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## Flight Log

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## Wings Over South Texas air show to feature military's best

The 2008 Wings Over South Texas air show is now in the final stages of lining up its military and civilian performers for the April 5-6 weekend show. By all accounts, guests will be treated to a great show of military air power and civilian arobatic performers.

"Our first option, of course, was to get the Blue Angels on our list," said air show director ACC (AW/SW) Mike Garcia. "When NAS Kingsville was included in their 2008 schedule the whole air show team got excited. Then, we added the Navy's parachute demonstration team the Leap Frogs, and things began to look really good."

Garcia added the Air Force is also sending two acts from the Air Combat Command in (continued on page 4)



*A U.S. Navy Leap Frogs performer dazzles the crowd at a recent air show that featured the Navy's parachute team. The team will perform here April 5-6. (U.S. Navy photo)*

## Vice President, Air Force 2 visit NAS Kingsville flightline

Vice President Dick Cheney and *Air Force II* visited NAS Kingsville Feb. 15-17. The Vice President spent the weekend at the Armstrong Ranch, and NAS Security Department personnel assisted the U.S. Secret Service by providing security during the visit.

*Air Force Two* is the air traffic control call sign used by any United States Air Force aircraft carrying the Vice President. The term is often associated with a Boeing C-32, a modified 757 which is most commonly used as the Vice President's transport. The C-40 Clipper, a version of the Boeing 737, also serves in this role.

Although the U.S. Marine Corps carry the primary mission for helicopter support of both the President (Marine One), and Vice President, (Marine Two), UH-1N Twin Huey helicopters from the Air Force's 1st Helicopter Squadron are also used to support the Vice President in the Washington, D.C. area under the callsign *Air Force Two*.



*VICE PRESIDENTIAL VISIT: NAS Kingsville Security personnel assisted the U.S. Secret Service during Vice President Dick Cheney's visit to South Texas Feb. 15-17. MA1(SW) Dwayne Carpenter, QMC(SW) Jacob Lozano, and Lt. j.g. David Vandyke pose for a photo in front of Air Force 2 on the NAS Kingsville tarmac. Photo by Jon Gagne, NAS Kingsville Public Affairs.*



## From the Bridge ...



**Capt. Phil "Waddz" Waddingham**  
Commanding Officer, NAS Kingsville

Good day, Kingsville! Lots going on around here – some behind the scenes, and some in plain view. The base is looking great, but we keep losing power. Just so you are aware, your team of pros at Public Works are doing their best to keep the base energized. Remember, if we have periods of power outages, it's best to secure all of your computers and associated equipment to prevent damage due to power surges.

Did you happen to notice the 757 parked in front of base ops recently? That was Air Force 2, and the distinguished visitor was none other than Vice President Dick Cheney. Thanks to the top notch professionalism of our security team, working along side local, state, and national law enforcement, security measures we executed flawlessly, and the

vice president's visit was transparent and low key—as intended. Additionally, Air Ops did a superb job making preparations for the stopover. I did get to meet the vice president, and we exchanged coins. Stop by my office and I'll be happy to show my prized addition to my collection.

I wanted to mention that I am actually writing this week's article from the National Museum of Naval Aviation in Pensacola, Fla. It's a great repository of naval aviation art and history, not to mention aircraft from every era. I see here many ideas that can be incorporated into our own base, especially our Club. As we approach the dates of our *Wings Over South Texas Air Show*, look for our Club to take on more of a museum look.

Speaking of the Air Show, we have exceeded all goals for corporate sponsorship this year—and that means more money to put on a fantastic show.

The last thing I want to talk about this week is our own Navy Exchange. I had the pleasure of meeting with the manager, Ofilia Alvarez, as well as the General Manager, Jerry Joachim, to discuss the financials for 2007. We did

great, and thanks to Ophelia's leadership, the NEX made almost \$90,000 more than planned, but unfortunately, failed to beat the threshold set by corporate for MWR funds eligibility. We need to do better. I plan to address the corporate business rules, and we are even looking into options for increasing patronage authorization. More to follow. In the meantime, keep shopping at your NEX, ask the staff about price-matching policies, and let them know if there is something you're looking for that they may not have. Catalog sales can be accomplished with customer service, and they are always open to your feedback. By the way, check out the jewelry store soon and see the line of new watches available. If you're a pilot, or just an aviation enthusiast, you'll like what they will be carrying.

All for now. Congrats to Cmdr. Brad Kidwell on completing a great tour as VT-22 skipper. Cmdr. Chris Kirby, I've known you since our VT-21 days, and you are going to do great! All the best to both of you gentlemen.

Waddz sends.



## Tews' Views

**Chaplain (Lt. Cmdr.) Mark Tews**  
NAS Kingsville  
Religious Ministries

*(In this week's column I share with you a sample from an online daily devotional resource called [Bob Gass Ministries](http://www.bobgass.com) which you can find at <http://www.bobgass.com>)*

### "Nevertheless..."

*("Nevertheless David took the stronghold of Zion." (II Samuel 5:7))*

When David spied out Jerusalem in 1000 BC, it was a forbidding fortress inhabited by an old enemy who declared, "You'll never get in here...Even the blind and lame could keep you out!" (II Sam. 5:6). End of story? No, just the beginning! The walls were high, the enemy daunting and the voices intimidating. "Nevertheless David took the stronghold...dwelt in [it]...and called it the City of David." Now *that's* what you call turning the tables!

What's *your* stronghold, the one area where it seems Satan is strong enough to

hold you? A sharp tongue? A judgmental attitude? Low self-esteem? A losing battle with a stubborn habit? When the enemy says, "You're stuck, you'll never get out," God says, *Nevertheless* [even so...despite how it looks on the surface]. Strongholds mean nothing to God, His "mighty weapons...knock down the devil's strongholds" (2Co 10:4). And He will do for you what He did for David once you understand two important principles: (1) There are two voices continually competing for your attention; one says, "You can do it; don't give up!" The other says, "It's hopeless; you'll never make it!" Follow David and practice selective hearing. Tune out the voices that taunt you from your stronghold. Instead of dialoging with the devil, say what Jesus said: "Get thee behind me, Satan" (Mt 16:23). (2) Look through eyes of faith. Where others saw walls, David saw tunnels; they focused on the problems while he looked for the possibilities. And because he did what nobody expected, he accomplished what nobody envisioned - and with God's help, you can, too.

Until next time, Best Wishes.  
*Chaplain Tews*

## Triva Challenge:

Congrats once again to AO2 Darden who was the first with the correct answer to the previous challenge: **Machpelah**. The correct answer to this week's trivia challenge will begin with the letter N.

Here is your latest challenge:

**This godless, vicious, bloodthirsty city that detested the Lord's prophets eventually turned from its wicked ways after hearing from a reluctant prophet. What city is it?**

## Chapel Services

*All Chapel services will be held in the Chaplain's Office multi-purpose room in Bldg 2741 until further notice.*

### Protestant:

*Sunday Worship*

*10:30 a.m.*

### Catholic:

*Sunday Worship*

*12:30 p.m.*

## The Flying K

Naval Air Station Kingsville, Texas

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subject line type:

**ATTN: CAPTAIN'S LINE.**



**Capt. Bill "BD" Davis**  
Commander, Training Air Wing TWO

## In The Break ...



### Greetings!

As we approach the end of February we find we are approaching a couple of significant events. First, Training Squadron Twenty-Two will conduct a Change of Command today where Cmdr. Brad "Kid" Kidwell will turn over his squadron to Cmdr. Chris "Kirbo" Kirby. During his tenure, Cmdr. Kidwell has been a shining example of leadership and professionalism, leading VT-22 to new heights. And while he will be missed, the squadron will continue to prosper through the leadership and expertise of Cmdr. Kirby.

Passing the reigns of command from one commanding officer to another is a time-honored Navy tradition. However, there is little information on the origin of the Change of Command ceremony. According to the Naval Historical Center in Washington, D.C., the first mention of the ceremony in Navy regulations occurs during the Civil War; there

has been little change in the procedures of the change of command since then.

The 1865 edition of *Regulations for the Government of the United States Navy* in Article 3, Section 1, no.72, says:

"When a commodore, captain, or any other officer is appointed to the command of a single vessel, he will, if she be at a navy yard and ready to be transferred to him, make, in company with the commanding officer of the yard, or some other proper officer or officers appointed by such commanding officer for the purpose, a thorough personal examination of her, and inform himself as to all her arrangements and preparations of equipment; after which the transfer is to be formally made in the presence of as many of her officers and crew as can be assembled, before whom his appointment is to be read; and then the vessel is to be placed in commission by hoisting her ensign and pendant. If the vessel is already in commission, he is, nevertheless to examine her and inform himself as stated above, and to read to her officers and crew his appointment."

The 1990 edition of *United States Navy Regulations* in Article 0807, states that a "commanding officer about to be relieved of his command will: (a) inspect the command in company with the relieving officer, (b) In the case of a ship, and within other commands as appropriate, cause the crew to be exercised in the presence of both the commanding officer and the relieving officer at general quarters and general drills, unless conditions render it impracticable or

inadvisable." Among other things, the outgoing occupant turns over all keys to the incoming CO."

Relating specifically to the change of command ceremony is the regulation that at the time of turning over command the outgoing CO will "call all hands to muster, read the order of detachment and turn over command to his or her relief, who will read the orders of relief and assume command. At shore activities, this procedure may be modified as appropriate." The new commanding officer, after reporting to the Senior Officer Afloat, and to the type, division or task force commander or other prospective senior in the chain of command, reports in turn aboard his or her ship to the CO."

We wish Cmdr. Kidwell "Fair Wings and Following Seas, and pass along a hearty congratulations to Cmdr. Kirby on his achievement of taking command of VT-22.

Topping off February will be a Winging ceremony for seven of our newest Navy and Marine Corps aviators. Congratulations to Lt. j.g. Cameron, 1st Lt. Jordan, Lt. j.g. Suyderhoud, Lt. j.g. Dittig, Lt. j.g. Hooten, Lt. j.g. Parisi and Lt. j.g. Suyderhoud (not a duplicate entry but brothers, twins to be exact, known by most as Mary Kate and Ashley) on their successful achievement of earning their Wings of Gold. March will bring a carrier qualification detachment aboard the USS George Washington (CVN 73) and that will be followed by a Weapons Detachment to NAF El Centro. Best wishes, BD

## Main Gate to shut down for three weeks for re-paving; All traffic routed through Cesar Street gate

NAS Kingsville's Main Gate on Gen. Cavasas Blvd. will be closed for about three weeks effective Feb. 25 due to a resurfacing project. All traffic will be rerouted through the Cesar Street gate during this period and the Cesar Street gate will be open 24 hours a day. Security patrolmen will be posted at the main gate to alert personnel about the closure and provide directions to the Cesar Street gate as needed.

According to Asst. Security Officer Lt. j.g. David Vandyke, contractors will paving the road between the initial sentry post and the main gate on Tuesday, Feb. 25. The traffic change will occur at 6 a.m. that day. There are several security and safety issues that you should consider and remind yourself about due to this change.

"The traffic lanes at the back gate are considerably more narrow than at the main gate," Vandyke said. "And vehicle inspections will be happening on the side of the road instead of in a cordoned off area like the main gate." Vandyke asks that drivers approach the gate slowly and with caution. "Remember," Vandyke added, "this stretch of road is not lighted at night and during times of fog, you can find yourself on top of the sentry before you know it. We will have a traffic sign set up as you approach the gate area and reducing the speed limit. NASK Security will be issuing traffic tickets for violations of this reduced speed



limit."

Vandyke added that another point to remember is that the Highway 77-Cesar Ave. intersection remains a very dangerous one. "This intersection has been the location of several major accidents," he said, "and with all base traffic using the back gate, the potential for more accidents increases. Approach that intersection with caution and be aware of cross-traffic. Remember, the cross traffic is moving at 65 to 75 MPH and does not yield! NASK Security will have a traffic sign set up to remind drivers of the dangerous intersection."

For those that forget about the main gate closure, there will continue to be a sentry on duty at the initial sentry post to remind people of the change. If there are any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Lt. j.g. Vandyke at 516-6469, Security Officer Cesar Cavazos at 516-6547, Chief Jacob Lozano at 516-4724, or the on-duty Watch Commander at 516-6200.

## Pilot For a Day Postponed

Training Air Wing TWO's February evolution of the Pilot For a Day Program has been rescheduled for Tuesday, Feb. 26. This month's honoree is 10-year old Alyssa Bouve of Corpus Christi, daughter of Lt. Cmdr. and Mrs. Joel Bouve of the Chief of Naval Air Training Command. Alyssa is a patient at Driscoll Children's Hospital (DCH) being treated for Rhabdomyosarcoma. Her special day on board had been scheduled for Tuesday, Feb. 19, but the date conflicted with her medical treatment and program organizers decided to push the event back a week.

Training Squadron 22 (VT-22) will be the sponsor command for this month's evolution and sponsor pilot will be Lt. j.g. William Orr.

A full day of events are planned to make her day special.

## Around the Navy in 60 seconds.....



**PACIFIC OCEAN** (Feb. 19, 2008) Sailors aboard the aircraft carrier USS Nimitz (CVN 68) move an AIM-7 air-to-air missile. Nimitz is assigned to the U.S. 7th Fleet, operating in the western Pacific and Indian oceans. The 7th Fleet is the largest of the forward-deployed fleets with approximately 50 ships, 120 aircraft and 20,000 Sailors and Marines. U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist Seaman Michael N. Tialemasunu.



**CAMP PENDLETON, Calif.** (Feb. 19, 2008) Marines from 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines, confront avatars, or virtual humans, while clearing a room at the Office of Naval Research Infantry Immersion Trainer (IIT) located at the 1 Marine Expeditionary Force Battle Simulation Center. The IIT utilizes a mixture of real and advanced virtual technologies that are leading to advances in Marine Corps training and combat readiness. U.S. Navy photo by John F. Williams.



**YOKOSUKA, Japan** (Feb. 15, 2008) Twin sisters Machinist's Mate Fireman Apprentices Sonia Phillip and Sophia Phillip, both assigned to the amphibious assault ship USS Essex (LHD 2), smile after becoming naturalized U.S. citizens during a naturalization ceremony at Fleet Activities Yokosuka. The Phillip twins were two of 66 regional Sailors, Soldiers and Marines who became U.S. citizens. Rear Adm. James Kelly, commander of U.S. Naval Forces Japan, spoke at the ceremony. U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Brock A. Taylor.

## Military acts, civilian aerobatics highlight 2008 Air Show

(Continued from page 1)

San Antonio. Plans are to have the Air Force Single-Ship Demonstration Team/Heritage Flight perform (F-16 Viper West) and an F-4 Phantom demonstration. Civilian Performers info:

— Paul Fiala began flying at 15 in Corpus Christi. He earned his commercial pilot's license and began flying as charter pilot and CFI during his senior year of high school. His corporate flying career started in 1962. After more than 20,000 hours he has 10,000 hours of accident-free operation in corporate aircraft. His job these days is as chief pilot for King Ranch, Inc. Aerobatic flying is his hobby! In 1987 he received the U.S. Navy's citation from the Chief of Naval Air Training for air show performances and support of naval aviation. Among the naval aircraft he has flown is the F/A-18 Hornet with the Blue Angels. Paul's Great Lakes biplane The Barnstormer may not be in the same speed class with the Navy's Hornet, but he does amazing things in it.

— Jan Collmer is a native of Dallas, Texas. He received his initiation into flying at NAS Pensacola, and was awarded Navy wings at NAS Corpus Christi. He flew Navy fighters both active and reserve, including the Panther, Cougar, Banshee, Fury, and F8 Crusader. He

retired from active reserve with the rank of Lieutenant Commander. Jan is an 20+ year air show veteran and has flown over 300 air show performances across the United States from Daytona Beach to MCAS Miramar and from Minnesota to NAS Corpus Christi, Texas.

— Rob Holland has been flying now since the age of 18 and has accumulated greater than 8500 hours of flight time in over 156 different types of aircraft ranging from Piper Cubs to Regional Transport Aircraft, gliders to high performance aerobatic machines.

Rob graduated from Daniel Webster College in 1997 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Aviation Management and a Bachelor of Science degree in Aviation Flight Operations. He is a three-time member of the United States Advanced Aerobatic Team. He was the top placing American at both the 2004 and 2006 Advanced World Aerobatic Championships (AWAC). Rob also placed second over all in the world at the 2006 AWAC held in Radom, Poland and helped the US Aerobatic Team secure second place in the team standings. He will be competing in the 2008 Advanced World Aerobatic Championships being held in Pendleton, Oregon from August 1-8, 2008.

For more info visit the Air Show Web site at: [www.wingsoversouthtexas.org](http://www.wingsoversouthtexas.org).

### Volunteers Still Needed

Volunteers are still needed to assist with this year's show. The Air Show Committee is currently seeking 256 volunteers to work the food and merchandise booths each day for this year's event. Each volunteer group will receive a percentage of the net sales generated from their booth during the air show. Each volunteer group must have a designated Team Leader, and all Team Leaders must attend a mandatory training course.

Volunteers should dress comfortably and wear protective shoes (no open toes), shirts with sleeves, wear a hat to protect them from the sun, and dress according to the weather. All volunteers will be provided food vouchers for meals on the days they work. Food vouchers only cover meals and cannot be used to purchase merchandise or alcoholic beverages. Vendor parking vouchers will be given, but carpooling is strongly encouraged.

The Morale, Welfare and Recreation Department at NAS Kingsville is currently accepting applications from volunteers and vendors. If you're interested, contact Volunteer Coordinator LaVonda Steen by phone at 361-516-4388 or by email at [lavonda.steen@navy.mil](mailto:lavonda.steen@navy.mil). Application forms and vendor banking information forms are available for downloading on the air show Web site at [www.wingsoversouthtexas.org](http://www.wingsoversouthtexas.org).

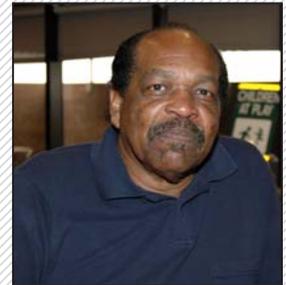
### “Team NAS Kingsville” MVPs (Most Valuable People) Share their thoughts on their jobs



**Wayne Short**  
MWR, Special Events Marketing Director



**ENS Kirtlan Lewis**  
Student Naval Aviator, VT-21



**Robert Coleman**  
Public Works, Quality Assurance

Hometown: Atlanta, Texas. Wayne left MWR in sunny San Diego, Calif. to join “Team Kingsville”.

“I am looking forward to getting back to the small town life.”

Hometown: Greeley, Colo. Kirtlan checked on board in January from VT-27 in Corpus Christi and even though he has only been on board a few weeks he is enjoying his time here.

“I like the small town atmosphere and especially the Luau.”

Hometown: San Antonio, Texas. Robert has been a member of “Team Kingsville” since June, 1992.

He admits Kingsville is not San Antonio where there is always something to do, he said “I enjoy the laid-back, quietness of the base and town of Kingsville.”

### Naval Hospital Corpus Christi holds ceremony to announce name change

The name Naval Hospital Corpus Christi passed into the pages of Navy Medical history Thursday, Feb. 14 during a command ceremony held in front of the 34-year old, six-story hospital building, H-100, at NAS Corpus Christi. The ceremony was held to officially rename the command and hospital complex as Naval Health Clinic Corpus Christi. Special guest at the ceremony was Rear Adm. Matthew L. Nathan, commander, Navy Medicine East, Naval Medical Center, Portsmouth.

Although the name change reflects recent Navy Medicine wide organizational standardization, levels of service remain unchanged.

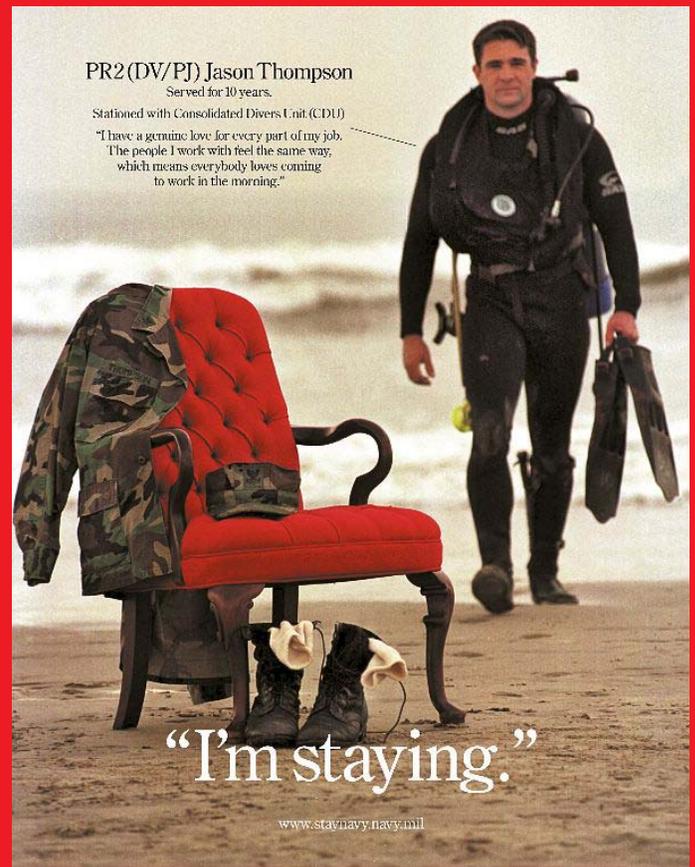
“The current name more accurately reflects the mission this Navy Medicine Facility has had for sometime and should not be interpreted by anyone as a lack of commitment by the Chief of Naval Operations or Chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery to support the Installation Commanders and eligible beneficiaries throughout Texas,” stated Capt. R. B. Sorenson, Medical Corps, NHCC commanding officer since May 2007.

Sorenson indicated that he does not anticipate any changes in mission requirements for the command, further stating, “I look forward to continuing our present collaboration with inpatient facilities in the region and preparing my military staff to support our ongoing Global War on Terrorism missions.”

Under Sorenson’s leadership, the naval hospital is responsible for the health of Sailors, Marines, families, and others entrusted to its care. By providing critical mission support through highly skilled, operationally agile and combat-ready medical forces, it ensures Sailors and Marines are physically and mentally ready for the challenges of world-wide deployment aboard ship, in the air, and on the battlefield.

The Command’s military and civilian health care professionals also provide high quality, economical health care to enrolled uniformed services, their family members and retirees.

Naval Health Clinic Corpus Christi will continue to oversee the three Branch Health Clinics located at NAS Kingsville, Naval Station Ingleside, and Navy Reserve Base Fort Worth, and the Navy Detachment at Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio that cares for Wounded Warriors, and supports their families, as they heal and return to the force or transition to civilian life.



## 14 aviators receive Wings

By Maryann Shramko, Flying K editor

Training Air Wing TWO and NAS Kingsville celebrated in true aviator fashion as they kicked off the second winging ceremony of the new year by promoting one student and winging 14 at a ceremony at The Club Friday, Feb. 8. Lt. j.g. Thomas A. DeJong was the proud recipient of his new rank followed by his aviator wings of gold. The ceremony was two fold for VT-22 skipper Cmdr. Brad Kidwell. This would be his final winging ceremony at NAS Kingsville.

"It was as much an honor and a privilege to award the Navy Wings of Gold to the last class as it was during my very first winging ceremony," Kidwell said. "I have greatly enjoyed doing so at every opportunity, so it was with a bit of nostalgia that I winged the last class as CO," he added. "However, I am grateful to all the officers, and men and women of VT-22, who came together to train the future of naval aviation. As I prepare to leave, I am satisfied that the Golden Eagles will continue producing the finest naval aviators possible and I wish the very best for TW-2, VT-21, VT-22 and NAS Kingsville."

Many of the new aviators may have already set their sights on taking the helm of squadrons they trained in. For now, though, they must first enter the training pipeline of the various aircraft they were chosen to fly in the fleet. Then, maybe one day they will walk in the boots of a training squadron commanding officer.



First row: (left to right) Capt. Bill Davis, Commander, Training Air Wing TWO; Lt. j.g. Cameron L. Fulrath; Cmdr. Bradley Kidwell, Commanding Officer, VT-22; Cmdr. Timothy Carr, Chief Staff Officer, Training Air Wing TWO. Second row: Lt. j.g. Thomas A. DeJong; Lt. j.g. Jeffrey R. Pinkerton; Lt. j.g. David J. Wrigley; Lt. j.g. Andrew Hrynkiw; Cmdr. Charles C. Moore, Commanding Officer, VT-21. Third row: Capt. Phil Waddingham, Commanding Officer, Naval Air Station Kingsville; 1st Lt. Charles A. Hatton; Lt. j.g. Tyler B. Moore; Lt. j.g. James J. Light; Lt. j.g. Timothy C. Kautz; Lt. Col. Charles R. Bagnato, Executive Officer, Marine Aviation Training Support Group Twenty Two. Back row: Capt. Michael J. O'Brien; 1st Lt. Richard S. Norton; Lt. j.g. Steven W. Helmer; Lt. j.g. John E. Hendrick; Lt. j.g. Joshua J. Witte. (Photo by Jon Gagne, NAS Kingsville Public Affairs.)

## Volunteer mentor students for Junior Achievement at Memorial Middle School

By Brenda Acevedo, NAS Kingsville Public Affairs

Naval Air Station Kingsville and Training Air Wing TWO personnel have joined together to support the Junior Achievement (JA) Program at Kingsville schools. The JA program began facilitating classes Feb. 5 at Memorial Middle School. The Kingsville Independent School District (ISD) Junior Achievement program is coordinated by Gae Strenge, program coordinator for JA South East Region.

Twice a month NAS Kingsville and Training Air Wing TWO volunteers visit 8th grade classes at Memorial Middle School to implement the JA program. There are presently 16 personnel involved as mentors, with a waiting list of nine volunteers for next term.

Master Chief Electronics Technician Isaias Gamez is one of the many volunteers who are participating. "I enjoy interacting and teaching the kids," he said. "This program helps students understand how the United States was formed, and the impact that economics and business has on our country. It also introduces business concepts to the classroom and helps prepare young people to succeed in a global economy."

Chief Hull Technician Oscar Vargas and Religious Program Specialist 3rd Class Norman Otters serve as base coordinators for the JA Program. Their role is lining up the volunteers for each term and providing a mandatory training class. Otters has taken a personal interest in making the program successful.



(Left to right) Gae Strenge, Southeast Region Junior Achievement (JA) Program Coordinator poses with the first group of NAS Kingsville JA volunteers. RP3 Norman Otters; HTC Oscar Vargas; MA1 Dwayne Carpenter and Lt. Julio Ledesma



ETCM Isaias Gamez (left of blackboard) and MA3 Carlos Garcia help out in the 8th grade english language arts class with defining agricultural vocabulary.

"I love the fact that officers and enlisted are working together for the same cause to mentor our youth," Otters Said. "I enjoy mentoring to the youth because they are our future."

Otters is responsible for lining up volunteers for each school term. He is presently looking for mentors for the spring term.

Naralisa Trevino, an English language arts teacher at the school, is enthusiastic about the program and its approach to the students. "I definitely think the program is beneficial," she said, "because it ties my class (English Language arts) with American history."

The Junior Achievement Program was founded in 1919 by Theodore Vail, president of American Telephone and Telegraph; Horace Moses, president of Strathmore Paper Co.; and Senator Murray Crane of Massachusetts. It was first offered to high school students as an after school program, but has since grown to be a world wide non-profit organization run by a staff of more than 3,000 volunteers.

The local point of contact for the program is Gloria Venecia, Military Liaison for the Kingsville ISD Military Child Coalition. If you're interested in volunteering in the program, or making a monetary donation, please visit the Junior Achievement website at: <http://www.ja.org/default.asp>, or contact Petty Officer Otters at (361) 516-6194.

## On assignment: NAS Kingsville's Individual Augmentees (IAs): MA3 Benito Olson

By Jon Gagne, NAS Kingsville Public Affairs

The sacrifices of Individual Augmentees (IA) in the Global War on Terror hit home to NAS Kingsville personnel last week. That's when NAS Kingsville personnel learned that one of their former Shipmates had been seriously wounded in a bomb explosion while on IA duty in Iraq.

Master at Arms 3rd Class Benito Olson and his military working dog (MWD) were both injured while conducting security operations in Iraq earlier this month. Olson and his MWD were searching a building when a device exploded, causing the building to collapse on top of them. Olson sustained severe injuries from the blast including broken legs (one broken in six places, the other in nine) and a broken arm. Fortunately, his injuries were not life-threatening, although he will require extensive surgery. The working dog was also severely injured and had to be put down due to his injuries.



MA3 Benito Olson

Olson was assigned to the NAS Kingsville security department until he received change of station orders for an assignment within the Naval Special Warfare community last year.

Olson is currently recovering at Bethesda National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Md. He will soon be transferred to either Naval Medical Center Portsmouth, Va., or Naval Medical Center Great Lakes, Ill., to begin what is expected to be a lengthy rehabilitation process. Despite his injuries, he remains in good spirits and his wife has been flown to Bethesda to be with him. His wife is expecting to give birth in the next few weeks.

The NAS Kingsville Security Department has been in contact with the Olson family and are taking steps to ensure that the family receives support throughout the ordeal. If you'd like to know how you can help, contact Lt. j.g. David Vandyke at 516-6469 or Ron Retzlaff at 516-6546.

## NAS Kingsville security personnel man the hoses, brushes to help injured shipmate

To show their support for petty officer Olson and provide financial assistance for the family, the NAS Kingsville Security Military Working Dog Division held a car wash on base Friday, Feb. 15. A contingent of Security personnel not on duty manned the scrub brushes and water hoses in anticipation of raising funds to help the family deal with the financial burden that will result from traveling for medical treatment. Retired Chief Gunners' Mate and current NAS Kingsville SecurGuard Maj. Ronnie Retzlaff helped organize the event.

"Petty Officer Brian Hemphill approached me with the idea of conducting a carwash fundraiser to assist this very young couple," Retzlaff said. "I immediately told him that I would be glad to help, just to let me know where and when." Retzlaff said that MA2 Hemphill received authorization to conduct the car wash on base on very short notice, but the Security Team was able to set the event up in a matter of hours. They advertised the event via e-mail to base personnel and the turnout was better than expected.

"We were able to collect more than \$1,400 over a four-hour period," Retzlaff said. "We are very appreciative of the generosity and willingness to help out a fallen shipmate by base personnel. In addition to washing the vehicles of NAS Kingsville's most senior officers, we washed cars for junior personnel, trucks and even a Semi that belonged to one of the base RV Park residents. It was a great turnout."

Assisting with the project were: MA2 Robert Roller; MA3 Victor Longoria; YN2 (AW) Floyzell Gay; MA2 (SW) Brian Hemphill; MA1 Samuel Salts; MA2 (SW) Patrick Dunn; MA3 Joe Walsh; Securiguard Inc. trainer Joe Richardson, USMC, GYSGT (Ret.); and Ron Retzlaff, Securiguard, Inc. project manager, GMC/SW (Ret).



MA3 Victor Longoria and MA2 Robert Roller scrub an SUV at the MWR wash rack.



MA1 Sam Salts works up a lather with a scrub brush.



Above: YN2 Floyzell Gay and Joe Richardson at work. Below: Colton Williams chips in to do his part.



Above: Team members give an SUV a final check. Below: The Military Working Dog Team pose for a group photo.





## Welcome Aboard!

The following people have recently reported to NAS Kingsville.



**Lt. Jeremy S. Owens**  
Instructor Pilot, VT-22  
Sulphur, Okla.

**ET1 Heath Britt**  
Ground Electronics  
Glenmora, La.

**ENS John G. Keith**  
Student Naval Aviator, VT-22  
Kenilworth, Ill.

**ENS Ashley Ruic**  
Student Naval Aviator, VT-21  
Rocky River, Ohio

**ENS John Prendergast**  
Student Naval Aviator, VT-22  
Philadelphia, Pa.

**ENS Timothy Breen**  
Student Naval Aviator, VT-22  
Old Greenwich, Conn.

**AM2(AW) Robert White**  
Air Operations  
Conroe, Texas

**ENS David A. Mason**  
Student Naval Aviator, VT-22  
Ghatt, Tenn.

**ENS Joel Strong**  
Student Naval Aviator, VT-21  
Topsham, Maine

**ET1 Jose Partida**  
Ground Electronics  
Harlingen, Texas



### Meet the Quality of Life IPT

The Quality of Life Integrated Performance Team (QOL IPT) is moving forward, actively following Capt. Waddingham's lead and is committed to making the base better for everyone who works here. The team name sounds good, but 'Just what does that mean to me?' you may ask.

The QOL IPT's mission is to focus on quality of life issues, both those that benefit and/or adversely affect our Sailors and their family members, and find ways to solve and /or enhance those issues. The team is not relying solely on its own knowledge of the QOL issues that exist here at NAS Kingsville; they're asking for your input as well.

In the coming weeks the QOL IPT will be reaching out to military and civilian personnel to solicit input for ways to enhance our quality of life. Please keep in mind this is an ongoing process and the QOL team will be continually seeking new and better ways of making NAS Kingsville the best it can be. The QOL IPT is committed to our community and to better serve you! Pictured above are team members: LCDR (Chaplain) Mark Tews, 516-6331, [mark.tews@navy.mil](mailto:mark.tews@navy.mil); Frank Firmatura, 516-6830, [frank.firmatura@navy.mil](mailto:frank.firmatura@navy.mil); Lt Christopher Code, 516-6288, [christopher.code@navy.mil](mailto:christopher.code@navy.mil); AOCS Michael Corley, 516-6167, [michael.corley@navy.mil](mailto:michael.corley@navy.mil); Shirley Ley, 516-6734, [shirley.ley@navy.mil](mailto:shirley.ley@navy.mil); Janie Ramos, 516-6482, [janie.ramos@navy.mil](mailto:janie.ramos@navy.mil).

## Branch Health Clinic Kingsville to celebrate

### BLACK HISTORY MONTH

*"Carter G. Woodson and the origins of multiculturalism"*

### \*\*Program to feature\*\*

#### Dr. Gloria Randle Scott, Ph.D.

Project Director, Ford Foundation Funded Research Project  
& Research Professor at Jarvis Christen College, Hawkins,  
Texas

artistic expression  
poetic readings  
singing

Friday, 29 Feb. 2008  
Clinic lobby area - 11:30 a.m.



NAS Kingsville  
Branch Health Clinic Corner



Do you have allergies and own a pet?

Many of us are aware that we need to keep the dust, dust mites and mold down to a minimum in our homes, if we have allergies. But how often do we think about our dog and cat as a source of allergens? The skin particles shed by dogs and cats, known as dander, can rapidly spread through the house and cause allergic reactions for any allergy sufferer.

If your cat or dog must be in the house, confine them to certain rooms and do not let them in your bedroom. Those skin particles combine with dust mites, molds and other allergens and stick around in the bedroom, a room that we spend a lot of time in. If you have allergies, do not let the pet sleep with you. You would be in close contact with the dander for a number of hours. Regular bathing of the pet can also help to cut down on the amount of dander around your house.

## Chief Air Traffic Controller adds to NASK's high retention rate

By Maryann Shramko, Flying K editor



"I, William T. Hornbeak, do solemnly swear ..."

Chief Air Traffic Controller William T. Hornbeak took the plunge for another three years of service Feb. 8 on the Air Operations quarterdeck. "This takes me just over 21-years," Hornbeak said. "After this it will depend on what the wife and I decide about retirement" he added.

Air Traffic Controll Officer Lt. Joe Heuser administered the oath to yet another of his Sailor's as Hornbeak's fellow Chief's and subordinates looked on.

While many of the previous air traffic controllers received a reenlistment bonus for their additional time, Hornbeak gets only the satisfaction of serving his country.

Hornbeak has only been on board the

air station for about a year. During that time he has been selected for advancement to chief petty officer (CPO), completed the CPO induction season, and transitioned into a leadership role in the Air Operations Department and the Naval Air Station. He has also taken on a number of collateral duties, including command physical fitness coordinator, and is also playing a key role in the coordination of the 2008 Wings Over South Texas Air Show.

Hornbeak said he enjoys the camaraderie he has experienced with the people of NAS Kingsville. "I like the feel of being assigned to a small Navy community," he said.

## Trading Post

**For Sale:** 2002 Rockwood Pop-up Camper \$4500.00. Slide out, AC, sleeps 7, self contained. Call Chaplain Tews at 281-748-3229.

**For Sale:** Black futon w/ metal frame \$25 OBO; Weider 8525 weight machine with weights, \$50 OBO; Two sets never used twin-size bed in bag/comforter/sheets (beige floral) \$10 each set. Call Don at 361-592-3038.

### Base employees:

To advertise your items for sale, send them to maryann.shramko@navy.mil. All ads will run for two issues.

## Volunteer Income Tax Assistance

VITA volunteers are standing by to help you file your Federal return.

The VITA Center is located at NAS Kingsville Headquarters Building 2740 on the first deck, Room 106.

Office Hours: Monday 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. (Walk-ins)

Tuesday-Friday (Appointments Only)- Sign up sheet is on the door.

Phone: VITA Office 516-4829. Office will be open until Tax Day, April 15.

Please schedule an appointment by signing up on the sign up sheet on the VITA office door or call RP2 Christine Roman at ext.6331.

## CNO awards Black Engineer of the Year

By Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Rebekah Blowers, CNO Public Affairs

BALTIMORE (NNS) — Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Adm. Gary Roughead presented the Black Engineer of the Year Award to Cmdr. Richard Bryant for Career Achievement in Government, Feb. 16.

Roughead said awards such as these showcase the talents and diversity in today's Navy.

"It recognizes us as an organization that values diversity, that puts a premium on diversity, but it also shows the excellence that exists within the Navy," Roughead said. "I believe it just speaks volumes about who we are and what we stand for."

Roughead added that the Black Engineer of the Year Awards are very prestigious and those receiving the awards have historically risen to the most senior ranks of the Navy.

"I believe it inspires those who serve today and will inspire those who serve tomorrow," Roughead said. "The Navy

affords limitless opportunities to our people, whether it's an education or experiences or assignments."

When asked for advice he would offer to those who want to be successful, Roughead urged all Sailors to seize every opportunity. He also reminded leaders at every level to guide their junior Sailors.

"Most importantly, reach down and share your experiences and your mentorship with those coming behind you. That is the most important thing to do," Roughead said.

The Black Engineer of the Year Awards honor innovators who demonstrate excellence in science, engineering or technology; leadership in workplaces and communities; outstanding work as role models and mentors; and commitment to recruiting and retaining minorities in the nation's science and technology enterprises.

Story courtesy of Navy Newsstand



BALTIMORE (Feb. 16, 2008) Cmdr. Richard Bryant, right gives thanks to his family after receiving the Black Engineer of the Year award for Career Achievement in Government presented to him by Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Adm. Gary Roughead, left, during the 2008 Black Engineer of the Year Awards gala in Baltimore. Bryant is the commanding officer of the fast attack submarine USS Miami (SSN 755). The Black Engineer of the Year awards are held to honor innovators who demonstrate excellence in science, engineering or technology, leadership community and workplace leadership, outstanding work as role models and mentors and commitment to recruiting and retaining minorities in the nation's science and technology enterprises. U.S. Navy photo.

## Commentary: Community Corner



**Cmdr. Scott Allen**  
NAS Executive Officer

There was no light, no water and no fresh air to breathe. As the sealed tractor-trailer packed with 74 illegal immigrants headed north on highway 77 toward Victoria in May 2003 hope perished with each mile marker. The young and old were the first to die. Banging on hot metal walls coupled with

screams, which faded to faint pleas for water, dissipated as the heat became unbearable. Eventually, the drone of the diesel engine muffled what little resistance the spreading heat exhaustion allowed.

By the time the driver, Tyrone M. Williams of New York, abandoned the trailer in Victoria, 19 of the 74 were dead. Williams, who was paid \$7,500 for his part in this tragedy, will spend the rest of his life in prison without the possibility of parole. Supervisory Border Patrol Agent Joel Garcia remembered the bodies of a father, his arm around his 5-year-old son, lying lifeless next to each other on the floor of the trailer. "I can't get that out of my head" he said as we drove toward the Mifflin Camp just north of the Sarita checkpoint. Garcia was my escort last week as I toured the Sarita site.

One might think that after the Victoria tragedy the flow of illegal immigrants might slow down. But the numbers continue to climb. Navigating by highline, pipeline and other routes north, many illegal immigrants are dropped from vehicles just south of the Sarita check-

point. Once they land, they traverse north about 10 miles to a designated pick-up point where they are reacquired by smugglers and continue on.

One route Garcia showed me is known by Border Patrol agents as the Ho Chi Minh trail. Little more than one vehicle wide, it's a sandy foot trail surrounded by thick brush. Ideal for concealment, it's used extensively by those wishing to avoid detection. "We see drug smugglers through here as well," Garcia offered, "they know we use dogs at the checkpoint and try to avoid it."

During the drive to the Santa Fe Ranch a few weeks back I recalled seeing a vehicle with secret compartments welded inside the tire rims. The tires had been cut along the sidewalls to reveal the smuggler's well-concealed stash. I was very impressed with this detection and apprehension. And recently, one of the dogs discovered drugs that were hidden in the engine block of a running vehicle!

Although counter-narcotics efforts are part of the routine at the checkpoint, recently there have been some unexpected events.

In January, an IRA terrorist that had escaped from a prison in Northern Ireland in 1983 was apprehended at the Checkpoint. After 23 years of living under an assumed name in the United States, Border Patrol agents used their IAFIS fingerprint system and the NCIC database that can access Interpol criminal records to identify this individual as an IRA fugitive. Some other tools that the agents utilize are the mobile LORIS scopes and hand-held FLIR units that augment inter-

diction and apprehension efforts at night. In F Y 0 6 , Kingsville's 117 Border Patrol agents, covering 2,261 square miles of south Texas, ap-

prehended 8,726 illegal immigrants and confiscated 48,957 pounds of contraband.

During a recent discussion with NAS Kingsville Boarder Patrol Agent-in-Charge Donald Allman and Asst. Patrol Agent-in-Charge Edward Garcia, I learned that Kingsville's Border Patrol family is growing and will soon be home to more than 250 agents whose mission will include manning the Sarita Checkpoint, sign-cutting (tracking), highway interdiction, brush crew (searching), ATV, and train check operations. Additionally, the Border Patrol will be investing over \$3.5M in their headquarters building here on base and breaking ground on a new 5-acre vehicle maintenance facility. My day with the Border Patrol was informative and interesting, but above all, it reminded me that the military aren't the only public servants who go in harm's way to preserve and protect human life.

R/ XO

Next time: The GEM.



A Border Patrol SUV checks out the long dirt road called "Ho Chi Minh Trail." Photo by Cmdr Scott Allen.



**Jon Gagné**  
Public Affairs Officer

### Border Patrol no easy job

Cmdr. Allen's visit to the Sarita Checkpoint last week reminded me of an event last year that involved my wife Ginger, and my oldest son Jon who works as an air traffic controller for the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) in Cleveland, Ohio. At the time, my son was living with us here in Kingsville awaiting the start of his FAA school in Oklahoma City. Prior to his departure for the school, he had to complete a number of pre-employment tasks, and one included a visit to Harlingen, Texas. Since he was unfamiliar with the area, he and his Mom decided to make the trip together.

The trip down to Harlingen went smoothly; it was the trip back that was memorable. As my wife tells it, Jon had fallen asleep on the return trip and she was simply driving north on Highway 77, listening to her favorite CD and thinking about what she had to do once she arrived home. She had passed through Raymondville, Norias, and Armstrong and Jon remained asleep, snoring slightly. When she hit Sarita and pulled into the Border Patrol checkpoint, Jon awoke suddenly.

"He looked around with his eyes wide open," his Mom recalled. "I could tell he was concerned."

Unfortunately, Jon has a vivid imagination.

"Mom, what did you do? What happened? Where are we?" He asked.

Ginger thought for a moment about making something up to get him *really* concerned, but decided against it and told him it was a routine stop. Jon later said his first impression was a scene out of the movie *Independence Day*. I might have compared to the movie *Up in Smoke*, but I'm from a different generation, I guess.

As it turns out, their Harlingen to Sarita road trip was the same route taken by Tyrone Williams May 14, 2003. He was carrying at least 74 immigrants from Mexico, Central and South America in an 18-wheeler. The truck was not equipped with air conditioning.

An alert Army reservist, Scott Reuter, was headed home on Highway 77 that night. He spotted the 18-wheeler on the highway and noticed something very strange. There were hands coming out from a hole in the back of the truck where a tail light should have been. One of the hands was waving a bandana.

Reuter stopped at the first pay phone he could find and called police. Unfortunately, the truck was long gone by the time police could respond. It was later discovered at a convenience store in Victoria, where Williams had abandoned the vehicle. When police arrived on the scene, they counted 19 bodies and 55 survivors.

This is just one of hundreds of stories that Border

Patrol agents, and Kingsville police and Kleberg County Sheriff's deputies deal with on a regular basis. Certainly you've seen vehicles stopped on Highway 77 and wondered, as I have, if it was one of these stories.

According to Border Patrol statistics, the Rio Grande Valley Sector, based here at NAS Kingsville, arrested 55,545 illegal aliens in fiscal year 2006. They also seized 5,740 pounds of cocaine; and 348,512 pounds (174 tons) of marijuana, with an estimated street value of nearly \$467 Million.

Problem is, drug and illegal immigrant smuggling is a billion dollar business. Those who are intent to profit from these activities are not concerned about the health and welfare of the individuals they are smuggling or the people they pay to transport their drugs. If they were, they wouldn't cram 80 of them into the back of an 18-wheeler without enough air to breathe, or cram six people into the trunk of a sub-compact.

The Kingsville Border Patrol has an enormous amount of territory to cover covering both Kleberg and Kenedy counties. In addition to performing checkpoint duties, agents perform sign-cutting duties, highway interdiction operations, brush crew details, train checks, and ATV operations. The fact that their staff will soon be growing is welcomed news, and their planned expansion projects will inject new life and revenue on board the base. It's nice to know they're on "Our Side" and "Team Kingsville."



### Nashville Star

Are you the next big thing in County Music? Now is your time to shine in a Nashville Star open audition. Active duty, retirees, reservist, and dependents are eligible for this "once in a lifetime" opportunity Feb. 29 at the K-BAR. Participants will have 60-seconds to impress an expert panel of judges, and become one of three singers to have their video submitted for consideration in a nationwide search that will take 10 finalists to Norfolk, Va., Apr. 11-12. The winner in Norfolk will appear on this season's Nashville Star television show. Pick up a registration packet at any MWR facility, or call x6626 for more information.

### Comics on Duty

Don't miss this free all headline show at the K-BAR on March 26 at 7:30 p.m. The lineup includes funny men Steve Bills, Drake Witham, Derek Richards, and Tom Cotter. The show is part of the *Comics on Duty World Tour*, and is presented by AT&T and Navy Entertainment. The show is not recommended for children under 18. For more information, call x6734. More information about Comics on Duty can be found at ([www.comicsonduty.com](http://www.comicsonduty.com)).

### ITT San Antonio Riverwalk Trip

This trip to the beautiful San Antonio Riverwalk will be departing from the ITT parking lot on Saturday, Feb. 23 at 8 a.m. and returning at 7 p.m. The San Antonio area has many things to offer including shopping, museums, Ripley's Wax Museum, breweries, and lots of places to eat -- and all within walking distance. This trip is open to all active duty, retirees, dependents and MWR card holders. No children in car seats please. Cost: \$8 per person

### Kids Night Out at CDC and SAC

Dental will be coming to CDC on Feb. 27 to present a proper dental hygiene workshop.

### After School Program

The After School Program is now picking up children from Ricardo School District. Contact SAC at 516-6718 for more information. MWR's School Age Care Program is "National After School Association certified", and drop in spaces are always available. Contact SAC at 516-6718 for more information.

### Station Library Events

Are you a true romantic? Do you write poems or short stories for your special someone? If so, then please enter a contest to win a dinner for two at Chili's. Entries will be accepted until the end of the month.

### February is American Heart Month-

Stop by the Library and pick up literature on how to have a healthy heart as well as a cookbook with great recipes. Then head on over to the Fitness Center to jump start a more healthy life.

### San Antonio Spurs Tickets

Spend a great weekend in San Antonio watching the Spurs. February and March tickets available in the ITT office call 516-6449.

### Bowling Center

Beginning March 1, some menu prices will be adjusted to ensure you, our customers, the quality and service you deserve. Active duty military and station personnel bowl FREE Monday - Friday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The Bowling Center will also be hosting the Kingsville Ladies City Tournament this weekend ( Feb. 23-24). The Men's City Tournament has been changed to April 12-13. For more information, contact the Bowling Center at 516-6196.

### Storage Compound

Need a safe and secure place store that R.V, boat, trailer or extra car? Then the Auto Skills Center can help you. There are a total of 47 storage sites available in three different locations. All sites (except those at the Auto Skills Center) will now be accessible 24 hours a day.

### Outdoor Rec

Looking for temporary housing? The Outdoor Recreation Center has a 29-foot RV ready for move-in. The monthly fee is \$450, and includes all utilities. Stop by Outdoor Rec for more information, or call 516-6248.

### Basics of Arc Welding Class.

Participants will learn the basic parts of an AC/DC welding machine, learn to establish and arc, run a simple bead, and join two pieces together. All safety equipment and supplies are provided. For your protection wear non flammable (cotton) shirts, long pants, and closed-toed shoes with socks. This class is being offered Saturday, Feb. 23 only and class begins at 10 a.m. Cost \$10 per person.

## BIGGEST LOSER

It's no secret that when most think about competition, the first thoughts are all about winning. But for the 18 teams entered in the MWR *Biggest Loser Contest*, it's all about losing.

Fifty-four dedicated participants are currently battling it out in the first ever *Biggest Loser Contest* aboard NAS Kingsville. The 12-week competition, which began on Feb. 1 and concludes April 29, will crown the team with the highest overall percentage of weight loss as the Biggest Losers.

Event organizer and MWR Fitness Director Kristy Lenzy said that the competition is an opportunity for participants to get a little extra support. "The Biggest Loser competition is really a chance for those that need a little extra motivation to benefit from the support of their teammates and the other teams competing, Lenzy said. "We really just want to see people succeed with their fitness goals."

Of the teams that have officially weighed in, Team Air Ops Beauty Queens is in the lead as of Feb. 15 with an overall 13.9 pound weight loss (2.58%) after two weeks of competition. Team Los Gordos is in second at 2.23%, while the Fire Department rounds out the top three at 1.06%. Complete results for the competition are posted in the MWR Gym.

### Sports and Fitness

Feb. 29: Spinning across the Country Events 1730, limited to the first 14 participants.

### Bench Press:

So you think you have the biggest bench at NASK? Come show what you've got at the first MWR Bench Press competition of the year March 12 at the MWR Gym. Weigh in starts at 4 p.m., with lifting to follow at 4:30. Registration available at any MWR facility.

### Air Show 5K

Sign up now for the inaugural *Wings Over South Texas Air Show 5K Fun Run*. The 5-kilometer event will take place April 5, and coincide with opening day of this year's exciting Air Show. Registration will continue until March 20, and the cost is \$10 for military, \$15 for youth 8-17, and \$25 for civilians. A late registration fee of \$5 will added for all civilian entries after March 15. Entry fee includes an event t-shirt. Registration forms can be found at all MWR facilities.



Ground Training's Charlie Michalk and civilian Alvar Hancock finished 1-2 in the first MWR intramural racquetball tournament of the year Feb. 13-14 at the base gym. Michalk beat Hancock 15-11, 11-8 in a best two-out-of-three final. In all, 10 participants turned out for the event.

## Bowling Leagues

### Wed. Nite - In the Dog House League Standings

Pos. Team	Won	Lost	GB
1. The Lane Brakers	16.5	11.5	--
2. Tumbalos	15.5	12.5	1.0
3. Hounds	14.5	13.5	2.0
4. 3 Minds in the Gutter	14.0	14.0	2.5
5. Team 7	13.5	10.5	3.0
6. The Rebels	12.0	16.0	4.5

### Mon. Nite - Ladies Nite Out League Standings

Pos. Team	Won	Lost	GB
1. Gamblers	52.5	27.5	--
2. Petes Angels	50.0	30.0	2.5
3. Lucky Ladies	48.5	31.5	4.0
4. Lady Bugs	48.0	32.0	4.5
5. Holy Rollers	34.0	46.0	18.5
6. Ghost	7.0	73.0	45.5

### Captain's Cup League Standings

Pos. Team	Won	Lost	GB
1. Who's Your Daddy	45.0	15.0	--
2. Balls Deep	35.0	25.0	10.0
3. Cookies & Cream	34.5	25.5	10.5
4. FFSC	5.5	54.5	39.5

## NAS Kingsville Chief's retirement ceremony is a family affair

Story and photos by Jon Gagne and Maryann Shramko, NAS Kingsville Public Affairs

Chief Gas Turbine Systems Technician (Mechanical) (Surface Warfare) Eli R. Garcia wanted his retirement ceremony from active duty to be something he could share with his entire family. His plan was to have his father, Octaviano, be the guest speaker, but he was not able to make the trip from New Mexico for the ceremony. In his stead, his wife Molly, and Garcia's brothers Greg, George and Jose took the opportunity to talk about Garcia's career in the Navy and their admiration for all who serve.

"I'd like to thank all of you for what you do for our country," older brother Gregg Garcia said. "I would think that during occasions like this most families would reflect upon the importance and the sacrifices of their [service members]."

"We are very proud of our brother's service to his country," he added. "Being from New Mexico, which is like a desert, we're not really familiar with the Navy life. When my brother would come home to visit, we would all be fascinated with his stories about the places he had been. Trying to envision what is was like to live on a [ship] was hard for us to imagine."

Garcia's mother had her remarks written down but she seemed to be speaking directly from her heart when she praised her son and those in uniform. "It's a tremendous honor to speak to you all today," she said, "and my heart swells with respect. You all look great!"

"When Eli came to me years ago to tell me that he was enlisting in the Navy, my heart swelled with pride ... my heart swelled with fear. But over the years I had the great fortune of visiting him aboard Navy ships in different ports and different military bases, and I can tell you that I was always treated with respect, and I always left knowing that the U.S. Navy loved mothers."

Brothers George and Jose, who both were enlisted by Chief Garcia when he was serving as a Navy Recruiter, also provided brief comments. George fought to hold back the tears, and Jose spoke about his days in the Navy and how he looked up to his older brother.

The family perspective was so unique for a Navy retirement ceremony that presiding officer Cmdr. Scott Allen, thanked the Garcia's for adding a special touch to the ceremony.



Guest speaker Greg Garcia is one of four family members to take the microphone during the retirement ceremony for his brother GSMC Eli Garcia (sitting center).



Chief Garcia is presented a Navy-Marine Corps Commendation Medal by NAS Kingsville Executive Officer Cmdr. Scott Allen.

"It was very nice to hear all of your comments about Chief Garcia and the Navy lifestyle," he said. "You have offered all of us a unique look at how a family deals with the absence of a service member who is serving our great country."

Garcia's career spanned 21 years, 7 months and a matter of days. From his very first command, a sea duty assignment aboard USS Dwight D. Eisenhower (CV 69), to follow-up duty aboard USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72), recruiting duty in Albuquerque, and back to sea aboard USS Artic (AOE 8) and USS Ross (DDG 72), and finally NAS Kingsville, Garcia's career was filled with rewarding tours of duty and superior performance.

"I was just 18 when I entered the Navy," Garcia said before the ceremony. "But the Navy gave me the tools and the training to excel at my job, and the confidence to take on challenges. So I'm looking forward to the next chapter of my life and spending quality time with my wife Geri and my family in New Mexico."

During his time in Kingsville, Garcia served as an auditor for the Agency Program Coordinator's office and as leading chief petty officer of the Public Works Department. He gained the reputation as being the "go-to-guy" when things needed to be done quickly, and he was counted heavily upon by the command. In September, Garcia was tasked by the command to take charge of a T-45 Goshawk crash scene on a remote part of the King Ranch and develop a plan of action for bringing the damaged aircraft back to the base. As usual, he made it happen.

"That's the type of Navy Chief, that Eli has been," Allen said during his remarks. "He will be missed by all us, but we join together in wishing him 'Fair Winds and Following Seas.'"

Garcia's ceremony included a number of traditional events, such as the passing of Old Glory and the reading of "The Watch" and the "Retirement Creed," but master of ceremonies Senior Chief Aviation Machinist Mate (Air Warfare/Surface) Jon Bess may have summed the day up best when he said, "today we pay tribute to a Navy Chief who has served his country with honor. Today we pay tribute to a shipmate going ashore."



Texas A&M at

Kingsville

## Hog Pen

Kingsville — Josh Livingston (Moody) and Sam Strickland pitched complete games as the Texas A&M-Kingsville Javelinas swept the East Central Tigers 18-3 and 3-0 at Nolan Ryan Field.

After losing the first game of the series in a slugfest on Saturday, the Javelina pitching staff bounced back to allow only three earned runs over the final 21 innings with a pair of shutouts.

A&M-Kingsville scored four runs in the second and fourth and six in the sixth. James Brown had three hits, scored three runs and drove in three.

The Javelinas got a run in the first on a run-scoring single by Joe Hamon, Chase Myrick singled to drive in a run in the fifth, and Karlen's infield single in the sixth drove in the final run scoring Hamon who led off the inning with a double.

Hamon hit a blistering .786 in the four-game series with 11 hits in 14 at bats, eight runs scored, two doubles, a home run and six RBI.



Kingsville — Sophomore Shaun Bryan smacked a three-run home run in the opener and Meisha Patterson capped three-run rally in the bottom of the fifth with a two-out, two-run single in the nightcap as the Texas A&M-Kingsville Javelinas swept regional foe Regis 3-2 and 4-3 at Hubert Field.

The wins improved the Javelinas' record to 7-4 including a perfect 4-0 at home.

Down 3-1 in the fifth, Janay Gonzalez (Alice) and Jasmine Ross delivered one-out singles. They both advanced on a wild pitch and Cassie Anderson drove in a run with a fielder's choice to cut the lead to one.

On a 3-2 pitch with two outs, Patterson singled up the middle to drive in Anderson and Ariel Lichtenberger (Alice) to give the Javelinas a 4-3 lead.

Cantu retired the Rangers in order in the sixth, but was faced with a one-out bases loaded situation in the seventh, but induced Jacquleen Martinez to hit into a pitcher, to catcher to first base double-play to end the game.

