



Volume 17, Number 27

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

September 7, 2007

President Bush Visits DG



Photos by MCSN Jonathen Davis

During a brief and unprecedented stop, Air Force One, carrying President Bush, landed on Diego Garcia. During his time on the ground President Bush managed to meet and visit with Sailors and Airmen from around the island.

INSIDE THIS WEEK'S EDITION

- *A Visit to Remember*
- *Avoiding Loneliness*
- *Protect Your Hearing*
- *Know the Law*
- *DG Sports Results*
- *Plan Your Week*

... and more!



Cmdr. Michael C. Peterson

While the "critical days of summer" are officially over we all need to continue to be vigilant and think about safety as we head into the Fall.

Team Diego,

As many of you are well aware, this has been a high tempo week to say the least. With everything from our Labor Day festivities, the visit by the President and Secretary of State, and September exams, there's been a lot going on.

First of all, I want to thank everyone who worked so hard and on such short notice to support President Bush's visit Tuesday morning. Your outstanding efforts and dedication directly contributed to this highly successful and unprecedented visit by our Commander-in-Chief. The entire event was certainly one to remember and I'm certain that the President appreciated the time he spent with our Sailors and Airmen. Well done.

I'd be remiss if I didn't make mention of the fantastic island-wide picnic the galley and MWR hosted this past Labor Day. It was an outstanding opportunity to get outdoors and enjoy some great weather, terrific food and plenty of games. While the "critical days of summer" are officially over, we all need to continue to be vigilant and think about safety as we head into the fall. I just want to say thanks to everyone involved for putting on such a great event and I certainly hope that everyone had the chance to get out there and enjoy themselves.

Many of you here on Diego Garcia are also preparing to take, or if you're up for E-6 have already taken, advancement exams this month. It's never too early to get prepared for your advancement and I encourage you to use your chain of command to point you in the right direction for any and all of the resources you require to succeed. I wish the best of luck to everyone taking the exams and look forward to seeing a large frocking class later this year.

Finally, the Fall 2007 PFA is just a couple months away and now is the time to prepare if you haven't started already. With all the fitness programs, personnel, and fitness resources available on the island, this is the duty location to develop good fitness habits. I encourage everyone to promote a "culture of fitness" in your work centers and help each other out as we get ready for the upcoming PFA.

Until next week, keep up all the great work both in uniform and out.

*Sincerely, and very respectfully,
Cmdr. Michael C. Peterson*

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Tropical Times

United States Navy Support Facility Diego Garcia
British Indian Ocean Territory

Commanding Officer

Capt. Gregory Looney

Executive Officer

Cmdr. Michael Peterson

Command Master Chief

CMDCM(SW) Brad Renollet

Reporting/Photography/Layout

MC2 Michael W. Pulley

MCSA Shannon L. Burns

Contributors

Lt. Cmdr. Dean L. Hoelz

Lt. Carmen M. Brosinski

ETC(SW) Matthew D. Butow

HM2 Richard Stepp

MCSN Jonathon E. Davis

Ruperto F. Pallasgui

Shiela De Leon

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Want to contribute to the Tropical Times? Have a question or story we should cover? Feel free to contact us at the following:

pulleymw@dg.navy.mil
davisje@dg.navy.mil
shannon.burns@dg.navy.mil

Phone Number
Public Affairs 370-4116



CMDM(SW) Brad Renollet

DIEGO GARCIA SPOTLIGHT

The purpose of the DG Spotlight is to reach out and recognize outstanding enlisted military and civilian personnel of all commands who work on Diego Garcia in support of the island mission. This week's DG Spotlight is focused on personnel serving at Security and Medical. Bravo Zulu and keep up the great work!

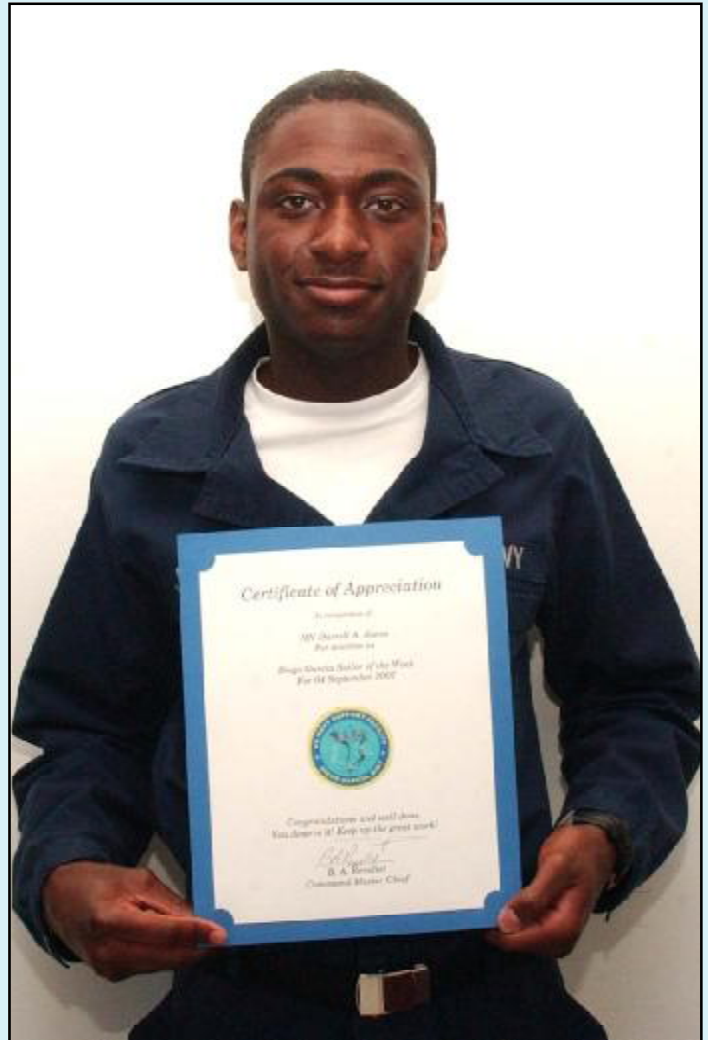
SECURITY



Name: MASR Andrew J. Eichman
Hometown: Bakersfield, CA
Time in service: 8 Months
Time on Island: 3 Months
What I like about my job:

"I love the Navy because the people support you and lookout for you."

MEDICAL



Name: HN Darrel A. Jones
Hometown: Dallas, TX
Time in service: 3 Years
Time on Island: 4 Months
What I like about my job:

"I love that at the end of the day my patients go home with a healthy smile."

PRESIDENT BUSH VISITS DIEGO GARCIA

MC2 Michael W. Pulley
Tropical Times Correspondant

After spending most of Labor Day with U.S. troops serving in Iraq, President George W. Bush made a very brief morning visit Tuesday to one of the U.S. Navy's most remote duty stations in the world: the U.S. Navy Support Facility on the island of Diego Garcia, in British Indian Ocean Territory.

"This is the third time now the president has visited a command I've been a part of and I've always noticed how he gets energized shaking hands and saying hello to our service men and women," said Capt. Greg L. Looney, NSF Diego Garcia's Commanding Officer.

This surprise visit was scheduled with less than 12 hours of notice and a lot of work needed to be done in a short amount of time to prepare for the president's arrival.

"With as little time as we had I thought we did a pretty good job," Looney said.

Security protocols needed to be reviewed and implemented and extra measures had to be put in place to accommodate the president's aircraft, Air Force One.

He went on to add, "Everyone who worked through the night to get things ready did a fantastic job."

In less than 90 minutes, President Bush met with more than 100 military members from both the Navy and Air Force and took the time to pose for several group photographs with the men and women in uniform.

"We got to meet the President and shake his hand," said AC2(AW/SW) Dustin Wolford, one of the air traffic controllers who helped get Air Force One on-island. "It was exciting, a once in a lifetime experience."

This was President Bush's first visit Diego Garcia and the first visit from any U.S. president in quite some time.

Along with meeting many of the Sailors and Airmen of the island, the president took time to speak with Capt. Looney and Royal Navy Cmdr. Gary Brooks, the British Representative for the island, about the many missions of Diego Garcia



Photo by MCSN Jonathan Davis

President George W. Bush visits with Sailors during a brief unscheduled stop on Diego Garcia.

and its strategic importance in the world.

"He was really interested ... and he understands the importance of our mission," said Looney.

Despite the short amount of time the president was able to spend on the island, military members were nonetheless grateful to their Commander-in-Chief for taking time out of his busy schedule to spend time with them.

"I appreciate the president and his team stopping here and being gracious enough to come off the aircraft," Looney said. "The Sailors, Airmen, Chiefs and Officers all really appreciated it as well."

Secretary of State Condoleeza Rice was part of the official party and also spent time meeting with the military members of Diego Garcia as well.

The president arrived on Diego Garcia after completing his third trip to Iraq and continued travel immediately after spending some time with the troops.

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Stay Safe, Think Ahead, Be Smart

Ruperto F. Pallasigui
NSF Safety Department

Diego Garcia celebrated Labor Day with a bang with an island-wide picnic, free t-shirts, fun games and the Puzzle's Band performing on stage. Labor Day also signaled the end of the Critical Days of Summer, which began on Memorial Day weekend.

We are fortunate here on Diego Garcia that there were no fatalities or permanent injuries during the critical days. Regrettably, there have been 15 Sailors and 21 Marines stationed at different facilities

that have lost their lives during this period of time.

Most of the accidents can be attributed to drinking and driving, speeding, not wearing a seatbelt, drinking in excess while engaged in off-duty activities, all which were preventable.

In a message from Rear Adm. Johnson, he emphasized concentrating on the Core Values of the Navy; Honor (by doing the right thing even when no one is watching), Courage (in telling your fellow Sailors to do the right thing) and Commitment (in preventing needless loss of life and maintain-

ing the well-being of the Navy and Marine Corps).

Risk management is always the key in preventing these unfortunate accidents. Thinking ahead and knowing the right thing to do is the best way to prevent mishaps. Always be on the lookout for the safety of the people around you.

Remember, when you have an accident, you don't just hurt yourself but you also hurt your family, friends and your command.

Always stay safe throughout the year and we'll see you next Labor Day.

Labor Day Picnic a Hit



Photo by MCSA Shannon L. Burns

Diego Garcia residents wait in line for food during the Labor Day festivities Monday. Residents came out to the Fleet Rec Area to enjoy a good time with free food, games, live music and great weather.

Diego Garcia's Navy Ball 2007:

Celebrating 232 Years of Our History, Our Heritage, Our Future.

The Navy Birthday Ball will be held Saturday, October 13, 2007. The reception begins at 7:30 p.m. and dinner will begin at 8 p.m. Ticket prices are as follows:

E1-E4	FREE
E5-E6	\$5
E7-E9	\$15
Officers	\$20

Civilian ticket prices are equivalent to pay grade.

Uniform Information:
E6 and Below: Summer Dress Whites (w/ Ribbons)
E7 to O3: Choker Whites with Miniature Medals (Large Medals if Miniatures unavailable)
O4 and Above: Summer White Mess Dress (an option for E1 to O3 if available)
Civilians: Nice Casual (Slacks and Collared shirt) or Formal (Suit & Tie / Gown)

Contact your department's committee representative to find out how to purchase tickets.

IN-BRIEF

Air Force 60th Birthday Bash

Tickets for the bash, which is scheduled for Sept. 22 at 6 p.m. at the are being sold during lunch at the Galley, Turner Club and Ship Store.

Ticket's are \$10 for Military and equivalent civilian personnel. Contract personnel will be discounted to \$7.

AF 60th Anniversary coins and door prizes will be given away throughout the night. Dress will be Luau style with men wearing a collared shirt.

Aqua Massage

The Aqua Massage will be available daily from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. at the Fitness Center lounge (BLDG 115). The price is \$5 for 15 minutes per session. For more details please call Recreation Services at 370-2792

Water Outage

There will be a water outage which will last for about an hour on the following days:
Sept. 13 -BOQ 04 to BOQ 09
Sept. 14 - BOQ 01 to 03 & BEQ 02 to 03, & 12
Sept. 15 - BEQ 01, 04 to 07 (Chiefs Barracks included)
Sept. 17 - BEQ 8, 11, 14 to 18 & BOQs 10 & 11

Ship store Closure

Sept. 13th 10a.m. to 4 p.m.
Sept. 14th Closed

Protect Your Hearing

*Lt. Carmen M. Brosinski
Branch Health Clinic*

Exposure to environmental sounds is a common daily occurrence. The majority of these sounds are heard at safe levels that do not damage our hearing. Common sounds such as those from the television, radio, household appliances, and traffic surround us on a daily basis without damaging our hearing.

However, exposure to loud noises or prolonged noises can lead to noise induced hearing loss (NIHL) affecting people of all ages, including children, teens, young adults, and older people.

NIHL results from damage to sensitive structures in our inner ear such as hair cells within the ear and the hearing nerve.

This condition can be a result of either impulse or continuous exposure to harmful sounds.

Damage from either exposure can result in immediate hearing loss that may be accompanied by a ringing, buzzing, or roaring in the ears or head, it may be temporary or permanent.

Sound is measured in units called decibels. Prolonged or repeated exposure to sounds at or above 85 decibels can result in hearing loss. Sounds of less than 75 decibels, even after long exposure, are unlikely to cause hearing loss.

Exposure to noise causes few symptoms. These symptoms may resolve if enough healthy cells remain to allow sound conduct through the structures of the ear. Symptoms are usually vague feelings of pressure or fullness in the ears, speech that seems to be muffled or far away, and a ringing sound in the ears that you notice when you are in quiet places. The first sign of a NIHL is not hearing high-pitched sounds, as the damage progresses hearing

continues to decrease and lower pitched sounds, including men's voices, become hard to understand.

Tips for preventing NIHL:

- Know which noises can cause damage (those above 85 decibels).
- Wear ear plugs or other hearing protective devices when exposed to loud noise.
- Be alert to hazardous noise in the environment.
- Use sound absorbing material to reduce noise at home and at work.
- Don't use several noisy machines at the same time.
- Keep television and stereos at a low volume.
- Don't try to drown out unwanted noise with other sounds.

Noise pollution is a growing problem. Every day we are exposed to harmful noises which increase our risk of developing NIHL. While this condition is not reversible, it is preventable.

ROPO's Corner

Pay Attention to the Blue Lights

From time to time there may be a requirement for the emergency services i.e. Police (BIOT ROPOs), Security (Royal Marines or NSF), Fire and Medical, to use their blue lights and two-tone horns. These are warning tools - It lets you know that a particular department is required to be somewhere as quickly as possible or that there is a hazard for you to avoid. If you are on the road when these warnings are activated, you are required to pull over, as safely and quickly as possible and remain stationary until the emergency service has passed you. These regulations also apply to cyclists. Failure to comply with these warning lights/sirens may result in a fine of up to \$400. Further clarification can be sought at the BIOT Police (Extn. 2938/9).

Overcoming Loneliness on Diego Garcia

Lt. Cmdr. Dean L. Hoelz
Comman Chaplain

Recently I've been asking people what they think the biggest challenges a sailor stationed on Diego Garcia faces.

Frequently, the response I get is "loneliness." Loneliness, we all experience it at one time or another. From the very beginning in the book of Genesis we read, that God said, "It's not good that the man should be alone" (Genesis 2:18). Loneliness can be triggered by a variety of different events some of which include; relocation, divorce or end of a relationship, feeling rejected, and absence of spiritual, religious or life-affirming beliefs.

We can allow loneliness to control our lives and get the best of us, or we can take steps that minimize loneliness. We can choose to be a victim or a victor. For those who wish to minimize loneliness, here's my list of helpful strategies.

Many of these ideas have worked for me, and hopefully, they will be helpful to you.

1. Be your own best friend.

I don't mean hang out by yourself all the time, all though some alone time is good and important. But if you are having trouble liking who you are, then learn to care about yourself properly. Be comfortable being the person God has created you to be. You are unique; God has created you to be different, special. You are one of a kind. Love the person God has created you to be.

2. Journaling.

I practice this from time to time. Often just putting my thoughts and feelings down on paper, setting them in black and white helps me. It helps to purge myself of negative thoughts and feelings. Journaling allows you to ask yourself important questions like; "What can I do to begin overcoming my loneliness?" "What can I do to change my

attitude or behavior?" "Who do I know that might be of help to me?"

3. Helping Others.

Personally, this has been the step that has helped me the most. If you want to get out of your head, then 'do something for someone else.' It really works. So, if you see me doing something for someone else, it's usually because of one of two reasons; I'm having a great day and want to be of service to others or it's because I'm stuck in my head and I'm doing it so I can feel better. After helping someone, I always feel better. By helping others I spend less time thinking about myself and more time thinking about others.

4. Join Groups.

This is a no brainer. Getting out and being with others even when you don't want to can help you to feel better. On DG, there are all kinds of groups to choose from; Sailing club, Bowling leagues, Modeling club, As-

tronomy club, countless MWR activities, Church, Bible studies, and others groups. Groups can provide you an opportunity to be a friend to someone else.

5. Focus on the Positive.

Each of us has negative and positive areas or strengthens and weaknesses in our lives. Focus on the positive, because whatever you focus on gets bigger. We each have a choice on what we want to focus.

6. Have a Best Friend.

This is extremely important. When I talk to people I most always ask them 'who's your best friend?' Too often sailors tell me they don't have one. We all need someone to talk to and be accountable to. Life is tough; it's even tougher if you try to go it alone. Having a buddy is nothing new. It was God's idea in the first place. So, when loneliness pops up, as it will, give some of these ideas a try. You've nothing to lose and lots to gain.

God bless each of you.

TIDE REPORT

SEPTEMBER 07 - 13

	HIGH	LOW	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Friday	8:46 a.m.	2:03 p.m.	7:08 a.m.	7:08 p.m.
Saturday	9:22 a.m.	2:45 p.m.	7:08 a.m.	7:08 p.m.
Sunday	10:04 a.m.	4:21 p.m.	7:07 a.m.	7:08 p.m.
Monday	10:40 a.m.	4:57 p.m.	7:07 a.m.	7:08 p.m.
Tuesday	11:16 a.m.	5:33 p.m.	7:06 a.m.	7:08 p.m.
Wednesday	11:46 a.m.	6:09 p.m.	7:05 a.m.	7:08 p.m.
Thursday	12:22 p.m.	6:45 p.m.	7:05 a.m.	7:08 p.m.

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
60TH ANNIVERSARY
HERITAGE TO HORIZONS:
COMMEMORATING 60 YEARS OF
AIR & SPACE POWER
OCTOBER 2006 - NOVEMBER 2007

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Meetings in Iraq Give Gates Cause for Optimism

*Jim Garamone
American Forces Press Service*

WASHINGTON, Sept. 5, 2007 – After attending meetings Sept. 3 in Iraq, Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates is more optimistic about the situation in the country, a Pentagon spokesman said today.

Geoff Morrell said Gates left meetings with U.S. military and civilian leaders and Iraqi leaders convinced progress is being made. President Bush and Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice also attended the meetings at AlAsad Air Base in Iraq's Anbar province.

The meetings gave the president a chance to consult with Army Gen. David H. Petraeus, Multinational Force Iraq commander, and

U.S. Ambassador to Iraq Ryan C. Crocker. Gates "believes it is essential for the president to speak directly to his senior military leaders before making a decision on the way forward in Iraq," Morrell said.

Morrell said one highlight of the trip was a meeting with local tribal leaders and sheikhs who have been instrumental in turning the tables on al Qaeda in Anbar. "Less than a year ago, al Qaeda was touting Anbar as the capital of its future caliphate," Morrell said. "However, a few courageous tribal leaders stood up, rejected al Qaeda's dark and medieval vision for their future and joined with U.S. Marines to defeat the terrorists in Anbar.

The progress in Anbar is being driven from the bottom up, Morrell said, and it needs to be

joined by progress from the top down. "Monday's meeting of leaders from the central government and the tribes is another step in the right direction," he said.

Morrell said there has been a clear reduction in sectarian violence in Iraq. "Sectarian killings have dropped to about half the level they were in December of 2006, when, as you remember, tensions between Sunni and Shiia groups was particularly high," he said.

This does not mean that sectarianism is not a problem. Iraqi police units are rife with sectarian blocs. "The Iraqi government has acknowledged, and our commanders in Iraq have also, that clearly there are problems that persist within the police force when it comes to sectarianism," Morell said.

"We have been working very hard to try to rid the national police force and the local police force . . . of sectarianism"

Defense leaders understand that building an Iraqi police force and an army are long-term projects, the spokesman said. The Iraqi police are a work in progress, he said.

"Obviously we would like this stuff to happen sooner than it has, but we do not believe either project or process should be abandoned because it hasn't happened at the pace which we would like," he continued. "We believe there is enough progress taking place on both fronts that this is an endeavor worth pursuing, and we believe we will get to the point we need to get so that the Iraqis rely far less on us for their protection and more on their own people."

Bush, Australian Prime Minister, Pledge Continued Cooperation

*John D. Banusiewicz
American Forces Press Service*

WASHINGTON, Sept. 5, 2007 – President Bush and Australian Prime Minister John Howard today announced further cooperation between U.S. and Australian armed forces and underscored their unity concerning the war on terror.

At a news conference with Howard in Sydney, Australia, Bush said the U.S.-Australia Defense Trade Cooperation Treaty, which gives Australia's defense industry the same status the United Kingdom enjoys in access to American technologies, will benefit both countries.

"It helps cut through the bureaucracy so that we can transform our forces better, share technology better and, frankly, enable our private sectors to work together to develop new defense capabilities to de-

fend ourselves," Bush said.

Howard said he and Bush also agreed to further detailed discussions between the United States and Australia on four components of defense cooperation.

"The first of those is enhanced cooperation on humanitarian assistance and disaster relief," the prime minister said. "And that could, in fact, involve a stationing -- basing in Australia by the United States -- equipment and stores and provisions that would be available for ready use in disaster relief in our immediate region."

Additional support for training by American and Australian forces in Australia, further cooperation on international surveillance and reconnaissance, and "enhancement of our already robust program of military exchanges and joint operations" are the other three areas Howard said he and Bush agreed to pursue.

"We've asked our officials to work in more detail around each of those four headings, and as a result of that, I'm very confident that there will be further and very significant enhancement of an already very close relationship," Howard said.

Turning to Australia's support for U.S. efforts in the war on terror, Howard said this is not the time to consider scaling down his country's military commitment to the war in Iraq.

"We think that is objectionable on two grounds," he said. "Firstly, it misreads the needs of the Iraqi people, and secondly, at the present time, a close ally and friend such as Australia should be providing the maximum presence and indication of support to our very close ally and friend in the person of the United States," Howard said. "That is our position and I've made that very clear to the president in our discussions."

An Eye on Training

ETC(SW) Matthew Butow
NSF Installation Training Officer

Upcoming Training events for September:
Sept. 17–20 CONSEP Class in the Base Chapel Fellowship Hall
Sept. 24–27 TAP Workshop in the Island Room.

Here are the answers to the August 31st Professional Military Knowledge questions:

1. Enlisted Women, E6 and below are authorized ball-type earrings of what size and color (BMR)?
a. They are authorized silver 6mm ball-type earrings (BMR pg. 10-31).
2. What was the first military decoration awarded to U.S. Service personnel (BMR)?
a. The Purple Heart was founded by General George Washington in 1782 (BMR pg.10-27).
3. Which personnel are required to carry the Navy Goal Card (BMR)?
a. Each new recruit and first term sailor (BMR pg. 16-1).
4. What is the primary goal of the Family Advocacy Program (FAP) (BMR)?
a. The primary goal of the FAP is the prevention of abuse (BMR pg. 17-17).
5. How many days after separation from the armed services will SGLI cover an individual (BMR)?
a. SGLI will cover an individual for 120 days after separation or up to one year if separated due to a disability (BMR pg. 17-15).

Here are the new Professional Military Knowledge questions for this week:

1. What is the measurement of the height of the heel to the woman's shoe that is authorized in uniform (BMR)?
2. What is the difference between a PACE and a STEP (BMR)?
3. When the command Open Ranks, MARCH is given which ranks move and in what direction (BMR)?
4. When the command About, FACE is given, how far is the right toe placed behind the left heel (BMR)?
5. The command COVER, how far is the distance behind the person in front of you should the distance be (BMR)?

Sports Results for Sept. 1 - 3

31 Aug - Domino Tourney

Bong Bagang	1st
Nanos	2nd
Dolores Cruz	3rd

Labor Day Olympic Games (1-3 Sep)

4 Person Freestyle Swim Competition

Capt. Michael Finch	1st
Cmdr. Michael Peterson	
Cmdr. Michael Dalgetty	
Redon Dumlao	
Maersk Line	2nd
DG 21 Fire Dept.	3rd

One Pitch Softball Tournament

Det 1	1st
Air Ops	2nd
Security	3rd

Racquetball Tourney

Eric Gryn	1st
Gerald Patridge	2nd
Anthony Klein	3rd

Bowling Tourney

<i>Male Division</i>	
Tony Klein	1st
Willy Bugaoisan	2nd
Neil Nobleza	3rd

Female Division

Un Hui Choi	1st
Luz Magpoc	2nd
Emy Alquizar	3rd

Domino Tourney

Nanos	1st
Ciptadi	2nd
Rahman	3rd

Tennis Tourney

Ver Manuel/Romy Roldan	1st
Wella Picardal/Rex Castro	2nd
Jhun Murillo/Cesar Buenaventura	3rd

3 on 3 Basketball Tourney

Kovit Marklam	1st
Teofilo Pardo	
Louis Lockley	
DG21 Annex 20	2nd
CDF	3rd

Pedal Boat Race

DG21 Transportation	1st
KST	2nd
KST	3rd

4 Person Beach Volleyball

Capt. Gregory Looney	1st
Cmdr. Michael Peterson	
Lt.j.g. Todd Jorgenson	
Lt. Eric Gryn	
RafsTeam	2nd
Tomador	3rd

Nameless Hurricane That Much More Terrifying

The Onion

September 3, 2007 | Issue 43•36

MIAMI—South Florida residents were overcome with fear, confusion, and an unnerving sense of dread Tuesday when they learned that an unidentified hurricane is heading for their area—its origin uncertain, its intentions unclear, and perhaps most frightening, its name unknown.

"Who is this hurricane?" said Miami resident Beverly Motolla, just one of hundreds of thousands of citizens struggling to put a human face on this impending tragedy. "Why is it here? What does it want from us?"

Such questions remain agonizingly unanswered, as the anonymous storm front shows no signs of slowing down or divulging its background. Lacking any reliable information on the character traits of the popularly dubbed "Hurricane That Shall Not Be Named," thousands have fled the area, hoping to escape its destructive winds, driving rain, and chilling impersonality.

"If this hurricane were a Wilma or a Frank, or even a Rebekah, I'd at least know what to expect—a storm system with a low pressure center, sustained winds above 119 miles per hour, high gusts, and severe inland flooding," said Stewart Tomlinson, a Miami-area police officer who plans to drive his family north to Georgia on Wednesday. "But I don't even know if this hurricane is a boy or a girl. And frankly, that scares me."

"I don't want this...thing...coming anywhere near me or my family," Tomlinson added.

Those who have decided to stay home and brave the imminent storm have reported incidents of raindrops rapping on their windowpanes with a sinister, relentless urgency; drops in barometric pressure so sudden they could freeze a man's soul; and, in the words of one Coral Springs body shop owner, "the kind of heartless devastation that could only be wreaked by an unfeeling tropical cyclone that doesn't even have the decency to introduce itself."

"I heard that the hurricane killed 620 Guatemalans last week in cold blood," Mark Barclay of Sweetwater said. "And that it didn't even care."

Though the hurricane is predicted to cause widespread destruction, many say it brings something even more dangerous than a 10-foot storm tide and rapidly contracting eyewall: the element of the unknown.

"You can tell a lot about a hurricane by its name—that's why they have names," Surfside resident Brenda Harrison said. "Mitch, strong and unpredictable. Katrina, devious and vengeful. Bob, good guy, just passing through. But this hurricane could be anything. It could be a gentle mist, or it could be the worst natural disaster in the history of mankind. It could strike anytime, and it could be anywhere...even right behind you. Also, what if it doesn't even have an eye?"

"When the big hurricane struck Florida in 1998, I was scared until I found out its name was Earl," Panama City, FL citizen Sam Hewer said. "I went to high school with a guy named Earl. He was a little wild, but ultimately harmless. In fact, we used to make fun of him. So when the storm hit and destroyed my house, it didn't seem so bad. It was like, 'Oh, there goes Earl again.'"

As the storm approaches the coast, citizens have been speculating as to its identity. Many claim that the hurricane's erratic changes in course and spiral rainbands make it seem like a Dave. Still others suspect that it might be Hurricane Andrew in disguise, returning to finish what it started in 1992.

Also on Tuesday, the National Weather Service issued a statement in which it rejected calls to name the hurricane, describing such an action as "impossible."

"We've monitored, studied, and examined this hurricane in the two weeks since it appeared seemingly out of nowhere on our radar, and it simply has no name," NWS acting director Mary Glackin said. "If it had one, we'd be using it. It's not like we can just make up a name."

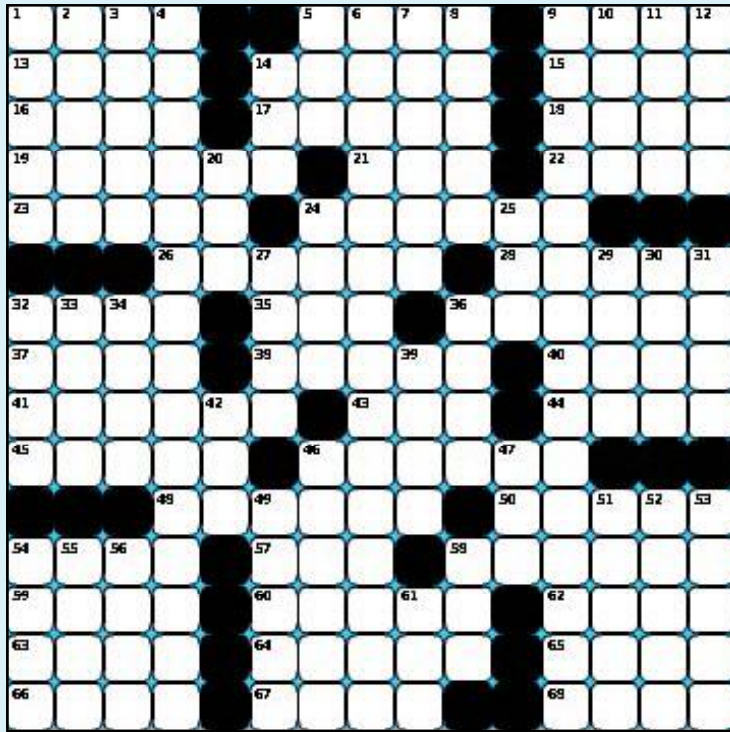
When asked if he could identify the storm, veteran WTVJ meteorologist Cal Valencia threw back his head and laughed scornfully.

"Fools! Be glad you don't know this hurricane's true name!" Valencia said. "It may be the sole mercy we are shown during this coming ordeal. Savor it! For in a day's time, you will be pining for your lost ignorance as a drowning man for oxygen."

One Miami-Dade citizen, however, has decided to take matters into his own hands.

"For my wife and children's sake, I've decided to tell them it's named Bradley," said Jackson Graham, a local carpenter who claims he cannot bear to tell his family the horrible truth. "Hurricane Bradley. God, I hope that doesn't make it angrier."

CROSSWORD



Across

1. Milieu for Bob and Bing
5. Greek letters shaped like pitchforks
9. It awaits the winner at the finish line
13. Vertex
14. Misleading maneuver
15. Like fine wine
16. Has attachment
17. "Purgatorio" writer
18. Tinkle in a phone booth?
19. Large headline
21. Prohibit
22. Word with commercial or time
23. "Gandhi" setting
24. Place name with North or South
26. Took long steps
28. Coastline feature
32. Babysitter's nightmare
35. Diner's snippet
36. Eye part
37. "That smarts!"
38. Religion based in Haifa
40. Prince, presumably
41. Significant ones?
43. Small newt
44. Norse writings
45. Signature melody
46. A Gabor
48. Evoke affection
50. Bee-like
54. Thumb-to-pinkie distance
57. "Bali ____"
58. Channel swimmer of 1926
59. Mauna Loa output
60. Name in puppets
62. Feline remark
63. "Gone With The Wind", e.g.
64. Attractiveness
65. Bancroft or Boleyn
66. Use hip boots
67. Basic French verb
68. "... and ____ the twain shall meet"

Down

1. Browning's Ben Ezra, e.g.
2. Cousteau milieu
3. Change, as a motion
4. Ruff's master
5. Pod piece?
6. "Arabian Nights" adventurer
7. Type of valve or manifold
8. Pool party?
9. Jungle swinger
10. Exchange premium
11. Teller's partner
12. "Postcards From The ____"
14. HST predecessor
20. Dig in
24. "Dumb ____" (old comic strip)
25. Fan letdown, temporarily
27. Filches
29. Was mendacious
30. ____ Blyton, children's author
31. Storied plantation?
32. Mukluk or Wellington
33. Yankee legend
34. Hurt all over
36. "Puttin' on the ____"
39. Place to worship from
42. Stimp's counterpart
46. Extremist
47. Long-faced
49. Wild dog of 23-Across
51. Castle of the ballroom
52. "____ at last!"
53. Comparatively recent
54. Killed a dragon, e.g.
55. Haydn's sobriquet
56. Fervent
58. Some MIT grads
61. Musician Turner

SUDOKU

3								
	1			2		4		
	2	7	9	8	3		1	
		3					9	2
9			7	4				3
2	8					5		
6		5	4	3	1	2		
	9		2				3	
								7

Recognizing Excellence

Navy/ Marine Corps Commodation Medal

Lt. Joseph Ford
ENC Henry DelaRosa

Navy/ Marine Corps Achievement Medal

ENS Gina Shaw
MA1 Micheal Fisher
MA1 Donna Hosch
ABH1 Jody Hutton
MA2 Cecilia Enriquez-Valenzula
ET2 Pedro Quintana
CS2 Stephanie Hilliard
YNSA Joshua Green

GoodConduct Medal

AC3 Joshua McKnight
AC3 Andrew Palka

Letter of Commendation

CM1 Ross Munro

Letter of Appreciation

Tech. Sgt. Stuart Davis
SK1 Amador Daguio
QM1 Juan Gonzales
CE2 Jimmy Telan
ET3 Maurice Boston

GALLEY MWR MOVIES ENTERTAINMENT AMC

07
Friday

Lunch Cantonese Pork Spareribs Shrimp Chop Suey	Powerboat Class Marina 4:30 p.m. - 6 p.m.	28 Weeks Later 8 p.m. Fracture 10 p.m.	No Scheduled Entertainment	No Scheduled Flights
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08
Saturday

Lunch Turkey Nuggets Lemon Baked Fish	Tour De Diego Marina 8 a.m.	Fracture 8 p.m.	No Scheduled Entertainment	No Scheduled Flights
Dinner Grilled Polish Sausage Hearty Beef Stew	5 - A Side Soccer Tournament Fleet Rec Area 5 p.m.	The Reaping 10 p.m.		

09
Sunday

Brunch Crisp Bacon Slices Beef Steak Cannonball Sandwich	MWR Sailing Regatta Marina 12:30 p.m.	The Reaping 8 p.m.	Bingo Bonanza Island Room 7 p.m.	No Scheduled Flights
Dinner Virginia Baked Ham Creole Chicken	5 - A Side Soccer Tournament Fleet Rec Area 5 p.m.			

10
Monday

Lunch Swiss Steak Southern Fried Catfish	Off Road Bike Race Jake's Place 5 p.m.	Spiderman 3 8 p.m.	Wings Night Island Room 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.	No Scheduled Flights
Dinner Cajun Roast Beef Sweet & Sour Pork				

11
Tuesday

Lunch Tacos Enchiladas	Spades Tournament Island Room 6 p.m.	Shrek The Third 8 p.m.	Karaoke Night Island Room 7 p.m.	No Scheduled Flights
Dinner Sukiyaki Cajun Baked Fish				

12
Wednesday

Lunch Turkey Pot Pie Barbecued Beef Ribs	No Scheduled Events	Bug 8 p.m.	No Scheduled Entertainment	Paya Lebar, Singapore - Yokota, Japan Space-A Call: 2:15 a.m. Seats: 32T
Dinner "Italian Night" Spaghetti Baked Hot Italian Sausage				

13
Thursday

Lunch Oriental Pepper Steak Fish & Chips	4 Person Swim Relay (50M ea) Competition Base Pool 5 p.m.	The Invisible 8 p.m.	No Scheduled Entertainment	Paya Lebar, Singapore - Yokota, Japan Space-A Call: 11:30 p.m. Seats: 32T
Dinner Baked Yogurt Chicken Breast Jaegerschnitzel				Paya Lebar, Singapore - Yokota, Japan Space-A Call: 11:30 p.m. Seats: 20T

All events on the calendar are subject to change without notice.

LAST WEEK'S
SOLUTIONS

7	6	3	5	2	8	4	9	1
9	1	4	6	3	7	5	2	8
8	2	5	9	4	1	6	7	3
5	7	9	1	8	6	2	3	4
1	4	8	3	7	2	9	5	6
6	3	2	4	5	9	1	8	7
3	5	6	8	9	4	7	1	2
2	9	1	7	6	3	8	4	5
4	8	7	2	1	5	3	6	9