

KEESLER NEWS

Keesler Air Force Base
Biloxi, Mississippi

Vol. 66, No. 31
Thursday, Aug. 17, 2006

Develop America's Airmen today ... for tomorrow

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<http://www.keesler.af.mil>



Dragons deployed —
53

Day is done



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Airman Billy Joe Gordon, left, and 2nd Lt. Laymond Wilburn fold the flag at the monthly formal retreat Aug. 10 as 2nd Lt. Joey Rivera looks on. Airman Gordon is in the 81st Supply Squadron. The lieutenants are in the 81st Communications Squadron.

Base A-76 official: Be prepared for any one of 3 scenarios

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News staff

As Keesler awaits Air Staff's decision on A-76, people who may be affected are advised to be prepared for any of three possible scenarios.

"What we know right now is that a decision from Air Staff is coming, and the way it looks, there are three possible scenarios," explained Brian Mooers, chief of Keesler's competitive sourcing office. "The tentative A-76 decision

could go forward, meaning the process will be where we were a year ago, just entering the 30-day public review period.

"The other possibilities are that the studies could be halted, or the hold on the decision could be extended while more information is gathered.

"We don't know when the decision will arrive, so in the meantime, I recommend that

Please see A-76, Page 9

This week in the Triangle

Communications-computer systems operations, 10 a.m. today, Thomson Hall.

Ground radio communications, 10 a.m. today, Jones Hall.

Level 2 global command and control systems-systems administration, 11 a.m. today, Stennis Hall.

Deliberate and crisis action planner execution segment planner, 11 a.m. today, Stennis Hall.

Network administration applications, 11 a.m. today, Stennis Hall.

Space environment, 7 a.m. Friday, weather training complex.

Communications-computer systems planning and implementation, 10 a.m. Friday, Thomson Hall.

Information management, 10 a.m. Friday, Thomson Hall.

Computer networking cryptographic system, 10 a.m. Friday, Bryan Hall.

Basic instructor, 10 a.m. Friday, Hewes Hall.

Certificate authority workstation, 11 a.m. Friday, Stennis Hall.

Emission security manager, 11 a.m. Friday, Stennis Hall.

Communications-computer systems control, 10:30 a.m. Monday, Thomson Hall.

Airborne mission systems specialist, 9 a.m. Tuesday, Dolan Hall.

Tropical weather analysis and forecasting, 10 a.m. Tuesday, weather training complex.

Theater deployable communications, 11 a.m. Tuesday, Stennis Hall.

Network management infrastructure, 11 a.m. Tuesday, Stennis Hall.

Communications information systems, 11 a.m. Wednesday, Stennis Hall.

Base information protection-internal control, 11 a.m. Wednesday, Stennis Hall.



July Honor Flight

Student numbers

Total students — 3,305

Non-prior service — 2,139

Temporary duty — 1,148

Combat controllers — 18

Non-prior service arrivals — 152

Guard, Reserve — 777

International — 40

Fiscal 2006 graduates — 21,960

Total since 1942 — 2,230,021

COMMENTARY

Airmen best spokesmen for telling Air Force story

Editor's note: In the latest Letter to Airmen, Secretary of the Air Force Michael Wynne recognizes the importance of every Airman communicating the Air Force story, especially the contribution the Air Force makes to the nation's security.

SAN ANTONIO — The American public looks up to you as a model of integrity, and by sharing your experiences you're the best spokesmen for our Air Force.

As part of the new program, a booklet about "The Air Force Story" provides Airmen with information to discuss with family, friends and the public. Deployed Airmen receive an "Airman's Card" which provides

guidance on how to communicate their story and to be honest, candid and to stay within their area of expertise.

In addition, a new advertising campaign features outstanding Airmen describing their contributions to the nation's defense.

One person's story carries the hopes and dreams of a new generation of Airmen and confirms the public's belief that we serve on their behalf.

This Letter to Airmen and other senior leader viewpoints can be found in the library section of Air Force Link.

Air Force Smart Operations 21

Strategy to help us navigate through our transformation

By Brig. Gen. Robert Steel

48th Fighter Wing commander

ROYAL Air Force Lakenheath, England — By now, I'm sure many of you have heard our Air Force is undergoing a significant transformation. We're in the process of evolving into a more expeditionary force and increasing our ability to take on any mission, anywhere in the world.

As we undergo this transformation, it's vital we have a strategy that enables us to continue evolving, while meeting America's needs. Our answer: Air Force Smart Operations 21.

This program, also known as AFSO21, was adopted by our service's leaders and is being implemented Air Force wide to help us navigate through our transformation. The AFSO21 program borrows some of the best business principles from the corporate world and applies them to our Air Force organization, structure and processes.

The primary goal of AFSO21 is to eliminate waste: waste of time, waste of manpower and waste of money. As a more expeditionary force, we must have a way to identify wasteful processes and fix them. AFSO 21 does just that. It asks each of us to take a long, hard look at how we can better accomplish the mission, while maximizing value and minimizing waste.

For most of us, this requires a culture change or a shift in our way of thinking. We aren't just going to look at how we can do our jobs better. We're going to take it a step fur-

ther by asking the question: "Why?"

Questioning how we do our part to accomplish the mission and looking at innovative methods to get the job done are vital components of this program.

Airmen at RAF Lakenheath already have begun asking "Why?" and targeting programs that help maximize efficiencies and eliminate waste. Group and squadron representatives have amassed more than 10 AFSO21 initiatives across the wing. These initiatives tackle some of our biggest challenges in areas such as logistics, aircraft maintenance, air operations, personnel and medical care.

However, it doesn't stop there. The fact is, the Air Force needs everybody's help. I urge you to take a long, hard look at how you do your job, and ask yourself "Why?" If you come across a wasteful process, tell your squadron AFSO21 representative or unit leaders and be proactive in helping develop a better, more efficient way to accomplish the mission.

I want everyone to understand what AFSO21 is, then to see it in action on the job. One person's great ideas spur even greater ideas and creativity in others.

As our Air Force continues to transform, AFSO 21 is vital. In the words of the secretary of the Air Force, "With AFSO21, we will march unnecessary work out the door forever."

I'm confident this program will lessen our load, while increasing our ability to take on any mission, anytime, anywhere.

ACTION LINE ... 377-4357

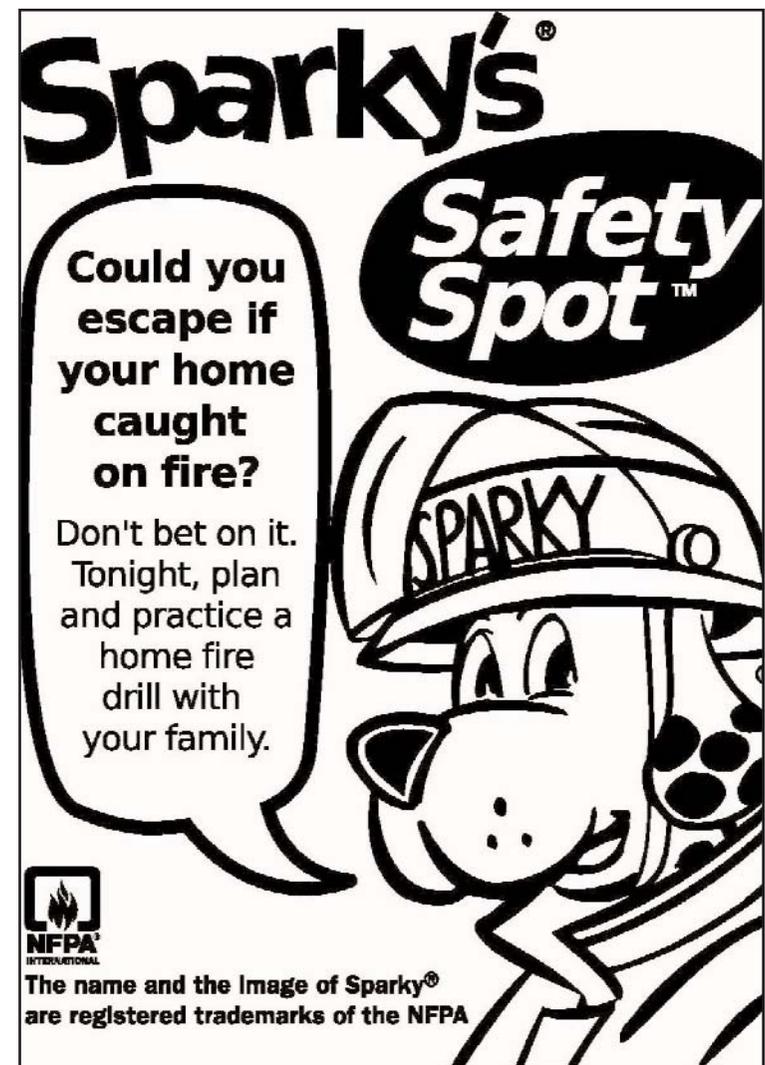
By Brig. Gen. Paul Capasso

81st Training Wing commander

First, try to work concerns through the proper chain of command. When you've exhausted this recourse, turn to the commander's action line for assistance.

We welcome any suggestions to help make this a more valuable and useful tool. You may call the commander's action line at 377-4357, write to Commander's Action Line, 81 TRW/PA, Keesler AFB, MS 39534-2603, e-mail 81 TRW Commander's Action Line (on-base) or commanders.line@keesler.af.mil (off-base). For a personal response, include your name, address and phone number.

Items of general interest may appear in this column.



Sparky's
Safety Spot™

Could you escape if your home caught on fire?

Don't bet on it. Tonight, plan and practice a home fire drill with your family.

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U.S. AIR FORCE
EagleEyes
WATCH.REPORT.PROTECT.

KEESLER NEWS

No. 1 in Air Force,
2004, 1997.

No. 1 in AETC,
2004, 1998, 1996;
No. 2, 2003, 2001,
1999, 1997, 1991;

No. 3, 2005, 2002,
1995.

81st Training Wing commander

Brig. Gen. Paul Capasso

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Lt. Col. Claudia Foss

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Kemberly Groue

The Keesler News office is in Room 113, Taylor Logistics Center, Building 4002. The mailing address: 81TRW/PAIN, Keesler AFB, MS 39534-2120. Phone: 377-4130, 3163, 3837, 7340. Publication date: Thursday. News deadline: noon Monday. Classified advertising deadline: see Classified section. Editorial content is edited, prepared, and provided by the 81st TRW Public Affairs Office in compliance with Air Force journalistic standards. All photographs are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated.

The Keesler News is published by Gulf Publishing Co., a private firm in no way connected with the Air Force, under an exclusive written contract with the 81st TRW and as an authorized publication for U.S. military service members. Contents aren't necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by the U.S. government, Department of Defense or Air Force. The appearance of advertising does not constitute endorsement by the U.S. government, DOD, Air Force or Gulf Publishing of products or services advertised. Everything advertised shall be made available without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other non-merit factor.



Phone numbers and Web sites
for information and accountability

for Keesler members:

Keesler Accountability Team

1-800-673-9356

Air Force Personnel Center

1-800-435-9941

<http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/ndw>

81st Civil Engineer Squadron readiness

377-3811 or DSN 597-3811

**Mississippi Emergency Management
Agency**

<http://www.msema.org>

National Weather Service

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov>

Keesler Public Web site

<http://www.keesler.af.mil>

Keesler's 2006 safety goals

Make safety ...

a core value,

a best business practice,
a competitive and asymmetric
advantage.

**Make every employee ...
feel safe at work and home.**



If you've had too much to drink,
call Airmen Against Drunk Driving,
377-7283,

10 p.m. to 6 a.m. Thursdays
before down Fridays,
working Fridays and Saturdays.



To start, stop,
increase or decrease
Keesler News delivery,
or for display racks,
facility managers call
377-4130.

TRAINING AND EDUCATION



The Dark Knights send their rifles flying during Friday's freestyle drill competition.

Bulls bellow to season's first drill down win

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News staff

The competition couldn't have been much tighter Friday for the 81st Training Group's August drill down.

Two teams had identical overall scores — the 335th Training Squadron Bulls and the 338th TRS Dark Knights. When that happens, the tiebreaker is the team with the higher regulation drill score.

The Bulls came out on top with a first place in regulation drill, but only a third place in open ranks and last place in freestyle drill.

The Dark Knights' second place overall finish was the team's best showing of the 2006 season, with a first place in open ranks, third in regulation drill and fourth in the freestyle competition.

The top finisher in the season's first two drill competitions, the 336th TRS Red Wolves, ranked third overall after earning second place in regulation drill, third in freestyle drill and last place in open ranks.

The 332nd TRS Mad Dogs took fourth place overall with a second in open ranks, fourth in regulation drill and fifth in freestyle drill.

The Gators from the 334th TRS took overall honors in the June drill down, but slipped to fifth place overall this month in spite of a first-place finish in the freestyle competition. The team placed fifth in open ranks and regulation drill.

Once again, the team from Keesler's Center for Naval Aviation Technical Training Unit finished in the basement. However, the Sailors had their best showing in any category in their first year of drill down competition, taking second place honors in



Photos by Kemberly Groue

The Bulls won the overall title for August with a first place in regulation drill, third in open ranks and sixth place in freestyle drill.

freestyle drill, along with fourth place in open ranks and last place in regulation drill.

The Bulls' winning team was guided by Airman 1st Class Robert Kroupa, drill master, and Airman Basic Thomas Allender, drill instructor.

Other members are Airmen Basic Jason Childers, David Davis, Kyle Ellis, Michael Makela, Robert Walker, Sara Wauer, Brandon Wiggins and Chantelle Wood; Airmen Jacob Callahan, Ryan Felicilda and Kyla McCoy, and Airmen 1st Class Mark Downer, Shena Lichau and Anedia Roper.

Keen competition

With a single drill down left in the 2006 season, the race is wide open for annual overall honors.

The 335th TRS and the 336th TRS are tied with 35 points, with the 334th TRS one point behind.

Rounding out the field are the 332nd TRS, 29 points; 338th TRS, 26 points, and CNATTU, 16 points.

The final drill down is 7 a.m. Oct 20 on the parade grounds.



Navy Airman Chase Jonas and his CNATTU teammates took second place in the freestyle drill. This is the first season the Sailors have entered the drill competition.

Fall terms for colleges under way or just ahead

Education office

Fall terms are under way or about to start at four colleges with offices at Keesler.

Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College — Room 214, old Cody Hall. Phone: 377-2287.

Late registration is Aug. 28-Sept. 1.

Fall term is Aug. 28-Nov. 10.

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University — Room 217, old Cody Hall. Phone: 377-4271.

Registration closed Friday.

Fall term began Aug. 7 and runs through Oct. 6.

Embry-Riddle offers undergraduate degrees in professional aeronautics and technical management, and a masters in aeronautical science. A new certificate in security and intelligence is available online.

University of Southern Mississippi — Room 208, old Cody Hall. Phone: 377-2309.

Late registration is Wednesday through Sept. 1.

Fall term is Wednesday through Dec. 14.

An academic adviser is available Monday and Wednesday afternoons by appointment.

Degrees in technical and occupational education, psychology and American studies are available. Courses are also available at the Jackson County campus in Gautier and the new Gulfport campus.

For the new course schedule and directions to the Gulf Coast Student Center, visit the USM Web site, <http://www.usm.edu/gulfcoast>.

William Carey College — Room 208, old Cody Hall. Phone: 377-0090.

Late registration continues through Friday at the First Missionary Baptist Church, 1100 Pass Road, Gulfport.

Fall term began Monday and runs through Oct. 20.

An undergraduate degree in general studies is available.

TRAINING AND EDUCATION NOTES

HAZMAT training

Hazardous waste management training, is 8-11 a.m. Aug. 31 in Room 254, Wolfe Hall.

For more information, call Thomas Minton, hazardous waste manager, 377-3004.

Physical therapy

Air Force Print News

RANDOLPH Air Force Base, Texas — Air Force officials are taking applications for the physical therapy doctoral program which begins Dec. 18, 2007, at the Health Science Center at Fort Sam Houston, Texas.

Only active-duty Airmen with a baccalaureate degree or who are in the final semester prior to receiving a degree that includes this program's prerequisites may apply. Applicants also must be medically qualified for worldwide duty.

Qualified applicants, call DSN 665-2775 or 1-210-565-2775 for applications.

CCAF graduation

The last day to apply for the

Community College of the Air Force fall graduating class is Aug. 24.

For more information or to make an appointment, call 377-2323 or 2171, or visit the education office, Room 212, old Cody Hall.

AFOSI training

The Air Force Office of Special Investigations is recruiting to fill Reserve individual mobilization augmentee staff and technical sergeant special agent positions.

For more information, contact OSI Reserve Affairs, 1-240-857-0866, DSN 857-0866 or mary.mesa@ogn.af.mil.

Medical training

Air Force Print News

RANDOLPH Air Force Base, Texas — The Air Force is taking applications from active-duty enlisted Airmen for physician assistant Phase I training classes beginning in January, April and August 2008.

The selection board convenes at the Air Force Personnel Center on March 27. Completed applications must arrive at HQ

AFPC/DPAMW, 550 C Street West, Suite 27, Randolph AFB TX 78150-4729 by Jan. 26. Incomplete applications or those received after the cutoff date are returned and won't meet the selection board.

For more information, contact local military personnel flights, education offices or the AFPC Web site.

Weapons training

Weapons training is conducted by the 81st Security Forces Squadron at Camp Keller in Woolmarket.

For more information, call Staff Sgt. Barry Hardy, 377-3354.

Civilian tuition aid

College tuition assistance is available for permanent civil service employees at Keesler.

Courses must be related to the Air Force mission.

For more information, call or visit the education office, 377-2323, Room 212, old Cody Hall.

Supply classes

To schedule a general supply class, call 377-2270.

New leader for Mad Ducks



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Lt. Col. Kay Spannuth, left, new commander of the 333rd Training Squadron, and Staff Sgt. William Patrick, a student from Fairchild Air Force Base, Wash., listen as senior system administrator John Ledet explains the equipment used for the squadron's combat information transport system courses, Aug. 10 in Stennis Hall. Colonel Spannuth, who assumed command Aug. 8, previously served as a communications and information systems planner with the United States delegation to the NATO military committee in Belgium. She succeeds Lt. Col. Randy Coats, who's now the deputy commander of the 607th Air and Space Communications Group at Osan Air Base, Korea.

NEWS AND FEATURES

Budget assistant gets BIG honor

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News staff

Florence Clay, a budget assistant in the 334th Training Squadron, is Air Education and Training Command's nominee for the Air Force Blacks in Government meritorious service award.

Mrs. Clay, who's worked at Keesler for 20 of her 23 years in federal service, has been a member of BIG's Mississippi Gulf Coast chapter for 15 years. She's involved with the group's finance, fundraising, hospitality, membership and other committees.

She's participated in several of the organization's national training conferences and volunteered for onsite registration, finance, comptroller and planning committees. She's also served as the area chapter's training adviser.



Mrs. Clay

Mrs. Clay, the 334th TRS equal employment opportunity representative, works with Keesler's EEO office supporting employment and placement methods that enhance a diverse workforce.

Mrs. Clay attends meetings, workshops, conferences and job fairs identified by the base's special emphasis program manager and spoke as part of the 81st Supply Squadron's Black History Month observance.

She supports community and public service programs by coordinating donations for area battered women's shelters and Thanksgiving food baskets for needy families.

Mrs. Clay is involved in BIG's Scholarships to Acquire Career Knowledge program that provides funds for members to advance their education.

She's also helped Keesler employees complete paperwork to obtain tuition assistance and pursue promotion opportunities.

Bird returns to roost



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Keith Ott, a contractor in the 81st Operations Support Flight, helps to rotate the repaired and repainted T-28 as it's placed back on its pedestal in the Larcher Boulevard median across from the former base exchange Aug. 10. The Hurricane Katrina repairs were done adjacent to the flight line before the plane was lifted onto a flatbed truck for transport back to its original location for display.

IN THE NEWS

Gas pumps close at least 3 days

Aug. 28, gas pumps at the base service station are shut down for at least three days so the Army and Air Force Exchange Service and the project contractor can convert gas lines and a communications network from the old pumps to new ones.

Inclement weather or unforeseen mechanical or communication problems could keep the pumps closed for a longer period of time.

As Phase II of the project begins, four new pumping stations with a total of eight hoses will be available and the retail store closes. Customers must prepay for cash purchases.

"Credit cards are the most convenient payment method," said Dan Schmidt, AAFES general manager. "Pre-payment is required because the design of the temporary trailer setup and future store setup prevents drive-up payments."

NSPS course online

Supervisors of covered civilian employees at Keesler are expected to learn the new National Security Personnel System.

NSPS 101, an online training course, is available through the Department of Defense at <http://www.cpms.osd.mil/nsps/nsps101/nsps/index.htm>. It takes less than an hour to complete the course, which is a prerequisite to technical training to be conducted on base. When the online course is completed, print and hold a certificate verifying the training.

Keesler is scheduled to convert 564 non-union civilian positions to NSPS in January.

Parking lot closes for drills

The parking lot southeast of the Keesler NCO Academy is closed 7:15-10:45 a.m. Sept. 13 for drill evaluations.

In the event of inclement weather, the lot is open.

For more information, call Master Sgt. Rosetta Lee, 377-2740.

BDU purchases online

The Army and Air Force Exchange Service's online store now sells battle dress uniforms and add-on items such as boots, belts, T-shirts and socks.

For a small fee, a local alterations contractor attaches all nametapes, rank, insignia, badges and patches.

To access the Web site, log on to <http://www.aafes.com> and select "Military Uniforms Ready-to-Wear."

Early Keesler News deadline

The deadline for submissions to the Sept. 7 issue of the Keesler News is noon Aug. 31, four days earlier than usual.

The early deadline is due to the Labor Day federal holiday Sept. 4.

The newspaper office is closed Sept. 4 in observance of the holiday.

Off-limits establishments

Off-limits establishments for military members are:

Biloxi — Blue Note Lounge, Boulevard Nightclub and Henry Beck Park. The park is off-limits except during daylight hours or official events.

Pascagoula — Carver Village, Bunksmall Apartments and H&H Hideaway.

Moss Point — Toni's Lounge.

A-76,

from Page 1

everyone be prepared for any of the possibilities,” he continued. “That means, among other things, knowing what’s in your personnel records as well as knowing all your options.”

As Keesler awaits Air Staff’s decision on the future of the base’s competitive sourcing plan, the anxiety level among Keesler personnel seems to be on the rise again, Mr. Mooers said.

“And where there’s a void of information, rumors tend to fill the gap,” he pointed out. “Spreading rumors does more harm than good. It only causes an increase in anxiety, and we have more than enough of that already. We’d much rather that people call our office, 377-4848, to get the current information.”

Mr. Mooers acknowledged the continuing uncertainty has been a difficult challenge for many Keesler employees, especially those who are facing significant personal hardships and loss in Hurricane Katrina’s aftermath.

“If this cloud has a silver lining, it’s the fact that this delay has given people an extra year to consider all their options,” he pointed out. “This could be a very important year for many people, especially those close to retirement.”

One year ago Friday, Keesler learned the base’s future operating support services would be split between a contractor and government employees.

Eleven days later, Hurricane Katrina blasted the base and put the decision on hold after five years of research, planning, proposals and postponements.

Until Katrina, the tentative decision was to award Dyn-Corp a 10-year contract at a

‘To-do’ list for civilians

A-76 result may affect

If you’re a civilian employee at Keesler whose job may be impacted by the A-76 decision, here’s a “to-do list” provided by the civilian personnel office:

Are your personnel records accurate and up-to-date? This includes experience, education, awards and training. Qualifications for particular positions can be waived due to educational and training accomplishments.

Are you eligible to retire? Call the Air Force Personnel Center’s Benefits Entitlements Service Team, 1-800-997-2378, for the information you need.

Are you interested in retraining? Visit the civilian personnel office to explore possible programs.

Are you a subscriber to the Civilian Announcement Notification System? CANS is an Air Force-wide job announcement system sorted by grade, series and location. You’re notified by e-mail so you can nominate yourself for vacant positions.

Are you available to relocate? That may open up additional employment opportunities.

Are you computer literate? Many jobs today require computer skills. Check with the airman and family readiness center, local adult education classes or a computer-savvy friend or family member if you need help.

cost of \$280 million to provide civil engineering, supply, services and some mission support functions which are currently performed by 562 military and civilian personnel.

Communication functions currently provided by about 175 military and civilian employees were slated to stay in-house at a 10-year cost of \$54 million.

“A catastrophic event like Katrina required a thorough assessment to assure that the scope of Keesler’s support requirements hadn’t changed significantly,” explained Mr. Mooers. “In December, wing leadership decided to request the resumption of the A-76 studies because the unknown was causing significant stress for our workers.

“Also, Keesler had moved forward with its post-Katrina reconstitution faster than anyone had ever expected.”

After Brig. Gen. Paul

Capasso, 81st Training Wing commander, sent the request to resume the competitive sourcing process to Air Education and Training Command, a post-Katrina analysis of support service requirements was conducted.

After the analysis was completed in May, Gen. William Looney, AETC commander, approved the request and forwarded it to Air Staff for review.

“General Capasso highlighted two major concerns in sending the request forward — whether the contractor could support adequate wages and maintain a sufficient work force in south Mississippi in Katrina’s wake,” Mr. Mooers noted. “Many homes and apartments were destroyed, so affordable housing is at a premium.

“Additionally, wages have jumped with the increased demand for skilled workers to rebuild the area.”

PERSONNEL NOTES

Editor's note: This column is a service of the Keesler News. Contributors include the Air Force Personnel Center, Randolph Air Force Base, Texas, and the 81st Mission Support Squadron's military and civilian personnel flights.

More vMPF programs

Air Force Print news

RANDOLPH Air Force Base, Texas — The Air Force is adding the selective re-enlistment and career job reservation programs to the virtual military personnel flight.

Beginning Sept. 1, the automated SRP process e-mails commanders a monthly roster notifying them of their Airmen projected for re-enlistment. Commanders can choose whether or not to make Airmen ineligible for re-enlistment based on quality force standards. Upon processing of the subsequent month roster, Airmen who meet the requirements are automatically made eligible for re-enlistment.

Thirty days after the commander receives the SRP roster, provided Airmen remain eligible, the system automatically requests a CJR for Airmen in the first month of their CJR eligibility window (35th month for four-year enlistees, 59th month for six-year enlistees) in their control Air Force specialty code.

Airmen eligible for a CJR who are in a constrained career field are placed on the CJR waiting list. Those initially deemed ineligible for re-enlistment continue to be reviewed monthly to determine if they become eligible, at which time the system requests a CJR or places the member on the CJR waiting list.

Airmen in a constrained AFSC who end up on the CJR waiting list are able to track the status of their CJR request via a vMPF link. The link also provides a CJR expiration date for Airmen who receive a CJR.

For more information, call the Air Force Contact Center, 1-800-616-3775 (Option 1,1,2), 1-210-565-5000 or DSN 665-5000.

New services for reservists

Air Reserve Personnel Center Public Affairs

DENVER — Air Reserve Personnel Center news can now be delivered directly to desktops via ARPC's new Really Simple Syndication feeds or to e-mail addresses via the new ARPC news service.

ARPC news and information is available through RSS feeds that deliver headlines and summaries to desktops and Web browsers. RSS feeds, when used in conjunction with an RSS Reader, automatically update with the latest content at set intervals so users don't have to visit ARPC to check for the latest news.

The center's news also can be received by subscribing to Air Reserve Personnel Center News on the Air Force Link subscription page or on the ARPC home page.

Force shaping preparations

In preparation for the next officer force shaping board in the spring, officers are encouraged check their education levels in the virtual military personnel flight.

To correct errors, e-mail Air Force Institute of Technology's Academic Coding Branch, afit.coding@afit.edu, or send an official transcript from the college or university to AFIT Academic Coding Branch, 2950 Hobson Way, Wright-Patterson AFB OH 45433-7765.

Data theft protection resources

Air Force Print News

RANDOLPH Air Force Base, Texas — For information on data theft protection resources and how to protect against identity theft, visit First Gov, the federal government's official Web portal, or call Veterans Affairs, 1-800-333-4636.

107 Keesler names on staff sergeant promotion list

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News staff

Keesler has 107 names on the staff sergeant promotion list released Aug. 9.

The senior airmen selected for promotion are:

81st Aerospace Medicine Squadron — Erin Hargrove and Amber Williams.

81st Civil Engineer Squadron — Eric Banker, Rick Blayney, Trevor Connelly, Richard Durling, Jose Gonzalez-Silva, Anthony Jones Jr., Anita Pascual, Solomon Rigsby, Kimberly Thomas, Timothy Todd and Russell Wrenn.

81st Communications Squadron — Matthew Biggs, Michael Haney, Jeremy Jeffcoat, Adam Lesperance and James Reeves.

81st Dental Squadron — LaChaune Alexander, Robin Barton, Marlena Gordon, Danielle Hindel and Jason Ware.

81st Medical Operations Squadron — Jessica Aglibut, James Bowden, Stephanie Browne, Michael Horwath, Ethan Kibler, Eric Markland, Richard Miller, Cy Perkins and Jacqueline Scott.

81st Medical Support Squadron — Zarai Alvarez, Kelly Bergelin-Lomeli, Crystal Chucta, Steven Clark, Jessica Davis, Garakani Hemati, Steven Humph-

Nearly 36 percent chosen Air Force-wide

Air Force Personnel Center

Across the Air Force, 13,298 of 37,071 eligible senior airmen were selected for promotion for a 35.87 percent selection rate.

The complete list of those selected is posted online at <http://ask.afpc.randolph.af.mil>.

To enhance customer service, beginning with this promotion release, eligible Airmen who tested will find their Weighted Airman Promotion System score notices posted on their Air Force Portal personal page and on the Virtual Military Personnel Flight.

Score notices allow Airmen to see how their Promotion Fitness Examination and Specialty

Knowledge Test scores rank against those they're directly competing with for promotion within their Air Force Specialty Code.

The average score for those selected was 273.15 points, with the following averages:

131.59 points, enlisted performance reports.

59.76, promotion fitness exam.

53.82, specialty knowledge test.

17.90, time in grade.

11.28, time in service.

0.83, decorations.

The average senior airman selected has 2.02 years time in grade and 4.59 years in service.

Those selected are promoted to staff sergeant from September to August 2007.

rey, Asline Joseph, Andrew Lomeli, Kenya Manning, Nathan Stafford and Sameka Williams.

81st Mission Support Squadron — Shaneka Best and Salvatore Tutobene.

81st Operations Support Flight — Charmaine Johnson and Gerald Kelley.

81st Security Forces Squadron —

Jesse Briggs, Jason Dural, George Hartzell, Alisha Knott, Nathan Knowles, Benjamin McQuagge, Benjamin Miracle, Edward Rivers and Benjamin Thomas.

81st Supply Squadron — Thomas Back, Destiny Guy, Eric Hurtado and Brandon Skipper.

81st Surgical Operations Squad-

ron — Vivianne Jean-Pierre, Ryan Lannen and Joi Reece.

81st Training Support Squadron — Lawanda Blount, Quan Holmes and Nathan Peterson.

81st Transportation Squadron — Jeremy Bailey, Justin Cyr, Donald Edwards, Starlette Jones, Charles Pichel-mayer, Richard Tagert and Anthony Weiger.

85th Engineering Installation Squadron — John Ballard, Christopher Billings, David Coleman, Todd Coover, Benjamin Dalrymple, Marcas Hemmila, Kathryn Hernandez, Derrick King, Lawrence Lamontagne, Thomas Lynch, Charles Pittman and Nicholas Swearingen.

332nd Training Squadron — Jennifer Bosch and Beth Schneider.

333rd TRS — Clifford Thompson

334th TRS — Richard Fosnacht, Shane Gibeault, Jennifer Hickey and Kristel Knowles.

335th TRS — Richard Boyd III.

336th TRS — Dustin Beach, Clarissa Pittman and Jonathan Tom.

338th TRS — Jesse Campbell, Elizabeth Condon, Adam Cone, Timothy Crismon, Kyle Ganey, Jason Hanafin, Ramsey Orr, Melissa Piersel and Christopher Rogers.

366th TRS — Hector Bono.

Force shaping 95 Keesler officers eligible for voluntary separation pay

By Perry Jenifer

Keesler News editor

Ninety-five officers at Keesler are eligible for voluntary separation pay under the Air Force's latest force-shaping program.

"We're accepting applications from officers with six to 12 years total service in overage career fields through Jan. 31," said Capt. Robert Roeckers, the 81st Mission Support Squadron's military personnel flight commander. "Officers can request separation Oct. 1 through Sept. 29, 2007."

Double payment

Officers approved for VSP receive twice the involuntary separation pay rate, according to the captain.

"For example," he said, "a captain with six years will get \$93,519 and a major with 12 years gets \$170,740 — before taxes.

"The best way to check your eligibility and calculate your possible incentive is to go the Air Force Personnel Center's Force Shaping Web site, <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/retsep/forceshaping/shape.htm>."

The Air Force specialty codes are "shut off as they reach their targeted sustainment levels," Captain Roeckers said.

VSP for enlisted?

Under current law, VSP can't be offered to enlisted personnel. However, officials have asked Congress to expand VSP to enlisted personnel and officers six to less than 20 years of service, Lt. Col. William Hampton, retirements and separations branch at the Pentagon, told Air Force Print News recently.

Implementation of VSP for enlisted personnel would depend on the effectiveness of current force-shaping programs and "fiscal resources," the colonel said. "If we reach our enlisted end-strength goal through ... current programs, or our fiscal resources are limited even more, we won't offer incentives."

Currently, the Air Force plans to shape the enlisted force by recruiting fewer Airmen and continuing the use of career job reservations and noncommissioned officer retraining.

Enlisted Airmen shouldn't be waiting for monetary incentives to drive their career decisions, according to Chief Master Sergeant of

the Air Force Rodney McKinley.

"They need to keep informed about changes that could affect their career path, ask questions and make informed decisions," he told AFPN.

In addition to the 95 VSP candidates, at least five officers serviced by the military personnel flight here will be considered by the January 2007 Selective Early Retirement Board, according to Captain Roeckers.

"The Air Force will consider lieutenant colonels twice deferred and colonels with at least four years total time in grade," he explained. "By law, we can't look at those with approved voluntary retirements, those on a promotion list and those who have mandatory retirement in fiscal 2007 or 2008.

"The SERB retirement date is no later than Sept. 1, 2007," he added.

Another board in March

Another 13 Keesler officers could be considered by the March 2007 Force Shaping Board.

"The Air Force will also be boarding lieutenants and captains in the 2004 year group who are in overage AFSCs for separation," Captain Roeckers said. "They will also be looking at staff judge advocate captains who pinned on in 2003 and a few line career fields in the 2003 year group that weren't included in the FY06 Force Shaping Board. By law, these officers must have less than five years commissioned service as of the no-later-than separation date, Sept. 29, 2007."

The captain said a one-year waiver of total time in grade continues for lieutenant colonels and colonels to retire, allowing all eligible officers to apply for retirement in excess of the normal 12 months lead time.

Other options

He also noted Palace Chase is still an option for Airmen, and bonus/education recovery waivers for officers to transfer to Air Reserve components and voluntary retirement of officers with eight years commissioned service instead of the normal 10 continue to be allowed.

Squadrons interested in being briefed on force shaping at commander's calls, call Captain Roeckers, 377-2908.

**Make safety a reality
— don't be a fatality.**

Rooftop repairs



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Contractors Tracey Townsend, left, and Tim Townsend use silver solder to connect copper pipes for air handler units on the roof of Sablich Center, Aug. 9. It's expected that hurricane repairs will be completed by April 30.

Mini-mart contract finalized; site preparation continues

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News staff

Early next year, Army and Air Force Exchange Service customers at Keesler can expect to have a new place to shop.

A contract was awarded July 27 to build a 40,000-square-foot temporary mini-mart at the former site of the vehicle resale lot on M Street between the 81st Civil Engineer Squadron complex and the former Pecan Dining Facility.

The completion target is January or February.

“The new facility will allow AAFES to expand our merchandise assortment and offer many more categories that are typically found in a base exchange — mainly clothing and shoes, but also an expanded selection of electronics, health and beauty supplies, housewares, sporting goods, stationery and other items,” said general manager Danny Schmidt.

The contractor has begun the first phase of securing the site and preparing for the cement foundation.

The Triangle mini-mall, which has served Keesler customers since Hurricane Katrina gutted the main exchange, remains open after construction of the temporary facility is complete.

X marks the spot



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Contractor Ricky Lacla uses an excavator to level a structurally unsound housing unit at the end of North Court Street in North Pinehaven Friday. Homes in the area slated for demolition were marked by a large red X, while unmarked homes are still suitable for use. Other hurricane damaged homes along the waterfront in Bay Ridge are coming down this week.

Palace HART:

Helping casualties of war to get on with their lives

By Staff Sgt. Jeremy Larlee

Air Force Print News

RANDOLPH Air Force Base, Texas — They gave something they can never get back, and a group here does its best to ensure these heroes move smoothly to the next phase of their lives.

Palace HART — Helping Airmen Recover Together — assists Airmen injured in operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. Many of them have amputations and other handicaps. The program assists them in staying on active duty, if possible, but it also helps injured veterans transition to life in the civilian world.

The program started in 2004.

“Palace HART is vital to them. (Air Force leaders) want to ensure we have no lost patrols,” said Bill Sherman, chief of family and community operations at the Air Force Personnel Center.

The program assists though resume building and helping locate civilian service jobs for the injured heroes. Program officials continually call the

veterans, sometimes daily, to make sure the injured Airmen know they aren’t alone.

Brian Kolfage lost his legs and his right arm to a mortar attack at Balad Air Base, Iraq, in 2004. With assistance from Palace HART, he’s found a civil service job in security forces, the same career field he held on active duty.

“Overall, this program has helped me become more independent and more focused on what I want to do in the future and helped me become stronger as a person,” he said.

There are 86 Airmen in the program. Approximately five Airmen a month have been added and program officials try to stay in contact with the injured for five years.

“We just try to untie the knots for them,” Mr. Sherman said. “These are people that were happy with their career and all of a sudden have to leave the service.”

Palace HART officials find their work rewarding.

“It is heartwarming for me that we make sure the folks get remembered. It’s important for them to know we still care,” Mr. Sherman said.

Lightning

How to avoid falling victim to deadly bolt

More than 100 people die each year in the United States from lightning, with almost 75 percent of the deaths occurring in the summer.

To avoid being hit by lightning during a thunderstorm, the National Weather Service recommends:

Follow the “30-30” rule. Take shelter immediately when the flash-to-bang interval (time between lightning and thunder) is less than 30 seconds, which means the lightning is within six miles. Then wait 30 minutes after the last thunderclap or flash before going outside.

Stay indoors and away from windows.

Unplug televisions, computers and other appliances.

If you’re far from a building, hop into a vehicle with a hard top and avoid contact with anything metal inside the vehicle.

Hang up the telephone unless it’s an emergency.

Don’t be the tallest object in the area by standing on a hilltop, in an open field or on the beach.

Steer clear of open water. Even indoors, don’t take a bath or a shower until the storm has passed.

Don’t hold metal objects like golf clubs.

Never stand under natural lightning rods like tall, isolated trees in an open area, poles, antennae and towers.

From April 2000 issue of Torch, official safety magazine of Air Education and Training Command.

**Never give
safety
a day off.**

'Palace' briefings

Palace Front and Palace Chase briefings are Friday in Room 203, Garrard Hall.

The Palace Front briefing is 10 a.m. and the Palace Chase briefing is an hour later.

These briefings are scheduled for the first two working Fridays of every month.

For more information, call Master Sgt. Joseph Walker, Air Force Reserve recruiter, 377-7116, or visit Room 229, old Cody Hall.

Pedestrian gate

The pedestrian gate to Jeff Davis Elementary School operates outbound only to allow base children to walk to the school.

A patrol is in place from 3:15 p.m. until the school's

crossing guard departs.

For more information, call Staff Sgt. Andrew Inczauskis, 377-3762.

Newcomers move

Beginning Wednesday, bi-monthly newcomers briefings are in the Triangle Chapel Annex, 228 Ploesti Drive.

For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Rudy Bordley or Airman 1st Class Andre Lewis, 377-3203.

Couples program

A free educational program for couples is 4:30-9 p.m. Sept. 16 at the Larcher Chapel.

The program is sponsored by the family advocacy office.

Couples are required to register. Some couples may be eligible for free child care.

To register or for more

information, call Paula Tracy, 376-3456.

Heart Link

The Heart Link orientation program for Air Force spouses scheduled for Aug. 24 has been postponed to November.

For more information, call Jackie Pope, 377-5346, or Lana Smith, 377-2179.

Tax office

The tax office, Room 234, old Cody Hall, remains open through Sept. 15 due to filing deadline extensions resulting from Hurricane Katrina.

Extensions apply to federal and state tax returns.

Office hours are 8 a.m. to noon and 1-4 p.m. work days.

For more information, call 377-4454.

Fisher House board seeks to fill positions

The Keesler Fisher House board of directors has volunteer openings for treasurer and secretary.

Fisher House facilities are homes away from home for families of military members receiving care at major military and Veterans Affairs medical centers.

The treasurer position requires an accounting background. The treasurer maintains the Fisher House of Keesler, Inc., bank and investment accounts, and prepares the yearly tax form and Mississippi charitable organization registration. The treasurer also reports the organization's financial status at board meetings.

The secretary records and maintains minutes at the board meetings as a non-voting member.

The board of directors must approve each candidate.

For more information, call Larry Vetter, Fisher House executive director, 377-8264, or cell 806-5878.



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Dirt for the construction of the No. 4 and 7 fairways and No. 4 green at Bay Breeze Golf Course is placed on the Ploesti Drive site by Kevin Parrish, C.E. Carter and Associates of Bay Minette, Ala.

Hurricane repairs continue on Bay Breeze Golf Course

By Master Sgt. Roger Drinnon

Keesler Public Affairs

Hurricane Katrina repairs continue on the Bay Breeze Golf Course grounds.

When Katrina struck, flooding from the Back Bay of Biloxi caused significant damage to the course and facilities.

“The clubhouse and the cart barn were all under water – anywhere from 2 ½ to 3 feet,” said Tama Manu, golf course director. “All of the carts and about 95 percent of the items in the pro shop were damaged.”

He said water from Katrina also damaged the course maintenance facility and the equipment inside. The storm-ravaged clubhouse and pro shop have been demolished.

Friday, a contractor delivered dirt to the future site of the No. 4 and 7 fairways and No. 4 green on Ploesti Drive inside the Pass Road Gate.

Sixteen of the 18 holes are open for play at no cost other than cart fees. Golfers can play

until contractors begin work on the greens.

“They’re about 75-80 percent complete on the irrigation system,” said Manu. “Some time around January, we will close the course and turn it over to the contractor, so he can start (restoring) the greens.”

All greens will be restored to United States Golf Association standards.

Manu said soon after Katrina, he worked with other Mississippi Gulf Coast golf organizations to establish “reciprocal benefits” to maximize the availability of golfing opportunities for current Bay Breeze members.

“We’ve had an agreement with some golf courses to allow their club benefits for our current members since shortly after the hurricane,” he said. “The agreement doesn’t allow us to add (new members) to the list, but at the same time we are able to negotiate discounts (for some new members).”

St. Andrews and Gulf Hills in Ocean Springs and the Great Southern Club in Gulfport are participants in the agreement.

First the spray, then the sod



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Alex Vasquez of Back Bay Landscaping in Gulfport sprays herbicide on the soccer fields on Meadows Drive. The spraying is in preparation for resodding the fields, which have been fenced off and won't be used for about 30 days to allow the sod to take root.

SCORES AND MORE

Bowling

Gaude Lanes — closed through Aug. 31 for Hurricane Katrina restoration.

Fitness centers

Free mini-triathlon — 7:30 a.m. Aug. 25, Triangle pool. Must be at least 18. Swim 200 yards, bike six miles, run two miles. Register by Aug. 18 at Blake or Dragon fitness centers. T-shirts for all participants.

Blake Fitness Center — open 4:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. Mondays-working Fridays; 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. non-working Fridays; 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., Saturdays, Sundays and holidays.

Dragon Fitness Center — open 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. workdays. Basketball court is open. Free classes in aerobics, kickboxing, yoga and spin cycling. Parent/child fitness room open 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. Mondays-working Fridays. Parental supervision required.

For more information, call 377-2907.

Triangle Fitness Center — reopens Aug. 29. Hours: 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Mondays-working Fridays 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. compressed work schedule Fridays and weekends; closed holidays.

Towel service — at Blake and Dragon fitness centers is discontinued. Customers furnish their own towels.

For more information, call 377-8380 or 7858.

Golf

2006 Air Force Golf Championship — Aug. 4, Marshallia Ranch Golf Course, Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif. Men: Geoffrey Mann, Vandenberg, 81-71-71-71—295. Women: Linda Jeffery, Little Rock AFB, Ark., 76-74-77-82—309.

Bay Breeze Golf Course and driving range — open 7 a.m. to dusk daily. No greens fees. Electric carts \$10 for 18 holes, \$5 for nine holes. Pull carts, \$2. Club rental: \$5 for 18 holes, \$3 for nine holes. Driving range opens 7 a.m. daily. Beginning Aug. 31, bucket of 30 balls, \$2.

Local course support — St. Andrews, Gulf Hills and Great Southern Club courses offer reciprocal playing privileges to current members of Bay Breeze.

Bay Breeze members are required to show identification to verify their names are on the membership roster. Once their membership is verified, members pay only the golf cart fee for a round of golf.

For more information, call 348-7569.

Outdoor recreation

Back Bay of Biloxi fishing trips — 7 a.m. to noon Saturday and Aug. 26. Cost: \$15 per person. Minimum of six people, maximum of eight. Mississippi fishing license required.

August fishing tournament — weigh in the heaviest red drum for the month and win \$100 savings bond.

Disk golf — fairway, multi-purpose, putt and approach disks for rent or sale.

Camping package available — includes sleeping bags, lanterns, camp stove and tent.

Fishing trip to oil rigs — Saturdays; \$100 per person.

For reservations, call 377-3160.

Pontoon boat training — required before rental.

For more information, call 377-3160.

Marina park pavilions — to reserve, call 377-3160.

Pools

Main pool — open noon to 6 p.m. weekends. Closed Wednesdays.

Triangle pool — open 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily except Wednesdays.

Pool parties — available evenings for \$50 first two hours, \$25 each additional hour. To reserve two weeks in advance, call 377-3568.

Youth center

Classes — taekwondo, 6-7 p.m. Mondays and Wednesday for ages 6 and older. For members, \$35 per month; for non-members, \$40. Register for gymnastics, karate.

For more information, call 377-4116.

DIGEST

HONORS

Student honor roll

332nd Training Squadron

Electronic principles — Airmen Basic Brittany Achor, Daniel Antillon, Jason Burns, Rolfy Caceres, Kyle Castagnetto, Dock Caudill, Jacob Dilick, Travis Ervine, Joaquin Figueroa, Daniel Foster, Patrick Goff, Marcos Gonzalez, Michael Gumataotao, Eric Hall, Christopher Harris, Walter Heidelberger, Michelle Kleffner, Brando Li, David Jackson, James Jenkins, Michael Morris, Amy Preitauer, Mark Pritchett, David Schutz, Ian Stahr, Mark Sawtelle, James Thompson, Josh Thompson, Eric Torgerson, Angela Whaley and Fredrick Wilson; Airmen Timothy Allbaugh, Joshua Beall, Ryan Connolly, Kevin Corn, Derek Deboer, Derek Morrow, Larry Noonan, Robert Strine and Christopher Wix; Airmen 1st Class Jason Allen, Kyle Barber, Timothy Craig, Anthony Cross, Matthew DeMatteo, Paul Donahoe, Jonathan Fleury, Katharine Galanos, Eric Huff, Andrew Lee, Christian Martinez, Jeffrey McElhinny, Ian McAlister, Christian Miller, Eric Peterson, Jason Price, Nathan Risner, Matthew Routa, Alex Roznos, Jeffrey Skarski, Souraphone Souriyaseng, David Staffeld, Daniel Thomas, Eric Titus and Nicole Williams; Senior Airman Daniel Gruber, Steven Henderson, John Ludlow and Alex Torres-Abadia; Sgt. Omar Catolico; Staff Sgts. Ricardo Camacho, Joel Cook, Jerry Dean, Tyrone Graham, Nathaniel Lytle, Richard Raines, Lee Settlemyer, Jhosef Tallybarrios, Jonathan Wilson and Richard Wysong; Tech. Sgt. William Hardee; Senior Master Sgt. Watcharin Sai-In; Chief Master Sgt. Jae Jeon.

334th TRS

Aerospace control and warning systems flight — Airman Basic Rachelle Estrada.

Air traffic control operations training flight — Airmen Basic Anthony Atkinson, Morgan Buckland, Seth Pinson and Gregory Pringle; Airmen Brian De Los Santos and Joshua Strandberg; Staff Sgts. Ashley Barnett and Jonathan Herman; Senior Master Sgt. Young Sohn.

Aviation resource management apprentice course — Airmen Basic Corey Banks, Jeremy Chapman and Francheska Rivera-Tosado; Airman 1st Class Dereck Reetz; Senior Airmen Lindsey Bodwell and Curtis Jones; Staff Sgt. Stacia West.

Command post apprentice course — Airmen Basic Jared Bryan, Kevin Knott, Amy Wilson and Matthew Wolfe; Airmen 1st Class Matthew Calhoun, Michael Lee, Geoffrey Manter and Ryan Singer; Staff Sgt. William Torok II; Tech. Sgts. Sylvia Diebel, William Meister, William Scott and Guy Terwilliger.

335th TRS

Personnel apprentice course — Airman Basic Megan Cureton; Senior Airmen Patrick McGlynn, Misa Ruiz and Brian Stokes; Staff Sgts. Jason Cohen, Amy Cole, Arnitra Davis, Michael Lathrop and Eric Mauricio.

Weather training flight — Airman 1st Class Shane Sutton; Navy Seaman William Corless; Marine Cpl. Lacy Layne; Tech. Sgts. Bill Barry and Joseph Williamson.

336th TRS

Communications-computer systems training flight — Airmen Basic John Houseman and Matthew Theerman; Airman James Harris; Airmen 1st Class William Caporellie, Jack Dervin, Jae Ha and Richard Pilcher; Senior Airmen Michael Doria, David Nunes and Todd York; Staff Sgts. Robert Baker, Jesse Beinhower, Ryan Betts, Charles Trimer, Eric LaFrance, Viet Nguyen and Jason Oliver; Tech. Sgt. Melroy Simmonds; Master Sgt. Ralph Lucas; Maj. Sameer Al Thodan.

Communications and information training flight — Airmen Basic Seul Chung, Brandi Cummings, Sue Ellen Fernandez, Felecia Haywood, Latonya Jennings, Kenneth Jones, Shiegrea Lopez, Casandras Rodriguez, Kendra Schuler, Mercedes Swenson, Stephen Swircek and Steven Szymanski; Airmen 1st Class Albert Alston, Gregory Benson, Joshua Chittim, Jose Encarnacion and James Martin; Senior Airmen Cedric Green, Barrett Payne and Edvonn Taylor; Staff Sgts. Anthony Byperly, Pedro Forero, Aaron Hazon, Justin Hawks, Eugenie Hinson, Jennifer Holland, Phillip Landers, Margarita Lopez, Carl McMillin, Teresita Ortiz, Kenneth Robaczewski, John Upshaw, Abraham Velasco and Lee Weyers; Tech. Sgts. Melissa Alexander, Bruce Collins, David Hogue, Jeffrey Howard, Keith Vannoy and Jeffrey Westerholm; Senior Master Sgt. Bridgit Pena; Angelina Braden.

338th TRS

Computer, network, cryptographic systems course — Airmen Basic Nicholas Delio, Craig McGuire and Austin Taylor; Airmen Stephen Shirley and Luis Vasquez; Airmen 1st Class Kevin Porter, Elliott Stokes and Jeremy Woods; Staff Sgts. John Lewis and Richard Williams.

Radar systems flight — Airman Christopher McClanahan; Airmen 1st Class Joshua Deamusategui, Brian Housholder and Joseph Rutledge; Senior Airman Chris Edwards; Staff Sgt. Ray Parrish.

CLASSES

Airman Leadership School

Class 06-E — graduation Sept. 7.

Class 06-F — Sept. 19-Oct. 27.

Class 07-1 — Nov. 2-Dec. 14.

Keesler NCO Academy

Class 06-6 — graduation Sept. 14.

Class 06-7 — Sept. 18-Oct. 26.

Class 07-1 — Nov. 2-Dec. 14.

Arts and crafts center

Beginning pottery — 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday. \$40 including five pounds of clay and firing for three pieces.

Advanced pottery — For more information, call 377-2821.

Ceramic painting — 10 a.m. Saturday, make a cake platter; Aug. 26, fall leaves items. For more information, call 377-2821.

Sewing 101 — 11 a.m. Aug. 24. \$10. Bring one yard of material and matching thread for a pillow. Stuffing provided.

Kids crafting class — 11 a.m. Aug. 26. \$10 including supplies. Make caramel apples. Parent must accompany child 7 or younger.

Wood shop demonstration — 2 p.m. Aug. 26, crown molding. Shop closes for customer use for demonstration.

Wood shop — closed through Tuesday.

Advanced matting — 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Aug. 25. \$25.

Engraving shop — custom items for gifts, mementos and squadron awards.

Please see **Digest**, Page 20

SHUTTLE SCHEDULE

6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekdays

Minutes after hour	Bus stop
:00	:30
:01	:31
:02	:32
:04	:34
:06	:36
:08	:38
:09	:39
:11	:41
:12	:42
:13	:43
:14	:44
:15	:45
:16	:46
:17	:47
:18	:48
:19	:49
:20	:50
:21	:51
:22	:52

Technical training route 5:10-5:37 a.m. weekdays

Minutes after hour	Bus stop
:10	Building 5025
:12	Building 5022
:14	Shaw House
:16	Muse Manor
:18	Tyer House
:20	TLQ east side 2000 block
:21	TLQ east side of Locker House
:25	332nd TRS
:28	Welch Auditorium
:33	Thomson/Dolan/Cody Halls
:34	McClellan Hall
:36	Allee/Wolfe Halls
:37	Stennis Hall/Weather

Prior-service students lodged off-base

Call 377-2432 for transportation needs. Traffic in the local area impacts base taxi times.

Editor's note: Duty passengers have priority over "space available" riders. Schedule may be impacted by increased official operations or severe weather. Those who are physically challenged, have excess baggage, medical appointments at off-base hospitals or clinics or unable to ride the base shuttle, call 377-2432 for the base taxi. For more information, call 377-2430. Until further notice, weekend shuttle service isn't available. Taxi service is available on an "as needed" basis.

COAST AREA TRANSIT

Keesler Express — runs between the Triangle and Edgewater Mall. Bus service begins from the base, 5:50-8:30 p.m. work days, 9:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. down Fridays and Saturdays, and 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sundays.

The route is limited to specific pickup and dropoff points:

Minutes after hour, bus stop

:30	Hercules Street bus stop
:32	Welch Auditorium
:45	Pass Road Wal-Mart
:54	Arrive Edgewater Mall
:00	Depart Edgewater Mall
:09	Pass Road Wal-Mart
:22	Welch Auditorium
:24	Hercules Street bus stop

The regular adult fare is \$1. An unlimited one-day pass is \$5 and one-month pass is \$45.

For more information, call 896-8080.

CHAPEL SERVICES

Editor's note: For more information, call 377-2520.

Roman Catholic

Sunday Mass

Triangle Chapel9 a.m.

Daily Mass

Triangle Chapel.....11:15 a.m.

Protestant

Sunday worship

Larcher Chapel traditional service.....8:30 a.m.

Triangle Chapel contemporary worship service...10:30 a.m.

Triangle Chapel gospel service.....Noon

Islamic

Building 2003 — prayer five times daily; Salaat ul-Jumma congregational prayer, noon Friday.

For more information, call 377-2520 or 0327.

Latter-Day Saints

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints — student group service, 2 p.m. Sundays, Triangle Chapel. For more information, call 396-5274 or 1-661-747-4738.

Digest,

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McBride Library

Orientations — 4:30 p.m. Wednesdays.

Tours — for more information, call 377-2181.

Gale Group data base — reference use in library includes Opposing Viewpoints, Infotrac I, Student Resource Center Gold and full text periodicals for research or personal use.

Auto skills center

Beginners auto care — \$5 per class. Change oil, brakes, tune ups, tire changing and more. For dates and times, call 377-3872.

Auto air conditioners — serviced at a reasonable price.

24-hour coin-operated car wash — features foamy brush wash, high pressure rinse, wax system, towelettes and Armorall and vacuum station.

Vehicle resale lot — relocated to the parking lot behind the Keesler Club on Larcher Boulevard. Entrance is via Tingle Street immediately north of the 81st Security Forces Squadron building adjacent to the club. Registration for vehicles, recreational vehicles and boats to be placed on the lot is done at the arts and crafts center. For more information, call 377-2821.

CLUBS AND CENTERS

Vandenberg Community Center

Eight-ball pool tournament — 6-9:30 p.m. Mondays.

Nine-ball pool tournament — 6-9:30 p.m. Tuesdays.

Free dance revolution pad — 6 p.m. Wednesdays.

Game night — 6 p.m. Wednesdays. Board games, ping pong tournament and more.

Karaoke — 6 p.m. Thursdays.

Late night dance and DJ — 6 p.m. to midnight Thursdays before nonworking Fridays, Fridays and Saturdays. \$3.

Half Time Café — open for lunch and dinner. Buffet specials 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.: Wednesdays, Italian, \$5.95; working Fridays, catfish, \$6.50.

Katrina Kantina

Taco Tuesdays — two tacos for \$1.

Thirsty Thursday — 5 p.m. Thursday. Cook your own steak \$6, or chicken \$5. Includes potato salad, green salad and roll.

Random cash giveaway — \$50 cash to a club member, once a week between 5:30 and 6:30 p.m.; must be present and have club card to win.

Youth center

Annual membership — \$25, ages 6 and older. Receive discounted prices for programs, classes and sports.

Registrations accepted — for before- and after-school and back-to-school programs, dance, gymnastics, guitar and karate.

Taekwondo — 6-7 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays, ages 6 and older. For more information, call 377-4116.

Creative corner — 4:30 p.m. Aug. 31. Art projects.

Free home alone safety workshop — 6 p.m. Aug. 24, ages 10 and older. Parent must accompany child.

Congressional award program — 6 p.m. Aug. 28, ages 14-21.

Self-directed activities — 3-7 p.m. Mondays-Fridays, ages 9-18.

Instructors needed — for programs including those for ages 3-5 and special classes. For more information, call 377-4116.

Movies and snacks — 5 p.m. Mondays, ages 9 and older.

Pediatrics playgroup — 9:30 a.m. Tuesdays, ages 2-5.

Smart girls — 5 p.m. Tuesdays, ages 9-16; girls-only topics.

Training responsible adolescents in leadership/Keystone Club — 6-7 p.m. Tuesdays, ages 13-17.

Game room tournaments — 5 p.m. Wednesdays.

Torch Club — 3 p.m. Thursdays, ages 9-12.

FitFactor fitness club — 5 p.m. Fridays, ages 9-18.

Friday dances — 6:30-10 p.m., ages 9-15.

Super Saturdays — 2-5 p.m., ages 6-12; 6-10 p.m., ages 13-18. Games, sports and crafts.

Instructors needed — for programs for ages 3-5 and special classes. For more information, call 377-4116.

TRANSITIONS

Workshops, briefings

Veterans benefits briefing — 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. today, Sept. 14, Oct. 19, Nov. 16 and Dec. 14, Room 122, old Cody Hall. To pre-register, call Ron Bublik, 377-8592 or e-mail ronald.bublik@keesler.af.mil.

Transition assistance program workshop — 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sept. 11-13, Oct. 16-18, Nov. 13-15 and Dec. 11-13, Room 122, old Cody Hall. To pre-register, call Ron Bublik, 377-8592, or e-mail ronald.bublik@keesler.af.mil.

Computer use

Government computers — commanders may authorize their use for preparation of personal resumes by people separating or retiring from the service on an "as available" basis as long as use doesn't adversely affect the mission.

Transition employment opportunities public folder — go to e-mail "public folders" and click on "transition employment opportunities" for job opportunities for active duty and family members. For more information, call 377-8592 or 8593.

Web sites

Defense Manpower Data Center — <http://www.dmdc.osd.mil/dors> or <http://www.dmdc.osd.mil/tbb>.

Air Force Blue to Corporate Gray — <http://www.blue.togray.com>.

Air Force Federal Employment Resume and Information — <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/resweb>.

Civilian job certification and licensing requirements for military personnel and veterans — <http://www.dol.gov/dol/vets>.

Department of Veterans Affairs — <http://www.vba.va.gov/efif/index.htm>; for members returning from Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.

Southern Region Military and Civilian Job Fair — <http://www.mesc.state.ms.us/jobfair>.

New military spouse career center — <http://www.military.com/spouse>. Extensive job board including jobs from public and private sectors. For more information, call Vince Patton, 703-269-0154, or e-mail at vince@militaryadvantage.com.

Military Connection — online resources database for military family members seeking civilian employment at <http://www.militaryconnection.com>

America's Job Bank — <http://www.ajb.dni.us>.

TICKETS AND TOURS

Editor's note: Located inside Vandenberg Community Center.

Discounted tickets — for many attractions including Gulf Islands Water Park in Gulfport, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesdays-Thursdays. For more information, call 377-3818.

Tour to New Orleans Saints home football games — beginning Sept. 25; \$60. Sign up by Sept. 19.

Free brochures — information on area and out-of-state attractions.

MEETINGS

Editor's note: To list time, place and contact for organization meetings, call 377-3837 or e-mail KN@keesler.af.mil.

Upcoming

Keesler Christian Home Educators Association — kickoff for the upcoming school year, 1-3 p.m. Aug. 25, youth center. Group meets 7-9 p.m. second Tuesday of the month, September-May, Larcher Chapel. Open to all military home educators. For more information, call Michelle Durkin, 872-9393, or e-mail cshelle1rn@yahoo.com.

Recurring

African-American Heritage Committee — 3:30 p.m. second Tuesday of the month, Room 109, Taylor Logistics Building. For more information, call Paulette Powell, 377-2270, or Kurt Higgins, 377-1390.

Air Force Sergeants Association — 11:30 a.m. third Tuesday of the month, Vandenberg Community Center. For more information, call Master Sgt. Scott Sippel, 377-2337.

Air Force Sergeants Association Auxiliary — 6 p.m. third

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DINING HALL MENUS

Today

Lunch — herbed baked chicken, cornbread, stuffed cabbage rolls, fried catfish, blackeyed peas with rice, mashed potatoes, gravy, baked sweet potatoes, mixed vegetables, peas, fruit salad, potato salad, cream of broccoli soup, chicken and wild rice soup, chili, cannonball sandwich and Italian pepper beef sandwich.

Dinner — roast pork loin, cornbread, jaegerschnitzel veal, glazed cornish hen, potato halves, orange rice, gravy, carrots, pinto beans, corn combo, fruit salad, potato salad, cream of broccoli soup, chicken and wild rice soup, chili, cannonball sandwich and Italian pepper beef sandwich.

Friday

Lunch — Mexican baked chicken, Swiss steak, stuffed peppers, macaroni and cheese, rice, gravy, corn on the cob, beans, peas and carrots, pasta salad, three-bean salad, clam chowder, garden vegetable soup, frontier chicken chili, barbecue pork sandwiches and burritos.

Dinner — lasagna, spaghetti with meat sauce, Italian sausage, garlic toast, mashed potatoes, gravy, broccoli polonaise, cauliflower, Italian baked beans, corn O'Brien, pasta salad, three-bean salad, clam chowder, garden vegetable soup, frontier chicken chili, barbecue port sandwiches and burritos.

Saturday

Lunch — crispy baked chicken, cajun meatloaf, ribeye steak, baked and mashed potatoes, gravy, broccoli, French peas, glazed carrots, fruit medley, kidney bean salad, bean soup, chicken gumbo, chili and buffalo wings.

Dinner — fish almondine, stir-fry chicken with broccoli, pork chops, rissole potatoes, rice pilaf, gravy, calico corn, club spinach, fried okra, fruit medley, kidney bean salad, bean soup, chicken gumbo, chili and buffalo wings.

Sunday

Lunch — tuna and noodles, sauerbraten, chicken breast filet parmesan, au gratin potatoes, rice, gravy, cauliflower combo, peas, fried cabbage, tomato salad, jellied spring salad, vegetable beef soup, Italian wedding soup, frontier chicken chili and cheese pizza.

Dinner — ginger barbecue chicken, fried shrimp, spinach lasagna, orange rice, mashed potatoes, gravy, black-eyed peas, lima beans, corn O'Brien, tomato salad, jellied spring salad, vegetable beef soup, Italian wedding soup, frontier chicken chili and cheese pizza.

Monday

Lunch — baked chicken, Swiss steak, baked Italian sausage, peppers and onions, mashed potatoes, rice, gravy, broccoli polonaise, carrots, cornbread, cottage cheese salad, macaroni salad, chicken dumpling soup, chili, cannonball sandwich and chicken nuggets.

Dinner — turkey, cornbread, ham, raisin sauce, fish and fries, mashed potatoes, cornbread dressing, gravy, succotash, tempura vegetables, green beans, garden cottage cheese salad, macaroni salad, chicken dumpling soup, minestrone, chili with beans, cannonball sandwich and chicken nuggets.

Tuesday

Lunch — onion lemon baked fish, pork schnitzel steak, beef and spaghetti, garlic toast, baked and mashed potatoes, gravy, pinto beans, spinach, stewed tomatoes, spinach salad, waldorf salad, white chicken chili, seven-bean with ham soup, chicken noodle soup and steak and cheese subs.

Dinner — paprika beef, barbecue beef cubes, chicken fajitas, garlic toast, O'Brien potatoes, rice, gravy, cauliflower, corn on the cob, lima beans, waldorf salad, spinach salad, white chicken chili, seven-bean with ham soup, steak and cheese subs and tacos.

Wednesday

Lunch — fried chicken, cajun baked fish, jalapeno cornbread, barbecue ribs, rice, mashed potatoes, gravy, corn on the cob, okra and tomato gumbo, fried cabbage, cole slaw, garden cottage cheese salad, pasta fagioli soup, chicken tortilla soup, vegetarian chili, cheese fishwich and cheese pizza.

Dinner — pita pizzas, jalapeno cornbread, country-style steak, fried chicken, oven-brown potatoes, mashed potatoes, gravy, fried cauliflower, bean combo, cabbage, cole slaw, cottage cheeseslad, pasta fagioli soup, chicken tortilla soup, vegetarian chili, cheese fishwich and cheese pizza.

**An American
is sexually assaulted
every 2 1/2 minutes.**

**One in five
American women
has been the victim
of an attempted
or completed rape.**

**About 10 percent
of sexual assault victims
are men.**

**At least 2/3
of sexual assaults
are committed by someone
who is known to the victim.**

**44 percent of rape victims
are under age 18,
and 80 percent
are under age 30.**

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Thursday of the month, youth center, J Street. For more information, call Desarae Chereskin, 341-0988.

Airmen Against Drunk Driving — 3:15 p.m. first Tuesday of the month, Vandenberg Community Center second floor conference room. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Mark Harrell, president, 377-2293, or e-mail keesler.aaddofficers@keesler.af.mil.

At Eze Toastmasters Club — 11 a.m. Tuesdays, Building

**Keesler Thrift Shop
is in the former
Chapel One building
adjacent to Sablich Center.
Open 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Mondays and Wednesdays.
Consignments accepted
9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Mondays.
Donations accepted
during regular hours.
For more information,
call 377-3217.**

1101 conference room. For more information, call Chief Master Sgt. Don Seaton, 377-5958, or Fred Blache, 377-1048, or visit <http://www.toastmasters.org>.

Keesler Amateur Radio Club — 6:30 p.m. Mondays, Hangar 3, Room 215. Check out the club repeater on 146.79 negative offset. For more information, call Staff Sgt. Justin Meyer, 377-4149 or 324-5806, or e-mail justin.meyer2@keesler.af.mil.

Keesler Spouses Club — the second Tuesday of the month. For time and location, call Tammie Searfass, president, 273-4324, or visit <http://www.KeeslerSpousesClub.com>.

Native American Heritage Committee — for more information, call R.I. Whiteside, 863-0479, or Capt. Elizabeth Taillon, 377-6242.

Retired Enlisted Association Magnolia Chapter 81 — 6:30 p.m. second Thursday of the month, Vandenberg Community Center. For more information, call Larry McKean, president, 377-3252 or 374-5922.

Rising VI Association — 3 p.m. third Wednesday of the month, Keesler NCO Academy auditorium. For more information, call Staff Sgt. Shanda Yarborough, 377-3653, or Tech. Sgt. Kevin Benjamin, 377-7924.

MISCELLANEOUS

Movies

Editor's note: Movies are shown at Welch Auditorium. Tickets are \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for children for regular features, and \$2.50 for adults and \$1 for children for matinees. For a recorded message about current features, call 377-6627.

Friday — 7 p.m., Little Man (PG-13, 97 minutes).

Saturday — 2 p.m., Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest (PG-13, 145 minutes); 7 p.m., You, Me and Dupree (PG-13, 108 minutes).

Sunday — 2 p.m., Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest (PG-13, 145 minutes).

**Exceptions
to Keesler's
25 mph
speed limit
are:
15 mph
in housing areas,
flight line and
unpaved surfaces;
10 mph
in close proximity
to marching
formations
and when waved
through
base gates;
5 mph
in parking lots,
and
35 mph
in some sections
of perimeter
roads.**