

CELEBRATING

蛇 Chinese New Year 新

Don Robbins

Assistant Editor

Although Chinese New Year officially falls on Feb. 10 this year, a festive parade to preview the Year of the Snake navigated through the streets of Honolulu's Chinatown on Feb. 2.

Rear Adm. Frank Ponds, commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, marched in the parade. So did the U.S. Pacific Fleet Band.

The parade was the fourth in a series of tours offered last weekend by Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) to commemorate the new year.

The first tour on Feb. 1 began with a Chinese-style dinner, followed by the official Year of the Snake opening ceremony, Narcissus Queen and court appearance, lion dances, firecrackers and the street festival.

The second tour included a trip to First Friday, a Chinatown block party centered on the area's art galleries and unique shops.

The third tour, on Feb. 2, celebrated Chinese food and history, including a new year street festival, samples of traditional treats and a dim sum lunch.

According to the Chinese zodiac, focused around the characteristics of 12 animal symbols, 2013 is the Year of the Snake. The festival also heralds the beginning of springtime and is based on the Chinese calendar and the lunar new year.

Traditionally, Chinese New Year includes a feast of delicacies with family members, and the receipt of money in red paper envelopes for good luck. Popular themes surrounding the festival include wishes for longevity, wealth, happiness and good fortune.



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Daniel Barker

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U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Daniel Barker



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U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Daniel Barker



U.S. Navy photo by LT. Cmdr. Allen Unger



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Daniel Barker



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Daniel Barker



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Daniel Barker

# Port Royal 'A' proves too much for Lake Erie 'B'

Story and photo by  
Randy Dela Cruz

Sports Editor

Point guard Seaman London Waldon pumped in three long-range jumpers from beyond the arch and finished with a game-high 20 points to lead USS Port Royal (CG 73) "A" past USS Lake Erie (CG 70) "B", 41-26, on Feb. 2 in an Afloat Division intramural basketball game at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Fitness Center.

Waldon scored nine points in the first half, then topped off his strong effort with back-to-back three-pointers in the second half to close out the team's second victory in two tries.

"As a leader, you've got to be able to step up at anytime," he said. "I had to step up as a teammate and as a captain. If everybody else is going to put forth, I got to step up and do what I got to do."

Although Waldon provided a huge offensive punch for Port Royal, it was Electronics Technician 3rd Class Anthony Hawkins who got the team out of the gates and running in the opening minutes of the game.

Hawkins scored the first six points of the game on a free throw, a three-pointer and a dunk while Waldon tossed in a lay-up for an early 8-0 lead.

Another basket by Waldon extended the lead to 10-0 before Lake Erie guard Boatswain's Mate Seaman Thomas Burnley finally got his team on the scoreboard after being shut out for the first 10 minutes of the game.

"We got to give everybody a different look, rather than just a two-three (defense)," said Waldon about shutting down Port Royal. "We can't be like everybody else. We



Guard Seaman London Waldon goes up for a lay-up to score two of his game-high 20 points and lead USS Port Royal (CG 73) "A" past USS Lake Erie "B", 41-26.

got to be unique. We got to show something different."

Four minutes later, Waldon sank the first of his

three-point shots to give Port Royal a double-digit lead at 18-8 with 4:32 remaining before halftime.

"It's a statement that we got to put out here," said Waldon about the team's 22-13 advantage at inter-

mission. "We just got to come out, forward, with a better effort."

While Lake Erie picked up the pace in the second half, Port Royal continued to put the pressure on their opponent and never lost their double-digit lead.

Nine minutes into the second half, Waldon all but sealed the deal by finishing a fast break with a lay-up to put Port Royal ahead by a commanding, 32-15, with 11:36 on the clock.

For Port Royal, six players got their names in the box score with Waldon and Hawkins leading the way.

Meanwhile, Lake Erie was led by Burnley with 10 points, Damage Controlman Seaman Alvin Brown with eight and Seaman Shanderick Tatum with six.

Burnley attributed the loss to first-game jitters and promised that Lake Erie will be competitive from here on out.

"We have a lot of new guys," he said. "This is a brand new team. We were just scared. It won't

happen again."

Although Lake Erie fell behind by 10 points early in the game, Burnley said that he was very encouraged by the way the team fought back and refused to give up.

"We started clicking at the half," he said. "We're small, but we're fast and we box out. If we play like we did in the second half, we'll be fine. We'll play a lot faster next time. This was a warm-up game."

After easily dispatching Lake Erie, Waldon said that it's only the beginning for Port Royal.

Falling short in the playoffs last year, Waldon stated that the team is on a mission to set things right in 2013.

"We can be way better than this," he said. "Everybody knows us on the waterfront. Everybody wants us, but we're taking every game one by one. We can lose at anytime. We just got to stay humble and we'll be fine."

## Talent show, gospel festival, soul food competition planned for African American History Month

Hickam African American Heritage Association has scheduled the following events for February:

- An "Apollo-style" talent show will be held at the Tradewinds Enlisted Club at 6 p.m. Feb. 16. There will be a cash prize of \$200.

For more information and to sign up for the show, email: aahatalentshow@gmail.com or call 449-8612.

- A GospelFest and Taste of Soul will be held at 6 p.m. at the Hickam Main Chapel. All local

choirs are invited to sing in the GospelFest and anyone can submit dishes for the Taste of Soul, which is a soul food competition. For more information, email april.gaines.1@us.af.mil.

- An African American History Month luncheon will be held at 11 a.m. at the Hickam Officers' Club. Chief Sgt. Leslie Bramlett, 15th Wing command master chief will be the guest speaker. Tickets will be available by sending an email to brence.jenkins@us.af.mil.

# Defending champs NIOC turn up heat on DISA-PAC

Story and photo by  
Randy Dela Cruz

Sports Editor

The starting five for Navy Information Operations Command (NIOC) began the game against Defense Information Systems Agency Pacific (DISA-PAC) sitting on the bench, but once in the game, it didn't take long for the first squad to make an impact.

Down by a score of 6-5, NIOC's big five outscored DISA 15-1 to close out the first half and cruise to a 41-15 win Feb. 4 in a Blue Division intramural basketball game at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Fitness Center.

Led by the twin towers, Navy Cryptologic Technician (Collection) 2nd Class Quentin Leathers and Senior Airman Sean Caddell, the defending champions NIOC turned up the heat to score 11 points in four minutes to take their first double-digit lead at 16-6.

Leathers was especially tough inside the paint as he threw down six points in just over a minute on a lay-up and two thunderous dunks.

"We started off with a 1-3-1 defense and that picked up the intensity," Leathers said. "That gave everybody confidence and boost everybody's defense up."

After the outburst by Leathers, it was Caddell's turn to run wild and dominate under the basket.

Caddell scored on an assist by Leathers and then went on to convert two free throws, a basket-and-one and another free throw to give NIOC a 20-7 lead at halftime.

In the second half, Leathers went back to work and scored the first six points for NIOC to raise the lead to 26-9.

Two minutes later, with 12:48 remaining on the clock, Caddell all but put



Navy Cryptologic Technician (Collection) 2nd Class Quentin Leathers scores on back-to-back dunks in the first half.

the game away with a basket for a commanding 30-9 advantage.

Of the team's 41 points, Leathers led the way with 13 points, with Caddell adding 11 and Cryptologic Technician (Maintenance) 3rd Class Michael Lyles following with seven points.

"I started playing the other guys, give them playing time because there's going to be tough games down the road," said NIOC returning head coach Master Chief Yeoman Darrin Bobbitt, who took note of the mismatch before game time. "Once they (starting five) started playing, I pulled the ball out a couple of times, good sportsmanship because we're already up."

While Leathers and

Caddell scored more than half of the team's total points, Bobbitt was quick to point out that it was a team effort that produced the win.

Bobbitt said that one player in particular, Cryptologic Technician (Technical) Seaman Brittany Thomas, was the spark that kept the team focused and on track.

"She gets in the game, plays hard defense and that made everybody else play hard defense," he stated. "This girl right here, you see how she plays defense, that made the team play better."

Thomas also contributed with a bucket late in the second half.

Leathers, who was deployed last year and missed out on the team's championship celebration, said that

with so many pieces coming together, he likes what he sees out on the floor.

Just a little tweaking here and there, Leathers said, and NIOC will be ready to defend their title.

"We still have a lot to jell," he acknowledged. "We got to believe in each other to take it to the next level."

Bobbitt said it's too early to tell if NIOC will repeat. At this point, the head coach just wants to focus on playing good basketball.

"We're not on the eye of that (repeat), we're just on the eye of playing good ball," he stated. "We don't even want to focus on the championship or another undefeated season. We just want to play good ball and represent NIOC."



Cryptologic Technician (Maintenance) 3rd Class Michael Lyles, guard for Navy Information Operations Command (NIOC), puts up a shot from the perimeter.

## Quick assist loans now available from relief society

Sailors and Marines serving on active duty can apply for a quick assist loan (QAL) for up to \$500 at all 51 Navy Marine Corps Relief Society (NMCRS) full service offices located on Navy and Marine Corps installations worldwide. Most QALs can be processed on a walk-in basis in about 15 minutes. Active duty Marines and Sailors must apply in person.

QALs are short-term, interest-free loans available to service members facing a family emergency or other urgent financial situation. QALs are available to Sailors and Marines who:

- Are on active duty.
- Have no outstanding loans with NMCRS.
- Need help with basic living expenses or family emergencies.

"This program is our best defense against questionable pay day lenders who create a cycle of debt with triple-digit interest and short-term repayments that adversely impact our service members and their families," said Maj. Gen. Carl Jensen, USMC (ret.), executive vice president, Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society. Last year, the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society provided more than 43,000 QALs to active duty Sailors and Marines.

The Pearl Harbor office is in building 1514 next to the Makalapa Gate at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

For more information, visit [www.nmcrs.org/QAL](http://www.nmcrs.org/QAL) or contact the NMCRS office at 473-0282.

## Defense leads Reapers to win

Story and photo by  
Randy Dela Cruz

Sports Editor

A tough full-court defense helped the 8th Intelligence Squadron (8 IS) Reapers break up a close game and defeat Commander, Submarine Force U.S. Pacific Fleet (COMSUBPAC), 46-35, Feb. 5, in a Gold Division intra-mural basketball matchup at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Fitness Center.

Up by only three points with less than nine minutes on the clock, the Reapers turned two turnovers into back-to-back, fast-break hoops by Lt. Col. James Weaver and Master Sgt. Josh Gerrish to go up by a score of 32-25 en route to the win.

"The defense is really what set that up," said Gerrish, who led the Reapers with 11 points. "The pressure defense is what we said at halftime."

Down twice early in the first half, the Reapers tied the score at 7-7 on a lay-up by Gerrish at the 13:16 mark and then tied it again at 11-11 on another shot by Gerrish.

The Reapers took their first lead of the game moments later when Master Sgt. Michael McCarty scored on a put-back off of a miss by Gerrish to go up 13-11.

A basket by 1st Lt. Anwar Johnson upped the Reapers by four points, but COMSUBPAC came back to tie the score at 18-18 on a lay-up by military family member Nick Lenover.

The stalemate was short-lived however as Weaver connected on his second trey in the first half to take a 21-18 advantage before the Reapers went into halftime ahead at 23-19.

While the back-to-back baskets put the Reapers up by seven midway through

the second half, COMSUBPAC, despite only having five players on their squad, put together one last run after falling behind by nine points.

A splashdown from beyond the arch by Fire Controlman 2nd Class Frank Lofton narrowed the gap down to six at 36-30 with only 6:19 on the clock.

However, the Reapers came back to take their first double-digit lead at 40-30 on a lay-up by Gerrish before a basket-and-one by Johnson all but put the game away at 43-30 with 3:38 remaining in the game.

A total of seven Reapers posted points in a balanced attack that was led by Gerrish, who was followed by Weaver with 10, Johnson with nine and McCarty with six.

Lofton led COMSUBPAC with 12 points, which included three long-range treys, and was followed by Electronics Technician 2nd Class Jesse Gauf with 11 points. Lenover also chipped in with eight.

"We got tired," explained Lofton about falling short against the 8 IS. "We only got five people. They (Reapers) had like 12, 13 people, so they were just subbing in people."

Although the trey late in the game by Lofton pulled COMSUBPAC back to within six, he said that the team just ran out of gas after that.

"We just went downhill from there," Lofton said. "We're going to do better the next time. Hopefully, we'll have more people. When we have our full team our here, we got a pretty good team."

With the advantage in numbers, Gerrish said that the Reapers knew it would only be a matter of time before COMSUBPAC would begin to tire.

The pressure worked for



Swing player 1st Lt. Anwar Johnson, 8th Intelligence Squadron (8 IS) Reapers, goes up for a basket.

the Reapers, which scored numerous baskets on fast breaks and lay-ups.

"It was just that tight D, anticipating the passes and playing the lanes," Gerrish said. "And we had a lot of bench players too, so we could bring people in to give us some rest."

The win raised the record of the Reapers to 3-0 in the

Gold Division.

Although off to a good start, Gerrish said that it's only the beginning.

"We're doing pretty good," he acknowledged. "We actually have two of our starters that aren't back yet. Once we get everybody playing, we're going to be tough to stop."



## EARTH TIP

### Steps can be taken to protect biodiversity in Hawaii

Rebecca Hommon

Navy Region Hawaii  
Environmental Counsel

Strong species, sometimes ones imported to a location for something that seemed like a good idea at the time, become weeds that choke out other species' ability to survive, creating a monoculture of the dominant plant or animal.

For example, mangroves were brought to Hawaii in the 1920s to stabilize muddy shorelines, and blackchin tilapia were introduced as a food source. Both have now spread so that their existence

threatens the ability of native waterbirds, such as Hawaiian stilts and ducks, to find food, jeopardizing their ability to survive.

To keep the plant and animal worlds interesting and diverse, be very cautious of what you import to Hawaii.

Dumping aquarium water into streams can spread organisms into native habitats, while participating in volunteer efforts to remove invasive species from a particular plot may give a few birds a chance to survive.

For more on biodiversity in Pearl Harbor's streams and wetlands see the website: <http://bit.ly/VmtIL4>



Honored guests commence the Hawaiian tradition of untying the maile lei at the grand re-opening of the USO Hawaii's Honolulu Airport center.

## USO Hawaii celebrates grand re-opening

Story and photos by  
MC3 Dustin W. Sisco

Navy Public Affairs  
Support Element West  
Det Hawaii

HONOLULU – The Honolulu International Airport (HIA) hosted the grand re-opening of the United Service Organizations Inc. (USO) on the same day as the USO's 72nd birthday on Feb. 4.

The ceremony recognized the efforts that volunteers and contributors have made not only in renovating the HIA's USO center, but also in supporting the USO's mission in the past. Carly Harris, vice president of USO Pacific, spoke to members from all branches of the military and others in attendance at the ceremony.

"In 2012, we've touched more than 69,000 lives in our two USO centers and more than 85,000 through your programming efforts," said Harris. "Thank you for your selfless contributions."

USO Hawaii first opened its HIA center in a location



Henry Kapono sings a dedication song.

near the Japanese garden and, as the airport expanded, the USO has moved twice. Currently, the USO lounge and administrative office are located at the street level between baggage claim areas E and F.

Military members and their family members can visit the USO which offers free pastry and coffee, Internet services, shower facilities, vending machines and a room for children that

is equipped with toys, books and games.

Karl Kiyokawa, USO Hawaii Advisory Council president, gave special remarks about the mission of the USO.

"The mission of the USO Hawaii advisory council and the USO is very pure. It does not get any purer than this. Those of us in business, the mission is to support the troops and their families, end of story."



Vertical Horizon performs a free concert Feb. 4 for Sailors, Airmen and other military members at Club Pearl on Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. The recording artists were hosted by Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) in coordination with Navy Entertainment.

## Hickam Officers' Spouses' Club offers meetings, scholarship opportunities

Those who are new to the island, the military lifestyle, or interested in making new friends or having fun are invited to check out the Hickam Officers' Spouses Club (HOSC). The club is a non-profit, private organization.

HOSC has monthly socials and smaller group activities. Participants who are interested in volunteering can stop by the Hickam Thrift Shop.

Proceeds from the Hickam Thrift Shop go back to the club's educational, military and local communities.

Dues are now half-price for the remainder of the 2012-2013 board year. For more information, visit the website at [www.hickamosc.com](http://www.hickamosc.com) or email [info@hickamosc.com](mailto:info@hickamosc.com).

In addition, The club is currently accepting scholarship applications for spouses

and high school seniors who are dependents of U.S. military members of all ranks, who are stationed in Hawaii.

Applications are available online at [www.hickamosc.com](http://www.hickamosc.com). Applications must be received no later than March 15.

For more information, contact Katherine Gibson at [hoscscscholarship2013@gmail.com](mailto:hoscscscholarship2013@gmail.com).

Morale Welfare & Recreation

**VALENTINE'S 5K RUN**

A Valentine's Day 5K run will begin at 8 a.m. Saturday at the Hickam Fitness Center. This is a free event. FMI: 448-2214.

**FREE GOLF CLINIC**

The Navy-Marine Golf Course will host a free golf clinic at 1 p.m. Saturday. FMI: 471-0142.

**DIAMOND HEAD HIKE WITH LIBERTY**

There will be a free Diamond Head hike with Liberty on Saturday. Departures are from Liberty Express at 8 a.m., Beeman Center at 8:30 a.m., Instant Liberty at 8:45 a.m., and Makai Recreation Center at 9 a.m. This activity is for single, active-duty Sailors and Airmen only. FMI: 473-2583.

**HICKAM HISTORICAL TOUR**

Tours of historic Hickam will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Fridays throughout the month of February. The cost is \$45 for adults, \$40 for children ages 3-11 years old, and free for children 2 years and younger. Departures are from Information, Tickets and Travel (ITT)-Hickam and Royal Alakai Lodge. FMI: 448-2295.

**KO OLINA WHALE WATCH TOUR**

There will be whale watching tours to Ko Olina from noon to 3:45 p.m. on Feb. 9, 16, 17, 23 and 24. The cost is \$40 for adults, \$35 for children ages 3-11, and includes round trip transportation from ITT-Hickam. FMI: 448-2295.

**OAHU HIGHLIGHTS TOUR**

There will be a tour of Oahu from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Thursdays throughout the month of February. The tour features major sights of Oahu. The cost is \$45 for adults, \$40 for children, and free for children age 2 and under who sit on an adult's lap. Lunch is included. Departures are from ITT-Hickam office. FMI: 448-2295.

**PRESCHOOL STORY TIME**

Preschool story time will be held from 9 to 10 a.m. Wednesday at the Hickam Library. The theme for the day is "Valentine's Day." FMI: 449-8299.

**ALL-AIR FORCE AND ALL-NAVY BOWLING TRYOUTS**

Tryouts for the All-Air Force and All-Navy bowling leagues are scheduled for next week. All-Air Force tryouts will take place at 10 a.m. Feb. 13 at Hickam Bowling Center. All-Navy tryouts will take place at 10 a.m. Feb. 14 at the Naval Station Bowling Center. The top six men and top four women from each branch of service will advance to the All-Military Bowling Tournament in April. This event is open to all active-duty personnel. The cost is \$16 per person. Sign up sheets are available at the front desk at either bowling center. FMI: 473-2651.



**PARENTAL GUIDANCE (PG)**

Old school grandfather Artie (Billy Crystal), who is accustomed to calling the shots, meets his match when he and his eager-to-please wife Diane (Bette Midler) agree to babysit their three grandkids when their type-A parents (Marisa Tomei, Tom Everett Scott) go away for work.

But when 21st century problems collide with Artie and Diane's old school methods of tough rules, lots of love and old-fashioned games, it's learning to bend - and not holding your ground - that binds a family together.

**SHARKEY MOVIE THEATER**

**TODAY 2/8**

7:00 PM The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (PG-13)

**SATURDAY 2/9**

2:30 PM Cirque du Soleil: Worlds Away (G)  
4:45 PM The Guilt Trip (PG-13)  
7:00 PM The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (PG-13)

**SUNDAY 2/10**

2:30 PM Cirque du Soleil: Worlds Away (G)  
4:45 PM Parental Guidance (PG)  
7:00 PM Jack Reacher (R)

\*\$1 for 3-D glasses rental

Community Calendar

**FEBRUARY**

**NOW** — the Joint Base Tax Center, run by the Region Legal Service Office, is now open. The tax center offers "self-service" preparation, with the help of a trained tax volunteer. Volunteers for tax staff are also being sought. FMI: email Katherine.lake@navy.mil or call 473-4717.

**12** — The Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association (AFCEA) buffet luncheon will be held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Ft. Shafter Hale Ikena Club. This month all military and business professionals in information technology, communications, cyber security or STEM are invited to attend this networking roundtable. FMI: www.afceahawaii.org or call Ken at 441-8524.

**13** — A family fun run will be held in the grassy mall area between the 15th Wing Headquarters building and Freedom Tower. Units should assemble no later than 6:55 a.m. Families, children and adults with strollers are welcome, but pets are prohibited.

**15** — A Wings Over America Scholarship Foundation Golf Tournament will be held at the Kaneohe Klipper Course at Marine Corps Base Hawaii. The tournament will be "captain's choice" format with a 12:30 p.m. shotgun start. The foundation provides scholarships to any dependent associated with naval aviation: officer, enlisted, retired and deceased. FMI: www.wingsoveramerica.us.

**16** — The annual Swamp Romp run will begin at 7 a.m. at Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay. This is a six-member team event. The cost is \$140. FMI: http://www.mccshawaii.com/swampromp.

**18** — Feb. 9 is the deadline to enter the 29th annual Great Aloha Run, will be held Presidents' Day, Feb. 18 starting at 7 a.m. Participating in the race will be Sounds of Freedom, which is the military component of the Great Aloha Run. The cost is \$15 to register to run in formation as part of Sounds of Freedom. Runners can register by going to: http://www.eventsonline.ca/events/GARSOF/ and typing in your information for the point of contact. The cost of entering the run as an individual is \$40 per person. FMI: www.greataloharun.com. (Details on page B-6.)

**22** — HQ PACAF Maintainers will hold a Mardi Gras lunch and golf scramble. Lunch will be from 10:30 a.m. to noon at Foster Point. The golf tournament will be held at Mamala Bay with a 12:30 p.m. shotgun start. Sign up deadlines are today for the golf tourney and Feb. 15 for lunch only. FMI: Jeffrey.wurn@us.af.mil or 449-8678, or michael.shannon.4@us.af.mil or 449-8591.

**26** — The 15th Wing annual awards breakfast will be held from 7:15 to 8:30 a.m. at the Tradewinds Enlisted Club on the Hickam side of Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. The cost is \$15 for club members and \$17 for non-club members. The buffet breakfast includes sausage, eggs, biscuits and fruit. The RSVP cut off date is Feb. 20. FMI: Master Sgt. Dwayne Graves at 449-2222 or dwayne.graves@us.af.mil or Tech Sgt. Vi Tu at 448-4043 or vi.tu@us.af.mil.

Movie Showtimes

**HICKAM MEMORIAL THEATER**

**TODAY 2/8**

6:00 PM The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (PG-13)

**SATURDAY 2/9**

4:00 PM Rise of the Guardians 3D (PG)  
7:00 PM Jack Reacher (PG-13)

**SUNDAY 2/10**

2:00 PM Rise of the Guardians 3D (PG)

## Sounds of Freedom to race in Great Aloha Run on Presidents' Day, Feb. 18

Feb. 9 is the last day to register as a member of Sounds of Freedom for the 29th annual Great Aloha Run, which will be held on Presidents' Day, Feb. 18, starting at 7 a.m.

Participating in the race will be Sounds of Freedom, which the military component of the Great Aloha Run.

Sounds of Freedom is comprised of active duty

and Recreation (MWR) programs while also promoting health and fitness.

The Air Force is putting together its own formation of about 100 runners in the Air Force PT uniform.

The cost to run in the race as a member of Sounds of Freedom is \$15, compared to the cost of running in the race as an individual, which is \$40

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The race raises money for charitable organizations such as Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) programs, while also promoting health and fitness.

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service men and women from all branches of service, running in formation in PT gear, and calling out cadence.

The 8.15-mile course starts at Aloha Tower in downtown Honolulu, winds its way along Honolulu Harbor, down Nimitz Highway, Kamehameha Highway and to Aloha Stadium.

Aid stations are at miles 2, 3, 5 and 7 and at the finish with restrooms at the end of every aid station. More than 28,000 runners and walkers participated in last year's event.

The race raises money for charitable organizations such as Morale, Welfare

per person. In addition, a portion of that \$15 is being donated back to Friends of Hickam.

Runners can register as members of Sounds of Freedom by going to: [www.eventsonline.ca/events/GARSOFF/](http://www.eventsonline.ca/events/GARSOFF/) and typing in their information for the point of contact.

For more information about Sounds of Freedom, contact 1st Lt. Daniel Montilla at [Daniel.montilla@hickam.af.mil](mailto:Daniel.montilla@hickam.af.mil) or call 448-8385.

For more information about registering as an individual in the Great Aloha Run, visit [www.greataloharun.com](http://www.greataloharun.com).



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Eric Cutright

An Army detail participating in the "Sounds of Freedom," military formation, begins the 8.15 mile Great Aloha Run in downtown Honolulu, 2012. Last year's "Sounds of Freedom," was made up of approximately 3,500 active duty service members from all five military branches.

### Gate closures to occur Feb. 18 for Great Aloha Run

Gate closures will take place at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam on Presidents' Day, Feb. 18, in support of the Great Aloha Run.

Borcher's Gate will be closed during the race, and Luapele Gate will be open from 4 a.m. to noon.

In addition, Center Drive and

Radford Drive will not be accessible by Kamehameha Highway, to include Makalapa Gate, which will be closed from 4 to 9:45 a.m.

Several water aid stations will be available along the route, including a water aid station on Kamehameha Highway near Borcher's Gate.



## School quality survey seeks parent feedback

**Hawaii State Department of Education**

The Hawaii State Department of Education (DOE) is encouraging parents to complete a survey to help schools set priorities for improving programs and services.

Survey results will also be used to measure strategic plan goals for the DOE. Beginning this month, schools will mail or ask students to bring the surveys home. Parents whose children are enrolled in grades 4, 5, 7, 8, 9 and 11 will be asked to complete the survey and return it in a pre-paid envelope by Feb. 28.

"Parent feedback is critical for schools to evaluate their services and ensure students' needs are being met," said Superintendent Kathryn Matayoshi.

"Their valuable input also plays a key role in our success and helps track progress of the strategic plan," she added.

Last year, about 25 percent of participating parents statewide responded to the survey. The DOE has prepared public service

announcements and partnered with grassroots organizations to raise awareness about the survey and increase return rates.

Survey results provide schools with data on everything, ranging from parent satisfaction with course offerings, support services and availability to discuss their child's progress to whether students feel safe and are meeting their goals.

In addition to the parent survey, teachers and students from the selected grades will fill out separate surveys at school. Survey responses are confidential. Overall survey results should be available to schools by the end of the academic year.

The reports will also be posted on the Internet at <http://arch.k12.hi.us>. An informational video about the survey is available online at <http://vimeo.com/57619187>.

Questions about the survey may be emailed to [sqs@notes.k12.hi.us](mailto:sqs@notes.k12.hi.us). Parents may also call 808-733-4008 (Oahu) or 1-855-276-5801 (toll-free *Neighbor Islands*) from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

## Fall in love with Valentine's Day events at JBPHH

Valentine's Day is next week, and Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Morale, Welfare and Recreation will be holding several events on Feb. 14 to mark this romantic holiday.

The Hickam Enlisted Club will host a Gourmet Club Valentine's Dinner at 6 p.m. There will be champagne pairings as well as jazz entertainment. The cost is \$45 for members, \$50 for non-members. The reservation deadline is Feb. 10. For more information and reservations, call 448-2271.

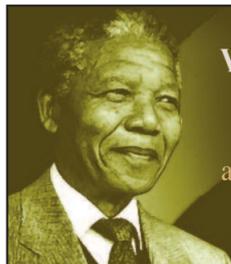
The Hickam Officers' Club Valentine's Sweet-

hearts Dinner also takes place at 6 p.m. This event will feature a four-course menu and sunset dining overlooking the water. All ranks are welcome. The cost is \$89.95 per couple, and reservations are required. For more information and reservations, call 448-4608.

The Valentine's Day Party at the Country Bar starts at 8:30 p.m. and goes until 11 p.m. There will be music and dancing, and the first 50 ladies will receive one long-stemmed rose. There is no cover. This event is open to patrons 18 years or older. For more information, call 473-1743.

### WHO SAID IT?

"It's not whether you get knocked down, it's whether you get up"



*Last Week's*

### WHO SAID IT?

"A good head and a good heart are always a formidable combination."

—Nelson Mandela

## This Week's Trivia

When did the first flight of a TF-102A of the Hawaii Air National Guard's 199th Fighter-Interceptor Squadron occur?

### Last Issue's Question:

What is the naval origin of the term "chewing the fat?"

### Answer:

In centuries past, salted beef was the staple diet aboard ship. This tough cured beef was suitable only for long voyages and required prolonged chewing to make it edible. Men often chewed one chunk for hours, and the practice was referred to as chewing the fat.