

WIRE

C'Nergy

Florida Latin band
brings their reggaeton
and salsa vibes to
GTMO

Beach Brigade

Cleaning GTMO one
beach at a time

Softball!

GTMO holds
Columbus Day
Tournament



COMMAND CORNER

BRIG. GEN. JAMES LETTKO

DEPUTY COMMANDER, JTF GUANTANAMO

Whether you are new to Joint Task Force Guantanamo or have been here for some time, you may have noticed one particular aspect of our Joint Task Force that stands out from everything else. Professionalism. Yes, professionalism is what sets this Joint Task Force apart from many other Department of Defense military operations.

I'm not sure what drives us as a team, or an individual Trooper, to portray the military professionalism that we all see every day. Is it because of the sense of duty, honor and service that drove us into the military? Is it because we have all been sent here to complete a challenging and very important mission? Could it be because most of us see the importance of the mission and understand we cannot allow ourselves or teammates to fail? Or perhaps it may be the inter-service rivalry that brings out the best from all of the services that collectively provides Joint Task Force the superior Troopers that make up the team? I think all of the above contribute to the professionalism and resulting mission success of the team. Your professionalism, every day, even when no one is looking, contributes greatly to our collective success.

Your professionalism, every day, even when no one is looking, contributes greatly to our collective success.

Diversity is another component to the Joint Task Force success. Take a look around you. It's not just our ethnic backgrounds, that makes us diverse, but other factors such as language, culture, geographic home, marital status, and education to name a few factors. Our Troopers' diverse experiences, previous duty assignments, and backgrounds provide the strength of Joint Task Force by providing a wide range of experiences available to learn from. Over the next several months NAVSTA

GTMO will host a wide variety of events ranging from the Navy Ball, Marine Ball, Army/Navy football games and other events hosted by units or MWR. Take the opportunity now to learn from your sister services as well as from our civilian employees.

Speaking of diversity, next week we all will be engaged in a diverse menu of activities. We'll conclude a visit from the International Committee of the Red Cross who visit routinely to validate that we are treating the detainees in a safe, humane, legal and transparent manner. Many of you have been and will continue to support the team by being part of that visit. Also, next week, we'll kick off the beginning of the next round of Military Commissions. We'll support the Office of Military

Commissions in supporting the commissions process and will continue to demonstrate our transparency by hosting dozens of media representatives, observers and victim family members. Many of you will be involved as escorts for our guests.

This next week will be an 'all hands' event with everyone chipping in to achieve mission success. I have no doubt we will succeed, but success doesn't happen by accident. It is something we train for on a continuous basis, always trying to make each event better than the last.

Professionalism and training; I think they go hand in hand. With your positive attitude, professionalism, and training, we are in a better position to execute two very important events and show the world how a group of Troopers and civilians from JTF and our supporting elements from NAVSTA GTMO can work together and succeed in our mission.



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JOINT TASK FORCE GUANTANAMO

SAFE • HUMANE • LEGAL • TRANSPARENT

NEWS FROM THE BAY



Have a blast at Fire Prevention Week finale

All events are slated to take place at the Downtown Lyceum from 5:30-9 p.m. The schedule is: 5:30-6 p.m. - one-mile fun run and barbecue cooking starts; 6-7:30 p.m. - fire brigade relay, truck pull, water ball, kids' bounce house, bullex fire extinguisher training, fire blast trainer, and bucket brigade for kids; 7:30-8 p.m. - Christmas tree fire and turkey fryer demonstration; 8-9 p.m. - mobile aircraft firefighting trainer display.

Volunteers are needed. Come out and lend a hand. For more information, call 4611, 4179, 4178, or 4614. All events are open to the public.

No alcohol at lyceums

By order of the Naval Station Guantanamo Bay commanding officer, alcohol is no longer allowed at the Downtown or Camp Bulkeley Lyceum until further notice. Coolers are also forbidden. Feeding banana rats at Camp Bulkeley remains a no-go.

Bend it like Beckham

The 2012 fall men's and women's soccer league season is scheduled to begin Oct. 29 at Cooper Field. The league is open to those 16 and up, and a player's pool is available.

Register for free at Denich Gym by Wednesday. A coaches meeting is planned for Oct. 24 at 5:30 p.m. Trophies will be awarded to the first and second-place teams. For more information, call 2113.

New way for Space-"A"

Going on leave soon? Having trouble getting yourself on the Space-A waiting list? Don't you wish it could be easier?

Rest easy, weary soul, because the air terminal has heard your plaintive cries for help! Effective immediately you may email your leave forms to ATOC@USNBGTMO.navy.mil.

Please send only the last four of your SSN. Also include a good contact number so you can be contacted with any questions.

Remember you can only sign up the day your leave begins.

Marine Corps birthday ball

The ball is scheduled to take place on Saturday, Nov. 10 with a cocktail hour at 1800, a ceremony at 1900, and dinner and dancing from 2000 to 0200. Tickets are on sale at Marine Hill from 1130-1300 Monday through Friday and at the NEX atrium from 1000-1400 on Saturday. Cost is \$35 for E6 and above and civilians, \$25 for E4-E5, and \$15 for E1-E3. Formal attire only.

Attention all pinheads!

A 16-week night bowling league starts Monday at 1830. Teams will have four people each. Register by Monday at Marblehead Lanes.

Openings are available. For more information, call 2050 or 2118.

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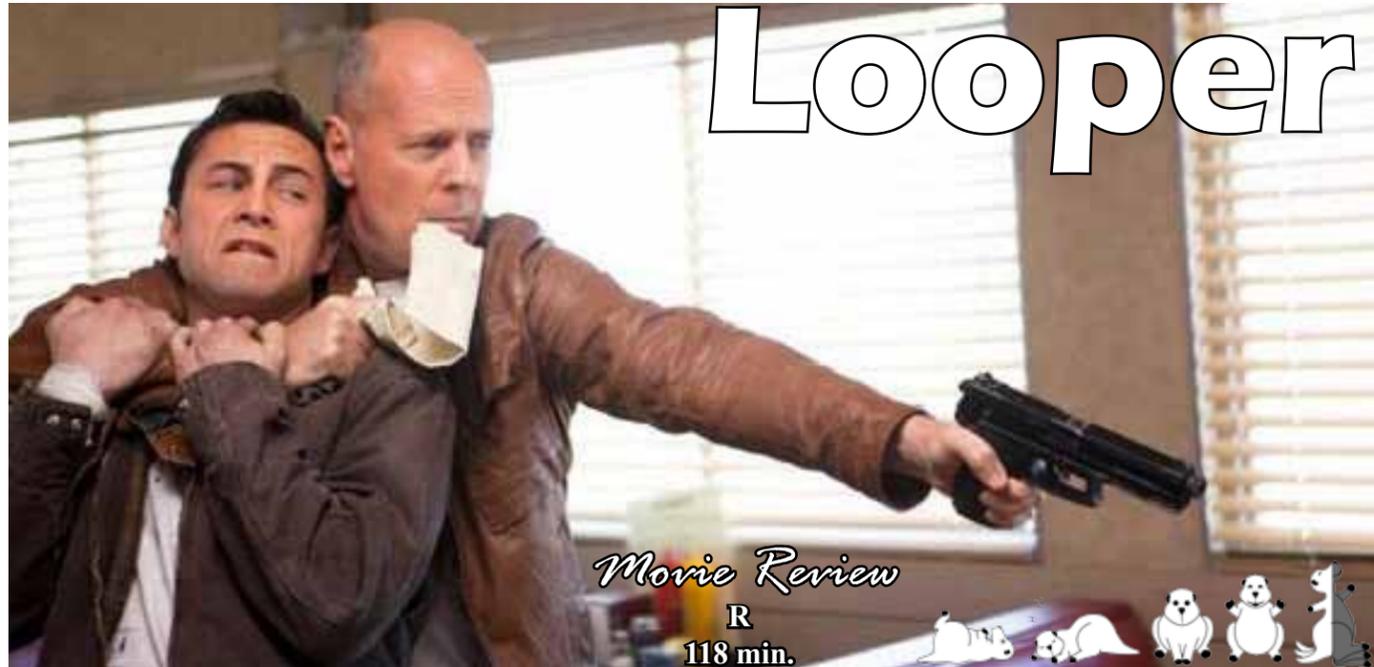
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ONLY AT GTMO by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Brett Custer



Looper



Movie Review

R
118 min.

By Army Pfc. Loren Cook

The idealism of the past seems to have given way to the crushing despair of the present, as seen in our respective visions of the future.

Confused yet? In the 1960s, despite the widespread fear and the (mistaken) certainty so many felt of seeing a nuclear war in their lifetime, one of the most captivating visions of the future, for them, was a future in which all nations on Earth had turned aside from their petty squabbles and forged a brighter future. Peace, not war, was mankind's new mission as they traveled the stars with like-minded aliens to seek out new life and new civilizations, boldly going where no man had gone before.

I'm not exactly sure when sci-fi turned away from 1960s optimism. I guess science fiction fans have decided that the present is so hopeless that the future is likely to be worse. Either way, "Looper" goes with the flow of hopelessness found in modern sci-fi.

In the future (2044, to be exact), the economy is in shambles and organized crime controls everything. Thirty years into their future, time travel is possible but illegal. Gains in CSI technology and techniques in 2074 have made it almost impossible to hide a body. In response, future crime syndicates get rid of unwanted people by sending them to the past.

In 2044, contracted killers called "loopers" wait at a pre-determined (or actually post-determined, but try not to think about that) time and place and get rid of those sent in the past as soon as they arrive, receiving some silver bars on the body in payment.

Joe (played by Joseph Gordon-Levitt, "The Dark Knight Rises") is just one of many loopers in an unnamed city in Kansas under the control of crime boss Abe (Jeff

Daniels, TV's "The Newsroom"), a man sent from the future to coordinate the loopers. Joe lives a carefree life of sex, drugs, fast cars, crime, ignoring the poor, learning French, and brutally murdering people from the future until a fellow looper comes to him for help after failing to "close his loop."

Loopers receive their name from the term of their contracts: the last person they kill is always their future self, after which they pocket a severance package of gold bars and try to live their lives as comfortably as they can, knowing exactly how it will end. Killing their future selves is known as closing their loop.

Joe's friend failed to kill his future self, a huge no-no for a looper, and comes to Joe begging for help. Joe, hardly a bastion of morality, gives him up to Abe but not before learning about "The Rainmaker," a nigh-mythical crime boss in the future who is closing all of the loops.

Inevitably, the time arrives for Joe to close his own loop. Joe hesitates just long enough to recognize that his quarry is none other than himself and before Joe can complete his mission, Old Joe (Bruce Willis, "Moonrise Kingdom") overcomes him and gets away.

By the time Joe regains consciousness, Abe's enforcers, the "Gat Men" are already searching for him. Joe has a run-in with Abe's goons at his apartment, but Old Joe saves his life.

Old Joe tells his younger self about the future and about his wife who was killed when The Rainmaker's thugs captured him. He also lets Joe in on his Terminator-esque plan: He has the addresses of three children who could be the Rainmaker, and he'll kill each one.

The Gat Men interrupt the conversation between the Joes, but younger Joe manages to rip a piece from Old Joe's map. Joe heads

there and waits to meet his future self, but he must dodge Abe's goons and the mother of one of Joe's possible Rainmakers (played by the beautiful Emily Blunt, "The Five-Year Engagement").

Will Old Joe be successful and regain his life? Would it matter if he did? Or will Joe kill him and save his own life at the expense of future happiness? It's a lot to take in. The best advice I can give when watching a movie like this is to listen to the "Mystery Science Theater 3000" theme song and "Just repeat to yourself, it's just a show. I should really just relax."

This movie is exciting and imaginative, and a lot of thought went into it. Even more, it asks you to think about it just as much as the filmmakers. As Abe himself says in this movie, "this time travel crap just fries your brain like an egg." I can't go into all the details without spoiling it, but try not to read too much into the ending if you want to maintain a healthy outlook on life.

Joseph Gordon-Levitt is wearing some facial prosthetics to make him look more like Bruce Willis in this movie, but his performance still shines. By all rights, I should hate Gordon-Levitt, since my wife seems to be in love with him, but I just can't do it. He wins me over with his charisma and through his appearances in movies that I love.

This is the third movie in which Bruce Willis travels through time and meets his past self. Bruce Willis isn't an actor known for his acting skills, but this is perhaps a case of being cast in movies that don't need them. He can act if the movie calls for an actor instead of a reactor, and he convinced me of his anguish and desperation in this movie.

I highly recommend this movie. Just put down some plastic sheets if you want to think too much about it. It'll make it easier to clean up after your head explodes.

GET MO'FIT



Physical trainer Roxy Bumpus goes through dance moves for her Monday evening Zumba class.

Story and photos by Army Sgt. Dani White

On Marine Hill is a one-story tan building that may go unnoticed by passers-by. It's home to the Guantanamo Bay MWR fitness classes and is nestled behind the Marine Hill pool. They offer classes on a regular basis and run from Monday through Saturday.

MWR Fitness Coordinator David Anthony reviews class attendance to see if a class is working or if it needs to be replaced with something that more people would participate in.

"Every quarter we try to add something new," Anthony said. "Then we see how well the class does."

Power training is one of the new genres of courses being offered. Everton Hylton, one of the four physical trainers hired by MWR, said the new classes give people more options.

"People try to shy away from the weight room," said Hylton. "And I can assure you that when you spend more time in the weight room you can burn more calories."

Anthony said when physical trainers are hired by MWR they must have a degree in fitness, or physical exercise physiology, or complete a trainer certification course. Anthony also looks for people who have the drive to be an instructor.

"To be a good physical fitness trainer and group instructor you have to have a passion for teaching fitness," he said.

Hylton, a Jamaican native, shows everyone that attends his classes the energy a five year old hyped on sugar would have. He motivates the individuals in his classes to push themselves as hard as they can as he walks around helping his students improve their form.

"I share my philosophy with everyone, to enjoy life to its fullest," he said. "Each one of us has something unique about ourselves and we have to find it and we have to enjoy it."

The physical trainers also take requests to lead command physical training.

Roxy Bumpus is also a physical trainer on GTMO and is currently working on her certification to train future Command Fitness Leaders.

"These are people chosen by their commands to lead physical training," Bumpus said. "I would be able to teach them how to do the proper exercises."

The Navy implemented a new physical training program that is designed to a specific job.

One example that Bumpus gives is that of a corpsman properly lifting and carrying a stretcher with a heavy load. Under the Navy's new program, corpsmen can be physically trained by a CFL on how to properly bend their bodies without causing injuries to themselves.

Bumpus is also certified in individual physical assessments which help physical trainers assess where people are currently and where they would like to be. With this information, they can plan a proper diet and workout schedule that suites the needs of the person.

People who decide to get back into shape should do it for themselves.

"Don't do it for a boyfriend or a girlfriend. Do it because you love yourself," Bumpus said. "If something happens between you and that other person, you are going to lose the motivation you had to get into shape and then you are going to fail."

Currently the MWR physical fitness

program offers 56 scheduled classes, 20 command PT sessions, 24 martial arts classes, two races and an aerobathon every month.

Right now Anthony anticipates the opening of the Denich Gym expansion.

"I am looking forward to figuring out how to utilize our new space," Anthony said. "We want to incorporate new and exciting programs to help Guantanamo Bay get fit and stay that way."

With the current courses being offered and the new programs being put into place, there is a wide variety for people to experience.

"I would recommend coming and checking the classes out," says Everton. "Everyone will not enjoy all the courses offered, but at least come out and give it a try. See what you like and stick with it."

MWR Fitness Class Schedule

Monday	4:30-Power Lifting 5:30-Zumba 6:30-Cardio Kickboxing
Tuesday	6:00-Spin Class 7:00-Pilates
Wednesday	4:30-Power Lifting 5:30-Cardio Kickboxing 6:30-Yoga
Thursday	6:00-Spin Class 7:00-Cardio Kickboxing
Friday	5:30-Zumba 6:30-Yoga
Saturday	9:00-Step Class 10:30-Water Aerobics

Latin Flavor

Story and photos by Spc. Vanessa Davila

For all the fat kids in this world of ours, you know about that ongoing love affair with food don't you? You plan your family vacations around destinations' gastronomic offerings. You love the holidays, not just because you yearn for your family but because secretly you also ache for the gluttonous Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners. You're a fat kid on the inside and whether or not it shows on the outside is not the point; there are plenty of skinny fat kids out there. You simply love food and your palate is as diverse as it is insatiable. Then you join the military and get deployed or stationed at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay.

Fear not foodies; the Liberty Program has been trying its best to help you with those pangs of withdrawal. Liberty Program manager Katie Stanley obtained the culinary services of some of the best Puerto Rican chefs on the island to cook for a few lucky unaccompanied service members.

"We were at the [Joint Task Force] meeting," Stanley said about where the idea for a cooking class began. "They had asked, 'What are you doing for Hispanic Heritage Month?' We hadn't really planned anything yet and I [asked], 'Well what do you do?' They were like, 'Well we can cook!' and I [said] 'Perfect!' They offered their expertise and their knowledge."

On Tuesday evening, in a small kitchen located inside the Marine Hill Liberty Center, the chef instructor, Army Sgt. Joselito Vicenty, eagerly prepped his ingredients for the class. Vicenty is in GTMO as a member of the Puerto Rico National Guard.

"I was working one day and since Sergeant Major Torres works with me [he] mentioned [the class] and [he] said they needed a person [to teach it]," Vicenty said. "I said, 'Yeah, I'll volunteer.' I love cooking. Cooking is my passion."

Vicenty's passion runs deep; he attended culinary school, "for the passion of it" as he says, before becoming a police officer back home. But there's another reason he loves food so much; it is a concept intricately woven into the fabric of his culture.

Be it Puerto Rico, Mexico or Costa Rica, the native food of every Latin American country exists not just to fill their residents' bellies but to unify. Families all over come together at the dinner table to enjoy the fruits of their ancestors' culinary discoveries. To spend hours slaving over a hot stove or a hot fire pit is to show those you are feeding love.

"When people are away from home, there are certain things that tie you off from home. Like, I can't wait to go home to Puerto Rico to eat, for example, a special dish that my mom makes," said Monday evening's co-chef instructor, Army Master Sgt. Luis Olmo. "Even though I can replicate the dish because I can just buy the ingredients, it's that special touch from family [that makes the difference]."

Olmo wanted to teach the class not only to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month but also to bring those unaccompanied service members together through food in the same way he comes together at the dinner table with his family.

And together they did come and at the end of the class they all sat around a makeshift dinner table and enjoyed Vicenty's offering.

"Every day we're walking around with so many different people in so many different services [with so many different] backgrounds but there are not very many opportunities to really experience who they are," class attendee Marine Cpl. Tyler Truesdale said. "Events like this are a prime example of when we get to really sit down and get personal with other people because we really don't do that on a daily basis."

So maybe you aren't fat kids. Maybe being a fat kid just means you are passionate about the cultural tradition of food.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED !!

Want to be a GTMO zombie?

CAUTION - ZOMBIES AHEAD

Join the walking dead crew

**FOR THE ZOMBIE 5K
RUN/OCT.31/7 P.M.**



Feeling the Latin Vibe

Story and photos by Army Sgt. Dani White

The Windjammer Ballroom was brought to life with the energetic sounds of Latin C'Nergy.

The Florida-based band came down to Naval Station Guantanamo Bay after MWR activities coordinator Stephen Prestesater invited them. He scheduled the concert after a previously scheduled comedian fell through.

"It took me two days to reschedule something," Prestesater said. "I pooled all the agencies I used before and was able to find the top-rated Latin band out of Florida."

Latin C'Nergy manager and musical director Rafael Olmeda started the band a year ago after working in the music business for over 20 years. He wanted to create a musical group that played anything from reggaeton



Lead singer Sureily Font joins the audience on the dance floor.

to salsa music, and what separates this band from other Latin bands is that they sing popular Latin songs in Spanish and English.

"To me, from the musical standpoint, I was always looking for that band with excellence in quality and it wasn't really out there," said Olmeda. "After directing music for other bands it came to me that I could do this myself [and] have a band with great quality."

Olmeda began contacting musicians he worked with in the past.

"We have so many connections in the music industry," said Latin C'Nergy lead singer Sureily Font. "When Rafael called people saying he had so-and-so playing in the band he was starting, you said yes instantly. You had worked with that person or heard good things about them through someone else."

Once the band members came together they began rehearsing, and Olmeda started contacting different agencies with whom he had worked.

"When I called them they didn't even come down to hear us rehearse," said Olmeda. "They booked us right there on the spot. We have been going strong ever since then."

Latin C'Nergy's performance during the Columbus Day three-day weekend marked their first show outside of Florida and without looking at the band's schedule, Olmeda booked the trip instantly.

"I got quite excited when I heard that we were being looked at to come down here," said Olmeda. "Nobody in the band believed that we could be going down to Cuba. A week later it was set in stone."

Font said she was excited to come down to GTMO, but apprehensive at the same time.

"The only information I had about this place is what I heard in the news and most of it wasn't good," said Font. "But when we got a tour of the entire [base] and got to meet the people that worked here, I realized the notions I had were incorrect."



Latin C'Nergy musical director and manager Rafael Olmeda plays the bass guitar during Sunday night's performance.

Font said that everyone she met down here left a lasting impression by showing her they were dedicated individuals who were courteous and professional. The GTMO community also showed their fun side when Latin C'Nergy showed them why they are the best Latin band in Florida. As the upbeat tunes filled the air, the crowd couldn't help but move to the beat of the music, regardless of whether they were on the dance floor or around the bar.

Army Staff Sgt. Samuel Solero said he didn't know there was a Latin band playing that night until he came down for dinner. When he heard the band warming up he decided to stay and enjoy the music.

"That's my music; that's my culture," Solero said with intensity. "I just get so excited when I listen to my own music. It re-



The lead singers from Latin C'Nergy dance along with the music during their concert Sunday night.

vives me."

Solero showed his enthusiasm out on the dance floor for most of the night, dancing with himself or with a partner. Regardless of the audience member's different ethnicities, the music appealed to everyone.

Sgt. Stevontae Lacefield came down to enjoy great music with a lively atmosphere.

"I decided to come down to the Windjammer after seeing advertisements for the concert at work," Lacefield said. "I really enjoy listening to reggaeton and I can't wait to listen to them play some tonight."

He said he wasn't there to dance to the music, but still enjoyed sitting and listening to the band.

The evening passed with the members of Latin C'Nergy and the audience feeding off each other's positive energy.

The concert lasted an extra hour but the night had to come to an end, and the band had to go back to Florida.

Olmeda said anyone in the audience could continue to enjoy the music that Latin C'Nergy performs; people can visit their website at www.latinenergymusic.com or go to their Facebook page to see videos and listen to their music, as well as track upcoming concerts or schedule the band for a special event.



Latin C'Nergy's drummer gave the crowd a lively beat that got everyone moving well until the concert ended at 1 a.m.

Take Me Out To The Ball Game

Columbus Day Softball Tournament Action

Story and photos by Army Sgt. Brett Perkins

Columbus Day is a holiday devoted to the memory of a man long-held to be the discoverer of America. This day is especially important at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay because this may well be one of the places where he made landfall. In honor of one of America's greatest heroes, what better way is there to pay homage than by playing America's greatest pastime; well not exactly baseball, but softball.

MWR hosted a seven game double elimination softball tournament that went all out with a raffle for the kids, and of course all the hot dogs one could care to eat.

From the previous MWR events, one would assume the activities are geared more to adults, but by the third game, it became obvious that this was a family event.

Children took delight in watching the softball games and the constant interruptions of raffle ticket call-outs and prize winners.

Devin Hord, first baseman for the Guardians, said he gave his raffle ticket to one of the kids since they didn't get the chance to compete.

Mercenaries' right fielder, Juan Borunda, said he was pleased just to be able to get out and play some softball.

The first day's games played on as the sun beat down on the players' heads.

Neither heat wave nor non-operational scoreboard could stop the players from playing their game; the umpire kept the crowd updated about what inning it was and what team was in the lead.

"Two to one, bottom of the fourth," he called out.

He would continue to provide such updates from time to time.

However, it seemed as if the players did not need a scoreboard because teamwork was one of the greatest points on display.

During the game between the Mercenaries and Latinos, a member of the Mercenaries called out, "Three or two, come on guys let's turn two."

The hit was a groundball to the third baseman. After tagging his base, he threw to first for the third out of the inning.

It was a veritable marathon of softball for some of the teams. Some of them played as many as four games, while others left the field early after only two outings. By 6 p.m. the games were finally winding down and the original seven teams now stood at four. The tournament was over for the GTMO Latinos, the Man Bear-Pig and the Young Guns.

The next day proved to be more of the same old Guantanamo Bay weather: sunny and hot. The first game was underway by noon, and Fun Dip was the next team sent home. The second game of the day was the battle between the Maritime Safety and Security Team Nola and the Mercenaries, which was their first time playing against each other.

Watching baseball, one can realize that sometimes games are not measured in innings and outs; sometimes they boil down to contests of inches. This was certainly that type of game. The majority of the innings were

either no hitters or runners left stranded.

"There is always something in my bag of goodies," announced MWR employee Oshane Wynter. "The next winner will be 553401!"

This led to another delighted squeal from one of the kids, as they ran to collect their prize.

With little to no cool breeze, the players and fans alike were already dipping into their coolers filled with waters and Gatorades.

Through seven innings, the MSST Nola team managed to pick up the win. This sent the Mercenaries into the losers' bracket and the MSST team to the championship game.

The next game started ten minutes later, which was only enough time to drink a glass of water.

Coming to the home stretch, the following game showcased the Guardians and the Mercenaries.

"Hopefully we'll win," said Hord.

Despite the skills showcased between two of the top three teams at the end, there must be a winner and a loser; in this case the Guardians.

This would bring us to the final games. It featured the Mercenaries playing a redemption game against the undefeated MSST Nola. This was the Mercenaries third game in a row. Despite being tired, they overcame the fatigue to defeat the MSST team.

"After that game, they kind of had our backs to the wall," said MSST coach Scott Strong.

After a short break, the umpire announced the start of the next game, "Play ball!"

If the earlier matchups of the day had been measured in inches, this one may have been measured in centimeters. Both teams were exhausted by the games they played. Not to mention the unrelenting heat of Cuba, and the constant tug of nerves that games like this are apt to bring. Despite these factors and despite this being the third game of this contest between the top two teams, players seemed to still be in high spirits. They often called out jokes between the teams, and neither side lacked motivation from the crowd or their teammates.

"It was nice to see everybody coming out here together, you know, just having some fun," said Wynter.

The game reached its conclusion with the MSST Nola team defeating the battle weary Mercenaries. Wynter then gathered both teams on the field for the t-shirt and trophy presentation ceremony. As the teams gathered for a picture, everyone was tired but still smiled and looked very happy.

"We recognize that people in hot zones don't have all the MWR opportunities we have," Strong mentioned afterwards. "We're always thinking about them, so when we can come out and enjoy something like this, it really lets us know how fortunate we are."

For those of you who did not participate (or maybe you did, but this event only served to feed your hunger for more softball) you might want to start looking for a team, as the next season begins on Oct. 14. If the notice for that is too short, look for an all-night one pitch tournament in November.

CHIEF PETTY OFFICER

Joseph Tolbert



Trooper Focus



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

Sit and picture this for a moment - Imagine you're running a 50-mile marathon. I know, for most of us that's a farfetched thought, but please bear with me.

Imagine you're running this marathon. You have been running through the night, up hills through woods, and with 40 miles already down, you have seen your hardest steps. Your whole body aches, your feet are blistered, but you can't stop now. To go along with this, you are completing the run with 11 other friends. You can't stop because they won't let you, and you won't let any of them stop either. It's the hardest thing any of you have had to endure, but somehow you are able to make it because you're together.

Now, out of nowhere, you trip and break your ankle. You're five miles from the finish line. You can't complete the run. You have to let your friends go ahead and finish without you. How would you feel?

This is exactly how Chief Petty Officer Joseph Henry Tolbert felt when he found out that he would need to take emergency leave a week shy of completing his chief induction process.

"A lot of things were going through my mind when I was told that I would be leaving right at the end like that. I wasn't really sure what was going to happen," Tolbert said about how he felt right after he was told he may be leaving.

He said it was like going from the induction process for the past five weeks at 120 miles per hour and then running into a brick wall.

"Almost surreal," he said.

The reason for Tolbert's quick evacuation was the news that his father had become gravely ill; a tough pill for anyone to swallow. Even tougher for Tolbert, who was in the midst of one of, if not the most important achievements of his naval career.

"Obviously, I had to take care of my family first, so even though I was unsettled with how everything was happening I knew I had to leave no matter what the consequence would be," Tolbert said.

Tolbert said he truly was able to see the Chief's Mess work during this experience. The brother and sisterhood that he was

being indoctrinated into, the place that he had strived to reach for his whole career, was exactly what he thought. It was a group of people with the same mindset and motivation - one that puts Sailors first - and that was evident with how they dealt with his situation.

"The Mess looked out for me throughout my ordeal. They made me feel a lot more comfortable with the situation by just assuring me that everything was going to be fine and the family business that I had to handle was definitely more important," Tolbert said. "I really appreciated them for the assurance that they gave me, and it was a huge load off to know that no matter what, I had people in my corner," he added.

Even though Tolbert did miss out on the last week of the process and the actual crowning day when the rest of his selectee group put on their anchors for the first time, he was not excluded from his own personal moment in the sun. Proving his strength of character, rather than just coming back and wearing the anchors, Tolbert went through his last week of the indoctrination alone. Tolbert said it wasn't quite the same, but it was something that he felt like he had to do.

"It was only right," he said. "I needed to finish it out strong. I went too far to let it finish out like that."

Once Tolbert finished out the week that he missed out on, a small ceremony was held where he was pinned and congratulated by his fellow chiefs and friends. The whole process proves the old phrase that it is always "better late than never."

Nothing has been more important to Tolbert than making the rank of chief petty officer, and it's the struggles that we all go through that make us better and stronger. If that holds true then he is definitely on his way to becoming a great leader.

"Through my career, every decision I have made hasn't been right, and being as though I was a second class (petty officer) for seven years, I can only attribute my success to my leadership," Tolbert said, explaining how he made it as far as he has.

Tolbert also said he's very proud to be in the position he's in now because it gives him the opportunity to give back. He always accepted the help and tutelage from his superiors and

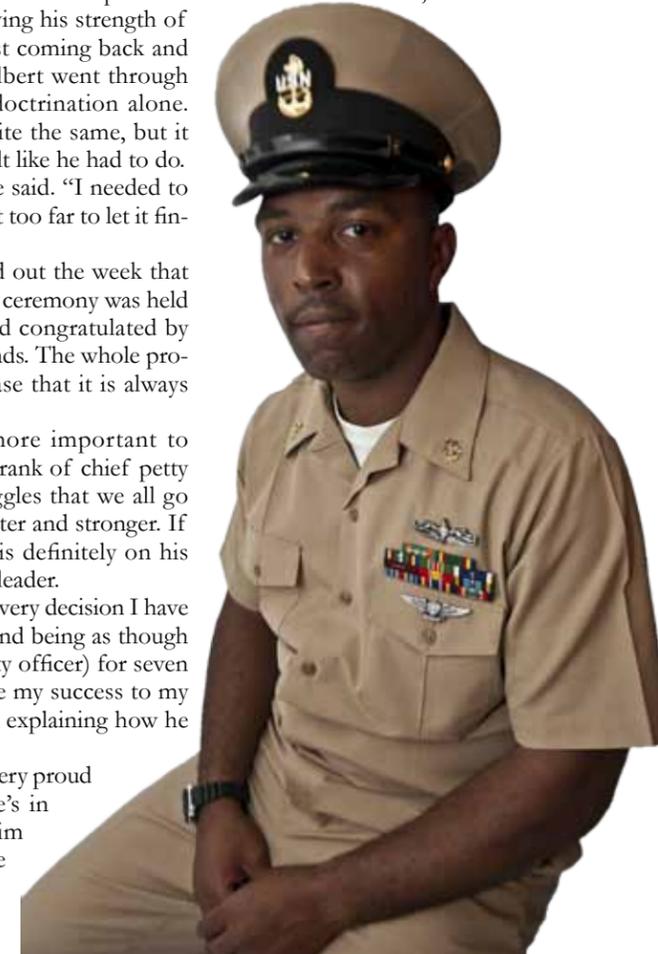
has attempted to help the men and women that he has been in charge of. Now as a chief, he will have the greatest opportunity to pay it all forward.

So is making chief at the 13-year mark the last step for Tolbert, or will he continue to push forward and strive for further excellence?

Tolbert insists that he can't concern himself with senior or master chief right now, being as though he has to take the time to learn how to be the best chief that he can be. He does admit that it's in the back of his mind.

"Just like I didn't expect to make chief so soon when I was a first class, I'm not going to expect anything now," Tolbert said. "I'm just going to work as hard as I can and do the best I can."

"As a chief it's not about me anymore, it's about my guys, so if they are successful then that's all that matters," he added.



MAKE SURE YOUR VOTE COUNTS



Cleanup just another day at the beach



Troopers help make Glass Beach more enjoyable for GTMO residents

Troopers from Joint Task Force Guantanamo who participated in Saturday's Beach Brigade cleanup at Glass Beach pose for a photo after completing their work. Troopers spent about a half hour Saturday morning picking up trash and debris from one of Naval Station Guantanamo Bay's several beaches.

Story and photos by Army Sgt. Jonathan Monfiletto

The Beach Brigade waged war yet again on Saturday morning, as the volunteer group came together for a second time in their fight to keep the beaches around Naval Station Guantanamo Bay clean.

This time around, Glass Beach was the battlefield where about a dozen or so volunteers brought out their plastic bags and gloves and picked up trash from one of GTMO's several beaches.

Different groups descended the stairs at Glass Beach, and some worked one end of the beach while others worked the other. With plastic bags in hand, volunteers kept a lookout for garbage and other debris on the beach and placed the trash in their bags.

They made quick work of it too, thanks to a beach that was already in pretty good condition.

The brigade started its work at 9 a.m., but the volunteers made their way back up the stairs to the parking lot at 9:30 a.m., and most of them left the area by 9:45 a.m.

Some volunteers hypothesized that someone must have beaten them to the cleanup.

"This beach was abnormally clean," Liberty Program manager Katie Stanley said. "Last month, we did Cable Beach, and Cable is always trashy."

She also said the brigade, which picks one beach per month to clean, was originally scheduled to clean Kittery Beach, but that beach is still closed.

Glass Beach was the backup plan.

"We still got a ton of trash," she said, pointing to a pile of plastic bags containing

garbage the volunteers found on the beach.

The plan for next month is to find a bigger beach so the volunteers will have more to clean and can spend more time taking care of the area.

Other than consulting with safety officials beforehand, the process for the Beach Brigade involves just picking a beach and letting the volunteers know when and where to meet.

"We create a clean beach," she said. "Everybody uses the beaches. We work hard to keep them clean."

The Liberty Program specifically serves unaccompanied active duty service members, both those stationed and deployed here, and Stanley said the Beach Brigade is just one of its offerings.

Troopers who are interested in joining the Liberty Program and getting involved with the Beach Brigade can call 2010 or for those on the Joint Task Force side of the island, visit the Camp America Liberty Center.

Those who are part of the brigade can log volunteer hours, and after participating in three beach cleanups, become eligible to receive t-shirts, coozies, and other giveaways.

While the Liberty Program helps Troopers stay occupied with a variety of activities during their time at GTMO, Stanley said the Beach Brigade specifically helps them get involved in their community as well.

"It's really important for the Liberty Program — we do so many fun things — that we do some community outreach," she said. "We provide that opportunity for them to be more involved with the community."



Troopers walk around Glass Beach looking for pieces of garbage and debris to clean up.



Troopers pick up trash from both the sand and the water in an effort to clean up Glass Beach.



Plastic bags that contain trash from Glass Beach sit in the parking lot waiting to be loaded up after the Troopers finished their work.

Trooper to Trooper

Reflection of building bonds

CHIEF HOSPITAL CORPSMAN SEAN LENNON

MEDICAL OPERATIONS CHIEF

It was May 1989 when I went to Boot Camp at Naval Recruit Training Command in Great Lakes, Ill., and I first experienced a bond of friendship that could only be built by serving the Armed Forces. Most of us were young kids who had never left home before. The shared experience of confusion, separation anxiety and the complete fear of the unknown bonded us together unconditionally. Toward the end of that experience we were working together as a team. We were all from different backgrounds and of different ethnicities, yet we really weren't that much different from each other. We were shipmates! I attribute those friendships we built to uniting us and guiding us through our first test of serving in the military.

As a Naval Hospital corpsman, I've had the fortunate experience of serving most of my career with the United States Marine Corps. Ask a Fleet Marine Force corpsman or a seasoned Marine and they will tell of the very special relationship between Marines and corpsmen. The leadership, structure and trust of one another that I learned from working with the Marines inspired and gave me added confidence and motivation to be a better role model and leader to my Sailors. I will cherish and be ever grateful for the time and energy spent by those who guided me to become a better person and leader for my Sailors. The bonds built within a Fleet Marine Force unit are thicker than I could have ever imagined. I reflect daily on those Marines and Sailors who I had the privilege to serve beside and thank them for their friendship and selfless sacrifices. Some gave the ultimate sacrifice and they will NEVER BE FORGOTTEN.

I was selected for chief petty officer and accepted into the Chief's Mess in 2010.



Becoming a chief in the United States Navy had been my goal since I joined the Navy and is a position I revere as sacred. To feel the bond with brothers and sisters across the world that may or may not personally know me, but will assist and guide you as a family member would, has me in awe to this day. I am constantly learning how to become a good chief and without the guidance of the Chief's Mess I could not succeed. The bonds within the Mess are evident every time I see chiefs together, and to be a witness to that unconditional bond gives me an indescribable sense of pride. I may not want to always hear my faults or the defects that I may have in my leadership abilities, or have a decision I have made be scrutinized, but it's meant to teach me from their experiences on how to be a better chief for my Sailors. The mentorship I have received by the Mess, Officers and junior Sailors I have worked with within the two years of becoming a chief, or as recent as the past five months,

has been humbling, inspiring and invaluable. Never be ashamed of criticism; we learn from those who have paved the path ahead and those you are paving the path for.

The past five and a half months I've been assigned to Joint Task Force Guantanamo and having never really experienced a large-scale joint environment like this, I am amazed on how well we work together. I have gone to Ferry Landing on occasion, whether work related or to say goodbye to a friend, and am always enlightened of the support I see of personnel who have built bonds with people from other branches of service saying goodbye, giving hugs or jumping off the pier in their honor. About three weeks ago I spoke with a Soldier, and I asked how they were doing. The Soldier replied, "ok, I am going to miss my friend who left today." The friend was an Airman who was retrograding back to the States. On another occasion I was speaking with another Soldier who was sharing with me some of his combat experience in a very mild, humbling manner, and as the conversation transpired his experience was really not so different than that of the Marines and Sailors I worked with. The Soldier and I realized the commonality between us, and it was its own special bond. We are all assigned here to support the mission together, and the bonds we build help accomplish that mission. Realizing that we all are sharing the same experiences such as family separation and work stressors, to name a few, helps us help each other.

Please take a moment on your own and reflect on the bonds that you have built. Regardless of how much time in service you have, you'll be surprised when the bonds you may have established reveal themselves. The military has an uncanny ability to bring people together. May we always cherish the experiences and people we have met in our careers while serving our country.

	12 FRI	13 SAT	14 SUN	15 MON	16 TUE	17 WED	18 THU
Downtown Lyceum	Frankenweenie (NEW) (PG) 8 p.m. Trouble with the Curve (PG-13) 10 p.m.	The Watch (NEW) (R) 8 p.m. Looper (R) 10 p.m.	Hotel Transylvania (PG) 8 p.m.	Moonrise Kingdom (Last Showing) (PG-13) 8 p.m.	Savages (Last Showing) (R) 8 p.m.	Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Dog Days (PG) 8 p.m.	Step Up Revolution (PG-13) 8 p.m.
Camp Bulkeley	The Watch (NEW) (R) 8 p.m. Savages (Last Showing) (R) 10 p.m.	Frankenweenie (NEW) (R) 8 p.m. Trouble with the Curve (PG-13) 10 p.m.	Looper (R) 8 p.m.	Step Up Revolution (PG-13) 8 p.m.	The Watch (NEW) (R) 8 p.m.	Moonrise Kingdom (Last Showing) (PG-13) 8 p.m.	Bourne Legacy (PG-13) 8 p.m.

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

GTMO RELIGIOUS SERVICES

For more information, contact the NAVSTA Chaplain's Office at 2323 or the JTF Chaplain's Office at 2309

NAVSTA MAIN CHAPEL

Daily Catholic Mass

Tues.-Fri. 5:30 p.m.

Vigil Mass

Saturday 5 p.m.

Mass

Sunday 9 a.m.

Spanish-language Mass

Sunday 4:35 p.m.

General Protestant

Sunday 11 a.m.

Gospel Service

Sunday 1 p.m.

Christian Fellowship

Sunday 6 p.m.

CHAPEL ANNEXES

Protestant Communion

Sunday 9:30 a.m. Room B

Pentecostal Gospel

Sunday 8 a.m. & 5 p.m. Room D

LDS Service

Sunday 10 a.m. Room A

Islamic Service

Friday 1 p.m. Room C

JTF TROOPER CHAPEL

Protestant Worship

Sunday 9 a.m.

Bible Study

Wednesday 6 p.m.

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 | Commissions OPSEC

Commissions are a time of increased focus on both NAVSTA and JTF-GTMO. It is important to remember that we will have an increase in media and other visitors to the base in support of this very important operation. Here are some OPSEC reminders – Always use the “need to know” principle. Do not talk about work related material outside of your work environment. Practice 100-percent shred with paper materials. Remember to stay clear of commission facilities and obey all posted restricted area and no photography signs. Do not engage in personal photography of military vehicles, facilities or operations. Protect our personnel, visitors and base while ensuring safe secure operations. Use OPSEC.

SAFE RIDE – 84781

COMBINED FEDERAL CAMPAIGN

SEPTEMBER 1ST TO DECEMBER 15TH

SERVE TO HONOR YOUR COUNTRY.

GIVE BECAUSE YOU CARE.

WWW.CFCOVERSEAS.ORG

CONTACT YOUR CFC REP FOR MORE DETAILS

