marine Program (253-3585)**

■ **Halo 2 Tournament:** Saturday, 6 p.m. Winner takes all. No entry fee. Sign-up.

**Youth & Teen Center (253-6454)**

■ **SMART Girls Meeting:** Teenage girls meet Saturday, 3-5 p.m. Come on over for free food and fun.  
■ **Job Ready Sessions:** Wednesday, Unit 8 "Demonstrating Positive Attitude and Behavior"

**Teaching English Tips**

Thursday, 9-10:30 a.m. Call 253-6439 for details.

### OTHER

**Japanese Language Classes for Spring 2005**  
The Yamaguchi International Exchange Association is sponsoring Japanese language courses for foreigners. The courses last for three months. For more information, call the Public Affairs Office, Yukie Wada at 253-5344 or e-mail to waday.jp@iwakuni.usmc.mil

**Iwakuni Nurses Network**

All nurses on the Station are invited to meet for an informal lunch the fourth Wednesday of every month, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the Club Iwakuni Ballroom to socialize and review a professional article. For March only, they will meet March 30. Call Jeannette at 253-3213 for details.

**Child Developmental Screens**

All children ages 4-36 months are invited to have a 20-minute developmental screening to assess communication, gross motor, fine motor, social and problem-solving skills. Call Educational and Developmental Intervention Services at 253-4562 for an appointment or more details.

**AAS Spring Fling '05 Dance**

African American Society Spring Fling '05 Dance will be held March 19, 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. at Club Iwakuni ballroom A. Tickets are available through any AAS member. Call AAS president, Linda Hayes at 253-5019 or 253-7974 for more information.

**Culture Festival**

There will be a festival for all at the Matthew C. Perry School cafeteria March 26, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. This event includes free Yakisoba and entertainment. For more information or to volunteer, call the Japanese American Society Office at 253-4771 or e-mail to jasiwakuni@mx5.tiki.ne.jp or stop by Building 261.

# Nihongo de...

## 海兵隊員の自殺率が 29 パーセント上昇

### 海兵隊員の自殺率が 29 パーセント上昇

昨年、米海兵隊員の自殺率が 29 パーセント上昇し、過去 10 年以上の間で最悪の数字となった。

2003 年は 24 名、2004 年は 31 名の海兵隊員が自殺したが、全員、下士官の男性隊員であった。米海兵隊の統計資料によると、自殺者は 25 歳以下、銃による自殺が多数を占めるという。

「自殺をしようとする（未遂・既遂共に）人を 100 パーセント正確に予測することは不可能だが、自殺の危険性を増加させる要因は多い。」と、MCCS ファミリーサービス、カウンセリングセンターの ベス・デイビス心理士は話す。「例えば、精神的疾患歴（特に気分障害）、薬物使用やアルコール依存、生活上のストレス増加（入隊関係問題や職場でのストレス）、絶望感、自殺の家族歴、衝動的あるいは反動的な性格などがある。調査によると、女性の場合未遂に終わることが多いが、男性の場合、かなりの確立で既遂に到る。」とデイビス心理士は付け加えた。「自殺をしてしまった人に共通する要因は絶望感である。人はしばしば自分の状況を耐えられない、あるいは変えられないものとしてみる可能性があるが、自殺は一時的な問題を解決するための恒久的な方法だということを確認すべきだ。」

昨年 12 月 13 日、米海兵隊司令、マイケル・W・ヘギー大尉は、最悪の自殺率の理由について自身の考えを述べた。

「この問題はテロに対する世界規模の戦争に従事した者だけでなく、海兵隊全体に蔓延し、隊員に影響を与えている。」とヘギー大尉はメモの中で述べた。「我々海兵隊が行っている軍事行動が早い速さで増加しているため、人間関係、経済的、規律上などの問題に起因する圧倒的なストレスを処理する海兵隊員の能力が影響を受けているのではないかと思う。」

一般に、海兵隊は米軍全体の中でも最も高い自殺率を出してきており、過去四年間におきた自殺の約 7 割が、個人的な人間関係に起因している。

自殺する多くの海兵隊員が「明らかな自殺の兆候を示しているものの、兆候を表さない海兵隊員もまた多くいる。自殺を考えている人は、このようなことで助けを求めるとは不名誉だと感じることもあるようだ。」

「彼らは助けを求めたことを好ましくないと感じている場合がある。なぜなら、彼らは部下、同僚、指導者達の目に「弱い」または「欠陥がある」人物と映るのが嫌だからだ。」とヘギー大尉は記している。

「司令官達は、自殺に繋がるかもしれない個別のストレス要因を海兵隊員が安心して明らかにできるよう、もっと努力する必要がある。」と大尉は補足している。

司令官の努力と同時に、自殺を考えている隊員もまた、自殺を考えるのをやめ、自分の命について考え直さなくてはならない。

「自殺を考えている隊員は、自分が自殺しても、誰も勝利したり成功したりしない、つまり誰のためにもならないということを理解しなければならない。」と岩国基地、デイビッド・H・アリソン先任上級曹長は話す。「もし抱えている問題に圧倒されて自殺したら、それは自分の重荷をだれか他人に押し付けるのと同じだ。助けが必要なら求めなければならないことを知るべきだ。これはとても簡単なこと。」

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# CHAPEL RELIGIOUS SERVICES FOR HOLY WEEK, MARCH 20-27, 2005

## Palm Sunday, March 20

- 8:45 a.m. Roman Catholic Mass
- 10:15 a.m. Non-Denominational
- 11:45 a.m. Gospel Service

## Monday, March 21

- 6 p.m. Lenten Penance Service (Confessions)

## Thursday, March 24

- 5:30 p.m. Holy Thursday Mass
- 7 p.m. Living Dramatization of Leonardo da Vinci's, "The Last Supper"

## Good Friday, March 25

- 5:30 p.m. Catholic Service
- 7 p.m. Gospel Service

## Saturday, March 26

- 7 p.m. Easter Vigil Mass

## Easter Sunday, March 27

- 5:45 a.m. Sunrise Service at the Minato Club
- 8:45 a.m. Roman Catholic Mass
- 10:15 a.m. Non-Denominational Service
- 11:45 a.m. Gospel Service

All hands are welcome.

To confirm current schedule of services at the Marine Memorial Chapel, call 253-3371.

# Youth Sports playing for points, prizes

LANCE CPT. CRISTIN K. BARTTER  
Combat Correspondent

Marine Corps Community Services Youth Sports is initiating a motivational program. Have a Blast with Youth Sports, for Station children ages 4 to 15.

Children can pick up the Have a Blast with Youth Sports booklet at the Youth Sports desk at IronWorks Gym and start involving themselves in sporting events, team sports and individual recreation. Each activity is worth a certain amount of points. Prizes are earned when they total their points together.

“Youth Sports should offer an incentive program to reward children for their dedication to team sports and to entice them to exercise rather than play video games because exercise is so much more beneficial,” said Jamie Buning, Youth Sports Coordinator. “The program encourages teamwork, as well as individual commitment and promotes children’s interest to participate in new and different sporting activities.”

Station parents share the same enthusiasm of the Have a Blast with Youth Sports program. “Any program, like it (Have a Blast with Youth Sports) is beneficial to give kids ideas of fun things to do,” said Gunnery Sgt. Rogernal L. Johnson, Marine Wing Support Squadron 171, maintenance chief. “I think it is a positive program for the kids.”

Not only do the parents understand the programs valuable qualities, the kids understand its importance too – the prizes. “I think the program is a great idea!” said Darius J. Johnson, 11, Rogernal’s son and active basketball, soccer and football player. “It shows kids that they can have fun playing games and they get the chance to win prizes!”

Each activity is worth a different amount of points; team soccer practice is worth 10 points, a baseball game is worth 15 points, bike riding for at least 30 minutes is worth 10 points, etc. The booklet has a variety of sports and activities that can interest all Station children.

Once an activity or sport is accomplished, the child must fill out a line in the booklet that requires the date, activity, total minutes, points and initials from a parent or coach. Prizes are awarded to children who reach 100, 150, 200, 250, 300 and 375 points. The prizes vary from frisbees, water bottles, jersey’s or duffel bags and a \$10 off coupon for any youth sports registration fee.

For more information on Have a Blast with Youth Sports contact MCCS Youth Sports at 253-3239.



Lance Cpl. Cristin K. Bartter

TOP: Children on the Bulls intramural youth basketball league team await instructions from their coach before a game recently. With the incentive program, kids are awarded prizes for participating in the sports they love. BELOW: Dolphin’s quarterback, Freddie Jones Jr., dodges past Mike Marshal and Cody Flick, to score the game’s first touchdown for his team. Youth Sports offers children a variety of sporting activities to choose from for points.



# IWAKUNI SPORTS SCENE

## INTRAMURAL VOLLEYBALL

Coaches meet Tuesday, 9:30 a.m. in the IronWorks Gym Wellness Room. Season begins March 28. For further details, call 253-5777.

## FAMILY APPRECIATION BOWLING DAYS

Saturday, 1-5 p.m. All games cost \$.75 Call 253-4657 for details.

## INVITATIONAL RACQUETBALL TOURNAMENT

The tournament is Saturday, 9 a.m. at the IronWorks Gym. For details, call 253-5777.

## TEAM SCRAMBLE GOLF TOURNAMENT

The Australian Travel Club is holding a team scramble golf tournament at Torii Pines Golf Course March 25, at 12 p.m. There is a \$20 entry fee and prizes for first, second and third place teams. Call 253-3402 for details.

## VARSITY SOFTBALL

Tryouts are Sunday and March 27, 3 p.m. and March 31, 6 p.m. at the Parade Deck. Call 253-5777 for more information.

## YOUTH BASEBALL

Registration is open today for \$30. Sign-up at the IronWorks Gym front desk. Late registration, Saturday to April 2, will cost \$40. Evaluations for ages 10-12 years old are held March 26, 9:30 a.m. at the Monzen Field. Call 253-3239 for details.

## PERSONAL TRAINING WORKSHOP

April 1-3. Class takes place in the IronWorks Gym Wellness Room April 1, 5:30-7:30 p.m., April 2, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., and April 3, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sign-up before March 25 for \$75 at the IronWorks Gym front desk. Call 253-5051 for more information.

# Mess Hall Lunch Menus

## Week Of March 21-25

**Monday** – Cream of Mushroom Soup, Creole Soup, Sauerbraten, Hot and Spicy Chicken, Fried Rice, Oven Glo Potatoes, Fried Zucchini, Pinto Beans  
**Tuesday** – Cream of Potatoe Soup, Chicken Noodle Soup, Baked Halibut Fish, BBQ Beef Cube, Wild

Rice, Buttered Pasta, Lima Beans, Creole Squash  
**Wednesday** – Cream of Broccoli Soup, Vegetable Soup, Breaded Pork Chops, Pepper Steak, Oven Glo Potatoes, Glazed Carrots, Brown Gravy, Club Spinach  
**Thursday** – Minestrone Soup, Cream of Chicken Soup, Creole Macaroni, Crab Cakes, Fettuccini with

Alfredo Sauce, Grilled Cheese Sandwich, Tempura Vegetables, Peas and Carrots  
**Friday** – Clam Chowder Soup, Minestrone Soup, Braised Beef and Noodles, Baked Fish, Mashed Potatoes, Fried Cabbage, Mixed Vegetables, Chicken Gravy



# M. C. Perry School Lunch Menus

## Week Of March 21-25

**Monday** – Soft Shell Taco with Cheese, Lettuce & Tomato, Spanish Rice, Chilled Peaches, Rice Krispie Treat, Milk  
**Tuesday** – Sloppy Joe on a Bun, Tomato, Cucumber and Onion, Curly Fries, Seasoned Green Beans, Chilled Fruit Cocktail, Milk

**Wednesday** – Fish Sticks, Tater Tots, Dinner Roll, Seasoned Green Beans, Chocolate Cake, Milk  
**Thursday** – Nachos Supreme, Lettuce and Tomato, Spanish Rice, Chilled Peaches, Chocolate Cake, Milk  
**Friday** – No School

# Warhawks take down GOAT for championship

*Navy ballers knock out Marines in final game before departing Iwakuni*

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During a heated contest at the IronWorks Gym basketball court, the Warhawks overpowered the Greatest Of All Time (G.O.A.T.) 55-39 to take the intramural basketball league championship, March 8.

The game, hailed as a classic Marines vs. Navy battle, lived up to its hype with the Navy's Warhawks frustrating the Marines G.O.A.T. with relentless defense and a quick strike offense.

Before the game promised his team began, G.O.A.T. point guard Reco Alexander would come out running the floor hard.

"They are Navy so I don't think they will be able to keep up with us," he said confidently.

This bit of wisdom backfired right from the start as the Warhawks, led by point guard Carl Wright, blazed up and down the court en route to a quick 8-2 run in the first quarter.

G.O.A.T. small forward Lee Woodbridge tried to slow down the Warhawks momentum with a pair of quick layups, but the score stood at 19-9 with 6:49 left to play in the half and the Warhawks pulling away early. Behind their heckling supporters in the stands, the Warhawks' swarm-offense kept the G.O.A.T. at bay and the first half ended with the score 25-16.

"We wanted to come out aggressive, force them to make turnovers, which would create easy baskets for us," said Wright.

The second half began as if the teams switched beroles and the G.O.A.T. was the team on a mission. Woodbridge leading the way, G.O.A.T. jumped out to an 8-0 run, cutting the lead to 25-24 with 12:49 left to play. As soon as the momentum began to shift, the Warhawks finally woke up from the short break at halftime, with power forward Charles Ealy hitting a deep three pointer followed by a short jumper, sending the G.O.A.T. scrambling to answer back.

"We came out here to play our game," Ealy said before the game. "Everyone said we need to worry about them, but they needed to worry about us."

After a poor shooting first half, both teams began to pour it on in the second. The G.O.A.T. came as close to the Warhawks five points before Michael Norwood breaking three the game away for shooting guard drilled a heart-pointer, putting the game away for maining minutes good. In the second and the out-fouling began on tempers flaring. As the clock ran out, Warhawks proved who the best team on the floor was this year.

"Our squadron (Navy Fighter Attack Squadron 97) is part of the Unit Deployment Program and we didn't want to leave here with a loss," said Wright, who finished the game with 15 points. "They were a great team, but we just wanted it more this time. That's just how our team is. We work hard and we play hard both on and off the court."

Although his team suffered the loss, Woodbridge led all scorers with 18, but his performance wasn't enough to give his team the championship.

"I think we should have won, but we didn't have a few key guys out there," he said. "In the second half we started coming back, but then they started hitting a couple of three pointers and we just couldn't recover. They were the better team tonight."



Photos by Lance Cpl. Cristin K. Barter

Greatest Of All Time small forward Lee Woodbridge, goes up strong to the basket en route to his 18 points in the game. Woodbridge led all scorers in the game, but it was not enough to overcome the Warhawks' defense.



The Warhawks come together for one last cheer after their 55-39 victory over the G.O.A.T. in the intramural basketball championship game, March 8.