



In Brief

CFC kick-off

The 2007 Team Tyndall Combined Federal Campaign runs Sept. 17 to Oct. 29. For more information, call Capt. Edward Mangual at 282-4317 or 1st Lt. Patrick Wilkinson at 283-4858.

Golf Tournament

The Military Association Committee golf tournament will start at noon Oct. 26 at the Pelican Point Golf Course. Deadline for registration is Oct. 22. The cost is \$50. For more information, call the Public Affairs office at 283-4500.

Retiree Day

Retiree Appreciation Day will be held 8:30 a.m. Nov. 3 at the Enlisted Club.

For more information, call Marielle Beniquez at 283-4204.

FY08 NCOLRP

Due to a demand in some AFSCs and AFSC mergers, the Air Force has a program designed to allow Airmen who hold a current, specified valid skill level, other than their control AFSC, such as a secondary or tertiary AFSC, to be administratively reclassified back into their "old" AFSC.

For more information, call Staff Sgt. Avery Purington at 283-4144.

Red Horse warrior takes on new battle

STAFF SGT. TIMOTHY CAPLING
325TH FIGHTER WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

He walked into a doctor's office with one problem, minor back pain. He walked out with a whole world of problems stemming from a newly diagnosed life-threatening disease. However, he also found a strong will to fight.

In November, 2005 Master Sgt. Dale Filsell, the services superintendent for Detachment 1 of the 823rd Rapid Engineer Deployable Heavy Operational Repair Squadron Engineers, also known as Red Horse, was diagnosed with autosomal dominant polycystic kidney disease (ADPKD).

According to the polycystic kidney disease cure Web site, <http://www.pkdcure.org>, ADPKD is one of the most common, life-threatening genetic diseases, affecting more than 600,000 Americans and 12.5 million people worldwide. It affects more people than Down syndrome, cystic fibrosis, muscular dystrophy and sickle cell anemia combined.

ADPKD causes fluid-filled cysts to grow on the kidneys, which over time causes kidney failure in more than 50 percent of the cases. Dialysis and transplantation are the only treatments for kidney failure, but there are no cures for ADPKD. The disease affects 1 in 500 newborns and does not skip generations. Parents with ADPKD have a 50 percent chance of passing the disease on to their children.

Some common symptoms include: high blood pressure, back pain, stomach pain, side pain, blood in the urine, kidney stones, and a history of family kidney problems.

"My initial reaction when I found out I had ADPKD was surprise," Sergeant Filsell said. "I didn't have any knowledge on it at all."

"I knew my uncle and grandmother both died from kidney problems, but I didn't realize it was from ADPKD until after I was diagnosed and my sister told me," he



Courtesy photo

Master Sgt. Dale C. Filsell, services superintendent for Detachment 1 of the Rapid Engineer Deployable Heavy Operational Repair Squadron Engineers, finishes the last length of the West Point Lake Olympic Triathlon in LaGrange, Ga.

said.

Since his diagnosis, Sergeant Filsell's mother and sister have also been diagnosed with the disease.

"As you can tell, ADPKD has affected my whole family and holds true to the stats of being hereditary," he said.

He encourages people to talk to their families about their medical history.

"If there is a history of kidney problems in your family, ask what it is. If nobody knows, get it checked out," he said.

Some keys to battling the disease are controlling blood pressure with a good

diet and a strong exercise regiment.

"I try to watch what I eat and make sure my blood pressure stays under control, that's all I can really do right now with ADPKD," Sergeant Filsell said. "I also do my best to be in the best shape possible."

Sergeant Filsell started to run triathlons in May to help raise awareness for ADPKD and to help with his own battle. Since then, he's run eight triathlons.

"It's to show that I'm in control of this disease," he said. "I'm not going to let

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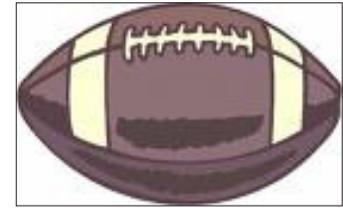


Tech. Sgt. Samantha Whitfield

Welcome to the Operational Air Force

Before Airmen can begin their job at their first duty station they must first graduate from the First Term Airmen Center. Airmen 1st Class Courtney Adams, Zachary Ashpole, Reginald Banks, Chase Capehart, Brandon Dimick, Charles Edwards, Douglas Fellows, Christina Flores, Erica Gamez, Katelyn Hemman, Joshua Josefowitz, Melvin Lard, Russell Lytle, Keith McDonald, Kevin McNatt, John Mykel, Romeo Sheppard, Airman Christopher Toothman and Airman Basic Erik Castillo, Andrew O'Quinn and Jerry Ward graduated from FTAC Oct. 5. FTAC is a two-week course where the Airmen are briefed on subjects ranging from Air Force core values to finance and budget.

2007 Standings Flag Football



(as of Oct. 22)

Team	Win	Loss
AMXS	9	1
SFS	8	1
SVS	6	1
MDG	8	2
COM	8	2
OSS	5	3
MXS	5	4
MOS	6	5
ACS	4	4
MSS/FW	4	6
CES	4	7
601st	2	6
53rd	2	8
CONS	1	7
823rd	1	7
AFRL	0	9

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this ruin my life or think about what the future could hold. I'm going to do what I can now. Every time I run a triathlon, I am beating this disease."

"Not only is he dedicated to his training, he is dedicated to his job," Tech Sgt. Jennifer Richbourg, prime readiness in-base services training instructor with Det. 1 of the 823rd Red Horse. "He is so dedicated that I don't think anyone even knows he has this disease."

"Sergeant Filsell is very focused on what he wants to accomplish or achieve," said Master Sgt. Ricki Gaddy, 1st Air Force superintendent of services. "I worked with him for more than two years and whether it's the mission, his subordinates' career progression, his own career or even an Ironman competition, he finds ways to make it happen."

"While ADPKD is a serious disease, he spoke of it twice that I remember. It will never be something he'll use as an excuse to deprive him on what he sets out to do," said Sergeant Gaddy.

Sergeant Filsell is set to compete in the local Ironman Florida competition Nov. 3; consisting of a 2.4 mile swim, 112 mile bicycle ride and a 26.2 mile marathon run consecutively. He trains regularly with a group of people on base for the event.

"It's a different lifestyle," he said. "We wake up at 4:30 a.m. on the weekends and sometimes train past 2 p.m."

For now he has the disease under control and he has good kidney functions on both sides.

"ADPKD has not impacted my career at all, I am able to do everything I need to do as an Air Force member," he said. "There is no talk at all of medically retiring me."

Sergeant Filsell hopes his battle will help inspire others with similar health concerns.

"Even though I have this disease and do not know what the future holds, I plan to live my life to the fullest and do my best to fight the whole time," Sergeant Filsell said. "Training for triathlons helps me do that. It keeps me in shape and takes my mind off things. If people with other diseases see me doing this, then hopefully they can do the same and get out and enjoy their lives to the fullest."



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 determine the final winner. The prize can be claimed at the Public Affairs office.

Airman 1st Class Bail-ee Smith, 325th Fighter Wing Legal Office, correctly guessed the Oct. 15 "Identify This" as a pumpkin basket. Congratulations Airman Smith.

325th ACS trains international students

STAFF SGT. VESTA ANDERSON
325TH FIGHTER WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Four times each year, approximately 12 international students from across the globe are selected to attend the International Air Weapons Controller and Theater Air Operations Courses conducted at the 325th Air Control Squadron here.

The International Flight at the 325th ACS trains foreign Air Battle Managers on U.S. Air Force tactics, techniques and procedures for combat air operations by introducing new concepts for command and control, air defense, airspace control and more.

According to Capt. Thomas McCann, 325th ACS International Flight commander and IAWCC/TAOC instructor, the training program is sponsored through the Air Force Security Assistance Training Program.

“Our two international courses teach U.S. command and control tactics, techniques and procedures from strategy to task, teaching officers from more than 50 coalition partner nations how to take strategic-level policy decisions and objectives and develop them to become tactical-level airpower operations,” said Lt. Col. Ted Davis, 325th ACS commander.

The IAWCC/TAOC instructors do this by providing the tools necessary for the students to become knowledgeable and proficient as controllers. The Air Education and Training Command certified instructors are officers, enlisted and civilians; each having six to more than 30 years of experience in their field.

The IAWCC/TAOC simulation pilots are Airmen who assist the instructors by “driving” replicated radar returns in mock flying scenarios and speak pilot lingo in order to help provide a more realistic approach to training.

“IAWCC students are typically entry-level controllers,” said Captain McCann. “They have already been certified in their country. They come here to learn our techniques.”

Individuals selected must have the aptitude for the course and must meet U.S. security standards. They are also subject to a fitness screening and must be able to speak or learn English, explains Captain McCann.

The IAWCC is a fundamental command and control course that provides initial qualification skills, said Captain McCann. It entails 25 challenging simulated missions such as: air refueling, tactical intercepts and large force exercises.

Maj. Reinhard “Mick” Hofstaedter is the current international student enrolled in IAWCC. As an air traffic control supervisor in the Austrian air force, Major Hofstaedter said he is looking forward to learning the course from a weapons controller perspective.

“They go through the same syllabus as our U.S. ABMs, but without access to classified information,” said the captain. “It’s rigorous training; the U.S. ABMs go through nine months of training; the foreign students do the same amount of instruction in only 40 days.”

During large force



Staff Sgt. Vesta Anderson

Capt. Thomas McCann, 325th ACS International Flight commander and instructor, introduces scope set up procedures to Maj. Reinhard “Mick” Hofstaedter, a member of the Austria air force and current student enrolled in the International Air Weapons Controller Course, here.

exercises, which can have up to 220 simulated aircraft involved, students must work together as they demonstrate task proficiency in Defensive Counter Air, defending against enemy advances; and Offensive Counter Air, managing strike packages.

It’s during these exercises that the knowledge and skill of the students and the training staff is demonstrated.

“TAOC is a higher caliber course for international ABMs who perform duties at an operational level,” said Captain McCann, explaining the second portion of international training.

Basically described as “war games,” TAOC is an extremely detailed level of training on war planning and execution.

The final goal is to achieve specific objectives

such as: minimizing losses, reducing collateral damage, target effectiveness and package management.

The students fulfill these requirements in a distinctive training environment.

Inside a cool and dimly-lit operations room, 18 scopes with linked communications display unclassified tactical interface which would typically be observed from command and control platforms.

“I’m used to air traffic control simulators,” said Maj. Hofstaedter. “The simulators here are easier to use. It’s a different environment.”

The relationships created through this program and the training instilled plays a vital role in the future of allied forces.

“The most important things I hope the students take away from this

experience are both the core skills they learn here and a lasting relationship between our two countries,” said Captain McCann.

For the U.S., fighting along side coalition countries is normality during Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom, explains Captain McCann. “Later in their career, when foreign controllers are serving side-by-side U.S. controllers, they will understand our methods,” said the captain.

Colonel Davis agrees these programs are important.

“In the Global War on Terrorism, our coalition partnerships are critical to our success,” said Colonel Davis.

Airman to fill big shoes and carry on family tradition

AIRMAN 1ST CLASS

ANTHONY J. HYATT

325TH FIGHTER WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Many people have a hero of some sort; either real or made-up. Some people may consider their hero to be a famous person or a professional athlete, while others would choose a fictional character like Superman, but my hero remains my dad.

My name is Airman 1st Class Anthony J. Hyatt and I am a staff writer with the 325th Fighter Wing Public Affairs office at Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla. My dad, (retired) Chief Master Sgt. Richard R. Hyatt, was the 375th Communications Squadron superintendent at Scott Air Force Base, Ill.

Recently, I took leave to attend my dad's retirement ceremony Oct. 5, 2007 at Scott AFB. Our family from all over the United States, knew the importance of this event and made sacrifices to make it to the retirement. The majority came from the state of Ohio; Grandpa Buzz - a retired chief master sergeant, Grandma Virginia, my dad's older brother Tim and his younger sister Holly. My father's younger brother, Chief Master Sgt. Paul B. Hyatt, 375th Communications Support Squadron superintendent, also at Scott AFB, had to travel the shortest distance. My mother's sister and her husband, a retired senior master sergeant, also made the trip from Nebraska. Obviously, I made the trip up from Florida.

When I was younger I really didn't understand or appreciate what my dad did. All I knew was that my dad worked with telephone lines.

As I got older and a little bit wiser, the time for me to start worrying about what I was going to do in the future began to get closer and my interest in dad's career grew. I was determined that my

future would be either playing college baseball or joining the military.

Everyday I came home from class and my dad would ask me, "Did you see the recruiter today?"

I would stubbornly reply no - not ready to face the fact that maybe baseball wasn't going to be in my future.

My dad has always been supportive of what I've done and he's always been there for the entire family. When I played baseball and football for the base youth leagues, he was at every game. Nowadays, he manages to make it to my sister Rachael's football games, she's a varsity cheerleader at Belleville East High School, and even on occasion goes to bingo night with my mom.

I'm not playing short stop for the Cleveland Indians, choosing instead to serve in the military. I can thank my dad for that - he is a major reason for where I am today, definitely pointing me in the right direction.

As Lt. Col. Jeri Day, 375th CS commander, read off my dad's achievements at the ceremony, I didn't realize how much my dad accomplished in his 24-year career in the Air Force. No offense, but it felt like the ceremony would never end.

Colonel Day's speech mentioned one of my dad's most indelible memories while being in the Air Force - his training instructor days at Lackland AFB. He was always one to help out the young Airmen, and there is no easier way to do that than to be a T.I. He had a record of guiding eight straight honor flights.

You may be asking yourself, "Your dad was a T.I.? He must have been strict at home?"

The answer is "Yes!" He was strict at home, but in a good way. He was always someone who didn't accept excuses, he was always on top of everything, and he



Courtesy photo

Three members from the Hyatt family, Chief Master Sgt. Paul Hyatt(left), Chief Master Sgt. Richard Hyatt(middle) and Airman 1st Class Anthony Hyatt(right), take their last active-duty picture together during the Chief's retirement ceremony Oct. 5.

was definitely a perfectionist.

I've always been the type of person to keep to myself, but when I really had a need for answers I usually turned to my dad. The best advice he has ever given to me is the time he told me about the word "integrity." I did something wrong and my dad questioned me about it. I, of course, told him the truth - that it wasn't me! He stared at me and then went into this story:

"A.J., the most important thing in the Air Force, and life, is integrity," said my dad. Keep in mind I was very young and didn't know what integrity was.

"I would rather have some lousy, clumsy, always-messing-up Airman with integrity than some super, hot shot, doesn't mess up, sharp Airman without integrity. Be honest, because once you lose someone's trust, it's hard to get back."

Most young Airmen are asked what

their proudest moment is in the military. Most responses have to do with graduating basic military training or receiving an award from a commander, but my proudest moment was being there for my dad, like he's been there for me - at his retirement ceremony all dressed up in blues.

In the next couple years, my uncle Paul will most likely be retiring from the Air Force and I will be the last one left from the Hyatt family still on active duty. I was asked at the ceremony, "You will have some big shoes to fill, are you up to it?" With the values my father has instilled in me and the competitive nature of my dad, his two brothers and myself, of course I accept the challenge. Only time will tell.

Time for flu shots

Members from Tyndall AFB gather to receive their annual flu vaccination for the 2007-2008 flu influenza season Tuesday via the flu-mist method. Visit immunizations in the clinic if you have not yet received your flu shot.



Photos by Airman 1st Class Anthony J. Hyatt

Commander's Commentary: The standards of excellence



LT. COL. KEVIN HUYCK
95TH FS COMMANDER

I am amazed by the professionalism around our base. The sharp security forces proudly protect our gates. Dedicated crew chiefs prepare their aircraft and the flightline for the day's missions. Formations of determined Airmen on our exercise track preparing for wartime commitments. I see excellence. It is up to us to keep that infectious pride

and motivation ongoing.

Our Core Values are the common thread we share as Airmen – "Integrity first, service before self and excellence in all we do." Whether you work on the frontline or flightline, in the office or a back shop, they summarize who we are as an Air Force. The bond tying them together is "The Standard," we hold ourselves to as professionals. We are reminded of these standards daily. They are posted on base speed limit signs, squadron tracking boards, measured in job reports and even summarized on all those charts at staff meetings. Our professional performance is even rated on how well we meet the Air Force standard. I make this point not to state the obvious, but to motivate us

all to keep our sights set on our mission. Everything we do has to be geared to achieve a standard of excellence and mission success.

In the business of flying fighters, it is the "standard," which sets the bar for achievement. Every mission has an objective against which we measure success. For example, a four-ship of Eagles on a defensive counter-air mission will either successfully defend the target area from attack or they will not. The high standard to achieve is mission success. From the battle manager to each wingman in the flight, everyone has a specific job to do. Each part of the mission, from mission preparation and planning through the briefing,

execution and debrief are focused on meeting the standard set by those before. If something breaks down in any phase, it could mean mission failure. There is always the push to make the best plan, conduct the best mission briefing and to execute perfectly to set the standard of excellence for others who follow.

Our Air Force Chief of Staff, Gen. T. Michael Moseley, recently reminded us that being a focused and disciplined Airmen is the key to mission accomplishment. Mission failure is not an option. Our continuing task is to provide air dominance warriors to the combat Air Force. With many Airmen from our wing deployed, this is the perfect time to evaluate and refocus our efforts on our mission.

This mindset can be applied to any line of work: Know your job, strive to do it better than anyone has ever done it and motivate those around you to reach the standard of excellence you have set. Challenge them to reach the next level. As we assess our performance, we measure up and meet the standard, or we do not. If someone falls short, they must be told through direct and valuable feedback. It is only through dedication and a tireless effort to learn and improve, that we will continue to succeed.

No matter the job, no matter the task, lead by example, keep the bar set high and uphold our Checkertail standard of excellence. It is how we will continue to fly, fight, and win when our nation calls.



Courtesy photo

Run for fun

Team Tyndall members donated time and money to the Fit Families 5K Run held Oct. 10 in observance of National Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Their efforts raised funds through the Combined Federal Campaign for the Salvation Army's Domestic Violence and Rape Crisis Program located here in Panama City.



Isaac Gibson

A new detachment, a new commander

The activation of Det. 1, 16th Electronic Warfare Squadron, occurred Friday and Capt. Blair Byrem assumed command. The 16th EWS forms the core cadre of Combat Air Forces fighter and bomber electronic warfare maintenance experts for avionics modification, test and sustainment.