

# THE KWAJALEIN HOURGLASS

Volume 41, Number 38

Tuesday, May 15, 2001

U.S. Army Kwajalein Atoll, Republic of the Marshall Islands

## Bank of Guam to offer ATM services

By Peter Rejcek  
Associate Editor

The Bank of Guam is undertaking its own modernization and remoting program, and that should mean faster service for local residents, according to a bank representative who visited Kwajalein last week.

"We have decided to make some major moves in providing services and programs throughout the region," said Anthony Leon Guerrero, Bank of Guam president and chief executive officer.

In the near future, that means ATM services at Kwajalein. Guerrero said he expects a machine to be delivered by June, with July 1 as the target date to

(See *BANK*, page 7)



(Photo by Jim Bennett)

## Eh, batta batta — swing!

Field of Dreams Ghost Player John Rotz gets the crowd involved in heckling his teammates Saturday night at Brandon Field. The Ghost Players played with local kids before competing against the Kwaj All-Stars, winning 7-6. They also hosted a youth clinic Sunday. For complete coverage, check out Friday's *Hourglass*.



(Photo by Jim DeVries)

Amateur Radio Club members Dave Fortin, left, and George Talbot install a radio antenna on a dorm roof at Enewetak to help operators worldwide contact the island April 19-26. Altogether, they logged contacts from 10,701 different people.

## Making contact

### Ham radio enthusiasts connect with Enewetak

By Barbara Johnson  
Feature Writer

**W**hen local residents and amateur radio enthusiasts Dave Fortin and

George Talbot traveled to Enewetak earlier this month, their goal was to help ham radio operators worldwide "collect" an island very few had been able to reach. Enewetak, in the northwestern Marshall Islands, has a population of about 800 and few, if any, opportunities to be contacted by ham radio.

"We're sought after out here [in the Marshalls]," Fortin, Tradex software engineer and

(See *HAM*, page 6)

# Police stand between citizens and the bad guys

**(Editor's Note: Today is Police Memorial Day, and this week is National Police Week.)**

The call comes at 1:33 a.m.  
"Prowler reported at 1232 Wellston Ave. Suspect still on the scene."

The officer is by himself this night due to a manpower shortage, which is all too common in big-city police departments.

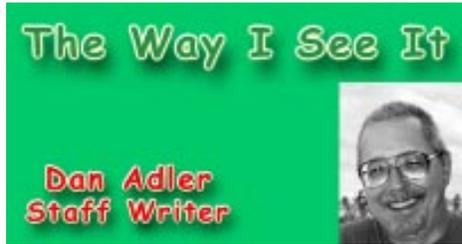
He is working a double-shift for the fourth night in a row. Fatigue has crept into his bones and his mind. "Lord," he thinks, "I've still got seven and a half hours to go. Why a prowler call?"

He pulls his car up to the curb a little way down the street from the address so as not to give a suspect any warning he is there. He calls for backup and gets out of the car.

He takes his 12-gauge shotgun from its holder and racks a round into the chamber.

It is very dark in this old, decaying part of town. There are streetlights, but most were broken a long time. The city never fixed them. There is no money — and besides, they would just be broken again by the drug dealers who don't like any light to shine on their business operations.

He approaches cautiously on an



angle from the house. Suddenly, a man appears on the front porch. He is in the shadows and cannot be seen very well. From just inside the door a woman is yelling, "Stop him, stop him."

The officers shouts, "Police, stay where you are."

The man bolts and jumps over the porch rail and starts to run around the far side of the house. There is no time to wait for backup to arrive.

The officer runs after him into a dark alley behind the row of decrepit houses.

The suspect is very fast and the officer is not a young man anymore. But adrenalin is pumping into his body. He runs as fast as he can, even though it feels like his heart is going to explode and it is agony to breathe.

He manages to shout again, "Stop! Police!"

He shouts it twice more.

Suddenly, the suspect turns and points his arm toward the officer. In the dimly lit alley, the officer sees something metallic and shiny in the suspect's hand.

The officer reacts instantly, brings the shotgun to his shoulder, aims and fires into the suspect's chest from a distance of 25 feet. The suspect is hurled backward as the powerful buckshot rips into him.

He lays dead when the officer walks up to him, kneels down, looks at him and says over and over, "Oh God, Oh God."

A scene from a TV program or a movie?

No, this is what happened to my brother, who is a police officer in a large midwestern city. The suspect he shot was 15 years old. The shiny object was a screwdriver that had been filed down to a point to make it useful for picking locks or prying open windows. The shooting was investigated and ruled justifiable.

What would you have done in my brother's place?

He told me the first thing a new rookie is taught at the police academy is that everyone they come in contact with is a potential threat. To

(See COPS', page 3)

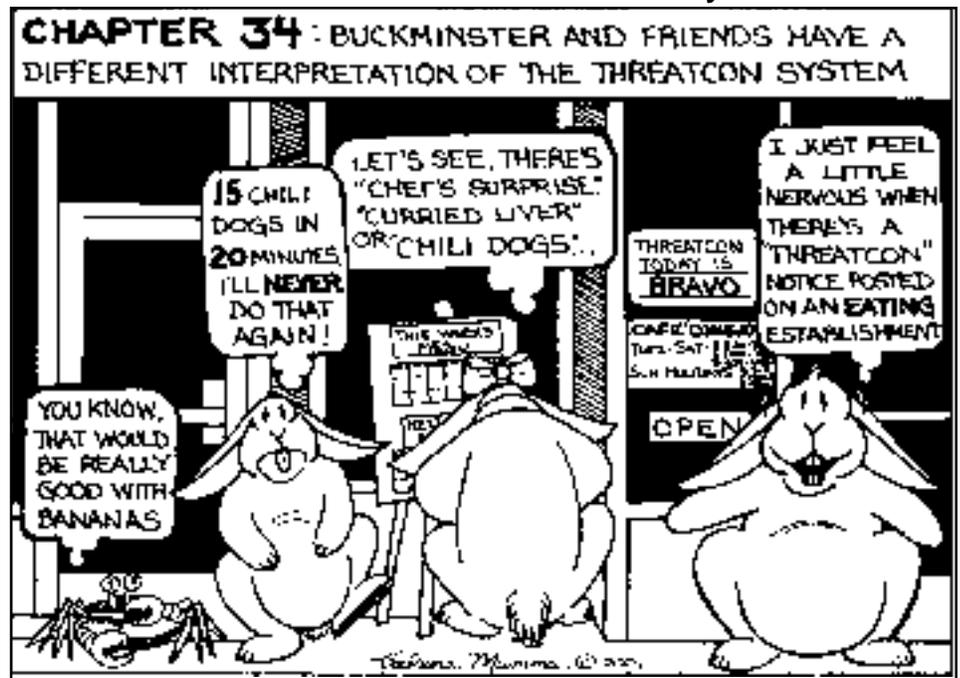
### The Kwajalein Hourglass

Commanding Officer...Col. Curtis L. Wrenn Jr.  
Public Affairs Officer.....Preston Lockridge  
Editor.....Jim Bennett  
Associate Editor.....Peter Rejcek  
Feature Writers.....Barbara Johnson  
KWHillis  
Graphics Designer .....Dan Adler  
Sports Writer .....Bruce Sinkula

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## Buckminster and Friends ————— By Sabrina Mumma



## **Cops' biggest enemy can be public opinion ...**

(From page 2)

forget that may mean injury or death; hesitation may mean death.

The second rule they're taught is "go home at the end of your shift."

My brother felt terrible about the shooting. He relived it several times in his dreams. But as he told me, "In that split second of time, I thought it was him or me, and I was going home to my family."

When do you ever hear about a good thing an officer has done? Mostly TV news and newspapers just zero in on the negative things. The only time we hear anything positive about police is when one or more of them is killed in the line of duty. That's in the news for 15 minutes or so. Something negative about them goes on and on and on.

Most of us have had reason to be angry at a cop at one time or another, especially when you get pulled over for speeding or running a stop light. (And, honestly, we're guilty 99.99 percent of the time we're stopped.)

But, you know, even though we sometimes think so, they haven't picked us out of a crowd. They saw us

do something wrong and their job is to enforce the law. That's OK, unless of course, it's us it's being enforced on.

I went for a ride-a-long with my brother one night. It was supposed to last eight hours. I managed to get through three of them before I asked him to take me back to the station. The anger and hatred I saw and felt from the community were palpable. I asked my brother how he could do this job. He looked at me in astonishment and said, "I love this job, wouldn't do anything else. I make a difference out here."

He is my "little brother," but ever since then, I don't believe I know anyone bigger than he is.

We live and work on a military base, and we are reminded by AFRTS TV and radio spots that the military is comprised of men and women who have risked and do risk their lives for their country.

Yes, they deserve our utmost respect and admiration. But most days, people in the military do routine eight-hour jobs or routine training. They don't risk their lives *every day* like cops do.

Violent death can greet a cop at any moment, at any time, in a seemingly harmless situation. His best defense is wariness and suspicion. It must be a very lonely feeling out on the streets. A cop can't really count on anyone except a brother cop.

One of my brother's colleagues was recently killed by a man he arrested for car theft. He didn't know the person was wanted for the murder of an officer in another state. He didn't search him thoroughly because the man claimed he was injured. He was put in the back of the police car and even though handcuffed, managed to pull a hidden gun and shoot the officer five times.

The officer left a wife and three young children.

On average in the United States, a police officer is killed in the line of duty every two days.

Maybe the next time you see a cop, you might think about what most of them do for us every day. They are the thin line between the bad guys and us.

Maybe, every now and then, we could thank them for it.

### **Letters to the Editor**

#### **Emon beach needs better care**

I am a resident of the Emon Beach residential community and have been one for the last 10 years. During my time here, I have seen and been to a lot of functions and parties at Emon Beach. For the most part, we have a great community that takes care of our facilities and public areas; however, lately, I have noticed an increase of trash laying around the park and pavilions at the beach.

I wish I had a nickel for every beverage can, plate or chip bag I've seen within 20 feet of a garbage can — I would be retired by now!

It's a shame that we allow our beautiful beach park to become a garbage dump. I think we are all guilty of either leaving a piece of trash or ignoring a piece when we see one.

I just finished picking up approximately 10 pounds of trash within the park area alone. I ask everyone who visits and uses Emon Beach to take a minute and pick up the next can, plate or piece of trash you may see during your next visit. I think together we can help keep Emon Beach and Kwajalein a beautiful and "trash-free" place to live.

Thank you for your help.

**Robert J. Orlock**

#### **Hockey fan calls foul on CPN**

I know that one of the regular writers asked a while back if anyone really watches hockey out here, and I want to answer an emphatic YES!

I'm answering now because this morning, after watching a hockey game that started at 5 a.m., CPN Kwaj proudly interrupted it just before the overtime period for a baseball game in May!

I'm irate because this is the second round of the Stanley Cup playoffs, and it's a critical game, five of a best-of-seven series that is tied at two games apiece, and it's going to overtime!

I have been quite content to watch the hockey games we do get out here, and I understand not everyone wants to watch hockey. But, I'm sure there are others out here that would find an overtime period of the Stanley Cup playoffs a bit more exciting than an early season baseball game.

As the playoffs get closer to the finals, there may be more overtimes as teams really dig down deep and play their absolute best to get a chance for the Cup.

Please show the overtimes too!

**Avid hockey fan,  
Leah Perry**

Chris Danals spent many hours in the round house restoring *Wind Song* to her former glory. It took Danals, first assistant engineer for the KMRSS *Worthy*, 14 months to repair and refurbish the historical Kwaj boat.



# MAKING BE MUS

## DANALS RETURNS WIN

With well-wishers cheering her on, *Wind Song* touched her hull to water for the first time in almost four years Thursday.

After a prayer of dedication given by Protestant Chaplain John Dorr and the traditional champagne bottle smashed on her hull, owner Chris Danals lowered the Cal-25 sailboat into the lagoon at a little after 5:30 p.m. Using a forklift, he set the 4,000-pound boat carefully afloat at the marina, while the onlookers held their collective breath. Then Danals, with Mike Turner and former *Wind Song* owner Rod Godfrey on board, motored her out to a temporary mooring.

"I'm relieved ... pleased that everything went well and nothing snapped in half," Danals said after it was over. "Now it's on to the sea trials."

*Wind Song* has been part of Kwajalein's boating scene since 1966 or '67. Except for a few months, when she was called *Andiamo*, she has kept the same name through more than 30 years and numerous owners.

"Nobody changes the name *Wind Song* here," said former owner Cy Pizette. "It's a floating tradition."

If *Wind Song* could talk, she would have a lot of stories to tell, and, in the local community, recollections of the boat go way back.

John Leeper, MIT/Lincoln Laboratory site manager, was part or full owner of *Wind Song* from 1980 to 1988.

"I had a great time on that boat," he said. "I sailed it to about 15 different islands. It's a perfect size

for most sailors.

"I first sailed on *Wind Song* in 1976," he said, "and [we] sailed to Namu on *Wind Song* Thanksgiving weekend in 1977, with Ron and Julie Hansen [who] owned it."

He recalled that the boat was originally bought through Macy's. The first owner he remembers was John Rheinstein, who was on Kwaj from around 1969 to 1973.

"I saw it at the round house," Leeper said. "I had a smile on my face, and it brought back a lot of

good memories. It's great to see it back in the water again."

Tom Lane, a long-time sailor at Kwaj, remembers sailing against *Wind Song* in his boat *Dragon Lady* in a final race for the Kwaj Cup in the '80s. Lane said he ended up winning the race.

"To me, it's a resurrection," Lane said of *Wind Song*'s reentry into the water.

Godfrey's memory of *Wind Song* dates back to 1989, when he arrived on island. Then the boat

*Wind Song* returns to the ocean after nearly four years.

*Those who go  
down to the sea  
in ships, who do  
business on  
great waters,  
they have seen  
the works of the  
Lord and his  
wonders in the  
deep.*

*Psalm 107*

— read at *Wind Song*'s  
dedication Thursday.



# BEAUTIFUL SIC ID SONG TO OCEAN

was owned by Maj. Jake Star, followed by Mike Rector, who sold her to Godfrey in the early '90s. Pizette bought the boat from Godfrey.

"The boat has a heck of a history on island," Godfrey said. "I've been told that at one time it was one of the biggest boats out here. I am pleased beyond belief that it's fixed and back in the water."



**Chris Danals breaks a ceremonial bottle of champagne over Wind Song's bow before launching her Thursday afternoon.**

repair job would take three years; Danals was hoping for less than a year.

"It was below my expectations, but way above theirs," he said.

Commenting on Danals' projections for the renovation, Godfrey said, "It's remarkable that someone says that and is able to accomplish it."

Danals made it happen by working on the boat almost every day after work, an hour to an hour and a half, and putting in five- to six-hour days on weekends.

"I did it with a lot of help from friends," he said.

When he was on island, there were only about 10 to 14 days

that he didn't put time in on the boat, he said — times when he needed to "chill for a day or two."

"I have a certain tenaciousness that won't allow me to quit," Danals said. "And if I'm told you can't or you're crazy, I'll do it to prove them wrong."

Danals placed a silver dollar under the mast when it was raised earlier last week. Placing a coin, not necessarily a dollar, under the mast is another sailor's tradition for luck. "I really wanted good luck," Danals said.

Danals actually sailed on the boat once back in 1994 when Godfrey was selling it. When Godfrey put it up for sale, Danals had an appointment to look at it at 1:20 p.m. one day, but Pizette's appointment was at 1 p.m., and he bought it. Seven years later, Danals' turn came.

His plans for the boat now that the huge project is over? First the sea trials, fine-tuning the standing rigging and a Beer Can Race — which he won Monday. Next on the horizon, Danals says he plans to sail around the lagoon, maybe stay overnight at a few islands.

"I've owned it 14 months and have never gotten to enjoy it," he said. But, he added, "No boat is ever done — in the history of the world."

Danals, who is first assistant engineer on the KMRSS *Worthy*, bought the boat from Pizette in early March of last year.

This launching begins a new page in *Wind Song's* logbook. It was the culmination of 14 months — 14 months and 5 days to be exact — of hard work on Danals' part to refurbish the boat and repair damage sustained when she broke loose from her moorings in September 1997 and crashed into the rocks at the fuel pier.

"The day I bought it, I said, 'What have I done?'," Danals recalled. "I work on these things all day." He added that he's always gone for jobs that are extreme.

"The worst days for a boat owner are when you buy it and when you sell it," he said.

The *Wind Song* had a hole in her port side as a result of the 1997 accident, but filling the hole wasn't the hard part, Danals said, explaining he made architectural molds for precast concrete in a former job.

Painting was the hardest part. "I gave it a month or two to paint, and it actually took five," he said.

Some people predicted that the

**Story by Barbara Johnson**

**Photos by KW Hillis**

**Design and layout by Dan Adler  
and Peter Rejcek**

## Ham radio operators contact 10,700 worldwide ...

(From page 1)

trip organizer, explained. "People collect contacts with islands, and Enewetak is on the 'most wanted list.'" Fortin said his original thought was, "While I'm here, I can do something unique and do something for ham radio at minimal cost — give something back."

Fortin and Talbot, both members of the Kwajalein Amateur Radio Club, were joined on the expedition April 19 to 26 by two stateside ham radio enthusiasts, Jim DeVries and Tom Meier, both Oregon residents retired from the military.

It turned out that the four gave back more on their visit than they anticipated. In addition to making 18,000 radio contacts around the world, they found they were able to give something to Enewetak as well. They repaired two broken computers at the school, using parts that worked from computers that didn't, and also donated and installed a radio antenna for the Enewetak elementary school. The radio, which wasn't functioning, is the school's only method of communicating with Majuro.

The two local residents also brought two computers back with them to fix, and, according to Fortin, he has ordered the necessary parts, and the computers should be back to Enewetak in a few weeks.

Talbot, an ALTAIR transmitter technician, said the group donated about 20 man-hours at the school.

"I got the most personal satisfaction from the day I spent working with Aiton Epsen [the janitor], at the school," Talbot said. They pulled down an old radio antenna, installed and anchored a new one, donated by Meier, and repaired computers in the computer lab and the library. "That was the most fulfilling," he said.

As for the original purpose of the visit, operating two radios nearly 24 hours a day, always with one radio operating and occasionally with three, the group made radio contact with 10,701 different people from about 150 countries



**This photo will be used on custom postcards that will be exchanged with callers to confirm contact with Enewetak.**

from all over the world. Fortin explained that there were 18,000 contacts because some people call more than once on different frequencies or make one contact using Morse code and another on voice.

About six to eight of the people who called, Fortin said, had been out in the Pacific in the '40s or '50s and were very familiar with the name Enewetak.

"It was interesting to hear from those guys," he said.

The contacts are brief, though, and there isn't time for much conversation. A typical contact just includes an exchange of call signs, a short message about readability and a thank-you.

During a busy time, they can make 180 to 200 contacts an hour, Fortin said, and when it's going really well, 230 to 250. When it's slower, they have a chance to talk a bit with the callers.

The world is divided into 40 zones for radio purposes, Fortin said, and they contacted all but one zone, made up of Egypt and Sudan.

The Radio Society of Great Britain gives an "Islands on the Air" award to radio operators for contacting multiples of 100 different islands, Fortin said, and there aren't very many ham operators in the Marshall Islands, which makes them hard to collect. A card is issued when an operator contacts

an island, and of those who have submitted for the award, less than 10 percent had a card for Enewetak.

No one has been on air there since the 1980's, Talbot said. That was when American contractors worked on Enewetak after the nuclear tests in the area.

How did radio operators all over the world know that they could reach someone on Enewetak during that period? Fortin explained that the information about when and where they would be setting up on the island was on the Internet, and there are always people monitoring the airwaves worldwide. The radio operators begin by putting out the message "CQ, CQ," which is derived from "Seek you," and, although the calls start out slow, "The next thing you know, it's crazy," Fortin said.

Talbot described his best night on the radio as one where he started at 8 p.m. and had done more than 700 contacts before his all-night shift was up, working as

fast as 35 words per minute on Morse code.

"The [call] that sticks in my mind is, I talked to a guy in Luxembourg," he said, adding that he also contacted a lot in the U.K., and some in Spain, Greece, Central Asia, Russia, Korea, Japan, Canada and Mexico, among

others. But with Luxembourg being so small, "I was surprised and pleased to talk to the guy in Luxembourg," he said.

This wasn't the first trip to the Enewetak area for Oregon visitor DeVries. He was leading radioman aboard a submarine rescue ship during the nuclear testing in the area in 1958 and spent about six weeks at the atoll.

Recalling that the island was not vegetated when he saw it then, DeVries said, "Enewetak today is a beautiful, green young jungle. The

(See LOCAL, page 7)

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**"I got the most personal satisfaction from the day I spent working ... at the school."**

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**George Talbot  
Ham radio operator**

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**See you at the movies!**

**Saturday**

**The Three Lives of Thomasina (NR, 1964)**  
Mary, the daughter of a veterinarian who hates animals, is devastated when her pet cat Thomasina is put to sleep because of tetanus. A "good witch" is able to save the cherished animal, who loses its memory of its previous life. Eventually, the family of humans and cat are reunited in this warm-hearted Disney film. (Patrick McGoohan, Susan Hampshire) (97 minutes)  
*Richardson Theater, 7:30 p.m.*

**All the Pretty Horses (R, New Release)**  
A couple of cowboys down on their luck in the 1940s head south to Mexico for a better life. Along the way, they're implicated in a horse-stealing raid. The two escape pursuit and end up working at the ranch of Don Hector Rocha y Villareal, whose beautiful daughter falls in love with one of them, causing further trouble on the range. (Matt Damon, Henry Thomas, Bruce Dern, Sam Sheppard) (115 minutes)  
*Yokwe Yuk Theater, 8 p.m.*

**Miss Congeniality (PG-13, New Release)**  
An FBI agent goes undercover as a beauty pageant contestant to nab a serial killer. Something of a tomboy, Gracie must carry out the investigation while learning how to act like a lady. (Sandra Bullock, Michael Caine, William Shatner, Benjamin Bratt, Candice Bergen) (110 minutes)  
*Tradewinds Theater, 8 p.m.*

**Sunday**

**Miss Congeniality (PG-13, New Release)**  
*Richardson Theater, 7:30 p.m.*

**All the Pretty Horses (R, New Release)**  
*Tradewinds Theater, 7:30 p.m.*

**Monday**

**Miss Congeniality (PG-13, New Release)**  
*Richardson Theater 7:30 p.m.*

**All the Pretty Horses (R, New Release)**  
*Yokwe Yuk Theater, 8 p.m.*

**What's playing?  
Call the Movie Hotline,  
52700.**

**BCDs, Dell laptop batteries recalled**

**From staff reports**

A Carlsbad company is recalling about 10,000 BCDs because of a defective overpressure valve.

The valve could stick open, presenting a danger of drowning, the Consumer Product Safety Commission said.

The jackets were sold by dive stores and mail-order catalogs from September 2000 through March 2001. They were sold under these brand and model names:

- Sherwood, models Silhouette, Magnum, Avid, Luna, Outback and Freedom, serial numbers 21280001 through 22010740.

- Genesis, models Cayman, Cobra, Athena and Phantom, serial numbers 21280001 through 22010740. Models Talon and ReCon, serial numbers 20520001 through 22010740.

- All units of the Aeris brand Atmos jacket.

The model name is inside the jacket and the brand name on the right outside pocket. The serial number is on the air cell.

**Batteries gone bad**

The Dell Computer Corp. is voluntarily recalling about 284,000 batteries used in notebook-style personal computers. These batteries can overcharge, causing them to become very hot, release smoke and possibly catch fire.

The recalled batteries were sold in Dell Inspiron 5000 and 5000e notebook computers and sold separately for use in both of these systems. The words, "DELL," "MADE IN JAPAN," and "Inspiron 5000 Battery Module" are printed on the top of the batteries. An identification number is written on a colored sticker at the rear of the battery. Those batteries that have colored stickers containing either the number "99" or the series "0051" or less, and the letter "P" in the first line, are being recalled.

Consumers should stop using these batteries immediately and call Dell toll-free at (877) 237-3355 or go to Dell's website at [www.dell.com](http://www.dell.com) to order a free replacement battery.

**Former Kwaj kid Schmidt earns academic honors**

**From staff reports**

Former Kwaj kid Aaron Schmidt, 12, has been named to the Duke University Talent Identification Program and will receive certificates of distinction and merit from East Carolina University this month.

Schmidt, who PCSed with his parents Julie and Cory Schmidt last summer, tested out of the sixth

grade and entered the seventh grade in Winterville, N.C. During the process, he scored better than the national average on the SAT and in the top 1 percent of the International Standardized Intelligence Test. He was also inducted into the National Junior Beta Club.

He is the grandson of Kwaj residents Earl and Volene Davis.

**WEATHER**  
Courtesy of Aeromet



**Sun • Moon • Tides**



**Tonight:** Partly cloudy with widely scattered showers.  
**Winds:** East-northeast to east-southeast at 9 to 14 knots.  
**Tomorrow:** Partly sunny with a slight chance of showers.  
**Winds:** East to east-southeast at 9 to 14 knots.  
**Temperature:** Tonight's low 77°  
Tomorrow's high 87°  
**May rain total:** 0.28"  
**Annual rain total:** 8.86"  
**Annual deviation:** -15.09"  
*Call 54700 for continuously updated forecasts and sea conditions.*

	Sunrise/set	Moonrise/set	High Tide	Low Tide
Tuesday May 15	0630/1900	0043/1240 <b>Last quarter</b>	0858, 4.1' 2300, 3.3'	0200, 2.6' 1629, 2.4'
Wednesday May 16	0630/1901	0126/1327	1054, 3.9'	0405, 2.8' 1814, 2.2'
Thursday May 17	0630/1901	0207/1413	0049, 3.6' 1232, 4.0'	0624, 2.7' 1912, 1.9'
Friday May 18	0629/1902	0247/1459	0136, 4.0' 1329, 4.3'	0729, 2.3' 1950, 1.6'