

G1 keeps CG's Cup Wallyball title
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Marine Corps marks 236 years of service to America

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Co. G recruits earn the title Marine on Corps' 236th birthday



Sgt. Cristina N. Porras

A new Marine from Co. G holds the eagle, globe and anchor during an emblem ceremony at Weapons Field Training Battalion Nov. 10. During the emblem ceremony, 583 recruits received the coveted emblem from their drill instructors and were called 'Marines' for the first time after completing the final test of recruit training, the Crucible.

by Sgt. Cristina N. Porras
Chevron staff

Every year Marines around the world gather to celebrate the birth of the Corps and reflect on the legacy those men and women before them have left behind.

Company G, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, Recruit Training Regiment marked the 236 Marine Corps birthday with a milestone of their own.

More than 500 Company G recruits completed the Crucible, the final test of their 12-week journey, and were called "Marines" for the first time during an emblem ceremony at Weapons Field Training Battalion Nov. 10.

"This doesn't happen often, so these Marines can feel a greater sense of accomplishment and feel what the Marine Corps birthday is about," said Sgt.

Justen Greidanus, Co. G drill instructor.

Dozens of spectators watched as 1st Sgt. Robert Ixtlahuac congratulated the new Marines and urged them to uphold Marine Corps history.

"Golf Company, you've all proven that you deserve to be among America's warrior elite," said Ixtlahuac. "You've all earned the title 'Marine.'"

Drill instructors then placed the eagle, globe and anchor in each recruit's hands, symbolizing their transformation from recruits to U.S. Marines. For the first time in 12 weeks, drill instructors weren't screaming at the men. Instead, drill instructors offered the new Marines advice to use during their time in the Corps and reminded them never to forget

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Des Moines area Marine recruiters save veteran's life, on Veteran's Day

BY SGT. WAYNE C. EDMISTON
RS Des Moines

Waukee, Iowa – Master Sgt. Aaron Kerley and Staff Sgt. Jason Atherton, Des Moines, Iowa, area Marine Corps recruiters, used CPR to rescue a man suffering from a heart attack in the Waukee, Iowa, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post, Nov. 11.

The victim, Ty Perry, is a 46 year-old retired Army sergeant first class.

At approximately 10:30 a.m., Kerley and Atherton went to the Waukee VFW to shake hands with local veterans and assist in a flag raising ceremony for Veteran's Day. Following the ceremony the Marines were invited to a restaurant next door for a celebratory meal.

Perry, already present in the cafe,

shook hands with the Marines and wished them a Happy Veteran's Day. A few minutes later Perry fell to the floor and lost consciousness. Kerley ran to the man's aid and directed Atherton to alert 9-1-1. Kerley, assessing vital signs, noticed that Perry was not breathing and had a weak pulse.

Kerley began CPR while Atherton went outside to for assistance. He flagged down Waukee Police Officer Jeremy Long, who helped with the CPR until paramedics arrived.

Perry was taken to Methodist Hospital in Des Moines, Iowa where he is currently in stable condition. Both Perry's family and the hospital staff cardiologist credited Kerley and Atherton's actions as being instrumental to saving Perry's life.

Montford Point dedication



Sgt. Cristina N. Porras

Col. Christopher Dowling, center, commanding officer, Weapons Field Training Bn., Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif., reads an excerpt from a new obstacle on the Crucible dedicated to the Montford Point Marines, Nov. 10. Seven of the original Montford Point Marines attended the dedication. When President Franklin D. Roosevelt ordered an end to discrimination in the military in 1941, African-American men volunteered to serve in the Corps and trained at Montford Point, Camp Lejeune, N.C.

Class helps couples 'stop treading water,' keep sailing together through life

BY LANCE CPL. KATALYNN RODGERS
Chevron Staff

Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego's Family Team Building and Behavioral Health Services held a couples resiliency workshop Oct. 29.

"We face a lot of challenges as military couples," said Tracy Genica, Marine Corps Family Team Building trainer. "It's a little harder than the average civilian couple, we face deployments and separations."

This class gave couples tools to revitalize their relationships whether they've been married for several years or in the dating stages of their relationships.

"My wife really enjoyed the class," said Staff Sgt. Bryan Rivas, drill instructor, Company B, 1st Recruit Training Battalion. "She believes it will be really helpful for our relationship."

There were five venues set up. Each venue had different themes and messages for couples to take away and apply to their relationships.

These classes consist of a little bit of everything

that couples can take away for their tool box and apply to their relationships, said Genica.

"This class gave us new tools to be able to communicate better as a couple," said Rivas.

The first venue was called "Fun and Friendship." The goal of this venue was for people to understand an important part of a healthy marriage is keeping fun and friendship in their relationship.

Venue two was "Finding Those Connections," which helped couples maintain connections with their spouse.

"In a busy world with hectic schedules we have to make the time and spend the effort to make and maintain meaningful connections with our spouse," said Genica.

Venue three was themed like a couple's life was a journey on a ship and was called "Charting the Course."

Each couple was given a sheet of paper to relate the following categories to their relationship: set

see **COUPLES** ▶ 2



Lance Cpl. Katalynn Rodgers

Couples went through five different venues while attending Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego's Family Team Building and Behavioral Health Services couples resiliency class, Underwater Romance Oct. 28. When couples reached Venue One, they learned about fun and friendship. The goal of this venue was for people to understand an important part of a healthy marriage is keeping fun and friendship in their relationship.

Navy League Awards luncheon

Brig. Gen. Daniel D. Yoo, Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego/Western Recruiting Region commanding general, right, presents the 2011 Recruiter of the Year Award to Sgt. Carlos F. Hernandez from Recruiting Station San Diego during the 2011 Navy League Marine Corps Birthday Luncheon. Other awards presented included 2011 Drill Instructor of the Year, Staff Sergeant Jimmy F. Richard Jr., 2011 Aviation Marine of the Year, Staff Sgt. Bart C. Smith, 2011 Reservist of the Year, Cpl. Marvin E. Umana and 2011 Hospital Corpsman of the Year, Petty Officer 1st Class Brandon Jackson. Businesses in the San Diego area showed their appreciation and sponsored the event, inviting more than 50 Marines and Sailors from Southern California units to attend the event.



Sgt. Cristina N. Porras

COUPLES ◀ 1

ting sail, getting our "sea legs," anchor watch, dropping anchor, ports of call, view from the crow's nest and loot.

Under setting sail, couples were to recall how they met and began dating, writing down the things they had to adjust to about their partner and how they worked out their everyday routine together.

Anchor watch was where couples had to recall what moment led them to believe their partner was the one they wanted to be with forever. Dropping Anchor was how they came to be a married couple. The ports of call category was their major life-changing decisions together.

The view from the crow's nest is where they think about their future together and what they expect to happen. Finally the loot represented things they treasure doing together.

"I am not afraid of storms," said Patricia Kalaye, L.I.N.K.S. trainer, Family Team Building, about rough patches during relationships. "I'm learning how to sail my ship."

The goal of this venue was to show couples that they have a history, present and future together and that marriage is a journey they share.

Venue four was "Spice up your Relationship," with this venue couples learned different types of communications and that good communication is key to a healthy relationship.

One form of communication that was really focused on was active listening. This is where someone gives their partner their undivided attention and really listens to what they have to say.

They also outlined some things that could make a marriage more difficult, like poor communication, unrealistic expectations, resentments, money problems, deployment or job demands, day to day routines, blaming, shaming, name-calling, not handling disagreements as a team, intimacy concerns and in-laws.

They also gave some ways to battle

these situations that are used in conjunction with active listening.

Couples were to communicate the favorite things their partners do on occasion, or what they would like them to do. They were to focus on the small things that build their relationship. Then they were to pick one thing they could do for their partner next week, and discuss one that they could do together.

Venue five was called "Journey Jars." Couples were given a mason jar that had strips of paper inside with prompts couples answered in a journal. The prompts had things like, "my most favorite moment when we were first starting out was..."

This venue enabled couples to learn how to stay connected through journaling. In military marriages, couples are often unable to be together and miss out on each other's lives. One way they can keep a connection during their separation is through a daily journal.

"Preserve your memories, seal them up well," read a quote on the journey jars

couples were given. "What you forget, you can never re-tell. But a journal that's kept fresh on the shelf will help someone through rough times, maybe even yourself."

These venues gave couples hand-outs to help with their relationship and also provided the right place to spark important conversations.

"This provides couples an environment to talk about these topics," said Genica. "You won't be sitting at home, watching TV and say, 'you know what's important, having fun and friendship in your relationship.'"

Each couple may suffer from different situations, but these classes are here to help them.

"Our command believes that it's important to have strong relationships while on the drill field," said Staff Sgt. Robert Phelan, drill instructor, Co. B, 1st RTBN. "They give us chances like these to strengthen our relationships with our wives."



Lance Cpl. Katalynn Rodgers

Staff Sgt. Robert Phelan, drill instructor, Company B, 1st Recruit Training Battalion and his wife, Kerry, talk to each other during a couples resiliency class Oct. 28. The purpose of the class was help couples understand the importance of communication to maintain a healthy relationship. One form of communication that was really focused on was called active listening, this is where someone gives their partner their undivided attention and truly listens to what they have to say.

CELEBRATES ◀ 1

what they had just accomplished.

"It's a feeling of overwhelming joy to be able to become a Marine today," said Pvt. Jace A. Pido, a new Co. G Marine. "This means I'm becoming part of a new generation. It's just a great feeling."

Members of the Montford Point Marine Association watched as the transforma-

tion took place.

These Marines were the first African-American men to serve in the Corps when President Franklin D. Roosevelt ended discrimination in the armed forces.

Still, they were segregated from other Marines and trained at a facility at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina known as Montford Point.

"Marines today talk about the Marines of the past; of

the great things they've done. But standing here today, I can tell you the Marines of today have fit the groove perfectly," said Robert D. Reid, one of the seven original Montford Point Marines. "They have just as much tenacity and they're just as vicious as Marines of the past."

After a few tears of joy and a flurry of emotions, Co. G sang the Marines Hymn for the first time as U.S. Marines

then joined the Montford Point Marines in birthday celebrations including a cake cutting ceremony and the reading of Gen. John A. Lejeune's birthday message.

"My brother's a Marine and this is something I've always wanted to do," said Pvt. Justin L. McCard, Co. G, 2nd RTBn., RTR. "It made me feel proud standing up there, especially on the Marine Corps birth-

BRIEFS

USO Holiday Concert

The MCRD band will join the Lucky Diaz and the Family Jam Band in performance at the 20th annual USO Holiday Concert at the Balboa Theater tomorrow from 2 until 4 p.m.

The theater is at 868 4th Ave. This concert is free and open to the public.

Those who wish to help support the USO's holiday program may donate a new, unwrapped children's gift suitable for ages 1 through 12.

Turkey Trot

MCCS Semper Fit will host the 2011 Turkey Trot 5K Run tomorrow at the parking lot between the Fitness Center and Recreation Center.

The race begins at 1 p.m. The Turkey Trot is free to all authorized patrons with a proper ID. Registration fee is \$10 per guest and participants may register online at mccsmcrd.com. Sign-up on race day begins at 10:30 a.m.

For more information contact Diana Vuong, Semper Fit administrative assistant at (619) 524-8083 or via e-mail at vuongd@usmc-mccs.org.

Seau's Thanksgiving Lunch

Depot single and unaccompanied service members are invited to a free Thanksgiving lunch at Seau's Restaurant in Mission Valley Thursday.

Round-trip transportation will be provided. Space is limited so sign up today.

For information, contact Diana Vuong, Semper Fit Administrative Assistant at (619) 524-8083 or via e-mail at vuongd@usmc-mccs.org.

Thanksgiving gate hours

Gate 5

Closed at 6 p.m. Nov. 23; reopens 6 a.m. Nov. 28. (Oversized vehicles can call ahead and PMO will open this gate).

Gate 2

Closed at 6 p.m. Nov. 23; open from 5 a.m. to 5 p.m. Nov. 25

Closed Nov. 26

Opens for normal operation Nov. 27, 6 a.m.

Gate 4

Remains open.

For information contact the desk sergeant at (619) 524-4202.

Tuition assistance revised

Marine Corps Tuition Assistance funding provisions for FY12 have been revised to the following funding limits:

- Fiscal Year TA limit per individual Marine: \$4500.
- TA Cap per credit unit:
 - \$250.00 per semester hour for undergraduate.
 - \$250.00 per semester hour for graduate.
 - \$166.67 per quarter hour for undergraduate.
 - \$16.67 per clock hour for certificate/vocational program.

Marines who had TA requests processed prior to Oct. 26 need to request a revised TA voucher to avoid paying the student share.

For additional information contact the Education Office at (619) 524-1275 or 8158, or go to Building 14 between 7:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

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 is your favorite part of the Thanksgiving meal?"



"The mashed potatoes because they taste better than anything else." Lance Cpl. Bradely Duarte, finance clerk, Service Company, Headquarters and Service Battalion



"Deep-fried turkey, it's a Southern tradition and tastes great." Sgt. Wayne A. Rudisill, student, Recruiter School



"Ham, because I find it ironic that I love ham." Cpl. Eric Hamm, diary noncommissioned officer, Recruit Training Regiment



"The dressing and gravy with turkey has the perfect taste." Staff Sgt. Blaine Hallmark, student, Recruiter School



Cpl. Justin M. Boling

A Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 363 CH-53D Sea Stallion provides movement of ground troops and cargo throughout Helmand province, Afghanistan, Nov. 1. The CH-53D Sea Stallion has transported Marine and their cargo for more than 40 years.

Squadron flies final Afghanistan tour with Vietnam-era helicopter

BY CPL. JUSTIN M. BOLING
2nd Marine Aircraft Wing (Fwd)

CAMP BASTION, Afghanistan – The CH-53D Sea Stallion has been serving the Marine Corps since the Vietnam War. Today, Marines still rely on this gray, school bus-sized helicopter.

One of the last squadrons to use them, Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 363 began flying the Sea Stallion in January 1969. In Afghanistan, the squadron flies these aircraft with 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing (Forward).

"It is a good aircraft that has performed very well," said Lt. Col. Mark Revor, the commanding officer of Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 363.

"Our mission out here is assault support," added Revor, from Apple Valley, Minn. "Our aircraft support the movement of equipment, cargo and combat troops throughout the battlefield."

Many of the CH-53D Sea Stallions flying Afghanistan today also flew in Vietnam, said Master Sgt. Jason Vernam. Vernam, from Stafford, Va., said he has 15 years experience in the CH-53D Sea Stallion community and is currently serving as an advisor for 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing (Forward) maintenance operations.

"There is nothing that out flies it," said Gunnery Sgt. Travis Riddick, the squadron's quality assurance chief, and a CH-53D Sea Stallion crew chief. "For everything the Marine Corps



Cpl. Justin M. Boling

Cpl. Aaron Byard watches the Afghan landscape behind a .50-caliber machine gun mounted on the CH-53D Sea Stallion, Nov. 2. Byard, of Akron, Ohio, works as an aerial observer with Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 363 currently deployed to Camp Bastion Afghanistan.

has put into this helicopter, we have gotten ten times out of it."

The Sea Stallion serves as a rotary-wing workhorse for 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing (Forward). The Wing is the aviation combat element for the southwestern regional command of the NATO International Security Assistance Force in Afghanistan.

"As a conventional helicopter, its mission is well suited for this environment," said Revor. "The short leg flights to lots of [forward operating bases] carrying a fair

amount of cargo is no problem with the engines on this thing.

"It is still a 40-year-old airframe though, and I have had a lot of good memories flying it," said Revor.

The Marine Corps is phasing out the aging CH-53D platform. Some Sea Stallion squadrons will begin flying the newer, more powerful CH-53E Super Stallion, while others will transfer to the MV-22B Osprey tiltrotor aircraft.

At the end of their deployment to Afghanistan

Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 363 will leave their Sea Stallions behind and transition to the MV-22B Osprey becoming Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 363.

"Knowing this is our last deployment with our aircraft, and as a squadron, gives it a historical perspective," said Revor. "We are working hard regardless if it is the first time or the last time we fly this aircraft."



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Lance Cpl. Eric Quintanilla

Recruits and their drill instructors aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego bow their heads during the benediction of the depot's annual cake cutting ceremony Nov. 10. The ceremony was part of a week-long series of events that celebrated the Marine Corps' 236th birthday.

Depot celebrates Corps' 236th birthday with history, tradition

BY LANCE CPL. KATALYNN RODGERS
Chevron Staff

Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego celebrated the 236th Marine Corps Birthday with a week-long series of events.

Celebrations included a cake cutting ceremony, uniform pageant, dedication run and birthday ball.

In 1952, Gen. Lemuel C. Shepherd Jr., the 20th commandant of the Marine Corps formalized a directive written by Lt. Gen. John A. Lejuene, the 13th commandant, as a reminder of the Corps' birth to all Marines. Shepherd is responsible for formalizing the cake cutting ceremony Marines know today.

As a precursor to the birthday, Marines aboard the depot ran one mile for every year the Marine Corps has existed.

Every ten minutes, a Marine ran a lap around the depot's parade deck carrying the depot guidon.

Brig. Gen. Daniel D. Yoo, commanding general of MCRD and the Western Recruiting Region and other depot leadership began the run at 4:20 p.m. Nov. 8, running the first three miles. For the last three miles of the run, all depot Marines formed in battalions and ran the last stretch Nov. 10.

"We took a short 236 mile jaunt," said Yoo "I believe that the dedication run is a great

way to ring in our birthday." After the run, active duty and retired Marines, and other guests gathered at Shepherd Memorial Drill Field for the annual cake cutting ceremony and uniform pageant.

"It makes me happy to be part of this tradition," said Cpl. Fatemeh Carradine, a cake escort for the ceremony, "I feel honored to be an escort for the most important part of this ceremony." Carradine is a postal clerk with Headquarters Company, Headquarters and Service Battalion.

The ceremony was a chance for active duty Marines and retirees to get together and celebrate 236 years of Marine Corps traditions and history.

"This is our day to get together and celebrate," said retired Master Gunnery Sgt. Jake Tyseling from Lakeside, Calif. "The Corps has always been kind

to me, and I had been in for 30 years. Today's Corps is absolutely wonderful, they are doing a fine job."

Depot Marines stood in formation as fellow Marines displayed historic Marine Corps uniforms - from the modern Marine Corps combat utility uniform to the leather-necked style of the revolutionary war.

Lt. Gen. John A. Lejuene's birthday message was read followed by Gen. James F. Amos' 2011 birthday message.

"Since the Continental Congress created two battalions of Marines 236 years ago, our legacy as an ever-ready, ever capable, victory producing organization remains intact," wrote Amos in his birthday message. "Our rich heritage of selfless service and fidelity to nation and to one another lives on in all who currently wear the Eagle, Globe and Anchor - those who have answered the clarion call to duty with remarkable courage, dedication and

unshakable resolve that Marines are so well known for. To all Marines - past and present - and especially to our families, I extend my deep gratitude for all you have done and all you continue to do."

Yoo followed Amos' speech with his own remarks and said the birthday gives Marines the chance to reflect, renew and reinforce what it means to be a Marine.

"This Marine Corps Birthday, for many, is their first," said Yoo. "I'd like to tell the recruits in attendance to pay really close attention because this ceremony is like a window into the soul of who we are as Marines."

The traditional cake cutting ceremony followed. The birthday cake is cut with a sword to

remind Marines they are a band of warriors and committed to carry the sword so that the nation may live in peace.

The first piece of cake was given to the oldest Marine aboard the depot, Col. Robert W. Gates, Chief of Staff MCRD and WRR. He was born December 11, 1961 and commissioned April 21, 1980. After taking a bite of cake he then passed the piece of cake to the youngest Marine aboard MCRD, Pvt. Shawn P. Horn, Basic Marine Platoon, Support Battalion, Recruit Training Regiment. He was born August 9, 1993 and enlisted June 27, 2011.

The passing of the birthday cake from oldest to youngest symbolizes the old and experienced Marines passing their knowledge to the new generation of Marines.

Yoo reminded the audience of Marines around the world celebrating the day - even those in harm's way.

"There will be

Marines all over the globe celebrating," said Yoo. "It may not be as formal as here, it may be just two Marines raising a glass together or a squad of Marines and their corpsman in Afghanistan slicing a piece of pound cake from a (meal ready to eat)."

After the ceremony, attendees were invited to each lunch at Duncan Hall for the traditional Marine Corps birthday meal. Guests were treated to a steak and lobster meal and received a piece of birthday cake.

"As we celebrate our 236th birthday, let us look forward to future challenges whatever they may be," wrote Amos. "And reaffirm our pledge to be America's premier crisis response force, to be the first to fight. Always ready for the toughest and most challenging assignments."



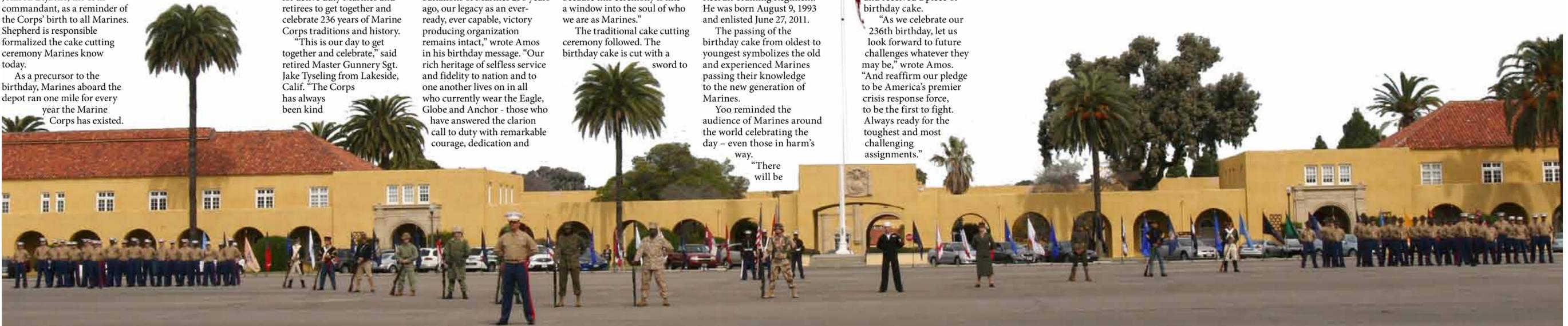
Lance Cpl. Crystal Druey

Marines march into position during the uniform pageant Nov. 10. The pageant displayed the Corps' history throughout the past 236 years. The uniforms were donated from the command museum MCRD San Diego dating back to 1775. As each uniform was presented, a narrator announced historical facts from the era in which the uniform was used.



Lance Cpl. Katalynn Rodgers

Marines from Support Battalion, Recruit Training Regiment, run in formation during the last three miles of the dedication run Nov. 10. The dedication run was a 236-mile run where Marines, as individuals or small groups, run one mile for every year the Marine Corps has existed. Nearly every Marine and sailor aboard the depot formed up into their respective units to run the last three of the 236 miles, which was led by Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego and Western Recruiting Region's commanding general, Brig. Gen. Daniel D. Yoo.



Lance Cpl. Crystal Druey

Marines display uniforms from different eras during the uniform pageant Nov. 10 for Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego's 236th Marine Corps birthday celebration. The uniforms were provided by the Command Museum MCRD San Diego and date as far back as 1775.

President thanks service members, vets during San Diego carrier classic

BY JIM GARAMONE
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – The commander-in-chief caught a basketball game along with more than 8,000 of his closest friends aboard a U.S. aircraft carrier in San Diego last night.

President Barack Obama and more than 8,000 sailors, Marines and veterans watched the kick-off of the National Collegiate Athletic Association college hoops season aboard the USS Carl Vinson.

The president began the day with a breakfast with veterans at the White House and officiated at the national tribute to veterans at the Tomb of the Unknowns at Arlington National Cemetery, Va. He then flew to San Diego, where he attended the basketball game aboard the carrier before flying on to Hawaii to host the Asia-Pacific Economic Conference.

“The main reason we’re here is, on Veterans Day, we have an opportunity to say thank you,” Obama said to the crew and veterans aboard the carrier.

“One of the greatest privileges of this job, and one of the greatest responsibilities of this job, is to serve as your commander-in-chief. And I can tell you that every day when I interact with our military, every day when I interact with the men and women in uniform, I could not be prouder to be an American,” he said.

Now the country must serve veterans as well as they have served the country, the president said. “When they come home, part of the long line of those who defended our freedom, we have a sacred trust to make sure that they understand how much we appreciate what they do,” he told the crew.

“So to all our veterans, to all our men and women in uniform, we say thank you.”

But beyond that, Obama said



Seaman Apprentice Zachary Bell

President Barack Obama greets attendees to the Quicken Loans Carrier Classic basketball game on the flight deck of the aircraft carrier USS Carl Vinson (CVN 70) Nov. 11. The Carl Vinson hosted Michigan State University and the University of North Carolina for an NCAA basketball game.

Americans must understand the sacrifices service members and veterans have made and give them the opportunities they have earned. He noted initiatives already in place and others to come.

“We’ve put in place a series of reforms to help veterans, make sure they get the counseling and the job placement that they need,” the president said.

Obama touted the Joining Forces program led by his wife, Michelle, and Dr. Jill Biden,

wife of Vice President Joe Biden. That effort has now gotten commitments from businesses to provide 100,000 jobs for veterans and military spouses all across the country.

“But every American citizen can make a solemn pledge today that they will find some opportunity to provide support to our troops, to those who are still active duty, to our National Guard, to our reservists and to our veterans,” Obama said.

The flight deck of USS

Carl Vinson was an especially appropriate venue for last night’s basketball game. North Carolina and Michigan State – two storied NCAA teams – played on the same deck that launched some of the first sorties against Saddam Hussein’s Iraq and played a part in the mission to bring Osama bin Laden to justice.

Parts of the game were typical; basketball sportscaster Dick Vitale was on the mike, and UNC alumnus James Worthy and Michigan State great Earvin

“Magic” Johnson attended. The crowd did the wave and followed the action intently.

But parts of the game were distinctly different. There was no beer in the stands -- the Navy is dry afloat -- and the action stopped to lower the U.S. flag at sunset. Sitting in the stands was former Army Spec. John Baca, who received the Medal of Honor for heroism in Vietnam in 1970.

North Carolina won the game 67-55.

Sgt. Maj. James E. Booker

Parade Reviewing Officer

Sgt. Maj. James E. Booker was born in 1962 at the Navy submarine base in Groton, Conn. He enlisted in Fort Wayne, Ind., on Jan. 18, 1983, and graduated from recruit training in San Diego, Calif. He graduated from Infantry Training School as a basic infantryman.

Booker served with the 3rd Marine Division from August 1983 to August 1985 as a team leader and squad leader with the Sensor Control and Management Platoon.

Booker reported to 1st Battalion, 4th Marines, Twentynine Palms, Calif., where he served as a radar team leader and scout sniper from September 1985 to October 1986.

He reported to MCRD San Diego, serving as a junior and senior drill instructor from January 1987 to January 1989.

Booker reported to the First

Force Reconnaissance Company and served as platoon sergeant from February 1989 to May 1993.

Booker made two deployments to the Persian Gulf with I Marine Expeditionary Force, and the 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit in support of Operations Desert Storm, Desert Shield, Desert Stay, and Land Pakistani Forces in Somalia.

Booker served from May 1993 to February 1996 with I MEF Special Operations and Training Group in several billets.

These billets included staff noncommissioned officer in charge of Urban Reconnaissance & Surveillance, Urban Sniper Course, and Special Missions Branch.

He reported to the 1st Marine Division in February 1996 where he served as the SNCOIC of the 1st Marine Division Scout Sniper Course until April 1998.

Booker remained in the 1st Marine Division as first sergeant of India Company, 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines; deploying to the Persian Gulf and North Africa with the 15th MEU in support of Operation Southern Watch

and the U.S. Embassy bombing in Kenya.

From May 1999 until July 2002 Booker was the first sergeant of Inspector-Instructor Staff Ordinance Maintenance Company, Waco, Texas.

He returned to the 1st Marine Division in July 2002, and deployed with 5th Marine Regiment to Iraq in May 2003. He remained in the division as the sergeant major of 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines from June 2003 to October 2004, deploying

to Ar Ramadi, Iraq. He was the sergeant major of 3rd Assault Amphibian Battalion from December 2004 until September of 2005.

Booker served as the sergeant major of the Marine Artillery Detachment, Fort Sill, Okla., from October 2005 until February 2008. He reported to the 2nd Marine Division in March 2008 as the sergeant major of 6th Marine Regiment. Regimental Combat Team 6 deployed to Area of Operation East Iraq

from January until October of 2009. In May 2010 Booker reported to 4th Marine Logistics Group, New Orleans, La., where he served as sergeant major until he was selected to become sergeant major of Marine Forces Reserve/Marine Forces North, a billet he assumed in September 2011.

Booker’s personal awards include the Silver Star, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star with Combat V, and the Combat Action ribbon (second award).

“As the Marine Corps celebrated its 236 Birthday, you were in recruit training. You are now Marines. Our Commandant has made training and equipping our Marines for the current fight his priority. As your graduate today you are the future ranks of our Corps and the key to our Nations success on the current fight. Semper fi!”





Platoon 2151 COMPANY HONOR MAN Lance Cpl. C. Felix-Rangel Escalon, Calif. Recruited by Sgt. S. G. Reyes	Platoon 2156 SERIES HONOR MAN Lance Cpl. N. S. Bratcher Spokane, Wash. Recruited by Staff Sgt. J. F. Vela	Platoon 2149 PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. T. O. Duplessis Galena, Ill. Recruited by Cpl. S. Dundee	Platoon 2150 PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. J. A. Pido Seabrook, Texas Recruited by Sgt. E. C. Portillo	Platoon 2153 PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. K. A. Kasper Ionia, Mich. Recruited by Sgt. A. Velasquez	Platoon 2154 PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. J. W. Rottler Chino Hills, Calif. Recruited by Staff Sgt. B. J. Rigg	Platoon 2155 PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. C. C. Drenon Windsor, Mo. Recruited by Sgt. U. Russel	Platoon 2155 HIGH SHOOTER (338) Pvt. J. S. Zeller Katy, Texas Marksmanship Instructor Cpl. S. S. Point	Platoon 2156 HIGH PFT (300) Pfc. S. J. Garza Phoenix Recruited by Sgt. H. Orzco
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GOLF 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.



COMPANY G <i>Commanding Officer</i> Capt. S. L. Sandoval <i>Company First Sergeant</i> 1st Sgt. R. C. Ixtlahuac	SERIES 2149 <i>Series Commander</i> Capt. M. Franco <i>Chief Drill Instructor</i> Staff Sgt. G. C. Guevarra	PLATOON 2149 <i>Senior Drill Instructor</i> Sgt. V. A. Black <i>Drill Instructors</i> Sgt. R. C. Nishnic Sgt. J. A. Onello Sgt. D. C. Wald	PLATOON 2150 <i>Senior Drill Instructor</i> Staff Sgt. P. G. Sheedy <i>Drill Instructors</i> Sgt. J. A. Greidanus Sgt. B. W. Havenar	PLATOON 2151 <i>Senior Drill Instructor</i> Staff Sgt. D. P. Chavez <i>Drill Instructors</i> Sgt. J. A. Felix Sgt. M. A. Garcia
SERIES 2153 <i>Series Commander</i> Capt. M. J. Standafer <i>Chief Drill Instructor</i> Staff Sgt. C. D. Willis	PLATOON 2153 <i>Senior Drill Instructor</i> Sgt. R. M. Garcia-Lopez <i>Drill Instructors</i> Sgt. D. A. Ammeter Sgt. C. A. Sanchez Sgt. R. A. Velasquez	PLATOON 2154 <i>Senior Drill Instructor</i> Staff Sgt. J. W. Grundbacher <i>Drill Instructors</i> Staff Sgt. G. A. Hlodan Sgt. P. P. Peraza	PLATOON 2155 <i>Senior Drill Instructor</i> Staff Sgt. A. Glenn II <i>Drill Instructors</i> Sgt. D. C. Downing Sgt. J. J. Stepp	PLATOON 2156 <i>Senior Drill Instructor</i> Staff Sgt. R. E. Jackson <i>Drill Instructors</i> Staff Sgt. J. A. Arellano Staff Sgt. A. Navarro Sgt. J. Lugo Jr.

* Indicates Meritorious Promotion

PLATOON 2149 Pfc. J. M. Agregado Pvt. A. P. Alexander Pfc. E. T. Allstott Pvt. B. L. Almond Pvt. K. D. Baer Pvt. C. A. Belk Pfc. B. T. Berquist Pfc. B. R. Bexell Pfc. C. R. Boatman Pfc. G. D. Bonilla *Pfc. R. S. Burke Pvt. J. Cabadas Pvt. G. Cano-Lanuza Pvt. J. M. Chamberlain Pfc. C. W. Chambliss Pfc. S. R. Cheatham Pvt. D. L. Cramer Pvt. T. J. Crowe Pvt. T. H. Curtis Pvt. P. C. Dahlby Pvt. P. S. Devries Pvt. C. A. Dickinson Pfc. R. B. Dreyer Pvt. Z. E. Dull Pfc. J. B. Dunnigan *Pfc. T. O. Duplessis Pfc. S. J. Faraone Pvt. Z. S. Floyd *Pfc. R. Franco Jr. Pfc. O. K. Fuentes Pvt. A. Gamboa Jr. Pvt. P. Garcia Pvt. T. A. Gazarian Pfc. J. J. Girtz Pvt. K. L. Glenn Pvt. Z. A. Gormanson Pfc. J. A. Greig Pfc. K. L. Griffin Pvt. T. T. Ha Pvt. R. A. Hernandez *Pfc. R. G. Hernandez Pvt. T. Hinojosa IV Pvt. M. R. Hintz Pvt. Z. M. Hird Pvt. C. J. Hockey Pvt. J. Huertas Pvt. J. T. Hutchins Pfc. J. A. Imel Pvt. E. T. Inman Pvt. E. R. Jackson *Pfc. J. Jimenez Pfc. S. P. Johnson Pvt. J. J. Juaregui Pvt. E. L. Jurado Pvt. S. W. Karpowicz Pvt. S. K. Kimbrell Pvt. L. P. Koerner Pfc. J. D. Lande Pvt. B. L. Lang Pfc. C. J. Latscha Pfc. C. S. Laws Pfc. M. R. Lee Pvt. J. T. Lescarbeau Pvt. B. J. Lopez Pfc. E. J. Lopez *Pfc. J. J. McCart Pfc. W. M. McMullen Pfc. F. H. Mendoza Pfc. E. A. Menjivar Pvt. G. D. Meza Pfc. A. Mondragon-Marin Pvt. A. Montez Pvt. G. D. Moore Pvt. S. P. Morrison	Pfc. E. A. Sandoval Pvt. T. J. Simons Pvt. F. Torres Pvt. A. M. Tran PLATOON 2150 Pfc. J. T. Aman Pfc. S. M. Anthis Pfc. A. E. Arellano Pvt. A. I. Arellano Pvt. B. E. Arellano Pfc. R. N. Arellano Pfc. J. J. Arreola Pvt. P. M. Bodendieck Pvt. T. D. Bradford *Pfc. T. A. Bramblett Pvt. E. Brasher Pfc. J. C. Castillo Pvt. D. M. Christian Pvt. D. A. Clark Pvt. C. E. Clement Pvt. D. W. Coleman Pfc. B. J. Corder Pvt. M. M. Crawford Pvt. C. D. Daniels Pvt. B. T. Darling Pvt. R. D. Dascenzo Pvt. D. E. Detmer Pvt. M. G. Drotar Pvt. J. P. Figueroa Pfc. I. I. Gaitan Pvt. A. R. Garcia Pvt. E. M. Garcia Pvt. J. A. Garnica Pvt. A. Godina Pvt. J. Gonzalez Jr. Pvt. W. A. Goss *Pfc. M. Guardado Pvt. E. R. Guerra Pfc. J. E. Guzman Pfc. E. K. Hammons Pvt. E. A. Harris Pvt. M. R. Hawkins Pvt. G. L. Head Pvt. B. C. Hemauer Pvt. B. Hernandez Pvt. K. Hernandez Pvt. C. A. Hill Pfc. B. A. Hohle Pvt. P. A. Hughes Pvt. R. C. Huitt Pvt. S. B. Jennings Pvt. G. Q. Johnson-Jones Pvt. K. D. Jones Pvt. J. J. Karnes Pvt. B. C. Kleinlein Pvt. T. A. Kohler Pfc. T. E. Kruegel Pfc. A. L. Kunkle Pfc. A. J. Kutches *Pfc. J. E. Lepley Pfc. R. A. Luna Pvt. W. E. Marin Pfc. J. W. Marozick Pfc. A. J. Martin Pfc. D. J. Martinez Jr. *Pfc. J. L. McCard Pfc. J. M. McDaniel Pfc. K. D. McKnight Pfc. S. E. Mejia Pvt. W. T. Mickelson Pfc. J. Montenegro-Alcantar Pfc. J. D. Moore	Pvt. B. H. Morgan Pvt. B. T. Morrison Pfc. L. J. Mueller Pfc. A. L. Nelson Pvt. J. N. Ortega Pfc. S. A. Paradise Pvt. J. D. Parrish Pvt. R. Perez Pfc. M. J. Pesina Pvt. C. W. Phillippi *Pfc. J. A. Pido Pvt. A. L. Presmyk Pvt. P. L. Watkins Pvt. M. E. 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Osorio Pvt. A. Perez Pvt. A. M. Perez Pvt. H. E. Perez Pfc. E. T. Piefer Pvt. J. C. Ramirez	Pfc. B. J. Reil Pfc. F. G. Reynoso Pvt. A. E. Rios Pfc. D. L. Rodriguez-Vera Pvt. R. J. Rodriguez-Vera Pfc. T. A. Rogers Pvt. L. S. Ruiz Pvt. E. Sadeghian Pvt. J. B. Santos *Pfc. A. J. Scalia Pfc. M. D. Semple Pvt. G. Serrato Pvt. J. C. Sharpe Pfc. D. M. Smith *Pfc. M. R. Stevens Pvt. H. T. Swartz Pfc. M. A. Tate Pfc. A. Tien *Pfc. J. D. Tolliver Jr. Pvt. E. Toscano Pvt. J. K. Traxler Pvt. C. K. Trevino Pfc. T. B. Verde Pvt. L. A. Villa Pfc. M. L. Weant Pvt. G. D. Wells Pvt. J. R. Williams Pvt. M. A. Yarvinsky Pvt. K. Yuen Pfc. B. L. Zhang PLATOON 2153 Pfc. C. G. Amegian Pvt. J. A. Battle Pvt. P. J. Debenning Pvt. J. Durham Pfc. M. B. Gyr Pvt. M. A. Holmes Jr. Pvt. I. J. Honer Pvt. W. J. Irvine Pfc. J. C. James II Pvt. J. D. Johnson *Pfc. C. M. Jutila Pvt. J. M. Kangas Pfc. C. A. Kasper Pvt. E. P. Kerrigan Pvt. C. T. Killeen Pvt. T. D. Knight *Pfc. T. P. Knowles Pfc. Z. A. Komma Pfc. I. 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Caberto Pvt. E. H. Canizalez Pvt. J. R. Carley Pvt. J. Q. Castro Pvt. T. A. Chorenziak Pvt. R. W. Clark Pfc. J. W. Cobb Pvt. R. D. Condomitti Pfc. D. D. Cook Pvt. I. M. Corral *Pfc. S. O. Coverstone	Pfc. R. A. Depaoli *Pfc. C. C. Drenon Pvt. L. R. Drenon Pvt. A. R. Elam Pvt. C. A. Fitzpatrick Pvt. S. D. Foote Jr. Pvt. A. T. Frazier Pfc. J. L. Galloway Pvt. J. J. Garcia Pvt. J. E. Goff Pvt. C. S. Hammers Pfc. S. S. Himes Pvt. J. N. Hoeffler Pvt. T. J. Jacobs Pvt. R. A. Johnson Pvt. T. T. Johnson Pvt. S. C. Johnson Jr. Pfc. T. I. Jones Pvt. J. L. King Pvt. A. D. Kvapil Pvt. C. A. Langston Pfc. J. D. Longhurst Pvt. D. L. Magner Pvt. D. T. McCarver Pvt. S. M. McEvers Pvt. D. G. Miller *Pfc. C. A. Morales Pvt. J. P. Musgrove Pvt. P. L. Myers Pvt. J. Navarro Pvt. T. J. Nelson Pvt. N. A. Neumann Pvt. A. R. Newkirk Pfc. L. N. Ofarrill Pvt. L. C. Plunkett Pfc. P. D. Pope Pvt. A. R. Powell Pvt. T. J. Rappe Pvt. H. A. Reed Pvt. A. W. Reel Pvt. E. M. Reeves Pvt. T. P. Reilly Pfc. F. Reyes-Mandujano Pfc. I. K. Robbins Pvt. A. A. Robles Pfc. P. Rodriguez-Sanches Pvt. N. J. Schultz Pvt. T. W. Schurwanz Pvt. J. H. Soong Pfc. K. W. Steffany Pfc. M. A. Stopczynski Pfc. T. S. Sunday Pvt. B. G. Thomas *Pfc. J. A. Thomas Pvt. M. S. Titchenal Pfc. P. Vue Pvt. J. K. Wallace Pvt. J. T. Wallisa Pfc. E. W. White Pfc. S. A. Wilborn Pvt. J. S. Zeller PLATOON 2156 Pvt. J. G. Aguilar Pvt. B. P. Aloia III *Pfc. F. U. Andrade-Dominguez Pvt. A. Anguiano Pfc. M. D. Antuna Pvt. B. A. Barden Pfc. S. C. Bauer Pvt. E. M. Berry Pvt. C. D. Birkholz Pvt. R. A. Bonano	Pfc. R. S. Bork *Lance Cpl. N. S. Bratcher Pfc. R. T. Bratcher Pvt. M. W. Bryant Pvt. J. A. Burgos Pvt. J. C. Burke Pvt. B. S. Calovich Pvt. J. L. Carson Pvt. J. M. Cauvel Pvt. T. G. Cervantez Pfc. C. J. Collins Pvt. S. M. Connell Pvt. A. C. Contreras *Pfc. J. J. Deboer Pvt. V. Delgado Jr. Pvt. D. A. Diaz Pvt. C. S. Dupuis Pvt. G. S. Flores Pvt. H. A. Flores Pvt. A. C. Franklin Pvt. C. G. Galely *Pfc. S. J. Garza Pvt. V. Garza Pvt. A. D. Gatica Pvt. D. R. Geerlings Pvt. Z. M. Gerner Pvt. S. M. Gill Pvt. J. L. Gonzalez Pfc. M. A. Gonzalez Pfc. G. S. Green Pvt. K. E. Gribble Pvt. N. A. Hafley Pvt. C. E. Ham *Pfc. L. J. Hammer Pvt. B. O. Hammon Pfc. J. D. Hart Pfc. S. R. Hazen Pfc. I. Hernandez Pvt. S. H. Hernandez-Gargia Pvt. D. J. Hess Pvt. E. V. Ho Pfc. T. A. Jackson Jr. Pfc. E. D. Jamerson Jr. Pvt. B. W. Keeney *Pfc. A. J. Kerrill Pvt. T. J. Kuber Pvt. H. Kuzmanovski Pvt. J. M. Lackowski Pvt. C. D. Landers Jr. Pvt. D. F. Lauesen Pvt. J. W. Law Pvt. C. C. Lee Pvt. N. U. Lee Pvt. E. E. Lewis Pvt. D. B. Ligon Pvt. K. M. Metcalf III Pvt. T. R. Ourourke Pvt. I. M. Rickard Pfc. T. J. Rivera Pvt. J. W. Roberts Pvt. R. Romero Pfc. N. P. Rosillo Pvt. C. J. Salazar Pfc. A. A. Salomon Pvt. T. F. Sanchez Pfc. A. M. Sanford *Pfc. J. D. Scanlan Pvt. D. P. Schayphen Pfc. C. P. Serrano Pfc. J. A. Silonzochilt Pvt. A. Silva Pfc. W. O. Stevenson III Pfc. J. C. Welch
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G-1 wins fifth straight wallyball championship

BY LANCE CPL. CRYSTAL DRUERY
Chevron staff

As the reigning Commanding General's Cup wallyball champions for the last five years, G-1 upheld their legacy in this year's playoffs and championship games at the racquetball courts Nov. 2.

This year G-1 made up two of the teams in the wallyball league. Both bulldozed through the playoffs, bringing them head-to-head in a vicious battle for the 2011 championship title where G-1 A outclassed G-1 B 21-15.

G-1 B entered the championships with a 7-1 record and a hard charger, Lance Cpl. Ryan Armstrong, whose serves seemed to slice through the air.

"Lance Corporal Armstrong is the best wallyball server on the whole base probably--he really carries G-1 B," said Rich Myrick, depot adjutant.

Armstrong's efforts weren't enough to compete with G-1 A's continuous scoring off their own serves though.

Having an 8-0 record, G-1 A showed no mercy and made the championships no exception, spiking to score their first point only seconds into the game.

"If your serve is your attack then you can win anytime," said Myrick, one of G-1 A's hardest servers.

Rachel Dickinson, intramural sports coordinator, MCCS said a lot of teams are thrown together but G-1 A and B practiced wallyball together during physical training about three times a week.

This gave them confidence playing against one another since they knew each other's weaknesses and strengths. While knowing each other's skill levels helped both teams, it proved to be a disadvantage as well.

"We got too complacent because we practice

one another all the time," said Armstrong. "Our defense needed to be better."

Armstrong felt his team had a brain block during the first game of the championships. Knowing their heads weren't completely in the game Armstrong called a time out halfway through, hoping to get his team back on track.

Attempting to stun G-1 A, Cpl. John Cano set up the ball for Armstrong to spike over the net.

"If Cano doesn't set the ball for me, I won't hit it," said Armstrong.

G-1 B tried to re-claim the game and started racking up points, but it wasn't enough to win the game.

Since the champions were determined based on the best two out of three games, G-1 B had a second chance after being trampled 21-8 the first game.

"G-1 B lost the first game because they were playing sloppy since they focused all their efforts on the playoffs," said Dickinson. "They made some adjustments, but it was already too late."

Once again, only moments into the second game G-1 A served the ball hard, scoring the first point, but G-1 B gave it right back to them.

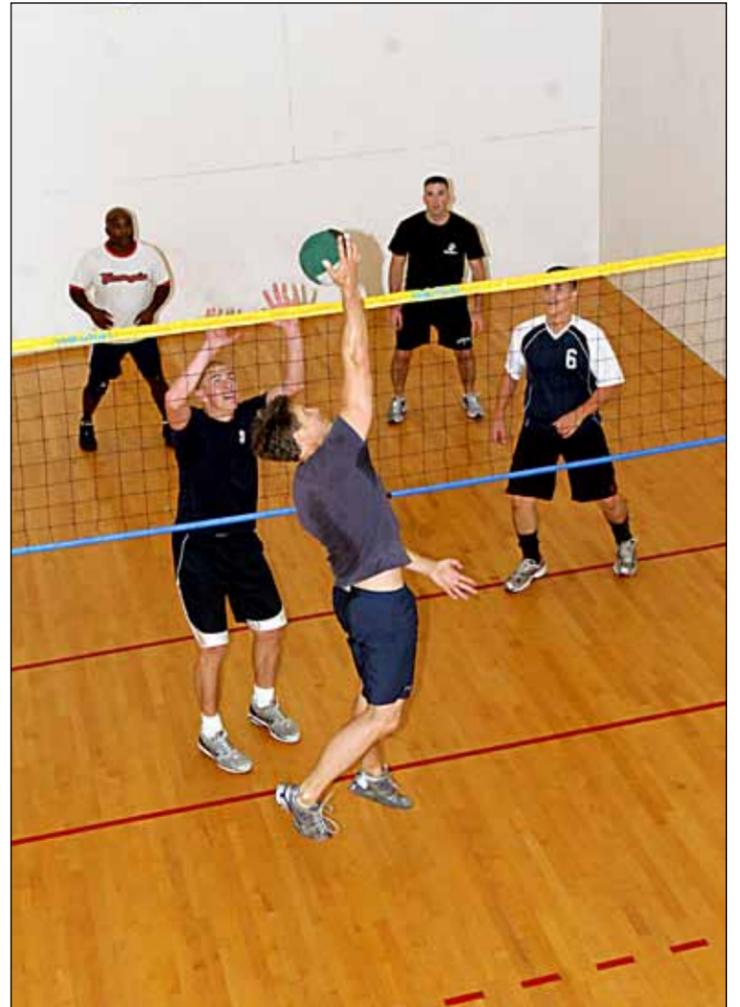
G-1 B was able to get in a few more shots the second game but not many since G-1 A's defense was solid.

"The other team did better than us mostly because they had a stronger defense," said Armstrong.

With no way to overturn G-1 A's steam-roll, they didn't make it to a third game. G-1 A bagged the championships 21-15.

"We're proud of winning for the fifth year in a row. It's an accomplishment since we played a lot of good teams and our team is made up of a completely different group than it was the first win," said Myrick.

With hopes to take home the wallyball CG's Cup championships next year G-1 will continue to practice and strive to get better said Myrick.



Lance Cpl. Crystal Druery

Ryan Myrick, depot adjutant, hits the ball over the net giving G-1 A a point during the wallyball league Commanding General's Cup championships Nov. 2 at the racquetball courts. G-1 A stomped G-1 B 21-15 during the championships, allowing G-1 to take home the CG's Cup championships for the fifth year in a row.



Lance Cpl. Crystal Druery

Lance Cpl. Ryan Armstrong hits the ball over the net while G-1 A tries to block it during the wallyball league Commanding General's cup championships Nov. 2 at the racquetball courts. G-1 A and G-1 B went head-to-head during the championships after bulldozing over the playoffs earlier that morning. G-1 A outclassed G-1 B 21-15 making this G-1's fifth championship in a row.