



Hula Bowl

Salvor, Pacific Fleet Sailors entertain Maui community members. See story on page A-5.



Halsey housing

Navy housing honors heritage, looks to the future for residents. See story on page B-1.

Hawai'i Navy News Briefs

Tax Center set to open

The Tax Center will be opening Monday. The hours will be:

- M/W/F: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- T/TH: 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.
- Sat: 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

The center will operate out of building 679 (Naval Station Pearl Harbor school-house) in classroom 11.

Anyone who would like to schedule an appointment for commands may call 473-4112 for scheduling.

The center is still in need of donated office supplies like staples, copy paper, pads of paper, pens and printer ink for a Lexmark 705 printer. Contact the Tax Center for more information.

World Wetlands Day

Feb. 2 marks the 34 annual observance of World Wetlands Day. The observance began with the signing of the Convention on Wetlands in Ramsar, Iran in 1971.

The theme for this year's celebration is "Cultural and Biological Diversity of Wetlands. Observations will be held around the globe.

For information on local observances or for information on how to help preserve wetland areas, contact Pauline Kawamata at the Hawai'i Nature Center. Her number is 955-0100, ext. 18.

Career Management Symposium is next month

The Navy Personnel Career Management Symposium will be on Oahu Feb 7-11.

The Symposium will allow officers and enlisted Sailors to meet with their detailers and discuss career issues. The detailers will be bringing current information regarding Sailors' career paths.

Sailors who choose to attend career workshops are encouraged to bring their spouses so the entire family is better able to make informed decisions about their future in the Navy.

Schedules of career development workshops and detailer availability is on page A-7 of today's HNN.

Crosswalk safety issues addressed



U.S. Navy photo by PH2 (AW) John Looney

Jeff Baxter walks across the road in the crosswalk in front of building 150 as the driver in the vehicle behind him continues to move across the crosswalk in violation of Naval Station instruction and Hawai'i state law.

JO1 Daniel J. Calderón
Editor

Monday, a Pearl Harbor-based Sailor was hit in the crosswalk in front of Diosdado-Rome Galley. Navy officials said this highlights the need for both pedestrians and drivers on Naval Station Pearl Harbor to observe crosswalk safety rules.

"If you're the driver, then you're thinking, 'Okay, worst-case scenario is that I hit someone and I can kill them,'" began Mary Lariviere, occupational safety and health specialist for Navy Region Hawai'i. "As a pedestrian, you have to think, 'Okay, worst case scenario is that I can get hit and killed.' It's a different mindset."

By instruction and by state law, pedestrians have the right of way in crosswalks. Drivers are required to stop for pedestrians and wait until the pedestrian clears the crosswalk before moving.

This means, on the four-lane streets on Naval Station Pearl Harbor, a driver in the first lane a pedestrian is crossing must wait until that pedestrian

gets all the way to the sidewalk on the other side of the fourth lane. All drivers in the subsequent lanes must do the same. By instruction and by law, drivers are not supposed to begin moving until the pedestrian clears the crosswalk.

"Although pedestrians do have the right of way, they need to make sure they make eye contact with the driver in the front car in each lane of traffic they are crossing in the crosswalk," Lariviere cautioned. "Don't assume that all traffic will follow the lead of the first lane and stop for you."

Lariviere said her office receives only a few actual incidents in which drivers strike pedestrians in the crosswalk.

"We do get a lot of near-misses, though," she said. "We get a lot of those in the Nimitz Gate area."

She said drivers who come on to base through the main gate might not stop to notice the crosswalk as they are coming in. Not all of the reports come in through official channels, however. Many are through word of mouth. At other high-traffic areas, the Public

Works Center is installing new crosswalk lighting systems which are scheduled to be completed by Monday.

If the new systems work as well as expected, 10 more may be installed at crosswalks in the near future.

The Sailor who was hit Monday suffered a broken tibia when the driver struck him. There were no injuries to the driver of the vehicle.

The Naval Station Police Department reported the driver was cited for inattention and he will lose points on his driving record. He told police he was bending down to scratch his leg. However, they said the driver would retain his driving privileges since the incident was an accident. NSPD officers reiterated Lariviere's caution for drivers.

"We've had several incidents where we've had guys thrown 30 to 40 feet in the air," said NSPD Lt. Daniel Bright. "It's avoidable. Please slow down and stop if you see someone stopped at a crosswalk. Just because you don't see someone there doesn't mean there isn't someone coming."

New BAH policy to relieve hardship

Karen S. Spangler
Assistant Editor

Under a new rent policy announced by the Navy and its public-private venture (PPV) partner, Hawai'i Military Communities/Forest City Management, residents in PPV neighborhoods will now pay their rent at the end of each month rather than by advance payment.

The new policy was instituted to relieve the hardship for Navy families created by having to pay advance rent at increased basic allowance for housing (BAH) rates. Rent payments will now match the receipt of BAH.

Per the Forest City rental agreement, it is not necessary for residents to make any changes in their allotments. Any changes in the service member's BAH will be picked up automatically.

When BAH rates were increased, approximately 530 families who moved into PPV housing since May 1 were impacted and had to pay the difference out-of-pocket at the beginning of the month. However, they did not receive the increased BAH until the end of the month.

Recognizing the policy was creating hardships for Navy families, Navy Region Hawai'i officials and HMC/Forest City management worked together to resolve the situation.

"With their loved ones defending our country overseas, we are going to do everything we can to make it easy for Navy families to meet their rent obligations with as little worry as possible," said Tom Carter, vice-president for military programs at Forest City Residential Management, Inc.

"We are glad that we were

able to work with our public-private venture partners to find a quick solution to the problem," said Capt. Norman Ho, assistant chief of staff for housing for Navy Region Hawai'i.

"It's a done deal and effective immediately," said Ho in announcing the new policy and added that the new policy will affect all residents who live in PPV housing.

Explaining that all PPV residents will now pay their rent in arrears rather than in advance, Ho emphasized, "We want to make certain that our Navy families don't experience any hardships."

"This should end all worry and confusion," noted Carter. "We have already started the process to reconcile each resident's account and will work as quickly as possible with our financial partners to get this accomplished."

Residents who moved in between May 20 and Dec. 31, and have been paying rent in advance, and do not have an outstanding balance, will receive a refund of the rent they paid for January 2005. According to Carter, those families will receive their refund checks in the mail by spring 2005.

Carter said, "We apologize for the concern this process has caused our residents and hope this solution will ease their burden."

Ho expressed his appreciation to HMC/Forest City for working with the Navy to quickly resolve the problem. "Navy leadership and our PPV partners are dedicated to helping our Navy families," he remarked.

(Families who need assistance or have questions should call Forest City at 423-7711 or the Navy Family Housing military liaison at 474-1804.)

Reagan makes first Hawai'i visit



U.S. Navy photo by PHC Donald Bray

Arizona Memorial visitors watch as the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76), with Sailors manning the rails, is moored in Pearl Harbor, Hawai'i. Ronald Reagan's first port visit to Hawai'i is in support of Operation Unified Assistance, the humanitarian operation effort in the wake of the tsunami that struck South East Asia.

Naval Station quartermaster selected for OCS



U.S. Navy photo by Lacy Lynn

QM2 (SW) Melissa Slack has navigated her way into a new career through the MECP.

Lacy Lynn
Staff Writer

Quartermaster 2nd Class (SW) Melissa Slack has navigated her way into a new career through the Medical Enlisted Commissioning Program (MECP). MECP is an in-service program that allows enlisted personnel to earn an entry-level degree in nursing and be appointed as an officer in the Navy.

Slack submitted her package in October 2004 and received the results earlier this week.

"This is something I wanted to do even prior to joining the Navy," said Slack, who originally wanted to be a hospital corpsman, but found jobs were

unavailable when she went through Military Entrance Processing Command (MEPS).

"My rating has actually been really good to me," said Slack. "I've actually gotten to work in something else than I intended and I think it's made me a little bit more well-rounded and a little bit more diverse," she added.

She has been on active duty for eight years and has been assigned shore duty at the Naval Station Temporary Personnel Unit (TPU) for more than three years.

Her assignment at TPU has allowed her time to complete the 30-semester hours required for application to the MECP. She has also volunteered at Tripler Army Medical Center, Queen's

Medical Center and Branch Medical Clinic Makalapa.

Slack has already completed two years of a four-year degree program at Hawaii Pacific University and plans to use the time and money from the MECP to finish her studies there. Afterward, she wants to apply for the nurse anesthetist program, a two-year master's degree.

It took four years and three applications to make it into the program, but Slack encouraged other Sailors who are interested in advancement not to give up, because persistence does pay off.

"I was just determined and didn't want to give up," she said. "Thanks to determination and the support of my command, I was able to get it this time."

30 Marines, 1 Sailor die in helicopter crash in Iraq

Multinational Force Iraq Public Affairs

Thirty Marines and one Sailor from the 1st Marine Division and the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing of the I Marine Expeditionary Force died Jan. 26 when their CH-53E Super Stallion helicopter crashed near Ar Rutbah in the Al Anbar Province while conducting security and stabilization operations.

All Marines, Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen of the I Marine Expeditionary Force mourn the tragic loss of our brothers in arms.

A recovery team is at the crash site, and the cause of the crash is currently under investigation.

The names of the deceased are being withheld pending next of kin notification.

"While we mourn the loss of these heroes, we will honor their sacrifice by continuing our mission to bring democracy to the people of Iraq," said Marine Lt. Gen. John F. Sattler, commanding general, I Marine Expeditionary Force. "To the families of these brave men, our heartfelt thoughts and prayers go out to you at this most difficult of times."

MDSU-1 joins drug free walk with local school

Daniel J. Calderón
Editor

Sailors from Mobile Diving Salvage Unit 1 (MDSU 1) joined with students at Waipahu Elementary School for a drug-free walk Wednesday.

Ten MDSU-1 and eight Sailors from the Coast Guard cutter Kukui (WLB 203) joined more than 1,100 students to participate in the sixth annual walk to encourage students to remain drug free. The students and faculty at the school were celebrating the mid-point of the Read and Succeed Campaign and commitment to drug awareness.

"The Navy involvement is important because I think we provide someone the kids can look up to," said MDSU-1 Boatswain's Mate 2nd Class (SW/AW) Ricardo Valverde. "Our positive influence today could help shape these kids' futures."

Coast Guard Chief Machinery Technician Mark Lovingood said the idea behind the walk was important.

"It's always important to keep drugs out of the community," Lovingood said. "We're glad to help do anything we can to support that."

Officials at the school said the walk allows children to demonstrate their solidarity on the idea of remaining committed to staying clean of drugs.

"The drug-free walk helps promote the idea that students can make their own right choices like staying away from drugs and staying in school," said Keith Hayashi, Waipahu Elementary School's principal. "As kids get older, they're going to face more and more challenges. Our military partnership is so important in that respect. They [military partners] provide positive role models for the kids."

In addition to the drug-free walk, MDSU-1 Sailors have been partners with the school for more than a year. Sailors participate in an exercise program called keiki fitness with the Waipahu Elementary students and help with projects at the school.

"We're re-doing the paint for the hopscotch area," said Valverde. "The paint was just peeling and coming up."

Hayashi said the help and support is appreciated.

"We are very grateful for everything they do for the kids," he said. "They help us with school projects that would otherwise take a long time to get accomplished."

The MDSU-1 and Coast Guard Sailors all walked with the students for the three-quarter mile trek through the neighborhood outside the gates of Waipahu Elementary. Members of the local community came out onto their lanai or on their yards to watch the procession of kindergarten through sixth-grade students as they walked and yelled slogans like "Proud to be drug free."

"It was so good to see them," said Waipahu resident Junior Laupapa who has two children in Waipahu Elementary and part of the walk. "I think with all the craziness going on, encouraging kids to be drug free is a big help. Things like this will help keep them off of drugs because their community knows they are committed to being drug free."

"It was awesome," said Yeoman 1st Class (AW) Corey Mincey. "Everyone in the crew I talked to said they enjoyed it. The positive feedback from the community, all the people coming out to cheer us on was outstanding. I hope this makes a positive impact on the whole community."



U.S. Navy photo by J01 Daniel J. Calderón
YN1(AW) Corey Mincey from MDSU-1 leads a group of second grade students from Waipahu Elementary School during Wednesday's drug-free walk. MDSU-1 and Coast Guard Sailors joined with more than 1,100 students as they walked around the neighborhood outside their school to promote a drug-free lifestyle.



Hawai'i Navy News Online
www.hawaii.navy.mil

STORY IDEAS?

Contact the HNN editor for guidelines and story/photo submission requirements:

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Hawai'i Navy News Editorial

New feature making its debut in HNN

JO1 Daniel J. Calderón
Editor

Today, a new feature is making its first appearance in Hawai'i Navy News. It's called "Point and Counterpoint" and features two sides of the crosswalk debate.

One might think the issue is decidedly one-sided, but there is more than one point of view to consider in pretty much any issue.

Being a two-sided discussion form, there must be two opinions. This week, Karen Spangler and I are filling the roles. In the future, I hope that we can post discussion topics and see what readers think and post them as our Point and Counterpoint.

If you, as a reader, have an idea on topics for debate, please let us know. Write to

us at hnn@honoluluadvertiser.com. Put Point and Counterpoint in the subject line and let us know what you'd like us to look into. I can't say for sure that we can write about every topic, but we will respond to the e-mail.

Also, if you, as a reader, have comments on our Point and Counterpoint topics, please feel free to send us a letter to the editor.

Write us at the same address and put Letter to the Editor in the subject line of your e-mail. We will need a contact phone number to confirm the authenticity of the letter, but we can print it without your name if you would like to preserve your anonymity.

Thank you for continuing to support Hawai'i Navy News. Please let us know how we are doing.

Point and Counterpoint

Pedestrians need to watch where they're walking

JO1 Daniel J. Calderón
Editor

As a driver, there are a lot of things on my mind. I think it's disingenuous for anyone to say that when they drive, all concentration is focused strictly on the road and what's happening there. The human brain just doesn't work that way.

Yes, the main thing is to make sure I am driving safely and cell phones and such may detract from my utter focus but I, and I'm sure the great majority of other drivers, have learned to deal with distractions. No one I know goes out with the conscious desire to injure anyone. We all just want to get where we are going in the fastest, safest possible way. At times, we drivers have to cross over crosswalks. Then, we may have to interact with pedestrians.

Pedestrians aren't the bane of drivers. I think other drivers are, but pedestrians do represent a drain on us efficiently reaching our destination. Unlike traffic lights or signals, pedestrians move at unpredictable speeds. Some are pretty quick to clear a crosswalk while others really, really, really like to take their time.

Another problem are bicyclists who ride through the crosswalk. I don't like to belabor the obvious, but it is called a crosswalk for a reason. Get off the bike, walk it across and continue your ride. Otherwise, don't be surprised if no one stops. You're even harder to stop for than a walker because you can dart out quicker.

My least favorite pedestrians are the ones who don't even look before crossing. You know the ones, especially on a base. They know they are headed for a crosswalk and so they don't even bother looking around. They just continue moving at their walking pace into and through the crosswalk. Meanwhile, I'm left to come to a pretty quick halt because I didn't notice them.

I understand my responsibilities as a driver. I just wish pedestrians would understand their responsibilities to the drivers. It is much easier for someone who is walking to stop and make sure it is safe than it is for me, as a driver, to come to a stop from 30 miles an hour. If pedestrians took the time to wait, things would be safer for all of us. Also, once in the crosswalk, move at a decent pace across, all would be well.

There is a symbiotic relationship between pedestrians and drivers. Each has a responsibility to the other. The problem comes when one thinks he or she is more important than the other. Just something to think about.

Drivers have to learn to share the road with walkers

Karen Spangler
Assistant Editor

So there I was...poised in the crosswalk at the edge of the street, ready to make a dash across the road from building 150 to Subway to pick up a sandwich for lunch.

Cars whooshed past in both directions. The irony of it all was that a flashing orange sign directly across the street blinked a message to drivers, directing them to stop for pedestrians.

As I navigated my way across the street, there were some moments when I had real concerns for my safety. One driver stopped, with a gnashing of brakes. Others quickly accelerated as soon as I had passed by them, although still in the middle of the crosswalk, leaving me inhaling their exhaust fumes as they drove away.

When I made eye contact with one of the drivers who stopped, he glared at me - obviously unhappy that I had chosen this particular time to cross the road. A car in the adjacent lane also stopped. The driver was actually smiling - guess he wasn't too bent out of shape by having to stop for a pedestrian.

I'm a driver, too, so I can see it from the driver's point of view. The bottom line is that the pedestrian crosswalk is there for a reason - to alert drivers that it is an established crossing for pedestrians - and according to the law, drivers are supposed to stop for pedestrians in the crosswalk...period.

I do the common sense things and also use some "pedestrian courtesy." I do look before I cross the street and if the cars don't stop, I don't go. But once I am in the process of crossing the street, there's no turning back.

I keep my eye on the oncoming cars and make eye contact with the drivers. And for those who do stop for me, I give them a smile and a wave. Realizing that people have places to go and don't have all day to wait for me to cross the street, I don't walk as slow as I possibly can - simply because I know that I have the right of way in the crosswalk and the driver has to wait. I try to get where I am going at a reasonable pace.

It really just comes down to a couple basic practices - for both pedestrians and drivers. Both should be alert and aware of each other. Both should be considerate of each other and do what they are supposed to do - and it wouldn't hurt to exercise a little "spirit of aloha."

I know my responsibilities as a pedestrian - I just wish it wasn't such a challenge to safely cross the street.

Commentary

Fireside Chat

Navy Region Federal Fire Dept.

"Keep a lid on cooking fires"

The Federal Fire Department responded to cooking fires and related burns last year. Many of these fires and burns could have been prevented if people were more cautious.

Most cooking fires involve cooking oil, fat or lard. Whatever the grease is, when heated, this grease becomes easy to ignite, once this grease ignites, it burns hot and fast. What a scary and dangerous mess. What would you do?

If you are involved with a grease type of fire, know what to do. If the pan gets smoky or if there are flames, simply smother the fire by sliding a lid over the pan, then turn off the heat. If the fire is coming from your oven, then leave the oven door closed. You can also use a fire extinguisher to put the fire out. Use an ABC type.

They are easy to use and work very well. Never attempt to carry a burning pan, pot or tray out of the kitchen. You're only asking for trouble. Never throw water on a grease fire. The fire will explode and you could get seriously burned. If the fire is big, then don't waste time trying to fight it. Get yourself and your family out of the house right away and call the fire department from a neighbor's phone.

Big or small, the fire department should always be called if there's a fire. But one thing is for sure - never, ever leave cooking unattended, not even for a minute.

And, just as important, do not leave combustibles like paper towels, dish towels, cardboard boxes, cooking oils and the like close to the stove.

The radiated heat from the stove will heat these



items and then boom.

Remember that fire is not the only thing that can burn you in the kitchen. Hot water, steam, the microwave are all ways that we could suffer from a burn. Federal Fire Department paramedics recommend that you cool the burn right away. The best way to do that is with water. Do not apply butter, oil or lotion or rub the burn. You will just make the burn worse.

According to retired Federal Fire Department fire chief Mike Jones, "The best way to fight a fire is to prevent it."

The emergency number for Fire, medical and HAZMAT is 911 (include the base you're calling from). This emergency number is the same on all military bases except for Hickam. That emergency number will save the day. For more information on how to prevent cooking fires, call Inspector Victor M. Flint of the Federal Fire Department's prevention division at 474-7785.

Remember, keep a lid on cooking fires and help us help you when we all learn not to burn.

PTS - making yourself competitive

Commentary
FLTCM(AW/SW)
Jon Thompson
U.S. Fleet Forces
Command Command
Master Chief



Attention first-term Sailors: Do you want to re-enlist? If your answer is yes, maybe, or even no, you need to be aware of how the Perform to Serve (PTS) program works and what you can do to make yourself competitive.

As you know, re-enlistment is not automatic. You can submit an application to re-enlist as early as 15 months prior to your EAOS. Starting 12 months out, your record will be reviewed. Some will gain quick approval, but others will have to compete month after month, down to the six-month mark. At six months out, Sailors who do not gain permission to re-enlist will be told they need to separate from the Navy.

The number one question I hear concerning PTS is, "What can I do to make myself more competitive?" because PTS is a force-shaping tool used to level manning from overmanned to undermanned ratings, and ensure we keep only the best Sailors, there are a few things you can do to be more competitive.

First and foremost, study hard to advance in your rating. Sailors who advance to second class petty officer in their first enlistment are viewed more favorably than those who only advance to third class or fail to become a petty officer.

Become a top performer. Your enlisted evaluations matter. Sailors who achieve high marks and achieve the must promote and early promote recommendations are viewed more favorably than those who achieve mediocre performance evaluations. Keep in mind the minimum requirements to request re-enlistment include being promotable and recommended for advancement on the last two graded evaluations.

If you serve in a CREO 3 rating, you will most likely be asked to convert to an undermanned rating. Every Sailor in CREO 2 and 3 ratings should know what their ASVAB score is and whether it's high enough to afford you the opportunity to convert into undermanned ratings. I cannot stress enough how important it is to re-take your ASVAB test if your scores are low. Don't limit your opportunities by ignoring something that can be fixed.

Get some help from your chief and career counselors when you fill out your PTS application. If you are going to seek rating conversion, make sure you qualify for the ratings you request. Requesting something you're not qualified for limits your chances to be selected into something you are qualified for.

Start early. Most Sailors who plan to re-enlist submit their PTS applications at the 15-month out period. However, if you're undecided about re-enlisting, or don't want to re-enlist at this time, I advise you to submit an application anyway. Gaining PTS approval does not mean you have to re-enlist, it means you can if you so choose. Just because you're undecided today, or don't think you want to stay, why eliminate your re-enlistment possibility? I've seen far too

many Sailors wait until the last minute and then change their minds. Because of PTS, seven months prior to your EAOS is really the farthest out you can wait to request permission to re-enlist.

Shipmates, I hope you truly understand that PTS empowers you to control your destiny. The rules are clear and you should be briefed, during professional development boards, on what you need to do to be competitive. If you are a first-term Sailor and have not been to at least one professional development board, talk to your chief today.

Take the advice of your chain of command, career counselors and shipmates who have participated in PTS and gained permission to re-enlist. While ultimately your enlisted community manager (ECM) will decide whether or not you may re-enlist, it's you who controls where you land on the "rack and stack" list.

PTS is one of the fairest programs I have ever seen, but if you disregard what it takes to be competitive, you may find yourself out of luck.

If you want to be part of tomorrow's Navy, and think you have what it takes to serve beyond your first enlistment, craft a plan of action to improve your skills. The Navy wants the best and brightest...make sure the Navy includes you on our team.

For more information on PTS, go to the following web site: <http://www.stay-navy.navy.mil>. There is an entire section on PTS. Familiarize yourself with this information early so you are prepared to submit an application when it's time. At the end of the day, your career is your responsibility. Be prepared to make it your decision to stay Navy.

"Come surf God's Word at Pearl Harbor's Submarine Memorial Chapel!"

1030 February 6

For more information call 473-3981 or 473-5686

Hawai'i Navy News

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WWE divas tour Pearl Harbor

Story and photos by
JO1 Daniel J. Calderón
Editor

World Wrestling Entertainment (WWE) celebrities Stacy Keibler and Torrie Wilson toured Naval Station Pearl Harbor and visited with local Sailors yesterday.

Wilson and Keibler were here promoting Tuesday's upcoming WWE "A Night of Champions" event at the Blaisdell Arena. The event will feature nine main events and four title bouts including a three-way world title bout and a women's title bout. Wilson and Keibler began their day by having lunch at Sam Snead's Tavern with five Sailors. Electrician's Mate 1st Class (SS) Zach Montello and Yeoman 3rd Class (SS) Brian Simic from USS Louisville (SSN 724) joined with Master at Arms 2nd Class Matthew Reinhardt and MA3 Marcella Perkins from Navy Region security.

"Oh, I am definitely a fan," said MA1 Eric Wynn, from Navy Region security, the fifth Sailor at the lunch. "It was exciting to meet two superstars and they're just as pretty as I thought they would be."

After lunch, the WWE divas took time to sign autographs and pose for pictures with Sailors and family members at the Beeman Center.

"I think it's awesome that the WWE is finally coming to Hawai'i," said Cryptologic Technician-Administration 2nd Class (SW) Dustin Creech from Commander Pacific Fleet. "I am a huge fan of the WWE and of Stacy and Torrie. What word would I use to describe meeting them? Exhilarating."

Families at Beeman also enjoyed meeting the divas. Janet Wong, a Navy family member had her four-year-old daughter and three-year-old son on hand for the autograph signing. Both children entertained the entertainers by singing and dancing to "Sexy Boy," the theme song for WWE wrestler Shawn Michaels.

"They're been watching wrestling since they were newborn," Wong explained. "This is their first time meeting real WWE superstars and being able to talk. The last time, they were too little."

Wong said her daughter idolizes Keibler. The toddler agreed and said she wants to be a wrestler someday. After the autograph



WWE superstars Stacy Keibler (left) and Torrie Wilson talk with Cmdr. Logan Jones, commanding officer of USS Reuben James (FFG 57) during Thursday's tour.

signing, Sailors aboard USS Reuben James (FFG 57) had the opportunity to meet the celebrities when they went aboard for a tour. Keibler and Wilson visited several spaces on the ship, including the bridge and combat control spaces.

"It was really cool," said Operations Specialist 1st Class (SW) Stephen Cornell, a Reuben James Sailor. "I got to meet people that I had only ever seen before on TV. It's good to know that there are people out there who remember us when we go out to sea for up to 180 days at a time. It's good to know we're not forgotten."

Ensign Anne Gibbon said the tour was a chance for the two WWE superstars to put faces to the stories of Sailors who deploy in support of operations around the world. Reuben James' commanding officer, Cmdr. Logan Jones, presented Keibler and Wilson ship's hats with their names embroidered, a ship's photo and a ship's coin.

"It's just means a lot to know there are people like them who care enough about our Sailors to take the time to come out and see what it is they do on a day to day basis," Jones explained. "We were glad to have them aboard."

The two WWE divas said they enjoyed the chance to meet the Sailors during their tour here.

"Lunch was delicious and they [Sailors] were great," said Keibler. "It's nice to meet people, and talk about their jobs and lifestyles."

Local married couple selected as Sailors of the Year

U.S. Pacific Fleet Public Affairs

Like the maxim, "Make service your first priority, not success, and success will follow," two local Sailors who stress the importance of leadership and helping their fellow Sailors recently found success when they were selected as Sailors of the Year for 2004.

Cryptologic Technician (technical) 1st Class (SW) Russell A. Ross first found out his Pearl Harbor-based ship, USS Russell (DDG-59), had honored him as Senior Sailor of the Year. And later at a holiday party, his wife, Yeoman 1st Class (AW) Korin A. Ross found out she had also been selected as Sailor of the Year for her command, Fleet Logistics Support Squadron 51 (VR-51).

"I was so happy for him that it didn't dawn on me that it was a couple thing," said Korin Ross, administrative leading petty officer for Kaneohe-based VR-51. "He's very hardworking; he's a poster-Sailor in that he loves and takes care of his people and there's nothing he wouldn't do for his ship or the Navy."

"My parents always told me, if you're going to do something, you go all out," said Russell Ross, the electronic warfare division leading petty officer for Russell. "I also contribute being selected to her because I'm very competitive and with her being so successful, it's pushed me in doing what I've done."

Successful is an appropriate term for Korin Ross, who has been selected as Sailor of the Year five of her 10 years of active and reserve duty. She has already won Sailor of the Year for Commander, Fleet Logistics Support Wing this year and will go up next against other Sailors at the Commander, Naval Air Reserve Force Sailor of the Year board.

"It really is the people around you that help you get Sailor of the Year," said Korin Ross. "I helped mentor my junior Sailors and they're the ones who, in turn, helped me get selected. It's important to be selected because your supervisor and your peers have chosen you for the job you've done, so if they believe in you, that you're doing your job well, that brings a great sense of accomplishment and success."

"Sailor of the Year awards are important because of the recognition from the people that you work for directly and indirectly," added Russell Ross. "They recognize you're working hard to help yourself and to take care of the people who work for you."



Torrie Wilson (left) and Stacy Keibler signed autographs and posed for pictures with Sailors and their families Thursday at Naval Station Pearl Harbor's Beeman Center.

This was not the first time Keibler and Wilson have interacted with the military. Both have visited troops in Iraq and have toured Navy ships around the world.

"The whole experience was really interesting," Keibler said. "Not a lot of people get the chance to see what the Navy does so it's a real honor to aboard a ship and interact with Sailors."

Tickets for Tuesday's event are available through Ticketmaster outlets and at the Blaisdell Arena box office. For more information on Keibler, Wilson or the WWE, visit the official WWE Website at www.wwe.com.

USS Salvor represents Navy at Hula Bowl

Story and photos by
JO3 Ryan C. McGinley
Staff Writer

USS Salvor (ARS 52) and her crew of more than 100 Sailors, along with the Pacific Fleet Rock Band, represented the Navy in Kahului, Maui from Jan. 21-23 in support of the 2005 Hula Bowl All-Star game.

Sailors attended a variety of activities, including the football game, to support community involvement and have some fun.

Lt. Cmdr. Michael McCartney, Salvor's commanding officer, said it's important for the community and Navy to interact, helping to develop an understanding between the two groups.

"As we move around so much, I think it's very important for us to assimilate into the community so that those folks do see that we are the same as them," said McCartney. "We are an all-volunteer force. If the public does not see us as one of them, if the public does not see a U.S. Navy Sailor as someone that just as easily could have been their neighbor for the last 20 years, then we won't get the support, sympathy and assistance we need."

As one of the community events, Salvor Sailors attended a cookout with the college all-star football players and their guests at Keawalai Church in Kihei Jan 21.

"The football players, the professional athletes - when they met us, I was impressed with how excited



Brett Eddins, defensive end for Auburn University, gets hands on training from HT3 (SW) Nathaniel Sherrill on the use of a portable access rescue system (PARS) aboard the Safeguard-class rescue and salvage ship USS Salvor (ARS 52).

and interested they were in our own careers and what we do," said McCartney. "It's good for the junior Sailors to see a college football player, who weighs 250 pounds as a lineman, is almost more interested in what [our Sailors do] aboard USS Salvor. I want my crew members to get the feeling that people in the outside world care about what we do."

The 2005 Hula Bowl was held Jan. 22 at the War Memorial Stadium in Kahului. More than 70 uniformed Sailors from Salvor attended the game, which featured 90 college all-star players from around the country.

"I had a blast, being there and being on the field," said Interior Communications Electrician 1st Class (SW) Dallas Miller. "But I was disappointed that the West didn't win. I am from southern California and I am a big University of Southern California fan, so I was rooting for the West."

Eight members of the Pacific Fleet Rock Band also represented the Navy at the Hula Bowl by performing patriotic pieces before the National Anthem as well as uplifting party music throughout the game.

"It's always fun doing something new and exciting," said Musician 1st Class Christopher Griffin, unit leader for the Pacific Fleet Rock

Band. "And it's always advantageous for both the community and the Navy to keep relations friendly and positive."

They also performed a concert at the Maui Mall in Kahului, entertaining guests with a collection of popular and patriotic ballads.

"A lot of times you get some of the greatest responses and greatest turnouts from things that weren't heavily promoted, just because it's good, quality music," said Griffin.

Griffin said the goal of performing at the Maui Mall and Hula Bowl was patriotism, something he believes is at the core of the Navy music program.

"We wanted to convey the message of patriotism," said Griffin. "It's always about patriotism for us. I think that is one of the things that drives the Navy music program. When you do a performance and you see people standing up in respect for the piece of music, it really has a great impact on both us as performers and the people watching and listening."

Patrol Squadron 47, stationed at Marine Corps Air Base Hawai'i - Kaneohe, also supported the event by participating in a flyover of the stadium with a P-3C after the National Anthem.

After the game, Salvor gave more than 30 football players a tour of the ship, introducing them to fire-



Search and rescue swimmer HM3 Amber Bouge lifts "Oscar" out of the water during a man overboard drill aboard the Safeguard-class rescue and salvage ship USS Salvor (ARS 52). Salvor and her crew conducted maritime drills on their way home from Kahului, Maui.

fighting and rescue equipment and various other shipboard systems.

"It's good for us to show them what we do because it gives them a wider understanding of what its like on a ship," said IC2 Anthony Marquez. "It shows them what sacrifices we make on a ship. Even though we're not on the ground fighting, we're still making a lot of sacrifices to defend our country."

McCartney said the goal of the tours and trip as a whole was to educate and interact with the community, hoping they would walk away with a better understanding of the military.

"At the end of the day, I want a football player who toured the USS Salvor to walk away thinking, 'They have a challenging job. They are professionals and I feel comfortable and confident that they're going to do their job and do it well,'" he said. "Our overall goal was to leave the athletes, their families and the dignitaries with the feeling that the U.S. Navy is manned with competent, professional, young people who are highly motivated and dedicated to defending America."



Navy Midshipman Kyle Eckel watches the opening ceremonies of the 2005 Hula Bowl All-Star game in Kahului, Maui.



MU3 James Randorff strums the bass guitar at the 2005 Hula Bowl All-Star game in Kahului, Maui. Eight members of the Pacific Fleet Rock Band represented the Navy at the game, which included performing patriotic songs before the national anthem and uplifting party music throughout the game.



MU2 Mallory McKendry sings a ballad at the 2005 Hula Bowl All-Star game in Kahului, Maui.



Sailors and Hula Bowl college players enjoy a cookout and hula dancers Jan. 21 before the football game.



Eric Ghiaciuc, starting center for Central Michigan University, discharges a fire hose aboard the Safeguard-class rescue and salvage ship USS Salvor (ARS 52).



Madison Hedgecock, fullback for North Carolina Chapel Hill, rushes toward the goal line for the East team at the 2005 Hula Bowl in Kahului, Maui. The game featured more than 90 all-star college football players from around the country competing in the game.



A 2005 Hula Bowl All-Star college football player learns about a .50 caliber machine gun aboard the Safeguard-class rescue and salvage ship USS Salvor (ARS 52). Salvor gave more than 30 Hula Bowl players a tour of the ship, introducing them to firefighting and rescue equipment and various other shipboard systems. Salvor and her crew of more than 100 Sailors, along with the Pacific Fleet Rock Band, represented the Navy in Kahului, Maui Jan. 21-23 in support of the 2005 Hula Bowl All-Star game.

"You might not ever get rich..."



U.S. Navy photo by PH1 (AW) William R. Goodwin

OS1 (SW) Robert Cabino and other members of the Pacific Command Contingency C4I Package wash a SUV at an tsunami relief car wash at COMPACFLT Compound. More than 15 volunteers from Cabino's command were recently on standby to assist in the tsunami relief efforts and did their part by donating a portion of their proceeds.

SubPac Sailor plays it sinister for television's 'North Shore'

JO2 Corwin Colbert

COMSUBPAC Public Affairs

A Commander Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet (COMSUBPAC) officer co-starred in the Fox TV show, "North Shore" which aired Jan. 6.

Lt. Jeff Dee, COMSUBPAC assistant planning officer for the plans and policies department, said when he told his command about the part to be filmed at the Aloha Tower Market Place, they were more than happy to give him time off to do the scene. Dee was very enthusiastic about the part because it was the opposite of his real personality.

"I had to be a sinister character because I was in charge of making a big overnight transaction," he said. "The shipment, a semi-truck packed with contraband, would be delivered once my associates paid me," he said.

Eventually, police who had other ideas for the shipment foiled the plan. Dee said in



U.S. Navy photo JO2 Corwin Colbert

Lt. Jeff Dee, COMSUBPAC assistant planning officer, co-starred in the Fox TV show, "North Shore."

the show, the operation was tipped off to the cops.

"The cops were going to raid the place. The next thing I know, this guy is running away with my truck. I couldn't get a good shot off because by the time I realized he was running away, he was too far ahead to shoot," said Dee who was provided with a cap gun for his part.

Although Dee had roles in numerous plays and skits, his variety of characters has not changed.

"For some reason, I get the sinister roles. I wonder why," said Dee.

Dee landed the role when the casting director called him and asked him if he was interested. The scene was shot at Aloha Tower Market Place in downtown Honolulu.

Dee had a chance to meet other actors and learn what goes on behind the scenes. The scene only took one day to shoot, but he said he was satisfied with the results. Dee plans to continue building his acting resume as long as it does not interfere with his military duties.

"I would love to do some more roles. I cannot do any more North Shore roles because it was a co-starring role and a recognizable character. However, I would like a role on the ABC TV show 'Lost.' Hopefully, they will need a sinister character," concluded Dee.

Honolulu-based Coast Guard crew braves Alaskan cold

U.S. Coast Guard Public Affairs

Crabbing season has come to Alaskan waters, and so has the Honolulu-based Coast Guard Cutter Jarvis and crew.

Alaska news headlines already captured the sinking of the fishing vessel Big Valley, as well as a crewmember from fishing vessel Sultan falling overboard, making it clear that the Coast Guard has one of its most important missions already underway in the frigid waters of the Bering Sea. Crabbing season is one of the most dangerous times of the year for both fisherman and the Coast Guardsmen who carefully patrol the area.

The crew of the Coast Guard Cutter Jarvis, homeported here, takes these dangers and their responsibilities very seriously, as was shown with the survival training the crew underwent during the port call in Kodiak, Alaska.

It was still dark outside when Capt. Michael A. Jett, with 38 years of service, dressed in a survival suit of bright red fondly called a "Gumby," was the first to step off the end of a pier — plunging into the cold Alaskan waters. Bobbing to the surface, he rolled onto his back and proceeded to swim toward the life raft. Soon other crewmembers joined the captain in the frigid waters, bobbing up and down like large floating fruit.

This was the start of the crew's special survival drill. For a group of Coast Guardsmen from warm, tropical waters, the idea of jumping into waters cold enough to cause hypothermia within minutes was not very appealing, but everyone had the very clear understanding that it was necessary.

The ship's commanding officer provided the background for this training, based on the training he received at the Military Sealift Command Training Center in Freehold, N.J. The drill covers the mandatory requirements for basic mariners licensing. After donning survival suits in two minutes or less, crewmembers jumped 15 feet from the pier into waters that were approximately 35 degrees.

They proceeded to practice organizing a group of survivors and gathering into life saving formations, including the "bull's eye" a circular formation meant to draw the attention of passing aircraft. Each crewmember then swam to the nearby life raft, clambered inside



U.S. Coast Guard photo courtesy of the CGC Jarvis

A crewmember from the Coast Guard Cutter Jarvis climbs out of the water in Womens Bay in Kodiak, Alaska during cold-water survival training.

only to jump back out again, swim to the dock and roll out of the water.

On the second morning of the drill, there was a flurry of snow and sleet to heighten the effect of the training. With winds bringing the temperature down to a chilly 23 degrees, it was a brisk morning wake up climbing into survival suits on an open pier. Most of the crew of the Jarvis expressed surprise that the suits made the experience fun, keeping them warm and dry.

The experience helped crewmembers learn how important it is to understand the function of a survival suit, as well as draw attention to the importance of teamwork in case of abandoning ship.

The Jarvis and crew departed Honolulu in mid-January for a routine patrol in Alaska. During the patrol, the crew will be the primary search and rescue response for the Opelio crab fleet fishing the icy waters of the Bering Sea.

Editor's Note: Photos of the crew during the cold water swim are available at www.uscgahawaii.com.

Career Management Symposium

Monday 07	Tuesday 08	Wednesday 09	Thursday 10	Friday 11
<p>0830 NPC Career Management and Manpower Brief (CO, XO, CMC, CCC and DH) 1.5 hr Loc: Sharkey</p> <p>1030 Chief Petty Officer Leadership Brief (CPO) 1.5 hr Loc: Sharkey</p> <p>1330 Career Information Seminar (Junior Enlisted E-5 and below) 2 hr. Loc: Sharkey</p>	<p>0830 Career Information Seminar (Junior Enlisted E-5 and below) 2 hr Loc: Sharkey</p> <p>0830 SWO Community Brief (SWO Community) Loc: Banyan Dining Hall</p> <p>1000 SWO CO/XO Mentoring Session Loc: Banyan adjacent room</p> <p>1000 Career Information Brief – Junior Officer (0-3 and below) Loc: Banyan Dining Hall</p> <p>1100 Submarine CO/XO lunch LOC: Bistro (tentative)</p> <p>1230 Career Information Seminar (Senior Enlisted E-6 and above) 1.5 hr. Loc: Sharkey</p> <p>1330 LDO Community Status Brief 1 hr. Loc: Banyan Dining Hall</p> <p>1430 Enlisted Promotion/ Advancement Brief (E-5 and above) 1.5 hr. Loc: Sharkey</p> <p>1800 SWO Spouse Social hosted by MWR 1.5 hr. Loc: Lockwood Dining Hall</p>	<p>0800 Chief Petty Officer Leadership Brief (CPO) 1.5 hr. Loc: Conf room 3</p> <p>0930 Enlisted Promotion/ Advancement Brief (E-5 and above) 1.5 hr. Loc: Conf room 3</p> <p>1100 NPC Career Management and Manpower Brief (CO, XO, CMC, CCC & DH) 1.5 hr Loc: Command Group Area</p> <p>1300 Career Information Seminar (E-6 and below) 2 hr. Loc: Conf room 3</p> <p>0830 Submarine Community Brief – Officer Loc: Sharkey</p> <p>0930 Career Information Brief – Junior Officer (0-3 and below) Loc: Sharkey</p> <p>1800 SUB Officer Career Information for Spouses/ Ombudsmen Brief hosted by MWR 1.5 hr Loc: Dive Tower</p>	<p>0830 LDO Application Brief 1 hr Loc: Sharkey</p> <p>1000 Enlisted Promotion/Advancement Brief (E-5 and above) 1.5 hr Loc: Sharkey</p> <p>1030 Officer Promotion/ Advancement Brief (O-3/O-4) 1.5 hr Loc: Banyan Dining Hall</p> <p>1300 Submarine Community Brief – Enlisted Loc: Sharkey</p> <p>1800 Enlisted Career Information for Spouses/Ombudsmen Brief hosted by MWR 1.5 hr Loc: Lockwood Dining Hall</p>	<p>0830 Chief Petty Officer Leadership Brief (CPO) 1.5 hr Loc: BLDG 294/Rm 1</p> <p>1030 NPC Career Management and Manpower Brief (CO, XO, CMC, CCC & DH) 1.5 hr Loc: BLDG 294/Rm 1</p> <p>1230 Career Information Seminar (E-6 and below) 2 hr Loc: NCTAMS PAC Theater</p> <p>1430 Enlisted Promotion/ Advancement Brief (E-5 and above) 1.5 hr Loc: NCTAMS PAC Theater</p>
<p>0800-1100 USS Chung Hoon (DDG93) PNC Travis ENC Alexander CS1 Trabucco ITC Cagle GMC Moeller ATC Organ ("A" School)</p> <p>1130-1230 Lunch</p> <p>1300-1600 USS Hopper (DDG70) PNC Travis ENC Alexander CS1 Trabucco ITC Cagle GMC Moeller ATC Organ ("A" School)</p> <p>0800-1600 CBU-413 CECS Ormanoski</p> <p>0800-1600 Kunia CTTC Wilson</p> <p>0800-1600 Naval Station Security MAC Allen</p>	<p>0800-1100 USS Chafee (DDG90) PNC Travis ENC Alexander CS1 Trabucco ITC Cagle GMC Moeller ATC Organ ("A" School)</p> <p>1130-1230 Lunch</p> <p>1300-1600 USS Chosin (CG65) PNC Travis ENC Alexander CS1 Trabucco ITC Cagle GMC Moeller ATC Organ ("A" School)</p> <p>0800-1600 CBU-413 CECS Ormanoski</p> <p>0800-1600 Kunia CTTC Wilson</p> <p>0800-1600 Naval Station Security MAC Allen</p>	<p>0800-1100 USS Lake Erie (CG70) PNC Travis ENC Alexander CS1 Trabucco ITC Cagle GMC Moeller ATC Organ ("A" School)</p> <p>1130-1230 Lunch</p> <p>1300-1600 USS Crommelin (FFG37) PNC Travis ENC Alexander CS1 Trabucco ITC Cagle GMC Moeller ATC Organ ("A" School)</p> <p>0800-1600 CBU-413 CECS Ormanoski</p> <p>0800-1600 Kunia CTTC Wilson</p> <p>0800-1600 Naval Station Security MAC Allen</p>	<p>0800-1100 USS Port Royal (CG73) PNC Travis ENC Alexander CS1 Trabucco ITC Cagle GMC Moeller ATC Organ ("A" School)</p> <p>1130-1230 Lunch</p> <p>1300-1600 USS Salvor (TENTATIVE) PNC Travis ENC Alexander CS1 Trabucco ITC Cagle GMC Moeller ATC Organ ("A" School)</p> <p>0800-1600 CBU-413 CECS Ormanoski</p> <p>0800-1600 Kunia CTTC Wilson</p> <p>0800-1600 Naval Station Security MAC Allen</p>	<p>0800-1600 Naval Station Pearl Harbor (bldg 679) ENC Alexander CS1 Trabucco GMC Moeller ATC Organ ("A" School) MAC Allen</p> <p>0800-1600 NCTAMS ITC Cagle</p> <p>0800-1600 PSD Pearl Harbor PNC Travis</p> <p>0800-1600 Kunia CTTC Wilson</p> <p>0800-1600 CBU-413 CECS Ormanoski</p>
PH-Pearl Harbor	Kunia-NSGA Hawaii	NCTAMS-NCTAMS Wahaiwa	Officer	Enlisted

Sailors, friends take on kayaking



U.S. Navy photos by JOC (SW) Joe Kane
Sailors and MWR patrons paddle their kayaks to Chinaman's Hat Jan. 22. The Outdoor Adventure Center on Naval Station Pearl Harbor organized the trip. The OAC regularly organizes adventures for MWR patrons.



Navy League honors Coast Guard

Coast Guard Public Affairs

The United States Coast Guard Command in Hawai'i and outstanding members of the Honolulu Council of the Navy League of the United States were honored at the Honolulu Council's annual meeting held Wednesday at the Waialae Country Club.

Because of the key role it plays in safeguarding our islands and in intercepting drug shipments, the United States Coast Guard Fourteenth District was acknowledged for its valuable work with a special award from the Honolulu Council. Admiral Charles Wurster, commander of the 14th District, accepted the award.

This year, the Navy League Award, recognizing outstanding contributions to the Honolulu Council and to the sea services, was presented to Glenn Hong, president of Young Brothers. A past president of the Honolulu Council and a longtime member, Hong has devoted countless hours to furthering the work of the Navy League and promoting corporate membership in the council.

Four former past presidents and board members were inducted into the Honolulu Council's Hall of Fame for their outstanding service to the council and their commitment to supporting our men and women in the sea services. They are Roy Yee, title; Ed Carter, USN retired and U.S. Navy League national director; Dick Fahrenwald, retired businessman and former national director, and Alan Lloyd, retired businessman and current parliamentarian and historian of the council.

"We are proud to honor these exceptional individuals who have devoted their personal and professional time and resources to advance the work of the Navy League and Honolulu Council," stated Kraig Kennedy, Honolulu Council president. "Each and every one of our honorees has made unique and lasting contributions so that the council can support the brave and dedicated men and women in our sea services," Kennedy commented.

Capt. Dana Ware, commanding officer of the Coast Guard cutter Rush, said, "We are honored by this recognition and we will continue to



U.S. Coast Guard photo by PR2 Brooksann Anderson
Kraig Kennedy, president of the Hawaii Navy League (far right) presents Capt. Dana Ware, commanding officer of USCGC Rush and Rear Adm. Charles Wurster, Commander 14th CG District, with recognition plaques for their commitment to the war on drugs.

serve our community faithfully."

One of 330 Navy League Councils worldwide, the Honolulu Council serves as an educational liaison between the civilian community and military sea services which include the Navy, Coast Guard and Marine Corps. The council is involved in providing special recognition for outstanding sea services personnel as well as sponsoring and supporting Naval Sea Cadet Units and family assistance to sea service families. A non-profit, tax-exempt organization, the league relies solely on its members for support and funds.