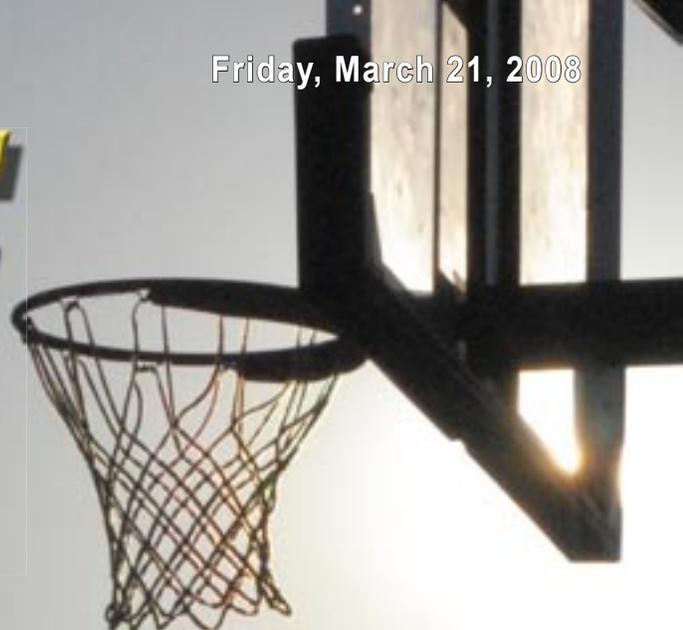


THE WIRE

A News Magazine



Masso calls for all hands

**New Airmen at Camp Justice
JSMART adds personal touch
St. Paddy's Day at O'Kelly's**

Army values apply to all

By Army Sgt. Maj. Donald Troxler

525th MP BN Command Sergeant Major

The United States Army has seven core values that when analyzed become relevant to all branches of service and all walks of life and culture. These Army values unify us in belief, attitude and common behavior. Our Army Values are Loyalty, Duty, Respect, Selfless Service, Honor, Integrity, and Personal Courage. To aid in remembering the seven core values, we use the keyword: L-D-R-S-H-I-P.

Loyalty can be defined to bear true faith and allegiance to the U.S. Constitution, the Army and other Soldiers. The oath we take requires loyalty to the Nation and an obligation to support and defend the Constitution of the United States. Loyalty to the Army means supporting the military and civilian chain of command. This demands adherence to the spirit as well as the letter of the lawful order. Loyalty to the unit is an expression of the obligation between those who lead, those who are led, and those who serve alongside the Soldier.

Duty simply means fulfill your obligations. The behavior required by moral obligation, demanded by custom, or enjoined by feelings or rightness. Contained within the concept of duty are values of integrity and selfless service, which give moral foundation to the qualities the warrior ethos demand of all Soldiers from of all ranks.

Respect is like the golden rule, "Treat people as you would be treated." Respect entails feelings and or showing deferential regard for someone or something. It is the willingness to show consideration or appreciation. Respect is evident in the way we treat our subordinates, peers, and seniors. It applies not only to relationships, but to areas such as other cultures, religious beliefs, and ethnic heritage as well. We demonstrate respect when we show mutual positive regard for the significance of each other.

Selfless Service puts the welfare of the nation, the Army and your subordinates before your own. Selfless Service puts the welfare of the nation and the accomplishment of the mission ahead of individual desires. All who serve the nation must resist the



temptation to place self-interest ahead of the collective good. What is best for the Nation, the Army, and the unit must always come before personal interests. Selfless Service leads to teamwork and unity of effort; it is inherent in military service.

Honor is a code of dignity, integrity and pride that becomes a catalyst to live up to all of the Army values. It is personal integrity maintained without legal or other obligation. It is an inner quality that is reflected in the decisions we make, both small and large, that occur when on and off duty.

Integrity is the uncompromising adherence to a code of moral values, utter sincerity, and the avoidance of deception or expediency of any kind. Integrity demands a commitment to act according to the other values of the Army values. It provides the basis for the trust and confidence that must exist among those whose profession entails the measured application of violence and death. Integrity is short is to do what is right, legally and morally.

Personal Courage is to face fear, danger, or adversity. Physical and moral courage can be the difference between failure and success, in or out of uniform, in peace, hostile conflict, or war. It takes moral courage to stand up for one's belief in what is right, particularly when it is contrary to what others believe. It is courage to persevere in what we know to be right and not tolerate wrong behavior by friends, peers, subordinates, or superiors.

Leadership in the military is an action word and our values provide the framework for our unified success.

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COVER:

Army Cpt. Steve Holder's tenacious rebounding helped propel his team, "Old School," to the 2008 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament championship. Made up of players over 40-years-old, "Old School" captured the title for the tournament. (Photo by Army Spc. Dan Welch)



The WIRE is the official news magazine of Joint Task Force Guantanamo. It is produced by the JTF Public Affairs Office to inform and educate the Troopers of JTF Guantanamo through news, features, command guidance, sports and entertainment. The WIRE seeks to provide maximum disclosure with minimum delay with regards to security, accuracy, propriety and policy. This DoD news magazine is an authorized publication for the members of the Department of Defense. Contents of The WIRE are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, or Joint Task Force Guantanamo. It is printed by the Document Automation & Production Service with a circulation of 1000.

Rear Adm. Masso holds all-hands call for Gitmo Sailors

Story and photo by Navy Petty Officer
2nd Class Nat Moger

JTF Guantanamo Public Affairs

Freedom of Information Act clerk for the Joint Detention Group. Independent duty corpsman for the Joint Medical Group. Videographer for Combat Camera.

All three are seemingly disparate jobs that are intrinsically linked by the nature of their billets. They are individual augmentee billets, and the man in charge of IA assignments, the commander of Navy Personnel Command, Rear Adm. Sonny Masso, visited Guantanamo Bay to tour the facilities and hold an all-hands call for deployed Sailors today.

Over 100 Sailors from both Joint Task Force Guantanamo and the Naval Station gathered to hear Masso's remarks on the future of personnel detailing and the upcoming changes to the IA process. The IA process, which takes Sailors from a parent command, and assigns them to hotspots around the globe in support of the Global War on Terror, has been criticized for creating career uncertainty and an environment of 'will-I-go-won't-I-go' during 'forces afloat' tours.

Masso is implementing changes that will put the power and responsibility of filling these difficult billets in the hands of Sailors.

"GWOT Support Assignment is a new term we rolled out about eight months ago and we're making it part of the detailing process," explained Masso. "Rather than ripping-to-fill a Sailor or looking for volunteers to leave on short notice, we're looking to make jobs in Iraq, Afghanistan, Kuwait and Djibouti part of a regular career."

Currently, IAs are taken from their parent commands, leaving a gap and creating Sailors who face uncertainty in their futures. GSA looks to fix these problems by filling these billets with Sailors who are naturally reaching the end of their sea duty tours. This is beneficial for all parties involved.

"Hopefully this will alleviate churn to both the command and the Sailor," said Masso.

The effects of this policy are already



Navy Rear Adm. Sonny Masso, commander of Navy Personnel Command, speaks to Sailors during an all-hands call. Masso addressed the issue of GWOT Support Assignment detailing and the future of the IA program.

being felt here in the JTF. The Navy Expeditionary Guard Battalion which shares responsibility with the Army 525th Military Police Battalion for day-to-day detention operations originated as an IA only billet. This soon changed to a unit with a unique Unit Identification Code or UIC.

"Since Sailors are now ordered to NEGB on PCS [permanent change of station] orders, you actually get people negotiating for the orders," said Rear Adm. Mike Tillotson, commander, Navy Expeditionary Combat Command during a visit here on March 3. "You're more likely to end up with individuals who understand what the mission is and volunteer for the mission. Personnel that volunteer are going to be better prepared for what they see."

Currently orders are cut six to eight months in advance. Masso hopes that by early autumn, 80 percent of GSA billets will be part of a natural career path.

"We're getting some outstanding results with a lot of volunteers coming off of forces afloat tours asking to go to specific assignments," said Masso. "It's a ramp-up and it will be fully executed by August, September, October time frame."

Masso's trip involved more than just touring JTF facilities and educating deployed Sailors on the latest detailing news.

"Speaking to IA Sailors is the most

important thing I do because I need feedback to make sure we're providing them with the sense that their service as an IA is valued, that their families are going to be taken care of," said Masso. "They need to understand how the service they're rendering right now will help their career."

On the last point, Masso notes that during the last chief petty officer advancement cycle, prior GSAs and IAs fared well.

"Advancements rates for folks who have served in GSA or IA assignments were about 33 percent compared to about 21 percent for conventional billets," said Masso. "That is a profound difference."

Masso makes a point of visiting commands under his umbrella of influence, and during his tours he encourages suggestions on how to improve the process and strives to take each suggestion from idea to implementation.

"At Navy Personnel Command, we value three principles. One, love our Sailors," said Masso. "Two, lean towards 'yes' and three is 'do the right thing.' Sometimes doing the right thing means saying no, but we are always leaning towards what is optimal for each Sailor."

Navy Personnel Command's mission is to support the Navy by providing the fleet with the right person, in the right place at the right time.

New Airmen maintain, develop Camp Justice

Story and photos by Army Spc.
Shanita Simmons

JTF Guantanamo Public Affairs

Last month, Joint Task Force Guantanamo welcomed a new rotation of Troopers to the 474th Expeditionary Civil Engineering Squadron in Guantanamo Bay. They became the newest group of Airmen to hit the ground ready to do their part in fighting the War on Terror.

As members of the 474th take on the objectives of their mission, Air Force Lt. Col. Frederick Olison, commander of the 474th, said he is confident his Airmen will execute their tasks in a professional and first-rate manner.

“The Air Force has done an excellent job with training us and putting a good composition of people together who can perform an excellent job here,” said Olison, who makes his home in Murphy, Texas. “This is a historic mission we are taking apart in, and I am amazed at the versatility and talent that has been displayed by these Airmen thus far.”

With a group of civil engineers who are skilled plumbers, carpenters, electricians, heavy equipment operators and air conditioning and heating specialists on hand, the 474th arrived in February ready to put finishing touches on construction projects initiated by their predecessors.

“We are currently trying to finish the construction phase of the Expeditionary Legal Complex and to maintain the areas completed by the proceeding units. However, our main mission is sustainment. We are charged with making sure the entire ELC, Camp Justice and all the surrounding buildings are running smoothly,” said Air Force Master Sgt. Scott Clarkson, of Burlison, Texas, first sergeant for the 474th. “We may be tasked with doing anything from performing minor work orders to major repairs.”

When the Air Guard reservists previously attached to the 474th departed last month, they were replaced by approximately 50 Guard Airmen attached to civil engineering squadrons out of Texas and Mississippi. Although the majority of the new personnel came from the 136th CES from San Antonio, Texas, Clarkson added that his group also includes Airmen from the 172nd CES out of Jackson, Miss. and the 149th CES of San Antonio,



Air Force Senior Airman Nick Skinner and Air Force Staff Sgt. John Heiser weld a detainee cell door, March 13. The Airmen are part of the newest rotation to join the 474th Expeditionary Civil Engineering Squadron.

Texas.

Clarkson admits that the greatest challenge here is not the mission itself, but performing it within a joint environment. Typically, “prime beef units” consist of civil engineers tasked with designing, building, maintaining, and tearing down buildings and airfields according to established Air Force standard operating procedures. However, the joint environment here has challenged the 474th to learn to integrate their normal operations with the larger Joint Task Force structure.

Unlike his predecessors, Clarkson added that his Airmen will have the advantage of actually seeing the fruits of their efforts once commissions are held within the ELC. Since many military and civilian personnel supporting military commissions will reside within Camp Justice, the 474th will focus on preventive maintenance to ensure that facilities such as showers and latrines are in working order. Clarkson added that since Camp Justice has its own power supply and water treatment plant, the ELC campus will resemble a city within a city, and they are essentially the public works department.

“When commissions begin to take place within the ELC, it will be our responsibility to make sure that everything in the main courtroom building and tent city is in good working order,” said Clarkson, a member of the 136th CES. “When things break down, we will fix it.

Continued on page 13

Personal touch and professionalism define the JSMART mission

By Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class
Cheryl Dilgard

JTF Guantanamo Public Affairs

. . . stressed out, away from home, rough work, tired, can't sleep, losing weight, gaining weight, hot, alone, never alone, family problems, money problems – worry, worry, worry. . .

Everyone experiences one or more of these issues while on deployment, and left unattended, each can lead to problems. The Joint Stress Mitigation and Restoration Team is a willing and capable resource for help.

“Our mission is to help those that are deployed deal with stressors that might be occurring because of deployment, stressors back home or adjustment to being deployed. Just any kind of difficulties or mental health issues Troopers might be having while on deployment,” explained Navy Lt. Angela Coriano, the JSMART officer in charge.

Coriano, a licensed psychologist, has been involved in the field of psychology for over ten years. Coriano is joined in the JSMART office by two Navy corpsmen Petty Officer 2nd Class Erika Maximin and Petty Officer 2nd Class Steven Auerbach. Both petty officers have attended psychology ‘C’ school, making them enlisted specialists in the field of psychology.

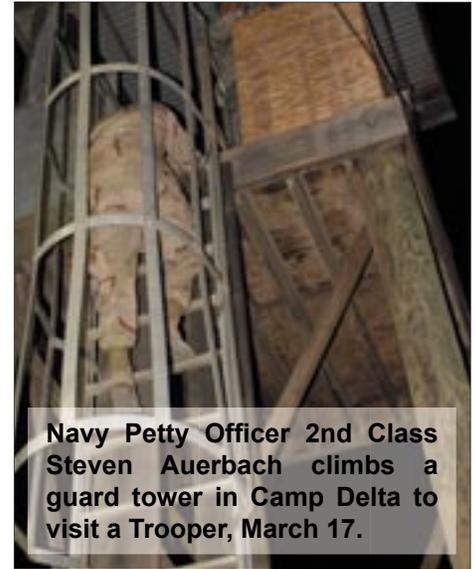
The JSMART team members work

hard to positively impact Troopers assigned to the Joint Task Force. They want people to know they are here and willing to help when needed.

“We want to make sure we are touching as many of the Troopers as possible. We do outreach once a week during the day and once during the night to reach both shifts. We go to things like the health fair last week. We go over to the Coast Guard and to the Air Force areas of operation. We try and touch as many people as we can to let them know we are here if they need anything,” said Coriano.

JSMART is not all talk; they put actions to their words and show the Troopers they care. Last Monday night Auerbach and Coriano loaded up a duffle bag of JSMART goodies and hit the road to show that they practice what they preach. The two of them were ‘making rounds’ throughout the detainee camps, reaching the Troopers who have the most critical and stressful jobs on the island.

At each stop, Troopers were relieved and excited to see them. Some pulled Coriano aside to share personal or professional concerns. Some just wanted to say hi. Coriano and Auerbach greeted each Trooper they saw with “How are you doing?” or “What can we do to help?” Coriano knew many of the Troopers by name and they all knew her. Their “open arms” attitudes, accompanied by flashing



Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Steven Auerbach climbs a guard tower in Camp Delta to visit a Trooper, March 17.

yo-yos, stress squeeze balls, or glow in the dark pens, were welcomed everywhere.

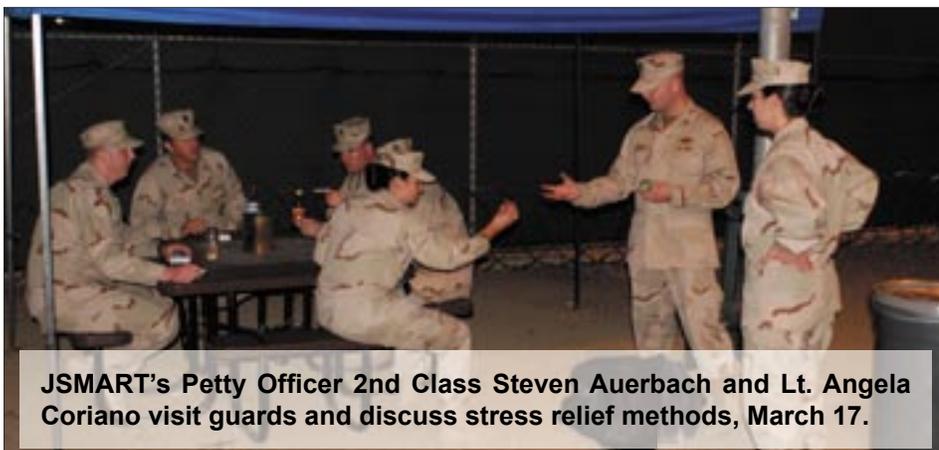
“A lot of times we visit Troopers in the break rooms or control towers and just listen to their problems. Giving Troopers a couple minutes to de-stress and just let us know what is going on helps us keep a pulse on what’s happening across the camps,” said Coriano, during a spare moment.

As rounds continued, evening prayer time came around, which meant silence on the part of the Troopers and the visiting JSMART team. Auerbach seized the moment and climbed a guard tower to make sure a Trooper was “ok” and give him some stress relieving toys.

JSMART is not just about goofy stress toys; it is about personal touch and professional care for Troopers’ well being.

“If we see trends or significant difficulties in a particular area we can offer a group in that, or we can go and talk to the chain of command and say ‘Hey I am a little concerned about this issue,’ and try and nip it as quickly as possible,” said Coriano.

JSMART also offers sessions to individual Troopers on a walk-in or scheduled basis. The JSMART office is located in Camp America, building 3205A. They can be reached at 3566. Don’t hesitate to let them know what’s going on with you.



JSMART's Petty Officer 2nd Class Steven Auerbach and Lt. Angela Coriano visit guards and discuss stress relief methods, March 17.

65 teams vie for NCAA basketball championship

By Army 1st Sgt. Patrick Sellen

JTF Guantanamo Public Affairs

I, along with many fans, call this the best time of the year for sports. Tiger Woods has blistered every course he's played this year by winning all four events that he entered. NASCAR is in full swing, Major League Baseball is getting cranked up with spring training and the NFL is in the midst of free agency signings and is preparing for the upcoming college draft. The NBA is in its playoff push with the Houston Rockets riding a 22-game winning streak and the NHL is in its final month of play.

With all of this going on, the most thrilling sports event this time of year still has to be the NCAA Basketball Tournament.

Last week's conference cham-

pionships saw some pretty amazing upsets and landed a few teams in the tournament who otherwise would have been watching the big dance from home. Georgia, Coppin State and San Diego have no business being in the big dance. All they did was take spots from deserving teams like Arizona State, Ohio State and Virginia Tech – all snubbed by the selection committee.

Regardless, the regular season is over, the tournament selections have been made and the dust is settling. Fans are left with 65 teams who all have a shot at winning the NCAA National Basketball title.

The four number one seeds went to North Carolina (the overall number 1), UCLA, Memphis and Kansas. All of these teams should survive the first round and go far in

the tournament. (No one seed has ever lost an opening round game.) But there's always a Cinderella team each year that gives the top seeds fits. Don't go to sleep on teams like Kansas St., who struggled a bit down the stretch, but have a player in Michael Beasley (the leading scorer in Division I basketball) who can score at will.

My dark horse this year is the St. Joseph's Hawks, who have two quality wins in the last two weeks over three seeded Xavier. Also, look for the Michigan St. Spartans to start playing up to their potential; they have a lot of talent and an experienced coach, which make a lethal combination going into the tournament. Check out my "expert" picks below.



St. Patrick's Day 5K turns out record crowd

Story and photo by Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Nat Moger

JTF Guantanamo Public Affairs

Which of the following is best at 7:00 a.m. on St. Patrick's Day?

- A) Bacon, eggs, sausage, black and white pudding and fried tomato
- B) Irish coffee, heavy on the "cream"
- C) Orange slices and electrolyte replenishment drinks

If you answered "A" you're the type who enjoys the traditional "Irish breakfast" for which bacon alone is not enough cured pork product for one meal.

If you answered "B" you need help and if you answered "C" you're probably one of the nearly 200 runners who turned out at 6:30 a.m. Saturday, March 15, 2008 to run 3.1 hilly miles before the sun had even risen.

Though St. Patty's Day officially falls on March 17, Guantanamo Bay residents recognized the celebratory advantages of pushing the holiday left two days to Julius Caesar's least favorite day. A record number crawled out of bed prior to first light to participate in the base Morale, Welfare and Recreation office-sponsored St. Patty's Day 5K.

Mario Perez won the overall race with a time of 18:17 while Marguerite Mogul finished first among females with a time of 20:16. Dusty Gilvin and Pat Sellen rounded out the men's field with times of 18:37 and 18:42, respectively, and Cara Walker and



Winners of the men's field for the St. Patrick's Day 5k were Mario Perez with a time of 18:17, Dusty Gilvin at 18:37 and Pat Sellen at 18:42. First among females was Marguerite Mogul at 20:16, Cara Walker at 22:59 and Kim Higden at 23:26.



Kim Higden rounded out the women's field with times of 22:59 and 23:26, respectively.

The hilly course was challenging, but winner Perez said living on base prepared him for it.

"I've run every trail here," said Perez. "Anyone who runs a lot has probably hit every hill on base. I've probably run this route in some way a whole bunch of times."

More impressive than the grade of the course was the turnout, given the early hour and festive nature of the holiday weekend.

"This is the best turnout I've seen in a while," said Audrey Chapman, event coordinator. "We had over two hundred people sign up."

The top 100 finishers received commemorative T-shirts. The next organized run is the Chief Petty Officer's Birthday 5k on April 1. Participants can sign up at building 1655 and 3103 or at Denich Gym on race day. The entry fee is \$10 and all participants will receive a Griffin Graphics designed T-shirt. Contact 1st Sgt. Patrick Sellen at 3649 for more information.

"Old School" delivers on-court drubbing



Story and photo by Army Spc. Dan Welch

JTF Guantanamo Public Affairs

With everyone in the United States getting into the hoopla of the basketball frenzy known as the NCCA Tournament or March Madness, Guantanamo Bay got into the act last Saturday by hosting a three-on-three basketball tournament on the outdoor courts adjacent to Denich Gym.

All 11 teams who entered the double elimination tourney were represented by various commands around base.

Ironically, in a sport that prizes both athleticism and quickness, the team who

captured the title was also the oldest. "Old School," a predominantly JTF team comprised mostly of players over 40 years old, took the younger teams to task.

Winning the championship wasn't an easy feat, however, as Old School had to climb over some stiff competition that stood in their way. The championship game was a thriller, with Old School winning 15-10 led by their sensational perimeter shooting.

"All the teams, even the ones we didn't face, were very talented and we were very fortunate to come out on top," said Old Schooler William Brennan.

O'Kelly's celebrates St. Patrick's Day!

Photos by Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Cheryl O'Dilgard

JTF Guantanamo Public Affairs

The St. Patrick's Day celebration at O'Kelly's Saturday night was a huge success. Patrons dressed in their best Irish garb enjoyed good company, good food, and good libation. Everyone was Irish – if only in spirit – for the occasion. From leprechauns to kilts it was a *shamrocking* good time.



Luck of the Irish

Story and photo by Navy Petty Officer
2nd Class Cheryl Dilgard

JTF Guantanamo Public Affairs

You didn't have to be Irish to enjoy the festivities of the St. Patrick's Day celebration Saturday night at O'Kelly's Pub. The party started early and went into the wee hours of the morn.

The crowd began gathering around 4:30 in the afternoon, with the truly Irish at heart starting the night off with the fine Irish cuisine that was featured for the event. As the night progressed, the crowd grew exponentially until the pub was brimming with the merriment of the occasion.

Folks flocked to the occasion in their best green and occasionally humorous Irish attire. It was no problem for those who didn't have green on; they were given green Mardi Gras beads when they walked in so they could avoid being pinched.

No need for a second look . . . there truly was a leprechaun at O'Kelly's in attendance. Marguerite Mogul came to O'Kelly's showing her Irish pride



O'Kelly's Pub packed patrons in for the St. Patricks festivities March 15.

by dressing as a leprechaun. Mogul's great costume and friendly smile belied a serious purpose. She was a willing designated driver for her circle of friends.

The luck of the Irish was with quite a few people throughout the night as lucky winners won leather jackets, t-shirts and coolers. Nobody was a

loser, however, since all that attended received goodies such as shamrock sunglasses, "Kiss me I'm Irish" pins, and key chains.

"This party is way better then I could have ever imagined," commented Tom Smith, a hearty Irish reveler. "It rivals any St. Patrick's Day party back home."

SPRING CRAFT FAIR

Story and photo by Navy Petty Officer
2nd Class Cheryl Dilgard

JTF Guantanamo Public Affairs

The Windjammer ballroom bustled with activity Saturday morning during the Spring Craft Fair. Ten booths filled the room with a variety of arts, crafts and baked goods for folks looking for a little extra pot of gold over the St. Patrick's Day weekend.

"The event went very well. A large crowd was waiting outside the Windjammer waiting for the doors to open. Most of the vendors sold out of product an hour before the event ended," said Eric Nikkel the Morale, Welfare and Recreation clubs director.



Patrons at the Windjammer enjoy the craft fair March 15.

There were several booths featuring handmade jewelry. One booth featured a local artist and paintings of things commonly seen in the area such as indigenous flowers and iguanas. Other booths displayed lighted floral swags, knitted goods, and various home décor items.

Photographs and paintings of Guantanamo were also on display for immediate purchase or custom order. Photos could

be selected with or without frames and ranged from traditional sunset photos to more abstract black and whites with red highlights.

One of the most unique displays was from members of the International Organization for Migration. Using the IOM woodshop, the migrants crafted beautiful jewelry boxes, humidors, shadow boxes and coin holders.

The Navy Ball committee and the Sea Cadets sold baked goods, 16 oz. commemorative glasses and challenge/command coins to help offset Navy Ball costs. The Sea Cadets sold baked goods to send seven young cadets to sea-cadet basic training.

DoD takes custody of high-value al Qaida operative

By Jim Garamone

American Forces Press Service

The Defense Department has taken custody of a “high-value” al Qaida operative, Pentagon spokesman Bryan Whitman said March 14.

Whitman said that Muhammad Rahim is now in custody at the detention facility in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

Rahim is a high-level member of al Qaida and a close associate of Osama bin Laden. “Prior to his arrival in Guantanamo, he has been held in CIA custody,” Whitman said.

Rahim is from Afghanistan’s Nangahar province and had close ties to al Qaida organizations throughout the Middle East. “He is one of (bin Laden’s) most trusted facilitators and procurement specialists,” Whitman said.

Rahim prepared the Tora Bora complex as a hideout for bin Laden, and assisted in al Qaida’s exodus

from the area in late 2001. He joined the terror organization in the mid-1990s, first procuring supplies and later as a courier. He personally carried messages from bin Laden to al Qaida leaders.

“He had knowledge of or was involved in al Qaida attacks planned against coalition forces in Afghanistan,” Whitman said. “At the time of his capture, he was providing support to anti-coalition militias, and groups allied with al Qaida.”

Before 2002, Rahim procured chemicals for an al Qaida plot targeting U.S. forces in Afghanistan, and he worked with al Qaida paramilitary commanders to recruit individuals who had access to U.S. military bases.

Rahim will be treated appropriately and humanely, in accordance with policies and procedures for other DoD detainees at Guantanamo, Whitman said. “He will be treated in accordance with U.S.

law and international obligations, including the convention against torture, Common Article 3 of the Geneva Conventions, the Detainee Treatment Act, the Military Commissions Act and applicable DoD directives and instructions governing detainees operations,” he said.

This is the first transfer to Guantanamo since August 2007. The last high-value detainee transferred was in April 2007. Sixteen high-value detainees are under DoD control at Guantanamo. There are approximately 280 detainees at the facility.

“It’s always important to remember that intelligence is one of our most important tools in the war on terror,” Whitman said. “It’s been essential in developing our knowledge of al Qaida’s structures, operations, finances, logistics, criminal activity, safe routes, safe havens and intentions to conduct further attacks.”

Charges sworn against detainee Mohammed Kamin

Department of Defense Release

The Defense Department announced March 12 that charges have been sworn against Guantanamo detainee Mohammed Kamin of Afghanistan.

Kamin is the thirteenth detainee at Guantanamo Bay against whom charges have been sworn under the Military Commissions Act. He is charged with providing material support to terrorism in violation of the Military Commissions Act of 2006. If convicted, the accused faces up to life in prison.

The charges allege that between January and May of 2003, Mohammed Kamin provided material support to terrorism by joining the terrorist organization al Qaeda and receiving training at al Qaeda training camps on making remote detonators for improvised explosive devices

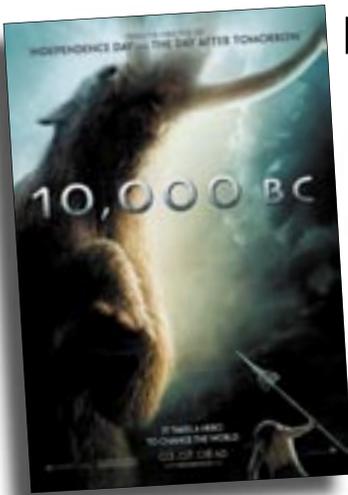
(IEDs), in modifying military ammunition, and on use of small arms for attacks against American and Coalition forces.

It is further alleged in the charges that Mohammed Kamin conducted surveillance on U.S. military bases, placed explosive devices under a bridge along the route to Zaina Khail Village in Afghanistan, placed missiles near the Khowst Customs House to launch into a U.S. or Coalition base and installed missiles near Khowst, Afghanistan. The charges also allege that Mohammed Kamin launched the missiles toward Khowst, then occupied by the United States and Coalition armed forces. Mohammed Kamin is also alleged to have transported weapons and equipment such as missile remote controls, rockets, handheld radios, anti-tank mines,

and GPS systems to be used by Taliban or al Qaeda members in attacks against American forces.

In accordance with the Military Commissions Act of 2006, these sworn charges will be forwarded to the Convening Authority, the Honorable Susan Crawford. She may then refer some, all, or none of the charges to trial by military commission. If the Convening Authority decides to refer the case to trial, she will designate commission panel members (jurors). The Chief Trial Judge of the Military Commissions will detail a military judge to the case.

The charges are only allegations that the accused has committed offenses under the Military Commissions Act, and the accused remains innocent unless proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.



Let me get this straight: *Snuffleupagus* built the pyramids?

By Army Sgt. Scott Griffin

JTF Guantanamo Public Affairs

Rated: PG13

Running Time: 109 minutes

“10,000 B.C.”: That sucked.

Don’t get me wrong, I love a spectacle. I love big budget entertainment. Heck, I still cry when Bruce Willis dies in “Armageddon.”

Oh, shut up. You do, too.

That said, one thing I enjoy about the spectacle flick is when it has something interesting going for it, some human element

that I can connect to. “Cloverfield” had it, because I’ve lived in fear of giant monster attacks since I first saw Godzilla. It’s why I live in the mid-West: Giant monsters never attack the mid-West. “Armageddon” had it, too. Giant asteroid hurtling towards Earth while zany Eddie Griffin tries to save his dog? That’s an average day for me.

“10,000 B.C.” has none of that. Sure, it’s swell to see a single early human take down a Woolly Mammoth *alone*. I don’t believe it for a second, but it’s neat. But “10,000 B.C.,” as directed by Roland ‘I Made Will Smith Popular’ Emmerich (“Independence Day”), is simply a series of excuses for CGI effects scenes that are woefully ineffective. Emmerich’s latest shot at epic scope deserves only two words: epic fail.

I’m guessing the swamp ostriches were actually supposed to be

Terror Birds, or *phorushacidae*, carnivorous flightless birds that were dominant in South America until – hang on, lemme Google this – about two million years ago. I can handle some artistic license, but if you’re going to screw with scientific fact, do it with something scary. Big chickens don’t exactly make me hide behind my seat.

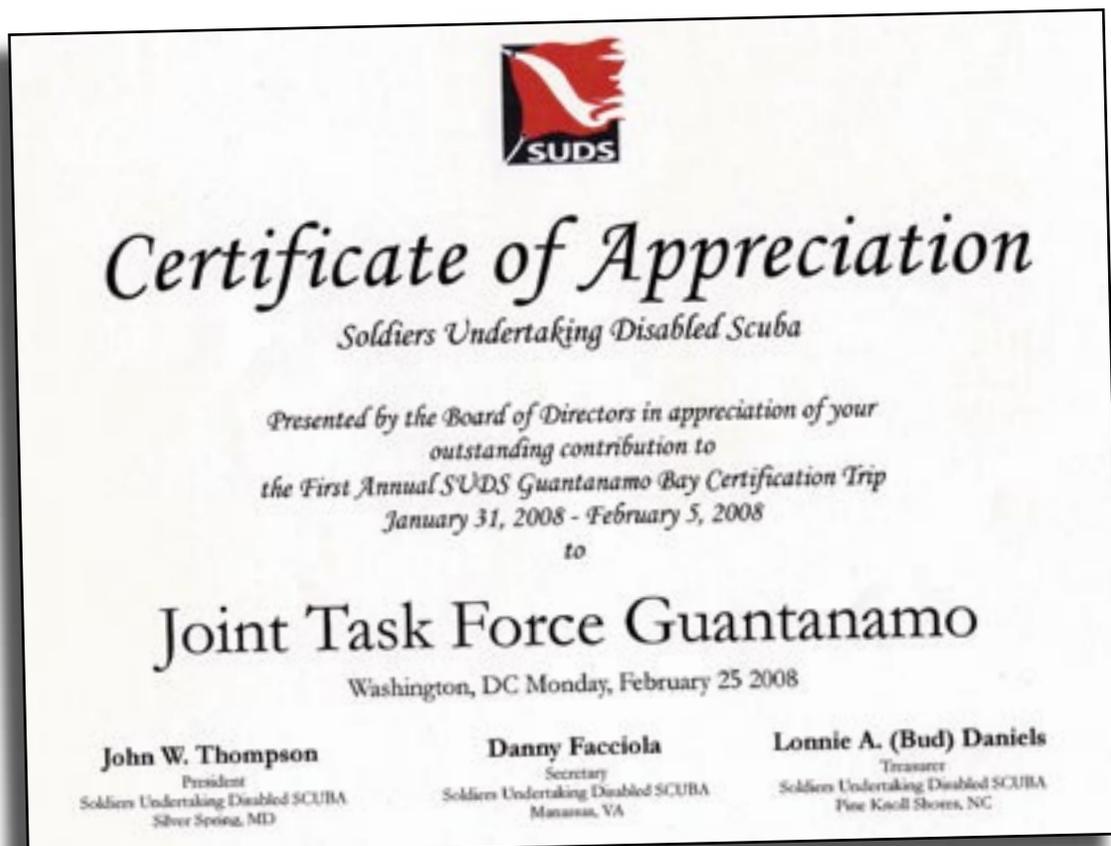
Now sabretooth tigers are cool. Also, they were around until about 9,000 B.C., so the flick’s got some accuracy there. Of course, the sabretooth’s (sabreteeth?) all CGI for this – no practical models to be found here. As a result, it’s not too scary.

The conclusion of the film is one of the most ridiculous things ever perpetrated on a movie-going audience. Emmerich proposes that the pyramids – which the hero walks to from the mountains – were built using de-tusked Woolly Mammoths. Now, I love a good crackpot idea as much as the next geek, but this is too much. Maybe when Snuffleupagus got done he re-paved Sesame Street. Maybe those swamp ostriches were really Big Bird’s extended family doing zoning work.

I won’t berate Emmerich any further about his atrocious script, lack of character development and complete absence of dramatic tension. I won’t rail and wail about the utter lack of connection between the male and female lead. I’ll not give in to my urge to castigate the unnecessary mysticism at the film’s core and its lack of a logical framework. I swear, I won’t do those things.

I will watch “Armageddon” again, though. I ain’t afraid to cry.

Rating: ★★★★★



We are ready for whatever happens.”

Air Force Staff Sgt. Nick Skinner, a structural apprentice who hails from Grandberry, Texas, said he is excited since this mission enables him to put all of his Air Force training to good use.

“It’s a good, fun mission. I am getting the opportunity to apply all the knowledge I have obtained,” said Skinner, who is on his first deployment. “I have been able to apply practically everything I have learned during this mission.”

Although members of the 474th spend many arduous days working under the Guantanamo sun, Clarkson added that the unit makes good use of its downtime by participating in various recreational activities.

“There is a lot to do here,” said Clarkson. “You can also find many of us out snorkeling, boating, scuba diving or participating in a sporting tournament.”

Clarkson added that the creative minds within his unit have developed their own unique sporting events such as red neck golf, go carts and washer board tournaments.

When this rotation departs sometime around August 2008, they plan to leave behind a little more than their Texas and Mississippi charm. They also intend to leave a legacy that exemplifies the hard work they have put into performing this mission.

“Our predecessors did a great job of getting this place built up. Now it is our job to make it better for the people who replace us,” said Clarkson. “Our hope is that each team that deploys here will help make this campus better for the people they replace until this place runs like clockwork.”



Air Force Staff Sgt. Shane Cox hammers forms in place for a concrete foundation at Camp Justice, March 13. Hartman is a member of the 474th Expeditionary Civil Engineering Squadron, which broke ground here on Sept. 11, 2007, to construct the Expeditionary Legal Complex.

Boots on the Ground

How do you relieve stress?

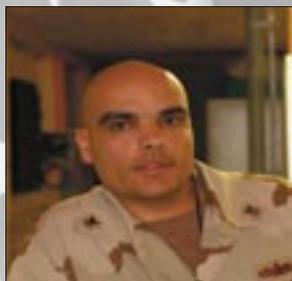
*By Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class
Cheryl Dilgard*

**Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class
Andrew French**

**Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class
Keyonna Fairly**

**Navy Seaman
Teddy Georges**

**Army Staff Sgt.
Dixie Biven**



“I like to run and take pictures. I’m a photographer.”



“I relieve stress by reading, running and playing Nintendo DS. I love DS.”



“To relieve stress I like to play Playstation 2, call friends and play with the JSMART toys.”



“When I am stressed I like to go for a walk or go bowling.”

LET GO AND LET GOD



www.skeptic.com

By Army Capt. Scott Brill

JTF Guantanamo Chaplain

Elizabeth Brenner once observed, “In India, people catch monkeys by setting out a small box with a tasty nut in it. There is an opening in the box—large enough for the monkey to put in his empty hand, but too small for him to pull it out once he grabs the nut. Once the monkey has the nut, he must let go to regain his freedom. If he keeps holding the nut, he is trapped. Most monkeys will not let go of the nut, making it easy for hunters to catch them.”

Of course, people are known to get caught in similar traps. There are temptations here in Gitmo that control us, but we can free ourselves if we are willing to let go. It is my conviction, from too many monkey mistakes, that there is always a way out (1 Corinthians 10:13). The phrase, “the point of no return,” is used by pilots when a certain percentage of fuel is spent. However, this phrase should not apply to us. Change is possible. The sun goes up,

and the sun goes down. We see it every day.

Change is a part of the natural order of things—it is everywhere. And so the invitation for all of us is to let go. Let go of the things that bind us and make us miserable, and cleave unto every good gift from God. Remember the words of C.S. Lewis, “All that is not eternal, is eternally useless.”

An example of duty, honor and optimism is evident in a speech spoken by one of my heroes, Winston Churchill. There was a period when bombs were falling on London and most of Europe was in tyranny, and England was to be next. When the hearts of those around him were failing, Churchill said, “Do not let us speak of darker days, let us speak rather of sterner days. These are not dark days, but these are great days—the greatest days our country has ever lived. We must all thank God that we have been allowed, each of us according to our stations, to play a part in making these days memorable in the

history of our race. We shall not flag or fail...we shall fight in France, we shall fight in seas and oceans, we shall fight with growing confidence and growing strength in the air, whatever the cost may be...we shall never surrender.” I would like to thank all the Troopers here for their countless sacrifices and examples of what makes the United States of America the home of the brave and land of the free.

At this Easter time, I humbly add my testimony to the countless testimonies that have been borne of him, that he lives. I feel grateful during this Easter season. During this time of the year, we should remember that, “He, watching over Israel, slumbers not nor sleeps” (Psalms 121:4). Jesus walked the earth as our teacher, our leader, our exemplar and our Lord. Through his matchless atonement, he did for each of us what we could not do for ourselves. He is our Lord, our Savior, our Redeemer, our King, our Ruler and our God. Happy Easter, everyone. Amen.

Ex basketball stand-out teaches kids how to play and win

Story and photos by Army Staff Sgt.
Jerry Rushing

JTF Guantanamo Public Affairs

Move over John Wooden, there's a new coach here at Guantanamo Bay that's making a name for himself in the local coaching scene – Petty Officer 2nd Class Sherard Wilson. In three seasons of coaching youth basketball, Wilson has won two consecutive championships and hasn't lost a game since his first season.

Wilson is an administrative assistant to the Joint Intelligence Group and is serving a one-year deployment that ends in May.

"I mainly just do your average administrative duties, but right now they have me in the slot as the awards petty officer," said Wilson. "And for the JIG, I'm the safety officer and also the watch coordinator."

In just his first year of administration, he has taken the role of helper to new heights. When new Troopers come to the JIG, Wilson is the man that gets their travel plans together, finds them housing and gets their meal cards. He helps out the Troopers that are leaving by getting all their awards and evaluations together and making sure their travel plans are made.

"It is a job that deals with customer service," said Wilson. "Customer service is very hard to keep up with. It is an every day job that is very challenging, but also gratifying."

Wilson was born and raised in Newark, N.J., until he moved in with his dad in Virginia Beach, Va., after he turned 16. That is when his life changed for the better.

"After I moved in with my dad in Virginia, I noticed a big difference between going to an inner-city public school compared to a nice suburban school where everyone had their own text books," said Wilson. "It just so happened I could play basketball and the school was becoming the state of Virginia high school basketball powerhouse."



Wizards Head Coach Sherard Wilson gives one of his players game-time advice before Tuesday night's game. The Wizards won the MWR 11-14 year old basketball league by going undefeated with a record of 8-0.

Wilson played point guard for two seasons at Salem High School and led his team to a state title in 2001. The team ended the season ranked seventh in the nation by USA Today.

"In my senior year we won the state title by beating Cave Spring High School, a team from Roanoke," said Wilson. "That was special to me because I got to play and beat J.J. Redick, who played for Duke University and now is a NBA player for the Orlando Magic."

After graduating from high school, Wilson joined the Navy and was stationed at Virginia Beach in 2004 where he started coaching.

"After joining the military, it was hard trying to play as much basketball as I would've liked to," said Wilson. "Instead of just giving it up and not being able to play, I decided to volunteer to coach with the Virginia Beach Larkspur-Salem Recreation Department three days a week."

In his first season of coaching, things didn't go well for Wilson. His 11-12 year olds finished in last place with a 0-13 record. But in his second season things changed when he moved up to coach 14-16 year olds. He finished that season undefeated at 13-0.

"My first year was a learning phase for both the players and myself, but I learned what the kids could do, both offensively and defensively," said Wilson.

After arriving here, Wilson decided to get with three people that work with him in the JIG and start coaching the Wizards, a Morale, Welfare, & Recreation basketball league for 11-14 year olds.

"We took it on ourselves to go out and grab a team, not knowing who the kids were or their talent level," said Wilson. "We took everything we knew and threw it at the kids and they grasped it."

Wilson coached the Wizards to an 8-0 undefeated season after a 34-12 drumming of their opponent at Denich Gym, Tuesday night.

"It is so gratifying to see the kids learn how to play the game of basketball," said Wilson. "It is so satisfying watching the kids make their first basket or see them remember what I taught them in practice."

Something to think about: It took Wooden 27 seasons at UCLA to win 10 national titles. So watch out Wooden! Here comes Wilson with two championships in just three years.

AROUND THE JTF



◀ Navy Ensign Cayanne McFarlane races down Windward Loop during the second Big Wheel Downhill Extreme March 15. McFarlane and friends organized the event to add spice to the Gitmo recreational scene. (Photo by Army Capt. Cara Thompson)

Army Sgt. 1st Class Shaun Coker leads a group of JTF and naval station personnel who came together to lift their voices during the Easter Cantata held on March 16 at the Main Chapel. Choir members from various religious denominations combined their talents to celebrate the season. (Photo by Army Spc. Shanita K. Simmons) ▶



◀ Kickin' it "Old School" paid off for (top from left) Steve Holder, Louie Estrada, William Brennan, and (bottom from left) Jaime Dixon, and Richard Ortiz. All over 40 years old, the team went on to win the 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament March 15. (Photo by Army Spc. Dan Welch)