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CHEVRON

AND THE WESTERN RECRUITING REGION



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Vol. 71 – Issue 28

“WHERE MARINES ARE MADE”

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2011

Repeal allows service members to serve openly

BY DONNA MILES
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – The law is passed, the studies completed, the findings certified and the service member training accomplished. After years of debate and months of preparation, the Defense Department started on a new footing Tuesday, with the repeal of the so-called “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” law that since 1993 has banned gays and lesbians from serving openly in the military.

“Statements about sexual orientation are no longer a bar to enlisting in the military or a cause for dismissal,” said Army Maj. Gen. Gary S. Patton, chief of staff for the Pentagon’s repeal implementation team.

In addition, former service members separated from the military under Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell based solely on their sexual

orientation, will be eligible to reapply to return to military service. Patton said their applications will be evaluated using the same standards as all other candidates, and decisions will be based on needs of the service.

As these long-anticipated changes take place, Patton said he expects the repeal implementation to stay on track because of the pre-repeal training across the force. In addition, many other existing policies considered “sexual-orientation neutral” remain in place.

Duty assignments won’t be affected, and living and working conditions won’t change, Patton said. Service members won’t be separated or segregated based on sexual orientation, and will continue to share billeting and berthing as in the past.

With repeal, benefits will

remain as they are. Service members will be able to designate whomever they want to receive member-designated benefits such as Serviceman’s Group Life Insurance, he said. Other benefits, such as basic allowance for housing, are limited by law and statute to cover only opposite-sex spouses and can’t be extended to same-sex partners, Patton said.

However, the Defense Department is studying the possible extension of other benefits where eligibility is not specifically defined by law, such as use of military morale, welfare and recreation facilities by same-sex partners. “We have not arrived at a decision on that,” Patton said. “The department continues to explore that possibility, post-repeal.”

see REPEAL ▶ 2



Sgt R. Drew Hendricks

Ariel Pratt, 20, fills out a contact information card at the Marine Corps booth during the first military career fair hosted specifically for openly homosexual individuals at the Dennis R. Neill Equality Center, Tulsa, Okla.

More Active Marine Reserve billets, bonuses available



Cpl. Rashaun X. James

Marines looking for an alternative to the increasingly competitive reenlistment process should look no further than the Marine Corps Recruiting Command’s Active-Reserve program. Non-commissioned officers, especially those in aviation related job fields, who apply for the AR program may find that they qualify for bonuses of \$10,000 to \$15,000.

BY LANCE CPL. DAVID FLYNN
Marine Corps Base Quantico, Va.

MARINE CORPS BASE QUANTICO, Va. - With more and more Marines opting to remain in the Corps, the reenlistment process is becoming increasingly competitive. Marine Corps Recruiting Command’s Active-Reserve Program offers Marines another chance to stay in and experience a side of the Corps that many don’t know exists.

Though the primary purpose of AR Marines is to support the reserves, they serve side-by-side with active duty Marines, work full-time, receive active duty pay and benefits and can change duty stations as often as active duty Marines. Active-reserve Marines also deploy, serve in billets such as drill instructor duty or recruiting duty and qualify for the same retirement benefits of active duty Marines.

There will be more opportunities for Marines to join the

AR program during Fiscal Year 2012. The AR program has 276 available billets for FY12 in comparison to the 198 billets available during FY11. According to Master Sgt. Donald Ogden, prior service recruiting quality control chief, MCRC, there are a few MOS’s with a large number of billets available for Marines.

“We are looking for a lot of Marines in the (0111) administrative specialist, (3451) fiscal/budget technician, (2111) small arms repairer/technician and (3043) supply administration and operations clerk job fields,” said Ogden.

Though some MOS’s are of particular importance, Marines from any job field may submit packages for the AR program.

“There are active-reserve billets for Marines in most job fields,” said Ogden. “Retraining in a new MOS is also available for sergeants and below.”

see BILLETS ▶ 2

2nd Bn enriches marriages

BY LANCE CPL. ERIC
QUINTANILLA
Chevron staff

Marine Corps Family Team Building and Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego chaplains hosted the Prevention and Relationship Enhancement Program for 2nd Recruit Training Battalion Monday.

The 4-hour class, offered four times a year, is for couples looking to build and enhance their relationships, whether they are engaged, newlyweds or have

been married 30 years.

“Marriage is tough, a lot of marriages don’t work out,” said Lt. Stephen Brown, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion chaplain and class instructor. “It’s something we need to fight for.”

Inside the classroom the lights were dimmed, flower petals were scattered across the tables and dinner was provided to set the scene of a romantic date night for the couples. Child care was also provided so the couples could

see MARRIAGE ▶ 8



Lance Cpl. Eric Quintanilla

The Bayside Babes teach hula dancing to the crowd at the Multicultural Heritage Day event at the Command Museum aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego Sept. 15.

Marines share cultures

BY LANCE CPL. ERIC QUINTANILLA
Chevron staff

Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego celebrated Multicultural Heritage Day at the Command Museum courtyard Sept. 15.

The annual event showcased 22 different cultures from around the world with information booths and performances to help service members and their families better understand the diversity that is found throughout the Marine Corps. This is one of eight observances used to help promote equal opportunity and awareness throughout the year.

see CULTURES ▶ 2

Marine Corps music, one of many Fleet Week attractions



Lance Cpl. Eric Quintanilla

Marine Band San Diego's Party Band performed during Fleet Week's Big Bay Family Festival at Broadway Pier, San Diego Sunday. The nine piece Party Band played a 40-minute show for those in attendance. The two-day festival was open to the public and helped to kick off Fleet Week. This year's Fleet Week San Diego celebrates 100 years of Naval Aviation. Attendees were welcome to tour ships and static displays provided by the Marine Corps, Navy and Coast Guard.

BILLETS ◀ 1

To be eligible for the AR program, active component Marines must be within six months of their expiration of active service date, be eligible for reenlistment and be willing to serve in an MOS required by the AR program. Marines must also meet specific age and rank requirements to join the AR. A list of maximum ages and corresponding ranks may be found in Marine Corps Order 1001.52J.

The program is not limited to active duty Marines. Per MCO 1001.52J, Marines in the reserves and individual ready reserve are also eligible to apply for the AR program.

"Active-reserve packages are evaluated based upon their own merits. There is no selection board," said Ogden. "Marines who submit packages should expect to hear from their monitor within 15 to 30 days with a decision on the package and a list of potential

duty stations."

In addition to the AR program needs for FY12, there are still three available billets for Marines interested in making the move during FY11.

"There are still two billets available for (3451) fiscal/budget technicians and one for a (6152) CH-46 helicopter airframe mechanic," said Ogden.

An incentive for non-commissioned officers interested in the AR program is bonuses. Bonuses of \$10,000 for corporals and \$15,000 for sergeants are available for NCOs who hold a qualifying MOS. The qualifying MOS's will be released via a MARADMIN in early October.

To learn more about the AR program, contact your local prior service recruiter or call MCRC at (703) 432-9664.

You can find contact numbers for your local PSR through Marines.com or by calling 1-800-MARINES.

CULTURES ◀ 1

"We want (Marines and their families) to understand and not be afraid to talk about cultures," said Gunnery Sgt. Timothy Walker, MCRD equal opportunity advisor. "It can form greater bonds to know more about each other."

The four-hour event featured a stage where performers showcased various cultural traditions. Some of the performances included hula dancers, a mariachi band and singers. One highlight included a re-enactment of Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech.

The performances were given by Marines and civilians who wanted to share their culture's traditions.

"We say we are a Marine Corps culture, but we don't want to forget where we come from," said Walker. "When we host these events, we want the Marines to come out and represent their own cultures."

The event offered Marines the opportunity to share their culture with attend-

ees by setting up informational booths or performing on stage. By doing so, some of them learned new and interesting things about their heritage.

Wearing a Marine Corps uniform from 1967, Cpl. Janeisha Taylor, new joins clerk, Headquarters Company, Headquarters and Service Battalion, sang "Amazing Grace." She also helped set up a display featuring pictures and stories about black Marines and their accomplishments throughout the Corps' history.

"Every day is culture in the Marine Corps," said Taylor, a Chicago native. "I learned a lot about my own culture by doing this event. It's not just about military cultures, it's about the world."

In addition to performances, 17 booths were set up in the courtyard to showcase the progress some cultures have made in the Marine Corps and volunteer opportunities for service members looking to help others.

"This event is here to remind us that we are a very multi-cultural (country). We are all unique and have something to

contribute to our mainstream culture," said Maj. Alberto Martinezdiaz, deputy comptroller, 12th Marine Corps Recruiting District.

The Marine Corps represents the diversity found in America on a smaller scale, explained Walker. In order to truly understand one another, we need to accept the differences among us, he added.

"We don't need to be divided. We need to embrace the melting pot and share our cultures," said Walker.

The event was held on visitor's Thursday, the day families and friends get to visit their new Marines before they graduate recruit training, so young Marines and their families had the opportunity to attend. It's important for them to understand the different cultures they may encounter during their time in the Marine Corps, explained Walker.

"The Marine Corps has its own culture," said Taylor. "We are a family, but we don't know enough about each other. You probably have a lot of things in common and don't even realize it."

REPEAL ◀ 1

Although the vast majority of military members and their families surveyed before the repeal indicated they had no issues with the repeal, Patton said he recognizes that some may. To those, he has a message: "We are not trying to change your beliefs. You have your freedom to exercise your beliefs and your freedom of speech."

But with that, he said, "you have to maintain your dignity and respect for others."

No new policy will allow anyone who disagrees with the repeal to break their contractual obligations. Anyone who has complaints or issues associated

with the repeal should take them to a commander or inspector general, Patton said. Sexual orientation issues will not be addressed by equal opportunity channels in the way gender, race and religion issues are.

With the repeal in effect, Patton said he expects military members will honor it. "The repeal is a law," he said. "The military follows the law and we are executing this as part of our mission."

A key in carrying out the mission, he said, is a principle emphasized during mandatory pre-repeal training throughout the force that the military has embraced throughout its history.

"The training focused on the changes in policy, that sexual orientation is not a reason for a person to be denied

enlistment in the service or separated from the service. And that we continue to treat all service members with dignity and respect," Patton said.

Part of that respect, he said, is to allow all service members to live honest lives. "During Don't Ask, Don't Tell, gay and lesbian service members were required by law to withhold their sexual orientation, and in some cases, they potentially violated their own personal integrity," Patton said. "Upon repeal of Don't Ask, Don't Tell, they won't be placed in that predicament."

As a result, the repeal "will strengthen the military," he said. "It will continue to allow us to keep gay and lesbian service members in the military, and we will be a better military for it."

BRIEFS

Career and Education Fair

Personal & Professional Development (formerly known as Marine & Family Services) will host a Career and Education Fair Tuesday from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. at the Semper Fit Fieldhouse, Bldg. 650. The event is free and open to military active duty and reserve, family members, military retirees, DoD civilians, and all other personnel with access to military installations.

For more information or updates, contact Mina Threat at mina.threat@usmc.mil or (619) 524-1283; or Annie Villalon at annie.villalon@usmc.mil or (619) 524-1275.

Hypnotherapy for Stress Reduction

Are you stressed out? Would you like to go through life with less worry? Take two hours for yourself and learn to live with less stress with our free hypnotherapy stress reduction class Wednesday from 4:30 until 6:30 p.m. in Bldg. 5W, upper deck. Gain simple tools to help you live a calmer and more enjoyable life. The event is facilitated by a Certified Clinical Hypnotherapist. For reservations, call Andrea Callahan, Semper Fit Health Promotions at (619) 524-8913 or e-mail CallahanAL@usmc-mccs.org.

Budgeting for Baby Workshop

Those couples who have recently had a new family addition, or who are expecting one, are invited to attend the MCRD Budgeting for Baby Workshop Friday from 9:30 until 11 a.m. in Bldg. 14 (the Personal and Professional Development Center).

The workshop covers information on how to build a monthly budget and on how the new addition will affect monthly finances and resources.

The Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society will have gifts for those attending to help them get started with the new addition.

Call (619) 524-5734 to sign up. Class size is limited.

MCCS Annual Ball Gown Giveaway and Fashion Show

The annual MCCS Ball Gown Giveaway and Fashion Show is slated for Oct. 14 from 4 until 8:30 p.m., on the Bayview Restaurant Lawn. Active duty spouses will be able to choose one free formal gown at the event.

In addition to the fashion show and gown giveaway, the event will also feature:

- Vendor Products
- Cocktail Hour
- Dinner

Donations of gently used ball gowns are greatly appreciated and accepted at Bldg. 6E, Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. until Oct. 13.

Remember to bring cash or checkbook for vendor products.

For more information call (619) 524-0916.

A Journey through Boot Camp

Follow Sgt. Whitney N. Frasier as she follows Golf Company and blogs about the boot camp experience at www.transformationofmarines.wordpress.com

Send briefs to:

rdsd_pao@usmc.mil. The Chevron staff reserves the right to publish only those briefs that comply with Department of Defense regulations and the standards of the U.S. Government.

Around the depot

This week the Chevron asks: "What do you like best about Fall?"



"Halloween by far is my favorite holiday. I enjoy haunted houses and dressing up. It's a huge tradition in my family."

Sgt. Cecily Mesa, property control noncommissioned officer in charge, Service Company, Headquarters and Service Battalion



"It's nice riding weather on my motorcycle. Not too hot, not too cold yet."

Petty Officer 3rd Class Michael J. Thompson, maritime law enforcement officer, Pacific Tactical Law Enforcement Team



"I enjoy football. I'm a big Chargers fan."

Rachel Dickenson, intramural sports coordinator, Semper Fit



Cpl. Jeffrey Cordero

Maj. Kenneth C. Gawronski, commanding officer, Recruiting Station Twin Cities, salutes during the National Anthem while future Marine recruits stand at attention during a pregame ceremony commemorating the original Twins Platoon at Target Field, Minneapolis, Minn., Sept. 5. The original Twins Platoon were 150 Twin Cities area citizens who swore into the Marine Corps on June 28, 1967, during the Vietnam War. During the Sept. 5 ceremony twenty-four Twin Cities area men and women were sworn into the Corps as the current "Twins Platoon."

'Twins Platoon' crosses generations in the Twin Cities

BY CPL. JEFFREY CORDERO
9th Marine Corps District

MINNEAPOLIS — Thousands of Minnesota Twins fans stood watching as 150 men and women walked across the field, stopped and raised their right hands in an oath of enlistment into the United States Marine Corps. Many of them were straight out of high school, apprehensive and not knowing exactly what they were getting into. This scene played out originally 44 years ago at the old Metropolitan Stadium, and again Sept. 5, at Target Field.

"The day we took the oath out there it felt like you had quite an honor bestowed on you," said Charles Baker, a member of the original Twins Platoon who served in Vietnam.

The original group was known as the Twins Platoon and now 44 years later a new group of 24 local young men and women raised their right hands in front of thousands, carrying on the legacy of the original platoon.

"They're following up behind us; the younger generation is picking up," Baker said. "We've all gotta progress, you know."

The original Twins Platoon was a group of men and women from the Twin Cities and surrounding areas.

On June 28, 1967 the members of the Twins Platoon were sworn into the Marine Corps during a pregame ceremony, before the Minnesota Twins faced the Boston Red Sox.

During the fourth inning of the game, the group was taken to buses waiting for them outside and sent to Marine Corps recruit training.

The group was split into two

platoons at boot camp. They all attended boot camp together and most subsequently attended the same military occupational specialty school.

Many of the Marines remained within a 10 mile radius of each other while deployed to Vietnam according to Christy W. Sauro, a

member of the original Twins Platoon.

Sauro always wondered what had happened to the rest of the platoon's members. His interest eventually led to years of searching for the rest of the platoon and an idea to write a book,

following some of the members from before they were recruited through their return from Vietnam. The book, "Twins Platoon: An Epic Story of Young Marines at War in Vietnam," recounted the stories of the Twins Platoon members in vivid detail, according to Sauro.

In 1967 the draft was in effect. Young men who did not attend college were more than likely to receive a Selective Service notice to report for military service. The draft was for service in the Army. The Marine Corps remained a volunteer service and an alternative to the Army.

"I enlisted," Baker said as he chuckled. "No draft was involved for this Marine."

Baker joined immediately after high school with a friend. He joined under an incentive

called the buddy program. He and his buddy went through basic training together but were separated in Vietnam.

Some returned from the war with medals ranging from the Silver Star to the Navy Achievement medal with combat "V" for valor. Some never made it home.

Because of public opinion about the war, returning veterans were advised to remove all of their medals and to never speak of their experiences, according to Sauro. Thus their stories faded with time.

"The day we took the oath out there it felt like you had quite an honor bestowed on you."

Charles Baker, member of the original 1967 Twins Platoon

"Until I read the book, I didn't even know we won the game that night," Baker said as he

laughed.

Men and women have since been enlisting in the Marine Corps with a distinctive pride in serving their country. Many have left behind other dreams and aspirations to become part of "the few, the proud." The tradition carries on to this day.

"The biggest thing is the opportunity to serve," said Torrey Tiedeman, 19, from Rochester, Minn., a member the current Twins Platoon. "There is a kind of curiosity I have with the Marines. I have Tim Walz's nomination to the Naval Academy but I chose to leave it to enlist in the Marines."

Tiedeman believes the opportunity to stand next to the original platoon is exceptional, especially in front of thousands of people.

"I am honored to have been selected to be taking part in the Twins Platoon, especially with members of the original 1967 platoon on the field," he said.

He not only felt ready for boot camp but also to serve in the Marine Corps. Tiedeman enlisted for a position in the infantry.

"I think being a part of the infantry is the best way I can serve my country," he said. "I had opportunities outside the Marine Corps, but I don't think any of that would have given me the opportunity to give back to America what it's given me."

All of the members of the Twins Platoon, past and present, agree about their mixed feelings when deciding to serve in the Marines. All who participated in the Sept. 5 ceremony joined directly after high school. All are between 17 and 19 years old. All are ready to put their life on the line for their country. And all are "apprehensive" about boot camp.

"I was really apprehensive about joining," said Baker. "First I signed up and then I thought maybe I didn't want to."

"My friend linked me to his father who had served in Iwo Jima," he continued. "After some drinks and a good conversation, he gave me an emblem he wore during the fight. I've worn it ever since."

As was the case for the Marines in the 1967 Twins Platoon, there is a war being fought overseas. The battlefield is no longer in the jungles of Southeast Asia, but the dry deserts of the Middle East, where temperatures vary from scorching during the day to near freezing at night.

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Company G recruits complete first phase of basic training

BY SGT. WHITNEY N. FRASIER
Chevron staff

“Recruits need to remember why they came here and what they wanted to be,” said Sgt. Van A. Black, “If they forget why or they are not here for themselves, they probably won’t make it at all.”

Black is the Senior Drill Instructor for platoon 2149, Company G, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion. He and Staff Sgt. Anthony Glenn II, SDI, platoon 2155, Co. G., 2nd Bn., have seen many recruits go through training during their time on the drill field. Both of them agree that phase one of recruit training is imperative to turn civilians into recruits.

Once recruits get here, they still talk and act like civilians, said Black, 29, from Arlington, Texas. They are taught how to be recruits by marching to places and being taught how to speak and understand military language, among other things.

During the four days of forming, which takes place in week one of training, recruits are exposed to an excessive amount of controlled chaos. Some drill instructors think these days are most crucial to success in boot camp.

“That’s when they get the most stress and culture shock,” said Black. “If they don’t get the initial shock, they usually won’t adapt well

to anything else.”

During this time, drill instructors get the recruits acclimatized to the tempo of recruit training, said Glenn, 33, native of Atlanta. It’s important they pick up on instant obedience to orders and discipline.

Pick-up, or commonly known as ‘Black Friday,’ can set the tone of what the drill instructors expect from the recruits and what they will experience during their training cycle.

The first phase consists of several important events. These events are Initial Drill, Initial Physical Fitness Test, Swim Qualification, the Confidence Course and the Obstacle Course.

These events are only the tip of the spear, and what Black considers an introduction to boot camp. All the basic classes are covered in first phase, and will be revisited over the course of training.

“Breaking the cycle up into phases prevents the recruits from getting tunnel vision and actually feel like they are making progress,” said Glenn, who has served 13 cycles as a drill instructor. “Once the recruits make it through first phase, they feel like they made it as a team and are ready to move forward.”

Everything is earned, nothing is given, explained Glenn, including Company G’s completion of first phase.



Sgt. Whitney N. Frasier

Company G recruits participate in the Confidence Course, Sept. 12. The Confidence Course consists of several obstacles that are designed to help recruits overcome their fears, utilize the use of teamwork and boost confidence.



Sgt. Whitney N. Frasier

Company G recruits are introduced to the Marine Corps Martial Arts Program. MCMAP is practiced throughout the entire cycle, and once they are tested they will receive a tan belt. The tan belt is the first of the five belt structure belonging to MCMAP.

Sgt. Justen Greidanus, inspection is used to te



Company G recruits pr training course compris



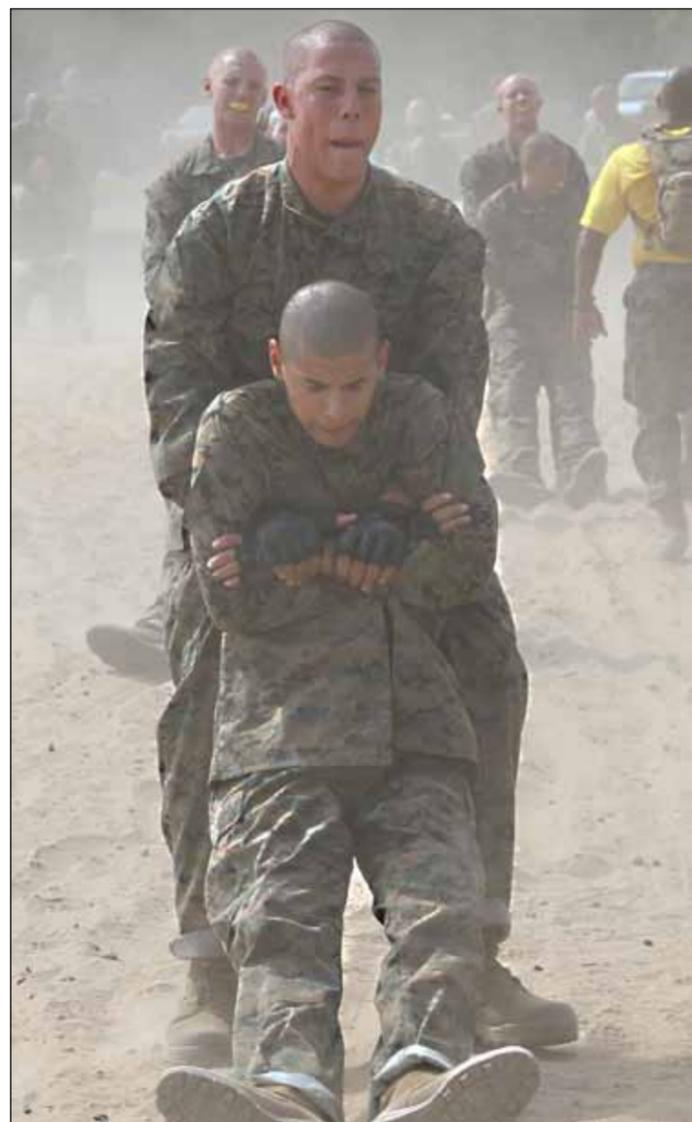
Sgt. Whitney N. Frasier

drill instructor, Company G, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion uses controlled chaos to produce a stressful environment during the Senior Drill Instructor Inspection. This test the recruits on the information they have retained during their first three weeks of recruit training.



Sgt. Whitney N. Frasier

practice leg sweep during the Combat Conditioning Exercise, Sept. 14. This exercise is a demanding physical course comprised of martial arts and movement techniques that is expected to assist while in combat situations.



Sgt. Whitney N. Frasier

Company G recruits participate in the buddy drag during the Combat Conditioning Exercise, Sept. 14. This exercise is a demanding physical training course comprised of martial arts and movement techniques that is expected to assist while in combat situations.

Drill tests emergency responders' skills, techniques

BY PETTY OFFICER 1ST CLASS
GINO FLORES
II MEF (FWD)

CAMP LEATHERNECK, Afghanistan — On Aug. 24 at Camp Leatherneck, Helmand province, a simulated blast shattered the morning silence and rapid response emergency teams across the base sprang into action to test their responsiveness with a casualty drill.

The first responders being tested were part of various military and civilian contractor outfits on base responsible for dealing with various crises.

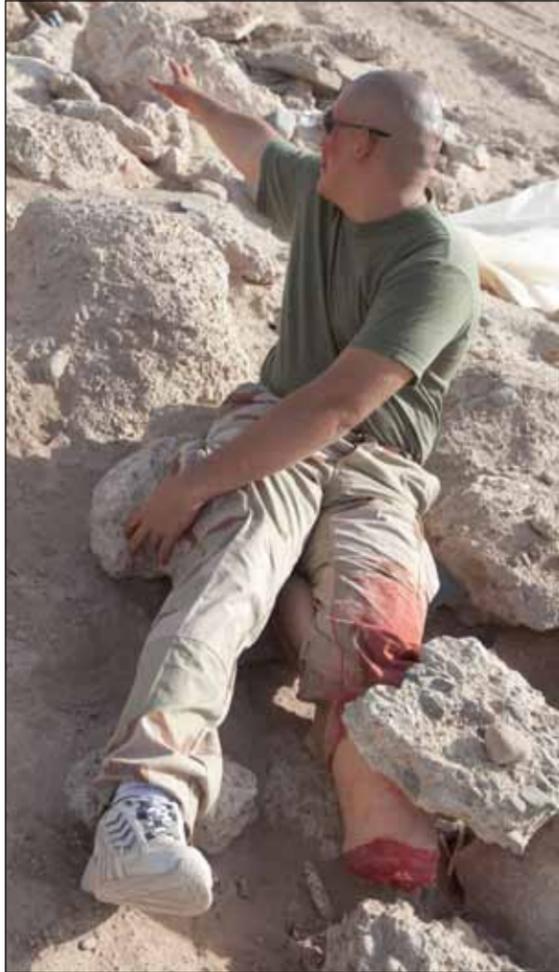
The drill started with a simulated insurgent indirect fire attack on the base, a scenario organizers deemed a plausible event given enemy tactics in Afghanistan, said 1st Lt. Jared Gastrock, a drill coordinator and observer for the exercise. The simulated attack resulted in numerous casualties and fires for responders to deal with.

Fire trucks and ambulances raced to the scene soon after the base alert sounded and the location of the developing crisis was established.

The crackling of flames and burning wood were heard and smelled amid a haze of smoke blanketing the scene of the drill. Casualty victims in the area of the attack, role-played by Marines, peppered the air with the agonizing sounds of the injured.

The Camp Leatherneck Fire Department, Combined Aid Station, and Provost Marshall's Office confronted the danger with an organized plan of attack.

First, Military Police with Task Force Belleau Wood arrived on scene to assess the situation. They searched for and identified casualties. The MPs also monitored the grounds for additional threats as they directed and controlled access to the scene. Mock reporters and spectators were cordoned off to a designated control point near the scene to prevent interference with



Petty Officer 1st Class Gino Flores

Lance Cpl. Scot Vanderwood calls for help as part of his role-playing of a casualty during a mass casualty drill staged at Camp Leatherneck. The exercise measured the efficient response, skill level and capacity of the base to manage crises.

rescue operations.

Emergency lights and sirens filled the air as fire trucks and ambulances arrived on scene. The MPs, medics, hospital corpsmen and fire fighters coordinated to tend to the injured and addressed the ongoing threats of additional explosives and fire hazards still present in the area.

Scene safety was one of the top concerns of Seaman Christopher Rinker, a hospital corpsman and member of the on-scene triage team. "Any additional threats like

improvised explosive devices can harm the emergency team's success in responding to a casualty," said Rinker.

Fire department medics and hospital corpsmen with the CAS applied life-saving procedures as they came upon victims with life-threatening injuries. The casualties were quickly removed from the hazardous zone, sorted and separated based on the degree of injury before being staged in a designated triage zone. The paramedics and hospital corpsmen

gathered the victims while they monitored and stabilized the injured. They then loaded the ambulances with the casualties and evacuated them to the emergency trauma center on base.

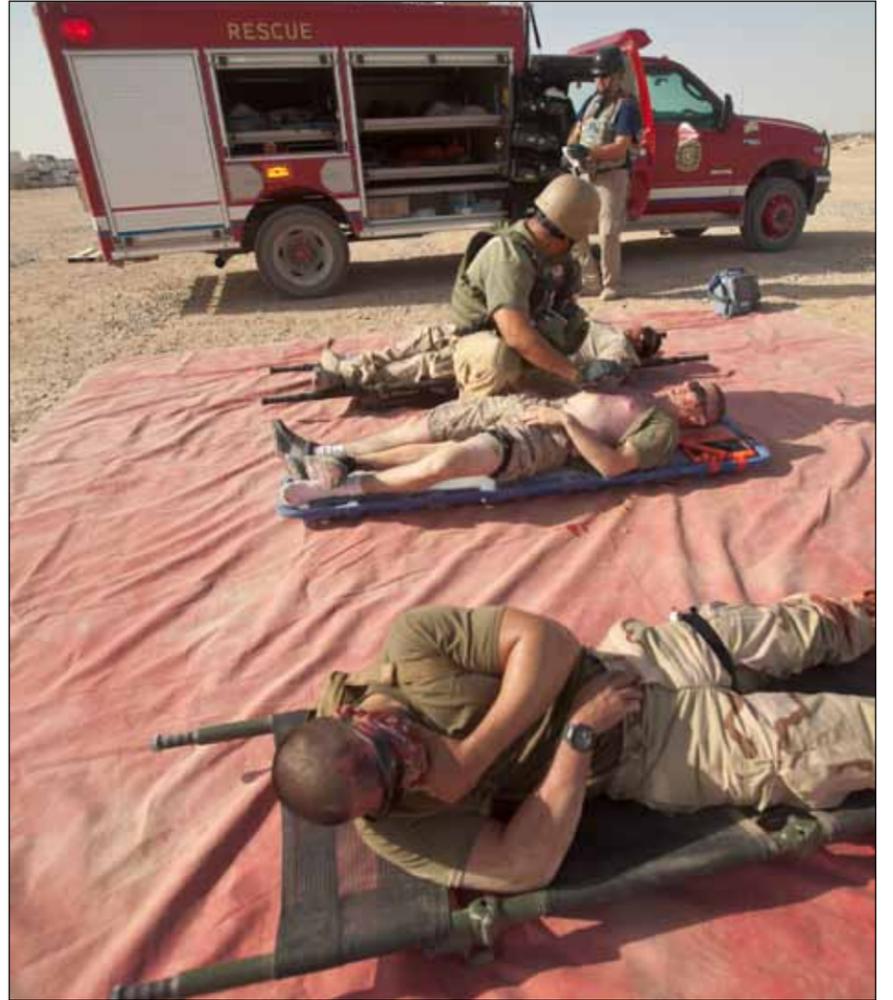
Meanwhile, firefighters on scene attacked multiple fires until all the flames were extinguished.

Marines portraying casualties wore detailed moulages and special effects makeup, bringing injuries such as face lacerations, compound fractures, severed body parts, and punctured wounds to life. These

injuries tested the emergency team's skill proficiency in applying life saving procedures and stabilizing the victims prior to evacuation, said Gastrock.

As the casualty drill concluded, leaders of the emergency teams on scene gathered to review the first responder's performance and note areas of improvement.

The seamless combined efforts of multiple emergency teams that responded to the drill led to the successful outcome of the drill, said Gastrock.



Petty Officer 1st Class Gino Flores

Paramedics tend to simulated mass casualty victims during a drill at Camp Leatherneck, Helmand province. Simulated casualties wore special effects makeup and detailed models of injuries to bring injuries such as lacerations, compound fractures, severed body parts and puncture wounds to life.

Col. Michael L. Lawrence

Parade Reviewing Officer

Colonel Michael L. Lawrence, commanding officer, Marine Corps Air Station Camp Pendleton, Calif., was born in Winchester, Kansas, in April 1963. He graduated from the University of Kansas with a Bachelor of Science degree in chemical engineering. He was commissioned a second lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps through the Naval Reserve Officer Training Course in July 1985.

Upon completion of the Basic School in April 1986, Lawrence reported to the Naval Air Training Command in Pensacola, Fla., and was designated a naval aviator in May 1987. In June 1987, he reported to Marine Helicopter Training Squadron 303, Marine Aircraft Group 39 at MCAS Camp Pendleton, Calif., for replacement aircrew training in the UH-1N helicopter.

In October 1987, Lawrence reported to MAG-26, 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing, Marine Corps Air Station, New River, N.C., for duty with Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 167. His duty assignments included scheduling

officer, UH-1N flight operations officer, assistant operations officer and tactics officer. He also completed a Landing Force 6th Fleet deployment to the Mediterranean with Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 264 in support of the 26th Marine Expeditionary Unit, during which he participated in contingency operations off the coast of Beirut, Lebanon.

In April 1990, Lawrence graduated from the Weapons and Tactics Instructor Course at Marine Aviation Weapons and Tactics Squadron 1 at MCAS Yuma, Ariz.

In July 1991, Lawrence reported to Marine Aviation Weapons and Tactics Squadron 1 in Yuma for duty as a UH-1N instructor in the Assault Support Division. While at MAWTS-1, Lawrence flew instructor flights with helicopter pilots from every HMLA squadron in the USMC and USMCR, U.S. Air Force, U.S. Army Special Operations and four different foreign militaries.

In July 1995, Lawrence was ordered to MAG-39, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing at Camp Pendleton for duty with HMLA 267. His duty assignments included tactics officer and aircraft maintenance officer. He also served as head of the Fleet Introduction Team for the Navigation Thermal Imaging System.

During this tour, he completed two deployments to Okinawa,

Japan for the Unit Deployment Program.

In July 1999, Lawrence reported for duty with I Marine Expeditionary Force at Camp Pendleton where he served in the operations division, future operations department as the I MEF MEU operations officer and liaison officer to the U.S. 3rd Fleet at U.S. Naval Base San Diego, Calif. In September 1999, he was presented the Marine Corps Aviation Association Alfred A. Cunningham Award for his selection as Marine Aviator of the Year.

In September 2001, Lawrence reported back to MAG-39 for duty as a future operations planning officer and then reported to Marine Wing Support Group 37 at MCAS Miramar, Calif., for duty as the executive officer in December 2001.

Lawrence next took command of Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 369 in January 2003, and deployed the squadron to Kuwait and Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom in April 2003. The squadron also deployed in December 2003 to Okinawa for a seven month deployment conducting exercises in Thailand, the Philippines, and Korea. During this deployment, HMLA 369 received the Marine Corps Aviation Association John P. Giguere Award for the Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron of the Year and the Pete Ross Safety Award.

In August 2004, Lawrence reported for duty to MAG-39 to serve as the executive officer. He then reported to the Marine Corps University in June 2005, as a student at the Marine Corps

War College. After graduating from MCWAR in June 2006, he was assigned to duty as a military analyst in the office of the Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness.

Upon completion of his Pentagon tour, Lawrence was assigned in September 2008 to 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing for duty as the assistant chief of staff for manpower. In June 2009, Lawrence was assigned as the commanding officer of Marine Corps Air Station Camp Pendleton.

His personal decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal, Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal with gold star, Strike Flight Air Medal with numeral 7, and the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal with gold star.

"Marines - Let me be one of the first to congratulate you on this tremendous accomplishment. I know your families are extremely proud of you, for you have now earned the right to be called Marine. You are now a part of an elite group - one that is rich in traditions and professionalism. As you continue on your path of development, it is your duty to uphold these traditions and adhere to honor, courage, and commitment. Remember that as Marines, we take care of each other and strive to do our best each and every day that we are privileged to wear the eagle, globe and anchor. Do not take it for granted. I expect nothing less than your very best as you go forward from this day. I know you will continue to make us all proud and once again - congratulations Marines!!"





Platoon 2109 COMPANY HONOR MAN Lance Cpl. C. McPheron Lake Havasu City, Ariz. Recruited by Sgt. M. King	Platoon 2115 SERIES HONOR MAN Lance Cpl. M. P. Govea Ontario, Calif. Recruited by Sgt. A. R. Pierce	Platoon 2110 PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. E. R. Vess Conway, Ariz. Recruited by Gunnery Sgt. A. Walters	Platoon 2111 PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. C. T. Putnam Rigby, Idaho Recruited by Staff Sgt. M. Gillis	Platoon 2113 PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. W. W. Robertson Cornith, Texas Recruited by Sgt. M. Gomez	Platoon 2114 PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. L. L. Johnston Hurst, Texas Recruited by Sgt. A. E. Hart	Platoon 2116 PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. D. J. Hovas Traverse City, Mich. Recruited by Staff Sgt. F. Ballezma	Platoon 2110 HIGH SHOOTER (333) Pfc. T. A. Seals Visalia, Calif. Marksmanship Instructor Sgt. C. Hamacher	Platoon 2110 HIGH PFT (300) Pfc. C. I. Castro Phoenix Recruited by Sgt. M. Day
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ECHO COMPANY

2nd RECRUIT TRAINING BATTALION

Commanding Officer
Sergeant Major
Battalion Drill Master

Lt. Col. R. L. Hairston
Sgt. Maj. P. A. Siaw
Staff Sgt. J. F. Richard Jr.



<p>COMPANY E Commanding Officer Capt. A. Farsaad Company First Sergeant 1st Sgt. K. L. Hutson</p>	<p>SERIES 2109 Series Commander Capt B. Chen Chief Drill Instructor Staff Sgt. J. J. Anciaux</p>	<p>PLATOON 2109 Senior Drill Instructor Staff Sgt. J. B. Ferguson Drill Instructors Staff Sgt. M. A. Flores Sgt. J. Valles-Esparza</p>	<p>PLATOON 2110 Senior Drill Instructor Sgt. A. J. Butler Drill Instructors Sgt. L. A. Alicea Sgt. R. A. Jimenez</p>	<p>PLATOON 2111 Senior Drill Instructor Staff Sgt. J. Orozco-Colorado Drill Instructors Staff Sgt. J. A. McFaline Sgt. D. A. Bibbins Sgt. H. A. Torres</p>
<p>SERIES 2113 Series Commander Capt. J. A. McNabb Chief Drill Instructor Gunnery Sgt. A. W. Duncan</p>	<p>PLATOON 2113 Senior Drill Instructor Sgt. C. F. Onyejiaka Drill Instructors Sgt. J. A. Belill Sgt. J. B. Fuentes Sgt. J. M. Mansfield</p>	<p>PLATOON 2114 Senior Drill Instructor Staff Sgt. Z. D. Curran Drill Instructors Sgt. J. C. Lopez Sgt. J. Montalvo</p>	<p>PLATOON 2115 Senior Drill Instructor Staff Sgt. A. Gomez-Fletes Drill Instructors Sgt. M. P. Dimauro Sgt. R. J. Melendez</p>	<p>PLATOON 2116 Senior Drill Instructor Staff Sgt. R. G. Lomeli Drill Instructors Staff Sgt. N. Casias Sgt. S. E. Sanchez</p>

* Indicates Meritorious Promotion

<p>PLATOON 2109 Pvt. A. A. Alexander Pfc. C. J. Ashley Pvt. A. L. Barnes Pfc. C. J. Barnes Pfc. G. Barrios Jr. Pvt. Z. R. Bavarro Pvt. P. M. Bowles Pvt. S. B. Boyles Pfc. D. A. Brazier Pfc. Z. M. Brillinger Pvt. J. H. Buller Pvt. B. R. Burns Pvt. J. D. Calderon-Minniti Pfc. S. T. Cannon Pfc. I. Capristo-Sierra Jr. Pvt. J. Carillo Pfc. N. P. Carter Pvt. J. A. Chaidez Pvt. J. L. Chamness Pvt. D. C. Chen Pvt. J. A. CifuentesWilson Pvt. T. L. Clark Pvt. H. R. Colbus Pvt. W. C. Collins Pfc. K. M. Cowey Pfc. T. A. Darr Pfc. D. L. Davis Pvt. A. T. Deist Pvt. A. Delgado *Pfc. D. A. Dequaine *Pfc. J. E. DeWitt Pfc. M. J. Dugger Pfc. D. L. Harrison Pfc. C. C. Lawson Pvt. J. R. Leary Pvt. R. R. Lemen Pvt. D. A. Leverton *Pfc. A. J. Long Pfc. B. A. LopezRocha Pfc. A. F. Ludwig Pfc. L. V. Luu Pvt. S. J. Macias Pfc. N. L. Mastorakos Pfc. D. Z. McClure Pfc. M. J. McHale *Lance Cpl. C. McPheron Pfc. K. S. Merene Pvt. J. D. Mulanny Pvt. M. P. Naylor *Pfc. B. A. Netzey Pvt. Z. N. Nguyen Pvt. S. E. Nolan Pvt. J. O. Pangle Pvt. H. J. Pasillas Pvt. T. J. Pesek Pfc. M. H. Porter Pfc. B. J. Primm Pfc. D. C. Ragan Pvt. D. E. Ramirez Pvt. J. L. Rangel *Pfc. S. A. Rice Pfc. D. L. Riso Pvt. J. D. Robertson Pvt. S. M. Rueda Pvt. A. E. Sandoval Pfc. M. J. Schmidt *Pfc. J. A. Sellers Pfc. J. T. Serrano Pvt. C. J. Shafia Pfc. D. F. Thompson Pvt. J. D. Torres Pfc. B. F. Torian Pfc. A. W. Uribe Pvt. P. Vega Pfc. M. Villalobos-Jimenez Pfc. C. Y. Wang</p>	<p>Pvt. C. J. Wasser Pfc. J. M. Weight Pfc. J. J. Yballa Pfc. J. A. Zamora</p> <p>PLATOON 2110 Pfc. M. J. Aguilar Pvt. L. A. Barry Pfc. E. J. Bausch Pvt. D. R. Beard Pfc. R. M. Boone Pvt. W. K. Bottom Pvt. K. D. Brown Pvt. J. E. Bullard Pvt. T. M. Byers Pvt. N. J. Cain Pvt. G. Caravez Pvt. F. Cardenas Pfc. C. I. Castro Pvt. M. G. Chandler Pvt. K. W. Courville Pvt. J. D. Crawford Pfc. C. S. Cuatlayol Pvt. B. C. Daniels Pfc. G. De La Fuente Pvt. E. De Leon Pfc. C. D. Dodge Pfc. A. Duarte Jr. Pvt. P. Duong Pvt. A. Duran-Velencia Pfc. O. N. Elliott Pvt. R. M. Ferro Pvt. B. M. Fish Pvt. M. W. Fladeland Pvt. B. M. Flores Pfc. G. S. Forni Pfc. T. C. Freels Pfc. L. A. Gaard Pvt. B. G. Gale Jr. Pvt. J. D. Garcia Pfc. P. W. Garcia Pfc. J. M. Gervais Pfc. J. A. Gonzales Pvt. S. P. Sklyar Pvt. B. S. Green *Pfc. E. R. Guerrero Pfc. J. Z. Hall Pfc. J. L. Hansen Pvt. P. R. Harphand Pvt. A. L. Harris Pfc. Z. A. Hartford Pvt. B. D. Hawkins Pvt. G. Hernandez Pfc. C. K. Hines Pfc. M. R. Hipp Jr. Pvt. K. C. Hippler Pfc. N. J. Huber Pvt. N. R. Jackson Pvt. L. C. Miles Pvt. B. S. Miloshevsky *Pfc. Z. M. Nelson Pfc. J. F. Olvera Pfc. C. A. Page Pvt. J. L. Prince Pvt. M. J. Ramos Pfc. E. E. Raycraft Pfc. G. Renteria Pfc. J. A. Robinson Jr. Pvt. E. A. Rodriguez Pvt. J. J. Rodriguez Pfc. K. S. Romero Pfc. S. B. Ruby Pvt. T. J. Ryan Pvt. A. W. Sabatino Pfc. J. Sanchez *Pfc. T. A. Seals Pfc. R. H. Sloan Jr.</p>	<p>Pvt. B. S. Smith Pvt. C. R. Smith *Pfc. G. L. Smith Pvt. J. D. Smith Pvt. J. T. Spinn Pfc. C. H. Sprague Pvt. D. W. Strunk Pvt. P. X. Thao Pfc. J. P. Trauthwein Pvt. J. W. Unruh *Pfc. E. R. Vess Pvt. R. A. Warner Pfc. T. B. Whatcott Pvt. M. A. Wheeler Pvt. B. J. Wilkes Pvt. A. S. Williams Pfc. J. L. Zvara</p> <p>PLATOON 2111 Pfc. M. C. Branden Pvt. D. R. Clifford Pfc. L. W. Danley *Pfc. N. R. DeConing Pfc. A. T. Fowler Pfc. P. J. Fransen Pfc. A. J. Garcia Pfc. C. L. Hancock Pfc. I. C. Haney Pvt. N. S. Harrison Pvt. J. P. Hennessey Pvt. C. D. Herman Pfc. C. Jimenez Jr. Pvt. M. A. Johnson Pvt. A. D. Kemper Pvt. P. M. Ketterman Pfc. C. S. King Pvt. S. D. Klien Pvt. B. C. Korn Pvt. J. G. Korn Pvt. E. Labe-Bonson Pfc. S. Landa Pvt. J. A. Lane Pvt. C. S. Lawrence Pfc. T. A. Leikness Pfc. D. V. Llamas Pvt. C. R. Lloyd II Pvt. N. A. Mantram Pfc. D. Marron Pvt. M. R. Martin Pvt. J. Martinez Pvt. M. W. May Pvt. D. C. May III Pvt. C. C. Mead Pvt. L. A. Medina Pvt. E. R. Morales Pvt. J. T. Mossien Pvt. K. B. Nelson *Pfc. S. E. Nillo Pvt. N. M. Olguin Pfc. M. Ortiz Jr. Pfc. J. A. Parker Pfc. G. L. Parks Pfc. S. Phanphasy Pfc. C. C. Phillips *Pfc. J. S. Phoolka Pfc. S. E. Poster Pfc. C. T. Putnam Pvt. J. M. Quintana Pfc. A. D. Ramos Pfc. V. M. Ramos Pvt. P. J. Rhone Pfc. F. Rivas Pvt. V. A. Robles Pvt. M. A. Romero Pvt. J. K. Rottmeyer *Pfc. J. L. Salmela Pfc. R. A. Salmond</p>	<p>Pvt. A. A. Sanchez Pvt. G. Sanchez Pvt. T. G. Sanders Pvt. C. M. Satter Pfc. B. M. Scusa Pvt. A. A. Smith Pvt. N. A. Smith Pvt. J. I. So Pvt. G. A. Starke Pvt. A. C. Stroud Pvt. C. Teel Pvt. M. A. Teixeira Pvt. I. R. Thompson Pvt. M. B. Trevino Pvt. T. L. Usher Pvt. C. A. Vachon Pvt. A. L. Valdez Pvt. A. Velasquez Pfc. S. P. Voulgaris Pvt. J. V. Walton Pfc. D. J. Werner Pvt. J. Whatcott Pvt. A. M. White Pvt. D. A. Wiebe Pvt. P. J. Wolfe Pfc. F. Zarate Jr. Pvt. H. C. Zielinski Pfc. S. G. Ziese</p> <p>PLATOON 2113 Pvt. D. C. Applegate Pvt. J. L. Dean III Pvt. A. Gomez Jr. Pvt. J. D. Hanson Pvt. N. J. Hartwig Pvt. S. D. House Pfc. S. A. Jochim Pvt. J. D. King Pvt. S. Klems Pvt. M. H. Lam *Pfc. T. R. Lecher *Pfc. J. A. Lee Pfc. N. G. Lopez Pvt. D. A. Lovelace *Pfc. B. R. Magana Pfc. J. D. Malmberg Pvt. J. D. Martinez-Jimenez Pfc. C. D. McCormick Pvt. L. McDougall Pvt. C. J. Mejicanos Pvt. C. J. Melnick Pvt. D. Mendez Jr. Pfc. J. M. Miller Pvt. D. L. Monroe Pfc. G. Montiel III Pfc. R. J. Moscherosch Pfc. J. A. Mota Pvt. J. M. Mulryan Pvt. J. P. Myrick Pvt. J. T. Navarro Pvt. M. A. Nieves *Pfc. M. A. Oesterreich Pfc. S. M. Ortiz Pfc. G. M. Osoro Pvt. M. T. Paul Pfc. J. R. Perez Pvt. S. C. Phillely *Pfc. C. T. Pipkin Pvt. R. G. Ramos Pvt. G. J. Reiser Pvt. A. J. Rhee Pvt. N. C. Rickert Pvt. D. C. Rife III Pfc. W. W. Robertson Pvt. G. O. Rodriguez Pvt. R. D. Ruscher Pvt. C. J. Ryan</p>	<p>Pvt. J. M. Sanchez Pfc. T. C. Savunen Pvt. B. R. Schmidt Pvt. M. G. Seaton Pfc. J. G. Shafer Jr. Pvt. T. R. Sharp Pvt. J. E. Shelley Pfc. C. C. Sifford Pvt. A. J. Sill Pvt. C. A. Singley Pvt. J. C. Sites Pvt. J. L. Slago Pvt. L. C. Smith Pfc. J. D. Soza Pvt. G. E. Speder Pvt. G. H. Stephens Pfc. T. R. Stindman Pfc. S. A. Stites Pvt. J. C. Streeter Pvt. J. D. Suarez Pvt. D. C. Sward Pfc. C. I. Teniente Pfc. T. L. Tompkins Pvt. T. D. Trabert *Pfc. D. J. Tyson Pfc. G. R. Venburg Pvt. F. Villasegor Pvt. C. J. Visco Pvt. G. C. Waldie Pfc. D. E. Watry Pvt. K. P. Wesling Pfc. A. K. West Pvt. J. R. Wiemer Pvt. E. D. Wise Pvt. D. R. Wolf III Pvt. A. J. Ybarra Pvt. D. L. Zastrow Pvt. B. J. Zwaga</p> <p>PLATOON 2114 Pfc. J. A. Bahena-Sanchez Pvt. P. A. Beltran Pfc. T. D. Benz Pvt. A. D. Brooks Pvt. T. K. Brown Pvt. L. Carrillo Jr. Pvt. J. D. DeWitt Pvt. Z. T. Duscher Pvt. A. S. Eckleberg Pfc. R. E. Estandian Pvt. E. Estrada-Alvarez Pfc. M. A. Felix Pfc. V. P. Flynn Pfc. B. D. Forell Pvt. J. R. Fuller Pvt. L. L. Gomez Pvt. D. H. Gonzalez Pvt. L. A. Gonzalez Pvt. T. P. Goodwin *Pfc. C. C. Graf Pfc. G. G. Guzman Pvt. A. O. Haas Pvt. M. J. Hager Pvt. Z. G. Hamilton Pvt. R. T. Hanenburg Pvt. L. P. Hanks Pfc. M. L. Hannover *Pfc. D. D. Harris Pfc. T. R. Harris Pvt. J. G. Hedland Pvt. P. A. Hernandez Pfc. I. Hernandez Jr. *Pfc. B. V. Holmes Pvt. S. P. Horn Pvt. C. D. Huff Pfc. A. G. Huizar Pfc. C. A. Ibanez</p>	<p>Pfc. W. M. Inkret Pfc. T. D. Jacobs Pvt. J. J. Jenkins *Pfc. L. L. Johnston Pvt. K. M. Jones Pfc. J. L. Kauth Pfc. D. H. Ki Pvt. E. M. Kohley-DuBose Pvt. J. K. Kraatz Pvt. C. J. Krutz Pvt. N. B. Kuntz Pfc. C. M. LaCorte Pfc. J. A. Lanfray Pfc. J. Larios Pvt. S. G. Lathrop Pvt. J. M. Lomeli Jr. *Pfc. H. R. Leeper Pfc. M. S. Manio Pvt. V. D. Medrano Pvt. A. J. Mendez Pfc. T. J. Morales Pfc. B. L. Moreno Pfc. R. S. Murphy Pvt. J. L. Navejas *Pfc. C. S. Nicholson Pvt. D. C. Nickens Pvt. C. A. Olson Pvt. C. J. Pacera Pvt. J. P. Paulino Pfc. D. D. Pellegrino Pvt. K. A. Mohr Pvt. C. P. Peterson Pfc. D. B. Poganski Pfc. A. S. Pogosyan Pvt. I. A. Ramos Pvt. J. Renteria Jr. Pfc. S. N. Rieker Pfc. R. M. Roberts Pvt. S. Rosasosuna Jr. Pvt. B. S. Rowe Pvt. R. A. Schwarzman Pvt. E. A. Uribe Pfc. G. A. Valadez Pvt. J. S. Wehrhahn Pvt. Z. Wenzel Pvt. J. R. Williams Pvt. B. T. Wilson Pvt. C. R. Wolfe Pvt. C. R. Wurdelman</p> <p>PLATOON 2115 Pvt. B. A. Abbott Pfc. D. Aguilar *Pfc. R. A. Aguilar Pvt. C. A. Althouse Pvt. A. Alvarez-Carrion Pvt. A. L. Barnett Pvt. D. L. Barnett Pfc. C. T. Barry Pvt. M. C. Day Pfc. T. J. DeHerrera Pvt. B. S. Dierks *Pfc. B. M. Dillard Pvt. D. W. Dishong Pvt. D. H. Engelbrecht Pfc. J. K. Epperly Pvt. S. A. Esparza III Pvt. N. W. Evans Pvt. C. R. Fandrey</p>	<p>Pvt. M. A. Flores Pvt. J. R. Forrest *Pfc. P. R. Freeman Pvt. J. L. Fuller Lance Cpl. E. Garcia Pfc. S. E. Garland Pvt. T. E. Gorbey Pfc. M. P. Govea Pvt. J. W. Hale Pvt. M. J. Haney Jr. Pvt. N. J. Hines *Pfc. G. A. Hitchcock Jr. Pvt. B. J. Houston Pfc. D. A. Hudson Jr. Pvt. J. C. Ibarra Pvt. E. G. Islas Pvt. A. W. Johnson Pvt. P. L. Jones Pvt. J. A. Lane Pvt. J. D. Lesane Pvt. C. J. Lewis Pfc. M. B. Lin Pvt. V. M. Lopez-Vega Pvt. P. B. Lussong Pvt. C. J. Martin *Pfc. J. K. Mashore Pfc. S. C. Mason Pvt. N. D. McCarthy Pvt. O. Medina Pvt. S. R. Mendoza Pvt. K. A. Mohr Pfc. L. F. Montenegro-Lozano Pfc. E. B. Owrey Pvt. T. O. Palmer Jr. Pvt. D. P. Pflughaupt Pfc. E. Pineda Pvt. C. B. Price Pvt. C. J. Prisk Pvt. N. J. Rian Pvt. C. A. Ruff Pvt. D. C. Russell Pvt. A. M. Salamanca Pvt. A. M. Sanchez Pvt. B. D. Schmidt Pvt. A. M. Shine Pvt. A. J. Shomette Pfc. J. B. Simms Pfc. J. J. Sique Pfc. C. L. Sorensen Pfc. B. J. Soto Pvt. J. H. Stewart Pfc. D. T. Surritte Pvt. J. N. Symonias Pvt. R. A. Thomas Pvt. D. K. Tinsley Pfc. J. N. Torres Pvt. R. J. Tosso Pfc. E. Villegas Pvt. M. J. Wallace Pfc. Z. B. Watkins</p> <p>PLATOON 2116 Pvt. E. J. Abert Pfc. J. J. Adibayzidi Pfc. C. O. Alvidrez Pvt. J. S. Ashby Pvt. A. H. Bain Pvt. J. M. Barrows *Pfc. A. M. Beach Pvt. E. J. Benham Pvt. C. A. Blanford Pvt. D. D. Bonzer Pfc. K. T. Bourgeois Pvt. A. M. Bowman-Stanley Pvt. C. A. Bradshaw Pvt. S. P. Branch</p>	<p>Pvt. S. D. Bredwell Pvt. B. K. Brockman Pvt. E. J. Candelaria Pvt. A. J. Carter Pfc. D. Cervantes Pvt. C. L. Chamberlain Pfc. K. W. Christman Pvt. S. Cocone *Pfc. R. B. Coleman Pvt. N. J. Cook Pvt. M. J. Cooper Pvt. S. A. Copeland Pvt. M. D. Cortes Pvt. J. D. Coulson Pfc. D. N. Crook Pvt. C. S. Culver Pfc. J. P. Daline Pvt. B. E. Dameron Pfc. D. J. Davis Pvt. D. L. Dixon Pfc. J. T. Douthit Pfc. J. C. Dye Pvt. M. R. Elliott Pfc. D. G. Endicott Pfc. J. R. Estrella Pvt. C. L. Farris *Pfc. S. V. Felici Pvt. C. N. Figueroa Pvt. K. A. Fisher Pvt. T. C. Ford Pfc. J. A. Fransens Pfc. J. D. Gold Pvt. E. L. Gonzalez Pfc. R. C. Good Pvt. S. S. Grant Pfc. J. Gutierrez Pvt. R. E. Haggard Pfc. D. J. Harold Pvt. N. J. Hart *Pfc. Z. D. Head Pfc. K. E. Hiner Pfc. B. I. Hosford Pfc. D. J. Hovas *Pfc. M. H. Hudson Pvt. A. C. Hurst Pfc. C. D. James Pfc. W. M. Jenkins Pfc. B. B. Johnston Pvt. D. S. Kennedy Pvt. J. A. Knight Pfc. A. S. Koch Pvt. C. S. Lambie Pvt. C. A. Langevin Pvt. E. Lavalle Pvt. J. H. Lawson Pvt. D. J. Leher Pfc. S. Lor Pfc. M. B. Lucas Pvt. C. A. Maples Pvt. J. A. Marciano-Lopez Pfc. C. R. Martinez Pfc. C. W. McDonald Pvt. P. G. McMunn Pvt. J. L. Meehan Pvt. M. S. Mehlhoff Pvt. A. Mendoza Pvt. R. S. Meyer Pvt. S. J. Morrell Pvt. A. J. Navarro-Neeper Pvt. D. R. Neal Pvt. L. E. Salazar Jr. Pvt. J. J. Valdez Pfc. M. Valles-Mezquita</p>
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Girls get down, dirty for powder puff tournament

BY CPL. KRISTIN E. MORENO
Chevron staff

Donned in flags instead of pads, powder-puff football prepares to take to the gridiron for another year of gut-wrenching good humor and good times.

These athletes may appear sweet and innocent, but don't be deceived. Their seemingly subdued demeanor is enough to crush coal into diamonds and, given witness to one game, spectators' preconceptions will change with the snap of the first ball.

Although the tournament is still three weeks away, the Headquarters and Service Battalion powder puffs are already hitting the field for practice. As defending champions, they're not taking this tournament lightly, refusing to underestimate any team that may step up to that line of scrimmage.

The two-day tournament will take place aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego Oct. 18-19.

New this year, the depot champion will proceed the following day to compete in a tournament aboard Marine Corps Air Station Miramar against the Miramar and Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton powder-puff football victors in an attempt to claim the tri-base championship title and ultimate bragging rights, making the victory all the much sweeter.

"There's a lot of potential on the team, so there shouldn't be any reason why we can't pick up (the fundamentals) quickly and come out with the title," said Cpl. Marisella Martinez, safety and returning player for H&S Bn.

Martinez said their biggest weakness is just getting down the plays due to the inexperience on the team; however, their ability to keep on their toes will prove beneficial in the long run and hopefully put them in the front.

During practices, the team primarily focuses on fundamental skills, such as blocking and pitching the ball, but they also run offensive plays and scrimmages to get a feel for what a real, fast-paced game is like.

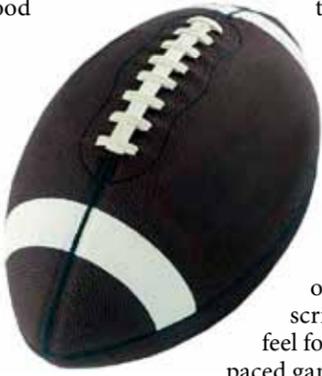
Most football players wear layers of pads for protection, but powder puff girls only need one form of protection and that is a stiff arm to the opponents face as they zig and zag to the promise land for six.

"Anxiety will be the biggest challenge," said Cpl. Shanaya Samuel, offensive lineman and returning player for H&S Bn. "Usually we just play within the depot, but the winning team will compete against Miramar and Pendleton, so that's a lot of added pressure."

Samuel said relieving tension will be a key to their success. They must remind themselves that although they're in it to win it, they'll have one up on the other teams if they learn to relax, communicate and have fun.

Service members are encouraged to come out and support the unit teams in the tournament and see firsthand that it's not just a game of "powder puff." Spectators are assured they will see plenty of aggression on the field and even get some good laughs out of the outrageous plays that are bound to occur.

"Because it's called powder puff they think that it's not tough, but it is," said Martinez. "It's not a cutesy game. It's football."



Cpl. Kristin E. Moreno

Sgt. Keonaona Paulo, quarterback for the Headquarters and Service Battalion powder puff football team, receives a snap during practice Monday from coach 1st Sgt. Charles Callahan. H&S, won the championship last year and is preparing to defend that title again this year.

MARRIAGE ◀ 1

focus on their marriage.

This was done to ensure the couples felt comfortable and enjoyed the time they had to work on their marriages, explained James Stewart, MCFTB life skills coach and class instructor.

"We're giving couples a set of tools for those problems we know will come up in a marriage," said Stewart.

At the beginning of class a clip from the movie "Fireproof" was shown as an example of how arguments can escalate. The scene showed a couple go from a small disagreement to questioning their marriage. This clip was used as a recurring example throughout the class and couples were able to offer suggestions on how things could have gone differently.

"It's about the dynamics of communicating effectively and discovering each other," said Stewart.

The class focused on how couples can have a healthy marriage through better communication with each other and how to recognize danger signs.

"Every marriage starts out with good intentions but then complications come up," said Brown. "Marriage takes a lot of work, a lot of forgiveness."

Stewart, who has been married 30 years, knows firsthand the difficulties that can arise in ones marriage. It's about the dynamics of communicating effectively and discovering each other, Stewart explained.

"Not every relationship is perfect, not every problem can be solved," said Stewart. "Ask yourself 'Is this situation bigger than my marriage?'"

Throughout the class, the couples referred to workbooks and activities to learn more about each other and their relationship as a whole. Some workbook pages included listing the things they appreciate about their partner and why those things matter to them. After each entry was filled out the workbooks were passed to their partners so they could understand the other person better.

The couples also had the choice to share some of their

workbook entries with the class. Although this type of participation was encouraged in order to get to know other couples and share their experiences, it wasn't a requirement.

"The class had a lot of information. I learned how to have a different perspective on things and how to approach them," said Sgt. Lee Yuen, drill instructor, Company H, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, who has been married for six years. "The most important thing in a marriage is to understand what is being talked about and not assuming or misinterpreting."

Although a Power Point presentation accompanied the

class, the instructors only used it to highlight key points and for visual aids. Instructors used examples, both hypothetical and from their own marriages, to explain situations and how to resolve issues.

Staff Sgt. Adrian N. Cardenas, drill instructor, Company F, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion and his wife Jennie have been married for 11 years and have six children, four girls and two boys. They both learned ways to strengthen their marriage taking this class.

"It was very eye-opening. (The class) exposed some of our faults and things we need to work on that we weren't aware of," said Cardenas.



Lance Cpl. Eric Quintanilla

Lt. Stephen Brown, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion chaplain, speaks to a room of Marines and their spouses during a Prevention and Relationship Enhancement Program class aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego Monday. The four-hour class is offered four times a year aboard the depot.