



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

# Homeport

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## ***Inside:***

*Tico prepares for decommissioning, page 3*

*Decisive gets a new Captain, page 6*

*FFSC honors Ombudsmen, page 10*

Photo by Stacey Byington

## A word from our Commanders

# SECDEF on why we fight in Iraq

More than 15 months ago, a global coalition ended the brutal regime of Saddam Hussein and liberated the people of Iraq.

As in all conflicts, this has come at a cost in lives. Some of your comrades made the ultimate sacrifice. For your sacrifices, our country and the president are deeply grateful.

In a free, democratic country we have vigorous debates over important public policy issues - none more heated than a decision to go to war. But this should not distract us from the mission at hand or lessen the magnitude of your accomplishments.

The threat we face must be confronted. And you are doing so exceedingly well. Indeed it has been an historic demonstration of skill and military power.

On Sept. 11, 2001, 3,000 citizens were killed by extremists determined to frighten and intimidate our people and civilized societies. The future danger is that, if the extremists gain the potential, the number of casualties would be far higher. Terrorists are continuing to plot attacks against the American people and against other civilized societies. This is a different kind of enemy and a different kind of world. And we must think and act differently in this new century.

These extremists think nothing of cutting off innocent people's heads to try to intimidate great nations. They have murdered citizens from many countries --



*Donald Rumsfeld  
Secretary of Defense*

South Korea, Japan, Spain, the United Kingdom and others - hoping to strike fear in the hearts of free people.

Theirs is an ideology of oppression and subjugation of women. They seek to create radical systems that impose their views

on others. And they will accept no armistice with those who choose free systems.

They see the governments of the middle east, the United States and our stalwart allies all as targets.

Consider the background. In the span of 20 years, Hussein's Iraq invaded two neighbors, Iran and Kuwait, and launched ballistic missiles at two more. He employed poison gas against soldiers in Iran and against Kurdish villagers in his own country.

The United Nations and the U.S. Congress shared the view that Saddam's regime was a threat to the region and the world. Indeed, in 1998, our congress passed a resolution calling for the removal

of the regime. And over the years the U.N. passed 17 resolutions condemning Saddam's regime and calling on him to tell the U.N. about his weapons programs. He ignored every one.

Information gathered since the defeat of Saddam's regime last year confirms that his last declaration to the United Nations about his weapons programs was falsified. The U.N. resolutions had called for "serious consequences" should Saddam not comply. He did not.

The president issued a final ultimatum to Saddam to relinquish power to avoid war. Saddam chose war instead.

By your skill and courage, you have put a brutal dictator in the dock to be tried by the Iraqi people and restored freedom to 25 million people. By helping to repair infrastructure, rebuild schools, encourage democratic institutions and delivering educational and medical supplies, you have shown America's true character and given Iraq a chance at a new start. But most importantly, your fight - and ultimate victory - against the forces of terror and extremism in Iraq and the middle east will have made America safer and more secure.

You are accomplishing something noble and historic - and future generations of Americans will remember and thank you for it.

## SECNAV reminds Sailors to vote

WASHINGTON (NNS) — Every day, around the world, Sailors and Marines dedicate themselves to protecting and serving our great nation. This is part of the proud heritage of our renowned Navy/Marine Corps team. It is your daily dedication to America that ensures our liberty and allows us to enjoy many unsurpassed privileges.

The right to vote is one such privilege - a privilege earned by American patriots, like you, who believe in the ideals of a democratic system. The very cornerstone of our democracy is the hard-won right to vote. By exercising your right to vote, you help make our nation a shining beacon of democracy and self-government to all other people in the world.

I encourage all eligible Sailors, Marines and their family members to vote. I also



*The Honorable  
Gordan England,  
Secretary of the Navy*

remind you to register early, and above all, be assured that your vote counts. Contact your command's voting assistance officer for absentee voter registration materials and any additional assistance you may need.

Thank you for your faithful service to our great nation. God bless you and your families, and God bless America.



Naval Station Pascagoula's hometown on-line newspaper

## Homeport

**Commanding Officer . . . . CDR Terry Rea**  
**Executive Officer . . . . . LCDR Nancy Fink**  
**Public Affairs Officer . . . . Stacey Byington**  
**Homeport Editor . . . . . JO1 Kim deJong**

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## From Our Fleet

# Ticonderoga prepares for decommissioning

By Stacey Byington  
Public Affairs Officer

The USS Ticonderoga (CG 47), the first of its class, is being decommissioned on Sept. 30, after more than 22 years of service in the defense of her country. The decommissioning ceremony will be held on the west quaywall of Naval Station Pascagoula, where the Ticonderoga has been homeported since June 1996.

Most current era ships have three to four months following their last deployment to prepare for decommissioning. In the Ticonderoga's case, the ship has less than 60 days to complete all tasking associated with decommissioning and transferring crew members.

"We are actually well ahead of schedule," said Ticonderoga's commanding officer, CDR Glenn Zeiders III. "We had a good plan set up before we left on deployment, and knock on wood, it's been going like clockwork so far."

The decommissioning process with regard to the ship and its equipment is worked out to the smallest detail.

"From the ship's force perspective, every one of the spaces needs to be closed out," said Zeiders. "In order to close out a space, all flammable materials must be removed, all classified material is removed, and electrical equipment must be disconnected. There's a significant amount of work involved. Everything comes out."

While preparing to close out some of the ship's spaces, Zeiders said crew members found boxes of materials that had been stored beneath deck plates dating back to the early years of the ship's history.

"Crew members who stored the material transferred, and over the years, people forgot it was there," he said.



Photo by JO1 Kim deJong

***Because all ship's spaces need to be cleared and sealed, the USS Ticonderoga (CG 47) held the Navy's version of a yard sale on Aug. 19, giving other area ships and military commands the opportunity to transfer custody of needed items before they are sent to the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Service (DRMO) for final disposition.***

Crew members also help the contracted personnel drain all fluids from ship's systems — feed water, sea water, air conditioning, steam, fresh water, and sewage. All valves have to be airtight and watertight to prevent any possible flooding in the ship after it is decommissioned.

Much like with a maintenance availability when a ship is in a shipyard, contractor personnel are responsible for much of the heavy maintenance work.

Contracted personnel are responsible for removing pieces of equipment too large for ship's crew to maneuver or which have to be physically cut or unbolted from the ship's structure. Additionally the area responsible for ensuring all the sea valves are closed, sealed with a blank flange, and wired shut. The Ticonderoga has 95 major sea valves.

Contracted personnel are also responsible for preparing the ship for towing, and en-

suring the ship is airtight, sealing off all ventilation shafts, and any other shaft or system where air or water could possibly get into the ship.

The Navy will recapitalize the equipment being removed from the Ticonderoga. The radar antenna, other antennas from the ship's mast, weapons systems illuminators, and much of the engineering equipment have already been removed and are being redistributed to other ships in the Navy as needed.

A number of consumables and spare parts were off-loaded from the Ticonderoga when it stopped in Mayport just before it returned to Pascagoula. Other parts removed by Sailors from the Shore Intermediate Maintenance Activity (SIMA) Pascagoula will then be available to be used as repair parts for the Gates, and possibly other ships homeported at Pascagoula.

"Not only does the Navy save money by recapitalizing

on the equipment they can reuse, but there are approximately 400 Sailors on here that will now go on to man other ships," said Zeiders. "Manpower costs money, and the Navy is moving toward more automation, less manpower."

Approximately 150 Ticonderoga crew members have already been transferred to other duty assignments, another 150 will be transferred over the next month, and only 150 will be left by Sept. 30. All of those will be transferring immediately following the decommissioning ceremony.

The Ticonderoga is one of five Ticonderoga-class guided missile cruisers to be decommissioned over the next two years. In addition to the Ticonderoga, the USS Valley Forge (CG 50), homeported in San Diego, Calif., was decommissioned on Aug. 30, and the USS Yorktown (CG 48) will be decommissioned in December 2004. The USS Vincennes (CG 49) and the USS Thomas S. Gates (CG 51) are also scheduled for decommissioning but no dates have been set.

Maintaining fleet readiness continues to be a priority. Striking these ships, instead of maintaining them as mobilization assets, allows the Navy to use the systems and equipment removed from the decommissioned ships to save money and increase the readiness of the rest of the cruiser ships. The cost of maintaining older ships reaches a point where it makes more fiscal sense to decommission them and use that cost and personnel savings to increase readiness in other areas, including shipbuilding programs.

The ships are being stricken from the active list of Naval vessels and will be towed and transferred to the Inactive Ships Maintenance Facility in Philadelphia, Pa.

## From our Fleet

# USS Gates returns from deployment

By Stacey Byington  
Public Affairs Officer

USS Thomas S. Gates (CG 51) returned to its homeport at Naval Station Pascagoula, on Aug. 2, after a very successful five-month deployment for her crew of nearly 400 Sailors and officers. The deployment covered a variety of missions, including circumnavigating the South American continent.

"The ship and the crew have achieved a great amount over the past five months," said CDR Richard Rainer, commanding officer of USS Thomas S. Gates. "Whether it be counter-drug operations, public affairs missions, or operations with U.S. and South American naval assets, the men and women of the Gates have excelled at every opportunity."

Departing Pascagoula on March 10, Gates and her embarked helicopter detachment (HSL 42 Detachment 9 out of Mayport, Fla.) immediately began counter-narcoterrorism operations in the Caribbean Sea.

In the early morning hours of March 19, her U.S. Coast Guard Law Enforcement Detachment (LEDET) boarded the cruise ship *Celebrity Summit* to serve a federal warrant for the apprehension of Jose Miguel Battle, Jr., also known as "El Padrino," a suspected leader of an organized crime outfit, "The Corporation." Authorities feared that he would be able to flee and avoid prosecution if he were not taken into custody before the ship's next port call in Costa Rica.

LEDET 101, based in San Diego, Calif., and embarked on Gates, was directed to board the cruise ship and apprehend Battle. After confirming the location of the suspect, the Coast Guard boarding team was able to safely and silently



Photo by Stacey Byington

*With huge smiles on their faces and flowers in their hands, Sailors on the guided-missile cruiser USS Thomas S. Gates (CG 51) excitedly await tie-up, as the ship returns to its homeport at Naval Station Pascagoula.*

secure Battle and then turn him over to proper authorities. Throughout the operation, Gates was under the tactical control of the Miami-based Seventh Coast Guard District and supported Coast Guard personnel in execution of their mission.

Following release from its counter-narcoterrorism duties, the ship visited New London, Conn., in support of Commander, Navy Region Northeast, and Submarine Base New London's annual submarine birthday ball. While in New London, Gates was open for public tours and hosted an estimated 3,000 guests.

Gates' next port of call was Philadelphia, Pa., and the ship navigated the Delaware River to Penn's Landing to help the city celebrate Armed Forces Day. Gates wrapped up the month of May by anchoring in Annapolis, Md., in support of commissioning week at the United States Naval Academy.

Following the visit to Annapolis, Gates departed south to escort the Navy's newest aircraft carrier USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76) as the carrier circumnavigated South America heading to its new homeport in San Diego. The Gates also served as the Ronald Reagan Strike Group Air Defense Commander during the U.S. Navy's "Summer Pulse 2004" exercise.

During this exercise, seven U.S. Navy carrier strike groups, several expeditionary strike groups, significant logistic shipping, and numerous submarines, all supported by a strong and dedicated shore infrastructure, executed missions in support of operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom, conducted extensive exercises with North and South American countries, hosted "Rim of the Pacific" exercises, and participated in multi-carrier coalition exercises with NATO allies and African

partners. Summer Pulse 2004 emphasized the fleet and shore communities' ability to rapidly prepare and provide credible combat power to regional combatant commanders. Summer Pulse participants demonstrated the Navy's ability to execute and sustain a large-scale naval surge while operating and training jointly with allies and coalition partners. This proactive forward engagement has been instrumental in forging and reinforcing strong transoceanic relations with our friends, allies, and coalition partners.

"Working with the Ronald Reagan Strike Group was an outstanding training opportunity for our crew," said LCDR John Rexrode, Gates' executive officer. "Typically, Navy ships in Pascagoula are assigned 'independent steaming' duties in support of counter-narcoterrorism operations, or in support of South American multi-national exercises, and are not

*Continued on page 13*

## From our Fleet

# Ticonderoga returns from final deployment

By ENS Lisa Quayle and  
LTJG Patty Hogan  
USS Ticonderoga PAO

The guided-missile cruiser USS Ticonderoga (CG 47) returned to its homeport at Naval Station Pascagoula on Aug. 3, after completing its final and most successful deployment before the ship's decommissioning on Sept. 30. Ticonderoga set a new record for counter drug operations, completing six interdictions in five months, netting more than 14,000 pounds of cocaine, and detaining 25 suspects.

"I'm really proud of the efforts of all hands for their accomplishments on Ticonderoga's final cruise," said Ticonderoga's commanding officer, CDR Glenn W. Zeiders III. "This crew's achievements over the last year and a half, which included winning the Arleigh Burke Fleet Trophy as most improved unit in the Atlantic Fleet, and tying or breaking every record for drug interdictions while on deployment, place a superb capstone on the 22-year record of excellence of a great ship."

In addition to ship's company, other key elements of Ticonderoga's team included Helicopter Anti-submarine Squadron Light (HSL) 60 with Jaguar 605 homeported at Mayport, Fla., and Coast Guard Law Enforcement Detachments (LEDET) 401 and 409, out of Miami, Fla. HSL 60 logged more than 400 hours conducting 140 sorties during the deployment. The speed of the helicopter and the skills of her pilots and crew added sig-



Photo by Stacey Byington

***Family and friends of USS Ticonderoga (CG 47) crew members wave and try to get the first glimpses of their loved ones as the ship returns home.***

nificantly to Ticonderoga's ability to pursue and capture 'go-fasts,' the cigarette-shaped boats specifically built to smuggle narcotics.

The Coast Guard detachments were the acting law enforcement officials aboard and conducted all search and seizure operations on suspect vessels. Their finely tuned investigative skills led them to discover hidden compartments and concealed contraband aboard numerous vessels.

Ticonderoga departed Pascagoula on March 10. Multi-national cooperation played a large part in the ship's successful deployment.

Initially, the ship patrolled waters in the Caribbean Sea. In late April, in conjunction with Colombian military authorities, its crew successfully located, tracked, and pursued a 'go-fast'. With use of surface and air interdiction tactics, Ticonderoga quickly responded and effectively demon-

strated exceptional tactical coordination in the boarding and eventual seizure of a smuggler's supply vessel. Ticonderoga boarding team members meticulously combed the vessel and questioned the crew, which eventually led to the discovery of approximately 5,808 pounds of cocaine and the apprehension of seven people.

Ticonderoga patrolled the Caribbean for 54 days and scored one more drug bust before transiting through the Panama Canal on May 5. Upon exiting the canal, Ticonderoga conducted counter-drug operations in the Eastern Pacific.

The ship used its intelligence and air assets off the coast of Costa Rica to pursue another "go-fast." The Costa Rican Navy joined the chase with two surface vessels, a helicopter, and a fixed wing aircraft. The 'go-fast' crew beached the craft on the Costa Rican coastline and the people aboard immediately ran into the mountain terrain. Costa Rican authorities apprehended the fleeing suspects. Four detainees were captured and immediately prosecuted in Costa Rica and sentenced for their actions.

The fourth 'go-fast' was captured on June 23 as Ticon-

deroga continued operating in the Eastern Pacific. The ship's helicopter crew acquired the 'go-fast' and sent position updates to Ticonderoga. After a high-speed chase, Ticonderoga closed on the suspect vessel, and the 'go-fast' crew surrendered. The ship recovered 72 bales of cocaine weighing approximately 3,600 pounds.

The final 'go-fast' vessel was captured in the Eastern Pacific on June 28. The ship visually acquired the 'go-fast' vessel southwest of Panama and began to close on its target. During the chase, the 'go-fast' jettisoned a number of bales. Ticonderoga, with assistance of USS Crommelin (FFG 37), was able to recover a total of 38 bales weighing approximately 2,176 lbs.

During in-port breaks between military training exercises and law enforcement busts, Ticonderoga crewmembers enjoyed sight-seeing, golfing, scuba diving and shopping in Cozumel, Mexico; Guantanamo Bay, Cuba; Cartagena, Colombia; Puerto Quetzal, Guatemala; and Panama City, Panama.

The ship took these opportunities to strengthen U.S. relations with several of these countries. Tours for Colombian Naval Academy midshipmen and dignitaries in Cartagena were popular events. The crew was also invited to play in soccer matches against the Colombians and Panamanians. On Memorial Day in Panama, a group of Ticonderoga Sailors paid tribute to those who have served our nation and are buried in Panama by participating in a joint service ceremony at the Pan-American Cemetery.

This deployment marks the last for USS Ticonderoga. Her continuous excellence in service will be remembered when she is decommissioned on Sept. 30.

## About the cover

***Homecoming -- Crew members of the USS Ticonderoga (CG 47) man the rails, some with flowers in hand for family members, as the ship pulls into its homeport at Naval Station Pascagoula, on Aug. 3.***

## From our Fleet

# USCGC Decisive gets a new Captain

By Stacey Byington  
Public Affairs Officer

US Coast Guard Cutter Decisive said farewell to Commanding Officer, CDR Kurt Van Horn, and welcomed a new Commanding Officer, CDR Steve Baynes, on Aug. 13. The change of command ceremony took place aboard Decisive at its homeport of Naval Station Pascagoula. The presiding officer for the change of command was VADM Vivien S. Crea, Commander of the Coast Guard's Atlantic Area.

CDR Van Horn assumed command of Decisive in May 2002. During his tour, Decisive was an integral part of the war on drugs. One of four 210-ft. cutters equipped for working with the Coast Guard's newest helicopter, Hitron, the ship intercepted five go-fast vessels. These efforts lead to the detention of 13 suspects and the seizure of approximately 9,000 pounds of cocaine. While deployed be-



Photo by Stacey Byington

***CDR Steve Baynes, incoming commanding officer, and CDR Kurt Van Horn, outgoing CO, inspect the crew of the USCGC Decisive as part of a traditional U.S. Coast Guard change of command ceremony.***

tween Puerto Rico and the Dominican Republic in January 2004, Decisive and her crew safely interdicted more than 900 migrants spanning a three-week period. Closer to home, Decisive boarded numerous fishing vessels in the

Gulf of Mexico ensuring the protection of valuable fisheries in the area.

CDR Van Horn is leaving Pascagoula to report to the Eighth Coast Guard District headquarters in New Orleans

where he will serve as head of Personnel Administration.

The new Commanding Officer, CDR Baynes, reports to Pascagoula from Washington, D.C., where he was serving as Chief, Operational Analysis and Planning Division at Coast Guard Headquarters. CDR Baynes, who is a native of Washington, DC, served aboard USCGC Venturous after graduating from the Coast Guard Academy. Other sea tours include duty as the Operations Officer aboard USCGC Confidence, and later as the Executive Officer of USCGC Dauntless.

The ceremony surrounding the change of command is a time-honored tradition. It is a public ceremony formally transferring command and complete responsibility for vessel and crew from one officer to another.

Decisive, a 210-foot medium endurance cutter, has a ship's company of 12 officers, and 70 enlisted crew members.

## Yorktown supports global war on terrorism

By Stacey Byington  
Public Affairs Officer

USS Yorktown (CG 48) returned home to Naval Station Pascagoula on Aug. 16, after a successful six-month deployment with the WASP Expeditionary Strike Group (ESG-2). Yorktown made key contributions to Operations Iraqi Freedom, Enduring Freedom, and Market Time II in support of the global war on terrorism.

The crew dubbed this deployment their "Victory Lap" because it is Yorktown's last scheduled deployment before decommissioning in December 2004, and is in keeping with the ship's motto, "Victory is our Tradition."



Photo by JO1 Kim deJong

***Crew members of the USS Yorktown raise the U.S. flag signaling their return to homeport after completing their last deployment.***

The ship, with embarked Detachment 2 from Mayport, Helicopter Squadron Light 42 Fla, set sail on Feb. 17 from

Pascagoula, and rendezvoused with the rest of the strike group off the coast of North Carolina three days later. Other ships with the strike group included the amphibious assault ship USS Wasp (LHD 1), amphibious transport dock ship USS Shreveport (LPD 12), amphibious dock landing ship USS Whidbey Island (LSD 41), guided-missile cruiser USS Leyte Gulf (CG 55), guided-missile destroyer USS McFaul (DDG 74), and fast-attack submarine USS Connecticut (SSN 22). The transit across the Atlantic Ocean would be one of the few times where all ships of the strike group operated together in close proximity.

Yorktown spent a short time  
*Continued on page 12*

## From our Fleet

# Hall trains with multi-national force

By LT Lgia Cohen  
NFSC Public Affairs

ABOARD USS JOHN L. HALL (At Sea)- While patrolling the Pacific approaches of the Panama Canal, training with Chilean and Peruvian forces, the guided-missile frigate USS John L. Hall (FFG 32) intercepted and boarded two cargo vessels suspected of posing a threat to the Panama Canal as part of the PANAMAX 2004 training scenario.

Tasked with providing a layered defense for the Pacific approaches to the Panama Canal, the Hall and its embarked detachment from Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron Light (HSL 62) conducted maritime surveillance to screen all maritime traffic and identify the suspected vessels. After querying transiting vessels, it was determined if visits were warranted.

"Hall was ready for this mission," stated CMD Eric C. Young, Commanding Officer, USS John L. Hall. "We have been conducting counter-drug operations while on deployment; therefore, when we received the call, we were able to achieve mission success due to the experienced gained through counter-drug operations. We had a smooth transition into the counter-terrorist attack mission."



Photo by PH2 (AW/SW) Kevin Tidewell

***LTJG Marshall gives the orders to Boatswain Mate Seaman Guejarapotosi to send messages to the engineering department to navigate USS John L. Hall during Panamax 2004.***

"This was an excellent opportunity for us to exercise our systems and mission acumen," stated LCDR Craig D. Grubb, Officer in Charge HSL 62 Detachment 5. "We greatly enjoyed this opportunity to interact and operate in a multinational forum."

The Hall's Visit, Board, Search and Seizure (VBSS) team boarded two cargo vessels in four days, including a coordinated boarding with U.S. Naval Special Forces. While the first boarding of the exercise did not turn any positive results, the second boarding resulted in the seizure of the

vessel and its "explosives," which were meant to demolish the "Bridge of The Americas" according to the exercise scenario.

"There was a lot of emphasis placed on the VBSS portion of the exercise. I think our team did magnificently given the environmental circumstances. We stuck to our training and made adaptations when challenges arose," said LT Philip L. Howard, VBSS officer aboard the USS John L. Hall.

"I would like to personally thank STCS (SW) Michael D. Davis, he help to prepare the

team for almost any situation and kept all of us organized and enthused throughout the whole boarding process."

Similar training opportunities were provided for the Chilean vessels, BACH Ministro Zenteno (PFG 08) and BACH Micalvi (PSG 71), as well as the Peruvian vessels BAP Mariategui and BAP Herrera. These vessels, along with the Hall, were assigned to the Pacific Task Group, led by Chilean Commodore Enrique Alwayay.

The Pacific Task Group was part of Commander Joint Task Force (CJTF) 138, which also included Land, Air, Special Operations, Coastal and Caribbean task groups. CJTF 138, was led by RADM Vinson Smith and integrated as a coalition naval and coast guard forces from Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Honduras, Panama, Peru and the United States and observers from Ecuador.

"Coming into the exercise, we anticipated that Command and Control and interoperability would be the most difficult aspects due to language and communications barriers. Yet, when it was time to execute the mission, we quickly realized that as naval officers and Sailors we all speak the same language," said Young.

## New Arrivals

***Mark-Anthony James Brock***, new son to EN1 Anthony Brock.  
Born June 26.

***John William Kountz***, new son to LCDR Sabra Kountz.  
Born July 24.

***Abigail Grace Mullenix***, new daughter to RP3 Jason Mullenix.  
Born July 28.

***Isabella Marie Crump***, new daughter to QM3 Monica Crump.  
Born August 11.



## Around the Homeport

### Navy CPO selectees for Pascagoula-area commands

#### Naval Station Pascagoula

MAC(SW/AW) Thomas M. Blich

MAC Leonard Henry

MAC(SW) Zachary C. Loper

#### SIMA Pascagoula

HTC(SW/AW) Michael Richardson

#### Destroyer Squadron 6

CSC(SW/AW) Terry S. Richards

#### USS Stephen W. Groves (FFG 29)

ETC(SW) Robert R. Barlow

ITC(SW) Roger Hilliard

ENC(SW) Ronald M. Schlueter Jr.

#### USS John L. Hall (FFG 32)

(currently deployed)

EMC(SW) Matthew B. Chism

OSC(SW) Kyle R. Graham

OSC(SW) Jeffrey L. Hawthorn

DKC(SW) Kevin R. Ward

ENC(SW) Arturo Puente

(on temporary duty from U.S. Embassy Panama)

#### USS Ticonderoga (CG 47)

SHC(SW) Dennis Edwards

YNC(SW) Michael Linton

FCC(SW) Jesus Pavon Jr.

OSC(SW) Shawn L. Wise

#### USS Yorktown (CG 48)

CTRC(SW) Kenneth Rosier

STGC(SW) Gregory Thomas

GMC(SW) Jack Wagner

#### USS Thomas S. Gates (CG 51)

ENC(SW) Thomas Brooks

ITC(SW) Eric Gilbert

ISC(SW/AW) Michael Starnes

#### Supervisor of Shipbuilding, Gulf Coast

MMC(SW) Lafayette G. Duke Jr.

#### PCU James W. Williams (DDG 95)

GMC(SW) Robert J. Lilly



Photo by ENC(AW/SW) Richard Phillips

*Chief Petty Officer selectee Robert Barlow tries on a new hat at the Navy Exchange. One of the transitions a new Chief makes is a new wardrobe, which elevates him from a junior enlisted man (or woman) to 'The Chief.'*

## CPO selectees face practical challenges

By Stacey Byington  
Public Affairs Officer

Beginning with the announcement of their selection on July 28, and continuing through to their pinning on Sept. 16, and beyond, today's Navy Chief Petty Officer (CPO) selectees are facing challenges in both professional growth and development tougher than anything they have faced in the past.

Navywide, 3,891 active duty and 868 reserve and full-time support Sailors were selected for promotion to chief petty officer.

From among all the Navy commands at Naval Station Pascagoula and in the Jackson County area, 26 Sailors were selected for promotion to chief petty officer, and like their fel-

low selectees around the world, they are working hard to make the transition from 'Ask the Chief' to 'Hey, Chief.'

"This has been my goal since entering the Navy," said MAC(SW/AW) select Thomas Blich from Naval Station Pascagoula. "The training we are receiving now, before we are officially promoted on Sept. 16, will help us be better prepared to lead our troops."

"We are learning time-honored traditions and valuable lessons that will serve us well throughout the rest of our naval careers and our lives," said GMC(SW) select Robert Lilly off the PCU James E. Williams (DDG 95).

As he recently addressed a group of CPO selectees, Master Chief Petty Officer of the

*Continued on page 11*

## Around the Homeport



Photo by JO1 Kim deJong

**Community service --** Members of the Naval Station Pascagoula First Class Petty Officers' Association (FCPOA) pick up trash along U.S. 90 between Singing River Hospital and Chicot Rd. The FCPOA adopted the stretch of road as part of a community service project.



Photo by JO1 Kim deJong

**Promotion --** CAPT Daniel Frederick, MC, Officer in Charge of Branch Medical Clinic Pascagoula, thanks his wife, Paula, and children (from left to right) Chris, Ryan and Danielle, for their support throughout his career. His family, friends and co-workers were all present as Frederick was promoted to Captain on Aug. 6 at the USO. His children assisted with placing his new shoulder boards on his uniform, signifying his promotion in rank.



Photo by Stacey Byington

**Women's Equality Day --** Elaine Burks-Goubil, a senior sales director for Mary Kay Cosmetics treats SK3 Pamela Blessing and other female Sailors and civilians to beauty make-overs. Ms. Burks-Goubil was the guest speaker at the Women's Equality Day luncheon, held Aug. 18, at the Learning Resource Center. The luncheon was hosted by the American Heritage Committee, Naval Station Pascagoula, and by the Gulf Coast Supervisor of Shipbuilding, Conversion and Repair.



Photo by Stacey Byington

**Scholarship --** PC2 Cassandra Searight poses with Mary Cheek, center, and Cheek's daughter Susan McLaurin after she received the William Cheek Memorial Scholarship. The scholarship was presented in recognition of William Cheek's submarine service and his lifelong dedication to furthering the education of his family members and many other. Searight was one of two recipients of the scholarship. HT2 Brian Coombe, of the Shore Intermediation Maintenance Activity (SIMA) was also awarded a Cheek Memorial Scholarship.

## Around the Homeport

# FFSC honors area Ombudsmen

By JO1 Kim deJong  
Public Affairs Office

September is Ombudsman appreciation month and the Fleet and Family Support Center (FFSC) has a special event planned to honor all area Ombudsmen.

This year's Ombudsman Appreciation Reception is Sept. 9 in the FFSC conference room. The event will be from 6 to 8 p.m., and all Ombudsmen are invited to attend.

The reception will honor the area Ombudsman and commands will have the opportunity to honor the commitment their Ombudsmen have given to the command.

Ombudsmen are the liaison between a command and the families. They work directly with the commanding officer of the command and support the command mission.

"Our Ombudsmen are on



call 24 hours a day, seven days a week," said Gerri Warden, the FFSC Area Ombudsman Advisor. "Their job is one that has no pay or rewards and takes a great deal of commitment, and that is why the FFSC sponsors an event which allows the area commands to show their appreciation for the dedication of our Ombudsman."

Ombudsmanship is a demanding job. It is not always easy or fun, and it demands a great amount of time.

"When a ship is deployed,



Ombudsmen put in a great deal of time and it takes a special kind of person to be an Ombudsman," said Warden.

Ombudsmen are the resource for pertinent base and local community information. Their knowledge allows families to get immediate information and allows Sailors and the command to continue their mission, knowing their families are getting the care necessary.

The Navy ombudsman program is 34 years old. It was established in 1970, under the

direction of ADM Elmo Zumwalt, then the Chief of Naval Operations.

He created the Ombudsman program as a way to relieve Navy Chaplains, who, at the time, played a much more active role in caring for the individual and family needs.

Originally the wives' club elected the Ombudsmen, but now they are appointed by commanding officers.

The current area Ombudsmen are Jennifer Starnes, for the USS Thomas S. Gates; Tonya Ferrell for the USS Stephen W. Groves; Shannon Hamar and Angelica Tashiro for the USS John L. Hall; Gibbi Roberts for the USS Ticonderoga, Michelle Chandler for the USS Yorktown; Roseanna Weaver for USCGC Decisive; Sandra Coghlan for Naval Station Pascagoula; and Dorie Monhart and Stacie Hiott, for PCU James E Williams.

## Basketball raises money for Habitat for Humanity

By JO1 Kim deJong  
Public Affairs Office

Naval Station Pascagoula recently contributed to the local community by raising money for Habitat for Humanity's 'Operation Build-a-Home.' To help this cause the station hosted a 5-on-5 basketball tournament on Aug. 13-14.

Five teams from around the Gulf Coast signed up for the tournament. Proceeds from the event went to support the 'Build-a-Home' project.

'Operation Build-a-Home' is a partnership among Habitat for Humanity of Jackson County, the Ocean Springs Wal-Mart, and Northrop Grumman Ship Systems.

The station's Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) department organized the event, where the teams competed against one another in the



*The Naval Station Pascagoula team, in the white and blue uniforms, takes on Cool Blooded during the 5-on-5 tournament.*

double-elimination tournament.

The Cool Blooded team from Pascagoula placed first. The team from USS Stephen W. Groves (FFG 29) placed second and the Naval Station Pascagoula team placed third.

Other teams in the tournament included a team from Keesler Air Force base and a team named the Mobile Stars from Mobile, Ala.

"The tournament was a great way to partner with the

local communities efforts and to take care of those in need while having fun," said Kristen Kea, Naval Station Pascagoula MWR Director.

A check for \$300 for 'Operation Build-a-Home' was presented on Aug. 20 to Dempsey Bell, assistant manager of the Ocean Springs Wal-Mart by Sidell Corley, MWR's sports coordinator, and LCDR Nancy Fink, Naval Station Pascagoula executive officer.

The ground breaking for the first of four possible 'Operation Build-a-Home' houses in Jackson County was held July 22. The first one is being built in Cambridge Square in Gautier, and the recipient is an Army veteran who served during Desert Storm and Desert Shield, and is an employee of Northrop Grumman. The home is scheduled for completion in early December.

## Around the Homeport

# Education fair sponsored by Navy College

By OSSA Daniel Grevillius  
Public Affairs Office

Naval Station Pascagoula's third annual Education Fair took place on July 27. Thirteen colleges participated in the event, coming from as far as Trenton, N.J., and Fountain Valley, Calif.

Organizer Pauline Myers, the station's Navy College Office director, said that last year there were more colleges participating in the fair here, but because Keesler Air Force Base was having their education fair on the same day, several colleges went there instead.

She also said that on a normal year, about 100 Sailors visit the fair, but with all the ships at the homeport being out to sea, the turn-out was slightly less this year. "None-the-less, I am optimistic about the turn-



Photo by OSSA Daniel Grevillius

**Jacqueline O'Dell and Vernon Houchins (far right), representatives of Vincennes University and Robert Rosenbalm (far left) from Dallas TeleCollege speak with interested personnel at the Education Fair.**

out." The colleges were offering long-distance learning via

the internet, CD-ROM or mail-in courses. In addition, many offer NCPACE, which is a pro-

gram designed to allow deployed Sailors to continue their college classes while they are out to sea. These courses are offered in two forms; correspondence and CD-ROM.

Several of the colleges also had programs corresponding to particular Navy ratings, such as MA, ET, GSM, and OS, to name just a few.

Participating colleges included Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College; University of Southern Mississippi, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Vincennes University, Dallas TeleCollege, Coastline Community College and many more.

Anyone having questions about getting enrolled in any of the colleges participating in the education fair should contact the Navy College Office in the Learning Resource Center.

## CPO selectees face practical challenges ...

Continued from page 8

Navy (MCPON) Terry Scott congratulated and welcomed new chiefs into the Navy's 'CPO Mess.'

"The CPO transition you're about to embark on will set the path for your career into the Chief's mess," said Scott. "Being selected to become a chief is not an award or reward for your past achievements. It's our vote of confidence in you, that you've not only done a great job, but you have the ability to accept greater responsibility, handle more authority, and will be held accountable for accomplishing the mission. That's what a leader does, and as a chief petty officer, that's the expectation we have of you."

Today's CPO selectees, are undertaking practical classroom training and exercises that are geared toward helping them to develop the Sailors



that will work for them, specifically in the areas of evaluation preparation, awards and recognition, the proper procedures for honors and ceremonies, and counseling and mentoring.

"I am a third-generation Sailor," said MAC(SW) Zachary Loper, from Naval Station Pascagoula. "This is a goal that I have been working toward since I joined the Navy."

This year, all CPO selectees, both active and reserve, are required to complete more than 14 hours of training on Navy Knowledge Online (NKO), including six hours of situational

leadership, more than two hours of optimizing performance and more than two hours of resolving interpersonal issues.

The overall seven-week training period is based on a variety of competencies, including Navy core values, Navy traditions, military courtesies, and close order drill. Selectees are taught how to recognize sexual harassment and assault, and sailor-on-sailor violence, and what to do when confronted by those situations. They are provided with many tools, and shown how to use them, as they take on the responsibilities of a chief petty officer.

They are provided with required reading lists which include such greats as 'On Watch' by ADM Elmo Zumwalt, 'Battleship Sailor' by Theodore C. Mason, 'Brave Ship, Brave Men' by Arnold S.

Lott, 'Crossing the Line: A Bluejacket's WW II Odyssey' by Alvin Kernan, 'Descent into Darkness' by CDR Edward C. Raymer, and 'Devotion to Duty - A Biography of ADM Clifton A. F. Sprague' by John F. Wukovits. For those who wish to go above and beyond the call of duty, they can take on the entire 15-volume 'History of U.S. Naval Operations in World War II' by Samuel Eliot Morrison.

MCPON Scott challenges all CPO selectees to shift their focus toward developing young Sailors' careers, saying, "When you wake up on Sept. 17, remember ... This is not a reward for what you have done so far in your career," he said. "You were selected for the skills and potential for what you will be able to do for the Navy and its Sailors in the future. You were picked because we think you can do it."

## Continuing on....

# Yorktown returns from supporting war on terror ...

*Continued from page 6*

in the Mediterranean Sea with a brief visit to Taranto, Italy. Several days later the ship transited the Suez Canal into the Red Sea for the first time in its 20-year history, and then into the Arabian Gulf.

After reporting into the U.S. Fifth Fleet area of responsibility the crew demonstrated its reputation for outstanding performance with a rescue on the high seas. A distress call was received from the burning oil tanker, Mt. Everton, that had collided with a fishing vessel in the North Arabian Sea. The Yorktown crew responded immediately, coordinated the efforts of the ships in the area providing assistance, and conducted a search and rescue operation. After the Mt. Everton's crew was rescued, Yorktown sent firefighting personnel in small boats to help extinguish the fire, and significantly contributed to the salvage of the tanker.

Yorktown spent two months in the North Arabian Gulf as the on-scene commander of maritime security operations, defending U.S. and coalition warships, and protecting Iraq's Al Basra and Khawr Al Amaya oil terminals. These two Iraqi oil terminals are a vital part of Iraq's economy and account for more than 80 percent of the oil exported out of Iraq.

Terrorists attempted an attack on these terminals with explosive-laden boats on Apr. 24. The attack on the terminals was successfully repulsed by coalition forces and Iraqi security personnel, with only minimal damage to the terminals. However, three boarding team members from USS Firebolt (PC 10) were killed in the attack.

Yorktown, who was steaming nearby, responded quickly and coordinated protection of the oil terminals with all available assets in the area. The



Photo by Stacey Byington

### **Family members wait on the Naval Station Pascagoula quaywall for the homecoming of the USS Yorktown.**

ship's actions prevented subsequent attacks and ensured maximum protection of the vital oil platform assets. To aid in their defense, U.S. Marine Corps personnel were permanently stationed on each oil terminal. Commander, Middle East Force, CAPT Kurt Tidd, USN, and his staff embarked aboard Yorktown to command a very capable task force. Yorktown supported the Marines by providing food and water daily, and other support services such as showers and haircuts to keep them combat ready. The ship and her embarked helicopter detachment continued to protect the Iraqi terminals until the end of May, successfully deterring any further attacks.

Yorktown commenced the exercise phase of her deployment in the beginning of June and participated in a number of international exercises with the navies of Oman, Egypt, Britain, France and Jordan through mid-July. These exercises maintained strong international relationships between the U.S. and these countries, and improved ship-handling and war-fighting skills. Additionally, Yorktown conducted port visits to Muscat,

Oman; Safaga, Egypt; and Aqaba, Jordan; in support of these exercises, hosting receptions on board to welcome many of the influential civilian and military leaders. Yorktown performed admirably in every exercise and developed strong bonds with each of the participating navies.

After four months of high-paced fleet operations and exercises in the Middle East, Yorktown departed the Fifth Fleet area of responsibility and entered the Mediterranean Sea in late July, commencing her westbound transit to Pascagoula. The ship's hard work paid dividends with Mediterranean port visits to Souda Bay, Greece; Valetta, Malta; and Rota, Spain; during her transit through the Mediterranean.

Yorktown and her crew then began making preparations for their return to home. The ship stopped briefly in Yorktown, Va., to off-load ammunition in preparation for decommissioning in December, and to embark family and friends for a 'tiger cruise.'

"Crew members can justifiably be proud of their accomplishments to the global war on terrorism," said CDR Steven

Sloan, Yorktown's commanding officer. "The crew has met or exceeded every mission tasking during the six-month deployment to the Arabian Gulf and Mediterranean.

"Yorktown has and continues to set the standard for operational excellence. The ship's crew has demonstrated their motto 'Victory is Our Tradition,' and have proven their honor, courage, and commitment with a most successful 'Victory Lap,'" he added.

Family and friends of Yorktown crew members eagerly awaited the ship's return, and prepared a homecoming that included two country music bands. Planning for the homecoming began shortly after the ship's departure in February. One of the final events, in addition to the ship's homecoming, was a meet-and-greet for family and friends the evening before the ship's arrival at the Naval Station Pascagoula USO.

Shelley Laine, a country artist nominated by the New Music Weekly radio stations as best female artist for 2002, and 'Shelia and the RockerFellaz,' from Birmingham, Ala., performed at the ship's homecoming.

"Family members also planned a big 'welcome home' party for the ship's arrival," said Deanna Schaub, the ship's homecoming chairperson. "Shelley Laine and 'Shelia and the RockerFellaz' performed, t-shirts were sold, refreshments were served, and goody-bags handed out. The homecoming committee also made signs and posters to welcome the Yorktown home."

Commemorating the USS Yorktown homecoming, and as a tribute to Gulf Coast active duty military, Shelley Laine and 'Shelia and the RockerFellaz' performed Aug. 17, at the Imperial Palace in Biloxi.

## Continuing on ...

# Gates returns from deployment ...

*Continued from page 4*

usually afforded the opportunity to participate in U.S. Navy carrier strike group or expeditionary strike group operations.

"One of my most vivid memories came as we were less than 200 feet alongside USS Ronald Reagan receiving fuel for our propulsion gas turbine engines and she began launching her 'Super Hornet' F/A-18s from both the bow and waist catapults - not too many Navy ships regardless of homeport get to experience such a stirring event."

While deployed in support of Reagan Strike Group the Gates participated in naval exercises with the Brazilian, Uruguayan, Argentine, Chilean, and Peruvian navies, and escorted the Ronald Reagan through the Strait of Magellan - the first passage of a Nimitz-class carrier through the beautiful and famous passage.

Due to heavy seas in the Pacific Ocean, Gates did not exit to the Pacific Ocean via the Strait of Magellan Pacific exit, but with the assistance of the Chilean Navy, became the first Ticonderoga-class guided-missile cruiser to transit the Smyth Canal passage through the Patagonian archipelago, exiting 700 miles to the north after 36 consecutive hours of restricted maneuvering waters. The overall transit took more than three days to complete through channels varying in widths from four miles to less than 150 yards.

"The entire navigation detail was pretty tired by the end of the transit," said QM1(SW) Paul Dumas, "but I was proud of what we had accomplished. The bridge team and the pilots really came together on this one."

"Circumnavigating South America was truly a 'once-in-a-lifetime' experience," said Rexrode. "None of us on Tho-



*Family members wave flags and signs on the pier at Naval Station Pascagoula as the USS Thomas S. Gates (CG 51) returns from deployment.*

mas S. Gates will forget the breathtaking views while transiting the Strait of Magellan and Smyth Canal Patagonian passage — or the sunrises at 9:30 a.m."

While serving as the Reagan escort, Gates visited Punta del Este, Uruguay, and Valparaiso, Chile. During Gates' visit to Punta del Este, her Sailors gave generously of their time, participating in community relations projects and in the Navy's Project Handclasp. Gates' Sailor volunteers received high praise from both the beneficiaries and from the Office of Defense Cooperation (ODC) representative in Uruguay, who remarked that it was the best Project Handclasp event execution that he had ever seen.

"I had so much fun painting the school during the community relations project," said GM2(SW) Kelly Draper. "It was something that needed to be done, but (the school) couldn't afford the outside help. It was fun to be the ones providing it (the help)."

Additionally, approximately 60 Gates sailors and officers participated in a very successful community relations project arranged by the U.S. Embassy, while the Gates' wardroom conducted exchange visits with wardroom members of the Uruguayan Naval ship Rou Montevideo and were guests of honor at a reception jointly

hosted by the U.S. Ambassador to Uruguay and Commander Ronald Reagan Strike Group for the U.S. and Uruguayan navies.

After leaving Chile, Gates and other units of the strike group traveled north to the oceans off the coast of Peru to participate in UNITAS, a South American fleet exercise that derives its name from the Spanish word for "unity." Navy and amphibious (Marine) forces from 11 nations operated together during the exercise, which became the largest amphibious exercise in South American history.

Following the amphibious phase of UNITAS, Gates served as the flagship for Commander, U.S. Naval Forces U.S. Southern Command, and Commander Destroyer Squadron 6, during the two-week Pacific phase of UNITAS, where naval forces from the United States, Peru, Chile, Ecuador, Argentina, and Colombia conducted extensive naval exercises, and concluded the event with a three-day mock battle at sea.

"These past few months have been a marvelous experience for Gates' crew members, and has helped prepare them for events they will participate in when they transfer to ships in Mayport, Norfolk, and San Diego," concluded Rexrode.

### 'Get-out-of-PT' Chits Available

The Navy Ball committee has 'Get-out-of-PT' chits available for sale to Sailors attached to Naval Station Pascagoula. The cost of the chits is \$5 each.

They can be purchased from:

CS3 Valerie Walker  
CE2 Manuel Baldwin  
MA1 Alicia Curry

Anyone wishing to purchase a chit must be able to pass the PRT, body fat measurements' and be a Sailor assigned to Naval Station Pascagoula.

The sale of 'No-PT' chits ends Oct. 8th.

All proceeds go toward the Navy Ball.

## Personal Classifieds

**Lil' Tikes Playhouse:** There is a Lil'Tikes playhouse with slide for sale. It's in very good shape. For more information call 228-872-1089.

### Free baby-sitting

Did you know that the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society pays for childcare expenses that volunteers use while they are working in the office?

The Pascagoula NMCRS office needs volunteers to keep its programs running. Volunteers are needed to work as receptionists and caseworkers. All training is provided.

Join the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society team and serve Sailors, Marines and their family members.

For more information, contact Karen Essary at 761-2263 or come by the office located in the Public Works building.

**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. Mondays 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**

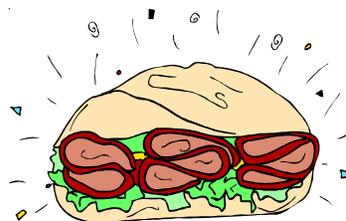
**Take part in the Patriots 5K**

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



**Huge Yard Sale  
Sept. 18, 8 a.m. - noon  
Lakeside**

Purchase a space for \$5 to sell your items or just stop by and see what is for sale at the Lakeside yard sale. The public is being invited to purchase items sold at the yard sale. All proceeds from the space rental goes to the Navy Ball Committee. To reserve a space call 761-2432



**Cracker Jack's  
Nightly Specials  
\$5.50**

- Monday's - Red Beans & Rice or Seafood Gumbo
- Wednesday's - Roast Beef or Sloppy Joe on a bun
- Friday's - Fried Fish or Bar-B-Q Chicken

**Cracker Jack's Event**

- Monday Night Football, hot wings special is back.
- Dominoes Tournament, Sept. 13 at 6:30 p.m.
- 3-on-3 Basketball Out-back, Sept. 14 at 4 p.m. Call 761-2107 to sign up.
- 8-Ball Tournament, Sept. 20 at 6:30 p.m.



**Patriots Day 5K  
Run/Walk  
Sept. 10, 7:30 a.m.**

Sign up to participate in the Patriots 5K run/walk by Sept. 8 at the Gym. No cost to participants. Call 761-2107. All participants will receive a free t-shirt.



**Soft Ball Events**

- The soft ball finals are Sept 1 & 2
- The fall softball meeting is Sept. 6 at noon.
- Softball Referee Clinic, Sept. 17 from noon to 4 p.m.



**Sporting Events**

- Soccer Tournament, Sept. 8 at 11:30 on the soccer field.
- Tennis Clinic, Sept. 18 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Flag Football Coaches meeting, Sept. 22 at noon.
- Home Run Derby, Sept. 29 at 11:30 a.m.

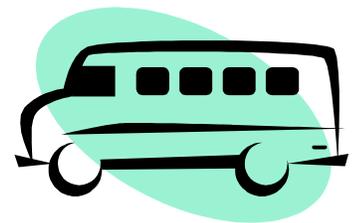
**Game Show Nights  
Sept. 1, 8, 15,  
22 and 29, 6 - 8 p.m.  
Liberty Center**

Everyone knows some trivia and if the right question is asked, anyone can win. Stop by the Liberty Center and see what trivia questions you know the answer to. It might just be your night to win a game show prize.

**Child Development  
Services**

Child Development Homes currently has openings for childcare in Gautier, Ocean Springs and Moss Point. These providers offer a nurturing environment, which promotes the social and cognitive development of the child. The rates are reasonable and the hours flexible. Call the CDH office for more in 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 Child Development Home provider.



**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.**