

The Signature

Signonella, Sicily

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SBS alumna gets rock star biography published

By JO2 (SW) Brian Johnson
Staff Writer

Writing is easy. Although for some unpleasant, it is easy nevertheless. It's getting published that is difficult. Sometimes it can take large sums of money and time. Sometimes aspiring young writers get lucky and the only thing it costs to get published is time, and for one Signonellan that is exactly what it took to get her name on the cover of a book.

Kaththea Azzurra Rowland, a graduate of Stephen Decatur High School and the University of Maryland recently saw her dream realized when her book "Bruised and Broken," an unauthorized biography of Brian Molko, lead singer of the alternative rock group Placebo was published.

Rowland, a tall, wispy 22-year-old, began her love of writing at a young age. "I've always been interested in writing," she said. "I started writing poetry and short stories. One of my poems that got published is titled 'the Love Song' and it's been in anthologies, and all over the Web."

Then one day while watching a music video program she saw her subject, Molko, and was intrigued by his look and the look of the video. Over time she became a fan of Placebo and decided she would try to give the band some positive press by writing a magazine article. "I started doing research to see what I could find out for my article," Rowland explained. "I contacted some of [Molko's] old classmates, principals and teachers to find out what he was like before he became famous."

By the time the research was finished she realized she was nearly buried under a mountain of information. "I started writing my article about Molko and when I was finished I had 87 pages of information," which is a phenomenal amount of text for an article in any publication. "I whittled it down to a good length for an article, but I only got it published in an online zine (a fan based magazine), Author, page 13

EOD member commissioned as ensign

Article courtesy EODMU 8

GMCS(EOD/PJ) Robert M. Rodriguez was commissioned an Ensign on Oct. 1 by Cmdr. Daniel Donovan, commanding officer, Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit EIGHT, before an audience of family and friends at the NASSIG Base Theater.

The Pomona, Calif., native enlisted in the Navy on January 5, 1987. After completing basic training at RTC Orlando, Fla., he attended Gunners Mate "A" School at NTC Great Lakes, Illinois. Upon completion of "A" school, he reported to Naval Diving and Salvage Training Center, Panama City, Florida for training as an EOD diver. From there he received orders to Naval School Explosive Ordnance Disposal (NAVSCOLEOD) Indian Head, Md., for training as an EOD assistant, completing the course in January 1988.

Rodriguez then reported to EODMU THREE in Coronado, Calif. After completion of the Marine Mammals Handlers Course, he was attached to the MK-7 Marine Mammals System where he was a primary dolphin handler for two years. In May 1991, GM2 Rodriguez received orders to return to NAVSCOLEOD Indian Head, Md., for completion of his training as an EOD technician, graduating in March 1992.

In April 1992, GM2 Rodriguez received orders back to EODMU THREE as LPO of EODMU THREE Detachment 9, deploying to the Persian Gulf onboard the USS Tarawa. He finished off his tour in San Diego as LPO, Operations Department and as Air Operations LPO, instructing Ram Air Parachute Training, Helicopter Fast Rope and Rappel courses, and Helicopter Cast and Recovery Operations.

In June 1996, GMM1 Rodriguez transferred to EODMU TWO Detachment Newport, Rhode Island. It was here where Petty Officer Rodriguez was directly responsible for the re-Commissioning, page 13

Today's Hometown Weather

CMCA Darryl Limpf, PWD
Oklahoma City, Okla.



Oklahoma City

High 80° F - Low 57° F
Few Showers

NASSIG volunteers give orphanage new look

By JO2 (SW) Sarah Bohannon
Staff Writer

Volunteers from NAS Signonella repainted a school for a Sicilian orphanage in Bruccoli on Sept. 23 and 24. Lt. Charles Puglia, NAS Signonella training officer, organized the project for Istituto Sacro Cuore (Sacred Heart Institute) in Bruccoli.

"We coordinated with the orphanage and asked if they needed help with anything," he said. "They said they needed help with the classrooms."

Puglia said they wanted to create a fresh cheerful look for the young children.

"The school itself (at the orphanage) is for children anywhere from one year old to kindergarten age," he said.

The children at the institution are not necessarily orphans, Puglia said.

"It's not necessarily a traditional orphanage," he explained. "It is run by nuns, and the children who live there are children who, for one reason or another, the state has mandated that they not live with their parents."

Puglia said this project is a part of an ongoing effort to aid the Sicilian community. "I've arranged for the training office to adopt this orphanage," said Puglia. "We're building a relationship with this orphanage."

He said continuity is valuable for community service. "It helps in community service to build a relationship, because you can actually see the impact on the people and environment that you're working with," said Puglia.

He said he plans to continue working with

the orphanage and other local organizations in the future. "We just wanted to help the most needy people in this area. We'll probably start working with a nursing home next month," he said.

Community service is good for all concerned. "It's rewarding," said Puglia. "It's a win/win situation. It's good for the base because it's good for community relations, and it's also good because we're helping out in the area. It's also personally rewarding," explained Puglia.

More than 30 volunteers from across Signonella scraped, plastered and painted their way to a fresh new look for the classrooms. "We're making a better environment for the kids," said BU1 Marcus Alvarado from base education and training, the translator and coordinator for the project. "They didn't really have the funds to do it on their own, and they really couldn't do it during their school year."

He said it makes him feel good to do something for others.

The classroom, once dull and in disrepair, is now a fresh cheerful yellow color.

"I feel good about it. It looks brighter and cleaner, and it make me feel good to do something for somebody else and to know that they appreciate what we are doing," said Alvarado.

Reasons for volunteering are as varied as the volunteers. Some said they wanted to give something back to the local community.

"This is my second tour over here, so obviously I like it here," said Lt. Cmdr. Stefan Perry from NAS Signonella Admin. volunteer.

"Sicily is just a great place to be and the people here do so much for us that it's good to do something for them. It's nice to contrib-

Orphanage, page 12



A Sailor carefully rolls on a coat of paint at the Istituto Sacro Cuore orphanage. Navy personnel have adopted the orphanage, and will be assisting the orphanage on a monthly basis. The project goal is to improve community relations, provide a service to people with need, and instill a sense of fulfillment in the Sailors.

Chief grapples with Navy, wrestling career

By JOSN Steve Weaver
Staff Writer

During the weekends here at Naval Air Station Signonella, you might catch a professional wrestling television show every now and again on American Forces Network.

The pro wrestlers on these throw each other around the ring with reckless abandon, all in the name of entertainment. A Sailor stationed at Signonella knows well what these wrestlers go through.

ABHC (AW) Edward E. Mason, Fire Department leading chief petty officer, has wrestled professionally for 15 years. But many people know him by another name. "Everybody calls me 'Deuce,' friends and enemies," said Mason.

Mason became interested in wrestling while a youngster in Memphis, Tenn. "I always liked wrestling when I was little," Mason said. "Memphis has the longest live studio wrestling show. It ran for like 30 years." The show was called "Live Studio Saturday morning wrestling."

It wasn't until after 1983, when Mason enlisted in the Navy, that he started his wrestling career. "I was stationed in Pensacola in 1988, and I went to a match in Pensacola," Mason said. There he met the significant other of World Wrestling Federation (WWF) champion-to-be Yokozuna. "This was right before he went up [to WWF]," said Mason. "He was wrestling for a smaller independent company." After Yokozuna's significant other introduced the two, "we just were friends from there on out."

Mason was trained in Pensacola by Yokozuna and another wrestler name Sika, who was a member of the WWF tag team champions "Wild Samoans," which included his brother Afa. He was also trained by Sika's cousin Tama, of the WWF "Islanders." He wrestled there for a company called World Wrestling Family.

After being stationed in Greece and not wrestling for about a year, Mason moved on to the USS



ABHC (AW) Edward E. Mason, Fire Department leading chief petty officer, started professional wrestling while in the Navy at Pensacola, Fla. Mason has wrestled with World Wrestling Federation (WWF) stars such as Jerry Lawler, Kerry Von Erich, Scott Steiner, and Sid Vicious.



Mason climbs the ropes and poses with his Far East championship belt.

Kitty Hawk, and did some wrestling in Philadelphia between 1990 and 1992 for the Tri-State Wrestling Association (TWA), which is now the Extreme Championship Wrestling (ECW). "Then I went to Japan," said Mason. "I wrestled in Japan for like three different companies. International Wrestling Association (IWA), Social Pro Wrestling Federation (SPWF), and another company called Union Wrestling Federation (UWF)." Mason was the Far East Heavyweight Champion while with the UWF.

Deuce then left Japan and went to sunny California and wrestled for California Championship Wrestling (CCW). "Then I transferred back to Florida again, where I wrestled for XW 2000," said Mason. "While

Wrestling, page 12



Direct Line

Capt. T.L. Davison
NASSIG
Commanding Officer

When you woke up last Sunday morning and noticed your electricity was out, you weren't alone. The entire country of Italy noticed that something really big happened! Italy suffered its most severe power outage since World War II.

Over 57 million Italians (and their international guests) rely on the Italian Electrical Network. ENEL is normally fed from the Italian power plants for the 86 percent of the total power. France and Switzerland provide the remaining 14 percent. The amount of power provided by these two nations need to be constant, due to a commercial agreement. During the night, the power requirements for the Italian Electrical Network is lower than during day time, and the number of Italian power plants operating during the night are significantly reduced, and the percentage of power drawn from those countries' networks reaches 25 percent of the total power requirement for Italy.

The morning of September 28, at approximately 3:30 a.m., the lines connecting Italy to France and Switzerland opened for a fault. The Italian power plants were therefore overloaded, when the system lost the 25 percent of power drawn from the those two nations.

When a power plant is overloaded, its automatic system will disconnect the plant from the network. This built-in safety feature helps avoid damages to the plant itself, and to the entire network. This caused the disconnection of all the Italian plants, and the subsequent total power outage. Most of the Italian plants are of the oil fired thermal type; their starting/restarting - require several hours, and power for their starting procedures is required from other plants.

Unlike the power outage in the Eastern United States on August 14th, services returned fairly quickly here in Italy, relatively speaking. The US power outage last several days and affected more than 50 million people across the northeast and into Canada. Also in August, London was hit by a major power outage leaving a half-a-million people stranded on the subway system. Last week, Denmark was hit by a similar power outage that affected about 5 million Danes in Copenhagen and the surrounding areas of the capital. When the power grids go down, everything goes down!

As you can see, it is quite a process to get things back up and running. I think the base reacted well in this "emergency" considering, and handled everything reasonably well. I decided to open the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) on Sunday because without the electrical power we use in our community missing, it directly affected the quality of life and service for our Sailors and their families. The NEX and Mini-mart were constantly busy selling flashlights, lanterns, batteries and water. The Supply Department, Public Works and Security did a fantastic job getting the generators up and running, keeping them fueled and helping to spread the word about the power outage. We did document a number of "Lessons Learned" so we'll be more prepared in the future.

The whole Sigonella community deserves a big Bravo Zulu for helping each other out during the power outage. Thank you for your patience and for taking care of each other! Now that's Teamwork!



Healthwatch: September is Leukemia and Lymphoma Awareness Month

By **Aveline V. Allen, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery Public Affairs**

WASHINGTON (NNS) — Leukemia and lymphoma are two blood-related cancers. Leukemia originates in the bone marrow and lymphoma in the lymphatic tissue. Both interfere with the body's ability to create healthy blood cells.

"When the body can't make normal blood cells, there are problems with fatigue, infection, and even bleeding," said Lt. Cmdr. Vincent Herrin, an oncologist at the National Naval Medical Center (NNMC) in Bethesda, Md.

Some of the symptoms common for leukemia include fever, chills, flu-like symptoms, weakness, frequent infections, and loss of appetite and weight loss, according to the National Cancer Institute (NCI).

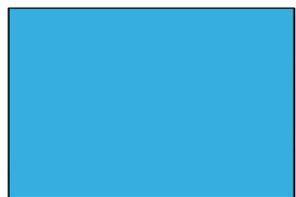
Lymphoma symptoms include lack of energy, general fatigue, weight loss, night sweats, itching, and lower back pain, according to the Lymphoma Information Network.

"Certain leukemias and lymphomas re-

quire aggressive chemotherapy, and we can do this at NNMC. When we treat leukemia, patients are often in the hospital for several weeks and can be very ill. Their care requires a top-notch specialized nursing staff, which we have, and coordination between multiple support services, which I believe we do very well here," Herrin added.

Treatment options include chemotherapy, radiation therapy and bone marrow transplantation. Chemotherapy involves using drugs to kill cancer cells, while radiation therapy uses high-energy rays to damage cancer cells and stop them from growing. Bone marrow transplantation involves eliminating the cancer-producing bone marrow using high doses of drugs and radiation, and transplanting healthy bone marrow.

New physician joins USNH staff



LCDR Paul DeMieri is a Family Physician who provides care in the Family Practice Clinic located in the Ambulatory Care Clinic (ACC) at NH Sigonella. He joined the staff here after completing Family Practice Residency Training at Naval Hospital Jacksonville, Florida. He completed a B.S. at the University of Notre Dame and M.D. and M.P.H. at Tulane University School of Medicine. Dr. DeMieri speaks fluent Spanish. His goal in practice is to provide family centered comprehensive medical care to Naval Hospital Sigonella beneficiaries.

Family Practice appointments can be made by calling 624-4530 from 0730 until 1530. The clinic is located on the second deck at the Naval Hospital.



CRIME STOPPER'S HOTLINE

624-6389

Sept. 15 - Sept. 21

The following incidents were reported and categorized as follows:

- Traffic accidents without injuries - 8
- Traffic accident with injuries - 3
- Car break-ins - 1
- DUI - 0
- DUI's 2003 - 37
- DUI's 2002 - 35

Frequently asked questions about NMCRS STAP

Courtesy NMCRS

What is STAP?

The Spouse Tuition Assistance Program is a needs based tuition assistance program that provides financial aid in the form of Grants. A Grant (unlike a loan) is given to the recipient without the expectation of its being repaid. STAP is intended to improve the employability of spouses by increasing their level of education before returning to the United States.

Who is eligible to apply?

Any spouse who lives with an active duty military member while stationed in an overseas duty location is eligible for STAP. The applicant must be seeking a degree (undergraduate or postgraduate) or a certificate in a specialized area. For example, an applicant who already has a degree, but wants to take a class to learn a foreign language would not be eligible for the program. Full-time attendance is not required.

How much assistance can I receive?

An applicant may receive up to

50 percent of their tuition or no more than \$300 per term for undergraduates (\$1500 per year) or \$350 per term for postgraduates (\$1750 per year).

How do I apply for STAP?

Visit your local Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society for an application. Once you have completed the application set an appointment for review. You must bring the completed application, the military members most recent LES (Leave and Earning Statement), and your most recent pay stub (if applicable) to the appointment.

What requirements must I meet to be eligible for STAP?

STAP is a needs based program designed to alleviate some of the financial burden of attending school. To prevent any possible hardship, the applicant will demonstrate the ability to pay their portion of the tuition. Although the Society encourages participation in the program, they do not want to encourage anyone to live beyond what their budget can reasonably handle. Once an applicant has received assistance, a "C" average must

be maintained to be eligible.

Who will make the determination of my eligibility?

Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society volunteers and employees are qualified caseworkers able to determine eligibility. They will carefully prepare a budget based on information provided by the applicant. The determination will be made after careful analysis. First time applicants require approval from the local Director, after reviewing the budget with the caseworker.

Because every budget is unique, the only way to know for certain whether you can take advantage of this program is to go through the application process. Visit your local Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society to obtain your application today.

Our next STAP application period will be Oct. 14 - Oct. 29.

We only have one application period per term throughout the year. Call the office at 624-4212 to schedule an appointment. There are a limited amount of appointments available on a first come first serve basis.

What is sexual assault victim intervention?

By **Lt. Scott Simpson**
JAGC, USNH

The 1990 Navy Women's Study Group: *An Update Report on the Progress of Women in the Navy* found that despite the existence of individual command education and victim assistance programs, incidents of sexual assault continue to be the most under-reported crimes. Reports of sexual assault and rape in the Navy are increasing and local assistance for victims of sexual assault is often poorly coordinated and credible, comprehensive statistics are difficult to obtain. With this in mind, the Navy's goal is to maintain a "zero tolerance"

sexual assault policy as stated in the SECNAVINST 1752.4 and OPNAVINST 1752.1A. Sexual assault, which includes rape, is a crime and is incompatible with the Navy's high standards of professionalism and personal discipline. Navy installa-

tions and commands have an obligation to ensure that all members of the Navy community are aware of the potential for rape/sexual assault, are provided physical safety on the installation, and are provided with both Navy and community support in dealing with rape/sexual assault.

SAVI Program was implemented in 1994 to work with key personnel involved in handling sexual assault cases. The purpose of the SAVI Program is to provide Navy standards for addressing rape/sexual assault prevention, rape/sexual assault victim assistance and reporting of sexual assault cases.

The SAVI Program was established to ensure the Navy's policy regarding sexual assault of adults is implemented.

Every victim of sexual assault has the following rights:

- To be given as much credibility

as a victim of any other crime.

- To be considered a "victim" of sexual assault when any unwanted act of sex is forced on them through any type of coercion, violence or otherwise.

- To be considered a victim of sexual assault regardless of the assailant's relationship to the survivor, such as the survivor's spouse.

- To be asked only those questions that are relevant to a court case or to medical treatment.

- Not to be asked questions about prior sexual experience.

- Not to report the rape to the police, if they choose not to.

- To receive medical and mental health treatment, or participate in legal procedures only after giving his/her informed consent.

- To be treated fairly and without prejudice against race, age, class, gender, life style or occupation.

SAVI, page 13

Stormy weather

By **Chaplain Tommy Myhand**
Command Chaplain

Sigonella has had its share of storms lately. Do you remember a couple of months ago when a tornado formed and came down? Thankfully it did not cause any damage to our base. I was living in Oklahoma a few years ago when a category F-5 tornado went through Oklahoma City causing damage in the millions and million of dollars. Maybe you remember hearing about it? Recently, right after we had the chief-selectees base-to-base run, the heavens opened up and the rain came down in buckets.

Have you had any storms blow through your life lately? I have had many storms in my life over the years. One of my storms was when my best friend took his own life, not an easy issue to deal with. Another storm soon followed and I was numb. I had little energy; I felt lost, isolated and separated from God. As if a giant tornado had gotten hold of me. Maybe someone can relate to what I am sharing. So, how can you survive life storms? Firstly, it might be family and friends that you can turn to and share with them your storm. Allow them to be trusted to help you carry this load. Perhaps your chaplain can

help. We all have big shoulders. But most importantly, turn to God. Even though it is difficult to understand God's plans and reasons, trust that He will carry you through. In her book, "The Hiding Place," Corrie Ten Boom while in a Nazi concentration camp with her sister, complained to God about the fleas in their barracks. Only later did she discover that the fleas kept the guards out which allowed them to pray and have Bible studies. I have discovered in my own life that I have complained about various storms which I have been forced to endure. I have not always chosen my storms mostly they have chosen me! I can look at these storms one or two ways either I become the survivor, picking up the broken pieces or I can go through life with a victim's mentality complaining because of all the broken pieces. Then again if I take a reflective look back, I have found that these storms can become positive influences in my life. Nevertheless, time after time I have had to get through the storm to realize this.

I have not always understood some of the storms in my life. I'm sure that many of you don't either. It may be God's will to use the storms we encounter to help others in these future storms. Have you ever noticed when physical storms pass through the storm ends, the sun breaks out and if it is evening, there will be a majestic sunset. May our response to the storms of life allow others to glimpse the faithfulness of God and may it be a beautiful illustration of what could be in their lives.

NAS Sigonella Worship Opportunities

Catholic Mass
Saturday 5 p.m. Chapel (NAS II)
Sunday 9 a.m. Chapel (NAS I)
Sunday 9 a.m. in Italian 41st
Stormo Chapel (NAS II)
Sunday 11 a.m. Community Center (Mineo)

Protestant Traditional Worship
Sunday 9 a.m. Chapel (NAS II)

Protestant Worship
Sunday 9 a.m. Community Center (Mineo)
Sunday 11 a.m. Chapel (NAS I)

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
Sunday 1 p.m. Chapel (NAS I)

Church of Christ
Sunday 3:30 p.m. Chapel (NAS I)

Jewish Shabbat Service
Last Friday of the month 5 p.m.
Chapel (NAS I)

Weekdays
Daily Catholic Mass 11:30 a.m. (NAS I & II Chapels)
Wednesday Protestant Bible Study
4:45 p.m. (NAS II Chapel)
For more details, call 624-4295 or 624-2947.

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NAVY NEWS

FRP, Keeping the Navy Flexible

By JO2 (SW) Alyssa Batarla, U.S. Pacific Fleet Public Affairs

PEARL HARBOR, Hawaii (NNS) — The Navy is adapting the Fleet Response Plan (FRP), a program developed to change the way ships deploy and to provide the United States with a greater range of naval options, adding the element of flexibility to naval efficiency. "Through the FRP, the president and secretary of defense have a responsive, flexible Navy that can be called upon to deploy whenever we're needed with as little as 30 days notice," said Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet Adm. Walter F. Doran. "With the current world situation, this is the way we're going to have to run our

Navy."

The idea behind FRP is to keep the Navy ready to surge and to vary the lengths of deployments, meaning the Navy will be more flexible, ready to deploy whenever, wherever.

While the Navy has been forced to extend deployments to fight the war on terrorism, FRP does not mean Sailors will always spend more than six months at sea. According to Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Vern Clark, through FRP, the possibility exists for shorter, more frequent deployments during ships' operational availability.

"I would rather muster two battle groups for three months and do something really significant internation-

ally, and cooperate with partners in training and so forth, than just go over and hang out for six months without purpose," Clark told a Navy Times editorial board. "The position that I'm pushing is that we should be less interested in presence and more interested in presence with a purpose."

By increasing the duration of time a ship can be deployed, the operational availability of several ships will always overlap, giving the Navy the possibility of deploying multiple ships or battle groups at once.

"Just because a carrier strike group or an expeditionary strike group is surge-capable, it does not mean they will be surged, nor does it mean that if surged, they'll

be gone for six months," Doran said. "All groups will still have a set deployment date, but once they get to a certain period in their training, if we ask for them, if they're needed to surge for an operation, they can be deployed. FRP is the way we are going to run the Navy in the future, because it gives our nation's leaders the flexibility they need."

"This is a new operational concept that relies on active involvement by all levels of the chain of command to work," Doran said. "It is important for each ship, each squadron and each submarine crew to talk about the FRP model, so our Sailors and their families have a better idea of what to expect with future fleet operations."

SECNAV's Message to Sailors on Hurricane Isabel

Special message from the Secretary of the Navy

WASHINGTON (NNS) — Acting Secretary of the Navy Hansford T. Johnson released the following message with regard to Hurricane Isabel:

Hurricane Isabel left a trail of destruction in her wake. However, thanks to the hard work of thousands of Sailors and Marines along the Eastern seaboard, we were able to take many of our ships, boats and planes to safety ahead of the storm.

It was difficult to leave your loved ones behind, and they showed extraordinary courage in weathering the storm. We appreciate your dedication to our nation, and we are grateful for the strength and service of your loved ones.

From Jacksonville, Fla., to Annapolis, Md., we have a large



Rain and heavy winds from Hurricane Isabel pound Naval Station Norfolk, Va., and then proceeded inland. Hurricane Isabel, which cost the Navy nearly \$130 million in damage in the Mid-Atlantic region of the U.S., made landfall as a category 2 storm near Cape Hatteras, N.C., approximately 100 miles south of Norfolk.

amount of damage to repair. So as you continue to work with local law enforcement and emergency agencies to repair your

workplaces, homes and communities, I urge you to continue to be safe as we work toward a full recovery.

May God Bless you and your families, and may God continue to Bless the United States of America.

National Fire Prevention Week raises awareness

Article courtesy NASSIG Fire and Emergency services

National Fire Prevention Week will be observed this year October 5th through the 11th. The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) has always been the official sponsor for this event and this year's theme highlighting a desired fire safety practice is, "When Fire Strikes: Get Out! Stay Out! ". The Federal Emergency Management Agency (F.E.M.A.) recently conducted a study and found that less than 20% of American households have ever developed or practiced a fire exit drill in their home.

Fire exit drills in the home (a.k.a. E.D.I.T.H.), are intended to lessen the fear, confusion or panic that can result when a actual fire occurs in the home. One out of every three people will experience a fire of some sort in their lifetime. If everyone in the family knows what they should do if a fire occurs, the chances for a successful escape are greatly increased. Most home fires occur at night when people are asleep and the fire goes undetected. If properly located and maintained, your smoke detector should sense the smoke, heat or gases generated by the fire. If you know the proper action to take as described below, you have a good chance escaping the fire unharmed.

- Sit down with your family and develop, discuss, and practice a fire evacuation plan. Include everyone in the family a mock fire exit drill. Practice the drill twice a year.
- Test your smoke detector monthly at the test button, ensure that battery is changed at least once a year by you, or by Housing Department maintenance.
- Sleep with your bedroom doors closed. If you hear the detector go off, roll out of bed, stay low and feel the crack in the door. If you feel heat, or smell smoke yell to the family to stay low and to enact your fire escape plan.
- Try to arrange or plan two ways out from your floor in the event one is blocked by fire.
- Older children should help the younger, small children are not easily awakened. by the smoke detectors, or,

may be disoriented or confused when awakened.

- Everyone must stay low, practice crawling, that's where the air is cool and cleaner.
- Ensure that windows can be readily opened from inside. If you have a ledge or roof, stay there until the Fire Truck arrives and can help you down.
- Keep your cell phone next to your bed along with a flashlight. Check the batteries regularly.
- If you become trapped and smoke enters the room, go to the closet if necessary until fire fighters arrive, listen for their call when searching for you.
- Upon escape, have an agreed upon meeting place, such as across the street

Here at Sigonella, the Fire and Emergency Services Department will be providing a fire evacuation schematic floor plan for the residents of Mineo, Marinali, and 205 Housing that you can use to develop, plan and practice a fire exit drill in your home.

On Tuesday October 7th at 18:00 the Fire Truck at Mineo will tour each street and sound the siren, which will be the signal for you to test your smoke detector and conduct a home fire exit drill with your family. The same procedure will be repeated for the residents of Marinali on Wednesday, October the 8th, and for the residents of 205 Housing on Thursday October the 9th.

At NAS 1, the CDC and kindergarten students will practice "Stop, Drop, and Roll" while grades 3-6 will learn the importance of having smoke detectors. The High School students will learn the proper way to extinguish a grease fire. Sparky as well as the Fire Stations at NAS 1, 2, and Mineo will be available for any scheduled tours or visits by appointment. For further information you may contact the Fire Prevention Division at 624-5200 or 624-5202.

Fortunately, the last three years have gone by without one fire related fatality at Sigonella, and the Fire and Emergency Services Department would like to commend you on our fire safety record.

Recap CORNER

On Friday, October 3 we will close Forrestral Road just past the Chapel entrance (eastbound) and just after the barracks parking lot entrance (westbound) as shown on the attached sketches. Traffic entering the main gate should continue straight ahead unless they have business at FFSC or the Chapel. The specific impacts to the 205 Housing Pedestrian Path and the Post Office-MWR area behind the Gym are highlighted on the second and third slides. As shown on the second slide, the entrance to the enclave will cross the pedestrian path from the 205 Housing area. As with any pedestrian crossing, even with adequate precautions as we have at the Flag Plaza, we need to be very careful there. In the Post Office and MWR area behind the Gym the impact of the enclave is probably the most intense because the area is so confined. As shown on the third slide, the parking will remain but traffic will now be two way to a dead end with a turn around area big enough to handle the Postal delivery van. This is another area for extreme caution because you have to be very careful when backing from your parking space into two-way traffic.

The final bend before the home stretch, however, is in sight and the completion plans are highlighted on the fourth slide. In October we finish the southwest corner of the main circulation loop, in December we deliver the southern half of the parking in front of the new Community Center (98 spaces). Starting next year (2004) we will be delivering new buildings in quick succession, as shown on the final slide. In March we'll open the Administration Building, in April we'll open the Chapel, in July we'll open the Community Center and the new parking lot next to the main gate (109 spaces), in September we will complete the north half of the parking in front of the Community Center (adds 88 spaces), and in December we will complete the new parking lot in front of AFN (90 spaces). This will increase our parking capacity by 385 spaces (all of the NEX-DeCA lots combined have 374 spaces). Our work is not done but, to take a page from CAPT Davison's book, we're getting there with "teamwork."

How SIG 2.3 Affects You: From October 3, until we complete the western side of the NAS 1 circulation loop road, the ONLY access from the main gate to the south side of the base will be on Mitscher Road running North-South from the main gate to Halsey Road. Also, please remember that School is back in session, so the school busses will be using the loop road around the park and that road will be closed to all POV traffic, except on weekends.

If you have any questions about SIG 2.3 construction, contact LT Darren Hale at haled@nassig.sicily.navy.mil.



Urban Moves: Oct. 9. Two shows. Base Theater at 3 p.m., Crater Club at 8:30 p.m.



Oct. 4 at 6 p.m. NAS I Base Theater. Known not only for its hilarious sketch comedy and wicked improvisation, The Second City has been the springboard for generations of the comedy world's best and brightest. Free to U.S. ID cardholders 18 years and older.

News Briefs

AOSC bagging

The All Officers' Spouses Club will be bagging groceries at the commissary on Oct. 4 from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. All proceeds go to the Navy Ball. When you finish shopping, check out in the AOSC lane and help make the Navy Ball a success.

Bottle signing

Have bottles signed by Count and Countess de la Gatinais, owners of Tenute Rapiatala.

Oct. 3 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Oct. 4 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Taste fine Sicilian wines from Tenute Rapiatala at the NEX Main Store. Meet the Count and Countess de la Gatinais, owners of one of Sicily's oldest wineries on Friday and Saturday from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. Join us at the NEX main store, sample some fine wines, receive free give-a-ways, and enter to win 1.5 liter of "Hugonis" Magnum. Call 624-4827 for more information.

FFSC spouse orientation

The Fleet & Family Support Center is sponsoring a brand new program titled New Spouse Orientation designed for spouses new to Navy life. This program has been designed to provide Navy information to the new Navy spouse to obtain a better understanding of military life, the rank structure, chain of command, deployments and to address any other questions or concerns that a new Navy spouse may have. Light refreshments will be served. The program will be held on October 17th at the Golden Anchor from 8 a.m. - 12 p.m. To sign up please call the FFSC at 624-4291. Spaces are limited to the first 30 to call and sign up so please hurry.

Fire extinguisher training

Training and demonstration classes are provided to the public. This class includes discussion of the different types of fire and the correct extinguisher to use on each. The date for fire extinguisher demonstrations are Oct. 6-10, 2003 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. NAS II Fire Station Bldg # 405. Anyone wishing to participate in the portable extinguisher training may contact, Fire Prevention Division at 624-5200



By Alberto Lunetta
Signature Staff

Italian News

Sicilian culture and lifestyle

Sortino celebrates Honey Festival

The *Sagra del Miele* (Honey Bee Festival), will be held Oct. 3 through 5 in Sortino, a small town in the Siracusa province nestled in the Iblei Mountains. All three days will feature craft and food booths offering items for sale to the public. Also in conjunction with the festival will be Sicilian puppet shows, a spectacular parade, folklore shows and concerts. The event, which is held at several locations throughout the city's historic center, celebrates the local beekeeping industry producing over 100 tons of honey annually.

Educational demonstrations about honey will also be available. Festivalgoers will have an opportunity to learn about the lives of honeybees, see how honey is harvested, and taste locally produced honeys made from different pollens such as *Zagara* (orange-blossom), *Timo* (Thyme) and *Eucaliptos* (Eucalyptus).

Booths will also sell other local specialties and produce such as olive oil, cheese, *salsiccia*, cakes and citrus.

Tonight the festival kicks off at 7 p.m. in piazza Giovanni Verga (main square). A music show follows in the evening at 9 p.m.

On Oct. 4, the *Sagra* (festival) begins at 5 p.m. in piazza Giovanni Verga. At 9 p.m., a fashion show and a Sicilian puppets show are held in piazza Santa Sofia. Later at 8 p.m. a music show is performed at the public gardens.

On the last day of the festival (Oct. 5), stands open at 10 a.m. in piazza Giovanni Verga. A spectacular parade featuring *carretti siciliani* (Sicilian carts), the city band and a flag waver show start at 5 p.m. and proceeds throughout the historic center. The parade also includes the *Fasciddari* (local beekeepers) that are going to display the old *Fasciddi* (containers used to transport hives).

In the evening, the festival ends with a fashion show, Sicilian puppet shows, and live music performances that are presented in piazza Santa Sofia starting at 8 p.m.

Besides the festival, Sortino boasts beautiful churches, a Sicilian puppet museum and mesmerizing Baroque buildings. Also popular is *Pantalica*, a noteworthy archeological area that is located about three miles outside Sortino. An imposing necropolis, *Pantalica*, is a major center of the late bronze age in eastern Sicily featuring over 8,000 tombs and small caves dug into the soft limestone cliffs of the local mountainside. The rivers Calcinara and Anapo delimit the necropolis.

For more information and free-guided excursions to the main city attractions (Sicilian Puppet Museum, Anapo Valley, Pantalica Necropolis and the Capuchin Convent) call Sortino Tourist Office at 0931-953359 or 0931-917433, Mr. Vincenzo Migliore (333-6958211) or Mr. Gino Magnano, President of the local Volunteer Tourist Office (333-2076206).

Sortino can be easily reached from Sigonella. Exit Sortino on the Catania-Siracusa highway.

Peach festival to be held in Leonforte

The Leonforte Peach Festival is great ways to celebrate the tardive (late peaches) that ripen in the fall. The tardive are wrapped up in plastic bags since June. Each peach is encased in a small parchment paper container to protect it from parasites and harsh weather conditions. It is mainly a man's job since women don't work in the fields in Sicily. These men are paid by the job. The fastest worker can bind about 2,000 peaches per day. It is a job requiring an infinite patience but the result is a tasty pale yellow and red shaded fruit with yellow flesh. Peaches are of such abundance in Leonforte also because of the city's unlimited water supply system. The fields surrounding the town are watered by several springs such as the Grande Fonte, a huge twenty-four-canal fountain. All Leonforte fountains date back to the 17th century as Prince Nicolò Placido Branciforti, the founder of the city, commissioned the building of magnificent Baroque styled gardens. Branciforti's majestic 365-room palace still overlooks the city's historic center.

The Leonforte Peach Festival is held on Oct. 4 and 5. Starting at 3 p.m., on Oct. 4, booths for tasting and buying the delicious peaches and other local produce such as almonds, cakes, bread, olive oil and chickpeas are set up in piazza Margherita. The stands are open all day long. On Oct. 5, the festival begins in the morning at 9 a.m.

During the festival, folklore groups and bands entertain on various outdoor stages in the beautiful city's historic center. Arts and crafts exhibi-



Photo by Sortino Tourist Office

Sortino's Honey Festival will be held Friday through Sunday, Oct. 3-5, with educational programs about honey, food booths, parades, folklore shows, live music and participation by local crafters and merchants.

tors are on hand to sell typical Sicilian crafts. For more information call Leonforte City hall at 0935-665111.

Leonforte can be easily reached by exiting Mulinello on the Catania-Palermo highway.

Fall festivals in the Catania province

Enjoy the fall in Sicily with these fall festivals featuring good food, wine, arts and crafts booths and live music. Santa Venerina (Oct. 4 and 5), Zafferana (Oct. 5, 12, 19 and 26) and Trecastagni (Oct. 4, 5, 11 and 12). For more information and detailed schedules call Catania Province Tourist Office at 095-7306211.



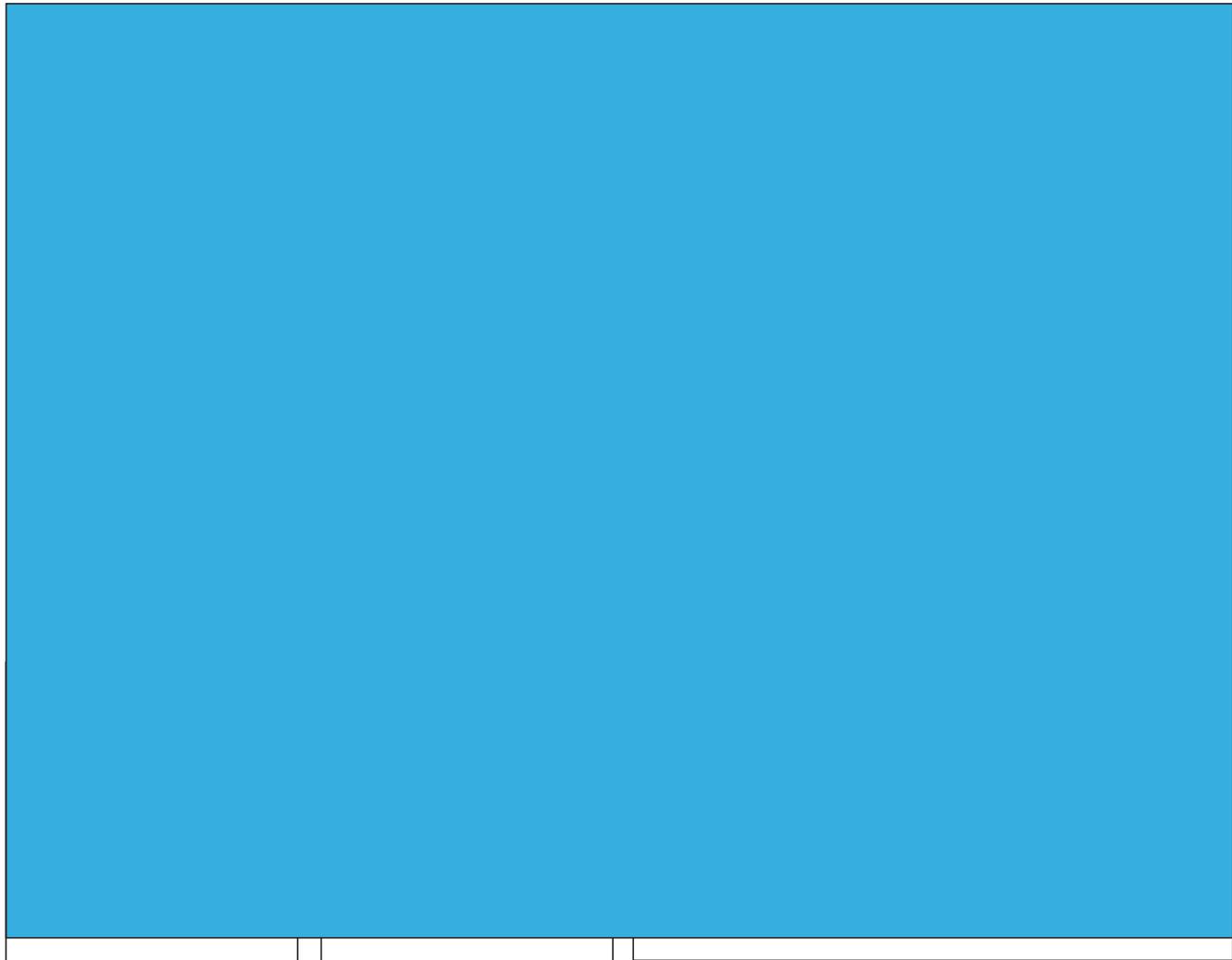
SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

October

					3 Catania Shopping ITT Call 624-4396	4 Honey Tasting in St. Alfio ITT Call 624-4396
5 Patti Shopping & Capo D'Orlando ITT Call 624-4396	6 Torch Club Meeting 4 to 5 p.m. 205 Youth Center	7 CFC Kickoff	8 Ballet with Esther Scott five to six year olds 2:45 10 to 12 year olds 3:45 p.m. Call 624-3712	9 Ciao Sig. Kids 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Comm. Bldg. ICR rm.	10 SDS Volleyball / Cross County vs Livorno Homecoming game	11 SDS Football vs. Brussels home game homecoming 2 p.m.
12 Second Annual Volleyball Tourney last day of tourney Call 624-2710	13 Columbus Day	14 Circuit Training Club every Tuesday until Nov 21 see either Fitness Center	15 National Apple Jack Month free Apple Jacks while supplies last Take 5	16 Acireale City & Shopping ITT Call 624-4396	17 Movie Day at BLAST free movie and popcorn 1 to 3 p.m.	18 Base to Base Geep Run Captain Cups event registration 7:30 to 8 a.m. NAS II fitness Center Call 624-4483
19 Lipari Express ITT Call 624-4396	20	21 Tournament Tuesday Jenga. 11:30 a.m. Take 5.	22 Italian Dine-Out Liberty. Call 624-5187.	23 Retirement Planning FFSC 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. NAS II Retention Ctr.	24 Panini Run Liberty. Call 624-5187.	25 Horseback Riding Liberty. Call 624-5187.
26 Agrigento Valley of the Temples and S. Leone Beach ITT Call 624-4396	27 Game Night - Spades NAS I Barracks #170 7 p.m. Liberty	28 Train the Trainer FFSC 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Base Theater	29 Tops in Blue Air Force Variety Show Nex parking lot Call x5271 for info.	30 Topolino 2 "Kids Indoc" FFSC 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. Comm. Bldg. ICR Class	31 Autumn Fest Oct. 31 through Nov. 1. Call x5271 for more information.	1 Autumn Fest Oct. 31 through Nov. 1. Call x5271 for more information.

November





Word Find

Department Stores

O R T S R O R E G O R K I P M M S U C R U Q F F W
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- OLD NAVY
- SAKS FIFTH AVENUE
- SEARS AND ROEBUCK
- SPIEGEL
- STERNS
- TARGET
- TROUTMANS EMPORIUM
- WALMART
- WANNAMAHER
- WOOLWORTH

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| ABRAHAM AND STRAUS | HUDSONS | MACYS |
| BAMBERGERS | JCPENNEY | MAISON BLANCHE |
| BELK | KMART | MARSHALL FIELD AND CO |
| BLOOMINGDALES | KORVETTES | MAY |
| CARSON PIRIESCOTT | KRAUSS | MERVYNS |
| DAYTONS | KRESGES | MONTGOMERY WARD |
| FILENES | KROGER | NIEMAN MARCUS |
| FREDMEYER | LOEHMANN'S | NORDSTROM |
| GIMBELS | LORD AND TAYLOR | OHRBACHS |

Shout

DoDDs students talk about what's happening in the community

New DoDDS teacher helping to make a difference

By JO2 (SW) Brian Johnson
Staff Writer

Stephen Decatur High School has a new face in the halls and he's brought a new class with him, and while he may be new to SDS he is no Stranger to the Department of Defense Dependant School system.

Les Bryan began his DoDDS teaching career in 1986 in Lakenheath, England. "I taught at Lakenheath from 1986 to 1999," he said. "It's nice to be back with the Navy," from which Bryan recently retired after a total of 27 years of active and reserve service.

After his time in the classroom, Bryan moved to administration as the Language Arts Coordinator for the Isles district. "I traveled all over Europe helping a new face in the halls of the Stephen Decatur High School is Les Bryan. He will be bringing a journalism course and hopefully a journalism school paper to the school," he said.



Photo by JO2 (SW) Brian Johnson

Now that Bryan has moved back to the classroom he has brought a couple of new things to Sigonella. "The Journalism class is new to this school and from this we hope to start some sort of school paper and help with some other school publications as well as the Signature," he said. "Before we do that stuff though I need to get the students writing well."

Bryan knows what it takes to be a journalist having studied it at Columbia University in New York. "I did my undergraduate work at Columbia and later I got my Master's degree in Journalism from Columbia," he said.

It was during his course of study Bryan discovered he didn't want to be a journalist. "A good friend of mine, Mike Isikoff, once asked me why I didn't become a journalist and before I even got the chance to offer his wife said 'he's to nice of a guy to be a journalist.' Which just goes to show what kind of person it takes to be a journalist, and I'm not that kind of person."

In addition to bringing journalism to SDS Bryan is also hoping to start a drama club for the students. "It's just going to be a club not a class, but we are hoping to do a couple of productions throughout the year," he said.

However Bryan's teaching schedule consists of more than journalism. "I am also teaching Honors English 9 and English 12, which means I see nearly all of the seniors," he said.

All that contact with the senior class has also given him a collateral job of senior class sponsor. "That means I'll get to help them plan graduation and other class functions, which should be fun."

Now that Bryan has come back to the classroom he is happy to be there because he gets to practice what he's been preaching for the last three years. "It's nice to go back and practice some of the things I've been telling teachers to do for the last few years," he said. "Whatever is good and right with this school [DoDDS] system happens in the classroom."

- Fri. Oct. 3**
- Sat. Oct. 4**
- Sun. Oct. 5**
- Mon. Oct. 6**
- Tues. Oct. 7**
- Wed. Oct. 8**
- Thurs. Oct. 9**

The crater pub is now open. Join them for an Open House Dance party at 8 p.m.

Did you know that Mt. Etna is known for its honey? Visit a honey farm and Castagno dei 100 cavalli, the largest chestnut tree in Europe. Call ITT at x4396/x4777 for more information.

Enjoy some wine tasting at the Gambino Winery near Linguaglossa with ITT. Then your off to Zafferana for the Ottobrata Festival, Sicily's version of October fest. You can sample delicious food and buy Sicilian handcrafts. Be sure to bring euro for food and shopping. Call ITT at x4396/x4777 for more information.

Ready for something different? Join Liberty for a great Mexican dinner, and let liberty pay for up to E10 of your meal. Bring extra euro if you plan to eat more. Sign up and pay at Take 5 by 4 p.m. on Oct. 5.

It's tournament Tuesday with Liberty. Come by the NAS 1 #170 Barracks at 7 p.m. to compete for big prizes. This Tuesday is Battleship night. Free to play and win.

Take 5 is celebrating Country Music Month. Come by from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. to test your knowledge of country music and win big prizes.

This is your chance to bargain shop. Liberty will drive you into Catania so you can catch all the hottest deals on clothes, food, knock-knacks and much more. Sign up and pay by 4 p.m. on Oct. 7, at Take 5. Bring extra euro for food and shopping.

Be amazed by the hot dance moves of the dynamic group "Urban Moves" direct from Washington D.C. The dance group is scheduled to perform at the bast theater at 3 p.m. and the again at the Crater Club at 8:30 p.m.

TRIVIA

- 1) On the TV show "The Simpsons", which president did Mr. Burns's mother have an affair with?
- 2) Who directed the movie "Spartacus"?
- 3) Arnold Schwarzenegger arrived in America in what year?
- 4) What is Arizona's state flower?
- 5) In the movie "Dirty Harry" who was Harry's partner?

(Answers on page 10)

Movie Connection

MW's Theater Schedule

Friday, Oct. 3



5:30 p.m.
S.W.A.T. (PG-13)**



8:30 p.m.
Matchstick Men (PG-13)**

Saturday, Oct. 4



1 p.m.
Freaky Friday (PG)**

6 p.m.
USO Comedy Show
"Second City"

Known not only for its hilarious sketch comedy and wicked improvisation, the Second City has been the springboard for generations of the comedy world's best and brightest. Alumni include: Bill Murray, John Candy, Dan Aykroyd, Gilda Radner, Martin Short, and more. Free to U.S. ID cardholders 18 years and older.

Sunday, Oct. 5



1 p.m.
Matchstick Men (PG-13)



3:30 p.m.
Freaky Friday (PG)



6 p.m.
S.W.A.T. (PG-13)

Monday, Oct. 6



5:30 p.m.
Pirates of the Caribbean (PG-13)*



8 p.m.
Gigli (R)

Theater Closed Tuesdays

Wednesday, Oct. 8



5:30 p.m.
S.W.A.T. (PG-13)



8 p.m.
Bad Boys 2 (R)*

Thursday, Oct. 9



6 p.m.
Johnny English (PG)*



8 p.m.
Matchstick Men (PG-13)

Friday, Oct. 10



5:30 p.m.
Secondhand Lions (PG)**



8:30 p.m.
Freddy vs. Jason (R)**

** Future Re-release ** Sneak Preview *Last Showing
(All times and movies are subject to change. For more information on the schedule, call the movie hotline at

This Week on...

Mon. Oct 6 - Football: Colts @ Buccaneers
AFN Atlantic 2:00 AM

Tue. Oct 7 - America's Funniest Home Videos
AFN Atlantic 7:00 PM

Wed. Oct 8 - The Parkers
AFN Atlantic 7:00 PM

Thu. Oct 9 - The Bachelor
AFN Atlantic 8:00 PM

Fri. Oct 10 - Malcolm in the Middle
AFN Atlantic 7:30 PM

TUNE YOUR RADIO TO 106.0 ZFM 3 - 6 PM FOR THE ROCK SHOW

FOR LATEST NEWS HAPPENING IN THE COMMUNITY GO TO AFN SIGONELLA'S WEBSITE AT afneurope.net/sigonella/

SPORTS

Jaguars girls volleyball ready to put it down

By JOSN Steve Weaver
Staff Writer

The Stephen Decatur School boys and girls volleyball teams played in a three-way match this weekend against the teams from Aviano and Naples.

The girls varsity team won their match Friday with the Naples Wildcats, but lost to the powerhouse team from Aviano in three straight games.

In the first game, the Jaguars saw the Aviano Saints take an early lead, but the Jags were able to make it a respectable finish at 25 - 22. The second match saw the Jags claw their way to an 8 - 7 lead, but Aviano pulled ahead and never looked back as they took the victory 25 - 12. An injury to Jaguars Outside Hitter Jasmine Kelly didn't help matters. Aviano then took the final of the best of five match 25 - 13.

The Jaguars had trouble returning the serves from the Saints in the third match. Jags setter Lauren Blount said the team was becoming frustrated. "I think what happened was it was all mental," said Blount. "Once we got down, we kind of let ourselves stay down. In the beginning of the match we were ready, but something didn't click this time. We'll get them next time."

Kelly said the Saints have been together a while, and have a good chemistry. "They were tough, they're our number one goal," she said. "They have a special connection on their side since they've been playing longer together. That group of people have been playing for three years straight."



Jaguars' Outside Hitter Jasmine Kelly spikes the ball over an Aviano defender.

"We were a lot closer to them this year than last year," said Blount. "Last year they killed us."

The team has done well this year. They started off with two exhibition losses to Naples and American Overseas School of Rome (AOSR) at the season opening "Jamboree." Head Girls Volleyball Coach Shawn McCarthy said that he was getting a feel for the team during those games. "Since that's an exhibition weekend, we try a whole bunch of different set-ups to find out what works where," he said. "After that we can make changes. It's an ever-evolving process, you try players in different position until you find the right parts."

The team then traveled to Milan, where they won in three straight games. "The first game we won 29-27 after we were down 23-17," McCarthy said. "Then we won the next two."

They then woke up the next morning and took it to Mary Mount. "We were underdogs against Mary Mount, and we came back a whole lot," said Kelly. They lost the first two games, but came back and won the last three to win the best-of-five match. "We lost to them four-straight years," McCarthy said. "Things looked like they were heading that direction after the first two games, but in the face of adversity these kids really stay calm."

"We beat Naples [on Friday], which broke another a four-year string of not beating them," said McCarthy. "Naples, Mary Mount and Aviano are usually the three usually strong teams in our league. We beat two of the three, but we lost to the third powerhouse." When asked, team members said Aviano is the team they're most looking forward to beating later in the season.

Some of these players are in their first year playing volleyball. "We have some up and comers," McCarthy said. "We have two freshmen that are going to be here for a number of years, Melissa Kirk and Whitney Lynch. Both of those kids haven't played before, but I ended up starting both of them in our last game. This is a small



The Jaguars' Whitney Lynch stretches her arm out to block a return from a member of the Aviano Saints. The Jags lost in three games but look forward to meeting Aviano again later in the season.

school, great opportunities for the kids. They don't have to have a lot of experience to get on the varsity team here."

The team is developing a good chemistry as well. "They all get along really well," said McCarthy. "We're still trying to get people to their positions. On and off the court they all get along very well. We travel and spend hours and hours together on the planes, the boats, the buses, it's fun. We do a lot of great things together. We do all sorts of stuff. We're making a team CD with their favorite songs and everything. It's like a big family."

Kelly said a key for the team is "definitely keeping spirits up. The more comfortable we get with each other, the more we're going to put it down."

The team would like to play for a Mediterranean League championship, which occurs during a three-day tournament in Vincenza on Oct. 23 through 25. "Our goal is to get to play Saturday, that would mean you're playing for first, second, third or fourth," McCarthy said. "I think our goal is to get beyond just the semi-finals, I would like to get to the finals."

The team has one more home game this season, an Oct. 11 homecoming game bout against Livorno. McCarthy encourages the community to come out and support the volleyball teams and promises an entertaining game.

Births

September 18, 2003
Selma and Corey Vereen
Caylin Tabari Vereen
19 inches, 7 pounds 2 ounces

September 20, 2003
Heather and Richard Crapser
Jade M. Crapser
20 inches, 7 pounds 13 ounces

September 22, 2003
Rebecca and Andy Tabing
Madalynne Carolina Tabing
19 inches, 7 pounds 12 ounces

September 23, 2003
Latoya and Henry Jackson
Novein Lee Jackson
19 inches, 7 pounds 2 ounces

September 23, 2003
Margie and Jason Castro
Andrew Macapagal Castro
18 inches, 6 pound 10 ounces



A chat with the coach:

Q and A with Jaguars football coach Fred Wilmot

By JO1 Craig Coleman
Staff Writer

The Stephen Decatur Jaguars football is off to a flying start this season. Wins against the Alconbury (England) Dragons Rota's Farragut lifted the Jags into a two-way tie for the division lead contention for the division title. But those were home games Coach Fred Wilmot, head coach of the Jaguars for seven campaigns, took his team on the road for the first time this season, traveling to Menwith Hill, England last weekend. The Jags got off to a rocky start, going down 12-0 in the first quarter. They rebounded in the second, tying the game at 12-all. In the third quarter the Jags scored two more touchdowns and held their lead in the fourth to claim a 24-12 victory. We spoke with Coach Wilmot before the road trip about this remarkable turnaround for a team that finished last year 2-4, but this year could win the division championship.

The Signature: How do you

motivate your team?

FW: Basically, this year we've talked about our opportunity to be the best in the division. As in anything you do, you should be trying to be the best you can. The big thing is that this is a team effort. We have some team leaders who are good at getting the others going. We have talent in running and speed and agility and size in our linemen. If we keep all that together there's no one we can't beat.

Dedication is important. Being out here every day, for practice it has to be the whole team. By missing practice they miss out - that's the biggest thing we stress - being here every day and giving everything you've got. We have players who do that and they're the role models for the rest.

S: How do you feel about your team winning two in a row?

FW: I'm very happy with that, but we made a lot of mistakes in both games. We had a lot of penalties, especially in the last

game. It cost us 160 yards and we can't continue to win like that. We're working on decreasing our number of penalties.

S: What are the key reasons for the team's success this season?

FW: The talent we have, determination and the volunteer assistant coaches have really worked well with the athletes and helped develop them - in particular, Coaches Greg Sii and Danny Smith. We have a number of coaches, including Greg Smith, who have been instrumental.

S: How did you put that coaching staff together?

FW: We had the XO of the base send out an e-mail saying that we were looking for volunteer coaches and all these people responded. Others knew of more people who wanted to help.

S: How many returning players are on the team?

FW: We had 11 from last year return and one from the year before last.

S: What was the team's record last year?

FW: 2-4. We won the last two games of that season. We could have beaten anybody after that. The team was slow to start, but blossomed.

S: How do you handle academics in scholastic sports?

FW: Academics come first. We deliberately don't practice



Jaguars Head Coach Fred Wilmot

Photo by JO1 Craig Coleman

have a grade check policy. Anybody who has more than one "F" is ineligible to play that weekend. If we hear that a player has an "F" we encourage them to get the grade up.

S: What are you doing differently this year?

FW: I don't think we're doing a whole lot differently. We're just executing better. The kids are motivated and with the talent we have we can emphasize precision. If a receiver has a route we stress that it's run accurately. We play until the whistle blows.

S: Any predictions?

FW: I predict that homecoming game on Oct. 10 will determine who is first and who is second in the division. If we execute and play until the whistle blows, there's no one we can't beat.

Soccer season opens in Sigonella



Photo by JO1 Craig Coleman

A Thundercat (in orange) faces off against two Dragons in opening day action in the Sigonella 7-9 year-old league. Fifteen teams with players aged five to 15 participated. According to Capt. Tim Davison, NAS Sigonella commanding officer, more than a quarter of the base population participates in the soccer program, making it the lynchpin of youth sports. Speaking at the Opening Day ceremony, Davison thanked the parents, coaches and most importantly players for participating. "These athletes look great and have made the commitment to come out and play soccer and at the same time have fun and learn."



Photo by JO1 Craig Coleman

Members of Stephen Decatur High School's Jaguars football team perform warm up stretches before their game with the Alconbury High School Dragons. The Jags won on Saturday 24-12 against Menwith Hill, England.

The Lane

Second annual Columbus Day Volleyball Tournament

Three days of heated action starting Friday Oct. 10. Cheer on Team Sigonella as they take on the rest of Europe in this six-on-six indoor, double elimination tournament. The times are not set yet so keep your eyes open for upcoming matches or call 624-2710 for information.

Base to base geep run

Oct. 18 at 8:30 a.m. Registration is from 7:30 to 8 a.m. at NAS II Fitness Center. Pre-register at either Fitness Center. Fee to enter. The distance is 7.3 miles from NAS II to NAS I. T-shirts and awards. Call x4483/x5243 for more information.

Autumn Fest fitness contests

Dates and times to be announced. Bench press competition, arm wrestling, push-up and sit-up contests. Call x4483/x5243 for more info.

Racquetball challenge

Play starts October 20. Reg. deadline Oct. 13. Call x2710 for more information

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A taste of Sicily

Story and photos by JO2 (SW) Sarah Bohannon
Staff Writer

Bright colors and beautiful shapes beckon from a shelf in a souvenir shop. Graceful patterns adorn the pottery tourists buy from a multitude of stores across Sicily. Lovely ironworks adorn homes, and fine wines grace the tables of Americans and Sicilian's alike. Though many enjoy traditional Sicilian crafts, few understand the time and care involved in making these things.

Through the Wine Tasting & Artist Studio: Ceramic and Iron Handicrafts tour, ITT offers visitors to Sicily a peek at the process involved in creating some of the things that make Sicilian culture famous world-wide.

"I enjoyed this tour, it was a real taste of Sicily," said Christopher L. Derringer from HC-4. "We got the chance to not only buy some Sicilian crafts, but to see how they were made," he said.

The first stop on the tour was ceramics shop in the small town of Santa Venerina where Giusi Grasso, a local ceramics artist demonstrated how she creates traditional Sicilian pottery. From the ground to the kiln to shelves in Sicily and America, she explained how she forms, fires, and glazes the pieces many tourists buy and bring home.

A short walk up the street brought the tour to Fichera Iron works. There, tour members observed the skill involved in forging an iron rod into tradi-

tional Sicilian furniture.

"The artists, especially the iron worker was great.," said Jim Hartman, retired Army Soldier and tour member. "It adds a personal touch to the souvenirs I would normally buy. This was a fantastic tour," he said.

The final stop on the tour was Murgo winery in the small Mt. Etna hill town of Zafferena. There, Emanuele Scammacca Del Murgo, owner of the winery, led the tour through his wine making process.

Visitors walked through the vineyard, where Murgo encouraged tourists to sample grapes fresh off the vine. Then, the visitors toured the winery, where he explained the wine making process.

Finally, the tour members were allowed to sample the finished product over a traditional Sicilian lunch. "We enjoyed the people and we enjoyed the wine tasting. We hope to come back and do it again," said Ingrid Hartman, tour member.

For many, this tour was an opportunity to sample another side of Sicilian culture. "I try to get out on the tours, because it gives me a chance to see some of the different cultures within the different villages in Sicily," said Derringer.

This tour comes highly recommended for visitors seeking a less commercial, more comprehensive look at Sicilian arts and crafts. For the tourist who not only enjoys beautiful pottery, ironworks and fine wine, but also wants to know how these local treasures are made, this tour is a dream come true.



Left:
The Ironworker at Fichera Ironworks heats iron in the fire before shaping it.

Right:
Tourgoers were invited to sample grapes from the vine at Murgo Winery.

Trivia Answers

- 1) William taft
- 2) Stanley Kubrik
- 3) 1968
- 4) Saguaro Cactus Blossom
- 5) Chico Gonzales



Photos clockwise from left:

An ironworker at Fichera Ironworks displays how he forms iron rods into traditional Sicilian furniture.

Tourgoers smell the raw materials for grappa, the remainder of the grapes after they are pressed to make wine.

Three-year old Jenna Duke plucks a ripe grape from the vine at Murgo winery.

Local ceramic artist Giusi Grasso demonstrates how she glazes pottery during the tour's stop at her ceramics shop in Santa Venerina.



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Wrestling from page 1

I was there, when they changed from the Global Wrestling Federation (GWF), I was the first XW 2000 Heavyweight Champion. I held that for roughly eight months." *Staff Writer*

The highlight of his career, other than winning the championships, was "wrestling in the Tokyo dome in Japan in front of 66,000 people."

Mason did shows while in Florida at the local fairgrounds, at a nightclub, at the Santa Rosa Auditorium. "Then we started a thing where we started doing shows on bases," he said. "We wrestled at Naval Air Technical Training Center (NATTC), where all the A schools are, every quarter. We put a show on for the Single Sailor Liberty program. We usually flew one WWF guy or one big name guy out, and I'd just kick their butt every time because I was the champion." There, Mason wrestled with the likes of Mr. Wrestling and tag-teamed with Marty Jannetty, who was Shawn Michaels' Partner when they were in the WWF tag team champions "The Rockers."

Mason took on different personas depending on his location. "When I first started off, I was 'Top Gun Deuce Mason' in Florida," he said. While in Pensacola, the commanding officer gave Mason a flight suit to go along with his "Top Gun" gimmick. "When I wrestled in Philadelphia I was 'Shamus McTavish,'" he continued. "I wore a kilt like Rowdy Roddy Piper. When I

was in Japan I was called 'The Deuce.' When I was wrestling for CCW in California, I was known as "Deuce Mason." Then back in Pensacola, he was "Top Gun Deuce Mason" again."

Most of the matches Mason took part in were known as "hardcore" style. Most of his matches included actually hitting someone, no fake stuff here. "It's predetermined, but you're out there putting on a show," said Mason. "You got to lay stuff in. In Japan, they are a lot different from here, they really lay stuff in. They don't try to kill somebody, but they make it look really good.

The double reverse DDT. This is Mason's signature move. He would grab a guy in a headlock, move his head back and forth, and then DDT him. "I've done a



Photo courtesy/BJWC (AW) Edward Mason

WWF world champion wrestler Yokozuna shows Mason the ropes, literally. Mason trained with Yokozuna in 1988 while stationed in Florida. Yokozuna died in 2002 in Liverpool, England.

lot of clotheslines off the top rope," he said. "I like doing suplexes off the top rope. It even knocks me silly every now and again. You're up there high, and you got this 200 some pound man with you, you lift him up and you both fall and hit the mat."

Mason's last match was six months prior to being stationed here. Back when he was actively wrestling, he found it was not difficult to juggle wrestling and a Navy career. "It was pretty easy because our matches were usually in the evenings," he said. "Basically, if I was going on tour somewhere I'd take leave or whatever I needed to do to make the shows. Jockeying between my Navy career and wrestling hasn't been hard. I've been doing it on and off for 15 years."

Not all of it was easy. "I've had my share of bumps and bruises and some stitches, but other than that I've had nothing major hurt," said Mason. "Which I probably would have had if I would have been full time like the WWF and WCW guys. When you see them and their not there, their usually getting surgery or recoping from surgery. It's really physical nowadays, especially with all the high flyers and doing all the crazy stuff."

The wrestler is now working to bring wrestling to Sigonella. "I'm trying to bring five or six WWF guys over here, and some of the guys I wrestled with," he said. "We're going to try to do like a six-stop tour show over here. I'm working on the logistics right now," he said some stops may include Naples, Aviano, Rota, and Souda Bay.

His past shows were a hit. "We sell out at the base," Mason said. "It's a free show, but it's jam packed. The CO of NATTC said that it was the most people he's seen at a club at one time since he's been the CO." Mason guarantees the same reaction here.



Photo by PH1 Jane West

Orphanage from page 1

ute to the local community, to give something back," he said. Some volunteered their time for the sheer joy of helping others.

"It's good to help out and to help the kids. It's good to give back to the Italian community also," said AZ3 Terrance Gentry from Base Training.

AZ1 Michael Pickens from the base training office agreed. "I'm the type of person who likes to give back to the local community," he said. "Anything I can do to help out, I will. They need help, and with the kids starting school, it's good to have a fresh new environment for them when they come back."

Puglia said he hopes the spirit of community service will grow. "My goal here is to build up some momentum with this volunteer work," he said. "We'll be doing a different project every month."

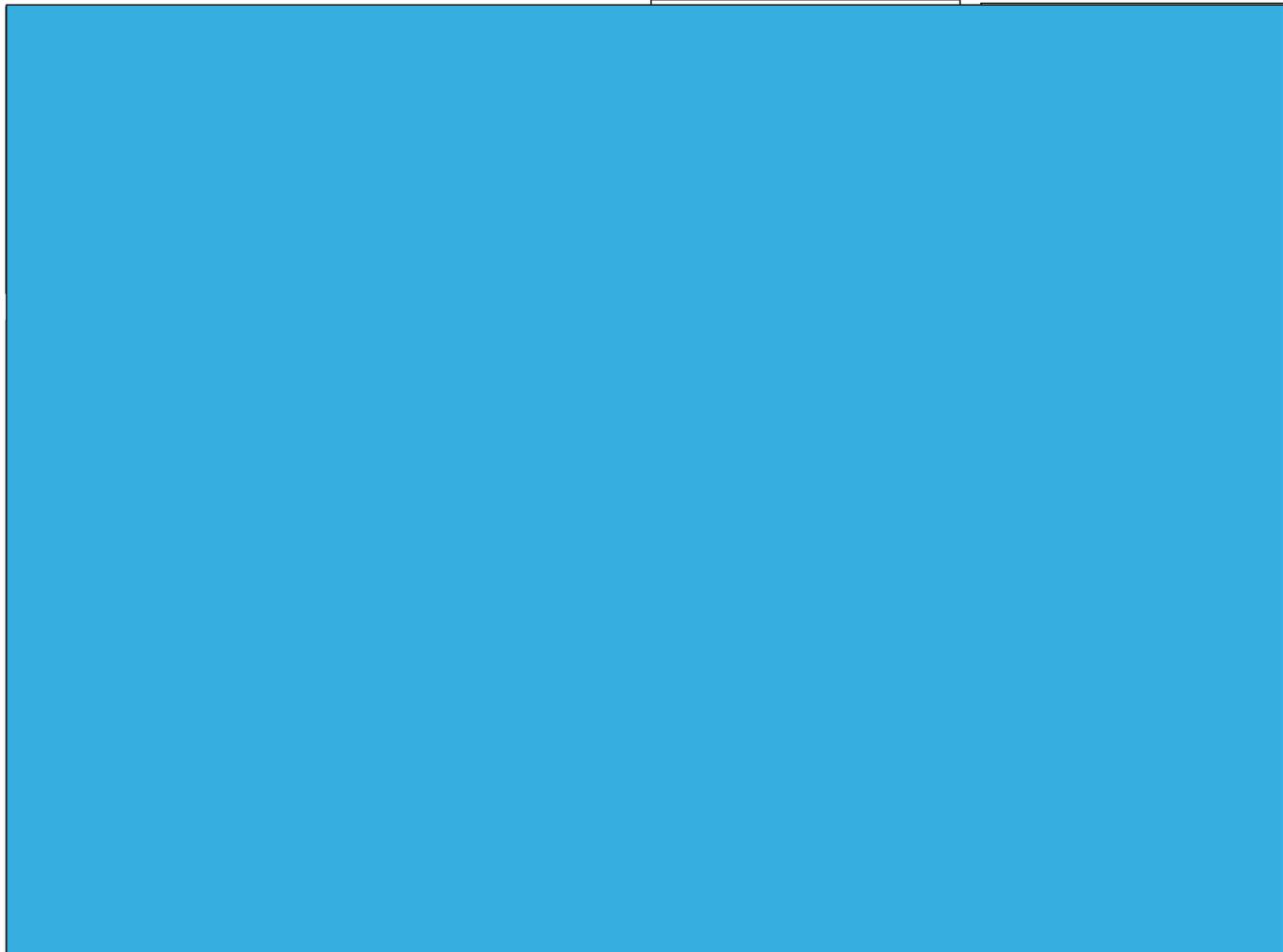
Servicemembers interested in volunteering to help out with next months project can contact the NAS Sigonella education and training office.

(Left) Lt. Charles Puglia mans a sander on the ceiling while AZ3 Terrance Gentry peers at his progress as he paints along a classroom wall.

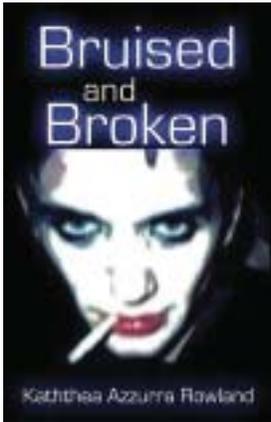


Photo by PH1 Jane West

A Sailor pauses from sanding patches on a ceiling to check the progress of the project. Puglia and several other U.S. military members recently spent two days painting the Istituto Sacro Cuore, an orphanage "adopted" by Lt. Puglia and the base training office.



Author from page 1



A photo of the cover of Rowlands biography "Bruised and Broken" about rock vocalist Brian Molko of the band Placebo.

zine usually produced for little or nothing either online or in a newsletter format," she said.

But Rowland wasn't giving up on getting published on her own, so she marketed her book to several publishers all over the world. "I would send a manuscript out and after a long wait I would get a 'no thanks' or 'we'll print it for \$1000' but I wanted to have a real publisher pick up my book," she said. "I wanted someone to print my book and market it to the general public for me not someone who was going to ship the book to me, so I'd have to go around to bookstores and see if they would sell it for me."

After nearly two years of hunting in vain for a publishing house Rowland heard about a ray-of-hope. "A writer I met told me about Publish America in Baltimore, so I contacted them and sent a manuscript to them," she said.

After years of searching for a publisher and seeing her dream materialize Rowland had one thing left to do — revisions. "I wrote the book fast, but it took months to complete the six or eight revisions," she said. "I was happy about the revision process because they didn't tell me what to leave in or take out they simply looked for grammar and style."

Then a few months later on June 28, "Bruised and Broken" was officially released and since then it has slowly climbed various book sales charts the most prominent of which is a certain online bookstore, which has it climbing up the list.

Rowland's next adventure into the world of publishing will be an attempt to get a collection of short stories published. "I've been working on a collection of short stories for a while now and I hope to get it published sometime soon," she said.

Commissioning from page 1

dering safe of two live World War II torpedos, and the clearance of Nomans Land Island in Massachusetts. In September 1997, GM1 Rodriguez was promoted to Chief Petty Officer. In August 1999, he returned to EODMU THREE, deploying as the AOIC for MCM Detachment 53 in USS Inchon. In July 2001 Rodriguez was promoted to Senior Chief Petty Officer.

In October 2001, Rodriguez transferred to EODMU EIGHT, Sigonella, Sicily where he became LCPO of Mine Counter Measures Detachment 2, deploying onboard the USS Sentry. Recently he completed a deployment with Marine Corps FAST Company to Monrovia, Liberia, where he provided EOD support to the U.S. Embassy. After completing Officer Indoctrination and Leadership Management School, he will report to Naval Special Warfare Development Group, Dam Neck, Va.

Rodriguez is qualified as a Master EOD Technician, Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialist, Naval Parachutist, Military Free-Fall Parachutist, Static-Line Jumpmaster, Special Operations Parachute Rigger, Demolition and Burn Operations Supervisor, HRST Master Instructor, MK-16 Mixed-Gas Dive Supervisor and SCUBA Dive Supervisor. Senior Chief Rodriguez' personal awards include the Joint Service Commendation Medal, Navy Commendation Medal (Gold Star in lieu of third award), and Navy Achievement Medal (Gold Star in lieu of third award).

SAVI from page 2

- To be treated in a manner that does not take control from the victim but enables them to determine their own needs and how to meet them.
- To have access to support persons outside of the Navy, such as community victim advocates.
- To have their name kept from the news media.
- To have access to peer or professional counseling.

If you are a victim of Sexual Assault, you are not alone. The SAVI Program is here to help you. The SAVI Hotline number is 335-642-8312. Our volunteers are here for you to assist 24 hours a day 7 days a week. You may also call the SAVI Coordinator at the Fleet and Family Support Center at 624-4291/2 or 095-56-4291/2. Remember, everyone is a potential victim and the SAVI program is here to help.