

K-9 UNIT

protects, patrols and detects threats

Story and photos by Kirsten Tacker
Kukini Photojournalist

Across from the Mamala Bay Golf Course, burrowed in a hill is a World War II coastal artillery battery where Hickam's eight military working dogs live.

Each MWD comes trained and dual certified for patrol and detection from Lackland Air Force Base, Texas.

These highly trained animals are always in work mode and are aggressive when commanded to do so.

"They are definitely a force multiplier," said Tech. Sgt. Robert Norris, 15th Security Force Squadron's MWD trainer. "It is a lot easier for dogs to do their jobs when it comes to explosives. They are quicker than people and can search vehicles faster than we can. They are more proficient, better trained and an all around force multiplier, as well as a psychological deterrent."

Anytime the K-9 unit is called out for a bomb threat or even a drug search their mission is detection.

"We will go into the building first to give our dogs a chance to locate something," said Sergeant Norris. "If our dog does respond, we mark the location and let explosive ordinance device handle the rest."

Prior to a MWD arriving at Hickam for patrol and detection, they are put through a litany of tests.

"Usually before we buy the military working dogs, they have their basic obedience and are screened almost more in depth than we are for basic training," said Tech. Sgt. Nathan Nash, 15th SFS's kennel master.

Prior to their training, MWD's receive x-rays for their hips to confirm they are without disorders.

"MWD's are evaluated to see if they have a high drive for a toy, because the stuff we do is game oriented," said Sergeant Nash. "It has to be fun for the dog, otherwise they don't want to do it."

They're screened for gunfire training to make sure they are not aggressive towards the gun handler. They are screened to determine whether they are a drug or explosives MWD. Once they pass all the screenings, the MWD can be adopted.

"Once it is deter-



Jack, a Military Working Dog assigned to the 15th Security Forces Squadron, runs through the obedience course. The obedience course is like an obstacle course full of stairs, tunnels and hurdles for the dog to jump over. The course teaches the dogs not only obedience but also helps them work on their agility.

mined whether they are going to work with explosives or drugs, they are placed in detection training," said Sergeant Nash. "It really depends on how quickly they pick it up. When they get here, we keep them proficient and try to advance them."

Keeping the MWD proficient is only part of what each handler is responsible for on a daily basis.

"With the K-9 unit you have to take care of your dog and come out on your days off," said Sergeant Norris. "You have to bathe your dog, clean the kennel and keep vet

appointments. We tell everybody that retrains into K-9, there is a lot more to do behind the scenes than there is with being a regular security forces member."

The handlers are responsible for all aspects of their dog. Sergeant Nash and Norris were fully aware of the added responsibilities and were still compelled to retrain into the K-9 unit.

"It seemed like the handlers got a lot more respect and a lot more leeway," said Sergeant Norris. "The handlers were more independent and it seemed like they were given a lot more responsibility. I'd rather ride around with my dog everyday, not saying other people aren't good."

"Sometimes you can trust a dog better than you can a person," added Sergeant Nash.

Another aspect of working with a MWD is coming in regularly on days off.

"We still have to come in for the training, physical training and firing appointments," said Norris. "When we finish with that, we have to come to work to take care of the dogs."

A job that is this multi-faceted also requires the MWD and their handlers to perform random anti-terrorism measures.

"Dictated by the wing commander, we have random anti-terrorism measures at each entrance with the MWD," said Sergeant Norris. "The wing commander every month comes down with a list. They dictate when they want us out to secure the gates."

When they are not doing anti-terrorism procedures, MWD's are patrolling the base with their handlers.

"On base we are required to do foot patrol in base housing, base exchange, Air Mobility Command terminal and any high profile areas on base," said Sergeant Norris. "They are not pets. We like to let people know, not to approach the dog or handlers for a safety aspect."

This is not for the handler or the dog, but more for the individual's safety. The precaution is so that no one will be bit by accident.

"We don't want the dog to misinterpret any sudden movement made by somebody as aggression towards the handler," said Sergeant Nash. "They are trained to protect the handler."

In their spare time the dogs and their handlers travel all over the island to present demonstrations for educational purposes.

"We do demos all the time on base and at the schools," said Sergeant Norris. "People are more than welcome to come out for the demos."

They demonstrate the MWD's capabilities, hoping to start children out early with the message that drugs and explosives are bad.

"It gets them in the mind set, that there are things out there that can catch you doing bad stuff," said Sergeant Norris. "These dogs are one of those things."

Lastly, another service the MWD's provide to the Air Force is for anyone who purchased a used vehicle, the dog will screen the car.

"If you buy a used vehicle, you can contact security forces K-9 section within 30 days after you buy the car," said Sergeant Norris. "As long as you have all the paperwork, we will screen the car no questions asked."

For more information call 449-6373.

Jack jumps over an obstacle during the obedience course. Military Working Dogs here go through a screening process to ensure they are healthy and have the proper disposition to be a MWD.



At the command of their handlers, Bert, left, and Casar, right, attack Tech. Sgt. Robert Norris, 15th Security Forces Squadron Military Working Dog trainer.



Casar, takes down Tech. Sgt. Robert Norris, SFS MWD trainer. Military Working Dogs are trained to attack at the command of their handler, making them highly skilled security weapons.

Crossword Puzzle: Happy Birthday USN

By Capt. Tony Wickman
71st Flying Training Wing
Public Affairs

ACROSS

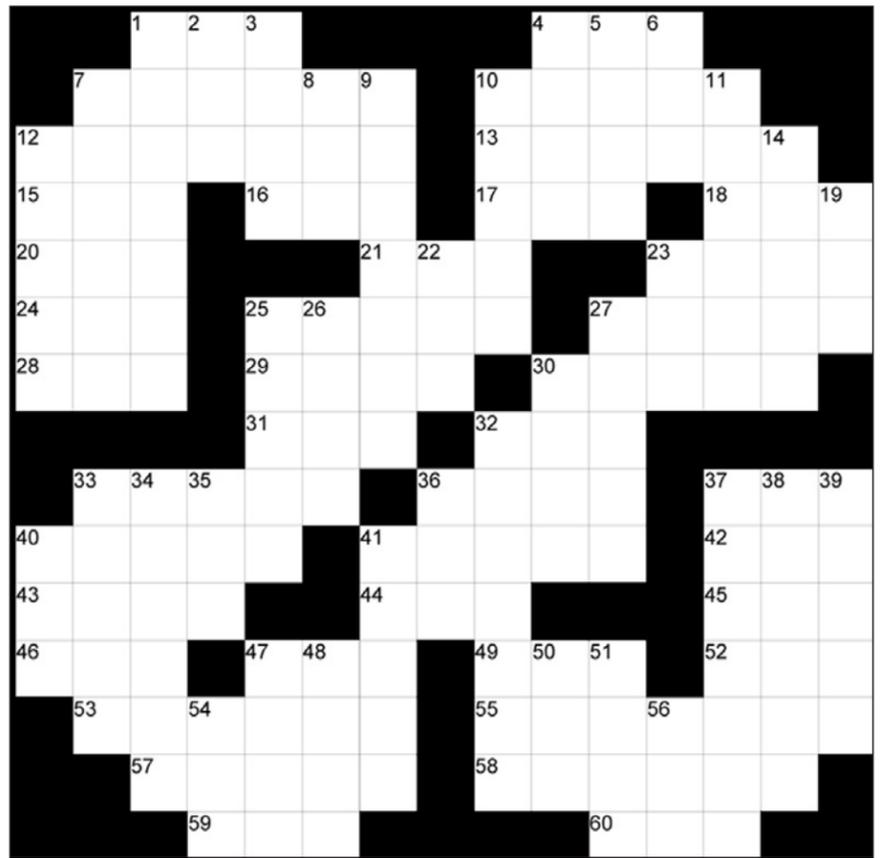
1. Venomous snake
4. Grass field
7. Marshall Islands atoll site to nuclear testing
10. USN Spec Ops forces
12. LT T. G. ____; first Naval Aviator (1910)
13. Arched middle part of the human foot
15. Formerly
16. Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon director Lee
17. Decay
18. Animal doc
20. German article
21. Epoch
23. Char
24. Tokyo, formerly
25. Boatswain's Mate First Class Edward ____; USN MOH recipient
27. Commodore Oliver Hazard ____; "Hero of Lake Erie" in War of 1812
28. Mil. telephone system
29. Plunged
30. Admiral George ____; only Admiral of the Navy (1899)
31. No __, ands or buts

32. Duty status, perhaps
33. Seafaring need
36. Limbs
37. Concorde, in brief
40. Hubris
41. Seeing or hearing
42. Fed. org. concerned with smog
43. Shakespeare villain
44. X, to Cicero
45. Branch of a military force
46. Wane
47. A long time ____ ...
49. USN rank
52. Foot part
53. USN civilian head
55. Commodore Stephen ____; Barbary Wars and War of 1812 hero
57. Provide with a quality or trait
58. Address for two or more people
59. Popeye's girl Olive
60. ____ West; inflatable, vestlike life preserver

DOWN

1. Airfoil that controls lateral motion
2. Vanilla ____
3. Site of leaning tower
4. Late night host

5. Compass point
6. Model/actress Carol
7. Exsanguinates
8. Prefix for combatant or invasive
9. David S. ____; first USN ace (1918)
10. Sea nymph who lured sailors to destruction
11. Strict
12. Terminated
14. RADM Robert ____; explorer and first person to the North Pole
19. Attempt
22. Hair care product
23. Embroider
25. Intensely interested
26. Right's counterpart
27. Seaman Joachim ____; USN Medal of Honor recipient (Civil War)
30. Excavates
32. PT 109 skipper and future US president
33. Marine crustaceans
34. Lenah ____; Superintendent of Nurse Corps and Navy Cross recipient
35. Commotion
36. Confederate general
37. Pacific NW city home to SEAFAIR festival



38. Dr. Mary ____; commissioned first female doctor in Navy (1950)
39. More domesticated
40. American ____
41. Kitchen appliance
47. Matlock's Griffith
48. Ancient region of western Europe
50. Prefix meaning new
51. Refuse or worthless matter
54. USN military head
56. Auto clu

See SOLUTION, B3

CHAPEL

Editor's note: For more information on Base Chapel services or for prayer requests call the Chapel Center at 449-1754 or Nelles Chapel at 449-6562.

PROTESTANT

Nelles Chapel
Sunday Contemporary Service
8:30 a.m.
Sunday Gospel Worship 11:15 a.m.
Sunday Praise Gathering 5:30 p.m.
Chapel Center
Sunday Traditional 8:30 a.m.

JEWISH

Aloha Jewish Chapel,
Pearl Harbor – 473-0050
Jewish Lay Leader Mr. David
Bender 527-5877
Naval Station Chapel – 473-3971

CATHOLIC

Nelles Chapel
Weekday Mass 11:30 a.m.
Saturday Confessions
4:15 p.m.
Saturday Mass 5 p.m.
Chapel Center
Sunday Mass 10 a.m.

BUDDHIST

Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin
A Shin Buddhist Temple –
536-7044

ORTHODOX

For more information,
call 438-6687

ISLAMIC

Friday Congregational
Service
(1935 Aleo Place, Punahou)
1 p.m.
Muslim Association of Hawaii
947-6263

AT THE MOVIES

Memorial Theater 448-2297 • CLOSED Monday and Tuesday

Today, Saturday, 7 p.m.

Invincible – When the coach of Vince Papale's beloved hometown football team hosted an unprecedented open tryout, the public consensus was that it was a waste of time - no one good enough to play professional football was going to be found this way. Certainly no one like Papale, a down-on-his-luck, 30 year-old, substitute teacher and part-time bartender who never even played college football. Despite these odds, Papale made the team and soon found himself living every fan's fantasy - moving from his cheap seats in the upper deck to standing on the field as a professional football player. Starring Mark Wahlberg and Greg Kinnear. Rated PG for sports action and some mild language - 104 min



away truck slams into the station wagon, igniting it to a fiery wreck with the mother and child trapped inside. Edwards fails to save them before the car explodes - and then spends months of his life choking down pills to get the image of their faces out of his head. But Edward is about to get a second chance. Starring Nicholas Cage and Leelee Sobieski. Rated PG-13 for disturbing images and violence, language and thematic issues - 97 min



Thursday, 7 p.m.

Idlewild – Set against the backdrop of a 1930's southern speakeasy, Percival, a shy piano player, and Rooster, the club's showy lead performer and manager, struggle to keep their dreams alive. Starring Andre "Andre 3000" Benjamin, Antwan "Big Boi" Patton. Rated R for violence, sexuality, nudity and language - 120 min



Sunday, Wednesday, 7 p.m.

The Wicker Man – Out patrolling a California highway, police officer Edward Malus stops a station wagon to return a little girl's lost doll. Moments later, a run-

SUDOKU

Puzzle created by Staff Sgt. Sarah Kinsman
For solution, see SUDOKU, B5

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

SOLUTION, From B2



Sweaty Run



A comic strip about life as a military spouse. Copyright Julie L. Negron

Loomis participates in 30th Ironman competition

By John Girmsey
Pacific Air Forces

When most think about exercise, they think of spin class, running a few miles, laps in the pool, a bike ride, lifting weights or joining an aerobics class. A few have made the commitment to run a marathon or do a local triathlon. A greater few have even dared to dream of the the Ironman, a grueling one day race completing a 2.4 mile open ocean swim, a 112 mile bike race, and a full 26.2 mile marathon.

Committed is what people may call one of Hickam's base employees. He's not going for his first Ironman at age 56, nor his tenth, Gil Loomis of Pacific Air Forces will be competing in his 30th Ironman distance race on Oct. 21 at the Ford Ironman World Championships.

During an interview, here's what he had to say about his commitment to physical fitness.

John: This will be your 30th Ironman. Is this just a number or do you have a goal in mind?



Courtesy Photo
Gil Loomis practices for his 30th Ironman competition.

Gil: My goal is 50. I have completed 15 at the World Championships in Kona and also raced on Oahu, Maui, Minnesota, New Zealand, Australia, Canada, Idaho, and California. 1998 in Canada was my best time at 10 hours, 11 minutes, and 36 seconds, finishing 26th overall. But Kona is still my favorite.

John: How did you get started?

Gil: I started out as a power lifter, as funny as that sounds. I was coaxed into running while stationed on the drill field, and took up marathoning. While recovering from a running injury, I took to the pool. One day I was sitting in the lounge chair with a beer in my hand watching Julie Moss fall and crawl across the finish line in the Feb. 1982 Ironman, commenting something like, "That is the most insane thing I've ever seen," My wife Cheryl stated "You've been swimming, and you can run. All you need is to bike, and that's the easy part. You could do that race." The very next day, a bike from a friend showed up at my front door. Apparently, the word was

out that I had applied for the Ironman, which of course, I hadn't. I was eventually coaxed into signing up, and was quite intimidated when I actually got accepted.

John: What other endurance events have you done?

Gil: I've competed in three Ultramans, and numerous ultra-distance road and trail races including Run to the Sun, Old Dominion 100 Mile, Massanutten Mountain Massacre 50 mile, HURT 100K and others.

John: Your license plate says Ultrmn? What's that all about?

Gil: Ultraman is a three-day race around the Big Island of Hawaii. Day 1 starts in Kona with a 6.2 mile ocean swim to Keauhou Bay, and a 90 mile bike to Volcano National Park. Day 2 is a 172 mile bike race around to the northern end of the island at Hawi. Day 3 is a 52.4 mile run back to Kona. Each day must be completed in 12 hours or less.

John: What's an average training week leading up to an Ironman?

Gil: 4-5 miles swimming, 150 miles biking, 30 miles running, and

two weight workouts. I have to juggle it around work, real estate, eating, and sleeping and trying to maintain something of a home life.

John: What does your wife think about all this?

Gil: Cheryl is also an endurance athlete. She has 3 Ironman finishes to her credit, has swum the northern Maui channel solo, 13 miles, and has competed in multiple ultra distance races and 100-milers.

John: Do you have any advice to someone just starting out?

Gil: I've learned much over the years, some of it the hard way. In a sentence, the most important things to pay attention to are diet, sleep, hydration, electrolytes, proper equipment, training consistency, recovery, and commitment. Nothing gets handed to you in life. You have to want it. There isn't a person reading this that cannot complete an Ironman. I am not a particularly gifted athlete, but if you're willing to train hard, sacrifice, and stay focused, you can accomplish anything.

SPORTS SHORTS

Personal trainer certification – Share the gift of fitness with others by becoming an Aerobics and Fitness Association of America certified personal trainer. This Personal Trainer Certification course begins today from 1 to 9:30 p.m. and continues Saturday and Sunday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuition is \$329.25 and up to \$199 may be covered by tuition assistance. To register, call the provider at 1-877-968-7263. For more information about the class, call the Fitness center at 448-2214.

Football Frenzy – Football Frenzy has

made a touchdown at J.R. Rockers at the Enlisted Club. Club Members of all ranks can fill out an entry form for a chance to win a trip to the Super Bowl. Sunday games will be shown at 7 a.m., 10:15 a.m. and 2:15 p.m. Monday games are at 1 p.m. and 4:15 p.m. For more information, call 448-2271.

Windsurfing day at Hickam harbor – Learn to windsurf at Hickam Harbor. Instructors will give demonstrations and lessons Oct. 21 from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., 1 to 3 p.m. and 3:30 to 5:30 pm. The \$20 fee includes two hours of instruction, rental

and safety gear. Limited space is available, so call 449-5215 for reservations.

AFAA kickboxing workshop and certification – Learn the standards and guidelines of one of today's hottest workouts – kickboxing – during this Aerobics and Fitness Association of America workshop which takes place Oct. 21 and 22 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuition is \$96.75 for the workshop alone or \$171.75 for the workshop plus instructor certification. To register, call 1-805-988-5845. For more information, call the Fitness and Sports Center at 448-2214.

SUDOKU, From B4

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

Team Hickam “Polishes the Pearl”

Story and photos by Senior Airman Erin Smith
15th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

After participating in the monthly 3-mile Warrior Run, Team Hickam members rolled up their sleeves to help with a base wide clean-up.

During the clean-up, known as “Polishing the Pearl of the Pacific,” more than 1,000 people divided up into 14 different sectors of the base to clean up trash, replace broken fences, clean parking lots and paint to help make Hickam a more beautiful place to live and work.

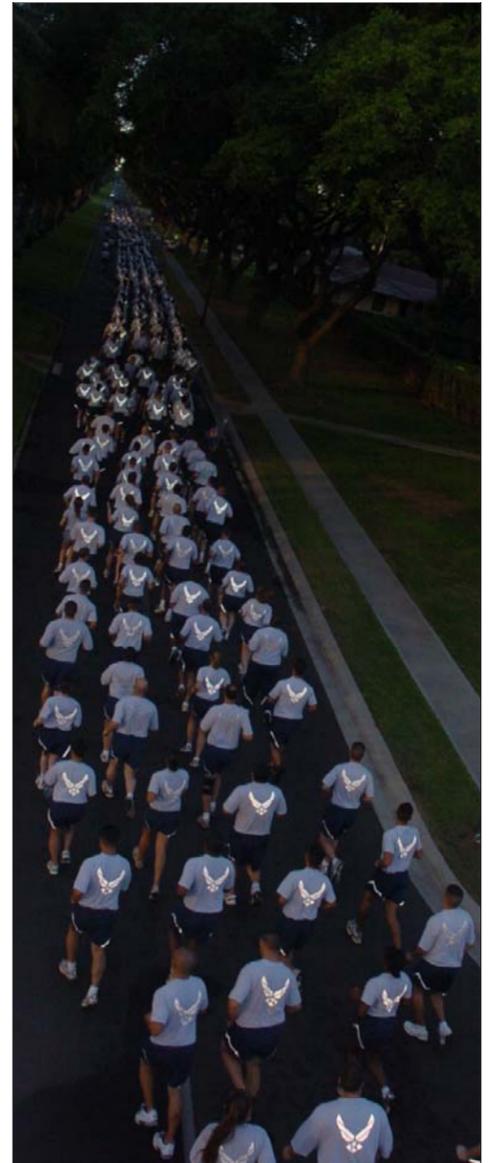
“Approximately 60 cubic yards of waste including leaves, branches and trash were collected during the clean-up,” said

Master Sgt. Kyle R. Marquez, 15th Civil Engineer Squadron. “That is approximately seven large dump truck loads.”

People around base also took the opportunity to clean their work centers. This included washing windows and picking up trash within a 50-foot radius of their buildings.

“It was a good opportunity for Team Hickam to take pride in where they work,” said Capt. Kimberly Hubbard, 15th Airlift Wing clean-up project officer. “The day turned out to be beautiful and everyone was happy to be outside for a little while and do something to help our base. You could see the impact immediately.”

Working together, base members can maintain a beautiful base with minimal efforts.



Team Hickam Airmen stream off into the morning sun, on a little fun run.



Airmen from the various Hickam organizations form up near Freedom Tower at the crack of dawn to participate in the monthly base Warrior Run. When the run was over, they joined forces to participate in the “Polish the Pearl” clean-up day.



Staff Sgt. Antonio Armstrong and Master Sgt. Josephine Zapata, 15th Airlift Wing legal office, pick up trash around the running path.



Master Sgts. Donald Beaulieu, 15th Airlift Wing chapel, and Marion Hamada, 15th Comptroller Squadron, also help with base beautification.



Staff Sgts. Liselle Bracey and Jeremy Hayes, 15th Logistics Readiness Squadron ensure base facilities stay looking good.



Team Hickam members make their way to the final turn in the Warrior Run here.



Col. JJ Torres, 15th Airlift Wing commander, helps members from the 15th Medical Group carry their wounded patient demonstrator.

Team Hickam Pick 'Em



74 - 46

71 - 49

Team Roster	Buffalo vs. Detroit	Cincinnati vs. Tampa Bay	N.Y. Giants vs. Atlanta	Philadelphia vs. New Orleans	Kansas City vs. Pittsburgh	Miami vs. N.Y. Jets	San Diego vs. San Francisco	Chicago vs. Arizona	Records	
									Last week	To date
Col. J.J. Torres 15th AW/CC	Detroit	Tampa Bay	Atlanta	New Orleans	Pittsburgh	N.Y. Jets	San Diego	Chicago	5-3	20-20
Lt. Col. Lewis Carlisle 352nd IOS/CC	Buffalo	Cincinnati	Atlanta	Philadelphia	Pittsburgh	Miami	San Diego	Chicago	4-4	25-15
Capt. Brian Moritz 535th AS	Detroit	Cincinnati	Atlanta	Philadelphia	Pittsburgh	N.Y. Jets	San Diego	Chicago	8-0	26-14
CMSgt. Robert Wyman 692nd IG	Detroit	Tampa Bay	N.Y. Giants	New Orleans	Pittsburgh	Miami	San Diego	Chicago	6-2	28-12
TSgt. Youlanda Grant 15th AW/CCA	Buffalo	Cincinnati	N.Y. Giants	Philadelphia	Pittsburgh	N.Y. Jets	San Diego	Chicago	5-3	24-16
SrA Jeff Galdikas 15th CES	Buffalo	Cincinnati	Atlanta	Philadelphia	Pittsburgh	N.Y. Jets	San Diego	Chicago	5-3	22-18



TEAM HICKAM NFL CHALLENGE

