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SHIP NEWS 5

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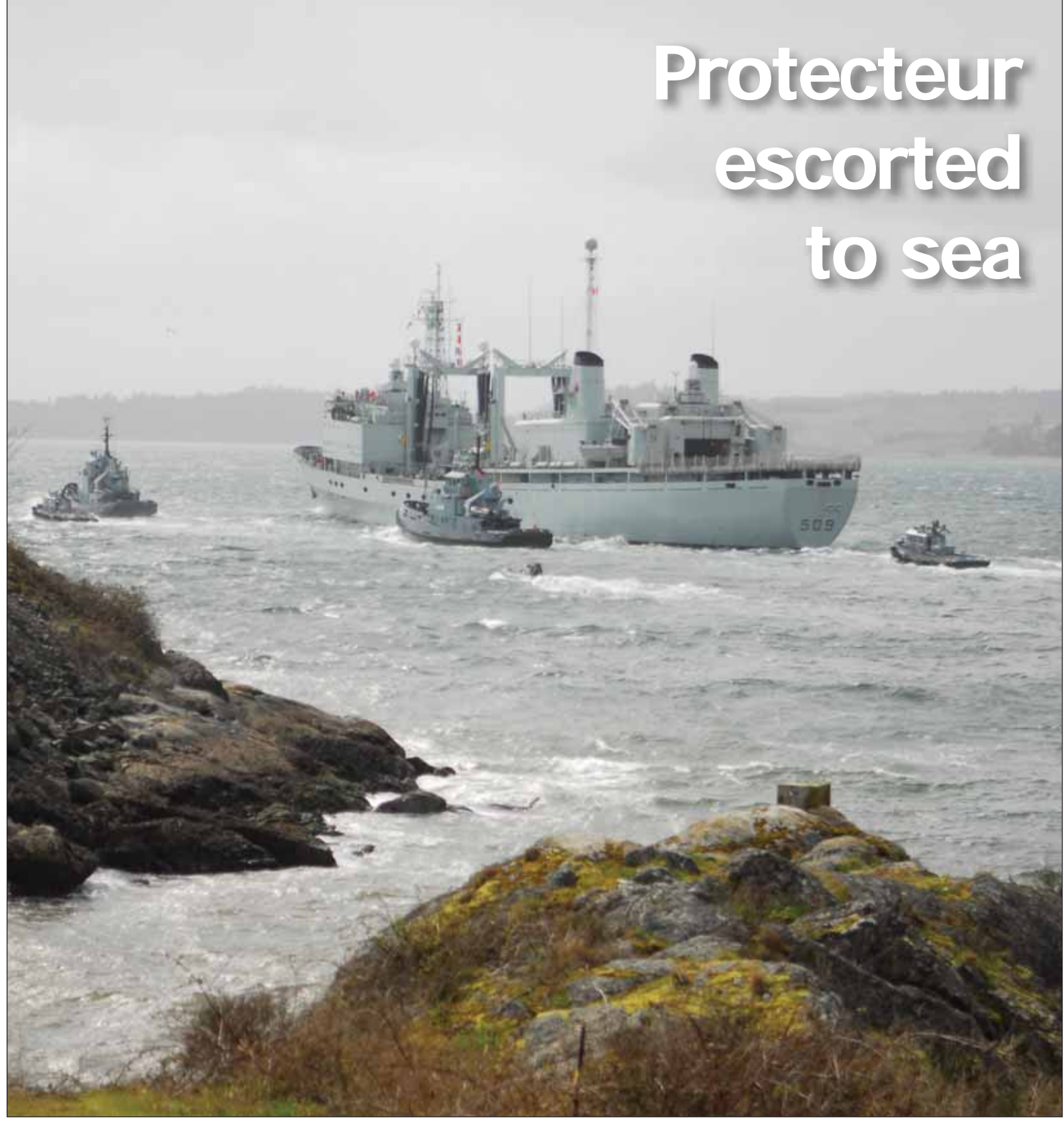
NEWS 8

Venture to welcome civilian instructors



SHIP NEWS 10

Calgary tops the list with radar intercepts



Protecteur escorted to sea

Shelley Lipke, Lookout

HMCS Protecteur sailed from CFB Esquimalt last Tuesday for a three-month deployment to the western Pacific Ocean. During this time, the ship will represent Canada at the Chinese International Fleet Review and replenish coalition ships at sea.

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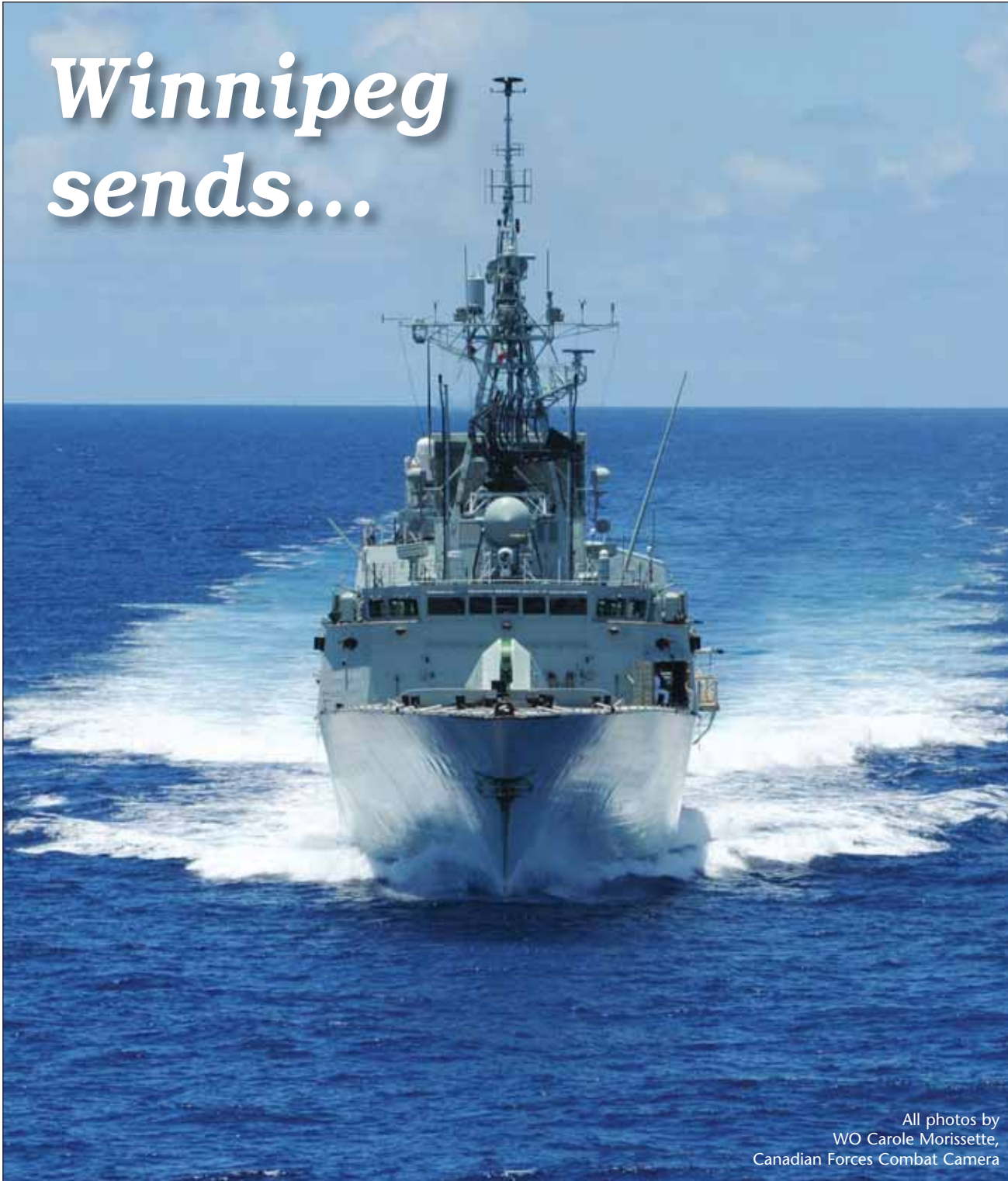
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All photos by
WO Carole Morissette,
Canadian Forces Combat Camera

HMCS Winnipeg crosses the Indian Ocean to join Standing NATO Maritime Group 1 (SNMG1) vessels for counter-piracy operations off the coast of Somalia. Winnipeg is the fifth Canadian warship to join the SNMG1, which represents a multi-national maritime force capable of conducting missions across a broad spectrum of operations anywhere around the world.



LS Randy Melancon cycles live rounds through the Close-in Weapon System in order to replace them with dummy rounds for maintenance following a live fire exercise.



LS Sherry Newhouse assists with a refueling at sea between Winnipeg and USNS Tippecanoe.



Cpl Dave Redecopp, an aviation system technician, prepares a replacement engine for the CH 124 Sea King helicopter on board Winnipeg.



Executive Officer LCdr Timothy Kerr pauses for a photo while Winnipeg heads for its mission off the coast of Somalia.

COMMUNITY: NEW DAYCARE OPENS



Shelley Lipke, Lookout

Cutting through the red tape: RAdm Tyrone Pile, Commander Maritime Forces Pacific, helps Leanne Kopp, chairperson of the Military Family Resource Centre (MFRC) board of directors, and Base Commander, Capt(N) Marcel Hallé officially open the new MFRC daycare located on Lampson Street in Esquimalt. Also housed in the building are the Base Language Training Centre and 2010 Naval Centennial offices.

Ex-sailor guilty of cocaine trafficking

Mary Ellen Green
Staff writer

The Standing Court Marital of Christopher Ellis wrapped up last weekend with the Ex-Ordinary Seaman sentenced to nine months imprisonment to be served at the Canadian Forces Service Prison and Detention Barracks in Edmonton.

Ellis was convicted on four charges in the court marital, which began Monday, March 23, and finished with sentencing Saturday, March 28.

He was convicted on two charges of cocaine trafficking, contrary to Section 130 of the National Defence Act, pursuant to Section 5(1) of the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act, and two charges of Conduct to the Prejudice of Good Order and

Discipline, contrary to Section 129 of the National Defence Act for cocaine use.

On June 20, and again on June 22, 2007, Ellis, with the help of OS Matthew Lee, sold cocaine to an undercover operator from the CF National Investigation Service (CFNIS).

OS Lee set up the drug transaction between ex-OS Ellis and an undercover operator of the CFNIS who was acting as a naval reservist from Halifax. Both sailors were on the undercover operator's list of persons of interest in cocaine trafficking.

The undercover operator approached OS Lee in Nelles Block and asked him if he knew where he could buy cocaine. OS Lee said he would check with some friends and

get back to him.

A few days later, the undercover operator approached OS Lee again at the Pacific Fleet Club, and this time a transaction was set up.

Ex-OS Ellis brought the cocaine to the undercover operator's room at Nelles Block later that evening, and again two days later.

In February, OS Lee was convicted on one count of cocaine trafficking, contrary to Section 130 of the National Defence Act, pursuant to Section 5(1) of the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act. He was sentenced to five months imprisonment for his role in the drug trafficking operation. He was released from custody pending appeal.

Ex-OS Ellis has also been released from custody pending appeal.



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matters of OPINION

FILM *friday*

Fast, furious and adventurous films

W. Andrew Powell
The GATE

The action returns to the street this week as Vin Diesel and Paul Walker reprise their roles for *Fast & Furious*. Also opening, the comedy *Adventureland* follows a young college grad working at an amusement park for the summer; plus Amy Adams and Emily Blunt star in the dramedy, *Sunshine Cleaning*.

Fast & Furious

Vin Diesel's films generally have what I would call a one-note feel about them. As an action-junkie, I don't know if I'd call that a bad thing, but it's certainly marked his career. Now, following a string of less-than-hit movies (like the atrocious *Babylon A.D.*), Diesel returns to his roots with a sequel to his biggest box office hit, *The Fast and the Furious*.

Stepping back into the fold of this action franchise, Diesel stars once more as ex-con Dominic Toretto, with original co-star Paul Walker as agent Brian O'Conner. This time out though, the duo are forced into a pact to work together in a move to take out a shared enemy. Of course, that means getting behind the wheel one more time.

Calling this a sequel might be a little misleading though. The truth is, if we open up our dictionaries, *Fast & Furious* is actually what you would call an "interquel," set in between the second and third films. A meaningless fact that only clarifies how convoluted the series has gotten to pump out yet another film.

Directed by Justin Lin, the filmmaker responsible for making the poorly-rated, box office hit, *Tokyo Drift*, it seems impossible to hope for much more than the usual this time out. Once



It's a bit of teen fun in *Adventureland* with Jesse Eisenberg, Bill Hader, Ryan Reynolds, and Kristen Wiig.

again, that means big stunts, and great visuals, with a lame story, and no common sense.

Adventureland

Pardon my enthusiasm, but even in my thirties I still have a soft spot for funny teen comedies. The truly hilarious ones are pretty uncommon, but look no further than director Greg Mottola's *Superbad* for a great example of a teen comedy with laughs, and heart.

For Mottola's latest film, which he also wrote, we take a trip back to the summer of 1987. James, played by Jesse Eisenberg, is a fresh college grad hoping to escape to Europe for the summer, but when he realizes he's short on cash, his parents tell him that it's time to get a job.

When no one will hire him, James ends up working at an amusement park, populated by

a range of weirdoes and losers. On the bright side, James might just have a shot at the sweet Em, played by Kristen Stewart, as he works for next to nothing, and tries to keep the hecklers at bay.

Co-starring Ryan Reynolds, Kristen Wiig, Bill Hader, and Martin Starr, *Adventureland* looks like a lot of fun, and has a strong collection of reviews stacking up in its favour.

Sunshine Cleaning

The Sundance Film Festival has a reputation for highlighting clever, witty films that tend to lean towards a dramatic independent style. A couple of great examples would have to be *The Squid and the Whale*, the documentary *Super Size Me*, and *American Splendor*.

With that in mind, *Sunshine Cleaning* is an interesting new

release that debuted at Sundance last year, and stars the wonderful Amy Adams and Emily Blunt as two sisters trying to expand their cleaning business.

In this witty dramedy, Adams plays a single mother who runs a household cleaning business, but starts working with her sister when the man she's sleeping with suggests she try her hand at crime-scene cleaning. While the grim task tests their patience, and their resolve, the sisters also have to come to terms with sad memories brought to mind by their line of work.

Reviewers have generally praised the film, although many note a few issues with the story and mood.

Arriving April 10:
Observe and Report
Hannah Montana The Movie
Dragonball: Evolution

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Technicians scramble aloft in Singapore

MS Richard DuBois
HMCS Winnipeg

Being a member of the Combat Systems Engineering (CSE) Department has its ups and downs.

It was definitely an "up" day when the NETech Tactical section took advantage of a fuel stop in Singapore to conduct maintenance on HMCS Winnipeg's RADAR and electronic warfare system 80 feet up the ship's main mast.

The CSE department's job is to ensure the ship's combat systems remain in tip-top shape. This doesn't just mean fixing things when they break, it also means conducting preventative maintenance in an effort to reduce the frequency of those breakdowns.

Part of the challenge is finding opportunities to perform maintenance. Most of the systems are in use at sea and the capabilities they provide to operations are too valuable to relinquish. Additionally, due to the unstable nature of a ship at sea, work is often difficult or unsafe to do while sailing, particularly for parts of the equipment on the weather decks and masts. As a result, we take every opportunity alongside to ensure that we get aloft to inspect, maintain and repair all mechanical parts.

We perform what maintenance we can at sea but when that's not possible, it can be a double edged sword. On rare occasions we have to stay behind to make critical repairs in foreign port while others go ashore. However, other times we get to do our own technical repair work while others are storing ship or landing gash (garbage) and getting the ship ready for a port visit.

During Winnipeg's recent eight-hour fuel stop in Singapore the CSE department resembled an Indy car pit crew. Each of the four sections of the department, Tactical (RADAR), Acoustic (SONAR), Communications, and Weapons Techs (gunners) busied themselves in teams on their own specific equipment.

The tactical techs were up the mast in two teams, one replacing an antenna for the Canadian Electronic Warfare



Photo courtesy of HMCS Winnipeg
PO2 Kirk Kendall performs maintenance up high on HMCS Winnipeg's main mast.

System (CANEWS), another performing a grease routine on the Sea Giraffe, the ship's medium-range surface search RADAR. The gunners were busy performing maintenance on the Close In Weapons System (CIWS).

The Acoustic techs assisted with the install of the new LRAD hailing system, and the Comm Techs were repairing several of the SHINCOM (telephone) terminals on the upper decks. A lot

of work got done in a very short time while alongside Singapore.

It's not all work, though, and it's important to take a few minutes to enjoy the spectacular views from 80 feet up, particularly for junior personnel aloft for the first time. You can tell it's something unique when the Public Affairs Officer shows up with his camera. On days like this, it can be hard to believe we get paid to do this.

Jim Pattison
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EAST COAST NEWS: SAILOR REWARDED

Navy diver awarded Star of Courage

Darlene Blakeley
Contributor

When PO2 Jim Leith was called to the Admiral's office in Halifax, he wracked his brains to figure out what he'd done wrong. "I must be in the ka-ka," he muttered to himself, "but I don't remember doing anything." When he arrived, there were several people gathered in the Admiral's office, all of them smiling.

PO2 Leith was told he had just been awarded the Star of Courage, a Canadian decoration for acts of conspicuous courage in circumstances of great peril.

The official announcement came from the Governor General's office on March 16, and the actual medal will be handed out in a ceremony at Government House later this spring.

A clearance diver at Fleet Diving Unit (Atlantic) with 22 years of service, PO2 Leith was on his first six-month combat mission in Afghanistan in the fall of 2006. Serving alongside members of 2 Combat Engineer Regiment, part of his job included clearing the supply routes every morning. During one such mission in the Pashmul district, the Bison armoured vehicle he was riding in hit an improvised explosive device (IED) and was thrown over nine metres.

Since PO2 Leith had jokingly been told by an Army colleague that "you break it, you buy it", his first thought was that he now owed about \$1.75 million for the Bison. However, as he climbed from the hatch of the shattered vehicle his concern turned to his buddy, Cpl Jim Lightle, who had been blown from the back-end of the Bison and was suffering from a compound leg fracture.

Two U.S. medics quickly took control of the situation, and to PO2 Leith's amazement, had the



PO2 Jim Leith served in Afghanistan in 2006. His brave actions to disarm an improvised explosive device found on the roadside earned him a medal.

injured diver loaded into a Black Hawk helicopter and en route to the nearest hospital in record time. He later learned it had taken just 19 minutes to transport Cpl Lightle from the battlefield to the operating theatre.

But that was just the beginning. As PO2 Leith began a post-blast investigation of the site, he came across a second, unexploded IED. He alerted others in the area to the danger. After clearing everyone back 100 metres, PO2 Leith crawled on his belly towards the IED, with nothing more than a bayonet. All of his specialized equipment had been destroyed in the Bison. Carefully, over the course

of about an hour, he managed to disassemble the components of the IED, rendering it safe.

"These IEDs are technically not very sophisticated," he says. "I felt I was competent enough to disable it. A good dose of fear keeps you sharp."

PO2 Leith also knew that if he didn't disable the IED this time, the enemy would be back with a similar device. "If we can get these IEDs and take them apart we can collect evidence for the next time," he explains.

The other soldiers formed a distant, yet protective barrier around PO2 Leith as he worked, because the enemy "doesn't like us messing with their handiwork."

PO2 Leith is humble about the act of courage that earned him one of Canada's highest awards for bravery. "I was just doing my job. That's what I'm supposed to be doing over there."

"These IEDs are technically not very sophisticated. I felt I was competent enough to disable it. A good dose of fear keeps you sharp."

-PO2 Jim Leith

SPORTS INBRIEF

Women's Slo-Pitch

Personnel Support Programs is holding registration and tryouts for the women's slo-pitch team, for players and assistant coaches, from 4 to 6 p.m. at the Colville Field April 20-23. For more information contact Coach, PO2 Chrissy Wruck, at 363-7249 or 363-7246, or PSP Sports Coordinator, Danielle Sutherland, at 363-4068.

Call for Military Soccer Officials

PSP and the CF sports program are looking for military members interested in becoming soccer officials, or

who are currently soccer officials but not taking part in military sports programs. For those who participate in the CF programs, it is possible to receive financial assistance with registration and course fees. You may have the opportunity to travel within your region to participate at the Regional Championship, outside your region for the National Championship, or once qualified, outside the country for international events.

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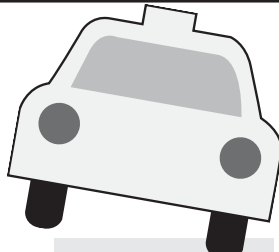
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A/SLt Penny Trusty, Contributor

A/SLt Tanya Meldrum practices being a ship Navigating Officer in one of the bridge simulators located at the Naval Officer Training Centre Venture. These state-of-the-art simulators are used to train Maritime Surface and Subsurface Officers (MARS) in skills required to sail warships at sea.

Civilians to instruct officers

A/SLt Penny Trusty
Contributor

A comprehensive review of teaching has led the Naval Officer Training Centre (NOTC) Venture to hire civilian instructors this spring to train its naval officers.

Hiring instructors from outside the military is a new step in the school's ever-advancing training program.

"The new phase will help keep the quality of instruction at its very best, and maintain our reputation as a first-class teaching facility," said Cdr Kelly Larkin, Commanding Officer of NOTC Venture. "It will also allow us to keep pace with the times, but it does not mean there will be any less uniformed personnel."

Civilian instructors will augment the cadre of mili-

tary instructors, who will continue to conduct all the practical training in the simulators and at sea.

Increased tempo of deployments and operations has meant innovative solutions had to be developed to provide the staff for NOTC, and although NOTC has been able to meet its mandate the lack of continuity is not helpful to staff or students.

Civilian instructors will be used as subject matter experts to enhance current training programs and reduce the cost to the fleet in covering personnel shortages at NOTC.

"The civilian instructor positions will bring a level of stability to the instructor cadre at NOTC that has not been experienced in recent years," explains LCdr Simon Brown, NOTC Executive

Officer. "They will complement rather than replace the Course Training Officers."

Six civilian instructors will be hired to balance teaching within the naval military staff, with one senior instructor to oversee their activities. The senior instructor will report directly to the MARS Section Head and the chain of command. In addition, a three-person civilian Training Support Team will be hired to support e-Learning.

This part of the school's new training program involves revamping training support systems such as e-Learning, e-Testing and Electronic Training Record Management. In addition a Project Manager will be hired to design, develop and implement a number of training delivery and support management systems.

UNITED WAY SPIRIT AWARD PRESENTATIONS



Mary Ellen Green, Lookout PO2 Debbie Chamberlain and LCdr Glen Thomas of Canadian Fleet Pacific accept a United Way Gold Award from RAdm Tyrone Pile, Commander Maritime Forces Pacific.



Mary Ellen Green, Lookout Base Logistics United Way representative Capt Erin Kay accepts a Spirit Award from RAdm Pile.



Mary Ellen Green, Lookout Canadian Forces Fleet School's United Way representative PO2 Yannick Gagne accepts his unit's Spirit Award from RAdm Pile.



Mary Ellen Green, Lookout LCol Jon Burbee, on behalf of Base Construction Engineering, receives a United Way Spirit Award from RAdm Pile.



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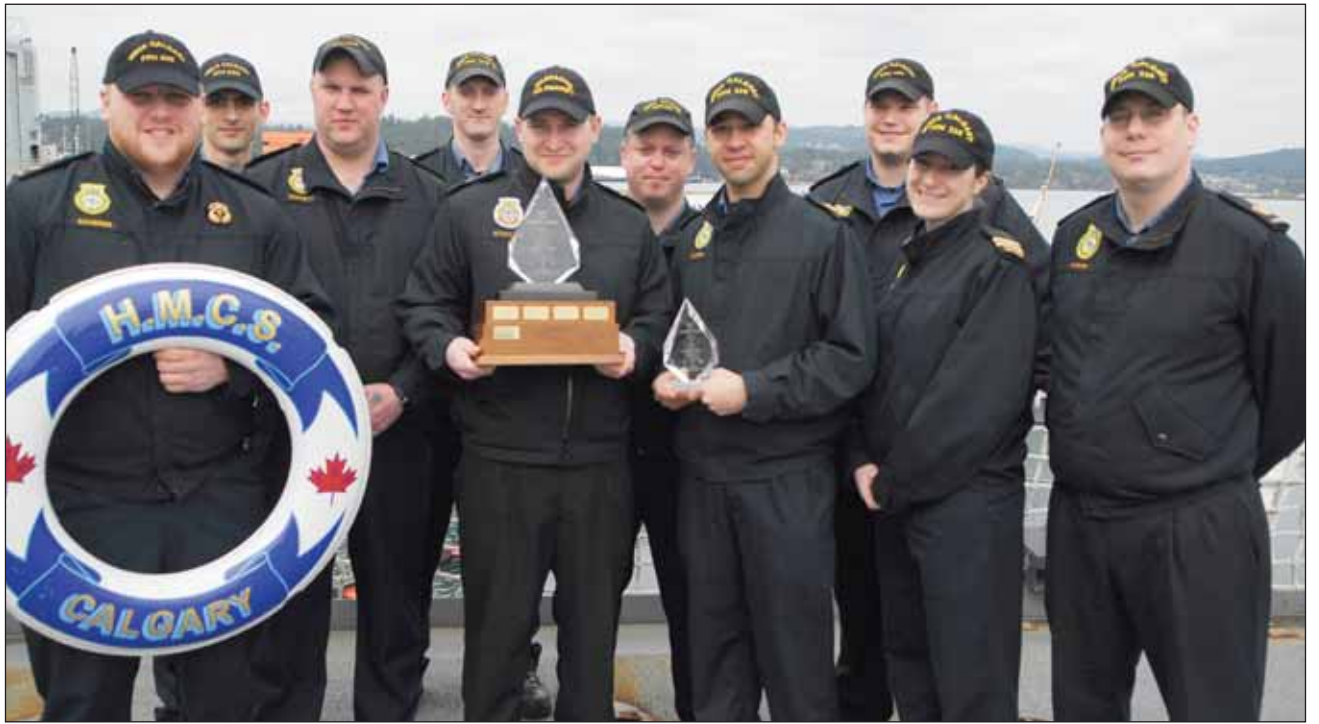



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Shelley Lipke, Lookout

Naval Electronic Sensor Operators on board HMCS Calgary stand with the Lockheed Martin Electronic Warfare Fleet Intercept Award. By conducting more intercepts (recording radar signals) than any other Canadian frigate or submarine, they won this annual award.

Calgary wins award for data collecting

Shelley Lipke
 Staff writer

A lengthy deployment, dedication and teamwork has paid off for the crew of *HMCS Calgary* who set the benchmark by winning the fleet intercept award and collecting more radar data than all the other CF ships and submarines combined.

Since 2002, The Lockheed Martin Electronic Warfare Fleet Intercept award is presented annually to the Canadian frigate or submarine who collects the most electronic intercepts (or recorded radar signals).

"This year *HMCS Calgary* submitted approximately 500 intercepts, which

exceeded every ship combined for two years running," said LCdr Peter Duke, Commanding Officer of Naval Electronic Warfare Centre Ottawa. "I give credit to the NESOP (Naval Electronic Sensor Operator) team, the bridge and the techs."

"During our six-and-a-half month deployment we had a friendly competition between individuals and port and starboard watches to see who could get the most intercepts of best quality and accuracy," said PO1 Mike Barker, sensor weapons controller. "At the beginning of our long deployment this competition peaked the interest of all operators, and

allowed them to gain more experience as well."

As the frigate sailed the waters surrounding the Persian Gulf during Task Force Afghanistan and Operation Altair, it had an opportunity to collect radar data on many vessels, aircraft and land-based platforms as it was the sole vessel within the task group performing this duty.

"At sea we use radar, bridge personnel and electronic warfare signals to track, identify and report the platforms that we come in contact with," said PO1 Barker.

All Canadian frigates and submarines are equipped with equipment needed to perform these intercepts and the data collected by this equipment is used to help build a maritime picture.

"Each time a signal is detected, the naval electronic sensor operators must

determine the origin of the platform," said PO1 Barker. "If we don't know where the signal is coming from, we can't confirm the class of vessel and this may inhibit us in making tactical decisions at sea."

Once a radar signal is recognized from one type of vessel, the operators will be able to identify a similar signal more easily in the future.

"It's important to collect accurate signals because we use them for future operations," he said.

Aside from the number of intercepts, accuracy also plays a key role in determining the recipient of this award. The information collected by the operators is sent to the Naval Electronic Warfare Centre in Ottawa where it is analyzed for accuracy.

"Ninety two per cent of the signals that we submitted this year were accepted as accurate signals," said PO1 Barker. "This shows that the work we put forward yielded a good success rate."

The number of intercepts we've had this year has built a lot of confidence in our personnel, he said. "If we can identify both friendly ships as well as threats then we can make appropriate tactical decisions at sea."

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Photos by Shelley Lipke, Lookout

Above and top right: When an instructor at Fleet Diving Unit calls "awkward," dive students run for the water, donning their wetsuits and fins within two minutes. The students must drop what they're doing, even if they are in the middle of a class, to go for a short swim in the chilly waters of Esquimalt Harbour. The exercise teaches them to be ready anytime.

Right: PO1 Rob DeProy and CPO1 Walter Dubeau stand beside a two man recompression chamber. The portable chamber is used to remove nitrogen from the blood of divers who are feeling the effects of nitrogen poisoning, (also called the bends). If a diver is in need of this treatment, the chamber can be flown in by helicopter.

Bottom right: LS Geoffrey Backman receives oxygen through an oral nasal mask inside the main recompression chamber during a training exercise. One of five recompression chambers at the unit, this large chamber is used to treat injured divers, and to train divers to operate, drive and supervise the recompression.

Below: Dive students carry an empty crate to one of the dive tenders to fill with extra equipment when they go diving.



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COMMUNITY: GET OUT AND ABOUT

Volunteer opportunities up for grabs for museum enthusiasts

Shelley Lipke
Staff writer

The Maritime Museum of B.C. has relied heavily on the voluntary work of naval devotees and history buffs since its inception in 1955, and is now looking to further expand its volunteer base.

Setting up and cataloguing exhibits, conducting group tours and networking with the visitors are some of the tasks that staff at the Bastion Square museum need help with.

"Most volunteers are retired and they are here because they share a deep love for maritime culture and life at sea," said 70-year-old Mike Harrison.

For the past 15 years, Harrison has been coming to the museum twice a week for four hours.

"Sometimes I talk to visitors and act as security, work in the library answering research questions, or give group tours," said Harrison. "Generally, we like to ask people what their interests are and this helps us find the right job at the museum that they'll enjoy."

Like many volunteers, Harrison has been associated with ships his whole life. As a naval architect, he worked for the National Search Council in the United Kingdom and then



Shelley Lipke, Lookout

Megan O'Connor and Mike Harrison, volunteers at the Maritime Museum of B.C. in Bastion Square, pose for a photo at the Tilikum exhibit.

later for the Canadian Coast Guard.

"We have retired coast guards, captains, naval architects, tugboat captains, and marine pilots who volunteer their time here," said Harrison. "We even have, a serving navy officer, LCdr Angus Fedoruk, who volunteers as much as he can when he's not away at sea.

We are a close group and I've made a great bunch of friends and we often travel together and visit other museums in the area."

Each year the museum attracts thousands of visitors, and with events such as the Tall Ships Festival, volunteers learn a lot simply from chatting with the visitors, said Harrison. "Some people come to Victoria specifically to see the museum. We have a lot of retired merchant marines who come to see historical artifacts," he said.

The museum currently has 40 volunteers ranging in age from students to retirees. Some even sit on the board of directors, and help organize special events and fundraisers.

For 21-year-old Megan O'Connor, volunteering is preparing her for museum studies at the University of Toronto. "I'm just finishing up my undergrad degree as a fourth year anthropology student and have been working with the collections managers at the museum to learn how to handle, catalogue and exhibit objects," she said. "This is helping me establish what kind of job I will have in the future. It's a great learning environment for any student who is looking to go into heritage or cultural management."

O'Connor has many roles at the museum. She helps sell tickets, works in the

gift shop and at the front desk, and she admits that she loves the variety that volunteering gives her.

"Every day is different, and I find it especially interesting working with historical and cultural objects because I like to uncover the mystery of what the object actually is and the history that lies behind it," she said.

Because volunteers will interact most with the public, the collections manager will gather all the volunteers around an exhibit to explain it to them, said O'Connor. This way the volunteers pass on the knowledge to the visitors. "We are always learning, which is what I find so fascinating about the museum."

In the summer a lot of exchange students volunteer, but during the rest of the year it's mostly retirees that run the show. "It's a great opportunity for retired veterans to keep their connection with the sea and bring in valuable resources, knowledge and background," said Harrison.

From early explorers and pirates, to the history of shipbuilding and shipwrecks to whaling and fishing, there are as many featured exhibits as individual opportunities to get involved. To register as a volunteer or for further information go to www.mmbc.bc.ca.

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Unique ceremony marks citizenship

Mary Ellen Green
Staff writer

To bring attention to the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, Thursday, March 26, the Maritime Forces Pacific Visible Minority Advisory Group (MVMAG) hosted the first-ever citizenship ceremony at CFB Esquimalt.

Thirty candidates from 14 countries took the oath of citizenship in the Rainbow Room at the Chiefs and Petty Officers' Mess, amongst friends, relatives and curious DND onlookers.

The ceremony was hosted by PO2 Thandi Pilkey, Military Co-Chair of MVMAG, and attended by RAdm Tyrone Pile, Commander Maritime Forces Pacific, and Thomas Kwan, Director of Operations for Citizenship and Immigration Canada on Vancouver Island.

"It is fitting that the theme of this ceremony is Remembering the Past and Improving the Future and that today is

the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination," said RAdm Pile. "As new Canadian citizens we do not ask you to give up your culture, your religion or your language. We encourage you remain proud of your roots and bring all that is positive with you and to work together with us to continue to build this nation. Furthermore my organization has lots of opportunities for you."

Member of the Order of Canada, Barbara Brink was the presiding officer, assisted by Citizenship Officer Elisabeth Klak.

The Naden Band was on hand to provide music for the ceremony, accompanied by world-class vocalist, Ken Lavigne singing the National Anthem in both French and English.

"This is an excellent show of support for new immigrants. Our role in MVMAG is to create a barrier-free workplace where everyone is welcome. We need to be representative of the community we work in," said PO2 Pilkey.



Mary Ellen Green, Lookout
RAdm Tyrone Pile greets a new Canadian citizen following an oath-taking ceremony on base.

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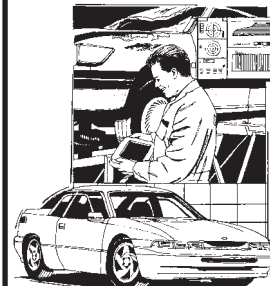
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The Public Service Commission (PSC) has taken a phased-in approach to implementing a national area of selection (NAOS) policy, which applies to public service positions being staffed externally.

This policy does not apply to positions being staffed internally.

The intent is to provide greater access for Canadians to job opportunities in the public service and to encourage enhanced diversity.

The policy started in 2001 for jobs open to the public at the executive (senior) level.

In April 2006, officer-level jobs open to the public

and located in the National Capital Region became subject to the NAOS. A national area of selection was then applied across the country to officer-level jobs in April 2007.

Effective Dec. 31, 2008, the PSC implemented the expansion of NAOS for all positions across Canada. This requires that all positions (both indeterminate and term over six months) being staffed on an external basis (i.e. open to the general public) must be advertised nationally to all Canadians.

For Canadians, this expansion means that they can apply for and will be considered for jobs within the fed-

eral public service regardless of where they live. This will result in greater access to persons who reflect the myriad of backgrounds, skills and professions needed to support our operations.

For some positions, especially entry-level, this may mean significant increases in the volume of applications and additional workload demands for both managers and HR service providers.

In order to manage this change, a National Area of Selection Framework has been developed with a view to keeping the number of similar selection processes to a minimum and eliminating duplication of work.

Based on an analysis of SIP information, Service Centres that identify a need to staff positions of the same groups and levels, partner to run one recruitment process to fill all positions.

Managers who have positions being staffed in these occupations will be expected to support these national selection processes, if no local pools currently exist, by drawing candidates from these inventories/pools for further assessment of "right fit."

They will work with their local Human Resource Officer (HRO) as usual. Managers may also be asked to participate in future selection processes where there may be a viable partnership with other managers who have similar needs.

Current employees who

may be interested in applying for other positions are strongly encouraged to monitor the www.jobs.gc.ca web site. It is important to note that the notices are originating from various locations on behalf of all work sites across DND, and that they are often posted for a short period only. Candidates must be careful when completing their on-line application that they specify the work location(s) for which they want to be considered.

Candidates must also be aware that we are accepting only on-line applications. This is necessary to permit the electronic screening of applicants. To assist any employee who may not have access to a computer, the Civilian Human Resources Service Centre has set up two computer work stations in the foyer of Building 54 Naden.

A staff member is available to assist if necessary. To assist candidates in applying for subsequent selection processes the Learning and Career Centre will be arranging for briefing sessions. The details of these sessions will be issued shortly.

If you have any questions regarding this new policy and its impact on current or future staffing strategies at your unit, please contact your Human Resources Officer.

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Before you fill out your tax return...

Pierre Goulet
SISIP Financial Services

Now that the RRSP season is behind us, Canadians turn their attention to income tax time. The deadline for filing your 2008 tax return is April 30, 2009. Depending on your situation, non-refundable tax credits can help reduce your tax base. Here are a few simple tips you should keep in mind.

Charitable donations

Those of you who make donations to your favourite charity will get a tax credit when these are claimed on your tax return. Keep in mind that the federal credit is 15 per cent on the first \$200 and 29 per cent on amounts above \$200. In addition, there are corresponding provincial credits based on your province's tax rates.

Charitable donation receipts can be transferred to your spouse. The higher income earner should claim all donations if the province of residence has a provincial surtax and the higher income earner is subject to it. This way you will get the maximum credit against the income in the highest tax bracket. If surtaxes do not apply, either spouse can claim the donations.

Medical Expenses

Medical expenses are also transferable between spouses. Medical expenses can include amounts paid outside of Canada and they must be more than 3 per cent of your net income or \$1,962, whichever is less. Therefore, the spouse with the lowest income should claim all expenses.

You can claim the expenses of all immediate family members (child, spouse, parent, grandparent, brother, uncle, niece...) who depended upon you for support during the tax year. The total of these expenses must be more than the lesser of \$1,962 or 3 per cent of the dependent's net income for the year up to a maximum of \$10,000.

You can claim medical expenses paid in any 12-month period ending in 2008 that were not claimed in the previous year.

Tuition and Education Amounts

You can claim fees paid for post-secondary courses. Each claim must be \$100 or more for each educational institution and the institution should provide you with an official tax receipt or a form T2202A. A portion of the education amounts can also be trans-

ferred from spouses and children. To find out what amount is eligible, complete the calculation on the back of your T2202A or schedule 11 in your income tax forms.

Spouse or Common-Law Partner Amount

If your spouse or common-law partner earned less than \$9,600 last year, follow the calculation on line 303 of your return to see what amount you can claim.

If you were single, divorced, separated, or widowed you can claim a maximum amount of \$9,600 minus the income for any dependent. This amount is called the "Amount for an eligible dependent" and is found on schedule 5 of your return.

Age and Pension Credits

These amounts are based on your age and whether you are receiving a pension and can also be transferred to your spouse.

All of the above mentioned credits and further explanations are in your General Income Tax and Benefit Guide 2008. Take the time to read the portions of the guide that apply to your claims. It may save you money or prevent you from making a costly mistake.



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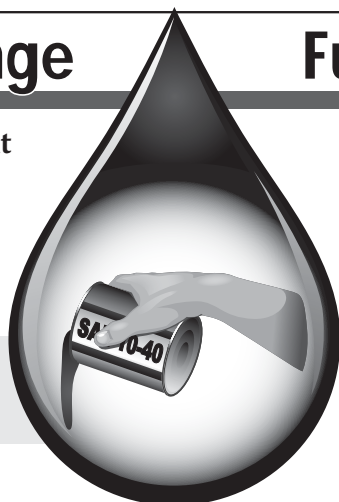
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INFOCUS



On March 10, Ken White, a Powell River, B.C. resident, received the Canadian Forces Search and Rescue Award of Achievement from 442 Search and Rescue Squadron based at CFB Comox. White has assisted the Joint Rescue Co-ordination Centre (JRCC) Victoria in many search and rescue cases over the past 30 years. He would often be the first one alerting the JRCC of Mayday calls in the northern Georgia Strait. White runs an operations centre from his home to assist the Joint Rescue Co-Ordination Centre in Victoria. He also assists the United States Coast Guard Rescue Co-ordination Centres in the Pacific Maritime search and rescue region, in which he is often the first person to alert them of mayday calls from a merchantman or fishing vessel in distress.



Logistics employees rise to the challenge

Base Logistics Officer, Cdr Steve Irwin, and the Customer Assistance Manager, LCdr Marc Blouin, recently recognized the achievement of the Base Logistics Technical Services Section (TSS). Five members of the TSS team earned their Quality Inspector certification from the internationally recognized American Society for Quality (ASQ), a guiding force in the development of quality management practice and its application in industry and government.

TSS staff provide incoming product verification and inspection services for Materiel processed through the Base Logistics main warehouse, as well as providing conditioning

and sentencing services to the return materiel stream at D210 Return Stores. Other section activities include providing on-shelf maintenance capability, logistics technical assistance to end-user units, Cataloguing of locally managed materiel, and training to end-user units in logistics technical areas. Modernizing section activities has been a primary focus of the section for the past four years and this recent achievement by Bill Anderson, Louise Cassidy, Rob Senkpiel, Ken Stotz, and Jordan Walsh marks an important milestone in the section's continual improvement activities.

Achieving this accreditation, from

a professional agency, required many hours of study on their own time and was a significant challenge for all involved. According to Rob Senkpiel, "We have some incredibly talented people in our section, and now that we've experienced the exam and the required study process first hand, we'll be able to assist our other inspectors in achieving their certification. As well - several of us will be pursuing Quality Technician and/or Quality Manager certifications in the coming months, and going through this process will stand us in good stead as we continue to move forward in support of Base Logistics."

Teacher newest naval member

Darlene Blakeley
Contributor

An educator and administrator from Thunder Bay, ON, has been named the navy's newest honorary captain.

Patricia Lang, currently president of Confederation College of Applied Arts and Technology, is a member of the business and academic communities in northwestern Ontario.

HCapt(N) Lang will be affiliated with the Directorate of Maritime Training and Education, whose mission is to provide sufficient, properly qualified personnel to conduct naval operations through recruiting attraction, training, professional development and education.

"The appointment of honorary captain is a privilege and I am indeed humbled by the honour," says HCapt(N) Lang.

Her willingness to become an honorary member of the navy was cemented last summer when she and LCdr John Bell, Commanding Officer of Thunder Bay's Naval Reserve Division, *HMCS Griffon*, visited the Naval Reserve Training Division at CFB Borden. HCapt(N) Lang came away from the visit with a strong appreciation for Canada's sailors and their devotion to duty.

"I had the opportunity to speak to new recruits who spoke very proudly and eloquently about serving Canada and about their learning in terms of ethics and team-

work," explains HCapt(N) Lang. "Their excitement was palpable and their loyalty admirable. This visit reinforced for me what a privilege it is to live in Canada and that if I ever had the opportunity to serve our country that it would be incumbent upon me to do so."

Earlier this year HCapt(N) Lang gained some first-hand knowledge of the navy, sailing aboard the maritime coastal defence vessel *HMCS Whitehorse*, as well as visiting the Damage Control Division and Fleet Diving Unit Pacific.

"I was most impressed with the incredibly broad base of knowledge, skill and expertise of all the navy personnel," she says. "I think they invented the concept of 'multi-skilling' that is now becoming prevalent in business and industry."

She is a strong advocate for the navy and its technical education requirements, and her diverse background gives her unique access to key technical education and national leaders in business and government.

"Honorary Captains play a liaison role between the navy and communities, sectors or businesses, and in my case, I will act as a liaison between the navy and over 150 Canadian community colleges," she says.

She will also promote the new Non-Commissioned Member Subsidized Education Plan across Canada, sharing her knowledge and experience of student recruitment with the navy.

CF athletes train with the best

Mary Ellen Green
Staff writer

Ever wonder what it would be like to train like an Olympian?

Canadian Forces triathletes and runners from CFB Esquimalt found the answer to that at the United States Olympic Training Centre in Colorado Springs for the CF National Running and Triathlon Development camps.

Fifty athletes from across the CF converged on Colorado Springs Feb. 15-22 for a week of intense training with some of the world's top coaches, including Sharon Donnelly, former CF member, and Olympic triathlon champion.

"It was amazing and a great experience. Sharon Donnelly really helped us with the swimming aspect," said LCdr Lucie Tremblay, Naval Provost Marshal, who represented CFB Esquimalt's triathletes.

The Olympic Training Centre has a 50 metre, 10 lane pool with video analysis technology. Swimmers can watch their technique from all angles, including underwater, to critique and perfect their performance.

Twenty-five military triathletes will form the 2009 CISM Core Triathlon team for the upcoming season that include May's Armed Forces Triathlon in Point Mugu, California, and the

CF National Championship in July.

World-renowned running coach, Bobby McGee, taught the running clinics for both running and triathlon. Running was always done outdoors, which was an unexpected challenge for the athletes, especially those from Esquimalt.

"It was cool and crisp during the day, and always sunny, but very, very dry. The dry conditions and the altitude (6,500 feet) has an impact on your breathing," LCdr Tremblay said.

For six days, athletes rose before 6 a.m. and worked until late evening, attending lectures and meetings, on top of exerting themselves to capacity during afternoon training sessions.

Joint Task Force Games

Information Manager, Lt(N) Blake Poirier attended the running development camp and said, "We ran over 100 km in those six days. I was running between 60 and 70 km per week on average before the camp, and now I'm doing between 70 and 80 km. You can't just produce endurance overnight; you have to gradually build it up. Having the opportunity to train full time for a week made me realize how much running I can actually fit into my schedule as long as I make time for it."

Lt(N) Poirier plans to compete in next year's running nationals in Ottawa in the Marathon event. His sights are also set on the CISM 5th World Military Games in Rio De Janeiro in 2011.

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