

KEESLER NEWS

Keesler Air Force Base
Biloxi, Mississippi

Vol. 66, No. 23
Thursday, June 15, 2006

Develop America's Airmen today ... for tomorrow

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Keesler News on Web:
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Dragons deployed –
51

Medical partners: Ole Miss, Keesler

81st Medical Group Public Affairs and University of Mississippi Medical Center Division of Public Affairs

The University of Mississippi Medical Center and Air Force Medical Service sign a landmark agreement in Gov. Haley Barbour's office Friday to maintain medical residency programs at Keesler Medical Center.

The Air Force is represented by Lt. Gen. (Dr.) Peach Taylor, surgeon general, and UMMC by Dr. Dan Jones, vice chancellor for health affairs and dean of the School of Medicine.

Under terms of the agreement, the School of Medicine at UMMC oversees all four residency programs at Keesler —

general surgery, internal medicine, pediatrics and obstetrics-gynecology — that were relocated after Hurricane Katrina devastated the Mississippi Gulf Coast Aug. 29. The Air Force supplies the faculty and residents for the program, sched-

Please see **Partners**, Page 9

Calm ends with Alberto

Tropical Storm Alberto shattered the early calm of the 2006 hurricane season.

The storm formed in the western Caribbean over the weekend. At 10 a.m. Sunday, sustained winds reached 46 mph, one mile per hour over the threshold for tropical storms.

Twenty-four hours later, winds were up to 69 mph. By 10 a.m. Tuesday, Alberto was weakening with 52 mph winds. Landfall was expected later Tuesday near Cedar Key in the Big Bend area of the Florida peninsula.

Monday afternoon, the Hurricane Hunters of the reservist 53rd Weather Reconnaissance Squadron flew their fifth mission into Alberto, with more to come.

Let the celebration begin!



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Artist Susan Templin, left, and Brig. Gen. Paul Capasso, 81st Training Wing commander, unveil her painting commemorating Keesler's 65th birthday at the kickoff for this week's celebration Monday on the parade field. Today's activities, Page 11.

This week in the Triangle

Communications-computer systems control, 10 a.m. today, Thomson Hall.
Computer networking cryptographic systems apprentice, 10 a.m. today, Bryan Hall.
Theater deployable communications systems planning, 11 a.m. today, Stennis Hall.
Executive officer education, 1 p.m. today, Stennis Hall.
Manpower personnel officer, 10 a.m. Friday, Wolfe Hall.
Education and training apprentice, 10 a.m. Tuesday, Allee Hall.
Radio communications systems apprentice, 11 a.m. Tuesday, Thomson Hall.
Joint task force spectrum management, 8 a.m. Wednesday, Hewes Hall.
Information management apprentice, 8:30 and 10 a.m. Wednesday, Thomson Hall.
Airborne mission systems specialist apprentice, 9 a.m. Wednesday, Dolan Hall.
Network management infrastructure, 11 a.m. Wednesday, Stennis Hall.



May Honor Flight

Student numbers

Total students — 3,428

Non-prior service — 2,173

Temporary duty — 1,237

Combat controllers — 18

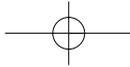
Non-prior service arrivals — 107

Guard, Reserve — 558

International — 23

Fiscal 2006 graduates — 16,547

Total since 1942 — 2,224,608



COMMENTARY

You're all part of tradition begun at Keesler in 1941

By Brig. Gen. Paul Capasso

81st Training Wing commander

Happy birthday, Keesler! As we celebrate Keesler's 65th birthday this week, it's fitting to pause for a few moments to reflect on the base's proud history.

The War Department activated Army Air Corps Station No. 8, Aviation Mechanics School, Biloxi, Miss., June 12, 1941. It wasn't until Aug. 25 that Army Air Corps Station No. 8 was officially designated as Keesler Army Airfield in honor of 2nd Lt. Samuel Reeves Keesler Jr. of Greenwood, who died of wounds sustained during World War I while serving in France as an aerial observer with the 24th Aero Squadron of the Army Air Service.

Since that time, Keesler has built a rich tradition for preparing its Airmen for the unknown. More than 2 million Airmen and allied military members have walked through our gates to date. Each of you is part of this legacy.

On this special occasion, we recognize the men and women, past and present, and their important role in providing security to our nation, protecting of its citizens and preserving our way of life.

This week, I ask each of you to take a moment and reflect on our rich past and bright future. I also thank all of you for making a personal commitment to Keesler, our Air Force and the defense of our country.

Happy birthday, Keesler!

Intervention

One way to take care of our Airmen

By Maj. Tom Means

39th Operations Squadron

INCIRLIK Air Base, Turkey — Several months ago, while returning from a stateside temporary duty assignment, I was waiting in the domestic terminal of the Istanbul Airport when I saw something unusual.

Among the busy crowd was a young Airman who obviously was new to Turkey and its environment.

How did I know this from 50 yards? If the clean shave and short haircut didn't give it away, the well-pressed service uniform with a matching Air Force embroidered garment bag did. The fledgling rank on his shoulder meant he'd probably just graduated from tech school and was a first-term Airman assigned overseas.

Although he stood tall and wore his uniform proudly, it was apparent he had nothing more inconspicuous to change into. So, because of the shortcomings of his sponsor, he'd have to wait for a newcomer's briefing to get the force protection briefings that could've prevented this unnecessary risk.

Some would argue he had no wingman that day. I content he needed something more. In the fighter business, a wingman is an inexperienced pilot who struggles with the complex tasks and tactics of combat aviation. The brand new wingman can usually keep other aircraft in sight, provide visual mutual support

and avoid hitting the ground while maneuvering in three dimensions.

Mistakes are expected and corrected through extra instruction, study and sometimes public embarrassment in front of his peers. It's the flight leader who's responsible for sound judgment, exemplary discipline, timely instruction and overall safe conduct of the flight and its multimillion-dollar assets.

The wingman program is based on the tenet that any wingman can provide mutual support and theoretically mitigate a bad situation. While this may be true, we sometimes overlook the opportunities to call on our experiences and maturity to lead when necessary.

Leadership in this case is going the extra mile, calling on the courage to intervene and telling a complete stranger their behavior is unacceptable and may get themselves hurt or in trouble.

Although they may have a wingman meeting the intent, their lack of experience in the local area may buy them an entry into the police blotter or worse. It's you, the resident expert, or for a better term the flight lead, who needs to watch out for them. Our Airman at the Istanbul airport needed someone like this.

We can't afford a preventable accident due to inaction when we see a bad situation developing. Be a good flight lead, get engaged and take care of your fellow Airmen.

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.



Telephone numbers and Web sites for information and accountability for Keesler members:

Air Force Personnel Center
1-800-435-9941.

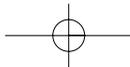
Online accountability
<http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/ndw>

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>



TRAINING AND EDUCATION

Instructor Ken White, left, works with students Obie Lewis and Senior Airman Robert Stevens in the supplemental DASR course offered by the 338th TRS. Mr. Lewis is a civilian contractor from Patrick Air Force Base, Fla., and Airman Stevens works for the Air Force Flight Standards Agency at Andrews AFB, Md.

Photos by Kemberly Groue



Radar revolution – training evolution



Students pass in front of the DASR tower on Phantom Drive near Thomson Hall.

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News staff

Between two orange-topped towers near the supply warehouse and the radar towers near Phantom Street stretch 30 years of technological advances.

"They might look rather ominous to people driving down the street," commented Senior Master Sgt. Robin Fuller about the two AN/GPN-20 airport surveillance radars crowned with orange antennas that loom near Z Street west of the Taylor Logistics Center.

Passersby might think the 47-foot and 77-foot towers are new equipment, but they were actually old radars relocated 300 yards from a less visible location behind new Cody Hall to make room for construction of the Triangle's third new technical training facility.

The new digital airport surveillance radars on Phantom Drive are the wave of the future, according to Sergeant Fuller, chief of the 338th Training Squadron's radar

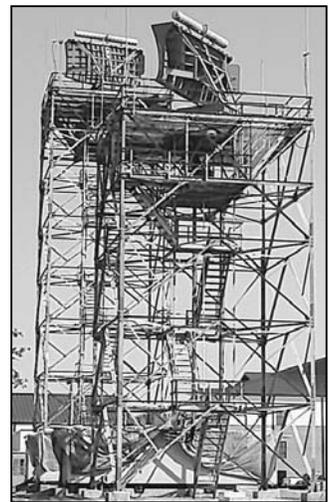
systems training flight. The Defense Department and the Federal Aviation Administration are gradually phasing in the radars at locations around the world.

"The AN/GPN-20s are part of our ground radar systems apprentice course," Sergeant Fuller explained. "We use them to provide Airmen with hands-on training on ASR principles. When they go to the field, they're more likely to work on this type of radar than its replacement, the DASR."

"When the replacement is fielded at 50 percent, the career field manager will direct us to take the AN/GPN-20 from the course and replace it with the DASR," he continued. "We expect that to be a couple of years down the road."

The DASR supplemental course is already being taught here.

"Military and civilian technicians at locations that have the DASR will come back for training, working through their command to get a seat in the class," Sergeant Fuller said.



The relocated AN/GPN-20 towers were moved to make room for construction of the Triangle's third new technical training facility.

Defense Commissary Agency awards 6 college scholarships

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News staff

College expenses this fall will be a little more manageable for six recipients of Defense Commissary Agency scholarships.

Two of the scholarship winners are already in college. The other four graduated from high school this spring.

Keesler store director Gordy Harris presented three of the \$1,500 scholarships June 7 in a ceremony at Fisher House.

Recipients who attended the ceremony are:

Roxanne Ambion, a graduate of Biloxi High School, is majoring in international business at the University of South Alabama.

Her parents are Master Sgt. Jerome and Ana Ambion, 81st Training Wing competitive sourcing office.

Jeremiah Deang, a 2006 graduate of Ocean Springs High School, plans to major in engineering at Mississippi State University.

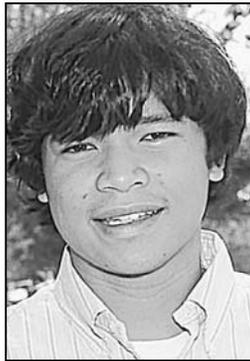
His parents are retired Master Sgt. Freddie and Irma Deang.

Katherine Shore, a 2006 graduate of Cottage Hill Christian Academy in Mobile, plans to major in nursing at Auburn University.

Her parents are Col. James and Nelda Shore, 403rd Wing.



Miss Ambion



Mr. Deang

plans to major in chemistry at Louisiana State University.

Her parents are retired Navy Lt. Cmdr. Andy and Madonna Dougherty.

Jessica Kennard, a 2006 graduate of Richland, Miss., High School, plans to major in elementary education at Copiah-Lincoln Community College.

Her parents are Master Sgt. Joseph and Gina Conway, Mississippi Air National Guard, Jackson.

Amanda Mayo, a 2003 graduate of Gulfport High School, is a chemistry major at Millsaps College in Jackson.

Her parents are retired Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Joseph and Shirley Mayo.



Miss Shore

Recipients unable to attend the ceremony are:

Catherine Dougherty, a 2006 graduate of Northshore High School in Slidell, La.,

not graduate until Nov. 10 or later.

"The intent of this program is to retain military personnel by assisting their spouses to find employment as they move during their career," explained Lana Smith, the center's community readiness consultant. "Priority for selection is given to spouses who are unemployed, need transferable job skills or have financial needs."

Basic criteria are the ability to read, write, speak and understand English, be comfortable working with sick people and a customer-service attitude.

Due to the nature of the course, alternates can't fill in if a spouse drops out, so dropouts must repay AFAS for the missed sessions.

For more information, call 377-2179.

Certified nursing assistant course available

81st Mission Support Squadron

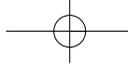
Applications are available in July for a certified nursing assistant course funded by the Air Force Aid Society.

Forms are being e-mailed to commanders and first sergeants, and will also be available at the airman and family readiness center, Room 117, old Cody Hall.

The application deadline is in August.

Applicants must bring the form and their family member identification card to the center as verification.

The AFAS grant pays the \$350 course fee for 15 non-military spouses of active-duty Air Force members assigned to Keesler. Spouses of technical training students may apply, but their Air Force member husband or wife must



Dark Knights get new leader

Lt. Col. Christopher Cook turns over command of the 338th Training Squadron to Lt. Col. Stacy Yike, 2:30 p.m. June 22 at Welch Auditorium, followed by a reception in the Jones Hall conference room.

Colonel Yike is currently the special assistant to the director for joint plans and programs at the Pentagon.

Colonel Cook, the Dark Knights' commander for the past two years, is going to the Pentagon to be the action group's deputy division chief for the deputy undersecretary of the Air Force for international affairs.

TRAINING AND EDUCATION NOTES

Change of command

Lt. Col. Steven Ramsay assumes command of the 332nd Training Squadron from Lt. Col. Anthony Williams, 10 a.m. today in front of Dolan Hall.

In case of inclement weather, the ceremony is in Welch Auditorium.

Drill downs, parades

Drill down competitions are every other month on the drill pad, and student parades in alternate months on the parade grounds.

Drill downs — 8 a.m. Friday 16; 7 a.m. Aug. 11 and Oct. 20.

Parades — 7 p.m. July 13 and Sept. 21; 6 p.m. Nov. 16.

For more information, call Staff Sgts. Kwame Felton, 377-9527, for drill downs and

Deanna Attaway, 377-2103, for parades.

Testing dates

The education office offers ACT, SAT and PRAXIS tests. Deadlines are:

PRAXIS I — June 26 for Aug. 7 test.

PRAXIS II — June 26 for Aug. 8 test.

To schedule, call 377-2323.

Special duty jobs

An Air Education and Training Command recruiting team holds a special duty assignment briefing, 8:45-11:30 a.m. June 22 in Welch Auditorium.

Positions to be discussed are recruiters, military training leaders, technical training instructors, professional military education instructors and

career enlisted aviators.

Positions are open to senior airmen with at least 36 months time in service through master sergeants with less than 17 years total active military service from all Air Force specialty codes.

For applications, call Master Sgt. Kelle Turner, 377-3697.

Supply classes

General supply classes are available monthly in Room 109, Taylor Logistics Center.

To schedule a class, call 377-2270.

Club scholarships

Six students receive a combined total of \$25,000 in the 10th annual Air Force Club Membership Scholarship Program.

For more information and an entry form, visit <http://www-p.afsv.af.mil/clubs>.

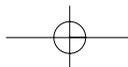
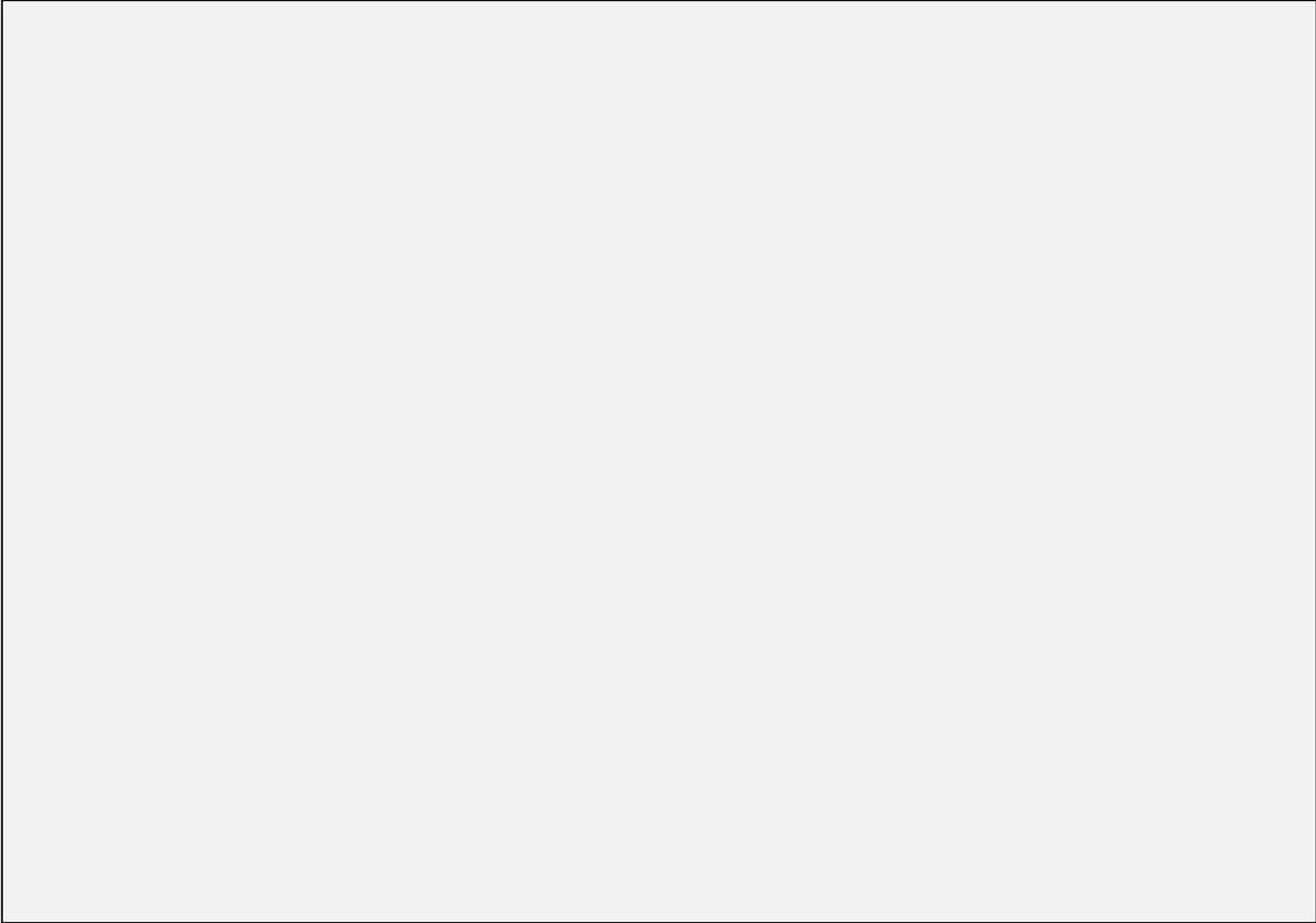
Submit entries by July 14 to Donald Cook, 81st Services Division chief, 81 MSG/SV, 505 C Street, Building 3101, Keesler AFB, MS, 39534.

Tuition aid change

Effective July 1, Air Force tuition assistance pays only for reimbursable fees associated with a class.

Place the fee amount in the appropriate box of the course information screen at the Air Force Virtual Education Center's site when applying for tuition assistance.

For more information on tuition assistance, fees and other education issues, call the education office, 377-2323 or 2171.



NEWS AND FEATURES

Services' human resources team claims Air Force recognition

81st Services Division

The human resources office of the 81st Services Division was selected the best in the Air Force for 2005.

The award is in recognition of "outstanding leadership, management, customer focus and operational results," according to the award package.

During the year, the office processed 1,840 non-appropriated fund personnel actions and more than 4,000 applications and filled more than 250 positions.

The staff provided 24/7 service by establishing a self-help application procedure and implementing Web-based applications. They analyzed labor market trends to sustain one of the few, and largest, Office of Personnel Management approved special pay rates in the Air Force.

One of the first base offices to open after Hurricane Katrina, the staff faced the challenge of accounting for more than 440 NAF employees scattered across the country.

The staff worked with city officials, contacted media, established personal contact with friends and relatives, verified bank activity and visited destroyed home sites until the last employee was accounted for.

In spite of personal losses, the staff assisted employees with hurricane relief forms, orders and travel vouchers, funding for temporary housing, emergency funds and transportation, and worked with the payroll department to advance pay when the primary direct deposit source was destroyed.

When only 52 percent of the work force returned after the storm, the staff conducted off-base job fairs, hiring more than 75 employees on the spot from a severely limited applicant pool.

As a result of Hurricane Katrina, the office established two precedent-setting breakthroughs:

Validating more than \$1 million in appropriated fund reimbursements for salary and evacuation expenses.

Developing and implementing the first NAF voluntary annual leave transfer policy for natural disaster and emergency situations.

"I am extremely proud of my entire staff for the accomplishments we've made, even with our own personal losses from Hurricane Katrina," said Sherry McGrath, human resource officer. "I knew we were the best in the Air Force. It's nice to be recognized."

Cookout honors returning troops

Active-duty members who've returned from a deployment since December and their families are honored at a welcome home cookout, 11:30 a.m. June 27 at Vandenberg Community Center.

Honorees are asked to wear their desert camouflage uniforms, said Maj. Teresa Roberts, airman and family readiness flight commander.

"We're extra excited because we should have a record attendance of deployers at this event," Major Roberts explained. "It's a free event for all who want to come support our returning troops, so we hope the base community takes some time to let our deployers know how glad we are to have them back safe and sound."

For more information, call 377-2179.

American Bar Association selects base legal office as best in Air Force

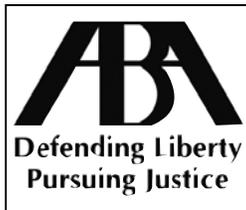
Legal office

Keesler's staff judge advocate was selected by the American Bar Association as the best legal assistance office in the Air Force.

The Legal Assistance Distinguished Service Award recognizes outstanding contributions to legal assistance for military personnel, retirees and their families.

"The tireless efforts of the legal office team shortly after Hurricane Katrina" were highlighted in the award.

Legal office personnel established assistance capabilities within days of Katrina, worked with landlords on the Mississippi Gulf Coast to secure the interests of those who were evacuated and proactively arranged for military attorneys to receive specialized training in bankruptcy law.



IN THE NEWS

Air Force Honor Guard recruiting

The Air Force Honor Guard's recruiting team gives a special duty briefing and performance, 10:15 a.m. Monday in Welch Auditorium.

Special duty applications are available from Master Sgt. Kelle Turner, 377-3697.

For more information, call Sergeant Turner; Jim Taylor, 377-2081; DSN 754-6210 or visit <https://wwwmil.bolling.af.mil/orgs/OG/HG/indexHG.htm>.

Medical center update

81st Medical Group

The Voice Over Internet Protocol phone system becomes effective for some 81st Medical Group clinics and offices today. For a list of phone numbers, including new 376 prefix, see Page 25.

The first aid station relocates from the medical center to the Triangle Clinic Saturday and Sunday as the base-maintained contractor replaces water valves.

Training for AHLTA, the new electronic health record system for medical center beneficiaries, continues through July 3, temporarily reducing access to medical appointments.

The 81st MDG commander and staff have moved from the clinical research laboratory to Arnold Annex behind the Meadows Drive tennis courts. Other medical group operations returning to or transferring permanently to Arnold Annex are physical therapy, occupational therapy and brace shop, transcription services, Tricare Regional Office South and Web support. Systems support also relocates in the Arnold Annex until the command staff returns to the medical center in the next year or so.

AAFES customers get buddy list

The Army and Air Force Exchange Service has implemented an e-mail buddy list to provide Keesler customers with weekly information about sales, Hurricane Katrina recovery efforts and links to its online store.

To sign up, visit the mini-mall/shoppette, furniture store or Four Seasons/Class Six or e-mail Buellwb@aafes.com.

Court-martialed for online chat

Air Force Print News

BARKSDALE Air Force Base, La. — An officer here pleaded guilty to a general court-martial to two specifications of conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman under Article 133, Uniform Code of Military Justice.

While on temporary duty at Nellis Air Force Base, Nev., Maj. Paul McNeme engaged in a sexually explicit online chat with someone he believed was a 14-year-old girl, discussing plans to meet with and have sex with her. The person he was conversing with was actually an adult from a sting operation, who turned a copy of the chat log over to law enforcement authorities after the incident.

Major McNeme was sentenced to dismissal from the Air Force and three months confinement.

No Keesler News July 6

By contract, the Keesler News doesn't publish the week in which the Independence Day federal holiday falls.

This year, that week is July 3-7.

The newspaper office is open 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. July 3, 5-6 and 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. July 7.

Publication resumes with the July 13 issue.

VA revamps security in wake of laptop theft

By Steven Donald Smith

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Veterans Affairs is revamping its data security procedures following last month's theft of a VA laptop computer containing personal information of veterans and service members, the VA secretary told a congressional committee.

"We will stay focused on these problems until they are fixed," said R. James Nicholson in testimony before the House Committee on Government Reform. "We will take direct and immediate action to address and alleviate affected people's concerns. We are accountable to our nation's veterans and service members."

On May 3, the Montgomery County, Md., home of a 34-year VA employee was burglarized. A laptop

and hard drive containing personal data of 26.5 million veterans and more than 2 million active-duty, Guard and Reserve members, was stolen. The laptop also contained some spousal and dependent information. The data included birth dates and Social Security numbers, VA officials said.

The stolen laptop didn't contain any health records, Mr. Nicholson said.

Clay Johnson, the White House's Office of Management and Budget deputy director for management, referred to the incident as an "unprecedented security breach."

The concern is that the information could be used for nefarious acts such as identity theft. There have been no reports of ill-use thus far.

The area where the robbery occurred has witnessed a recent spate of home

burglaries and officials don't think the data on the laptop was the target.

"We remain hopeful that this was a common, random theft and that no use will be made of this data," Mr. Nicholson said.

The VA employee, who worked as a data analyst, wasn't authorized to bring the information home.

Mr. Nicholson outlined various ways the VA is working to prevent such an incident from happening again.

"I have initiated several actions to strengthen our privacy and data security programs," he said. "On May 24, we launched the data security, assessment and strengthening program, a high-priority focus plan to strengthen our data privacy and security procedures."

Also, all VA employees must complete privacy and cyber security training by June 30. A task force of senior VA leadership was put together to review all aspects of information security and assess which employees need access to certain data, and the agency has suspended the practice of allowing veterans benefits employees from removing claimant files from agency work areas.

During the week of June 26, VA facilities across the country and in Guam and Puerto Rico take part in security awareness training.

The VA has set up a call center where veterans and active-duty personnel can get information about the situation and consumer identity protections. The toll-free number is 1-800-333-4636.

Partners,

from Page 1

uled to begin again at Keesler in July 2007.

Dr. Jones said the agreement benefits the state because it has the potential to increase the pipeline of practicing physicians in south Mississippi, and benefits the Air Force because it allows Keesler to remain an important source for Air Force physicians.

"The Keesler Medical Center has maintained very good residency programs for a number of years," he said. "Many of the doctors who complete their residency training in Biloxi ultimately settle on the coast. If we lost these residency programs, we would lose this feeder program for physicians in south Mississippi."

"For the first few years, there should be no discernable difference between the pre-Katrina and new programs," said Brig. Gen. (Dr.) James Dougherty, 81st Medical Group commander. "After a period of time, we hope to have civilian staff and residents participating in our program."

The agreement not only allows civilian physicians to complete their residency training at Keesler, but helps the School of Medicine increase its class size by as

much as 30 percent within five years, simply by shifting some of the School of Medicine's training programs to the coast.

According to Dr. Helen Turner, UMMC associate vice chancellor for academic affairs, the Association of American Medical Colleges has recommended all medical schools across the country increase their class size by 30 percent. She said the agreement with Keesler allows some third- and fourth-year medical students to complete their training on the coast.

"We can't really increase our class size much more than our entering M-1 class of 110 without additional clinical resources," Dr. Turner said. "During the first two years of medical school, students are primarily studying basic science."

"The biggest challenge to increasing class size is being able to have enough clinical faculty to teach medical students in the third and fourth years when they work in teams in a clinical setting."

She said residents from Keesler already take rotations at UMMC and G.V. (Sonny) Montgomery Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Jackson, UMMC's primary affiliate for medical student and resident training.

"This consortium presents a wonderful opportunity for Keesler Medical Center to continue its residency pro-

grams, for the School of Medicine to acquire additional clinical faculty and clinical resources to expand its class size even further, and for us to collaborate with the Biloxi VA Medical Center," Dr. Turner said. "Each participant has unique patient populations and strengths that will enrich the educational experience of all the students and residents."

"This agreement benefits all parties."

The agreement evolved following the May 2005 announcement that Keesler Medical Center was on the Base Realignment and Closure Commission's list of military medical facilities slated for realignment. Ultimately, the commission recommended the facility become a community hospital, a type of hospital that normally doesn't train specialists.

General Dougherty said Air Force community hospitals won't "own" residency programs, but the agreement allows Keesler to continue to have doctors in training and provide a broader range of specialty care to the Air Force community on the coast.

He said the Biloxi VA continues to partner with Keesler Medical Center's general surgery residency. The VA is an affiliate to the consortium.

The general said Keesler's other training programs continue and teaching staff is slated to return by summer 2007 to prepare their programs.

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.

Option for separating lieutenants

Air Force Reserve Command

ROBINS Air Force Base, Ga. — Air Force lieutenants involuntarily separated as a result of force reductions have until Aug. 1 to join the Air Force Reserve and continue their military careers without a break in service.

On May 10, the Air Force released the names of 884 lieutenants to be involuntarily separated because of force reductions. The Air Force removed 192 names from the list May 25 after a records review. Those officers have their records reconsidered during a special review board June 26.

Officers not selected for retention can submit Palace Chase applications to join the Air Force Reserve and apply for positions identified in the Reserve Management Vacancy System. Many Reserve vacancies are in the pilot, navigator, special operations, command and control, combat control, space and missile, intelligence and health profession career fields, according to Reserve recruiting officials. Officers can apply for retraining into some of those career fields if they qualify.

Additional voluntary retirements

Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — The Air Force offers additional voluntary retirements to a select group of officers, officials announced recently.

As a result of the Fiscal 2006 National Defense Authorization Act, the Force Shaping Program Phase II additional measures offer voluntary retirements to officers with at least eight years total active federal commissioned service and 20 years total active federal military service.

The Air Force waives active-duty service commitments (except aviation continuation pay, judge advocate continuation pay and critical skills retention bonus) and allows officers meeting these criteria to apply for voluntary retirement on Sept. 1 or earlier.

Lieutenant colonels and colonels who are retirement eligible are encouraged to apply for retirement between now and Sept. 1, 2007.

Some force-shaping initiatives are still offered such as the "Blue to Green" option for officers and the waiver for lieutenant colonels and colonels to retire with two years time in grade through 2007. The Air Force also authorizes a temporary program to allow officers to establish a voluntary retirement date up to 15 months in advance.

If not enough volunteers elect to retire under this force-shaping initiative, a selective early retirement board could convene in 2007.

Tricare online

TricareOnline.com is the Department of Defense medical portal that provides Tricare beneficiaries with secure, interactive, one-stop-shopping access to a host of services, tools and resources.

Only a dotcom can provide unconstrained, universal access from any computer or laptop in the world — dot.mil may not always be accessible because of geographic and security restrictions.

For more information, visit <http://www.tricareonline.com> or call customer service, 1-800-600-9332 or 1-210-767-5250.

Verifying deployment credit

For information on verifying deployment credit, call the Air Force Personnel Center's field activities office, DSN 665-2671, or commercial 1-210-565-2671.

KEESLER NEWS
 Monday, June 12, 2007
 Volume 1, Number 10

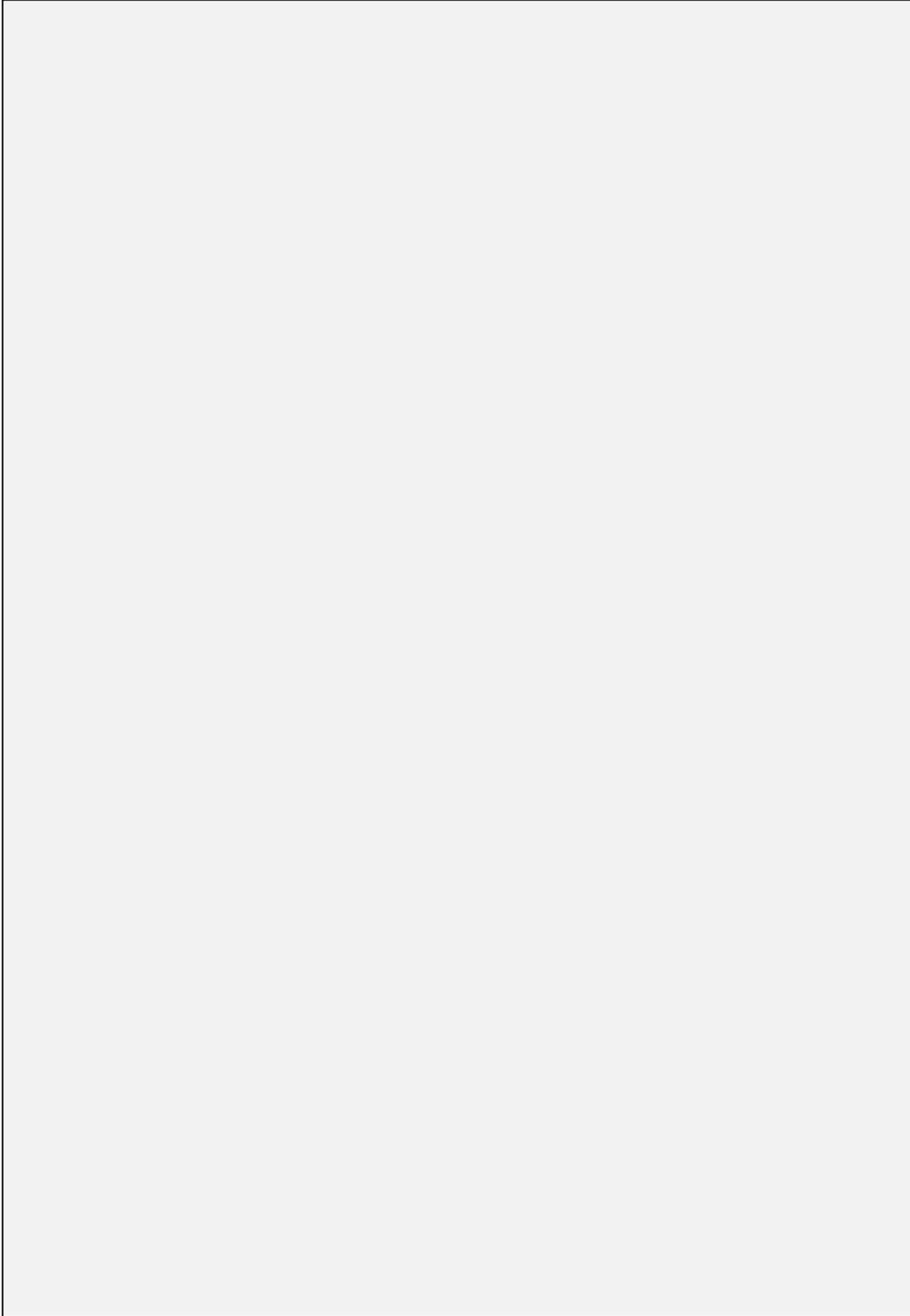
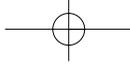
Base improves safety record in fiscal 2005
 The 81st Mission Support Squadron (81st MSS) achieved a significant safety record in fiscal 2005, with zero major accidents and a 100 percent compliance rate with all safety regulations. This success is attributed to the squadron's rigorous training and safety protocols.

Their first look at Keesler
 A group of new recruits arrived at Keesler Air Force Base for their first assignment. They were met by their commanders and assigned to their respective units. The recruits expressed excitement and anticipation for their new roles.

Congress reviews new civilian personnel system
 The House of Representatives is currently reviewing a proposed new civilian personnel system for the Department of Defense. The system aims to streamline recruitment, retention, and compensation for civilian employees.

INSIDE COMMENTARY
 The Air Force Reserve Command is implementing a new recruitment strategy to attract and retain qualified personnel. This strategy focuses on identifying potential candidates early in their careers and providing them with the necessary training and support.

For Keesler News delivery or display racks, facility managers call 377-3163.



Bash brings 4-day party to an end

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News staff

Keesler winds up its four-day 65th birthday celebration today with a birthday bash, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. in marina park.

The park is designated as an "alternate duty location" for those who choose to participate in the activities.

Schedule:

9-10:30 a.m. — bring birthday cake entries to Katrina Kantina; judging at 11, with prizes for best decorating, most unique and best tasting. For more information, call 377-2821.

11 a.m. — food lines, booths and activities begin. Disk jockey and live performances all afternoon.

11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. — fishing tournament.

Noon — welcome by Brig. Gen. Paul Capasso, 81st Training Wing commander; birthday cake contest winners announced.

Noon to 3:30 p.m. — free boat rides.

Noon to 7 p.m. — free swimming at base pools.

12:10 p.m. — karaoke contest, Mitch Seveles.

1 p.m. — birthday cake entries sliced and served.

1:10 p.m. — Oreo cookie-licking contest.

1:30 p.m. — "Bottom Line" performs active and new rock.

2:30 p.m. — sponsor giveaways.

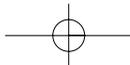
3:30 p.m. — karaoke finals, Mitch Seveles.

4 p.m. — Keesler Idol finals.

4:30 p.m. — awards presentation and recognition of Keesler members selected for promotion to technical and master sergeant by General Capasso.

5 p.m. — "Rochambeau" performs classic rock from 1970s and 80s, with a touch of 60s and '90s.

6 p.m. — festivities end.



Keesler newcomers face family housing hurdles

By Master Sgt. Roger Drinnon

Keesler Public Affairs

As Keesler struggles with housing shortages in Hurricane Katrina's wake, Airmen with dependents being assigned here need to have a plan before they leave their previous assignment.

Due to Katrina, permission to bring their military dependents to Keesler has become much like an overseas assignment. Airmen now must obtain authorization for their dependents' concurrent travel prior to coming here.

For concurrent travel to be approved, Airmen must have a feasible housing plan for their families, due to the lack of affordable housing on the Mississippi Gulf Coast. Without a plan, concurrent travel might be disapproved.

"The bottom line is, the (recent) statistics show 76 (concurrent travel request) approvals and 55 disapprovals for the wing," said Capt. Rob Roeckers, 81st Mission Support Squadron military personnel flight commander. "Initially, they were all being disapproved — these stats tell me the word is getting out."

The captain said inbound Airmen are authorized up to 10

How to get your family here

81st Comptroller Squadron

Members who aren't authorized concurrent travel or who request non-concurrent travel:

Permissive temporary duty — the unit commander of the organization from which a member is departing can authorize up to 10 days for house-hunting.

Re-apply — if a member secures definite housing arrangements (signed lease or purchase of a home), he can re-apply for concurrent travel. If approved, the member must ensure dependents are added to the permanent change-of-station travel orders.

If permissive TDY isn't possible — members must report to Keesler by their designated "report no later than date."

Members won't be authorized to bring dependents to Keesler. Inbound personnel whose orders state "concurrent travel is not authorized" are authorized a 60-day stay in a dormitory for house-hunting. Members who require more than 60 days are eligible for an extension. Once the member makes housing arrangements, he may request authorization for dependents to travel to Keesler through his unit commander.

Overseas returnees — these members might be asked to voluntarily extend their overseas return date. They're authorized to move dependents to another continental United States location as they arrange for housing in the Keesler area.

days of permissive temporary duty for house-hunting, but this authorization, as well as the concurrent travel authorization, must be coordinated through the commander of the organization from which they're departing for Keesler.

"People are doing the permissive (temporary duty for house-hunting)," said Captain

Roeckers. "The program is working, and people are doing the permissive because they want to bring their families."

The captain said awareness of the authorization requirements increases an Airman's chance for approved concurrent travel.

However, he said if a request is disapproved, it's in

Non-concurrent travel entitlements

81st Comptroller Squadron

Non-concurrent travel allows members to receive the following entitlements when authorized:

With-dependent basic allowance for housing is payable at the last permanent duty station rate if the delay is less than 20 weeks from the member's reporting date. If the delay is more than 20 weeks and dependents are authorized to move at government expense to a designated place, BAH is payable at the rate where dependents are located. This entitlement isn't authorized if dependents reside in government quarters at the last duty station.

Family separation allowance, Type II, is paid if the member occupies government quarters. The current rate is \$250 per month.

Family separation allowance, Type I, also known as family separation housing, is paid to a member while drawing with-dependent BAH when not occupying government quarters. The entitlement is equal to single rate BAH for the member's grade at the rate of the current duty station.

Dislocation location allowance is paid to members at the single rate until dependent travel is authorized and until dependent travel is complete. The difference is paid when the dependent travel voucher is submitted for payment.

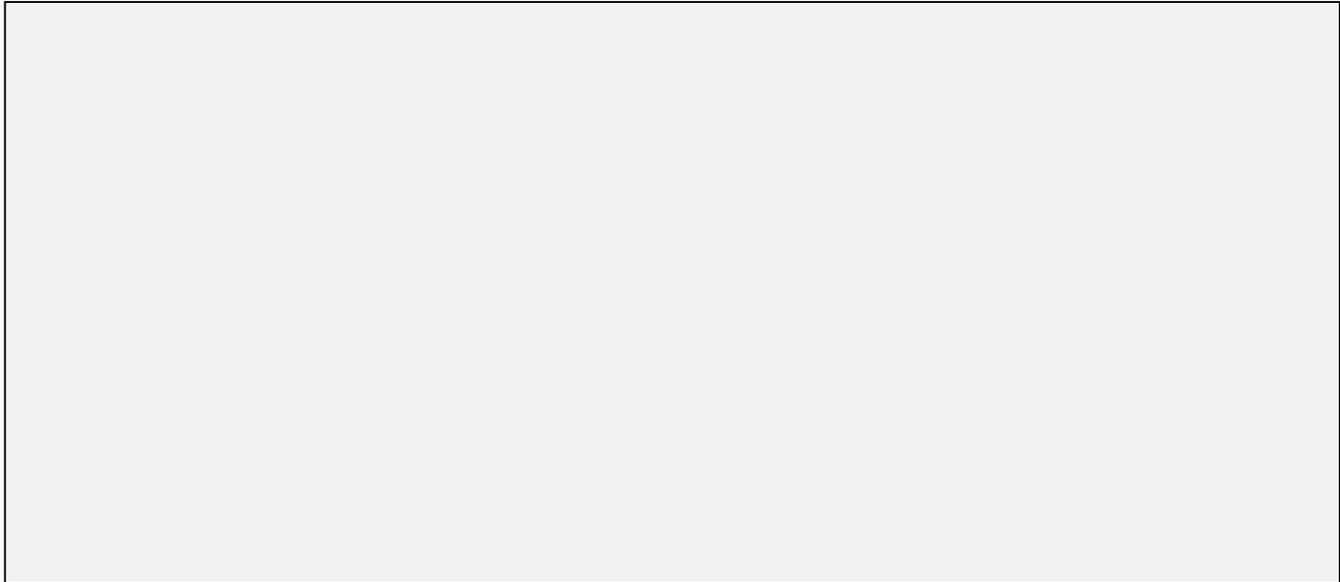
the interest of the Airman's financial well-being.

"When we first started the program, people thought, 'You're trying to break up my family,'" said Captain Roeckers. "But when we disapprove concurrent travel, it's because we don't want to put you in a financial bind."

He said the best situation

for inbound personnel is to know exactly where their family will live before they arrive at Keesler.

"Securing housing (prior to arrival) is ideal — actually having a lease signed," said the captain. "Normally, concurrent travel won't be approved if you say you are only going to meet with a realtor."



Trunkful of preparation



Photo by Adam Bond

Tech. Sgt. Tisha Bradley, 334th Training Squadron, won the first of three hurricane trunks given away at the 81st Training Group commander's call, June 6 at Welch Auditorium. The trunks from the Army and Air Force Exchange Service were filled with hurricane supplies. Col. Deborah Van De Ven, 81st TRG commander, is offering the group's permanent-party military members a day off this month, with the consent of their squadron commanders, to finish their preparations for this hurricane season.

Mid-July opening anticipated for modular satellite pharmacy

By Steve Pivnick

81st Medical Group public affairs

Keesler's modular satellite pharmacy is projected to open in mid July, according to Col. Frank Jacobs, 81st Medical Support Squadron pharmacy flight commander.

The site is adjacent to the Four Seasons/Class 6 on Meadows Drive.

"When the temporary satellite pharmacy opens, it will provide the same services as previously provided at the base exchange satellite pharmacy," Colonel Jacobs explained. "It will be the site where new prescriptions from off-base doctors are filled and where refills are picked up.

"Our Veterans Affairs Medical Center site in Biloxi will close at that time," the colonel continued. "There'll be a drive-through window for pick-up of completed refills. As was the case before the hurricane and currently, we won't transfer or refill pre-



scriptions filled at other pharmacies — customers must bring a new written prescription from their doctor."

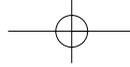
Colonel Jacobs said the pharmacy's call-in system continues to be the means to request a refill.

"In the near future, the number to call in a refill changes to 376-1000 as Keesler Medical Center transitions to a new telephone system," he noted. "The toll-free '800' numbers remain unchanged.

"The turn-around time on refills will be reduced from four duty days back to approximately where it was before the storm — the next duty day. However, the exact cut-off and pick-up ready times haven't been determined yet."

Colonel Jacobs said refill processing returns to Keesler. Processing has been done at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, since September, after the pharmacy facilities were destroyed by Katrina.

New prescriptions from Keesler providers will be filled and dispensed from the main pharmacy in the medical center.



Keesler continues to build foundation of care



Photos by Kemberly Groue

Airman Basic Anthony Cross, 334th Training Squadron, secures a board for a house in East Biloxi June 7. Students from Keesler worked for the Urban Life Ministries, located at the old Veterans of Foreign Wars site on

Howard Avenue. Urban Life Ministries based in Independence, Mo. Members are on the Mississippi Gulf Coast are in the local area to help restore houses damaged during Hurricane Katrina.



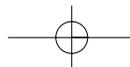
Airman Josiah Clifton, left, holds sheetrock as Airman Basic John Henry nails it into place inside a home at 367 Main Street in Biloxi June 8. They're from the 336th TRS.



Airmen Henry, left, Airman Basic Jessica Witzke, 334th TRS, and Airman Clifton cut sheetrock to hang on the inside of the Main Street home.



Airman Witzke anchors a window frame at 367 Main Street.



2005 historic storm season for 53rd WRS

Reservists flew 1,500 hours into 25 storms

By Tech. Sgt. James Pritchett

403rd Wing Public Affairs

From May to December and Adrian to Epsilon, the 2005 hurricane season was an historic one for the 53rd Weather Reconnaissance Squadron.

Last year, these Hurricane Hunter reservists flew more than 1,500 hours into storms beginning in May with Hurricane Adrian in the Pacific and finally ending in December flying missions into Hurricane Epsilon.

Tropical Storm Zeta formed later, extended the season into 2006, although it didn't threaten land.

When hurricane center calls ...

The National Hurricane Center is predicting 13 to 16 named storms this year, with eight to 10 becoming hurricanes, of which four to six could become major hurricanes of Category 3 strength or higher with sustained winds of at least 111 mph.

The National Hurricane Center in Miami decides when to call on the Hurricane Hunters, who are assigned to the Air Force Reserve Command's 403rd Wing. The unit flies all operational missions to provide data to forecasters at the National Hurricane Center.

When a tasking is issued, the Airmen of the 53rd WRS are prepared to fly an average of 11 hours crisscrossing the storm and penetrating the powerful eye wall several times. The aerial reconnaissance weather officer and weather reconnaissance loadmaster use computers to gather data. Sensors on the aircraft and sophisticated weather instrument packages called dropsondes collect wind speed, temperature, humidity, barometric pressure and other information forecasters use to determine the path and strength of a hurricane.

'... very rewarding job.'

"We love the job that we do. It's a very rewarding job," said Randy Bynon, a weather reconnaissance loadmaster with the squadron. "We gather data and collect it on the computer. We analyze it, format it and make sure it's accurate and then we transmit it directly from the aircraft via satellite to the National Hurricane Center."

The mission has improved the accuracy of forecasts by up to 30 percent, said Max Mayfield, director of the National Hurricane Center.

"With our data, the forecasters can narrow their evacuation areas, saving lives and billions of dollars as well," said Capt. Jerry Rutland, a Hurricane Hunter pilot.

The only modifications to the WC-130J Hercules aircraft flown by the Hurricane Hunters are the weather computers. With these removed, the squadron can perform airlift missions.



403rd Wing photo

Hurricane Katrina is photographed from the cockpit of a WC-130J in late August 2005.

2005 storm season one for record book

Several records were set during the 2005 hurricane season:

Named storms — 28. The previous record was 21 in 1933. The Hurricane Hunters were tasked to fly into 25 storms.

Hurricanes — 15. The previous record was 12 in 1969.

Major hurricanes hitting the United States — four (Dennis, Katrina, Rita and Wilma). The previous record was three, most recently in 2004.

Hurricanes of Category 5 intensity (sustained winds greater than 155 mph) — four (Emily, Katrina, Rita and Wilma). The previous record was two in 1960 and 1961.

The squadron flies 10 WC-130Js, which were first used last season for operational storm reconnaissance. The unit completed conversion to the new J-model aircraft ahead of schedule partially their home station.

The worst natural disaster in U.S. history and the deadliest since 1928, Katrina forced the unit to evacuate and operate out of a forward-operating location for much of the season. The Hurricane Hunters flew more than 145 missions.

Despite the move, the unit didn't miss a single tasking. Hurricane Hunter crews continued flying into Katrina and then moved on to the next storm, even as some of them learned their homes were destroyed.

"We lost everything. We had to completely gut the house and we are still rebuilding it," said Lt. Col. Doug Fairtrace, a navigator.

Katrina left behind destruction worse than any other weather event in American history, and researchers at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration said they were able to save tens of thousands of lives by pinpointing where the eye would hit, due in part to data provided by the Hurricane Hunters.

Katrina also was the costliest storm, with some estimates exceeding \$80 billion.

Life wins life-or-death struggle at softball game

By Steve Pivnick

81st Medical Group Public Affairs
A softball game became a life-or-death struggle May 31. Thanks to the actions of three Keesler medics, life won.

Master Sgt. Angelo Plaza, 81st Medical Support Squadron, and Airmen 1st Class Derek Gablinske and Brett Wolfe, 81st Medical Operations Squadron, were involved in a game between 81st MDSS and 81st Civil Engineer Squadron in the Triangle when they heard people on the adjacent field yelling for a medic, as well as shouts of, "He's not breathing!"

As Sergeant Plaza related, "As soon as we heard the commotion, the three of us ran over to the other field."

This wasn't as easy as it sounds because they had to scale a 10-foot fence separating the two fields.

"We went over to where the victim was located, just past second base," Airman Gablinske said, "He had rounded second base. He apparently decided to go back and fell, but he didn't get back up. By the time we got there, he was cyanotic, completely blue, from head to toe."

Sergeant Plaza and Airman Gablinske found the victim



Sergeant Plaza

had no vital signs, was unresponsive to verbal stimulation and lacked a pulse.

After going through the required ABCs (airways, breathing, circulation), the trio went into action, applying cardiopulmonary resuscitation. Airman Wolfe began chest compressions, while Sergeant Plaza started mouth-to-mouth. Airman Gablinske monitored the victim's vital signs while stabilizing his head and neck in case there were spinal injuries.

After two rounds of CPR, Sergeant Plaza and Airman Gablinske switched roles while Airman Wolfe continued compressions.

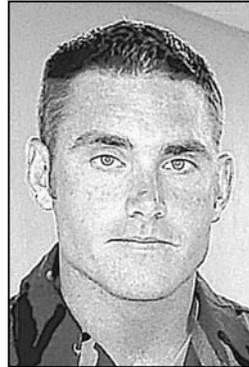


Airman Gablinske

Sergeant Plaza said after four to six minutes — "It seemed like an eternity!" — Staff Sgt. Paul Turner, another 81st MDOS member, retrieved an automated external defibrillator from a nearby fire truck. The crew of the fire truck was part of a team waiting to play the next game.

"He got the AED, brought it to the field and hooked him up," Sergeant Plaza said. "The AED assessed his vital signs, recommended shocking him and did so. After shocking the victim, the AED did another assessment and this time advised no shock.

"We did the ABCs again



Airman Wolfe

and returned to administering CPR for two to three minutes. We had the AED assess him again. It advised shocking him and it did it a second time," he added.

After the second shock, the medics continued with CPR.

About this time, an ambulance from Keesler Medical Center and another from American Medical Response arrived. When the three medics first got to the scene, they made sure someone called 911.

The AMR crew placed the victim on a backboard, applied a c-spin collar and put him on a stretcher. At that point, the victim was

breathing on his own, coughing and showing vital signs. He even began to scream.

"He had really looked like a dead body. This was the first real sign he was alive again," Airman Gablinske said.

AMR took the victim to Biloxi Regional Medical Center. Sergeant Plaza had a contact there and called later to check on his condition.

"The provider said he was scared, but talking normally," he said. "They were going to run some tests. As of June 1, we heard he was doing OK."

The identity of the victim hasn't been released.

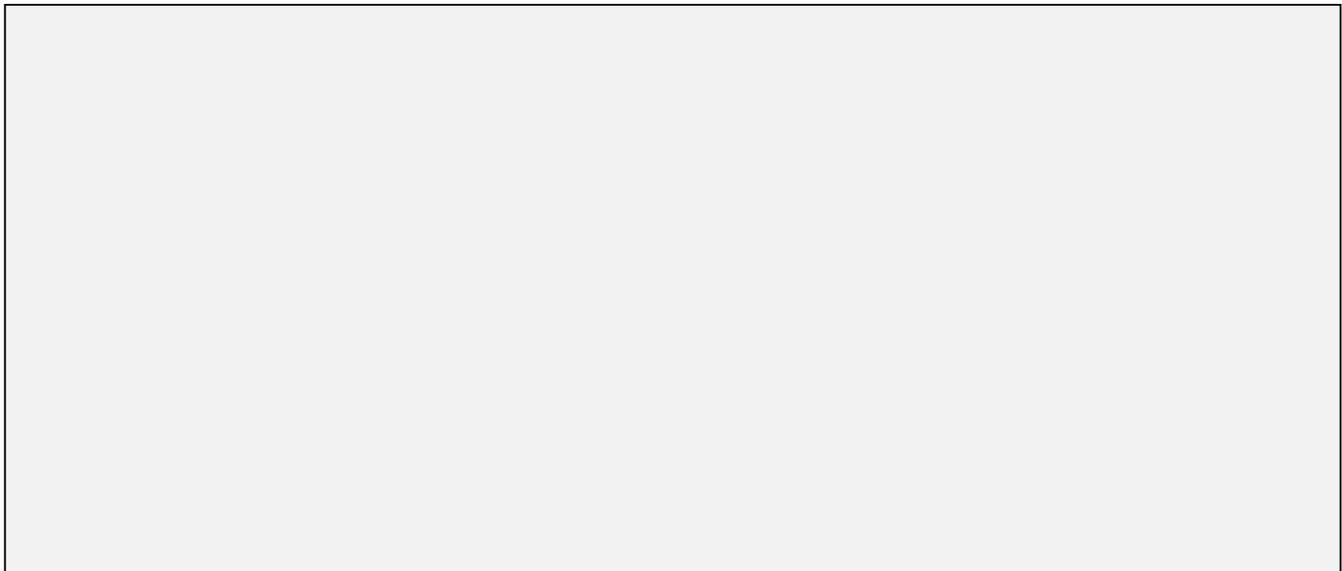
Looking back on the event, Sergeant Plaza said, "The biggest thing was when we got to him, he was dead. It was really scary. There were no signs of life. I'm glad he's alive."

Airman Gablinske added, "I'm glad we were there. We were at the right place at the right time."

So, what did the three medics do after the victim was taken to the hospital?

"We went back to playing our ball game," Sergeant Plaza said.

Although the medics lost the softball game, 11-8, they were winners when it really mattered that day.



Military retirees enjoy special day at Keesler



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Linda Matz, left, gives information to retired Master Sgt. David Moore, D'Iberville, at the Vandenberg Community Center. Matz works for the National Association for Uniformed Services.



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Aracely Diaz, left, Army and Air Force Exchange Service employee, looks on as retired Tech. Sgt. David Fowler, D'Iberville, plays Wheel of Fortune at the Class Six shopette during Retiree Appreciation

Day Friday. The annual event is designed to thank and assist retired military members and their families. Included in the activities was a barbecue at the marina.



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Myra Colson, left, accompanies her sister, Nona Faye Hearing, Biloxi, as Airman 1st Class Joseph Anderson, 81st Comptroller Squadron, inputs data at the Vosler Training

Facility Friday. Retirees received front-of-the-line service at various locations throughout the day. Hearing is the spouse of retired Tech. Sgt. William Hearing.



Photo by Steve Pivnick

Master Sgt. Sandra Scott, left, 81st Surgical Operations Squadron, takes Kat Cutrer's blood pressure of during the health fair at the Vandenberg Community Center June 9. Ms. Cutrer, from Brandon, Miss., is the daughter of retired Tech. Sgt. James Alexander.



Observance marks end of slavery

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News staff

Juneteenth celebrates the abolition of slavery in the United States.

June 19, 1865, Union soldiers arrived in Galveston, Texas, with news that the Civil War had ended and the slaves were free.

This news, which arrived 2 1/2 years after the Emancipation Proclamation, launched celebrations and family reunions as the former slaves relished their newfound places in a society that had never recognized their humanity.

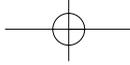
Juneteenth celebrations grew over time as former slaves and their descendants came back to Galveston annually for fellowship, prayer and to find other family members.

The celebrations included various activities and specialty dishes that reflected African-American culture. Traditional meals included strawberry soda pop and barbecue. The feasts included foods that weren't normally served on a daily basis, but prepared especially for Juneteenth.

Festive attire, once forbidden for slaves, was also an important aspect of the original Juneteenth celebrations.

Today's Juneteenth is observed in multi-cultural communities throughout the United States. Education and self-improvement are often underlying themes.

Juneteenth is an official state holiday in Texas, and there are active movements to spread the Juneteenth observance across America.



KEESLER NOTES

Rental grand opening

Force One Rental, Building 4818 on Larcher Boulevard, holds a grand opening celebration, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday.

Food, fun and a spacewalk for children are planned.

Self-help store moves

June 19, the self-help store relocates temporarily to Dock 4 on the east side of the Taylor Logistics Center, Building 4002, while hurricane repairs and upgrades are made.

Repairs are expected to take six to eight weeks.

The telephone number at the temporary location is 377-3864.

Live Oak dining hours

Live Oak Dining Facility's

new hours are 5:15-7:15 a.m., 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 5-7 p.m. weekdays.

On weekends, holidays and down Fridays, hours are 7:30-9 a.m., 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 4:30-6:30 p.m.

For 403rd Wing training weekends, breakfast is also served 6-7:30 a.m.

Permanent party enlisted personnel are authorized to dine in any of the dining facilities during all hours of operation. Officers, enlisted and civilians on official temporary duty orders for training can use the Live Oak, Azalea and Magnolia dining facilities.

Gate hours

The Meadows Drive Gate is open 5:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. workdays.

The Judge Sekul Avenue Gate is now open 3:30-5:30 p.m. work days for outbound traffic only.

Both gates are closed weekends, federal holidays and compressed work schedule Fridays.

The White Avenue and Pass Road gates operate 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

AAFES promotions

Promotions at the Army and Air Force Exchange Service furniture store this month:

Mattresses — through June 30.

Electronics, Whirlpool appliances — today through June 30.

Hurricane guides

A limited number of copies of the Keesler News' 2006

hurricane guide are available in the base newspaper office.

To reserve copies, call 377-4130, 3837, 3163, 7340 or 9966. Pick copies up 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. work days in Room 113, Taylor Logistics Center, L Street.

Tax office

The Keesler Tax Office, Room 234, old Cody Hall, remains open through Sept. 15 because of filing extensions due to 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.

For Katrina-related questions, call the Internal Revenue Service, 1-866-562-5227.

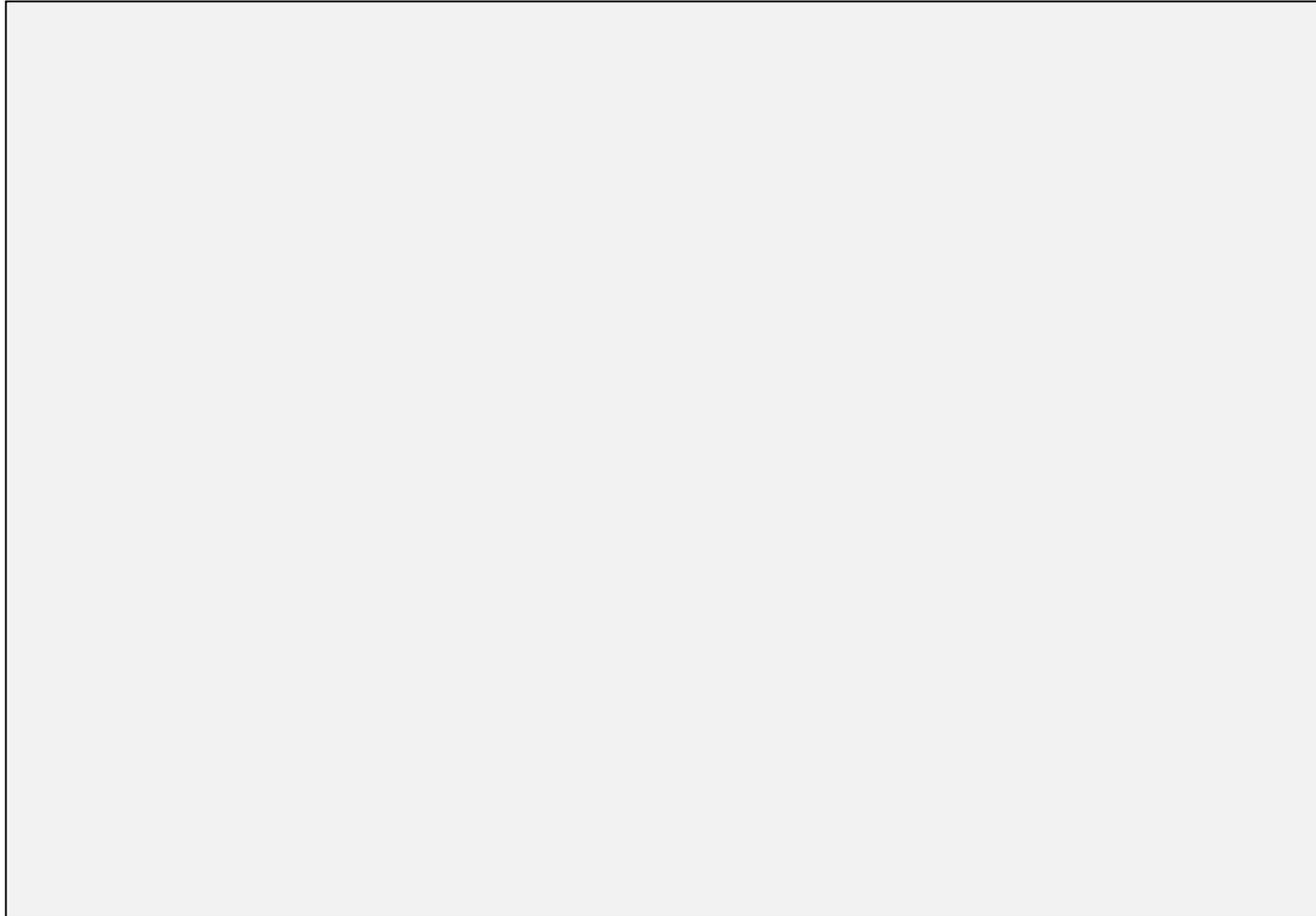
New leader for comptrollers

Lt. Col. Robert Gurner assumes command of the 81st Comptroller Squadron, 9 a.m. Tuesday at the F-105 static display in front of Muse Manor on Larcher Boulevard.

He replaces Maj. Richard Fogg, who becomes comptroller at Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska.

Colonel Gurner comes to Keesler from Sheppard AFB, Texas, where he was the comptroller.

The squadron is closed until 11 a.m. For emergencies, call 365-8922.



SPORTS AND RECREATION

Keesler Riders Association

Base motorcycle club offers experience, mentorship, more to members

By Staff Sgt. Lee Smith

Keesler News staff

The scene at The Joys of Coffee Shop on Pass Road in Biloxi on June 6: Air Force personnel in their battle dress uniforms and casually-dressed civilians, men and women, young and old.

Everyone who walked through the door for the Keesler Riders Association's monthly meeting was greeted as a friend, including a new-comer.

Jeremy Christian, 81st Security Forces Squadron, was attending his first meeting.

"I recognize a couple of the members simply because I saw them on their bikes in the past," he said. "But I've never actually met any of these people before."

Keesler riders

The KRA is a motorcycle riders club. It was established in 2004 to get people who enjoy motorcycles together, according to Jerry Gardner, KRA president.

Its biggest role: mentorship.

"It is the responsibility of the more experienced riders to show the ropes and offer tips to those who have just began or are less experienced," said Gardner, who works in the 81st Training Support Squadron when he's not riding his bike. "We always try to have people go out in groups, especially the less experienced riders. If we see a rider doing something unsafe or doing something wrong, it's the job of the more experienced riders to let the other rider know."

KRA 101

Conversations flowed at different tables. To those unfamiliar with motorcycle terminology, the language seemed foreign:

"I souped up my engine to 250 cc." "I have a twin



Photos by Kemberly Groue

Jerry Gardner, left, KRA president, goes over some last minute details with Lynda Richmond, KRA member, before riding on the base Monday. Richmond works at the 81st Training Support Squadron.

rotator installed so I can hand brake now." "The side mirrors have to be redone to adjust my visibility zone.

"How do I increase my tires and decrease my rim width?"

For Shelia Konelick, assistant director of the KRA, motorcycle riders are more than just individuals who own motorcycles.

"It doesn't matter what size bike a person has, what type of bike it is, how long you have had the bike or been a rider. When you meet another person who has a bike, you are both family," said the 81st TRSS member. "The bike is the common thread.

"I know that if I see someone on the side of the road with a bike, and maybe they

have something different than what I have, I will stop and ask them about it," Konelick said. "Everybody here is now a family member in my eyes. If they need a favor, they can call on me."

Gardner said the membership of the KRA has increased steadily since the club was formed two years ago.

"We have about 80 members right now," he said. "We have a great cross-section of people: retirees, dependents, contractors, and of course, military members.

"And we have all different types of experience. Some of our members have been motorcyclists for more than 30 years. Other, like Christian, have been riding a short

period of time."

Christian explained that the bike he's riding is the first one he's ever owned.

"I always wanted to have one, and now seemed like the perfect time," he said. "Being a part of the KRA just makes me more excited to have my bike. I know I can learn from their experiences."

A discussion of a group outing was followed by a decision to meet in two different parking lots — for the convenience of members located in different parts of Biloxi — and go to The Shed, a popular restaurant in Ocean Springs.

"We meet at a place and just spend time talking about our motorcycles while we



Richmond checks her side mirror before taking off.

eat," Gardner said. "Sometimes the more experienced riders will tell a riding story; other times it will be normal conversation."

I know you ...

Club member Cat Aguda, 81st Communications Squadron, said he sees more and more of his fellow KRA riders on the road early in the afternoon.

"As long as people have permission to leave their duty section, some members like to take 'lunch rides,'" he said. "A couple of members will meet somewhere and ride to a location. Sometimes, it's to talk about bikes; sometimes, it's just a break from the base. Either way, it's a chance to ride, which I'm all for."

What's next?

The KRA is gearing up for a membership drive, 11 a.m. June 29 at the marina to attract new members. Cost of membership is \$5. For more information, call Lynda Richmond, 377-0749.

Civil engineers, engineering installers on top Intramural softball winds down

By Staff Sgt. Lee Smith
Keesler News staff

Only the second intramural sport to have a season in a year winds up Wednesday as the 2006 intramural softball regular season ends.

The season began May 8 at the Triangle softball fields.

Twenty-six teams comprise the program, with 13 teams each in the American and National leagues.

As of June 8, the 81st Civil Engineer Squadron-A team was atop the American League standings with a perfect 7-0 record. The 81st Medical Support Squadron-A and the Center for Naval Technical Training-A teams

both are 1 1/2 games behind with identical 6-2 records.

The 85th Engineering Installation Squadron and the 403rd Wing teams are tied for the best record in the National League at 7-1. The Keesler Marine Corps Detachment-A team sits one-half game behind at 7-2.

There's no official word on this year's post-season format. In past years it was a double-elimination tournament.

The 81st CES-A team is the defending tournament champion.

The intramural softball season is the one of the first sports seasons to take place since Hurricane Katrina hit

the Mississippi Gulf Coast in 2005.

Damage to facilities such as the Dragon Fitness Center, the softball fields, the marina and the Bay Breeze Golf Course, along with a lack of qualified sports officials and squadron and unit sports representatives, forced the base to cancel the 2005 intramural flag football, basketball, volleyball and soccer seasons.

Intramural sports were held back because the base was in the process of bidding for a contract when Katrina hit in August.

Some officials left the area; others were needed for local sports and no contracts were available.

In its place, the base had hosted single- and double-elimination tournaments, such as the Turkey Bowl and pre-Super Bowl flag football tournaments as well as basketball tournaments.

The intramural bowling season took place earlier this year. Gaudé Lanes was one of the facilities damaged and is now closed until September due to scheduled renovations and hurricane recovery.

For a list of games played during the past season, as well as results, go to <http://eteamz.active.com/keeslerafb/index.cfm?subsite=1173987>.

Softball tournament benefits AAHC

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News staff

The African-American Heritage Committee hosts its second annual Juneteenth softball tournament, Friday-Sunday on the Triangle fields.

The tournament benefits the Col. Lawrence Roberts Scholarship Fund.

Juneteenth is a celebration in observance of the abolishment of slavery in the United States.

"We welcome this opportunity to share with people what Juneteenth represents and to celebrate African-American heritage with the community," said Clifford Massey, tournament coordinator.

For more information, call Massey, 377-1305.

Girls lacrosse team dedicates 2006 season to Pope Airmen

By Ed Drohan

43rd Airlift Wing Public Affairs
GARDEN CITY, N.Y. -- When Brianna Maglio scored the first goal of the season for her fourth grade lacrosse team in Garden City, N.Y., she was n't just doing it for her team.

The Gray Sweeties, Brianna's team, have dedicated this season to her brother, Emilio Lavia, and his unit, the 43rd Logistics Readiness Squadron at Pope Air Force Base, N.C.

Garden (City) support

The team's show of support for the Pope Airmen is their way of thanking all of the men and women serving in the armed forces today, their coach said.

"People in Garden City have a lot of respect for men and women serving in the military, especially since Sept. 11, 2001," said Gray Sweeties coach Don Pfail.

Twenty-eight people from Garden City, just outside New York City, were killed in the attack on the World Trade Center, including several Pfail knew personally.

"We lost David Leistman, who coached my son's lacrosse team," Pfail said. "Then there was the mother of one of my daughter's classmates. We were riding the train into the city together that morning and she didn't make it home. Garden City was hit pretty hard on 9-11."

An idea was born

Brianna Maglio joined the Gray Sweeties lacrosse team this year. When Darlene Maglio, Brianna and Lavia's mother, mentioned that her son had joined the Air Force and was serving at Pope, an idea began that eventually grew into the dedication.

It made perfect sense since Lavia was always close to his sisters, and was a staple at their games before enlisting in October 2005, Maglio said.

"He tied their cleats, warmed them up and was their

biggest fan," she said. "When it was time for him to leave and his sisters asked why he had to go, his answer was ' -- to protect your freedom.'"

So it was a natural for Brianna to want to do this for her brother, Maglio said.

"These are the things that keep our men and women serving our country motivated and proud," she said. "It's the gestures, the support."

Finding some help

Pfail searched the Internet for a point of contact at Pope so he could request 43rd LRS patches for the girls to sew on their team shirts as a visible sign of their support.

Daniel Bradley, 43rd LRS commander, happily supplied the patches along with a letter thanking them for their support of Lavia and the 43rd LRS.

"I think what they're doing is great," Bradley said. "So much of what you see out there is controversial, so to see the coach and the girls take this on is great."

Dedication appreciated

Having the team's season dedicated to him was something special, Lavia said.

"I'm proud of them," he said. "They're showing so much appreciation and thanks that nobody asked for."

His sister scoring the first goal of the season was something special for the Airman.

"She called me and said, 'Rocky, I scored the first goal of the season and I did it for you!' That meant a lot to me," he said.

More than luck

There is a cobra on their patch and some say it might be bringing the team luck as well. They started the season with three straight wins.

Lavia said he hopes to catch some of their games when he heads home on leave, but it might not be the Gray Sweeties at that point.

"The girls might want to rename the team the Cobras after this," Pfail said.

Run with a purpose



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Participants in the sickle cell 5-kilometer run begin at the Blake Fitness Center Friday. The run, sponsored by the African-American Heritage Committee, was a benefit event with proceeds going to the Jackson/George Counties Association for Sickle Cell Disease, Inc. Maria McElroy, 403rd Wing, was the first female to cross the finish line in 23 minutes, 22 seconds. Max Lemons, 335th Training Squadron, was the male winner, finishing in 16:41.

SCORES AND MORE

Fitness centers

Blake Fitness Center — open 4:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. Mondays through 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.

Free aerobic and yoga classes — for more information, call 377-2907.

Free water aerobic classes — 1:15-2:15 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Triangle pool.

Triangle Fitness Center — closed until further notice.

Golf

Bay Breeze Golf Course — open 7 a.m. to dusk daily. Free for walkers only. Driving range opens at 7 a.m. daily for free use. Retrieve your own balls.

Two-for-one golf lessons — schedule a half-hour lesson for \$25 and receive a second half-hour lesson free. For an appointment, call 377-3832 or 348-7589.

Outdoor recreation

Father's Day special — Sunday. Free rod and reel rental for dads.

Fishing trip to oil rigs — Saturdays. \$100 per person. For reservations, call 377-3160.

Softball

Editor's note: All games are at the Triangle softball fields.

Intramural

American League

(As of Friday)

Team	Won	Lost	Tie
81st CES-A	7	0	0
81st CS	6	1	0
81st MDSS-A	6	2	0
332nd TRS	5	2	0
CNATTU-A	6	3	0
335th TRS	4	4	0
MARDET-B	3	4	0
333rd TRS	3	5	0
338th TRS-B	2	4	1
81st TRSS	2	5	0
81st SUPS/TRNS	2	6	1
Firefighters	2	6	0

National League

(As of Friday)

Team	Won	Lost	Tie
85th EIS	7	1	0
403rd Wing	7	1	0
MARDET-A	7	2	0
USCG	6	2	0
81st SFS	6	3	0
81st MSS	5	4	0
USS Mesa Verde	4	4	0
338th TRS	3	5	0
CNATTU-B	2	6	0
81st CES-B	2	6	0
81st MSGS	2	6	0
HQ/2nd AF	2	7	0
81st MDSS-B	1	7	0

Monday — 5:30 p.m. 335th TRS vs. 332nd TRS, Field 1; 338th TRS-B vs. 81st MDSS-A, Field 2; 6:30 p.m. MARDET-B vs. 81st TRSS, Field 1; 81st MDOS vs. 81st CES-A, Field 2; 7:30 p.m. 81st CS vs. CNATTU-A, Field 1; 333rd TRS vs. Firefighters, Field 2.

Tuesday — 5:30 p.m. 81st CES-B vs. 85th EIS, Field 1; MARDET-A vs. CNATTU-B, Field 2; 6:30 p.m. 338th TRS-A vs. 81st SFS, Field 1; 403rd Wing vs. 81st MSS, Field 2; 7:30 p.m. 81st MDSS-B vs. 81st MSGS, Field 1; USCG vs. USS Mesa Verde, Field 2.

Wednesday — 5:30 p.m. 81st MDSS-A vs. 81st TRSS, Field 1; 338th TRS-B vs. 333rd TRS, Field 2; 6:30 p.m. 81st CS vs. 81st TRANS/SUPS, Field 1; CNATTU-A vs. Firefighters, Field 2; 7:30 p.m. 335th TRS vs. MARDET-B, Field 1; 332nd TRS vs. 81st CES-A, Field 2.

Juneteenth tournament — the African-American Heritage Committee hosts its 2nd annual tournament, Friday-Sunday on the Triangle fields. The tournament benefits the Col. Lawrence Roberts Scholarship Fund and is co-hosted by Prince Hall Masons.

For more information, call Clifford Massey, 2nd Air Force, 377-1305.

Youth center

Three-on-three soccer — accepting late registration for ages 5-12. For more information, call 377-4116.

Taekwondo — 6-7 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays, ages 6 and older. Cost is \$35 for members, \$40 for non-members. For more information, call 377-4116.

Classes — gymnastics, taekwondo and dance. For more information, call 377-4116.

Open recreation — Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., ages 6 and older.

DIGEST

GRADUATIONS

First Term Airmen Center Class 06-12

81st Contracting Squadron — Airman 1st Class Alex Potter.

81st Dental Squadron — Airmen Basic Jason Eckenrode and William Richardson; Airman Sheryl Guiao-Asparicio; Airman 1st Class Nakeon Barrow.

81st Medical Support Squadron — Airman Alyssa Rodriguez.

81st Mission Support Squadron — Airmen Basic Jacquelyn Jones and Rainer Rabelo; Airmen Lucinda Barrera, April Horton and Chrystale Reed; Airman 1st Class Jacob Williams.

81st Operations Support Flight — Airman 1st Class Tyler Reese.

81st Training Support Squadron — Airmen Basic Lemuel Brown, John Corey and Stephanie Williams; Airman 1st Class Helen Krug.

81st Transportation Squadron — Airmen Basic Michael Lewis and Jennifer Talha.

334th Training Squadron — Airman Basic Sherry Webster.
335th TRS — Airman Basic Kacey Plumlee.

HONORS

Student honor roll

332nd Training Squadron

Electronic principles — Airmen Basic Robert Barnett, Joshua Baurd, Douglas Bein, Hannah Bergstrom, Alex Blodgett, Matthew Bolt, Dustin Brookens, Matthew Bryant, Christopher Chamberlin, Aaron Clark, Aaron Collins, Joseph Collins, Daniel Cook, Nicholas Delio, Winston Edwards, Jeremy Fazey, Carl Flint, Nicanor Garcia, Justin Gunderson, Aaron Gunlock, Nathan Higgs, Kenneth Human, Ray Ibarra, Demetrius Johnson, Brian King, William Klemmer, Jacob Krekelberg, Thomas Livengood, Andrew McAnally, Termaine McCall, Nathan Miguel, Jason Monnin, Justin Moore, David Morris, Brennan Mosso, Mario Orellana, Benjamin Parks, Taylor Pasi, Brad Petrulak, Jesse Pickrell, Tenita Ross, Michael Scott, Aaron Sigl, Benjamin Smith, Daniel Smith, Austin Taylor, Sean Trigla, Jon Volden, Matthew Whitehead, Ricky Willard, Daniel Wolcott, Steven Yones and Teagan Young; Airmen Derek Butler, Patrick Butler, Jesse Downey, Nathaniel Elman, Randy Ford, Timothy Puckett, Yusuf Rahmatullah, Christopher Schreiber and Jesse Vela; Airmen 1st Class Wendell Carpenter, Andrew Cooper, Andrew Gauden, Luke Goodnight, Jason Ho, Paul Hunter, Jeremiah Johnson, Robert Keck, Justin Kolb, James Knoas, Joshua Lee, Mark Mayle, Eric Mensing, Michelle Patterson, Cyrus Perry,

Kevin Porter, Clinton Rowland, Ryan Souvignier, Simon Stewart, Justin Trumble, Jon Volden, Melissa Wendt and Adam Weyhrauch; Senior Airmen Charles Battle, Russell Carney, Adam Fry, Saul Gatica, Duane Heath, Jeffery Kellogg, Christopher Manley and Scott Shaffer; Staff Sgts. Michael Carrier, Richard Dorgan, Jerome Dunn, William Gonzalez, Brad Hammack, Clayton Herron, Richard Loudbear, Timothy Pastore, Jose Peraza, Donald Pittman, James Whipkey, Jonathan Willis; Tech. Sgt. Michael Stofko; Master Sgt. Monte Cook; Capt. Cho Lee; Maj. Ghazi Al Sawabken; Jorge Arce and Brendan Vaughan.

334th TRS

Air traffic control operations training flight — Airmen Basic Alexander Benson, Joshua DeWitt, Thomas Enright, Robert Ervin, Matthew Franklin, James Gerhardt, Kristian Hawkins, Travis Hobbs, Ronald Hutchins, Mark Morris, Jonathan Price, Michael Robbins, Raymie Sanchez, David Sevick, Geoffrey Stillwell, Katylin Wilstead and Evan Woodhead; Airmen Keegan Cornelison, Ryan Horton, Mathew Morrow, Toddree Scott and Christopher Story; Airmen 1st Class Nicolas Bell, Timothy Bonner, Joseph Castrechino, Carey Davis, Jennifer Dewitt, Brenton Hobson, Morgan Morris and Michael Piazza; Senior Airmen Adele Brewer, Scott Close and Michael Holmes; Staff Sgts. Donald George, Yuri Miller, Andres Munoz, Robert Pate, Aaron Paul, Delorean Sheridan and Sean Thompson; Senior Master Sgt. Ya Ling Hou.

Command post apprentice course — Airmen Basic Matthew Rowley and Meagan Barefoot; Airman Jessica Macias; Airmen 1st Class Karrah Aubry, Sean Gilrein, Tiffany Knight, Christopher McCallister, Jorrell Rush-Kittle, Patricia Testa and Warren Woods; Senior Airmen Aaron Burne, Charles Cox, Milita Hopkins, Jason Stankiewicz and James Thompson; Staff Sgts. Brandon Bartley, Bart Grant, Julie Lattimer and Carola Todd; Tech. Sgts. Dru Duran, Brian Munden, Martin Rivera and Bryan Tweedie.

335th TRS

Comptroller training flight — Airmen Basic Christopher Bing, Samuel Shim, Matthew Terkay, Micha Vickers and Ny Vu; Airmen Carol Close and Chrysta Mason; Airmen 1st Class William Allen, Mingda Liu, Andrea Murcia and Miyoung Song; Senior Airman Sandra Memmel; Staff Sgts. Benjamin Burris, Matthew Dehart, Dawn Erdmann, Michael Heninger and Gasper Persio; Tech. Sgts. Jerome Digennaro, Juana Hernal, Ruby McBride and Sonia Walls; Master Sgt. Jeanie Helms.

Personnel apprentice course — Airmen Basic Leif Kittelsen, Alexia Ned and Katrina Samperi; Airmen 1st Class Jennifer Johnson and Robert Steinbacher; Senior Airman Adam Paddock; Staff Sgts. Corey Jones, Solomon Stevenson and Hayle Wending; Master Sgt. Geambro Wells.

Weather training flight — Airmen Basic Jason Bohnet and Jenna Takara; Airmen Jacob Callahan, Stephanie Clark, Houston Green, Robert Kroupa and Shawn Morris; Airmen 1st Class Alison Archangeli, Douglas Engel, Heather Tobin and Ustem Nu; Coast Guard Petty Officer 1st Class Karen Aquino.

336th TRS

Communications-computer systems training flight — Airmen Basic Koby Cole, Nathan Hamner, Joshua Miller and Jason Pedicord; Airman Lance Weston; Airmen 1st Class James Egan, Genevieve Murphy and Mark Withers; Senior Airmen Chris Oldenburg, Gene Fabst, Christopher Petro and Lee Wai; Staff Sgts. Brad Brophill, Steven Maestas, David Moore, Sara Rought, Delone Rush and Jeffrey Wills; Tech. Sgt. Kodie Killian.

Communications and information management training flight — Airmen Basic Bryan Colburn, Tyrone Stroman, Stephen Swircek and Steven Szymanski; Airman Elyshia Moore; Airmen 1st Class Jeremie Alicadan, Albert Alston, Stacey Audette, Joshua Chittim, Karl McGarvey, Compton Moore, Gusstaro Reyes, Rachael Tarver, Christopher Tran, Daniel Wagoner and Jesse Waugh; Senior Airmen Francis Hartley and Mark Ransaw; Staff Sgts. Keianna Adams, Ifejika Animalu, Jerry Brech, Richard Castro, Dean Johnson, Gary Johnson, David Manley, William Matthews, Carl McMillin, Lani Nishimura, Travis Pettigrew, Ralph Plizga, Matthew Roe, Bradley Tatum, Adiel Valdez, Steven Walters, Tim Whitfield, Clarence Williams and Daryl Williams; Tech. Sgts. David Hoffman, Jeffrey Howard, Levi Ingram, Dennis Mitchell, Scott Shields and Faith Testerman; Master Sgts. Stanley Appleby, Edward Benton, Danny Cooper and Guy Menefee; Senior Master Sgt. Bridgit Pena.

Please see **Digest**, Page 24

SHUTTLE SCHEDULE

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

Minutes after hour	Bus stop
:00	:30 332nd TRS, Building 6955
:01	:31 338th TRS, Building 6965
:02	:32 Welch Auditorium
:05	:35 AAFES Furniture Store
:08	:38 Jones/Bryan/Hewes Hall
:10	:40 Thomson Hall
:11	:41 New Cody Hall
:13	:43 Supply, civil engineering
:14	:44 Shoppette
:16	:46 Shaw House
:17	:47 Muse Manor
:19	:49 McBride Library
:21	:51 Medical center, Tyer House
:22	:52 Sablich Center
:23	:53 Dental clinic
:24	:54 Allee and Wolfe Halls
:25	:55 Base operations
:27	:57 Hangar 4

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 Chapel.....	9 a.m.
Daily Mass	
Triangle Chapel.....	11:15 a.m.

Protestant

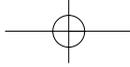
Sunday worship	
Larcher Chapel traditional service.....	8:30 a.m.
Triangle Chapel contemporary worship service.....	10:30 a.m.
Triangle Chapel gospel service.....	Noon

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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338th TRS

Computer, network, cryptographic systems course — Airman Basic Joshua Baird; Airmen Shawn Cotter and Joshua Donati; Airmen 1st Class Joey Anderson, Carley Demore, Randall Hodkin Jr., Jason Hultgren, Kyle Mason, Ryan Souvignier, Malosi Toilolo, Ryan Underwood and Travis Ware; Staff Sgts. James Davis and David Simpson.

Ground radio — Airmen Basic Aaron Hetman and Keith Morris; Airmen Kevin Gibson and Jodie King; Airmen 1st Class Christopher Cowan, Angus Coy, Daniel Ferriss, Christopher Konze, John Kingsley, Gregory Nyahay, Jacob Rosalez, Joan Rosariotorres, Matthew Soucy and Taylor Williams; Staff Sgts. Douglas Darby, John Hayes, Rafael Lara, Matthew Powers, Robert Stielow and Keith Tyska; Master Sgt. James Schlehuber; Senior Master Sgt. Ronald Mendoza.

Radar systems flight — Airmen 1st Class Brian Housholder.

CLASSES

Airman Leadership School

- Class 06-D** — graduation today.
- Class 06-E** — July 12-Aug. 12.
- Class 06-F** — Aug. 24-Sept. 29.
- Class 06-6** — Aug. 7-Sept. 14.
- Class 06-7** — Sept. 18-Oct. 26.
- Class 07-1** — Nov. 2-Dec. 14.

Keesler NCO Academy

Class 06-5 — graduation July 20.

Airman and family readiness center

- Own your own business** — 3 p.m. June 26, Room 122, old Cody Hall. For more information, call 377-2179.
- Career assessment** — 9 a.m. June 27, Room 122, old Cody Hall. For more information, call 377-2179.
- Interview skills** — 2 p.m. June 28, Room 122, old Cody Hall. Participants should look through classified advertisements, Internet job postings and federal job search resources to find the kind of "help wanted" ads for which they'd like to apply to use in class to make the learning process more realistic. For more information, call 377-2179.
- Federal job resume writing** — 2 p.m. June 29, Room 122, old Cody Hall. Participants should look through classified advertisements, Internet job postings and federal job search resources to find the kind of "help wanted" ads for which they'd like to apply to use in class to make the learning process more realistic. For more information, call 377-2179.

Arts and crafts center

- Summer youth camp** — 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Tuesdays-Thursdays. \$25 per week.
- Scrapbooking** — 1 p.m. Friday. \$15 including supplies for two-page layout; bring photos.
- Kids crafting class** — 11 a.m. Saturday. \$10 including supplies. Father's Day project; parent must accompany ages 7 or younger.
- Mold pouring** — 10 a.m. June 24. \$25 including first firing.
- Macrame** — for information on new class, call 377-2821.
- Beginners woodworking** — 5-7:30 p.m. June 28. \$25. Earn safety certification and operator's card.
- Beginning intarsia woodworking** — 5 p.m. June 23. \$15. Intarsia involves placing pieces of wood in a decorative pattern.
- Advanced intarsia** — 10 a.m. June 24. New project each month.
- Framing** — one class, four sessions, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Wednesdays. \$60.
- Advanced matting** — 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. June 30. \$25.
- Engraving shop** — custom items for gifts, mementos and squadron awards.
- 24-hour coin-operated car wash** — features foamy brush wash, high pressure rinse, wax system, towlettes, Armorall and vacuum station.
- Vehicle resale lot** — corner of M and T Streets; buy, sell or trade privately-owned vehicles. For more information, call 377-2821.

McBride Library

- Orientations** — 6 p.m. Wednesdays for commanders, first sergeants and instructors.
- Flower festival** — 10 a.m. Wednesdays, ages 2-5.
- Tours** — for more information, call 377-2181.

CLUBS AND CENTERS

Vandenberg Community Center

- Block party** — noon to 5 p.m. June 24 for nonprior service students only.
- Eight-ball pool tournament** — 6-9:30 p.m. Mondays.
- Nine-ball pool tournament** — 6-9:30 p.m. Tuesdays.
- 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

Cook your own steak night — 5 p.m. June 29.

Youth center

- Annual membership** — \$25, ages 6 and older. Receive discounted prices for programs, classes and sports.
- Taekwondo** — 6-7 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays, ages 6 and older. For more information, call 377-4116.
- Self-directed activities** — 3-7 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays, ages 9-18.
- Summer camp/clinics registration** — archery, track and field, basketball and cheerleading. For more information, call 377-4116.
- Teen extreme camps registrations** — FitFactor; Kids for Broadway Theater; Lights, Camera, Action; Extreme Adventure; Understanding Me/Understanding You; Weird Science; Backyard Mississippi and Teen Warrior. For more information, call 377-4116.
- Creative corner** — 4:30 p.m. Saturday.
- Free home alone safety workshop** — 6 p.m. today, ages 10 and older. Parent must accompany child.
- Three-on-three soccer registration** — accepting late registrations, ages 5-12.
- 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.

TRANSITIONS

Workshops, briefings

- Veterans benefits briefing** — 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. today, July 13, Aug. 17, 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. July 10-12, Aug. 14-16, 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.

Please see **Digest**, Page 25

DINING HALL MENUS

Today

Lunch — baked chicken, pepper steak, pasta primavera, mashed potatoes, rice, gravy, mixed vegetables, fried okra, green beans, potato salad, fruit salad, cream of broccoli soup, chicken and wild rice soup, chili, buffalo wings and roast beef subs.

Dinner — orange-spiced pork chops, braised liver with onions, fried fish, rissole potatoes, rice, gravy, broccoli, peas and carrots, wax beans, fruit salad, potato salad, chicken and wild rice soup, chili, buffalo wings and cream of broccoli soup.

Friday

Lunch — corned beef, cornbread, pineapple chicken, Yankee pot roast, potato wedges, simmered potatoes, gravy, fried cabbage, carrots, blackeyed peas, three-bean salad, clam chowder, garden vegetable soup, frontier chicken chili, barbecue pork sandwich and burritos.

Dinner — seafood newburg, bean and corn pie, roast turkey, cornbread, franconia potatoes, pea and pepper rice, gravy, corn on the cob, stewed tomatoes, mustard greens, pasta salad, three-bean salad, clam chowder, vegetable soup, frontier chicken chili, barbecue pork and burritos.

Saturday

Lunch — baked fish, Hungarian goulash, barbecue chicken, potatoes, rice, gravy, stir-fry vegetables, baked beans, creamed corn, fruit salad, kidney bean salad, country bean soup, chicken gumbo, chili and chicken nuggets.

Dinner — baked chicken, Swedish meatballs, creole shrimp, baked potatoes, rice, gravy, creamed corn, asparagus, steamed squash, fruit salad, kidney bean salad, country bean soup, chicken gumbo, chili and chicken nuggets.

Sunday

Lunch — stir-fry beef with broccoli, turkey nuggets, loin strip steak, mushroom and onion sauce, baked potatoes, rice pilaf, gravy, corn on the cob, green beans, jellied spring salad, tomato salad, vegetable beef soup, Italian wedding soup, frontier chicken chili and cheese pizza.

Dinner — oven fried fish, spareribs, grilled mustard chicken breast, macaroni and cheese, egg noodles, gravy, peas, sweet potatoes, broccoli combo, jellied spring salad, tomato salad, vegetable beef soup, Italian wedding soup, frontier chicken chili and cheese pizza.

Monday

Lunch — chili macaroni, cornbread, beef canelloni, fried chicken, cottage fries, mashed potatoes, gravy, steamed squash, glazed carrots, peas, cottage cheese salad, macaroni salad, chicken dumpling soup, minestrone soup, chili with beans, grilled sausage and steak and cheese subs.

Dinner — beef pot roast, baked stuffed fish, cornbread, pork loin, potatoes, rice, gravy, cauliflower combo, succotash, green beans, cottage cheese salad, macaroni salad, chicken dumpling soup, minestrone soup, chili with beans, grilled sausage and steak and cheese subs.

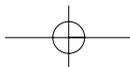
Tuesday

Lunch — country captain chicken, meatloaf, turkey a la king, rice, mashed potatoes, gravy, garlic toast, harvard beets, mustard greens, okra tomato gumbo, fruit cocktail salad, spinach salad, bean with ham soup, chicken noodle soup, white chicken chili, barbecue beef sloppy joes and roast beef subs.

Dinner — teriyaki chicken, veal parmesan, salmon cakes, garlic toast, filipino rice, parsley buttered potatoes, gravy, fried cabbage, succotash, mixed vegetables, fruit cocktail salad, spinach salad, bean with ham soup, chicken noodle soup, white chicken chili, barbecue beef sloppy joes and roast beef subs.

Wednesday

Lunch — Chinese five-spice chicken, beef and broccoli stir fry, Cantonese spareribs, vegetable egg rolls, shrimp fried rice, stir fry vegetables, chow mein noodles, fried cabbage, chicken gravy, lemon sesame green beans, Mexican coleslaw, pasta fagioli soup, vegetarian chili, cheese fishwich and cheese pizza.



The Keesler Honor Guard needs new members. For more information, call 377-1986 or 2081.

Digest,

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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/efil/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.

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.

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.

Identity theft is a personal nightmare and security risk. Shred billing statements, letters, old journals, records, outdated applications and any documents that contain your full name, Social Security number, duty title and job information, credit card and banking account numbers and names of family members. If you see documents being removed from trash cans, call 377-3040.

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 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 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 Christian Home Educators Association — 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 chelle1rn@yahoo.com.

Keesler Spouses Club — meets the second Tuesday of the month. For time and location, call Tammie Seafass, president, 273-4324, or visit <http://www.geocities.com/keeslers/KSC.html>.

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.

Keesler Medical Center phones

Editor's note: As of June 15, these 81st Medical Group phone numbers change as the new phone system is phased in:

81st Medical Operations Squadron command section — 376-3304.

Allergy clinic — 376-0391.

Audiology, speech pathology and ear, nose and throat — 376-0418 and 0419.

Cardiovascular — 376-6663.

Chiropractic clinic — 376-0446.

Coumadin clinic — 376-3494.

Customer relations — 376-3092.

Dermatology — 376-0458.

Flight medicine — 376-3132, 3135, 3136 and 3137.

Life skills — 376-0383.

Medical law — 376-3008.

Nutritional medicine — 376-0466 and 0467.

Occupational and physical therapy — 376-0464.

Ophthalmology clinic — 376-0453.

Orthopedics — 376-0428.

Outpatient records — 376-4735.

Public affairs — 376-3018.

Radiology — 376-0481.

Surgery — 376-0424.

Thoracic surgery — 1-866-801-2266.

Triangle annex — 376-0324.

Tricare office — 376-4752.

Women's health — 376-0172.

Reunions

Torrejon Air Base, Spain — Sept. 1-3, Oklahoma City, for all years. For more information, call William Hardin, 1-405-672-8939, or e-mail torrejonspainreunion@yahoo.com.