

JAX AIR NEWS

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January 25, 2001

Bush calls on citizens to build nation of character

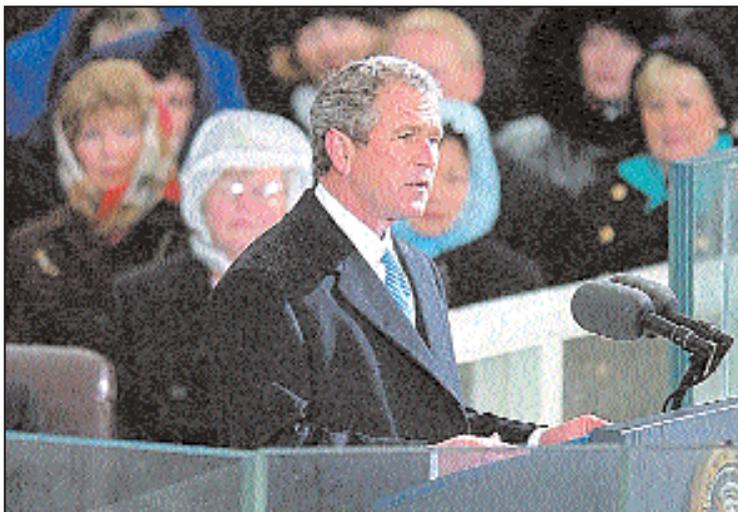


Photo by TSgt. Lou Briscese, USAF

President George W. Bush delivers his Inaugural Address following his swearing-in ceremony in Washington, D.C., Jan. 20.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20, 2001 — George W. Bush assumed office as the 43rd President of the United States saying that what Americans do “is as important as anything government does.”

Bush stressed citizenship in his Inaugural speech. “I ask you to be citizens,” he said. “Citizens, not spectators; citizens, not subjects; responsible citizens — building communities of service and a nation of character.”

Before Chief Justice William Rehnquist swore in Bush at noon, he also swore in former Defense Secretary Dick Cheney as Vice President. The ceremony took place under cold, drizzly skies. More than 5,000 U.S. service members took part in the Inaugural festivities.

Bush said in his speech that he would build U.S. defenses “beyond challenge, lest weakness invite challenge.”

He said the United States would confront weapons of mass destruction. “The enemies of liberty and our country

should make no mistake: America remains engaged in the world by history and by choice, shaping a balance of power that favors freedom,” he said. “We will defend our allies and our interests. We will show purpose without arrogance. We will meet aggression and bad faith with resolve and strength. And to all nations, we will speak for the values that gave our nation birth.”

Bush said that he would work to unify the country. “While many of our citizens prosper, others doubt the promise, even the justice, of our own country,” he said. “The ambitions of some Americans are limited by failing schools and hidden prejudice and the circumstances of their birth. And sometimes our differences run so deep, it seems we share a continent, but not a country.

“We do not accept this, and we will not allow it. Our unity, our union, is the

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U.S. Navy-Marine Corps Court of Criminal Appeals hears argument at NAS Jax on Thomas murder case

By Loren Barnes

Editor

NAS Jacksonville’s Bachelor Officer’s Quarters Conference Room took on the solemn function of a courtroom last Friday morning as the Navy-Marine Corps Court of Criminal Appeals (NMCCA) heard appellate argument in the case of United States v. AW1 Frederick Thomas.

The Thomas case was a general courts-martial originally tried at NAS Jacksonville in the Spring of 1998. Thomas was originally charged with premeditated murder and faced capital punishment. He pled guilty, in exchange for non-capital referral, to attempted murder, premeditated murder, two specifications of assault consummated by battery, and kidnapping. He was sentenced to life imprisonment on March 19, 1998.

NMCCA conducts automatic review of all courts-martial of Navy and Marine Corps members where the punishment



Appellate Government Counsel Lt. Cmdr. Michael J. Wentworth, (right) representing AW1 Frederick Thomas presents argument before Appellate Military Judges Col. Charles Wm. Dorman; Col. David A. Anderson and Cmdr. Clark A. Price at an Appeals Hearing of Thomas’s murder conviction.

includes death, dismissal for officers, a punitive discharge for enlisted members, or confinement for a year or more. The NMCCA can determine that the facts

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VP-30 awarded Meritous Unit Commendation
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Meet a Sailor... YN2 Deion Gipson



Job title/ command: Administration LPO VP-16 AIMD, NAS Jacksonville

Hometown: Chicago, Ill.

Past Duty Stations: Diego Garcia, HSL-4, USS Saratoga, USS Bytte

Hobbies: Rollerblading and going to the movies.

Family Life: Wife, Karen Nicole Butler-Gipson; son, Deion Jr.; 4 and daughter, Kiersten Alexandria, 2.

Career plans: To make YN1 and receive my wings.

Most interesting experience: "Witnessing the birth of my children."

Words of Wisdom: "Pray daily."

Meet a Civilian... Louise Dunlap



Job title: Supply clerk , Fleet and Industrial Supply Center Customer Service

Hometown: Jacksonville, Fla.

Past duty stations: Naval Supply Center, San Diego, Calif. Naval Air Station, Cecil Field, Fla.

Hobbies: Movies, nature-mostly birds

Family Life: Children: Kelly and Terry

Career plans: "I plan to retire here."

Most interesting experience: Volunteering at Balboa Naval Hospital in San Diego, Calif. and working at Baptist Medical Center in the Intensive Care Unit, Jacksonville.

Words of Wisdom: "Life is God's gift to you, what you do with it is your gift to Him."

Secretary of the Navy Danzig bids farewell



Richard Danzig
Secretary of the Navy

After two years and two months as your secretary, my term comes to an end when on Jan. 20, the new President takes his oath of office.

During this time, 150,000 Sailors and Marines in eleven battle groups and ten amphibious ready groups and tens of thousands of you in smaller units and individual assignments made the world a better and safer place. From the seas around North Korea, through the Taiwan Strait, to refugee operations in East Timor, to air operations over Iraq and maritime interceptions in the Persian Gulf; from aid to refugees in Turkey and Macedonia to combat in and over Kosovo; from crisis response in Africa to counter-drug operations in the Caribbean, you served superbly. The only question for this Secretary was whether I and others in Washington , could serve you as well.

We made a lot of progress over these two years and two months. Our watchwords were, "Honor Sailor" and "Honor Marines" not by lip service but by concrete improvements in how you work, fight, and live. Following these precepts, we won numerous Washington battles to improve pay and expand retirement and other benefits. We reduced gapped billets at sea from 18,000 to 6,000, made recruiting goals, moved 2,100 Marine billets from support to the operating forces. We also introduced the Navy College Program and created smart work and smart ships to reduce your burdens and improve your living conditions.

We paved the way for great improvements in what it means to be a Marine or Sailor in the 21st Century. For instance, we established the basis for the sea-services of the future by investing a thousand times more than we had previously in ship research. As a result, we are embracing electric drive and new ship-board architectures in the DD21, modernizing our carriers and cruisers and creating an LPD vastly superior to earlier amphibious ships. We have brought the Navy and Marine Corps a long way forward in modern information systems,

including IT-21 and the Navy Marine Corps Intranet. We have climbed a good way out from the deep hole of shortages of aircraft spare parts, brought the F-18E/F to life, and are on the verge of doing the same thing with the V-22 and the Joint Strike Fighter.

Above all I have fought the "psychology of conscription." You are not low skilled, cheap labor, here for a short time and readily replaced by others driven to the military by conscription or by the trained professionals who are and must be competitively paid. We must value every Sailor and Marine as a unique and valuable resource for the nation. We must support and treat you accordingly.

I am proud of how much we have accomplished moreover, I leave with the deep satisfaction of knowing that with Admiral Clark, General Jones and your acting Secretary, Robin Pirie, the Navy and Marine Corps are in the best of hands.

Thank you for the opportunity to have served together. God Bless you.

Honorable Richard Danzig,
Secretary of the Navy



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It's free! Give yourself the gift of a Navy CREDO Retreat. Personal growth retreats are offered Jan. 25 through 28 and Feb. 24 through 27. A Marriage Enrichment Retreat is set Feb. 9 through 11. For more information, or to register, call CREDO at 270-6958.

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Cohen bids America's Armed Forces farewell

WASHINGTON, Jan. 18, 2001 — The senator turned defense secretary bid farewell to his military constituents Jan. 17, 2001, hailing America's armed forces as "the finest force for freedom the world has ever known."

William S. Cohen paid tribute to the nation's service members during a farewell ceremony at Fort Myer, Va. Prior to being sworn in as the nation's 20th defense secretary in January 1997, he served for nearly 25 years first as a congressman and then as a senator from Maine.

Army Gen. Henry Shelton, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, was host of the event. Also present were former Defense Secretaries Caspar W. Weinberger and William J. Perry, and a host of other senior defense officials. Shelton praised Cohen for his "deep love of country and strong devotion and respect for those who serve."

"For the past four years, America has successfully navigated the often dangerous waters of international security affairs with Secretary Cohen at the helm," Shelton said. "The department, and indeed the nation, have been well served having him in charge during the many storms we have weathered over these unpredictable years."

Throughout his tenure, the chairman said, Cohen has been a "player's coach" who cared deeply for service members, and a "visionary leader" who executed a winning game plan.

The chairman said he'd watched Cohen work tirelessly on behalf of the nation's military men and women, travel over 750,000 miles to foster world peace and stability and fight tough fights at home and abroad for what was best for both the nation and its armed forces.

"You are a person of absolute integrity and of tremendous vision," Shelton told the secretary.

The chairman also paid tribute to Cohen's wife, Janet Langhart Cohen, who has been a "great partner" at the secretary's side over the past four years. Her volunteer efforts led to DoD's first family forum, which gave senior Pentagon officials a firsthand opportunity to hear family members' concerns. She also initiated the Pentagon Pops, a musical tribute to the military, and four holiday tours, co-hosted by the secretary and the USO.

"On behalf of our men and women in uniform," Shelton said, "let me say a special thank you for your tireless efforts to improve the quality of life of our people in uniform and their families and for your efforts to reconnect the military to America.

"Those of us here today who have grown to know you so well, will miss you greatly. But, so too will the families of those who serve — the very families that you have served so compassionately."

Shelton awarded both the secretary and Langhart Cohen Distinguished Public Service Awards. Cohen also received the Army Distinguished Civilian Service Award, the Air Force Decoration for Exceptional Civilian Service and the Navy's

Distinguished Public Service Award.

"We have loved this job, knowing that this day would one day have to come," Cohen said to the audience. "We have loved this opportunity to be in the presence of heroes, to walk to sail, to soar with eagles." Most of all, he said, he feels "an unqualified sense of awe" when in the presence of men and women and their families who serve and sacrifice for freedom.

"I have had the privilege of meeting with kings and queens, presidents and prime ministers and princes, sultans and emirs and yes, parliamentarians the world over," Cohen said. "But nothing has ever been more rewarding than to visit our troops in Bosnia, Kosovo, Korea, Kuwait or Saudi Arabia; to land on a carrier in the gulf, where temperatures can run 120, 130, 140 degrees; to see our sailors and Marines carrying out their duties in that heat; to watch our Air Force put steel on target or deliver humanitarian relief to helpless victims of hurricanes, earthquakes or other natural disasters; to witness our Coast Guardsmen protect our shores or rescue those caught up in those 'perfect storms.'"

"I marvel at your raw courage," the secretary told the troops, "your willingness to constantly train and prepare to fight the wars that can't be prevented."

He then recalled a Christmas Eve encounter at Bosnia's Eagle Base three years ago that he said neither he nor his wife is likely to forget.

"As we have every holiday since, we joined hundreds of soldiers to share songs, and love, and levity and laughter, to bring just a touch of home to them," Cohen said. "As we left that night around midnight, we passed along the perimeter and we came across three young soldiers for whom Christmas Eve meant manning a security post fashioned from wood. They were out there in the mud and the cold and darkness, standing guard in the night.

"As we expressed our gratitude for their service and conveyed our sorrow they couldn't be home with their families, one of these soldiers looked at Janet and offered a response we will never forget — so eloquent in its simplicity, so profound in its sincerity: 'That's all right, Ma'am. Somebody has to do it. And besides, I think we're making a difference here.'"

"For the past four years, we've been blessed to serve with you as you stand guard in the night, as you continue to make an extraordinary difference the world over," he said. "Because of your patriotism, professionalism, because of your dedication, your daring, more people today sleep under the flag of freedom than at any time in history."

Cohen said he tried "to keep the faith of all who have gone before me and who will come after." He noted that his defense team had managed to add \$227 billion to the defense budget for future years, secured the largest defense spending increase in 15 years and obtained the largest pay raise in a generation.

That team returned retirement benefits to 50 percent and began eliminating inequities for those who live in housing off base. It also overhauled the healthcare system to provide decent health care for active duty, retirees and their families — "care that's worthy of this nation," he noted.

"And I want to mention one other thing," Cohen said. "We kept our promise to help reconnect America to its military and to remind the American people that we must take care of those who take care of us — that freedom can be lost just as easily through indifference and neglect as it can through warfare."

Foreign leaders have asked him how they can make their military more like America's, he said. He turned to the troops present and said, "We have the finest military on earth because of you. We have the finest people on earth because we recruit and train the best America has to offer."



Photo by Jim Garamone

Army Gen. Henry Shelton, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, presents Defense Secretary William S. Cohen the Distinguished Public Service Award during a farewell review for the secretary at Fort Myer, Va. At the ceremony Jan. 17, 2001, Shelton also presented the Distinguished Public Service Award to Cohen's wife, Janet Langhart Cohen (right).

Rumsfeld sworn in as 21st Secretary of Defense

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20, 2001 — Donald H. Rumsfeld was sworn in as the 21st Secretary of Defense during a ceremony held at 6:10 p.m. EST today, Jan. 20, 2001, in the Old Executive Office Building in Washington, DC.

In remarks following the ceremony, Rumsfeld said, "I am grateful to the President for the opportunity to serve again as Secretary of Defense. I look

forward to working with the dedicated and talented men and women who serve in the armed forces and in the civilian ranks of the department."

Until being sworn in as the 21st Secretary of Defense, Rumsfeld was in private business. He served as non-executive Chairman of the Board of Directors of Gilead Sciences, Inc. and on the Board of

Directors of Asea Brown Boveri Ltd. and Amylin Pharmaceuticals. He was the Chairman of the Salomon Smith Barney International Advisory Board and served as an advisor to a number of companies.

Married in 1954, he and his wife Joyce have three children and five grandchildren. Mrs. Rumsfeld was the founding Chairman of the Chicago

Foundation for Education.

Mr. Rumsfeld was born in Chicago, Illinois, in 1932. He attended Princeton University on scholarship (AB, 1954), served in the U.S. Navy (1954-57) as a naval aviator and was an All Navy Wrestling Champion. He was previously the 13th Secretary of Defense, the youngest in our country's history (1975-1977).

NAS Waterfront Brig Jacksonville selects SOY

By staff

Recently, the NAS Waterfront Brig Jacksonville Brig announced their Sailor of the Year for 2000. Becoming Sailor of the Year is no easy task and requires demonstrated pursuit of excel-

lence. The Brig's SOY selectee, SH1 Kim Leverett demonstrates such drive and determination on a daily basis.

Leverett's professionalism and technical expertise were instrumental in the incident-free processing of 350 prisoners and 200 correctional custody

awardees with charges ranging from unauthorized absence to murder. His determination to be a solid leader didn't go unseen, as he has been an award recipient often in his career.

Born in Lincolnton Ga., Leverett enlisted in the Navy on Sept. 13, 1983.



SH1 Kim Leverett

After he graduated recruit training, he transferred to NTTC Meridian, Miss. for training as a ship's serviceman. After service school he reported to the USS Dwight D. Eisenhower for his first assignment. During this tour, he served as the ship's laundryman and made one Mediterranean deployment while advancing to third class petty officer. From there, Leverett transferred to the USS Fahrion where he was promoted to second class petty officer. Upon com-

pletion of his tour onboard the USS Fahrion he decided to try shore duty at the DECA Commissary in Orlando Fla. from November 1991 to November 1994. While assigned to DECA, he served as the Assistant Grocery and Produce Manager. He was also promoted to first class petty officer.

After shore duty, returned to sea, reporting to the USS Gallery on December 1994. Aboard the USS Gallery he made another Mediterranean deployment and served as the Leading Petty Officer (LPO) until the ship was decommissioned in September 1996.

Leverett finally decided that he needed a break from sea duty and volunteered to become a corrections specialist. He attended one month of Corrections School at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas prior to reporting onboard the Naval Waterfront Brig/ Correctional Custody Unit Jacksonville where he has been since August 1999. While onboard, he quickly completed all Job Qualification Requirements and serves as a Brig Duty Officer. He was selected as the command Sailor of the Quarter for the Third Quarter of 2000 and Command

Navy announces results of USS Cole investigation

WASHINGTON (NNS) — The Navy released the results of its Judge Advocate General Manual (JAGMAN) investigation of the terrorist bombing of USS Cole (DDG 67) during a

combined Secretary of Defense, Secretary of the Navy (SecNav) and Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) press conference held at the Pentagon today.

USS Cole suffered a terrorist attack last October 12, which killed 17 Sailors and injured 42 others while the ship was conducting a brief stop for fuel in Aden, Yemen.

The investigation provides a comprehensive account of the actions taken on board USS Cole before, during and after the attack. JAGMAN investigations provide the Navy an effective means to gather the facts about what happened, determine lessons learned to help prevent future such incidents, and assess accountability of those involved as appropriate.

Chief of Naval Operations, Adm. Vern Clark, completed the JAGMAN and agreed with the findings of the Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Atlantic Fleet, Adm. Robert Natter, that the command-

ing officer of USS Cole, Cmdr. Kirk S. Lippold, acted reasonably in adjusting his force protection posture based on his assessment of the situation that presented itself when the ship arrived in Aden to refuel.

I found Adm. Natter's analysis to be both well-reasoned and convincing," Clark said, "and therefore agreed with his determination that the facts do not warrant any punitive action against the commanding officer or other members of Cole's crew."

In assessing the accountability of the CO, the Navy needed to answer two questions: Were the decisions made and actions taken by the CO reasonable and within the range of performance expected of naval commanders; and, would any of the force protection measures not implemented by USS Cole have deterred or defeated this determined attack if they had been implemented.

The conclusion of Adm. Natter, agreed to and supported by both the CNO and Richard Danzig, Secretary of the Navy, is that the CO's decisions were reasonable and appropriate under the circum-

stances. The conclusion also states that even perfect implementation of all force protection measures specific under Threat Condition Bravo would not have prevented or deterred the attack.

The JAGMAN pointed out several lessons learned from the Cole attack, including a need for additional training and equipment, as well as a heightened awareness of force protection that would enable ships to operate within a reasonable level of risk in a high-threat environment. SecNav's Task Force on Antiterrorism and Force Protection is already spearheading efforts to create a fundamentally improved force protection mindset throughout the Navy.

The CNO also stressed the importance of having well-built ships, manned by well-trained crews as a key for survival either in conventional combat or against the asymmetrical threat of criminal terrorism.

The Navy's leadership also noted that the investigation underscored shortcomings throughout the network of commands, departments and agencies that provide support to

U.S. Navy ships operating in foreign

waters around the globe.

"The investigation clearly shows that the commanding officer of Cole did not have the specific intelligence, focused training, appropriate equipment or on-scene security support to effectively prevent or deter such a determined, preplanned assault on his ship," Clark said. "In short, the system — all of us — did not equip this skipper for success in the environment he encountered in Aden harbor that fateful day."

Secretary Danzig underscored the importance of a thorough assessment of accountability in his review of the JAGMAN investigation.

"We must account for why 17 people under our charge died, and why many other people, materiel and interests within our responsibility have been injured," Danzig said. "In the process, we cannot avoid our own responsibility for what the terrorists achieved. We owe it to those who suffer to provide the comfort of explanation, to the best of our abilities."

USS Cole is presently undergoing repairs at Ingalls Shipbuilding in Pascagoula, Miss., and remains under the command of Lippold.

Hey, Money Man!



Hey, MoneyMan!

I just got married and my husband and I moved into an unfurnished apartment. We don't have enough money to buy furniture and we have found that furniture store interest rates are very high. The couple next door got all of their furniture from a local "rent-to-own" store and they say it is very affordable. Do you know anything about these "rent-to-own" places?

MoneyMan Sez:

Why would "rent-to-own" be better than "buy-to-own?" It is not! "Rent-to-own" places allow you to take home furniture that you cannot afford to buy. Look closely at the contract and you will likely find that the retail price of the furniture is very high and the total price you will pay (including rental payments) is two or three times higher than what you would pay for the furniture someplace else. Look for used furniture at thrift or consignment stores. Normally you can find excellent furniture at bargain prices. If you would like to purchase new furniture, shop for prices, look for sales and, if possible, wait until you can pay cash.

Hey, MoneyMan!

My roommate just found a great deal on a used car but he didn't qualify for the loan because of bad credit caused by his ex-wife. The car dealer told him to find a co-signer

with good credit. My credit is excellent and my roommate told me that if I would co-sign, he would make all the payments and let me use the car whenever I wanted. What do you think?

MoneyMan Sez:

Any deal that sounds too good to be true usually is. Although you may not have to make payments, your good credit reputation is clearly on the line. The loan will most likely appear on your credit report and any late payment could be reflected on your report. Worse yet, if for any reason he defaults on the loan you will be required to pick up the payments. Even if your roommate makes every payment on time, this loan will count against your available credit and may limit your ability to get a loan until this one is paid in full.

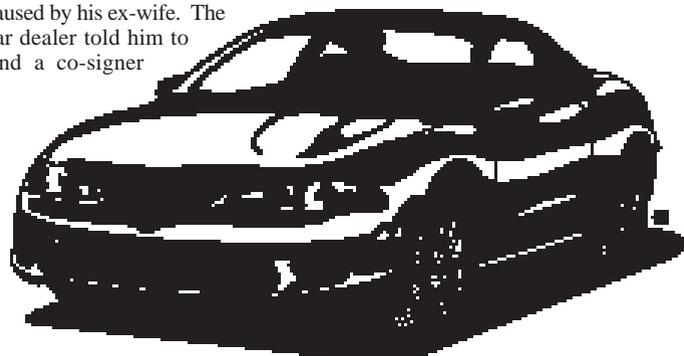
Hey, MoneyMan!

I am a married E-5 with three young children and a lot of debt. My wife tried to work outside the home but it cost us a fortune in daycare. Yesterday, I noticed a sign on a telephone pole advertising "Work at Home" and make \$1,500 a month part-time and \$5,000 a month full time. Do you know anything about these places? We sure could use the extra money.

MoneyMan Sez:

A sign on a pole. \$5000 per month, \$60,000 per year! It seems they would have a better advertising budget. Don't waste your time! This is another one of the latest "get rich schemes" which will cost you more than you will ever earn. According to Kiplinger's January 2001 issue, "such frauds generate more inquiries to the Better Business Bureau than any other topic." Often the operators of the work-at-home schemes are the only ones making money. For sound financial advice, stop by and talk with your CFS, the Family Service Center (FSC) financial counselor, your Navy/Marine Corps Relief (NMCRS) office or your credit union. Any of them should be able to help you get your financial plan on track. If they can't, call "Hey, MoneyMan!"

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



Free electronic tax filing available

By **LN1 (SW) Kimberly D. Martin**

For the fourth consecutive year, area Navy bases are offering free electronic federal income tax filing. The Electronic Tax Filing (ELF) program is being offered at NAS Jacksonville, NS Mayport, and Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay.

The ELF program allows active, retired, reservists (on active duty for more than 30 days) and their eligible family members to get tax refunds within approximately 10 working days. In addition, this program is estimated to save the average Sailor up to \$100 in tax preparation filing fees.

There is no reason to pay commercial tax preparation companies to prepare your tax return. Take advantage of this free service and put your money back into your pocket. Sailors can even have their refund electronically deposited in their checking or savings account. The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Centers will be staffed with military personnel and volunteers trained by the Internal Revenue Service. Inquire at the VITA Center to see if assistance is available to prepare your state tax return.

This service is available on a walk-in basis or by appointment. All you have to do is bring these items along with you. You will need your military ID card,

social security numbers and date of birth for family members appearing on your tax return. You will also need all 2000 W-2 and 1009 INT/DIV forms, social security numbers or EIN numbers and addresses of child care providers (to include a statement or amount spent for each child), Power of Attorney if signing for another taxpayer in their absence, and checking or savings account number and bank routing transit number if you choose direct deposit.

The VITA center at NAS Jacksonville is located in Building 610 across from Yesterday's Café and Vital Signs. The VITA Center opens its doors on Jan. 16 and will provide FREE tax preparation and filing services until April 16. The hours of operation for walk-ins are 9am-5pm. Appointments are scheduled from 9am-11am and 1pm-4pm Monday through Friday. Military in uniform have head of the line privileges from 11am until 1pm daily. Command assist visits may be scheduled by contacting LNC (SW/AW) Jerald Sauls or LN1 (SW) Kimberly D. Martin at 542-2565, ext. 3003 or 3410.

For more information call LN1 Kimberly D. Martin at 542-2565, ext. 3410. Remember there is no need to spend money to have your taxes prepared and electronically filed when these services are offered to you for free and your local naval installation.

Inauguration: Bush calls on citizens

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serious work of leaders and citizens in every generation. And this is my solemn pledge: I will work to build a single nation of justice and opportunity."

Bush kept returning to the theme of American citizens' responsibility. "America, at its best, is a place where personal responsibility is valued and expected," he said. "Encouraging responsibility is not a search for scapegoats, it is a call to conscience. And though it requires sacrifice, it brings a deeper fulfillment."

Bush said America's public interest depends on private character, civic duty and family bonds and basic fair-

ness, "on uncounted, unhonored acts of decency which give direction to our freedom."

He listed the convictions that will guide him in the White House. "I will live and lead by these principles: to advance my convictions with civility, to pursue the public interest with courage, to speak for greater justice and compassion, to call for responsibility and try to live it as well," he said.

Immediately after the ceremony, Bush went to the President's Room in the U.S. Capitol and signed his list of nominees for cabinet posts. The Senate met at 3 p.m. and confirmed Donald H. Rumsfeld as the next Defense Secretary.

Blue Angels looking for a few good officers

The United States Navy Flight Demonstration Squadron (Blue Angels) will select three demonstration pilots (two USN and one USMC.) The Blue Angels are in search of one Marine

C-130 pilot, a maintenance officer, and an administrative officer for the 2002 team. Interested officers should submit applications no later than April 30. Final selections will be made in July.

Applicants should be career oriented, regular Navy or Marine Corps officers. Demonstration pilot applicants must be carrier qualified tactical jet pilots with

1,350 hours of total flight time. Applicants are preferred to be rotating from sea duty or have been on shore duty for less than 12 months.

Marine C-130 pilot applicants must have 1,200 hours of flight time and hold a plane commander rating in the C-130. Maintenance officer applicants must be designated aviation maintenance officers or USMC equivalent and be on or have completed an operational fleet tour.

Administrative officer applicants must be qualified designated LDO/CWO administration officer and

be on or have completed an operational fleet tour. Selectees will be approved by BuPers/CMC prior to public notification. USN/USMC pilots and C-130 selectees will be required to remain on active duty for two years following completion of their Blue Angels tour.

All applications should be submitted to commanding officer, navy flight demonstration squadron 390 San Carlos Road, Suite A, Pensacola, Fla. 32508-5508 via current commanding officer with a copy to their respective

detailer. Marine Corps personnel should send a copy to Headquarters, Marine Corps.

For additional information, contact the Blue Angel Applications Officer, Maj. Hunter Hobson, in Pensacola, Fla. at DSN: 922-2583 ext. 112/ commercial 850-452-2583 ext. 112. From January through March Maj. Hunter Hobson can be reached at DSN 958-8579/8502 or commercial at 760-339-2579/2502. Information can also be obtained from the Blue Angel web site at: www.blueangels.navy.mil.

Hearing: Murder case returns to NAS Jax

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presented at trial were insufficient to support conviction and they can set aside the findings and sentence with a decision that cannot be appealed by the Government. Furthermore, the court can determine that a sentence is inappropriately severe, and reduce or completely set aside a sentence.

The Court's nine Appellate Military Judges are appointed by the Judge Advocate General of the Navy, but it is an independent judicial body within the Office of the Judge Advocate General. The Court is composed of four panels, each consisting of a senior Appellate Military Judge and two other Appellate Military Judges. The three NMCCA Judges hearing this appeal (Panel 1) were Col. Charles Wm. Dorman, U.S. Marine Corps (Senior Judge); Col. David A. Anderson, U.S. Marine Corps; and Cmdr. Clark A. Price, JAGC, USN.

A synopsis of the events leading to the death of Thomas' son, as provided to those attending the Hearing follows:

On March 31, 1997 Petty Officer Thomas was assigned to Sea Control Squadron (VS) 24, NAS Cecil Field, Fla. He had been married since June 1989. Between October 1996 and March 1997, Thomas and his wife were experiencing severe marital discord. On that day, Thomas called his wife and asked her to come home for lunch. She agreed to come for a short time. Thomas was thinking to either reconcile with his wife or, in the alternative, securing her to the bed, take his son and leave her forever. To that end, he prepared a tray of champagne and food which he set on the bed, and pre-positioned two pieces of duct tape on a wall, attached ropes to the four corners of the bed and concealed them under the sheets.

When his wife got home, she wanted to leave immediately. Petty Officer Thomas prevented her from doing so and tied her hands and feet to the bed. He then called his son to the bedroom and told him to give his mother a hug and



Appellate Government Counsel Major Edward C. Durant, representing the Government in the Hearings, takes a question from the audience following the Hearing. Questions for the judges and Counsel were limited to enquiry about the court's function. Questions on the Thomas case itself were not permitted.

kiss. He then jumped onto the bed and tried to asphyxiate their son. Mrs. Thomas managed to free one of her hands and break Petty Officer Thomas hold on their son. He, in turn, let go of his son and started pacing back and forth around the bedroom. Meanwhile, Mrs. Thomas managed to free herself. Mrs. Thomas told Petty Officer Thomas that she would pack two suitcases and they could leave as a family. Instead, once packed, she ran to a neighbor's house yelling for help. Petty Officer Thomas went after her and grabbed his son, got in his truck and drove away.

He drove aimlessly to Georgia and made a stop to get a cash advance on a credit card and purchased some items including clothes, toys for his son, and a

knife. When the evening approached, he drove up a logging road in rural Gilmer County, Ga. to spend the night. During the night, Petty Officer Thomas decided to kill himself and his son. On the morning of April 1, 1997, Petty Officer Thomas' truck became stuck as he attempted to back down the soft dirt on the logging road. After an hour of attempting to get out the catalytic converter started a slow burning fire and Petty Officer Thomas noticed flames coming from under the car.

Thomas then began experiencing a psychotic episode and believed to see Troopers, Highway Patrols and SWAT teams surrounding him. He also believed he saw his wife, his mother-in-law, and his mother-in-law's boyfriend approaching him. At that time, he decided to commit suicide, but he decided to kill his son first to spare him being hit by gunfire. He then suffocated his son. After he believed his son dead, he grabbed the knife he had purchased the night before and cut the left side of his own throat. He then cut his wrists and neck repeatedly. The truck then became engulfed in flames. He tried to get out of the car but heard gunshots and went back in. He tried to exit the truck again trying to take his son's body with him, but could not move his son's body. Petty Officer Thomas made his way out of the truck and onto a log where he repeatedly cut himself and watched the truck burn. He continued to cut himself until he passed out.

Prior to the Article 32 hearing, Petty Officer Thomas was evaluated by a medical evaluation board pursuant to Rules for Courts-Martial (RCM) 706. The RCM 706 Board concluded that although he was under a "brief psychotic disorder" at the time he killed his son, he "was able to appreciate the nature and quality and wrongfulness of his conduct in that he was aware that he was putting his son to death and that would be considered a violation of law." The board also found him competent to stand trial.

The oral arguments in Friday's appeal

centered on whether the original military judge erred in accepting Thomas' plea of guilty to charge I premeditated murder and charge II, premeditated murder. Representing Thomas was Appellate Defense Counsel Lt. Cmdr. Michael J. Wentworth, JAGC, USN. Wentworth contended that the judge should not have accepted Thomas' pleas on grounds that the record disclosed that he killed his son in the "heat of passion" resulting from the fear of being shot. He also argued that the record raised the defense of lack of mental responsibility and therefore the judge erred in accepting the murder pleas. He contended that the more appropriate plea would have been manslaughter. Arguing for the United States was Appellate Government Counsel Major Edward C. Durant, USMC.

The appeals hearing took just over an hour to complete. This included presentations by the Defense and the Government as well as rebuttal. The Court's decision has yet to be rendered. If resolved in the favor of the appellant the Court could set aside the findings and the sentence. Alternatively, the findings and sentence could be affirmed, leaving the appellant's further avenue of appeal with the Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces and the U.S. Supreme Court.

After Friday's hearing, the judges, as well as the two counselors on the case, took general questions from the audience on the role of the Court of Criminal Appeals. Questions specific to the Thomas case were not entertained.

Opening the hearings to the public is part of the Court's outreach program, meant to give the public a better understanding of the how the Navy's intermediate appellate court works within the military justice system. The Court's visit to NAS Jacksonville was also one of several activities taking place as part of the Florida Bar's 2001 Military Law and Legal Assistance Symposium held at the NAS Officer's Club on Jan. 20. Featured at that Symposium was Rear Adm. Don Guter, Judge Advocate General of the Navy.

A VERY 'VIDAR' CHRISTMAS

A slightly delayed holiday note from the 'Checkmates' at sea

By Lt. Brian D. McIntosh
VS-22 PAO

The "Checkmates" of Sea Control Squadron (VS) 22 returned to Harry S. Truman early on the morning of the Dec. 24, 2000 after an exciting first liberty port in Souda Bay, Crete, refreshed and ready to begin the next phase of their deployment. Following flight operations on Christmas Eve, the officers settled into the ready room for "Vidar" Christmas Theatre for the viewing of "A Charlie Brown Christmas." Early the next morning, the officers once again gathered in the ready room dressed in their pajamas and flight boots. It would become evident that Skipper Santa and the Spouses' Club had not forgotten the "Checkmates" this Christmas morning. They arrived to find that their stockings had been hung with care and filled with goodies.

Christmas Day for the "Checkmates" was a festive one, with a squadron wide party in the ready room that lifted everyone's spirits for the season. The party, organized by Lt. Kirk Schneringer, the

1st Lt division, and the MWR officer, Lt. Rob Holmes, attracted many special visitors to the "Checkmate" Ready Room. Guests included the Carrier Air Wing Commander, Capt. Joe Kilkenny, and the Commander of Carrier Group Two, Rear Adm. James McArthur. There was plenty of food and soda, and door prizes presented by the MWR committee, Christmas Elf, Lt. Steph Butler, and the squadron XO, Cmdr. Rob Rabuse. Prizes included Sailor phone calling cards, opportunities to ride in a helicopter, even a turn at steering the ship. A few officers also offered to have their hair cut by three prizewinners. Lt.'s Schneringer, Holmes and Long never looked better. Perhaps by the end of cruise their hair will be back to normal. Although the "Vidar's" thoughts and prayers were of loved ones back home, their Christmas Spirit was here aboard USS Harry S. Truman, making the event far more splendiferous than any had anticipated. After a truly enjoyable week, the "Checkmates," along with the rest of the Air Wing and ship's crew, were ready to

continue their maiden voyage.

USS Harry S Truman (CVN-75) and the "Checkmates" entered the Suez Canal for the 16 hour transit on the morning of the Dec. 26, marking the first transit through the Canal for the Fleet's newest super carrier. Passage through the Suez would also constitute Truman becoming Fifth Fleet's greatest force asset. Carrier Air Wing Three conducted two days of flight ops in the Red Sea,

battling confined operating sea room and poor weather, to keep aircrew current on their qualifications. New Years Day was the beginning of Truman's active participation in Operation Southern Watch, passing through the Strait of Hormuz and into the Arabian Gulf. The "Checkmates" of VS-22 and USS Harry S Truman will continue to be the premier force in the Fifth Fleet and Operation Southern Watch for the months to come.

The "victims" and their barbers: (clockwise from top left) Lt. Cmdr. Ron Novak, AD3 Francisco Freeman, AT2 Allen D. Brown, Lt. Rob Holmes, Lt. Matthew Long, and Lt. Kirk Schneringer.



'Maulers' designate Plane Captains, frock newly advanced Petty Officers

By Lt. Shannon Corkill
VS-32 PAO

On Dec. 14, Cmdr. Ron Carlson, commanding officer of VS-32, held quarters at Hangar 1000 and awarded Plane Captain qualification letters to three "Maulers." AD3 Jose A. Michel, AN John E. McAlexander and AN Emmanuel Collado successfully completed the prescribed training and are now qualified as S-3B Plane Captains.

AO1 Paul E. Vanhooose was the newest "Mauler" to be designated an Enlisted Aviation Warfare Specialist as Carlson presented him with his Air Warfare wings. AO1 (AW) Vanhooose had shown he held significant military experience and professional skills in Naval aircraft and had successfully completed the established personnel qualifications standards.

Carlson awarded AME2 (AW) Thomas A. Madera as "Mauler of the Quarter based on his superior performance while assigned to the Aircraft Division as the Aircrew Life Support System (ALSS) Work Center Supervisor. Under his leadership, his work center safely and expeditiously removed and replaced over 75 CADS and rockets, and completed the 616 day inspection on 12 ejection seats. His willingness to devote countless off-duty hours preparing were directly responsible for the PR/AME shop receiving zero discrepancies during the most recent Aviation Maintenance Management Team (AMMT) inspection as well as quarterly Quality Assurance audit.

AT1(AW) Mark Abbett was recognized as the Sailor of the Quarter for the Fourth Quarter 2000. His selection was based on his stellar performance as the Avionics Branch Leading Petty Officer. As the LPO, he inspected, documented

and repaired multiple avionics discrepancies on aircraft 702 enabling the aircraft to enter the CAWS 11 modifications on time.

The Skipper also presented AMS2 Edwin Doktor with the Navy Achievement Medal for his unmatched performance of his duties while assigned to



Cmdr. Ron Carlson, VS-32 commanding officer, congratulates AD3 Jose Michel on completing his Plane Captain qualifications.



Carlson presents AMS2 Edwin Doktor with a Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal.



VS-32's newest Second Class Petty Officers shortly after being frocked by VS-32 Commanding Officer Cmdr. Ron Carlson (left).

Patrol Squadron (VP) 30 from August 1997 to August 2000. His technical expertise played a pivotal role in the extensive metal repairs to several squadron P-3 aircraft. His hard work helped increase the VP-30 aircraft availability by 37 percent.

The quarters concluded with Carlson frocking seven "Maulers" to Second Class Petty Officer. The new second class petty officers are AT2 Jeffrey Crain, AT2 Michael Daffen, YN2 James Daubar, AZ2 Donald Lilly, AMH2 Brian McKee, AT2 Shawn Sinkler, and AMS2 Stanley Welborn. Congratulations to these newly promoted second class petty officers.



Carlson pins EAWS Wings on AO1(AW) Paul Vanhooose.

NAVY NEWS

Commission stresses beefing up intelligence, changing focus

WASHINGTON (NNS) — The Department of Defense (DoD) must view terrorists as a “relentless enemy” and confront them “with the same intensity and discipline that we have used in the past to defeat conventional antagonists,” Defense Secretary William Cohen said Jan. 9.

Cohen was quoting the unclassified USS Cole Commission Report, which was released that day. The report was co-authored by retired Army Gen. William W. Crouch and retired Navy Adm. Harold W. Gehman. Cohen requested the report following the Oct. 12, 2000, bombing of USS Cole (DDG 67) in Aden, Yemen, that killed 17 Sailors and injured 39.

The report recognizes that the military has dramatically strengthened force protection procedures since the terrorist attack against Khobar Towers, Saudi Arabia, in 1996, but notes terrorists are determined to try to intimidate U.S. forces and prevent the United States from pursuing worldwide national security interests.

“They will continue to tenaciously look for exposed seams in our force protection armor,” Cohen said during a Pentagon news briefing.

Crouch backed up what the secretary said.

“Since Khobar Towers, Department of Defense has made tremendous improvement and paid a tremendous amount of attention to force protection,” Crouch said during the same press briefing. “We have focused on installations and fixed facilities. ... Nevertheless, as the secretary said, the terrorist, who is very persistent, has gone after our vulnerability.”

Cohen said the commission wasn’t intended to place blame for the tragedy, but to find areas in which to make improvements to military force protection plans.

He said there should be no zealous search for accountability, which, carried to the extreme, would lead to “an imbalance where commanders in the future would fail to take action for fear of any repercussions.” But he said DoD owes it to the families of those killed and injured in the blast, and to all service members, to at least look at the matter of accountability.

“There’s a delicate balance that has to be maintained,” Cohen said.

Cohen also directed Joint Chiefs Chairman Army Gen. Henry Shelton to review the commission’s report and a forthcoming report from the Navy’s Manual of the Judge Advocate General and advise Cohen on “matters associated with this incident, including issues of accountabil-

ity.” The instructions to Shelton came in a Jan. 9 memo that also reminded that the chairman is “the principal advisor and focal point ... on all anti-terrorism and force protection issues.”

The commission’s report found ships in transit provide a weak point. “There are institutional changes that have to be made and improvements which have to be made to try and prevent this from taking place in the future,” Cohen said. “[But,] as good as we get or will get in the future ... terrorists are bound to examine other ways of finding vulnerabilities. We saw when we started to really strengthen the force protection elements for fixed sites (after the Khobar Towers bombing) ... they moved to our embassies, bombing the embassies in East Africa. And as we take additional measures here with our fleet, no doubt they will look for other softer targets to go after.”

The 30-member USS Cole Commission examined five areas: organization, antiterrorism and force protection, intelligence, logistics and training. The report lists 30 findings within these areas and accompanying recommendations.

A major issue the commission focused on is that Cole didn’t have specific intelligence tailored to its visit to Aden. Cohen said the members of the Cole Commission found this to be a shortfall for all ships in transit. “There was not specific intelligence communicated to the captain of the ship; ... the warnings that were received were general in nature and not directed against this ship; and ... they preceded this tragedy at least a month prior to that time,” he said. “So one of the recommendations would be to get much greater focus on intelligence that is focused for the ships and for all the commanders.”

The commission found no credible intelligence that could have predicted this attack. The commissioners noted that transiting ships do not have enough intelligence analysts, but rely on support from outside agencies. “We recommend that ... the theater intelligence centers focus some resources on tracking, dedi-

cating intelligence products, overwatching and advising these transiting units as to the risks into the areas in which they are going,” Gehman said at the briefing.

He also said units in transit need to be better trained to demand this type of intelligence support. “They need to ask more difficult questions,” he said.

Gehman praised DoD and the intelligence community for shifting analysis resources to the anti-terrorism mission. He said these efforts must continue and grow, particularly assets related to human and signals intelligence.

The report recommends the defense secretary consolidate all functions related to combating terrorism under one individual at the assistant secretary of defense level. Gehman said he couldn’t recommend which assistant secretary, but that that is the appropriate level for such a critical function.

The commission also recommended DoD work more closely with other Cabinet agencies that work significantly outside the United States. “The Department of Defense is not the only department that’s conducting engagement activities,” Gehman said. “Treasury, Commerce, State, as well as Defense and others all have engagement activities. And we believe that further coordination and consolidation of activities would be to the benefit of everybody.”

The third recommendation concerns host nations providing security to transiting U.S. forces. “It’s in the department’s best interest that host nation security forces be capable and willing to help us with our force protection roles. In many of these places that we visit, the host nation is either unwilling or unable to provide that support,” Gehman said. “We’re very, very good at military-to-military support. What we’re talking about here is military-to-non-military support, and we would like to see that process streamlined.”

The commission made 13 anti-terrorism/force protection recommendations. They include changing the term “threat condition” to another term that better reflects its purpose such as “alert states” or “force protection posture”.

Threat condition is too easy to confuse with threat level, and the term doesn’t clearly convey that it is an operational

posture, not an explanation of conditions in an area, Crouch said. “If the terminology is not easily interchanged, we think it will be of real benefit to users.”

The commission also found the standing rules of engagement in place in the region were adequate and “fundamentally sound,” and saw no reason to revise them. Other recommendations include:

- Providing full-time force protection officers to commanders-in-chief (CinC) and their component commanders;

- Augmenting units moving through high-threat areas with force protection experts; and

- Giving the geographic CinCs responsibility for assigning the threat level for countries within their areas.

Logistics recommendations include directing the services to update their respective logistics doctrine to include force protection issues regarding transiting units and to incorporate anti-terrorism and force protection concerns into “the entire fabric of logistics support,” Crouch said.

Regarding training, the commission found the crew of Cole had received more than what DoD requires for anti-terrorism and force protection training. “Nevertheless, all that training ... did not result in the kind of posture we think is required to deter these very tenacious and clever opponents,” Gehman said.

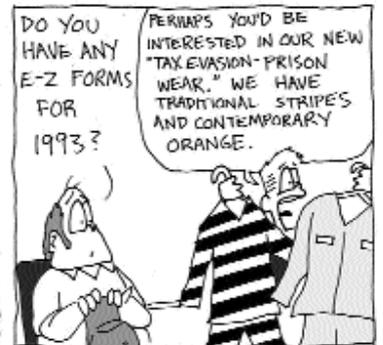
He said force protection training should take on a higher priority, “up to a priority which is equal to a unit’s primary mission.”

He acknowledged this would take more time and resources, but said the ends justify the means. “What we are trying to do here is suggest that the training needs to be of sufficient sophistication to be able to recognize the unexpected rather than just react to the expected,” he said.

Cohen expressed his confidence in Crouch and Gehman and took the opportunity to laud America’s uniformed services. “And as I noted during the memorial service for the victims of this attack, every night all of us sleep under this blanket of freedom because men and women in uniform sail and patrol in harm’s way,” he said. “And as secretary of defense, I understand that even America’s best efforts cannot remove every risk that our soldiers and Sailors, Airmen

Jax Tales

By Mike Jones - mikejones43@hotmail.com



and Marines are going to face, although we will always strive to do exactly that.

"We have to continue what we started, and that is to protect our nation's interest, to protect our men and women in uniform, and to subdue the enemies," the secretary said. "And we have to continue to thank the Soldiers, the Sailors, the Airmen and Marines, and their families, for all that they do to protect us."

Chief of Naval Personnel says Navy manning is up

GREAT LAKES, Ill. (NNS) — The Navy's Chief of Personnel, Vice Adm. Norb Ryan, says Navy leadership is intent "on walking the talk" when it comes to manning, retention and taking care of its people.

"There is a visible difference today in manning levels at sea compared to two years ago," Ryan told Sailors during a visit to Naval Training Center, Great Lakes last week.

"In 1998, we had over 18,000 gapped billets at sea and were deploying battle groups at 91-93 percent manning levels. Today, the gap at sea has been reduced to 8,000 billets and the USS Harry S. Truman (CVN 75) battle group just deployed with 98 percent manning."

Ryan says the shortfalls have been reduced because Navy leadership has focused on the front line and how to retain Sailors and recruit the nation's best young people for service. The result is a Navy that offers increased quality of service for its Sailors.

As the Navy's Chief of Personnel, Ryan is responsible for critical issues such as recruiting, retention, Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) Programs, personnel distribution and overall manning of the Navy.

"We are in a war for talent, not a war for people," Ryan said. "If we can retain our top Sailors, we won't need to recruit as heavily to man our fleet."

Ryan told enlisted Sailors there are four critical areas he is concentrating on to improve quality of life and quality of service for Sailors. They include:

- Sending the top Sailors to serve as Recruit Division Commanders and Recruiters, and rewarding those who take on this challenging assignment.

- Getting rid of the drawdown mentality and raising standards for recruiting and retention.

- Achieving a better balance between recruiting and retention.

- Increasing spending on people, including pay and benefits, reenlistment bonuses, advancing more Sailors and implementing the Thrift Savings program, which works like a 401K.

"Sometime during your career, you need to be involved in the Sailorization process, either as a recruiter, recruit division commander or instructor," Ryan told Sailors.

"These are the most important shore duty jobs we have."

To support Sailors taking these chal-

lenging jobs, the Navy is implementing a \$5 million training program for recruiters and detailers.

"We are putting a lot of money into making sure recruiters are successful," he said. He also said there will continue to be great support for the Bluejackets HARP Program, enabling junior Sailors to return home for two weeks to work with local recruiters. More than 800 Sailors a month are participating in the program with great results.

Ryan is also working to continue improving sea duty pay for Sailors.

Getting rid of the draw-down mentality is important for the future of the fleet, Ryan says, because the Navy needs to retain more of its second and third term Sailors and move them into positions of leadership in the fleet.

"Each individual is important," Ryan said. "We need to get the fleet focused on what we are focused on and that leadership and mentoring matter."

Ryan believes every leader should be evaluated on their skills of mentoring and taking care of people.

"Retention was up 2 percent last year," Ryan said. "That is a huge difference in the number of Sailors staying Navy." The number is particularly important because in 1999, the Navy experienced its lowest retention rate in a decade.

"From 1990 to 1999, we didn't bring enough people into the Navy to meet today's mid-level management needs," Ryan said. That sobering fact means the Navy now has to work harder to retain a greater percentage of first and second term Sailors than in the past.

"The two top reasons why Sailors leave the Navy are pay and advancement opportunity," Ryan said. "We have lobbied Congress to increase pay and we have seen advancement percentages raise from 19 to 26 percent over last year."

Ryan says the Navy is making a commitment to Sailors by increasing reenlistment bonuses to help retain Sailors with critical skills.

"We have budgeted \$150 million for SRBs this year and it will increase to \$167 million next year," the admiral said.

Additionally, the Navy has restored retirement packages, increased basic allowance for housing levels and is increasing medical benefits for active duty and retirees. The 401K type Thrift Savings Plan is due to go on-line next January, which will enable Sailors to save up to \$10,500 per year in a tax-free retirement plan.

"People are our number one priority," Ryan said. "Our nation can't take the all-volunteer force for granted. Navy leadership will continue to bring that message to Congress."

During his two-day visit, Ryan visited Recruit Training Command, including seeing several Battle Station scenarios, got a briefing of the electronic classroom at Service School Command, and visited several MWR facilities including the new climbing wall.

Pride, professionalism all in a day's work



Due to the hard work of all its members, VP-30 recently received the Meritorious Unit Commendation.

Meritorious Unit Commendation



VP-30 Maintenance Division's ADAN Alfonso Mendez (left) and AME3 Andrew Burlie ensure the work space is kept spotless after servicing one of the P-3 aircraft.



VP-30 Line Division's AEAN Daniel Zimmerman makes his way from the flightline.

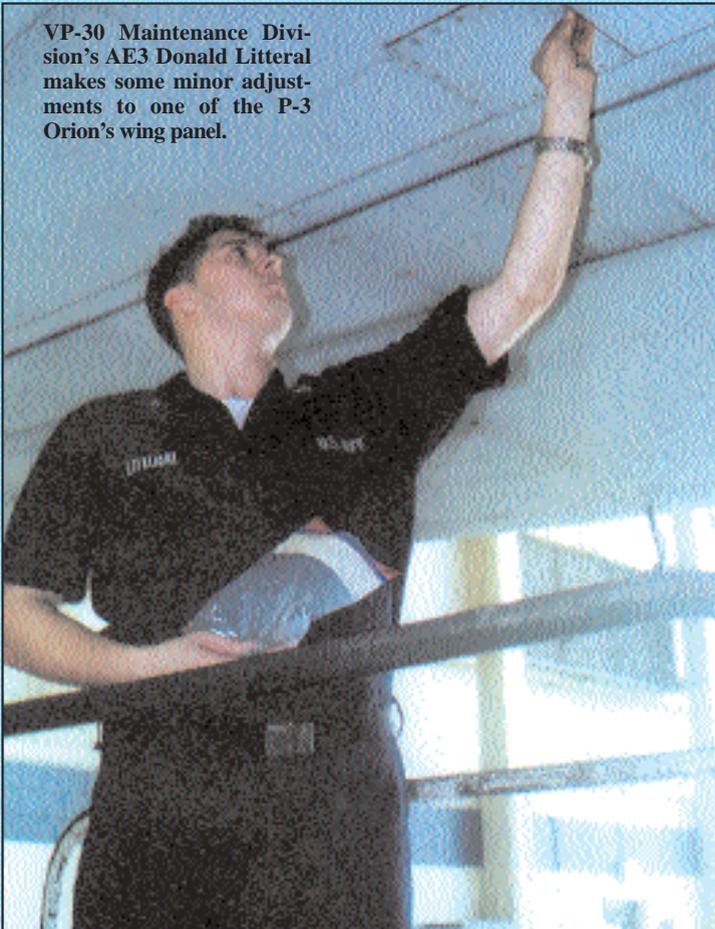




VP-30's AMS1 John Kirk makes provides some minor maintenance to one of the P-3 aircraft's brakes.



VP-30 Maintenance Division's AD3 James Faulkner inspects one of the P-3 aircraft's auxiliary power units.



VP-30 Maintenance Division's AE3 Donald Litteral makes some minor adjustments to one of the P-3 Orion's wing panel.

Pride, professionalism all in a day's work

By **JO2 Mike Jones**
Assistant Editor

To say the men and women of Patrol Squadron (VP) 30 work hard would be an understatement. Flying and servicing up to 12 aircraft a day, the squadron is the training center for approximately 42 percent of naval aviation.

In addition to the demanding workload, the men and women of VP-30 are also heavily involved, and recognized in the Jacksonville community.

As a result of these Sailors' hard work, the squadron was recently awarded the Meritorious Unit Commendation.

"I wanted to be able to put something on their chests. I wanted to be able to show how grateful I am and how the Navy is for all their hard work," said VP-30 Commanding Officer Capt. Andy Anderson. "It's a great group of people, I'm so proud of them. It's an honor to be working alongside them."

"Over the last year and a half, the squadron's done an amazing change," Anderson said. "In our training, we were 240 events behind. We had a seven-month waiting pool to get in here. We had a few aircraft up, and

retention wasn't doing too well." After a review of the squadron's work efficiency, changes were made to improve all aspects of the command, Anderson said "The squadron's picked itself up by its bootstraps. We're now on target. Our retention is 20 percent higher than the Navy's figures. We have no waiting pool. We're averaging 10-12 up aircraft a day. The attitudes around here are tremendous."

Anderson said the review looked closely at the command's most valuable aspect. "Mainly our focus was on motivating our people. Give them more time off, give them a sense of purpose, allowing them to work on their education," he said. "The Navy is not worth a hill of beans without the people."

Although receiving the Meritorious Unit Commendation was a definite morale booster, Anderson said the Sailors of VP-30 remain committed to the mission. "We've got to keep focused on what our mission is here: protecting the greatest country in the world."



A P-3 Orion aircraft is carefully parked.

Underground pipe repairs close busy thoroughfares

By Loren Barnes
Editor

Have you been wondering why the intersection of Saratoga Avenue and Mustin Road in front of the NAS Jax Galley is cordoned off? Fred Burns, Head of the Water Utilities Division at the Navy Public Works Center Jacksonville, says that it is because of a major break in a 10-inch water main that occurred the afternoon of Dec. 19. At this time, Burns estimates that the streets could be closed until around

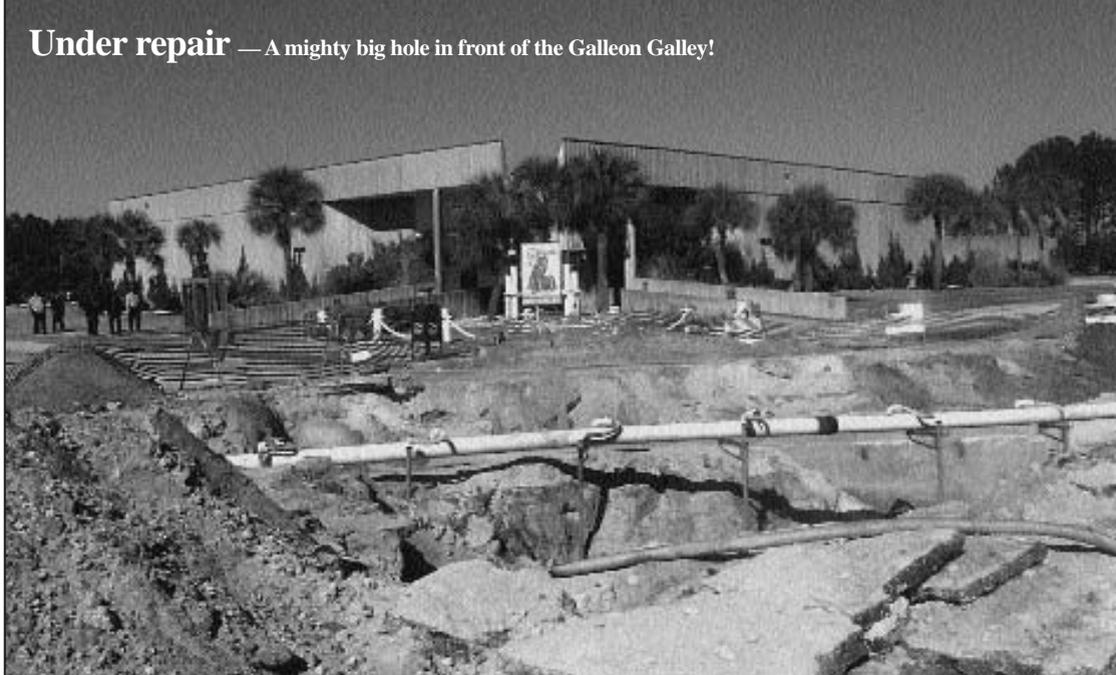
mid-February. Burns said that when PWC Jax first tackled the problem they expected to have the main repaired and the street reopened by Jan. 1 but digging up the water main to make repairs uncovered extensive problems in storm water collection system in the area. The rupture in the water main, a hole about the size of a basketball, flooded the ground around the break and caused rippling and a six-inch pavement drop in the street above. It also necessitated issuance of a precautionary boil water

order and briefly closed the Galley the evening the break took place. Water services to the Galley, the Bachelor Enlisted Quarters and other adjacent buildings affected by the break were rapidly restored to normal later that evening but determining how to repair the storm water collection system have kept the roads closed longer than planned. The cause of the water main break is unknown but repairs are stopped because of a 3 foot by 5 foot concrete storm water culvert was constructed on

top of the water main. When work crews uncovered the culvert, they discovered that parts of the storm water system in the affected area were in good shape while other parts needed to be replaced. This will involve pulling out the 1942 storm water culverts, redesigning the entire storm water system at the intersection, and installing new lines as well as repairing the street and curbs above. Fortunately, Burns said, the old water mains, cast iron pipes lined with concrete, are in remarkably good shape, considering they were originally installed in 1941.

As most homeowners can tell you, few repair jobs ever turn out to be as simple or as cheap as originally thought. One thing seems to lead to another. But fixing all the problems correctly and completely now can save worse problems in the future. This particular repair job went from a simple pipe repair that should have been done in a couple weeks to a more extensive and proactive fix. Burns says that by getting the storm sewers repaired now while they are already dug up should save headaches and expenses for the next 50 - 100 years.

Working closely with NAS Jax Facilities Department, PWC Jax is overseeing the repairs being performed by Civilian contractors. Johnson Controls-Hill, the base maintenance contractor, along with their team of subcontractor is responsible for making repairs. One of JC-Hill subcontractors, JEA, restored water service the night of the break and Jensen Civil Construction will repair the storm water collection system, make final repairs to the water main, and repave the site.



Under repair — A mighty big hole in front of the Galleon Galley!

U.S. Naval Academy accepting enlisted applications

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (NNS) — The U.S. Naval Academy is currently accepting applications from Sailors and Marines for the Class of 2005 entering June 29, 2001. The Naval Academy provides a large number of officers to the Navy and Marine Corps every year. Approximately 10 percent of every class entering the Naval Academy are prior

enlisted personnel from the regular and Reserve components of the Navy and Marine Corps. The Naval Academy is seeking top performers who possess strong leadership potential, good moral character and unquestioned loyalty to the United States. They should have a strong academic background, possess outstanding physical fitness and must be

medically qualified. Applicants must not have passed their 23rd birthday on July 1 of the year of admission into the Naval Academy. They must not be married, pregnant, or have incurred obligations of parenthood. Candidates with strong academic and military backgrounds may receive direct appointments to the Naval Academy. Top military performers who need

to strengthen their academic background may be selected to attend the Naval Academy Preparatory School (NAPS) in Newport, R.I., for an appointment to the Naval Academy the following year. The deadline for all enlisted applications is January 31, 2001. See ALNAV 001/01 or visit <http://www.usna.edu/Admissions/> for more information.

Sailors encouraged to participate in Groundhog Job Shadow Day

Groundhog Job Shadow Day offers an excellent opportunity for commands to assist in the education and enrichment of our youth by being positive role models and adult mentors in our communities. Commander Navy Region Southeast (CNRSE) urges all commands to conduct Groundhog Job shadow events on Feb. 2 with partner schools as an adjunct to the "Personal Excellence Partnership." The goal of this year's program is to provide one million of our nation's

youth with job shadow experiences. The "Personal Excellence Partnership" (PEP) flagship of the Naval Community Service Program (NCSP), sponsored by NavPers, is aimed at teenage students in the world of work. Sailors are encouraged to mentor our youth and to provide them volunteer service opportunities, such as tutoring, mentoring, providing technical expertise, and serving as role models to develop youth to their fullest potential in the areas of education,

healthy lifestyles, and civic responsibility. Goals include improving scholastic achievement, social and life skills, and providing vocational guidance. Command sponsored projects for Groundhog Job Shadow Day support the PEP Flagship of the NCSP. In addition, personnel may apply these community service hours toward the military outstanding volunteer service medal (MOVSM.) See your command NCSP coordinator or Command Master Chief

for more information on the NCSP or the MOVSM. Following Groundhog Job Shadow Day, commands are to report their participation to the CNRSE Community Services Program Office by fax to 542-0422 DSN: 942 or by email to akenss@cnrse.navy.mil. Include the following information: number and grade level of students hosted and the name, phone number, and email address of the command coordinator for the event.

FEBRUARY VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

American Cancer Society 'Making Strides Against Cancer' Walk-a-Thon - Feb. 3

The American Cancer Society is looking for volunteers to help out with set-up and tear-down activities, as well as handing out refreshments along the route. If you're interested call Therese Yanochik at 398-0537 to sign up.

Greenscape of Jacksonville Urban Tree Rangers - Feb. 10

Join Greenscape of Jacksonville in beautifying Jacksonville. Urban Tree Rangers will be pruning trees near the Acosta Bridge that were planted several years ago by former Urban Tree Rangers. For more information contact Bonnie Hilton or Anna Dooley at 389-5757.

Duval County School Teacher's Supply Depot Feb. 15 and March 15

Volunteers are needed to help organize and restock school materials. This is a great way to show support of community schools. The Depot's new location is in the John Gorrie Middle School on College Street in the Riverside area of downtown Jacksonville. Directions will be provided. If interested please leave a message for Christine Buckley, Depot Coordinator, at 390-2960 to arrange for

an available volunteer time slot.

The Alliance for World Class Education 'Much Ado About Books' - Feb. 17

The Alliance for World Class Education is looking for Navy volunteers to participate in the second annual 'Much Ado About Books' event at the Prime Osborn Convention Center to benefit the Jacksonville Public Library Foundation. Volunteers will be needed during one or two hour shifts from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. to assist with various functions of the event including reading to children. For complete information, or to sign up for a shift, contact Leslie Kirkwood at 246-7075.

JaxPride Week 2001 Feb. 24 - March 3

Jacksonville Baptist Home for Children - Feb. 28 and March 3. The JaxPride Coalition is looking for volunteers to help out with a number of projects at the Jacksonville Baptist Home for Children on University Blvd. (near the Atlantic Blvd. intersection, behind Love Grove Elementary School). Two groups of volunteers are needed to paint split rail fencing; mow pasture land and assist with raking lawns and trimming shrubbery. Lunch, refreshments, mowing equipment, paint and tools will be

provided. Shifts are available on Wednesdays., Feb. 28 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Saturday, March 3 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. To sign up please contact (insert the base volunteer coordinator name and phone numbers here — NAS Jacksonville, Dianne Parker, 542-2766, ext. 30 or Senior Chief Battle, 542-3082. NavSta Mayport, Cindie Badger, 270-6600, ext. 137.

Habitat for Humanity Through Feb. and March

HabiJax, the local affiliate for Habitat for Humanity, recently completed their goal to build 200 homes in 2000 and has now started working on homes for 2001. Volunteers are needed to help with framing, roofing and installing vinyl siding on homes every Wednesday, Friday and Saturday during the next few months. No skill is necessary. Participants must be 16 years of age or older. For information call Diane Quick, HabiJax at 632-0949, ext. 240.

On-Going Opportunities

Ronald McDonald House Family Room volunteers - Families away from home due to a child in the hospital need a place they can call home and feel comforted. Chat with visiting families in the hospital waiting room and make sure the room is stocked with furnished

snacks, drinks, games and videos. For more information contact Ms. Lisa McCarthy or Many Stone at 798-2950.

Love to Help Kids? - Become a Recreational Assistant with a nonprofit agency serving children and their families. Volunteers are needed to assist in supervising and coaching recreational activities and sporting events. Help provide a safe and orderly environment for recreational activities. To sign up contact Jo McIntel or Diane St.Laurent at Community Connections, 727-6460.

Help sort food at the Second Harvest Food Bank. - For the past 20 years, the LSS Second Harvest Food Bank has served as our community's dependable, cost-effective source for local non-profit agencies serving hungry children, seniors, ill and the needy. Help them by sorting donated food and restocking their shelves. Contact Joy Spaulding at 353-3663.

Outdoor gardening and carpentry work. - Tree Hill, Jacksonville's Nature Center, is looking for volunteers to assist with maintaining the gardens and nature trails; mulching; and minor carpentry repairs. If you can help out call Lucille Cortese at 724-4646 or Mr. Mark Mumaw at 724-9132.

Volunteers needed to 'Paint the Town'

For the past seven years, Jacksonville's Navy community has joined with the corporate community through the Jacksonville Housing Partnership and USO's Shipmates with Heart program on a project that provides renovation, repair and painting to the homes of some needy senior citizens. The homes are located in a community designated as intensive care neighborhoods.

As part of Jacksonville's annual "Paint the Town" project, the corporate

community will be painting renovated homes April 21-28.

Prior to these dates, it is necessary to complete repairs and renovations to the homes. Navy volunteers, through USO's Shipmates with Heart, have demonstrated reliability in completing these preparations properly. The Jacksonville Housing Partnership has requested the Navy's support again this year in preparing these homes for the "Paint the Town" phase of this

worthy endeavor.

Navy volunteers are needed Feb. 12 to April 20. Commands are encouraged to participate in this project.

Free "Paint the Town 2001" t-shirts and lunch will be provided to each volunteer as well as letters and certificates of appreciation. Any size group is welcome to participate, and individuals will be assigned to groups. Volunteers will be partnered with skilled tradesmen, and all materials and tools will be provided.

Navy personnel may apply these volunteer hours towards the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal.

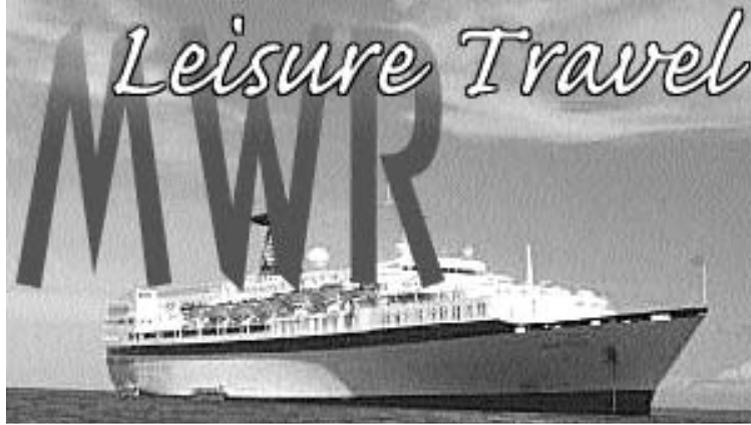
For volunteer information, call USO Program Coordinator Joann Dilling at (904) 778 - 2821. Please provide the following information:

- Name of command project coordinator with phone/fax number
- Dates available to work
- Number of volunteers wishing to participate on each date.

Webster University is starting Spring semester 2001

It's time to expand your professional horizons and earn job promotions. You are now able to complete your M.B.A. or M.A. degree in 15 months or 18 months. Webster University is starting it's Spring II semester (March 17- May 18,) offering M.A.'s in COMP, HRDV, HRMG, MNGT, TELE(NAS/OP)

BUSN, BOSM (Security Management) FINC, and MRKT (Jack Metro.) The Orange Park Campus is located at the Navy College Office Building 110, Box 137 NAS Jacksonville, Fla. 32212-5000. For more information contact Sandy Michael at 779-7124 or email her at: smichael@webster.edu.



The Morale Welfare and Recreation Department's Leisure Travel Office is a great place to find the best prices on some of the most exciting travel destinations in the world. Listed below are just a few of the hot travel bargains now available. For rates, schedules and booking information visit www.mwrleisuretravel.com. For more information, call MWR Information, Ticket and Tours at 542 - 3318.

Alaska

Carnival Cruise Line - The wonders of the last frontier from \$899. Available: 08/29/01

Norwegian Cruise Line - Sail to Alaska (Glacier Bay) from Seattle - Bonus 2 Category Upgrade! From \$999. Available: 05/06/01, 05/13/01, 06/03/01, 06/17/01, 07/01/01, 07/15/01, 07/29/01, 08/12/01, 09/02/01, 09/09/01

Holland America Line - Alaska Flat Rates - MS Statendam From \$799. Available: 05/06/01, 05/13/01

Australia

Contiki - Vacations for 18-35 year olds — Great deals to the Land Down Under from \$1125

Bahamas

Sandals and Beaches Resorts - Sandals 'Select' /Champagne Express From \$1906. Available: 01/20/00

Canada

Carnival Cruise Line - Exclusively for Seniors! From \$449. Available: 06/02/01, 06/11/01

Caribbean Eastern

Holland America Line - 2001 Caribbean Flat Rate - 8-day MS Westerdam From \$799. Available: 02/09/01, 02/17/01, 03/02/01

Caribbean Southern

Royal Caribbean - Southern Caribbean on Grandeur of the Seas From \$599. Available: 02/03/01

Holland America Line — 2001 Caribbean Flat Rate - MS Zaandam (Wayfarer)from \$1449. Available: 02/25/01, 03/17/01

Royal Caribbean - Cruise Only Special From \$599. Available: 02/03/01

Celebrity Cruise Line - Balcony Cabin Special From \$1349. Available: 03/03/01

Caribbean Western

Norwegian Cruise Line - Let The Wind Take You Away! Hot March Deals from \$799. Available: 03/03/01, 03/10/01, 03/17/01, 03/24/01, 03/31/01

Norwegian Cruise Line - \$400 Onboard Credit Free This February on the Sky From \$1149. Available: 02/25/01

Holland America Line - 2001 Caribbean Flat Rate - MS Maasdam From \$799. Available: 01/28/01

Carnival Cruise Line - A week of "Sublime Sensations" from \$699. Available: 03/04/01

Carnival Cruise Line - Just south of the border... from \$449. Available: 02/12/01

Central America

Caravan Tours - Belize Tropical Adventure—8 Days—Caravan Tours From \$1495. Available: 01/26/01, 02/02/01, 02/23/01, 03/08/01

Costa Rica

Caravan Tours - Costa Rica Natural Paradise, 10 Days, Caravan Tours from \$1795. Available: 01/19/01, 01/21/01, 01/26/01, 01/28/01, 02/02/01, 02/04/01, 02/09/01, 02/11/01, 02/16/01, 02/18/01, 02/23/01, 02/25/01, 03/02/01, 03/04/01, 03/09/01, 03/16/01, 03/23/01, 03/30/01, 04/06/01, 04/13/01, 04/20/01, 04/27/01, 05/04/01, 05/18/01, 06/15/01, 07/20/01, 07/27/01, 08/03/01, 09/07/01

Europe

Auto Europe - Free Cellular Phone Rental with any Booking. Available: 01/03/01

Auto Europe - Early Season Upgrades on Car Rentals. Available: 01/11/01

Celebrity Cruise Line - 14 night Europe Promotion from \$1399. Available: 05/19/01

India

Silversea Cruises - Specially priced India Splendors Land Program until 3/15/01 from \$6475. Available: 05/06/01, 05/17/01

MWR NOTES

Aquatics Department

The aquatics department is now taking reservations for private parties at the Outdoor pool "Allegheny Family Recreation Area." The dates available for the pool facility rental are Friday, Saturday, and Sunday nights from May 1 - Sept. 30. The cost is \$75 for the first two hours, \$25 each additional hour. The price includes certified lifeguards. For information or to make reservations call 542-2930.

NAS Jax Base Auditorium Movie Schedule - January

Take advantage of the free movies offered at the base theater located at the corner of Jason St. and Saratoga Blvd. There are no concessions, but food and drinks are allowed to be brought in with the exception of alcoholic beverages. No children under the age of 18 allowed without adult supervision. For more information call 542-3577, or look on the web at www.nasjax.navy.mil/mwr.

Jan. 26, 7 p.m. - *I Know What You Did Last Summer*

Jan. 27, 5 p.m. - *Entrapment*
7 p.m. - *I Still Know What You Did Last Summer*

Liberty Cove Rec Center

The Liberty Cove Recreation Center is now open in its new location! The center is located on the corner of Jason Street and Yorktown Avenue, in Building 816. Active duty Sailors can enjoy free Internet access on any one of 15 computers available. Compete in free Pool, Ping-Pong, Darts, Sony Playsta-

tions, Dream Cast or Nintendo 64 or kick back in a comfortable recliner and watch movies on the big screen! The Liberty program offers tons of fun, adventures galore and so much more. Our hours are 11 a.m. to midnight, Sunday through Thursday, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Friday and 10 a.m. to 2 a.m. on Sat. Call 542-3491 for more activities scheduled or for information.

Island of Adventure Trip!

Thirty five dollars buys you Round Trip Transportation and Park Entrance for our upcoming Island of Adventure Trip! Van leaves Liberty Cove Rec Center at 0700, and returns about 2200. The park is open from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., so you will have plenty of time to see the sights and ride the rides. There must be a minimum of five people to go, and a maximum of 14. So sign up early, no later than Feb. 2 at the Liberty Cove Recreation Center.

Mardi Gras Trip

The Single Sailors Program is hosting a trip to Mardi Gras leaving Friday, Feb. 16 and returning Monday, Feb. 19. Lodging and transportation will be included. For more information, or to sign up, call the Liberty Cove Recreation Center at 542-3491. Participants must be signed up no later than Friday, Feb. 2

Yellow Water Youth Center

Birthday Parties - Come celebrate your Birthday at the Youth Center. Our center can accommodate 75 of your favorite friends. The cost is \$25 for two hours or pick out a theme and let us plan your party for \$50 for two

hours. Leave all the fun up to us. All you need is the cake!

Open Recreation - is on Tuesday and Thursday from 6:15 to 8 p.m. Pre-registration is required by parents. Open Recreation is free and open to ages K-17.

Teen Night - is on Monday from 6-8 p.m. Surf the net and enjoy a variety of games and activities!

Take the hassle out of your travel planning! - The Yellow Water Housing Area has newly located ITT in the Youth Activities Center. Convenient vacation and travel plans can be made virtually at your front door. Come in and make your travel plans for all the fun Florida vacation attractions and theme parks. The Yellow Water ITT staff will be providing the same friendly and courteous service as the main ITT Office at NAS Jax. Yellow Water Information Tickets and Tours Office hours of operation are Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from noon to 8 p.m. and Wednesday and Friday, noon to 6 p.m. For more information call 542-8247.

The Budweiser Brew House

The Budweiser Brew House located in 'The Zone' Building 798, corner of Jason Street and Saratoga Avenue is now open. The Brew House opens daily at 11 a.m. and will be NAS Jacksonville's football headquarters with NFL's Sunday ticket (this includes Monday Night Football). Enjoy lunch or dinner from a variety of menu items. Starting in February, The Brew House will be having Happy Hour Monday through Friday from 4 to 6 p.m. For more information call 542-3521. Happenings at the Brew House include:

Jan. 26 - "JB" playing - 8 to midnight
Saturday - \$2.50 Pitchers
Superbowl Sunday - Giveaways and Food/Beverage Discounts All Day!

Yesterday's Café

Step back in time to the great service and food you deserve! Sit back and listen to the Jukebox, and enjoy the weekly specials. It's a great place for lunch with all your friends! January's Super Special on Thursdays is the Chicken Salad for \$3.

PRT Boot Camp Class

PRT is just around the corner, so come out and get the best shape possible. Classes will be focusing on PRT exercises in a group setting. The session is offered Monday and Wednesday from 6:34 to 730 a.m. Classes start Feb. 2. For more information call 542-3518.

There will be a Softball Meeting on Feb. 15 in "The Zone" Conference Room
11:30 a.m. - Greybeard - Active Duty age 33 and up.

Noon - Intramural - NAS Jax active duty
12:30 a.m. - Women - active duty, dependents over 18, retirees, NAS Jax civilian employees

There will also be a meeting at Mulligan's at 4 p.m. for all authorized gym patrons over age 18 (except active duty).

Mulligan's

Come out and join us in our Super bowl Celebration! Root on your team while enjoying our great food and beverage specials Sunday, Jan. 28.

Get ready! It's time for Spring Marathon Bingo! This event begins Saturday, March 10. Tickets are on sale now, Monday through Friday 1 to 3 p.m. and Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, 5 to 7 p.m. Packs are \$225 in advance, \$230 at the door. This includes Reef & Beef Buffet during half time, one card for every game, a bingo dauber, and coffee and ice tea served all day!

Visit *MWR* online at www.nasjax.navy.mil/mwr or call the Marketing Office for general information at 542-3577.

Travel: MWR gets you there

Continued from page 20

Jamaica

Sandals and Beaches Resorts - Sandals Dunn's River Starting at \$188. Available: 01/01/01, 02/18/01, 03/31/01

Mediterranean

Orient Lines - 2 for 1 Barbados to Rome From \$4516. Available: 04/11/01
Silversea Cruises - Save 10% on select Med voyages aboard Silver Shadow From \$4675. Available: 04/26/01, 05/06/01, 05/18/01, 06/08/01
Silversea Cruises - Specially priced Business Class Air Upgrades for the Med this summer! From \$8275. Available: 06/01/01, 06/14/01

Mexico

Caravan Tours - Mexico's Copper

03/24/01, 03/28/01, 03/31/01, 04/01/01, 04/07/01, 04/14/01

Adventure Tours Usa - Special 3, 4 or 7nt all-inclusive package to Cancun! From \$579. Available: 02/01/01, 02/02/01, 02/04/01, 02/05/01, 02/09/01, 02/11/01

02/12/01, 02/22/01, 02/23/01, 02/25/01, 02/26/01

ADVENTURE TOURS USA — 3 or 4 night Cozumel package to Fiesta Americana from \$409. Available: 02/02/01, 02/05/01, 02/12/01, 02/19/01, 02/26/01

Regal Cruises - 5-Night Mayan Adventure, kid's sail free! From \$509. Available: 04/07/01

Royal Caribbean - Cruise Only Special from \$539. Available: 01/21/01

Carnival Cruise Line - Spring Break Specials From \$279. Available: 03/12/01, 03/19/01, 03/26/01, 04/02/01

Cruise West - Receive Air Credit for Mexico in March & April From \$1595. Available: 03/03/01, 03/07/01, 03/10/01, 03/14/01, 03/17/01, 03/21/01

South America

Royal Olympic Cruises - 17-Day Amazon Cruise! From \$2499. Available: 02/12/01

Transatlantic

Royal Olympic Cruises - 19-day Transatlantic Voyage! From \$2634. Available: 04/16/01

United States

Caravan Tours - New Mexico Fiesta—\$995—6 Days—Caravan Tours From \$995. Available: 05/06/01, 06/24/01, 07/22/01, 09/02/01, 09/16/01, 10/21/01

US Florida

Regal Cruises - 1-Night Sunspree Cruises to Nowhere - featuring Theme Cruises! From \$68. Available: 02/07/01, 03/03/01, 03/10/01, 03/17/01

US Northwest

Cruise West - Free pre/post hotel night in Portland From \$795. Available: 03/16/01

US Rocky Mountains

Caravan Tours - Mt. Rushmore to Grand Teton with Yellowstone-9 Days—Caravan Tours From \$1795. Available: 06/03/01, 06/10/01, 06/17/01, 06/24/01, 07/01/01, 07/08/01, 07/15/01, 07/22/01, 07/29/01, 08/05/01, 08/12/01, 08/19/01, 08/26/01, 09/02/01, 09/09/01, 09/16/01, 09/23/01

Black History Month Events

African American art exhibit designed to open our minds

From WJCT Inc.

WJCT Public Broadcasting and the Ritz Theatre & LaVilla Museum team up for the second year to present Through Our Eyes 2001-African American Artistic Expressions. The annual art exhibition features works by First Coast African American artists. The Through Our Eyes 2001 exhibit opens tomorrow, Jan. 26, at the Ritz Theatre & LaVilla Museum.

The exhibit will be in the museum throughout the months of February and March. Hours of the Ritz Theatre & LaVilla Museum are Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; and Sunday, 2 to 5 p.m. The museum is located at 829 North Davis Street. Admission to the museum is \$4 for adults and \$2 for students and senior citizens.

The ninth annual exhibition features

more than a dozen artists whose works include paintings, drawings, wood sculptures, photography, ceramics, and multi-media pieces.

For it's first seven years, the exhibit was displayed in the WJCT Gallery. However, with the infusion of interest for the restoration of the LaVilla district, it was a natural partnership between WJCT Public Broadcasting and The Ritz to continue the exhibition in the LaVilla Museum Gallery.

"This exhibit is well known in our area and we are pleased to have it housed in our museum for the second year," said Lydia Stewart, museum curator and formerly the education outreach manager at WJCT.

In addition to Through Our Eyes 2001, WJCT is celebrating Black History Month by hosting a reception in the WJCT Gallery February 6 to pre-

mier an American Beach, a television production of WJCT and Wild Iris Productions. An American Beach is an hour long documentary and is the centerpiece of WJCT's Black History Month programming. This public program is made possible through a grant for the Florida Humanities Council.

During the month of February, an exhibit of American Beach photos by Florida Times-Union photographer Bob Self will be displayed in the WJCT Gallery as a complement to this local television production.

In an effort to extend Black History Month outreach, The Florida Times-Union's Newspaper in Education (NIE) will produce a special tab section on African American history in Northeast Florida with an emphasis on the history of American Beach. This special tab section will be distributed to teachers

throughout the newspaper's circulation area. NIE also will produce a student workbook to complement the tab and the WJCT documentary an American Beach. WJCT will provide copies of an American Beach to the first 200 teachers who sign up for NIE-planned workshops. Educators interest in participating should call the Times-Union's Newspapers in Education department at 359-4440.

Through Our Eyes 2001 and Black History Month programming on WJCT Channel 7 and 89.9 FM are sponsored by First Union and Burger King.

WJCT, also known as Channel 7 and 89.9 FM, is the non-profit public broadcasting facility for Northeast Florida and Southeast Georgia. WJCT serves a population of about 1.5 million. The station's mission is to create, entertain, and enlighten.

Local NROTC Battalion gives 'the gift of life'

By MIDN Michelle Blom

Jacksonville University NROTC Battalion
Asst. PAO

Jacksonville University's Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps (NROTC) Battalion members recently gave of their time and themselves to help the American Red Cross combat the nation's critical blood supply shortage by sponsoring a blood drive on the University Campus. University faculty members and non-battalion students came out in force to support the effort as well.

When asked why he chose to donate blood, Gunnery Sgt. Victor Camacho answered, "I feel that, as a patriot, it is my sworn duty to help society. This is my second time giving. I hope that if I ever need blood, someone else has done the same."

Currently the United States' blood supply is at such a critical level that physicians have been forced to advise patients receiving elective-style surgeries to postpone. Blood drives are a crucial means to increase the nation's blood supply and save lives.

Jacksonville University's NROTC program, under the command of Capt. Kirk T. Lewis, is the third largest in the country and is responsible for training future Marine and Naval officers through a wide range of officer programs for both enlisted

service members and graduating high school seniors. For more information on scholarships and becoming a member of this unit call 745-7480 and ask to speak to Lt. Hopkins or Shirley Peck.



Marine Gunnery Sgt. Victor M. Camacho, Assistant Marine Officer Instructor with Jacksonville University's NROTC Battalion gives blood during a recent blood drive at the University.

Naval Hospital celebrates Nurse Anesthetist Week

Naval Hospital Jacksonville is celebrating National Nurse Anesthetist Week Jan. 21-27.

The Nurse Anesthesia program was established in 1962, to develop Nurse Corps Officers into anesthetist. Anesthetists are trained to administer medication that will produce temporary unconsciousness or general insensibility to pain during a surgical procedure.

The program is taught in two phases. Students receive their first 12 months of academic and professional education at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. The curriculum includes basic science and nursing courses, as well as other clinical subjects. The second phase consists of the students transferring to Naval Hospital Jacksonville, Naval Medical Center Portsmouth or Naval Medical Center San Diego for 18 months of

science and research courses on clinical anesthesia.

The three hospitals' partner with local civilian counterparts to provide additional training that may not be available at the military treatment facility. Naval Hospital Jacksonville's civilian counterpart is Shands Jacksonville. Students who successfully complete the program receive a master's degree in nursing and are qualified to take the Nurse Anesthesia certification examination.



Photo By Cmdr. Richard J. Hrezo

Lt. Cmdr. Patty Wirth prepares to administer a spinal anesthetic to a patient.

NavHosp Grief Reconciliation Group to meet

Naval Hospital Jacksonville's Pastoral Care Department is offering a seven-week Grief Reconciliation Group. The group will meet every Tuesday, from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. on the eighth floor of the hospital, in room 821.

The first group session will begin Tuesday, Jan. 30 and anyone who is interested is welcomed to attend.

The purpose of the Grief Reconciliation Group is to enable persons who are grieving the loss of a loved one to understand the grief process and begin the process of healing.

The following topics will be covered: communicating with family and friends, pain and sadness, confrontation and escape, caring for yourself, anger, guilt, and reconciliation. The group is open to anyone from our military community (active or retired) who is grieving the loss of a loved one.

More information may be obtained from Chaplain Jason Riggs in the hospital's Pastoral Care Department on the 2nd deck or by calling 542-7531.

Sailors take stock in America

The U.S. Savings Bond program originally began as an effort to support and strengthen the U.S. economy during World War II, but it is still going strong today in its 59th year.

Why are U.S. Savings Bonds so popular? The short answers are: safety, ease of purchase, tax advantages, financing, education, retirement and improved market-based rates.

Currently, 55 million Americans own 800 million Savings Bonds for a total worth of \$186 billion, making them the most widely-held financial security in the world.

It's a safe, sound way to invest in your

It's a safe, sound way to invest in your future, the future of your children or other

loved ones.
For more information, go to <http://www.savingsbond.gov>.



Qualifications for new Southeast Regional Running and Triathlon Teams announced

MWR athletic programs from all the Southeast Region Navy bases are currently seeking athletes to participate in the newly formed Southeast Regional Running and Triathlon Teams. The teams will represent the U.S Navy in 5k, 10k, marathons, and/or triathlons, the Navy Regional Running and Triathlon Teams are being established to showcase Navy athletes as positive role models to promote long distance running as a competitive sport and healthful exercise. Qualified individuals will represent and promote the Navy at various road races and triathlons within their respective geographic regions.

Eligibility

The program is open to active duty military, who meet the minimum standards for the particular running or triathlon event. Every opportunity will be provided for fleet Sailor participation at each regional site.

The Southeast Regional Team will consist of:

Triathlon	10 men and 10 women
Marathon	10 men and 10 women
5K/10K	5 men and 5 women

Qualifications

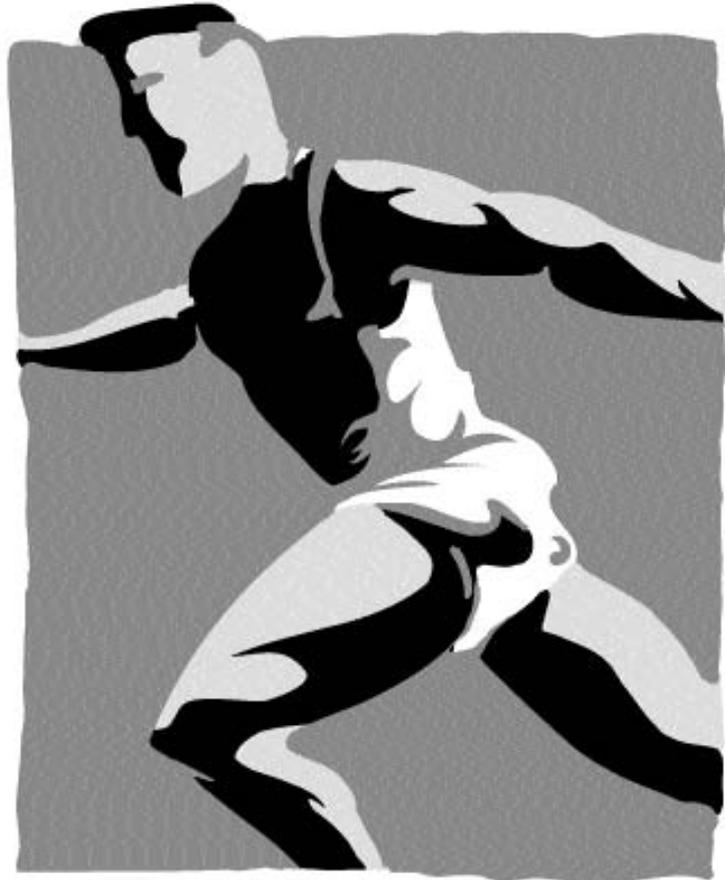
To be considered for the Regional Running or Triathlon Team, individuals must have competed in a sanctioned (USA track and field, USA triathlon association, or Road Runners Clubs of America) race at the local level and their time must meet the minimum qualifying marks. The qualify marks are as follows:

Southeast Regional Qualifying Times

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

Point of Contact

Individuals who have competed in a sanctioned race and meet the minimum qualifying marks should contact Bill Bonser at 542-2930/3239 or e-mail dbonser@nasjax.navy.mil



NAS Jacksonville 2001 Sports Calendar

The Captain's Cup is awarded annually to the Command that has demonstrated the highest level of participation and achievement at NAS Jacksonville Captain's Cup Events. Captain's Cup events are open to active duty only.

Open Events are open to active duty military, retirees, military family members over 18 and DoD/NAF employees.

Captain's Cup Events

<u>Sport/Event</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Starting Date</u>
Bowling	League	Jan. 1
4-on-4 Flag Football	League	Jan. 1
Racquetball	Tourney	Jan. 1
Soccer	League	Feb. 1
Softball	League	March 1
Softball - Greybeard	League	March 1
Tennis - Singles	Tourney	March 1
Volleyball - Indoor	League	April 1
Skeet	League	April 1
Volleyball - Sand	League	May 1
Golf	League	June 1
Racquetball - Singles	Tourney	June 1
Flag Football	League	Aug. 1
Volleyball - Indoor	League	Aug. 1
Trap	League	Sept. 1
Softball	League	Sept. 1
Softball - Greybeard	League	Sept. 1

Tennis - Singles	Tourney	Sept. 1
Bowling	League	Sept. 1
Basketball	League	Nov. 1
Basketball - Greybeard	League	Nov. 1
Turkey Trot 5K	Race	Nov. 1
Basketball 3-on-3	Tourney	Dec. 1
Jingle Bell Run 5K	Race	Dec. 1

NAS Jacksonville 2001 Open Events

<u>Sport/Event</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Starting Date</u>
Softball	League	March 1
Softball - Women	League	March 1
Racquetball	Tourney	March 1
Tennis - Singles	Tourney	April 1
Navy Run 10k	Race	April 1
Softball/Fall	League	Sept. 1
Softball - Women	League	Sept. 1
Racquetball - Singles	Tourney	Sept. 1
Tennis - Doubles	Tourney	Oct. 1
Turkey Shoot Racquetball	Tourney	Nov. 1
Turkey Trot 5k	Race	Nov. 1
Jingle Bell Run 5k	Race	Dec. 1

Events are subject to change. For information call MWR Athletic Department 542-3239/2930 or e-mail dbonser@nasjax.navy.mil.

JAX SPORTS

Sports officials, scorekeepers needed

The North Florida Military Officials Association is looking for individuals to officiate soccer, softball, football, and volleyball at NAS Jax. Scorekeepers are also needed for basketball and softball leagues. Experience is not required. If you are interested in officiating and scorekeeping contact George Phillips at 387-2047.

Women's Basketball League now forming

The NAS Jax Athletics would like to form a women's basketball league to begin in March. If you are a female active duty, military dependent over 18, or DOD civilian then you are eligible to participate. Teams and individual players are needed. Call the NAS Jax Gymnasium for more information.

Men's and Women's Varsity Basketball, Softball coaches needed

The NAS Jax Athletic Department is looking for experienced individuals who would be interested in coaching varsity basketball and softball teams. The varsity teams are comprised of the top NAS Jax active duty athletes and represent NAS Jax in community, regional, and national level tournaments. Military and civilian personnel are eligible to coach the varsity teams. Interested personnel should contact Bill Bonser.

Intramural Soccer meeting set for Feb. 2

The Intramural Soccer League is open to all NAS Jax active duty personnel and is a Captain's Cup event. The meeting will be held at the conference room in "The Zone" at 11:30 a.m. All interested personnel should attend the meeting to discuss the rules and to get the required paperwork to join the league.

Softball meetings are set for Feb. 15

The Intramural League is open to all NAS Jax active duty personnel and is a Captain's Cup event. The Greybeard League is open to all NAS Jax active duty personnel 33 years of age and older and is a Captain's Cup event. The Women's League is open to active duty, military family members over 18, retirees, DoD and NAF civilian employees. The meetings will be held at the conference room in "The Zone" at 11:30 a.m. The Intramural meeting is at noon, Greybeard and Women - 12:30 p.m. The Open League is open to active duty, military family members over 18, retirees, DoD and NAF civilian employees. The meeting will be held at 4 p.m. at Mulligans. All interested personnel should attend the meeting to discuss the rules and to get the required paperwork to join the league.

VP-30 wins back-to-back Captain's Cup honors

The 2000 Captain's Cup season was completed when the results of the Intramural Fall Bowling League were tallied. The winner for the second consecutive year is VP-30. VP-30 posted a total of 529 points throughout the year. AIMD finished second with a total of 474 points, and in third place was Air Ops with 286 points. Congratulations to VP-30 on winning the 2000 Captain's Cup and for winning the Captain's Cup two years back-to-back.

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

STANDINGS

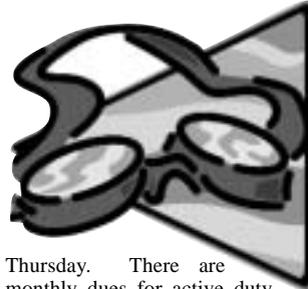
Intramural Basketball

Team	Wins	Losses
AIMD	9	0
TPU	7	2
VP-30 O'S	7	2
Air Ops	6	3
Supply	5	4
VP-30 E's	4	5
VP-16	3	6
VP-5	3	6
HS-75	1	8
HS-5	0	8



Master's swim team needs you

Do you think you need help with improving your swimming times? The NAS base gym will be the home of the Master's Swim team. The Master's Swim Team was designed to aid in improving PRT swim times by introducing the swimmer to different stroke techniques that shave off seconds in the water. The coached program will begin Tuesday, Jan. 16. The meeting times are from 4:30 p.m. to



5:30 p.m. every Tuesday and

Thursday. There are monthly dues for active duty members of \$15. For DoD employees, the monthly dues are \$20. For more information contact 542-2930/3239.

