

# Tropical Times

Serving the Footprint of Freedom



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U.S. Navy Support Facility, Diego Garcia, B.I.O.T.

December 19, 2003

## Republic of Korea Air Force dedicates memorial

Story by JO2 Jeffrey Fretland  
*Navy Support Facility Public Affairs*

The Republic of Korea Air Force (ROKAF) dedicated a memorial Dec. 10 to commemorate its participation in Operation Enduring Freedom. Members of the ROKAF, U.S. Navy, U.S. Air Force and British Royal Marines unveiled the monument during a brief ceremony next to the NSF Diego Garcia command building.

NSF Commanding Officer, Capt. Gary Cooper, British Representative, Cmdr. Neil Hinch, 40<sup>th</sup> Air Expeditionary Group Commanding Officer, Air Force Col. Timothy Leaptrott, and ROKAF 57<sup>th</sup> Air Lift Group Detachment Commanding Officer, Maj. Seong Ju Kim each pulled a corner of a large white sheet covering the memorial, displaying it for the many international military representatives in attendance.

The memorial's dedication, in addition to the deactivation ceremony of the ROKAF's C-130 Hercules detachment Dec. 11, marked the termination of the 57<sup>th</sup> Air Lift Group's missions on Diego Garcia, said ROKAF Capt. Gwangho Jin. The 57<sup>th</sup> Air Lift Group detachment served alongside its American and British counterparts from 2001-2003.

"We want everyone to know the Republic of Korea's contributions to fighting the war on terror," said Jin. "We joined OEF to help keep the security and maintain world peace."

During the detachment's tenure, it supported 81 C-130 missions from Diego Garcia to Singapore and South Korea, moving nearly 700,000 pounds of cargo and over 600 passengers.

The 2,000-pound marble memorial is designed in the shape of an eagle, with a circle designating the eye at the top, and the bottom signifying wings. The eagle design symbolizes bravery and steadfastness during war, and is meant to recognize Air Force contributions of the Republic of Korea, United States and Great Britain, said Jin.

A plaque mounted on the face of the memorial pays tribute to American and British servicemembers, and the Republic of Korea's assistance in fighting terrorism as part of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Kim Sang Doo, a prominent Korean sculptor based in Seoul, created the memorial.



SK1(AW) Garry Beton observes the newly dedicated war memorial adjacent to Navy Support Facility Diego Garcia. The monument was donated in honor of the Republic of Korea Air Force, American and British servicemembers stationed around the world by the Republic of Korea. Photo by JO2 Scott New, Naval Media Center.

## Residents Savor Christmas Program

By JO2 Jeffrey Fretland  
*Navy Support Facility Public Affairs*

Island residents celebrated Christmas cheer Sunday when several military and civilian personnel participated in a holiday program featuring familiar music, and the telling of the Christmas story. The concert drew over 200 spectators to the Fil-Mau Club.

Patrons enjoyed a four-course meal catered by the United Seaman's Service Organization before the program.

Backed by a four-piece band, the choir opened the show performing "The First Noel." They also sang "Angels we have Heard on High," "Silent Night," "We Three Kings" and several other traditional carols. Narrators JOSN Heather Schory, Naval Me-

dia Center, and LCDR Casey Brennan, Branch Medical Clinic Diego Garcia, relayed the Gospel of Luke depicting the birth of the Christ child.

Local actors provided the backdrop, complete with Mary, Joseph, angels, shepherds, and wise men.

Chaplain Jay Kersten, writer and director,

See "Christmas" Page 5

## Cultural awareness enhances terrorism fight

Story by MA1 Nathaniel Laxa  
Physical Security Specialist, NSF Diego Garcia

"Join the Navy and see the world for free," states an old recruiting poster in the early seventies. Though the Navy has changed their slogan, our sailors still travel far beyond the territorial boundaries of the United States. We are committed in implementing international maritime law, as well as protecting American interests at home and abroad. In that aspect, we continually send our troops to far-flung areas of the globe.

To remind our sailors and their families of our strong ties with other countries, most of our allies have drafted and passed the SOFA (Status of Forces Agreement). This agreement shows us our responsibilities while stationed overseas. One of those responsibilities is to abide by our host country's culture and local laws. Cultural awareness plays a vital role in our fight against terrorism. By learning our host nation's culture, we show respect and understanding to their national identity.

In foreign lands, we are able to adapt to our environment by blending with the community and becoming America's ambassadors-at-large. A good relationship creates harmony for all nations. By following local rules and regulations, we reflect the values of democracy to our neighbors.



*PH1(AW) Eric Schwab (center) is brought up from the water by JO2 Scott New and Chaplain Brian Jacobson (right) during his baptism in the lagoon Saturday morning. (Photo by JOSN Heather Schory, Naval Media Center)*

### ***Tropical Times***

#### ***United States Navy Support Facility Diego Garcia***

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**Submissions are due to the editor by noon every Wednesday.**

Inputs may be submitted via guard mail, in person, or e-mail at [fretland.dg.navy.mil](mailto:fretland.dg.navy.mil). All submissions are subject to editing for length, content and to conform to Associated Press and local style guidelines. Submission of information does not guarantee it will be published.

## Community Updates

- Please be sure to refrain from leaving cooking appliances on and/or unattended inside all BEQ and BOQ rooms and lounges. Always be cautious when using electrical appliances, and take proper actions to avoid fire hazards in living quarters.
- You now have the opportunity to view local news, photographs and community information at Navy NewsStand online at <http://news.navy.mil/local/nmcdg/>.
- The Community Bank and NFCU will be closed on Saturday, Dec 20.
- There will no daily Catholic Mass at the Chapel in the Palms until the the arrival of Chaplain Al Concha next week. A designated Lay Leader will hold Communion services on Saturday, Dec. 20 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 21 at 8:30 a.m.
- Congratulations to the following winners in the Festival of Trees competition Friday, Dec. 12: 1st Place-Peacekeeper Inn, 2nd Place-OPG/OCEA, 3rd Place-DG 21 Finance/IT Dept., and 4th Place-BOCS Galley and NSF Supply.
- Don't miss the Christmas Bingo Bonanza Sunday, Dec. 21st at 5:00 p.m. in the Island Room, Half Time Sports Bar and Acey Duecey Lounge. Packages can be purchased for \$19 before Dec.21, and for \$25 on the day of the game. A \$8,400 total payout includes a jackpot prize of \$3,000. Tickets can be purchased at all MWR outlets.
- Come and join Santa Claus for breakfast at the Peacekeeper Inn Saturday, Dec. 20 from 8:00-noon. The menu consists of pancakes, muffins, scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, toast, butter/jam, and assorted beverages. Pot dolls will be given away to early patrons.
- In an effort to improve dissemination of flight information to its customers, PAX Terminal has established an answering machine service that will be regularly updated with emergent changes to the passenger flight schedule. The phone number is 370-2795. Please utilize this service and provide feedback to Terminal Customer Service. Also listen for changes to passenger flight schedules on 99.1 and 101.9 FM.
- Come and join the CREDO Personal Growth Workshop from Jan. 8-11. To sign up, contact the Chapel in the Palms at 370-4601.

*To submit ads or updates, send an e-mail to [fretlandj@dg.navy.mil](mailto:fretlandj@dg.navy.mil). Items will be listed for two weeks unless extended.*

## Holiday safety: Tips for keeping your season merry

By LT Billie Coley

Branch Medical Clinic Diego Garcia

The holiday season is in full swing. It is a time to be thankful for what we have and anticipate the joy that the future will bring.

Below is a list of safety tips published by the health promotions department at Naval Hospital Jacksonville, Florida. These tips pertain to toys, holiday decorations and holiday food. Please read them and share the warnings with family and friends back home.

### Tips for toys:

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), most toy-related injuries involve lacerations, abrasions, and bruises followed by swallowing a foreign body (such as a piece of the toy), fractures or dislocations, and sprains and strains.

To reduce the risk of toy-related injuries, the CDC advises consumers buying toys to:

- Check the age and safety-related warnings on toys, and strictly adhere to them, especially when buying toys for young children.
- Select toys to match the abilities, skill, and interest level of the child.
- Avoid buying toys that have small parts or that may break into small parts, especially for very young children.
- Avoid buying toys that have sharp edges, points, or heating elements.
- Consider the age level of all children at home when purchasing toys. Toys intended for older children should be stored out of the reach of younger children. Check which toys require adult supervision and strictly follow all instructions.
- Demonstrate the safe use of the toy when it is first introduced to the child, and give occasional reminders. Show the child how to safely put away and store the toy, paying attention to safe accessibility.

-Check toys periodically for breakage and loose, small parts. Repair or discard any such toys.

If your child receives a bicycle, roller blades, a skateboard, or other such as a present, be sure a helmet, or other safety equipment is included as well. Get your children into the habit of never riding a bike or skating without wearing a helmet, or safety equipment. Remember, children look to their parents, so be sure you're always wearing one as well.

### Tips for holiday decorations:

Strings of decorative lights are dazzling to all who view them. They can be enticing to young child as well. Take care not to leave them accessible to young hands, as they may find their way into their mouths or around their necks. Cords and plugs should be kept hidden and not left dangling. Avoid overloading outlets and run extension cord along the walls, not across the room or under a rug. Use electrical tape to secure the cords.

Your tree or other large decorative objects should be firmly secured. Placing your tree in a wide-based stand will help prevent it from falling over if bumped into or pulled on by your child, or even your pet. Be careful where you place the ornaments on the tree. They may find their way into the mouths or around the necks of young children.

Gathering your family and friends around a crackling fire, or burning a lot of candles in a room to create a warm atmosphere is inviting, but it also presents a safety hazard as well. Always use a fireplace screen. Keep young children and pets away from burning fires or flames.

Place your holiday decorations away from burning candles and don't let them burn when you are out of the room. Fire safety also includes keeping your tree well watered and clearing out any dry needles, plants, or flowers.

Several flowers and plants commonly used as decorations can be dangerous. For example, the berries found on holly sprigs and

See "Safety" page 5

## Galley Menu Dec. 20 - Dec. 26

	<u>Lunch</u>	<u>Dinner</u>		<u>Lunch</u>	<u>Dinner</u>
<b>Saturday</b>	Beanie Weenies Thick Crust Pizza <i>Speedline:</i> Submarine Sandwich	Chicken Cacciatore Baked/Fried Fish Portions Baked Macaroni and Cheese	<b>Wednesday</b>	Pork Adobo Philippine Pancit <i>Speedline:</i> BLT Sandwich	<b>American Night</b> Corn Chowder BBQ Spareribs Honey Glazed Cornish Hen
<b>Sunday</b>	Minute Steak Creole Macaroni <i>Speedline:</i> Ham Salad Sandwich	Creole Soup Turkey Pot Pie Roast Ham	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Christmas Brunch</b> Minute Steak Fishwich Lasagna	<b>Christmas Dinner</b> Roast Rib of Beef Roast Tom Turkey Virginia Baked Ham
<b>Monday</b>	Cajun Roast Beef Fish Florentine <i>Speedline:</i> Fried Burritos	Tomato Bisque Soup Pork Chop Suey Cranberry Glazed Chicken Breast	<b>Friday</b>	Turkey Ala King/Biscuits Simmered Franks <i>Speedline:</i> Tacos	Teriyaki Baked Chicken Barbecued Beef Cubes Boiled Pasta
<b>Tuesday</b>	New England Clam Chowder Fajitas/Salsa <i>Speedline:</i> BBQ on Bun	New England Stuffed Clams Swiss Steak Egg Drop Soup	*Heart healthy items. Reminder to CDF patrons: meal pass must be visually sighted at the sign-in desk. No smoking areas will be enforced. Due to unforeseen circumstances, it may be necessary to provide substitutions for food items not in stock or to permit the use of perishables.		



# Personal Growth Retreat, CREDO offered next month

By Chaplain Matthew Warnke  
*NSF Chapel*

**T**his is a fantastic opportunity, and a great way to start the New Year. Everyone is invited to attend our next Personal Growth Retreat (PGR), which will be held January 8-11, 2004.

The retreat will start at the chapel at 4 p.m. on January 8 and we will return late afternoon on January 11.

This 72-hour retreat is an opportunity for individuals to pursue their own personal growth in a secure and peaceful setting.

We will get off the island, have some good food and make some new friends, all while growing as individuals.

Some people described the last personal growth retreat as the best thing they have done on Diego Garcia.

The Chaplain's Religious Educational Development Operation (CREDO) is sponsored by the Chief of Naval Operations, and the Navy Chief of Chaplains.

The PGR is the cornerstone of the CREDO program, although many other types of retreats are offered at most CREDO sites.

The PGR provides an opportunity to focus on accepting reality, taking personal responsibility for your own life and developing new perspectives in your relationships. This includes your relationships with God, family, friends, shipmates, the military, and the broader world in which we live.

Participants are encouraged to share thoughts, values, dreams and feelings about their lives in an environment of unconditional acceptance and confidentiality.

These retreats are not meant to repair situations, or to convert you to a particular religion. Rather, in the safe atmosphere of the PGR, you have the chance to relate to people in a caring and accepting manner.

This allows you to give your full attention to caring for about who you

really are spiritually, instead of what you are. The PGR is a place for you to gain strength or explore issues that are important to you.

We will embark in one of our MPS ships and spend a couple of days underway with the ship.

We provide food, lodging and transportation. You will need to provide your own clothes, towel, shaving kit, and other items of a personal nature.

Pre-registration is required. You may register without your chain of command consent, but approval (i.e. Special Request Chit) will be required before you attend that weekend, so someone in your chain of command knows that you will be off-island for a couple of days. You will miss one working day.

Register early, as we are limited in the number of people that we can take. Contact RP2 Maximino Padua or RP3 Ida Oganessian at 370-4601 to get more details and to register.

## Weekly Island Church Services

### The Chapel in the Palms 370-4601

#### ROMAN CATHOLIC

**Rosary and Devotion**  
Sunday 8 a.m.  
Saturday 7 p.m.  
**Catholic Mass**  
Saturday 7:30 p.m.  
Sunday 8:30 a.m.  
Monday-Friday 6:30 a.m.  
**Choir Practice**  
Thursday 7 p.m.  
**Saturday Confession**  
6 p.m.  
**Scripture Study**  
Thursday 6 p.m.  
ISLAMIC  
**Jum'ha**  
Daily 7:30 p.m.

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST  
OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS  
Sunday 8 a.m.

CHURCH OF CHRIST  
**Sunday Worship**  
10 a.m.

### The Chapel in the Palms 370-4601

#### PROTESTANT

**Sunday Bible Study**  
9:15 a.m.  
**Contemporary Service**  
Sunday 10:30 a.m.  
**Gospel Service**  
Sunday 1:30 p.m.  
**General Liturgical Service**  
Sunday 4:30 p.m.  
**Christian Fellowship**  
Tuesday 7 p.m.  
**Women's Bible Study**  
Wednesday 7:30 p.m.  
**Chapel Choir Practice**  
Wednesday and Saturday 5 p.m.  
**Gospel Choir Practice**  
Wednesday 6:30 p.m.  
Thursday 5 p.m.  
Saturday 3 p.m.  
**Video and Game Night**  
Friday 7 p.m.

#### Iglesia ni Cristo

**English Worship Service**  
Thursday 5 a.m.  
**Tagalog Worship Service**  
7:30 p.m.  
**English Worship Service**  
Saturday 7:30 p.m.

### Camp Justice Chapel 370-4959

**Bible Study**  
Tuesday 7 p.m.  
**Praise and Worship Celebration**  
Wednesday 7 p.m.  
**Chapel Movie Night**  
Monday 7 p.m.  
**General Protestant Service**  
Sunday 9 a.m.  
**Sports Night**  
Friday 7 p.m.  
**Corporate Prayer**  
Saturday 8 p.m.  
ROMAN CATHOLIC  
**Catholic Mass**  
Sunday 10:30 a.m.

#### Hindu Temple

**Fellowship Service**  
Thursday 7 p.m.

### Sacred Heart of Jesus Chapel 370-2956

**Daily Rosary**  
6:00 to 6:15 p.m.  
**Theological Formation**  
Weekdays 7 p.m.  
**Evening Mass**  
Weekdays 6:15 p.m.  
**Saturday Mass**  
5:30 a.m. and 7 p.m.  
**Sunday Mass**  
8:00 a.m. and 7 p.m.  
**Friday Bible Study**  
7:30 p.m.  
**Palmsville Mass**  
Every First Friday 8:30 p.m.

#### Christian's Den

**Band Practice**  
Tuesday and Saturday  
8 p.m.  
**Tagalog Bible Study**  
Wednesday 7 p.m.  
**Tagalog Fellowship**  
Thursday 7 p.m.  
**Contemporary Christian Service**  
Sunday 7 p.m.

## Christmas from page 1

reiterated the need to convey the true spirit and message of Christmas to island military and civilian personnel.

“There are lots of people away from home for the first time, and away from loved ones,” explained Kersten. “If we can bring a touch of home for the holidays, and share the true meaning of the holiday season, it lessens the loneliness and anxiety many people feel, being away from friends and family. Everyone involved did a superb job. If folks come away spiritually uplifted and renewed, then we accomplished our mission.”



*Santa Claus (Jun Rios of MWR) waves to the crowd at the NSF Christmas Tree-lighting Ceremony held on Tuesday night on the NSF quarterdeck. The tree is comprised of 3,840 total lights, and took approximately 12 man-hours to set up. (Photo by JOSN Daniel Torres, Navy Support Facility Public Affairs)*

Main Outdoor Theater	Officer's Club	
Tonight at 8 - <b>Bad Boys 2</b>	Tuesday at 7:30 p.m.- <b>Pirates of the Caribbean</b>	
Tonight at 10 - <b>Demolition Man</b>	Thursday at 8 p.m.- <b>Snow Day</b>	
Tomorrow at 8 p.m. - <b>Demolition Man</b>	<b>CPO Club</b>	
Tomorrow at 10 p.m.- <b>Seabiscuit</b>	Tomorrow at 7 p.m.- <b>The Grinch</b>	
Sunday at 8 p.m.- <b>Seabiscuit</b>	Tomorrow at 9 p.m.- <b>Home Alone</b>	
Monday at 8 p.m.- <b>Snow Day</b>	Tuesday at 7:30 p.m.- <b>The Santa Clause 2</b>	
Tuesday at 8 p.m.- <b>A Christmas Story</b>	Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.- <b>Liar Liar</b>	
Wednesday at 8 p.m.- <b>American Wedding</b>	Thursday at 7:30 p.m.- <b>Pirates of the Caribbean</b>	
Thursday at 8 p.m.- <b>The Santa Clause 2</b>	<b>Each movie that plays at the MOT will be replayed the following morning at 11 in the Turner Club.</b>	
<b>American Wedding</b> starring Jason Biggs and Alyson Hannigan With East Great Falls High School now just a memory, the kids have grown into adults ready to wreck a new rite of passage, the marriage of Jim and Michelle. But with Stiffler in charge of the ultimate bachelor party, and everyone else on edge, it will be a miracle if the wedding ever comes off.	<b>Pirates of the Caribbean</b> starring Johnny Depp and Geoffrey Rush After the Governor's daughter is kidnapped by a cursed pirate captain, one of her childhood friends agrees to team up with another rogue pirate, and search the seven seas to rescue her. But the pirate captain has another plan in mind for the girl, they need the necklace she wears and her blood to end a curse that's been placed on them.	
<b>Home Alone</b> starring Macaulay Culkin and Joe Pesci An eight-year-old boy, left behind in his family's rush to the airport for Christmas vacation and besieged by two bumbling burglars, turns into a pint sized "Rambo" determined to defend his suburban castle.	<b>Snow Day</b> starring Chevy Chase and Mark Webber Fifteen-year-old Hal has a crush on the most beautiful girl in school. When school is closed and kids are free to have fun, he is determined to let her know how he feels and with the help of his friends, make this "snow day" a day they will always remember.	
<b>Seabiscuit</b> starring Toby Maguire and Jeff Bridges A mustang-breaker and a half-blind ex-prizefighter team up with a millionaire and his rough-hewn, undersized horse, Seabiscuit, to capture the title of "Horse of the Year" despite overwhelming odds. Based on a true story.	<b>Bad Boys 2</b> starring Martin Lawrence and Will Smith This time the boys head up a task force investigating the flow of ecstasy into Miami. But their search leads them to a dangerous drug kingpin with friends in high places, whose plan to control the city's drug traffic has touched off a violent and bloody underground war.	
<b>The Santa Clause 2</b> starring Tim Allen and Elizabeth Mitchell For the past eight years, Scott Calvin has been one of the best Santas ever. But now he has a problem, it seems his son is on this year's "naughty" list. Desperate to help, he leaves a substitute Santa at the North Pole and heads home. But when the substitute Santa begins to make odd changes, Christmas itself is put in jeopardy.	<b>A Christmas Story</b> starring Melinda Dillon and Darren McGavin It's Christmas time and the only thing on Ralphie Parker's Christmas list is a red rider air rifle. Many obstacles stand in his way because every adult in his life thinks he'll "shoot his eye out" with that thing. Will his dreams come true?	
<b>The Grinch</b> starring Jim Carry and Molly Shannon Annoyed by the happy residents of Whoville, the Grinch decides to deprive them of their favorite holiday, Christmas, only to find that the spirit of the season goes much deeper than feasting, tinsel and toys.	<b>Demolition Man</b> starring Sylvester Stallone and Wesley Snipes With the death penalty abolished, the punishment for a capital crime is to be frozen in cryogenic sleep. When a psychotic mass-murderer is accidentally revived, he begins to terrorize the peaceful citizens of San Angeles. The only hope is to thaw out someone who can stop him,....a nasty cop unjustly convicted of murder.	
<b>Liar Liar</b> starring Jim Carrey and Maura Tierney When the son of a fast-talking attorney blows out the candles on his birthday cake, he has only one wish, to force his father, a habitual liar, to tell the truth for one day. But when the boy's wish miraculously comes true, his dad's biggest asset, his mouth, becomes his biggest liability. But can he really change?	<i>The information contained in this section is subject to change. For current movie information, check out the marquee at the MOT or call MWR at 370-2982.</i>	

## Safety from page 3

mistletoe are poisonous if eaten. If you have young children or pets, check with your florist or plant nursery to see if there are any safety concerns.

### Tips for holiday food:

With holiday buffets and gifts of food, food allergies may arise during this festive season. Be certain and ask about the ingredients. Also, during this time of holiday cheer, many foods and beverages, such as cakes, punch, and eggnog, may be "spiked" with alcohol. Ask your host, especially if younger children and older adults are present.

The holidays are a time of merriment and joy. May you and your family enjoy a wonderful and safe holiday season.

## Holiday Standdown

Dec. 22-24

0730-1130

Dec. 25-28

Holiday

Dec. 29-31

0730-1130

Jan. 1-4

Holiday

Have fun, be safe,  
and make right decisions!



## Sports Shorts

with JO2  
Scott New

The Christmas season is upon us and island residents are beaming with holiday joy. Barracks rooms, offices and local establishments continue to decorate, the radio station is playing holiday music and people are just being kind. It's a pleasant change.

And in the spirit of giving it's nice to see the nation's top college basketball programs give others the opportunity to sit atop the polls. And wear the bulls-eye.

This week Kentucky and Connecticut (back to their preseason ranking) are the feared number ones in the Coaches and AP polls. Teams that have held the position the past few weeks have faltered. Others are clawing. North Carolina, with its group of young baller's is primed. Duke is position-

ing – and conference play hasn't even begun.

All this is just good fodder – nothing really matters until February. Yes, then we get primed for March Madness. Until then we can watch extended pre-season hockey, worthless early-season NBA games or get geared for the greatest month of sports – football in December.

No cool breezes (I'm a Florida boy) or weekends spent shoveling snow. No biscuits and gravy in the morning. No smell of fresh baked cinnamon rolls. No hot chocolate (with or without the marshmallows).

No problem.

College bowl season kicked off with the GMAC Bowl featuring Louisville and Miami (Ohio) earlier this morning and that's just the beginning. Your friends at the Armed Forces Network and Naval Media Center are bringing you live bowl games throughout the month and January's big games. But there's more ...

...NFL playoff action is just a couple weeks away and this is the most exciting time of the year. The Eagles and Patriots are now the teams to beat in their respective conferences.

With many teams already clinching either a division championship or playoff berth, where does that leave teams like Tampa, Miami, Baltimore, Seattle and New Orleans?

Still mathematically in, that's where. And that leads to an exciting regular season finish.

This week I'm shying away from my *Sure Picks* (even though I went 2-2 last week) as we take a look at headlines that I'm thankful

for this holiday season ...

I'm thankful for the parody in the NFL.

I'm thankful for the Cincinnati Bengals (see above).

I'm thankful for the BCS. Until we have a playoff system in place, this is our best option.

I'm thankful for Matt Millen as president and general manager of the Detroit Lions.

Not only is Detroit stuck with a no-talent leader but also one who is politically incorrect (he called former Lions receiver and current Kansas City Chief wide-out Johnnie Morton a "faggot" after Sunday's game).

I'm thankful for LeBron James, Tracy McGrady, Steve Francis, Carmello Anthony, Tim Duncan and Kevin Garnett. Young NBA talents that will hopefully quiet voices complaining the league is going downhill, and take the NBA to the next level.

Most of all, I'm thankful for family and friends. It is their love and support that gets me through the distance and loneliness spending holidays apart.

Thank you for all that you do, and all that you are.

*Sports Short is an editorial column. The views and opinions expressed are those of JO2 Scott New and do not necessarily reflect those of the Naval Media Center or Navy Support Facility Diego Garcia. To respond e-mail JO2 Scott New at newm@dg.navy.mil*

### Live NBA on AFN

#### **Saturday Morning**

Detroit vs. Indiana 7 San Antonio vs. Seattle 9:30

#### **Friday Morning**

Cleveland vs. Orlando 1:30 Dallas vs. Sacramento 5  
Houston vs. LA Lakers 7:30

### Live NCAA BB on AFN

#### **Saturday Night**

Kentucky vs. Indiana 11 Texas vs. Duke 11

#### **Sunday Morning**

Wake Forest vs. NC 3:30 Mich. State vs. UCLA

#### **Tuesday Night**

Iowa vs. Texas Tech 5:30

#### **Wednesday morning**

Illinois vs. Missouri 8

### Live NFL on AFN

#### **Sunday Morning**

Atlanta vs. Tampa Bay 12:30 K.C. vs. Minnesota 4  
New England vs. NY Jets 7:30

#### **Monday Morning**

Cincy vs. St. Louis 12 Miami vs. Buffalo 12  
N.Y. Giants vs. Dallas 12 San Diego vs. Pittsburgh 3  
Arizona vs. Seattle 3 San Fran vs. Philly 3  
Denver vs. Indy 7:30

#### **Tuesday Morning**

Green Bay vs. Oakland 8

*All games are subject to change.*

## This week's tides Dec. 20 - Dec. 26

	<u>High</u>	<u>Low</u>	<u>High</u>	<u>Low</u>
Saturday	12:33 p.m.	6:26 a.m.	-----	7:08 p.m.
Sunday	1:03 a.m.	7:14 a.m.	1:21 p.m.	7:50 p.m.
Monday	1:51 a.m.	8:02 a.m.	2:09 p.m.	8:32 p.m.
Tuesday	2:39 a.m.	8:44 a.m.	2:51 p.m.	9:14 p.m.
Wednesday	3:21 a.m.	9:26 a.m.	3:33 p.m.	9:56 p.m.
Thursday	4:03 a.m.	10:14 a.m.	4:15 p.m.	10:32 p.m.
Friday	4:45 a.m.	10:56 a.m.	4:57 p.m.	11:14 p.m.

## Don't miss any of the exciting College Football Bowl action this season on AFN!

### ***Mazda Tangerine Bowl***

N.C. State vs. Kansas  
AFN Sports  
12/23/03  
4:30 a.m.

### ***Blue-Gray All-Star Classic***

AFN Sports  
12/26/03  
2 a.m.

### ***Insight Bowl***

Virginia Tech vs. California  
AFN Sports  
12/27/03  
7:30 a.m.

### ***EVI.Net Houston Bowl***

Navy vs. Texas Tech  
AFN Sports  
12/31/03  
3:30 a.m.

### ***Gaylord Music City Bowl***

Auburn vs. Wisconsin  
AFN Sports  
12/31/03  
11 p.m.

### ***MainStay Independence Bowl***

Arkansas vs. Missouri  
AFN Atlantic  
1/1/04  
6:30 a.m.

### ***59<sup>th</sup> Annual Toyota Gator Bowl***

Maryland vs. West Virginia  
AFN Pacific  
1/1/04  
11:30 p.m.

### ***FedEx Orange Bowl***

Florida State vs. Miami  
AFN Pacific  
1/2/04  
7:30 a.m.

### ***Tostitos Fiesta Bowl***

Kansas State vs. Ohio State  
AFN Pacific  
1/3/04  
7 a.m.

### ***Plains Capital Fort Worth Bowl***

Boise State vs. TCU  
AFN Atlantic  
12/24/03  
6:30 a.m.

### ***Sheraton Hawaii Bowl***

Houston vs. Hawaii  
AFN Sports  
12/26/03  
7 a.m.

### ***Continental Tire Bowl***

Pittsburgh vs. Virginia  
AFN Sports  
12/27/03  
10 p.m.

### ***Pacific Life Holiday Bowl***

Texas vs. Washington State  
AFN Atlantic  
12/31/03  
7 a.m.

### ***Wells Fargo Sun Bowl***

Minnesota vs. Oregon  
AFN Pacific  
1/1/04  
1 a.m.

### ***Diamond Walnut San Francisco Bowl***

Colorado State vs. Boston College  
AFN Sports  
1/1/04  
9:30 a.m.

### ***Capital One Bowl***

Georgia vs. Purdue  
AFN Atlantic  
1/2/04  
Midnight

### ***SBC Cotton Bowl***

Mississippi vs. Oklahoma State  
AFN Pacific  
1/3/04  
1 a.m.

### ***Humanitarian Bowl***

Tulsa vs. Georgia Tech  
AFN Sports  
1/3/04  
11 p.m.

### ***Las Vegas Bowl***

New Mexico vs. Oregon State  
AFN Atlantic  
12/25/03  
6:30 a.m.

### ***Motor City Bowl***

Bowling Green vs. Northwestern  
AFN Sports  
12/27/03  
4 a.m.

### ***MasterCard Alamo Bowl***

Nebraska vs. Michigan State  
AFN Atlantic  
12/30/03  
8 a.m.

### ***Silicon Valley Football Classic***

UCLA vs. Fresno State  
AFN Sports  
12/31/03  
9:30 a.m.

### ***AXA Liberty Bowl***

Utah vs. Southern Miss  
AFN Sports  
1/1/04  
2:30 a.m.

### ***Outback Bowl***

Florida vs. Iowa  
AFN Sports  
1/1/04  
10 p.m.

### ***Rose Bowl***

USC vs. Michigan  
AFN Pacific  
1/2/04  
3:30 a.m.

### ***Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl***

Tennessee vs. Clemson  
AFN Sports  
1/3/04  
3:30 a.m.

### ***Nokia Sugar Bowl***

LSU vs. Oklahoma  
AFN Pacific  
1/5/03  
7 a.m.

*All games are subject to change. For Bowl Game purposes, AFN Atlantic is Channel 8, AFN Pacific is Channel 10, and AFN Sports is Channel 12.*