

THE KASELEHLIE PRESS

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Pohnpei State Detective Allegedly Loses Control Local Bystander Takes a Bullet in the Face for his Curiosity

By **BILL JAYNES**
The Kaselehlie Press

Nett, Kolonia – “Bang, Bang! You’re dead!” Those are words I used as a child when I played what we called “Cops and Robbers” with my brother and our friends. I always used my finger as the gun and it was never loaded. The recipient of my “shot” always fell down and acted mortally wounded with the high drama for which kids are famous. It nearly happened for real in Pohnpei when 18 year old Sean Yamada took a bullet fragment to the face at 2:00 in the morning, Saturday, March 10 at Club Flamingo, owned by Marvin Yamaguchi.

Patrons of the club were leav-

ing the bar when a fight broke out over a baseball game scheduled for the following Sunday between undefeated Dolonier and Parem; not an unusual scenario either inside or outside of the bar. What was unusual was that off duty detective and recently appointed judge in Nett, Iakopus John who is from Parem, according to witnesses, pulled a 9mm Beretta handgun from his car and began firing with the weapon tilted 90 degrees to the left—just like in modern gangster movies. The first two shots apparently hit nothing of consequence but the third one ricocheted and hit Yamada in the right cheek bone, an inch from his eye.



Photo by Bill Jaynes

Sean Yamada standing in the spot where he was shot



9mm Beretta

Ryan Kuor, who goes by the nickname “Ryda”, said that he saw John walking down the street with the Beretta. Ryda, who writes and has recorded some tough talking gangster rap lyrics in Pohnpei that include talk about “9’s” (a rap reference to a 9 millimeter handgun like the one John was using), said that he backed away to what he thought was a safe distance in the parking lot. He was with Yamada at

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Financial Shambles in Kosrae As New Administration Comes In

“Most of the principle officers of Kosrae were shocked by our own findings of their financial status,” FSM official says.

By **OLIVIER WORTEL**
The Kaselehlie Press

TOFOL, Kosrae – New Governor Robert Weilbacher has inherited a mess. The reason: a massive debt created by the former Administration that has left the state barely able to make payroll.

The national government is now scrambling to manage the financial meltdown of the second of four state governments, following on the heels of a Chuuk bailout. A February 24th *Summary Report to the President’s Task Force on Financial Recovery and Reform* for Kosrae paints a “bleak financial situation” now and in the foreseeable future. “The State’s financial difficulties are encompassing and of serious nature,” the report states off the top. Inaction, the report concludes further, could lead to “potentially severe consequences.”

FSM President Joseph Urusemal, his Cabinet, and members of the FSM Congress have met with state leaders to hash out the grim financial woes that have come to light: \$1.5 million needed just to make payroll and meet other basic



FSM President Joseph J. Urusemal (center) must now look for a way to help a second state out of a severe financial crisis as recently Inaugurated Governor Robert Weilbacher (left) assumes control of Kosrae from former Governor Rensley Sigrav (pictured at right).

needs of government operations for the next six months; \$1.5 million in accounts payable owed by the state; a recently legislated appropriation to increase government salaries by 8% with no money to back it up; a local revenue fund that is empty; fully seven government departments/branches that must use a tapped out local revenue fund to pay for operations, with two more slated to join.

On March 8th Weilbacher made a trip to Pohnpei to see President

Urusemal - like Chuuk Governor Wesley Simina before him - to ask the FSM for financial help; nearly \$3 million worth, as Weilbacher stated, “that is urgently needed to make payroll and meet basic services” for the remainder of this fiscal year.

In a brief interview at PCR restaurant Weilbacher had this to say: “I want us to change how we operate. Change the way we think about government.” He added, “What I propose to do is auction off our vehicles. First, it sets a

good example for people to see – to know that we are serious in what we are doing here – and two, we don’t have the money to spend on fuel.”

Weilbacher said that the habits of the prior Administration would not be duplicated under his watch. “Less complaining and more compliance,” he said.

“That’s what the problem was in the past,” Weilbacher added.

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NEWS

The Son Also Rises: An Interview with Sesario Sewralur

The son of famous ocean navigator Mau Pialiug is ready to carry on the Micronesian tradition

By **OLIVIER WORTEL**
The Kaselehlie Press

KOLONIA, Pohnpei – *The mission is one of gratitude: sending Maisu as a gift to Micronesian navigator Mau Pialiug, for his role in the Hawaiian voyaging renaissance. Pialiug, a traditionally trained non-instrument canoe navigator from the island of Satawal in Micronesia, taught Hawaiian voyagers how to use wind, stars, seas, birds and other cues to make accurate landfalls after long voyages...*

Right. And so it was that the two double-hulled catamaran-style, finely crafted sailing canoes that sailed gently through Pohnpei's barrier reef recently, navigated by the imposing Hawaiian Navigator, Chad Paishon, and captained by the stout, dark, and lean Shorty Bertelmann, on an epic voyage through Micronesia and on to Satawal, one of the magical – and sinking – Caroline Island atolls as remote as any place on earth. Like small disappearing dots on the world's greatest ocean, so too are the many ancient, necessary traditions.

Also along for the voyage is Mao's son, Sesario Sewralur, who fittingly, is the man who has learned the most from his father, and is ready to carry on the tradition for a new generation of Micronesian sailors.

I had a chance to sit down with Sesario to ask about his father, his childhood experiences, and the future of sailing. I had asked him if it was common for him to get interview requests, particularly in light of this most recent, highly publicized voyage – National Geographic, Pacific Magazine, the Corporation for Public Broadcast-



Hawaiian Navigator Chad Paishon (left) and Yapese Navigator Sesario Sewralur plot strategy for the evening run on the double-hulled canoes that will take them from Pohnpei to Chuuk, some 600-some miles of open-ocean to the northwest.

ing, and the usual slew of local newspapers and regional internet sites and blogs at their various stops along the way – and he surprised me by saying, “No. Never. This is the first time.”

We talked toward the end of our interview about the art of traditional sailing beyond the romantic visions of the glossy page or screen, beyond the voyeur pedestrian sentimentality, and about the reality of it. “What is the relevance of traditional navigation?” I had asked. And Sesario cut to the point. “Technology is nice. It helps in many ways. But what happens when it breaks? What happens when the satellite stops working? And there is no one there to fix, or knows how to repair the GPS? We have to rely on ourselves. If there is a typhoon, or the ships stop coming, we have to be able to go out to the sea and sail to other islands, to catch our fish as we go, drink the coconuts that we pick up floating. There are times when we find it useful to be self-reliant.”

“So you’re saying it’s a necessity?” I said. “Yes,” he said. “It’s a necessity when you live on an atoll.”

What follows is an excerpt of our conversation, which took place in the conference room of the second floor building of the FSM National Police Maritime Wing Unit at the Pohnpei Port.

ground on yourself.

My name is Sesario Sewralur. I’m from the island of Satawal, one of the outer islands of Yap. It’s one of the farthest eastern islands; it’s closer to Chuuk than Yap. So it’s about 650 miles away from Yap. The purpose that brings me here to Pohnpei is that we sailed two double-hulled canoes here from Hawaii. One is the *Hokule’a* and one is the *Maisu*. *Maisu* started to be built in 2001. It’s a gift to my dad from the Hawaiian people that was from teaching them skills of navigation. It took a long time to build because they also had to find the funding. The fundraising actually started in 2000, began building in 2001, and it was just completed earlier this year I think, in the last two months, January. The trip was already planned that we were going to take the canoe down and take it to Satawal. And then turn it over to my dad. And that’s the main reason why we here, to take it to Satawal...to the old man. And actually my role on the canoe is I’m one of the watch captain’s on my ship. We have our Navigator, Chad (Paishon), and we have our Captain, Shorty (Bertelmann). They like to do all the navigation and all the leadership all the way up to Satawal. After the turnover and then I can actually take over. That’s the plan for right now.

You also have been taught by your

If you would, give us a little back-

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NEWS

father? What we might refer to as “Traditional Navigation”?

I was taught by my father how to navigate. I started sailing with my father when I was five years old. Four or five years old. Just, you know, sail around, having fun when I was a little kid, but I didn't know that I'm gonna be one of the navigators someday. I was just sailing around, but it was a really good experience from when I was a little kid up to now. So from then every voyage that my dad made to some of the islands in Yap, I always, you know, go with him, and even some of the outer islands of Chuuk. It's really nice. I mean, it's a part of the learning, but you never understand it in the first place. You never thought that it's going to come into your life continuing on. So in 1976, when my dad went to Hawaii just for a vacation with one of the Peace Corps that was in Satawal for a couple of years teaching and then he ended up getting married in Satawal. And I guess that was the time that they started building Hokule'a and they were looking for a navigator to sail the canoe down to Tahiti to prove that Polynesians and Micronesians are sailors before. So I guess my dad was introduced to the Hawaiians and then they asked him if he

could take the canoe down to Tahiti by navigating by stars, ocean swells, birds, moon and the sun... So they did it. They went to Tahiti, and then my dad flew back home and stayed there. Then in 1980 I was in Saipan with my dad, and then the Hawaiian's came to Saipan to ask my dad to go back and teach them the skills of navigation. So we went to Hawaii that year, in 1980, and we stayed there a couple of months, and from there that's when I started to get involved with these Hawaiian's voyaging and everything. From there I always went on the voyaging canoes with my dad. Learn a little bit. Staying out there is a very good experience because you see all the elements that you need to see. To me I learn faster that way than just sitting on land thinking about it.

You mentioned Saipan. Let me give you a name, and tell me what comes to your mind: Lino Olopai.

Lino Olopai. Actually he is one of my uncles in Saipan. He's one of the person's who wanted to learn navigation too. So he came to Satawal and stayed there for - I'm not really sure how long - but it was loooong that he stayed in Satawal. It could be a year or two years talking to my dad about navi-

gation. After that I think he went back to Saipan. I think he learned a lot, but I haven't seen him sail a canoe yet. He might have the knowledge of navigation in him but I'm not really sure... I mean he sailed with my dad to Saipan...

I met Lino in Saipan in September last year. He talked about his book, *The Rope of Tradition*, and then he showed us a short documentary that talks about the *Pu'o Ceremony*. Let me ask you another question. In all of your sailing with your father throughout the years, is there any particular experience that stands out in your memory? Anything that you may have seen, or encountered, or that happened that stands out to you over the years?

Well, the experience that really stands out is - it's really amazing too because it's pulling up a fish. You know, you catch a fish on your fishing line and then you pull it up and it's a reef fish. But we haven't seen the island, so as soon as we pull the reef fish on board, then my dad pointed in another direction because we are going to change course because the island is there.

And he knew...

He already knew that's the reef that we hit because he knew what course we were on. We were probably on the right course, we were close to land but it's just that we don't measure currents so carefully, and then as soon as we put the fish on board - and you have to understand, it's a reef fish - so there should be a reef somewhere, but we didn't think to look down to see if there was a reef or something. So all he did, he said to us to look down if we see a reef. So that's when we looked down and we see the reef. It's a shallow reef, not really shallow, shallow, but you can tell it's a reef, because it's not really blue water. And that's when we changed course. About an hour after, that's when we can see the island. That's one of the great experiences that really sticks with me that, oh, this is, yeah, I have to remember this.

How is your father doing these days?

Um, he's doing fine. He's just very old. He's about 79 years old, so he's not as strong as he was before. He was a very

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NEWS

Pohnpei Celebrates International Women's Day Even Downpours Could Not Dampen the Unquenchable Spirits of the Ladies

PICS Track, Pohnpei -On Thursday, March 8 intrepid women from all over Pohnpei gathered at the PICS High School track for a full day of celebrations. The celebration continued despite periods of torrential rain with celebrants dancing in their brightly colored dresses some so new that dye from the material ran down their arms and legs.

According to the Secretariat of the Pacific Community, International Women's Day has a long history and is a public holiday in 14 countries, among them Vietnam, Bulgaria, and Mongolia.

SPC says that IWD emerged in 1909 from the labour movements in North America and Europe in the early 1900's. Various major rallies and protests saw women protest poor working conditions and discrimination, and call for the right to vote and to hold public office.

The United Nations began marking IWD in 1975, International Women's Year. The UN General Assembly cited two reasons for its decision to observe IWD: the fact that securing peace and social progress and the full enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms requires the active participation, equality and development of women; and to acknowledge the contribution of women to the strengthening of international peace and security. You can find out more at <http://www.internationalwomensday.com/organizations1.asp>.

Linda Petersen, manager of the Human Development Programme at SPC says, "Studies show that women who are able to take an active part in family decision-making have healthier, better-educated children, and this has huge and positive implications for Pacific Island societies."

She said that International Women's Day is also a day to take stock of progress towards a society where men and women have similar rights and opportunities.



Photos by Bill Jaynes

Pacific women can say that progress is being made towards equality but too slowly. The key to change, she says, is men taking part.

According to Jimmie Rodgers, a medical doctor and Director-General of the Secretariat of the Pacific Community, "gender equality is not a threat to us menfolks. It is the unlocking of the opportunity that has always been there for our nations, but one that has always eluded us," he says.

"If we don't have gender equality at all levels of social, eco-

conomic and political development, we are only operating at about 50 per cent of our total available brain power-50 per cent of our total available potential.

The main challenge, he says, is how nations make sure they are tapping into the 50 percent. "I suggest that whether we men are in a remote village in Papua New Guinea or a large town in Fiji, whether we are fishermen or politicians, we each have a role to play in ensuring that the women around us-at home, at school, and work-are included and have a say.

Dr. Rogers says working for gender equality is about building a future for our children of which we can be proud. "It is about influencing a mind-shift for equal partnership between men and women, girls, and boys in the process of nation building."

Speeding up progress to gender equality is the main theme of a major meeting to take place at SPC. The 10th triennial Conference on Pacific Women and the Third Pacific Ministerial on Women is to take place from May 27 to June 1, 2007 at SPC headquarters in Noumea.

Yap Cultural Day Celebrated in High Form in Pohnpei



Traditional Yapese dancers perform a convincing stick dance to the delight of the small crowd



Killing time and entertaining friends



Pig feed bags put to good use



All ages enjoyed the day



Photos by Bill Jaynes



FSM President Urusemal



Former President Haglegam

By **BILL JAYNES**
The Kaselelie Press

Misko's Beach, Pohnpei - On Saturday, March 10, Yapese citizens of all ages residing in Pohnpei along with residents of other islands gathered for a celebration of Yapese culture. Though the celebration started four and a half hours late very few people complained and spent the time enjoying each other's company.

While children frolicked and conversations continued, a surprised President Urusemal gave an impromptu speech. Former President Haglegam followed with a speech of his own also impromptu.

The food laid out by the Yapese

community was a highlight as well as the games for the children. Participants watched as children played surprising games like the egg toss, water ballon toss, musical chairs and the show stopper, sack races in pig feed bags.

Though there are approximately 200 Yapese living in Pohnpei the event was somewhat sparsely attended. Some claimed that it was too sunny, an uncommon complaint for Pohnpei.

After the children's games ended Yapese dancers from the College of Micronesia astounded the crowd with their convincing traditional warrioristic stick dances.

NEWS

...Navigator

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good sailor. He was a very good navigator, strong and good. As he grew older, there is nothing he could do. He needed to relax most of the time. At this time, every time we talk to Satawal they said his health is getting improved and improved. I don't know, he must be getting very happy or very proud to see this canoe coming down along the line. All the reports that we are getting from Satawal are saying that his health is getting improved. That's really nice

to hear that his health is improved, instead of just lying around the house.

How many people live on the island of Satawal?

Actually, I'm not really sure, but figure there should be around 900 people.

It's a fairly big atoll then.

Not really. It's only one island. But I'm talking about 900 people from that island, but some people they work in Yap, they live in Yap, and some others in Pohnpei. So maybe around 3-400

people live there. But total population would be about 900 or close to a 1,000 or so.

What do you see in the future with this traditional sailing? Where do you see this going? Now that your father has passed along this knowledge to you and the Hawaiian's once again, what do you see as the future for this?

In Hawaii right now it is really growing bigger and bigger, these voyagings and navigation skills to be passed along to whoever wants to learn. But I think

it is a very big community now, and more canoes are building in Hawaii now. More people have started building their own. They want to have their own voyaging canoes. It's really amazing that it starts growing bigger and bigger. And now we have this canoe donated to my father, which is going to be in Micronesia, and actually what I would like to do with the canoe is continue the legacy of my dad. Teaching the navigation to whoever wants to learn, and continue to sail to any state in Micronesia, probably including Guam, Saipan, the Marshall Islands, Palau, to make this thing bigger and bigger.

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Recent study on Tobacco Use Among Young People in the FSM

The number of young people currently smoking cigarettes in the FSM is high, and the rate of use of other tobacco products like betel nut is also high.

A recent FSM survey study showed that one in three youth smokers are dependent on cigarettes.

The biggest tobacco related challenge we face today on our islands is the use of betel nut among our young people. Over sixty percent of students use betel nut in both Middle and High Schools in Pohnpei and in Kosrae.

Cigarettes in the FSM are easily available and accessible to our youths. Many Mom and Pop stores sell them loose at a going price of ten to fifteen cents a piece.

Studies in the Pacific Islands show that most people begin using tobacco at an early age. In addition, there seems to be a higher rate of males who smoke but there is a rapidly increasing number of females and children who take up the habit as reported by WHO-Western Pacific Region.

Like in most countries, FSM boys are more likely than girls to use tobacco. In both States of Pohnpei and Kosrae, more males smoke than females.

Tobacco use remains one of the leading causes of preventable disease in Micronesia and around the World. In addition, tobacco is the only licensed poisonous product legally available in any part of the world.

It is the goal of the Federated States of Micronesia especially the Department of Health, Education and Social Affairs to try and decrease all forms of tobacco use among our young people along with the rest of the population.

All of us play an important role in this tobacco control movement.



For a more in depth look at the 2000 FSM Youth Tobacco Survey on the data collected for the two islands of Pohnpei and Kosrae you can contact the FSM Tobacco Control Program and ask for the FSM Surveillance and Evaluation Officer, Ms Brenda Hadley or call 320-5521 or 320-5520. Also you can email us at brenhadley@hotmail.com or at tup@mail.fm.

NEWS

Chinese Ambassador Liu Hands Over a Cargo Passenger Vessel to Yap

From February 25 to March 1, 2007, Her Excellency Liu Fei, Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to the Federated States of Micronesia, made her first official visit to the State of Yap, during which she hosted the hand-over ceremony of the Second Cargo Passenger Vessel to Yap State Government and took part in the festivities of the 39th Yap Day.

During her stay in Yap, Ambassador Liu paid courtesy calls on Governor Sebastian Anefal, Lt. Governor Tareg, Speaker Chieng, the members of the State Legislature and Congress Senator Isaac Figir. She also showed her respect to the traditional leaders of Yap and paid courtesy calls on the chiefs of the Council of Pilung and the Council of Tamol.

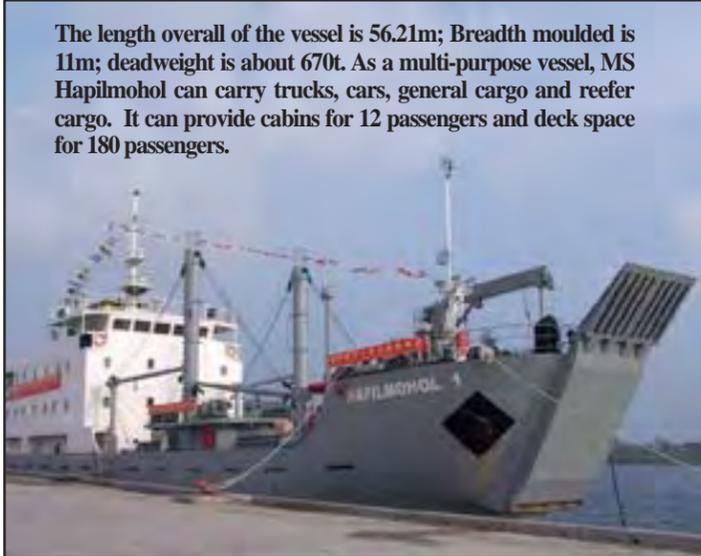
While in Yap she visited the Heritage Preservation Office, the Department of Resource & Development, the T-3 Office and Yap High School, to which she donated more than 200 books on China's history, culture, business, education, tourism etc.

The hand-over Ceremony of the Second Cargo Passenger Vessel, MS Hapilmohol, another Chinese Aid Project to the FSM, was held on February 28th at the dock in Colonia. H.E. Joseph J. Urusemal, President of the FSM, Hon. Sebastian Anefal, Governor, Hon. Anthony Tareg, Lt. Governor, Speaker Chieng, Senator Isaac Figir, Paramount Chief Andrew Ruepong and other traditional leaders attended the ceremony. Ambassador Liu delivered a speech to more than 200 guests.

Ambassador Liu's speech:

"Good Morning—Fale kadbul.

I'd like to take this opportunity to convey, on behalf of the Government of the People's Republic of China, the sincere congratulations to this grand occasion. It's my great honour to hand over MS Hapilmohol 1 to the Government of FSM which will be used by the Yap State to improve the shipping transportation for the local people and to make the Yap



The length overall of the vessel is 56.21m; Breadth moulded is 11m; deadweight is about 670t. As a multi-purpose vessel, MS Hapilmohol can carry trucks, cars, general cargo and reefer cargo. It can provide cabins for 12 passengers and deck space for 180 passengers.

Day more colorful.

Today, I am especially pleased to have His Excellency President Joseph J. Urusemal to grace this ceremony, which shows the importance the FSM Government attaches to this project. And I would like to thank Mr. LE Hanmin, Deputy Manager of

Wuhan Nanhua Ship Company China for his dedication to build the beautiful and strong MS Hapilmohol 1. Governor Hon. Sebastian L. Anefal personally talked to the Chinese side for the vessel when he was

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POLICE EXPLOSIVE RESPONSE TEAM FORMED ON POHNPEI

The FSM has a new "Bomb squad" this week after completion of a formal explosive response training program. Two (2) members of the FSM National Police, 4 members from Pohnpei State Police, 2 from Port Authority and 2 members of Pohnpei State EPA completed an intensive two week long Emergency Response to Explosive Incidents training program sponsored by the Pohnpei Environmental Protection Agency and FSM Dept of HESA.



hazard to the public.

Japanese occupation forces heavily fortified the island with aircraft and defensive weapons during the 1930's and 1940's. US forces continuously conducted aircraft bombing and incendiary attacks during World War II which burned Kolonia to the ground, leaving behind dud high explosive and incendiary bombs. US Navy ships fired at targets on the island and submarines from both US and Japanese Navies mined the waters around Pohnpei. The result is significant amounts of ordnance remaining behind to this day, presenting a serious

In recognition of this hazard, the Pohnpei State EPA office contracted Ampro, an Ordnance & Explosives company from Guam, to create an explosive response capability on island. Patterned after the successful XRT Explosive Response Team program in the CNMI, Ampro President John Scott created an intensive two week training program to establish an explosive incident response capability through the formation of a similar Explosive Response Team on Pohnpei.

Selected police officers com-

pleted a rigorous 40 hour course on Ordnance and Explosives with specific emphasis on World War II era US and Japanese Unexploded Ordnance (UXO). Students learned to identify UXO by country, type, fuzing and explosive hazard. Students then learned how to determine the explosive condition of the ordnance and how to safely recover, transport and store these dangerous items. Additional training was provided to the team to achieve a basic response capability to bomb threats and Improvised Explosive Devices.

The US Navy EOD Team's Officer in Charge, LTjg Troy Lawson and Chief Petty Officer John Hatcher coordinated with the Department of Public Safety to identify a safe location for storage and explosive disposal of dangerous UXO and to coordinate EOD's support to the islands XRT Team when it comes time to dispose of the munitions. Planning is underway to conduct an explosive demolition operation in the near future.



They may look like turkey legs but they're deadly dangerous. Bombs in the Dolonier ballfield

Anyone in the public who knows where dangerous ordnance and explosives may exist is urged to call the Pohnpei State Police Dept at 320-2221 or contact the XRT Officer in Charge, Captain Patterson Lawrence at 921-0114. XRT Bomb Technicians will come and take the appropriate action to leave your neighborhood a safer place to live.

...Shambles

continued from page 1

“There was always resistance to JEMCO mandates and the requirements of the second Compact on the use of funds. That is going to change starting now.” To back this statement up, Weilbacher has reportedly slashed the slew of special assistants that the former administration had on the payroll, trimming the Governor’s Office staff numbers considerably for fiscal year 2008. Weilbacher has also taken the nearly unheard of step of reducing the public expenditures on his own position by removing the line items for travel, and a government vehicle (and its maintenance and fuel costs).

Asked if he realized the stupendous scope of the monetary deficit on the island while running – and ultimately succeeding – for the Governorship, Weilbacher kept his composure while stating bluntly that he did not actually know the true magnitude of the problem, but

that he certainly observed what he thought were the suspicious actions of an outgoing Administration in the waning days of power.

“Just the way they were doing things. I knew something was wrong...especially toward the end. It’s like they were in a hurry to spend money,” he said. After a few silent moments, “I knew there was a deficit. But I did not know the magnitude...Everything was absolutely used up. There was not even a transition fund,” added Weilbacher, noting dryly that his own transition team has to “buy their own snacks” for their frequent meetings.

According to one of Weilbacher’s financial advisors, the President and his Cabinet have acted quickly to assist. President Urusemal and key Cabinet members have in principal agreed to request the FSM Congress – in its upcoming Special Session beginning in the last week of March – to appropriate about

\$1.5 million in the form of “an interest free loan with a grace period of two years” to the State in order to cover “the cash needs for the last two quarters of this fiscal year.” Much of this would go toward making payroll for the state’s government employees, the financial advisor suggested. Otherwise, he said, the remaining \$1.5 million – much of which is in the form of debts the State must pay out to vendors and other creditors – still needs to be found.

International donors, other governments – China was mentioned – the Asian Development Bank, and even unspent funds allocated for Congressional projects on the island, will be sources considered to bail out the massive debts of the state, this advisor stated by way of email.

In return, the FSM has recommended a freeze in hiring, stoppage of nearly all travel by government workers, a reduction in working hours, the imposition of higher tax

rates, the creation of a rainy day fund, allocation of funds to only revenue generating programs and activities, and the enforcement of balanced annual budgets.

Weilbacher, a man with a calm, open, and confident presence who has assembled a group of diverse advisers, has recommended that the State reduce its cabinet-level departments from seven to four. Although it may not significantly reduce the number of government employees, it is, he states, a start. Weilbacher expects the rest of the government to follow suit: both the Judiciary, and more importantly, the Legislature.

“(Chief Justice) Aliksa will go along with any plans in reduction,” said Weilbacher in an interview late at night, visibly spent. “We’ve talked about reducing the number of senators also. I think it will be a disservice

See “Shambles” on Page 13

DIRECTORIES NOW AVAILABLE!

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NEWS

...Shooting

continued from page 1

Flamingo. Both young men said that though they have been in the bar before they didn't enter it that night but "hung around outside, drinking with friends."

Yamada was a bit closer to the fist fight and the resulting gunfire which was occurring in the street. He was on Flamingo's driveway approximately 75 feet from the activity. According to Yamada he felt like he was a bit too close and started to join his friends when he suddenly had "hot metal in his face," one inch below his right eye.

Ryda said he saw Yamada holding his face and realized what had happened. He grabbed Sean and put him into the car they had taken to the bar. Wescott Musrasrik the driver, and another friend with Yamada and Ryda that night,

drove past the melee at the end of the driveway and on to Pohnpei State Hospital where Yamada was ultimately admitted. No surgeon was on duty and the surgeon on call could not be contacted. The bullet fragment in his face was not removed until after noon on Saturday. The bullet fragment was passed to the police department after it was extracted.

Sergeant Steve Solomon, that night's shift supervisor was one of police officers who responded to the shooting. He said that while he and other officers were trying to disarm John, the Beretta went off. Solomon said he was nearly shot in the leg during the altercation and was burned by the barrel of the gun. He was holding it when it went off. A few days later he showed me the hole in the concrete caused by the impact of the bullet that nearly got him. He also showed me the burns on his hands.

He said that 11 bullets were left

in the clip. The clip for a Beretta holds fifteen bullets, which corresponds with the number of shots eyewitnesses said were fired that night. Despite the altercation and the multiple discharges of the firearm, Ioakopis got away. Solomon said, "We didn't have enough police officers to control the crowd...He was a detective." Solomon responded affirmatively when asked if he felt that John was drunk.

Shortly after he eluded police, John, along with the two companions, his brothers in law that had been involved in the fight at the bar showed up at the hospital where Yamada was being treated. According to Jesse Suldan who had arrived along with Rickstein Olter to check on Yamada's condition said that John was there to fight and threatened members of the Dolonier baseball team outside the hospital while Yamada, Ryda, and Wescott were inside at the time trying to get Yamada's injuries attended to. Olter heard Iakopus threaten to shoot the members of the opposing team and that he would kill them at the Baseball field on Sunday.

Ryda, who was inside the hospital said that when he came outside "it was just war. Yeah, there were a lot of people." Suldan was one of the casualties of that war. He sustained head injuries from a blow to the head by a tire iron witnesses say, that was deliberately thrown at him by one of John's companions. He said that the end of the tire iron made for pulling hubcaps off actually stuck in his head. He was treated for his injuries at the Hospital and released. He said that the hospital gave him nothing that night and he returned on Monday due to "big pain."

Once again, police who had arrived at the Hospital let John go. He was arrested by State Police at his home at approximately 4:00 in the morning. No other arrests were made.

Ricky Carl of the State Attorney General's office is the prosecutor dealing with the case. On Saturday when John's bail hearing occurred at the State Supreme Court,

he said that he could only file the charges that had been given him by the State Police. He suggested a bail of \$1000 which was denied. The court ruled that John would be released on his own recognition and he must surrender all property belonging to the state including any hand guns. State Police enforced that order. The charges at that time only involved possession of a handgun and discharge of a firearm. State Police officers who filed the arrest report didn't include any mention of a victim. All of those officers currently are subjects of an internal investigation.

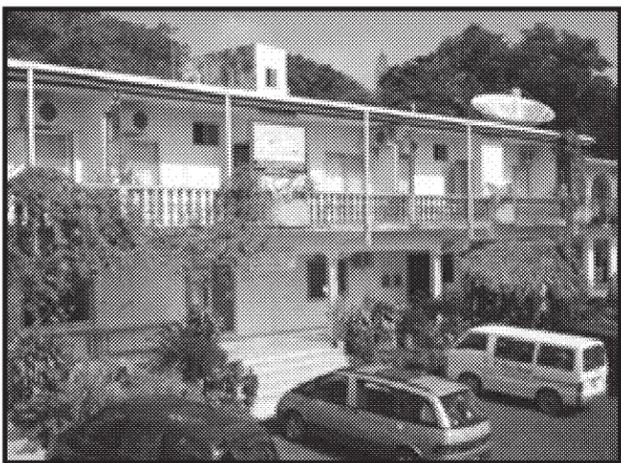
Since police did not mention Yamada's injuries in their own report he filed his own charges after he was released from the hospital on Saturday evening. Suldan didn't file charges until the following Monday after he was treated again at the Hospital. On Friday, March 16 the prosecutor handling the case had still not received the reports from the police department but said that additional arrests would likely be made after the charges were filed at the Attorney General's office. Chief Joe Roby said that the police department is in the process of gathering more evidence and that charges will be filed soon.

On Monday morning Yokofus John was suspended from the Pohnpei State Police pending the outcome of an investigation into the incident.

In a media communiqué Chief Roby said, "The police officer concerned has been arrested and charges laid. This investigation may result [in] further charges against the officer and a criminal prosecution being launched. Therefore it is inappropriate to discuss specific points which may jeopardize any subsequent court hearing." He further said, "I have taken this step of issuing this press statement to confirm to the public the Pohnpei Police is committed to being open and accountable organization and to reassure everyone that this matter will be fully and properly investigated."

He said that the investigation is receiving top priority and that hand gun regulations are being revised significantly.

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KP-Perspective

Professionals...

A couple of weeks ago a good friend of mine died. He was 6 years younger than I am and it's been a hard couple of weeks. He was close and it has brought the subject of death to the forefront of my thinking for the last few weeks. People die here every day and I don't often think deeply about it but I have begun to see a pattern that I would not have noticed if he had not died.

In the week following my friend's death there were many funerals in the community. Some of the people that I know were involved in each one of them. They are local people and were the ones that brought this subject up. They would not have brought it up with me if the practice was culturally acceptable to them and so I will say something about it.

I'm talking about a problem that many of my local friends are saying is getting worse lately as the economy changes on the island: the problem of professional funeral attenders. Perhaps that is a crass way to put it but the stories I have heard lately about these people are simultaneously appalling and also a bit sad. How poor does a family need to be to start attending funerals on a weekly or even daily basis so that they can come home with food for their family? It must be tough on the self esteem to have to rely on the sorrow of others to feed your family.

It is happening and people are talking about it. Just this morning I was told about a funeral that occurred last week. The family was in their bakery preparing food for the funeral when a lady walked into the bakery, helped herself to food and left. When she was gone the family tried to figure out who the person was. No one ever figured it out but the person who told me shook her head and said, "The problem is getting bad. I hope it doesn't get worse." But "worse", is where the problem seems to be heading.

Early on the morning of another funeral a short time ago, family members were sitting around the open casket of their departed loved one in reflection, some shedding quiet tears. Also seated in the room was a neighbor who had few dealings with the family other than to occasionally ask them for help of one kind or another. She sat in the room as if she too were family dur-

ing this solemn time. One of the relatives brought in donuts and soda and offered them to each of the seated mourners. Many of them, consumed by grief did not take anything. The opportunistic neighbor got a box out that she had brought for just such an eventuality and took all of the remaining food and drinks then began talking loudly about mundane subjects while the family glared at her wishing her gone but never saying so.

You and I might say she had a lapse of mental health. Perhaps she did.

Some who take advantage of families at their time of sorrow cannot work for whatever reason and truly do need all the help they can get. I feel for those people.

Some others and their names want to fly out of my keyboard, a thing I can't allow, simply WILL not work. Jobs are hard to find in Pohnpei, I know that for a fact but the people whose names I am thinking of right now with bitter disdain, don't even try to find employment. They are enjoying their free time and their lazy existence.

I think that some people get so used to funereal and other types of hand-outs that they begin to think it is their right.

It is not a situation with which I am unfamiliar having been involved in professional social service delivery for many years in the United States. I can tell you story after story about wonderful people who truly needed help and were genuinely grateful when we were able to give it. They warm my heart and those people made every day worthwhile.

Each Christmas while I was in charge of that charitable service, I developed a list by referral from people I trusted, of people who were too embarrassed to ask for help with their Christmas needs but genuinely needed it and deserved it. After the Christmas assistance program was over; after our organization had provided assistance to hundreds and hundreds of families with their Christmas dinners and with gifts for their children; after we had dealt with both the truly grateful and the people who were dissatisfied because "they didn't get enough"; after it was all done and

See "Pro" on page 13

THE FUTURE OF FSM IS IN THE HANDS OF THE FSM CONGRESS
FSM CONGRESS, NOT THE PEOPLE OF FSM, WILL ELECT FSM PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT ON MAY 10, 2007, FROM THE FOUR SENATOR-AT-LARGE CANDIDATES SHOWN BELOW.



Senator-Elect Alik Alik Senator-Elect Joseph J. Urusemal Senator-Elect Manuel Mori Senator-Elect Resio S. Moses

While the elected representatives will engage themselves in the politics of electing the President and Vice President of FSM on behalf of the people, citizens do have thoughts on how they would elect their President and Vice President if they were empowered to do so. Below are some thoughts on the candidates who should be elected as our President and Vice President.

- Candidates who have demonstrated statesmanship during the tenure of their public service.
- Candidates whose principles of leadership are guided by personal honesty and knowledge and wisdom gained from experience in high public offices.
- Candidates who will strongly support the democratic principles and rule of law.
- Candidates who will improve the image of FSM in the international community.
- Candidates who will bring credibility and integrity to the government by promoting good governance.
- Candidates who will work closely with the States in providing technical and financial assistance through proper government channels.
- Candidates who will officially recognize, support, and partner with the established NGOs and CBOs in areas where responsibilities could be shared for the benefit of the people.
- Candidates who will initiate an FSM Anti-Corruption legislation that will apply at all levels of government where grant, national and state funds are used.
- Candidates who will not allow "pork barrel" election district allocations that do not follow approved SDP priorities and their local governments.
- Candidates who will carry on the on-going investigations and litigations on misuse, conflict of interest leading up to corrupt activities, unpaid travel advances, conversion of public properties for private uses, and take action on audit findings and other unethical activities.
- Candidates who will not follow the practice of rotating top department secretaries but will select intelligent citizens who are truly committed to the growth and development of the nation.

The so-called "gentlemen agreement" of rotating the highest office among the FSM States was meant for each term which never took place ever since FSM came into being. It is not important for the citizens from which states the President and Vice President come from as long as they stand for what is good for the States where the people of FSM are residing.



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Public Announcement

March 1, 2007

The Department of Health, Education, and Social Affairs (DHESA) announces that an application for funding under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) is being submitted for Fiscal Year 2007. The FSM receives funding under IDEA to provide special education and related service programs for eligible children with disabilities and their families.

IDEA requires that the annual application for funding be made available for Public Review and Comment. Consistent with this requirement, DHESA announces that the Annual State Application under Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act as Amended in 2004 for Federal Fiscal Year 2007 will be submitted to the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education on May 4, 2007.

DHESA announces that a 60 day public review period and a 30 day public comment period will be available to allow the public an opportunity to review the application and to make comments. The dates for the 60 day public review will be from March 1, 2007 - April 30, 2007. The public comment period will be from March 15, 2007 - April 15, 2007.

Copies of the application are available at each State Department of Education. Please submit any comments concerning the application to:

Nena S. Nena
Secretary DHESA
Special Education Programs
Department of Health, Education, and Social Affairs
P.O. Box P
Kolonia, Pohnpei
FSM 96941

Comments may be submitted via email to:
nsnena@mail.fm

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NEWS

...Shambles

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if they don't come along and do their part."

A five page report, entitled, "Kosrae State Financial Request", given to President Urusemal and his Cabinet with a date of February 20, 2007 – three days before Weilbacher's Inauguration – was submitted by State Speaker Lyndon Jackson, in his temporary capacity as Acting Governor.

"On behalf of the Kosrae State Leadership, I am pleased to transmit herewith a request for financial assistance to support operation and stabilization of the Kosrae State Government," Speaker Jackson's cover letter states. "Kosrae State has been experiencing concurrent financial difficulties since the beginning of the Amended Compact in 2004," the ensuing report states, leading into the "two major contributing factors" to the current financial deficit. Kosrae's financial woes, the Leadership claimed, is "a structural government deficit problem created by adjustments in the Amended Compact funding scheme," and furthermore, due to "a cash flow problem created by low revenue collections and long, outstanding reimbursement receivables from US Federal agencies, loans, and the FSM National Government."

The report also blamed the "restrictions and heightened controls made by the...Compact's Joint Economic Management Committee" for the "State's chronic cash flow problem."

Asked what he thought of the tenor of a request that appears recalcitrant and attempts to paint a story of uncontrollable forces and foreign restrictions as the

primary causes of Kosrae's financial troubles, Weilbacher paused momentarily.

"I had nothing to do with that report. That was written by *their* people," Weilbacher stated. He moved on quickly to other matters. "The point is that we have to clean up the way we do things *now*. I want us to get beyond this attitude of always complaining...They were at fault and those are some things that we want to change. We have a new philosophy."

The report does note "the continued over-appropriation of local revenue sources and a reluctance to reduce the size or activities of government" as a contributing factor, and closes with the conviction that a "reduction in government size and expenditures will be pursued."

The report culminates with an admonishment of the culture of corruption: "There are significant amounts of money spent that have never been accounted for. This situation must be reversed. Financial mismanagement and malfeasance should not be tolerated and must be prosecuted."

As Governor Weilbacher returned to Kosrae on March 9th (a short trip, he explained, despite the President's insistence that he stay longer, because "I can't afford to stay away...I need to be on the

island now") with just a few family members seeing him off, he cut a figure at once burdened with a massive legacy of debt, and at the same time with the responsibility to provide a living wage to nearly all of the families on Kosrae; to make it better. He said, before going into the security clearance, that he felt confidence after his meetings and communications with U.S. and Chinese diplomatic personnel of a desire to help Kosrae dig itself out of a very big hole.

He agreed with the statement the night before that despite the huge challenges, things could hardly get much worse. As one of the members of his Transition Committee, quite knowledgeable with the deep financial crunch of the government, stated, "The previous Administration and Legislature had a lot of fun spending and now it is time to pay the piper."

One thing is certain: Kosrae is going to need all the help it can get. And then some.

...Pro

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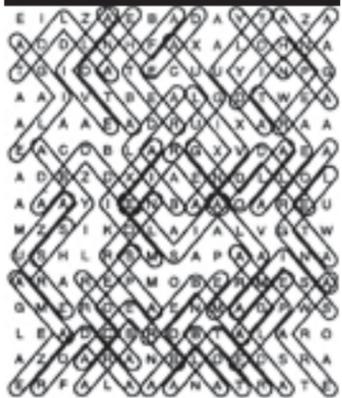
the employees were at home with their families on Christmas Eve, I loaded my car in darkness late at night and made completely anonymous visits to the front porches of a dozen homes. Mounds of toys and food left on front porches; they never knew who to call to thank and I didn't receive one thank you from them. I'd have been disappointed if I had.

The people who came to our agency for the formal assistance program, for the most part did not have an entitlement mentality but those who received the late night visits most certainly did not.

I didn't expect to see an entitlement mentality here and some of your neighbors who have been taken advantage of are getting more than a little tired of it, frankly. The poor economy may have driven you to it but if you are just unwilling to work please, for the sake of decency, have just a tiny amount of pride.

Bill Jaynes
Managing Editor

LAST Issue's Solution



VAN FOR SALE The Salvation Army - Pohnpei



Bids are now being taken until March 23 for a 1997 Ford van. The van will be sold with a minimum bid of \$500.00 "AS IS." The van runs well but has the following problems:

The sliding door does not open
The back door does not open
The back seat was removed due to the body being rusted through
The air conditioner does not work

Call 320-4402 for more information. Bids are being accepted at The Salvation Army next door to Yoshie Enterprises in Pohnpei

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NEWS

Observer Programme Coordinator Commences Duties



After a protracted recruitment process that commenced in early 2006, the Commission's Observer Programme Coordinator, Mr Karl Staisch, commenced work at the Commission Secretariat, Pohnpei on Friday 23 February 2007. Karl, most recently the Observer Programme Manager at the secretariat of the Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA), Honiara, Solomon Islands, has over 19 years' experience as a fisheries observer and observer programme manager. With the Regional Observer Programme (ROP) recognized as a key element in support of the Commission's scientific and compliance functions, Karl will be instrumental in assisting Commission Members, Cooperating Non-Members and Participating Territories (CCMs) to shape the ROP. His initial task will be to facilitate the holding of an Inter-session Working Group on the Regional Observer Programme (IWG-ROP), to expedite further development of the ROP. The IWG-ROP will be held as soon as practicable in 2007.

...Liu

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Secretary of the Department of Economy a few years ago.

The Chinese Government attaches great importance to accelerate the sustainable economic and social development of the FSM. China has provided assistance without any political preconditions to the FSM by constructing FSM-China Friendship Gym in the College of Micronesia, the passenger-cargo vessel to Chuuk, the Commission Headquarters for the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean etc. On the Taiwan question, China appreciates the FSM government's adherence to the one-China policy and support for China's great cause of national unification.

I believe that the bilateral relations will continue the strong momentum of development it enjoyed in 2006. At present, the bilateral relations are in excellent shape. Exchanges in the fields of economic and trade cooperation, culture, education and technology have injected strong vigor and vitality to it.

Yesterday, I donated to the Yap High School about 200 books on the Chinese history, education, culture and tourism etc. This year, the Chinese Government provides 12 full scholarships and more than 20 technicians and official training programmes for the FSM. As you all know Mr. Manuel Minginfel, a weight lifter from Yap, ranks third in the world. He is the only one from the Pacific region qualified to take part in 2008 Beijing Olympic Games in China. These will push our friendly and cooperative relations to a higher plateau in the years to come.

Since the policy of reform and opening-up was introduced in 1978, the Chinese people have succeeded in embarking on a path of development suited to China's national conditions. Between 1978 and 2006, China's GDP grew to US\$2.6269 trillion from US\$216.5 billion, and its trade jumped to US\$1.7607 trillion from US\$20.6 billion, while the number of the rural poor shrank from 250 million to 21.5 million. China has on the whole brought a moderately prosperous life to its people. On the other hand, we are keenly aware that China is still the world's largest developing country with a huge population, weak foundation and uneven regional development. China ranks

Survey Conducted of Commission Headquarters Site



To facilitate negotiations between the WCPFC Commission Secretariat, FSM National Government and Pohnpei State Government over the provision of a lease for land in Kolonia Town where the Commission Headquarters building was erected in 2005, the Commission Secretariat, with the agreement of the Pohnpei State Attorney General's Office, contracted a locally-based survey company in early February 2007 to survey this land. The Pohnpei Legislature Act authorizes the dedication of this land to the Commission. The survey company commenced work on 12 February and the Commission Secretariat expects to receive a survey report from the company as soon as its surveyors return to Pohnpei from inter-state travel. It is hoped that the survey results will help progress several

issues including a proposal to excise a heritage building from the dedicated land parcels, the positioning of a temporary access road to several Pohnpei State Government offices and the U.S. Peace Corps office, and the demolition and removal of some derelict structures on the land parcels.

With the recent arrival of the Commission's Observer Programme Coordinator in Pohnpei and the imminent recruitment of four more staff, the temporary Commission Headquarters suite in Kaselehlie Street, Kolonia Town is rapidly becoming overcrowded. Commission representatives will have an opportunity to appraise this situation when they visit Pohnpei in mid-June 2007 for a one-week technical workshop.

behind the 100th place in terms of per capita GDP and faces numerous difficulties and challenges in its development endeavor. It will take many years of dedicated efforts before we can catch up with the medium-level developed countries. Under the guidance of the scientific thinking on development that puts people first and calls for comprehensive, coordinated and sustainable development, we will give top priority to economic development, deepen reform and opening-up, increase people's welfare, work to build a harmonious society, and move steadily towards our development goals.

Let us join hands to further promote the friendly and cooperative relations between the People's Republic of China and the Federated States of Micronesia. Wish 39th Yap Day a great success.

Thank you all—Kamagar gad."

The deadline for ads and news items for the next issue is March 30, 2007

Earlier is better!

LAST Issue's Solution

C	O	L	D	P	O	L	A	R	J	A	V	A
A	L	E	E	A	B	O	D	E	E	R	I	N
S	E	A	T	T	E	N	O	R	W	E	E	D
H	O	N	E	S	T	Y	U	N	E	A	S	Y
				R	A	Y	F	I	N	A	L	
B	L	A	S	T	B	U	N	G	R	A	S	S
L	E	W	A	L	A	R	M	S	Y	I	P	E
L	E	V	A	N	O	R	A	I	R	D	I	V
S	E	R	P	S	T	I	C	H	E	N	E	
S	E	D	A	N	E	R	E	O	R	D	E	R
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M	I	T	T	E	N		P	L	E	D	G	E
E	R	I	E	D	R	E	A	D	L	A	R	L
M	O	R	N	E	E	R	I	E	L	L	A	
O	N	E	S	S	T	A	R	R	M	E	E	T

A New School Year Begins for Five Australian Scholarship Awardees

After a nearly a year-long, rigorous application process, five scholarship awardees bid a fond farewell to the FSM, and said "Bula Vinaka!" to Fiji to commence their first school year of tertiary education under the AusAID funded Australian Regional Development Scholarships (ARDS) program.

A total of 94 applications were received by the Australian Embassy from throughout the FSM, applying for scholarships to study in a range of areas including: Health/Medicine, Accounting and Financial Management, Business Management, Education, Information Technology, Marine Sciences, Justice/Legal Studies, and Engineering, to name just a few.

Scholarships were awarded based on the applicant's eligibility status, compliance to application guidelines, demonstrated academic merit, references, work and volunteer experience, relevant training, and admission into participating ARDS institutions of their choice.

If awarded a scholarship, the award will cover tuition and institution fees, living expenses, basic overseas health coverage, tutorial assistance, and economy class air travel back to the FSM at the end of each year for the entire duration of their study program for unaccompanied students.

Below is a list of the 2007 ARDS awardees:

Name	Institution	Program	No. of years study
Jayleen Cheida	Fiji School of Medicine	Bachelor of Pharmacy	4 Years
Sydney Kilmete	Fiji Institute of Technology	Diploma in Electrical Engineering	3 Years
Jeannie Maffel	Univ. of South Pacific-Fiji	BA Accounting/ Financial Mgt.	3 Years
Joenson Nithan	Univ. of South Pacific-Fiji	BA Computer Science	3 Years
Steven Young Uhk	Univ. of South Pacific-Fiji	Post Grad. Diploma Marine Science	1 Year

ARDS preliminary applications for school year 2008 will be available from the Australian Embassy starting 1 March 2007. The closing date for applications will be 1 May 2007.

For more information on scholarship opportunities through the Australian Embassy, please contact the Australian Embassy in Pohnpei – (691) 320-5448 or at australia@mail.fm, or visit the Embassy's website at www.fsm.embassy.gov.au

Suicide Prevention in the FSM

During an 8 year period between 1999 and 2006, there were 313 suicide deaths reported in Micronesia, with the majority of them involving young people. To help curb this disturbing rate of suicides in Micronesia, the Australian Government is assisting MICSEM, government agencies, and community groups from the FSM, Marshall Islands and Palau.

How?

1) By providing parents with the tools to facilitate discussion amongst themselves in order to build upon their parenting skills in hope that family conflicts, that have led to youth suicides, will be reduced and

2) By tracking the cultural patterns and contributing factors of Micronesian suicides and by doing so, identify the causes and solutions of this problem.

A workshop facilitated by MICSEM and attended by key representatives from members of the FSM National Suicide Task Force and community members developed a parenting workshop guidebook, "Parenting with Fewer Parents". In it are case studies that will serve to facilitate discussions amongst parents on the following themes: Family, Then and Now; Communication; Authority and Freedom; Love; and Time and

Attention to Children.

The guidebook will be introduced into communities via churches, community organizations and any other network that deals directly with families at the grassroots level.

Another objective of the project is to collect and update information on suicides in Micronesia to better understand the root causes of the epidemic. Information was collected via hospital death certificates, police reports and personal interviews for the period between 1999-2006 and as mentioned earlier, the rates are staggering - - mainly involving Micronesia's male youth population.

To learn more about how your community or organization can be involved, contact Ms. Lisa Plank and/or Father Fran Hezel at MICSEM at micsem@micsem.org

This project is being funded by AusAID's Human Rights Small Grants Scheme. For more information on this scheme and others, contact the Australian Embassy in Pohnpei – (691) 320-5448 or at australia@mail.fm, or visit the Embassy's website at www.fsm.embassy.gov.au

KULO NA MA LULAP
Thank you very much



ROBERT JAMES WEILBACHER
GOVERNOR, STATE OF KOSRAE

Corrections From Last Issue

- Adelino *Laurens* – should be *Lorens*
- His Agriculture program is under the Office of Economic Affairs (Administrator is Kikuo Apis) and his title is the *Chief of Agriculture*, not *Director*.
- For the Island Food Community of Pohnpei, he is the *Chairman*, not *President*
- Relating to the article on obesity, it was the *World Health Organization*, not the *World Bank*, providing those statistics on which the article was based.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



SOLUTION IN NEXT ISSUE

ACROSS

1. Liturgy of a church
5. Supports
10. Regarding (2 wds.)
14. Mine entrance
15. Anon
16. Swimming bird
17. Chairman
19. Ice
20. Wield
21. Playwright
22. Pouring jar
23. In addition
24. Shade of blue
25. Flatter
28. of Fire"
32. File material
33. Cycles
34. Intelligence
35. Homemaker's woe
36. Augers
37. Wine and —
38. Time zone (abbr.)
39. Spice, e.g.
40. Leap forward
41. Forlorn
43. Park Service worker
44. Crush finely
45. Concern
46. Take food
49. Resounded
50. Used one's teeth
53. Sti,s up
54. 22-down with corn
56. Inactive
57. Raw fish
58. Annoy
59. Chair
60. Chose
61. Article

DOWN

1. Slopping passage
2. Object of worship
3. Neat
4. Summer, in Paris
5. Rampant disease
6. Fixed charges
7. American Indian
8. diem
9. Senior (abbr.)
10. Acid neutralizer
11. Drench
12. Carry
13. Unique thing
18. Regain strength
19. Burns
22. Limas, e.g.
23. Harbor
24. Triad
25. Yielded
26. Entertain
27. Jokes
28. Arc
29. Having debts
30. Slight hue
31. Guide
33. Canine, e.g.
36. Explosion
37. Sand hill
39. Rank
40. Florida key
42. Egg dish
43. Deteriorated, as oil
45. Hiding place
46. Bulb flower
47. Bump
48. — monster
49. Metal decay
50. Lure
51. "___ of Capri"
52. Those people
54. Take a late meal
55. Three (comb.)
57. Therefore

Word Search - Boxes

All the words in the list are found in the diagram in an unusual way. Each word reads either clockwise or counterclockwise around the edges of a box (sometimes a square and sometimes a rectangle).

ANTIQUES
BATHROBE
BOXING
CATTAILS
CHANCERY
DESERT
DETAIL
DETECTIVES
ELEVATOR
FAVORITE
FOOTGEAR
FOOTPATH
GALAXY
GRILLAGE
HORSECAR
ICEHOUSE
KEESHOND



LIFEBOAT
LINGUIST
MARRIAGE
MOSAIC
NESTLING
RHYTHMIC
ROLLER
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SQUEEGEE
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RELIGION

Do What You Want?

Recently I read an article by John Surette from the newsletter "Spiritearth" in which he writes of the Ecological Age in which we find ourselves: "Temperatures are rising, soils are eroding, forests are shrinking, deserts are expanding, rivers are running dry, fisheries are collapsing, coral reefs are dying, ice caps are melting, plant and animal species are going into extinction, cancers are increasing, immune systems are weakening, and the children of all species are dying. In short, earth is withering."

About the same time I saw an old movie based on a story written by Oscar Wilde, "The Picture of Dorian Gray". As Dorian's life becomes more and more immersed in selfishness and immorality, the portrait painted of him in his youth becomes more and more ugly and disfigured, while he himself remains outward ap-

pearances, unchanged. Putting the two together, I wondered whether the "withering" ecological environment in which we live could be analogous to Dorian's portrait, revealing something of our own selfishness and carelessness with regard to the gifts of creation God has placed in our care. We do have a moral responsibility to conserve and protect our natural resources here in Pohnpei. Is God pleased with our stewardship?

Sadly, there are, it seems, some who claim their right to over fish the lagoon, diminish the watershed, pollute the rivers and streams, and to plant whatever they please wherever they please, and base this claim on Sacred Scripture, and in particular, Genesis 1:28, where God says "Be fruitful and multiply, fill the earth and subdue it." Many have interpreted this to mean "you're in

charge now, so do what you want with it." This was not such a problem earlier in history when there seemed to be an abundance that was sufficient for everyone, and Mother Nature kept on replenishing the earth's resources keeping pace with what humanity used. But now we know that the earth's (and FSM's) abundance has limits. Now we are in danger of losing many of the gifts of creation God has placed into our care. The passage quoted above from Genesis needs to be understood in the light of many other passages from scripture which help us understand God's will in this matter and our responsibilities toward conserva-

tion. For example in just the next chapter of Genesis, we learn of God's commission to the first humans while still in the Garden of Eden, not to dominate the garden, but to "watch over it and cultivate it." This calls upon us to be stewards of creation. "Man's mission would therefore be to respect and

not belong to man, but to God. We were given responsibility for it in the eyes of the Creator. We received it as a gift (Ps 113), but a gift to be cherished and cared for as an inheritance to all God's children down the ages. It is a gift that should remind us continually of the wonderful attributes of the Giver-- God's loving providence, God's beauty manifested in all creatures, God's infinite power at work for us, and God's expectation of thankfulness on our part shown in our responsible stewardship of all these creatures for God's greater glory and the building of the new earth.

No, we cannot use the Bible to justify our abuse of our natural resources. Rather we can better place the blame on the modern culture of individualism (I can do what I want with what I have) and the Roman idea that viewed property as "ius utendi et abutendi" (the right to use and abuse). This is certainly not God's idea of property!

The future of creation, the ecology, our earth and all its creatures, including us, share the same destiny. The earth and humanity sink or swim together. (Rom 8:19ff) In Christ, all things hold together, not just people. All is to be taken up into Christ as the head of all creation (Col 1:17). For humanity to become more and more perfect as Christ call us to be, our ecological environment must also become more and more perfect along with us. If it does not, then the soul of humanity becomes like the Portrait of Dorian Gray.

David Andrus, SJ
Catholic Vicariate of Pohnpei-Kosrae

Tide Table March 21-April 3, 2007				
POHNPEI, KOSRAE			CHUUK	
Wednesday	21 Wed 04:26AM 4.4 10:41AM 0.5 04:42PM 3.9 10:39PM 0.7	28 Wed 02:51AM 2.5 06:32AM 2.2 12:56PM 3.5 08:10PM 1.1	21 Wed 03:30AM 2.0 10:05AM 0.3 03:30PM 1.3 08:57PM 0.3	28 Wed 12:36PM 1.7 08:41PM -0.1
Thursday	22 Thu 04:57AM 4.4 11:19AM 0.7 05:10PM 3.4 10:59PM 0.9	29 Thu 02:27AM 2.8 07:23AM 1.9 01:36PM 3.7 08:23PM 0.9	22 Thu 03:48AM 2.2 10:54AM 0.5 03:25PM 0.9 08:43PM 0.2	29 Thu 01:04PM 1.8 08:38PM 0.0
Friday	23 Fri 05:28AM 4.2 12:00PM 1.1 05:34PM 2.9 11:14PM 1.1	30 Fri 02:31AM 3.1 07:56AM 1.5 02:06PM 3.9 08:37PM 0.9	23 Fri 04:08AM 2.2 12:03PM 0.6 02:25PM 0.7 08:29PM 0.0	30 Fri 03:25AM 1.1 06:57AM 0.9 01:25PM 1.8 08:32PM 0.2
Saturday	24 Sat 06:02AM 4.0 12:50PM 1.5 05:49PM 2.4 11:19PM 1.3	31 Sat 02:42AM 3.4 08:25AM 1.3 02:31PM 4.0 08:51PM 0.8	24 Sat 04:29AM 2.2 08:22PM -0.2	31 Sat 02:40AM 1.2 07:24AM 0.8 01:43PM 1.8 08:26PM 0.3
Sunday	25 Sun 06:41AM 3.6 02:40PM 1.9 05:03PM 2.0 10:44PM 1.5	01 Sun 02:57AM 3.7 08:51AM 1.1 02:54PM 4.0 09:06PM 0.8	25 Sun 04:52AM 2.1 08:25PM -0.3	01 Sun 02:26AM 1.4 07:52AM 0.6 02:00PM 1.7 08:22PM 0.3
Monday	26 Mon 07:52AM 3.2 08:24PM 1.5	02 Mon 03:15AM 4.0 09:16AM 1.0 03:16PM 3.9 09:21PM 0.8	26 Mon 05:15AM 1.9 08:32PM -0.3	02 Mon 02:27AM 1.7 08:20AM 0.5 02:16PM 1.6 08:21PM 0.4
Tuesday	27 Tue 11:42AM 3.2 08:02PM 1.2	03 Tue 03:33AM 4.2 09:42AM 0.9 03:37PM 3.8 09:36PM 0.8	27 Tue 05:39AM 1.6 08:53AM 1.5 11:50AM 1.6 08:39PM -0.3	03 Tue 02:36AM 1.9 08:48AM 0.4 02:31PM 1.5 08:20PM 0.4

cultivate the areas of the Earth that are fit for human habitation, and make inhabitable those areas that aren't." ("The Kyoto Horizon", p.20, CJ Booklets, March '06). The Lord God reminds his people that the Earth and all its fullness does

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COM

Student Leaders are ‘Mad Happy’



A Student Leadership Retreat was held on February 23-25, 2007 at Nahlap Island Resort-COM's first ever! Student Body Association (SBA) officers and other officers of recognized clubs headed the Retreat along with several staff members. The sole purpose of the Retreat was to encourage leadership among current student leaders on the COM-FSM National campus.

Four presentations by staff members brought the students into discussions in working groups. Enjoying each other's company in group work, and sharing personal views on the character of good leadership added much to the success of the Retreat. Vice President of Student Services Mr. Ringlen commented, "The Retreat was a successful one considering the bad weather, and I was very proud of how it turned out. I liked the atmosphere and the theme of the Retreat - "Leadership that Produces Results."

The Retreat included a talent show where students entertained each other. The interaction in general among students and staff helped to break down personal and cultural barriers—bonds of good friendship and trust highlighted the event. One student commented, "It was my first time being so open and comfortable around students of other states." SBA President Mr. Kennedy Nedlic said, "I felt better. The Retreat opened my eyes on how to be a good leader and manage obstacles that come my way." When asked to comment about the

Retreat, Sure-Aann Poll said that she was "mad, happy, and everything."

According to a survey, more than 95% of students who participated strongly agreed to have an annual Leadership Training for all Youth Leaders. Annie Amyda, Secretary of Nu' Kap (Kapinga and Nukuoro Club), commented on the Retreat as "A great one. I would like to have another one again." Roger Kilmete, President of the Honors Society, noted, "It was a great experience that will stay with me for a long time after I leave the college." Lisa Santer, Habitat Campus Chapter said, "It encouraged me to be a good leader. I am more aware of the responsibilities of a good leader." Margret Sackryas of the Pingelapese Student Organization added, "I learned a lot of things from the Retreat, among them, "Time and Money Management". Honor Society Vice President Dandihn Johnson said, "It was a success. It was da bomb."

Joe Habuchmai gave a presentation on "Leadership", Dr. Yaingeluo on "Interpersonal Skills", and Koisimy Rudolph on "Goal Setting", and Vice President Ringlen on "Constitution/By-laws". The student leaders were also privileged to have the President of the College, Spensin James who gave a Presentation on "Time and Money Management." The Campus Life, headed by Dr. James Yaingeluo, is poised to provide the latitude and space for student leaders to make the difference on their campus and the community at-large.

COMMUNITY BULLETIN

Alcoholics Anonymous meets every Wednesday at Cantero Hall at the Roman Catholic vicariate office at 7:00pm. Public welcome. For details, call 320-2123.

Pohnpei Lions Club meets monthly every 4th Tuesday at Cliff Rainbow Restaurant at 6:30pm. Public Welcome.

The Christian Ministerial Association of Pohnpei meets the third Wednesday of each month at 10:00 a.m. in Cantero Hall at the Roman Catholic vicariate office.

Devotions every Sunday 9:30 a.m. at the Bahai Center in Dolonier. For details, call 320-2182.

Habitat for Humanity Pohnpei holds their meeting every Tuesday from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at the Sei Restaurant.

Soccer practice/games at PICS field Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 5:30p.m. Everyone welcome.

The Rotary Club of Pohnpei holds its weekly meetings Thursdays at 12:15p.m at PCR/Nantehlik.

St John's Catholic Church in Kosrae conducts services every Sunday at 9:30 a.m. For further information, call 370-3240 or 370-3209.

FANGO holds its monthly Issue Base Dialogue (IBD) on the last Wednesday of each Month at the Sei Restaurant at 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM. The public is welcome.

FANGO is convening its "2nd FSM NGO EXECUTIVE HEADS FORUM" on 16th -18th April 2007 in Pohnpei. The Forum theme is "Harmonizing Efforts: Maximizing Impacts". The Public is welcome.

The Community Bulletin is a free message board exclusive to announcements. To post your announcements to The Kaselehlie Press

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HEALTH & NUTRITION

Breastfeeding Makes a Difference

By **AMY LEVENDUSKY**
Pohnpei Island Food Group

There are significant differences between breastfed babies and babies who are not breastfed. Breastfeeding boosts babies' immune systems, protects against some chronic illnesses (including some cancers), saves money for families and societies, saves lives by preventing illness, and helps babies develop greater language skills and higher intelligence as they grow.

Human milk provides all the nutrients a baby needs in exactly the right proportions. Breastfed babies are healthier than formula-fed babies because they are less likely to contract respiratory, gastrointestinal diseases, and allergies. When breastfed babies do get sick, their symptoms are milder than those of formula-fed babies.

An article in the *Journal of the American Medical Association* published in May 2002 confirmed that breastfed babies are smarter and have higher Intelligence Quotas (IQs) than babies that were not breastfed. The presence of docosahexanoic acid (DHA) and arachidonic acid (AA) in human milk may be one of the reasons that breastfed babies develop better language skills and have higher IQs as they grow. These discoveries have led to recommendations to add DHA to infant formulas.

It's important to remember that breastmilk is produced as a result of the action of *hormones* and *reflexes*. Every time the baby suckles at the breast he stimulates the nerve endings in the nipple. These nerves carry messages to the brain, which makes the hormone *prolactin*. Then the *prolactin* goes into the blood to the breasts and makes them secrete more milk. The more the baby suckles the breast, the more milk will be produced.

If the baby suckles less, the breasts make less milk. If the baby stops suckling or



Aneleen Robonei of Mand breastfeeding her son Norton

if he never starts, the breasts stop making milk. If a mother has twins and they both breastfeed, then her breasts will make the extra milk that two babies need. There is a common misconception on Pohnpei that the more the mother eats, the more breastmilk she will produce. The mother is even supposed to wake up in the middle of the night to eat, *mwengehn pwong*. But it is really the baby's suckling that makes the breasts produce milk.

It is also important for the mother to be positive and happy and not to worry because this can stop her milk from

flowing. A woman should be confident that she can breastfeed, as this also will help her milk flow well.

Breastfeeding helps the mother lose weight after pregnancy. Breastfeeding also helps protect the mother later against breast cancer, ovarian cancer, and urinary tract infection.

The World Alliance for Breastfeeding Action (WABA) along with the United Nations Children's Fund and the World Health Organization recommend **exclusive breastfeeding up to 6 months, meaning only breastmilk, not even**

water, should be given for the first 6 months. Giving your baby any other liquids or solid food before 6 months increases their risk of infection. **It is also advised to continue breastfeeding to two years and beyond.**

We thank the La Leche League International for their booklet titled "Breastfeeding Makes a Difference" for the information for this article. For further questions, readers may contact Ms. Berno Hedson, the Pohnpei Breastfeeding Focal Point, at the Pohnpei State Hospital.

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SPORTS

10th Pohnpei 5K Fun Walk/Run Winners

By **JIM TOBIN**

The 10th Pohnpei 5k Fun Walk/Run was held the morning of Saturday, March 3rd at the Palm Terrace Shopping Centre. Over 175 people of all ages walked and ran the 3.1 mile course starting at Palm Terrace around the PICS High School loop, down main street and returning to the finish at Palm Terrace. The overall male and female winners were Tim Smith, with a super fast time of 16 minutes and 51 seconds, and Jennifer Curl with a time of 24.13. The other division winners were: youth division - John Sam (37.44) and Debra Daniel (35.38), 18 years and under division - Dionisio Augustine ((23.47) and Debra Daniel (35.06) and master division - Vic Hobson (40.45) and Judy Bourne (38.12).

The major sponsors of the event

were Ambros Inc. (Guam) and Shimbros Inc. Other sponsors were Palm Terrace Shopping Centre, FSM National Olympic Committee, Island Food Community of Pohnpei, Bank of Guam, Moylan's Insurance, Western Union, Pohnpei State Police Department, K Press, ICTV and the US Embassy. A special thank you to the Island Food Community of Pohnpei for providing healthy foodstuffs (coconuts and bananas) for the participants to eat and drink after the walk/run. The event was organized by the Rotary Club of Pohnpei as a fundraiser for its scholarship program and various community service projects.

The walk/run was the first of six scheduled races, with the SDA 5k on Thursday, March 29, followed by the Women in Sport 5k on April 21, COM-FSM 5K on May 5, STAP/Western Union 5k Walk/



Photo by Lestly Ashby

Run on May 19 and the Olympic Day Run on June 16. All of the walk/runs are open to the general public. Our goal is to improve the

fitness of our community. For more information contact the FSM National Olympic Committee of fice.

FSM Wrestler Wins Medals at 2007 Oceania Wrestling Championships

By **JIM TOBIN**

Keitani Graham from Weno, Chuuk represented the FSM Wrestling Association at the recently completed 2007 Oceania Wrestling Championships in Hamilton, New Zealand. Since January, he has been training in Palau with the Palau wrestling team, practicing twice a day under Coach Young Ho Ko from Korea. Competing in the men's 74kg (163 pounds) weight class, Keitani did an outstanding job winning silver medals in both the Greco-Roman and Freestyle wrestling events. Keitani was the only FSM wrestling competing in the championships.

The Greco-Roman event was held on March 2nd, with five wrestlers in 74kg weight class. In his first match, Keitani overpowered Kesta Mchaughlan (New Zealand) winning both periods and the match. He next wrestled Hussan Shamsavan (Australia), originally from Iran, who was once the Asian wrestling champion. Keitani wrestled very well but lost the match to Hussan who eventually won the gold medal. In his third match, Keitani wrestled Arend Brink (New Zealand) and scored 3 points after lifting his opponent off the mat and slamming him to his back. He then lifted his oppo-

nent from the ground position for a 6 point throw, winning both periods and the match. In his final Greco-Roman match, Keitani wrestled Saufoi Togia (Samoa). He overwhelmed Togia with a 3 point takedown, 2 point gut wrench and threw his opponent for a 3 point lift, winning both periods and the match. Keitani placed second overall, winning the silver medal, with the gold medal going to Shamsavan (Australia) and bronze medal to Mclaughlan (New Zealand).

The Freestyle wrestling event was held on March 4th. Keitani defeated opponents from Australia, New Zealand and Samoa, with the exception of Ali Abdo, who competed in the 2004 Olympics in Athens, and eventually won the gold medal. Like Greco-Roman, Keitani placed second overall, winning the silver medal by defeating Kesta Mchaughlan (New Zealand), Seyad Naeubauab (Australia), Saufoi Togia (Samoa) and Arend Brink (New Zealand). With Keitani's strong performance at the Oceania Championships, he now becomes a medal hopeful for the FSM at the upcoming 2007 South Pacific Games in Apia, Samoa in late August.

Over 1,500 Pounds of Fish Landed at the 3rd Annual 'Do It Best' Tournament

By **Robert Spegal**

A 62.5 pound sailfish caught by junior angler Alex Kalau was the biggest fish landed during the Third Annual Pohnpei Do It Best Hardware Fishing Tournament, and won the \$100 First Place Jun-

ior Angler Gift Certificate for Alex. A total of 1,568 pounds was weighed in at Rumors Bar on Saturday afternoon, 10 March. The **Do It Best** Gift Certificate winners were:

1st Place Boat Total Weight (\$100)	"Boat" / Alex Tretnof, Capt.	532.5#
2nd Place Boat Total Weight (\$75)	Tygris / Kumer Panuelo, Capt.	432.0#
3rd Place Boat Total Weight (\$50)	Try-Ton / Noel Boylan, Capt.	209.0#

1st Place Fish (\$100) Paulino Henry	Yellow Fin	43.5#
2nd Place Fish (\$75) Jacob Boylan	Yellow Fin	41.0#
3rd Place Fish (\$50) Alex Tretnof, Jr.	Yellow Fin	33.0#

1st Place Lady Angler (\$100) Mary Tretnof	Wahoo	31.0#
--	-------	-------

1st Place Junior Angler (\$100) Alex Kalau	Sailfish	62.5#
2nd Place Junior Angler (\$75) Evan Boylan	Skipjack Tuna	14.0#
3rd Place Junior Angler (\$50) Kevin Mix.	Mahi Mahi	8.5#

The \$100 gift certificate for the most species of fish went to "Boat" which caught eight different species under the captainship of Alex Tretnof. The prize (\$25 gift certificate) for the prettiest fish (a bright reddish orange Lye-tail Snapper) went to Kazuhiro Fujita, captain of the *Pohnpei Ocean Cruise* boat.

The Pohnpei Fishing Club, on behalf of all of the tournament anglers, wishes to extend our sincere thanks to Pohnpei Do It Best Hardware management and staff

for their continued bighearted support.

The next Pohnpei Fishing Club tournament is scheduled for April 14, the Club's 13th Annual Tournament will follow on May 10 & 12, and then tournaments are tentatively scheduled for 16 June, 14 July, 11 August, 22 September, 27 October, 24 November, and possible another holiday Tournament on 15 December. Look for posters around town and check in future issues of the K-Press for more information.