

# BARSTOW LOG

SERVING MCLB DURING TRANSITION AND CHANGE

Vol. 5, No. 22

Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California

April 12, 2001

## N/MCRS

This year's activities draw to a close ... or do they?

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## Child Abuse Prevention Month

April 1 - 30

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## Ready, Front

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## Medical/Dental Clinics move back to Nebo

By Cmdr. Gregory L. Simpkins  
BMC Assistant Officer in Charge

The Branch Medical/Dental Clinics will be closed for all health care services for approximately two weeks to move back to their original buildings from May 1 at 4 p.m. until 7:30 a.m. May 14.

A temporary facility for military sick call and civil service employee on-the-job injuries only will be provided for the duration of the BMC/BDC closure at Building 186, rooms 19 and 20.

In preparation for the move, the BMC hours of operation have changed.

The new hours which began April 2, and will continue until the move, are from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Mondays through Fridays.

The BMC will also be closed Tuesdays from 3 to 4 p.m. and Thursdays from 1 to 4 p.m.

Military sick call hours will be from 8 to 9 a.m. and from 1 to 2 p.m. Mondays through Fridays.

During the temporary closure, beneficiaries enrolled in TRICARE Prime at BMC can seek both health care and pharmacy services at Weed Army Community Hospital, Fort Irwin.

All other beneficiaries, under age 65 must seek health care and pharmacy services through TRICARE Standard

## Questions anyone?

*- If there are any questions regarding the BMC/BDC move or available services, please contact Cmdr. Gregory Simpkins at 577-7722.*

See CLINICS Page 10

## 'Who put the cardboard box in here?'



Photo by Cpl. Cory Kelly

Lance Cpl. Gabriel A. Lopez takes Building 15's new recycling bins out to be picked up Tuesday morning. The new bins are for the recycling of paper, glass, plastics, aluminum and steel cans, not cardboard.

## End of tax season rush is here

By Capt. Rolando R. Sanchez  
Staff Judge Advocate/VITA Office

Monday is the deadline for filing income tax returns.

At the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance office, located in the Staff Judge Advocate's section of Building 236, volunteers have been stocking up on provisions and coffee in order to withstand the oncoming rush of filers who, for whatever reason, have waited until the last minute to file their returns.

The VITA personnel are ready to provide this free service to anyone who calls or comes into the SJAs office to make an appointment. More than half of the Marines on base have taken advantage of this service.

So far VITA volunteers in Barstow have saved filers over \$32,000 in fees that would have otherwise been paid to private tax preparers.

Their services have resulted in more than a third of million dollars worth of refunds.

These individuals are dedicated, ready, willing and able to prepare your taxes. They are also trained to take into account military specific tax situations that may save you money and which a private income tax preparer may not know about.

Best of all - it's all free!

That includes e-filing for federal returns.

VITA is the way to go when filing income taxes.

If someone waits to file their taxes past the deadline of Monday, they may face some IRS penalties.

The last thing anyone wants is an IRS inquiry as to why an income tax return was not filed. It just plain looks bad.

Bring your W2, military identification, social security card (and that of any dependent claimed on your return) and any other tax materials, such as your bank's 1099 statement, to the VITA office, and we will take care of you. Remember to call 577-6874 for an appointment.

## Earthquake Preparedness Month



- Kobe, Japan, after an earthquake in 1995

Unlike any other natural disaster, there is no warning for earthquakes. One could hit today, tomorrow or next week. Future earthquakes are a serious threat to Californians who could face loss of life, injury and property damage.



Current VITA Participation

## Just doing my job ...



Photo by Cpl. Cory Kelly

Lance Cpl. Jaime L. Lugo, a supply clerk currently serving as an MCCS gym attendant, runs through his daily routine of folding the towels to be used by patrons of the gym. Not only is the San Juan, Puerto Rico, native an expert at doing laundry, but gym frequenter Millie Sanchez said he is, "the most cordial Marine to ever work behind the desk." That's right. She said cordial and Marine in the same sentence.

# Semper Fidelis: not just a motto

By Cpl. Molly King  
CACTUS COMET Staff

I was doing what I always do when I try to procrastinate from work. I was reading one of the books on my desk. It's a good procrastination activity because it's almost guilt-free.

You're expanding your mind, vocabulary and communication skills. You're learning about art, science, current events or whatever interests you. Surely, this activity warrants putting off that menial task a little bit longer.

During my procrastination, I flipped through my old standby, the always faithful, "Battle History of the U.S. Marines" by Ret. Col. Joseph H. Alexander. This book always has a new tale of interest. It begins in 1775, with the birth of the Marine Corps and the beginnings of the Revolutionary war. It continues through the Corps history and ends with the epilogue that is included at the end of this commentary.

The story told in the epilogue is a poignant reminder of why I, and so many others joined the Marine Corps. The essence it captures is what draws people to the Corps, keeps them there longer than they intended to stay, and

makes old, salty retirees reminisce about deployments and platoon-mates until their grandchildren's eyes droop with fatigue.

It is easy to forget this esprit de corps when we get caught up in our everyday tasks. We put on blinders, focusing only on the day's mission and the next payday.

We concern ourselves too much with cutting scores. We complain about our barracks, the exchange, and the never-long-enough hours of the barber shop. We say there isn't anything fun to do in Yuma.

Will the new president give us a raise? Mr. President, if you are reading, there is a common consensus that we are underpaid. If you don't believe me swing by the cashier window at the 7-day store on the 13 of every month to see the line of people waiting to float checks.

It's all very distracting isn't it?

But, the truth is that none of us joined the Marine Corps for money or lavish houses. And, it doesn't matter if we get another raise or an increase in the GI Bill, because we would have joined anyway, and we'll probably stay anyway too.

See **SEMPER** Page 9

## Unity key to success in life

By Lt. Cmdr. Elmon R. Krupnik  
Base Chaplain



that competitive process.

I believe that it has done so because of the hard work of the employees and the cooperation between labor and management.

Psalm 133:1 reads, "How good and pleasant it is

when brothers (sisters) live together in unity."

Any time that we want to succeed in our lives, we need to have unity. If we want to be successful at home, at work, at school, anywhere, unity needs to be present.

When the announcement was made, the reality and the feeling of unity was present in the room. All had united in a purpose and the purpose required sacrifice, leadership, and cooperation just to name a few.

As we face issues in our lives, short term or long term, for us to overcome them, we need to have unity in our spirit (one with God) and that unity in spirit needs to be practiced in the reality of our lives.

Blessings to all,  
Chaplain Krupnik

## PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Earth Day

The Bureau of Land Management, the city of Barstow, and the Mojave Desert and Mountain Waste Management Joint Powers Authority are planning a town event for Earth Day, April 21, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The theme of the event is "together for the earth" and is intended to educate children and adults on environmental issues. There will be display booths with hands-on activities, a parade, nature trail hikes, an earth video theater, and hot food and concessions.

Earth Man, Miss Wiggle E. Worm, and Recycle Rex, the spokesdinosaur for the Department of Conservation, will be on hand to promote the event.

It will be held at the Desert Discovery Cen-

ter at 831 Barstow Road, and is open to the public.

For more information, call 252-6011.

### Toastmaster Club mixer

Barstow's Route 66 Toastmaster Club will host a membership mixer April 25 from 6 to 8 p.m.

It will be held at the Mojave Valley Hospice office at the First Congregational Church.

The Route 66 club is affiliated with Toastmasters International, the world's leading organization devoted to the improvement of individual communication and leadership skills.

The mixer provides the perfect opportunity to visit a Toastmaster Club and see how it can help you. For more information, call 256-9521.

### Nebo Bible Study

Wednesday Noon-1:30 p.m.

At the Chapel Office

For more info call  
577-6849.

### Yermo Bible Study

Wednesday 11-11:30 a.m.

At the Colonel's Workshop

For more info call  
Don Brooks, 577-7165.

### Easter Services

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# NEWS BRIEFS

"News Briefs" is designed to disseminate information to the MCLB Barstow community. Submissions should include a point of contact and phone number, and be received by noon, Friday for the next issue. Submit news briefs via e-mail to [editor@barstow.usmc.mil](mailto:editor@barstow.usmc.mil).

## MCLB Egg Hunt

The Provost Marshal's Office and the MCLB Fire and Emergency Services Division presents a free Easter Egg Hunt tomorrow at 9 a.m. at the playground at the end of Cape Gloucester in Family Housing.

There will be prizes and fun for the whole family. Children can participate in the egg hunt in three age groups: 1-4, 5-9 and 10-13.

For more information call Sergeants David J. Meeden, Melvin D. Miller or Efrain Sotelo III, 577-6049/6514.

## Outreach Egg Hunt

The Fort Irwin Outreach Center is having an Easter Egg Hunt for the children of military families at Barstow Heights Park, on the corner of "H" and Rimrock streets in Barstow, Saturday.

The egg hunt starts at 10 a.m. sharp and is open to children up to ten years of age. There will be eggs, candy and surprises for everyone.

Call 256-1735 or 380-4784 for more information.

## MCB on Channel 6

Maintenance Center Barstow's March 21 40th Anniversary, ISO 9000 Certification and Test Track grand opening ceremony is scheduled to air daily on the Time Warner Cable Channel 6 "Main Street" show at 9 a.m., 8 and 10 p.m. for the next couple of weeks.

## Car wash coupons

The Barstow Military Law Enforcement Association has discounted car wash coupons good for Saturday. For more information about this Law Enforcement Week promotion call 577-6193.

## Hinkley Explorer Egg Hunt

The Hinkley Fire Explorers Post #125 is sponsoring an Easter Egg Hunt and luncheon Saturday from noon to

2 p.m. at the Hinkley Fire Station.

There will be prizes and drawings as well as food and fun for the whole family. For tickets and information, call 253-7704.

## TMD Dispatch move

The Transportation Motor Division Dispatch Office will be relocated to Building 198 April 23. Transportation maintenance will remain in the same location.

Anyone requesting Transportation/Engineering Equipment Unit support can send an e-mail via LAN to SMB BARSTOW GME DISPATCH or call 577-6411/6019.

## Career/Education Job Fair

Barstow Community College is putting on a career/education job fair April 26 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. It is sponsored by the Horizon School-to-Career Grant Program and the Barstow Chamber of Commerce Education Committee. For more information, call 252-2411 ext. 7321 or 7212.

## Cinco De Mayo

The Hispanic Employment Program is hosting a Cinco De Mayo dinner May 5 at the Oasis Club at 5 p.m. Tickets must be purchased by April 27.

There will be food, dancing, entertainment, and a no-host bar. The buffet includes beans, rice, chips and salsa, and dessert. Adults are served green chili with pork and the children have a choice of beef taquito, or chicken chimichanga. For reservations or information call one of the following representatives:

- Delane Gutierrez 577-7580
- Sophia Ontiveros 577-6140
- Ed Tintos 577-7127
- Anita Lewis 577-6788
- David Mendez 577-7328
- GySgt. Michael Claudio 577-6533

101 things you should never ask a Marine to do

By E. Temple



Never ask a Marine to shoot pool.

- Jose Riveras 577-7315
- Marva Johnson 577-6965

## Clinic screening youth for care

A free clinic screening youth for possible care at Shriner's Hospital for Children has been scheduled for May 12 at the Barstow Masonic Temple.

The clinic will be open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Children under 18 will be screened by local doctors for potential health problems.

To participate in the free screening, patrons will need to produce the child's shot card, birth certificate, social security card and guardianship papers.

## Military experience equals college credit

Sailors or Marines who retired or separated from the Navy, back to 1976, as well as all active duty Ma-

See BRIEFS Page 10

## Navy/Marine Corps Relief Society Prizes

The following is a list of the key personnel for this year's Navy/Marine Corps Relief Society's Fund Drive. For more information about the drive call Ed Guz, 577-6183, or send an e-mail to [guzeb@barstow.usmc.mil](mailto:guzeb@barstow.usmc.mil).

Brenda German	MCB	577-7139
Staff Sgt. Larry D. Essary	MCB	577-7470
Bertie Dailey	PAO	577-6430
Meredith Taylor	HRO	577-6478
Susan Durant	HqBn	577-6969
Cpl. Kelley L. Courtney	HqBn	577-6502
Lance Cpl. Gabriel A. Lopez	Comptroller	577-6486
Corina Bonner	Comptroller	577-6619
Barbara Kent	FSD	577-7600
Staff Sgt. Donna M. Knolle	FSD	577-7353
Staff Sgt. Dennis W. Owen	Semper Fit	577-7052
Heather Hahn	Public Works	577-6736
Ed Guz	Public Works	577-6183
Donnie Keeney	Maintenance Division	577-6710
Loretta Lopez	Base Property	577-6529
Carlos Alborno	Environmental	577-6173
Jennifer Kinsey	Contracting/Purchasing	577-6246
Chuck Waters	Transportation Mgmt.	577-6219
CWO Jeffrey L. Clawson	Transportation Mgmt.	577-6994
Jean Flint	ISO	577-6763
Petty Officer Mary F. Collins	Branch Medical Clinic	577-7808

Prizes from Camp Pendleton for the Friday's drawing will be four \$100 and one \$500 gift certificate and a Ford Mustang.

Barstow prizes for Friday's drawing will be a CD holder, sleeping bags (2), an air mattress and pump, a \$100 gift certificate, a mountain bike, a telephone, a CD receiver (Blaupunkt), and a 27" Panasonic/3 play with VCR and DVD.

Fridays' drawing winners are as follows:

MCLB Winners	Prizes	Unit
Lawrence Lucero	CD holder	CWC 731
Robin Trujillo	sleeping bags (2)	CWC 623
Clifford Jones	air mattress and pump	CWC 731
Sharon Loschen	\$100 gift certificate	ISO
Ron Barnhart	mountain bike	FSD
Paul Hester	Panasonic portable CD player	FSD
Belen Baldwin	Telephone	FSD
Sharon Loschen	DVD player	ISO

Pendleton Winners	Prizes	Unit
Sgt. Johnny Tobar	\$100	1st Maintenance Bn.
Lance Cpl. Jason Burr	\$100	MEF Motor-T
Ensign Phillip Chorosevic	\$100	Naval Hospital
Capt. Natalie Beede	\$100	HMLA 169
Lance Cpl. Tyler Becker	\$400	HqCo., 5th Marines
1st Lt. Christopher Pritchett	Ford Ranger	HMT 303

## Job Watch

Annc No.	Title/Series/Grade	Open	Close	1st Cutoff	Location
DEU-098-01	Environmental Engineer GS-0819-12 (Amended)	03-05-01	04-16-01	04-02-01	MCLB Barstow
DEU-103-01	Electronic Measurement Equip. Mech. WG-2602-12	03-13-01	04-10-01	03-27-01	MCLB Barstow
DEU-142-01	Budget Assistant GS-0561-05 (Term NTE 366 days)	03-28-01	04-27-01	04-11-01	MCLB Barstow
DEU-144-01	Painting Worker WG-4102-07 (Term NTE 366 days)	03-30-01	04-13-01	04-06-01	MCLB Barstow

Applicants interested in announcements beginning with DEA or OTR should submit their resume to:

**Human Resources Service Center, Southwest**  
ATTN: Code 522 (announcement number)  
525 B Street, Suite 600  
San Diego, CA 92101-4418

For more information concerning public job announcements visit the Self-Service, Bldg. 37, Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. or call the Human Resources Office, 577-6357.

If you have Internet access, browse to <http://www.usajobs.opm.gov>.

For information regarding Open Continuous Merit Promotion announcements point your browser to <http://www.donhr.navy.mil>.

# Everything in life fits into statistical categories

By Cpl. Cory Kelly  
Editor

I remember sitting in my second period psychology class in high school thinking about all of the things I was going to accomplish in my life.

I actually forged a list of 286 things I wanted to do before I lay on my deathbed.

I did this because I had recently learned about a study done at Princeton University aimed at finding common traits in the most successful people of our time.

Throughout the course of the study, students found that the only common factor in almost 90 percent of the people surveyed was that they had written a "wish list" of lifetime accomplishments.

During my psychology class, I did a lot of things like this. I

thought a lot about who I wanted to be when judgement day finally came. I remember telling myself that I was never going to fit into a statistical category. I was never going to be, "just another number."

In retrospect, I know I was foolish to think I would never become a statistic.

It's impossible. From day one, we are all statistics.

There is no way to circumvent this truth. I am one of so many odd thousands of babies to be born into this world on May 19, 1980. I belong to the five percent of my graduating class that joined the service. And I make up the one percent of my graduating class that was born again into the brotherhood of the Corps.

There a lot of other statistics I belong to as well.

When I was six, I was involuntarily tossed into a plethora of statistics because my brother was murdered. But even before that I was part of a statistical category because my mother was raised in a dysfunctional family.

In the generation before me there are alcoholics on both sides of my family, making me probably 100 times more susceptible to addiction, according to a 1998 study on the most unfavorable things one can pass on to their children. Hence, my fascination with tobacco products.

Statistics scare me. They scare me because they provide an altruistic image that looking at one deadbeat on the street corner can't provide.

They show us that driving drunk, no matter how much we believe in our hearts we are sober enough to make the quarter of a mile trip home, is statistically like golfing with a blindfold.

And they let us know, that by watching one less hour of TV a night, and spending one more hour bonding with our children, we can make an impact in our children's lives that goes beyond any statistical

recording, making them almost 19 times less likely to hate us when they grow up.

The other day I was leafing through some information I had picked up about the Fifty State Survey. The survey noted that 1,070,000 cases of maltreatment were substantiated by Child Protective Services during 1999. That figure only denotes substantiated cases. When looking at that number, I think about all of the other children whose stories never made it to the

CPS case workers.

The survey also estimated that 1,401 children died as a direct result of child abuse or neglect. That number pans out to about one kid every six hours. Never mind that all statistics have a degree of error.

No matter how one adds or subtracts from that number to take into account the statistical error, the

number is still going to be way too large, in this case it's 1,401 too many.

But the most startling facts I saw in the survey broke down the 1,401 who died in 1999 as a result of maltreatment. Four out of five of those children died before their first day of kindergarten and two out of five died before their first birthday.

As an expectant father, these statistics are rather frightening. Especially so because my childhood experiences classify me as statistically prone to domestic violence.

But then again, there is always going to be a statistical category idealizing our world, and, for the most part, it's all up to us to decide which ones we fall into.

**... there is always going to be a statistical category to idealizing our world ... it's all up to us to decide which ones we fall into.**

— Cpl. Cory Kelly



## PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, child abuse is intolerable and must be prevented. Prevention is the right thing to do now and for our future. Children are our future, they are precious, they are the leaders of tomorrow, they are the hope of our communities and our country. We must nurture, protect, and defend them with the same fervor we swear to defend our nation.

**WHEREAS**, since 1974, we committed ourselves through civil and military laws and regulations to take an active role in making sure that child abuse and maltreatment is eliminated. Abuse and neglect not only hurt children of today, but undermines the potential of care giving in future generations.

**WHEREAS**, nurturing and protecting start with the family but cannot end there. Everyone in our community has a responsibility. The old saying is correct: "it takes a village to raise a child."

**WHEREAS**, each of us have specific responsibilities to assure the safety of children. We are fortunate to be assisted by many trained professionals on the base and in the local community. Only caring communities can produce caring, competent children and youth. Each child is special and deserves the chance to mature to be part of a peaceful world.

**THEREFORE**, I declare **April 2001 "Child Abuse Prevention Month"** at Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow. Protect our children; protect our future.

MARK A. COSTA  
Colonel, U.S. Marine Corps  
Commanding

## Statistically proven to do no good

In 1996, an estimated 3,126,000 children were reported to Child Protective Services (CPS) agencies as alleged victims of child maltreatment. Child abuse reports have maintained a steady growth for the past ten years, with the total number of reports nationwide increasing 45 percent since 1987.

Fatal abuse and neglect each year leave 18,000 permanently disabled children, tens of thousands of victims overwhelmed by lifelong psychological trauma, thousands of traumatized siblings and family members, and thousands of near-death survivors who, as adults, continue to bear the physical and psychological scars.

The estimated number of children seriously injured by all forms of maltreatment quadrupled between 1986 and 1993, from 141,700 to 565,000 (a 299 percent increase).

Poverty is significantly related to incidence rates in nearly every category of maltreatment. Compared to children whose families earned \$30,000 or more, children in families with annual incomes below \$15,000 were:

- More than 22 times more likely to experience maltreatment under the Harm Standard and 25 times more likely under the Endangerment Standard.

- More than 44 times more likely to be neglected, by either definitional standard.

- Over 22 times more likely to be seriously injured using either definitional standard.

- 60 times more likely to die from maltreatment under the Harm Standard.

Children whose parents abuse drugs or alcohol are put at a greater risk for violent victimization.

With the exception of homicide, children and youths suffer more victimization than do adults in virtually every category, including physical abuse, sibling assault, bullying, sexual abuse, and rape.

It is estimated that children with disabilities are 4 to 10 times more vulnerable to sexual abuse than their non-disabled peers.

There are an estimated 60 million survivors of childhood sexual abuse in America today.

*(Statistics compiled by BARSTOW LOG staff from various studies posted on the Internet.)*

Guilt is experienced by almost all victims.

Adults who viewed domestic violence in the home as children have a greater difficulty holding jobs, maintaining relationships with their peers and have a higher risk of developing mental health disorders.

Men appear to be prone to blame themselves for any sexual abuse they may have experienced as children.

The typical child sex offender molests an average of 117 children, most of who do not report the offence.

It is estimated that approximately 71 percent of child sex offenders are under 35 and knew the victim at least casually. About 80 percent of these individuals fall within normal intelligence ranges; 59 percent gain sexual access to their victims through seduction or enticement.

Stress indicators such as unrealistic expectations of a child, unemployment and low self-esteem are important characteristics in perpetrators of child abuse.

# N/MCRS drive closes; society's benefits don't

By Cpl. Joshua Barnhardt  
BARSTOW LOG staff

The Navy/Marine Corps Relief Society is bringing their annual drive to a close.

The N/MCRS at MCLB Barstow is a non-profit organization consisting solely of volunteers. These volunteers are responsible for providing services to more than 200 Marines and Sailors stationed here.

They provide services for all types of crisis situations for the individual Marine and Sailor.

If a Marine or Sailor has to go home on emergency leave, the N/MCRS can help with the airplane ticket to get them home.

And if a Marine or Sailor's car breaks down and they don't have the money to fix it, the N/MCRS can provide an interest free loan to offset repair costs.

Aside from providing relief during crisis situations to Marines and Sailors, the N/MCRS also helps out in other ways.

Something they are really stressing here that not many people have taken advantage of, is the Baby Sea Bag.

The Baby Sea Bag is a gift basket filled with essentials for newborns that a Marine and Sailor can get for free. All they have to do is go to the N/MCRS office and pick it up. The N/MCRS does ask that the soon-to-be parents come in for a family counseling session before they get the bag.

N/MCRS not only provides monetary services, they also do different types of counseling. The biggest problem right now is the need for volunteers.

"I am the only active duty spouse working here right now," said Kathy Costa, N/MCRS volunteer.

The thrift store is also in need of help. Both N/MCRS and the thrift store are open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. They are located across the street to the Child Development Center on Wake Avenue on the Nebo side. To volunteer, go to the offices and sign up. The current volunteers will train and teach new volunteers.

This base has a very good program. It produces a good share of funds for N/MCRS.

"The amount of money we generate here far exceeds the amount we have given away," said Costa.

The money raised at this base goes to a central fund for N/MCRS, so the money raised here could help a Marine or Sailor at MCB Camp Lejeune.

Everything this base does to raise money for N/MCRS is appreciated.

"We especially appreciate the efforts of the civilian Marines because they are not eligible to receive the benefits of Navy Relief," said Costa.

Some of the major contributors during this years fund drive are the Information Systems



Photo by Cpl. Joshua Barnhardt

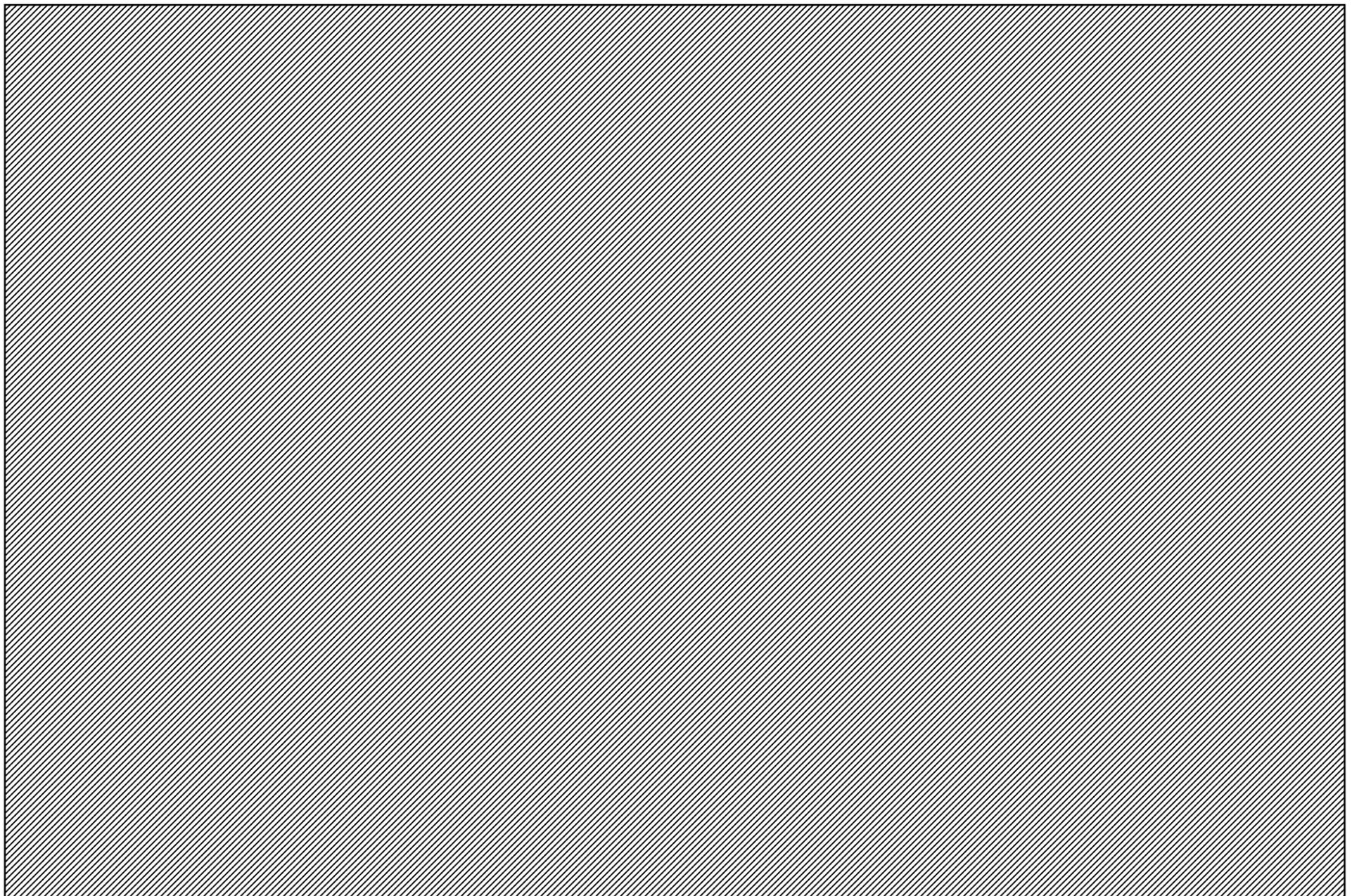
Ron Barnhart, Fleet Support Division, inspects his new mountain bike that he won in the Navy/Marine Corps Relief Drawing. He also won the his/her watches last week.

Office and Fleet Support Division. During the last two weeks, they had numerous breakfasts and lunches as well as ice cream socials and dessert sales to benefit N/MCRS.

Also the Marine Corps Exchange and Marine Corps Community Services sponsored the

N/MCRS drawing by donating prizes for a weekly drawing.

This is the only time there is a campaign for N/MCRS the entire year. Every dollar given goes to support the N/MCRS cause. Everyone agrees it is a good one.



# DeCA to eliminate Social Security Numbers on checks

## Change improves customer security as well as convenience

By Kevin Hennelly  
DeCA Press Release

FORT LEE, Va. – Starting in May, the Defense Commissary Agency will no longer require customers to put their Social Security Numbers on checks when paying for their groceries.

It's another example of how the commissary is listening to customers and giving them what they want.

Air Force Col. Ed Jones, DeCA's comptroller, said, "Our customers are telling us they are increasingly concerned about disclosing personal information on their checks that may result in 'identity theft,' violations of personal privacy, fraud or personal financial loss.

"We are listening to our patrons and are taking the steps needed to reduce their exposure to these risks," he said

DeCA's strategic plan directs employees to listen to customers and make it easier for them to use their

commissary benefit.

Commissary managers have opened stores earlier, closed them later and offered new services in response to customer suggestions.

But sometimes customer concerns go beyond store hours and product selection.

As national anxiety over identify theft mounted and various civilian retailers stopped asking for SSN's, military shoppers began asking DeCA to change too.

As a result, customers will have extra security and the convenience of not having to write their SSN on a check when shopping at the commissary.

DeCA is taking these positive steps even though there was little or no risk in DeCA's current requirement for SSN's on checks.

"There is a very low probability of customers having their identities stolen or their Social Security Numbers misappropriated at a DeCA commissary," said Fred Stein, DeCA's

security officer. "Our customers' checks are safeguarded like cash and remain under positive control of ap-

propriate commissary personnel until they are deposited in the bank."

But just to be sure, DeCA worked hard to change its systems.

This means that by May, commissary patrons will no longer be required to show a SSN on the front of their personal check.

It also means that the agency is modifying its cash register system to stop

printing SSN's on the back of checks. Most importantly it means that DeCA has succeeded in developing

a closed system to safely retain the SSN to comply with U.S. Treasury guidelines for collecting bad check information.

The cashier will enter this information when the customer's identification is checked at the register.

"The results of this re-engineered business process will ensure transaction confidentiality and appropriate audit trails are maintained with the assurance that individual identity is protected," said John Goodman, DeCA's program manager for the cash register system.

## Base commissary walking the path

By Cpl. Joshua Barnhardt  
BARSTOW LOG staff

MCLB Barstow's commissary will be on line with the new Defense Commissary Agency directive that states Social Security Numbers do not need to be written on checks as of May.

A new system will be in place to identify checks, and the base commissary will use it. This cuts out the risk of a person's SSN being stolen off of their check.

"It will save us a lot of hassle on

our end, and it should protect (a person's SSN) more than it was before" said James Meugniot, commissary director.

"Every time you pick up the paper, somebody else's identity has been stolen through their Social Security Number, and while there are other sources to steal it, we don't want to be one of those sources," said Meugniot. There is no exact date when this policy will go into effect, but it will be widely announced as soon as DeCA passes it down to the base commissary.

# Commissary shoppers save more than 29 percent

By Rick Brink  
DeCA Press Release

FORT LEE, Va. – Shop your commissary and save more than 29 percent on your grocery bill. That's the good news according to the most comprehensive Market Basket Price Comparison Study ever done by the Defense Commissary Agency.

"This survey revealed an overall savings of 29.2 percent, which is in line with our agency's corporate objective to increase savings to 30 percent over commercial grocery stores and super centers by fiscal year 2002. In fact, we expect to meet that goal by the end of this year," said DeCA Director Major General Robert J. Courter.

Bottom line for customers: the amount of

savings verified by the survey means an annual savings of over \$2,300 for a family of four that regularly shops in their commissary.

The market basket survey compares the prices of items sold in commissaries with prices of the same items sold in private sector supermarkets. The savings figure includes sales tax for com-

mercial stores and it used a comprehensive database of actual prices from U.S. commercial grocery stores in addition to random price sampling of meat and produce items, said Scott Simpson, DeCA's director of operations. Prices from super centers – discount stores that also sell groceries – were also included in the study for the first time.

Past studies compared prices on only about 600 items from a sampling of commissaries with prices of the same items found in nearby civilian grocery stores, and didn't include super centers. This year, thanks to the database price information, the study compared prices of virtually every Universal Product Coded (UPC) item sold in all commissaries in the 48 contiguous states. Prices of items in Alaska, Hawaii, the Far East and Europe were compared using random sampling tech-

niques because the database didn't have prices for those areas. Likewise, meat and produce items in all stores were also compared using random sampling techniques because their prices aren't available in the database.

DeCA has enjoyed great customer savings since its inception in 1991. A 1991 market basket study was performed to assess the effect the consolidation of the military services commissary systems into DeCA would have on customer savings. That survey, which used data collected before the consolidation, found patron savings were 23.2 percent. By 1999, the last survey found savings at 27 percent.

Simpson said agency officials are confident they can reach the 30 percent savings goal because DeCA's buyers now have access to commercial sector sales and pricing data – the same type of information the market basket survey used. The data gives DeCA's buyers the negotiation tool they need to drive down prices. The agency's marketing initiatives give price-conscious customers access to the best possible savings.

**New faces at the Commissary**

*Title: Store Manager  
Last position held in Sagamahara, Japan*



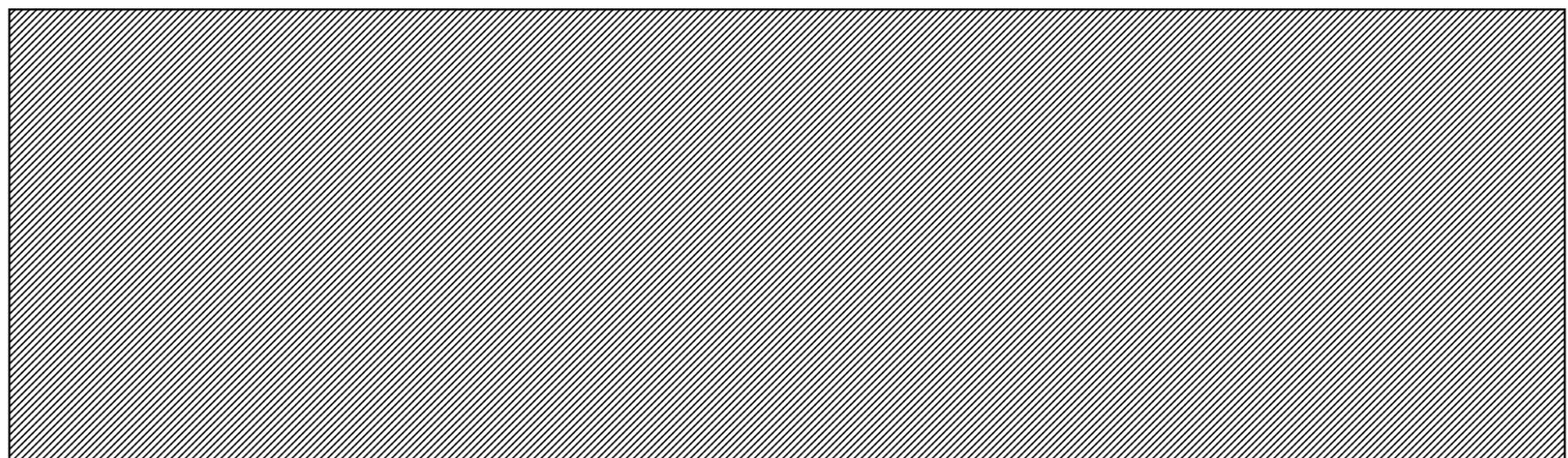
Mario Caputi

*Title: Grocery Manager  
Last position held in Ft. Benning, Ga.*



Robert Stoddard

mercial stores, and surcharge for commissaries. This year's survey is unlike any previous DeCA price survey because it includes comparison data



## AROUND THE CORPS

# DARPA tests new technology for field use

By Cpl. Kevin Walker  
OBSERVATION POST Staff

MCAGCC TWENTYNINE PALMS, Calif. – On the battlefield of the future, Marines will be able to check a handheld unit receiving data from a network of various tiny sensors to see and hear where the enemy is, how many there are, and even what sort of vehicles they're driving.

So say researchers at the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, a little-known government entity responsible for developing some of the more high-tech equipment used by the nation's armed forces. DARPA-developed technology includes night-vision gear and, to some extent, the Internet.

DARPA researchers, which included representatives of several technology firms and well-known universities, were aboard Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center recently to test microsensors under field conditions, as well as different deployment methods.

Dr. Sri Kumar, project manager of DARPA's Information Technology Office, said microsensors, tiny devices basically consisting of computer chips and radio transmitters, are already advanced enough to provide most of the information required for battlefield use.

For instance, magnetic sensors can tell when large metal objects, such as trucks or tanks, are in the area, how many there are and in what direction they're traveling. Seismic sensors can detect ground vibration, such as that produced by rolling vehicles or marching soldiers. Passive infrared sensors, not much different than what controls garage door openers, can detect motion. Also, video and acoustic sensors can see and hear anything that takes place on the battlefield.

The idea, Kumar explained, is to have a network of different types of sensors scattered throughout a given area. The sensors will be able to communicate with one another and process data into usable information for soldiers or



Photo by: Cpl. Brent Walker

Stephen Morris, president of the Palo Alto-based MLB Company, launches the MLB Bat, a radio-controlled, GPS-guided plane that deploys experimental sensors, during a demonstration at MCAGCC Twentynine Palms.

Marines who need it.

"You'll be able to place sensors anywhere," Kumar said. "You can drop them, throw them, even velcro them to walls. Once deployed, they can detect threats."

"This is really exciting technology," said DARPA Military Advisor Charlie Kiers, a former Marine. "It will be a big help to the Marines and Army."

Kumar said the sensor information technology is still about four to five years away from use in the fleet. He said researchers are still working on how the sensors will communicate with one another to combine information into a usable whole. Other goals include developing small, long-life batteries for the sensors, and methods of making the sensors save energy by "sleeping"

when nothing is happening.

"We also need to make sure this is really easy for people to use," Kumar said.

Therault explained that researchers envision a dense field of sensors covering an entire battle area, where forces can monitor absolutely everything that takes place. That's not realistic at this point, he said, because tens of thousands of sensors would be needed to cover such a vast area.

"The reality is, you can densely hit choke points and intersections to tell where the enemy is going," Therault said. "The problem is how do you get the sensors there in the first place?"

Deployment methods were among the primary reasons for DARPA's visit to MCAGCC.

Most notably, sensors were dropped near a road from an unmanned aerial vehicle, where they detected vehicles driving along that road and sent data back to a remote laptop computer.

The radio-controlled plane that dropped the sensors is a high-tech piece of gear in its own right. Known as the "Bat," it's about 4 feet long with two 30-inch foldable wings, weighing 9.5 pounds. The hand-launched plane has a video camera in the nose, so the controller can see what the plane sees, even up to two miles away.

Most importantly, according to Stephen Morris, president of MLB, the firm that produces the Bat, is the fact that the plane is guided by a global positioning system. After takeoff, the "pilot" gets the plane up to speed and relinquishes control to the GPS, which can maneuver the plane along a pre-determined set of coordinates, completing its mission without further human contact. In this case, that meant automatically dropping a group of sensors mounted beneath the wing.

Retired LtCol. Carl Bott, who now serves as Reconnaissance Surveillance Target Acquisition manager for the Marine Corps' Warfighting Lab in Quantico, Va., was encouraged by the sensor technology's potential to protect Marines in the field.

"Our whole mission at the Warfighting Lab and with RSTA is to put a sensor grid around the Marines to protect them," Bott said. "This goes directly to the Marine, so he knows what's going on around him. It will give him a whole new situational awareness both in urban and in open areas."

Bott explained that a sensor grid that gets information directly to individual Marines or small units would be much more quick and effective than getting the same information via radio from higher authorities, possibly hours after it is really needed.

"I think some of the things I've seen here today have some real potential for us to take a look at in the future," Bott said.

# READY, FRONT

Headquarters Battalion, Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow

## Who do I go to?

By Sgt. Maj. Stephen H. Mellinger  
Marine Forces Pacific

CAMP H.M. SMITH, Hawaii – Lt. Gen. Frank Libutti and I just returned from visiting our Marines and military counter parts in the Philippines, Malaysia, Singapore and Australia.

A significant part of our frequent trips are spent in the air flying from country to country. Now if I loved flying, my job would not only be interesting, but fun as well. However I personally hate flying. I'm a card-carrying member of the "White Knuckle Flyer Club."

Because of my flying phobia, I am constantly questioning (to myself) every little sound and bump while I'm in a plane. I know that I would be much more comfortable if all of my questions or complaints could be personally responded to by the pilot; the head bubba.

The problem with that though is if the pilot had to listen to all the silly questions, opinions and comments, then he wouldn't have time to fly the plane. Though I would feel more at ease if the "top dog" (pilot) would personally console me, I realize my questions and concerns can be handled satisfactorily by the qualified flight attendant.

This brings me to discuss a parallel situation involving Marines and their chain-of-command. As I sat down to catch up on several weeks worth of e-mails I discovered numerous e-mails (forwarded to me by the Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps) from Marines who saw no problem writing either him, or the commandant, with matters that clearly do not fall under the commandant's policy on "Marine Mail" (their e-mail addresses for direct contact from all Marines).

Clearly these Marines are intentionally circumventing their chain-of-command for responses to personal complaints, comments and questions. Let me give you some examples:

- A lance corporal wants SgtMaj McMichael to explain why he was not promoted to corporal along with his peers

- A sergeant wants to know why he can't make his Marines do push-ups

when they do something wrong (even though there is a Marine Corps order telling him no because it's HAZING)

- A lieutenant wrote, giving HIS OPINION that the Marine Corps promotion system is BROKE (because his gunny wasn't selected for master sergeant this year)

- A staff sergeant wanted to know if a Marine Corps order was causing him to do two consecutive deployments (in the fleet) before he could go back to the drill field.

- A master gunnery sergeant wrote that he was not satisfied with the pun-

ishes using their chain-of-command don't have to go too far up before they get satisfaction.

In the case of all the aforementioned examples, each Marine got the correct information from their chain-of-command, but simply didn't want to accept what they were told.

When Marines misuse Marine Mail, it reflects negatively on their professionalism and personal discipline. It also shows disrespect and trust in their command's leadership. But more important is the fact that it distracts and wastes precious time of the commandant and his sergeant major.

I can tell you that both the commandant and sergeant major of the Marine Corps want to hear from their Marines through Marine Mail, but within its established guidelines and intent. MARADMIN 165/01 is a good source document for Marines to educate themselves on Marine Mail guidelines.

Remember, Marine Mail is not a "hotline" to our senior leadership for us to blow off steam, whine, complain and ask silly questions. If you're not sure if you should use it, check the MARADMIN and with your chain-of-command to see if it's appropriate for what you seek.

Like me and flying, Marines don't need to be pestering our Corps' "pilots" when its "flight attendants" can handle things at their level.

Now a note to our Corps' "flight attendants." In some cases Marines circumvent their chain-of-command simply because they're lazy and impatient. They don't have time for the system to work. However in other cases, Marines jump their chain-of-command because they don't trust it.

Every leader must do everything in their power to ensure their Marines' trust and confidence. Real flight attendants make it a point of really LISTENING to passengers under their care and not just pay them lip service. Marines must truly feel they can come to their leaders for anything, both bad and good. It's not babying them. It's earning their trust that we care for them.

Marines deserves nothing less from their leaders. Happy flying Marines.

### 'Question to the Corps'

MARADMIN 156/01  
Headquarters Marine Corps

How can we leverage our substantial investment in quality of life programs - housing, fitness, family programs and the like - to support Marine Corps retention and recruiting goals?

A reminder of "Marine Mail" submission requirements is also provided for your consideration: What aren't we doing that we should be doing? What are we doing that we should do differently? What are we doing that we shouldn't be doing? What new concept or idea should the Marine Corps investigate to improve its warfighting capability?

Submit your "Question to the Corps" reply and/or your "Marine Mail" through any of the following venues: <http://www.usmc.mil/cmc> or fax it to (703) 614-5035. You can also e-mail it to [marinemail@hqmc.usmc.mil](mailto:marinemail@hqmc.usmc.mil) or postal mail to Marine Mail (CMC), HQMC, 2 Navy Annex, Washington DC, 20380-1775.

ishment handed down to Marines involved in a fist fight and wants SgtMaj McMichael to intervene for the sake of justice.

I believe that each of those Marines (in the examples) deserve answers or responses to their questions and concerns. However not one of these examples warrant personal responses from our Corps' "pilots!" Each of these Marines' chain-of-command held the appropriate answers.

One of our Corps' strengths is its commitment to doing the right thing for its Marines. And that includes taking care of any problem at the lowest possible level within its chain-of-command.

After 29 years in the Corps, I've found that the vast majority of Ma-

## Green riggers belt optional wear to be suspended

MARADMIN 143/01  
Headquarters Marine Corps

MARADMIN 155/99 authorized the optional wear of the green riggers belt with the utility uniform. On October 25, 1999, the Commandant of the Marine Corps approved the adoption of the Martial Arts Belt System, which is a component of the Marine Corps Martial Arts Training Program.

This belt system utilizes the existing riggers belt design specifications, with five different colors of belts, signifying competency levels. The green riggers belt will now be worn as a third level qualifying belt. The martial arts belt will become the required belt for the utility uniform once a Marine meets the minimum qualifications. The recruit

training depots began training recruits in the martial arts program in January.

As of May 1, the green riggers belt is no longer authorized for optional wear. Marines who currently own a green riggers belt are encouraged to maintain the belt in anticipation of qualifying to wear it under the martial arts training program. Utility belts/riggers belts are not authorized for wear with civilian attire.

Further guidance regarding the introduction of the martial arts program, training schedule and belt regulations is forthcoming. Paragraph 2.B. of MARADMIN 155/99 is hereby superceded and revoked. This MARADMIN is applicable to the Marine Corps Reserve.

## Pistol Range scores

1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Leah Conley  
322 Sharpshooter  
Chief Warrant Officer Paul Zacharzuk  
367 Expert  
Gunnery Sgt. Patrick O'Kane  
361 Expert  
Gunnery Sgt. Edward Jones  
327 Sharpshooter  
Staff Sgt. Gregory Stone  
325 Sharpshooter  
Staff Sgt. Johnny Garcia  
323 Sharpshooter  
Sgt. Jose Sanchez  
245 Marksman  
Cpl. Michael Pirozzi  
312 Sharpshooter  
Lance Cpl. Peter Parker  
311 Sharpshooter



Range 03/01

# DoN Council on Hispanic employment

## Conducts quarterly meeting at MCLB, tours MCB

By Sgt. Brian Davidson  
Press Chief

The Department of the Navy Advisory Council on Hispanics converged on MCLB Barstow for its quarterly meeting April 3 through 5 to continue its mission of improving the climate and hiring practices of Hispanics within the department.

Council member Anita Lewis, Information Systems Office head, with the support of Col. Mark A. Costa, base commander, accepted an invitation to host the council meeting here. Of the 21 members comprising the ACHE, Lewis is the only Marine Corps representative, prompting a rare occasion for the board to meet on a Marine Corps installation. It was also fitting because Costa received an award for MCLB's exemplary performance under the Five Point Program, a DoN initiative created to help spur the recruitment and advancement of Hispanics within the department, in September 1999.

The ACHE is staffed by 21 active duty service members and civilians from a variety of career fields and geo-

graphic areas, including overseas stations. Civilian council members are classified as GS-13 and above, while active duty service members are at the rank of colonel or higher. The Council works closely with Betty S. Welch, the deputy assistant secretary of the Navy for Civilian Personnel and Equal Employment Opportunity to determine the actual needs, requirements, and approach to surpass Hispanic representation objectives.

Currently, Hispanics account for 6.4 percent of the DoD workforce, opposed to 11 percent of the civilian workforce, according to <http://www.defenselink.mil>. According to Lewis, one of the unique characteristics of the council is that it offers Welch the line manager's perspective on Hispanic employment and representation from managers working in wide variety of DoN activities and commands.

During the three-day meeting, the council assessed what they individually discovered in maintaining their goals, which include identifying and implementing methods of training Hispanics for executive development and career planing, heightening aware-



Photo by Curt Lambert

Betty S. Welch, deputy assistant secretary of the Navy for Civilian Personnel and Equal Employment Opportunity (CENTER) and members of the Navy Advisory Council on Hispanic Employment view a Paxman engine during a tour of Maintenance Center Barstow April 4.

ness of opportunities for them to progress to senior management positions and advocating the Five Point Program

Lewis notes that the feedback that the DASN receives from the council is crucial to the objective of improving conditions for Hispanics in the DoN.

Next year, Welch and several members of ACHE will return to MCLB Barstow to open another meeting in spring of 2002.

### SEMPER from Page 2

We joined, and are a part of this fighting force, because we wanted to be a part of something bigger than ourselves. We wanted to be the protectors of a nation, next in the long, proud history of the Corps, but, most of all, to be a part of the band of brothers. The following is a story that took place during April of 1995. It is taken from the epilogue of "Battle History of the U.S. Marines."

Semper Fidelis:

Two U.S. Marines were among the 168 people killed by the terrorist bombing that destroyed the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City, Okla.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency deployed teams of fireman and police officers from New York City to help search the rubble for survivors and recover the dead. Some of these volunteers were Marine reservists or former Marines.

Police Officer Michael Curtin, a Marine first sergeant in the Reserves, discovered a body pinned in the wreckage wearing the blue trousers with distinctive bloodstripe of a Marine. He knew he had found the remains of Capt. Randolph Guzman, executive officer of the recruiting station.

Curtin asked permission to remove Guzman's body - dangerous, laborious work.

He found three other former Marines to lend a hand.

Manny Hernandez, another police officer, said, "It was something I had to do. I had a squad in Nam, and whenever we lost a Marine, he was never left behind. We take care of our own."

The Marines worked five hours with electric jack hammers to free the captain's remains.

Hernandez knelt and closed the dead Marine's eyes. "For the glory of God," he said, "and the glory of the Corps."

Word somehow passed that the Marines were bringing out one of their own.

An Air Force officer provided an American flag. Curtin draped it over the body, and the men worked their way out of the building with their burden.

Curtin was stunned at what he saw outside.

"It was completely quiet. Cranes stopped, rescuers stopped, people lined the streets. Everyone was watching in silence as we brought our Marine out. The workers formed a corridor, removed their hard hats and bowed their heads. The veterans in the crowd saluted, tears in their eyes," said Officer Hernandez, who was swept with emotion, "We are a band of brothers."

Captain Guzman was in good, ever-faithful hands.

# GOT NEWS?

*If you think you've got something newsworthy call the Public Affairs Office at 577-6450.*

**Friday, April 13**  
**Good Friday**



*Catholic Service*  
at 4 p.m.



**Sunday, April 15**



*Eccumenical Sunrise Service*  
at 6 a.m.



*Regular Catholic Service*  
at 10:30 a.m.



**BRIEFS from Page 3**

rines and Sailors can now get a copy of their Sailor/Marine American Council on Education Registry Transcript.

The SMART provides the recommended college credits for military training.

Individual SMARTs are available to every member of the Navy and Marine Corps, as well as individuals who served on active duty, retirees, and reservists who have completed Navy Courses since 1976 at <http://www.navycollege.navy.mil> or by calling the Navy College Center, 1-877-253-7122. The Navy College Center is open from from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. seven days a week.

**McKinney Play Day**

The McKinney Youth Activities Center hosts a play day for Marine, Army and Navy children six and under every Wednesday from 10 - 11:30 a.m.

The play day gives children a chance to play with others their own age and families a chance to meet.

For more information, call June Treadwell at 577-6332.

**MCMA muster**

The Marine Corps Mustang Association is holding a Mustang Muster in New Orleans, August 22-26.

To qualify for Mustang designation,

you must be a warrant or commissioned officer that was once an enlisted Marine.

Membership is open to all Marine Mustangs including those on active duty, reserve, and veterans.

For Mustang membership or formore information, call Maj. Bill Max, USMC (Ret) toll free (800) 321-USMC or e-mail him at [topmustang@aol.com](mailto:topmustang@aol.com).

**Kindergarten round-up schedule**

Barstow area schools will be taking kindergarten registration on the following dates.

Immunizations are available at each school site.

- Cameron: from 8:30 a.m. to noon and from 1 to 3 p.m., April 24. Fingerprinting available. For more information, call Cindy Grow or Elizabeth Duran at 255-6260.

- Crestline: from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., May 2. Fingerprinting available from 9 a.m. to noon and from 1 to 3 p.m. For more information, call Kathy Alcantara or Rhonda Hanson at 252-5121.

- Henderson: from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., May 23. No fingerprinting available. For more information, call Linda Lytle or Mabel Rodriguez at 255-6250.

- Hinkley: from 8:30 a.m. to noon and from 1 to 3 p.m., April 26. No fingerprinting available. For more information, call Marie Bruhn at 253-

5512.

- Lenwood: from 9 a.m. to noon and from 1 to 3 p.m., May 25. Fingerprinting available from 9 a.m. to noon. For more information, call Espy Gutierrez at 253-7713.

- Montara: from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., May 15. Fingerprinting available from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information, call Lola Shipley at 252-5150.

- Skyline: from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., May 4. Fingerprinting available from 8:30 to noon. For more information, call Suzi West at 255-6090.

- Thomson: from 1:30 to 4 p.m., April 25. Fingerprinting available from 1:30 to 4 p.m. For more information, call Henri Miranda at 255-6150.

Immunizations are available at each school site.

For the registration process, parents need to bring their child's birth certificate, proof of residency, immunization records, social security card(if the child has been issued one) and a record of a physical from their caregiver.

**Third Marine Division reunion**

The Third Marine Division will be holding its 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Family Reunion in Irving, Texas from September 26-30. All Marines who have served with or been attached to the Third Marine Division are encouraged to attend. For more information, call (703) 451-3844.

**UPCOMING CWRA FUNCTIONS**

**Old Town trip**

The Civilian Welfare and Recreation Association is sponsoring a trip to Old Town, San Diego May 5.

The trip costs \$10 and includes the bus ride there and back.

**Professional's Day luncheon**

The Civilian Welfare and Recreation Association is holding a Na-

tional Professional's Day luncheon April 19, from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Oasis Club.

The guest speaker will be the base energy manager, Larry Emmons.

The menu for the luncheon will be chicken cordon bleu, California blend vegetables, au gratin potatoes, roll and butter, and iced tea.

The cost for the luncheon is \$6.25.

*For tickets or information for either of these events contact one of the following CWRA representatives:*

Dan Kiern	577-6614	Ed Guz	577-6183
Barbara Kulseth	577-6771	Richard Tusing	577-6492
Fred Molino	577-7210	Cliff Acles	577-6431
Vince Chavez	577-7075	Barbara Kent	577-7382
Bruce Rowe	577-7207	Ed Frey	577-6940
Ernie Hawkins	577-7046	Tangia Joseph	577-7223
Wrayanne Huddleston 577-6714			

**CLINICS from Page 1**

means.

Those beneficiaries over the age of 65 must seek health care and pharmacy services through Medicare means.

The need to seek health care and pharmacy service elsewhere is only temporary.

When the clinics move back, the Occupational and Environmental Health Department will remain in Building 582 at the Yermo Annex.

Once the move to Nebo has been completed, BMC/BDC and the Occupational and Environmental Health Department will provide usual services to beneficiaries.





By Jim Gaines  
MCCS Publicity

**April Super Sale at MCX**

Check out the April super sale in progress at the Exchange: 20 percent off all outdoor BBQ grills, 20 percent off houseware items, 10 percent off all DVD players. These items are available right now - a new sale starts May 1, so take advantage of these April sale great bargains.

The Exchange & Super Seven Store is open Mondays through Saturdays 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sundays 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Call 256-8974 for details.

The Railhead Exchange (Yermo) is open Mondays through Fridays 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. During troop rotation the Railhead Exchange is open Saturdays and Sundays 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**Week's lunch menu**

- Today* - Sweet & sour pork.
- Friday* - Spicy baked red snapper.
- Monday* - Country fried steak.
- Tuesday* - Corn beef & cabbage.
- Wednesday* - Chicken stir fry.
- Thursday* - Prime rib.

**Family Night Dinner menu**

*Tonight* - Honey fried chicken.  
*Next Thursday* - South of the border Night.  
Family Night dinners served Thursday evenings at the Family Restaurant from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. Prices: (military and civilian) \$4.50 adults, \$2.50 children (to eleven years), chil-

dren four years and under are free.

**YAC spring break**

Youth Activities Center's spring break begins Monday and will run through April 21.

There are special events and trips planned. Call for more information at 577-6499.

**Golf course closed for a day**

Tees & Trees golf course will close April 22 at 5 p.m. for road maintenance. The golf course will reopen again April 24 at 7 a.m.

Thank you for your patience in this matter. For more information call 577-6431.

**Easter Brunch**

Everyone is invited to the annual Easter Brunch at the Oasis Club; officers, enlisted, MCLB employees, family members and guests.

Prices: Adults \$6.95, children 5 to 12 years \$3.95, children under 5 years are free.

Brunch menu: Omelets cooked to order, scrambled eggs, sausage, ham or bacon, oven roasted potatoes, creamed beef, baked chicken, fried chicken, vegetables, biscuits, butter, jelly, pancakes & syrup, french toast, assorted beverages, cereals, fruit and desserts.

Come alone, bring your spouse or sweetheart, or bring the entire family and enjoy a delicious Easter Brunch on Easter Sunday - 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Reservations are requested, call 577-6418 or 577-6432.

# MONTE CARLO NIGHT

## WEDNESDAY

### DOOR OPENS AT 5 P.M.



WITH A ROARING 20'S GANGSTER THEME

ARE YOU LUCKY?

Roulette  
Craps  
Blackjack  
(LAS VEGAS DEALERS)  
\*Playing chips & "Barstow" Dollars provided.



There'll be a costume contest. Go for the prize!



TICKETS

Buy your tickets now! Call Jo at 577-6418 or Tammy at 577-6963

COME ON OUT FOR AN EVENING OF FUN & ENTERTAINMENT (18 YRS. & OLDER)

Members:  
● Advance \$12  
● At door \$15  
Non Members:  
● Advance \$15  
● At door \$17



# WEDNESDAY

## DOOR OPENS AT 5 P.M.

### AT THE OASIS CLUB



# Old breed of Martial Arts still kicking

By Sgt. Joe Figueroa  
THE SCOUT Staff

**MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON, Calif.** – To most people on the street Bill Miller seems like a harmless grandfather with an infectious smile. Little do they know, behind that smile and gray beard is a 68-year-old Korean War veteran who happens to be a martial arts master.

This warrior is one of many little known Marine Corps legends who happens to go about his business in the hills of Escondido.

In essence, it is safe to say that Miller, along with Jim Advincula, are the pioneers of today's Marine Corps martial arts program. Recently, he was given a "Black Belt Emeritus" award by Marine Martial Arts Program here in recognition for his accomplishments.

While serving as a drill instructor at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego, his commanding officer, LtCol. Ralph Hayward tasked him with a mission.

In time the lessons taught would be forgotten, only to be reborn in today's Marine Corps.

"Colonel Hayward happened to be the captain of the judo team at MCRD. One day he called me in and told me that I was the new non-commissioned officer in charge of hand-to-hand combat. He wanted me to develop a new curriculum that a 110 or 210 pound Marine could use to quickly kill the enemy," Miller said.

With that in mind, Miller took the very best of each martial art under his belt and displayed the movements at a gym across from an old staff non-commissioned officer's club at MCRD.

"Colonel Hayward was pleased with what I had done and added a few moves of his own. Before I knew it, we were teaching Marines," Miller said.

However, Miller's stature as a sev-

enth degree black belt in Isshin-Ryu and Combat Karate as well as several others didn't just happen.

Instead, it was culmination of an evolution that continues to this very day.

It all began as he grew up on the mean streets of Manhattan, N.Y. Miller's father died when was only five years old and his twenty-year-old mother was left to raise him.

"Not having a father and growing up on the streets of Manhattan and The Bronx, I had to learn how to fight," Miller said.

Although the streets of New York were cruel in those days, Miller didn't learn martial arts there. Instead, the experience served as the catalyst in the unique adventure that fate had in store for him.

As he continued to develop into a young hoodlum, Miller decided that perhaps it was time to make a better life for himself.

With the help of a local priest and forged documents, he joined the Marine Corps in 1948 at the age of 15 and began his long journey.

"I was close friends with a Father Kelly (in my neighborhood) and I asked him if I could get a baptismal certificate. He asked me, 'Why do you need that certificate Billy?' I told him that I needed to get on in the world.

"Father Kelly agreed and gave me one. In those days, everything was handwritten so the certificate was blank and I used a typewriter to put my information on it," Miller said.

Soon after, Miller was on his way to boot camp to become one of the few and the proud.

When he was 17 years old, he met a Marine professional boxer by the name of Rocky Donatelli at Camp Lejeune, N.C. and it was then the martial arts evolution took root.



Photo by Bill Miller

Bill Miller, 68-year-old Korean War veteran and martial arts master lays into the heavy bag. Miller is one of the founding fathers of the Marine Corps hand-to-hand combat fighting style.

"He was 10 years my senior and took me under his wing. (Rocky) taught me everything about boxing," Miller said.

Around that time, Miller received orders to become a Marine Security Guard at the Bangkok, Siam (Thailand) embassy.

A young "buck sergeant" and approximately 185 pounds, Miller made up his mind to pursue martial arts at his new duty station.

"As soon as I got there, I asked the Marines where was the local dojo (judo training hall)," Miller said.

Pointed in the right direction he discovered that it would be a decision that he would never regret.

It was then that a Burmese and a Japanese student immediately adopted

him.

"I soon found out the reason they took me under their wing was because they wanted to see more (Caucasians) at the dojo," Miller said. "Keep in mind this was post World War II and so Americans could do no wrong in Southeast Asian eyes."

It wasn't easy at first learning his deadly trade, but Miller never faltered in his desire.

"I learned to fall for the first six months. The (students) would line up to throw me around. I mean you would (literally) see a line of black belts, brown belts and green belts waiting their turn. It wasn't often they got to throw a 6 foot 2 inch guy around," Miller said.

Nevertheless, it was this type of

"hard-knocks" training that made Miller become proficient. Before he knew it, he himself became very good in throwing people around and developed a keen sense of timing as a result. In the meantime, Miller was assigned a collateral duty of an attaché and was able to travel all over Southeast Asia.

"I carried my (martial arts uniform) everywhere I went in Asia. As soon as that attaché case was taken off my wrist I was told I had 24 or 48 hours before I had to leave. I would immediately find the local dojo and bow to the sensei (teacher) and ask for permission to study. Of course, Americans were very welcomed because of the liberation," Miller said.

Through his extra travels, Miller was able to study arts forms such as Judo, Karate, Jujitsu, Kickboxing and a multitude of other martial arts.

These days, Miller teaches business executives "street survival" and has been doing so since his retirement in 1968. However, he is quick to point out that in the Marine Corps it is known as close quarters combat.

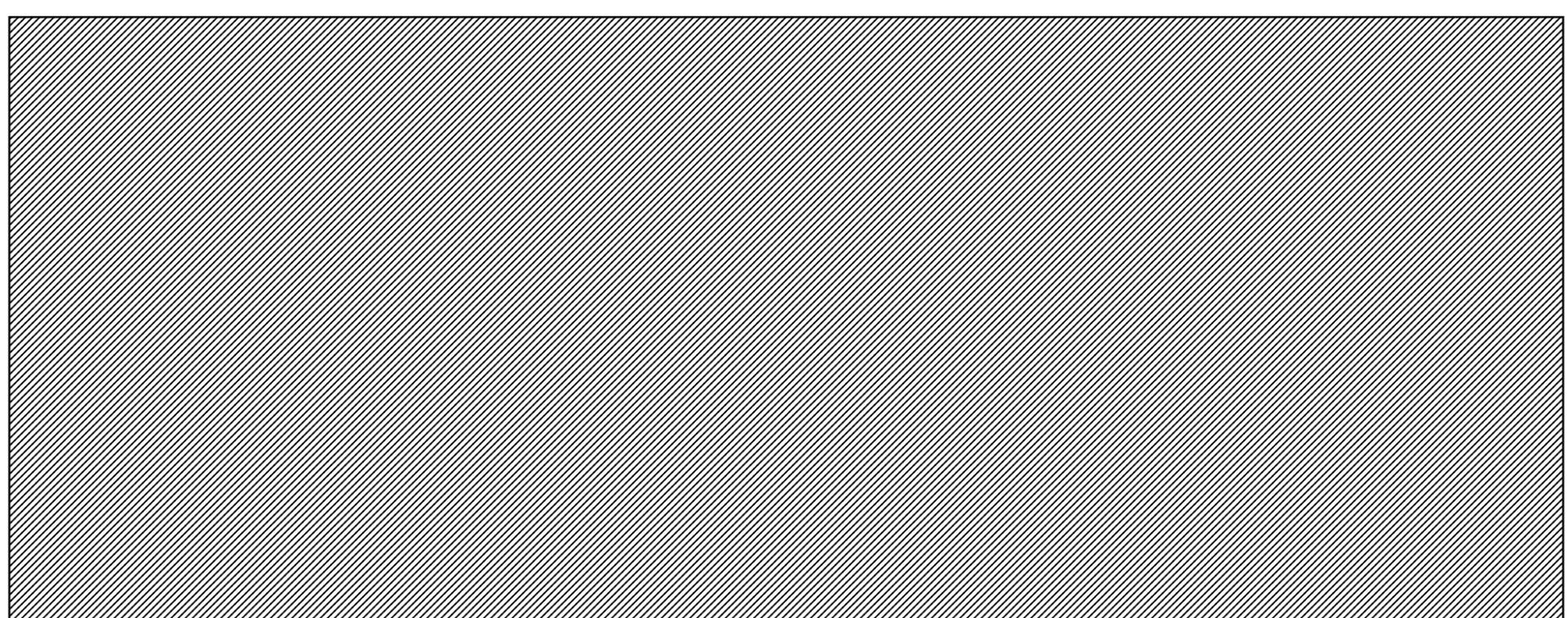
"In the Corps, you have to kill the enemy. In the street, you just want to disable thugs so you can escape," Miller said.

With constant physical activities such as swimming, lifting weights and running in 50 to 100 mile marathons, Miller finds himself to be lucky in his life.

"If it wasn't for the Marine Corps I wouldn't be where I am today. I happened to be at the right place at the right time with the right commanding officer," Miller said.

However, Miller finds himself wanting nothing more than to teach Marines what he knows that they may go into battle better equipped.

"This type of skill is a necessary tool when facing the enemy. It may one day save a Marine's life," Miller said.



# SPORTS

## SPORTS BRIEFS

### Puckhaws need players

The MCLB Puckhaws roller hockey team is looking for players to fill its roster in order to enter in an adult league at the Power Play Center in Hesperia later this spring. The Puckhaws invite any interested players, military or civilian, to contact Coach Jay Hunsaker at 577-7211.

### Barstow Elks golf tourney

The Barstow Elks Golf Tournament takes place May 12 at the MCLB Tees and Trees Golf Course.

It will be a best ball scramble tournament with teams of five people.

The entry fee is \$40 and includes lunch at the lodge. Extra lunches are \$6. The will be a 50/50 drawing and door prizes.

For more information, call Fred Gonzales, 254-2304, or Ron Baker, 255-3285.

### Ft. Irwin to Veteran's Home Relay

The annual Ft. Irwin to Vererans Home 40-mile relay race is May 12. MCLB Marines plan to return the trophy to the command display case this year after losing it two years ago.

Staff Sgt. Robert W. Cole is the team captain for the Scarlet running team this year, and 1st Lt. Bryan R. McClune is the team captain for the Gold team.

For more information call Staff Sgt. Robert W. Cole, 577-6916.

### All-Marine Triathlon Team

The All-Marine Triathlon Team training camp is at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton June 4-12, and the Armed Forces Championship comprised of a 1,500-meter swim, 40K bike ride and 10K run is at Point Mugu, Calif., June 13-17.

The Armed Forces Championship is used to select the U.S. Armed Forces team for the Conseil Internationale Sports du Militaire Triathlon Championship planned for Murska, Slovenia July 2-7.

An All-Marine team of 12 men and 6 women will be chosen by resume. Interested Marines must submit resumes to the Semper Fit athletic director by April 2. Refer to Marine Corps Order P1700.29 for specific details. The order is online at <http://www.usmc-mccs.org> under Policy.

### Barstow to Calico 30K

The Barstow Park and Recreation District announces the return of the "Barstow to Calico 30K" May 13. The run begins at the recently refurbished Harvey House and ends in historic Calico Ghost Town.

Vernon Morris, race coordinator, says the race is being put together with the runners in mind. As a former elite mountain distance runner, Morris feels he has insight into what runners want, and as coordinator he can help fulfill those needs.

Race planners expect to have eight fully stocked aid stations along the route. Runners, participants and supporters are all needed for the event.

For more information or to volunteer to help with the event call Vernon Morris or Mel Otero, 256-5661.

### Tucson softball tournament

The 13<sup>th</sup> annual Weekend Bash softball tournament will be held June 23-24 in Tucson, Ariz. The champions will walk off with their choice of new gloves or bats. The top four teams will receive awards. For more information, call Greg Manning at (520) 228-5478.

### All-Marine Women's Sports

The Director, Semper Fit athletic program, is seeking resumes for two All-Marine Women's team sports.

Resumes for All-Marine Women's Softball and Soccer are due 60 days prior to the start of the All-Marine Trial camps. Resumes must also contain a command endorsement. Send resumes to the local MCCS Semper Fit athletic director. Refer to Marine Corps Order P1700.29 for specific details. The order is online at <http://www.usmc-mccs.org> under Policy.

All-Marine Trial Camp dates and sites are:

Softball	MCB Camp Lejeune, N.C.	July 29-August 18
Soccer	MCAS New River, N.C.	Aug 19-September 8

For more information call GySgt. David S. Wersinger or SSgt. Dennis W. Owen, 577-6899.

## Western Division shooting matches

By William Wasserug  
THE SCOUT Sports Editor

Call it a big week for Twentynine Palms shooters at the Western Division Matches at Wilcox Range last week.

Twentynine Palms brought ten shooters to compete in the matches. Nine finished with medals and Twentynine Palms teams swept all three major trophies — the San Diego Trophy, the Holcomb Trophy and the Wharton Trophy.

Headquarters Battalion, Twentynine Palms teams swept the large unit rifle and pistol competition behind a top performance from Tom Skeer. Skeer, who won the pistol competition in 1995, finished first in pistol competition with a 564 with 15 Xs and was just two points off the mark in the rifle.

Reservist D.B. Karcher scored the individual rifle trophy, edging last year's champion, Dennis DeMille, 2000 runner-up Clifford Carrier and Skeer. Karcher and DeMille notched matching 588 scores. Karcher won with 47 V's. DeMille had 43. The second place finish was DeMille's third in five years.

He won the other two. Skeer said he had a shot at the sweep, but made a crucial mistake. "I shot a shot on another target," he said. "I pointed at the wrong target and never knew it. If I had eliminated that mistake there may have been a different outcome."

Skeer wasn't taking credit away from Karcher though. "SSgt. Karcher earned it," Skeer said. "He made the fewest errors. That's what makes a winner. He's the champion. There's no one to blame."

In team competition, Skeer's squad had finished second the past two years behind a Marine Corps Recruit Depot Gold team featuring DeMille. DeMille shooting with Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton this year, helped his new team to a second-place finish.

"For me it was a family affair," Skeer said. "CWO DeMille is my brother-in-law. The last two years we've been second to them in rifle. This year we swapped places, but kept it in the family."

Skeer, who runs the rifle range at Twentynine Palms, was pleased to win the pistol trophy. "It's fun to spend a few weeks with family doing something you enjoy doing."

He may be a two-time winner in pistol, but Skeer doesn't consider himself a pistol specialist. "I suppose they call me a pistol shooter," the former Marine Corps sniper said. "I

can't really say that. I only shoot pistol in the Marine Corps. I don't shoot enough for classification. Marksmanship is marksmanship. Whether it's a match rifle or a BB gun, it's all fundamental. There's sights and a trigger. It comes down to errors. Some people can eliminate them more than others. At this level you can't afford mistakes."

Skeer was extremely thrilled with his teammates. As team captain, Skeer had a hand in the success.

**"Marksmanship is marksmanship. Whether it's a match rifle or a BB gun, it's all fundamental."**

— Tom Skeer

"It's not easy to find someone who can help others," he said. "My goal is to help every Marine on my team go across the stage. They made me very proud."

Paul Hollar, Mark Lopez, Clifford Carrier and Adam Biolsi rounded out the team. Lopez and

Biolsi each chipped in with big awards. Biolsi picked up the High Tyro trophy rifle in the rifle contest.

Lopez scored the same in the pistol shooting. "It was really good competition," Lopez said. "The camaraderie was good. Older and younger Marines all competed together and had a good time."

Lopez said he had jitters early on. "I was nervous, very nervous," he said. "On match day my training took over. I've

had a lot of good teachers and coaches along the way. They've given me a lot of suggestions."

Biolsi echoed Lopez's thoughts. "I had no expectations to win," he said. "After the first day I had less. I had a poor first day. I guess I came out of nowhere. I'm happy. I'll never have another year like this. I'll never have a better team than this. The three other members of my team and my coaches taught me everything I know."

In Wharton Cup action, CSSG1 from Twentynine Palms scored the trophy for the third time in a row. "Coach Mark Oman was happy. It was his last year with the team.

"We had a couple of shooters that were the same as last year," Oman said. "And the coach has always been the same. I think everybody is happy. I'm happy, the team is happy, the CG is happy and CO's are happy. We dominated. Twentynine Palms took 54 percent of the trophies up the hill. This was my last Marine Corps match before I retire. I couldn't be any happier."

CSSG1 finished third overall in rifle. Marine Air Logistics Squadron-39's Mario Lozoya was second in the individual pistol competition with a 562 with 14 X's.

First Force Service Support Group's T. Soto was third in individual pistol. A few members of the Camp Pendleton shooting team got a taste of competition. Jonathan Henry and Marty Sprick each won their first career medals.

## MCLB shooting team gets experience

By Cpl. Joshua Barnhardt  
BARSTOW LOG staff

The MCLB Barstow rifle and pistol team did not fare too well at this year's Western Division Shooting Matches.

However, for the first-time shooters, it was a great learning experience.

"They were a lot more detailed than boot camp," said Jason Fields, team member, who scored highest for MCLB Barstow at 53<sup>rd</sup> overall in the individual pistol matches. "You learn a lot of little things."

"I thought I shot pretty good with the pistol," said Fields. "Next time we shoot, I think I might be in the medal bracket."

"We spent a lot of time on the range, so I am able to shoot a lot better now," said Jeremy Wellington. "Next time I go to qualify, I'll be able to shoot a lot better."

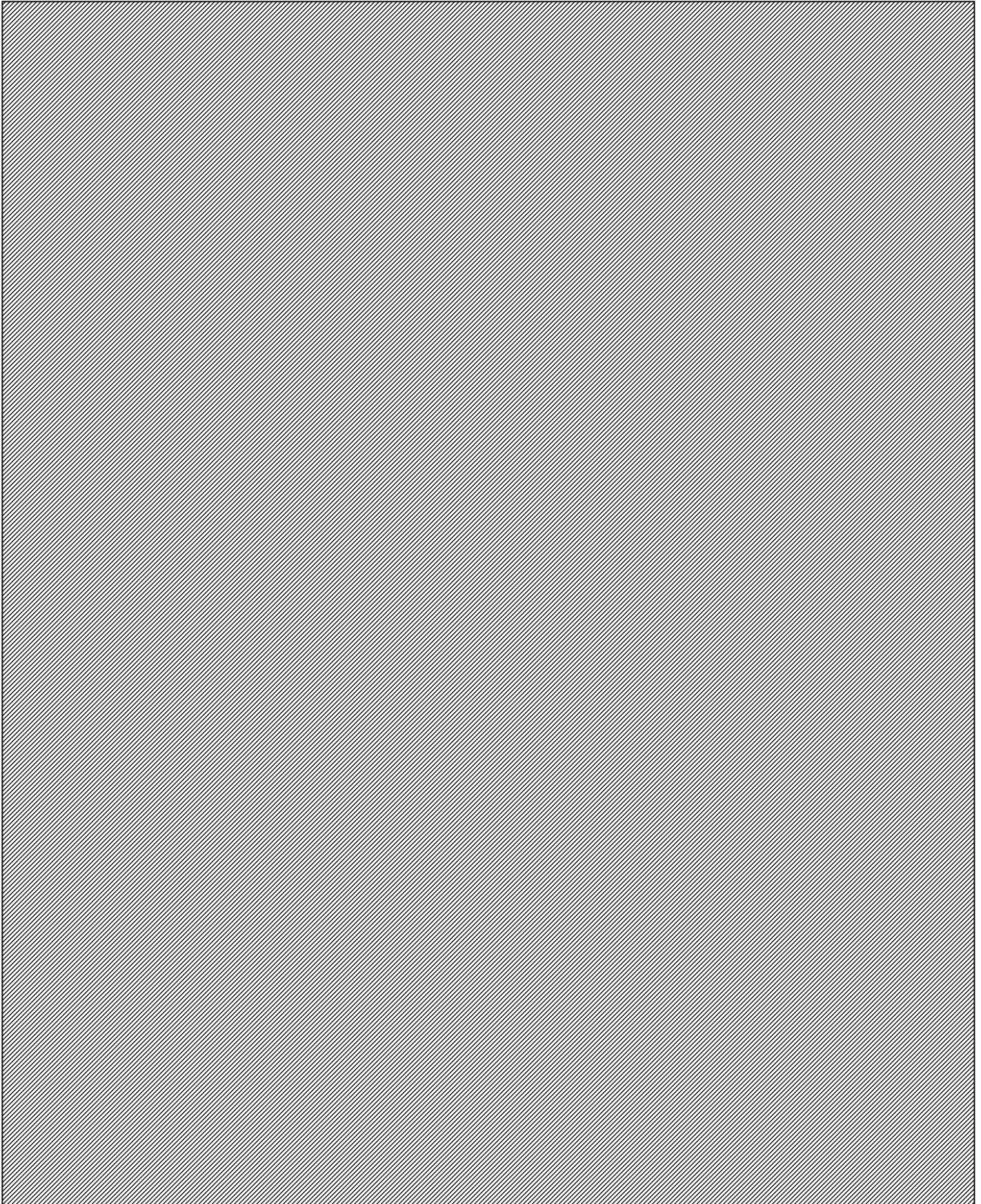
The team learned one big thing at the matches: every team member needs to shoot well for the team to do good.

They finished fourth overall in the running for the Wharton Trophy, which is given to the best Marine Corps unit with less than 600 personnel, west of the Mississippi River, in the rifle shooting competition.

Timothy Brooks is a distinguished marksman in both the rifle and the pistol, and he was by far, the best shooter on the team. He finished 12<sup>th</sup> overall in the individual rifle match, earning him a silver medal.

Not everything was about winning, though, as the team built comradery by staying in an open squad bay at MCB Camp Pendleton, where the matches took place.

The other members of the team were Vincent Applewhite, Dean Burgess, and John Green.



# BARSTOW LOG CLASSIFIEDS

Please submit all Trader Ads to [editor@barstow.usmc.mil](mailto:editor@barstow.usmc.mil).

**1996 PLYMOUTH GRAND VOYAGER:** Lots of extras, must see to appreciate this great family car, \$12,500. For more information call 252-1908.

**1986 CAMARO:** V6, 5 speed transmission, AM/FM/CD, new windshield, great idea for graduation gift, \$1,800, OBO. Call 256-2621 or 253-2133 AWH.

**1993 CHRYSLER CONCORDE:** Loaded, xlt cond., 50k miles, one owner, asking \$7,000. Call 252-3309.

**1997 TOYOTA PREVIA S/C:** Clean inside and out. \$14,000 OBO. May consider payments. Call 255-3045.

**1982 FORD JAMBOREE CLASS C:** 24ft., fully self contained motor Home, sleeps 6, (7) new 16" tires and rims, 40k original miles \$8,000, OBO. Call 257-4067.

**TRAILERS:** 1996 Pop-up tent trailer asking \$2,900, Call 252-7012 AWH or Cell 409-3253.

**AUTO PARTS:** Headlight set for Mercedes Benz SL models 350, 450, 560. Cost \$1,100 new, Sell \$250. Call 255-3045.

**SERVICES:** Attn. ladies, aesthetic body waxing and henna tattoos available right here on MCLB. Great rates, call for your appointment, 252-8666.

**MISCELLANEOUS:** Heavy duty hoist (cherry picker), extendable arm, xlt cond., \$300; utility flatbed trailer, 7' x 10', brakes, tool box, spare tire, chrome wheels, white, xlt cond., \$595. Call 954-1674.

**MISCELLANEOUS:** Solid dark oak entertainment center, beautiful, in new condition, 70" wide by 60" high. Cost \$1,300 new, sell for \$400. Call 252-4369.

**MISCELLANEOUS:** Snow chains, 2 sets, never used, one set fits most 14" tires, the other fits most 15" tires, \$10 each. Call 252-2195 AWH.

**MISCELLANEOUS:** Hoover vacuum cleaner, quiet, (no accessories) \$20; Bose subwoofer, \$150; table/floor lamp, lights on top and bottom with shade, 3-way switch \$20; Metz 45CT1 flash, dual flash, like new \$175; Kenmore electric lawnmower, \$25. Call 255-3045.

**MISCELLANEOUS:** Used 52" ceiling fan, \$10; child's tricycle, \$12; Stanley sliding doors, Model Basic 100, 93" high, \$30 each or 2 for \$60; 3 webbed lawn chairs, \$4 each; baby bath, \$3. Call 256-8803.

**MISCELLANEOUS:** Girl's Li'l Tikes cottage-style twin-size bed and mattress, xlt cond., bed head has cottage-style roof, and a window to store dolls, etc. must see, \$150; Alpine stepper, very good condition, make offer. Call 253-2677 after 5 p.m.

**MISCELLANEOUS:** Barrel racer, healthy, loving 10 year old, qtr/appy. Intern. To adv. \$2,200 (includes some tack) 952-1934 (Silverlakes).

**MISCELLANEOUS:** Bar w/2 barstools, 2 tier, black leather padding w/mirrored front and footrest, xlt cond., \$200. Call 247-9783.

**MISCELLANEOUS:** Fish bowl with fish, plants, gravel, all for \$15; large plecostomus fish 8", \$10. Call 255-3045.

**MISCELLANEOUS:** Water bed, king size with mirrors, lights, storage upper and lower, mattress, heater, 2 sets of sheets, ready to go. \$400 firm. Call 254-1978.

**MISCELLANEOUS:** Hot tub, \$1,300. Call 253-7366.

**MISCELLANEOUS:** Bassett sleeper sofa/loveseat set, innerspring mattress, southwest colors, \$250. Set; queen mattress set w/black metal canopy frame, like new, \$200. For all; black wood folding end leafs oval table, sturdy, \$100. Call 252-4072.

**MISCELLANEOUS:** Table/floor lamp, lights at base and top with 3-way switch, shade, \$20; Large floor/table lamp, with 2x sets of lights 3way switch, with shade \$20; dark walnut baby grand piano, maybe Steinway \$1,500; 6-drawer dresser, wood, \$50; Sears electric lawn mower, \$25. Call 255-3045.

**WANTED:** DJ turntables, mixer, ALICE pack, load bearing vest, K-bar, camelback w/cammie cover for reasonable price. Call 252-9146 or page (864) 266-0536.

