

GULF DEFENDER



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Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla. *Gulf Defender*

March 7, 2003

In brief

Hunters allowed to remove tree stands

Due to Force Protection Conditions, hunters who have not been allowed to retrieve their tree stands from the West Hunt Unit can now do so. Arrangements have been made with security forces to allow hunters with tree stands to retrieve them from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. this weekend **only** (March 8-9). After checking through Sabre Gate, hunters **must** check in at the West End check station on Boy Scout Road. Upon checking in, hunters will be allowed to retrieve their stands. For more information, call natural resources at 283-2822.

Web site caution

The Web site NACEC.org claims to provide emergency notifications in order to support military families. NACEC.org requests the servicemember's name, address, Social Security Number and family member information. The site is not sponsored by the U.S. government and should not be trusted. Any information provided to this site could be used for identity theft, intelligence gathering by foreign nations or terrorists and could pose a threat to servicemembers, their families and their privacy.

Inside

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2nd Lt. Albert Bosco

Getting ready for takeoff

An Air Force student navigator (front seat) and his Navy instructor/pilot (back seat) perform final cockpit preparations prior to taxiing their Navy T-34C Mentor for a training sortie at NAS Pensacola. The Air Force's Navy tie is featured on Page 9.

AF at 75 percent deployment-capable rate

MASTER SGT. SCOTT ELLIOTT
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — In just more than a year, the number of “deployable” airmen has increased to nearly 75 percent of all Air Force members.

That increase reflects a growth of nearly 100,000 in just the past year.

The increase in deployment rolls is not because more people joined the service. According to Maj. Gen. Timothy Peppe, special assistant for air and space expeditionary forces at the Pentagon, it was simply a matter of Air Force people working very hard on the problem.

“It’s Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John Jumper’s vision that we should maximize the number of Air

Force positions available for deployment,” General Peppe said.

According to General Peppe, commanders and career field functional area managers at both major command and Air Force levels examined each position in their fields to determine deployability. The managers then built the unit type codes, commonly referred to as UTCs, which posture each position.

Only people in select career fields or positions are exempt from deployment. Those groups include people in scheduled “pipeline” training, many instructors, ROTC staff members, recruiters, the space cadre, missile crews and missile security professionals.

The increase, General Peppe said, came from MAJCOMs, Air

Force headquarters staff, direct reporting units and field operating agencies, and they covered all career fields to some degree.

“Most of this increased deployment capability is in ‘associate unit type codes,’ so they’re not primary deployers,” General Peppe said. “But the bottom line is we have them (ready), and we have their specialties and positions cataloged. They’ve been put in an AEF, and if we have a need for a particular Air Force specialty code, the AEF Center at Langley Air Force Base, Va., has the means to find them.”

While the service has identified 269,000 deployment positions, the general said that there is not always a person available to deploy in the required specialty.

“It goes back to our career-field shortages and the skills-mix issues we have in the Air Force,” General Peppe said. “We have some career fields with shortages, but it takes time to realign manpower authorizations to our relatively new expeditionary posture, and then recruit and train personnel in these specialties. That’s part of the rebalancing act we’ve been dealing with.”

According to General Peppe, the increase is significant because greater numbers help meet the needs of combatant commanders and spreads the “pain” of deployment over a broader population.

“This allows us to have about 75 percent of the Air Force (ready) for deployment,” General Peppe said.

Award winners lauded, ORI prep begins

BRIG. GEN. LARRY NEW

325th Fighter Wing commander



This is a great time of year for a couple of important reasons. Our weather starts improving in Florida, and the outstanding

work that Team Tyndall members do each day is recognized. Last week the 325th Fighter Wing Maintenance Professionals of the Year were announced. The competition was tough, as always, and the achievements cited during the ceremony reflect the caliber of all maintenance professionals at Tyndall. For a complete run down of winners, see the story on Page 10.

Also announced recently were the Air Education and Training Command Airfield Operations Awards. Tyndall Airfield Operations was named Air Field Operations Flight Complex of the Year; Capt. Keith Yester was named Colonel Derrel L. Dempsey Officer of the Year; Airman 1st Class Nekisha Roache was named Airfield Management Airman of the Year; and



“Although it’s still five months away, the planning and preparation work (for the Operational Readiness Inspection) should be well under way.”

BRIG. GEN. LARRY NEW

325th Fighter Wing commander

Staff Sgt. James Chrivia was awarded the Airfield Management Training Achievement Award. I appreciate the hard work of the entire Airfield Management team in the Checkertail Clan, and wish the individual award winners the best at the Air Force competition.

Last but not least in our list of award winners this week are the folks who work diligently to keep our finances in order, the 325th Comptroller Squadron. AETC believes this too, awarding the unit with the Best Financial Services Office Award, Special Acts and Services Award, and individually naming Lt. Col. William Paulk as Comptroller of the Year; and Ms.

Marcheta Siegas, Financial Analysis Civilian of the Year. To all the men and women in the 325th CPTS, thanks for your outstanding support of Team Tyndall and congratulations on being recognized as the command’s finest.

In July, we’ll get another opportunity to validate and prove just how good we are when the AETC Inspector General Team visits us. Although it’s still five months away, the planning and preparation work should be well under way. At this point in the preparation stage, units should be fine-tuning and polishing your already noteworthy programs. Lt. Col. Steven Kotan is in

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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

Air Expeditionary Force rotations: Bending, but not broken

MAJ. GEN. TIMOTHY PEPPE

Special assistant for air and space expeditionary forces

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — The air and space expeditionary forces concept survives, but both it and our airmen are being stressed to the limit.

Increased operations and the potential for more are placing demands on our armed forces like never before. In our Air Force, these demands exceed current steady-state requirements in operations Northern Watch and Southern Watch and in Bosnia. AEF 7 and 8 airmen are frozen in place, and some airmen in AEFs 9 and 10 have been tagged way ahead of schedule.

But despite these pressures, the AEF concept will survive.

The AEFs were created as an organizational and scheduling mechanism designed to spread Air Force capabilities across the force, and to produce scheduling predictability for our airmen.

The idea was to rotate airmen through these commitments on a 90-day cycle once every 15 months or so. Knowing when they were in a training mode or when they were on call well in advance allowed airmen to plan their professional and personal lives around these obligations. This new AEF organizational “construct” was maturing well when world events caused the demand for Air Force capabilities to increase dramatically.

Today, because of the global war on terrorism, Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Noble Eagle and other possible contingencies, the pressure on the Air Force has caused us to adjust procedures to meet the challenge.

AEF can function in two types of environments: steady-state and crisis. A single on-call AEF pairing (for example, AEFs 1 and 2) can meet steady-state requirements.

Crisis response requires resources beyond those available in a single “on-call” pair. This allows the Air Force to respond to any situation our leaders deem appropriate

to achieve our national security objectives.

The rotational AEF construct was designed to support limited-scale requirements, and three-month rotations of one AEF pair became the definition of steady-state. A situation demanding more than one AEF pair places the AEF into a “crisis” mode, whereby the AEF flexes, as necessary, to meet increased requirements. One of the measures available is to “reach forward” to the next, most available AEF pair or pairs before they would otherwise come up on the schedule.

Our Air Force currently operates at a much higher tempo than when AEFs were first devised. Many people are serving tours in excess of 135 days, i.e. mobility, special operations, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance, and other stressed career fields.

Current demands are also pulling forces from more than one AEF pair. The procedures for meeting this challenge

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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.

● FROM AEF PAGE 2

require forces to be drawn from the pairs closest to their vulnerability zone, typically done by exhausting forces from the previous AEF pair and/or dipping into the next AEF pair.

Senior Air Force leaders have initiated several short- and long-term solutions that will alleviate some of the strains placed upon our stressed career fields. These include retraining, reallocation of new airmen into

different training pipelines, increasing the number of career field authorizations and changing the way we determine our manpower requirements.

Although we face changing AEF rotation timing, we make every effort to preserve the AEF sequence. This gives the Air Force the ability to sustain operations over the long term. When the world situation changes and requirements for Air Force capabilities lessen, the Air

Force will return to a more normalized three-month AEF battle rhythm.

The AEF system is bending, but it's not broken. And it's that ability to bend — or flex — that makes our Air Force and our airmen the best in the world. Our enormous ability to adapt to an incredibly wide array of options is why the U.S. Air Force is, more often than not, called on to be the first responder to national security challenges around the globe.

● FROM ORI PAGE 2

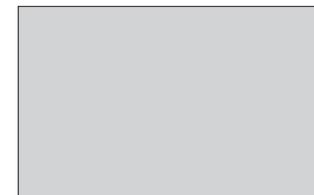
charge of the ORI Preparations team and can answer any questions you might have. His team will be visiting units and checking our compliance with Air Force and AETC instructions. Put the effort in now to ensure your areas are ready for this extremely important inspection.

I mentioned before that it's nice to have warm weather returning, although sometimes it's sporadic. Nevertheless, spring-like weather brings two things back; water sports and spring-breakers. If your outdoor water sport activities include boating, I encourage you to take a boater's safety course. This course is mandatory if you intend to rent from the Outdoor Recreation office at Bonita Bay. Boating, water-skiing, swimming, fishing and all other water sports are fun and relaxing, but they do carry some risk. Know the risks, and take measures to manage them to an acceptable level.

Next, I'd like to discuss Spring Break. Where some people may see the negatives to include the increased traffic, increased crowds and such, I see an opportunity. Thousands of America's young people will invade our beautiful beaches, and these are thousands of potential recruits. Therefore, since I know many of you will meet or come into contact with them, be the best possible recruiter and ambassador for the Air Force that you can. Our core values — Integrity First, Service Before Self, and Excellence In All We Do — apply on and off duty. So, enjoy sharing your Air Force experience with our visitors, and the opportunity to meet new people while living our core values; they'll be impressed. As always, be safe and have a great week!

March is National Nutrition Month

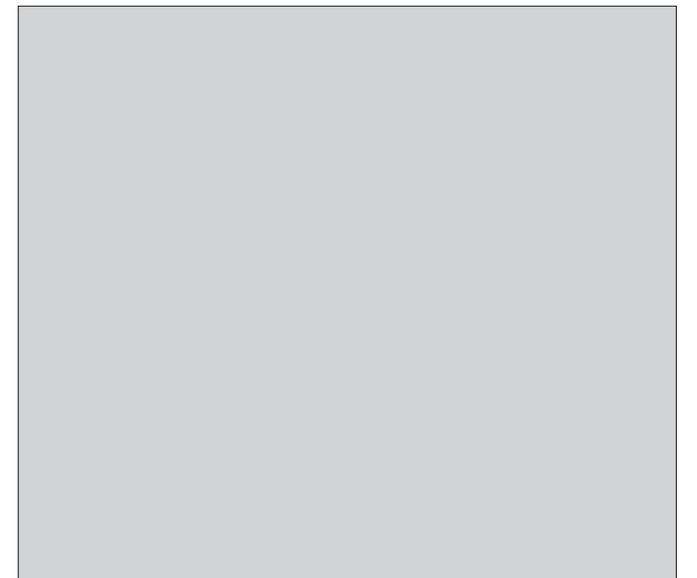
Today, Americans eat about 148 more calories per day than they did 20 years ago. These extra calories could add up to a 15-pound weight gain in one year. Many people think that carbohydrates or fat are the enemies when it comes to weight control. Not so!! The battle of the bulge revolves around the fact that we're eating more calories and burning fewer calories through regular physical activity.



Help Us Conserve



YOU HAVE the POWER.



Raptor system program director visits Team Tyndall, shares insight

SENIOR MASTER SGT. ROB FULLER

325th Fighter Wing public affairs

The F/A-22 beddown process at Tyndall continues to move forward with facilities rising from the ground and training programs taking shape. Col. Thomas Owen, the F/A-22 System Program Director, visited the Tyndall F/A-22 operations and shared his insight into the program, Feb. 27-28.

"I think Tyndall (F/A-22 beddown) is coming along great," Colonel Owen said. "Tyndall has approached the beddown the right way, working with the system program office, Headquarters Air Education and Training Command, as well as both Lockheed Martin and Boeing Corporation. From the attitude that I've picked up here at Tyndall, the transition from supporting the F-15 Eagle to supporting the F/A-22 Raptor will be right in step with what Tyndall maintainers and operators have done in the past."

As director of the multibillion dollar F/A-22 acquisition program, Colonel Owen leads a government and industry team chartered to design, build, test and deploy the F/A-22 Raptor.

"We recently stood up the F/A-22 operations at Nellis AFB under Air Combat Command," Colonel Owen said, "where they will explore the tactical uses of the F/A-22. At Tyndall, though, the team here will play a critical role of training the initial cadre of pilots and maintainers, as well as the continuing pipeline that will be as-



Courtesy photo

F/A-22s fly above the California landscape.

signed to Langley AFB as the first operational combat-coded unit for the F/A-22."

"Tyndall has a great history of providing that foundation of training to the F-15 force and I know they will transition with style and grace to fulfilling that role for the F/A-22 Raptor community," Colonel Owen said.

Colonel Owen has been with the F/A-22 Systems Program Office for almost three months and brings with him the critical lessons learned as system program director for the C-5 and C-17 programs. His first order of business with the new program has been to initiate some positive moves forward.

"We have restructured the remaining activities for the engineering and manufacturing development phase to ensure successful completion of EMD prior to initial operating capability," Colonel Owen said. "Also, as

a result of increased communication and responsiveness to the Air Force Global Strike Concept of Operations, we have rephased the modernization program for the F/A-22 to appropriately, and in a timely and efficient manner, inject new technology and new capabilities into the F/A-22 Raptor fleet."

The government and contractor team are also working to refine the avionics suite on the aircraft to ensure that any problems experienced are ironed out, and deliver the aircraft with the functioning capability Tyndall and Langley expect, the colonel said.

According to Colonel Owen, a significant improvement associated with production was recently made by the Lockheed Martin Marietta facility. The company hired members from their Fort Worth, Texas, operations to

●SEE F/A-22 PAGE 6

ORI preparations begin

LT. COL. STEVEN KOTAN

325th Fighter Wing ORI chief

Three exercises and a large-scale compliance inspection will be the order of the day for the dozens of Air Education and Training Command inspectors who will visit Tyndall in late July.

The inspectors, all functional experts from AETC headquarters, will spend approximately two weeks evaluating the 325th Fighter Wing's compliance with Air Force Instructions, ability to respond to various contingencies and rating the overall appearance of the base, its people and its workspaces.

The main part of the Operational Readiness Inspection is a major compliance inspection. The team of AETC experts will look at all aspects of the work we do, at the wing, group, squadron and section levels. In all, the inspectors will examine over 110 squadrons, units and programs on base. They will be looking for compliance with all applicable Air Force and local instructions covering numerous programs. Team Tyndall is well on its way evaluating exactly where we currently stand. Our semi-annual self-inspection program is designed to maintain these programs between these inspections. If your section is responsible for a local instruction or supplement, now is the time to make changes if necessary, or ensure your written guidance spells out exactly what you want them to say.

One of the ORI exercises will consist of a Major Accident Response Exercise or MARE. This type of exercise will likely consist of a major incident scenario that could occur on or around Tyndall and would cause

mass casualties. The AETC teams will evaluate the ability of our wing's Exercise Evaluation Team to formulate a scenario, run the exercise and evaluate performance. They'll also be studying the wing's ability to respond.

Response to various security threats will be measured in the second type of exercise, a test of FPCON knowledge and reaction. The AETC Inspector General's team will evaluate the wing's response to several different scenarios during the two-week inspection. The team could simulate a bomb threat, a flightline intruder or even a home break-in. This type of exercise requires everyone on base to be alert to possible security issues, as anyone is susceptible to evaluation by the IG team.

The third type of exercise the wing will conquer will be a deployment drill. This type of exercise will involve airmen who are vulnerable to deploy. The wing will be evaluated on our ability to recall, process and deploy people to various areas of operation. The second part of this test is employment which occurs at a field exercise site where troops will be tested on their ability to survive and operate in a simulated combat and chemical environment.

The last part of the ORI is an evaluation of the base and personal standards of appearance. Rather than a checklist-style inspection, this is a collection of the inspector's impressions of Team Tyndall. Typically, at the conclusion of the inspection day, each inspector fills out a worksheet that evaluates their impression of individuals and facilities, to include the way our people present themselves,

●SEE PREPARATION PAGE 10



Desert duty

OPERATION SOUTHERN WATCH — Staff Sgt. John Jacob, 386th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron, poses with "Duck," one of the unit's military working dogs, at a forward-deployed location in the Arabian Gulf region. Sergeant Jacob deployed to the region from Tyndall's 325th Security Forces Squadron.



Tech. Sgt. Dan Neely

Save for Your Future **U.S. SAVINGS BONDS**

ARTICLE 15s

The following adverse actions took place here in February.

Article 15s:

→ A first lieutenant from the 325th Operations Group forfeited \$1,432 and was reprimanded for driving under the influence.

→ A technical sergeant from the Southeast Air Defense Sector received a suspended reduction to staff sergeant and was given 45 days extra duty for unauthorized use of a government computer.

→ A staff sergeant from SEADS received a suspended reduction to senior airman for unauthorized use

of a government computer.

→ A staff sergeant from SEADS received a suspended reduction to senior airman and given 15 days extra duty for unauthorized use of a government computer.

→ An airman first class from the 325th Air Control Squadron was given 15 days extra duty for failure to go.

→ An airman first class from the 325th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron was reduced to airman and given 30 days extra duty for dereliction of duty and making a false official statement.

→ An airman first class from the 325th Civil Engineer Squadron received a suspended reduction to airman, forfeited \$300 pay, was restricted to base for 60 days and reprimanded for larceny.

Administrative Discharges:

→ A staff sergeant from the 325th Security Forces Squadron received a general discharge for a series of minor disciplinary infractions.

→ An airman first class from the 325th Services Squadron received a general discharge for a series of minor disciplinary infractions.

(Courtesy 325th Fighter Wing legal office)

Leadership line

“I go out and I walk the flightlines of our Air Force throughout the world, wherever we are deployed, and I never cease to be amazed at what I see. I get surprised every single time, at the dedication and the commitment, the patriotism, the sacrifices of our airmen who give of themselves. Is there any doubt we are the greatest Air Force in the world?”

GEN. JOHN JUMPER
Air Force chief of staff



● FROM F/A-22 PAGE 4

bring their knowledge and expertise associated with producing F-16 Falcons to the F/A-22 production line. The F-16, at one point, Colonel Owen said, was being produced at the rate of almost one per day.

Nevertheless, aircraft production increase is not something that happens overnight.

“Lockheed Martin has put a lot of attention into making that transition from the engineering and manufacturing development phase of the program to the low-rate initial production part of the program,” Colonel Owen said. “That transition means that they’ve gone from producing one airplane a year to four airplanes a year (and now) to roughly 11 or 12 a year. Next year we expect that there will be about 20 airplanes. As you can imagine, that kind of a steep curve of increased production is something that you have to do very thoughtfully and it’s also difficult to grow that kind of capacity.”

Over the following couple of years as the production phase incrementally increases in size, the goal is to cap out at a full-rate production of 36 aircraft a year, Colonel Owen said.

Meanwhile, the program continues to face challenges.

“One challenge that we have is ensuring that we have funding stability in a program to allow the contractor, both the prime and their sub vendors, to have the knowledge and the foundation in their planning that they will have aircraft to produce next year and the year after and the year after,” Colonel Owen said.

“Another challenge is to improve the cycle time, as we’re working to add new capabilities into platform,” Colonel Owen added.

The Air Force uses something called spiral development to help accomplish this. Spiral development means to incrementally build new capability into a weapons system. The process would mean developing, testing and then fielding a certain improved capability, then repeating the steps.

“This is a great time to be in the Air Force. It’s a fantastic time to be in the F/A-22 program, and to see this absolutely key weapons system for the future of the United States Air Force transition from development to being in the hands of the warfighters in AETC and ACC,” Colonel Owen said.

Re-enlistments

The following individuals re-enlisted in February:

Senior Airman Marcus Adams, 325th CONS
 Senior Master Sgt. Larry Aderholt, 325th AMXS
 Senior Airman Amber Anderson, 2nd FS
 Staff Sgt. Richard Anderson, 1st AMU
 Tech. Sgt. Robert Beltrand, 325th AMXS
 Tech. Sgt. George Broadie, 325th MSG
 Senior Master Sgt. Michael Carver, 82nd ATRS
 Master Sgt. David Chew, 325th AMXS
 Master Sgt. Emery Coleman, 325th AMXS
 Tech. Sgt. Mark Cummings, 2nd FS
 Senior Master Sgt. William Cole, 325th AMXS
 Senior Airman Chad DiMaria, 325th SFS
 Master Sgt. Randy Dixon, 325th FW
 Senior Airman Jason Enfinger, 325th AMXS
 Staff Sgt. Matthew Graham, 325th CONS
 Tech. Sgt. Michael Griffith, 325th FW
 Staff Sgt. Kevin Harrington, 325th CS
 Tech. Sgt. Charles Henry, 325th CES
 Staff Sgt. Roy High, OL-A16EWS
 Staff Sgt. Jon Jaillite, 325th CS
 Senior Airman Jermy Houston, 1st AMU
 Staff Sgt. David Jennings, 325th CS
 Staff Sgt. Michael Kelly, 325th MXS

Chief Master Sgt. Samuel Kimbrel, 53rd WEG
 Staff Sgt. Brent Kisling, Det. 1, 823rd RHS
 Tech. Sgt. Richard Magarine, 325th CPTS
 Staff Sgt. Christy Miller, TNCOA
 Tech. Sgt. Dennis Montros, 325th CS
 Tech. Sgt. James Myrick, 43rd FS
 Staff Sgt. Franc Nagel, 325th MXS
 Staff Sgt. Richard Page, 325th CES
 Tech. Sgt. Scott Phillips, 325th MDSS
 Tech. Sgt. James Presley, Det. 1, 823rd RHS
 Staff Sgt. Denise Remetta, 1st FS
 Senior Airman Elizabeth Roberts, 325th CS
 Tech. Sgt. Anthony Schroeffel, 325th AMXS
 Master Sgt. James Scroggs, 325th AMXS
 Senior Airman Derek Shennett, 325th ADS
 Senior Master Sgt. Robert Siperko, Det. 2, 28th Test Squadron
 Staff Sgt. Jeremy Smith, 325th FW/CP
 Staff Sgt. Sandra Spear, 325th OSS
 Master Sgt. Timothy Sterba, 325th MOS
 Staff Sgt. Dianna Stone, 325th SFS
 Staff Sgt. Rogelio Valasquez, 325th AMXS
 Master Sgt. Steve Wisenhut, 325th MXS
 Staff Sgt. David Wilcox, 325th MSS
 Staff Sgt. Jonas Wilderharber, 82nd ATRS
 Tech. Sgt. Michael Woodrow, 362nd TRS

Checkertail Salute



Lisa Carroll

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

The Checkertail Clan salutes Sergeant Winslow for providing 6,528 man-hours of Information Security Manager training to fighter wing information managers resulting in having 102 information managers fully trained.

Tech. Sgt. Troy Winslow

Duty title: NCO in charge of information and industrial security
Unit: 325th Security Forces Squadron

Time on station: 3 years

Time in service: 18 years

Hometown: Frankfort, Kan.

Hobbies: Riding my Harley

Goals: Achieve E-9 well before the average.

Favorite thing about Tyndall:

The weather to ride my Harley.

Favorite Book: "Clear and Present Danger"

Favorite Movie: "Platoon"

Pet Peeves: People with hidden agendas or who don't do their duties

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.

AF designates new multisensor command, control aircraft

1st Lt. Andre Kok

Electronic Systems Center public affairs

HANSCOM AIR FORCE BASE, Mass. (AFPN) — The Air Force recently designated its new multisensor command and control aircraft the E-10A.

The "E" designation stands for electrical systems. While the "E" is specific to the mission of the aircraft, 10 was

used simply because it is next in the inventory sequence. The "A" stands for the first variation of the aircraft.

The Electronic Systems Center is managing the acquisition and development of the E-10A. Hanscom is also the birthplace of three other Air Force aircraft that share the E designation — the E-3B Sentry airborne warning and control system aircraft, the E-8C Joint Surveil-

lance Target Attack Radar System and the E-4B, which serves as the National Airborne Operations Center for the president and secretary of defense.

"There was talk about creating an 'M' prefix for multisensor," said Col. Joseph Smyth, multisensor command and control aircraft system program director, "but it was decided to go with the 'E' designation instead."

The Air Force Program Integration Division at the Pentagon recently approved the designation.

The E-10 multisensor command and control aircraft will provide ground and some airborne moving-target indication, as well as key battle management command and control. It is expected to be a central element in the Air Force's Command and Control Constellation.

Tyndall's environmental crew fights fire with fire

STAFF SGT. ROEL UTLEY

325th Fighter Wing public affairs

Fire is often considered a villainous natural phenomenon that causes billions of dollars of damage annually.

Some Team Tyndall members have garnered fire's insatiable need for fuel and turned that destructive power into a tool to help manage the forested areas around base. The fires are necessary to help maintain the ecosystem. However, with a tool that can cause such destruction, it has to be used in a very strict and controlled manner to be effective. And in a time of constrained budgets and manpower, efficiency has become the name of the game.

Natural fires allow stored fuel, in the form of pine needles and other dead plant material, to be cleaned up, said Dan Childs, Forestry Technician for the 325th Civil Engineer Squadron's Natural Resources office.

"The (burnt material) returns nutrients to the soil which in turn feeds new, tender plants which in turn feeds the animals who redistribute seeds. It's a complex cycle," Mr. Childs said.

"It's amazing how well (the fuel) can burn and provide fresh vegetation for wildlife," said Will Holmes, also of natural resources.

When fire isn't allowed to consume the debris, the fallen material can choke out new growth and allow an impenetrable underbrush to build, a phenomenon that is easily observed from many base roads. This is an unnatural state for forested areas.

"Years of fire suppression have led to an unnatural accumulation of (organic debris)," Mr. Childs said. "In the 1930s and 1940s, the thought was suppression. Fires were always put out. Early homesteaders had it right though. Whenever a fire threatened their homes, they would set (controlled) fires around their homes to protect them (from larger uncontrolled fires approaching their homes)."

Like early settlers, land managers see the value of starting fires to help maintain a relatively safe environment for today's landowners. Throughout the base, fires are set using very strict guidelines to help minimize the threat and inconvenience to people. These fires are called controlled or "prescribed" burns. There is a detailed prescription written by Mr. Childs, which outlines the conditions that must be met to safely and effectively conduct a burn.

According to Mr. Childs, a number of factors determine when and where a burn can occur. Science has been mar-



File photo

Dan Childs, natural resources, uses a drip torch to set fire during a controlled burn last year.



Courtesy photos

An aerial shot shows several small fires that were started along Beacon Beach Road using chemical filled ping-pong balls.

ried with fire's need to burn everything in its path. Humidity, winds and mission requirements are some of the driving forces behind Tyndall's burn plan.

"We have to wait until conditions are just right before we can have a burn. The main problem we have to deal with is wind direction and speed," Mr. Childs said. If wind direction

changes, the fire could head in the wrong direction or cause smoke to blow into sensitive areas. A common occurrence at Tyndall is the sea breeze and it is always a consideration.

During a recent burn, 1,021 acres were set ablaze on the base's eastern side and all the smoke headed out over the Gulf of Mexico. According to Mr. Childs, the fire took just over an hour to consume all the fuel in the area.

Covering such an area in such a short time was possible due to new ways of carrying out the burn plan. For many years, land managers walked through the brush using drip torches, devices similar to a flame thrower just on a smaller scale, to start the fires. In recent years, Tyndall has included the use of a helicopter to drop plastic balls similar to ping-pong balls filled with a chemical mixture that when combined, starts a small fire.

According to Mr. Childs, the pre-filled containers are injected with a second chemical just prior to being dropped from the helicopter. Once they land, the chemical reaction creates enough heat to allow the plastic to melt and the fire starts. The number of balls dropped in a certain area determines how far a small fire will travel before meeting up with another burnt out area created by other such adjacent fires. This technique has greatly improved the controlled-burn program at Tyndall.

"For fiscal 2003, we have a plan to burn 5,524 acres," Mr. Childs said.



This fire, with flames reaching about three to four feet off the ground, is in an area where a controlled burn had been done about two years previously.



This fire, with flames reaching well above the 80-foot trees, is in an area where a controlled burn had never been done since the base was built.

The men and women of Detachment 1, 325th Fighter Wing aren't well-known and they're ...

Keeping the secret safe!

2nd Lt. Albert Bosco

Air Force T-6 Texan IIs (left) sit on the flightline at NAS Pensacola beside Navy T-34C Mentors (right). The aircraft are used to train navigators from the Air Force, Navy, Marines and foreign countries.

2ND LT. ALBERT BOSCO

325th Fighter Wing public affairs

What is small, wears blue and is considered the best-kept secret in the Air Force?

Detachment 1, 325th Fighter Wing at Naval Air Station Pensacola's Corry Station, located on the coast of the Florida panhandle with sugar-white sandy beaches, the warm emerald water of the Gulf of Mexico and endless opportunities for fun in the sun.

Tucked away in a small office on the second deck (second floor in Air Force terms) of a building at Corry Station is a small group of Air Force people who make up the detachment. With only 20 people assigned, trying to spot a single 'blue suiter' in a vast sea of white is almost like trying to find 'Waldo' on the back of a cereal box. Though they are nearly invisible to the base populous, they don't seem to mind. In fact, ask any one of them and they will tell you that Det. 1 is the best-kept secret in the Air Force and they have the T-shirts to prove it.

The mission of the detachment is to provide Air Force personnel support, accountability, military pay services, flight records management and security program management in the Pensacola area. Their customers are Air Force officers attending the Air Force's Joint Specialized Undergraduate Flying Training and Specialized Undergraduate Navigator Training courses at

NAS Pensacola in addition to hundreds of young airmen on temporary duty assignments for specialized training in everything from cryptology to structural maintenance.

Each year nearly 100 Air Force officers attend navigator training and another 200 attend pilot training along with students from the Navy, Marines and foreign countries in a joint program that began in the mid 1990s. Additionally, there are approximately 400 airmen TDY to Pensacola at any given time attending cryptology, aircraft structural maintenance or water sur-

“We're the glue that holds the Air Force together in the Pensacola area.”

MAJ. SHANNON MEADE
Det. 1, 325th FW commander

vival training. Since Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla. is the nearest Air Education and Training Command base and Air Force training programs fall under AETC, leadership saw the need to have an Air Force presence at NAS Pensacola.

Couple the large TDY population along with another 500 permanent party Air Force people assigned to four different squadrons and detachments and another nine Navy units, and the need for Air Force support becomes apparent.

The detachment is essentially a smaller version of the base support center found here at Tyndall, complete with a military personnel flight, flight records, finance and student navigator accountability. At first glance, it might seem to make more sense to send the students to a nearby Air Force base, such as Eglin, to take care of the administrative issues but, according to Maj. Shannon Meade, Det. 1, 325th FW commander, the costs would far outweigh the benefits.

“It would be cost prohibitive to send the students to Eglin to take care of records and issues,” said Major Meade. “Students would spend too much time on the road, going back and forth to handle issues that should be taken care of locally.”

The rigors of completing flight training or technical school can be difficult enough for the airmen without the added burden of managing personal records. Once a student earns his or her wings or diploma, other follow-on training must be coordinated before the student reports to his or her final destination. Similarly, students who are disqualified during training must be re-assigned. For this reason, the detachment maintains accountability for student aviators until all training is complete and they are assigned to a permanent duty station, or they receive new jobs and depart for their new training bases.

“The students shouldn't be worrying about pay, personnel records or flight records. Somebody has to maintain them so the students can focus on training,” said Major Meade. “Once the students get their wings, the Navy is finished with them and the Air Force takes over. Other training, such as water and land survival and advanced flying training have to be scheduled, and during that time someone has to ‘own’ the students until they complete the training.”

According to Major Meade, there are added benefits to having an Air Force detachment on-site. The people assigned to the detachment are immersed in a joint environment every day and ‘Navy’ has become a second language for them. As such, they are better prepared to deal with



2nd Lt. Albert Bosco

Tech. Sgt. Kathy Jackson, Det. 1 customer service representative, reviews a student's flight records.

inter-service issues that may arise during the students' training, such as records or follow-on training issues. This means no breakdown in communication between the services and less stress for the students.

Being a small Air Force unit in a joint environment creates a sense of pride and ownership for the men and women of the detachment. During the students' time at NAS Pensacola, detachment personnel are given the unique opportunity to watch the small group of new lieutenants grow. In fact, detachment personnel can often visually recognize all of the students and are aware of issues long before the student has to say anything.

Much like a parent, the men and women of Det. 1 stay behind the scenes, helping wherever and whenever they can to ensure the students are given every opportunity to succeed. Although the students are outnumbered by the Navy presence, they have the peace of mind of knowing that they are being taken care of by an Air Force team that takes pride in caring, and they never have to leave home to take care of business.

“In the end, we are ensuring that trained competent airmen are leaving here,” commented Major Meade. “We're the glue that holds the Air Force together in the Pensacola area.”



NAVAL FLIGHT OFFICER'S GATEWAY TO THE FLEET

2nd Lt. Albert Bosco

The entrance to one of the training squadrons at NAS Pensacola illustrates one of the joint training programs conducted there by depicting a pair of Navy pilot wings next to a pair of Air Force navigator wings.

Team Tyndall announces top maintainers for 2002

Team Tyndall announced its maintenance professionals of the year during an awards banquet held Feb. 28 at the Pelican Reef Enlisted Club.

The following individuals were recognized during the event:

Civilian Maintenance Professional of the Year

Glenn Kranjniak
325th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

SNCO Maintenance Professional of the Year

Master Sgt. Jeffrey Henderson
325th Maintenance Squadron

NCO Maintenance Professional of the Year

Tech. Sgt. Henry Poe
325th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

Airman Maintenance Professional of the Year

Airman 1st Class Matthew Griglio
325th Maintenance Squadron

Civilian Staff Professional of the Year

Robert Taylor
325th Maintenance Operations Squadron

SNCO Staff Professional of the Year

Master Sgt. William Nooney
325th Maintenance Squadron

NCO Staff Professional of the Year

Team Tyndall member takes AFRL award

JILL BOHN

Air Force Research Laboratory public affairs

Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio — The year's top enlisted and officer personnel were honored Feb. 21 during the Air Force Research Laboratory's 6th annual awards banquet.

Maj. Gen. Paul Nielsen, commander of the Air Force Research Laboratory, and retired Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force Sam Parish, presented the awards at the ceremony.

"This year's nomination packages

were extremely competitive, which made it difficult to single out winners. AFRL is fortunate to have such a talented field from which to choose," said General Nielsen. "It is an honor to recognize our newest award winners for their leadership, dedication and community involvement."

A Tyndall member was named Senior Noncommissioned Officer of the Year. The award was presented to Master Sgt. Forest Lisner, Materials and Manufacturing Directorate, Tyndall Air Force Base.

Sergeant Lisner is an engineering superintendent/first sergeant, assigned to AFRL's Detachment 2.

He enjoys coaching sports for the youth center on base and in the local community. He spends his free time boating and fishing with his family.

Other recent awards that Lisner has earned include SNCO of the Year for 28th CES, 2000; SNCO of the Year for 28th Support Group, 2000; SNCO for AEF 8 rotation at Prince Sultan Air Base, 2001 and AFRL ANCO of the Quarter for the third quarter of 2002.

Staff Sgt. Jamie Santiago
325th Maintenance Operations Squadron

Airman Staff Professional of the Year

Senior Airman Dennis Stapelkamp
325th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

Training Detachment 4 Junior Instructor of the Year

Staff Sgt. Orin Bertrand

Training Detachment 4 Senior Instructor of the Year

Tech. Sgt. Steve Schieber

362nd F-15 Mission Ready Airman Instructor of the Year

Staff Sgt. Scott Scalfani.

Load Crew Weapons Load-Off winners

Crew 1-4, Staff Sgt. Jody Forcha, Airman 1st Class Eric Matheny, Airman 1st Class Antonio Cook

Dedicated Crew Chief and Assistant Dedicated Crew Chief of the Year

Staff Sgt. Jerry Lee and Airman 1st Class Steven Novack

Lockheed Martin Contractor Maintenance Professional of the Year

James Weable

Lockheed Martin Contractor Maintenance Support Professional of the Year

Leo Hunter

Trend Western Corporation Supply Technician of the Year

John Layden

Trend Western Corporation Fuels Technician of the Year

Mark Woods

Trend Western Corporation Transportation Technician of the Year

Robert Shores

Civilian Contracting Support Professional of the Year

Shawn George

Military Contracting Support Professional of the Year

Staff Sgt. Bryan Pemberton

Civilian Contracting Professional of the Year

Amy Foster

Military Contracting Professional of the Year

Tech. Sgt. Randall Jones

● FROM PREPARATION PAGE 5

their work areas, and overall base appearance. The teams will be trying to find out if we are proud of the work we do, the uniform we wear, the squadrons to which we belong and the base where we live and work.

While July may seem far away, beginning our preparation now will prevent crisis management as the team arrives. Team Tyndall has always performed their daily mission in a professional and meticulous fashion. Let's make sure we take these next five months and find the areas we can improve upon, make them better, and polish those we do well.

Cost for SGLI reduced; coverage remains the same

AIR FORCE PERSONNEL CENTER — The amount it costs military members for Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance and Family Member SGLI will be automatically reduced starting July 1.

Decreased mortality rates allow for the reductions of 1.5 cents per \$1,000 of coverage for military members and as much as a 42 percent decrease for spouse coverage. The premium for military members with \$250,000 of coverage will decrease from \$20 per month to \$16.25.

"The Veterans Administration had a surplus partly because of the low number of claims, and they've decided to pass this surplus on to the servicemember," said Scott Hand, chief of Air Force casualty operations. "This is a great deal for Air Force people. The price for a little peace of mind has just gone down."

SGLI is the life insurance currently available to all members of the uniformed services. It is purchased by the Veterans Administration from a commercial life insurance company. Members on active duty, active duty for training or inactive duty for training and members of the ready Reserve are eligible for insurance through this pro-

gram. SGLI is available for the member in \$10,000 increments up to a maximum of \$250,000.

Servicemembers who carry any amount of coverage are also given \$10,000 of coverage for each dependent child at no cost. Those who decline SGLI coverage are not eligible for the dependent child coverage.

"Where else can you get free life insurance for your children?" Mr. Hand said.

Similar to SGLI is the FSGLI for spouses of up to \$100,000. Participation in the FSGLI program is voluntary and cannot exceed the amount of coverage the military member carries.

People can have coverage restored, increased or reduced by filling out the proper paperwork through the military personnel flight.

For more information on the SGLI or FSGLI programs, visit either the Department of Veterans Affairs SGLI Web site at www.insurance.va.gov or the AFPC casualty Web site at www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/casualty.

(Courtesy AFPC)



Capt. John Sheets

Hang on

OPERATION SOUTHERN WATCH — Staff Sgt. William Gerlach, a 15th Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron crew chief, suspends himself from the nose of an RQ-1 Predator unmanned aerial vehicle at a forward-deployed location in the Arabian Gulf region. The routine preflight procedure is a reliability check for instruments that measure the UAV's angle of attack. Stateside, Sergeant Gerlach is assigned to the 15th RS, Indian Springs Air Force Auxiliary Field, Nev.

Promotion test change impacts deploying airmen

AIR FORCE PERSONNEL CENTER — Commanders of technical and master sergeants facing short notice deployments now have greater flexibility as to when their troops test for promotion.

New overseas manning requirements and the freezing of the Air Expeditionary Force cycle prompted officials to adapt new procedures for deploying airmen.

In the past, the number of airmen receiving deploy-

ment orders while in their testing window was small, said Ken Schwartz, chief of the test management section. They were generally required to test before departing, providing they had access to study materials for at least 60 days.

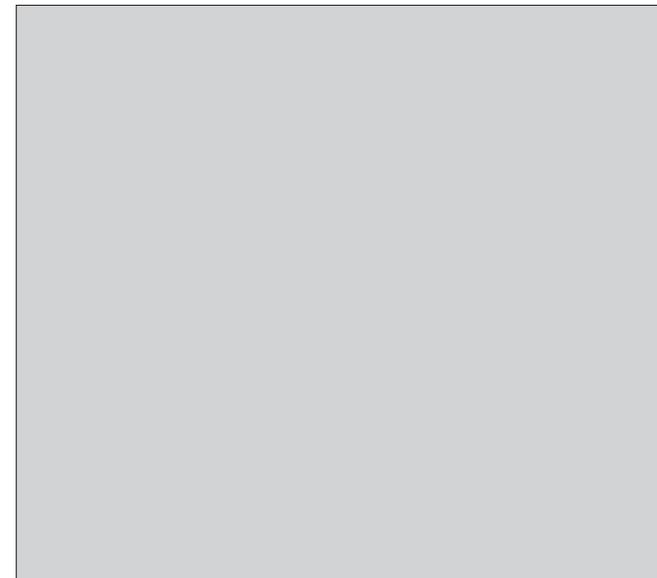
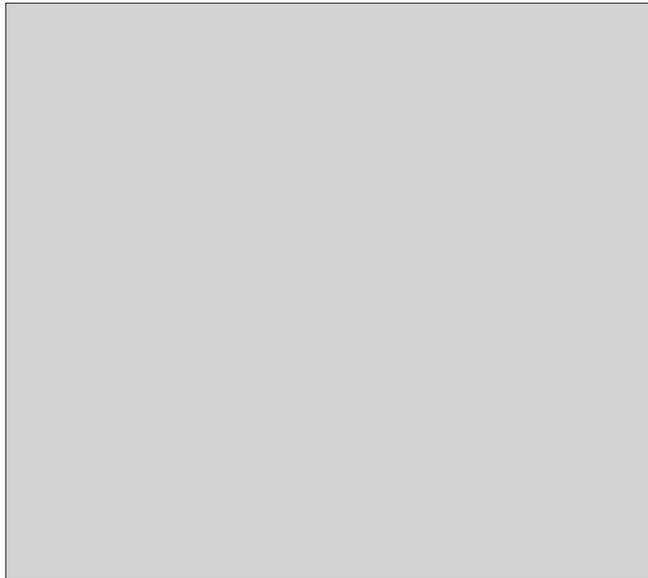
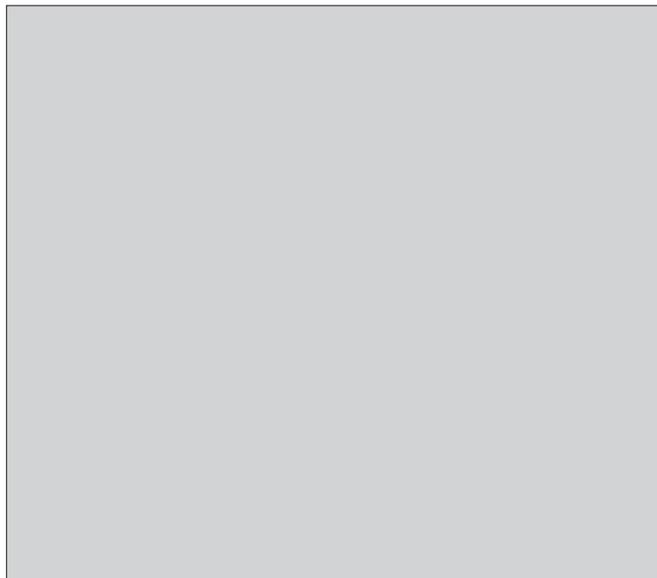
Now, noncommissioned officers in the current test window who receive short notice orders can have their commander delay testing if circumstances warrant, Mr. Schwartz said. Those who delay their testing will

test out of cycle when they return.

Officials are also considering the merits of applying this change to those testing for staff sergeant May 1-31. However, no decision has been made.

For more information, visit the career enhancement office at local military personnel flights or visit the enlisted promotions home page at www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/eprom/.

(Courtesy AFPC)



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

Gulf Guide

**in the
Tyndall community**

MARCH

SUN
9

Chapel religious education

The Tyndall Chapel offers religious education 9:30-10:30 a.m. Sundays for Protestants and 11 a.m.-noon Sundays for Catholics. Both sessions will be held at the spiritual fitness building. For more information, call 283-2925.

MON
10

Individual equipment closure

The individual equipment unit will be closed for inventory Monday and Tuesday. Only requests for emergency issues – such as desert camouflage uniforms for short-notice deployment taskings - will be processed. In the event a situation arises which would be considered a national emergency, individual equipment will resume normal operations immediately. For more information, call Tom Archer, 283-2334.

TUE
11

University Alliance visit

University Alliance representative retired Lt. Col. Gregg Pitt will be visiting the Tyndall Education Center 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Tuesday to provide information on the various University Alliance programs. All community members are welcome. The University Alliance is the largest and oldest Web-based E-learning platform in the United States, representing regionally accredited colleges and universities that offer bachelor and master degree programs online.

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.

Coastal navigation course

The Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 16 basic coastal navigation course will be 7-9 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays starting Tuesday. The classes will be held in Gulf Coast Community College's Student Union East building, Gibson lecture hall, Room 231. The course ends April 22. For more information, call John Clark, 271-3828, or visit the Flotilla Web site at: <http://clik.to./USCGAUXFlotilla16>.

WED
12

Stress-management class

A three-session stress-management class will be 1-2:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 19 and 26 in Room 127 in Building 1305. For more information, call family advocacy, 283-7511.

ASE deadline

The deadline for ordering the Automotive Service Exams is Wednesday. The test dates for this session are May 6, 8 and 13. Anyone interested in taking the ASE may visit the education center to review the list of exams available.

Protestant youth group

The Tyndall Chapel's Protestant Youth Group meets 6-8 p.m. Wednesdays in the spiritual fitness center. For more information, call the Chapel 2 office, 283-2925.

THU
13

Marriage workshop

The five-session "Married and Loving It" workshop will continue 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Thursday and March 20 in the family advocacy conference room. For more information, call family advocacy, 283-7511.

NOTES

Pharmacy formularies

Many military treatment facility pharmacies have recently upgraded their formularies – or listings of medications that they carry. As a result, even though the pharmacy may not have stocked a particular medication in the past, they may now be carrying it. In most cases, the MTF formularies are posted online on each MTF Web site. For the Tyndall Clinic pharmacy, go to www.tyndall.af.mil, select the 325th Fighter Wing, then the 325th Medical Group, then pharmacy.

Mail Order Pharmacy change

The new TRICARE Mail Order Pharmacy contract, administered by Express Scripts of Maryland Heights, Mo., will replace the existing National Mail Order Pharmacy contract beginning on or about March 1. The TMOP will provide a worldwide, full-service mail order pharmacy program to all TRICARE-eligible beneficiaries. More information about the TMOP program will be available soon on the TRICARE Web site at www.tricare.osd.mil. Beneficiaries currently using NMOP will receive information about TMOP prior to its start date and can also visit the Express Scripts Web site at www.express-scripts.com for more information.

VWAP offers help

The Tyndall Victim Witness Assistance Program offers information about the prosecution process, transitional compensation and retired pay protection for victims of domestic violence. For information, call 283-4681 or 283-4682.

ADC Web page

The Tyndall Area Defense Counsel now has an informative Web page at www.tyndall.af.mil/ADC/index.html. It can also be accessed through the Tyndall home page under Tenant Units or through the legal office Web page. Handouts ranging from the rights of military suspects to denial of re-enlistment can be downloaded. For more information, call the ADC office, 283-2911, or visit the Web page.

Tyndall Running Club events

The Tyndall Running Club is looking for individuals interested in joining the club as it competes at the Boston Marathon April 21. For more information, call Capt. William McTernan, 286-1562, or Martin Littlefield, 283-2631.

FEEA scholarships

The Federal Employee Education and Assistance Fund is taking applications for 2003-2004 scholarships. To be eligible, applicants must have been a federal or postal worker for three years. Dependents of federal employees must be full-time students and have a grade point average of 3.0 or higher. For information or application, go to: www.feea.org. Applications must be postmarked by March 28, and awards will be announced in August.

RETIREE NEWS

Burial schemes target veterans

Federal officials working toward opening South Florida's first veterans' burial ground next year are warning veterans to be vigilant regarding companies that make fraudulent claims that they can save a vet a plot for a fee. Reservations are not accepted for any of the 120 national cemeteries run by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, including the one being built west of Boynton Beach. The VA doesn't begin processing a veteran's request for burial until he or she has died.

Worthless pre-registration isn't the only scheme targeting veterans, according to the Florida Funeral Home Directors Association. Companies aren't allowed to take a veteran's discharge papers and signed burial application in advance along with a payment, with the promise to process the documents upon death. Private cemeteries also sometimes set aside a veterans' section, then tell potential clients they are being buried in a veterans' cemetery. But the full federal burial benefit available to all honorably discharged vets, their spouses and dependent children applies only if they are interred at a national cemetery. That includes a gravesite and graveliner, flag, headstone and marker, opening and closing of the grave and a military honor guard, all at no cost.

For more information on eligibility and arranging burial in a VA national cemetery, visit the Web site at www.cem.va.gov or call the nearest VA national cemetery or regional office, (800) 827-1000.

YARD SALES

Yard Sales

There are no yard sales scheduled for Saturday.

AFRC promotes health-care benefit awareness

2ND LT. JOHN FAGE

Air Force Reserve Command public affairs

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. (AFPN) — As reservists increasingly deploy, Air Force Reserve Command officials say they need to be aware of what health-care benefits they are eligible for and how to receive attention through the TRICARE medical system.

Active-duty servicemembers and their families often find themselves on or near a military base where medical support services and advice on TRICARE are easily accessible.

Mobilized reservists enter the same medical support system, but their families, especially those not located near a military installation, are often left behind without the support of a base medical facility to help them. This results in reservists' families having to comprehend and navigate the complexities of the TRICARE system, which may lead to denied medical bills and changing physicians to use TRICARE benefits.

To help families understand what their benefits cover and what medical care is available to them, the TRICARE Management Activity is conducting direct-mailing campaigns and compiling a series of news articles and fact sheets.

AFRC officials are working to improve

medical-benefit awareness through newsletters and e-mails. The command's directorate of health services keeps medical units that are not on active-duty bases informed through regularly scheduled teleconferences. It also works with the directorate of personnel's family readiness branch to ensure information is communicated to families.

"When there is something that affects people across the board, we push it through each Reserve medical unit," said Lt. Col. Alexander Alex of AFRC's directorate of health services. "Sometimes the information gets to the members, but not to the spouses. That may be because they feel it doesn't involve them at the time, or they may not understand the information enough."

Colonel Alex is a reservist who left his own business as a health-care consultant when he was called to active duty in December 2001. His civilian job allowed him to stay well-informed about health-care plans and providers.

"I can honestly say that the benefits I get through TRICARE are equal to or better than most civilian health-care plans," he said. "And I've obviously seen a lot of different ones."

He said the key to accessing TRICARE benefits is knowing the coverage guide-

lines and obtaining assistance through service centers or the TRICARE regional contractor. The TRICARE Web site at www.tricare.osd.mil can help reservists and their families gain information.

According to Colonel Alex, the Department of Defense and the families of reservists share the responsibility of increasing benefit awareness.

His office has been working with lead agents and TRICARE regional contractors to help expand coverage areas. About 70 percent of Reserve families do not live near a military medical facility, so it is more difficult for them to get the services they need.

Colonel Alex cited Westover Air Reserve Base, Mass., as an example of an area where communication has improved. He said Westover's TRICARE provider network was limited in the recent past but has made great improvements in building and retaining relationships with medical providers in that area.

Reserve families who do not qualify for TRICARE Prime can take advantage of reduced costs using TRICARE Standard or TRICARE Extra through the TRICARE Reserve Family Demonstration Project. The project offers reservists waived annual deductibles, eliminates the need for non-availability statements for

non-emergency inpatient care and will pay up to 115 percent of the TRICARE maximum allowable charge. Colonel Alex said important points about using TRFDP are remembering to ensure the physician is an authorized TRICARE provider and the services being sought are covered by TRICARE so claims are not denied.

Medical coverage does not end immediately upon demobilization. TRICARE's Transitional Assistance Management Program provides for 60 or 120 days of transitional benefits for reservists and families. TAMP also includes limited dental/space-available-only care in military facilities. Upon demobilization, reservists and families can obtain dental coverage through the TRICARE Dental Program.

Additionally, reservists do not need to be on active duty to receive treatments for illnesses suffered while activated or deployed. The Department of Veterans Affairs announced that reservists may request evaluation of eligibility for their medical needs up to two years after deactivation.

Colonel Alex said AFRC is dedicated to ensuring reservists and their families, no matter where they may be located, receive the medical care they need. He said improvements continue to be made, but reservists need to remain proactive in learning what is available to them.

(Courtesy of AFRC News Service)

Sign up for AF marathon

SUSAN MURPHY

Aeronautical Systems Center public affairs

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio (AFPN) — Registration is under way for the 2003 U.S. Air Force Marathon scheduled for Sept. 20.

Runner categories have changed slightly from past years. A 5K fun run and a half marathon have been added. There will no longer be a marathon team category. The marathon, four-person Ekiden-style relay team and wheelchair categories remain unchanged.

The Air Force Marathon, traditionally held the third Saturday of September, is open to all levels of marathoners, civilians and military, from all around the world. More than 3,200 runners participated in the marathon representing nearly every state and six countries.

The first U.S. Air Force Marathon

was held at Wright-Patterson Sept. 20, 1997, to coincide with the Air Force's 50th anniversary. U.S.A. Track and Field, the governing body of long-distance running in the United States, certified the course in 1997. Air Force Marathon officials asked for certification in order to assure participants the course is exactly 26 miles, 385 yards.

Runners will receive a uniquely designed T-shirt and patch. Participants who finish the marathon within the eight-hour time limit will receive a medallion.

Reduced fees for early registration are available until June 30. The registration deadline is Sept. 4.

To register, or for more information, visit the marathon Web site at <http://afmarathon.wpafb.af.mil/>, or call the marathon office at (937) 257-4350 or (800) 467-1823.



Steve Wallace

Shhhh

A foursome plays through on the ninth hole at the Pelican Point Golf Course during the Feb. 27 Tyndall-Port St. Joe Golf Tournament. The tournaments are held twice a year to support positive relationships between Team Tyndall and the surrounding communities.



Funshine NEWS

March 7, 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

Mondays	Chef's Choice
Tuesdays	Italian
Wednesdays	Oriental
Thursdays	All American
Fridays	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

Applicants must be accepted by, or enrolled in,
an accredited college or university graduate or
undergraduate program by fall of 2003.

Information packages with complete instruc-
tions and requirements are available from the
Tyndall Officers' Club business office
beginning February 21.

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.

All Ranks Sunday Brunch

March 16 • 10 a.m.-1 p.m.
\$8.95* per person

Champagne Available - add \$3

Menu Includes:

- Carving Station
- Omelets (made to order)
- Belgian Waffles
- Sausage
- Bacon
- Hash Browns
- Fresh Fruit
- Muffins
- Danish
- Biscuits & Gravy

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

**For more information call:
283-4357**

325th Service Squadron Let Us Know How We Are Doing 283-4506



Want to keep up with
"What's Happening" at Tyndall?
Send us your email and we will
add you to our weekly mailing.
whats.happening@tyndall.af.mil
or call us at 283-4565

WIN!

AF Club Members
who eat at the Club or the Sports
Page Pizza Pub & Grill during
February and March could win a
Premier Vacation Package.
Come by for details.

All Ranks Seafood Extravaganza

at the Tyndall O Club

Friday, March 14

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.

Call for more information

283-4357

Fitness Center

☎ 283-2631

Aerobics Class Change

We've added a 5:30 a.m. class on Tue.
& Thur. and eliminated the 5:30 p.m.
and noon class on Fri.

Base Honor Guard

☎ 283-4405

NCOIC Needed

NCOIC needed for highly visible Base
Honor Guard program. Call SSgt
Sparks.

Information, Tickets & Travel

☎ 283-2499

Passport to Adventure

Validate Your Passport now for a
Chance to Win These Great Prizes:

- Cruise for 2 on the Riviera
- Cruise for 2 on the New England Coast

To get your passport and information
on how to play call or stop by ITT.

Key West Tour

March 23-28. Cost per person double
occupancy is \$335 and includes
transportation, accommodations and
various museums and sites.

Leisure Travel

Call 283-2864 for more information
on new Disney cruise specials for
spring.

Community Activity Ctr.

☎ 283-2495

Coffee Bar Service Expanded & Hours Extended

The CAC coffee bar now offers cookies
and muffins. New operating hours will
be 7:30 a.m.-3 p.m.

Gulf Coast Salute

■ Pelican Point Golf Tournament

March 14, 11 a.m. • Lunch • Noon Shotgun
Format will be 4 person select shot • Members \$20, Non-members \$40
Fees Include: Lunch, Range Balls, Cart, Green Fees, and Prizes

For more information call 283-4389

■ Beacon Beach Marina Club Regatta 2003

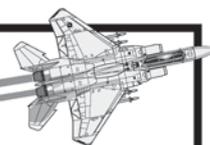
March 15 • Sunday, March 16 - Rain Day
11 a.m. Race start (subject to weather) 6 p.m. Seafood Buffet (\$7.50) & 7 p.m. Awards Ceremony
Entry fee: \$25 per boat

For more information call: 283-3059

■ Fitness Center 5K Fun Run

March 22, Walk Starts: 8 a.m., Run Starts: 8:30 a.m., Prize Drawing Begins: 9 a.m.
Late Registration and T-Shirt pick-up for pre-registrants: 7-7:45 a.m.
Cost: \$10 if registered before March 7 and \$12 if registered after March 7

For more information call: 283-2631



Teen Center

☎ 283-0295

College Scholarships

■ **General Henry Arnold Grant: \$1,500**

Open to: High School Seniors
www.nces.ed.gov, www.afas.org
Deadline: March 14, 2003

Upcoming Events

March 12, 6 p.m. Teen Council/ Keystone Club
Meeting. Announcing teen of the month. Teens
will give input and plan activities.

March 14, 6-10 p.m. Trip to Carmike Cinema,
\$4 for members, \$6 for non-members.

March 15, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Keystone Club/Teen
Council Carwash at BX. Teen volunteers needed.

Operation Nite Hoops

Teens only! Nite Hoops basketball league
forming. Game days and times will be
determined as soon as teams are chosen.

Marina Club

☎ 283-3059

All-You-Can-Eat Pancakes

All-you-can-eat pancake breakfast every
Sunday 7:30-10 a.m.
Members: \$2.50, Nonmembers: \$3.50

12" Bar Pizzas

After 2 p.m. Starting at \$5!

Family Child Care

☎ 283-2266

Extended Duty Child Care

Working outside "normal" duty hours?
Extended Duty Child Care may be the
answer for you. Call for details.

Free Child Care

Air Force Aid provides free child care
for families on PCS orders. Twenty
hours of child care is available the
first/last sixty days on base. Call the
Family Support Center relocation
counselor (283-4204) or the Family
Child Care office (283-2266).

Youth Center

☎ 283-4366

Target Archery

Mar. 25-28. 10 a.m. Open to youth 9-16
yrs. Learn basic archery techniques. Cost
is \$30.

Start Smart Baseball

Work one-on-one with your child improving
baseball skills. This program is for youth
ages 3-5 yrs. and runs from March 29 to
April 26. Call for more information.



Lisa Carroll

Open wide

Airman 1st Class Thomas Stater, 325th Aeromedical Dental Squadron, talks to children at the Tyndall Child Development Center about proper dental hygiene during a recent visit highlighting Children's Dental Health Month.

Injunctions offer protection

CAPT. MIRANDA TURNER

325th Fighter Wing judge advocate office

Victims of domestic violence who reside in Florida can obtain an *injunction for protection against domestic violence*. This court order prohibits the abuser from committing further acts of violence against the victim, and may prohibit him or her from contacting the victim either in person or through other means, or from coming to the victim's residence or workplace. If the victim and the abuser reside together, the court may award the victim the temporary exclusive use of the residence. If they have children together, the court may award the victim temporary custody of the children, visitation rights, and/or temporary child support.

A victim or potential victim may obtain an injunction if violence has occurred, or if there is reasonable cause to believe there is imminent danger of becoming a victim of domestic violence. Domestic violence is defined any assault, battery, sexual assault, stalking, kidnapping, false imprisonment or other crime causing physical injury and the crime was committed by a family or household member. In Florida, "family or household member" includes spouses, former spouses, persons related by blood or marriage, persons who reside together as if a family or who have done so in the past and persons who have a child together, regardless of whether they have ever lived together.

As of October, there is no longer a fee to file for an injunction. Florida law now prohibits such fees. A lawyer is not needed to get an injunction for protection. However, victims may obtain legal representation from Legal Services of North Florida. To obtain an injunction, contact the Bay County Courthouse, Domestic Violence Division. Victims must fill out paperwork detailing the reason they believe they should be granted an injunction. Although the clerk may give instructions on how to fill out the petition for an injunction, he or she will not be able to help determine what to write about the

past domestic violence that occurred, or about the reason a victim believes there is imminent danger of future violence. This account has to be in the victim's words. Therefore, it is important to be as detailed as possible, and to include the dates when the violence or threats of violence occurred. If the judge finds that there is sufficient evidence to prove danger of physical harm, he or she will order a temporary injunction, which is valid for up to 15 days.

Next, a hearing will be scheduled to determine whether the injunction should be continued (commonly, for 120 days), or dismissed. An injunction also may be obtained for an indefinite period of time; this depends on what the judge orders at the hearing. The abuser is notified of the hearing. At the hearing, both the victim and the abuser will be given the opportunity to be heard. Victims should bring any evidence that lends support to the petition, such as police reports, hospital reports, etc.

If an injunction is obtained, it is valid throughout the United States. This means an injunction can be enforced in other counties in Florida, as well as in other states. Victims should keep a copy of the injunction with them at all times.

Once a permanent injunction is obtained, the only way the victim or the abuser can have the injunction modified or dismissed is to petition the court; the judge will make the final decision. This means people cannot just unilaterally determine they no longer want the injunction to be in effect and resume contact. The court must dismiss the injunction. Otherwise, an abuser will still be criminally responsible for any contact with a victim, despite the fact that a victim may have initiated the contact.

For additional information about, or assistance with, obtaining an Injunction for Protection Against Domestic Violence, contact the Victim Witness Assistance Program Coordinator at the legal office, located in Building 662, or call 283-4681 for an appointment.

