



KEESLER NEWS

Keesler Air Force Base
Biloxi, Mississippi

Volume 70, No. 15
Thursday, April 16, 2009

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



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



Dragons deployed —
182

Treasure hunt



Photo by Adam Bond

Four-year-old Robert Sheely gathers eggs at Keesler's annual Easter egg hunt Saturday in marina park.. Robert's parents are Senior Airman Grant and Lindy Sheely, 81st Medical Operations Squadron. The event, sponsored by Keesler Federal Credit Union, featured more than 5,000 eggs split among three age categories. An Easter parade preceded the hunt.

Secretary Gates: People remain top priority in defense budget

By John Kruzal

American Forces Press Service

QUANTICO, Va. — Defense Secretary Robert Gates said Monday that service members and military families were his primary concern when formulating the fiscal 2010 defense budget recommendations.

Speaking to a group of 30 students and faculty at the Marine Corps War College, Secretary Gates said he and Navy Adm. Mike Mullen, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, shared the same top priority.

"The chairman and I were in agreement that our first priority should be the people," Secretary Gates said. "If we didn't get the people part right, none of the rest of the decisions would matter."

The meeting was the first stop on the defense secretary's round of visits this week to each of the military services' war colleges, where he is expected to discuss the strategy underlying his fiscal 2010 defense budget proposal.

Secretary Gates announced his recommendations last week, distributing the funds in accordance with what he characterized as the type of "complex hybrid" warfare he expects will be increasingly common. He allotted roughly half of his proposed budget for traditional, strategic and conventional conflict, about 40 percent for dual-purpose capabilities and the remaining 10 percent for irregular warfare.

In addition to the unique breakdown he outlined, the defense secretary's proposal seeks to move funding away from supplemental budgets and into the baseline budget. Secretary Gates said his suggestions were derived from his experience as defense secretary over the past two years.

Please see **Budget**, Page 9

Keesler continues to raise the bar

By Col. Christopher Valle

81st Training Wing commander

Team Keesler, I don't know about you, but I am still relishing in the excitement of what **you** accomplished through our Thunder on the Bay Air Show!

Just imagine — 142,000 friends and neighbors came to our base April 4-5 to experience first hand what the Department of Defense brings to bear — around the globe, around the clock, with precision and excellence.

Each and every visitor went home after the weekend with not just an appreciation of U.S. airpower, but as a witness to the true value of teamwork, partnership and focus toward a common goal. You should be extremely proud of what you accomplished — I know I am. You have raised the bar; keep raising it higher.



I challenge you to continue to ride this victory right into the next challenge and beyond. Remember our core value, "Excellence in all we do." While some days this is easier than others, remember every day that excellence is not a destination but a journey that we undertake to serve our great nation, a nation that needs us to be at our best every day in support of operations locally and around the world.

Now, with all the airplanes gone and visitors safely back home we here at Keesler settle back into our 'routine' — a routine that includes training 2,000+ Air Force warriors in more than 38 technical training pipelines and 18 medical specialties.

And while training is at the core of our mission, don't forget that last year we sent 900 of our permanent party teammates to contingency opera-

tions around the world. Just today, 182 of our teammates are deployed, demonstrating excellence in the pursuit of freedom and liberty on the front lines — hardly a sleepy routine.

Stay ready and stay focused — many more opportunities to demonstrate Keesler's excellence are coming your way. Special Olympics kicks off May 15, and our new 81st Training Wing commander assumes command later next month. We'll host eight countries in June for the International Military Women's Soccer Championship.

Thunder on the Bay will remain a showcase event for Keesler and the Gulf Coast community for years to come, but excellence is our legacy, no matter what our mission.

**ACTION
LINE**
377-4357

By Col. Christopher Valle

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).

Integrity is cornerstone of Air Force's heritage

By Brig. Gen. (Dr.) Dan Wyman

81st Medical Group commander

Are you aware that repeated national surveys find Americans have significant confidence in the US military in comparison to a variety of other organizations?

I hope you are not surprised by these results. I know there are numerous reasons for this level of confidence in the U.S. military but I believe the majority of these can be consolidated into a single word — integrity. We Airmen, along with our fellow Soldiers, Sailors and Marines are members of the profession of arms — defenders of the Constitution of the United States and guardians of our freedoms. Integrity is our watchword ... in everything we do, in every engagement. We cannot afford lapses in integrity as the world today is replete with cases in which failures in integrity resulted in far-reaching negative consequences.

For me, integrity simply means that a person's word is his or her bond. Integrity is the foundation to all successful relationships ... friendships, marriages, wingmen and chain of command. It is honesty, commitment and

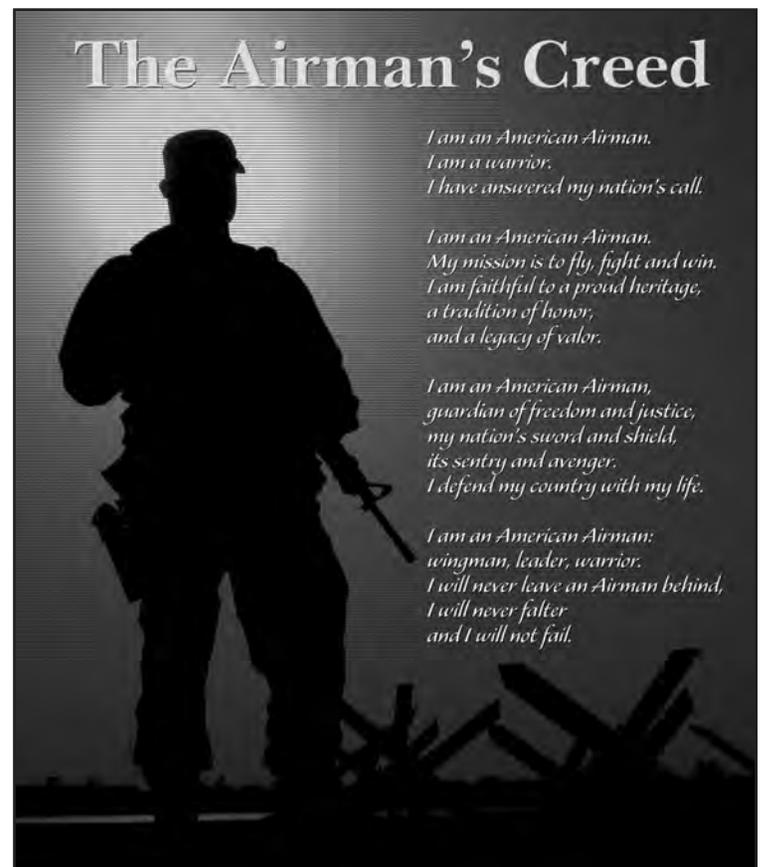


respect; all rolled into one. Integrity is doing what is right, no matter how big or small the effort, even when no one is watching. Integrity is admitting a mistake or error and then doing everything possible to make it right. Integrity means it's OK to say "I don't know" but then seeking the answer. Integrity means being on time and prepared. Integrity is attention to detail — it's rendering appropriate customs and courtesies and wearing the uniform proudly.

Integrity means asking for help and integrity means recognizing when others need help and providing it.

In reciting our Airman's Creed, we affirm that we have answered our nation's call and that we are faithful to a proud heritage, a tradition of honor and a legacy of valor. It is with integrity that we declare our intentions and through integrity that we give them true meaning. The mission of the United States Air Force is to fly, fight and win — our nation cannot afford for its Air Force to be unable to accomplish this mission each and every time...we cannot be second best...ever!

Integrity first is the cornerstone...we will never falter and we will not fail!



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.*



DRAGON ON THE STREET

By **Kemberly Groue**

Keesler News photographer

What is
your
favorite book?



"Without Remorse" by
Tom Clancy.

**April Reiff, wife of Airman
1st Class Daniel Reiff, 81st
Medical Operations Squadron**



"The Biography of
Malcolm X" by Alex Haley.

**Senior Master Sgt. Mark
Turner, 81st Force Support
Squadron**



"The Coldest Winter
Ever," by Sista Souljah
**Chari Young, daughter of
Master Sgt. Andrea Johnson-
Young, Mathies NCO Aca-
demy**

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

KEESLER NEWS

**81st Training Wing
commander**

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

Keesler on the Web

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

Big impact anticipated from post-9/11 GI Bill

By Donna Miles

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — All systems are on track for this summer's rollout of the new Post-9/11 GI Bill, which Veterans Affairs Secretary Eric Shinseki said he expects to have as monumental an impact as the original World War II-era GI Bill of Rights.

Secretary Shinseki, who served as Army chief of staff from 1999 to 2003, said he understands the excitement over the new program that goes into effect Aug. 1.

The new GI Bill will provide the most comprehensive educational benefits since the original bill, officially called the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944, was signed into law.

Many veterans who served after Sept. 11, 2001, are eligible for full tuition and fees, a new monthly housing stipend and an annual stipend of up to \$1,000 for books and supplies. Reservists and National Guard members who've been activated for more than 90 days since 9/11 will have access to the same GI Bill benefits.

And for the first time, those enrolled in the Post-9/11 GI Bill program will be able to transfer unused educational benefits to spouses or children.

"It has been a long time since we've had an education

initiative that includes tuition fees (and a) housing allowance, (and) takes care of all of the requirements required to go to school," Secretary Shinseki said.

Secretary Shinseki said he expects the Post-9/11 GI Bill to have as big an impact as the original GI Bill. That law provided college education or vocational training for millions of returning World War II veterans, loans so they could buy homes or start businesses and unemployment compensation while they looked for jobs.

By the time the original GI Bill ended in July 1956, 7.8 million World War II veterans had taken advantage of the education and training programs it funded, and another 2.4 million had signed up for VA-backed home loans.

"What that bill did for the country was to change the course of our history and the latter half of the 20th century," Secretary Shinseki said. "When those veterans went back to their communities with their college degrees, they ended up being our leaders in religion, education, business, government; you name it."

The program will be administered and funded by VA representatives, and represents a "huge investment" by the U.S. in its veterans, Secretary Shinseki said. This, he said, sends a strong, unmistakable message.

Defense Secretary Robert Gates advocated

expanding education benefits to recognize troops' service while supporting both recruiting and retention. Secretary Gates first heard the transferability concept floated during a meeting with a military spouses' group at Fort Hood, Texas, and pitched the idea to then-President George W. Bush. President Bush signed the Post-9/11 Veterans Education Assistance Act of 2008 into law on June 30.

A whopping 97 percent of service members surveyed in August said they plan to take advantage of the Post-11 GI Bill benefits, said Bill Carr, deputy undersecretary of defense for military personnel policy.

"Enormous interest has been expressed in the transferability provision and how it would work, because so many in the force have families," Mr. Carr said. He noted that half of the military force is married. By the time troops have served six years of duty, about two-thirds have families.

To qualify for transferability under the Post-9/11 GI Bill, service members must have served six years on active duty or in the Selected Reserve, and must commit to another four years. But Mr. Carr said the rules could be tweaked soon to allow mid- or late-career troops to qualify, even if they can't sign on for another four years of duty due to service restrictions.

Dorm development



Photos by Adam Bond

Brandon Walley crosses the roof of the ninth student dormitory in the Triangle Vision project. The new dorms and other facilities have created a campus-like area for nonprior service students. About 35 percent of the

four-story structure has been completed. The building, located between Parade Lane and Z Street at M Street, will have 256 rooms to house 512 students. It should be finished next February.



David Fernandez sets forms for the attic floor on the east end of the dorm. Concrete masonry units are being installed on the east end of the fourth floor, and metal studs are being placed on the lower floors of the east wing.



Roof trusses are in place on the dorm's west end and commons. Decking has started on the southwest corner. Metal stud walls on all floors of the west wing are done. Water lines from the chiller plant are installed and tested, and interior electrical, plumbing, and mechanical rough-ins are under way.



WCU summer term

William Carey University's summer trimester starts June 1: Registration began this week.

William Carey offers flexible degrees, allowing transfer of many Community College of the Air Force credits. Discounted tuition rates are available for active duty military, dependents, retirees, and Defense Department civilians.

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

Scholarships available

The Keesler Chiefs Group is sponsoring three scholarships for enlisted personnel seeking their first Community College of the Air Force degree.

Applications are available at the base education office or from any permanent party chief master sergeant.

April 22 is the deadline to submit the application and supporting documentation turned in to the education office.

For more information, call Chief Master Sgt. Damian Orslene, 377-8441

Drill downs, parades

The 81st Training Group conducts drill downs and parades on the parade field behind the Levitow Training Support Facility.

Drill downs — 8 a.m. Friday; 7 a.m. June 12 and Aug. 7; 8 a.m. Oct. 2.

Parades — 6 p.m. June 25 and Sept. 17.

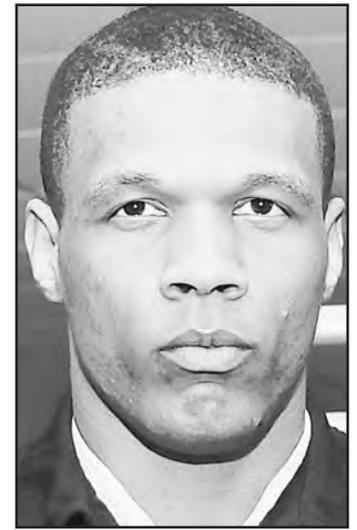
For drill down information, call Tech. Sgt. Malcolm Summers, 377-2103. For parade information, call Staff Sgt. Donald McNair, 377-9527.

Quarterly awards

The 81st Training Group's quarterly awards ceremony is 3:30 p.m. Monday at Welch Auditorium.

Top CDC scores

Staff Sgt. Michael Hartson, right, 81st Communications Squadron, scored a 99 on his career development course test. Other top scorers during March and April are Airman David Foss, 81st Security Forces Squadron, 96; Airmen 1st Class Lynn Stanley, 81st Civil Engineer Squadron, and Lizeth Rico-Gallegos, 81st Dental Squadron, 95; Airmen 1st Class Nicholas Fasola, 81st CES, and Chelsea McCall, 81st SFS, 94; Tech. Sgt. Michael Raby, 81st CS, 93; Senior Airman John Taylor, 81st CES, and Airman 1st Class Hansil Jules, 81st DS, 92; Senior Airmen Brandon Harris, 81st Comptroller Squadron, and Shannon Kabling and Cara Montgomery, 81st Medical Group, 91; and Airmen 1st Class Andrew Bouck, 81st MDG, and John Doiron, 81st Diagnostics and Therapeutics Squadron, 90.



For more information, call Master Sgts. Peter Anthony, Christopher Mossor, 377-5528.

Special testing dates

Application deadlines and dates for special testing are:

SAT — April 24 for May 25.

ACT — May 22 for June 22.

PRAXIS I and II — June 14 for July 13.

Test time is 7 a.m. for all.

For more information, call 376-8708.

New CCAF program

The Community College of the Air Force's General Education Mobile is a partnership between CCAF and civilian academic institutions that offers clustered online general education courses to meet CCAF degree requirements.

For more information, call the education center, 376-8708 or 8710.

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 376-8472.

GI Bill benefits

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

For more information, call 376-8708.

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.

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.

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

NEWS AND FEATURES

85th Engineering Squadron NCO claims Air Combat Command award

By Airman 1st Class David Salanitri

Keesler News editor

Master Sgt. Steven Mullens, 85th Engineering Installation Squadron plans flight chief, is Air Combat Command's communications individual award winner for 2008.

Last year, Sergeant Mullens deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom where he enabled an isolated Forward Operating Base with the ability to command and control to NATO combat forces, led Soldiers on a post rocket attack mission to fix damaged communication wire and was the first recipient of the International Security Assistance Force's Airmen Committed to Combat Excellence Award.

He was also coined by Lt. Gen. Gary North, commander of 9th Air Force and U.S. Air Force Central, Shaw Air Force Base, S.C.

While stateside, Sergeant Mullens was recognized as the 85th EIS senior noncommissioned officer of the second quarter in 2008.

Sergeant Mullens now competes at Air Force level.



Sergeant Mullens

More \$ sought for mental health services

Air Force News Service

WASHINGTON — Proposed Department of Veterans Affairs funding will provide more post-traumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injury services to combat veterans, as well as other mental-health care and services for wounded warriors, President Barack Obama said April 9.

"The nightmares of war don't always end when our loved ones return home," he said.

"Untold thousands of service men and women returning from Iraq and Afghanistan suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder or other serious psychological injury," he said.

The president called the growing incidence of suicide among active-duty service members and returning combat veterans "disturbing."

"Sometimes the deadliest wounds are the ones you cannot see, and we cannot afford to let the unseen wounds go untreated," he said. "And that's why this budget dramatically increases funding for mental-health screening and treatment at all levels."

The proposed budget represents the largest single-year increase in VA funding in three decades.

"We will increase funding by \$25 billion over the next five years," President Obama said.

The president recognized that thousands of Iraq and Afghanistan veterans have suffered from traumatic brain injury.

"Many with TBI have never been evaluated by a physician," he said. "Because such injuries can often have long-term impacts that only show up down the road, this funding will help ensure they received the ongoing care they need."

The budget proposal also will increase the number of veteran centers and mobile health clinics, expanding access to mental-health care in rural areas, he said. Meanwhile, it also aims to reduce the stigma of seeking care by adding mental-health professionals to educate veterans and their families about their injuries and their options.

President Obama said the funding request will also provide other improvements in the medical care and other benefits veterans receive.

"This budget doesn't just signify increased funding for the VA health-care program," he said. "It significantly expands coverage so that 500,000 more veterans who have previously been denied it will receive it, and it strengthens care and services across a broad range of areas."

The proposed budget also will:

Invest in better technology to deliver services and benefits to veterans with the quality and efficiency they deserve;

Provide greater benefits to veterans who are medically retired from service;

Combat homelessness by safeguarding vulnerable veterans; and

Ensure the timely adoption of new, comprehensive education benefits that veterans earn through their military service.

President Obama said all Americans "share the shame of 154,000 veterans going homeless on any given night."

His budget request will fund a pilot program for not-for-profit groups to ensure that veterans at risk of losing their homes have a roof over their heads.

IN THE NEWS

Air Force Assistance Fund report

As of Friday, Keesler has pledged \$49378.50 in this year's Air Force Assistance Fund campaign.

That's more than 66 percent of the base's \$74,281 goal.

The AFAF drive ends April 24.

Meadows Gate construction

Through May 13, only two lanes of Meadows Drive from will be open from 6th Street to the gate.

The two gate lanes on the south side, the exiting lanes, will be closed for upgrades to Keesler's denial barriers. For access, the two remaining lanes will be used as one entrance and one exit lane.

When the barriers on the south side are complete, the barriers on the north side entrance of the gate must be installed. Then, the two lanes on the south side will become one entrance and one exit lane.

Death notification

Col. Christopher Valle, 81st Training Wing commander, regrets to announce the death of Master Sgt. Bernice Windham, 81st Medical Support Squadron.

Sergeant Windham, 39, died Saturday. He served in the Air Force for 22 years and was a veteran of the Gulf War and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

He is survived by his wife, Kim; his daughter, Bethany, and his son, Collin, all of Biloxi; two sisters, Pat Robine of Fort Smith, Ark., and Cindy Wood of Forest, Miss.; and two brothers, Jim Windham of Fort Smith and Herbie Windham of Forest.

Sergeant Windham's funeral was held Wednesday at the Larcher Chapel.

Anyone with claims for or against Sergeant Windham's estate, call 1st Lt. Ammon Hickman, summary court officer, 376-4871.

Cell phone restrictions for drivers

It's a primary offense to use a cell phone while driving on base without a hands-free device.

For military members, offenses are subject to citation for points, and for civilian employees, dependents, retirees and contractors, citations carry a fine. For all offenders, driving privileges can be suspended for seven days for the first offense, 30 days for a second offense and one year for a third offense.

For more information, call the 81st Security Forces Squadron, 376-6600, or the wing safety office, 377-2007.

Off-limits establishments

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

Budget,

from Page 1

“Everything that I found that needed to be done for the warfighter had to be done outside the base budget and outside the regular bureaucracy of the Pentagon,” he said. “It seemed to me strange that the Department of Defense engaged in two wars, had to do all this stuff, in essence, off the cuff and not as part of a regular program.”

The defense secretary said supplemental budgets accounted for the funding required to remedy problems at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C.; fielding more mine-resistant vehicles, providing more intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance assets to warfighters; and countering threats from makeshift bombs.

These additional ad hoc budgets also supported family programs, research and medical care for post-traumatic stress

and traumatic brain injury and other quality-of-life programs, the secretary said.

“I couldn’t understand why the building was so consumed with preparing for wars in the future and was so incapable of fighting the wars we were in,” he said. “They were being funded in supplementals — they weren’t a part of the permanent budget of the Department of Defense. And so when supplementals went away, they would all be at risk.”

Accordingly, Secretary Gates recommended the fiscal 2010 budget include \$11 billion to increase the Army and Marine Corps end strength and to allow the Navy and Air Force to stop reducing the size of their ranks.

The other thrust of his proposed budget was institutionalizing the warfighters’ needs by putting more funding in the baseline budgets of the individual services.

The secretary recommended increasing funding for intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance for each serv-

“I’m just trying to get the guys who are in the wars of today a seat at the table where the money is handed out.”

— Secretary Gates

ice branch, a 5 percent increase in special operations forces, a \$500 million increase for helicopter crews, maintenance and other programs.

“People have said I’m too focused on the wars of today and too critical of those with ‘next-war-itis,’” he said. “And what I tell them is I’m just trying to get the guys who are in the wars of today a seat

at the table where the money is handed out.”

Meanwhile, Secretary Gates said, the U.S. military needs to adopt a 21st-century outlook.

The days of World War II thinking and Cold War strategy have given way to an era of conflicts that blend conventional and irregular capabilities into a complex, hybrid warfare, Secretary Gates said. He cited Russia’s use of special forces and cyber warfare before invading Georgia in August as an example.

“They used all these aspects before their ground troops began moving into Georgia,” he said.

Hezbollah also exemplified the concept through its ability to use makeshift explosives and launch small-scale terrorist attacks, all while possessing “more missiles than most countries,” he said.

The secretary’s message to students and faculty members here was clear: “The service culture and mentality have to keep modernizing,” he said.

“The Army can’t keep

thinking about how it’s going to fight the Fulda Gap or Desert Storm all over again.,” he said. “The Marines have not had a major amphibious landing since 1950. The Navy keeps wanting to fight Midway again. And the Air Force just loves to fly with pilots in the cockpit.”

While no one is proposing a dramatic departure from the past — such as completely abandoning manned aircraft — the United States does need to think about how to combine its various means, Gates said.

“I think trying to figure out how you structure a military that provides you with the maximum flexibility for the broadest range of possibilities of conflict seems to me the challenge that faces the department and the services today,” he said. “Because the kind of traditional conflicts we’ve experienced are, as the kids would say, ‘So 20th-century.’”

“And it’s partly a matter of beginning to think about it, and beginning to budget for it,” he added.

Back to civilian life? Get medical records ready

By Capt. Brett Mazey

81st Medical Support Squadron

Whether you’ve served for four years or 30, transitioning back to civilian status can be a challenging task. To ensure a smooth transition, it’s important to start preparing well before you hang up your uniform.

Record managers for Keesler Medical Center and the Keesler Dental Clinic are ready to help you manage the transition of your medical records for retirement.

Under the direction of Maj. Gen. (Dr.) Thomas Loftus, assistant Air Force surgeon general, changes were made recently to the records retirement process which have been adopted by all branches of service.

In the past, the medical treatment facility health records manager would forward your health and dental records to the military personal section before your outprocessing appointment. From there, your records either would be sent to the Department of Veterans Affairs Record Management Center in St. Louis or to a regional Veterans Affairs office for processing of a disability claim.

As of Jan. 1, all HTRs for separating and retiring Airmen are sent to the Air Force Personal Center records disposition center at Randolph Air Force Base, Texas. Now the important part: you have a role in assuring your records continue to serve you and your country appropriately long after you have separated or retired.

Once you’ve notified the MPS you’re ready to separate or retire from service, the MPS will provide the medical and dental treatment facilities health records managers a projected retirement/separation notification roster. This roster is updated and generated monthly. Your name and date of projected retirement or separation appear on this roster 30-60 days prior to your outprocessing appointment with the MPS.

During outprocessing, it’s mandatory to stop by the medical and dental facilities’ records departments and submit two copies of your retirement or separation orders. One copy of your orders is placed in your medical/dental record and the other is filed for tracking purposes. This should be done as soon as you receive your orders, but no later than five duty days before your final outprocessing appointment, to

give record managers ample time to process your records for retirement.

When you drop off your retirement or separation orders to the medical records department, the records manager determines if you plan to file a disability claim with the Department of Veterans Affairs. If you decide to file a claim, you’ll either need to complete an online DVA claims application or the records manager will fill out a “Memorandum for Separating/Retiring Members Intent to File DVA Claim” for your signature. The DVA claim is placed in your medical record. It’s also a good time to request a copy of your medical records.

The disabilities claim process can begin prior to separating. The Benefits Delivery at Discharge Program, a joint initiative between the DVA and the Department of Defense, allows retiring and separating Airmen the opportunity to sit down with a DVA representative to assist transitioning Airmen in assembling their disability claim package.

To take full benefit of this program, start this process 60 to 180 days before separating or retiring. It’s important to start the process early so the DVA can

establish your disability claim package in a timely manner.

Separating and retiring Airmen may request a complete copy of their medical records 179 calendar days and no later than 30 calendar days prior to the date of their final separation or retirement date. The records release office has 30 calendar days to fulfill the request. All Airmen are entitled to one copy of their medical records during their career, and it’s the responsibility of each Airman to make any additional copies for future use, such as for your next medical provider.

Once you have outprocessed the MPS, the medical treatment facility’s records manager holds your medical and dental records for an additional 30 days to ensure all loose, late-flowing medical documents are identified and filed in your medical or dental records. The medical records manager forwards all medical and dental records to the Air Force Personnel Center for disposition no later than 30 days following the Airman’s separation or retired date.

For more information, call the medical center’s records department, 376-4744, and the dental clinic’s records department, 376-5150.

PERSONNEL NOTES

Involuntary NCO retraining

81st Force Support Squadron

Air Force officials have announced Phase II of the fiscal 2009 noncommissioned officer retraining program for retraining from Air Force Specialty Codes with overages to AFSCs with NCO shortage. This involuntary phase runs through May 31.

For more information and a list of the affected AFSCs, visit the military personnel section or call 376-8739.

2009 selection boards

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

June 8 — lieutenant colonel and major BSC/NC.

July 13-24 — senior noncommissioned officer supplemental.

Aug. 17-28 — command screening.

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

Oct. 13-26 — chief master sergeant evaluation.

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

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

New discrimination hotline

Air Force Personnel Center

The Air Force Discrimination Hotline has a new toll free number — 1-888-231-4058 — that serves all active-duty, Guard, Reserve and civilian Airmen.

The 24/7 hotline number ensures all unlawful discrimination and sexual harassment concerns are quickly identified and addressed. It streamlines the process by which individuals can speak with an equal opportunity professional at the Air Force Personnel Center to advise and assist with their concerns and issues. Callers can remain anonymous.

Personnel are highly encouraged to use their chain of command and/or local EO office as a first means to address concerns, but the 24/7 hotline is available to those who don't have immediate access to their local EO office.

Military personnel contacts

Military personnel section phone numbers:

Customer support — 376-8738.

Career development — 376-8739.

Force management — 376-8740.

Student personnel center — 377-4111.

Testing — 376-4111.

Medical appointments

People needing appointments at Keesler Medical Center can book them online instead of calling the central appointment desk.

Log on to <http://www.tricareonline.com> and click on "My Health" to complete registration. Common access card holders may use their cards and personal identification numbers, while others must set up a username and password.

The site allows users to book urgent and non-urgent appointments based on their needs.

Appointments are automatically booked with the individual's primary care manager. If the PCM is unavailable, the user is given the option to make the appointment with another provider in the same clinic.

All active-duty members should register themselves at the online site when they arrive at Keesler.

Family members must be registered separately.

For more information, call 376-3101.

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.

To report sexual assaults
at Keesler,
call 377-7278.



Acupuncture enters Keesler treatment arena

By Steve Pivnick

81st Medical Group Public Affairs

Keesler plastic surgeon Maj. (Dr.) Kerry Latham is participating in a pilot program to train active-duty physicians in the discipline of acupuncture.

Air Force Surgeon General Lt. Gen. (Dr.) James Roudebush recently announced the program.

Major Latham is one of 32 physicians from across the Air Force selected for this prestigious pilot program at the Bolger Center in Potomac, Md. Although Major Latham is a board-certified plastic surgeon, she also has an interest in alternative medicine.

“The techniques taught at the military acupuncture training are time-tested and can be used to address common functional organic problems and to treat neuromusculoskeletal pain,” she explained. “A technique called battlefield acupuncture is taught as well. This involves using acupuncture needles in the ear to rapidly diminish pain. It is simple and can be applied even in the battlefield setting.”

The technique was developed by Col. (Dr.) Richard Neimtzow, Andrews Air Force Base, Md., who has treated more than 20,000 patients with acupuncture. He helped to found the military acupuncture training course.

According to Major Latham, acupuncture has been practiced for 2,000 years but has become increasingly standardized, studied and popularized in the U.S. since the 1970s.

“Acupuncture may be able to lessen pain without significant use of heavy pain medicine or with reduced amounts of pain medicine,” the major continued. “It can be helpful for muscle strains that are not associated with bony injury. Acupuncture also can be helpful for pain reduction after being treated for an injury, and can even reduce nausea and headaches.

“Of course, patients who have experienced an injury or have a new headache should be evaluated by their primary care manager or emergency department depending on the severity and urgency of the injury,” she added. “Acupuncture is not meant to replace standard treatments for injuries but it may be helpful in making patients more comfortable after they have been initially evaluated and treated and all serious medical conditions have been ruled out or addressed.”

Major Latham has completed the first of three major certifying sessions in the pilot program and is credentialed to treat acute and subacute pain using auricular therapy, scalp acupuncture, piezoelectric stimulation, surface release techniques and trigger-point deactivations.

Although this is generally not covered by Tricare, the 81st Surgical Operations Squadron plastic surgery clinic will provide acupuncture service for all patients eligible for care at Keesler Medical Center. Patients may make appointments through a referral or may walk into or call the clinic at 376-3026.

A second physician, Capt. (Dr.) Nathan Evans, 81st Medical Operations Squadron internal medicine flight, begins the acupuncture training program this month.



Photo by Steve Pivnick

Major Latham uses a “Pointer Plus” to help find sensitive areas on Tech. Sgt. Fred Woodruff’s ear. These areas lessen a patient’s pain. Major Latham explained, “The ear is like a miniature body; if a patient has back pain, there is a spot on the ear that will reduce it through acupuncture.” Sergeant Woodruff is noncommissioned officer in charge of the plastic surgery clinic.

DRAGON OF THE WEEK

Name — Staff Sgt. Vanna Johnson

Unit — 81st Training Wing command section

Position — customer service representative

Time in the Air Force — six years

Time at Keesler — three years

Hometown — Wilmington, Del.

Noteworthy — deployed to Afghanistan and made it home safely

Why did you join the Air Force? — to continue my travels and be introduced to different cultures

What are your short- and long-term goals — short-term, to win the sports day weightlifting competition; long term, to get my bachelor's degree in criminal justice.



Photo by Kemberly Groue

What are your hobbies? reading, writing poetry, and the best of all — weightlifting

What's your favorite

quote? — Life is not a problem to be solved, but a reality to be experienced. — Soren Kierkegaard

DIAMOND NOTES

While in uniform and not in a formation, conservative sunglasses may be worn. Frames must be of a black or brown material or gold or silver wire and may have small conservative logos that are the same color as the frame or lenses, according to Air Force Instruction 36-2903.



Master Sgt. Thomas O'Connell, 81st Diagnostics and Therapeutics Squadron first sergeant

MEMORABLE MOMENTS



April 1, 1966

The last C-47 left Keesler. These aircraft were used for ground approach radar training, but adoption of less costly simulators made their use unnecessary.

School physicals offered May 1

81st Medical Group

School physical appointments are available noon-6 p.m. May 1 at Keesler Medical Center's pediatric clinic for children 12 years and older. The clinic has designated more than 100 appointments for the physicals.

Physicals are required for many extracurricular activities, such as sports, dance and cheerleading and also may be required for participation in various summer camps or college entry in the fall.

Parents should fill out and bring any forms required by a particular institution. Generic forms will be available in advance at the pediatric clinic front desk.

The school physical appointment won't be scheduled with the child's primary care manager. An additional appointment is

scheduled with the child's PCM to address any issues identified during the school physical appointment."

School physicals include a review of the patient's immunization record; patients will be able to receive any required immunizations determined during the visit in the immunization clinic. Before the appointment, patients meet with a medical technician to complete a medical history, vision screening, height, weight and blood pressure checks, and receive important age-specific information. At the end of the visit, patients receive a copy of the physical form, which is valid for enrollment in school, sports programs and summer camps.

For appointments, call the central appointment line, 1-800-700-8603.

Observance highlights lab professionals

81st Medical Group

Keesler Medical Center observes National Medical Laboratory Professionals Week, Sunday through April 25.

The annual celebration honors medical laboratory professionals and pathologists who play a vital role in health care.

Capt. Mona Nelson, chief of the 81st Diagnostics and Therapeutics Squadron pathology and clinical laboratory services flight core lab, said the

event "is a chance for medical laboratory personnel to celebrate their professionalism and be recognized for their efforts. Often, this time is used to inform and educate medical colleagues and the public about the medical laboratory. Since laboratorians often work behind the scenes, few people know much about the critical testing they perform every day."

The flight consists of 111 active duty, civilian and Air

Force Reserve medical laboratory technicians, clinic laboratory scientists and pathologists. The flight also trains Phase II medical lab students.

Tech. Sgt. Casey Morris, a medical lab technician, is overseeing this year's lab week activities. Among them are providing coffee and donuts to patients, a variety of contests for the staff, several breakfasts and luncheons, sports activities and a picnic.

Deadline nears to apply for summer camp

National Military Family Association
ALEXANDRIA, Va. — The National Military Family Association is accepting applications through Monday

for its Operation Purple Summer Camps.

The free camps are open to children of any uniformed service member, active duty

or reserve component.

Priority is given to military children with a parent deployed or deploying between September 2008 and December 2009 who haven't attended a previous Operation Purple camp. The camps are funded by the Sierra Club and the Sierra Club Foundation.

For information on specific camps and to apply online, visit <http://www.operationpurple.org/>.

This year NMFA hosts more than 9,000 military children at camps in 62 locations in 37 states and territories.

Three camps are being held in Mississippi. The two south Mississippi sites are in Bay St. Louis and Wiggins.

For more information about the NMFA, visit <http://www.nmfa.org/>.

Keesler celebrates Earth, Arbor Day

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News staff

Keesler's first Great Green Expo is the centerpiece event for the base's Earth and Arbor Day observance, Wednesday.

From 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., 29 exhibits are planned from businesses, government agencies and nonprofit organizations emphasizing environmental restoration, wildlife, renewable energy, water conservation and sustainable living. Students from area schools have been invited.

"We encourage the entire base to bring their lunch out to the marina to enjoy the displays and music," said Marcella Whitfield, base resource efficiency manager. "The first 200 people attending the expo receive an energy-saving light bulb and a tree. The state wildlife department will be bringing in a few wild friends to share. and there'll be demonstrations of green cars and solar panel."

Visitors can sign up for a 1 p.m. tour of one the 736 Keesler homes certified by the Leadership and Energy and Environmental Design residential project. The tour departs from the marina and lasts 30-45 minutes.

Other events:

9 a.m. to 1 p.m. — tours of base recycling center for school children

9 a.m. to noon — hazardous household waste turn-in outside recycling center.

Hazardous waste is anything classified as flammable, corrosive, toxic, poisonous or reactive, including old household paints, cleaners, oil or petroleum products and most other chemicals. Items should be brought in original containers, if possible.

10:30 a.m. — National Arbor Day tree planting.

For more information, call Ms. Whitfield, 218-7867, or Melissa Jones, 377-1262.



TREE CITY USA®

Base earns national recognition for 16th year

Arbor Day Foundation

For the 16th time, Keesler has been named a Tree City USA community in recognition of its commitment to community forestry.

The award ceremony is 10:30 a.m. Wednesday at the marina.

The Tree City USA program is sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation in cooperation with the National Association of State Foresters and the U.S. Forest Service.

Keesler met four standards to earn the national recognition — having a tree board or department, a tree care ordinance, a comprehensive community forestry program and an Arbor Day observance and proclamation.

"Trees are a vital component of our cities and towns, providing environmental and economic benefits," said John Rosenow, the foundation's chief executive. "Trees in urban areas reduce the heat island effect caused by pavement and buildings. Properly placed trees can increase property values, while leaves filter the air we breathe by removing dust and other particles."

Dental clinic converts to digital X-ray system

By Master Sgt. James Bunce

81st Dental Squadron

The 81st Dental Squadron Clinic has replaced its old X-rays with a state-of-the-art digital system.

X-ray images, also called dental radiographs, are a primary tool a dentist uses to keep a patient's mouth and teeth healthy. In the past year, the 81st Dental Squadron has taken and developed more than 47,000 X-rays using about 1,900 liters of chemicals. The traditional, or wet film, X-rays took five to seven minutes to develop, or roughly 4,700 hours of processing time per year. In 2006, the Air Force Dental Service launched an initiative to bring all Air Force dental clinics into the digital X-ray image age.

The process of taking and developing traditional wet film X-rays has been replaced by a dental X-ray sensor and computer with many positive effects.

For example, digital X-ray production eliminates the use of noxious pollutant chemicals to develop film, an environmental plus. The old film was housed in a plastic sleeve with a lead backing. Eliminating this use of lead also reduces environment impact.

The staff can take digital X-rays with significantly less radiation exposure than traditional

X-rays. Digital radiology also improves the efficiency and convenience of dental appointments.

The digital film or sensors look much like the old film with one exception — the USB cable extending from the sensor to the computer. Once the sensor is exposed to a much lower level of radiation, a computer software program captures the image which is viewed on a monitor. While radiation doses from traditional dental X-ray film weren't considered dangerous to the patient, digital dental radiographs produce a high-quality image while reducing at radiation exposure by 90 percent.

The greatest advantage of the direct sensor system is the time saved. The image appears directly on the dentist's computer monitor within seconds. The picture can then be enhanced and manipulated as well as shared with other dental providers to assist in diagnosis and treatment of dental diseases.

Once an X-ray is taken, it's archived locally in a patient database. Eventually, bases will be linked to a central repository so X-rays can be available to Air Force dentists worldwide. However, until that capability is established, X-rays taken at Keesler will be copied to a CD-ROM for patients who PCS or retire.



Photo by Steve Pivnick

Staff Sgt. Angel Lopez-Torres, a dental technician, prepares a patient for an X-ray using one of the new state-of-the-art digital systems.

Active-duty, reserve components meet recruiting goals

By John Kruzel

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — All 10 active-duty and reserve military components met or exceeded their recruiting goals in March, with the Marine Corps adding the highest per-

centage of active-duty members, Defense Department officials announced Friday.

The Army Reserve led the reserve components, and all four active departments met or exceeded their March retention goals.

“Recruiting continues to be

strong in all military departments,” Pentagon spokesman Bryan Whitman said.

Published data shows that the Marine Corps goal was to add 1,411 new Marines, which it exceeded by 43 percent, recruiting a total of 2,017.

The Army Reserve outper-

formed its goal of 3,445 by 38 percent, adding 4,771 soldiers.

Here’s a breakdown of the other components:

Active-duty Army — 6,548 accessions with a goal of 6,425, for 102 percent;

Active-duty Navy — 2,857 accessions with a goal

of 2,857, for 100 percent;

Active-duty Air Force — 2,748 accessions with a goal of 2,745, for 100 percent;

Army National Guard — 6,255 accessions with a goal of 4,974, for 126 percent;

Navy Reserve — 654 accessions with a goal of 654, for 100 percent;

Marine Corps Reserve:— 579 accessions with a goal of 566, for 102 percent;

Air National Guard — 933 accessions with a goal of 840, for 111 percent; and

Air Force Reserve — 825 accessions with a goal of 825, for 100 percent.

**April 24
is the deadline
to make your
contribution
to the
Air Force
Assistance Fund.**

CSC employee grateful for support in aftermath of mobile home fire

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News staff

A newcomer to Team Keesler has found strength in adversity through the support of her coworkers at CSC.

Sandy Kinder moved to Mississippi from St. Louis in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina in 2005 after a series of personal hardships — she was mourning her significant other of 30 years and her handicapped cousin who lived with her who died within months of each other, then she lost her factory job after 15 years.

She moved to Mississippi, a place she'd grown to love over the years during visits with family members. A sheet metal fabricator by trade, she found plenty of work in Katrina's wake.

She began her job at CSC Oct. 24, where she handles office requisitions and work orders for structures.

March 1, she returned to her mobile home in Saucier after attending a friend's funeral. Less than 30 minutes after she went to sleep, she awoke to flames at the foot of her bed.

"I thought I had smelled burning wires earlier in the day, but when you live out in the country with people burning debris, you don't give it a second thought," Ms. Kinder recalled. "My boyfriend and I and my cousin next door tried to fight the fire with garden hoses at first. Two neighbors on our dead-end road were fire department members and responded right away, but within five minutes, our trailer was fully engulfed. Then we focused on keeping the flames from burning my cousin's home."

She and her boyfriend escaped the trailer with just their dogs and the nightclothes



Ms. Kinder

they were wearing. Everything they owned was gone.

Ms. Kinder blistered her hands and face and singed her hair trying unsuccessfully to fight the fire and rescue three of her pets — a talking parrot and two kittens. She even lost a new 37-inch television she'd bought with her income tax refund.

"I also learned that fireproof safes aren't necessarily fireproof," Ms. Kinder remarked. "The fire burned the digital keypad and everything in the box — birth certificate, Social Security card, truck title, insurance cards, checkbooks, personal papers — turned to ash."

She lost her cell phone in the blaze, so she didn't have any of the numbers stored in the phone's memory. The one number she remembered belonged to her CSC supervisor, Tony Gravitt.

"His number was written on the board in my office — I must have subconsciously memorized it," she said.

"When Sandy called and explained what happened, we immediately set a plan into action to help her with all the

necessary goods, clothing and pay issues," Mr. Gravitt commented. "She didn't want anyone to fuss about her problems, but we said that she is family and that's what friends do to help friends."

"Everyone within CSC was extremely helpful with donations of money, food, clothing and furniture, and some contacted downtown businesses for donations of food cards, storage unit and furniture," he continued.

Mr. Gravitt and his wife brought Sandy and her boyfriend a hot meal one evening and were shocked at what they saw.

"After seeing the damage first hand, I was completely surprised that they had made it out safely," Mr. Gravitt pointed out. "The house was an empty shell, and they've had to start from scratch. They've been able to rebound fairly quickly. They seem to be in good spirits and things seem to be getting better each day. We're all very thankful for the generosity of everyone that's helped Sandy."

"My new CSC family and my neighbors in Saucier were really there for me," Ms. Kinder said. "I was off work for a week to take care of things, and someone stopped by every night with food, clothes, linens, household goods, money, gift cards — how can I ever thank them?"

Sandy's father provided a travel trailer for them to occupy until they can find affordable housing.

"So right now we don't really need a lot — we don't really have much room for anything," Ms. Kinder explained. "But I'm so grateful for the love and support I've gotten from my new Keesler family."

Lost & Found

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

Reservist creates masterpiece at arts and crafts center wood shop

By Earlene Smith

CSC marketing specialist

Senior Airman Craig Harris was at the arts and crafts center on official business when a wooden chess board on display caught his eye. Being a chess player, he decided to take a closer look.

The solid wood board was just what he had been looking for so he asked Bob McFall, arts and crafts center director, about purchasing it. Mr. McFall suggested he make his own board in the wood shop with the assistance of the center woodcrafters.

Airman Harris hadn't done any woodworking since he was in school, but with time on his hands, he decided to give it a try.

For 1½ months, Airman Harris sawed, sanded and glued pieces of black walnut, maple and mahogany wood together ending up with a 24-inch solid wood board that, with proper care, will last a lifetime.

"At the same time I was working on the board, I decided to make ceramic chess pieces to go with it," he said. "So I acquired the greenware from the center's multi-craft shop and cleaned, painted and fired it. When the pieces were finished, I glued felt to the bottom of each one to prevent scratching the board.

"The more I did, the more I wanted to do," he added.

With wood left over from the chess board project, Airman Harris made checker pieces and a tray. Then, using a picture as a guide, he drew a pattern for a chess box, adding a few touches of his own. In about 2½ weeks he



Photo by Earlene Smith

Airman Smith displays his handcrafted chess set.

had a pine box stained a walnut color. Inside, each chess piece has its own felt-covered receptacle.

Airman Harris, a reservist with the 403rd Logistics Readiness Squadron, still had a little time left before returning to his job with the Atlanta school system, so he used his skills to make a wooden serving tray as a gift for his wife.

"I'll be back to Keesler in April," Airman Harris said, "and I'll definitely be visiting the arts and crafts center. My wife saw the chess board and there are some things she'd like me to make for her; and I'm thinking about making a gun cabinet for myself. That's one thing about the arts and crafts center — you never run out of things to do."

The arts and craft center wood shop is equipped with table saws, band saws, scroll saws and radial arm saws; sanders, routers, jointers, shaper, planer, lathes, hand tools, assorted wood types and a library of woodworking books and patterns. The wood shop carpenter is ready to assist customers with any project from a cutting board to dining room furniture.

People without woodworking experience can attend one of the center's monthly beginners' woodworking classes. The next class is 5-7 p.m., April 29. The \$25 fee includes shop use and materials.

For more information on the arts and crafts center, call 377-2821 or log on to <http://www.keeslerservices.us>

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

Housing office closed

The housing office closes at noon today for a squadron function.

Tax office still open

The tax office remains open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. work days through May 27 to assist military members, retirees and other Defense Department identification card holders with current or prior year tax returns.

For an appointment, call 376-8141.

Fashion show

The Keesler Spouses Club fashion show is 11 a.m. Monday in the Dragon's Lair at Locker House.

Emcee is WLOX-TV news anchor Rebecca Powers.

Lunch is \$10.

For reservations, e-mail vickihamant@hotmail.com.

Legal office closed

The legal office is closed, 7-9 a.m. May 4 in observance of Law Day.

Pampering for spouses

The airman and family readiness center hosts its annual "Pamper Me" event for military spouses, 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. May 8 at the Dragon's Lair in Locker House.

Tentative plans include massages, facials, manicures, spray-on suntans, craft demonstrations and other activities.

Preregistration isn't required.

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.

Root canal treatment

The endodontics department at the Keesler Dental Clinic is seeking patients that require root canal treatment.

All authorized beneficiaries including military retirees and dependents of active duty and

retired are eligible for care.

Patients accepted for treatment are treated by either the endodontic specialty program residents or the residents in the general dentistry program.

Referral from a dentist for root canal treatment is required.

For more information, call 376-5227.

Play group

A play group for ages 5 and younger meets 9:30-11 a.m. Tuesdays at the youth center.

For more information, call Andi Hunter, 313-9822.

Peridontal 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, call 376-5225.

Keesler hoopsters participate in Air Force Basketball Camp

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News staff

Starting Friday, three Keesler basketball standouts are participating in the 2009 All-Air Force basketball trial camps that end May 9.

Dan Nwaelele, 81st Contracting Squadron, is one of 16 players at Warner Robins Air Force Base, Ga., vying for a berth on the final All-Air Force men's basketball team that competes at the 2009 Armed Forces men's basketball championship tournament, May 10-18 at Naval Support Activity, Millington, Tenn.

Carl Goad is the team's officer in charge, John Bailey is the head coach and Jeffrey McClair is the assistant coach for the men's team. All three are from Robins.

Tamekia Foley, 403rd Wing, and Chelsie McCall, 81st Security Forces Squadron, are among the 23 women trying to earn a spot on the final All-Air Force women's team. The women's basketball camp is taking place at Patrick AFB, Fla. The women's Armed Forces



championship tournament is held in conjunction with the men's tournament at Millington.

The women are coached by Darryl Carpenter of Travis AFB, Calif., assisted by Lee McGlown, Lackland AFB, Texas.

Units organizing Sports Day teams

By Airman 1st Class David Salanitri

Keesler News editor

Sports Day at Keesler kicks off April 30 at 7 a.m. with a competitive run on the flight line.

Competitions also include three-on-three basketball, volleyball and softball tournaments, golf, weightlifting, bowling, last man standing and an obstacle course. Winners of each event earn points, which are tallied for overall Sports Day honors.

The top three large squadrons and top three small squadrons receive trophies and which go toward the Commanders Cup at year's end.

"The best part of Sports Days is it gives Keesler members a day to enjoy not only fitness, but camaraderie as well," said Jeffery Green, 81st Aerospace Medicine Squadron, Sports Day project officer.

"In an environment where we are constantly doing more with less, consistently streamlining processes and merging duties, events like this help personnel get out of the office and do things that can improve morale and relationships with other Keesler personnel," said Tech Sgt. Tonisha Layne, sports representative for the 81st Training Wing staff airmen.

To participate or for more information, contact your squadron sports representative.



Volunteer — get connected.

Call 376-8517.

SCORES AND MORE

Bowling

Monday Night Budweiser

Team	Won	Lost
New Meat	131	58
Perry's Refrigeration	129	60
DOG Squad	111	78
Robbie's Rejects	110	79
Hit 9 Get 9	109	80
Wrong Foot Forward	104	85
Man On!	101	88
All Screwed Up	98	91
Slater's Shooters	96	93
Ricky's Rookies	95.5	93.5
Pot Luck	94	95
403rd Strykers	93.5	95.5
Our Gang	89	100
Sandy's Gang	86	103
Martini's	83	106
Hoops Gang	83	106
Team 18	76	113
Why Not	73	116
Team 12	68	121
Unpredictables	54	121

Tuesday Night Mixed

Team	Won	Lost
Mark's Gals	98	54
Peddiattack	84	68
Gutter Dusters	82	70
Lab Rats	68	84
The Dealers	64	88
Vacant	60	92

Wednesday Night Mixed

Team	Won	Lost
Dee's Crew	118	78
Wild Gang	117	79
Any Takers	108	88
Clyde's Crew	104	92
Neighbors Plus 1	103.5	92.5
Ichi Ban	100	96
MUDD	88	108
70s Plus	82	114
Team 6	81	115
Guys and Dolls	78.5	117.5

Thursday Retired Seniors

Team	Won	Lost
Kitty and Kats	123	73
6-Pack	122	74
Team 12	110	86
TBB Express	107	89
Team 16	107	89
Two He's and a She	99	97
Team 13	98	98
Three's Company	96.5	99.5
Team 5	96	100
CHMATO	95	101
Team 14	95	101
Team 8	91	105
Team 11	86	110
2 Kings and A Queen	85	111
3-70s Plus	78	118
Lucky Trio	77.5	118.5

Friday Night Mixed

Team	Won	Lost
Rose and Her Thorns	133	63
Frustrated	108	88
The Strikers	108	88
Mixed Nuts	102	94
Sandbaggers	102	94
We Take Ugly	99	97
3 Guys and a Babe	92	104
Fun Timers	92	104
Pin Pals	90	106
Lady and the Tramps	89	107
Pin Busters	86	110
Beyond Control	75	121

Other

Bowling fund raisers — for more information, call 377-2817.

Youth bowling — for any child old enough to throw the bowling ball down the alley. League meets 9:30 a.m. Saturdays; instruction available. For more information, 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.

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 — boot camp, self-defense, cycling, yoga, step aerobics, circuit training, kick boxing and pilates at Dragon Fitness Center. For more information, call 377-2907.

Certified personal trainers — on staff at Blake, Dragon and Triangle Fitness Centers; free service.

Fit to fight incentive program — register at any Keesler fitness center for this ongoing program. Log miles accumulated on exercise machines that record miles, or by running, walking, biking or swimming. Prizes awarded for various milestones.

Parent/child fitness room — at Dragon Fitness Center. Workout equipment; play area for ages 6 months to 7 years.

Computerized fitness assessments, counseling — available by appointment at Dragon Fitness Center. To schedule, call 377-2907.

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

Wall of Fame — powerlifting event, 1-4 p.m. first compressed work schedule Friday each month, Triangle Fitness Center. Squat, bench press and dead lift; one attempt in any or all three events; 12 weight classes for men, 10 for women. Set record for most pounds lifted or break an existing record and get your picture on the wall. Open to all Defense Department personnel 18 years of age and older.

For more information, call 377-3056.

Triangle Fitness Center — open 10a.m. to 9 p.m. Mondays-working Fridays 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. compressed work schedule Fridays and weekends; closed holidays. For more information, call 377-3056.

Blake Fitness Center — open 4:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. Mondays-working Fridays; 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. compressed work schedule Fridays; 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

weekends and holidays.

Dragon Fitness Center — 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. Mondays-working Fridays. Parent-child fitness room has workout equipment and play area for ages 6 months to 7 years.

Golf

Intramural league — letter of intent due April 30. Preliminary coaches meeting, 3 p.m. April 30; coaches meeting 3 p.m. May 7, Vandenberg Community Center. Tentative start date May 12 at Bay Breeze Golf Course. For more information, call 377-2444.

Youth special — ages 6-12, accompanied by a parent, play golf free in April.

Spring break special — free golf lessons, Monday through April 25. Reservations required. Call 377-3832 or 3827.

Twilight special — 3 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays. Pay one price and golf until closing; E1-E4 \$12, E5-O3 \$20, O4-up \$22, guests \$22.

Nonprior service student special — show phase card or UBU card. Greens fee and cart, \$15 for 18 holes, \$10 for nine holes; add \$5 for rental clubs.

Free golf lessons for nonprior service students 4-5:30 p.m. Tuesdays; first come, first served. Maximum 10 per session; bring own clubs.

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

Outdoor recreation

Preregister for swimming lessons — 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. today, Building 6734, marina park. Lessons begin in June.

Kids fishing rodeo — 6 a.m. April 25 for children and grandchildren of active duty/retired military and Department of Defense civilians. Categories for boys and girls ages 2-6, 7-11 and 12-15. Fish must be caught from Keesler marina docks. Scales open at noon and close at 3 p.m. Prizes and trophies for each group. For more information, call 377-3160.

Trip to Horn Island aboard the Keesler Dolphin — 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays following nonworking Fridays, weather permitting. \$30 including barbecue grill, charcoal and ice. Bring food, drinks, sunscreen and fishing equipment. Minimum 15 passengers. Group rates available. For more information, call 377-3160.

Rent a bicycle — 3500 Trek, seven speed, \$3 a day, \$15 weekly, \$35 monthly.

April fish of the month — weigh in the largest white trout, take home a \$100 savings bond. Minimum three participants.

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

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

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.

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 — Fridays and Sundays on the Keesler Dolphin II. \$75 per person includes everything you need to fish. Payment due upon reservation. Minimum 10, maximum 22 people. For reservation, call 377-3160.

Deep sea fishing private charter — rent Dolphin II, \$750 for first 10 people, \$50 each additional person. No license needed. \$100 deposit required.

17-foot Back Bay cruiser 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.

Softball

Women's varsity team signup — for personnel and dependents ages 18 and older. For more information, call Cindy Hayes, 376-8715 or 365-2917.

Volleyball

(as of April 9)

Team	Won	Lost	Tied
81st DS	5	1	0
81st TRSS	5	1	0
338th TRS	5	1	0
81st LRS-A	3	1	0
334th TRS	3	3	0
333rd TRS	2	4	0
81st LRS-B	0	5	0
81st FSS	0	7	0

All games at Blake Fitness Center.

April 6 — 81st TRSS over 81st FSS, 2-1; 334th TRS over 81st LRS-b, 2-0; 338th TRS over 81st DS, 2-0.

April 8 — 81st LRS-A over 81st FSS, 2-0; 81st DS over 333rd TRS, 2-1; 338th TRS over 334th TRS, 2-1.

Monday — 6 p.m., 334th TRS vs. 81st TRSS; 7 p.m., 81st LRS-A vs. 81st LRS-B; 8 p.m., 333rd TRS vs. 81st TRSS.

Wednesday — 6 p.m., 81st LRS-B vs. 81st DS; 7 p.m., 338th TRS vs. 81st TRSS; 8 p.m., 334th TRS vs. 81st LRS-A.

Whatever your game ...

Play it safe!

HONORS

Student honor roll

332nd Training Squadron

Electronic principles — Airmen Basic Kyle Acierto, Anthony Alano, Max Bachicha, Jonathan Bailey, Joshua Beach, Alex Berry, Michael Branch, Matthew Brewer, Dieter Bullard, Curtis Burbank, James Burt, Ernesto Cano, Matthew Carter, Andrew Chadbourn, David Chaney, Joshua Compehos, Nathaniel Couch, Kurtis Cox, Anthony Cucchiara, Christopher DeLaTorre, Matthew Dunn, Christopher Farrell, Joshua Fereday, Roy Galindo, Mark Gauthier, Brandon Godwin, Austin Gootee, Joel Gregory, Thomas Haymaker, Charles Henderson, Louis Hertzog, Vincent Hill, Patrick Holland, Mychael Holt, Cordero Jackson, Erik Joski, James Kata, Landon Ketchersid, Hayley Lambert, Colin Langston, Fernando Lozano, Andrew Macklem, Jordan McCubbin, Thomas Miller, Zachariah Miniewa, Stephanie Morris, Robert Perry, Cody Perschbacher, Joshua Peters, Sergey Ponomarev, Kyle Puls, Bryan Renz, Ethan Richardson, Patrick Riordan, Christopher Ruby, Damon Rudish, Brett Sadzewicz, Anthony Santoro, Chad Sebald, Alton Schubert, Matthew Smith, Wesley Snider, Russell Stevens, Kevin Summers, Michael Terrell, Christopher Totzke, Michael Tourville, Abel Tuinei, Isaac Turner, Brandon Vance, Brandon Wheat and Travis Williams; Pvt. Matthew Wojtowicz; Airmen Dominick Alfano, Shawn Barrett, Kaylee Bledsoe, Dante Butler, Brandon Conley, Corey Daughtery, Nathan Drake, Robert Compton, Gregg Gurganus, Zachary Hanson, Matthew Johnson, Mark Jackson, Eric Joice, Nicholas Lee, Aaron Potts, Jeffrey Sales, James Schiano, Joshua Shannon, Brennan Stanbury, Jared Stevens, Christopher Storer, Jeffrey Tracy, Kyle Wheeler, Jared Wineland and Daniel Wright; Airmen 1st Class Kevin Amberson, Dustin Anderson, Kevin Armstrong, Donald Baker, Anthony Bakos, Norman Basurto, Eric Bickler, Daniel Bookman, Justin Brooks, Calixto Cassas, Charrich Charlemagne, Kyle Clark, Jason Cordell, Gabriel Cruz-LaFontaine, Andrew Dahn, Logan Davis, Joseph Dunavant, Richard Duncan, Thomas Dunlap, Derek Dutra, Charlotte Eaton, Johnathon Edgerton, Thomas Estes, Jacob Fair, David Fisher, Adam Gagnon, Michael Gilmore, Joseph Guthrie, David Haas, Eric Hagerty, Christopher Halubka, Justin Hawk, Charlie Hoang, Jeremy Jolliff, Christoph Jordan, Benjamin Kalies, Theodore Kaminski, James Kane, Jeremiah Kidder, Leon Korejwo, Alisha Kruger, Daniel Levin, Nathaniel McGill, Jonathan Middleton, Craig Miller, Joseph Mollenkamp, Zachary Montgomery, Christopher Nauta, Abraham Partridge, Deepak Prasad, Jerry Shockley, Douglas Sponsky, Aaron Stubalt, Jonathan Thompson, Dominique Tran, Michael Tran, Jason Uranga, Michael Wells, Bryan Whitlock and Kevin Wittman; Pfc. John Gordon; Senior Airmen Alan Blain, Kevin Brengle, Ronald Coleman, Ronald Forest, Scott Hirazumi, Jeremy Kuperus, Hiracio Martinez, Matthew Place, Taya Schram, Syretta Smith, Joshua Tewmeyer, William Vandermate, Kory Whitmore and Jeffrey Zuercher; Staff Sgts Eldric Bankston, Sara Beale, Anthony Bellinger, Glen Carrington, Alfredo Diaz, Richard Frey, George Gerner, Derrick Graham, Roger Gregory, Bradley Hankinson, James Heimbuecher, Donovan Kenney, Warren Kerrigan, Patrick McCarthy, Jason McDonald, David Morrison, Gerardo Ovalle, Timothy Riman, Clint Ross, Stanley Ruth, Steven Umana, Jeremy Walker and Nicholas Wright; Tech. Sgts Jonathan Eusebio, Jason Walker, James Warrack and Roy Weaver; Master Sgt. Michael Weaver; Senior Master Sgt. Byong Park and Ronald Prince; Chief Master Sgt. Rayyan Flemban; 1st Lt. Mohmmad Abu Haimed.

Metrology basic course — Airman Basic Chase Pugh; Airman Paul Carpenter; Airmen 1st Class Justin Adams, Mitchell Forde and Mathew Struble.

334th TRS

Aerospace control and warning systems — Airman Basic Emma Newcomer; Airmen 1st Class Melanie Biesman, Mary Cartagena-Negron, Nathan Ceja-Dare, Trace Hughes, Jay Troxell and James Williamson.

Air traffic control operations training flight — Airmen Basic William Axson, Arne Belardo, Elizabeth Corbett, Patrick Dunn, Richard Erler, Christopher Felix, Christopher Lee, Nicholas Pane, Ryan Sallis, Robert Shelby and David Trott; Airmen Rodriguez Barner, Joshua Cruzan and Morgan Ivy; Airmen 1st Class Justin Cuyler, Kristina Diaz, Paul Imm, Cassandra Lane, David Lynn, Paul Lyons, Derek McEwen and Brandon Seabaugh; Senior Airman Logan Yamamoto; Staff Sgts. Jacob Eaves and Kilipaki Harris.

Command post apprentice course — Airmen Basic Trent

Golden and Maura Tunney; Airman 1st Class Heather Burge; Senior Airmen Joshua Bronson, Brian Franklin and Timothy Kutz; Staff Sgts. John Borland, Angelo Brightwell, Adam Crogan, Maggie Kasun, Robert Rein and Shawn Wentz; Tech. Sgts. Robert Allen, Jeffery Benenhaley, William Davis, Moira Howerton, Quran Johnson, Kiara Jones, Richard Kennedy and Noralee Perkins; Master Sgts. Jeffrey Cummings and Richard Fanning; Senior Master Sgt. Teresita Del Rosario.

335th TRS

Comptroller training flight — Airmen Basic Travis Carbonell, Chieh Chen, Demetrius Collins, Jonathan Daniels, Nancy Ervin, Akeydra Hagens, Sharde Hampton, Gina Hayes Airman Kelsey Buis, Julia Fomina, Nathaniel Kirschman, Shea Townsend and Adam West; Airmen 1st Class David Ansay, Patrick Beazer, Carlos Esguerra, Matthew Folendore, Robert Fortin, Jesse Hughes, April Lemon, Stephen Maroko, John Morin, Pete Sanchez, and April Williams; Senior Airmen Ryan Ferguson and Joshua Krueger; Staff Sgt. Ju Anna Blake, Russell Carr, Dequoia Edwards, Martin Hanley, Nathan Kraft, Jerry Madriaga, Stanley Mar, Howard McGriff and Rodney McInnis; Tech. Sgts. Edwin Aguilar and Leora Awana; Master Sgts. Doris Hagan and Lamarr Johnson.

Weather training flight — Airman Basic Christopher Moran; Airmen 1st Class Nicholas Kirby, Brandon Larson and Robert Ochoa.

336th TRS

Communications-computer systems flight — Airmen Basic Sean Hofstadter, Michael Lackovic, Denver Moore and Jordan Moore; Airman Steven Jakus; Airmen 1st Class Michael Anderton, Benjamin Braker, Ryan Brewer, Anthony Clark Joshua Hartmann, Chadwick McGuire Benjamin Paddock and Joshua Stewart; Senior Airmen Brian Koch and Andrew Saulls; Staff Sgts. Brian Foreman, Jonathan Jones, Joseph Shinaver and Jeffrey Whitaker; Tech. Sgts. Pelayo Llanos-Lopez and David Whittaker; Master Sgts. Michael Nabolitz and Russell Scott.

Communications and information flight — Airmen Basic Brett Adams, Jason Bartok, Spencer Eades, Grace Enriquez, Joseph Goddard, Nicholas Hoover, Barry Hopkins, Jonathan Howard, Nikki Licuanan, David Linden, Jenna Miller, Justin Munzing, Zackery Nuvy, Jeremy Osinski, Christopher Rushing, Michell'le Terrelonge, Brandon Tyler and Jarrod Villareal; Airmen Noah Blach, Michael Cook and Anthony Wellens; Airmen 1st Class Michael Ashley, Raecann Batz, Ryan Briggs, Jonathan Brown, Michael D'Amico, Jacquelyn DeLauder, Joshua Deville, Reed Esslinger, Brian Haddad, Kyle Harvey, David Hickox, Kellie Hinkle, Lindsay Holt, Christopher Kattner, Meredith Long, Michael Pazarena,

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

Roman Catholic

Sunday Mass

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

Weekday Mass

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

William Randall, Kevin Reynolds, Jayme Rodriguez, Angel Sanchez, Daniel Simmons, Stephen Tritten, Aaron Vondehar, Barry Westmoreland, Jerry Williams and Matthew Zeltman; Senior Airmen Karol Bakowski, Kenneth Butler, Travis Casey, Chrystal Gusler, Jeffrey Hicks, Claude Jackson, Joshua Konakowitz, Thomas Melvin, Corey Ross and Wesley Sobczyk; Staff Sgts. Daniel Ball, Charles Clayton, Aaron Copeland, Cameron Davis, Alicia Dunn, Kansas Franks, Charlie Freeman, Thomas Knoll, Nathan Langston, Peter MacMillan, Joseph Michael, Qadir Phillips and Dylan Young; Tech. Sgts. William Hartung, Kevin Hicks, Gerardo Rodriguez and Eric Turner; Master Sgts. Christina Hutchins and Marnie Jewell; Senior Master Sgts. David Robles and Robert Tice; Chief Master Sgt. James Boswell; Sherice Stovall.

338th TRS

Airfield systems — Airmen 1st Class Brent Ardolino, Benjamin Byers, Kelvin Ciprian and Nathan Grilley.

Ground radar — Airmen Diana Garcia-Sanchez, Scott Kababik and Adam Lessel; Airmen 1st Class Keith Ammons, Erik Borgeson, Michael Jaquier, Daniel Nichols, Alex Parker, Peter Sigmund and Edward Willocks; Senior Airman Christopher Bartlett; Master Sgt. Kelly Merrell.

Network infrastructure systems — Airmen Basic Brandon Garrison and Jordan Howell; Airmen 1st Class Matthew Belt, Steven Childers, Nicholas Ervin, Adam Lichtenberg, John Saringo and Dustin Smisson; Staff Sgts. Paul DeForge and Stephen Pragovich; Technical Sgt. Gregory Claiborne; Senior Master Sgt. Donald Miller.

CLASSES

Airman Leadership School

Class 09-4 — graduates May 21.

Mathies NCO Academy

Class 09-4 — graduates May 21.

Airman and family readiness center

Editor's note: All classes open to anyone with base access. To register or for more information, call 376-8728.

Resume writing class — 9-11 a.m. Monday, Room 108A, Sablich Center. Be prepared to stay for the entire class; bring job announcement or help-wanted advertisement and any performance evaluations or other past employment accomplishments.

Federal resume writing class — 2:30-4:30 p.m. Monday, Room 108A, Sablich Center. Bring a complete Federal job announcement, even if that job isn't open at Keesler, and information about job accomplishments.

College financial aid class — 3:30-5 p.m. Tuesday, Room 108A, Sablich Center, presented by Rose Bremerkamp, University of Southern Mississippi, and Searcy Taylor, Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College.

Veterans Administration home loan guaranty entitlements — 9-11 a.m. Wednesday, Room 108A, Sablich Center.

Smooth Move seminars — 9-10:30 a.m. April 29, Sablich Center Room 108B. Covers permanent changes of station process, including recent changes. Spouses encouraged to attend.

Women veterans issues briefing — 9 a.m. May 5, Room 108A, Sablich Center, with Mary Plaskon, Biloxi Veterans Administration Center. To register, call 376-8728.

Career assessment class — 1-3 p.m. May 5, Room 108A, Sablich Center. Open to high school seniors, young adults, those leaving the military or others seeking new career paths. To register, call 376-8728.

Arts and crafts center

Bob Ross painting — 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. April 25. Wet on wet painting technique on 16x 20-inch canvas. \$65 including all supplies and light refreshments. Class size limited.

Scrapbooking/card making — 10:30 a.m. to noon Saturday. \$10 including materials.

Jewelry making — 10:30 a.m. to noon Saturday. \$30 including materials. Learn wire wrapping and tooling.

Beginning intarsia woodworking — 10 a.m. Saturday. \$15 including materials. Intarsia is the art of piecing wood in a decorative pattern.

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Advanced intarsia woodworking — 10 a.m. April 25. \$20 including materials and tool use.

Beginning woodworking — April 29. \$25 including shop use and materials. Class provides certification for future equipment use. Call for time.

Beginning framing — one class, three sessions, 5:30 p.m. today, April 23 and 30. \$60 per person. Bring your favorite photograph or art work, no larger than 11x14 inches.

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

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.

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.

Keesler Medical Center

Pediatric subspecialty clinic

Baby Boot Camp — 11 a.m.-1 p.m. second Thursday of the month in conference room BF 400, located off the outpatient clinic entrance. Classes cover infants from birth to 6 months of age. Classes address common concerns of new parents such as booking appointments, colic, immunizations, safety, feeding issues, developmental milestones, dental care and infant cardiopulmonary resuscitation. Gifts, prizes and refreshments are included. Classes open to members of all branches of the military and their dependents. To sign up, call Capt. Romeatrus Moss, 376-5375. For more information, call Capt. Moss, Maj. Muriel Gatlin, 376-5387, or Staff Sgt. Jihan Brown, 376-5579.

Mental health clinic

Post-traumatic stress disorder — 1:30 p.m. Mondays.

Healthy thinking — 2 p.m. Tuesdays.

Stress management techniques — 10 a.m. Wednesdays.

Relaxation techniques — 9 a.m. Mondays.

To register, call 376-0385.

McBride Library

Story time — April 23; 11 a.m. ages 3-5, 4 p.m. ages 6 and older. Stories, activities and special events.

Overdrive audio online book program — individual or family accounts can be set up to allow download/playing of full length audio books on a personal computer. Check with library staff for details.

Rosetta Stone online language learning center — 30 foreign languages including Spanish. For more information, check with the library staff.

Chief of Staff professional military reading list — titles available for checkout from the special book collection.

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.

Orientations for teens and older — 6:30 p.m.

Wednesdays. Basic information on Ebsco and Gale Group.

Paperback book swap — swap one for one. Must be in good condition and of same genre.

CLUBS AND CENTERS

Vandenberg Community Center

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

UBU party — 8 p.m. Friday for nonprior service students only. Prizes and giveaways.

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.

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.

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.

Free basketball clinic — 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, ages 5-14.

Cheerleading instruction — 1-6 p.m. Saturday.

Free youth career fair — 1-4 p.m. April 25. Information on a variety of careers, college opportunities, grants and admission requirements. Food, games and giveaways.

Keystone Club — 6 p.m. Mondays for teens.

Teen aviation camp — applications available now. For more information, call 377-4116.

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.

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.

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DINING HALL MENUS

Today

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

Dinner — pork chops with mushroom gravy, braised liver with onions, fried fish, hush puppies, rissole potatoes, rice, gravy, broccoli, peas and carrots, corn, fruit salad, potato salad, cream of broccoli soup, chicken chili, cheeseburger soup, buffalo wings and roast beef subs.

Friday

Lunch — chili macaroni, barbecue chicken, fried catfish, potato wedges, Spanish rice, gravy, fried cabbage, carrots, broccoli, pasta salad, three-bean salad, chicken and wild rice soup, French onion soup, chili, barbecue pork sandwich and burritos.

Dinner — shrimp scampi, beef stew, turkey, egg noodles, rice, gravy, corn on the cob, cauliflower, collard greens, three-bean salad, chicken and wild rice soup, French onion soup, chili, barbecue pork sandwich and burritos.

Saturday

Lunch — baked fish, knockwurst, Chinese five-spice chicken, potatoes, rice pilaf, gravy, stir-fry vegetables, baked beans, spinach, fruit salad, kidney bean salad, clam chowder, chili and chicken nuggets.

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

Sunday

Lunch — stir-fry beef with broccoli, turkey nuggets, pork chop suey, sauteed mushrooms and onions, baked potatoes, rice pilaf, gravy, corn on the cob, green beans, German coleslaw, tomato salad, chicken tortilla soup, baked potato chowder, chili and cheese pizza.

Dinner — oven fried fish, spareribs, chicken breast parmesan, macaroni and cheese, O'Brien potatoes, gravy, peas, sweet potatoes, broccoli combo, German coleslaw, tomato salad, chicken tortilla soup, baked potato chowder, chili and cheese pizza.

Monday

Lunch — spaghetti with meat sauce, loin strip steak, turkey, baked potatoes, pea and pepper rice, gravy, squash, carrots, broccoli, sauteed mushrooms and onions, macaroni salad, cucumber/onion salad, chicken dumpling soup, minestrone, chili with beans, grilled sausage and steak and cheese subs.

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

Tuesday

Dinner — teriyaki chicken, veal parmesan, baked fish, rice, parsley buttered potatoes, gravy, fried cabbage, succotash, steamed carrots, macaroni salad, cottage cheese salad, beef pot roast soup, vegetable soup, chicken chili, sloppy joes and roast beef subs.

Lunch — country captain chicken, meatloaf, turkey a la king, rice, mashed potatoes, gravy, tempura vegetables, mustard greens, okra tomato gumbo, macaroni salad, cottage cheese salad, beef pot roast soup, vegetable soup, chicken chili, sloppy joes and roast beef subs.

Wednesday

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

Dinner — lemon-herb chicken, pork chalupa, jambalaya, scalloped potatoes, rice, gravy, cauliflower combo, Mexican corn, Mexican coleslaw, frijole salad, chicken noodle soup, cream of potato soup, chili, cheese fishwich and pizza.

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Transition assistance program — briefings for 2009 are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. 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 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.

TICKETS AND TRIPS

Discounted tickets — for information, log on to <http://www.keeslerservices.us> and click on the ITT link.

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

Free Disney World tickets — for information, log on to <http://www.keeslerservices.us>

Disney special continues — Salute to Military program continues. Order your tickets now. For more information, call 377-3818.

MEETINGS

African-American Heritage Committee — 3:30 p.m. second Tuesday of the month, Room 109, Taylor Logistics Building. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Yolanda Jerry, 377-2157, or Kurt Higgins, 377-5250.

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

AFAF representatives

Installation project officer — 2nd Lt. Laura Piranio, 81st Logistics Readiness Squadron, 376-3007.

Assistant project officers — 2nd Lts. Dan Nwaelele, 81st Contracting Squadron, 377-1830, and Aileen Koukal, 81st LRS, 376-3007.

332nd Training Squadron — Gregory Hunter, 377-1976, and Tech. Sgt. Julie Sargent, 377-1529.

333rd TRS — Capt. Joseph Manning, 377-0672, and Master Sgt. Troy Edwards, 377-1919.

334th TRS — Staff Sgt. Thomas Crowther, 377-3456, and Capt. Mark Kraemer, 377-9385.

335th TRS — Tech. Sgt. Yolanda Heyward, 377-7674, and Staff Sgt. Kenyatta Williams, 377-0337.

336th TRS — Tech. Sgt. Felix Rodriguez, 377-4315 or 4167; Senior Airman Cornelio Flores, 377-9349; and Tech. Sgt. James Briney, 377-7723.

338th TRS — Staff Sgt. Marcus Palmer, 377-4688, and Tech. Sgt. Kyle Ganey, 377-2337.

45th Airlift Squadron — Capt. Jason Eddy, 377-5682, and Airman 1st Class Jill Balderas, 377-2577.

81st Aerospace Medicine Squadron — 2nd Lt. Kristy Rakes, 376-3218, and Airman 1st Class Harold Tamodong, 376-3211.

81st Civil Engineer Squadron — Tech. Sgt. Kendall Jones, 861-4964, and Staff Sgt. Christopher Perry, 377-1348.

81st Communications Squadron — Senior Master Sgt. Jores Hinojos, 377-8885, and Master Sgt. Anthony Parisi, 377-8058.

81st Comptroller Squadron — Staff Sgt. Celestine Russell, 376-8223.

81st Contracting Squadron — Senior Airman Alex Potter, 377-1823, and Airman 1st Class Zakk Young, 377-1809.

81st Dental Squadron — Master Sgt. Laura Leos, 375-5138, and Staff Sgt. Natasha Carter, 376-5138.

81st Diagnostics and Therapeutics Squadron — Tech. Sgt. Phillip Diroma, 376-3808, and Staff Sgt. Chad Robbins, 375-5056 or 5064.

81st Force Support Squadron — Tech. Sgt. Estrada Santiago and Staff Sgt. Thomas Clark, 376-8357.

81st Inpatient Operations Squadron — Airman 1st Class Kimberly Delus, 376-3327, and Senior Airman Johann Bermudez, 376-5612.

81st Medical Group — Maj. Debra Zinsmeyer, 376-3876; Capt. Robert Curtis, 376-4446, and Senior Master Sgt. Steven Runyon, 376-5008.

81st Medical Operations Squadron — Senior Airman Niguel Pulley, 376-3302.

81st Medical Support Squadron — Master Sgt. Mary Sarris, 376-3333; Staff Sgt. Tawnie Miller, 376-3275.

81st Mission Support Group — Master Sgt. Jodi Evans, 377-4845.

81st Security Forces Squadron — Master Sgt. Steven Jones-Johnson, 376-5677; Tech. Sgt. Jeremy Davis, 376-6649.

81st Surgical Operations Squadron — Staff Sgt. Luis Vasquez, 376-0466; Airman 1st Class Adam Hall, 376-6649.

81st Training Group — Master Sgt. Stephanie Messer, 377-7367; Master Sgt. Darold Graham, 377-9307.

81st Training Support Squadron — Master Sgt. Maurice Quick, 377-1463; Tech. Sgt. Marcus Hosten, 377-5044.

81st Training Wing staff agencies — Capt. Jeff Phillips, 376-8125.

85th Engineering Installation Squadron — Master Sgt. Trevor Kearns, 377-1127; Tech. Sgt. John Weimer, 377-4997.

Air Force Office of Special Investigations Detachment 407 — Master Sgt. Roger Applegate, 377-3420.