

The Signature

Sigonella, Sicily

SDS
Football
Homecoming
Game
7 p.m.
tonight!



Vol. 20 No. 40

Oct. 10, 2003

Navy College offers variety of educational paths

By JO1 Craig Coleman
Staff Writer

Sigonella's Navy College Office Director Jeff Fishman knows a lot of ways Sailors can improve their minds, post-military job prospects and lives. He oversees an office with links to four on-base educational institutions and countless others available through distance education. And now that the new fiscal year is here, Sigonella students who used the 12 credit hours allotted annually through the Tuition Assistance (TA) in fiscal year 03 can start taking free classes again.

Sailors are entitled to 12 semester hours of free off-duty educational benefits, in courses that cost no more than \$250 per credit hour. The student pays amount over the limit. "If you take a three-hour course that costs \$750 or less it's free," Fishman said. "If the cost is over \$250 per credit hour you pay the difference. Unfortunately, there's a limit of 12 semester hours per fiscal year. The key is really the cap of 12 semester hours. Since Oct. 1, students start with a clean slate with 12 hours available."

According to Fishman, students should use the available TA for an appropriate course load. "You have to ask yourself, how much free time do you have? For every hour of class time there is three hours of homework," Fishman said. He added that one course per term is the most the average person should take; two classes is considered full-time study.

Students planning a heavy course load should also remember that TA rules require the student to pay for any failed courses and any courses dropped voluntarily. It's one of the biggest problems a student can face, according to Fishman. "Before enrolling they need the proper advice from either the college's representative or our counselors, Fishman said. They end up in a course that they don't need, or is over their head." Students don't have to pay back for courses if they dropped a course for reasons like a medical College, page 12

IPTV brings training to you

By AN Michelle Hartgraves
Staff Writer

Supervisors can now show training videos to Sailors and staff members in the comfort of their own work space.

Video distribution via Internet Protocol TV (IPTV) allows you to have access to multimedia presentations when you want it, on your own time, when you need it on your own computer.

Starting in INDOC, Sailors can find out about and how to use IPTV. "We have had the software for approximately two years, but it has never been pushed out on a grand scale before," said Lt Charles Puglia, Training Officer.

"We recently received the Code of Conduct, Level B training requirement, which was the impetus for me to push IPTV out on everyone's desktop." The Code of Conduct is a base wide requirement and IPTV is the best way to go to make sure every one completes the 12 hours of segmented video by September 2004, according to Puglia.

IPTV will be installed on desktops in every command so Sailors will have a chance to watch training video. Those with secret clearance will be able to view those portions of video only on designated computers.

Eventually every desktop will have IPTV so people can use the tool for all types of training in the future such as video e-learning and computer courses. "It gives people flexibility, it's on demand and that is the way the training world is moving," Puglia said.

IPTV can be used for any type of training in video format. Through IPTV, everyone will have access to anything that is put on the local area network. It can be accessed anytime, any day of the week. "Right now it is Code of Conduct, next week it could be Microsoft courses... we are just building momentum up, there are many possibilities for us," said Puglia. IPTV, page 8

Today's Hometown Weather

Lake Charles, La.



High 85° F - Low 63° F
Mostly Sunny

CFC kicks off opportunities to give

By JOSN Steve Weaver
Staff Writer

The 2003 Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) kicked off on Oct. 1 in front of the NEX and Commissary.

Key workers, unit representatives, and others gathered to kick off the campaign which raises money for a myriad of charities.

The goal set for this year's campaign at Naval Air Station Sigonella is \$200,000, which is \$20,000 more than was raised in last year's campaign. "I think that's achievable, but it's going to be based on the efforts of the individual unit representatives and the key workers," said Lt. Chris Lee, CFC Campaign Area Project Officer for NASSIG, and Public Works Planning Officer.

Lee said there are enough key workers and representatives to get to the goal. "We had a great turnout at our training in September," he said. "They came and were really enthusiastic about the training. They now have the materials, it's up to them to go out and raise the money."

The best way to give to the CFC is to find your CFC key workers. "Every department and tenant command has a CFC unit representative," said Lee. "Working beneath them are key workers...there's one key worker for about every 20 people. I know in Public Works department they have a sign listing who the CFC key workers are."

"Another good way that I've told commands that they can do this is if they do it in a group training format and get everyone together to give them all an opportunity to read through their contributor brochures and then have people sign the pledge cards," he said. "The biggest problem I see with CFC is people just procrastinate, they don't pursue it. They let it sit on

their desk and they don't contribute and before they know it Dec. 10 has come and it's over."

During the ceremony, Capt. Tim Davison, NASSIG commanding officer, explained the importance of getting the word out to everyone. "We want to make sure that everyone in the Sigonella community is contacted," he said. "We're looking for 100 percent contact to make sure they're given the opportunity to give."

Davison said the key workers and representatives are keys to a good campaign. "You guys are all directly contributing by helping us with this campaign this year," he said. "You're all the ones who are going to make this work."

This year's campaign at Sigonella features a rather interesting set of prizes. "There's a grand prize giveaway based on filling out your registration card on the front cover," said Lee. "You fill that out and you can win a Volvo S60." Also being raffled off are NAS Sigonella clocks made



Photo by JOSN Steve Weaver

Capt. Tim Davison, NASSIG commanding officer, signs the first CFC donation pledge card at the kickoff ceremony held in front of the NEX and Commissary on Oct. 1.

by Seabees, a free weekend rental of a Volvo S60 and MWR prizes such as a month free at CFC, page 8

New Crater Pub grand opening today

By Nilsa Diaz-Jarero and Jon Gibson
MWR

If you wanted to visit the newest entertainment club in the Navy, you would only have to travel to NAS 1. The Crater Pub,



Photo by Nilsa Diaz-Jarero

Patrons at the Crater Pub enjoy the new surroundings

located next to the Galley, combines the atmosphere of a European style pub with a unique blend of American style music, entertainment and food. The pub is open Monday to Thursday, 11 a.m. to 11:30 p.m., Friday and Saturday from 11 a.m. to 2 a.m., and Sunday 5 to 11:30 p.m. The new facility is open to all hands daily until 6 p.m. and then becomes an enlisted only facility after 6 p.m.

The Crater Pub features DJ's that play the best in Jazz, Blues, and Motown. We have a weekly schedule of live entertainment brought to you by MWR and the USO, so stop by and pick one up today.

This new club is a great place to relax with friends, hang out with co-workers, enjoy a nice evening with a special someone or just sit back and

listen to your favorite tunes. Television monitors are located throughout the pub so you enjoy your favorite game, TV show or music video. A wide variety of gaming machines, video games and free pool are also available to keep you entertained.

A food operation is located inside the Pub and offers traditional pub food and personal-sized pizzas. It is a great place to come and enjoy a quiet lunch or evening meal. The Pub will offer a wide selection of beverages. Happy hour is Wednesday and Friday from 4 to 6 p.m. and also look for daily drink specials.

Looking for a great place to have a private party? The Pub has a large party room located on the second floor with an open-air patio. Come by and ask the friendly staff for a party brochure for your next big celebration. Be sure you book your party soon for the holidays, because once the word is out, you may not get your spot. Club, page 12

Second City makes Sigonella laugh

By JOSN Steve Weaver
Staff Writer

Bill Murray, Gilda Radner, John Candy, and Dan Aykroyd all have something in common; they amused people with their comedic talents for years.

They also have something else in common, they all were members of the "The Second City," a comedic touring company started in 1959 in Chicago. The Second City Troupe takes their act on the road throughout the year to venues all over the world. They have four touring companies in the U.S. and one in Canada.

A group from Second City recently volunteered to go on a United Services Organization (USO) tour of Italy and Greece. The group consisting of John M. Lutz, Susan Salvi, Tom Flanigan, Dina Facklis, Rob Janas and Allison Bills brought their unique brand of comedic improvisation to the NAS Sigonella theater on Saturday.

"It's a very bare-bones type of theater," said Janas "We do a lot of satire; political, social, religious. We do sketches and we do a lot of improvisation, whether it be improvised games or long form improvisation."

The theater was packed to the brim to see the free show, which lasted over an hour and a half. Comedy, page 8



Photo by JOSN Steve Weaver

Second City performers Tom Flanigan, Dina Facklis, Allison Bills and John Lutz point towards their sound board operator during their show at the base theater on Oct. 4.



Direct Line

Capt. T.L. Davison
NASSIG
Commanding Officer

On Monday, we will celebrate Columbus Day. In 1937, then-President Franklin Roosevelt proclaimed every Oct. 12 as Columbus Day. Since 1971, it has been celebrated on the second Monday in October.

Cristoforo Colombo, an Italian also known as Christopher Columbus, led the *Nina*, *Pinta* and *Santa Maria* and their crew, on a daring search for a new world back in 1492. Only 90 men made the first voyage of discovery. The ships were quite tiny by modern standards—no longer than a tennis court, and less than 30 feet wide. The *Santa Maria* had 40 men aboard, the *Pinta*, 26, and the *Nina*, 24. Only the *Nina* and the *Pinta* returned to Spain, as the *Santa Maria* was shipwrecked on Christmas Day, 1492.

His first landfall was in the Bahamas, probably the current San Salvador (Watlings Island), although even this is disputed (Samana Cay, an island 65 miles south of San Salvador is a strong contender). There are proponents for seven other possible island landing sites.

The only current U.S. territories either sighted or visited by Columbus are the U.S. Virgin Islands, which Columbus named on his second voyage, and Puerto Rico. While in anchor of St. Croix (USVI) on Nov. 14, 1493, some of Columbus' crew experienced the first hostile encounter with the Indians. Five days later helanded at San Juan Bautista, now Puerto Rico. Later he visited the northeastern tip of South America and the eastern coast of Central America, but never mainland U.S.A. The fact is that Columbus never admitted that he had discovered a new continent.

The first recorded celebration of Columbus Day in the United States took place on Oct. 12, 1792. Organized by The Society of St. Tammany, also known as the Columbian Order, it commemorated the 300th anniversary of Columbus's landing.

By the way, it wasn't Columbus who first sighted land, it was a Sailor by the name of Rodrigo de Triana onboard the *Pinta* who spotted what we call San Salvador today.

The Pulse

Early detection is the best protection

Courtesy of USNH Sigonella

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month and is focused on education of women aged 20 years and older to aid in early detection and treatment of this disease.

Breast cancer is the most common cancer in women, besides skin cancer. During 2003, an estimated 211,300 new cases of invasive breast cancer are expected to occur among women in the United States. It is the second leading cause of cancer death, after lung cancer. An estimated 39,800 women are expected to die from breast cancer this year. About 1,300 new cases of breast cancer are expected in men in 2003.

About 80 percent of all breast tumors are benign. They can usually be removed, and in most cases, they don't come back. It is important to remember that the cells in benign tumors do not invade or go into other parts of the body. Benign breast cancer tumors are not a threat to life.

Malignant tumors are cancerous and these cells grow and divide out of control, invading and damaging nearby tissues and organs. Cancer cells can also break away from the original tumor and enter the

bloodstream or lymphatic system. This is how breast cancer spreads and forms other tumors in other parts of the body. The spread of this cancer is called metastasis.

Common risk factors being studied by scientists as potential factors that help cause breast cancer include age, individual and family medical history, reproductive history, genetic changes, race, economic status, neighborhood and workplace exposure to pollutants, and lifestyle habits. Having one or two of these risk factors does not mean a woman will develop breast cancer (seven out of 10 breast cancers occur in women with none of the important risk factors, other than simply being a woman). But knowing your personal risk factor profile and understanding what it means will help you and your doctor set up a plan of action that may lessen your chances of ever getting the disease or, at least, to detect it in its earliest, most treatable stages.

Three methods of detection and prevention exist and are as follows: mammograms, clinical breast exam and self breast exam.

Mammograms include the following:
•Routinely are performed on women who are 40 years and older and continue as long as good health exists.

•While a mammogram may miss some cancers, they are still a very good way to find breast cancer.

Clinical Breast Exam (CBE) includes:
•Women in their 20s and 30s should have it as part of their regular health exam by a health expert preferably every three years. After aged 40 years old women should have a breast exam by a health professional on a yearly basis.

•There may be some benefit to having the CBE right before a mammogram test as your doctor can explain the details of the CBE and what it entails.

Breast Self Examination (BSE) includes the following:

•Breast self examination should be completed on a monthly basis. Report any change in breasts to your doctor right away.

•BSE is a good way for women in their 20s to find changes in their breasts.

Please contact Health Promotions at 624-4710 or 095-56-4710 if calling from off base, for free information packages on breast cancer awareness or for videos and pamphlets to help explain breast health to your team.

Getting U.S. citizenship just got easier

Capt Sean D. Schrock, USMC
NLSO Naples

Great news for service members seeking U.S. citizenship.

Ordinarily, foreign-born service members seeking U.S. citizenship must meet certain eligibility requirements, including Lawful Permanent Resident status and three years or more of honorable service in the Armed Forces.

Recently, however, naturalization for foreign-born service members has become even easier. On July 3, 2002, President Bush, under section 319 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1440), signed an Executive Order providing for expedited naturalization of aliens and non-citizen nationals who have served for any length of time in an active duty status anywhere in the world during the period from September 11, 2001 until such date the President designates as the end date of the war against terrorists of global reach.

Under this exception, neither Lawful Permanent Resident status nor three years of honorable service are required. However, if the applicant is not a Lawful Permanent Resident, the applicant must have enlisted or re-enlisted in the United States or its territories or possessions or on board a public vessel owned or operated by the United States for noncommercial service. Like all applicants, the foreign-born service member seeking U.S. citizenship must be able to speak, read, and write English, be of good moral character, and have knowledge of history, principles, and form of the U.S. government.

An applicant for naturalization based upon service during the current period of military hostilities must file BC1S/ INS Form N-426 (Certificate of Military or Naval Service) and

Form G-325B (Biographic Form) in addition to the Form N-400 (Application for Naturalization). These forms may be obtained from the NLSO or on the web at www.bcis.gov. The application must be filed at the BCIS Nebraska Military Service Center, regardless of the applicant's residence.

Bottom line: Foreign-born service members—including those who may have been previously advised that they were ineligible to apply for naturalization because of the three-year honorable service requirement—may now be eligible to apply for citizenship.

The Navy Legal Service Office can help with the application process. If you have questions or need assistance regarding your application or any immigration matters please contact your command's citizenship rep, Legal Officer, or the Sigonella NLSO Detachment at 624-5258 for an appointment.

Saving for college? Use your commissary benefit

By Carole Young, DECA

Ask young service members today why they enlisted or re-enlisted in the military and often their reply will be—education. For many young people with limited financial resources, military service has become a viable option to offset the increasing cost of a higher education. And one of the best ways college-bound service members can save for that education is by using their commissary benefit.

With commissaries providing savings of 30 percent or more over commercial supermarkets, a family of four can save \$2,400 a year by shopping regularly at a commissary. Single service members can save an estimated \$800 with routine commissary shopping. That's money in the wallet for future college expenses.

"Commissary savings put more money in the bank," said retired Army National Guard Col. Ron Tipta, who represents the Army National Guard as a member of DeCA's Patron Council. "I've been a loyal commissary

shopper for many years and I figure I've put two kids through college, thanks to commissary savings," stated Tipta during a recent council meeting.

For service members, having extra money can make a difference when it comes to making a deposit in the college savings account or paying for the balance of tuition costs and books, according to Air Force Chief Master Sgt. Deborah Brian, DeCA's senior enlisted advisor.

"Many times the cost of a college class exceeds the \$250 per course limit that tuition assistance allows and the military student must make up the difference," Brian explained.

"Here's where commissary savings kick in to provide the extra money a student needs to fund the additional costs and, hopefully, keep young service members from digging deeper into their pockets to pay for the extras.

"Awesome savings can be found on items that young service members routinely purchase in convenience stores... such as chips, produce, soda,

snack foods, over-the-counter medicines, shampoo, disposable razors and shaving cream, to name a few," Brian added. "And you never know when a favorite item might be even less because it's on sale." Special sales and "Manager Specials" provide shoppers with savings beyond the 30 percent that commissaries normally provide.

So, for food, health and beauty products, head to your commissary and put the savings in the bank for your college education.

Correction

The SAVI article in last week's paper was courtesy of Fleet and Family Support Center.

Go for the gusto

By Chaplain Richard Townes, Command Chaplain



OK. It's trivia time. What beer uses the slogan, "Go for the gusto...?" Do you remember? Schlitz beer came up with that catchy phrase to tell people that if they drank Schlitz beer it would add "gusto" to their lives...excitement!

Advertisers use all kinds of gimmicks to sell similar products by emphasizing a point: With their product, you will be better able to get out there, enjoy life, live it up, and have a great time no matter where you're at or what you're doing. While I agree with Schlitz—"Go for the gusto." I also believe there is a need to be really careful.

I enjoy going out with my friends, having a beer, eating calamari, and talking until the wee hours. It's good to kick back and cut loose a little in order to bring the needed balance to life. All work and no play leads to both physical and emotional problems. Having a good time is good, and blowing off steam is good, but when having a good time becomes all you live for, then it turns

bad. If all we want out of life is the next party, we need to reevaluate the shallow existence of our lives. Never growing up may have worked for Peter Pan, but we don't live in a fairy tale, we live in the real world with real responsibilities and obligations. We're obligated to our jobs, our families, our Navy, our nation, and our God. Furthermore, we're responsible for our own actions. Consequently, having a good time needs to be put into perspective.

The prophet Isaiah said, "Let us eat and drink...for tomorrow we die." Within context, he cautioned against living only to satisfy our quest for over-indulging in one thing. Solomon wrote, "A man can do nothing better than to eat and drink and find satisfaction in his work." (Wow! Did Solomon say that we are to find satisfaction in work?!) The bottom line is that there's a wonderful balance for us found in the Bible, a balance that includes time for fun, friends and family.

So, go for the gusto, the gusto of life - then come into work on Monday energized for the job that lies ahead. When 1600 rolls around, go home ready to relax with your family or friends so that you can maintain that important balance.

See you in chapel.

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.



CRIME STOPPER'S HOTLINE

624-6389

Sept. 29 - Oct. 5

The following incidents were reported and categorized as follows:

- Traffic accidents without injuries - 5
- Traffic accident with injuries - 0
- Car break-ins - 0
- DUI - 2
- DUI's 2003 - 40
- DUI's 2002 - 35

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Navy News

Commander, Navy Installations Stands Up

By JO1 Eileen Kelly
Fors, CNRE Public
Affairs

NAPLES, Italy (NNS) — "Alignment," the fifth of the Chief of Naval Operations' "Top Five," a series of priorities established to help the Navy focus on issues most critical to sustained success, was recently addressed with the establishment of Commander, Navy Installations (CNI) under the command of Rear Adm. Christopher Weaver. Headquartered in Washington, D.C., CNI began operations Oct. 1.

With CNI, Navywide alignment was set into place when installation management claimants, including Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Europe (COMUSNAVEUR), transferred their administrative installation support responsibilities to this single installation management claimant (IMC).

Since 1997, the Navy has addressed improved shore installation effectiveness by reducing and regionalizing the number of installation claimants. "We've got five years of experience thus far in a partial consolidation of our installations. Now we're going to a full consolidation under one command," said Weaver, during a recent tour of Navy Region Europe commands.

"CNI is a piece of transformation at a time when we are expected to transform — and we are expected to transform partly as a result of the war and partly because it's the right thing to be doing today," Weaver said.

"We can leverage business procedures and business processes to create resources, to generate resources and to recapitalize the Navy. We also need to take advantage of our experience in centralization and consolidation of support services that we've

been going through."

"All of our Navy installations are important, but I would tell you that the ones that carry a tremendous amount of the burden are the ones that are overseas."

In most cases, the impact of CNI will be transparent at the base level. CNI will improve fleet readiness by providing unified and consistent procedures, standards of service, practices and funding, to



Rear Adm. Christopher E. Weaver, the 83rd Commandant of Naval District Washington (NDW) makes his remarks during NDW's Change of Command Ceremony.

manage and oversee shore installation support to the fleet.

Enterprise Strike Group Deploys

By JOC Gerard Sekerak,
Commander, 2nd Fleet
Public Affairs

NORFOLK (NNS) — Ships and aircraft of the Enterprise Carrier Strike Group (CSG) began a routine deployment Oct. 2 in support of the global war on terrorism.

The strike group, which wrapped up a month-long Composite Training Unit Exercise (COMPTUEX) Sept. 30, completed a series of complex training events, naval surface fire support training and air-to-ground bombing in the Virginia Capes and Jacksonville, Fla., operating areas over the last several weeks. This represented the first strike group to use the comprehensive Training Resource Strategy (TRS), which better coordinates use of existing east and gulf coast range training facilities and improved simulation technology to prepare combat ready forces.

The following ranges were used for air-to-ground events during the exercise: Townsend, Ga.; Pinecastle, Fla.; Avon Park, Fla.; Eglin Air Force Base, Fla.; Piney Island, N.C.; and Dare County, N.C. The Enterprise CSG is the Navy's first strike group to exercise using these ranges as part of



The aircraft carrier USS Enterprise (CVN 65) makes her way in the Atlantic Ocean during its final preparation for the Enterprise Strike Group deployment to the Mediterranean.

the comprehensive strategy. Under this plan, ships and aircraft will use existing east and gulf coast range training facilities and improved simulation technology now available to the fleet.

In implementing the TRS, the U.S. Atlantic Fleet now conducts carrier strike group training among existing training ranges and facilities throughout the Atlantic region. The Enterprise strike group has demonstrated that the Navy is enhancing its training flexibility and effectiveness through geographical and technological diversification. This is especially important as the group deploys to fight the global war

on terror together.

"Enterprise and her supporting ships have proved themselves during this past month. They have overcome many hurdles, one being hurricane Isabel, but that did not stop them from completing their training and being ready to deploy," said Vice Adm. Gary Roughead, commander, 2nd Fleet/Striking Fleet Atlantic, who flew out to Enterprise Oct. 1 to assess their readiness to deploy.

COMPTUEX is an intermediate level exercise designed to forge the strike group into a cohesive, fighting team, and is a critical step in the pre-deployment training cycle.

community manager.

From Chief of Naval Personnel Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (NNS) — Hard charging Sailors desiring upward mobility and the opportunity to excel have more time to submit applications for the fiscal year 2005 Limited Duty Officer (LDO) and Chief Warrant Officer (CWO) selection board. The application deadline has been extended until Nov. 1.

"Most designators have received more than enough applications for the FY05 LDO and CWO Programs, however some designators still have ample room for applications," said Capt. Bob Fiegl, LDO and CWO

community manager. Additionally, Fiegl explained that in all fairness, some interested people may not have had the needed time to get their applications in because of scheduling or deployment. Authorization was given to open all designators and extend the application time through October, with the deadline due date of Nov. 1.

Fiegl addressed quality issue with the packages when he said, "Quality in the LDO and CWO communities is more important now than ever. We rely on commanding officers (CO) to make the initial quality assessment. We assume that if the CO favor-

ably endorses a candidate's application, he or she would make a good officer.

"In fact, the quality of this year's applications shows commanding officers are making that cut — sending the best qualified applications. We just ask every command to have another look: are there other eligible Sailors and Chiefs who have yet to submit their applications?"

The LDO and CWO communities are composed of highly skilled Sailors and Chiefs who move from the enlisted ranks to the officer ranks through this program. CWOs may now promote up to the rank of CW05, and LDOs may promote all the

Signonella Sailors Keep Communications Flowing in Georgia

By JO2 Lily Daniels,
Commander, U.S. Naval
Forces Europe Public
Affairs

VAZIANI MILITARY BASE, Country of Georgia (NNS) — Working around-the-clock and at times competing with high winds, the Joint Mobile Ashore Support Terminal (JMAST) Europe crew is keeping communications available for the Joint Task Force RESCUER/MEDCEUR (Medical Exercise Central Europe) '03 exercise.

The exercise officially began Sept. 8 and runs through the 20th, but the JMAST crew from Naval Air Station (NAS) Sigonella arrived two weeks prior to set up a command center, and have the command, control, computers, communications and intelligence capabilities ready to go when the joint-military service members arrived.

RESCUER/MEDCEUR '03 is a two-phase exercise that consists of a computer-based simulated multinational emergency, medical training for Georgian students and a medical humanitarian outreach to local villages.

Since the RESCUER phase is a computer-assisted exercise to train with nine partnering nations to develop multinational disaster preparedness, Internet access is vital.

The JMAST is operating with a crew of 12, but have two additional Sailors from the Tactical Communications Support Unit (TCSU) from NAS Sigonella assisting them.

Working together, the JMAST and TCSU crew developed about 180 accounts for the U.S. Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps and Army service members the day after their Sept. 5 arrival. Additional accounts are being created as needed for military representatives from Albania, Bulgaria, Estonia, Georgia, Germany, Moldova, Turkey and Ukraine, who are participating in this Partnership for Peace exercise.

The crews have set up 65 computers, a video teleconferencing system, a network system with e-mail accounts, Internet access and DSN phone lines.

"We have similar communication capabilities as a destroyer, only mobile," said Chief Electronics Technician (SW/AW) Mike Kendall, officer-in-charge of JMAST Europe.

Only once did the command center reduce down to partial capability. An unexpected windstorm with winds up to 80 mph swept through the area Saturday, and required extra cables and sandbags to secure the satellite antennas supplying the needed frequency signals.

"We had to take down the super-high-frequency and high-frequency satellite antennas," said Information Systems Technician 2nd Class Adam Shearin, from Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Europe, special to JMAST Europe. "The wind lifted up parts of our command tent, and we basically had to tie everything down like we were securing for sea."

To make sure that there are no power outages to the command center, there are hourly maintenance checks on the generator. A back-up generator is also available in case of such an occurrence.

Although the units had advance notice to prepare for this exercise, they're capable of deploying to exercises and operations throughout the Navy Region Europe area of responsibility within 24-hours notice.

With everything set up and online, the JMAST and TCSU crews are making sure all systems are operating smoothly. They are responding almost immediately to trouble calls submitted from personnel, to ensure that no glitches will occur for the RESCUER phase.

Fleet Forces Changes Hands

By Chief Journalist
Michael Marsh,
Commander U.S. Atlantic
Fleet

NORFOLK, Va. (NNS) — In an ceremony held Oct. 3 on the flight deck of the aircraft carrier USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71), Adm. Robert J. Natter relinquished command of the Navy's Fleet Forces Command and U.S. Atlantic Fleet to Adm. William J. Fallon.

Many of the military's top leaders and government officials attended the ceremony, as well as

hundreds of well-wishers. Moored across the pier was USS Cole (DDG 67), which was attacked in October 2000.

"This nation and the Navy has been challenged," Natter told the crowd, referring to the terrorist acts that occurred Sept. 11. "Seventeen months later, we were able to deploy six carrier strike groups and the largest amphibious force assembled since the war in Korea to proceed against Iraq. We continue to be ready today."

DFAS myPay Customers Cautioned Against 'Look-Alike' Sites

By Bryan Hubbard,
Finance and Accounting
Service Public Affairs

ARLINGTON, Va. (NNS) — The 2 million military and civilian users of myPay are being cautioned to use only the official myPay site (<https://mypay.dfas.mil>) when seeking to access pay account information.

"Personal information is valuable and should be safeguarded," said Claudia L. Bogard, director of Corporate Communications for the Defense Finance and Accounting

Service. "Don't provide your personal information to any Web site unless you know it can be trusted."

Look-alike sites have recently frustrated myPay customers who have been confused by accidentally finding their way to a commercial site that is in no way affiliated with DFAS or the Department of Defense.

DFAS' myPay is a secure, DFAS-operated Web site that lets active duty, National Guard and Reserve military members, civilian employees, and military re-

News Briefs

AIMD fundraiser

AIMD raised \$170 for the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society (NMCRS) at a picnic Sept. 26. The money was raised through the use of a dunk booth. AIMD personnel paid \$1 for three chances to dunk their "favorite" co-workers. AIMD turned over the funds to NMCRS Oct. 6.

FFSC spouse orientation

The Fleet & Family Support Center sponsors a new program entitled New Spouse Orientation, designed for spouses new to Navy life Oct. 17 at the Golden Anchor from 8 a.m. to noon. This program has been designed to provide Navy information to the new Navy spouse to enable them 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. To sign up call the FFSC at 624-429. Space is limited; the first 30 to sign up will attend.

Softball tournament

The MOMS Club of NAS Sigonella is hosting the Columbus Day Coed Softball Tournament at the Mineo Softball Field Oct. 11-13. The entry fee is \$150 per team of 12-15 players, with at least three female players per team. All participants will receive a gift and are eligible for trophies, including male and female MVP, Golden Glove and Best Defensive Player awards. Highlights include a home run derby. Proceeds will go NASSIG charities. For more information call Molly at 624-0256.

Materials for college

Security's First Class Mess is starting a library of course/reference material for college students. These books will be lent to anyone taking college course and then returned at the end of the course. A listing of available material will be published after the library has been established. If you have old course/reference material or books and would like to donate them, contact MA1 Johnson at 624-2251.

Jeepersters

A meeting for all Jeep owners is scheduled for Oct. 10 at 5 p.m. in the east end of the NEX parking lot. Participation in Trunk-or-Treat and a Jeep run.

Scholarship time

The Scholarships for Military Children program for 2004 kicks off Nov. 4, when the information and application appear on a new website dedicated to the program. Go to www.militaryscholar.org for further information. The site may also be accessed via www.commissaries.com.



By Alberto Lunetta
Signature Staff

Italian News

Sicilian culture and lifestyle

Contemporary Art Exhibition in Catania

Works by 28 Sicilian artists will be included in a Contemporary Art Exhibition at the *Annuar* Art Gallery located in via Oliveto Scammacca n. 21-C. The exhibition will run from Oct. 11 to 18. The opening ceremony will take place tomorrow at 7 p.m. Admission is free. For more information call Mr. Gianni Lupo at 3476783803.

Prickly pear festival in Militello

The annual Militello's *Sagra della Mostarda e del Fico d'India* (Prickly Pear and *Mostarda* Festival) will be held Oct. 10 through 12 in piazza del Castello, the medieval heart of the town. The festival celebrates prickly pears, the fruits of the cactus plants, and *mostarda*, a sweet handed down from the Romans and before that from the Greeks that is made with prickly pears cooked in the must.

Nestled among the hills of the Iblei Mountains, Militello boasts an abundant production of citrus fruits, olives, figs, grapes, fruit, and excellent prickly pears.

Events this year will include food booths selling local produce, arts and crafts, city band concerts, exhibitions of sacred art objects and rural civilization tools (open all day long) and hosted in the main city Baroque churches and a spectacular Sicilian carts parade (Oct. 12 at 11 a.m. and at 5 p.m. leaving from piazza Municipio and proceeding toward piazza del Castello).

City Band performs on Oct. 12 at 10 a.m.

Festival goers can sample the tasty *mostarda* at 7 p.m. on Oct. 10 and 11.

Food booths open: Oct. 10 starting at 5 p.m., Oct. 12 and 13: from 10 a.m. to late evening.

History of the city

According to tradition, Roman Consul Marcellus founded Militello during the siege of Siracusa in 214 B.C. and used it as a fortress. Ancient Romans also settled in this area because of the fertility of the land and the healthiness of the air. That is why the city was named *Militum Tellus* that in Latin means "City of Soldiers." Sicilian historic chronicles also mention that Mycenaean refugees founded Militello as they were fleeing the Dorians that destroyed their cities in 563 B.C.

Other historians believe that the town might have started as a Byzantine hamlet that was located near the Lèmbasi river. The hamlet even-

tually expanded during the Arab rule in the middle age. In the 14th century, the Barresi family and later in the 17th century the Branciforte family acquired the city. Prince Francesco Branciforte, who was the city's governor from 1604 to 1622, was a generous and enlightened administrator. Under his rule, Militello became one of the artistic and cultural hubs of Sicily. He founded one of the largest and richest libraries (35,000 books and manuscripts) of his time. Today, the library is still well preserved and it contains, among its best pieces, a Bible translated in five languages. Branciforte also opened the first print shop in western Sicily.

Destroyed by an earthquake in 1693, which brought serious damage to the city's buildings and churches, Militello was rebuilt on the same site.

What to see

Besides the festival, you should not miss visiting Militello's churches and monuments. The 18th century *Chiesa di S. Maria della Stella*, built in 1772, preserves precious treasures which consist of church ornaments and gold jewels, a magnificent retable (a frame enclosing painted panels) that depicts the life of St. Peter and a 13th century polychromatic glazed earthenware by Andrea della Robbia representing the Nativity.

The *Abazia di San Benedetto* (St. Benedict Abbey), built between 1616 and 1646, for the Princess of Militello, is the seat of City Hall. The church, which is located within the complex, hosts a richly inlaid major altar, a statue in polychromatic wood representing the Madonna of the Rosary, and valuable paintings. The *Chiesa Madre di San Nicolò e S.S. Salvatore*, which is the cathedral, was erected in 1721 after 1693's earthquake. It features amazing decorations and stuccos made in the 18th century by architect Francesco Battaglia and is dedicated to the Saints Nicolò and Salvatore.

Before you leave, don't forget to savor the delicious local cakes. The *Cassatiddina* is the most famous and ancient among the traditional Militello pastries. In the past, the nuns of the St. Agata convent made these tasty sweets. When the convent closed down, Salvatrice Carrera, a novice, continued preparing them and handed down the secrets of the recipe to her relatives. The *Cassatiddina* is also named *dolce della zia monaca*, which in Italian means: "the cake made by the aunt who was a nun." *Cassatiddina* is made with chocolate, cinnamon, almonds and jam.

Militello can be reached by taking either the Scordia or the Palagonia exit on the Catania-Gela roadway.

For more info call Militello City Hall at 095-7941240 or Festival's Info



The Prickly Pear and *Mostarda* Festival runs from Oct. 11 through 12 in Militello's historic center. Events this year include booths of food, crafts concerts, exhibitions and Sicilian carts parades. In the picture, the prickly pear *mostarda* is cooking. Point at 095-811733 and Tourist Office at 095/655155. You can also check the website: www.militello.info.

Classic music concert in Catania

The Brodsky String Quartet will perform in Catania on Oct. 14 at 9:15 p.m. at the Sangiorgi Theater, which is located in via Di San Giuliano. For more information and tickets call 095-321252.



SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

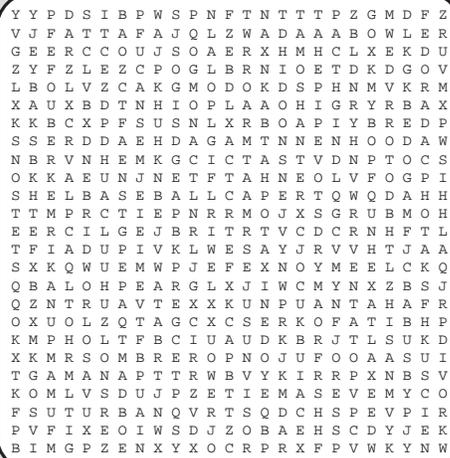
October

					10 SDS Volleyball / Cross County/ Football Homecoming games	11 Etna Off-Road ITT. x4396/x4777
12 Second Annual Volleyball Tourney last day of tourney Call 624-2710	13 Columbus Day	14 Family Photo Sign up 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. school library Photo shoots are Nov. 7, 8 & 9.	15 Family Photo Sign up 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. school library Photo shoots are Nov. 7, 8 & 9.	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 PTO Meeting 2:30 p.m. SDS Rm. B-25 Call 624-12225.	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 Old Fashioned Auction At Autumn Fest. Call x5606/x5187 to sign up. Auctioneer needed.
2 Troina & Agrituristic Farm ITT Call 624-4396	3 Command Financial Specialist Class FFSC Call 624-2363/4291	4	5	6	7 Picture Day Preschool Sure Start Kindergarten Call 624-4396	8 Castle Tour ITT Call 624-4396

November

Word Find

Things for your head!



- | | | | | |
|-------------|----------|------------|--------------|--------------|
| BASEBALLCAP | DERBY | HOOD | SKULLCAP | TAMOSHANTER |
| BERET | DUNCECAP | KEPI | SNOOD | TARBOOSH |
| BONNET | FEDORA | NIGHTCAP | SOMBRERO | TENGALLONHAT |
| BOWLER | FEZ | PANAMA | STETSON | TIARA |
| BUSBY | HAT | PERLUKE | STOCKINGCAP | TOPHAT |
| CAFTAN | HEADRESS | PORKPIE | STOVEPIPEHAT | TOUPEE |
| CAP | HELMET | SAILORSCAP | STRAWHAT | TURBAN |
| CROWN | HOMBURG | SHAKO | SUNVISOR | WIG |

TRIVIA

- 1) What is the name of a baby swan?
- 2) For years, who did Andy Kaufman face in wrestling matches?
- 3) Where is Chichen Itza?
- 4) What driver won back to back Indianapolis 500s in the 1970s?
- 5) What is Pablo Picasso's birthname?

(Answers on page 10)

Movie Connection

MW's Theater Schedule

Friday, Oct. 10



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



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

Saturday, Oct. 11



1 p.m.
Freaky Friday (PG)



3:30 p.m.
Spy Kids 3-D: Game Over (PG)**



6 p.m.
The Rundown (PG-13)**

Sunday, Oct. 12



1 p.m.
Spy Kids 3-D: Game Over (PG)



3:30 p.m.
S.W.A.T. (PG-13)



6 p.m.
Freddy vs. Jason (R)

Monday, Oct. 13



3:30 p.m.
Secondhand Lions (PG)



6 p.m.
Freddy vs. Jason (R)

Theater Closed Tuesdays

Wednesday, Oct. 15



5:30 p.m.
Lara Croft Tomb Raider 2 (PG-13)*



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

Thursday, Oct. 16



5:30 p.m.
Gigli (R)*



8 p.m.
Seabiscuit (PG-13)

Friday, Oct. 17



5:30 p.m.
Out of Time (PG-13)**



8:30 p.m.
Open Range (R)**



DoDDs students talk about what's happening in the community

Stephen Decatur Middle School encourages young journalists

By JO2 (SW) Sarah Bohannon
Staff Writer

What do CNN, NBC, CBS, FOX, The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, Stars and Stripes and the Signature have in common? All of their journalists came from somewhere. They too, were once in middle school.

Students from Stephen Decatur Middle School study journalism as a part of their curriculum on NAS Sigonella.

Students in the 6th and 7th grades have the opportunity to study the basic concepts of journalism, as well as some of the concepts and issues that may affect journalism in the future.

"We are learning the basic concepts of journalism by analyzing local newspapers. Like the Signature and the Stars and Stripes, so we can function well in the present," said teacher Judy Bull.

"We're studying futuristic concepts, like cloning the electronic cottage and cybernetics, so the students can function in the future," she said.

The school has taught journalism in the past, but the futuristic aspect of the class is new.

"I believe it's the first year we've used these goals and objectives for the class, at least concerning futurism," said Bull.

She said it is important for the students to be exposed to some of the ideas and concerns they may encounter later on in their lifetime.

"These are concepts they will have to think about and make decisions about in the future," said Bull.

The classes are a part of the exploratory wheel program. The exploratory wheel includes four courses. The seventh graders rotate every nine weeks, while the sixth graders will study journalism for an entire semester.

"They explore various aspects of several subjects," said Bull. "It's an introduction to the basics of a subject or career path."

She said the class is working on two major projects.

"The class is researching and writing feature stories and creating an enlarged layout of a newspaper," said Bull.

She said the students learn through finding examples of the concepts they discuss in class. "They are learning how to identify certain concepts and certain types of leads like shocker leads and summary leads," she said.

"Part of their project is also to create a scrap book illustrating journalistic concepts, types of articles and types of leads," said Bull.

The exploratory wheel also includes courses on study skills and pathways to careers.

The students of today are tomorrow's leaders, voters and decision makers. They are the thinkers and writers who will shape their world. Presidents, officials, editors, writers, reporters and Pulitzer Prize winners all come from somewhere. Perhaps some of them will come from Stephen Decatur Middle School.

SDS college and career night 2003

We are seeking members of the Sigonella community to represent their college/career. PhD, Masters, Bachelors, Associates, and Technical. All levels of college count!

If college was not required for your career, please join us to represent your career. There are many students who may choose not to attend college, and they need to know what is available to them after high school as well. This event will take place from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Oct. 29, in the Stephen Decatur School multipurpose room.

If you are interested or would like more information, please contact the SDS High School guidance counselor or NASSIG Mentoring Program Manager/Special Programs Coordinator at the following numbers:

SDS High School Guidance Counselor Dr. Paula Peterson at 624-3249 or NASSIG Mentoring Program Manager/Special Programs Coordinator Shiloh Cooper at 624-3212.

We need you!

This Week on...

<p>Mon. Oct 13 - NYPD Blue</p> <p>Tue. Oct 14 - MTV Video Music Awards</p> <p>Wed. Oct 15 - Fear Factor</p> <p>Thu. Oct 16 - Will & Grace</p> <p>Fri. Oct 17 - 24</p>	<p>AFN Atlantic 8:00 PM</p> <p>AFN Atlantic 8:00 PM</p> <p>AFN Atlantic 8:00 PM</p> <p>AFN Atlantic 7:25 PM</p> <p>AFN Atlantic 9:00 PM</p>
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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/

Fri. Oct. 10

Check out the Crater Pub grand opening at 4 p.m. Celebrate with refreshments, hors d'oeuvres and music.

Sat. Oct. 11

Show your best moves at the Mineo PreTeen Dance from 7 - 10 p.m. in the Mineo Rec Center. Enjoy a fun evening with your friends. Muchies and drinks are included.

Sun. Oct. 12

Militello is a town known for its abundant cactus and once a year they celebrate the fruit of the thorny plant with the Prickly Pear Festival. You can't leave Sicily without trying this fruit, know to the locals as fichi d'india (the figs of India). The festival also features mostarda, a marmalade made from grapes and folk dancers. ITT will take you there and bring you back. The bus departs NAS II at 8:30 a.m. and NAS I at 9 a.m. The return time is 4:30 p.m.

Mon. Oct. 13

The Liberty Single Sailor program is making Banana Boats in honor of Columbus Day at Take 5. There will be plenty of chocolate, bananas and marshmallows - and it's free.

Shop at the world famous Caleca ceramic factory with ITT. Then visit Capo D'Orlando, a nice town located along the Tyrrhenian coast. Tour the castle ruins, as well as the Santuario di Maria Di Capo d'Orlando, which dates from 1598. Call ITT at x4396/x4777 for more.

Tues. Oct. 14

It's Arts & Crafts Day at the Mineo Rec Center. Show your creative side with a variety of projects that make wonderful gifts.

Wed. Oct. 15

Take 5 invites you to celebrate National Apple Jack month. Eat free Apple Jacks all day while supplies last.

Thurs. Oct. 16

Acireale City & Shopping trip departs NAS II at 7:30 a.m. and NAS I at 8:00 a.m.

Acireale is known for its churches and Greek legends. The name "Reale" means royal, while "Aci" comes from the legend linked to the love between the shepherd Aci and the sea nymph Galatea. After the tour you're free to roam the city and shop.

** 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 x4248)



IPTV from page 1



PHOTO BY JOYCE SHAW/WABAR

IC3 James Lester gets a hands on approach to Internet Protocol Television during Indoc. This is just one step closer to having the visual training capability on every computer on base.

According to Puglia, it is tough to get trainers from CONUS to come train at NAS Sigonella, however, thanks to IPTV they can send training tapes. "It is a great way for us to meet a training requirement and maximize our potential."

Right now, NAS Sigonella is the only base in the European theatre rolling out IPTV on a large scale.

CFC from page 1



PHOTO BY JOYCE SHAW/WABAR

Capt. Davison holds up the 2003 CFC brochure.

the CDC, a month free at Blast, ten free bowling games and a free ITT day trip. "A lot of people have been generous with their resources and their time," said Lee.

So find your key worker and pick a charitable organization to give to in this year's CFC campaign. "There's I think 1,500 charitable organizations," said Lee. "You can find those in the contributor brochures that the key workers will hand out. Everyone will get a contributor brochure to look through."

Davison commented that the brochure has a plethora of opportunities for one to give. "I could not find anything in there that did not make the world a better place," he said.

Comedy from page 1

The audience participated in numerous improvised comedic routines such as filling in the last line of dialogue, conducting a school choir, and giving suggestions for what to write in a servicemember's letter back home from Sigonella. Members of the audience shouted "geep" when prompted for an animal to fill into the letter and etc....

The Second City performers also held the audience in stitches most of the night with routines ranging from Michael Flatley to a jumping ninja.

Janas feels lucky to be with the improv group. "I grew up in Chicago so it was always something I enjoyed watching," Janas said. "I never thought I could do it. I feel real fortunate, there's a big tradition there...being from Chicago makes it special for me to work there."

He has been with the group a little over a year. "I started improvising, doing comedy improv, in college," Janas said. "I stayed in Chicago where they have a really big improv scene, and I worked there for five years before Second City hired me to tour with them."

Salvi also enjoys touring with the group. "I love performing," she said. "I love traveling. It's a great job, you can't really complain about it. You get to go to great places like this and you get to perform for a lot of people."

Fate landed Salvi a spot in Second City. "It wasn't a goal for me," Salvi said. "When I moved

to Chicago I had completely different goals. I would have never thought I would have ended up doing this. I got a job right out of college in Chicago. I was working for a hotel and I started to take improv classes to meet people and it just snowballed. It's been great. I love it."

Second City is not a stand-up comedy group, the act requires interaction with others, which Salvi likes. "I've always been like real shy, even now I'm real shy," Salvi said. "I'm less shy on stage. After shows I'm kind of shy talking to people and stuff. That's why I don't think I could ever do stand up. I'm ok talking with people, like on stage."

They don't always inspire fits of uncontrollable laughter. They do have off nights. "We've had those nights," said Janas. "We had a gig in Connecticut. It was a posh upper-class type of crowd. It was tough going. There was one scene that depends on a lot of silences, and it gets laughs with the silence of the actors, but it was not getting any laughs at all. There's always going to be nights when scenes aren't hitting for one scene or another, but I think it builds confidence."

Salvi never considered herself a class clown, but Janas said he did have clownish tendencies. "I mooned my sixth-grade teacher once," he said. "That's terrible I know. I liked having a good time."



PHOTO BY JOYCE SHAW/WABAR

Allison Bills (left) and Susan Salvi act as nuns conversing amongst each other.

Both look up to veteran comedians. Janas to Bill Murray and Salvi to a man appearing in such comedies as "Waiting for Guffman" and "Best in Show." "I really like Fred Willard," said Salvi. "He's just so funny. I really like Gilda Radner, I think everyone likes here."

Both Second Cityans like to make people laugh. "Especially when times are tough in the world," Janas said. "It's great to get people in and make them forget a little bit, think about things in a different sort of way and laugh at themselves and others."

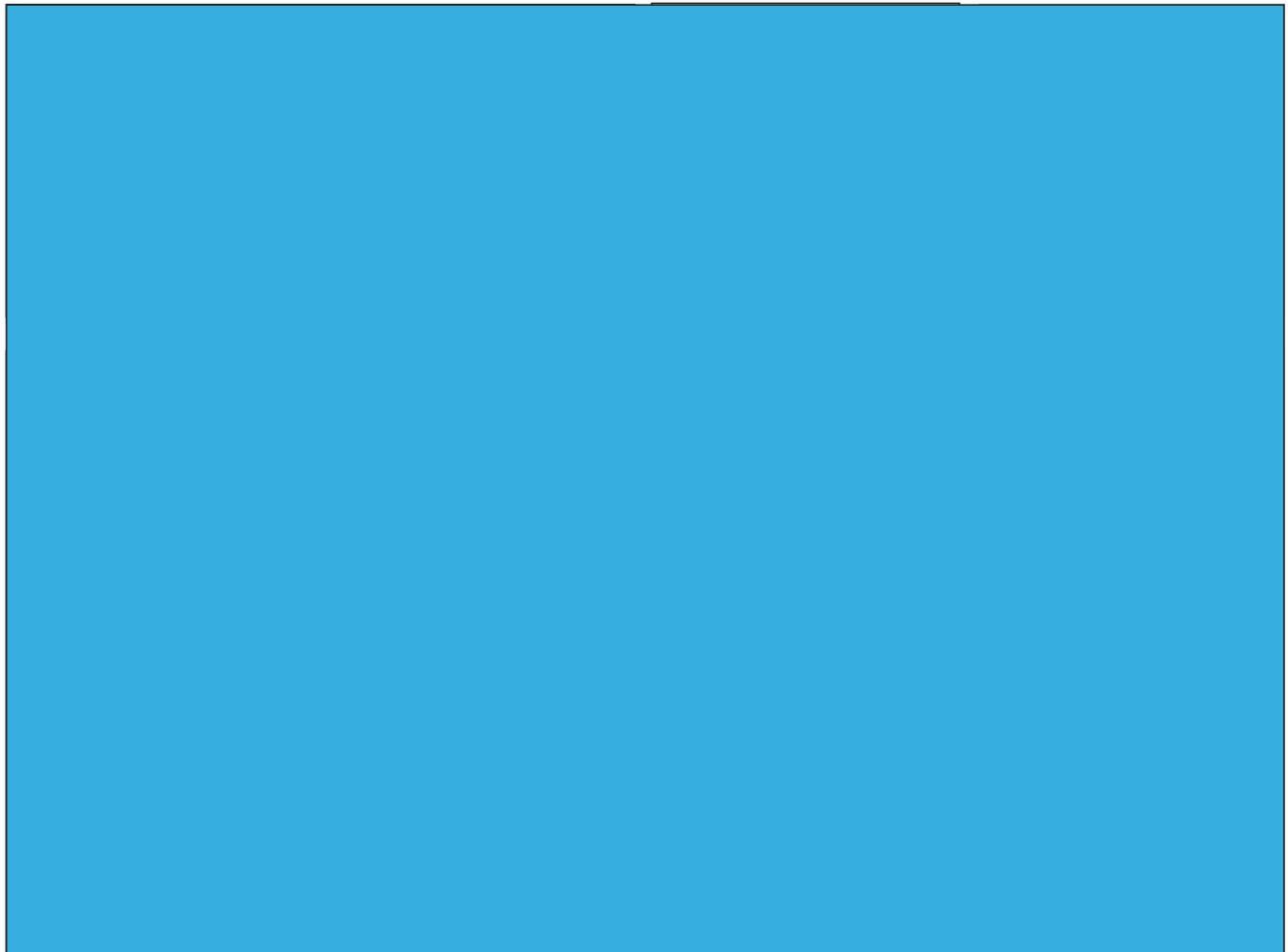
This was Salvi's first time visiting Italy. "It's fun to tour around the U.S.," said Salvi, "but this is really neat because you feel like your bringing this to people who don't normally see improv."

Other stops on their tour included Gaeta, Naples, and La Madelena. The group's last stop is Greece before heading home. Before leaving Sigonella, Janas had a message for the troops. "Keep up the good work. You guys are doing a job that a lot of times is unpleasant and we're certainly fortunate that you're here doing it."

PHOTO BY JOYCE SHAW/WABAR



Second City's Susan Salvi asks a member of the audience to sing for her during the free USO show held at the NAS I theater. Salvi was acting as a choir teacher. The audience was her choir.



SPORTS

Stephen Decatur School Sports Recent Results		
Girls Volleyball	Cross Country	Football
Win vs. Vicenza 25-20, 25-18, 23-25, 26-24 Loss vs. AOSR 19-25, 23-25, 25-20, 24-26	1st Michael Clark 19:08 3rd Michael Simpkins 19:45 6th Dane Roberts 21:48 9th Ryan Sandstrom 24:16	Jaguars lost to the London Central Bobcats 49-8 on Oct. 4. Jose Peralta with a 75 yard TD run.

The Lane

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.

Free Racquetball Clinic

Today is the last chance pick up the basic rules and strategies fast-paced, exciting sport with these free lessons. Meet at the NAS II Gym 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. and prepare for the upcoming tournament. For more information call 624-2710.

Navy football edges Air Force in thriller

Courtesy NavySports.com

Kyle Eckel ran for 176 yards and a touchdown on 33 carries as the Navy Midshipmen defeated the Air Force Falcons, 28-25, at FedEx Field.

Navy (3-2) quarterback Craig Candeto completed 3-of-6 passes for just 32 yards. Candeto had a touchdown and was intercepted once. He also carried the ball 20 times for 65 yards and a touchdown in the contest.

Chance Harridge led the way for Air Force (5-1) as he completed 7-of-15 pass attempts for 87 yards with an interception. Harridge also ran for 129 yards and two touchdowns on 21 carries.

Air Force struck first when Joey Ashcroft split the uprights on a 26-yard field goal attempt late in the first quarter.

Navy responded by scoring 14 straight points in the second quarter. Candeto found the end zone on a two-yard touchdown run and

Michael Brimage scored on a three-yard run to give Navy a 14-3 edge with 8:31 left in the second quarter.

Harridge cut the Navy lead to 14-10 when he scored a touchdown on a one-yard quarterback keeper late in the first half.

Candeto connected with Tony Lane on a 10-yard touchdown pass midway through the third quarter to push the Navy edge to 21-10.

Brett Waller recovered a Navy

fumble in the end zone and Joe Shieffer ran in the two-point conversion to cut the Midshipmen lead to 21-18 with 14:09 remaining in the fourth quarter.

Eckel pushed the game out of the Falcons' reach when he found paydirt on a four-yard touchdown run to give the Midshipmen a 28-18 advantage midway through the fourth quarter.

Harridge scored an Air Force touchdown on a one-yard run with 20 seconds on the clock to

bring the score to its final of 28-25 in favor of Navy.

The Midshipmen snapped a six-game losing streak to the Falcons with the victory.



Photo by PR2 Damon/Kortz

U.S. Naval Academy mascot "Bill" the Goat covers his eyes as Air Force threatens to score late in the game. Navy upset Air Force 28-25 in the inter-service game at FedEx field in Landover, Md. The Midshipmen snapped a six-game losing streak to the Falcons with the victory.

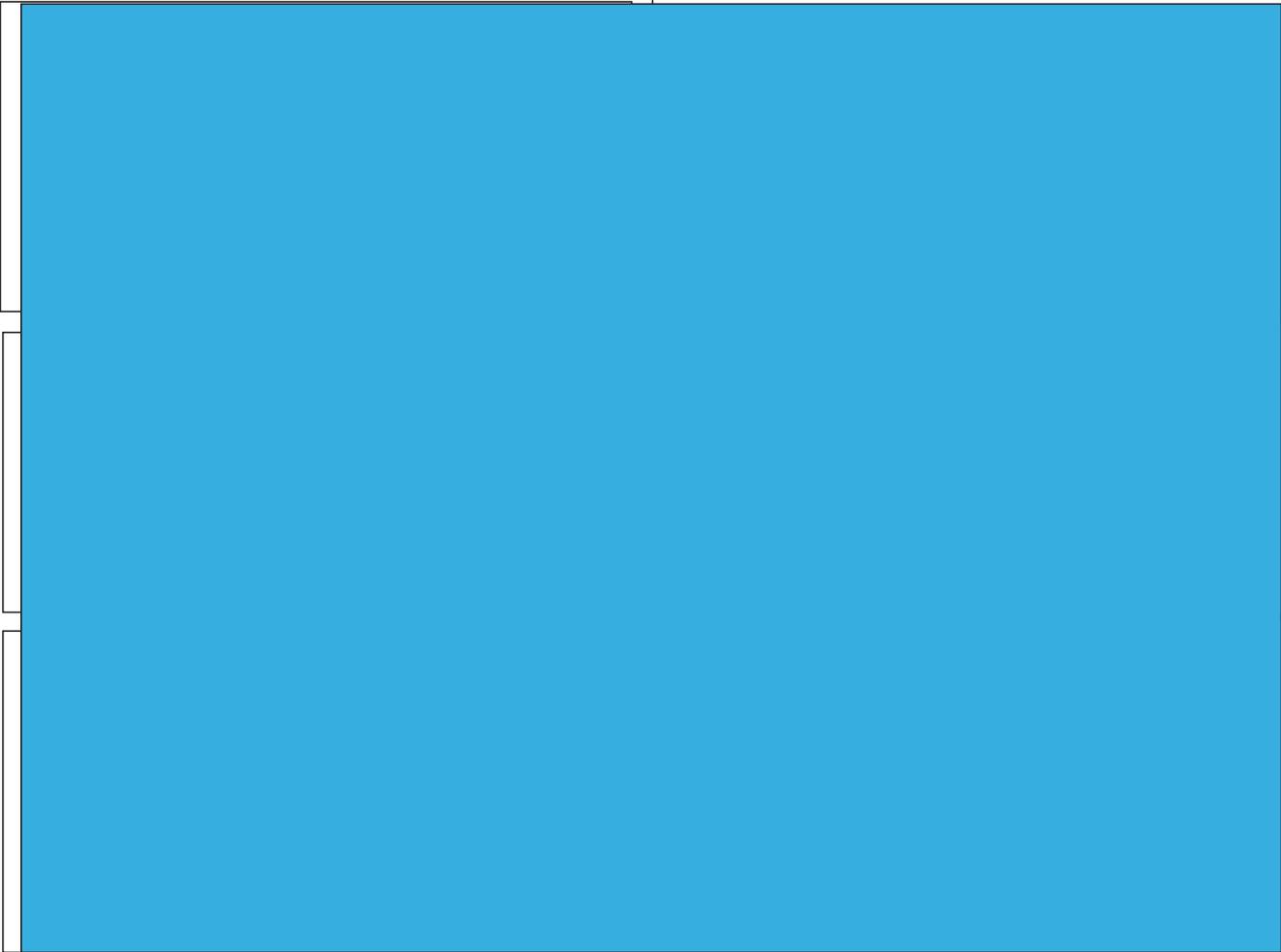


Photo by PR2 Jennifer Smith

Navy quarterback Craig Candeto tries to out maneuver Air Force defender Larry Duncan. Navy upset Air Force 28-25 in the inter-service game at FedEx field in Landover, Md. The Midshipmen snapped a six-game losing streak to the Falcons with the victory. The victory put Navy in excellent position to win the Commander-In-Chief's Trophy, awarded to the team with the best record in games between the three major service academies. The trophy will be up for grabs when Navy plays Army on Dec. 6.

SDS Homecoming football game activities plan

TIME	EVENT	COMMENT
1:45 - 2:30	Pep Rally	SCA organized (tug of war organized by seniors)
5 - 5:30	SET UP AT NAS II	Booster Club set up food; Seniors, bake sale, face painting; PTSA, sales; announcer, PA system
5:30 - 6	Powder Puff	Junior/Senior Team vs Frosh/Soph team (possibly organized by Junior Class)
6 - 6:40	Football warm-up	
6:40 - 6:50	Introduction of senior athletes and parents	Booster Club to organize and announce
6:50 - 7	Color Guard	
Halftime	Court and Cheerleaders	Senior class to organize and announce homecoming court; cheerleaders to perform





(Above) Stephen Decatur School first graders cover their ears while a C-130 "Hercules" rumbles by on the NASSIG flightline. (Above right) Students line the inside of an HC-4 MH-53E "Sea Dragon" helicopter on Oct. 3.



Show and tell at NASSIG

Stephen Decatur School Elementary students take a "study trip" to NASSIG

Story and photos by JOSN Steve Weaver
Staff Writer

First graders from Naval Air Station Sigonella's Stephen Decatur Elementary School went on a "study trip" last Friday to see what some of the people in their community do on a daily basis.

The students first went to visit NASSIG's fire department, and then to Helicopter Support Squadron Four (HC-4).

Members of the fire department helped the kids into two of their fire trucks, where the kids could sit behind the wheel and try on fire helmets. They were also exposed to the NASSIG flightline, where aircraft rumbled by while they looked on and held their ears. The Fire Department also gave a demonstration to the students on how they suit up to fight a fire, and how one of the truck's ladders can extend and spray down a fire.

The students then went on to HC-4, where they saw the survival equipment some of the members of HC-4 wear. Some kids got to try on a helmet. They were also able to climb aboard one of the big MH-53E "Sea Dragons."

The students have been studying about workers in their community. They have also learned about

fire prevention during Fire Prevention Safety Week. "This definitely goes along with what goes on in school," said Sandy Roberts, a first-grade teacher who coordinated the trip. "The study trips have to be a learning experience in line with the curriculum."

The students go to school to learn each day, but do not get exposed to what people in the Sigonella community do. Some of these people are the students own parents. "This lets them see what goes on each day in the community," said Roberts. "It lets them see what the military community does for them."

Members of the NASSIG community liked showing the kids around. "I love interacting with the kids," said PR1 (AW) Ryan Fitzgerald of HC-4, who demonstrated the use of some survival equipment. "This gives us a chance to show the kids what we do. Being able to see it up front is better for them and for us."

The kids were excited to be able to get out of school for a while to learn about their community. "I liked the inside of the helicopter," said Alicia Day. Conor Blakely and Trayon Richardson said they liked seeing the planes on the flightline, and were excited to see what goes on at HC-4.

"The kids had the time of their lives," said Roberts. "We appreciate that we were able to come out and do this."

Trivia Answers

- 1) Cygnet
- 2) Jerry "The King" Lawler
- 3) Mexico
- 4) Al Unser, Sr.
- 5) Pablo Ruiz



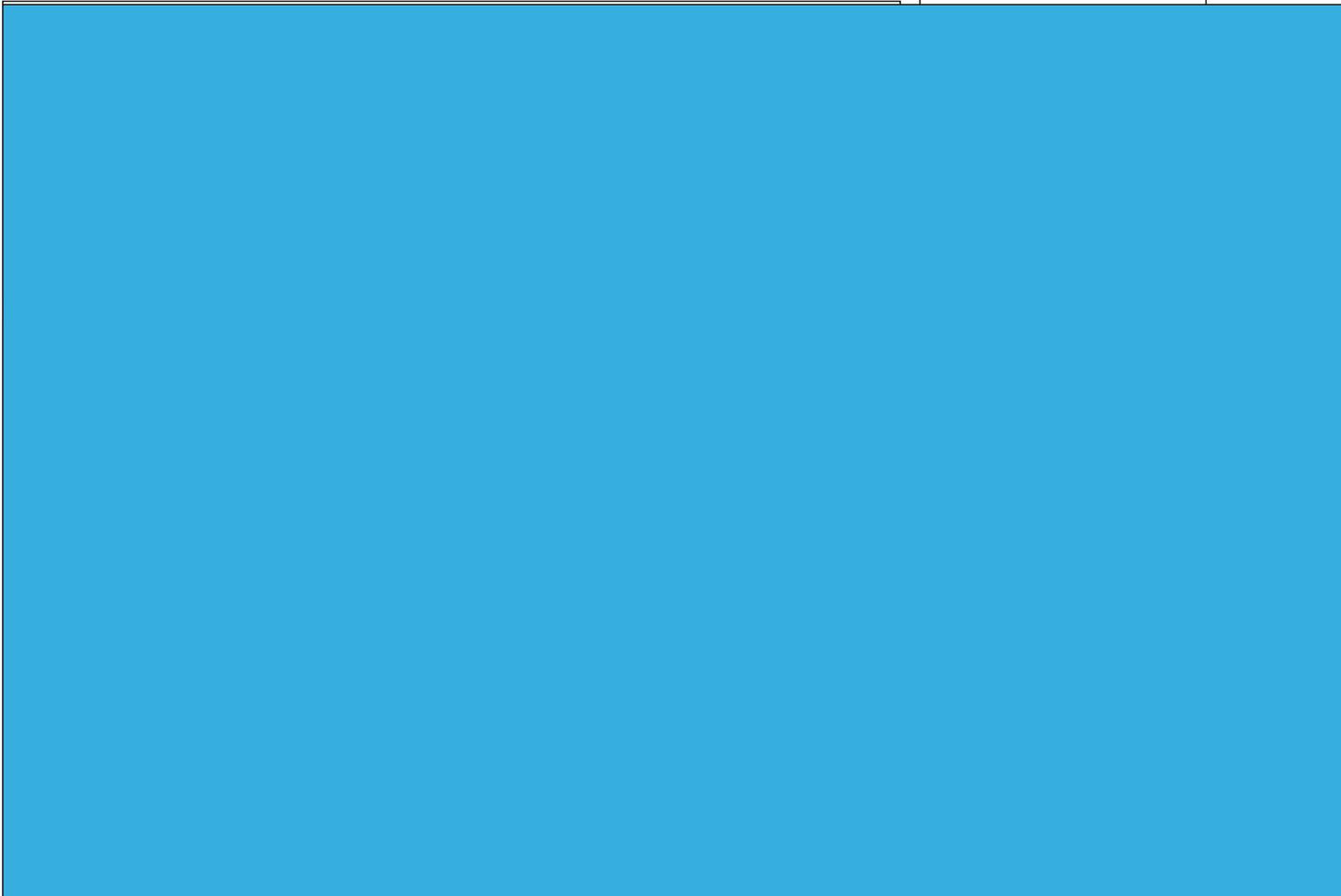
Clockwise from left: PR1 (AW) Ryan Fitzgerald of HC-4 lets one of the SDS Elementary students try on a safety helmet.

AN Brandon Carrier of NASSIG's Fire Department lets Calum Laing try on a fire helmet in one of the department's trucks.

Firefighter Giancarlo Massari suits up for the students to demonstrate firefighting techniques.

Lt. Cmdr. Ken Becker of HC-4 shows a group of students what's under the hood of an MH-53E "Sea Dragon."

A first grader displays her "Sea Dragon" decal.



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By Lt. j.g. John Ferreri
Staff Writer

Photo by J03N Steve Weaver

UTCN Gary Pearson of Public Works mans a phone during the AFN Navy Ball Radiothon. The radiothon raised over \$1,000 for the Navy Ball.

AFN Radiothon raises money for Navy Ball

By J03N Steve Weaver
Staff Writer

American Forces Network (AFN) Sigonella held a radiothon on Oct. 2 in order to raise fund for this year's Navy Ball.

Volunteers from many different departments answered calls coming in from people all over Naval Air Station Sigonella who wanted to pledge their money to hear certain songs played, or certain songs bumped off the air.

Callers could pledge to play any song, or pledge one dollar more than the song currently playing to bump it off the air. A "rotational" song played every 15 minutes, and could only be bumped off the air if a caller pledges \$5 more than the current bid.

Members of different commands were also challenged by their own or other commands to sing songs in order to raise funds. Commands also dedicated songs to other commands, such as the song "Barbie Girl" dedicated to Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit Eight (EODMU 8).

Volunteers had fun fielding calls and looking up songs. "We had a great time," said BUCR Steve Koston of the Public Works department (PWD). "This was my first volunteer experience, this is my first command. It was fun."

Koston and UTCN Gary Pearson of PWD had fun mixing it up between rival Sigonella football teams. "It was a blast to support NAS Sigonella," said Pearson. "I would



Photo by J03N Steve Weaver

J03 Craig Staley of AFN Sigonella talks on the air during the Navy Ball radiothon on Oct. 2.

definitely do another one." The AFN radiothon raised over 1,000 dollars for the Navy Ball, which will be held at the Sheraton in Catania, Sicily, on Oct. 18. Social hour begins at 6 p.m. Dinner will be

served at 7 p.m. For current information concerning uniform, childcare, menu, hotel, transportation, ticket sales, and photographer go to <http://infosig.sicily.navy.mil> and click on "What's New."



Photo by J03I Craig Corman

Navy College Office Director Jeff Fishman.

College from page 1

waiver, emergency leave or deployment. Once a student has used all 12 hours of TA there are other ways of defraying the cost of college. Sailors who have been on active duty for more than two years can apply for scholarships and they can use their Montgomery G.I. Bill. "You can't use G.I. Bill and TA for the same course, but you can mix them for different courses," Fishman said. "We had a lot of people who, once they hit the 12 hour limit, started using the G.I. Bill."

The federal Pell Grant is another avenue for shrinking the cost of a college education. Pell Grants are usually awarded only to undergraduate students who have not earned a bachelor's. "The 12 hour limit makes PEL grants attractive," Fishman said. "It's grant money that doesn't have to be paid back. Most people eligible are married with dependents. Like all grants, they're based on income."

NAS Sigonella hosts four degree-granting institutions, which offer courses leading to associates, bachelors and post-graduate degrees. But if the course they want is not offered on base students here may study online through a distance education or distance learning program. "Thousands of colleges offer courses to Sailors," Fishman said. "We're no longer restricted to the on-base schools any-

more. As long as they're accredited, we can use them, including correspondence courses." Make sure the college through which you will get your degree will accept any course you take through distance education for credit. The only way to know is to contact the school. All schools based in Sigonella will give you an evaluation of your credits once you have completed six semester hours.

Other nontraditional methods students may use to get college credit are the credit-by-examination program (CLEP) and DANTES (DSSST) Exams. Both testing programs test your knowledge of a subject and give credit without requiring time in the classroom. Navy college also offers the ACT and SAT college preparatory examinations, plus study guides for credit college prep examinations.

Fishman advises students to be aware of the residency requirements of their college when using examinations for credit. "Most schools require a minimum of 25 percent," he said. "That means that for an associates degree the school would require a minimum 15 hours or 30 for a bachelors." Students studying at Sigonella colleges can get their degree from the school even if they transfer to another college as long as they have met the requirements.

For more information on furthering your education contact the Navy College Office at 624-2511.

Club from page 1

And if bingo is your thing, then you will be happy to know that bingo will start at the end of October. The Pub has a special bingo hall with plenty of room for those trying their luck at some big cash.

Don't take our word for it, check it out for yourself, our grand opening celebration is Friday, October 10 at 4 p.m., we'll celebrate with the traditional ribbon-cutting ceremony, then stick around for free hors 'd'oeuvres, music and tons of prizes and giveaways!

The Crater Pub—classic jazz feel with new pub style!





Reenlisting: The Venice Way

By JO2 Chris Robinson
AFN South

Venice doesn't seem the place for a military custom to take place. Visitors go there to shop, look at art, or behold the sights and sounds of this historic city. However, for one Navy sailor it was a place to re-enlist in the Navy.

JO2 (SW) Peggy Warren works for AFN Sigonella as a journalist. A little while ago she decided to stay Navy. Her desire was to re-enlist someplace special. Her first choice was atop Mount Etna in Sicily, however with it being active the possibility of going to the top was out of the question, so she thought up a back-up plan. Warren was going on leave soon and was going to travel around Italy. One of her stops was going to be in Venice and she always wanted to ride in a gondola.

She contacted JOCM (SW/AW) George Markfelder, the Senior Enlisted Advisor for AFN South, about the possibility of re-enlisting in Venice. "When she pitched it to me I thought what a great idea," Markfelder said. "What a chance for a modern sailor to re-up on one of the oldest forms of water transportation."

Markfelder informed Lt. Col. Derik Crotts, the AFN Commander, about the plan and Crotts signed on immediately.

"There are two things I enjoy doing when it comes to my Soldiers and Sailors. That's pinning them to the NCO ranks and re-enlisting them, and to be present during a re-enlistment ceremony aboard a gondola is definitely a unique experience that I'll soon never forget," Crotts said.

Many Sailors re-enlist on naval vessels everyday this marks the first time a sailor has retaken the oath in a gondola in Venice. "This is by far a great day for me," Warren said. "I got to see Venice, ride in a gondola, and re-enlist in the United States Navy. I must say that it gives new meaning to the term re-enlisting underway."



Photo by VNA Benita Griffin

JOCM (SW/AW) George Markfelder administers the oath of enlistment to JO2 Peggy Warren aboard a gondola in Venice while AFN South's Commander LTC Derik Crotts (left) looks on. Warren is a journalist with American Forces Network (AFN) Sigonella.

Births

September 25, 2003
Lynn McKellar and Dennis Galbraith
Mackenzie Alexis Galbraith
19 inches, 7 pounds

September 30, 2003
Sherri and Edmond Bergeron
Elisha Daniel Bergeron
20 inches, 9 pounds 6 ounces

October 3, 2003
Camesha Lyon and Bredell Strong II
A'kira Bene' Strong
20 inches, 7 pounds 5 ounces

