



JaxAir News

TOUCHING BASE

Base delivery policy revised

Because of current security measures in effect at Naval Air Station Jacksonville, telephone-ordered personal merchant deliveries such as pizza, flowers, etc. to base employees or housing residents must be made at the Security Department parking lot located on the right just before the base's main gate. Pickup of telephone orders must be coordinated between the merchant and requestor.

Base employees or housing residents who have questions or require additional information regarding this policy can call the Base Security Office.

Navy Legal wants info on A&B Marketing

The Naval Legal Service Office (NLSEO) is seeking individuals who have purchased a water softening system from A&B Marketing or RAINSOFT, Inc., or whom have been subject to a lawsuit filed by the above companies in the last four years. Please contact Lt. Bradley Wellborn at the Naval Legal Service Office, Mayport at 270-5445 or email him at wellbomb@jag.navy.mil for an important advisory as to your rights.

Navy-wide advancement exams set

The following is the upcoming Navywide advancement exam schedule:

- E6 - March 5, 6:30 a.m. Hangar 1000
- E5 - March 12, 6:30 a.m. Hangar 1000
- E4 - March 19, 6:30 a.m. Hangar 1000

All participants must be in the uniform of the day and must bring their I.D. cards.

The Navy advancement examinations now have 200 questions — some of which are based on occupational standards, and others on professional military knowledge (PMK). The occupational/PMK ratios are 100/100 for E7, 115/85 for E6, 135/65 for E5, and 150/50 for E4. The occupational questions are presented first, with the PMK questions following.

The PMK questions are identical for all candidates, across ratings, within pay grades. In other respects, guidance for 200 item exams are the same as for the 150 item examinations; only the exam length changes. The bibs continue to be exam specific. The time of administration continues to be three hours.

Master chiefs return to basic training to mentor Sailors of the future

By JOC Rhonda Burke, NTC Great Lakes Public Affairs

GREAT LAKES, Ill. — For the past eight weeks, the 71 members of Recruit Division 087 have had the leadership of more than just their three Recruit Division Commanders. They have also benefited from the guidance of Fleet Command Master Chiefs from Navy Region Southeast, who sponsored the division during their transformation from civilian to Sailor.

Sponsorship of a recruit division is not a new concept at Recruit Training Command, but no command has committed the resources that the Southeast Region did to the sponsorship program.

Led by CNOCM(AW) Philip Mauffray, Navy Region Southeast Regional Master Chief, two or more of the Fleet senior enlisted leaders from throughout the region were with the division from day one of training until the recruits passed in review Feb. 8.

Rear Adm. Jan Gaudio, commander, Navy Region Southeast, served as co-reviewing officer alongside Secretary of the Navy



CMDCM Patricia Nicometo of Personnel Support Activity Jacksonville, presents Navy ballcaps to the Navy's newest Sailors as they complete their training at Recruit Training Center Great Lakes, Ill.

Gordon England, during the division's pass in review.

"I believe the best way for new Sailors to learn about the Navy and what is expected from them is to be mentored by senior enlisted

leaders," Gaudio said. "We have made a commitment to each Sailor and will do all we can to ensure they succeed in the Fleet. The time our Navy Region Southeast Master Chiefs have invested in mentoring

these recruits will pay off when these Sailors report to the Fleet for their first duty. They will be ready."

See BOOT CAMP, Page 4

Regional Sailors, recruits take oath at Daytona track

By JO2 Mike Jones, Assistant Editor

Approximately 40 Sailors from Naval Air Station Jacksonville, Naval Station Mayport and Naval Submarine Base (NSB) Kings Bay, Ga., as well as Navy recruits from the Daytona area pledged to join and stay Navy in a ceremony at the Daytona International Speedway Feb. 15.

With the Navy-sponsored Ford F-150 truck as a backdrop, Commander, Navy Region Southeast Rear Adm. Jan Gaudio delivered the oath of enlistment to the Sailors and recruits.

Following the ceremony, the Sailors and recruits enjoyed a tour of the track and observing National Association for Stock Car Auto Racing (NASCAR) operations up close. Famous racers, including NASCAR legend Richard Petty, made



NASCAR racing legend Richard Petty signs autographs for Sailors and recruits during a visit to Daytona International Speedway Feb. 15.

Regional Shareholders Report data available online

By Bill Dougherty, NAS Jacksonville Public Affairs

Commander, Navy Region Southeast (CNRSE) is collecting data for the Fiscal Year 2001 Regional Shareholders Report, a comprehensive report which illustrates the economic and social impact of the Navy-Marine Corps team in the Southeast Region. The annual report is available for Fiscal Years 1996 through 2001 at www.cnrse.navy.mil (click on Command Info, then Regional Shareholders Report).

In past years, only the Fleet Concentration Area (FCA) Jacksonville, which includes NAS Jacksonville, NS Mayport, and Subase Kings Bay, Ga., were included in the report. This year's report will be expanded to include all nine Navy bases within Navy Region Southeast.

An On-Line Input Form is available on the CNRSE web site at



www.cnrse.navy.mil. When commands/activities at each of the nine bases complete the on-line form, the information will go to the respective base public affairs office. A "tips" page is available at the site as a guide to complete the report. Help is also available by calling your base public affairs office.

In the FCA for FY 2000, the Navy-

Marine Corps team had a \$6.4 billion economic impact and reported that the active duty military, reservists, civilians, retirees, contractors and family members accounted for 20 percent of the population in the local area. These figures drew the attention of local business, civic organizations, government agencies, and the local media.

The report illustrated how the Navy-Marine Corps team had a greater impact than any other corporate entity in the FCA. The expanded report will include the economic and social impact for the entire Southeastern United States and the Caribbean.

Base public affairs offices will develop reports for their installations and those reports will be included in the overall Regional Shareholders Report. Individual base reports, as well as an overall regional report, will be available on the Region's web site later this year.

Navy vet prefers life in 'fast lane'

By JO2 Mike Jones, Assistant Editor

For Dale Akers, retirement from active duty naval service means anything but slowing down. Akers, a former CTM1, now works as an information specialist technician for one of the fastest organizations around... National Association for Stock Car Auto Racing (NASCAR).

(Akers, who joined the

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WEEKEND WEATHER

	FRIDAY 50/67 Few Clouds
	SATURDAY 41/65 CLEAR
	SUNDAY 48/69 PARTY CLOUDY

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

FFSC News

Fleet and Family Support Center offers programs

New Parent Support Program

Having a family is an important decision that changes the course of our life. Military families are frequently geographically separated from their families and peers, and often lack physical access to their hometown social support and parental role models.

To address this challenge, the Navy has developed the New Parent Support Program (NPSP) to support new parents, starting from the prenatal period through age five.

Navy FFSC New Parent Support Programs contribute to mission readiness, and support family adaptation to military life.

NPSPs are designed to enhance the knowledge and skills that new parents need to form healthy relationships and to provide safe, nurturing environments for children.

The key features of NPSPs are:

- NPSPs are available at all major Navy FFSCs.
- Services are provided on a voluntary basis at no cost to participants.
- Programs emphasize outreach to junior enlisted personnel who are parents.
- The intensity of services and range of activities offered by NPSPs is

matched to the level of family needs.

Programs include home visitations, education, counseling, and referrals to other resources to participating families.

Because almost one-half of the military force is age 25 or younger and most families have their first child before this age, studies show that the majority of new parent support services are provided to and needed by families of active duty members between the ranks of E1 and E6.

The program is available, however, to families of active duty service members of any rank or age who need support services.

Parents enroll in NPSP by self-referral, or referral from a health care professional or command.

NPSPs are primarily staffed by nurses, social workers and mental health counselors who provide services to assess new parents during prenatal care, or shortly after birth, to identify if and when additional support is needed.

The program here offers prevention services such as educational programs, short-term home and hospital visits, information and referrals to other programs in both the Navy and civilian communities.

They also offer a more intensive and comprehensive array of services, such

as scheduled periodic assessments, long-term home visitation, health and child development services, and intensive parent monitoring.

Home visitation is used extensively in all the service's programs because there is general consensus that this is the most effective strategy for educating and supporting parents around the time of a new baby's birth.

For more information, call 542-2766, Ext. 158.

Retired Activities Office helps plan for retirement

The mission of the Retired Activities Office (RAO) is to provide assistance to retirees, active duty personnel contemplating retirement, and their family members.

The program extends its services to Navy/Marine Corps retirees and their families as well as those from all other branches of the military including retired reserves.

It provides information on retiree related matters, or in many cases, locates an agency or resource to resolve a retiree's problem.

RAO support personnel respond to walk-in clients, phone calls, and e-mail. The office is manned by trained and experienced

volunteers Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. RAO services include:

- Survivors Benefit Plan Counseling.
 - Casualty Assistance to Survivors.
 - Dissemination of Information on new programs and benefits.
 - Information on programs, rights, and benefits, when requested.
 - Conflicts resolution between retirees and various government agencies.
 - Help in identifying resources to resolve retiree questions/concerns.
 - Provide location/addresses of various federal/state/local agencies or officials, when required.
 - Conduct an annual Retiree Seminar.
 - Information on programs, rights, and benefits, when requested.
 - Conflicts resolution between retirees and various government agencies.
 - Help in identifying resources to resolve retiree questions/concerns.
 - Provide location/addresses of various federal/state/local agencies or officials, when required.
 - Conduct an annual Retiree Seminar.
- All staff members are volunteers and volunteers are always welcome.
- For more information call 542-2766, Ext. 126.



Meet A Sailor ...

ADAN SHANDRICO INGE

Job title/command:
NAMTraU (student)

Hometown:Tulsa, Okla.

Past Duty Stations: Rota, Spain

Family Life: Single

Career Plans: To pursue a college degree

Most Interesting Experience: Living overseas for two years.

Words of Wisdom: Strive to be your best.



Meet A Civilian...

JILL SAUNDERS

Job title/command:
Network administrator,
Facilities and Environmental

Hometown: Marysville, Mich.

Past Duty Stations: VX-1, Patuxent Md.,
USS Canopus, Kings Bay, Ga.

Family Life: Husband,, Lee, daughters,
Olivia and Alesha.

Career Plans: To become an authorized GIS
trainer and developer.

Most Interesting Experience: My trip to
Jamaica.

Words of Wisdom: You earn respect when
you show respect.

Fire inspections slated for Yellow Water Housing

From the NAS Jax Chief Fire Inspector

The annual military family housing fire safety inspection and briefing for residents living in the Yellow Water Military Housing complex will be conducted by the NAS Jax Fire Prevention Bureau beginning March 4. They will continue throughout the month.

Inspections and briefings will be conducted between the hours of 9 a.m. and 3 p.m., Monday through Thursday. Fire inspectors will be in a NAS Jax Fire Department uniform and will conduct the inspection and briefing only in the presence of an adult.

In the event the resident is not at home when the

inspectors call, a call-back form will be placed on the door requesting the resident contact the NAS Jax Fire Prevention Bureau at 542-2783 or 542-3928 to schedule a home fire safety inspection and briefing.

The intent of the home fire safety inspection and briefing is to ensure maximum safety of all housing residents through normal good housekeeping practices and to inform residents of actions to be taken should a fire or other emergency occur in the home.

Also, at this time, home smoke and carbon monoxide detectors will be tested to ensure proper operation.

Special Olympics volunteers needed

The 2002 Area Five Special Olympics will be held at NAS Jacksonville March 16. Volunteers are needed to help with more than 600 Special Olympic athletes who are expected to participate in the games.

The Special Olympics athletes, from children to adults, will compete in a variety of events including running, throwing and the long jump.

About 800 volunteers are needed to be "Buddy" or "Event" volunteers.

Buddy volunteers pair up with their Special Olympics athlete and remain with him or her throughout the day. Buddy Volunteers are asked to arrive no later than 9 a.m. to accompany their athlete to the Opening Ceremony at 10 a.m.

Event volunteers are asked to report by 8:30 a.m. They will help coordinate the athletic events or work in the Olympic Village, where other activities are available for the Special Olympic athletes who are in between events.

Volunteers may sign up at the following email addresses (make sure you

include your name, address, telephone number and e-mail address):

Buddy Volunteers - oparker@nasjax.navy.mil (Dianne Parker, 542-2766 ext. 130)

Event Volunteers - dbonser@nasjax.navy.mil (Bill Bonser, 542-2930).

There is also a need for old trophies. Anyone who would like to donate old trophies for recycling may drop them off at the NAS Jacksonville Station Gym on Gillis Street, Bldg. 614 (542-3239). Each athlete will receive a trophy!

Due to heightened security aboard the base, athletes arriving on buses will be cleared in advance to enter the base. Vehicles without a DoD decal will park at the Reserve Center near the Birmingham Gate and ride a shuttle to the site. Volunteers should arrive 15 to 20 minutes early.

African-American luncheon is today

The NAS Jacksonville Multi-Cultural Awareness Committee and NADEP EEOAC are sponsoring an African-American Month Luncheon today from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at The Zone.

The guest speakers for the event are Senator Regina Thomas and The Honorable Judge Pauline Drayton-Harris.

The menu will be a soul food buffet. Tickets are \$10.

For more information call AO1 Short at 542-2298 or Linda Moore at 542-5522.

Wellness Center can help you kick the habit

The Wellness Center is sponsoring a 90-minute hypnosis session to quit smoking on Feb. 26 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Wellness Center. All NAS personnel are eligible to attend.

Call 542-5292, Ext. 10 to register.



Sunday Services at the Base Chapel

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

- Saturday** 5 p.m. - Catholic Mass
- Sunday** 8:30 a.m. - Protestant
- Communion** 9:30 a.m. - Catholic Mass
- 11 a.m. - Protestant Worship

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

HELPING HANDS

Volunteers needed for projects

The JaxPride Coalition is looking for volunteers to help out with a number of projects at the Jacksonville Baptist Home for Children on University Blvd. From Feb. 23 through March 3. Lunch and tools are provided. Call 542-5380 for info.

Florida-Georgia Blood Alliance needs help

Make a difference by volunteering your gift of time at one of our seven donor centers located throughout Jacksonville. Positions include greeting donors, assisting in the blood drawing areas, tele-recruiting previous donors, clerical and more. Hours are flexible and training is provided. Call Lisa Morris at 353-8263, ext. 333 for details.

Jax Air News

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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) 542-1533 or (904) 542-3531 or by fax at (904) 542-1504 or write the Jax Air News, Box 2, NAS Jacksonville, Fla., 32212-1500. All news releases should be sent to this address.

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NADep Jax announces Sailor of the Year

By Daphne Burke
NADep Jax Public Affairs

It's official. As of Jan. 21, AK1(AW) Barry Walters is Naval Air Depot, Jacksonville's (NADep Jax) Sailor of the Year (SOY). Walters' first NADep position was working in the Components Customer Service where he also earned the honor SOY in 1999.

Currently, he works in Material Customer Service where he works with the "G" condition parts and excess processes.

Walters was born in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, and grew up in New York City and Miami. He enlisted in the Navy in September 1986, just before his 19th birthday.

After completing boot camp, Walters attended Aviation Storekeeper "A" School in Meridian, Miss. Upon completion of "A" School, he reported to USS America in Norfolk, Va., where he spent four years.

In 1991, he transferred to Strike Fighter Squadron (VFA) 106 at Naval Air Station Cecil Field, Fla. Two years later, Walters transferred to Naval Air Station, Fallon, Nev. and



AK1(AW) Barry Walters

USS Enterprise in support of flight training.

In 1993, Walters was stationed in Sigonella, Sicily for a three-year tour. He worked in the supply department responsible for Helicopter Combat Support Squadron (HC) 4 and all "L" purpose items totaling more than \$34 million.

Before reporting to his next command, Walters attended Shipboard Uniform Automated Data Processing System (SUADPS) Real Time at Fleet Training Center where he graduated at the top of his class.

In September 1996,

Walters arrived aboard USS Kearsarge. During his tour aboard Kearsarge, Walters made one deployment to the Mediterranean and was advanced to first class petty officer.

Walters came to NADep Jax in December 1999. During his time at NADep, Walters has distinguished himself as a leader who possesses superior managerial abilities and personal initiative. "I try and do the best job I can. I don't just settle for the normal. I look for ways to improve the process," said Walters.

He has accomplished many things at the Depot, including the establishment of an effective material excess and turn-in process whereby NADep returned \$1.1 million dollars worth of stock to the supply system for credit.

Walters' willingness to volunteer has demonstrated his unselfish nature. He has traveled to Australia to support the fleet and has volunteered to work with Habitat for Humanity and regularly donates blood to the Florida/Georgia Blood Alliance.

In Walters' Sailor of the Year nomination package, former Commanding

Officer Capt. Christopher Roum said that Walters embodies all that we expect in the Navy's top shore Sailor. Roum went on to say "Walters is a pacesetter, problem solver, and NavAir team player. He is the best of the best."

Although NADep is a command that hosts only a handful of military billets, it is still an honor to be chosen SOY. "Even though we are a small command, I feel that the competitors for SOY are all well qualified to represent this command if called upon. The people I work with are very well trained and intelligent in

their prospective jobs. They should all be rewarded for the jobs they do," said Walters.

Training and intelligence are crucial, but they are not the only contributing factors to a person's success or failure. Walters contributes his success to a number of things.

"Being mentored is a big part of succeeding. If you don't have someone to show you the way, you could end up lost. Next, working with highly trained and motivated individuals is always a plus. Finally, family and friends play an important role. I am proud of my mar-

riage of 14 years to my wife, Lorna. We have a daughter, Ashley who makes me proud everyday. If they weren't there for me, then I may not be here today," Walters said.

"And, lastly, friends. I have made good friends everywhere I've been. It's hard to say goodbye. So, I say, 'see you soon.' We may have different commands, but we only have one Navy, one team," he added.

Walters' next tour will be on board USS Kitty Hawk homeported in Japan. He hopes to get advanced, ultimately making master chief.

BOOT CAMP: Master chiefs back in basic training to mentor new Sailors

From Page 1

Rear Adm. Ann Rondeau, Commander of Naval Training Center Great Lakes, praised the work of Navy Region Southeast and stressed the importance of the sponsorship program.

"Adm. Gaudio and his senior enlisted leadership took this program to a new level," Rondeau said.

"The sponsorship program is a great way to get the Fleet involved in our training methods and our curriculum. The Fleet is our customer, and direct feedback is one of the most effective ways we have of ensuring our customer's needs are being met. Fleet involvement in our programs keeps our training dynamic and relevant," she added.

Mauffray, who has nearly 30 years in the Navy, believes that there is no greater reward than working with young Sailors and training them to be the leaders of tomorrow.

"We committed to this sponsorship program from day one," Mauffray said. "It's a great way for senior enlisted leaders to learn more about boot camp training today, and it offers them an opportunity to mentor recruits and show them the role of senior enlisted leaders from the beginning of the career."

For many of the master chiefs who made the trek from the Southeast Region to Great Lakes, it was their first visit to boot camp since their own graduation.

"I don't think enough people take the time to go back to boot camp and see what the training is like today," said Master Chief Joe Steadley of Naval Station Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico.

"They are teaching our Sailors great things here in boot camp, but it is up to the senior leadership in the Fleet to carry on that training once the Sailors are sent to us. That's covenant leadership and it starts at boot camp," Pelly added.

During their visits, the senior enlisted leaders



NCCM Sha'Reff Rashad (above left) of Navy Region Southeast cranks out some pushups with the recruits.

Eyes Right! (below) Recruits pass in review before the graduation ceremony reviewing party, Secretary of the Navy Gordon England (left of guidon) and Rear Adm. Jan Gaudio, commander, Navy Region Southeast (saluting).



helped prepare the division for inspections, marched and worked alongside them, participated in physical fitness training beginning at 4:30 a.m., attended classroom sessions, ran the confidence course and Battle Stations, and had the opportunity to sit and talk with recruits during their evening routine.

"Every person who comes to boot camp has goals and dreams," said Master Chief Sha'Reff Rashad of the staff of Navy Region Southeast. "Being able to talk to the recruits and answer their questions was invaluable. Our master chiefs included males and females in a large number of ratings, all with very different experiences to share with these recruits. That's important because it shows them they all can succeed, too."

For other mentors, the hands-on experience of par-

ticipating with the recruits was most meaningful. SKC Joe Pelly, who is assigned to Naval Station, Roosevelt Roads, ran the grueling 14-hour battle stations event with the division. A survivor of the attack on the USS Cole, Pelly said the event gives recruits a realistic experience in battle conditions.

"I think the Cole scenario was the most difficult portion of Battle Stations because it is dark, noisy and the recruits feel disoriented," he said.

"I liked the fact that each evolution was based on a historic event that happened to Sailors in the Fleet, and I think that prepares them." Pelly added that many of the young Sailors on the Cole said that the Battle Stations experienced helped them cope in the days following the terrorist attack.



SKC Joe Pelly of Naval Station Roosevelt Roads, P. R. and formerly of USS Cole (DDG 67), checks a recruit's oxygen breathing apparatus prior to Battle Stations.

Photos by PH1 Michael Warner

"I think they are learning a heck of a lot more than we did when we went through boot camp," Pelly said. "They learn more about history and the core values, and how they relate to what we do every day in the Fleet."

Master Chief Patricia Nicometo of Personnel Support Activity, Jacksonville, was one of the eight senior enlisted who spent the final full week of training with the division.

She ran the confidence course and observed Battle Stations. A former company commander now in her 29th year of service, Nicometo has seen a great deal of change in the Navy since 1973, and she feels the Fleet sponsorship program brings recruits an added dimension to the boot camp experience.

"They get to see people who have made a career in the Navy and been successful," she said. "They can ask us questions about our careers and our experiences. Each of us started as E-1's, and now we are the



Regional Master Chief CNOCM(AW) Philip Mauffray and Southeast Region Command Master Chiefs kick off the Region's sponsorship of Recruit Division 087.

leaders. I believe they can relate to that."

The Recruit Division Commanders said they feel having Fleet leaders mentoring their division helps both them and the recruits.

"I think it's a great program. I think it is important for them to assist the recruits and help with specific events such as inspections and training evolutions like Battle Stations," said MMCS James Bunge, one of the division's recruit division commanders. "The involvement from the Fleet gives them a true picture of what boot camp is like today."

The recruits enjoyed the experience as well, saying the master chiefs aided them in studying and

taught them about the Navy.

"Having the master chiefs here really motivated me. They gave us a lot of tips about how to go out to the Fleet and be successful, plus they told us what the Fleet is really like," said SR Benjamin Mitchell, 20, of New Smyrna Beach, Fla. "I think it gave us an advantage over other recruits in training."

Gaudio said the Southeast Region master chiefs intend to "stay connected" to these Sailors to continue their mentorship as they enter the Fleet. The 71 members of Division 087 departed boot camp early this week headed to various "A" Schools around the Fleet.

Military discount being offered for benefit concert

From Commander, Navy Region Southeast Public Affairs

Military discount tickets will be available at the door of the Florida Theater when the Jacksonville-based band Aire Traffic performs its "Flight For The Cure" during the 7th Annual Thomas-Roudebush Memorial Concert at 7:30 p.m., March 9.

Tickets, which are 430 this year, will go for \$20 for everyone with military ID cards (includes active duty, reserves, retirees, and family members). Half the purchase price is considered a tax-deductible contribution.

Aire Traffic offers a unique blend of original jazz, rock and contemporary music. Its members are professional musicians who are air traffic controllers. In 1996, they were impassioned to combine their love for aviation and

music to benefit cancer research. Using aviation as an inspiration in writing, producing and performing their music, a large portion of their first CD - "In Control" - was donated to Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in memory of their friend and fellow air traffic controller, Dwight T. Thomas, who lost his life to cancer.

Throughout the past six years, Aire Traffic has donated their time and talent by performing to sellout crowds and raised tens of thousands of dollars for the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. The group believes that everyone should have an opportunity to help find a cure for cancer.

Proceeds from this concert will go to the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.

For more information on the concert or about Aire Traffic, visit the group's web site at www.airetraffic.com.

Win tickets to see the Harlem Globetrotters

From NEXCOM

Curley, Orlando, Fess and Shark. Names from the latest boy band? No, they are basketball players from America's Team, the Harlem Globetrotters. The team will be dribbling their way to the Jacksonville Veteran's Memorial Coliseum on March 6.

To ensure you see all the

action in person, the Navy Exchange Service Command (NEXCOM) and Reebok are giving away free general admission ticket vouchers to the games.

A Harlem Globetrotter's autograph signing will be held Feb. 27 at 5 p.m. in the Shoe Department. Come out and meet Guard Eathan O'Bryant and reg-

ister to win VIP and general admission tickets. The VIP tickets include entry into the Burger King Pre-Game Chalk Talk on March 6 at 5:30 p.m.

Entry boxes are currently set-up in the Shoe Department.

ON THE GO WITH USO

The USO has tickets for the following upcoming events:

Monster Truck Show - March 2. Pit party starts at 4:15 p.m., gates open at 5:30 p.m. and the main event begins at 7:30 p.m.

USO ticket prices are \$16 for club seats and \$14 for general admission. All tickets include a free "Pit Pass" to the party, a \$5 value.

Harlem Globetrotters - March 6. A pre-game Chalk Talk begins at 5:30 p.m. and the game begins at 7 p.m.

USO tickets are \$15 and \$18. Box seats are \$27. Orders will be taken through Feb. 29.

Dragon Tales Live "Missing Music Mystery"

March 7 at 7 p.m. All seats \$12

March 8 at 10:30 a.m. (matinee) and 7 p.m.

March 9 at 1 p.m. and 4:30 p.m.

March 10 at 1 p.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Ticket prices are: \$12 for the March 7 show, \$15 and \$11 for all other shows except the children's matinee when tickets are \$9. Orders will be taken through March 1.

All tickets ordered through USO will be picked up at the Will Call window.

Contact JoAnn or Charlene at USO, 778-2821.



Photos by JO2 Mike Jones

Commander, Navy Region Southeast Rear Adm. Jan Gaudio delivers the oath of enlistment to Sailors and recruits during a ceremony at Daytona International Speedway Feb. 15.

NASCAR: Sailors take oath at track

From Page 1

themselves available for autographs and photos with the Sailors and recruits.

"This was a wonderful way to hold my reenlistment," said OSI(SW) Jerry Loving, stationed aboard USS Boone (FFG-28) in Mayport, said the ceremony marked a life-long dream for him. "I love it. This was my last reenlistment and I wanted it to be unique."

"This is unbelievable," remarked Rhory Benjamin, currently enrolled in the Navy's Delayed Entry Program. "I can't wait to go in." Benjamin, who enters

Recruit Training Command this week, hopes to serve as an Aviation Machinist's Mate.

The day concluded with several races, one featuring the Navy-sponsored truck driven by Jon Wood. "It's cool to see an organization like NASCAR functioning like the Navy," said ET2(SS) Joel Price, assigned to Commander Submarine Group 10, NSB Kings Bay, Ga., reenlisted for six years at the ceremony. "It's neat to see the Navy logo on one of the trucks," he added.

"I love the truck," Loving remarked. "It will definitely grab the attention of today's youth," he added.



Roush Racing Car Chief Chad Rainey (left) shows the inner workings of the Navy-sponsored Ford F-150 truck to AT2(AW) Randall Dye (center) and BMC(SW) Dennis Devine.

FAST LANE: Navy vet finds new life in NASCAR

From Page 1

Navy in 1981, explained he was working as an information systems facility manager for the National Security Council at the White House on his last tour. "A buddy called and said a friend of his was coming to the White House and was wondering if he could get a tour of the 'Situation Room,'" he said. The "buddy" turned out to be Mike Helton, then NASCAR senior vice president.

Following his retirement last year, Akers comfortably transferred to his current job.

He quickly noticed many similarities between his new employment and his previous career. "I thought I did a lot of traveling in the Navy," he laughed. "I've also noticed there's a lot of prior military, especially Navy, within the NASCAR community."

Akers attributes all his career opportunities to his naval service. "It was a tremendous experience for me," he said. "What the Navy did for me was to instill a good sense of discipline and work ethics. The Navy gave me the training and skills to get ahead."

However, the most rewarding aspect of military service for Akers was the



Photo by JO2 Mike Jones

NASCAR Information Specialist Technician Dale Akers.

chance to meet so many different people from different backgrounds. "The camaraderie in the Navy is great and is hard to find anywhere else," he

said. "Service members seem to have a real dedication to their jobs, and that's something you can bring to any employer."

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY



A group of volunteers from VP-30 work on the roof of one of the many Habijax homes being built downtown.

ATAN Nicholas Naumes and HM3 Kenneth Browning of VP-30 team up to get a roof shingled.



PH2 Chuck Withrow of the Commander, Navy Region Southeast Visual Information Support Center, installs a window in one of the new homes.



ATC(AW/NAC) Jason Mooney, of VP-30 straightens some shingles on one of the new Habijax homes. VP-30 members donated numerous hours to the project.



Navy volunteers help build new homes

By Kaylee LaRocque
Staff Writer

Forty Jacksonville families will soon move into brand new homes thanks to Habitat for Humanity of Jacksonville (HabiJax), the Northeast Florida Builders Association, and the many dedicated volunteers who give their time and sweat to construct these homes.

Over the years, since the program began here in 1988, Navy volunteers from all area commands have proven their dedication to the many HabiJax projects completed each year. As the first project for 2002, this latest building blitz was no exception.

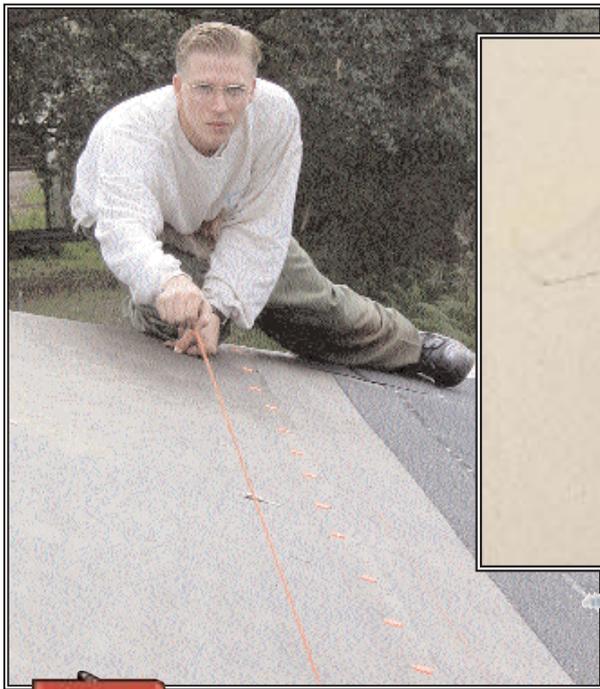
"I put the call out to the Navy for

their help and as usual, they went out of their way to provide us with the help we needed. They are extremely dedicated and hard-working individuals and we really enjoy having them," said Karen Prewitt, manager of volunteer services for HabiJax.

According to Prewitt, this is the second biggest build in HabiJax's history. "We are currently building 40 homes in three weeks. The project began the first week in February so the homeowners should be moving in soon. Last year we built 131 homes. This year, the goal is 202," added Prewitt. Volunteers work alongside contracted workers and HabiJax employees to

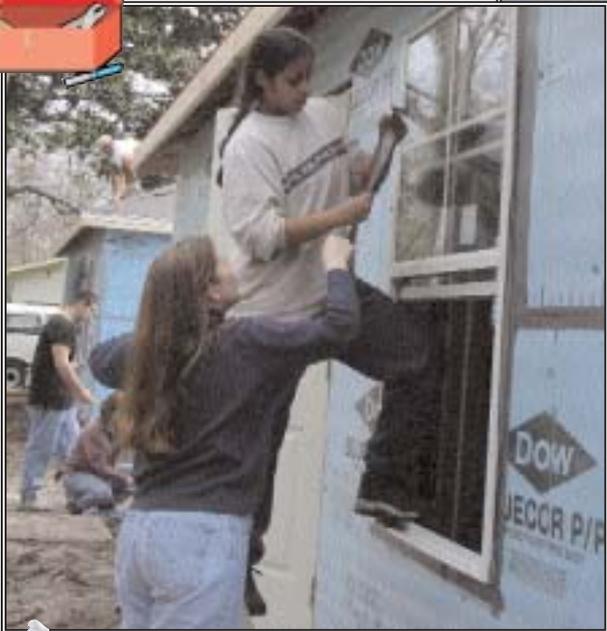
See HABIJAX, Page 7

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY H



HM3 Kenneth Browning, of VP-30 measures and marks lines to ensure the shingles are straight.

Calvin Jones of NavComTelSta puts some finishing touches on an interior wall.



MU1 Frank Rinne and MUCM Rich Holdsworth put up some insulation around a house. The next step is to place vinyl siding.

MU2 Karen Fazzini hands a piece of duct tape to MU2 Luslaida Barbosa to seal insulation around a window. Both are members of Navy Band Southeast. The unit sent a crew to help out the Habijax project.

Photos by Kaylee LaRocque

HABIJAX: Navy helps to build houses

From Page 6

do framing, roofing, dry-walling, painting, installing vinyl siding, landscaping and help with the clean-up. They are not required to have experience.

"I heard that Habijax needed some help with this project and we had some time so I asked my troops and we are here to work," said ATC(AW/NAC) Jason Mooney of Patrol Squadron (VP) 30.

Habijax was created in an effort to provide safe housing to low-income working families by getting them and the community to build them. "This has truly been a blessing. These people helping with these projects have such big hearts. Everyone has been so friendly and wonderful," said Laura Mullikin, who will soon be moving into her new home with her two daughters.

Habijax applicants must be employed, live in substandard or subsidized housing and provide a \$500 down payment on the home. They are also required to put in 300 working hours on their home or another in the project. Homes average \$45,000 and the new owners are required to pay a no-interest, 25-year loan.

The next Habijax project is currently scheduled for April so if you have the time and are willing to work they can always use you. Look in the Helping Hands section of the Jax Air News for upcoming Habijax opportunities.



ET2(SW) Fred Wilbanks and ET3 Melanie Meyer of NavComTelSta do some landscaping at one of the new homes.

VP-5 honors their 2001 Sailor of Year

By Lt. j.g. Kristen Richards
VP-5 PAO

The "Mad Foxes" of Patrol Squadron (VP) 5 recently named AME1(AW) Eddie Holmes as their "Sailor of the Year" for 2001.

Although the competition was intense for the honors, Holmes' performance stood "head and shoulders" above his peers. He is an exceptional role model for young Sailors to emulate.

Holmes was born and raised in the town of Lumberton, Texas. He graduated from Magnolia High School in June 1979 and enlisted in the United States Navy. After graduating Navy Boot Camp in Orlando, Fla., he reported to Millington, Tenn. for Aviation Structural Mechanic (Safety Equipment) "A" School.

Following this initial professional training, he reported for duty with Air Development Squadron (VX) 1 at Patuxent River, Md. There, Holmes was selected as the both the "Pioneer Pro" and "Safety Pro" of the Month. He next reported to VP-16 at NAS Jacksonville where he was selected as the Leading Petty Officer for Work Center 130 while he was a second class petty officer.

Next, he served with Sea Control Squadron (VS) 27 at NAS Cecil Field, Fla. where he was selected as a Command Designated Quality Assurance Representative (CDQAR)



AME1(AW) Eddie Holmes

and promoted to first class petty officer. He then transferred to VP-26, NAS Brunswick, Maine, where he once again served as an Aviation Structural Mechanic (Safety Equipment) CDQAR. He returned to NAS Jax in 1996 and was assigned as a Naval Air Maintenance Training Group Detachment Jax Instructor. He transferred to VP-5 in December 1995.

Holmes' "Sailor of the Year" selection recognizes his outstanding performance as the Maintenance Control Leading Petty Officer from January 2001 to December 2001. His leadership and technical expertise provided exceptional maintenance support to the squadron and tran-

sient P-3 aircraft. As one of only four first class petty officers entrusted by the commanding officer to release VP-5 aircraft "Safe for Flight," he was a driving force behind the command's impressive 94 percent sortie completion rate and its highly successful Inter-Deployment Training Cycle. Holmes additionally served as an EAWS Instructor, Assistant Command Urinalysis Coordinator, Ordnance Certification Board Member and Petty Officer Indoctrination Instructor. His exemplary achievements and unselfish devotion to his fellow shipmates' success directly led to his selection as the VP-5 "Sailor of the Year" for 2001.

Awards continue for 'Maulers'

By Lt. Natalia Henriquez
VS-32 PAO

On Feb. 8, the Sea Control Squadron (VS) 32 "Maulers" took a break from Operation Enduring Freedom to recognize several squadron members for their outstanding achievements.

The "Maulers," based out of NAS Jacksonville, Fla., are currently deployed aboard USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71) in the North Arabian Sea. The ship has been at sea for 142 consecutive days with no port visits.

Because of the hard work and diligence of Mauler crewmembers, the "Maulers" achieved an unprecedented 100 percent mission completion rate for the month of January, and some of those hard workers were rewarded by Commanding Officer Cmdr. Ronald Carlson.

AM3 Juan Manzano, the Mauler's Junior Sailor of the Year for 2001, was awarded the Navy and Marine Corp Achievement Medal in recognition for quick attention to a problem with one of S-3B Viking's wings during a quick crew turnover. His quick action and attention to detail adverted what could have been a catastrophe.

A Flag Letter of Commendation from Rear Adm. M.P. Fitzgerald, Carrier Group Eight commander, was awarded to AM3 Alfonso Guitron. He was recognized for his work as an Airframes Troubleshooter, Final Checker, and Collateral Duty

Inspector from March 1999 to January 2002.

A Commanding Officer's Letter of Appreciation was given to AEAA Andrew Carpenter for his contributions while assigned to the Aviation Electrician's workcenter from August to December 2001.

Carlson also recognized the January Plane Captain of the Month: Airman MaryJane Eusebio. As a Plane Captain, she is responsible for servicing, fueling, launching and recovering of eight S-3B aircraft. Her positive attitude and constant drive to excel contributed to the completion of more than 780 flight hours and a 100 percent sortie completion rate.

Six individuals received their Enlisted Aviation Warfare Specialist wings. AMS1 Donald Eversole, AD2(AW) William Rodriguez, AMS2(AW) Paul Carter, AE2(AW) Scott Huey, AMS3(AW) Yusmani Bitorsosa, and AKAN(AW) Cristina Reichle are now qualified EAWS.

Good Conduct Awards recognized faithful service to the Navy for nine "Mauler" Sailors: AE2 Scott Huey and IS2 Fernando Copeland (first awards). AK1 Rainier Velasco and AE1 Frank Ragin received their third Good Conduct Awards. AE1 Cruz Cartagena and Lance Woods, AMS1 (Safety Equipment) Kay Sutliff, AE1 Ernest Edwards, and AD1 Daniel Fogg received their fifth award.

All 'Mad Foxes' back at Jax



Photos by PH2(AW) Leigh Francisco

VP-5 Skipper, Cmdr. Paul Frost, returns home to NAS Jacksonville from Sigonella, Sicily with the last of the "Mad Foxes" on Feb. 10. With the Skipper's return, all of VP-5's P-3 aircraft and personnel were home in Jacksonville.

'Checkmate' pilot to fly F/A-18C



VS-22's Lt. James Lynch is one of four pilots in the S-3B community recently selected for a platform transition to F/A-18C Hornets. Lynch has been flying the S-3B for three years. Although he loves flying the Viking, he is looking forward to duty as a Hornet Strike-fighter pilot. Lynch will report to the F/A-18C Fleet Replacement Squadron, VFA-106 in Oceana, Va., where he will join his wife Melony, already an F/A-18C Hornet pilot.

Photo courtesy of VS-22

Two Hospital Corpsman come to rescue

By JO3 Jackey Bratt
Staff Writer

When HM2 (SW/AW) Rhonda Wiley and HM3 Christina Helms, attached to Naval Hospital Jacksonville, sat down at Subway during their lunch hour, they had no idea that they would be saving someone's life.

"I glanced toward the line and saw this guy swaying back and forth, but he looked like he just needed to regain his balance," said Helms.

Seconds later, Helms was looking at a body on the ground. She quickly told Wiley and they dropped their sandwiches and went to his aid. A person who has stopped breathing or whose heart has stopped could die within four to six minutes, so time was of the essence.

MA1(SW) Jose Carmona Jr. attached to the NavHosp Security secured the area as the two went to work on saving the young Sailor's life.

Helms and Wiley sat Rosen in a chair where he passed out again, only this time he had stopped breathing. "I could tell his airway was blocked by the fact that he was making 'snoring noises,'" said Helms, who sat at the feet as Wiley assessed the head area.

Immediate restoration of oxygen-rich blood flow to the brain and other vital organs is vital when one stops breathing. They then placed him on the floor where Wiley proceeded to open his airway using the head tilt/chin lift method and gave him two rescue breaths. That method is used to restore breathing, a heart-beat and circulation — or all three — in someone who has collapsed or lost consciousness.

He started breathing on his own and regained consciousness. Wiley asked him questions to see how alert he was. The base ambulance came where Helms reported the symptoms and vitals of Rosen to the EMT.

"I was thoroughly impressed with both the Corpsman," said Carmona. "They knew exactly how to handle the situation," he concluded.

When breathing stops, cardiac arrest and death quickly follow. The quickest way to get oxygen into the victim's lungs is with mouth-to-mouth rescue breathing, which should be performed until breathing resumes or until medical help arrives.

Knowing how to respond to such an emergency can save a person's life. One can receive CPR training and education from the American Red Cross at 1-800-346-2771 or Heartstart at: 269-7002.

CNRSE Flag Secretary says goodbye

McCarthy retires after 21 years naval service

From Commander, Navy Region Southeast Public Affairs

Cmdr. K.C. McCarthy bid farewell to her Navy shipmates in retirement ceremony aboard NAS Jacksonville on Feb. 8.

McCarthy, a native of San Diego, Calif. reported to Officer Candidate School in Newport, R.I. following graduation from the University of Tampa. She received her commission in November 1981.

McCarthy's first tour was with Commander, Naval Striking and Support Forces, Southern Europe, in Naples, Italy. While assigned there, she augmented the Sixth Fleet Staff in support of NATO exercises. Following this tour, she reported as the administrative officer on the staff of Light Attack Wing One at NAS Cecil Field, Fla., and served there from January 1984 through November 1986.

In 1986, she reported to the Naval Air Development Center in Warminster, Penn., as the Deputy Command Administrative Officer. Following this tour, she attended the Naval Drug and Alcohol

Counselor's School, and upon completion of training, transferred in 1988 to Subic Bay, Philippines, for a three-year assignment as the Director, Counseling and Assistance Center.

After attending Recruiting Officer Training in Pensacola, Fla., McCarthy reported to Navy Recruiting District, Columbus, Ohio, for duty. There, she served as an officer recruiter and as the Enlisted Programs officer from September 1991 through November 1993. Following a brief assignment at Personnel Support Activity, Jacksonville, Fla., she reported as Executive Officer, Naval Alcohol Rehabilitation Center, Jacksonville, Fla., in May 1994. On April 5, 1996, she assumed duties as commanding officer.

On Dec. 20, 1996, McCarthy presided at a ceremony honoring the disestablishment of the Naval Alcohol Rehabilitation Center and the establishment of the Naval Addictions Rehabilitation Clinic and served as the clinic's first office-in-charge.

In September 1997, McCarthy



Photo by PH3 Marcus Hunt

Cmdr. K.C. McCarthy is piped ashore escorted by her father Rear Adm. Karl John Christoph Jr. (USN ret.)

reported to Commander, Navy Region Southeast as the flag secretary.

McCarthy's personal awards

include a Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Services Commendation Medal, Navy Commendation Medal (four

awards) and a Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal.

McCarthy has three children, J.P., Ryan and Christopher.

NADep welcomes new XO

By Daphne Burke
NADep Jax Public Affairs

Capt. David Beck, assumed the position of executive officer of Naval Air Depot, Jacksonville (NADep Jax), Fla. following the Change of Command ceremony on Jan. 25 in which Capt. Karl Yeakel took command.

Beck, an Aspen, Colo. native, joined the Navy in 1978 after completing his Bachelor's Degree in Aviation Management from Metropolitan State College in Denver. He was commissioned in January 1979.

Beck's early tours include Aviation Maintenance Officers' School in Tennessee, USS Midway (CV 41) homeported in Yokosuka, Japan, NAS Lemoore, Calif. and USS Constellation (CV 64).

Beck graduated from the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, Calif. in 1989. He then served aboard USS Nimitz (CVN 68) as the Aircraft Intermediate Maintenance Department Production Officer before being selected to serve as Navy's Aerospace Maintenance Duty Officer (AMDO) Community Manager. He returned to the Constellation in 1994 as the Aircraft Intermediate Maintenance Department Head and completed his sixth WestPac deployment.

Beck was the Production Officer at NADep North Island, Calif. for two years before returning to Naval Air Systems Command in October 1998 to serve as the

Assistant Department Head for Production Support for the Assistant Commander for Aviation Depots. In June 2000, he transferred to the position of director of Joint Depot Maintenance Activities Group at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio.

Beck brings many years of experience to NADep Jax with 10 years of sea service.

"I have been a part of the operating forces for many years. I know that the people here know how to do their jobs," Beck said. "What NADep needs from me is direction in how to apply those skills to best support the deployed forces," he added.

After more than 23 years on active duty, Beck says he has a pretty good sense of what the Fleet wants and needs. "How do our decisions affect the Fleet? How do our decisions link to readiness?" These questions appear on the dry erase board hanging in Beck's office. Answering these questions to himself everyday is the way he approaches all aspects of his job.

"The Depots make a difference. Since Sept. 11, there is an increased sense of urgency. The fleet must have what they need before they call for it. At the Depot, we are part of the bigger team," said Beck.

"My vision is to build on the work of previous NADep leaders, striving for continuous process improvement and maintaining that fleet focus. If we work things through and work together, we can meet that goal," he added.

Seminar to help retirees find employment

"Buzz" Buse, director of the Officer Placement Service for the Retired Officers Association, an expert on transitioning from military to civilian employment, will be at the Station Theater on March 18 at 9 a.m. to talk to officers, senior noncommis-

sioned officers, and spouses on "Marketing Yourself for a Second Career."

In his free, two and a half hour presentation, Buse introduces the audience to the competition in the civilian job market; the perceptions civilian employers have of military personnel;

a plan for the job search; tips for strengthening the resume; networking plans; preparing for and conducting a successful interview and salary negotiations and benefit packages.

Military and spouses, are invited. Call Lee Garland, 542-2766 Ext. 146.

R2 D2 look out Navy officer helps Raines students build a better robot

By JO2(SCW) Eric Clay
Staff Writer

NAS Jacksonville's Lt. Ahmed Ferguson has been mentoring and instructing students at William M. Raines High School in robotics and engineering as part of the For Inspiration Recognition Science Technology (FIRST) Robotics Program and competition.

"This was my first year volunteering with Raines High School and it has been a very rewarding experience," Ferguson said. "The rewards were not only building the robot, but also the opportunity to mentor and share the knowledge of the engineering career fields that are available."

Ferguson has been teaching and working with students for the past six weeks devoting 40 hours of his off time to helping the students prepare for the regional competition. Organizations involved with the program act as school sponsors and engineers from those organizations mentor the school being sponsored.

The FIRST program is specifically designed to interest students in math and science due to the fact that science community loses about 1 million scientists a year explained Dean Kamen, founder of the FIRST program. It is also designed to allow students an alternative to participating in

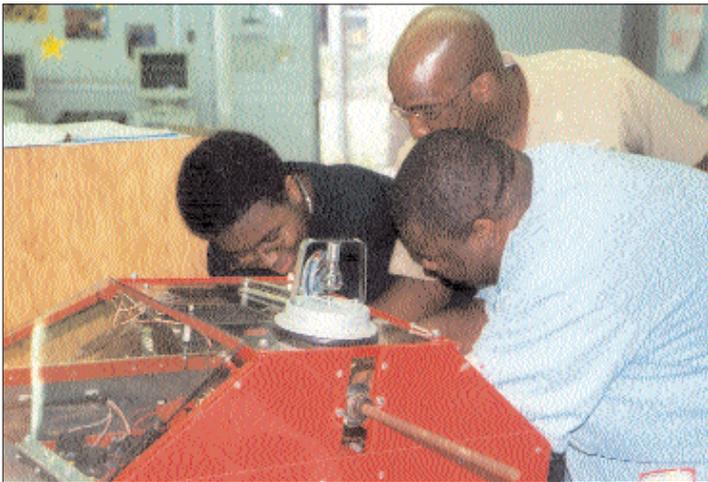


Photo by JO2(SCW) Eric Clay

Lt. Ahmed Ferguson (center) instructs the students on the fine points of engineering.

negative activities such as gang association and drug, he added.

Education is made fun for the students in this program because they are able to experience competition and meet other students from around the United States.

The program also builds teamwork and leadership in the classroom. The students also learn time management and task sequencing. Each year a different team captain is chosen from the students and he is in charge of

keeping the working as a productive unit.

Annually 15,000 students from more than 270 schools apply their knowledge to construct a robot.

Each school is sent a box of 300 parts ranging from nuts and bolts

to hand drill motors. The students and mentors have six weeks to build these robots. The robots must be able to handle the carrying of certain objects, such as foam balls. They must also be able to hand suspended from a pole under their own power and strength.

Besides the building of the robot, the students also must make team t-shirts, a web page and a computer animation program.

Not only are the teams involved but the whole school and their neighboring communities join in the spirit. The school shows their support by having fundraisers and allowing the pep squads to go to the competition to boost the teams' spirits. The community joins in the event by supporting the team through sponsorship from organizations like the Society of Military Engineers and the Jaguars Foundation.

The regional championship for the competition is held at Kennedy Space Center March 7-9. The national championship is held in Orlando at Epcot Center April 25-27. The scene for the competition is a Super Bowl-like atmosphere. Cheerleaders, friends and family cheer on the teams in rows of bleachers. Big screen televisions are placed throughout a football field sized stadium for all to watch and see the events of the day.



Photo by Kaylee LaRocque

Twenty couples renewed their wedding vows at the All Saint's Chapel on Feb. 15 to celebrate Valentine's Day.

Couples renew vows during Valentine's ceremony

By Kaylee LaRocque
Staff Writer

Twenty couples reaffirmed their love for one another during the

fourth annual Valentine's Vow Renewal at the All Saint's Chapel last Friday. The hour-long ceremony was conducted by Chaplain Simon Ignacio and Chaplain

Wayne Hatman.

The ceremony began with several readings from the Bible and a couple of short stories including one on how St. Valentine's Day originated by Hatman. As Ignacio requested the couples to stand and face each other, many wiped away tears as they renewed their wedding vows.

"Marriage is not just a bed of roses. Love is hard work. You are blessed tonight for coming here to reaffirm your vows," said Ignacio.

He then announced they may seal their vows with a kiss. The ceremony closed with a prayer.

"We've been coming here to renew our vows for the past four years and did this at another base before this. It's very healthy and meaningful," said Howard and Pat Jelineke, who will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary in June.

The celebration continued after the ceremony as the couples enjoyed a special dinner and dance at The Zone.

New club forms for submarine Sailors

If you have qualified on a United States Navy submarine in the past or present you are invited to join the newly inclusive established organization, called "First Coast Sub Vets". If you have qualified on a submarine from a foreign country, you are invited to join as an associate member.

For more information call Ron Robertson at 241-6222 or email rjrxj@mediaone.net.

Hospital announces Civilian of the Year



Photo by HM1(SW) Michael Morgan

Naval Hospital Jacksonville Commanding Officer Capt. Ralph Lockhart presents a \$500 check to Beverly Linsley, a patient contact representative, after she was named the command's Civilian of the Year. Looking on are her husband, MAC(SW) James Linsley a crew member on board USS Hue City (CG-66) and Lt. Cdr. Terry Lane, the hospital's Customer Services Department head. Linsley was selected for her motivation as a team player. She is known as the "go to" person by both patients and staff and was the first staff member to complete a TRICARE University Online re-certification course. She is also an active member of the USS Hue City's Spouse Support Group.

TPU honors stellar personnel



Photo courtesy TPU Jacksonville

Transient Personnel Unit Jacksonville recently selected top performers. (From left) Junior Sailor of the Quarter MS2(SCW) Willie Mitchell; Civilian of the Year Shawn Evans; Senior Sailor of the Quarter DC1(SW) Sherrill Jones; and Sailor of the Year MA1(SW) Darrell McWilliams.

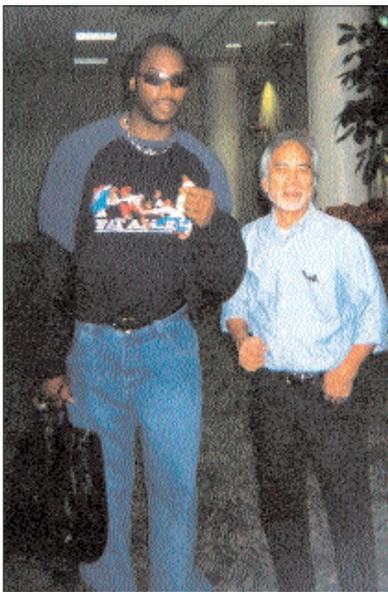


Photo courtesy of Roland Garcia

Boxing champion Lennox Lewis stops for a picture with NADep employee Roland Garcia at the Jacksonville International Airport.

You never know who you're going to meet

By JO2 (SCW) Eric T. Clay
Staff Writer

Recently while picking his son up at Jacksonville International Airport, Roland Garcia, Naval Air Depot, Jacksonville (NADep) jet engine examiner met Lennox Lewis. Lewis is the heavy weight champion of the world, in the sport of boxing.

Garcia was at the airport to meet his son who was flying in from Germany. Garcia recalled, "I saw my

son walking down the hall with a very tall man. Once my son and I met, he asked me if I knew who the man was. Garcia didn't know who the man was right at that time. "When I found out, I was amazed that a star like him would be so nice," Garcia added.

Lewis posed for pictures and signed autographs while at the airport. He was here to enjoy a Jacksonville Jaguar game. Garcia laughed, "You never know who you're going to meet."

I.T.T. has lots to offer

I.T.T. has something for everyone and we are here to serve all base personnel, so stop by and get some information and plan your next vacation or weekend outing.

Bud & BBQ Fest at Sea World Adventure Park in Orlando Saturday and Sunday. It's a good ole' fashioned family BBQ with rib-eating contests and concerts by top performing artists. Active duty military can take advantage of the Hero's Salute Program and attend for free. Here's the concert schedule:

Saturday - Blackhawk, 2 p.m., Sawyer Brown 6 p.m.

Sunday - Doobie Brothers, 2 p.m. and 6 p.m.

It's the best Mardi Gras party this side of the bayou and it's at Universal Studios. Don't miss out on the Mardi Gras Parades, and festivities all included in your one-day ticket. Active duty can take advantage of the free tickets through the Hero's Salute Program. Some big name acts will be performing on stage:

Saturday - James Brown

March 2 - Johnny Lang

March 23 - Earth, Wind & Fire

March 30 - Hootie & the Blowfish

I.T.T. trip schedule

Saturday - Riversip Romance

\$43.50 per person

Sunday - Deep Sea Fishing Trip

\$60.75 active duty/ \$55.75/Senior Rate

March 16 - St Patrick's Day in Savannah

\$23 per person

March 23 - Renaissance Festival

MWR NOTES

\$22.25 per person

March 27 - Pre-Season Baseball

at WDW Sports Complex

\$33.50 per person

April 5-7 - Charming Charleston

Overnight Excursion!

\$133.75 per person

Call I.T.T. at 542-3318 to find out more.

The Zone celebrates potatoes

Celebrate National Potato Lovers Month at The Zone.

Yesterday's Café will be offering a Potato Bar February this week for only \$4 per person.

Bowl on over

NAS Lanes is Offering Xtreme Bowling Packages perfect for any function or celebration. Enjoy the glow in the dark bowling style with sound and light show on Saturdays from 4-6 p.m. and the cost is only \$21.95 per lane (includes six pairs of shoe rental) or pay \$6 person (shoes also included). Color pins will be in each lane and if you get a strike when the color pin is in the head pin position you will win fabulous prizes. This is a great place for the family or group of friends to enjoy a non-smoking atmosphere. Reservations are accepted and the Gutterball Grill always has specials cooking.

Easter Egg Hunt set

Hop on over to McCaffrey Softball Fields March 22 for the Second Annual Night Easter Egg Hunt. For more information call Youth Activities at 778-9772. Yellow Water

Youth Activities will be having an Easter Egg Hunt March 23 from 9 - 10 a.m. Call 777-8247 for information.

Mulligan's celebrating St. Patty's Day

Mark the day for the Luck of the Irish to make an appearance at Mulligan's 19th for the Biggest Annual St. Patty's Party this side of the St. John's. The party will offer food and beverage specials March 15

Mulberry Cove Marina

Learn to Sail and get your basic sailing/Skipper B certification at Mulberry Cove this spring.

Basic Sailing Centerboard cost is \$80

Class 1: March 9-April 7

Class 2: April 23-May 21

Class 3: June 1-June 23

Basic Sailing Keelboat cost is \$55.

Free movies on base

Free movies are shown in the Base Theater on Jason Street every Friday at 7 p.m. and every other Saturday at 5 and 7 p.m. Bring your own snacks, no alcohol please and do not leave children under 18 unaccompanied.

Feb. 22, 7 p.m.: The Last Detail (R)

March 1, 7 p.m.: O (R)

March 2, 5 p.m.: Extreme Days (PG)

March 2, 7 p.m.: Hearts in Atlantis (PG-13)

Visit MWR online at www.nasjax.navy.mil and look for the tab marked MWR. This is your tab to unlimited fun.

Story Tree helps children learn



Photo by Kaylee LaRoque

Mona Gardella reads a story to Dustin Costin, Nicholas Carpenter, Macy Gardella and Kassie Parsons during Story Tree at the NAS Jax Youth Center. The group meets every Wednesday from 10-11:15 a.m. The program is open to all preschoolers 3-5 years old. The cost is \$34 per month. Story Tree introduces participants to many "school readiness" skills including listening and following directions, interacting with adults and peers, hand/eye coordination, fine motor, sequencing, predictions, sorting, memorization and much more. For more information call 778-9772.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

The Navy Wives Club of America, NWCA Jax No. 86, meets the first 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. For more information call 276-9415.

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 Directions 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 at the Lil' Angels room at St. Joseph's main church on Loretto Road. Call 268-1591.

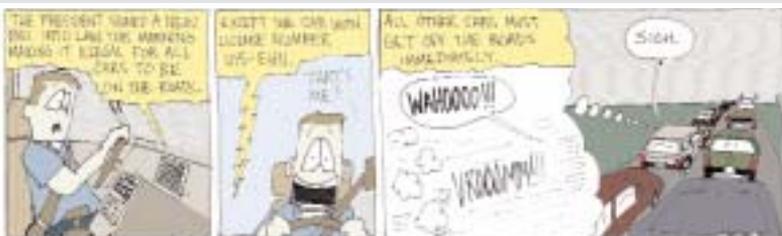
The Spring Edition of the Jacksonville Home and Patio Show returns to the Prime Osborn Convention Center. The event hours are: today from noon to 9 p.m., tomorrow from noon to 9:30 p.m., Saturday from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Admission is \$7 for adults and \$4.50 for children ages 6-12. For info call 730-3356.

Fleet Reserve Association's regular monthly meeting will be held today at the Branch home, 7673 Blanding Blvd. at 8 p.m. For more information call 771-2936.

A Black History Month Luncheon is slated for Feb. 28 at the Mayport Naval Base Sea Breeze Club at 11:30 a.m. Guest Speakers are Brig. Gen. Cornell Wilson, Jr., commanding officer, Fourth Force Service Support Group and Judge Pauline Drayton-Harris, Fourth Judicial Circuit. Tickets are \$10. For more information call HM2 Short at 696-5017/5153.

JAX TALES

By Mike Jones - mikejones43@hotmail.com



JAX SPORTS

Sports teams organizing

Intramural Soccer League - Rosters due tomorrow, season begins March 4. If your command does not have a team, you can sign up to play for another team. Open to all active duty commands and personnel.

Intramural Softball League - Rosters due March 8, season begins March 18. Open to all active duty commands and personnel.

Greybeard Softball League - Games will be played on

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11:30 a.m. Rosters due by March 8, season begins March 18.

Women's Softball League - Open to all NAS Jax active duty, dependents over 18, retirees, and DoD civilians. Rosters due by March 8, season begins March 18.

Open Softball League - Open to all NAS Jax active duty, dependents over 18, retirees, and DoD civilians. Rosters due March 8. Season begins March 18.

Intramural Volleyball Meeting - March 6 in the MWR Conference Room (Bldg. 590) at 11:30 a.m. Games will be played on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 11:15 a.m. and noon. Season begins April 1.

Racquetball tournaments slated for next week

The tournaments are free and open to all NAS Jax authorized patrons (active duty, dependents over 18, retirees, and

DoD/NAF civilian employees). There are two divisions: competitive and recreational. The competitive division will be played Feb. 25-28 and the recreational division will be played March 4-8. Matches will be played nightly at the NAS Jax Gymnasium beginning at 5 pm. Sign up at the NAS Jax Gymnasium.

Running and triathlon team needs members

Competitive runners are

wanted to represent U.S. Navy in 5k, 10k, marathons, and/or triathlons? U.S. Navy will showcase elite active duty men and women in regional races. Uniforms will be 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.

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 times are based on a 1.5k swim, 10k run, and 40k bike ride.

Standings as of Feb. 15

Greybeard Basketball			Intramural Basketball League	
Team	Wins	Losses		
NAMTra	8	1	VP-30	14
VS-30	5	3	VP-45	10
SERCC	5	4	BMC	12
CPRW-11	4	5	AIMD	11
2BN351	3	4	TPU	11
FACSFac	0	7	VS-30	9
			HS-3	9
			VP-16	7
			VS-24	4
			Blount Island	3
			HS-7	2
				10

For more information about any of the sports articles, call Bill Bonser, Sports Coordinator or Mike Gorman, Athletic Director at 542-2938/3239 or e-mail us at dbonser@nasjax.navy.mil or gorman@nasjax.navy.mil. Visit the MWR website at www.nasjax.navy.mil/mwr.

Free golf tickets being offered to military

THE PLAYERS Championship is offering free military admission to the practice rounds March 18-20 at Sawgrass. The Liberty Mutual Legends of Golf is offering free military admission to their tournament April 1-7 at the World Golf Village. Military patrons must present I.D. cards at the gate.