

# JAX AIR NEWS

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NAS Jacksonville, Fla.

October 25, 2001



**Jax warriors return from the sea** — “Scout” 701 refuels an F-14 Tomcat en route to targets in Afghanistan. After seeing the world from Scotland to the Arabian Sea and participating in Operation Enduring Freedom, the “Scouts” of Sea Control Squadron (VS) 24 are returning home tomorrow and Saturday. See story on page 16. Also returning tomorrow are the “Tridents” of Helicopter Antisubmarine Squadron (HS) 3.

## AIMD, ASD reporting to Sea Control Wing

**Story and Photos by Jeff Hilton**  
Staff Writer

Following similar actions at other naval air stations, Naval Air Station (NAS) Jacksonville’s Aircraft Intermediate Maintenance Department (AIMD) and Aviation Support Division (ASD) have been transferred to Commander Sea Control Wing Atlantic (CSCWL). The move, geared to streamline aircraft maintenance, has approximately 800 NAS Sailors joining the wing. In addition to serving the S-3B Viking squadrons the wing operates, AIMD and ASD will continue supporting P-3 and H-60 squadrons, five aircraft carriers as well as several federal agencies aboard NAS Jax.

The transfer supports Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Vern Clark’s “Top Five Priorities” which emphasize im-

proving organizational alignment.

Like AIMD, ASD, the primary parts expeditor and warehouse for aviation equipment on NAS Jax, will report directly to the wing which reports directly to Commander, Naval Air Forces U.S. Atlantic Fleet (CNAL). The transfer also changes ASD’s title to Aviation Support Detachment. ASD Officer in Charge Lt. j.g. Mark Ward, said ASD’s move keeps aviation parts closer to those having the biggest need for them.

The transfer for AIMD began in November 2000. ASD’s move began in July and was completed in October. Other East Coast naval air stations have transferred their AIMDs and ASDs to fighter or patrol and reconnaissance wings that also report to CNAL.

CSCWL Commodore, Capt. Steven

*See AIMD, ASD, page 5*



AD2 Tom Blakeman inspects a P-3 engine at AIMD’s test cell.

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Combined Federal  
Campaign  
halfway there  
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HS-5 back from  
USS John F.  
Kennedy  
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Jax Air News online: [www.nasjax.navy.mil](http://www.nasjax.navy.mil)

**Weekend**

**Weather**

Friday  
  
48/71

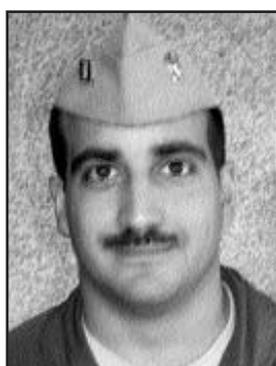
Saturday  
  
45/70

Sunday  
  
47/71

Seven-day forecast available at  
Naval Atlantic Meteorology  
and Oceanography Facility  
Jacksonville’s website:

<https://www.nlmof.navy.mil>

## Meet a Sailor... Lt. Jason Mendez



**Job title/command:** Naval Flight Officer, Patrol Squadron (VP) 45  
**Hometown:** Amsterdam, N.Y.  
**Past Duty Stations:** Randolph AFB, San Antonio, Texas, NAS Pensacola, Fla.  
**Family Life:** Married, two children.  
**Career Plans:** To become president!  
**Most Interesting Experience:** An airshow in Sweden.  
**Words of Wisdom:** "It's all good."

## Meet a Civilian... Michael Cofer



**Job title/command:** Vender at the Navy Exchange  
**Hometown:** Orlando, Fla.  
**Past Duty Stations:** American Greetings  
**Family Life:** Single  
**Career Plans:** To retire.  
**Most Interesting Experience:** Being able to see Georgia play football.  
**Words of Wisdom:** "United We Stand!"

*Nov. 10 marks 226 years*

# Marine Corps Commandant sends Birthday Message

As we commemorate the 226th anniversary of the founding of our Corps, Marines everywhere can take pride in their contributions to our great nation. We are a Corps born of an act of Congress, consecrated in sacrifice, steeped in tradition, and tested in battle. Our earned legacy is filled with the names of many great Marines: Lejeune, Vandergrift, Puller...Butler, Bestwick, Daly — who fill the annals of our lineage with their inspired acts of vision and gallantry.

Heroic actions on the battlefield are a hallmark of our legacy. Equally compelling are the countless heroic deeds of many other Marines who exemplify the virtue of placing the needs of others above their own. Whether it be a Marine saving an Okinawan child from drowning, or pulling people from a burning wreck, or a family extending itself to provide a safe, nurturing home for disadvantaged children, our lives are indeed full of heroism. Today we celebrate these deeds, not as exploits, but as contributions to the greater good — circumstances where Marines take care of not just their own, but reach out to care for others.

A lone Marine standing vigil on a dark night in Kosovo; a Marine reservist who as a firefighter or police of-

icer first responds to an emergency in his community; a civilian Marine who working alongside his counterparts in uniform shares the perils and realities of a terrorist attack; and a committed spouse who finds time to serve as an advocate for family programs in addition to making a home and supporting her family — these are among the heroes of all generations. We are indebted to them for their example of strength and their presence of character. They embrace our core values and embody them to the fullest. They inspire us to do the same. We must rise to the level of their example as we celebrate the birth of our corps and its rich heritage. Let us always be faithful, as our motto urges, to our



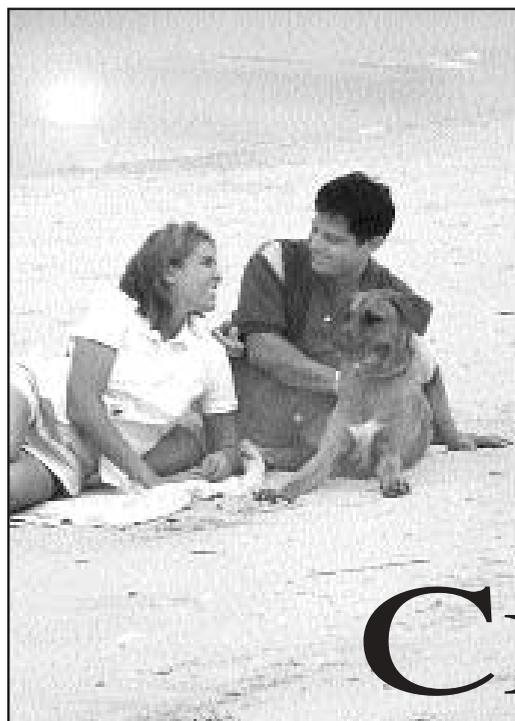
**Gen. James L. Jones**  
**Commandant of the**  
**Marine Corps**

god, our country, our Corps and to our families, but let us also resolve to be always faithful to those Marines who have bestowed upon us our proud legacy of sacrifice, courage, and success.

To all Marines, past and present, who uphold the finest traditions of our eagle, globe, and anchor, happy birthday.

Semper Fidelis,

**General J. L. Jones**  
*Commandant of the Marine Corps*



## It's free!

It's free! Give yourself the gift of a Navy CREDO Retreat. Attend a Personal Growth Retreat Nov. 15 - 18. For more information, or to register, call CREDO at 270-6958.

# CREDO

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# JAX AIR NEWS

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## Volunteers needed for Veteran's Day Parade

Sailors and Marines are needed to volunteer their time Monday, Nov. 12 from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in support of the City's Veterans Day Parade. Approximately 20 to 40 volunteers are needed to put saw-horse style barricades up along the staging area and parade route.

Assistance is also required to ensure all organizations and units participating in the parade are in their assigned spots and ready to go.

Volunteers will then walk with their assigned division along the route ensuring safety and no stopping, and to make sure

the divisions/units get to the end of the route back at the staging area. They will assist in keeping the units going so that there will be no blockage and backups at the end of the parade.

Volunteers need not be in uniform and can wear anything comfortable for that day including shorts - so long as whatever they are wearing can be seen in public and won't reflect badly as the parade will be aired live.

To sign up, call Dan Guthrie, Veterans Service Division, City of Jacksonville, at 630-7282.

## Jaguars tickets still available

The Jacksonville Jaguars are offering great deals for sailors, retirees, civilian employees and their families who wish to attend the Nov. 11, 2001 Veterans Day Salute to the Military game against the Cincinnati Bengals.

In addition to participation by Navy Band Southeast, Rear Adm. Jan Gaudio, Commander Navy Region Southeast, will reenlist 100 Sailors and Marines during a pre-game ceremony.

The Jaguars are offering the following incentives for the 1 p.m. game at Alltel Stadium:

- \* Tickets are \$30 (\$59 value)
- \* Free footlong hotdog, soda and popcorn
- \* Seats located in the east and west upperdecks

\* Purchase a JTA Shuttle Pass for an additional \$5 (\$7 value)

\* Block seating reserved exclusively for all active and retired military and civilian employees their family and friends

\* Game day parking in Lot DD for \$10.

\* No limit to the number of seats you can purchase.

Order by credit card by calling (866) 452-4784 or visit [www.jaguars.com](http://www.jaguars.com) and use the offer code of "Military." For cash, credit card and check purchases you can also go to the MWR/ITT Office at NAS Jacksonville, Naval Station Mayport or Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay.

## NAS Jax supports CFC

With the Combined Federal Campaign well underway, NAS Jacksonville activities have reached the following totals. Some activities' CFC campaigns are still underway and are yet to report final totals.

<u>Command</u>	<u>Totals</u>
345th Combat Support Hospital	\$0
Administrative Department	\$1,180
AIMD	\$16,146
Air Operations Department	\$7,747
Aviation Support Depot	\$1,700
Aviation Survival Training Center	\$1,052
Base Legal	\$1,014
Blount Island Command	\$1,228
CBU-14 Naval Mobil Construction	\$734
Chaplain's Office	\$948
COMHSWINGLANT	\$4,809
Commissary	\$431
ComNavReg SE	\$18,905.16
ComPatReconForLant Det AMPO	\$1,850
ComPatRecWing 11	\$4,583
ComSeaConWingLant (CSCWL)	\$9,520
Construction Battalion Unit 410	\$1,188
Defense Automated Printing	\$0
Defense Courier Service Station	\$48
Defense Distribution Depot	\$0
Defense Reutilization & Marketing	\$2,005
DISA DECC Detachment	\$6,470.66
Disease Vector Ecology & Control	\$4,890
Drug Screening Lab H2033	\$858
Facilities & Environmental Office	\$1,643
Family Service Center	\$1,827
FASOTRAGRULANT DET	\$6,791.08
Fire Department	\$785
FISC	\$6,335
Fleet Area Control & Surveillance	\$5,149
Healthcare Support Office	\$4,047
HS-3	\$0
HS-5	\$4,570
HS-7	\$8,957
HS-11	\$8,813
HS-15	\$6,807
HS-75	\$0
Human Resources Office	\$0
I & I Staff USMC Company B	\$438
Military Entrance Processing Station	\$588
Mobile Inshore Underwater Warfare	\$303
Morale Welfare and Recreation	\$5,550.08
NADEP 1.0 Program Management	\$1,839.50
NADEP 3.0 Logistics Competency	\$3,978.24
NADEP 4.0 Research & Engineering Competency	\$0
NADEP 6.0 Depot Operations	\$3,086.58
NADEP 7.0 Corporate Operations	\$0
NAMTra Unit	\$6,309
NATEC	\$0
Naval & Marine Corps Reserve	\$1,582
Naval Air Reserve	\$1,042
Naval Brig	\$976
Naval Computer and Tele-Communications	\$5,264.08
Naval Criminal Investigative Service	\$1,014.08
Naval Dental Clinic SE	\$3,389
Naval Hospital	\$0
Naval Legal Service Office	\$1,728
Naval Reserve Readiness Command	\$1,168
Naval Reserve Recruiting Command	\$0
NavLant Met OC Det	\$4,889
Navy Band	\$2,621
Navy College Office	\$356
Navy Exchange	\$3,724.93
Personnel Support Activity	\$4,751
Personnel Support Detachment	\$3,033
Public Works Center	\$2,959.50
Regional Visual Support Center	\$0
ROICC	\$3,257.50
Safety Office	\$527
Security Department	\$385.50
Southeast Regional Cal Center (SERCC JAX)	\$2,778
SpaWar	\$10,851.34
Supply Department/Combined BQ	\$2,269.50
Transient Personnel Unit	\$3,352
U.S. Customs Service Aviation	\$130
U.S. Customs Service Surveillance Branch East	\$1,710
VP-5	\$0
VP-16	\$8,759.50
VP-30	\$42,785
VP-45	\$5,572
VP-62	\$2,705
VR-58	\$0
VS-22	\$3,049
VS-24	\$0
VS-30	\$5,337
VS-31	\$5,378
VS-32	\$11,161
Weapons Department	\$3,017

Total: \$316,645.77

Percentage of goal: 49.87 percent



## Keep NAS clean

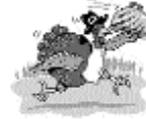
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Turkey Only (12-14lbs)-\$17 

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*Includes Turkey, 2lbs Mashed Potatoes, 2lbs Green Beans,  
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**Call for more details, to place orders  
and prices on Hams & Ham Dinners!**



**542-2936**

# AIMD, ASD: Shift improves readiness

*Continued from page 1*

Luce said, "One of Naval Aviation's highest priorities is improving the readiness of non-deployed aircraft. Bringing AIMD and ASD back under the operational chain of command allows better fleet integration and prioritization of repair efforts. The result is an increase in the number of mission capable aircraft for squadron training during the inter-deployment training cycle."

AIMD Assistant Officer in Charge Lt. Cmdr. Tim Pfannenstein said the new

structure eliminates two separate chains of command, which had the department report administratively to NAS Jax and operationally to CNAL.

Pfannenstein said the new structure "operationalized" AIMD by aligning it more directly with deploying war fighter commands needing its support.

"To the user its transparent," said Pfannenstein, "they will see increased efficiency because we're able to spend our resources better."

That should lead to an increase in the 56,000 maintenance actions AIMD

has completed in 2000.

Administrative functions including, evaluations, funding, and UCMJ authority for AIMD and ASD will also reside with the wing.

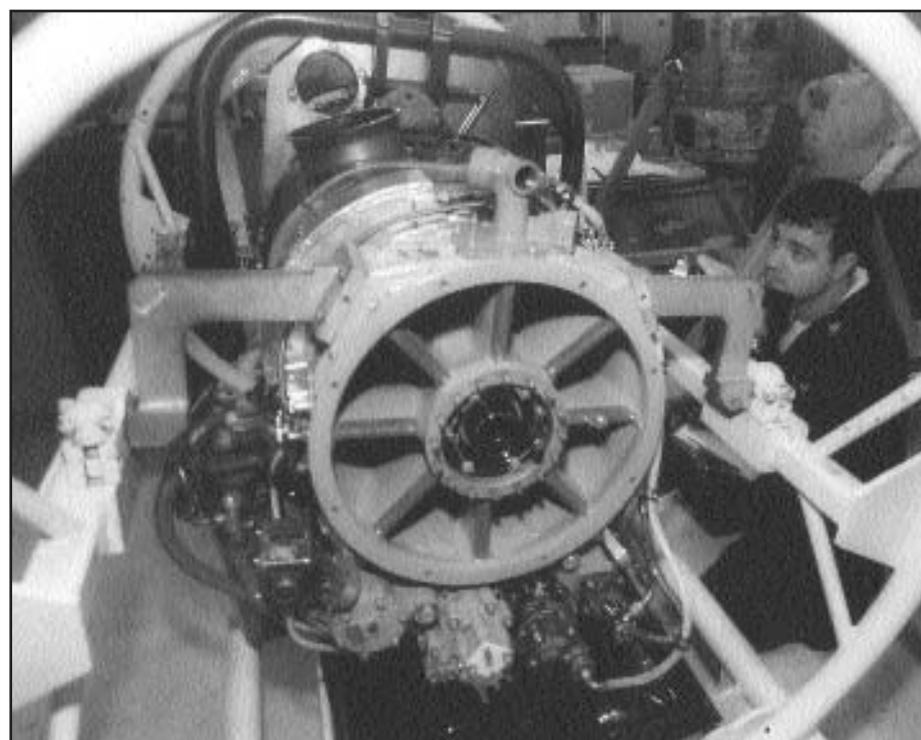
Luce said, "My favorite quote is from the base Supply Officer, who during the initial alignment meeting said, 'It's all about aviation!' That says it all. The reason AIMD, ASD and the type wing staffs exist is to make the squadrons mission capable, so that they, the battle group and the Navy can carry out their part of the national security strategy."



**AM3(AW) Orenn Graham manufactures a hydraulic hose.**



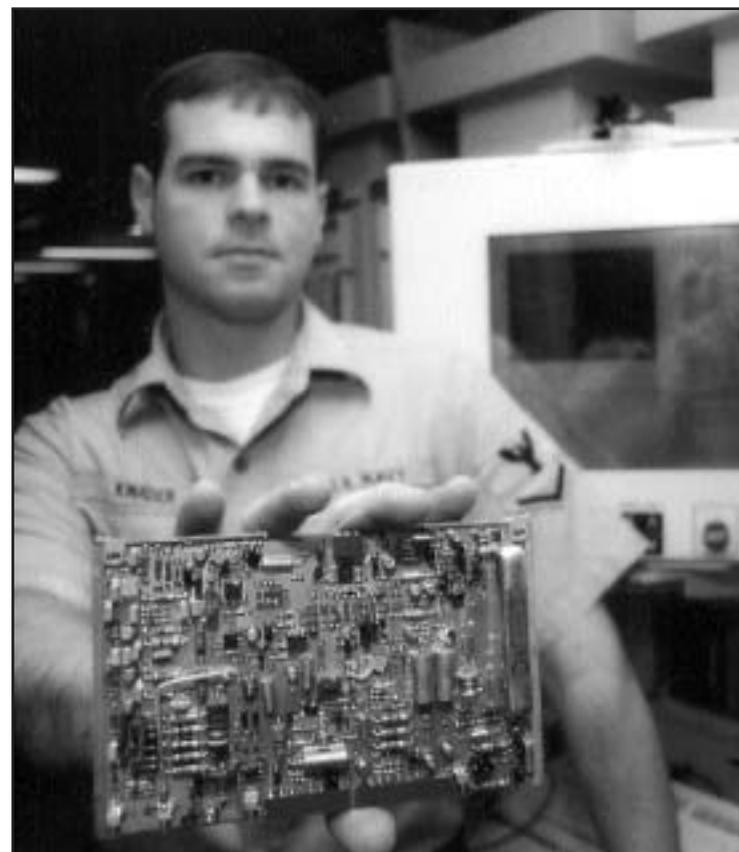
**ASD's AK3(AW) Thai Tang, AK3(AW) Kimberly Matthews and AK2 Willie Woods prepare components for shipping.**



**AD2(AW) Clinton Fleig compiles a maintenance checklist at AIMD Powerplants.**



**AM2 Christopher Williams, left, and AM2 Michael Bailor assemble repair parts for a P-3 Orion actuator.**



**AT3 Matthew Kwader tests and repairs circuit cards at AIMD.**

## SecNav salutes Marine Corps

WASHINGTON (NNS)— The following is a message from Secretary of the Navy Gordon R. England on the occasion of the Marine Corps birthday:

As we celebrate the United States Marine Corps' 226th year of defending this great republic, it is fitting that

we take a few moments to reflect upon this proud heritage. From the earliest days of our nation to the defeat of fascism and communism in the 20th century, the United States Marine Corps has continued to serve as America's "911" force. Your uncommon valor, loyalty, esprit de corps and legacy of unmatched combat courage excellence demonstrate that the words Semper Fidelis — Always Faithful — are much

more than a motto; they are a way of life for Marines.

The terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, will echo throughout history. We must never forget. Never forget this attack on the American way of life. Never forget the lives of our shipmates and countrymen lost. Never forget the selfless acts of bravery, compassion and generosity that emerged following the attacks. With renewed purpose, we will come to remember September 11 as the day that the world stood up to terrorism and faced the enemies of freedom.

When I took office last May, I out-

lined four strategic priorities for our Navy and Marine Corps. Today, these priorities — combat capability, people, technology and improved business practices — demand an even greater sense of urgency as we wage the first war of the 21st century. Over the years, the Marine Corps has led the way by seamlessly adapting to changes in technology, tactics and command structures to counter new threats to our way of life. Amidst continual change, however, the enduring strength of our Marine Corps was, is, and always will be its people and their leadership.

Around the world, I have seen and spoken to Marines and I know you stand ready to answer our nation's call. During the course of this challenging year, our nation will continue to count on your honor, courage and commitment. As the Marine Corps carries its unparalleled record of excellence into its 226th year, I encourage each of you to take a few moments to reflect on the blessings we enjoy that were earned by earlier generations. Your children, grandchildren and future generations will likewise honor your defense of freedom.

Happy Birthday Marines! God Bless each of you, your families and the United States of America.

## 'Great Duck Race' coming to the Jacksonville Landing

The Great Duck Race is a fund raising event that allows participants to adopt rubber ducks that will be entered in a race down the St. John's River. Lucky ticket holders for the first three ducks to cross the finish line will win the following:

Grand Prize: 2002 Toyota Camry valued \$23,000, Courtesy of JM Family Enterprises/Jacksonville Toyota Dealers

Second Place: \$2,000 Shopping Spree at Beard's Jewler, Courtesy of Bear's Jewler

Third Place: \$1,000 Cruise Gift Certificate

Festivities include live entertainment on stage, clowns, face painting, children's Games, costumed characters hosted by Betsy Klinge, First Coast News, meteorologist, and C.C. Ryder and Boomer, WQIK radio personalities.

When: Sat. Nov. 10

Festivities begin: 10 a.m. -12:30 p.m.

Where: The St. John's River at The Jacksonville Landing. The ducks will dive from the Acosta Bridge and

race down the river to the finish line at the Main Street Bridge. The first three ducks to cross the line will win prizes for their lucky ticket holder. An official auditor on water will determine the winning ducks.

How: A \$5 contribution to the American Cancer Society assigns the donor's name to the numbered duck. Duck tickets will be sold at the Landing until 30 minutes prior to the race.

Why: The money raised from the Great Duck Race will allow the American Cancer Society to continue assisting cancer patients in the First Coast community, promoting cancer prevention and early detection, and funding research projects that lead to a cure for cancer. This year's goal is to raise over \$165,000 for the American Cancer Society.

Ducks are available throughout the Northeast Florida area. For more information on how to adopt your own duck please call the American Cancer Society at 398-0537.

# Midway hero, bomber pilot Best dies

WASHINGTON (NNS) — Retired Cmdr. Richard H. “Dick” Best, who dramatically helped change the course of World War II in the Pacific, recently died in Santa Monica, Calif. He was 91.

Best led dive bombing squadron VB-6 aboard USS Enterprise (CV 6). His action in the Battle of Midway helped destroy three Japanese carriers, turning the tide of the war in the Pacific.

On June 4, 1942, (then Lt.) Best’s squadron was a member of Lt. Cmdr. Wade McClusky’s Enterprise Air Group. His group of about 16 planes combined with Cmdr. Max Leslie’s USS Yorktown (CV 5) Air Group, which by fate arrived at virtually the same time over the top of three Japanese carriers — Akagi, Kaga, Soryu. Their unintended rendezvous doubled the size of the U.S. strike force, which led to fatal blows to the three ships — all veterans of the attack on Pearl Harbor.

Best’s squadron of Dauntless scout bombers became separated with the unexpected arrival of McClusky’s bombers. Splitting his force, Best led the 1st Division of three planes from the southwest against Akagi. Seeing the yellow flight deck emblazoned with a

large red circle, Best dropped his 1,000-pound bomb from 2,500 feet, scoring a hit abreast of the bridge at 10:22 a.m., followed in succession by hits from his two partners, leaving the ship a wreck. His squadron mates in the 2nd Division hit Kaga, contributing to the carrier’s sinking.

Best, a 1932 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, re-grouped what was left of his squadron and headed for USS Enterprise. Landing with only 30 gallons of fuel to spare, the 32-year-old squadron leader reported to Adm. Admiral Raymond A. Spruance that three carriers were burning but a fourth

(Hiryu) had not been touched. Later that day, Best became sick.



Dick Best

During pre-flight, he was checking his oxygen levels when he inhaled gas fumes. Although he cleared his senses well enough to participate in the attack, the veteran Navy flyer had activated latent tuberculosis; his career in the military would soon end.

“It’s unfortunate dad’s career ended after Midway, but he vividly shared his memories with people until the last days of his life,” said his son, Richard Best II, an Army veteran. “We had historians call-

ing all the time and dad contributed to numerous books on the Battle of Midway; too many to mention.”

“Dad was proud of his service, his men and the other people of his generation,” he added. Best’s contributions to this battle earned him the Navy Cross with the following citation: “For extraordinary heroism and distinguished service in the line of his profession as Squadron Commander of VB-6. He led his squadron against the Japanese invasion fleet during the Battle of Midway, June 4-6, 1942, with such boldness, determination and utter disregard of personal safety that he contributed in a large degree to the magnificent victory of our forces. His conduct throughout was in keeping with the finest traditions of the Naval service.”

After medically retiring from the Navy in 1943, Best went on to a successful career in the business world as a security manager for the Rand Corporation.

A native of Bayonne, N.J., Best wore the Distinguished Flying Cross and is a member of the Naval Aviation Hall of Fame. He will be buried at Arlington National Cemetery.

## NADep Public Affairs lauded for excellence

**By Susan Brink**  
*NADEP Jacksonville*

Capt. Christopher Roun, Commanding Officer, Naval Air Depot Jacksonville (NADEP Jax) recently presented the Public Affairs & Communications (PAC) Office with a letter of commendation in recognition of being selected for an honorable mention in the Internal Communications, Shore, (Large) category of the 2000 Rear Admiral William Thompson Awards for Excellence in Public Affairs. A plaque was awarded and given in the name of

the Navy’s first Chief of Information, (Pietropaoli is the current Chinfo).

This award was given in recognition of PAC’s internal communications program and its ability to successfully identify and continuously improve its program. The internal communications program assists the Commanding Officer in his ability to communicate to the workforce, promote the education and morale of its employees, and formally express command policies. Communication is especially challenging in an industrial facility made up of over 3,600 civilian employees and

some 34 military personnel working in 53 buildings spread over 102 acres of Naval Air Station Jacksonville. NADep Jax employees are also employed at off-site facilities within the Jacksonville commuting area, as well as facilities in South Carolina, Virginia, and Oklahoma.

Over the years, the PAC office has made extensive use of various media to provide information to the workforce. This effort includes a monthly magazine, a weekly television news show, an Intranet web page, special messages, a Plan of the Week, flyers, memoranda,

and bulletin boards. Together, these methods of communication keep employees informed.

The letter of commendation recognizes the skillful planning, thorough coordination and masterful execution of the PAC program exemplifying the highest level of public affairs excellence. As such, NADEP PAC’s entry will be forwarded to the Defense Information School at Fort Meade, Md. where it will serve as a textbook case study for the benefit of public affairs specialists throughout the Navy and the world.

# Sports Day at NAS Jax a hit with cadets

By **JO2 (SCW) Eric T. Clay**  
Staff writers

Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) students from Andrew Jackson High School visited NAS Jacksonville Oct. 30. By all accounts, they



**Airman Bryant Sarkis takes careful aim in a game of horseshoes aboard NAS Jax.**

had a great day outing, despite the fact that increased security levels on base prevented them from getting to tour some locations.

Instead, the students took advantage of NAS Jacksonville's sports facilities for a "Sports Day." During the visit, they took to the field for such sports as football, softball, and soccer. Some of the students played cards and horse-shoes.

Major Barry Marquare said, "this was an opportunity for these kids to come out, enjoy themselves and have some healthy competition with each other."

Airman Lamar Jackson, 15, of the Andrew Jackson High school JROTC added, "I am having fun playing sports and it was a great idea to get all of us together to do this."

Fellow Andrew Jackson cadet Airman Ghiemar Deguzman said, "I feel that the JROTC program builds better citizens. I also enjoy the program because I plan on making the Air Force a career."

The JROTC is a military style dedicated corps that promotes leadership, education, and self-reliance. JROTC students learn many things including astronomy, current events, military history and leadership.

Cadets develop skills in administration, computers, drill, rifle teams, logistics and public affairs. They enjoy many recreational activities such as sports days, dances and bowl-a-thons. This adds up to an action-packed, fun-filled, educational learning experience.

The goals of JROTC are to instill values of citizenship, service for the Unit-

ed States, personal responsibility, a sense of accomplishment, teamwork, and discipline. . JROTC program teaches the students as much about the military as possible. And therefore, it can prepare the students for a future in the military. Regardless of their future career choice the JROTC builds character.

Marguare said, "From today's events I expected everyone to have a feeling of teamwork and I think my expectation has come true. Most of these kids are freshman and they will be with their JROTC group for the remainder of high school."

Jackson said, "I feel that the JROTC program is wonderful way to learn leadership and to set achievable career goals."

Deguzman added, "I had a great time with my friends."

To be eligible for the JROTC a student must be qualified to take physical education in their school, be in grade eight or higher, be a citizen of the United States, enrolled in and attending a regular course of instruction in their school, and be selected by the SASI with the approval of principal or designated representative.

For more on JROTC programs contact Marguare at 630-6950 ext. 246.



**Airman Ghiemar Deguzman plays soccer on a field aboard NAS Jacksonville.**



**Major Barry Marquare shows the students the proper way to fire up a grill.**

# Hey, Money Man!



## Hey, MoneyMan:

I keep hearing a lot of talk about refinancing home loans. A couple of years ago we bought a house in Orange Park and we have a \$120,000 mortgage with an interest rate of 8.25 percent. I saw in the paper where the rates are now around 6 percent. Do you think I would save any money after paying all those closing costs if I refinanced my home? I feel like we have a pretty good rate now, but my wife thinks we should refinance. What do you think?

## MoneyMan Sez:

It is always a good idea to look at the cost of the things you buy. The rate of interest you pay is really the cost of using someone else's money. When you are looking at long-term loans, a small change in the rate can make a big difference over time. If you have a \$120,000 loan with a 30-year, 8.5 percent mortgage rate, you will pay around \$325,000 over the life of your loan. I believe your monthly principal and interest (P&I) payments are now around \$902 per month. If you simply refinanced for 30 years at 6.0 percent, your payments would go down to \$720 per month and you would save approximately \$65,500 over the life of the loan. You could also maintain your currently monthly payment of \$902 and pay a 6 percent loan off in 18 years, thus reducing your cost by \$128,000. Another option would be to refinance your loan for 15 years at 6 percent. Your monthly payments would go up to around \$1,015, but because the house is paid in full in 15 years, the savings over the life of the loan would be over \$140,000. Sounds complicated? Not if you go see the experts.

Check with your bank or credit union and ask them about the pros and cons of refinancing. Under normal circumstances, lowering those interest rates is a good deal.

*More questions? Call Hey Moneyman! at 778-0353.*

# SGLI now available for family members

By **JO2 Eric T. Clay**  
*Staff writer*

The Naval Administration office introduces Servicemembers Life Insurance (SGLI) for Navy family members. The Veterans Survivor Benefits Act of 2001 established the SGLI Family coverage program. The new coverage can be purchased for active duty military family members at a reasonable cost.

Spousal coverage started Nov. 1. Premiums are automatically taken from the servicemember's pay and will appear on Nov. 15 Leave and Earnings Statements.

Servicemembers have until Dec. 31 to change or drop this coverage. Excess premiums will be credited to their accounts.

An election form must be submitted to initiate this process.

Forms are available online at <http://www.insurance.va.gov/sglivgli/sglifam.htm> select "download forms."

Maximum coverage for a spouse is \$100,000 or up to the amount of the

service member's coverage. Dependent children are automatically covered for \$10,000 at no additional cost. Members may elect to cover spouses in \$10,000 increments.

Military members must complete a health certification disclosure. SGLI reserves the right to disqualify an applicant based upon pre-existing medical conditions.

Final determination of eligibility notices will be forwarded to applicants by SGLI.

YN1 Sal Ortiz, with the CNRSE career counselors office said, "I think it's a good deal for our service members and you can't find life insurance cheaper. This new program really adds to our quality of life. This is one of the benefits I've been waiting on."

"I first got out of the Navy back in '97 and we didn't have anything like this. This new SGLI program is one of the major reasons I decided to come back in the Navy. Life insurance on the outside is way too much for a family of four to afford," said PN3 Cod Sharpe, who works in the NAS Jacksonville administration office.

## Nominations sought for Volunteer Jacksonville's 2002 Heart of Gold Awards

Know some outstanding volunteers? Here's your chance to give them some well-deserved recognition!

Complete the following information so we can honor Northeast Florida's most dedicated volunteers. We are planning an exciting evening of volunteer appreciation and inspiration to celebrate our volunteer heroes.

### Celebration of Service 2002

The Florida Theatre  
Thursday, April 11, 2002

VIP Reception: 5:30 - 6:45 p.m.  
Awards and Entertainment: 7 - 9 p.m.

\* All nominated volunteers, a guest, nominating organization's volunteer coordinator and executive director will be guests at the celebration free of charge.

\* Corporations who support volunteerism and their employees who volunteer will be invited to participate.

\* Winners of Volunteer Jacksonville's

Heart of Gold award will be highlighted on video and will be presented with specially commissioned trophies as part of the evening's festivities.

### Nomination Criteria

1. The volunteer project or work must have occurred or culminated in 2001.

2. All information must be put on this form. Additional Information will not be considered.

3. Original nomination forms, along with 7 photocopies of each nomination form, must be postmarked no later than Nov. 21, 2001. Faxes will not be considered.

4. Anticipating multiple nominations for a single category, Volunteer Jacksonville reserves the right to move a nominee into an alternate category for award consideration.

Award categories are subject to change.

# NROTC Jax Pistol Team takes second at Quantico

**By Michelle Blom**

*Public Affairs Officer, NROTC Jacksonville*

QUANTICO, Va. — NROTC Jacksonville's Pistol Team placed second last weekend at the National Rifle Association (NRA) collegiate ROTC Invitational Pistol Match and Clinic. The event was held in Quantico, Va., home of the Marine Sniper School.

Members of the Jacksonville team included Commander Frank Leach, Assistant Commander Don Lee, Joe Cramer, Saul Pavlinski, Joshua Watkins, Douglas Scott Marquette Smith, Christian Dumlao, and Gunnery Sergeant Victor Camacho.

Ten schools attended the event, drawn by the chance to receive instruction from the Marine's elite weapons instructors. Gunnery Sergeant Zins, a Marine Range master and international shooting champion, shared shooting tips. He emphasized techniques that he feels make a good marksman, "A good grip, like a firm handshake, trigger finger placement, and consistency." Zins said that "mental management" is an important part of competitive shooting, "The best shooters run themselves through a mental program and are able to step out

onto the range relaxed and focused on the target."

Staff Sergeant Sean Pickard described how shooters must strive for balance within themselves. They must be able to focus on the task at hand with both their conscious and subconscious minds. "Your routine should be as familiar to you as driving home from work," he stated.

Pickard also emphasized the importance of a strong self image and confidence. "Self image must improve over time as you shoot or you will never improve how you shoot," he said, "Three things will make you a winner: focus, drive and desire."

Afterwards, the group was taken onto the shooting range to practice under the guidance of some of the Sniper School's top marksmen.

Jacksonville's top ranked shooters, Officer Candidates Marquette Smith and Saul Pavlinski, Midshipmen Joshua Watkins and Christian Dumlao, with a combined score of 1,802 points, secured the second place standing falling to only by Ohio State's veteran team who placed first with a combined score of 2086 points.

Pistol team Commander and UNF Senior, Officer Candidate Frank Leach

was happy with the placement, "Second place is good. Last year was our first year to compete and we placed fifth. To have improved that much is great." He credited the team's success and improvement to their two coaches, Jenny Lynn and Steve Moore.

"Without their knowledge, dedication, and resources we would be lost," stated Camacho, Assistant Marine Officer Instructor and team sponsor.

Lynn is a nurse and former state pistol champion who made the Olympic Team in 1999.

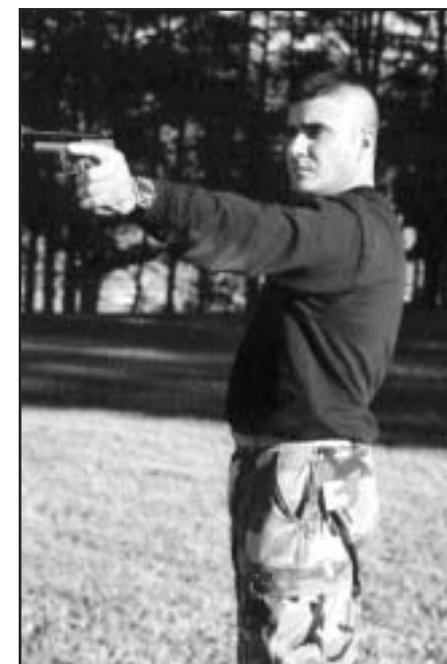
Moore is a gunsmith who specializes in customized high performance and law enforcement weapons. He is also an NRA Counselor.

The NROTC team relies on strict discipline to prepare for a match. For 48 hours prior they restrict themselves from sodas, any source of caffeine, and foods high in sugar. The day of the match they get at least eight hours of sleep and a good breakfast.

Officer Candidate Leach described his preparation for a match.

"I begin focusing on the match several hours prior and visualize myself going through competition. Everything from breaking out and loading the weapon to firing at the target. Finally it

comes down to this. We are all individuals. Everyone has their own rituals to prepare themselves. The competition is made up of many individual efforts; however, even though it is an individual effort, there must be a common goal and vision to work toward to bring us together as a team and be successful."



**Officer Candidate Frank Leach, Pistol Team commander takes aim.**

# Public has new ways to support deployed personnel

WASHINGTON, DC — The Department of Defense today announced new ways for Americans to show support for their servicemembers deployed overseas.

The initiatives, made necessary by a moratorium on mail addressed to “Any Servicemember,” provide alternatives to traditional letter-writing campaigns. DoD suggests that Americans support the troops by instead supporting the communities in which they live.

One way to show support is by doing a good deed on behalf of servicemembers. Visit a VA hospital or nursing home, or volunteer in the local community to help make up for servicemembers who normally would volunteer but are now deployed or otherwise too busy with their duties. Many servicemembers volunteer to coach children’s teams, feed the homeless, and aid their

communities in a variety of other ways.

Interested Americans can show their support and honor their military by volunteering in their local communities.

Although many towns do not have a military base nearby, military recruiters are stationed nearly everywhere. Local governments and chambers of commerce are encouraged to reach out to these local members of the military, invite them to speak at community events, and encourage members of the community to learn more about America’s military.

Members of the community who know military families might want to offer their support by reaching out to those families while their loved ones are deployed.

A number of private organizations are developing Web-based methods for Americans to show support. While donations of food and gifts for delivery

overseas can no longer be accepted, interested Americans might contribute instead to military relief societies.

For information see [http://www.defenselink.mil/news/Sep2001/n09172001\\_200109173.html](http://www.defenselink.mil/news/Sep2001/n09172001_200109173.html).

All of these initiatives are in response to the suspension of the “Any Servicemember” mail program for operations in Bosnia and Kosovo.

Military postal officials will not be implementing a similar program for Operation Enduring Freedom. Operation Dear Abby, a morale booster for servicemembers overseas for more than 17 years, will also be suspended. DoD officials are working on alternatives to that program as well. Servicemembers value and appreciate expressions of support from the American people, and these and other mail programs are a significant boost to morale.

However, recent mail-related attacks

have resulted in additional precautions and the safety of servicemembers is paramount. The increased manpower required to ensure safe mail handling coupled with the increased volume of mail that letter-writing campaigns generate could exceed capabilities, and therefore cannot be supported at this time.

Normal mail delivery addressed by name to individual servicemembers will continue uninterrupted.



The U.S. Navy's "Blue Angels" were among the many attractions at the 2001 Sea and Sky Spectacular last weekend.



Thousands of Jacksonville residents enjoyed various air and sea demonstrations from several teams during the three-day event.

# Blue Angels headline 2001 Sea and Sky Spectacular

Photos courtesy of **Regional Visual Information Support Center**

Approximately 150,000 Jacksonville residents were treated to military and civilian air, sea and land demonstrations during the 2001 Sea and Sky Spectacular.

Hosted by the City of Jacksonville, the event drew thousands to Jacksonville's Beaches last weekend, despite some less than cooperative

weather. During the event, crowds were treated to performances by the U.S. Navy's famed "Blue Angels," Apache helicopters, parachutists, and several civilian acrobatic teams.

In addition, the Beaches were the location for a thrilling demonstration of the Marine's Amphibious Assault.

Residents enjoyed exciting entertainment including children's activities, food and drink and free concerts at the Seawalk Pavilion.



Several ships from Naval Station Mayport were on hand, giving the crowds a glimpse of Navy vessels in action.

NAS Jax drivers, be prepared to



Watch for base youth boarding & exiting school buses

# NAVY NEWS

## Statement of the Secretary of Defense

WASHINGTON (NNS) — The following is the text of a statement released Nov. 1 by Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld:

Good afternoon. I have reflected on some of the questions posed at the last briefing: questions about the “speed of progress” in the campaign-questions about the “patience” of the American people-if something does not happen immediately.

I have a sense that the public understands the following facts:

On September 11th, terrorists attacked New York and Washington, D.C., murdering thousands of innocent people — Americans and people from dozens of countries and all races and religions — in cold blood. On October 7th, less than a month later, we had positioned coalition forces in the region, and we began military operations against Taliban and al-Qaeda targets throughout Afghanistan. Since that time — roughly three weeks ago — coalition forces have flown over 2,000 sorties, broadcast 300-plus hours of radio transmissions, delivered an amazing 1,030,000 humanitarian rations to starving Afghan people.

Today is November 1, and smoke — at this very moment — is still rising from the ruins of the World Trade Center. With the ruins still smoldering and the smoke not yet cleared, it seems to me that Americans understand well that -- despite the urgency in the press ques-

tions — we are still in the very, very early stages of this war. The ruins are still smoking!

Consider some historical perspective:

\* After the December 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor, it took four months before the United States responded to that attack with the Doolittle raid of April 1942.

\* It took eight months after Pearl Harbor before the U.S. began a land campaign against the Japanese — with the invasion of Guadalcanal in August of 1942.

\* The U.S. bombed Japan for three-and-a-half years — until August 1945 — before we accomplished our objectives in the Pacific.

\* On the European front, the allies bombed Germany continually for nearly five years — from September of 1940 until May of 1945. It took 11 months to start the land campaign against the Germans — with the invasion of North Africa in November of 1942. It took the United States two years and six months after Hitler declared war on us before we landed in France on June 6, 1944.

We are now fighting a new kind of war. It is unlike any America has ever fought before. Many things about this war are different from wars past, but, as I have said, one of those differences is not the possibility of instant victory. At my briefing when I announced the start of the air campaign on October 7th, I stated that our initial goals were:

To make clear to the Taliban that har-

boring terrorists carries a price;

To acquire intelligence to facilitate future operations against al-Qaeda and the Taliban;

To develop useful relationships with groups in Afghanistan that oppose the Taliban and al-Qaeda;

To make it increasingly difficult for the terrorists to use Afghanistan freely as a base of operation;

To alter the military balance over time by denying to the Taliban the offensive systems that hamper the progress of the various opposition forces; and to provide humanitarian relief to Afghans suffering oppressive living conditions under the Taliban regime. That was 24 days ago — three weeks and three days — not three months or three years, but three weeks and three days. We have made measurable progress on each of these goals.

The attacks of September 11 were not days or weeks but years in the making. The terrorists were painstaking and deliberate, and it appears they may have spent years planning their activities. There is no doubt in my mind but that the American people know that it's going to take more than 24 days. I also stated that our task is much broader than simply defeating the Taliban or al-Qaeda — it is to root out global terrorist networks, not just in Afghanistan, but wherever they are, to ensure that they cannot threaten the American people or our way of life. This is a task that will take time to accomplish.

Victory will require that every element of American influence and power be engaged. Americans have seen tougher adversaries than this before — and they have had the staying power to defeat them. Underestimating the American people is a bad bet. In the

end, war is not about statistics, deadlines, short attention spans, or 24-hour news cycles. It is about will — the projection of will, the clear, unambiguous determination of the President and the American people to see this through to certain victory.

In other American wars, enemy commanders have come to doubt the wisdom of taking on the strength and power of this nation and the resolve of her people. I expect that somewhere, in a cave in Afghanistan, there is a terrorist leader who is, at this moment, considering precisely the same thing.

## Fighters, bombers not only planes flying in Afghanistan

WASHINGTON (NNS) — It takes more than just fighters and bombers to wage a successful air war, a senior DoD official said.

Rear Adm. John Stufflebeem told Pentagon press Oct. 31 that military pilots make many flights besides bombing runs in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Stufflebeem is the Joint Staff's deputy director of operations for current readiness and capabilities.

“We have other aircraft that fly intelligence missions as well as tankers and support aircraft,” Stufflebeem said. He said he doesn't have specific numbers of support flights, but that his background as an F-14 pilot tells him numerous tankers are needed to refuel the planes that actually drop the bombs.

“These are long missions. I have seen reports that some aircrews are flying missions in durations of 10-to 13 hours,” Stufflebeem said. “Any aircraft that's going to spend that much time airborne either loitering or in distance

*See Navy News, page 18*



“Scout” 706 conducts live Maverick missile training in the Mediterranean Sea.



Two thousand-pound bombs on the flight deck of USS Enterprise await delivery to the Taliban.

## 'Scout' warriors return from odyssey

By VS-24 PAO

The “Scouts” of Sea Control Squadron (VS) 24 will return tomorrow from a tempestuous overseas deployment aboard USS Enterprise with Carrier Air Wing Eight (CVW-8). (Also returning to NAS Jacksonville with CVW-8 is Helicopter Antisubmarine Squadron (HS) 3. More on the “Tridents” deployment highlighted next week.)

VS-24’s homecoming will mark the end of a tremendously successful deployment, during which the squadron flew more than 3,117 hours and made 1,627 arrested landings on the Enterprise. The “Scouts” were the battle group’s premier surface search and maritime surveillance asset throughout operations in often unfriendly waters. VS-24 also represented the only organic aerial refueling platform, providing strike aircraft with the essential

lifeflood required to execute long-range attacks and return safely. In this capacity, “Scout” aircraft delivered more than five million pounds of airborne jet fuel.

With a new Surveillance System Upgrade (SSU) prototype aircraft, the squadron pioneered the frontiers of sea control missions, providing real-time synthetic aperture radar target imagery to strike assets. This allowed precise pre-strike target location and identification and provided timely battle damage assessment after the bombs hit their mark. During deployment, the “Scouts” traveled more than 35 thousand miles and operated in geographies ranging from Northern Scotland to the Arabian Sea. They participated in exercises such as Joint Maritime Course and implemented the nation’s will in Operation Southern Watch and finally, Operation Enduring Freedom. VS-24 enjoyed unparalleled operational achievement, attested to by a 98-percent sortie completion rate, and over 99 percent of their missions met with success.

The men and women of VS-24 embarked for their journey on April 23, paused in the Puerto Rican Operations Area for a few days of weapons training, and made their way to the Mediterranean Sea as part of the most powerful battle group in the Navy’s deployed arsenal.

The month of May was filled with Mediterranean cyclic flight operations and port calls in Palma de Mallorca, Cannes, and Naples.

In June, the “Scouts” made their way north for a port call in Portsmouth, England and a three-week NATO exercise in the North Sea (Joint Maritime Course). Frigid temperatures, rough seas, and persistent fog coupled with twenty daily hours of sunlight to challenge VS-24, but they overcame adversity in typical “Scout” fashion.

In July, the squadron enjoyed port calls in Lisbon, Portugal and Rhodes, Greece and flew intense cyclic operations in the Atlantic Ocean and Mediterranean Sea. Flights included live bombing and Maverick missile training in anticipation of future combat operations. These flights marked the end of European operations, and the Enterprise transited the Suez Canal at the end of the month.

The Enterprise entered the Arabian Gulf in early August, and immediately

the “Scouts” began flying demanding operations in support of Operation Southern Watch (OSW) in Iraq. VS-24 flew 362 sorties and over 764 hours in a six-week period of Gulf flying. In addition to earning praise in the roles of maritime surveillance and tanking, the “Scouts” SSU aircraft was implemented successfully in the location and identification of mobile Iraqi targets from positions over Kuwait. Surface-to-air missile systems, artillery, radars, and anti-ship missiles could not be hidden from VS-24’s newest weapon. On the last day of OSW operations, CVW-8 executed a flawless deep-interdiction strike into Iraq that was supported exclusively by “Scout” in-flight refueling. During the attack, the squadron had seven of eight jets airborne and made an entirely organic strike possible.

The “Scouts” exited the Arabian Gulf on Sept. 10 and were headed south for their journey home when the terrorist attacks on New York and Washington occurred. Immediately, the Enterprise and her escorts were turned around and took station off the coast of Pakistan as part of what would become Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF). VS-24 and CVW-8 flew weeks of routine cyclic operations awaiting further orders, and on Oct. 7 the order was given to strike against a group of America’s enemies.

The first night of Operation Enduring Freedom strikes saw the “Scouts” flying to the border of Afghanistan where they refueled strike aircraft, once again making a totally organic air wing strike possible. VS-24 flew 328 sorties and more than 696 hours in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in October, more than any other Navy squadron involved in strikes on Afghanistan.

“Scout” S-3Bs completed an unprecedented 100 percent of their scheduled sorties during OEF, and the Enterprise Battle Group was released to return home after a job well done. For their outstanding success in this campaign, the VS-24 maintenance team was awarded the CVW-8 Golden Wrench Award.

The “Scouts” will be returning home to Hangar 113 three weeks later than their originally scheduled Oct. 23 return. VS-24 personnel were honored to prolong their deployed time in order to participate in successful attacks on a global terrorist network. Operation Enduring Freedom served as a crucible for the entire Enterprise/CVW-8 team, and VS-24 set a new standard for operational success in combat.

The “Scouts” are now collectively elated to be returning home after a long journey and look forward to being reunited with their families and friends. The performance of the VS-24 team is a true credit to the United States Navy and is persistent evidence that “Scouts” rule.



The view from a “Scout” S-3 Viking flying a “centered-ball” approach.



Flight deck of the USS Enterprise while transiting the Suez Canal.



'Nightdipper' 615 comes in for a landing.



The 'Nightdippers' skipper prepares to launch from the USS John F. Kennedy.

## 'Nightdippers' return from carrier exercises

By HS-5 Public Affairs

The "Nightdippers" of Helicopter Antisubmarine Squadron (HS) 5 embarked for a strenuous at-sea period on board the USS John F. Kennedy (CV 67) on Sept. 10. By the time the ship got underway on the morning of the 11th, the country was under terrorist attack and America was at war.

A shocked JFK Battle Group immediately steamed north. Instead of beginning the scheduled training exercise, the Battle Group was directed to defend the eastern coast of America from further attacks. When no further attacks developed, the JFK Battle Group was cleared to commence the originally scheduled training exercises to prepare for deployment.

The JFK and her embarked air wing, Carrier Air Wing Seven (CVW -7), immediately sped south to the operating areas surrounding Puerto Rico. The "Nightdippers" and CVW-7 quickly engaged in an aggressive training program to make up for lost time. Each day and night, the "Nightdippers" of HS-5 provided search and rescue (SAR) assets to the air wing while concurrently flying anti-submarine warfare (ASW), anti-surface warfare (ASUW), combat search and rescue (CSAR), logistics and special warfare support missions for their own training.

ASW was a major area of concentration during this at-sea period. The "Nightdippers" were able to use their active dipping sonar to track undersea targets on the range at St. Croix, in the U.S. Virgin Islands. The extremely accurate sonar provided weapons solutions for numerous ASW crews to launch MK 46 exercise torpedoes. The range confirmed the accurate placement of every torpedo launched by HS-5. More than half of all the shots that the "Nightdippers" took were graded at the highest level of accuracy according to range grading criteria. The "Nightdippers" also worked with several Battle Group submarines, which were tasked to conduct covert simulated attacks on the carrier. The many simulated attacks by the "Nightdippers" on the exercise's enemy submarines prevented the carrier from ever getting attacked and confirmed the "Nightdippers'" high level of tactical ASW proficiency. The "Nightdippers" were proud of all their ASW accomplishments and the JFK Battle Group can rest easy knowing that the "Nightdippers" are standing the watch.

The "Nightdippers" also devoted several days to combat search and rescue training flights. HS-5 participated in several air wing integrated exercises in which the battle group reacted to a simulated "shoot down" of one of its aircraft. The "Nightdippers" were the recovery unit for the "survivors" while other air wing aircraft pro-

vided cover and coordination. HS-5 participated in both immediate and planned response missions. The CVW-7 CSAR team proved its readiness as an effective rescue asset and is ready to support any real-world requirements.

Many other missions were also executed. The "Nightdippers" performed several vertical replenishment evolutions to help re-supply the JFK. Additionally, countless logistics flights were conducted in which personnel were transported from ship-to-ship, ship-to-shore, or shore-to-ship, with more than one hundred passengers transported during the at-sea period. These flights often required small deck landings on cruisers, destroyers, or frigates in the battle group to embark/debark the passengers and cargo. Other missions included the insertion and extraction of both SEALs and EOD special operations personnel on land and over water.

Also, while standing the search and rescue alert on the JFK, a "Nightdipper" crew rescued a Sailor who had fallen overboard during the night. The crew's rapid response and highly professional rescue received the praise of the entire JFK Battle Group. The Battle Group Commander awarded the Navy and Marine Corp Achievement Medal to the crew: Lt. Chris, Lt. David, AW2 Kerry, and AW3 David.

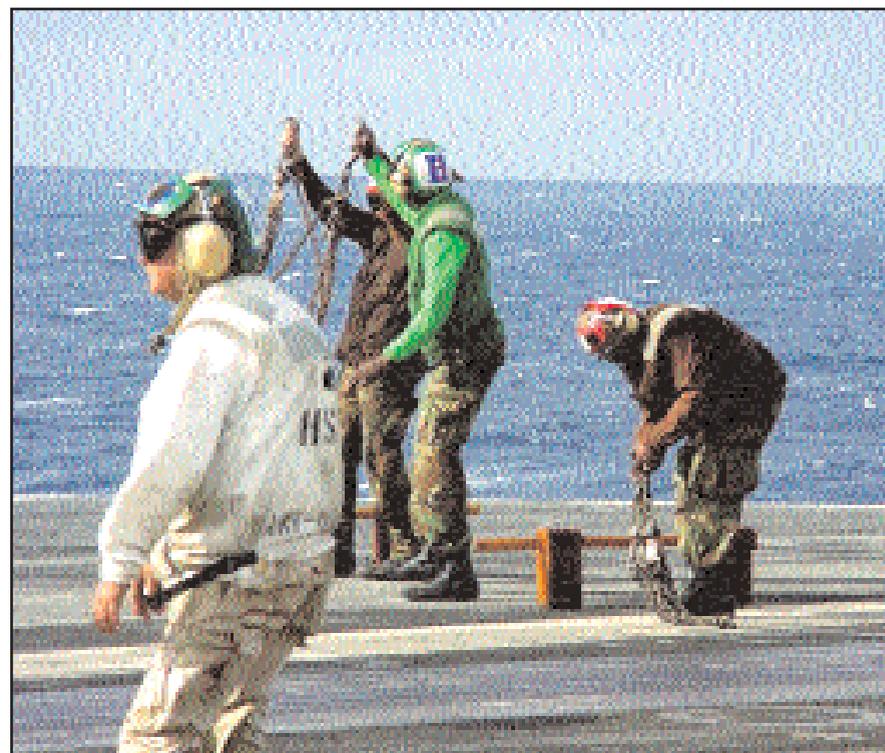
The JFK Battle Group also participated in the sinking of the ex-USS Guam in order to create an environmentally friendly reef off the Carolina coast. The "Nightdippers" participated by firing a Hellfire missile at the enormous ship. Many other weapons were fired at the ship by various platforms, including aircraft, ships, and even a submarine. The proud ship took many hits before finally succumbing to the cumulative effect of the multiple weapons. In the end, the exercise was extremely successful and the JFK Battle Group left the ex-Guam at her final resting place.

The final mission of the "Nightdippers" was to ensure the safe return of the JFK and her Battle Group to the pier at Naval Station Mayport. With the changing perspective of the nation after the attacks of September 11, no chances were taken on a safe return. The "Nightdip-

pers" were airborne well before sunrise with four armed helicopters to provide protection from any possible terrorist act and to enforce the Naval Protection Zones surrounding all U.S. warships in American waters. Thankfully, the Battle Group returned to port without incident, but the message was clearly delivered: "The U.S. Navy will do what is required to protect its ships and Sailors wherever they may be."

This at-sea period was a tremendous success for all the "Nightdippers." The squadron was able to safely fly more than 800 hours of essential mission training. The entire Maintenance Team performed above and beyond to provide mission-ready aircraft around-the-clock. Tremendous strides were made in refreshing and obtaining countless aircrew qualifications in preparation for our upcoming deployment. The "Nightdippers" are ready on arrival to meet any challenge or overcome any obstacle to complete any mission the battle group or our nation requires. The "Nightdipper" team is proud of all their accomplishments and grateful for all of the support it received from its families on the home front.

*Editor's Note: Last names of deployable Sailors continue to be deleted for security reasons.*



The HS-5 launch crew in action.

## Navy News: Afghanistan air strikes continue

*Continued from page 14*

“travel is going to need fuel.” He estimated up to a dozen tankers are needed to support each day’s bombing runs.

Other types of aircraft support the operation in other ways as well, such as intelligence gatherers, Stufflebeem said.

He showed reporters several still and video images from recent operations. A set of photos showed before and after images of an Al Qaeda terrorist training camp near Kandahar that has been damaged in recent attacks.

“Al Qaeda used to use this facility to train terrorists in small-unit combat op-

erations,” Stufflebeem said. “Much of the facility was damaged or destroyed over the course of the past couple weeks.”

Three video clips showed Taliban armored vehicles being destroyed by F-14 and F-18 strike aircraft over the past two days.

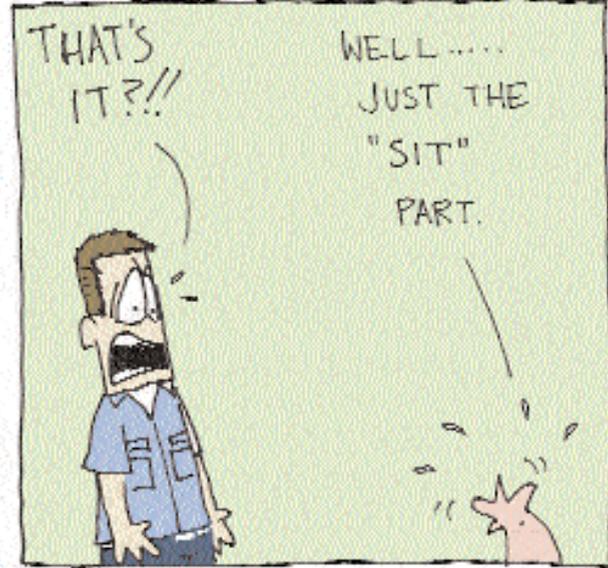
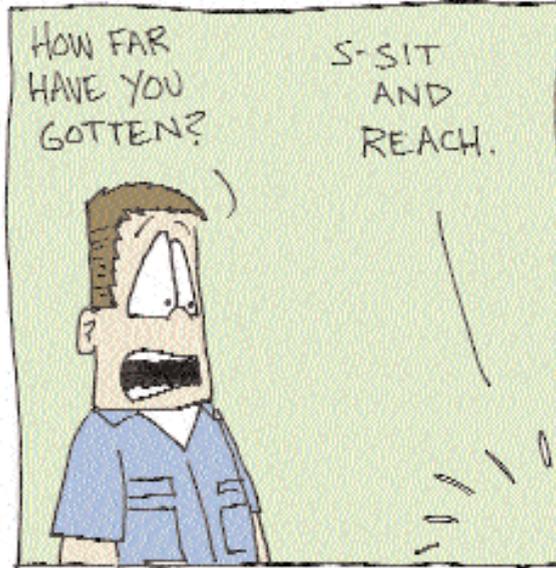
One of the weapons system videos was taken near Mazar-e-Sharif, and the other two were from near Kandahar, Stufflebeem said.

Forces in the region reached a milestone in humanitarian support to the Afghan people Oct. 30. C-17 Globemaster III cargo aircraft dropped more than 34,000 humanitarian daily rations, bringing the total delivered to more than a million so far, he said.

*For more Department of Defense news, go to <http://www.defenselink.mil> on line..*

### Jax Tales

By Mike Jones - [mikejones43@hotmail.com](mailto:mikejones43@hotmail.com)



# MWR NOTES

## Navy Family Week

In observance of Navy Family Week, MWR will have free rides and games at the NEX parking lot. The activities will be observed from noon to 4 p.m. on Nov. 17.

## NAS Jax Gym 542-3239 5k Turkey Trot Run

The annual NAS Jax Turkey Trot, a fun running/walking event, takes place on Nov. 14 at Mustin and Perimeter Roads. The event is free. The first 150 to sign up will receive an event t-shirt. Call the Base Gym or Fitness Source.

## Tennis Anyone?

Free Tennis lessons are being offered during November! The lessons are taught on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at the Birmingham Tennis Courts. The lesson times are: Beginners, 9-11 a.m., Intermediate 11:30-1 p.m., Advanced 3-5:30 p.m. There is no sign-up required. Guy Ballou teaches the lessons. There will be no lessons on Nov. 21-24. The lessons are open to all hands ages 6 and up. Call the Sports Office for more details.

## Racquetball Turkey Shoot

The Nas Jax Gym is hosting a racquetball turkey shoot from Nov. 13-16 at 5 p.m. All authorized gym patrons, men and women's recreational and competitive divisions. 1st, 2nd and 3rd place awards. Call the Athletic Department at the gym.

## 5K Jingle Bell Jog

The Annual Jingle Bell Jog will be Dec. 12 at 11:30 a.m. The run is free and open to "All Hands". The run will take place at Perimeter Road at Mustin Road. The first 150 to register will receive a commemorative T-shirt. For more information call 542-3518/3239.

## Aquatics 542-2930

Are you looking for a challenging water sport? Take the plunge with water polo. Group workouts are on Tuesdays at 4 p.m. and Thursdays at 5:30 p.m. Practices will begin with drills and conditioning and work up to a scrimmage at the end of each session. Call the aquatic staff at the gym at 542-3239.

## NAS Lanes: 542-3493

"All You Can Bowl" - The NAS Lanes has a smorgasbord deal for fam-

ilies and bowlers of all skill levels. For just \$5 per person you can "Bowl All You Can". Shoe rental is not included. The fun starts Oct. 30 from 4 p.m.-9 p.m. If you want to brush up or perfect your bowling game don't miss this deal.

Xtreme Cash at NAS Lanes every Saturday at 7:45 p.m. Leave your mark and enter the "Name NAS Lanes" Contest. You must incorporate NAS Lanes in your entry. Drop your entries off at NAS Lanes or e-mail them to mwrmtg@nasjax.navy.mil, 542-3493 for information.

## Auto Skills Center: 542-3227

The Auto Skills Center offers free shop equipment classes each third Thursday and Friday of the month. The classes are given by the ASC staff and are designed to instruct patrons on the proper use of the shop equipment available at the center. The training earns the patrons certification to use specialty equipment in the Auto Skills Center.

## Mulligan's 19th Hole and Chicken Jose': 542- 2936

Mulligans can make your holiday party planning a little easier with their "Turkey and Ham Dinners to Go! Call and reserve yours today! You'll get for \$17, a turkey only dinner (12-14lbs) or for \$34.95, a turkey dinner that feeds 8-10 people that includes turkey, with 2 lbs. of stuffing, 2 lbs. of mashed potatoes, 2 lbs. of green beans, 16 oz. gravy and 1lb. cranberry sauce. Call for ham prices. They're waiting to take your order.

## Brew House: 542-5009

Football Specials -Calling all football fans! Catch the Sunday Game Fever at The Budweiser Brew House. The Brew house shows all the games on the NFL Sunday Ticket. Enjoy 25 cent wings, the \$5 Touchdown Platter and beverage specials during the games. Bring a friend and enjoy the action.

## The Zone

The Zone is now offering daily lunch Specials Monday-Friday. Spice up your day with a home-cooked meal at Yesterday's CafÈ, Budweiser Brew House & Bingo. Are you planning on entertaining this holiday season? The Zone has a wide variety of platters and hors d'oeuvre to go! Let us do the cooking and take the heat off you! Call for pricing and information 542-3521.

## Liberty Cove Recreation Center: 542-3491

The Liberty Cove Recreation Center hosts some of the best fun around Jacksonville, great entertainment fun, and outdoor adventure outings worth writing home about. An array of exciting, fun, and challenging events for the Single Sailor are planned for November.

Nov. 9 - Join the liberty crew at the Jacksonville raceways. Experience drag racing, mud bogging and go cart racing. This outing is free to active duty only. The van leaves Liberty Cove at 5 p.m.

Patrons should sign-up by noon on Nov. 8.

Nov.10 - Dinner and a movie - Enjoy free food at the Liberty Cove Recreation Center at 6 p.m. and then catch the liberty van to the Orange Park Mall to see the movie of your choice. Sign-up begins at 3 p.m. the day of the event.

Nov. 11 - You may not be old enough to be considered a veteran but don't let that stop you from joining us for our Veterans Day Bar B-Que. The event runs from 3-6 p.m. We'll also have another of our great 3-on-3 basketball tournaments starting at 2 p.m. The winning team will receive \$150. Teams must sign up for the tournament no later than noon, Nov. 9.

Nov. 13 - Liberty will be taking to the ice. Come on out and show your friends your world class skating style. Join the gang for a free ice-skating and rollerblading trip. (Active duty only) The van leaves liberty cove at 7 p.m. We take sign-ups at 3 p.m. day of the event.

There Goes Rusty! Watch the exciting fun of Greyhound racing at the Orange Park Kennel Club. This event is free to active duty only. The van leaves

liberty cove at 7:15 p.m., and sign-up begins at 3 p.m. day of the event.

Nov. 16 - Cricket Anyone? Join us for our tournament. Free food will be available, sign-up begins at 7 p.m. There'll be a \$30 prize for the first place winner.

The Liberty Cove Recreation Centers activities and trips are open to active duty and guests 18 and over. The Tournaments are open to active duty only! Liberty Cove Recreation Center is Located on the corner of Yorktown Ave. & Jason St. The operating hours are:

Sunday-Thursday: 11 a.m.-midnight

Friday: 11-2 a.m.

Saturday: 10 a.m.-midnight

## Free Movies: 542-3577

Movies are shown in the Base Theater located on Jason Street. All movies are free and open to all. Bring your own snacks, no alcohol please and please do not leave children under 18 unattended. Nov. 9, 7 p.m., *Moulin Rouge* (PG13) Nov. 10, 5 p.m., *Cats & Dogs* (PG) 7 p.m. *Swordfish* (R)

Nov. 16, 7 p.m. *Legally Blonde* (PG13)

## Child Development Center: 542-5381

The Child Development Center has immediate openings in our pre-school age group. Weekly childcare consists of breakfast, lunch, PM snack, and an educational program that promotes the intellectual, physical and social growth of each child. Call 542-5434, open Monday-Friday, 6:15 a.m.-6 p.m.

## Holiday Card Contest

Compete in the 2001 Holiday Card Contest and win up to \$500 for Command Recreation Funds. MWR supplies the plywood, you supply the work and decorations. The contest is open to all commands. Registration must be filled out by Nov. 17. For forms visit the MWR Special events page [www.nasjax.navy.mil](http://www.nasjax.navy.mil) or stop by any MWR facility. Cards must be completed by Nov. 28. Winners will be announced at the Annual Christmas Tree Lighting on Dec. 7. Call 542-3518 for details.

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# MWR NOTES

Continued from page 19



## Information, Tickets and Travel: 542-3318

Visit Bush Gardens and Sea World Free. The offer is now through Dec. 31. Active duty military get free admission! ID holders of active duty will receive free admission their first visit and 25 percent off each additional visit (active duty must be present with ID holders). Call ITT for more information.

ITT is offering the last deep sea-fishing trip of the 2001 season and your last chance to catch the "Big One." They are shoving off on Nov. 18. Everything needed to fish will be provided for a cost of \$59.50 for adults, seniors are \$54.50 and children under 14 fish for \$49.50.

"Blast OFF" To Cape Canaveral, Nov. 24 with ITT. Pay one price and see everything including a launch pad, an Apollo rocket, and parts of the international Space station. After an exciting day of space exploration fun enjoy and IMAX movie. This global event is yours for the out of this world price of \$34, for adults and children 3-11, \$26.

All ITT Trips are open to "All Hands" and make for a great way to see local and surrounding areas in a hassle

free, leisurely style. The ITT office has some unique trips planned that will lead you to some delightful places with Old World charm and quaint settings, or take you on a rowing trip down a scenic river.

## NAS Jax Youth Center: 778-9772

Holiday Camp - The NAS Jax Youth Center is having their Holiday Camp Program Dec. 24 to Jan. 4. Registration is ongoing. The cost of the camp is based on the total household income. Spaces fill up very fast so register early. For more details call the Youth Center.

The Youth Center is introducing a new program called "The Story Tree." The program is designed to be both a learning and growing experience for preschooler's and their parents. The center is now accepting enrollments for ages 3-5. Sessions are held at NAS Jax Youth Center. The fee is \$34 per month per child. Sessions meet every Wednesday from 10-11:15 a.m. To register call the MWR Youth Center at 778-9772. Class is limited to 12 students. The first class meets Nov. 7.

Come out and join in the fun of our "Turkey Bowl" on Nov. 16 from 6-9 p.m. It's open to ages K-Up. Teens make plans to join us for our Teen Lock-IN on Nov. 30 from 8 p.m.-6 a.m. It's for ages 13-17.

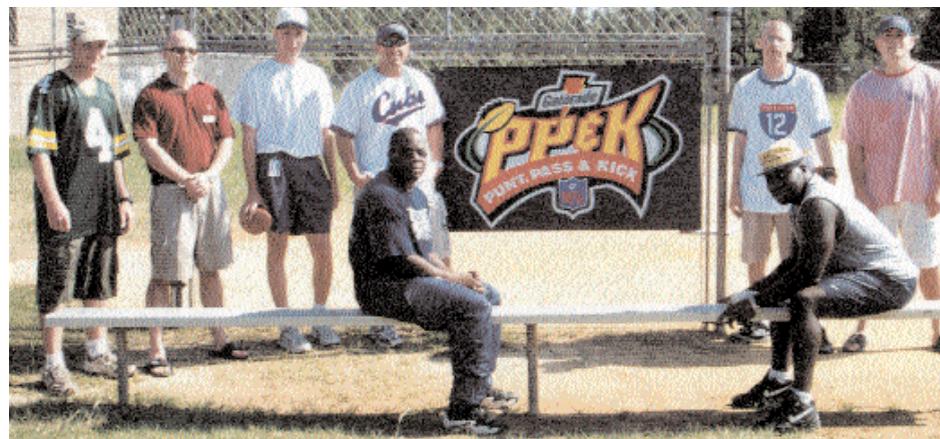
## Yellow Water Youth Activities: 777-8247

The Yellow Water Youth Center has started a lunchtime "Aerobics Class" that meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Don't miss the opportunity to make good on your New Year's resolution. Remember what you promised to do?

The youth center is having a Turkey Bowl on Nov. 16 from 6:15-8:15 p.m. The price is \$2 person and is open to K-17.

watching Aggie football and cheering on the team this season. Call Lt.j.g. Puig for more information, 542-2052.

**U.S. SubVets Kings Bay Base/WWII Trident Chapter** meets the first two months of each quarter, on the third Wednesday evening at 6 p.m., at the St. Marys Submarine Museum, 102 St. Marys Street West, St. Marys,



NCTS Sailors recently donated their time to help run the Gatorade Punt, Pass and Kick Challenge at Chimney Lakes Elementary School.

## NavComTelSta Jax Sailors help challenge Chimney Lakes students

By JO2(SW) Shae Blasko

Sailors from the Naval Computer and Telecommunications Station (NCTS), Jacksonville volunteered to help run and set up the Gatorade Punt, Pass and Kick Challenge at Chimney Lakes Elementary School for its students on Sept. 21.

The "Challenge" is a National Football League based event with emphasis on the accuracy and distance of each of the student's punt, pass and kick, said IT1 Anphthony Brooks.

"The event was set up by Gatorade and the Chimney Lakes Elementary School, so the students could have a day of recess and a little break from books and get some exercise," said Brooks.

The event took place at the school from 9:30 a.m. to noon. Students from grades 1 to 5 took part in the event.

The five winners from the event will go to sectionals at Fernandina Beach Nov.1.

Then the winners of the sectionals will go to a Jaguars game to compete in the contest. The date of the contest has not been determined.

The winners of the contest at the Jags game will go to the nationals and participate in the event at a NFL playoff game, the date has not been determined.

"Volunteering makes you feel real good inside," said Brooks.

"Volunteering and helping young students makes you feel really good," said ET3 John Hanks.

After the event ended, the volunteers stayed to help with clean-up and talk to the kids. "We had just as much fun as the kids did," said Hanks.

Sailors from NCTS Jax. have been mentoring Chimney Lakes Elementary School students since January 2000. NCTS Jacksonville Sailors help tutor students who need help in classes, they also volunteer to help the school anytime the school needs volunteers. "Anytime we can volunteer to help out the school, we will," said Brooks.

**Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society**

*Make Us Your First Resource; Not Your Last Resort!*

**542-3191**

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### OLF Whitehouse closed to hunting

The commanding officer of Naval Air Station Jacksonville has closed Outlying field (OLF) Whitehouse to hunting and other civilian activities. This policy will remain in effect indefinitely.

**The Texas A&M Hometown Club** invites all "Aggies" to join them in

Ga. Attendance at meetings is open to anyone who served on and "qualified in submarines." The third month of each quarter, on the third Saturday, the chapter holds a social/dinner meeting at a place to be determined. Call (912) 882-ASUB, e-mail: subvets\_kingsbay@bigfoot.com, or check out the chapter website at: <http://kbtridentsubvets.hypermart.net/>.

**Start an AMVETS Chapter.** Veterans of Clay, Duval, Bradford, Nassau and St. Johns Counties are invited and

encouraged to start an AMVETS Post in your community. Unite with fellow veterans socially and to service other veterans. It takes only 10 members to get started. All veterans including active duty members may join. AMVETS District XV Commander, Bill White will assist you in every way until you are on your own. Call 352-473-2369.

**The Navy Wives Club of America,** NWCA Jax #86, meets the first

*See Community News, page 21*

*Continued from page 20*

Wednesday of every 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. Call 772-0242 or President Barbara Howard at 471-1444.

**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

**The Duval Lions Charity Bowl** will take place Nov. 10 at Ribault High School at 7 p.m. Proceeds will go to the Shriners Hospital for Children.

**The Polish American Cultural Society of Northwest Florida** is hosting

a Tea Dance Nov. 11 at 5850 Collins Road in Jacksonville from 3-6 p.m. Call 772-7836.

**The Jacksonville Veterans Day parade** is Nov. 12 in downtown Jacksonville. The parade, kicks off at 11:01 a.m. and features veterans groups, military organizations, marching bands, floats and more. For information call 630-3680.

**The Retired Officers Association of Northeast Florida** are having their monthly dinner/business meeting aboard NAS Jax Nov. 14. The guest speaker for the meeting will be Commanding Officer NAS Jax, Capt. M.S. Boensel.

**USO's PAL Day** in St. Augustine is scheduled for Dec. 1. Military members and their families can enjoy a free day on the town. For more information stop by the USO located at NAS Jacksonville's front gate or call 778-2821.

# NAVHOSP JAX NEWS

## Sailor training for the All Navy B'ball Team

By **JO2 LeaVonda Battle**

*NavHosp Jacksonville Public Affairs*

Naval Hospital Jacksonville's Ship's Serviceman Third Class (SH3) Antonio Clyburn has been tabbed as one of 20 Sailors throughout the fleet to attend the All Navy Basketball training camp.

The Detroit, Mich. native never imagined that joining the Navy would allow him to serve his country and follow his childhood dream of playing basketball.

Clyburn said being selected for the camp and serving his country is a once in a lifetime opportunity.

"It's like I have the cake and I get to eat it too," said Clyburn. "I am excited about being selected as a finalist to attend the training camp and I'm very hopeful that I will be selected to play on the Navy's team against other military services."

Clyburn was selected from hundreds of Sailors Navy wide to compete for a spot on the team.

His hard work paid when during local tryouts and now, he's spending at month at camp in Port Hueneme, Calif.

"It's great to be selected for training camp, but now comes the hard part," Clyburn explained.

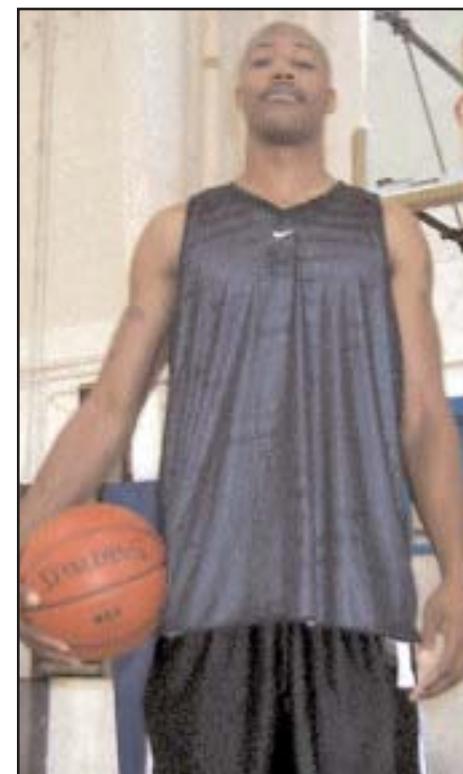
Only 12 of the 20 Sailors attending camp will make the team and take the tournament floor in Germany. Clyburn said he has enjoyed pursuing his goal of making the team.

"When I'm not with my wife, Raenell, and son, Antonio Jr., I spend a lot of time working on basketball fundamentals, lifting weights and running," Clyburn added. "I understand how important it is to be in shape and I don't expect camp to be easy — I know

it's going to take hard work."

He said besides training for the tournament, camp attendees will host basketball clinics for school age athletes.

"I'm looking forward to training camp and hopefully the games in Germany," said Clyburn. "I have a great support system in my family and the hospital. I would not have the opportunity to participate without the support of those at my command and I really appreciate all they have done to help. I will certainly consider it a pleasure to represent them in the games if I make it. *Go Navy!*"



**SH3 Antonio Clyburn will compete against the top players in the fleet for a spot on the All Navy Basketball**

# DoD Works to Better Educate Healthcare Workers on Vaccines

WASHINGTON (NNS) — Military allergy and immunization specialists have worked hard to educate healthcare providers on vaccine safety. But in light of rising bioterrorism concerns, they've ratcheted up their efforts.

Army Dr. (Col.) Renata Engler is the medical director of the Vaccine Healthcare Center Network, which recently opened its first center here at Walter Reed Army Medical Center. She explained that vaccines are tools to protect Department of Defense (DoD) members, but they also need to be afforded the same care, respect and safety precautions given other prescription medicines.

DoD and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in Atlanta became partners this summer to provide a network of clearinghouses for information on vaccine safety and procedures throughout DoD. The new initiative was in response to "the growing challenges that have arisen in the context of immunization healthcare," Engler said, particularly concerning the public controversies surrounding immunization safety in general as well as the DoD Anthrax Vaccine Immunization Program specifically. "Knowledgeable resources had to be developed to support the providers and the small

outlying immunization clinics who are dealing with the challenges and to support special, complex patient issues that local medical facilities might not be resourced to handle," Engler said.

Engler said her work has come into a whole new light in the aftermath of Sept. 11 — the contamination of the mail with anthrax has made the threat of bioterrorism clear to Americans. She said her organization has been involved in developing plans for possible new or changing vaccination programs for service members. Any possible use of smallpox vaccine is of particular concern, since America's stockpiles of vaccine for this deadly, disfiguring disease are old and were made with outdated technology, experts have said.

Engler and her staff are consulting with various agencies to work up contingency plans in case experts decide there's a need to vaccinate Department of Defense as well as emergency response personnel against smallpox, she said. "There are some concerns about adverse events related to that vaccine," Engler said. "We've gotten busier faster than we wanted to in response to new bioterrorism threats that are arising." But this is why the organization was created in the first place. "The Vaccine Healthcare Center is really a resource to

address the need for outreach education in this rapidly changing world of immunization challenges," Engler said. "We need to do everything we can to give the right shot to the right person at the right time in the right way." She said service members 20 years ago received "a handful" of vaccines, but now routinely take more than 50 shots during their careers. And another 30 vaccines are at various stages of the developmental pipeline and may be introduced into the immunization requirements over the next five years.

Adverse reactions and drug reactions occur in 1 percent to 2 percent of people with any drug, Engler said. That small percentage, she noted, can mean big problems in a large enough population. "That's 20,000 to 40,000 people in a population of 2 million," she said. "Improving our understanding of rare adverse events would enhance vaccine safety surveillance and lead to higher quality immunization healthcare delivery overall."

The Vaccine Healthcare Center Initiative began in September and is scheduled to expand to include several regional centers in the future. Several more are set to open in regional DoD medical centers in the United States in 2002, leading up to a total of 15 re-

gional centers by 2006, Engler said. "These vaccine healthcare centers would work as a network to share information, not just internally, but with the Food and Drug Administration, CDC, and the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System, as questions arise surrounding a vaccine," she said.

For more on the Department of Defense today, go to <http://www.defenselink.mil/today>.

# JAX SPORTS

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](mailto:dbonser@nasjax.navy.mil) or [dgorman@nasjax.navy.mil](mailto:dgorman@nasjax.navy.mil). Visit the MWR website at [www.nasjax.navy.mil/mwr](http://www.nasjax.navy.mil/mwr).

## Captain's Cup race heats up

AIMD closed the gap on VP-30 in the 2001 Captain's Cup point race when they won the Intramural Golf playoffs and the Intramural Flag Football league and playoffs. With those key victories, AIMD picked up 113 points and tied VP-30 for first place with 273 total Captain's Cup points. CPRW-11 picked up 70 points by winning the Intramural Golf Freedom League and finished in third place in the Intramural Golf playoffs to move into third place in the Captain's Cup points race with 225 points.

## Gym locker rooms close for repairs

The men's and women's locker rooms at the NAS Jacksonville Gym will be closed Nov. 5-9 because the floors are being painted. The Fitness

Source will continue to be available for use by patrons.

## Sports officials, 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 and softball. Experience not required. If interested, contact Al Vandercar 282-0809.

## Intramural Basketball League open to active duty

The Intramural Basketball League is open to all NAS Jax active duty commands and personnel. The season is scheduled to begin Nov. 5 with games played Monday through Thursday at 5, 6:15, and 7:30 p.m. All interested personnel should stop by the gym and to get required paperwork to join the league.

## Greybeard basketball meeting set for Nov. 2

The Greybeard League is open to all NAS Jax active duty commands and personnel ages 33 and above. The league's organizational meeting will be held in the "Main Event" at "The Zone" on Nov. 2, 11:30 a.m. The season begins Nov. 27 with games played Tues-

days and Thursdays at 11 a.m. and noon. Interested personnel should attend meeting to discuss rules and to get required paperwork to join league.

## Turkey Shoot Racquetball Tournament is Nov. 13-16

The tournament is free and open to all authorized gym patrons over 18. There is a recreational and competitive division for men and women. Matches start at 5 p.m. Winners receive turkeys. Call NAS Jax Gymnasium to sign up by Nov. 7.

## Men's Varsity Flag Football, Basketball coaches wanted

The NAS Jax Athletic Department is looking for experienced military or civilian individuals who would like to coach the Men's Varsity Flag Football team or the Men's Varsity Basketball Team. The teams represent NAS Jax in military and community tournaments throughout the southeast region. Interested personnel should contact the NAS Jax Athletic Department.

## Water Polo Players wanted

The Aquatics Department is looking for active duty personnel who would like to play water polo. New program and all interested personnel should contact NAS Jax Athletic Department to sign up.

## Navy Southeast Regional Running and Triathlon Team

Are you competitive runner who might be interested in representing the U.S. Navy in 5k, 10k, marathons, and/or triathlons? A U.S. Navy team has been formed to showcase elite active duty men and women in regional races. Uniforms 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) race and your time must be one of top ten 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 3 hours 30 min. Women 4 hours
Triathlon	Men 2 hours 30 min. Women 3 hours

Triathlon time based on 1.5k swim, 10k run, 40k bike.

## STANDINGS

### Open Softball

Team	W	L
GEICO Chiefs	11	2
Beef O Brady's	10	3
Backwater	9	4
C.B.'s	9	4
VP-16	5	8
VP-30 Students	4	8
NavHosp	1	11

### Intramural Softball

Team	W	L
AIMD	12	3
VP-16	11	3
VP-30	11	4
VP-30 Students	11	4
FASO/CPRW-11	9	5
NLMOF	9	7
HS-15	8	7
SERCC	7	8
VP-45	6	9
Navy Band	3	10
NMD	2	11

### Greybeard Softball

Team	W	L
NAMTra	10	1
VP-30	6	4
VP-45	6	4
NAVAIRES	4	5
CPRW-11	4	5