

THE WIRE

The official publication of

Force Guantanamo

Bataan remembered

Soldiers march to
commemorate heroism

New NCOs welcomed

525th MP Bn inducts new
junior leaders

Coming to grips with the UFC



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AND IN OUR PAGES



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Cover photo by Sgt. 1st Class Aaron Hiller

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BAY WIRE REPORT

Tour the Northeast Gate



The Marine Corps Security Forces Company offers tours of Guantanamo's Northeast Gate every third Friday of the month at 11 a.m.

Sign up at the Marine Hill Whitehouse. Space for the tour is limited to the first 100 people who register.

For more information, call the MCSFCO Operations Department at ext. 2279.

Hook, line and sinker

Guantanamo Bay's Liberty Center will host a night fishing trip Friday, Feb. 21, at the marina beginning at 6 p.m. Don't miss your chance to reel in the big one. Pre-registration required.

Sign up for the trip by contacting the Liberty Center at ext. 77421 or by email at liberty@gtmo-mwr.org.

Everyone's a winner

Marblehead Lanes will have gifts for the ladies Saturday, Feb. 15, from 6:30-9 p.m. just for enjoying a game of bowling. If she can break 100 in a single game, the bowling alley will give her a free box of chocolates.



MOTIVATOR

OF THE WEEK

SSgt. Amanda Watson
Joint Personnel Center

Sgt. Terrence Robinson
189th Military Police Company



CORRECTIONS Please report all corrections to thewire@jftgmo.southcom.mil



THE WIRE

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Religious Services

NAVSTA Chapel

Catholic Mass
Mon.-Thur. 5:30 p.m.
Saturday 5 p.m.
Sunday 9 a.m.

Protestant Services

General Protestant
Sunday 11 a.m.
Gospel Worship
Sunday 1 p.m.

Chapel Annexes

Pentecostal Gospel
Sunday 8 a.m. & 5 p.m.,
Room D

LDS Service
Sunday 10 a.m., Room 19

Islamic Service
Friday, 1:15 p.m., Room 2

Seventh Day Adventist
Friday, 7 p.m., Room 1
Sabbath School: Saturday 9:30 a.m.,
Room 1
Sabbath Service: Saturday 11:00 a.m.,
Room 1

JTF Trooper Chapel

Protestant Worship
Sunday 6:40 a.m.
Sunday 9 a.m.
Sunday 7 p.m.

Transportation Schedules

Bus #1, 2, 3:

Camp America - :00, :20, :40
Gazebo - :01, :21, :41
Camp America NEX - :02, :22, :42
Camp Delta - :04, :24, :44
TK 4 - :13, :33, :53
JAS - :14, :34, :54
TK 3 - :15, :35, :55
TK 2 - :16, :36, :56
TK 1 - :17, :37, :57
CC - :19, :39, :59
Windjammer/Gym - :22, :42, :02
Gold Hill Galley - :24, :44, :04
NEX - :26, :46, :06
NEX Laundry - :27, :47, :07
C Pool - :30, :50, :10
Downtown Lyceum - :31, :51, :11
NEX - :33, :53, :13
Gold Hill Galley - :35, :55, :15
Windjammer/Gym - :37, :57, :17
CC - :40, :00, :20
TK 1 - :41, :01, :21
TK 2 - :42, :02, :22
TK 3 - :43, :03, :23
TK 4 - :44, :04, :24
Camp 6 - :50, :10, :30
Camp Delta - :53, :13, :33
HQ Building - :55, :15, :35
Camp America NEX - :57, :17, :37
Gazebo - :58, :18, :38
Camp America - :00, :20, :40

NEX Express Bus

9:55 a.m. - 7:55 p.m.
Every hour at the stated times

Camp America - :55, :48
TK 1 - :05, :36
Denich Gym/Windjammer - :11, :31
Gold Hill Galley - :14, :29
NEX - :16, :27
Downtown Lyceum - :17, :25

Beach Bus

Sat. and Sun. only - Location #1-4
Windward Loop
9 a.m., 12 p.m., 3 p.m., 6 p.m.

East Caravella
SBOQ/Marina
9:05 a.m., 12:05 p.m., 3:05 p.m.

NEX
9:08 a.m., 12:08 p.m.,
3:08 p.m., 6:08 p.m.

Phillips Park
9:14 a.m., 12:14 p.m.,
3:14 p.m.

Cable Beach
9:17 a.m., 12:17 p.m.,
3:17 p.m.

Windward Loop
9:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m.,
3:30 p.m.

NEX
9:25 a.m., 12:25 p.m.,
3:25 p.m., 6:25 p.m.

SBOQ/MARINA
9:35 a.m., 12:35 p.m., 3:35 p.m.

Return to Office
9:40 a.m., 12:40 p.m., 3:40 p.m.

JOINT TASK FORCE GUANTANAMO



SAFE



HUMANE



LEGAL



TRANSPARENT



Leaders are not your fishing buddy

By **Command Sgt. Maj. Michael Borlin**

SEL, Joint Detention Group

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 who were looking forward to some cool helmet liners that read "MP," 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: "Oh, you think were fishing buddies," "What do I look like, your fishing buddy," or "Oh, were fishing buddies now, uh?" 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 nations 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." However, 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,



Command Sgt. Maj. Michael Borlin

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 aka "J.J. DID TIE BUCKLE."

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 indicates you are born with leadership skills. Seniors, peers and subordinates develop the skills that define a leader through education, experience and development. We educate our leaders to enable them

to respond effectively and operate independently in an uncertain, dynamic, and politically sensitive environment. Leaders must maintain technical and tactical competence as applicable in their career fields, keep informed of, and remain proficient in advances in information 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 subordinate's actions, and how those actions affect strategic goals of the Department of Defense and our nation.

Leaders are not "fishing buddies." Too 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, i.e. unbuttoned buttons on uniforms, needing

haircuts, trash in living areas, no headgear in uniform while in the housing areas, unauthorized sunglasses, etc; then what is the standard(s) that is the breaking point the "likership" leader will enforce? "Likership" has also been known to use someone else's rank or position to take the burden off themselves to carry out the order, i.e. "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, effectively operate to accomplish the mission, and will never earn a subordinates 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 11 August 1879, Major General 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, not everybody gets 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 are meeting set standards; eventually they will be called to task and when they cannot 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! Warrior 7

Dempsey recognizes Troopers

Story by Sgt. 1st Class Gina Vaile-Nelson

Editor, thewire@jtfgtmo.southcom.mil

Gen. Martin E. Dempsey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, presented five Joint Task Force Guantanamo Troopers with the Joint Service Achievement Medal Feb. 11, for their efforts in support of the JTF-GTMO mission.

Petty Officer 3rd Class Azzaria Diaz, Spc. Charles Guray, Spc. Clinton Noshish, Spc. Damond Robinson and Petty Officer 2nd Class Andrew Van Buskirk were honored in a ceremony outside of Camp 6.

"I couldn't express more, my appreciation, for the fact that you do extraordinarily challenging and important jobs with such professionalism every-day," Dempsey told the awardees and the JTF-GTMO Troopers in attendance.

"I am very proud to be the chairman of the joint chiefs, when I know that I have men and women like you out here for our nation," he said.

Van Buskirk, a hospital corpsman for the Joint Trooper Clinic said he was completely surprised

to receive the award from such a high-ranking official.

"This is not so much my medal, this represents everyone I've worked with, everyone who has accomplished the mission down here," he said.

Van Buskirk said Dempsey's visit and awards presentation provided an air of legitimacy to the important mission here.

"It increases the importance and shows there are higher levels watching down on us," he said.

The JSAM is presented for outstanding achievement or meritorious service and takes precedence before the achievement medals of the military services.



Photo by Sgt. Cassandra Monroe/The Wire

Army Gen. Martin E. Dempsey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, presents Spc. Charles Guray with a coin following a presentation of the Joint Service Achievement Medal Feb. 11. Dempsey presented five Troopers with the award.



Claudio awarded for excellence

Staff Report

thewire@jtfgtmo.southcom.mil

Paula Claudio was recently awarded the U.S. Army Contracting Command's Outstanding Contingency Contracting Civilian Award for excellence in acquisition and contracting in support of the Joint Task Force Guantanamo.

Indicators reveal the whole story

The small pieces of information that you put together, like puzzle pieces, are called indicators. While they may seem insignificant by themselves, they can be very revealing when pieced together; and they could compromise an operation.

Patterns such as lights turned on at certain times, movements from place to place and other indicators could provide adversaries with critical information.

Recognize and control your indicators. Be a hard target, and always use OPSEC.



Control access to your work space

When you get up to make a run to the printer, the head, the cube next door or to grab a cup of coffee, you must be secure with your work space, and take your CAC with you.

If your CAC is left in the reader while you're not at your work space, then you've invited anyone and everyone to browse your files. Not only could that mean you've given access to personnel who aren't on that need-to-know basis, but you've opened yourself up for others to visit unauthorized sites using your log-in. Be security aware, and control your access.

Information Assurance



Streep shines in a movie that could've been made at your kitchen table

Review by Sgt. Katherine Forbes
JTF-PAO, thewire@jftgmo.southcom.mil



“Lego” builds a world for all ages

Review by Sgt. David Bolton
Copy Editor, thewire@jftgmo.southcom.mil

“The LEGO Movie” pits the main character, Emmet Brickowski (Chris Pratt), against the struggle of being lost in a sea of yellow faces.



Courtesy Warner Brothers



Throughout the film, Emmet slowly realizes his full potential and discovers what it means to be “the special” -- a generic theme to most kid-friendly animation films.

Honestly, I really didn't have too many hopes for this movie. I figured, no pun intended, it would be a kids flick with stop-motion animation. I could not have been more pleased to be wrong.

Yes, there were some parts meant just for children, but the situational humor of the film is what really sold it. Between the amazing structures, Batman's (Will Arnett) great one-liners, and the Millennium Falcon swooping in, this movie was a true feast for the eyes. For rebuilding my faith in the plastic cubes, I give this movie five banana rats. 🍌

Beverly Weston (Sam Shepard) opens “August: Osage County” with a monologue about how life is long. He accepts the wounds he and his wife Violet (Meryl Streep) have inflicted on each other. Then, he disappears.

The rest of the movie centers around the reunion of his three daughters who come home to help find their dad. The past is dredged up. Secrets are exposed. Guilt and love intermingle throughout the well-crafted dialogue. An academy-nominated cast fills the screen with funny, sad and crazy scenes.

The strangest thing about this film is the writer, Tracy Letts, seems to have snuck into our own family reunions.



Courtesy Relativity Media

It's a film that lets us see our own lives through different eyes, and hopefully we can walk away wiser and with a better sense of humor. For making me smarter, or at least feel smarter, I give this film five banana rats. 🍌

“Monuments Men” offers awkward look at WWII history

Review by Sgt. 1st Class Gina Vaile-Nelson
Editor, thewire@jftgmo.southcom.mil



Courtesy Columbia Pictures

As an art lover, and fan of military history films, George Clooney's “The Monuments Men,” seemed like a good view. I mean, it has Bill Murray – in more than just a cameo – so that right there earned it two rats.

Alas, I expected too much. Too much from Clooney to direct and act; and too much of history to cram into one hour and 52 minutes.

It's based on a true story. Of seven artists and art historians picked to serve the United States military, and the world's interest, by stealing back stolen artwork from the Nazi's.

Filled with one-liners, and a few action scenes, the film tries

to cover entirely too much of the war, the art and the Soldier's lives. There is a terrific cast, but it falls short of delivering anything more than an awkward look into this mission.

But, it's got Bill Murray. And it's pretty historical. So for that, it gets three banana rats. 🍌

Hercules is nothing more than muscles and a few good scenes

Review by Sgt. Cody Stagner
JTF-PAO, thewire@jftgmo.southcom.mil



Courtesy Lions Gate Films

In “The Legend of Hercules,” mythical Greek hero Hercules (Kellan Lutz) is exiled by his stepfather, Amphitryon (Scott Adkins), a tyrannical king, for being in love with Princess Hebe (Gaia Weiss), who is

already betrothed to the ruler's first-born son, Iphicles (Liam Garrigan).

I enjoyed the computer-generated imagery of epic battles and landscapes, but the CGI was more on par with yesterday's video games rather than today's feature



films.

The script seemed forced, unwitting and awkward. You'll find several moments that mistakenly add comedic value instead of sympathy, fear or suspense as the scene intended.

I give this one two banana rats. 🍌

Army NCOs inducted at GTMO

Story and photos By Staff Sgt. Lorne Neff
 Staff Writer, thewire@jtfgtmo.southcom.mil

The Joint Detention Group held their quarterly Army noncommissioned officer induction ceremony in the Windjammer Ballroom Feb. 7, at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. The ceremony included 32 Soldiers from Joint Task Force Guantanamo units with featured guest speaker Army Command Sgt. Maj. Michael Borlin, JDG command sergeant major.

According to Sgt. 1st Class Llorito Todd, 591st Military Police company, and event organizer, the ceremony is for those who recently became an NCO, and is a historic ceremony designed to introduce them to the public.

“This is a tradition-rich ceremony,” said Todd. “There are some Soldier requests and charges during the ceremony where the Soldier is asked to be awesome. Then you have first sergeant charges where they ask the NCO to take charge. Yes, they may be lines, but they have meaning, and if they take them seriously, it is the outline of how an NCO should be.”

Each Soldier stepped forward during the ceremony, walking through the NCO archway for recognition.

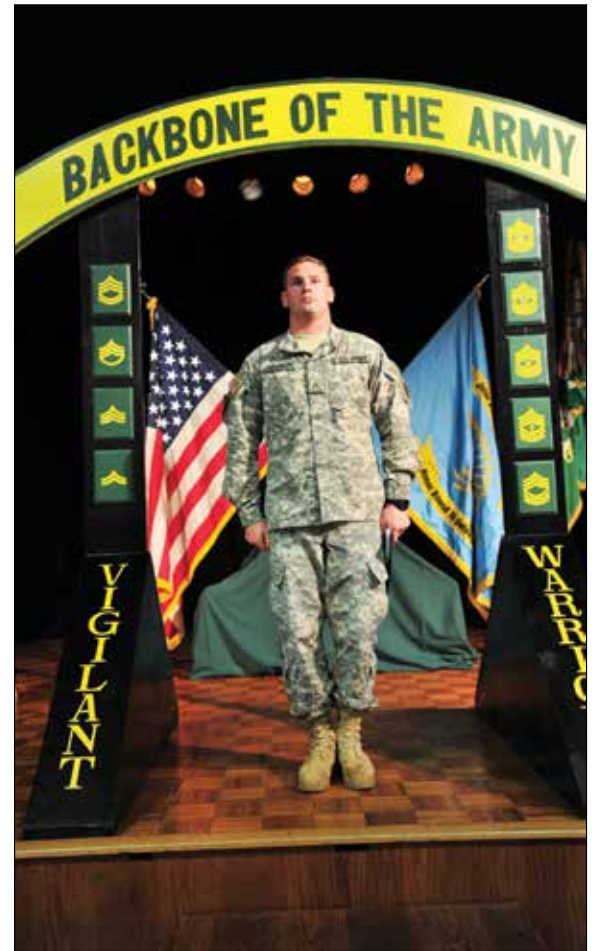
Borlin, during his speech, challenged the NCO’s to renew and

commit to the profession of arms, quoting from speeches by former Army Gen. Douglas MacArthur and Army Gen. John Schofield. He noted how his first NCO, his team leader, took him under his wing and pushed him to go to boards, lead physical training and get his education, so that he was soon surpassing his peers. He asked the inductees to do the same for their Soldiers.

“It’s a good feeling,” said Army Sgt. Jay Lenderman, military police with the 189th MP Co. “I’ve always considered myself a leader, even when I was a private, and now that I get to wear the stripes and be called an NCO. It feels good to be recognized by senior leadership.”

“It’s a proud moment for these guys, just like anyone who goes through an NCOES school, or basic and Advanced Individual Training, this is a ceremonial rite of passage to say ‘I am an NCO,’” said Todd.

The ceremony concluded with all NCOs in the crowd reciting the Army NCO Creed, singing the military police regimental march and Army song. 🎖️



Army Sgt. Jay Lenderman, military police, 189th MP Co., walks through the Noncommissioned Officer Gateway during the NCO Induction Ceremony Feb. 7, at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. The induction ceremony included 32 Army sergeants from the Joint Task Force.



An Army first sergeant charges the new inductees to take responsibility as Non Commissioned Officers. The induction ceremony included 32 Army Sergeants from the Joint Task Force.

Call the Movie Hotline at ext. 4880 or visit the MWR Facebook page for more information
 Stay classy, GTMO! No ALCOHOL or TOBACCO at the Lyceums!

Now Showing!
 at the Downtown and Camp Bulkeley Lyceums

DOWNTOWN

14	FRIDAY	15	SATURDAY	16	SUNDAY	17	MONDAY	18	TUESDAY	19	WEDNESDAY	20	THURSDAY
Ride Along (New) PG13, 7 p.m. The Notebook R, 9 p.m.	Robocop (New) PG13, 7 p.m. August: Osage County R, 9:15 p.m.	The Nut Job PG, 6:30 p.m. The Lego Movie PG, 8:15 p.m.	Grudge Match (LS) PG13, 7 p.m.	47 Ronin (LS) R, 7 p.m.	The Monuments Men PG13, 7 p.m.	The Legend of Hercules PG13, 7 p.m.	Robocop (New) PG13, 8 p.m. When Harry Met Sally R, 10:15 p.m.	Ride Along (New) PG13, 8 p.m. August: Osage County R, 10 p.m.	47 Ronin (LS) PG13, 8 p.m.	Lyceum closed Note: Concessions at Camp Bulkeley are also closed every night until further notice.	The Legend of Hercules PG13, 8 p.m.	Lyceum closed Note: Concessions at Camp Bulkeley are also closed every night until further notice.	The Monuments Men PG13, 8 p.m.

CAMP BULKELEY



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Aaron Hiler/The Wire

UFC fighter, watches as Guantanamo Bay detainees techniques at Denich Gym, Feb. 4.

own limitations. And not to be imitations.”

as the chance to practice fighter was a bucket list item now it was something distinctive that do not typically get to do during athlete tours.

comes here, he’s not gonna If an NBA player comes here, hoops with you,” said light Kyle Kingsbury. “We are here s. For everyone that gets on will get one these shiny black submit Nate Quarry, he will give back.”



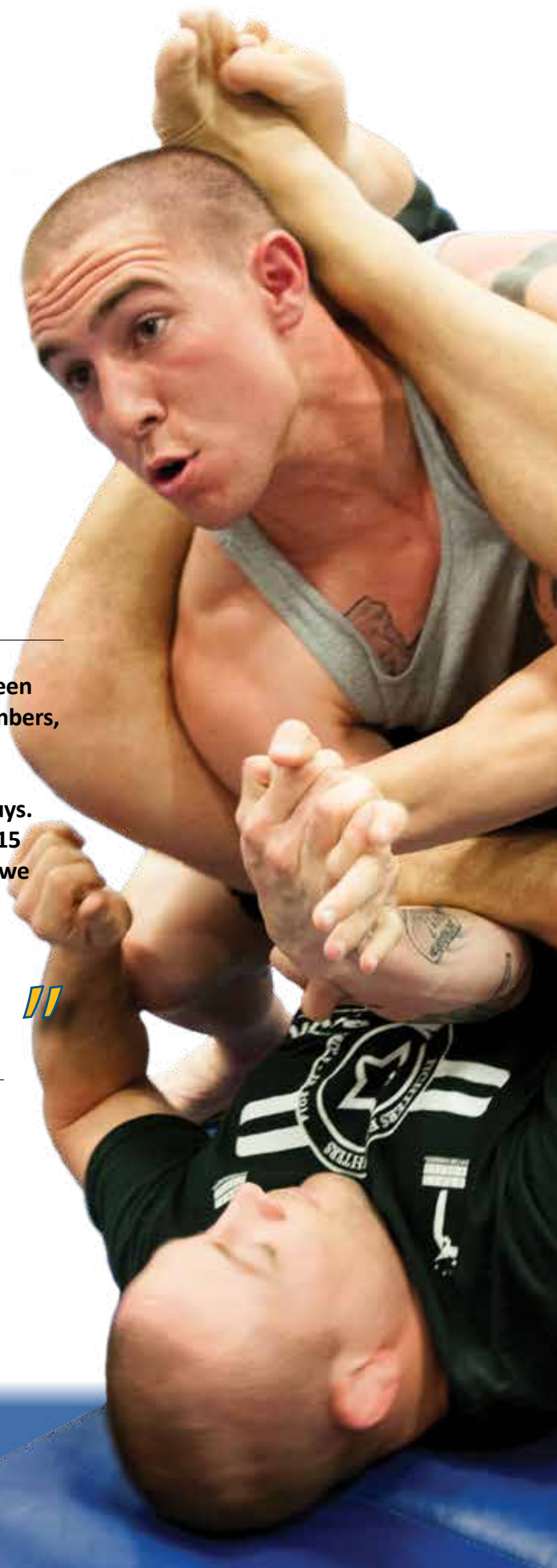
Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Aaron Hiler/The Wire

ggsbury sweeps his opponent’s leg around as he rring a demonstration of combatives techniques at gym, Feb. 4.



There are some parallels between MMA fighters and Service members, but you guys are the real deal. You guys are in war zones, you are dealing with serious bad guys. We’re just locked in a cage for 15 minutes. The real difference is we don’t have bullets flying at our heads, just punches and kicks.

— **Mike Pierce**
UFC mixed martial artist





Army Sgt. Jay Lenderman, right, military police with the 189th Military Police Company, 525th Military Police Battalion, runs past an opponent during the 525th's Bataan Memorial Death March tryouts, Feb. 7, at U.S. Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. The goal of Soldiers who participated in the tryouts was to earn a spot on the five-person team that the 525th will send to the annual Bataan Memorial Death March in White Sands, N.M.

Marching through the GTMO hills

Soldiers compete for spot at Bataan Memorial Death March

Story and photos by Sgt. Cassandra Monroe

Staff writer, thewire@jtfgtmo.southcom.mil

Soldiers with the 525th Military Police Battalion ruck marched their way through the hills of U.S. Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, Feb. 5-7, during the 525th's Bataan Memorial Death March tryouts.

The tryouts were held in order to put together a team of five to send to the march held March 23, in White Sands, N.M.

The Bataan Memorial Death March is held once a year and consists of a 26.2 mile course and a 14.2 mile route. The course is a challenging march through difficult desert terrain and is conducted in honor of the heroic actions made by Service members who defended the Philippine Islands during World War II, many of which sacrificed their freedom and their lives.

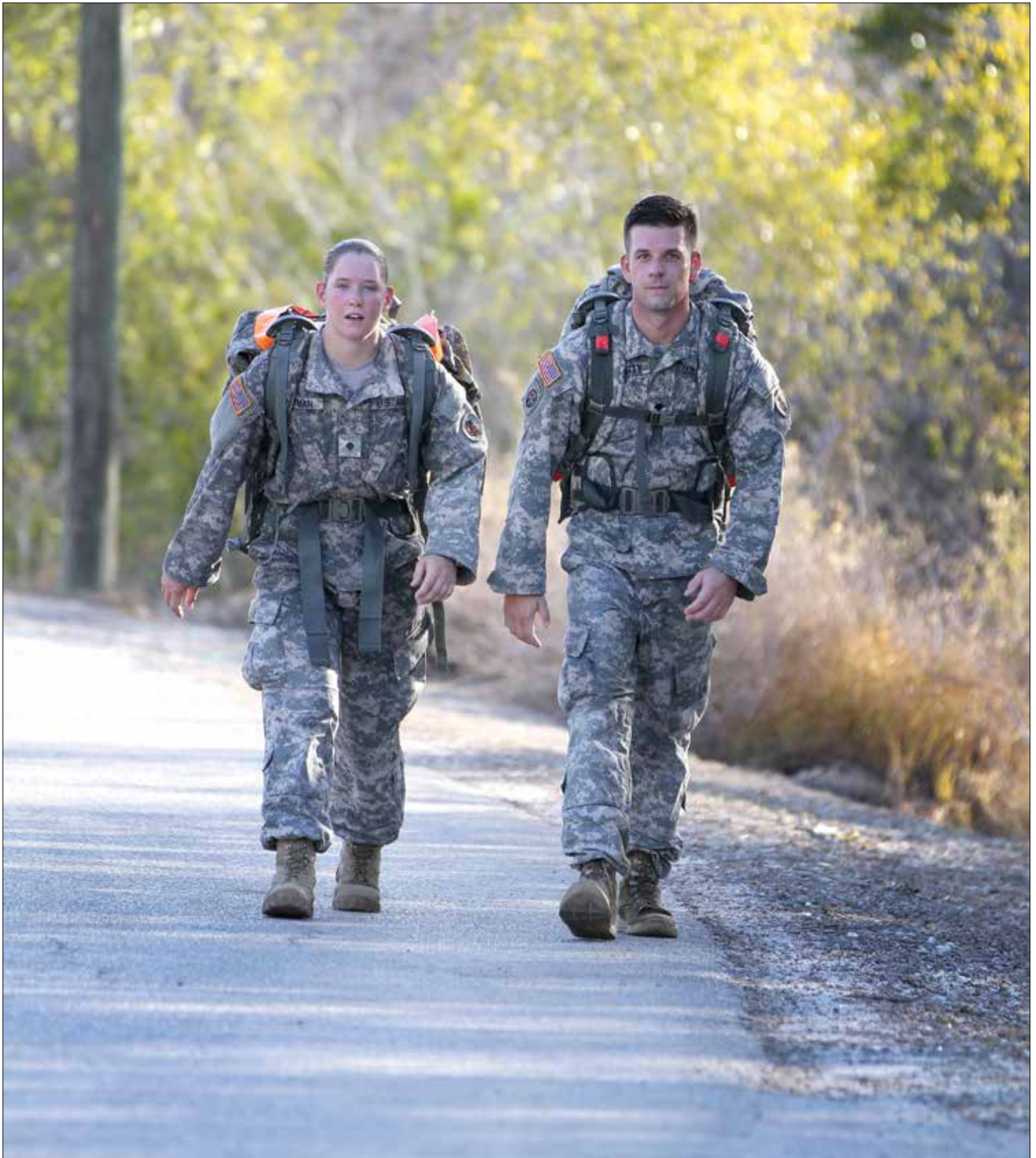
"I think that this event pays tribute to the fallen men that suffered at the Bataan so many years ago," said Sgt. 1st Class Craig Webb, operations noncommissioned officer for Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 525th MP BN. "For Soldiers to go out knowing a little bit of the history of this, and the 'why,' makes it even more important."

The 525th Soldiers took a trek through the base, starting and ending at the 525th headquarters. Throughout the route the participants marched to the top of John Paul Jones hill, across the ridgeline trail, and along the winding road to Windmill beach.

"Planning the route took time and a lot of thought and effort," said Webb. "I wanted to make the course challenging and tough enough to weed out the Soldiers that were not serious about this. I walked this course four times prior to the event and it's tough."

The goal for the tryouts was to see which Soldiers would finish the race the fastest and place in the first five slots. The weight of their ruck also went into the determining factor. The weight of the ruck must pass as the same weight before the march began.

Thirty total Soldiers, 28 male and two female, participated in the march. The Soldiers that placed and will be sent to the death march in New Mexico are as follows: From first place to fifth place, Sgt. Ryan Padgett, HHC, 525th MP BN; Staff Sgt. Michael Ovalles, 491st Military Police Company; First Lt. Daniel Baker, HHC, 525th MP BN; 2nd Lt. Cody Simula (female), 189th MP Co.; and Sgt. Terrence Robinson, 189th MP Co.



Spc. Crystal Pittman, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 525th Military Police Battalion, and Spc. Adam Leighty, enlisted aide to the Joint Detention Group commander, also with HHC, 525th MP BN, march in a battle buddy team during the 525th's Bataan Memorial Death March tryouts, Feb. 7, at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. The goal of Soldiers who participated in the tryouts was to earn a spot on the five-person team that the 525th will send to the annual Bataan Memorial Death March in White Sands, N.M.

A previous team from the 525th placed first in the military co-ed heavy-weight (ruck) division. This new team will be competing in the same category this year.

For Padgett, placing first in the

tryouts meant representing his company positively.

“It makes me feel proud, I was glad I was able to [place first,]” he said.

“Hopefully we can win again this year. It’s a good chance to meet other people

from our organization, other officers, noncommissioned officers, and Soldiers of different MOS’s and skill sets. I think it’s a unique experience to be able to go especially from somewhere like Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.”

Sweethearts

4ever
4 mile

Troopers share heart-healthy dates from afar

By Staff Sgt. Lorne Neff

Staff Writer, thewire@jtfgtmo.southcom.mil

Thirty runners pressed foot to pavement the morning of Feb. 7, to run four miles around Joint Task Force Guantanamo.

As fun runs go, this was a sweetheart of a race.

The run was coordinated by Navy Lt. Cmdr. Cynthia Holland, deputy director for personnel and manpower. Her husband, Guy, ran the Fredericksburg, Va., "Sweethearts 4ever 4 mile run" the same day.

"I wanted to open it up to couples and others who are separated and enjoy running," said Holland. "I just thought it would be a special tribute to all the sweethearts who are separated by the deployment."

Holland said doing the run was actually her husband's idea, but it blossomed to a community-wide event for the JTF.

"This is my second deployment and I'm running with my daughter who is an Army nurse," said Coast Guard reservist, Lt. Cmdr. James Lovenstein, engineering officer for the Marine Security Detachment. His daughter, Olivia, is a nursing student at the University of New Hampshire. She ran the campus.

"Being able to do a race together, although many miles away, it was a great experience to know that we were doing

something together," said Olivia, via e-mail.

"I sure wish I was running in the warm sunshine. I had to deal with the 20 degrees, snow and slush-filled streets of New Hampshire," she said.

Not everyone's Valentine had to run in the cold weather.

"I told my husband I signed up for it;

he's my sweetheart and told him that he could walk it if he wanted to," said Navy reservist, Petty Officer 2nd Class Janice Mason, a request for information manager for the JTF. "They have an inside track at Little Rock Air Force Base, so he's walking the four miles with me. He's with me in spirit."

Scott Mace, a JTF team member, didn't have to be separated from his family; he ran with his 10-year-old daughter, Sydney.

"I came out to support the troops and do the run with her, she's my sweetheart," said Mace.

Even the winner, Coast Guard Reservist, Lt. Josue W Roman, a support officer with the MARSECDET, had long distance support. His friend and her sister said they would run four miles in upstate New Hampshire. Roman finished the race in 27 minutes.

Finishing behind Roman, in second place, was Air Force Capt. Preston Goodrich, officer in charge for the Joint Personnel Center, with a time of 29:13, and Marine Sgt. Maj. Juan Hidalgo Jr., JTF GTMO senior enlisted leader, finished third with a time of 29:28.

"This was a true joint experience," said Holland, who noted that the fourth and fifth place finishers were Navy and Army, marking all five services in the top five spots.

Holland gave the top finishers ceramic medals she made herself. 🍪



Photo by Staff Sgt. Lorne Neff/The Wire

Scott Mace, a Joint Task Force Guantanamo team member, ran the "Sweethearts 4-ever four-mile run" with his 10-year-old daughter, Sydney, Feb. 9, at Camp America, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. The run shadowed a similar event in Fredericksburg, Va. the same morning.



Navy Reservist Lt. Cmdr. Allen Linken and his wife Lauren form a heart that linked Cuba and Connecticut Feb. 9.



Coast Guard Lt. Cmdr. James Lovenstein and his daughter, ROTC Cadet Olivia Lovenstein, pose for post-race pics at GTMO and snowy New Hampshire



Guardsmen represent U.S. at Sochi Olympics

Staff Report

Compiled by reports from DoD News Services

With 230 athletes picked to represent the United States Olympic Team, nine of them also wear the U.S. Army uniform. And of that small team of Warriors, eight are Citizen Soldiers assigned to National Guard units in New York, Kentucky, Utah and South Carolina.

When the American bobsled barrels down the ice this weekend, it will carry New York Guardsmen Sgt. Justin Olsen, 26, a 2010 bobsledder and gold medalist; 2010 Olympic bobsledder Sgt. Nick Cunningham, 27, and Kentucky National Guardsman Sgt. Dallas Robinson, 31. The sled will also have 2010 Olympic bobsledder Capt. Christopher Fogt, 30, on board.

The luge team includes 2006 Olympic luger Sgt Preston Griffall, 29, a Utah National Guardsman and Sgt. Matt Mortensen, 28, a New York Guardsman.

The coaching staff includes New Yorkers Staff Sgt. Bill Tavares, who will make his sixth Olympic appearance; Virginia National Guardsman 1st Lt. Michael Kohn, a two-time competitor and debut as assistant bobsled coach; and skeleton coach Sgt. 1st Class Tuffield "Tuffy" Latour of the Vermont National Guard.

For Mortensen, the journey to the Olympics has taken more than half of his life.

"I have been actively trying to make this Olympic team for 16 years now," he said.

Mortensen credits his military training with helping him reach his goal of becoming an Olympian.

Being competitive at this level of sport takes commitment, motivation, and hard work, Mortensen said. And he was up to that challenge.

As a soldier, an athlete, and as an individual, "it is an incredible honor to be representing the United States in the Olympics," he said. 🇺🇸



Meals with monroe

Who's looking for a delicious side dish? These Loaded Hasselback Potatoes make a perfect side dish for your weeknight dinner (or are just as delicious on their own, for you carb-o-holics.) I used Chung-Ah's recipe at www.damndelicious.com (GREAT website for really simple but delicious recipes) for inspiration for each delightful loaded bite of these potatoes.

Preheat oven to 400 F.

Using a sharp knife, make cross-wise cuts in each potato, (you'll need 4 **russet potatoes**,) about 1/8-inch apart, stopping about 1/4 inch from the bottom.

Add **butter slices** to between the cuts; season with **salt and pepper**, to taste.

Transfer potatoes to a baking sheet. Place into oven and bake until the outsides are browned and crisp, about 1 hour.

Spread 1 cup of **shredded cheese** between all of the potatoes, and bake until melted, an additional 5 minutes.

Heat a large skillet over medium high heat. Add 4 slices **bacon**, and cook until brown and crispy, about 6-8 minutes. Transfer to a paper towel-lined plate. After they're cool, dice the bacon into bits.

Serve potatoes immediately, topped with sour cream, diced bacon and chives- or add extra cheese, like I do. Cheese is the best!



Loaded Hasselback Baked Potatoes



p.s. **(one last thing)**

I want to hear from you! Did you try my recipe and loved it? Did you try my recipe and hated it? Well... that's too bad but email me anyways!

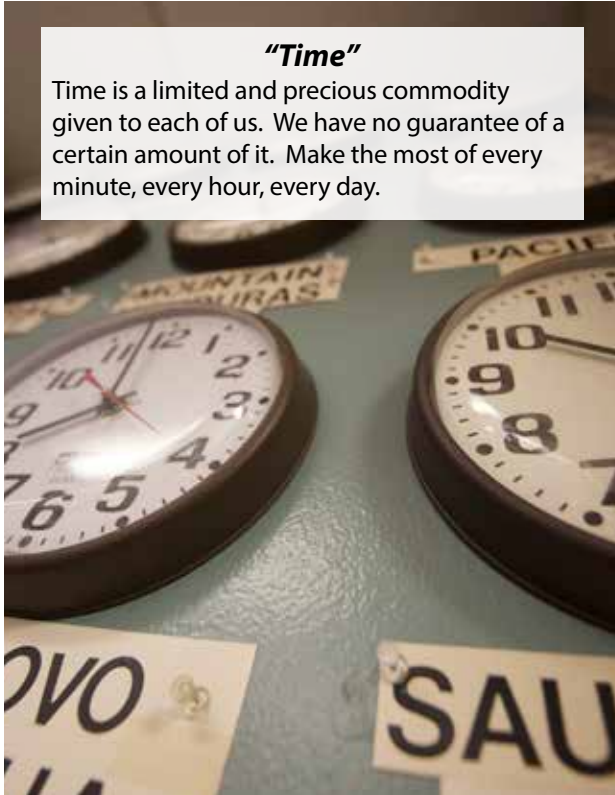
If you have a recipe you'd like for me to try, **contact me!** cassandra.l.monroe@jtfgtmo.southcom.mil

As my deployment comes to a close, I just want to thank the Guantanamo Bay community for all of their support for these meals! It was a really fun column to write and take part of. As I redeploy home, feel free to find me on pinterest or twitter and follow my journey with food and recipes!

Chaplain's WORD OF THE WEEK
 ext. 2218

"Time"

Time is a limited and precious commodity given to each of us. We have no guarantee of a certain amount of it. Make the most of every minute, every hour, every day.



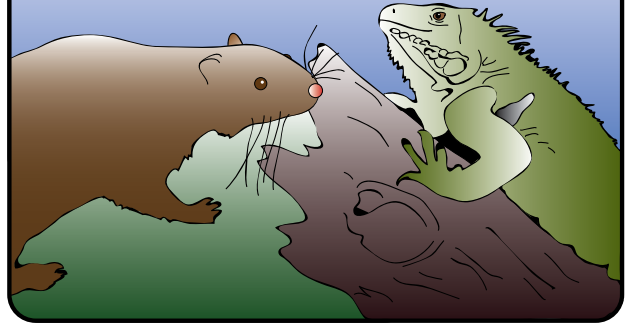
Air Force photo by David Bedard/DVIDS

THE DIVE

By Army Sgt. Kenneth Tucceri

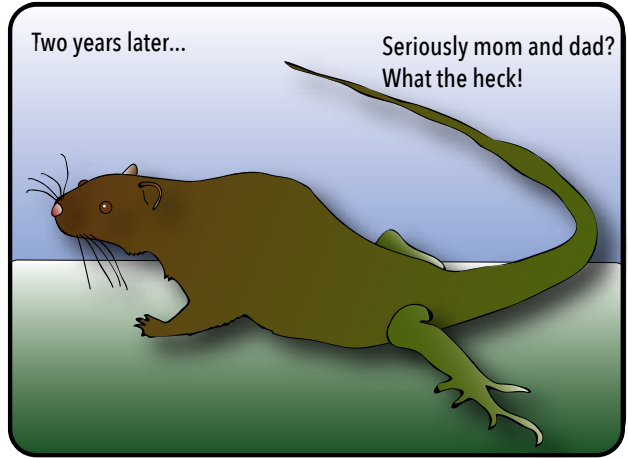
Happy Valentine's Day Iggy. I love you!

I love you too B. Rat! Happy Valentine's Day.



Two years later...

Seriously mom and dad? What the heck!



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THE WIRE
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Sgt. 1st Class Gina Vaile-Nelson



Sgt. Cassandra Monroe



Spc. Lerone Simmons



The staff of "The Wire" would like to thank all the Service members who have allowed us into their lives. We have enjoyed watching your dedication and appreciate being able to tell your story. Thank you!



Capt. Brian Pennington



Sgt. 1st Class Aaron Hiler



Staff Sgt. Lorne Neff



Sgt. David Bolton



**B
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E**

The Bowling & Burger Bar will be holding its Grand Opening on **Thursday, February 20 at 11 a.m.** at the Marblehead Lanes. Come out and see our new menu!



Army Sgt. Katie Higgins caught this sea turtle as it emerged from the coral reef and headed for Girl Scout Beach, Jan. 26.

PHOTO OF THE WEEK

Send your best photos to thewire@jftgmo.southcom.mil