



## Flight Log

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Sunday, Nov. 2



*And gain an hour of sleep.*

## NAS Kingsville Air Traffic Controller among More than 200 Sailors heading to college under Seaman to Admiral Program

*From Navy Personnel Command Public Affairs*

MILLINGTON, Tenn (NNS) -- The Navy announced the selection of more than 200 Sailors for the FY-09 Seaman to Admiral Program (STA-21) in a Navy message released Oct. 14. More than 50 Sailors were selected as alternates.

"These highly motivated men and women will be among the leaders of our Navy well into the 21st century. More than 900 highly competitive applications were received from well-qualified and deserving Sailors," said Vice Adm. M.E. Ferguson III, chief of Naval Personnel, in NAVADMIN 289/08.

The STA-21 Commissioning Program is designed to allow superior active duty Sailors to receive a college education and become commissioned officers in the unrestricted line, special duty officer (intelligence), special duty officer (information warfare), Medical Corps, Nurse Corps, Supply Corps, or Civil Engineer Corps.

Among those selected for the program this year is Air Traffic Controller 1st Class Marcos Marrero of the NAS Kingsville Air Operations Department, Air Traffic Control division. Marrero is a native of Brooklyn, N.Y. with just over 5 years of Navy service. He reported to Kingsville in 2003, fresh out of Air Traffic Controller "A" School in Pensacola, Fla., reporting aboard as an Airman.

"I'm very excited that the hard work has paid off," Marrero said recently about his selection for the STA-21 Program. "I have been put-

ting my package together for about two years. Becoming a commissioned officer is something that I've desired for a long time and it's nice to see that it's playing out the way I wanted it to. I look forward to becoming a Naval Aviator as well, knowing that the lessons I've learned both as an enlisted Sailor and as an Air Traffic Controller will help me through [the training]. Most importantly, my experiences as a blue shirt will allow me to better serve the blue shirts I will be working with in the future."

Marrero, 23, was nominated for the program by his department and his package was approved and forwarded to the Board by NAS Kingsville Commanding Officer CAPT Phil Waddingham, who included a personal endorsement to the package.

"I'm extremely pleased that Petty Officer Marrero was selected for the program," Waddingham said recently, "he is the perfect candidate for a commissioning program. I have been impressed with him since the first day I

*(Continued on Page 9)*

## Team Kingsville celebrates Navy's 233rd Birthday



*Training Air Wing TWO Commander CAPT Bill Davis, left, and Air Traffic Control Airman Wesley Mooney of Murfreesboro, Tenn., cut the ceremonial birthday cake at the 2008 Navy Ball held Saturday, Oct. 18 at the Captain's Club. More than 300 people attended the event, which included the Missing Sailor ceremony, ceremonials toast, heavy hors d'oeuvres, door prizes, musical entertainment, and dancing. Hats Off! to all members of the 2008 Navy Ball Committee for their hard work in raising funds for the event, the MWR staff, and RP3 Norman Otters who took the lead in a number of projects including producing the pictorial slide show for the event. See page 12 of this issue for a pictorial montage of the night's festivities. Photos by EN3 Brenda Acevedo and Jon Gagné, NAS Kingsville Public Affairs.*



## From the Bridge



**CAPT Phil "Waddz" Waddingham**  
Commanding Officer, NAS Kingsville

### *Greetings, NAS Kingsville!*

With Veteran's Day just around the corner, and Election Day as well, I felt like it might be a good idea to put out some words on the two subjects.

Election Day as you know is next Tuesday, Nov. 4. If you're like me, a resident of another state, hopefully you have already cast your absentee ballot. If not, now is your chance. As for those of you who proudly claim to be Texans, and work aboard NAS Kingsville, here are the details surrounding excused absence and your right to vote:

Excused absence refers to an authorized absence from duty without loss of pay and without charge to other paid leave. Periods of excused absence are considered part of an employee's basic workday even though the employee does not perform his or her regular duties (e.g., an employee who performed duty for 36 hours and was granted 4 hours of excused absence would be paid for 40-hours even though the employee only performed 36 hours of regular duty). Consequently, the authority to grant excused absence must be used sparingly.

Excused absence may be granted to permit an employee to report to work 3 hours after the polls

open or leave work 3 hours before the polls close, whichever involves less time away from work. For example, if polls are open 6:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., an employee with duty hours of 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. may report to work at 9:30 a.m. The 30 minutes of excused absence would permit the employee to report to work 3 hours after the polls open.

Many states are now allowing absentee voting, extended poll hours, early and weekend voting to allow citizens additional opportunities to participate in this important process. Excused time away from the workplace should be a rare occurrence; employees should make responsible choices to vote and continue to support the war fighter efforts.

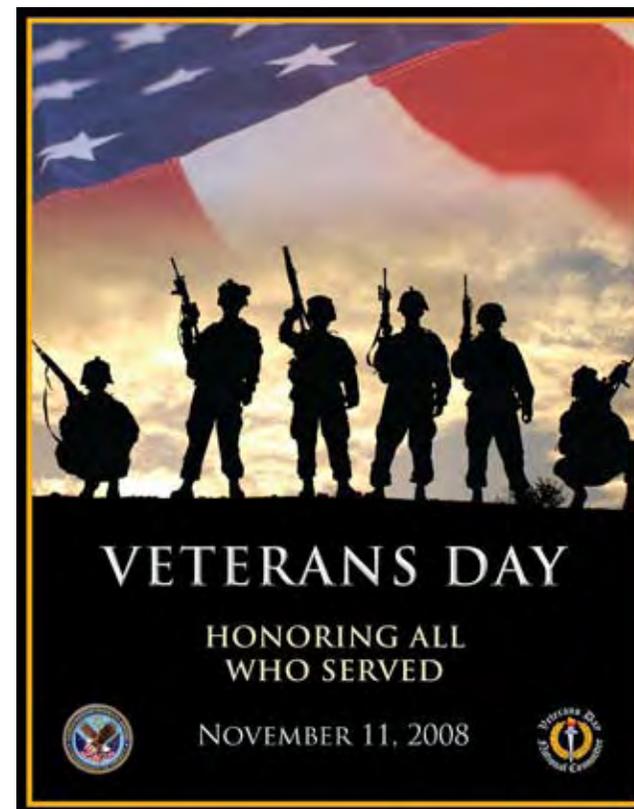
Veteran's Day will be celebrated this year on Tuesday, Nov. 11. The Kleberg County Veteran's Service Office is hosting the annual Veteran's Day Parade on Tuesday at 11 a.m., at the corner of 11th Street and Kleberg Ave (Courthouse). All local Businesses, schools, community organizations, Boys & Girls Scouts, ROTC, active duty military personnel, retirees, military recruiters, elected official, are invited to attend and participate. There are no entry fees or registration forms. The theme this year is: "Freedom is Not Free."

As of this writing, the Wing plans to fly on Veteran's Day, and as always, we will be ready to support them. At the discretion of department heads, I highly encourage personnel who are not required to be on duty or who are on leave, to participate in the community events planned.

Finally, Texas A&M University Kingsville is having Veteran's and Community Appreciation Night on Saturday, Nov. 1 at Javelina Stadium during the football game. Tickets will be sold to ALL veterans for just \$1. Lots of events planned for the game -- IN-

CLUDING A TAILGATE PARTY FOR NAS Kingsville personnel -- as the Hogs square off against #3 ranked Abilene Christian University. And, thanks to Training Air Wing TWO, there will be a flyby of T-45 aircraft to accompany our NAS Kingsville Color Guard. Hope to see you there!

Waddz sends



## *YN2 takes it two years at a time*

*Story and photos by Maryann Shramko, Flying K editor*



*Top: YN2 Floyzell Gay signs the next two years of his life away to the U.S. Navy.*



YN2(SW/AW) Floyzell D. Gay (bottom right) accepts the oath of enlistment from ACC(AW) William Hornbeak Oct. 24 at a reenlistment ceremony held at Air Operations. Already over half-way to the 20-year mark, Gay reenlisted for two more years which will extend his active duty to 14 years service.

"I only do two years at a time in case I change my mind," said Gay.

After 3-years on board NASK Gay will transfer to the USS Eisenhower (CVN 69) in Jan. 2009.

## *Culinary Specialist gets sweet six-year deal*

CS2(SW) Bernice Meno (right) had 12 thousand reasons to raise her right hand for another six-years (a \$12,000 bonus that is!). Meno reenlisted in a ceremony held at the Combined Bachelor Quarters on Oct. 27.

Meno reported to NASK from the USS Frank Cable (AS 40) in Sept. 2007 and will be a part of *Team Kingsville* until 2010.

"I like Kingsville because it is a great duty station for furthering your education," said Meno. "Plus" she added, "it is close to my family in Killeen, Texas."



*CSC(SW) Prelvis Lofties (left) presents Meno with a command coin after issuing her the Oath of Enlistment.*





## In The Break...



**CDR Timothy "Cowboy" Carr**  
Chief Staff Officer, Training Air Wing TWO

The other day I picked up a candy wrapper in the ladder well as I was leaving work. I'm pretty sure I wasn't the first one to pass over it. I didn't pick it up because I want a job on the cleaning staff or I'm some kind of neat freak – just ask my wife. I picked it up because that's just what you're supposed to do with trash. It wasn't a big deal, but it apparently was bigger than I thought. I had seen the wrapper a few hours earlier, but let it lay out of curiosity. As you get older, the littlest event can start a long mental chain of thought. This event meandered around the recesses of my mind until it had me thinking about duty.

The following is excerpted from "Cowboy Values" by James P. Owen

"Since ancient times, philosophers have debated the kinds of moral obligations that should override self-interest and lead us to the appropriate action. A cowboy would put it more plainly: He has to look out for the herd and the ranch no matter what. Without question or complaint, he puts duty first. Why else would someone go out into a blizzard to rescue a calf that may not even belong to him? Of course, the cowboy's sense of responsibility extends far beyond his job, embracing larger ideals. His Old West tradition was forged at a time when brave men were the only bulwark against the dangers and lawlessness of the frontier. Men and women of the saddle still take that role to heart – standing ready to help and protect when family, community, or country might be in need. They are no less obliged to intervene when principles such as freedom or justice are at stake. Being a cowboy means you are bound by your code.

Duty means action not words. It is a responsibility to something larger than oneself and a willingness to sacrifice self interest in doing what has to be done. Duty respects core values as absolutes that can never be compromised. It is answering the call when the time comes.

America has always been a place where the freedom of individuals is held dear. What other country declares "the pursuit of happiness" an inalienable right, as stated in our Declaration of Independence? In years past, families, schools, and other institutions strived to produce citizens who understood that freedom cannot be separated from its flip side – responsibility to others. Values such as civility, generosity and love of country were seen as a necessary balance to personal ambition and achievement.

More recently, however, the balance has shifted. The focus on "self" and the drive for economic and social success have intensified to the point where there is no stigma in neglecting obligations to others; it's simply assumed that "someone else" will take care of it. When idealism and sacrifice are seen as obsolete notions, it's high time for the pendulum to swing back." -- James P. Owen

I have often counseled Sailors and Marines that sacrifice was part of our benefits package in the Navy. I wanted them to know that the long hours spent away from home and family were not just done for an electronic funds transfer every two weeks, but so that others could sleep safely and practice their God-given rights freely. We went into harm's way so that others wouldn't have to. That's our duty. I think Mr. Owens well captures a sense of that duty in the paragraphs above. I am convinced that you cannot be happy in the military unless you possess or develop a keen sense of duty to others. The sacrifices are too great, the demands too high, the alternatives too well-paid and attractive for anyone to resist their allure; unless they are motivated by something larger than themselves. You voluntarily chose to take on the sacrifices of this duty. Don't chafe against them, but take pride in them. They are the unseen badges of honor that so many will never be able to claim as their own.

God Bless You.

Cowboy

## Redhawks attend Tuskegee Airmen dedication ceremony

By Maryann Shramko, Flying K Editor

Oct. 10 marked the grand opening of the Tuskegee Airmen National Historic Site in Tuskegee, Ala. to recognize the accomplishments of a group of men that changed the face of the American military.

Sixty-seven years ago the first class of what would become 44 classes of African American pilot trainees entered Moton Field in Tuskegee, Ala. where they would become the nation's first black military pilots. More than 3,000 men were accepted into the program; 997 completed it, and 450 of those men went on to fly combat missions during WWII in North Africa and Italy.

VT-21 instructor pilots, LCDR Isaac Shareef and LT Eric Zapf both attended the ceremony. "It was monumental, historic and patriotic" said Shareef, who is also a graduate of Tuskegee University and a former civilian student pilot at Historic Moton Field.

The Redhawks also provided a T-45 Goshawk as a static display for the three day event which attracted almost as much attention as the aircraft of the past.



From left: LT Eric Zapf and LCDR Isaac Shareef (right) are presented an official Boeing coin and signed Tuskegee Airmen poster from Boeing's director of T-45 Training System Program Barbara J. Wilson. Boeing has a long standing partnership with Tuskegee University and plays an important part in preserving aviation history. (Photo by Rosa Tijerina).

## The Flying K

Naval Air Station Kingsville, Texas

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## Symtech employee retires after 13 years as a member of the "Fighting Redhawks"

By Maryann Shramko, Flying K Editor

After 46-years of working for Uncle Sam, 72-year old Jose Rivera, aka "Joe" retired for the second time at a brief ceremony held in the VT-21 Ready Room Friday, Oct. 17.

Proudly sporting his red Air Force jacket, Rivera was humbled by CDR Bill Bulis, VT-21 commanding officer, as he praised him for his dedication to his country and joked with him about the jacket. "He's had that jacket on from day one" Bulis said with a chuckle, "but I have to give him credit, at least it's the correct color." Bulis then presented Rivera with a red squadron ball cap, adding "this will fix the dress code." Bulis went on by adding "Joe, you have given a lot of your life to the U.S. government and especially to this organization and the Air Force and you will be missed."

Rivera first retired as a Master Sgt. from the Air Force in 1983 after 28 years of service. But he almost immediately jumped back into government work when he accepted a position at NAS Kingsville with the supply department in 1987. Rivera later joined the Fighting Redhawks student control

team from 1995 until 2002 when his civil service position was phased out. Three years later, Rivera was back with student control as a contract employee with Symtech.

In the 13 years working in student control office, Rivera had seen over 450 students successfully complete the program with many of those students returning in later years as instructors. "There are so many students that I have seen come back numerous times that it's hard to give a number" said Rivera. "I am going to miss the interaction with the students, the instructors and all the rest of the Redhawk family."

Sharing his future plans with his extended family Rivera said, "my wife has plans here and there, but, that won't necessarily work for me. I mean, I tried it the first time I retired and it didn't work out, so I came back [to work]. This time though, I guess I will take her on a trip here and there." As he began to choke up he added, "this has been a big part of my life right here and I'm going to really miss it."

CDR John Kelsey, VT-21 executive officer quick-

ly lightened the mood with, "13 years in VT-21, once a Redhawk, always a Redhawk. Let's give Joe a big hand."



VT-21 executive officer, CDR John Kelsey presents Jose Rivera with a "Fighting Redhawks" shirt in a ceremony recognizing his 13 years as a member of the Redhawks. Photo by Rosa Tijerina.

## Animal abuse inspires children's book by local authors

By Maryann Shramko, Flying K Editor

On Oct. 20 the NAS Kingsville (NASK) base library hosted a children's book reading about a kitten found in a dumpster with her ears cut off. *Zoe The Earless Kitten "The Adoption"* was inspired by actual events that took place some two and a half years ago right here in the Kingsville area.

"I knew about Zoe from volunteering at the Animal Rescue of Kleberg (ARK) County but I never knew who adopted her," said base librarian, Vickie Jacobson. "Then a few months back I saw an article in the *Kingsville Record* about the book. I thought it was a really cute book so I contacted the author and asked her to come out to the base for a book reading with the children from the Youth Center."

The authors, Melissa Webb and her 9-year old daughter Lexy, adopted Zoe shortly after she was rescued and nursed back to health by ARK. A year later Lexy said, "Hey mom, Zoe is so crazy that we should write a book about her." Not surprised by Lexy's suggestion, Melissa suggested, "Why don't we jot some words down and draw some pictures and see how it turns out." Later, she said "it turned

out so cute that we decided to go for it." Their book was published in July and Melissa and Lexy found themselves in the midst of promoting the book in the hopes of bringing awareness to animal cruelty.

Thus far the pair has been featured on Channel 6 News (KRIS TV) and in the *Kingsville Journal*. They had an article published in *Our Cats Newspaper* in the United Kingdom, and they were interviewed by a radio station in Nova Scotia. The books publisher, TCI Smith Publicity, is currently working with the Rachel Rae show, the Bonny Hunt Show, and various other daytime talk shows in the hopes of promoting the book.

Melissa and Lexy have eight more books planned in the future about Zoe and her antics. Why eight? "Eight more books will equal nine because cats

have nine lives," said Webb. Their next book will be titled *Zoe meets the family*. You can meet Zoe by visiting her website at <http://www.zoethearlesscat.com/>.

Animal abuse is a growing concern throughout the United States. Each year hundreds of animals are tortured, maimed, abandoned, neglected or murdered. In 2007 the Humane Society reported that there were 1,880 cases of animal cruelty reported in



From left: Lexy and Melissa Webb present copy of *Zoe The Earless Kitten "The Adoption"* to base librarian, Vickie Jacobson, and MWR director, Tara Culbertson. (Photo by Maryann Shramko)



Above: Zoe at her new home immediately after being adopted. Below: Zoe now at 2-years. (Photos by Melissa Webb)



the media, yet thousands more of unreported cases. Of those cases reported in the media 1,212 involved dogs, 337 were related to cats, and 470 involved other animals.

If you would like to make a difference in animal cruelty and neglect, contact your local animal shelter or visit the Humane Society of the United States at <http://www.hsus.org/>.

## ARMY Reserve on Kingsville NAS?

SFC (E7) Paul W. Young, Company Truckmaster/Training NCO  
370th Transportation Company (PLS) (Photo by EN3 Brenda Acevedo)

We're not the National Guard, though many on base and out in town may thought we were. We used to be located on the 3rd deck of Bldg. 3731 above the Border Patrol, and with the National Guard working with the Border Patrol in the same building for a year and a half, I think that added to the belief that we were part of the Guard.

Who are we? We are the U.S. Army Reserve 370th Transportation Company (PLS) Detachment 1, Kingsville Naval Air Station, Texas. Our company headquarters is located in Brownsville, and we have been located here at NAS Kingsville since 2001.

The detachment here in Kingsville is an Army Platoon-size unit with approximately 50 Soldiers assigned. There are three full-time Army Reserve staff members (Active Guard Reserves or AGRs) that are assigned to HQ Platoon in Brownsville but work here. We are now located on the 2nd deck of Hangar 1, Bldg. 3741 occupying approximately 1/3 the length of the building. We have been located at the hangar for about a year.

The move from the Border Patrol building to Hangar 1 was a positive move for us. The layout of the offices and rooms work out great for our needs and we even have a large assembly area that we uti-



lize. The PLS that comes in our name after 370th Transportation Company stands for Palletized Load System (M1074, M1075). This describes the trucks and equipment that are assigned to the unit. There are four of these vehicles currently assigned at NAS Kingsville for use in training, and these can be seen sitting at the north end of Hangar 1 close to the Engine Test Cell facility. The trucks are right off the assembly line. Even though they're on the flight line side of the fence, they don't fly of course, but they

will run on jet fuel.

The unit has been back from its second tour in Iraq just over a year now. A question I hear all the time is, "What's the difference between the National Guard and Reserves?" Well, National Guard Units (when they are not mobilized) belong to each of the states they are from. They have infantry personnel, armored vehicles and tanks. The Army Reserves are a Federal asset all the time, and provide combat support to the U.S. Army. The Reserves don't have the infantry or armored vehicles and tank units like the Guard, but the Army Reserves do have all kinds of other occupational specialties like, cooks, nursing, truck drivers, human resource specialists, communications specialists, military police, and much, much more.

The thing I like the most about being stationed here at NAS Kingsville is the size of the base. It's like being in a small town where everyone knows everyone, and the people here are very friendly like a small town also. We are expecting to be located in our own permanent facility, a new Army Reserve Bldg. that will be constructed and completed possibly by mid FY-2010, right here on the base.

### Holiday Gift Basket fund drive softball slug fest!

COME OUT AND ENJOY A BURGER PLATE AND THE BALL GAME OF THE CENTURY!

GOAT HERDERS vs. SHEEP HERDERS SOFTBALL GRUDGE MATCH

SEVEN INNING SLUGFEST - NO 7 RUN SKUNK RULE NO TRAWING TWO SUBS  
PLAY WHAT YOU GOT!

#### GOAT HERDER LINE UP

ETCM "Thinner" Gamez  
ADCS "Juanito" Bess  
AOCS "Jay" Corley  
CSC "Bull" Lofties  
AEC "JIMBO" Moore  
ABHC "Barn Yard" Diaz  
GSMC "Bluto" Wystub  
ACC "Sherk" Garcia  
GMC "Shorty" Taylor  
ACC "The Hair" Presnell  
ACC "Willy T" Hornbeak  
HMC "DOC 1" Lafuente  
HMC "DOC 2" Miller  
Mr. Jon Gagne

#### SHEEP HERDER LINE UP

CAPT "The Hammer" Wadd  
CDR "Cowboy" Carr  
CDR "Bad Ass" Allen  
LCDR "Holy" Tews  
LCDR "T" Pierzchala  
LCDR "The Ma'am" Hardin  
LCDR Jimmy Cook  
LT "Ace" Humphery  
LT "Radar" Code  
LT "Long Ball" Heuser  
LT "Johnny" Schonefeld  
LT "Bashful" Ballin  
LT "Butters" Wildman  
ENS "X-GOAT" Fikes

Bring your friends and family. Come by and root for your favorite player or team. Enjoy lunch, get some sun supporting a good cause!! International Scouts will be present. (Boy/Girl scouts)

FOOD PLATE \$5.00 = Burger, Dog, Chips, and Beverage  
Tuesday, November 18, 2008  
from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
NASK GYM BALL FIELD



## Help save a life

The

Department of Defense

Bill Young Bone Marrow

Registration Drive

COMING SOON!

## NAS Kingsville Chaplain's team sends off Soles for Souls

Story by Jon Gagné, Photos by EN3 Brenda Acevedo, NAS Kingsville Public Affairs

When Chaplain (LCDR) Mark Tews decided that the NAS Kingsville would participate in the nationwide Soles For Souls drive, he was hoping for a few hundred pairs of shoes to send to the needy. What he got instead was a full-court press by NAS Kingsville personnel that more than tripled his goal.

"I had no idea we'd get more than 500 pairs of shoes donated," Tews said shortly after his deadline for collection ended last month. "Now I've got more shoes than I know what to do with."

The Soles for Souls program is a non-profit organization dedicated to changing the world "One Pair at a Time," by donating shoes to those in need around the globe. The group accepts donations of new and used shoes from major retailers, civic groups, and individuals, and then ships them to 50 countries around the world, and 35 states in the U.S. To date, the group has donated more than 3.3 million pairs of shoes worldwide -- or one pair every 23 seconds.

"I thought the program would be a worthwhile project for NAS Kingsville," Tews said, "mainly because we're a relatively small base and the numbers we were hoping to collect wasn't all that large. But I guess I forgot about just how generous NAS Kingsville people are."

Just how generous was NAS Kingsville? How does 770 pair of shoes sound?

"That's a lot of shoes," said Religious Program Specialist 3rd Class Norman Otters, who assisted the Chaplain with the program and shoe collection. "I should know, I had to count them."

Once the shoes had been picked up, the Chaplain's Office waved the white flag for help in sorting the shoes and putting them in boxes. To the rescue came two Student Naval Aviators, Ensign Jayson Trembath and Ensign Brian Jones from training Squadron Twenty One (VT-21). Some of the shoes were new and hadn't even been taken out of their boxes. Others were in near-new condition, while a few were, well, "broken in."

"It was nice to have the help sorting the shoes," Otters said. "Ensign Jones and Ensign Trembath really helped us out. They sorted the donated shoes, separated them by shoe size, and helped document the donations. Unfortunately, we collected so many shoes we had to come up with a new plan to deliver them to Alabama."

Cash donations helped resolve the mailing issue, as just over \$290 was raised to ship the shoes by freight to Soles for Souls headquarters.

"We were going to drive them to Alabama," Tews said, "but then the price of gas jumped to nearly \$4 a gallon. So we decided against that. Fortunately, we were able to get the donations we needed to send via a local trucking company out of Corpus Christi."

Otters said the donations came at just the right time. "Some of the shoes - especially those that were well worn, came with their own odors attached."

The 770 pairs of shoes included nearly all adult and children sizes, as well as tennis shoes, sneakers, dress shoes, earth shoes, shoes with heels, and



RP3 Norman Otters (left) and Chaplain Mark Tews pair up the shoes and prepare them for shipment.

shoes without heels. Shoes with rubber spikes, and shoes with velcro laces. There were also baby shoes, slippers, and sandals. Shoes for teens, and shoes for queens (and kings). Shoes of all colors and shapes, and one pair of bright green Clogs that would be perfect for any St. Patrick's Day parade. There were even a few pairs of cowboy boots in the mix.

"Well, we are from a base in South Texas," Tews said with a smile. "It would have been a sin not to have a few pair of cowboy boots."

A&A Movers of Kingsville donated 15 large shipping boxes, and the Chaplain, RP3 Otters, Jones and Trembath spent the better part of a day sorting them out and getting them ready to ship. The shoes were sent out Tuesday, Oct. 21 destined for Soles for Souls headquarters in Roanoke, Ala. From there, they'll be shipped out to needy people around the world and throughout the United States.

While the shoes may not be missed by those who donated them, they'll certainly be welcomed by those who receive them. And those of you who participated in the program can rest calmly knowing that your donated footwear is still getting mileage somewhere far away by someone less fortunate.



Chaplain Tews and RP3 Otters stop by base security to pick up donated shoes.



RP3 Norman Otters (right) and Chaplain (LCDR) Mark Tews begin the task of going through the mass of donated shoes.



ENS Brian Jones and ENS Jayson Trembath help separate Soles for Soles.



RP3 Norman Otters (right) and Chaplain (LCDR) Mark Tews remove donated shoes from the gym.

## USS Cole memorial ceremony held in honor of local Sailor

Story and photos by EN3 Brenda Acevedo

Eight years ago the USS Cole (DDG 67) was attacked by terrorists while in the port city of Aden, Yemen. The ship began mooring at 9:30 a.m. to prepare for refueling.

As Sailors were lining up for chow at 11:18 a.m. a small craft approached the port side of the destroyer. Seconds later a blast occurred right next to the mess decks, killing 17 Sailors and injuring 39.

Within 24-hours after the attack Kingsville residents Rogelio and Simeona Santiago received the agonizing news that their son, Mess Specialist 3rd Class Ronchester M. Santiago, was among the 17 Sailors that perished on that day.

Each year since that day, the Kleberg County Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2375 sponsor a ceremony at Santiago's grave site to honor his memory and all those that died in the attack. An array of well wishers come together to lay a wreath at the grave site and speak about Santiago and the attack. Present at this year's ceremony were, District 43 State Rep. Juan Escobar; CDR Scott Allen, Executive Officer, NASK; Chaplain (LCDR) Mark Tews; District Attorney for Kleberg and Kennedy County, Major John T. Hubert, U.S. Army Reserve; the NAS Kingsville Honor Guard; the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) Chapter 203; and the Veterans Band of Corpus Christi, which included NAS Kingsville



DCC(SW) Ernesto Garcia (left) was a shipmate of Santiago's onboard the USS Cole (DDG 67).

Business Manager Kevin Aguilar-Ferrari.

Also in attendance was Damage Control Chief Ernesto Garcia, currently stationed at NAS Corpus Christi. At the time of the attack Garcia was a Petty Officer 1st class, aboard the USS Cole and remembers the events that occurred that day. He recalled the damage control efforts that went on for many hours to help save the ship as he directed the firefighting efforts of his shipmates as they fought flames in the engineering spaces and controlled flooding through out

the ship. Garcia spoke about serving with Santiago and thanked his family for supporting his service.

NAS Kingsville Executive Officer CDR Scott Allen took a few moments to share his thoughts with those in attendance prior to laying the ceremonial wreath at Santiago's grave site. "We are here today to honor the memory of Petty Officer Santiago and his fallen shipmates," said Allen. "And to remember," he added "that freedom is not free. In fact it's the most costly commodity on this planet, because it must be fought with the blood of heroes."

The ceremony came to a close as Allen and Chaplain Tews solemnly placed a ceremonial wreath on the grave of Culinary Specialist 3rd Class Ronchester M. Santiago, United States Navy.



Grave site of Kingsville resident and Navy veteran MS3 Ronchester M. Santiago (1978 - 2000).



CDR Scott Allen (left) and Chaplain Mark Tews place the ceremonial wreath at the grave site of Mess Management Specialist 3rd Class Ronchester M. Santiago.

## TAMUK to participate in under-age drinking study

From Jason Martin, TAMUK public relations

KINGSVILLE (October 23, 2008) — Three hundred students at Texas A&M University-Kingsville will be part of a year-long study to chart, treat and reduce underage drinking at the campus.

Specifically, the study wants to establish a baseline figure for underage drinking among the A&M-Kingsville student population, reduce that consumption through counseling and find out where or from whom underage drinkers get their alcohol.

Participating students will start the study by filling out a questionnaire describing what their habits are regarding the intake of alcohol. They also will complete an Alcohol Use Disorders Identification Test showing their degree of alcohol use, and sign a pledge to refrain from drinking alcohol.

The study also will include alcohol prevention presentations for students under the age of 21 twice each month, and informational items in the South Texan and the campus television station on the hazards of alcohol.

Dr. Don Daughtry, associate professor of psy-

chology and sociology, directs the study and Ben Figueroa of the not-for-profit Institute of Rural Development in Kingsville is project administrator. The study is funded by the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission (TABC).

The idea came some two years ago, when Figueroa was one of Daughtry's students. "Ben and I felt there was more that could be done to meet the needs of students and the university on the topic of underage drinking, which is a problem faced by nearly every college campus," said Daughtry.

Figueroa, a drug and alcohol counselor for 25 years, said that most university students have never been given information about the dangers of alcohol. Besides the health concerns brought about by binge drinking, Figueroa noted that alcohol can often be the first step toward using illegal substances.

"As a gateway drug, alcohol begins with underage drinkers that progress to the more illicit type of drug use. We believe we can have an impact with a structured program targeting underage drinkers at

Texas A&M-Kingsville."

Daughtry said he and Figueroa would be assisted by master's level psychology student counselors during the course of the study. In addition, Daughtry said local law enforcement agencies would be notified of any establishments violating liquor laws, and other student service branches of the university would have the chance to participate in the study.

"A program like this is worth doing for the students that need help, it provides experience for our graduate students and it benefits the university as a whole," said Daughtry.

Figueroa added, "As an alumnus of the university, this program is my way of giving back to Texas A&M-Kingsville.

"It's a benefit to the community as well. Nationally and locally speaking, substance abuse costs corporations and small businesses millions of dollars a year in terms of absenteeism, less diligence on the job, accidents and severe health problems."



## My View:

*A commentary by Jon Gagne,  
Public Affairs Officer*

The NAS Kingsville officer's wardroom has accepted a challenge from the NAS Kingsville Chief Petty Officer's Mess for a no-holds-barred softball game Tuesday, Nov. 18 with winner-take-all repercussions. Bragging rights are all that are on the line in this fundraiser that will support the Chief's annual participation in Operation Shipmate. But when it comes to Chiefs and Officers, bragging rights is a huge reward.

Quite frankly, I doubt the Chiefs have much to worry about. I've looked over the Skipper's potential lineup. It includes the "big dawgs" of the base, including CAPT Waddingham and CAPT Davis, Chaplain Tews and CDR Carr. But I've seen them all in action, and they won't be getting any offers from area teams after the game, that's for sure. Then again, neither will any of the Chiefs.

What the officers will have in their favor, however, is Chaplain Mark Tews, who will no doubt take the mound against the Chiefs. "Chaps" can play, and he'll be one of their best hitters. I'd be willing to



bet if he hadn't taken a different calling, Chaps could have played some serious baseball. But in this game, he'll probably have to resort to his selected profession a bit more by holding between-inning-sermons to inspire this vagabond crew. And, I have to admit, I'm looking to the Chinese fire drill that will occur on the first ball hit into the wardroom's outfield. That will set the stage for the remainder of the 7-inning game, will not include a 15-run mercy rule. And the officers have been forewarned: no Student Aviators.

Master Chief Isaias Gamez will manage the Chiefs, who don't feature any pure athletes on their squad, either; but, that will make the game more enjoyable to the spectators. And I'm certain that the Officers will rely on "gimmicks" to sway the game (or at least the crowd) in their favor. LT Wildman will see to that. The Rodney Dangerfield faked-injury in the movie "Caddyshack" comes to mind, but the "Wild Child" is much more creative.

The Chiefs are lining up the umpires for the game and their names will be kept secret until game time, according to Gamez. "We don't want to tip our hand," he says. I did some checking, and all the regular staff will be working at the local Hooters that day, so they're out. But, I think the CMC may have something else up his sleeve.

For those who are not softball fans but may end up watching the game in support of the Chief's annual participation in Operation Shipmate, I thought I'd fill you in on a few terms you may here during the game, so you'll know what's going on.



**Pop Out:** This term simply means that CAPT Davis is no longer in the game.

**Three Up, Three Down:** The end result of a collision of Chiefs infielders chasing an infield fly.

**Infield Fly Rule:** You guessed it ... someone's uniform is out-of-whack in the infield.

**Suicide Squeeze:** What it will take to get LCDR Pat Paddock and CDR Carr into their softball uniforms.

**Double:** You probably won't hear this term mentioned during the game, but several players may mention it at the bar afterwards.

**Triple:** Ditto.

**Home Run:** A quick jog to Qtrs B for LCDR Pierzchala between innings.

I've got a bunch more, but I'm saving for the game so I'll have something to announce between innings, once the Medics have finished treated the wounded.



## For sale

Full-sized side-by-side refrigerator, conventional oven, table top stove, microwave, and dishwasher. All in good working condition. \$450 for all. Call Jon or Ginger at 592-6776.



## Halloween costume photo contest

E-mail photos to:

kngv-pao@navy.mil by 1 Nov. with photo caption, name, and point of contact information.

Parents enter your children in the Flying K's first ever costume contest. Winning photos will be published in the next issue of the Flying K and all winners will receive a framed 5 x 7 photo signed by the Commanding Officer.

There will be three winning photos for: Best boy, best girl and the scariest costume! Winners will be notified via phone call and photos will be published in the 14 Nov. issue of the Flying K.



(Seaman to Admiral from page 1)

met him, and was very excited for him when I was informed he had been accepted."

Aside from doing his normal duties of controlling aircraft above and around NAS Kingsville, Marrero has also taken on tough assignments. He served as an Individual Augmentee to U.S. forces in Al Asad, Iraq from February to September 2007.

"I know that the STA-21 program will lead to a commission and eventually a designation as a Naval Aviator," Marrero said. "But, most importantly, I hope that [my selection] will motivate other Sailors at our command to really strive for the goals that they've set for themselves. At times, these goals seem unattainable; yet, with a lot of hard work, as generic as that might sound, anything is possible."

Participants receive full pay and allowances including basic allowance for housing and basic allowance for subsistence for their enlisted pay grade, maintain medical care and commissary/exchange



ACI(FMF) Marcos Marrero

privileges. They also remain eligible for enlisted advancement and receive up to \$10,000 per year, paid to the university to supplement the costs of tuition, fees, and books.

Applicants must meet several requirements in order to apply including U.S. citizenship, a high school diploma or GED, the ability to complete a baccalaureate degree in 36 months and physical fitness standards for commissioning.

Selections are conditional upon the selectee remaining fully eligible in all respects, meeting physical qualifications for commissioning as determined by Bureau of Medicine and Surgery and assignment by Naval Service Training Command to an approved Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps affiliated university based upon an official

degree plan and acceptance letter from the university.

When the selected Sailors have completed the approved degree program, they will receive appointments as ensigns in the U.S. Navy.

For a listing of FY-09 STA-21 selectees, please review the NAVADMIN. For more information on STA-21, read OPNAVINST 1420.1A. and visit your command career counselor. For more news from Navy Personnel Command, visit [www.navy.mil/local/npc/](http://www.navy.mil/local/npc/).

Come one...come all...lets  
play some softball!

Kingsville Martin Luther King Committee  
presents:

NAS Kingsville vs. Kingsville Law Enforcement

(family is welcome to participate)

When: 11 a.m. - Saturday, Nov. 15

Where: Douglas Park

Why: Just because

Various teams from around NASK will be challenging civilian teams made up of assorted local law enforcement agencies.

Come out and enjoy some fun in the sun!



### Branch Health Clinic Corner



#### WHY CAN'T I GET MY PRESCRIPTION FILLED?

When the pharmacist is absent from the Branch Health Clinic Kingsville Pharmacy, we are unable to fill or process any new prescriptions from outside facilities due to the Joint Commission and Manual of the Medical Department, Chapter 21 guidelines that every Navy pharmacy must follow.

A new prescription is one from a provider other than those currently working in this clinic. In addition to new prescriptions, the transfer of prescriptions from another military treatment facility will now take 48-72 hours to fill.

Due to a current shortage of pharmacist throughout the health care system it is difficult to get a replacement. We understand that this can be an inconvenience at times and we ask that you call the pharmacy ahead of time to ensure that your prescriptions can be filled that day. We strive to provide the best possible service for our patients and your understanding of these matters is greatly appreciated.

The phone number to the pharmacy is (361)516-6455.

By HM3 Cyrus Cunningham

### CEL SURVEY 2008

All residents of NAS Kingsville PPV Housing should have received their CEL Survey 2008. If you have not received your survey, please contact or stop by the Housing Welcome Center in Bldg. 2740 (first floor, 516-6498), or the PPV unit property manager as soon as possible.

The ending date for the survey is Nov. 7. Please help us reach our goal of receiving 20 more entries than last year. We are doing a weekly drawing for prizes and want your results. Please drop off your survey in the outgoing mail box at your local housing unit. Do not bring them into the Housing Referral office as CEL has informed us they will provide a name for our weekly winners. This is a perfect opportunity for you (our resident) to let us know how we are doing. Remember: this year, surveys can be either filled out by hand, or electronically online.

Because we value your time and wish to thank you for taking time out to fill the CEL Survey, the PPV complex has elected to participate again in the weekly incentives via a random drawing each week.

Please remember, only residents who return their surveys are eligible for these drawings.

The CEL Survey that you will be filling out is anonymous. CEL will not identify to us how you responded.

We look forward to a great CEL survey turnout. Thank you ahead of time for making plans to participate.



## Welcome Aboard!

The following personnel have reported for duty.



**ET2 Carl L. Shelton**

NASK, Ground Electronics  
Wharton, Texas

**LCDR Jimmy Cook**

Branch Health Clinic  
Lubbock, Texas

**1st Lt. Christopher M. Lorne**

Student Naval Aviator, TW-2  
Gerlach, Nev.

**ENS Kyle C. Mason**

Student Naval Aviator, TW-2  
Orlando, Fla.

**ET2 Michael E. Nimmons**

NASK, Ground Electronics  
Rio Vista, Texas

**ENS Danielle Thiriot**

Student Naval Aviator, TW-2  
Salt Lake City, Utah

**ENS Scott A. Brazelton**

Student Naval Aviator, TW-2  
Shelton, Wash.

**ENS Matthew S. Langford**

Student Naval Aviator, TW-2  
Berkley, Mass.

**ENS John P. Harrington**

Student Naval Aviator, TW-2  
Seattle, Wash.

**ENS Brett D. Jakovich**

Student Naval Aviator, TW-2  
Cambridge, Minn.

**2nd Lt. Grant T. Mauritzon**

Student Naval Aviator, TW-2  
Magnolia, Texas

**LT Eric Disher**

Instructor Pilot, VT-22  
Greenville, S.C.

**2nd Lt. Joseph N. Diniega**

Student Naval Aviator, TW-2  
Pearl City, Hawaii

**ENS Matthew K. Morgan**

Student Naval Aviator, TW-2  
Roxbury, N.J.

**ENS Chad G. Pearce**

Student Naval Aviator, TW-2  
Anchorage, Alaska

**ENS Justin M. Pace**

Student Naval Aviator, TW-2  
Maple Valley, Wash.

**ENS John C. Schnepfer**

Student Naval Aviator, TW-2  
Clayton, N.C.

**ENS Mitchell W. Cole**

Student Naval Aviator, TW-2  
Bellevue, Wash.

**ENS Michael D. Reilly**

Student Naval Aviator, TW-2  
Ridgewood, N.J.

**1st Lt. Gregory A. Crawford**

Student Naval Aviator, TW-2  
Dallas, Texas

**ENS Thomas P. McGee**

Student Naval Aviator, TW-2  
Minnetonka, Minn.

## This month's health promotion awareness is cholesterol

**Know your cholesterol numbers-know your risk!**

Cholesterol control is important for young, middle-aged and older adults. One out of every two men and one out of every three women will develop heart disease sometime in their life. Whether you have heart disease or want to prevent it, you can reduce your risk for having a cardiovascular complication in the future (i.e. heart attack, stroke and peripheral vascular disease).

What is cholesterol?

Cholesterol is a waxy, fat-like substance that occurs naturally in all parts of the body and that your body needs to function normally. It is present in cell walls or membranes everywhere in the body, including the brain, nerves, skin,

liver, intestines, and the heart. Your body uses small amounts of cholesterol to produce many hormones including vitamin D, and the bile acids that helps digest fat. If you have too much cholesterol in your blood stream, the excess is deposited in arteries, including the coronary arteries. This contributes to the narrowing and blockages of the arteries, in a process known as atherosclerosis.

The higher your cholesterol level, the greater your risks for a heart attack. If there is not enough oxygen-rich blood reaching the heart, you may experience chest pain called angina. If the blood supply to a portion of the heart is cut off due to complete blockage of a coronary artery, the result is a heart attack. A direct link between high blood cholesterol and heart disease has been confirmed by the Lipid Research Clinic-Coronary Primary Prevention Trial (1984) which shows that lowering total and LDL (BAD) cholesterol significantly reduces your chances of heart disease.

What does your LDL-Cholesterol Means to You?

LDL cholesterol stands for Low Density Lipoprotein which you may have heard as your "bad" cholesterol. Your LDL level is a good indicator of your risk for heart disease. Lowering your LDL is the main goal of treatment if you have high cholesterol. In general, the higher your LDL level, the greater your chance of developing heart disease. A normal range for an adult LDL is (0-129mg/dL) with a total cholesterol range of (0-199mg/dL). You will need to know what risk factors you have that influence your LDL-lowering treatment. Here are steps you can take to lower your blood cholesterol or keep it low:

- Follow a low saturated fat, low-cholesterol diet.
- Be more physically active
- Lose weight if you are overweight.

Do you know your cholesterol level?



## Fleet & Family Support Center

### 2008 & 2009 Class & Workshop schedule



**Transition Assistance Program (TAP)** - Jan. 12-16, March 16-20, May 4-8, July 13-17, Sept. 14-18, Nov. 16-20.

**Executive TAP** - April 13-17, Oct. 19-23.

Notes: Navy personnel attending TAP/ETAP Workshops are required to bring a copy of their completed Pre-Separation Counseling Checklist (DD Form 2648). Special attention should be given to the date the form is completed by command officials.

Every form completed less than 90 days prior to separation must contain explanatory remarks summarizing the reason why the form was not completed prior to the 90 days immediately preceding your retirement or separation date. See OPNAVINST 1900.2B for further information.

Federal law requires all Pre-Separation Counseling Checklists, for anticipated separations or retirements, to be completed no later than 90 days prior to separation (10 U.S.C. 1142).

A completed copy of DD 2648 will be collected on the first day of the class

**Command Financial Specialist (CFS)** - Feb. 2-6, Aug. 10-14, 2009.

Note: Must be E-6 or above, meet screening for financial stability, able to speak publicly, designated by the commanding officer in writing, have at least 1-year remaining onboard.

**First-Term CONSEP** - Jan. 26-29, June 8-11 for service members who completed 2-4 years service. (Spouses welcome to attend).

**Mid-Career CONSEP** - March 9-12, Sept. 14-17 for service members who completed 6-years service. (Spouses welcome to attend).

For more information or to sign up for these classes contact Ramon Panganiban at (361) 516-6325/6333 or ramon.panganiban1@navy.mil.



**Navy Knowledge Online Orientation at the Library**  
- Every Wednesday at 5 p.m. the Library staff will hold a short class on what the library section of NKO has available. This great site is for active duty, retirees, and dependants. If you are in the DEERS system, then you have access to this resource. For more information, call the Library at 516-6271.

**Texas State Vehicle Inspection** - If your Texas State Vehicle Inspection expires this month, stop by the Auto Skills Center and get it renewed to avoid any costly fines. For more information, contact Auto Skills at 516-6248.

**Escondido Ranch Hunting Information Released**

- All the latest and greatest information regarding hunting at Escondido Ranch this season is now available at ITT. For more information, call 516-6449, or drop in Tuesday – Saturday 11 a.m. – 10 p.m.



**Oct. 30 - Halloween 5K and 1K Family Fun Run**  
- Get your costumes and sneakers ready for this evening of running and fun. There will be a 5K for the adults, experienced children, and those in strollers with parents. There will also be a 1K fun run for the kids. Both events start at 5:30 p.m. T-Shirts will be given to the first 30 adult participants to finish the 5K, and all children who finish the 1K. For more information call the Total Fitness Connection at 516-4386.

## CACO Training

Casualty Assistance Calls Officer (CACO) training is scheduled on board NAS Kingsville, Nov. 6, 2008 (8 a.m. to 4 p.m.) in the third deck conference room at building 2740 (Command Bldg). This training is only offered once a year by the region CACO Coordinator to the CORPUS/INGLESIDE/KINGSVILLE area. For quotas please e-mail Pete Waldon (pete.waldon@navy.mil) with rank/rate and name as soon as possible. Direct questions via email to Pete or ACC (AW) Mike Presnell at michael.presnell@navy.mil.

**Oct. 31- Base Wide Halloween Party** - Put on your scariest costume and come celebrate Halloween with us in a fun, safe environment. This event will be held at the Total Fitness Connection (Base Gym) from 6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m. For more information, contact Delia Martinez at 516-6718.

**Nov. 1-30 - \$10 off weekend or \$20 off week long camper trailer rentals.** For more information call Outdoor Recreation at 516-6191.

**Nov. 1 - All Month Free Antifreeze Test** - The weather is cooling down, but not by much. Get your antifreeze checked for free all month long, it might be low or it could be broken. Let the guys at Auto Hobby set you up for a cool ride. For more information call 516-6248

**Nov. 4 - Lunch Time Volleyball** - Get your teams ready for a little competition. Lunch Time Volleyball is back! This league will be held weekly from 11 a.m. - 12 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday. For more information call Angie Cupp at 516-4386.

**Nov. 6 - Native American Storytime** - Story time will start at 5 p.m., preregister by COB Nov. 5, refreshments will be Native American food. For more information call 516-6271.

## Bowling League



### In the Dog House Fall League Standings

<u>Pos.</u>	<u>Team</u>	<u>Won</u>	<u>Lost</u>	<u>GB</u>
1.	3 Minds in the Gutter	28.0	12.0	0.0
2.	Lane Breakers	25.5	14.5	2.5
3.	Tumbalos	20.5	19.5	7.5
4.	Hounds	17.5	22.5	10.5
6.	The Rebels	17.0	23.0	11.0
5.	Los Tres Vatos	16.5	19.5	11.5
7.	The Pin-Heads	7.0	33.0	21.0
8.	Ghost	0.0	0.0	28.0

### Wednesday Nite Mixed League Standings

<u>Pos.</u>	<u>Team</u>	<u>Won</u>	<u>Lost</u>	<u>GB</u>
1.	Big K Rollers	18.0	10.0	0.0
2.	Petes Angels	18.0	10.0	0.0
3.	Tidy Bowlers	16.0	12.0	2.0
4.	Sixty Forty	16.0	12.0	2.0
5.	Guttermouths	15.0	13.0	3.0
5.	Laugh Out Loud	14.0	14.0	4.0
7.	DUH's	11.0	17.0	7.0



**HOG  
PEN**



**BLACK WATER DRAW, NEW MEXICO** – The Black Water Draw Mojo nearly struck the Texas A&M-Kingsville football team on Saturday, but behind the record-setting performance of senior quarterback Billy Garza they were able

to hold on for a 35-32 Lone Star Conference win.

Garza completed a school-record 28 passes on 44 attempts breaking Abel Gonzalez's record set during the 2001 season. Garza finished the game with 318 yards passing and three touchdowns while adding another score on the ground.

The back and forth affair appeared like it might be heading to overtime late in the fourth quarter when the Greyhounds lined up for a potential game-tying 37-yard field goal with 4:34 remaining. Javelina defensive back Mardrick Johnson made a game-saving play when he blocked the field goal giving the Hoggies the ball at their own nine yard line.

Garza proceeded to drive the team 91 yards on eight plays capped by his 5-yard touchdown run with 1:38 to play. On the drive, Billy the Kid carried the ball three times for 31 yards and was 3-of-4 for 53 yards passing. His 26-yard completion to sophomore Ryan Lincoln was the record-setting completion.

The Greyhounds quickly as freshman quarterback JJ Harp drove the team 61 yards in under a minute. He connected with Joseph Banyard for a 2-yard scoring strike with 34 seconds remaining. The ensuing onside kick was recovered by the Javelinas and they were able to take a knee to end the game.

The Javelina win combined with a Midwestern State University loss to Central Oklahoma puts the Hoggies right back in the thick of the playoff race. The win also insured the team's first winning season since 2005.

# Scenes from the 2008 Navy Ball



Photos by Jon Gagné and EN3 Brenda Acevedo, NASK Public Affairs