



KEESLER NEWS

Keesler Air Force Base
Biloxi, Mississippi

Volume 70, No. 6
Thursday, Feb. 12, 2009

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



INSIDE

COMMENTARY

Support critical to warfighters, **2**

TRAINING AND EDUCATION

ACSC graduate program open to civilians, **4**

NEWS AND FEATURES

African-American History Month observances, **9**

Promotion briefs delete deployment history, **10**

Quarterly awards, **14**

Full certification for blood services program, **18**

SPORTS AND RECREATION

Birds of a feather, **22**

March Madness, **23**

SECTIONS

Commentary.....**2-3**

Training, education.....**4-7**

News, features.....**8-20**

Sports, recreation....**21-23**

Digest.....**25-27**

Classifieds.....**28**



11 days until LSET visit
see Page 2

Dragons deployed — 246



Hello from home

From left, Lisa Stewart and her sons, Caleb Stewart, 4; Ramsey Raines, 12; and Mason Raines, 9, film a greeting for Tech. Sgt. Roger Stewart, 81st Logistics Readiness Squadron, who's deployed to Kyrgyzstan. WLOX-TV cameraman Mike Filippi came to Sablich Center Feb. 3 to tape segments to air on the station and post on the its Web site as part of its Troop Salute program.

Photo by Kemberly Groue

African-American History Month Diversity discussions strengthen Air Force

By Staff Sgt. J.G. Buzanowski

Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

WASHINGTON — “We’re not all that different,” Maj. Gen. Larry Spencer says of diversity.

The trick to finding that out, however, is talking about it.

General Spencer, deputy assistant secretary for budget, thinks that’s what a lot of African-American History Month is all about.

“People get scared to talk about diversity,” the native of Washington, D.C. said. “But once we open up and discuss our differences, we find out that we have more in common than we may have thought. We all want to succeed in life; we all want to provide for our children.

Talking about our diverse backgrounds gives us a chance to learn about each other and from each other.”

Maj. Gen. Darren McDew, the Air Force public affairs director, said that diversity is a source of strength for the Air Force.

“Diversity means bringing different ideas to the operation,” General McDew said. “If you think about it, that’s the strength of America. America was a lot of folks from a lot of different places who came together to bring strength to a new operation.”

The two African-American generals have followed two very different career paths.

Please see **Diversity**, Page 9

Medical center closes for hookup of power plant

81st Medical Group

Keesler Medical Center closes Saturday through Monday for contractors to finish the switchover of electrical power to the new \$21.2 million central energy plant.

The process causes a series of rolling blackouts necessitating the closure. During the three-day period, power must be shut off so contractors can replace the automatic transfer switches that shift power between commercial and generator power.

Medical center officials expect the facility to be “up

Please see **Power**, Page 9

Are you ready for LSET?

By Brig. Gen. Greg Touhill

81st Training Wing commander

Are you ready for the Air Education and Training Command's Logistics Standardization and Evaluation Team inspection? The team visits us the last week of the month and takes a look at every unit and individual on base.

Now's the time for all of us to finalize our preparations.

Who needs to be ready? Everyone!

Are you a military member? Now's the time to work with your unit deployment manager to make sure your readiness folder is up to date and in proper order.

Are you an equipment custodian? Now's the time to make sure you have a current inventory of all your holdings and you've done a 100 percent hands-on inventory to ensure everything is in its place.

Are you a vehicle custodian?

Now's the time to check to make sure your paperwork is up to speed, all appropriate maintenance has been done and daily vehicle inspection logs are properly certified.

Are you involved in maintenance activities? Now's the time to double-check your documentation to ensure you have all required technical orders, your maintenance data collection records are current and accurate, your tools are properly accounted for and stored and your supplies are properly managed.

What about everyone else? Now's the time to brush up on our customs and courtesies to make sure we treat our guests right. Remember what we learned in our basic training, "If it moves, salute it!" Saluting is a sign of mutual respect and when rendered properly, sends a clear signal to our inspectors that we are professionals.

Military, civilian or contractor ... it's time to pick up around our offices and shops, in our buildings and out around our base. No matter where we came from, Keesler is our home. Please join me in picking up litter and waste around our base and recycling wherever possible.

Let's do a double-check on our uniforms and personal appearance. Supervisors ought to be regularly coaching their subordinates to have proper haircuts and sharp uniforms. Pay attention to dress and appearance. Don't chew gum in uniform. Don't use the cell phone while walking in uniform. Keep your uniform clean and ready for inspection every day. Nothing screams professional better than a sharp Airman, properly groomed and attired, observing proper customs and courtesies.

ACTION LINE ... 377-4357

By Brig. Gen. 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, 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).



Now's the time for all of us at Keesler to demonstrate how good we are — everyone is a key player. Recall Coach Chuck Noll's prescription for making a champion, "You become a champion by doing ordinary

things in an extraordinary way, every day." Let's get ready and do things in an extraordinary way!

P.S. This weekend is Valentine's Day. Don't forget to tell your loved ones that you care for them!

'Support' Airmen Warriors critical to our mission

By Lt. Col. Steven Ramsay

81st Training Group deputy commander

Since the founding of the Air Force in 1947, we've attempted to define who we are. Our mission has evolved with technology and now we "fly, fight and win in air, space and cyberspace." Fairly clear and concise, each of us understands our role in the mission, operations or support. The question is not what we do but rather who we are?

The term Airman Warrior is the most recent attempt at defining Airmen and it implies we've lost our culture — the culture of Mitchell, Arnold, Spaatz, Vandenberg and many others. Airmen Warriors helped define our service's first mission statement from 1947, "The Air Force shall be responsible for the preparation of the air forces necessary for the effective prosecution of war except as otherwise assigned and, in accordance with integrated joint mobilization plans, for the expansion of the peacetime components of the Air Force to

meet the needs of war." That's simple and clear, with no mention of warrior ethos because it was implied based on our proven combat record of two world wars. Since the end of the Cold War in 1991, the warrior spirit has been replaced by constant change, high ops tempo and fewer and fewer Airmen. Where did the warrior ethos or culture go in the last 20 years?

What is a warrior? The Random House dictionary defines warrior two ways. First is the literal warrior who is engaged or experienced in warfare. The second is a figurative warrior who shows or has shown great vigor, courage or aggressiveness. Which one defines most Airmen? The reality is the latter, and this includes most who fought and won the Cold War.

I sat alert for four years as a missile launch officer in the mid 1990s as the Cold War was winding down. Gone were the days of the highly-trained Strategic Air Command warrior, replaced with the beginning of a fractured nuclear cadre and a loss of our

nuclear culture. Recent events have also demonstrated it. The Air Force is now slowly getting back to basics with our nuclear mission. but will the spirit or nuclear warrior ethos return to those who are accomplishing that mission? Who are the other Airmen Warriors?

Recently the National Museum of the Air Force dedicated a new exhibit entitled Warrior Airman, and the message gets to the heart of why many feel confused. The exhibit has three sections covering a select group of Airmen's contributions in Afghanistan and Iraq.

The first section is titled "Battlefield Airmen" and tells the story of Air Force special operations forces such as pararescue men, tactical air controllers and combat weather personnel. The second section is "Expeditionary Combat Airmen" and highlights other ground operations, such as security forces personnel, convoy operators and explosive ordnance disposal teams. Finally, the third section is "In the Air" dedicated to the pilots and aircrews providing support in the global war on terrorism.

Who is missing from the exhibit? Airmen from hundreds of other career fields like me. Now, my point isn't to detour from the courageous job these Airmen perform, but rather to point out that in defining "Airman Warrior," it appears that the Air Force has left out most Airmen. If we accept that there are two types of warriors, then perhaps we have two types of Airmen Warriors. Every Airman cannot be engaged in active ground or air operations and be a literal Airman Warrior, but the figurative "support" Airman Warrior is no less critical to the success of our mission.

I am deploying to Iraq for a year as an expeditionary Airman supporting the war on terrorism. I get to transition from a supporting Airman Warrior to a literal Airman Warrior engaged in coalition operations. I consider this a great opportunity to represent the Air Force as everything being an Airman means — warrior, professional, dedicated and I will not falter and I will not fail. What about you?

TRAINING AND EDUCATION

Feb. 20 deadline

ACSC offers civilian distance learning graduate program

Applications are accepted through Feb. 20 for the Air Command and Staff College's distance learning master's degree program from civilians in grades GS-12, GS-13 and pay band 2.

A bachelor's degree is required. About 150 civilians are being selected to participate each year.

Individuals with either a master's degree or who have completed intermediate developmental education to include ACSC may apply, but those who have completed both a master's degree and IDE may not. Air National Guard and Air Reserve Technicians must apply through their command.

The ACSC DL master's program is a 33 semester-hour program comprised of 11 eight-week courses which explore modern Air Force operations and leadership. Students complete studies on their own time, not government time. On completion, students are awarded a master of military operational art and science degree. Completion also satisfies the requirements for joint professional military education phase 1 as well as Air Force intermediate level non-resident PME.

The online program requires reading and homework

assignments to be accomplished each week. Students should complete the program in 24 months.

The program is separate from ACSC's traditional distance learning non-master's PME course. Course credits won't be transferred from the traditional distance learning course to the master's program.

To apply, scan an e-mail a completed Air Force Form 4059 to the AFPC/DPIF leadership development group box on the global no later than Feb. 20. The form must be signed by your first-level supervisor, and the endorser signature should be your second-level supervisor, although the signature level shouldn't exceed GS-15/colonel level. In that case, have your first-level supervisor endorse.

Don't apply directly to ACSC. If you're selected, you'll be notified by AFPC/DPIFA with instructions for applying for the school.

For more detailed course information, log on to <http://www.au.af.mil/au/dlmasters.asp>. For more information, call DSN 665-2524, commercial 1-210-565-2524 or contact your functional career field team.

Study methods

There are two methods of study for the ACSC nonresident program — seminar or self-study.

Completion requirements are identical. Personnel records won't specify which method was employed, but list those who complete the program as ACSC nonresident graduates.

A seminar usually has five to 18 members, although it can form anytime two or more students are enrolled. It's ideal if you prefer a regimented approach to your studies, and it's helpful for retaining the material and exploring it more deeply. It isn't a substitute for individual study — you'll test individually. If you're interested, call the education office, 376-8708 or 8710.

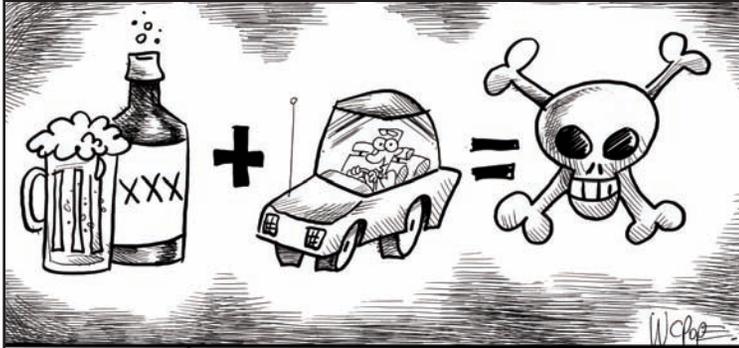
Self-study lets you choose the time, pace and place to study. As with seminars, the faculty is always available via e-mail, phone or message board. It's ideal if you aren't near a base with an active seminar or if your schedule doesn't allow you to support regular seminar meetings.

On the cutting edge

Col. Prince Gilliard, left, 81st Training Group commander, talks to Gary Waliszewski about the benefits of smart board technology at the 14th annual Information Technology Products and Services Expo Feb. 3 at the IP Casino Resort in Biloxi. Mr. Waliszewski is regional manager for Smart Technologies federal systems group. The expo was cosponsored by the 81st Training Support Squadron and the Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association.

Photo by Kemberly Groue





**Don't drink and drive.
Call 377-SAVE
for a safe ride home.**



Marine aces weather course

Marine Corps Cpl. Richard Duran Jr. graduated Monday from the weather forecaster apprentice course in the 335th Training Squadron with a perfect score. Corporal Duran, who hails from Big Bear Lake, Calif., is the first student to ace the joint-service course since it was started in 1999. The Marine Corps portion is 142 academic days broken into 15 blocks, including 11 written measurements. Corporal Duran will remain at Keesler for the meteorology and oceanography analyst forecast course, which lasts 20 training days.



**Every member
of Team Keesler
is important —
Be safe,
not a statistic.**

TRAINING AND EDUCATION NOTES

Parking lot closed

The parking lot southeast of the Mathies NCO Academy is closed until noon today for drill evaluations.

Hours may change due to inclement weather.

For more information, call Master Sgt. Greg Jackson, 377-2740.

Drill downs, parades

The 81st Training Group's schedule for drill downs and parades for 2009 is:

Drill downs — 8 a.m. Feb. 20 and April 17; 7 a.m. June 12 and Aug. 7; 8 a.m. Oct. 2.

Parades — 6 p.m. March 5, July 23 and April 17.

Drill downs and parades are conducted on the parade field behind the Levitow Training Support Facility.

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

CCAF graduation

Feb. 27 is the deadline to apply for the Community College of the Air Force spring graduating class.

By that date, all supporting documentation must be on file at CCAF at Maxwell AFir Force Base, Ala., including the nomination action request.

For more information, visit the education office, Room 224, Sablich Center, or call 376-8708 or 8710.

Commissioning brief

Capt. Peter Beck from the University of Southern Mississippi's Air Force ROTC program gives a commissioning brief, 2-3 p.m. March 13 in the Sablich Center auditorium.

Register by March 11 by e-mailing 81FSS.education@keesler.af.mil with "commissioning — Capt. Beck" as the subject line.

Scholarship available

Applications are accepted through March 31 for the 2009 Hurricane Hunters Association Swan 38 Memorial Scholarship.

For eligibility requirements, instructions and application forms, log on to <http://www.hurricanehunters.com>.

Special testing dates

Application deadlines and dates for special testing are:

PRAXIS I and II — March 16 for April 13; June 14 for July 13.

ACT — March 27 for April 27; May 22 for June 22.

SAT — April 24 for May 25.

Test time is 7 a.m. for all.

For more information, call 376-8708.

William Carey

Registration is under way for William Carey University's spring trimester.

For more information, visit Room 219, Sablich Center, or call 376-8480.

GI Bill benefits

Montgomery GI Bill benefits may be used in conjunction with tuition assistance.

For more information, call 376-8708.

Student health center

The student health center in the Levitow Training Support Facility is open 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday.

The front desk phone numbers are 376-0324 or 0325.

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, 376-8472.

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.

Blue ropes meet

Master Sgt. Craig Pogue, 334th Training Squadron military training leader, joins in a discussion during 2nd Air Force's MTL Phase Program Summit. The conference took place Feb. 4-5 at Keesler's Matero Hall.

Photo by Kemberly Groue



Finance office earns AETC honors

By Airman 1st Class
David Salantri

Keesler News editor

The 81st Comptroller Squadron is the Air Force Special Acts and Services Award winner for 2008.

In 2008, the 81st CPTS had many obstacles to overcome, according to Maj. Bob Paleo, 81st CPTS commander.

"During Hurricane Gustav, our squadron members worked the travel cash advance line while others were evacuating," Major

Paleo said. "After the storm passed, they returned to work immediately, long before most evacuees returned, to prepare for the influx of customers who would soon file travel vouchers totaling \$2.7 million in entitlements, working more than 20 days straight to get the job done."

The 81st CPTS won similar awards in the past in response to Hurricane Katrina challenges, but things were expected to happen a lot quicker this time around, according to Major Paleo.

"After Katrina, our financial response efforts took more than a year to complete most of the cases. The financial effort this time was accomplished with half the number of people in only three weeks.

"This is vindication for all the hard work that went into the recovery effort," the major remarked. "The people in my squadron pushed themselves hard to take care of the people and the mission without complaint. It's truly gratifying to be a member of the 81st Comptroller Squadron."

Airlift squadron wins flight safety award

By Airman 1st Class David Salantri

Keesler News editor

The 45th Airlift Squadron is Air Education and Training Command's flight safety award winner for 2008.

The award recognizes the organization for outstanding achievement in or contribution to flight safety.

Some of the squadron's accomplishments are: **Logging** more than 1,500 hours of accident-free C-21 aircraft pilot training.

Receiving an "outstanding" rating during the AETC operational readiness inspection and contributed to the "outstanding" rating of its parent wing, the 314th Airlift Wing's at Little Rock Air Force Base, Ark.

Earning two AETC "well done" awards in the squadron of 10 pilots.

"We're very honored to receive this nomination by AETC," said Maj. James Gallagher, 45th AS chief of safety. "Whether it's our pilots, life support specialist, aviation resource managers or commanders support staff, we all maintain a focus on safety throughout the unit."

"Monthly briefings, distribution of safety material, and timely presentations contributed to an enhanced safety mindset," said Lt. Col Jimmy Canlas, 45th AS commander.

Another squadron member, Master Sgt. Christina Wolfe, is senior noncommissioned officer of the year for the 314th Operations Group.

"The Airmen I work with everyday made this possible by allowing me the ability to take care of them and the mission," said the 15-year Air Force veteran.

IN THE NEWS

Medical center parking reduced

81st Medical Group Public Affairs

Ongoing construction projects will impact about 200 parking spaces on the north, east and west sides of Keesler Medical Center at least through April.

Except for about 15 parking spaces on the north side of J Street adjacent to the emergency department, parking won't be permitted on J Street north side of the medical center from 3rd Street to the medical logistics loading docks on 5th Street, including all parking on the south side of J Street from the generator courtyard east to 5th Street. Parking isn't allowed in the current emergency room parking lot or some spaces in front of the new EPC for safety reasons.

Wing awards ceremony Feb. 19

"Honoring Keesler's Wingmen, Leaders and Warriors" is the theme of the 81st Training Wing's annual awards ceremony Feb. 19 at the Imperial Palace Casino Resort.

The social hour starts at 6 p.m., followed by the dinner and ceremony at 7.

The guest speaker is Chief Master Sgt. Stephen Sullens, Air Combat Command's command chief.

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

To respond, call Master Sgt. Bridgette Hopkins, 81st Medical Group, 376-3053; Master Sgt. Mandy Williams, 81st Training Group, 377-7481; Senior Master Sgt. Tavia Whitley, 81st TRW staff agencies, 377-8145; Master Sgt. Robin Sikes, 81st Mission Support Group, 377-6611, or the protocol office, 377-5566.

Biloxi Back Bay closes for air show

Biloxi's Back Bay, north of the base, is closed to civilian and commercial maritime traffic in preparation for and during Keesler's Thunder on the Bay Air Show and Open House, 12:30 to 5 p.m. April 2-5.

The Federal Aviation Administration directs closure of the waterway to "sterilize the show box" during performances by the Air Force Thunderbirds and other aircraft.

The event is April 4-5, with gates opening at 9 a.m.

For more information, visit Keesler's public Web site, <http://www.keesler.af.mil>, and click on the Thunder on the Bay icon in the upper right portion of the screen.

Early deadlines for Keesler News

The deadline for the Feb. 19 issue of the Keesler News is noon today because of the Feb. 16 Presidents Day federal holiday.

The deadline for the Feb. 26 issue is noon Feb. 19 because of the Mardi Gras holiday observed by The Sun Herald, the base newspaper's contract publisher

Diversity,

from Page 1

General Spencer entered the Air Force in the late '70s as an enlisted information manager before cross-training into finance. He then earned a bachelor of science degree in industrial engineering technology from Southern Illinois University. He earned his commission through officer training school, and eventually held a variety of command assignments.

As the Air Force budget director, he's responsible for planning and directing the Air Force budget that totals more than \$136 billion annually. General Spencer handles all things financial for the Air Force, from buying its aircraft to ensuring its people get paid.

General McDew graduated from the Virginia Military Institute. There he found himself immediately in the minority — he wanted to join the Air Force despite most graduates joining the Army. Besides, the general's father was an Airman; he would be too.

General McDew soon earned his pilot wings and flew a variety of airlift and tanker aircraft before holding several command positions and even served as a Senate liaison officer and Air Force aid to the president. In his current assignment, he advises the Secretary and Chief of Staff of the Air Force on public affairs matters, plans and executes communication processes, and is responsible for 3,000 bandsmen, broadcasters, multimedia and public affairs professionals.

As varied as their backgrounds have been, they both agree that the diversity of

Lost & Found

Call the 81st
Security Forces
Squadron
investigations office,
377-4500,
7 a.m. to 5 p.m.
weekdays.

Keesler plans observance



By Susan Griggs

Keesler News staff

The theme of the Air Force's African-American History Month is "The Quest for Black Citizenship in the Americas."

Keesler's African-American Heritage Committee has planned five events during the month, according to Tech. Sgt. Yolanda Jerry, president.

Friday — 5th annual bowling tournament, 11 a.m., Gaudé Lanes. Registration is \$60 for five-person team.

Tuesday — luncheon, 11 a.m., Locker House Dragon's Lair. Tickets are \$12 and are available from Master Sgt. Ruby Bordley, 376-8340; Sharon Floyd, 377-2220, and Staff Sgt. Ashley Brunson, 376-8174.

Feb. 19 — fish fry, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., marina park. Tickets are \$8 and are available from Kurt Higgins 377-5250; Byron Bryant, 377-4198, and Sharon Floyd, 377-2220.

Feb. 26 — free soul food sampling, 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Larcher Chapel Annex; donations accepted.

Feb 28 — gospel concert, 6-9 p.m., Triangle Chapel.

Air Force people is what makes the service work — that no matter where a person comes from, what their beliefs are, or what their race or ethnicity is, they can add something to the mission.

"You wouldn't line up 11 quarterbacks or 11 linemen on a football field to make a play," General Spencer said. "You need diversity. People have their own unique backgrounds and skill sets that help them accomplish the mission. We need all those talents and only when we work together do we find success."

Both generals found the opportunity for educational benefits a rewarding aspect of joining the Air Force. General McDew received an Air Force ROTC scholarship, while General Spencer earned his degree going to night school.

After joining the Air Force full-time, both generals noticed how success in the military had nothing to do with their backgrounds or skin color.

"Our Air Force is a great 'meritocracy,' as I like to call it," General McDew said. "If you do your job well, you will be rewarded. You get out of the Air Force as much as you put into it. What's made the Air Force so great is that there have been Airmen who have given it their all, no matter what their race, ethnicity or religion. They earned success based on merits of their actions.

"If we're to be as successful in the future, we've got to get people to appre-

ciate the notion that just because you don't think the way I do, it doesn't mean you don't add value to our Air Force," General McDew added.

Within his own career field, General Spencer stresses to his people that while mentorship is important, they should strive to mentor members from various ethnic groups.

"It gets people out of their comfort zone when they find a mentor who doesn't look like them or was raised the way they were," he said. "Having a mentor who is a different ethnicity or one with different religious beliefs provides perspective for Airmen. That mentor can help them solve issues in ways they might not have thought about."

The diversity of Airmen and civilians has long been one of the keys to success for the Air Force and stands to be a decisive element in the future, General McDew said.

"I've had the opportunity and privilege to command and every time, diversity has helped out in the success of those commands," he said. "I like to bring in civilians, members of the Air National Guard, Reserves, and active duty to form a team where everyone gets a chance to contribute and know that their part of the mission is valued. And what they bring is appreciated. That is always success in my mind and what diversity means to me."

Power,

from Page 1

and running" as usual by 11 a.m. Tuesday.

The emergency department is included in the shutdown, so anyone experiencing a medical emergency should call 911 or go to the closest civilian emergency room.

The emergency room actually goes on "divert" at 6 a.m. Friday. However, if an uninformed emergency patient arrives during the outage, 81st Medical Group officials have arranged to have an ambulance onsite to transport the patient to an off-base hospital. In addition, even though the emergency room won't be functioning, a nurse and medical technician are there around the clock during the power outage.

The medical center has contacted local hospitals to advise them of the outage, notify them about the emergency room's closure and ask for their support to care for Keesler patients.

No major elective surgeries has been scheduled since Monday. Admissions to the family birthing center were suspended Wednesday, and expectant mothers were given copies of their medical records and telephone numbers of civilian hospitals. Outpatient medical appointments weren't scheduled after 11 a.m. Friday.

The student health center in the Triangle is open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday through Monday to provide medical care to 81st Training Group students.

The new plant provides full backup during commercial power failures and houses the heating and cooling equipment for environmental control. It's north of the main facility and elevated above the flood plain to maintain health care operations during natural disasters. It replaces the facility damaged by Hurricane Katrina which resulted in the total loss of power to the medical center. It's a major step in completing the medical center's return to full pre-Katrina operations.

PERSONNEL NOTES

2009 selection boards

Through Feb. 20 — senior master sergeant.

March 9-20 — colonel line of the Air Force; lieutenant colonel and major biomedical sciences corps/nurse corps.

May 18-22, Sept. 21-25 — special selection boards.

June 8-26 — lieutenant colonel and major BSC/NC.

July 13-24 — senior noncommissioned officer supplemental.

Aug. 17-28 — command screening.

Sept. 14-18 — colonel medical service corps, medical corps and dental corps; lieutenant colonel and major MC/DC.

Oct. 13-26 — chief master sergeant evaluation.

Nov. 2-13 — colonel and lieutenant colonel judge advocate and chaplain; major LAF, judge advocate and chaplain.

Dec. 1-11 — colonel LAF/BSC/NC, lieutenant colonel and major BSC/NC.

Feb. 20 deadline for FMLP packages

Air Force Personnel Center

Feb. 20 is the deadline for nominations to be submitted for the 2009 Financial Management Leadership Program.

FMLP is a four-year program designed to develop future Air Force leaders by providing those officers who aren't in the financial management career field to gain leadership experience as comptroller squadron commanders.

For more information, contact the comptroller officer assignment team at afpc.dpasa@afpc.randolph.af.mil or call DSN 665-2304, extension 2 or 3.

Total Force Service Center

Air Force Personnel Center

Effective at 5 p.m. Feb. 22, a new 1-800 number will be available for regular Air Force, Air National Guard, and Air Force Reserve military and civilian Airmen when calling the Total Force Service Center to inquire about all centralized personnel actions.

The new number will be 1-800-525-0102; the commercial phone number 210-565-5000 and DSN 665-5000 will remain the same. This Total Force Service Center number will replace the current Air Force Customer Service Center phone number, 1-800-616-3775.

The new Total Force Service Center will connect, virtually, the contact centers for the Air Force Personnel Center in San Antonio and Air Reserve Personnel Center in Denver. This will provide Airmen seamless access to personnel information, services, and tools — anytime, from any location — via the internet, telephone, or e-mail. This effort is part of the Personnel Services Delivery Transformation commitment to providing Airmen and their families reliable, secure customer service that is easy to access.

NCOs asked to complete survey

AETC Public Affairs

RANDOLPH Air Force Base, Texas — Noncommissioned officers are encouraged to share feedback with the Air Force Occupational Measurement Squadron through the online military knowledge and testing standard survey through March 6.

The survey, intended to give noncommissioned officers a voice in their own career advancements, is used in the professional development guide in 2011 and to develop future promotion fitness and supervisory examinations.

The survey is posted at <https://surveys.afoms.randolph.af.mil/survey124> until March 6. Participation requires the use of a common access card. Results are released in July.

Deployment history removed from future promotion briefs

By Richard Salomon

Air Force Personnel Center Public Affairs

RANDOLPH Air Force Base, Texas — Air Force officials here recently announced that deployment history data will be deleted from duty qualification briefs for officer selection and preselection and from senior noncommissioned officer evaluation briefs.

This total-force initiative will apply to all active-duty members, Reserve and Guard personnel.

"These changes will impact management level reviews, as well as officer and enlisted central selection boards," said Lt. Col. John Giles, chief of promotions and evaluations at the Pentagon.

The deployment data will be removed from senior NCO evaluation briefs with this month's senior master sergeant promotion board. It will also be removed from the June lieutenant colonel (line of the Air Force) and medical service corps promotion boards when the system modifications are complete.

For the Reserve, the change goes into effect with the April (chaplain, line of the Air Force judge advocate general) major and lieutenant colonel board. For the Guard, the change occurs with the colonel's Federal Recognition Review Board that convenes in March.

"Many factors have led to the recent change in policy, especially since deployments now take many forms across the Air Force," Colonel Giles said.

In addition to traditional deployments, such as long-term deployments to the area of responsibility, some career fields such as space and missile and unmanned aircraft system operators don't typically deploy, but provide daily support Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom.

In addition, many global mobility Airmen, as well as Guard and Reserve Airmen, don't spend 45 consecutive days in the area of responsibility, a minimum requirement for documentation, but often deploy for more than 45 cumulative days within a calendar year.

"All of these are valid and important deployments, but they are documented elsewhere in officer selection records and senior enlisted selection records," Colonel Giles said.

This documentation includes decoration citations, bullets on officer and enlisted performance reports, promotion recommendation form statements, letters to officer promotion boards and more.

For more information, call the Air Force Contact Center, 800-616-3775.

Spread the Word team headed to Keesler

Air Force Personnel Center

An Air Force Personnel Center "Spread the Word" briefing team arrives at Keesler Feb. 27.

All Call briefings are 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. at Welch Auditorium.

"One of the Air Force's top priorities is to develop and care for our Air Force people, and we want to hear from you about what works and what we can improve. Our AFPC teams look forward to sharing useful infor-

mation with you and receiving feedback on what's important to you," said Maj. Gen. K.C. McClain, AFPC commander.

The briefing provides information on personnel issues and delivery transformation, as well as allows all Air Force members direct, face-to-face contact with AFPC personnel to address concerns and provide feedback.

Specific topics include, 365-day deployment options, the

global air expeditionary force tempo-banding system, civilian hiring procedures, and assignment processes. The teams also include military and civilian assignments experts, as well as deployment experts, who will be available for questions after each Spread the Word briefing session.

For more information, call Gary Schafer, military personnel section chief, 376-8649.

Root canal treatment available

Keesler Dental Clinic's endodontic department is seeking patients requiring root canal treatment.

All authorized beneficiaries, including military retirees and dependents of active duty and retired, are eligible for care.

Patients are treated by either endodontic specialty program or general dentistry residents.

Referral from a dentist for root canal treatment is required.

For more information, call 376-5227.



Disappearing act

The final stage of house demolition in the Bay Ridge housing area is nearing completion. Stacie Arneau from LVI Demolition clears the lot where Maj. Gen. Alfred Flowers, 2nd Air Force commander, and his family once lived, Feb. 4.

Photo by Kemberly Groue

An American is sexually assaulted every 2½ minutes.

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

About 10 percent of sexual assault victims are men.

At least two out of three sexual assaults are committed by someone the victim knows.

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

DRAGON OF THE WEEK

Name — Staff Sgt. Brendt Grier

Unit — 81st Operations Support Flight

Position — control tower watch supervisor

Time in Air Force — six years, eight months

Time at Keesler — 16 months

Hometown — Lithonia, Ga.

Noteworthy — just returned from six-month deployment to Baghdad International Airport, where he was instrumental to the coordination and return of U.S. controlled air space to Iraqi citizens. He controlled multiple distinguished visitor airlifts, including former President Bush's final excursion to Iraq, and led base patriot details, bestowing the highest honors to fallen soldiers

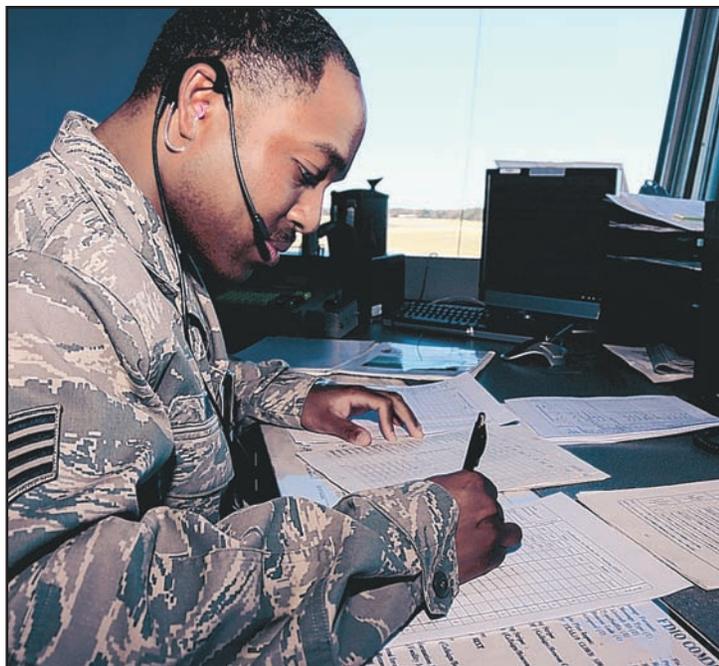


Photo by Kemberly Groue

Why did you join the Air Force? — to serve my country and better my education

What are your short- and long-term goals — short-term, earn tech sergeant; long-term, retire with three stripes on top.

What's your favorite

quote? — "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me" — Philippians 4:13

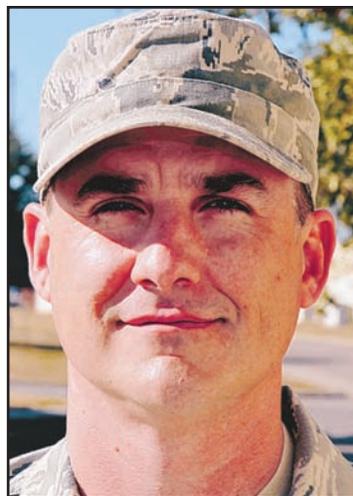
What are your hobbies? Taking care of my beautiful wife and two lovely daughters, landscaping and architectural contracting, football. Go Falcons!

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

DIAMOND NOTES

Noncommissioned officers must be technically and physically ready to accomplish the mission.

Additionally, they must train and develop their subordinates while promoting, supporting and participating in the Air Force Fitness Program and their units' physical training programs.



Master Sgt. Charles Gallaher, 333rd Training Squadron first sergeant

MEMORABLE MOMENTS



1958

Scott Air Force Base, Ill. relinquished its training mission. As a result, all control tower operator, general radio operator and radio maintenance courses came under Keesler's already broad training umbrella.

Road rage is a recipe for disaster — don't lose your cool.

In command



Lt. Col. Michael Dietz assumed command of the **332nd Expeditionary Medical Support Squadron** at **Joint Base Balad, Iraq**, on **Jan. 19**. **Colonel Dietz** is currently deployed from **Keesler**, where he's the **81st Medical Support Squadron** commander.

Identity theft is a personal nightmare and security risk. Shred bills, statements, letters, old journals, records, outdated application forms and any documents that contain your full name, Social Security number, duty title and job information, credit card, bank account numbers and names of family members. If you see documents being removed from trash cans, call the 81st Security Forces Squadron law enforcement desk, 377-3040.

Wing recognizes quarterly award recipients

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News staff

The 81st Training Wing has announced its quarterly award winners for October-December.

They are:

Airman — Senior Airman Mary Muhammad-Baker, 81st Medical Support Squadron.

Noncommissioned officer — Tech. Sgt. William Byrd, 81st Communications Squadron.

Senior NCO — Master Sgt. Ruby Bordley, 81st Force Support Squadron.

Company grade officer — Capt. Timothy Fast, 335th Training Squadron.

Civilian category 1 — Leah Buhr, 336th TRS.

Civilian category 2 — Sheena Bressie, 81st FSS.

Civilian supervisor category 1 — Elizabeth Harper, 81st Operations Support Flight.

Civilian supervisor category 2 — Al Watkins, 81st Civil Engineer Squadron.

Honor guard airman — Senior Airman Jarod Sewell, 81st Logistics Readiness Squadron.

Honor guard NCO — Tech. Sgt. Homer Solis, 338th TRS.



Airman Muhammad-Baker



Sergeant Byrd



Sergeant Bordley



Captain Fast



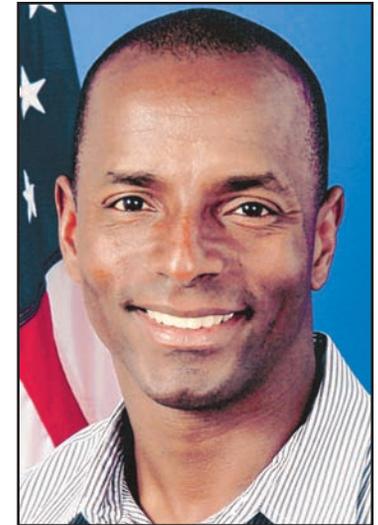
Ms. Buhr



Ms. Bressie



Ms. Harper



Mr. Watkins

To report
sexual
assaults,
call
Keesler's
sexual assault
response
coordinator
hotline,
377-7278.

Information dominance wins wars —
protect it!

The Airman's Creed

*I am an
American Airman.
I am a warrior.
I have answered
my nation's call.*

*I am an
American Airman.
My mission is
to fly, fight
and win.
I am faithful to a
proud heritage,
A tradition
of honor,
And a legacy
of valor.*

*I am an
American Airman,
Guardian
of freedom
and justice,
My nation's sword
and shield,
Its sentry
and avenger.
I defend
my country
with my life.*

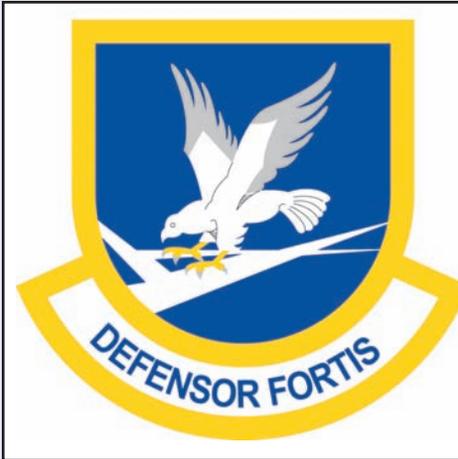
*I am an
American Airman:
Wingman,
leader,
warrior.
I will never leave
an Airman
behind.
I will
never falter,
And I
will not fail.*

81st Security Forces Squadron changes command Wednesday

Maj. Joseph Musacchia turns over command of the 81st Security Forces Squadron to Capt. Jason Williams, 1 p.m. Wednesday at the Locker House Dragon's Lair.

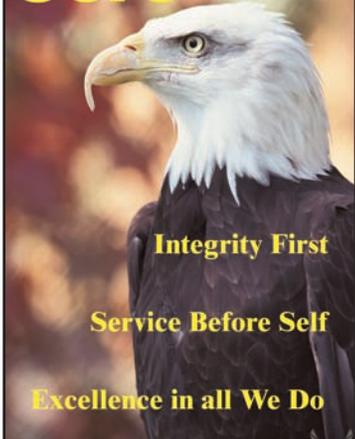
Major Musacchia, who's commanded the 81st SFS since May 2007, is deploying to Iraq with the Multi National Security Command.

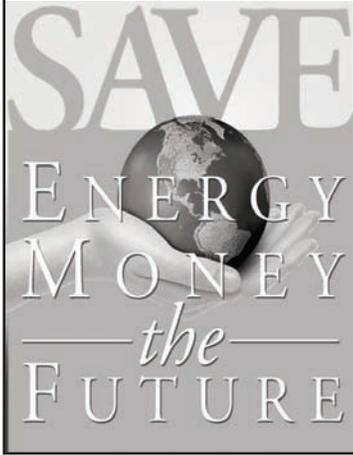
Captain Williams currently serves as the 81st SFS operations officer.



Help keep
classified business classified.
Don't discuss information
off base.

Core Values





Keesler hosts medical simulation symposium

By Maj. Steve Szulborski

81st Medical Group

Keesler Medical Center recently completed the first-ever Gulf Coast Regional Simulation Symposium.

Medics from Barksdale Air Force Base, La., Columbus AFB, Miss., Maxwell AFB,

Ala., and Eglin AFB, Hurlburt AFB, Patrick AFB and MacDill AFB, Fla., attended. In addition, Biloxi's Veterans Affairs Gulf Coast Veterans Health Care System and the VA's Pensacola outpatient clinic sent participants.

Brig. Gen. (Dr.) Dan Wyman, 81st Medical Group

commander, welcomed the participants. Col. (Dr.) Deborah Burgess, chief of Air Education and Training Command Surgeon General's medical modernization division and director of the Air Force Medical Modeling and Simulation Program gave a special briefing highlighting the

future of simulation technology in the military.

The symposium's primary focus was to teach and share both the technical and educational aspects of simulation training and how to integrate the technology into the mission.

A secondary purpose was for Colonel Burgess and her team from AETC headquarters to inspect Keesler Medical Center's simulation lab and training techniques.

Keesler officials said the staff assistance visit went extremely well, with Colonel Burgess stating the medical center's facility and training techniques are "exactly how simulation training should be conducted."

The 81st MDG education and training flight plans additional training this spring and summer for in-house simulation facilitators

Inspectors give full accreditation to blood services

By Steve Pivnick

81st Medical Group Public Affairs

Keesler Blood Services, which includes the donor center and the pathology/clinical laboratory's transfusion services, underwent a double-barreled inspection at the end of January and "watered the eyes" of their inspectors, resulting in full accreditation of the departments.

According to Capt. Jessica Hughes, donor center chief, inspections are conducted every two years. Two separate organizations were involved: the College of American Pathologists and the AABB. The AABB, founded in 1947 as the American Association of Blood Banks, is now an international association with members in 80 countries representing individuals and institutions involved in activities related to transfusion and cellular therapies, including transplantation medicine.

"The AABB does an assessment of our practices. The team designated to do so also inspect for adherence to CAP requirements, necessary to maintain accreditation," Captain Hughes said.

The two-person team, one from a Florida hospital and the other from a Texas blood donor center, visited Jan. 27-28 and "looked at everything: written procedures, records, training documents. They reviewed all of our processes," the captain explained.



Medical laboratory technician Serena Chiellini prepares Airman Basic Austin Morgan, 336th Training Squadron, to give blood at the donor center.

"They even conducted a 'tracer,' following a unit of platelets from the transfusion service to the patient's bedside. They interviewed Staff Sgt. James Pounds from the intensive care unit about how a patient is transfused, addressing all the steps involved.

"The team comes with a very specific checklist and looks at all aspects of transfusion service and donor center practices," the captain commented.

"They determine if we are in compliance. Even if we are, the assessors may recommend a better way to do something."

The inspectors found "zero deficiencies" for CAP and the "zero non-conformances" for AABB and made no recommendations following the inspection, "a feat which is very rare," one of the assessors said.

Col. (Dr.) Daniel Smith, medical



Medical laboratory technicians Stacey Foster, left, and Robert Moody process freshly-donated blood for shipment to Southwest Asia at the donor center.

director of clinical pathology, and Captain Hughes praised the 21 members of the donor center staff and 14 assigned to transfusion services for the outstanding results of this year's assessments.

"The blood services team works very hard to provide the best patient care and produce high quality blood products," the colonel remarked. "This assessment simply validated their dedication to our mission."

Clinic pronotes healthy teeth for kids in February

By Senior Airman Clennon Turner

81st Dental Squadron

February is National Children's Dental Health Month.

These tips are provided to help preschool children keep a healthy smile.

The American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry recommends a child's first visit to the dentist should be when their first tooth comes in. A child's primary teeth will begin coming in between 3 and 16 months, usually around six months.

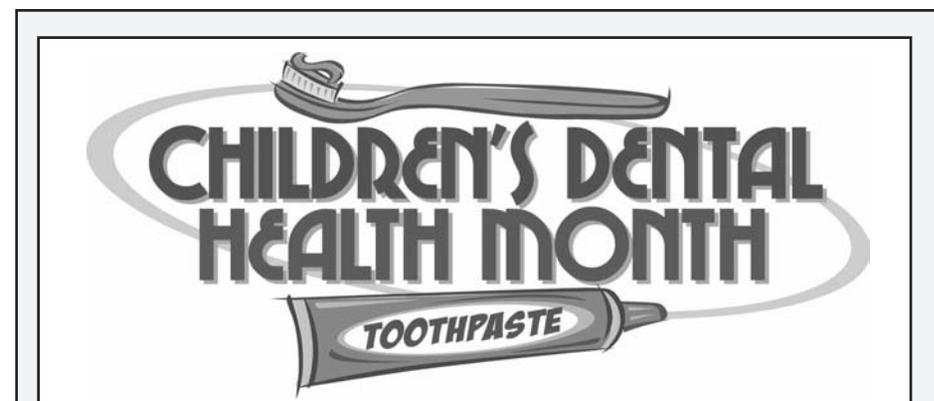
The timing of the eruption of the first tooth is largely influenced by genetics, so if there's a family history of getting the first tooth late, then the child is likely to get his first tooth late. Once a child's teeth begin erupting, parents may begin cleaning them by wiping them with a moist washcloth.

As a child gets more teeth, parents may begin to use a soft child's toothbrush. They should use a pea-size amount of fluoride or a non-fluoride toothpaste until the child is able to spit it out. To reduce the chance of tooth decay, children shouldn't be allowed to sleep with a cup or bottle or walk around all day with a cup of juice.

In most children, teething causes increased drooling and a desire to chew on hard things. In some children, it causes mild pain and irritability and the gums may become swollen and tender. To help reduce the discomfort, vigorously massage the area for a few minutes or let the child chew on a smooth, hard teething ring.

Children begin losing their first teeth when they are around 6-7 years old and permanent teeth begin to grow.

For questions about children's teeth, call the dental clinic, 376-0511.



The 81st Dental Squadron observes National Children's Dental Health Month with these activities:

Feb. 17, squadron members perform a puppet show at 9 a.m. for 2-to-4-year olds from the child development center at the youth center.

Feb. 18, they give a dental health presentation at Biloxi's North

Bay Elementary School.

Feb. 23, they present special dental programs and projects at McBride Library. "Happy Smiles" is at 10 a.m. for ages 3-5, and "How to Have a Model's Beautiful Smile" is 4 p.m. for ages 6-12.

Feb. 24, they visit the CDC to interact with children up to 2 years old.

More news, videos and photos on the Web
at <http://www.keesler.af.mil>



Mardi Gras marching

From left, Senior Airman William Raybon, Tech. Sgt. Homer Solis Jr. and Senior Airmen Ashley LeDuc and Brian Yoder march in the Elks Mardi Gras parade, Saturday. The honor guard was one of 72 units in the parade and was recognized as the top military entry. For a schedule of upcoming Mardi Gras parades, see Page 27.

Photo by
Kemberly Groue

Volunteer — get connected.

Heart Link

Heart Link, an orientation program for spouses with less than five years of Air Force affiliation, is Feb. 19 in Room 108A, Sablich Center.

Heart Link increases awareness of the Air Force mission, customs, traditions, protocols and base and community resources and services.

Lunch and giveaways are provided. Limited child care is available.

To register, call the airman and family readiness center, 376-8728.

Pancake dinner

The chapel hosts a pancake dinner, 5-7 p.m. Feb. 24 at the Triangle Chapel Annex in observance of Shrove Tuesday.

Ash Wednesday, Lent

The Ash Wednesday Protestant service is 11:15 a.m. Feb. 25 at Larcher Chapel.

Catholic services are 11:15 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. at Triangle Chapel.

Stations of the Cross are 5 p.m. Fridays during Lent at Triangle Chapel.

Lost and found

For lost and found property, call the 81st Security Forces Squadron investigations office, 377-4500, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday.

Peridental patients

The dental clinic's periodontics department is looking for patients with gum problems for treatment in their dental residency program.

A limited number of eligible beneficiaries accepted as teaching cases receive their periodontal care at Keesler at no charge. Patients should be readily available for appointments, usually Monday afternoons and Tuesday mornings.

For more information or to schedule a screening exam, call 376-5225.

Housing maintenance

The new phone numbers for family housing maintenance service calls are 377-5561, 5562 and 5563.

Travel clinic

People planning international travel for pleasure or business should visit the travel medicine clinic at least one month before departure.

The clinic is located in the

allergy clinic in the medical center's basement near the emergency department entrance.

For more information, call 376-3550.

Thrift shop hours

The Keesler Thrift Shop, in

the former chapel building adjacent to Sablich Center, is open 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays.

Consignments are accepted 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Mondays.

Donations are accepted during regular hours.

For more information, call 377-3217.

Multimedia services

For information on multimedia products and services available at Wall Studio, call 377-2793 or 4636.

2 basketball championships on the line this week

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News staff

Two base basketball championships are decided this week at Blake Fitness Center.

In the Over-30 League, the 81st Force Support Squadron met the 81st Civil Engineer Squadron Wednesday to decide the title, but results weren't available at press time.

The 81st FSS sailed through the winners' bracket of the playoffs with a 50-34 victory over the 335th Training Squadron before slipping past the 81st CES, 54-52, in their first

contest of the double-elimination tournament.

The civil engineers moved forward in the losers' bracket to win the chance to battle the 81st FSS one more time by

winning Monday's nail-biter against the 81st Security Forces Squadron, 43-41.

In the intramural league, the 81st Medical Group, Western Division champion, battles the 81st Communications Squadron, Eastern Division winner, at 7 p.m. tonight for the championship game.

The undefeated medics topped the Western Division during the regular season at 7-0 and dominated in the divisional playoffs with lopsided victories over the 81st FSS (62-40) and two wins over the 403rd Wing in the double-elimination tournament (78-47 and 77-34).

The 81st CS, also unbeaten in regular season play at 6-0,

Please see **Basketball**, Page 23

Birding — exciting, economical, educational

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News staff

Cindy and Roger Milford are birds of a feather who've nested together for 22 years. The Woolmarket residents are nature lovers who've developed a keen interest in bird watching that's flourished over the past 15 years.

According to enthusiasts, birding is the fastest-growing outdoor activity in the United States. A recent survey by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service found that 51.3 million Americans report that they watch birds, and more are taking it up all the time. In North America alone, there are more than 800 species of birds to observe.

In these tough financial times, the Milfords promote birding as a family hobby that's exciting, economical and educational.

"Keesler, on a peninsula between Biloxi's Back Bay and the Gulf of Mexico, is a perfect place for birders," said Mr. Milford, a retired master sergeant who's worked as the 81st Force Support Squadron's services training manager for the past eight years. "It's a diversified ecosystem with water birds, shore birds, meadow birds and birds of prey."

"It's an exciting pastime — physical abilities don't matter, so it's perfect for young or old, athletic or not," explained Mrs. Milford, who's worked at Keesler for 12 years, most recently as a graphics illustrator for CSC. "It's a hobby that can get a family out of the house together. For military families, it's an activity you can take with you wherever you go."

Mrs. Milford said bird watching is great recreation for youngsters.

"Birding teaches patience, discipline, recordkeeping and an appreciation of nature and different types of habitats," she pointed out.

The Milfords began bird watching when they moved from Italy to an assignment at Holloman Air Force Base, N.M., in 1994.

Mrs. Milford's mom, Jewel Zimmerman, is an avid birder who offered pointers and birding books to get them started.

In New Mexico, the Milfords lived near Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge, where thousands of birds, including sandhill cranes, geese and ducks, make their winter home in a mountainous area that straddles the Rio Grande River.

During a lunchtime birdwatching break Feb. 5, the Milfords spotted a snowy egret along the shoreline at the marina.

Photos by Kemberly Groue



Birders keep a "life list" of all the birds they've seen and identified. The Milfords began their Keesler bird list almost two years ago. They do most of their birding during their lunch hour at the marina.

"It gives us a healthy break in the middle of the day," Mrs. Milford said.

"And it's a little like hunting, but we don't kill our prey," Mr. Milford added.

Birds commonly sighted at Keesler include the great blue heron, tricolored heron, double-crested cormorant, snowy egret, osprey, red-tailed hawk, eastern bluebird, northern mocking bird, house sparrow, European starlings, red-winged blackbird, killdeer, brown pelican and laughing gull.

Near the Back Bay shoreline at marina park, the Milfords have seen a horned grebe, red-breasted merganser, common ground dove, Canadian geese, cedar waxwing, barn swallow, mallard duck, hooded merganser and magnificent frigatebird.

Near Mrs. Milford's office in Locker House, they sighted a scarlet tanager and a nesting great horned owl. They marveled at a bald eagle soaring over the base soccer field and



an American kestrel perched on a sign at Bay Breeze Golf Course.

As late as Feb. 5, they added another new bird to their Keesler list.

"When we left the marina, we stopped at one of our favorite 'hot spots' and we saw a male and female black-crowned night heron," Mrs. Milford reported.

"Cold fronts get us excited, because they push birds down into this area," Mrs. Milford remarked. "And south Mississippi is an awesome fallout area in April, when tired, wet, hungry birds 'fall out' on their return trip north."

There are many characteristics to consider when identifying birds — habitat, size, color, markings, plumage, flight patterns and various shapes and sizes of heads, wings, beaks, legs, feet and tails. They have distinctive sounds, calls or songs.

Birding is a comparatively cheap hobby, according to the Milfords.

Binoculars, an identification guide, a notebook and a camera come in handy.

"McBride Library has several birding books, and outdoor recreation is in the process of obtaining binoculars and field guides for free checkout," Mrs. Milford noted.

This weekend, the Milfords join birders across the country for the 12th annual Great Backyard Bird Count sponsored by Cornell University's Ornithology Lab and the National Audubon Society.

The four-day event, Friday through Monday, engages bird watchers of all ages in counting birds to create a real-time snapshot of where the birds are across the continent. Anyone can participate, from beginning bird watchers to experts. It takes as little as 15 minutes on one day, or you can count for as long as you like each day of the event.

For more GBBC information, log on to <http://www.birdsource.org>.

SCORES AND MORE

Bowling

Monday Night Budweiser

(as of Feb. 2)

Team	Won	Lost
New Meat	88	38
Perry's Refrigeration	84	42
DOG Squad	79	47
Wrong Foot Forward	70	56
Hit 9 Get 9	70	56
Slater's Shooters	68	58
Robbie's Rejects	67	59
Pot Luck	66	60
Sandy's Gang	66	60
Our Gang	65	61
Man On!	61	65
All Screwed Up	60	66
Martini's	60	66
403rd Strykers	56.5	59.5
Ricky's Rookies	55.5	70.5
Team 18	54	72
Team 12	51	75
Why Not	49	77
Hoops Gang	48	78
Unpredictables	42	84

Wednesday Night Mixed

(as of Feb. 4)

Team	Won	Lost
Dee's Crew	82	51
Wild Gang	80	53
Clyde's Crew	69	64
Neighbors Plus 1	69	64
Any Takers	68	65
MUDD	65	68
Ichi Ban	65	68
Team 6	62	71
Guys and Dolls	53	80
70s Plus	52	81

Thursday Retired Seniors

(as of Feb. 5)

Team	Won	Lost
Kitty and Kats	84	49
6-Pack	83	50
Team 12	75	58
Team 16	70	63
Team 14	68	65
Team 5	67	66
Three's Company	66.5	66.5
Team 8	66	67
TBB Express	66	67
Two He's and a She	65	68
Team 13	64	69
CHMATO	59	74
2 Kings and A Queen	59	74
3-70s Plus	58	75
Team 11	58	75
Lucky Trio	53.5	79.5

Friday Night Mixed

(as of Feb. 6)

Team	Won	Lost
Rose and Her Thorns	85	48
Frustrated	82	51
We Take Ugly	71	62
Fun Timers	69	64
Sandbaggers	68	65
The Strikers	67	66
Lady and the Tramps	66	67
Mixed Nuts	66	67
3 Guys and a Babe	58	75
Pin Busters	58	75
Pin Pals	54	79
Beyond Control	54	79

Other

Open Sundays — 1-6 p.m.

Registration — continues for Keesler Youth Bowling Association at Gaudé Lanes. Any child old enough to throw the bowling ball down the alley is eligible. League meets 9:30 a.m.

March Madness promotion begins

Air Force Services Agency

The excitement of the NCAA Final Four basketball tournament hits bases around the world in the Air Force's March Madness online bracket tournament promotion.

March Madness is a free game offered in conjunction with the 2009 Division 1 men's national college basketball championship. Coca Cola is the commercial sponsor.

Starting Friday, individuals at least 18 years old who are eligible to use the Keesler Katrina Kantina, Legends Café and 11th Frame Café can pick up a game piece each time they visit the facility. Game pieces are offered with each purchase or the purchase of a 32-ounce Coke, but customers may request a game piece without making a purchase.

To enter, register online using the code on the game piece to create your tournament bracket. Ten scratch-offs are needed to enter all 10 brackets. You may enter your online ID starting Friday, but brackets can't be filled in until the games are announced March 15.

Picks can be made and changed, but final picks for all rounds must be submitted by 5 a.m. CST March 19.

The object of the contest is to accumulate as many points as possible by correctly picking the winning team in each game of the single-elimination NCAA men's basketball tournament. The competition begins with 64 teams, with half eliminated during each round.

The first place prize is a trip for four to the 2010 Final Four Game for three days and two nights, hotel, air travel, car rental, game tickets and \$1,000 spending money. Second place wins \$5,000, third place \$2,500, fourth place \$1,000 and five subsequent winners get a Coca Cola NCAA Pop-A-Shot arcade homestyle basketball game.

For more information, call 377-3181.

Saturdays. Instruction available. For more information, including fees, call 377-2817.

Glow bowling — 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesdays, \$1 per game and \$1 for shoes; 9 p.m. Fridays, 7 p.m. Saturdays, \$5.50 adults, \$3.50 ages 17 and younger, including shoes.

Lunch and bowl special — 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Mondays-Fridays. Bowl for \$1 a game plus \$1 for shoes.

Team building special — 1-5 p.m. weekdays. Bring your employees bowling for \$1 a game plus shoe rental. For reservations, call 377-2817.

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.

Club member special — show current club card Thursdays and bowl for \$1.50 per game; free shoe rental.

Birthday party package — 1:30-3 p.m. or 3:30-5 p.m. Saturdays. 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.

Fitness centers

Free fitness classes — yoga, step aerobics, turbo-core, spin/cycle, boxing workout and fencing at Dragon Fitness Center. For more

information, call 377-2907.

Boxing room — Triangle Fitness Center. Three speed bags and two heavy bags. Sign out gloves at the counter.

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

Golf

Nonprior service student special — show phase card or UBU card. Greens fee and cart, \$15 for 18 holes, \$10 for nine holes. Greens fee, cart and rental clubs, \$20 for 18 holes, \$15 for nine holes.

Free golf clinics for nonprior service students — noon to 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 21 and 28. Sign up at pro shop, 377-3832. Maximum 10 people per session.

New driving range open — 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily. Yardage markers are accurate and measured from the hitting mats. Bucket of balls \$2.

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

Course and pro shop — 7 a.m. to dusk daily. For tee times, call 377-3832.

Outdoor recreation

10 percent discount — No. 1 camping package.

President's Day weekly special — Monday through Feb. 20, freed rod and use with boat rental.

Rental campers — \$50 day. Two available; one sleeps six, one sleeps eight. For more information and towing requirements, call 377-3160.

Fish of the month — weigh in the largest redfish during February and win \$100 savings bond; minimum three participants.

Back Bay fishing trip — \$20 per person. Mississippi fishing license required; minimum four, maximum five people. For date and time, call 377-3160.

One-day fishing trips — to Horn, Ship or Cat Islands; pick the date. Charter trip in Delacroix and Reggio, La. with professional fishing guide. For more information, call 377-3160.

Camping packages — for rent include sleeping bags, lanterns, camp stoves and tents. For more information, call 377-3160.

RV, boat and trailer storage — \$20 per month.

Delacroix, La. fishing site — two self-contained trailers for rent, \$50 per night. Maximum four per trailer. Bring linens and cooking utensils. Louisiana fishing license required.

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

Nonprior service student special — 35000 Trek seven-speed bikes, \$5 day on nonworking Friday, Saturday and Sunday, or Saturday/Sunday.

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 on the Keesler Dolphin II. \$75 per person includes everything you need to fish. Payment due upon reservation. Minimum 15, maximum 22 people. For reservation, call 377-3160.

Deep sea fishing private charter — rent Dolphin II, \$850 for first six people, \$60 each additional person. \$350 deposit required.

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

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

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

Resale area — snacks, beverages, fishing and rental equipment, hunting and fishing licenses.

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

Running

Sweetheart 5-kilometer run — 11 a.m. today, Blake Fitness Center. Prizes awarded.

Soccer

Varsity coaches needed — for more information, call Sam Miller, 377-2444.

Softball

Men's and women's varsity teams — coaches needed for play beginning in March. For more information, call Sam Miller, 377-2444.

Varsity teams earn top spots in SEMAC's regular season

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News staff

Keesler's varsity men's and women's basketball squads ended the Southeastern Military Athletic Conference's regular season with ties for the top spots in their leagues.

The Keesler Dragons are tied with Hurlburt Field, Fla., at 9-3 going into this weekend's postseason tournament at Naval Station Mayport, Fla. Unfortunately, the tournament dates were changed, and Keesler won't be able to compete because many players had previous commitments.

"It's a real disappointment for our men's team, because they beat Hurlburt Field Saturday on our home court, 89-88," said Sam Miller, sports director. "I know they wanted the chance to bring home the championship."

The Lady Dragons, sharing the league lead with Fort Benning, Ga., at 6-2, get their chance at the title in SEMAC's women's tournament, Feb. 21-22 at Fort Benning.

Basketball,

from Page 21

trounced the 332nd TRS, 82-46, in its first playoff game, and claimed a win over the 336th TRS, 48-40, in its second. In Monday's divisional playoffs, 81st CS won a tight one over the 81st Logistics Readiness Squadron, 53-51.

The 81st LRS dropped to the losers' bracket after a close first-round loss to the 81st CES, 36-34, but battled back with victories against the 81st SFS (49-37) and MK Island (48-30). Their second meeting against the 81st CES had a different result with an 81st LRS win, 54-45. Then the 336th TRS forfeited, giving the 81st LRS a chance to play for the divisional title.

HONORS

Angel Awards, October-December

Military — Staff Sgt. Joshua Baker, 338th Training Squadron.

Civilian — Usa Jones, Keesler Medical Center volunteer.

Student honor roll

332nd Training Squadron

Electronic principles — Airmen Basic Simon Anderson, Kenneth Argenbright, Mary Azcaraga, James Barber, Paul Borja, Brandon Brown, Antwan Clark, Trent Cole, Michael Conley, Alexander Constance, Christopher Culver, Jimmy Dalzell, Duane Davis, Kyle Davis, Jesse Dick, Ryan Downey, Mark Eicher, Joel Fitzgerald, William Gabel, Brandon Garrison, Aaron Gibbs, Nicholas Goldsmith, Zachary Golla, Joshua Greer, Christopher Hanson, Robert Harden, Jordan Howell, Nathan Jones, Robert Jones, Christopher Kenny, Aaron Kempf, Justin Kugleman, Juan Irizarry, Jommel Lazaga, James Mautz, Christopher McDowell, Devin McMillen, Edward Mitchell, Chance Mosbacher, Matthew Nicely, Terry O'Grady, Matthew Overturf, Dylan Phillips, Robert Pickenpaugh, Cheylene Pollard, Jerome Punderson, Thomas Purtell, Marissa Reyes, Jacob Rial, Chelsea Root, Christopher Rupertus, Stephen Sanchez, Anthony Sangsakda, Dakota Sawley, Christopher Schultz, Patrick Sebay, Stephen Semple, Ryan Slavin, Joshua Snow, Richard Synger, Clayton Taylor, Thomas VanEngen, Christopher Vaughn, Christopher Walka, William Welsh, Jeffrey Wiebers and Stephen Yount; Airmen Douglas Bohl, Robert DeBone, Matthew Dry, Nathaniel Guy, Nicholas Holpuch, Woodrow Keith, James Lee, Phillip Lozano, Timothy Manuel, Jessica Suske, Larry Washington and Matthew Wilson; Airmen 1st Class Christopher Adams, Scott Bailey, Victor Baillif, Joncristofer Boam, Douglas Brummund, John Derby, Nicholas Ervin, Tony Foster, Keith Green, Kyle Greene, Rosie Gumbs, James Hamilton, Robert Hockenull, Jonathan Hurst, Kevin Johnson, Nickolas Jones, Cody Keller, Thomas Lee, Jeremy Letsche, Eric Litteken, Andrew Mathes, Thomas Mayotte, Kevin Monroe, Aron Mooney, Ryan Mowen, Thorval Munksgaard, Robert Myrick, Kelsey Parker, Cory Paya, Rachel Phillips, William Prothro, Jonathan Quezada, David Salinas, Eric Sanborn, Antonino Sanchez, Derek Terrini and Shirley Wesley; Senior Airmen Justin Apple, Shad Hines, Delandon Jackson, Willie Jinks, Damien Lange, Joshua Reid, Bradley Snyder, Kenneth Wagner, Perry Wilson and Reginald Woods; Staff Sgts. Daniel Hayden, Blake Haynes, Scott Husler, Joshua Johnson, Keith Kinsey, Kristin Layton, Daniel Perkins, Allen Reaves, Patricia Quigley, Elijah Vo and Brandon Wall; Tech. Sgts. George Chi and Joshua Jopling; Master Sgt. Andres Crespo.

334th TRS

Aerospace control and warning systems — Airmen Basic William Lacouture, David Liming, Michael Markivee, Brian Park, and Sheheir Smith; Airmen 1st Class Christopher Keogan; Staff Sgt. Christopher Inman.

Air traffic control operations training flight — Airmen Basic Brian Bradshaw, Kevin Conner, Ryan Cottrell, Thomas Robinson and Andrew Worden; Airmen Benjamin De Boer and Kristofer Gibeau; Airman 1st Class Elijah Chamberlin; Senior Airman Christopher Shuab.

Command post apprentice course — Airman Basic Sarah Coressel; Airman William Lott; Airmen 1st Class Joseph Cardamone, Kristabel Elam, Jonathan Khattar, Gregory Nakamura and Mitchell Smith; Senior Airmen Heather Johnson and Samantha Paige; Staff Sgts. Timothy Daley, Dusty Littleford and Marisol Rodriguez-Velez.

335th TRS

Comptroller training flight — Airmen Basic Jacob Corbett, Ricardo Diaz-DeLeon, Sean Evans, Michael Giammo, Vanessa Lewis, Michael Elam, Veronica Rivera, David Shaw, Joshua Tibbit and William Uriniuk; Airmen Kristopher Barrientes and Cherrelle Collins; Airmen 1st Class Precious Akitoye, Vincent Bulatao, Lanita Collins, Carlos Esguerra, Michael Millar and Douglas Vice; Senior Airmen Austrie Martinez, Elisabeth Peshek and Patrick Salmon; Staff Sgts. Jennifer Baker, Rasheem Cephas, Edgardo Garcia, Jolynn Howse, Jose Martinez, Bradford Myers, Clifford Robison and Larry Salmon; Tech. Sgts. Michael Herrell and Tamesha Rayes; Master Sgt. Amanda Colvin.

336th TRS

Communications-computer systems flight — Airmen Basic Richard Coler, William Bradford, Sean Hofstadter, Christopher Hull and Justin Perez; Airman Aimee Elkins and Steven Jakus; Airmen 1st Class Michael Anderton, Jilliam Cawthorn, Jarrett Chestnut, Jared Christian, Michael Massey, Nathaniel Moses, Brandy Ross, Randall Summers, Alfred Theriot, William Tschudin and India Wilson; Senior Airman Paul San; Staff Sgts. Miguel Anguiano, Jamal Bey, Mario Chavez, Brion Edwards and Matthew Thomas; Tech. Sgts. Brian Davis, Tracy Liem, Ryan Malley, Adrienne Schultz, Michelle Thomas, Stephen Wall and Derek Woodward; Master Sgts. Allen Faust and Herbert Ward.

Communications and information flight — Airmen Basic Brett Adams, Timothy Baker, Michael Butler, Christopher Cianfrone-Adams, Joshua Goddard, Joshua Perry, Julian Pfister, Austin Proll, Christopher Rushing, Evan Soriano, Brandon Tyler, Gary Williams and Sean Williamson; Airmen Noah Blach, Eric Leyva and Shelia Sanchez; Airmen 1st Class Raeann Batz, Matthew Benoit, Richard Cabantan, Michael D'Amico, Brandon Devault, Joshua Deville, Mychaela Harris, David Hickox, Chelsea Kline, Jonathan Martin, Nicholas Morrison, Michael Pazarena, Morrissette Penate, William Randall, Juan Rivera-Puig, Jayme Rodriguez, Jared Silva, Daniel Simmons, Michael Trum, John Valadon and David Whittaker; Senior Airmen Justin Hunnicutt, Corey Ross, Jason Smith and Wesley Sobczyk; Staff Sgts. Aaron Copeland, Donna Doyon, Alicia Dunn, Charlie Freeman, Tremaine Joseph, Thomas Knoll and Russell Warren; Master Sgt. Jascha Patton; Senior Master Sgt. David Robles; Chief Master Sgt. James Boswell.

338th TRS

Airfield systems — Airmen Basic Anthony Stately, Andrea Swisse and Jaqueline Willson; Airmen 1st Class Benjamin Byers, Nathan Grille, Ryan Johnson, Dennis Kim, Creston Moon and Robert Smoot.

Ground radar — Airmen 1st Class Richard Ataman, Travis Bates and Michael White; Senior Airman Christopher Bartlett; Staff Sgt. Greg Brigham.

Ground radio — Airmen Basic Neema Borji, Jonathon Clay, Nathaniel Dykstra, Hamzah Khan, Andrew Omalley and Zachary Raak; Airman Bruce Wade; Airmen 1st Class Jared

Lucci, Adalys Ramirez and Elroy Tereyama; Senior Airmen Kenneth Barbera and Rachel Chamberland; Tech. Sgt. Barbarajan Nesbitt; Master Sgt. Michael Sampson.

Network infrastructure systems — Airmen Allen Clere, Chad Greer, Alexander Johnson, Eric Kelly, Herbert Mullens, Joshua Waggoner and Laura Wittenberg; Airmen 1st Class Alexander Johnson, KL Kohl and Levi Sorenson; Staff Sgts. Stephen Pragovich and James Taylor; Tech. Sgt. Jason Altig; Senior Master Sgt. Donald Miller.

CLASSES

Editor's note: Hours reflect changes in observance of the Presidents Day federal holiday, Monday.

Inns of Keesler — open 24 hours.

Base car wash — open 24 hours.

Fam camp — open 24 hours.

Mini mart — open 24 hours.

Magnolia Dining Facility — 7:30-9 a.m., 11:30 to 1:30 p.m., 4:30-6:30 p.m.

Live Oak Dining Facility — 7:30-9a.m., 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., 4:30-6:30 p.m.

Blake Fitness Center — 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Outdoor recreation — 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Vandenberg Community Center — noon to 6 p.m.

Bay Breeze Golf Course, driving range and pro shop — 7 a.m. to dusk.

Arts and craft center — closed.

Auto hobby shop — closed.

Azalea Dining Facility — closed.

Katrina Kantina — closed.

McBride Library — closed.

Dragon and Triangle Fitness Centers — closed.

Information, ticket and tours office — closed.

Legends Café — closed.

Youth center — closed.

Child development center — closed.

Family child care — closed.

Gaude Lanes — closed.

11th Frame Café — closed.

Veterinary services — closed.

Main exchange — 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Mini-mall — 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Shoppette and Class Six — 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Car care center — closed.

Military clothing sales — closed.

Furniture store — closed.

Subway — 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Mobile units — closed.

Charley's Steakery — closed.

Anthony's Pizza — 11 a.m. to 1 p.m..

Optical shop — closed.

Nail shop — closed.

Welch Theater — closed.

General Nutrition Center — 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Beauty shop — closed Thursday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday.

Mini-mall barber shop — 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday.

Shoppette/car care center barber shop — 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Medical center barber shop — closed.

Laundry/dry cleaners — 10 a.m. to 3 p.m..

Mini-mall gift shop — 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Sprint — 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Force One Rental — 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Enterprise Car Rental — 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

CLASSES

Airman Leadership School

Class 09-2 — graduation today.

Class 09-3 — Feb. 24 to April 1.

Mathies NCO Academy

Class 09-2 — graduation Friday.

Class 09-3 — Feb. 24 to April 2.

Please see **Digest**, Page 26

CHAPEL SERVICES

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

Protestant

Sunday worship

Larcher Chapel traditional with children's ministry.....8:30 a.m.

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

Triangle Chapel gospel service.....Noon

Ash Wednesday

Larcher Chapel11:15 a.m.

Roman Catholic

Sunday Mass

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

Weekday Mass

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

Ash Wednesday

Triangle Chapel11:15 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.

Jewish

For worship opportunities, call Master Sgt. Michael Raff, 377-5235 or 273-2226.

Islamic

Building 2003 — prayer five times daily; Salaat ul-Jummah 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 801-787-1990.

Digest,

from Page 25

Airman and family readiness center

Resume writing for private sector jobs workshop — 9-11 a.m., Tuesday, Room 108A, Sablich Center, for all Keesler personnel and family members. To register, call 376-8728.

College financial aid seminar — 3:30 p.m. Wednesday, Room 108A, Sablich Center. Presented by representatives of the University of Southern Mississippi and Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College for all Keesler personnel and family members. To register, call 376-8728.

Troops to Teachers and Spouses to Teachers briefing — for people interested in becoming a school teacher in Mississippi or another state, 4 p.m. March 5, Room 108A, Sablich Center. To register, call 376-8728.

Arts and crafts center

Thursday crafting — 5-7:30 p.m. crafting pleasure, painting, pottery, scrapbooking.

February classes — ceramics, card making, jewelry making, baking, pottery and intarsia woodworking.

Mardi Gras mask decorating — open until 8 p.m. today. For more information, call 377-2821.

Special Valentine gift — mugs filled with candy. Customize or use an engraving shop design.

Multi-crafts center — potter's wheels, ceramic molds, air brushing and tools are available for use in the shop. Craft classes for beginners, intermediate and advance levels. Craft supplies for sale.

Engraving shop — squadron, office and individual orders are our business.

Wood shop — stocked retail lumber and a large assembly area adjacent to the machine room are available. Call for information on beginners and advanced woodworking classes.

Frame shop — today through Saturday, 10 percent discount on framing pictures of your sweetheart.

Tickets and trips

Mardi Gras parades — in Mobile, \$15 per person, Friday, Saturday, Tuesday, Feb. 19, 20, 21 and 24. For reservations, call 377-3818.

Chapel

All classes are held at the Triangle Chapel Annex. 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.

Dinner and the Bible — 6-7:30 p.m. Wednesdays, Triangle Chapel Annex.

McBride Library

Orientations for commanders, instructors and first sergeants — 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays.

Homework help — 4-5 p.m. Tuesdays for middle school and up.

Valentine story time — today. 11 a.m. ages 3-5, 6 p.m. ages 6-12. All children are asked to bring a picture of themselves, a loved one or a friend to be placed on a decorated heart.

National Children's Dental Health Month — Feb. 23 cohosted with dental clinic staff. Special dental programs and projects. Happy smiles, 10 a.m., ages 3-5; how to have a model's beautiful smile, 4 p.m., ages 6-12.

President's Day story time — Feb. 26. 11 a.m. ages 3-5, 6 p.m. ages 6-12. All children complete an appropriate craft project.

February display — for African-American History Month.

Volunteers needed — dancers, singers, musicians, artists to share their talent with the children during the summer reading program. For more information, call 377-2604.

Online catalog — to search the inventory of books, DVDs, CDs, videotapes, magazines, periodicals and more, log on to <http://www.keeslerservices.us>, click on the link for McBride Library, then the link for the online catalog.

Available — two large meeting rooms, audio room, typing room and children's library.

Wireless Internet — information available at the front desk.

Free wireless Internet — check at circulation desk.

Tours/orientations — call 377-2604.

CLUBS AND CENTERS

Vandenberg Community Center

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

Legends Café — open 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Mondays-Fridays, 5-9 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays and 5-11 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays.

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

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

Movie nights — 7 p.m. Wednesday; free popcorn.

Katrina Kantina

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

Valentine dinner for two — 6-8 p.m. Feb. 14; \$30 for member couple, \$35 nonmember couple. Reservations must be made no later than Feb. 11 by calling 377-3818.

Karaoke — 6-8 p.m. Feb. 27; DJ Wayne and drink specials.
Luncheon specials — 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Mondays; \$6 members, \$8 nonmembers. For more information, call 377-2219.

Tuesday special — 5 p.m., red beans and rice, \$1 bowl.

Karaoke — 6-9 p.m. Jan. 22; DJ Wayne, drink specials.

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

Youth center

Editor's note: All children registered in a youth center program receive free membership.

Open recreation — 3-7 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays, 3-6 p.m. Fridays and 9 a.m. to noon Saturdays, ages 9 and older. Boys and Girls Club programs including computer media center, homework assistance "Power Hour" program, and triple-play sports and recreation activities. Students sign themselves in at the front desk.

Friday night fun — 6:30-9:30 p.m., ages 6-12. Free skating music and games.

Youth center action council — meets monthly. If you're interested in military youth programs and have a child age 6-18, call and join this focus group.

Military home schoolers — meet monthly at the youth center. For more information, call 377-4116.

Power hour — 4-6 p.m. Mondays-Fridays. Homework help and tutoring, ages 6-12. No charge for those registered in the youth program.

Classes — gymnastics, karate, children's theater and guitar; \$50 month. Classes meet Saturday mornings. For more information, call 377-4116.

Youth employment service — earn money for college tuition; call for more information.

Congressional Award program — ages 14-21; self-directed merit program promoting personal development, physical fitness and community involvement.

Volunteers needed — for sports, open recreation, crafts, cooking, computers, arts, reading, sewing and general cleaning and decorations. Must be 18 or older. For more information, call 377-4116.

Commissioners and coaches needed — for youth sports. For more information, call 377-4116.

Shuttle service — parents interested in a shuttle service for ages 9 and older for Biloxi area schools and base housing to youth center, sign up at the center as soon as possible.

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 in Room 111, Sablich Center, 1 p.m. for those who are separating and 2:30 p.m. for those who are retiring. If someone is separating/retiring under special circumstances, they can schedule an appointment by calling 376-8728.

Transition assistance program — briefings for 2009 are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. March 9-12, April 13-16, May 11-14, June 8-11, July 13-16, Aug. 10-13, Sept. 14-17, Oct. 19-22, Nov. 16-19 and Dec. 14-17, Room 108A, Sablich Center. For military personnel who are 12 months or less from separation or 24 months or less

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.

Presidents Day

Lunch — steamship round, fried catfish, dijon chicken, rice, O'Brien potatoes, peas and carrots, corn, broccoli, cornbread, shrimp cocktail, onion soup, fruit salad, spinach salad, holiday candies, cannonball sandwich and chicken nuggets.

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

Tuesday

Lunch — 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 — lasagna, spaghetti with meat sauce, chicken cacciatore, noodles, baked potatoes, baked beans, green beans, simmered squash, Mexican coleslaw, frijole salad, pasta fagioli soup, chicken tortilla soup, chili, cheese fishwich and cheese pizza

Dinner — spaghetti with meat sauce, 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.

To change information
in Digest listings,
call 377-3837 or 4130.

Digest,

from Page 26

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. To sign up, call 376-8728.

Air Force Reserve opportunities — for members separating within 180 days, call Master Sgt. Charlene Morse, 377-7116; e-mail charlene.morse@keesler.af.mil or visit Room 125-F, Sablich Center.

Palace Chase — for information about how to apply for a program to attend college full time and work part time, visit Room 125-F, Sablich Center. For more information, call Master Sgt. Charlene Morse, 377-7116; e-mail charlene.morse@keesler.af.mil or visit Room 130, Sablich Center.

MEETINGS

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 Chapter 652 — 4 p.m. third Tuesday of the month, Katrina Kantina. For more information, call Staff Sgt. Rich Striggow, 377-4800, 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 — For more information, call Staff Sgt. Aaron Eden, 377-1907; Staff Sgt. Brad Mills, 377-1714, or call 377-SAVE.

Asian Pacific-American Heritage Committee — 11:30 a.m. first Wednesday of month, Room 111, Sablich Center. For more information, call Lucy Belles, 376-8500, or Master Sgt. Ernesto Alvendia, 376-8501.

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; Arleen Stewart, 377-2440, 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.

Civil Air Patrol Col. Berta A. Edge Composite Squadron — 7 p.m. Tuesdays upstairs in Hangar 3 for youth and adults. For more information, call 1-601-528-4337, e-mail Camoprincess92@gmail.com or visit <http://www.keeslercap.org>.

Company grade officers council — meets first Wednesday of the month. For time and location, call 1st Lt. Stephanie Lutz, 377- 8638.

Keesler 5.6 — 3:15 p.m. third Wednesday of the month; location varies. For more information, call Tech. Sgt.

Kimberly Sturdivant, 377-1813.

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 Leanne Ramsay, 377-3217, or visit <http://www.KeeslerSpousesClub.com>.

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

Top III — 3 p.m. third Thursday of the month, Katrina Kantina. For more information, call Master Sgt. Michael Krejci, 377-4451.

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 shown at Welch Auditorium. Tickets are \$3 adults and \$1.50 children for regular features, and \$2.50 adults and \$1 children for matinees. For recording about current features, call 377-6627.

Friday — 6:30 p.m., Doubt (PG-13)

Saturday — 2 p.m., Marley and Me (PG); 6:30 p.m., The Unborn (PG-13).

Sunday — 1 p.m., Valkyrie (PG-13).

Mardi Gras parades

Friday — Krewe of Selene, Diamondhead, 6:30 p.m.

Saturday — Krewe of Essence, 3 p.m., Moss Point, 935-2931 or 369-1243.

Gautier Men's Club, 7 p.m.; 623-3580.

Sunday — Krewe of Nereids, Bay. St. Louis and Waveland, 1 p.m.; 586-2505 or 806-6471.

Long Beach Carnival Association, 2 p.m.; 343-3972.

Feb. 21 — Krewe of Diamondhead, noon; 255-6922.

City of Biloxi children's walking parade, 1 p.m., 435-6339.

Jackson County Carnival Association, Pascagoula, 1 p.m.; 497-3269.

Krewe of Gemini day parade, Gulfport, 2 p.m.; 297-0377; honor guard and 335th TRS state flag team are marching. Chief Master Sgt. Alex and Eileen Perry, 81st Training Wing command chief, ride one of the floats.

Feb. 22 — St. Paul Carnival Association, Pass Christian, 1 p.m.; 547-4873.

North Bay Mardi Gras Association, D'Iberville, 1:30 p.m.; 875-4538; Brig. Gen. Greg and Charlene Touhill, 81st TRW commander, ride on one of the floats, and the honor guard and 336th TRS state flag team participate.

Feb. 24

Gulf Coast Carnival Association, 1 p.m., Biloxi; 432-8806; honor guard partipates.