

'Gentle giants' return to Hawaii

Brister Thomas

Contributing Writer

Hawaii is a popular destination for visitors during the warm winter months. The visitors include as many as 12,000 humpback whales from November through May.

These 45-ton marine mammals congregate in ocean waters less than 600 feet deep throughout the main Hawaiian islands during their annual migration season.

Humpbacks are acrobats of the ocean. They are often found jumping out of the water, breaching, slapping the water with their tails and fins and blowing air out of one of their two blowholes. The name humpback describes the motion the whale makes as it arches its back out of the water in preparation for a dive.

Weighing in at upwards of 50 tons and averaging 52 feet long, these huge-hearted animals (with hearts weighing in excess of 450 pounds) return to Hawaiian waters annually to mate and give birth.

"Hawaii is unique due to the fact that it is the only state in America from which a whale can be spotted from the shore," said Christine Brammer, National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)'s communications coordinator for Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary.

Brammer stated there are many popular spots to take a picnic lunch and binoculars to witness first-hand these playful animals on Oahu's windward coast at Hanauma Bay, Makapu'u Light House, Blow Hole or Portlock.

"If you know what you are doing, you can even sometimes spot them while you are driving down the road," Brammer said.

Brammer recommends that interested parties may want to consider becoming a part of the official count that the

Hawaii Humpback Whale Sanctuary Ocean Count sponsors annually.

The sanctuary ocean count provides Hawaii residents and visitors with the opportunity to actively participate in evaluating the status of humpback whales. The count is held the last Saturdays of January, February and March on the islands of Oahu, Kauai and Hawaii.

Volunteers are trained to recognize and record specific behaviors and groups are also welcome to register online.

While the population of humpback whales is increasing, they are still considered endangered and the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary was designated to protect humpback whales and their habitat in Hawaii.

Mariners may also encounter the humpback whales when they surface, breach, or slap their massive tails and flippers.

Boaters are encouraged to observe extra safety precautions to prevent collisions. These acrobatic, massive marine mammals attract wildlife enthusiasts, but collisions between vessels and whales pose a serious injury threat both to the animals and boaters.

"Collisions with vessels are a major source of injury and death for endangered whales in Hawaii," said Allen Tom, Pacific Islands regional director for NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries. "It's important for boaters to be extra vigilant during whale season, for their own safety and the protection of these magnificent animals," Tom said.

The sanctuary offers information to the public about safe and legal whale watching and information on how to register for the count. For more information, visit the sanctuary online at <http://hawaiihumpbackwhale.noaa.gov>.

Photos courtesy of NOAA

ITT offers whale-watching adventures

Brister Thomas

Contributing Writer

There are a variety of ways in which you can catch a glimpse of Hawaii's humpback whales. Boat tours and whale watching cruises have become increasingly popular and make up a large portion of Hawaii's tourism income.

Information, Tickets & Travel (ITT) offers numerous cruises and packages for the whale-watching enthusiast, including lunch and breakfast cruises on Oahu and Maui.

- Every Friday at 4 p.m. the Makani Catamaran sets out in search of giant humpback whales from Jan. 28 through April 14. This sunset cruise offers round-trip transportation from ITT offices, fireworks, drinks and appetizers. Cost is \$55 for adults and \$35 for children ages 4-12.
- The West Oahu Whale Watching Cruise is offered every Saturday at 11 a.m. from Jan. 22 through March 20. The cruise is for ages five and older. Tickets are \$35 for adults and \$30 for children 5-11 years of age. The price includes round-trip transportation from the ITT office.
- The Star of Honolulu offers military discounts

through the ITT offices for daily cruises. For every paying adult, one child age 10 or younger receives a free cruise (the \$8.10 fee for lunch would apply). The early bird morning cruise from 8:45 to 10:45 a.m. is \$24.25 for adults and \$14.50 for children. The noon through 2:30 p.m. afternoon cruise offers a price with lunch for \$48 for adults and \$29 for children. Without lunch, the adult cost is \$35 and for children it is \$21.

• Navatek offers a breakfast from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. at \$43 for adults and \$21 for children. A lunch cruise from noon to 2:30 p.m. costs \$60 for adults and \$30 for children.

The prices listed are applicable for tickets purchased at ITT. For information on these events and other tickets, stop by any ITT office on Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

(Jan. 29, Feb. 26, March 26) Navy whale count volunteers: Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs promoting awareness of the NOAA great Hawaiian Humpback Whale Count, held on the last Saturdays of January, February and March, from 8:30 to 12:15. Whales are spotted and counted by groups of volunteers on shore at specific locations around the islands. All are welcome.



3-Peat gets off to fast start with season-opening win

Story and photo by Randy Dela Cruz

Sports Editor

The name has changed and a few new faces are now part of its roster, but the 3-Peat basketball squad (formerly Naval Station Pearl Harbor) continues to do the one thing it does best: win.

The team, which went undefeated and captured league titles over the past two seasons, began its quest for three in a row by beating the SEAL (sea, air, land) Delivery Vehicle Team-One (SDVT-1) Shooters, 42-25, in an Ashore Intramural Basketball League season opener at Naval Station Gym, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, on Jan. 19.

While in the past two seasons 3-Peat used a guard-heavy attack that highlighted their backcourt with a host of sharpshooters, such as Lt. Jason Jones, Personnel Specialist 3rd Class Aaron Jackson and Personnel Specialist 2nd Class Josh Kelly, this year's edition will focus its assault on a revamped and talented frontcourt.

Against the Shooters, 3-Peat's new frontline dominated the play under the basket by owning the boards and sealing off the lane.

Big-bodied newcomer Logistics Specialist 2nd Class Eric Cotton was a perfect six-for-six from the charity stripe and finished the night with eight points.

Meanwhile, former Naval Computer Telecommunications Area Master Station Pacific (NCTAMSPAC) players, Information Systems Technician 2nd Class Deonte Stewart and Logistics Specialist 2nd Class Trae Caple, added 12 and eight points respectively, while lone frontcourt returnee Chief Electrician's Mate Troy McCloud scored two points.

At 6 feet 5 inches tall, McCloud is no longer the team's only option inside the post.

Although he said that the team, with its host of new faces,

is going through an adjustment period, he is very happy to have the additional help near the hoop.

"It's huge because I'm older now," McCloud said. "It's a big change in crew, but it's a good one, not only for the defense, but they can help the offense."

The heavy production from 3-Peat's frontcourt offset a quiet night from their three-man backcourt rotation of returnees, Personnel Specialist 3rd Class Terrence Key (two points) and Master-at-Arms Seaman Brandon Thomason (six points), and recent addition Aviation Structural Mechanic 3rd Class Roshawn Thomas (four points).

Still, McCloud said that he was very satisfied with the way that the trio took care of the ball and set up the team's attack.

"It's kind of like going back to the drawing board," McCloud admitted. "The guards (in past seasons) made it a fast-paced game. They were always pushing. Now, the push isn't so transition heavy. It's more ground and pound. We still got some quirks to work out, but once we get the ball down, overall, we have the same effect."

While Cotton had an off shooting night on offense, his size and presence caused a major disruption to the Shooters — especially inside the paint.

Cotton said that once everyone on the team is familiarized with each other, he believes that 3-Peat will be tough to beat.

"Chemistry is all we need," Cotton pointed out. "As long as we just play together and take our time, everything will be all good."

Following the game, Shooters forward Yeoman 2nd Class Clinton Miller said he felt that his team could also stand a few tweaks and adjustments.

Last season, the SDVT-1 team got off to a slow start, but turned things around and almost broke Naval Station's unbeaten streak.

"This was a valuable lesson for us tonight," said Miller, who led the Shooters with nine points. "We know where we're at



and where we need to get. I don't think that the score is indicative of the talent that we have."

As for completing the trifecta, McCloud said that even though the league's title will be harder to attain with expansion now including teams from Hickam, 3-Peat are motivated to uphold their reputation as the top hoop squad on base.

"We know we have to step up our game just because they opened up the league," McCloud acknowledged. "But we're coming here looking for the dynasty status, like the Lakers threepeat. Most of the (new) guys we have here were guys that we've played against before. So they know our mentality. As long as they buy into our system, we'll go for that third title."

Logistics Specialist 2nd Class Trae Caple of the 3-Peat basketball squad gets in front of the Shooters' defense to score two of his eight points in an Ashore Intramural Basketball League season opener at Naval Station Gym, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, on Jan. 19. Caple and three of his frontcourt teammates combined for 30 points in leading 3-Peat to a 42-25 win over Shooters.



535th Airlift Squadron stands tall over PACAF

Story and photo by Randy Dela Cruz

Sports Editor

The 535th Airlift Squadron (535 AF) used its height advantage to dominate under the basket and walk away with a 54-31 win over Headquarters Pacific Air Forces (PACAF) in a Hickam Intramural Basketball League game at Hickam Fitness Center Gym, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, on Jan. 24.

Led by the solid inside play of post-player 1st Lt. Anthony Bernard, the 535 AF consistently pounded the ball down low on offense and used a rotation of big men to limit PACAF's attack with an airtight two-three zone defense.

"That's the biggest team we

played and probably all year," said PACAF forward Brig. Gen. Brent Baker, who led his team with 10 points. "They had some big guys on the inside so that made it really difficult for us."

The 535's defense held PACAF to just one basket in the first 10 minutes of the 18-minute first half and took a 22-10 lead into intermission.

"Our last time we kind of struggled with our two-three zone," said 535 AF point guard Airman First Class Jimmy Wilbourn. "This time we worked as a team and basically tried to prevent shots and not let their big men score down low."

Following the break, Bernard took control and sank three consecutive baskets to extend the 535's advantage to 18 at 28-10.

"It definitely got us in the right direction," said Bernard, who finished the game with nine points. "It kind of opened up the rest of the game for us."

Meanwhile, the 535's zone defense continued to befuddle PACAF with its strong play under the hoop.

Although PACAF shooters were beginning to heat up in the second half, the team's inability to challenge for second shot opportunities hindered its attempts at making a comeback. PACAF shooters connected on five three-point shots in the second half.

"At halftime, I felt pretty good because we were down by only 12," Baker said. "If we were hitting the outside shot, that would have helped a little

bit. But since we weren't, the defense just kept getting tighter and tighter. It was one shot and out."

With the game under control, the 535 AF switched gears and began to spread the ball around to get its transition game off the ground.

The extra room freed Wilbourn to attack the basket and the point guard delivered by scoring 10 of his game-high 14 points in the second half. Many of his points came on break-away drives to the hoop.

"In the second half, I said I've got to step it up," Wilbourn explained. "We started shooting more outside and I got a little more comfortable with the big lead. We set it to our big men at first and our fast breaks really got it."

In addition to the team's tough zone defense, the 535 AF also made full use of its deep bench. The 535 had 10 players score one basket or more.

Bernard said that the 535's depth just might be one of the team's biggest assets and will be necessary if it is to make a run for the title.

"The nature of our squadron is that we're on the road a lot," Bernard pointed out. "So a big group of good guys will make it easier to keep a solid five on the court at all times."

Wilbourn agreed with his teammate and added that success will be heavily dependent upon which group of players are on the court.

"If we're all here, which is hard for us to be, I think we can be pretty good," Wilbourn said. "We got a lot of size."

1st Lt. Anthony Bernard of the 535th Airlift Squadron (535 AF) zeroes in on a jump shot during the team's Hickam Intramural Basketball League game versus Headquarters Pacific Air Forces (PACAF) at Hickam Fitness Center Gym, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, on Jan. 24. Bernard's three baskets to start the second half broke the game open, as 535 AF beat PACAF, 54-31.

Fast-breaking North Carolina too much for Crommelin

Story and photo by Randy Dela Cruz

Sports Editor

The Tar Heels of USS North Carolina (SSN 777) combined a strong transition game with some outstanding long-range shooting to blitz USS Crommelin (FFG 37), 51-25, in an Afloat Intramural Basketball League game at Naval Station Gym, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, on Jan. 22.

North Carolina, which raised their early season record to 2-0, was led by Logistics Specialist 2nd Class Josh Striegler, whose 21 points headed a trio of Tar Heels who scored in double figures.

Striegler pumped in a total of five three-pointers and was closely followed by Machinist's Mate 1st Class (SS/DV) Dean Marvin, who swished four shots from downtown en-route to 16 points. Post-player Machinist's Mate 1st Class Steven Dunbar added 18 points to aid the rout.

"Sometimes you just get into the mindset of everything is just going to go down," said Striegler about his hot hand. "We did a good job of getting out on the fast breaks and transitions and looking out for the open guy."

Most of the damage from Striegler and Marvin came in the second half, when the duo



Logistics Specialist 2nd Class Josh Striegler tries to convert a lay-up, while being challenged by Information Systems Technician 3rd Class Anthony Young of USS Crommelin (FFG 37) during an Afloat Intramural Basketball League game at Naval Station Gym, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, on Jan. 22. Striegler scored a game-high 21 points in leading the Tar Heels of North Carolina to a 51-25 win.

quickly heated up to stretch out a 19-12 advantage at intermission.

Striegler's bomb at the 15:45 mark gave the Tar Heels their first double-digit lead at 26-14. He immediately followed that with another long-range bulls-eye to extend the advantage to 15 points.

Later, Marvin zeroed in on a splashdown from beyond the arch with 9:47 left in the game that upped North Carolina's lead to 20 points at 36-16.

Both Striegler and Marvin connected on four three-points apiece in the second half to break the game wide open.

"We have a run-and-gun mentality," Marvin said. "We got a lot of shooters on this team."

While the pair of guards was shooting the lights out from long distance, Dunbar was busy cleaning up under the boards.

North Carolina's sleek forward slashed his way to eight points in the first half and added 10 more down the stretch.

Marvin pointed out that North Carolina's solid inside and outside performance is a result of teamwork and familiarity that has been built over two years.

"We have pretty good chemistry on our team," Marvin said. "We've been together for a couple of years and won the base

championship in Connecticut before we transferred over here. We don't get frustrated and mad at each other. We just keep working the ball."

Although both teams played with a minimum of five players to start the game, the Tar Heels' up-tempo style clearly disrupted the Crommelin's attack – especially in the second half.

Crommelin Engineman 3rd Class Tomas Barnes said that although the team managed to hang with North Carolina for one half, things just began to unravel in the game's final 18 minutes.

"We just got tired," Barnes explained. "It was a lack of man power and nobody to substitute."

While the Tar Heels' fast start this season has opened some eyes, Striegler is taking a wait-and-see attitude before predicting how things will turn out for the year.

The sharp-shooting guard admits that the competition is tougher than what the team faced in Connecticut, but he is optimistic about the submarine's chances.

"There's definitely different talent than coming off of a sub base," Striegler said. "Now we're on the surface with everybody, so it will be better competition. I think we'll be all right. We'll give everybody a fight and that's all you can ask for."



JOINT BASE Sports PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM



U.S. Navy photos by Randy Dela Cruz
All three divisions of the Morale, Welfare and Recreation's intramural basketball league were in action last week with a full schedule of games at Naval Station Gym and Hickam Fitness Center Gym. Photos from top left, clockwise: Shooters (Sea, Air, Land (SEAL) Delivery Vehicle Team-One) guard Special Warfare Operator 2nd Class James McDermott soars into the lane for a shot against 3-Peat; Brig. Gen. Brent Baker of Headquarters Pacific Air Forces (PACAF) sets for a jump shot versus 535th Airlift Squadron (535 AF); USS North Carolina (SSN 777) Tar Heels forward Machinist's Mate 1st Class Steven Dunbar puts up two of his 18 points against USS Crommelin (FFG 37); Maj. Bertram Millage of PACAF aims for a shot past 535 AF defenders.



Enjoying the exercise, part 3: Cyclist rides to raise money

Story and photos by Staff Sgt. Carolyn Viss

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Public Affairs

(Editor's note: This is the final part of a three-part fitness feature series. The first part was published on page B-6 in the Jan. 14 edition of Ho'okele. The second part was published on page B-6 in the Jan. 21 edition of Ho'okele.)

When Tech. Sgt. Dwayne Johnson first brainstormed "Operation iRide," he didn't think it would be too tough.

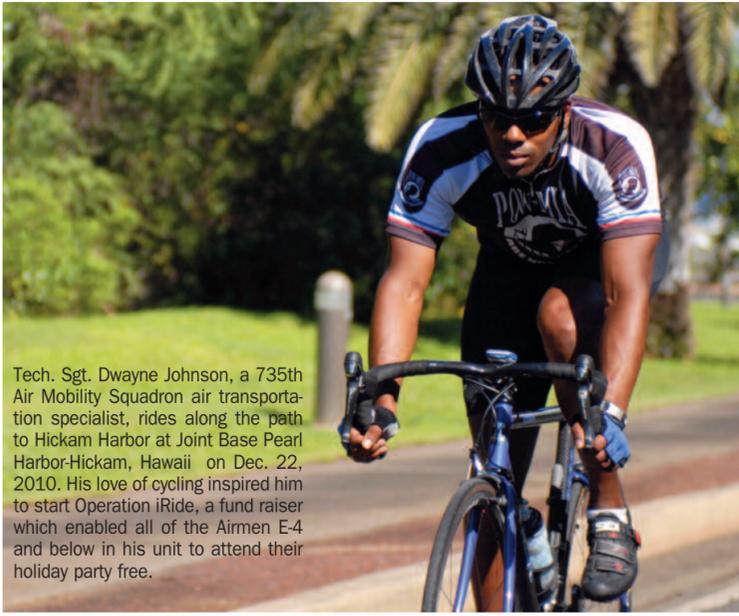
As an avid biker, he was just taking what he knew – cycling – and throwing out a challenge to his unit: "I'll ride 1,000 miles in one month if you make pledges." The money was to go toward the 735th Air Mobility Squadron holiday party so that Airmen in the ranks of E-4 and below could attend for free.

"Up until I started Operation iRide, the most I'd ridden in a month was 200-300 miles," said the air transportation specialist, who picked up a love of cycling at Yokota Air Base, Japan.

"A friend of mine kept bugging me to buy a bike," Johnson said. "At first, I was totally against it. I didn't want to spend that much money for a bicycle, and had no interest in cycling."

But after years of running to stay fit, he was experiencing ankle, knee, hip and back pain.

"I needed an alternate method of staying fit, so I decided I'd give this



Tech. Sgt. Dwayne Johnson, a 735th Air Mobility Squadron air transportation specialist, rides along the path to Hickam Harbor at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii on Dec. 22, 2010. His love of cycling inspired him to start Operation iRide, a fund raiser which enabled all of the Airmen E-4 and below in his unit to attend their holiday party free.



Tech. Sgt. Dwayne Johnson, a 735th Air Mobility Squadron air transportation specialist, prepares a lavatory truck to service Air Force One on the flightline at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii on Dec. 29, 2010. In his off-duty time, Johnson started Operation iRide, a fund raiser which enabled all of the Airmen E-4 and below in his unit to attend their holiday party free. During the course of one month, Johnson biked 1,000 miles and raised \$2,020.

cycling thing a try," he said. "I kind of fell in love with it."

Although he had completed approximately seven "century" (100-

mile) rides in the four years he has been into the sport, this new chal-

lenge, which he had both created and named, was going to be a huge stretch for him.

"I ended up doing three century rides in one month," he said with a laugh.

Initially, Johnson, who was perfectly fit, was "all geeked out," and ready to go.

"I figured the days I might not be motivated I could just think about all the Airmen who would get to go to the party, and that would motivate me," he said. "But by the time I got to about 350 miles, I was like, oh my god what am I doing? The pain and fatigue started to set in."

But he couldn't stop. Pledges started pouring in from the NCOs and civilians in the squadron, and he even got a huge pledge from the owner of Oahu's Jamba Juice stores, whom Johnson had seen on the side of the road and stopped to help.

Altogether, Johnson rode 1,000 miles in a series of 18 rides. Even with a squadron inspection and other duty-related obligations cutting into workout times, his Operation iRide raised \$2,020. Forty-five Airmen and their spouses, in total, were able to attend the holiday party for free.

"I felt like I really accomplished something on several fronts," Johnson said. "One, I had the goal of making 1,000 miles, and I had never done anything close to that. Then I had a goal to make \$2,000 for the booster club. And I had the goal of making sure everyone who wanted to

go, could go. In my eyes, that was quite an accomplishment. I feel really proud about that."

He had been athletic since he was a child, playing baseball and taking taekwondo classes. But when he started riding with his friends from Yokota – guys who had been riding much longer than he had been – he was driven to keep up with them and even beat them. He was "compelled to excel – to ride harder, faster, farther."

If it weren't for that naturally competitive nature, Johnson probably wouldn't have ever been excited about cycling in the first place. From his love of cycling, his physical fitness naturally increased. Although he'd always had average PT test scores in the high 80s, with an occasional score in the low 90s, he got his first perfect PT test score in 2006, the year he started cycling.

"If I set a goal, I have to meet that goal," he said. "I have to. Even if I did feel like quitting, there were too many people counting on me. I had to do it."

In addition to Operation iRide, Johnson has challenged himself in local charity rides as well, raising money for epilepsy and other charity causes. He always wears a POW/MIA shirt to represent his military service and the more than 8,000 brothers and sisters in arms who are prisoners of war and missing in action.

He does it for the health of it.

Hickam Communities engages residents, expands services

Hickam Communities LLC

Beginning in February, Hickam Communities will launch a new program, the Resident Advisory Panel (RAP). The program is a forum for residents to become involved in identifying and recommending positive changes to improve their neighborhood. The RAP initiative is being developed in response to community input provided from resident surveys and comments. Panels will comprise residents and management from Hickam Communities sharing ideas on how they can strengthen and improve neighborhoods.

The purpose of the RAP is to encourage residents to



engage with their community and positively affect the quality of life of families living in Hickam Communities. A panel will be established in each community and residents will have an opportunity to share their ideas and suggestions, express their concerns, and work with their property management team to develop solutions.

Hickam Communities and members of the panel will:

- Value all resident opinions and listen to recommendations, suggestions.
- Foster a sense of belonging, sense of community among families.
- Create an opportunity for residents to be part of a decision-making process.

Whether it's a parking issue or an interest in a

community event or program, the RAP will serve as another resource for residents and a forum for sharing ideas. Residents interested in serving the community are invited to attend upcoming town hall meetings to learn more about the program. Following is the schedule:

- Feb. 1 at 6 p.m.- Earhart Village residents.
- Feb. 2 at 6 p.m. - Officer Field and Onizuka Village residents.
- Feb. 3 at 6 p.m. - Hale Na Koa residents.

- Feb. 2 at 6 p.m. - Officer Field and Onizuka Village residents.
- Feb. 3 at 6 p.m. - Hale Na Koa residents.

All meetings will be held at the Hickam Communities Community Center located at 210 Kokomalei St.

Hickam Communities is also improving maintenance appointments for residents by implementing the permission to enter (PTE) program beginning this month. The program allows residents to authorize maintenance personnel to enter their home to complete a service request when the resident is not at home. Currently, residents are required to be present.

By signing the PTE form

available at all Hickam Communities offices and on the Hickam Communities website, the resident grants permission to maintenance to enter and perform work authorized by a service request. This is designed to facilitate quicker completion of service requests and relieve the difficulty of a resident being at home for the repair work. The form can be revoked at any time and is strictly voluntary for those who feel it will assist them in getting work orders completed with minimal impact on their daily schedule.

Log on to www.HickamCommunities.com or call Hickam Communities at 423-2300 for more information.

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Attend any open house listed in Hawaii's Open House Guide this Sunday.

One winner will be selected at a random open house to win \$100 CASH on the spot!

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RULES: Winners are selected in person at the open house by the REALTOR®. Employees (and their immediate families) of Oahu Publications, Inc. (OPI), selected REALTOR® and all participating sponsors are not eligible. Prize awarded in the form of a \$100 check from OPI.

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PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM **Maniawa Nanea** LEISURE

Morale Welfare & Recreation

MAMALA BAY LADIES GOLF CLINIC
A ladies golf clinic will be held at 4 p.m. today at Mamala Bay Golf Course. This free clinic is limited to the first 12 people that sign up. FMI: 449-2300.

SINGLE SERVICE MEMBERS HIKE KOKO HEAD
Single Sailors and Airmen are invited to hike Koko Head on Saturday. This event is free and departures are as follows: from Liberty Express at 8:45 a.m., Beeman Center at 9:15 a.m., Instant Liberty at 9:30 a.m. and Airman's Center at 10 a.m. FMI: 473-2583.

RECREATIONAL CANOE PADDLING
Outrigger canoe paddling classes are offered for beginners through experienced paddlers. Daily sign-in is at 8:30 a.m. on any Monday, Wednesday or Friday and the class ends about 10 a.m. at the Rainbow Bay Marina. Classes are open to all military family members as young as 10 years old, retirees and authorized (Department of Defense) DoD members. The cost is \$1 per session and tickets can be purchased at the marina. FMI: 473-0279.

PRO-BOWL OPPORTUNITIES
- Single service members can enjoy a Pro Bowl tailgate party and the game Sunday for \$60 per person. Depart Liberty Express at 10 a.m., Beeman Center at 10:30 a.m., Instant Liberty at 10:45 a.m., Airman's Center at 11 a.m. FMI: 473-2583.

- There is also an NFL Pro Bowl club package that starts at 10 a.m. on Sunday at J.R. Rockers. The cost is \$95 per person (\$5 discount for club members) and includes brunch from 10 through 11:15 a.m., a ticket to the game and transportation to and from Aloha Stadium. J.R. Rockers will not be showing the Pro Bowl. FMI: 448-2271 or 448-4608.

- Tickets to the game at 2 p.m. on Sunday at the Aloha Stadium are still available through Information, Tickets & Travel (ITT). Ticket prices start at \$50 per person. FMI: 473-0792.

For more information on events, visit www.greatlifeohawaii.com or www.hickamservices.com/

Community Calendar

January

28 and Feb. 4 - Makalapa Pharmacy is offering a self-care class from 10 a.m. through 10:30 a.m. at the pharmacy. After completing the self-care class, patients can then receive certain over-the-counter medicines without a prescription by presenting the self-care class card. Classes are usually scheduled every Friday. FMI: 473-1880.

29 - Volunteers are needed for the Pouhala Marsh restoration work day which will be held from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. Jan. 29. Pouhala Marsh is the largest remaining wetland habitat in Pearl Harbor. Volunteers will be tackling mangrove. FMI: Grace Hew Len at 473-2926.

31 - The Navy's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) opens for active duty service members and their families for free advice and assistance in completing tax returns with e-filing and direct deposit. The VITA tax office is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday in the Navy College Building (building 679), room 11. Walk-ins are welcome. FMI: 473-4112.

February

5 - Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs, working with the regional environmental coordination office and the 611th Civil Engineer Squadron, will participate in a joint base restoration outreach project at Ahua Reef on Feb. 5, in celebration of World Wetlands Day held annually on Feb. 2. FMI: Grace Hew Len at 473-2926.

26 - Join in the great Hawaiian humpback whale count from 8:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. on the last Saturday of the months of February and March. All ages are invited to participate. Volunteers monitor the water for signs of humpback whale activity, help record whale behaviors, complete a site map, and contribute to public awareness about whale watch opportunities around the islands. FMI: 397-1651, ext. 253 or <http://hawaiihumpbackwhale.noaa.gov/involved/ocwelcome.html>.

Movie Showtimes



Little Fockers (PG-13)

The test of wills between Jack Byrnes and Greg escalates to new heights. It has taken 10 years, two little Fockers with wife Pam and countless hurdles for Greg to finally get "in" with his tightly wound father-in-law, Jack. When Greg and Pam's entire clan - including Pam's lovelorn ex, Kevin - descends for the twins' birthday party, Greg must prove to the skeptical Jack that he's fully capable as the man of the house. But with all the misunderstandings, spying and covert missions, will Greg pass Jack's final test and become the family's next patriarch or will the circle of trust be broken for good?

SHARKEY MOVIE THEATER

TODAY
7:00 PM The Tourist (PG-13)

SATURDAY
2:30 PM Tangled (PG)
4:45 PM The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader (PG)
7:15 PM Love and Other Drugs (R)

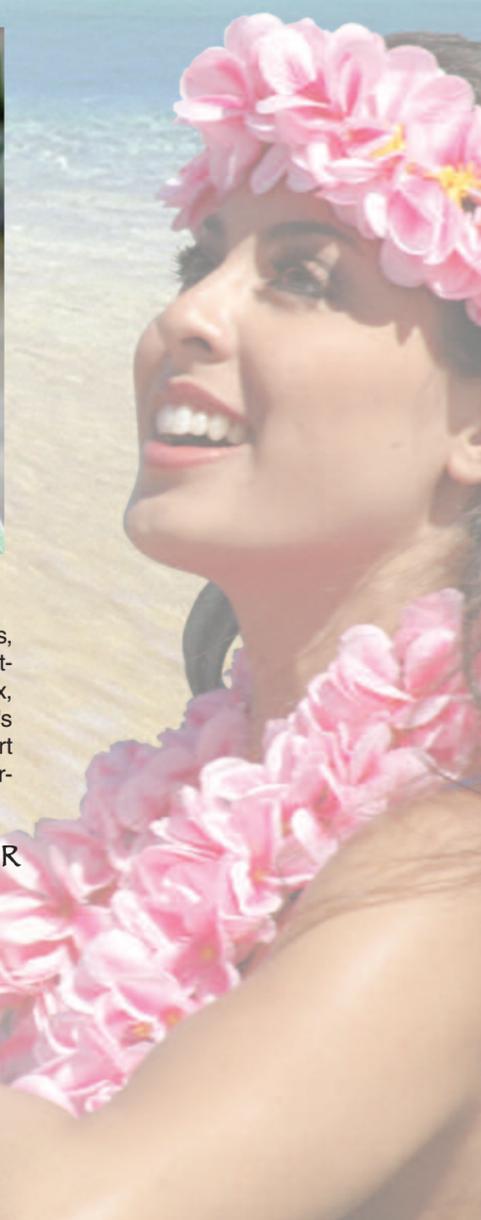
SUNDAY
2:30 PM Tangled (PG)
4:45 PM The Tourist (PG-13)
7:15 PM Burlesque (PG-13)

HICKAM MEMORIAL THEATER

TODAY
6:00 PM Yogi Bear (PG)
8:30 PM Little Fockers (PG-13)

SATURDAY
4:00 PM Yogi Bear (PG)
7:00 PM Little Fockers (PG-13)

SUNDAY
2:00 PM Tron: Legacy (PG)





The NEX mall tire center opened on Jan. 15.

Photo courtesy of Stephanie Lau

NEX mall provides an alternate choice to autoport

Sante Campanile

Navy Exchange (NEX) Hawaii district vice president

The Pearl Harbor Navy Exchange (NEX) now provides an alternate choice to the autoport on the weekends if patrons want new tires and installation.

NEX developed the idea of establishing a tire center at the NEX to improve customer service by offering a new, convenient alternative to visiting the full-service

autoport on Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH). Now customers have the opportunity to purchase tires and have them installed while they shop the mall, the commissary or even while getting a haircut.

NEX tire center is located to the left of the package store entrance and will initially be open every Friday, Saturday and Sunday as well as holiday Mondays from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. The hours of operation may eventually expand, based

on demand.

Days and hours of operation at the NEX autoport on JBPHH will remain the same and continue to offer a full range of auto parts and services performed by National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) certified technicians.

Whether patrons choose the full-service autoport on JBPHH or the new mall tire center, they'll find the same selection of brand tires. For more information, call 423-3226.

Joint base prepares for Military Saves campaign

Mark Blice-Baum

Warfighter and Family Services

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam will once again participate in this year's Military Saves campaign on Feb. 22 to 25 by providing special opportunities for service members and families to learn ways to save more of their hard-earned money.

Military Saves is a Department of Defense (DoD)-wide financial readiness campaign to persuade military and family members, as well as the wider military community, to reduce debt and save money, thereby ensuring personal financial readiness and positively impacting the nation's personal/household savings rates.

To kick off the fifth year of the Military Saves Campaign, the DoD will observe Military Saves Week from Feb. 20 to 27. DoD conducts the Military Saves campaign in cooperation with the Consumer Federation of America, a financial readiness nonprofit, which runs the America

Saves campaign nationwide. The campaign's slogan, "Start Small, Think Big," talks to the long-term benefits of saving even a little each month.

The Warfighter and Family Services (WFS) Joint Base team has a line-up of workshops and fairs in support of the Military Saves campaign. The Financial Resource Fair at Pearl Harbor NEX will be held on Feb. 23 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., on Feb. 24 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Hickam BXtra.

Representatives from installation financial institutions, along with WFS financial counselors will provide resources to help the military save. Additionally, there is an opportunity to attend one of the following special financial classes:

Financial Planning for Retirement (Feb. 22 from 8 to 10 a.m.); Million Dollar Spouse (Feb. 23-24 from 5 to 8 p.m.), Pre-Teen Money Management (Feb. 23 from 3:30 to 5 p.m.), Car Buying (Feb. 24 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., and Kick Debt to the Curb (Feb. 25 from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.). Call 474-1999 or 449-0300 to reserve your spot.

Military Saves campaign strategies include "The Saver Pledge," a commitment to exercise good financial habits and encourage other Americans to do the same. Savers who enroll online receive electronic newsletters and e-Wealth Coach advice.

For more information on Military Saves and to sign up for the Saver Pledge, go to www.military.org.

This Week's Trivia

"What problem did Leonardo da Vinci, Winston Churchill, Albert Einstein, Thomas Edison and General George Patton have in common?"

Last Issue's Question:

What congressional award was Dr. Mary Edwards Walker the first woman to receive?

Answer:

Medal of Honor

Last Week's

WHO SAID IT?

"All right, they're on our left, they're on our right, they're in front of us, they're behind us ... they can't get away this time"

Lewis B. "Chesty" Puller, United States Marine Corps (USMC)

WHO SAID IT?

"Courage is fear holding on a minute longer."