

GULF DEFENDER



Vol. 63, No. 23

Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla. *Gulf Defender*

June 18, 2004

In brief



Father's Day

Father's Day is Sunday. See page 5 to learn how to help overseas troops get the chance to call home this Father's Day.

Housing office minimum manning

The Housing Office will be at minimum manning due to a 325th Civil Engineer Squadron official function Tuesday from 11 a.m. through the remainder of the day.

Change of command

Lt. Col. Robert Gargiulo, 325th Aeromedical-Dental Squadron commander, will relinquish command to Lt. Col. Paula Corrigan in a change of command ceremony 8:30 June 25 at the Officers' Club. Team Tyndall is invited to attend. A reception will follow the event.

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● Program helps civilians understand new Web system ... **Page 15**



Lisa Norman

Spraying goodbye

Col. Doug Cochran, 325th Fighter Wing vice commander, is greeted by a firehose at the hands of his wife, Resa, and Airman 1st Class Jimmy Welch Jr., 325th Civil Engineer Squadron firefighter, following his final flight here Tuesday. Colonel and Mrs. Cochran will soon leave Team Tyndall for Oregon State University, where he will serve as the school's Air Force ROTC detachment commander.

Free Iraq's future coming into view, Bush says at MacDill

JOHN BANUSIEWICZ
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – With the transfer of sovereignty two weeks away, the future of a free Iraq is coming into view, President Bush told a worldwide military audience and service members assembled at MacDill Air Force Base, Fla., today.

U.S. Central Command and U.S. Special Operations Command have their headquarters at MacDill.

A satellite television hook-up enabled the president to make his remarks directly to service members assembled in hangars at Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan, and Baghdad International Airport, Iraq, and the Pentagon Channel and American Forces Radio and Television Service carried his address to military people in other parts of Afghanistan and Iraq, at 20 bases in the United States, and around the globe to wherever U.S. military people serve.

"A turning point will come two

weeks from today," the president said. "On June 30, governing authority will be transferred to a fully sovereign interim government. The Coalition Provisional Authority will cease to exist. An American embassy will open in Baghdad."

In the meantime, President Bush said, the Iraqi people are stepping up to bring democracy to their country.

"Iraq's new leaders are rising to their responsibilities. Together with our coalition and the United Nations, they are working to prepare the way for national elections by next January," the president said. "In July, Iraqis from every part of the country will gather for a national conference that will choose an interim national council to advise and support Prime Minister (Ayad) Allawi and his cabinet."

Noting that the U.N. Security Council voted unanimously to endorse the Iraqi interim government and the plan for Iraq's political transition,

President Bush cited the "steady progress" the Iraqi people have made and vowed not to let insurgents and foreign fighters derail the process. "We will not let thugs and killers stand in the way of a free and democratic Iraq," the president promised.

With more than 200,000 Iraqis serving in or training for the country's new security forces, President Bush said the United States is leading the international effort to train new forces for Iraq. Experience has shown, he said, that Iraqi soldiers naturally want to take their orders from Iraqi officers, and the coalition is working to build and strengthen the Iraqi chain of command. "So we're helping to prepare a new generation of Iraqi military commanders who will lead the security forces of a free and sovereign Iraq," the president said.

Iraqi forces captured a key lieutenant of fugitive terrorist Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, President Bush said, repelled attacks on Mosul government

buildings, and are being greeted warmly by their fellow citizens as they patrol in Najaf.

"See, these brave Iraqis are stepping up. They are setting an example for their fellow citizens. They are staying in the fight, taking the battle to the terrorists and Saddam hold-outs," the president said. "They are securing a future of liberty and opportunity for their children and their grandchildren. And when the history of modern Iraq is written, the people of Iraq will know their freedom was finally secured by the courage and by the determination of Iraqi patriots."

More violence can be expected in Iraq, President Bush acknowledged. "As the interim government assumes authority and Iraqi security forces defend their country, our coalition will play a supporting role," he said. "And this is an essential part of our strat-

● SEE IRAQ PAGE 6

PCS season kicks off, Tyndall readies for William Tell '04

BRIG. GEN. LARRY NEW
325th Fighter Wing commander

As summer kicks off, so does our PCS season. As we do each year, we will say farewell to many familiar faces and hail new ones.

Shortly, Col. Doug Cochran, 325th Fighter Wing vice commander, and his wife, Resa, will bid farewell to Team Tyndall and head to Oregon where Colonel Cochran will serve as commander and Professor of Aerospace Studies at Oregon State University's Air Force ROTC Detachment.

Over the past two years, Colonel Cochran helped lead the 325th Fighter Wing and Team Tyndall to countless success stories, ensuring every Airman and member of the team is ready and able to meet the demanding challenges associated with being the Home of Air Dominance.

But, Colonel Cochran is not the only member of his family who displayed tremendous leadership throughout his tenure at Tyndall. Resa has been out-front and highly involved in volunteer activities, to include Officers' Spouses Club activities and serving as a volunteer for the base's Thrift Shop.

The Cochran's have truly made a difference at Team Tyndall and in the lives of our Airmen. Oregon State University is indeed fortunate to have two great Americans like the Cochrans serving in their community. Doug and Resa, thank you for your selfless service and devotion to the men and women of Team Tyndall and our

Air Force, and best of luck to you both in your future endeavors.

Following in the footsteps of Doug and Resa Cochran are Colonel Brian Dickerson and his wife, Donna. Colonel Dickerson joins us from the Pentagon, where he served as chief of the Special Access Programs Branch and deputy chief



"I urge folks to help out wherever they can, but keep safety in mind as you go about your business. Let's take care of one another and ensure we all come out of the summer season safely."

BRIG. GEN. LARRY NEW
325th Fighter Wing commander

of the Program Integration Division, Directorate of Programs, Deputy Chief of Staff for Plans and Programs.

Brian and Donna, welcome to Team Tyndall. I am sure you will both be impressed with the caliber of people who make up our organization and I am confident you'll learn quickly why the Panama City area is considered the home of southern hospitality!

Recently, the wing also bid farewell to a few "Checkertail Clan" squadron commanders. Lt. Col. Scott Enold, former 325th Security Forces Squadron commander, relinquished command to Maj. Frank Howard, and departed Tyndall for the Pentagon to serve as the air staff program element monitor for Air Force ground munitions

and small arms. Major Howard joins us from Offutt AFB, Neb., where he served as chief of force protection for Headquarters U.S. Strategic Command.

Lt. Col. Norman Eckert, former 325th Communications Squadron commander, departed for Warner Robins AFB, Ga. and is serving as the 5th Combat Communications Group

deputy commander. The new 325th Communications Squadron commander, Lt. Col. Curtis Frost, arrived from the Pentagon where he served as chief of the Information Management Branch.

Finally, Lt. Col. Sandra Koerkenmeier, former 325th Maintenance Operations Squadron commander, relinquished command to Maj. Eric North, and has moved on to Warner Robins where she is serving as the Air Logistic Center's C-130 military branch chief. Major North joins us from Warner Robins where he served as the Air Force Materiel Command Logistics Directorate chief of analysis and integration in the Depot Maintenance Division.

Frank, Curtis and Eric, wel-

come to Team Tyndall! I'm sure you'll be impressed not only with Tyndall and the men and women who work here, but the community as well. Best of luck to you all in this new chapter of your careers.

Team Tyndall will certainly be busy during the summer and as we begin preparations for various upcoming events. One such event is the U.S. Air Force Air-to-Air Weapons Meet, also known as William Tell, which takes place here in November.

For those who have never had the opportunity to witness or be a part of William Tell, it's an eye-opening experience. Fighter pilots, ground crews, maintainers and a host of other support specialties from throughout the Air Force, Air National Guard, Air Force Reserve and Canadian Air Force will descend upon Tyndall to demonstrate their air superiority skills while competing for the title of "Best of the Best."

The event will certainly draw interest as November approaches.

Although we're still five months away, preparations are ongoing and there is much to be done.

With that in mind, I urge you to help out wherever possible, but keep safety in mind as you go about your business.

Let's take care of one another and ensure we all come out of the summer season safely.

Have a great weekend and thanks for all that you do for our Air Force.

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

ANONYMOUS. DEPENDABLE. FREE RIDE.

a.a.d.d.

FRIDAY & SATURDAY 5:00PM - 5:00AM

AIRMAN AGAINST DRUNK DRIVING
867-AADD(2233)

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

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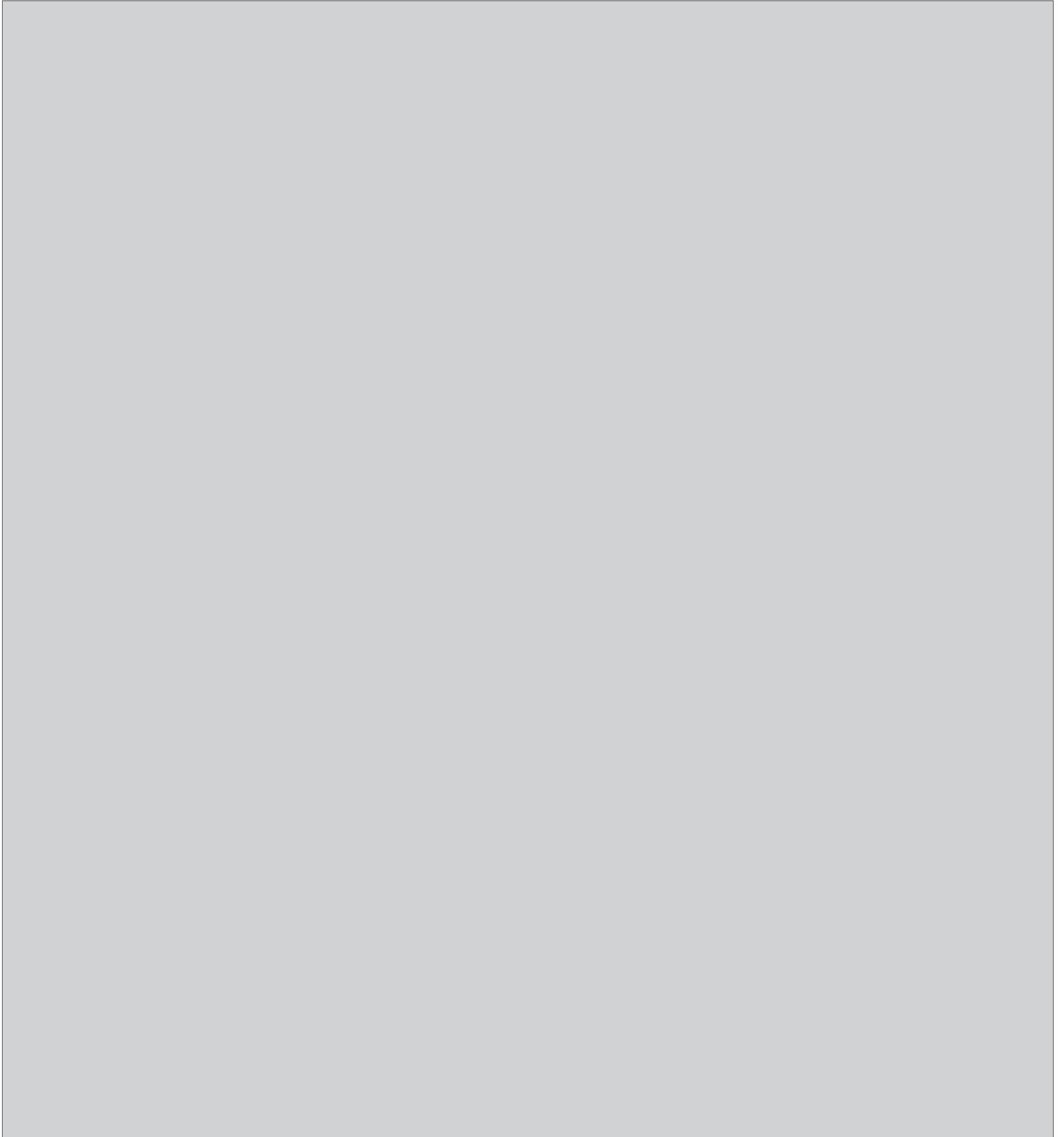
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Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the 325th Fighter Wing public affairs office. Photographs are U.S. Air Force photos unless otherwise noted.

The deadline for article submissions to the Gulf Defender is 4 p.m. Friday, prior to the week of publication unless otherwise noted. Articles must be typed and double-spaced, preferably on a 3.5-inch disc. Stories should be submitted directly to the public affairs office, Building 662, Room 129 or mailed to: 325 FW/PA, 445 Suwannee Ave., Tyndall AFB, FL, 32403-5425 or e-mailed 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.



AETC exceeds its Air Force Assistance Fund Campaign goal

JILLIAN SPEAKE
AETC public affairs

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AETCNS) — The annual Air Force Assistance Fund campaign ended May 7 with Air Education and Training Command contributions totaling more than \$1.3 million, exceeding its goal by nearly 52 percent.

AFAF is a service-wide campaign that gives Airmen a chance to help fellow Airmen by contributing to four charitable organizations: Air Force Aide Society, Air Force Enlisted Foundation, Air Force Village Foundation Inc., and the General and Mrs. Curtis LeMay Foundation.

“I’m absolutely delighted with AETC’s fund drive results in that every base in the command surpassed its individual goals,” said retired Air Force Lt. Gen.

Mike McGinty, Air Force Aid Society chief executive officer. “I’m also encouraged to see the overall participation rate at 32.4 percent, and I look forward to seeing that number continue to rise in the coming years.”

Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas, and Little Rock Air Force Base, Ark., were two of the seven Air Force bases that significantly surpassed their goals and achieved 50 percent or greater active-duty participation.

As a result, both qualify for the \$2,500 incentive awards from the AFAS for outstanding support. Each base may use the money as it sees fit for the benefit of the base community.

“These two bases deserve a special pat on the back because, not only did they surpass their goal, they also had more

than half of their service members participate in the fund,” General McGinty said. “That’s very difficult to do and is quite an impressive result.”

AFAF helps Airmen and their families with emergency assistance, education grants, volunteer childcare, community enhancement programs and assisted living for veterans and their widowed spouses.

“I personally think the assistance fund drive is the most important of our fund drives because the money goes to help our Air Force people when they need it,” said General McGinty. “By the great generosity of the troops, we are able to assure we can provide assistance when Airmen need it — that’s job No. 1 for us.”

For more information about AFAF, please visit www.afassistancefund.org.



Air Force Assistance Fund

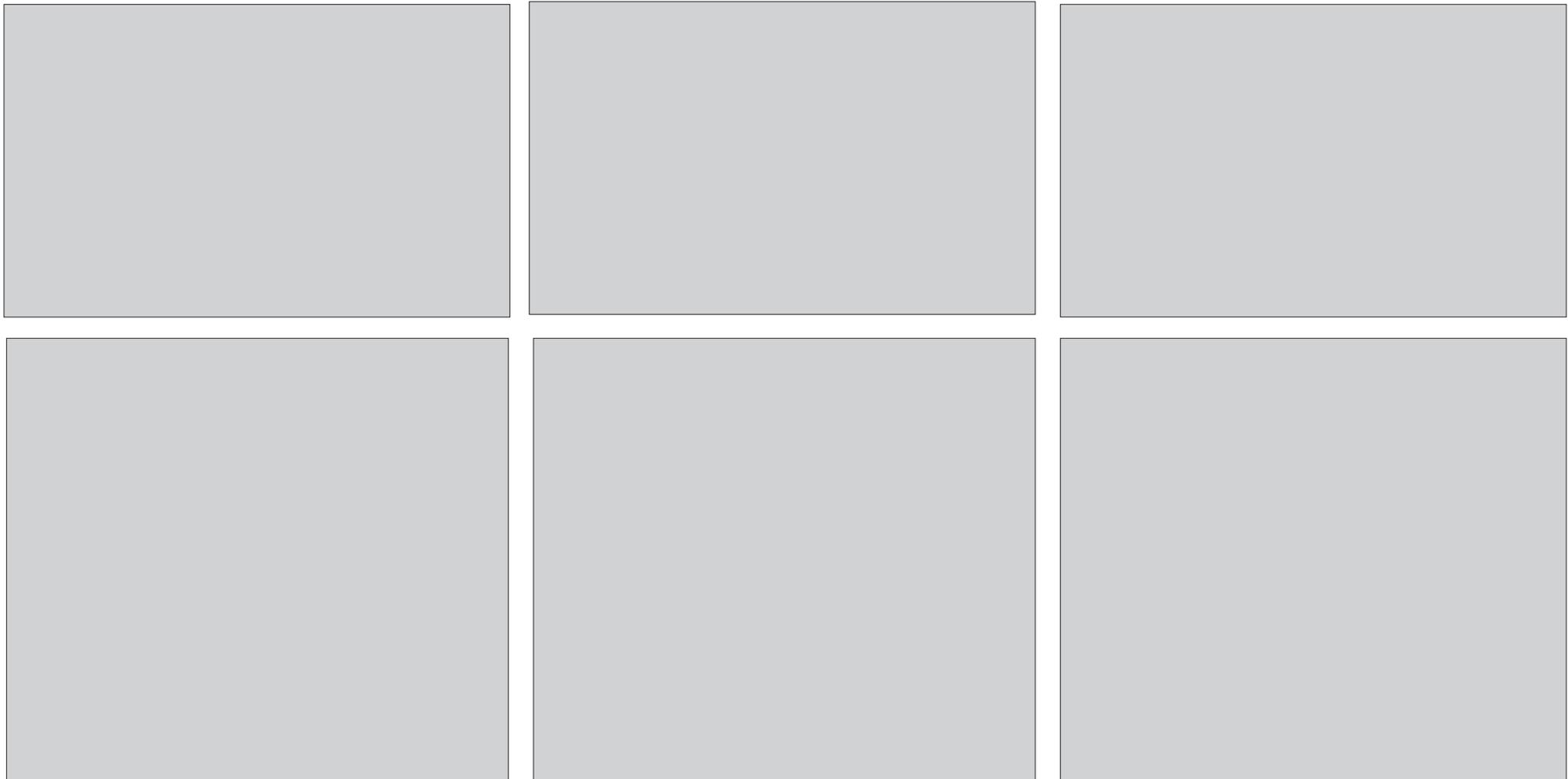
• *The Air Education and Training Command exceeded its goal by 52 percent by contributing \$1.3 million.*

• *The money donated will go to the Air Force Aid Society to help Airmen and their families with emergency assistance, education grants, volunteer childcare, community enhancement programs and assisted living for veterans and their widowed spouses.*

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

QUIT

 **American Heart Association**
WE'RE FIGHTING FOR YOUR LIFE



Online civilian resume writer to be unavailable

AIR FORCE PERSONNEL CENTER -

People will be unable to complete or update online resumes for Air Force civilian employment June 18-26 due to a computer system upgrade.

New job vacancies will not be posted during this time and deadlines for those already posted will be extended.

People will not be able to self-nominate for jobs during this period.

For more information people can call the Air Force Customer Service Center toll-free at (800) 616-3775 and press 3 for employment opportunities and verification.

For more AFPC news and information, log on to the Web site at www.afpc.randolph.af.mil. (AFPC is located at Randolph AFB, Texas.)

Help fellow troops reach home this Father's Day

DALLAS - "I love you Daddy!" These are words that dads wait all year to hear on their big day in June.

Some dad's serving in support of Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom will get the opportunity to hear voices of children half a world away only through the support of the Army & Air Force Exchange Service's "Help Our Troops Call Home" program.

To help offset the costs of calls home, AAFES has teamed with the United Service Organizations, Air Force Aid Society, Fisher House and the American Red Cross to deliver phone cards to dads around the globe.

Military fathers stationed anywhere in the world will be able to call home anytime with donated minutes through AAFES' "Help Our Troops Call Home" initiative.

The Department of De-

fense is allowing AAFES to offer Military Exchange Prepaid Phone Cards to anyone wishing to donate them to deployed troops.

These cards, designed for the specific needs of service members, are available online at www.aafes.com (or by phone at (800) 527-2345).

Donated cards addressed to "any service member" are distributed through the charitable organization of the purchaser's choice.

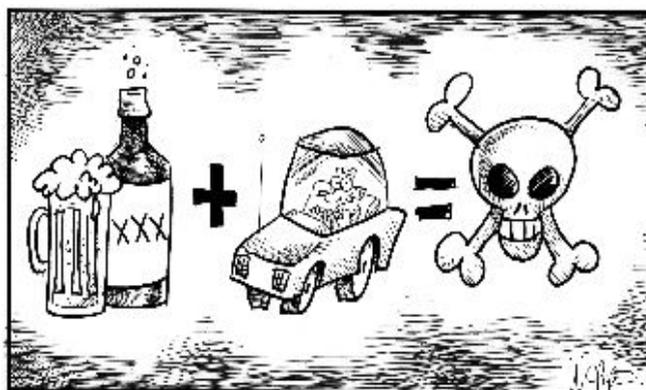
Fifty-eight call centers throughout OIF and OEF have been critical in allowing AAFES to bridge the gap between the front lines and the home front.

Troops in Iraq and Afghanistan who use the AAFES/

AT&T 550-unit Military Exchange Global Prepaid Phone Card at any of the 38 call centers in Iraq and Afghanistan enjoy calls home for as little as 25 cents per minute and 19 cents per minute from Kuwait. 550-

Unit Military Exchange Prepaid Phone Cards are available at any of AAFES' 56 contingency locations in OIF/OEF areas of operations.

(Courtesy of AAFES News Service.)



Checkertail Salute

Staff Sgt. Tamesha Madison



Lisa Norman

Sergeant Madison receives the Checkertail Salute Warrior of the Week award from Col. Doug Cochran, 325th Fighter Wing vice commander.

The Checkertail Clan salutes Sergeant Madison. She has managed more than 300 suspenses for tasking to the group, wing and command organizations. She managed consolidated inputs from seven units for wing standup and staff meeting slide shows. Also, she is the special projects specialist, has installed computers for the Airman Leadership school and was a battle commanders assistant while deployed during Operation Enduring Freedom.

Duty title: NCOIC, 325th Mission Support Group command section

Time on station: 2.5 years

Time in service: 6.5 years

Hometown: Windsor, N.C.

Hobbies: Reading, writing poems, working out

Goals: To earn a doctorate in psychology

Favorite movie: "There's Something About Mary"

Favorite book: "The Spirit of a Man"

Favorite thing about Tyndall: The beach

Pet peeves: Dishonesty and lack of organization

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.

● FROM IRAQ PAGE 1

egy for success." The people responsible for the violence, he added, are friends of neither the coalition nor the Iraqi people.

"Terrorists who attack a self-governing Iraq are showing us and the Iraqis who they really are," President Bush said. "They're not fighting foreign forces; they're fighting the Iraqi people. They're not just enemies of America; they are enemies of democracy and hope. They are enemies of a peaceful future in Iraq."

Iraq's prime minister, the president noted, said last week that anyone involved in these attacks is a traitor to the cause of Iraq's freedom and the freedom of its

people.

"The prime minister and I share the same resolve. The traitors will be defeated," President Bush said. "Their greatest fear is an Iraqi government of, by and for the Iraqi people. And no matter what the terrorists plan — no matter what they attempt — a democratic, free Iraq is on the way."

The president cited the difficulty of the mission and the work that lies ahead, and expressed gratitude to service members and their families for their sacrifices.

"Many of you have faced long deployments, sometimes longer than you

expected. You miss your families; your families miss you. Some of you have lost comrades, good men and women you will never forget, and America will never forget them either," President Bush said.

"You're sacrificing greatly for our country, and our country has needed that sacrifice," he continued. "By standing for the cause of freedom, you are making the world more peaceful. By fighting terrorists abroad, you are making the American people more secure here at home. And by acting in the best traditions of duty and honor, you are making our country and your commander in chief incredibly proud."

Back to basics

Q. When is it authorized for military in uniform to remove covers when outdoors?

A. According to the Air Force instruction governing uniform wear and the Air Education and Training Command supplement, headgear must be worn at all times outdoors, except when operating a two-wheeled vehicle and in "no hat" areas designated by the commander. Tyndall's no hat areas include:

1. Beacon Beach Marina Club: All dock areas, outside decks (both upper and lower), fuel dock, and all areas inside the fenced storage yard to include the wash rack, dry storage slots and picnic pavilions.

2. All pavilions and all docks at Bonita Bay's recreation facility.

3. All pavilions at Heritage Park (the base park located behind military clothing sales).

NOTE: If you leave from under the pavilion, headgear must be worn (i.e. between the pavilion and a parked car, bathrooms, etc.)

AFI 36-2903, AETC's supplement and Tyndall's supplement provide no other exceptions. Therefore, headgear must be worn when exiting any building and while outside, except for the designated areas mentioned above.

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

**DON'T
DRINK AND DRIVE**

Tricare Retail Pharmacy Program resolving initial concerns

WASHINGTON - The new Tricare Retail Pharmacy program began nationwide operations with Express Scripts Inc., St. Louis, Mo., on June 1. Within hours, significant problems arose for all ESI customer accounts, including Tricare beneficiaries. The immediate and comprehensive efforts expended by ESI, private sector consultants, and Tricare experts resulted in restoration of commercial customer business and improvements for Tricare beneficiaries. System improvements continue daily and until all system errors and "time-outs" within the communications infrastructure are resolved, the Tricare Management Activity will provide updates on its Web site on a 72-hour basis.

According to Dr. Will-

iam Winkenwerder Jr., assistant secretary of defense for health affairs, "Our primary concern is that our beneficiaries receive the prescriptions they require. To that end, we continue to support efforts to resolve the problems. We apologize to our beneficiaries and the 53,000 pharmacies across the United States who have experienced the difficulties associated with these processing problems. Many people, from the network pharmacy staffs to the management of the pharmacy chains, to ESI's staff and consultants as well as our own Tricare staff, have actively engaged in sorting out the difficulties and implemented solutions to meet the needs of our beneficiaries. This dedicated effort continues."

Tricare and ESI expect that as initial prescription submission throughput improves, the program will stabilize and reach a Mondays and Tuesdays. Nevertheless, higher than normal rates of claims rejection continue and problems exist in some areas.



For more information:

- Beneficiaries who experience difficulty with their prescriptions during this initial period may contact the Tricare Retail Pharmacy Customer Service Center at (866) 363-8779.
- For those who purchased their medications at full price, they may file a paper claim (DD Form 2642, available on the Tricare Web site: www.tricare.osd.mil/) to:
Express Scripts
PO Box 66518
St. Louis, MO 63166-6518

steady and continuing pace. On June 7 and 8, more than 180,000 claims were processed and paid each day. These numbers significantly exceed the standard of 125,000 Tricare claims usually processed and paid on

The ESI provider-relations team is working with individual pharmacies and pharmacy chains alike to resolve both systems problems and the particular problems experienced by those pharmacies.

Barrett Toan, Express

Scripts' chairman and chief executive said, "We fully recognize that this situation has been difficult for beneficiaries and pharmacies. We apologize to those who have been inconvenienced and commit to rapidly resolving the problems."

This new Tricare Pharmacy program introduces a standard, national approach to retail pharmacy use that offers Tricare beneficiaries the same benefit wherever they may be in the United States and its territories; it is a fully portable benefit. Beneficiaries who experience difficulty with their prescriptions during this initial period may contact the Tricare Retail Pharmacy Customer Service Center at (866) 363-8779. For those who purchased their medications at full price, they may file a paper claim (DD Form

2642, available on the Tricare Web site: www.tricare.osd.mil/) to:

Express Scripts
PO Box 66518
St. Louis, MO 63166-6518

Express Scripts Inc. is one of the largest pharmacy benefit management companies in North America, providing pharmacy benefit management services to more than 50 million members through facilities in 13 states and Canada. Express Scripts serves thousands of client groups, including managed care organizations, insurance carriers, third-party administrators, employers and union-sponsored benefit plans. Express Scripts Inc. has the ability to process in excess of one million claims daily.

(Courtesy of Defense Link)

Team Tyndall talks ‘Turkey’ during bi-annual training competition



File photo

A pair of Tyndall F-15 Eagles take off for a sortie. Tyndall’s three F-15 squadrons competed during the wing’s bi-annual Turkey Shoot competition this week. For the first time, various ground competitions were included in the event.

CHRISTINE SULLIVAN

325th Fighter Wing public affairs

Members of Team Tyndall came together for some friendly competition June 7-16 when the 325th Fighter Wing hosted its annual Turkey Shoot here.

According to the officer responsible for planning and executing this year’s event, it has a long and storied tradition, both here in the 325th Fighter Wing and throughout the Air Force.

“Turkey Shoots typically pit flying squadrons against each other in a flying competition that might range anywhere from a Basic Fighter Maneuver competition to a ‘large force, eight versus many’ competition,” said Lt. Col. Kevin Murray, 325th Operations Support Squadron chief of wing weapons and tactics. “Turkey Shoots also

include maintenance competitions with an ordnance-load competition and a pre-flight and launch competition.”

“Turkey Shoots typically pit flying squadrons against each other in a flying competition that might range anywhere from a Basic Fighter Maneuver competition to a ‘large force eight versus many’ competition.”

LT. COL. KEVIN MURRAY

325th Operations Support Squadron chief of wing weapons and tactics

In addition to the traditional Turkey Shoot operations and maintenance competitions, other groups in the wing have been included in this year’s competition to make it a “Wing-wide Turkey Shoot.”

“This gives everyone the opportunity to learn about other units’ missions and showcase some of the extraordinary

talents of people here at Tyndall,” Colonel Murray said. “It also helps everyone realize that it requires each unit working in concert to accomplish the wing’s mission.”

“This is the first year the Turkey

Shoot has incorporated the entire wing,” said Capt. Matt Bradley, 325th Operations Support Squadron wing electronic combat pilot and coordinator for this year’s events. “This year, the mission support and medical groups competed as well.”

The wing was divided into three teams of red, gold and blue and each event was scored. Each team was spearheaded by one of the three fighter squadrons from the 1st FS, the 2nd FS and the 95th Fighter Squadron.

Simulator events were held June 8 with four simulators linked together to fly the same scenario as they would have in the air.

“We set up two scenarios for competitors that day,” said Captain Bradley. “We had an offensive counter-air mission during which F-15 Eagles escorted four F-16 Fighting Falcons to a target, and a defensive counter-air mission where F-15s protected Tyndall from a force of SU-27 Flankers, MiG-29 Fulcrums, and SU-24 Fencers.”

The Leadership Reaction Course teams competed June 9. Two members from each group comprised the three teams. Three obstacles were chosen from the course and teams were given 15 minutes to complete each obstacle course with a quick break before starting the next challenge. Scores were based on the number of team members that were able to negotiate the obstacle, penalties assessed and the time it took to complete.

“The LRC is very similar to the one found at Maxwell AFB, Ala.,” Captain Bradley said. “Not all the obstacles take great strength or athletic ability, but are meant to invoke some creative problem-solving.”

Skeet-shooters vied for the prize June 10 and 11 with two members from each competing group forming eight-man teams.

Each member shot a round of skeet with the total number of hits for each skeet team tallied to determine team places. Those points were then added to the overall team scores.



Christine Sullivan

Left: Obstacle Six, during Team Tyndall's "Turkey Shoot" competition, challenges Staff Sgt. Matt Scott, 325th Fighter Wing Medical Operations Squadron aerospace medical technician, and other team members in the Leadership Reaction Course. Below: Capt. Gerald James, 325th Medical Operations Squadron pediatric nurse, is graded while balancing a board and himself through Obstacle 11 of the Leadership Reaction Course competition held here June 9.

On Monday and Wednesday, maintenance personnel were graded and scored on jet launch preparation as well as the actual launching of fighter jets on their mission.

"The pilots used all of Tyndall's airspace to defend a target from an unknown number and type of aircraft," Capt. Bradley said. "The target used on those days stretched from the Dupont Bridge to the St. George islands."

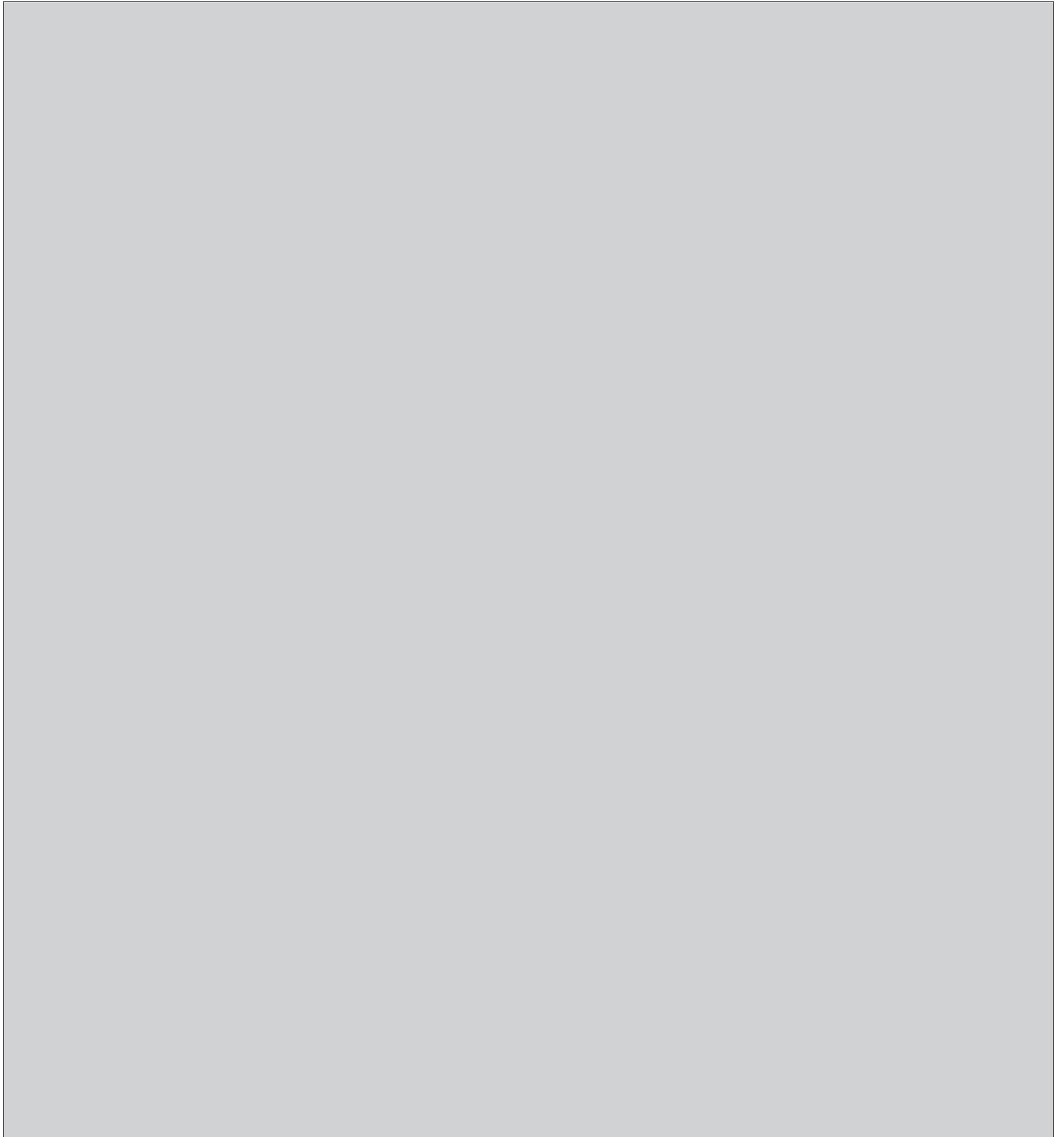
"All the competitors put a fantastic amount of effort into the competition, and I think most people draw the parallel that while this is just a competition, it's exactly what we would do during actual combat. In order to continue to be the best when it really counts, we need to continue to train on a daily basis," Colonel Murray said.

"These competitions are significant factors in maintaining high morale and camaraderie in the units, because everyone wants to be recognized as the best at what they do. I think this competition fosters the attitude that we are the best and will continue to work to remain the best."

The awards ceremony is scheduled for 3 p.m. today with winners receiving bragging rights for the next six months as "Tyndall's Best."



Christine Sullivan



VAQ employees volunteer time to make Tyndall look better



Steve Riddle

Young Quinn and Lolitah Stephens (kneeling,) housekeepers for Tyndall Lodging, work with James Stephens and Ernesto Sablaon, groundskeepers, on flowers and a Sago Palm that were recently planted in front of Bldg. 1615. Lodging employees have been volunteering their time to improve common areas around the Visiting Airmen's Quarters dormitories.

STEVE RIDDLE

325th Services Squadron publicist

Normally the workers at the Visiting Airmen's Quarters dust, sweep, mop, scrub, scour and sanitize. But lately they've gone above and beyond the call of duty by painting, pruning and planting too.

Several lodging employees who work at VAQ Bldgs. 845, 1060, 1580, 1582, 1615 and 1617 recently decided to volunteer their time, effort and resources to improve the outside and common areas of these dorms.

According to VAQ Supervisor Linda Morrison, the employees brought in supplies to improve the interiors, procured plants and flowers to plant outside, and then rolled up their sleeves and did the work needed.

"What we did was really try to put a personal touch to the area," Ms. Morrison explained. "And this was all volunteer - they brought in their personal decorations and other supplies." And, she added, they brought talent too.

"A big plus for the project is that we are fortunate enough to have a seamstress, interior decorator, stenciling artist, home horticulturist, experienced painters and

grounds keepers," she said. "These people all make the project come together."

Ms. Morrison was quick to add that the Self-Help Services Office and the Tyndall Plant Farm also helped with supplies. "Without their assistance and guidance, we couldn't have done it," she said.

The workers started with the break rooms and restrooms, giving them a fresh coat of paint and adding decorative wall-paper trim and stenciling. Although they've completed most of the interior work, there are still two laundry rooms not yet finished.

"It's a work in progress," explained Chong Kushima, a housekeeping leader at VAQ. "We're working hard to complete the project, but we have a sense of accomplishment for what we've already done."

The exterior work is also still progressing, but

much has already been accomplished. According to Blandina Rytkonen, also a housekeeping leader at VAQ, careful planning took place before the first shovelful of dirt was turned.

"At the time when we were deciding what to plant, we decided that since we were in Florida, we wanted it to look tropical," Ms. Rytkonen explained. "We got about 30 palm trees and sago palms and planted them, and about 500 flowers of all kinds."

Ms. Kushima said the project began as an effort to help win the annual Eubank Award, a trophy presented to the best services squadron in the Air Force. But, as the work progressed, their motivation grew.

"Once we realized that the place was getting better and better, we started working even more," she said. "It made us feel better, and it's made our customers feel better too."



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

Events

The basics of home buying

The basics of home buying class will be 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Tuesday in the Family Support Center (Bldg. 743) classroom. Call 283-4204 for reservations and information.

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.

Palace Chase briefing

There will be two Palace Chase Program briefings, one at 9-10 a.m. and the other 2-3 p.m. Tuesday in the Military Personnel Flight classroom 267. All of Team Tyndall is invited to hear about the changes due to current Force Shaping measures. Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve opportunities will be discussed.

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.

Commissary holiday hours

The Tyndall Commissary will be closed July 4-5 and open July 6. It will be open during regular hours July 6.

Thrift Shop

A summer clearance sale takes place all month at the Tyndall Thrift Shop. All donated items will be half price throughout June. The shop will close for a summer break at close of business June 25 and reopens Aug. 18.



Jim Weslowski

Learning the part

Airmen 1st Class Michael Sousa (center) and Patrick King, 43rd Aircraft Maintenance Unit, learn about the care and maintenance of the F/A-22 Pratt and Whitney F-119 engine from Tech. Sgt. Norm Shaw, Det. 4, 372nd Training Squadron instructor. Airmen King and Sousa are attending the F-119 Organized Maintenance Class taught at Tyndall. The Det. 4 courses are designed to instruct Airmen in proper maintenance of various Raptor systems.

Consignments may be brought in every Wednesday and Thursday from 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Twenty items may be consigned each day. Regular shopping hours are 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Wednesday through Friday. The Thrift Shop is located at 743 Suwannee Dr. across from the post office. For more information, call 286-5888.

Retiree News

Civil Service retirement may affect CDP

An entry on the Defense Finance and Accounting Service Web site answers the question asked by many retired members wanting to know if they qualify for Concurrent Disability Pay although they waived their military retirement pay.

The answer, according to DFAS officials, depends on the situation. If you have combined your military time with your Civil Service time in order to

qualify for a Civil Service retirement, you are not eligible for CDP. On the other hand, if you combined your military time with your civil service time in order to enhance your civil service retirement, you may be eligible for CDP.

Officials point out, however, that those who are eligible will have to coordinate with the Office of Personnel Management to reverse the waiver of retired pay.

It's important to note that by doing this, the retired member may incur a debt to the government resulting from an overpayment. Individuals who retired for disability rather than under the regular retirement law must have at least 20 years of service. Answers to other frequently asked questions are provided at www.dfas.mil/money/retired/cdpfaq.htm.

Classifieds

Household goods

New sofa and loveseat set \$700.

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

Garage Sales

2806 Falcon Street
2771 B Thunderchief Drive
Garage sales are held on Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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.

Cycling to the Olympics - a team effort



CHRISTINE SULLIVAN
325th Fighter Wing public affairs

An Army captain working in the veterinary clinic on Tyndall AFB will complete time trials tomorrow for what has always been her dream – to compete in the Olympic Games.

As part of a 12-person military cycling team, Leah Tingley, currently working here as section chief for the U.S. Army Veterinary Corps of the Gulf Coast District Veterinary Command, will find out if she is one of only three women

in the country selected to compete as a member of the cycling team in the Olympics in Athens, Greece later this summer.

“It’s very difficult to make the team. Many of the best riders don’t have jobs while for many of us on the military team, our missions are the first priority,” Tingley said. “Most of us have our commanders’ support for time off to travel to races, and some commanders give time off for training.”

The current active-duty military cycling team consists of ten men and two women. Almost all services, including the National Guard and the Coast Guard, are represented.

“Hopefully someone from the Marines will eventually join the team so we’re fully representative of all the Armed Forces,” Tingley said. “Our team includes a combination of both officers and enlisted personnel.”

Selection for the U.S.

Olympic cycling team is based on tryout results and recent racing history. Qualification trials are open to any category one or two racer in the nation. Tingley and another female cycling team member expect to be competing in a field of approximately 60 - 80 women throughout the nation.

“We’re all proud to be representing the military and garner a lot of support from towns where many of the races are held,” she added. “We seem to give people a recognizable and approachable team to cheer for.”

“The cycling team was a consideration for me before I joined the military. Once I found out that one existed, I felt that I would have a chance of making it on the team, but that was only a small part of my decision to join the Army,” Tingley said. “I really like the idea of an employer who stresses physical fitness as a part

of the job.”

“Having military members participating in high visibility sports helps recruit the type of athletes who have the discipline and toughness to excel in the military,” said Mary Rudy, 355th Civil Engineer Squadron programming engineer and the only other female on the cycling team.

“It also allows us an opportunity to interact with and hopefully leave favorable impressions on many people who would otherwise have no interaction with military members.”

Tingley trains while riding to and from work with extra riding time squeezed in on the weekends and in the evenings.

“I focus on strength work and sprints on weekdays. I also race mountain bikes occasionally at a local state park, which is a lot of fun and a good break from the traffic,” she said. “On weekends,

you’ll see me training with my husband and occasionally with some triathletes in the local area.”

On June 6, Tingley completed a mountain bike competition in Mountain, Ala., placing third out of 12 professional female bike riders competing that day.

“The race went well and I stayed within the top three throughout the race,” Capt. Tingley said. “For the most part, I had a steady effort with a high average heart rate and I won some money to help support our team’s efforts.”

“I’d like to see us finish strong at the Olympic trials to show that we are a legitimate professional quality team and serious contenders in future national level races,” Rudy said.

“When we perform well, it reflects very well on ourselves, our team, and our services for the support we receive.”



Courtesy photos

Underwater hunters

Top: Frank Mancinelli tracks a barracuda at a sunken span of the old Hathaway Bridge last year.

Right: Frank Neveroski weighs in a grouper at Beacon Beach Marina during last year’s Spearfish Tournament. Between 80 and 100 competitors are expected to be on hand for this weekend’s event, which starts today.

The tournament runs through Sunday, ending with an awards ceremony and fish fry, which will begin at 11 a.m.

**It's In The Cards...
If You Drink & Drive**





Funshine NEWS

June 18, 2004

www.325thservices.com

All Ranks Lunch**at the
Officers' Club**

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

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

Includes Fresh, Hot, Carved Meat
Sandwiches on Kaiser Roll

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

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

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

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.

Marina Club

☎ 283-3059

Best Salad Bar on Base

All you can eat with soft drink \$5.95.

Social Hours

Every Friday evening from 5:30-7:30 p.m.
followed by a club card drawing for cash.
(Must be present to win.)

Tyndall Enlisted Club **Laugh & Party Weekend**

Starring from HBO DEF Comedy Jam & BET Comic View:
Friday, June 18, 2004
Sherman Golden & Dexter Tucker

283-4357

Advance tickets for members \$12.00
Advance tickets for non-members \$15.00

NASCAR Pilot Program

Now through July 25 Weekly Cash Prizes
Races will be viewed at the Pizza Pub &
E' Club June 6, 13, 20, 27 and
July 3, 11 & 25

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
merchandise from the NASCAR website.

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 summer
camp t-shirt and supplies to make a
different art project each day. June 15,
Orientation tour of the facility with an
embroidery machine demonstration.
Students will design their own t-shirt. June
16, Students will construct bookends in the
wood shop. June 17, Students will design
their own print and learn to frame the print
properly in the frame shop. The camp is
open to children 8 yrs. and older. Max. of 8
per session. Must register by June 8. If you
cannot attend all three days, you may
register for one of the days. Cost is \$5 per
day.

Officers' and Civilian Equivalents
at the Tyndall Officers' Club

MASH BASH

June 25, 6-10 p.m.

Come dressed as your favorite
MASH character
and compete in Group Challenges
Watch Funshine page and
June calendar for details

**Be prepared to
meet the challenge!**
Call the Club for more details:

283-4357

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

Extreme Skateboard Camp

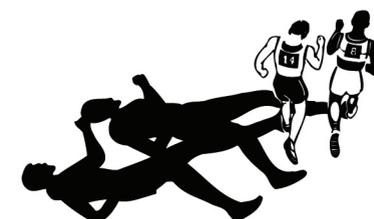
June 28-July 2

Learn the moves of the pros.
Cost of the camp is only \$10.

Camp size is limited to
the first 27 youth
ages 10-16 who register.

Training will be
9 a.m.-1 p.m. each day.
Participants must have
their own skateboard
and protective equipment.

283-4366



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

34th Annual Panama City Open at the Tyndall Marina Club

Spearfishing Tournament

June 18-20, 2004

Fish Fry: Starts at 11 a.m. on Sunday (Open to the Public)

Cost is \$5 per person.

For more information call: **283-3059**

Youth Center

☎ 283-4366

Volleyball Clinic

June 21-24 for ages 10-16 yrs. Cost is \$10
and includes T-shirt, open to the first 18 to
sign-up.

Surf's 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.

Start Smart Baseball

Is your 3-5 year old to play ball? Sign up for
Start Smart baseball and work one-on-one
with your child developing basic skills. The
program runs July 7, 14, 21, and 28 at 9
a.m. Cost is \$30. Call Andy at 283-4366 for
more information.

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.

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.

Web site explains National Security Personnel System

ARMY SGT. 1ST CLASS

DOUG SAMPLE

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFP) — Department of Defense officials launched a Web site to educate civilian employees about the new National Security Personnel System. NSPS will make changes in the way the department hires, pays, promotes, disciplines and fires civilian employees.

The site is meant to help DOD employees understand the new personnel system, said Brad Bunn, acting deputy program executive officer.

“Change is difficult, and lack of information about coming changes often leads to stress and anxiety and, unfortunately, misperceptions about what those changes really mean,” he said. “We recognize that, and are committed to communicating to our employees about what (the system) will mean to them. The Web site is one communications tool in our

toolbox to do that. We will be open, honest and clear about (the system), and our Web site is designed to encourage employee involvement and interest, and minimize misconceptions.”

He said the site will help those affected by the changes to understand the “rationale and benefits” of the NSPS, and that it will be “extremely useful” in keeping employees informed and updated as the system evolves.

Congress authorized the new personnel system as part of the fiscal 2004 National Defense Authorization Act, allowing DOD officials new authority to develop new civil-

ian human resources, labor-management relations and employee appeals systems.

The new site offers an overview of what DOD employees can ex-

pect from the new personnel system, as well as information regarding issues of labor-management and employee unions, and links to system-related documents.

pected throughout all phases of the personnel system design and implementation process, Mr. Bunn said. “It certainly won’t be our only means of communications, but it’s a central source of information on

used throughout all phases of the personnel system design and implementation process, Mr. Bunn said.

“We continuously monitor the input from visitors, and the ideas and comments we receive through the Web site will help us gauge what employees and other stakeholders are really concerned about,” he said.

The site will be a primary communication vehicle, and it will be

NSPS,” he said. “We want to ensure DOD employees have a reliable, continuing source of information as the system develops.”

The Web site is the second attempt by personnel officials to get the word out about the new system. A previous Web site was taken down after a three-week strategic review of the design and implementation process in April, officials said.

Mr. Bunn said the new site reflects a conscious effort to minimize confusion about plans for the system.

“We decided to completely redesign the site, giving it a new look and feel, to ensure that it reflects the results of that strategic review,” he said.

However, as with any Web site, there is always room for improvement, he said.

“So we encourage our Web site visitors to offer their comments and suggestions about how the new site can become even better,” he said.

The NSPS Web site

- The NSPS home page is at www.cpms.osd.mil/nsps/
- Department of Defense officials launched a Web site to educate civilian employees about the new National Security Personnel System.
- The new site offers an overview of what DOD employees can expect from the new personnel system, as well as information regarding issues of labor-management and employee unions, and links to system-related documents.
- The site will be a primary communication vehicle, and it will be used throughout all phases of the personnel system design and implementation process.

‘Take Five Stay Alive’

(Editors note: The Wing Safety Office has started a traffic safety publicity campaign called “Take Five Stay Alive.” Throughout the summer months the safety office will be focusing on five areas in driver safety.)

The leading cause of fatalities in the Air Force involve traffic related mishaps. The majority of these fatalities are preventable. When you are out and about, give some thought to the following steps:

1. Buckle Up:

It will help you survive a crash and it’s the law. Remember, your children will copy your behavior.

2. Don’t drive drunk:

Even one drink can impair your ability

to operate a vehicle safely.

3. Be a defensive driver:

Many car accidents, including head-on collisions, can be prevented if you stay alert, think ahead and practice safe driving habits.

4. Don’t drive angry:

Courteous driving reduces crashes and saves lives. Respect your fellow motorists.

5. Avoid distractions:

Safe driving requires your full attention. Cell Phone use, operating the radio, eating and talking to passengers are leading distractions that cause crashes.

(Courtesy of 325th Fighter Wing Safety Office.)

Help Us Conserve



YOU HAVE
the POWER

