

# GULF DEFENDER



Vol. 63, No. 9

Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla. *Gulf Defender*

March 5, 2004

## In brief



### Team Tyndall major selects

To view the major promotion list, see page 3.

### Gulf Coast Salute 2004

*"Showcasing America's Defenders; Five Forces, One Mission."*

Tyndall Air Force Base will host the 2004 open house March 27-28 featuring the U.S. Navy's Blue Angels and many other military and civilian aerial demonstrations.

For more information, call 283-9726.

### Tyndall Black Heritage Committee

The Tyndall Black Heritage Committee meets the second Tuesday of every month. This month's meeting will be at 11 a.m. in the Community Activities Center on Tuesday. New participants and members are always welcome. For more information, call MSgt Waldlena Schmidt at 283-6378.

## Inside

● Newest technology in engine test control ... **Page 8**

● Contracting Squadron earns AETC award ... **Page 11**

● O'Club has new quarterly events ... **Page 13**



Steve Wallace

## Transformational trio

Tech. Sgt. Jeff Simpson reviews technical information downloaded from Raptor No. 18 on a portable maintenance aid. Inset: Raptors 18, 19 and 20 fly together Wednesday for the first time. For more news on the Raptor program, see page 4.

# Sexual assault prevention is team effort

## GEN. DON COOK

Air Education and Training Command commander

**RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AETCNS)** — Recent reports alleging a rash of sexual assaults at Sheppard AFB over the past year gravely concern me.

These reports should gravely concern you as well, because assault of any kind is not only criminal; it unconditionally violates the respect for human dignity that forms the foundation of our Air Force.

Simply put, the allegation of sexual assault will affect unit cohesion and morale.

Have no doubt, you, and all Airmen, are personally responsible for preventing assaults of any kind. When our best efforts to deter these egregious crimes fail and violations occur, you have a moral obligation to report them to the appropriate authorities.

You also have a moral responsibility to seek immediate and compassionate aid for victims, and fully cooperate with all subsequent investigations so that perpetrators are punished when such behavior is reported or discovered, and corroborated by vigorous investigative procedures. We will not serve with known criminals in our midst!

As a result of these reports, I directed Col. K.C. McClain, AETC's deputy director of operations for technical training, to lead a fact-finding review team to examine the situation at Sheppard. Colonel McClain and her team arrived at Sheppard Feb. 16 and immediately went to work.

The group, comprised of officials representing the command's family support center, inspector general, military equal opportunity, personnel, security forces, staff judge advocate

and surgeon general offices, was charged to assess the climate and examine the effectiveness of all plans, programs, policies and procedures in place at Sheppard AFB to deter sexual assaults.

Additionally, the group evaluated the base's plans, programs, policies and procedures to ensure swift and appropriate actions are being taken when sexual assaults are reported or discovered. The group also examined previously reported assaults to confirm proper actions were taken in each case.

Colonel McClain and her team expeditiously and uncompromisingly conducted a thorough review of all plans, programs, policies and procedures at Sheppard, interviewed more than 1,000 people including commanders and randomly selected students, and administered a survey to more than 5,000 students

The predominant reasons students gave for their reluctance to report sexual assaults included concerns they would be delayed in training at Sheppard as an investigation moved forward; that they would be disciplined for misconduct collateral to the sexual assault (i.e. underage drinking); embarrassment; loss of confidentiality (only reports to the chaplain remain confidential); and peer pressure.

Though the review team's preliminary findings strongly suggest the environment at Sheppard AFB is safe and robust programs exist to deter sexual assaults and swiftly respond to aid victims and punish perpetrators when sexual assaults occur, the review team also determined there are ways to improve upon existing programs.

●SEE ASSAULT PAGE 11

## Safety a critical part of our lives, Team Tyndall success

**BRIG. GEN. LARRY NEW**  
325th Fighter Wing commander



I want to begin by congratulating Team Tyndall's major selects. Attaining the rank of major marks a significant milestone in an officer's career.

Additionally, this promotion will bring new challenges, responsibilities and more opportunities. I encourage you to continue to strive for excellence in all you do and wish you well in your future endeavors. Team Tyndall had 42 officers promoted to the rank of major this year. For more on our major selects, see page 3.

This month is going to be a busy one as we will have several events occurring, such as the Gulf Coast Salute scheduled for March 27-28. I realize folks often get in a hurry when trying to accomplish tasks. However, I want



**"I encourage all of Team Tyndall to do their part and show the rest of the Air Force that zero mishaps is attainable by using proper operational risk management"**

**BRIG. GEN. LARRY NEW**  
325th Fighter Wing commander

to remind you that faster is not always safer, and when vehicles are involved, being in a hurry can be tragic.

That said, the number of speeding-related incidents in the base housing areas has increased. It is imperative we ensure our folks and their families have a safe environment in which to live and play. Children may not always exercise proper judgment near our roadways, and if a motorist is speeding through base housing, he or she may not have enough time to react to people

or objects entering the road. I take the safety of our men and women very seriously, and the base policy states that speeding infractions in base housing areas will result in driving privileges being suspended on base for one month. To that end, I want to stress to folks the need to slow down when driving in these areas. It's not worth losing your driving privilege, or worse, injuring someone because you were in a hurry.

●SEE SAFETY PAGE 5

### Action Line

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

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

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

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

**BRIG. GEN. LARRY NEW**  
325th Fighter Wing commander

## A commander's badge is not a prerequisite to leadership

**CAPT. CHRIS KARNS**  
325th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

When one reads about leadership or mentoring, the byline is usually one of a general officer, a colonel or perhaps a chief - And for good reason. They've achieved and reached a pinnacle most are trying to attain. However, I would argue every airman has lessons and experiences to share to help others avoid the pitfalls and "rookie" mistakes associated with accepting increased levels of responsibility and ensure success stories are repeated.

A commander's badge is not necessarily a prerequisite to being a leader and making a difference. But, being a good communicator is essential at any level of leadership, and communicating up and down the chain as well as laterally is essential to mission success. As a public affairs professional, I continue to educate myself and look to adopt effective communication practices. Here are a few I have found to be beneficial.

**Feedback:** Feedback is a critical tool not just a buzzword, it takes many forms. Ensure feedback is honest and fair. If a feedback session consists of only positive things, as a supervisor you are not doing your job in fully developing your people, since everyone can improve. Meaningful feedback takes time, and it is critical to ensure people are achieving Air Force, organizational and personal goals. Without it, role clarity is obstructed and frustration will set in. Also, ask for feedback from your troops, or conduct an honest self assessment to see how you can serve them better and how you can perform better.

**Mentoring:** As I previously stated, you don't need a commander's badge to be a leader. Share your knowledge, lessons learned and insight with others. Mentoring is not just a superior to subordinate relationship. It is also a subordinate to superior and peer to peer communication tool. Keep an open mind and work hard to build relationships and ensure professional and personal

growth for all.

**Manage your emotions:** Emotions can impact communication and relations. Don't make a decision or launch an e-mail in anger or frustration. Realize the impact your words and emotions can have on others. An emotional reaction can be hard to recover from. Pick your battles wisely, and be careful which sword you fall on. If you don't, the battle damage may be irreparable.

**Make people feel valued:** Don't stomp on an individual's ego. If somebody is proud of the job they did, do not steal their thunder. Recognize their value to the organization, and do not try to "one up" their accomplishment. As the project officer, ensure they receive the appropriate credit. Share praise, but always accept responsibility when things don't go well, it will go a long way to strengthening loyalty.

**Reports and awards:** Treat reports and awards as the most important documents you will ever write. Paint

●SEE COMMUNICATION PAGE 5

### Gulf Defender Editorial Staff

Brig. Gen. Larry New ..... 325th FW commander  
Capt. Chris Karns ..... chief, 325th FW public affairs  
2nd Lt. Albert Bosco ..... chief, internal information  
Airman 1st Class Sarah McDowell ..... editor  
Tech. Sgt. Dan Neely ..... staff reporter  
Christine Sullivan ..... staff reporter  
Jim Weslowski ..... staff reporter

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

# Team Tyndall major selects:

## Forty-two captains made the grade this year ...

### 325th Fighter Wing Selects:

David Abba, 95th FS  
 Benita Arceneaux, 325th MSS  
 Cavan Craddock, 2nd FS  
 Dane Crawford, 1st FS  
 Russell Driggers, 325th OG  
 Tammy Dunnivant, 325th CS  
 Justin Fletcher, 95th FS  
 Craig Harding, 325th CPTS  
 Brian Joseph, 325th OSS  
 Christian Kane, 2nd FS  
 Christopher Karns, 325th FW  
 Richard Koch, 1st FS  
 Edward Langan, 325th ACS  
 Matthew McCarty, 95th FS  
 Paul Moga, 325th OSS  
 Jason Moore, 325th OSS

Steven Owen, 493rd FS  
 Brian Patnett, 325th OSS  
 Lendy Renegar, 2nd FS  
 Susan Romano, 325th FW  
 Steven Sewell, 325th ACS  
 Katrina Sewell, 325th ACS  
 Steven Vilpors, 325th OSS  
 Mark Wallace, 1st FS  
 David Walsh, 2nd FS  
 Steven Youd, 325th ACS

### Associate Unit selects:

James Bailey, FSU AFROTC  
 Charles Butcher, AFELM  
 Charles Byrd Jr., 23rd FTS  
 Thomas Defazio Jr., HQ AFCESA  
 John Deresky, AFELM  
 Bryan Green, AFELM

Mark Hoffman, AFELM  
 Jennifer Hoten, TAFB  
 Donald Jones, AFELM  
 Thomas Lang Jr., 23rd FTS  
 James McHenry, AFELM  
 Carlos Ramos, HQ AFCESA  
 Jonathan Reid, AFELM  
 Paul Spaven, 83rd FWS  
 Andrew Werner, AFELM  
 Robert Zalanka, 23rd FTS



**Congratulations to all of Team Tyndall's major selects!**

# Raptor program still flies

STAFF SGT. TODD LOPEZ

Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — Air Force officials said they will continue with the F/A-22 Raptor program.

Fervor over the Army's cancellation of the \$6.9 billion Comanche helicopter program Feb. 23 raised questions about the future of the Air Force's F/A-22, said the director of Air Force combat force capability requirements.

Col. Kurt Dittmer said the Air Force still has big plans for the multirole, supersonic, stealth fighter.

"[For] anything the U.S. military wants to do in the future, its lead effort is going to be the F/A-22," Colonel Dittmer said. "We think it offers a significant transformation capability for all services. It will get you into the air space to let you do what you want to do."

The F/A-22's speed and stealth make it more survivable in a high-threat environment than other stealth aircraft such as the F-117 Night-hawk or the B-2 Spirit, the colonel said. While the F/A-22 brings new capability to the air war, it also extends the capability of existing aircraft, he said.

"The F-117 and B-2 are

limited to flying at night," Colonel Dittmer said. "They are low-observable to radar, but don't have the ability to defend themselves against air threats. The F/A-22 has air-to-air ordnance and has the capability to survive in the

**"We've identified skill sets required for the global strike concept of operations and emphasized the application of stealth, precision and supercruise."**

LT. COL. JEFFREY HARRIGIAN  
43rd Fighter Squadron commander

high-threat battle space. It can take out those threats in the daytime, and that allows the F-117 and B-2 to fly in the daytime. The F/A-22 changes our stealth to a 24-hours-a-day, 7-days-a-week capable force."

The F/A-22 also brings a joint capability to the table, meaning all the services will benefit from its abilities. Other branches of the military will bring significant capabilities of their own to the battle space, but Colonel Dittmer said the Air Force must first establish air dominance for that to happen.

"We gain access for everybody," Colonel Dittmer said. "Any future combat operations in high threat environment

are going to require that we first establish air dominance. The F/A-22 will be the first thing combatant commanders ask for."

The Air Force has received more than 20 F/A-22s, the colonel said. Those are cur-

rently at Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla.; Edwards AFB, Calif.; and Nellis AFB, Nev., and are being used for testing and to train Air Force pilots.

Currently, Tyndall has four Raptors in its fleet, and expects to receive additional aircraft at a rate of one every four to six weeks. According to Lt. Col. Jeffrey Harrigian, 43rd Fighter Squadron commander, Tyndall has made great strides in paving the way for how the base will train Raptor pilots.

"The original training syllabus that was developed provided us tremendous infrastructure for the training program, which we've refocused on global strike concepts," Colonel Harrigian said. "We've identified skill sets re-

quired for the global strike concept of operations and emphasized the application of stealth, precision and supercruise."

Tyndall continues to set new milestones for the Raptor. In fact, the 43rd FS launched a multi-jet sortie with three of its four Raptors flying together. The fourth aircraft, Raptor 21, is completing modifications prior to returning to flying status.

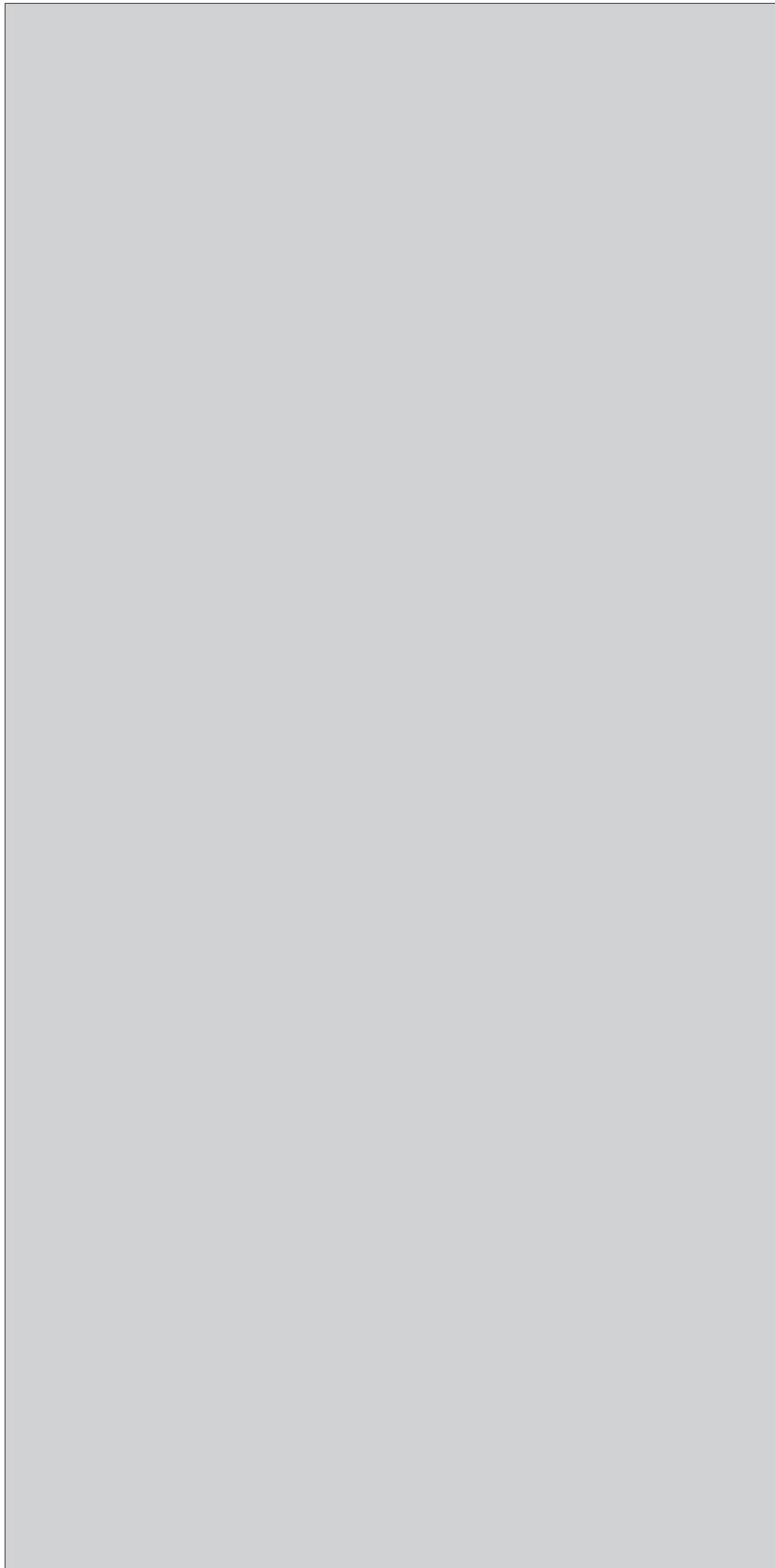
"We've met our timeline for modifying our Raptors," said Colonel Harrigian. "Raptors 18 and 19 were returned to the flightline on time and flew on their first attempt without any problems."

"Sortie generation is important to us, and the 43rd Aircraft Maintenance Unit gets the credit for making that happen," Colonel Harrigian said. "They've provided focused communication with operations and the entire Raptor team while integrating the operations requirements and training maintainers."

The Air Force plans to purchase nearly 300 Raptors. The first operational F/A-22 squadron should stand up in December 2005, at Langley AFB, Va.

*(Contribution by 325th Fighter Wing public affairs.)*

*You've got to know your limits before you can push them.*



● **FROM SAFETY PAGE 2**

Since I'm on the topic of safety, I want to take a moment to recap some of what Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John Jumper said in his recent sight picture. General Jumper's goal is zero mishaps for our Air Force.

I agree with General Jumper, even one mishap is unacceptable. The general wants to reduce the number of mishaps Air Force-wide by 50 percent over the next two years.

I encourage all of Team Tyndall to do their part and show the rest of the Air Force that zero mishaps is attainable by using proper operational

risk management.

Remember, safety at work is a big part of our lives, but it doesn't start or stop there. The general cited that in the past 10 years, more than 1,000 airmen were lost to accidents that could have been prevented. Safety is critical in all aspects of our lives, from working and playing around the house or driving to the store, to weekend activities away from home. Make safety a part of your everyday lifestyle.

Our people remain our greatest asset, and they are much too important to lose, especially when an accident could have

been prevented.

Speaking of taking care of our people, each year the Air Force hosts a very special fund raising event. On Monday, we will kick-off the Air Force Assistance Fund campaign. This is a great way to get involved in a program that allows us to give back to our own people. Many Team Tyndall members have benefited from the monetary benefits provided by the AFAF.

I highly encourage folks to become involved in this worthwhile campaign that gives back so much to Air Force members and their families.

Have a great week!

● **FROM COMMUNICATION PAGE 2**

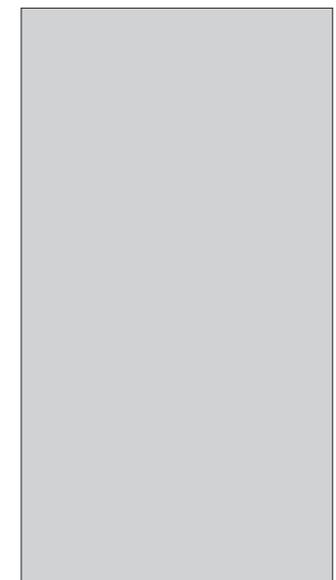
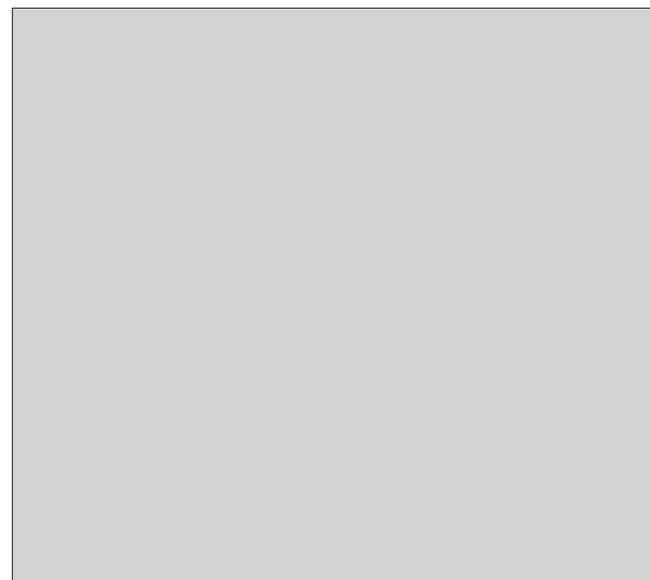
the right word picture. Recognize the most deserving individuals, and realize that recognition takes various forms: "hardware", time-off and monetary awards or a pat on the back. Realize how your words and actions will impact their lives in the Air Force and possibly beyond.

**Know and work your boss's agenda, know his/her issues:** Also, take it a step further where possible, and understand the issues and priorities of your boss's boss. Anticipate issues. Communicate these priorities to the troops. Know his or her preferred communication method and deliver to it. Ensure no surprises—communicate!

**Preserve the chain of command and exercise loyalty:** Electronic mail

can be a great tool, but realize just because you have the capability to shoot an e-mail to the Chief of Staff of the Air Force, it isn't a reason to do it. Resolve issues at the lowest level, and give the chain of command an opportunity to work. Loyalty is non-negotiable as it is essential for solid unit cohesion and success. Loyalty must exist up and down the chain unless a law has been broken or ethics compromised.

Each level within an organization has a different perspective for each situation. When possible, sharing a leadership perspective will help the organization continue to move forward and gain buy-in and embrace a situation or idea. Communicating and gaining understanding enhances mission effectiveness and grows future leaders.



# Fighting fires begins at home

**JILLIAN SPEAKE**

Air Education and Training Command public affairs

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AETCNS) — Four house fires in one month has Air Education and Training Command safety officials concerned about military members using proper fire prevention techniques.

The fires, all in military family housing units across AETC, cost the Air Force nearly \$76,000 in damages and resulted in a loss of \$55,000 in private property.

Perhaps more disturbing than the number of fires and the estimated cost in damages, is the majority of those fires were preventable. Most were caused by unattended candles and unsupervised cooking.

Candlelight dinner for two may seem like a romantic idea until the candles are left unattended. Frozen pizza might be a quick solution to dinner until the box is left on top of a recently lit burner.

Master Sgt. Darrell Drost, training chief of the fire officer and inspector courses at the Louis F. Garland Fire

Academy at Goodfellow AFB, Texas, believes hands-on training and education can go a long way in reversing the number of house fires.

“It’s the same as every other safety hazard. People don’t think it can happen to them so they let their guard down and are not prepared,” Sergeant Drost said. “The worst time to plan for a fire is after the fire happens.”

It’s for this reason fire officials suggest people look at their homes, room by room, to ensure the best possible safety precautions are in place to prevent fires.

Each room has a unique potential to cause a fire. For instance, the kitchen is notorious for electrical fires. That is why fire safety officials suggest keeping appliances clean and unplugged when not in use. Keep in mind, too, that

gasoline and other flammable liquids belong in appropriate containers and should always be stored outside.

Heating devices and fireplaces seem to be the most obvious fire-starters in a home, fire officials said.

Remember to use screens in front of the fireplace, have chimneys cleaned and inspected periodically and maintain adequate clearance around portable space heaters.



## Extinguishing fires before they start

- *Make sure smoke detectors are installed and tested once a month.*
- *Families should plan and practice escaping a house fire at least twice a year.*
- *Don't leave burning candles unattended.*
- *Teach children not to play with matches or lighters.*
- *Keep an eye on smoldering cigarettes and avoid smoking in bed or when drowsy.*
- *Never leave stove unattended and keep cooking areas clear of combustible items.*
- *Don't overload electrical outlets.*



**Think  
before  
you  
drink.**

## Food Mobile coming to Tyndall

**STEVE RIDDLE**

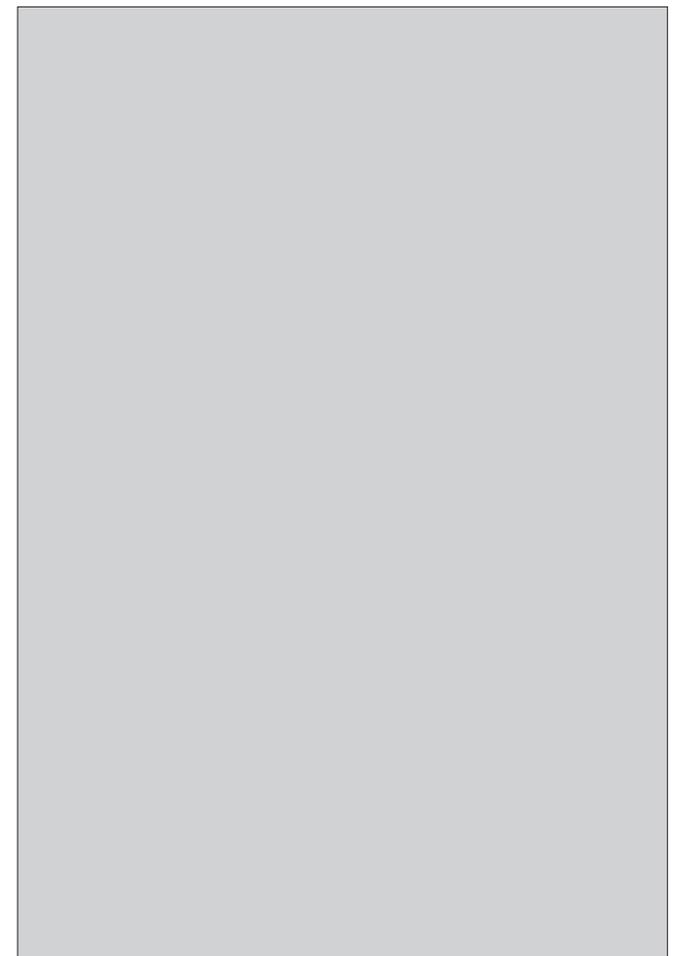
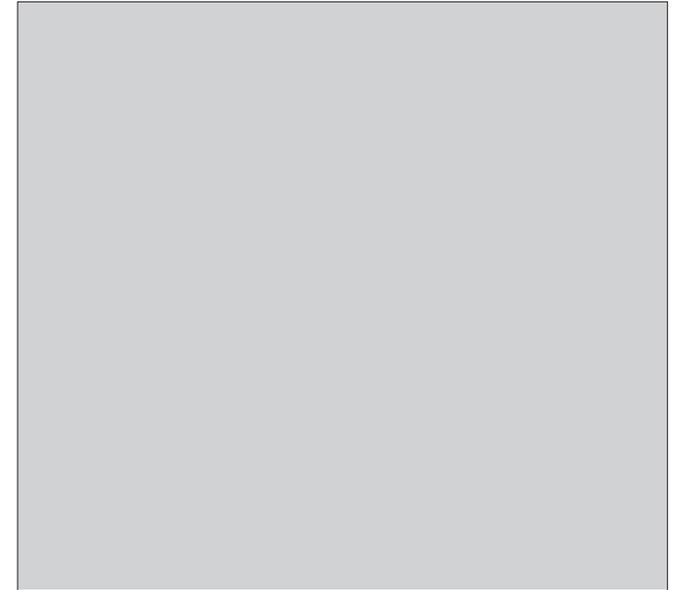
325th Services Squadron marketing publicist

Children and their parents can learn how to have a safer and cleaner kitchen when the United States Department of Agriculture’s Food Safety Mobile arrives at the Youth Center today.

“The Food Safety Mobile is coming here to provide education in a fun environment,” said Alma Hooks, Tyndall Youth Center director. “It’s going to be a great chance for the kids to learn about food safety.”

The brightly colored bus will be at the youth center from 2:30 - 5:30 p.m., and will provide helpful information on how to keep food from getting contaminated while cooking and storing.

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



Help Us Conserve



YOU HAVE  
the POWER.

## Checkertail Salute



Lisa Carroll

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

The Checkertail Clan salutes Sergeant Cournoyer, who manages the wing aircraft weight and balance monitor program for 83 assigned aircraft worth over \$3.5 billion. He represented Tyndall at the annual weight and balance conference in Palmdale, Calif. He is also an active member of Focus 56 and the NCO Association. He has volunteered for the second year in a row as an income tax representative for the maintenance operations squadron and the maintenance squadron. Additionally he has inspected every support section in the maintenance group for Air Force Instruction compliance.

**Tech. Sgt. Steven Cournoyer**

**Duty title:** Quality assurance weight and balance manager

**Unit:** 325th Maintenance Group

**Time on station:** Four years

**Time in service:** 12 years

**Hometown:** Woonsocket, R.I.

**Hobbies:** Sports and family activities

**Goals:** To make master sergeant

**Favorite movie:** "Shawshank Redemption"

**Favorite thing about Tyndall:**

My family here and the beach

**Proudest moment in the**

**military:** Completing basic training

*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.*

Save for Your Future  U.S. SAVINGS BONDS



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

# Powering the Raptor ...

## 325th MXS Engine Test Flight sets new milestones for AF's newest bird of prey

SENIOR MASTER SGT.

**ROB FULLER**

325th Fighter Wing public affairs

Revvng an engine and tweaking a motor until it purrs is an art the “hush house” team has perfected and taken to the next level with the arrival of the F/A-22 Raptor.

A process once involving intense troubleshooting can now be accomplished more efficiently thanks to a new engine test controller for the Raptor engine—and the Checkertail Clan has the first.

The Pratt and Whitney F119 engine is the next generation of jet engine, the heart and soul of the Raptor, and the power behind its ability to travel at Mach speeds with lower fuel consumption. Best of all for the maintainer—it adjusts itself.

“The biggest difference in this (over the F100-100) is that there are no trimming procedures for the maintainer, it’s self-trimming,” said Staff Sgt. Chris Davis, 325th Maintenance Squadron Propulsion Flight engine test

facility craftsman. “The computers in this engine are much more advanced and maintainer friendly. The engine electronics does everything by itself to include checking its own parameters.”

All of this is made possible by Pratt and Whitney’s latest technology in the engine test controller and Tyndall airmen. Previous ETC versions included analog switches, archaic displays and required more time to test a jet engine. The new ETC is software driven; touch-screen capable and can run an entire host of self-diagnostics on the F119 engine by just touching a

**“Our goal was to qualify the system for the Air Force and get our guys run certified so Tyndall will be self-sustaining. We’ll increase our capability with a quicker turn on engine maintenance.”**

**MASTER SGT. BILL CANFIELD**

325th Maintenance Squadron propulsion flight chief

menu on the screen. The system just recently completed test qualifications at the Tyndall hush house, making Tyndall’s ETC the first operational one in the Air Force.

test qualified the ETC and ensures it meets the needs of units Air Force-wide.” The test also qualified propulsion experts like Sergeant Davis.

An engine system so new has limited tech data, accord-



**A Pratt & Whitney F119 engine runs in full afterburner during a recent test run at the Tyndall engine test facilities, allowing maintainers to accomplish**

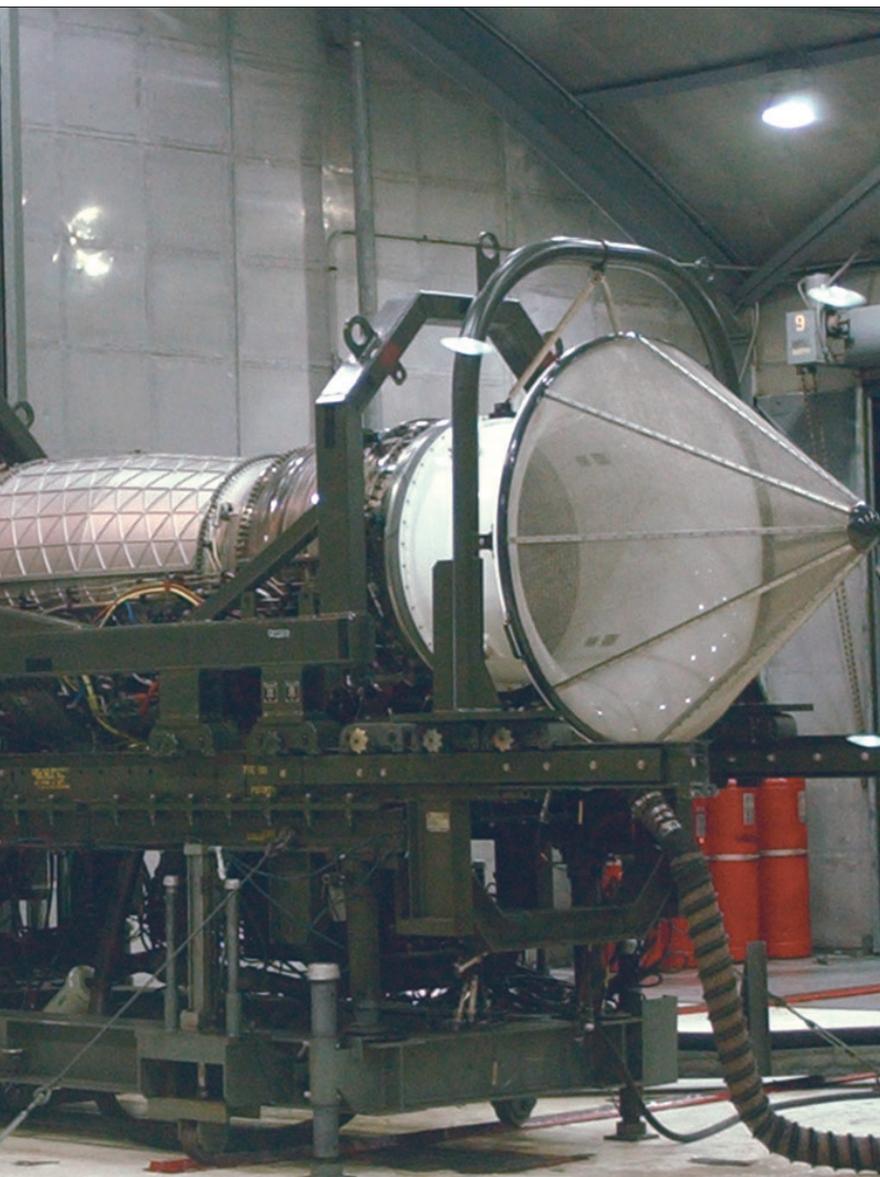
“What we’ve done during this effort along with the system program office and contractors is an engine test qualification,” said Master Sgt. Bill Canfield, 325th MXS propulsion flight chief. “This



**Staff Sgt. Jeffrey Carstens, a 325th Maintenance Squadron Propulsion Flight engine test facility craftsman, inspects components on the Raptor's engine following a test run at the Tyndall 'hush house'.**



**(From left) Staff Sgt. Chris Davis, a 325th Maintenance Squadron Propulsion Flight engine test facility craftsman, watches as Staff Sgt. Timothy Walker, 325th MXS Propulsion Flight production supervisor, tighten a B-n**



Photos by 2nd Lt. Albert Bosco

Engine test in the Tyndall 'hush house'. The base is the first to receive the engine and test the F/A-22 Raptor's 35,000 pound thrust class engine.



325th MXS Propulsion Flight engine test facility. Staff Sgt. Jeffrey Carstens and Tech. Sgt. Tim Walker work on one of the engine's fuel lines.

ing to Sergeant Canfield, and therefore the team relies on experts such as Sergeant Davis. He, along with Tech. Sgt. Tim Walker and Staff Sgt. Scott Carstens, received "run" certifications during the process. The hush house team consists of 17 people who will all eventually be certified to run the F119 engine.

Although the Raptor is relatively new to Tyndall, Staff Sgt. Chris Davis is no novice. A seasoned propulsion craftsman, he's been working with the F119 and Raptor program for almost six years, both here, and in testing at Edwards Air Force Base, Calif.

"Working at Edwards was a great learning experience,"

### Pratt & Whitney F119-PW-100 engine characteristics

**Type:** Twin-spool, Augmented turbofan

**Thrust:** 35,000 pound thrust class

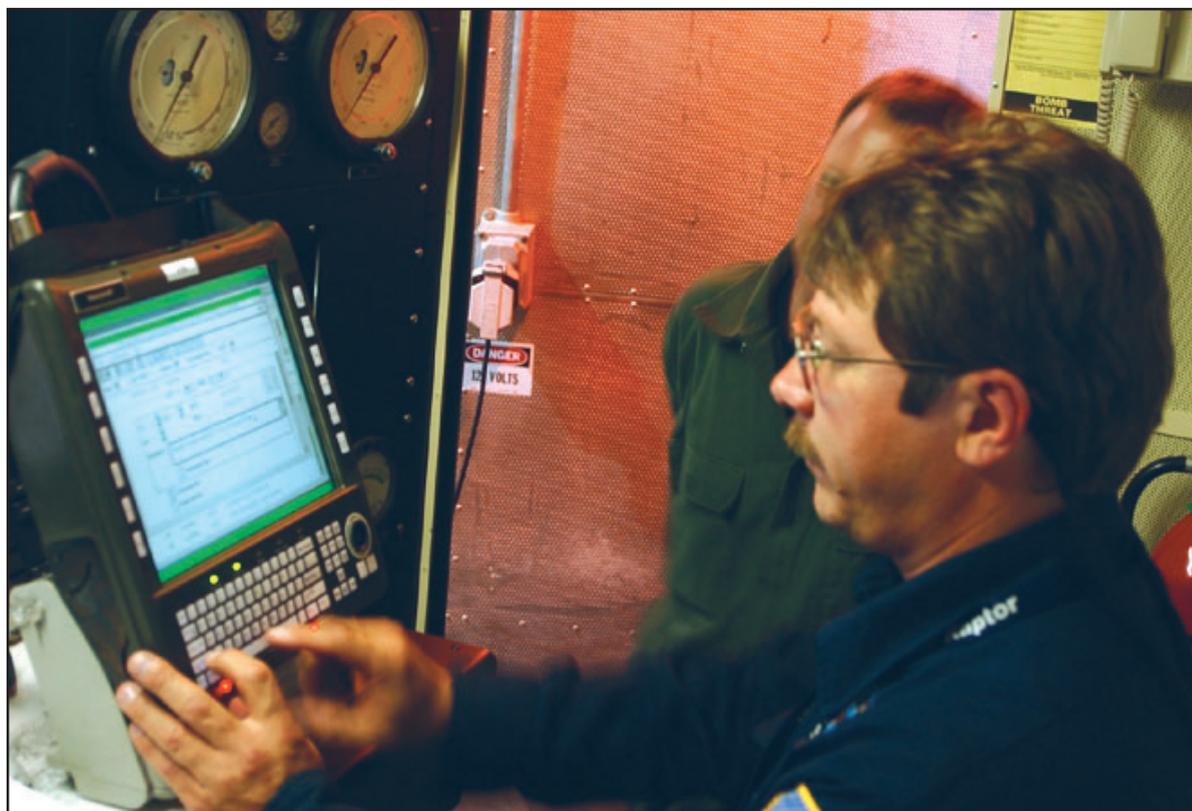
**Engine control:** Full-authority digital electronic control

**Compression system:** Twin-spool, Counter-rotating, Axial flow, Low aspect ratio

**Turbine:** Axial flow, Counter-rotating

**Nozzle:** Two dimensional vectoring convergent/divergent

**Nozzle deflection:** 20 degrees vertically in both directions



John Lake, a Pratt & Whitney contractor and Tyndall's F119 production lead, uses the Raptor's portable maintenance aid to set up the engine for a test run. The PMA is a ruggedized laptop computer used by maintainers to interface with the F/A-22 Raptor and many of its systems.

**"The computers in this engine are much more advanced and maintainer friendly. The engine electronics does everything by itself to include checking its own parameters."**

**STAFF SGT. CHRIS DAVIS**

325th Maintenance Squadron propulsion flight engine test facility craftsman

said Sergeant Davis. "I guess the benefit from working there is that I've worked in-shop and test cell on the F119. I've done everything from tearing the engine down, to building back up and testing it."

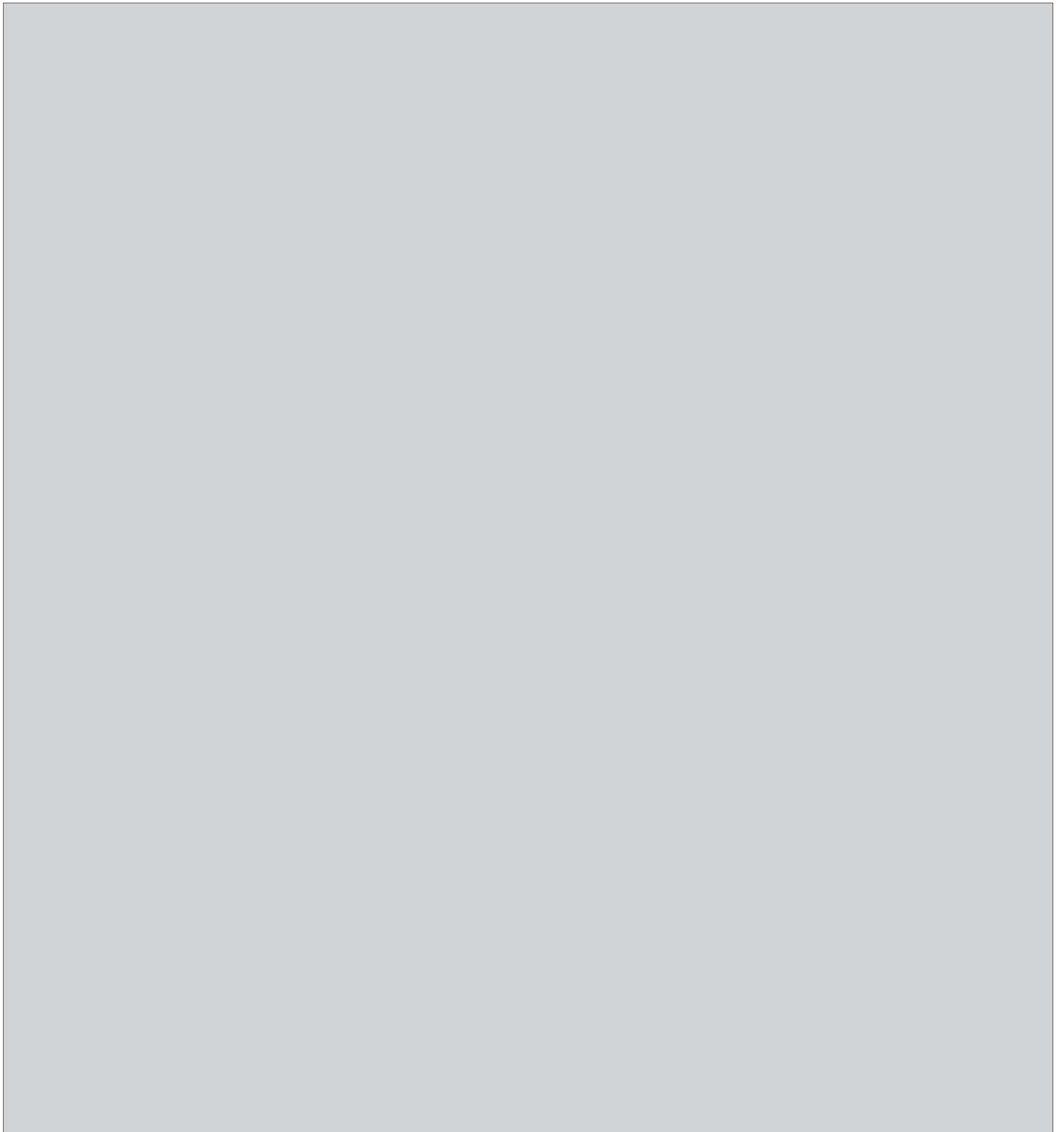
Drawing on the experience of professionals like Sergeant Davis, coupled with the new

ETC system is a win-win situation for the 325th Fighter Wing, saving man-hours and money in keeping the Raptor fleet flying. Previously, following engine maintenance in the jet engine shop or on the flightline, an engine had to be shipped to Marietta, Ga. for testing prior to returning it to service. The new system

typically requires only three hours to prep an engine and four hours to run the required tests.

"Our goal was to qualify the system for the Air Force and get our guys run certified so Tyndall will be self-sustaining," said Master Sgt. Canfield. "We'll increase our capability with a quicker turn on engine maintenance."

The certification process is the culmination of 17 months of intense work, including upgrades to the facility that increased the strength of the test equipment to accommodate the 35,000 pound thrust-class engine, according to Sergeant Canfield.



● FROM ASSAULT PAGE 1

For example, student training should be expanded to include more emphasis on sexual assault awareness, deterrence and reporting, and that such training be presented in a more interactive setting. Likewise, the current training programs for commanders, first sergeants, military training leaders and instructors should be expanded to include additional training on sexual assault awareness, deterrence and reporting.

We are also making sure that when our best efforts fail to deter these crimes, we swiftly and compassionately render aid to victims; thoroughly investigate the circumstances of these reports; and when the evidence dictates, we prosecute and punish perpetrators.

Our important mission demands we hold ourselves to a higher standard. Sexual assault has no place in my Air Force; it shouldn't have a place in yours either!

Over the coming weeks and months, you are going to be hearing and learning more about this important issue. Listen and pay attention to what your commanders, first sergeants, supervisors and peers are telling you regarding the unacceptable nature of sexual assault. Commit yourself to act in a manner that demonstrates daily the respect you have for your teammates and for yourself.

I am proud of the men and women who serve our country in the Air Force with integrity, service before self and excellence. Together we will continue to tackle the sexual assault problem and ensure we maintain an environment that promotes the dignity and well being of all our Air Force team members.



Gen. Don Cook

## Contracting expanding its AETC award winner list

TECH. SGT. DAN NEELY

325th Fighter Wing public affairs

The 325th Contracting Squadron, already standing tall after recently garnering five individual award, claimed a command level team award in the Air Education and Training Command competition.

The unit's Air Force Contract Augmentation Program team of Larry Edwards, Glenn Behrends, Jim Garred, Russ Roderick, Gene Harris and Alyce Molt won the Outstanding Pricing Team Award. They will now go forward to compete for Air Force-level honors to be announced later this month.

"I am blessed to be surrounded by such wonderful contracting professionals," said Lt. Col. David Kennedy, 325th CONS commander, reacting to the award announcement. "I am extremely pleased for them that their hard work and dedication to supporting the Team Tyndall mission has been recognized at such a high level."

According to Colonel Kennedy, the AFCAP team works hand in hand with the Air Force Civil Engineer Support Agency to provide agile contingency contract support anywhere in the world at a moment's notice.

The AFCAP contract is now the workhorse for supporting Afghanistan operations and Operation Iraqi Freedom. They saved more than \$12.4 million across 104 task orders by using

more cost effective methods and increasing support of contingency operations. The General Accounting Office commended the team's timely negotiations and cost substantiations compared to other services' contingency contracts.

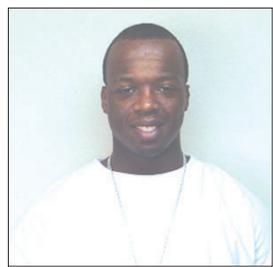
"Last year alone, we obligated over \$380 million, in large part supporting the war against terrorism," Colonel Kennedy said. "It is virtually impossible to put a value on that, but in a word, I would say: freedom."

When asked to describe the AFCAP's award-winning qualities, Colonel Kennedy responded, "Dedication, mission-focus, professionalism and loyalty come to mind. These folks have supported a very dynamic, high-visibility contract in a superior manner, with limited resources."

Individual AETC awards were: Tech. Sgt. Todd Cook, Staff Sgt. Ronald L. King Contingency Contracting Award, enlisted category; Tech. Sgt. Doug Pick, Outstanding Contracting Enlisted Member Award, NCO Category; Airman 1st Class Paul Szymanski, Outstanding Contracting Enlisted Member Award, airman category; Melissa Sanders, Outstanding Contracting Support Award; and honorable mention recognition went to Dixie Bankston in the GS-12 and above category.

## How has the Air Force Aid Society assisted you?

- The Air Force Assistance Fund kicks off Monday.
- The money goes to the Air Force Aid Society to help airmen with urgent issues and needs.
- The point of contact for the AFAF is Master Sgt. William Canfield, 283-4123, or e-mail [william.canfield@tyndall.af.mil](mailto:william.canfield@tyndall.af.mil).



"The AFAS loaned me money to pay for engine parts and labor for my truck, which is my only mode of transportation to and from work."

AIRMAN BRYAN MAXWELL  
325th Security Forces Squadron



"I had a family emergency and the AFAS was able to loan me money for a plane ticket, car rental and pocket money. They also made my itinerary for the same day trip. It was very convenient, they made all the arrangements."

STAFF SGT. THOMAS ALLEN  
325th Aeromedical-Dental Squadron



"It has helped me out of a few very difficult situations. As an airman I had a fire in my apartment and they not only helped me move, but also recover some of my things. They also helped me with emergency vehicle repairs and helped me get home quickly for a funeral."

MASTER SGT. DERRICK MOORE  
325th Mission Support Squadron

## Classifieds

### 1999 Z71

4x4; pewter; extended cab; 96,500 miles. For more information, call (850)819-2392

### Household items

Whirlpool washing machine, \$50 and Kenmore gas dryer, almond, call Steve or Lisa at 769-3849.

\$800.00 OBO sofa & loveseat good condition, \$30.00 Kodak Advantix C700 camera,

\$400.00 OBO JVC digital video camera, call 850-286-4951. For more information, call 286-4951.

## Yard sales

- 2728 Eagle Dr.
- 2677 B Kisling Loop
- 2987 A Starfighter Ave.

Garage sales are held on Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

## Events

### Talent show

The Tyndall Black Heritage Committee is sponsoring an annual variety show April 17 at the Enlisted Club. According to organizers, this is a great opportunity to showcase talents. Contact Staff Sgt. John Phinisey for more information, at 283-2663 or e-mail at [john.phinisey@tyndall.af.mil](mailto:john.phinisey@tyndall.af.mil).

### Early signups for Tin Man Triathlon

Entries are now being accepted for the May 1 Tin Man Triathlon held at Fort Rucker. It is an annual fund-raiser for Army Emergency Relief. The event also includes a Duathlon for non-swimmers. Details are on the event's Web site, <http://www.trifind.com/r/tinman.html>. For advance registrations e-mail [curtis.harper@rucker.army.mil](mailto:curtis.harper@rucker.army.mil) or call (334) 255-9133.

### Smooth Move Workshop

The next Smooth Move Workshop will be held May 12. The workshop is designed to prepare families for the upcoming move whether it is the first or last move. Spouses are encouraged to attend. For more information, call the Tyndall Family Support center at 283-4204.

## Education

### ERAU 2004 term registration

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University Spring B 2004 term registration will be held 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. March 15-19 in Bldg 1230, room 48. Class dates are March 22 - May 22. For more information, call 283-4557.

### Gulf Coast Community College

Applications are now being accepted for the 2004 Summer term. All active duty must submit a copy of orders with the application. Schedules will be available for the summer and fall terms April 15th. The next placement test at the Tyndall center will be 1 p.m. Wednesday.

## Services

### Thrift Shop

The Tyndall Thrift Shop will be open for shopping 9 a.m. to noon Saturday. The shop is located on Suwannee Road in Bldg. 743 across from the post office. Regular Thrift Shop hours are 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Consignments are accepted from 9:30 -11:30 a.m., Wednesdays and Thursdays only. For more information, call 286-5888

### Base operations relocated

Base operations, Bldg. 149, will be relocated for nine months due to renovation. Base weather and meteorological navigation will be operating out of the trailer in front of Bldg. 149 and airfield management will be operating out of Bldg. 131. For more information, call 283-4244.

### Munitions Storage temporary closing for inventory

Munitions Storage area will be performing a closed warehouse inventory March 15-19. Emergency issues only will be able to be preformed March 15-19. To make this run as smooth as possible all documents should be correct in order. Issues or turn-ins must be scheduled before March 15. Any questions can be directed to Senior Airman Christopher Penny or Senior Airman Daniel Griffin at 283-4010.

### Quality of Life Grant

The Tyndall Officers' Spouses Club is offering up to \$5,000 for a quality of life project that will benefit the Tyndall community. Once proposals are submitted, the Quality of Life Program Committee will make the selection based on the impact and feasibility of the proposal. Project proposals can be submitted to Mrs. Wendy Harding at 286-1429 or via e-mail at [hardingaggies@aol.com](mailto:hardingaggies@aol.com).

## Retiree news

### Officials stress need to update DEERS

Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS) officials emphasized this week the importance of updating records when personal eligibility information changes, and noted several ways to make the changes. Eligibility changes include changes in military career status and family status such as marriage, divorce, birth and adoption.

Beneficiaries may update their DEERS address, telephone number, and e-mail address through several methods:

DEERS Web site at <https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/appj/address/index.jsp>. It's quick and easy and the best time to update is during non-peak hours.

Visit a local personnel office that has a uniformed service ID card facility. Fax address changes to 1 (831) 655-8317. Call the Defense Manpower Data Center Support Office (DSO) Telephone Center at 1 (800) 538-9552 or for the Deaf (TTY/TDD): 1 (866) 363-2883. Hours of operation are 6 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. (Pacific time), Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. Mail the changed information to the DSO, ATTN: COA, 400 Gigling Road, Seaside, CA 93955-6771.

For more information and links to related sites, please go to <http://www.tricare.osd.mil/deers/default.cfm>.

## Chapel Schedule

### Catholic services will be 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 Building 1476
- General Protestant service, 11 a.m., Chapel 2.

# Tyndall horse stables open up to local girl scout troop

STEVE RIDDLE

325th Services Squadron publicist

Local Girl Scout Troop 569 discovered something Saturday that more and more people are finding out for themselves – the Tyndall Horse Stables are for everyone.

Until recently, the stables were off limits except to people who actually boarded a horse there. Thanks to a new program now being offered, the girls were able to learn about horses, see them in action, and even got to take a ride.

“We’re in the process of contracting to be able to provide riding lessons and other activities too at the stables,” said Cindy Workman, Outdoor Recreation director. “It’s starting to

catch on; it’s wonderful so far.”

Ms. Workman said along with the riding lessons, the Tyndall Horse Stables are now also offering birthday parties with pony rides, lessons on basic horsemanship, and group clinics.

Several boarders of the stables put on a riding demonstration at Saturday’s group clinic for the girl scouts, jumping fences and barrel racing. After seeing the horses in action, the children had a chance to learn more about them.

“After the demonstration, we brought the horses over to show to the kids,” said Kim Taylor, horse riding lesson instructor for the stables. “We wanted to explain to them about the different breeds and different characteristics of

horses.” Quarter horses, American Paint Horses, Arabians, and Kiger Mustangs were just some of the breeds shown.

“We told them how the quarter horse is used for barrel racing and to cut cattle, the thoroughbred is meant for jumping since it has tall, long legs, and that the Arabian is an all-purpose horse,” Ms. Taylor said. “A horse isn’t just a horse.”

The girls also learned basic horsemanship and

safety around horses, something Ms. Taylor said will be included in her lessons on horse riding.

“The kids learned how to tack up a horse – how to put a saddle and bridle on them,” Ms. Taylor said. “They also learned how to brush a horse and about basic care for horses. Before riding, we told them you should check the horse to see if there are any injuries.”

The girl scouts enjoyed their time at the stables Saturday, and had been looking forward to their visit for months, according to Jackie Nance, Girl Scout leader, Troop 569.

“The girls voted on what they wanted to do throughout the year,” Ms. Nance explained. “This was at the top of the list.” Nance added that the junior troop scouts of Troop 569 earned their Horse Care Merit Badge.

Taylor said she and the rest of the boarders who helped put on the event enjoyed getting the chance to interact with the children, and look forward to more events like Saturday’s visit.

“There are a lot of kids that never get the chance to see a horse up close,” Ms. Taylor said. “Now we have the opportunity to share the horses with them.”

Ms. Workman agreed, saying the program is just one more example of the huge variety of activities available for Tyndall people.



**Kim Taylor (right) and her horse, Princess, are greeted by members of Girl Scout Troop 569 during their visit to the Tyndall Stables Saturday.**

“We’re doing this to give people an opportunity they might otherwise never have,” Ms. Workman said. “Not everyone can afford a horse, but now we can afford them the chance to have contact with a horse.”

To schedule individual riding lessons, contact Kim Taylor at 896-2060. For more information on this or other Outdoor Recreation programs, call 283-3199.



Photos by Steve Riddle

**Members of Girl Scout Troop 569 visited the Tyndall Stables Saturday, where they learned how to care for horses and were given a riding demonstration.**

## Officers' Club starting quarterly events

STEVE RIDDLE

325th Services Squadron publicist

Thanks to the Officers' Club Advisory Committee and support from Tyndall Group units, the O' Club recently held one very successful event, and has three others planned for the upcoming months.

A M.A.S.H. Night party is scheduled at the O' Club in mid-May, and a Casino Night in August and a Brewing Contest in October have also been planned. A Mardi Gras Party held two weeks ago was the first of these quarterly festivities, and if the crowd for that party was any indication of future participation, the O' Club should be packed for these next three events.

“We just talked about how we could improve attendance at the club, and get people more involved,” said Col. Armand Grassi, chairman of the O' Club Advisory Committee. “At one of our advisory committee meetings, we basically just suggested that each group sponsor one of these quarterly functions. The Mission Support Group, Maintenance Group, the Medical Group and our tenant units all agreed to sponsor an event.” Colonel Grassi said the Operations Group already sponsors a monthly Warrior Call that features speakers such

as former POWs and special ops personnel to name a few.

The Mission Support Group was the first unit to sponsor one of the events, hosting a Mardi Gras party Feb. 20 that proved to be a huge hit with base personnel.

“The Mardi Gras celebration was a successful and gala event due to participation from “Team Tyndall” that included the base and our local community friends,” said Col. Martin Sayles, Mission Support Group commander. “Over 100 patrons attended this event.”

Next up will be the Medical Group’s event. Plans have been made to hold their M.A.S.H. Night party May 14, and according to Capt. Judy Manno, an optometrist in the Medical Group, a variety of activities should make this festivity one to remember.

“Right now, we’re thinking about putting pop-up tents in the foyer, and each squadron will get to decorate one,” explained Captain Manno, who is spearheading the planning for this upcoming event. “We also want to have a Spam-carving contest, and we’re thinking about doing a wheelchair or gurney race.” Captain Manno said there would also be a M.A.S.H. trivia contest throughout the night and a costume contest, with prizes awarded.

“The dress for the party will be either Korean War-era BDU’s (Battle Dress Uniforms), scrubs, or Hawaiian shirts,” Captain Manno added. “It will be pretty informal, and lots of fun. From everyone I’ve talked to that has been to one of these, it has been a blast.”

Colonel Grassi credited the advisory committee with coming up with the ideas for the events, and said it was due to the fact that there has been a dramatic increase recently in advisory committee meeting attendance.

“When I first got here, there were three people at the meeting,” he said. “Now we have about 30 people attending.” Colonel Grassi said many squadrons have representatives they send to the advisory council meetings, which are held on the last Wednesday of the month. However, any club member is invited to attend.

With the extra people helping to brainstorm events, more themed parties are possible, he said. But the intent of these functions is still the same – to make the O' Club a fun place to be.

Colonel Sayles agreed, saying, “Our goal is to give the people what they want and continue our Air Force heritage through increased membership and support of our clubs.”

# Funshine NEWS

March 5, 2004

www.325thservice.com

**Tyndall Invitational Paintball Tournament**  
**March 6 & 7**  
 Come out and watch the fun.  
**Door Prizes & Trophies**  
**283-3199**

**Gulf Coast Salute 2004 5K Fun Run/Walk**  
**March 27, 8 a.m.**  
 Open to all ages and fitness levels so bring out the entire family for a run or walk around Tyndall. This is a Fun Run, not a competitive race. All who participate in the walk/run will be eligible to win prizes awarded through a random drawing. Walk begins at 8 a.m., run begins at 8:30 a.m. Cost is \$10 before March 12 & \$12 after. For more details: 283-2631.

**Registration Forms available at the Fitness Center**



**Fitness**  
 ☎ 283-2631  
**Massage Therapist**  
 Janice Walker available Tues. & Thurs. 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Call for an appointment. Cost is \$20 for a half hour or \$35 for a full hour.

**Tyndall Open House Tournament**  
**March 19, 2004**  
*Deadline for sign-ups will be noon, March 18.*  
**\$30 for members**  
**\$45 for non-members**  
 Prices include: Lunch, green fees, range balls, carts and prize fund. Format is 4 person select shot. Patrons can make teams or be placed on teams by the director of golf. Prizes will be given for the closest to the pin on holes 9 and 15, best score and other prizes will determined on the amount of teams entered.  
**283-4389**

*Tyndall's All Ranks*  
**Seafood Extravaganza**  
**At the O' Club**  
**Friday, March 12**  
 5:30-8:30 p.m.

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

**Market Price: \$18.95\***  
**Children ages 6-11: \$9.95\***  
**5 & Under: \$4.95\***  
 \*Members First!  
 Show your club card to receive a \$3 discount.

**For AF families Arriving / Departing**

Tyndall AF Aid for PCS provides 20 hrs. of free child care in a Family Child Care home. Contact the Family Support Center (283-4204) or the FCC office (283-2266) for more details.

The Family Child Care (FCC) office hours are 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. Monday thru Friday and other times by appointment.

Persons are interested in pursuing a Family Child Care License should schedule an orientation appointment before class for prospective providers begins on March 10, 2004.



**Community Activity Ctr.**  
 ☎ 283-2495  
**St. Paddy's Treasure Hunt**  
 Deadline to sign up is Mar. 5. Grand prize New Microsoft X-Box. This event is open to all active members, DoD civilians, contractors, military dependents, & retirees. Call for more details.

**Blarney Stone Contest**  
 Guess the weight of the Blarney Stone & you could win an All You Can Eat Pizza Buffet for Two. One entry per person. Winner will be announced Mar. 17 at 3 p.m.

**Base Level Billiards Tournament**  
 Mar. 13, Starting at 11 a.m. This event is open to all active duty members, DoD civilians, contractors, military dependents & retirees. Awards for 1st, 2nd & 3rd place.

**Youth Center**  
 ☎ 283-4366

**Tennis Anyone?**  
 Ages 5 and up and learn basic skills in a friendly group environment. Program runs Mar. 6, 13, 20, 27, at 9 a.m. Cost is \$30 and all equipment is provided.

**Start Smart Soccer**  
 Mar. 10, 12, 17, 19 at 10 a.m. Cost is \$30. Open to youth ages 3-5 yrs.

**March 6: Keystone Club Yard Sale;**  
 7 a.m.-?? In YC Gym. The Keystone Club is attempting to raise money to attend the Youth of the Year conference in Tampa.

**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**

<b>Monday</b>	Chef's Choice
<b>Tuesday</b>	Italian
<b>Wednesday</b>	Oriental
<b>Thursday</b>	All American
<b>Friday</b>	Seafood

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

**On Base Food Delivery**  
**■ Lunch Menu: Mon.-Fri. 11 a.m.-1 p.m.**  
Limited to office deliveries (i.e. squadron addresses)  
**■ Evening Menu: Fri. & Sat. 5:30-9 p.m.**  
**Subs & Pizzas**  
**286-2900**

**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**

**Playstation II Tournament**  
**Madden '04**  
 E Club • March 6, 6 p.m. Big Screens, Food, Prizes. Members Only. Join Today!  
**283-4357**



**Deals on CRUISES!**

**Carnival Cruise Line**  
 Bahamas sailings out of Miami. Starting at \$299

**Royal Caribbean**  
 Caribbean sailings out of Port Canaveral. Starting at \$399

**Norwegian Cruise Line**  
 Western Caribbean sailings out of New Orleans \$399/\$499

**For more information call 283-2864**



# CMSAF addresses quality of life issues



Master Sgt. Gary Coppage

**Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Gerald Murray answered questions during a congressional hearing Feb. 25 about quality-of-life issues in the military.**

viewpoints.

“Today (morale) is the best I’ve ever seen it,” Chief Murray said. “It is not (based on) leisure or comfort. It is ... based on commitment and dedication to a cause that is much greater than any individual, and they do believe in what they are doing.”

But, there are still some areas of concern. Among them are

WASHINGTON — The service’s ranking enlisted member addressed quality-of-life issues to the House subcommittee on military construction Feb. 25.

Overall, quality of life in the Air Force has greatly improved, contributing to increased morale and retention, said Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Gerald Murray.

However, that quality of life is not the biggest contributing factor.

Full text of Chief Murray’s testimony can be found on the Air Force’s Internet home page at [www.af.mil](http://www.af.mil) by clicking on senior leader

veteran’s education benefits, infrastructure improvements, deployment schedules and the Air Force’s need to trim down its end-strength by more than 16,000. The issue with veteran’s education benefits is fast becoming a pressing issue for those approaching retirement.

“There are 42,000 airmen who have no opportunity for

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**“It’s imperative that we address these needs and give our airmen first-class facilities to perform their jobs at peak efficiency.”**

**CHIEF MASTER SGT. OF THE AIR FORCE GERALD MURRAY**

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veteran’s benefits,” the chief said. “The group hit the hardest are those retiring now, or who will be in the next few years who declined to enroll in the Veteran’s Assistance Education Program offered from 1977 to 1985.”

These senior noncommissioned officers served during a time of increased operations tempo, from operations Desert Storm to Iraqi Freedom.

“They now find themselves leaving military service without the opportunity to complete the college degrees that duty to their country often kept them from obtaining,” Chief Murray said. Besides the inequity of benefits, the Air Force is facing growing deficiencies in infrastructure, Chief Murray said.

“Deteriorated airfields, hangars, waterlines and electrical networks are just some of the infrastructure elements warranting immediate attention,” he said. Many airfields and hangars date back to the days of the Army Air Corps, said the chief. Some maintainers work in hangars where the condi-

tions are not much better than working outside.

“It’s imperative that we address these needs and give our airmen first-class facilities to perform their jobs at peak efficiency,” he said. With the current deployment situation, airmen are tasked to perform those jobs efficiently around the world.

“At the height of OIF, more than 40,000 of our airmen deployed to 36 locations around the world,” Chief Murray said. “Today, that number totals more than 20,000, including Guard and Reserve forces of our civilians.”

While the majority of airmen are organized into air expeditionary forces, deploying on a 90-day, 15-month cycle, that cycle was suspended to meet the requirements of OIF.

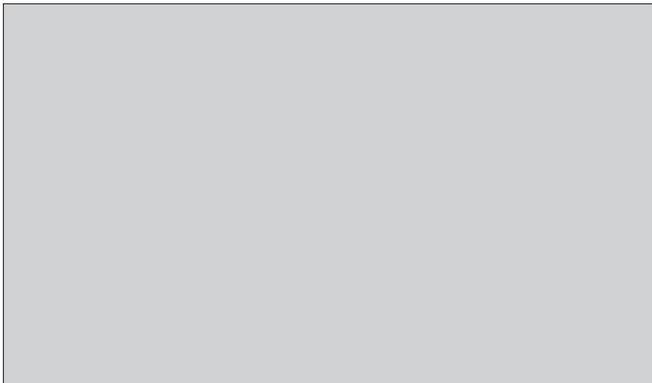
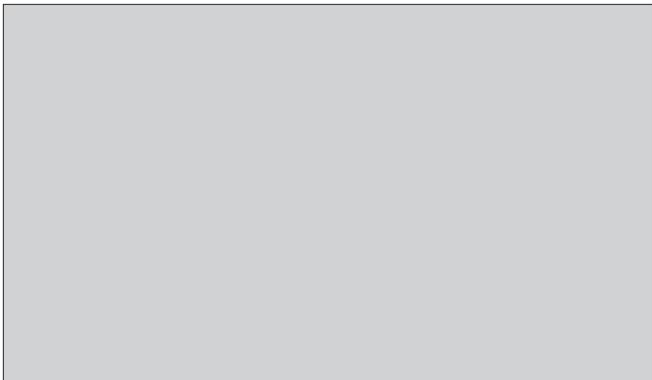
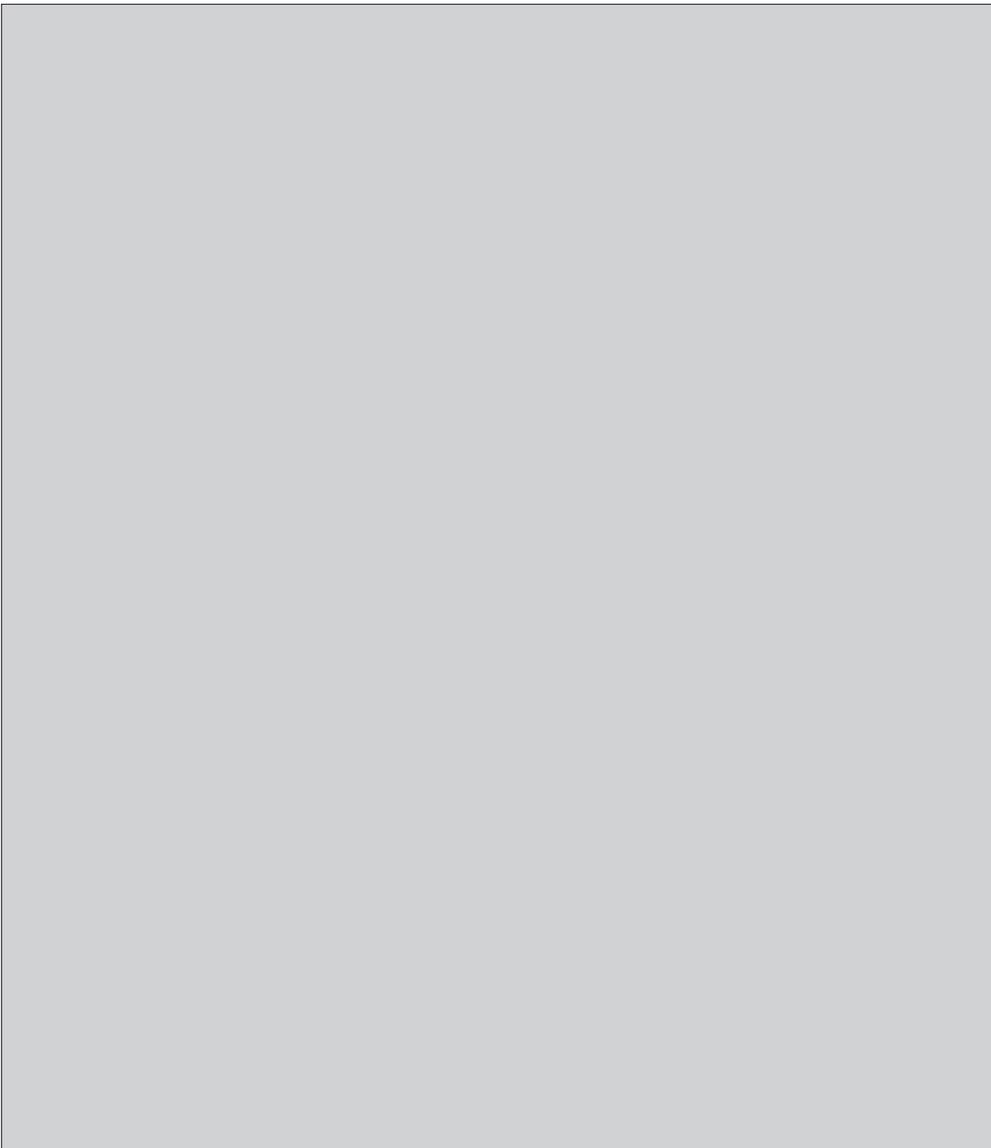
Many airmen were deployed for indefinite amounts of time.

“We’re now returning the majority of our force back into a standard AEF rotation,” Chief Murray said. Airmen are getting really used to deployments, with nearly two-thirds of the force having deployed, many more than once.

“I recently spoke to a 13-year technical sergeant in our Air Force,” the chief said. “In 13 years, he has deployed on 13 extended deployments. I asked him how he felt about this. He said, ‘Chief, it’s what we do.’

“It is indeed what we do today,” he said. “Because of that, I am asking for your continued support on the issues and programs important to our young men and women and their families.” One of those issues that recently became important to airmen is the Air Force’s need to cut its end-strength by more than 16,000.

“We will now take steps to ask more than 16,000 airmen to separate voluntarily from our ranks,” Chief Murray said. “Our intent is to reach our end-strength objective without losing critical skills or separating quality, experienced airmen from our Air Force.” The chief also touched on retention and recruiting, housing improvements and policy changes, the renewed emphasis on physical fitness, and the contributions of Guard and Reserve forces.



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

**QUIT**

 American Heart Association  
WE'RE FIGHTING FOR YOUR LIFE

