



# Jax Air News

## TOUCHING BASE

### DEFY

#### VP-30 to host DEFY Camp

VP-30 is hosting a six-day Residential Summer Camp June 1-6 at the YMCA Camp McConnell as part of the Navy's Drug Education for Youth (DEFY) program.

DEFY is a two-phased prevention program is for children ages 9-12. DEFY deters "at risk" behaviors by giving kids the tools they need to resist drugs, gangs and alcohol. It focuses on building self-image, interpersonal relations, goal setting, leadership, and team building skills. It is a challenging, fun-filled week in the summer (Phase I) followed by a year of mentoring (Phase II). The camp is for military or DoD children ages 9-12.

Active duty members and/or DoD civilians are also needed as volunteers to be team leaders, camp corpsmen and mentors. Participants must have command approval and TAD orders.

Applications for children and volunteers can be picked up in the VP-30 Personnel Office and must be returned by May 9.

For more information, call Kristi Moon at 542-3144.

#### Starry Nights at Metropolitan Park

The Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra will offer a concert Saturday at 8:15 p.m. at Metropolitan Park. The program, "That's American! The Music You Love To Hear," is a salute to the troops.

The JSO's Starry Nights partnership with Winn-Dixie includes free tickets. Vouchers for free Starry Nights lawn tickets are available - while supplies last - at all Duval, Nassau, Clay and St. Johns county Winn-Dixie stores' Customer Service Desks. Limit four per person.

Lawn chairs, blankets and picnic baskets are permitted. Special tables at a discount are also available to military members by calling 354-5547.

#### USO to sponsor Zoo Night

The USO is hosting the 12th annual Military Zoo Night Saturday from 6-8 p.m. This event is open to all active military members and their families. Tickets are only \$1 per person and include the train ride. Tickets can be purchased at the USO or at the gate the night of the event.

## The giving spirit pays off



Photo by Miriam S. Gallet

Representatives from the USO, NMCRS, NAS Jax Retired Activities Office, Navy Wives Club No. 86 and the American Red Cross pose with NAS Jacksonville Commanding Officer, Capt. Mark S. Boensel during the NAS Jacksonville annual Command Volunteer Recognition Luncheon April 30 aboard the base.

### NAS Jax volunteers honored

By Miriam S. Gallet  
Editor

Forty-nine departments and commands were honored during the NAS Jacksonville annual Volunteer Service Recognition Luncheon held last week at the base River Cove Conference Center.

These volunteers contributed a combined total of 414,449 volunteered hours during 2002 to the local community as part of the

Navy Community Service Program. The year 1995 marked the beginning of the NAS Jacksonville Volunteer Awards Luncheon, which honors and recognizes the commitment, service and time hundreds of Sailors and DOD civilians contribute to the local community each year.

NAS Jacksonville Commanding Officer Capt. Mark S. Boensel presented Carrier Tactical Support Center Ashore with the first place plaque "for bridging gaps and creating lasting relationships that offer hope for various groups in the community." Earning second and third place were Commander, Sea Control Wing Atlantic Fleet Rescue Swimmer School and Naval Computer and Telecommunication Station Jacksonville, respectively.

"The Sailors and civilians aboard

See VOLUNTEER, Page 8

### Fitness Center to reopen this month

By Kaylee LaRocque  
Staff Writer

It's been five months since the NAS Jax Fitness Center closed its doors for a major renovation project.

The project, which was inspired by the customers who used the facility includes many significant upgrades including a new 70-ton air conditioning/heating unit, a sprinkler system, additional showers and toilets in the women's locker room, a completely renovated men's locker room, a new massage room and a completely different layout of the weight and cardio rooms with a control center for the instructors.

"It is going to be absolutely beautiful. Everything is really coming together. The construction workers have really done a tremendous job. Everything we've asked for, they've done. I can't wait until we open our doors," said Barbara Millhollan, Fitness Center director, excitedly.

The center will re-open May 28, although some of the projects will not be quite finished at that time. "A 3,000-square foot addition will be added to house our free weight area. It should be completed sometime in July," Millhollan added. "We are planning a grand re-opening celebration in mid-July."

The renovation project which was designed by Reynolds, Smith and Hills and constructed by Ellis Environmental Group, both local companies, cost an estimated one million dollars, according to Mark Craig, MWR facilities maintenance manager.

Although there is still a lot of dust and debris throughout the building, the workers are quite busy maintaining their daily schedule. From the floors to the ceilings, almost everything has been upgraded. Walls have been knocked down to add space, a new office, massage room and control center were



Photo by Kaylee LaRocque

Barbara Millhollan, Fitness Center director consults with Benny Simmons, MWR Maintenance coordinator (left) and Mark Craig, MWR Facilities Maintenance manager about some ongoing issues during the renovation.

See FITNESS, Page 8



Photos by Miriam S. Gallet

### Bluegrass 'rocks' at Commissary

Bluegrass Female Vocalist of the Year Rhonda Vincent and her band, The Rage, entertained commissary patrons April 29 as part of their yearly tour. Vincent's smooth voice along with the high-pitched harmony of the banjo, fiddle, guitar, and mandolin delighted the audience. Vincent began her professional career at the age of five with her family's band the Sally Mountain Show. She has 20 albums to her credit, the most recent being One Step Ahead. Lorrie White, NAS Jax Commissary administrative officer said, "The Wall Street Journal recently called Rhonda the new queen of bluegrass and now I know why. She is awesome."



Bluegrass Female Vocalist of the Year Rhonda Vincent autographs her latest CD for Staff Sgt. Brian Liddy of the 298 Transportation Company from Franklin, Pa., after her recent concert at the NAS Jacksonville Commissary.

## INSIDE

Classified .....	15
Community Calendar	13
Hey, MoneyMan! .....	2
Jax Sports .....	13
Jax Tales .....	13
Meet a Civilian .....	2
Meet a Sailor .....	2
MWR Notes .....	12

## WEEKEND WEATHER

	<b>FRIDAY 72/91</b> PARTLY CLOUDY
	<b>SATURDAY 72/91</b> PARTLY CLOUDY
	<b>SUNDAY 72/91</b> PARTLY CLOUDY

Seven-day forecast available at Naval Atlantic Meteorology and Oceanography Facility Jacksonville's Web site:  
<https://www.nimof.navy.mil>

# PSD PASSDOWN

## Common Access Cards hold wealth of information

From PSD

The new Common Access Card (CAC) is an official government identification card that can be accepted for everything from check cashing to verifying age. It contains a microchip, two bar codes and a magnetic strip that holds personal information.

Personnel Support Detachment (PSD) Jacksonville's ID card section recently provided training to the Army National Guard Headquarters in St Augustine, and the Army Reserve Headquarters in Tallahassee, Fla. on how to issue these cards.

PSD is meeting their goal of issuing CAC cards to 98 percent of NAS

Jacksonville active duty and active reserves. Department of the Navy civilian employees and eligible contractor personnel can receive CAC Cards at NAS Jacksonville Security Department.

There is no requirement for Department of Defense personnel to have a visible signature on its ID card from GSA, the State Department, or the Geneva Convention; nor do any of the planned uses of the card within Department of the Navy require a signature. Consequently, the signature was not included on the card.

Active duty personnel must bring their personalized email address from their command, and be prepared to

enter a six-eight digit personalized identification (PIN) number into the system. All CAC cards expire in three years unlike the previous officer ID cards, that had an indefinite expiration date.

Retirees and family members will not receive the new CAC ID, and will continue to be issued the type of ID they currently use.

The ID Card Section is open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday for retirees or family member ID Card services, and opens at 7:30 a.m. for active duty only. To find out more about your PSD visit the PSA Jacksonville web site at <http://www.psjax.navy.mil> or call 542-4236/2835.

## Base civilian honored

NAS Jacksonville Commanding Officer Capt. Mark S. Boensel presents Brandon Edwards the NAS Jax Civilian of the Quarter Award for the first quarter of 2003. Edwards, a security specialist for the base Physical Security Division resides in Jacksonville with his active-duty spouse,

ET3 Cristy Edwards of Naval Computer and Telecommunication Station Jacksonville. When asked what winning this award meant to him, Edwards enthusiastically replied, "Recognition at the command level lets me know that my contributions to the security team are valued. When there is no terrorist activity or incidents, we know that we are winning the fight. This award reminds me that our efforts are appreciated."

"Brandon's nomination is a direct result of his enthusiasm and energy. He truly loves his work and does it well. He came to NAS Jax with a well-rounded experience and adapted those skills to our installation projects successfully," remarked NAS Jax Physical Security Officer Norm Livingston. More information about the NAS Jax Civilian of the Quarter Program may be found in NASJAXINST 12450.4 or by calling Tim Sheppard, NAS Jax business manager at 542-4480.



Photo by Miriam S. Gallet

## FROM THE DOC

### Cellulitis can affect more than just your skin

By Lt. Chris Alfonso  
VP-30 Flight Surgeon

The human body is made up of many different organs, but not many people know that the largest organ is...the skin! Our skin plays several important roles allowing us to carry out our everyday functions.

One of its most important roles is protection. Skin is an amazing barrier against things in our environment that can hurt us. This especially includes different types of infection.

However, sometimes bacteria can enter the body through breaks in our skin. When bacteria sneaks in through a cut or open sore, the skin can become infected, and this is known as cellulitis.

Cellulitis is a serious condition that not only affects the skin, but can also affect the body tissues and structures below the skin.

Several types of bacteria can cause cellulitis but staphylococcal and streptococcal bacteria are the most common culprits.

Cellulitis can be especially bad for people who have compromised immune systems or those with a decreased ability to fight infections, like diabetics.

Cellulitis usually occurs after bacteria enter the skin through a break in the skin-barrier system. The bacteria produces chemicals that affect the surrounding skin cells, and starts to destroy them.

The infection typically spreads over a few days, and can possibly spread to tissues below the skin.

Cellulitis classically has an area of skin that is red, swollen, and hot to the touch. The affected area is sensitive and painfully tender. As the bacteria spreads, it can enter the body's lymph system.

The lymph system is made up of lymph nodes and lymphatic channels, and is like the body's "sewer system" helping rid the body of undesirable substances.

However, the bacteria from cellulitis have chemicals that may cause inflammation of the lymph system. When this happens, the lymph nodes around the cellulitis can become swollen and tender, and if the bacteria affects the lymphatic channels, then red lines may be seen running from the wound toward the center of the body.

Cellulitis can also lead to the development of abscesses.

Aside from all the symptoms cellulitis causes at the skin and surrounding tissues, there may also be more generalized symptoms. You may develop a fever, feel ill, have chills, and develop headaches.

Cellulitis is a serious type of infection and if left untreated, the bacteria can spread to the bloodstream and other body structures. Severe cases can lead to gangrene and even death.

If you develop symptoms of cellulitis you should see your healthcare provider immediately.

Depending on the nature and degree of the infection, your doctor may order blood tests and take a specimen sample from the wound. Your doctor will likely prescribe an antibiotic that you

take by mouth probably for 10-14 days.

There are several important things to remember when using an antibiotic.

First, make sure your doctor is aware of any allergies to medicines you may have, and about other medicines you are currently taking.

Second, make sure you complete the entire course of antibiotics. This is important because even though your symptoms may clear up in a day or two, there may still be some surviving bacteria at the infection site.

Your doctor will most likely want you to follow up in a couple of days after starting the antibiotic to make sure the infection is clearing up.

If it seems the antibiotic is not working, or you have any other symptoms of concern, contact your healthcare provider.

If your doctor determines your infection is serious or you have other significant medical issues, they may prescribe an antibiotic given by injection, or you may need to be hospitalized to get antibiotics through a tube into your veins.

If you have an abscess, it will require a medical procedure to make an incision into the skin and drain it.

If treated early on, cellulitis usually clears up within one to two weeks. To avoid getting cellulitis, practice good wound care by cleaning any skin injuries with antiseptic soap, and keep the wound protected.

Stop the crimson tide early, by having your provider check out any signs of infection in the skin.



### Meet A Sailor...

MS1(SW) KENNETH JONES

**Job title/command:**  
NAS Jax Supply Department  
Leading Petty Officer

**Hometown:** Detroit, Mich.

**Family Life:** Married with two sons.

**Past Duty Stations:** USS Wasp, NCBC Gulfport, Miss.

**Career Plans:** To make master chief.

**Most Interesting Experience:** When a bow wind blew across the flight deck of my ship causing all the food to fall into the water.

**Words of Wisdom:** An honest day's work for an honest day's pay.



### Meet A Civilian...

CHARLES LEITER

**Job title/command:**  
Fitness Specialist/Asst.  
Manager, NAS Jax Fitness Center

**Hometown:** Port Royal, Pa.

**Family Life:** Single

**Past Duty Stations:** None

**Career Plans:** To become an athletic or fitness director.

**Most Interesting Experience:** Graduating from college and starting work for MWR.

**Words of Wisdom:** Live life to its fullest, you never know what tomorrow will bring.

### Domestic Violence Conference set

The Community Support Program of Navy Region Southeast is hosting an executive seminar on domestic violence for all commanding officers, executive officers and command master chiefs from the Fleet Concentration Area on May 20 at the NAS Jacksonville River Cove Officer's Club.

The program will feature experts in the field of domestic violence who will address topics such as dynamics of domestic violence, DoD and DoN policies on domestic violence, legal issues, victim issues and more. The program begins at 7:30 a.m. For reservations, call Yolanda Munoz at 542-5387 or Sandy Jones at 542-1539 by tomorrow.

### NLSO to move offices mid-May

Navy Legal Services Office (NLSO) will move from Building 8 to Building 4 May 19-20. The office will reopen in their new location May 21. There will be no walk-in clinic the week of the move. All phone numbers will remain the same. Call 542-2565 for more information.

## HEY, MONEYMAN!

**Hey, MoneyMan!**  
My wife and I have credit card debts and we can never get caught up. Because my credit is bad, I can't qualify for low-interest cards and we can only afford minimum payments. What can we do?  
**MoneyMan Sez:**  
The first step to getting out of debt is to admit there's a problem!  
A \$5,000 credit card with a rate of 17 percent will cost you more than \$16,000 to pay off and take more than 40 years if you pay only the minimum monthly payments. Yep, I said 40 years!  
Clearly, this is not a good option. Getting out of debt is a lot more work and a lot less fun than getting into debt, but it can (and must) be done. Here are some suggestions from debt counselors:

- Admit there's a problem.
- Prioritize debts.
- Call your creditors now. Explore bill-paying options.
- Itemize household and living expenses.
- Get professional help. Contact CCCS another non-profit agency.
- Cut up your credit cards, pay by check or cash.
- Control your spending.

**Hey, MoneyMan!**  
Should I use a credit repair place to fix my bad debt?  
**MoneyMan Sez:**  
Nope! You can and should check your credit report regularly to make sure it is accurate, but the only way to "fix" your bad debt is to change your spending habits. There is no magic bullet to repair bad credit. It takes commitment and hard work.  
*More questions? Call Hey, MoneyMan! at 778-0353.*



## Sunday Services

You are invited to the following Base Chapel Worship Services this Saturday and Sunday:

<b>Saturday</b>	5 p.m. - Catholic Mass
<b>Sunday</b>	8:30 a.m. - Holy Eucharist Episcopal
	9:30 a.m. - Catholic Mass
	11 a.m. - Protestant Worship
	6:30 p.m. - Contemporary Service
	"The Leading Edge," Hangar 749 at the Base Chapel Center.

Children's Sunday Class - Protestant Sunday School program is at 9:45-10:45 a.m., and Catholic CCD is 10:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m.



NAS Jacksonville Commanding Officer .....	Capt. Mark S. Boensel
Public Affairs Officer .....	Charles P. "Pat" Dooling
Deputy Public Affairs Officer .....	Miriam A. Lareau
U.S. Naval Air Station Jacksonville Editorial Staff	
Editor .....	Miriam S. Gallet
Assistant Editor .....	JO1 Mike Jones
Staff Writer .....	JO2(SCW) Eric Clay
Civilian Staff	
Manager .....	Ellen S. Rykert
Staff Writer .....	Kaylee LaRocque
Design/Layout .....	George Atchley

The Jax Air News is an authorized publication for members of the Military Services. Contents of the Jax Air News do not necessarily reflect the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, or the Department of the Navy. The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense, or The Florida Times-Union, of the products and services advertised. Everything advertised in the publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user or patron. If a violation or retraction of this equal opportunity policy by an advertiser is confirmed, the publisher shall refuse to print advertising from that source until the violation is corrected.

Deadline for all routine copy is close of business the Friday before publication. Deadline for Classified submission is noon Monday. Questions or comments can be directed to the editor. The Jax Air News can be reached at (904) 542-8053 or by fax at (904) 542-1534 or write the Jax Air News, Box 2, NAS Jacksonville, Fla., 32212-5000. All news releases should be sent to this address.

The Jax Air News is published by The Florida Times-Union, a private firm in no way connected with the U. S. Navy under exclusive written agreement with the U. S. Naval Air Station, Jacksonville, Florida. It is published every Thursday by The Florida Times-Union, whose offices are at 1 Riverside Ave., Jacksonville, FL 32202. Estimated readership over 32,000. Distribution by The Florida Times-Union.

Advertisements are solicited by the publisher and inquiries regarding advertisements should be directed to:

**Jax Air News**

Ellen S. Rykert, Military Publications Manager  
1 Riverside Avenue • Jacksonville, FL 32202  
904-359-4168  
Linda Edenfield, Advertising Sales Manager • 904-359-4336  
Beeper: 904-306-3853 or 888-980-3874 • FAX: 904-366-6230

# Prosperi relieves Rabuse VS-22 holds change of command at sea

By Lt. j.g. Robert Null  
VS-22 PAO

Cmdr. Michael Prosperi relieved Cmdr. Rob Rabuse as commanding officer of VS-22 during a change of command ceremony April 30 on board USS Harry S. Truman (CVN 75).

Prosperi was born in Atlanta, Ga., and grew up in Saint Louis, Mo. He graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1985, completed flight training and was designated a naval flight officer (NFO) in May of 1987.

After completion of S-3A Viking training he was assigned to the VS-22 "Checkmates". During this tour, he served as Aircraft Division Officer, electronic warfare officer, and NATOPS officer while deployed aboard USS John F. Kennedy (CV 67) in 1988 and 1990, including combat operations during Operation Desert Storm.

In July 1991, Prosperi reported to the East Coast Viking Fleet Replacement Squadron, the VS-27 "Sea Wolves", where he served as the S-3B Weapon System Model manager



Cmdr. Michael Prosperi



Cmdr. Rob Rabuse

and NFO instructor standardization officer.

In July 1993, he reported to the staff of Commander, Second Fleet, Norfolk, Va. as the operations officer. While assigned to Second Fleet, he deployed to Haiti in support of Operation Support Democracy.

In October 1996, Prosperi transferred to the VS-32 "Maulers" where he served as both the administration and aircraft maintenance officer.

In March 1998, he reported to the Naval War College in Newport, R.I., graduating with a Master's Degree in Strategic Studies and National Security

Affairs. He then reported to the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Financial Management and Comptroller) as the aircraft procurement financial management officer. Prosperi and his wife, Ann, have one son.

During Rabuse's command, VS-22 has seen numerous deployments and accomplishments.

"My most rewarding experience as commanding officer of VS-22 has been leading our squadron in support of Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom," commented Rabuse. "It's challenging,

but the rewards of command are commensurate with the responsibilities."

During the work-up period and on into the Joint Task Group 03-01 deployment, VS-22 maintained a 100 percent mission completion rate resulting in back-to-back Golden Wrench awards from Carrier Air Wing 3 for exceptional maintenance support of the S-3B Viking.

Throughout the deployment and Operation Iraqi Freedom, VS-22's aircraft provided protection for the battle group from surface threats. They offloaded 1.6 million pounds of fuel to strike aircraft operating in Northern Iraq.

When asked what had been the single most important factor in his success while commanding VS-22, Rabuse responded without hesitation, "There's no doubt, VS-22 is successful because of its people."

Rabuse's next assignment is the National War College at Fort McNair in Washington, D.C.

Although he will miss serving with VS-22, Rabuse looks forward to some well-earned shore time with his family.

ARMED FORCES COMMUNICATIONS; 5c; 14"; Black Only;

## Luncheon celebrates Asian/Pacific Americans

A special luncheon in celebration of Asian/Pacific American Month will be held May 15 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the NAS Jax River Cove Officer's Club.

The theme is "Salute to Liberty." The event will feature a guest speaker and musical entertainment. Tickets are \$10.

For more information and to purchase tickets, contact Sylvia Kitt at 542-0842.

## Annual Health Fair slated for May 16

Naval Hospital Jax is offering a free Health Fair May 16 from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Navy Exchange Courtyard.

Information will be provided on:

- \* TRICARE Health Benefits
- \* Family Practice - (Blood pressure screenings, breast care information)
- \* Pediatrics - (Baby Friendly program, childhood asthma information)
- \* Emergency Medicine
- \* OB/GYN
- \* The Wellness Center (Smoking cessation, nutrition information)
- \* Urology
- \* Pastoral Care
- \* Substance Abuse Rehabilitation Program
- \* Diabetics Counseling
- \* Physical Therapy
- \* Occupational Therapy
- \* Chiropractic Clinic
- \* The Exceptional Family Member Program

**THIS IS NOT THE FLOOR PLAN OF A HOUSE. IT'S A TREASURE MAP.**

Your home could be hiding some valuable treasure. Many have old Savings Bonds that they could be worth more than \$1000. Their face value. So it's a treasure worth digging for.

**Do you have old Savings Bonds?**  
Check out the Savings Bond Calculator at [www.savingsbonds.gov](http://www.savingsbonds.gov) to discover their value.  
**1-800-4US BOND**

Creating a New Century of Savings

**U.S. SAVINGS BONDS**

A public service of the government



In conjunction with a nationwide effort to encourage seat belt usage to 100 percent, NAS Jacksonville will participate in the "Click it or Ticket" seat belt campaign May 19 - June 3.

# Adams takes charge of Carrier Tactical Support Center Ashore

By SK1(AW) Lamonte Strauther  
CV-TSC Ashore PAO

Cmdr. Steve Adams relieved Cmdr. David Ruth as officer-in-charge, Carrier Tactical Support Center Ashore (CV-TSC) April 17 aboard NAS Jacksonville.

Adams attended the University of Notre Dame on a Naval ROTC scholarship and graduated in 1985. Upon completion of naval flight officer training in Pensacola, Fla., earning his "Wings of Gold" in 1986, he reported to VS-41 at NAS North Island, San Diego, Calif. for initial training with the S-3 Viking.

He was then assigned to VS-24 at NAS Cecil Field where he completed a Mediterranean deployment and North Atlantic mini-deployment aboard USS Theodore Roosevelt. As a VS-24 "Scout," Adams completed transition training to the S-3B and drafted the initial Harpoon missile tactics for the Viking aircraft.

He was assigned to VS-27 in November of 1990 as a Fleet Replacement Squadron (FRS) flight instructor, and led the development of an S-3B FRS curriculum. He departed VS-27 in July 1993 for COMSIXTHFLT Staff in Gaeta, Italy, as AIR ASW and TLAM Strike officer for the Mediterranean.

While serving aboard flagships USS Belknap and USS LaSalle, he participated in the first official United



Cmdr. Steve Adams



Cmdr. David Ruth

States Navy contacts with Black Sea navies in the post Cold War era.

Adams was also instrumental in the first use of Tomahawk missiles in NATO strikes into Bosnia-Herzegovina. In March 1996, he joined the VS-30 "Diamondcutters" as both administration officer and operations officer.

Adams then reported to Sea Control Wing, U.S. Atlantic Fleet (CSCWL) in January of 1998 as Wing operations

officer, and led Wing Operations through the Viking community's move from NAS Cecil Field to NAS Jacksonville.

Adams' most recent assignment led him back to Italy and COMSIXTHFLT for two years as ASW exercise planner and Unified Command Plan coordinator.

Ruth is assigned to Commander, Sea Control Wing pending his retirement.

## Military members share knowledge with children

By JO2(SCW) Eric Clay  
Staff Writer

On April 29, Mamie Agnus Jones Elementary School held its annual Career Day in which many community jobs and careers were profiled.

Students in kindergarten through sixth grade participated in the many events including the demonstrations by the NAS Jacksonville Security K-9 team and performances by the Navy Band Southeast's Brass Quintet.

The K-9 team was lead by Kennel Supervisor Eric Lashley and MA1 Dwayne Doctor. The dog used for the day's demonstrations was a specially trained detection dog named Menno. The dog demonstrated searching a vehicle for drugs hidden in areas that probably would not have been detected by humans. As the dog detected the drugs or recognized the scent of drugs, it would sit down immediately to attract the handler's attention.

"I think the day was a great success! The Navy as well as the local community made it a day to remember for the children of Mamie Agnus Jones Elementary School," said Lashley. The dog handling team explained many aspects of their job and what it is like to have a dog as a partner instead of another human being.

"We told the children about the dangers of drugs and explosives and showed them how K-9 teams can assist in locating these items. The highlight of the day was the K-9 team locating the drugs planted in a vehicle," explained Lashley.

Many of the children were intrigued with the dog's



Menno, an elite member of the NAS Jacksonville K-9 team searches a vehicle looking for drugs.



The Navy Band Southeast's Brass Quintet performs for the students during the Mamie Agnus Jones Elementary School's annual Career Day.

abilities and asked many questions. "A lot of questions asked were about the training, how old the dog was, where it came from, etc. But the question that stood out the most would have to be, 'Why is the dog's tail missing?'" said Lashley.

Lashley explained to the children that some dogs like to bite their tails, and this may cause infections that can lead to serious medical problems even death. Veterinarians re-move the tails as a safety and health precaution.

The K-9 team expressed their enjoyment of meeting the children and being able

to educate them in the operations of the K-9 team.

"I had a wonderful time demonstrating the detection capabilities of my dog, Menno and hope that we are invited back again next year," added Doctor.

Also on hand for the career day, was the Navy Band Southeast's Brass Quintet lead by MU2 John Gulyas. The band performed many of the ceremonial marches they perform for change of commands, retirements and other Navy functions. Gulyas said, "We had a great time participating in their career day, it was a good opportunity to change



Kennel Supervisor Eric Lashley and MA1 Dwayne Doctor, with his Military Working Dog, Menno explain the many situations that K-9s are used for in today's military security.

from our daily routine."

The quintet also played tunes dating back to the 15th century to the present, stopping in between songs to answer questions from the children. One of the question Gulyas recalls being asked was, "Why are you wearing white uniforms?" Gulyas replied, "We are wearing our white uniforms because they are our summer uniforms."

At the end of the day, showing great appreciation, the children applauded the efforts of these two great organizations and thanked them for explaining about their jobs and the career opportunities that exist aboard NAS Jacksonville and in the Navy.

"The staff and children of Mamie Agnus Jones are very impressed and elated with the performances that these two great organizations put together for our career day," concluded Patricia Johnson, who organized the event.

## Striving for success



Photo by JO2(SCW) Eric Clay

SM2(SW) LaTasha Craft works the front desk at the NAS Jax Transient Personnel Unit. Craft, who is currently pursuing an associate of arts degree at Florida Community College at Jacksonville was recently selected a member of the Upsilon Eta Chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society. Established in 1918, Phi Theta Kappa is the oldest and most prestigious honor society serving two-year colleges around the world. The society serves to recognize and encourage the academic achievement of college students. Students must rank in the top 20 percent of the class to be invited to membership in Phi Theta Kappa and must maintain high academic standing during their enrollment in the two-year college.

## Battle of Midway Memorial Dinner coming

From CNRSE Public Affairs

Tickets are now on sale for this year's Battle of Midway Commemoration Dinner, which will be held June 6 at the Radisson Riverwalk Hotel on Jacksonville's Southbank.

The guest speaker will be James H. Cunningham Jr., a Battle of Midway veteran and retired Navy chief. A recipient of the Purple Heart and five Battle Stars, he was serving aboard USS Hammann when it was sunk at Midway. He was one of only 85 out of a crew of 250 to survive.

Cost of tickets for the dinner are:

E-6 and below, \$20; E-7 - O4, \$30; O5 and above, \$40; civilians and retirees, \$40. Checks should be made payable to Midway Memorial Account.

Tickets may be purchased from the following: NAS Jacksonville - Command Master Chief Office, IT1 Guy Stelzenmuller at (904) 542- 4545/2934; Naval Station Mayport, AECS (AW) Elizabeth Speer, 270-6101 and ITC(SW/AW) Victor Martin, 270-7354 ext 116; and Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay, MSC Eric Johnson, at (912) 673-2064.

Uniform: O-4 and above - dinner dress white jacket;

O-3 and below - dinner dress white/dinner dress white jacket optional. Civilian is black tie or business attire.

Cocktails begin at 6:30 p.m., dinner is at 7:30.

The evening promises to be fun and patriotic. Also in attendance will be other survivors of the Battle of Midway. This is an excellent opportunity for young Sailors to connect with a significant part of their naval history. Included will be a superb meal, music by Navy Band Southeast and an historical program highlighting the contributions of all military services in this magnificent victory.

This year's event marks the 61st anniversary of the Battle of Midway as well as the 100th anniversary of flight. All naval personnel: active duty, retired, enlisted, officer and civilians are invited to attend the midday memorial dinner.

All personnel should take time to reflect upon this important event in our naval history and on our proud heritage.

Additional information can be found at the Commander, Navy Region Southeast web site, <http://www.cnrse.navy.mil/>, by clicking on the blue "special events" button at the top of the home page.

**Opening the door to hope**

The Muscular Dystrophy Association's support services help Americans live with over 40 neuromuscular diseases. And our cutting-edge research offers hope for a future without these disabling disorders. Call our lifeline. It's toll-free.

**MDA** Muscular Dystrophy Association  
A 501(c)(3) nonprofit

(800) 872-1717  
[www.mdadsp.org](http://www.mdadsp.org)  
Printed on a public service

# DoD, NH Jax implement HIPAA privacy standards

From Naval Hospital Jacksonville Public Affairs

William Winkenwerder Jr., assistant secretary of defense for health affairs, has announced that all military medical facilities have implemented the privacy rule of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) of 1996.

With a start date of April 14, the new rule creates standard safeguards to protect the privacy and confidentiality of personal health care information.

Naval Hospital Jacksonville has worked very diligently at becoming compliant with HIPAA by providing extra HIPAA training to every person that works in the hospital via Internet and teaching classes. The Naval Hospital Jacksonville HIPAA Implementation Team is also doing a thorough examination of the commands previous existing policies and procedures that were in place due to the Privacy Act of 1974 to ensure that everything is compliant with the new HIPAA regulations.

Terrence Murray, the command HIPAA Coordinator stated, "HIPAA is an expansion of the federal privacy act to civilian hospitals. While we have some new tasks under HIPAA, two recent privacy inspections have shown that patient privacy has been part of our corporate culture for a long time."

Winkenwerder pointed out that, "The Military Health System has always had privacy standards in place to limit unauthorized access and disclosure of personal health information; this new rule heightens awareness, raises the level of oversight and pro-

vides a standard set of guidelines to protect the privacy of all patients."

As required by the new rule, DoD has mailed approximately five million military health system (MTF) notices of privacy practices (NoPP). The notices have gone to every beneficiary enrolled in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS).

The new privacy legislation requires that health information be disclosed only for treatment, payment, and some health care operations such as scheduling appointments and billing patients. Health information will not be shared with outside sources for marketing, research or any other purpose without the beneficiary's written consent.

Each MTF has an assigned, trained privacy officer available to respond to any questions or concerns that beneficiaries may have regarding the new privacy rules. The privacy officers also serve as patient advocates ensuring that personal health information maintained by the MTF remains protected yet accessible to beneficiaries and their providers.

A copy of the MHS NoPP is available on the Tricare Web site for sponsors and family members to download; copies are also available for distribution at each DoD MTF. Additional information on HIPAA, Tricare and the new privacy standards is available on the Tricare Web site at <http://www.tricare.osd.mil/hipaa>.

The Naval Hospital Jacksonville point of contact for HIPAA issues is HIPAA Privacy Officer Lt. j.g. Michelle Spears, 542-7820.

## Battle of Midway 5K race set

From Staff

Fresh air, exercise and the opportunity to meet a real-life World War II hero are on tap for participants of the Battle of Midway 5K race to be held at 11:30 a.m. aboard NAS Jacksonville on June 4.

Starting the race and assisting in the presentation of awards will be James H. Cunningham Jr., a Battle of Midway veteran and retired Navy chief. Recipient of the Purple Heart and five Battle Stars, he was serving aboard the USS Hammann when it was sunk at Midway. Cunningham was one of only 85 out of a crew of 250 to survive. He will be available before and after the race to share his experiences with participants.

The race will begin south of the BOQ on Patrol Road, following a course down that road and back.

Registration forms are available at the Base Gym (Building 614) located on NAS Jacksonville. The first 100 to register will receive a free Battle of Midway 5K Run commemorative T-shirt.

The race is open to all military and civilian personnel; there is no entry fee. Participants from the outside community may compete only if they have a valid ID card and Department of Defense vehicle decal, or are escorted at all times by a sponsor with a valid ID card and Department of Defense vehicle decal.

Late registration will take place up until race time. The race starts at 11:30 a.m. with an awards ceremony following.

Awards will be presented to top three male and female finishers. A Battle of Midway race team trophy will be awarded to the winning team. Five-person teams are required for competition; the best four scores count. The winning team will keep the trophy for a year. It will go up for challenge at next year's race.

For additional race information, contact Barbara Millhollan, NAS Fitness Director, at 542-3518 ([dmillhol@nasjax.navy.mil](mailto:dmillhol@nasjax.navy.mil)), or Lisa Newsome ([dnewsome@nasjax.navy.mil](mailto:dnewsome@nasjax.navy.mil)) at 542-3518/2930.

## Naval Hospital Jax recognizes Humana Healthcare's wartime support



Photo by Loren Barnes

Naval Hospital Jacksonville Commanding Officer Capt. Ralph Lockhart (right) presents a citation to Humana Military Healthcare Services, Inc. April 17. The citation recognized Humana for their "exceptional mission support in securing staff contracts that made uninterrupted healthcare possible at the Naval Hospital and its branch clinics during active duty deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom from January to May 2003." Accepting the award on behalf of Humana is (left to right) Phyllis Deeter, senior office clerk, Naval Hospital Jacksonville Resource Sharing; Debra Mattingly, Utilization Management supervisor, Jacksonville TRICARE Service Center, Orange Park location; Robbin Blackmon, Health Systems Manager Jacksonville TRICARE Service Center, Orange Park location; and Charlie Wojcik, Naval Hospital Jacksonville Resources Sharing coordinator.



Check our Classifieds for this symbol!

The anchor symbolizes  
Fleet Market ads  
from military personnel!

# SPRING CLEANUP



ET1(SW) Robert Stoudt (left) and AT1(AW) Jason Farrington comb through the bushes at the water's edge along Birmingham Avenue during the base-wide trash cleanup April 30.



Navy Band Southeast's MU3 Paul Hallman does his part by picking up litter around the band headquarter's building.

## NAS Jax tidies up

By JO2(SCW) Eric Clay  
Staff Writer

On April 30, under beautiful clear skies and a refreshing breeze, more than 1,000 service members and civilians aboard NAS Jacksonville held the annual base-wide Spring Cleanup, collecting a total 800 pounds of trash. This combined with the 6,000 pounds of trash collected during the recent Shoreline Cleanup proves how successful these events were.

According to NAS Jacksonville Command Master Chief, CMCMD(AW/SW) Chuck Lawson, this event was held to make all personnel aware of the negative impact that litter has on the overall appearance of the base.

Three starting points were established at Patriot Grove, the base car wash and Manatee Point. At these locations, NAS Jacksonville Commanding Officer Capt. Mark S. Boensel, Executive Officer, Capt. Charles King and Supply Officer, Cmdr. Donald Singleton lead their groups around the base, picking up trash for approximately two hours.

"In the group that I participated with, the morale was high. I think everyone enjoyed the cleanup because they were able to get out of their offices and walk around the base doing their part in keeping our base clean," said Lawson.

"My group was assigned one area, but we decided to cover more ground when we were finished. It was great to see everyone so involved. I couldn't say more about how pleased I am with the turn out and I'm proud of the job that was accomplished," he added.

"The appearance of NAS Jax is a direct

reflection of how people feel about the base and how they feel about their work. It shows a sense of ownership in the place that the American taxpayers have entrusted to our care," said Boensel.

The Spring Cleanup is only the beginning of keeping the base looking its best year-round. Everyone is encouraged to recycle and keep the base clean daily.

"The participation was overwhelming, I'm very gratified by it. The base looks absolutely spectacular," expressed Boensel. "I would encourage everybody to do their part by throwing stuff away in the appropriate containers to begin with. If they see some litter on the ground, pick it up. If they observe somebody littering, take the initiative to give them a little bit of correction. Tell them we don't do that here. This is a clean base and we want to keep it that way."

At the conclusion of the cleanup, the NAS Jacksonville First Lieutenant Division personnel conducted a curbside pickup, collecting hundreds of full trash bags.

The Spring Cleanup ended with words of praise from the commanding officer. "Thank you and your command's support in making your base a premier military installation. Your teamwork definitely makes a difference," concluded Boensel.

At NAS Jax, everyone is trying to do their part to keep the base clean and to protect all living creatures from the impact of pollution. It has been proposed that these type of cleanups be organized on a more frequent basis, however it is up to every individual to take the responsibility and deposit trash in the correct containers.



Photo courtesy of FISC

Information Tech Specialist Winnie Waddell of FISC rakes the leaves collected in front of the FISC building as part of the base Spring Cleanup.



MS1(SW) Kenneth Jones picks up litter along Langley Street April 30.



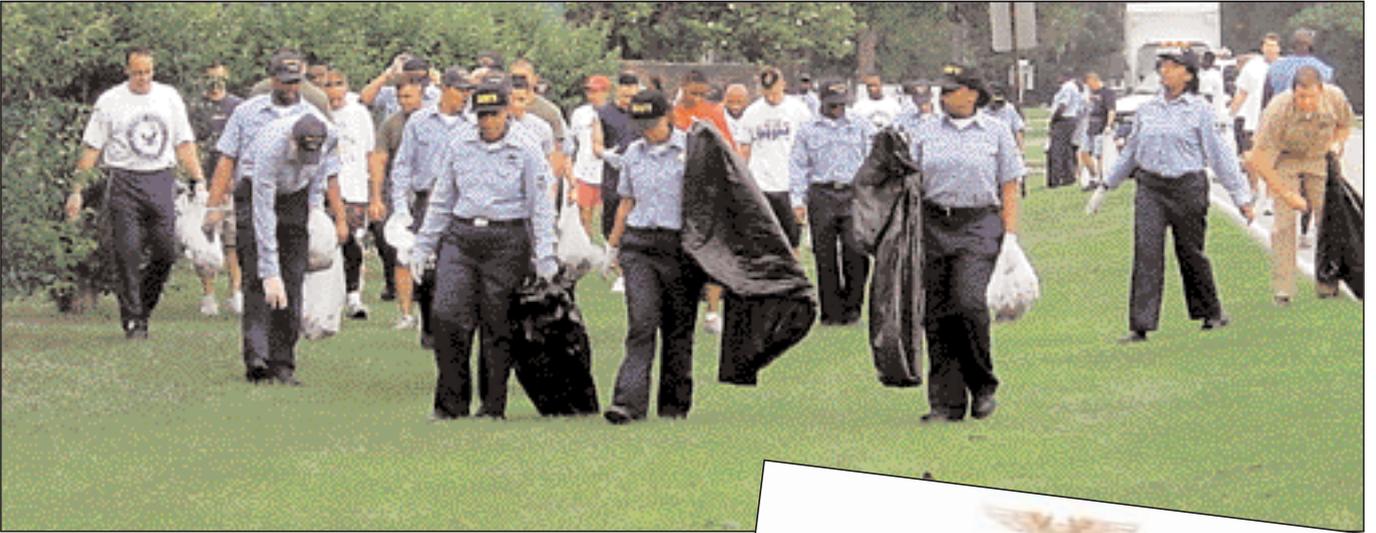
PC3 Kelly Thomas and YN2(SW/AW) Lakevia Kennon pick up trash across the street from the NEX.



Photo courtesy of FISC

Beverly Taylor-Mack cuts some branches as Rachel Capurro collects the debris at FISC.

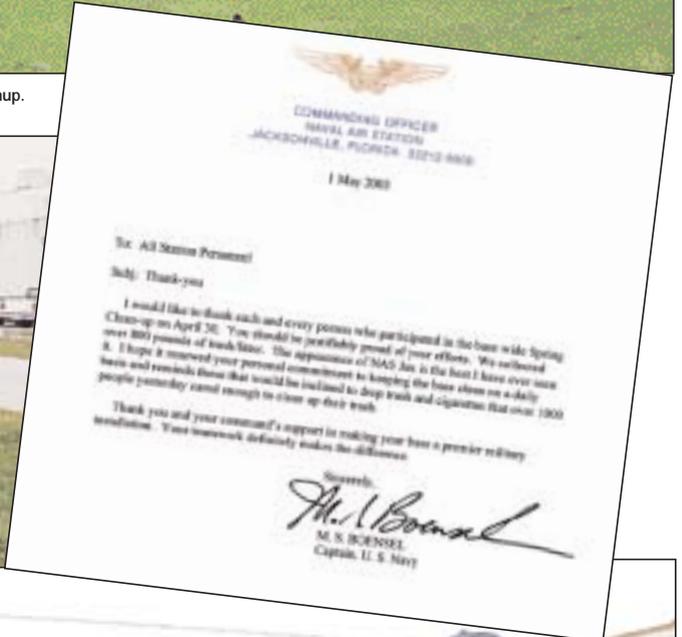
# SPRING CLEANUP



More than 1,000 service members and civilians participated in last Wednesday's Spring Cleanup.



Members of Construction Battalion Unit 410 walk along the roadways picking up trash and debris in their path.



PHOTOS BY  
JO1 MIKE JONES  
&  
JO2(SCW)  
ERIC CLAY

(From left) VS-31's AN Tony Horsey, AT3(AW) Tom Weigand, AMAN Matt Bothards and ADAN William Weatherspoon walk Birmingham Avenue during the base-wide cleanup.



Sailors from NAS Jacksonville and supported squadrons comb the wooded areas for litter along Birmingham Avenue.



# VOLUNTEERS: Many honored at recent luncheon

From Page 1

NAS Jax exemplify this year's theme, "Celebrate Volunteers - The Spirit of America," said Boensel during the luncheon. "You are what makes this nation great. Just think of the economic benefits that your contributions have made to our community. I want to thank you for your commitment to volunteering. You are making an invaluable contribution to our community and to humanity."

Major programs and projects that benefited from volunteer support included the Area Five Special Olympics Summer Games, Stand for Children Day, Monique Burr Foundation for Children Gala and Golf Tournament, Clay County Salvation Army Christmas Project, Greater Jacksonville Kingfish Tournament, Paint the Town, The Player's Championship and HabiJax.

NAS Jax Fleet and Family Support Center Volunteer Program Director, Dianne Parker said, "This very popular event was established in 1995 to honor a department or command aboard the air station whose volunteer program captured the essence of the Navy Community Service Program during the previous year. And whose efforts were significantly felt in the community. The event has grown over the years, and today, it honors every department or command that volunteers time and service in support of Jacksonville and its surrounding communities."

Hugh Jones, former chairman and chief executive officer of Barnett Bank of Jacksonville, and a man nationally recognized by the Caring Institute as one of the



Photo by Miriam S. Gallet

Three commands aboard NAS Jax won first, second and third places at the annual Command Volunteer Recognition Luncheon April 30 for having the best Navy Community Service Program during 2002. (From left) accepting the second place award on behalf of Commander, Sea Control Wing Atlantic Fleet Rescue Swimmer School is AW1(AW/SW) David Wilson, next to Wilson is IT1 Penelope Ashford accepting the third place award on behalf of Naval Computer and Telecommunications Station Jacksonville and accepting the first place plaque on behalf of Carrier Tactical Support Center Ashore is AW1(AW) Fred Baker.

10 most caring people in America, was the guest speaker.

During his emotional address, Jones praised the NAS Jax service members for their volunteering spirit and encouraged all that were present at the luncheon to keep the spirit of volunteerism in their heart. "People, like candles, dispel the darkness. Few hours of volunteer work a week can change the life one of person. I call it 'psychic income,'" said Jones.

During his 23 years as a bank executive, Jones developed a unique corporate philosophy that encouraged bank employees to be responsible citizens. For his efforts, former President George

H. Bush recognized Jones as the "1,012th Daily Points of Light for the Nation."

When asked why he was such an ardent volunteer and promoter of the Navy Community Service Program, CMDM (AW/SW) Chuck Lawson, NAS Jax command master chief replied, "Volunteering is no longer just a nice thing to do, it is necessary for the health of our society and it bridges the gap between our armed forces and the communities in which we serve."

"Volunteer work is beneficial to the communities and our local volunteer efforts allow the Navy to make a vast investment in its workforce," remarked Parker.

## Commands/Departments honored

- Aircraft Intermediate Maintenance Detachment
- Commander, Navy Region Southeast
- Commander Helicopter Antisubmarine Warfare Wing Atlantic
- Commander, Patrol Wing 11
- Commander, Sea Control Wing Atlantic Fleet
- Commander, Sea Control Wing Atlantic Fleet - Rescue School
- Carrier Tactical Support Center Ashore
- Defense Courier Service Jacksonville
- Fleet and Family Support Center, NAS Jacksonville
- Fleet Area Control and Surveillance Facility Jacksonville
- Fleet Aviation Specialized Operation Training Group
- NAS Jax Fire Department
- NAS Jax Facilities Department
- VR- 58
- HS-3
- HS-5
- HS- 7
- HS-11
- HS-15
- HS-75
- NAS Jax Morale Welfare and Recreation Department
- Naval Air Maintenance Training Unit
- NAS Jacksonville
- Naval Air Depot Jacksonville
- Naval Atlantic Meteorology and Oceanography Facility
- Naval Computer and Telecommunication Station Jacksonville
- Naval Dental Center Jacksonville
- Naval Hospital Jacksonville
- Naval Legal Service Office Southeast
- Navy Public Works Center Jacksonville
- Operations Department, Jacksonville
- VP-5
- VP-16
- VP-30
- VP-45
- VP-62
- Personnel Support Detachment Jacksonville
- NAS Jax Security Department
- Southeast Regional Calibration Center
- NAS Jax Supply Department
- VS-22
- VS-24
- VS-30
- VS-31
- VS-32
- Transient Personnel Unit
- U.S. Army Veterinary Activity
- Transport Squadron 58
- NAS Jax Weapons Department

"This volunteer recognition luncheon is held each year to raise awareness of the Navy Community Service Program and the importance of volunteer service in our society."

All NAS service members and

civilians are encouraged to become involved in community projects throughout Jacksonville.

For information on how to become a volunteer, call Dianne Parker at 542-2766, Ext. 130.

# FITNESS: Renovated center set to reopen May 28

From Page 1

constructed, the air conditioning unit located in the center of the weight room and the laundry room has been moved and the aerobics room and men and women's locker rooms have been greatly expanded.

"We really needed to change the locker rooms. We've added eight new shower stalls to the women's locker room, additional toilets and when the men's is completed, it will have a bigger shower area and all new fixtures," said Millhollan.

Although many of the upgrades are being done because the customers requested them, some were completed to comply with safety regulations. "We've added an additional door in the aerobics room and put in the control center because the Navy safety instructions require us to have one instructor per 50 customers on the floor at all times. This new area will enable us to give private fitness assessments and the space to actually educate our clients with material and hands-on exhibits that reflect lifestyle changes. A new sit-down blood pressure machine will also be located in this area," stated Millhollan. "This control center will also allow the instructors to see every-



thing that is going on in the weight and cardio rooms and allow them to assist customers as needed."

The Pro Shop will continue to carry such items as water, soft-serve yogurt, power bars, supplements, energy drinks, juices and work-out clothes. Just behind the front desk will be a spinning room with 25 cycles. "With two areas for bicycles, we'll be able to offer spinning classes and group exercise at the same time. We've also added yoga and stability ball training to our new group exercise schedule," said Millhollan.

On the outside of the building, the landscaping



Photos by Kaylee LaRocque

(Above) A construction crew from Ellis Construction mortars the new showers in the women's locker room.

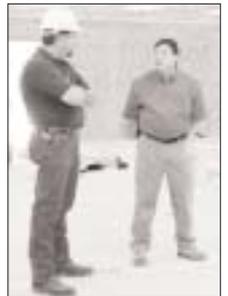
(At left) Lynn Dickinson, NAS Jax Facilities Department manager and Barbara Millhollan, Fitness Center director discuss the plans for the renovation of the NAS Jax Fitness Center.

and sprinkler system will also be upgraded and a new parking area will be added by mid-July.

In the meantime, patrons are asked to continue using the base gym facilities. "We realize what a huge impact closing the Fitness Center

has played on everyone. But we've really tried to accommodate our customer's needs. We've tried to keep everyone happy by moving most of our equipment to the gym during the renovation and keeping up with our fitness classes. In

the end, this all will be worth it," said Millhollan, enthusiastically.



Neal Donley, quality control manager for Ellis Environmental Group (left), confers with Lynn Dickinson, NAS Jax Facilities manager about the renovation process.

"This is going to be such a great facility. We will be bigger and better than ever!" she added.



A concrete slab was recently poured behind the Fitness Center to extend the back wall to create a new cardio room and men's shower area. The 3,000-square-foot addition is expected to be completed in late-July.

# MWR partners with FCCJ for mutual gain

By Kaylee LaRocque  
Staff Writer

A unique partnership was recently formed between the NAS Jacksonville MWR Department and Florida Community College at Jacksonville's (FCCJ) Kent Campus to gain a mutual insight to marketing issues within several different MWR entities here.

The partnership was formed in January during the college's winter semester to help students in the Principles of Marketing class gain some real-world marketing experience and to provide MWR with some new perspective on their marketing tactics.

"We began the project by breaking up the class into groups of four or five. Each one was assigned a specific area to research and come up with a marketing plan. At the beginning of class, several MWR department heads came to the school and discussed what this project should entail. After meeting with the students, four different areas were assigned - the bowling alley, food and beverages, marina and the golf course," explained Professor of Business Gary Corona, who taught the class.

The next step involved a field trip to the base where the class was given a tour of the base and different facilities."

"The project was about 40 percent of their grade for the class. Each group spend time researching the area assigned, interviewing customers and managers, conducting surveys and using whatever ideas they came up with to gain information. At the end of the semester, the groups presented a marketing plan and short presentation to MWR representatives on their findings," added Corona.



Photo by Kaylee LaRocque

(From left) FCCJ's Kent Campus Professor of Business Gary Corona talks with NAS Jacksonville Commanding Officer, Capt. Mark Boensel and Executive Officer, Capt. Charles King about the recently established marketing venture between the school and base.

Not only did the students gain some knowledge on how an everyday business is run, but MWR benefited as well.

"One of our biggest areas of concern within the MWR Department is marketing. No matter how much you think you may be reaching someone, you can never do enough to try and get the word out and reach people. Many of these students are the same age as the junior Sailors who use our establishments. They came in with the same mindset on what excites them and what their interests are," said MWR Director John Bushick.

Another unique aspect to the project was that several military members and family members were enrolled in the course.

"This was quite beneficial to the class. It was nice to get their perspective as well. What turned out to be interesting however, was that they didn't realize what all was offered here. It was a rewarding experi-

ence for them as well," stated Corona.

Once MWR opened the doors for the students and the ball was rolling, the students were asked to be honest with their findings.

"This wasn't a project of 'tell us what we want to hear' and make us happy. We wanted the students to let us know the good, bad and the ugly. I think they did a very good job. In some cases, in our eyes we thought we were moving in the right direction, but after the students conducted surveys, we weren't moving the same direction," Bushick continued, enthusiastically. "We were a little amazed at some of the things they came up with."

Some of recommendations were simple such as putting up a "lanes available" sign at the bowling alley when the parking lot is full of patrons using the gym.

Another included adding more signs so people could better locate the marina.

eyes of the actual marketers has given me a better understanding of marketing and it's importance in business," added AM1(AW) Roderick Carnes of VS-30 who took the class.

According to Bushick and Corona, both are looking forward to continuing the partnership during the fall semester.

"It was a real pleasure working with MWR. Everyone was extremely professional, open and honest with their information. They provided us with everything we needed to get the projects completed. On behalf of FCCJ Kent Campus, we find this an extremely valuable relationship. It's a great endeavor because we're not just learning out of a book, we're applying knowledge to the real world," said Corona.

"This is a great example of a community relations partnership between the Navy and the local community. It benefits both the Navy, in that we get the input from the community and the school because the students gain real life experience and real life situations as part of their education," added Capt. Mark Boensel, NAS Jax commanding officer.

Because the partnership worked so well during it's first session, NAS Jax MWR representatives plan to inform other Navy MWR organizations on how they might benefit from similar ventures.

"As far as we know, this is the first partnership of this kind between a Navy MWR organization and a school. We wanted to see the end results before we put the word out. It turned out to be a wonderful venture that we definitely plan to continue," said Bushick.

## HELPING HANDS

### Dental assistants, dentists and oral surgeons wanted

With recent deployments NAS Jax and NS Mayport staffing has drastically decreased. However, the service need has not. If you are qualified and want to help contact the American Red Cross 358-8091

### MaliVai Washington Kids Foundation Play Day

Assist with Rallyball games (mini tennis matches) with children from third to seventh grade and with full court tennis matches for youths in high school this Saturday. Activities include: registering participants, encourage team members and assisting with team rotations and help coach with ball feed, scoring, etc. Days and times vary. Minimum age is 14. For more information, call Kerry Soltis at 301-3786.

### Annual Stand for Children Walk

This event is Saturday. Come help with set-up, operation, and participate as walkers in this annual event, co-sponsored by the Child Watch Partnership of Jacksonville and Monique Burr Foundation for Children, held to increase awareness for child advocacy. Festivities begin at 8 a.m. at Treaty Oak (Jesse Ball Dupont Park) and end at The Jacksonville Landing. Activities include face painting, train rides, courtyard dancing, health clinics, educational interaction booths, giveaways, finger painting, balloon art, temporary tattoos, food, and more! Minimum age is 13. To sign up, call Barbara Florio at 642-0210.

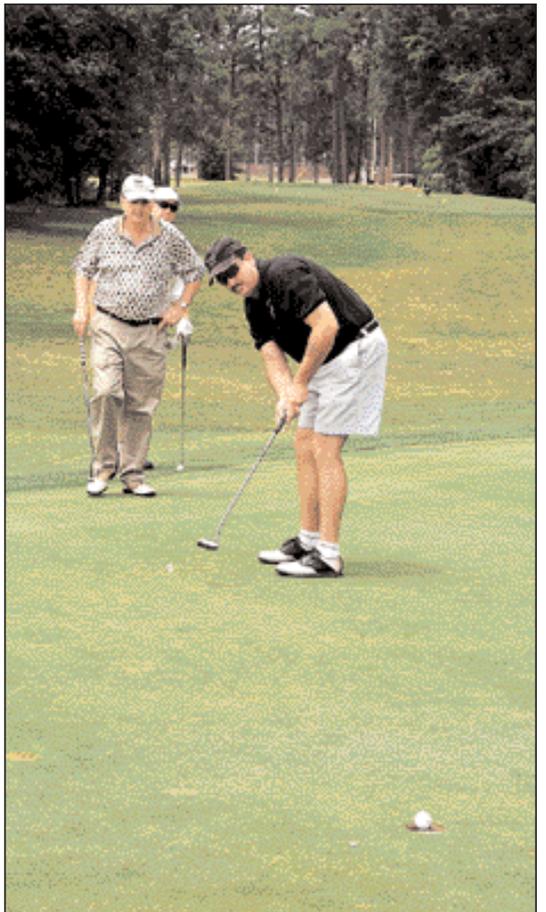
# 110 years of



NCCM Robert Smith, NAS Jax command career counselor keeps his eye on the ball as he tees off.



A group of chief petty officers and their guests enjoy a barbecue lunch at the CPO Club following the golf tournament.



CMDCM(AW/SW) Chuck Lawson, NAS Jacksonville command master chief sinks one for a birdie at Hole White No. 7.

## Local chiefs' community comes together to celebrate CPO birthday

BY JO1 Mike Jones  
Assistant Editor

To tell your chief Happy 110th Birthday. Your chief should know you're referring to the 110th anniversary of the establishment of the chief petty officer community, you won't be written up for disrespect.

To celebrate this event, active duty and retired members of the chiefs' community from NAS Jacksonville, Naval Station Mayport and Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay, Ga. gathered on base April 24 for a golf tournament celebration and cook-out.

Approximately 136 golfers turned out at the Casa Linda Oaks Golf Course for the event.

First place honors went to PR1 Warren Dykes, PR2 Jeffrey Lee-dahl, ET1 Jason Lonsdale and PRCS Carl Cuppy with a combined score of 59. CMDCM (AW/SW) Chuck Lawson, NCCM (SW) Robert Smith, CUCM(SCW) Paul Felker and Frank Butterfield took second place with a score of 60. CMDCM(AW) James Day, AEC Ken Duncan, ADCS (AW) Jerry Lankton and AOCM (AW) Robert Rea nabbed third place with a final score of 60.

NAS Jacksonville Command Master Chief CMDCM(AW/SW) Chuck Lawson snared the longest putt with his 18-foot shot to sink one at Hole #18.

Following the tournament, some 300 members of the local khaki community convened at the Fouled Anchor Chiefs' Club for the cookout and awards presentation.

"It's was a good showing of the chiefs' community from the Jacksonville area," said NCCM(SW) Robert Smith. "The support from our active duty ranks was great, and the turnout from our retired chiefs' community was truly impressive."

"The chief petty officers are truly the heart and soul of the Navy," remarked NAS Jacksonville Commanding Officer Capt. Mark S. Boensel. "They continue to be the foundation for everything else the Navy does. They're the trainers and the leaders. As goes the Chiefs' Mess, so goes the Navy."

That legacy began April 1, 1893 when the Navy officially established the grade of chief petty officer. At the time, the new grade encompassed nine ratings: Master-at-Arms, Boatswain's Mate, Quartermaster, Gunner's Mate, Machinist, Carpenter's Mate, Yeoman, Apothecary and Band Masters.

According to the Naval Historical Center website, prior to the establishment of the chief petty officer grade, and for many years thereafter, commanding officers could promote petty officers to acting appointments in order to fill vacancies in ships' complements. Sailors served various lengths of time under acting appointments, generally six months to a year. If service was satisfactory, the captain recommended to the Bureau of Navigation (called the Bureau of Personnel, BUPERS, after Oct. 1, 1942) that an individual be given a permanent appointment for the rate in which he served.

The pay grades of E-8 and E-9, senior chief and master chief, were created effective June 1, 1958, under a 1958 Amendment to the Career Compensation Act of 1949. Eligibility for promotion to the senior chief level was restricted to chiefs (Permanent Appointment) with a minimum of four years in grade and a total of ten years of service. For elevation from E-7 to master chief, E-9, a minimum of six years service as a chief petty officer with a total of 13 years service was required.

For more information, visit the Naval Historical Center homepage at [www.history.navy.mil](http://www.history.navy.mil).

Photos by PH2 Charles Hill



PNCM(AW) Renato Sayo of Personnel Support Activity Jax follows through with his stroke.



Capt. Mark Boensel, NAS Jacksonville commanding officer, puts during the recent CPO Golf Tournament to celebrate the 110th birthday of Navy chiefs.



SKC Clifford Woodall of VP-45 takes a swing during the recent CPO Golf Tournament.

# Golf happenings for May

From MWR

Check the calendar for the golfer appreciation discount days. Free greens fees on your day. Cart fees are required. Active duty is slated for May 13 and May 27, retirees / DoD for May 15 and 29.

Every Wednesday night we host a 9-hole scramble. All authorized patrons and guests are welcome to compete. Call the golf shop to register your name by 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday. The scrambles begin at 5:30 p.m. The handicap computer will form the teams ABCD. If you do not have a handicap index, please give us an average score or your best guess when you call. The entry fee for authorized patrons is \$15 and guests are \$20. The fee includes green fees, cart, and prize purse. There will be an optional team skins purse and closest to the pin contest.

The MGA will conduct its monthly event

on May 11. The format will be an individual points competition. You may form your own foursome. Individual skins \$5, individual closest to the pin \$2 entry, register starting at 7:30 a.m. The registration deadline is May 9. Players must check in by 8 a.m. on May 11 to be eligible to play in the event.

NAS Jax will conduct a Military/Guest Championship on May 24-25. The two-day event with shotgun begin at 9 a.m. The format will be the best one net ball of the twosome on Saturday and the total strokes minus handicap on Sunday. An established USGA handicap is required to be eligible for the event. The entry fee is \$75 per person or \$150 per team. Fee includes golf, range balls, tee gift, lunch both days, a free round of golf for you and your guest anytime, and prize purse.

For more information on golf events, call the Pro Shop at 542-3249.

## NS Mayport offers scuba classes

From NS Mayport MWR

The Bubblemaker Scuba class introduces children to the underwater world using scuba equipment in the shallow end of the base pool. The cost is \$15 and prepaid registration is required.

The PADI Seal Team program is a four-day mini camp held Monday through Thursday from 9:30-11:15 a.m. at the NS Mayport pool. The program is an exciting underwater activity for children. It also provides parents with a structured program that allows their children to develop skills and learn about the aquatic realm.

As part of your PADI Seal Team membership, PADI Seals have access to a special



website at [www.padisealteam.com](http://www.padisealteam.com). There, young divers can learn more about the PADI Seal Team through character biographies. They can also read about the PADI Seal Team and Specialty Aqua missions.

For more information on available dates for classes, call Southeast Dive Adventures at 270-5541 or email [mwrdivadventures@yahoo.com](mailto:mwrdivadventures@yahoo.com).

## Military children offered unique opportunity

From NASA

NASA Space Camp is a place where kids come together for a journey that they will never forget. Each child learns about astronauts and space travel, and also experiences something even more important: developing bonds of friendship.

This is a microcosm of the life of military children. They travel, they learn, and they quickly bond into friendships that many times last for life. It is fitting that the Military Child Education Coalition (MCEC) has created a Space Camp scholarship in memory of one of its brightest and finest children, Bernard Curtis Brown II. Bernard, the 11-year old son of Chief Petty Officer and Mrs. Bernard Curtis Brown, was killed on Sept. 11, 2001, when the hijacked airliner on which he was a passenger, crashed into the Pentagon in Washington, D.C. At the time, he was on his way to California to represent his school at a National Geographic event.

U.S. Space Camp is a five-day program that shows youngsters firsthand what it takes to be an astronaut. Activities include simulated space shuttle missions, training simulators, rocket building and launches,

scientific experiments, and lectures on the past, present, and future of space exploration.

Offered in two locations (Huntsville, Ala. and Titusville, Fla.), Space Camp takes a unique, fun and hands-on approach to learning outside the classroom—and students leave with a greater appreciation for school and their studies.

Each student applicant must be a child of an active duty military parent, be enrolled in grades six through nine, write an essay stating why he or she should be selected, submit two letters of recommendation with contact information, and complete and submit application by the deadline. The application deadline is May 15. Other considerations include evidence of patriotism, future goals, community service, and "after-camp" intentions.

The Bernard Curtis Brown, II Space Camp scholarship is funded by the MCEC. The scholarship covers full tuition including meals, lodging, program materials, and transportation (from student's home base to nearest Space Camp).

For more detailed information about Space Camp, visit their Web site at [www.spacecamp.com](http://www.spacecamp.com).

## Anheuser-Busch gives troops, families free admission to parks

Anheuser-Busch will give free single day admission to its SeaWorld, Busch Gardens and Sesame Place parks to active duty military, active reservists, U.S. Coast Guard, National Guardsmen and as many as four of their direct dependents, beginning May 23 through Nov. 11, 2003.

The offer also has been extended to all coalition forces serving with United States troops in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

"The men and women in our armed forces have made tremendous sacrifices, risking their lives and being separated from their families during the war," said August Busch III, chairman of Anheuser-Busch Companies, Inc., which operates nine United States theme parks. "We wanted to express our deep gratitude for their service, and this gives those who serve and their families some needed relaxation and enjoyment."



## Three chiefs promoted



Photo by AN Charles King

From left, TMCS Walter Clark, ACCS Glenn Jones and RPCS Victor Koon cut a cake following their senior chief pinning ceremony at the CPO Club April 30.

## MWR NOTES

### Aquatics Department taking reservations

The Aquatics Department staff members are now taking reservations for private parties at the outdoor pool.

The Aquatics staff is eager to help you get you fit. Join them for an aqua aerobics class, Monday - Thursday from 11 a.m. to noon, or Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 4:30-5:30 p.m. and again from 5:30-6 p.m. There is still time to enroll in May swimming classes. Registration is open for all levels. Please contact the Aquatics Department at 542-2930.

The outdoor pool will open for the summer season weekends only beginning May 3 from 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. There will be a Memorial Day Season Kickoff Party May 26 at 11 a.m.

### The Heritage Cottages

MWR's new Heritage Cottages are now open for only \$60 a night. These cottages make for a great vacation home away from home. They are fully-furnished with plenty of space. Make your reservation now by calling 542-3138/3139.

### Veterinary Treatment Facility

Due to vendor price increases, the Veterinary Treatment Facility has been forced to increase prices. We still have the lowest prices around.

The NAS Jax Veterinary Treatment Facility is located in Building 8 at the corner of Ranger Street and Enterprise Avenue. The clinic is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. It is closed on legal holidays. Pets are seen by appointment only. Appointments may be made in person or by calling 542-3786.

The clinic is limited to services permitted by regulations. These include vaccinations,

heartworm testing, fecal testing and minor treatment of the eyes, ears, and skin on an out-patient basis. Heartworm and flea prevention products are available for purchase at the clinic during regular business hours.

### Mulberry Cove Marina news

The marina offers free kayak and canoe rentals for active duty Sailors on Thursdays. It's a great way to get acquainted with some of the equipment on hand and have some fun too. For more information on marina events, call 542-3260.

### Auto Skills Center

Visit the Auto Skills Center for your professional or hobby car care needs. The center offers an array of services for the novice or professional auto enthusiast. There is an ASE qualified mechanic on hand to assist with questions and tips on servicing your vehicle. The center is open Monday, Thursday and Friday from noon to 8 p.m., Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and all holidays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. except Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day.

The Auto Skills Center offers a shop orientation class on the third Thursday and Friday of each month. Reservations are required for the orientation. Call 542-3227 for information.

### NAS Freedom Lanes offers great deals

The NAS Freedom Lanes is a state-of-the-art bowling facility, with 24 lanes, a game room with pool tables and arcade gaming machines. The Gutterball Grill snack bar provides delicious food and beverage service. The facility has a fully supplied Pro Shop staffed by members of the Professional Bowling Association.

The center is open seven days a week. The center offers

Cosmic Xtreme bowling on Saturday afternoon from 4-6 p.m. and again from 8 p.m.-midnights. The NAS Freedom Lane is open to all active duty, authorized civilians, retirees and their family members.

Active duty free bowling: Wednesdays from open to close.

Rent a lane special Tuesdays starting at 5 p.m. The cost is \$12 per lane per hour or \$32 per lane for three-hour rental. Shoe rental is \$1.65 per pair.

Extreme Bowling - Saturday nights. The cost is \$15 per person. Check in begins at 7 p.m. and bowling starts at 8 p.m.

Call the center for event schedules at 542-3493.

### Youth classes

Dance classes and Tae Kwon Do classes are available at NAS Jax Youth Gym and Yellow Water Youth Activities. If you are interested in registering your child stop by either center or give us a call at 778-9772 (NAS Jax) or 777-8247 (Yellow Water)

### Free movies offered

Enjoy free movies at the base theater each Friday evening starting at 7 p.m. and every other Saturday at 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. Bring your own popcorn, soda and snacks. Sit back and enjoy some of Hollywood's premier blockbuster hits. There are no alcoholic beverages allowed in the theater and persons under 17 are not permitted without adult supervision.

Tomorrow, 7 p.m. - First Knight  
Saturday, 5 p.m. - Jurassic Park II  
Saturday, 7 p.m. - Biker Boyz  
May 16, 7 p.m. - Old School

### Escape the ordinary on an I.T.T. trip

Have some fun with I.T.T. - take a trip or treat yourself to a show! Stop by our office located

adjacent to the NEX, and sign up for a great trip. Our trips are open to all hands, so bring a friend! For more information call the office at 542-3318.

Here are some of the upcoming events I.T.T. has tickets for:

Suns Baseball tickets - general admission is \$4.  
Disney Florida resident four-day play pass - \$107.45. Good until Sept. 30.

The following are upcoming trips:

May 18 - Kennedy Space Center. Ticket and transportation for adults is \$38.50 and children (3-11) are \$29.50.

May 24 - Florida Folk Festival. Enjoy entertainment on six different stages featuring Florida's finest music, dance and storytelling. Sign up before May 9 and pay \$28.50 for adults and \$16.50 for children under 15.

June 7 - Savannah trip. Enjoy a beautiful day that includes transportation, a guided trolley tour of the city and plenty of free time for \$27.75.

June 8 - Sterling Casino Cruise. Sail out of Port Canaveral on the biggest gambling ship in Florida. A great day for \$12.50.

Visit MWR online at [www.nasjax.navy.mil](http://www.nasjax.navy.mil) and look for the tab marked MWR this is your tab to unlimited fun. For questions or comments e-mail us at [mwrmtg@nasjax.navy.mil](mailto:mwrmtg@nasjax.navy.mil).

## Naval Hospital Jax offers support group

Naval Hospital Jacksonville Lactation Specialist Rachel Nieves is organizing a Breast Feeding Support Group starting in May. The group will be open to pregnant ladies, breastfeeding moms, and anyone interested in learning more about breastfeeding.

The one-hour group meetings will be held in the hospital's Internal Medicine Conference Room. Moms are encouraged to bring their babies. Part of the program involves weighing the infants. All meetings will be held from 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. Meeting dates are as follows:

May 14 and 21  
June 4, 11 and 18  
July 2, 9, 16 and 30

For more information, contact Rachel Nieves, 542-9671 or 7708.



# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**The Navy Wives Clubs of America, NWCA Jax No. 86** meets the first Wednesday of each month. Meetings are held in Building 612 on Jason Street at NAS Jacksonville at 7:30 p.m. The Thrift Shop is open Tuesdays and Thursdays and every other Saturday from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. For more information, call the Thrift Shop at 772-0242 or Pearl Aran at 777-8032.

**The Navy Wives Club's DID No. 300** meetings are held the second Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Oak Crest United Methodist Church Education Building at 5900 Ricker Road. For more information call 387-4332 or 272-9489.

**Clay County Chapter 1414, National Association of Retired Federal Employees, (NARFE)** invites all retired and currently employed federal employees to their regular monthly meeting the second Tuesday of each month at 1 p.m. at the Orange Park Library. For more information call 276-9415.

**MOMS Club of Northeast Florida** meets the second and fourth Thursday of every month from 10 a.m. to noon. The meeting is free and open to all at-home mothers and children who live in the zip code areas of 32206, 32218 and 32226. MOMS Club is a support group for moms wanting a variety of activities for you and your children. The chapter offers monthly meetings, newsletters, activity calendars, playgroups, field trips and service projects. For meeting location or more information, contact Debbie at 751-0671 (debbiejkg@yahoo.com) or Kathi at 751-3400 (katdj28@aol.com).

**Submarine Sailors** - If you have qualified on a United States Navy submarine in the past or present you are invited to join "First Coast Sub Vets." If you have qualified on a submarine from a foreign country, you are invited to join as an associate member. Meetings are held the second Saturday of each month at the American Legion Post 316 on Atlantic Blvd. For more information contact the Base Commander at rjrjax@attbi.com or 241-6222.

**The Marine Corps League, Jacksonville Detachment** holds their monthly meeting the first Thursday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at the Marine Corps Recruiting Station at 3728 Phillips Highway, Suite 229. For more information call John Leisman at 779-7375.

**Girl Scout Troop 333** meets every Wednesday from 7-8:30 p.m. at NAS Jacksonville Chapel Annex. All girls grade 4-6 are invited, adults are also needed. If interested contact Lynne Sebring at 317-2363 or come to the meetings.

**St. Joseph's New Direc-**

**tions** is a year-round support group for the divorced and separated. Meetings are held the second and fourth Wednesday of every month. The meetings start at 6:45 p.m. and are held in the Convent at St. Joseph's main church on Loretto Road. Call 268-1591.

**Christian Fellowship Night** will be held behind the Chapel in Bldg. 749 from 6:30 - 9 p.m. every Tuesday night. For more information call 542-3051.

**Association of Aviation Ordnancemen's** meeting is held the third Thursday of each month at the Fleet Reserve Center on Collins Road. For more information, call AOC Chris Johnson at 542-2168 or AOCs Erick Parmley at 542-8589.

**The National Naval Officers Association (NNOA)** holds its monthly meeting on the third Thursday each month at 5:30 p.m. at the Jacksonville Urban League, 903 West Union Street. NNOA is a non-secretariat, not-for-profit organization sanctioned by the Secretaries of Defense and Transportation to assist sea services in recruiting and training minority officers, increasing awareness of sea services opportunities in minority communities, and projecting a positive Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard image. Interested personnel are encouraged to attend or contact Lt. Herlena Washington at 696-5005 or email WashingtonHO@matcom-bic.usmc.mil.

**The Jacksonville Genealogical Society** will meet May 17 at 1:30 p.m. at the Webb-Wescosnett Library, 6887 103rd Street. For more information, call Mary Chauncey at 781-9300.

**The VFA-131 20th Anniversary Reunion** will be held July 11-12 in Virginia Beach, Va. For more information contact Lt. James Yeats, VFA-131, Unit 60145, FPO AE 09504-6229 or email yeatsja@vfa131.navy.mil.

**The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary (Flotilla 14-8)** is sponsoring three one-day Boating Safely programs July 26 from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Mandarin High School. The cost is \$20 per person. For more information, call Bob Strong at 721-1346.

**The VP-4 Association** is holding a reunion Oct. 6-9 at the Flamingo Hotel in Las Vegas, Nev. For more information and to register, email VP4assoc@adelphia.net.

**The annual VP-24 Reunion** is scheduled for Oct. 24-26 at NAS Jacksonville. For more information, write Don Hall, 2003 Jax Reunion Host, 4421 Commons Dr. East, #413, Destin, Fla. 32541 or email djhdestin@cox.net.

# JAX SPORTS & STANDINGS

## Sports officials and scorekeepers needed

The North Florida Military Officials Association is looking for individuals to officiate soccer, softball, football, and volleyball at NAS Jax. Scorekeepers are also needed for basketball. Experience is not required. If interested, contact Al Vandercaar at 282-0809.

## Intramural golf meeting planned

There will be a meeting for anyone interested in participating in intramural golf on May 21 at 11:30 a.m. at the MWR golf course. Intramural golf is open to all NAS Jax active duty personnel only. For more information, call 542-3239.

## Navy Southeast Regional Running and Triathlon Team

Represent the United States Navy in 5K, 10K, marathons, and/or triathlons. The Navy will showcase elite active duty men and women in regional races. Uniforms are provided as well as transportation, entry fees, and lodging costs. Interested runners must compete in sanctioned (USA Track and Field, USA Triathlon Association, or Roadrunners Clubs of America) races and your time must be one of top 10 regional qualifying times. If you have run in sanctioned race and your time meets regional qualifying time, contact your base athletic director.

## Southeast Regional qualifying times

5K	Men 19:00	Women 24:00
10K	Men 34:00	Women 46:00
Marathon	Men 3H 30M	Women 4H
Triathlon	Men 2H 30M	Women 3H
Triathlon time based on 1.5K swim, 10K run, 40K bike		

For more information about any of the sports articles, call Bill Bonser, sports coordinator or Mike Gorman, athletic director at 542-2930/3239 or e-mail us at dbonser@nasjax.navy.mil or dgorman@nasjax.navy.mil. Visit the MWR website at www.nasjax.navy.mil

## Greybeard Softball Standings

as of May 5		
Team	Wins	Losses
CPRW-11	7	2
AIMD	6	1
NAMTra	4	3
VP-30	2	7
VP-45 (Dropped)	0	6

## 2003 Women's Softball Standings

as of May 5		
Team	Wins	Losses
VP-16	7	0
VP-45	6	1
Lady Cougars	3	4
NavHosp	1	6
MWR	1	7

## Open Softball Standings as of May 5

Team	Wins	Losses
CB'S	8	1
Beanie Boys	6	3
VP-16	5	2
NAMTra	3	5
Beef O'Brady's	3	4
Onsite Aviation	0	9

## Intramural Soccer Standings

as of May 5				
Team	Wins	Losses	Ties	Points
VP-30	5	0	1	11
VS-31	5	1	0	10
NavHosp	3	2	1	7
ASTC/CNRSE	3	4	0	6
VP-45	2	4	0	4

## Intramural Softball Standings

as of May 5		
Team	Wins	Losses
Air Ops	8	1
AIMD Bombers	6	1
VS-31	5	2
NAMTra	5	2
VS-30 Red	5	2
VP-30	5	2
VR-58	5	2
VP-30	5	3
VP-45	5	4
VP-62	4	4
VP-16 Red	4	5
HS-75	3	4
HS-5	3	4
VS-30 Black	3	5
AIMD 900	3	5
VP-16 White	2	6
HITRON 10	2	6
HS-15	1	6
SERCC	1	7

# JAX TALES By MIKE JONES

RICKYSTOUR@YAHOO.COM



# FFSC offers educational and support programs

The NAS Jacksonville Fleet and Family Support Center Life Skills Education and Support Program is the foremost preventive measure for the avoidance of personal and family problems.

All FFSC workshops and classes are free of charge and available to service members and their families, and civilian personnel aboard the base.

Pre-registration is required. If special accommodations or handicapped access is required, please notify us upon registration. Contact 542-2766, Ext. 127 to register.

The following workshops are available in May:

- May 13, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. - Couples Communication Workshop
- May 13, 9-11 a.m. - Career Exploration for Spouses
- May 14, 10 a.m. - noon - Credit Management
- May 19-22, 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. - Transition Assistance Workshop (retirement)
- May 20, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. - Stress Management Workshop
- May 21, 9-11 a.m. - Federal Employment for Spouses
- May 22, 8-11 a.m. - Anger Control Workshop
- May 29, 9 a.m. - noon - Florida Family Law Information Seminar
- May 29, 1-3 p.m. - Volunteer Service Council



# In Gear

A weekly look at the automotive market

## Sharper Focus

### Special Vehicle Team gives boost to Ford coupe

By Dan Scanlan  
Special

**S**peedy Gonzalez (his real name, honest!) has always liked good, fast cars. From his days as an Italian car mechanic, and now a technician on some high-priced German cars at the local Mercedes-Benz dealership, he always wanted to take a basic good car and build it into one that's better.

So when Ford imported the Focus ZX3 coupe to the United States a few years ago, its basics were perfect and he added a Jackson Racing supercharger, Borla exhaust system, Iceman cold-air intake, JBA headers, partial roll cage, 17-inch Kumho rubber on aggressive five-spoke alloy wheels, radically modified front and rear bumpers, rally car air intake and twin rear spoilers.

His more focused 180-horsepower Focus is part of a growing trend of owners to add aftermarket bits to make their basic Honda Civics, Mazda Proteges, Acura Integras and RSXs, Nissan Sentras and other import machinery go faster and handle better. And don't think the manufacturers haven't noticed.

Acura did its Integra R-Type a few years ago, with stickier rubber, more powerful engine and no radio or air conditioner. Mazda introduced the Protege MP3 with aftermarket Racing Beat exhaust system and suspension, while Nissan's Sentra SE-R Spec V has a 175-hp engine, six-speed manual and serious rubber and suspension. Honda finally brought back the Civic Si with 160-hp engine.

Now, Ford's Performance Group, which includes the Special Vehicle Team, has added its Euro-tuned Focus SVT to a stable that already includes the Mustang Cobra and SVT Lightning truck.

Speedy likes the idea, which is why he did his first. And he thinks that with a few modifications like a lowered suspension and better breathing, the SVT Focus might be faster than his.

"I liked the looks of the car and did it because of the rally car version in Europe. The interior copied the European rally car, plus it has the racing seats," he said. "If I had gone the SVT route before I went this route, I might have saved money. I like the way SVT did it. It needs to be lower, but otherwise, I might leave it alone."

That kind of reaction is why the Special Vehicles Team decided to build a hotter Focus using some traditional techniques, followed by a five-door sedan in 2003, said Ford spokesman Jim Cain. Now they have a car that competes with the aforementioned import compacts, and also should appeal to the after-market tuners.

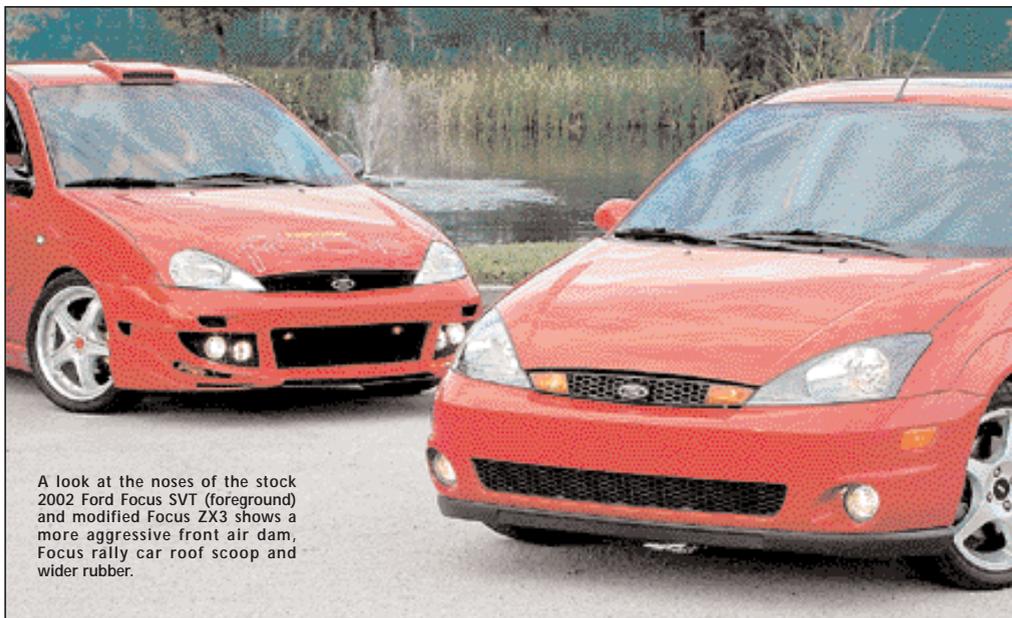
"It fully exploits the capability of the basic Ford Focus architecture. The chassis clearly can take more power," Cain said. "We first upgraded the 2-liter Zetec engine to 170-hp using variable intake cam timing, dual-mode intake runner system, a true 4-2-1 tubular cross header, higher compression and we also stiffened the valve springs."

Ford brought out the Focus a few years ago to replace the tired compact Escort, and its angular-styled wedge shape with trapezoidal cat's eye headlights, steeply sloped hood with chiseled lines and a cab-forward design found lots of buyers. The car was taller than the Escort, with a flatter curve in its side panels and flared fenders, while the high tail had unusual angle-cut taillights that echo the headlight design. The car is available as a three-door coupe, four-door hatchback sedan and five-door wagon.

Now Ford's SVT team has pushed the envelope on the Focus ZX3 hatchbacks, pumping up the 130-hp/135 foot-pound of torque engine to 170 hp and 145 foot-pound of torque. A more aggressive front bumper with mesh air intake and inset fog lights and a flat black lower air dam add to the look. The headlights get smoked glass covers, while the side sills visually lower the car around 17-inch, five-spoke alloy wheels and P215/45R17-inch Continental performance radials. In back, a chromed exhaust tip peeks out of the rear fascia.

"It's a bit more sophisticated look than some similar cars that have large spoilers or flashy graphics," Cain said.

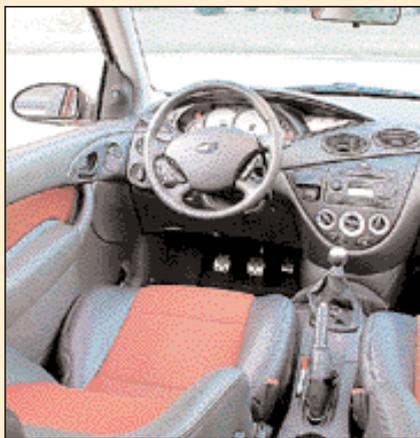
Modifications accent the interior. Open the wide door, and you step over a wide blue-alloy SVT kick plate, and settle into charcoal gray leather bolstered seats with grippy red cloth inserts that sit high



A look at the noses of the stock 2002 Ford Focus SVT (foreground) and modified Focus ZX3 shows a more aggressive front air dam, Focus rally car roof scoop and wider rubber.

Dan Scanlan/special

### BEHIND THE WHEEL



Dan Scanlan/special

The interior of the Ford Focus SVT gets an in-dash six-disc CD player, bolstered sports seats and a six-speed manual transmission.



Dan Scanlan/special

Close-up of mechanic Speedy Gonzalez's modified Ford Focus with supercharger, roll cage, Focus rally car pieces and new suspension and brakes.

and chair-like. Not as aggressively bolstered as other sports imports, they were comfortable and easy to adjust thanks to a rubber-coated recline adjust knob on the side and a power height adjustment under the left thigh.

From the driver's seat, the slashed gauge package is easy to see with its silvery-faced 160-mph speedometer, 8,000-rpm tach and gas and temperature gauges straight ahead, and oil pressure and oil temperature gauges in the upper right where a coin tray normally resides. At night, they glowed green, the red SVT emblem glowing under the tach needle. The six-speed gearshift is buff alloy with perforated leather, and gets a leather shift boot. Even the gas, brake and clutch pedal get alloy accents under rubber, while the parking brake and tilt/telescope steering wheel has

more leather.

All rotary controls and switches have a precision feel. The 9006 Audiophile AM-FM-six-disc CD stereo was powerful and sounded great, with an eight-inch subwoofer with amplifier in the trunk for extra oomph. The rear seats have lots of head room and decent leg room for two adults. The trunk is deep, with a 60/40 split rear seat back with easy-to-use knobs in the trunk to drop the seats when you are at the back. The glove box has lots of room, while the door map pockets are shallow.

Now, we have always enjoyed the basic good handling of the other Focus family members, and SVT has worked its magic to make this Focus better – so good that the car recently beat out the Civic Si and Hyundai Tiburon V-6 in acceleration, and ranked equal or better than them and the Sentra SE-R V-Spec in braking and handling.

Our tests showed our 2,600-mile-old SVT Focus with dual-mass flywheel and quick-shifting Getrag close-ratio six-speed manual transmission and snarling exhaust got to 60 mph in 6.8 seconds with some wheelspin and no torque steer. The power is available low down, and makes passing as easy as pushing down the alloy gas pedal.

For comparison, we climbed into the highly bolstered OMP Simota racing bucket seat in Speedy's modified Focus, grabbed the precise, short-throw five-speed B&M manual inside and managed a 0-60-mph time of about 6 seconds with controllable

wheelspin at launch. The 180-hp engine in his rocket had an aggressive snarl, louder than the SVT Focus but still acceptable with real punch when you got the engine and supercharger boiling. Thanks to the padded roll cage that replaced the rear seats, plus modified suspension and shortened springs, the lower-riding car felt more substantial, with a much firmer ride offering some harsh rebounds on bumps.

Our SVT's base price was \$17,995, with the 170-hp engine, disc brakes with ABS, alloy wheels, six-speed manual and performance tires. Options included a \$595 one-touch open and close moonroof and \$675 eight-speaker Audiophile stereo, for a manufacturer's suggested retail price of \$19,265.

Bottom line – for under \$20,000, the SVT Focus coupe offers folks who love hot hatch sports cars to get into the game with a factory-modified car that offers style, room and focused performance. And if they want to do more, take a look at Speedy's car or the 50 aftermarket-modified Foci at the 2002 SEMA show in Las Vegas in October, including Ford's own Hot Wheels Focus ZX3 and SVT Focus European Appearance Package.

*Dan Scanlan test-drives new vehicles on Northeast Florida's roads, averaging about 200 miles of combined highway and city traffic during a weeklong test. The test vehicles are provided by the manufacturer according to their schedule, and represent a broad spectrum of sizes and prices. The prices listed are manufacturer's suggested retail prices.*

### 2003 FORD FOCUS SVT Specifications:

Vehicle type	factory-modified 2-door compact performance coupe
Base price	\$17,995 (As driven – \$19,265)
Engine type	SOHC, 16 Valve inline 4-cylinder engine w/ Variable Cam Timing and Dual-stage Inlet System
Displacement	2-liter
Horsepower (net)	170 hp at 7,000 rpm
Torque (lb-ft)	145 at 5,500 rpm, w/ 85 percent available at 2,200
Transmission	6-speed manual
Wheelbase	103 in.
Overall length	168.1 in.
Overall width	66.9 in.
Height	56.3 in.
Front headroom	39.3 in.
Front legroom	43.1 in.
Rear headroom	38.7 in.
Rear legroom	37.6 in.
Cargo capacity	18.6 cubic feet
Curb weight	2,770 pounds
Fuel capacity	13.2 gallons
Mileage rating	25 mpg city/34 mpg highway
Last Word	Ford's hot hatch comes of age