



THE VOXAIR

Our Military Community Newspaper, 17 Wing Winnipeg

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FREE

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From Tiki Bars To Dust Storms: Civilian Impressions From Four Days In Kabul



A herd of Bisons, armoured vehicles of the Canadian Forces, sits on Camp Julien in front of Kabul's King's Palace.

By Jen Sharpe

Judging by first impressions alone, Kabul is a mountainous, windy place where the design tradition of Tiki reigns. In every building of Kabul, a Belgian bartender serves cheap drinks and cigarettes to people who rarely speak the same language but share a love of camouflage pyjamas.

These folks lounge on wooden chairs, shift uncomfortably on their rattan seats, and never remember that the matching rustic coffee tables aren't footrests! . . . or so the weary Belgian bartender repeats again and again. With their tan

combat boots now planted firmly on the ground and camouflage netting floating overhead, these suntanned men (and sometimes, women) sit waiting.

They wait for planes to take them home or for heavily armoured vehicles to take them from the Tiki bar back out into the wind and mountains. They wait for friends, for coworkers, for people they don't know but feel like they do because they wear the same uniform and salute the same flag.

They don't wait for family, though, as family is inevitably far

away. The troops in dusty camouflage know that the Tiki bars, mountains, and dry winds of Kabul are no place for the spouse or child they left at home, wherever that home may be.

Although first impressions are often those you remember most clearly, they don't ever reveal the complete story of a place or person. So, no matter how vividly I recall the moment I stepped off the Canadian Forces Hercules aircraft and into the Kabul military airport, the Belgian Air Force One pub—and the men and women found

waiting within—are not representative of my four-day visit to Kabul.

When I finally walked out of Air Force One and into one of three Bison armoured vehicles, I had spent four hours at the airport . . . waiting. I was the only person in the Tiki lounge keeping running shoes—not combat boots—off the coffee tables, and I stuck out like a sore civilian thumb.

But, like the men and women who waited with me, I hadn't seen my family in months and I knew I wouldn't be seeing them for a few

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Civilian Impressions continued from page 1

more. I was—and still am—an employee of the Canadian Forces Personnel Support Agency (CFPSA), and I was—and still am—working at a CF support camp outside Afghanistan.

I was visiting Kabul for business, but business was the last thing on my mind when I donned two heavy armoured vests and ducked to enter the rumbling belly of the Bison. The seven other passengers—all in matching tan pyjamas—received big black guns and a cartridge of ammunition; I received a few half smiles and unspoken reassurances that everything would be fine.

The ride to Camp Julien, Canada's biggest camp, was fast and bumpy. Because there are no windows in the Bison, the hatch out of which one of my armed protectors stood provided my only view of the outside world. To my surprise, the treetops were lush and green, and the sky was clear and bright blue. Judging by second impressions, Kabul is a clean, well-vegetated place without speed limits or a budget to fix potholes—a lot like my hometown of Winnipeg, actually.

For 45 minutes, we accelerated quickly, stopped suddenly, turned drastically, and generally weaved our way through a maze of streets and traffic snarls. I assume this is what we did, although I can't say for sure because I was going on treetops and blue sky alone.

Near the end of the trip, the treetops dwindled and the traffic snarls lessened. We passed through a gate and alongside a guard tower, where I saw people I didn't know but felt like I should—because they wore a uniform I recognized and admired.

When we stopped a few minutes later, the back ramp of the Bison dropped to reveal a dirt-coloured city of tents and machinery. The mountains around me were hazy due to the dust and smog sitting in the air, the same smoky substance that would later give me red eyes and a sore, dry nose.

Although they didn't speak the entire trip, my fellow travelers broke into conversation as soon as we stepped onto the ankle-twisting gravel that carpets Camp Julien. They paired off and

scattered, walking towards tents that all looked the same or people who, also, all looked the same.

I followed two officers who gushed about their just-finished vacations—not because I wanted to eavesdrop, but because I had to walk somewhere and the direction they were heading was as good as any.

At this point, I registered my third impression of Kabul, and it varied drastically from the previous two: Gone were the Tiki bars and Belgian bartenders quick to pounce on any sore-footed lounge; gone were the lush trees and clear blue skies that represented my trip from the airport through the city.

Instead, upon arriving at the mighty Camp Julien, I concluded that Kabul was a rough and rugged outpost that encouraged conversation and confused outsiders. The air hurt my lungs, the ground hurt my ankles, and the sheer intensity of the Camp hurt my feelings of independence. I was lost and sweaty and eager to find a cold bottle of water and a face I recognized; both, it turned out, were readily

available.

There are 27 CFPSA employees at Camp Julien, and I know most of them from the two-week training session we survived last October. The experience of undergoing countless briefings and team-building activities at the monolithic "Mega" in St-Jean, Quebec wasn't exactly grueling, but it definitely made us a close-knit group.

So, when I roamed around Camp Julien and ran into people from training, my spirits were buoyed. As good hosts, they took time out of their busy schedules to show me around; as good hosts, they also took time out to warn me about the dust storms, the camel spiders, and the men. I paid attention on the last one.

Coming from a small camp of 300 personnel to their massive camp of 2000 was a definite eye-opener. From the football field-sized Junior Ranks Mess to the herd of Bisons resting in the distance, I was in awe of the facilities, horsepower, and manpower found at Julien.

The gym is huge and features a full weight room, dozens of cardio machines, an

aerobics area, and a floor-hockey rink. The three kitchens feed thousands of hungry troops, while the rows and rows of accommodation tents give them a place to sleep after dinner. The messes are filled with big screen TVs, pool tables, and comfy chairs—places where the soldiers can go to relax after a long day on Camp or out on patrol.

These activities, I quickly learned, are vital on a Camp that is as heavily guarded as a prison. Most people at Julien are never able to travel beyond the barbed-wire-topped barriers that keep out the stray dogs and more dangerous infiltrators.

Without amenities like a weight room and pool tables, a bad case of the stir-crazies would definitely overwhelm the normally well-behaved Camp. But even with the help of a three-week vacation for each member serving six months, a military tour in Kabul is no less than completely challenging.

I only truly appreciated this fact once I was invited to visit Camp Warehouse, Canada's other military camp

in the Afghan capital. Warehouse is located on the opposite side of Kabul within a sprawling international military base. Here, high-ranking military members from a variety of countries coordinate Kabul Multi-National Brigade (KMNB) activities, many of which involve Canadian troops.

Although I looked forward to visiting KMNB HQ, I'll admit that I was most excited to step foot in the raucous German messes I'd heard so much about.

My drive to Camp Warehouse was a little more informative than my ride to Camp Julien from the airport: I sat in the backseat of one of the CF's new armoured G Wagons with my very own window and my very own view of the world that thrived below the treetops and blue skies.

My fourth impression of Kabul was both everything and nothing like I thought it would be. I saw collapsed buildings and makeshift homes, but I also saw local Afghans—happy, smiling Afghans—going about their

Continued on page 4

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
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402 Squadron Donates Challenge Cup To Middle School



LCol Stew Schock and Sgt Pat McNorgan present Bruce Middle School students with the Challenge cup.

By Angela Johnston

As part of its continued partnership with St. James area Bruce Middle School, 402 "City of Winnipeg" Squadron presented students with a unique trophy during the school's academic awards on June 30. 402 Squadron's commanding officer, LCol Stew Schock, along with assistant air force historian Sgt Pat McNorgan, were on hand to present the student body with the newly christened "Grizzly" cup.

This trophy is awarded to the top-scoring "house" in the middle school. "Houses," loosely based on the Harry Potter series, form from approximately 85 to 90 students of all ages who compete for participation points in areas such as sports, games and community service.

Bruce Middle School's four houses have historic 402 Squadron fighter aircraft names - Mustangs, Hurricanes, Vampires and Spitfires. This year's winners of the Grizzly cup were the Vampires. Banners for each house hang outside of the school's gym - or

"Hangar" - over a glossy display case filled with air force uniforms, books, trophies and memorabilia. Ray Collishaw, a Canadian First World War ace, served as inspiration for the school's Baron-themed logo.

For 402 Squadron, active in the middle school, such a partnership represents a unique link to the community. Of the outreach program, LCol Schock said, "We draw our strength from the community" - especially true since 402 is a Total Force squadron with a large number of reservists.

The partnership has spanned approximately a year and a half. "We're making great strides," said LCol Schock. The squadron hosts tours to the school, showcasing its technical training school to middle school students.


Retiring principal Bill Cann said he has had a long time passion for military history. He had planned a house system in the school, and liked the idea of incorporating 402 Squadron aircraft. The Grizzly cup adds another dimension to this

system. Students benefit from the historic houses, said Cann, pointing to the "esprit de corps" and camaraderie of First and Second World War pilots. "How they came together," he commented, "Wow, did they bond."

With community service as a driving theme in the house system, the competing houses have been busy. The school's student leadership team received two provincial awards this year; one was the Young Humanitarian Award from the Manitoba Teacher's Society, and the other was the Attorney General's Award, for an internet safety and anti-bullying campaign, spurred by the students.

Students have also donated to Winnipeg Harvest, volunteered in the Terry Fox Run and "Rock for the Cure" in support of junior diabetes.

Though there was a sprinkling of blue uniforms at the awards ceremony, Cann said the squadron-school partnership was not due to high military presence in parents.



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Civilian Impressions continued from page 2

daily business. They clogged the streets with bicycles, sold carpets and fabrics at roadside stands, and watched us curiously as our Canadian-flagged convoy sped through the city.

We passed green parks, pristine mansions, and—yes—tall, leafy trees. We crossed the bridge that spans Kabul's "river"—a five-foot wide stream that doesn't seem to flow. We passed industrial areas with brightly painted trucks and residential areas with brightly clothed children.

When we arrived at Camp Warehouse, I was met by more CFPSA staff who, once again, showed me around the place they call "home . . . I

guess." Although Warehouse staff there are allowed to visit their neighbours from other countries, a perk that makes life there a bit more bearable.

I say this because working and living in Warehouse is hard—it didn't take me long to realize this. Daily dust storms, limited facilities, and occasional attacks from hostile forces make a "Warehouser" just slightly more weathered than a "Julien-ite."

My tour of Warehouse included (but wasn't limited to) the Market area where you can buy an authentic burqua, the German mess with its lingerie-based décor, and the bullet hole in the Camp's met-

al barricade. My fifth impression of Kabul? Judging by my whirlwind tour of Warehouse, it's a place filled with hidden beauties, hidden parties, and hidden dangers.

I left Camp Warehouse in another armoured Bison with another view limited to tree-tops and blue skies. The following day, I rode in a Bison again, this time back to Air Force One, Tiki décor, and my favourite Belgian bartender. I flew out on a Hercules that afternoon, a full four days after I had arrived in Afghanistan.

After five impressions of the city—each as important and memorable as the last—I don't think I can sum it all up. Kabul is not a military pub or

a pot-holed street or a Canadian camp with pool tables and bad air. Kabul is not deserted, or desolate, but it's not clean and pristine either. It's dusty and leafy, dangerous and fun, exciting and exhausting.

In Kabul, I didn't learn what it's like to be a Canadian Forces member at Camp Julien or Warehouse because I am—and will always be—a civilian from Camp Mirage. I also didn't learn what it's like to be born in Kabul and to live through visits by foreigners like me because I am—and will always be—a Canadian.

I did learn, however, learn something important: First impressions are never enough.

The New Face Of Pilot Training In The CF

By 2Lt Stephanie Taylor

Changes in the pilot training programme have expedited the time investment that is required in order to become wings qualified. The three phases of pilot training that are required to become wings qualified can take up to six years to complete. Recently, however, this training has been accelerated due to the fact that Second Language Training (SLT) has been deferred for pilots until the end of Development Period One. SLT must be completed no later than the commencement of the member's second career posting.

The ideal training period

for pilots varies between 18 months to two years. In the past, however, that has not been the common experience. A gap in training was created during the transition from the old training aircraft (Tutor) to the new (Harvard). "In August of 2001, "DEOs were waiting up to three years from enrolment to begin BFT training," notes Capt Boisclair, Basic Training List Manager of 17 Wing Winnipeg's A1 Pilot Training.

Usually Direct Entry Officers (DEOs) complete SLT directly after the Initial Assessment Period and Basic Officer Training Course. SLT

can last for a period of up to 33 weeks. Warrant Officer Dowd, Basic Training List Manager of 17 Wing Winnipeg's A1 Pilot Training, says this change was effected in order to keep people motivated.

"This change enables our pilots to attain their required skill sets so that the goal is achieved quicker," said Dowd.

"SLT had to be deferred in order to meet the Basic Flying Training (BFT) course obligations of nine serials per year with 16 students per course," explained Boisclair.

Primary Flying Training (PFT) takes place in Portage la Prairie, MB. It is the first phase of instruction and lasts for approximately three months. BFT is the second phase of training, lasting approximately eight months and

takes place in Moose Jaw, Sask.

Students who are successful in BFT will specialize in an aircraft type such as: fixed wing, rotary wing or fast jets. Depending on the aircraft, students continue training in either Moose Jaw or Portage la Prairie for another three to six months. After graduating from the aircraft specific course, students are awarded their wings.

"With SLT deferment and a clearer picture of the planning involved, DEOs are now able to begin BFT 8-10 months from enrolment," Dowd added.

As of December 2002, with a streamlined training program and SLT deferment, the 18-month to two-year training period has become a reality for training pilots.

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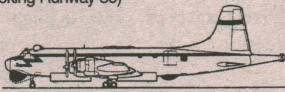
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Summer Adventures Through Community Recreation

Submitted by Dana Hinkema

17 Wing Community Recreation is offering sport and activity camps geared towards children and teens this summer. Space is still available in some of our camps, but they are filling up fast so please make sure to register as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.

Preschool aged children are invited to participate in different sports and activities such as floor hockey, soccer, songs and organised games. Each sport camp runs for 45 minutes each day for five days. Skills and knowledge are taught at a progressive rate over the entire week. Parents are encouraged to stay and participate in the activities with their children.

Children's sport camps

are different lengths and run at different times throughout the day depending on the sport or activity. Your children will have the opportunity to participate in activities such as golf, ice hockey, lacrosse, improv, soccer, basketball, volleyball, tennis, badminton and squash.

We have also planned a full day excursion to the Fun Mountain Waterslide Park. The trip to the Fun Mountain Waterslides is open to everybody with a recreation pass. This excursion will take place on August 10 with a rain day planned for August 12. Transportation to Fun Mountain will be provided from the North side. Please note that this is a family event, and all children must

be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

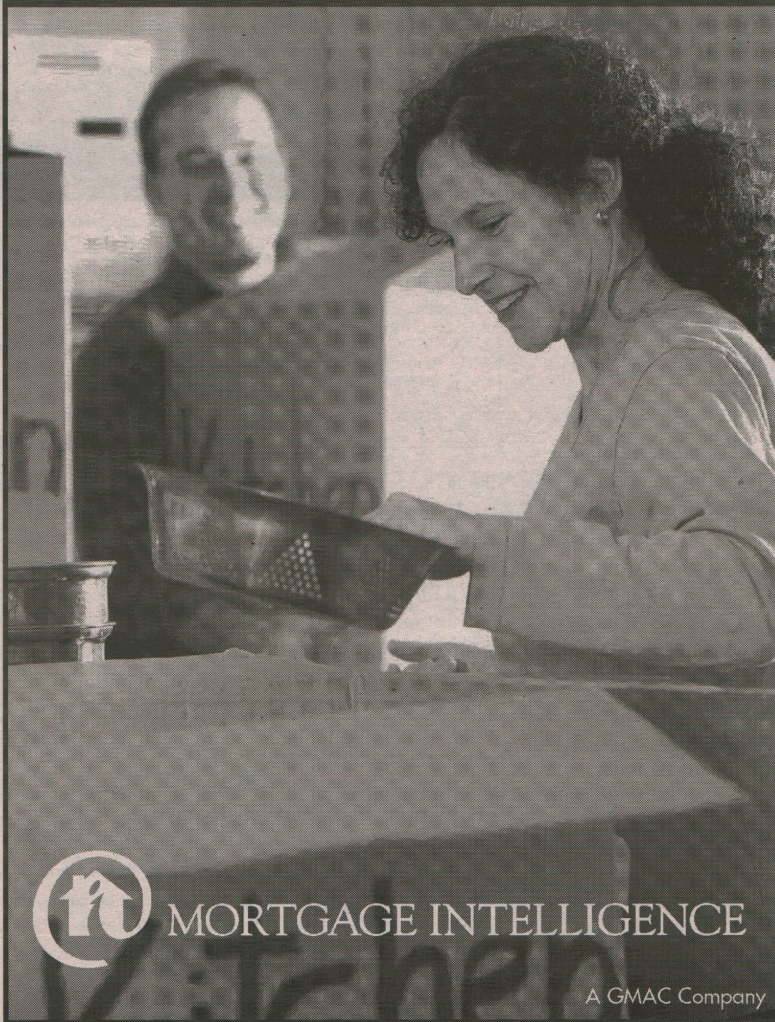
The camps are offered at both Building 90 and Lipsett Hall facilities. Please check the attached schedule to see which activity and location suits you best. To register for your sport camp choice pick up a sport camp guide at Building 90 or Lipsett Hall and complete the set of forms that are attached to the back. Drop off the completed forms along with payment to the Community Recreation offices between 0800-1200 and 1300-1600 on weekdays. If you have any questions about the programs please call Dana Hinkema, Community Recreation Program Assistant at 833-2500 ext. 2057.

If you are between the ages of thirteen and seventeen and are interested in volunteering throughout the summer at the camps, please call Dana at 833-2500 ext. 2057.

We look forward to seeing you and your children this summer.

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July 12 - 16	Golf	17 Wing Golf Course	10 - 15 y.o.	\$50.00/5 days
July 12 - 16	Soccer	Bldg 90	3 - 5 y.o.	\$5.00 / 5 days
July 12 - 16	Multi - Sport	Bldg 90	6 - 9 y.o.	\$10.00 / 5 days
July 19 - 23	Triathlon	Lipsett Hall	10-15y.o	\$50.00 / 5 days
July 19 - 23	Games Etc.	Bldg 90	3 - 5 y.o.	\$5.00 / 5 days
July 19 - 23	Floor Hockey	Bldg 90	6 - 15 y.o.	\$10.00 / 5 days
July 26 - 30	Ice Hockey	Bldg 90	7 - 11 y.o.	\$125.00/5 days
July 26 - 30	Improv	Bldg 90	8 - 15 y.o.	\$30.00 / 5days
July 26 - 30	Field Hockey	Lipsett Hall	All Ages	\$10.00 / 5 days
July 26 - 30	Youth Adventure Trip	Canoe/Kayak	13 - 17 y.o.	\$345
August 3 - 6	Team Handball / Soccer	Lipsett Hall	8 - 14 y.o.	\$40.00 / 4 days
August 3 - 6	Roller Hockey	Bldg 90	6 - 15 y.o.	\$8.00 / 4 days
August 9 - 13	Golf	17 Wing Golf Course	7 - 9 y.o.	\$50.00 / 5 days
August 9 - 13	Lacrosse	Lipsett Hall	6 - 15 y.o.	\$10.00 / 5 days
August 10	Water Slides	Fun Mountain	Family Event Day	3 & under free 12 & under \$7.00 13 yrs. & up \$8.25
August 16-20	Golf	17 Wing Golf Course	10 - 15 y.o.	\$50.00 / 5 days
August 16-20	Synchro / Dance	Lipsett Hall	9 - 14 y.o.	\$50.00 / 5 days
August 16-20	Multi - Sport	Lipsett Hall	6 - 12 y.o.	\$10.00 / 5 days
August 23-27	Basketball/ Volleyball	Lipsett Hall	8 - 14 y.o.	\$50.00 / 5 days
August 23-27	Lacrosse	Bldg 90	6 - 12 y.o.	\$50.00 / 5 days

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Army Reservists Deploy To Camp Mirage

By Angela Johnston

After a recent training stint at 17 Wing, 38 Canadian Brigade Group said good-bye to 38 of its reservists who have deployed to Camp Mirage. The soldiers – from an area spanning Saskatchewan to Thunder Bay – will be forming a defense and security platoon in the classified location camp, located in Southwest Asia. They will ensure that people who enter the camp are authorized to be on base.

Unlike the regular forces who deploy, reservists have the choice whether to deploy, and must often receive leave from their civilian jobs. In that way, it is unique. This platoon of soldiers left CFB Winnipeg on June 22, headed first to CFB Trenton, and then to the Arabian Gulf region. Camp Mirage's role is to sup-

port the troops in Afghanistan.

On the soldiers' last day in barracks before a two-week pre-deployment leave, many of them are playing video games, planning a travel route home, or relaxing. Sgt Jean Benoit, the section commander – responsible for a team of eight – explains why she took the opportunity to deploy: "I've been thinking about going on tour for awhile, and this opportunity came up."

Benoit is from Thunder Bay, and is a grade seven teacher at Sacred Heart Senior Elementary school, teaching core French and home room. Of her students, Benoit said they found it interesting to have a teacher deploying to Camp Mirage, and that her school board was very supportive of her decision to go.

Benoit has been with The Lake Superior Scottish Regiment for 12 years.

At 17 Wing – where much of the pre-deployment training took place – the reservists reviewed basic infantry skills, mine and cultural awareness and first-aid training, said Benoit. They attended lectures, and reviewed weapons skills and field training.

For Cpl Travis Carlson, of The Royal Regina Rifles, he said most of the training was refresher training for him, but he likes to take all of the opportunities he can to learn. Though not nervous about his tour, he noted a common worry of those deployed to Southwest Asia: "Dealing with the heat should be interesting." The soldiers are already breaking in their new desert boots – a lighter boot in

camel, instead of the standard black pair.

The platoon – though from various units across the brigade – have come together over the past few weeks. MCpl Mark Pearson, from The Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders of Canada in Winnipeg, noted that the brigade is not very large: "Half the guys I've already met." MCpl Pearson said he was looking forward to the trip, gaining experience, seeing new things and places, and experiencing a different culture.

Lt Jim Davis is the platoon commander. He is responsible for the 38 soldiers deployed. A security officer at Lakehead University, he also belongs to the same unit as Sgt Benoit – The Lake Superior Scottish Regiment.



Photo by Cpl Bill Gomm

During security training for the deployed platoon at 17 Wing Winnipeg, the section commander briefs the outgoing patrol before they begin checking the perimeter of the base.

His duty is to "implement plans to ensure the security of the base is maintained."

For Lt Davis, he said that the opportunity to go to Southwest Asia was a unique one: "There are not too many deployment opportunities for a platoon commander," he said.

He said that the training for the reservists was condensed compared to that of the regular forces. Before deployment, he said training can take around three to three and a half months. This platoon

had one to one and a half months to prepare for the tour.

While he said it is not often that a small platoon goes – instead of a full battalion – he is looking forward to the job.

"The only concern I have is getting on the ground and getting people organized," he said.

The selection process for the deployment began in the beginning of May, and the soldiers left Winnipeg on June 22.



Submitted by NWG Frank Maidment

Pte Bryce Hooper, seen here with the Transportation Electrical Mechanical Engineering Officer, Maj Stephane Parent, receives his first Chevron.



Submitted by Capt David Fouts

LCol Stephen Bannister, Commandant of 3 CFFTS, replaces Ocdt Jan Wesselo's rank slip-ons with Second Lieutenant bars for his promotion. 2Lt Wesselo recently completed a baccalaureate degree from Ryerson University in Toronto and is currently a student on the Primary Flying Training course at Southport.



Submitted by Ocdt Jon Scott

MCpl Frank Angelini, seen here with Col Bill Legue, was promoted to Sergeant on June 28. With this promotion he will be moving to Wing Ops as their new Chief Clerk.

Long Range Patrol Task Force

By 2Lt Martell Thompson, 1 CAD PA

In many ways they're an eclectic group, highly trained – ready to deploy at a moment's notice. They are the Canadian Forces Long Range Patrol Task Force capable of providing air power in a maritime warfare environment, a task they've performed with great success in the past.

According to Lieutenant-Colonel Paul Ormsby, head of Maritime Readiness at 1 Canadian Air Division, over three rotations of Op APOLLO, less than two-percent of the Vanguard missions were lost to mechanics or weather.

"Their area of operation

was very dense with vessels but their success rate was over 98 percent," said LCol. Ormsby.

LCol. Ormsby adds that in order to duplicate this success, those returning from operational duty need time to recover and pursue professional development prior to preparing for their next operation.

1 Canadian Air Division is currently responsible for all personnel tasked to the Vanguard, as the lead Sqn, 415 Sqn is required to remain at the highest state of readiness while holding Vanguard to ensure they're capable of deploying inside 21 days no-



Members of the Long Range Patrol Task Force (Vanguard) gather around a CP-140 aircraft during Ex DOGFISH04, in Sicily, Italy last February.

tice. 407 Sqn in Comox, B.C. will assume this responsibility on October 1.

LCol. Yvan Boilard, Detachment Commander says it took six months of intensive training to achieve a

state of combat-capable readiness. The training ensures that aircrews can operate in a wartime environment anywhere in the world, while perfecting routine ground skills such as peace support,

the gas hut and defence skills.

The Vanguard's air and ground crews trained together last February, during Exercise DOGFISH 04, a NATO exercise that focuses on anti-submarine warfare off the coast of Italy.

"I'd have to say the Vanguard performed magnificently from a training standpoint during Exercise DOGFISH," said LCol. Boilard.

Exercise DOGFISH provided the Vanguard with the opportunity to train as a team, something LCol Boilard would like to see more of.

"One of the biggest challenges we face is finding the

resources and opportunities to train as a team," says LCol. Boilard. "The great thing is – folks in both Wings are used to working together."

Although 415 Sqn holds the lead, the Vanguard comprises personnel from other units who earn their readiness qualifications at their home bases. Should the order to deploy be given they would train as a unit during their 21 days notice to move.

While the Vanguard has faced many challenges, LCol. Boilard says this group of professionals is prepared to build on its tradition of success.



Photos by Cpl Bill Gomm

The official signing ceremony of the 38 Canadian Brigade Group (CBG) Change of Command took place on June 26 at the historic Upper Fort Garry site. (L-R) The outgoing Commander Col Steve Anema is seen here with the reviewing officer, the Deputy Commander of the Land Force Western Area, BGen Greg Gillespie, and the new Commander of 38 CBG, Col Kelly Woiden.



St. James MLA Bonnie Korzeniowski and Healthy Living Minister Jim Rondeau present CWO Frank Emond with the Private Members Statement.



Submitted by Janice Stanley

Maj Rick Harris, seen here at a luncheon on June 26, received a farewell from Wing personnel at the Marigold restaurant. Maj Harris is moving from his position in Wing Personnel Services to the 1 Canadian Air Division in late summer.



Photo by 2nd Lieutenant Marcell Thompson

Tech Sergeant Tamara Kidd of Smiths Falls, Idaho will be commissioned to the rank of Second Lieutenant, as a Personnel Officer. The promotion is coming after twelve-years of service in the Air Force and is the result of years of hard work. TSgt Kidd and her eight year-old son Christopher live in Winnipeg, Manitoba, where she's worked for the past three years providing administrative support to Brig-Gen Andrew Dichter, Deputy Commander of NORAD North. While she's enjoyed her stay in Winnipeg, her promotion comes with a posting to Germany, a move she says she welcomes. "My son and I, have had a wonderful time in Canada and we're looking forward to life in Germany." TSgt Kidd adds, "Serving my country has allowed me to broaden my horizons and I would recommend it (military service) to anyone."

50 Years Of Music Spans Post-War To Pan Am To Pasadena

402 Squadron Pipes and Drums band celebrates Gold anniversary

By Angela Johnston

It almost seems like the perfectly crafted scene from a movie: a fledgling pipes and drums band from Winnipeg – the “Thistle Band” – is practicing tunes in a brewery parking lot. A slick limousine pulls up to the members, and out come two Air Force officers. One of the officers, a Wing Commander, recruits all of the Thistle Band members into the Air Force as part of a newly-formed squadron band.

The rest is history. For the 402 Squadron Pipes and Drums band, such is the story that happened in 1954 – fifty years ago this year.

Today, the band serves as a proud cornerstone of squadron, base and military heritage, which has increased the profiles of both the military and Canada at home and abroad. The band is well-known in the U.S. and is well-represented in the city.

Most recently, the band played at venues such as the Canada Day parade in Gimli, 2PPCLI farewell ceremonies, D-Day ceremonies at the Forks, and the Winnipeg International Airshow, as well as many base functions.

Still, the band does not come without a prolific history. Jack Reay was the first member recruited into the squadron band at 16. He played under the instruction of his father, Jack Reay, Sr., who was the band's pipe major. A pipe major is like a conductor – he or she leads the band, calls the tunes to be played, and instructs band members.

It is no easy task learning to play the bagpipes, said Reay. “The bag is a third lung.” One must learn the tunes on a chanter – memo-

rizing all music – and must become adept at controlling the pressure of the bag. “There’s nothing worse than a bad piper,” notes Reay. The pipe major is responsible for much of this learning process.

The beginnings of the band are somewhat modest. The squadron band had no kilts or band uniform – they played in Air Force uniforms, or as Reay said, “Khaki in the summer, and blues in the winter.” Though they pulled together pieces from bands in Toronto and Alberta, it was not until Winnipeg hosted the Pan Am Games in 1967 – the band was prominent in the ceremonies – that the band received funding for new uniforms.

The band gained recognition by winning music competitions in places such as Toronto, Winnipeg, Edmonton and Saskatoon, at both the band and individual player levels, said Reay. Internationally, the band also played in Pasadena three times.

Though Reay had left the band a few years after its beginning, he would soon be pulled back into the musical world after his father – the pipe major – had become over age for the military, and had to leave the band. “That’s where I came in,” said Reay. He was re-mustered into the position of pipe major and band officer, with a Captain rank by the time he took over the band.

With both the duties of a pipe major – calling the tunes – and the band officer – looking after attendance, internal affairs, trips and so on – Reay later relinquished the pipe major duties to WO George Lawrence, who would later

give the band over to WO Neil Barbour. The current pipe major is Don Blain.

Cliff Cooke is currently the band’s drum major. The drum major signals when to turn, or stop, to other band members. Cooke jokes that the drum major, “tries to look pretty upfront.” He has been a member of the Air Force since 1967, after serving two years in the Navy. Cooke would watch as the band would travel to the HMCS Chippawa, and as a bass drummer, he soon transferred to 402 Squadron. Retired, he now volunteers with the band.

Cooke explains the appeal, “I like Highland music ... I like being part of it.”

Many similar pipes and drums bands have not lasted the way the 402 Squadron band has. Reay attributes the survival of this band to its widely-spread representation in the city. He said that in his time with the band, the 402 Squadron band rarely turned down an engagement, “We were there and proud of it.”

Still, the band has faced some difficulty in recent years, like many others in the military, due to cutbacks. It has become difficult for the band to make positions available. Reay said the band has thrived on volunteers, which comprise over half of the band.

For now, the band continues to act as ambassadors wherever they play, whether for the military, squadron or country. One only need to look at the number of aircraft the band has flown in over the years to recognize its lengthy past – anything from the Twin Otter to DC-3 Dakotas to modern jets.

And the beat goes on.

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Sports & Fitness

Athletes Of The Month:

Pair keeps fit despite months of injury

By Angela Johnston

Sometimes luck just runs out. Maybe like a broken wrist three weeks before your wedding, followed by foot surgery a few months later. Such is the experience of WO Christine Crump, who luckily had husband Sgt Cameron Crump by her side during both experiences.

The Crumps exercise at the gym every day. They remain dedicated to working out despite obstacles they have faced in the past few months.

In February, the pair were skating on the skinny pathways at the Forks. "I think every other person was at the Forks that day," said WO Crump. As she tried to manoeuvre around a mother pulling her children, she slipped and broke her wrist.

In June, she underwent an operation to shave part of the bone in her foot, which had enlarged. WO Crump had participated in Operation Nijmegen in 1998, which is a four day trek through the Netherlands. Participants hike at least 40 km a day, with 10 kg of weight on their back. It was during

training for this event, combined with the fit of her combat boots, which left WO Crump on bad footing.

Still, Sgt Crump – the pair met in 1998 – has been very supportive over the past few months. When she broke her wrist, he drove her to the hospital and her appointments, and helped her to tie her shoes, dress, and shower. "You've never been so helpless until you lose the use of a hand," said WO Crump.

When she had the operation on her foot, she remained "perched on the couch," she said. He would bring her water, or anything she needed.

This is how the pair operate – in support of one another. The pair recently married on a week-long cruise ship – the "Inspiration" – which sailed out of Tampa, Florida, and went through Cozumel and the Cayman Islands.

WO Crump is with A1 Personnel section in A1 Manning at the 1 Canadian Air Division building, which means she is responsible for sending air force members on international taskings. Sgt Crump – now



Photo by Angela Johnston

a reservist – works at the CF School of Aerospace Studies, as an administration assistant in the distance learning cell.

Every morning, the pair go to the gym. WO Crump works out on the elliptical machine – with open-back track shoes to allieve pressure on her foot – and the bike, and is able to do a couple of weight routines, even though she is still doing much physiotherapy. WO Crump loves to cross-country ski, which was another activity sidelined by her broken wrist.

Sgt Crump used to be an avid runner until he developed arthritis in his knees – now he walks on the treadmill at the gym. Though no longer involved in orga-

nized sports, he often plays soccer with his children – aged 18, 16 and 13 – and road hockey. He is also an off-ice official for the American Hockey League, present at all Manitoba Moose games.

Activities they do together include gardening, walking in the park, rollerblading, skiing, and horseback riding – that is, when they are not warding off injury. Fitness is one aspect of the pair's life which has brought them closer together, said WO Crump. Once her foot fully heals, the pair plan to walk every night.

For their dedication to keeping fit, the Voxair nominates the Crumps as July's Athletes of the Month.



As part of the annual 24 Hour Relay in support of Easter Seals, a combined 1 Canadian Air Division and Winnipeg Clinic personnel team – "The Air Force Way" – took home two trophies from the event, held from June 19-20 at the Forks. The first trophy was for the most laps completed, and the second was for sportsmanship. While team members ran laps, many others were involved in different activities, such as a bocce ball tournament. "The Air Force Way" had 31 runners, including team members' children. The air force has been involved in this charitable event for the past eight years.

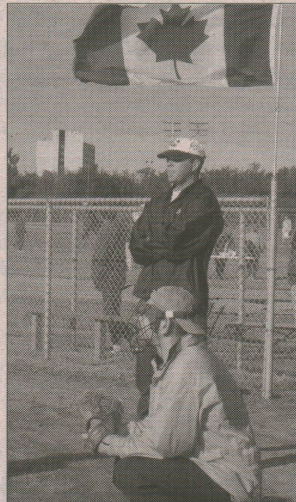


Photo by Angela Johnston

The ump and catcher wait for the next pitch in the Wing Chief's slo-pitch tournament, held on ... (will find out) ... The annual event drew a large crowd, who played in games all morning, and then attended a barbeque held outside the Fitness and Recreation Centre.



Wing Chief Warrant Officer Claude Parent takes the first swing at the annual Wing Chief's slo-pitch tournament.

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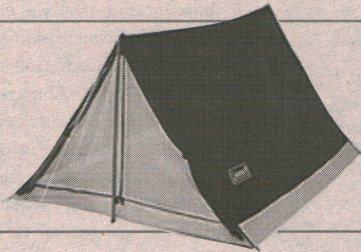
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MFRC Library		4503
Executive Director	Don Brennan	4504
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Volunteer Services	Nicole Johnson	4507
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Information & Referral	Linda Belisle	4509
Children's Programs/ Emergency Childcare	W. Richardson	2491 6846 or
Employment Assistance	John Chabih	4511
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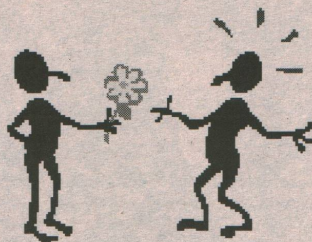


To be able to sign out these memberships, you must be a current member of the Toy Lending Library. Membership for the Toy Lending Library is only \$10.00 a year. For more information or to reserve the passes please call 833-2500 ext 4500.

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Farewell to the 2PPCLI members and families
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Beginning Friday 30 April 2004 the MFRC will be hosting a BBQ outside our 102 Comet Street location every Friday from 1130 hrs to 1300 hrs (weather permitting). Come by and treat yourself to a hamburger, hot dog or smokie, socialize with others and support the MFRC's programs.

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Uma Thurman • David Carradine KILL BILL VOL. 2 Sun-Mon Aug 1-2 138 Mins (PG)	Lindsay Lohan • Rachel McAdam MEANGIRLS Fri-Sat Aug 6-7 97 Mins (PG)
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 Religious Education classes are available to all students from Preschool to Grade 6. Please call the office for information on registration.

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 The sacrament of reconciliation is offered 20 minutes before mass and by appointment. Contact the Chaplains' office.

Baptisms
 We recommend that you contact the chaplain's office for an appointment prior to the birth of your child.

Weddings -Marriages
 Contact the chaplain at least six months in advance. A marriage-preparation course is a requirement.

Catholic Women's League
 Meets the third Tue of the month at 1900 hrs in the Chapel Annex.

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 Sunday School is held during the service for children ages 3 to 12, except on the last Sunday of each month. Childcare is provided on an as-required basis for children under 3 years of age.

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 Six months' notice is required for marriages, as counselling is necessary to prepare couples for Christian marriage. A Marriage preparation course is also required.

Baptisms
 The Sacrament of Holy Baptism is available by contacting a chaplain. Time is required to give sufficient instruction about the meaning of baptism.

Protestant Guild
 The Guild meets the first Sunday of the month at 1800 hrs in the Chapel Annex. All women are welcome.

Food Bank
 The Food Bank is a joint undertaking by both Catholic and Protestant congregations. Please help by giving any food you can spare. The donation box is located at the rear of the chapel.

Emergency Chaplain
 After normal working hours, the Emergency Chaplain can be reached through WOps Duty Centre, 833-2700, or 2 PPCLI Duty Centre, ph. 833-2727.

Other Phone Numbers:
 For your convenience, a phone number has been set up to provide callers with info on service times and contact with the chaplain of your choice. Phone 833-2500 ext. 6800 and follow the prompts.

Interfaith Prayer Room
 Rm 305 in Bldg 62 is avail during reg working hrs for private prayer or meditation, or for small groups to worship in the manner of their faith.

17 Wing Inter-Faith Prayer Room

Submitted By Fr Tim Nelligan RC CLC

On Monday, June 21, 2004, the Wing Chaplain's Office opened up a new facility on the 3rd floor of building 60. "The Inter-Faith Prayer Room" is our response to the changing religious demographics of our armed forces and national population. Out of respect for all religions, and as a means of providing pastoral care for all, this Prayer Room is available for any individual or small group that wish to retreat to a quiet place to pray and reflect.

During hectic days or stressful times, the chance to get away, even for brief moments, can be a boon to us. Prayer and reflection can be just the solution for you in those difficult times. In as much as God may be a spiritual mystery to us, so too is the power of prayer, since it is through prayer that we communicate with God. Your prayers and prayer life should reflect the relationship that you have with God. The emotions that we have, the entire person that we are, should be brought to our time of prayer with God. God desires for us to make him a part of our lives in as much as he desires to participate in our lives. It is through prayer that we feed our soul; without which our soul starves. By its very nature, prayer is a co-operative work between us and God. It can also be a bat-

tle; a battle between us and the wiles of the devil who constantly seeks to turn us away from God and the good that God always calls and encourages us to. This space is located in our midst, so that in the midst of our day, we are given the opportunity to allow God to assist us in coping, and understanding those things that may distract or distress us on a daily basis. In as much as we need food to sustain our health and physical training to sustain our strength, we need prayer to sustain our spirit.

It is our hope, your chaplains, that this Spiritual Facility will be a retreat for you, even if for a brief time. Know that you are welcome, and know too, that the God of your faith looks and listens to you in the quiet places of your heart.... why not go to a quiet place for your heart.

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The Prayer Room is open during normal business hours of 0800 to 1600hrs daily.

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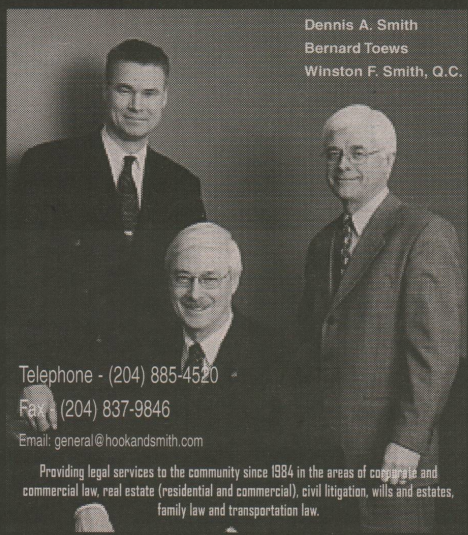


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Lady Owned, Excellent Condition, Well Maintained, \$8500 OBO, Call 774-4736

Children Safety Gate

\$20, Call Alain at 489-3940

Nintendo System

w/ 3 Games and pistol, \$50, Call Alain at 489-3940

Fence - Approx 150 feet

(green chain link with wood posts and frame), \$150 OBO, Call Pam at 896-1925 (leave message)

Child Seat For Bicycle

\$25, Call Pam at 896-1925 (leave message)

Reel For Garden Hose

\$10, Call Pam at 896-1925 (leave message)

1990 Ford Escort, 1.9L, 4cyl, Auto 224,000kms on body, approx 100,000kms on engine, 4dr, Hatch, New timing belt, tires and much more, Asking \$1000 OBO, Call Dave at 284-1335

1990 Pontiac Sunbird LE 2L, 4cyl, Auto, 27000 original kms, Brand new condition, 4dr sedan, pwr locks, Asking \$6500 safetied, Call Dave at 284-1335

Moving - Must Sell

Stove/Oven - \$250, Microwave - \$100, Fridge - \$100, Air Conditioning (window unit) - \$400, New Single Bed (w/ frame) - \$225, All reasonable offers will be considered, Call Guy or France Lecuyer at 896-8251

VW Jetta Factory Roof Rack and 2 x Barracuda Bike Stands, locking bars paid \$750 asking \$500 obo call 297-0134 or 772-3164 like new

1993 Dodge Spirit w/Gold Package 4 cyl (2.5l) Automatic, 167,000 Original Kms, PS, PB, PD, PW, Air Conditioning, Command Start, Tow Package, All Newer Tires, Stored since Sept of Last Year, Very Good Condition Inside and Out, Asking \$2900 OBO, Call Eric at Local 2301 or 453-2599 after 6pm

Garden Shed (wooden) 10 X12 ft with floor, good condition, \$475, Call Doug at 832-2439

Wooden fence 4 ft high x 120 ft long, with 3 gates \$75, Call Doug at 832-2439

Wireless Nanny Camera

Brand new in box, Up to 200 feet range! Just find a spot and plug the receiver into your VCR!!! Priced at 200US. I will sell for 85.00CDN. (I have 6) Call 896-9144

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W/ scope and 2 boxes of shells, \$450, Call 489-8096

2000 Ford Explorer 4x4 Sport Truck, \$12,400, Call 489-8096

1994 Northwood 14 ft Boat

Carpeted w/ 2 swivel seats, dry storage & livewell, 1994 Shorelander trailer with rollers, 1993 short shaft 20 HP Mercury outboard w/2 plastic 25 Liter tanks & 54LB thrust trans-mounted electric trolling motor, Removeable WaveWackers on stern, Sale incl. EagleII Fishfinder & battery, Many extras, Priced to sell at \$3500.00 obo, Call 837-8326 for more info.

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Insulated removable roof, wired for heat lamp, Exc. cond., \$100.00, Call 292-9937

1983 Chevy Van 1/2 Ton Work Van Camper top, Runs well, \$1000 OBO, Call 487-7847 /lve msg

Mega Block Galore

"Overflowing 2 cube", \$20 and it's yours!! Call 487-7847

200 Foot Chain Link Fence

W/ hardware & 2 gates, \$350.00 for all, Call Tara at 487-4879

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Free To Good Home

Women's gabardine size 22 tall 6943, 2 ladies rain coats sizes 6742 & 7042, 1 pr work boots/ double soled/ size 7 (worn parades only), Call Mary at loc 4165

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Do you need your lawn cut or looked after for the summer??

Call David at 488-4952. Sorry, South Side PMQ's only.

Male Labrador Retriever puppy, 10 wks old. Golden. Please call 299-2039 after 5pm or on weekends.

XBOX LIVE

brand new, \$90 call 831-9658 after 4:30.

Kids bunk bed with futon couch, (metal frame) on bottom (folds into dbl bed) (futon matt incl, but not bed matt.) \$ 300, For more info on items or to view pls call 489-8720 and lve msg.

Futon couch

(wood frame) matt incl \$150, For more info on items or to view pls call 489-8720 and lve msg.

Little Tikes Cozy Cottage Bed (full size) matt not incl \$50, For more info on items or to view pls call 489-8720 and lve msg.

Baby change table (white with primary color knobs) \$20, For more info on items or to view pls call 489-8720 and lve msg.

Kids small wooden desk with matching bookshelf, \$50 (OBO), For more info on items or to view pls call 489-8720 and lve msg.

Kenmore Dishwasher (approx 5 yrs old) excellent condition \$275, For more info on items or to view pls call 489-8720 and lve msg.

Sofa table \$25, For more info on items or to view pls call 489-8720 and lve msg.

Trailer Hitch for towing (Chevy Lumina Van or Transport Van only) \$250 (OBO), For more info on items or to view pls call 489-8720 and lve msg.

1993 Special Edition Hyundai Excel, 4 spd, w/ low kms, White w/ grey interior in excellent condition, New tires & battery, Asking \$1200, Call 284-1335

TAROSCOPES BY NANCY

ARIES (March 21 - April 19): When you put your mind to something you get results fast. You're also the one whom others count on to find solutions that everyone can agree on. Though it isn't easy, you're successful, because you take the time to consider a problem from many angles and from more than one person's perspective.

TAURUS (April 20 - May 20): Sometimes you need to experience hardship or a struggle. It makes you push harder to get to core issues and tap into your strengths. Friends can see what you can't. Let them help. You can rely on their input when you're at a loss. You end up happier or in a more fitting situation in the end.

GEMINI (May 21 - June 21): Strive for optimism even if you only manage it some of the time. Just because you can see another's point of view doesn't mean you need to make it your own. Anger is driving someone to make nasty comments, but let them flow past you, especially if you're tempted to answer in kind.

CANCER (June 22 - July 22): Taking better care of your body makes you feel special and it grounds you so that you can get out of the rut of inactivity you've been in. Everyone has ups and downs. Try not to dwell on each of these phases, they are always changing anyway. Do what you can do and don't worry about the rest.

LEO (July 23 - August 22): Eager to enjoy deeper feelings you're liable to be swept into a relationship when you meet an intriguing individual. You'll have to learn how to juggle home and work commitments better as a result but that's not difficult when the reward is that you're getting what you want.

VIRGO (August 23 - September 22): If you're willing to dive into life and willing to experience whatever happens you'll find you're so busy living you won't have time to wonder if you're doing the right thing and making the right choices. Change can be comfortable if you go with the flow.

LIBRA (September 23 - October 23): Speak your mind, say what you feel and you'll be seen for who you are. This openness will lead to a release of tension and you'll gain insights about yourself. What you yearn to do becomes obvious and instead of wondering if it's possible just try it and see.

SCORPIO (October 24 - November 21): When others are stuck it's futile to try and change or fix anything. You're outnumbered so don't internalize feelings of failure. Helping ease the stress and distress of others improves the possibility of better decisions being made. Keep a rein on worries or they will grow into monsters.

SAGITARIUS (November 22 - December 21): Revel in what you've got but be prepared because change is coming. You'll be asked to represent a group so you won't have the luxury of just maintaining your singular focus. When you plant ideas and make suggestions keep the long range, big picture in mind.

CAPRICORN (December 22 - January 19): You'll need to find a way to reconnect with someone you wounded with words. You're ready to address the issue but they may not be. Though you shouldn't expect to get off to a flying start, you can assume you'll be successful if you persevere and show respect for their feelings.

AQUARIUS (January 20 - February 18): Reviewing your life you realize you've not been fully utilizing all your talents. Also you can see that some things aren't meant to be, so you'll stop working so hard to make them happen. You're moving on, exuding confidence and calm certainty. Through action you allay fears.

PISCES (February 19 - March 20): Everything is going so well and happening so quickly you find it hard to believe. Your world is opening up and changing. So are you. You'll be meeting new people and going to new places. Enjoy yourself. You'll fit in fine with any crowd and you'll get things done on time, if not immediately.

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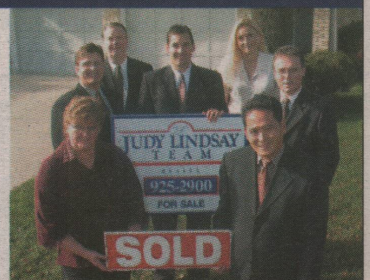
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