



JaxAir News

A CHINFO AWARD-WINNING NEWSPAPER

TOUCHING BASE



Time changes this Sunday

Don't forget to change your clocks back one hour Sunday morning at 2 a.m. as we revert back to Daylight Saving Time.

The idea of Daylight Saving Time was originally thought of by Benjamin Franklin who wanted to take advantage of the additional daylight time in the summer when so many people were sleeping.

During World War I, the United States finally adopted the idea which begins the first Sunday in April until the last Sunday in October. Although Daylight Saving Time is a federal law, the country does not require states to observe it. Several states, including Arizona, Hawaii and Indiana, have chosen not to change their clocks.

Today, nearly 70 countries around the world observe Daylight Saving Time.

Change batteries in smoke alarms this weekend

A home fire is reported to a fire department in the United States roughly every one and a half minutes. By providing an early warning and critical extra seconds to escape, smoke alarms cut in half your family's risk of dying in a home fire - but only if they are working. So, when you turn your clocks back on Sunday, also make a lifesaving change in your household - change the batteries in your smoke alarms.

Smoke detectors are the best defense your family has against the devastating effects of a home fire.

Skin cancer screening for active-duty

Branch Medical Clinic Jacksonville in cooperation with the Naval Hospital Jax Dermatology Clinic, will be hosting a Skin Cancer Screening Clinic for active duty Oct. 29 from 1-3 p.m. It will be for one afternoon only, so call 542-3500 early for your appointment. Be sure to ask for a skin cancer screening appointment.

'Possible incident' becomes 'non-event'

AFM gets Navy Civilian Meritorious Service Medal

By Miriam S. Gallet
Editor

NAS Jacksonville Air Operations Department Airfield Facilities Manager (AFM) Bill Meyer was the recipient of the prestigious Navy Civilian Meritorious Service Medal (NCMSM) at a recent ceremony held aboard the base.

NAS Jax Commanding Officer Capt. Mark S. Boensel pinned the medal on Meyer, while Capt. Charles King, NAS executive officer read the citation: "... As visit coordinator for the visit of the President of the United States to Jacksonville, his vigilance in the final preparation for arrival of Air Force One led to observation of an unauthorized security vehicle on the

active runway with Air Force One preparing to land. His immediate notification to Air Traffic Control led to Air Force One executing a missed approach and contributed to averting a potential incident."

The incident that Meyer was recognized for happened on the morning of Sept. 9 aboard NAS Jacksonville.

It was a cloudy Tuesday morning and Secret Service agents roamed the base. Security was tight and the air was thick. Air Force One was about to make a historic landing with President Bush on board.

Certainly, from a flight-operation perspective, things appeared to be moving ahead smoothly. However, from far on the west-end of the runway, at a distance of approximately 6,000 feet, a vigilant Meyer, who was escorting two Secret Service vehicles who would follow

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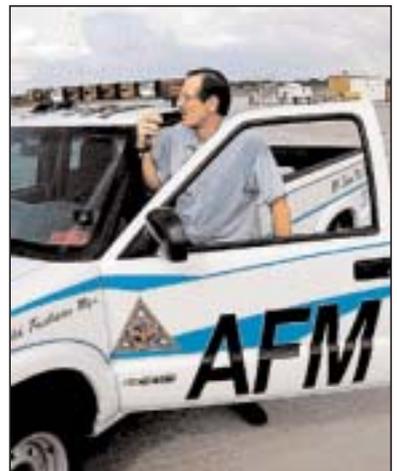


Photo by Miriam S. Gallet

NAS Jacksonville Air Operations Department Airfield Facilities Manager Bill Meyer relates status of vehicular movement on the taxi way to the duty traffic controller.

You don't have to be defenseless against the flu

By Rey Lopez
NH Jacksonville Family Practice
Immunization Clinic

Flu season is here! Influenza (flu) is a serious disease. The "flu" causes an average of 36,000 deaths each year in the U.S., mostly among the elderly. It is caused by a virus that spreads from infected persons to the nose or throat of others. Influenza can cause fever, sore throat, chills, cough, headache and muscle aches.

The influenza vaccine is highly recommended for people 50 years of age or older, people who have "long-term health problems" with: heart disease, kidney disease, lung disease, metabolic disease such as diabetes, asthma, anemia and other blood disorder, people with a weakened immune system due to HIV/AIDS or another disease that affects



Photo by Loren Barnes

Rey Lopez, LPN, gives Naval Hospital Commanding Officer Capt. John Sentell an inoculation in the hospital's Immunization Clinic.

the immune system. An annual flu shot is also encouraged for healthy children 6-23 months of age, and anyone else who wants to reduce their chance of catching influenza.

Naval Hospital Jackson-

ville expects to start administering flu shots Nov. 1.

NAS Active Duty personnel should check with their command preventive medicine representative for specific dates and times. NHJ and HSO Staff - a "shot-x"

Where to go for flu shots

TRICARE Prime Patients enrolled to Naval Hospital Jacksonville can receive flu shots from their primary care manager as follows:

Family Practice	Monday - Friday 8:30-11:30 a.m. and 1-3 p.m.
Pediatric Clinic	Monday - Friday 9-11 a.m. and 1-3 p.m.
Internal Medicine/PCG	Tuesday 8-11 a.m. and 1-3 p.m.
(November-December only)	Friday 8-11 a.m. and 1-3 p.m.

(IMC/Primary Care Group patients go to FPC starting in January 2004)

Non TRICARE Prime Patients (including Medicare-eligible retirees) can receive the flu shot as follows:

Family Practice Clinic	Monday - Thursday 1 - 3 p.m.
Pediatric Clinic	Monday - Thursday 3 - 4 p.m.

will be conducted in the second floor conference room on Oct. 27, 28 and 30, more information to come.

For updates, active duty family members and retirees should call 542-HOSP (4677) and press 1.

Electric shopping carts come to commissary



Photo by Miriam S. Gallet

Last week, four new state-of-the-art Amigo Smart Shopper electrical carts arrived at the NAS Jacksonville Commissary signaling a new shopping era for handicapped patrons. (Front row, left to right) Vickie Higbee, cashier, Marlie Castaneda, store worker, Patricia Nola, store worker and James Carter, store worker. Backrow from left, Manuel Detoro, bagger and Larry Bentley, NAS Jax Commissary director. "All of our customers are important to us. We strive to meet the needs of each customer. By purchasing these four new electrical carts, our handicapped customers will be able to shop with ease," proudly explained NAS Jax Commissary Director Larry Bentley. The new carts are an addition to four older models currently used at the commissary. Each cart cost \$3,800.

AMERICAN RED CROSS UPDATE

Florida Cabinet urges disaster preparedness

From the American Red Cross

On May 13, 2003, Gov. Jeb Bush of Florida and his cabinet members signed a resolution to kick off the Red Cross "Together We Prepare" campaign in Florida. The Florida Cabinet is encouraging all state residents to join a grassroots effort to make sure Florida is properly prepared should disaster strike by doing five simple things: Make a plan, build a kit, get trained, volunteer, and give blood.

"With the possibility of war, terrorist attacks, natural disasters and everyday emergencies, being prepared can help save lives," says Florida Attorney General Charlie Crist, sponsor of the cabinet resolution. "These five actions of 'Together We Prepare' will help Floridians make their homes, schools, workplaces and communities safer."

First, the Red Cross challenges everyone to make a plan. Preparedness and vigilance are the hallmarks of our new national reality, and having a plan is an essential step in preparedness for our families and our community.

Next, the Red Cross urges everyone to build a kit. Whether you are evacuating or "sheltering in place" (staying where you are), a disaster supplies and First Aid kit can save lives.

The third element of "Together We Prepare" is getting trained. The Red Cross wants to educate and inspire people to help others. Knowing what to do when disaster strikes means getting trained - and the Red Cross can help you do that. The Red Cross provides:

Community Disaster Education, First Aid & CPR classes and Automated External Defibrillator training.

Volunteering is the fourth element of the campaign. Red Cross is inviting you to step forward in service to others by helping people prepare for, prevent, and respond to emergencies in our community.

Last, we can prepare for disaster together by donating blood. Every two seconds, someone in America needs this precious gift of life yet only one in 20 eligible Americans actually donate blood. Red Cross is asking Americans to roll up their sleeves and become regular blood donors.

No one should understand the need for preparedness and planning better than our men and women in uniform and their families. For more information on "Together We Prepare," including how to make a plan, build a kit, get trained, volunteer and give blood, call your Northeast Florida Chapter of the American Red Cross in Jacksonville at 358-8091.

National Energy Awareness Week is Oct. 27-31

By Sue Brink
Public Affairs Officer, Navy Public Works Center Jacksonville

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world. Indeed it's the only thing that ever has. - Margaret Mead

If 300,000 Navy personnel turned off their office lights during the lunch hour (that's four fluorescent tubes off per person for 250 hours per year), then each year the Navy could save \$1.2 million and reduce emissions by 51.6



million pounds of nitrogen dioxide, 124.8 million pounds of sulfur dioxide, and 13.6 million pounds of carbon dioxide. Visit <http://energy.navy.mil/awareness> for more energy saving facts.

mil/awareness for more energy saving facts.

Navy Public Works Center Jacksonville (PWC Jax) energy professionals are continuously implementing energy saving projects region wide.

Information on how you can help save energy will be on display at various station locations throughout Energy Awareness Week.

For more information, contact the PWC Jax Energy Manager at 542-3991, Ext. 4624.

ON THE HOMEFRONT

'Capt. Dad' retires, ending intimidation of his son-in-law

By Sarah Smiley
Special Contributor

I sat at a party surrounded by what might have been any girl's dream: Dozens of handsome young Navy officers. I was 20-something years old at the time, and though I was a civilian, everyone at the party assumed I too worked for the admiral who was hosting the event.

An officer walked up to me and asked, "Can I get you a drink?"

"Oh, no thanks," I answered, "I don't think the admiral would approve."

Misunderstanding, the officer said, "Oh, relax; you don't need to be nervous around the admiral, but trust me, I know how you feel. Let me get you a drink."

I looked at him and smiled.

"The admiral," I said, "is my dad."

The back of the officer's shirt, moving briskly away from me, was the last I ever saw of him.

To tell or not to tell? That has always been my dilemma as the daughter of an admiral. For some, my dad's rank is intimidating, and admitting my relation to him means ostracizing myself from the junior officers and their wives who are actually my peers.

But he has always been "dad" to me, and "intimidating" is not a word I'd

ever associate with him. (Except for those times in high school when I had to come home and tell him about various speeding tickets.) But, of course, I'm not a JO (junior officer) in the Navy either, so the "fear factor" of his rank does not apply to me.

I've learned a lot about this intimidation, however, through my husband, who is a Navy lieutenant. (Now, before you go thinking, "So he married the admiral's daughter," we actually met when we were kids and my dad was just an ensign.)

When we married, one of my husband's first questions was, "What will I call your dad?" Calling him "Lin" (his first name) didn't feel right, but "Adm. Rutherford" seemed stuffy and not appropriate over turkey and potatoes at Thanksgiving dinner.

I couldn't help my husband with his quandary, however, because I have always addressed my dad with "Daddio," "Capt. Dad," and "Oh, Puh-leazee!"

So it was never decided, and my husband settled on this: He calls my dad...nothing. Over the past four years he has become the expert of eye contact and gestures to get my dad's attention, avoiding any situation in which he'd actually have to address my dad by name.

It has always made me laugh to

watch my husband's nervous stuttering and stammering around my dad. I cannot imagine anyone (anyone who hasn't just gotten a speeding ticket or failed algebra, that is) being intimidated by him.

To me he will always be the dad who can't find his cell phone, who wears dorky sunglasses, and whose life dream it is to someday have a yard large enough for him to circle it with a Ford tractor. (I like to tease him that someday when he's old and riding his tractor back and forth I will tell his neighbors, "you know he used to be an admiral in the Navy," and they will say "Really? The man who drives the tractor and changes his own car's oil?")

My dad is a simple man with a hefty title, and though I have learned to appreciate why my husband and other JO's fear him, I cannot relate; He's just dad to me.

This month my dad will retire, ending a long, impressive career and finally taking his position on that Ford tractor. Maybe now my husband will finally call him Lin - but I doubt it.

Congratulations, Capt. Dad!
You may send comments or a respond to Sarah at <http://sarahsmiley.homestead.com>.



Meet A Sailor...

MA3 BRIAN THOMAS

Job title/command:
NAS Jax Security/K-9 Handler

Hometown: Louisville, Ky.

Family Life: Single

Past Duty Stations: Guantanamo Bay, Cuba

Career Plans: To become a better K-9 handler.

Most Interesting Experience: Attending K-9 school.

Words of Wisdom: The honest man has nothing to fear.



Meet A Civilian...

CHUCK KEREKES

Job title/command:
Naval Hospital Jax, Substance Abuse Rehab Program Counselor

Hometown: Vintondale, Penn.

Family Life: Married to Dorothy, son Alex and a dog named Harley.

Past Duty Stations: Been here for 16 years.

Career Plans: To obtain another professional license. Right now, I'm a licensed mental health counselor and certified addictions professional.

Most Interesting Experience: Hopefully I haven't had it yet! Working in a military environment has been interesting though.

Words of Wisdom: "Men are disturbed not by things, but the views they take of them."
Epictetus 1 CE

Saturday is family movie night at the Chapel

Bring your favorite pillow, beanbag or theater chair for a fun evening at the movies Saturday night at 7:30 p.m. at the Base Chapel's Religious Education Building. The movie will be Toy Story. Refreshments will be provided. For more information, call Chaplain Bryan at 542-3051.

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Jax Air News

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HEY, MONEYMAN!

Hey, MoneyMan!

I think I make enough money to pay my bills and put some into savings, but things don't always work out right.

My husband says we spend too much money eating out and going to the movies. I want us to enjoy life, but I know we should be saving for the future. What is a reasonable amount of money to spend on entertainment?

MoneyMan Sez:

It depends. Don't you just love that answer! How you spend your money is your business and I agree that it is important to enjoy each day. You never know how many you will have.

Cost for items such as housing, car insurance and food can vary from place to place so it is difficult to give specific answers to what someone "should"

spend on various things.

As a start, you can use this rough guideline provided by "The Motley Fool." Housing and utilities: 25-30 percent

Food: 10-15 percent
Vehicles: 10-15 percent
Insurance: 5 percent
Savings and investing: 10-15 percent
Entertainment: 5 percent
Clothing: 5 percent
Medical: 5 percent
Childcare: 5-10 percent
Gifts and charity: up to you

This should give you some idea. If your gross annual income is \$40,000, you could spend around \$2,000 per year on entertainment and still have some left over for your bills and for saving and investing.

More questions? Call Hey, MoneyMan! at 778-0353.



Sunday Services

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

Saturday - 5 p.m. - Catholic Mass

Sunday - 8:30 a.m. - Holy Eucharist Episcopal

9:30 a.m. - Catholic Mass

11 a.m. - Protestant Worship

6:30 p.m. - Contemporary Service

"The Leading Edge," Hangar 749 at the Base Chapel Center.

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

Williams selected as civilian of the quarter

By JO2 Mike England
Staff Writer

NAS Jacksonville Commanding Officer Capt. Mark Boensel presented Betty Williams with the Civilian of the Quarter Award for the Third Quarter during a short ceremony Oct. 14.

Williams, a human resources specialist for NAS Jacksonville since February, earned the award by consistently providing excellent supervision and leadership.

Williams' primary job is to help the base maintain proper civilian manning levels as well as oversee the civilian training program.

Her performance and customer support in organizing and overseeing the new workforce management division has resulted in numerous accolades from customers.

"I've received dozens of



Photo by Miriam S. Gallet

NAS Jacksonville Commanding Officer Capt. Mark Boensel presents Betty Williams, human resources specialist at NAS Jax with the Civilian of the Quarter award at a ceremony held Oct. 14.

emails regarding Ms. Williams outstanding customer service and ease at meeting her customer's personnel needs," said

NAS Jax Business Manager Tim Sheppard. "We're all about focusing on the customer."

Williams was taken back by the award, but is very happy to have received it.

"I'm surprised and honored that Mr. Sheppard put me in for this award after only being here for a short time," Williams said.

Viking tactics instructor class graduates

By SCWS PAO

Sea Control Weapons School (SCWS) held a graduation ceremony recently for Viking Tactics Instructor (VTI) Class 2-03. Graduates were designated as air combat weapons tactics instructors, which is the highest air combat training qualification available to Naval aviators today. These newly designated VTIs will bring the latest tactical acumen and doctrine to their respective commands. Capt. G. F. Labuda, commander, Sea Control Wing, U.S. Pacific Fleet was the guest speaker for the event.

The graduation ceremony was the culmination of five weeks of intense training that included training on the Stand-off Land Attack Missile Expanded Response (SLAM ER), the Navy's most accurate strike weapon. The VTI class began their training at Naval Strike and Air Warfare Center (NSAWC) in Fallon, Nev., which serves as the "center of excellence" for all tactical training in naval aviation. During this first phase of a three-

phase curriculum, Viking students received academic lectures on carrier air wing and battle group weapons and tactics.

After a week of academics in Fallon, Viking students continued their training at SCWS aboard NAS Jacksonville, where the focus of lectures shifted to specific S-3B tactics. Additionally, students were exposed to and received training on the Maverick Plus System, a system that gives the S-3B the capability to launch and control the SLAM ER and Maverick missiles. Viking students also flew a series of simulator events designed to hone their tactical prowess, crew coordination and evaluator skills.

During the final two weeks, VTI students employed all they had learned in the classroom and simulators during a demanding flight phase at NAS North Island, Calif. Class 2-03 was the first class to incorporate co-operative SLAM ER strikes utilizing TAMPS mission planning, National Sensor Imagery, and mensu-

rated coordinates at SCORE Range.

Following graduation, students returned to their respective commands to serve as a core group of fleet instructors challenged to implement the Air Combat Training Continuum program. The graduates were Lts. Peter Antonacci (VS-35), Scott Campbell (SCWS), Bryan Billington (VS-22), Gregg Sanders (VS-24), Susan Smith (VS-33), Lt. j.g.s. Chad Lukins (VS-24), James Pupplio (VS-35), Daniel Kim (VS-35), and Robert Null (VS-22).

SCWS would like to thank VS-38 for providing outstanding support during the flight phase of VTI Class 2-03. The "Griffins" dedication and commitment directly contributed to the many successes achieved during VTI. In addition, SCWS would like to thank the VS-35 "Blue Wolves", VS-30 "Diamondcutters" and VS-22 "Vidars" for providing aircrew proficiency flights.

FISC Jax civilian employee recognized



Photo by Beverly Taylor-Mack

Capt. Ed Naranjo, commanding officer, FISC Jacksonville, presents a Civilian of the Quarter Award and Certificate of Excellence to Sandra Davis. Davis, a transportation assistant in the FISC Jax Personal Property Office at NSB Kings Bay, Ga., was selected Civilian of the Quarter for the period July-September 2003. Her exemplary performance and dedication to service made her the top candidate for the award.

Essay contest open to students

The Fleet Reserve Association is asking all students in grades seven through 12 to enter its annual Americanism essay contest.

The contest is open to students in public, private, parochial and home schools.

This year's essay theme is "What patriotism means to me." Local winners will receive a \$50 savings bond and those entries will be sent to compete at the regional and national levels. The Grand National award is \$15,000.

The deadline for entries is Dec. 1. Entry forms are available by calling F.J. Petersen at 771-2936. Entries should be mailed to: FRA Americanism Essay Contest, Fleet Reserve Association Branch 126, 7673 Blanding Boulevard, Jacksonville, FL 32244-5111.



Photo courtesy of SCWS

Eleven students recently graduated from Viking Tactics Instructor Class 2-03 at Sea Control Weapons School: (From left) Cmdr. W. Harrison, Lt. j.g. Robert Null, Lt. j.g. James Pupplio, Lt. Peter Antonacci, Lt. Susan Smith, Lt. j.g. Daniel Kim, Lt. Bryan Billington, Lt. Scott Campbell, Lt. j.g. Chad Lukins, Lt. Gregg Sanders, Lt. Cmdr. E. Limon.

NavHosp Jax observes Domestic Violence Awareness Month

By Lt. j.g. D. Edson, NC
Naval Hospital Jacksonville

The staff of Naval Hospital Jacksonville will observe National Domestic Violence Awareness Month with increased attention to screening and prevention of abuse. The U.S. Surgeon General has cited domestic violence (spouse abuse) as one of the major health problems facing American families today.

"Nearly one third (31 percent) of American women report being physically or sexually abused by a husband or boyfriend in the last year according to a 1998 Commonwealth Fund Survey.

In a memorandum to military agencies, Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld stated, "Domestic violence in the military adversely affects unit readiness. We must make every possible effort to establish effective programs to prevent domestic violence, but when it does occur, we have a duty to protect the victims and take appropriate action to hold offenders accountable."

Medical professionals at all levels play a significant role in educating their patients about abuse, and in the early detection and treatment of this serious health issue. Routine questions about violence not only identify women who are currently being abused but also serve to assess the safety of women who have been battered in the past and to heighten the awareness of those who have not been in abusive relationships. Even if the patient does not respond at the time, the fact the medical professional is concerned and believes abuse is a possibility will make an impression.

Education and increased awareness regarding the impact of domestic violence on individuals, families, and communities are the keys to decreasing its prevalence. The Navy Family Advocacy Program offers prevention efforts that include: command education and training programs; life skills education programs; counseling; return and reunion programs; and the new parent support programs and counseling. Assistance and additional information are available from the following: Fleet and Family Support Center, NAS Jacksonville, 542-2766, Fleet and Family Support Center, NS Mayport, 270-6600, and the Naval Hospital Social Work Department, 542-7441. The National Domestic Violence Hotline is 1-900-799-SAFE (7233).

Help is available for Domestic Violence victims.

If you, or someone you know is a victim of Domestic Violence, please get help!

Resources

Jacksonville Crisis Line.....2-1-1

Local area shelters with 24-hour numbers

Hubbard House (Duval County).....354-3114

Quigley House (Clay County).....1-800-339-5017 or 284-0061

Navy Family Advocacy Program NAS Jacksonville.....542-2766

NS Mayport270-6600

National Domestic Violence Hotline

.....1-800-799-SAFE

Myths about Domestic Violence

MYTH: Violence is really only an isolated event. There isn't much of it happening.
REALITY: One out of every 15 relationships is currently experiencing the sort of violence that will send the victim to the hospital.

MYTH: Domestic violence only happens to poor people or minorities.
REALITY: Abuse can happen in any household, regardless of race, economic background or educational level.

MYTH: The victim "makes the partner hit them" by "getting in their face." They "ask for it."
REALITY: Every relationship has arguments and stress, but most people don't hit others when they get angry. An abuser has limited skills to deal with stress.

MYTH: The victim actually enjoys the attention, needs the violence or is a perpetual victim.
REALITY: Victims do not want to be hit. The abuser's violence is his or her responsibility.

MYTH: The abuser is a sick or crazy monster, angry all the time.
REALITY: An abuser can be passive, a "nice person" generous to others and sensitive. Anyone could be an abuser.

MYTH: Alcohol or a bad marriage is the cause of violence.
REALITY: Most abusers hit whether drunk or sober. Alcohol/substance abuse can reduce the ability to control behavior.

Information from the Family Violence Prevention Fund website, <http://endabuse.org>.



Photo courtesy of Naval Hospital Jax Public Affairs

Retired Navy Rear Adm. Dr. Robert Nuss was recognized with the Rear Adm. Paul Kaufman Award for Outstanding Community Service at the annual Duval County Medical Society Dinner aboard NAS Jacksonville. Displaying the award are (left to right) Commanding Officer NH Jacksonville Capt. John Sentell; Kay Mitchell, DCMS president; Cmdr. Loring Perry, chairman of NH Jacksonville's Executive Committee of the Medical Staff (ECOMS); Dr. David Vukich of Shands Jacksonville (accepting the award for Nuss), DCMS Secretary/Treasurer; Jim Burkhart, Shands Jacksonville president; Dr. Miguel Cubano, guest speaker and head of General Surgery Naval Hospital Jacksonville.

Medical society gathers for night of collegiality, honors

From Naval Hospital Jacksonville Public Affairs

Naval Hospital Jacksonville's recognized retired Naval Reserve Rear Adm. Dr. Robert Nuss with the Rear Adm. Paul Kaufman Award at the annual Naval Hospital Jacksonville - Duval County Medical Society (DCMS) dinner aboard NAS Jacksonville Oct. 7. Accepting the award on behalf of Nuss was Dr. David Vukich of Shands Jacksonville. The award is presented each year for outstanding community service.

Nuss, a professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology, is the Senior Associate Dean and Assistant Vice President for Health Affairs, University of Florida Health Science Center, Jacksonville. He is also Chairman of the Board, University of Florida Jacksonville Healthcare, Inc. in Jacksonville. Nuss is an active member of numerous medical societies including the DCMS.

Guest speaker at this year's dinner was Cmdr. Miguel Cubano. His remarks addressed Naval Medicine's role in Operations Enduring and Iraqi Freedom. Cubano, just a couple of days earlier, was named Puerto Rico's Physician of the Year and received the Knights of Malta Award in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Three Naval Hospital Jacksonville medical professionals were presented the Executive Committee of the Medical Staff (ECOMS) Circle of Excellence Recognition at the dinner. Recognized for outstanding performance in their roles in support of Naval Hospital Jacksonville's ECOMS were: Kacee Bryner, ECOMS Professional Affairs Coordinator; Cmdr. David W. Leonard, ECOMS Credentials Review Subcommittee chairman; along with Cubano, ECOMS' Medical Staff Liaison to the DCMS.

The DCMS and the Naval Hospital have a long history of success in joint endeavors.

Founded in 1853, DCMS membership includes 65 percent of local physicians. It is the second largest county medical society,

with 1,600 active members. The DCMS has an open door policy for physicians at the Naval Hospital. The DCMS and the Naval Hospital bond have flourished since World War II when the Duval County Medical Society - Naval Hospital Jacksonville Banquet was initiated. This annual dinner's purpose is to strengthen the organizations' relationship.

The two organizations' have a naturally strong bond due to the number of prior military and military reserves physicians in Jacksonville.

This is augmented by local physicians active in the education of the residents of the Naval Hospital Jacksonville Family Medicine Residency Program and Naval Hospital's medical staff members who participate with civilian physicians in area Advanced Trauma Life Support and Advanced Life Support in Obstetrics courses.

Local physicians contribute significantly in the care of the nearly 150,000 Navy beneficiaries in the Naval Hospital's catchment area. The Naval Hospital provides primary care and services for about 50 percent of these individuals. Of the remaining 50 percent, 25 percent do not receive regular care and 25 percent are cared for by civilian providers. Local cardiologists and gastroenterologists also provide care at the Naval Hospital through resource sharing agreements.

A collaborative plan for homeland security exists between the county and members of the Naval Hospital medical staff; participate as active members of the DCMS Disaster Preparedness team.

Touching Lives Every Day
Volunteers of America
1.800.899.4089

Hospital Pastoral Care offers Grief Reconciliation Group

Naval Hospital Jacksonville is offering a seven-session Grief Reconciliation Group for persons who have recently lost a loved one. The hour-long, once-a-week sessions will begin meeting Nov. 3 at

3 p.m. This group offers hope and help through seven steps toward healing. Topics include mourning, working through loneliness, pain, sadness, anger and guilt, along with group

support. It will be held in the Pastoral Care Department at the Hospital. There is no charge. To register or for more information call Chaplain Beede at 542-7531/2.



Juvenile diabetes strikes our kids at random.

Let's strike back.



dedicated to finding a cure

Call 1-800-533-CURE or visit www.jdrf.org

A CDC Participant Provided as a Public Service

Physical Therapy Clinic Invites Naval Hospital Beneficiaries To An Open House

Join us in celebrating National Physical Therapy Month (Oct. 20, 11 am - 1 pm) at the Physical and Occupational Therapy Department (located on the first floor of Naval Hospital Jacksonville, across from the Pharmacy)

Get your strength and balance checked and rechecked at the state-of-the-art! Plenty of learning opportunities, activities and life refreshers will be available.

A limited number of training modules will be done by appointment ONLY. Call the Physical at 542-7377 to schedule a training session. Call now, space is limited!

The Physical Therapy staff looks forward to sharing their profession with you!



Conseil International du Sport Militaire

Opening Ceremonies

More stories and photos on Pages 6-8



Photos by JO2(SCW) Eric Clay

Belgium Team Capt. Stany Deruyver talks with Belgium Escort LIC(SW/AW) Jerome Wilson of NAS Jax about the daily activities during the CISM Golf Tournament. Wilson was one of many who volunteered to help the athletes during five-day event.



Sailors from NAS Jacksonville lead the nine countries to the opening ceremonies for the CISM World Military Golf Championships on Oct. 13.

CISM Behind the scenes

By JO2(SCW) Eric Clay
Assistant Editor

The CISM Golf Tournament is a big event and with events this big it takes a lot of preparation, hard work and flexible volunteers to make every aspect appear to run smoothly.

The NAS Jacksonville volunteers had numerous jobs and responsibilities. Nine were escorts, some were flag bearers, honor guard, color guard and bus drivers. A variety of tasks were asked of the volunteers.

"The volunteers have done a marvelous job helping out," said NAS Jax Administrative Officer and Event Protocol Officer Lt. Cmdr. Manny Marguy.

"The volunteers worked from early morning to late into each night." Some of the volunteers were rewarded with rounds of golf and T-shirts, but most of the volunteers were self rewarded, knowing that they made a positive impact for the United States on the foreign teams that participated," added Marguy. "Even though we all came from different countries I think that we learned that we are all very similar."

NAS Jacksonville asked for volunteers who could speak languages other than English. Two volunteers stepped forward ATC(AW) Chris Vaughn and TMC(SW) Jose Santana Jr.

"Our job as escorts is to make sure the teams have everything that they need while they are here and that they don't run into problems with accommodations, food or on the golf course," said Vaughn.

Vaughn lived in Holland for three years as a part of an exchange program while assigned to VP-30. While in Holland he learned the language and many of the customs.

"I volunteered because I can speak Dutch and thought it would be nice for the Dutch team to have an escort that spoke their language. It really surprised them when I picked them up from the airport," added Vaughn.

Santana has learned more than five languages since he has been in the Navy and the CISM Golf Tournament gave him a chance to speak almost all of them.

"I've had to translate French for the Belgium's, Italian for the Italians and Spanish for the Argentineans," said Santana.

"It was an honor to be selected as a volunteer to support CISM players who came here from different countries," he added.



Joseph O'Brien updates the scoreboard during the first round of the CISM World Military Golf Championship Oct. 14.

Preparation of the golf course actually started six months before the event.

"We did a lot to prepare for this tournament, the esthetics of the golf course and paying attention to detail to make sure everything was ready for this event," said Golf Manager Tim Hooks.

The golf course maintenance crews worked well before sun up to prepare for each day of the tournament.

"We had to cut the grass every morning making sure there weren't any grass clippings on the field of play and we added extra fertilizer to keep the grass growing in dead spots," said Golf Course Maintenance Worker Mike Shields. "After the five inches of rain we had recently and having the Navy Ball Tournament, it took a lot of hard work to get the course back into shape for this week," explained Shields.

"We pretty much ran the golf course like a tour event - making sure the course was mowed and marked properly. We did our best to make sure this was a very professional and organized event," added Hooks.

After the tournament, the participants were given a cultural day which was spent at the World Golf Village in St. Augustine. It was a chance for the escorts and their teams to spend a little more time together. They toured the museum, watched an IMAX movie about flight and were given pointers by former PGA and Senior PGA Tour Player Calvin Peete.

"I had a very good time with the Pakistani Team but I wish I could have showed them a little more of what the United States has to offer," said BMC James White, who volunteered as an escort.

At the conclusion of the weekly event, not only were there winners on the greens but also winners behind the scenes with NAS Jax volunteers standing out once again.



The Chiefs of Missions from the nine countries participating in the CISM World Military Golf Championships and other dignitaries participate in the opening ceremonies.



Capt. Mark Boensel, NAS Jax commanding officer (center front), and Col. Michel Saint-Bonnet, CISM representative, and other dignitaries on the stage salute as the CISM National Anthem is played during the opening ceremonies.



Angela Baskette, of the American women's team, tees off during the sudden-death playoff on the final day of the competition. Baskette took home the silver medal.

NAS Jacksonville hosts first CISM World Military Golf Championship

By Kaylee LaRocque
Staff Writer

Fifty-five military members from nine different countries participated in the first Conseil International du Sport Militaire (CISM) World Military Golf Championship at NAS Jacksonville last week.

Players from the United States (U.S.), Argentina, Belgium, Canada, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Pakistan and South Africa came together to enjoy three days of tournament play and numerous other events.

The week was kicked off with the opening ceremonies Oct. 13 at the Bachelor Officer Quarters Pavilion. Team by team, the athletes paraded in, proudly carrying their country flags, as a group of dignitaries and a crowd of spectators looked on. Following the American National Anthem and CISM National Anthem, Capt. Mark Boensel, NAS Jacksonville commanding officer welcomed the dignitaries and athletes to the base.

After a few remarks regarding the games and the history of CISM, Col. Michel Saint-Bonnet, the official CISM representative, declared the "first CISM World Military Golf Championship officially open."

That afternoon, under cloudy skies, the athletes spent several hours practicing and learning the course.

The official tournament began on Tuesday morning at the NAS Jacksonville Golf Club. The athletes were broken into 19 groups of three each, with the women teeing off first. As team members introduced themselves to one another, they were informed of the rules and headed out to the course.

"It is really fantastic to be here. It's all about friendship through sports, which is the official CISM motto. I've met some wonderful people. Several of us competed in a lower level CISM tournament last year with only three countries, Canada, the U.S. and South



Starter Jeff Allen explains the rules of the game to the participants.

Africa so several of us have met before," stated Donna Dunbar of the Canadian Forces School for Communications and Electronics.

After several hours of play, one by one, the teams came in and the scores were tallied. The South African women's team of Karin Watts and Lizette Potgieter, placed first in Round 1 with a score of 159, followed by Marsha Dearman and Donna Dunbar of Canada at 162. The U.S. women's team with Angela Baskette of Naval Information Warfare Activity, Washington, D.C. and Amy Rongey of Robins Air Force Base, Ga. came in third at 166.

Individual scores put Karin Watts in first with a score of 75 on day one, Pasquale Van De Vyver of Belgium second with 77 and Marsha Dearman of Canada third with 79.

"This is a really great competition. It's a nice and challenging course. Everything is very well organized. It's nice to meet all the people here and the other players," exclaimed Watts.

In the men's competition, the United States team placed first with an overall score of 284. The team is comprised of Mark Johnson of Fort Sam Houston, San Antonio, Texas, Chad Saladin of Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, James Alger, Helicopter Training Squadron 8,

Pensacola, Jamie Slough, 3rd Marine Air Wing, Miramar, Calif., Terry Herring, Eglin Air Force Base, Fla. and Matt Peterson, Columbus Air Force Base, Miss.

Coming in second overall during the first round was the Canadian men's team at 298, followed by South Africa at 301.

In individual play, Saladin was the overall leader at 68. Chad Saladin had an amazing start with five birdies and one eagle during the first round. His teammate, Mark Johnson followed

See CISM,
Page 8



Matt Peterson (above), of the American team, putts the ball in on the third hole for par on the first day of the tournament.



Berend Van Der Kratts (right), of the Netherlands team, putts the ball for par during the first day of play.



Conseil International du Sport Militaire



Members of the United States Team practice on the driving range before teeing off.



Mark Johnson puts his ball into the hole for the win during the sudden death playoff between his teammate Chad Saladin.



Amy Rongey of the United States team tees off during the sudden death playoff.

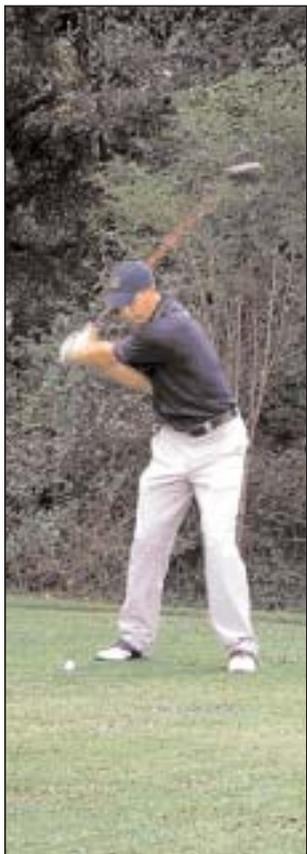
Photos by JO2(SCW) Eric Clay and Kaylee LaRocque



Amy Rongey of the United States team, chips the ball out of a sand trap during the sudden death playoff. Rongey defeated her teammate Angela Baskette and South African Karin Watts for the win.

CISM: NAS Jax hosts first world tourney

From Page 6



Chad Saladin, of the USA team, tees off at the beginning of the tournament. Saladin, attached to the 11th Infantry at Scofield Barracks, Hawaii hopes to become a professional golf player when he leaves the Army next month.

by one stroke and Tony Stuckless of Canada placed third at 72.

On day two, under sunny blue skies, the men's teams teed off first, allowing the women a little practice time on the driving range. After several hours of play, the teams made their way back to the clubhouse.

Once again, in the women's category, South Africa retained the lead with 335 overall. The United States team moved into second only two strokes behind, followed by Canada at 342.

Karin Watts again placed first individually with an overall score of 161 after the second round. Angela Baskette of the U.S. second at 166, followed by Pascale Van De Vyver at 169.

The U.S. men's team again came in first after the second round with an overall score of 569, followed by South Africa at 610 and Canada with 619.

Chad Saladin held his lead, making nine birdies for a total score of 66. His teammate, Mark Johnson held second place position with 71, followed by Jamie Slough at 73.

"This is really a great event. It's fun to see the different cultures and listen to the different languages, knowing we all have some of the same things in common - playing golf and we are all in the military. I played in another CISM event last year. This year's event is much bigger and there is a lot more competition," said Saladin, who has been playing since he was a young boy. Saladin plans to get out of the Army next month and hopefully become a tour professional.

The final day of the tournament proved to be quite exciting, with players giving it their all in the stroke by stroke battle for the gold. In the women's competition, the U.S. team earned their gold medals with an overall score of 504. Taking the silver was South Africa ending with an overall score of 513, followed by Canada at 535 for the bronze.

In the women's individual play, it was sudden death to the finish as Amy Rongey of the United States topped her teammate Angela Baskette and Karin Watts of South Africa for the gold.

"I really didn't know what to expect, this is

the first time I've participated in a CISM event. It was a lot of fun and I got to meet a lot of really nice people. I tied for first in the Armed Forces competition with Angie Baskette, she beat me on a sudden death playoff there, so it was nice to beat her today. I was 10 shots back after the second round so I didn't even fathom tying for first. I played well, but didn't think I played that well.

"I'd really like to thank my husband, Mark and dad, Dan Waters for supporting me and being here to cheer me on all week," said Rongey, happily.

The U.S. men's team once again showed their dominance to take home the gold with an overall score of 861. Taking the silver was Canada with a score of 919, followed by South Africa also at 919 who took home the bronze.

Another sudden-death playoff in the men's individual competition pitted U.S. team members Mark Johnson and Chad Saladin against one another. After several nerve-racking strokes, Johnson was declared the winner of the gold medal, with Saladin taking the silver and Stephanus Venter of South Africa earning the bronze.

"It's absolutely fantastic when you have nine countries playing against one another for friendship, camaraderie and just good fun. It's great. Winning really doesn't matter, what matters is that everyone is here and the fellowship we have built. I played pretty solid, made a few birdies, a few mistakes, that's the way golf is," stated Johnson, enthusiastically.

After three days of the "Friendship

Through Sport" (the official CISM motto) competition, an awards ceremony that evening officially brought the tournament to a close.

On Friday, the teams were treated to a special cultural day at the World Golf Village in St. Augustine, where they toured the World Golf Hall of Fame and participated in a golf clinic.

The CISM games began in 1948 with five participating nations. Over the years, many other nations have participated in a wide variety of sporting competitions, hosted by the different countries. In 1995, CISM organized the first Military World Games in Rome. Today, CISM members include 127 nations with thousands of competitors.

This is the first time golf has been included as a world competition.

"The delegations from the various nations are thrilled to be here in the U.S. and we've gotten nothing but great feedback from them, not only on the golf course, but off the golf course with the camaraderie and friendship between the nations," said Capt. Mark Boensel, NAS Jacksonville commanding officer. "CISM's prime goal is to promote friendship among nations. And, that really is the biggest emphasis of this tournament. Obviously we wanted to have a good competition, but there's as much emphasis on promoting the friendship and the interaction between the athletes as there is on the competition itself."

More photos on Page 8



Conseil International du Sport Militaire

World Golf Village visit



Former Pro PGA and Senior PGA Tour Player Calvin Peete teaches CISM participants how to effectively establish a hand grip at the World Golf Village.

Photos by JO2(SCW) Eric Clay and Kaylee LaRocque



While visiting the World Golf Village, BMC James White helps Pakistani CISM player Anar Mehood find his golf shoe size using a state-of-the-art computer system.



Raja Asif Mehdi of the Pakistani Golf Team tries putting with a wooden putter used in the early years of golf at the World Golf Village during a cultural day for CISM participants.

Awards Ceremony



Capt. Mark Boensel, NAS Jacksonville commanding officer, presents the gold medals to Amy Rongey and Angela Baskette of the United States team, which won first overall in the women's team competition.



Col. Michel Saint-Bonnet, official CISM representative presents the Canadian men's team with the silver medal.



Canadian Maj. Bob Daunais, president of the CISM technical committee presents Lt. Col. Mark Johnson of the United States team with the gold medal.

Brockett to retire after 22 years

From FASOTRAGRULANT Det Jax

A retirement ceremony will be held for SKCS(AW) Kenneth Brockett on Oct. 31, at 10 a.m. at the BOQ Pavilion with the reception immediately following at the Manatee and Saint John's Room at the River Cove Officer's Club.

Brockett entered the Navy on Nov. 16, 1981. Where he completed recruit training at RTC San Diego, Calif. in January 1982. Then he transferred to Meridian, Miss., completing Aviation Storekeeper "A" school in March 1982.

After completing training, he reported to his first command, VP-56 in April 1982. While with VP-56 he was promoted to petty officer second class with less than four years in the Navy.

In November 1985, he transferred to Naval Air Warfare Center Aircraft Division Patuxent River, Md. assigned to Rotary Wing Aircraft Test Directorate. He was responsible for providing direct support though aircraft manufacturers supporting 35 aircraft, including the initial testing of the V-22 Osprey tilt rotor aircraft and two presidential (VH-60) aircraft.

In November 1988, he reported to Fleet Training Center in Norfolk, Va. for "C" school. Upon completion, he transferred to USS Forrestal (CV-59) in January 1989 where he was promoted to petty officer first class. In June of 1992,

Brockett transferred to "Grandmasters" of HSL-46 at NS Mayport. He was assigned to Material Control Division as the leading petty officer supervising 14 personnel in support of 14 SH-60B aircraft and 10 detachments. While with HSL-46 he was promoted to chief petty officer.

His next tour of duty was with USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN-71) where he was assigned to S-6 Stock Control.

As COMNAVAIRLANT's flagship Aviation Support Division (ASD), he guided ASD to two consecutive Supply Blue "E" awards.

In December 1998, he transferred to Fleet Training Center, Norfolk, Va. to attend instructor training and advanced aviation storekeeper training schools.

On March 4, 1999, he reported to Fleet Aviation Specialized Operational Training Group, Atlantic Fleet, Detachment Jacksonville as the aviation maintenance administration and management training division leading chief petty officer.

In February 2000, he transferred to training admin as the training department leading chief petty officer managing five divisions and one detachment site. He was selected for senior chief petty officer in April of 2001. In February of 2002, he assisted NAS Jacksonville Supply Department in designing and formally establishing a new inventory control division.

FFSC offers educational and support programs

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

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

Pre-registration is required. If special accommodations or handicapped access is required, please

notify FFSC upon registration. For further information or to register, call 542-2766, Ext. 127.

The following workshops are available in October:

- Oct. 27, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. - Command Financial Specialist Training
- Oct. 28, 8 a.m. - Noon - Divorce Adjustment Workshop
- Oct. 28, 2-4 p.m. - Federal Employment (For Spouses)
- Oct. 30, 8-11 a.m. - Anger Control Workshop
- Oct. 30, 1:30-3 p.m. - Volunteer Service Council

KUDO KORNER

The following person was recognized during a ceremony at the Fleet Area Control and Surveillance Facility, Jacksonville Oct. 9:

Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal
ET3 Ryan Dunlap

Bringing awareness to domestic violence



Photo by Dianne Parker

Elbert Thompkins, child protective investigation supervisor for the City of Jacksonville Department of Children and Families, discusses domestic violence issues with participants during the seminar.

Dr. John Kelly, Commander, Navy Region Southeast Community Support Program manager, talks about the importance of preventing domestic violence and how it affects everyone during a Domestic Violence Seminar sponsored by the NAS Jax Fleet and Family Support Center last Wednesday.



Photo by Kaylee LaRoque

HELPING HANDS

HabiJax opportunities

HabiJax is always looking for volunteers for various construction projects. For more information, call Bonnie Golden at 798-4529, Ext. 253. The HabiJax Home Store also needs help coordinating donated materials and furniture. Call 722-0737.

Volunteers needed

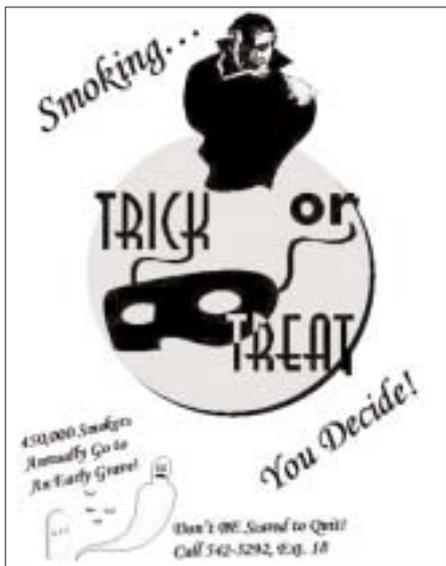
Volunteers are needed to help children in our local community by donating a few hours per month to supervise visits between children and the parents that they have been separated from due to divorce, negligence, or abuse. If you would like more information on helping, please call Anita Sullivan, volunteer coordinator at Family Nurturing Center of Florida, at 389-4244 or e-mail at anita@fnccflorida.org.

Spooktacular coming up

The Jacksonville Zoo is looking for volunteers to help out with their annual Spooktacular event Oct. 24-31. Call 757-4463, Ext. 176 for more information.

Volunteer opportunity for chefs and cooks

We are looking for 15-20 volunteers with cooking and catering skills to help prepare an elegant meal for the Holiday in The Hamptons Gala charity event sponsored by the Monique Burr Foundation for Children, Inc. on Dec.13. This is a great opportunity for Navy chefs and cooks to show off their skills. Contact Jimmie Mc Knight at 542-8191, Ext. 8195 for information and to sign up.



Three NAVAIR commands recognized

By Michael Berkin
NAVAIR

Late one night in Florida, an engineer, a logistician, a planner-estimator and a couple of depot artisans huddle together to devise the best way to repair a complicated engine component.

At Patuxent River Naval Air Station, surrounded by state-of-the-art aircraft and test equipment, a pilot and structural engineer mull over important test data that validates their research. Halfway round the world in the Persian Gulf, two sheet metal mechanics are miraculously resurrecting a broken F/A-18 Hornet.

What these seemingly disparate groups have in common is that they all belong to three separate Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR) commands each recently awarded the Navy's Meritorious Unit Commendation (MUC) for separate actions related to their performance in support of Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF). The Secretary of the Navy and the Chief of Naval Operations recognized Naval Air

Depot Jacksonville, Air Test and Evaluation Squadron 23 (VX-23), and the U.S. Naval Air Pacific

Repair Activity (NAPRA) for their key efforts to support and sustain our operational forces during this recent conflict.

Jacksonville is one of three NAVAIR industrial depots responsible for the depot-level repair of aircraft and components. From October 2001 to November 2002, its 4,500 civil servants, military and contractor personnel provided maintenance, engineering, logistics and support service to the Navy and Marine Corps operating forces in Operations Enduring Freedom, Southern Watch and Northern Watch. Commanded by Capt. Karl Yeakel at the time, the depot responded to a serious fleet-wide J-52 engine bare firewall problem. The team reduced the engine repair cycle by half and accelerated engine production by an average of more than two a month.

The same type of aggressiveness was applied to the TF-34, T-56, and CFM-56 engine production lines. To support emerging OEF requirements, the depot made history by exceeding com-

ponent production records, producing 46,796 engine components and 40

300-gallon common fuel drop tanks within a three-week period. According to Capt. Dave Beck, the depot's current commanding officer, "The Meritorious Unit Commendation is a high-level award, and for a shore command to receive it speaks volumes about the dedication of our work force to support the warfighter. I am very proud to be their commanding officer."

VX-23 is NAVAIR's Atlantic test and evaluation squadron for strike aircraft, located at Patuxent River, Md. and commanded by Capt. Stephen Rorke. Rusty Lowery, the squadron's technical director, stated, Strike is the Navy's largest test squadron. We've been doing a lot of important work for naval aviation for a long time and it's good to see the men and women, both military and civilian, of this squadron get recognized in this manner."

They were awarded the MUC for their excellence in aircraft research, development, test and evaluation during the period of

August 2000 to October 2002. The test squadron completed 465 highly critical test projects for the Joint Strike Fighter, X-31, EA-6B, T-45 and F/A-18E/F aircraft, while surpassing 42,000 mishap-free flight hours.

Their testing of the Joint Direct Attack Munition, Digital Flight Control System, Multifunctional Information Distribution System Low Volume Terminal, and the Joint Precision Approach Landing System all had direct impact for frontline operational forces during OEF. Additionally, their flight-testing of the F/A-18E/F ensured that the first operational Super Hornet squadrons deployed on time.

NAVAIR proved its global reach during OEF through the depot aircraft repair work provided to the operating forces by its forward-based commands. NAPRA, headquartered in Atsugi, Japan, with detachments in Okinawa, Korea, Singapore and Australia, coordinates depot-level maintenance for Navy and Marine Corps aircraft, support equipment and components of units in the Western Pacific, Indian Ocean and the Persian Gulf. In-service

repair is done concurrently with scheduled depot maintenance, NAPRA's primary responsibility.

From September 2001 to October 2002, they provided exceptional depot-level maintenance to eight Pacific-deployed carrier battle groups and four amphibious ready groups. Using permanently assigned field maintenance teams to every carrier deployed to the Fifth and Seventh Fleets, they successfully accomplished 145 extensive, depot-level aircraft repairs at sea on 18 ships, plus performing several high-visibility missions into Afghanistan and Pakistan to restore valuable aircraft to flight status.

Through reprioritization of ongoing scheduled maintenance, they were able to deliver 14 vital aircraft in only 10 days for the USS Kitty Hawk (CV-63)/Carrier Air Wing Five's October 2001 no-notice deployment.

These three recent Meritorious Unit Commendation awards by Navy leadership to NAVAIR commands only continue to validate what those at NAVAIR already know: NAVAIR supports the fleet!

New awards on tap for military spouses

By Bonnie Powell
DECA

Now a military spouse who exemplifies support to the community, volunteerism, selflessness or strength? A new military spouse award is now open for nominations and time is of the essence.

Nominations are due by Nov. 9 for four new awards honoring active duty, retiree, Guard or Reserve,

and veteran spouses. The active duty category includes Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine and Coast Guard spouses.

Nominations can be made online through a front page link at the Web site of the Defense Commissary Agency at <http://www.commissaries.com>, at <http://www.militaryshoppers.com>, or <http://www.avashow.com>. Nomination forms will also be available Nov. 1 on Procter & Gamble product

displays in commissaries, or the form can be downloaded now at <http://www.commissaries.com>. The nomination process includes a requirement for a 500-word essay addressing one or more of the award criteria.

It's no coincidence that nominations are due just in time for Veterans Day. The inaugural American Military Spouse awards are part of the ninth annual American Veteran Awards,

to be broadcast on The History Channel in February 2004 and also on American Forces Network at a later date. The spouse award recipients will attend the awards ceremony and taping in California, Nov. 20-23. The actual awards ceremony is Nov. 21.

The awards ceremony also includes "veteran" entertainers who support America's military personnel. Past ceremonies have

included such stars as Kris Kristofferson, Willie Nelson, Dennis Franz, Chuck Norris and Dan Rather as recipients and presenters.

The new military spouse awards are being sponsored through a Veterans Day commissary promotion.

"Procter & Gamble has tremendous respect for the men and women serving the U.S. Armed Forces," said Paula Parsons, marketing manager for P&G Military Markets.

"We recognize the enormous sacrifices they make during lengthy deployments. They have faced these tasks with courage, discipline, leadership and dignity. But we also recognize the hardships their

families endure during these difficult periods; they, too, deserve respect and admiration.

"For this reason, P&G Military Markets has chosen to join the American Veteran Awards by sponsoring the American Military Spouse Award, honoring those spouses who have demonstrated exceptional volunteer accomplishments; exuded ongoing strength during lengthy deployments, family separations and frequent moves; or fortitude in supporting other military families and their community," said Parsons.

For more information about the American Veteran Awards, go to <http://www.avashow.com>.

Base hosts reunion



Photo by JO2(SCW) Eric Clay

Members of VP/VPB 23 who served during World War II and their families recite the "Pledge to Allegiance" at the NAS Jacksonville All Saints Chapel during their reunion here last Thursday.

Transfer College Fair coming up

From the Navy
College Office

Florida Community College at Jacksonville (FCCJ) is sponsoring a Transfer College Fair Nov. 6 from 1-6 p.m. at the Nathan H. Wilson Center for the Arts FCCJ South Campus, 11901 Beach Blvd.

The fair will connect students with representatives from the following colleges and universities: Embry Riddle Aeronautical University, Florida Interna-

tional University, Florida Gulf Coast University, University of Central Florida, Nova Southeastern University, University of South Florida, Florida Atlantic University, University of West Florida, Florida State University, Florida A&M University, New College of Florida, Jacksonville University, University of Florida, University of Phoenix, University of Florida and Stetson University.

For more information, call 646-2300.

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For The Blind, Inc.

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I.T.T. has great deals for servicemembers

By JO2 Mike England
Staff Writer

There are great deals to be had at NAS Jacksonville's Infor-

mation, Tour, and Ticket office (I.T.T.) located next to the Navy exchange. The I.T.T. office sells discounted tickets to just about every kind of show, theme park,

and concert imaginable.

In addition to attraction tickets, I.T.T. also offers special packages on cruises, hotels, and tours such as Carnival cruise lines and

the Kennedy space center. I.T.T. sponsored trips such as the Savannah history and shopping trip, shop till you drop Orlando, and Okefenokee Swamp are available.

If you're looking to have fun within city limits check out I.T.T.'s discounts on local clubs, restaurants, and parks.

Sporting event tickets have always been a popular item at I.T.T. They sell tickets to Daytona International Speedway, and local sports teams such as the Jacksonville Jaguars, Jacksonville Suns, and Jacksonville Barracudas.

"Tours, fishing licenses, and sporting events are our most popular items," said I.T.T. Manager Dawn Smith. "It's unfortunate that many of the servicemembers here don't take advantage of the discounts we offer."

"A lot of people don't realize that many of the theme



I.T.T. Manager Dawn Smith helps another Sailor save money.



Joyce Capling, a customer service aide at the I.T.T. office, helps Camilo Benanidez and Eddie Molina plan their vacation.

Photos by JO2 Mike England

Navy extends deadline for LDO/CWO applicants

By JO2 David Van Scoy
Navy Region Southwest Public Affairs

The Navy's Limited Duty Officer (LDO) and Chief Warrant Officer (CWO) community manager Capt. Bob Fiegl announced that the deadline for enlisted Sailors and Chiefs to apply for the LDO or CWO commissioning programs for 2005 has been extended to Nov. 1 (NAVADMIN 263/03).

Fiegl, along with senior LDO/CWO detailers conducted informational briefings on board Naval Station San Diego, Naval Base Coronado and Naval Base Point Loma Sept. 22 to 24. Approximately 120 Sailors and chiefs attended the information briefings designed to inform prospective applicants about the LDO and CWO commissioning programs.

Senior LDOs and CWOs from around the Navy were in San Diego to attend a senior leadership conference hosted by Capt. Anthony Gonzales, commanding officer, Naval Submarine Base Point Loma, Calif. The conference focused on proposed policy changes, promotion and billet opportunities, education and Revolution in Training innovations, retirement issues and career counseling.

The LDO and CWO communities offer Sailors and Chiefs a commissioning program that enables a career path to captain in the LDO community and CWO-5 in the CWO community.

"There is an added opportunity now for qualified candidates to submit an application, get it through the chain of command and get it mailed to

Millington, Tenn., so it arrives at Pers-801G by Nov. 1," said Fiegl.

The Navy places high value on the experience and skills that its top enlisted members have to offer, said Fiegl.

"This is an ideal way for qualified senior enlisted people with such skills to take advantage of the upward mobility the Navy makes possible. If this is a career change that sounds appealing, it's hoped people will seriously consider it."

"There are many job opportunities for LDOs and CWOs in surface warfare, submarine warfare, naval aviation and in a number of general designators, which encompass things like oceanography, cryptology, intelligence, explosive ordnance disposal," said Fiegl.

Fiegl said the LDO program offers qualified, career-minded Sailors the chance to take on more responsibilities and allows for enlisted members to reach the grade of captain.

"The Navy is still, to my knowledge, the only branch of the military that offers an enlisted member the opportunity to get a direct commission, as a first class petty officer or chief, to ensign and then be able to go all the way up to wear eagles," Fiegl said. "Today, there are 38 (LDO) captains in the Navy."

Fiegl stressed that even though both LDOs and CWOs are former enlisted, there are differences between the two that should be considered before applying. He said CWOs are selected to do highly technical jobs and are considered to be true subject matter experts. They are frequently involved with more 'hands

on' duties in their technical field.

"Limited Duty Officers are looked at not only for their technical expertise but also their leadership and management expertise," said Fiegl.

Fiegl noted that the key to selection is sustained superior performance.

"If you are on a ship, you're expected to have all the qualifications you should have for your rate aboard that ship," said Fiegl. "Selection boards seem to look favorably on those with the very best performance, leadership experience, professional qualifications and job diversity."

Although it is encouraged, Fiegl said college education is not necessary for selection as an LDO or CWO. However, he said, there has been an increase of quality in the applicants due to a higher number of those with college education.

"That doesn't mean an applicant won't be selected because they don't have a college education," stressed Fiegl.

Capt. Carl Mock, commanding officer, Center for Naval Aviation Technical Training, said there are approximately 6,000 LDO or CWO officers Navy-wide; nearly 11 percent of the total officer corps.

"The LDO/CWO community is an opportunity to become an officer," said Mock, who, as the senior LDO in the Navy, uses himself as an example. "If it's for you, go for it. There is no limit to what we can do. I earned a degree that the Navy paid for. I'm a CO with a staff of about 2,600 people."

Sailors interested in the LDO/CWO commissioning programs should contact their command career counselor.



2003 Jacksonville Sea and Sky Spectacular events begin today

NS Mayport and the city of Jacksonville are co-hosting the fifth annual Jacksonville Sea & Sky Spectacular today through Sunday.

The city will have four days of events and excitement at Jacksonville Beach, highlighted by an over-the-ocean sky show featuring the famed U.S. Navy Flight Demonstration Squadron, The Blue Angels and a Marine Corps amphibious assault.

The air show is scheduled for Saturday and Sunday at Jacksonville Beach beginning at 9 a.m.

Some of the highlights of the amphibious assault include: a U.S. Marine Corps Air/Ground Task Force who will "storm the beach" during a combat power demonstration. The 30-minute program will include 140 Marines who will arrive by land and air. Explosive pyrotechnics will add to the realism of the assault. The demonstration will take place around noon.

Other events include a street festival in Jacksonville Beach Saturday and Sunday featuring arts and crafts, food, beverages, and more on First Street from First Avenue North to Sixth Avenue South. Parking will not be available on site, but park and ride shuttles will be located on County Road 210, at the corner of Atlantic Boulevard and San Pablo Road, and at the American Heritage and Life Building.

Visit the city of Jacksonville's Web site at www.coj.net for more information on the Sea and Sky Spectacular.

Be aware of fraudulent myPay Web sites

From DFAS

The two million military and civilian users of myPay are being cautioned to use only the official myPay site when seeking to access payaccount information.

Look-alike sites have recently frustrated myPay customers who have been confused by accidentally finding their way to a commercial site that is in no

way affiliated with DFAS or the Department of Defense.

DFAS myPay is a secure, DFAS-operated web site that lets active duty, National Guard and Reserve military members, civilian employees, and military retirees and annuitants take charge of their pay accounts online.

The official DFAS myPay Web site is found at <https://mypay.dfas.mil/>.



Home providers needed

The Child Development Center is looking for home providers. If you are an on-base resident, you will only need to be Navy-certified to become a Home Provider.

If you are an off-base resident, you will have to be state-certified as well as Navy-certified. This program is for dependent female and males. For more information about this program, contact Cathy Yarbrough or Ingrid Robinson at 542-5434 / 5529 / 2472.



Photo by Miriam S. Gallet

NAS Jax Commanding Officer Capt. Mark Boensel pins the Navy Civilian Meritorious Medal on to a very surprised Airfield Facilities Manager Bill Meyer during a ceremony last week. Meyer earned the award for preventing what could have been a potential accident between a vehicle and Air Force One during the President's recent visit here.

CIVILIAN MEDAL: Sharp eye averts disaster, earns medal

From Page 1

Air Force One to Air Ops once the aircraft had landed, noticed a "white dot moving into the active runway at the east-end." The closer he looked, the worse the scenario became. Meyer could not believe what he was seeing; there was an unauthorized Jacksonville Sheriff's Office vehicle in the path of Air Force One on the runway. With the knowledge and proficiency of a seasoned aviation professional, Meyer immediately radioed the tower and informed them that the "runway is fouled." Within seconds of his call, Air Force One appeared from behind the clouds and at that instance Meyer once again radioed the tower and said, "You have a vehicle on the runway, you may want to think about waving him off." There was silence at the other end, when Meyer repeated his observation, the tower controller immediately hit the button to wave-off Air Force One.

Meyer's keen observation and quick response turned a possible catastrophic incident into a non-event.

Upon receiving his award, Meyer, a 41-year aviation veteran said, "I am very shocked and honored that I got the medal. It was a well-kept secret. I'm thankful that the air traffic controller on duty that day trusted me and, upon receiving my radio communication immediately pushed the button to signal to the pilot of Air Force One that there was danger on the runway. I am equally pleased that Vice Adm. Natter per-

sonally contacted the young Sailor in the tower and congratulated him for his outstanding performance."

According to Meyer, examination of the day's event by Navy officials, White House analysts, and the Secret Service revealed that poor communication between the Secret Service agents aboard Air Force One and the Lead Secret Service driver on the ground led to the events that occurred that morning.

"One thing we all learned from this incident is that no one is infallible. No matter who you are, you better know what is going on the airfield and around you at all times," said Meyer.

"Pay attention and have a quick mind to instantly evaluate a situation. I could not pause and dwell on the situation. I had hundreds of people depending on me and by this time, Air Force One was 350 feet from the ground, time was running out. I did what I thought was the right thing to do."

This is the second NCMSM for Meyer. He received his first award in 1990 for sustained superior performance from 1987 to 1990.

CNN, Fox and other international media outlets immediately aired the "wave-off" incident, calling it a "precautionary measure."

"I got phone calls from all over the world," said Meyer. "My friends wanted to know what had happened. I simply told them that Air Force One had landed safely at NAS Jax."

National call to service program announced

From Chief of Naval Personnel Public Affairs

Oct. 1, the Navy began offering a new short-term enlistment program aimed at expanding the opportunities for all Americans to serve in the United States Navy. Known as the National Call to Service (NCS), the program provides the Navy and the other military services a new way to reach a group of young Americans who otherwise might not serve in the military.

The program works like this: A recruit enlists under NCS and incurs a 15-month active-duty service obligation following completion of initial-entry training. The 15-month obligation begins after a Sailor has completed his or her respective Navy School.

Following successful completion of active duty obligation, Sailors may re-enlist for additional active duty or transfer to the selected reserve for a 24-month obligation.

Upon completion of service obligation, Sailors may remain in the selected reserve or transfer to the individual ready reserve for the remainder of an eight-year national commitment.

While in the individual ready reserve, these young people will be given the opportunity to move into one of the other national service programs, such as AmeriCorps or the Peace

Corps, and time in those will count toward their eight-year total obligation.

There are four incentives available under the NCS Program. The first is a \$5,000 bonus payable upon completion of active duty service.

The second is a loan-repayment option also paid at the end of the active-duty portion. The legislation allows for repayment of up to \$18,000 of qualifying student loans.

The final two incentives

are tied to, but not part of, the Montgomery G.I. Bill. One gives 12 months of a full Montgomery G.I. Bill stipend — currently about \$900 a month.

The other incentive offers 36 monthly payments at one-half of the current Montgomery G.I. Bill stipend.

Traditional enlistment terms are three, four, five and six years in comparison to the nominal 15 months of service for the NCS Program.

Saving the Navy money



Photo by JO2(SCW) Eric Clay

Members of the NAS Jacksonville 1st Lieutenant Division poured more than 40 yards of concrete last Thursday creating a sidewalk in front of the NAS Jax post office as a continuing effort using the self help program to save the Navy money.

Got a consumer problem?

The following are phone numbers of contacts who can help with consumer problems: Family Service Center - 542-2766 Better Business Bureau - 721-2288 State Attorney's Office Consumer Mediation - 630-2075

City of Jacksonville/ Consumer Affairs Division - 630-3467 Florida Department of Business & Professional Regulation - 1-850-487-1395 Construction Industry investigative services - 727-5590

MWR NOTES

Closures at gym

The gym's half court will be closed from 6 p.m. tonight to noon on Oct. 27.
The steam room in the men's locker room at the base gym is closed for extensive repair work. A completion date has not yet been identified.

Mulligan's happenings

Mulligan's will have a karaoke sing-off tomorrow. Judges will be on hand to vote on vocal ability, stage presence, and audience applause. There will be lots of prizes and give-aways. Sign-ups will be from 5-7 p.m. tomorrow only.
Mulligan's is hosting its annual Halloween Party Oct. 31 from 5-11 p.m. Enjoy complimentary food and drink specials. There will be a costume contest, games, prizes and a lot more. For more details call 542-2936.

Golf Course tournament

The golf course staff is hosting their annual Nite Lite Golf Tournament on Oct. 29 from 6:30-9 p.m. The entry fee is \$30 per person and includes: nine holes of golf, nite lite material, and appetizers following play. There will be a prize purse and prize for the best costume. For more information, call 542-3249.

New programs at Fitness Source

Pregnancy Yoga is held every Tuesday from 11-11:50 a.m. The session lasts six weeks.
Walk to Run is a nine-week program and meets every Tuesday and Thursday from 11:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. The program is designed for beginner and novice runners. Participants must sign up to participate in this program. For more information, call 542-3518.

Bingo Palace

Get your favorite daubers, come and pick your lucky seat and let the games begin. The night Bingo schedule is Sunday, Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. Cards go on sale at 5:30 p.m. and warm-ups start at 6:30 p.m. Doors open for lunchtime Bingo at 10 a.m. and games start at 11:30 a.m.

Swimming activities

The indoor pool is available for family recreation and lap swimming Monday through Friday evenings from 4:30-8 p.m. and Saturdays and Sundays from noon-4 p.m.
Parents can work out with the Aqua Aerobics class from 5-6 p.m. on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday while the kids play.
The Adult Fitness Swim Club is a coached

program for novice to advanced swimmers wishing to improve their PRT time, swimming skills, and technique. The emphasis is on stroke mechanics. Interval training is introduced. Workouts are designed to improve technique and to develop both speed and endurance. Workouts are scheduled on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4:30-5:30 p.m. at the indoor pool. The sessions are free for active duty and reservist personnel. Retired military, DoD and dependents will be charged \$20 for eight workout sessions.

Veterinary Treatment Facility to hold clinic

A Saturday clinic will be held Nov. 15 from 8 a.m. - noon. This is a walk-in vaccination clinic, no appointment is necessary.
The NAS Jax VTF is located in Building 8 at the corner of Ranger Street and Enterprise Avenue. The clinic is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. It is closed on legal holidays. Pets are seen by appointment only.
For more information and to make appointments, call 542-3786.

Escape on an I.T.T. trip

Have some fun with I.T.T. - take a trip or treat yourself to a show! Stop by our office located adjacent to the NEX, and sign up for a great trip. Our trips are open to all hands, so bring a friend! For more information call the office at 542-3318.
Jaguars tickets for all games are now on sale at I.T.T. Tickets are \$47.90 for lower level seats. You can also sign up to ride the I.T.T. shuttle to all the home games. If you sign up for all the games the price is \$6 per game. A ride to a single game is \$8.

The following are upcoming I.T.T. trips:
Nov. 1 - Mule Day: Head to Calvary, Ga. for Mule Day. The cost is only \$17.50.
Nov. 12-16 - Touring the Coast. This is a fantastic five-day adventure to Biloxi, Miss., New Orleans, La. and Pensacola, Fla. Included in this trip is transportation, tour escort, four-night in hotels, all breakfasts, two dinners, a night on the town in New Orleans, a guided city tour, and museum entrance. Space is limited. The cost is \$337 per person, based on double occupancy.
Nov. 29 - Orlando Shopping. Don't miss the after the Thanksgiving sales at the Millenia Mall and Premium outlet malls in Orlando for only \$15.

The new Entertainment books are in for \$20. Get yours now and use your coupons for over

one year.

Don't miss Universal's Halloween Horror Nights, for the biggest and scariest Halloween party. Get your ticket for non-peak nights for \$30.50.

Mulberry Cove Marina news

The Mulberry Cove Marina has many specials just in time for the upcoming holidays!
Abu Garcia Ambassador Torno bait casting reel, \$107.
Abu Garcia Eon 3600 bait casting reel, \$82.
Abu Garcia Eon 5600 bait casting reel, \$82.
Berkley Power Bait, buy one get one free.
The marina has added new rental items to its outdoor recreation gear including:
Turkey fryers and seafood cookers, 2004 Eureka four and six-man tents, headlamps, Escape Jazz paddleboats and Hobie pedal driven kayaks.
The marina offers free kayak and canoe rentals for active duty Sailors on Thursdays. It's a great way to get acquainted with some of the equipment on hand and have some fun too. For more information on marina events, call 542-3260.

Auto Skills Center

Visit the Auto Skills Center for your professional or hobby car care needs. The center offers an array of services for the novice or professional auto enthusiast. There is an ASE qualified mechanic on hand to assist with questions and tips on servicing your vehicle. The center is open Monday, Thursday and Friday from noon to 8 p.m., Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and all holidays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. except Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day.
The Auto Skills Center offers a shop orientation class on the third Thursday and Friday of each month. Reservations are required for the orientation. Call 542-3227 for information.

O'Club happenings

An all hands Reef & Beef Buffet Dinner will be held the first Friday of each month from 6:30-9 p.m. at the O'Club. The buffet is only \$17 per person. Reservations are encouraged by calling 542-3041.

Recycling Center reminder

The Recycling Center welcomes everyone to drop off recyclables at the designated drop off area along Birmingham Avenue. The most common drop off items are corrugated cardboard,

plastic (i.e., milk jugs, water bottles, plastic soda bottles, etc.), aluminum cans, and glass bottles. As a reminder though, the recycling center does not accept motor oil, anti-freeze or other automotive fluids. If you have any of these fluids, they are accepted at the MWR Auto Skills Center during normal hours of operation.

Haunted Woods Challenge

Commands, squadrons and departments are encouraged to be a part of this year's Halloween program and are eligible to win money for their MWR funds. Your ideas can enhance this program. For more information call 778-9772

Youth Activities happenings

Take advantage of the fun events at the Youth Activities Center. Tae Kwon Do classes are available at NAS Jax Youth Gym and Yellow Water Youth Activities.

If you are interested in registering your child stop by either center or give us a call at 778-9772 (NAS Jax) or 777-8247 (Yellow Water).

Liberty events

Join us each Wednesday for a karaoke and dance party. The fun starts at 7 p.m. at the Budweiser Brew house with DJ Marc "E" Marc.

Free movies offered

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

Tomorrow, 7 p.m. - Lara Croft Tomb Raider: The Cradle of Life (PG13)

Saturday, 5 p.m. - Rugrats Go Wild (PG)

Saturday, 7 p.m. - Legally Blonde 2 (PG13)

Oct. 31, 7 p.m. - Halloween 2 (R)

Nov. 1, 7 p.m. - Bruce Almighty (PG13)

Visit MWR online at www.nasjax.navy.mil and look for the tab marked MWR this is your tab to unlimited fun. For questions or comments e-mail us at mwrmtkg@nasjax.navy.mil.

Free football tickets offered to families of deployed Sailors

By **CMDCM Mike VanMiddlesworth**
HS Wing Command Master Chief

The "Sailors Aweigh" program gives free tickets for upcoming Jaguars games to the families of deployed Sailors and deployable Sailors with priority given to deployed Sailors' families first and it includes transportation, and a free T-shirt.

Your children can go with or without you, as chaperones will be provided, or you can go with them and be a chaperone if you like.

Each chaperone will keep an eye on three to five children, so there will be plenty of supervision.

"Sailor Aweigh" participants will be picked up by a Navy bus at the NAS Jax Commissary parking lot. The bus will depart the parking lot two hours before game time. Once at Alltel Stadium, participants will be expedited to their seating area.

The "Sailors Aweigh" T-shirts are provided and must be worn throughout the game by all. After the game, the bus will take them back to the base for pickup.

Prior to departure to the game, each "Sailor Aweigh" participant recites a pledge to "abstain from using drugs,

alcohol, or tobacco". The seats are part of the honor rows and are in a great environment for the "Sailors Aweigh" participants.

Deployed Sailors' families will have priority, but if your Sailor is on sea duty, you may be put on a waiting list that will be eligible to fill the balance of the seats that are not filled by the "on deployment" Sailors' families by Wednesday of the week before the game day. Your status will be confirmed prior to being placed on the actual "going to game" list.

The ages are from 6-17, if you want all of your squadron families to go on a particular day, we may be able to arrange it depending on availability and lead-time. But hurry, because it's first come first served, and we only have 40 tickets available per game.

The schedule of "Sailors Aweigh" games:

- Sunday - Tennessee
- Nov. 9 - Indianapolis
- Dec. 7 - Houston
- Dec. 21 - New Orleans

You can apply for any of the games listed, by email to me at vanmiddlesworthmh@chswl.navy.mil, or by phone at 542-5273.



NAS Jax hosting JA Job Shadow Day

On Nov. 13, commands/departments will have an opportunity to participate in NAS Jacksonville Junior Achievement (JA) Navy Job Shadow Day.

Job Shadow Day gives kids a chance to explore various careers beyond what their parents may do for a living. Job shadowing also provides an opportunity for students in at-risk situations to be exposed to various career options they otherwise might not have the chance to explore.

Students will be bused from their schools

by JA to NAS Jax on Navy Job Shadow Day for pick up by commands. Once at commands, they will "shadow" assigned mentors through a half-day on the job. At noon both mentors and students will attend a pizza party in their honor sponsored on base by JA.

Commands/departments are being asked to sponsor at least one student. Mentors are needed at all levels and in as many job areas as possible. Contact Dianne Parker at 542-2766, Ext. 130, to volunteer.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

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

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

The Navy Jacksonville Yacht Club general membership meetings are held at 7:30 p.m. on the first Wednesday of every month at the clubhouse (Building 1956) adjacent to the Mulberry Cove Marina. The Navy Jax Yacht Club is a members only club open to all active duty, reserve and retired military, and active DoD personnel.

For more information, call 778-0805 or email commodore@njyc.org.

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

Christian Fellowship Night is held behind the Chapel in Building 749 from 6:30 - 9 p.m. every Tuesday night. For more information, call 542-3051.

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

The Westside Jacksonville Chapter 1984, National Association of Retired Federal Employees extends an open invitation to all currently

employed and retired federal employees to our regular meeting held at 1 p.m. on the fourth Thursday of each month at the Murray Hill United Methodist Church, (Fellowship Hall Building) at 4101 College Street. For more information, call R. Carroll at 786-7083.

The National Naval Officers Association (NNOA) holds its monthly meeting on the third Thursday each month at 5:30 p.m. at the Jacksonville Urban League, 903 West Union Street. Interested personnel are encouraged to attend or contact Lt. Herlena Washington at 696-5005 or email WashingtonHO@matcobic.usmc.mil.

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

VP-8 is holding a reunion Nov. 5-9 in Pensacola, Fla. For more information, call 733-5489 or email bberry2@att.net.

The Cecil Pines Adult Living Community is holding an antique car show and open house Nov. 8 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Admission is free. For more information, call Barbara at 771-8839.

Timothy Tyler 2c; 3"

ZJX Computer; 2c; 3"

Adams Homes 2c; 5"

SPORTS & STANDINGS

Wrestling screenings

Screenings for the All-Navy Wrestling Team will be held tomorrow from 6-8 p.m. at the base gym. Call 542-2930/3239 for more information.

Navy Southeast Regional Running and Triathlon Team

Represent the United States Navy in 5K, 10K, marathons, and/or triathlons. The Navy will showcase elite active duty men and women in regional races. Uniforms are provided as well as transportation, entry fees, and lodging costs. Interested runners must compete in sanctioned (USA Track and Field, USA Triathlon Association, or Roadrunners Clubs of America) races and your

time must be one of top 10 regional qualifying times. If you have run in sanctioned race and your time meets regional qualifying time, contact your base athletic director.

Southeast Regional qualifying times:

5K -	Men 19:00	
	Women 24:00	
10K -	Men 34:00	
	Women 46:00	
Marathon -	Men 3 Hrs. 30 Min.	
	Women 4 Hrs.	
Triathlon -	Men 2 Hrs. 30 Min.	
	Women 3 Hrs.	
Triathlon time based on 1.5k swim, 10k run, 40k bike		

For more information about any of the sports articles, call 542-2930/3239.

Open Softball Standings

Team	As of Oct. 16	
	Wins	Losses
Beanie Boys	8	2
F.O.B.'S	7	3
NAMTRAU	7	3
VP-16	5	4
Jax Chiefs	1	8
Onsite Aviation	1	9

HITRON 10	4	6
VP-16 White	3	6
VP-62	2	4
SERCC	2	5
AIMD SE	2	7
TPU	1	9
VS-22	0	9

7-on-7 Flag Football Standings

Intramural Softball Standings

Team	As of Oct. 16	
	Wins	Losses
VP-30	8	0
VP-16 Red	7	1
VS-30	7	1
VP-5	8	2
NAMTRAU	6	1
Air Ops	5	3
VS-24	2	3

Team	As of Oct. 16	
	Wins	Losses
VR-58	7	1
Security & Weps	5	1
AIMD	6	2
VP-16	3	5
VS-30	3	5
VS-24	1	4
Dental	1	8



Photo by Phil Collins

HM3 Michelle Goodman was the second Daily Drawing winner on Oct. 17 at Liberty Cove. Mulberry Cove Marina gave away a \$105 Mitchell Alu 298 spinning reel and added more entries for their grand prize drawing for one-year free rental of the brand new Bass Tracker boat. The grand prize drawing will be Nov. 5.

Marina offering free boat rental for a year

From the Mulberry Cove Marina

Win a free bass boat rental for one year! Win daily fishing tackle and outdoor recreation gear giveaways! For the month of October, Mulberry Cove Marina will visit various locations on NAS Jacksonville to thank everyone for their support this year.

On display will be the brand new Tracker Pro Team 175 bass boat generously donated by the NAS Jacksonville Commissary, Southeast Atlantic Beverages, and Cadbury Beverages/7Up.

Mulberry Cove Marina will hold daily drawings for valuable prizes ranging from fishing tackle to outdoor recreation gear. The marina will also take entries for the grand prize, one-year worth of free rental of the Tracker bass boat, a \$2,340 value!

Anyone who works on NAS Jacksonville can enter the daily drawings to win fishing tackle and outdoor recreation gear. Only active duty military are eligible for the grand prize drawing.

Mulberry Cove Marina will be at the following locations to award prizes and show off the new Tracker Pro Team 175 boat:

- Oct. 29, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. - NAS Jax Galley, Saratoga Road
 - Oct. 31, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. - I.T.T., Commissary Parking Lot
 - Nov. 5, 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. - Mulberry Cove Marina, Ranger Road
- The grand prize drawing will be held Nov. 5 at 12:30 p.m. at the marina. Please contact Mulberry Cove Marina, for more information at 542-3260.

JAX TALES BY MIKE JONES WWW.RICKYSTOUR.COM



In Gear

A weekly look at the automotive market

Deceiving looks

Unique Aztek provides comfort, convenient features

By Dan Scanlan
Special

Some have called the Pontiac Aztek the 21st century's equivalent of the 1950s' Edsel and 1970s' Gremlin – hit with an ugly stick and eligible for the weird car hall of fame.

But although the chunky, angular SUV-wanna-be from Pontiac hasn't been a best-seller despite some immediate design changes a year after it premiered, there are some fans out there. And judging from the number of Web sites that have arisen like the Aztek Fan Club, LAAzteks and Planetaztek, (let's ignore the killtheaztek chat line), they really like their vehicle.

Brian Walters, director of product research at J.D. Power and Associates, says that's because it's different, in a nice way, sort of.

"We find that one of the things owners of the Aztek like is that it is unique," Walters said. "They like the comfort and convenience features and the sound system, and they do like the way it drives. But by and large, its styling, even to people who buy it, isn't appealing. They don't like the front or back end or the side profile."

Despite the devotion the Aztek has received from its owners, there aren't a lot of them, despite changes made by Pontiac in the styling after first-year reviews despised the slabs of gray cladding on the vehicle's flanks, and gray bumpers. Pontiac Aztek product manager Curt Collins said they are averaging about 30,000 units a year, down from original projections but "holding its own." And like its look or not, the owners love them, he said. "Once they get in the vehicle, they fall in love with the utility, ride, spaciousness and flexibility – that really sells them. A large portion of them love the exterior, and say that it tells the others that 'I am unique and so what,'" Collins said.

So what is an Aztek? Introduced in 2001 on the Pontiac Montana minivan platform also shared with the Buick Rendezvous SUV, the Aztek was the company's first crossover sport-utility vehicle, offering family room and utility with some all-weather ability if you got it with all-wheel-drive. The result was a boxy, angular conglomeration of vents, intakes, lines and angles connected with ribbed gray plastic siding on the slab sides to plastic bumpers.

In the real world, Pontiac only sold 11,700 of them in the first six months, far below an annual sales target of 60,000. So in an unprecedented move, the company ditched the ribbed gray cladding that covered the nose, fender flares, doors and tail in 2002. Now comes the new Rally edition, which came to us in a Fusion Orange paint job that included body-colored honeycomb grille and chromed five-spoke alloy wheels wearing Goodyear P225/60R17-inch radials.

Uh, wow. It still has an angular shape that starts with slash air intakes over the traditional twin-kidney Pontiac grille, flanked by double-decker headlight/turn signals that wrap into the flared fenders. The lower bumper, as well as the rocker panel accent, are now charcoal gray. In place of the gray fender flares and ribbed side cladding, the flares and lower-side cladding are smooth with a slightly less glossy (and not unattractive) sheen. The strangely angled double rear window, with a fastback hatch and a vertical rear window, are still there. The step bumper is also there, done in charcoal gray, with a two-way tailgate.

The result is what I called "ugly but cute" during my regular Friday night "Fast Car Friday" segments on First Coast News, but which one co-worker



Even though the 2003 Pontiac Aztek Rally Edition still looks weird, owners love what the Aztek offers.

Dan Scanlan/Special

BEHIND THE



Pontiac's organic style shows up vividly in Aztek's interior with its rounded shape. The center console doubles as a removable cooler.

2003 PONTIAC AZTEK RALLY EDITION Specifications:

Vehicle type	.....	4-door, front-wheel-drive sport-recreation vehicle
Base price	.....	\$20,870 (As driven – \$28,095)
Engine type	.....	OHV V-6
Displacement	.....	3.4-liter
Horsepower (net)	.....	185 hp at 5,200 rpm
Torque (lb-ft)	.....	210 at 4,000 rpm
Transmission	.....	4-speed automatic
Wheelbase	.....	108.3 in.
Overall length	.....	182.1 in.
Overall width	.....	73.7 in.
Height	.....	66.7 in.
Ground clearance	.....	6.7 in.
Front headroom	.....	39.7 in.
Front legroom	.....	40.5 in.
Rear headroom	.....	39.1 in.
Rear legroom	.....	38 in.
Cargo capacity	.....	45.4 cubic feet/93.5 w/rear seats removed
Towing capacity	.....	up to 3,500 lbs. with towing package
Curb weight	.....	4,043 pounds
Fuel capacity	.....	18.5 gallons
Mileage rating	.....	19 mpg city/26 mpg highway
Last word	.....	Gotta love the 'tek – ugly but useful

said looked like "an incongruous blend of ugly" and a friend called "funny-looking." And in the iridescent orange color and chromed alloys, many people seemed to be squinting at it as it went by. Still, while another co-worker asked me to "unplug the paint job," another said they didn't like the color but "liked the car."

OK, like Walters said, even some of its owners don't like the outside. But we always have admired what the Aztek can do inside.

First of all, it's roomy, with seating space for four full adults and their stuff. The dash is a slightly dated organic Pontiac design of rounded and curved shapes under a padded gray over gray dash top that shows its minivan roots by stretching to infinity. The windshield base, where a heads-up display projects the speed, turn signals and stereo information at its base, are controlled by a panel on the dash.

The padded leather steering wheel has remote stereo controls, and frames the 120-mph speedometer, 7,000-rpm tachometer, fuel-level gauge, and coolant-temperature gauges trimmed in buff silver with an LCD driver info center with compass, outside temperature, average speed, oil life, tire pressure and other information, framed by

a textured charcoal gray fascia. Four huge multidirectional eye-ball air vents dot the top of the dash, while a lighter gray-framed box in the dash center holds a great-sounding AM-FM-CD stereo with optional XM Satellite Radio over a big-knobbed a/c system.

The Rally Edition's black over gray leather-covered power height-adjustable front captain's chairs overlook a short hood with good visibility. With manual back and lumbar adjustment, they were comfortable and supportive. Seat-heater controls, traction control and a 12-volt outlet sit at the dash bottom. The center console is innovative – a removable insulated cooler with rubber-coated indented top to hold stuff securely while on the run.

Rear-seat room is very livable for two adults, with room in the middle for a third on short trips. The rear seats split and fold to expand cargo space or pop out entirely to you 93.5 cubic feet of space – wide enough for a two-by-four. Cargo anchors also help hold nets or bungee cords to hold cargo.

The rear hatch splits the top part going up and a tailgate like some old station wagons slowly dropping on hydraulic cylinders. Bolted to the low cargo floor is a sliding tray that allows you to easily load luggage on the tailgate, and slide it back in. That

tray also holds a pop-up organizer with elastic nets for grocery bags, plus hidden storage.

The lower tailgate has some slippery molded-in seats and remote stereo controls with a 12-volt outlet. But the open liftgate takes a bit of a tug to pull down and shut. Plus the spoiler is a thick obstruction to rearward vision, and the near-horizontal upper rear glass portion gets dirty.

On the road, the Aztek is a comfortable place for a family. Sharing its 3.4-liter, 185-horsepower OHV V-6 with the Pontiac Montana minivan, our very new 700-mile-old Aztek got to 60 mph in 10 seconds with smooth shifts and a slight engine snarl, traction control taking a while to activate in the wet in our front-wheel-drive version.

We had some lean in turns, but it felt OK. It still felt somewhat softly suspended, riding a bit like a minivan with some bounciness over bumps. The power-steering system was more precise than in past versions. The standard front disc/rear drum brake system stopped the vehicle with some wiggle as the ABS battled lock-up, and we had some nose dive.

The Aztek's base price is \$20,870, with standard V-6, 16-inch steel wheels, tinted rear windows, AM-FM-CD stereo, cloth seats and tilt wheel. Our test car had the \$3,225 comfort

and convenience option package with power driver's seat, cruise control, console cooler, traction control, custom interior, sliding rear cargo tray. The \$1,395 luxury option package adds heated leather seats and power passenger seat; \$695 adds an AM-FM-six-disc CD changer with 10 speakers; \$650 adds the Fusion Orange paint and chromed alloy wheels, body-color grille and chrome exhaust tip; \$325 for the XM satellite radio and \$240 for the sunroof. Manufacturer's suggested retail price – \$28,095.

Bottom line – they still look weird, but like some dog breeds we know, their owners seem to love them for what it offers a family, including a tent that attaches to the back hatch.

Pontiac's Collins said the Aztek will survive for at least another two years, and they are working on a future version.

All I can say is that if the Aztek survives, Pontiac should make it look like their slick compact Vibe SUV crossover, and leave the funky body shapes to Citroen.

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