



GULF DEFENDER



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

Aug. 11, 2006

In Brief



Promotion party

Celebrate with Tyndall's newest staff sergeants at the Focus 56-sponsored promotion party 4 p.m. today at the Enlisted Club.

For the list of newly selected staff sergeants, see page 9.

AFSA luncheon

The local Air Force Sergeants Association will host a member appreciation luncheon at noon today at Heritage Park. Enlisted personnel are welcome to attend.

For more information on the event or membership, contact Senior Airman Justin Vandevender at 283-2016.

Inside

Updates on uniform changes ... **PAGE 10**

F-15 squadrons fly, fight, learn ... **PAGES 12-13**



Lady Tigers win AETC softball ... **PAGE 15**



1st Lt. Will Powell

Maj. Paul Moga, 43rd Fighter Squadron pilot, gets ready to exit his F-22 Raptor cockpit after landing on Tyndall's runway. He has since moved from the 43rd FS to be the Air Force's first Raptor demonstration pilot.

Raptor pilot to show skills worldwide

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

The Air Force's first F-22 Raptor demonstration pilot was selected from the 43rd Fighter Squadron here.

Maj. Paul Moga, 43rd FS assistant director of operations, will be relocating to the home station of the F-22 demonstration team, Langley AFB, Va., to begin training for upcoming airshow circuits.

Air Combat Command considered all qualified Raptor pilots for the two-year assignment.

"The demo certification process is fairly in-depth," said Major Moga. "I'll start

by getting certified on Heritage Flights, then move onto practicing the 'demo profile' and receive certification from ACC leadership."

Demonstration-specific training will be conducted at Langley AFB, but it all began here with initial F-22 qualifying training.

"I learned how to fly this jet in the 43rd FS, and I learned how to instruct this jet in the 43rd FS. All the experience I have in this jet is due to the efforts of the 43rd FS and the 43rd Aircraft Maintenance Unit," said Major Moga.

"The American Hornets demand absolute dedication

to getting the mission done perfectly each and every day – that's our legacy," said Lt. Col. Michael Stapleton, 43rd FS commander. "I cannot say enough about every one of the instructors here, including Max Moga. I'm very proud of them all."

Demonstration qualification training for the F-22 will require approximately 20 flights and multiple simulator missions. Demonstration pilots also receive training to prepare them for public appearances and interaction with the media.

Major Moga will execute

Heritage Flight duties for his first year while the low-level demonstration routine is perfected. The complete high-speed, low-level demonstration acts are planned to be showcased during the 2008 Airshow season.

"The aerial demonstration mission is important to the Raptor community," he said. "We need to get this jet out to the public so they can see with their own eyes what it can do in the visual maneuvering arena."

Many people have worked very, very hard to bring this jet and its capacities to the Air

• SEE PILOT PAGE 6



Lisa Norman

Lighting up the sky

A 500-pound explosive detonates at the Air Force Research Laboratory/Detachment 2 Sky X range here. The purpose of the experiment was to validate the blast protection provided by various earth and water-filled barriers, as well as evaluate two building walls in the experiment.

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. There were no correct guesses for the Aug. 4 "Identify this." The photo may re-run in the future to give everyone a better chance. Better luck next time! And don't be afraid to guess. You might get it right and win a prize!

ON THE STREET

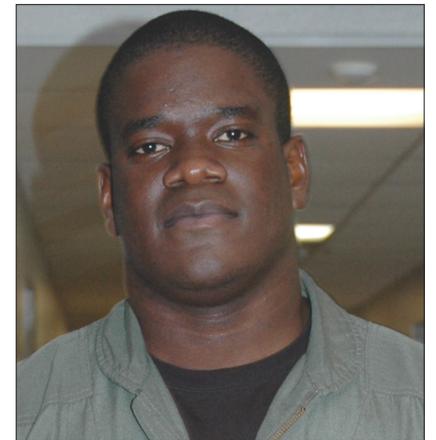
95th Fighter Squadron focus:

What do you think is the most important job in the Air Force?



"Any job on the support side of the house is most important because without them you can't put the planes in the air."

PHYLLIS WILLIAMS
Client support administrator



"I wouldn't be doing this if I didn't think it was the most important job out there. Nothing beats being the tip of the spear"

FIRST LT. STEVEN MWESIGWA
Pilot



"My job is the most important because aviation resource helps aid the pilot and aircrew in their mission."

AIRMAN CAREN MAYES
Aviation resources manager



"Communications is the most important because without that you won't have successful mission."

SENIOR AIRMAN INISHIA GEORGE
Life support technician

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- 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
- Senior Airman Sarah McDowell.....staff writer

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CAA shares experience, helps Airmen with theirs

MASTER SGT. TRAVIS FRITTS
325th Fighter Wing career assistance advisor

“Career assistance advisor, I thought you were a first sergeant,” someone asked me.

Someone else on Tyndall remembers me as a courier, yet another recalls my days as an Airman Leadership School instructor. One first sergeant here even remembered me from my first duty station, when we were assigned here together as airmen first class in the weapons storage area.

I have been trained in seven Air Force Specialty Codes in twenty-something years of service. Thanks to the Air Force’s evolving missions and needs, I’ve been blessed with change and many incredibly rewarding experiences.

The world is changing, and so are the missions of the Air Force. When the Berlin Wall fell, it signaled a huge change for our forces. Manning in my missile shop dwindled by two-thirds. I loved the job, but the world changed. Force strength was cut and more responsibilities were earned by junior NCOs

and senior airmen. We ramped up professional military education with ALS and gave our first-line supervisors their “sheriff’s badge.” As an ALS instructor, I presented a curriculum to E-4s that only senior NCOs were accustomed to receiving. Graduates today are taught even more complex material.

Later, as the need for stabilization in eastern European nations increased, so did the need for an exchange of classified information. The Defense Courier Service ensures that the nation’s secrets remain a secret from those who would use the information against us. For six years, I helped the U.S. State Department and Europe share information in effort to keep the world safe. As the Balkan region flared, I joined with the NATO couriers and worked side-by-side with the international military community. It seems as though my job follows whatever is hot and “on the scope.”

Over the last few years, the biggest news has been deployments and the Global War on Terrorism. One of my key responsibilities as a first sergeant

was to stand with the commander and oversee the overall health, morale and welfare of our Airmen. Having half of them deployed at any given time was a pretty good test of responsibility and the strength of leadership within the unit.

And now, as we once again face force shaping, I find myself challenged by filling the role as career assistance advisor here.

The only constant we can rely on is change and if the Air Force is to remain on top, we must make adjustments. My job now is to assist others in finding the right “fit” for them and the Air Force. There are 1,113 NCOs being asked to retrain into different career fields. Those NCOs may not fully realize the effects of their cross-training, but the difference will be felt throughout the entire Air Force.

Remember that we haven’t stopped recruiting new Airmen; we’re just steering them into the places where they are needed most, like we have always done.

And for those still on the fence about

re-enlistment, take a moment to reconsider the benefits: incredible technical training (and retraining), leadership skills, teamwork, world-class health-care, educational benefits, commissioning programs, tax exemptions, housing and food allowances, Thrift Savings Plan, travel, cultural enrichment ... the list goes on and on.

Consider getting your career job reservation, cross-training or applying for a special duty assignment. There are many different paths of adventure ahead.

There are very few companies offering the chance for you to personally shape world events.

Those who have deployed have seen first-hand that we are making a huge, positive difference in the lives of people around the world, and they are thankful for what they do everyday. The nation you serve and protect is a symbol of what others hope to someday become.

Remember that you are part of a small society that dedicates a portion of their lives to the defense of our nation.

Lessons learned: Family first, excellence in duty

MASTER SGT. PAUL CORNELL
325th Security Forces Squadron first sergeant

My first duty station was K.I. Sawyer AFB, Mich. I’m one of the few remaining Strategic Air Command “trained killers” – whatever that meant – still kicking around today.

I was trained to build bombs and missiles, load 20 mm ammunition cans, and stuff chaff and flare modules so our B-52s could penetrate to the heart of the Soviet Union and deliver a lethal blow to our former arch enemy.

I was young, I was excited, I was pumped up, I was ... immature.

Everything I did back then was all about me. I struggled to be accepted by my peers. I stayed out late, drank (often too much), drove too fast and always had to be one step ahead of my competition. I would earn recognition and then have it stripped away because of something stupid I’d do.

Many times I’d find myself with polished boots waiting outside the first sergeant’s office. I had my

fair share of wild and crazy times, and I became an expert with a broom, mop, a little floor wax and a buffer.

After three years of service in the Air Force, my wife and I received permanent change of station orders to Royal Air Force Lakenheath, England.

Leaving my wife at home with our young daughter to go on “pub crawls” or play darts was my normal life. My career was progressing nicely despite my

• SEE LESSONS PAGE 18

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.

SFS adopts 'Over the Limit, Under Arrest' program

TECH. SGT. SCOTT BROWN
325th Security Forces Squadron

The 325th Security Forces Squadron joined thousands of law enforcement and highway safety agencies from across the nation to launch an aggressive crackdown on drunken driving.

The program, called "Drunk Driving: Over the Limit, Under Arrest," will begin in August and continue through the Labor Day holiday.

"Make no mistake," said Maj. Christopher Corley, 325th SFS commander. "Our message is simple. No matter what you drive – a passenger car, pickup, sport utility vehicle or motorcycle – if we catch you driving impaired, we will apprehend you. No exceptions. No excuses."

Drunken driving is one of America's deadliest crimes. During 2004, nearly 13,000 people were killed in vehicle accidents involving an impaired driver or motorcycle operator with an illegal blood alcohol concentration of .08 or higher.

The picture for impaired motorcycle operators is particularly bleak. Forty-one percent of the 1,672 motorcycle operators who died in single-vehicle crashes in 2004 had BAC levels of .08 or higher. This level is illegal in every state.

According to the FBI's Uniform Crime Report, more than 1.4 million people were arrested for driving under the influence in 2004.

"Drunken driving is simply not worth the risk," said Major Corley. "Not only do you risk killing yourself or someone else, but the trauma and financial costs of a crash or an arrest for impaired driving can be significant."

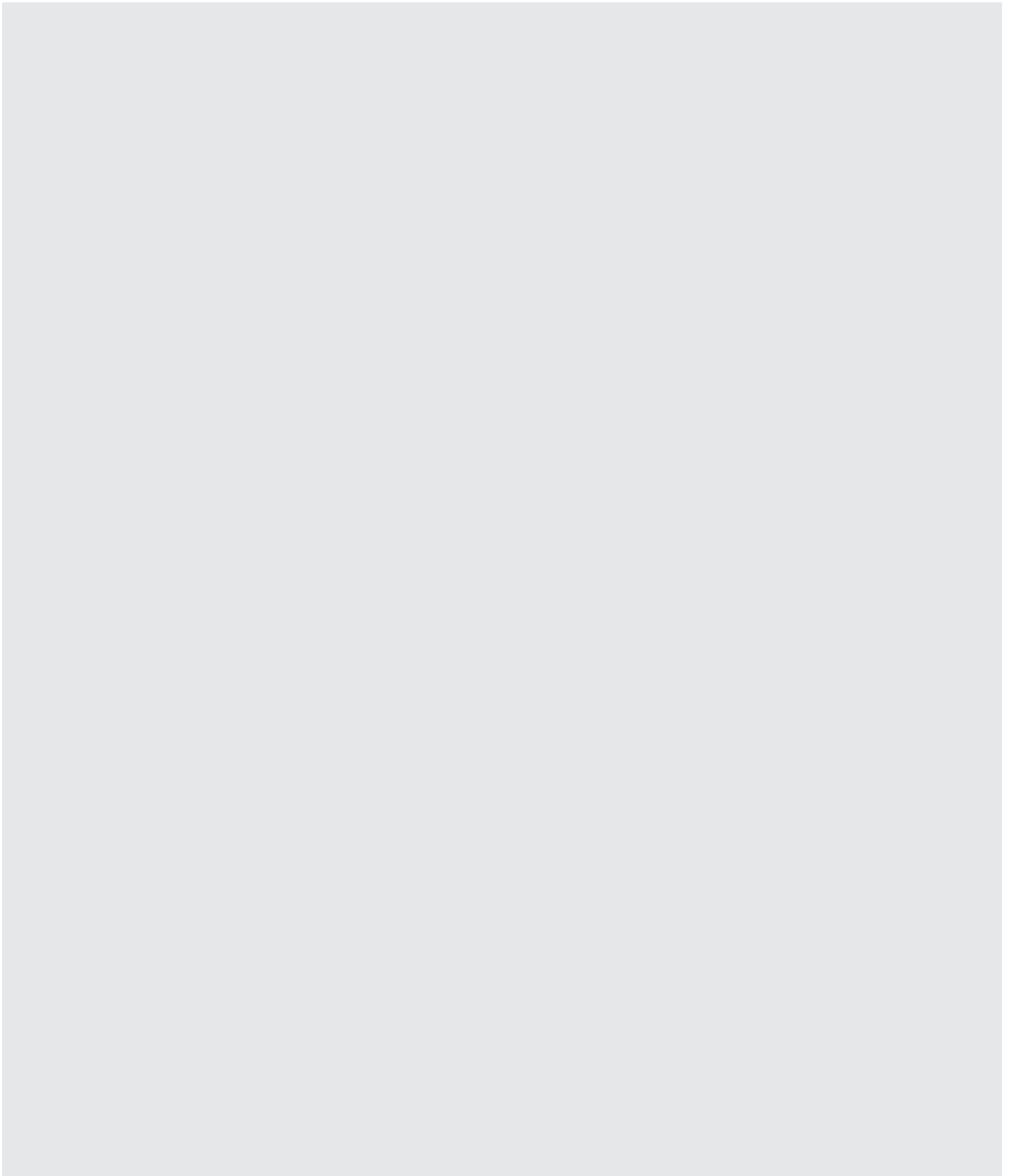
Violators often face jail time, the loss of their driver's licenses, higher insurance rates, attorney fees, time away from work and other expenses, said Major Corley.

Tyndall security forces personnel and local law enforcement agencies are committed to eliminating the threat of drunken driving, he added.

The "Drunk Driving: Over the Limit, Under Arrest" impaired-driving crackdown is a comprehensive drunken-driving prevention program organized by the U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.



"We are out in force conducting sobriety checkpoints and saturation patrols," said Major Corley. "We want everyone to play it safe. Always designate a sober driver or find a different way to get home if you have been out drinking."



Filing travel vouchers goes virtual on base

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

Tyndall Airmen will soon file all travel vouchers online through the Defense Travel System.

The Department of Defense currently allows contingency deployment orders, formal training orders, permissive temporary duty and invitational travel orders to be filed through the finance office. These orders will soon be filed electronically through DTS.

The change will occur throughout the year as documents are added to the online system.

“All travel orders will be phased into DTS over the next few years, and people can expect to see permanent change of station orders being done through DTS in the future,” said 2nd Lt. Tyler Hess, 325th Comptroller Squadron finance services officer.

Vouchers that are available through DTS must be filled out online. The finance office will no longer certify



Photo illustration by Chrissy Cuttita

An Airman logs into DTS online to file a travel voucher.

orders without processing all travel forms through the DTS system.

“Bottom line is that your Finance Office’s footprint at the base is reducing and DTS saves the Air Force money,” said Lieutenant Hess. “So in effort to be prepared for the future, it’s important to get on board now.”

Effective immediately, DTS will process temporary duty travel with leave taken in conjunction, regardless of the leave location. Travelers and

approving officials also need to be aware that cost comparisons will be done when traveling in your personal vehicle.

“Everyone needs to understand that DTS orders and vouchers are the individual’s responsibility,” said Richard Brimer, 325th CPTS DTS manager. “It’s up to you to ensure that information entered into the system is accurate and correct. DTS has several online training tools that you can access at your desk, and we have classes every Friday here at the finance office.”

The premise of DTS is that everyone can do their orders and vouchers from their duty section and eliminate the need to travel to finance to turn in the paperwork, said Mr. Brimer.

With the added convenience, DTS is intended to make the entire voucher system more efficient for personnel here.

For more information on DTS, or to sign up for an instructional class, call 283-4201.

• FROM PILOT PAGE 1

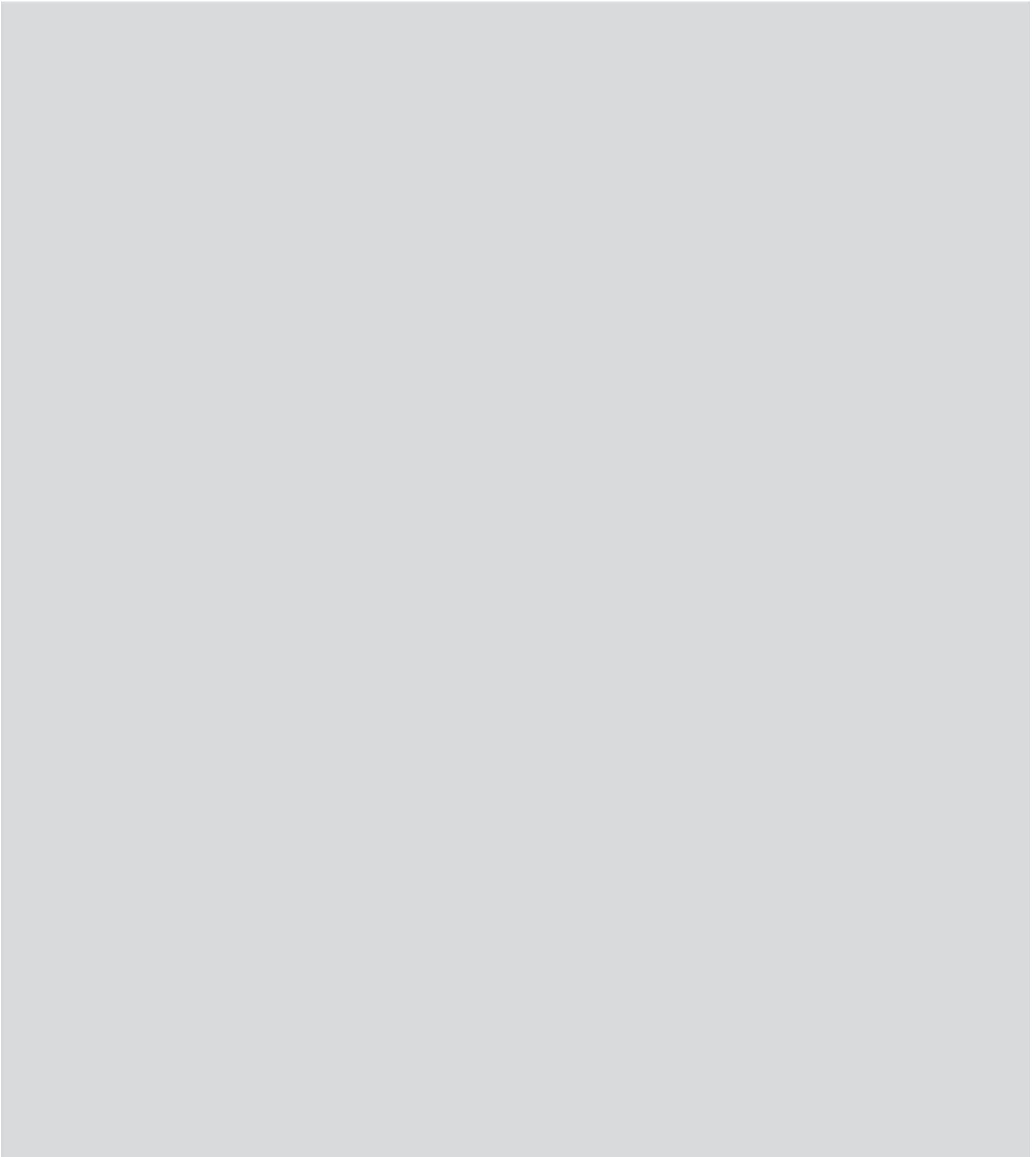
Force, and they deserve to view the fruits of their labor as well, he said.

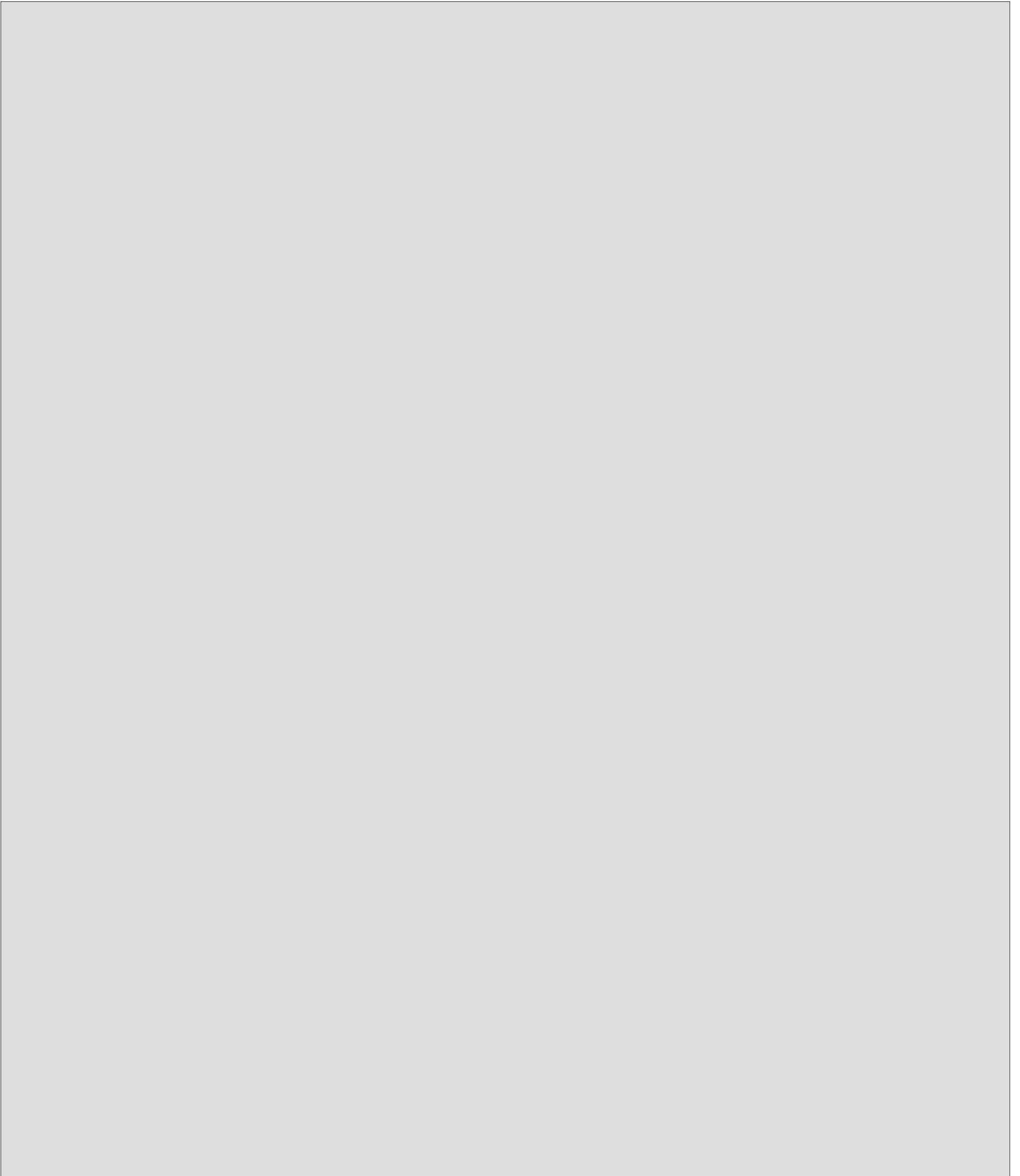
One of the primary missions of aerial demonstration teams is to showcase aircraft assets and gain public interest in the Air Force.

“I can’t imagine anything more motivating than watching an F-22 execute a demo profile,” said Major Moga. “I’m looking forward to getting this jet out for the general public to see and be proud of. When they watch the Heritage and demonstration flights, they’ll hopefully be reminded even more of how great a nation we live in.”

The complete demonstration team, which will be composed of Raptor maintainers, crew chiefs and other support assets, will be established early next year.

“If I can make one more person feel patriotic, my job is a success,” said Major Moga.





Congratulations to Tyndall's newest staff sergeants!

The following senior airmen were selected for promotion Wednesday:

Christopher Adams	325th AMXS	William Dryden	325th CE	Tauna Lemerond	81st TSS	Dennis Rodriguez	325th AMXS
William Adams	325th OSS	Phillip Dyer	325th CE	Eugene Lane	325th SFS	Jarosla Rostkowski	325th AMXS
Jennifer Aker	325th ACS	Theresa Edmiston	81st TSS	Rahn Lassiter	83rd FWS	Joshua Roundtree	325th MSG
Daniel Alexander	325th OSS	Jeffery Eriksson	325th AMXS	Lisa Legorete	325th AMXS	Melissa Sanchez	325th MDSS
Jamal Tyron	325th AMXS	Clifford Eskew	325th AMXS	Michael Lesley	325th AMXS	Aaron Sanders	66th TRS
Forbes Avelo	325th MDOS	Casey Farr	325th AMXS	Nicole Lindsay	325th AMXS	John Satchfield	82nd ATS
Aquili Alveoforbes	325th MDSS	Nathan Filson	66th TRS	Brooke Llafet	325th FW	Erik Schuett	28 TES/Det. 2
Natasha Andrews	43rd FS	Christopher Forni	66th TRS	Marc Llafet	325th SFS	Daniel Scott	325th MOS
Cortez Aparicio	325th ADS	Charles Foster	325th OSS	Daniel Lomeli	28th TES/Det.2	Kristoffer Scott	325th COMM
Johnny Arias	325th ACS	Inishia George	95th FS	Joseph Lorden	325th MDSS	Christopher Scruggs	325th OSS
Camilla Armstrong	372nd/Det. 4	Monique George	325th FW	Raymond Lugo	325th SVS	Paula Sernaococha	325th ACS
Julio Arriola	325th ADS	Brian Gifford	325th COMM	David Luna	325th OSS	Christopher Shaeffer	325th AMXS
Billy Atherton	325th MXS	Angela Giroud	325th AMXS	Tasheena Luther	325th MXS	Bethany Shillcox	325th OSS
Jacob Ballou	83rd FWS	Cory Gladish	325th AMXS	Alan Maisonett	325th AMXS	Joshua Simmons	325th MXS
James Barnes	325th AMXS	David Glover	325th MXS	Alexia Manning	325th ACS	Brett Sipe	66th TRS
Hanh Barreto	325th AMXS	Anthony Gonzales	325th MSG	Frank Maples	325th MSG	Dustin Skelton	325th MDSS
Ryan Paul Bauman	43rd FS	Jorge Gonzalez	325th ACS	Janaya McCants	325th ACS	Anthony Smith	325th MSG
Daniel Bautista	325th AMXS	Tasha Goodrich	325th SVS	John McClean	325th AMXS	Yvonne Smith	325th FW
Evan Bazeley	325th AMXS	Joseph Gordon	325th MXS	Cale McClure	325th AMXS	Joshua Spainhoward	325th MXS
Jamel Bean	325th MSS	Seth Gregory	325th SVS	Christina McKee	325th FW	David Spigel	325th CE
Crystal Belush	325th COMM	Neil Grigg	325th AMXS	Katrina McLendon	325th MOS	Roger Stamper	325th COMM
Richard Berg	83rd FWS	Shawana Groom	325th OSS	Manuel Medina	325th COMM	Jesse Stoda	66th TRS
Melissa Bernard	325th SFS	Nicholus Grose	325th MXS	Thomas Mendiola	325th MXS	Philip Stocker	325th AMXS
Michael Blount	325th SFS	Juan Guadalupe	325th MXS	Daniel Merlin	325th OSS	Perry Stockwell	325th MXS
Matthew Bolado	325th ADS	Jon Halbrook	REDHORSE	Stephen Merring	325th AMXS	Erik Stratton	325th SFS
Micheal Boone	325th AMXS	Jason Hall	325th COMM	Jonathan Mikan	325th CPTS	Trenton Taylor	28th TES/Det. 2
Brandie Boos	325th MXS	Audra Hamilton	325th MDOS	Tawnie Miller	325th MDSS	Michael Thorsen	82nd ATS
James Boos	325th MXS	Scott Hanna	325th AMXS	Thomas Miller	325th OSS	Jacob Thomas	325th SFS
Christopher Boyett	325th MXS	Matthew Hardy	325th MOS	Ryan Mitchell	325th MXS	Saeger Thomas-Tillman	325th AMXS
Sarah Brennan	325th ACS	Jeromy Harris	325th AMXS	Shaneka Mitchell	2nd FS	Phillip Thompson	325th MXS
Deante Brooks	325th SFS	Sarah Harris	325th MOS	Valteau Morris	325th SVS	Amy Thornell	2nd FS
Elizabeth Brown	AFNORTH	Brandon Harrison	325th COMM	George Moses	43rd FS	Terry Todd	325th AMXS
Terrance Brown	AFNORTH	Steven Harrison	325th AMXS	Christopher Moulton	325th AMXS	Blaine Truman	325th AMXS
Robert Buchwalter	REDHORSE	Kyle Haydel	325th AMXS	Erik Mount	325th AMXS	Michael Trysnicky	325th OSS
Robert Burch	325th ACS	Robert Hickman	325th AMXS	Christopher Nielsen	325th AMXS	Brian Tucker	83rd FWS
Devon Burd	325th MXS	Jeffrey Hird	325th MXS	Alvina Nimmons	325th COMM	Crystal Tucker	325th MXS
Richard Burton	325th AMXS	Thomas Holmes	325th OSS	Paul O'Brien	83rd FWS	Tiffany Vanhooshier	325th AMXS
Jeffrey Cangemi	325th AMXS	Eric Horner	325th AMXS	Edward Okoegwale	325th MXS	Earl Varnedoe	325th MDSS
Nathaniel Capps	313th TRS	Robert Hudson	325th AMXS	Adam Ostheimer	325th MXS	Matthew Vetric	325th MXS
James Carlisle	325th CE	Joshua Isom	325th COMM	Justin Oviatt	325th MXS	Leon Warrick	325th AMXS
Tamara Chippy	325th MOS	Antonio Jackson	325th ADS	Johnny Paulos	325th OSS	David Watters	66th TRS
Jerome Christian	325th COMM	Adam Jacob	325th MXS	Jennifer Patterson	83rd FWS	Steven Weaver	325th AMXS
Andrew Clark	325th MXS	August James	325th MXS	Rachel Petrirose	325th COMM	Sean Wehrmeister	325th AMXS
William Coarsey	325th AMXS	Stephen Johnson	325th MXS	Jeremy Pevehouse	66th TRS	Jacob Welsh	325th MXS
Steven Colwell	325th AMXS	Bradley Jones	325th AMXS	Justin Pollmann	325th AMXS	Eric White	325th SFS
Richard Conner	325th MXS	Tyler Jones	325th SFS	Terry Price	325th AMXS	Travis Whitton	325th AMXS
Bryan Coyle	325th AMXS	Veronica Jones	AFCESA	Joseph Ragan	325th SFS	Steven Wilkerson	325th COMM
Roscoe Crouse	325th AMXS	Stephen Jordan	325th MSG	Danny Ramirez	325th AMXS	Dominique Williams	325th FW
Christopher Daniels	325th AMXS	Robert Kaiser	325th AMXS	Rhygin Ramsdell	325th AMXS	Kennecia Williams	325th FW
Corey Dantzler	325th SFS	John Keith	325th AMXS	Erin Reynolds	325th ACS	Micah Wilson	325th MXS
Stephanie Davey	325th AMXS	Benjerman Kendrick	83rd FWS	Andrew Riley	325th COMM	Renae Wolff	325th SFS
Pierre Delgado	325th SFS	Nicholas Kermgard	325th SVS	Brian Riley	325th MXS	Barbara Woods	325th ACS
Jessica Dennard	83rd FWS	Charles Kirkpatrick	325th COMM	James Rinkel	325th CE	Christopher Woods	325th SFS
Courtney Dischar	325th ACS	Noah Klapprodt	325th COMM	Derek Robeson	325th AMXS	Steve Young	325th AMXS
Aleix Dominguez	325th AMXS	Vanessa LaBarge	325th FW	Ciara Robinson	325th MDSS		
Jack Droke	325th AMXS	Phillip LaFrance	325th MXS	Paul Robison	325th COMM		

Airmen try uniform board on for size in person

STAFF SGT. JULIE WECKERLEIN
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON (AFP) – Letters to a newspaper's editor recently merited 10 Airmen personal invitations to the Pentagon to discuss uniform changes with the top Airman himself.

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. T. Michael Moseley saw the letters in the Air Force Times and decided to personally address the Airmen's concerns with a face-to-face meeting along with Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Rodney McKinley.

The Airmen's initial reaction to the invitation was of hesitation. The letters were critical of the recent uniform suggestions – in particular, the T-shirt – made by the Air Force. So, they were understandably apprehensive when they learned through their wing commanders they had been summoned to the nation's capitol.

"I was really surprised and disappointed about the spin put on my letter," said Master Sgt. Lisa Hillman, a mobility equipment NCO with the

Air National Guard in Springfield, Ill. She said she thought she was making suggestions to an official Air Force publication, and didn't realize that Air Force Times is a civilian newspaper, like the Washington Post.

"So, of course the paper took the constructive criticism and turned it into just criticism. And I didn't know how the leaders here were going to react to that," she said.

As it turned out, though, she and the others had nothing to fear.

General Moseley was, in fact, "pretty cool," said Staff Sgt. Daniel Ruiz-Rosario, a Defense Courier Service Airman from Ramstein Air Base, Germany.

"He really came across as someone who cares about what Airmen think," he said of the 30-minute meeting with the general. "I got the impression that even the opinion of the lowest-ranking Airman out in the field is important to him. He's looking out for us."

The biggest issue addressed was the T-shirt designated for the new Airman Battle Uniform. The Airmen

spent the majority of their visit with the people who make up the Air Force Uniform Board to learn more about it. They touched and put on the various uniform prototypes, including the potential service dress uniform, and provided their opinions about them – the good and the bad. The Airmen also brought with them the opinions of people from their bases.

Some of the recommendations they gave included the making of an Air Force Web site where prototypes of uniforms being considered could be posted for feedback.

"It would be a direct way Airmen could get updates about uniforms," said 2nd Lt. Todd Matheny, an operations officer from Maxwell AFB, Ala. "That way, bootleg copies of photos taken out of context wouldn't be making their rounds through e-mail with no information explaining anything, like what happened with the service dress."

The Airmen said a lot of their misconceptions were addressed, such as the wash-and-wear concept of the new ABU.

"The thing that surprised me the most was the crease," said Tech. Sgt. Tracy Pingleton, a geophysics research technician from Boulder, Wyo. "I think a lot of Airmen were misled by the (Air Force Times)'s headline 'creases are back.' Everyone who read that assumed it meant we'd have to iron in the creases every time. But that's not the case. The creases are permanent, no matter how many times you wash it."

All the Airmen said they are leaving the Pentagon with a better understanding as to how the uniform board works, and how their opinion counts when used in the appropriate means, such as Air Force Web sites and surveys.

"(The uniform board) has a difficult job here," Lieutenant Matheny said. "I have a family of five, and most times we can't agree on where to eat for dinner. The people here have to try and take the opinions from thousands of Airmen and try to make a product that appeases the majority. That's pretty hard to do, and

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Checkertail Salute

Airman 1st Class Matthew Grillo



Chrissy Cuttita

Airman Grillo receives the Checkertail Salute Warrior of the Week award from Col. Scott Davis, 325th Fighter Wing vice commander.

Airman Grillo, a technical training school distinguished graduate, won his squadron's recent "Turkey Shoot" competition. While deployed to Kandahar, Afghanistan, he discovered seven unexploded ordnances, allowing safe evacuation of 250 people.

Duty title: Pilot simulator instructor
Time on station: One year, six months
Time in service: Thirteen months
Hometown: Boston, Mass.
Hobbies: Sports, poker, outdoor activities
Goals: I want to finish my bachelor's degree and get commissioned
Favorite thing about Tyndall AFB: The beaches and Spring Break
Favorite movie: "Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas"
Favortie book: "Angels and Demons" by Dan Brown
Proudest moment in the military: Performing honor guard duty during an active-duty funeral

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.

HQ AFCESA to change command

Col. Richard Fryer will assume command of the Air Force Civil Engineer Support Agency Aug. 31. Col. Gus Elliott will relinquish command.

Colonel Fryer comes to Tyndall from the Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence, Brooks City-Base, Texas, where he was the AFCEE military commander and executive director.

AFCESA is an Air Force Field Operating Agency responsible for providing contingency, operations and technical support to Air Force installations and to 59,700 civil engineers. The agency currently supports 82 major and 10 minor active-duty installations, plus the 83 Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard installations.

Training Spotlight



How will this course help you take on a supervisory role when you graduate?

“It will give me the tools I need to help my Airmen become successful NCOs. I’ll learn how to become a better supervisor and set standards.”

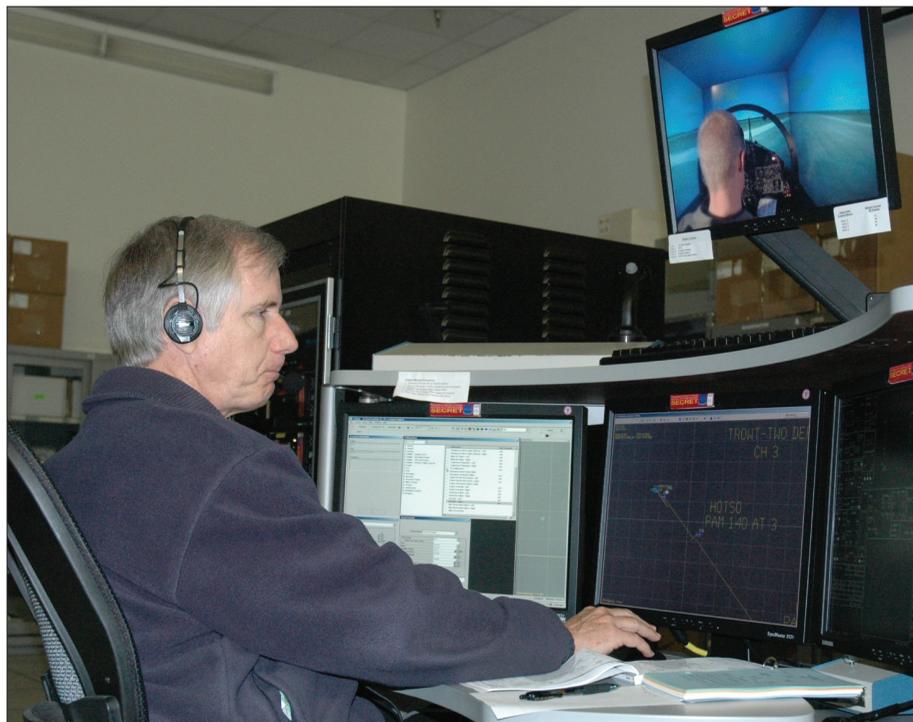
SENIOR AIRMAN TERRY TODD
Airman Leadership School student
mission ready airman



Chrissy Cuttita

Eyes on airspace

Second Lt. Diana Kostrna, 325th Operations Support Squadron Airfield Operations officer student, scans the virtual runway while listening to instructions on her headset. The officers train with enlisted air traffic controllers here before heading to their first assignment.



Photos by Chrissy Cuttita

Simulated flight adds to B-course in the air

CHRISSEY CUTTITA
325th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

(This is the fourth of a five-part series covering the F-15 Eagle training B-course students receive here.)

You can’t fly, fight and win as an F-15 Eagle pilot without valuable time in a state-of-the-art aircraft simulator located here.

“Student pilots fly four simulator missions before they get their first F-15 ride,” said Marty Hendrickson, an instructional systems specialist for the F-15 training program here. “The simulator flights help us make sure the students have the basic skills required to fly the aircraft and are prepared to deal with any emergencies that may arise.”

Throughout the 125-day B-course training program, 35 simulator missions are ‘flown,’ which is a total of nearly 40 simulator hours. Once the student successfully solos in the aircraft, the remaining simulator flights are scheduled at various points in the course curriculum.

“The advantage of simulator training is that it offers students the opportunity to experience realistic F-15 missions and practice emergency procedures in a controlled environment before actually operating in the jet,” said Capt. Tim Bobinski, 2nd Fighter Squadron B-course student.

The initial 12 hours of simulator

training typically consist of testing the student’s response to approximately 10 different potential emergency situations, as well as standard ground checks, radio calls and basic instrument flying.

The simulators provide a realistic training environment with one exception – the students can’t feel the force of gravity acting upon them during maneuvers, Mr. Hendrickson said.

“The simulator doesn’t pull Gs like the aircraft, and if the student crashes, he gets to climb out in one piece. Therefore, we make sure they are taught the same discipline that’s required in the aircraft so they don’t take negative skills to the flightline,” Mr. Hendrickson said.

Even with the limitations of gravity, the simulators are a huge leap forward from the way training was previously accomplished, he said.

“Prior to getting full mission trainers, we had to teach in operational flight trainers that offered no visual system. Once the canopy closed, the student would be alone in the dark practicing radar work beyond visual range,” Mr. Hendrickson said. “The student couldn’t practice ‘fighting’ up-close, and we couldn’t even teach take-off and landing procedures. With the new visual system we can teach basically everything that the aircraft can do.”



Left: Jim Miller, Lockheed Martin instructor pilot, runs through the pre-flight checklist with Captain Bobinski while he observes his actions in the F-15 simulator. Right: Captain Bobinski performs the checklist inside.

Fighter Data Link technology allows students to fly virtual formations in the simulator. Students practice with a training version of the Fighter Data Link system which simulates the advanced technology used in operational F-15 aircraft. The technology provides pilots real-time radar pictures of surrounding aircraft and weapons systems - both friendly and hostile. Additionally, students train with night vision goggles, which prepares them for the actual night missions flown later in the course.

The simulators offer a cost-saving benefit to the training program. With the visual system located on Tyndall, students don’t need to travel to other bases to get valuable training.

“I don’t think there’s any way the simulator can totally prepare you for flying because of all the sights and sounds associated with actually being out on the flightline, being airborne, looking around and pulling Gs,” said Captain Bobinski.

The captain completed eight simulated flights before his first real mission in an Eagle.

“It helps us learn where all the needed switches are, and how to correctly operate all the aircraft systems. It also gives us a realistic view of the local airspace and an accurate, yet general idea of how to fly the jet,” said Captain Bobinski.

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 10:30 a.m. at Flag Park. Lunch will follow at the Officers' Club.

The event will honor those who served on 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.

Sept. 11 Memorial Run

This base-wide event is scheduled for 7:46 a.m. Sept. 11 at the fitness center. Participants are encouraged to line up at the start with their squadrons or groups. Buses will be available to transport personnel to and from the event. For more information on the event, call the Fitness Center at 283-2631.

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



Lisa Norman

Entering paradise

Sheri Ward, 325th Medical Group Life Skills Support Center outreach manager, provides information to Staff Sgt. Brad Nunley, 325th Aeromedical-Dental Squadron aerospace medical technician and Senior Airman Chris Watts, 2nd Fighter Squadron aircrew life support technician. Airmen new to the base are greeted by numerous base agencies at Tyndall's Warrior Welcome held the fourth Thursday of the month at the Enlisted Club.

positions in the Panama City area and register spouses in the workforce employment system. For more information or to make an appointment, call 283-4204.

Commissary 'Dollar Days'

"Dollar Days" will continue until Aug. 23 at the Tyndall commissary. Hundreds of items throughout the store will feature dollar pricing. Customers should look for the "Extra Savings" signs throughout commissary to find the best deals. For more information call 283-4285.

NCORP seeks to fill positions

The Air Force seeks to fill more than 1,100 special duty positions. NCOs notified of their vulnerability to retrain must submit the shortage career field choices they would most like to retrain into or apply for a special duty assignment identifier no later than Sept. 18. Listings by grade and Air Force Specialty Code are posted on the virtual

Military Personnel Flight Web site at ask.afpc.randolph.af.mil.

By clicking on their grade or projected grade, NCOs may view ranking on the vulnerability list and apply for retraining through the vMPF as needed. For more information, Airmen should contact their CSS personnel, their base career assistance advisor or the Air Force Contact Center at (800) 665-5000.

Officers' Spouses Club updates

The Tyndall Officers' Spouses Club is holding a special activity coffee, 10:30 a.m. Aug. 22 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.

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.)

Tyndall Lady Tigers swing to top slot in AETC softball

CHRISSE CUTTITA
325th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Tyndall Lady Tigers made the 13-hour trip to Lackland AFB, Texas, recently with one thing in mind – bring the Air



Chrissy Cuttita

Daryl Shines hits the ball to his team players during a practice session downtown Panama City.

Education and Training Command softball championship trophy back to Florida where it belongs, and they did.

“The ladies set out to win this tournament from day one and their determination showed in all the practice sections leading up to the weekend,” said Daryl Shines, Tyndall Lady Tigers coach. “I could see things coming together, but as a coach you never want your team to think they have nothing more to work on. I knew this could be a special weekend.”

For the past five years, AETC teams have gathered annually at Lackland AFB to participate in the command’s Varsity Men’s and Women’s Softball Championships.

“It was the best experience ever,” said Gracie Clowe, team pitcher. “I enjoyed meeting other women who love playing softball as much as I do.”

The tournament lasts five days and is full of intense softball competition, fun and camaraderie.

“What the creators did not know at the time, was the pride this tournament would instill in the team that was fortunate enough to be on top when the dust settled,” said Shines.

The Lady Tigers were first pitted against the Altus AFB, Okla. team, easily defeating them by winning 29-2. With a first baseman taken out of the game for medical reasons, the Lady Tigers

struggled through the second game, losing to the Lackland AFB team with a score of 13-11. They would go on to win their next two games, proving victorious as command-wide champions.



Daryl Shines

Tricia Bell, front, first baseman and Jessica Joepf, second baseman, get ready to catch an incoming ball. The Tyndall softball team is part of the Panama City Softball League and regularly play games at the Oakland Terrace Softball Complex during the season.

“Tyndall dispatched its first two opponents in the double-elimination portion of the tournament with little resistance,” said Shines. “Sheppard AFB, Texas, fell

• SEE SOFTBALL PAGE 21

Instructor competes to go Air Force green

CHRISSE CUTTITA
325th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Jason Jenkins wasn’t the least bit “tee”ed when Air Forces Services accepted his application to compete in the playoff round of the 2006 Air Force Golf Championship at Marshallia Ranch Golf Course at Vandenberg AFB, Calif., last week.

“This was my first time getting invited to qualify,” said Jenkins who instructs mission ready Airmen in crew-chief training. “The Air Force selects 40 applicants every year to have the opportunity to make it.”

Jenkins, an avid golfer, spends most of his free time practicing on the Tyndall course. He also plays as a local amateur along the Gulf Coast.

“I feel I have the ability to play some really great golf,” he said. “But, I have a lot of work to do to get to a tour playing at the professional level. Bobby Jones said it best, ‘Golf is a game of five inches ... the five inches between your ears.’ That means you can have limitless talent, but you must

truly have a strong mental game.”

Having a competitive spirit and the need for a challenge, Jenkins has remained interested in the game for more than 12 years. Golf became a passion for Jenkins years ago when he played a round with an old friend who had always been his toughest competition.

“Golf is a lot like life,” he said. “One day you can have everything go your way. The next day you could get every bad break on the course. When you feel you are in total control, you find that you’re still very vulnerable.”

“Jenkins was selected as a qualifier for the Air Force Golf Championship playoff round because he’s a very even-keeled player,” said Andrew Bowles, Tyndall Golf Course manager and local golf pro. “I know he can hit all the shots; he’s an outstanding player.”

Though he was not one of the 10 chosen for the Air Force team this year, with more tournament experience he can only get better, said Bowles.



Chrissy Cuttita

Jason Jenkins practices his swing at Tyndall’s golf course before traveling to California to compete for a slot on the Air Force golf team.

Golf Standings

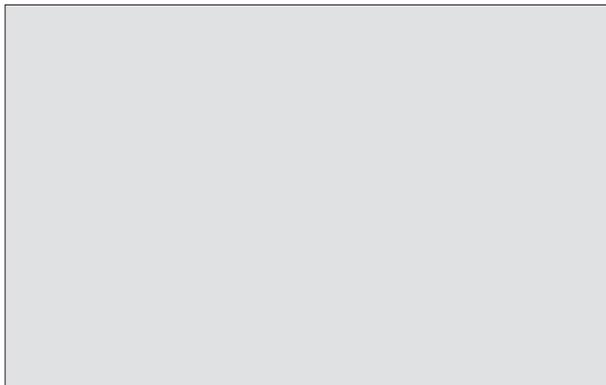
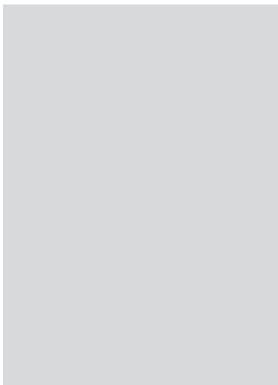
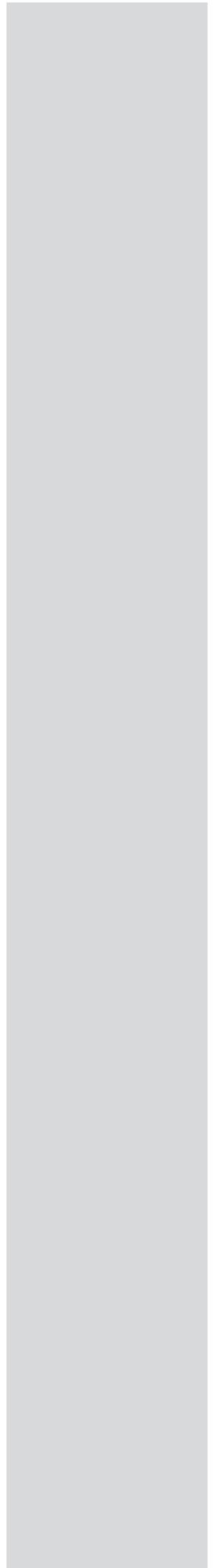
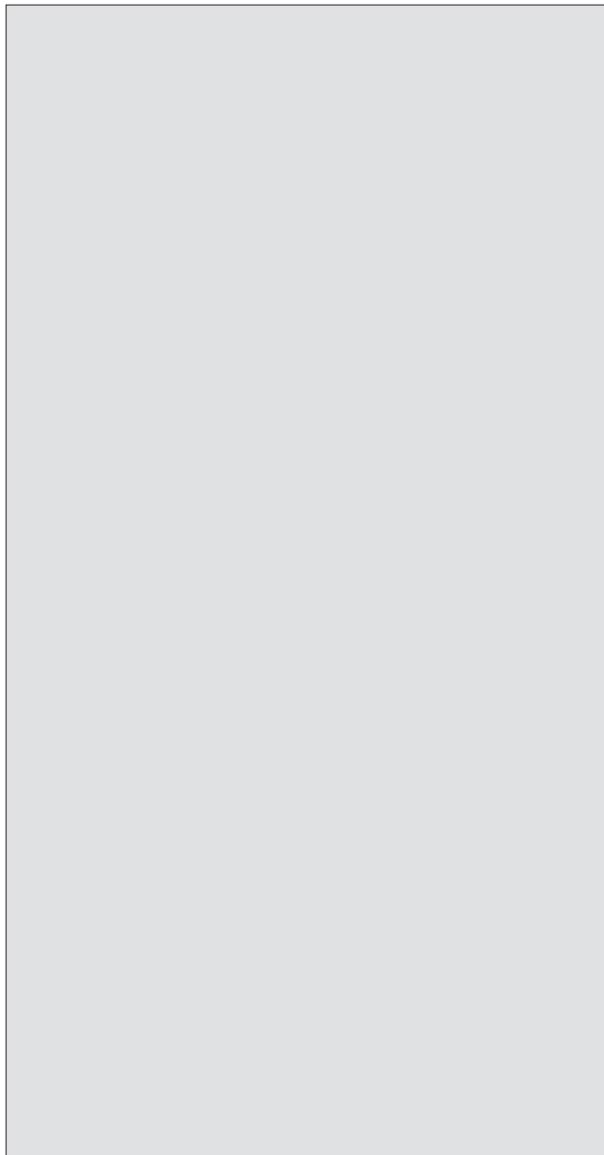
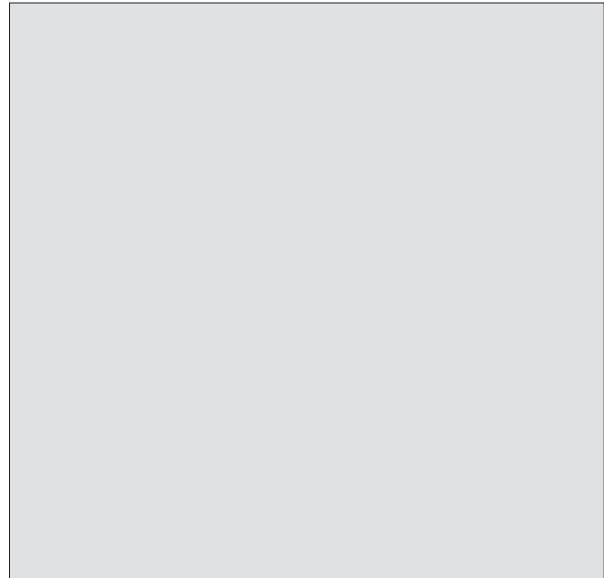
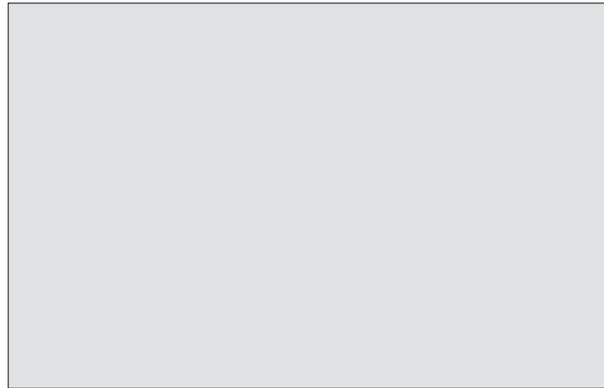
Team	Points
372 TRS	69
AFCESA AF	65.5
NOR 1	64.5
CES	62.5
MXS 1	62,5
COMM 1	57
MSS	53
RHS	49
53 WEG	47
SFS	39
MOS 1	38.5
SVS	38.5
83 FWS	37.5
TEST	37.5
MDG	34
OSS	32
601 2	28
ACS	22
CONS	13.5
MXS 2	5.5
COMM 2	3



Chrissy Cuttita

Wired

Senior Airman Jennifer Dantzler, 28th Test Squadron/Detachment 2 electronic warfare technician, hooks up wires on to the electronic warfare defense pod used on Air Force fighter jets. The squadron, one of Tyndall's tenant units, won the Air Force Association's 2006 Theodore Von Karman Award for outstanding contributions to national defense in the field of science and engineering related to aerospace activities. Electronic warfare systems, like the one pictured here, and its associated capabilities are part of more than 400 test missions in support of 17 programs accomplished in 2006 across the Combat Air Forces. Specifically, the pod in the picture is an essential tools for testing and training on F-15 and F-16 aircraft radar and avionics suites.





FOD Preventer of the Month



Chrissy Cuttita

Senior Airman Philip Rosa, 95th Aircraft Maintenance Unit avionics technician, troubleshoots F-15 Eagle wires necessary to gauge fuel quantity. Airman Rosa discovered a “flap switch cover” on the ramp, making him the FOD Preventer of the Month for June.

Voyager card holders can pay at pump here

DALLAS – To help accommodate more military fleet customers and to speed up fueling transactions, the Army & Air Force Exchange Service now accepts Voyager credit cards for payment at its gasoline pumps at its CONUS locations.

Previously, Voyager credit cards were only authorized when military customers physically went into AAFES to pay. Now, anything from officer staff cars to motor pool vehicles can fill up and pay with Voyager at the pump at anytime, day or night.

AAFES information technology associates had to reprogram the gas pumps to accept information required by Voyager such as driver identification number and odometer readings.

Roughly 260 AAFES shoppettes now accept Voyager for payment at the pump. *(Courtesy of AAFES)*

• FROM LESSONS PAGE 3

best efforts to mess it up. Everything was great for me. After all, that was what I had wanted – everything to be OK for me.

Then fate provided the one situation that sent my life in a different direction.

In August 1990, Iraq invaded Kuwait and my future would be changed forever. Within a couple of weeks, I received deployment orders and found myself sitting inside a KC-10 Extender on a non-stop flight from RAF Mildenhall to Taif, Saudi Arabia.

I was still young, excited and pumped up, but also a little scared. This was the first time I'd be building live weapons actually used to fight a war.

We worked hard to establish a daily routine, and then the worst possible thing imaginable happened – we got bored. We made a five-pound soccer ball out of duct-tape and played full-contact indoor soccer. Still, the boredom crept in and funny things started happening to me.

I started wondering what my wife and daughter were doing back home. I stood in line for more than an hour at the pay phone just to make a five-minute call to my wife back home. I really needed to hear my daughter say, "Hi, Dad." I distinctly remember my wife telling me that she'd take my daughter to bed at night and before she'd tuck her in they'd go to the window and she'd point to the moon and say, "See that moon? Your daddy's looking at the same one right now." I'm not sure if that was more of a help to my daughter or me.

Thankfully, the war ended and after seven long

months I was on my way back home.

Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm were turning points in my life. Before then, I never felt the pain of being separated from the people who were most important to me. I never realized how important those people were until I couldn't be with them every day.

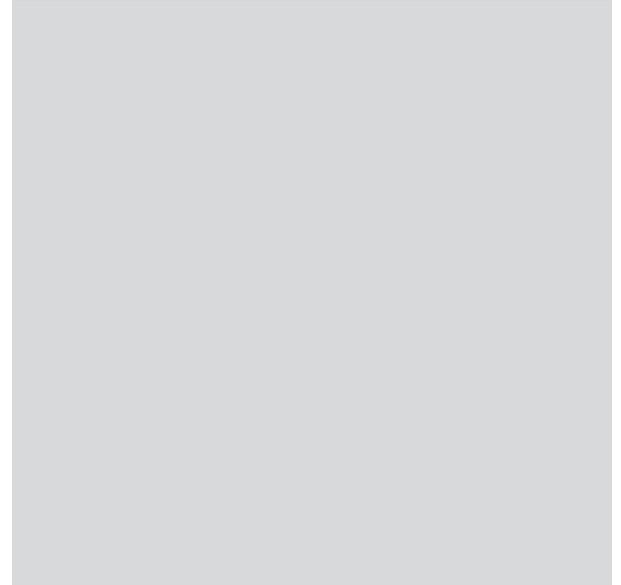
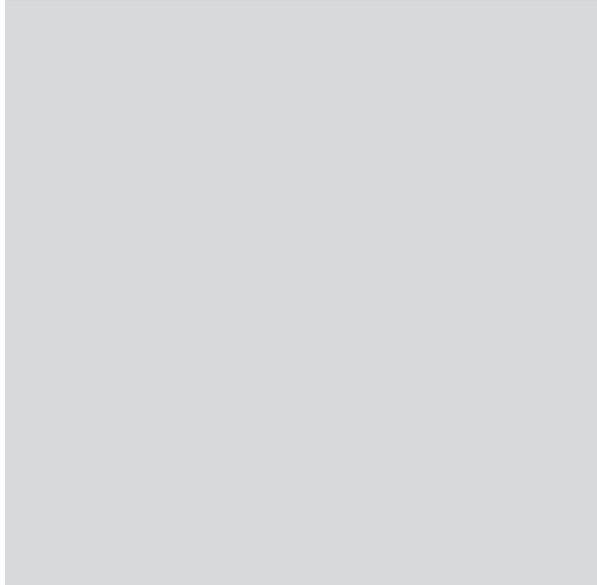
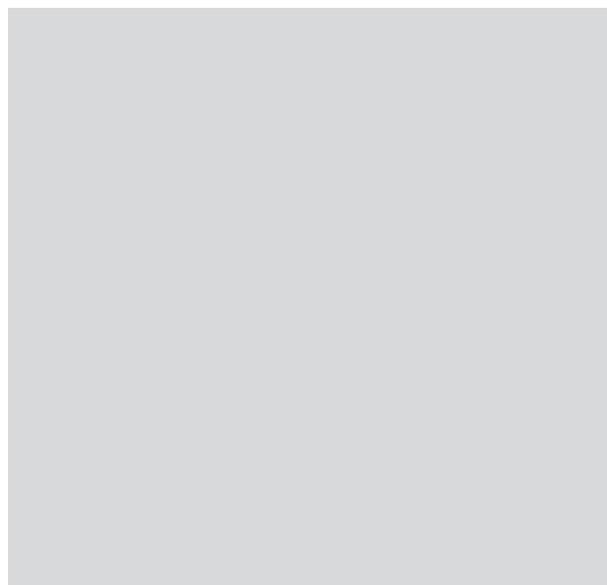
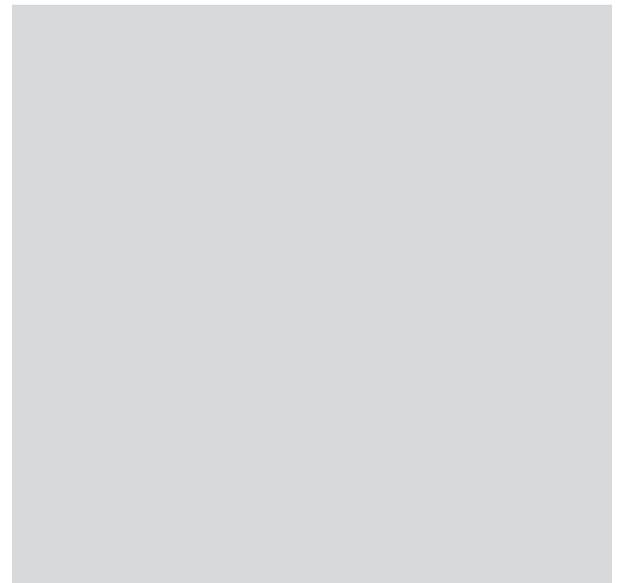
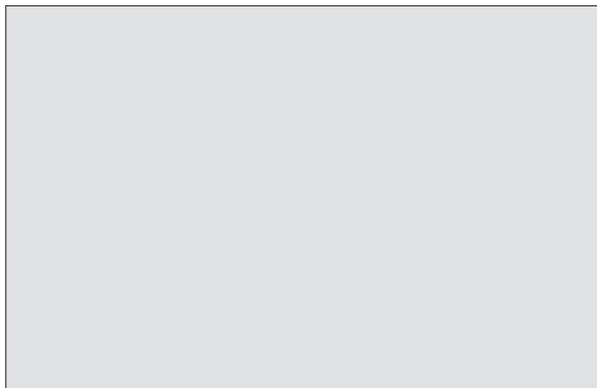
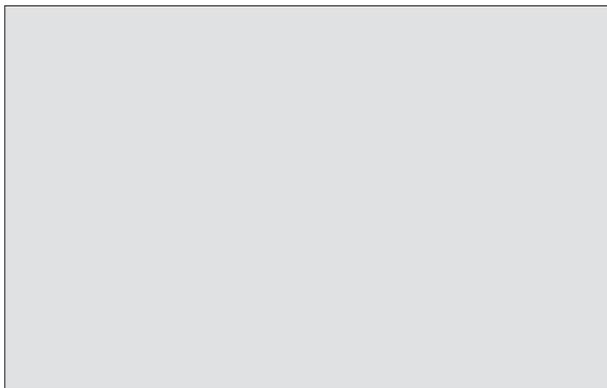
My wife, daughter and I were reunited at the airport in Denver, Colo., when I returned. That reunion was probably as close to a religious experience as anything I can explain. I look back at that point, conveniently captured on video by that crazy aunt everyone seems to have who tapes everything, as the defining moment of my life.

This is an exciting, yet challenging time for our Air Force. Constant demand for your skills means you'll be asked to perform your duties at the far reaches of the earth. Unfortunately for many of us, this means a prolonged separation from our families. My hope is that your separation is as bonding and as admittedly painful as mine have been.

Deployments and temporary duty have helped me understand who is most important to me. I've been told by several people throughout my career to make sure I balance my career with my family. Well, throw me into that crowd of folks who would encourage you to do the same.

My family has suffered and rejoiced with me through every success, failure and trial in my military career, and they're the ones I'll reminisce with about it long after I retire and hang up my uniform.

The Gulf Defender is published for people like Senior Airman Brooke Llafet, 325th Fighter Wing paralegal.



'Paradise' getaway close to base



Lisa Norman

Residents of FamCamp enjoy indoor exercise at the facility's recreation center during winter months.

STAFF. SGT. BENJAMIN ROJEK
325th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Tucked away on the west end of Tyndall, a heavily-wooded area stretches along the waters of Pearl Bayou. Some call it "Paradise." Most know it as FamCamp.

A year-round benefit for active and retired military members, the 325th Services Squadron's FamCamp offers 91 camp sites with RV hook-ups, a recreation center, a nature trail and a way for people to get away from it all while being right near base.

"Once you're here, you're not just three or four miles from your home—you're in a different world," said Samantha Long, Tyndall's FamCamp manager. "You forget that you're on base. You're just in the woods, by the water."

During the summer, most campers make their way out to the nearby beaches or rent boats from the 325th

SVS Outdoor Recreation office. In winter, however, FamCamp offers plenty of activities to keep campers and their families occupied.

The recreation center, located in the middle of the camp, has a billiards table, big screen television and wireless Internet access. It is here where campers gather to play bingo, cards, perform aerobics, take a computer class or eat potluck dinners.

For people looking for outdoor activities, FamCamp's nature trail stretches along Pearl Bayou and into the woods surrounding the camp. Here, hikers can see the flora and fauna that make up the Gulf Coast. A map at the head of the trail shows where one may encounter different animals or plants, and signs along the trail have pictures identifying native species.

"You don't have to camp here to use the trail," said Mrs. Long. "But we require people to check-in at the

front office for safety reasons."

FamCamp also gathers campers together with festivals such as the St. Patrick's Day party and the FamCamp Dog Show. These festivals feature live bands, food and raffles. Campers also put on holiday parties and use the center's kitchen to prepare and serve Christmas or Thanksgiving meals, said Mrs. Long.

The camp offers three different options for getting away from it all: 91 RV sites with water, electricity and cable hook-ups, an area for tents and three furnished cabins. Some of the RV sites have sewer hook-ups as well.

"We're working on a project to put in nine new RV sites," said Mrs. Long.

With all the activities, the new construction and running day-to-day operations, how does the FamCamp manager keep up with maintaining "Paradise?"

"The volunteers are the backbone of this place," said Mrs. Long. "The campers built wooden picnic tables for each site. They built the recreation center."

The FamCamp has two repairmen on call, but everyone pitches in to create a home away from home.

"We're a family here," said Mrs. Long. "We're always there to help out—especially the people new to RVing."

"The people and the property are great," she continued. "Why wouldn't you want to go to 'Paradise?'"



Funshine NEWS



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

Pelican Point Golf Course

Sept. 8 - Shootout Friday (Individual gross shootout) \$10
 Fee includes green fee and cart until you are eliminated.

Sept. 16 & 17 - Base Championship (Contact the golf course for details).

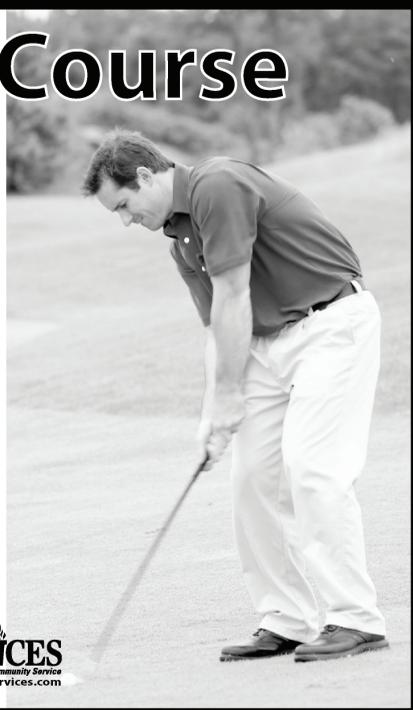
Sept. 19 - Free golf clinic Tues. at 5 p.m. For the first 10 students that sign-up.

Sept. 22 - Cosmic golf format 4 person scramble. Open to the first 13 teams that sign up.

Intramurals - Play every Tues. from 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. off #1 and #10 tee.

Ladies Golf Association - Every Tues. and Thurs. starting at 8 a.m.

New snack bar hours: Mon. - Fri. 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. & Sat., Sun. and holidays 6 a.m. - 4 p.m. Pelican Point snack bar will launch new menu items and specials in September.



For details call the Golf Course at 283-2565.



Block Party Every Wednesday at the Pizza Pub

3 New Flavors
Hot, Teriyaki, BBQ
25¢ Wings

\$1 Domestic Draft
Pizza, Calzone, Cheese Sticks & More.....

KARAOKE STARTS AT 7 p.m.

For details call the Pizza Pub at 283-3222.



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 SOFTBALL PAGE 15

with a final score of 15-9 and Maxwell AFB, Ala. was no match, falling to Tyndall 10-5. The third game was one of the most exciting games I have ever been involved with, Tyndall versus Randolph AFB.”

That was the game that determined who would win the trophy.

“The game was back and forth right down to the last-at-bat when Randolph, in their half of the last inning, scored five runs after being down 13-10 to lead 15-13,” said Shines. “Tyndall started the inning with a solid hit from Rhonda Hayes, but the next two batters flew out. An intentional walk from Tricia Bell and a single from Laura McCarn drove in Hayes, and left runners on first and second. With two outs, Tyndall was now down by one run.”

The action didn’t stop there.

“To the plate stepped Jessica Leopp, and with one swing of the bat, she hit a line drive over the head of the right center fielder and

drove Bell home from second. On her horse, McCarn flew around the bases and scored the winning run from first base,” the coach said.

In the championship game, Tyndall took the opportunity to win over Lackland AFB, 7-5.

“I could not be prouder of this group of women ... the way they battled all weekend, and never for one moment, got down on them selves,” said Shines. “This was a great weekend of softball and a coach’s dream. I can call the team I coach champions! That’s bragging rights for a year.”

Six team players will go to the all tournament team: Jessica Leopp, Karrie Warren, Donna Moses, Tricia Bell, Gracie Clowe, and Laura McCarn. Warren was deemed the tournament’s “Most Valuable Player,” with unmatched outfield play, a .778 batting average, 10 runs scored and 11 runs batted in.

“I couldn’t have done it without my teammates,” said Clowe, who plans on playing again next year.

• FROM UNIFORM PAGE 10
I know I couldn’t do it.”

Sergeant Hillman said she is now more critical of the sources from which she gains Air Force information.

“This has been a big lesson in how things are perceived,” said

Sergeant Hillman.

“It’s easy to see something that looks official and assume it’s correct but that’s not always the case.”

While such a meeting for Airmen is unlikely for the future, the Airmen said they

have appreciated the opportunity.

“I’m leaving here with a lot more information and a better understanding of how things are done within the Air Force than I had 36 hours ago,” said Sergeant Ruiz-Rosario.

