



KEESLER NEWS

Keesler Air Force Base
Biloxi, Mississippi

Volume 69, No. 4
Thursday, Jan. 31, 2008



Rebuild the base ... Renew the community ... Reload the Air Force

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Keesler on the Web:
<http://www.keesler.af.mil>



Dragons deployed
— 255



Hitting the nail on the head

Bryson Lewis, 4, receives a helping hand with hammering a nail from Senior Airman Leo Galindo, 81st Civil Engineer Squadron, as part of an introduction to tools at the child development center. Bryson's parents are Airman Basic Michael and Allison Lewis, 81st Transportation Squadron.

Courtesy photo

Base impact on coast = \$1.1 billion

Keesler Public Affairs

Keesler's total economic impact for fiscal 2007 has been calculated at over \$1.1 billion.

The figure was finalized last week as base officials completed the annual process of data assimilation and validation.

"Keesler's role as a significant player in the local economy is something we're proud of," said Col. Greg Touhill, 81st Training Wing commander.

"The people of South Mississippi can rest assured Keesler will continue to play a huge part in the development and

growth of our region."

In addition to employee payroll figures and construction and purchases (\$596 million), the total economic impact includes military retiree pay and the value

Please see **Impact**, Page 9

AFSO21
Air Force Smart Ops For The 21st Century

Base economic powerhouse on Mississippi Gulf Coast

By Col. Greg Touhill

81st Training Wing commander

I'd like to share a not-so-well-kept secret with everyone: Keesler's back and the numbers show it.

The numbers for Keesler's 2007 Economic Impact Statement are in, and according to the report we remain one of the economic forces to be reckoned with on the Mississippi Gulf Coast. Using the State of Mississippi's standard economic multiplier, our impact is more than \$1.1 billion, making us an economic powerhouse driving the creation of jobs and income for businesses and workers outside the gates in addition to those of our Keesler employees.

Part of our impact has much to do with our rebuilding efforts. Construction has been moving forward at Keesler despite ongoing challenges such as a shortage of skilled workers and the logistical problem of just where to put them to work once we have them. However, we've persevered and are moving forward on a number of projects. The first phase of our military family housing project, the largest in Air Force history, is well under way. It promises not only a better quality of life for our bluesuiters and their families, but also provides significant community cultural and economic benefits as our Keesler families return in strength to the Gulf Coast.

Ground has been broken for the new base exchange and commissary complex, and we expect the first offices to return to the refurbished Sablich Center by the end of February.

These are just a few of the many projects to bring Keesler's infrastructure up to 21st century standards.

Another part of how Keesler has affected the coast economy has nothing to do with money, but everything to do with heart. In an effort to renew our ties to the coast community, our humanitarian outreach program has

performed more than 318 missions, totaling over 65,000 man-hours. If you want to put a monetary value to that, it comes to more than \$1 million in labor. In addition, over 5,000 of our people have given their free time and effort to more than 80 volunteer requests, logging more than 89,000 hours, at an appraised value of \$1.6 million.

Money aside, the true value of this aspect of our mission is priceless, because in the end, what counts is the fact we're showing the people of South Mississippi we care.

First and foremost, our training mission remains on track, as we reload the Air Force's need for battle-ready, high-tech warriors. Our average annual student load is 26,500, with an average daily student load of 2,900. A total expenditure of nearly \$600 million on training these warriors is money well-spent. This includes the payroll for our military and civilian personnel, purchasing from our coast contractors and vendors, not to mention the weekly paychecks it supplies folks on the coast through the creation of secondary jobs.

As a vital member of the coast community, Keesler benefits its Mississippi Gulf Coast neighbors in many ways other than economics. Our firefighters and 911 services are available within the City of Biloxi if needed. Our environmental flight constantly searches for ways to conserve our water resources. Our weather services keep current meteorological information at everyone's fingertips, a vital service in times of emergency.

Our presence as one of the coast's economic powerhouses hinges on something even more vital, the support we receive from the people of South Mississippi. No matter what part of the nation we came from, Keesler is now our home. We're going to continue to be good neighbors, because it is the right thing to do and that's what makes America the best nation on earth.

ACTION LINE ... 377-4357

By Col. Greg Touhill

81st Training Wing commander

You're encouraged to work concerns through your chain of command or contact an appropriate helping agent. For unresolved issues, call the commander's action line for assistance.

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

Items of general interest

A-76 hotline — 376-8176
Airmen and family readiness center — 377-2179
Base locator — 377-2890
Base operator — 377-1110
Base taxi (official use) — 377-2430
Career assistance adviser — 377-3697
Central medical appointments — 1-800-700-8603
Child development center — 377-2211
Civil engineering — 377-5561
Civilian personnel — 377-2268
Military personnel flight — 377-2276
Keesler Federal Credit Union — 385-5500
Emergencies — 911
Family campground — 594-0543
Finance — 377-4212
81st Communications Squadron help desk — 377-0066
Housing — 377-9741
Identification cards — 377-3203
Inspector general — 377-3010
Legal assistance — 377-3510
Library — 377-2181
Lodging (reservations) — 377-9986



Colonel Touhill

may appear in this column.

For your convenience, here are some key customer service phone numbers at Keesler:

Medical center information — 377-6550
Military equal opportunity — 377-2759
Military pay — 377-7272
Pass and registration — 377-3844
Pharmacy (refill call-in) — 376-1000
Satellite pharmacy — 377-9791
Public affairs — 377-2783
Red Cross — 377-0732
Sexual assault prevention and response team — 377-8635
SARC 24-hour hotline (to report sexual assaults) — 377-7278
Law enforcement desk — 377-3040
SARC 24-hour hotline — 477-7278
Shoppette, Class Six — 432-2367
Telephone trouble — 377-2130
Traffic management (outbound) — 377-2446
Traffic management (inbound) — 377-7813
Visitor center — 377-2595
Youth center — 377-4116

**Seat belts:
1) save lives,
2) are the law.
What's your excuse?**

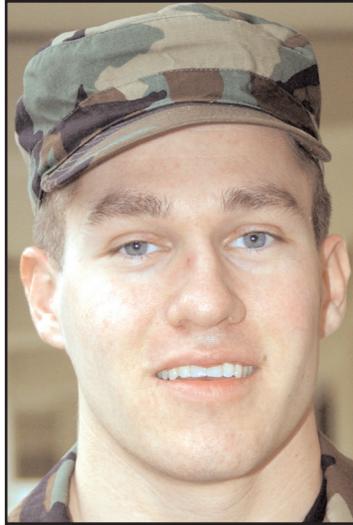


WHO'S YOUR WINGMAN?



Patriots: I'd like to see a team go undefeated through the post season.

— **Capt. Troy McGill,**
333rd Training Squadron



Giants: I'm a Peyton Manning fan, and since he's not in it, I want to see Eli do well.

— **Airman 1st Class Troy Rivers,**
81st Comptroller Squadron



Patriots: I just want to see a team get to the Super Bowl and get shut out.

— **Airman 1st Class Jacob Sargent,**
81st Civil Engineer Squadron

DRAGON ON THE STREET

Who's your

Super Bowl

pick,

Giants or

Patriots?

New curriculum, sponsor program begin at Airman Leadership School

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News staff

The new year brings two major changes to Keesler's Airman Leadership School.

A revamped curriculum went into effect Jan. 1 for all of the Air Force's 73 schools, while the new sponsorship program is unique to Keesler.

ALS devotes 24 academic days to prepare senior airmen for supervisory duties and to promote a commitment to the profession of arms.

Curriculum overhauled

"The College for Enlisted Professional Military Education completed a two-year deliberate process, blending inputs from Air Force leaders to hone the effectiveness, precision and clarity of the ALS curriculum," said Senior Master Sgt. Joey Parks, ALS flight chief at Ellsworth Air Force Base, S.D., test base for the new program.

Master Sgt. Keith Davis, Keesler's ALS flight chief, stated that the new curriculum reflects the first major changes for the program in five years. About a third of the material is new and the rest has undergone major revisions.

The 26 students in Class 08-2, Keesler's first group to experience the new curriculum, began training Jan. 4. Graduation is Feb. 13.

So far, so good

"So far, we've had positive responses from our students," Sergeant Davis commented.

The new program still has four training modules to prepare students to become non-commissioned officers, but there's a more operational approach to prepare Airmen for leadership. The new modules are military professional, combat leader, supervisor of



Airmen and supervisory communicator.

The lessons have been designed to emphasize a combat expeditionary mindset with a stronger emphasis on operating with multinational and joint forces and an understanding of total force integration, according to Sergeant Davis.

Along with the new curriculum, a sponsorship program was launched at Keesler in which a base unit "adopts" an ALS class. The program was the brainchild of Chief Master Sgt. Ronald Owens, 81st Training Wing command chief, who challenged units to get involved with ALS to enhance the training program.

Gators meet challenge

The first squadron to volunteer was the 334th Training Squadron commanded by Lt. Col. Doug Chowning.

"Leadership at all levels is arguably the most important factor in making our Air Force the greatest in the world," Colonel Chowning pointed out. "This isn't just an opportunity for the Gators to mentor an ALS class and enrich its experience — it's also an opportunity to give back to an organization that has been so instrumental in developing new leaders."

"Halfway through the course, the Gators have already exceeded our expectations — they're setting the bar very high," Sergeant

Davis remarked. "The whole squadron is involved, students as well as staff. Their military training leaders are training ALS students on drill and ceremonies and judging their final evaluations."

Joint physical training and reveille and retreat sessions have been held. A squadron tour is in the works, along with a joint community project to work on the Bond-Grant House, an historic Biloxi structure devastated by Hurricane Katrina.

"Some of the squadron's noncommissioned officers play subordinates for our students in simulated counseling sessions," he added.

Mentorship matters

The new sponsorship program enhances a mentorship program begun last year that gives chiefs and first sergeants an opportunity to become intimately involved with ALS classes.

"The mentorship program alternates between chiefs and first sergeants for each class — it's the chiefs' turn this time," Sergeant Davis said. "A chief master sergeant virtually becomes a part of the class and is there for them throughout the course, sitting in on classes, participating in PT, retreat and reveille."

Acknowledging leaders

"Each class has two flights — chiefs flight and diamond flight — to acknowledge our enlisted leaders," he continued. "Each class plays the Keesler chiefs in volleyball and the first sergeants in softball — in three classes, the chiefs and first sergeants remain undefeated."

Senior Airman Joshua Stevens, Ellsworth Public Affairs, contributed to this report.

New career field in her future



Senior Airman Rachel White, a dental technician in the 81st Dental Squadron, has been accepted into the Air Force-sponsored dental hygienist program. She trains at St. Petersburg College, Fla., starting in May. Graduates receive an associate degree in science. Upon completing her training, Airman White assumes duties as a dental hygienist and head of the preventive dentistry section at her next assignment.

TRAINING AND EDUCATION NOTES

Annual awards

The 81st Training Group's annual awards banquet is 6 p.m. Feb. 8 at the Imperial Palace Casino Resort in Biloxi.

For reservations, contact unit representatives.

Drill downs, parades

The 81st Training Group holds drill downs and parades on the drill pad behind the Levitow Training Support Facility.

The schedule:

Drill downs — 8 a.m. Feb. 22, April 18 and Nov. 14; 6 p.m. July 17 and 7 a.m. Sept. 17.

Parades — 6 p.m. March

20, June 12, Aug. 21 and Oct. 16.

For drill down information, call Tech. Sgt. Trina Girley, 377-2737. For parade information, call Staff Sgt. Donald McNair, 377-9527.

Student TMO

Short sheet briefings at the technical training traffic management office are 8 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays.

Briefings are held in Room 213, Levitow Training Support Facility in the Triangle.

For more information, call 377-3147 or visit Room 211, Levitow Training Support Facility.

Parking lot closed

The parking lot adjacent on the southeast side of the Keesler NCO Academy is closed Feb. 14 for drill practice and evaluations.

In case of inclement weather, the lot is open.

For more information, call Master Sgt. Lisa Arnold, 377-2740.

ACSC options

Air Command and Staff College can be completed by correspondence or seminar.

Majors or major-selects of all services and civilians General Schedule-11 and above are eligible.

For more information, call

Joyce James, 377-7159, or e-mail 81mss.education@keesler.af.mil.

Officer records

For officers to update their academic records, the Air Force Institute of Technology requires an official transcript sent to this address:

AFIT/RRE, 2950 P St., Wright-Patterson AFB OH 45433-7765.

CCAF online

Visit the Air Force Virtual Education Center, <https://www.my.af.mil/afvecprod>, to create MyAFVEC accounts to access online customer service tools.

People can request and

track Community College of the Air Force transcripts, view degree progress reports and see if a course counts toward a CCAF degree.

OTS counseling

Officer Training School applicants may schedule appointments with a counselor by calling 377-2323 or visit the education office, second floor, Hangar 2.

For more information, visit the Air Force Recruiting home page, <http://afrecruiting.com/rsoc/> and the OTS home page, [http://www.afaots.af.mil/OTS/BOT/botapply.a](http://www.afaots.af.mil/OTS/BOT/botapply.asp) sp.

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Refuge for travelers

Diane Allison, left, one of 40 volunteers at the USO lounge in the new addition to the Biloxi-Gulfport International Airport, serves coffee to Airman Basic Tyler Parks Jan. 18. Mrs. Allison's husband, Gordon, is a Lockheed-Martin employee who works on C-130s at Keesler. Airman Parks, 338th Training Squadron student, was traveling to North Carolina for the birth of his first child. The lounge opened Dec. 19, just in time for the holiday troop exodus. It's open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily and offers service members free snacks and beverages, wireless Internet service, four laptop computers, phones, a fax machine and a place to relax while awaiting flights. To volunteer, call 575-5224.

Photo by Kemberly Groue



Changes standardize policies for Airmen in Southwest Asia

By Staff Sgt. Monique Randolph

Air Force Public Affairs

WASHINGTON — Air Force officials implement several changes beginning as soon as February to standardize policies among those assigned and those deployed to the Central Command's area of responsibility.

"We have Airmen on 365-day deployments and Airmen who are permanent party sitting side by side, for the same amount of time, but some policies affect them differently," explained Lt. Col. Scott Brady, chief of Air Force promotions and evaluations policy. "In those policy areas where it made sense to make a change, and where we could make a change, we did."

The first change is that enlisted Airmen won't test for promotion in the AOR. Currently, permanent party Airmen in permanent-change-of-station status test for promotion, while Airmen on 365-day deployments don't. The policy change ceases all weighted airman promotion system testing in the AOR regardless of duty status.

"(Testing Airmen in the AOR) reduces mission focus and increases our footprint because it requires secure testing facilities, test proctors and test control officers," Colonel Brady said. "We also had to consider that many Airmen have to travel to the test site, putting more Airmen on the road and in harm's way."

Instead, eligible Airmen test before deploying if the testing cycle is ongoing. If they're deployed during the testing cycle, they have 60

days to study upon their return to home station. If selected for promotion, they receive back pay and benefits based on their original date of rank.

Skills knowledge test exemption policies are still considered on a case-by-case basis.

Airmen on 365-day deployments in the AOR can also expect changes to physical fitness testing policies. Fitness testing has been prohibited for these Airmen, while those permanently assigned are required to test if it's considered safe and reasonable to do so.

Testing limitations are being removed for 365-day deployers and the decision is being left to the commanders on the ground.

The last change includes both Airmen on 365-day deployments and those who are extended to 300 or more days after they've deployed.

"Currently, Airmen who deploy on an approved 365-day indeterminate temporary duty assignment can apply for advance assignment consideration or a 24-month assignment deferment, but Airmen who are extended to 365 days can't," Colonel Brady said. "To make this policy more equitable, we're applying those benefits to Airmen who are extended to 300 days or more."

Airmen apply for an advanced assignment or deferment through their home station unit commanders upon returning from deployment.

"The desires of the Airman will be heavily considered, but they must apply; the program isn't automatic. Unit manning and Air Force needs will still be deciding factors," said Colonel Brady.

IN THE NEWS

New time for retreat

As of Tuesday, retreat is now at 5 p.m.

Meadows Drive closure delayed

The partial closure of Meadows Drive near the intersection of 5th Street won't begin until Wednesday at the earliest because of additional weather delays.

The project is expected to take about three weeks.

The two westbound lanes remain open, with one of the lanes reserved for rerouting eastbound traffic so infrastructure connections can be made to the base exchange and commissary construction site.

New AAFES facility opens Feb. 8

The grand opening of the Army and Air Force Exchange Service's new gas station, car care center and shoppette complex is 9 a.m. Feb. 8.

Awards banquet date change

The date of the 81st Training Wing annual awards banquet has been changed to Feb. 21 at 6 p.m. in the 403rd Wing's fuel cell hangar, Building 4278.

The guest speaker is retired Lt. Gen. Clark Griffith, who served as Keesler and 2nd Air Force's commander and Air Education and Training Command's vice-commander.

Attire is mess dress for military members and formal or semi-formal for civilians.

Tickets are \$20 and available from unit representatives. Dinner includes teriyaki chicken and salmon, green beans, roasted new potatoes, salad, rolls, cobbler, tea and water.

Tax office open in Hangar 2

The Keesler Tax Office is open in Room 234, Hangar 2. Hours are 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. on duty days. For appointments, call 377-4454.

Taxpayers should have all W-2 and 1099 forms, tax information and Social Security numbers for each dependent before an appointment with the tax preparer.

For more information, call Dick Brock, 377-3510.

Early Keesler News deadlines

The deadline for submissions to the Feb. 7 Keesler News is noon today, four days earlier than usual, due to the Mardi Gras regional holiday Tuesday.

The submission deadline for the Feb. 21 issue is noon Feb. 14 due to the Presidents Day federal holiday Feb. 18.

The newspaper office is closed Feb. 18 in observance of the holiday.

Off-limits establishments

Off-limits establishments for military members are the Blue Note Lounge, Boulevard Nightclub and Henry Beck Park (except during daylight hours or official events) in Biloxi; Carver Village, Bunksmall Apartments and H&H Hideaway in Pascagoula, and Toni's Lounge in Moss Point.

Painting progress



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Airman 1st Class Gerald Dickinson, a “white rope” religious activities representative from the 338th Training Squadron, helps to paint a house on Lameuse Street in Biloxi Friday. Chaplain (Capt.) Scott Jobe and white ropes from the 81st Training Group have partnered with Urban Life Ministries to work on projects to restore housing damaged during Hurricane Katrina.

Impact,

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of volunteer services, as well as jobs indirectly created on the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

Keesler is well on the way to a full recovery from Hurricane Katrina through a massive \$950 million rebuilding program. The number of people employed on base and the technical training student population are approaching pre-Katrina levels. This resurgence is reflected in the employee payroll, construction and purchases.

Keesler currently employs 11,200 people, including nearly 6,900 military. In addition, the base's presence created nearly 3,500 local and contract jobs.

As one of the Air Force's major training centers, on any given day more than 2,900 students train at Keesler in more than 460 courses in subjects such as communications-electronics, medical, personnel, air-field management, weather

forecasting and air traffic control.

“Our mission at Keesler focuses on reloading the Air Force” said Colonel Touhill. “Last year, we supplied almost 27,000 Airmen, international and sister service personnel, just the kind of high-tech, battle-ready warriors our nation needs in this time of war.

“Our training is back up to pre-Katrina levels, even while we are still in the midst of rebuilding. Keesler's training mission is essential to winning the war on terror. Go to any theater around the world where U.S. troops are stationed, and no doubt you'll find a Keesler-trained warrior working there,” the colonel added.

In addition, 89,629 documented hours were volunteered by Keesler members in FY07 to coast community projects and organizations in humanitarian operations as a direct result of Hurricane Katrina.

However, hurricane recovery is just one of the many ways Keesler Airmen contribute to the community. For example,

each year Keesler hosts the Mississippi State Special Olympics Summer Games, accommodating more than 800 athletes and coaches from across the state. Thousands of Keesler volunteers serve the games in every capacity from team partners to timekeepers.

In 2008, Keesler also hosts the Boy Scouts of America's Pine-Burr Area Council's Merit Badge Camporee.

“When I returned to Keesler in October to assume command of the 81st Training Wing, I codified our mission into what has been called our ‘Three Rs: Rebuilding the base, Renewing the community and Reloading the Air Force,’” said Colonel Touhill.

“Our emphasis is on taking care of our people by providing the best environment for our troops and their families, continuing our commitment to be engaged and active members of the Gulf Coast community, and providing the battle-ready warriors our nation needs. Rest assured, the men and women of Keesler are up to the task.”

PERSONNEL NOTES

WAPS test schedules

Weighted airman promotion system test schedules:

Master and technical sergeant — Friday to March 31.

Staff sergeant — May 1 to June 15.

Members should be prepared to test on the first day of the cycle.

For more information, contact unit WAPS monitors.

Retirement annuity information

Personnel affected by A-76 can get estimates of their retirement annuities at the Air Force Personnel Center secure Web site, <https://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/AFPCSecure/Main-Menu.asp>.

Click the link for the entitlements and benefits section. First-time users are required to register.

Personal retirement computations are also available by calling 1-800-616-3775.

For more information related to A-76, call 376-8176.

One-stop pay, personnel service

One-stop customer service for pay and personnel information is available all day, every day by calling toll-free 1-800-616-3775 or going online to <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/cst/>.

Transforming travel processing

81st Comptroller Squadron

The Defense Travel System is an electronic travel order and settlement voucher producing system that's transforming the Defense Department's current processes into a single, streamlined, paperless system.

With DTS, travelers can input travel authorizations, review and pick available flights, make hotel and rental car reservations, electronically fill out travel vouchers, pay Government Travel Card accounts and receive direct deposit reimbursements in about a week.

For more information or training needs, call your unit DTS representative or visit <http://www.dtstravelcenter.dod.mil/>.

Pre-separation counseling

Military members of all branches of military service are required to receive congressionally-mandated pre-separation counseling from the airman and family readiness center no less than 90 calendar days before separating, retiring or outprocessing to go on terminal leave.

Briefings are 1 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays in Room 122, Hangar 2, for routine separations and 2:30 p.m. for routine retirements.

Members receiving medical retirements, less than full honorable discharges or force-shaping transition benefits, call 377-8645 or 8593 to schedule individual briefings.

Virtual outprocessing

Air Force Print News

RANDOLPH Air Force Base, Texas — All Airmen undergoing permanent change-of-station moves, retirements or separations are now required to use the virtual outprocessing application available through the virtual military personnel flight.

For more information, contact the military personnel flight.

Updating LeaveWeb

On the first duty day upon returning from leave, military members are required to update LeaveWeb.

For more information, call 81st Mission Support Squadron customer service, 377-5455.

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DRAGON OF THE WEEK

Name — Heather Williams

Unit — 81st Comptroller Squadron

Position — military pay technician

Time at Keesler — two years

Noteworthy — She's responsible for in-processing all inbound active-duty military and civilian members. She's received many outstanding customer feedbacks citing professionalism and efficiency.

Hometown — Ocean Springs

Why did you join the Air Force team? to meet new people and help the Air Force in any way I can as a member of the total force.

What are your short- and long-term goals? to go back to college and get a second degree in teaching and help educate our youth who are tomorrow's leaders.



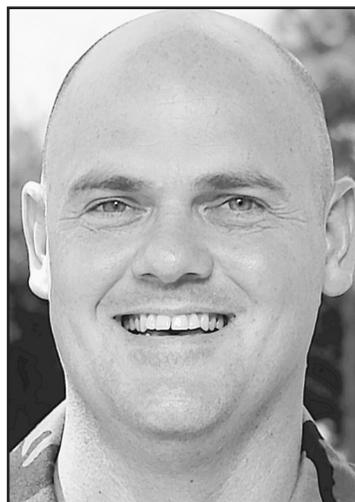
Photo by Kemberly Groue

What are your hobbies? ceramics and spending as much time as possible with my family.

What's your favorite quote? "The purpose of life is a life of purpose." — Robert Byrne.

DIAMOND NOTES

The greatest compliment that was ever paid me as an Airman was when someone asked me what I thought and was attentive to my answer.



Sergeant Alford

— Master Sgt. Steven Alford, 81st Civil Engineer Squadron first sergeant



MEMORABLE MOMENTS

June 12, 1941

The War Department activated Army Air Corps Station No. 8, Aviation Mechanics School, Biloxi, Mississippi, and assigned it to Technical Training Command.

Promotions:

New system for release seen as plus

Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — Since its introduction in November, the new virtual enlisted promotion release system has received positive reviews from the field.

While it may be a bit of a culture shock for some, the new system provides several benefits for Airmen of all grades.

“The new process resolved several challenges with our current enlisted promotion notification process: notifying Airmen all over the world on a specific date and time, safeguarding the integrity of the list against unauthorized release and premature notification, as well as letting non-selects determine their status at the same time,” said Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Rodney McKinley.

“The virtual release process worked flawlessly during the November chief master sergeant promotion announcement, and a working group at the Air Force Personnel Center at Randolph Air Force Base, Texas, will continue to refine the process to ensure it delivers results on time without fail,” said Chief Master Sgt. Mark Long, chief of enlisted promotion and evaluations at the Pentagon.

There were many concerns the system would crash with the high number of users, but the system is designed with a built-in threshold to handle the workload. Feedback from the field indicates commanders and key leaders still did a great job congratulating people on their special day.

“The virtual enlisted promotion system provides everyone a level playing field for finding out if they did or did not make the grade,” said Chief Master Sgt. Randall Raper, command chief for 11th Wing at Bolling AFB, D.C.

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Haircuts at medical center

Barber Peggy Darden prepares Rodney Harvey, 81st Medical Support Squadron, for a shave in the Keesler Medical Center barber shop which reopened this month. Ms. Darden, who works Monday-Wednesday, is joined by Maria Perez, who's there Thursdays and compressed work schedule Fridays. The telephone number is 376-2000.

Photo by Steve Pivnick



ABU shortage leads to change in wear policy

Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON— The deputy chief of staff for manpower and personnel here recently authorized commanders to use their discretion to authorize deviation from policy for wear of cold-weather battle dress uniform outer garments with the airman battle uniform during the coming winter months.

“The original guidance was based on the fact the mandatory wear date for transitioning from BDUs to ABUs was 2011,” said Lt. Gen. Richard Newton III.

“I decided it was time to relook our wear policy based on the limited availability of the new all purpose environmental clothing system jacket, the fact we have new Airmen joining our Air Force who have been issued nothing but the ABU, and the overwhelming response from Airmen in the field to the new ABUs,” the general said.

Commanders are now authorized to permit Airmen to wear a woodland-patterned camouflage Gore-Tex coat or field jacket with their ABUs if the new APECS jacket is unavailable at their location and other approved cold weather options are unavailable or unsuitable for duty.

“This is absolutely the right thing to do for our Airmen,” said Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Rodney McKinley. “We are committed to taking care of Airmen.

Unfortunately, we couldn't get new APECS jackets out fast enough, but the bottom line is our Airmen need to stay warm.”

Adherence to Air Force uniform standards is always important to the pride and professionalism of the force, the chief said.

“Of course I would prefer we didn't have to mix BDU and ABU uniform items,” Chief McKinley said. “We have a proud tradition of representing the Air Force image and ideals to the world. We're authorizing this change so Airmen are able to continue wearing their ABUs and have a jacket that will keep them warm.”

APECS jackets are projected to become more widely available starting in February. The top priority for APECS jacket distribution has been for Airmen deploying to Iraq, Afghanistan and Kuwait. As their needs are met, the supply will be directed to cold-weather locations around the world.

This policy is a temporary solution and expires June 1.

Airmen with Air Force Portal access find more information and details regarding the ABU cold-weather outer garment policy change at <https://www.my.af.mil/gcss-af/afp40/USAF/ep/contentView.do?contentType=EDITORIAL&contentId=1442582&programId=1018908&channelPageId=-1361111>.

Keesler prepares Hearts from Home



Master Sgt. Robert Worley, 81st Mission Support Squadron first sergeant, videotapes a message from Carrie Hawley and her two children, 5-year-old Katie and 4-year-old Russell, to send to Tech. Sgt. Laurence Hawley, 81st Medical Operations Squadron, who's deployed to Southwest Asia. The Jan. 24 taping was part of Hearts from Home, a project spearheaded by the airman and family readiness center to send care packages to Keesler's deployed Airmen for Valentine's Day.



Photos by Airman 1st Class David Salanitri

From left, Tech. Sgt. Sunday-Rae Mangum, Capt. David Redmond Sr., Staff Sgt. Jeffrey Jones and 2nd Lt. Scott Kumpula fill care packages with custom T-shirts and pillow cases, DVDs, snacks, electronic games, cards from area school children and videotapes from loved ones. Sergeant Mangum is an instructor in the 335th Training Squadron, Captain Redmond is from the legal office and Sergeant Jones is an instructor in the 333rd TRS. Lieutenant Kumpula, from Ellsworth Air Force Base, S.D., is a student in the 333rd TRS.



Amy Finley and her 1-year-old son, Samuel, make a Valentine for Samuel's dad, Capt. Aaron Finley, who's deployed to Southwest Asia. At Keesler, Captain Finley is assigned to the legal office.



Leilah holds Madeline, left, and Amelia in the special care nursery.

Photo by Steve Pivnick

Double take

Navy couple's twin daughters receive special care befitting their early arrival

By Steve Pivnick

81st Medical Group Public Affairs

Members of the military face hardships most Americans don't encounter.

For Sailors Thomas and Leilah Hurlburt, the sacrifice may have been worth it.

Both are assigned to the Naval Construction Battalion Center-Gulfport. He's a builder second class with NCB-1 and she's a hospital corpsman second class in the base clinic.

The couple's twin daughters, Amelia and Madeline, arrived Dec. 19, more than a month early.

Tom deployed to Iraq Sept. 24 for the third time.

The Red Cross was able to arrange emergency leave and Tom arrived only 90 minutes before his daughters' births at the University of South Alabama Medical Center in Mobile, according to Leilah.

The girls are now in Keesler Medical Center's special care nursery.

"I was coming to Keesler Medical Center

for fetal monitoring," Leilah explained.

"They knew I would have to have induced labor, but Keesler would be unable to deliver the babies due to their small size (the special care nursery had only one bed available at the time of the delivery)."

The girls were born eight minutes apart; Madeline at 9:30 p.m. and Amelia at 9:38. Madeline weighed 4 pounds, 7 ounces and Amelia 2 pounds, 12 ounces. Older sister Brianne is 20 months.

Tom was able to stay with the family until Jan. 7 when he returned to Iraq to complete his tour. He's expected to return sometime in the spring.

The girls "bunk" together in the same isolette.

"It's good for twins to be together," their mother said.

"The care has been excellent and the staff is very nice," she continued. "We're grateful Keesler Medical Center accepted the babies. It was such a long drive back and forth to Mobile."

Gifts for moms, babies



Courtesy photo

From left, Clara Jean Dickey, Timlie Reis and Michelle Foster prepare some of more than 100 gift bags Air Force Sergeants Association Auxiliary Chapter 652 donated during 2007 to the labor and delivery unit at Keesler Medical Center. Mrs. Dickey's late husband was an Air Force retiree. Mrs. Reis is married to retiree Robert Reis Jr. and Mrs. Foster is married to Sam Foster, 81st Training Wing director of staff. The bags contain a journal and pen, baby washcloths, diapers, toiletry supplies and other items. The auxiliary, which meets at 6 p.m. the third Tuesday of each month, also collects and sends cents-off coupons to overseas military bases and provides a monthly meal to residents of Fisher House, a home-away-from-home for military and retiree families who travel to Keesler or the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Biloxi for medical treatment. For more information, call Mrs. Foster, 273-4591, or e-mail auxiliary.president@afsa652.org.

Tobacco hazardous to health of teeth, gums

By Staff Sgt. Jason Ware

81st Dental Squadron

Recent studies identified by the American Academy of Periodontology show tobacco use may be one of the most significant risk factors in the development and progression of periodontal disease.

In addition, following periodontal treatment or any type of oral surgery, the chemicals in tobacco can slow healing and make treatment results less predictable.

Smokers are more likely than non-smokers to have these problems:

Calculus — plaque that hardens on teeth and can only be removed during a professional cleaning.

Deep pockets between teeth and gums.

Loss of the bone and tissue that support the teeth.

If the calculus isn't removed during a professional cleaning and it remains below the gum line, bacteria in the calculus can destroy gum tissue and cause gums to pull away from the teeth. When this happens, periodontal pockets form and fill with disease-causing bacteria.

Left untreated, periodontal disease progresses. The pockets between the teeth and gums can grow deeper, allowing in more bacteria that destroy tissue and supporting bone. The gums may shrink away from the teeth making them look longer. Without treatment, teeth may become loose, painful and even fall out.

Research shows smokers lose more

teeth than nonsmokers. In fact, according to data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, only about 20 percent of people over age 65 who've never smoked are toothless, while 41.3 percent of daily smokers over age 65 are toothless.

Research also shows current smokers don't heal as well after periodontal treatment as former smokers or non-smokers. These effects are reversible if the smokers kick the habit before beginning treatment.

Other tobacco products also are harmful to periodontal health. Smokeless tobacco can cause gums to recede and increase the chance of losing the bone and fibers that hold teeth in place. A study of cigar and pipe smokers published in the January 1999

issue of the Journal of the American Dental Association revealed cigar smokers experience tooth loss and alveolar bone loss at rates equivalent to those of cigarette smokers. Pipe smokers experience tooth loss at a rate similar to cigarette smokers.

Studies have found these problems occur more often in people who use tobacco products: oral cancer, bad breath, stained teeth, tooth loss, bone loss, loss of taste, less success with periodontal treatment, less success with dental implants, gum recession, mouth sores and facial wrinkling.

For help to quit smoking, call the health and wellness center, 376-3170. More information is also available at <http://www.perio.org>

Care options for patients ages 5-17

81st Medical Group

Keesler Medical Center's family practice clinic resumed enrolling beneficiaries ages 5-17 this month.

New beneficiaries 5-17 may enroll in either the pediatric or family practice clinic, according to Capt. Holly Gardner, pediatric clinic nurse manager

Children 14 and older of adults assigned to the flight medicine clinic are also assigned to that clinic for continuity of care.

"Pediatric providers are specialized in the care for children from birth through age 17," Captain Gardner explained. "Family physicians are trained to provide comprehensive medical care with particular emphasis on treating the entire family, regardless of the patient's age, sex or type of illness."

Letters were sent by the pediatric clinic staff this month to about 200 families meeting the 5-17-year-old criteria, notifying them of their transfer to family practice and the option to decline.



Competition first activity at Keesler

Keesler's Black Heritage Month activities:

Wednesday — organization day, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. All organizations are invited to display educational information, perform skits or have presentations. Prizes awarded for first, second and third place. For more information, call Pamela Tunstall, 377-4202.

Feb. 15 — African-American Heritage Committee cookout, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Larcher Chapel. The \$8 fee raises money for scholarships. For more information, call Curt Higgins, 377-1390.

Feb. 20 — AAHC luncheon, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Vandenberg Community Center, to promote education. \$10. For more information, call Cynthia Lee, 377-9386.

Feb. 21 — fourth annual bowling tournament, Gaude Lanes. Registration, 11-11:45 a.m. Games start at noon. \$12 per person, five-person team, to raise money for scholarships. For more information, call Mr. Higgins, 377-9386.

Feb. 23 — free gospel concert, 6-9 p.m., Welch Auditorium. Performing is Greater Grace, Grace Temple and Keesler choir. For more information, call Anthony Thomas, 348-1692.

Feb. 29 — free soul food sampling, 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Larcher Chapel Annex. Dishes include fried catfish, macaroni and cheese, barbecue, greens and ox tails. For more information, call Antilisa Lewis, 377-7100.

No DEERS terminals

The military personnel flight's DEERS terminals are closed Friday-Monday for an upgrade.

Customer service issues agent cards and updates Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance only during this period.

Dorm managers

The consolidated dormitory management office has openings for two dorm managers.

The positions are a two-year controlled tours in the 81st Civil Engineer Squadron. Applicants must be staff sergeants and released from their

Air Force Specialty Code.

For more information, call 377-1730.

Wing awards

The 81st Training Wing's fourth quarter awards ceremony has been changed to 3 p.m. Wednesday at Welch Auditorium.

For more information, call Master Sgt. Chip Coleman, 376-4020, or Tech. Sgt. Tina Mauro-Behrens, 376-3307.

Artwork contest

The African-American Heritage Committee sponsors an artwork design contest for the 2008 Black Heritage Month observance.

The entry deadline is today.

Submit entries to any committee member.

The winner receives \$50 and the runner-up a ticket to the Black Heritage Month luncheon Feb. 20.

For more information, call Paulette Powell, 377-2270, or contact any AAHC member

Technology expo

The 81st Training Support Squadron's 12th annual technology exposition is 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Feb. 27 at the Imperial Palace Casino Resort in Biloxi.

The free expo is in the Royal Ballroom on the third floor of the hotel.

For more information, e-mail dflemister@comcast.net.

ATM relocated

The Keesler Federal Credit Union's automatic teller machine in Keesler Medical Center has been returned to its pre-Hurricane Katrina location in the basement corridor opposite the dining facility and leading to the snack bar.

Airmen's Attic

Airmen's Attic's inventory of household items is low.

This program serves airmen through staff sergeants and their families.

Airmen's Attic is open 3-6 p.m. Fridays in Building 823.

For more information, call or e-mail Master Sgt. Archie Evans, 377-2702, archie.evans

@keesler.af.mil, or leave a message at 377-3814.

Heart Link

The next Heart Link session is 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Feb. 15 in the Triangle Chapel.

To register, call 377-2179.

Fingerprinting process

The 81st Security Forces Squadron no longer accepts walk-ins for fingerprints.

For appointments, call 377-4660 or 5404.

Food handler training

Food handler training is required for unit fundraisers involving food.

For more information call, 376-3161 or 3155.

ads



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Theyer Castro, left, 338th TRS, and Henry Sims, 81st TRSS, give chase to a loose ball during the Dark Knights' 56-32 victory Jan. 24.

Undefeated Dark Knights No. 1 in Over-30 action

By Airman 1st Class David Salantri

Keesler News staff

Over-30 basketball tipped off this month with a pay-to-play policy.

The league is comprised of five teams, playing at 11 a.m. and noon in Dragon Fitness Center.

"The men are just happy to be playing. The \$80 entry fee per team wasn't that big of a deal to the players," said Laurence Wilson, sports director.

Currently, the 338th Training Squadron

leads the league with a record of 4-0. Other teams are 81st Training Support Squadron, 81st Civil Engineer Squadron, 85th Engineering Installation Squadron and 2nd Air Force.

The season consists of 15 games, culminating in a double-elimination playoff to determine the base champion.

The league is officiated by volunteers.

For scores, schedules and standings, see Scores and More, Page 24.

For more information, call Wilson, 377-2444.

General credits sports for professional success

Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — A female brigadier general was featured during a Jan. 19 episode of CBS Sports Spectacular titled *Pride, Passion and Power*.

Michelle Johnson, deputy director of the Joint Staff's War on Terrorism, Strategic Plans and Policy Directorate at the Pentagon, was honored as an outstanding basketball player and cadet at the Air Force Academy and her subsequent success as an Air Force officer.

The 1981 academy graduate completed graduate studies as a Rhodes Scholar before earning her pilot wings in 1984.

Johnson was the academy's first

female cadet wing commander and is the only female inaugural member of the academy's Athletic Hall of Fame.

Johnson's sports success gave her skills and lessons important off the court.

"It comes down to the fire inside," she said. "Talent alone doesn't do it. It's the teamwork. The fire in the belly. The desire to win, and the intensity and perseverance. Those qualities are universal. The Air Force is a giant team. That's what it is all about."

"I think about truly honest moments (when playing sports), when you are running wind sprints next to a teammate and you know they hurt as bad as you do, yet they keep going, so you keep going, you

give it your all to do your very best. It's all about being part of a team."

Johnson became one of only 61 female officers to attain rank of general officer in the Air Force. She's had assignments in air mobility, airlift and tanker flying operations and training, academic instruction and personnel. She's a command pilot with more than 3,600 flying hours.

She served as an aide to Presidents George H.W. Bush and Bill Clinton, and commanded a deployed air refueling squadron during Operation Southern Watch and an air refueling wing in support of Operations Noble Eagle, Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.



Air Force photo

Johnson

SCORES AND MORE

Basketball

Men's Over 30 League

Standings (as of Jan. 24)

Team	Won	Lost
338th TRS	4	0
81st TRSS	2	1
81st CES	2	1
2nd Air Force	0	3
85th EIS	0	3

All games at Dragon Fitness Center

Jan. 15 — 338th TRS 52, 81st CES 48; 81st TRSS 42, 85th EIS 32.

Jan. 17 — 338th TRS 62, 85th EIS 34; 81st TRSS 44, 2nd Air Force 31.

Jan. 22 — 338th EIS 99, 2nd Air Force 31; 81st CES 48, 85th EIS 23.

Jan. 24 — 338th TRS 56, 81st TRSS 32; 81st CES 40, 2nd Air Force 31.

Today — noon, 338th TRS vs. 81st CES.

Tuesday — 11 a.m., 338th TRS vs. 85th EIS; noon, 2nd Air Force vs. 81st TRSS.

Feb. 7 — 11 a.m., 2nd Air Force vs. 338th TRS; noon, 81st EIS vs. 85th EIS.

Bowling

League standings

Monday Budweiser (as of Jan. 14)

Team	Won	Lost
Perry's Refrigeration	74	31
3 Steps Forward	68	37
Old Skool	65	40
Gannon's Cannons	63.5	41.5
Our Gang	62	43
Man On	56	49
Hoops Gang	56	49
Wayne's World	54	51
Pin Heads	54	51
Slater's Shooters	53	52
Team 2	49	56
Endangered Species	46.5	58.5
Why Not	46	59
The Corner Pins	46	59
Unpredictables	43	62
Ghost Riders	38	67
Martini's	37	68
B-Busters	32	73

Tuesday Hospital Mixed (as of Jan. 22)

Team	Won	Lost
Radiology Renegades	91	37
Pill Pushers	87	41
Bed Buddies	80	48
Pediattack	80	48
Drug Dealers	78	50
Team 6	30	98
Team 8	16	112
Team 7	12	116

Wednesday Mixed (as of Jan. 23)

Team	Won	Lost
Oceans Eleven	82	44
Jokers Wild	76	50
Hang Chucky	76	50
Ichiban	74	52
Clyde's Team	69	57
Misfits	68	58
2 Old 2 Bowl	68	58
3DR	65	61
Neighbors + 1	63	63
MUDD	58	68
Lucky Strikes	58	67
70s Plus	53	69
Team 13	24	81
Team 14	0	0

Thursday Retired Seniors Mixed (as of Jan. 24)

Team	Won	Lost
6-Pack	79.5	46.5
Three is Company	74.5	51.5
Team 16	74	52
Team 1	71.5	54.5
Dummys Dummies	71	55
Freda's Kids	70	55
Team 12	69	57
Delema	67.5	58.5
2 Bees & a D	66	60
The Very Best	65	61
Barb's Boys	61.5	64.5
Team 2	55.5	70.5
Full Speed	55	71
Amy's Bunch	54	72
T-N-T	54	72
Team 15	52	74
Friends	47	79
Guys and Dolls	47	79

Thursday Federal Intramural (as of Jan. 10)

Team	Won	Lost
332nd TRS	88	40

Special Olympics is May 16-18

Keesler hosts the Mississippi Special Olympics, May 16-18.

Project officer is Capt. Millie Ziebell, 377-9522.

Squadrons interested in sponsoring food booths, call Rick Harmon, 377-7351, or e-mail rick.harmon@keesler.af.mil.

85th EIS	80	48
Team 3	78	50
Team 5	77	51
338th TRS	72	56
Team 4	72	56
Team 14	68	60
403rd Rolling Thunder	68	60
403rd MXS	66	62
Misfits	60	68
81st CPTS	60	68
81st MSS	60	68
81st TRSS	58	70
GCCS Squad	55	73
Team 10	50	78
Ghosts	10	118

Friday Mixed (as of Friday)

Team	Won	Lost
Lady and the Tramps	91	42
Team 10	88	45
Team 3	75	51
Pin Busters	69	64
Sandbaggers	63	70
Pin Pals	57	69
Jax Hax	60	73
Harry's Team	60	73
3 Guys and A Babe	56	77
Dreamers	39	94

Other

Super Bowl party — 4 p.m. Sunday. Watch the game on a 60-inch screen. \$7.95 per person includes finger foods, games, and prizes. Draft

beer \$5 per pitcher or \$1 per cup.

Birthday party package — Saturdays 1:30-3 p.m. or 3:30-5 p.m., and Sundays 2:30-4 p.m. Basic party with bowling and food \$8.95 per child. Mid party, including table supply and T-shirt, \$11.95 per child. Premium party with games and a pin, \$15.95 per child. Reservations required.

Nonprior service students special — 5-9:30 p.m. Thursdays, all nonprior service students bowl for \$1.50 game including shoe rental.

Glow bowling — 9 p.m. to midnight Fridays and Saturdays.

Hurricane alley, fundraisers — for more information, call 377-2817.

Fitness centers

Free fitness classes — step aerobics, turbo-core, spin/cycle, slo-robics, boxing workout and fencing at Dragon Fitness Center. For more information, call 377-2907.

Massage appointments — at Triangle Fitness Center, call 263-5515.

Golf

Driving range — 40 balls, \$2.

Golf lessons — \$25 for 30 minutes. For appointment, call 424-0479.

Martial arts

Editor's note: Classes at Vandenberg Community Center. For more information, call 377-3308.

Shaolin pentjak silat — 7-8 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays, all ages. \$65 month. Striking, kicking, grappling, weapons and internal energy; sash ranking system.

Pukulan pencak silat tempur — 6-7 p.m. Monday, Tuesdays and Thursdays. \$65 month. Closequarters combat class; used for personal protection.

Mixed martial arts — 8-9 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays. \$65 month; muay thai, western boxing, kung fu, wrestling, judo and jujitsu.

Women's self defense — 6-7 p.m. Wednesdays. \$25 month. Mental, physical and tactical training.

Outdoor recreation

Wet slip fees — monthly, boats more than 32 feet, \$3.75 per foot; less than 32 feet, \$2.50 per foot. Overnight, \$5 per boat.

Deep sea fishing trips — compressed work schedule Fridays and Sundays aboard the Keesler Dolphin II. \$60 per person includes everything you need to fish. Payment due upon reservation. Minimum 10, maximum 22 people. For reservation, call 377-3160.

Deep sea fishing private charter — rent Dolphin II, \$700 for first six people, \$35 each additional person Mondays-Thursdays, \$40 weekends and holidays. \$350 deposit required.

Back Bay cruiser — 17-foot vessel for rent. Mississippi boater registration card required. For prices, call 377-3160.

Pontoon boat training — to rent a pontoon you must take a test and be certified. Call for information.

Paintball

Paintball course — open by reservation only; for reservations or more information, call 377-3160.

Softball

Women's varsity tryouts — Feb. 8. For more information, call Nickie Lozano, coach, 383-2066.

Coach needed — for men's varsity team. For more information, call Laurence Wilson, 377-2444.

Wrestling

Mardi Gras Brawl — international championship wrestling, 7 p.m. Saturday, Blake Fitness Center. Tickets sold at Gaude Lanes and Vandenberg Community Center; \$10 adults, \$5 ages 4-12, free ages 3 and younger. Sponsored by Rex Distributing, USAA and Keesler Federal Credit Union. For more information, call 377-4385.

HONORS

Student honor roll

332nd Training Squadron

Electronic principles — Airmen Basic Matthew Anzures, Daniel Baker, Tiffany Bennett, Thomas Bryant, Isacc Butler, Stephen Bythway, Matthew Calvo, Michael Chavez, Timothy Cutrell, Angel Delgado-Leach, Derrick Dickerson, Jesse Digiacomo, Brock Dileo, Matthew English, Robert Enox, George Fagan, Nichole Fogle, Sean Gilbert, Everett Henry, Evan Hess, Jeremi Hester, Eric Hildebrandt, Christopher Holloway, Thomas Johns, Jonathan Johnson, Patrick Jungewaelter, Ezra Kiihn, Saben Leinbaugh, Samuel Martin, Jesus Martinez, Coleman Moore, Kyle Nelson, Zachary Nothcutt, David Ortega, Christopher Otto, Joseph Passmore, Kyle Perez, James Reynolds, Nathaniel Robinson, Christopher Rohach, Jeffrey Rose, Gerald Royster, Christopher Runge, Jonathan Samolinski, Eric Tambini, Patrick Timmerman, Arthur Voegle, Stevie Wakes, Zachary Walker, Jeffrey Wynn, Jessica Yeadon and Daniel Zappitello; Airmen Travis Bailey, Alexander Bascom, Ben Leclerc, Cody McMahan, Peter Momsen, Nicolas Tappa, Kyle Walker and Thomas Yoon; Airmen 1st Class Sean Archer, Joshua Boshears, Steven Briski, Robert Burgess, Michael Citchens, Philip Cyr, Travis Damm, Keith Dengel, Kyle Dresen, Leland Ellis, Adam Francis, Daniel Gay, Matthew Glover, Andrew Graff, Kiley Hickok, Patric Hilker, Mitchell Hill, James Hughes, David Huntsberger, Eric Lasseter, Jared Luczynski, Joseph McCauley, Evan McClougherty, Nicholas McCollum, Joshua Mitchell, George Oliver, Justin Parsons, Joshua Patterson, Nicholas Putinsky, Jeremy Reece, Alicia Roberts, Dee Saikeo, William Schull, Alicia Sonstebly, Benjamin Stoel, Joseph Stone, Drew Strandness, Bradley Strenn, Wesley Theulen, Max Tibbetts, Ian Wagner, Benjamin Wright and Paul Young; Senior Airmen Jerome Danan, Nathan Fultz, Patrick Molinelli and Callie Rios; Staff Sgts. Warren Drummond, Mathew Milliron, Richard Munro, Charles Owens, Ruben Sanderson, Robert Schwingel, Michael

Scoggins, William Simmons and Brett Weir; Tech. Sgts. Frankie Acfalle, Matthew Artis, William Patton, Matthew Sly and William Walsh; Master Sgt. Kevin Bengs.

334th TRS

Aerospace control and warning systems apprentice course — Airman 1st Class Jay Wallace; Staff Sgt. David Beverly; Tech. Sgt. Shannon Gragg.

Air traffic control operations training flight — Airmen Basic Thomas Britt, James Dent, Tyson Garland, Ian Greene, Luke Hightower, Michael Homans, Dominique Houchens, Dion King, Benjamin McCall, Aaron Shaw, Kenneth Small, Ut Ta, Andrew Valyo, Stephen Van Dover, O'Neil Watson and Matthew Winter; Airmen Joseph Clayburn, Zachary Faughn, Kevin Platt and Patrick Vance; Airmen 1st Class Luke Bullard, Kyle Causey, Derek Cox, Kenneth Edwards, Sienna Grandy, Daniel Hochhalter, Craig Quezada, Schaffer Robichaux, Joseph Shelton, Corina Tajjeron and Ryan Vandewynkle; Senior Airman Alan Plank; Staff Sgts. Nathan Bevelle and Michael Machost.

Command post apprentice course — Airmen Basic Jesley Crider and Jennifer Volkers; Airmen 1st Class Jeremy Marin and Ariana Ocampo; Senior Airmen Blake Pecquet and Christy Turvaville; Staff Sgts. Michael Hohman and Kinnard Woods; Tech. Sgt. Patrick Sullivan.

338th TRS

Ground radar flight — Master Sgt. Troy Mitchell.

Ground radio flight — Airman Basic David Franklin; Airmen Suzanne Attridge, Daniel Baca, David Bryant, Jose Cortes, Michael Reynolds, Ronald Roper and Daniel Webber; Airmen 1st Class Daniel Balcarcel, Bradley Childers, David Comstock, Alexander Franklin, James Gale, Evan Gossell, Christopher Hernandez, George Hernandez, Allen Idol, Robert Klebes, Christopher Lambert, Jeffrey Landers, William Littledale, Pablo Nunez, William Spradlin, Kosiasko Sullivan, Duncan Taylor, Lawanda Washington and Corey Wright; Senior Airman Greggor Ilagan; Staff Sgts. David Alexander, Brian Bennett, Bryan Massey, Tech. Sgts. Michael Bieberle and Michael Lyons.

CLASSES

Airman Leadership School

Class 08-2 — graduates Feb. 13.

Keesler NCO Academy

Class 08-2 — graduates Feb. 15.

Arts and crafts center

Multi-craft shop

Editor's note: open until 8 p.m. Thursdays

Ceramic mold pouring — 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Saturday. \$25 including mold use, supplies and first firing. Discount for student airmen.

Youth center teen workshop — 4:30-7 p.m. today. Crafts and food project. Pre-registration required.

Wood shop

Beginning intarsia — 10 a.m. Saturday. \$15 including project and tool use.

Auto hobby shop

Editor's note: open shop use, preregister for classes.

Qualified mechanics — can assist with vehicle maintenance.

Oil collection site — for personal vehicles.

24-hour coin-operated car wash — wash, rinse, wax system, towellettes, Armorall and vacuum station.

Vehicle resale lot — one block west of Larcher Boulevard on Tingle Street north of the 81st Security Forces Squadron building. Register at multi-craft shop. Registration, license and proof of insurance required. To place a car on the lot, call 377-2821.

SHUTTLE SCHEDULE

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

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

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

Minutes after hour	Bus stop
:10	:30
:12	:31
:14	:32
:16	:33
:18	:34
:20	:35
:21	:36
:25	:40
:28	:43
:33	:48
:34	:49
:36	:51
:37	:52

Prior-service students lodged off base

Morning pickup from hotels north of Keesler — 5 a.m., Red Carpet Inn; 5:10, Travel Inn; 5:15, Beaujolais Villas; 5:20, Suburban Inn and Super 8.

Afternoon pickup to return to hotels north of Keesler — 3:30 and 5:30 p.m., street side of Hewes Hall for Bryan, Jones, Hewes and Garrard Halls; 3:33 and 5:33, Cody Hall bus stop for Hangar 3, Thomson, Cody and Dolan Halls; 3:36 and 5:36, E Street side of McClelland Hall; 3:38 and 5:38, back side of Allee Hall for 7-level building, weather training center and Allee, Wolfe, and Stennis Halls; 3:41 and 5:41, front of Muse Manor.

Wait at the main entrance of hotels for pickup. Allow a five to 10 minute window on arrival time. Traffic in the local area impacts base taxi times.

Call 377-2432 for transportation needs for classes starting after 6:30 a.m. or for service to hotels not listed.

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.

CHAPEL SERVICES

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

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

Ash Wednesday service

Larcher Chapel..... 11 a.m.

Roman Catholic

Sunday Mass

Triangle Chapel.....9 a.m.

Weekday Mass

Medical Center chapel.....11:15 a.m.

Ash Wednesday service

Triangle Chapel.....11:15 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.

Jewish

For worship opportunities, call Tech. Sgt. Michael Raff, 377-5235.

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 1-801-694-8900.

Digest,

from Page 25

Chapel

All classes are held at the Triangle Chapel Annex through May. For more information, call 377-2520.

Catholic religious education — after 9 a.m. Sunday Mass.

Protestant Sunday School — 10:30-11:30 a.m. for pre-school, elementary, teens and adults.

Men's prayer breakfast — 9 a.m. to noon second Saturday of the month.

Women's prayer breakfast — 10 a.m. to noon first Saturday of the month.

Tuesday Bible study — 6-7:30 p.m. at the Haven.

McBride Library

Story time — 10 a.m. Wednesday, ages 3-5.

Fax special — faxes 50 cents a page this month.

Free wireless Internet available — check at circulation desk.

National tie month — tie display.

Gale data base reference orientations — 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays.

Tours/orientations — call 377-2827.

International creativity month — arts and crafts display.

CLUBS AND CENTERS

Vandenberg Community Center

Editor's note: All events, except dances, are open to all Keesler personnel.

Bubble wrap popping party — 6 p.m. today.

Mardi Gras celebration — 6 p.m. Tuesday. Music, free beads and king cake.

Football on the big screen — noon Sundays, 6:30 p.m. Mondays. Free popcorn.

Karaoke — 6 p.m. Thursdays before working Fridays.

Pool tournaments — 6 p.m. Mondays and Tuesdays.

Movie night — 6 p.m. Wednesdays. New releases, popcorn.

Dances — 6 p.m. to midnight Thursdays before compressed work schedule Fridays, and Fridays and Saturdays. \$3.

Katrina Kantina

Editor's note: In the marina building overlooking Biloxi's Back Bay.

All ranks invited — open 3:30 p.m. Tuesdays-Fridays. Snacks, beverages and music.

Super Bowl party — 4 p.m. Sunday for permanent party personnel. Free snacks, drink specials, two big screens. Seating limited. For more information, call 377-2219.

Thirsty Thursday — 5 p.m. today. Southern cuisine, DJ. \$6 members, \$8 nonmembers.

Karaoke night — 5 p.m. Thursdays before compressed work schedule Fridays.

Taco Tuesdays — members get two tacos for \$1, nonmembers pay \$2.

Catering — experts can assist with planning weddings, holidays, birthdays, official functions and other special occasions.

Youth center

Annual membership — \$25, ages 9 and older. Discounts on programs, classes and sports.

Cooking club — Feb. 12, 19 and 26, ages 9 and older. Call for times. Free for members; space limited. Preregistration required.

Art, Fit Factor and sewing clubs — 4-7 p.m. Mondays, ages 9 and older. Learn about arts and complete a project; maximum eight people.

Aviation and space camp registration — throughout the month, ages 12-18.

Mardi Gras ball — 1-5 p.m. Feb. 15, ages 6-12; 7-11 p.m. ages 13-17. \$5 members, \$7 nonmembers. Preregistration required.

Give parents a break/parents night out — 4-10 p.m. Saturday for youth through grade 6.

Mardi Gras camp — Monday through Feb. 8, ages 6-12.

Preregistration required. Call 377-4116.

Open recreation — 4-7 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays, ages 9 and older.

Friday night frenzy — 6:30-11 p.m. ages 13-17. Games, skating, music, snacks. \$5 members, \$7 nonmembers.

Super Saturdays — 1-5 p.m. Saturday, ages 6-12.

Classes — 9 a.m. to noon Saturdays. Gymnastics \$45 and \$50, ages 3-12. Dance \$45 and \$50, ages 3-12. Piano \$65 and \$70, ages 6-12. Karate for ages 6-12 meets twice weekly; \$65 and \$70; call for dates and times.

TICKETS AND TRIPS

Tour to World War II D-Day Museum in New Orleans — Feb. 9. \$10 military in uniform, \$24 active duty/retired/spouse with identification card, \$30 adults, \$26 seniors, \$25 ages 6-12, \$20 ages 5 and under, including admission and transportation. Sign up and prepay by Feb. 6.

Discounted tickets — for many attractions including Busch Gardens, Sea World, Universal Studios and Disney World in Florida. For price list, log on to <http://www.keeslerservices.us>.

Information on area and out-of-state attractions — free brochures for Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Florida and Georgia.

TRANSITIONS

Workshops, briefings

Congressionally-mandated pre-separation briefings — counseling by airman and family readiness center for active-duty military members of any branch of service who'll receive honorable discharges and no extra transition benefits. Briefings are Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1 p.m. for personnel who are separating and 2:30 p.m. for those who are retiring. Individuals with less than honorable discharges, receiving extra benefits such as second enrollment opportunity in Montgomery GI Bill, Reserve or Guard personnel coming off 180-day deployments or entering the disability system must call 377-2179 for individual counseling appointment. Until the center moves back to Sablich Center, briefings held in Room 151, Hangar 2.

Transition assistance program — planned dates, which are subject to change, are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Feb. 11-14, March 10-13, April 14-17, May 19-22, June 16-19, July 14-17, Aug. 11-14, Sept. 15-18, Oct. 20-23, Nov. 17-20 and Dec. 8-11. For military personnel who are 12 months or less from separation or 24 months or less from retirement, and Department of Defense civilians; spouses welcome. Military members should complete congressionally-mandated pre-separation counseling in advance. Attire is business casual — no uniforms, jeans, shorts or T-shirts. Until the airman and family readiness center moves back to Sablich Center, programs held in Room 151, Hangar 2, room 151. To sign up, call 377-2179.

Military retirement benefit seminars — planned dates, subject to change, are 8-10:30 a.m. Feb. 7, March 6, April 3, May 1, June 5, July 10, Aug. 7, Sept. 4, Oct. 2, Nov. 6 and Dec. 4. Tricare, Survivor Benefit Plan, movement and storage of household goods, military and retired pay issues and other topics covered. Spouses encouraged to attend. To sign up, call 377-2179. Until the airman and family readiness center moves back to Sablich Center, briefings held in Room 151, Hangar 2.

Employment opportunities

Military career fair — 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Feb. 12 at the New Orleans Fairgrounds race course. This free hiring event is for veterans, personnel who are transitioning from active duty, Reserves, Guard and military spouses presented by RecruitMilitary, President's National Hire Veterans Committee, American Legion and Military Spouse Corporate Career Network. For more information or to register as a job-seeker, visit <http://www.recruitmilitary.com>.

Career focus program for spouses — information on area employment opportunities, job Web sites, human resources contacts, temporary jobs, on-base listings and free training programs. Computer lab available for resume preparation or job search; located in Room 121, Hangar 2 (old Cody Hall). For an appointment, call Ron Bublik at the airman and family readiness center, 377-8592, or e-mail ronald.bublik@keesler.af.mil.

Please see **Digest**, Page 27

DINING HALL MENUS

Today

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

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

Friday

Lunch — Mexican baked chicken, country-style steak, stuffed peppers, macaroni and cheese, mashed potatoes, gravy, corn on the cob, beans, Spanish beans, peas and carrots, pasta salad, three-bean salad, chicken with wild rice soup, onion soup, chili, barbecue pork sandwiches and burritos.

Dinner — lasagna, spaghetti with meat sauce, chicken cacciatore, rice, gravy, broccoli, cauliflower, Italian baked beans, corn O'Brien, pasta salad, three-bean salad, chicken with wild rice soup, onion soup, chili, barbecue pork sandwiches and burritos.

Saturday

Lunch — baked chicken, beef yakisoba, canned ham, baked potatoes, rice pilaf, gravy, broccoli, peas, carrots, fruit medley, kidney bean salad, raisin sauce, clam chowder, tomato florentine soup and buffalo wings.

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

Sunday

Lunch — baked fish, sauerbraten, chicken breast parmesan, au gratin potatoes, egg noodles, gravy, cauliflower combo, mixed vegetables, fried cabbage, tomato salad, German coleslaw, cheesy chicken tortilla soup, baked potato chowder, chili and cheese pizza.

Dinner — ginger barbecue chicken, fried shrimp, beef manicotti, potato wedges, mashed potatoes, gravy, black-eyed peas, collard greens, corn O'Brien, tomato salad, German coleslaw, cheesy chicken tortilla soup, baked potato chowder, chili and cheese pizza.

Monday

Lunch — Swiss steak, baked chicken, sausage, peppers and onions, rice, mashed potatoes, gravy, broccoli, carrots, cucumber and onion salad, macaroni salad, chicken dumplings soup, minestrone, chili with beans, cannonball sandwich and chicken nuggets.

Dinner — turkey, ribeye steak, tempura fish, mashed potatoes, combread dressing, gravy, succotash, tempura vegetables, green beans, garden cottage cheese salad, macaroni salad, chicken dumpling soup, minestrone, chili with beans, cannonball sandwich and chicken nuggets.

Tuesday

Lunch — lemon garlic fish, pork schnitzel steak, beef and yakisoba, ginger rice, mashed potatoes, gravy, pinto beans, spinach, squash, spinach salad, waldorf salad, frontier chicken chili, beef pot roast soup, vegetable soup, steak and cheese subs and tacos.

Dinner — roast pork loin, barbecue beef cubes, chicken fajitas, O'Brien potatoes, rice, gravy, cauliflower, corn on the cob, lima beans, waldorf salad, frontier chicken chili, beef pot roast soup, vegetable soup, steak and cheese subs and tacos.

Wednesday

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

Dinner — spaghetti, Swiss steak, fried chicken, rice, mashed potatoes, gravy, fried cauliflower, asparagus, simmered cabbage, coleslaw, country style tomatoes, chicken noodle soup, potato soup, chili with beans, cheese fishwich and cheese pizza.

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Air Force Reserve opportunities — for members separating within 180 days, call Master Sgt. Neil Sherman, 377-7116; visit Room 229, Hangar 2 or e-mail anthony.sherman@keesler.af.mil.

Palace Chase — for information about how to apply for a program to attend college full time and work part time, call Master Sgt. Neil Sherman, 377-7116; visit Room 229, Hangar 2 or e-mail anthony.sherman@keesler.af.mil.

Web sites

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

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

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

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

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

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

New military spouse career center — <http://www.military.com/spouse>. Extensive job board including 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>.

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.

Air Force Sergeants Association — 7 a.m. third Tuesday of the month, Live Oak Dining Hall. For more information, call Master Sgt. Kat Hataway, 377-1389, or visit the group's Web site, <http://www.afsa652.org>.

Air Force Sergeants Association Auxiliary — 6 p.m. third Tuesday of the month. For more information, call Michelle Foster, 273-4591 or e-mail auxiliary.president@afsa652.org.

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. Brian Yelton, 377-0167, or e-mail keesler.aaddofficers@keesler.af.mil.

At Eze Toastmasters Club — 11 a.m. Tuesdays, Building 1101 conference room. For more information, call Dewi Clark, 377-2714 or e-mail dewi.clark2@keesler.af.mil; Fred Blache, 377-1048, or visit <http://www.toastmasters.org>.

Blacks in Government — 5:15 p.m. second Thursday of the month, Taylor Logistics Building conference room. For more information call Florence Clay, 377-8681, or Paulette Powell, 377-2270.

Company grade officers council — meets first Wednesday of the month. For time and location, call Chaplain (Capt.) Michael Howard, 377-4859.

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

Keesler Christian Home Educators Association — 7-9 p.m. second Tuesday of the month, September-May, Larcher Chapel. For more information, call Heather Melancon, 831-8895.

Keesler Spouses Club — second Tuesday of the month. For time and place, call Gretchen Gorline, 374-8024, or visit <http://www.KeeslerSpousesClub.com>.

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

Retired Enlisted Association Magnolia Chapter 81 — 6:30 p.m. second Thursday of the month, Vandenberg Commu-

nity Center. For more information, call Larry McKean, 377-3252 or 374-5922.

Rising VI Association — 3:15 p.m. third Wednesday of the month; location varies. For more information, call Staff Sgt. Toyshaline Young, 377-0591, or Tech. Sgt. Jodi Evans, 377-2835.

Top III — meeting times and locations vary. For more information, call Master Sgt. Nicole Pearson, 377-6510.

Tuskegee Airmen Inc., Col. Lawrence E. Roberts Chapter — 5 p.m. first Thursday of the month, McBride Library. For more information, call Glenda Mosby, 243-1992, gmosby1@bellsouth.net, or Charles Bowers, 860-3665.

MISCELLANEOUS

Movies

Editor's note: Movies are 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 recording about current features, call 377-6627.

Mardi Gras parades

Friday

Beauvoir Elementary School, Biloxi, 2:30 p.m., 436-5131; Lt. Col. Paul Valenzuela, 81st Mission Support Squadron commander, participates.

Saturday

Krewe of Diamondhead, noon; 255-6922.
Jackson County Carnival Association, Pascagoula, 1 p.m.; 497-3269.

Krewe of Gemini day parade, Gulfport, 2 p.m.; 831-0446 or 297-0377; color guard.

Krewe of Endymion, New Orleans, 3:30 p.m.; 338th TRS flag team.

Sunday

St. Paul Carnival Association, Pass Christian, 1 p.m.; 452-4643.

North Bay Mardi Gras Association, D'Iberville, 1:30 p.m.; 365-3195 or 424-3637.

Tuesday

Gulf Coast Carnival Association, 1 p.m., Biloxi; 432-8806; color guard. Krewe of Neptune follows; 341-0464 or 297-0377.

Krewe of Gemini night parade, 6 p.m., Gulfport; 831-0046 or 297-0377.

February weather outlook

February is usually the worst month of the year at Keesler for flying. The main problems are fog and stratus clouds. Migratory frontal systems affect the area, bringing rain, gusty winds, isolated thunderstorms and, in rare cases, snow showers.

Extreme maximum temperature (F)	81
Mean daily maximum temperature (F)	62
Mean daily minimum temperature (F)	48
Extreme minimum temperature (F)	15
Mean relative humidity (percent)	76
Mean monthly precipitation (inches)	4.64
Mean number of days with precipitation	8
Mean number of days with thunderstorms	3
Maximum 24-hour rainfall (inches)	4.34
Percentage of observations with ceiling less than:	
2,000 feet	19.0
1,000 feet	12.0
300 feet	3.3

Percentage of observations with visibility less than:	
6 miles	28.1
3 miles	10.7
1 mile	4.3
Percentage of observations with wind:	
0-3 knots	27.5
4-10 knots	61.5
11-21 knots	10.9
22 knots or greater	0.1

Base personnel can access radar and satellite data and a general forecast on the local area network in the public folders under 81 OSF Weather.

Voting assistance

Installation voting officer — Dave Duggins, 228-377-5799.

Alternate installation voting officer — Maj. Sharon Walker, 376-5551.

2nd Air Force — Master Sgts. John Scott, 376-6350, and Shannon Gray, 377-1316.

45th Airlift Squadron — Capt. Bryan Beck, 377-0663.

81st Aerospace Medicine Squadron — Capt. Nicola Perry, 376-3166.

81st Civil Engineer Squadron — Master Sgts. Aubrey Goff, 377-4209, and Bruce Dishman, 377-6611; Tech. Sgt. Melvin Jackson, 377-5826.

81st Communications Squadron — 2nd Lts. Kaneshia Webber, 377-8885, and Trevor Owen, 377-4041.

81st Comptroller Squadron — Master Sgt. Sherriann Baldwin-Rash, 377-3711, and 1st Lt. Mishaun Johnson, 377-7251.

81st Contracting Squadron — Master Sgt. Kimberley Alvarez, 377-3642, and 1st Lt. Ernest Stewart, 377-1836.

81st Dental Squadron — Capt. Eric Ladimer, 376-0511, and Master Sgt. Wendell Thomas, 377-7071.

81st Inpatient Support Squadron — Capt. Erik Vacarelli, 376-3327.

81st MDOS — 1st Lts. Maryann Edwards, 376-4459, and John Harrell, 377-0500; 2nd Lt. Sarah Montoya-Ortega, 376-5072, and Master Sgts. Joseph Hebert, 376-3754; Corey Johnson, 376-4839, Vernell Harrison, 376-4954, and Curtis Maley, 376-3810.

81st Medical Support Squadron — Cpts. Carissa Grant, 376-5055, and Renee McClennon, 376-4727; Master Sgt. Patty Jones, 376-4749.

81st Mission Support Squadron — Master Sgts. Kelle Turner, 377-3697; Terrence Hardwick, 377-3647; and Ruby Bordley, 377-3203.

81st Operations Support Flight — Staff Sgt. Michael Delgado, 377-3305.

81st Security Forces Squadron — 1st Lt. Schneider Rislin, 377-7231 and Master Sgt. Rod East, 377-9096.

81st Services Division — Master Sgt. Andrea Turner, 377-1986.

81st Supply-Transportation Squadrons — David Weekley, 377-2936; Master Sgt. Kevin Benjamin, 377-7924; Senior Master Sgt. James McClish, 377-4451.

81st Surgical Operations Squadron — Master Sgts. Steve Lacy or Robin Pugh, 376-0452, or Capt. Cynthia Myers, 376-5621.

81st Training Support Squadron — James Franks, 377-0758; Senior Master Sgt. Richard Skripek, 377-0758, and Sherry Clark, 377-1230.

81st Training Wing legal office — 1st Lt. Thomas Greenwood, 377-1077.

85th Engineering Installation Squadron — 1st Lt. Jason Rhodes, 377-4076, and Capt. Justin Stoner, 377-1077.

332nd Training Squadron — Tech. Sgt. Len Kedrow, 377-0737, and Master Sgt. Jason Harrell, 377-9680.

333rd TRS — William Bacon Jr., 377-2469, and Master Sgt. Brian Frazier, 377-7745.

334th TRS — Senior Master Sgt. CarolAnn Daniels, 377-3408, and Master Sgt. Lori Derr, 377-0476.

335th TRS — Master Sgts. Robert Marlett, 377-0331 and Rolando Espino, 377-2909; Robert Lloyd, 377-7641.

336th TRS — Maj. Boyd Cooke, 377-4599.

338th TRS — George Landrum, 377-2784; Alexander Verrett, 377-3371; Staff Sgt. Christopher Guertin, 377-1154; Airman 1st Class Nicholas Giulian, 377-3945.

403rd Wing — Lt. Col. Kelvin McElroy, 377-5007.

Center for Naval Aviation Technical Training Unit — Petty Officer 1st Class Moses Balls, 377-3502.

Keesler NCO Academy — Master Sgts. Lisa Arnold, 377-8622, and David Harrison, 377-8623

Marine Corps Detachment — Master Gunnery Sgt. William Scott, 377-8762, and Chief Warrant Officer 4th Class James Lewis, 377-0789.

EXTRA! Here's what's happening! EXTRA!

11TH FRAME CAFÉ

Editor's note: Located inside Gaudé Lanes. For more information, call 377-2036. Contractors welcome.

Daily lunch specials — 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Mondays-working Fridays. Mondays, chicken cordon bleu \$6.95, Tuesdays stuffed green peppers \$6.95, Wednesdays two burritos \$5, Thursdays hamburger steak \$6.95 and work Fridays barbecue pork riblet sandwich \$6.95.

Breakfast served — 8-10:30 a.m. Thursdays.

ARMED FORCES VACATION CLUB

Space available accommodations — for Department of Defense-affiliated personnel at more than 3,500 resorts worldwide.

Affordable price — seven nights and eight days for two to six people, \$329.

To reserve — log on to <http://www.afvclub.com> or call 1-800-724-9988. Keesler's installation number, 121, is required at time of reservation. No membership, enrollment or annual fees.

BAY BREEZE GOLF COURSE

Editor's note: For more information, call 377-3832 or 424-0479.

Open Play — Come play our challenging 18 hole, par 71 course. Call for tee times. For a list of fees, log on to <http://www.keeslerservices.us> and click on the Bay Breeze link.

Driving range — \$2 for 40 balls.

Golf lessons — \$25 for a half hour of instruction.

Pro shop — Gloves, golf balls, tees, and more are available.

CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Editor's note: For more information, call 377-2211. School age children go to the youth center. For more information, call 377-4116.

Give parents a break — 4-10 p.m. Saturday. Air Force funded program offers free child care. Certificates must be coordinated through the airmen and family readiness center. For a complete 2008 schedule, log on to <http://www.keeslerservices.us> and click on the family child care link.

Parents night out — 4-10 p.m. Saturday, child care for ages 6 weeks to 12 years, \$3.50 per hour per child.

DINING FACILITIES

Editor's note: For more information, call 377-2200.

What's on the menu today? — call the Dine Line at 377-DINE (3463) or log on to <http://www.keeslerservices.us> and click on the dining facilities link.

Monthly birthday celebration — Magnolia Dining Facility hosts a monthly birthday celebration for all nonprior service students, permanent party enlisted and essential station messing members to celebrate their birthdays. A special birthday dinner with all the trimmings and accolades is catered to each member by Keesler's first sergeants, officers, directors and others. This event takes place 5:30 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month. Reservations must be made by the 25th of the previous month; call 377-4368. Personnel collecting basic allowance for subsistence must pay cash and surcharge.

FAMILY CHILD CARE

Editor's note: For more information, call 377-3189.

Expanded duty, permanent change of station, and returning home child care — is available. Call for details.

Providers needed — military spouses on and off base who wish to care for children in their homes. Providers are also needed to care for children with special needs including asthma, allergies, cerebral palsy and other physical impairments, and to work swing and evening shifts.

Monday Madness Lunch Specials

11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Katrina Kantina



\$6.00*

Take a break and enjoy lunch overlooking the Keesler Marina and Biloxi Back Bay.

***for members, nonmembers add \$2.**

Contractors welcome.

377-2219

Feb. 4 ~ beef tacos, chicken fajitas, Mexican rice, black beans, all the trimmings, cobbler and iced tea

Feb. 11 ~ pot roast, potato casserole, green beans, salad, rolls, cobbler and iced tea

Feb. 25 ~ lasagna, corn, salad, garlic bread, cobbler and iced tea

FITNESS

Lady Dragons softball team — tryouts 5:30 p.m. Feb. 8, Triangle Field. For more information, call 383-2066.

Free sweetheart 5-kilometer run/walk — 11 a.m. Feb. 14, Blake Fitness Center. All walkers and runners with Keesler access are welcome. Sign up day of race as an individual or male-female team. Run starts and finishes at Blake Fitness Center. Prizes to first three male/female teams who finish together.

Free fitness classes at Dragon Fitness Center — step aerobics, Turbo-Core, boxing workout, cycle/spin, fencing and Slo-Robics. For more information, call 377-2907.

GAUDÉ LANES

Editor's note: For more information, call 377-2817. Bumpers are available on 12 lanes by reservation for ages 11 and younger.

Open bowling special Feb. 3 — 1-5 p.m. \$1 per game and \$1 shoe rental. All open bowling must be completed prior to start of the Super Bowl.

Limited open play — Feb. 16-17 due to a special event.

Open bowling — limited on league days; first come, first served. Reservations accepted with groups of 20 or more. Discounts available with groups of 25 or more.

Logo apparel — wear your college logo clothing on Saturdays and get \$1 off shoe rental. Wear any Mississippi Sea Wolves apparel anytime and get \$1 off shoe rental.

Glow bowling — 9 p.m. to midnight Fridays and Saturdays.

Birthday party packages — available Saturdays, 1:30-3 p.m. or 3:30-5 p.m., and Sundays, 2:30-4 p.m. Basic party package includes bowling and food, \$8.95 per child. Mid party package includes table supply and T-shirt, \$11.95 per child. Premium party package includes games and a pin, \$15.95 per child. Reservations required; call for more information.

Nonprior service students special — 5-9:30 p.m. Thursdays, bowl for \$1.50 per game, shoes included. Not applicable with other discounts or specials.

Plan a fundraiser — make money for your organization and have fun doing it.

HELP WANTED

Editor's note: For more information, call 377-9032.

Nonappropriated fund jobs — apply noon to 5 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays and noon to 4 p.m. working Fridays at the human resource office inside Locker House, Room 5417, Building 3101, 505 C Street. For current job openings, call the 24-hour job line, 377-9055, or log on to <http://www.keeslerservices.us> and click on human resource office.

INFORMATION, TICKETS AND TOURS

Editor's note: For more information, call 377-3818. All tours depart from and return to Vandenberg Community Center.

Tickets — discounted tickets available to major attractions in three-state area. For complete list of ticket prices, log on to <http://www.keeslerservices.us> and click on the ITT link.

Tour to the World War II D-Day Museum in New Orleans — Feb. 9. Military in uniform \$20, active duty/retired/spouse with identification card \$24, seniors \$26, adults \$30, ages 6-12 \$25, ages 5 and younger \$20, including admission and transportation. Sign up and prepay by Wednesday. Depart 9 a.m., return by 5 p.m.

Tour to New Orleans French Quarter — Feb. 23. Spend the day sightseeing and shopping. \$20 per person for transportation. Sign up and prepay by Feb. 20. Depart 9 a.m., return at 5 p.m.

KATRINA KANTINA

Editor's note: Located in the marina building overlooking Biloxi's Bay. Contractors welcome. For more information, call 377-2219.

All ranks invited — snacks, beverages and music.

Taco Tuesdays — members get two tacos for \$1, nonmembers pay \$2.

Wings and things — 5 p.m. Wednesday. Keesler Club members get in free, nonmembers pay \$3 at the door. Enjoy complimentary hors d'oeuvres and \$1 domestic draft beer.

We cater — let our expert caterer assist you with planning weddings, holidays, birthdays, official functions and other special occasions to celebrate. You choose your details; we'll do the work.

MCBRIDE LIBRARY

Editor's note: Copy machine available for a nominal fee. For more information, call 377-2181.

Wireless Internet service — now available. Check at the circulation desk to get the network key/password.

Free high-speed Internet and e-mail — now on 40 computers. **Orientations for commanders, first sergeants and instructors** — 4:30 p.m. Wednesdays.

Story time — 10 a.m. Wednesday and Feb. 27, ages 3-5. Children's authors and illustrators week special display, Monday-Feb. 10.

National African-American History Month — poster and book display throughout the month.

MUSE MANOR MINI-MART

Editor's note: For more information, call 377-2752.

Convenience store — snacks, cold drinks, health and hygiene products. Open 24 hours a day.

OUTDOOR RECREATION AND MARINA

Note: Mississippi state hunting and fishing licenses for sale. For more information, 377-3160.

Wet slip fees — boats in excess of 32 feet are \$3.75 per foot, boats 32 feet and below are \$2.50 per foot. Overnight is \$5.

Ground Hog Week special — Saturday-Feb. 9, free rod and reel use with every boat rental.

Valentine special — 10 percent off camping package No. 1 throughout February.

Bicycles for rent — new 3500 Trek seven-speed bikes, \$3 a day or \$15 week.

Fish of the month — weigh in the largest redfish in February and take home a \$100 savings bond.

Rental equipment — for complete price list, log on to <http://www.keeslerservices.us> and click on the outdoor recreation link.

Recreational vehicle storage lot — monthly fee, \$15.

Disc golf — discs for rent or sale. Free use of disc golf course.

Paintball course — Guns, CO2 tanks and safety gear rented on site. Personal equipment is calibrated before play. Paintballs must be purchased on location. Call to schedule play.

Deep sea fishing trips — nonworking Fridays and Sundays. \$60 including everything you need to fish. Minimum 10, maximum 22 people.

Deep sea fishing boat private charter — \$700 for the first six people, \$35 for each additional person Monday-Thursday, \$40 weekends and holidays. \$350 deposit required.

Charter the Boston Whaler — captain, knowledge and all tackle provided; maximum six, \$600. \$300 deposit required.

Fishing/Hunting Camps

now available in Delacroix, La. First come, first served

\$50 per night — camp sleeps 4

Two completely self-contained campers available. Camp sites complete with table and chairs for four and are located within 75 yards of only bait shop and boat launch in Delacroix. Bring food, drinks and sleeping bag or bedding. For more information, call outdoor recreation, 377-3160.

SUPER BOWL 2008 PARTIES!

FEB. 3

Katrina Kantina 377-2219

Doors open at 4 p.m. Two big screen TVs. Free snacks. Drink specials. Come early; limited seating. Open to all permanent party. Sponsored by FEB Distributing, Raising Canes and Rex Distributing.

Gaudé Lanes 377-2817

Party starts at 4 p.m. Watch the game on a 60-inch TV. \$7.95 per person includes finger foods, games and prizes. Draft beer \$1 or \$5 pitcher. Sponsored by FEB Distributing, Raising Canes, and Rex Distributing.

Vandenberg Community Center 377-3308

5 p.m. for nonprior service students. Free refreshments, food and door prizes. Sponsored by GEICO and National Productions.



INTERNATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP WRESTLING PRESENTS

MARDI GRAS BRAWL

FRIDAY

7 P.M.

WTO **ORLANDO JORDAN** **MIKE STEINER** **BILLY GUNN**

Layla **Danielle**

- Billie Gunn vs. Rick Steiner
- Orlando Jordan vs. Vito
- The Patriot vs. Clarice
- John Saxon vs. Steve Anthony

Ladies Match ~Layla vs. Danielle

Tag Team Match: Randy Rocket/Kent Truth vs. Wade Garrett /Minotaur

Blake Fitness Center

Tickets on sale at Gaudé Lanes and Vandenberg Community Center. \$10 adults, \$5 ages 4-12, free for ages 3 and younger.

Sponsors — Rex Distributing, USAA, Keesler Federal Credit Union.

Card subject to change ~ <http://www.icwrestling.com> ~ 377-4385

ARTS AND CRAFTS CENTER

Editor's note: Preregistration required for all classes. Register at craft sales, Building 5904. Space is limited. For more information, call 377-2821.

Special

National Crafts Month open house — March 6-7.

Multi-crafts shop

Editor's note: open Thursdays until 8 p.m.

Ceramic mold pouring — 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Saturday. \$25 including mold use, supplies and first firing. Discount for student airmen. Learn to cast ceramics and how to use different paints for finishing techniques. This class prepares you to come back and cast shop molds to make and paint for yourself.

Thursday night specials — 4:30-7 p.m. Feb. 7, Valentine's preparations; 5-6 p.m. Feb. 14, bring your Valentine for a treat; 5:30-7 p.m. Feb. 21, decoupage project; 5-7 p.m. Feb. 28, poor man's night craft and snack. Minimal fees for all projects.

Ceramics technique — 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Feb. 9. Paint with a certified Duncan instructor. Learn and enjoy the many options in ceramic arts. No prior ceramic experience needed. Register early and see the project on display.

Pottery clay hand building — 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Feb. 16. \$40 including five pounds of clay and firing. Ohr O'Keefe Museum's master potter is the instructor. Bring a bag lunch.

One-stroke acrylic painting — 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Feb. 16. Painting strokes for all decorative materials. Technique can be used on everything from furniture to scrapbooks. Instructor shares the secrets of loading the brush. Class doesn't require previous painting experience. \$32 including project and paint.

Family craft day — 1-4 p.m. Feb. 23. Craft fun for school-age youth, parents and Airmen. Learn a new craft, finish a work in progress, make it and take it home. Shop use fee \$5.

Frame shop

Framing and matting — one class, four sessions, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Feb. 7, 14, 21 and 28. Matting, frame building and glass cutting. \$60 including materials, shop use and a complete project.

Engraving shop

Custom items — available for gift giving, special mementos and squadron awards.

Ready-made gifts to go — great for the last-minute office gift. Get a décor mug, gift box, candy dish, or basket filled with goodies; variety available for \$10 each.

Special Youth and Parent Wood Project Class

Wood Shop inside the Arts and Crafts Center
One class, two sessions; sign up early.

5-8 p.m. Feb. 20 and 27

Ages 10 and older

Adults must have a shop qualification card.

Make an oak compact disc holder.

\$35 for materials, shop use and instruction.

Wood shop

Editor's note: Hardwood and plywood in stock and on-site books and plans for shop users.

Beginners woodworking — 5-7:30 p.m. Feb. 13, \$25. Equipment safety briefing and operator's card for regular shop use.

Beginning intarsia — 10 a.m. Saturday or Feb. 16. \$15 including project and tool use. Intarsia is the cutting and shaping pieces of wood in a decorative pattern for wall hangings.

Advanced intarsia — 10 a.m. Feb. 9 or 23. \$20 including project and tool use.

Auto hobby shop

Editor's note: Open shop use. Preregister for classes. For more information, call 377-3872.

Free auto care briefing — 4:30-6 p.m. Feb. 21. Pick up hints and advice before traveling or tackling some do-it-yourself repairs.

Qualified mechanics — on staff to assist you through your own vehicle maintenance.

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

RESALE LOT

Editor's note: For more information, call 377-2821. Located on Tingle Ave. behind the Keesler Club.

Buy, sell, trade — place your vehicle on the lot; \$5 for two weeks. Register with the arts and crafts center prior to parking on the lot. Registration, proof of ownership and insurance required.

VANDENBERG COMMUNITY CENTER

Editor's note: All events, except dances, are open to all Keesler personnel. For more information, call 377-4355.

Mardi Gras Day celebration — 6 p.m. Tuesday. Music, free beads and King Cake.

Lincoln's birthday — Feb. 12. Drop your Lincoln pennies in our Fisher House jar. All proceeds will go to Keesler's Fisher House.

Valentines' Day dance — 6 p.m. Feb. 14. Free flowers and candy for those in attendance.

Leap year birthday party — 6 p.m. Feb. 29. Special birthday celebration for people born on Feb. 29. Students with February birthdays get in free.

Free pool tournaments — 7 p.m. Mondays 8-ball, Tuesdays 9-ball.

Movie night — 7 p.m. Wednesdays. New releases. Free popcorn.

Karaoke/movie videos — 7 p.m. Thursdays before working Fridays.

Late night dances — 6 p.m. to midnight Thursdays before down Fridays, Fridays and Saturdays. \$3 admission.

Martial arts classes — \$65 per month. Call for more information.

Women's self-defense class — 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. third Saturday of each month, \$25. Mental, physical and tactical training designed to develop awareness to potential danger, will to survive and skills to effectively resist an attacker.

Congressional award program — nonprior service students ages 18-23 set and achieve personal goals that build character and foster community service, personal development and citizenship. Earn gold, silver or bronze award or certificate. Program is transferable to your next duty location.

VETERINARY SERVICES

Editor's note: Located on 3rd Street, Building 0408. All animals in base housing must be registered with the veterinary office. For appointment call, 376-7495.

Eligible patrons — active duty, retirees, reservists and National Guard on active duty for more than 72 hours with orders may use the clinic.

Veterinarian on staff — call for an appointment.

For heartworm prevention — dogs must have proof of a current negative heartworm check and must have been seen by the clinic within the past 12 months.

Sick call — call for appointment. Due to minimal facilities we are unable to treat emergencies, or spay or neuter animals.

Lose a pet? — log on to <http://www.hssm.org> or call the Humane Society of South Mississippi, 863-4394. The facility is open every day.

YOUTH CENTER

Editor's note: For more information, call 377-4116.

Annual membership — \$25, ages 9 and older. Discount prices on programs, classes and sports.

Give parents a break/parents night out — 4-10 p.m. Saturday, youth in kindergarten through grade 6. GPAB certificates must be coordinated through the Airman and Family Readiness Center. PNO is \$3.50 per hour per child.

Free open recreation — 4-7 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays, ages 9 and older. Youth sign themselves in and out. FitFactor, arts, video, table games and tournaments offered.

Mardi Gras camp — Monday-Feb. 8, ages 6-12. Preregistration required. Call 377-4116.

Mardi Gras Ball — Feb. 15. 1-5 p.m., ages 6-12, 7-11 p.m. for ages 13 and older. \$5 admission, \$7 for non-members. Prizes, refreshments, crafts, dancing, decoration competitions and crowning of Mardi Gras king and queen. Sponsored by Hobby Lobby and USAA.

Free kids in the kitchen cooking club — 5 p.m. Feb. 12, 19 and 26, ages 9 and older. Space is limited. Preregistration required.

Classes — 9 a.m. to noon Saturdays. Gymnastics, \$45 and \$50, ages 3-12. Dance, \$45 and \$50, ages 3-12. Piano \$65 and \$70, ages 6-12. Karate, ages 6-12 meets twice weekly, \$65 and \$70. Call for dates and times.

HAPPENINGS is a monthly supplement to the Keesler News and is produced by the 81st Services Division. Information is subject to change without notice. No federal endorsement of sponsors intended.

Dave Bowers, marketing specialist; Tanja Smith, commercial sponsorship coordinator; Earlene Smith, publicist; Cindy Milford, graphics illustrator

PLEASE PULL OUT AND KEEP THIS SUPPLEMENT AS A HANDY REFERENCE FOR MONTHLY EVENTS OF THE 81ST SERVICES DIVISION.

Family child care available for base families

By Earlene Smith

81st Services Squadron

If you like children, are interested in supplementing your income and want to supply a much needed service for the Keesler community, becoming a family child care provider is right for you.

Family child care providers are in the business of providing care in their homes on or off-base, for children 2 weeks to 12 years of age. They're their own boss, choose their own working hours, set their own fees based on established guidelines and create their own personal contracts.

Their services are available to active-duty military, guard or reservists on active duty and Department of Defense civilian employees and contractors.

Based on the large number of children needing care and the shortage of child care facilities in the local area, FCC providers are in great demand.

Becoming an FCC provider requires minimal out-of-pocket expenses.

Providers receive free training in safety, health, environment, physical development, cognitive development, communication, creativity, self-



Photo by Earlene Smith

Family child care provider Emma Lormand selects toys from the lending library to use in her home. Her husband is Tech. Sgt. Michael Lormand, 81st Civil Engineer Squadron.

esteem social development, guidance, families and program management.

They also complete free training in subjects such as child guidance, play environ-

ments, nutrition, ages and stages of development, child abuse and neglect, record-keeping, business management, first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation.

All training is transferable from base to base, and has the added advantage of enhancing the provider's own parenting skills.

Meals served to the children through the FCC program are reimbursed through the U.S. Department of Agriculture food program.

A no-cost lending library is available with toys and equipment to set up the day care area.

There's no expense for advertising, since parents are referred to the licensed providers by the FCC staff. The professional staff members also offer their support and guidance.

Where else can you stay at home with your own children, establish your own business with guaranteed results, receive free training that will benefit you the rest of your life and have an opportunity to support the military?

For more information on how to become a provider, call 377-3189.

February 2008



H A P P E N I N G S



Valentines' Day Prime Rib Special

6-8 p.m. Feb. 14

at the Katrina Kantina
overlooking Keesler's marina
and the Biloxi Back Bay.

Enjoy a casual dinner for yourself
or with your special someone.

Members \$10, nonmembers \$13

Menu includes prime rib or smokehouse chicken,
baked potato, vegetable medley, loaf bread with butter,
salad, dessert and iced tea. Champagne available for purchase.

Reservations encouraged; space is limited ~ 377-2219.

