



The Signature

Sigonella, Sicily

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TOP STORIES

The attack submarines (SSNs) stationed in Pearl Harbor, San Diego and Guam, as well as the "boomers" (SSBNs) homeported in Bangor, Wash., are ready to play their part in the global war on terrorism.

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Jan. 20, more than 5,000 Sailors said goodbye to their families and friends as USS George Washington (CVN 73), the embarked Carrier Air Wing 7, Commander Carrier Group 8 and Destroyer Squadron 28 departed Norfolk for a scheduled deployment to the Mediterranean Sea and possibly the Persian Gulf.

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Sigonella's Stephen Decatur High School Jaguars Girls Basketball team took it to the visiting American Overseas School of Rome (AOSR) Falcons last Friday night for a final of 42-27.

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Belt-tightening is a way of life on all military installations these days and with smaller operating budgets come a dwindling of the on-base job market. With government service (GS) employment opportunities limited, servicemembers and their families can walk down another avenue of employment prospects: the non-appropriated fund (NAF) jobs offered my MWR.

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Proudly serving 100 years: NMCRS celebrates its birthday



Story and photos by AN Michelle Hartgraves
Staff Writer

In 1903 President gave the Navy and Marine Corps one third of the gate receipts, from the football battle between the U.S. Naval Academy Midshipmen and the Cadets from West Point. This

money, a total of \$9,000, later became the initial funding for the Navy Marine Corp Relief society (NMCRS), which celebrated its 100th Anniversary on Jan. 23.

Since Jan. 23, 1904 when the NMCRS was born, the non-profit charity organization operates approximately 243 offices on bases ashore and afloat

with more than 3,000 trained volunteers.

"Volunteers keep us going," said Jennifer Contreras, Director of NAS Sigonella Navy Marine Corp Relief Society. "Without them we wouldn't be able to reach out to half the people we have."

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AIMD helps VAQ-142 with War on Terrorism

By AZ3 Charles King
AIMD

Numerous commands Navy-wide do their part in support of operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. Most often the men and women of these commands fail to realize how much of an impact they have on the United States involvement in the War on Terror. Everyone from the most junior airman to the saltiest master chief contributes to the war effort in ways that may seem unimportant. Menial tasks that hold no meaning in the eyes of those who perform them directly impact the efficiency of operations in the Middle East.

Recently, Sailors from Aviation Intermediate Maintenance Detachment (AIMD) Sigonella had the opportunity to directly affect a mission for the War on Terror.

On Jan. 7, an EA-6B "Prowler" from Electronic Attack Squadron ONE FOUR TWO (VAQ-142) in route to Afghanistan, landed at Naval Air Station Sigonella. The aircraft, home ported in Whidbey Island, Wash. was unable to complete its mission without repairs.

Meanwhile, the C-17 "Globemaster III" bringing a VAQ-142 maintenance crew was having problems of it's own at Lajes Field in the Azores, and until repairs were completed on that aircraft, maintenance on the Prowler was not possible.

AIMD Sigonella answered the call and repaired a hydraulic leak on the prowler. By landing in Sigonella and calling on the Sailors of AIMD to make repairs, the "Gray Wolves" were able to continue on with their mission with minimal delay. The repairs were easy and only took a couple of man-hours to complete, but it was the deciding factor between success and failure for VAQ-142.

Often, small accomplishments are overlooked. An easy repair may seem trivial and unimportant, but from a bigger perspective these small tasks make the Navy efficient in their operations. When we perform our job in a safe and timely manner, we not only affect one aircraft, we affect the mission throughout the entire Navy. By paying attention to detail and taking pride in



our work, we are able to meet the rigorous requirements our country asks of us.



Direct Line

Capt. T.L. Davison
NASSIG
Commanding Officer

Last week, I shared with you the CNO's vision for 2004 regarding manpower. This week, I want to write about the current and future readiness of the Fleet and how all of us at NAS Sigonella greatly influence that readiness.

In the CNO's 2004 Guidance for the Fleet, he said that the Fleet produced the best readiness levels he has seen and demonstrated its ability to respond with overwhelming force. The combined power of our forward presence forces and our ability to surge kept enemies on the run. Over the past year, we invested billions of dollars in training, maintenance, spare parts, ordnance, flying hours and steaming days, and it resulted in the combat ready response of more than half the Navy to operations worldwide.

During OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM and OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM, seven aircraft carriers and nine big deck amphibious ships were among the 164 U.S. Navy ships to deploy worldwide. The Military Sealift Command sailed and chartered more than 210 ships and moved 94 percent of the nation's joint and combined capability to the fight. We also deployed three Fleet Hospitals, a Hospital Ship, 22 P-3 aircraft, and 25 NCW detachments.

We live in uncertain times. The nation needs a Navy that can provide homeland defense and be both forward and ready to surge forward with overwhelming and decisive combat power. It is our duty to ensure that the Navy the nation has paid for is truly ready to accomplish these missions. As leaders, we must create readiness from the resources given to us and recognize that readiness at any cost is not acceptable.

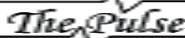
To sustain the right kind of readiness for our FRP requirements, we must understand and adapt our training and warfare doctrine, and seek greater integration with joint forces. We must refine our training, maintenance, and interdeployment readiness processes to increase our operational availability. But most of all, we must continue to exert leadership at every level to deliver the right readiness and ensure this tremendous force remains a decisive force that will be prepared to fight and win, both now and in the future.

OEF and OIF demonstrated clearly the enhanced power, protection and freedom afforded by our Sea Power 21 vision. These were the most joint operations in our history and they provided the best possible opportunity to dissect, study and analyze some of the limiting factors and effects of how we fight. While we must continue to challenge the assumptions, our lessons learned to date indicate that the capabilities-based investment strategies, new warfighting concepts and enabling technologies we are pursuing in our Sea Power 21 vision are on the right vector.

The tremendous improvements made in the battle for people, quality of service, current readiness, and alignment allow us to focus much more intently on the future - and future readiness. If we are to extend our current advantage, we must capitalize on revolutions in information, stealth and precision technologies and develop new warfare concepts that will lead us not just to improved jointness, but true interdependence. Sea Power 21 is our roadmap. This year, we will pursue distributed and networked solutions that could revolutionize our capability. We will focus on the power of Sea Basing and our complementary capability and alignment with the Marine Corps. We will exploit investments made in joint research and development wherever possible. We will enhance our capabilities investments and become a leader in defense modeling and analysis. Finally, we will continue to improve our position for the future by increasing new ship and aircraft procurement in 2004.

Thanks for everything you do. Keep up the good work and let's continue to be ready for today and tomorrow.

Also, a hearty congratulations is in order to the NAS Sigonella Swordfish swim team for winning the European Forces Swim League Southern Division Championships after only their second year competing. The entire Sigonella community is very proud of their accomplishments.



Dental care for expectant moms

Courtesy Dental Department

For those of you who may be expecting shortly or have been through a pregnancy in the past, you may be aware of the many precautionary measures that must be taken during pregnancy for the health of your baby. Many of these same precautionary steps must be followed and considerations made to ensure the safety and comfort of the expecting mother and her baby while visiting the dentist.

When it comes to dental care for the pregnant patient, timing is everything. If you are considering getting pregnant, the best time to have a check up or to have your dental care completed is right now, before you actually become pregnant. A healthy mouth before you are pregnant will help

ensure a less chance of emergency care during your term. Routine dental care such as fillings and cleanings are best held off until after delivery. This is because of the vulnerability of the growing fetus in the first 3 months or trimester and the comfort level of the mother in the last trimester. The second trimester is considered the safest time to have dental work done but is best if delayed until after delivery. Third trimester dental care is best postponed due to the comfort level of the patient and to avoid Supine Hypotension Syndrome. This is a compression of the large vein in the abdomen, the inferior vena cava, which brings blood back to the heart. Unfortunately, lying on your back in the dental chair can cause this compression. Also, there is always the risk of the patient going into labor and dentists are not very good at delivering babies. Emergency dental care can be done at any time. It is better to remove an infected tooth for example than leave a source of infection for the mother and fetus.

Other important dental considerations include dental radiographs and drugs that are administered. Dental radiographs or X-rays are not used for routine dental care and it's always important to notify the x-ray technician if you are pregnant or think you might be. In emergency situations X-rays may be needed to diagnose a problem, however proper safety measures will be taken. These measures include the lead apron, reduced radiation and the x-ray beam position. This again is most important in the first trimester. We must also modify drugs that can be administered to the pregnant or breast feeding patient. Certain anesthetics, pain relievers, antibiotics, and sedative drugs that may be used are considered unsafe for the developing fetus and must be avoided. For breast-feeding mothers there is concern over certain drugs that may be absorbed into the mother's milk. The local



CRIMESTOPPER'S HOTLINE

624-6389

Jan. 19 - Jan. 25

The following incidents were reported and categorized as follows:

- Traffic accidents without injuries - 7
- Traffic accident with injuries - 3
- Car break-ins - 3
- DUI - 0
- DUI's 2004 - 1
- DUI's 2003 - 58

Commanding Officer
Capt. Timothy L. Davison

Deputy Public Affairs Officer
Alberto Lunetta

Staff Writers
AN Michelle Hartgraves

Public Affairs Officer
Lt. Steve Curry

Asst. Public Affairs Officer
JO1 Craig Coleman

JO3 Steve Weaver

The Signature editorial office is located at:
Naval Air Station Sigonella, Sicily
PSC 812 Box 3020
FPO AE 09627
Telephone: 095-86-5440; DSN 624-5440

Editor
JO1 (SW) Brian Johnson

Rachel Morken

Pacific submarine force: a new era of warfare



Crewmen aboard the Los Angeles-class nuclear powered attack submarine USS Asheville (SSN 758), man the topside navigation watch as the submarine operates at high speed near San Diego.

By JOC (SW/AW) David Rush, Commander, Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet Public Affairs

PEARL HARBOR, Hawaii (NNS) — In a January interview, Rear Adm. Paul F Sullivan, commander, Submarine Force Pacific, U.S. Pacific Fleet (COMSUBPAC), said his submariners are ready for 2004.

The attack submarines (SSNs) stationed in Pearl Harbor, San Diego and Guam, as well as the "boomers" (SSBNs) homeported in Bangor, Wash., are ready to play their part in the global war on terrorism.

Like the rest of the U.S. military, the events of Sept. 11 have had a major impact in the way the U.S. Navy operates.

The impact of the global war on terrorism has changed everything, including submarine warfare. Consequently, a new era of submarine warfare is evolving, according to Sullivan.

"Particularly since Sept. 11, subma-

rines have operated in places that they have not normally operated in," said Sullivan.

In March 2003, at the outset of Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF), there were 12 U.S. Navy submarines directly involved and two British submarines. Four of the U.S. submarines were COMSUBPAC assets. USS Cheyenne (SSN 773), homeported in Pearl Harbor, was the first U.S. warship to launch Tomahawks into Iraq.

"The day of submarines operating on their own, similar to what I grew up with during the Cold War, is well in the past. Our future depends on the ability to operate in a joint environment," Sullivan said.

"That means being able to operate and communicate with not just an Expeditionary Strike Group or Carrier Strike Group, but also to operate with Marines, the Army, and of course the Air Force — to do that you have to understand joint operations and your role.

"The submarine, in general, plays a significant role in the beginning of a conflict, primarily with battlespace preparation," Sullivan added. "It provides situational awareness for the joint task force commander."

As the environment in which the submarines operate shifts, those going into harm's way must know how to do it effectively, safely and with the right equipment. Sullivan attributes this success to effective training, new technology and good old-fashioned experience.

"The ability to operate in a littoral environment is extremely important," he said. "It's a challenge, and it tends to be more difficult because of limited depth and the likelihood that the area might be crowded

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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 41*
Stormo Chapel (NAS II)
Sunday 11 a.m. Community Center (Mineo)

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

Protestant Worship
Sunday 9 a.m. Community Center (Mineo)
Sunday 10:45 a.m. Chapel (NAS I)

United Pentecostal Church, International
Sunday Noon Chapel, (NAS II)

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 624-9049.

All I Really Need to Know I Learned at Football Practice



By Chaplain
Richard
Townes
Command
Chaplain

In 1990 a book by Robert Fulghum was published entitled "All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten." It was a pithy book that spoke of sharing, cleaning up your own mess, and flushing the toilet. However, I think that all I really need to know I learned at football practice.

I recall Coach Conklin feverishly yelling at us, "Keep your legs driving. Then I keep pushing on." His point was that we had to keep moving forward to open holes for running backs. Coach didn't want us giving up. He didn't want us quitting, so now, during hard times in life and thirty years later, I find myself reminding about his favorite phrase. Then I keep pushing on.

Another lesson I learned was that for every offense there's also a penalty. Once, during a close game, I was punched by an opposing player, so I punched him back. "Tweet," shrilled the whistle as yellow flags flew. "Unsportsmanlike Conduct, number 52, fifteen yards," the ref yelled. I got caught and cost my team a first down

and the game. At practice on Monday all I did was run laps as Coach Conklin taught me to keep my head when bad things happen, and that I will be held accountable for my actions.

However, the most important lesson learned at football practice was not to quit. My team lost 15 out of 16 games in two years, but we never walked off the field. A few games we lost by a score of 52-0 and yet my coach had us back out on the field the next day running drills, learning new plays, and always improving. He never looked back at the last game he only looked forward to the next. Some players wanted to quit, but the coach wouldn't let them. He kept us going, and led us into the future.

I guess the main point of this article is that life's sometimes difficult and it's hard to keep going. When it is, keep your legs driving. Even if you have done something really bad and it's caused you lots of trouble, simply remain calm, take responsibility for your actions, and don't quit.

Finally, know this, you're on a team — Team Navy — and your chaplains want to help you get back into the game.

God our Father loved us and by his kindness gave us everlasting encouragement and good hope. 2 Thessalonians 2:16

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NAVY NEWS

USS George Washington Rejoins War on Terrorism



USS George Washington (CVN 73) sails past the Chesapeake Bay Bridge tunnel into the Atlantic Ocean to start her deployment. The Norfolk, Va.-based nuclear powered aircraft carrier is on a routine scheduled deployment. George Washington is scheduled to relieve the Norfolk based carrier USS Enterprise currently on station. U.S. Navy photo by Photographer Os Mate Airman Joan Kretschmer.

By JO3 Elizabeth Enockson
USS George Washington Public Affairs

USS GEORGE WASHINGTON, At Sea (NNS) — Jan. 20, more than 5,000 Sailors said goodbye to their families and friends as USS George Washington (CVN 73), the embarked Carrier Air Wing 7, Commander Carrier Group 8 and Destroyer Squadron 28 departed Norfolk for a scheduled deployment to the Mediterranean Sea and possibly the Persian Gulf.

This is GW's first opportunity to rejoin the global war on terrorism since she returned from her last deployment, Dec. 20, 2002.

In the pre-dawn hours before the ship pulled out of Pier 14, Capt. Martin Erdosy, GW's commanding officer, was quick to praise the capabilities of his ship's crew and left no doubts that they were ready to take the fight wherever it may be needed.

"It was just 13 months ago that we returned from our 2002 deployment, and now we are once again ready to go anywhere in the world and do our part in the global war on terrorism," Erdosy said. "I am very proud of these Sailors, and it is a credit to the flexibility of this fine warship."

While Erdosy's confidence is appreciated by his crew, the day began somewhat somber. With temperatures in the teens and a wind chill in single digits, the families who came to see their Sailors off hid from the wind in their vehicles. Most Sailors said their goodbyes at home, making the frozen trip to George Washington alone. But the mixed emotions of leaving behind loved ones was overshadowed by the strong sense of pride they have in anticipating their opportunity to fight the global war on terrorism.

"It's hard for me to see my husband leave," Jasmine Billups said, wiping away a tear. "I'm very proud of him. I'm glad that he

gets the chance to travel and see other countries, but it's very hard on the children."

Her husband, Aviation Boatswain's Mate (Equipment) 3rd Class Brandon Billups, feels the same and says the part of deployment he's looking forward to the most is the birth of his son. "We're going to name him David Lionel," Billups said. "Jasmine is going to send me pictures, but until I can come home, she told me to keep my head on a swivel and always pray. So that's what I'm going to do."

Getting in the right mindset is important for all Sailors on deployment. Rear Adm. Derby Starling, commander, George Washington Strike Group, knows how much Sailors need the support of their families to achieve that mindset. "If there was one thing I would wish, it would be that every mother, father, brother, sister, spouse and child would have every opportunity to hear just how happy I am with their Sailor's performance," he said. "Certainly, they're motivated by patriotism and a desire to do their jobs well, but it's the support Sailors receive from their families that truly keeps them going. I thank them all for that support."

With the support and motivation provided by families, GW Sailors are certain to do well on deployment.

"For those who haven't been out before, there is a little anxiety amongst them and their families," Starling said. "They should all take comfort in knowing that they are deploying in the finest, best-trained Navy in the world. I would rather be heading off on our side of the game than having to face us."

When GW deployed in 2002, all Sailors went knowing they were needed and knowing what they would face. They might not know what they will face this deployment, but they still know they are needed. So despite the cold, they boarded GW feeling proud and confident, and their families began to plan their return.

The Energy Block

It is important for all military and civilian counterparts to remember that power is not cheap either for the station or the environment. If not in use please turn it off.

So what are some of the new ideas being shot around for 2004? Some interesting innovations that are being considered actually have much in common with either harnessing or conserving some type of energy, such as walking. With the thousands of people who may walk in one general area all day to get from point A to B, there is a proposal to implement a project to install beneath parts of sidewalks or tiles sensors that turn kinetic energy into an electrical charge. These batteries are linked to hundreds of thousands of other batteries that then power streetlights and traffic signals. A new body suit is being designed with the military in mind called the piezoelectric that converts movement and thermal differences into electricity. This will allow the wearer to control heat or cold from the current it generates and allow for the charging of batteries stored on the suit itself for the monitoring of vital signs, displays or other controls.

What about night vision contacts? With the technological advance in the plasma screens this may become a reality. And last but certainly not least, try waking up in the mornings, turning on news channel and see "Good Morning From Mars, Brought To You From Our Friendly Neighborhood Rover."

Let's use, not abuse

Overseas Housing Allowance, Utility, Move in Housing Allowance survey

From the Manpower office

The survey is for uniformed service members who live in privately leased housing and receive OHA.

It is very important that you participate, your response affects you and every person in this command.

The data collected in this survey will determine the OHA utility allowance and MIHA for Naval Air Station Sigonella.

Background. Annually, the Per Diem Travel and Transportation Allowance (PDTATAC) conducts the OHA utility and MIHA survey to collect utility and recurring maintenance expense data from service members who receive an overseas housing allowance.

Every three years, additional questions are added to collect move-in expenses from service members. PDTATAC uses this data to compute scientifically accurate OHA utility and MIHA move-in allowances for service members world-wide.

The 2003 Survey In the past, the survey was distributed by mail to a sample of service members. Because many service members felt that their utility and move-in expenses were not considered when the rates were calculated, this year all Service members who

reside in privately leased quarters overseas and receive an overseas housing allowance will have an opportunity to complete the survey on the internet.

To complete the surveys, respondents should have actual bills or records of their utility expenses and maintenance expenses for the last twelve months. They will be expected to compute a monthly average for each of these expenses.

For the MIHA survey they will be asked to report actual moving in expenses. Most respondents might find it easier to take the survey at home in conjunction with their spouses. Do not convert your euro expenses to dollars. On the local currency box, please do not put the Euro sign and no decimal points on your numbers. For example, \$107.95 is rounded to \$108.

To log in to the online survey (<http://www.mil-surveys.com/OHA>), service members will be asked for their Social Security Number. This is to ensure that the member is eligible to complete the survey; once the survey is completed, responses will be held in strict confidence.

The survey then issues a "ticket number" which the service

Sexual Assault Victim Intervention

SAVI offers a Sexual Assault Hotline staffed with trained Advocates who man the SAVI Hotlines 24/7. The number is 335-642-8312 or 335-606-6146.

Blue Angels accepting officer applications

From Blue Angels Public Affairs



NAVAL AIR FACILITY EL CENTRO, Calif. (NNS) — The Navy Flight Demonstration Squadron (Blue Angels) is currently accepting officer applications for two demonstration pilots (both Navy and Marine), an events coordinator, a Marine C-130 Pilot, a flight surgeon, a supply officer and an administrative/executive officer.

Demonstration pilot applicants must be carrier qualified tactical jet pilots with 1,250 hours of flight time by Sept. 30 of year applying. Applicants are preferred to be rotating from sea duty or have been on shore duty for less than 12 months. Marine C-130 pilot applicants must have 1,200 hours of flight time and hold an aircraft commander rating in the C-130. Events coordinator applicants must be designated as a naval flight officer (NFO) or weapons systems officer (WSO).

Flight Surgeon applicants must be a qualified naval flight surgeon and be in or have completed a tour as a naval flight surgeon. Supply officer applicants must be designated as a naval aviation supply officer.

The administrative/executive officer will be selected for the 2006 team and must be a qualified, designated limited duty or chief warrant officer administrative officer, and be in or have completed an operational fleet tour.

The application deadline is April 30. Final selections will be made in July. Bureau of Naval Personnel or Commandant Marine Corps will approve selectees prior to public notification. Navy Pilot/NFO and C-130 selectees will be required to remain on active duty for 24 months following completion of their Blue Angels tour.

Application details can be obtained directly from the Blue Angels Web site at www.blueangels.navy.mil or by contacting the Blue Angels applications officer, Lt. Craig Olson, from January to March 2004 at DSN 658-2658 or commercial (760) 339-2658. After March 23, he can be reached at DSN 922-2583 ext. 116 or commercial (850) 452-2583 ext. 116.

Living Pattern Survey

All military spouse and single parents (NASSIG/TENANT Commands) are invited to participate in the Living Pattern Survey (LPS). The purpose of this survey is to determine the Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) paid to the servicemembers stationed in high cost overseas locations. COLA helps maintain purchasing power so you can purchase about the same level of goods and services overseas as in the United States. It is noted that there are significant actual cost differences between U.S. and European common market goods and services. COLA is intended to maintain maximum standards.

The questionnaire is designed to identify where and how you purchased goods and services. The viewpoint should be from the actual householder who typically runs the household. The information obtained from this questionnaire is used in planning and completing a separate Retail Price Data Collection that forms the basis for prescribing your COLA. It is very important that you participate!

The LPS survey can be accessed on our website address: <https://207.132.131.134/manpower>. The survey takes approximately 20 to 30 minutes to complete.

Deadline is Jan. 31.

members can use if they wish to complete the survey in more than one session.

In locations where internet access is not possible, please call Manpower Office at 624-6535 or 5719 to request for hard copy.

The time and effort you spend answering the survey questions will enable the Department of Defense to determine accurate OHA utility rates and MIHA.

Deadline for submissions is Jan. 31.

MOMS Club of Marina, NAS Sigonella, Sicily.

We will be having a Mom's Night Out Open House Saturday, Feb. 7 at 7 p.m. We are asking that anyone interested contact me, the Founder and President, Melissa C. at 624-1277.

News Briefs

Knowledge Bowl

The annual Black Facts Knowledge Bowl will be at JOX Sports Bar on Feb. 13 from noon to 4 p.m. Teams consist of four to five players, military or civilian. Get your teams together and register by contacting ETC McAuslin at 624-6053 or e-mail at mcmauslin@nccs.sicily.navy.mil or TT1 Arnold at 624-5538 or e-mail pamold@nccs.sicily.navy.mil.

Spouse Tuition Assistance Program

The Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society is hosting the Spouse Tuition Program. The Application Period for 2003-2004 Term 4 is Feb. 9 until March 10. Open only to spouses residing with the active duty service member stationed at overseas locations. The program provides a grant up to 50 percent of tuition to full-time or part-time students enrolled in degree or certificate programs in institutions approved by the U.S. Department of Education. Call for an appointment now at 624-4212 (appointments fill up quickly). Open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

MWR Now Hiring

Have fun while enjoying good pay and flexible hours in either part-time or full-time positions. MWR several vacancies throughout their 20-plus facilities.

TENPINS Bowling Center cooks, cashiers and mechanics; Information, Tours and Travel

clerks, Auto Skills Center and Youth Activities Center for recreation aids, Child Development Center for child care workers, and MWR Marketing for an graphic artist (opening soon, apply now.) Call MWR Personnel Office at 624-2385 or 624-2560, or stop by and apply in person. Job applications and descriptions can also be found on www.sicily.navy.mil/positions.

Volunteers Needed

The Navy Marine Corps Relief Society is currently looking for individuals that are E-6 and above who are responsible, caring individuals who would be able to assist us in carrying our after hours contact phone.

Call Nohealani Pakola, Chairman of Volunteers, NMCRS at 624-4212 or stop by the office.

FFSC Moving

FFSC will reopen on Feb. 2 in their new location, building #319 directly across from the Stephen Decatur School. All Indoc and OCR classes will now be held in the new building after Feb. 2.



By Alberto Lunetta
Signature Staff

Italian News

Sicilian culture and lifestyle

Sant'Agatha Festival to be held in Catania

"Semu divoti tutti? Cettu, Cettu, Citatini, viva Sant' Aita!" (Are we all devotees? Yes, of course, sure, Townspeople, long live St. Agatha!). In the icy February air, these words of devotion uttered by thousands of screaming devotees, men and women of all ranks, ages, characters, and conditions, warm the hearts of festival visitors. Looking into the eyes of these soulful devotees, it is impossible not to be touched by noticing their sincere participation in the memory of the anniversary of this young virgin's martyrdom. Indeed, Agatha, affectionately nicknamed *Santuzza* or little saint, sacrificed her life undergoing inhuman tortures to defend her faith in God.

Every year, from Feb. 3 through 5, Catania shuts down to pay homage to its patron saint. It's a moment that the city's community waits all year. *Divoti* (devotees) participate in all the vivid processions that are held throughout the streets of the Catania's historic heart to passionately express gratitude and devotion to their beloved patron saint. While attending the processions, one remains definitely impressed with the size of the candles that exhausted devotees carry on their shoulders as votive offerings. Typically, the saint is invoked in moments of pain, danger, sickness and tension. Carrying *ceri* (candles) in procession is usually a lifelong "thanksgiving" practice. However, devotees decide how heavy the candle should be and for how long they would carry it. Most of these pilgrims wear the traditional *sacco* (tunic), women in green and men in white. They also wear a black *scuzzitta* (skullcap), a handkerchief and gloves.

According to the one tradition, the custom to wear the *sacco* symbolizes the nightness that the Catanians wore when they welcomed the return from Turkey of the Saint Agatha's relics on Aug. 17, 1126. As it occurred during the night, people swarmed in the

streets barefoot in their nightclothes. Historic chronicles tell that it was a great feast for the Catania community whose residents waived white handkerchiefs to show their enthusiasm. Yet, according to another tradition, this white garment actually symbolizes a sackcloth or penitential dress meaning purity. In the 16th century, devotees used to attend the celebrations barefoot and wearing only briefs while women, who were only allowed to participate only as onlookers, were required to wear a rough cloth with one eye opening to respect public decency.

Over the centuries, Saint Agatha has been invoked several times against the eruptions of the volcano Etna, as elsewhere against fire and lightning. One of the most prodigious miracles that are ascribed to her occurred in the year 252 AD, one year after her death. As a violent Etna eruption threatened the city, Catanians invoked the help of St. Agatha by laying her veil (called *l'impia*), which according to a legend covered her head as she was being rolled over live coals during her martyrdom, over the lava. Right after, the miracle happened and the flow stopped.

Life of Saint Agatha

According to tradition, St. Agatha was born in a wealthy Sicilian family in Catania in 231 AD. She was a virtuous young woman leading a pure and holy life. When she refused to marry Quintianus, a Roman governor who brutally persecuted Christians, he had her arrested and tortured. She also suffered the cruel removal of her breast, a detail that has been often depicted in Christian medieval paintings. Afterward, Agatha was consigned to prison where a prodigious event occurred as St. Peter appeared to her in a dazzling light and healed all the torture's wounds. Then, Quintianus ordered that Agatha would be cast into a fiery furnace and burned to death. But while she was burning alive a violent earthquake struck Catania. This natural disaster was welcomed by the Catanians as a sign of God who wanted the tortures inflicted to

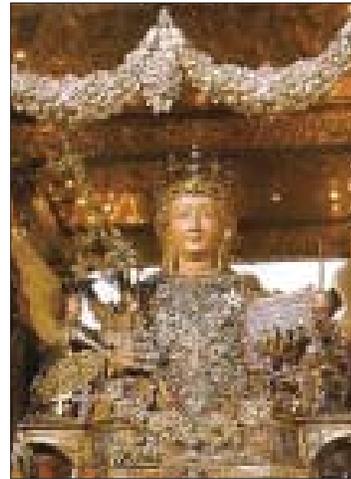
Agatha to be over. Thus, a riot broke out in the city forcing Quintianus to stop the execution. Eventually, Agatha was taken back to her prison where she died right after. It was Feb. 5, 251 AD. Later on the same day, the evil Quintianus, who was on the run because he feared the riot, drowned in the river Simeto.

Festival Schedule

Here are some of the must-see events of this vivid and heartfelt religious festival that lasts over a month. On Feb. 3, celebrations begin with Holy Mass celebrated at the Cathedral at 7:30 a.m.

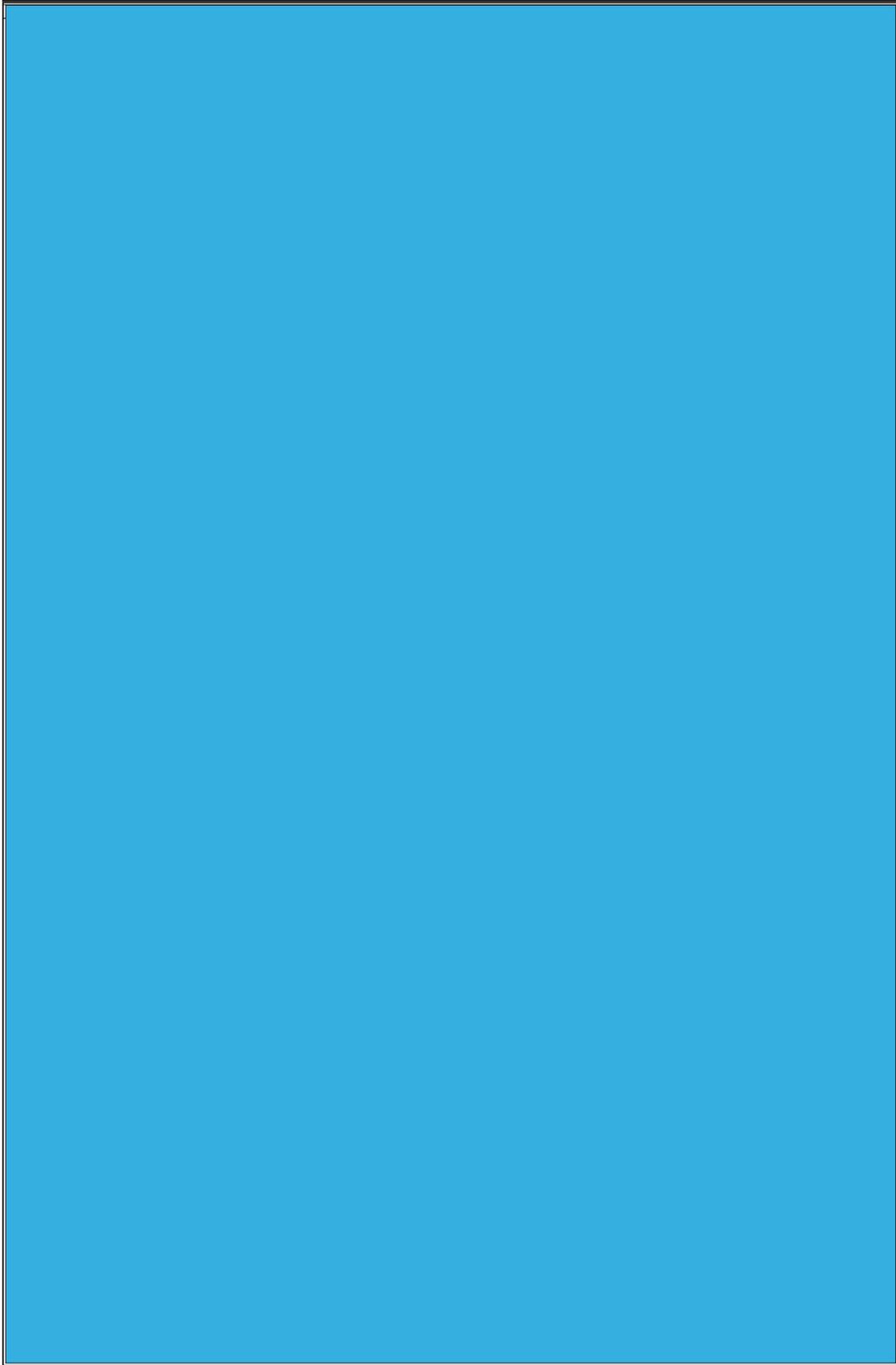
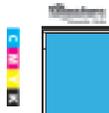
Later at noon, a solemn procession called "The offering of the wax" leaves from the Church of St. Agata "Alla fornace" toward the Cathedral. *Candelore* (tall wax candles surrounded by a heavy candelabrum-shaped gilded wooden structure and decorated with statues depicting angels, saints, and pennons, and flowers) representing local guilds head the procession. Each *candelora* is carried on the shoulders of eight to 12 people. In the past, they illuminated the passage of the procession. But through the centuries their dimensions became so bulky that a person alone could not carry their weight anymore. During the processions, the *candelore* stop

Italian News page 16



This compelling religious festival, which takes place annually from Feb. 3 through 5, celebrates on a large scale the heartfelt memory of Catania's patron saint, Saint Agatha. There are massive parades and processions held through the historical center of the town and an amazing evening of fireworks on Feb. 3.







SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

						Jan	30 Catania History ITT Call 624-4396 No School	31 Ski Mt. Etna AU Call 624-4271
1 Feb World War II Battle Tour/ Carrubo Agrituristic Farm ITT Call 624-4396	2	3 Mineo Game Board Days Mineo Rec Center	4 St. Agata Shopping Trip ITT Call 624-4396	5 Ping-Pong Tourney 4 p.m. Mineo Rec Center	6 Sicilian Puppet Show ITT Call 624-4396	7 Oliver Twist Live in Concert 10 p.m. JOX Call 624-5187		
8 Chiaromonte Gulfi & Olive Oil Shopping ITT Call 624-4396	9 PTO Meeting 2:30 p.m. mmB25	10 Horse Trekking on Mt Etna AU Call 624-4271	11 TAP Pre-Retirement 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. NAS II bldg 562 Call 624-4291	12 Lost Penny Day 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. buy a hotdog or small nachos for just one penny at Take 5	13 Black Facts Knowledge Bowl noon to 4 p.m. JOX	14 Valentine's Day Dinner ITT Call 624-4396		
15 Ladies Sunday Special every Sunday in Feb., Ladies bowl for free including shoes	16 Presidents' Day	17 Scrapbooking Club 3:15 to 4:30 p.m. Teen Center	18 205 Playgroup 10 to 11 a.m. 205 Housing Youth Center	19 San Corrado Festival in Motta ITT Call 624-4396	20 Birthday Bash 8 p.m. Crater Pub Call 624-4321	21 Modica Castle Photo Safari Call 624-3718		

FRIDAY Call	Sat., Jan. 31	Sun., Feb. 1	Tues., Feb. 3	Wed., Feb. 4	Thurs., Feb. 5	Fri., Feb. 6
Fri., Jan. 30 Learn the history of the Elephant Square in Catania. Visit Ursino Castle, Crociferi Street and the Greek Amphitheatre with its Odeon. Call ITT at 624-4396.	Ski Mt. Etna for the first ski trip of the season. Bring extra Euro for rentals, food and momentos. Call AU at 624-4271.	Come watch the NFL Championship showdown at Jox. There will be free food, giveaways and drink specials until the last play of the game. Call Jon at x5187.	Hit the slopes of Piano Battaglia with AU. Choose from skiing, snowboarding, sledging or just playing in the snow. Warm up afterwards with a hot cocoa or cappuccino at the lodge. Call 624-4271.	Shop the St. Agata Market in Catania with ITT. Call 624-4396. Be sure to work comfortable shoes and bring plenty of Euro. Go with ITT to Catania for the St. Agata Festival. Learn the history behind the festivities. Sign up soon before seats get filled up.	Who's with who in Hollywood? If you think you've got the latest dirt, take the trivia quiz at Take 5 and win some cool prizes from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.	Enjoy an authentic Sicilian puppet show performed. Live backstage effects such as rolling drums, blaring horns and battle sounds heighten the excitement of the show. Call ITT at 624-4396.



Word Find

Current U.S. Navy Bases



- | | | | |
|----------------|--------------|---------------|----------------|
| BAHRAIN | GUAM | MONTEREY | ROTA |
| BREMERTON | GULFPORT | NAPLES | SAN DIEGO |
| BRUNSWICK | INGLESIDE | NEW LONDON | SASEBO |
| CHARLESTON | JACKSONVILLE | NEW ORLEANS | SIGONELLA |
| CHINALAKE | KEYWEST | NEWPORT | WASHINGTON |
| CORPUS CHRISTI | KINGS BAY | NORFOLK | WHIDBEY ISLAND |
| EARLE | KINGSVILLE | PASCAGOULA | WHITING FIELD |
| FALLON | LEMOORE | PATUXENTRIVER | WILLOW GROVE |
| FORT WORTH | LITTLE CREEK | PEARL HARBOR | YOKOSUKA |
| GAETA | MAXPORT | PENSACOLA | |
| GREAT LAKES | MERIDIAN | POINT MAGU | |
| GROTON | MILLINGTON | PORT HUENEME | |

SCHOOL NEWS

Seniors going to Germany for performing arts workshop



Four students and a teacher from the Sigonella schools will be in Germany from Feb. 22 to 27 attending a performing arts workshop. From left to right: Daniela Zyskowski, Rachel Bryan, Ms. Lynn Soeby, Veronica Gray and Adriana Zyskowski.

By Shanna Kelley
Senior

Stephen Decatur Senior High students Adriana Zyskowski and Veronica Gray, Junior Rachel Bryan, and Freshman Daniela Zyskowski have been selected to participate in Creative Connections from Feb. 22 to 27 in at the Jugendgasthaus in Oberwesel in Rhein, Germany. Creative Connections is a visual and performing arts workshop sponsored by DoDDS-Europe. They will be traveling with Ms. Lynn Soeby, Stephen Decatur Elementary School music teacher.

The selected students will receive a year's worth of instruction in one week. They will attend workshop classes on Sunday afternoon and then work from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. every day.

The Zyskowski sisters have been selected for a dance workshop. Veronica Gray is in an acting workshop for Irish Theatre, while Rachel Bryan will work with Soeby on "Way Off Broadway."

Students will be able show their intricate talents in an art exhibit on Thursday evening. The artwork made

during the week is displayed in the exhibit and the performing artists share what they have learned in a presentation.

Sobey says that "Way Off Broadway" is a class for students who are interested in singing, dancing, and acting. She has always been interested in theater and directing musicals. She thought it would be fun to offer a workshop. To her amazement she was accepted and now she applies every year. She has been teaching this class for six years now. "This is the most rewarding teaching experience of my year," she explains.

Students are able to apply every year in both visual and performing workshops. The visual art workshops that are offered change from year to year but typically are for oil pastels, sculpting, multi-dimensional drawing, spherical thinking, and video producing. The performing arts workshops that are offered this year are creative choreography, rhythms and percussion, string styles, Irish theatre, and "Way Off Broadway."

TRIVIA

- 1) In a set of data, what is the value in the very middle called?
- 2) What is the only genus of carnivorous plant that resides underwater?
- 3) What generic type of cloud do thunderstorms/tornadoes come from?
- 4) How long was the wispspan of a full-grown Quetzalcoatlus (dinosaur), 20, 30 or 40 feet?
- 5) In 1932, what did James Chadwick theorize that an atom must contain?

(Answers on page 11)

Movie Connection

2004's Theater Schedule

<p>Friday, Jan. 30</p> <p>6 p.m. <i>Honey (PG-13)**</i></p> <p>8:30 p.m. <i>The Missing (R)**</i></p>	<p>Monday, Feb. 2</p> <p>6 p.m. <i>Scary Movie 3 (PG-13)*</i></p> <p>8 p.m. <i>Honey (PG-13)</i></p>
Theater Closed Tuesdays	
<p>Saturday, Jan. 31</p> <p>1 p.m. <i>Cheaper by the Dozen (PG)</i></p> <p>3:30 p.m. <i>The Haunted Mansion (PG)</i></p> <p>6 p.m. <i>Master and Commander (PG-13)</i></p>	<p>Wednesday, Feb. 4</p> <p>6 p.m. <i>Looney Tunes: Back in Action (PG)*</i></p> <p>8 p.m. <i>Master and Commander (PG-13)</i></p>
<p>Sunday, Feb. 1</p> <p>1 p.m. <i>Looney Tunes: Back in Action (PG)</i></p> <p>3:30 p.m. <i>Dr. Seuss' The Cat in the Hat (PG)</i></p> <p>6 p.m. <i>The Missing (R)</i></p>	<p>Thursday, Feb. 5</p> <p>6 p.m. <i>Dr. Seuss' The Cat in the Hat (PG)*</i></p> <p>8 p.m. <i>The Missing (R)</i></p>
<p>Friday, Feb. 6</p> <p>6 p.m. <i>Love Don't Cost a Thing (PG-13)**</i></p> <p>8 p.m. <i>The Human Stain (R)**</i></p>	

** 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)

School pictures

Class pictures for pre-K to 12th grades will be held from Feb 17-20 at the school. Family photos are also available from Feb 19-20 from 5 to 7 p.m. For more information, please contact Mandy at x3002. More information on the class photos will be sent home with your child from school.

Web-Based system helps commands, Sailors track physical fitness performance

By Ingrid Mueller
Navy Morale, Welfare and Recreation
Communications Group Public Affairs

MILLINGTON, Tenn. (NNS) — The key to the Navy's physical readiness program is recognizing that "total fitness" is a crucial element of mission performance. Recent upgrades to the Physical Readiness Information Management System (PRIMS), including enhanced "read-only" access and reporting procedures, help Navy commands get a true picture of their Sailors' overall fitness, while significantly reducing the administrative workload required to administer the physical readiness program.

"The refinements we are making to PRIMS support the Navy's goal of developing a culture of fitness," said Lt. Cmdr. Mike Ciriqi, physical readiness program manager, Navy Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) Division, Navy Personnel Command, Millington, Tenn. "Commanding officers, executive officers and command master chiefs can now be assigned read-only access to all the physical readiness program records within their command, which will enable them to get a better look at the overall fitness of their Sailors." Read-only access is available through the command fitness leader (CFL).

All commands are required to report their physical fitness assessment (PFA) data via PRIMS no later than 30 days after conducting the PFA, in accordance with guidelines established in the Navy's Physical Readiness Program instruction, OPNAVINST 610.1.G. When using the Web-based PRIMS, there is no need to provide any additional reports to Navy Personnel Command on command participation in PFAs.

"The purpose of PRIMS is to make the whole administration of the physical readiness program easier for the com-

mand and for the individual," explained Ciriqi. "PRIMS came on line Oct. 1, 2002, and has significantly reduced the command level administrative workload required to administer the physical readiness program. We estimate that PRIMS has reduced record management time by about 30 percent."

CFLs can use PRIMS to update individual records, receive and transfer members' records, and create specialized reports for their command. Other features of the system include risk controls, PFA tracking, administrative warnings and fitness enhancement program (FEP) enrollment. Using PRIMS means no more "stubby pencils" for CFLs, as the system performs the calculations for body fat measurement and computes the overall physical readiness test performance score. Step-by-step instructions for this user-friendly system are available to the CFL through the PRIMS Web site, www.mwr.navy.mil/prims.

"PRIMS also provides the CFL with checks and balances to ensure risk control measures are in place prior to conducting the physical readiness test," added Ciriqi. "The system tracks medical screenings and waivers, and will print a list of individuals who are cleared to participate in the physical readiness test, along with a list of those who are not cleared to participate."

Sailors can view their records at any time through the Navy MWR PRIMS Web site at <https://prims.persnet.navy.mil/>, by using the social security number as the log-in identification and the BUPERS Online (BOL) password as a password. Sailors can obtain a BOL password by visiting the BOL Web site at www.bol.navy.mil/default.asp.

SPORTS



Jaguars basketball declaw Falcons

Story and photos by JO3 Steve Weaver
Staff Writer

Signonella's Stephen Decatur High School Jaguars Girls Basketball team took it to the visiting American Overseas School of Rome (AOSR) Falcons last Friday night for a final of 42-27.

The Jaguars had a tough time figuring out the Falcons early in the first quarter. Errant passes, missed shots and mistakes like a technical foul by the Jags led to a 7-2 Falcons lead with 2:47 left in the first quarter.

Not to be outdone, the Jaguars clawed their way back later in the first. Two outside jumpers by Cherelle Miller brought the score to 7-6 with 2 minutes left in the first. A lay up by Rachel Smith gave the Jags a lead they would not relinquish. Lauren "LJ" Johnson capped off a hectic first quarter with a long jumper to bring the score to 10-7.

AOSR managed only four points against a tough Jaguars defense in the second quarter. The Jags Dennis Rodmanesque Laura Baltodano pulled down a plethora of rebounds. Signonella also managed to put up a multitude of points. Whitney Lynch, Johnson, and Miller all got in on the second-quarter scoring, leaving the Falcons in the dust with a halftime lead of 26-11.

After a halftime recognizing Signonella's senior athletes, the action commenced in the third. The Jags were outscored 6-8 in the third as both team's defense's kept the scoring down.

The fourth quarter saw Signonella outscore AOSR 10-8 in the fourth. Johnson, Miller, and April Coutino added to the scoring. The Jags stifling defense cornered AOSR into coughing up the ball and missing many scoring opportunities. A late scoring binge by the Falcons was no use as the Jaguars last home game of the year ended in victory and brought their record to 5-4.

Signonella's strategy was to come out strong. "We wanted to put them on their heels right

from the get-go," said Coach Greg Zaroslinski. "LJ did a great job of making the defense work. She did a great job penetrating right of the bat in the first quarter, which opens everything up. Once they collapse on you the outside is going to open up and vice versa. When Cherelle knocks them down, the defense has to step out and then again you have a chance to penetrate."

Not forcing situations also worked to their advantage. "We have been working the last two weeks on being more patient because we know we're not going to score a lot of points," Zaroslinski said. "The time we're on offense we want to get good looks and tonight we did a great job of doing that."

Not scoring many points mean you have to be good defensively. "We pride ourselves on defense," Zaroslinski said. "We know that offensively we're not going to outscore everyone we play. Collectively [we coaches] decided that if we can withstand runs



Lauren Johnson drives into the paint while dishing the ball off to a teammate during the Jaguars win over AOSR Jan. 23.

from teams by playing good defense, we can score enough points to compete with anybody." An emerging defensive force is Baltodano. "When we first saw her during tryouts, she was

a kid with a lot of athletic ability, but kind of uncoordinated," Zaroslinski said. "She came and asked me what she could do to improve her game and help the team. I basically told her that she





wasn't going to be an incredible offensive threat. I told her 'Why don't you pick something that nobody else does and just be the best at it.' Obviously, [if you saw] the game tonight, she excels at defense and rebounding like crazy. I bet she had 20 rebounds. She's taken it to another level and in my opinion she's our most improved player by far."

On the other end is Cherelle Miller. "Cherelle's been an outstanding scorer," said Zaroslinski. "I think collectively we look to her to score...it's not that we need her to score."

"She's been the high point scorer in most games this year," added Coach Vera Morgan.

The team will soon find themselves in the league championships, which is what the Jags are preparing for now. "Basically you work all year to go to the big show and that's in Aviano," said Zaroslinski. "We're just trying to get everything tied up before the tournament, that's kind of exactly what we're getting into right now." The coach said two teams to beat will be Naples and Aviano.

The team will have a shot at a title. "Right now as far as us coming together as a team, getting everybody on the same page at the same time, we'll have a shot," said Zaroslinski. "There's not too many teams out there that have the kind of athleticism we have. It's about peaking at the right time."

"We're going to be a big surprise," Morgan said. Even if the team doesn't win this year, there's always next year. "We only have one senior, so most of the team will be returning next year."

"We're basing our success on getting better each day," Zaroslinski said. "I think we'll turn a lot of heads and a lot of people will be surprised. Don't count us out."



Whitney Lynch slaps the ball away from her opponent.



Rachel Smith taps the ball during the opening tipoff of the Jan. 23 game versus American Overseas School of Rome.

The Lane

Miles for Life

Rack up running and biking miles for great prizes. Fun run, treadmill and stationary bike miles also count towards your Miles for Life total. Redeem your award when you reach distance milestones ranging from 100 to 5,000 miles. Prizes include a CD player, a heart rate monitor, a windbreaker and more. Sign up at either fitness center for a small fee. Call 624-4483 or 624-5243 for more information.

Super Bowl XXXVIII Tailgate Party

We have a the grill and we will have the game. Come watch the showdown of the year for the NFL Championship at JOX. We'll have free food, giveaways and more until the last play of the game. Grilling starts Feb. 1 at 8 p.m. Pre-Game at 9 p.m. Tailgate party begins at 11 p.m. For more information, call Jon at 624-5187.

Run for the Heart of It

Sign up early for this 10K fun run to Motta. The run will take place Sat. Feb. 7. T-shirts and awards given for all participants as well as finishing off the morning with breakfast. Sign up at either fitness center. The run will start at 8 a.m. at the NAS I fitness center.





Now hiring: MWR, with jobs for different lifestyles

By JO1 Craig Coleman
Staff Writer

Belt-tightening is a way of life on all military installations these days and with smaller operating budgets come a dwindling of the on-base job market. With government service (GS) employment opportunities limited, servicemembers and their families can walk down another avenue of employment prospects: the non-appropriated fund (NAF) jobs offered by MWR.

MWR is hiring. According to James Baker, MWR Director, there are many MWR NAF positions available now and due to the permanent change of station requirements, more will open in the future. "We have a lot of American hire positions, which are food service workers at the theater and Bowling Center, we have cashiers at some of our operations, and these are more flexible, including some full-time jobs," Baker said. "As family members rotate the jobs become available and occasionally we get hit with a high turnover at one or two facilities."

Baker said that MWR tries to create a balance in employment opportunities, in order to create the proper mix between full and part-time jobs for family members and after work opportunities for off-duty military members. Facilities managers stress flexibility in scheduling in order to making working at MWR as convenient as possible. "If a spouse is going to school and she only wants to work a few days a week or if she doesn't want to be away from the family full time we can work around that," Baker said. "If we have military members who are looking for a little extra income, then there are some nighttime and weekend activities, but we also realize that military duty comes first, so our managers work with that."

The Bowling Center is looking for cooks and cashiers, with daytime, evening, and weekend work available. "Family members who are looking for daytime work and military members who are looking for evening work - we have opportunities for both," Baker said.

Sammy Rametta, Ten Pins Bowling Center manager, believe working at the lanes is a good deal.

"I enjoy what I do. I don't think the job here is hard. It's demanding sometimes because of the amount of customers we get, but it's a great place to meet people. And the pay is as high as is possible," Rametta said.

The MWR Cinema manager is looking for food service workers as well. The theater is open days, evenings and weekends so can accommodate most work schedules. It is fairly easy work and comes with special benefits, according to Mindy Oldham, MWR Cinema manager. "You get free movie tickets, sneak peaks at the new movies coming out and head of the line privileges," Oldham said.

There are also jobs available for people who like working with children. MWR's Child Development Center and Youth Activities programs need people with a strong interest in recreational activities. According to Baker, the jobs available are mostly for daytime workers, but the teen center does need evening help as well. Three to six months of work experience is the minimum requirement for recreation aids. "What we look for in addition to that is some kind of interest or experience," Baker said. "For example, if a person has a background in sports or working with kids that's great for the Youth Activities Center or if someone has a strong interest in a recreational hobby or experience working with kids it's a plus. If they have some experience in travel they're good for ITT. The extra experience isn't necessary, but ideal."

MWR ensures that employees get any certifications necessary to perform their jobs. "There are some basic requirements that they have to meet, but we will get them on board, especially with CDC and our youth programs," Baker said. "Once they get on board and they go through on-the-job training and they get their certification, then they can actually move up in position."

Those certifications can be very valuable in their own right, according to Baker. "If a person comes here and gets certified as a CDC director and they go anywhere else with the military it's a good opportunity to stay employed while moving around, if you like that kind of work."

Baker cites contact with the community as one of the major benefits of these customer service jobs. "It's enjoyable because a lot of the places you'll be working, the theater, the bowling alley, youth programs, all have a lot of good interaction," he said. "These programs are providing a nice service to the community. For a lot of our family members who work with us it's a nice way to find friends through work."

"Lots of employees recommend us to their friends," Oldham said. "Most people we get here end up staying their whole tour. We have fun, talking with the customers. It's an easy-going staff, good managers and you get free movies."

The number of employment opportunities available makes MWR a very flexible employer. Baker recommends checking out potential workplaces yourself. "Walk in to one of the facilities and talk to the facility manager. If you think working at the



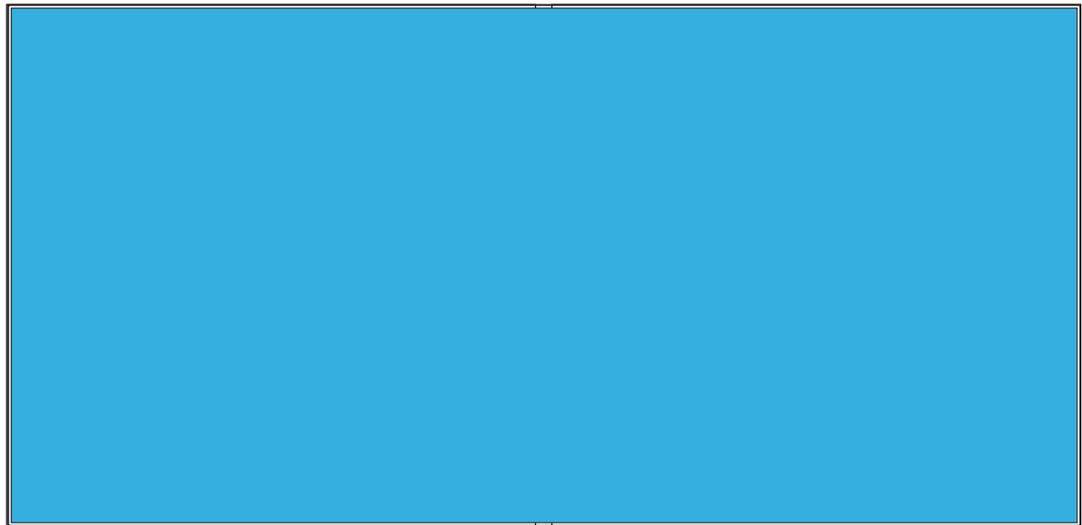
A bowler winds up and hurls a ball down the lane at the NAS I Ten Pins Bowling Center. The bowling alley on is currently looking for cooks and cashiers.

Bowling Center or Take 5 or the theater is something you would have an interest in walk by and talk with them."

Baker said that many of the quality of life opportunities available to service members and their families would not exist without the people who keep them running. "We do depend on the American community to keep our programs going," he said. "Active duty who are looking for evening and weekend work or family members who are looking for employment - both opportunities are available. We are willing to work with people as much as possible and give them on-the-job skills as they go along. For the most part, we're looking for good, reliable people who work well in somewhat social environments." come see movies with you for free.



June Swartz fills up a bucket full of popcorn in the theater on NAS I. The theater is currently seeking great people for great jobs.





MWR job openings

Ten Pins Bowling Center
Cooks
Cashiers
Mechanics

Information, Tours and Travel
Clerks

Auto Skills Center
Recreation Aids

Youth Activities Center
Recreation Aides

Child Development Center
Child Care Workers

For more information call MWR Personnel Office at 624-2385, or 624-2560. Job applications and descriptions can also be found at www.sicily.navy.mil/positions.

Fil-Am association gets new officers

By Frances Rosal

It was a momentous night of dinner and dance at the Fil-Am Association of Sigonella's 2003 New Officer Induction Gala. The celebration was held at the Sigonella Inn recently. Capt. Dansak delivered a great invocation recognizing the remarkable camaraderie among Filipinos in all commands he has been. CMDM Anthony Evangelista and his wife graced the occasion as special guests.

One hundred and thirty stunningly dressed members and friends attended that night. After the new officers were inducted into office, two dance presentations choreographed by Gladys Sacla and Rannie Estacio, "Pasko Na Sinta Ko" sung by Myra Limon, with Flora Lim on the piano, a solo piano piece by Flora, great emceeing by Flora, Margie Castro and Gemmo Almonte, various speeches and award presentations, and \$3,500 in door prizes, two hours of nonstop dancing followed. Phew! What a fun, fun night! Everyone walked out with a smile on his or her face. It was yet another Fil-Am party to go down in history....

The 2004 Fil-Am officer inductees were: CEC Nito Rosal, President;



Capt. Thom Dansak, command chaplain swears in the new Sigonella Fil-Am Association officers at the association's Christmas party

MSC Jun Parreno, VP; HM1 Reggie Sacla, Secretary; YN1 Art Ortiz, Treasurer; Sylvia Andres, HM1 Larry Valdez, AD2 Neil Padrigon and ET2 Brian Espinosa, Event Coordinators; and HM1 Danny Janolo and MS2 George Cruz, Public Relations Officers.

By Lt. Jg. John Ferrari
 Staff Writer

Bone Marrow Drive Draws Large Crowd

By JO2 David Van Scoy
 Navy Region Southwest Public Affairs

SAN DIEGO (NNS) — Nearly 600 Sailors and family members donated blood Jan. 16 at the Navy Exchange on the dry side of Naval Base San Diego, during a daylong effort to seek out possible bone marrow donors for leukemia sufferers.

The drive nearly doubled the goal of 300 donors set by Lt. Cindy Campbell, the San Diego area bone marrow drive coordinator.

Upon collection, the blood was sent to the Bill Young Marrow Donor Center (BYMDC). The donor center is one of 94 that recruits donors who become registered as volunteers with the National Marrow Donor Program (NMDP), a large pool of potential bone marrow donors for people who may need a transplant because they suffer from one of many different forms of leukemia.

In 2003, only 26,812 DoD personnel registered with the NMDP, said Capt. Robert Hartzman, director of the BYMDC. Hartzman also said that once a member has registered, the person would be on the list until 60 years of age.

Campbell, who spent the day trying to urge Sailors to donate, said only about one out of 10 will register to become donors, adding that there approximately 500 personnel in the military, family members and active duty, that need a transplant.

"I watched a shipmate die of leukemia over 10 years ago," Campbell said. "Someone out there

matched him, they just weren't on the list."

When a person gives blood for marrow, it is shipped to the BYMDC where it is tested at the Navy Human Leukocyte Antigen (HLA) testing laboratory to determine bone marrow type. From there, a person's HLA, or white blood cell, type and information are entered into the NMDP main computer.

Hartzman said the information is coded, so a person can only be identified by BYMDC personnel.

Once in the NMDP registry, surgeons from around the nation can search the database to find an HLA match for their patients. If it is determined a DoD member matches a person in need of a transplant, the NMDP will contact the BYMDC, which will inform the member that a match has been found. If the member wishes to continue with the process, and with command approval, he or she would be flown, all expenses paid, to Georgetown University in Washington, D.C., where further testing would be done to see if they still qualified. A donation date is then scheduled.

Chief Hospital Corpsman (SW/FMF) Mark Goldschmidt, Naval School of Health Science, was selected for donation nearly eight years ago. His bone marrow helped save the life of a 36-year-old Battlecreek, Mich., mother of two who suffered from aplastic anemia, a form of leukemia.

"I was in the registry for about a year when they called me and said, 'We have you as a potential match for someone who needs a bone marrow transplant. Would you consent to further Bone marrow, page 16

Nimitz Sailor Wins \$6.5 Million in California Lottery

By JO3(SW) Kristine DeHoux, USS Nimitz Public Affairs

NORTH ISLAND, Calif. (NNS) — There was a time when Aviation Ordnanceman Airman Don Burdette and his family struggled from paycheck to paycheck in order to pay their bills. Now, those struggles are gone.

Burdette, a 23-year-old Sailor aboard San Diego-based aircraft carrier USS Nimitz (CVN 68), won the California Lottery Jan. 14 and split a \$13 million dollar jackpot with one other Californian.

"We both decided to take the lump sum up front instead of in payments," said Burdette. "After splitting the money and taxes were deducted, my family and I received about \$3 million."

With a wife and 16-month-old twin daughters, Burdette believes it was a blessing from his father who passed away when Burdette was 16. A California native, Burdette was born and raised in Spring Valley, and became the first in California Lotto history to win three.

"I was on duty the Wednesday the numbers came out," explained Burdette. "My wife was in the emergency room with my daughter Mackenzie who was running a 103 degree temperature, but my chain of command let me go check on her. I didn't know it, but at that time I had the winning ticket in my pocket."

It wasn't until the next afternoon that Burdette would find out that he won.

"My father-in-law called me up when my wife and I were in the middle of a fight over money," said Burdette. "He said the winning lotto ticket had come from Spring Valley and that he had a good feeling it was me."

Burdette and his wife Jennifer postponed the argument while Burdette went down to the local liquor store where he had been purchasing lotto tickets every Wednesday and Saturday for the past three months. He walked into the store where he saw the clerk putting up signs saying the winning lotto ticket had been sold there.

"I asked him who won, and he said he didn't know yet and to check my ticket," said Burdette. "When I realized I won, I just started yelling and so did he. We were both freaking out. He wanted me to stand behind the counter just to be safe, and when I tried to sign the ticket, I had to hold my own hand straight I was shaking so bad."

Burdette called and told his wife, who needed a little convincing. "The first thing she said was, 'you're lying,' but she was excitedly saying it. I told her no, I'm not lying. I won every single number. I won the jackpot, and she just started screaming."

For the family, winning the jackpot means never having to be apart. According to Burdette, he has only been around for a quarter of his daughters' lives so far, the first thing he thought when he won was, "I'll never have to leave home again."

"I missed most of my wife's pregnancy because I was in boot camp and school," said Burdette. "Then a month and

a half after Madison and Mackenzie were born, I left on an eight-month deployment to the Persian Gulf with (USS) Constellation (CV 64). A month after returning home from that deployment, I was sent to 'A' school for another four-and-a-half months." But Burdette was willing to do whatever it took to provide for his daughters.

"This has added strength to our family," said Jennifer. "This money will become part of our foundation. I've always said a strong family is the foundation of everything, and we had a strong family, but you can't help but break down and fight when it comes to bills and not having enough money. Now, we have those support beams."

Before the Burdettes won the lottery, it was Jennifer's parents who helped the couple most. As a new mother of twins who was also working a part-time job, Jennifer relied a great deal on her family while her husband was away.

"They helped us with everything, from giving us a place to live, to helping us out with money whenever we needed it," Jennifer said. "It all came down to making sure the girls had what they needed."

As a way of saying thank you, Burdette plans to pay off his in-laws' house. "It's the least we could do," said Burdette. Burdette will be released from the military with an honorable discharge and will be able to spend quality time with his family. "I don't regret joining the Navy," said Burdette. "If it wasn't for the Navy, I wouldn't have the strong foundation I have now. I wouldn't have been able to pay off my debts. I wouldn't have gotten back on my feet. I learned financial responsibility that will help me spend the money more wisely. Up until this point, the Navy has helped me support my family."

Aviation Ordnanceman 1st Class Robert Herrera, one of Burdette's supervisors from Constellation who also transferred to Nimitz, has known the Sailor for over a year.

"I'm really happy for him, he deserves it," said Herrera. "Airman Burdette is the kind of guy who'll be there for you, on or off the job. As long as I've known him, I've never heard him complain. He was always about getting the job done and making his family proud."

According to Burdette, the relationships he has built are what he'll miss most about the military. "I'm kind of sad leaving the Navy, because I have a lot of boys there, some real friends that had my back," he said. "My Navy friends were my real friends, but at least now, they know where I'm going to be."

The Burdettes have purchased two vehicles so far, and plan to buy a home and remain in the San Diego area. They also plan to put money away for their daughters for college, and contribute some to charity.

More than money though, Burdette said he wished he could share the moment he found out he won. "It was the most incredible feeling that you could ever feel," he explained. "Just that one feeling that day when every single number matched, I wish I could give that to somebody else."

Mason's Dance Roger E. Brooks Chapter #44 Red & White ball

Time: 6 p.m. to 2 a.m. Place: Italian Officers Club
 Date: Feb 14

Dress Code: Semi-formal, you don't have to wear Red & White
 Finger foods will be served
 POC T. Spain 3404951773
 I. Sellers 3401502676

Trivia Answers

- 1) Median
- 2) Bladderwort
- 3) Cumulonimbus
- 4) 40 feet
- 5) Neutrons

CPOA donation caps Swordfish



Rich McKeown, aquatics director, thanks PHC Gilbert Dobison, Chief Petty Officer Association president, for the \$500 check presented to the Sigonella Swordfish Swim Club. The money went for the swim caps, which will be used in a competition in Munich, Germany.

Story and photo by JO3 Steve Weaver
Staff Writer

Money may not grow on trees, but it also doesn't just float by in the swimming pools where the Sigonella Swordfish practice and compete. But on Jan 21., the team was given a donation of money to help them purchase uniforms so they could glide through the water.

The Sigonella Chief Petty Officer Association (CPOA) handed a donation of \$500 to the Sigonella Swordfish swim team so they could purchase the new uniform items, such as swim caps.

"The donation went toward team uniforms for the big meet in Munich," said Rich McKeown, aquatic director. "They're helping us get to Munich looking like a more professional team."

This donation helped the team quite a bit. "Because the parents have to pay for everything, it's not sponsored by anybody," said PHC Gilbert Dobison, CPOA president. "It comes out of the parents pocket."

The CPOA found out about the need through one of their members. "My vice president, HMC Anna McKeown, put it out in a meeting and we just ran with it," Dobison said. "Everyone voted on it and it passed with flying colors."

"On behalf of the whole swim team we greatly appreciate the donation," said McKeown. "It really helped us out. It makes the coaching

staff and kids feel good that people are out there giving money like that. It's got to make them feel good and probably make them swim faster."

"We do yearly fundraisers like car washes and things like the Shamrock Festival and etc.," said Dobison. "We always keep money to give to certain charities...to the swim team, the school's scholarship fund and other organizations. Anything charitable, especially for the kids. That's what the CPOA is about."

The team's meet in Munich is an individual championship event. "It is also sort of a team championship because you have to qualify," said McKeown. "So all year long [the kids] try to get this time standard to get to Munich. Once you get to Munich, you compete against all the other kids who made the time standard. Some events might have 30 kids in them, but some events might have 16 because that's all that could qualify. You can't get in unless you qualify."

"It's a individual championships, but the team that sends the most kids clearly does the best because all the kids are competing," he continued. "They don't add up team points, but everybody looks to see which team sent the most kids. We have more qualifiers per swimmer than any other team in Europe. This was a fantastic year for these guys."

These fantastic swimmers will be swimming in style in Munich.

Sailors cautioned against scams

By JO1 Martin Wright
Naval Forces Europe Public Affairs

LONDON (NNS) — Scams. It seems to be a consistent problem that affects military members more than others, but experts say there is much that service members can do to prevent becoming victims.

In a report titled "In Harm's Way," the National Consumer Law Center (NCLC) has analyzed the problem and has come up with some solutions.

The report concludes that military members have and will be targets, due to predictable paycheck dates and job security. It also cited the military culture that expects its members to lead orderly, financially stable lives.

Ironically, it is often attempts to keep their finances in order that lead members to make poor decisions and spiral into major financial difficulties. And once an individual gets that far in debt, it is no longer just the individual's problem; it becomes the command's problem, as well.

Some of the most common scams, while not technically illegal, can still separate Sailors from their hard earned cash. One of the most common is the post-dated check. This takes the form of a loan in the amount of one's paycheck.

In order to get this money, a service member must give the lender a post-dated check that includes the amount of the loan — plus interest at a rate of about 300 percent.

While the paycheck advance is most common, the NCLC found other scams, including loans for car titles and the purchase of nearly worthless catalog coupons. These businesses are often located right outside the gates of military bases.

They hire former military personnel, who are able to relate to the military members they prey on. These businesses all find ways around the on-base solicitation rules by advertising in the military "Times" magazines found in almost every Exchange facility.

According to the NCLC, many members mistakenly assume that these are official publications, but they are not. They are civilian enterprise newspapers, with absolutely no endorsement from the DoD.

According to Lt. Scott Simpson, a legal assistance attorney with Naval Legal Service Office Europe and Southwest Asia, scams target all military members, regardless of rank.

He stressed that the Internet is a popular

Scams, page 16

Increase mileage with Miles for Life

By Rachel Morken
Staff Writer

Get a little extra motivation to keep up with your exercise routine with Miles for Life. Sign up at either gym and they will keep track of the miles you run and/or bike. There is a plethora of prizes bestowed at each milestone. First prize is awarded after 100 miles, with prizes

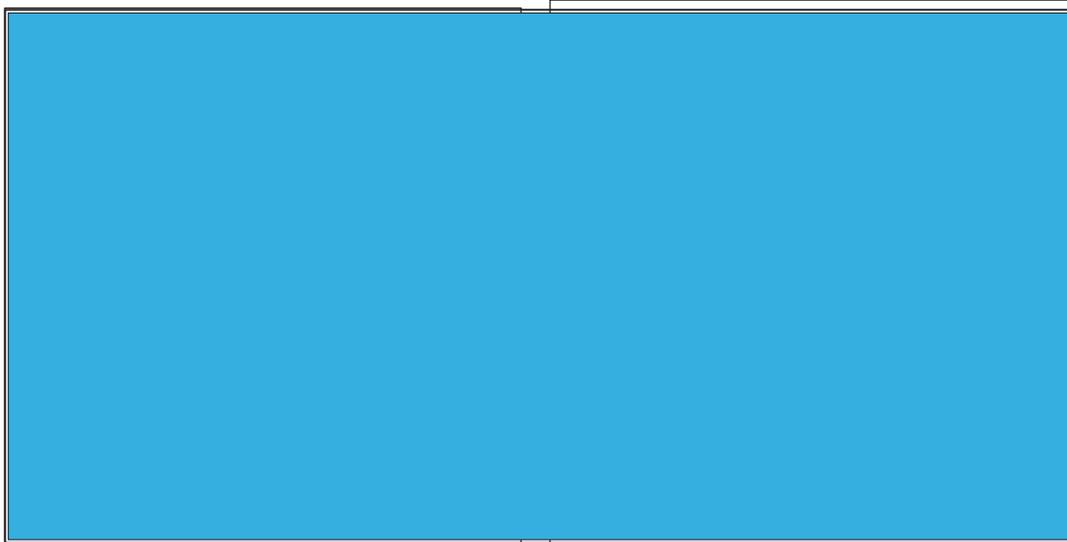
getting bigger and better after each milestone. Some of the prizes you can obtain are a heart rate monitor, CD player, wind breaker, etc.

Anyone can sign up by dropping by the NASI or NASII gym and paying the one time registration fee of \$10. Miles can be acquired on a treadmill, stationary bike, base runs, and cycling and running off base. Tell them your miles in person or call the gym you signed up at.

Still having trouble getting the motivation to go out for that run?

For those who ask for it, the manager of the gym will call you after a couple of weeks of inactivity.

Need to increase your mileage, the next base run, *Run for the Heart of it, Mattavational Run*, is February 7. The run will begin at NAS I and have two finish lines. The first finish line will be at the bottom of the hill on back Motta Road, the second finish line is at the top of the hill. The run is approximately 10 kilometers.





PKI and ID card issuing

The Navy has set a deadline of April 2004 to have PKI online all Navy computers. This will affect all personnel who have access to a Navy computer. Beginning April 2004 personnel will not be able to access their Navy e-mails and several Navy web sites unless they utilize their PKI readers and ID cards that reflect the identification certification of the member using that computer.

The certification of identification is read from your CAC card. If the information on your CAC card is incorrect (ex. E-mail address from a previous command, change in e-mail address at this command, or PIN number forgotten) you need to update your CAC ID card at PSD.

To make an ID card appointment for issuing a card or updating an ID card all personnel must log into infosisg.nassig.navy.mil or www.sicily.navy.mil/psd and use the scheduler.

Regular EAOS and replacement ID card issuing must also use the scheduler to make an appointment.

ID card issuing ends at 1450. After that time of day the system bogs down to a stand still and will not complete the issuing of ID cards.

If there is a legitimate Emergency, contact your command PIR or the hiring office for assistance. Each command has a representative that can call PSD and make arrangements on your behalf. "I forgot" not an emergency.

Civilian Personnel who need ID cards updated or issued, must report to the personnel office that hired them, and have an updated DD 1172 issued prior to the appointment date and time. ID cards can not be issued without a verified DD1172.

Unity in the community

NAS Sigonella welcomes a new organization to the community. Cultural Awareness Unlimited (CAU) was founded in October 2003. Its focus is to involve the community in wholesome family activities.

Its first function was Mama's Soul Food Dinner where you not only received some of mama's favorite dishes but were also able to enjoy some good ole Sunday dinner conversation.

CAU is excited about the future of the organization and it's part in the community. The next project will be focusing on Black History Month. On Sat. Feb. 7th, we will kick off the months activities with an opening ceremony at the NAS I chapel. At this opening there will be speakers, music by the Sigonella mass choir. Dance routines, followed with a reenactment

of the March on Washington DC concluded with another Mama's Soul Food Dinner.

Other activities planned for the month is a Ole school vs. New school dance, a play and a talent showcase. All are invited and encouraged to participate. Look for fliers and listen up to AFN radio for more information.

CAU is looking for people interested in becoming involved with the community. Come out and join us on the 3rd Wed. of every month, 5:30 pm at the NAS I galley. President - Cynthia Nicholson 624-5238 or Vice Pres. - Chery Chen 624-5319.

Births

November 25, 2003

Betsie and Larry Evert Nielsen III
Larry Evert Nielsen IV

21 inches, 7 pounds 7 ounces

January 15, 2004

Julie and James Lerlo, Jr.

Evan Christopher Lerlo

21 inches, 8 pounds 10 ounces

January 17, 2004

Katherine and Erico Latham

Benjamin Zion Latham

19 inches, 8 pounds 10 ounces

January 17, 2004

Aaryn and Michael Dell'Antonia

Gabrielle Isabella Dell'Antonia

21 inches, 8 pounds 5 ounces

January 19, 2004

Daisy and Samuel Gorgas, Jr.

Nathaniel Gorgas

19 1/2 inches, 7 pounds 10 ounces

January 20, 2004

Gretchen and Christopher Lee

Gabriella Grace Lee

20 inches, 6 pounds 15 ounces

January 20, 2004

Sarah and Chad Goff

Starr Anela Goff

18 1/2 inches, 8 pounds 7 ounces



Agrigento: Athens with upgrades

Story and photos by JO3 Steve Weaver
Staff Writer

Since arriving in Sicily a little over a year ago I've learned three things:

- Don't give in to road rage.
- I miss electronic superstores.
- Sicily is a beautiful place to live and work.

Nowhere is the last bullet more apparent than in the ancient city on the southwestern shores of the island, Agrigento. Sunday, ITT took around 45 eager tour goers on a tour of Agrigento's "Valley of the Temples."

The bus ride to the city took around an hour and a half, but it was well worth it. Like the characters in the new movie "Timeline," it is literally like getting into a time machine and being sent back in time, except you can pretend you're in a good movie.

Agrigento was founded around the year 582 B.C. by a group of colonists from the Sicilian town of Gela who were descendants of the Greek. Originally named Akragas, the town was renamed Agrigentum by the Romans, Girenti by the Saracens, and in 1927 it finally received its modern name.

The city has seen its share of strife. It was destroyed several times during the Punic Wars, taking the most damage during a Roman Invasion in 261 B.C. The city was always rebuilt despite these attacks and stood as one of the most awe-inspiring cities in the world. In fact, Greek poet Pindar described it to be the most beautiful city of the mortals. Others have noted that the city was like that of Athens, but with upgrades.

In witnessing this ancient city firsthand, I could definitely imagine what it might have looked like back then. Climbing the hill to the first stop on the tour, the temple of Hera Lacinia, whom the Romans called Juno, was interesting. You can still see the sacrificial altar where newly wed couples used to offer Hera Pronuba, the protector of marriage, a lamb as a sacrifice. Today only 30 of the temple's 34 columns stand in the south-east corner of the Valley of the Temples.

Walking along the crumbled city walls lets you look out on the countryside below. It also brings you to the next site in the Valley of the Temples, The Temple of Concordia. This temple, conceived as the habitation of a god, is one of the best preserved in the world, with all of 34 of its Doric columns intact. It was named by the historian Tommaso Fazello who



found a Latin inscription in the vicinity, but didn't have any relationship with the building.

If you've ever seen the television show "Xena: The Warrior Princess" you'll know something about the name of the next temple on the tour. Although most of the Temple of Hercules lies in rubble, is interesting nonetheless to walk amongst. You can almost feel the power of the national hero of Agrigento walking underneath the imposing columns of the temple, which was erected in 510 B.C.

The last stop was to one of my favorite mythological figure's stomping ground, that of Zeus. Before arriving at the area where the temple to Zeus once stood, you can witness the altar where a sacrifice of 100 bulls would take place. The temple, which is in total ruins, once was the largest Doric temple in

the world...even larger than the Acropolis. The Akragantines built the temple as thanks to Zeus after their victory over the Carthaginians at Himera. All around the temple once stood 25-foot-tall giant figures, but now only one lies amidst the remains of the temple.

After I bought my souvenir Agrigento book and boarded the bus back to base, I couldn't help but reflect on a simpler time. One with no cars or electronic superstores, but instead filled with mythology and extraordinary architecture...in the Valley of the Temples.



(Top) The majestic city of Agrigento features the Valley of Temples, one of which is the Temple of Concordia, which is one of the best preserved temples in the world. In the background the Mediterranean sea.

(Left) The Temple of Zeus is mostly in ruins, but an example of one of the 25-foot tall giants that lined the outside of the huge temple can still be seen.

(Right) The ancient city walls of Agrigento show the boundaries of this most ancient city.

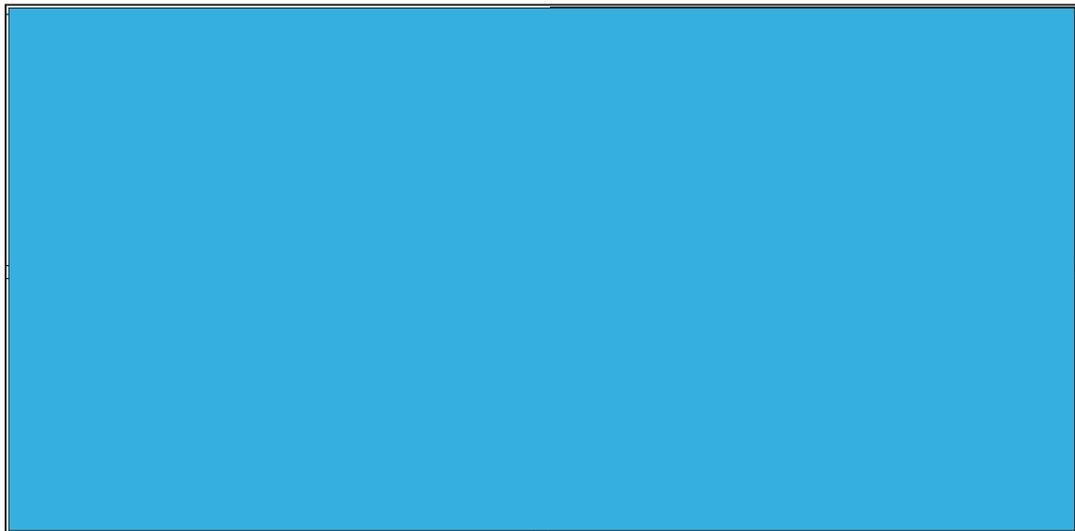




(Top left) The ancient temple of Concordia with the modern buildings of the city of Agrigento provides an interesting contrast between old and new.

(Top) The sun shines down on the temple of Hercules, which was built around the year 510 B.C.

(Left) The ruins of the temple of Zeus shows some of the techniques used to build these spectacular temples. The U-shaped groove carved into the large blocks provided a way to lift them on top of each other. The temple was one of the largest constructed in the world.



President's proclamation for NMCRS

I send greetings to those celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society.

Since 1904, the Society has supported America's Sailors and Marines as they defend our country's freedom and security. By offering financial, educational and other assistance, the Society meets many needs of these military members and their families.

As you commemorate your century of service, you can take pride in your accomplishments and commitment to our Nation's Armed Forces. Your efforts demonstrate the compassionate spirit that makes America strong.

Laura joins me in sending our best wishes on this special occasion. May God bless you, and may God continue to bless America.

President George W. Bush

NMCRS from page 1



Capt. T. L. Davison and other cut the cake celebrating NMCRS 100th anniversary

has been volunteering for almost seven years. In the beginning, assistance was focused on widows and orphans but has expanded throughout the years. NMCRS has contributed more than \$1 billion in interest-free loans and grants to active duty members, retired Sailors, Marines and their families. They provide financial, educational and other assistance through services such as budget counseling, food lockers, running thrift shops and the visiting nurse service. According to Contreras, Visiting Nurses can

Scams from page 12

source for many of today's scams. Simpson recalls one service member who spent \$25,000 on an Internet-based company to arrange a marriage for him with a woman from Russia. "He worked two part time jobs to save up the money to bring his new bride to America. When this young lady arrived, in a period of two months, she proceeded to max out his credit cards, get pregnant by some other guy, and then vanished into the night — never to be heard from again."

Scams that target the military don't stop when the member retires. Another popular scam includes the selling of veterans' retirement benefits, which are usually at horrible rates for the borrower.

More troubling is the fact that, according to the NCLC, such reassignment of benefits is illegal.

What makes these situations all the more tragic is the fact that there are numerous legitimate service relief societies, which not only offer financial

travel up to a 65-mile radius to visit clients.

The society gives out more than 8,500 junior sea bags annually for new additions, to sea service families that contain hand knitted or crocheted baby blankets, sweaters and booties made by volunteers as well as other essential items.

Navy Marine Corp Relief Society has provided assistance in natural disasters like Hurricane Isabel, the California forest fires and tragedies like the USS Cole and the Pentagon.

"I am thankful that the society is here for both Marines and Sailors and their families and that I am given the opportunities to help out when emergencies come...It is not a job, it's my life," stated Contreras. "Working with the society is a very enjoyable job. I learn something different everyday by helping Sailors and Marines when they come into the office," added volunteer and Chairman of Budgeting for Babies, Monique Edghill.

Although sponsored by the Department of the Navy, the society receives no funding from the government. All aid is provided by annual fund drives and donations.

"Through peace and war time Navy Marine Corp will always be there to help," said Contreras.

management training, but also give out grants and no-interest loans for people with money problems.

In fact, the NCLC has found that the claims of bankruptcy and complaints against the scam companies fell by 80 percent when the local relief society chapter started running advertisements concerning the unscrupulous loan agencies.

According to Simpson, an international effort to decrease the likelihood of becoming a scam victim includes an information sharing campaign, as well as international cross-border agreements with the U.S., Canada, U.K. and Australian law enforcement.

But the prevalence of Internet scams (four of the top five scams targeted by U.S. and U.K. law enforcement were Internet-based) make international borders less of a barrier.

Taking shortcuts to acquire money usually leads to long-term problems that keep the individual permanently in debt, or spending more money than they should.

The best defense against a scam is to recognize that if something sounds wrong, or just too easy, it probably is.

Italian News from page 4

every once in a while and "compete" among them by performing the *annacata*, a series of swaying moves. Parades of the city's banners, civilian and military officials will also follow the procession followed by the historic *Carrozzi du sinatu* (18th century Catania Senate Carriages). The celebration day will end in the evening with an amazing fireworks show in piazza Duomo.

On Feb. 4, the traditional "Dawn Holy Mass" is celebrated at 6 a.m. at the Cathedral. It is one of the most intense and evocative moments of the festival. The *Cammaredda*, which is a small chapel located inside the Cathedral, where the relics and the Saint Agata simulacrum are permanently kept, is opened before a crowd of moved and applauding devotees. Later, a procession, during which the *vara*, a 16-foot long richly decorated silver carriage on which the Saint Agata bust and relics are carried, will begin its tour throughout the city at 7 a.m. It will leave from *Porta Uzeda* (Uzeda gate) in piazza Duomo where the Catania Archbishop will perform the offering of a candle. In afternoon at 6 p.m., the same tour starts again from piazza San Domenico (in via Plebiscito) and ends in piazza Duomo through Porta Uzeda.

On Feb. 5, a solemn holy mass is celebrated at the Cathedral at 10:30 a.m. Later at 5:30 p.m., the most spectacular Saint Agatha procession leaves from piazza Duomo at 5:30 p.m. Crossing via Emea it moves ahead up toward piazza Cavour. The procession, which goes on all night long, reaches its climax when it arrives at the slope of via San Giuliano on its way back to piazza Duomo around 5 a.m. on Feb. 6.

Bone marrow from page 11

testing?" said Goldschmidt, who is also a regular blood platelet donor at Naval Medical Center San Diego. "Of course, I said yes."

One of the biggest myths that Goldschmidt tries to dispel is that the procedure is extremely painful.

"Nothing could be farther from the truth," said Goldschmidt. "I had my procedure on a Friday afternoon, and I was up walking around in the hospital that night. I've taken much harder hits playing football. Have you went to sit down and somebody pulled the chair out from under you? That's about what it felt like. My behind was bruised, but that's it."

Hartzman said the military is being targeted because the military is the nation's largest source of whole blood donations, and military personnel meet the health and age requirements for donations. He also said that minorities are also

Running fast, devotees pull the Saint carriage up via San Giuliano. It is a spectacular and dangerous proof of physical strength and resistance that could only be performed by young beefy devotees as the *Vara* weighs several tons. Driven by sheer devotion, thousands of people stay up until dawn to participate in this unique moment. At the end of the hard climb, the crowd releases the tension with a liberating thunderous applause. Eventually, the saint is brought back to the Cathedral.

Complementing the festival, a fair will be set up from Jan. 30 through Feb. 5 at the *Villa Bellini* (Catania's public gardens). For more information and detailed schedule call the Catania City Hall info office at 095/7423325.

Traditional pastries

While you attend the festival, don't forget to indulge in the traditional festival's pastries. Check the local *pastriccerie* (pastry shops) to taste the *Olivette di Sant'Agata* (Saint Agatha's small olives), the traditional *torrone* (nougat) and the *casatella*, small version of the *casata* (domed, sugar glazed, filled with ricotta cheese and with a cherry on top) that, according to tradition (which may prove to be gruesome for some), recalls the saint's breast that was cut off during the martyrdom. As for the olive-shaped almond sweets, they are associated with Saint Agatha because of an episode occurred during her life. As a legend holds, Agatha was on her way to stand trial before Quintianus, when she bent to tie her sandal. As she did that, an olive three miraculously sprouted where she had stepped. After St. Agatha's death, these olives were preserved as relics. *Olivette* could also be covered with chocolate.

being sought, because someone from the same background would have a greater chance of being a suitable match.

"Currently, 71 percent of the volunteer donors on the national registry are Caucasian," said Hartzman. "That means that the chances of finding a suitable donor within minorities, such as African-Americans, Hispanic-Americans, Asian-Americans and American Indians are considerably less than a patient of Caucasian background."

Campbell said that in addition to humanitarian missions, DoD bone marrow donors could also play a vital military contingency mission.

"In the event of a mass casualty incident involving chemical or radiation exposure, military members may be saved using HLA matched platelets."

Campbell added that ships could also hold their own drive. All they need to do is contact her.



Pacific Subs from page 2

with surface shipping.

"The acoustics are more complicated because of the effects of temperature, salinity and effects on the ocean bottom," Sullivan continued. "It's a dramatically more difficult environment, but over the last 10 years, we have made significant advances to be able to do that. We are modernizing our periscopes so we can have better range capabilities, our fire control systems so we can track efficiently multiple contacts in order to provide situational awareness, and sonar systems that can provide immediate ranging."

As the threat of potential competitor nations' diesel submarines and other sea and land-based adversaries multiply, the ability of the submarine force to respond becomes even more essential in reducing or eliminating such potential threats to military and commercial assets.

Monitoring and making the right move at the right time is something that newly installed technology will help submariners do now, and in the future.

"That's where you see the advancements with the modernizations from commercial off-the-shelf technology [COTS]. The equipment costs about one tenth what the legacy systems cost, and gives you much more powerful computers that you can update every three to four years," said Sullivan.

As the need for new technology has increased, the applications have spanned a broad range within the submarine force. "There's been a lot of advancement in communications, with the high-data rate antennae, updates in the radio room, sonar and new fire control systems - most recently with the BYG-1, which is on USS Columbus (SSN 762) and USS Tucson (SSN 770), in which the software can be changed rapidly based on changes we learn from operating," said Sullivan.

"We now have a fairly significant pool of submarines that have been modernized to the point that we can take advantage of this technology," he said. "COTS is not a panacea - you have to be committed to updating the software on a regular basis. The goal is once per year, and you have to be willing to update the hardware every three years."

No one can say exactly when and where the next operation will take place, but as far as Sullivan is concerned, the attack submarines of the U.S. Pacific Fleet will be there. "No matter what the conflict will be, I believe the submarine will play a significant role in battlespace preparation prior to hostilities. We have the endurance, the flexibility and the ability to be there when needed," said Sullivan.

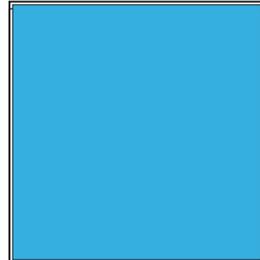
Sullivan believes this integration of the submarine force with joint task forces communicating in real-time will help to fill the gap in rapid response warfare.

Pulse from page 2

anesthetic that we use is considered safe for emergent dental care needs.

One of the most common oral complications seen with pregnant women is called pregnancy gingivitis. This condition presents as fiery red swollen gums. It usually begins in the second month of pregnancy and progresses throughout the pregnancy. It is the result of an exaggerated inflammatory response of the gums to bacteria, plaque and calculus in the mouth, due to an increase of estrogen and progesterone hormones in the pregnant woman. With pregnancy gingivitis, like regular gingivitis, the gum tissue may bleed more easily than normal. After pregnancy these conditions should return to normal with proper oral hygiene. One recent study through the University of Alabama found that individuals who have severe or generalized periodontitis were seven times more likely to have preterm and low birth weight babies than those with healthy gums. One fallacy that some may have heard is that being pregnant will lead to having "soft teeth". While calcium is pulled from the mother's bones during pregnancy it is not the case for the teeth. More likely than not an increase in cavities after pregnancy is usually brought about by a change in dietary and home care habits.

If you are thinking about a little one in the near future we highly recommend making sure all your dental work is up to date. This will greatly decrease any chances you will need to visit us during your pregnancy. The best measure that the pregnant women can take is prevention. This consists of diligent brushing and flossing to remove plaque from the teeth and gums along with annual dental check ups and cleanings. By maintaining a healthy oral environment you can minimize the need for emergency dental treatment during your pregnancy.





The Signature
 Anyone interested in sending ads via email should leave a phone number and point of contact name at sigsignature@yahoo.com. Ads run for two weeks and are run on a space available basis and must be sponsored by active duty military members, family members or Italian National/American base employees.
 Ads must be 40 words or less. The Signature no longer accepts ads that bring profit to a business or individual, such as maid, babysitting services or home rentals. If someone would like these types of services in The Signature they can call Jerry Boritzki @ 095-307-412 to pay for an advertisement.

Paid Ads

Reduce your stress by having an American lady come clean your home weekly. Call 347-7911051.
 Wanting to take a vacation but you have no place to leave your pet? Book your Pet-Sitter Today. Call 347-7911051.
 Two-bedroom apartment, furnished with kitchen, dining room & bath. Call Maria at 333-8601607.
 Two "GO-VIDEO" VHS duplicators. One button VHS duplication, 4-head, stereo, edit etc. Originally \$300 each. Will sell both with some extra equipment for \$250. Call 095-307412.
1994 BMW 318. Full optionals, A/C. Asking \$6,000. Call 349-4312582.
Automotive
2003 Ford Mustang GT. Premium package leather seat, 6-disc CD changer, fog lights, automatic trans. It has 2,850 miles on it. Asking \$19,500 Firm. Call x0145 or 340-8220037.
1990 Mercedes 200E. Automatic transmission, very reliable engine, PW. Asking 2,200 Euro. Call 347-1479221.

1996 White VW PASSAT GLX VR6. 4 dr, automatic U.S. Spec. Station wagon. Loaded, A/C, moon roof, PW, PL, premium sound system, leather interior, alarm system, driver and passenger airbags. Clean and reliable. \$6,700. Call Ken at x9203 or 095-7116778.
Old Fiat 500. Good engine, good general conditions. 1,500 Euro. Call Gaetano at x6853.
1989 BMW 325-IS. US SPEC, automatic, motor and body in good condition, \$3,800. Call 335-6428248.
Harley Custom Softail Big Bore 95ci. Performance heads, Mikuni 42, Andrews gear drive cams (and more) w/ 14,000 miles on rebuild. Custom wheels, bars, lights and suspension. Price is negotiable. More than \$25,000 invested. Call Walter at x5191.
1988 Lancia Delta Turbo ie. 1600cc 140hp 4 dr, alarm sys, new tires, A/C, PW, alum rims, Kenwood stereo. Can be seen at NAS II Flight Line Clinic. \$2,000. Call Mike at 340-9808927.
1992 Alfa Romeo 155 TS 2.0. 4-dr, 45k orig miles, climate control, PS, PW, PL, tilt steer, adj headlights. New muffler and fuel pump. In excellent condition. \$3,400 including denat. Call 340-9808927.
2000 Mitsubishi Eclipse GT. 3.0 liters, great condition, asking \$13,000 O.B.O. Call Diana at x8520 or 333-9860473.
1996 VW Golf 1.4L. 64,000 km. Asking 2,500 Euro. Call Virginia at 340-5999562.
1996 Fiat Punto. Blue, excellent condition, 75k, CD player. Available after Feb. 27. Asking \$3,600. Call Mike at x6653.
1992 BMW 318. Red, 4-dr, sunroof, alloy wheels, low mileage, perfect condition. Asking 3,900 Euro. Call x5360 Mon during normal working hours.
2000 Volvo S40 T (160 hp). Manual transmission, 4,885 miles, automatic, A/C, leather, check control panel, PS, PW, PD, PL, dual front side air bags, ASD (Anti Sliding Device), ABS (4 Wheel), AM/FM Stereo with single & multi CD Kenwood, oil & filters just changed. Full optional, in great conditions. \$10,800 O.B.O. Call Rick at x4690 or 338-5326171 after 5 p.m.
1995 Kawasaki 500 EN custom. Red and black | twin cyl. Can be seen at NAS II air terminal parking lot. Asking \$3,300. Call 340-9808927.
1991 Jeep Wrangler Renegade edition. Good condition. 4.0 high output engine. 31x10.5x15 tires, soft-top w/ two half tops, CD player w/ removable faceplate and remote. Speakers mounted on the rollbar. Looks and drives great. \$7,000 O.B.O. Call Todd at x0625.
1979 GS 850 Suzuki. Needs some work, selling for \$400. Call Larry or Elke at 095-860679 or 335-5014491.
1995 Grand Cherokee Laredo. 120,000 miles, V6, automatic, A/C, AM/FM stereo, very reliable. \$5,500 O.B.O. Call OSI DiMauro at x6151 or 338-2915501 or Rebecca at x2314 or 338-2963785.
1982 BMW 315. Good reliable island car for an experienced manual driver, new engine, clean exterior, 4-speed manual. \$1,000. O.B.O. Call Crystal x4670 or 095-307782.
1996 BMW 318 Turbo Diesel. Full optional, climatic, abs, airbag, perfect conditions. Great family car. 8,500 Euro. Call Robert at 338-6170392.
2002 Ducati ST4s. Red, 996cc, European specs, about 7,000 km. Paid 10,800 Euro new. Asking \$7,000. Kept within scheduled maintenance for warranty, which expires in March. Call 095-307851 or 335-6403541.
1994 Alta 33. In very good condition. 4-dr, A/C, PS, PW, engine tune up done. Tires in good condition. Asking 1,500 Euro. Call Grillo at x5917.
1987 Peugeot 205 SX. Red. New tires. \$4,000. Call 340-9026556. Italian speaking only.
1993 Volvo 850 GLT Benz. Metallic Bordeaux color. A/C, new tires. \$3,000. Call 340-9026556. Italian speaking only.
1992 Audi 800. 1800cc. A/C. Motor and body in good condition. 1,300 Euro. Call 339-4011979.
1998 Mitsubishi Mirage DE. Automatic, A/C and heat. Very reliable car. Will not be ready to sell until Mar. 1. \$3,000. Call Terry at 340-4951773.
1997 Citroen Saxo. 2-dr, manual, A/C, cover plates, 44,000 miles. \$3,750. Call Kay at 095-7117328 or Chris at 335-7625479.

1995 Renault Clio. One owner, passed safety inspection, green, A/C, motor in good condition, minor body scratches, air bag, asking 1,900 Euro. Call Maria at x5781/2 or 338-1083531.
1988 Maserati. White with blue interior. \$2,800 O.B.O. CALL Rob at x5580 (w), x0624 (h) or 338-2406338.
1956 Ford T-bird Convertible. White, with white and black interior all original and in very good condition, nads book value \$ 60,000 for sale at \$35,000. Call Frank at 34-71431523.
1970 Dodge Coronet r/t 440. White, black interior, very fast and in very good condition for sale at \$25,000. Call Frank at 34-71431523.
1993 Alfa Romeo 164 T-Spark. Good family car, needs a little bodywork. Asking \$1,500. Call Rick at 338-3785832.
2000 GMC Sonoma SLS V6. 15K miles, step side, 3rd door. Garaged, very clean. All options. Sport package, chip, headers, 10 spike-sub, CD remote. Digital pix available. Located in VA. \$16,500. Call x2524 or 335-452570.
1988 Fiat Panda. 5-Speed, 2-dr, with red hatchback in excellent condition. Great for driving around Sicily. AFI Plated great gas mileage and new battery. Asking \$1,700. Call x3796/5446 in daytime, at night x3569.
1995 Saab 9000 Turbo. Dark blue, A/C, PW, PL, 98,000 klms like new inside and out, 3,200 Euro. Call Joe at x1804 or 347-7585654.
1969 VW 1600 Series Camper/Van. Extended roof. Engine in excellent condition. Asking \$5,500 O.B.O. Call 333-3265417.
1997 GMC Jimmy SLS V6. 4-dr, automatic transmission, PW, PL, A/C, Pioneer System with six CD changer, Viper Security system, 85,000 miles. Very reliable. Asking \$9,000 O.B.O. Call Kyle at x0252.
1991 Mitsubishi Mirage. Automatic. 3-dr, A/C, new wipers. AFI plated with Italian cover plates. Ideal vehicle for getting around the island. Low road taxes & insurance. \$3,000 negotiable PCSing available from February 16. Call 333-1322523 or 095-309911.
1992 Fiat Tempra 1.6. Green, A/C, good tires, PW, PL. Asking \$ 2,000. Call 334-3429129.



Send II Mercato advertisements to sigsignature@yahoo.com

1989 Fiat Tipo. 72k km, 4-dr, white, new stereo w/CD changer, good records, new radiator, head gasket & thermostat, new battery, runs good. \$1,500. Call x1211.

1996 Yamaha YZX 750 V-MAX. 9,000 miles, six gears, new tires, very comfortable, powerful and elegant, incredible condition, road inspected a few months ago. \$4,500 O.B.O. Call Frank at 333-2288597.

Daewoo Nubira 1600 cc 16 vlx, leather interiors, P/W, P/S, A/C, very comfortable, very good on gas, 300 liters a month, stereo Hi Fi, tape and CD player, metallic blue in color, engine blocking security alarm system, cover plated. Asking \$7,000 O.B.O. Call Frank at 333-2288597.

1992 Autobianchi y10. Metallic blue, 1000cc engine, it gets 60 clicks per gallon on the road. P/W, PL, all in excellent condition. \$1,950.00 O.B.O. Call Joseph at 338-2185499.

1995 Mercedes C180. Metallic gray. Full optional, 5-dr, A.C, air bag, 4C. New tires, new battery, ABS standard, 5 gear. \$7,500 O.B.O. Call Pat or Luigi at 333-4717661 or 095-308510 after 5 p.m.

Jamet Jamecic Pop-Up Camper. new tires, double foam bed and can accommodate up to eight people. Italian electrical hook ups, lighting and fan. Canvas top-exterior add-on, 5650 O.B.O. Easy set up. Call Victor at x0268, 347-6870667 or e-mail airroyov@nassig.sicily.navy.mil.

2002 Black PT Cruiser. 5-speed, 12k miles. In excellent condition. \$17,000 O.B.O. Call x1260 or email derral24as@yahoo.com for more info.

2002 Ford Taurus SV W6. Duratec engine with 11,000 miles. Sport & safety packages (four-wheel disc brakes, abs, traction & cruise control, sport alloy wheels, four airbags, anti-theft, ac, premium stereo/CD. Asking \$15,500 O.B.O. Call x1207 or x2821.

2003 Harley Davidson Sportster. Only 1500 mi. Black and silver, new handle bars, brake cables, and shocks. Lowered to the max. All worked through certified HD dealers. Garage kept. Transferable warranty through HD. Extras included. \$7,500 O.B.O. Call Cindy at 339-3855994 or 095-7910229.

Pets

Free to loving home: female lab/shepherd mix, 1-year-old. Very healthy, friendly, lovable, house broken and great with children. She is up to date with all shots and is chipped. She comes with kennel, food/water bowls and toy. Call Fred at x1290.

Loving home needed for mother Sicilian cat and her half-grown female kitten. Both spayed and have all shots up to date. Must find home, our own cat is jealous. Call Keith at x1457.

Free to good home. 4-month-old female white lab mix. Up to date on all shots and healthy. Great with kids and other dogs. Comes with toys and some accessories. Call

Wumnea or Greg at x0632 day or evening.

Two dogs free to good homes. Female husky/shepherd mix, 10-month-old, and black lab mix, 15-month-old, family friendly, well trained. Come with kennels. Have an infant and deployed often. Call Anthony x3530 or 340-1004397.

Free to a good home: friendly, medium-sized dog. Comes with kennel, tie-out, and other accessories. Chipped, spayed and all shots up to date. Call x1279.

For Sale

Technics 5 CD changer, \$30; Phillips cell phone w/out chip, \$30; Sky Satellite receiver box with LNB, \$380. Call x0355 or 338-9412337.

Sony Trv22 digital video camera/recorder like new. Bought from the Exchange about four months ago. Asking \$550 O.B.O. Retail for \$649.99. Call Gabe or Heather at x0337.

Original CDs for \$7.50 each: Janet Jackson, All for you - Alicia Keys, Songs in A minor - Mary J. Blige, No more drama - Anastasia, Freak of nature - Shaggy, Hot shot - Ashanti, Murder Inc. - So Solid Crew, They ain't know - Havia, No man's land - Jennifer Lopez, j10, this is me...then - Truth Hurts, Truthfully speaking - Alexia, Alexia - Jay-Z, the blueprint - Gipsy Kings, Lana de fuego - Sabor de Salsa y Merengue, vol. 3, vol. 10. Please call Victoria at x6696.

Yamaha stereo receiver, \$75; Yamaha 5 disc CD player, \$50; entertainment center, \$30. Call Jason or Christina at x6888 (w), 095-7912726 or 333-5735548.

Nokia 3330 in original perfect condition with box, manual and battery charger bought three months ago for 99 Euro asking 70 Euro. Call Virginia at 340-5999562.

Nintendo 64 game system with two controllers and one game, \$30. Fisher Price Deluxe Take ALong baby swing, excellent condition, \$40. Call Jen at x3564.

Two cellular phones. In great conditions, comes with battery, charger and leather cover. Still in box with instruction manual. Call Daniel at x5287 or 328-8464723.

AFN box for sale. \$375. Call Tony at x1313 or x4025.

Crib and toddler bed, \$75; heat press (110v), \$195; large platen Epson Stylus 3000 printer (wide format), \$750. Call Mike at x1267 or 349-6060780.

21-inch Toshiba multi-system TV, \$200. Call Melissa at 338-8196802.

220v Appliances: AFN Decoder, \$400; dehumidifier, \$25; cell phones, \$25 each; five light fixtures, \$25; transformers, \$15; cappuccino machine, \$20 and iron-toaster-mixer-juicer, \$5 each. Call Kay at 095-7117328 or Chris at 335-7625479.

Kitchen base cabinets for extra storage, \$10; sofa bed, \$75; wardrobes, \$25 each; kitchen exhaust fan with storage cabinet, \$50; plants and garden supplies & weed wacker. Call Kay at 095-7117328 or Chris at 335-7625479.

TurboTax Basic 2004 Software, bought online for \$29.95 and received another as a gift, have no need for two copies. Operating systems: Windows 95, 98, NT, 2000, ME, XP. Brand new! \$15. Call James or Robin x5503 or x2707.

Infant high chair with wheels, \$10; large dog kennel, airline approved, \$30. Call Sylvia at x1237.

Genuine red leather loveseat. In new condition. Very comfortable. Asking \$150. Call Nick at 095-309502 or x6626 (w) or 333-8451151.

Entertainment center, \$20; medium dog crate, \$15; hand beater, \$5; lamps-black iron/white shade, \$10; silver/wood, \$15; telephones, \$5 (fixed); & \$15 (cordless); TV antennae, \$10; two burner buffet range, \$10; PS2 NFL 2K3 Game, \$15. Call 095-309911.

Queen size bed with box spring, \$200. Call x2560 or 347-7802963.

Dog kennels - one extra large sturdy collapsible kennel, \$200 asking \$100. One large dog kennel \$50. Both airline approved. Antique 1880's French Louis carved buffet with marble top, \$2,200. Call 095-520298.

Five Disc JVC CD Changer with remote, \$ 60. Free car wax and antifreeze. Call Luis at x0189.

Infant and toddler clothes, baby walker with toy display, sofa & love seat, small living room cabinet, two wooden coffee tables, carpet good size for living room and lots more. Call Luigi at 333-4717661 or Pat after 5 p.m. at 095-308510.

Blue recliner, perfect condition, \$175. Call Victor at x0268 or 347-6870667.

Complete living room set- sofa and love seat, all recline. End tables and lamps, coffee table, all solid wood, \$850. Call Victor at x0268 or 347-6870667.

Baby Crib w/mattress and accessories, \$60, 30-gallon fish tanks, \$75. Call x1273.

KEF Q-Series High Performance home theater speakers - two KEF 3-way Q90-Series floor speakers (35.4h x 9.7w x 12.5d) and one KEF Q90 Center Channel speaker - magnetically shielded (6.9h x 15.7w x 6.8d). Asking \$750 total. Call x2821.

Soloflex home gym combo - two machines for the price of one. Soloflex muscle machine and Soloflex Rocket each with accessories. Asking: \$1,200 O.B.O. Call x1207 or x2821.

Tan overstuffed leather chair, brand new, \$350; tan L-shaped sofa w/ pillows in excellent condition, \$500; Italian queen size mattress. Like new, \$75, free frame; large entertainment unit, light wood color, \$50. Call Matthew or Aimee at x1421.

Lost

Lost prescription glasses at Mineo gym on Jan.18. Glasses are in a brown case. Call x0660.

Wanted

Italian to clean my house in Marinai once a week. Call Bertha at x1425.

Newly arrived, looking for dependable car. Prefer European spec Fiat, Alfa Romeo or VW Golf. Call Renee at 333-9208820.

Looking for a mini van. Make and year does not matter to me. I love mini vans and now need one more than ever. I will pay top price or trade my car for it. Call Mike at 335-1350329.

Looking for an aquarium and accessories. Prefer 29 to 55 gallon. Call Mike at x1494.

Looking for a clown to entertain at a two-year-old's birthday party, also looking for a moonwalk jumper, please respond by February 1. Call Rachel at x1430.

Crib and changing table preferably with drawers in good condition. Call Melissa at 338-8196802.

Looking for a babysitter in 205 Housing to pick up nine year old boy from Blast program two to three days a week for only 1.5 hrs. Also, some nights, and weekends as well. Working shift work and a flexible person is a must. Call Cindy at 339-3855994 or 095-7910229.

Yard Sale

Multi-family yard sale, Sat. Jan. 31 8:30a.m. to 1p.m. at 2114-C Viale Sigona Marmai Housing.

Multi-family yard sale: 2109 D Maranai Housing, Jan. 31 at 11:00 a.m. Children's toys, white metal bunk bed frame-twin on top & full on bottom, \$35, free weights, lots more. Call x1287.

HRO ads

Heavy Mobile Equipment Mechanic, UC-5803-06, PWD, Transportation Division, Maintenance Branch, Light Shop Section. Announcement number LN004-024635. Closing Feb. 2.

Recreation Aid, GS-0189-03, MWR Department, Recreation Services Division, Youth Activities Branch, various locations. Announcement number SIG03-RECAID. Open continuous.

Education Aid/Technician, GS-1702-03/04, MWR Department, Child Development Center. Announcement number SIG03-EDTECH. Open continuous.

Contract Specialist, GS-1102-13, Resident Officer in Charge of Construction (ROICC). Announcement number SIG03-020183. Open until filled.

Materials Handler, WG-6907-05, MWR, Business Operations Division, Warehouse Branch. Announcement number SIG03-024089. Open until filled.

