

# BARSTOW LOG

SUPPORTING MCLB'S VISION FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

Vol. 8, No. 14

Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California

April 8, 2004

## WG Pay Chart

A correct copy of the WG pay chart for the Los Angeles, Calif., area.

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## FSD Hike

First they battled ice and snow, now mountain lions? See what FSD Marines are up to.

Page 7

# 2004

# VITA

April 15 marks the end of the tax season. Call 577-6874 to make an appointment with one of the VITA representatives.

Check out the Marine Corps Web site.

<http://www.usmc.mil>

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

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

## Rumsfeld certifies need for BRAC '05

By David Lacroix  
Headquarters Marine Corps

In accordance with Section 2912 of the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990 (Public Law 101-510, as amended), Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld certified on March 23 that the need exists for closure or realignment of additional military installations and that the additional rounds of closures and realignments will result in annual net savings for each of the military departments not later than fiscal year 2011.

The BRAC 2005 process would have been terminated had Secretary Rumsfeld not made this certification.

Section 2912 required the secretary of defense to submit to Congress, as part of the budget justification documents for the DOD FY 05 budget, a 20-year force structure plan and a comprehensive worldwide inventory of military installations.

Using the force structure plan and inventory, the secretary was required to prepare and submit: a description of the infrastruc-

ture necessary to support the force structure plan; a discussion of the categories of excess infrastructure and infrastructure capacity; and an economic analysis of the effect of the closure or realignment of military installations to reduce excess infrastructure.

While this analysis concluded that excess infrastructure does exist (it estimates that DOD possesses, in the aggregate, 24 percent excess installation capacity with DON being at 21 percent), it must be noted that the methodology used has a number of limitations and provides only a rough indication of the excess capacity.

In the end, only a comprehensive BRAC analysis will determine the exact nature or location of potential excess capacity.

In preparing its list of recommended closures or realignment, which is due not later than May 16, 2005, DOD will conduct a thorough review of its existing infrastructure in accordance with the BRAC law and DOD guidance, ensuring that all military installations are treated equally.

## Spring TSP season opening approaching

By Lance Cpl. Jenna Lassandrello  
Combat Correspondent

The Thrift Savings Plan open season will begin on April 15 and continue until June 30.

During this open season, Marines and civilian employees can enroll in the TSP or make adjustments to their current TSP allotments. The TSP is a retirement savings and investment plan that was originally only used by federal civilian employees. In 2000, the program was extended to members of the uniformed service.

The TSP is unlike any other retirement saving plan offered to the members of the military. It is a defined contribution plan, or the member decides how much to contribute. The amount being contributed can only be adjusted during the open seasons.

There are two open seasons each year. One is from April 15 through June 30 and the other is from Oct. 15 through Dec. 31.

The TSP is an optional program

offered to Marines first at recruit training. "New joins have 60 days after joining the service to enroll in TSP," said Master Sgt. Allyson Hedrick, the personal financial counselor for the Marine and Family Services Division.

"After that Marines must enroll in either of the open seasons held each year," said Hedrick.

The contributions to the TSP are from the Marine's basic pay, and in 2004, Marines can contribute up to 9 percent of the basic pay each pay period. If Marines are contributing to the program from their basic pay, they can also choose to contribute up to 100 percent of any incentive or special pay up to the limits set by the Internal Revenue Code, which is \$13,000 per year in 2004.

The TSP is not a savings account that money can be withdrawn from. "A savings account is important to save money for those little emergencies and big ticket items," said Hedrick. A savings account only provides minimal interest and not

Product of MCB teamwork rolls off assembly line, into action on test track



Photo by Rob Jackson

A Light Armored Vehicle, fresh off the line from a complete rebuild, is brake-tested on the 60 degree slope of Maintenance Center Barstow's test track. The vehicle is taken through test procedures after a rebuild to ensure safety and combat readiness prior to returning it back to the MCB customer. Many of the tactical vehicles being rebuilt and maintained at MCB are deploying in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom II.

"... why borrow against your retirement?"  
- Master Sgt. Allyson Hedrick

enough to retire on, said Hedrick.

"The goal of TSP is to provide a source of income for retirement. There is a TSP loan program that gives you access to your money, but why borrow against your retirement?" said Hedrick.

The pay that is contributed to the TSP is not supposed to be redeemed until the participant is 59 1/2 years of age. Marines who choose not to retire from the service can take the TSP program with them. "(The) TSP can be rolled over into a 401K or a Roth IRA," said Hedrick.

Members of all five military branches are eligible to participate in the TSP along with members of the Public Health Service, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (serving on active duty), the Ready Reserve and the National Guard.

The TSP also offers other features such as five investment funds, tax-deferred and tax-exempt earnings, inter-fund transfers, and the ability to designate beneficiaries for the account, said Hedrick.

This program is not just for the service members who plan to retire in the military. The TSP program is great, it allows Marines who retire from the service to supplement their retirement pay, and for the Marines who serve less than 20 years, the TSP provides the same advantages as our civilian counterparts, said Hedrick.

### Editor's Note:

Gunnery Sgt. Amanda Quantz has recently come on board at MCLB, and will be taking over the position of financial/budget counselor for Master Sgt. Allyson Hedrick.

# The Commander's Forum



The "Commander's Forum" is a tool of the base commander to hear and address the concerns of base residents, employees and others. To contact the Commander's Forum, call the hotline at 577-6535 or send your concerns via "snail mail" to ATTN: Commander's Forum, MCLB Barstow, CA 92311

## Submission Info:

The Commander's Forum is used to keep the work force informed, to explain why things are the way they are and to correct situations or make improvements. It is a valuable two-way communication channel through which people may address concerns they're not able to resolve through the normal

chain of command. Every Commander's Forum call or e-mail is researched, even if it is not published in the Barstow Log. If "callers" identify themselves, they will receive a response. The key to having a question and its response published in the BARSTOW LOG is that it be specific and address things that may impact base employees or tenants.

**Q** What is the status of the share ride from Victorville to the Maintenance Center? I am very interested in this program. It will save the base and me a lot of money.

**A** Your question is timely, as this program is soon to be underway. To begin with, I will provide you with some background on this program. The Department of the Navy, in compliance with Executive

Order 13150 of April 21, 2000, and the Department of Defense policy letter of Oct. 13, 2000, implemented the Transportation Incentive Program Outside the National Capitol Region effective July 2001. The program is intended to reduce federal employees' contribution to traffic congestion and air pollution, and to expand their commuting alternatives. Department of Transportation, on behalf of DOD, purchases and distributes transit vouchers and/or fare media to DON par-

ticipants. Here are a few highlights about the program:

- This is a Mass Transportation Fringe Benefit Program.
- This is a closely monitored program and regularly audited.
- Vouchers are accepted as payment for use of mass transportation systems e.g., vanpools.
- Vanpools or commuter highway vehicle, per the Internal Revenue Code Section 132 (f), means any highway vehicle – with a seating capacity of at

least six adults (not including the driver) and at least 80 percent of the mileage are for purposes of transporting employees between their residences and the places of employment. A class will be provided in the near future to inform employees of eligibility require-

ments and the application process. Look for the article published in the Barstow Log and through the LAN "widest dissemination" for the class dates. Each command/department and special staff office will have a representative designated to help you through the process.

# Everything you know ...

By Lt. Cmdr. Randel Livingood  
Base Chaplain



I remember once reading a pithy little statement that everything I needed to know to succeed in life I learned in the first grade.

I am sure that many of you have seen that same saying and took the time to read through the list of things that you and I "learned."

There were several things on the list like sharing, being nice, helping others, and many other things which I cannot recall at the moment.

However, what I do remember is that there seemed to be a theme that ran throughout the list and that theme was doing the right thing.

It seems, at least according to the list, that our first grade teachers give the greatest gift on the planet to those who are willing to listen and with that I would strongly agree.

They are busy teaching us, and many

times our children and grand children the simple elements of right and wrong. Parents also fall into the category of teachers and lead their children toward learning what is right and what is wrong.

With all this learning going on it makes a person wonder why it is then, if we all have been taught what is right and what is wrong, that people continue to do "wrong" things.

Things like not sharing. For instance, those who have plenty apparently do not share with those who have little.

If they did, we would have fewer homeless shelters and soup kitchens dotting our landscape.

If more people were "nice" to each other we would have less people getting into fights, getting divorced, and ending up in jail.

If more people helped each other, there would be a greater sense that doing the right thing had value.

The difficulty is that we appear to have been born with a gene that allows us to only apply what is right to someone else.

See **CHAPLAIN** Page 8

## Just doing my job ...



Photo by Pfc. Ashley Warden

Lyn Pitsor, infant room lead at MCLB Barstow's Child Development Center, rocks an infant to cheer him up. She has been working in the infant room for 14 years and says she enjoys working with the kids and watching them grow. The month of April is dedicated to the military child.

### Chapel Services

Protestant Sun. 8:30 a.m.  
Catholic services will no longer continue after Easter Sunday.

For more info call 577-6849.

### Bible Study

Bible study will now be held at the Colonel's Workshop, Bldg. 573 Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11:30 a.m. to 12 p.m..



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

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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](mailto:editor@barstow.usmc.mil).

## Lunch Menu

Unless otherwise indicated, lunch menus for the Family Restaurant and Cactus Cafe and Lanzer's Lounge are the same. Lunch menus are subject to change.

**Today** – Open-faced turkey sandwich, mashed potatoes and gravy.

**Friday** – Grilled Mhi Mahi with fried rice.

**Monday** – Beef tips and noodles.

**Tuesday** – Baked chicken leg quarters and rice Pilaf.

**Wednesday** – Breaded pork chops, rice and apple sauce..

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, and at Lanzer's Lounge from 11:30 a.m. to noon. For more information, call 577-6428.

## Breakfast

Breakfast at the Family Restaurant is from 5:30 to 7:30 a.m., and at the Cactus Cafe from 5:30 to 6:30 a.m. Prices: Active duty military \$1.60, all others \$3.25.

## Family Night Dining

**Tonight** – Fried chicken night: Fried chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, corn on the cob, tossed green salad, dessert, plus a fountain drink of choice.

Prices: Adults \$6, children ages 5-11 \$4, children under 5 eat free. Prices are the same for military and civilian personnel.

## National Alcohol Screening Day

The National Alcohol Screening day is today. There will be a free seminar today at the base gym from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. If you have a family history of alcohol abuse, are taking certain over-the-counter or prescription medications to include supplements, are pregnant or have medical conditions that can be made worse by drinking, then alcohol use may lead to significant health problems. You will have the opportunity to take a written self-assessment, ask questions and talk to health professionals. For more information, contact Staff Sgt. Joseph Johnson, substance abuse counselor, at 577-6851.

## Easter Egg Hunt

The MCLB Barstow Provost Marshal's Office and Fire Department will be sponsoring an Easter Egg Hunt Saturday at 9 a.m., located at the playground off of Cape Gloucester St. in base housing. The cost is free, and children ages 1-13 are invited to attend. The age groups will be 1-4, 5-9 and 10-13.

For more information, contact Cpl. Jonathan Henderson, crime prevention section, at 577-6514.

## Luncheon

The CWRA Committee is holding an Administrative Professional's Day luncheon on April 21 from 11 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. at the Oasis Club.

The guest speaker will be Mike Stewart, Barstow City Manager.

The menu served will be Salisbury steak, California blend vegetables, new potatoes or chef salad, roll with butter and iced tea. The price is \$7.50. For ticket information, contact any of the following CWRA committee members by Thursday:

- Fred Molino, MCB x7210
- Bruce Rowe, FSD x7207
- Cliff Ades, MCCA x6431
- Vince Chaves, MCB x7580
- Tangia Joseph, MCB x7230
- Barbara Kulseth, SSO x6771
- Erine Hawkins, AFGE x7046
- Richard Tusing, ROICC x6492
- Wrayanne Huddleston, I&L x6506

The luncheon is open to all military, civilian employees and their guests with supervisor's approval.

## Leave Sharing Program

Willie C. Wright, Badge No. 7889, Maintenance Center Barstow, has been affected by a medical emergency.

Anyone desiring to donate leave under the Leave Sharing Program may obtain a leave donor application through their division/section administrative officer.

For more information, call Pat Snyder, Manpower Division, at 577-7138.

## Ramp Closures

The California Department of Transportation will close the northbound on-ramp at Stoddard Wells Road/Bell Mountain Wash on Interstate 15 until May 1.

The closure is necessary to reconstruct the adjacent northbound roadway to accommodate the northbound I-15 freeway-widening project.

The detour is as follows: Go east on Stoddard Wells Road to the

*101 things you should never ask a Marine to do*

By E. Temple

**Never ask a Marine draw another "101 Things You Should Never Ask a Marine to Do."**

southbound I-15 on-ramp. Travel south on the I-15 to the Stoddard Wells Road off-ramp.

Turn left onto Stoddard Wells Road to access the northbound I-15 on-ramp.

Also closed is the northbound on/off-ramp at "E" Street on I-15, which began Tuesday.

The closure is necessary to reconstruct the adjacent northbound roadway to accommodate the northbound I-15 widening project.

The ramp is expected to re-open April 16.

The detour is as follows: To access "E" Street from I-15, continue north on I-15 to the Stoddard Wells off-ramp; continue south to the southbound off-ramp at "E" Street.

To access the I-15, continue west on "E" Street to the southbound I-15 on-ramp, go south to the Mojave Drive off-ramp, turn left onto the on-ramp at Mojave Drive to enter the northbound I-15.

Keep alert, pay attention and watch out for irresponsible drivers when entering a highway work zone.

Please slow for the "cone zone."

For information, contact Holly Kress, CalTrans liaison, at (909) 383-4631.

## Power Outages

Due to the on going upgrade of the Nebo electrical distribution system, the following outages are scheduled for the following dates, times and locations.

Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. All of Desert View housing and the water tank south of I-40.

Saturday from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Buildings 372, 103, K9, 185, 186, 187, 301 and 302, S181, the RV Park and the contractors yards

For more information on the above schedule, call 577-6911.

## Water Outages

Due to the ongoing upgrade of the Nebo Potable Water Lateral, the following water outages are scheduled for the following dates, times and locations.

Today from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Warehouse 3.

For more information on the

above schedule call 577-6911/6608.

## Military Academic Skills Program

A free Military Academic Skills Program is scheduled to begin on April 19 and will run through May 14 in Building 218 in the Lifelong Learning Education Center's classroom. The class is primarily utilized for Marines and sailors who are interested in increasing their ASVAB scores for reenlistment or to improve lateral move potential. These classes can also be used to help make the transition back into education programs or college by refreshing basic math, reading and writing skills. Family members over 18 are eligible to take part in this program.

The Test of Adult Basic Education is a pre-registration requirement for the course. The test can be scheduled through the Lifelong Learning Education Center. Classes are held Mondays through Fridays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information call the Lifelong Learning Education Center at 577-6118.

## Job Watch

Ann. No.	Title/Series/Grade	Open	Close	1st Cutoff	Location
SW0610-DH	Nurse GS-610-9	10-01-2003	Open cont.	N/A	MCLB Barstow
SW0318-04-163269-DE	Secretary (OA) GS-318-05	3-18-2004	4-12-2004	3-22-2004	MCLB Barstow

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

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

For more information concerning 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 at 577-6357/6279/6481.

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



## PROCLAMATION

*This year marks the 21st anniversary of National Child Abuse Prevention Month. As we launch our activities to support increased public awareness and community responsibility, let us remember that our children deserve the best we have within us. They look to us to be their protectors, role models, heroes and heroines.*

*Many children face a very different reality. Nationally, over three million children are reported abused and/or neglected each year. Every year over a thousand children die from their injuries. Those who survive carry the scars of their maltreatment into adulthood with increased rates of substance abuse, depression, learning disabilities, school failure, emotional and behavioral disorders, criminal activity and an inability to foster healthy relationships.*

*For the past two decades the Marine Corps has sought to combat this national tragedy by increasing public awareness, promoting leadership and community responsibility for its eradication and supporting programs through our Personal Services Division that promote strong and healthy families. Thanks to your efforts, our accomplishments aboard MCLB have been significant. During the past decade, the number of substantiated child abuse cases has steadily declined throughout the Navy and Marine Corps, with the smallest number of abuse cases occurring this past fiscal year.*

*I ask that you continue doing your part to insure that children are safe from abuse and neglect. Take an active role in helping families get the support and tools they need to provide safe and nurturing homes for their children. It is in this nation's best interest to promote healthy families through responsible leadership. This is our opportunity as a community to promote a sense of security for our children by adding our strength to the Corps' objective of "Helping Children Feel Safe in Uncertain Times."*

*Therefore, I declare April 2004 as "Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month" across this installation. I call upon each member of our community to pledge to create a community that cares enough to protect our children.*

*J E Bergman*

*J.E. BERGMAN  
Colonel, U.S. Marine Corps  
Commanding*

# Preventing child abuse, neglect from happening

**Submitted by Family Advocacy Program  
Marine and Family Services Division**

Over 3 million children are reported abused or neglected every year in this country.

Three of these children die every day as a result.

While it is important to take note of these statistics, it is more important to prevent abuse and neglect from happening in the first place.

This is our objective in joining forces throughout the Marine Corps in observance of Child Abuse Prevention Month. These efforts have made significant impact.

During the past decade, the number of child abuse cases has steadily declined throughout the Navy and Marine Corps.

We take pride in this accomplishment and, as responsible leaders and community members, we can continue to make a difference by promoting a few simple yet helpful recommendations:

1. Make nurturing children a priority. Children need to know they are special and loved.

2. Be a helping friend, neighbor or relative. At one time or another, we all

can use a helping hand.

3. Take time to take care of yourself. When the problems of everyday life feel overwhelming, take a time out, reach out to friends, neighbors or relative who can help.

4. Get involved. Volunteering to help with organized children's activities such as sports, scouts and the Youth Activity Center are great ways to promote and advocate for children.

5. Report suspected abuse or neglect.

Keeping children safe is the responsibility of everyone in our community. If you have reason to believe children have been or may be harmed, call or contact Marine and Family

Services at 577-

6533 or the Provost Marshal's Office at 577-6666.

April's observance of Child Abuse Prevention Month reminds us all of our collective responsibility to keep our children safe from the abuse and neglect. Together, we are making a difference.

For more information about how to prevent or report child abuse and neglect, contact the Family Advocacy Program, Marine and Family Services, at 577-6533 in Building 129.

**During the past decade,  
the number of child abuse  
cases has steadily  
declined throughout the  
Navy and Marine Corps.**

# Wage grade/leader/supervisor hourly rates by grade, step

## 2004 hourly wage table for the Los Angeles, Calif., area (corrected)

WG		WG-Rates										WL-Rates					WS-WD-WN Rates				WD-WN	
WL-WS	Grade	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	Pay	Level				
	1	9.16	9.54	9.91	10.30	10.68	10.07	10.49	10.91	11.33	11.75	15.44	16.08	16.72	17.37	18.01						
	2	10.46	10.90	11.34	11.77	12.21	11.51	11.99	12.47	12.95	13.42	16.74	17.44	18.15	18.84	19.54						
	3	11.77	12.26	12.75	13.24	13.73	12.95	13.49	14.02	14.56	15.10	18.05	18.81	19.56	20.31	21.06	1					
	4	13.08	13.62	14.17	14.71	15.26	14.39	14.98	15.58	16.18	16.78	19.36	20.17	20.97	21.78	22.59	2					
	5	14.40	14.99	15.59	16.19	16.79	15.83	16.49	17.15	17.81	18.47	20.68	21.54	22.40	23.26	24.13	3					
	6	15.71	16.35	17.00	17.66	18.31	17.27	17.99	18.71	19.42	20.15	21.96	22.87	23.78	24.70	25.62	4					
	7	16.96	17.67	18.40	19.10	19.81	18.68	19.44	20.22	21.01	21.78	23.15	24.12	25.07	26.03	27.01	5	1				
	8	18.17	18.93	19.69	20.43	21.19	19.98	20.83	21.64	22.48	23.31	24.36	25.36	26.37	27.39	28.41	6	2				
	9	19.36	20.16	20.96	21.78	22.59	21.30	22.19	23.08	23.96	24.86	25.53	26.59	27.68	28.72	29.79	7	3				
	10	20.57	21.41	22.26	23.12	23.98	22.61	23.54	24.48	25.45	26.39	26.73	27.83	28.97	30.07	31.19	8	4				
	11	21.68	22.60	23.48	24.39	25.31	23.86	24.87	25.89	26.88	27.84	27.24	28.37	29.52	30.64	31.79	9	5				
	12	22.51	23.46	24.38	25.31	26.26	24.78	25.82	26.85	27.92	28.92	27.92	29.07	30.24	31.41	32.57	10	6				
	13	23.34	24.37	25.31	26.28	27.26	25.71	26.79	27.84	28.93	30.01	28.76	29.96	31.15	32.36	33.56	11	7				
	14	24.16	25.17	26.17	27.17	28.20	26.53	27.66	28.76	29.89	31.00	29.75	30.99	32.22	33.47	34.69		8				
	15	25.01	26.01	27.07	28.18	29.20	27.49	28.66	29.76	30.96	32.09	30.78	32.06	33.33	34.62	35.90		9				
							WS-16	31.91	33.24	34.57	35.90	37.23										
							WS-17	33.17	34.55	35.93	37.31	38.70										
							WS-18	34.56	35.99	37.43	38.87	40.31										
							WS-19	35.51	36.99	38.47	39.95	41.43										

**Editor's Note:**  
*In the April 1 edition of the Barstow Log, the incorrect WG pay scale was published on Page 7. The Barstow Log staff apologizes for any inconvenience this may have caused.*

# READY, FRONT

## Gung Ho MP wins quarterly NCO board

By Lance Cpl. Jenna Lassandrello *policeman.*  
 Combat Correspondent

The Marines from the Provost Marshal's Office continue to set the standard for MCLB Barstow. The majority of the 2003 board winners were PMO Marines, and so far in 2004 PMO has dominated and no one has been able to step up to their level.

This quarter the NCO of the Quarter went to Cpl. Neil Fucci, a military policeman here.

Fucci joined the Corps to continue his family's tradition of military service. Fucci grew up in Nikinski, Alaska, where he was working as a welder's helper on an oil rig before he was recruited. Fucci is married to his wife of almost two years, Zarah.

They met in Nikinski, but Barstow is the first chance that they have had to reside together. Fucci attended recruit training at MCRD San Diego followed by Marine combat training at Camp Pendleton and then spent nine weeks at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., learning how to be a military

Barstow was the next stop for Fucci, but not for long. Shortly after arriving at MCLB Barstow, Fucci attended the Marksmanship Coaches Course at Camp Pendleton.

After coming back to Barstow, Fucci then headed to the Military Dog Handlers Course at Lackland Air Force base in San Antonio.

Soon Fucci will be leaving to attend Special Reaction Team schooling in Fort Leonard Wood, which is the military police's equivalent to SWAT training, said Fucci.

The 20-year-old Marine has plans to stay in the Marine Corps until retirement and seems to be on the right track with all the training under his belt, and the title of NCO of the Quarter.

"The board was close but (Fucci's) edge was his forcefulness; he really motivated the (board of judges)" said Headquarters Battalion first sergeant, 1st Sgt. Donald George.

"He is one of those Marines that I expect to see around the Corps for a long time. I hope to see him sitting in my chair someday," said George.



Cpl. Neil Fucci

## Hometown corpsman wins BMC Bluejacket SOQ honors

By Pfc. Ashley Warden  
 Combat Correspondent

When asked which duty station they want, Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow doesn't come to the mind of many Marines much less sailors.

This might be due to the fact that the installation is little known throughout the Corps and the Navy.

Contrary to this fact, HM Jennifer Borrego, hospital management primary care, requested this duty station as her first.

Borrego was named Bluejacket Sailor of the Quarter for Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow on March 31.

An Apple Valley, Calif., native, Borrego refers to Barstow as "home."

Her choice to be stationed here was greatly influenced by her strong family ties.

"Family is extremely important to me," said Borrego.

"They always support any decision I have and are always there."

The thing she likes most about Barstow is the people she works with, she said.

Her co-workers also reflect this sentiment.

"She is one of the most outstanding HMs I've ever worked with," said HM2 (FMF)

Brian Strahl, a Navy corpsman.

"She's a great leader and will be "lifer" in the military."

Before enlisting in the Navy, Borrego held multiple jobs, from waitress to emergency medical technician.

The fact that her brother is in the Navy, a former corpsman on his way to becoming an officer, strongly influenced Borrego in her enlistment.

"I thought it would help me on my way to becoming a physician's assistant or a nurse," said Borrego.

Borrego said she likes her job and in the future is looking to stay in the medical field and going to the Navy's Physical Therapy School in Port Smith,



HM Jennifer Borrego

Va.

"I love the Navy." There's a steady paycheck, Borrego said jokingly.

"It's more of a pride thing," she said. "We get a lot of respect here, especially from the active duty and retired patients we see."

One aspect of the job Borrego enjoys is taking care of all of the active duty Marines on the base.

"That's our job, taking care of Marines," she said. "You kind of have to be a 'Jack of all

See BJSOQ Page 8

## PMO Marines 'take a shot' at higher range scores

### Rifle range R6-04

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| Cpl. Nathan Moreno<br>51 Expert         | 1st Lt. Ricardo Benavides<br>38 Sharpshooter      |
| Lance Cpl. David Goudie<br>46 Expert    | Lance Cpl. Thomas Strube<br>36 Sharpshooter       |
| 2nd Lt. Michael Azat<br>45 Expert       | Lance Cpl. Christopher Sherman<br>35 Sharpshooter |
| Lance Cpl. Jeremy Rogers<br>45 Expert   | Pfc. Christopher Clark<br>32 Marksman             |
| Cpl. Jonathon Henderson<br>44 Expert    | Staff Sgt. Shane Lopresto<br>32 Marksman          |
| Sgt. Kyle Walker<br>44 Expert           | Pfc. Paul Price<br>27 Marksman                    |
| Staff Sgt. Charles MacNeil<br>40 Expert | Cpl. Michael Diaz<br>31 Marksman                  |
| Pfc. Michael Ciccolone<br>40 Expert     | Lance Cpl. Devlin Howieson<br>28 Marksman         |

- Pfc. Craig Anderson  
25 Marksman

- Pfc. Craig Anderson  
256 Marksman

### Pistol Range

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| Staff Sgt. Shane Lopresto<br>360 Expert        | Lance Cpl. Christopher Sherman<br>315 Sharpshooter |
| Staff Sgt. Charles MacNeil<br>334 Sharpshooter | Lance Cpl. Jeremy Rogers<br>283 Marksman           |
| Pfc. Christopher Clark<br>266 Marksman         | Cpl. Darin Cleveringa<br>302 Marksman              |
| 1st Lt. Ricardo Benavides<br>352 Expert        | Pfc. Michael Ciccolone<br>289 Marksman             |
| 2nd Lt. Michael Azat<br>282 Marksman           | Lance Cpl. David Goudie<br>357 Expert              |
| Cpl. Nathan Moreno<br>328 Sharpshooter         | Sgt. Kyle Walker<br>328 Expert                     |
| Cpl. Jonathon Henderson<br>325 Sharpshooter    | Lance Cpl. Thomas Strube<br>255 Marksman           |

# Devil dogs brave Mt. Lions on latest endeavor

**Story and photos by Cpl. Andy J. Hurt** seemingly consisted of nuclear-powered candy bars members of the group had purchased either the night before or at a stop on the way down.

Marines from MCLB Barstow's Fleet Support Division continued their quest for the summit of Mt. Whitney, the tallest peak in the continental United States, recently with a trip "down the hill" to the San Bernardino Mountains on March 26.

Phase two of the multi-peak training plan began at the cossy base of the age-old Black Mountain.

Though the fog was heavy and the weather forecast called for daylong drizzling, the Marines, accompanied by a corpsman from the MCLB Barstow Branch Medical Clinic and a retired master sergeant of Marines, set off on the mountains treacherous incline.

Marines sarcastically joked that they should have taken the day off or participated in the Headquarters Battalion 7-mile run earlier that morning.

But the incline itself was no joke, and Marines attacking the hill soon spread out into smaller groups of two or three, splitting apart the original group of 11.

The day's primary nutrition

"These things are great," said retired Master Sgt. Neil Pinchefskey, head of the maintenance branch at FSD, of a particular name brand flavored treat.

"Only a dollar a piece." Pinchefskey is playing an important role in the Marines' journey to Mt. Whitney. He scouts the available training hikes in the local area and provides Global Positioning System support on the climbs.

The trail, according to [www.localhikes.com](http://www.localhikes.com), is described as a "no-nonsense elevation gainer," beginning at 5,200 feet.

In less than four miles, a gain of 2,600 feet leaves adventure seekers nearly slack jawed at the 360 degree view of the San Gabriel, San Gorgonio and San Jacinto wildernesses.

The elevation took its toll, not without an appreciation for pain, on some of the Marines.

"The hike was a great

opportunity to get some fresh air, enjoy the scenery, and work out the legs," said Cpl. Joseph Tumpis, calibration technician at Maintenance Center Barstow's Cost Work Center 684, the calibration lab.

Tumpis also said the smaller training hikes are a good way to learn preparation techniques for the multi-pitch climbs such as Mt. Whitney.

"You can learn what to bring and what not to bring very quickly," said Tumpis.

But the ultimate adventure for the day was not reaching the crest of Black Mountain but avoiding the region's famous mountain lions, which are accredited for attacks on tourists every year.

Fresh tracks blazed a trail nearly the entire ascent, seemingly guiding the devil dogs to the peak.

At around 11:30 a.m., from a lookout tower atop the day's challenge, Pinchefskey announced the elevation at 7,660 feet shortly before the Marines began the tedious switchback-laden downclimb.

Pinchefskey said that at least one training hike per month is planned until the all-mighty summit attempt of Mt. Whitney scheduled for late July.

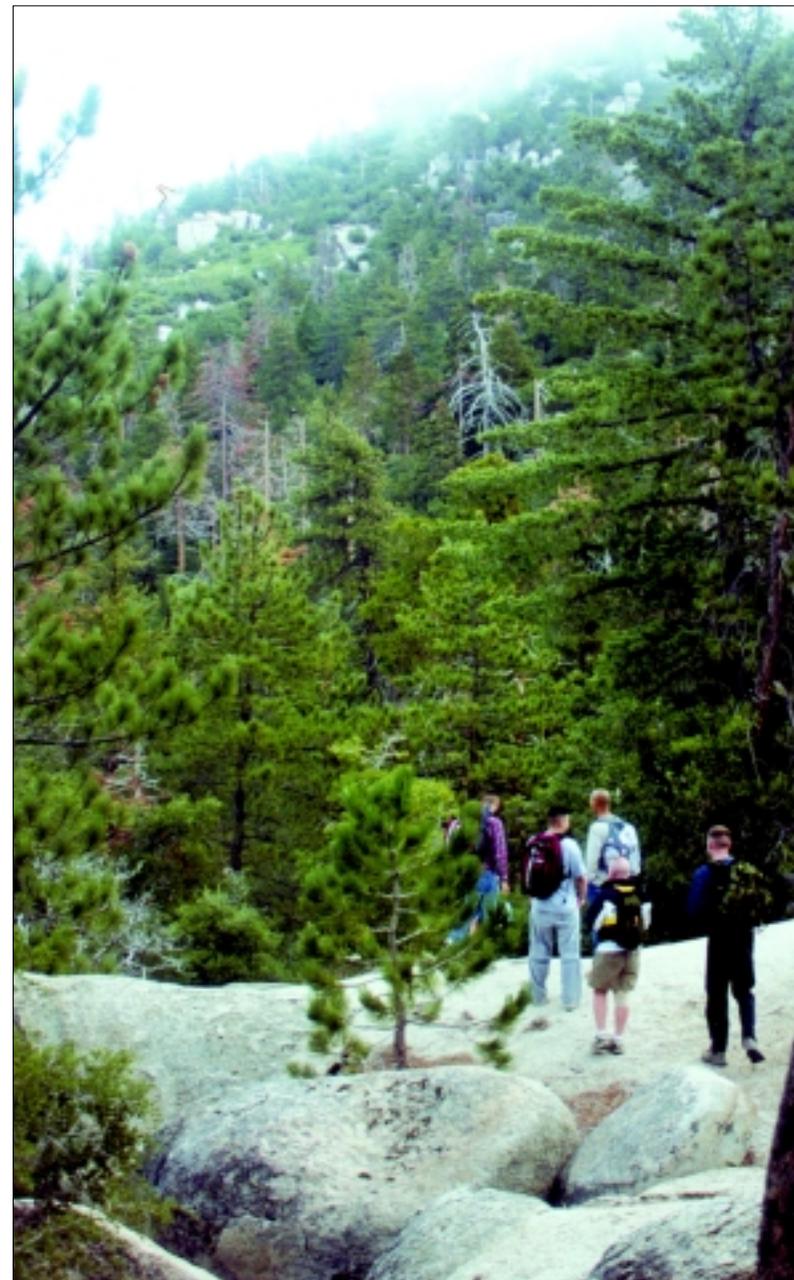
He said when he scouts the hikes, he looks for the harder trails because he knows the trials and tribulations a human may endure at 14,000 feet.

Pinchefskey also said that his 20 years as a Marine motivate him to get out and train with the younger devil dogs who are up-and-coming in the Corps.

"If I wasn't a master sergeant, I probably wouldn't even be able to do this," he said.

Left: Retired Master Sgt. Neil Pinchefskey, head of the maintenance branch at MCLB Barstow's Fleet Support Division, lays his eyes on the crest of Black Mountain, near Idyllwild, Calif., March 26. Pinchefskey checked his GPS at the summit and proclaimed the elevation at 7,660 feet. Pinchefskey is responsible for scouting the hikes in training for a summit attempt of Mt. Whitney slated for late July.

Right: The everlasting goodness of Meals Ready-to-Eat provided much needed caloric content at the end of the March 26 cresting of Black Mountain. Prior to the hike, Marines indulged in energy bars and sports drinks to provide electrolyte support.



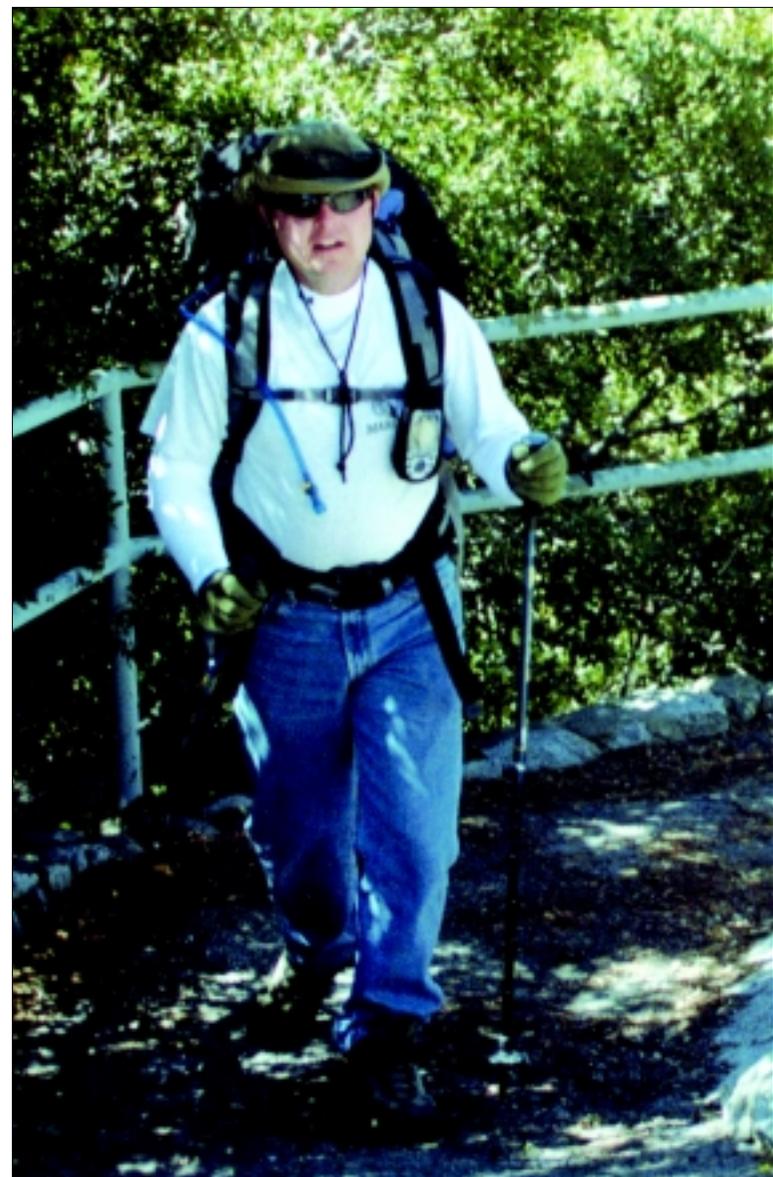
Marines regroup and stare off into the misty mountain morning at Black Mountain in the San Bernardino Mountains during a training hike March 26. The steep elevation gains and high altitude proved ineffective against the determination and natural aggressiveness of the Marines, who reached the summit ahead of schedule.

The hike went off without any major incidents, mountain lion attacks or medevacs; although, it was declared by Cpl. Douglas Yates, vehicle mechanic at FSD, upon reaching the summit alongside a foot-dragging, out-of-breath sailor, "That corpsman

needs a corpsman," all in good nature.

Next up, said Pinchefskey, is a possible 11,000-foot attempt in Death Valley National Park named Telescope Peak.

"We don't have time to do the easy stuff."



### CHAPLAIN from Page 2

It is quite a bit like the gene that we have that allows us to point out the fact that someone did something that was "not very Christian."

We seem to know lots about what other people are supposed to do and many times we offer that advice freely.

I wonder what would happen if we were able to see that in ourselves?

What would happen if we could identify in our own lives the things that we do that disagree with all those things we learned in the first grade?

I think we would begin to see

some really shocking things about ourselves.

The fact is that many of us do not want to see those things in ourselves because it would mean that we would have to change our life styles.

It is because of that reason that our children learn how to do the wrong thing; they have seen us do it!

So our children, just like us, tend to learn more from example than they do from our words.

The old saying that "talk is cheap" applies here.

As parents and examples to each other and to our children we have a responsibility to try

and follow those simple "first grade" rules. Otherwise, our children will learn from what we live out in front of them and will be more like us than we want them to be.

The challenge is a simple one and one that can be applied to our lives as we head into the last week or so of Lent.

Recapture the simple idea of right and wrong.

Don't fudge.

For one week be a stickler for doing the right thing no matter what and see what changes happen in your life and see how many times your course of action is different from what you might normally do.

I think you'll be pleasantly surprised and I would love to hear your stories at the end of the week.

Peace,

Fr Randel

### BJSOQ from Page 6

Trades."

"(HM Borrego) re-vamped a lot of the standards in the records department, said Strahl. "This increased efficiency and customer service."

A normal day for Borrego consists of seeing sick call patients, helping with basic procedures and verifying records.

She also helps with the clinic's new recycling program as well as with the donation center the clinic has set up for Marine Corp Logistic Base Barstow corpsmen who are currently deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom II.

Anyone can donate money or choose an item from a list of things the corpsmen asked for, said Borrego.

Packages are then put together and sent to the corpsmen every week. Another billet

she holds at the Branch Medical Clinic here is the Basic Life Support instructor.

This job encompasses teaching CPR classes to anyone, from civilian employees to workers at the clinic.

As is stands right now, Borrego said she is "most definitely" considering re-enlisting in the Navy.

Her peers also have high hopes for her career in the Navy.

"I hope that she'll be the first female Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy," said Strahl.

Out of the areas tested, HM Borrego was the best performer all around, he said.

"I was excited (to be named Bluejacket Sailor of the Quarter), I represent everybody (at the BMC).

"We all work hard and we all deserve to be sailors of the quarter," she said.

**If more people were "nice" to each other we would have less people getting into fights, getting divorced, and ending up in jail.**

# Circus coming to MCLB Barstow

The Culpepper and Merriweather Circus will be coming to MCLB Barstow April 24. Sponsored by Marine Corps Community Services, the event is scheduled for two performances, 2 and 4:30 p.m.



Now in its 20th season, the Culpepper and Merriweather Circus has become internationally known for family entertainment.

In addition to the two 90-minute performances, there will be a free presentation after the tent raising, scheduled for 9:30 a.m., circus morning.

There is a 20-minute Endangered Species show slated to start after the tent raising and includes a walking tour of the circus grounds.

During this time, guests will

learn facts about the different species of animals in the C&M family.

The presentation will also address topics such as hygiene, grooming and the veterinary care of all the animals the circus receives.

In recent years the Endangered Species Show has become a popular program for school field trips, families and interested community members.

It is presented in a way everyone, young an old, can learn about all the animals in the C&M family.

This show is said to be a special part of Circus Day that should not be missed.

For more information contact MCCS at 577-6968.

## Single Marine Program 'hops to it'



Photo by Lance Cpl. Jenna Lassandrello

Lance Cpl. Christopher Moore, a computer specialist for the Communications Division here, encourages the children at the Yermo School during the Jump Rope for Life Relay on March 19 by jumping along with them.

Getting Out?  
Got a plan?  
Get connected.



[www.MarineForLife.com](http://www.MarineForLife.com)

**GOT NEWS?**

*If you think you've got something newsworthy, call the public affairs office at 577-6430.*



**By Jim Gaines**  
MCCS Publicity  
**Easter Sale and More**

Get ready for Easter at the Super Seven Store - we have everything you need.  
Easter Baskets and candy 10 percent off through Sunday. Easter lilies on sale through Sunday.  
Your Base Exchange is a Seven-Day store, main exchange, uniform shop and gas station - but do you know what other services are available to you? Check these out: Check cashing - \$200 maximum for personal checks, \$50 maximum for two-party checks. Coffee Club - buy five cups and get the 6th free. Fountain Club - buy five large drinks and get the 6th free. Dry cleaning at discount prices, video/DVD rentals, teleflora, Western Union money orders, U-Haul rentals, storage space rentals, Super Star Student Program and special orders.  
We're not just a Seven-Day store,

we're much more. Drop by and take advantage of all we have to offer.  
For more information call the Super Seven Store at 256-8974.  
The Super Seven Store and Gas Station hours are: Mondays through Fridays 6:30 a.m. to 9 p.m., Saturdays 8 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Sundays 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Credit card sales for gas at the pumps are "24/7."  
**Club activities**  
At the Oasis Club this week: Tonight is Happy Hour from 3:30 to 6 p.m. Tomorrow is TGIFamily Night. Tuesday is Burn Your Own Steak Night, and Wednesday is Movie Night.  
Thursday is Happy Hour from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.  
For more information, call 577-6418  
At the Enlisted Club this week: Darts, pool, TV and CD music every night. TGIFriday! every Friday. Saturdays, Sundays, Mondays and

Tuesdays are Bar and Grill Nights, and Wednesday is Midweek Relaxation Hour from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.  
Sundays, be sure to catch the NBA game at the club. For more information, call 577-6418.

**Circus at MCLB**  
The Culpepper and Merriweather Circus is coming to MCLB on April 24.  
The Tent Raising Ceremony is slated for 9 a.m. At 10 a.m. there will be an Endangered Species Show - both of these events are free.  
The two main show events will be at 2 and 4:30 p.m.  
Ticket sale locations are: ITT and CDC at Nebo side, Lanzer's Lounge (Building 573) at the Yermo Annex. In town locations are: Foster's Freeze, Barstow Chamber of Commerce, and Del Taco (Mt. View, First Street, and Lenwood).  
Presale tickets prices are \$7. adults, \$5 child.

**Free Wednesday Movies**  
Movies are shown every Wednesday at the Enlisted Club on the patio. Bring your own chair, blanket and picnic dinner and take in a movie - it's free!  
This week's movie is Seabiscuit. The film is rated PG-13. Show time is 7:30 p.m., and the length of the film is two hours, 21 minutes.  
For more information, call 577-6817.

# Get paid for your opinion!



**What do you have to do:**  
Not very much. Just a few minutes of your time to complete our customer satisfaction survey at the Super Seven Store. For this, you'll receive a gift certificate for \$5 off your next purchase after completing our survey.

**Who may participate in this survey:**  
Anyone who is an authorized Exchange patron (18 years or older). In other words, anyone with a valid DOD ID card (active duty, family members, retirees, reservists, or MCCS employees with full shopping privileges).  
A husband and wife each can complete a survey and each can receive a \$5 gift certificate.

**How do you participate?**  
Simply drop by the Super Seven Store within the dates and times listed below, ask to take the survey - simple as that - and you' will be paid a \$5 gift certificate for your opinion.  
Today, 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.  
Friday, 11:00 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Saturday, 11:00 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
Monday, 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.  
Tentative: April 16, 11:00 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Tentative: April 17, 11:00 a.m. to 3 p.m.



1998 PLYMOUTH BREEZE: Runs good, \$2,500 OBO. E-mail olguinmf@barstow.usmc.mil or call 577-7767.

1966 DODGE POLARA: Station wagon, 383 engine auto, air roof rack, runs, needs TLC, \$1,200. Call 254-1913.

1966 PLYMOUTH FURY: 383 engine auto, air, four door, runs, needs TLC, \$1,200. Call 254-1913.

MISCELLANEOUS: VW bug older style mages, 5 lug all 4 rims, \$75; dual quad aluminum manifold for a 327 Chevy, \$125; 1998 and newer Honda Civic interior parts, make offer. Call 254-1913.

MISCELLANEOUS: Box springs, two twin box springs, never used \$40, OBO. Call Kevin 252-7016 AWH.

MISCELLANEOUS: Heritage sofa, light green velour, xlt cond, \$150, OBO; computer desk, Oak/black finish, xlt cond, \$40 OBO. Call 252-4996.

MISCELLANEOUS: Twin-size day bed w/mattress and white metal frame \$100; large birdcage, \$45; Murray 20" lawn mower w/bag \$65. Call 252-4787 or 447-2771.

MISCELLANEOUS: Baby items, rocking entertainer center, \$40; white rocking cradle w/bedding, \$65; large Century stroller \$90; small stroller, \$35; Blues Blue blanket (twin size) w/drapes and sheets \$40; Quite Time swing set, \$35. Call 252-4787 or 447-2771.

MISCELLANEOUS: Dog Igloo for medium to large dogs, like new \$60. Call 252-9120. Iv msg.

PETS: Purebred toy Pomeranian puppy, one male 8 weeks old, has first shot already, milk chocolate in color, cute little guy. Parents on premises, \$350 firm. Call 252-1588.

