



USS RONALD REAGAN (CVN 76)

NEWSPAPER NAME WINNERS: AS2 Michael Mack KSN Christopher Conner DKSA Steven Haywood

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Sailors see Peru Through MWR

by AN Heather Beckham

Staff Writer

USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76) is preparing to visit its last port stop, on its way to its new homeport in San Diego, tomorrow. The ship is in the midst of Summer Pulse '04, the simultaneous deployment of seven carrier strike groups demonstrating its ability to execute the Navy's Fleet Response Plan.

Ronald Reagan's Morale, Welfare and Recreation department has tours planned, ranging from the Pachamac Ruins to a three-day trip to Machu Picchu: Sailors have an array

of options to choose from.

"I think in this port we gave Sailors more choices," said ABEC (AW) Roger Scruggs, MWR chief petty officer. "We were able to allow Sailors to see more of the country than the last two ports."

Scruggs, who has been working for MWR since August 2003, said he hopes Sailors take advantage of the tours and their time in South America as a whole.

To date, MWR has sold more than 6,000 tour tickets including 500 for Ronald Reagan's stop in Lima.

"I think that the



Life in Lima, Peru runs at a slower pace than many South American metropolises; its rhythm is more traditional, and its people reflect a steadier, calmer constitution. Lima's unusually amenable inhabitants give the metropolis the feeling of a cluster of smaller towns.

S-7 department did a magnificent job with all of our tours," said YNC (AW/SW) Wilson Williams, MWR representative.

According to

Scruggs, Sailors have their friends and the opportunity to relax.

"Sailors should take advantage of this opportunity," Scruggs said. "I'm looking forward to

the tour of the ruins."

Along with the tour of the ruins, MWR is also offering a white water rafting trip, a horseback riding trip, a tour of Peruvian cuisine and a tour of the Gold Museum.

Two overnight trips are planned as well. Machu Picchu, a tour of the lost city of the Incas is a 3-day excursion -- A buggy ride, sand boarding and flight to Nazca is also planned.

For Sailors not on tours, there is no overnight liberty. For liberty groups escorted by an E4, curfew expires at 11:00 p.m., E5 at 11:59 p.m., and E6 or higher at 1:00 a.m.

'Mean' Greene Awarded Duel Tribute for Career Marks

CAG Traps for 1,200th Time on His One-Year Anniversary

by JO2 Shane Tuck

Staff Writer

The flight deck of USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76), the Navy's newest nuclear-powered aircraft carrier, was the scene of a milestone in one officer's naval career.

Capt. "Mean" Jim

Greene, commander Carrier Airwing ELEVEN (CVW-11), made his 1,200th successful trap July 4, at 11:30 a.m., putting him in first-rate company with legendary "salty" Sailors.

"Those who have reached the success of 1,000 traps are all distinguished Sailors ... many of whom I've known and had the pleasure of working with in the past," said Greene.

"If this puts me in their club, I'm very honored to be a member."

According to "Mean" Greene, his many traps are directly associated with his long Navy career.

"I don't look at 1,200 traps as being a measure of my skill; I look at it as being a measure of my longevity in my chosen profession," said Greene.

"I've heard people speak about trap

numbers as if they were homeruns.

"Hitting homeruns is a skill. There are many people who step up to the plate but don't hit homeruns," said Greene. "A large number of traps is merely the result of hanging around in this business long enough. I'm thankful to all of the pilots who have made my traps successful, and I'm proud to have accomplished this feat aboard Ronald Reagan."

Humble isn't a vivid enough description of Greene's attitude toward his accomplishment.

"We try not to chase trap numbers or records," said Greene. "The fact that I've landed safely aboard a flight deck 1,200 times is directly attributed to the outstanding teams I've been privileged to work with -- I'm very fortunate."

After returning from his historic flight, Greene had

CAG ... Cont. on page 4

Main Event

Coach K Stays, Lakers Suffering

by JO2 Paul Simonds

Staff Writer

He has won three NCAA Men's College Basketball Championships. He is the most beloved man in Durham, N.C. He is, much to the chagrin of the Los Angeles Lakers, staying put.

Mike Krzyzewski has decided to turn down \$40 million over eight years to remain the head coach at Duke University.

Meanwhile the Lakers are still in search of a replacement for nine-time world champion Phil Jackson. Jackson's contract expired after the Lakers fell to the Detroit Pistons in the NBA Finals.

Krzyzewski, who is

one of the greatest coaches of any sport at any time, will continue to build champions in Durham, and the Lakers ... well the Lakers' turmoil continues.

How bad can things get in tinsel town? Bryant may be facing jail time, Shaquille O'Neal has demanded a trade, Karl Malone is probably going to retire and the Lake Show is without a coach.

The mess in L.A. can be fixed, but it's going to take a Jerry West type overhaul. West, you might remember, built the Showtime Lakers of the eighties and the most recent three-time champion Lakers. Now he is the general manager of the Memphis Grizzlies

and believe it or not he has, what has been called the laughing stock of the NBA playing at a level of respectability.

The answer for the Lakers is simple -- build around the big fella.

You have to have a dominant big guy to win consistently in the NBA. The Chicago Bulls of the '90s aside, virtually every NBA powerhouse in history has had a dominant center.

The Celtics dynasties had Bill Russell, and Robert Parrish. The Lakers dynasties had Wilt Chamberlain, Kareem Abdul Jabbar and, of course, O'Neal. Remember the Houston Rockets of

the Jordanless nineties? They featured Hakeem Olajowain. How about the two-time champion San Antonio Spurs? Does anyone remember David Robinson?

Sure the Bulls were built around Sir Michael Jordan, but he was an anomaly.

If the Lakers want to win any more rings, they need to keep O'Neal happy. If that means letting Bryant go, then so be it. Bryant is good; in fact, he's on the verge of being great. But you can't convince me, he can make more of a difference than O'Neal.

If O'Neal has an "off" night offensively, he will

Lakers... Cont. on page 3

Ronald Reagan Strike Group Fosters Relationships With Peru Through SIFOREX

by JO3 Robbie Thomas

Editor

The Ronald Reagan Strike Group (RRSG) completed Silent Forces Exercises (SIFOREX), Monday, after four days of Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW) tactics with the Peruvian Navy. USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76) is in the midst of Summer Pulse '04, the simultaneous deployment of seven carrier strike groups demonstrating their ability to execute the Navy's Fleet Response Plan.

RRSG is the first group to foster a relationship with Peru through SIFOREX, which was created to provide the Navy with necessary ASW training specifically for diesel submarines, according to Capt. William Hoker, commodore Destroyer Squadron Seven (DESRON 7).

"This is a United States and Peruvian exercise created solely for the U.S. Navy to provide us with extensive diesel ASW practice," said Hoker.

The Peruvian Navy was chosen for the exercise based on their expert use of diesel subs and their reputation as the best submariners in South America, according to Hoker.

"The primary concern for the U.S. Navy is diesel powered subs; the majority of the world uses diesel instead of nuclear power," said Hoker.

During the exercise, RRSG used several different ASW tactics to locate Peruvian subs.

SH-60B Seahawks were used to detect the magnetic signature a submarine gives off.

They also have technology for spotting periscopes and detecting electronic emissions should an enemy submarine choose to use its radar.

More than just ASW aircraft were used to track subs during the exercise. The entire strike group provided support tracking and spotting submarine movement.

"The whole airwing pitched in. I even have a picture of a periscope that was taken on a C2 Greyhound," said Hoker.

"The primary resources for accomplishing our mission were the helos and our escorts: USS Thomas S. Gates (CG 51), USS Benfold (DDG 65), USS Mitscher (DDG 57) and USS Camden (AOE 2)."

According to Hoker, USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76) performed well in this exercise due to previous exercises with the Brazilian Navy.

"In this exercise, Ronald Reagan practiced its evasive maneuvers similar to those used by the Brazilian Navy and conducted flight operations during a period of submarine threat. That was very important," said Hoker.

The Peruvian Navy provided more submarines, training, personnel and equipment for the exercise than

SIFOREX... Cont. on page 4



Commanding Officer
Capt. James Symonds

Executive Officer
Capt. Andrés Brugal

Command
Master Chief
CMDMCM (SW/AW)
Kathy Hansen

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Reader's Choice...

*What Warfare Question Would You ask at Someone's Board?***ABE1 Maurice Thigpen**
"What are catapults used for?"

A: First line of defense.

**ABE3 Ahrmon Rudolph**
"What does FDF standfor?"

A: Flight Deck Function

**EM2 Edward Spencer**
"Where does the steam for the catapults come from?"

A: Reactor

**EM3 Matios Telles**
"How many times do you dip and bake a motor?"

A: 3

**SM2 Adam Singleton**
"What's the CO's absentee pennant?"

A: 3rd substitute

Reel Time*Vanilla Sky*

with "The Helke"

Tonight on Channel 4

Welcome,
Herr Doctor.
Doctor,
Doctor,
Doctor,
Doctor.
Today,
we shall



investigate the physiology of the movie *Vanilla Sky*.

Vanilla Sky is a remake of the 1997 Spanish movie *Open Your Eyes*. Cameron Crowe's (*Jerry Maguire*, *Almost Famous*) version is about the experiences of David Aames (Tom Cruise).

It's a tale of love, betrayal, jealousy, despair and redemption. But what exactly is the deal here? We must monitor *dis veri* closely.

David is quite the subject. He has a lot going for him. He is the majority stockowner of a publishing firm, works short hours, has lots of money, has an awesome Manhattan apartment and a gorgeous "friend with benefits", Julie (Cameron Diaz). From the outside, he seems to have it all, but he doesn't.

ACTING = B
DIRECTING = B+
STORYLINE = B
CAMERA WORK = B
OVERALL = B

At one of his parties, his best friend, David (Jason Lee), introduces him to a very beautiful woman named Sofia (Penelope Cruz). David and Sofia mesh and fall in love. Ahh... amorè. This raises the ire of Julie. She becomes so jealous that she invites David on a ride he will never forget. She crashes her car into a wall -- killing herself and maiming David's face.

So, David becomes the Phantom of the Opera, living a torturous life of his former existence and loving Sofia from afar. But how real is this life? It seems so surreal. Did this really happen? Is his face mangled? Did he really kill someone? Who knows?

If you want to find the answers, you must open your eyes today to the *Vanilla Sky*.

**Today's
Movies****Channel 2**

Cheaper by the Dozen
The Dead Pool
Disney's Teachers Pet
Freaky Friday
Intolerable Cruelty
Magnum Force
The Man from the Elysian Fields
Moonstruck

Channel 4

Never Die Alone
Once Upon a Time in Mexico
Rent Control
Romy and Michele's High School Reunion
Vanilla Sky
Scary Movie 3
Three Musketeers
Under the Tuscan Sun

Lakers*Continued from front page*

still redirect shots in the paint and he can still grab 15 boards. If Bryant has an off night, he may hold an opposing guard in check, but he is going to be a detriment offensively. When Bryant goes cold, he begins to turn the ball over, take wild shots and passes less.

As I think of guys who can possibly replace O'Neal, the list is virtually nonexistent. When I think of guys who could replace Bryant; names like Allen Iverson, Tracey McGrady, Chris Webber and Steve Francis come to mind. Sure, not all these guys play the exact same style as Bryant, but they can all score. The point is -- a guard/forward who is capable

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I have an observation I would like to share with everyone concerning our gear lockers and GQ.

In my locker, we have a lot of young people. I look around at their eager, innocent faces and I see them much as I saw myself many years ago.

It's also something that frightens me. After I look at them, I then try to picture their faces frightened and knee deep in the real thing.

That's when my face tightens up and my serious face light's up. It's not for the benefit of the drill.

It's so those young Sailors see that GQ should be taken seriously.

This letter isn't so much for our young Sailors as it is for you leaders in the lockers. Train your people as if it were real. In a real situation, all we have is our training.

Like the Forrester or the Enterprise, you never know when something can go wrong. Those of you who are not familiar with those disasters will definitely remember the Cole. It's real and it is our job to make sure our young people know just how real it is. Thanks.

- GQ Aware

Spanish Lessons...*"¿Dónde puedo encontrar un teléfono?"**"Where can I find a phone?"*

of scoring big-time points is a dime a dozen.

Once O'Neal is deemed happy and the Lakers replace Bryant, acquiring a Scrapy should be the next priority. When I think of a Scrapy, I am thinking of guys like Dennis Rodman, Kurt Rambis or Danny Ainge. These types of players are invaluable to their clubs. They may not be great shooters, or lead the league in assists, but they do whatever it takes to win each night.

If the Lakers can somehow manage to mix in a shooter as well, they will be right back at the top.

The Lakers have a lot of work to do regardless of who stays and who goes between Bryant and O'Neal. Maybe Krzyzewski made the right choice, L.A. is a mess.

SIFOREX*Continued from page two*

was originally expected.

"They provided us with four submarines, which was unheard of," said Hoker. "We had round-the-clock diesel ASW with our ships and aircraft."

Peru also provided four surface warfare ships, some fixed-wing aircraft and helicopter assets making this a multi-threat environment exercise, according to Hoker.

Peru also provided information and tips that were valuable educational tools.

Rear Adm. Oleg Kriljenko, Peruvian submarine squadron commander, visited each ship and helicopter squadron during the exercise.

"He discussed diesel-sub operations and had an open forum for educating us and exchanging information on tactics and procedures," said Hoker.

The Peruvians provided a command element during SIFOREX. They acted as the commanders, with Kriljenko in charge and DESRON 7 as the ASW command.

"We were responsible for conducting the exercise and making recommendations to him and his staff on how to prosecute the various subs," said Hoker.

Like Ronald Reagan, the Peruvians learned from these exercises. RRSF provided Peruvian ships with simulated

attacks by aircraft. "The Peruvians gained confidence because they don't get the opportunity to operate against this level of ASW on a day-to-day basis," said Hoker. "This was an important event for the U.S.

and Peruvian navies and will go a long way toward fostering future relationships, increasing our professional interoperability and furthering the engagement strategy of the United States," said Hoker.

July 5 Sailor of the Day AM3 Mica Brooks



Division: Security
Job Title: Security Dispatcher
Where are you from? Crescent City, Calif.
Why did you join the Navy? To get out and tour the world
Your favorite movie?

"Full Metal Jacket"

Your favorite song? Civil War by AC/DC

Your favorite song? Civil War by AC/DC

What inspires you? My father

What did you do before you joined the Navy? Worked at Pepsi Cola Inc.

What piece of advice would you pass on to others? Don't let anybody tell you that you can't do something.

What is your favorite quote? Indecision is the key to flexibility

Who do you hold responsible for your success? My wife

My wife

July 6 Sailor of the Day AN Tiffany Morris



Division: Air

Where are you from? Tucson, Ariz.

Why did you join the Navy? To help get into the FBI

Your favorite place to visit? Florida

Your favorite movie?

"Seven"

Your favorite song? In the End by Linkin Park

What inspires you? My little brother and sister

What did you do before you joined the Navy? Bank teller

What piece of advice would you pass on to others? Do your best every day because someone is always looking out for you.

What is your favorite quote? "Yesterday's worries are only thoughts that have fallen in to the sea with sunset; it's tomorrow's dreams that survive."

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CAG*Continued from front page*

a nice surprise awaiting him in Ready Room Nine aboard the ship.

"When I walked in, I was surprised to see a full room of folks who took the time out of their day to share the moment with me," said Greene. "It was a special occasion I didn't expect. I'll remember it more than the trap."



by PHAN Kostandinos Goumenidis

Capt. James A. Symonds presents Capt. 'Mean' Jim Greene with the American Flag after the completion of his 1,200 trap.

Greene, and friends, commemorated more than just his record trap. Capt. James A. Symonds, USS Ronald Regan commanding officer, presented a memorable gift to "Mean" Green as a tribute to his one-year anniversary as Commander Air Group (CAG) of CVW-11.

"Capt. Symonds honoring me with the flag really meant a lot to me because of this ship, the president it represents (Ronald Reagan) and his passing during this underway period," said Greene.

"I think the flag Capt. Symonds presented, which flew earlier that day, was probably the highlight of the festivities for Capt. Greene," said Cmdr. John Calvert, operations officer CVW-11.

Reminiscing about many of his traps gave Greene the chance to remember some of the people he has flown with.

"This trap felt like all of the other ones. The real tribute belongs to all of the great folks I've worked with for a long time," said Greene. "When I look back on my 50th, 150th, or 500th trap, I recognize I've always been flying with great pilots."

If the day hadn't been memorable enough, Capt. Andrès Brugal, USS Ronald Regan executive officer, named Greene the ship's Sailor of the Day.

"I appreciate the fact that the XO would give me such an honor -- especially on the 4th of July," said Greene.

"Mean" Greene's remarkable day transpired in the midst of Ronald Reagan's participation in Summer Pulse '04, the near-simultaneous deployment of seven carrier strike groups demonstrating scalable naval power, and shown as a reminder to all Sailors -- hard work and dedication pay off.