

BARSTOW LOG

SUPPORTING MCLB'S VISION FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

Vol. 7, No. 35

Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California

September 4, 2003

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Check out the Marine Corps Web site.

<http://www.usmc.mil>

BARSTOW LOG
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<https://www.barstow.usmc.mil>

Barstow to hold Sept. 11 ceremony

Submitted by John Rader
City of Barstow

The City of Barstow will hold a free September 11 memorial event for the community at the Sportspark at 2800 Guadalupe Rd., Sept. 11, at 5:30 p.m.

The event, "Remember the Fallen, Celebrate our Freedom," will feature performances by the Barstow High School Aztec Marching Band and local singers; static displays of a U.S. Army Blackhawk helicopter and M1A1 tank; static displays of emergency vehicles from local law enforcement and fire agencies; demonstrations by the Marine Corps Logistics Base K 9 Unit; an inspirational address by Chaplain Raymond Khachatourian; face painting and kids activities; and free hot dogs, chips and drink provided by the Barstow Area Chamber of Commerce for those in attendance.

"Remember the Fallen, Celebrate our Freedom" brings our community together to reflect on those who lost their lives in the terrorism and those brave heroes that assisted others in need that day and the months following," said Lawrence Dale, Barstow mayor. "As the healing process for the nation continues, this event brings our community together to demonstrate our patriotic pride while celebrating the many freedoms we enjoy in this

country," added Dale.

The keynote speaker will be Seventh Day Adventist Chaplain Raymond Khachatourian. As Vice Commander of the San Bernardino Chaplains Core Unit and President of the Southwest Region of I.C.P.C., Chaplain Khachatourian responded to New York's call for help and traveled to the Twin Towers tragedy site a week after September 11, 2001. He will share his firsthand experiences from his inspiring humanitarian trip against a backdrop of relevant photos.

As part of the memorial event, city officials are challenging all Barstow residents to show their patriotism by displaying their American flags on Sept. 11, and a prize will be awarded to the most patriotically dressed person at the memorial event.

Event organizers will announce the winners of the city's September 11 Memorial Essay Contest during the event. Students have been asked to write an essay about an everyday hero in their lives and submit it to

Tanya Concho, City of Barstow, 220 E. Mountain View St., Suite A, Barstow, CA 92311 by 5 p.m. on September 5. The Barstow College Associated Student Body will provide the prize money to the essay winners.

For more information, contact John Rader at 256-3531, ext. 3265, or Sue Jones at 252-2411, ext. 7350.



Photo by Rob Jackson

Hospitalman 1st Class David Pope is awarded the Purple Heart by Lt. Cmdr. Donna Jefcoat, officer-in-charge of the Branch Medical Clinic here, during a ceremony at the clinic Tuesday while wife, Kim, looks on. HM1 Pope was awarded the Purple Heart for wounds received in combat action while attached to 3d Battalion, 7th Marines during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Letters, small packages get to troops quicker

By K.L. Vantran
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Postal Service and the Military Postal Service Agency process about 2 million pounds of mail a week for troops in Iraq and Afghanistan, and some items make it to the recipient faster than others, Navy Lt. Cmdr. Brian Lomax, agency chief of plans and policy, said here Thursday.

Depending on where it originates, a letter or package spends "a couple of days" in the USPS system before it reaches either San Francisco or New York City, Lomax said. Then it travels another 16 to 19 hours by plane before landing in Kuwait or Bahrain. From there, it's picked up or delivered by motor vehicle.

Once in theater, a letter takes seven to 14 days to reach the service member, while a package usually takes 14 to 24 days, Lomax added. Packages make up

90 percent of the mail.

"The mail is getting to the troops," he said. "The troops are happy. Our intent is to continue to make improvements and exceed their expectations."

Using automated mail scanning equipment and increasing the number of people working at mail facilities are two improvements that have speeded up mail delivery, Lomax said.

People who mail letters and packages also can help, he added. "The size of the package plays an important role," Lomax said. "Large packages take up a lot more room. If there's a choice between taking one large box or a lot of smaller boxes and letters, the large box will stay (at the mail facility). The ideal size is a shoebox. It's also important to correctly address the package."

Aerosol cans, alcoholic beverages, ammunition, fireworks, flammable or explosive materials and illegal or infectious substances are among items that cannot

be mailed to service members in Iraq and Afghanistan. For more information, call 1-800-ASK-USPS.

Though it's not one of the restricted items, Lomax recommends against sending chocolate. "Chocolate and 140 degrees makes chocolate paste," he said.

Cookies seem to travel well, he added, and placing cookies in a coffee can helps to protect them.

Heat also takes its toll on the tape used in packaging, Lomax said. The USPS Web site states a clear or brown packaging tape, reinforced packing tape or paper tape is best. Cord, string and twine should not be used, because they can get caught in the mail processing equipment.

Service members love to get mail, Lomax continued. "When I was out at sea, it was always a joy to get a letter from home or a copy of a report card. It's an exhilarating feeling: 'I'm out here doing my job, and they haven't forgotten who I am.'"

July sees more Marines die on motorcycles

ALMAR 050/03
Headquarters Marine Corps

During the month of July, 13 Marines died in mishaps and five Marines committed suicide.

The following is a summary of our mishap casualties for the month of July:

Fatalities

One Marine died in an on-duty ground accident this month. He fell from the roof of a building in Iraq while on post.

One Marine died in an aviation accident this month. A total of three Class A flight mishaps occurred in July.

Eleven Marines died in off-duty accidents

this month. Five died in motorcycle accidents, five died in private motor vehicle accidents, and one Marine drowned.

Looking ahead

Unless we change the way we operate motor vehicles, we will not change our off-duty accident statistics. The five Marines lost in motorcycle accidents during July brings the total number of Marines who have died on motorcycles this year to 13, more than any year since 1991.

Motorcycles are inherently dangerous, but proper protective equipment, training, and risk awareness greatly reduce the risks. Leaders must be aware of the Marines in their unit who ride motorcycles to ensure they are trained and qualified to operate them. Allowing a Marine to

drive a motorcycle without proper training and equipment is a mishap waiting to happen.

Accountability is a hallmark of our professionalism. Authority can be delegated; accountability can not. Marines are accountable for their actions regardless of location or duty status. Before acting, consider the risk.

Ask yourself, "What can I do to decrease risk?" As a leader, ask your Marines the same question before they secure for the day.

A safer environment results when we minimize risk by thinking about the factors that contribute to mishaps both on and off duty. This helps create a safe mindset and eliminate the unhealthy attitudes and behaviors that lead to some of the mishaps described in this

message. Junior leaders are as important in this process as the commanders, and we are all accountable.

Leadership has to come from both the top and the bottom if we are going to save Marines' lives through our safety programs. We will change our Corps for the better when we embed the principles of risk management into our ethos.

The corporals and sergeants of our Corps will then clearly see the inextricable link between risk management, safety, and professionalism, and we will win this fight.

Keep charging and Semper Fidelis. W. L. Nyland, General, U.S. Marine Corps, assistant commandant of the Marine Corps.

Tolerance isn't always good

By Lt. Cmdr. Randel Livingood
Base Chaplain



"Tolerance." There's a word that we have heard quite a bit lately.

A word that has taken on a life of its own recently. As a society, a nation, and a people we have been asked to become more tolerant about all kinds of things.

Don't get me wrong; tolerance is a good thing. I can tell you that if my parents hadn't been tolerant I would have been kicked out of the house early on in my rebellious young life. If my professors in college had not been tolerant, I would have been asked to leave because I asked far too many difficult questions about the administration.

So for me, tolerance is a good thing. The challenge in being tolerant is deciding what you will or will not tolerate. It is interesting that society as a whole seems to go through cycles of more or less tolerance but always with a trend toward greater acceptance of behaviors previously thought to be completely intolerable. Obviously this works out well for some people within our society.

For those who steal, when stealing is

tolerated their lives become ever so much easier. For those who lie, when lying is tolerated their lives become ever so much easier. For those who cheat, when cheating is tolerated life becomes easier.

So the question becomes not whether toleration is good, rather it becomes what should we tolerate. In other words, when do we decide that there really are some things we should not tolerate?

If we care to, we can look at the results of our tolerant society. We can ask ourselves why so many children turn out to be drug users. We can ponder why so many people have behavior problems that land them in trouble with civil authorities. We can ask why the median age for teens engaged in active sex lives seems to get lower every year.

I think at least part of the answer is tolerance. As a society reduced to the family unit we have become more tolerant than ever before. We allow our children to "explore" themselves, and to "make their own decisions."

We "don't want to stifle their creativity." We seem to have become tolerant of almost any behavior maybe because our children are not as bad as the children next door.

If you want to know why our society seems to have lost its' ability to see right and wrong the

See **CHAPLAIN** Page 9

Just doing my job ...



Photo by Lance Cpl. Andy J. Hurt

Alex Guza, electronics technician at MCB's Cost Work Center 681, calibrations lab, gives a lesson in radioactive atoms Aug. 28. Guza has worked in the RADIAC calibration lab for nearly 18 years.

Chapel Services

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

Morning Prayer in the Building 15 Administration Office Tuesday at 8:30 a.m.

Catholic Rosary

First Saturday of every month. 3 p.m. at the Base Chapel. For more info call 577-6849.

Episcopal Mass

Tuesday at 4 p.m. at Building 406 in Yermo. Thursday at 11 a.m. at the Base Chapel.

For more info call 577-6849.



Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California
Colonel Ingrid E. Bergman, Commanding Officer

Public Affairs Staff
Public Affairs Officer: Bill Bokholt
Public Affairs Chief: Gunnery Sgt. John Cordero
Public Affairs Specialist: Rob L. Jackson
Editor: Cpl. Joshua Barnhardt
Correspondent: Lance Cpl. Andy J. Hurt
Public Affairs Support Clerk: Bertie Dailey

The editorial content of this newspaper is prepared, edited and provided by the Public Affairs Office of Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California. Mailing address: Commanding Officer (B130), Command Headquarters, Marine Corps Logistics Base, Box 110100, Barstow, CA 92311-5001. The Public Affairs Office is located in Building 15. Phones: (760) 577-6430, 577-6450, 577-6451, FAX 577-6350, DSN prefix 282.

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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 Thursdays for the next week's issue. Submit news briefs via e-mail to editor@barstow.usmc.mil

Lunch Menu

Unless otherwise indicated lunch menus for the Family Restaurant and Cactus Cafe are the same. Lunch menus are subject to change.

Today – Sliced turkey

Friday – Breaded hoki fish

Monday – Salisbury steak

Tuesday – Chicken cordon bleu

Wednesday – Barbecue pork ribs

Active duty military \$3.25, all others, including civilians \$4.75. Lunch entrees include roll/butter, vegetable, coffee, tea or soft drink.

Lunch is served at the Family Restaurant from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. At the Cactus Cafe from 11 a.m. to noon.

Cactus Cafe serves hamburgers, subs, salads and other line items available for walk in lunch – for other Family Restaurant lunch menu items, call in orders before 9:30 a.m. to the Family Restaurant at 577-6428.

Breakfast

Breakfast at the Family Restaurant is from 5:30 to 8 a.m. At the Cactus Cafe from 5:30 to 6:30 a.m.

Family Night Dining

Tonight – Stir fry night. Beef, pork and chicken stir fry, fried rice, egg drop soup and dessert, plus a fountain drink of choice.

For more information, contact Pat Snyder at 577-7138.

KVN Survey

The Marine Corps is conducting a study of the Key Volunteer Network Program. The study seeks to determine the effectiveness of this program. It is requested that all married service members and spouses participate in the Key Volunteer Network Internet Survey no later than Sept. 12 by using the below information:

Service Member Survey at www.kvnsurvey.com. The username is marine1 and the password is usmc1.

Spouse Survey at www.kvnsurvey.com. The username is spouse1 and the password is usmc1.

If you have any questions on this survey please contact Mrs. Nancy Gutierrez at 577-6556.

Military Mixer

The annual Community-Military Mixer will be held at the Veterans Home of California-Barstow starting at 6:30 p.m. Sept. 24.

This is the 13th year individuals from local communities and all military ranks from Ft. Irwin and MCLB will gather to become better acquainted and strengthen relationships in a friendly and social atmosphere for the betterment of local civilian and military communities.

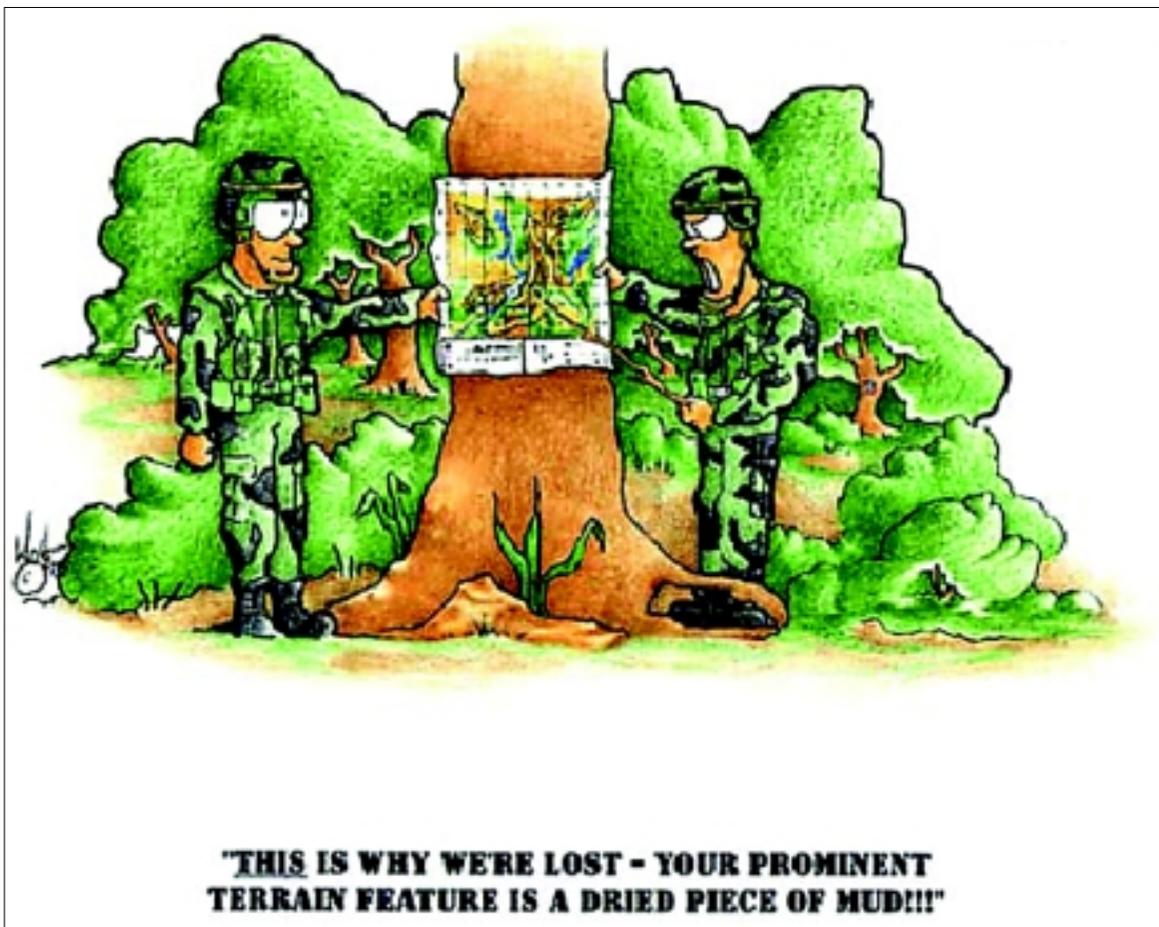
Mark your calendars now to attend. For more information contact Public Affairs at 577-6430.

Temporary on-off ramp closures

The California Department of Transportation will close the Interstate 15 southbound D Street off-ramp and southbound E Street on-ramp in Victorville for 15 days and southbound Dale Evans Parkway on-ramp for 30 days beginning Sept. 3. This closure is necessary to reconstruct the ramp, the bridge deck and a segment of I-15 freeway lanes with long-lasting concrete.

The detour for the 15-day D Street off-ramp closure is as follows:

Continue southbound on I-15 to Mojave Drive off-ramp exit; proceed east to the Mojave Drive on-ramp and



enter northbound I-15; exit the freeway at the northbound D Street off-ramp.

The detour for the 15-day E Street on-ramp closure is as follows:

Proceed east on E Street and enter northbound I-15 from the E Street on-ramp; exit the freeway at the Stoddard Wells Road off-ramp; turn right on Stoddard Wells Road, make a second right on Stoddard Wells Road and turn left to enter southbound I-15 from the Stoddard Wells Road on-ramp.

The detour for the 30-day Dale Evans Parkway southbound on-ramp closure is as follows:

Take the northbound on-ramp at Dale Evans Parkway to the northbound off-ramp at Wild Wash Road; exit at Wild Wash Road and turn left to the southbound I-15 on-ramp and proceed south on I-15.

Medical requirements

To better serve the active-duty Marine and sailor community stationed at MCLB Barstow, the Branch Medical

Clinic will be conducting Active Duty "C" Status/Medical Readiness Record Verifications on service members' birth month. This new process begins this month. Service members will be contacted through their chain of command based on their birth month to schedule

an appointment with the Preventative Medicine Representative and complete their annual medical readiness requirements. The point of contact for any questions and scheduling of appointments is

See BRIEFS Page 9

Occupational Health move

Occupational Health is in the process of moving its office from Yermo Annex to the Barstow Branch Medical Clinic at Nebo.

The move is to help improve the efficiency and employees' time lost from work by providing a building in which all labs, x-rays, audios and Pulmonary Function Tests are accomplished during the same visit.

Prior to the move patients were heading to three different areas to complete this.

The move will be completed by Sept. 8 and the new process will begin at that time.

All employees scheduled for audio, PFTs, Labs, or CXR should be at the Branch Medical Clinic at Nebo by 6:25 a.m. to begin processing.

They will then head to work after their medical evaluations are complete. Each employee will be responsible for checking in with the receptionist and before leaving checking out with the receptionist to make sure his or her medical evaluation is complete.

The Occupational Health team is very excited about this move, according to Lt. Kelly Leigh Horn, general medical officer at the Branch Medical Clinic.

Once the move is complete the Yermo employees will spend one morning conducting Phase One of their physicals, which includes x-rays, audio, PFTs and labs, at Nebo.

After completion of Phase One they will report to the dispensary at the Maintenance Center for Phase Two, which is a physical by the doctor, on Wednesday morning.

These appointments will be scheduled approximately one month after the Phase One process to allow sufficient time to gather all the results for the day of their physical.

Nebo employees will report on Tuesday mornings to the Nebo clinic for scheduled appointments approximately one month after their Phase One is complete.

The employees will be contacted and scheduled by the Occupational Health receptionist.

Job Watch

Ann No.	Title/Series/Grade	Open	Close	1st Cutoff	Location
DEU-287-03-NR	Sandblaster WG-5423-07 (Term NTE 366 Days)	08-07-03	09-08-03	08-11-03	MCLB Barstow

Applicants interested in the above positions should submit résumés online at the following Web sites: <http://www.donhr.navy.mil> and/or <http://www.usajobs.opm.gov>.

For information regarding open continuous announcements go to <http://www.donhr.navy.mil>

For more information concerning public job announcements visit the Self-Service Center, Building 236, Mondays through Fridays from 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. or call the Human Resources Office, 577-6357, 577-6279, or 577-6481.

This is not an official list. See the Web sites listed for a complete list.

Marine Reserve options available

By Cpl. Joshua Barnhardt
Editor

The Marine Corps Reserve has many options to offer Marines coming out of active-duty enlistment who aren't retiring.

The first option, which Marines who only complete four years of active duty time automatically fall under, is the inactive reserves.

The inactive reserves are Marines who don't drill one weekend a month and two weeks a year, but are still subject to recall to active duty during a national emergency such as

Operation Iraqi Freedom.

All the Marine has to do until his eight years are up starting from the time he signed up for active duty, is go to a muster once a year. After the mandatory time is up, a Marine can request to stay on the inactive reserve list and can work his way up the promotion ladder, said Gunnery Sgt. Paul W. Poole,

transitional recruiter at Marine Corps Air Ground Task Force Training Center Twentynine Palms, Calif.

"All the Marine has to do is request to stay on the list and earn points as a reservist by doing a number of things," said Poole. "He can earn his 27 points a year by completing MCIs, by volunteering for Toys for Tots, or going to a drill

unit and putting in time there."

After a Marine completes 20 years, he is eligible for a pension, said Poole.

Another option is to join the Marine Corps reserves and

go to a drilling unit. To do that, a Marine needs to pick a unit he wants to be a part of and get orders there after his active duty time is up, said Poole.

If the reserve unit does not have the Marine's particular military occupational specialty, the unit will give him on-the-job training or send him to school to acquire the

MOS, said Poole.

If a Marine does not take an incentive as part of his orders, he has no obligated service time and can quit at any time, said Poole.

"In the reserves, the only people there are the ones who want to be there," said Poole. "If you decide it is not for you, you can request to be released from the unit and it will be granted."

The last option available in the reserves for Marines is active reserves. There are about 150 slots for active reservists and they are all in the United States, said Poole.

The active reservists work like the active duty Marine, but are only attached to a unit and not part of it, so they can't be moved to a different area, said Poole.

The catch to active reservists is it is only a three-year tour and after the three years is up the Marine must go back to the reserves for three years before he can come back to the active reserves, said Poole.

All of the options are available to separating Marines who are getting out on an honorable discharge, said Poole.

"In the reserves, the only people there are the ones who want to be there. If you decide it is not for you, you can request to be released from the unit and it will be granted."

Gunnery Sgt. Paul W. Poole

Editor's Note:

To find out more about reserve options, Poole can be reached at (800) 552-8762.



Photo by Lance Cpl. Andy J. Hurt

Lance Cpl. Christopher Moore, a computer specialist for the Communications Division, tosses a horseshoe at the 101 Days of Summer Barracks Bash Aug. 28. Lance Cpl. Brian Bannister won the 101 Days of Summer contest, Cpl. Chuen Lam finished second, and Lance Cpl. Timothy Graham took third place.

Wood/Rock shop 'cuts' boredom on base

By Lance Cpl. Andy J. Hurt
BARSTOW LOG staff

The MCLB Barstow Wood/Rock Hobby Shop, located on South Iwo Jima St., across from the Marine Corps Community Services Exchange, is not just a haven for wood-working experts and geologists.

The common hobby novice has his or her place there as well.

For the stonecutters and geologists here, the Rock section offers "anything you need," said Wood/Rock Hobby shop manager Robert N. Izumi.

The shop offers buffers, small and large rock saws, lappers, grinders and polishers, as well as varying shapes and sizes of all these tools plus more to accommodate the needs of a particular project.

If a customer wishes to make jewelry items, like pendants or place a stone in a ring, supplies can be purchased through a distributor in Barstow.

Izumi said one aspect of the shop that may intimidate people is all the saws and precision machinery.

"People think it's dangerous, but I show them how to use (machines) and

it's very safe," he said as he placed his finger on the blade of a running rock saw, demonstrating just how safe the machines can be.

"I teach them how to be careful," he said.

Izumi is a retired Army sergeant major and has worked at the Wood/Rock Hobby shop here since 1975. Izumi still offers one-on-one instruction with the help of his assistant, Tim Hernandez.

The bigger part of the shop is the woodworking area.

Izumi said that most of the customers in the woodshop come to repair furniture, noting that furniture repair was just one of the many projects people take on in the shop.

Wood and plans are not usually provided, said Izumi, but are easy to come by in town.

Plans, he added, can be checked out from libraries or through the Internet, also available at the Base Library.

Izumi has helped build many projects in use on base, such as the podium in the Base Chapel, but has also helped many customers build



Photo by Lance Cpl. Andy J. Hurt

Robert N. Izumi, MCLB Barstow Wood/Rock Hobby shop manager, cuts a tiny stone on a small rock cutter. Although the equipment looks dangerous, Izumi demonstrated how the blade could not cut a finger.

things like tables, entertainment centers, television stands and bookcases over the years.

The shop is available to all active duty service members and depen-

dents, civilian Marines and retired military personnel. Children must be above the age of 14.

The Wood/Rock Hobby shop hours are Wednesdays through Fri-

days 1p.m. to 9 p.m., and Saturdays and Sundays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

For more information, contact Robert Izumi, Wood/Rockshop manager at 577-6692.

READY, FRONT



Photo by Curt Lambert

Paul Church of the small arms section, Maintenance Center Barstow, talks with Maj. Gen. Harold Mashburn Jr., Marine Corps Logistics Command commanding general, during Mashburn's first command visit to MCLB Barstow.

SMP Events

The Single Marine Program is offering a trip Saturday to see the University of Southern California play Brigham Young University in football.

Tickets are free to all single Marines. Tickets can also be purchased for \$17.50 for family and friends. Space is limited.

There will be a bus leaving the Family Restaurant at 1 p.m. for all Marines who want to ride. Friends and family can't ride in the bus, but Marines are allowed to drive themselves if desired.

The SMP will also be going to a Los Angeles Dodgers game against the San Francisco Giants Sept. 20.

For more information about either of these events, call Somer Meeden at 577-6812.

Marine Corps Ball events

There will be a flag football tournament Friday at Sorensen Field at 6:15 a.m. Entry fee is \$5 per person.

There will be a breakfast burrito and fruit bowl sale Sept. 11 and 25. Burritos are \$3 and fruit bowls are \$2.

Volunteers are needed to run the Marine Corps Ball booth at the Barstow Rodeo Stampede Sept. 27 and 28.

Tickets for the Marine Corps Ball are on sale Sept. 30 in Building 15.

For more information about any of these events, call Danielle Heinze at 577-6307.

September promotions, awards

Promotions

Sgt. Barbara J. Lee
 Cpl. Amy L. Hadeen
 Cpl. Douglas A. Hawks
 Cpl. Angel A. Jaquez
 Lance Cpl. Leonard Almonte
 Lance Cpl. Joshua W. Cubbage
 Lance Cpl. Jeffrey J. Raymond

Lance Cpl. Ryan A. Simmons
 Lance Cpl. Keith J. Walter Cummings

Good Conduct Medal

Cpl. Hilda Heads
 Cpl. Christopher M. Janton
 Lance Cpl. Kara M. Barrera
 Lance Cpl. Anthony M. Spart

Rifle Scores

Capt. Prasserth Yang
 32 *Marksman*
 Gunnery Sgt. Nohelia Fritz
 38 *Sharpshooter*
 Staff Sgt. Shane Lopresto
 39 *Sharpshooter*
 Staff Sgt. Laura Sikes
 25 *Marksman*
 Staff Sgt. Dale Cobin
 43 *Expert*
 Staff Sgt. Jeffrey Cox
 46 *Expert*
 Staff Sgt. Edward Snider
 40 *Expert*
 Sgt. Juan Chavez
 29 *Marksman*
 Sgt. Carlos Barrientos
 35 *Sharpshooter*
 Sgt. Bruce Kastning
 44 *Expert*
 Cpl. Janson Dorman
 44 *Expert*
 Cpl. Peter Parker
 35 *Sharpshooter*
 Cpl. Hilda Heads
 39 *Sharpshooter*
 Cpl. Luis Urgiles
 40 *Expert*
 Cpl. Nancy Diuguid
 31 *Marksman*
 Cpl. Brandy Colbird
 25 *Marksman*
 Lance Cpl. Angel Jaquez
 39 *Sharpshooter*
 Lance Cpl. Erik Dortch
 26 *Marksman*
 Lance Cpl. Lenard Dockter
 31 *Marksman*

Lance Cpl. Nathan Moreno
 41 *Expert*
 Lance Cpl. Timothy Graham
 30 *Marksman*
 Pfc. Jason Jordan
 35 *Sharpshooter*



Photo by Lance Cpl. Andy J. Hurt

Col. Liz Bergman, base commander, and Cmdr. Jeff Johnston, director of Installation and Logistics Department, pin a Navy Commendation Medal on Lt. Mike Mollineaux, resident officer-in-charge of construction, at the Oasis Club Friday. Mollineaux was awarded for his efforts during the past two years at MCLB Barstow.



Around the Corps

Disabled Vets honored at Yankee Stadium

By Gunnery Sgt. Tim McGough
New York Public Affairs

Honor, courage and commitment are some of the many values of the Marine Corps. For Cpl. Hector Delgado and Lance Cpl. Ian Lennon those words have a very special meaning. Both Marines were severely injured in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Although both Marines were injured, they got up out of their hospital beds for a night with the 26-time World Champions - the New York Yankees.

The Yankees and the Disabled American Veterans Association hosted Delgado and Lennon along with other disabled veterans from World War II, Vietnam, and Desert Storm to a night of the American Pastime. However, both came a long way for a baseball

game.

Delgado, a native of Selden, N.Y., was coming off a convoy outside An-Nasiriyah, Iraq on April 14, when he was injured at Camp Viper. He and his buddies were getting out of the sun under a tractor-trailer when the legs gave way and the trailer landed on top of Delgado, crushing his pelvis. The accident may have crushed his pelvis, but it didn't crush his spirit.

"I thought I was going to die at first," said Delgado. "But I was determined to stay alive. My mother taught me about determination."

After spending 25 minutes under the massive weight of the trailer, Delgado was medivaced to the hospital ship USNS Comfort. He then began what would be a long and painful trek back to the states. I went from the ship to Kuwait and then to

Germany. After that, I headed back to the states and finally got to St. Charles Hospital in Long Island, he said.

It might have been a long road home, but the journey to rehabilitation is far from over. "The docs say I have to go through about a year's worth of rehab," said Delgado. "The only plans I have right now are to get well again."

On this long journey to recovery Delgado won't travel alone. "I have such great support from my family and especially my girlfriend Andrea," he said.

Andrea Davanzo has been seeing Delgado for a year and is impressed with progress since he returned from overseas. "It's unbelievable how much he's accomplished in the past few months," said Davanzo. "There's no doubt in my mind that he will walk again." Although Delgado is in a wheel chair right now, he is leaving the hospital for home today.

The corporal isn't the only one with a big support group. Lance Cpl. Ian Lennon, who joined the Corps on Nov. 4, 2000, has all his family, friends and the Disabled American Veterans Association in his corner as well.

Lennon, who served as a motor transportation Marine with the 5th Marine Regiment in Kuwait sustained massive burns to his body and face on March 6, 2003.

According to his mother, Debbie Lennon, she is very pleased with his service to the Marine Corps and country.

"It was his decision to join the Marines," she said. "At first I wasn't too happy about it, but I don't push my kids; they are adults and have to make decisions on their own. I am so proud of him and what he did for our country and I am happy that he made it home."

Lennon, a native of Lindenhurst, N.Y., is a quiet kid with a talent for fixing things. "He was always working on things," said his

mother. "He'd come home with dirty hands from fixing cars. That's Ian."

Although Lennon's mother is happy her son is home, she is realistic about his injuries. "I know it is going to be a long haul for Ian," she said. "He is coming home but has to go to Texas for more surgery, and I am glad that he now has an extended family with Al Giordano and the Disabled American Veterans Association."

"The DAV is more than happy to help," said Al Giordano, membership chairman for the DAV. "As we Marines say, we take care of our own." Giordano, who served in the Corps from '82 to '85, says that vets like Delgado and Lennon will always have a support network to help them.

"God forbid if someone isn't there for my children when they need it," he said. "Or me for that matter. That is why we are here for them and all disabled veterans, whether their injuries are sustained in combat or accidental."

Giordano started organizing DAV nights with the Yankees last year and was very impressed with the team's support. "The Yankees are a class organization," said Giordano. "They showed true professionalism and compassion for the disabled vets. It was first class all the way."

Before the game started nine disabled veterans marched to center field just above second base at Yankee Stadium. They received a standing ovation for their honor, courage and commitment to their service, their families and their country.

Those three words - honor, courage and commitment - are significant words to Marines, but it would take many more words to summarize what disabled veterans and all veterans have done and do for America.



Photo by Gunnery Sgt. Tim McGough

Cpl. Hector Delgado, waves to the fans at Yankee Stadium. Delgado joined his fellow disabled military veterans as they were honored for their sacrifice and service.



Photo by Gunnery Sgt. Tim McGough

New York Yankees Manager, Joe Torre (center), takes time out for a picture with the disabled veterans. From left to right Al Giordano, Cpl. Hector Delgado, Ron Tears, Torre, Lance Cpl. Ian Lennon and Thomas Mazza. The vets were honored before the Yankees' game with the Chicago White Sox.

One writer's NFL predictions

By Rob L. Jackson
BARSTOW LOG staff

The 2003-2004 National Football League regular season is finally here - thank you!

It seems like only a few weeks ago that the Tampa Bay Buccaneers completed their quest to the Super Bowl with a 48-21 thrashing of the Oakland Raiders (sorry Raider fans) and the biggest question this year is can they repeat? The odds are that they can.

The Bucs return this season with basically the same squad that won it all last season. Barring injuries at key positions, expect to see Tampa holding the Lombardi trophy again.

That's my prediction for this NFL season; see you after the Super Bowl.

Sorry football fans, almost forgot I had to write about the rest of the league so let's start with the National Football Conference, the south since that's where most teams are expected to have trouble:

Tampa Bay is the king of this division for now for this reason only, Michael Vick of the Atlanta Falcons is out for the next six weeks because of a cracked fibula. Without Vick the Falcons are a mediocre team at best. The New Orleans Saints could possibly sneak in and take the division crown but don't count on it. Until Coach Jim Hasslett figures out a way to stop the Saints end-of-the-season slide, they will not make it past the first round of the playoffs if they make it that far. The team to watch in this division is Carolina. With defensive end Julius Peppers having completed a successful rookie season and the Panthers acquiring running back Stephen Davis from the Redskins, this team could make some noise this year.

Moving to the NFC East you can expect to see Philadelphia and the New York Giants vying for the division crown. Washington's coach Steve Spurrier has a full season under his belt so he has to have a good season or those maniacal Redskins fans will be looking for his head on a platter. Look for the Skins to finish third in the division at 9-7.

When Bill Parcells took over as the big dog in Dallas he knew he had a lot of work to do. Naming Quincy Carter as his starting quarterback was his first move but I think he'll change his mind before the third game and put in Chad Hutchins as the QB. Cowboys' fans are hoping that Parcells will perform a first-season miracle - NOT!!

The Green Bay Packers have dominated the NFC North, and I don't look for that to change anytime soon as long as Brett Favre stays healthy. The Bears are hoping to go from chumps to champs now that they have a new stadium and Cordell Stewart as quarterback. Coach Mike Tice had Minnesota moving in the right direction at the end of last season, and Vikings fans are hoping he continues that trend this season. Vikes will finish third this year.

Let's see, with Joey Harrington as quarterback and Steve Mariucci as the new head coach, the Detroit Lions have the makings of a dangerous team. Look for the Lions to upset a few teams this season and maybe finish at .500.

In the Wild West the odds makers have the Rams rising to the top again and possibly returning to the Super Bowl. Even though the Rams will have a lock on this division, they'll still have to watch out for the Seahawks, that's right, the Seattle Seahawks. With last year's strong finish the Seahawks look to be one of the dark horse teams headed for this year's playoffs so take note.

San Francisco brought in Dennis Erickson to replace Mariucci as head coach, and he has a pretty decent 49er team in place. However, coming from the college ranks to try the pro ranks again is going to be tough. The Niners takes the third slot out west. The Cardinals have the best running back of all time in Emmitt Smith but they'll need a lot more than him to save Coach Dave McGinnis' job.

In the American Football Conference West Division, the Super Bowl finger points to the Kansas City Chiefs. If history

repeats itself, then this is the year Coach Dick Vermeil makes his run. He did it in his third year with the Eagles and lost in the big dance, he did it in his third year with the Rams and won by a narrow margin. This year the Chiefs will make it to the playoffs but get knocked off in the second round. After last year's dismantling in the Super Bowl the Oakland Raiders have something to prove, but consider the fact that this team resembles George Allen's "Over the Hill Gang" from the 70s. The Raiders will make it to the playoffs but advance no further than the first round. One-time Cardinal QB Jake Plummer has a new home in Denver but he is no John Elway. Expect the Broncos to finish third and sit at home watching the playoffs with the rest of us. Losing Junior Seau from the San Diego Chargers is like losing the use of an arm or leg. Seau was the heart of the Chargers and the effects of his loss will be felt.

Moving to the AFC South the Tennessee Titans have this division lock, stock and barrel, nuff said. The Indianapolis Colts hope to stay close now that a healthy Edgerrin James is back in the backfield. Jack Del Rio was an outstanding linebacker during his days with the Cowboys and Vikings, but as a head coach I can't see him improving the Jacksonville Jaguars that much in his first season. The Houston Texans are ... well, still building. David Carr will not be sacked as much this year, and the Texans are a fun team to watch.

The AFC North has the Pittsburgh Steelers still holding the top spot unless Tommy Maddox can't repeat his performance from last season. Some how I don't see Coach Bill Cowher allowing that to happen because he always seems to find a way to get his boys in the playoffs. The Baltimore Ravens have a healthy Ray Lewis back at linebacker and are expecting to make a run to the playoffs and repeat what they did in 2000, although this time the Ravens won't sneak up on anyone. Cleveland has the third spot in this division, and

just maybe Coach Butch Davis will have his Browns in the hunt for a championship, but not this year. Marvin Lewis moved from defensive coordinator of the Washington Redskins last year to head coach of the Cincinnati Bengals this year. I hope he knows what he's in for. Although I never put much stock in preseason games, it appears that Lewis has this team headed in the right direction, up.

Finally, in the AFC East the New England Patriots are locked and loaded to make another run to the Super Bowl. After rebuilding the defense in the off-season with some key acquisitions, the Pats are poised to make some noise. The Miami Dolphins, always a contender, have the right players in every position except at quarterback. The Dolphins acquired Brian Griese from the Broncos but Jay Fiedler still has the

job. If the team doesn't choke in the end, as it has been known to do, the Dolphins could possibly make a playoff run.

Having a high-powered offense doesn't mean squat unless you have an equally effective defense so look for the Buffalo Bills to be very entertaining this year but left out in the cold during the playoffs. The New York Jets were depleted over the summer as far key players are concerned, and having Chad Pennington suffer a serious injury during preseason play doesn't help matters. Coach Herm Edwards will have to find a miracle somewhere to keep the Jets out of the AFC East cellar.

So with picking Tampa Bay as a shoo-in for the NFC in the Super Bowl, after the dust clears the AFC representative will be Tennessee. Surprised? Don't be, just watch.

Gunny's Picks

Week 1

Your Picture Here

Now that National Football League fans have had a chance to see some of their favorite teams play during what I consider upscale scrimmage games, the real show begins this weekend. Now fans, the long awaited Gunny's Picks is back again with an opportunity for those pigskin prognosticators to prove how good they are a picking weekly winners. It's time for the "real season" to begin so show us what you got during the opening weekend. Ready? Here's the Week 1 schedule so bring it on.

To submit your choices for Gunny's Picks, fill out this section of the newspaper and drop it off at the Public Affairs Office in the Green Wing of Building 15, or e-mail who you think will win each game to editor@barstow.usmc.mil.

*Atlanta at Dallas
Baltimore at Pittsburgh*
Jacksonville at Carolina*
Chicago at San Francisco*
*New England at Buffalo
*Arizona at Detroit
St. Louis at NY Giants*

Oakland at Tennessee*
San Diego at Kansas City*
*Denver at Cincinnati
Minnesota at Green Bay*
New Orleans at Seattle*
Houston at Miami*
*Indianapolis at Cleveland

Monday Night

*Tampa Bay at Philadelphia
Total points: _____

Name, work section and phone number: _____
Monday night's game is a tie-breaker and must include a total score.

CHAPLAIN from Page 2

answer may be that we have learned to tolerate almost everything so that nothing is wrong anymore.

The standards of what it means to be a decent human being have eroded because we were afraid of being labeled "intolerant." I realize that this article is probably going to be viewed as "insensitive," and "intolerant" by some, but I would suggest that those persons should try to tolerate me.

You see, it is not so much fun when you are one being asked to be tolerant of something you really dislike or don't believe in. That takes

us back to an old principle of life that has flowed through our culture from the earliest days even until now.

"Do unto others as you would have them do to you." Yes, the golden rule. Maybe that rule has gotten a little tarnished over the years but I believe it is a good rule nonetheless.

Toleration goes both ways and yes, the fact is that there are some things that we should not tolerate. That question however is one that each of us must answer and then be brave enough to defend that answer and live it out.

Peace,
Fr Randel

BRIEFS from Page 3

Petty Officer 3rd Class Juan Ayon at 577-6491, ext. 114.

Playmornings

The New Parent Support Program will be sponsoring "play mornings" every Wednesday from 9:30 to 11 a.m. Parents are encouraged to bring their children, age 5 years old and under, to attend a fun-filled morning of crafts, toys and music. Call the New Parent Support Program at 577-6332 for location and to register.

Classic cars

The 5th Annual Main Street USA Run is scheduled for Sept. 13 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in downtown Barstow off the Historic Route 66 (from First to Seventh Streets).

The event supports the Boys and Girls Club of Barstow and is open to all years of classic cars, trucks, corvettes, low riders, foreign/imports, and PT Cruisers. Pre-registration is \$25.

New for 2003: Battle of Bands, valve cover races and children's model car contest. "Meet and greet" will be held Sept. 12 at Foster's Freeze. For more information, call (760) 255-1691.