

# CPO LOVETT IS NAVY MAN TO THE END

Story and photos by Blair Martin

Contributing Writer

A scattering of ashes ceremony was held for 78-year-old Pearl Harbor survivor and former Chief Petty Officer James "Buck" Lovett on July 28 at the USS Utah Memorial on Ford Island.

Lovett, who died on Feb. 18, 2000, was a 20-year-old gunner's mate aboard USS Maryland (BB-46) during the time of the 1941 Pearl Harbor attacks.

Lovett's ashes were scattered in Pearl Harbor during a ceremony that included full military honors, provided by Navy Region Hawaii ceremonial guard and Pacific Fleet Band musicians, and a short religious service. Lovett's son Wayne and his wife, Laurie, were in attendance. Numerous Sailors from various com-

mands were also at the ceremony to pay their respects to the former Navy chief.

For Wayne, the ceremony was especially emotional because it came 10 years after his father's death in 2000.

"To be honest, I did not know how I was going to approach this day," he said after the ceremony. "We went hiking all day in Hilo yesterday because we thought if we were tired and numb, [this] would not hurt so bad. But I couldn't even make it out of the car without bawling like a baby. It is such a blessing that he is [finally] back here in [Pearl Harbor]," he added tearfully.

"Buck" Lovett was born on April 11, 1921 in Amarillo, Texas. His father was a miner, cowboy and mechanic by trade and dabbled in numerous odd jobs throughout the years. In 1937, he and his father

started building a gas station and restaurant along Texas Highway 138, a project that took them three years to complete. According to Wayne, his father's gas station is still in its original form and in use today.

Lovett enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1939 and was immediately sent to boot camp in San Diego, Calif. and then assigned to serve aboard USS Maryland as a gunner's mate.

On Dec. 7, 1941, Lovett was aboard USS Maryland during the initial wave of Japanese aircraft attacks on Pearl Harbor. His ship was moored inboard of the USS Oklahoma, which took the brunt of enemy fire, eventually rolling over and killing more than 400 Sailors.

According to Lovett's son, his father said that had it not been for the USS Oklahoma, he probably would not have survived that day.

"My dad did not talk a lot about that day because it was such a traumatic experience," he said. "Every now and then something would slip out. I remember him telling me that none of the Sailors expected to live [through] that day or through the rest of the war. I think that is why he decided to volunteer for submarine duty," he added.

After the attack on Pearl Harbor, Lovett volunteered to serve on two submarines, USS Paddle (SS-263) and USS Cavalla (SS-244), where he was eventually promoted to chief petty officer and designated "chief of the boat" (COB), the highest possible position for an enlisted man on any ship.

"Dad's motto was always 'one hand for myself and one hand for the ship,'" said Lovett's son, Wayne. "It hurt him a lot that he wasn't able to save some of the ships at Pearl Harbor. There was always a strong sense of duty to take care of a n y

[Navy vessel] he was aboard."

In 1944, Lovett contracted tuberculosis and was sent to a hospital in Perth, Australia. In 1946, he was honorably discharged from the U.S. Navy and moved to San Francisco to join his wife, Evelyn, and raise their three children. After separating from the Navy, he worked as a truck driver and then as an operating engineer before retiring in 1986.

His brief but accomplished naval career inspired a whole generation of Lovetts to serve in the military.

His oldest son, Wayne, is a Vietnam veteran who served aboard USS Contz (DLG9) from 1967 to 1968. His younger son, James, is a Navy veteran who served in the submarine service. Wayne's oldest son continues the military heritage as a gunnery sergeant in the U.S. Marine Corps.

"He raised us the Navy way," said Wayne. "When

he gave an order, we responded because he was the 'captain of the ship.' He was a very tough individual and could be hard as nails, but inside was a heart of gold. When someone was in need, he would always be the first to help."

For the final three years of his father's life, Wayne and Laurie, cared for Lovett at their home in California. Laurie remembers Lovett as a man who epitomized naval tradition.

"He always had a great love and respect for the sea," she recalled. "He would say that 'one minute the water can be very calm, then in a flash a storm can roll in and knock you off your socks.' He viewed the sea much how he viewed his own life."

For Lovett's family, having the calm waters of Pearl Harbor serve as his final resting place signifies the fulfilling of a final promise between son and father as well as a lasting tribute to the family's patriarch, an eternal Navy man at heart.





# Paul Hamilton out-slugs Bonhomme Richard for title

**Story and photos by Randy Dela Cruz**

*Contributing Writer*

USS Paul Hamilton (DDG 60) couldn't participate in the first 2010 Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) softball tournament, but the ship more than made up for its absence by defeating USS Bonhomme Richard (LHD 6), 14-11, to capture the crown in RIMPAC's second softball series at Millican Field, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, on Aug. 1.

In winning the title, Paul Hamilton quickly broke out in front with a five-run first inning, but had to rally late in the game to overtake Bonhomme Richard for the championship.

Electronics Technician 1st Class Ed Drury of Paul Hamilton was one of the team's

hitting stars, as he spanked a two-run single in the first inning and a two-run triple that regained the lead in the bottom of the sixth inning.

"You got to put pressure on your opponent," said Drury about his two timely hits. "In those moments, you got to come up clutch. We knew that they were going to hit, but we were going to hit, too."

Drury's single in the first came with two outs and opened the door for Paul Hamilton to score two more times to take a 5-1 lead after one inning of play.

Aviation Boatswain's Mate (Handling) Airman Derek Baker of Bonhomme Richard blasted a leadoff inside-the-park homer to cut the lead by one, but Paul Hamilton answered with a run of its own in the bottom of the frame to maintain its four-run lead.

After both teams failed to

score in the third, Bonhomme Richard rallied in the fourth to score two runs and had men on first and second with no outs.

However, Chief Boatswain's Mate Terrance Mayweather, pitcher for Paul Hamilton, settled down and put out the fire by retiring the next three hitters in a row without giving up any more runs.

While Mayweather was able to dodge the bullet in the fourth, his luck ran out in the top of the fifth as Bonhomme Richard marched 10 batters to the plate and scored five runs on four hits, one walk and two errors to gain a 9-7 lead.

Paul Hamilton came back in the bottom of the inning to tie the score at 9-9, but Baker helped Bonhomme Richard go back on top, when he delivered his second inside-the-park home run of the game – a two-run shot that catapulted his team to an 11-9 advantage.

"When I hit for softball, I just kind of look for where the defense is playing," said Baker about his solid day at the plate, which also included a single. "I just try to put it where the holes are."

With its back up against the wall, Paul Hamilton had one out and one man on, when Boatswain's Mate Seaman Charles Schwarz came up to the plate in the bottom of the sixth inning.

Schwarz launched a towering drive that appeared headed to be caught for the second out, but the ball got past the Bonhomme Richard's right fielder and rolled all the way to the fence. Both runners for Paul Hamilton scored to even out the game at 11-11.

"I said that if I got an outside pitch, I would take it to right field," Schwarz said. "The outfielder played it dead wrong."

Following Schwarz's bases-clearing jack, hits by Boatswain's Mate 2nd Class Arthur Saldana and Mayweather put runners on second and third, before Drury came up with his second clutch hit of the day, which put Paul Hamilton up for good.

Besides winning the championship, Drury said that the victory was especially sweet after the way Bonhomme Richard hammered down on one of its opponents from the previous round.

"Yesterday, this team (Bonhomme Richard) was doing a lot of trash talking against a team that wasn't at the same skill level as them," Drury pointed out. "A lot of us were watching that and said, 'Let's put it right to them.' It's all part of the game. We're big boys so we can handle the trash talking. It's good for the competition."

# Ronald Reagan packs rim to beat Lake Erie

Story and photos by  
Randy Dela Cruz

Contributing Writer

USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76) didn't have things as easy as when they blitzed USS Reuben James (FFG 57), 46-25, to win the first basketball tournament of the 2010 Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) games on July 2.

However, the team did just enough to defeat USS Lake Erie (CG 70), 37-32, in the finals of RIMPAC's second hoops tourney at Bloch Arena, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, on Aug. 1.

"The Reagan has high expectations," said backcourt player Yeoman 3rd Class Willie Campbell of Ronald Reagan. "So to win back-to-back (tournaments), that's what the Reagan is expected to do."

While the Reagan entered their second title showdown with full intentions of gaining a clean sweep of RIMPAC's dual basketball tournaments, the defending champs almost saw their dream go down the drain as Lake Erie staged a serious comeback late in the second half.

Up by a score of 22-15 at intermission, Ronald Reagan opened the second half by launching an aggressive inside attack.

Shackled with foul trouble to three key players, Lake Erie's zone defense offered little resistance as Ronald Reagan went on an 8-1 run to take a commanding 30-16 lead with less than eight minutes remaining in the game.

With Ronald Reagan seemingly in complete control, Information Systems Technician 1st Class Gennaro Hawkins of Lake Erie zeroed in on a bomb for three points that appeared to breathe life back into the team's attack.

Hawkins came back to swish two free throws and, with 3:09 left on the clock, connected on another splashdown from downtown to draw the team to within four points at 30-26.

After a missed shot by the Reagan's offense, Gas Turbine



Information Systems Technician 1st Class Gennaro Hawkins of USS Lake Erie (CG 70) splits the defense of USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76) during the teams' championship showdown in the 2010 Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) games basketball tournament at Bloch Arena, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, on Aug. 1. Ronald Reagan beat Lake Erie, 37-32, to win their second RIMPAC hoops title.

System (Mechanical) Fireman Brandon Reed brought Lake Erie back to within a point by sinking a trey with 2:15 remaining in the game.

The Reagan answered with a hoop to take a three-point lead at 32-29, but Lake Erie point guard Engineman Fireman Tim Dowdy tied the score on a jumper from the left side of the three-point arch with less than two minutes on the clock.

With the game even and momentum in the hands of Lake Erie, Yeoman 3rd Class Nicholas James of Ronald Reagan sent a dagger into the heart of his opponent when he pulled up just beyond the semi-circle and drained a three-point shot to retake the lead.

"They (Lake Erie) kept backing off (on defense) because I wasn't making anything," James said. "So I had to get one of them."

Moments later, Campbell, who had made only one out of four free throws in the second half, stepped up to the line and sealed the victory by going two-for-two at the charity stripe.

Although Hawkins was pleased at the way Lake Erie fought back, he admitted that he wasn't too happy about the officiating in the game.

Two of Lake Erie's top players, including starting center Seaman Erieck Ausbey, fouled out, and Hawkins said he was confused about some of the referees' calls.

"The referees can't get to the championship game and make different calls," Hawkins protested. "I'm not sure why the fouls were 30-4 (against Lake Erie). It's hard to win a basketball game like that."

James disagreed with Hawkins and noted that it was the Reagan's aggressive inside play that forced Lake Erie players to foul.

"We went to the hole 90 percent of the time," James said. "If they kept on fouling us, that's on them. They had the same opportunity to go to the rim, but they didn't do it."

# Network Operations hammers first-place Civil Engineers

Story and photo by  
Randy Dela Cruz

Contributing Writer

In a highly-anticipated matchup between two of the top teams in the division, the 561st Network Operation Squadron (561 NOS) ambushed league-leading 647th Civil Engineers Squadron (647 CES), 15-0, in a three-inning, mercy-rule-shortened intramural softball game at Hickman softball fields, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, on Aug. 3.

Under the league's mercy rules, officials stop games if a team holds a 15-run lead after three innings, or has a 10-run advantage at the end of five innings.

Tech. Sgt. Bruce Hemphill said that while the NOS was coming off of a slump in recent weeks, a few tweaks in the lineup and a renewed emphasis on hitting helped the team take care of business against the tough 647 CES.

"It was a lot about focus," Hemphill said. "We started off the season hot but got too comfortable, and our coach had to make some changes. In the last couple of weeks we've been working on our hitting. Everybody came out and swung the bat, and it showed."

In the first inning, the NOS immediately broke out the heavy lumber as the team went on to collect four hits en route to an early 4-0 lead.

The hit parade continued in the second inning, with NOS hitters banging out four more hits and adding three more runs.

Armed with a seven-run lead, the NOS really put the pedal to the metal in the third inning as the team exploded for the final eight runs to put an early end to the showdown.

The big blast of the inning came off the bat of Hemphill, who stepped up to the plate with the bases full of teammates, before he shot a line drive to the center-field wall



Master Sgt. Thomas Robinson of 647th Civil Engineers Squadron (563 NOS) delivers a pitch in an intramural softball game versus 561st Network Operation Squadron (561 NOS) at Hickman softball fields, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, on Aug. 3. Robinson threw three shutout innings as the NOS mercy-ruled the first-place CES by a score of 15-0.

for an inside-the-park grand slam.

Hemphill's bases-clearing shot came with only one out and set the stage for the team's game-ending rally.

"I already had one strike on me, so I was a little nervous," said Hemphill as he approached the batter's box before hitting the home run. "I adjusted a little bit. I stepped back in the box so I could drive it up the middle. I was looking for two (bases) right away, but as soon as I saw him (center fielder) miss it I figured, with my wheels, I was going for it."

Meanwhile, as NOS batters were racking up hit after hit, pitcher Master Sgt. Thomas Robinson was busy tossing a gem against a potent CES batting order.

Robinson faced only one batter above the minimum in the first and third innings, and induced a force play at first base to squash a scoring threat by CES in the second.

In three innings of work, Robinson gave up only three hits and allowed just one runner beyond second base.

"I had been struggling all year," Robinson admitted. "So I started to adjust the way that I pitch from the last game and tonight I perfected it. I was putting a little twist on it and they were hitting it to where my guys were."

Although both Hemphill and Robinson said that the final score surprised them, the NOS were highly motivated as they entered the game versus the top team in the division.

Hemphill stated that the game is a reflection of what the team can do if it is focused and playing at its best.

Robinson added that the off-field support also played a huge role in the team's dominating victory.

"We knew that we needed to play well tonight," Robinson said. "So we hyped it up at work and invited some of our friends to come out. They cheered us on and that made us feel good."



# JOINT BASE *Sports* PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM



USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76) won its second basketball tournament of the 2010 Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) games when the team edged USS Lake Erie (CG 70), 37-32, at Bloch Arena, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, on Aug. 1. Ronald Regan built up a 14-point lead against Lake Erie, before hanging on for the four-point victory.



The 561st Network Operation Squadron shut out 647th Civil Engineers Squadron, 15-0, in an Air Force Intramural Softball League game at Hickam softball fields, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, on Aug. 3. Umpires called the game after three innings due to the league's 15-run mercy rule.



Photos by Randy Dela Cruz

PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM **Maniawa Nanea** LEISURE

**Morale Welfare & Recreation**

**WARRIOR FRIDAY**

A Warrior Friday will be held 4:30 to 10 p.m. tonight at Hickam Officers' Club, Koa Lounge. The fee is free for members and \$10 for non-members. The 735 AMS hosts this month's Warrior Friday with the theme of "football." FMI: 448-4608.

**STAINED GLASS KALEIDOSCOPE CLASS**

Make a stained glass kaleidoscope at a class which will be held from 5 to 8 p.m. today, Aug. 13 and 20 at Hickam Arts and Crafts Center. The cost is \$95 per person (ages 16 and up). The fee includes all supplies. FMI: 448-9907.

**CRAZY, CRAZY '80S PARTY**

A Crazy, Crazy '80s Party will be held from 10 p.m. to 1 a.m. tonight at J.R. Rockers. Admission is free. Come as you are, or dress up in your coolest '80s attire. FMI: 448-2271.

**TAILGATE SALE**

A tailgate sale will be held from 7 to 10 a.m. Saturday at Hickam Burger King parking lot at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. Admission is free. FMI: 449-3354.

**FREE TENNIS CLINIC**

A free tennis clinic will be held from 1 to 3 p.m. Saturday at Hickam Makai Tennis Courts. There is no charge for participation for children, ages six years and up. The event will mark grand opening of the Makai Tennis Courts. FMI: 448-2214.

**WII GAMING TOURNAMENT**

A Wii gaming tournament will be held from 1 to 5 p.m. Saturday at Hickam Library. There is no cost. Sharpen your skills for an afternoon of gaming competition. FMI: 449-8299.

**BACK-TO-SCHOOL DANCE**

A back-to-school dance will be held from 6 to 9 p.m. Saturday at Hickam Teen Center. The cost is \$4 per youth program member and \$6 for non-member (ages 10-14). FMI: 448-2296.

**HICKAM HALF-MARATHON**

A Hickam Half-Marathon will be held Aug. 21, starting at 5 a.m. at the Earhart Sports Complex (base track). Early registration fee is \$15 (through Aug. 7). The late registration fee is \$20 (Aug. 8 - 21) and does not include a T-shirt. Entry forms and waivers are available on-line at [www.hickamservices.com](http://www.hickamservices.com). FMI: 448-2214.

**MONDAY NIGHT FAMILY BOWLING SPECIAL**

Enjoy a Monday Night Family Bowling Special from 5 to 9 p.m. every Monday at Naval Station Bowling Center. The cost is \$25 for a family of four and includes one game of bowling, shoe rental, one large pizza and one pitcher of soda.

For more information on events, visit [www.greatlifehawaii.com](http://www.greatlifehawaii.com) or [www.hickamservices.com/](http://www.hickamservices.com/)

**Community Calendar**

**August**

**6** - Blue Star Families will host a "Books on Bases" and "Operation Appreciation Event" from 10 a.m. to noon at the Hickam Library. Children will be making drawings, letters and cards for military children on the mainland. There will be distribution of approximately 150 children's paperback books to military children (elementary school age) of all military branches, both active and reservists. Loree Tillman, Blue Star Families program director and 2010 Navy Military Spouse of the Year, will be on hand to assist with the cards and letters. FMI: [www.bluestarfam.org](http://www.bluestarfam.org).

**10** - Navy Region Hawaii will host a blood drive from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Aug. 11 in room 105 of building 150.

**At a glance**

To be a part of CCAF's fall 2010 class, CCAF must receive all documentation (official transcripts) for degree candidate submissions by Aug. 27. Please have your college transcripts send directly to: CCAF/DESS, 100 South Turner Blvd. Maxwell-Gunter AFB, AL, 36114-3011. Visit hangar two, room 103 to speak with one of our education advisors. FMI: e-mail Force Development Flight at [647fss.fsde@hickam.af.mil](mailto:647fss.fsde@hickam.af.mil).

DANTES rescinded their announcement to stop reimbursing for these tests at the end of this fiscal year. These tests will remain reimbursable until further notice. FMI: visit DANTES website <http://www.dantes.doded.mil> or contact the Force Development Flight at [647fss.fsde@hickam.af.mil](mailto:647fss.fsde@hickam.af.mil).

**Movie Showtimes**



**Knight and Day (PG-13)**

A wholesome, Midwestern woman accidentally gets involved with an international super spy and is forced to flee the country with him while he protects a dangerous new piece of technology.

**SHARKEY MOVIE THEATER**

**TODAY**  
7:00 PM The A-Team (PG 13)

**SATURDAY**  
2:30 PM The Karate Kid (PG)  
5:00 PM Killers (PG-13)  
7:00 PM Knight and Day (PG 13)

**SUNDAY**  
2:30 PM The Karate Kid (PG)  
5:00 PM Jonah Hex (PG-13)  
7:00 PM The A-Team (PG 13)

**HICKAM MEMORIAL THEATER**

**TODAY**  
6:00 PM Grown Ups (PG-) 13  
8:30 PM The A-Team (PG-13)

**SATURDAY**  
4:00 PM Grown Ups (PG-13)  
7:00 PM Knight and Day (PG-13)

**SUNDAY**  
2:00 PM Toy Story 3 (G)



# Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam youth 'DEFY' drugs

Karvette Geathers

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Public Affairs

Educating kids about the dangers that lie ahead is what the Drug Education for Youth or (DEFY) program aims to do. The goal is to emphasize healthy lifestyle choices. Research shows that the ages of 9 to 12 are the most impressionable ages for kids. The DEFY program targets this age group.

"We teach them about drugs, leadership and self-esteem. Some of them don't have that confidence to say no to drugs," said Damien Montgomery, program coordinator, DEFY Pearl Harbor.

Participants in the DEFY summer program recently held at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam took part in a confidence-training course. Self-confidence is a major deterrent to drug use. "I'm too talented, I'm too good, and if you're a friend, then I don't want to be yours if you're using drugs, meth or cocaine," said Kamerin Valdez, DEFY camp participant.

Self-confidence is also key when standing up to peer-pressure to use drugs. "Confidence comes from



Photo by Shannon Shropshire

Intelligence Specialist 3rd Class Aimee Julian from U.S. Pacific Command Joint Intelligence Operations Center, a mentor with the Drug Education for Youth (DEFY) program at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, participates in a field trip to Magic Island. The event allowed youth in the DEFY program to do sporting activities that helped build confidence.

knowing who you are and being firm in what you say and believe in," said Julian Curry, DEFY camp junior

mentor. "If your best friend is smoking and doing things that you know you shouldn't be doing, then you have to

distance yourself from them because misery loves company," Curry said. Parents can make a dif-

ference in keeping their children drug free. One of the best ways to help prevent drug use is to make

sure their children stay fit by participating in sports, clubs, scouts, and other fun activities that give young people the excitement they seek without risking their lives with drug use.

Randy Wayne Kesey, DEFY senior mentor, tells parents to have an open-door policy when their child asks questions about drugs, explaining, "When you're a parent, and your child is inquiring about 'why are these drugs bad for me, why is alcohol bad for me, why are cigarettes bad for me?'"

"As a parent, you would want your child to ask you why is this bad for me, rather than in the long run, have your child say, 'mom I'm still in your house, why am I addicted to marijuana, why am I an alcoholic, why can I not stop smoking, why are my lungs collapsing,'" Kesey continued.

The DEFY program consists of two phases. The first is the two-week camp held during the summer, which teaches kids life lessons and anti-drug information. The second phase consists of monthly events, which incorporate the lessons learned in phase one. DEFY has grown to more than 55 sites worldwide.



## Seabees hit the boards at 'best homeport in Navy'

Story and photos by MC2 (SW) Mark Logico

Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs

On a sunny Hawaiian day, the outdoors can be unforgiving for Seabees who work at construction sites under the sun, but Engineering Aide 2nd Class (SCW) Joab Cowell and Utilitiesman 2nd Class (SCW) Aaron Ness say they welcome it.

In fact, they head outdoors almost every weekend, as they grab their surf boards and hit White Plains beach on the southwest side of the island.

Assigned to Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Hawaii, Cowell and Ness spend their off time surfing on the south shores of Oahu. Hawaii is widely regarded as having some of the best surf locations in the world.

Cowell, who used to boogie

board in California, started learning to surf long boards when he arrived in Hawaii more than two years ago. Together with his friend Ness, the two have been catching waves on a regular basis at Waikiki Beach, White Plains Beach and Sand Island Beach.

For Cowell, going surfing is about getting out and being free in the ocean.

"You have no cares when you're out there trying to catch a wave," said Cowell.

"Everything else about life just goes away. It's relaxing, therapeutic."

Ness, on the other hand, said he benefits from its full-body workout.

"It's good exercise [more] than anything else," said Ness. "It's definitely exhausting every time I do it, just paddling."

On a regular work day, Cowell and Ness perform facilities maintenance and renovations in and around

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam as part of the mission of NAVFAC Hawaii Self Help.

Though Cowell and Ness work more than eight hours a day at NAVFAC Hawaii, the two Seabees find Hawaii to be an enjoyable shore duty assignment.

"It's laid back and relaxing, definitely a shore duty," said Ness. "They are not lying when they say Hawaii is the best homeport in the Navy."

# New fitness center under construction at Pearl Harbor

Thomas Obungen

Naval Facilities  
Engineering Command  
Hawaii

Ground was broken on July 26 for the construction of a new 63,636-square-foot centralized fitness center that will feature all of the amenities of a modern sports club and replace existing facilities at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH).

"Fitness center facilities and the delivery of fitness programs are essential tools for Navy and Air Force personnel to meet the physical readiness professional requirement," said Tom Moriarty, Navy Region Hawaii's Morale, Welfare and Recreation director. "By building these new, state-of-the-art facilities, with the latest in fitness equipment, it will make it easier for Sailors, Airmen and their families to improve their physical readiness and boost morale."

Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Hawaii awarded the design-build contract for \$24.3 million to Kiewit Building Group, Inc. in July 2009. Planning and design from Honolulu architectural



Rendering provided by Kiewit Building Group, Inc.

Contractor-proposed rendering for the new 63,636-square-foot fitness center located near Club Pearl at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. The facility is expected to be completed by November 2011. It is being built to help deliver fitness programs that Navy and Air Force personnel need to meet their physical readiness professional requirements.

firm Next Design, LLC took just under a year and the project received a scheduled completion date of November 2011.

The contract calls for construction of a two-story, environmentally-sustainable fitness center building to be built with numerous recycled construction materials, pho-

tovoltaic (PV) arrays, and drought-tolerant landscaping. The facility will also have a new parking lot with plenty of bicycle racks that will support patrons of both the fitness center and Club Pearl. In addition, the contractor will demolish four buildings in the area.

"In accordance with fed-

eral mandates, the new fitness center will be Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certified and have all the amenities of a modern sports club," said Ryan Go, NAVFAC Hawaii project manager. "The centralized and open air design allows patrons to easily choose from a

wide range of fitness activities and equipment without having to go to separate facilities."

Some of the amenities that will be offered at the new fitness center are two combination basketball/volleyball courts, a large workout area with weight training equipment, cardiovascular

machinery, and two racquetball courts capable of hosting "wallyball" games.

The new fitness center will ultimately become the main gymnasium for the Pearl Harbor side of the joint base and serve as many as 18,000 monthly patrons from more than 200 commands in the area.

To report...

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## Fitness center eligibility will change

With the continued, and in some cases increased, emphasis on physical fitness across all branches of the military, and with new ships and aircraft - and their crews - being assigned to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, the base fitness centers are becoming over-crowded.

In order to accommodate those for whom physical fitness is part of their annual evaluation process, effective

Sept. 1, only those patrons who hold a Department of Defense ID card will be eligible to use the fitness centers.

Those visiting the fitness centers must be at least 15 years old, or be accompanied by a parent and have attended an age-appropriate facility orientation class. Each authorized patron may sponsor two guests who may use the facility while the sponsor is present.

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### Congratulations to NEX aloha shirt winner



NEX photo by Stephanie Lau

Lt. Col. Robert Hill, Army National Guard, was the recent winner of a \$200 Tori Richard's clothing Father's Day package. Associates from the aloha center at Pearl Harbor Navy Exchange presented Hill with his aloha shirts. Left to right are: Rochelle Apo; Anita Orta, customer service supervisor; Hill; Robin Gray and Alana Chun.

### Hickam Communities shares resident survey results

#### Hickam Communities LLC

"Listening to our families is the best way to improve the overall living experience at Hickam Communities," said David Tripp, director of property management at a town hall meeting held last week at Hickam Theater.

The meeting gave housing residents an opportunity to view the results of the annual CEL Resident Satisfaction Survey conducted in May, and learn what plans Hickam Communities has to strengthen areas that showed a need for improvement.

Nearly 2,000 surveys were sent to Hickam Communities residents and 28 percent, or 555 residents, responded. Residents were asked to rate nearly all areas

of service and satisfaction, and the information was sent to an independent research company that conducted the survey and analyzed the data.

"The survey is an important tool that helps us monitor our performance and our residents' level of satisfaction," explained Tripp. "Results from this year's survey showed a need for improving our responsiveness and follow-through, and we have already identified some new processes that will help us improve in these areas," he said.

Changes to processes that will improve communications include telephone calls to residents if a technician will be delayed, resident notification if there is a delay on back-ordered parts, and property management staff

returning calls and emails within 24 hours. To address concerns on follow-through, Tripp discussed an issue tracking system that will be reviewed and updated daily.

"The CEL survey is conducted annually, but we are always looking for ways to improve our services and welcome resident feedback throughout the year through email, telephone calls, and through our new Insite online survey now available on our website," said Tripp. "Our focus is to assure appropriate resolution of all concerns in a timely manner."

To view Hickam Communities town hall presentation of the CEL Resident Survey results and action plan, log on to [www.HickamCommunities.com](http://www.HickamCommunities.com).



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