



GULF DEFENDER



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Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla. *Training Expeditionary Airpower Experts*

Aug. 18, 2006

In Brief

Change of Command

The 43rd Fighter Squadron Change of Command Ceremony will be held at 3:43 p.m. Aug. 25 in the 43rd FS hangar, Bldg 290.

Lt. Col. David A. Krumm will assume command from Lt. Col. Michael P. Stapleton.

Military World Softball Tournament

Tyndall Lady Tigers teams continue to compete with military softball varsity teams at the 2006 Military World Softball Chamionship. Games started Thursday and continue through Sunday at Frank Brown Park, Panama City Beach. For more information, call the park at (850) 236-3037.

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Master Sgt. Scott Reed

Power up

Airman 1st Class John Hahn, 325th Maintenance Squadron engine mechanic, performs a post-test inspection on an engine in the "Hush House." The test was captured on video by a production company for the new Air Force ad campaign "Do Something Amazing."

Web service users face OPSEC risks

DARREN TILLMAN
OSI Detachment 419 Commander

With more than 80 million users, MySpace service and other personal Web site providers empower users to communicate with a world-wide online network of friends, and unfortunately, potential enemies.

Operational security is the Air Force Office of Special Investigations' primary concern with Air Force members' who use MySpace and other services.

"Our military and civilian members need to be aware that extremist and terrorist

groups are actively seeking to gain information from them using the internet as a source," said Capt. Mike Garrett, 325th Fighter Wing Plans deputy chief and base anti-terrorism officer.

"What you do on these sites may be personnel, but when you expose information about the government and release operationally secure information it becomes a threat to our national security," he said.

MySpace, and other services, don't charge users to set up profiles or establish an account. What can be more

alarming, is that some sites don't independently verify the identity of its users.

Utilizing the anonymity of the service, opposing intelligence services, terrorist organizations and enterprising criminals can use the service to target Air Force members. They "become" anyone they want to be in order to target Air Force personnel who may have access to secure information they are seeking.

"Our enemy has a unique method of piecing information together, so they may find

vulnerabilities in our defense systems," said Capt. Garrett. "Don't help them. Do not place photos that identify you as a military member. Do not advertise what your Air Force job is and do not ever release OPSEC information.

Be cautious before answering e-mails. Always think about force protection and ask yourself, 'Why is this person asking more about me and what I do?'"

The free online social networking service Web sites

• **SEE OPSEC PAGE 19**



1st Lt. Amanda Ferrell

Holed up

Airman 1st Class Michael Robledo (left), and Senior Airman David Franklin, 325th Communications Squadron cable technicians, install 100-pair copper cable. The four-day project will bring Local Area Network and telephone services to a building for headquarters Air Force Civil Engineer Support Agency.

Identify this ...



Can you identify this object? If so, send an e-mail to editor@tyndall.af.mil with "Identify this" in the subject line. Three correct entries will be chosen at random and drawn from a hat to select the final winner. The prize can be claimed at the Public Affairs office. Kari Baily, a military spouse, correctly guessed the Aug. 11 "Identify this" as birthday candles. Congratulations, Mrs. Baily. Come claim your prize!

ON THE STREET

How do you stay informed on current events and news?



"I get my news from CNN on the internet – the TV should be saved for sports."

TECH. SGT. TOM POPLIN
325th Mission Support Squadron



"I watch local news every morning and watch national news every evening."

CAPT. TERRY KATRINA
325th Communications Squadron



"The internet has all the information you need. I mostly go online to news sites."

SENIOR AIRMAN GABRIEL ALVAREZ
325th Communications Squadron



"CNN, local newspapers and radio stations keep me informed."

TECH. SGT. CLAYTON ABBOT
325th Operations Support Squadron

Gulf Defender Editorial Staff

- Brig. Gen. (S) Tod Wolters.....325th FW commander
- Maj. Susan A. Romano.....chief, 325th FW public affairs
- Chrissy Cuttita.....chief, internal information
- 1st Lt. Amanda Ferrell.....staff writer
- Staff Sgt. Stacey Haga.....editor

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History lessons learned, 'basics' take Airmen to future

LT. COL. RAYMOND O'MARA
83rd Fighter Weapons Squadron commander

Throughout our history as an independent service, the U.S. Air Force has delivered lethal combat power in defense of our nation. As the threat to our national security has evolved, so has our force.

Today's Air Force mission is more complex than in the past. At one time, we could identify our enemy on any grade-school map. Now, as recent events have shown, our enemy may be living among us. As we continue to evolve our lethal combat Air Force, we need to remember that our past successes were founded in solid execution of the basics.

The 83rd Fighter Weapons Squadron executes Combat Archer, the Air Combat Command commander's directed air-to-air Weapon System Evaluation Program. The squadron's mission is to evaluate the air-to-air fighter weapon system kill chain, from the human, to the machine, to the weapon.

Combat Archer is unique to the Air Force and is the only test or evaluation program that uses operational aircrews, maintainers, aircraft and weapons. This enables us to evaluate the effectiveness of our training, aircraft and weapon performance.

By teaming with the four other squadrons in the 53rd Weapons Evaluation Group, the 83rd FWS hosts fighter units from across the Air Force and numerous foreign military allies, where they gain valuable live munitions loading and firing experience.

They also provide critical performance data on our front-line weapon systems. This data is

reported annually to the Chief of Staff of the Air Force, and provides the foundation for our combat performance expectations.

Combat Archer grew out of the air-to-air combat results from the Vietnam War. In Vietnam, there was a significant decrease in our success rate compared to that seen during the Korean War. Along with Red Flag and the Aggressor program, Combat



MSgt Michael Ammons

Maj. Mark Irving, a 95th Fighter Squadron F-15 Eagle instructor pilot fires an AIM-7 Sparrow medium range air-to-air radar-guided missile over the Gulf of Mexico during a Combat Archer exercise and weapons evaluation in April.

Archer is designed to strengthen our combat forces through realistic training in a combat-representative environment.

By evaluating the performance of the entire weapon system, we are able to identify areas for improvement, thus strengthening our combat capability. Since the program's inception in the early 1980s, the nature and complexity of air-to-air combat has changed dramatically.

Weapons and aircraft have become more complex, providing more combat potential. This increase in complexity has necessitated a significant evolution in the men and women who fly and fix these systems.

Aviators and maintainers of the F-15 and F-22 aircraft have a dramatically different skill set than their predecessors on the F-100 and F-106. However, even as systems have become more complex, success has remained the consistent result throughout. This is due to one thing – constant emphasis on executing the basics well.

Good maintenance discipline and practices keep aircraft flying and combat ready. Flying a good formation and executing as a solid, dependable Wingman provides lethal combat capability. No matter how complex the system, success is always dependent upon solid execution of the basics. This principle applies to everything we do.

Another one of our basics is treating each other with respect. As a military organization, we have an established hierarchy. It is a tradition and it provides a foundation for the Air Force as a team.

It guides our daily interaction.

Respect is something earned, but in an organization as large as the United States military it is inevitable that you will interact with someone you do not know. Military rank sets the guidelines for that interaction. We respect the individual represented by the rank that they wear on their shoulder or sleeve.

This is a part of who we are as American warriors. We maintain our relationship and ability to function as a team by respecting each other within the rank structure. It is one of the many long-established basics that has made us the lethal force that we are today. Military members are different than civilians, and this is one of the ways. It is part of what defines us and makes us great.

Action Line

Call 283-2255



BRIG. GEN. (S) TOD WOLTERS
325th Fighter Wing commander

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

The goal is to provide you with an accurate, timely response. You must leave your name, phone number or address to receive a response.

Questions or comments of general interest will be published in this forum. This avenue should only be used after coordinating problems or concerns with supervisors, commanders, first sergeants or facility managers.

If you're not satisfied with the response or you are unable to resolve the

problem, call me at 283-2255.

For fraud, waste and abuse calls, you should talk to the 325th Fighter Wing Inspector General's Office, 283-4646.

Calls concerning energy abuse should be referred to the energy hot line, 283-3995.

Below are more phone numbers that help you in resolving any issues with a base agency.

Commissary	283-4825
Pass and I.D.	283-4191
Medical and Dental	283-7515
MEO	283-2739

MPF	283-2276
SFS Desk Sgt. Services	283-2254
Legal	283-2501
Housing	283-4681
CDC	283-2036
Wing Safety	283-4747
ADC	283-4231
Finance	283-2911
Civil Engineer	283-4117
Civilian Personnel	283-4949
Base Information	283-3203
	283-1113

Thank you for helping me improve Tyndall and I look forward to hearing from you.

Know what to do when lightning strikes close to home

JOHN POWERS
325th Civil Engineer Squadron

Do you know what weather phenomenon kills more Americans than floods, hurricanes and tornadoes combined?

It's lightning. Lightning kills nearly 100 people every year and injures another 300, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. According to the Insurance Information Institute, it also causes more than \$1 billion in insurance industry losses from residential claims each year.

Packing 100 million volts of electricity – a force similar to a small nuclear reactor – lightning is just too risky for you to ignore. Most lightning deaths and injuries occur when people are caught outdoors during storms in the summer months, mostly in the afternoon and early evening.

Lightning seeks the path of least resistance. If you are taller than your surroundings or are standing next to a tall object, such as a tree, you

can become a prime target.

Fortunately, following basic safety guidelines can greatly reduce your chances of injury or death from lightning. One of the best personal safety guidelines, according to the Insurance Information Institute, is called the "30/30 Rule." If it takes less than 30 seconds after you see lightning to hear thunder, you should get indoors and stay inside for 30 minutes.

When lightning is in close proximity and you are taking shelter indoors, remember to stand clear from windows, doors and electrical appliances. Don't attempt to unplug televisions, stereos or computers during the storm. Avoid contact with metal piping, including sinks, baths and faucets. Also avoid using the telephone, except for emergencies.

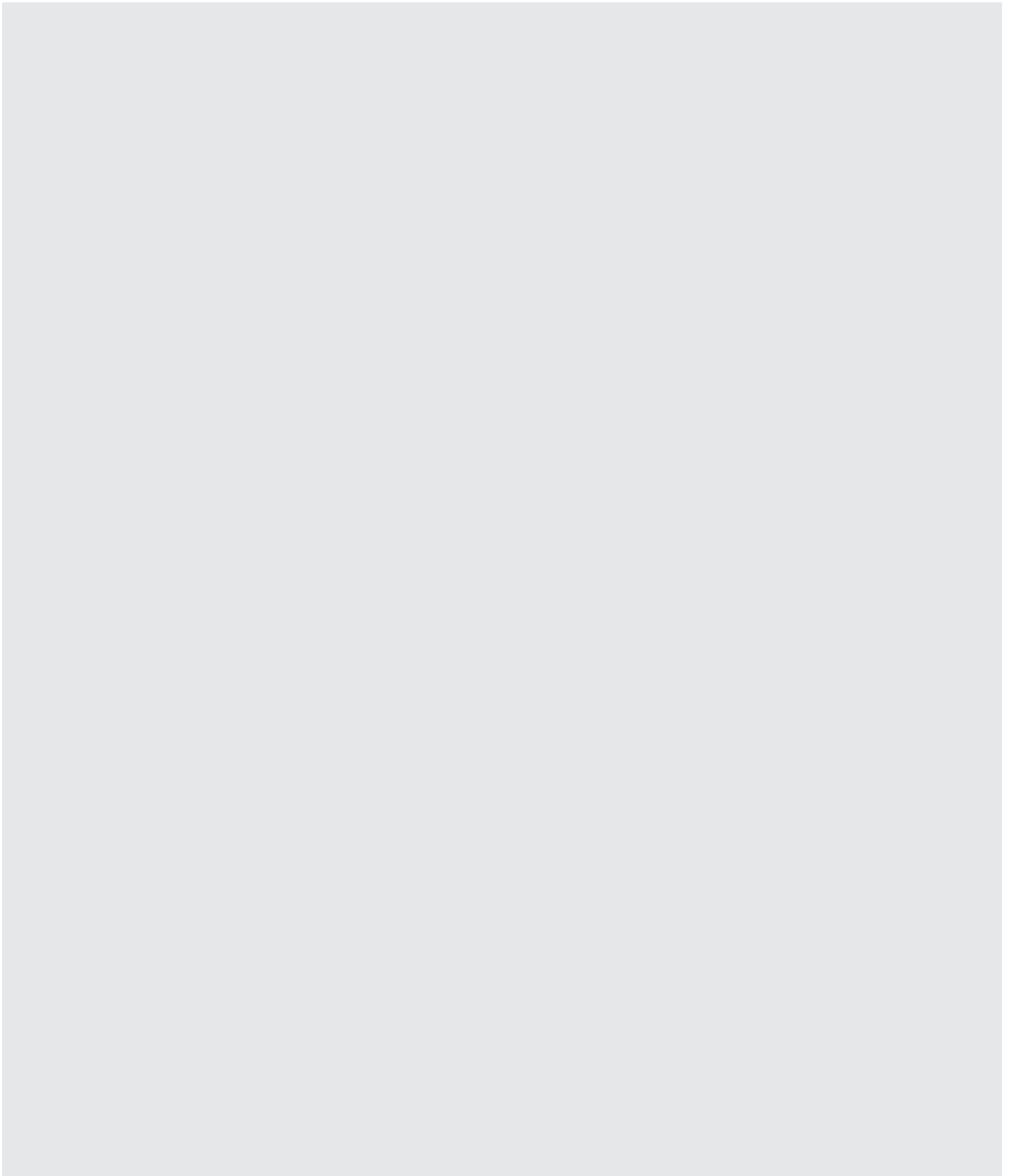
Never use a tree for shelter when you are outdoors and unable to find safe cover. Avoid areas that are higher than the surrounding landscape, and keep away from metal objects, including bikes, golf carts, fencing and machinery.

When outdoors during a thunderstorm, immediately get away from pools, lakes and other bodies of water. Look for the nearest shelter with a lightning protection system, like those found at golf courses, public parks and swimming pools. A car with the windows rolled up makes an excellent shelter from lightning.

If you feel a tingling sensation, your hair stands on end or you smell sulfur, lightning may be about to strike. Immediately crouch down and cover your ears. Don't lie down or place your hands on the ground because a lightning strike may momentarily electrify the ground beneath you.

Bottom line ... lightning will kill you if given the chance. Don't become a statistic. Following these simple guidelines, paying attention to your surroundings and taking heed of nature's warnings will definitely increase your odds of surviving the storm.

Please direct any questions to the 325th Civil Engineer Squadron's fire and emergency services at 283-2909 or the readiness office at 283-2010.



Officials announce EPR criteria, policy

MASTER SGT. MITCHELL L. GETTLE
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON (AFP) – The Air Force has released a policy to clarify senior rater endorsement and stratification procedures for enlisted performance reports.

While many supervisors and senior NCOs looked to completion of the Senior NCO Academy and a Community College of the Air Force degree as criteria for consideration of a senior rater endorsement for promotion to the ranks of senior and chief master sergeant, no official policy existed.

The new policy clarifies and standardizes criteria for endorsement and stratification statements.

“Senior raters must have completed the Senior NCO Academy either by correspondence or in-residence, and have a CCAF degree for endorsement eligibility,” said Tech. Sgt. Jamey Kennedy, 325th Mission Support Squadron NCO in charge of evaluations and decorations.

The policy notes that meeting these requirements is not a guarantee for senior rater endorsement.

“Individuals must still meet the same criteria outlined in the Air Force Instruction on senior rater qualifications,” said Sergeant Kennedy. “In addition, it’s now official policy that they also complete Senior NCO Academy and their CCAF degree.”

The implementation dates will be for the calendar year 2007 chief master sergeant and calendar year 2008 senior master sergeant promotion cycles. This transition time provides senior NCOs the opportunity to complete the requirements, said Chief Master Sgt. Tenda Voegtle, chief of enlisted evaluations and promotions policy.

The CCAF degree is an occupational education degree. Specific programs are designed to provide students with the necessary backgrounds to perform as competent supervisors in their field.

“This policy re-emphasizes the importance of deliberate and timely (professional military education) and CCAF completion for our enlisted force, formally instills the developmental expectation, and ensures a consistent policy for senior rater endorsement eligibility across the

Air Force,” said Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Rodney J. McKinley.

Stratification statements on EPRs will also change. Statements will only be allowed on EPR’s of those master sergeant and senior master sergeants who are time-in-grade promotion eligible for senior rater endorsement. Stratification statements on all other EPRs, to include chief master sergeant reports, is prohibited. Instead of stratification statement use on chief master sergeant EPRs, evaluators will focus comments on future job recommendations.

“As a result of the perception that stratification is required for promotion, raters have started using multiple, uncontrolled stratification schemes that only add to the confusion promotion board members feel when trying to identify the right people for promotion,” said Lt. Gen. Roger A. Brady, deputy chief of staff for manpower and personnel.

“To ensure stratification statements remain a valuable tool, we must ensure they

• SEE EPR PAGE 21

Thrift Savings Plan augments federal employee retirement

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas – The Thrift Savings Plan’s automatic and matching contributions form a key part of the Federal Employees’ Retirement System offering federal civilian employees opportunities to increase their retirement income.

FERS civilian TSP account holders automatically receive a deposit equal to one percent of their basic pay each pay period once they are eligible, as well as agency matching contributions up to four percent if they contribute at least five percent of their own money.

“These payments into a FERS employee’s account, along with the Thrift Savings Plan’s investment flexibility and fund options, make it a potentially valuable part of a FERS employee’s retirement nest egg,” said Janet Thomas, human resources specialist at the Air Force Personnel Center, Randolph AFB, Texas.

The other two parts of the FERS retirement program consist of a basic benefit plan, which considers basic

pay, length of service and other factors to determine a monthly annuity, and Social Security benefits.

TSP, also open to Civil Service Retirement System federal employees, provides two investment programs for civilians: regular TSP contributions and TSP catch-up contributions for eligible employees age 50 and older.

Plan highlights for 2006 include:

- Employees covered by FERS and CSRS may contribute up to \$15,000 to a regular TSP account. They may designate any whole percentage of basic pay or a whole dollar amount each pay period. However, if a whole dollar amount is designated and the amount exceeds remaining salary after manda-

tory and other voluntary deductions that occur ahead of TSP contributions, no TSP contributions will be withheld,

and, if covered by FERS, no agency matching contributions will be received.

- People age 50 or older, in a pay status and who can certify they have contributed (or will contribute) the full \$15,000 maximum to a regular TSP account or other 401(k) plan, may contribute an additional \$5,000 as catch-up contributions.

- Eligible individuals may enroll, change, stop or resume catch-up or regular contributions at any time during the year.
- The last day civilians may submit a catch-up contribution election for

calendar year 2006 is Dec. 9. Catch-up contribution enrollment for 2007 will be available beginning Dec 10.

“To maximize agency-matching contributions, FERS employees must contribute an amount equal to five percent of their basic pay each pay period to receive agency matching contributions each pay period,” said Ms. Thomas. “Early large contribution attempts to maximize earnings usually fall short of the value of lost agency matching contributions.”

Air Force-serviced civilians will submit enrollment elections or changes for regular TSP or catch-up contributions via the Employee Benefits Information System Web application or the BEST automated phone system. Instructions on how to access these systems are on the BEST Website, ask.afpc.randolph.af.mil. Additional information on regular TSP and catch-up contributions are also available on the site.

(Courtesy of AFPC)



AETC announces civilian authorization reductions

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas – Air Education and Training Command officials are looking at ways to streamline organizations into smaller, more agile forces and organizational structures to reduce the effect of reductions in the civilian workforce next spring.

The Air Force plans to reduce its civilian workforce strength by 2,000 positions during FY07 as a result of Program Budget Decision 720.

“This is not just an AETC effort. Every command and organization in the Air Force is transforming to a smaller, leaner and more capable force all while engaged in combat operations,” said Col. Greg F. Patterson, AETC manpower and personnel director. “Part of this is driven by our Air Force’s urgent need to modernize our fighter and mobility aircraft.”

The colonel explained the people portion of the budget equation is one of the few places left to attain large, long-term financial changes.

“It’s a very delicate balance between ensuring we are taking care of our people while we strive to generate savings in a constrained budget environment as we try to recapitalize the Air Force,” said Colonel Patterson.

“I want our civilian work force to know we are very concerned about the impacts of any force reductions within the command,” said Gen. Bill Looney, AETC

commander. “We are going to work with every individual and hope to find viable options and opportunities to make this work for us and our Air Force.”

“This will not be an easy process, or one without pain,” he said. “We have recently determined the overall number of positions our command is going to lose. Now, we are concentrating on finding the most efficient, least painful approach to implementing those reductions.”

Colonel Patterson said AETC should pass the number of authorization reductions to the wings shortly.

“At that time, we will be able to discuss the options available for us to provide support to all affected employees,” he said.

Colonel Patterson then described some of the possible support options that may include placing employees in other vacant positions, Voluntary Early Retirement Authority, Voluntary Separation Incentive Pay and placement via the Department of Defense Priority Placement Program.

Noting that any reduction in the number of civilian authorizations can potentially lead to a reduction in force, Colonel Patterson said, “Using the programs we have available and in place, we believe we can minimize any impact on our civilian work force.”

(Courtesy of AETC)



1st Lt. Amanda Ferrell

Price check

Ms. Cynthia A. Nitura, cashier and 2006 Defense Commissary Agency Equal Employment Opportunity winner of the year, scans items at Tyndall’s commissary. She said she has enjoyed working for DeCA for nearly 17 years, 10 of which have been at the commissary here. Outstanding customer service and community involvement were the criteria for winning the award.

33rd Fighter Wing slated for F-35 training mission

EGLIN AFB, Fla. – Air Force officials announced plans to assign the mission of training new Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force and allied F-35 Lightning II Joint Strike Fighter pilots and maintainers to the 33rd Fighter Wing, Eglin AFB, Fla.

Final planning for the move is dependent on the results of the ongoing environmental impact analysis process that is required by the National Environmental Policy Act and designed to identify and assess potential environmental impacts of the proposed action.

The first of the F-35s, a family of next generation, stealthy, multi-role fighter aircraft, should begin arriving by 2010. The wing will include Sailors, Marines, Airmen and allied military



Chief Petty Officer Eric A. Clement

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. T. Michael Moseley announced Lightning II as the name of the F-35 during a Joint Strike Fighter inauguration ceremony July 7.

personnel and all three versions of the new fighter – conventional takeoff and landing, short takeoff and vertical landing and carrier variants.

The Lightning II's advanced airframe,

avionics, propulsion systems, stealth and firepower will make it an affordable, lethal, supportable and survivable aircraft for warfighters around the globe.

The 33rd FW's F-15 Eagles will be redistributed throughout the Air Force to active duty and Air National Guard units, replacing older F-15s

in the inventory. The final F-15 is slated for reassignment in the summer of fiscal year 2010. The wing also will transfer from Air Combat Command to Air Education and Training Command when it

assumes the F-35 training mission.

In the next few years, AETC will stand up a new wing structure for the F-35 training mission with approximately 2,200 people. It is unknown at this time how many people will transfer from one mission to another.

The 33rd FW, whose mission is to "maintain the world's best rapidly deployable air control and air superiority forces for theater combatant commanders," is a combat-flying unit assigned to ACC's 9th Air Force and is a major tenant unit at Eglin AFB, Fla.

For additional information on the new training mission, contact AETC Public Affairs at (210) 652-4400. For other questions regarding ACC or the 33rd FW, contact ACC Public Affairs at (757) 764-5007.

Team Tyndall joins Air Force in developing F-22 FCR

Units save significant cost to solve technical Raptor issues

SENIOR AIRMAN SAMUEL KING JR.
53rd Wing Public Affairs

EGLIN AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. – A Weapon System Evaluation Program data collection modification ... \$350 million. Thinking outside of the box ... \$55,000.. Air Force supporting Air Force ... priceless!

That's a perfect description of the process used to analyze, develop and test a new Advanced Medium Range Air-to-Air Missile data collection system for the F-22 Raptor.

Four wings, located at three different bases, worked side-by-side to solve the 83rd Fighter Weapons Squadron WSEP's critical data collection issue in less than three months.

"Early in the F-22 program, the problem of receiving AMRAAM telemetry signals (transmission of data from the missile to ground receiving site) while the missile is still in the bay has been the cause of great concern for the engineering community due to the stealth capabilities of the jet," said Doug Ayers, 53rd Weapons Evaluation Group lead Raytheon Missile Systems engineer.

Due to the Raptor's internal AIM-120C missile stations, 83rd FWS WSEP evaluators were missing critical missile cueing data.

"This data is critical in determining the target location the F-22 sends to the missile during its launch cycle," said Gordon Starr, Raytheon senior systems engineer. "Although many options were discussed, none were viable due to the high price tag, so an alternative plan had to be devised."

Originally, the proposed modification plan was to cost \$350 million, he said. Then another plan was

submitted for only some of the Raptors to be modified, which meant they couldn't be tested at WSEP and the cost would still be very large.

In May, members of the 53rd WEG were already brainstorming the problem and possible solutions. After a close inspection of an F-22 by Raytheon engineers, and viewing the in-flight cases housed in the Raptor's external weapons stations, an idea emerged.

The cases, which held spare wings and fins used on extra AIM-120 missiles, could be used to store something else. The engineers made arrangements to take the cases to Al Berard, 46th Test Wing development branch chief assigned to Eglin AFB, Fla.

"Mr. Berard and his team have been modifying jets at Eglin for decades and have years of experience with in-flight telemetry systems," said Mr. Starr.

After hearing what was needed, Mr. Berard and his six-person team put together a working prototype in less than two weeks.

"We had to provide the means of receiving and recording data on the F-22 without installing instrumentation or deriving power from the aircraft," said Mr. Berard.

The flight case was a perfect fit.

Dubbed the "Flight Case Recorder," the battery-powered unit would contain a programmable receiver that adjusts to the frequency and transmission speed of a given missile. The data would record to a compact flash card like those commonly used in digital cameras. The unit fits neatly into the Raptor's in-flight case, keeping it separate from any controls or electronics.

Now that the idea had become a reality, there was coordination and certification to be done.

"The unit needed to be funded and flight certified, security requirements had to be addressed, software had to be written to read and process the data after it was recorded," said Jim Moore, 53rd Test Support Squadron technical advisor. "Tests had to be developed to verify operation on a jet with multiple missiles and to verify the unit wouldn't affect the Raptor's flight controls."

In June, the first FCR test began with the 43rd Fighter Squadron. Don Linn and his missile support team from the 83rd FWS consolidated munitions, prepared the missiles and worked with Raytheon and Mr. Berard to ensure the telemetry signal could be seen and recorded from all four missiles.

Since the first test adjustments, the modified units have now flown seven times on the Raptor and accurately captured data from two AIM-120C missile launches.

"Analysis confirmed that the data captured by the FCRs is absolutely pristine with no noise or dropouts," said Mr. Starr. "And the FCR is not just limited to the AIM-120 data. It can also collect AIM-9 data and any other data used in the standard telemetry band including bombs."

Based on those tests, the FCRs are becoming part of the F-22 inventory. The total cost for this new equipment is a fraction of the initial modification plan.

"My hat is off to the folks in the 53rd WEG, 46th TEST, 43rd FS, 83rd FWS, 94th FS, and the F-22 special projects officer," said Col. Mike Winslow, 53rd WEG commander. "This is a prime example of how tough problems can be solved quickly by motivated individuals using some 'out of the box' thinking and teamwork."

Checkertail Salute

Airman 1st Class Antoinette Doctor



1st Lt. Amanda Ferrell

Airman Doctor receives the Checkertail Salute Warrior of the Week award from Brig. Gen. (S) Tod Wolters, 325th Fighter Wing commander.

Airman Doctor serves 200,000 meals regularly throughout the year at Tyndall's dining facility. When cadets were training here, she served 70,000 more. She has been on numerous deployments including Iraq, Spain and Mississippi.

Duty title: Services apprentice
Time on station: Three years, two months
Time in service: Three years, two months
Hometown: Charleston, S.C.
Hobbies: Reading, watching movies
Goals: Earn a bachelor's degree in business
Favorite thing about Tyndall AFB: The beaches
Favorite movie: "What's Love Got To Do With It"
Favorite book: "The Bluest Eyes," by Toni Morrison
Proudest moment in the military: Receiving this award

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.

Associate Spotlight

Tech. Sgt. Michael Patterson



Isaac Gibson

Sergeant Patterson receives the Associate Spotlight award from Maj. Ann Birchard, 823rd RED HORSE Squadron/Detachment 1 commander.

Sergeant Patterson provides training to more than 700 firefighters at the Silver Flag Exercise Training Site. He authored a new pit fire lesson plan for his unit. He also helps the community through Habitat for Humanity and Relay for Life.

Duty title: Fire contingency training instructor
Time on Station: Two years
Hometown: Paducah, Ky.
Hobbies: Water sports, golf, bowling
Favorite book: Any Tom Clancy book
Favorite movie: Any Indiana Jones movie
Favorite thing about Tyndall: I enjoy seeing the immediate results of the training we provide – I truly believe I work with the "best of the best."
Proudest moment in the military: Completing my associate's degree and competing in the national Fire Fighter Combat Challenge

The Associate Spotlight is a 325th Fighter Wing commander program designed to recognize a Warrior from one of Tyndall's tenant units. Supervisors can nominate individuals via their squadron and group commanders. Award recipients receive a certificate from the wing commander and other items presented by their unit.

Telecommunications Monitoring

Department of Defense-owned or leased telephone systems, facsimile machines, data modems, cellular telephones, and automated information systems and networks are provided for the transmission of official government communications. They are subject to telecommunications monitoring at all times in accordance with DoD Directive 4640.6 and Air Force Instruction 33-219. Use of these telecommunications system devices constitutes consent by the user to monitoring.

For more information, contact the 325th Communications Squadron at 283-4519.

The Gulf Defender is published for people like Airman Jayne Duda 325th Aeromedical-Dental Squadron public health apprentice.



Training Spotlight



What is your first impression of becoming an Airman who has recently moved to his first Air Force base?

“It was actually a better transition than I expected.”

**AIRMAN 1ST CLASS
DENNIS MURPHY**
First Term Airman Center student



Eagle students begin to slip surly bounds

1ST LT. AMANDA FERRELL
325th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

(Editor’s note: This is the fifth of a five-part series covering the F-15 Eagle training B-course students receive here.)

It all pays off.

After almost two years of Air Force pilot training and preparation through academics, flight physicals, the altitude chamber, life support training, and simulators, F-15 Eagle B-course students here are ready to take the mighty Eagle airborne.

Students from Class 06 in the 2nd Fighter Squadron venture into local air space this month as they fly their first training sorties in the Eagle.

“The two main things I like to see out of my students on these first flights are preparedness and the ability to deal with adversity,” said Capt. Mike Boomsma, 2nd FS instructor pilot. “I want them to show up to the brief with a good idea of what’s going to happen on the sortie.”

And when something unexpected happens or a mistake is made, the students need to be able to get through it and press on without letting it affect the rest of the flight, he said.

The lesson begins with a pre-mission brief. Then students don life support gear and receive a weather and flight safety brief at the operations desk.

On the flightline, students review a maintenance log and conduct a “walk-around” inspection to check the general safety and configuration of the jet before climbing into the cockpit and starting the engines.



1st Lt. Amanda Ferrell

Airman 1st Class Jesus Ortiz, 2nd Aircraft Maintenance Unit crew chief, right, assists Lieutenant Bursi as the pilot straps into the cockpit during one of his initial F-15 sorties here.

Crew chiefs from the 2nd Aircraft Maintenance Unit assist pilots in securing their harnesses once they’re in the cockpit. Crew chiefs and maintainers also monitor all systems during start-up and work to troubleshoot electrical and mechanical issues when necessary.

When the cockpit closes and the jet is launched, students take full control of the aircraft and taxi to the runway for takeoff.

“The maneuvers and training (during the first sorties) focus on basic aircraft handling and landings,” said 1st Lt. Charles Bursi, 2nd FS B-course student.

The students’ first rides can be stressful, but the preparation and knowledge they gain through rigorous training offers a huge reward – being

able to successfully fly a superior air-to-air fighter aircraft.

“The biggest challenge most students have during the transition phase is dealing with adversity,” said Captain Boomsma. “Students receive excellent training in the sim prior to their first flight, and arrive to the flightline well prepared.”

What the simulator cannot replicate is the actual noise, weather and abnormalities students experience on their first flight, he said.

“It could be anything from a nuisance light to something signaling a no-kidding emergency, but because the students have no past experience to rely on, they can sometimes get flustered when the unexpected occurs,” said Captain Boomsma.

• SEE PILOT PAGE 21



Chrissy Cuttita

Pressure’s on

Airman 1st Class Scott Leden, 372nd Training Squadron/ Detachment 4 mission ready airman, checks the pressure on the front tire of an F-15. He and three other students graduate today. After training to become an Eagle crew chief, he will be stationed at Langley AFB, Va.



To learn about becoming a member of the Tyndall Honor Guard, call 283-4405.

SEEING GREEN

BRINGING ALTERNATIVE ENERGY HOME, TO WARFIGHTERS

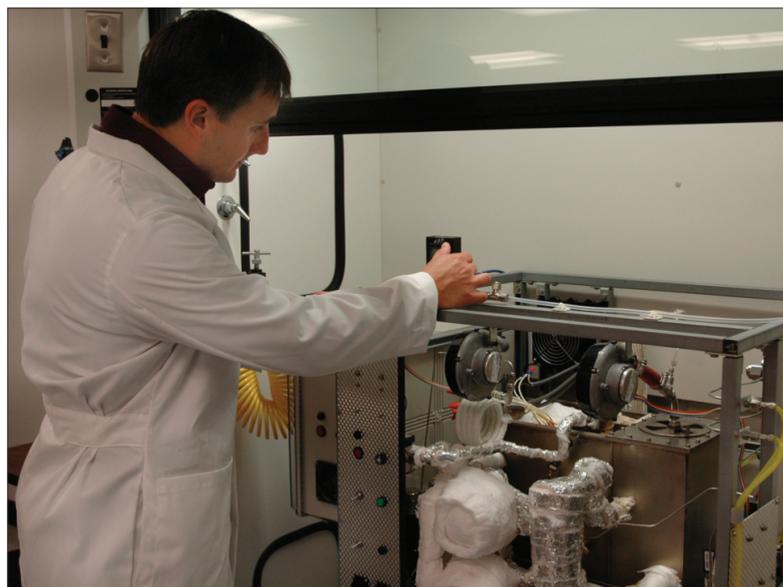
1ST LT. WILLIAM POWELL
325th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

The skyrocketing cost of oil and natural gas has been a hot issue lately all across America, and the Air Force, like many Americans, is constantly looking for ways to save money by reducing energy and fuel consumption.

The Air Force began its energy conservation program more than 20 years ago by turning down thermostats, using energy-efficient lighting and installing better insulation. But years later, after all the thermostats have been turned down and all



AFRL researchers are developing smaller, more compact generators that use alternative fuel sources. Richard Trotta, an AFRL research mechanical engineer, studies the efficiency of such generators by building sub-scale prototypes.



Richard Trotta observes the settings of a generator that reforms jet fuel into a hydrogen-rich product. The hydrogen product is fed into a fuel cell to create electricity.

the light bulbs changed, the service has turned to high-tech forms of energy to save money.

For the past few years, researchers at the Air Force Research Laboratory's Deployed Base Systems Branch at Tyndall AFB have been developing hydrogen fuel cell reformers that convert JP-8 jet fuel into hydrogen to power generators for deployed bases.

"Current generators are so big that most of our cargo aircraft can only haul one at a time," said Reza Salavani, AFRL energy research group project manager.

His team's goal is to slash the generator's size in half or more to allow more than one generator to be transported at once, which will significantly reduce the amount of necessary sorties to establish a base in a deployed location.

But successful development of the fuel cell generators will have a far greater impact than just saving jet fuel during transportation. The result is a lighter, cleaner and cheaper energy source. "A typical internal combustion generator only produces about 30-35 percent energy from the fuel, which means about 65 percent of the fuel is lost as heat," said Mr. Salavani. "Hydrogen fuel cells are 30 to 40 percent more efficient, which means less fuel is required to provide the same amount of power. If you start reducing like that, imagine the savings in fuel costs."

Hydrogen also burns cleaner because the by-product of hydrogen energy is heat and water, not carbon monoxide and carbon dioxide.

And the Air Force is serious about protecting the environment. It is now the largest purchaser of renewable power in the federal government, accounting for 41 percent of all green power purchases by the federal government.

The AFRL researchers here are also developing more flexible, lightweight and efficient solar power panels, another green power, to integrate into

deployed shelters.

Until recently, solar power was cost prohibitive, but advancements in technology have lowered development costs.

"The solar panels will generate some of the power for the load in the shelter, which reduces the demand for the diesel generators and the air conditioning units because the solar panels are absorbing the sunlight and converting it to electrical energy," said Miriam Keith, AFRL electrical engineer. "With the technology we're developing, we're looking at reducing the cost per watt around 80 percent. That's a lot less cost per watt than current technology."

"Hydrogen fuel cells are 30 to 40 percent more efficient, which means less fuel is required to provide the same amount of power. If you start reducing like that, imagine the savings in fuel costs."

REZA SALAVANI
Energy research group project manager

While the AFRL engineers and scientists are developing alternative power sources for deployed use, Airmen at the 325th Fighter Wing have been using alternative power for years, probably without even knowing it.

Beginning as early as 1997, five different facilities and 75 housing units on base were provided with geothermal heat pump units, also known as ground-source heat pumps.

According to Gil Walker, Tyndall energy and utilities manager, heat pumps use the ground as a source of energy. During the summer months, the building is cooled by transferring the heat to the ground through a system of coils and wells, and during the winter months, heat is removed from the ground and transferred to the building.

"Because the ground temperature is relatively constant, the energy recovered is endless," said Mr. Walker.

Ground-source heat pumps cost more initially,



Robbie Thomas, a WMBB-TV News Reporter, interviews Reza Salavani, energy research group project manager, about the hydrogen fuel cell reformer.

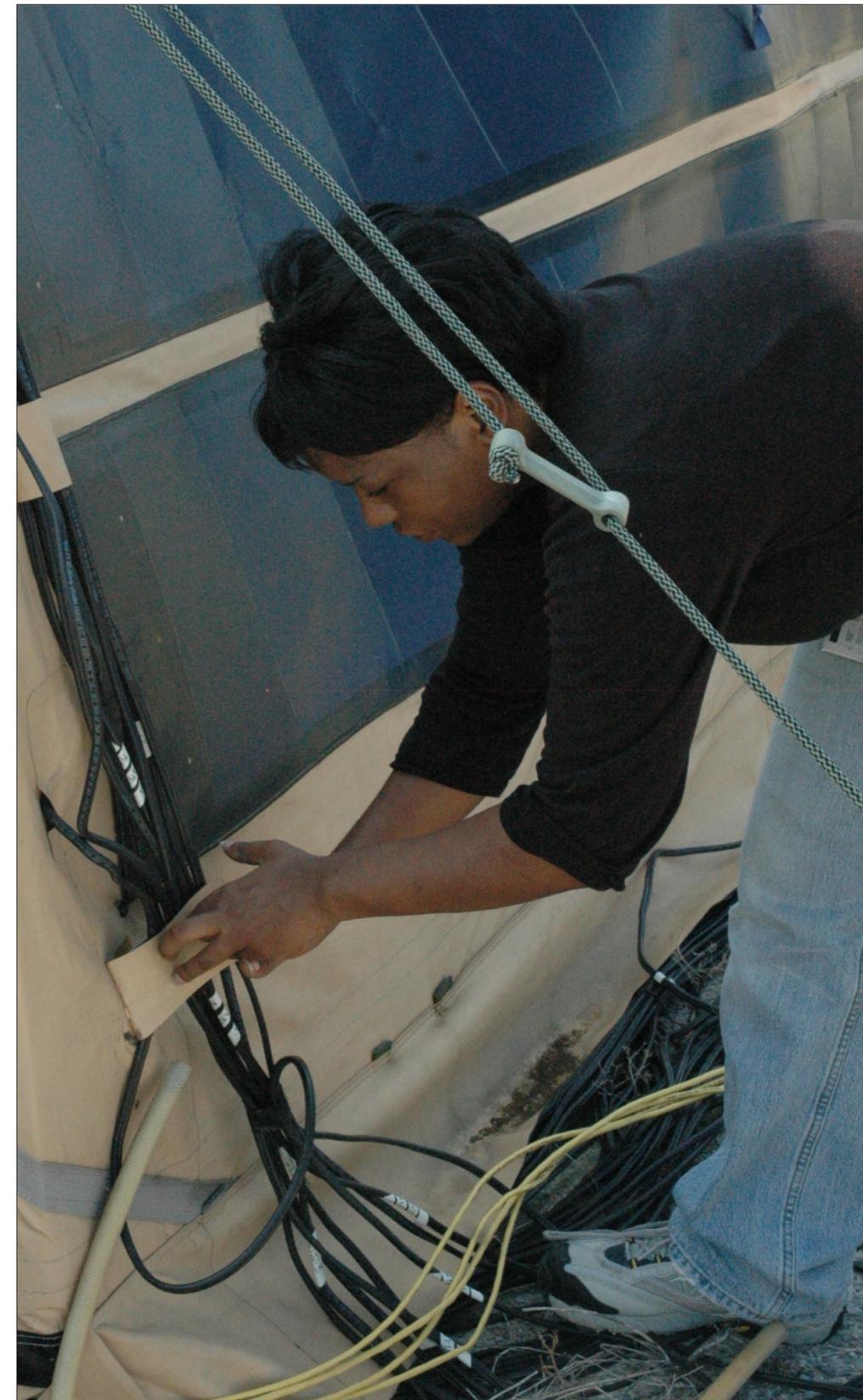
but require less maintenance and replacement cost.

"In a salt-corrosive environment like we have at Tyndall and the Panama City area, the coils and equipment of a normal air conditioning unit corrode quickly and replacement is required frequently, normally seven to 10 years," he said. "A geothermal system could last up to 25 years and possibly longer."

But Tyndall isn't the only Air Force Base using alternative power. More than 3,500 geothermal heat pump units are in place Air Force-wide. Dyess AFB, Texas, and Fairchild AFB, Wash., receive 100 percent of their power from wind or other renewable power sources provided by local utility companies. Wind farms are being considered at other bases, as well, according to an Air Force Print News release.

The need for the alternative power sources is real. Although the Air Force continues to consume less energy each year, the costs continue to rise. This fiscal year the Air Force is expected to surpass \$1 billion in energy costs, an increase of nearly \$200 million from fiscal year 2004, according to Gary Hein, Air Force facility energy team manager.

However, renewable energy is the future, "because this is revolutionary technology," said Mr. Salavani. "Overall, alternative energy is a huge savings for the Air Force and the warfighters."



Photos by 1st Lt. Amanda Ferrell

Miriam Keith, an electrical engineer and the lead researcher on solar energy here, is developing flexible solar panels that will supply energy to tents used at deployed locations. The panels are lighter and cleaner than diesel generators, which are expensive and difficult to transport.

Briefs

Remembrance reunion event

Air Forces Northern and the Continental U.S. NORAD Region 9-11 Remembrance Reunion is scheduled for Sept. 11. Ceremonies will start with a wreath laying ceremony at 10:30 a.m. at Flag Park. Lunch will follow at the Officers' Club.

The event will honor those who served Sept. 11, 2001, and also recognize servicemembers who continue to defend the nation through Operation Noble Eagle.

For more information, visit www.1staf.tyndall.af.mil/911/index.htm or call 283-8659.

RAO here may close soon

The Retirees Activities office may close soon unless more people volunteer to keep it running. The RAO provides a source of information for the retiree community about pay and entitlements, vehicle registration, identification cards and more.

Office hours are from 9 a.m. to noon Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Volunteers can work as many or as few hours per week as they desire. For more information or to volunteer call 283-2737 or e-mail rao@tyndall.af.mil.

Marriage class

"Seven Habits for Highly Effective Marriages," is a brown bag lunch-time class that discusses the core concepts needed to build a strong, solid foundation for marriage. Classes are held at the Family Support Center. For information or to make reservations, call 283-4204.

Spouse employment assistance

The Family Support Center military family employment specialist is available from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. every Tuesday and Wednesday at the FSC. They assist military spouses with job placement and referrals for positions in the Panama City area, and register spouses in the work force employment system. For more information or to make an appointment, call 283-4204.

Home buying class

The Family Support Center will of-

fer a Basic Home Buying class from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Aug. 28 in Bldg. 743 (across from the post office.) This class will be taught by a local mortgage education professional and include information on how to shop for mortgages, how to determine cost and debt ratios, insurance and warranty, pre-qualifying for a mortgage, real estate language and much more. Class size will be limited to the first 30 participants who call to reserve a seat. To make a reservation, call the FSC at 283-4204.

Commissary 'Dollar Days'

"Dollar Days" will continue until Wednesday at the Tyndall commissary. Hundreds of items throughout the store will feature dollar pricing. Customers should look for the "Extra Savings" signs throughout the store to find the best deals. For more information, call 283-4285.

Officers' Spouses Club updates

The Tyndall Officers' Spouses Club is holding a special activity coffee at

10:30 a.m. Monday at the Officers' Club. Attendees will learn about the Tyndall and Panama City communities. This event is for OSC members and those who would like to become members. If you have any questions, please contact Kate Bobb at 286-5915.

Anyone interested in becoming a new OSC member, should contact Leslie Schultz at 286-6055 or e-mail at leslieschultz@hotmail.com.

Towel service to end

Air Force fitness centers will discontinue towel service Oct. 1. Tyndall's fitness center will no longer issue towels then.

Club membership drive

The annual Air Force Clubs' membership drive starts Sept. 1 and will end Nov. 31.

Another club member benefit is the Military Free Cash Rewards Program.

To sign up for membership stop by the Officers' or Enlisted Club or call them at 283-4357 or 283-4146, respectively.



Chrissy Cuttita

Glowin' good times

Sean Frey enters his name into the score board at Tyndall's Raptor Lanes. This weekend is the last weekend to register for the youth winter bowling league. There are three age groups; Pee Wees are 3-6 years old, Shooting Stars are 7-11 years old and Juniors and Seniors are 12-21 years old. For more information, call Raptor Lanes at 283-2380.

Tyndall Chapel Schedule**Catholic services**

Daily Mass, 11:30 a.m.

Monday-Friday,

Chapel Two

Reconciliation, before Saturday

Mass or by appointment

Saturday Mass, 5 p.m.,

Chapel Two

Sunday Mass, 9:30 a.m.,

Chapel Two

Religious Education, 11 a.m.,

Bldg. 1476

Protestant services

Traditional worship service,

9:30 a.m., Chapel One

Contemporary worship

service, 11 a.m., Chapel Two

Wednesday Fellowship,

5 p.m., Chapel Two

(For more information on other services in the local area, call the Chaplain's office at 283-2925.)



Chrissy Cuttita

Getting their kicks

McKinlie Rodenbeck, Kieran McMullin, Grady DeSaussure, and Sarah Fernandez warm up during a Shito-Ryu Karate class at the Youth Center Tuesday. Youth can sign up for this course offered from 5-6 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. For information on how to register, call the Youth Center at 283-4366.

Intramural Sports Standings

Golf

Team	Points	Team	Points
372 TRS	74.5	SFS	42.5
AFNORTH	70.5	MOS 1	38.5
CES	68.5	SVS	38.5
AFCESA	65.5	OSS	38
MXS 1	62.5	MDG	34
COMM 1	62.5	601 2	28
MSS	56	ACS	26
RHS	52	CONS	13.5
53 WEG	49	MXS 2	8.5
83 FWS	44	COMM 2	3
TEST	43.5		

Bowling

Team	W	L	CS 1	W	L
28 Test	96	56	83rd FWS 2	76	76
325 MXS	94	58	AFNORTH 2	76	76
Phase 1	94	58	Phase 2	74	78
325 AMXS 4	93	59	CONS	73	79
RED HORSE	90	62	ACS 1	72	80
AFCESA 2	90	62	SFS	70	82
AFCESA 1	90	62	AFNORTH 3	67	85
AMMO	88	64	AMXS 2	66	86
AMXS 1	88	64	83rd FWS 1	66	86
MSS	85	67	MDG	62	90
CES	84	68	AMXS 43	61	91
DS2	84	68	SVS	58	94
CS 2	82	70	MOS	58	94
ACS 2	80	72	AFNORTH 1	56	96
372nd TRS	78	74	Bye	52	

Team High Game Scratch	AMXS 1	978
Team High Series Scratch	AMXS 1	2816
Team High Game Handicap	RED HORSE	1127
Team High Series Handicap	28th TES	3221
High Male Game Scratch	Jim Garred	269
High Male Series Scratch	Jim Garred	696
High Male Game Handicap	Sparky Sparks	283
High Male Series Handicap	Sparky Sparks	731
High Female Game Scratch	Rachel Petri-Rose	203
High Female Series Scratch	Rachel Petri-Rose	542
High Female Game Handicap	Lisa Rushing	267
High Female Series Handicap	Lisa Rushing	715

AF marathon looks for relay teams

JAMES BAKER
88th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio (AFPN)

-- The 10th annual U.S. Air Force Marathon on Sept. 16 offers the option of running on relay teams.

The four-member teams have each person running a specific leg of the marathon. The team's total elapsed time will determine the winner.

If a relay team has less than four members on race day, one or more runners must run consecutive legs. Runners must also choose to either run the relay or the marathon, but they can not run both.

"You don't have to run as much in the relay, but you still get the

same great benefits," said Rachel Claridy, U.S. Air Force Marathon coordinator. "It is truly a team effort."

The four stages are divided into intervals of five miles, seven miles, 7.5 miles and 6.7 miles to finish the race.

Categories of team competition for the relay include coed (with at least one team member from each sex); men's open; women's open; masters (all members must be at least 40 years old on race day); ROTC; and military (all members must be on active-duty, Reserve or National Guard status in the United States or foreign military.)

To date, 1,152 individuals

have signed up for the individual 26.2 mile race, 1,016 for the half marathon, 312 for the 5k, 142 teams for the relay and five for the wheelchair race.

Registered participants are roughly double from what the numbers were last year, Claridy said.

Anyone interested in registering for the 2006 U.S. Air Force Marathon may sign up at www.usafmarathon.com. Sept. 8 is the deadline to register online.

Registration may also be done at the Sports and Fitness Exposition Sept. 14 and 15 at the Ervin J. Nutter Center near Wright State University in Fairborn, Ohio.

Women's health clinic designs care for patients

SENIOR AIRMAN SARAH MCDOWELL
325th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

(Editor's note: This is the first story in the three-part feature series highlighting the 325th Medical Group's women's health clinic, flight medicine, and family practice.)

The 325th Medical Operations Squadron Women's Health Clinic aims to foster an environment for women's gynecological and some obstetrical services.

Since the clinic's inception five years ago, its members have maintained relationships with patients and upgraded the clinic's systems and technologies to make visits pleasant and efficient. The staff includes a nurse practitioner who sees about 60 patients a day.

"Women's health is a specialty on its own," said Andrea Moore, women's health clinic nurse practitioner. "Women need to know that this clinic is a place they can come to have some understanding of their concerns."

The mission of the clinic is to provide gynecological services to all female patients from adolescent to geriatric. The clinic routinely conducts

gynecological examinations, general gynecology, postpartum care, family planning, contraceptive counseling and transitional obstetrical care.

One new program at the clinic is pregnancy testing management. This allows the women's health clinic and the pediatric clinic to capture well baby exams and postpartum follow-ups after delivery, which is essential care for mothers and their babies.

The clinic has also streamlined the Contraceptive Injection Program (Depro-Provera) ensuring more efficient and quality care.

Another service in the clinic is follow-up for patients with abnormal pap tests. The WHC has a hi-tech medical device called a Colposcope, which uses a camera to search for cervical cancer.

"Right now there is research going on about the human papillomavirus and how it can cause cervical cancer and abnormal cervical cells," Ms Moore said. "To combat this, the clinic will be offering a vaccination that has been proven to prevent cervical cancer from certain types of HPV by 100 percent in the near future."

The incorporation of Colposcope, along with Thin Prep testing, as opposed to the older version pap test, has allowed the clinic to track more than 1,000 diagnostic procedures to detect cervical cancer in its early stages. The improved technology has helped extend lives and prevent prolonged suffering.

"This technology also allows us to follow our population within the facility and not have to refer them downtown," Ms. Moore said.

Additionally, to make sure all of the patients' needs are met, the clinic has worked to improve patient access.

"We have reservists assisting us, and leadership is working to bring in a second-full time provider for Women's Health, but in interim there may be some wait times for annual exams," said Ms. Moore.

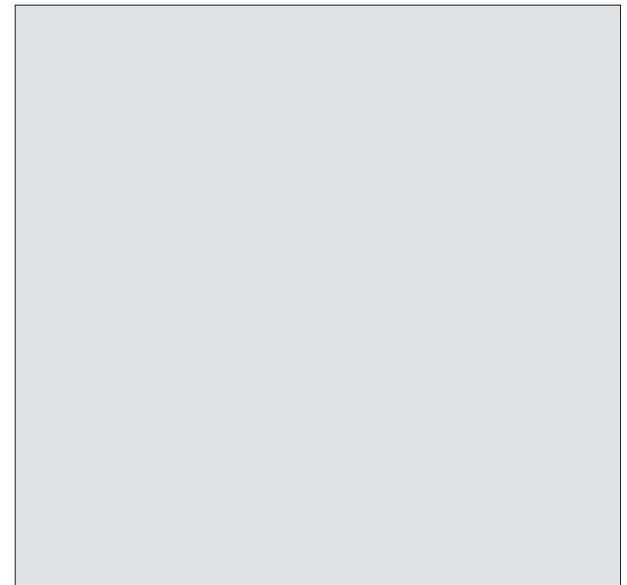
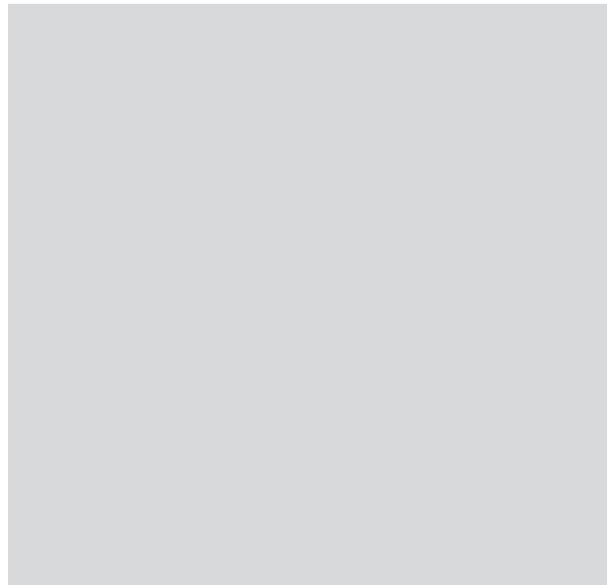
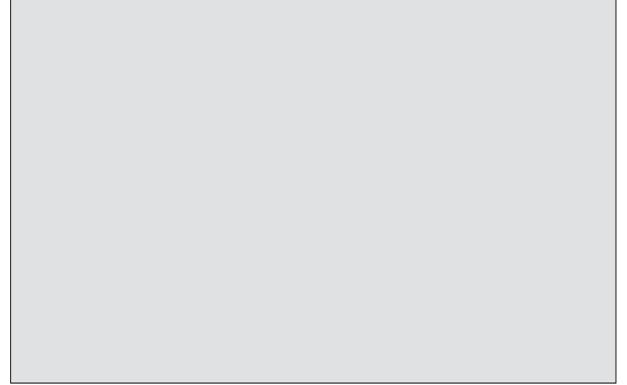
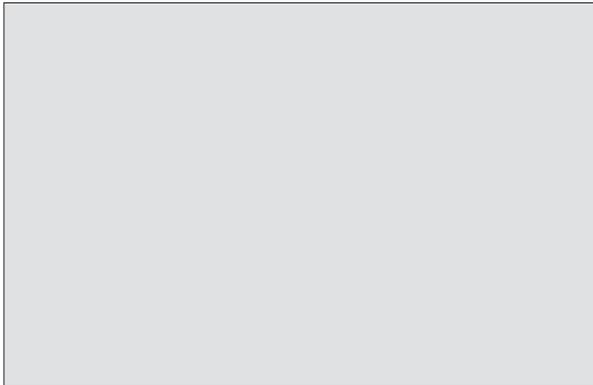
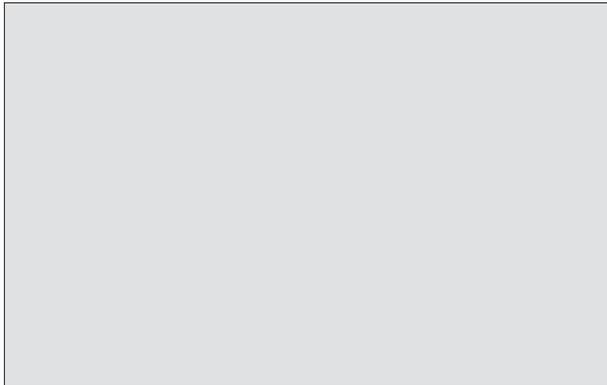
The effort to limit this time is just another aspect of the environment the WHC wants to create for its customers.



Senior Airman Sarah McDowell

Andrea Moore takes the blood pressure of Cynthia Johnson, WHC nurse.

"I believe that women need to have a place especially for them to discuss their needs and concerns, and we provide that for them on a daily basis," said Ms. Moore. "We want them to be comfortable with coming to see us and feel they have been taken care of when they leave."



Can you beat the Pig-skin Prognosticator?

The National Football League is soon beginning its 2006 season. Do you think you can outsmart the Pig-Prog by picking each week's winners? Watch for the Pig-Prog challenge coming soon only in the *Gulf Defender*. Maybe you'll get a chance to lose to the greatest football forecaster of them all.



Lisa Norman

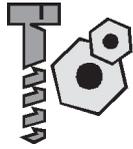
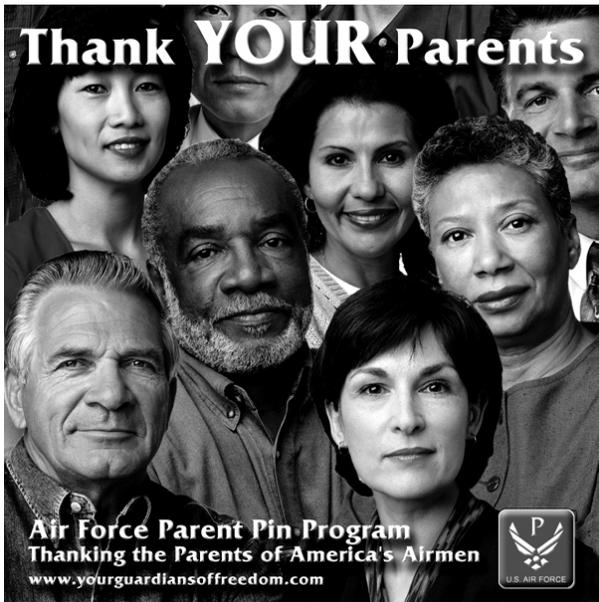
Meet and greet

Charlene Wolters says hello to Luke Barber, son of Capt. Donna and Tech. Sgt. Robert Barber, at the Child Development Center. Mrs. Wolters and other military spouses toured base facilities to get better acquainted with Tyndall's agencies and services.

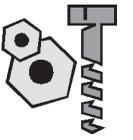


There are 105 days left in the season.

Hurricane

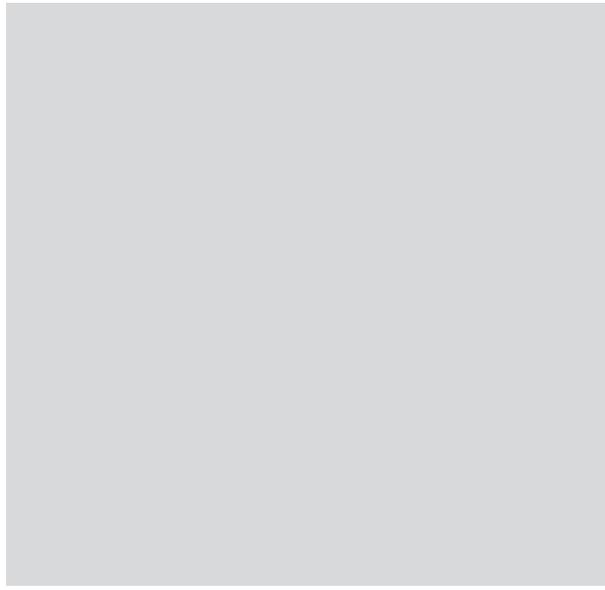
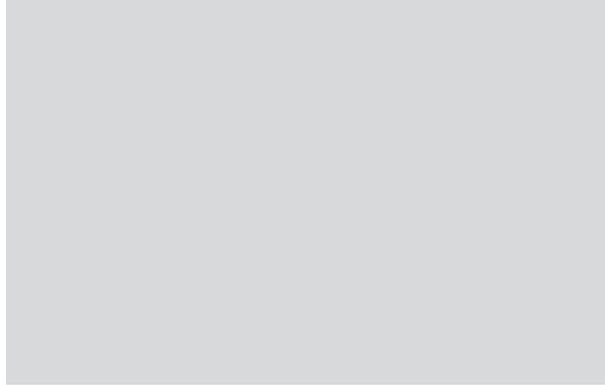
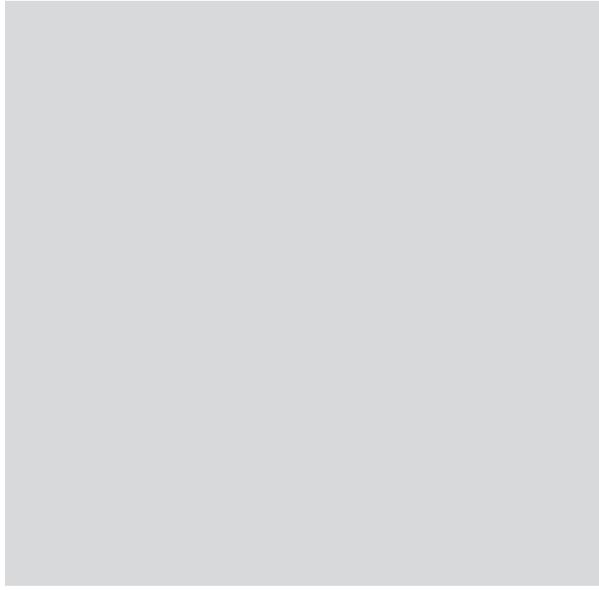
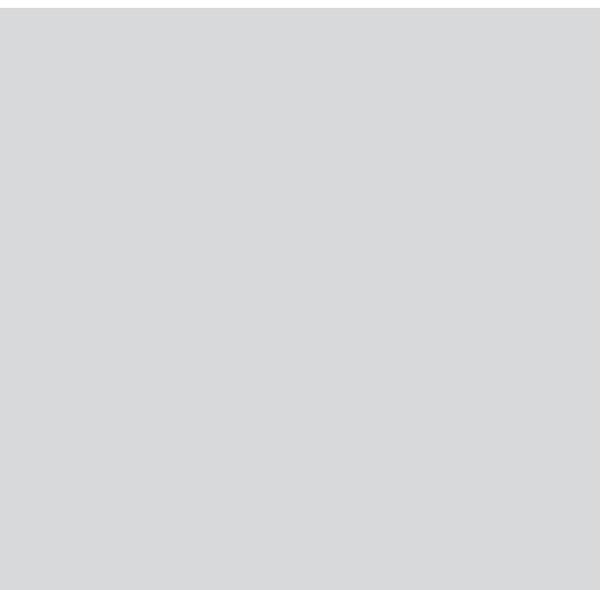
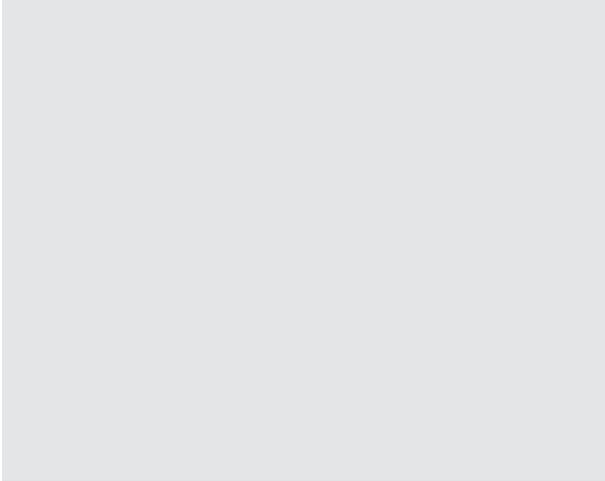
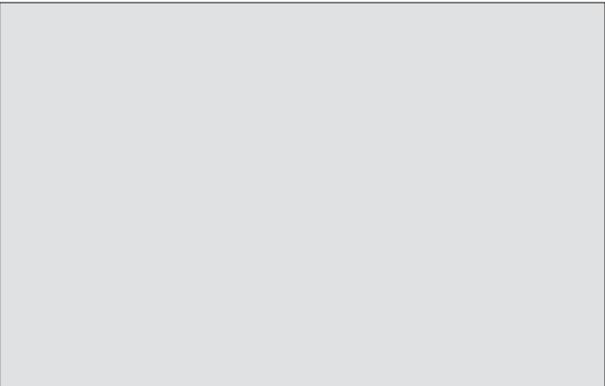


Golden Bolt Award



Chrissy Cuttita

Senior Airman Joshua Joslin, 95th Aircraft Maintenance Unit avionics technician, inventories the tool cart after launching an aircraft. Airman Joslin won the Golden Bolt Award in June. He found the Golden Bolt on the runway, near a metal tie down.



• FROM OPSEC PAGE 1

allow users to create their own profile pages with lists of their favorite musicians, books and movies, photos of themselves and friends. This information can act as a database that criminals as well as intelligence or terrorist organizations can utilize to “datamine” for potential targets.

For instance, if a perpetrator is looking for an Air Force member who works in a particular specialty in order to gather information regarding a program or aircraft, he can search the Web service to identify a specific person based on that individual’s profile. The perpetrator can then use the information in the Airman’s profile to develop a plan to build rapport.

If the Air Force member’s profile said “enjoys fishing as a hobby,” the perpetrator will also assume interest in fishing in order to develop

a relationship with the Airman. The “friendship” may develop to a point where the perpetrator asks for more information about the Air Force member’s specific duties and knowledge of other secure topics (i.e. weapons systems that Airmen may have access to.)

Airmen disclosing OPSEC information are subject to the U.S. Code of Military Justice.

“At a minimum, disclosure of OPSEC information would most likely be an offense that violates Article 92 of the UCMJ for dereliction of duty,” said Capt. Rosemary Gilliam, 325th FW Assistant Staff Judge Advocate.

“There are some other articles of the UCMJ that could potentially be violated,” she said. “However, this would depend on the facts and circumstances surrounding the disclosure of information on MySpace (and

other Web sites).”

The bottom line is that Airmen need to be aware that some individuals will use an online service like MySpace for criminal or intelligence gathering endeavors.

From an OPSEC perspective, Air Force members should never include any photographs or information that may provide insight to Air Force tactics, techniques, procedures or capabilities. Members should not describe current or impending deployments, aircraft capabilities or installation facilities.

Additionally the use of language construed as racially or sexually disparaging is unacceptable and inappropriate for Air Force members, whether online or in person.

Airman who observe questionable information online should notify Tyndall OSI at 283-3261 or Capt. Garrett at 283-4664.

AETC clarifies NSPS facts

The Air Force announced it will convert approximately 37,000 non-bargaining unit employees to the human resources portion of the National Security Personnel System from October through January 2007. Civilians from organizations across the Air Force, including overseas locations, are included in this group.

Splitting implementation into two time frames will help ensure managers and employees are able to receive training on the new pay and personnel rules.

The first group within AETC, dubbed Spiral 1.2B (indicating the second pay period in the conversion period), converts Oct. 15 and includes non-bargaining unit, GS employees at Columbus, Goodfellow, Lackland and Laughlin AFBs. The second group, known as Spiral 1.2H, converts Jan. 21 and includes non-bargaining unit, GS positions at Altus, Keesler, Little Rock, Luke, Maxwell, Randolph, Sheppard, Tyndall and Vance AFBs.

Conversion will be based on permanent position of record without a loss of pay.

Generally eligible employees convert to NSPS along with their servicing installation. However, due to some unique situations, such as smaller associate and tenant organizations; there may be some exceptions to this approach. If you have any questions as to when your organization will transition into NSPS, please contact Tyndall’s civilian personnel flight at 283-3203.

For a listing of DOD activities that will convert to NSPS in Spiral 1.2, check www.cpms.osd.mil/docs/Spiral1.2.pdf.

(Courtesy of AETC)



Funshine NEWS

www.325thservices.com ★ Look for the new Funshine Review brochure inserted into the Gulf Defender the first of every month. ★



Oktoberfest

September 30, 2006
10 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Free Admission
Bay View Housing
(By new Visitor's Center)

Activities:

- ◆ Annual car, truck & motorcycle show
- ◆ Arts and crafts faire
- ◆ Beer & wine fest tent
- ◆ Authentic German food
- ◆ Turkey legs & dessert waffles
- ◆ Live entertainment
- ◆ Children's games & activities
- ◆ And much more!

Open to the public

283-4054



FOOD SHOW

Sept. 7
10:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Enjoy a variety of **delicious** free samples!

Open to all military identification card holders.
Call 283-2239 for details.



Got Bed?

Tyndall AFB Sand Dollar Inn

For reservations call:
283-4211
Plan now and book your room for Labor Day (Sept. 4).

AIR FORCE INNS

USAF SERVICES

Attention Team Tyndall: Place a *free* classified ad in the Gulf Defender

Military classified ads are placed in the Gulf Defender on a space available basis. Ads must be for a one-time sale of personal goods and should include a complete description, 30 words or less, of item being sold. Forms must be turned in by 2 p.m. Thursday for publication in the following Friday's Gulf Defender. Completed forms can be dropped off or mailed to the 325th Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office at 445 Suwannee Rd. Ste. 129, Tyndall AFB, FL 32403, or faxed to 283-3225. Ads can also be sent in by e-mail to checkertailmarket@tyndall.af.mil.

Rank/Name _____
 Unit/Office Symbol _____
 Duty Phone _____
 Home Phone _____

Item description (One ad per form)
(30 words or less)

We value your opinion!

Take a couple of minutes to give us your thoughts on how we can make the Gulf Defender better:

Did the front page grab your attention? Yes No

Do you feel there is a good mix of local, command and Air Force-level news? Yes No

Do the photos encourage you to read accompanied articles? Yes No

Is the Gulf Defender easy to read and follow? Yes No

What did you find most interesting in this week's paper? _____

If you could change one thing in the paper, what would it be? _____

Comments:

• FROM EPR PAGE 6

are limited and used in the proper context,” said General Brady, who personally discussed the issue with major command vice commanders and command chief master sergeants.

If a stratification statement is used, it will be defined in quantitative terms, such as “No. 1 of 178 master sergeants in the wing.” Statements based on percentage or “best in career field” are no longer allowed.

“Stratification, if used properly, must rank the individual among their peers in their flight, not a general group or at the wing level,” said Sergeant Kennedy. The rankings must be specific – they have to mean something to the review board, he said.

This policy also states that evaluators will stratify master sergeants and senior master sergeants separately and should only consider the number assigned within their rating scope. This policy will be included in the revision to Air Force Instruction 36-2406, Officer and Enlisted Evaluation Systems.

The evaluations and decorations flight here emphasizes the importance of thoroughly reviewing all EPRs before they are submitted.

“Common mistakes on EPRs are incorrectly stating the rater or ratee’s duty title, the feedback date is not within the permitted time frame, and having discrepancies in the ‘concur, non-concur’ section,” said Sergeant Kennedy.

“It’s the rater and senior rater’s responsibility to ensure EPR forms are correctly filled out and that the new stratification changes are adhered to,” said Sergeant Kennedy.

(Contributed by 325th Fighter Wing Public Affairs)

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The biggest difference between the F-15 simulator and the jet is the Florida sun, said Lieutenant Bursi. Students must remain focused in a cockpit that can reach temperatures of more than 100 degrees in summer months.

Instructors sit in the back seat of D-model F-15s during the initial sorties flown by students. And because the instructor is literally looking over the student’s shoulder, Captain Boomsma said many learning points can be talked about “real time” during the mission.

“For the debrief, I usually save the academic discussions for why we do things a certain way. I also offer up alternate techniques if the student is having trouble with any parts of the sortie,” he said.

The stress and pressure students experience during their initial training sorties in the F-15 are outweighed by the pride and excitement they feel as they work to become members of the Eagle community.

“I chose to fly the F-15 because I like the air-to-air mission, and the C-model is the best at it,” said Lieutenant Bursi.

“What I find to be the rewarding part of the day is to see these guys fired up to have their first ride in the mighty Eagle,” said Captain Boomsma.

