



# GULF DEFENDER



Vol. 65, No. 49

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

Dec. 22 2006

## In Brief



### Enlisted Personnel

The encircled U.S. collar insignia for the enlisted service dress uniform is mandatory for wear on the service coat starting Jan. 1.

### RAO quarterly meeting

The Retiree Activities Office will hold a quarterly meeting 10 a.m. Jan. 10 in the 325th Fighter Wing conference room, Bldg. 662. All retirees are invited. For more information call the RAO at 283-2737.

### No Gulf Defender

There will be no *Gulf Defender* Dec. 29 and Jan. 5 due to the holiday season.

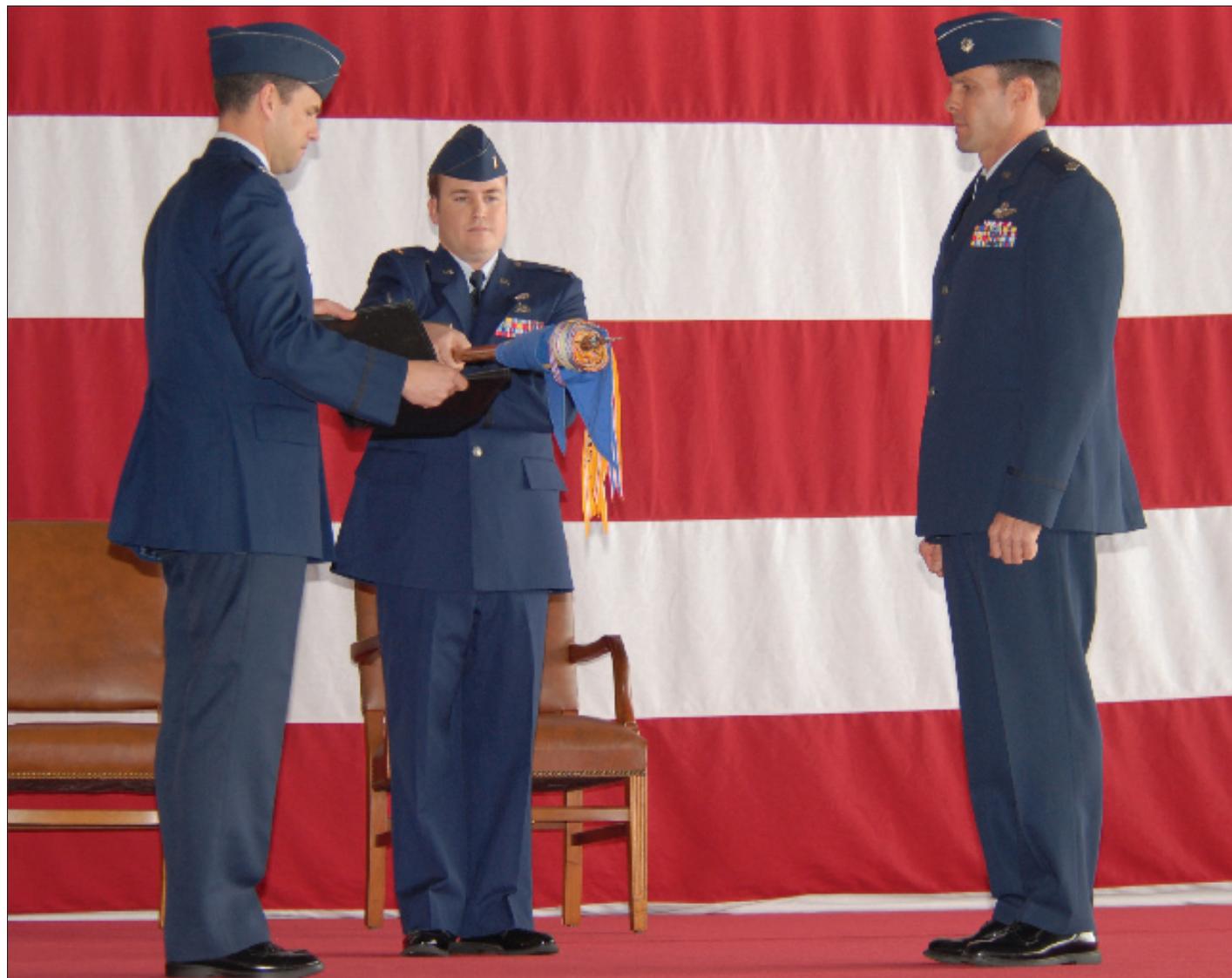
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Lisa Norman

## Miss Fury leaves the building

Col. Matthew Molloy, 325th Operations Group commander, cloaks the 1st Fighter Squadron's guidon held by 2nd Lt. Diamond Cookson, squadron adjutant, symbolizing the inactivation of the squadron as Lt. Col. Tom Menker, commander, looks on. See story on pages 10-11.

## New IFS facility opens doors to increased training

**TECH. SGT. MIKE HAMMOND**  
Air Education and Training Command Public Affairs

**PUEBLO, Colo. (AETCNS)** – Dec. 15 afternoon, Maj. Gen. Irv Halter, 19th Air Force commander, joined executives from contractor Doss Aviation, Inc. and leaders from the Pueblo community in dedicating and officially opening the newly renovated 200,000 square foot, state-of-the-art introductory flight screening facility adjacent to the

Pueblo Memorial Airport.

The facility, which has been likened to a “mini-Air Force Base” because of its setup and amenities, will be the site from which the Air Force will conduct flight screening operations to better prepare potential flyers for the rigor of military aviation. It will also identify those not suited for flight duty, which better ensures seats in specialized undergraduate pilot training are available to those with

aptitude to complete the training.

Air Force officials at Randolph AFB, Texas announced in May that Doss Aviation, Inc. had been awarded the 10-year, \$178 million contract to provide a turn-key operation providing all services, facilities and equipment to deliver flight screening to future Air Force aviators. In addition to the new facility, Doss Aviation

• SEE IFS PAGE 15

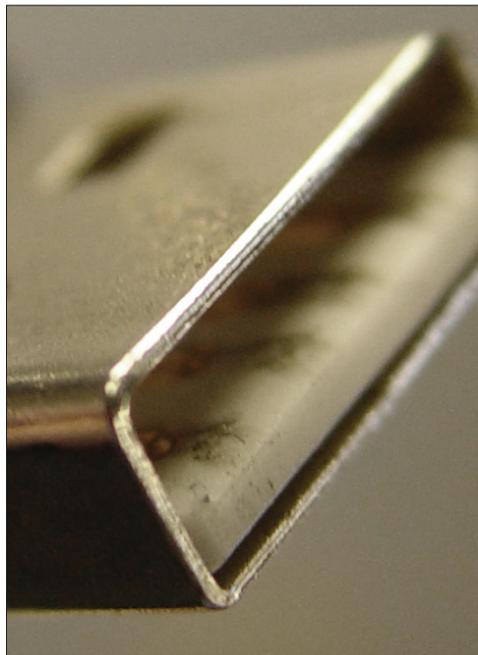


Chrissy Cuttita

### Dance fever

Chief Master Sgt. Arleen Heath, 325th Operations Group superintendent, joins a guest in dancing the "YMCA" during the 20th Annual Golden Age holiday party Dec.13. Every year, the Bay County Council on Aging and Sims Veterans' Nursing Home bring invited guests here for the event.

### Identify this ...



Can you identify this object? If so, send an e-mail to [editor@tyndall.af.mil](mailto: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 determine the final winner. The prize can be claimed at the Public Affairs office.

Staff Sgt. Steven Griffith, 325th Maintenance Group, correctly guessed the Dec. 15 "Identify This" as the back of a speaker. Congratulations Sergeant Griffith, come claim your prize!

## ON THE STREET

### What gift did you ask Santa Claus for this year?



"I asked Santa for an IPOD Nano."

**KORRI REESE**  
Age 10



"I asked Santa for a Gameboy Advance."

**GARRETT COOKE**  
Age 5



"I asked Santa for the Hyperscan game."

**TIMOTHY BRADLEY**  
Age 9



"I asked Santa for a Gameboy."

**CODY GEORGE**  
Age 7

### Gulf Defender Editorial Staff

- Brig. Gen. Tod Wolters.....325th FW commander
- Maj. Susan A. Romano.....chief, 325th FW public affairs
- Chrissy Cuttita.....chief, internal information
- Staff Sgt. Stacey Haga.....editor
- Airman Glenn Moore.....staff writer

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## Season's greetings from 325th FW commander

Dear Team Tyndall,

Happy Holiday Greetings! This is a great time of year for so many reasons, not just because of the carols in the air, the chill in the weather or the presents under the tree. It's a great time of year because it gives us all a chance to take a small break from work and spend time with friends and loved ones. I have had the honor to witness your amazing dedication through this holiday season. You are so impressive and committed to serve our country ... thank you for all you do for our Air Force.

It is also a time to look back at the year's events and reflect on our many accomplishments, while looking forward to the many challenges that lie ahead in 2007. This past year has been a enormous success for the 325th Fighter Wing. Your loyal service during this time of conflict and your courageous defense of our way of life makes your existence remarkable. Your selflessness and patriotism will shape the rest of your life.

The pace will quicken as we enter the new year ... National Security Personnel System, Program Budget Decision 720, AEF deployments, the Air Education

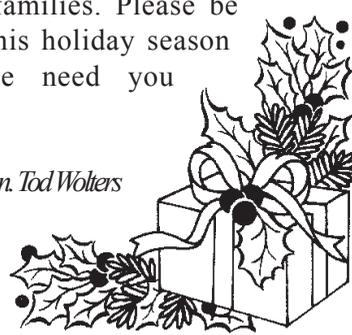
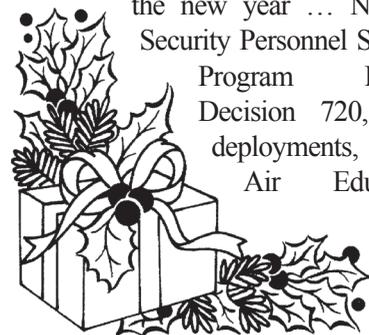
and Training Command Commander's Conference, Gulf Coast Salute Air Show and the 60th Anniversary of the Air Force just to name a few.

You will tackle these challenges in adaptive and flexible ways. Your creativity and problem solving ability has enhanced efficiency in dramatic fashion. I applaud you for all you have accomplished and for what you will accomplish.

On that note, your ability to perform under pressure will improve with rest. With the workload we are facing in the coming year, I am urging each and every one of you to take this time of year to 'decompress' and spend time with your family and friends. You have earned your leave, so I encourage you to take it!

Thank you for making 2006 my most memorable as a wing commander, and thank you for your dedication and selfless devotion to duty. Your sacrifice has left an indelible mark on the hearts of your commanders. Charlene and I wish you the very best to you and your families. Please be safe this holiday season ... we need you back.

*Brig. Gen. Tod Wolters*



## The reason for the season is ...

**CHAPLAIN (CAPT.) DAVID BLACK**  
325th Fighter Wing

There are a myriad of amazing stories about St. Nicholas that were told and re-told by sailors as they traveled all over the world.

The real St. Nicholas was a devout man who was well known as a defender of the downtrodden. He was born in a Greek village, in what is now southern Turkey, probably around 260-280 AD.

As a layman, he astounded people by being popularly elected as Bishop of Myra (modern day Demre, Turkey). He was a man of strong convictions who lived out the qualities he believed his Lord was calling him to. This included a generous desire to help those in need.

He is chosen as the special protector or "patron saint," more than any other saint in a great many classes of people, cities, churches and even countries.

Stories about St. Nicholas describe him as a man who embodied love, loved God and cared for people. He was ready to help in any way he could; he truly loved his neighbors as himself.

One story records how a poor man was afraid his three daughters would be sold into slavery at his death because he was too poor to afford a dowry for them to attract a husband. Mysteriously, as their socks and shoes dried by the fireplace, a bag of gold flew in

and landed in the shoes solving the problem for one daughter. Then, again mysteriously, it happened two more times.

St. Nicholas was famous for such large acts of compassion. Thus, in celebrating this tradition, we hang our stockings by the fire in hopes that St. Nick will stuff them with a little "love."

When he was formally immortalized as a "saint" after his death, his life was celebrated every Dec. 6th as families followed the many traditions of serving and helping the unfortunate. They would also wait for the presence of St. Nicholas to make an appearance bringing favor in many forms, not the least of which is gifts.

When you vary the pronunciation of his name, "SaintNi Cholas" you get Santa Claus. And so, his legendary life lives on.

From my own perspective of faith, I see St. Nicholas as a follower of Jesus, who exemplifies what "real" love is. Jesus' birth, which is celebrated as "Christmas," is connected with the life of St. Nick in our contemporary version.

For a period of time, the Massachusetts Bay Colony in Boston actually banned Christmas for political reasons – it reminded them of England and religious reasons, it was too secular and materialistic and it had no real biblical rooting as the actual

• SEE SEASON PAGE 15

### Action Line

Call 283-2255



**BRIG. GEN. 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 to help you resolve any issues with a base agency.

<b>Commissary</b>	<b>283-4825</b>
<b>Pass and Registration</b>	<b>283-4191</b>
<b>Medical and Dental</b>	<b>283-7515</b>
<b>MEO</b>	<b>283-2739</b>

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

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

# Checkertail Salute

Airman 1st Class Ryan Bailey



Chrissy Cuttita

**Airman Bailey, 325th Air Control Squadron, receives the Checkertail Salute Warrior of the Week award from Brig. Gen. Tod Wolters, 325th Fighter Wing commander.**

Airman Bailey performed 20 hours of simulated high-performance missions that provided realistic training for air battle management students. He keeps his flight members current on ancillary, academic

- Duty title:** Pilot simulator technician
- Hometown:** Princeton, W.Va.
- Time on station:** One year and six months
- Time in service:** Two years
- Hobbies:** Basketball, poker and hanging out with my friends
- Goals:** Finish my bachelor's degree and earn my commission
- Favorite thing about Tyndall AFB:** The beaches
- Favorite movie:** "Old School"
- Favorite book:** "The DaVinci Code" by Dan Brown
- Pet peeve:** Laziness
- Proudest moment in the military:** Receiving an F-15 incentive flight.

*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.*

and readiness training. To support the base Honor Guard, he participated in funerals and other ceremonial details. Off duty, he dedicated 18 hours to the Airmen Against Drunk Driving program.

AIRMEN LOOKING OUT FOR AIRMEN

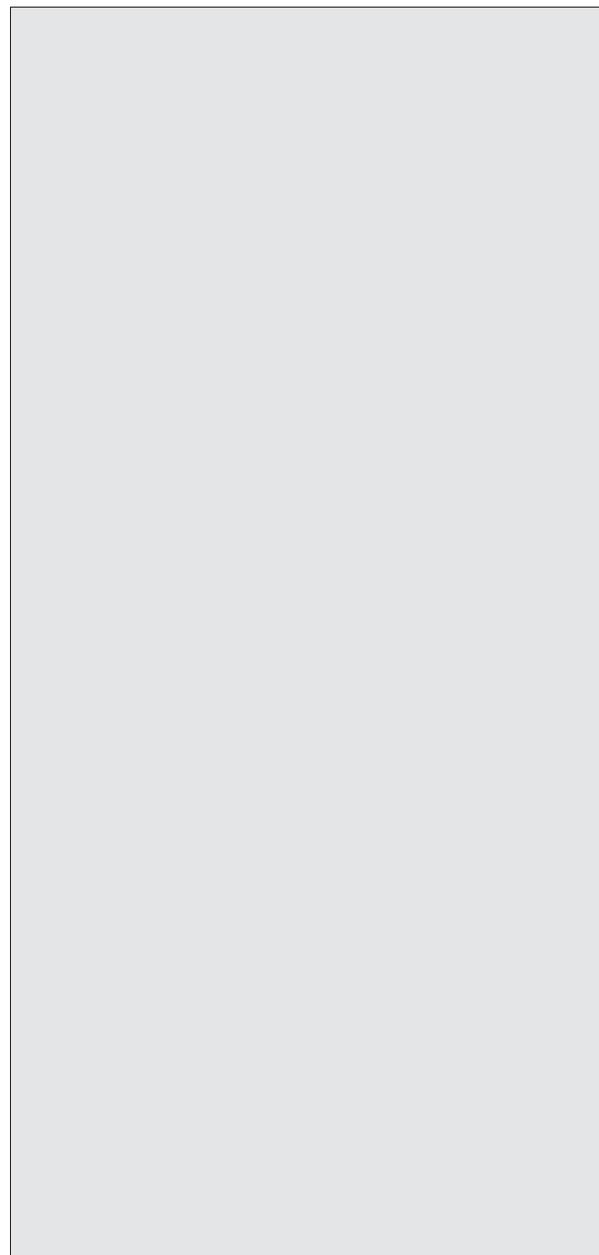
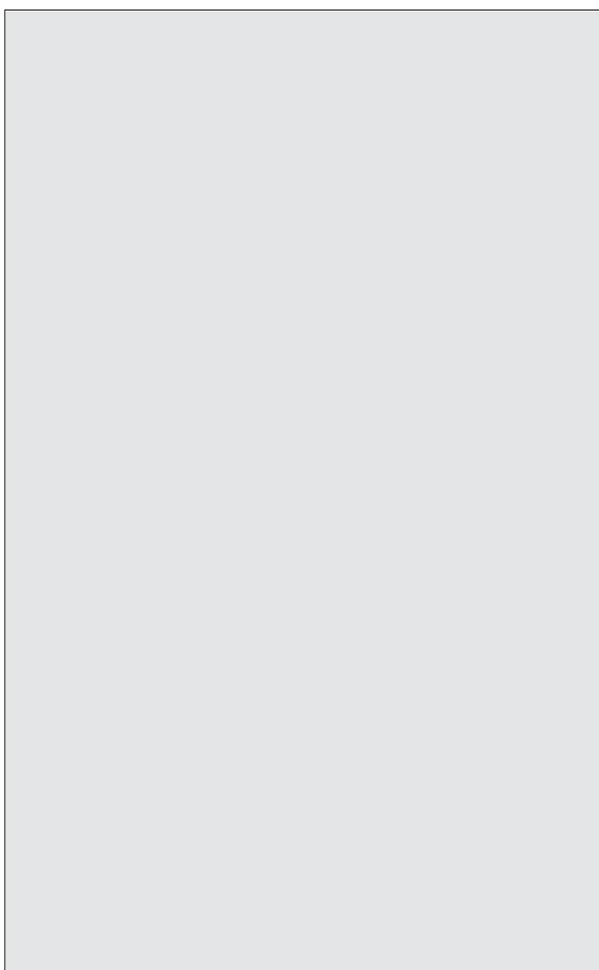
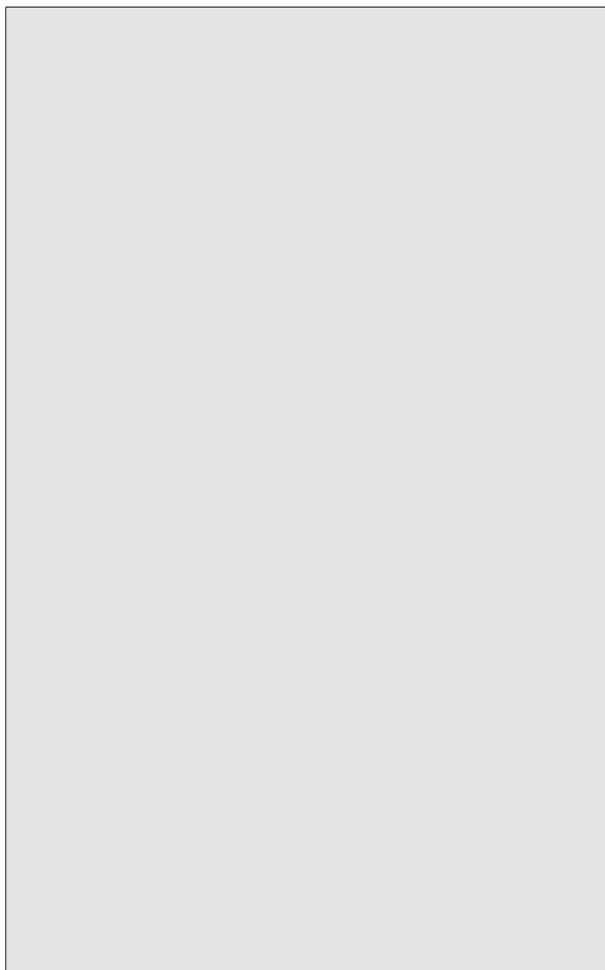
# LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND

**SUICIDE WARNING SIGNS**

- Trouble eating or sleeping
- Drastic change in behavior
- Withdraws from friends >
- Gives away possessions
- Makes out a will
- Preoccupied with death
- Takes unnecessary risks
- Had a recent severe loss
- Lost interests in personal appearance
- Increased use of alcohol or drugs
- Loss of interests in hobbies, work, school, etc.

# 1-800-SUICIDE

Air Force News Agency WWW.AF.MIL



# ***GTC and you – don't let bad things happen***

**RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AETCNS)** – A cardholder with 20 years of service used the Government Travel Card when not on temporary duty status for unauthorized charges.

Result: Article 15, reduction in grade and forced to retire shortly thereafter.

Unauthorized purchases are not the only form of GTC misuse; payment delinquency is just as common.

The commander of Air Education and Training Command, Gen. William R. Looney III, has a goal to break the negative trend of higher GTC payment delinquencies during the holiday months.

The key to breaking the trend is simple – pay your GTC bill when it is due, and ensure it is only used for authorized charges.

The GTC may only be used while in a TDY status, and only for travel related expenses (i.e., airfare, rental vehicles, lodging and meals).

All charges must be split-disbursed through the travel voucher and paid by the due date on the billing statement from Bank of America.

If charges exceed 60 days, they become delinquent.

By following these simple guidelines, Airmen can

avoid disciplinary actions and focus on enjoying the holidays instead of scenarios like these:

**Scenario #1:** A cardholder failed to pay the GTC bill for 120 days. Result: Article 15, Bank of America began salary offset at 15 percent of monthly pay and delinquency reported to credit bureaus.

**Scenario #2:** A cardholder abused or misused the GTC. Result: GTC account immediately closed and his unit suspended him from duty for three days without pay.

As a result of the conscientious effort of AETC personnel, the command routinely has the lowest delinquencies of all major commands. Leadership and responsible Airmen within AETC are the driving factors ensuring proper use of the card.

In addition, the commitment and professionalism of the base and unit GTC Agency Program Coordinators contribute to the success of the program.

At every AETC base, GTC statistics are briefed at least monthly to wing leadership – some even weekly. Many APCs begin contacting Airmen with outstanding charges and their commanders at the 30-day point to help ensure they do not end



Photo Illustration by Staff Sgt. Stacey Haga

up at 60 days and delinquent.

The GTC and the holiday season aren't something you would normally think go together, but to continue AETC's successful record, they have to. It's relatively simple to avoid trouble with the GTC, use it properly and pay the bill on time. With continued conscientious effort, AETC can break the "holiday spike."

*(Courtesy of Air Education and Training Command Financial Management.)*

# Fire, emergency services encourage holiday safety

**MICHAEL NEWBURY**  
Tyndall Fire and Emergency Services

Every holiday season throughout the U.S., tragedy strikes hundreds of families. Statistics show that fires related to candles, Christmas trees, holiday lighting and portable space heaters cause a dramatic increase in residential fires between Thanksgiving and New Years. The Tyndall Fire and Emergency Services Flight wants you to enjoy a fire safe holiday season.

Here are some tips to help you along the way:

Live Christmas trees are not authorized in government facilities, excluding base housing. If you use a real tree, buy a freshly cut tree and be sure to keep it moist. Safely dispose of trees that begin dropping needles. Dried-out trees are highly flammable and should not be left in a house, garage or placed against the house. If you purchase an artificial tree, make sure it is labeled as "fire retardant." Place trees at least three feet from heat sources and do not place them in a manner that blocks exits.

When decorating, use lights that are listed by an independent testing laboratory, such as UL, and are rated for the intended use. Some lights are designed only for indoor or outdoor use, but not both. Always be sure to check cords for loose or broken bulbs and frayed wiring. Be careful not to overload circuits. A surge strip is always a good idea; however, it is bad practice to plug them into one another. Additionally, please remember to unplug or turn off all holiday decorations before leaving home or going to sleep.

In 2001, there were over 2,500 candle fires during the month of December. It was reported that 11 percent of these fires were caused by a decoration catching fire. Always use extreme caution when burning candles. Keep lighted candles well away from decorations and other combustible materials and never decorate trees with candles. Never display lighted candles in windows, as curtains may ignite. Always keep candles, as well as matches and lighters out of reach of

children.

Many will leave their children in the care of a babysitter to attend a party this season. Here are some good tips to heed before leaving:

- Make sure care takers are familiar with your home, its exits and how to unlock doors and windows.

- All households should have a meeting place outside where everyone gathers after a fire. Show the care taker where it is.

- Discuss the escape plan and meeting place with the children. Make sure every child knows where to meet outside.

- Provide instructions for contacting help in case of an emergency. In case of fire, call 911 from a safe location like outside or from a neighbor's house. Remember to stay calm when talking to the operator and provide your name, address, phone number and what the emergency is.

Most fires that occur during the holiday season are in the kitchen. Never leave cooking unattended. Keep pot and pan handles toward the inside of the stove and out of reach of children or an inadvertent bump. In case of a fire on the stove top, cover the pot or pan with a lid, turn off the heat and call 911. Portable fire extinguishers should be kept in the kitchen.

Wrapping paper, cardboard boxes, packing peanuts and other wrapping or packing materials are highly flammable. This hazard is often overlooked and could spell disaster if left unchecked. Collect all used gift paper and materials into garbage bags and store away from sources of heat. Wrapping paper and boxes easily catch fire and should these items become ignited from a space heater or fireplace, it could ruin your holiday fun.

Home fires and the injuries they cause are not on anyone's Christmas list. Common sense and a little imagination will make for an enjoyable and safe holiday season.

Happy Holidays and Merry Christmas from the Tyndall Fire and Emergency Services Flight.

*(Courtesy of the Tyndall Fire and Emergency Services Flight.)*

# Victim Witness Assistance Program: know your rights

**CAPT. EZRA T. GLANZER**  
Base Legal Office

The responsibility of protecting Air Force members and their families is something Tyndall takes seriously.

Part of our protection plan is the Victim Witness Assistance Program.

The VWAP is designed to ensure victims of crimes know their rights and are informed of available resources to help cope with the results of crime.

The VWAP, established by Air Force instruction, sets forth the following victims' rights:

- 1) To be treated with fairness and respect for the victim's dignity and privacy.
- 2) Reasonable protection from a suspect or the accused.
- 3) Notification of all court-martial proceedings.
- 4) To be present at all public court-martial proceedings, unless the military judge determines the victim's testimony would be materially affected if the victim heard other testimony.
- 5) To confer with trial counsel

in the case.

6) Appropriate restitution, when available.

7) Information about an accused's conviction, sentencing, confinement and release.

The base legal office ensures victims are aware of the resources they need when participating in the judicial process and help them move on with their lives.

For example, the legal office facilitates a relationship with off-base agencies in Panama City and Bay County through their victim advocacy programs.

These relationships keep Tyndall up-to-date on the various resources available to victims in the local area.

By keeping crime victims informed of their options and rights, the VWAP program ensures the victims' safety and helps stop the cycle of victimization.

For more information on VWAP or to get assistance, contact the base legal office at 283-4681 or 283-4682.



## Congratulations to Tyndall's newest major selects

*(The following captains were selected for promotion Dec. 19.)*

Todd Andel	AF INST	Robert Johnson	AFEFTS
David Armitage	AFEFTS	Paul Jones	325th ACS
Richard Barksdale	AFEFTS	Erik Jorgensen	AFEFTS
Jeffrey Barnes	83rd FWS	Kelly Kafeyan	67th INTEL
Matthew Bissell	AFEFTS	Jarrett Lewis	AFEFTS
Robert Braxton	AFRL	John Lockett	325th OSS
James Caplinger	AFEFTS	Eric Lopez	325th OSS
Gary Case	23rd FTS	Andrea Maugeri	325th OSS
Christopher Chestnut	1st AF	William Mcclung	325th MDOS
Eric Compton	23rd FTS	Bobby Mcdonald	325th ACS
James Cooper	AFEFTS	Christopher Miller	2nd FS
Todd Cotsman	AFEFTS	Shawn Orban	83rd FWS
Kevin Cruson	43rd FS	Gustuf Palmquist	2nd FS
Brian Drennon	AFEFTS	Jacob Porter	83rd FWS
Patrick Fieg	AFEFTS	Tracey Richardson	325th AMXS
Richard Foster	325th OSS	Christopher Ridlon	325th OSS
Jeffrey Galloway	95th FS	Mitchell Ryan	AFEFTS
Jeremy Gilbertson	28th TS	Scott Stadelman	1st FS
David Halasikun	95th FS	Daniel Walker	AFEFTS
Jason Harris	AF INST	David Wheelock	AFEFTS
David Henslee	AFEFTS	Phillip Winterton	82nd ATS
William Hersch	AFEFTS	Gregory Wintill	83rd FWS
Geoffrey Jensen	1st FS	Lee Wynne	325th MSG

## Congratulations to Tyndall's Airey NCO Academy graduates

*(The following technical sergeants graduated Dec. 14.)*

Clayton Abbott	325th OSS
Dathan Brown	325th AMXS
Keith Castille	325th MXS
Lori Freeman	325th MDOS
Nathaniel Furman	325th AMXS
John Hanks, Jr.	RED HORSE
Michael Harris	325th MSG
Donald King	372nd TRS/Det. 4
Kerry Mcgee	325th AMXS
Alexandre Mouton	83rd FWS
Aaron Nanney	325th AMXS
Stephanie Nattiel.	325th ACS
Francis Nelson	325th CS
David Newman	325th AMXS
Clifford Norwood	325th MDOS
Thomas Poplin	325th MSG
Sheryl Pyka	325th SVS
Michael Rodgers	325th AMXS
Joel Rybarczyk	325th OSS
David Shill	325th AMXS

### **Distinguished Graduates**

Paul Bradley	372nd TRS/Det. 4
Jason Rusticelli	AFCESA

# Security Forces encourages vigilance, crime prevention

Due to the increase in reported abductions, thefts, and burglaries in Florida, the 325th Security Forces Squadron would like to remind everyone of the following crime prevention safety tips:

## Be Alert When Out and About

- Go with friends or family, not alone.
- Carry your purse close to your body, not dangling by the straps. Put your wallet in an inside coat or front pants pocket.
- Don't carry credit cards you don't often use or large amount of cash.
- Use direct deposit for Social Security and other regular checks.
- Whether you're a passenger or driver, keep car doors locked. Be particularly alert in parking lots and garages. Park near an entrance.
- Sit close to the driver or near the exit while riding the bus, train or subway.
- If someone or something makes you uneasy, trust your instincts and leave.
- Never leave your military ID card, wallet, purse or uniforms in your vehicle.

## Make Your Home Safe and Secure

- Don't hide keys in mailboxes, planters or under doormats. Instead, leave an extra set of

keys with a neighbor or friend.

- Ask for photo identification from service or delivery people before letting them in. If you are the least bit worried, call the company to verify the individual's affiliation.

- Be sure your street address number is large, clear of obstruction and well lit so police and other emergency personnel can find your home quickly.

- Consider a home alarm system that provides emergency monitoring for burglary, fire and medical emergencies.

- Security Forces will conduct daily exterior checks of on-base housing while residents are outside the local area. Stop by the Security Forces Control Center a few days prior to departing the area and complete an AETC Form 395, Quarters/Vehicle Security Check.

## Watch Out For Con Artists

- Don't fall for anything that sounds too good to be true – a free vacation, sweepstakes prizes, cures for cancer and arthritis or a low-risk high yield investment scheme.
- Never give your credit card, phone card, Social

Security or bank account number to anyone over the phone. It's illegal for telemarketers to ask for these numbers to verify a prize or gift.

- Don't let anyone rush you into signing anything, such as an insurance policy, a sales agreement or a contract. Read it carefully and have someone you trust check it over.

- Beware of individuals claiming to represent companies, consumer organizations or government agencies that offer to recover lost money from fraudulent telemarketers for a fee. If you're suspicious, check it out with the police, the Better Business Bureau or your local consumer protection office. You can also call the National Consumers League Fraud Information Center at (800) 876-7060.

Remember to report any crime or suspicious activities to the Security Forces Control Center at 283-2254 or remain anonymous by calling 283-TIPS (8477).

On behalf of the 325th Security Forces Squadron, have a safe and happy holiday season.



## Several ways to earn commission

**AIRMAN GLENN MOORE**  
325th Fighter Wing Public affairs

Where can someone go if they want to become an Air Force officer?

For those considering a commission, the 2007 Airman Education and Commissioning Program newsletter contains information such as application deadlines, policies and eligibility. The newsletter has updated and accurate information concerning the process.

AECPProvides information to active duty enlisted personnel seeking their bachelor's degree in any of the majors specified by the Secretary of the Air Force. The newsletter emphasizes academic eligibility requirements for the program. Applicants must meet all the requirements stated in the newsletter to be eligible for the program.

Students must complete their degree at a college with an Air Force Reserve Officers' Training Corps detachment or a cross-town agreement. The primary responsibility of those enrolled is to successfully complete academic courses required for their degree. Students are required to attend classes year-round, including summer courses.

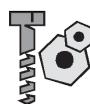
Headquarters Air Force ROTC selects applicants and colleges based on the limit the Air Force will spend on tuition and fees.

To begin the process, contact the Base Education Office at 283-4285. The Base Education Office has additional information and is the point of contact for any questions about the program. Also visit [www.afoats.af.mil/AFROTC/EnlistedComm/AECP.asp](http://www.afoats.af.mil/AFROTC/EnlistedComm/AECP.asp).

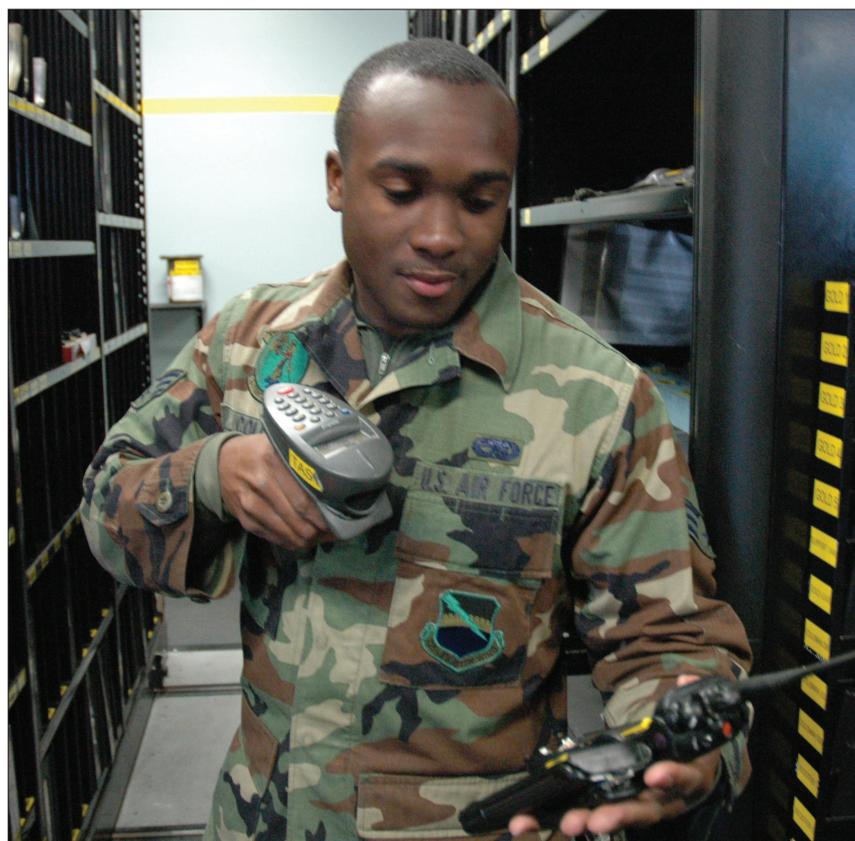
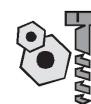
While the Education Office will assist applicants, it is the applicants' responsibility to gather all the information needed to apply and enroll. The Education Office will assist applicants with academic questions, planning and completing the AFROTC Form IMT 56.

All applicants must mail their packages to HQ AFROTC/RRUE 551 East Maxwell Blvd., Maxwell AFB, AL 36112-6106. Packages must be post marked no later than Feb. 15. If the applicant is seeking a waiver, the package must be mailed to the same address no later than Jan. 6.

If earning a commission is a personal goal, reviewing the AECP newsletter can be the first step in accomplishing that goal.



## Golden Bolt Award



Chrissy Cuttita

**Senior Airman Johnel Collins, 2nd Aircraft Maintenance Unit crew chief, uses a scanner to take accountability of radios. Airman Collins was the Golden Bolt winner for November after he found the bolt during a daily foreign object damage walk.**

**Training Spotlight**



**W**hat is the most rewarding part of being an instructor pilot?

“The most rewarding part of my job is being able to instruct the instructors so they can teach the most current tactics to today’s aviators. Also, I know I’m sending a strong base line product out to the combat Air Force so they can get the job done.”

**CAPT. CASEY MILLER**  
2nd Fighter Squadron weapons officer

# Learning service inside, out of Tyndall



Airman Glenn Moore

**Airman 1st Class Jameel Tyson, 325th Mission Support Group FTAC student, plays bingo with Lonny Guerra, Sims Veterans’ Nursing Home resident.**

**CHRISSEY CUTTITA**  
325th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

For recently-enlisted students at the First Term Airmen’s Center, learning about serving the Air Force also includes serving others and honoring those who served before them.

For two years, visiting the Sims Veterans’ Nursing Home in Panama City has been part of the curriculum.

“I hope they gain a sense of pride by interacting with the

veterans because they can offer a lot of knowledge,” said Staff Sgt. Samantha Whitfield, FTAC assistant NCO in charge. “I want the Airmen to look at what got them here today.”

Just seeing people in uniform brings smiles to the faces of the veteran’s home residents, said Ginny O’Hare, Sims Veterans’ Nursing Home activities director.

“It’s a big ego and self-esteem booster,” she said.

Residents look forward to meeting the young Airmen every Thursday when class is in session, she added.

“It is necessary for us to show the Airmen how important our service is to the community,” said Sergeant Whitfield. “It is good to show the local community that we are here to protect them as well as help in the community. It develops a trust with them and we like to show the Airmen this.”

The nursing home residents often come to Tyndall during a special events like the annual Golden Age Holiday party held Dec. 13. FTAC students helped serve food, escort guests and provide company to

many guests including the Sims’ residents who came to base for entertainment and holiday cheer.

This is one of the many on-base volunteer activities FTAC students are asked to participate in.

“Anytime there is an event on base that we can get the students in FTAC involved with, we do,” said Sergeant Whitfield.

Congratulations to mission ready Airmen graduates of Class 2007-009, 2007-010 and 2007-011 from the 372nd Training Squadron/ Detachment 4!



Get your Community College of the Air Force information at [afvec.langley.af.mil](http://afvec.langley.af.mil).



Chrissy Cuttita

## Oil’s well

**Airman 1st Class Todd Beecher, 372nd Training Squadron/ Detachment 4 mission ready Airman, services an F-15 Eagle. Students train at the squadron to be crew chiefs on fighter aircraft.**

## FOD HAS AN UGLY FACE ON THE FLIGHTLINE





# From talons to Miss Fury's skull - 1st FS accomplishes training and closes with heads held high



Courtesy photo

An F-15, bearing the 1st TFTS name, is held in Hangar 1 for maintenance in the late 1980's.



Courtesy photo

Col. David Freaney, former 1st FS instructor pilot, celebrates his "fini flight" with his family and fellow pilots.



Courtesy photo

Capt. Brad Funk, former 1st FS instructor pilot, informs 1st Lt. Tucker Hamilton, former 1st FS student, about the capabilities of the AIM-9M sidewinder missile during an operational readiness inspection in 2005.

**STAFF SGT. STACEY HAGA**  
325th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

With the rise of new fighter aircraft and decrease in the number of F-15 Eagles flown in the active Air Force, the 1st Fighter Squadron and its maintaining force, the 1st Aircraft Maintenance Unit, were inactivated 11:01 a.m. Dec. 15 after 22 years of Eagle pilot training.

The 1st FS has been inactivated and reactivated on two other occasions to meet the changing needs of the Air Force. The most recent reactivation took place in 1984 when the squadron opened as the 1st Tactical Fighter Training Squadron and has served the same mission under its current title since 1991.

During those years, an estimated 670 pilots have been trained and countless others affected by the legacy the two units leave behind.

"I have mixed emotions about our closing," said Lt. Col. Tom Menker, 1st FS commander. "On a personal note, I am saddened. Being the 1st FS commander has been a great opportunity. It

has been rewarding and challenging at the same time, but I recognize the Air Force's need to evolve."

"Thousands of members have worked in the 1st AMU over the years. I think most would remember it as one of their best assignments," said Capt. Robert Anson, 1st AMU officer in charge.

As the squadron's doors close, most Airmen from both units will remain part of Team Tyndall. Members of the 1st FS will be transferring to the 2nd FS and 95th FS, 325th Operations Support Squadron and Operations Group staff, while members of the 1st AMU will go to the 2nd, 43rd and 95th AMUs with a small number going to 325th MXS and other assignments.

Due to the local transition, the "red" team camaraderie will remain and intergrate into the other squadrons.

"We have had a great working relationship with the 1st AMU ... which leads to better student training and students graduating early," said Colonel Menker. "We recognized that give and

take on both ends works well."

The units made an impact on national and joint multi-national security measures by participating in large force employments such as exercise "Trident Fury" in Victoria, Canada earlier this year, where their mission was preparing security measures for the 2010 Olympics.

The units' impact on the Air Force mission has given many of its members fond memories and sense of pride.

"It's hard to put into words how rewarding being a commander of a fighter squadron is," said Colonel Menker. "There are so many moving parts and people that make it come together at the end of the day. It's amazing to see it all come together and produce a qualified pilot five and a half months after he arrives."

"It's rare that so many personalities and capabilities come together to form such a great team," said Captain Anson. "I have thoroughly enjoyed being on the 'red' team. Although it's sad we're closing, we'll take that pride with us."



Courtesy photo

A 1st AMU crew chief assists a 1st FS pilot with fastening his harness prior to taxi.



Courtesy photo

Airmen of the 1st AMU stand in formation during a presentation in front of Hangar 1 in the late 1980s.



Courtesy photo

Staff Sgt. Michael Olson, Airman Varnychuk and Airman 1st Class Wesley Sumrell (left to right), former 1st FS life support technicians, inspect life support lockers during the Operational Readiness Inspection in 2005. Life support lockers hold helmets and oxygen masks, g-suits and other equipment needed during flight.



Lisa Norman

Lt. Col. Malcolm Kemeny (far left), former 1st FS director of operations, stands in formation with fellow members of the 1st FS and 1st AMU during the inactivation ceremony held in Hangar 1 Dec. 15.

## Briefs

**Cell phone restriction**

The 325th Security Forces Squadron would like to remind Tyndall drivers that cell phones may not be used while driving on base without a hands-free device.

Use of a cell phone while operating a motor vehicle on base is considered a secondary offense.

**Officers' Spouses' Club**

Members of the Tyndall Officers' Spouses' Club will attend a luncheon at Eglin AFB, Fla., 10:30 a.m. Jan. 10. Cost is \$14 for members and \$16 for non-members. Cindy Wilsbach, volunteer coordinator for the President, will be the guest speaker.

To R.S.V.P., contact Eileen Workman at (850) 314-9755 or workmancrew@cox.net.

**Tax statements**

Servicemembers, military retirees and annuitants, and federal civilian employees paid by the Defense Finance and Accounting Service can expect to receive their 2006 tax statements on the following dates:

Retiree Annual Statement: Available on myPay Dec. 9, mailed via U.S. Postal Service Dec. 16-31;

Retiree 1099R: Available on myPay Dec. 15, mailed Dec. 16-31;

Annuitant Account Statement: Available on myPay Dec. 18, mailed Dec. 19-31;

Annuitant 1099R: Available on myPay Dec. 18, mailed Dec. 19-31;

VSI/SSB W-2: Not available on myPay, mailed Jan. 4-5;

Active Duty Air Force, Army, Navy W-2: Available on myPay Jan. 22, mailed Jan. 23-29;

Reserve Air Force, Army, Navy W-2: Available on myPay Jan. 2, mailed Jan. 5-8;

Marine Corps active and reserve W-2: Available on myPay Jan. 5, mailed Jan. 9-10;

Civilian employee W-2: Available on myPay Jan. 9, mailed Jan. 11-18;

Savings Deposit Program 1099INT: Available on myPay Jan. 19, mailed Jan. 19-20; and

Vendor Pay 1099: Not available on myPay, mailed Jan. 27-31.



Chrissy Cuttita

**Color me happy**

Serenity Poston, left, fingerpaints during an arts and crafts activity at Mom and Pops and Tots, while Jordan Harter, right, rolls a toy truck by. The group meets 9 - 11 a.m. Wednesdays at the Community Activities Center. For more information, call 283-2495.

**GCCC holiday schedule**

The GCCC Tyndall Center office hours will be 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. today and Saturday. The GCCC will be closed Monday through Jan. 1.

All tuition assistance forms should be turned in by 4 p.m. tomorrow. Fees are due Jan. 2. For more information, call 283-4332.

**ERAU registration**

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University's Spring 2007 Term begins Jan. 8.

Registration will be held today and Jan. 3 - 5 in the Education Center, Room 48. Applications are available online under Web registration/forms. For more information, call 283-4332.

**Troy University**

Registration for Troy University Term 3 runs through Dec. 29. Classes start Jan. 2 and end March 11. Students may register with an advisor at any Troy University location or online by accessing Trojan WebExpress at www.troy.edu.

**Thrift Shop**

The Thrift Shop is closed for the holidays and will re-open on Jan. 3. Hours of operation are 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Wednesday-Friday. It will also be open 9 a.m. to noon Jan. 6. December holiday decor will no longer be collected for consignment. Winter clothing will be accepted for consignment through March 1. For more information, call 286-5888 during business hours.

**Base Chapel holiday events**

The Base Chapel will host a Catholic Christmas Vigil and Children's Pageant 5 p.m. Sunday at Chapel Two. Catholic Mass will be 9:30 a.m. Sunday at Chapel Two.

A Protestant Christmas Eve Service and communion will be held 5 p.m. Sunday at Chapel One.

Catholic Mass will be 9:30 a.m. Monday at Chapel Two.

**MLK service**

There will be a Martin Luther King Jr. commemorative service 11 a.m. Jan. 12 at Chapel One.

**Catholic services**

Daily Mass, 11:30 a.m.  
Monday-Friday,  
Chapel Two  
Reconciliation, 11 a.m. Fridays  
or by appointment  
Chapel 2  
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.)



Staff Sgt. Stacey Haga

### Trick kick

Asher Revah (center), Puma team member, maneuvers the ball around a Red Devils opponent during a semifinal game. During the finals, the Pumas, boosting several military members, came back from a 0-2 score at half time to score three goals against the Loggerheads Saturday seizing the Florida State Soccer Association/ Young Men's Christian Association league championship 3-2.

## Intramural Sports Standings

### Bowling

Team	W	L	Team	W	L
SVS	94	42	ACS 1	68	68
MOS	92	44	AMXS 2	68	68
MSS	90	46	AMMO	66	70
Test	84	52	83rd FWS 2	66	70
RED HORSE	82	54	AMXS 1	66	70
AFNORTH 1	82	54	ACS 2	62	74
AFCESA 1	79	57	AMXS 4	60	76
SFS	78	58	Phase 1	58	78
43rd AMU	76	60	MDG	54	82
DS2	74	62	CONS	54	82
CES	74	62	ISRD	52	84
CS 1	74	62	CS 2	52	84
AFCESA 2	74	62	372nd TRS	50	86
83rd FWS 1	71	65	Phase 2	46	90
AFNORTH 3	70	66	Bye	16	112
Team High Game Scratch			AMXS 1		959
Team High Series Scratch			AFCESA 1		2803
Team High Game Handicap			AFNORTH 3		1109
Team High Series Handicap			AFNORTH 1		3251
High Male Game Scratch			Jason Smith		257
High Male Series Scratch			E.T. Parker		702
High Male Game Handicap			Kirby Pyka		257
High Male Series Handicap			Justin Williams		738
High Female Game Scratch			Michelle Clements		196
High Female Series Scratch			Rachel Petri-Rose		578
High Female Game Handicap			Angie Woods		237
High Female Series Handicap			Aurora Webster		705

## Pig Prog Scorebox

CONS	135	NCOA	123
1st FS	133	CES	119
372nd TRS	130	ACS	116
Pig Prog	128	CS	112
MXS	127	SVS	111
CPTS	127	28th TES	110
OSS	126	SFS	104
		MDOS	86



# The 'cream of the crop' rises in Pig Prog or are they training to lose?

**PIGSKIN PROGNOSTICATOR**  
From Sea town

Standings have tightened up this week in the NFL and this late in the season each game means so much.

One team who has endured a lot of criticism lately is the Chicago Bears. After losing a couple of key defensive starters and an offense struggling with quarterback Rex Grossman, many questioned if they had a chance to make it pass the Divisional Championship match up.

This week the Bears answered their critics with a offensive explosion. The lately inconsistent Grossman threw for 339 yards and two touchdowns. A key stat to go along with the yards and touchdowns is Grossman didn't commit any turnovers.

Turning the ball over would have killed Chicago in this game, but Grossman played more like a seasoned veteran than a young and oft questioned quarterback.

The key player who helped Grossman was tight end, Desmond Clark. Clark has been overlooked all year as he has put together his best NFL season. Playing and learning behind

former Denver tight end, Shannon Sharpe, probably helped in the success he's currently having.

While Chicago cleared up their offensive critics at least for this week, there are still questions on defense.

After losing safety Mike Brown to injury earlier this season they lost Pro Bowl defensive tackle Tommie Harris to a ruptured left hamstring. With these to key players out, the Bears defense has struggled after dominating the first half of the season.

The Bears are still good enough to win a weak NFC, but the Super Bowl doesn't seem realistic.

Chicago lost to New England in week 12. Not saying New England is a bad team, but they are at best the fourth best team in the AFC.

All this goes to show the first three rounds of the playoffs should be exciting, but the Super Bowl is the crowning of an AFC team.

Speaking of the AFC and NFC, the Pro Bowl

• SEE PROG PAGE 14

### Pig Prog

325th OSS picks for NFL Week 16:

- Minnesota at **Green Bay**
- Kansas City at Oakland
- Baltimore at Pittsburgh
- Carolina at **Atlanta**
- Chicago at Detroit
- Indianapolis at Houston
- New England at **Jacksonville**
- New Orleans at N.Y. Giants
- Tampa Bay at **Cleveland**
- Tennessee at **Buffalo**
- Washington at St. Louis
- Arizona at San Francisco
- Cincinnati at **Denver**
- San Diego at Seattle
- Philadelphia at **Dallas**
- N.Y. Jets at Miami

# Tigers claw through Eagles to victory

The Tyndall Tigers men's varsity basketball team were victorious in their two games versus the Eglin Eagles in Southeastern Military Athletic Conference, SEMAC, action this past weekend.

In Saturday's game, Tyndall defeated Eglin 74 - 62.

The Tigers started quickly in Saturday's contest as they roared out to a lead of as many as 18 points due to a ball hawking defensive effort that forced Eglin to commit numerous turnovers.

The Tigers led comfortably throughout the first half as they took a 41-27 lead at the intermission.

In the second half, the Tigers enjoyed a comfortable lead throughout the period, as they met each and every run that the Eagles put together to coast to victory.

Marqus Armour led the Tigers in scoring with a game high 18 points, followed by Anthony Showers, 15, Melvin Smith 12, and Mike Clair with 10 points.

Armour and Markus Manuel tied for team rebounding honors with 10 each, Armour also blocked five shots and Showers led in assists with six. Johnny Smith led Eglin in scoring with 17 points.

The Tigers had another victory over the Eagles Sunday 81 - 65.

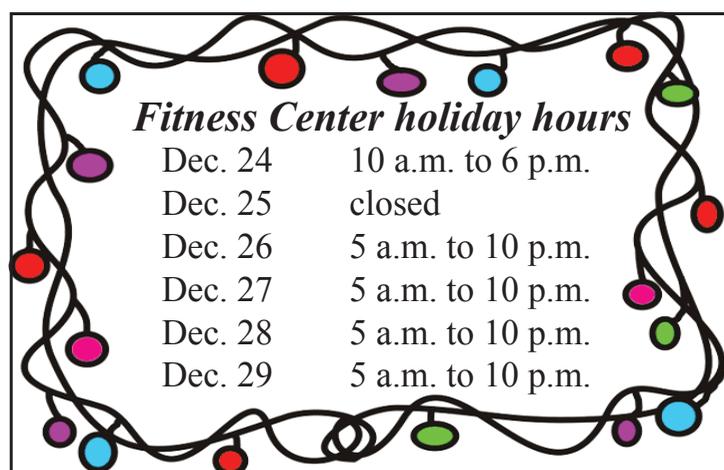
The Tigers once again jumped out to an early double digit lead only to see the Eagles soar back to tie the score at 37-37 at the half.

The second half was nip and tuck until Tyndall held Eglin scoreless for five minutes down the stretch to open up a 10 point lead that sealed the Eagles fate as the Tigers took the hard fought win.

Armour again led the Tigers in scoring with a game high 26 points and also rebounding with 12, followed by Showers with 22 points, Smith with 12, and Jared Austin and Marcelle Mosley with 10 points each.

Smith had five assists and Ryan Cunningham had five steals. James McGowen led Eglin in scoring with 13 points.

The Tigers have won six out of their last eight games and are one game out of second place in conference standings as they go into their holiday break. Tyndall will return to action Jan. 6 and 7 as the Tigers will host the first place Commandos of Hurlburt Field, Fla.



**Fitness Center holiday hours**

Dec. 24	10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Dec. 25	closed
Dec. 26	5 a.m. to 10 p.m.
Dec. 27	5 a.m. to 10 p.m.
Dec. 28	5 a.m. to 10 p.m.
Dec. 29	5 a.m. to 10 p.m.

# Military support hits record high

DALLAS – According to the military command in charge of providing access to items of necessity and convenience to military families the world over, support for America's military is at an all time high.

The Army & Air Force Exchange Service, the military's oldest and largest exchange service, announced today that contributions to its "Gifts from the Homefront" support effort have soared this holiday season, jumping more than 300 percent in November alone.

"Last month, America rallied behind our 'troops' and sent 4,502 Post and Base Exchanges gift certificates worth more than \$125,000 to our Armed Forces," said AAFES' Senior Enlisted Advisor Chief Master Sgt. Bryan Eaton. "The November response pushed annual contributions to their highest level since this program began in March 2003. With two weeks left in 2006, the American public has already surpassed the total support received last year by 5 percent."

New York led last month's charge, sending 648 "Gifts from the Homefront" worth more than \$30,000, while folks in Missouri spread their support of nearly \$15,000 out over 738 certificates. Texans got into the holiday spirit as they dropped 253 gifts into the mail in November, and residents of Illinois showed their patriotism as they ordered 189. Florida rounded out the top five states supporting American troops last month as they sent 97 gift certificates worth nearly \$5,000.

"There's no 'corner store' in Iraq or Afghanistan," said Eaton. "PX and BX retail operations go where our Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines go to provide access

to snacks, sodas and entertainment material like magazines, CDs and DVDs. Providing a gift certificate that can be redeemed at one of these locations gives a service member an opportunity to take a break and do something totally "all American" during this time of year -- shop."

Today, AAFES operates 54 PX/BX facilities throughout Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom. The stock assortment found in these exchanges varies from location to location, but even the most basic operation provides access to toiletries, phone cards and cold drinks. Any American can send these and many more products to deployed troops by ordering a lightweight "Gift from the Homefront" gift certificate for less than it costs to send a one pound package.

Anyone can send a "Gift from the Homefront" by logging on [aafes.org](http://aafes.org) or calling (877) 770-4438. From there, the gift certificates may be sent to an individual service member (designated by the purchaser) or distributed to "any service member" through the Air Force Aid Society, American Red Cross, Coalition to Salute America's Heroes, Fisher House, Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society, Operation Homefront, Operation Interdependence®, Soldier & Family Assistance Center, USA Cares or USO.

As of Dec. 1, 75,659 "Gifts from the Homefront" gift certificates have been sent since the Department of Defense approved the exchange support campaign in March 2003. More than 20,000 of these have been delivered to service members and their families via AAFES' 10 charitable partners.

## • FROM PROG PAGE 13

rosters were announced this week.

While the rosters were good, there is a few choices I still can't get over – like leaving Ray Lewis, Warren Sapp and John Henderson not make the trip to Honolulu, Hi. I guess all the fans from cities like New York voted.

Teams with a large market have a much better chance to be voted into the Pro Bowl because of the amount of people in the

city and the opportunity to play in nationally televised games.

Someone who picked like a Pig Prog pro bowler is 372nd TRS/DET 4 picker, Douglas Johannes. He took third place as he passed MXS and myself over the weekend.

"The cream of the crop is rising to the top," said Johannes. "We're taking no prisoners from here on out."

I thought this was humorous – I mean, come on! Does he really think he will be ahead of me by the

end of the season?

"We're going to win it all," said Johannes. "There are only two weeks left and were going to win the championship."

Wow, I guess I'll have to stop giving you all a chance since you actually believe there's a possibility to beat me.

I need some oxygen because I'm laughing so hard. Keep believing, just don't come crying to me in two weeks.

Now let's get out there and watch some football!

• FROM IFS PAGE 1

provides all aircraft, maintenance, flight instructors, fire/crash/rescue support, student transportation, office and lodging space and installation security.

The Air Force provides a contingent of members to oversee the students and provide military training, supervision and rigor to the course. Detachment 1 of the 306th Flying Training Group, based at the Air Force Academy, is the unit responsible for this role.

“The IFS program was designed to screen for aviation aptitude but also provide the military rigor and camaraderie missing in some general aviation programs,” said Lt. Col. John Tomjack, Det. 1 commander. “IFS graduates will arrive at their SUPT assignments better prepared to successfully complete the program.”

According to current students in the program’s second class, the course is meeting that goal.

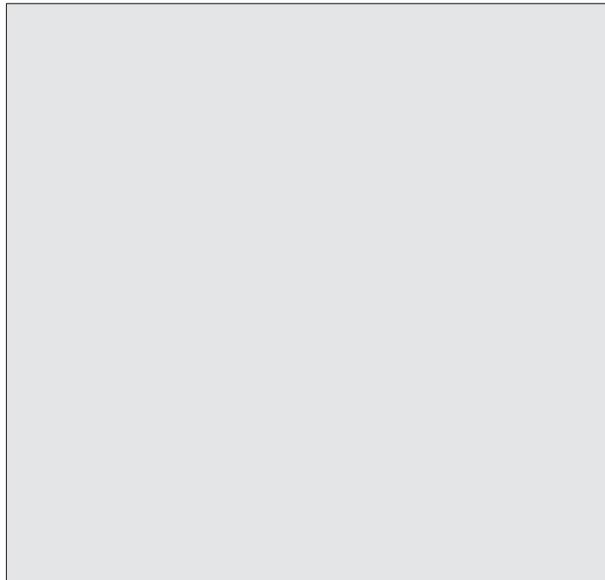
“I feel like I’ll go to SUPT with an advantage compared to peers who did not attend IFS,” said 2nd Lt. John Herd.

The 2006 Air Force Academy graduate worked in the 436th Operation Support Squadron scheduling office briefly before attending IFS this fall.

“For instance, we learned to do stand ups and formal briefs, plus how to go through emergency procedures,” Lieutenant Herd said. “The mission prep is intense, and the speed at which we have to prepare for academic and flying tests probably makes us more ready to function in an SUPT environment.”

When IFS ramps up to full scale operations during the next 15-18 months, it will be the sole source of flight screening for all Reserve Officer Training Corps and Officer Training School aviation candidates, including pilots, navigators and combat systems officers.

When the next class arrives at the new facility to begin class, the students, like the visitors Friday, will likely first be amazed at the quality and expanse of the facility provided. But by the time they leave, several short weeks later, they may be more impressed by understanding the meaning of General Halter’s opening remark that “all big journeys start with a single step.”



**AAFES facilities holiday hours for New Year’s**

Facility	Dec. 31	Jan. 1	Jan. 2
Main store	10 a.m. - 5 p.m.	closed	10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
MCSS	closed	closed	closed
Shoal Point	11 a.m. - 6 p.m.	closed	11 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Class Six	10 a.m. - 6 p.m.	closed	10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Felix lake	6 a.m. - 9 p.m.	noon - 6 p.m.	6 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Service station	9 a.m. - 5 p.m.	closed	9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Charley’s	closed	closed	closed
Anthony’s	11 a.m. - 4 p.m.	closed	10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Robin Hood	closed	closed	closed
Burger King	closed	closed	closed
Barber shop	closed	closed	9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Barber shop (flightline)	closed	closed	closed
Beauty shop	closed	closed	10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Laundry/dc	closed	closed	closed
Alterations	closed	closed	closed
GNC	10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.	closed	10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Optical shop	closed	closed	9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Cell n’ accessories	closed	closed	9 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Cool Beanz Coffee	closed	closed	closed
Smoothie Zone	closed	closed	8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

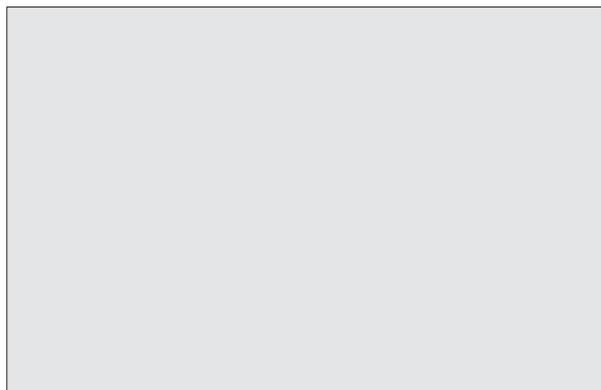
• FROM SEASON PAGE 3

birthday of Jesus.

This Puritan avoidance of an official Christmas holiday became a formal ban on May 11, 1659, but was repealed after only 22 years.

As Dutch, German, Anglican and Catholic settlers arrived in America in greater numbers, they brought with them their Christmas traditions as a central part of their religious lives because they wanted to continue their old traditions in the New World.

Eventually, the Dec. 25 celebration of Christmas was joined with the Dec. 6 St. Nicholas gifting holiday at the insistence of the Dutch settlers.

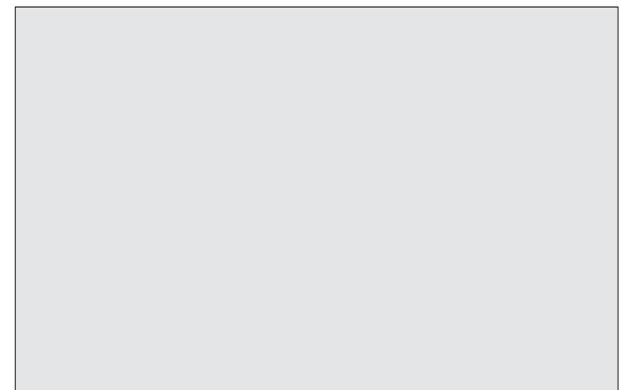


This combination eventually evolved into our modern day Dec. 25 official holiday that has inspired most of the world.

With all of these complex historical events, we can ask, “What is the ‘reason for the season?’”

Let me suggest the reason must be love – the kind of love needed for a vibrant and enriching Christmas best associated with charity, the type of charity that Christians believe God showed in giving his only Son to the world, the type of love so powerfully manifested in the life and stories of St. Nicholas, who generously cared for the poor and needy.

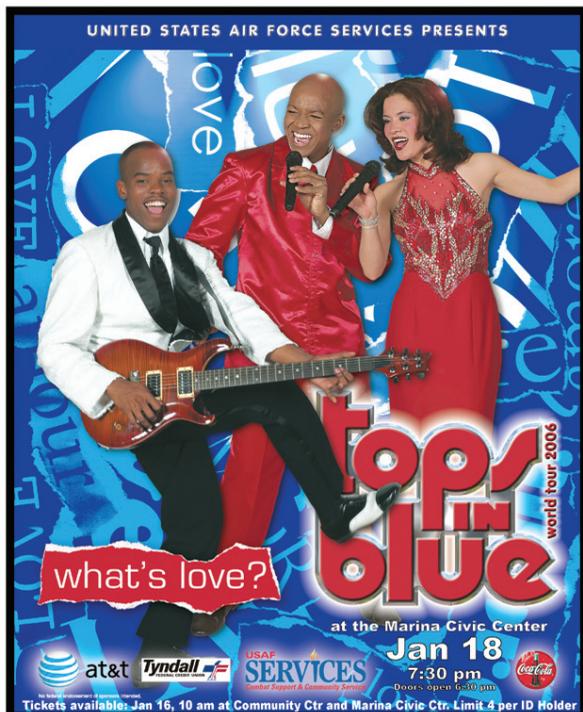
For this Christmas, in the words of his master the Lord, may we all “Go and do likewise!”





# Funshine NEWS

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



UNITED STATES AIR FORCE SERVICES PRESENTS

LOVE

what's love?

**Tops in Blue** world tour 2006

at the Marina Civic Center

Jan 18 7:30 pm

at&t Tyndall SERVICES

Tickets available: Jan 16, 10 am at Community Ctr and Marina Civic Ctr. Limit 4 per ID Holder



## TYNDALL IDOL III

### AT THE ZONE

JANUARY 19, 26 6 PM  
FEBRUARY 2, 9

COME SEE THE BEST TALENT  
TYNDALL HAS TO OFFER.

SIGN UP BY JAN. 12 283-4357  
SYLVIA.BOWLES@TYNDALL.AF.MIL

**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](mailto: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

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# 325th CES exercises oil spill clean-up procedures

**CHRISSEY CUTTITA**  
325th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

More than 2,000 gallons of oil spilled into Fred Bayou here Dec. 11 – or at least that is what Tyndall emergency response and environmental flight personnel exercised to prepare for a worst-case scenario oil spill.

“The unannounced drill was done to check the ability (of the squadron) to contain an oil spill,” said Joe McLernan, 325th Civil Engineer Squadron environmental flight chief. “The purpose of containment is not only to localize the spill and minimize pollution, but to facilitate removal of the oil by causing it to concentrate in layers on the surface of the water.”

“Normally, we are the first individuals on scene when a fuel disaster occurs and we are the ones

in additional equipment they have available for oil spills (and hazardous material spills),” said Dr. Bridget Keegan, 325th Civil Engineer Squadron environmental management system coordinator and senior environmental engineer. “Tyndall has a contract with SWS to respond within an hour. During our drill yesterday, SWS came in with an additional boom, vacuum truck and skimmer.”

The 325th CE readiness flight was there to observe and participate, as they are with all on-base emergency response exercises.

“As Tyndall’s Emergency Manager, we would organize the disaster control group once they were recalled by the commander,” said Marty Spikes, 325th CE readiness flight chief. “Upon arriving at the primary assembly area, we would begin assisting the senior fire official on scene with logistical and personnel assets needed to mitigate the incident.”

Although the spill didn’t really happen this time, Tyndall is required by law to maintain a facility response plan.

“In short, effective containment systems collect the pollutant to aid in recovery operations, divert the pollutant to areas where cleanup can be conducted, prevent the spread of pollutants over a wide area and protect areas such as Fred Bayou that are environmentally sensitive,” said Dr. Keegan.

Tyndall’s marine transfer facility moves oil from barges with an oil storage capacity of more than 42,000 gallons.

Aside from the environmental risks of running the facility, there is also the possibility of small spills around various flightline shops, the JP-8 fuel transfer pipeline or the refueling trucks.

“Medium spills (2,100



Photos by Steve Wallace

**Responders deploy a boom to contain a spill to control its size, impact and protect sensitive habitats.**

- 36,000 gallons, according to the Environmental Protection Agency) like the spill we simulated, can occur when a fuel barge unloads or there is some type of mechanical failure with a refueling truck when it is loading or unloading,” said Dr. Keegan.

Wherever there may be a risk of hazardous material, accident, loss of life or natural disaster, the base is prepared to respond.

“We prepare Tyndall for incidents by ensuring our emergency management plan is updated with new tactics, techniques and procedures from previous lessons learned,” said Mr. Spikes. “These lessons learned can come from incidents here at Tyndall or somewhere else around the country or world and by having exercises like we had today.”

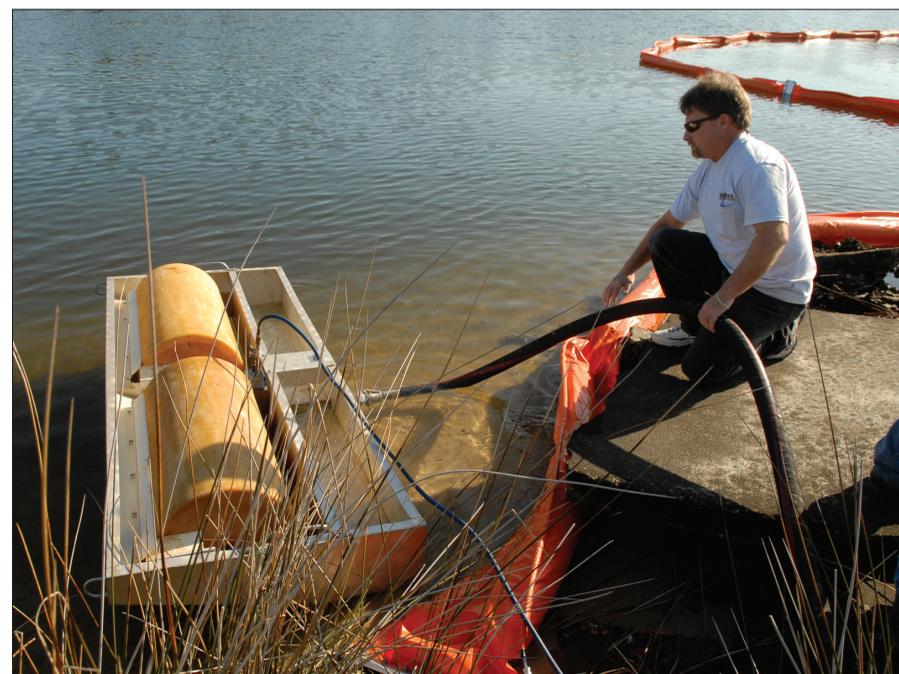


**A response team member moves an air compressor to the spill site to assist spill control and recovery operations.**

that get the ball rolling and call 911 to activate the spill response team,” said Foley Riley, 325th Mission Support Group’s logistics readiness division fuels division manager. “We are also the individuals who go and shut off any valves or switches that can stop the fuel flow to avoid more fuel from escaping into the elements.”

Another aspect of the training was to exercise coordination with agencies outside of Tyndall.

“When a spill happens that requires support, Tyndall uses Southern Waste Services to bring



**D.J. Skaggs, 325th CES spill contractor, utilizes a skimmer unit to recover spilled material from the water.**



1st Lt. John Ross

## Santa's sky scape

Santa Claus prepares for a perfect landing after a successful parachute jump at the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo. Old Saint Nick visited the Academy Dec. 9 to learn proper egress and parachute techniques in case of a sleigh malfunction on Christmas Eve. Santa's fans can track his journey around the world on Dec. 24 at North American Aerospace Defense Command's special Web site [www.noradsanta.org](http://www.noradsanta.org). The site also features the history of the NORAD Tracks Santa program, has interactive games and more.

The Gulf Defender is published for people like Airman 1st Class James Hardy, 325th Maintenance Operations Squadron information manager.



