

EARTH DAY 5K RACE

Marines, Sailors, civilians run to support 3rd annual event

STORY AND PHOTOS BY CPL. WAYNE D. GLENN

MCAS CHERRY POINT

Marines, Sailors and civilians gathered on the Physical Fitness Test Course Friday morning to participate in the 3rd annual commemorative Earth Day 5k run. Registration began at 11 a.m. and the race started at 11:30 a.m.

A total of 96 people registered for and ran in the 3.1-mile event. After the race, a large selection of food and soft drinks awaited the participants.

"I ran cross country back in high school," said Pfc. Codie Gauthier, a supply admin clerk with Headquar-

ters and Headquarters Squadron. "I'm trying to get back into that shape."

Awards, including various organic foods and t-shirts, were provided to the top three women and top three men.

"I have always wanted to run a 5K race," said Maryann Gale, a Marine spouse. "This was my first and it was great."

The first Earth Day was celebrated on Apr. 22, 1970. Though it started as a day of national environmental recognition, Earth Day has evolved into a world-wide campaign to protect the environment through the combined efforts of the U.S. government, grassroots organizations and caring citizens.



(Above) A runner passes the mile and a half mark of the PFT course during the 5 kilometer run. Prizes and medals were awarded to the top three men and top three women with the fastest run time at the end of the race. (Left) The men's bracket race results were: 1st place, Sgt. Cole Nason; 2nd place, Sam Moore and 3rd place, Codie Gauthier. The women's bracket race results were: 1st place, Jill Adair; 2nd place, Debbie Finch and 3rd place, Tyra Patrick.