

GULF DEFENDER



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Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla. *Gulf Defender*

July 9, 2004

In brief

Air Show

A Pensacola Beach air show 11 a.m. Saturday will feature the U.S. Navy Blue Angels aerial demonstration team. Also, a Tyndall F/A-22 Raptor will perform a flyby, promoting the joint benefit and capabilities of this transformational weapon system. For more airshow information, call (850) 932-2257.

Early closure

The 325th Medical Group will be closed at 1 p.m. July 16 for a group function.

If your medical condition is an emergency call 911, and contact your primary care manager within 24 hours for authorization.

Quarterly Awards

The Team Tyndall Quarterly Awards Luncheon is July 30. Cost is \$9 for club members and \$11 for non-members.

RSVP by close of business July 19, seating is limited. Contact your unit representative or first sergeant for more information.

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Master Sgt. Mike Ammons

Checkertail formation

A six-ship formation of 325th Fighter Wing F-15 Eagles and an F/A-22 Raptor aircraft fly above the Tyndall flightline during a special photo opportunity. The formation included flagships from each of the Checkertail Clan's fighter squadrons.

'Military One Source' helps with family problems

WASHINGTON (AFP) — The Defense Department has established a "one-stop" place to go whenever servicemembers or family members need assistance with any kind of problem.

It is called "Military One Source," and is available anytime, worldwide, said John Molino, deputy undersecretary of defense for military community and family policy.

"Military One Source is a revolutionary augmentation to the family services we currently have on military installations around the world," Mr. Molino said.

Each branch had its own program, and now DOD officials are bringing them together as Military One Source, Mr. Molino added.

He said the program is intended to complement assistance already offered. Mr. Molino said Military One Source allows DOD

officials to provide assistance to families and servicemembers via the Internet or a toll-free telephone number

Services available include help for common, everyday difficulties to life's most complicated situations, he said.

"It's a remarkable way to ... step forward into a new generation of providing services," he said. "It's a place where no matter when (a) situation occurs, the military family member or servicemember could make a phone call or go on the Internet and begin to get some help."

Each military branch provides a lot of family services on installations, but Mr. Molino said that about two-thirds of military families live off base.

"The people who are off the installation tend to be the most junior folks," he said.

"They may not have the financial resources to have two cars, or to get themselves back and forth to the installations to get those services," Mr.

Molino said. "So what One Source does is provide the opportunity to make that phone call and let us bring the services, literally, figuratively and electronically, to your home."

When people call for help, the person responding will have at least a master's degree in social work or some kind of counseling service, Mr. Molino said.

"That person is trained specifically to deal with military issues — issues that complicate military life. So they're very sensitive to what you ask," he said.

"Some people think they're the only people who ever experienced whatever their problem is, and, of course, they're not," Mr. Molino said. "Most everyone goes through different phases and different cycles."

The person on the other end does not make judgments about situations, he explained.

"They're there to listen to what

you have to say, evaluate it and give you the beginnings of an answer or actually the answer to your question," Mr. Molino said.

Military One Source provides information on a gamut of situations: from needing a plumber in the middle of the night to fix a broken pipe, to needing veterinary service for a sick dog. It also handles things like helping families new to an area find child care, or information about the school system, summer jobs — whatever is needed.

"One Source can get all that information and provide it to you in a most efficient manner, whether it be electronically or getting back to you on the telephone," Mr. Molino said.

People should not be afraid or embarrassed to seek help from Military One Source, he said.

"The person at the other end of the phone isn't going to be judgmental," he said.

● SEE FAMILY PAGE 3

Training the best air dominance team for America

Services squadron continues winning streak, earns another AF-level award

BRIG. GEN. LARRY NEW
325th Fighter Wing commander

I hope everyone enjoyed the long weekend and was able to participate in the various events that occurred throughout the community. I know some of our Team Tyndall warriors supported several events, and I want to extend my thanks for a job well done! Tyndall enjoys a dynamic relationship with the local community and the selfless service and excellence displayed by the men and women of Team Tyndall goes a long way to strengthen that relationship.

Speaking of excellence, once again the 325th Services Squadron has demonstrated they are the best at what they do as the squadron's Readiness Program received top honors as best in the Air Force by winning the 2004 Air Force

Outstanding Readiness Program Award. Lt. Col. Greg Parsons, 325th Services Squadron commander, and his team of

goes above and beyond in carrying out the Tyndall and Air Force missions every day.



“...Your dedication to the Air Force mission is what makes us the best air dominance team in the Air Force.”

BRIG. GEN. LARRY NEW
325th Fighter Wing commander

Greg, congratulations to you and your folks! This is a much deserved award, as your team definitely contributes to improving the quality of life at Tyndall and in making Tyndall a better place to live and work.

Many of our organizations have received recognition for their efforts and accomplishments, and that only shows what I've said and known to be true all along – Team Tyndall is com-

prised of the most talented individuals in the Air Force, and your dedication to the Air Force mission is what makes us the best air dominance team in the Air Force!

Have a great weekend, and I'll see all of you next week.

professionals continually demonstrate their commitment to excellence and have received recognition at various levels several times this year. It is great to see our people and programs receive the recognition they deserve, as each and every member of Team Tyndall

Voting is not just a right, it's a duty

CHIEF MASTER SGT.

MANNY SARMINA

Air Force Surgeon General Office

BOLLING AIR FORCE BASE, D.C. (AFPN) — On Sept. 18, 1787, the final day of the constitutional convention, Benjamin Franklin emerged from Independence Hall in Philadelphia into a crowd of curious spectators. The people were eagerly waiting for news of what form of government he and his fellow delegates had created for the young nation.

A woman stepped forward and asked Mr. Franklin, “Well, doctor, what have we got, a republic or a monarchy?”

Without hesitation, Mr. Franklin

replied, “A republic, if you can keep it.”

His prophetic reply is just as true today as it was more than 200 years ago.

“We the people” have a sacred obligation to safeguard “for ourselves and our posterity” the blessings of liberty our forefathers fought so hard to achieve. And the most fundamental obligation is the responsibility of every eligible citizen to vote.

This November, many Americans will take part in the democratic process by going to the polls to exercise their right to vote.

Sadly, many more will not. In fact, if this year's election turnout follows historical trends, more than

half of the voting-age population will not bother to vote.

At stake this fall are the offices of the president and vice president of the United States, one-third of the seats in the U.S. Senate, the entire House of Representatives, 13 state governorships, and a host of other state and local offices, initiatives and issues.

Judging by voting statistics, “we the people” take our right to vote for granted. But the idea that the people should choose their leaders was once very radical in a world ruled by monarchies and oligarchies.

Enlightened philosophers like John Locke and Thomas Jefferson, however, argued that

self-government is a natural right of every person, and that governments derive their powers from the consent of the governed.

Our fundamental belief in the right of self-government, so eloquently expressed in the Declaration of Independence, and achieved by the blood of patriots in the American Revolution and on every battlefield since, is the cornerstone of our American political system. The U.S. Constitution provides the framework through which our political system works, and guarantees each state a “republican form of government,” a republic being a po-

● SEE VOTE PAGE 15

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 325th Fighter Wing Inspector General's Office, 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

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325th Fighter Wing public affairs: 2003 Best in Air Force - Large Wing

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

● **FROM FAMILY PAGE 1**

tal about your situation," he said.

He pointed out when servicemembers are deployed, they can put their minds at ease knowing that if their family needs help, it is only a phone call away.

Putting himself in that position, Mr. Molino said, "I would find it very (comforting) to know that my family back home has that option ... and they don't have to wait for the family center to open. They don't have to find a way to get to the family center. My wife wouldn't have to find

a way to have the children taken care of.

Military One Source also can be helpful to active-duty servicemembers. They do not have to take time off from work or training to solve a problem. All they have to do is call Military One Source, Mr. Molino said.

He emphasized that Military One Source counseling service is not mental-health counseling or counseling for an illness that might be burdening somebody.

"We have a health-care system that provides that service," he said. "This is a different kind of counseling. It's for folks that experience difficulties day to day."

When a servicemember is deployed, the family adjusts to his or her absence. Somebody is walking the dog and taking out the garbage. When the servicemember comes back, he or she has to fit back into the family. Sometimes that creates friction, Mr. Molino said.

All families have some degree of difficulty, and most of them manage to work through the problem. But sometimes they need a little assistance, and one phone call can now get them that kind of counseling, he said.

Military One Source also is available to National Guardsmen and reservists being called to active duty for operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.

(Courtesy of American Forces Press Service.)

Toll-free numbers for Military One Source:

— From the United States: (800) 342-9647.

— From outside the United States (where available): (800) 3429-6477.

— International collect: (484) 530-5747.

Uniform board releases results

Changes to the AFI will be made this summer

STAFF SGT.

MELANIE STREETER

Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON —

Air Force officials recently released the results of the 96th Air Force Uniform Board held June 18 and 19.

The chief of staff approved a number of changes, affecting everything from cell phones to scarves. Among the changes are:

— Establish a standardized Air Force physical training uniform.

— Redesign the female lightweight blue jacket.

— Authorize the lightweight blue jacket to be worn indoors.

— Authorize, as an option, to have the Air Force symbol embroidered on the lightweight blue jacket.

— Offer the A-line skirt as an optional item.

— Redesign and revise maternity uniforms.

— Authorize the black scarf only with all Air Force uniforms,

eliminating white, gray and olive drab options.

— Authorize conservative ornamentation on non-prescription sunglasses and eyeglasses.

— Authorize one small, black, nondescript personal digital assistant, pager or cellular phone at a time to be worn on the

New uniform rules

• *These uniform changes have been approved, but members should wait for further instruction before implementing them.*

• *For more information call 283-2276.*

uniform belt.

— Allow females to wear small, black spherical earrings when in uniform.

— Allow black web belts or black riggers belts with nondescript buckles as an optional item with the battle dress uniform.

— Remove the requirement to wear a tie or tab with short-sleeved shirt or blouse while traveling on a commercial airline.

— Authorize wear of a backpack over both shoulders.

— Authorize only a solid-color black backpack with blue uniform combinations and solid black, olive drab or woodland camouflage backpack with battle dress uniforms.

— Redesign the security forces beret.

— Allow the wear of plain black conservative hairpins, combs, headbands, elastic bands and barrettes with all female hair colors.

— Allow males to cleanly shave their heads or have military high-and-tight haircuts; females are not authorized to shave their heads or wear high-and-tight haircuts.

More information about these and other uniform board decisions will be included in the next update of Air Force Instruction 36-2903, being released this summer. Questions should be addressed to local military personnel flights.

DOD expands troop anthrax, smallpox vaccination

GERRY GILMORE
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFP) — More U.S. servicemembers, including those serving in South Korea, will be vaccinated against smallpox and anthrax, the Defense Department's senior medical adviser said June 30.

The availability of additional smallpox and anthrax vaccine will allow for vaccinating all service-members assigned to U.S. Central Command, and many serving in U.S. Pacific Command, said Dr. William Winkenwerder, assistant secretary of defense for

health affairs. This includes troops assigned in South Korea.

Dr. Winkenwerder said he could not provide the numbers of troops affected by the policy change, other than saying "tens of thousands" would be vaccinated. The policy change, he said, was not precipitated by a definite threat increase.

"There is no substantial change to the threat situation," Dr. Winkenwerder said, explaining the increased availability of both vaccines "will provide an additional layer of protection" for servicemembers.

Central Command troops deployed to the Afghanistan and Iraq theaters of operation had been vaccinated against smallpox and anthrax, Dr. Winkenwerder said, but now "all personnel in Central Command" will receive both vaccinations.

Servicemembers serving in selected areas of PACOM, including South Korea, also will receive the anthrax and smallpox vaccines, Dr. Winkenwerder said.

The cost of administering more smallpox and anthrax shots will run into "the tens of millions of dollars," Dr.

Winkenwerder said, but the program would not strain his \$30 billion overall budget.

Medical studies, Dr. Winkenwerder said, have shown that administration of the vaccines poses little threat to servicemembers' health. Since June 2002, the Defense Department has vaccinated more than 750,000 troops against anthrax. That number, he said, increases to an aggregate of more than 1 million if vaccinations administered since 1998 are factored in. Since December 2002, he said, more than 625,000 troops received smallpox vaccinations.



SECAF approves 'V' device for heroism award

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFP) — Secretary of the Air Force Dr. James Roche has authorized use of the "V" device, to represent valor, on Distinguished Flying Crosses awarded for heroism.

The decision is intended to clearly distinguish and denote a DFC awarded for heroism. It allows any Reserve, Guard or active-duty Airman or Air Force DFC recipient honored for heroism on or after Sept. 18, 1947, to wear the "V" device on the DFC.

The approval is effective immediately; Airmen previously awarded the DFC for heroism, as indicated on the citation, certificate or order, are now authorized to wear the "V" device.

"There is no requirement to have a personnel office verify entitlement to wear the 'V' device,"

said Master Sgt. Al Salinas, chief of the recognition programs branch at the Air Force Personnel Center here. "Simply put, anyone awarded the DFC for heroism is entitled to wear the device. Also, the military person-

"Simply put, anyone awarded the DFC for heroism is entitled to wear the device. Also, the military personnel data system will be updated later this year to reflect the DFC with valor in active-duty Airmen records."

MASTER SGT. AL SALINAS
AFPC chief of the recognition programs branch

nel data system will be updated later this year to reflect the DFC with valor in active-duty Airmen records."

If needed, current Airmen who have lost personal copies of their citation or order may inquire about obtaining a replacement copy from their servicing military personnel flight. Veterans may seek copies from the National Personnel Records Center at the following address:

National Personnel Records Center, 9700 Page Avenue, St. Louis, MO, 63132.

Airmen may purchase the "V" device from an Army and Air Force Exchange Service clothing sales store, or contact their servicing MPF's awards and decorations section for issue. Veterans may purchase the device through AAFES or commercial sources.

For more information, contact the local MPFs awards and decorations section.

(Courtesy of AFPC News Service)

Meet the 325th Fighter Wing vice commander

1. What are your goals as the 325th Fighter Wing vice commander?

- To assist the commander in accomplishing the mission...
- To take care of the finest people America has to offer ... the members of the 325th Fighter Wing, Team Tyndall ... and ...
- To ensure we support our families who are the foundation that support us.

2. How did you feel when you were selected for assignment to Tyndall?

Excited! We knew we would enjoy working for Brig. Gen. Larry New and Diane and we will be sorry to see them leave. We looked forward to being part of Team Tyndall and the 325th Fighter Wing. Tyndall is at the leading edge of the next generation of training. The chance to participate in the transformation of the way we train those who will, in the future, gain and maintain air dominance for America does not come around very often. Also, the chance to get back into the F-15 (and maybe an F/A-22 later) didn't hurt either.

3. What was your favorite assignment/best Air Force experience?

325th Fighter Wing vice commander. Donna and I have been blessed to be part of the Air Force family for more than 20 years. Each of our assignments has been unique and each has left us with special friends and irreplaceable memories. But, my favorite assignment is always the one I'm in. This one is the one I can make the most difference to getting our mission done, taking care of our people, and enjoying the benefits of Tyndall and our superior local community.

4. What are the keys to a successful Air Force career?

Focus on doing your best to accomplish the mission, take care of your family, the people that work for you, and yourself in your current job. The career will take care of itself.



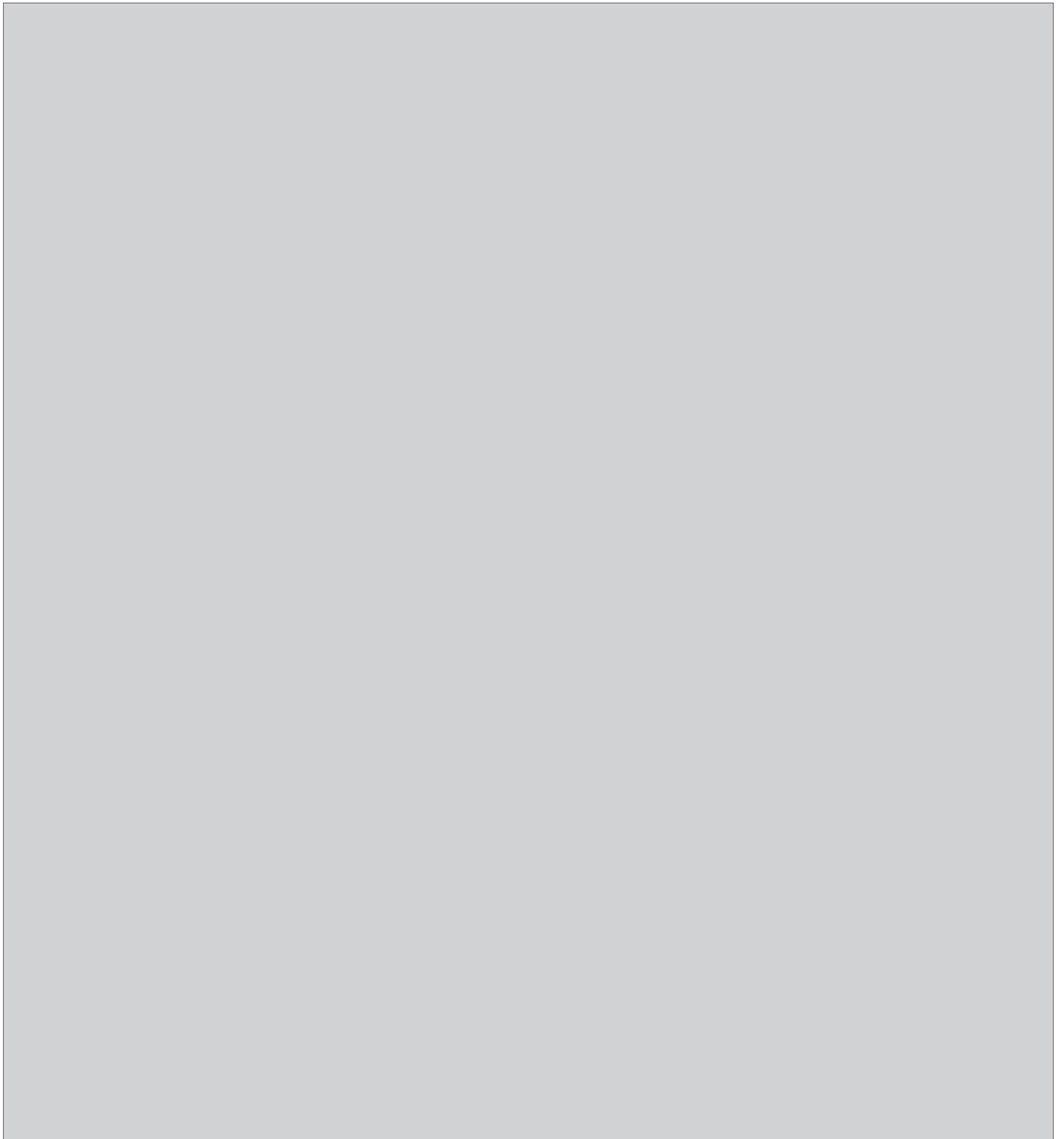
Col. Brian Dickerson

5. What are your pet peeves?

Not taking care of your people. The Air Force has outstanding people, gives them world-class training, and exceptional tools and equipment. They want to accomplish the mission. Give them the opportunity to excel and they will.

6. Is there one thing you haven't done that you aspire to accomplish?

I enjoy traveling and seeing new places and things. The Air Force has given me lots of chances to travel, but eventually I would like to travel more with my wife Donna in an unofficial, more leisurely manner.



Back to basics

Q. What are some rules for wearing the men's and women's mess dress?

1. According to AFI 36-2903, when wearing the men and women's Mess Dress, wear either the highly polished or satin finished badges, cuff links and studs as a set; do not mix highly polished and satin finishes.
2. Center miniature medals between lapel and arm seam and midway between top shoulder seam and top button of jacket.
3. Center aeronautical, occupational, or miscellaneous badge one-half inch above top row of medals.
4. When wearing the men's Semi Formal uniform, the polyester herringbone twill tie will be worn. The white shirt will have no button holes at the edge of collar.
5. For women, the blue inverted-V tie tab, polyester herringbone twill with self-fastening tails will be worn. Same applies; no button holes.

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

Checkertail Salute

Tech. Sgt. Rosemary Goodall



Steve Wallace

Sergeant Goodall receives the Checkertail Salute Warrior of the Week award from Brig. Gen. Larry New, 325th Fighter Wing commander.

The Checkertail Clan salutes Sergeant Goodall, who mastered criminal and civil rules for magistrates's court in minimum time. She also managed training and reporting requirements for 90 confidential financial disclosure filers from five different squadrons. She reorganized files and streamlined the Juvenile Assistance Council, championed initiative to revamp process for gathering court-martial members and employed solid case management of several issues. Additionally, she provides on-site execution of wills and various other documents to retired military members and is the alternate Victim's and Witness Assistance program coordinator.

Duty Title: 325th Fighter Wing Judge Advocate's Office NCOIC of civil law

Time on station: Five years and nine months

Time in service: 19 years

Hometown: Hernando, Fla.

Hobbies: Reading, computer gaming, cross stitch, hunting, fishing, camping, hiking and antique cars

Goals: To earn my Certified Legal Assistant certificate

Favorite thing about Tyndall: The people

Pet peeves: Laziness

Favorite book: The Stand

Favorite movie: The Hunt for Red October

Proudest moment in the military: When I found out I made master sergeant

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.

The F/A-22 Raptor and Airmen:

The key to continuing a winning tradition



1st Lt. Albert Bosco

Senior Airmen Howard Young, right, and Michael White, 43rd Aircraft Maintenance Unit crew chiefs, perform a safe-for-maintenance check using the portable maintenance aid. The PMA is a computer that houses all of the aircraft's technical orders as well as acts as a troubleshooter for the maintainers.

CAPT. CHRIS KARNIS
325th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

(This is the first of a four-part series highlighting the role the Raptor and Tyndall Airmen play in securing air dominance for the nation's armed services.)

The Raptor is designed to eventually replace the venerable Eagle, an aircraft that continues to prove its worth and value in battle, sporting an undefeated 104-0 combat record.

"The record of success speaks for itself," said Brig. Gen. Larry New, 325th Fighter Wing commander.

Very few teams can claim an undefeated record—the 1972 Miami Dolphins come to mind. Every once in a while a team finishes a season undefeated. However, a winning streak spanning three-plus decades is unimaginable.

It's a streak that must continue, and will with the addition of the F/A-22 Raptor to the Air Force team. The defense business isn't sports. A close contest is not an option, as losses are lives and unrealized memories. This is no game.

While the Eagle record speaks for itself, 30-year old technology can only extend the record so much farther. In 2005, some foreign fighters will match or exceed current U.S. fighter capabilities, and today's F-15 and F-16s can not penetrate the double-digit surface-to-air missile threat without losses. Also, weapons of mass destruction and theater ballistic missiles pose a threat to yesterday's technology. Without highly trained Airmen and the Raptor, the impact could be huge—losses experienced on the field and eventually in the air.

"Adversaries are not standing still and weapons continue to evolve and improve as does the quality of pilots being produced by other nations," said Col. Tim Merrell, 325th Operations Group commander and

an experienced F-15 Eagle and recently minted Raptor pilot.

Even the most seasoned Eagle pilot will tell you that despite its impressive track record, the technological gap has closed and the need for the Raptor is real. The current gap can largely be credited to superior pilot training, but the F/A-22 will create a chasm that our potential adversaries will not be able to overcome anytime in the near future.

"Just because the Warsaw pact dissolved and the Cold War ended doesn't mean threat capabilities don't still exist, or continue to exist and advance in the future. The Raptor brings on the next generation of applying technology to war fighting, putting

"It's fun having 19- and 20-year-old Airmen, guided by top-notch NCOs and led by selfless Senior NCOs, troubleshooting and repairing the Raptor with impressive ease, and then watching eight of the world's greatest fighter pilots validate their fixes every time they complete a sortie."

CHIEF MASTER SGT. JAMES WILKERSON
43rd Aircraft Maintenance Unit chief

our aircraft two generations ahead of any threat and removing us from our current status of weapons system parity," said General New, an F-15 pilot with more than 3,000 hours flown in the Eagle. "Raptor technology combined with realistic training will provide air dominance, under which all other mili-

tary actions become possible."

The Raptor is built to deliver desired results, combining all the needed and best attributes of existing fighters and then some—stealth, supercruise, maneuverability and integrated avionics, ensuring the pilot a first look, first shot and first kill capability.

Even with the Raptor capability, the need to ensure Airmen and training evolve to meet evolving threats remains most critical to mission success, said General New.

"People win battles and wars," said General New. "We develop our Airmen from day one to the last day they're in our service to be the best Airmen in the world ... You talk to any former generation of Airman and they'll tell you that the current generation of Airmen is so much better than in the past. That confirms we're doing it right."

Ensuring that training is conducted right

and Airmen are prepared to handle any mission is critical, as lives depend on it. Besides graduating Raptor pilots, Tyndall is also responsible for producing the rest of America's air dominance team—F-15 pilots and maintainers, intelligence officers, air battle managers and air traffic controllers, establishing the foundation for air dominance training for decades to come.

The 43rd Fighter Squadron is setting the training cornerstone to ensure that the Air Force's newest capability, the F/A-22 Raptor, is fully utilized in its training program.

"The original training syllabus that was developed provided us tremendous infrastructure for the training program, which we've refocused on global strike concepts," said Lt. Col. Jeff Harrigian, 43rd Fighter Squadron commander. "We've identified skill sets required for the global strike concept of operations and emphasized the application of stealth, precision and supercruise."

Currently at Tyndall, eight Raptor pilots as well as numerous maintainers are putting the F/A-22 through its paces, gathering lessons learned and building the foundation to ensure the fighter community's legacy of success remains in tact.

"The Eagle brought radically improved capabilities over its predecessor fighters. Fortunately, our Air Force leaders allowed us to explore new ways of employment to fully develop the capabilities of the Eagle," said General New. "The Raptor brings revolutionary new capabilities, and we're already approaching Raptor training with an open mind to fully develop its potential.

Realistic training, combined with the best-fielded equipment our nation can provide, in the hands of Airmen, give us a capability superior to the adversaries we've faced in conflict."

Thus far, Tyndall has surpassed nearly 250 cumulative hours in the Raptor and has flown more than 215 sorties as the Raptor moves closer to initial operational capability. Pilots and maintainers are excited about the future and have remarked on the "eye-watering" capability afforded to them and to future generations of Airmen.

"The Raptor is on a different playing field than every other fighter in the world," said Colonel Merrell. "The Raptor's ability to transit airspace quickly, penetrate an enemy's defenses, defend itself and, at the same time, knock-down the enemy's offensive and defensive capabilities is totally unique in a world usually dominated by rolling back defenses by massing of firepower with overwhelming numbers. The Raptor achieves the same effect as multiple platforms without exposing itself to the same dangers."

"The Raptor [contains] 4th generation stealth technology and has a fully integrated avionics suite, yet it remains the most maintenance friendly airplane ever," said Capt. Rognald Christensen, 43rd Aircraft Maintenance Unit officer in charge.

Two important Raptor safety features include a portable maintenance aid that enables maintainers to accomplish operational checks on the ground, eliminating the need to get into the cockpit during engine runs and the 1,300 technical order library and



1st Lt. Albert Bosco

Airman Young inspects an AIM-120 launcher in the main weapons bay.

integration of TO data with maintenance tasks contained in the PMA ensures fingertip access to information and ensures each step is completed right before allowing the maintainer to proceed, said Captain Christensen.

"On other aircraft, you take a component out and it's not a maintainer-friendly experience," said Master Sgt. Richard Street, 43rd Aircraft Maintenance section chief. "On the Raptor, I don't have to remove one component in order to reach another."

While the technology is impressive, the Airmen are also producing desired results at all levels.

"It's fun having 19- and 20-year-old Airmen, guided by top-notch NCOs and led by selfless Senior NCOs, troubleshooting and repairing the Raptor with impressive ease, and then watching eight of the world's greatest fighter pilots validate their fixes every time they complete a sortie," said Chief Master Sgt. James Wilkerson, 43rd Aircraft Maintenance Unit chief.

Besides being user-friendly, the Raptor also delivers a 24 hour a day multi-role combat capability, benefiting all services.

"There is absolutely no doubt that the Raptor operated, supported and employed by Air Force people will guarantee around the clock air dominance that enables any military operation required by our nation," said General New.

Members of the 325th Fighter Wing and the 43rd Fighter Squadron look forward to the opportunity of continuing the legacy of excellence and leaving a stronger Air Force for future generations.

"We owe it to future generations to give

them new things to work with, and the opportunity and responsibility to take those new things and deliver effects in ways we never thought of... the F/A-22 will do just that and more," said Lt. Col. Mike Stapleton, 43rd Fighter Squadron director of operations.

A 104 to 0 record is an incredible record to achieve. No doubt, a high bar and standard has been set by the F-15 and its crews. However, the visionary engineers and Airmen involved in the early years of the Raptor program used the Eagle lessons learned to take the next generation fighter to a new level.

"Flexibility was designed into the F/A-22 system to ensure it continues to evolve to meet existing and evolving threats," said General New.

Each capability combined, the Raptor, training and Airmen make an unbeatable combination.

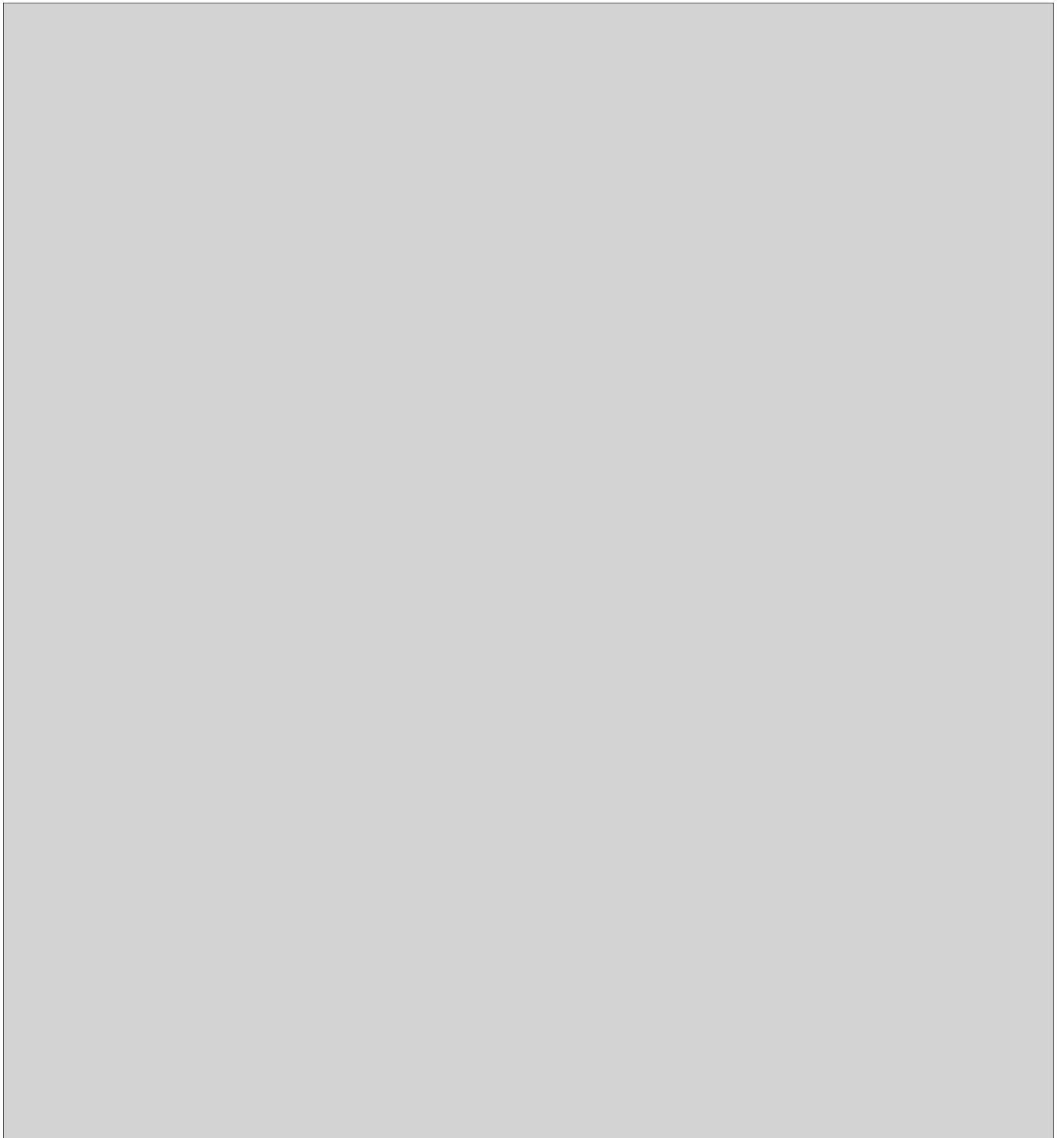
"Training and equipping our forces drives readiness and mission success," said General New. "It is critical to anticipate threats and arm and train our people to accomplish our nation's objectives safely and effectively. The F/A-22 is a platform of the future and combined with trained Airmen, we will be prepared for whatever the future may bring and deliver overwhelming results."

The Raptor alone cannot win its nation's wars, but placed in the hands of highly trained Airmen it gives the nation an overwhelming capability of continuing its legacy of excellence and prepares Airmen and Joint forces for success over the battlefields of today and tomorrow.



Lisa Norman

Tech. Sgt. Andy Zumwalt, 43rd AMU crew chief, helps Maj. Steven Luczynski, 43rd Fighter Squadron F/A-22 pilot, fasten a harness prior to a sortie.



Expeditionary mindset provides stability, predictability for Airmen

TECH. SGT. ORVILLE DESJARLAIS JR.

Airman Magazine

SAN ANTONIO (AFP) — Nothing much stands out at the Air and Space Expeditionary Force Center at Langley Air Force Base, Va.

The rooms upon rooms of cubicles are standard for a work center. A snack room provides lunch for those too busy to leave, and a larger parking lot would make people happier.

Everything appears normal, except for the inordinate amount of white boards. The boards are standard in meeting rooms, but in every other cubicle?

Ideas, as everyone knows, are fleeting. Here, ideas are jotted down quickly before they evaporate. One can actually read the writing on the wall. Nearly every white board has an expeditionary process spelled out with arrows, acronyms, sources, potential advantages and disadvantages, all just steps away from becoming future Air Force policy.

The cross flow of information, the multiple layers and complications of each AEF cycle and the 10- to 12-hour work days that seem to fly by are all part of the center's operation.

"Our mission is to take the Air Force's most valuable resource, its people, and provide lethal combat power," said Brig. Gen. Anthony Przybyslawski, the center's commander. "We're not dealing with inanimate objects here like on a factory assembly line. We're dealing with people's lives and providing combat capable forces to the warfighter. When we (began supporting the war on terror), we went from deploying 8,000 people to 100,000 people in a couple months. It was truly amazing."

The operations in Iraq and Afghanistan put the Air Force into full afterburner, forcing a 1,250 percent increase in deployments. The conflicts also battle-tested the AEF concept of operations. In the beginning, AEF goals were straightforward: Provide combatant commanders with the right force at the right time, reduce the deployment tempo and take full advantage of the Guard, Reserve and civil-service capabilities.

It is a work in progress, designed to be flexible. It will continue to react to mission requirements, service needs and the

national military strategy while executing the Air Force battle rhythm to deliver versatile and responsive air and space power to meet the warfighter's global security requirements.

For every action the center is a part of, there is a reaction — be it caused by wars, manpower shortages or readiness issues. The center's charter is to keep everything on an even keel. Once its concept solidified, Airmen were organized into 10 AEF "pairs" that deployed, ideally, for three months on 15-month cycles. This system became a way of life for most Airmen and allowed for unit training, adequate reconstitution, and personal as well as professional development while providing stability and predictability in Airmen's lives. On Sept.

"The proper mindset is you're either training to go, going or already gone. You're 'sitting alert' until called."

BRIG. GEN. ANTHONY PRZYBYSLAWSKI

Air and Space Expeditionary Force Center commander

11, 2001, that changed.

"It was like turning on a fire hose," said Master Sgt. Roger Heath of the center's operations division, who arrived there two weeks before the attack on the United States. And it was not just Sept. 11. Whenever he watched television news, he witnessed the fruits of his labor. "Haiti, Africa, the winter Olympics, homeland security, even the fires in California — whenever I'd see our people landing there, we did that."

In the past, General Przybyslawski said the cost of engagement was too high. Instead of sending a six-person team to repair a runway, a whole squadron was sent. It was like using a sledgehammer to kill a fly.

"The warfighter now asks for a specific capability, and we provide the weapon system," the general said. "An Army commander once said he was tired of using \$100 bills to pay bills without receiving change. He wanted a lot of \$5 bills. The Air Force, because we have more than 90,000 specific capabilities and skills, carries around 90,000 nickels to pay bills efficiently."

There are 220 people from 48 different Air Force specialties in the center who provide combat commanders the aircraft and manpower needed to complete a mission. Capt. Jennifer Allen — who recently returned from a stint at a deployed location — is typical of a center staff member. A majority of them are battle-tested.

"It's hard for a personnel officer to get selected to go to a

war zone," the captain said. "I wanted to get a wartime tasking. Since I was never (against a tasking), I signed up for a remote short tour. Some people think that we in the AEF Center don't know what's going on, but we do."

General Przybyslawski instills the human aspect in the center.

"These are real people we're talking about, not line numbers. We need to take care of people," he said.

That personal care can be extended to the 20,000 people deployed on any given AEF rotation, or even focused on a single person — that is, if that person is being extended. By his own rule, the general must review every extension.

"I found religion when General [John] Jumper [Air Force chief of staff] asked me who authorized extensions — who ultimately made the decision. I said (functional area managers) do. Ever since, I review every extension out there and investigate every action possible so we minimize extensions."

"Extensions are like rocks in our shoes; it's not a perfect world. If we have to extend people, we try to tell them before they deploy. Extensions are our last option," he said. "We take extensions seriously, so much so that the chief of staff will approve all extensions when the new Air Force Instruction on AEF presence policy is soon released."

To prevent extensions and allow greater continuity for expeditionary commanders in the field, while still providing stability and predictability, General Jumper announced a change in deployment lengths.

Beginning with AEF Cycle 5 in September, AEF deployment lengths will be four months on 20-month rotational cycles.

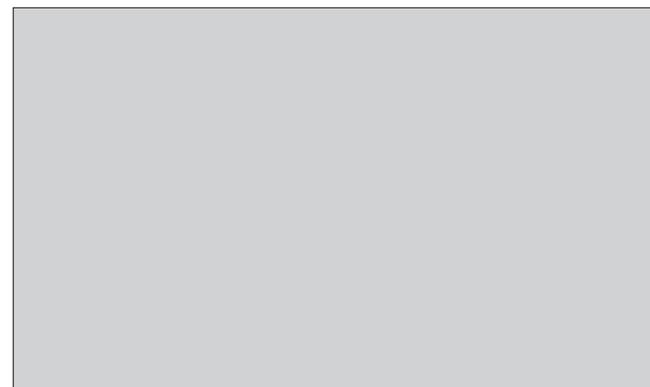
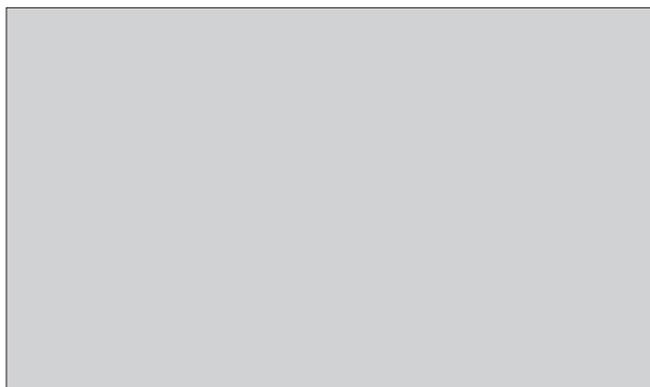
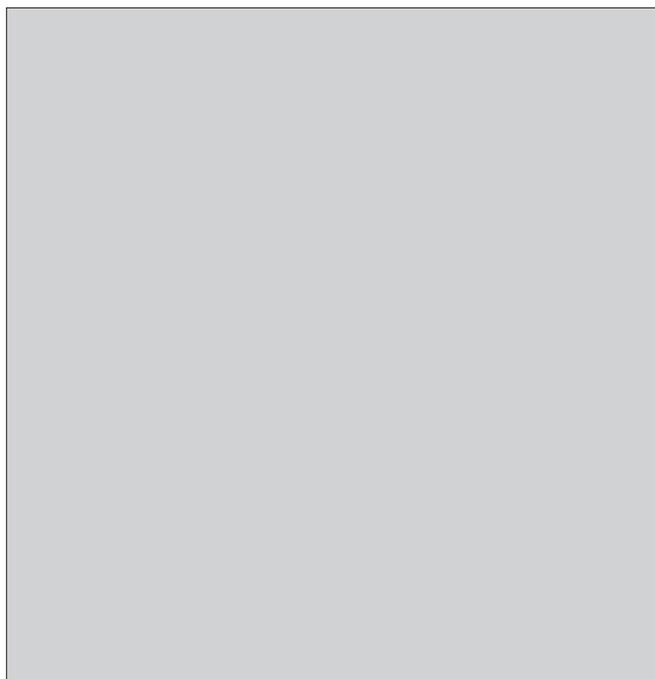
"This evolution of the AEF is not a temporary adjustment," General Jumper wrote in his Sight Picture on June 4. "More appropriately, it is recognition of new demands around the world for air and space power.

"Simply put, the demands on our deployable forces have not diminished and are not expected to decline for some time," the general wrote.

The 20-month cycle will continue to provide commanders and Airmen the ability to plan ahead, allowing predictability while providing greater continuity for the in-theater commander.

"The culture of the ... air and space expeditionary force is ... everyone in the Air Force must understand that the day-to-day operation of the Air Force is absolutely set to the rhythm of the deploying AEF force packages," General Jumper said.

"We need people to get upset when they don't go," General Przybyslawski said. "The proper mindset is you're either training to go, going or already gone. You're 'sitting alert' until called."





Steve Riddle

We've got game

David Turcotte and Aaron Jones play computer games in the Tyndall Community Center's new Sector 6 Computer Gaming Room Tuesday. The computer game room opened Tuesday and has six computers hooked up to a network that allows gamers to compete against each other.

Games available to play now are "Battle Field Vietnam" and "Unreal Tournament 2004." Both are first-person shooting games. The game room's 21-inch monitors make it easy to keep up with the action, and camouflage netting suspended from the ceiling was added to give the room a "combat feel."

The Sector 6 Computer Gaming Room will be open during all Community Center operating hours. Officials who installed the equipment said gaming tournaments in the facility are a possibility in the future, depending on player demand.

Events

Basics of investing

The next Basics of Investing class will be held in the Family Support Center classroom, Bldg. 743, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. July 16. Call 283-4204 for reservations and information.

Blended family seminar

There will be a blended families seminar 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. July 19 in the Family Support Center classroom. Participants can bring their lunch. Dessert will be provided. For more information or reservations, call 283-4204.

Senior NCO induction ceremony dinner

Tyndall Top 3 invites Team Tyndall members to its 7th Annual Senior NCO Induction Ceremony Dinner July 30. A social hour will begin at 6 p.m. and Dinner at 6:30 p.m. Menu - Prime beef and grouper: \$20 for club members and \$23

for non-club members. Chef salad - \$18 for club members and \$21 for non-club members.

Palace Chase information

The Air National Guard has part-time positions available throughout the country to military members separating or thinking about applying for Palace Chase.

Retraining is available, and members retain most of their benefits in addition to some state benefits such as 100 percent tuition assistance. For more information, contact Master Sgt. William Andujar at (850) 884-2729 or e-mail william.andujar@hurlburt.af.mil.

E-8 testing window changes

Beginning in December, all master sergeants competing for promotion to senior master sergeant will test on the USAF supervisory examination Dec. 6-17. The testing cycle will no longer be conducted in January. Testing conducted after Dec. 17 will be considered out-of-cycle. For more information, call Master Sgt. Brian Chasse at DSN 665-2265.

Retiree News

AAFES saves customers money

DALLAS - The Army & Air Force Exchange Service saves customers money by offering low prices everyday. A national independent market basket survey of AAFES prices compared to comparable retailers reveals that AAFES prices are on average 21.89 percent lower than the competition. This savings is before any additional savings from the tax-free advantage of shopping AAFES. Check out the survey results at www.aafes.com.

Classifieds

Wanted

Part-time editorial assistant needed for weekly *Gulf Defender* newspaper serving Tyndall AFB. Duties include proofreading, editing, inputting copy submissions and performing mailouts of approximately 100 papers weekly.

Needed for Wednesday afternoon, and Thursday and Friday morning hours. Applicants should possess strong spelling and grammar skills. Knowledge of Associated Press style a plus. Position is hired by the Panama City News Herald. To apply, contact 1st Lt. Albert Bosco at 283-8597.

For Sale

Chow Chow/ German Shepherd mix puppy

Free to a good home, one predominately Chow Chow puppy, male, 4 months old, going to be big and strong. For a picture e-mail smcdowell@knology.net. For more information call Lauren at 866-0070 or Sarah at 819-4064.

2000 Jeep Wrangler

Yellow with black wheels on 33x12.50 BFG A/T. 6-inch lift, cold air intake electric fan, flow master. Stock and bikini soft tops included. Asking \$14,000 OBO. Call 624-7647 or 215-8840.

Furniture

New sofa and loveseat set \$700. Washer and dryer set in good condition \$200. Call 850-624-7647.

Washer & Dryer

Maytag Washer - old, beige, \$50. Kenmore Dryer - 1998, white, extra large capacity, electric, \$175. Both in good condition. \$200 for both. Call Jeff or Shannon at 249-9805.

Yamaha piano

French provincial console, \$950 obo. For more information, call Joanie at (850) 230-1067.

Chapel Schedule

Catholic services held at Chapel 2:

Daily Mass, 11:30 a.m. Monday-Friday
Reconciliation (before Saturday Mass or by appointment)
Saturday Mass, 5 p.m.
Sunday Mass, 9:30 a.m.
Religious Education, 11 a.m. Sunday.

Protestant services at Chapel 1:

Communion service, 9:30 a.m., Chapel 1
Religious Education classes, 9:30-10:30 a.m. in Bldg. 1476
General Protestant service, 11 a.m., Chapel 2.

Professional soccer player comes to teach Tyndall children



STEVE RIDDLE
325th Services Squadron publicist

Major League Soccer is bringing their soccer camp to the Tyndall Youth Center July 19 – 23, providing several professional

players to teach basic and advanced skills to young soccer players here. The camp is open to all Tyndall children ages 4 – 18, and according to Andy Wallace, Tyndall Youth Center fitness coordinator, this same camp has helped improve the soccer skills of Tyndall children for the past

several years. “We’ve been doing this camp for the past four years, and they’ve been great,” Mr. Wallace said. “We’ve definitely seen a marked improvement from the kids who have gone to them in the past.”

Mr. Wallace said the pros start with the basics of soccer – passing, dribbling, and ball control. They also teach offensive and defensive positions, and where players should be at any time during a game. Children will also be taught in an age-appropriate manner, meaning the emphasis will be on fun for the younger players. The older players will be introduced to skills to make them more competitive in league play; something Mr. Wallace said has really

paid off in recent years.

“Our teams we have playing in off-base leagues are doing pretty good,” Mr. Wallace said. “They’ve been able to stay very competitive with the other teams.”

The cost is \$45 for ages 4 – 6 and \$65 for ages 7 – 18. Each participant will get a soccer ball and hat, and most importantly,

skills to use in the upcoming soccer season, which is right around the corner.

“The camp is a great lead-in to our soccer season, which will start in early August,” Mr. Wallace said.

For more information, contact the Tyndall Youth Center at 283-4366.

To sign up:

- The cost is \$45 for ages 4 – 6 and \$65 for ages 7 – 18.
- Each participant will get a soccer ball and hat, and most importantly, skills to use in the upcoming soccer season, which is right around the corner.
- For more information, contact the Tyndall Youth Center at 283-4366.

Three time ‘World’s Strongest Man’ title holder visits Tyndall

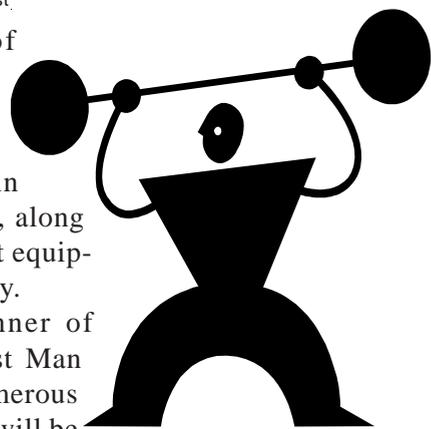
STEVE RIDDLE
325th Services Squadron publicist

There are a lot of strong people who train at the Tyndall Fitness Center, but on Wednesday the strongest man in the world will be there, along with some new workout equipment for everyone to try.

Bill Kazmaier, winner of three World’s Strongest Man contests along with numerous other feats of strength, will be at the fitness center Wednesday morning beginning at 10 a.m. for an autograph and photo session. After that, he will demonstrate lifting techniques with a new line of equipment that will be at the fitness center for a 30-day trial period.

The Strive Smart Strength Co. will have two company representatives who, along with Mr. Kazmaier, will also give demonstration classes from 3 – 7 p.m. For those attending, there will be several different strength contests to compete in during that time.

For more information on Wednesday’s event, contact the Tyndall Fitness Center at 283-2631.



Squadron softball standings

American Division			National Division		
	WON	LOST		WON	LOST
MOS	8	2	AFCESA	10	1
SEADS	6	4	WEG	9	1
TEST	8	1	AMXS3	8	2
MXS	9	2	MDG	8	2
CONR/1AF	6	3	MSS	7	3
AMXS2	9	2	OSS	7	4
CES	5	4	LRD	4	6
COMM	5	3	RHS	4	8
SFS	4	5	83 FWS2	2	8
SVS	2	7	AMXS	4	6
ACS2	1	10	MXS2	1	9
83 FWS	0	10	ACS	4	7
2FS	0	10	COMM2	1	11



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

QUIT

American Heart
Association
WERE FIGHTING FOR
YOUR LIFE



Funshine NEWS

July 9, 2004

www.325thservices.com

Crazy Cash Give-Away at the O' & E Clubs Fridays during Social Hour.

Jackpot starts at \$100. The first member name drawn is for the jackpot. If there is no winner \$25 will be added to next week's jackpot (max. \$500). Once the name is drawn the winner has 5 minutes to claim their prize. If the winner fails to claim their prize a second drawing will be held from bar receipts for \$25.

283-4357 for details

NASCAR Pilot Program

Now until July 25

Races may be viewed at
the Pizza Pub in the
Community Center
July 11 & 25

Weekly Prizes valued at
\$150 & \$100

Prizes for participation will be given at
each event. Must be a current AETC Club
Member to win.

Grand Prizes: First place prize is a trip for two to attend the Ford 400 race on Nov. 21, 2004 at Homestead-Miami Speedway. It includes airfare, hotel accommodations, rental car and tickets to the race. 2nd place is \$500 and 3rd place is \$250 to purchase from the NASCAR website.

283-4357

Air Force Club Scholarship Program



Entry deadline
is July 15.

First place
is \$6,000

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

Applicants must be accepted by, or enrolled in, an accredited college or university graduate or undergraduate program by fall of 2004. Information packages with complete instructions and requirements are available from the business office Tyndall Officers' Club.

283-4357
for more information

Sponsored in part by:

Bank One, Coca Cola and Master Card.
No federal endorsement of sponsors intended.

STRIVE Demonstration

Come out and see **Bill Kazmaier, ESPN World's Strongest Man** demonstrate this equipment on the 14th at 10 a.m. Strength Competitions: 3-7 p.m. July 14 at the Fitness Center Patrons will be able to try out the equipment from July 15 until August 13.

Skills Development Ctr.

☎ 283-4511

Youth Arts & Crafts Camp

July 15-17: Fee is \$10 for three days (Tues.-Thur.) 1-3 p.m. Fee includes t-shirt and supplies to make daily projects. June 15, Orientation and embroidery machine demonstration. Students will design their own t-shirt. June 16, bookend construction in the wood shop. June 17, print design and framing in the frame shop. The camp is open to children 8 yrs. and older. Max. of 8 per session. Must register by July 8. If you cannot attend all three days, you may register for one of the days. Cost is \$5 per day.

Marina Club

☎ 283-3059

Best Salad Bar on Base

All you can eat with soft drink \$5.95.

Tyndall Base Library presents:
**The Librarian from
the Black Lagoon**
the 2004 Summer Reading program
which will take place every Wednesday
11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.
from June 9 until August 4 this summer
Call 283-4287 for more information.

Family Fun Day At The Pool

July 31, 2 p.m. until.
All admissions are FREE
Pool games & activities for
all ages; adult
participation a MUST!
Prizes, fun for all.

Call 283-3199

Bonita Bay

☎ 283-3199

Water Aerobics

Back by popular demand. Tuesdays & Thursdays: 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. & 6:30-7:30 p.m., Wednesday: 6:30-7:30 p.m., Saturday 6-7 p.m. Shallow water is low impact. Deep water is no impact on the body. Check for prerequisites with Denise at butts_n_guts@hotmail.com Personal water aerobics training is also available for \$15 per half hour. Payments must be made at Bonita Bay.

Horseback Riding Lessons

Call to book your riding lessons! Private or group. Children's birthday parties at the stables now available.

Dorm Rat Pool Party

July 24. FREE. Free admission to swim beginning at 7:30 p.m. Refreshments, activities, music and more.

Evening Paintball Games

July 17, 5 p.m. until. Bring plenty of fluids, flashlights for after dark. rentals, air and paint available for Purchase

Swimming Lessons

\$45 per person per session. Levels A (infant), B (preschool), 1-6, Adult all sessions, Jr Lifeguard ages 11-14 (Guard Start) Session II & IV, WSI Session II & IV, Session II June 8-June 18 Registration June 1, Session III June 22-July 2 Registration June 15, Session IV July 6-July 16 Registration June 29, Session V July 20-July 30 Registration July 13

Start getting ready now

2004 Air Force Marathon September 18, 2004

Call the Fitness Center for details.
Or visit the official website at:

<http://afmarathon.wpafb.af.mil/registration.htm>

283-2631



Base Pool Swim Meet • July 9

Open to all Tyndall active duty and reservists personnel, DoD employees, their spouses and family members 18 years or older. Check in is at 11 a.m. First event starts at noon. Based upon your critique during our first swim meet in April, we have revised the meet to support your requests: The following events will be offered in a men's, women's and senior division, pending adequate participation. Freestyle: 50, 100, 200 and 500 yard. Backstroke: 50, 100, 200 and 500 yard. Breaststroke: 50, 100, 200 and 500 yard. Butterfly: 50 yard. Individual medley: 200 yards (50 yards per stroke) Male/Female Freestyle Relay: 200 yards. Senior Division (if enough register) 35 years and older. This is not a squadron challenge (intramural event)...participants on teams may be comprised of members from different squadrons. Deadline to register is July 2 at the base pool. If you have any questions please see Daniel Mix, Headguard at the pool.

Call 283-3199 for details.

Ship Fed Ex with Us!

Fed Ex Express Services

Which include:

Priority Overnight Economy 2 Day
Standard Overnight Express Saver 3 Day

Our rates beat the others!

Packages must be at the Community Center by 1:30 p.m. for Overnight. Exclusions exist. Limit 10 lbs.

Call the CAC for details: 283-2495

Sidewalk Chalk Art Contest

July 10, 8 a.m.

at the Community Center

Theme: United We Stand

Cost is \$3 per contestant
Open to all ages call for details

283-2495

Youth Center

☎ 283-4366

Surfs Up

Schedule a class and learn basic techniques and ocean awareness in a safe environment. Classes are held at St. Andrews State Park and transportation is provided. Cost is \$40 per 2 hour session.

MLS Soccer Camp

July 19-23. Open to youth ages 4-18 yrs. Cost is \$45 for 4-6 yr. olds and \$65 for everyone else. Campers receive a MLS ball and T-shirt. Applications are currently available at the Exchange Mall and the Youth Center.

Missoula Children's Theater

Auditions: June 28th starting at 9:30 a.m. Come see Snow White Free on July 2nd at 7 p.m. in the Youth Center Gym. The cast will include Tyndall youth.

Start Smart

Help your kids get ready for sports.

Baseball: July 7, 14, 21, & 28 at 9 a.m.

Cost is \$30. Open to youth 3-5 yr. olds.

Golf: July 10, 17, 24 & 31 at 9 a.m.

Cost is \$30. Open to youth 4-7 yr. olds.

Soccer: July 9, 16, 23, 30, at 9 a.m.

Cost is \$30. Open to youth 3-5 yr. olds.

283-4366

● **FROM VOTE PAGE 2**
litical system in which power resides in citizens who are entitled to vote for representatives responsible to them.

Elections, therefore, are a crucial component of our representative democracy.

The right of all citizens to vote, however, did not come automatically, but evolved gradually — often painfully — over the course of two centuries.

For example, it is interesting that the person who asked Mr. Franklin what form of government the new nation would have was a woman, because the right to vote did not extend to her. In fact, during the colonial period and early years of our nation, voting was generally restricted to white men who owned property. Other people such as women, blacks, American Indians and even members of certain religious groups

could not vote.

The framers of the Constitution could not agree on who should be given the right to vote, so they deferred to the states. The Constitution, therefore, left to each state government the power to decide who could vote. Many of the early battles over the right to vote took place at the state level.

Overall, the struggle to achieve universal suffrage for all Americans was a long, often painful one, attained only by the heroic efforts of many Americans who understood the importance of free elections in a representative democracy.

Today, the right to vote is so universally accepted as our most fundamentally basic of rights that we have forgotten the sacrifices it took to win that right. The struggle for universal suffrage reminds us that those

things worth fighting for are also worth remembering, and, more importantly, exercising.

The right to vote is a symbol of our equality and the true source of our liberty. We should never forget what it took to win the right to vote and how important it is to the workings of a free and democratic society.

By voting, you are not only ensuring your voice is heard, you are paying homage to those brave Americans who struggled to win that right for all Americans.

Amid the celebrations for our nation's 228th birthday, let us renew our commitment and pride in our sacred liberties, our governmental institutions and our vibrant political system.

Apathy is never an excuse not to vote. Your vote counts, so make sure it is there to be counted.

Reservists, guardsmen may be eligible for FICA refund

ARMY SGT. 1ST CLASS DOUG SAMPLE
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFP) — An interpretation of a government rule may mean that mobilized National Guardsmen, reservists and their employers may get a refund on some taxes paid to the federal government.

While researching tax rules for deployed National Guardsmen and reservists, retired Army Reserve Lt. Col. Frank Scattene, a certified public accountant, stumbled upon an interesting fact.

A tax law cited on an Internal Revenue Service Web site states Guard and Reserve servicemembers are exempt from paying taxes on "supplemental income" used by employers. The taxes are used to pay into programs such as Medicare and Social Security under the Federal Insurance Contribution Act and Federal Unemployment Tax Act.

The IRS does not consider the supplemental wages as taxable income because they are not paid for services rendered to the civilian employer, Colonel Scattene said.

Colonel Scattene, who is associated with the Lehigh Valley Military Affairs Council, a nonprofit, tax-exempt Pennsylvania corporation that assists National Guardsmen and reservists, soon learned of several cases of servicemembers who had employers taking out the tax erroneously.

"The reservists didn't know the rule; neither did the employers," he said.

Although supplemental wages are not subject to FICA taxes, the payments still are income to the guardsmen and reservists and are subject to income tax, he said.

Guardsmen and reservists who had FICA taxes erroneously withheld while on extended active duty should request reimbursement from their employer, said

Wayne Spruell. He is the principal director for manpower and personnel for the assistant secretary of defense for reserve affairs.

"Individuals who had an employer erroneously withhold the FICA tax cannot receive it back by amending (his or her) tax return," he said.

Employers may file an amended tax return, using Form 941 to seek proper adjustment, Mr. Spruell said.

Under this procedure, the employer would receive not only the employee's share of the erroneously paid FICA tax, but also the employer's share, he said.

"Employers should want to do this, since they would get their half of the FICA tax back as well," he said.

However, Mr. Spruell said if the employer declines to reimburse the FICA, the guardsman or reservist may file a refund claim using IRS Form 843.

"They will still need to contact the employer and get a statement that the employer is not seeking reimbursement of the FICA taxes," he said.

If the employer is unable or unwilling to file the tax forms, guardsmen and reservists can obtain forms from the IRS, Mr. Spruell said. He advised that it would also be helpful to consult a tax expert.

"If I had not been researching this ... I probably would not have thought about it," Colonel Scattene said. Refunds could range from a few hundred dollars to several thousand, depending on income, he said.

"This appears to be fairly widespread," he said. "There are probably a lot of people who are not getting this money in their pockets."

Since Sept. 11, 2001, about 360,000 guardsmen and reservists have been mobilized to support the war on terrorism, including operations in Afghanistan and Iraq.

