



The Convoy

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Delivering quality information on the 1st Marine Logistics Group.

Program speeds up college admission

Story by Jacob A. Singsank
The Convoy Staff

MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. – A new program in effect Oct. 26 will benefit Marines leaving active duty who wish to go to college in California.

The Special Admissions Program offers honorably discharged Marine Veterans who meet the requirements for priority admission to selected California State University campuses.

“This program is specifically designed to meet the needs of Marine Veterans, as well as those of the other military services,” said Casey Roberts, business management officer with Marine Corps Installations - West. “It provides a Marine Veteran the opportunity to use his or her G.I. Bill benefits to gain a first rate college education and to do it without having to compete for admission with the general population.”

To be eligible for the program, the applicants must be a California resident, have no remaining active duty service obligations and must be a high school graduate.

Roberts said that Marine veterans must also ensure that all the documentation identified in the Marine Administration is included in the application package, and that the Marine's chain of command endorses the package. The completed packages will be screened and endorsed by the commanding general of MCI-West and hand delivered to the CSU System SAP Administrator.

“The commanding general of MCI-West and the President of San Diego State University started a pilot program at (San Diego State University) and it

‘Sex Signals’



Photo by Lance Cpl. Khoa N. Pelczar

Brian Golden, from Chicago, and Libby Matthews, from Seattle, performers of Catharsis Productions, act out scenarios in which a man acts inappropriately toward a woman during the comedic play ‘Sex Signals.’ The play’s intent is to send out a message about sexual assault prevention. The goal of the play is to help service members understand what consent is and their responsibility to get consent from their partner before having sex.

Comedic play teaches sexual assault prevention

Story and photo by
Lance Cpl. Khoa N. Pelczar
The Convoy Staff

MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. – “What would Chuck Norris do?” The crowd laughs as the on-stage performer jokingly asks himself for guidance as he attempts to ask out an attractive woman at a party.

First Marine Logistics Group hosted “Sex Signals” at the Base Theater, Oct. 27-28. “Sex Signals” is a 90-minute interactive comedic play with a sexual assault prevention message.

Actors Libby Matthews and Brian Golden acted out various scenarios in which situations involving service members might lead to sexual assault, like drinking at a party. The actors even took suggestions for

pick-up lines from the Marine audience.

Although the play was a comedy, the subject matter is no laughing matter.

According to the Department of Defense Fiscal Year 2008 annual report, there was an eight percent increase in reports of sexual assault involving service members, compared to FY07.

Service members need to understand what consent is, and it is their responsibility to get consent from their partners before engaging in sexual intercourse. Sexual assault is not tolerated in the Corps.

“Not only is sexual assault criminal, the potential costs and consequences are simply too high,” according to the DoD Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Policy.

“For the military, the potential costs are even higher as it can also negatively impact mission readiness. Service members risk their lives for one another and bear the responsibility of keeping fellow service members out of harm’s way. Sexual assault in the military breaks this bond, and units may be torn apart.”

Most sexual assault cases that occur do not get reported to law enforcement or the service member’s command. Possible reasons for this are the social stigma involved or they just don’t understand the process of reporting.

Eighty percent of sexual assault victims know their attacker, according to actor Brian Golden, who starred in Sex Signals. What one might conceive as “consent” might

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FSMAO inspects unit gear

Story by Cpl. Jacob A. Singsank
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MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. — With constant unit rotations in Iraq and Afghanistan, equipment has been left behind to the replacing Marines and sailors over the years, which made maintaining accountability more challenging.

After a six year absence, the Marine Corps is bringing back the Field Supply and Maintenance Analysis Office, an inspections organization that enforces equipment accountability through gear inventory, inspections and classes. The FSMAO staff overlooks the entire unit's gear to ensure they have an accurate count of equipment that the unit has on its records. The office was reinstated Oct. 1 with locations at Camp Pendleton, Calif., Camp Lejeune, N.C., and Camp Butler in Okinawa, Japan.

"Gear accountability has a huge implication for unit readiness," said Chief Warrant Officer Russell J. Gamel, Team 2 officer in command, FSMAO, Installations and Logistics, Headquarters Marine Corps, 43, from Brookton, Mass. "FSMAO ensures that a commander can look at his supply records and have confidence in these numbers and combat readiness."

In an article by Marine Corps Times, Marine officials said the move was prompted in part by a 2008 Marine Corps Inspector General assessment. It determined that "inaccurate and incomplete supply and management data" harmed Marine readiness in Iraq, prompting Commandant Gen. James Conway to last year publish a white letter in which he challenged



Photo by Cpl. Jacob A. Singsank

Master Gunnery Sgt. Stonny B. Hammond, maintenance analyst with Field Supply and Maintenance Analysis Office, Installations and Logistics, Headquarters Marine Corps, inspects the data plate on a generator at the Combat Logistics Battalion 5 motor pool at Camp Pendleton, Calif., Nov. 2. The FSMAO staff overlooks the entire unit's gear to ensure they have an accurate count of equipment that the unit has on their records.

commanders to improve.

"The Marine Corps as a whole had some tremendous challenges since 2002 relevant to equipment accountability and probably more so after Operation Iraqi Freedom 1 when the current rotational basis was established for OIF," said Brig. Gen. Charles L. Hudson, commanding general, 1st Marine Logis-

tics Group. Equipment associated with the units are passed to the replacing units once the determination was made that we were in it for the long haul, we started rotating units and the equipment just stayed, stated Hudson.

The FSMAO inspects all the gear that isn't individually issued to Marines and sailors to include vehicles, communication equipment and weapons.

"If I send a Marine or sailor off to combat and they don't have the appropriate weapon systems or vehicles to go to combat with, then there's a pretty good chance that they can't perform their mission," said Hudson, 50, from Zirconia, N.C. As I prepare to deploy forces, it's coming upon me to ensure that each and every Marine and sailor has the equipment they need, whether it's personnel equipment or collective military equipment, stated Hudson.

Representatives with FSMAO conduct an inspection that takes roughly two weeks to analyze the unit's supply situation. Right now they're working with Combat Logistics Battalion 5, 1st MLG and within 15 days after the inspection is complete, the final reports are finished and passed on to commanders of that unit, and all the way up the chain of command to the Marine Expeditionary Force's leaders and Headquarters Marine Corps to provide them with the unit's gear situation.

Hudson said that accountability has been a challenge over the years with the increasing influx of rotating of forces in Iraq. But the bottom line is the need to confirm an accurate accountability of our gear in order to continue carrying out the mission successfully.

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ADMISSIONS

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was so successful that the Chancellor, California State University System introduced the program to all 23 campuses," Roberts said. "He did so because he realized that the presence of Marine veterans on CSU campuses enriches the educational experience of all the students and better positions Marine veterans to become successful contributors to society in general, and the California economy in particular."

Roberts stated that the program is an extraordinary benefit during these tough economic times for the state of California where thousands of its citizens have been denied enrollment due to the state's budget constraints.

Applicants accepted for the program will commence school during the fall semester 2010. Actual school reporting dates vary by campus, as do freshmen orientation requirements. Completed packages must reach the business management officer with Marine Corps Installations-West no later than Dec. 10.

For more information, see MARAD-MIN 0628/09.

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'SEX SIGNALS'

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be construed as rape to another. So individuals must understand that "no means no."

"We can't control what will happen in the court room, but we can control our actions," said Golden, from Chicago, performer with Catharsis Productions. "That's what we want everyone to understand."

More than 150 Marines attended the play's premiere, and were able to ask questions and engage with the actors as the play progressed.

"It went great, we had a big turnout," said Golden. "We love it when the audience gets opinionated, that means they paid attention and heard our message."

The FY08 annual report states that DoD stays committed to eliminating sexual assault from the Armed Forces by maintaining a strong sexual assault prevention and response policy. It is important for service members to understand what sexual assault is and how to prevent it.

If you or someone you know is a victim of sexual assault, contact your unit's Uniformed Victim Advocate.

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Photo by Lance Cpl. Khoa N. Pelczar

Marines hold up 'Stop' signs during the comedic play 'Sex Signals' at the Base Theater, Oct. 27. Actors in the play acted out various scenarios in which the male actor makes unwanted physical contact with the female character. The Marines held up signs to signal when the aggressor had bordered on sexual assault. The goal of the play was to help service members understand what consent is and that 'no means no.'

Social media used to gain larger audience

Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Flickr help tell Corps story

Story by Cpl. Jacob A. Singsank
The Convoy staff

MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. – With social networking sites becoming increasingly popular, Marine Corps public affairs Marines are adapting to this ever-growing trend by uploading stories, photos and videos to various social media web sites.

With the click of a button, service members and civilians can catch up with what Marines are doing by simply logging onto Facebook, Twitter, Flickr or YouTube.

“For the past few months I have been working with Headquarters Marine Corps on creating a social media policy which will establish the need and management guidelines of your unit’s social media site(s),” said Cpl. Scott M. Schmidt, social media chief analyst for Marine Corps News/Marines.mil., with Defense Media Activity – Marines.

In today’s world of iPhones and news blogs, the Marine Corps is making it easier for service members, friends and family to get the information they need – anytime, anywhere – whether it’s from a cellular phone or personal computer.

“Social media is a powerful communication tool that can assist the Marine Corps in today’s complex information environment,” said Col. Bryan F. Salas, director, Marine Corps Division of Public Affairs. “It’s critical that we join the online conversation and integrate social media into our broader efforts to communicate with the Marine Corps family, the American public and people around the world.”

Social media allows Marine Corps photos, videos, stories and information to be distributed to a bigger audience through popular sites.

“I cannot stress enough how important social media is if we want to continue to actively engage our key publics. Public trust is the foundation upon which Public Affairs’ credibility rests,” said Schmidt, 22, from Boca Raton, Fla., in an

e-mail forwarded out to public affairs chiefs. “Our public now has the news at their fingertips with the popularity of social media, and we must ensure our official presence is conveyed online.”

Some personnel in the Marine Corps can use social media sites if it is a mission critical requirement and can’t be provided through Navy Marine Corps Intranet (NMCI). Naval Criminal Investigation Service and Criminal Investigation Division are authorized to use social media web sites to aid in investigations. Family Readiness Officers work with their units’ public affairs offices to use social media web sites to share information and upcoming events with friends and family members of Marines and sailors in that unit.

“Facebook is a step forward in communication that can be used to get the word out about projects and events to our Marines and sail-

ors, families and friends, as well as extended family members,” said Master Sgt. Maurice L. Anderson, family readiness officer for Combat Logistics Battalion 13,

Combat Logistics Regiment 17, 1st MLG, 47, from Washington, D.C. “Service members and their families can share video, post stories and pictures.”

Marines and sailors are allowed to access social media web sites from their personal computers as long as they follow the rules set forth by the site and maintain operational security. Service members can’t display photos of sensitive areas that will affect future missions. Service members also can’t post deployment dates, troop location and movement, and future operations.

“As with all other forms of communication, Marines must be vigilant and follow existing policy and regulations, such as operational security, the release of information to the public, and privacy laws,” said Salas, 45, from Fairfax, Va. “Marines also must take actions to protect their accounts from cybercriminals. Actions include creating strong passwords, changing passwords often, and not clicking on



Photo by Cpl. Jacob A. Singsank

With the ever-growing popularity of social media websites, the Marine Corps is evolving itself to further reach out and tell the Marines’ story to a wider audience to include friends, family and fellow service members. Social media allows Marine Corps photos, videos, stories and information to be distributed to a bigger audience through popular sites to include Twitter, Facebook, YouTube, Flickr, MySpace and blogs.

web links or attachments unless the source can be trusted.”

If a unit’s official site is registered on the Marines.mil social media list, they’re required to post the guidelines found on that page to each of the social networking sites as it states on the login page.

The social media guidelines state it doesn’t allow graphic, obscene, explicit or racial comments or submissions that are abusive, hateful or intended to defame anyone or any organization. The social media sites used by Marine public affairs units also don’t allow solicitations or advertisements to

include promotion or endorsement of any financial, commercial or non-governmental agency.

Through the proper channels, public affairs offices across the Marine Corps can continue telling the Marine Corps story to a larger audience with the help of social media websites.

To register your unit’s social media site, visit www.marines.mil and click on “Social Media.”

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Photos from around the 1st Marine Logistics Group

A look at what Marines and their units are doing this week



Photo by Cpl. Jacob A. Singsank

Jarvis L. Foster, cornerback, 20, from Amity, La., breaks tackles as he sprints down the field toward the end zone during the 1st Marine Logistics Group Beast 13-6 victory over the Edson Range Raiders at the 11 Area football field at Camp Pendleton, Calif., Oct. 28. The Beast's win increased their record to 4-3.



Photo by Lance Cpl. Khoa N. Pelczar

Swedish Amphibious Corps Lt. Col. U. Jedborg, an officer with the Centre for Defence Medicine, Swedish military, examines the lighting equipment Navy corpsmen use in the Forward Resuscitative Surgical System during their visit to Camp Pendleton, Calif., Oct. 28. The eight-man Swedish team visited 1st Medical Battalion to observe the Navy's medical capabilities so they can familiarize themselves with the equipment.



Photo by Cpl. Jacob A. Singsank



Photo by Lance Cpl. Khoa N. Pelczar

(Above) Pfc. Kathryn R. Grogan, 20, from Grand Rapids, Mich., an administrative clerk with S-1, Headquarters Company, Combat Logistics Regiment 17, 1st Marine Logistics Group, hands the unit guidon over to Staff Sgt. Laura M. Maguire, 29, from east Stroudsburg, Penn., acting company gunnery sergeant for Headquarters Co., CLR-17, 1st MLG, during the 1,600-meter relay event at the 2009 Leatherneck Field Meet at the 11 Area football field at Camp Pendleton, Calif., Oct. 28.

(Left) Sgt. Antony Santiago, a motor transport operator with Combat Logistics Regiment 1, 1st Marine Logistics Group, 24, from New Haven, Conn., and Sgt. Barry G. Harkins, an operations clerk with 1st Intelligence Battalion, Marine Headquarters Group, 26, from West Palm Beach, Fla., wrestles during the Train the Troops clinic at the Paige Fieldhouse, Oct. 26.

Happenings

H1N1

Naval Hospital Camp Pendleton has received a small amount of H1N1 flu vaccine and will begin immunizations Nov. 2 for high risk family members and eligible TRICARE beneficiaries only. For more information call 725-4357.

Home for the Holidays

Home for the Holidays is a special program sponsored by the Single Marine Program that places single service men and women into homes of community families to celebrate Thanksgiving. To sign up, call 725-6722.

REC Center Dinner

A catered Thanksgiving dinner will be provided at Camp Pendleton's Single Marine Program Rec Centers, Nov. 26 at 11 a.m. All single Marines and sailors are invited to attend.

Free food at Applebee's

In recognition of their service to our country, all veterans and active duty military personnel are invited to eat free at Applebee's Neighborhood Grill & Bar Restaurants this Veterans Day, Nov. 11.

Meet Rudy Reyes

Rudy Reyes will be signing his new book 'Hero Living,' Nov. 20 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Country Store on Mainside. Reyes draws from his own heroic life as an elite warrior in the mountains of Afghanistan and in the sands of Iraq, and finally in his post-Marine life as a personal trainer, actor and motivational speaker.

Base Movie Theater

Sorority Row (R) - Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.

Love Happens (PG-13) - Thursday at 6:30 p.m.

Jennifer's Body (R) - Friday at 6:15 p.m.

White Out (R) - Friday at 9 p.m.

Fame (PG) - Saturday at 3:30 p.m.

Tyler Perry's: I Can Do Bad All By Myself (PG-13) - Saturday at 6:15 p.m.

The Informant (R) - Saturday at 9 p.m.

The Proposal (PG-13) - Sunday at 1 p.m.

G-Force (PG) - Sunday at 4 p.m.

Land of the Lost (PG-13) - Sunday at 6:30 p.m.