



Naval Station Pascagoula's award-winning on-line newspaper

Homeport

Vol. IV, No. 7

July 1, 2004



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A word from our Commanders

CNRSE working to improve readiness

Commander, Navy Region Southeast (CNRSE), has been working with Commander, Naval Installations (CNI), since October 2003 to identify ways of providing consistent and effective shore installation services and support with the end goal of improving current and future readiness, as well as mission execution.

Because of current military requirements and the war on global terrorism, CNI and the regions worldwide are realigning resources and adjusting support services to deliver more efficient combat ready forces throughout the fleet.

"At CNRSE, and throughout the region, our focus and goal have been creating efficiencies and savings that could then be redirected to provide for fleet use in combat operations and support for them," said CNRSE Chief of Staff CAPT Larry Cotton.

To that end, CNRSE program directors and installation commanding officers have been working diligently to assess and analyze programs and processes to determine if "we can do it better" by creating efficiencies and savings. The analysis includes all programs in the region from Air Operations, to MWR, to housing, public affairs, public safety, and everything in between.

"The Navy is changing the way it does business ashore," said Cotton. "As the CNO has said, readiness at any cost is no longer acceptable. We have a responsibility to taxpayers to continually assess our programs and strive to deliver the best readiness at the best cost," Cotton said.



*CAPT Larry Cotton,
CNRSE
Chief of Staff*

For example, CNRSE evaluated what departments and individuals are assigned government vehicles and determined that 21 percent of that total number of vehicles, about 400, can be reduced.

Other cost avoidance measures include reducing the amount of overtime pay in most programs, tighter restrictions on hiring new employees, reducing janitorial and grounds services, eliminating cable television services in some offices and BQs, reduced cell phone services, and limiting training to that which is mission critical, such as those needed for certification, safety or health and welfare.

In addition, installations throughout CNRSE are reevaluating maintenance contracts and services. Although details of what contracts and services may be affected are not specific at this time, it is likely that equipment and vehicle maintenance and upgrades will be deferred, as well as funding for some local projects.

"CNRSE must continually strive to find and implement efficiencies in everything we do at every level of the organization," Cotton said. "We must stay focused on our mission and continue to provide the most sufficient services we can to our warfighter. The reality is, however, that we need to make difficult choices as to what services have been, and will be affected," he added.

"Because of decreased third and fourth quarter budget allocations for FY04, both region and installation leadership have adjusted existing levels of base operating support for our customers by reallocating dollars. We accomplished this by curtailing monies spent on training and travel, and minimizing new employee hiring.

"Fortunately," Cotton emphasized, "we were able to accomplish our FY04 fiscal goals and make our contributions to the global war on terrorism with minimal impact on workforce employment and the outstanding service we provide to the fleet.

"The support we have received from our workforce to accomplish our required goals has been tremendous," Cotton said. "We will continue to evaluate all options and impacts of requirements prior to implementing resource reduction strategies, and I ask that the entire CNRSE team remain positive and committed throughout the process."

Why change is necessary

By Roberto Nelson
CNRSE Public Affairs Office

Seapower 21, the Chief of Naval Operations' (CNO) vision for restructuring the Navy, is changing the way Navy conducts business and allocates service dollars. The change is aimed at creating a leaner service and streamlining expenditures across the board.

At Commander, Navy Region Southeast (CNRSE), what's driving the engine of change is regionalization.

Although CNRSE has been in place since February 1999, there is a new way to do business for Navy regions worldwide. At the direction of the CNO, Commander Naval Installations (CNI) was established October 2003 to reorganize how business is conducted ashore and to create a single responsible office for Navy shore installation management. Currently,

there are 16 regions that report to CNI.

Fourteen installations in Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, report to CNRSE headquartered at NAS Jacksonville, Fla.

As part of the ongoing regionalization process, CNRSE is evolving toward what is called 'program management alignment.'

In the past, regions developed policy and provided guidance and advice to the installations. Each installation developed its own requirements and budgets, which ultimately led to 'haves' and 'have nots,' as well as redundancies in services at times. There was no set standard for doing business. Each installation had its own style, or way of doing business.

With regionalization, subject matter experts from, housing, public affairs, Fleet and Family Support, and Morale, Welfare,

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Naval Station Pascagoula's hometown on-line newspaper

Homeport

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Deadline for all routine copy is on or about the 15th of every month. Questions or comments can be directed to the Naval Station Pascagoula Public Affairs Officer. The Homeport staff can be reached at (228) 761-2164 or (228) 761-2019.

From our Fleet

Costa assumes command of DESRON 6

By Stacey Byington
Public Affairs Officer

Captain David W. Costa, USNR, relieved Captain James R. Martin, USNR, as Commander, Destroyer Squadron 6 (DESRON 6) in a traditional change of command on the USS Alabama at Battleship Memorial Park, Mobile, Ala., Wednesday, June 30, at 10 a.m.

Guest speaker for the change of command was RADM Vincent E. Smith, USN, Commander, U.S. Naval Forces, U.S. Southern Command (NAVSO), headquartered in Mayport, Fla.

CAPT Costa is a native of Newton, Mass., and a graduate of Fitchburg State College, Fitchburg, Mass. He received his commission after completing Officer Candidate School, Newport, R.I., in September 1980.

Sea tours include assignments as First Lieutenant and Assistant Chief Engineer aboard USS W.S. Sims (FF 1059); Combat Systems Officer aboard USS Estocin (FFG 15); executive officer of USS Samuel Eliot Morison (FFG 13), and commanding officer of USS Boone (FFG 28), from January 1999 to August 2000.

He received orders in 1984 to Chief Navy Section, U.S. Military Training Mission, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, where he served as Ordnance/Missile/Torpedo Advisor to the Royal Saudi Naval Forces.

Shore assignments include serving as the Staff Combat Systems Officer for Commander, Naval Surface Group 4, Newport, R.I., from 1988 to 1990; Commanding Officer of Naval Reserve Center, Chicope, Mass., from January 1990 to August 1992; and as the Surface Warfare TAR detailer and placement officer on the staff of the Chief of



CAPT David Costa

Naval Personnel in Washington, D.C.

After graduating from the Industrial College of the Armed Forces, National Defense University, Washington, D.C., in June 1997, with a Masters of Science degree in National Resource Strategy, CAPT Costa



CAPT James Martin

was ordered to the staff of the Chief of Naval Operations, first working as the Amphibious Ships Requirements Officer in Expeditionary Warfare (N85), then as the Reserve Affairs Officer in the Surface Warfare Directorate (N86).

His most recent assignment,

following his commanding office tour, has been on the staff of the Chief of Naval Operations, Surface Warfare Directorate (N76), where he served as section head for the Strategy and Alignment Branch (N761).

CAPT Costa's personal decorations include the Navy Meritorious Service Medal, Navy Commendation Medal, Navy Achievement Medal, Meritorious Unit Citation, and various other campaign and service awards.

CAPT Martin was born in Montgomery, Ala., and was commissioned through the Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps program in May 1979 following graduation from the University of Louisville, Louisville, Ky., with a Bachelor's degree in Geology. He has commanded Destroyer

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Photo by Stacey Byington

CAPT James Martin, Commander, Destroyer Squadron 6, holds an impromptu personnel inspection on the pier at Naval Station Pascagoula, June 23, to introduce the members of his staff to their new commodore, CAPT David Costa, right. The DESRON 6 change of command was held June 30.

From our Fleet

Gates' crew helps school in Uruguay

By U.S. Embassy in Uruguay
Public Affairs Office

Thirty-five Sailors from the USS Thomas S. Gates (CG 51) spent precious liberty hours sprucing up Public School No. 95 in Maldonado, Uruguay, on June 14.

The Sailors were bussed from their ship to the school, where they painted walls in the hallways, cafeteria and classrooms. Some of the crew fixed plumbing problems in the bathrooms.

The Gates was visiting Uruguay as the escort ship for the USS Ronald Reagan, which is passing Uruguay further off shore.

The community service project was coordinated by SFC Raymond Addarich of the Defense Attache's Office in the U.S. Embassy, Montevideo. Materials were provided by U.S. Southern Command.

Representatives of the Uruguayan media were also given a tour of the ship, anchored off the coast of Punta del Este, on June 15. Journalists were given a tour of the Central Information Center (CIC), the bridge, and decks of the cruiser. LTJG



Photo by U.S. Embassy in Uruguay
Gates' crew members paint and rehab Public School No. 95 in Maldonado, Uruguay.

Omar Garcia, ET3 Daniel Grimaldo and SK2 Ruinol Flores conducted the tours in both English and Spanish.

The crew from the Gates also delivered supplies such as

LTJG Omar Garcia talks to members of the Uruguayan media during a tour of the ship.



Photo by U.S. Embassy in Uruguay

shampoo, soap, first aid, diapers, skateboards and books for area hospitals, schools and churches.

During a brief ceremony on the pier, CDR Vincent Lambert of the Office of Defense Cooperation of the U.S. Embassy in Uruguay thanked the crew of the Gates for their donations and community service. The Uruguayan Navy and customs officials also helped in arranging the delivery of the supplies.

OSC Kevin Duncan of the Gates thanked Maldonado officials for allowing the crew to participate in worthwhile community service projects.

Yorktown family members plan welcome home

By JO1 Kim deJong
Public Affairs Office

Family and friends of crew members of the USS Yorktown (CG 48) eagerly await the return of the ship, and are busily preparing for the ship's homecoming.

Yorktown deployed on Feb. 17 as part of the USS Wasp (LHD 1) expeditionary strike group (ESG) in support of the global war on terrorism. The ship is expected to return to its homeport at Naval Station Pascagoula in mid-August.

Planning for the homecoming began shortly after the

ship's departure. One of the final events is a meet-and-greet for family and friends the evening before the ship's arrival at the Naval Station Pascagoula USO from 3-9 p.m.

Shelley Laine, a country artist nominated by the New Music Weekly radio stations as best female artist for 2002, and 'Shelia and the Rocker Fellaz,' from Birmingham, Ala., are scheduled to perform at the meet-and-greet.

"CDR Steven Sloan, Commanding Officer of the Yorktown, is also expected to call in with a report as to the location of the ship," said Deanna

Schaub, homecoming chairperson for the Yorktown.

The homecoming committee has planned a big 'welcome home' party for the ship's arrival.

Shelley Laine and 'Shelia and the Rocker Fellaz' will perform, t-shirts will be on sale, refreshments will be served, and goody-bags handed out.

"The homecoming committee will also be making signs and posters to welcome the Yorktown home," said Schaub.

There will be four 'first kisses' at the homecoming. Crew members on the ship

will pick two Sailors and the homecoming committee will pick two family members. So far, Heather Thompson is the first pick from the committee. The second family member will be selected from an on-going raffle at the last support meeting on Aug 10.

"Tickets are two for a dollar to get your name in the raffle," said Schaub.

Any Yorktown family member wishing to assist the homecoming committee, or who wants to get their name in the 'first kiss' raffle, should contact Deanna Schaub.

From our Fleet



Hall deploys -- USS John L. Hall (FFG 32) pulls away from its homeport at Naval Station Pascagoula, on June 23, underway for a regularly scheduled deployment to support counter drug operations in the Caribbean Sea and Eastern Pacific Ocean. The Hall will also be supporting homeland defense, patrolling coastal waters, collecting intelligence and intercepting threats to national security.

Photo by Stacey Byington

100th ESWS pinning -- CDR Glenn Zeiders III, commanding officer for the USS Ticonderoga (CG 47) congratulates EN3(SW) Stephen Retoff after pinning on Retoff's Enlisted Warfare Specialist (ESWS) pin. This was the 100th ESWS pin Zeiders has awarded to members of his crew since assuming command of the Ticonderoga. Along with Retoff, STG2(SW) Kevin West and SK1(SW/SCW) Kevin Hohimer were also awarded their ESWS pins during this special ceremony. The three have been working together as a team since March on their qualifications to earn their ESWS pins.

Photo by SK2(SW) James Hawley



DESRON 6 Change of Command held on June 30 ...

Continued from page 3

Squadron 6 at Naval Station Pascagoula since June 2002.

Among his many accomplishments during his tenure with DESRON 6, CAPT Martin was responsible for dramatically improving the combat readiness of the squadron's ships. Under his leadership, squadron ships successfully completed one Expeditionary Strike Group, one Standing NATO Forces Atlantic (SNFL) and seven Southern Command (SOUTHCOM) deployments. The counter-drug operations deployers were responsible for interdicting more than 32,000

pounds of cocaine.

DESRON 6 retention statistics continue to soar. Four ships were recognized with the Chief of Naval Operations Retention Excellence Awards for fiscal years 2002 and 2003. The squadron was twice recognized for exceeding 60 percent first term retention this past year.

As a task unit commander, CAPT Martin successfully executed four group sails and oversaw the completion of more than 300 events, including three live-fire missile exercises, and 44 gunfire and tor-

pedo-firing exercises. Additionally, working with NAVSO, he was responsible for developing a counter drug operations task force, vastly improving communications and coordination between more than 24 different organizations, including the U.S. Navy, U.S. Coast Guard, civilian law enforcement agencies and the Joint Interagency Task Force.

"Commanding the largest destroyer squadron in the Atlantic Fleet, CAPT Martin masterfully reorganized immediate superior in command functions that significantly improved

combat and engineering readiness of Destroyer Squadron 6 ships and the quality of service in Pascagoula," said RADM Terrance Etnyre, Commander, Naval Surface Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet. "CAPT Martin's dynamic direction, keen judgment and inspiring devotion to duty reflect great credit upon him and upheld the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service."

CAPT Martin leaves Pascagoula for duty in Norfolk, Va., on the staff of the Commander, Fleet Forces Command.

Around the Homeport

Navy FFSCs celebrate 25th anniversary

By Gerri Warden
FFSC Information Referral

July marks the 25th anniversary of the Navy's first Fleet and Family Support Center (FFSC) and usage is at an all time high. Navy Personnel Command officials attribute the increased usage to the impact of the war on terror and the changing needs of Navy families.

As the number of FFSC's increase worldwide their outreach to Sailors and their families, service members are becoming more aware of all that FFSC has to offer.

The FFSC at Naval Station Pascagoula provides much more than free counseling and information and referral. It has evolved to meet the needs of everyone seeking information about how to deal with a wide variety of issues.

A Sailor who is focused on what he or she is doing is a

productive, active, deployable, mission-ready Sailor. A Sailor who is distracted or requires personal leave to take care of problems that could have been prevented with counseling and education, is not mission ready.

FFSC works to prevent problems before they get out of hand, knowing that prevention is better than the cure.

The military is an arduous lifestyle. A great deal is asked of the Sailors and their families. In return, the FFSC offers solutions. The staff is dedicated and passionate about what they do.

If you have never set foot inside a FFSC, do it now. Go in, walk around, see what's available to you and your family. You will be pleasantly surprised with how much information you can get. Some people wait until it's too late. Go in now and find out what they have to offer.



Photo by JO1 Kim deJong

The FFSC family wants to share their birthday party with area Sailors and their families. In celebration of the 25 years of FFSC service to the Navy, the NAVSTA Pascagoula FFSC is having a birthday party on July 15 from 1 - 4 p.m. Everyone is invited to come by and share in the festivities.

USCGC Decisive returns home from Caribbean

By LTJG Melissa Owens
USCGC Decisive PAO

PASCAGOULA, MS – The U. S. Coast Guard Cutter Decisive returned to her homeport of Pascagoula on June 3, after completing an eight-week patrol in the Caribbean. This was the last deployment for the ship's current Commanding Officer, CDR Kurt Van Horn.

During CDR Van Horn's tenure, Decisive's crew carried out many key Coast Guard missions, including Law Enforcement, Marine Environmental Protection, Maritime Homeland Security operations, and Search and Rescue. Overall, the ship conducted more than 100 law enforcement boardings, which ranged from safety inspections of legitimate commercial fishing vessels to high-speed interdictions of



Photo by Stacey Byington

USCGC Decisive pulls into homeport at Naval Station Pascagoula after an eight-week deployment in the Caribbean.

"Go-Fast" vessels engaged in narcotics smuggling.

Decisive successfully intercepted four such "Go-Fast" vessels and seized over 2,700 kilograms of cocaine, stopping an estimated \$570 million

worth of drugs from hitting the streets. During her August 2003 patrol, Decisive became one of a very few Coast Guard vessels to conduct operations in both the Caribbean and eastern Pacific Ocean, and inter-

dicted "Go-Fast" vessels on both sides of the Panama Canal during that single patrol.

In addition to law enforcement operations, the ship and crew participated in five search and rescue cases, rescuing nine people and assisting \$100K in property. Most notably, Decisive interdicted and repatriated over 1000 undocumented Haitian and Dominican migrants attempting to illegally enter the United States.

During the ship's most recent deployment, Decisive integrated the interception capabilities of both her assigned helicopter and rigid hull inflatable boat to conduct counter-narcotics operations. Working with a U.S. Navy aircraft and employing her helicopter, as well as both of the ship's small boats, Decisive netted one

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Around the Homeport



Photo by Stacey Byington

Reenlistment -- MA2 David Cross signs his reenlistment contract after reenlisting for four more years in the U. S. Navy on June 1. CDR Terry Rea, NAVSTA Pascagoula Commanding Officer, was the reenlisting official.



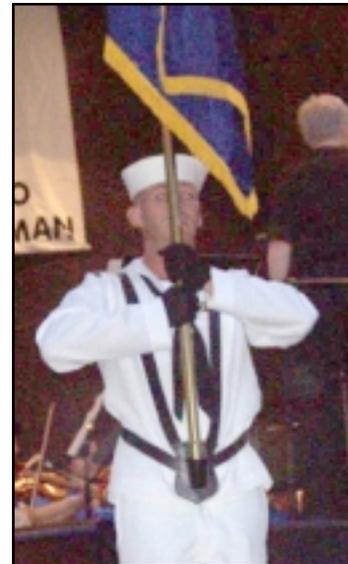
Photo by JO1 Kim deJong

Fun Run -- Runners take part in the Surface Navy Association 5K Fun Run on June 4 in remembrance of the Battle of Midway. Participants started at Port Operations, ran down the pier and around the Medal of Honor Park. The first finisher was MMC Cecil Watford with a time of 22:57. All runners who took part in the run received a complimentary t-shirt and water bottle.



Photo by JO1 Kim deJong

Sounds by the Sea -- The Naval Station Pascagoula Color Guard stands at attention with the American flag held upright, and the Navy flag lowered slightly as the National Anthem is performed at the Sounds by the Sea Concert on May 30 at Beach Park in Pascagoula. The annual concert is held in conjunction with Memorial Day. Members of the Color Guard are, from right to left, YN3 Lamar Haynes, CS3 Karem Adams, EN3 Raul Granados, and MA2 Nick Henley.



'Anchors Away' -- BM2 Shawn Hooks displays the U.S. Navy Flag as 'Anchors Away' is sung at the Sounds by the Sea Concert. The Gulf Coast Symphony performed a medley of the Armed Forces songs, and as each service song was heard the appropriate service member stepped forward with their service's flag.

Photo by JO1 Kim deJong

About the cover

Honoring a President -- GM3 Anthony Bra-
cheer, a member of the Naval Station Pascagoula
Weapons Department, fires off a round as part of a
21-gun salute honoring the late President Ronald
Reagan. The 21-gun salute began at noon on
June 11, with one round fired per minute. Naval
Station Pascagoula was one of hundreds of U.S.
military installations around the world honoring
Reagan on the day of his burial.

Around the Homeport

NAVSTA conducts emergency drill

By Stacey Byington
Public Affairs Officer

Naval Station (NAVSTA) Pascagoula's emergency management department conducted a chemical, biological, and radiological (CBR) hazards drill Friday, June 25.

"The purpose of the drill was to train for, and evaluate the station's ability to defend against accidents or terrorist activities in a CBR environment," said LCDR Dave Baker, NAVSTA Pascagoula's emergency management officer. "Additionally we wanted to be able to man the station's emergency command center, and evaluate station emergency and safety procedures."

The drill scenario began with a simulated train derailment underneath the overpass leading to the shipyard and the naval station. The train was supposedly hauling tankers filled with hydrogen sulfide, one of which broke open. Hydrogen sulfide is a colorless gas which smells like rotten eggs and can cause respiratory distress in humans who inhale it.

As part of the drill scenario, three people in separate vehicles apparently drove through the cloud of gas on their way to the station, and



Photo by Stacey Byington

A station fireman decontaminates drill victim MA3 Shannon Dunnigan, simulating exposure to a chemical agent, which was part of the drill scenario.

by the time they reached the station gate were suffering from the effects of the gas.

Station police, fire, and medical personnel responded to the situation, and acted ac-

cordingly.

"This is the first drill of its kind we have conducted at Pascagoula in recent years, and we knew before we started there were going to be some

glitches," said Baker. "But that's the reason we do these drills — to learn from our mistakes, so that in a real situation we are better prepared."

Area Navy College offices host education fairs

Responding to the demand for greater access to higher education, the Navy College Program (NCP) has developed partnerships with 18 colleges and universities offering rate-related degrees via distance learning to sailors everywhere.

These new education partners provide associate and bachelor degrees related to each rating and make maximum use of military professional training and experience to fulfill degree requirements. The program also provides opportunities to take courses

through distance learning allowing sailors to pursue a degree anywhere, anytime. Rating partner colleges offer courses in a variety of formats, including CD-ROM, videotape, paper, or Internet.

The 17 partnership schools include: Central Texas College, Killeen, TX; City University, Renton, WA; Coastline Community College, Fountain Valley, CA; Dallas Telecollege of the Dallas County Community Colleges, Dallas, TX; Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Daytona Beach, FL; Empire

State University, Saratoga Springs, NY; Excelsior College, Albany, NY; Florida Community College at Jacksonville, Jacksonville, FL; Fort Hays State University, Hayes, KS; George Washington University, Washington DC; Old Dominion University, Norfolk, VA; Saint Joseph's College of Maine, Standish, ME; Southern New Hampshire University, Manchester, NH; Thomas Edison State College, Trenton, NJ; Troy State University, Troy, AL; University of Maryland University College, Col-

lege Park, MD; and Vincennes University, Vincennes, IN. The rating partners can be reached through hotlinks on the Navy College website <https://www.navycollege.navy.mil>.

There will be excellent opportunities in July to meet and gather information from any of the 17 Navy College Program Distance Learning Partnership institutions and local colleges and universities who are members of the Servicemembers Opportunity Colleges-Navy (SOCNAV) network. Three

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Around the Homeport



Photo by JO1 Kim deJong

Three in a row -- Mr. Richard Wright, right, Director of Safety and Occupational Health with the Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Safety, presents Shore Intermediate Maintenance Activity (SIMA) Pascagoula their third consecutive Secretary of the Navy Safety Award. The award presentation ceremony was held June 15 at SIMA. 'Safety first' is the motto of SIMA, and for the third consecutive year, SIMA Pascagoula was named one of the very best commands in the Navy in the area of safety.



Photo by Stacey Byington

Community service -- Crew members from the PCU James E. Williams (DDG 95) pick up trash along Highway 57 between U.S. 90 and Interstate 10 on May 28. They adopted this stretch of road as part of a community service project. Approximately 40 crew members took part in the clean-up.



Photo by Stacey Byington

Cultural experience -- Sailors and government civilians from commands at Naval Station Pascagoula and from SupShip Gulf Coast enjoy Asian-Pacific food at the Asian-Pacific Heritage Luncheon held May 26 at the NAVSTA Pascagoula gymnasium. Guest speaker for the event was CDR Kenneth Williams, commanding officer of PCU Chung-Hoon (DDG-93).



Photo by JO1 Kim deJong

21-gun salute -- GM3 Anthony Brachear fires a round from the 40mm saluting battery at Naval Station Pascagoula on May 31. Beginning at noon, commemorating Memorial Day, 21 rounds were fired, one every minute.

Liberty Center re-opens

Although some last minute construction is on-going, the Naval Station Pascagoula Liberty Center/Cyber Cafe is now open for business. The new facility offers free use of computers, and has designated areas for pool and Playstation games. There is also a new movie theater area with surround-sound.

Navy News

Off-duty and recreational deaths increase

By Ken Testorff
Editor, SEA & Shore

We constantly hear how deadly the nation's highways are for our Sailors and Marines, but what about those who are killed in other off-duty and recreational mishaps?

Between FY99 and FY03, 112 Sailors and Marines lost their lives in recreational activities. That total includes 42 service personnel who drowned, 20 who died from falls, and eight who died from alcohol poisoning.

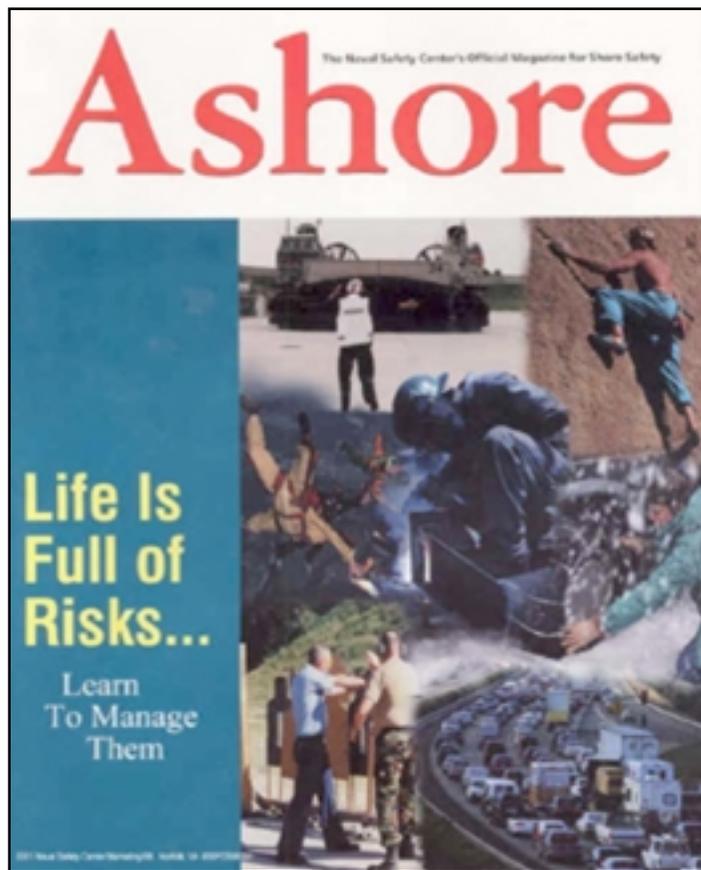
CAPT Bruce Crisler, director of the Naval Safety Center's Shore Safety Directorate, points out that the Navy and Marine Corps can't afford to focus all their attention on motor-vehicle safety.

"Granted, the highways continue being our number one killer, but there's another alarming indicator we have to look at," he said. "As of May 1, 2004, the Navy has lost 13 Sailors in off-duty and recreational mishaps, compared to only seven during the same period last year. At this pace, we'll exceed the latest five-year average of 21 deaths per year."

Here are some typical examples of how the Navy is losing its most precious resource:

► It was supposed to be a week-end of lakeside fun for a first class petty officer and his family, but the outing turned tragic when the Sailor drowned. According to an EMT, an eyewitness saw the Sailor having trouble and swam to him with a flotation device. The victim tried to grab the device, but his hands slipped off, and he sank beneath the surface. Attempts to save him were futile.

► Two Marine lance corporals (ages 20 and 24) drowned after being swept to sea while watching high waves (churned by an approaching



typhoon) crash against the rocks. A third Marine managed to swim safely to shore.

► A seaman and three shipmates started drinking at 6 p.m.. According to witnesses, the seaman had seven beers during the next several hours and, at 9:30 p.m., went out on the balcony of his second-story room at his bachelor quarters. He was sitting on the railing when he slid over to adjust himself, lost his balance, and fell over the railing. Thirteen feet below, he landed on his head. Emergency personnel took the bleeding and unconscious seaman to a local trauma center where he died three days later.

► A senior chief petty officer was drinking rum and coke with beer while playing cards at his residence. Suddenly, he collapsed and fell off a chair onto the floor. Think-

ing he just had passed out from the booze, his wife let him lie on the floor for a half-hour before she called 911. Emergency-medical technicians and police responded. Resuscitation efforts continued all the way to a local hospital, where doctors pronounced the senior chief dead from alcohol poisoning. His BAC was 0.234.

► Another alcohol fatality was a young Marine private first class. In less than five hours, the PFC drank 16 12-ounce beers, 32 ounces of sake, seven shots of 80-proof brandy-and-coke mix, and 200 milliliters of 80-proof tequila. His BAC was 0.57.

It always seems particularly tragic when activities that are supposed to be fun and recreational turn into things that are frightening and destructive. Almost without exception, one or two simple precautions

would have made the difference between something enjoyable and something fatal.

CAPT Crisler reiterated the fact we are just entering the "Critical Days of Summer," the annual period of increased risk of off-duty mishaps. He also issued a reminder that off-duty and recreational activities are notorious as the leading cause of Navy and Marine Corps injuries (and subsequent lost workdays). These mishaps are the second leading cause of mishap fatalities, as well, exceeding the total of all operational mishap deaths combined.

"We can't let these activities fall off our scope," said Capt. Crisler. "Commanding officers need to take a look at our website (www.safetycenter.navy.mil) as they plan their summer safety stand-downs and include some of the info we've posted concerning off-duty and recreational activities."

Locally, safety personnel think getting the word out about safety precautions is very important.

"Actions are being taken to publicize the mishap reduction program so everyone knows how to prevent mishaps," said Charles Harvey of the Naval Station Pascagoula Safety Office.

"Mishap prevention is put out through safety stand-down training, base indoctrination training, emails, posters, and plan of the week notes," said Harvey.

To encourage motor vehicle safety the "Click it or Ticket" campaign is conducted at regular intervals. The campaign encourages drivers to wear their seatbelt or tickets will be issued.

"If everyone takes responsibility for their actions, mishaps can be reduced," said Harvey.

Navy News

5 Vector Model celebrates anniversary

By JO1 JD Walter
NPD Public Affairs

NORFOLK, Va. – Version four of the 5 Vector Model (5VM) was released June 25, just one year after the first rating models went live, bringing the total to 64 models being used by more than 250,000 Sailors. The initial ratings to go live on Navy Knowledge Online (NKO) were Information Technology Specialist (IT), Aerographer's Mate (AG), and Mess Management Specialist (now Culinary Specialist [CS]).

"The work being done today is the realization of that original vision that we set out to achieve one year ago," said Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (SS/AW) Terry Scott. "Our focus is on growing individuals from the moment they walk into a recruiting office through their assignments as master chiefs or flag



officers, using a career continuum of training and education that gives them the tools they need to operate in an increasingly demanding and dynamic environment."

Eight surface engineering ratings (damage controlman, machinist's mate, electrician's mate, engineman, gas turbine system technician electrical and mechanical, machinery repairman, and hull technician) are slated to go live next, leaving 11 more to complete the enlisted phase. Once all enlisted models are live, the effort will shift to bringing models online for each of the commissioned communities. Currently, the

Information Technology Professional community is developing a prototype for that effort.

A key element in the development and refinement process is receiving feedback from end users. Currently, the Naval Personnel Development Command (NPDC) Functional Integration Management (N5) office, the project lead for the 5VM development and management, receives about 300 user submissions a week.

"We need all the feedback we can get to make the 5VM the most useful and usable for Sailors," said RADM Kevin

Moran, commander of NPDC. "I am very impressed by the Sailors who are engaging in this process and taking ownership of not only their 5VMs, but of their careers. This says a lot about where our Navy is going."

Sea Warrior, which is the human resource piece of Chief of Naval Operations ADM Vern Clark's Sea Power 21 vision for the future of the U.S. Navy, is creating the most effective and robust personnel development and management resources, such as the 5VM, aimed at giving Sailors the tools and opportunities to take charge of their careers.

To learn more about Sea Warrior and the Revolution in Navy Training, visit Navy Knowledge Online at www.nko.navy.mil. To view a 5VM, from the left hand menu scroll down to Programs, then click Sea Power 21 and Sea Warrior.

Navy One Source offers resources for single Sailors

By Catherine Reynolds
Navy One Source

The Navy offers recreational opportunities for single Sailors through the Single Sailor Program, entitled "Liberty". Recreation centers provide recreational opportunities for Sailors who live either aboard ships or in bachelor quarters. These centers provide a place where Sailors can enjoy movies, watch television, play video games, send e-mails, read, sign up for off base recreational trips or just enjoy a quiet moment writing a letter home.

Navy One Source, in partnership with The Fleet and Family Support Centers also supports the single Sailor by providing beneficial resources and information on many topics of interest to single Sailors.

Recently, the Federal Trade



Commission recommended that military singles be on the alert for various financial and other consumer scams such as identity theft and loan scams. Increasingly military personnel are being targeted for these scams. Single military members risk financial ruin if they fall victim to these scams. Navy One Source is available to provide the support you need to avoid them.

We can provide resources on a variety of topics useful to the single sailor.

Log on to www.navyone.com today to read or download these informative articles:

- Identity theft
- Negotiating a new car purchase
- Buying auto insurance
- Renting an apartment
- Dealing with traffic tickets
- Managing stress
- Taking care of yourself
- Keeping in touch with friends

If you want information on

a topic not listed here, Call Navy One Source and work with one of our master's level consultants.

Get in touch with Navy One Source today.

From the United States: 1-800-540-4123. From outside the United States ONLY: 800-5404-1233* or call collect: 484-530-5914

**Note, when dialing local access numbers, local phone charges may apply.*

Navy One Source augments Fleet and Family Support Center services and is brought to you by the U.S. Navy, at no cost to you. Best of all, its here for you—any time of day, wherever you are. We have Spanish speaking consultants and offer simultaneous translation into more than 150 other languages. Phones are TTY/TDD accessible.

Navy News

Navy MWR announces theme park salute

By Navy MWR
Communications Group

MILLINGTON, Tenn. (NNS) — Sailors and their families can take advantage of free or discounted tickets to several world-renowned theme parks this summer.

Busch Entertainment Corporation, the family entertainment subsidiary of Anheuser-Busch, is offering substantially discounted tickets to six of the company's theme parks through a program called "Military Appreciation Days."

Additionally, as part of their "Operation Homecoming" program, Busch Entertainment Corporation is offering a free admission to one of the company's SeaWorld, Busch Gardens or Sesame Place parks for military personnel who are



returning from overseas service and were unable to participate in last year's Operation Salute program.

"Sailors and their families are encouraged to check with their local ITT office for details on the promotions, and for additional travel products, such as hotels and airline discounts, as well as discounts on additional leisure activities or special events while they're at the theme parks," said Karen Fritz, program manager

for Navy Morale, Welfare and Recreation's (MWR) Information, Tickets and Travel (ITT) Section.

Busch Entertainment Corporation's Military Appreciation Days and Operation Homecoming programs begin May 31, and run through Veterans Day, Nov. 11. Military Appreciation Days tickets may be purchased only at local ITT offices. Tickets will not be available at park ticket win-

dows, and the discount applies to single day tickets only.

Proof of deployment or overseas service is required for the Operation Homecoming program, along with a valid Department of Defense ID and completed application form. Application forms are available online at www.seaworld.com, www.sesameplace.com and www.buschgardens.com. For more information, call 1-800-DIALBUD.

"Navy MWR has a long-standing history of working with the amusement parks to provide Sailors and their families with discounted leisure opportunities," added Fritz. "These offers are intended to recognize and thank military men and women and their families for their service and sacrifice."

Ten things to help the Mishap Reduction Campaign

By Derek Nelson
Naval Safety Center PAO

✓ Learn as much as you can about the hazards you face at work and at home. Then learn as much as you can about how to control those risks. If you face a risk at work that you feel hasn't been adequately controlled or that isn't well-understood, tell your supervisor about it. Get it on the record — don't just quietly adjust your work habits.

✓ Read the label on tools and products and follow it to the letter. Don't assume that just because you've done something before means that you did it correctly or even safely. Mishaps don't happen every time somebody makes a mistake or cuts a corner. The problem with unauthorized shortcuts is that people often get away with them. Always wear required prescribed safety equipment, whether it means shatter-proof goggles,

rubber gloves for electrical work, a helmet while operating a motorcycle, or facemask when in the catcher's position during baseball or softball.

✓ Get to know the staff at your base safety office. Find out where they are and what services they offer.

✓ When you see a co-worker or shipmate doing something wrong or risky, speak up. Get involved. Don't let them learn the hard way if you can help it.

✓ Visit the Safety Center website. You can get a chuckle out of the Photo of the Week. Then do some serious research about topics that apply to your job. The site offers 11,000 pages of content for use in safety training and research.

✓ Pay attention to your local and service-wide mishap data. When was the last mishap at your command? What lessons were learned from it? If it is hard for you to find out,

you have discovered a problem. Focusing outward, how many shipmates die every year in traffic wrecks? How many drown off-duty? You can get a statistical snapshot, updated daily, on the Safety Center web site. If you don't know how much mishaps cost the Navy and Marine Corps every year (232 deaths, \$993M in damage during FY03), you won't truly understand the savings to be made by preventing mishaps.

✓ When you are behind the wheel, don't get emotional and don't get in a hurry. Buckle up. Don't drink and drive. Avoid driving when you are tired. Obey the speed limit, and go even slower when it is dark, foggy or rainy. Watch out for the other guy, because there are plenty of lousy drivers on the roads of America. You can reduce that number by one.

✓ Don't let hazard and warning signs become an invisible part of the background,

even though you see them every day. Pay attention to them and make sure you understand them. If they are wrong or unnecessary, get them corrected or removed. If you see a place where one is required or necessary, try to get one installed.

✓ Next to your phone, post your local emergency phone numbers: fire, police, medical, supervisor, 911 (on some bases, just dialing 911 doesn't work—you have to dial 9-911 or something else). If there's an accident, you'll want to save vital seconds by having those numbers handy. Know the location of emergency safety equipment: fire extinguishers, eyewash stations, first-aid kits.

✓ Stay focused on the task at hand, especially when working with hazardous material, power tools and machinery. Remember that a split-second break in concentration can result in injury or death.

Continuing on ...

Why change is necessary ...

Continued from page 2
and Recreation, to name a few, are now called program directors at the regional level.

These program directors use their regional perspective to make recommendations to installation commanding officers for identifying requirements, proposing budgets and recommending changes that are aimed at developing better business practices across the board.

Program directors work closely with their counterparts at the base level to ensure that the installations requirements are identified and taken into consideration as business plans and budgets are defined at a regional level.

Currently, program directors are conducting business studies and making proposals to commanding officers on areas where the Navy in the South-



east can be more efficient and effective.

The outcome of these studies will determine future changes in services and the military and civilian workforce structure.

With regard to operating budgets, CNI has identified four capability levels, ranging from an ideal, top-funded situation, known as Capability Level One, to a bare bones operation, known as Capability Level Four. Currently, most

programs across the Navy will be funded at Capability Level Three.

Program directors are responsible for ensuring that budgets, starting with fiscal year 2005, are built to reflect how much money is needed to perform at the Navy-wide definitions of services at Capability Level Three.

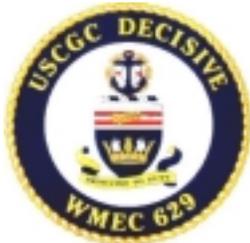
“Some may look at this as a reduction, but in today’s budget environment, it means the Navy is taking very seriously the idea that we spend our money wisely,” CAPT Larry Cotton, CNRSE Chief of Staff said. “With this budget system, there is no need, for example, for end-of-year spending, where people spend for spending sake. We ensure that there is no wasteful spending in one area, when the money could be better used elsewhere.”

USCGC Decisive returns home ...

Continued from page 6

“Go-Fast” vessel that was turned over to the Republic of Panama for prosecution.

To increase effectiveness in the southern Caribbean region, Decisive conducted joint surveillance operations with the Colombian and Panamanian Coast Guards coordinating a multi-national operation in the vicinity of the Colombian-Panamanian border. As a multi-mission unit, the cutter



also assisted a Colombian fishing vessel, Mar Pico, and her crew of five. The ill-fated fishermen were adrift for 10 days after their engine broke-down. Decisive towed the vessel to

safe harbor in Isla San Andres, Colombia, for repairs.

Decisive, a 210-foot medium endurance cutter, has a ship’s company of 12 officers, 70 enlisted crew members, and a four-member aviation detachment from the Helicopter Interdiction Tactical Squadron based in Jacksonville, Fla. For more information about the ship or the Coast Guard go to: www.uscg.mil/lantarea/cutter/decisive/.

Navy College Office education fairs ...

Continued from page 8

Gulf Coast education fairs have been scheduled during the month of July.

Navy College Office **Naval Station Pascagoula** will host a Fair on Tuesday, July 27, 9 a.m. - 3p.m., in the Learning Resource Center, Building 34, classroom 2. For more information call (228) 761-2439 or

(DSN) 358-2439.

Navy College Office **Naval Construction Battalion Center Gulfport’s** Fair will be on Wednesday, July 28, 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., in Building 114, the Navy Marine Corps Reserve Center, inside the drill hall. Please enter through the rear entrance. For more informa-

tion call 871-2785 or (DSN) 868-2785.

Navy College Office **Naval Support Activity New Orleans** will host a fair on Thursday, July 29, from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., in the Navy College Office (Building 601). For more information call (504) 678-5226 or (DSN) 678-5226.

MWR Facilities Hours of operation

Outdoor Rental 761-2038

Boats, campers, travel trailers, land and garden equipment, outdoor grills, propane, hunting and fishing licenses, and much, much more. Mon-days and Saturdays, 6 a.m. - 2 p.m.; Tuesdays through Fridays, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Closed Sundays.

Cracker Jack’s Lakeside 938-0439

Food and beverages, five TVs, including a big-screen, free pool tables, free computers with internet capability, Play-stations, patio with view of the lake. Mondays-Thursdays, 5-10 p.m.; Fridays, 5-11 p.m.; Saturdays, 11 a.m. - 11 p.m.; Sundays, 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Sports/Fitness Center 761-2107

Mondays-Fridays, 5:30 a.m.-9:30 p.m.; Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, noon-6 p.m.

Kickboxing

Wednesdays, 11:30 a.m.

Water Jogging

Mondays, 11 a.m.; Wednesdays, 8 a.m.

Pilates

Tuesdays, 7 a.m.; Thursdays, 6 p.m.

Liberty Center

Monday through Friday, 10 a.m.-10 p.m.; Saturdays, Sundays, holidays, noon-10 p.m.

ITT

761-2432

Moved to Liberty Center. Ticket outlet for Gulf Coast Coliseum, theme park tickets, worldwide cruise packages, vacation and travel planning, information on local attractions. Mondays-Fridays, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Skeeter’s

Main Softball Field

Open for breakfast and lunch, Monday through Friday, 6 a.m. - 1 p.m. Also open for softball games, other sporting events, and for other special occasions.

MWR Activities

Prepare for the Battle of Mudlump

Mudlump Schedule of Events

Tuesday, July 6

All events at
NAVSTA Pascagoula
1100 - Waterpolo
1100 - Paintball
1100 - Racquetball Tournament preliminaries
1100 - Sand Volleyball Tournament preliminaries

Wednesday, July 7

All events at
NAVSTA Pascagoula
0730 - Lap Swim Relay
1100 - 3-Pitch Softball, Main field, next to Skeeters
TBD - Racquetball Tournament continues
TBD - Sand Volleyball Tournament continues

Thursday, July 8

All events at
NAVSTA Pascagoula
0730 - Poker Run
1100 - Dominos Tournament, Liberty Center
1200 - Golf Cart Race and Decorating Contest
TBD - Racquetball Tournament finals
TBD - Sand Volleyball Tournament continues
1830 - Pool Tournament, Liberty Center

Friday, July 9

All events at
Lakeside complex
0900 - Horseshoe Tournament
0930 - Spades Tournament
1000 - Mud Shootout (family event)
1030 - 3-point Shootout
TBD - Sand Volleyball Tournament finals
TBD - Jenga Challenge (family event)
1100 - Dodge Ball (children only)
1115 - Wheelchair Race
1145 - Chow Hall Challenge
TBD - Awards Ceremony

Naval Station Pascagoula's Morale, Welfare and Recreation department has a wide range of activities and events planned for July. They include:



MWR Shuttle Schedule

Need to get to the mall or to visit Cracker Jack's at the Lakeside facility? Shuttle service is provided daily.

Monday, Wednesday & Friday

4 - 10 p.m.

Saturday

2 - 10 p.m.

Swimming Pool

Enjoy some cool fun in the hot summer sun. The base pool is open, and ready for a splash any day of the week. Burn twice the fat during Water Jog. The pool hours are:

Lap Swim

Monday - Friday

6:30 - 8:30

11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Open Swim

Monday - Friday

1 - 7 p.m.

Saturday and Sunday

Noon - 5 p.m.

Water Jogging

Mondays, 11 a.m.,

Wednesday, 8 a.m.

Mid-Year Fitness

Anyone having difficulties fulfilling fitness goals should talk to one of the personal trainers at the Fitness Center about a fitness contract. A fitness contract enables people to set realistic goals, and the personal trainers propose a comprehensive program with timetables. Once a plan is agreed on, it's put in writing, and the personal trainer monitors progress with follow-up contact if necessary. Call 761-2107.

Massage Service

Relax. Give your muscles 15 minutes of free massage at the base gymnasium every Wednesday, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Call 761-2107 to make a reservation. Massage service provided by Lori Richter, massage therapist.

Liberty Center Grand-Opening

The newly remodeled Cyber Cafe will soon be open as a full-service Liberty Center. The new facility offers free use of computers, leisure amenities including a movie theater with surround-sound. It has designated areas for pool and Playstation games. ITT has also moved its offices into the Liberty Center. Free refreshments will be served during the grand re-opening.



Battle of Mudlump July 6-9

Don't miss out on this year's Battle of Mudlump. Help celebrate Naval Station Pascagoula's 12th anniversary. Bring the entire family out to the Lakeside complex in Pascagoula on Friday, July 9. There will be lots of fun for everyone of all ages, including live music, volleyball finals, and much more. A full schedule of events is listed on the left of this page.



BBQ and Pool Party

July 13, 6:30 p.m.

Swimming Pool

Make a splash at the Liberty Center's barbecue and pool

party. Swim or socialize on the pool deck. There will be music, games, and free food.

Fishing Tournament

July 16, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Don't let the big one get away. Register at Outdoor Rental, 761-2038. Hook the biggest one and win a prize.

Spades Tournament

July 22, 6:30 p.m.

Liberty Center

Don't let the little joker get the best of you. Come out to the Liberty Center to see if you have a winning hand.



Bay Bears Baseball July 24, 7:05 p.m.

Take the family and enjoy an evening of minor league baseball at the Hank Aaron Stadium in Mobile. The Mobile Bay Bears play the Jacksonville San Diego Padres. The first 1,000 children receive assorted souvenir give-aways. Tickets purchased from ITT are only \$6. ITT has new offices in the Liberty Center.

CDH Services

Child Development Homes currently has openings for child care in Gautier, Ocean Springs, and Moss Point. These providers offer a nurturing environment which promotes the social and cognitive development of child. The rates are reasonable, and the hours are flexible. Call the CDH office for more information or a list of current providers at 761-2525 or 761-2524.

Training is available for anyone who may be interested in becoming a CDH provider.