

GULF DEFENDER



Vol. 62, No. 22

Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla. *Gulf Defender*

June 6, 2003

In brief

Air Force News

News and information from around the Air Force will air on the base cable network's Channel 12. Air times are at 8 a.m., noon, 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday.

Current stories include 'Parent pin program initiated,' 'Falcons presented Commander-in-Chief trophy for sixth straight year' and 'Airman gets new lease on life with hearing implant.'

Vehicle parking

All vehicles in the Tyndall Military housing area will be parked in authorized spaces – carpools, garages or paved parking areas. On-street parking is permitted only on the side of the street opposite the fire hydrants, with four exceptions. On Eagle Drive between Beacon Beach Road and Phantom Street, parking will be on the side with even house numbers, Dart Avenue parking will be on the odd side and Falcon Street parking will be on the even side and where parking spaces are designated. Motor homes, camping trailers, campers, boats and boat trailers will be parked in the Recreational Vehicle Storage Area when not in use.

Inoperative vehicles may not be parked in any family housing area. All major repairs, such as sanding and painting, are not allowed in the housing area. Housing inspectors will also issue discrepancy notices for parking on the grass.



Photos by Staff Sgt. David Carter

End of an era

The base theater was torn down this week due to structural problems. The building was one of the first built on Tyndall Field in 1941 along with Chapel 1 and the first runways. For more on the history behind the hangout, see Page 7.

Rumsfeld: Cut safety mishap rates in half

MASTER SGT. SCOTT ELLIOTT
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld challenged the military services to cut the number of mishaps by 50 percent in the next two years.

"World-class organizations do not tolerate preventable accidents," Secretary Rumsfeld wrote in a May 19 memorandum to the heads of military departments and defense agencies.

The secretary sent the memo in response to recent hikes in Department of Defense mishap rates.

According to DOD safety officials, 82 military members died in aviation accidents in fiscal 2002, an increase of 17 from the previous year. In addition, the number of aircraft destroyed in

mishaps rose from 46 in fiscal 2001 to 63 in 2002. Those figures do not include the 182 deaths due to the 2001 terrorist attack on the Pentagon.

Secretary Rumsfeld's directive applies to all DOD agencies and includes active duty, Reserve and Guard military members, both on- and off-duty, and all civilian employees. The mishap rate reduction goal applies to all operations of aircraft, weapons, ordnance, motor vehicles, maritime assets and installations.

According to Air Force safety officials, the Air Force has not suffered a space, weapons or explosives Class A mishap since late 2001. Mishaps are defined as Class A if they result in death or permanent total disability, destruction of a DOD aircraft or cause

\$1 million or more in damage.

"Our biggest fatality issues are off-duty motor vehicle accidents," said Col. Jeff Blanchette, vice commander of the Air Force Safety Center at Kirtland Air Force Base, N.M.

Despite ongoing safety awareness programs, such as the "101 Critical Days of Summer," airmen are just as susceptible to driving while impaired, while overly fatigued, with a lack of proficiency or while not paying enough attention to the task at hand as other Americans, Colonel Blanchette said.

"We are a cross-section of society," he said. "We have significant societal issues that must be affected."

The Air Force already has several initiatives for alleviating aircraft mishaps, and officials are

also looking into training and human behavior modification programs to address the off-duty motor-vehicle accident concern. Colonel Blanchette said shortages in manpower and funding are limiting factors to diminishing both.

According to DOD safety officials, Secretary Rumsfeld's initiative includes developing a real-time mishap decision support system, applying commercial technologies on high-risk equipment and finding ways to implement "best practices" from both industry and other government agencies into DOD activities.

"These goals are achievable and will directly increase our operational readiness," Secretary Rumsfeld wrote. "We owe no less to the men and women who defend our nation."

**Countdown
to ORI
44 days**



Training the best air superiority team for America

Tyndall spins up for hurricane season

BRIG. GEN. LARRY NEW

325th Fighter Wing commander



We are into the hurricane season and as you may have heard, predictions for this year indicate a larger number of hur-

ricanes than normal. That said, I want to take a moment to talk about this week's exercise and inform you of some changes to the base's evacuation plan should we need to leave. First, every exercise assists us in ensuring we are ready and able to meet any challenges we might face.

Whether it's the threat of terrorist activity or a natural disaster, such as a hurricane, we have to make sure our people are protected, and we need to be ready to respond in a moment's notice. Hurricanes are a very real threat here, and as we have seen from past hurricanes such as Opal, the potential for loss of life and property is significant. We all need to do our part to minimize this potential.



"...Fort Rucker is no longer available to us as an evacuation site. The available choices now are Robins, Moody and Maxwell Air Force Bases. Keep in mind, however, that there is no guarantee that there will be space available when you arrive ..."

BRIG. GEN. LARRY NEW

325th Fighter Wing commander

In the event we need to evacuate Tyndall, there have been some changes to our evacuation plan. First and foremost, every Team Tyndall member should have completed a TAFB Form 254, which provides us with your planned evacuation location information. If you have not completed this, you need to get it done. Also, Fort Rucker is no longer available to us as an evacuation site. The available choices now are Robins, Moody and Maxwell Air Force Bases. Keep in mind, however, that there is no guarantee that there will be space available when you arrive, so alternate arrangements may be neces-

sary, but don't wait to locate a place. We are currently trying to find out who plans to evacuate to one of these locations and negotiate space with the bases. Have a backup plan ready.

If you choose to relocate to an alternate location, bear in mind that there is a 350-mile radius limit for travel. Also, if you have pets, you will want to find out ahead of time if they can be accommodated in your evacuation plan. Various reference sites such as www.petswelcome.com can help.

Another hot topic is the upcoming operational readiness inspection. We only

●SEE HURRICANE PAGE 3

Action Line

The Action Line is your direct line to me. It is one way to make Tyndall a better place to work and live.

Action Line calls are recorded and staffed through the proper agency. The goal is to provide you with an accurate, timely response. You must leave your name, phone number or address to receive a response.

Questions or comments of general interest will be published in this forum. This avenue should only be used after coordinating problems or concerns with supervisors, commanders, first sergeants or facility managers. If you're not satisfied with the response or you are unable to resolve the problem, call me at 283-2255.

For fraud, waste and abuse calls, you should talk to the office of inspections, 283-4646. Calls concerning energy abuse should be referred to the energy hot line, 283-3995.

Larry D. New

BRIG. GEN. LARRY NEW

325th Fighter Wing commander

AEF meets call for worldwide projection of air power

MAJ. GEN. TIMOTHY PEPPE

Special Assistant for Air and Space Expeditionary Force Matters

WASHINGTON (AFP) — Whether you were deployed to Southwest Asia launching wave after wave of aircraft, or at your home station working extra shifts to cover for those who were, you know that the global war on terrorism has required a massive Air Force effort.

But oftentimes I think it is hard to appreciate the full spectrum of operations our Air Force has participated in as part of the liberation of Iraq, the destruction of al-Qaida, the protection of our homeland skies, and the other recent operations in defense of our country.

So I thought it would be helpful to provide a "strategic overview" of what the Air Force has been doing since Sept. 11, 2001. To do this, I'll discuss the large numbers of airmen involved, the air mobility

assets used and the incredible combat support efforts undertaken to defend the United States.

Not since Desert Storm has the Air Force been called upon to amass as large a fighting force as it did for the global war on terrorism. The Air Force has responded magnificently to the call for air and space power after Sept. 11, drawing from an unprecedented six Air and Space Expeditionary Forces. Add to that the significant portion of our air mobility and other enabler forces, and you start to see the immense scope of our service's recent activities.

Although not everyone in each AEF was called upon to deploy, more than 120,000 airmen were involved and more than 50,000 deployed. And these were not just active duty, but Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve airmen as well.

That total-force effort was also seen on the home front, where almost 20,000 additional active, Guard

and Reserve airmen kept our homeland secure, supporting Operation Noble Eagle on the mainland and in Alaska, Hawaii and Guam.

Of course, these war-fighting commitments didn't just affect those on the front lines. They affected the total Air Force community as home stations reduced services to its non-deployed members, families, Reservists and retirees. In some cases, the Army National Guard and U.S. overseas allies filled in for those deployed by providing security for air bases at home and abroad.

Among the large numbers of people fighting the war on terrorism are many who, prior to Operation Iraqi Freedom, were already operating at a high tempo. Airmen and equipment supporting the E-3 AWACs, E-8 Joint Stars, RC-135 Rivet Joint, U-2, Predator, Global Hawk and air mobility missions, as well as

●SEE AEF PAGE 3

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chaser, user or patron.

Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the 325th Fighter Wing public affairs office. Photographs are U.S. Air Force photos unless otherwise noted.

The deadline for article submissions to the *Gulf Defender* is 4 p.m. Friday, prior to the week of publication unless otherwise noted. Articles must be typed and double-spaced, preferably on a 3.5-inch disc. Stories should be submitted directly to the public affairs office, Building 662, Room 129 or mailed to: 325 FW/PAI, 445 Suwannee Ave., Tyndall AFB, FL, 32403-5425 or emailed to editor@tyndall.af.mil. Public affairs staff members edit all material for accuracy, brevity, clarity, conformity to regulations and journalistic style. The delivery of the *Gulf Defender* to Tyndall base housing sections is provided by the *Panama City News Herald*.

For more information, or to advertise in the newspaper, call (850) 747-5000.

Mentoring: Please, thank you

AIRMAN 1ST CLASS MADELYN WAYCHOFF
388th Fighter Wing public affairs

HILL AIR FORCE BASE, Utah (AFPN) — I recently sent out an e-mail with a couple of questions to a few people for a story I was writing about stop-loss. I got many answers back, but one answer in particular stood out and made a lasting impression on me.

The answer I got back was from a major who was affected by stop-loss. When I asked how he felt about it and if it would change his plans for his career, he sent me the most honest, straightforward answer I have received in a long time.

"I'm an F-16 pilot at Hill who is retiring the first of May this year," said Maj. James Elwell. "I have tried to get caught in the stop loss and serve longer during a time of war. I'm a warrior. I would want nothing more than to fight any chance I get, and maybe even to die in battle at 44 rather than in bed at 84. 'Stop loss?' How about 'continuation of service?' How about the mission — the defense of the United States, and her interests and allies — that we all volunteered for when we signed up? How does this affect my decision to retire?"

I've tried for over a month not to."

This answer made me understand how much the Air Force means to the airmen in it and the people around the world. Even though I have never met the major, his answer made me respect him and understand what being in the Air Force is really about.

I began thinking about the impression veteran troops can have on younger airmen like me. Whether the officers or noncommissioned officers realize it, they are mentors.

If their uniforms look sharp and they show respect to others, we do the same. If it's the opposite, we also do the same. I think most of what we, the younger airmen, learn in the first few years affects everything we do throughout the rest of our Air Force careers.

I have met numerous people with many years in the service, and they have given me the impression that the Air Force is the best place you can be. They told me to look at all the opportunities given to us and compare them with what's offered in other jobs.

They taught me that I need to be patient before I can learn everything about the Air Force.

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● FROM AEF PAGE 2

special operations airmen and combat search and rescue forces, were already incredibly busy.

Because of OIF, training programs for the people assigned to these missions were greatly reduced and, in some cases, stopped altogether due to lack of aircraft, aircrews and maintainers.

The global war on terrorism has also required some Herculean efforts by our air mobility team. Air Mobility Command's total force of active-duty and air-reserve-component forces continued an unrelenting pace that began Sept. 11, 2001, and built our globe-spanning en-route structure, moving people, equipment and supplies, as well as deploying Air Force fighters and bombers. This tremendous effort supported not only the Air Force, but also our sister services and coalition partners.

Many of the people and much of the equipment and supplies AMC moved were part of the extensive combat support efforts the war on terror required. For example, the Air Force opened and operated an additional 18 expeditionary bases around the OIF area of operations, calling upon combat and combat-support capabilities from many AEFs. In some cases, entire Air Force career fields were tapped out.

Opening these bases put pressure on AMC's tanker and airlift control elements and all of our combat support. After hostilities began, these TALCEs, along with assessment teams and con-

● FROM HURRICANE PAGE 2

starting July 1. I mention this so you can prepare now. Make arrangements to ensure your family's needs are met while you're gone.

In addition to making the necessary personal arrangements, make sure your family is connected to your unit for support.

We certainly have a lot going on and a lot to think about in the coming months. I am confident that each Team Tyndall member is ready to meet the challenges, and there is no doubt in my mind we can excel.

Thank you for the superb effort you put forth for Tyndall and our Air Force every day. Be safe and have a great week.

Starting July 1. I mention this so you can prepare now. Make arrangements to ensure your family's needs are met while you're gone.

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tingency response units, also opened several bases inside Iraq.

The most recent campaign in our country's war against terror perfectly illustrates the might and power of the U.S. Air Force. As Operation Iraqi Freedom unfolded, the world watched as air power from the Air Force, Navy, Marines and Royal Air Force attacked Iraqi command and control with devastating precision.

The combination of air and space power, special operations and information operations ground down Iraqi forces, leaving them demoralized, disoriented and without effective command and control. As a result, coalition ground forces shattered Iraqi resistance wherever it was encountered.

While the giant-sized efforts of our Air Force are often exhausting and thankless, all airmen should be proud of what they have accomplished. Al-Qaida is in disarray, our homeland skies are safe, and the people of Iraq are finally tasting freedom. In the end, I think our Air Force chief of staff, Gen. John Jumper, said it best.

"As we begin the process of redeployment and reconstitution, we can all be proud of the total team effort," the general said. "Although the AEF may never be called upon in the future to simultaneously deploy people from six AEFs, we can all take great comfort in the knowledge that the AEF can, and will, respond successfully to any challenge our nation faces."

Save for Your Future 

Fort Rucker not an option during hurricane evacuation

Fort Rucker, Ala., is no longer an evacuation location for people assigned to Tyndall.

"There have been some changes to our evacuation plan," said Brig. Gen. Larry New, 325th Fighter Wing commander. "First and foremost, every Team Tyndall member should have completed a TAFB Form 254, which provides us with your planned evacuation location information. If you have not completed this, you need to get it done.

"Also, Fort Rucker is no longer available to us as an evacuation site," he added. Fort Rucker can not accommodate Tyndall evacuees due to all available shelter space being used for army personnel deploying in support

of real-world contingency operations.

Currently, there are three bases which will take military and dependent shelterees on a first-come, first-serve basis.

"The available choices now are Robins, Moody and Maxwell Air Force Bases," the general said. "Keep in mind, however, that there is no guarantee that there will be space available when you arrive, so alternate arrangements may be necessary, but don't wait to locate a place. We are currently trying to find out who plans to evacuate to one of these locations and negotiate space with the bases." In the unlikely event that all shelter space is full, Team Tyndall members should be pre-

pared to go to an alternate location such as a hotel. This should be included in your family evacuation plan.

Assigned members may also evacuate to a pre-designated place of choice such as a relative or friends house.

"If you choose to relocate to an alternate location, bear in mind that there is a 350-mile radius limit for travel," General New said. "Also, if you have pets, you will want to find out ahead of time if they can be accommodated in your evacuation plan. Various reference sites such as www.petswelcome.com can help."

Details on reimbursement coverage can be

found on the 325th Comptroller Squadron's Web page: www.tyndall.af.mil/325FW/CPTS/Default.htm

Military personnel are required to have a Tyndall Form 254 on file with their orderly room that states planned evacuation and emergency information. Evacuation locations must be approved by the unit commander.

For more information, call the unit Full Spectrum Threat Response representative, or the base readiness office at 283-4107. For information on reimbursement, call 283-4117.

(Courtesy 325th Civil Engineer Squadron's readiness office and compiled via staff reports.)

Civilian-personnel system 'not cutting it,' says SecDef

JIM GARAMONE

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFP) — The civilian-personnel system in the Defense Department "is not cutting it," said Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld on Tuesday.

Secretary Rumsfeld, who spoke at the National Press Club, said that the department is handcuffed by its reliance on an antiquated personnel system. He called today's civilian-personnel system "an industrial-age organization struggling to perform in an information-age world."

DOD officials have proposed changes to the system designed to make it more flexible and responsive, Secretary Rumsfeld said.

"The system for recruiting, retaining

(and) managing the federal workforce on the civilian side is clearly not working well," he said.

President George W. Bush has proposed the creation of a new national security personnel system that would be merit-based. It would give the department more flexibility and agility as to how it manages the roughly 700,000 civilians in DOD, who account for more than one-third of the federal workforce.

Managers cannot use this resource effectively, given the current rules, Secretary Rumsfeld said. He pointed to the flexibility Congress gave managers in the new Department of Homeland Security as an example.

Besides the Homeland Security example, Secretary Rumsfeld would like

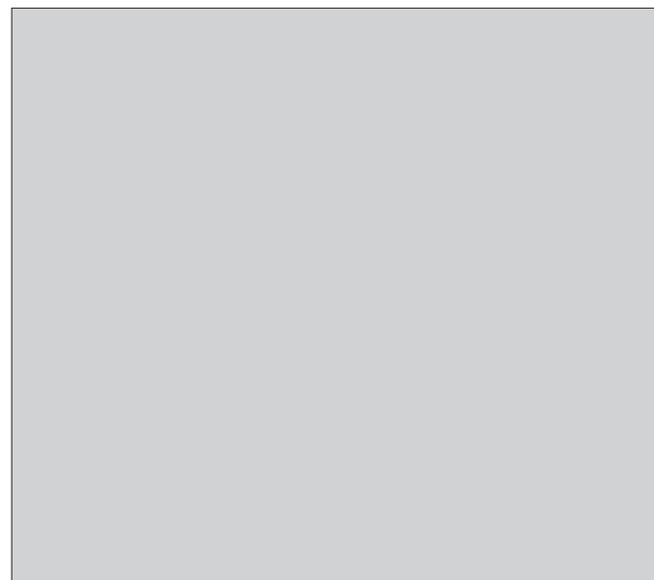
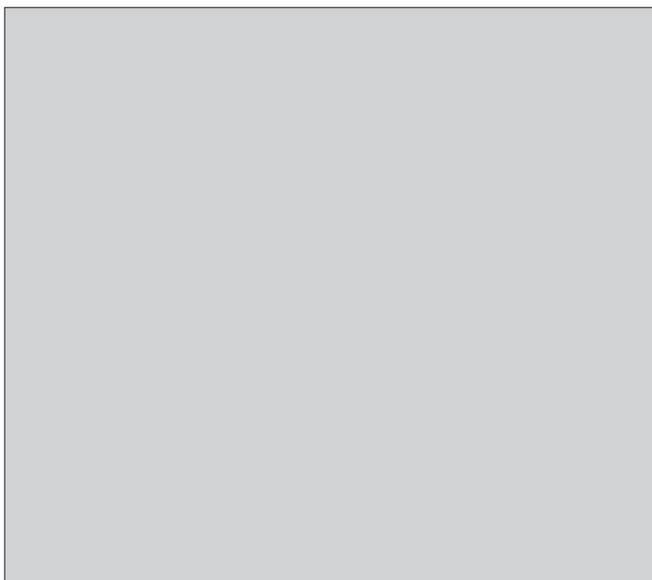
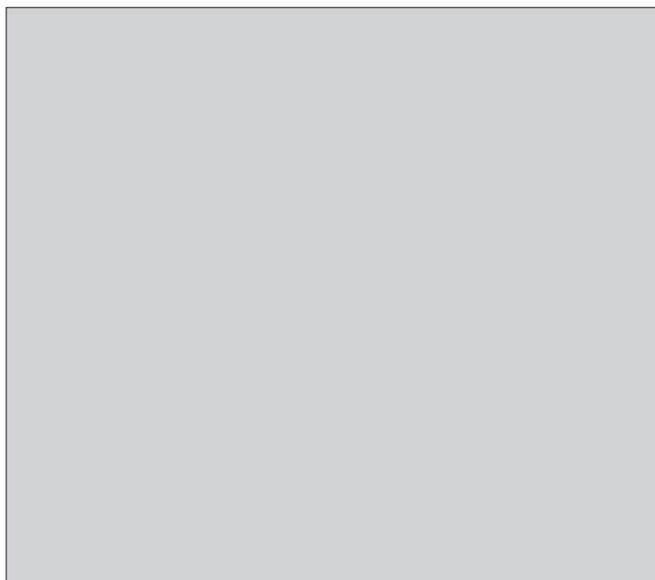
●SEE SYSTEM PAGE 15



Christine Sullivan

And the winner is ...

Tonya Jiron drives away in her new 2003 Jeep Liberty after Brig. Gen. Larry New, 325th Fighter Wing commander, handed her the keys May 29 in front of Tyndall's base exchange. The 4x4 vehicle was part of a worldwide AAFES sweepstakes giveaway late last year. Mrs. Jiron was notified last month she was the lucky winner and traveled from her husband's current duty station in Incirlik, Turkey, to visit family members and receive the prize.



ON THE STREET

What do you like most about Panama City?



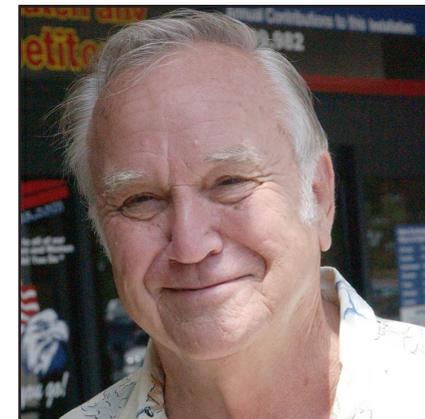
“I like the restaurants and the 341 days of sunshine.”
STAFF SGT. ANGELA REATIGA
 325th Mission Support Squadron



“I like going to the movies, Mexico Beach doesn't have any theaters.”
CAPT. STEVEN STORMS
 325th Air Control Squadron



“I appreciate the dedicated active-duty men and women of Tyndall AFB and the retirees who stay in the area.”
PRINCESS CAROL GEORGIA
 Family member



“I like everything ... or I'd be somewhere else.”
JERRY PAYTON
 Retired Air Force



Learn not to burn.

Re-enlistments

The following Team Tyndall members re-enlisted in May.

- Tech. Sgt. Dave Alberto, 325th Maintenance Squadron
- Tech. Sgt. Gregory Bates, 81st Training Support Squadron
- Staff Sgt. Kelly Baumgardner, 325th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron
- Staff Sgt. Cassie Brunner, 325th AMXS
- Master Sgt. Carlos Caballero, 325th Maintenance Operations Squadron
- Tech. Sgt. Timothy Castro, 325th AMXS
- Tech. Sgt. Timothy Chastain, 325th MOS
- Master Sgt. Robert Cheesbro, 325th AMXS
- Staff Sgt. James Chrivia, 325th Operations Support Squadron
- Tech. Sgt. Todd Cook, 325th Contracting Squadron
- Master Sgt. Wanda Daniels, 325th Medical Support Squadron
- Tech. Sgt. Luke Dentson, Det. 1, 823rd REDHORSE Squadron
- Tech. Sgt. Robert Fischer, 82nd Aerial Targets Squadron
- Tech. Sgt. Eric Hamilton, 325th Air Control Squadron
- Tech. Sgt. Jonathon Hanson, 53rd Weapons Evaluation Group
- Master Sgt. Michael Hobbs, 81st TSS
- Tech. Sgt. Charles Horton, 82nd ATRS
- Master Sgt. Mark Isenbarger, 325th AMXS
- Senior Airman Shelica Jackson, 43rd Fighter Squadron

- Staff Sgt. Aric Jones, 83rd Fighter Weapons Squadron
- Master Sgt. Frank Labroad, 325th MXS
- Staff Sgt. Christopher Laviolette, 325th Communications Squadron
- Staff Sgt. Albert Lazala, 325th Mission Support Group
- Tech. Sgt. Lawrence McCrear, 81st TSS
- Tech. Sgt. Kevin Mills, 83rd FWS
- Staff Sgt. Thomas Mraz, 325th AMXS
- Senior Airman Christopher Ownby, 325th MXS
- Staff Sgt. Michael Pemberton, 325th Security Forces Squadron
- Staff Sgt. Gary Shaw, 325th AMXS
- Staff Sgt. Christopher Sherrer, 325th Fighter Wing
- Master Sgt. Jeffrey Shinsky, 325th AMXS
- Senior Airman Alma Soto, 95th Fighter Squadron
- Master Sgt. Matthew Standish, 325th CS
- Tech. Sgt. Patrick Tarin, 325th MOS
- Tech. Sgt. Kenneth Tate, 325th MSG
- Senior Master Sgt. Harry Taylor, 325th Mission Support Squadron
- Tech. Sgt. Scott Turner, 325th MOS
- Tech. Sgt. Rodney Walters, 325th MSG
- Master Sgt. Vance Watkins, 325th CS
- Tech. Sgt. Richard Wilkinson, 83rd FWS

Job knowledge critical to daily duty, ORI

LT. COL. STEVEN KOTAN

Operational Readiness Inspection project officer

Each of us should be to the point in our preparation effort where the final touches are being added to all our programs. The previous self-inspections and staff assistance visits have highlighted our weaknesses and strengths and all the appropriate corrections are now being put in place and tested. Attached below is the continuation of the daily preparation checklists we in the wing ORI preparation office have been publishing each week. If you have been diligently following them, they have offered a reasonable framework toward your preparation effort.

Day 30 (Monday): Programs and problems. Can each of your people discuss the governing Air Force Instructions, operating instructions, etc.? Starting with Air Force instructions on down? Are classified working papers labeled correctly? In the absence of the regular "crew chief," who fills in? Is the job done properly? Today's the day to get your story straight.

Day 29 (Tuesday): Training follow-up. Ensure everyone is now scheduled for and will receive all required training prior to Day 20. Don't let anything slip by — find out who's going on temporary duty, leave or scheduled in conflict with this objective and resolve it.

Day 28 (Wednesday): Continuity folders. Check to see if they are laid out as per the unit commander's letter on the subject. This is the document that will speak for you if you are TDY or just unavailable. This is also the most important management tool you have — handle it accordingly.

Day 27 (Thursday): Publications review. We have been emphasizing this matter since late October 2002 and it has been two weeks since the last check. Are there any changes lying around in the distribution containers? Do personal publications match the master index? Any publications not needed in the unit should be removed. If the IG is on the road, check with your counterparts for information.

Day 26 (June 13): In-box purge. Clean them out. That goes for personal and electronic files also. Anything that you need filed should be done so in accordance with the instructions on filing. Ask the unit executive officer or information manager for help here. Distribution containers in the orderly rooms and elsewhere should be cleaned out.

In addition, the inspector general advance team will be on base Monday through Wednesday. Their primary mission during this visit will be to check on where we plan to place them during their stay.

While not a formal part of the inspection process, they will not be blind to obvious issues at Tyndall ... both good and bad. While not truly the "first impression," it does afford us an opportunity to leave them with an extremely positive impression of our people, base and mission.

We should all be proud of being part of the most professional military teams in all of Air Education and Training Command.

BACK TO BASICS

Q. What are the rules governing rings, fingernails and nail polish?

A. Rings — a maximum of three rings may be worn at any one time. According to officials, an engagement ring and a wedding band count as one ring, regardless if the two are soldered together or not.

Fingernails — Although not covered in Air Force Instructions, the 95th Uniform Board states that the language will be added to the instruction when updated to read: Fingernail length cannot interfere with duty performance or hinder proper fit of prescribed safety equipment of uniform items.

Nail polish — Nail polish for women will be conservative, single color and in good taste and will not contain any ornamentation. According to officials, French manicures are authorized as long as natural colors are utilized.

Back to basics is a column highlighting proper military customs, courtesies and regulations.

Meet the commander

Col. Martin Sayles

325th Mission Support Group commander

Your vision for the unit: Set the standard in providing premier mission support to Team Tyndall and the Air Force worldwide.

Goals: World-class customer service all the time, to enhance quality of life for Team Tyndall members and improve/protect facilities and equipment.

Previous three assignments: Camp H.M. Smith, Hawaii, the Pentagon and Offutt Air Force Base, Neb.

Best Air Force experience: Deployment with USCENTAF (forward) during Operation Desert Storm.

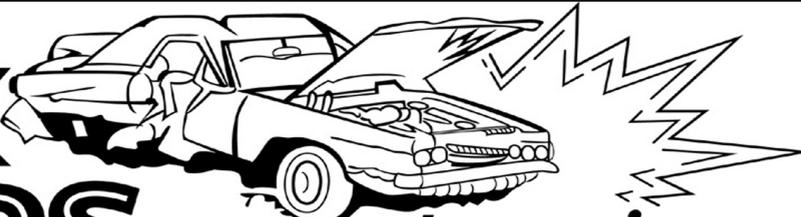
Key to success in the Air Force: Dedication to duty, teamwork and loyalty.

Pet peeves: Negative attitudes and poor customer service.

This column is intended to introduce new commanders and allow unit members to recognize and understand their new leader.



DRUNK DRIVERS *are not survivors!*



Checkertail Salute



Lisa Carroll

Sergeant Ashley is awarded the Checkertail Salute Warrior of the Week award by Brig. Gen. Larry New, 325th Fighter Wing commander.

The Checkertail Clan salutes Sergeant Ashley for managing one of the busiest outpatient clinic pharmacy operations in the Air Force. It is ranked in the top 10, filling 288,000 prescriptions for more than 22,000 beneficiaries, equaling one prescription filled every 31 seconds. His performance-improvement initiatives reduced medication errors by more than 67 percent.

Master Sgt. David Ashley

Duty title: NCO in charge of pharmacy services

Unit: 325th Medical Group

Time on station: 4.5 years

Time in service: 20 years

Hometown: Miami, Fla.

Hobbies: Video games and watching football

Goals: Receive my bachelor's degree in health-care management in November, retire from the Air Force and go to work as a risk manager.

Favorite thing about Tyndall: The fitness center

Pet peeves: Unprofessional behavior and negative attitudes

Favorite book: "Devil in a Blue Dress" by Walter Mosely

Favorite movie: "Aliens"

The Checkertail Salute is a 325th Fighter Wing commander program designed to recognize Tyndall's Warrior of the Week. Supervisors can nominate individuals via their squadron and group commanders. Award recipients receive a certificate, letter from the commander and a one-day pass.

Chapter closes at Tyndall

STAFF SGT. DAVE CARTER
325th Fighter Wing historian

Tyndall motorists may have noticed the demolition work as they drove through the main gate over the last few days, as the base theater had its final curtain call.

At first glance, it seemed to be just the latest in a series of recent construction projects taking place around Tyndall. But this building deserves more than just a first glance.

In the summer of 1941, construction of Tyndall Field began in earnest. The theater was included in the very first contract for construction of the installation, which was awarded to C.C. Moore Construction Company of Panama City and Paul Smith Construction Company of Tallahassee. Known as Job Number A-41-1, this initial construction included three runways, taxi strips, parking apron, and according to the first base history, "separate building to provide housing, messing, administration, schools, hospital, warehouses and the normal operations of the Post."

The official history from 1941 describes construction this way. "The buildings were all constructed of stuccoed [sic] hollow tile and were built as permanent construction. ... The buildings were specially designed for this field, and for Eglin Field, as being adaptable as permanent buildings in this section of the country." In the case of the base theater, the building was projected to last 52 years.

In World War II, it served as a place of relaxation and recreation for aerial gunners on their way to war. More than just a movie theater, people in uniform have gathered there for commander's calls, base orientation briefings and more. In 1998, the base theater was the place for

the funeral for one of Tyndall's own warriors, killed in a terrorist attack. If walls could talk, this building would have held you spellbound.

The structure doubled as a movie house and recreation facility. On its stage, bands played as aerial gunnery students danced with their sweethearts. Images of the day's most popular stars were shown on the screen to the Tyndall community. Through its front doors emerged a variety of people. Couples on first dates, GIs on their way to war, and even actor Clark Gable, who trained as an aerial gunner at Tyndall, all passed through the base theater.

Serving as wing historian at Tyndall has given me the opportunity to meet many of the people who were stationed here in the early years. I've talked to retirees and their families who were passing through the area on vacation. I've been honored as they've told me very poignant stories of how they took their sweethearts to the base theater on a first date, and then weeks later to the altar at Chapel 1 to exchange wedding vows before going off to war. They tell me that when they drive on base and see the old theater, or the old chapel, scenes from 50 years ago seem like yesterday.

They say that all good things must pass, and it remains so for this chapter in Tyndall history. Chapel 1 is on the National Register of Historic Places, so the odds of it being torn down anytime soon are slim. The same might have been true for the base theater, had it not degenerated in recent years into a high-rise condo for termites. But the memories of special places and special people remain with us, and become even more important with the passage of time.



Every member of Team Tyndall is valuable. Play it safe, don't become a statistic.

There's only one way
to come out ahead
of the pack.

QUIT

American Heart Association
WE'RE FIGHTING FOR YOUR LIFE

Get smart at the Team Tyndall education center

CHRISTINE SULLIVAN
325th Fighter Wing public affairs

Most people would like to further their education but with schedules that are usually hectic they tend to think there is never enough time in the day.

The Tyndall Air Force Base Education Center, located in Building 1230, offers a full range of services and programs to further those educational goals.

"Try not to put your education off!" says Senior Airman Shayla Butler, 325th Fighter Wing command section information manager and student attending Gulf Coast Community College. "The center can help you achieve your education goals if you really want it, but the first step is just getting over there."

Distance learning, tuition assistance, financial aid, and adjustable class schedules are just some of the services the education center offers to active duty military, civilians, retirees, and family members.

Varied programs include Community College of the Air Force, enlisted commissioning opportunities, college-level testing, professional military education, veteran's benefits, and deferments.

One of the most important services the center offers to military members is providing cost-effective, quality degree programs to military members, according to David Marcum, education services officer

for the 325th Mission Support Squadron. "This supports the Air Force recruitment, retention, and readiness programs," said Mr. Marcum.

Located in the education center, GCCC offers a wide variety of two-year degree programs to prepare students for transfer to four-year schools.

GCCC grants Associates of Arts and Science degrees in a variety of academic and occupational programs and holds approximately 50 courses at Tyndall each semester.

Troy State University also offers programs on base to include Master of Science degrees in Management, Human Resources Management, and Counseling and Psychology as well as several undergraduate programs.

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University is an aviation-oriented institute and through the education center, offers Associate degrees and undergraduate classroom and distance learning degrees in Management of Technical Operations and Aeronautical Science with specializations in Aeronautics, Management and Aviation Safety.

Tyndall's education center also has information on curriculum at the Haney Vocational-Technical and Shaw Adult Centers.

"The partnership we establish with our academic institutions is critical to being able to accomplish our mission of providing a

cost-effective, quality education program," said Mr. Marcum.

"We have an exceptional relationship with all our schools which totally support our airmen and have always assisted our Tyndall students to succeed."

The education center is a source of distance learning as an alternative method of delivering educational courses from the traditional in-the-classroom instruction. Programs are offered through a variety of delivery systems such as Internet, video, and television.

The Panama City campus of Florida State University can enroll students in the Florida Engineering Education Delivery System, a

The education center can help with a newly developed service by the Department of Defense called the Tuition Assistance Program. Tuition coverage recently increased from 75 percent to 100 percent.

"The 100 percent TAP has opened the door for a greater number of customers to enhance their professional skills and knowledge through the Community College of the Air Force as well as assist them to start seriously pursuing a civilian college degree program," Mr. Marcum said.

A recently created Civilian Tuition Assistance Program now allows appropriated-fund civilians working for the Air Education and Training Command to receive fi-

"The center can help you achieve your education goals if you really want it, but the first step is just getting over there."

SENIOR AIRMAN SHAYLA BUTLER
325th Fighter Wing command section

video and interactive program that provides quality graduate degrees or extended studies in a variety of arts and sciences, engineering, nursing, education, psychology, and marketing majors, among others. Students can enroll in courses via a host of other educational institutions.

"Distance learning gives the student flexibility," Mr. Marcum said. "They can take courses that don't conflict with their busy work and family schedules."

Staff Sgt. Luther Brown, 325th Fighter Wing command section NCO in charge, is currently enrolled in two on-line classes through the education center's distance learning program while working a demanding job and trying to take care of a family as well.

"You have to be disciplined about schoolwork. My goal is to complete a Bachelor's degree this August, so I can apply for a commission," Sergeant Brown said.

Airman Butler also says one must take initiative and keep up with assignments.

"I am currently taking a Western Civilization distance learning class through GCCC to get my BS in Business Management," Airman Butler said. "I like it because I can do the work at my pace at home."

For active duty members, tuition costs are usually a big concern.

financial support as well.

The CTAP will fund up to 75 percent of instructional and laboratory fees, although there is a cap of \$3,500 per year per student, dependent on the availability of funds.

Command officials created this program in response to future mission needs, workforce shaping, and recruitment and retention initiatives.

Request forms and information on the CTAP are available at all on-base education centers.

"Take advantage of the programs that are available to you here," Sergeant Brown said.

"The base education center is probably the best place for anyone to make the first step of many steps toward your goal of higher education."

The center is open for walk-ins on Mondays from 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., and Thursdays from 7:30 a.m.-6 p.m.

Appointments are also available for counseling and testing.

For more information on the education center and its services, go to: www.tyndall.af.mil or call 283-4285 or 283-4286.

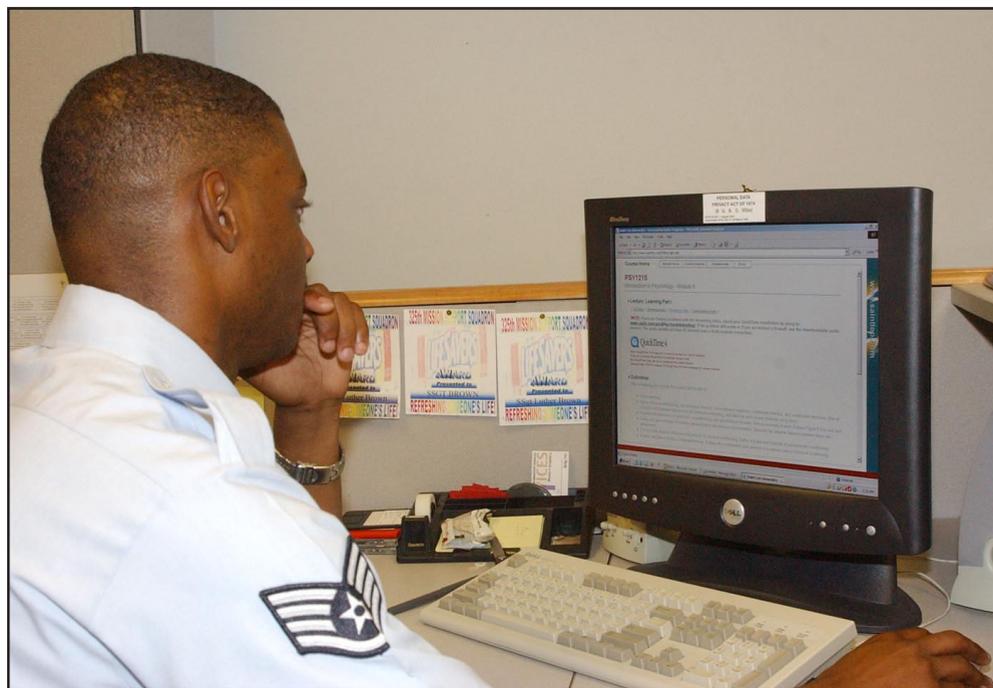


Photo by Christine Sullivan

Staff Sgt. Luther Brown, student and NCO in charge of the 325th Fighter Wing command section, accesses his distance learning class via the Internet.

Spiritual Fitness program gets souls in shape

CHRISTINE SULLIVAN
325th Fighter Wing public affairs

Quality of life, spiritual growth and empowerment, and a shoulder to lean on in troubled times are the mission priorities of Team Tyndall's chapel community, offering "First Class Spiritual Care."

For some in the Tyndall AFB community, the commitment of the clergy and staff of the 325th Fighter Wing chaplain's office has been a saving grace.

Care in the form of crisis intervention has made at least one chaplain glad he took the job. "Helping Air Force members through a crisis and returning them back to the mission is a reminder of my call to chaplaincy," said Chaplain (Maj.) Randall Kitchens, 325th FW Senior

Protestant Chaplain.

"One of the most important services we provide is first class spiritual care through visitation, counseling and religious rites," said Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Howard Ashford, 325th FW Chaplain. "That care has a direct impact on the personnel executing the mission."

The clergy unit offers singles ministry, children and youth ministries, and various adult groups as well as religious education and worship.

Chaplain (Maj.) Thomas Angelo, 325th FW Catholic Chaplain, says a recent altar server appreciation trip reinforced his call to chaplaincy. "Dealing with young families and military members reminds me why I chose this career path."

"In understanding the dif-

ficulties that face singles, youth and families in today's society, our commitment is to offer a healthy place to worship, learn, socialize, question and explore," Chaplain

"This cutting edge ministry provides an opportunity to minister in a pluralistic and interfaith environment."

CHAPLAIN (LT. COL.) HOWARD ASHFORD
325th Fighter Wing chaplain

Ashford said.

All Team Tyndall members are welcome at the various worship and education services that take place in two chapels on base. Chapel 1 faces Flag Park, near the Illinois Gate and Chapel 2 is located on Suwannee Road across from the Sand Dollar Inn.

Sunday school and

Christian formation classes meet in the Spiritual Fitness center in Building 1476, next to Chapel 2. A Jewish study room is also available in the Spiritual Fitness center.

The schedule for Protestant services includes a liturgical program at 9:30 a.m. on Sundays in Chapel 1, a general protestant service at 11 a.m. on Sundays in Chapel 2, and Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. in the Spiritual Fitness center from August through May.

Catholic services include daily mass at 11:30 a.m.

Mondays through Fridays in Chapel 2, a Saturday evening mass at 5 p.m. in Chapel 2, reconciliation before Saturday evening mass or by appointment, Sunday Mass at 9:30 a.m. in Chapel 2, and Christian formation at 10:40 a.m. on Sundays from September through May in the Spiritual Fitness center. You can contact the chapel directly for information on Holy Days services at 283-2925.

The ministries of the Chaplain Service team extend beyond the chapel walls to a flightline Spiritual Maintenance center located in Building 532. Spiritual Maintenance also houses the Airmen's center so flightline troops can relax and unwind.

Two unit chaplains have offices in the facility and

the Islamic Worship and Prayer Room is located in the center as well. For more information on the center's services, call 283-2367.

The unit clergy and staff maintain a close cooperation with on and off base worshiping communities and helping agencies as well.

For information regarding on-base services and off-base worship for Orthodox, Islamic, Jewish, Buddhist, and other faith groups, call 283-2925.

"This cutting edge ministry provides an opportunity to minister in a pluralistic and interfaith environment," Chaplain Ashford said. "It also provides an opportunity to minister in many communities around the world."

DO YOU KNOW WHO GETS YOUR SGLI?

2ND LT. SHAUN HUMPHREY
325th Fighter Wing legal office

Members of the armed forces carry a large responsibility on their shoulders. They are not only charged with protecting our beloved country, but ensuring that our loved ones are taken care of in the event they must pay the ultimate price for freedom.

Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance (SGLI) affords military personnel the ability to leave up to \$250,000 to their loved ones. Members may designate anyone to be a beneficiary, but many instead use the "by law" beneficiary designation.

Members should be aware that there are several problems that may arise from this common designation. The 1965 federal statute creating SGLI did not envision the use of "by law" designations. Only if the member has not designated a surviving beneficiary do the remaining provisions of this statute come into effect. Those provisions list a series of beneficiaries in order of precedence by degrees of relationship to the member. However, the member's understanding of terms like "parent" and "child" may not align with the statute or federal case law interpreting the statute. For example, federal courts limit the word "parents" to being the natural parents. A member's stepfather or stepmother, foster parents, or guardians are not recognized by the statute as "by law" beneficiaries. An actual case of a member who died on

active duty with "by law" as the beneficiary designation for SGLI had his benefits paid not to the foster parents who raised him, but to the drug-addicted natural mother who had abandoned him as a child. Members who have used the term "by law" to designate their beneficiaries should realize that there are possible risks with such a



designation. The common "by law" designation could

create a significant risk of delayed payments or payments made to unintended beneficiaries.

Designating specific beneficiaries will ensure benefits are paid according to your wishes. A direction to pay "John G. Smith" with the relationship indicated as "Stepfather" will block a challenge for benefits from a natural father who abandoned the member as a child. Similarly, naming children the member wishes to receive the SGLI precludes a challenge from an unnamed child. Members may designate beneficiaries as the children of the member's marriage to a named spouse and eliminate a challenge from an illegitimate child alleging paternity.

The specifically named beneficiary will prevail over an unnamed claimant. Furthermore, SGLI benefits are not controlled by your Last Will and Testament. Those benefits will be paid to that person or entity named on the election form, not according to your Will. Using a "by name" designation, members can ensure their benefits are paid to the intended party.

Members are urged to take some time to consider and name specific beneficiaries. A "by name" designation will eliminate potential problems and ensure benefits are paid to the intended party. Take the time to make sure your loved one's future is financially secure and your benefits distributed according to your wishes. For more information regarding the designation of beneficiaries, please contact your base legal office.

Consumer credit scams, ways to protect yourself

JEFF PHILLIPS

325th Fighter Wing legal office

For the past few years, false e-mails regarding consumer credit information have been floating around. Many members of the Air Force community have received or forwarded these e-mails.

The e-mails state that a new law allows the release of a person's credit information, address and phone number to anyone who requests it. This is not true. Federal law prohibits consumer credit agencies from releasing any non-public information to just anyone without a legitimate business need.

The new law that did take effect in 2001 stated that financial institutions such as banks, insurance companies and brokerage firms are not allowed to release your non-public information unless they have your consent.

The toll-free number found in one popular e-mail is an actual working number. It does

provide a valuable service to consumers. The number allows people to remove their name (opt-out) from mailing lists for such things as pre-approved offers for credit cards. This may be especially beneficial to military members and their families whose mail may not be forwarded to their next duty station and don't want pre-approved credit card applications falling into the wrong hands.

Another consumer service that will soon be provided is a "Do Not Call" registry.

Beginning in July, consumers will be able to put their names on a national "Do Not Call" list. This service will reduce the number of phone calls you will receive from telemarketers. Once a person's name is on

the list, telemarketers will be on notice that that person does not want to receive any telemarketing calls. People must renew their name on the list every five years, or every time they receive a new phone number. Telemarketers could be fined up to \$11,000 per call to any number on the list. More information is available on the registry at the Federal Trade Commission Web page www.ftc.gov/donotcall.

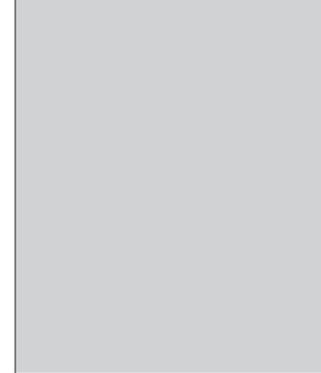
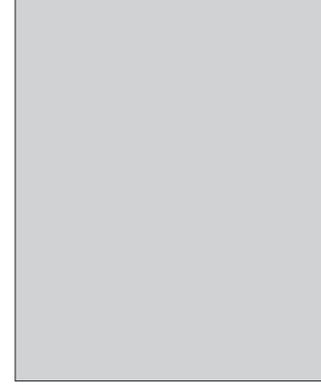
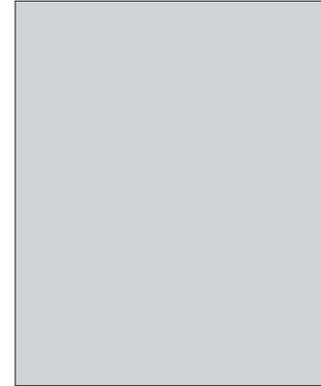
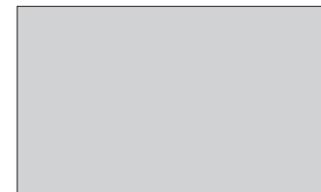
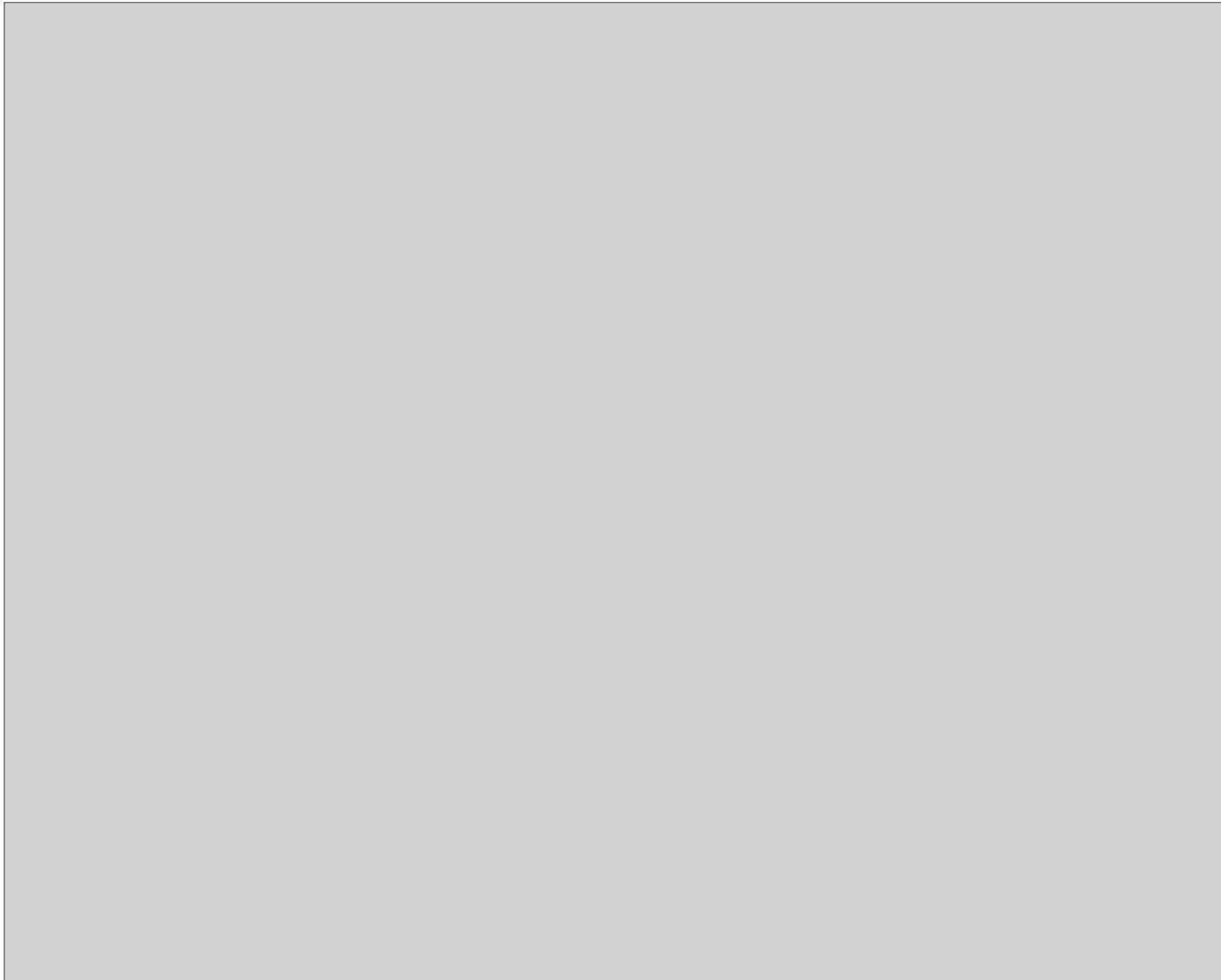
There is, however, a scam associated with this service as well. Private companies are using the Internet and the telephone to offer pre-registration on the list for a fee. There is absolutely no pre-registration offered for the list. There are also no fees associated with the list. The only way

to get your name on the list is to register at no charge with the Federal Trade Commission.

In addition to collecting an unnecessary fee from the consumer, the con artist could also use the personal information to run up debt under the consumer's name or steal that person's identity.

You can protect yourself by not giving out any bank account or credit card information, and Social Security Number by phone or e-mail unless you know exactly whom you are dealing with. A good rule of thumb is to *not* give out personal information when you *did not* originate the call.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding identity theft, please contact the legal office at 283-4681 or visit our homepage at www.tyndall.af.mil/325FW/JA/homepage.htm.



AF simplifies travel-payment processing via Internet

STAFF SGT. A.J. BOSKER

Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — The Air Force has automated the process of filing travel-accrual payment requests for military travelers, making it available on the Virtual Military Personnel Flight Web page.

“This should simplify the process not only for the traveler but also deployed and home-station financial services offices,” said Chief Master Sgt. Larry Gonzales, executive for enlisted matters to the assistant secretary of the Air Force for financial management and comptroller at the Pentagon.

According to Chief Gonzales, the result is better customer service for the traveler while reducing the workload for deployed financial services office workers and improving payment accountability for home-station offices.

In the past, travelers who incurred charges en route to their temporary duty or deployment location had to fill out an accrual-payment worksheet and provide it to their home station financial services office, he said.

Many travelers often had to rely on assistance from deployed financial services offices

“They (Ramstein Air Base, Germany, finance officials) created a Web-based system to help their deployed members file their travel accrual-payment requests. We liked their idea and wanted to implement it Air Force-wide.”

CHIEF MASTER SGT. LARRY GONZALES

Executive for enlisted matters to the assistant secretary of the Air Force for financial management and comptroller at the Pentagon

to fax or e-mail the worksheet back to their home-station office for processing, he said.

“Because of technological challenges in some deployed locations, deployed finance offices often had to have one person fully dedicated to just faxing accrual-payment worksheets back to home stations,” the chief explained.

Even when the lines were working, Chief Gonzales said there were no guarantees that the home-station financial services offices, because of the difference in time zones, received the worksheets. The traveler often had to return to the deployed office or try to call their home station to find out if their accrual-payment request was successfully received and processed.

The new secure Web-based process on vMPF is much more convenient, he said.

Travelers can now complete their worksheet when they want and on any computer with internet access, Chief Gonzales said. Once it has been sent, the traveler can rest assured that their home-station financial services office received and processed their request and issued the accrual payment. The payment can be made to the traveler’s account or to their government travel card as directed.

“Although filling out the worksheet on vMPF is the preferred way for travelers to submit their accrual worksheets, because of real-world limitations, worksheets can still be faxed or sent via e-mail,” the chief explained.

The Air Force had been struggling for a while to find a way to improve the travel-accrual payment process for travelers, Chief Gonzales said. There was not a quick solution in sight until Air Force finance officials heard about what officials at Ramstein Air Base, Germany, had developed.

“They created a Web-based system to help their deployed members file their travel accrual-payment requests,” he said. “We liked their idea and wanted to implement it Air Force-wide.”

People from the Air Force Personnel Center at Randolph Air Force Base, Texas, were able to help, he said.

“Three weeks after telling AFPC what we wanted, the travel-accrual worksheet was available under vMPF for deployed and airmen (on temporary duty) to use worldwide,” Chief Gonzales said.

Although the Web-based process of submitting travel-accrual worksheets is currently limited to only military travelers, Air Force officials are working to offer the same service to civilians through the Virtual Civilian Personnel Flight Web site, he said.

**Your link
to what's going on**

Gulf Guide

**in the
Tyndall community**

JUNE

**FRI
6**

Change of command

A 325th Medical Operations Squadron change of command ceremony is 3 p.m. today at the Tyndall Officers' Club. The public is invited to attend. For more information, call Capt. Jeffrey Cook or Lisa Ramstad, 283-7710 or 283-7518.

Contracting squadron closure

The 325th Contracting Squadron will close at 11:30 a.m. today for a squadron function. Normal operating hours will resume on Monday. In the event of an emergency, call 774-1151 or 774-1152.

**MON
9**

Anger-management workshop

The four-session anger-management workshop will continue 10:30 a.m.-noon Monday, June 16 and 23 in the family advocacy conference room in Building 1305. For more information, call family advocacy, 283-7511.

**TUE
10**

Children's weight class

The health and wellness center's sensible weigh class for children meets 3:30-4:30 p.m. every Tuesday in Room 111. For more information, call the health and wellness center, 283-3826.

Black heritage committee meeting

The Tyndall Black Heritage Committee will meet 11 a.m. Tuesday in the community activities center. The committee meets the second Tuesday of every month. New members and participants are always welcome.

**WED
11**

Comptroller squadron manning

The 325th Comptroller Squadron will be minimally manned Wednesday for a squadron function. Everyone is asked to plan accordingly. Any questions should be directed to Senior Master Sgt. Raymond Graber, 283-8288.

Parenting workshop

An effective parenting workshop will be 1-3 p.m. Wednesday, June 18 and 25 in Room 127 in Building 1305. For more information, call family advocacy, 283-7511.

**FRI
13**

Capella University visit

A Capella University representative will be visiting the Tyndall Education Center 11 a.m.-1 p.m. June 13 in Room 26. Interested individuals are invited to stop by and find out about the various online programs that are available. For more information, call the education center, 283-4285.

NOTES

Pass and registration office closure

Effective Monday, pass and registration will be closed 12:30-1:30 p.m. Monday-Friday. For more information, call Staff Sgt. Edward Branagan, 283-4191.

myPay service

The myPay service, an online program that provides a secure way to manage pay account information, is open to all active-duty, Guard and Reserve airmen, civilian employees, retirees and other beneficiaries. With myPay, users can view, print or save Leave and Earning Statements or elect to turn off receiving a paper LES; view and print tax statements; change federal and state tax withholdings; update bank account and electronic fund transfer information; make address changes; and enroll or update Thrift Savings Plan information. Customers can elect to turn off the print copy of their LES and check it online. The Defense Department saves up to 34 cents for each LES that is delivered electronically instead of in hard copy. The "Need a New PIN" option is now available to non-appropriated fund civilian employees. To access the myPay online service or set up a new account, go to <https://mypay.dfas.mil/mypay.asp>.

Military scholarships

Gulf Coast Community College is awarding military scholarships to active-duty students demonstrating academic excellence. The deadline for the application is July 1. Anyone interested may call 283-4332 or visit Room 45-A of the Tyndall Education Center for more information.

Pre-separation and retirement counseling

All transitioning personnel are reminded of the requirement to schedule a one-on-one pre-separation counseling session at the family support center's transition office. This is a mandatory requirement established by public law. Personnel should schedule appointments at least 90 days prior to their separation or retirement. For more information or to make an appointment, call the family support center, 283-4205.

GCCC registration

The Tyndall Education Center's Gulf Coast Community College office is continuing to register students for summer and fall classes. The term dates are as follows: Summer A term – in session through June 21; Summer B term – June 23-Aug. 2; Fall term - Aug. 20-Dec. 19. For more information, call the education center, 283-4332.

RETIREE NEWS

Combat-related special compensation update

The Air Force Personnel Center at Randolph Air Force Base has called on its Contact Center staff to assist Air Force retirees who have questions on the Combat-Related Special Compensation program. The local phone number in the San Antonio area is (210) 565-5000; the DSN number for those with access to the military line is 665-5000. Retirees outside the San Antonio area may call toll free (866) 229-7074. Retirees with computers and Internet capability can download the form along with the application procedures from: <https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/crsc/>.

The CRSC, part of Public Law 107-313 eliminating the disability offset to retired pay for a small number of retirees, became effective Sunday. Eligible under the law are those retirees with at least 20 years of active duty and (a) any disability rating (at least 10 percent) that is associated with a Purple Heart or (b) a disability rating of 60 percent or higher that was due to a combat-related injury.

Volunteers needed

There is a current need for volunteers in many work centers at Tyndall that service and provide assistance to retirees as well as active-duty personnel. As little as four hours a week can make a difference. For more information, call the family support center, 283-4204, or Ms. Tarrant in the same office at 283-2737.

The Tyndall AFB Retiree Activities Office has a Web site containing valuable information and links of interest to retirees. Log onto the site at: www.tyndall.af.mil and click on "Retiree," or stop by the office in Room 245 of Building 662. The office is open from 9 a.m.-noon Monday through Friday.

YARD SALES

There are no yard sales scheduled for Saturday.

CHAPEL SCHEDULE

The following Catholic services will be held at Chapel 2: Daily Mass, 11:30 a.m. Monday-Friday; Reconciliation, after Saturday Mass or by appointment; Saturday Mass, 5 p.m.; Sunday Mass, 9:30 a.m.; religious education, 11 a.m. Sunday. Protestant services will be as follows: Communion service, 9:30 a.m., Chapel 1; religious education classes, 9:30-10:30 a.m. in Building 1476; general Protestant service, 11 a.m., Chapel 2.

Tyndall hosts annual spearfishing competition

STEVE RIDDLE

325th Services Squadron Marketing

Spearfish enthusiasts from the local area, neighboring states and as far away as Michigan will be here next weekend for the 33rd Annual Panama City Open Spearfishing Tournament.

The Tyndall Dive Club, part of Beacon Beach Marina Club, will host this year's event at the marina June 13 - 15. Registration begins Thursday, with a mandatory safety meeting immediately following. For the tournament, divers can go as far east as Sikes Cut at Apalachicola Bay, west to the Destin Pass, and south to a depth of 130 ft.

The chairman for this year's event, Frank Mancinelli, has been in charge of several spearfishing tournaments in the past and he said this year's event was going to be as safe as it is enjoyable.

"While the idea is to do the tournament to have fun, we also want to do it safe," Mancinelli explained. "We want it to be recreational, but there are certain things we do to make it safe too."

Those things include making sure each diver is current on all certifications, their tanks and other equipment has been recently inspected, and that they have a current fishing license. All divers must also have a buoyancy compensator and

must load and unload all spearfishing guns in the water.

The tournament begins June 13 at 6 a.m., and ends June 15 at 1 p.m. The categories for this year's tournament are Amberjack, Barracuda, Cobia or Ling, Flounder, Grouper, Snapper, Sheepshead, Triggerfish, and Shovelnose Lobster.

There are also categories for shell, photography, team competition, and a king and queen category for the best individual men's and women's scores.

Mancinelli said the scales to weigh fish would open 5 p.m. Friday, and the excitement will start building then.

"Once the scales open, a crowd of people will be there watching," he said. Leaders' names will be posted for each category.

The board is updated Saturday after the scales close at 8 p.m. Each diver sees how they stand in the competition, and knows what they have to do on their

final day.

Nearly 100 divers are expected to compete in the tournament, but the biggest part of the event will be Sunday afternoon, when the crowd of both participants and spectators is expected to swell to more than 400. It's the final day of the competition and final weigh-ins, but it's also the biggest fish-fry of the year.

"The fish that are brought in and cleaned are the fish we serve Sunday at the Sunday fish fry," Mancinelli explained.

Although it is a competition, fish,

lobsters, shells and photographs aren't the only things that divers have brought up with them over the years, Mancinelli said.

"Last year we had one of the divers find a \$2,000 Rolex," he recalled. "And it was working fine."

Mancinelli said divers have also brought back fishing poles and other

gear dropped over the side of some boat.

According to some people who have been coming to this event for years, there is more reason to be there than just the chance to compete or to find some sunken treasure.

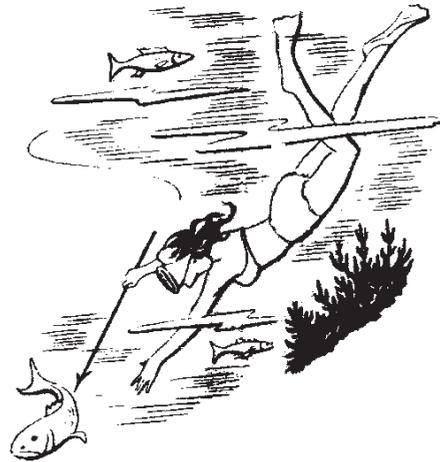
"It's more for camaraderie - that's the reason," said Bob Bates, Tyndall's Natural Resources chief, and a long-time diver and spearfisherman.

"A bunch of people have been coming to the tournament every year for a long time, and it's become a yearly get-together."

According to Bates, the tournament started back in the late 1960's, and was hosted by the Panama City Dive Club. That club folded, and there was no tournament that year. The Tyndall Dive Club proposed bringing the tournament to the base, and it has happened ever since, except for the year Hurricane Opal caused a cancellation.

"In the early days, the farthest we had people come from was Mobile, Ala.," Bates recalled. "You had the group from Mobile, Pensacola, Fort Walton, and here. Now we have people coming from Michigan and other places. There are a lot of divers now."

For more information on marina activities, call John Knight at 286-9911.



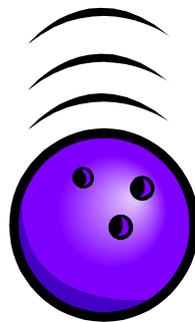
End of season bowling tournament

STEVE RIDDLE

325th Services Squadron marketing

Tim Sambrano held off a hard-charging Dave Penninger, along with 34 other contestants, to win the End of Season handicap Bowling Tournament May 31 at Raptor Lanes Bowling Center.

Sambrano scored 240 to Penninger's 234 to claim first place. Cyrus Medetros took third and Scott Chandler took home fourth place honors.



Sambrano's win came as a surprise to many, including himself. He said that not only had he never bowled in any type of tournament before, had never even picked up a bowling ball before August of last year.

"I just started bowling," the native of Oahu, Hawaii, admitted.

He also said he's not about to quit now.

"I'm just going to keep having fun with it," he said.



Steve Riddle

AETC golf tourney slated July 13-18

STEVE RIDDLE

325th Services Squadron marketing

Dan Moses drives a shot from the Pelican Point Golf Course's ninth tee during the 2003 Base Golf Championship May 18. The two-day tournament not only decided who would have golf course bragging rights, but determined who would represent Tyndall AFB at this year's AETC tournament July 13 - 18 at Maxwell AFB. Moses qualified along with Jeff Cook for the Men's Regular Division. Don Williams and Julio Morelos picked up the Senior's Division spots. Only active-duty personnel are eligible to represent Tyndall AFB at the AETC event.

Keith Wyatt won the overall championship, but it took him an extra hole to do it. A hard-charging Oscar Flores made up a two-stroke deficit on the final day to force the tournament into sudden death play, but Wyatt came out on top by one stroke.



Funshine NEWS



June 6, 2003

325th Services Website: www.325thservices.com

Here's What's Happening at the Tyndall Officers' Club

All Ranks Lunch

Mon.-Thurs.: \$6.95 ■ Friday: \$7.95
11 a.m.-1 p.m.

Unlimited access to the daily buffet, salad bar,
fountain soda, tea & coffee!

Includes Fresh Hot Carved Meat
Sandwiches on Kaiser Roll

Monday	Chef's Choice
Tuesday	Italian
Wednesday	Oriental
Thursday	All American
Friday	Seafood

*Members, show your club card to receive a \$1 discount!

On Base Food Delivery

■ **Lunch Menu:** Mon.-Fri. 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
Limited to office deliveries (i.e. squadron addresses)

■ **Evening Menu:** Fri. & Sat. 5:30-9 p.m.

Subs & Pizzas
286-2900

AF Club Scholarship

Six scholarships will be awarded to AF Club
members or their eligible family members.

First place is \$6,000

Information packages with complete instruc-
tions and requirements are available from the
Tyndall Officers' Club business office.

Entry deadline is July 15.

283-4357
for more information.



Sponsored in part by:

First USA Bank, Coca Cola and Master Card.
No federal endorsement of sponsor intended.

Seafood Extravaganza

Featuring:

Snow Crab Station
Peel & Eat Shrimp Station
Oysters on the 1/2 Shell Station
Beef Carving Station
Variety of Selected Fish
Breaded Shrimp & Scallops
Seafood Newberg
Clam Chowder
Mashed Potatoes w/ Gravy
Steamed Rice
Hush Puppies
Vegetables
Assorted Desserts

Friday
June 6th
5:30-8:30 p.m.

Market Price: \$18.95*
Children ages 6-11: \$9.95*
5 & Under: \$4.95*

*Members First!
Show your club card
to receive a \$3 discount.



For details call:
283-4357

Raptor Lanes Bowling Center Summer Play & Save

40 games for \$30

20 games for \$15

Not valid during Cosmic Bowling.



Call 283-2380
for more
information.

Tyndall 2003 Heritage Day Celebration

Heritage Park • July 2, 4-10 p.m.
Live Entertainment, Food,
Kids Activities and Fireworks

All-You-Can-Eat Pancakes at the Marina Club

Every Sunday

Members: \$2.50

Non-members: \$3.50

283-3059



Raptor Lanes Bowling Center

May 22 - Aug. 14

Purchase a large fountain drink and
receive a game piece. Participants may
win instant prizes. Participants who fill out
the attached entry form are also entered
to win the NASCAR racing hood replica on
display at the bowling center, and could
win the grand prize NASCAR VIP trip.

283-2380

Youth Center

☎ 283-4366

Volleyball Clinic

The Youth Center is currently taking
sign-ups for a volleyball clinic June 16-
20 for ages 10-16 yrs. Cost for the
class is \$10.

AETC Youth Golf Clinic

Open to youth 6-17 yrs. old. Learn the
fundamentals of golf in a group
environment. Multiple sessions being
offered. Call for more information.

Youth Golf League

Enjoy team competition in a fun
environment. League runs June-July.
Cost is \$30 and includes hat, shirt and
golf balls. Call for details.

Youth Soccer

Soccer registration for U10 ages 8 & 9
yrs., U12 ages 10 & 11 yrs. will be
until June 28. This is due to the
BCYSA/FSA signup deadline. NO
EXCEPTIONS!

Base Pool



■ Open Swim, Wed. - Sun. 11:30 a.m.- 6:30 p.m.
■ Lap Swim: Tues.-Fri.: 6-7:30 a.m.
Wed.-Fri.: 11-11:30 a.m., 5-6 p.m.

Youth Swim Lessons

Session II: June 10-20; Register by June 2.
Lessons are \$45 per student, per session.
Infant, Toddler, Preschool, Levels I, II, III, IV, V,
VI, VII and Adult classes are available this
session.

Session III: June 24 - July 3; Register by
June 16; Infant, Toddler, Preschool, Levels I,
II, III, IV, V, VI, VII & Guard Start are available
this session.

Water Aerobic Classes

■ **Burn Baby Burn**
Mondays: 9-10 a.m., 11 a.m.-12 p.m. &
6-7 p.m.
Tuesdays: 11 a.m.-12 p.m.
Thursdays: 6-7 p.m.
■ **Easy Does It:** Tuesdays: 6-7 p.m.

Pool Prices

Entry fee is \$1 per person.

■ **Seasonal Pass:** \$35 per person, or
maximum of \$50 per family.
■ **Punch Pass:** \$20 for 30 punches
All guests must be accompanied by ID holder.

Marina Club

☎ 283-3059

Friday Seafood Buffet

All-You-Can-Eat, \$6.50, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

Pontoon Boat Rental

1/2 Day: \$65, All day: \$95. Closest
pontoon boat rental to Shell Island.

Best Salad Bar on Base

Tues.-Thurs., 11 a.m.-1 p.m. All-you-can-eat.

All-You-Can-Eat Pancakes

Every Sunday, 7:30-10 a.m.

Best Salad Bar on Base

Tues.-Thurs., 11 a.m.-1 p.m., \$3.75

Scuba Lessons

PADI Open water certification: \$175.

Fishing Charters

\$75 per operating hour. 4 hour minimum.
5 people maximum.

Cook Your Own Steak

Tues., 5-7:30 p.m., also all you can eat
salad bar.

Community Activities Center

Calling all Surf
Puppies!



Beginners

Surfing Classes For Youth & Adults

Learn basic surfing skills. June 21 &
28: 1 - 3 p.m. at NCO Beach. Cost:
\$40 per person. All equipment
provided. Participants MUST have
basic swimming skills. Space is limited.

283-2495

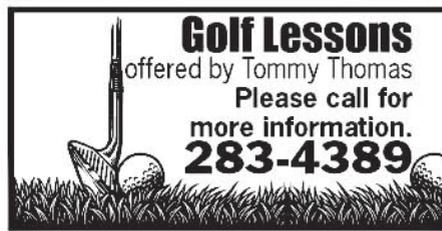
Golf Lessons

offered by Tommy Thomas

Please call for

more information.

283-4389



● FROM MENTOR PAGE 3

I also learned through their stories that serving and protecting our country selflessly are the biggest rewards many of these people have received. Sure, they've gotten awards and decorations, but ultimately what made the impression on them was the ultimate joy they saw from the many people they've helped throughout the world.

In contrast, I have also had people in charge of me who made me want to leave the Air Force. They made me feel like it was the worst place in the world for me to be. Every day I would hear them say how much they hated their jobs or make comments like "four more years and I'll be through."

I was lucky, though, when I arrived here. I found out I was working with great people who didn't treat me like a child and allowed me to use my limited job knowledge to grow and learn more about my job and the Air Force. They showed me every day what the "real Air Force" was like.

I want to thank those around me who have taken the time to talk with me and mentor me. These people have listened and watched out for me. If I didn't understand, they explained it clearly. If I needed help, they assisted me.

Please keep letting your troops know the Air Force is a wonderful place. If there is something going on in your life, please don't take it out on the younger airmen or give them the impression from your feelings that the Air Force treats people badly or doesn't help them — it's not fair to us.

And again, thank you to those who help us and make us feel welcome in our new world.

(Courtesy of Air Combat Command News Service)

● FROM SYSTEM PAGE 4

to capitalize on the more than two decades worth of pilot projects the department has sponsored to increase workplace flexibility and reward top-notch employees.

"The task of fighting the global war on terrorism certainly forces us to recognize that the time has come to bring those same kind of innovative practices to the work of the Department of Defense," he said.

Part of the reform package would allow DOD officials to turn over about 320,000 jobs now being performed by military people to civil-service or contractor employees.

"This is 2.5 times the number of troops in Iraq when Baghdad fell," he said.

Managers use servicemembers in these jobs because it is easier than navigating the civil-service bureaucracy. He said these 320,000 servicemembers in civilian jobs is an unnecessary strain on uniformed troops. He said it is

not right, especially when DOD officials are calling up the Reserve components and invoking the stop-loss program.

It is also demoralizing for civilian employees, Secretary Rumsfeld said. DOD civilians want their skills to be used in a crisis, but this does not happen because of the outdated rules that make it difficult to move people.

"For example in Operation Iraqi Freedom, 83 percent of civilians in theater were contractors," he said. "Only 17 percent were civilian federal workers. The complex web of rules and regulations prevents us from moving DOD civilians to new tasks quickly. So managers turn to military or contractors instead of civil-service civilians."

DOD officials also have a problem hiring new workers. He said private firms can size up a prospect at a job fair and offer them the job immediately.

"When DOD (officials interview) the same people, all we can do is offer them a ream of paper-

work and promise to get back to them in three to five months," he said. "It should not be surprising that the most talented folks end up working someplace other than the DOD."

The bureaucracy manifests itself in strange ways. DOD officials must deal with more than a thousand local unions. The secretary said one example of the inefficiency of this is with abuse of government credit cards.

"With military personnel, we can garnish their wages and recover the stolen funds," he said. "Not so with civilian personnel. In fact, DOD (officials have) been negotiating now for more than two years with more than 1,300 separate union locals for the right to garnish wages of those who use government credit cards for personal purchases — and we still have 30 more unions to go."

Secretary Rumsfeld's proposed changes would allow department officials to negotiate with national offices instead of locals.

