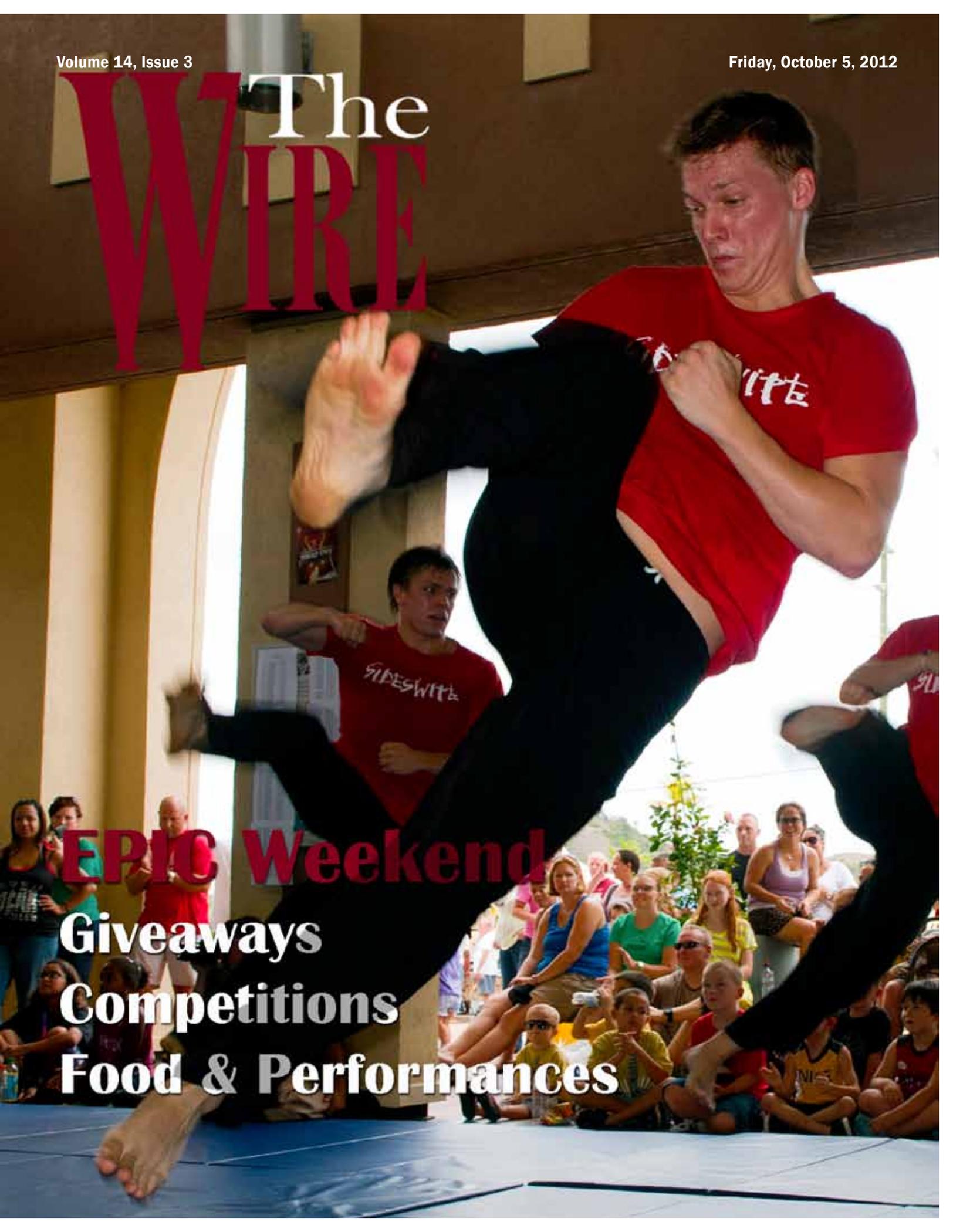


The WIRE

EPIC Weekend
Giveaways
Competitions
Food & Performances



COMMAND CORNER

SGT. MAJ. SCOTT SMITH

SERGEANT MAJOR, JTF GUANTANAMO

As I interviewed men for my thesis/manuscript, "Stay off the Skyline: A Personal History of the Sixth", I was ever amazed at the many facets of being a warrior. Courage, friendship, and honor all help to define the fighting man. Yet another characteristic is leadership. What makes some men so natural to follow? One of the Sixth's natural leaders, both as a corporal and a general, was James Day.

This transcribed monologue is from a video interview with General Day explaining why he was a leader of men:

[James Day, from Saint Louis, Illinois, had participated in the Marshall Islands and on Guam. As a 19-year-old corporal on Okinawa, his actions would result in his receiving the Medal of Honor.]

I have heard throughout my career, as a general officer in the Marine Corps, people come up to me and say, 'Hey you have an awesome responsibility.' When I commanded, as [a] General of 26,000, when I commanded a division, the First Marine Division of 26,000 people, people would often ask, 'How do you do it?' 'How do you take care of them, how do you take care of their medical needs, and their tactical needs, and their equipment needs, and their every being?' 'Cause you're like a father image to them.'

They always said that was an awesome responsibility. Well, when you talk about awesome responsibility, I always like to compare that general, who was a division commander, to the Marine Corps fire team leader.

That Marine Corps fire team leader is the leader of the smallest element in the Marine Corps. He leads only four people, himself and three others. It's called a fire team. His responsibility is almost beyond comprehension. If you take a look at that general officer's day in combat - the one who leads 26,000 men - and take a look at the young corporal's day in combat, I think you can see the correlation.

When a general gets up in the morning - in combat - he's had a goodnight's sleep. He usually gets up and has a cup of coffee and a nice breakfast, and brings in his staff of at least 18 people: an engineer officer, supply officer, a tactical officer, an air officer, a medical officer, and artillery officer. He brings them all in, and they advise him about what's going to happen that day. He takes their advice, and that's the way he fights the day's battles. He might go forward to the front lines' regiments, visit commanders and say, "hey, you're doing a fine job." Then he goes back to the rear, debriefs again with those 18 people, and prepares for bed in a nice warm place.

He might not have sheets every night but at least he has a sleeping bag. He doesn't have to worry about being overrun by the enemy or receiving a lot of incoming artillery. He's in a pretty safe and pretty shallow place.

If you take that corporal who's a fire team leader and you look at him as he's waking up in the morning, you have to remember at most he's had two or-two-and-a-half hours sleep.

There's usually eight hours of darkness and because of the probes against the front lines, the counter attacks, and the artillery, mortar, and machine gun fire that's coming in, he doesn't get much sleep. So, when he gets up in the morning ready to move out, he's the man responsible for making sure that his men have water and food, that they have rations, and that they're ready to move out. He has to take care of his casualties. He has to see to his dead and ensure his guy is wrapped in a poncho and evacuated. If he has wounded, he has to see that their wounds are taken care of and they're evacuated. Then he jumps off the attack and he doesn't have any respite from it. After he takes one hill, he takes another and another and another.

When his day comes to an end, he still

See Command Corner on Page 3

Cover: Sideswipe member Donald Mills performs with teammates Seth Austin and Mackensie Emory Saturday afternoon at the NEX atrium. Sideswipe performed Saturday at the 11th annual NEX Customer Appreciation Weekend, with performances at the NEX atrium and the Windjammer. Photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Joshua Hammond



Maj. Gen. James Day

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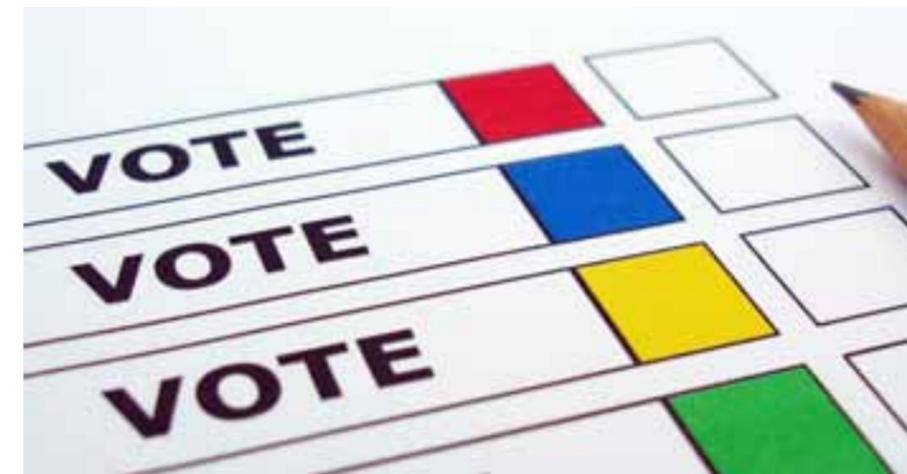
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NEWS FROM THE BAY



Vote for Pedro

Thinking about voting, but think it's too late to get an absentee ballot in? Don't worry! You have people for that!

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For more information, call the Post Office at 2156.

GTMO Life

Want to know what you can do for fun this month? Check out GTMO Life, MWR's new monthly publication. Get it at the NEX right next to The Wire!

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The WIRE is the official news magazine of Joint Task Force Guantanamo. It is produced by the JTF Public Affairs Office to inform and educate the Troopers of JTF Guantanamo through news, features, command guidance, sports and entertainment. This DoD news magazine is an authorized publication for the members of the Department of Defense. Contents of The WIRE are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, or Joint Task Force Guantanamo. It is printed by Defense Logistics Agency Document Services with a circulation of 1,200.

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hasn't had anything to eat. He hasn't had the advice of 18 professionals to tell him what to do during the day. He does it on his own. When the night comes, he digs in and prepares to do the same thing tomorrow - with a lack of sleep. So, when you talk about the awesome responsibility that the Marine General has as a division commander, it is awesome. Awesome simply because it's very difficult to do, but often because of the amount of men he's responsible for.

That Marine General has been in the Marine Corps probably about 35 years. He's been a platoon commander, he's been a company commander, he's been a battalion commander, and a regimental commander. He's been to seven or eight schools in the service and he usually has a Master's Degree. So, he's well prepared for that command.

When you take a look at that little corporal and what he's done, he probably has one school during his career and that's the Marine

Corps boot camp - which is the finest school in the finest organization or organizing force for Marines that I've ever seen - but that's all he has. So when you talk about awesome responsibility, I say to you, that corporal has more responsibility, tenfold, than the division commander.

Now, if you line these two men up side-by-side and you ask that general, "What would you like to see today in combat?" He'd probably like to see - I'd like to see - us accomplish our mission with a minimum loss of men. You put that corporal beside him and you ask that corporal, "Corporal, what would you like to see happen today... to happen in combat?" He'd say, "The thing I'd like to see is tomorrow. I'd like to see tomorrow." That's the kid that has responsibility. The general and everyone else involved has the responsibility to see that that young man does see his tomorrows.

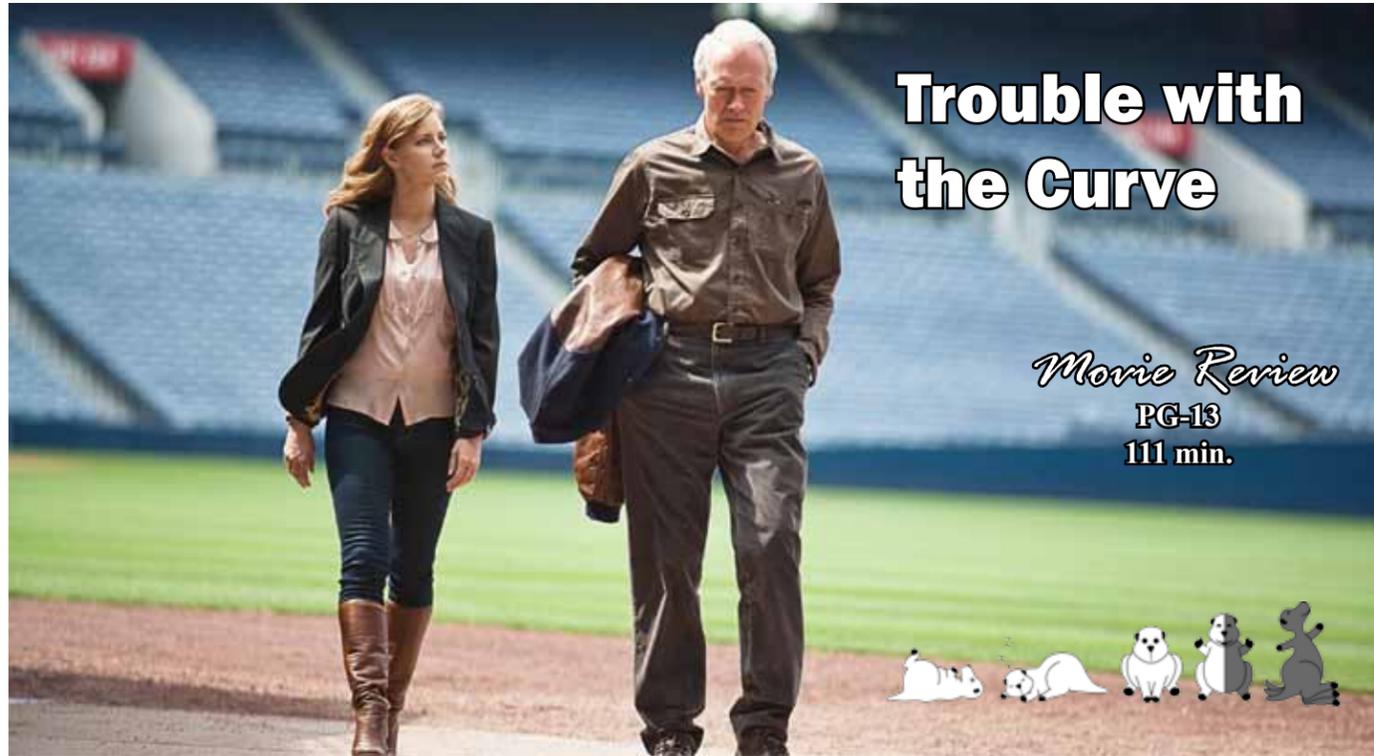
Gen. Day died in November 1999, not long after receiving his long overdue Medal of Honor.

	5 FRI	6 SAT	7 SUN	8 MON	9 TUE	10 WED	11 THU
Downtown Lyceum	Looper (NEW) (R) 8 p.m. Step Up Revolution (PG-13) 10 p.m.	Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Dog Days (NEW) (PG) 8 p.m. Moonrise Kingdom (PG-13) 10 p.m.	Hotel Transylvania (PG-13) 8 p.m. Total Recall (PG-13) 8 p.m.	Savages (R) 8 p.m.	Ice Age: Continental Drift (Last Showing) (PG) 8 p.m.	The Dark Knight Rises (Last Showing) (PG-13) 8 p.m.	Trouble with the Curve (PG-13) 8 p.m.
Camp Buikley	Hotel Transylvania (NEW) (PG) 8 p.m. Trouble with the Curve (PG-13) 10 p.m.	Looper (NEW) (R) 8 p.m. Step Up Revolution (PG-13) 10 p.m.	Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Dog Days (NEW) (PG) 8 p.m. The Campaign (R) 8 p.m.	Moonrise Kingdom (PG-13) 8 p.m.	The Dark Knight Rises (Last Showing) (PG-13) 8 p.m.	Savages (R) 8 p.m.	Total Recall (PG-13) 8 p.m.

Call the movie hotline at 4880 or visit the MWR Facebook page for more information.

JOINT TASK FORCE GUANTANAMO

SAFE • HUMANE • LEGAL • TRANSPARENT



By Army Pfc. Loren Cook

Octogenarian filmmaker, actor and Hollywood legend Clint Eastwood continues to prove he has one more film left in him. When 2004's "Million Dollar Baby" came out, many expected it to be his last movie. In 2008, "Gran Torino" was released, with many people thinking it would be Eastwood's final effort. This year, Eastwood appears in "Trouble with the Curve," the first movie since 1993 in which Eastwood appears without directing.

Eastwood is no spring-chicken and isn't getting any younger, so there is a chance that this will be the legend's last movie. Is it a worthy swan song for a lifetime of Hollywood achievement? Read on!

Eastwood stars as Gus Lobel, a legendary baseball scout for the Atlanta Braves who has been responsible for signing many of the greats of the past. In the present, he's struggling to prove he's still relevant in a world of computerized scouting. Secretly, his eyes are degenerating and he's trying not to face up to the fact that he can't see over home plate.

When Lobel is sent to North Carolina to scout star high school slugger Bo Gentry (Joe Massingill in his big screen debut), his old friend and boss Pete (John Goodman, TV's "Community") asks Gus's estranged daughter Mickey (Amy Adams, "The Muppets") to go help her father out.

Mickey is an associate in a law firm and on her way to a partnership, and even though she has an important presentation coming up, she agrees to go help out.

As the father and daughter scout the rather unpleasant high school hitting phenomenon,

they rekindle their broken relationship.

Mickey's mother died when she was only six, and a life on the road was no place for a little girl, so Mickey stayed with an uncle. She has felt abandoned ever since.

Mickey spends most of the movie trying to get her presentation ready before she learns to appreciate what her father has done with his life. The curmudgeonly Gus learns that loving his daughter means allowing her to make her own choices in life.

You see, this is the latest in a long line of baseball movies in which baseball is on the periphery of other issues. For example, the marvelous "Field of Dreams" was really about a man wanting to connect with his father. Hmm, sounds familiar.

I think the conflict between father and daughter presented in this movie is pretty mild and, really, was easily solved once the two bothered to talk to each other. It's only existed so long because the two tried to avoid bringing it up.

The movie also has a romance subplot between Mickey and Johnny Flanagan, (Justin Timberlake, "Bad Teacher") a former pitcher and scout for the Boston Red Sox. It's a cute love story between the two, and Adams and Timberlake have some chemistry together, but it was also completely chaste and very generic.

Flanagan has a friendly relationship with Gus, averting one of the most common conflicts in movies. Only if Flanagan and the Sox pass on Gentry can Lobel and the Braves pick him up. The table is set for an obvious future conflict.

The conflict inevitably comes when the Lobels notice a flaw in Gentry's seemingly amazing performance. If you pay attention

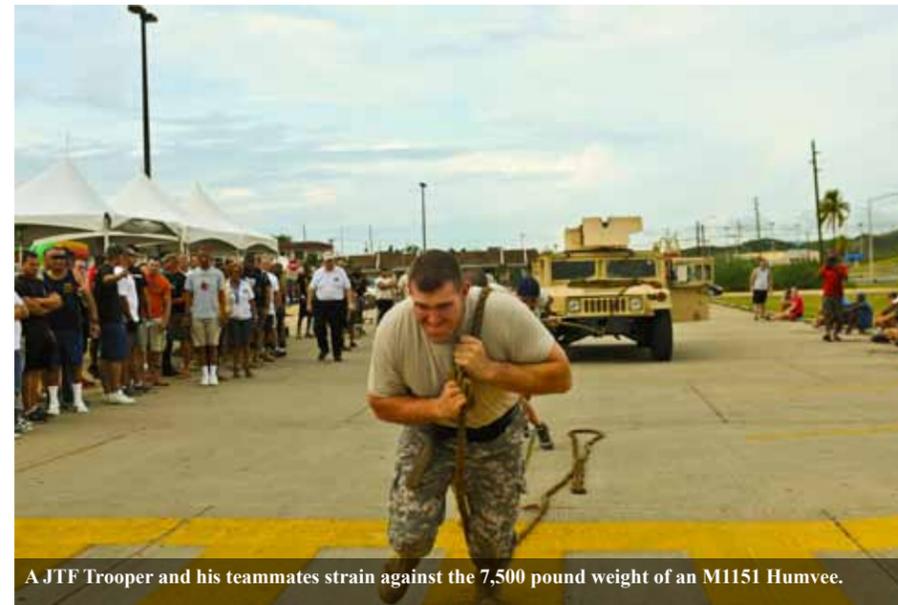
to titles, you might figure it out.

At the end of the movie, everyone has their happy ending. Chekov's Gun has been fired again. Mickey embraces her love of baseball and her repaired relationship with Gus. The unsympathetic characters have received their comeuppance. Gus will probably... die very soon.

Ah, Gus. Clint Eastwood plays a grumpy old ass very well, you have to give him that, though the grumpy old man he's playing stops at bumping into empty chairs—he doesn't talk to them. The movie goes a bit too far in showing his age in some ways (there's a scene of him attempting to pee in the beginning of the movie that made me a bit uncomfortable) and fails to acknowledge the severity of other situations, such as when the nearly-blind Gus crashes his car. This is played for laughs, but it's hard to play a car crash for laughs in a serious drama.

Ultimately, the trouble with "Trouble with the Curve" was that I thought it was predictable. I think my mom would love it, but I recognized in advance where the movie would be sentimental, where it would be romantic, and where it would be exciting. It's formulaic.

That's not to say it's bad. It's just average, and on my scale an average movie earns three rats. I spotted it another half-rat because Eastwood and Timberlake sold their characters to me. (Seriously, Justin Timberlake is really becoming quite an actor). Is it a worthy swan song for The Man with No Name? I don't think so. It probably would have been a much better movie if Eastwood had directed himself. Here's to hoping that Dirty Harry can push out another movie in his life. He deserves it.



A JTF Trooper and his teammates strain against the 7,500 pound weight of an M1151 Humvee.



Coast Guard Seaman Larry McGhee picks up momentum as he and his teammates pull a Humvee to the finish line.

Coast Guardsmen 'pull their weight' in Humvee Pull

Story and photos by Army Pfc. Loren Cook

Cloudy skies hung forebodingly in the sky, promising a heavy rain in the future, but the contestants at the NEX/MWR Customer Appreciation Weekend Humvee pull were undeterred. They had a mission at hand, and wouldn't rest until it was accomplished.

Their mission: to pull an up-armored Humvee 100 feet across the NEX parking lot. Their motivation: to be the best they could be. Their reward: a free T-shirt, and the promise of greater rewards if they placed in the top three.

Nineteen teams of three each tested

their might, straining and pulling against the Humvee's mass and racing the clock as they slowly pulled toward the chalk marking the finish line. Cheering onlookers flanked the route offering words of encouragement to the weary competitors.

In the end, due to a problem with the stopwatch, two first place teams were crowned. Team "Roger Fit," consisting of Coast Guard Petty Officers Third Class Aaron Jenkins and Toby Knight, as well as civilian and self-proclaimed fitness expert Roger Wilson managed to complete the pull in 21 seconds. The other team completed the pull in an undetermined amount of time.

Both first place teams received iPads as a prize. Contestants on the second place team each received an iPod Touch. The third place contestants received iPods.

"I'm so pumped up right now! I need to go to the gym to work some of this energy off!" Wilson said.

As the T-shirts given to every competitor read, "Siri, how much does a Humvee weigh?" I'm no Siri, but an M1151 Humvee has a curb weight of 7,500 pounds. I'm not sure what other add-ons this particular Humvee had, and you have to factor in the weight of the driver, but one thing is clear—that's quite a load to pull in 21 seconds!



Spc. Juan Rosado pulls an up-armored Humvee at the Humvee pull.



Contestants of the NEX/MWR Humvee Pull pose after the event.

Catching Real BIG Fish

Story and photos by Army Sgt Dani White

With overcast skies and calm waters, Sunday morning brought the start of the Morale, Welfare and Recreation's fishing derby.

This is the second fishing derby MWR hosted this year. Outdoor Recreation Director Timothy Baugh said that they coordinated this derby to coincide with the Navy Exchange's Customer Appreciation weekend.

"We decided to have the NEX provide the prizes," Baugh said. "The prizes are fishing rods with reels on them and some tackle boxes with accessories."

Judges awarded prizes for three categories: the biggest snook, barracuda, and shark.

Teams consisted of family members, co-workers and friends working together to bring in their prize catches.

One team was a father and daughter match up. Michael McCord took his seven-year-old daughter Abby McCord.

Their goal was to bring in the biggest snook and barracuda.

"We started the fishing for snook and then worked on looking for a barracuda," Michael said. "The barracuda was the most challenging. We didn't go out with any bait and used an artificial lure. We didn't catch

our barracuda with the lure until we were about one hundred yards from the pier."

The duo didn't have luck with barracudas but dominated the competition with their snook.

Both father and daughter won the men's and women's snook category with Abby's snook measuring a little over 34 inches. Her father dragged in a snook that was over 36 inches.

"She was very enthusiastic about it," Michael said. "Abby actually caught a couple of really good snook today."

But not everyone had the luck the McCord's had that morning.

Petty Officers 2nd Class Alexandro Alcalá and Thomas Croad went out that morning with plans to bag a shark, only to return with two barracudas.

"We usually have better luck catching sharks. We usually catch anywhere from a three to a six foot blacktip shark," said Croad. "The wake was one of our biggest problems today... It will throw your bobber off and will send your throw line for shark everywhere."

Croad added that they tried to go to the south border to fish, but the water was too rough for their pontoon boat that morning.

Croad and Alcalá hung around the marina to see if anyone had better luck bringing in a shark.

The marina had three boards marked for the different categories. As the fishermen came back they took turns placing their catch on a board. While they held their fish in place, the marina employees would mark where the catch's tail ended on the board and then measure it.

With the afternoon sun high and the air getting muggy, spectators waited for competitors to return. The time passed, with people sharing stories and advice about fishing.

As boats pulled in, the crowd watched to see the day's catch brought to the measuring boards.

Greg Kader won the prize for the biggest barracuda. His catch measured over 43 inches. A fish so massive he had to haul it in a green wheel barrow to take it to the boards. As more competitors returned from their trips out on the smooth water, they stopped to admire his prize.

But the most impressive catch came at the end when Army Master Sgt. Laura German carried over the biggest shark of the day. Catching one of only five sharks that were brought in that day she won with a 29 incher.

Though this may be the last fishing derby planned for this year, Baugh encouraged GTMO residents to come out and attend next year's fishing derbies.



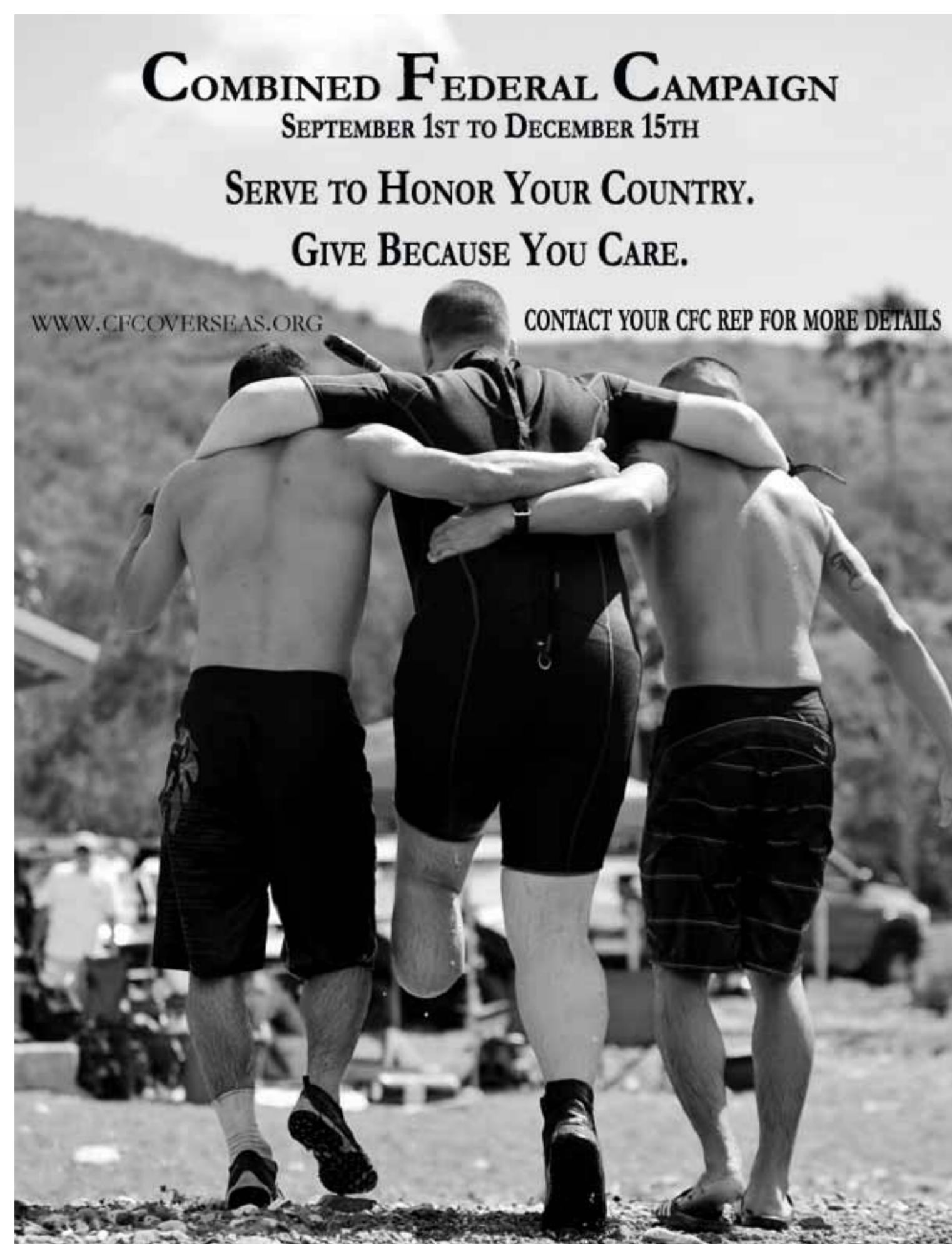
Army Master Sgt. Laura German proudly holds up her winning shark.



The winning barracuda caught was over 43 inches long.



Michael and Abby McCord proudly hold their prizes for catching the biggest snook.



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Headquarters and Headquarters Company (HHC) a part of the 525th Military Police Battalion forms up before their eventual "step off" marking the beginning of a 71 mile run. 525 ran 71 miles to commemorate the 71st birthday of the military police corps. The distance was split up between all the companies within the battalion.

525th Celebrates Military Police Birthday and Takes Time to Remember Those Who Couldn't



The 755th MP Comp. apart of the 525th Military Police Battalion forms up after completing the last leg of the 71 mile run. 525 ran 71 miles to commemorate the 71st birthday of the military police corps. The distance was split up between all the companies within the battalion.

Story and photos by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Brian Jeffries

The 525th Military Police Battalion spent the night of Sept. 27, running around the roads of Guantanamo Bay. From the Joint Task Force side where it all started to the top of JPJ hill and back again, the battalion didn't quit until all the miles were logged.

The effort was all a part of an annual event that commemorated the birthday of the Army's MP Corps. This year - since the MP Corps turned 71 - the distance was 71 miles, and the challenge was sent out to every MP unit and their regimental headquarters.

"This event is not mandatory," said Sgt. 1st Class Brad Alexander. "The people we have out here really want to be out here and show their support to the MP Corps and it has been a great turnout."

Since the run was divided up between each company within the battalion, Headquarters Headquarters Company (HHC) took the first leg. They handed the

baton - or battalion flag rather - off to the 189th MP Company, then to the 193rd, 314th, 348th and then finally by the 755th MP Co.

"Its all about unit cohesion and being able to support our brothers and sisters as best we can," said 1st Sgt. Chris Fick. "Just doing our part from down here."

Despite the daunting task of running 71 miles, the 525th made quick work of GTMO's roads. As with any task, a little teamwork pays huge dividends.

Following the run later that afternoon, the battalion hosted a remembrance ceremony at the Trooper Chapel. The ceremony was in remembrance of the over 450 military and civilian law enforcement professionals

that perished in support of freedom and democracy. Since 2001, over 6,280 Soldiers, Sailors, Marines, and Airmen have given the ultimate sacrifice in support of the War on Terror through Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom, and Operation New Dawn.

The tone throughout the ceremony was one of not forgetting why we put the uniform on each day, and remembering those who cannot anymore and how much the military police force has given in the line of duty across all the branches of service.

"It goes without saying that the War on Terror as affected all of our lives, whether it was a driving force to your joining the military or for you to extend your enlistment.

That day in 2001 changed a lot," said 525th Military Police Battalion Commander Lt. Col. Darcy Overbey.

"As military police, master-at-arms, and security force specialists, we volunteered to support and defend our nation as well as our fellow Troopers," Overbey said speaking to all her fellow MPs in attendance.

The ceremony ended with everyone singing along to their respective branch's song to show unity even through the differences.

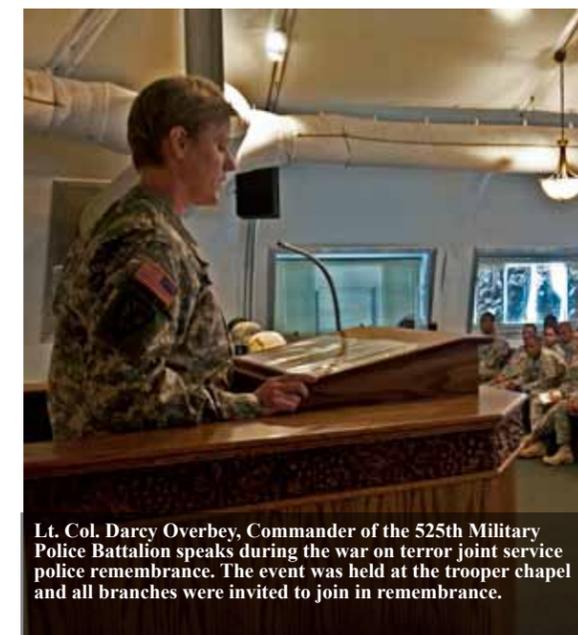
Today, the Soldiers, noncommissioned officers and officers of the Military Police Corps continues to uphold the standards of excellence that so many others strive for: "assist, protect, defend, of the troops and for the troops, paratroopers lead the way."

"Real valor consists not in being insensible to danger but in being prompt to confront and disarm it"

-Sir Walter Scott



All branches congregate at the trooper chapel to witness the presentation and ceremony hosted by the 525th Military Police Battalion.



Lt. Col. Darcy Overbey, Commander of the 525th Military Police Battalion speaks during the war on terror joint service police remembrance. The event was held at the trooper chapel and all branches were invited to join in remembrance.



Boots and rifles with helmets from each branch are used to represent the ones lost during the war on terror. The event was held at the trooper chapel and all branches were invited to join in remembrance.

Chefs show their support with food

Celebrities say thanks, cook up signature dishes for Troopers to taste



Guests invited to a celebrity chef tasting that was as part of NEX/MWR Customer Appreciation Weekend sit at the Bayview Club and try three different entrees - burger sliders, pork panini, and chicken enchiladas. The food was prepared and provided by three celebrity chefs featured on the Food Network show "Diners, Drive-Ins & Dives" - Mike "Hodad" Hardin, Dimitri Kallianis, and John "Johnny Brava" Conley. Photo by Army Sgt. Jonathan Monfiletto

Story by Army Sgt. Jonathan Monfiletto

The Bayview Club at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay traditionally serves a breakfast buffet on Sunday mornings, but this Sunday the menu was transformed into an afternoon picnic style meal featuring burger sliders, chicken enchiladas, and pork panini.

Invited guests stood in line at the door waiting for it to open so they could be seated to enjoy their meals. Once inside the club, guests made their way to three different tables offering three different entrées. They sat outside under a tent with a view of the bay and a sunny afternoon.

It was all part of the 11th annual NEX/MWR Customer Appreciation Weekend's celebrity chef tasting featuring meals prepared by three chefs that have been featured on the Food Network hit show "Diners, Drive-Ins & Dives."

Celebrity chefs Mike "Hodad" Hardin, John "Johnny Brava" Conley, and Dimitri Kallianis each brought dishes that they serve in their restaurants and on the show to the Troopers at GTMO. All three chefs said they wanted to show their appreciation for the military by allowing the Troopers the chance to try out the food.

The Kelly Bell Band, which performed two shows at the Windjammer Ballroom

on Friday and Saturday nights, also staged an acoustic encore performance during the tasting at Bayview to replace a Thursday night show at the Tiki Bar that was canceled because of weather.

Meanwhile, guests sat at tables enjoying the three dishes and listening to the band or waited in line to get another entrée or took the chance to meet the chefs and get their autographs.

Fans also had the opportunity to meet the celebrity chefs and get their autographs during an autograph session that took place on Saturday afternoon in the NEX atrium. The chefs were on hand there for about a half hour to greet fans, chat with them, and sign photos and books.

During the tasting, the chefs worked their way between the tables serving their dishes and the tables where the guests were seated. They asked the guests what they thought of their dish and greeted ones who came up to ask them to sign pictures or books and take photos with them.

Hardin cooked up Hodad's Guido Burger Sliders, which are topped with pastrami and are a smaller version of the hamburger he already serves in his restaurant, Hodad's in Ocean Beach, Calif.

"It's one of the most popular burgers I have in the restaurant," he said, noting he

brought the same meal to GTMO's celebrity chef tasting event last year and it has really taken off since.

It has taken off so much that when Petco Park, home of the San Diego Padres, opened up two Hodad's locations in the park, officials there wanted to serve the Guido Burger - but they wanted the smaller version already showcased to the Troopers here.

"They wanted this Guido Burger, but they wanted it as a slider," Hardin said. "Because of GTMO, Petco Park has the Guido Slider in their place."

While his two colleagues were seeing GTMO for the first time, Hardin said this trip was his third experience on the island. He first became interested in cooking for service members about three years ago after a visit to Norfolk, Va., where he served food to a group of wounded warriors.

"I was in 100 percent after that," he said. "We try to do something great for the troops to thank you guys ... I look forward to GTMO every year. I really do."

Visiting GTMO and seeing the detention facility has been an educational experience for Hardin, he said. The first time he was here, he got to see some detainees and saw firsthand how well they are taken care of.

"It's nice we're doing that," he said. "It's just awesome we take care of people the way

we do."

Besides serving up one of his signature burgers for the Troopers, Hardin also got to celebrate his 54th birthday with them. During the tasting, and also during its performance Saturday night, the Kelly Bell Band took a break during its act to have the audience sing "Happy Birthday" to Hardin.

Hardin said he was happy to share his special day with his fans and the Troopers at GTMO.

"It's such an honor to be able to be here," he said. "I love coming down here."

Kallianis prepared Jamaican rum-soaked pulled pork panini with green tomato and Southern black-eyed pea salad. He said the particular dish from his restaurant, The Shanty in Wadsworth, Ill., has been featured on the Food Network and on the Travel Channel.

Now, the dish made its way to GTMO, and Kallianis said he and his colleagues were happy to bring their food here to show their support for the military.

"It's nice to come down to GTMO and pay our appreciation to the troops," he said. "It's a big treat for them, but for us it's a bigger treat."

The chefs were able to get the full GTMO experience during their stay on the island, Kallianis said. The group went diving and swimming and even caught a performance of the Kelly Bell Band on Saturday night.

"We've been out every night," he said. "It's been great."

Conley cooked up smoked chicken and hatch enchiladas that were served with beans and rice and his homemade salsa and tortilla chips. He said the meal is a signature dish from his restaurant, Salsa Brava in Flagstaff, Ariz.

He brought chili peppers from Arizona and New Mexico with him to make "burning hot salsa," as he called it, and he said he taught the kitchen staff to make "real deal enchilada sauce" to create his dish for the Troopers.

"It's been a total privilege to be here," Conley said of his first trip to GTMO. "You hear it all the time, but I am full of gratitude for the troops. It's been a blast."

The tasting also appeared to be a blast with those who attended the two seatings - one hour each beginning at 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Guests stuffed themselves with food and chatted with the chefs before getting on their way.

As guests filed out at the end of the first of two seatings for the celebrity chef tasting, Hardin had a message to send to the Troopers - both here at GTMO and elsewhere overseas.

"We miss you. Come home safe."



A volunteer dishes up some of Dimitri Kallianis' Southern black-eyed pea salad for a guest. Photo by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Brian Jeffries



Members of the kitchen staff prepare some of Mike Hardin's Hodad's Guido Burgers for guests to eat. Photo by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Brian Jeffries



The Kelly Bell Band stages an acoustic performance during Sunday's celebrity chef tasting at the Bayview Club after it gave two concerts at the Windjammer Ballroom on Friday and Saturday nights. Photo by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Brian Jeffries



Celebrity chef Dimitri Kallianis discusses the dish he prepared for the chef tasting, Jamaican rum-soaked pulled pork panini with Southern black-eyed pea salad, with a couple of guests at Sunday's event at the Bayview Club. Photo by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Brian Jeffries



Celebrity chef Mike "Hodad" Hardin talks about his burgers and his restaurant to guests waiting in line to try out a Guido Burger. Photo by Army Sgt. Jonathan Monfiletto



Celebrity chef John "Johnny Brava" Conley signs a photograph for a fan during the tasting, while Kallianis chats with a guest. Photo by Army Sgt. Jonathan Monfiletto



Trooper Focus



Story by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Brian Jeffries
 Photos by Army Staff Sgt. Lewis Hilburn and Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Brian Jeffries

What does it take to be successful? Is it natural ability, or is it hard work and dedication. Is it the ‘never quit’ mentality; the ability to fall down eight times always managing to get back up; or is it just happenstance, a shuffle of a deck of cards or a roll of a die? I read once in a book titled “Outliers” by Malcolm Gladwell that professional hockey players typically only make it to the elite level of their sport due to the month in which they were born. The guys born in the earlier months were months older than the other guys and therefore had a physical advantage. By the time the slight age gap no longer mattered, the leagues had already been divided up. The guys who dominated early were placed in advanced leagues against better competition with better coaching and placed on a fast track to success.

Now, does that mean that others never stood a chance? Everyone has a chance, that’s how we get underdogs. And who doesn’t love an underdog?

Spc. Danny Aoun and his two teammates competed in the Military Police War fighter competition recently, and they were definitely underdogs. Coming from Guantanamo Bay to compete in the largest competition in the MP world, the trio was at a slight disadvantage. They did not have the amenities of some of the larger installations around the world. All of their training was done on old mats and they had to use a golf course for their land navigation course. Also, the fact that the top three Soldiers pooled from a Naval Base in the Caribbean that consists of less than 2,000 Soldiers typically would not generate as much talent as an Army post with over 20,000 soldiers. The task was a tall order to say the least.

“It’s like the Super Bowl for MPs,” Aoun said about the competition. “There is nothing bigger for us.”

Aoun won the combatives portion of the competition, despite not being previously certified in Army Combatives.

“I think I just wanted it more than the guys I faced,” he said. “Heart and willpower will take you a long way.”

Even with his success, Aoun is

unbelievably humble. He constantly stresses that any success he has achieved should be attributed to his teammates. Also, he admits that even though the competition was very strenuous that’s exactly what he and his teammates wanted. They wanted it to be physically demanding, because they felt like they were all so mentally tough already that it would give them an edge.

They got their wish mid way through the competition after the night land navigation portion. Another Soldier had lost his weapon in the woods. A search party consisting of competitors was formed to retrieve the missing weapon. This evolution was time consuming, and the few hours set aside for the participants to sleep had to be ignored, because everyone was hunting for the missing weapon. The next morning only a few short hours after the search, a 15.7 mile ruck was scheduled giving Aoun and his teammates exactly what they were looking for.

“Our bodies were hurting pretty bad at this point of the competition, and after a mile we already wanted to quit,” Aoun said.

Having been up for about 48 hours straight at this point, the three-man team stayed the course, determined not to waiver. Even though their pace was nowhere near where it would have been had they been fresh, their competitive spirit was enough to hold off several other teams who were hot on their heels for most of the run.

When it was all said and done, the champions of the competition and the owners of the right to say they are the best war fighting MPs went to the Soldiers from Guantanamo Bay. It’s the kind of stuff movies are made of. A couple of Reservists from California and one active duty Soldier stationed on a Naval Base in Cuba, team up against the best competition in their MP world, and win against all odds. If anyone would like to try their hand at a screen play, this could be their chance.

So what’s next?

When Aoun heads back, he will pick up where he left off as a bodyguard. He recently found work with a new company out of Los Angeles that protects celebrities and their families. He is looking forward to starting on something new.

Aoun never likes to stay still and is constantly looking for the next goal to tackle. He also likes staying fit and remaining ready for whatever comes his way.



“The war fighter competition was the biggest thing that I have been involved with in my four years in the Army, and I didn’t know about the opportunity until a week before tryouts,” Aoun said. “That’s why I always stay ready for whatever comes my way, because you never know when your chance to do something special will come.”

Aoun’s ultimate goal is to get his bachelor’s degree and coach. He says that he loves to teach basketball and football and would not mind if that’s where his life ended up.

The moral of the story is that it’s not any particular variable that leads to success; it’s everything. It was random that the perfect collaboration of people teamed up in Cuba. It is also about the hard work and dedication that gets put in.

“I use to tell everyone all the time while we were training that we are not going to win once we get to the competition,” said Aoun. “We are going to win right now.”

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Marine Cpl. Tyler Truesdale does his best to stay in step.



Marine Cpl. Tyler Truesdale and Army Sgt. Dani White battle it out for the top score.



GTMO resident Joshua Astatkie displays his dancing skills.

PlayStation 3 Dance Off

Story and photos by Spc. Vanessa Davila

My sister can dance circles around anyone. She was graced with the natural ability to dance. She grew up in Colombia; my mother took her to dance parties before she could even walk. My sister watched intently and apparently she soaked it all in. I on the other hand, didn't fare so well. I grew up in New York going to these family dances as well, but no amount of watching moving feet helped my dancing ability. I frankly don't have any. I don't even do well with those dancing video games, you know, like Zumba Fitness or Dance Dance Revolution, the very first "dancing" game I tried. I was 16 when I first tried to sync my steps with the game's arrows and it went horribly wrong... in front of the entire arcade.

So, when my boss told me I had to cover the 11th Annual NEX/MWR Customer Appreciation Weekend's PS 3 Dance Competition I wasn't excited. Who would get laughed at? Who would stumble and fall? Who would walk off crying? All these worst case scenarios ran through my mind and, before even knowing who the contestants would be, I already felt for them.

I fought myself out of bed on Sunday morning and headed to the competition across the street at the Naval Exchange atrium. What I found when I got there was pathetic. Less than 10 minutes before the start of the dance off and not one Guantanamo Bay resident had signed up yet. Part of me hoped no one would show so I wouldn't

have to be present for anyone's humiliation. I still had to wait though, so I took the time to ask the friendly NEX employee running the competition about the details.

The contestants would be playing (in this case, dancing) Just Dance on PlayStation 3. A big board to the side indicated that there would be two categories based on age: a 13 and under and a 13 and over. Sony was sponsoring the event so the first and second place winners would be receiving Sony products. Third place would win a \$50 NEX gift card.

A good 20 minutes past the competition's 10 a.m. start time, we had our first contestant in the form of a young girl hoping to dance herself to a win in the 13 and under category. My apprehensions were soon quelled by the lack of an audience. How can you be humiliated if no one is there to watch? She danced twice and immediately left with her father. Two more contestants trickled through, but that was it.

What a bust! I mean I didn't want to be the witness of someone else's embarrassment, but it was nonetheless odd that on this black-Friday-like weekend no one was willing and ready to do all kinds of crazy things for free stuff.

Enter an unidentified female Soldier from my very own public affairs shop and Marine Cpl. Tyler Truesdale; the first adults to enter the competition. They would dance at the same time, against each other, battling for the highest score. As soon as the music started and they began to move their bodies, I couldn't help but laugh and the laughter

exponentially increased as a crowd began to form, Truesdale captivating the audience with his flamboyant moves. He was a great sport about reproducing the moves on the screen – moves that were probably intended for a female player.

"I entered the competition because I saw people getting down and dirty, and I thought I'd get down and dirty with them," said Truesdale. "I had no reservations. I was willing to do it [even] if the whole base was here."

I realized that the laughter was all in good fun, and the audience wasn't chomping at the bit for a taste of someone else's humiliation. The hero of the PS 3 Dance Competition, Truesdale, had no desire to find out if he would win one of the prizes. He left immediately after our interview.

The rest of the dance off proceeded with more and more kid contestants. Some were only a few short years over 13 and many more were under.

Half way through I realized that the same 6 or 7 kids kept dancing to improve their scores. There didn't seem to be any rules in place to prevent this. It also looked like contestants playing on easier levels could score higher than those playing on a more difficult level.

Does it really matter though? As the Navy Exchange store manager, Victor Zarate said, "This event we're having today, our dance competition, it's perfect for the children."

Just remember to thank Truesdale for bringing the crowd.

Starting the weekend Off Strong



Two runners dripping with the day's rain and their own perspiration sprint towards the finish line.

Despite weather's wrath GTMO residents go for a run

Story and photos by Army Sgt. Brett Perkins

The best time to conduct a run on Guantanamo Bay is before the sun has crested the horizon. Personally, I find that it helps to set the tone for the rest of the day. Saturday's NEX-MWR 5K was no exception.

The run kicked off at 7 a.m. and the sky was looking overcast and black. Ten minutes into the run the rain came, but it did little to slow the runners. It seemed, almost by the determination of the participants, that the rain was forced to stop. Maybe it was the families running together; or maybe it was the fact that every service was in attendance; or maybe it was intimidated by the impressive showing of the W.T. Sampson High School Cross Country team. For whatever reasons, the rain soon abated, and the sun began its slow climb across the sky.

By 7:40 the majority of the runners had crossed the finish line. As they caught their breath and grabbed bananas and oranges to help restore energy, there were few without a smile. This race was not only notable for the variety of different services and organizations participating, it was also notable for the wide variety of age groups that were represented. At the youngest level was the 6-12 age group, the runners barely reaching a height of 4 feet, yet Jano Ramirez, Joshua Astatkie, and Keira Beverly were able to take home the top scores. In the 13-17 age group, which was dominated by the members of the W.T. Sampson Cross Country team, the top times recorded went to Dane Stone, Kyle French, Zachariah Stone, Christian Carter, and Jasmine Borunda. The 18-25 age group's top times were attained by Micheal Tierney, Tyler Truesdale, Darring White, Stephanie Trujillo, Michelle Guerrero, and Nichole Brooke. The 26-39 age category was dominated by Bruce Wells, Mark Steve Siat, Oscar Garcia, Rhonda McGee, Elizabeth Johnson, and Thomasina Scudere. The 40+ age group's strongest finishers were Elmer Norvell, Jeremias Imano, Rafael Hernandez-Ortiz, Demise Winkler, Monica Salamiiyile, and Vivian Cintron. Of course this list is only the top times; there were many other runners with their own stories and motivations.

Regardless of the reason and the final score at the finish, this event wouldn't be anything without the participation of all of the runners, the members of the NEX and MWR teams, and the New Balance sponsorship. This was just one event during an exciting weekend filled with concerts, food tasting, and even a dancing competition. Hopefully this weekend was enough to satisfy everyone.



Two runners enjoy a bottle of water and a banana after crossing the finish line.



A 5K runner proudly displays his award after the race.



A group of runners pose for the camera after completing the race.



Marine Sgt. Maj. Scott Smith poses with a W.T. Sampson cross country team member.



The winner of the women's 40+ age group poses with her award.

Phat Blues and Musical Martial Arts

Story and photos by Spc. Raechel Haynes

Naval Station Guantanamo Bay was treated to great shows and sales this past weekend for the 11th annual Customer Appreciation Weekend. Two of the biggest performances came from The Kelly Bell Band and Sideswipe.

The Kelly Bell Band is a blues band from Baltimore. They have been voted the best blues band in the mid Atlantic region for twelve consecutive years. Front man and band founder, Kelly Bell, said they are not a normal blues band. He calls their style of music, "phat blues."

When asked to describe what phat blues is, Kelly said, "Imagine Muddy Waters wearing a Bob Marley T-shirt riding on Black Sabbath's tour bus on their way to a Parliament Funkadelic concert, listening to Sammy Davis Junior on an 8-track tape humming a Run DMC song. That would be close to what we do."

I had never listened to blues music before, so I was unsure what to expect at the performance. I was very pleasantly surprised by this style of music. The Kelly Bell Band was engaging and interactive with the audience, and the music was entertaining and lively. All in all it was a thoroughly enjoyable performance. This is not the first time the Kelly Bell Band has performed



The Kelly Bell Band performs Saturday night at the Windjammer Ballroom.

servicemembers. He said he and the band enjoy performing for the troops.

The Kelly Bell Band performed Friday and Saturday night at the Windjammer, and gave an acoustic performance on Sunday at the Bayview. They along with Sideswipe also sat down for an autograph session at the NEX atrium on Saturday afternoon.



Band founder Kelly Bell sings a "phat blues" song at the Windjammer Ballroom.



Sideswipe member, Will Greenburg, watches fellow teammate, Cody Sanders, performance Saturday afternoon in the NEX atrium.

for the Troops, and they are no strangers to GTMO. They have been touring and performing for the military for several years, including several performances here at GTMO. Kelly recalled that one of his most memorable performances for the military was a small audience of barely fifty

Also performing Saturday afternoon was the extreme martial arts team, Sideswipe. I wasn't sure what to expect for Sideswipe's performance. I was amazed at the skills I saw. The Sideswipe performance was a cross between a martial arts exhibition and a Broadway musical. The Sideswipe performers interacted with the audience before, during, and after the show. Everyone in the audience was captivated by the performance, children and adults alike. Volunteers were selected from the audience to break a board, and throughout the show, the team shared their martial arts experience.

"It's a little intimidating," Sideswipe member, Mackensie Emory said. "This is a

fairly male dominated sport. So its intimidating the first time around."

Intimidating it may have been, but the two girls on the team, Mackensie Emory and Maia Didomenico, kept up and performed just as well as the boys. This is the girls' first tour with Sideswipe, but not their first time competing. Both of the girls said they started practicing and competing in martial arts at a young age. During the weapons performance, the girls showed off their skills with the kama. Among the other weapons used during the show were bos, nunchuks, and katanas.

For several of the team members, this isn't their first tour with the military. The team said they enjoy performing for the Troops and hope to continue doing so.

It was the first time I'd ever been to a Customer Appreciation event, and I left very satisfied. The performances were beyond my expectations and the performers themselves made my experience even more enjoyable with their "phat blues" and board breaking "initiation." I look forward to my next Customer Appreciation Weekend.



Sideswipe member, Seth Austin, teaches an audience volunteer how to properly focus her energy.

Trooper to Trooper

I'm not your fishing buddy

COMMAND SGT. MAJ. MICHAEL BORLIN

JOINT DETENTION GROUP SERGEANT MAJOR

So there I was, 1983 Fort McClellan Ala., going through basic training, on the road to becoming an MP Soldier. I was not the only MP wannabe; I was with about 40 others within the platoon that were looking forward to having some cool helmet liners that said "MP" and carrying a baton and a Colt 1911 .45 automatic. We had two drill sergeants assigned to the platoon, and it was their duty to get us through basic training and advanced individual training. Somehow, our training always included pushing the Alabama red dirt on a regular basis. Many times, when we were blessed with such attention, it seemed the drill sergeants thought we wanted to be friends with them. They would always say things like "Oh, you think we're fishing buddies?", "What do I look like, your fishing buddy?" or "Oh, we're fishing buddies now, huh?" I never understood why the drill sergeants continued with these comments; we were never issued fishing poles, tackle or bait. Looking back at this, their message was simple... I am not your buddy. I am not here to be liked; I am here to lead and train you to fight and win our nation's wars.

So what defines a leader? We often hear through various sources that leaders are born. We have heard the phrase "He/she is a born leader." But what is a born leader? Each branch of service has their definition of leadership:

U.S. Army - Influencing people by providing purpose, direction, and motivation, while operating to accomplish the mission and improve the organization.

U.S. Marines - 14 Leadership traits: Justice, Judgment, Dependability, Initiative,



Decisiveness, Tact, Integrity, Enthusiasm, Bearing, Unselfishness, Courage, Knowledge, Loyalty, and Endurance.

U.S. Navy - The art, science, or gift by which a person is enabled and privileged to direct the thoughts, plans, and actions of others in such a manner as to obtain and command their obedience, their confidence, their respect, and their loyal cooperation.

U.S. Air Force - The art and science of influencing and directing people to accomplish the assigned mission.

U.S. Coast Guard - The ability to influence others to obtain their obedience, respect, confidence, and loyal cooperation.

None of these definitions indicate you are born with leadership skills. The skills that define a leader are developed through education, experience and development by seniors, peers and subordinates. We educate our leaders so that they are able to respond effectively to what they will face and to operate independently in an uncertain, dynamic, and politically sensitive environment. Leaders must maintain technical and tactical competence, as applicable in their career management fields; keep informed of, and remain proficient in advances in information

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technology; and maintain their knowledge of the standards of conduct, policy, law, rules of engagement, and the Geneva Conventions. Leaders must be competent professionals who understand the strategic implications of their actions as well as their subordinates' actions, and how those actions affect strategic goals of the Department of Defense and our nation.

Leaders are not your "fishing buddies." Much has been invested in leader development to allow leaders to become a "fishing buddy." When leaders go down the road of worrying about whether or not their subordinates like them, we get into the business of "likership" and not leadership. There are times we see leaders use "likership" as a tool because they do not want their subordinates to think badly of them. "Likership" often fails to understand or enforce standards, which in itself is a direct indicator of their capability to lead. We see "likership" pass by deficiencies or allow small standards to slip in their subordinates. Small slippages only lead to larger slides until half the mountain has slid. When small standards slip like unbuttoned buttons on uniforms, needing haircuts, trash in living areas, no headgear in uniform while in the housing areas, or unauthorized sunglasses,

then what is the standard slip that will be the final straw as to which standard(s) the "likership" leader will enforce? "Likership" has also been known to use someone else's rank or position to take the burden off themselves when carrying out orders; "First Sergeant said we have to do it" instead of using their own authority to execute and enforce the order or standard. "Likership" will never take the hill, put steel on target, never effectively operate to accomplish the mission, and will never earn a subordinate's respect. Eventually, subordinates grow into their own leadership roles and they remember the leaders that effectively led and mentored them into the leaders they are and will be. If you effectively practice "likership", then you will simply be an afterthought in those subordinates you "liked."

On the other hand, leadership is not effective when carried out with terrorism or creating a toxic environment. On Aug. 11, 1879, Maj. Gen. John M. Schofield addressed cadets on this matter and summed it up perfectly. "The discipline which makes the Soldiers of a free country reliable in battle is not to be gained by harsh or tyrannical treatment. On the contrary, such treatment is far more likely to destroy than to make an army. It is possible to impart instruction and

to give commands in such manner and such a tone of voice to inspire in the Soldier no feeling but an intense desire to obey, while the opposite manner and tone of voice cannot fail to excite strong resentment and a desire to disobey."

Remember that in the military, everybody does not get a trophy. Leaders are called upon to make the tough decisions. Leadership isn't about being everyone's buddy or creating a toxic environment. Leaders must be direct and upfront and enforce "all" standards with everyone and themselves. If a subordinate isn't carrying their weight and meeting standards, it's in the subordinate's best interest to know and improve on their shortcomings and this in itself is the responsibility of the leader. We cannot afford to have service members stumbling along their career thinking they're meeting set standards; eventually they'll be called to task and when they can't perform...Then the "whining" with cheese and finger pointing really starts. Properly led and trained warriors are the greatest tool in our nation's arsenal. Good leaders recognize this and keep our warriors sharp and ready to deploy, engage, and destroy, the enemies of the United States of America in close combat.

Hooah!

ONLY AT GTMO by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Keith Simmons



GUANTANAMO BAY BUS SCHEDULE

All buses run on the hour, 7 days/week, from 5 a.m. to 1 a.m.

Camp America :00 :20 :40
Gazebo :02 :22 :42
NEX Trailer :03 :23 :43
Camp Delta 2 :06 :26 :46
KB 373 :10 :30 :50
TK 4 :12 :32 :52
JAS :13 :33 :53
TK 3 :14 :34 :54
TK 2 :15 :35 :55
TK 1 :16 :36 :56

West Iguana :18 :38 :58
Windjammer/Gym :21 :41 :01
Gold Hill Galley :24 :44 :04
NEX :26 :46 :16
96 Man Camp :31 :51 :11
NEX :33 :53 :13
Gold Hill Galley :37 :57 :17
Windjammer/Gym :36 :56 :16
West Iguana :39 :59 :19
TK 1 :40 :00 :20

TK 2 :43 :03 :23
TK 3 :45 :05 :25
TK 4 :47 :07 :27
KB 373 :50 :10 :30
Camp Delta 1 :52 :12 :32
IOF :54 :14 :34
NEX Trailer :57 :17 :37
Gazebo :58 :18 :38
Camp America :00 :20 :40

PROTECT YOUR INFO!

ALERT

Keep your personal life personal!

How many times have you seen someone online share places they have "checked into?" Social media can be a great tool for staying connected with friends and family while you're deployed, but there is a limit to what you should put online. Telling the online community your whereabouts at all times by "checking in" at places might not be the best idea. Especially if your smart phone does it automatically. Make sure you know what you're sharing online and what the settings on your mobile devices are. Stay safe. Think before you post. Use OPSEC.

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