

# BARSTOW LOG

SUPPORTING MCLB'S VISION FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

Vol. 6, No. 16

Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California

February 28, 2002

## 131st Medical Corps Birthday

Happy B-Day Doc's.  
March 3

## Howitzers

Breaking ground in the artillery field ... no pun intended.

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## Hearing well?

Listening to the tune of safety.

Page 5

## Big Bear Mountain

Battalion conquers the slopes in training exercise.

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Check out the Marine Corps Web site.

<http://www.usmc.mil>

**BARSTOW LOG**  
SUPPORTING MCLB'S VISION FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

<http://www.barstow.usmc.mil>

## Semper Fit

*Base Gym/Fitness Center receives a tuneup*

By Rob Jackson  
BARSTOW LOG staff

When a car has had a lot of use with little to no maintenance and starts running rough to a point that it can't be put on the road safely, it's time for a major tuneup. If regular maintenance were performed in accordance with the owner's manual, that car would run almost forever.

The same analogy can be applied to the Base Gym/Fitness Center. It has policies and procedures (owner's manual) in place that must be followed to keep the facility operating smoothly and efficiently, thus providing an environment that is both comfortable and secure for its patrons.

Gunnery Sgt. David Wersinger, recently assigned as the staff noncommissioned officer-in-charge of the Semper Fit Program, was tasked with improving the operation of the Gym/Fitness Center – basically give it a tuneup.

One of the first things on his list of things to do was pull out those policies and procedures to make sure whatever changes he instituted were in accordance with what was written.

"What folks need to understand is that we're not really making any changes per se," said Wersinger. "We're just taking what is written and tightening the boot straps on it. More for security reasons than anything else."

After completing his research, Wersinger and the rest of his Semper Fit team set about the task of making sure patrons entering the facility were in the proper attire. Going by the procedures, he made sure that patrons weren't coming in sporting ball caps, bandanas, or dew rags, which according to policy are not allowed in any facility Marine Corps-wide.

"If our patrons come in wearing those items that are designed for fitness use, like a sweatband, then they're OK," explained Wersinger. "But any type of headgear other than that is not allowed, and folks will be asked to remove the item before gaining entry into the facility."

Another item under scrutiny is the "user's card," which patrons could present before to gain entry to the facility. Now, to gain access authorized patrons must present a picture identification card.

"The biggest problem with the user's card is that it has no photo. It would be so easy to purchase paper locally and have the card copied anywhere in town," Wersinger explained.

This presented a problem because folks were dropping people off at the gym with the "fake" user's card which allowed them to go anywhere on the base uncontrolled, according to Wersinger.

To prevent this from happening only authorized

See GYM Page 10



Photo by Cpl. Cory Kelly

**SETTING THE MOOD:** Sergeant Michael D. Coleman, Capital Heights, Md., the second soprano section leader for the Marine Drum and Bugle Corps at last year's Battle Color Ceremony. The 2002 Marine Corps Battle Color Ceremony from historic Marine Barracks, Washington, D.C. will be performed here March 7 at noon on Sorensen Field. The ceremony encompasses the Marine Drum and Bugle Corps, the Silent Drill Platoon and the Marine Corps Color Guard, which are known across the country and abroad for their precision drill and exciting musical arrangements.

## BMC's Sailors of the Quarter

*Pharmacy's Leading Petty Officer fills the prescription*

By Sgt. Anwaar AlMoribat  
Press Chief

The MCLB Branch Medical Clinic recently named Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class James W. Oglesby Senior Sailor of the Quarter after a competitive selection process.

Though only 24, the sailor of five years service assumes many responsibilities. Oglesby is the Pharmacy Department's leading petty officer. In addition, he serves collateral duties as the custodian of the Controlled Substances Inventory Board and he is the Prime Vendor Supply petty officer, supervising a budget of more than \$450,000. Oglesby also serves watch as the Officer of the Day.

Typically reserved and meticu-

lous as he goes about his duties in the pharmacy, Oglesby has acquired the reputation of being a man of few words. His work speaks for itself, according to Lt. Cmdr. Michael Ramos, Branch Medical Clinic assistant officer-in-charge.

"In a short period of time, Petty Officer Oglesby has demonstrated a superior degree of initiative," noted Ramos. "He is conscientious, meets all tasks and strives for continuous improvement. And as a pharmacy technician, he has significantly enhanced our pharmacy department."

He deserved serious consideration for recognition as the Senior Sailor of the Quarter, claimed Ramos.

Aside from Oglesby's work ethic, his character set him apart from his peers. "He always pre-

sents himself professionally," said Ramos. "Always willing to lend a helping hand, he has been a team player ... his personal appearance, demeanor and conduct are excellent," he added.

Being good at what he does is what motivates Oglesby.

"I love my job," said Oglesby. "The most important thing for me is doing the best that I can and being the best that I can be every day," he said. "The greatest part of my job is helping people. I know that what I do is important."

The Senior Sailor of the Quarter enjoys what he does so much that his plan for the future also centers on working in a pharmacy.

"Ultimately, I plan to earn an officer commission in the Navy

See CLINIC Page 5



- Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class James W. Oglesby

# Maintenance Center Barstow : *where extraordinary is ordinary*

By **Bill Winegar**  
 Cost Work Center 723 Supervisor

The facility's mechanics are hard at work trying to repair a World War II vintage oven, not one to bake cookies but one large enough to put the average dining room table in.

The delay of the oven repair parts interrupts production in the Motor/Transmission room. They heat the transmission housings to expand the metal and install cold bearing races; the expansion and contraction normalize holding the bearing races solidly in the transmission housing.

The production schedule set down by the production controllers to meet the demands of our customers is about to be affected.

The customer, the fleet Marine force, is depending on the men and women of Maintenance Center Barstow to supply them with the equipment needed to fight our new war on terrorism.

The schedule for the next month is six vehicles on the one product line and many other products from radars to washing machines. The final transmission is finished by the third week of the month, and this was only possible by the combined work of every department in the maintenance center.

Weekends and midweek overtime have made up for the lost production waiting for the oven repair parts, and now the clock is running.

How do the men and women at the maintenance center sell these products before the end of the month and still meet their personal commitments? (Taking the daughter to softball practice down the hill, attend the grandson's soccer game, respond to the volunteer fire call and all

the other things that our fellow employees do on their off time.)

Then there is the problem of security knowing the odd hours we are going to work and ensuring they have sufficient resources on duty.

The safety and hazardous material people support the production during normal hours of operation and also during the overtime, all the while ensuring we

have the personal protective equipment necessary to work safely.

When the mechanics on the floor have completed the initial assembly of the vehicles, the vehicles are handed off to the road test and finals area.

This is a touchy time having only one test

track and each of the production lines trying to get its last vehicles for the month tested.

Communication and secured voice radios are now tested at the communication and electric shop.

The support shop is ready to take the handoff to paint the vehicles and preserve them, using a day shift and swing shift.

No orders are necessary, as the employees know how important their part is and the need for this month's production.

The final hours of production are approaching, and the depot has worked Saturdays and Sundays to get the vehicles to the last stage of production. The division final requires the quality inspectors, mechanics, program managers, contractors, and Fleet Support Division.

Now the testing of the complete vehicle takes on a life of its own. Each separate item is tested, including the turret and weapons station. It is late

**... it wasn't any one individual or shop that made this possible but each and every employee and contractor working together as an American team.**

**See MCB Page 10**

## Pursuing the spiritual ring

By **Lt. Cmdr. Elmon R. Krupnik**  
 Base Chaplain



This past Saturday I went to watch my son play in a basketball game in Arizona for the class 2A state championship.

The team, the Valley Christian High School Trojans of Chandler, Ariz., won the game and was crowned state champion for class 2A. To be the state champions had been the goal for the entire season. The team had a motto among the players, "30-1 don't mean a thing without a ring."

The championship ring is the symbol of complete victory. All of us who have a relationship with God have a spiritual championship ring. After the victory, the team went to the half court circle at the America West Arena and sang the Doxology. The singing was to me an acknowledgment, not just of an emotional and physical victory, but of a spiritual victory as well.

In Romans 8:37-39 we read, "No, in all these

*things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord."*

The verses are an acknowledgment that we are more than just conquerors (champions) with God. We are his creation and, as such, our lives should be lived as champions with the victory already won.

As champions, we should be leaders and examples for others to follow.

When we feel defeated emotionally, physically, and spiritually, the spiritual ring of victory that God has given us is a reminder of the encouragement and strength that we find in his Spirit every day.

As we walk with God daily, our lives should exemplify the victory that has been won for us, and from which nothing can separate us.

Let us walk daily with God as champions.

Blessings to all,  
 Chaplain Krupnik

## Just doing my job ...

Lance Cpl. Willard Scram Jr., military policeman, applies an M49 Field Protective Mask during the field fire portion of annual rifle range qualification.

**CORRECTION:** In last week's **BARSTOW LOG** in the **READY, FRONT** section we erroneously reported that PFC J.S. Madrid had scored a 51 Expert during rifle range 02-02 when, in fact, he scored a 58 - a new range high.

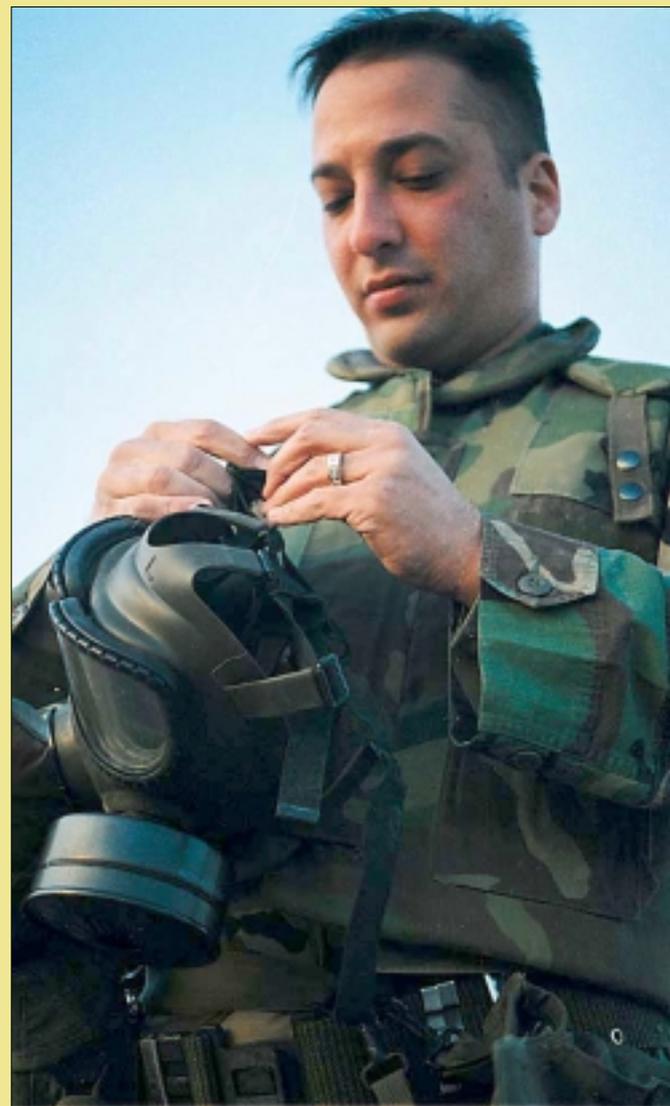


Photo by Sgt. Anwaar AlMoribat

### Chapel Services

Protestant Sun. 8:30 a.m.  
 Mass Sun. 10:30 a.m.

**Confession services before Mass**

### Catholic Rosary

First Saturday of every month.  
 3 p.m. at the **Base Chapel**.

For more info call 577-6849.

### Nebo Bible Study

Wednesday Noon-1:30p.m.

At the **Chapel Office**.

For more info call 577-6849.



Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California  
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For information on advertising in **BARSTOW LOG**, contact Paul Kinison of Aerotech News, Lancaster, Calif., phone: (661) 945-5634.

# 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).

## CWRA Trip

The Civilian Welfare and Recreation Association is sponsoring a trip to the J. Paul Getty Museum Saturday. The bus will leave Building 319 at 6:30 a.m., make the pick-up in Victorville at the International House of Pancakes at 7:15 a.m., and return to Building 319 by 10:30 p.m.

The cost of the trip is \$10. For more information, call one of the following CWRA committee members:

Name	Phone
Dan Keim	577-6614
Frederico Molino	577-7210
Ed Guz	577-6183
Vince Chavez	577-7580
Barbara Kulseth	577-6771
Richard Tusing	577-6492
Earnest Garrett	577-6490
Barbara Kent	577-7786
Tangia Joseph	577-7230
Bruce Rowe	577-7207
Cliff Acles	577-6431
Ed Fry	577-6940
Ernie Hawkins	577-7046
Wrayanne Huddleston	577-7328

## Quarterly Spouses Tour

Active duty Marine Corps, Navy and Army spouses are invited to attend the free Quarterly Spouses Tour of Fort Irwin and Barstow on March 12, 13, and 14.

The first two days will be held at Fort Irwin. Informational meetings and tours will introduce spouses to services available at Fort Irwin and military life in

general.

The third day, hosted by the Military Affairs Committee of the Barstow Area Chamber of Commerce, will begin at the Veterans Home on Barstow Road at 9 a.m. with a free continental breakfast.

After presentations by the Veterans Home Public Relations Department and the Barstow Police Department. Guests will have a tour of Calico Ghost Town, and receive discount coupons for selected shops at the Factory Outlet and Tanger Malls. A free lunch is provided for all participants. The tour will end at 3:30 p.m.

Participants should dress for the weather, wear comfortable walking shoes and bring water to drink while at Calico. Space is limited so registration is required. For more information call Becky Echols at the Army Outreach Center, 256-1735 or Pamela Butolph at the National Training Center, Fort Irwin 380-4991.

## Employee/Member Self Service

The Defense Finance and Accounting Service's Employee/Member Self Service, an online service, allows employees to update their personal information, including changing bank accounts. Employees can view and print their Leave and Earnings Statement prior to payday.

The E/MSS database is completely secure and requires a user ID and requires a Personal Identification Number to access.

For more information or to get a PIN call the E/MSS Help Desk, (800) 390-2348, or visit the Web site at <http://lemss.dfas.mil/ems.htm>.

## Marine of the Year

The Marine Corps Times is now accepting nominations for their second annual Marine Corps Times Marine of the Year Award. The deadline for nominations is April 12.

Nomination details and ads are available online at <http://www.marinecorpstimes.com/marines>. For more information visit the Web site.

## Dental Clinic services limited

The Branch Dental Clinic's services will be limited starting Wednesday through April 20 as there will be no resident dentist on staff. The clinic will receive support from Camp Pendleton, Twentynine Palms and MCAS Miramar during that time.

Cleanings will still be available Mondays through Fridays during regular business hours, but all other treatment will be scheduled for Mondays and Tuesdays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. or Wednesdays from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

During the time of shortened staff, there will be no sick call on Mondays but sick call will be available Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 7 to 7:30 a.m.

If a problem exists and there is no dentist on staff at the time, arrangements will be made with Fort Irwin to ensure expedient service. Sick call hours at Fort Irwin are Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 8 to 10 a.m., and Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7 to 10 a.m.

For more information call Dental Technician 2nd Class Daniel Chadkewicz, 577-6497/6597.

## Bilingual?

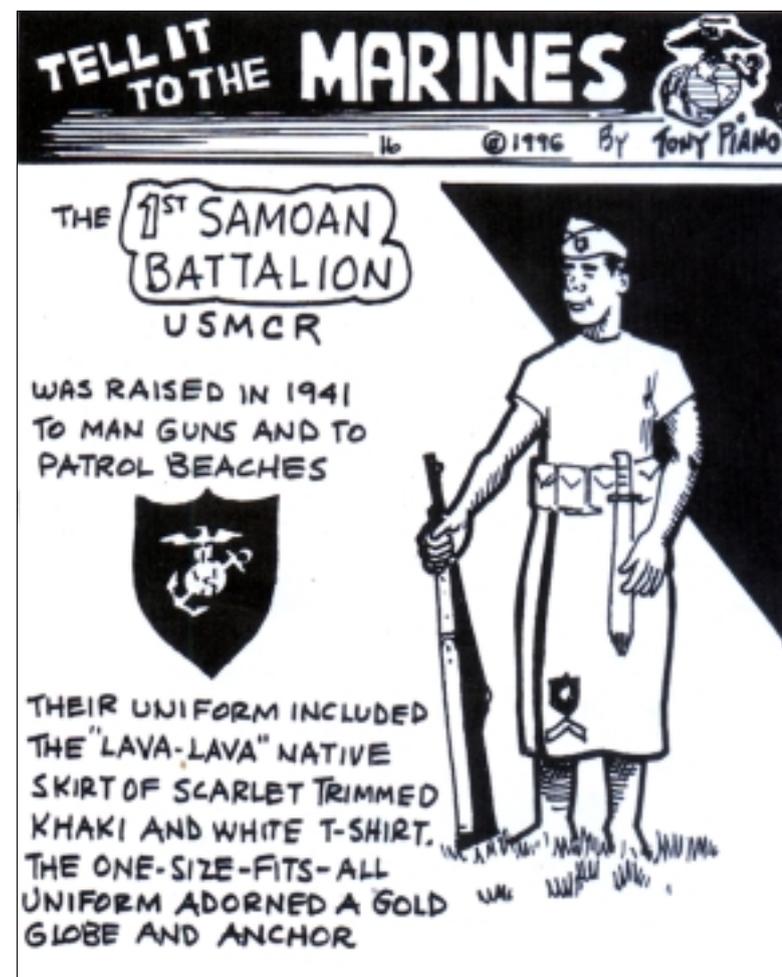
The Marine Corps is looking for Marines who can read, write and speak any of the following languages: Albanian, Arabic (Modern Standard), Bulgarian, Burmese, Cambodian, Chinese (Amoy), Chinese (Cantonese), Chinese (Mandarin), Czech, Danish, Dutch/Flemish, Finnish, French, German, Greek, Hebrew (Modern), Hungarian, Icelandic, Indonesian, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Lithuanian, Lao, Norwegian, Persian, Phillipino (Tagalog), Polish, Portuguese (European), Portuguese (Brazilian), Romanian, Russian, Serbo-Croatian, Slovenian, Spanish, Swahili, Swedish, Thai, Turkish, Ukrainian, Vietnamese and Yiddish.

Marines who take and pass the Defense Language Proficiency Test are eligible to receive an increase in pay.

For more information or to schedule an appointment to take the DLPT call the base education office, 577-6118.

## FEEA Scholarships

The Federal Employees Education and Assistance fund is accepting applications until March 29. Federal employ-



ees and their family members are eligible for the scholarships, which range from \$300 to \$1,500.

Applicants should have at least a 3.0 grade point average and be enrolled or plan to enroll in an accredited post secondary school in a course of study that will lead to a two-year, four-year or graduate degree.

For an application form, send a self-addressed, stamped #10 business envelope to: FEEA Scholarships; Suite 200, 8441 W. Bowles Ave.; Littleton CO 80123-9501.

## Marine Corps Counter-Intelligence

The Marine Corps is looking for intelligent, motivated and ambitious first-term sergeants and corporals for lateral moves into the Counterintelligence/Human Intelligence Specialist Military Occupational Specialty.

The new MOS combines the traditional fields of Counterintelligence Specialist and the Interrogator-Translator into one occupational field. CI/HUMINT Marine collect tactical information, conduct interrogations and strategic debriefings, analyze intelligence, learn and use foreign languages, and produce finished intelligence products on espionage, terrorism, sabotage, and surveillance activity within areas where Marines and United States forces deploy.

For more information call DSN 365-6870/6227 or (760) 725-6870/6227.

## Search and Rescue

The San Bernardino County Sheriff's

Volunteer Force is looking for volunteers for various search and rescue teams in the area.

Areas in need are: Barstow, Big Bear, San Bernardino, Colorado River, Morongo, Needles, Phelan, Twin Peaks, Chino Hills, Yucaipa and Victor Valley.

To volunteer or for information on qualification requirements and duty requirements contact the nearest sheriff's station, call (909) 387-0641, or visit the volunteer forces Web page at <http://www.co.san-bernardino.ca.us/sheriff/voluntrs>.

## Play Mornings

Every Wednesday morning from 9:30-10:30 a.m. the New Parent Support Program hosts Play Morning at the McKinney Youth Center for parents with children ages five and under.

Among the numerous activities are crafts fun for children and parents alike.

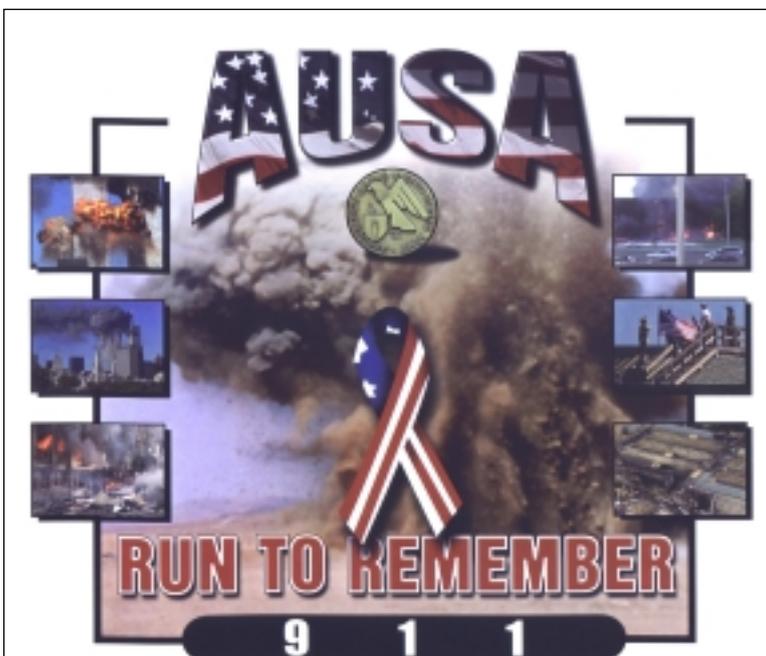
For more information call Sharon Wallace, 577-6332.

## Citizens on Patrol

The Barstow Sheriff's Station Citizens on Patrol unit is recruiting area citizens to participate in the program.

Citizens on patrol is a volunteer unit within the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department. Citizens on Patrol performs proactive functions such as community patrol, special patrols, vacation checks and assists in public crime prevention programs.

To join Barstow's Citizens on Patrol unit or for more information contact Lisa Ramirez at the Barstow Sheriff's Station, 256-4838.



7th Annual Veteran's Home Relay Race

March 30, 2002

MCLB Barstow is participating in the Veteran's 40-mile relay race March 30. Practice for the event is Tuesdays and Thursdays at 11:15 a.m. in front of the base gym.

The base is putting together two teams, a gold team for the most competitive runners and a scarlet

team for the recreational runners.

To join the team, or for more information, stop by the gym during any one of the Tuesday and Thursday practice sessions or call Staff Sgt. Johnny Garcia at 577-6878, or 1st Lt. Bryan McClune at 577-7174.

# Commandant appraises Howitzer progress

## New gun on target in testing

By Kyle Davidson  
CACTUS COMET staff

Gen. James L. Jones, commandant of the Marine Corps, and Sgt. Maj. Alford L. McMichael, sergeant major of the Marine Corps, made a brief visit to Yuma Proving Grounds Jan. 28 to check the progress of the XM777 Lightweight 155 mm Howitzer testing.

The Army and Marine Corps are testing several XM777 Howitzers in Yuma, Ariz., Twentynine Palms, Calif., Aberdeen Test Center, Md., and at Fort Greeley in Alaska for cold weather testing.

According to an article written by the Army, this weapon is expected to be the Marine Corps' sole Howitzer, with the first unit being equipped by fiscal year 2003. Jones stopped by to make sure it was on target for that date.

This low profile gun that can propel a 39-caliber round a maximum range of 18.9 miles, but weighs 7,000 pounds less than the currently used M198 155 mm Howitzer, is undergoing a series of firing and structural

tests at YPG.

The current M198 155 mm, weighs a monstrous 16,000 pounds. After all the kinks are worked out, it is estimated the XM777 will weigh roughly 9,500 pounds.

The military began testing the design and structure of the Howitzer in 1996. Live fire testing began later that same year.

According to Master Sgt. Jeffrey Altman, part of the joint Marine/Army team testing the Howitzer, other than some minor adjustments that need to be made, this weapon is a sound piece of machinery.

"This gun is going to increase the survivability of our Marines in the mix," said Altman as he led the commandant and sergeant major around the Howitzer, explaining the upgrades and design differences.

"This gun is the lowest profile Howitzer in the world right now," Altman added.

The Howitzer has a 27-inch ground clearance and has a maximum height of roughly 20 feet. It still hosts the standard 10-man crew for safety, but if it were to be used during a war situation, it could be operated with half.

British Aerospace is the manufacturer of the Howitzer, using a light-

weight titanium metal, which is stronger, yet lighter than the steel used in the M198. The new Howitzer can be easily air lifted by a CH-46 Sea Knight.

The weight isn't the only difference in the new design. For instance, this new Howitzer has a tow hook near the muzzle so it can be towed by a five-ton truck, being easily connected by only two Marines. The current Howitzer cannot be pulled by the muzzle and takes nearly the entire crew to connect.

The Howitzer also has a self digging system. Two forks designed to hold the weapon in place will dig into the ground after the first fire.

But the major difference is the gun's firing system.

A magazine of 10 primers is placed in the gun's primer feed mechanism; once it is fired, the spent primer is ejected and a new one is inserted by operating the PFM handle. This saves Marines time and allows for a maximum fire rate of five rounds per minute.

The weapon still needs a little tuning, but the commandant seemed impressed with what he saw.

"It's always good to come out and speak with the experts," said Jones. "It helps us to make sound decisions back in the office."



Photo by Cpl. Kyle Davidson

Master Sgt. Jeffrey Altman, right, part of the testing team for the XM777 Lightweight 155 mm Howitzer, shows Gen. James L. Jones and Sgt. Maj. Alford L. McMichael the features of the new Howitzer. This weapon weighs half of the currently used M198 Howitzer, but packs the same power.

# Safety: *Don't wait until you hear about a problem to prevent it*

**By Gunnery Sgt. Craig Stanley**  
Base Safety Specialist

Hearing loss afflicts millions of people in the United States, and many of these impairments are at least partially attributable to damage from exposure to loud sounds.

Occupational noise exposure, one of the most common causes of noise-induced hearing loss, threatens the hearing of MCLB Barstow employees.

Many MCLB Barstow employees, for example, have experienced significant threshold shifts in hearing.

Significant threshold shifts is a term the Occupational Safety and Health Administration uses to define a change relative to the baseline audiogram of 10 decibels or more in average hearing level at 2,000, 3,000 and 4,000 hertz in either ear.

Repeated exposures to hazardous noise may cause noise-induced hearing loss.

This loss may be temporary or permanent depending on the duration of noise exposure, intensity of the noise and susceptibility of the individual.

Supervisors should, therefore, ensure personnel wear hearing protection when exposed to noise hazards, according to Marine Corps Order

6260.1C and Title 29 Code of Federal Regulations 1910.95.

All personnel should wear hearing protective devices when they enter or work in an area where the operations generate a sound level greater than 84 decibels (eight-hour time-weighted average), or 140 decibels peak sound pressure level or greater.

A combination of insert type and external hearing protective devices (double protection) should be worn in all areas where sound levels exceed 104 decibels (eight-hour time-weighted average).

It may seem obvious that personnel exposed to gunfire in a training situation or to artillery, mortar, or missile firing, loud machinery, under any circumstances, should wear hearing protective devices.

Supervisors, however, should not assume the obvious but ensure the following:

–That a copy of MCO 6260.1E and any local command directives issued on the hearing conservation program are made available to all personnel.

–That a copy of 29 CFR 1910.95, "Occupational Noise Exposure," is posted in all industrial noise-hazardous areas.

–That the use of hearing protection is enforced in accordance with MCO 6260.1E.

–That personnel routinely exposed to hazardous noise are identified and included on the command's hearing conservation program roster.

– That personnel included in the hearing conservation program receive a hearing test, hearing protective devices fitting, and refresher training during their annual medical evaluation.

Military and civilian personnel should do the following:

–Wear hearing protective devices whenever exposed to hazardous noise.

– Attend hearing tests and training sessions as scheduled.

– Abide by the requirements of MCO 6260.1E and make others aware of the need to use hearing protective devices when in noise hazardous areas.

Take the necessary actions now to protect your hearing before it is too late.

Sometimes people do not know that their hearing is being damaged because hearing loss does not happen all at once.

The majority of hearing loss comes from a long period of repetitive exposure to hazardous noise, and usually people will not find out about their hearing loss until after they have retired.

The key is to have your hearing examined if you are being exposed to hazardous noise repetitively.

## CLINIC from Page 1

and go on to become a pharmacist," said Oglesby. "That's what I really want to do in life."

Oglesby's talents and performance garnered him the Senior Sailor of the Quarter title and maybe another award of recognition. His superiors recently recommended that he receive a Navy Commendation Medal for his efforts and dedication to duty.

## *Junior Sailor of the Quarter's eyes are right on target*

**By Sgt. Anwaar AlMoribat**  
Press Chief

The Branch Medical Clinic named Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class Jerry Ocampo its Junior Sailor of the Quarter after he distinguished himself in a competitive selection process.

Ocampo enlisted in the Navy February 3, 1997 and attended basic training at Great Lakes, Ill. Later, he received occupational specialty training at the Hospital Corpsman School, San Diego, Calif.

Ocampo now works at the clinic's Occupational Health Department where he oversees the clinic's optometry program. In addition to

being certified in audio testing, he is certified to conduct pulmonary function testing.

When asked to characterize his strongest personality trait in a few words, Ocampo used just one word – honest.

"I believe that a person always has to be honest above all else," said Ocampo, "with themselves and with others."

Like many young people, the pensive sailor confesses that he was originally lured to naval services for the education benefits that accompany serving in uniform. But that was only initially.

"At first that is where my thinking was; how I could use the Navy to further my education; to study biology," said Ocampo. "Then, I met someone else who was in a very similar situation when I was working on the green side before. We were in the same shoes, but he was motivated and he had a plan. He helped motivate me. I came to love getting up early to PT with the Marines and everything else.

"Now, my serving in uniform has come to mean so much more than a vehicle to a college education," noted Ocampo. "I have since decided to get my degree while on active duty and to have a full naval

**See CLINIC Page 10**

Marines try to pay attention to the ski instructors and stay on their feet at the same time. For some this was easy, for most it seemed to be a very toilsome task.



Photo by Cpl. Cory Kelly

# Marines *tackle* the **Big BEAR**

By Cpl. Joshua Barnhardt  
BARSTOW LOG staff

The Marines of Headquarters Battalion, MCLB, attacked the hill, and then fell down it on the Battalion ski trip to Big Bear Mountain Feb. 20.

A majority of the Marines on the trip experienced skiing for the first time and learned that falling comes with the territory.

Maj. Brian Ballard, battalion commander, and Staff Sgt. Dennis Owen, S-3 chief, spearheaded the planning for the trip.

"The reason we went was to go be a unit, do something that is physically challenging, and get off the base and have some fun," said Ballard.

Ballard chose skiing because he has used it in the past as part of military operations.

"I've skied in the military four separate times, so basic skiing is a military skill," said Ballard. "All the people I was skiing with that have skied before have skied in the military."

He was proud of his troops and happy with the way they conducted themselves while on the trip.

"The Marines did outstanding," said Ballard. "Nobody got hurt, but everybody is a bit sore."

Ballard likes to challenge his Marines by getting them to do things they have never done before.

"My role as a battalion commander is to expose people to new

things," said Ballard. "A lot of people have never been exposed to skiing."

Owen spent a lot of time making sure the trip went off without a hitch.

"We have been planning this for two months, spending about four hours a day, coordinating with Bear Mountain, and getting the snow suits from Goldsmith's," said Owen.

Big Bear is a venue the battalion has enjoyed in the past.

"Ever since the Big Bear Challenge, we have wanted to get the battalion back up there," said Owen.

All the preparation paid off for Owen when he finally got to see the end product of all the planning.

"At first I was kind of leery about the trip, but it was one of the best times I have had since I have been here," said Owen. "Seeing the Marines having fun in a more relaxed atmosphere made all the work that was put into the trip worth it."

The Marines had a great time on the trip.

"I had a blast," said Lance Cpl. Hollis Hudetz, communications center operator, at the Information Systems Office. "I was pretty impressed with everything they have up at Big Bear."

As a Colorado native, Hudetz has skied before and was surprised by the level of the slopes at Bear Mountain.

"It was actually comparable to Colorado ski resorts," said Hudetz.

He was glad to have the oppor-

tunity to do interesting things with his peers.

"We don't have very many things to do around here," said Hudetz. "With the battalion taking everybody up to Big Bear, it gave us a chance to get closer as a unit and raise our morale."

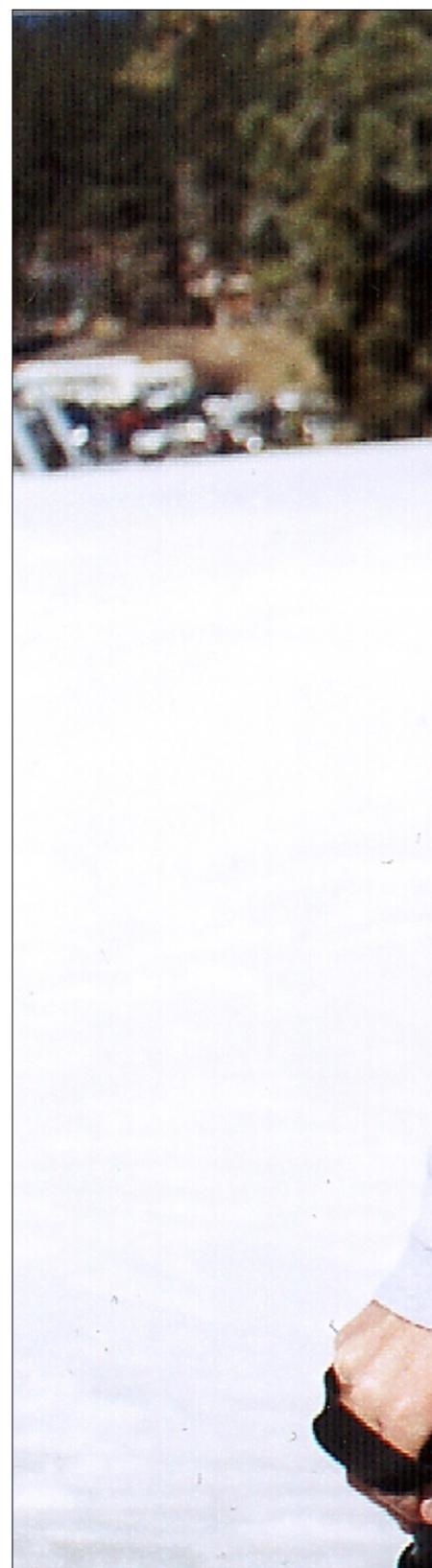
Some of the Marines even want to return to the slopes, but not before they heal up from this past trip.

"I had fun and I would like to go back some time," said Lance Cpl. James Hosey, supply clerk at Headquarters Battalion. "My body is still hurting though."



Photo by Cpl. Cory Kelly

Sgt. Joseph H. Wynne stands with skis in hand awaiting the arrival of the instructors. Side note: Wynne was not this bright and shiny at the end of the day after hours of repeatedly greeting the snow face first - an unfortunate side effect of the days events for most Marines present.



2nd Lt. Casey L. Taylor looks down to see the Ski Resorts slopes for a battalion-level training exercise.

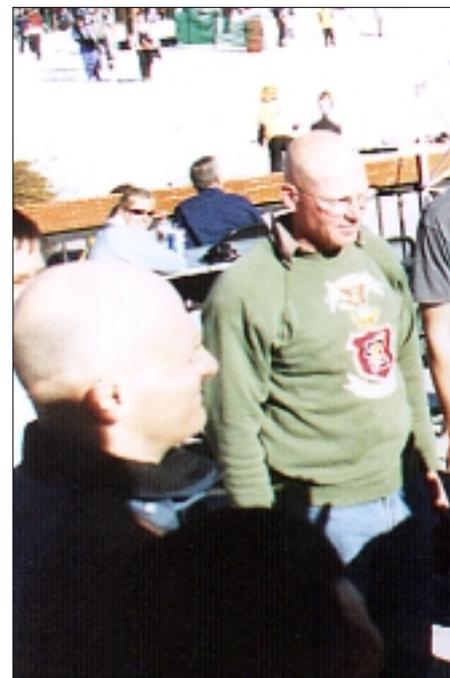
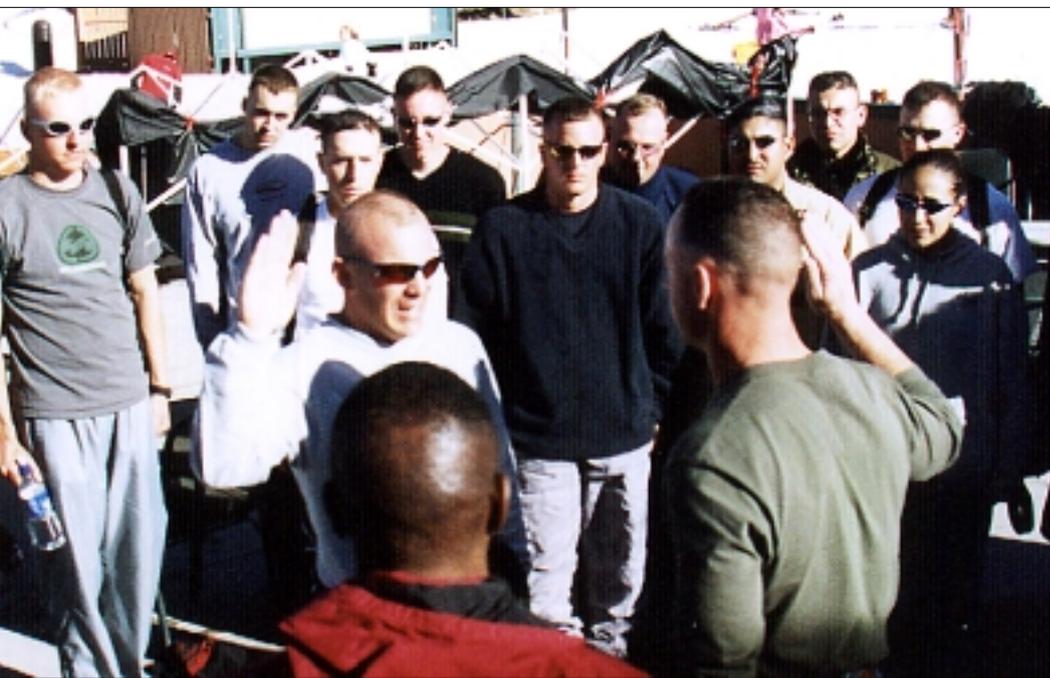




Photo by Cpl. Cory Kelly

how he's keeping his footing as Staff Sgt. John C. Green maintains his composure with glee, perhaps with the knowledge that he has no footing. MCLB Marines went on a day trip to Big Bear Mountain for a training event, more easily described as a crash course in skiing Feb. 20.



Gunnery Sgt. Joseph E. Vanfonda swears in at the base of the Big Bear Mountain Ski Resort. Vanfonda was formally relieved of his active duty status at the peak of the mountain just minutes before his reenlistment ceremony at the bottom of the slopes.

Photo by Sgt. Anwaar AlMoribat



By Jim Gaines  
MCCS Publicity

**St. Patrick's Day Sale**

The St. Patrick's Day Sale starts Friday at the Super Seven Store (Nebo) and Railhead Exchange (Yermo). Check these buys out: Sharp 32" TV sets and RCA 32" TV sets are 10 percent off. Cannon color printers are now \$49.99. Men's winter fashions 30 percent off. This sale runs from Friday through March 17.

Star, Visa, Mastercard, American Express and Novus cards accepted.

The Exchange/Super Seven Store is open Mondays through Fridays 6:30 a.m. to 9 p.m., Saturdays 8 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Sundays and holidays 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The Railhead Exchange is open Mondays through Fridays 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. During troop rotations, open Mondays to Fridays 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturdays and Sundays 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**Lunch menu**

*Note: Unless otherwise stated, the menu for the Cactus Cafe is the same as the Family Restaurant.*

*Today* – Prime rib and baked potato.

*Friday* – Breaded catfish and steamed rice.

*Monday* – Chicken Parmesan and Italian vegetables.

*Tuesday* – Beef fajitas, refried beans and Mexican rice.

*Wednesday* – Breaded pork chops, apple sauce and mashed potatoes.

*Thursday* – Family Restaurant: Baked potato and salad bar. Cactus Cafe: Meat oaf and mashed potatoes.

**Family Night menu**

*Tonight* – Southern Fried Chicken Night.

*Thursday 21* – Lasagna, Spaghetti, garlic bread, vegetable and dessert.

Adults \$5.50, children 5 to 11 years \$3.50, children 4 years old and younger are free. All welcome!

**Aerobics temporarily down**

Aerobic classes at Semper Fit will be temporarily suspended from March 8 through April 30. For more information call 577-6971.

**Parent Advisory Meeting**

A Children and Youth Program Parent Advisory Board meeting will be held today at 4:15 p.m. at the YAC Training Center. Call 577-6499.

# OASIS CLUB OPEN HOUSE

OPEN TO ALL MCLB MARINES, CIVILIANS AND THEIR SPOUSES

## March 14



**Live Country band  
No cover charge  
Doors open at 3:30 p.m.  
Band 4 to 8 p.m.**

**Refreshments provided!  
577-6432**

**Announcement No: 02-03**

**POSITION: MCCS DIRECTOR, NF-1101-05 OPENING DATE: 22 FEB 02**

**Salary Negotiable (Minimum \$54K per year) Regular Full Time**

**Open until filled First closing Date: 22 MAR 02**

**AREA OF CONSIDERATION: ALL SOURCES**

**Contact MCCS NAF Personnel 577-6140 Hours: Mondays - Fridays 7 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.**

# 29 Palms Hockey team loses out in tournament

By Cpl. Joshua Barnhardt

BARSTOW LOG staff

The 29 Palms Bulldogs, backed by goalie Jason Cortright from MCLB Barstow participated in a Roller Hockey Tournament Saturday at the Wayne Gretzky Hockey Center in Irvine, Calif.

They played well in the toughest division in the tournament, but ended up losing all three games they played.

Cortright had 38 saves in the first game, but it wasn't enough as the Bulldogs lost to DFI 4-2. Cortright was spectacular in goaltending, especially for a five-minute stretch when two Bulldog players were in the penalty box for unsportsmanlike conduct.

With the two-man advantage, DFI threw shot after shot on goal, but Cortright was up to the task, stopping every puck thrown his way. When the penalties were finally over, Matt Nelson,

forward, came out of the box to score a goal to go up 2-1. Mike Olszewski, forward, scored the other goal at the beginning of the game for a 1-0 lead.

Cortright sat out the second game and let Kyle Brubaker, who has just been playing for six months, get some experience between the pipes. He fared pretty well and gained valuable experience, but played against a very good lightning offense and gave up nine goals.

The Bulldogs only managed three goals, one by Olszewski and the other two by Nelson.

In the third and final game, the goaltending fortunes changed for the two goalies. Cortright started the game, and gave up five goals in one period. Brubaker came in for the second period and played really well, only giving up two goals.

The offense still was not rolling for the Bulldogs, as they only scored twice, one for Olszewski and one for Nelson.

The Bulldogs were hampered by the fact that the rink was much bigger than they are used to practicing on. They weren't used to skating as much and the angles of the game became much different, as it looked like they weren't sure how much room they actually had to cover.

They improved as a team and will play in their next tournament in Las Vegas in April.



Photo by Cpl. Joshua Barnhardt

Brian Griffin, forward, settles in and waits for the puck to drop on the opening face off of the third game of the day. The Bulldogs lost 7-2.



Photo by Cpl. Joshua Barnhardt

Shawn Potvin, forward, takes the puck towards the net.

## SPORTS BRIEFS

### All Marine Cycling

The Armed Forces Cycling Team will be formed to compete in the National Race Calendar series June 1 through 9, in Washington, D.C., and Pennsylvania.

Marines interested in trying out for the team, must submit resumes by April 1.

To get a form, contact the Semper Fit office.

### All Marine Skeet

A five-man All-Marine Skeet Team will participate in the Armed Forces Skeet Championship May 9 through 18.

Marines interested in being selected must submit resumes by March 25. Criteria for submissions is proof of membership in the National Skeet Shooting Association and a copy of an NSSA Classification Card.

To get a form, contact the Semper Fit office.

## GYM from Page 1

patrons with a valid, picture identification card are allowed access to the Gym/Fitness Center.

“Authorized patrons” are retired or active duty military and their family members, reserves on active status, and Department of Defense employees.

DOD employees with a valid ID card can sign in one guest but they must remain with the guest as long as that person is in the facility. They just can't sign guests in and leave.

Children and teenagers can utilize the fitness center, but with some stipulations.

“Children 11 years and younger can use the facility as long as they are under the direct supervision of their parents or guardians, but are not allowed on the weight room floor,” said Wersinger. “Ages 12 to 15 are allowed in the weight room but they still have to be supervised by an adult. Those

16 years and older are allowed on the weight room floor, but their sponsor still has to be in the building.”

Other changes Wersinger and his staff have made are physical changes to improve the ventilation of the place and the overall appearance. They're not performing any massive renovations, just putting everything back to way it was designed in earlier years.

“These moves give our patrons a place where they can feel comfortable and enjoy their workouts,” he said. “Some of the changes are also security measures to keep us vigilant of who comes in and out of the gym.”

So what may appear to be changes to the facility and the way the Semper Fit crew does business aren't changes at all. They're just going by the owner's manual and giving the place a good tuneup – much like a car.

If you have any ideas or suggestions regarding the fitness center talk to Gunnery Sgt. Wersinger and his staff or call him at 577-6543.

## CLINIC from Page 5

career.

His supervisor, Hospital Corpsman 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Dee Thomas, Occupational Health leading petty officer, shared high praise for Ocampo.

“It's great to work with Ocampo,” said Thomas. “I don't have to worry about things not getting done. He's unique and highly motivated. Besides that, he is wise beyond his rank and his grade. He has a lot of knowledge,” Thomas added.

Ocampo is steadily increasing his pool of knowledge.

Hammering away at college courses takes up the most space in the Junior Sailor of the Quarter's current agenda; however, studying for his upcoming promotion board is also an immediate goal.

## MCB from Page 2

and everybody is tired and proud as the last items are sold for the month.

Is this an unusual story of men and women coming together on an isolated project? No!

“I need to earn my degree and to get promoted, but I'm also hoping to reenlist and get either Marine Corps Air Station Miramar or Camp Pendleton because I keep hearing how great it is to

do a [Pacific Fleet] deployment,” said Ocampo. “I've done a deployment out of Camp Lejuene. Now, I have to do a West Coast float. That would make me feel more well-rounded.”



- Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class Jerry Ocampo

This is the norm for the men and women of the Maintenance Center. We have to go now because we have to start on the production for next month. Remember, it wasn't any one individual or shop that made this possible but each and every employee and contractor working together as an American team.

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

**1998 CHEVY S-10:** Fully loaded, lowered with rims, rear air shocks, \$12,000. Call 954-7567.

**1997 FORD 350 DUALY:** Crew cab, XLT package, automatic, diesel, long bed, camper shell, new tires/rims and windshield, power everything, tinted windows, sliding rear window, \$16,500 firm. Call 253-2133.

**1992 CHEVY 2500 SILVERADO PICK-UP:** Automatic, extended cab, long bed w/bed liner, heat and A/C, power windows and locks, tilt steering wheel, cruise control, AM/FM cassette, tow package, blue book list at \$9,690 asking \$7,800 OBO. Call 252-8839.

**1990 LINCOLN CONTINENTAL:** 3.8 engine, loaded, less 30k on rebuilt motor, \$2,500 firm. Call 257-3455 AWH, daytime 559-8461, ask for Tom.

**1988 TOYOTA 4-runner (SR5):** V-6 with 5 speed trans, 4-wheel drive with locker differential, PS/PW/PDL/CC 165K miles, good cond., \$4,500. Call 253-5397.

**1987 NISSAN SENTRA:** 5 speed, new engine, new tires, A/C and heat. \$1,500. Call 255-4339

**1985 FORD BRONCO:** P/S, P/B, 4 Speed, 300 six cyl., trans and rear-end overhauled recently, runs good, \$3,500, OBO. Call 254-1978.

**1979 FORD VAN CONVERSION 150:** Runs great, has many new parts, \$1,200. OBO. Call 255-2115.

**MISCELLANEOUS:** Sweetheart shaped boxes with locking heart, handmade from exotic woods, felt lined, \$20. Call Jim 255-2115.

**MISCELLANEOUS:** Dining room set, table with six chairs xlt. cond. \$300, OBO; Seven piece bedroom set, includes new king size mattress and box springs, xlt cond. \$1,000, OBO, must see to appreciate. Call 256-1430 AWH.

**MISCELLANEOUS:** Pageant dresses, sizes 2-7, worn only once. Make offer. Call 252-1311 AWH.

**MISCELLANEOUS:** Sofa, color is gray and white w/delicate yellow flowers, xlt. cond. \$300, OBO; recliner, like new, Color mauve, \$300. Call 256-1430 AWH.

**MISCELLANEOUS:** Universal weight bench, good for patio or garage workout, \$50; misc. golf clubs, build your own set, \$5 each. Call 252-7198

**WANTED:** Honda CRX or Honda Civic, running or not. Call 254-1913.

**LOST AND FOUND:** Two pair of prescription glasses found in government vehicles. One pair tinted. Can be claimed at Dispatch Desk, Building 322, between 0700-1530.

**THANK YOU:** On behalf of the Dominguez and Reese Family I would like to thank you for your contributions and thoughtfulness in the loss of our loved one Henry (Hank) Dominguez. Mrs. Paula Dominguez and families.

