

TYNDALL AFB OPEN HOUSE & AIR SHOW

SHOWCASING
AMERICA'S
DEFENDERS:

FIVE FORCES,
ONE MISSION



MARCH 27-28
8 A.M. TO 5 P.M.
FREE ADMISSION & PARKING



SUPPLEMENT TO THE GULF DEFENDER

COVER BY LANCE ERWIN, K-MAR INDUSTRIES
PHOTO BY LISA CARROLL, K-MAR INDUSTRIES

Tyndall airshow highlights American armed forces

BRIG. GEN. LARRY NEW

325th Fighter Wing commander



Team Tyndall is proud to host the 2004 Gulf Coast Salute open house and airshow this weekend. The theme for the event is "Showcasing America's Defenders: Five Forces, One Mission."

While each branch of our armed forces wears a unique uniform and has its own core competencies, it is our ability to band together as a single force that distinguishes our American servicewomen and men as the best in the world. We invite you to share with us in honoring the contributions of all our armed forces in defending America's freedoms.

While American forces are still engaged in the global war on terrorism and are conducting many operations abroad, it is imperative now, more than ever, the public has the opportunity to learn about its military and see firsthand what it brings to the fight. The trust and support we receive from our friends and neighbors in Bay County and the surrounding communities is crucial to our mission success, and the Gulf Coast Salute is an event we look forward to each year.

Much has happened at Tyndall since last year's airshow. Today marks the six month anniversary of the F/A-22 Raptor at Tyndall. Sept. 26 ushered in a new era with its arrival as Tyndall became the "Home of Air Dominance." During the

past six months, we have been busy training F-15 and F/A-22 pilots, air battle managers, air traffic controllers, intelligence officers and maintainers to support the combat Air Forces while being a force provider to various contingencies across the globe, deploying hundreds of people from Team Tyndall.

This year's Gulf Coast Salute will offer a unique opportunity



"While American forces are still engaged in the global war on terrorism and are conducting many operations abroad, it is imperative now, more than ever, the public has the opportunity to learn about its military and see firsthand what it brings to the fight.

BRIG. GEN. LARRY NEW
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to witness the future of our Air Force as the F/A-22 takes to the air. This will be only the second time a Raptor has flown at an airshow, and it will be a sight spectators won't want to miss. Additionally, there will be an F/A-22 static display, allowing folks

to get a closer look at the world's most advanced combat aircraft.

Other events scheduled for this weekend include our headlining aerial demonstration by the U.S. Navy Blue Angels, an appearance by the U.S. Army Special Operations Command Black Daggers parachute team, and many other military and civilian performances.

While many activities will occur in the air, a number of military and civilian static display aircraft will fill the Tyndall flightline. Some static displays include the C-5 Galaxy, C-17 Globemaster III, E-3 Sentry (AWACS), B-1B Lancer, F-16 Fighting Falcon, F/A-18 Hornet, F-117 Nighthawk, AH-64 Apache, Russian MiG 23 Flogger and MiG 29 Fulcrum, a Navy hovercraft and Tyndall's own F-15 Eagle and F/A-22 Raptor, to name a few. It is a definite mix of aircraft of today and yesteryear. Other events include NASCAR veteran driver Ricky Rudd's Air Force-sponsored #21 race car, a series of interactive Air Force displays, and a hangar dedicated to children's activities.

In order to ensure everyone's enjoyment, please read and follow the safety guidelines on page 12.

To our civilian spectators, during your visit, you will encounter our most valued asset, our Airmen. Please feel free to use this opportunity to meet them and ask questions. I am confident that you will walk away from this year's airshow with the peace of mind that our nation's defense is in very capable hands. I look forward to seeing you here. Enjoy the show!

Liberties came with high price

KARI TILTON

Ogden Air Logistics Center public affairs

HILL AIR FORCE BASE, Utah (AFP) — Today started out to be "one of those days." My inability to roll out of bed to my blaring alarm at 5:30 a.m., sharp, snow-balled.

The outfit I was planning to wear had a stain that I didn't notice yesterday, and wouldn't you know it, everything else in my closet was wrinkled.

Ironing at 5:45 a.m. isn't usually on my to-do list, but I was pleased to be able to watch the morning news while I did my chores. "Politics, politics," I sigh to myself. "Can't we just all get along?"

When I let my dog out to take care of her morning must-dos, she quickly began barking at something lurking in the bushes.

Sworn to protect our family at any cost and ignorant to my reassurances, she refused

to come in the house.

Hot steam poured from my flaring nostrils as I chased her around the back yard, yelling in a whisper as to not wake the neighbors. Did I mention it was 21 degrees outside?

My daughter, age 5, was less than cooperative in getting herself dressed for school. Of course, I can't blame her.

She's in kindergarten now and has a lot on her mind. Where did she put the stuffed kitten that she wanted to take for show-and-tell today?

While she searched, I scanned the fully-stocked cupboards, looking for something she might actually eat. We settled on an instant breakfast shake and an apple. She didn't want the skin. To keep the peace, I peeled.

Finally in the car and on our way, I gave myself a little internal pat on the back, impressed by my ability to pull things together and get out the door only 10 minutes late. As

we sat at our fourth stoplight of the morning — I always get the red ones when I'm running late — my daughter pointed out a large U.S. flag, illuminated and swaying in the light morning breeze.

"Mom, the red stripes are for all the blood shed for our country," she said. "My teacher told me. I can't remember what the white stripes are for, though, mom. Do you know?"

In an instant, my thoughts did an about-face as I stumbled to answer her question.

"I think the white stripes stand for our nation's pure ideals," I said.

I tried to keep it simple. "That means EVERYONE has the same rights. We are all allowed to believe what we want, to say what we feel, to go to church where we choose, to learn, to have dreams and to have jobs. Some people, in other countries, don't have those

●SEE FLAG PAGE 15

ON THE COVER:

Pictured from left are Marine Corps Sgt. David Mercado, Marine Corps Recruiting Office Panama City; Army Sgt. 1st Class Gary Ehrisman, 146th Signal Battalion, Jacksonville, Air Force Senior Airman Melody White, 325th Air Control Squadron, Tyndall AFB; Coast Guard Petty Officer 1st Class Ralston Heath, Coast Guard Station Panama City; and Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Joe Murphy, Naval Surface Warfare Center Panama City.

In the background on the ladder of a Tyndall AFB F/A-22 Raptor is Senior Airman Jonathan Tringali, 325th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, 43rd Aircraft Maintenance Unit.

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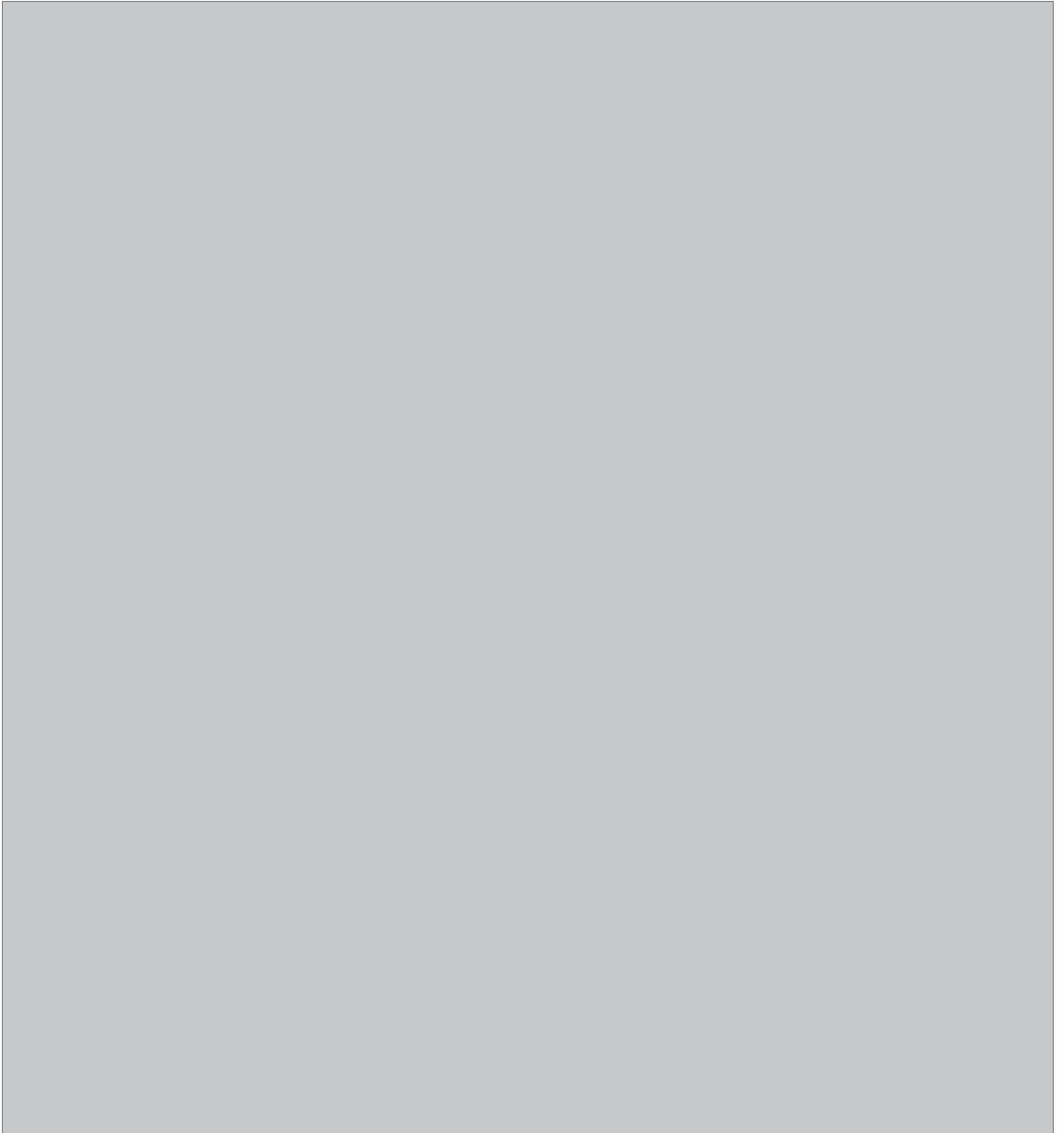
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or patron.

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

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



Navy flight demo team to headline Tyndall airshow

The Blue Angels' mission is to enhance Navy and Marine Corps recruiting and to represent the naval service to the United States, its elected leadership and foreign nations. The Blue Angels serve as positive role models and goodwill ambassadors for the U. S. Navy and Marine Corps.

A Blue Angels flight demonstration exhibits the choreographed refinements of Navy trained flying skills. It includes the graceful aerobatic maneuvers of the four-plane Diamond Formation, in concert with the fast-paced, high-performance maneuvers of its two solo pilots.

Finally, the team illustrates the pinnacle of precision flying, performing ma-

neuvers locked as a unit in the renowned, six-jet Delta Formation.

Stationed during the show season at Forrest Sherman Field, Naval Air Station Pensacola, the squadron spends the winter (January through March) training pilots and new team members at Naval Air Facility El Centro, Calif.

The Blue Angels are scheduled to fly nearly 70 air shows at 34 locations in the United States and Canada during the 2004 season.

The 2003 season brought out more than 17 million spectators. Since its inception in 1946, the Blue Angels have performed for more than 381 million fans.

The Blue Angels represent the finest

from the Navy and Marine Corps. Each team member, whether officer or enlisted, is handpicked from the fleet to be part of the Blue Angels.

Each year this select group begins a two- or three-year rotation as Blue Angels—a group of men and women demonstrating the pride and teamwork found throughout the Navy and Marine Corps.

Sixteen officers and nearly 110 enlisted crew voluntarily apply for tours of duty with the Blue Angels serving as part of the support team maintenance crew or as an aviator on one of the most demanding and prestigious teams in the world.

Team members are well-rounded

representatives of their fleet counterparts, and selection is highly competitive. Each squadron member is individually selected. The selection process is keen, and certain requirements must be met.

Applicants must be career-oriented Sailors or Marines recommended for Blue Angels duty by their current commanding officer. Competition during the application process ensures that the Blue Angels maintain its tradition of excellence and adequately reflects the professionalism of today's Sailors and Marines.

(Courtesy U.S. Navy Aerial Demonstration Squadron)

Blue Angels' distinguished history dates to World War II

At the end of World War II, on April 24, 1946, Chief of Naval Operations, Adm. Chester Nimitz, ordered establishment of a flight demonstration team to showcase naval aviation.

Lieutenant Commander Roy "Butch" Voris, the first flight leader, led the team of Navy Lt. Chuck Knight, Lt. Maurice Wickendoll, Lt. Al Taddeo, Lt. Jim Barnitz, Lt. j.g. Gale Stouse, Lt. j.g. Ross Robinson and Lt. j.g. Mel Cassidy.

During a trip to New York City, Lieutenant Wickendoll chanced across a reference to the city's famous Blue Angel nightclub in *The New Yorker* magazine. Less than two months later, on June 15, the newly-named Blue Angels and their Grumman F-6F Hellcats delivered the team's first public performance at Craig Field in Jacksonville.

The Blue Angels transitioned

to the Grumman F-8F Bearcat, on August 25, only two months after the first performance. In 1947, flight leader Lt. Cmdr. Robert Clarke, introduced the famous diamond formation, now considered the Blue Angels' trademark. The team was flying its first jet aircraft, the Grumman F9F-2 Panther at the end of the 1940s.

In 1950, the Korean Conflict put a great demand on naval aviation. The Navy responded by re-assigning the Blue Angels team members to the aircraft carrier *USS Princeton* (CV 37), where they became the nucleus of Fighter Squadron 191 (VF 191), known as "Satan's Kittens."

The Blues reorganized in 1951 and reported to Naval

Auxiliary Air Station Whiting Field in Milton, Fla., then transitioned to Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, Texas, where the team began flying the F9F-5, a faster version of the Panther. The team remained in Corpus Christi until

the winter of 1954. The beginning of 1955 brought the team to its present home, Forrest Sherman Field, at NAS Pensacola, Fla., where it adopted the swept-wing Grumman F9F-8 Cougar.

The ensuing 20 years saw

the Blue Angels step up into successively advanced aircraft. In 1957, the team began flying the Grumman F11F-1 Tiger, and by 1969 the team was performing in its first dual-engine jet, the McDonnell-Douglas F-4J Phantom II.

In December 1974, the Blue Angels team reorganized as the U. S. Navy Flight Demonstration Squadron, establishing Cmdr. Tony Less as the first commanding officer.

The squadron added support officers and redefined its mission to support Navy recruiting. The Blue Angels also donned a new aircraft in 1974, the McDonnell Douglas A-4F Skyhawk II.

On Nov. 8, 1986, the Blue Angels marked their 40th an-

niversary. During the ceremony the squadron unveiled its present aircraft, the sleek, then McDonnell-Douglas, F/A-18 Hornet. The Hornet is the first dual-role fighter/attack aircraft serving on the nation's front lines of defense.

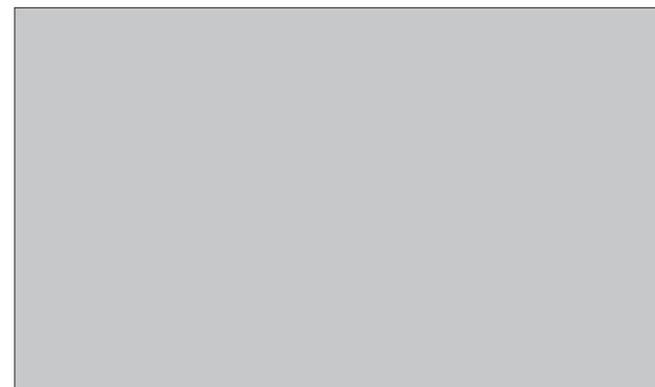
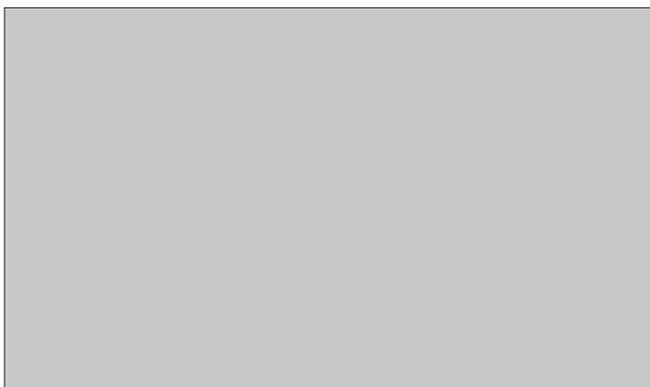
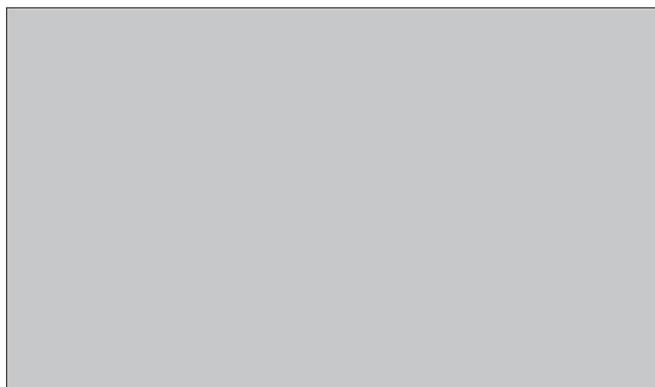
In 1992 the Blue Angels deployed for its first European tour in 19 years. More than one million people in Sweden, Finland, Russia, Romania, Bulgaria, Italy, the United Kingdom and Spain saw the Blue Angels perform during their 30-day tour.

In November 1998, Cmdr. Patrick Driscoll landed the first "blue jet" on a "haze gray and underway" aircraft carrier, *USS Harry S. Truman* (CVN 75).

Since its inception in 1946, the team has flown for more than 381 million fans.

(Courtesy U.S. Navy Aerial Demonstration Squadron)

1946 - 2004
Blue Angels



Meet your United States Navy Blue Angels



Cmdr. Russ Bartlett, USN
#1 Flight Commander



Lt. John Saccomando, USN
#2 Right Wing



Maj. Dan Shipley, USMC
#3 Left Wing



Lt. Cmdr. David Varner, USN
#4 Slot



Maj. Len Anderson, USMC
#5 Lead Solo



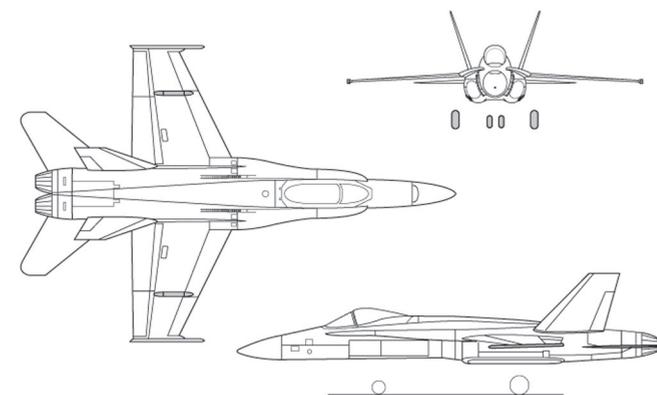
Lt. Craig Olson, USN
#6 Opposing Solo



Lt. Justin Otto, USN
#7 Narrator



Maj. Chandler Seagraves, USMC
#8 Events Coordinator



F/A-18 Facts and Figures

- Primary Function:** Multi-role attack and fighter aircraft
- Builder:** McDonnell Douglas, Northrop Grumman, Boeing
- Power Plant:** F/A-18 C/D - Two General Electric F404-GE-402 enhanced performance turbofan engines, E/F - Two General Electric 414-GE-400 turbofan engines
- Thrust:** F/A-18 C/D - 17,700 pounds (each engine), E/F - 22,000 pounds (each engine)
- Length:** F/A-18 C/D - 56 feet, E/F - 60.3 feet
- Height:** F/A-18 C/D - 15.3 feet, E/F - 16 feet
- Wingspan:** F/A-18 C/D - 40.4 feet, E/F - 44.9 feet
- Speed:** F/A-18 C/D - Mach 1.7+ (1,200 mph), E/F - Mach 1.8+
- Ceiling:** 50,000+ feet
- Maximum Takeoff Weight:** F/A-18 C/D - 51,900 pounds., E/F - 66,000 pounds.
- Range:** F/A-18 C/D - 1,500+ nautical miles (ferry), E/F - 1,600+
- Armament:** One M-61A1/A2 Vulcan 20mm cannon; external stations can carry a variety of air-to-air missiles, conventional air-to-air and air-to-surface munitions and electronic countermeasure pods.
- Crew:** F/A-18C/E: one; F/A-18D/F: two
- Date Deployed:** F/A-18 C/D - September 1987, E/F - September 2001
- Cost:** F/A-18 C/D - \$29 million, E/F - \$57 million
- Blue Angels Modifications**
 - Nose cannon removed
 - Smoke oil tank installed
 - Spring installed on flight control stick for improved formation and inverted flight



Recruiting services



U.S. Air Force Recruiting Station
340 W. 23rd. Street
Panama City, Fla. 32405
(850) 763-1301



U.S. Navy Recruiting Station
340 W. 23rd Street
Panama City, Fla. 32405
(850) 785-5582



U.S. Army Recruiting Station
340 W. 23rd Street
Panama City, Fla. 32405
(850) 763-6555

U.S. Marine Corps Recruiting Station
340 W. 23rd Street
Panama City, Fla. 32405
(850) 763-8452



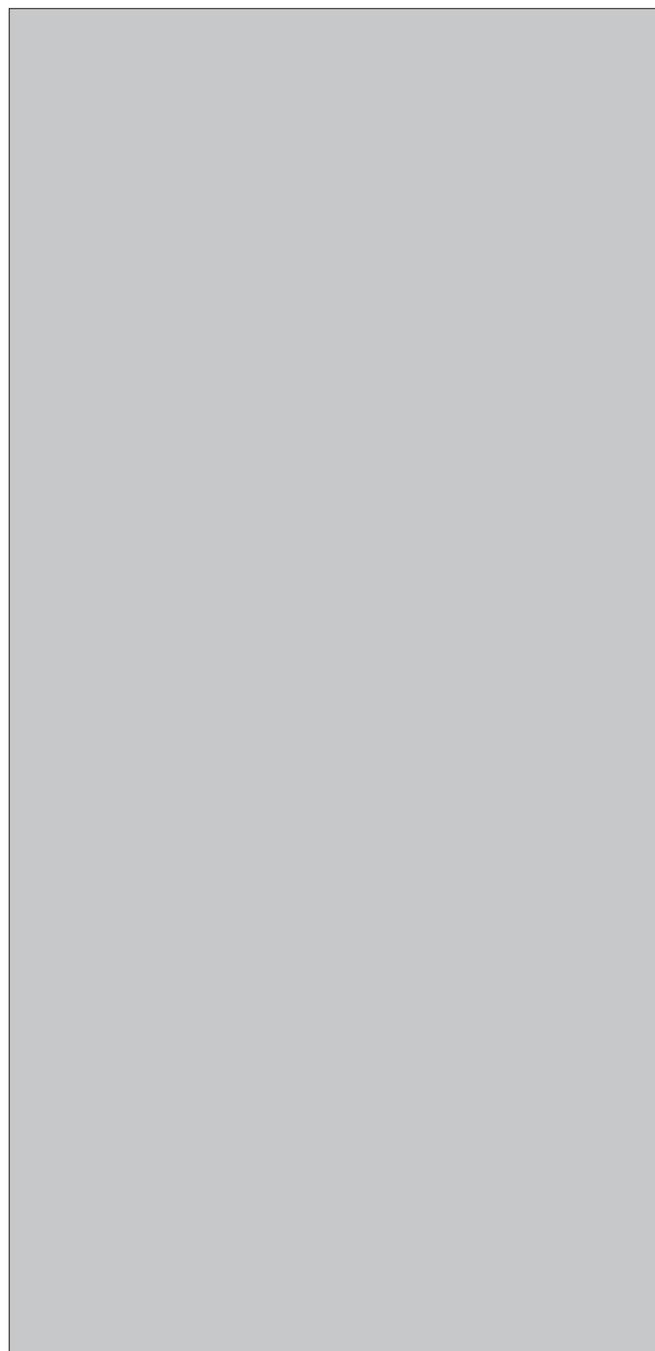
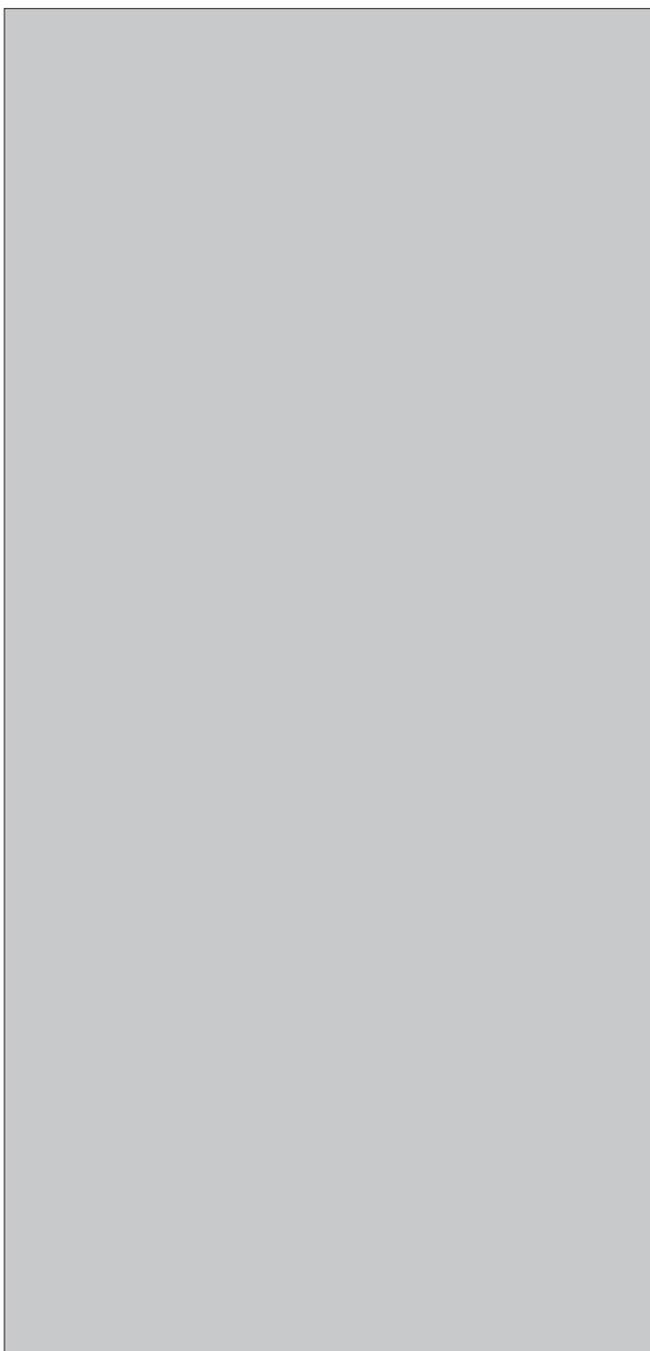
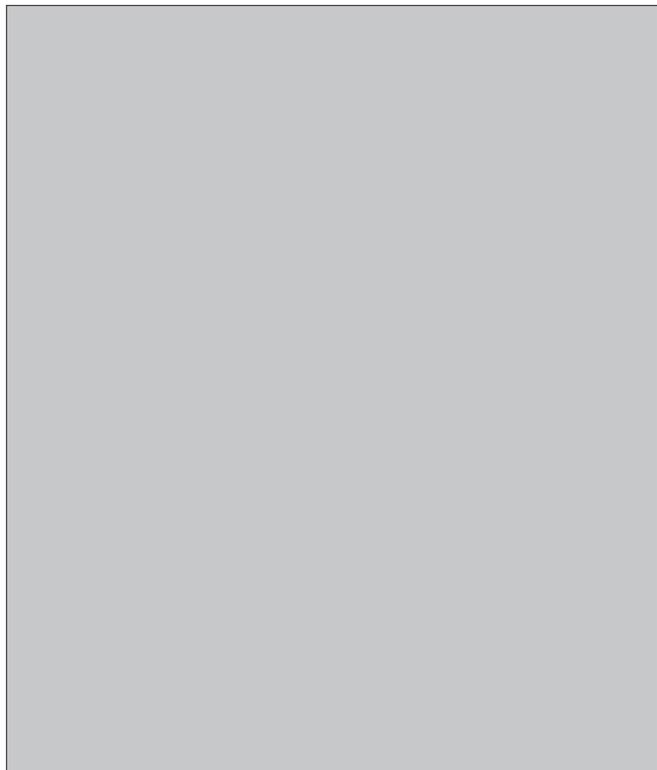
U.S. Coast Guard Recruiting Station
1714 W. 23rd Street
Panama City, Fla. 32405
(850) 763-1950

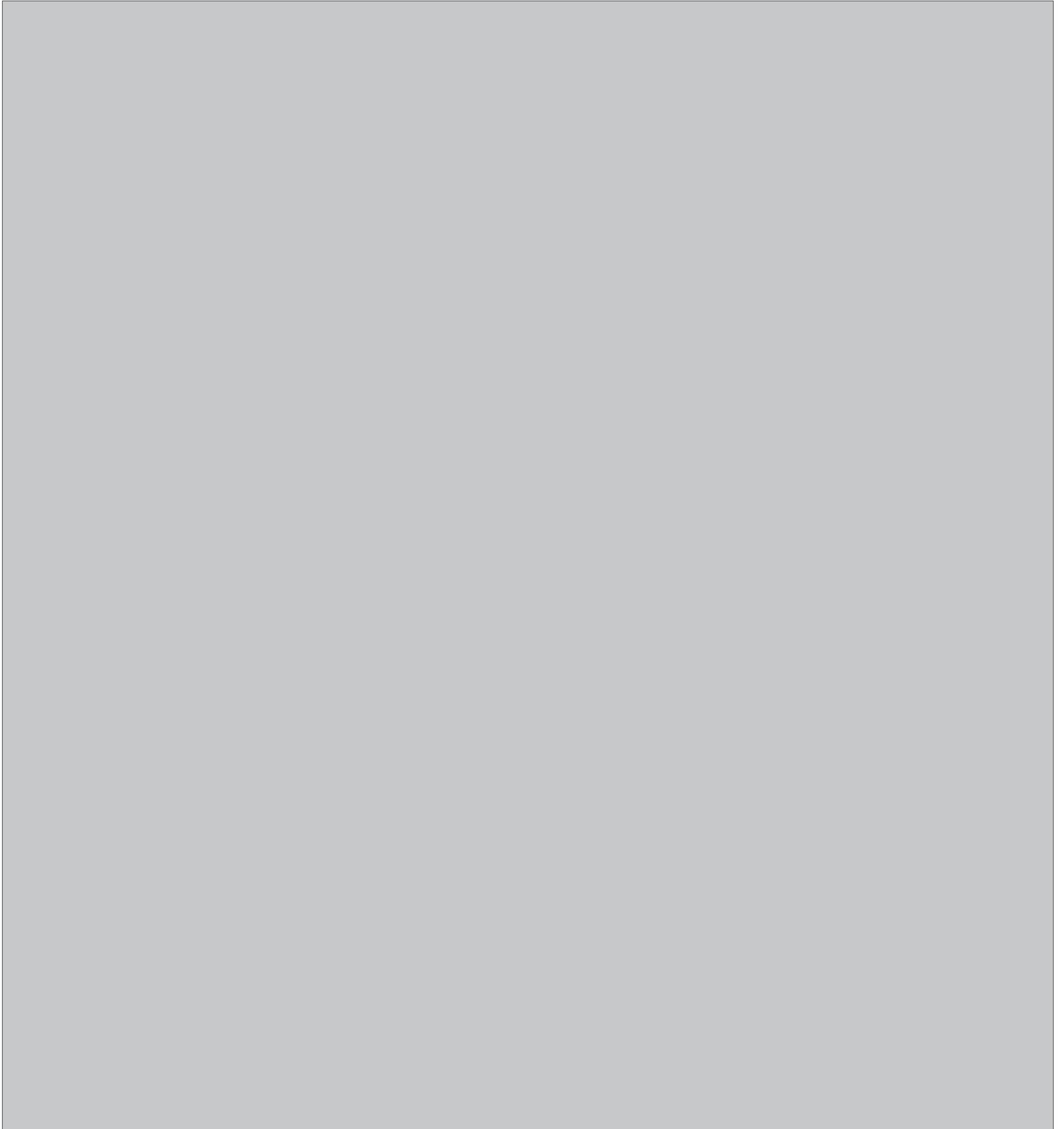


Tech. Sgt. Dan Neely

NASCAR coming to Tyndall

NASCAR veteran driver Ricky Rudd's Wood Brothers' No. 21 Motorcraft Racing/U.S. Air Force Ford Taurus race car will be on display during this year's Gulf Coast Salute.



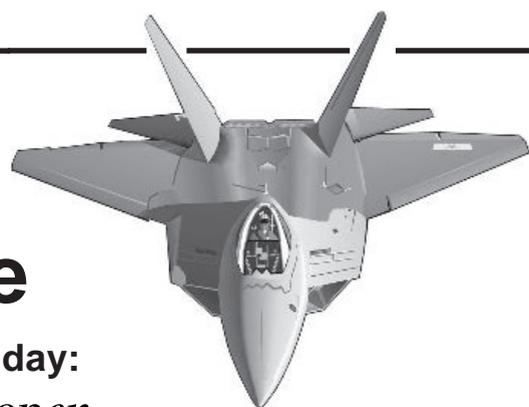


- The 325th Fighter Wing is the home of Air Dominance training for the United States Air Force, training the world's best Air Dominance team.



- The Air Education and Training Command recruits, trains and educates professional airmen to sustain the combat capability of America's Air Force

GCS Schedule

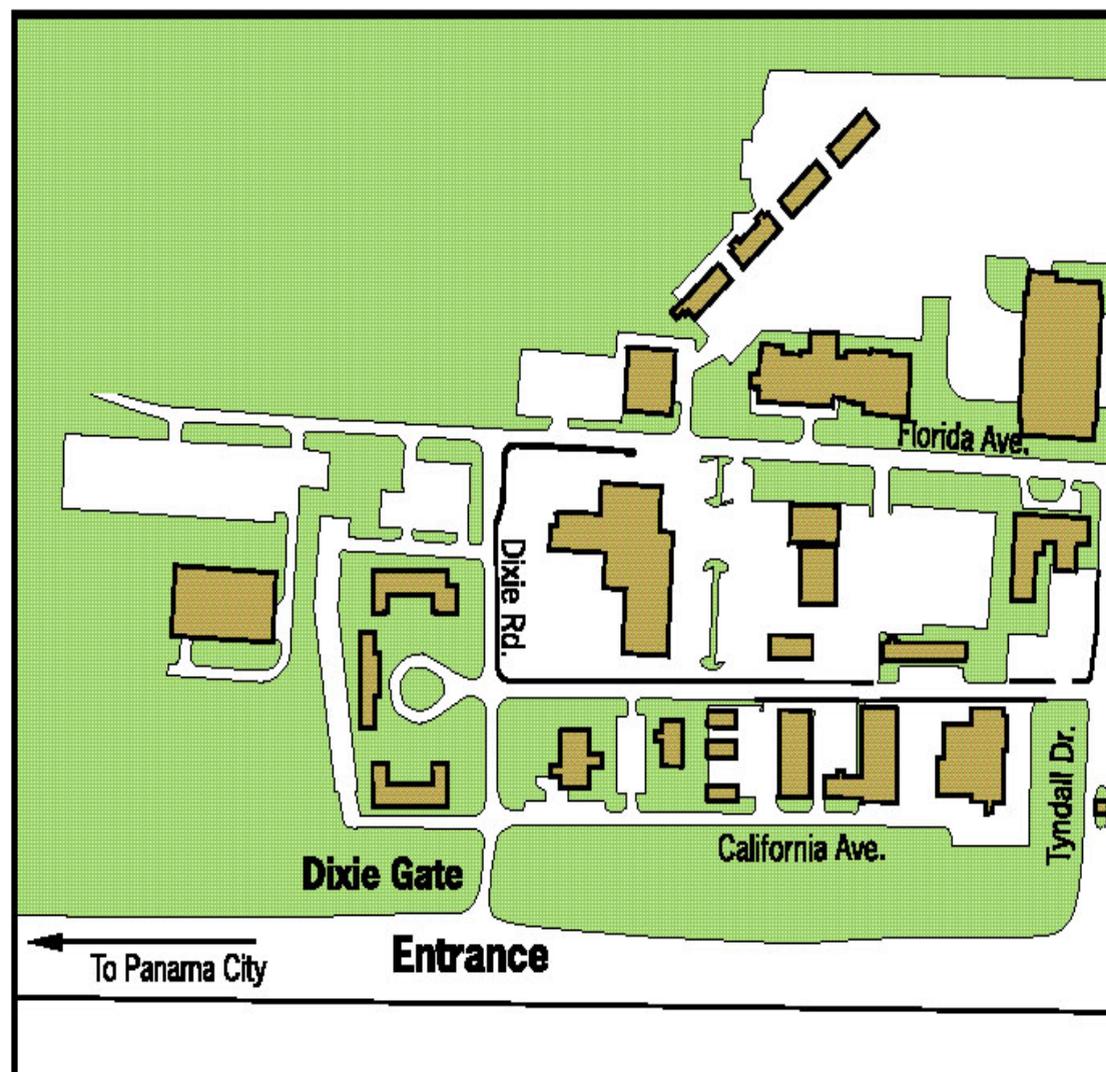


Saturday and Sunday:

8 a.m. - Gates open

- U.S. Army Special Operations Command Black Daggers parachute team demonstration
 - National Anthem/U.S. Air Force 4-ship F-15 Eagle fly-by
 - U.S. Air Force T-6 Texan II demonstration
 - 4-ship warbird demonstration Army Air Corps AT-6 Texan
 - Red Eagles low-level precision aerobatics routine
 - Warbird fly-by Army Air Corps B-25 Mitchell "Yellow Rose"
 - U.S. Army/ OV-1 Mohawk demonstration
 - Flash Fire jet truck
 - U.S. Air Force F-15 Eagle demonstration
 - Heritage Flight Army Air Corps P-51 Mustang/U.S. Air Force F-15 Eagle
 - Warbird demonstration Japanese A6M Zero/ Army Air Corps P-51 Mustang
 - Coast Guard HH-65 search and rescue demonstration
 - U.S. Air Force F/A-22 Raptor flyby
 - U.S. Air Force F-117 Nighthawk flyby
 - Soviet SU-26 aerobatic routine
 - Flash Fire jet truck
 - Warbird demonstration Army Air Corps AT-6 Texan "American Thunder"
 - U.S. Navy Blue Angels ceremony
 - U.S. Navy Blue Angels precision aerial demonstration
- 5 p.m. - Gates close*

Gulf Coast Salute 2004



Gulf Coast Salute 2004 educates, entertains Bay County community

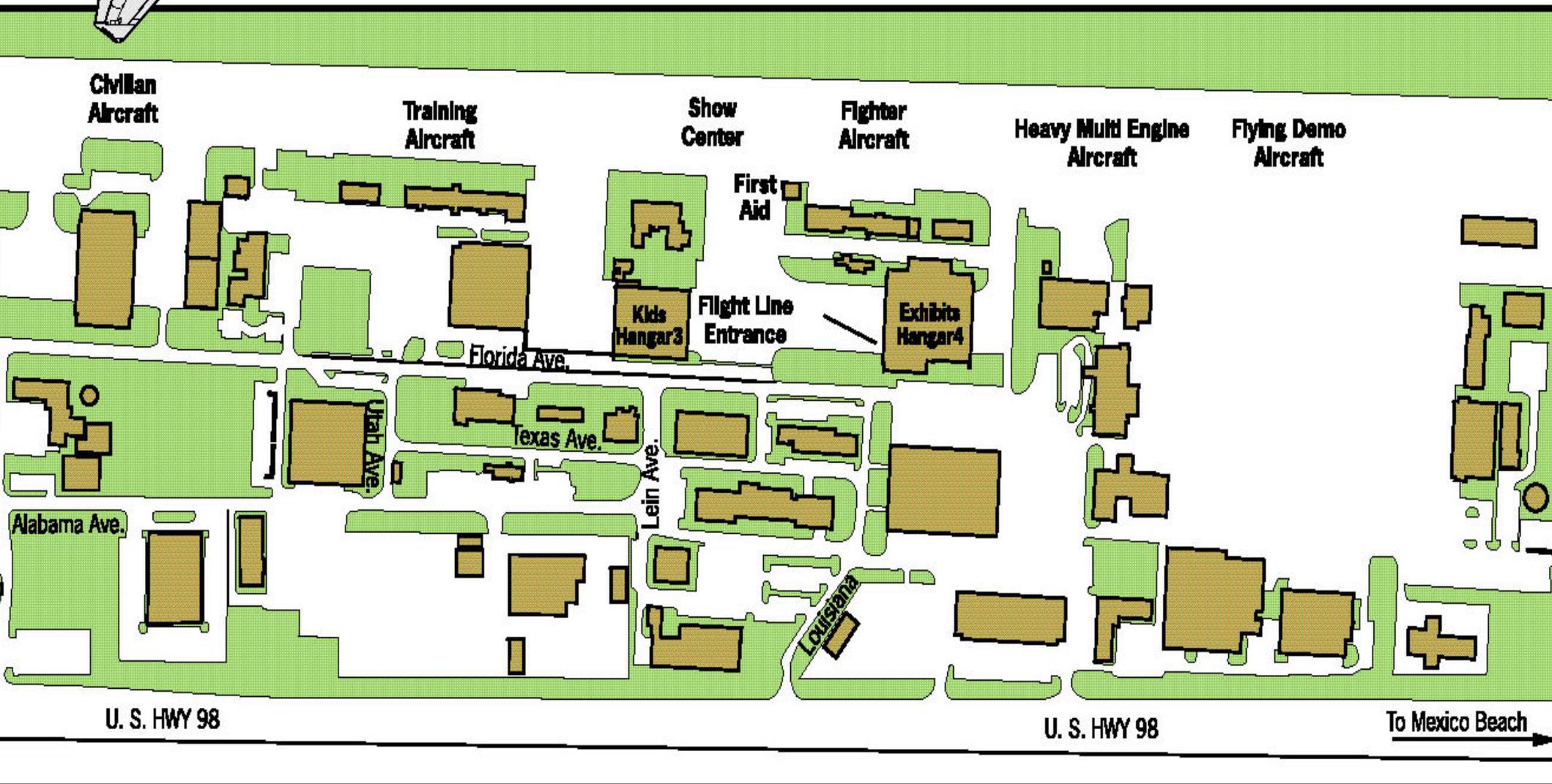
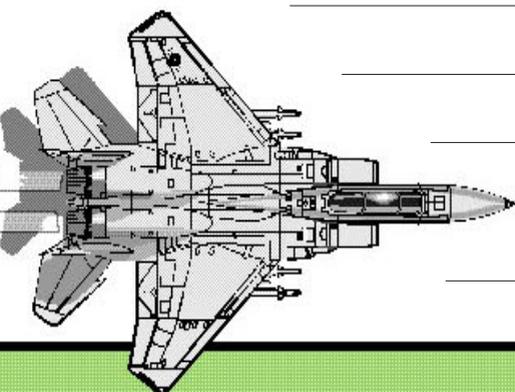
CHRISTINE SULLIVAN
325th Fighter Wing public affairs

If you haven't already made plans for Saturday and Sunday, mark your calendar and plan on attending the Tyndall Air Force Base 2004 Gulf Coast Salute.

This year's open house and airshow will showcase people and equipment from among all of the Department of Defense armed services.

"Since it takes a total team effort to win our nation's wars, we felt it important to highlight the role each service plays in achieving our nation's objectives and appropriately themed this year's event 'Showcasing America's Defenders: Five Forces, One Mission,'" said Brig Gen. Larry New, 325th Fighter Wing commander.

According to Maj. Joel Carey, a Tyndall F-



5 instructor pilot and this year's Gulf Coast Salute chairperson, the airshow will feature aerial demonstrations and static displays rep-

Navy and Marine Corps' fighter and transport aircraft and the Black Daggers, the Army Special Operations Command parachute

you, our friends and neighbors, for your unwavering support throughout the year and for the many years that Tyndall has enjoyed a strong friendship with Bay County and its surrounding communities," General New said.

perience some minor delays going through the base gates.

Prohibited items include glass bottles, large containers and all weapons, including pocketknives. All hand-carried items, as well as personal vehicles are subject to search. Personal searches will also be conducted. Pets are also prohibited.

“The open house is an opportunity we look forward to each year to provide our guests and friends with a first-hand opportunity to see aircraft, equipment and our most valuable asset—our people.”

BRIG. GEN. LARRY NEW
325th Fighter Wing commander

The gates will open at 8 a.m. and close at 5 p.m. Aircraft static displays will include trainers, fighters, transports, bombers, tankers, helicopters, and command and control aircraft. Other displays will focus on a cross section of the Air Force.

“The open house is an opportunity we look forward to each year to provide our guests and friends with a first-hand opportunity to see aircraft, equipment and our most valuable asset—our people.”

representing a cross section of the U.S. military's capabilities.

demonstration team in addition to flybys by Tyndall's own F-15 Eagle and, for the second time ever at an airshow, the F/A-22 Raptor. There will also be a heritage flight consisting of an F-15 and a P-51 Mustang.

“We will also have a hangar dedicated to children with free activities and events,” said Major Carey.

I hope everyone has time this weekend to join us, as it promises to be an enjoyable time for all,” General New said.

“The Navy's Blue Angels aerial demonstration team will be headlining this year's airshow,” Major Carey said.

“In addition to educating the public, the annual open house is our way of thanking

Food and drink will be available for purchase, as well as other concession items.

For more information about this year's Gulf Coast Salute, visit www.gulfcoastsalute.homestead.com.

Other aerial demonstrations include aerobatic flying teams, a sampling of the Air Force,

Security will be present at the open house and those planning on attending may expe-

Air Dominance Schoolhouse builds Global Strike foundation

SENIOR MASTER SGT. ROB FULLER

325th Fighter Wing public affairs

A new era in modern warfare is emerging. Armies seldom amass at borders or on battlefields and fight for a parcel of land. Today's warriors depend on dynamic, continually developing technologies to stay ahead of the enemy and to help them assess an adversary's defenses, and penetrate deep into their territory before detected. This technology combined with the weapons systems that use it and a strong training base will underpin the newest concept in bringing the war to the enemy, the Global Strike Concept of Operations. In this vision, the F/A-22 Raptor and Team Tyndall will play a leading role.

The Global Strike CONOPS employs joint power-projection capabilities to engage anti-access and high-value targets, gain access to denied battlespace, and maintain battlespace dominance for required joint/coalition follow-on operations.

In layman's terms this means the Raptor's stealth and other revolutionary capabilities will be the key to evade detection and defeat anti-access threats such as surface-to-air missile systems and fighter aircraft. This "kick down the door" access will enable joint and coalition forces to operate with freedom to attack and freedom from attack.

"Control of the battlespace is key to enabling all military operations," said Brig. Gen.

Larry New, 325th Fighter Wing commander. "One of the most important parts of the battlespace is the airspace, and the Raptor is going to have control of the airspace in terms of the air threat out there, and also in terms of a surface-to-air threat. That's what we call "kick the door down" capability; penetrate all their defenses, get rid of anti-access threats and enable all the other military operations both to deploy into theater and operate in the

"With its first look, first shot, first kill capability the F/A-22 is a national asset engineered to guarantee Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines, and our allies and coalition partners the greatest advantage of freedom from air attack, freedom to attack and freedom to return safely home."



batant commander with an emphasis on the Global Strike CONOPS," said Lt. Col. Michael Stapleton, 43rd FS director of operations. "Everything in the (pilot training) syllabus is about building a combat-relevant training program. It teaches the combat skill set to the aviator. The combat skill set we are looking for is one that allows us to take the F/A-22 out and employ its transformational capabilities of stealth, precision and supercruise

trum of capabilities the F/A-22 offers.

Capitalizing on those transformational capabilities means getting the most out of the multi-role aspect in the F/A-22 arsenal. Conceived initially as an air-to-air platform, the "A" in the F/A-22 emphasizes the air-to-ground role. Air-to-ground has been an integral part of the aircraft's design from the initial operational design.

"The first time I worked on the Raptor with the Air Combat Command directorate of requirements was from 1989 to 1992," said General New. "During that time frame was when we put in an initial requirement for an air-to-ground capability in the airplane. This capability has been there all the time, so this is nothing new."

Now more than ever, the "A" has proven to mean more than attack in an air-to-ground role, it can arguably stand for *adaptable*, *agile* and *available*. The Raptor promises to be adaptable to emerging CONOPS, agile enough to support several roles and available to not only the Air Force, but to sister services and allies sharing the battlespace.

"The F/A-22 is an order of magnitude leap in offensive and defensive airpower," said Gen. Don Cook, Air Education and Training Command commander in a letter to civic leaders. "With its first look, first shot, first kill ca-

battlespace with the umbrella coverage the Raptor is going to give them."

To get the Raptor in the fight, however, takes highly trained pilots, maintainers and a support team with free-thinking tactical excellence backgrounds to get the job done. These 21st century warriors are molded for that mission at Tyndall Air Force Base, the home of air dominance training.

"Our mission statement is to train pilots to employ the combat skills required by the com-

GEN. DON COOK
Air Education and Training Command commander

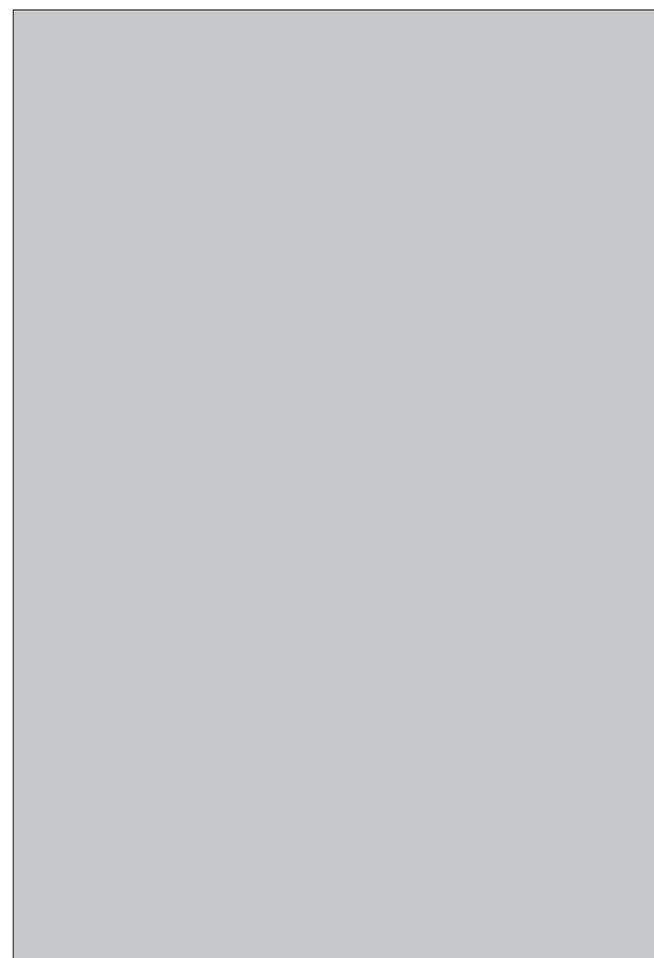
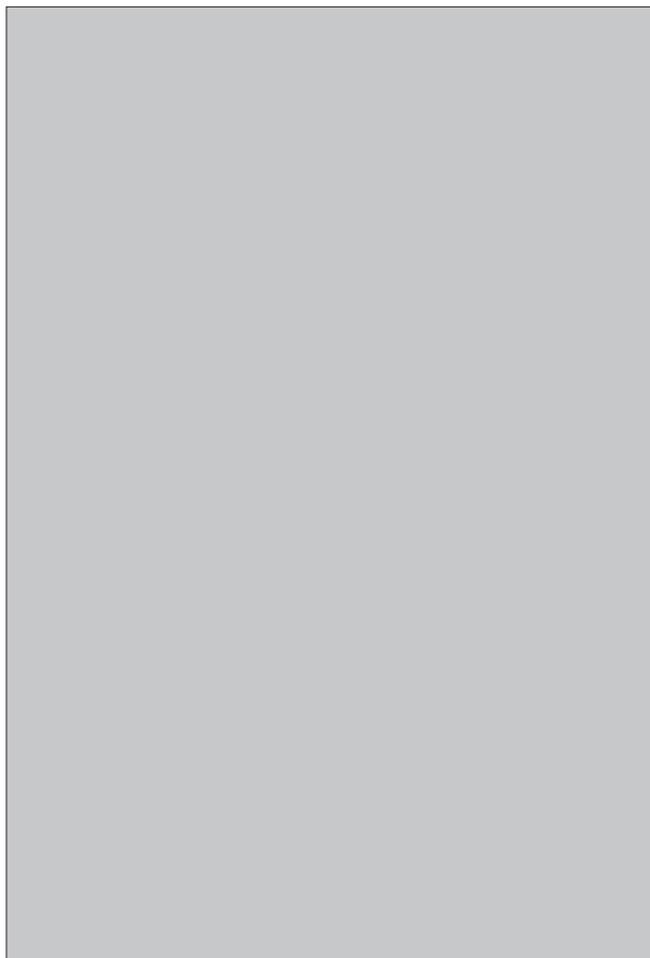
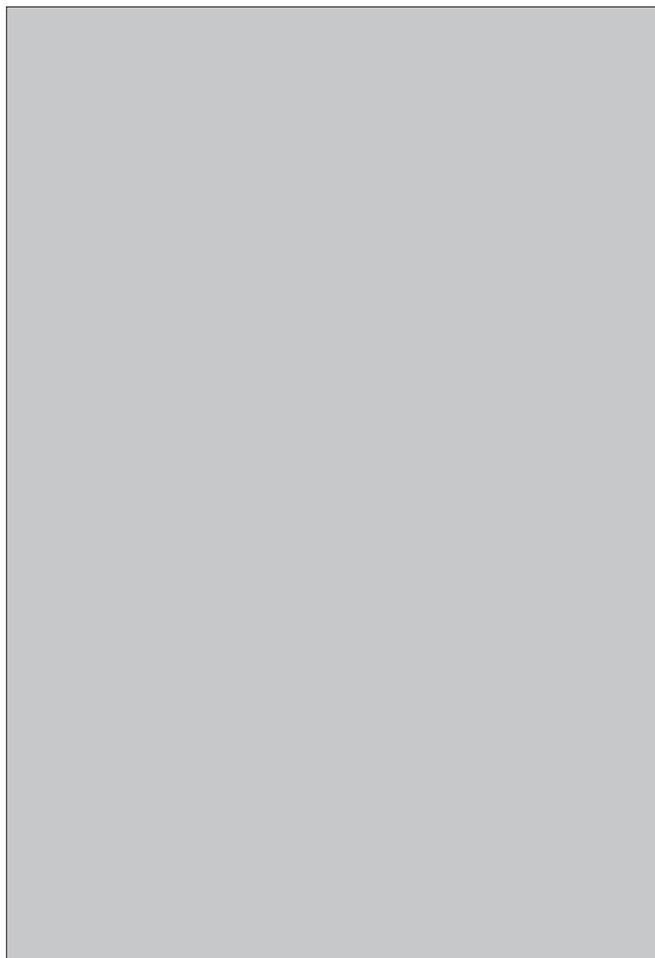
on a battlefield."

The blend of pilots that pass through the portal of the world's first air dominance schoolhouse come from a variety of operational backgrounds and weapons platforms.

"I personally don't care if I'm shooting down a SU-27 or SU-30, or dropping a JDAM on an SA-10," said Colonel Stapleton. "My job is to go out and kill the targets that give us the effects to gain access on the battlefield."

That access means using the full spec-

●SEE RAPTOR PAGE 11



● FROM RAPTOR PAGE 10

pability the F/A-22 is a national asset engineered to guarantee Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines, and our allies and coalition partners the greatest advantage of freedom from air attack, freedom to attack and freedom to return safely home.”

That kind of versatility not only kicks down the door in the Global Strike concept, but provides combatant commanders and aircrews new options and tools to employ.

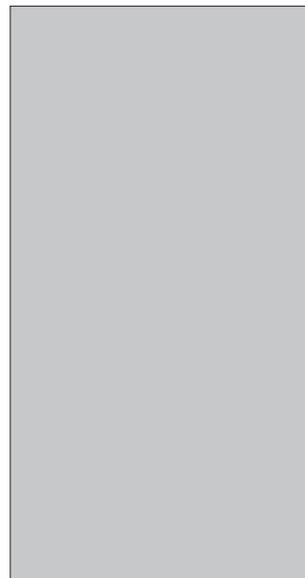
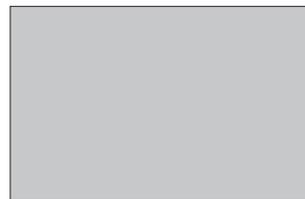
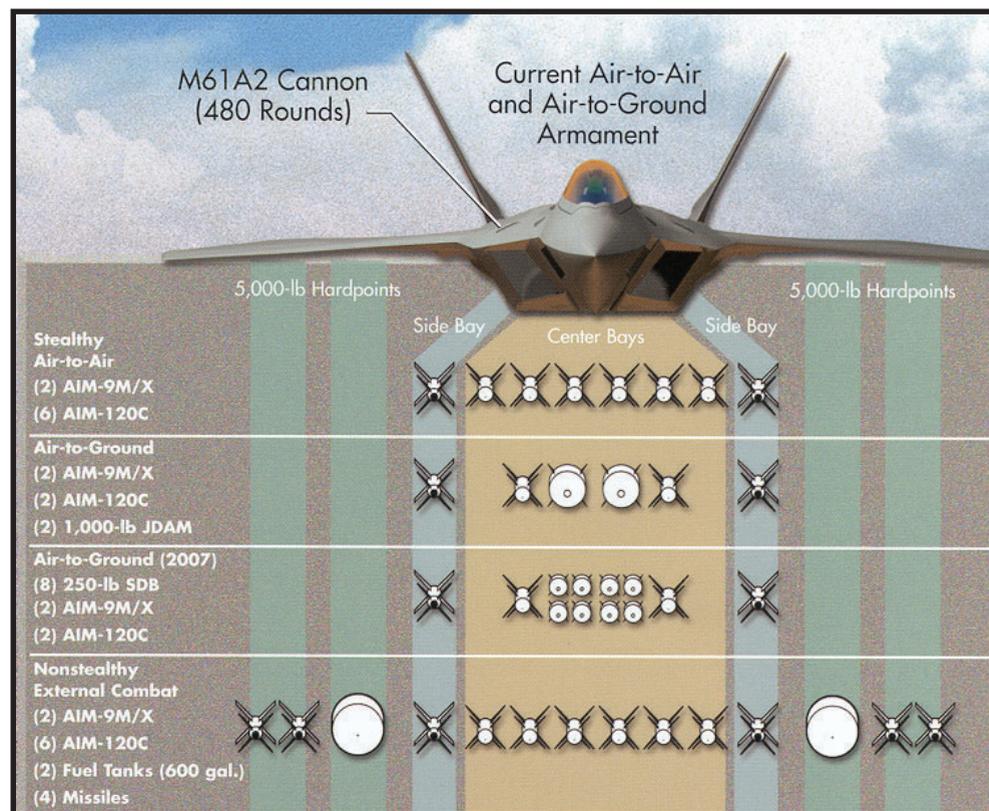
“I only use a small percentage of the information available to me in the (F/A-22) cockpit,” said Colonel Stapleton. “This aircraft is an amazing forward reaching intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance asset. I can go in, soak up information and bring it back, and play the tape for intel so they can start to understand how the threat is reacting to our forces ... and I wasn’t looking at that in the air, I was looking at my target. Eventually we hope to datalink that information back to someone real-time.”

Adaptability to a commander’s needs is central to the reason why the F/A-22 was designed, and its four pillars of strength; stealth, supercruise, integrated avionics and enhanced maneuverability ensures America has an overwhelming advantage in a fight with anything being developed, aircraft or surface-to-air threat.

“The F/A-22 is a platform of the future, whatever the future may bring,” said General New. “Just because the Warsaw Pact dissolved and the cold war ended, doesn’t mean those threat capabilities don’t still exist, or continue to exist and advance in the future. Flexibility was designed into the system.”

And it doesn’t end with the F/A-22.

“We have to continue to develop our people and give them opportunities to excel,” said Colonel Stapleton. “We owe it to future generations to give them new things to work with, and the opportunity and responsibility to take those new things and deliver effects in ways we never thought of.”



Air show safety tips

TECH. SGT. CHRIS HAISTEN
325th Fighter Wing safety office

Welcome to Team Tyndall's "Gulf Coast Salute 2004." We want your visit to be as enjoyable and safe as possible.

Since this is a military-unique environment, we would like to share some safety precautions with you to ensure your comfort as well as the safety of others.

Preparations

☐ Wear comfortable shoes and clothing. Remember you will be doing a lot of walking.



☐ There will be very little if any shade available on the flightline. So, lots of sunscreen may be required. Also, wear a hat to protect your head from the sun.

☐ Drink plenty of fluids to prevent dehydration. There will be booths selling beverages throughout the day.

Travel



☐ Remember, as you and your family and friends prepare to depart, ensure everyone in the vehicle, including the back seat passengers, are buckled up. Seatbelt use is mandatory on Tyndall

Air Force Base.

Open House

☐ The flightline is an industrial area with many potential hazards. Please do not stray into any unauthorized areas. There will be warning signs advising you of areas to avoid, please obey them.

☐ Smoking is not permitted on the flightline area. There are designated smoking areas for your convenience.



☐ Use extreme caution when walking around and under static display aircraft. Many aircraft have low wings and/or protrusions creating potential hazards.

☐ Please use the trash cans located throughout the flightline. Properly discarding garbage will prevent any of the static aircraft as well as our own aircraft from ingesting any foreign objects causing damage to the engines.

☐ Keep an eye out for your children. The crowds are expected to be large, and it only takes a few seconds for a child to become separated from their parents.

Air Show Workers



☐ Personnel working concession booths and displays should follow a few safety tips as well to reduce their risk of being involved in a mishap.

☐ Be aware of hot surfaces such as grills or rotisseries.

☐ Use your legs for heavy lifting, not your back. If an object appears to be too

heavy to lift alone, ask for assistance.

☐ Utilize sunscreen even if you're under a tent or awning.

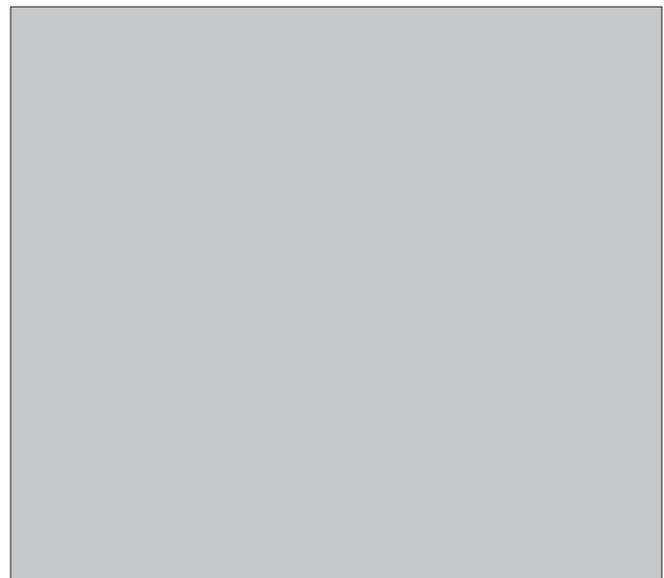
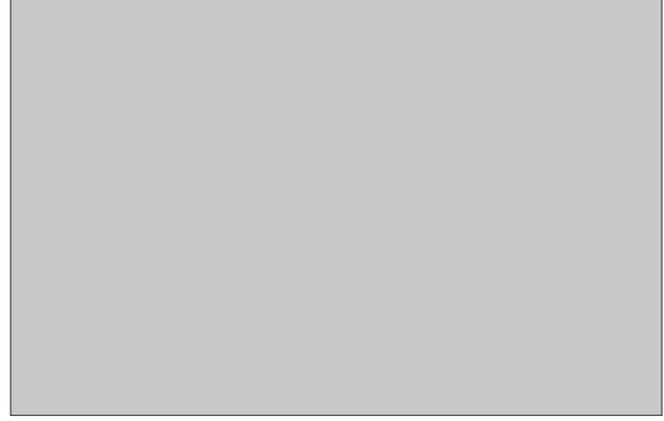
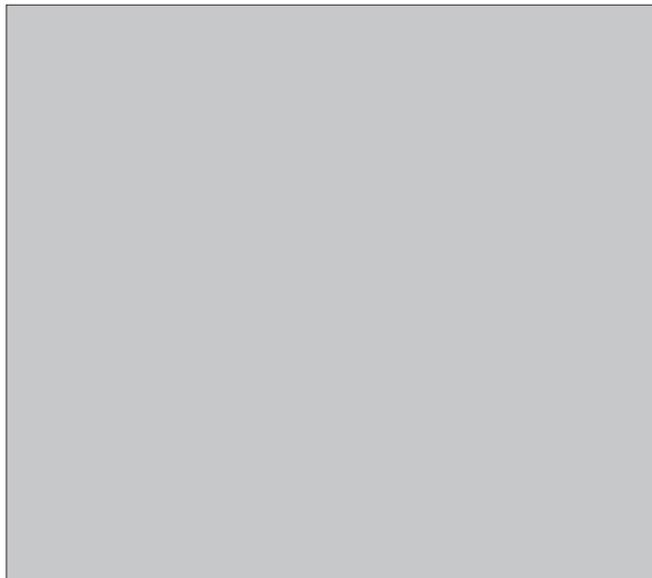
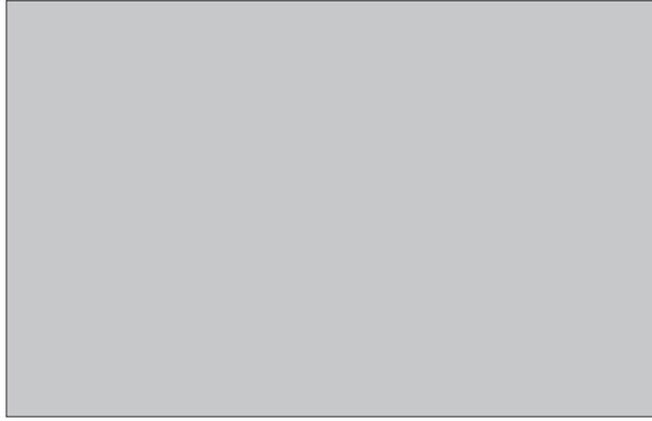
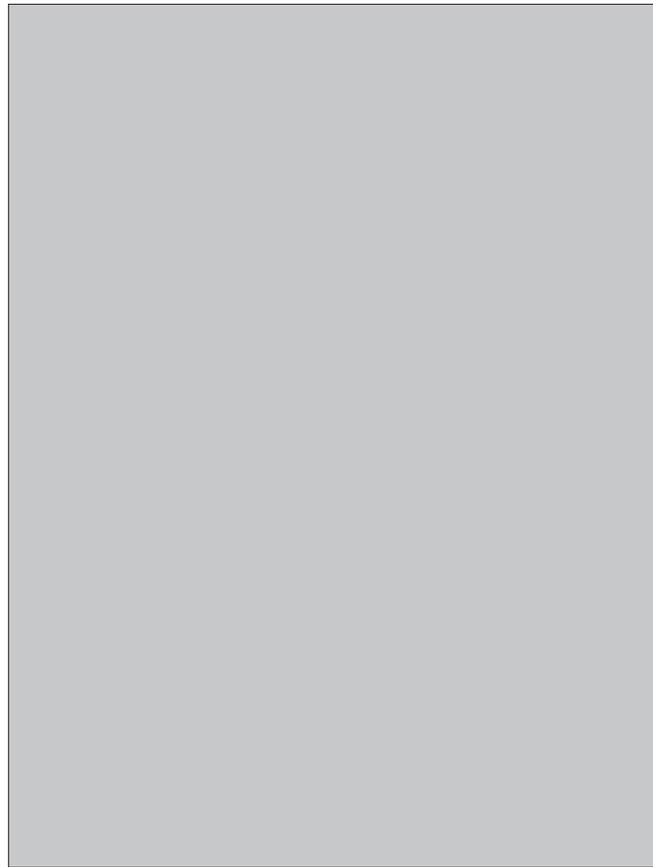
☐ Drink plenty of water. If you feel dehydrated or faint, notify someone immediately.

Be safe, but have fun!



Courtesy photo

The United States Army Special Operations Command parachute demonstration team, "The Black Daggers," demonstrates a parachute jump at a 2002 airshow. They will be performing both days at this year's Gulf Coast Salute.



Heritage fly-by

An F-86 Sabre and F-15 Eagle fly together during last year's Gulf Coast Salute Heritage Flight. This year's heritage flight will consist of an F-15 Eagle and a P-51 Mustang.



Lisa Carroll

AF goes interactive



Courtesy photo

Tyndall visitors will get a chance to experience what it is like parachute in the special ops jumper as well as experience other unique exhibits during this year's Gulf Coast Salute.

It's the chance of a lifetime for those who might have only dreamed about the thrill of standing next to an actual F-16 Fighting Falcon, interacting firsthand with Air Force technology, or actually experiencing 'spatial disorientation' that pilots may encounter.

The U.S. Air Force – through its innovative, "Cross Into the Blue" Tour covering more than 40 cities – is taking its recruiting efforts on the road, staging a dynamic, grassroots extension that provides today's high school and college students, as well as the general public, a unique vehicle to get up close and

personal with what is exclusive to the U.S. Air Force.

Some events scheduled for this year's "Gulf Coast Salute 2004" are an interactive state-of-the-art movie theater, air-to-air refueling simulator, extreme equilibrium simulator, special ops jumper, satellite systems display, F-16 fighting falcon and interactive kiosks.

For a preview of scheduled events, or for additional information, visit www.airforce.com and select the special events link.

(Compiled by 325th Fighter Wing public affairs)

Services to serve up family fun for GCS 2004

STEVE RIDDLE

325th Services Squadron

While many events taking place at this year's Gulf Coast Salute will be in the air, the 325th Services Squadron plans to serve up a little fun and excitement on the ground for the entire family.

A Monster truck, jet truck, pedal planes for the kids, a power jump, bouncy slides, a rock climbing wall and plenty of food and cold beverages are just some of what the squadron will have on hand for this year's airshow. Most activities and services will be located in and around Hangars 3 and 4 and on the flight line.

"We (the 325th Services Squadron) are responsible for providing concessions and entertainment," said Marie Roberson, 325th SVS contract specialist.

A crowd favorite returning to this year's show is the Stepping Stones to Aviation display, an interactive educational exhibit that includes several small pedal planes. A miniature airport and runway traffic pattern will be laid out by Hangar 3, and children will "fly" their planes around the pattern, pedaling furiously while learning about aviation.

Additionally, many Tyndall air shows here have featured a jet truck, and this year is no different. Neal Darnell will amaze the audience as he "pilots" his jet-powered Chevy S-10 pickup, Flash Fire, down the Tyndall runway. Flash Fire is powered by a Pratt & Whitney J-34-48 jet engine that provides 12,000 horsepower and 7,000 pounds of thrust, giving it a top speed of 200 miles per hour.

Walking around the Tyndall flightline is sure to work up an appetite, and the services squadron will be standing by with several vendors selling food and beverages.

With everything planned for this year's Gulf Coast Salute, families are sure to have a good time. Whether visitors are watching the aerial demonstrations or participating in the many activities the services squadron will provide, this year's airshow will definitely offer something for everyone.

An event would not be successful without community support, a special thanks to Gulf Coast Salute Sponsors ... AAFES, Bay County Chamber of Commerce, Buffalo Rock Pepsi, Burger King, Discover Card, ERA Neubauer, First Command Financial Planning,



Lisa Carroll

A Tyndall pilot gives his infant daughter a head start on flying at the Stepping Stones to Aviation interactive display during last year's Gulf Coast Salute.

Gulf Power, Home Depot, Jacksonville Jaguars, St. Joe Company, Storage Inn, Teco Peoples Gas, Thunder Girls Dance Team, Tyndall Federal Credit Union, and Wiggins Auto Parts. (No federal endorsement of sponsors intended.)

General Information

Medical Information

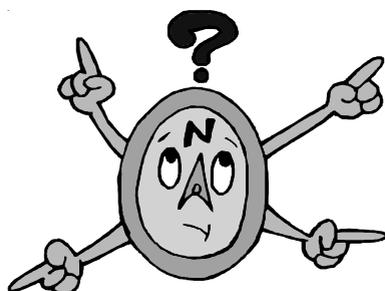
- A tent staffed by medical personnel, will be setup near show center to provide first aid and water to air show participants.
- The health and wellness center will have a booth in Hangar 4 with health information and sunscreen.
- An ambulance will be on-site to handle medical emergencies.

Kids Hangar Activities

- Rock climbing wall
- Space shuttle slide
- Titanic slide
- Power Jump
- "White Knight" Monster Truck
- Bouncing Pit
- Stepping Stones to Aviation
- Girl Scouts
- Civil Air Patrol

Lost?

If you become separated from your party during the air show, you can meet them at the designated meeting area located inside Hangar 4.



Homeward bound

Raptor 18, Tyndall's first F/A-22 flies over Bay County Sept. 26, 2003 enroute to Tyndall Air Force Base from Marietta, Ga. The F/A-22 will make an appearance at this year's Gulf Coast Salute.



Master Sgt. Mike Ammons

● FROM FLAG PAGE 2 rights. Our country is special," I added.

"Oh," she says staring out the car window. I don't think she understood.

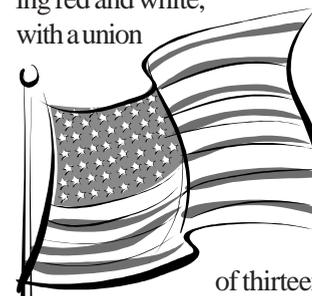
I sat in silence for the rest of our drive together and I pondered the flag. My daughter hummed quietly, without a care in the world. "What a lucky little girl she is to have been born under this flag," I thought to myself.

Later, sitting in front of my computer, gulping down my first cup of coffee, I couldn't shake our early morning discussion. I wanted to know more about our flag. A quick Internet search took me to a well-known poem written by Ruth Apperson Rous.

"I am the flag of the

United States of America. I was born on June 14, 1777, in Philadelphia.

"There the Continental Congress adopted my stars and stripes as the national flag. my thirteen stripes alternating red and white, with a union



of thirteen white stars in a field of blue, represented by a new constellation, a new nation dedicated to the personal and religious liberty of mankind.

"Today, 50 stars signal from my union, one for each of the 50 sovereign states in the greatest constitutional republic the world has ever known. My colors symbolize

the patriotic ideals and the spiritual qualities of the citizens of my country.

"My red stripes proclaim the fearless courage and integrity of American men and boys and the self-sacrifice and devotion of American mothers and daughters. My white stripes stand for liberty and equality for all. My blue is the blue of heaven, loyalty and faith.

"I represent these eternal principles; liberty, justice and humanity..."

The poem ends with these words ..."God grant that I may spend eternity in my 'land of the free and the home of the brave' and that I shall ever be known as 'Old Glory,' the flag of the United States of America."

