



KEESLER NEWS

Keesler Air Force Base
Biloxi, Mississippi

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Train to Fight — Train to Win

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Dragons deployed — 199

Final farewell to a Tuskegee Airman



Photo by Adam Bond

Staff Sgt. Jose Ramos, right, from the Keesler Honor Guard presents the flag to Rose Decatur at a Sept. 3 interment ceremony for her husband, Robert Decatur, at Biloxi National Cemetery. Mr. Decatur, who died Aug. 19 at the age of 88, was the first black pre-flight cadet to be sent to Keesler for basic training in 1943. He went on to become a Tuskegee Airman, judge, civil-rights lawyer and recipient of the Congressional Gold Medal.

H1N1 shots for active duty begin next month

By Jim Garamone

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — All military personnel will be vaccinated against the H1N1 flu virus, a Defense Department health affairs official said Sept. 2.

The H1N1 vaccination program will begin in early October for active-duty mem-

bers, said Army Lt. Col. (Dr.) Wayne Hachey, director of preventive medicine for DOD health affairs.

"We've been told to expect our first shipment of vaccine in November," said Maj. Matthew West, public health flight commander for the 81st Aerospace Medicine Squadron. "We'll let our dependents know just as soon as an H1N1 vaccine is

available for them as well."

The vaccine, which is licensed by the Food and Drug Administration, is mandatory for uniformed personnel, the colonel said.

"What we want to do is target those people who are at highest risk for transmission," Colonel Hachey said.

Health-care workers, deploying troops, those serving on

ships and submarines, and new accessions are at the top of the list.

"Any place where we take a lot of people, squash them all together and get them nice and close and put them under stressful conditions will get the vaccine first," he said.

The H1N1 is a never-

Please see **Flu**, Page 9

Lorenz on Leadership

Personal touch tops technological capability

By Gen. Stephen Lorenz

Air Education and Training Command commander

I am a digital immigrant. You see, in the summer of 1972, as a senior at the Air Force Academy, I spent \$125 on a small “personal computer.” At roughly \$650 in today’s dollars, the small unit was able to do four things: add, subtract, multiply and divide. It was a cutting edge ... calculator. Although we were only permitted to use it while checking our work, it was, essentially, my introduction to the world of computing.

Today, we cannot accomplish our mission without technology and computing. Unlike me, those entering the Air Force today are digital natives. These natives don’t remember a time when green military identification cards rarely left your wallet, the military personnel flight wasn’t “virtual” and BlackBerries were just a seasonal fruit. This got me wondering. Has our leadership style adapted to take full advantage of the technology through the years? Has technology improved a leader’s ability to make a difference?

Let’s start by looking at how technology has changed the workplace. Beyond the most noticeable and tangible aspects such as e-mail, PowerPoint and cell phones, I contend that technology has transformed the workplace in three main areas: collaboration, automation and personal accessibility.

Collaboration includes our ability to network, collect and share information. Getting the right information to the right people when they need it isn’t always as easy as it sounds. After all, accurate information is a key element in making objective decisions and objectivity is what keeps our organizations headed in the best direction. Today’s challenge,

however, is managing the sheer volume of available information. Technological advancements will only make this challenge greater in years to come.

By automation, I’m talking about technology’s impact on the tasks we do each and every day. Historically, automation has been one of the enablers for doing “more with less.” Our most expensive asset is our people. Technology gives us the ability to energize certain efficiencies by replacing manpower with technology. Maintaining the balance of technology and manpower will only continue to be a daily leadership challenge.

Lastly, accessibility applies to our ability to contact anyone, anywhere, anytime through voice and data communication. There are two key aspects of accessibility: how a leader makes themselves available to others and how you, as a leader, take advantage of the availability of others. It is important that commanders, while making themselves available at all hours of the day, don’t foster an environment where subordinates are afraid to get decisions from anywhere but the top. At the same time, leaders must guard against exploiting the availability of others, especially subordinates. Such exploitation will only reinforce to subordinates that decisions can only come from the top.

Accessibility has also changed how we make ourselves available to others. Many commanders like to say that they have an “open-door policy.” Don’t fool yourself into thinking that issues will always walk through the open door. Leaders still need to escape the electronic accessibility, namely e-mail, and seek human interaction. A new Airman in the squadron isn’t going to raise a concern by walking into a commander’s office, but might if the commander is able to interact in that work environ-

ment. Leadership by walking around will always be a positive leadership principle.

I like to think that there are three kinds of people when dealing with technology: pessimists, optimists and realists. The technology pessimists are those people who resist any change due to improved technologies. Technology optimists jump at the earliest opportunity to implement any technological advancement. The last category, the technology realist, makes up the lion share of us all. The realist accepts that change is necessary and works to integrate improvements, but doesn’t continually search for and implement emerging technology.

Our organizations need all three technology types in order to run smoothly. It is incumbent upon each of us to understand what kind of technologist we, and those whom we work around, are. This is simply another medium where one size won’t fit all. The leader must adapt their style depending on who they deal with and the nature of the task to be performed. The pessimist might not “hear” the things communicated electronically. By the same token, resist the temptation to send all correspondence electronically to the optimist, even though their response might be back within seconds. Always push for the personal touch and realize that your approach will be different for each person.

In essence, leadership is the challenge of inspiring the people in an organization on a goal-oriented journey. Technology enables that journey and we, as leaders, must successfully manage both the benefits and detriments of that evolution. Ultimately, the leader is still responsible for themselves, their people and the results of their units. It’s how they can make a difference in both the lives of their peo-

101 Critical Days of Summer comes to close

By Brig. Gen. Ian Dickinson

81st Training Wing commander

As you read this, we have just completed the 101 Critical Days of Summer without a single Airman death at Keesler. Thank you for your attention to personal and operational risk management.

That said, we did not get through the entire summer without any accidents. We have an Airman still recovering from a serious accident where weather appears to be the most significant contributing factor. We have all of our thoughts going out to that Airman and his family for a full recovery from his tragic accident. It gives us a very sobering reminder that we must remain extremely vigilant and truly respect the impact weather can have on travel conditions. Even though we can do everything else right, like this Airman did, weather still adds risk to any trip

and must be considered both when developing and executing travel plans.

Several of you joined me when I attended one of Air Education and Training Command’s fatality video teleconferences last month. I, for one, was struck by the fact that both Airmen who were killed whose cases were the subject of the VTC were killed due to similar issues—weather or challenging roads mixed with inexperienced drivers, at least for the vehicles involved. Let us each dedicate ourselves anew to being serious about accepting that new vehicles or inclement weather are good reasons to increase caution or decrease speed and that the posted speed limits are for ideal conditions on those roadways. There is no substitute for being more careful until we have developed greater experience—part of that experience is learning our limitations at the controls of a motor vehicle.

We do have some positive news to report, however. For the first time since at least 2007 we went an entire calendar month without a single DUI incident. The entire month of August 2009 was DUI-free. We’ve proven it can be done!

Unfortunately, we had several DUI incidents over the Labor Day weekend. Let’s re-dedicate ourselves to ensuring we don’t put our community and our families at risk by driving while under the influence. None of us wants to find ourselves like the grandfather described in the article in last week’s paper.

We are working on the method for tracking, advertising and rewarding ourselves for going a significant period of time without a DUI. Let’s get back on track for a very productive and safe fall and winter and watching 2010 arrive knowing our whole Keesler family is around to see what it has to offer.



DRAGON ON THE STREET

By Senior Airman
Eric Summers

Keesler Public Affairs

If you could change something about the uniform, what would it be?



Add elastic to pants legs.

Airman Kerry Moore,
81st Medical Support Squadron



Add ventilation to uniform.

2nd Lt. Stellina Anelli,
81st Force Support Squadron



Take hat away from uniform.

Staff Sgt. Donald Edwards,
81st Logistics Readiness Squadron.

KEESLER NEWS

81st Training Wing commander

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TRAINING AND EDUCATION

Connett shares excitement of training mission



Photo by Adam Bond

Colonel Connett assumed command of the 81st TRG June 25.

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News editor

When she was at Keesler five years ago as 81st Mission Support Squadron commander, Col. Lynn Connett was “one of those folks working hard behind the scenes.” Now that she’s the 81st Training Group commander, “I find myself at the center table — it’s almost surreal.”

Colonel Connett’s journey back to Keesler took her through a position on the assignment floor at the Air Force Personnel Center, a year at National War College and an Air Staff position in which she helped develop new career development opportunities for civilians.

“I felt more prepared coming into this position than any other job I’ve had in the Air Force,” said Colonel Connett, who assumed command of the 81st TRG June 25. “I can tie every job I’ve ever had to this Air Force mission. The opportunity to lead the MSS enabled me to understand the 81st Training Wing organization. While assigned to Air Education and Training Command headquarters, I learned the dynamics of the command’s strategic mission — recruiting, training and education. Then fast forward to Air Staff and the work I was involved in with force development. Each of those positions, and others, prepared me for the training group’s mission.”

In her new position, she speaks to a variety of different audiences, but her key message remains the same.

“Whether they’re students or instructors, they’re training group members,” she emphasizes. “Everything we do makes a difference, not just for today but long term. We are truly building our next generation of Airmen. What we do today will ripple through the Air Force for the next five, 10, 15, 20 years.

“You’re laying the groundwork and growing tomorrow’s leaders for the operational Air Force,” she reminds her training team. “Today’s airman basic may someday be a chief. That young second lieutenant will be one of tomorrow’s senior leaders.”

While at the Pentagon, Colonel Connett learned that training for military members is a very deliberate, synchronized process — right time, right place, right opportunities.

“They come to Keesler for initial skills training, they come back for upgrade training,” she explained. “They may come back for advanced training or cross-training. We’ll touch Airmen through their entire careers, to get them ready for that next level of leadership and to take over as our old-timers prepare to walk out the door.”

Not long ago, Colonel Connett heard a comment at a retirement ceremony, “I have fewer years ahead of me than I do behind me in my career.” That realization is guiding her leadership path at Keesler.

“I have 22 years in the Air Force — I have fewer years ahead of me than behind me,” she remarked. “Now I’m in a position to ask, ‘How can I help the Airmen behind me to be ready for the challenges that will face them? How can we put them on the right track?’”

One of Colonel Connett’s favorite parts of her job is welcoming nonprior service Airmen to Keesler each week.

“I ask all the new force support, personnel or manpower students to stand up,” said the colonel as she focuses for a moment on perhaps a dozen students moving into her own functional community. “I tell them, ‘Welcome to the Air Force’s best (Air Force Specialty Code). Here’s why we’re important to the Air Force mission.’”

“Then I look at the rest of them and say, ‘When you get out of tech training at Keesler, I hope you’ll be able to articulate to me why your AFSC is the best in the Air Force and why it’s the most important career field in the Air Force,’” she continued. “We all support the operational Air Force mission, and if you can’t understand why it’s important for you to go to work every day, if you can’t tie what you do directly to the mission, you don’t need to be here.”

Colonel Connett also considers wise use of technology resources to be one of the most significant challenges for the 81st TRG.

“We must take the newest technology available and integrate it into training to make our work more effective and efficient, not just because it’s there,” she emphasized. “There may be courses where e-books are the right way to go; there are other courses for which you want that hard-copy paper-bound book. The same goes for distance learning — some courses lend themselves to this approach, but others don’t. We have to use the technology to deliver the courses that train the individual more efficiently and effectively, not just technology for technology’s sake.”

Colonel Connett stressed that it’s important to remember that Keesler’s training mission doesn’t exist in a vacuum.

“The training group needs the mission support group, the medical group — we need every single person on this base to help us do our mission,” she pointed out. “Since I’ve returned to Keesler, all I’ve seen are fantastic working relationships with the entire wing focused on ensuring that our training mission is accomplished. This is an incredible opportunity and I’m honored to be here.”

On a personal note, Colonel Connett is married to Lt. Col. Jay Stone, a clinical psychologist in the 81st Medical Operations Squadron’s mental health flight. They have three children.

“My husband is preparing to deploy to Southwest Asia for six months,” she said. “When we were in Washington, he helped establish policy for the treatment of post traumatic stress disorder. This is going to be an incredible opportunity for him.”

Sergeant Foster sorts through items brought to a donation box in the lobby of Cody Hall.

Photo by Adam Bond



Volunteer activity provides comfort to ailing soldiers

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News editor

Staff Sgt. Iya Foster turned her experiences while stationed in Germany into a base-wide project to benefit wounded warriors.

Sergeant Foster, an aviation resource management instructor in the 334th Training Squadron, mentioned the Landstuhl Hospital Care Project, to her fellow instructors when it was her turn to propose a monthly volunteer activity.

“When I was stationed at Ramstein Air Base in Germany before coming to Keesler, I deployed with flight nurses and medical technicians who cared for people who were injured in the desert,” Sergeant Foster recalled. “We have lots of wounded warriors and I didn’t want them to be forgotten. I thought it would be good to give back to our own.”

LHCP, a non-profit organization under the Combined Federal Campaign umbrella, provides comfort and relief items for military members who become sick, injured, or wounded from service in Iraq, Kuwait, and Afghanistan.

Donated items are distributed to patients at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in

Germany, the largest American military hospital outside the United States. Other donations are forwarded to field hospitals in Afghanistan and Iraq and to Veterans Affairs medical facilities throughout the United States.

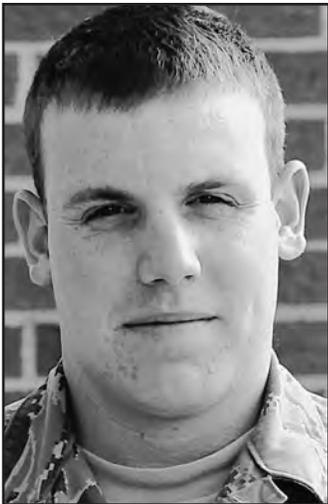
Many specific things are needed, but many other items aren’t accepted, according to the LHCP Web site, <http://www.landstuhlhospitalcareproject.org>. Sergeant Foster scanned the list and narrowed down donations to travel sizes of men’s and women’s shaving cream and deodorant.

As donations began coming in from the aviation resource management flight in August, the project expanded to the rest of the squadron and other units in the 81st Training Group. Each unit in the 81st TRG has a representative to collect and coordinate donations. The first shipment was mailed Sept. 3.

Sergeant Foster decided to extend the project through September and invited other units across the base to participate.

There’s a collection box in the lobby of Cody Hall, and Sergeant Foster is willing to pick up items from donors who can’t drop them off.

To donate or for more information, call Sergeant Foster, 377-474.



Airman Gautreau

Electronic principles academic aces

Airman Justin Gautreau and Airman 1st Class Mark Whaite graduated from the electronic principles course in the 332nd Training Squadron Sept. 1 with perfect scores. Airman Gautreau, from Boston, continues his training in the F-15 avionics attack control system apprentice course at Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas. Airman Whaite, from Oakhurst, Calif., is also headed to Sheppard for the F-16 avionics systems apprentice course.

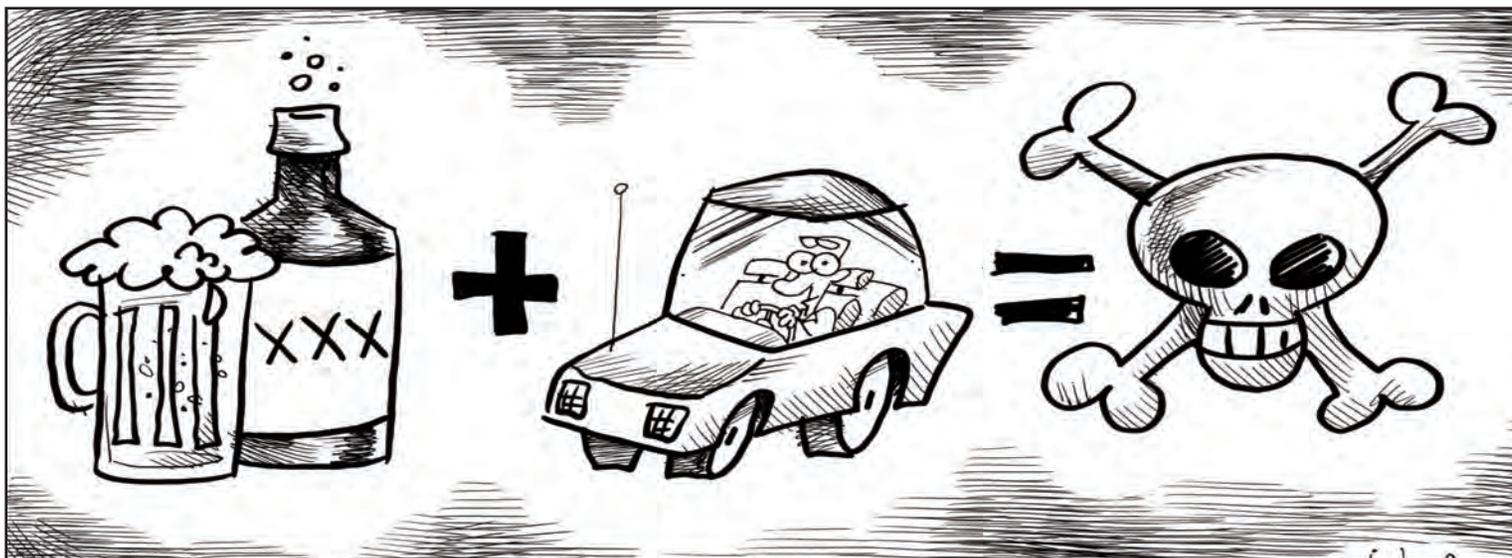


Airman Whaite

Base shuttle schedules can be found
on Keesler's public Web site.

Log on to

<http://www.keesler.af.mil/library/factsheets/factsheet.asp?id=15371>



TRAINING, EDUCATION NOTES

Air Force Academy jobs

Sept. 30 is the deadline to apply for officer instructor positions at the Air Force Academy and limited positions at the U.S. Military Academy and the U.S. Naval Academy.

Information about the three-year controlled tour is available at http://ask.afpc.randolph.af.mil/main_content.asp?prods1=1&prods2=14&prods3=190&prods4=821&p_faqid=6051

For more information, call DSN 664-4048 or e-mail afpc.dpasf@randolph.af.mil.

Drill downs, parades

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

Drill down — 8 a.m. Oct. 2.

Parade — 6 p.m. Sept. 17.

For drill down information, call Staff Sgt. Julie Hammond, 377-2103. For parade information, call Staff Sgt. Gregory Washington, 377-2789.

House party

A UBU house party for nonprior service students is 8 p.m. Sept. 18 at the Legends Cafe in Vandenberg Community Center.

Students make pick up a free UBU card at the event, or show their current card and become eligible for prizes and giveaways.

The party is sponsored by the Army and Air Force Exchange Service and Keesler Federal Credit Union.

ACSC options

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

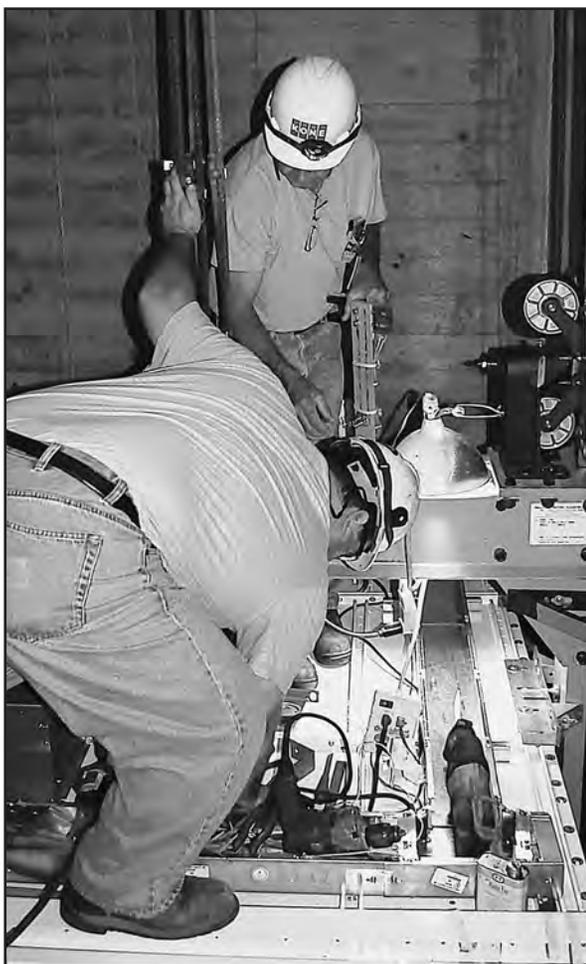
Majors or major-selects of all services and civilians General Schedule-11 and above are eligible.

For more information, call 376-8472.

Going up

Kone Elevator technicians Jeff Combe, foreground, and Mike Ison prepare to place a normal terminal stopping device atop the elevator cab they have been building at Keesler Medical Center. Elevator 1 is the first of the three-bank elevators in the rear of the main medical center building, being completely replaced. It should be operational this month. Work on all three elevators should be completed early next year. The original elevators were installed when the medical center was constructed in 1957. First Lt. Zane Holland, the medical center's director of plant operations, said the new elevators will be about 3-4 inches wider and deeper, enabling them to accommodate a variety of patient beds and increasing the number of elevators available to transport patients. They also will have the newest technology, will be more reliable and meet current safety codes. The two "A-Tower" elevators in the front of the main building were refurbished earlier with new wall coverings and ceilings.

Photo by Steve Pivnick



\$14.5 million contract finalized for permanent-party dormitory

Naval Facilities Engineering Command and Keesler News staff

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — A \$14.5 million contract was awarded Aug. 28 by Naval Facilities Engineering Command to Anderson Drace Joint Venture of Gulfport for construction of a permanent-party dormitory at Keesler.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act contract calls for the construction of a 144-room dormitory for junior enlisted Airmen.

"We are very pleased to get this project started to bring our Airmen's dorms up to the most modern standards and bring them into a campus near our new base exchange and commissary as laid out in one of our several area development plans," said Brig. Gen. Ian Dickinson, 81st Training Wing commander.

"The new dorm will be built in the old North Pinehaven housing area next to the Meadows Drive Gate," said Col. Jeffrey Jackson, 81st Mission Support Group commander. "Eventually we will have three new dorms in that area."

The facility design will incorporate anti-terrorism/force protection features, Energy Policy Act 2005 criteria and seek silver certification from the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design building rating system. For LEED certification, the U.S. Green Building Council provides a suite of standards for environmentally-sustainable construction.

The dormitory project includes construction of a multi-story dormitory unit with reinforced concrete foundation, with slabs, masonry walls, brick veneer, standing seam metal roof system, mechanical/electrical systems, heating, ventilation and air conditioning, fire protection system, and security system.

The contract also provides site improvements, including storm water management connection, parking with sidewalks and landscaping, excavation, fill and demolition.

The expected completion date for work under this contract is June 2011.

Susan Brink, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, and Susan Griggs, Keesler News editor, contributed to this report.

IN THE NEWS

Base celebrates Air Force birthday

Keesler celebrates the Air Force's 62nd birthday, 3:15 p.m. Sept. 17 on the Triangle parade field adjacent to the Levitow Training Support Facility.

A commander's call for students and permanent party members is followed by a cake-cutting ceremony featuring Keesler's youngest Airman.

Free hot dogs and burgers are served beginning at 4 p.m. That's also the time to begin the "Guitar Hero" competition that continues for an hour, then continues during the 30-minute breaks between bands.

A reception for base leaders and community dignitaries takes place on the Levitow balcony at 5 p.m.

Four bands will entertain — Isis at 5 p.m., Wes Loper at 6:30 p.m., Stereohype at 8 p.m. and Eleven at 9:30 p.m.

A dunk booth and "inflatables" are available.

Sponsors are Keesler Federal Credit Union, GEICO, Beau Rivage, BancorpSouth, Ben and Jerry's, Budweiser, Play N Trade and Yates Construction.

Caution near Pass Road Gate

Off-road construction has resumed near the Pass Road Gate.

"Most work is away from the golf cart path and I-81 running track, but those who use the path and running track should be aware of the construction and be very careful when near the orange construction fencing or traffic cones," said Ron Junkin, 81st Mission Support Group. The contractor will stay as far away from the path and track as possible, but at one point at the north end of the wall, the path comes very close to the construction. Please take extra precautions to avoid danger."

Tops in Blue headed to Biloxi

Tops in Blue presents a free performance, 7 p.m. Oct. 25 at the Mississippi Coast Coliseum in Biloxi.

Tops in Blue is an all active-duty Air Force special unit made up of talented amateur vocalists, musicians, dancers, comedians, magicians and dramatists who travel around the world as goodwill ambassadors to perform for military and community audiences.

Chiropractic clinic closed

Keesler Medical Center's chiropractic clinic in Arnold Annex reopens at 7 a.m. Monday.

Avoid construction sites

Do not enter any base construction sites unless authorized.

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

Flu,

from Page 1

before-seen combination of human, swine and avian flu viruses, officials said. First detected in Mexico in February, it quickly spread around the world.

Maj. (Dr.) Jessica Cowden, chief of pediatric infectious diseases for the 81st Medical Squadron, said that by the end of August there have been more than 209,438 cases confirmed worldwide and at least 2,185 deaths. In the United States, there have been 36,872 confirmed cases and 556 deaths.

DOD officials will use the usual seasonal flu vaccine distribution chain for the H1N1, Colonel Hachey said, noting

that while the mass H1N1 vaccinations are new to the general population, the process for vaccinating against seasonal flu is old hat for DOD.

"We've been doing this for decades," the colonel said. "The system is tried and true."

DOD initially will receive 1 million doses of the H1N1 vaccine, and another 1.7 million doses later in October.

Officials don't know whether people will need one dose or two, Colonel Hachey said.

"The assumption right now is that people will need two doses, 21 days apart," he said. "That may change."

FDA officials still are studying H1N1 and the vaccine, and the results should be known by the end of the month.

Seasonal flu vaccine already is available, and DOD

officials will begin giving those shots shortly, Colonel Hachey said.

"That has been our message to immunizers: to try and get as many people as they can immunized against the seasonal flu early," he said.

Guidelines for giving priority to family members will follow those for the general population, Colonel Hachey said. The Department of Health and Human Services is buying millions of doses of the vaccine.

"Installations are going to register with each state as an immunizer," Colonel Hachey said. "They will tell how many people they care for. This includes dependents, retirees and so on."

The Centers for Disease Control staff will place the order and will ship the vaccine

where needed. Family members will have multiple opportunities to get the vaccine, whether at DOD medical facilities or off base.

The CDC has established target groups for those at greatest risk for transmitting or being affected by H1N1. They include pregnant women, health-care workers, those younger than 25 or older than 65 and those with pre-existing health conditions.

"We have been preparing for pandemic flu because of its potential impact on the mission," Colonel Hachey said.

The symptoms of the H1N1 flu are almost the same as the seasonal flu: fever, sore throat, runny nose, nausea, muscle aches and feeling rundown. The 2009 H1N1 virus — also known as swine flu — is a pandemic virus, according to the World

Health Organization. U.S. officials call the virus "troubling" and urge communities across the United States to take actions to mitigate the effects of it.

"As I said when we saw the first cases of this virus back in the spring, I don't want anybody to be alarmed, but I do want everybody to be prepared," President Barack Obama said. "We need families and businesses to ensure that they have plans in place if a family member, a child or a co-worker contracts the flu and needs to stay home. And most importantly, we need everyone to get informed about individual risk factors, and we need everyone to take the common-sense steps that we know can make a difference."

Steve Pivnick, 81st Medical Group Public Affairs, contributed to this report.



Remembrance events planned for this Friday

Friday, Keesler reflects and remembers the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on the United States with the these events:

7 a.m. — Dragon Run on the flight line.

3 p.m. — remembrance ceremony sponsored by Keesler's Center for Naval Aviation Technical Training Unit at Welch Auditorium.

4:30 p.m. — retreat ceremony at flag pole in front of 81st Training Wing headquarters. (Note: Starting at 1 p.m. until the ceremony ends, Meadows Drive is blocked from Chappie James Avenue to 1st Street and Chappie James Avenue is closed from Meadows Drive to E Street.)

PERSONNEL NOTES

Speaker briefs military spouses

Friday, a guest speaker from Military One Source gives presentations on education information, career programs, and portable careers for military spouses.

Sessions are 9-10:30 a.m. and 2:30-4 p.m. in the Sablich Center auditorium on the second floor.

Briefings are for all spouses, regardless of branch of service, active duty, guard or reserve.

Topics include choosing a career counselor/coach, returning to school as a military spouse, financial aid, finding a job after a military move, different types of flexible work options, legitimate home business opportunities and more.

Seating is limited. For reservations, call 376-8728.

2009 selection boards

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

Sept. 21-25 — special selection boards.

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.

Base-of-preference updates

Members may now update base of preference online through the virtual MPF.

For more information, call 376-8739.

Customer service hours

Customer service is open 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on “down Fridays.”

To be issued an identification card, two forms of legal identification are necessary. Dependents are required to be accompanied by their sponsor unless they have power of attorney or a Defense Department Form 1172.

For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Carlton Vinson, 376-8339.

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.

Discrimination hotline

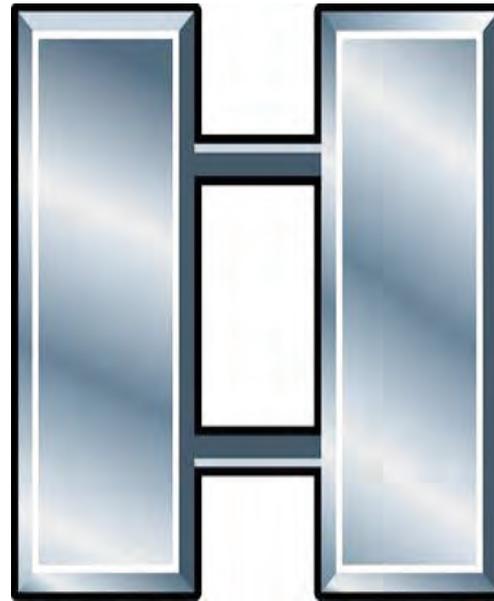
Air Force Personnel Center

The Air Force Discrimination Hotline, 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.

11 Keesler lieutenants selected for promotion



By Susan Griggs

Keesler News editor

Eleven Keesler first lieutenants have been selected for promotion to captain.

They are:

81st Communications Squadron — Laymond Wilburn.

81st Inpatient Operations Squadron — Angelina Justiniano Spencer.

81st Logistics Readiness Squadron — Timothy Bourcet.

81st Training Wing — John Capps, Stephanie Lutz and Virginia Mack.

81st Medical Operations Squadron — Deanna Landis and Michael Vietti.

81st Medical Support Squadron — Ammon Hickman.

85th Engineering Installation Squadron — Christopher Higgins and Gregory Pergo.

Fiscal closeout may delay PCS orders in September

By Daniel Elkins

Air Force Personnel Center Public Affairs

RANDOLPH Air Force Base, Texas — Some Airmen may experience slight delays in receiving permanent-change-of-station orders in September as officials here begin implementing new procedures for closing out the fiscal year PCS budget.

Active-duty Airmen with assignment report dates or a date eligible for return from overseas of January 2010 or later may be impacted by the delay in receiving their orders.

Airmen entering the service, separating or retiring are not affected.

Air Force Personnel Center officials here implemented new procedures in July that ensure Airmen continue to receive orders in-hand no later than 60 days prior to their projected departure date, but no earlier than 90 days prior to their reporting date, or DEROS.

AFPC is budgeted to publish a set number of PCS orders each fiscal year. As the fiscal year comes to a close, AFPC officials will be closely observing base-level military personnel sections to ensure they do not exceed the overall number of orders allowed by the budget. To prevent exceeding the budget while ensuring the availability of sufficient PCS funds to cover obligations, approval of orders may temporarily shift from the base level to AFPC.

“AFPC may need to restrict base-level approving official access and centrally authenticate the remaining orders here,” said Lt. Col. Gloria Porter, AFPC Assignments Directorate Analysis Branch chief. “This restriction should only last two to three weeks at most in order to balance the books.”

If monitoring of base military personnel sections reveals the Air Force is operating well within its budgeted PCS funds, AFPC officials will approve as many orders as needed to meet mission requirements. However, if remaining PCS funds are very limited, they will only approve orders for Airmen as an exception to policy on a case-by-case basis, Colonel Porter said.

Assignments considered under the exception to the policy include Airmen required to perform temporary duty en route between assignments, individual emergencies, personal hardships or those whose moves are in the best interest of the Air Force.

Colonel Porter emphasized that it is imperative that the MPS and other orders-publishing authorities exercise extreme diligence in continuing normal orders processing while exercising thorough quality control for accuracy.

For more information about PCS orders publication, visit <http://ask.afpc.randolph.af.mil> and type “PCS orders in-hand” into the search engine or call the 24-hour Total Force Service Center-San Antonio, 1-800-525-0102.

DRAGON OF THE WEEK

Name — Airman 1st Class Michael Coblentz

Unit — 81st Training Group

Position — knowledge operations manager

Time in Air Force — 10 months; attended tech school at Keesler and was subsequently assigned here.

Noteworthy — tracks enlisted and officer performance reports, decorations and correspondence and career development course/upgrade training; represents the 8ast TRG as SharePoint contact for evaluation management system and enterprise information management.

Hometown — Cedar Springs, Mich.

Why did you join the Air Force? to serve my country and make my family proud



Photo by Kemberly Groue

What are your short- and long-term goals? short-term, complete CDC and score high on final test; long-term, raise my first child to the best of my ability

What's your favorite quote? "People don't plan to

fail; they fail to plan." — John Beckley

What are your hobbies? football (playing/watching, taking my dog for walks with my wife, camping, watching movies



DIAMOND NOTES

While enjoying Keesler's swimming pools, remember that Air Force Instruction 36-2903 states that "off-duty on a military installation, members are prohibited from attaching jewelry or ornamentation to any exposed body part" — that includes naval piercings.

Master Sgt. Gerald Cross
335th Training Squadron first sergeant



MEMORABLE MOMENTS



Sept. 9, 1965

Hurricane Betsy lashed the Gulf Coast with winds more than 100 miles per hour and storm surge as high as 15 feet above normal.

Downtown Biloxi suffered heavy flooding and wind damage. Keesler personnel assisted with rescue efforts, storm clean-up and emergency repairs.

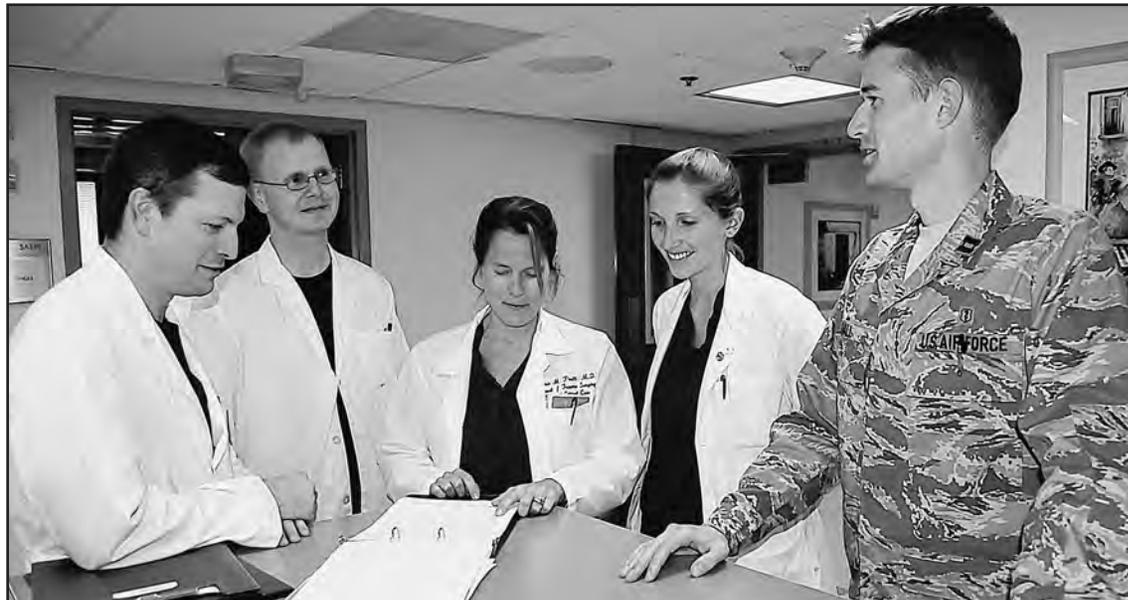


Photo by Steve Pivnick

Lt. Col. (Dr.) Valerie Pruitt, center, reviews a patient's chart with surgery residents, from left, Capts. (Drs.) Mark Lytle, Charles Woodham, Leslie Keller and Andrew Hall. Keesler's surgical residency, effectively closed following Hurricane Katrina in 2005, was restructured in 2008 under the leadership of Colonel Pruitt.

Surgical residency receives full ACGME accreditation

81st Medical Group

Keesler's 81st Medical Group, which boasts the largest Air Force surgical training residency program, has received full ACGME accreditation as a joint training platform.

The program was evaluated by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education, the governing body for all United States physician medical training programs, in April 2009.

The surgical residency received full accreditation from the ACGME to proceed with training four general surgeons each year for five years of general surgery residency.

"This marks one more major milestone in Keesler's post-Katrina recovery and return to pre-Katrina operations," said Brig. Gen. (Dr.) Dan Wyman, 81st MDG commander. "It also exemplifies the spirit of our Gulf Coast Joint Venture and cooperation between the services and the VA.

"This provides a unique and highly robust training platform with resident experiences in the three military services, the VA, a civilian institution, as well as

an overseas location, where we care for our wounded warriors.

"The program is unparalleled and we believe it will serve as a major element in recruiting and producing the next generation of outstanding military surgeons."

According to Col. Martha Stokes, 81st MDG director of graduate medical education, the surgical residency was electively closed following Hurricane Katrina in 2005 and re-established in July 2007. The program was restructured in 2008 under the leadership of Program Director Lt. Col. (Dr.) Valerie Pruitt to include integration with the Naval Hospital in Pensacola, Fla., 96th Medical Group at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., and the Biloxi Veterans Affairs Medical Center.

The surgical residents also perform specialty rotations at the University of Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson, Brooke Army Medical Center Burn Unit in San Antonio and Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany. Colonel Pruitt noted this training platform enforces and sets a clear understanding of the function-

ing of the joint service environment and reflects the current operational environment.

"The Keesler Medical Center general surgery residency brings an individual into the military and promotes the Air Force core values and expectations as an officer," Colonel Pruitt said. "Contrary to civilian surgical residency programs where the emphasis is on molding individuals into surgeons, the military residency program emphasis is on molding individuals into surgeons who work in a joint-service team environment to support the war fighter under any theater command."

"In this program, having 20 future Air Force surgeons who get to know each other and not only work together but also within all branches of the military, creates a continual knowledge base on a personal and professional level. This training platform lends to creating camaraderie among the future surgeons and continual professional relations promoting informational sharing among all levels of residents and active military surgeons."



Who you callin' a ham?

Originally considered an insult to describe an inconsiderate and selfish performer (ham actor), or an incompetent landline telegraph operator, the term “ham” in operator speak mainly referred to an operator’s ability to jam other operators out of the conversation or from the ability to transmit.

Alternative explanations are that ham is a shortened version of ‘ham-fisted,’ meaning clumsy.

“Amateur” refers to the prohibition by law from accepting monetary or material compensation of any kind for any activities performed as radio operators.

For more information on amateur radio, visit <http://www.arrl.org>. For information on K5TYP, visit <http://www.k5typ.org>.

Retired Master Sgt. Don Martin, left, looks on as Sergeant Collings, 338th TRS, repairs a Heath Kit HF transceiver. The two men are part of the newly revived K5TYP, the call letters for the base’s amateur radio club.

Photos by Adam Bond

Fans revive amateur radio club

By **Angela Cutrer**

Keesler News staff

The July 21 graduation of the final radio operations class at Keesler Air Force Base may have brought to close 61 years of instruction, but don’t think that radio operations are now mute in this area. Local enthusiasts are attempting to bring back the long-lived K5TYP, the call letters for the base’s amateur radio club.

“(This) place was a real port in the storm in the old days, and I think it can be again,” said Master Sgt. Kenneth Collings, 338th Training Squadron, who’s helping spearhead the revival of the radio club. “The camaraderie can’t be beaten. (That’s) not to mention what an asset I believe the club could be in an emergency. It is a real tragedy the club was dormant during Katrina.

“I’m hoping it’s an ‘if you build it, they will come’ situation,” he added.

The American Radio Relay League, Inc. reports that there are more than 660,000 amateur radio operators in the United States and more than 2 million in nearly every country in the world. Many American astronauts have ham licenses.

But what exactly is amateur “ham” radio, you ask?

As a ham radio enthusiast informative Web site “We Do That” notes, “ham radio supplies the most extensive and most powerful wireless communications capability available to any private citizen anywhere in the world.” Further, “the Amateur Radio Service frequency bands are the place on the usable radio spectrum where you as an individual can develop and experiment with wireless communications.” This means anyone with the right equipment can participate.

The history of ham radio traces its roots to many inventors, including Samuel Morse, who formulates the elements of a relay system. By 1837, the improved system uses Morse code, an electronic alphabet that could carry messages, and the first message, sent on May 24, 1844, was “What hath God wrought.” In the 1890s, Guglielmo Marconi started tinkering with wireless telegraphy and by 1912, the United States government was issuing licenses for amateur radio operators. Thousands of enthusiasts existed by 1914 and Hiram Percy Maxim founded the American

Radio Relay League that same year to band operators together in a common organization.

Richard Barlett explains in his 2007 book, *The World of Ham Radio, 1901-1950: A Social History*, that “... during the first 50 years of the 20th century, ham radio went from being an experiment to virtually an art form. Because of the few government restrictions and the low monetary investment required, the concept of ham radio appealed to various people. More than just a simple hobby, however, ham radio required its operators to understand radio theory, be able to trace a schematic and know how to build a transmitter and receiver with whatever material they might have available.”

“By World War II, the U.S. government had an increased need for cutting-edge communications, so it turned to the “considerable knowledge and skill of amateur ham radio operators, validating the fact that ham radio was here to stay” Barlett notes. “The FCC provides bands at intervals from just above the AM broadcast band to the high microwave frequencies for use by ham radio operators. The FCC

created this ‘service’ for emergency backup communication.”

Bil Munsil, 65, of Mesa, Arizona was stationed at Keesler in 1965 and in 1969 and he says that Keesler’s is arguably the first amateur radio club on any military base in the United States. The clubs came in handy during times of war; soldiers and their sweethearts found ways to communicate, and there were even marriages conducted over the airwaves.

But if you aren’t allowed to make any money, and you have to take a test to get a license, why would anyone be interested in such an activity? Hear it from the devotees themselves.

J. K. Skelton, 44, is an Air Force retiree who teaches air traffic control in the 334th Training Squadron. His involvement with amateur radio primarily began in 1996 when he was stationed in Hawaii and a number of his golfing buddies had 2-meter radios. He earned his license to be able to communicate with them, and, soon after, with a good number of military members. Later, he upgraded his license, bought a HF radio, and began making long-distance contacts.

“It was fun to do, and people

all over wanted to make contact with Hawaii,” he said. Mr. Skelton uses his radio skills currently by his involvement with disaster relief through the Southern Baptist Convention and emergency net practice with the Salvation Army.

Sergeant Collings, 43, of Biloxi has 19 years active duty with the Air Force. One of his assignments, at Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska, had him using his ham gear to assist dog sled races, which led to him shaking hands with legends of the Iditarod Trail.

A ground radio maintenance technician by trade, Sergeant Collings is now an instructor here at Keesler. “(For me), radio is like magic,” he said. “I tell my students ‘You are working on a box that talks. Less than 200 years ago, that would have gotten you burned for witchcraft.’”

Sergeant Collings’ experience in Alaska not only allowed him to learn the meaning of the word “cold,” but it offered him insight into extreme living conditions: “Ever use an outhouse at 20 below zero?” Sergeant Collings

Please see **Radio**, Page 15

Radio,

from Page 14

asked. “They don’t have hot running water that far out there, so you learn that the most important thing to have in the Alaskan bush – speed!”

Sergeant Collings said that his skills and license helped race officials promote a safer race on the trail.

“If someone left a checkpoint and didn’t arrive at the next in a certain prescribed time, a search and rescue could be initiated that much quicker,” he noted. “We were also able to coordinate the movement of dogs that had been dropped off on the trail to be picked up by small aircraft and taken back to civilization for medical care.”

Gilbert Gibbs, 65, of Port Aransas, Texas, is a semi-retired innkeeper. He earned his first license in 1958.

“The most remarkable aspect of radio is that there’s always something to learn every day, so the hobby only gets dull if you want it to,” he said.

Thus began his long love affair with ham radio. He’s been licensed for more than 50 years, and counts his most memorable situation as the hours, days,



Photo by Adam Bond

Mr. Martin demonstrates the use of radio equipment at the Locker House, where radio club members meet the second Monday of each month.

months and full year following Hurricane Celia in 1970.

“That storm all but wiped out my home town of Port Aransas, but the interesting part is that my ham radio

antennas survived,” Mr. Gibbs said.

“When the Houston hams arrived to help out with emergency relief communications, I loaned my antennas to them and I’ve been active in emergency com-

munications preparations every year since.

“This hobby is far better than any other I’ve tried, much more rewarding. I get a lot of satisfaction with it. The remarkable part of my experience is that hams are always helping hams, (which is) a very distinct difference from other hobbies.

“I’ve learned a lot in 50 years, and I’ll continue to do so until my earthly time is up.”

Sergeant Collings calls on the active-duty members of Keesler and surrounding areas to join up with the club the second Monday of each month at the Locker House to make it the strong, tight-knit organization it used to be.

“I’ve really enjoy putting a station (back) together like this,” he said. “(The club was) a place you can go and relax without any of the stressors in your life. Working ham radio is sort of a nice, ‘comfort food’ thing to do.

“We were born here in 1948, when the original radar school was washed out of Florida in a hurricane and moved to Keesler.

“We’ll still be here in 2048.”

Keesler exchange battles shoplifting

By Angela Cutrer

Keesler News staff

Though shoplifting statistics are down across the country's military communities, cases at Keesler rose in the first six months of 2009, says Army and Air Force Exchange Service officials. And even with a high-tech electronic article surveillance system and closed circuit television installed, the value of merchandise stolen more than doubled.

What seems to be the main cause?

"There's more traffic here now," said Bill Buell, Keesler store manager. "We've seen the number of customers steadily increase since (Hurricane) Katrina."

The expanded customer base is buoyed by increased troop strength and new housing opportunities, as well as from additional retirees moving into the area. Casino openings and out-of-town visitors also put more people in the store.

"We lost that New Orleans (customer base) completely after Katrina," said Michael Diot, loss prevention manager. "Now we've got it back and we've seen the number of customers steadily rise."

From February to August 2008, there were 11 cases of shoplifting, with \$655 of merchandise stolen. This year from February to August, there were 13 cases with \$1,700 worth of merchandise stolen.

Most merchandise arrives at the BX with an embedded magnetic tag intact that must be demagnetized before it leaves the store. If not demagnetized, the tag will trigger an alarm to bring attention to the fact the product is leaving the premises.

"Shoplifting at the exchange results in a reduced return on investment to our primary shareholders — the military community," said Gerald Danish, vice president of loss prevention for AAFES. "Because AAFES has a mission

"Shoplifting at the BX or PX is essentially the same as taking money directly from the pockets of the military families exchanges serve."

— Mr. Danish

to return earnings to (morale, welfare and recreation) activities, shoplifting at the BX or PX is essentially the same as taking money directly from the pockets of the military families exchanges serve."

Dividends given to Keesler MWR programs over the last five years total \$2.5 million.

"No one likes catching shoplifters," Mr. Danish said. "In fact, one of our major objectives is to deter shoplifting before it ever happens by educating shoppers of all ages on the exchanges' ability to monitor and record activity throughout the store. It's our hope that individuals who might be considering theft will see the security measures, think twice and make the right decision for their family and career."

Penalties for shoplifting include community service, suspension of AAFES privileges and loss of job opportunities. In some instances, repeat offenders face banishment from base. In addition, AAFES charges shoplifters and accomplices a \$200 fee through the Federal Claims Collection Act, a civil recovery program that allows retailers to pursue merchandise losses and administrative costs.



Photos by Kemberly Groue

Isaac Stubbs, Bracken Construction, welds a brick relief angle on the training aids building.

Brick by brick

Right, Dennis Mathis lays brick on the training aids center under construction on Larcher Boulevard between Chappie James Avenue and L Street. Construction of the 37,554-square foot structure is almost 50 percent complete and should be finished by June. The parking lot is nearly done and most of the exterior block work is complete. Brick work for the first floor of the \$12.2 facility is well under way and some wall framing has begun on the second floor. Interior block walls are in place on the first floor, and plumbing, electrical and air conditioning work is proceeding throughout the building.



KEESLER NOTES

KSC kicks off year

The Keesler Spouses Club plans to kick off the 2009-10 year with FUNdamentals, 6:30-8:30 p.m. today at the youth center.

The event will be the annual membership registration night, with desserts, games and prizes planned.

For more information, log on to <http://www.keeslerspousesclub.com>

KSC kicks off year

A mystery dinner theater is Oct. 1 in the Dragon's Lair located in Locker House.

Social hour is 6 p.m., followed at 7 p.m. by "A Death in the Family," a whodunit with audience participation.

Tickets are \$30 per person including dinner and dessert. A full-service cash bar is available.

Seating is limited.

Tickets are on sale at the outdoor recreation retail store located in the marina park, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays and 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays. Tables of eight are available; or customers may purchase part of a table.

The show is rated PG-13.

For more information, call 377-3160.

Part-day preschool

Registrations are being accepted at the child development center for the part-day enrichment program for ages 3-5.

The program is open to children of active duty military, active-duty reservists, Defense Department civilians and contractors.

Sessions are 8-11 a.m. or 12:30-3:30 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays, with fees based on total household income.

Parents with children enrolled in full-day care don't need to enroll them in this program.

For more information, call 377-2211.

Rides to youth center

The youth center offers free rides from Michel Middle School and Biloxi Jr. High School for children in grades 6-

8 eligible for the center's open recreation program, 3-7 p.m. daily after school.

Pre-registration and parental permission are required.

For more information, call 377-4116.

Masquerade fundraiser

"Moonlight Masquerade," a fundraising gala to benefit the Gulf Coast Women's Center for Nonviolence, is 6-9 p.m. Sept. 17 at the IP Casino Resort in Biloxi.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call 436-3809 or visit the center's Web site, <http://www.gcwcfn.org>.

Heart Walk fundraising

Fundraising for the annual American Heart Association's Heart Walk continues until Oct. 2 for online donations and Sept. 30 for cash/check donations.

For more information, call Master Sgt. Patrick Key, 377-0583.

Coastal cleanup signup

Keesler cleans Hiller Park during Mississippi Coastal Cleanup, 8-11 a.m. Oct. 17.

Registration deadline is Oct. 13, and the backup date is Oct. 24.

Keesler members who want to participate register online at <http://www.mscoastalcleanup.org>. Military members, family members, civilian employees and contractors may participate. Children under 18 must bring the permission/registration slip and turn it in to the zone captain at the site.

For more information, call Staff Sgt Lynn Rinker, 376-3333, or e-mail rink101@yahoo.com.

Breast cancer walk

The fourth annual 5-kilometer Making Strides Against Breast Cancer event is 8 a.m. Oct. 24 at the Biloxi Town Green.

Squadron leaders and walkers are being recruited.

To sign up to walk or to make a donation, log on to <http://makingstrides.acsevents.org/> or call Tech. Sgt. Asha Gray, 377-7153, or e-mail asha.gray@us.af.mil.

SPORTS AND RECREATION

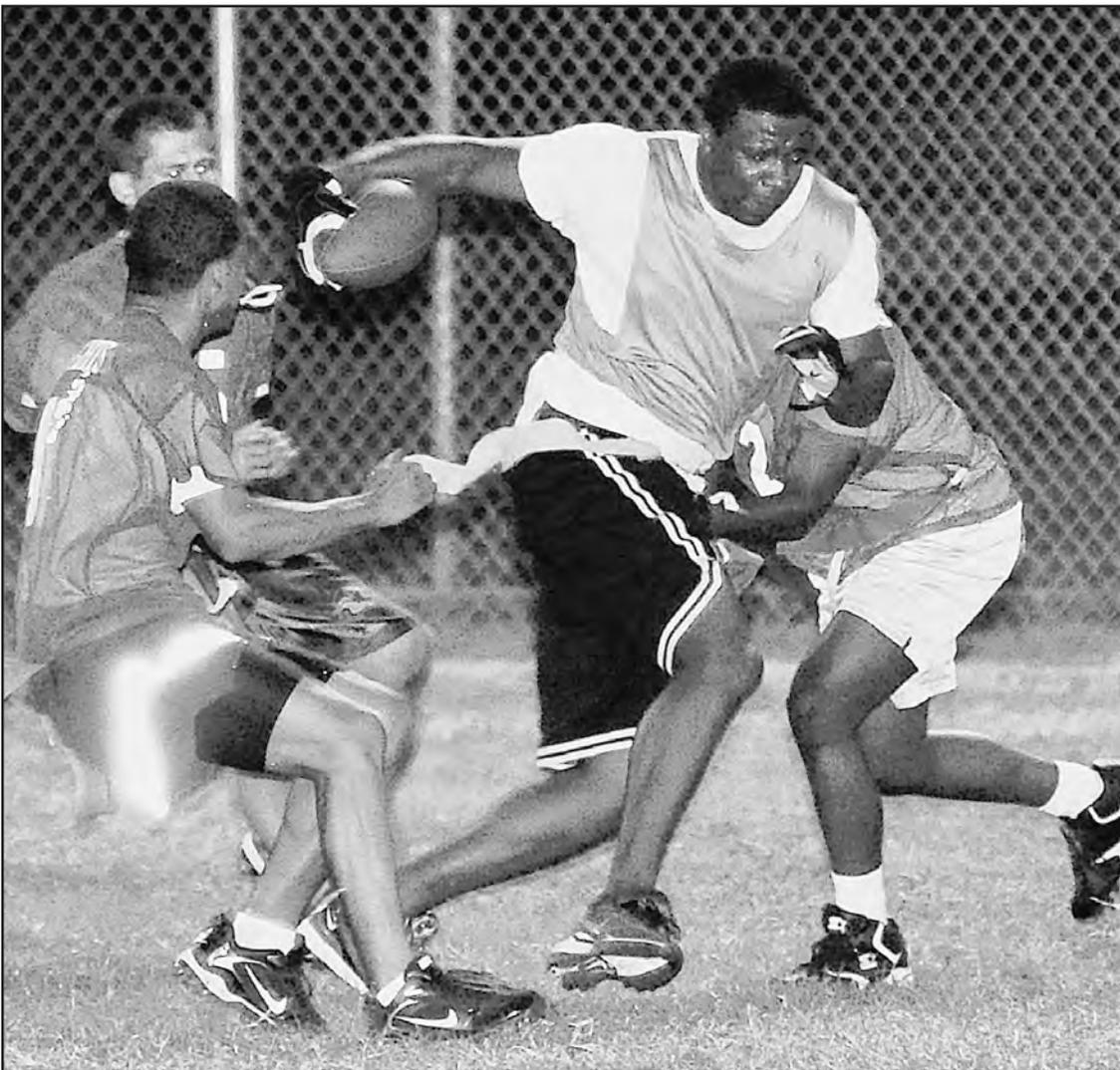


Photo by Adam Bond

From left, Terrance Chadwick and Airman Basic Andrae Good, 338th TRS-A, try to stop Doug Cox, 81st Medical Support Squadron, during a American Football Conference game Sept. 9. The medics won the game, 21-0, to remain the only undefeated team in the league. The 338th TRS-A has been disqualified from the league because of consecutive forfeits, according to Sam Miller, intramural sports director.

Flag football

2 teams remain undefeated

By Senior Airman David Salanitri

Keesler Public Affairs

Two teams, one in each league, remain undefeated in the intramural flag football league as the second week of play came to a close.

As of Tuesday morning, leading the National Football Conference is the 81st Security Forces Squadron, 4-0. The cops handed the 85th Engineering Installation Squadron/334th Training Squadron combined team its first loss of the season Thursday, 25-18.

In the American Football Conference, taking charge is the 81st Medical Support Squadron, sporting a 4-0 record, which is a game-and-a-half better than the next team, the 335th TRS.

Games are once again being played at the multipurpose field on Meadows Drive.

For scores, standings and schedules see Scores and More, page 20. For more information on intramural flag football, call 377-2444.

AIRMEN LOOKING OUT FOR AIRMEN

LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND

SUICIDE WARNING SIGNS

- Trouble eating or sleeping
- Drastic change in behavior
- Withdraws from friends >
- Gives away possessions
- Makes out a will
- Preoccupied with death
- Takes unnecessary risks
- Had a recent severe loss
- Lost interests in personal appearance
- Increased use of alcohol or drugs
- Loss of interests in hobbies, work, school, etc.

1-800-SUICIDE



"... Changing lives one gift at a time ..."

Please support
the Combined Federal
Campaign
at Keesler
during October.

SCORES AND MORE

Basketball

Varsity men's and women's teams — tryouts to be announced. Teams play in Southeastern Military Athletic Conference. Season starts in November. Coaches needed. Ccall 377-2444 or 3056 for information.

Bowling

Making strides against breast cancer tournament — event has been rescheduled to noon Sept. 19 for five-member teams. \$15 per person covers shoe rental and three games. Trophies for highest-scoring male and female bowlers. To register, contact squadron representative or call Asha Gray, 377-7153, asha.gray@us.af.mil.

Fall leagues — registrations being accepted now for the Saturday morning youth league, Monday night league, Tuesday night (hospital and VA), Wednesday and Friday mixed leagues, Thursday intramurals and senior league. Sign up at the counter or call 377-2817.

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 — 1-3 p.m. Mondays-Wednesdays, 1-5 p.m. Thursdays and Fridays. 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

Rambler 120 team challenge — Oct. 17, Randolph Air Force Base, Texas. Biking, running and rafting. Team entry due Sept. 25. For more information, visit <http://www.keelserservices.us>.

Free fitness classes — boot camp, self-defense, cycling, yoga, step aerobics, Tae Kwon-do, core fitness, kick boxing and pilates at Dragon Fitness Center. For more information, call 377-2907.

Free fitness testing, exercise prescription and personal training — at

Blake, Dragon and Triangle Fitness Centers. Call for appointment.

Free blood pressure machines — available for use at all fitness centers.

Boxing room — Triangle Fitness Center. Six heavy bags, three speed bags and one double-end bag. Boxing gloves available.

Fit to fight incentive program — Dragon slayers, dragon readers, dragon gliders and dragon riders available at no cost at Blake, Dragon and Triangle fitness centers. Awards presented. For more information, contact the fitness center of your choice.

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

Flag football

Editor's note: Games have been moved back to the multipurpose field. The 338th TRS-A team has been disqualified from league play due to consecutive forfeits. All teams schedule to play 338th TRS-A in the NFC division will receive a win via forfeit with a final score of 7-0. The schedule will be modified on a week-to-week basis to ensure successive game times. For more information, call 377-2444.

National Conference

(as of Friday)

Team	Won	Lost
81st SFS	4	0
85th EIS/334th TRS	3	1
81st CS	2	1
MARDET	1	1
81st MDG	1	2
81st FSS	0	2
336th TRS	0	2
338th TRS-A	0	2

Sept. 1 — 81st MDG 6, 81st CS 7; 336th TRS 13; 81st FSS 20, 81st SFS 25; 336th TRS 12, 85th EIS/334th TRS 21.

Sept. 3 — MARDET vs. 81st FSS makeup; 81st SFS 25, 85th EIS/334th TRS 18; 81st MDG 7, 338th TRS-A 0.

Today — 6 p.m. 81st SFS wins via 7-0 forfeit by 338th TRS-A; 7 p.m. MARDET vs. 336th TRS; 8 p.m. 81st CS vs. 81st FSS.

Tuesday — 6 p.m. 338th TRS-A forfeits 7-0 score to MARDET; 7 p.m. 336th TRS vs. 81st FSS; 8 p.m. 81st MDG vs. 81st SFS.

American Conference

(as of Friday)

Team	Won	Lost
81st MDSS	4	0
335th TRS	2	1
81st LRS	2	1
332nd TRS	2	1
81st MDTS	1	1
338th TRS-B	1	1
81st MDOS	0	4
81st DS	0	3

Aug. 31 — 81st MDSS 19, 81st LRS 6; 335th TRS 25, 81st DS 22; 81st MDOS 14, 81st MDTS 19.

Sept. 2 — 335th TRS 33, 81st MDOS 19; 81st MDSS 27, 338th TRS-B 0; 81st DS 6, 332nd TRS 8.

Monday — 6 p.m. 81st DS vs 81st LRS; 7 p.m. 81st MDOS vs. 338th TRS-B; 8 p.m. 81st MDTS vs. 335th TRS.

Wednesday — 6 p.m. 81st LRS vs 81st vs. 332nd TRS; 7 p.m. 81st MDTS vs. 81st MDSS; 8 p.m. 81st DS vs. 81st MDOS.

Golf

9-hole Dragon fun golf — Shotgun start 4:30 p.m. Thursdays. \$20 per person includes greens fee, cart, food, beverages and prizes. Four-person team, two-person blind draw. Sign up as twosome or single. Format decided by draw each week; limited to first 36 golfers.

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 clubs.

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

Mini-triathlon

The health and wellness center sponsors a free mini-triathlon, 8 a.m. Sept. 18, Triangle Pool. Participants ages 18 or older swim 200 yards, bike eight miles and run two miles. Individual categories separated by gender and age: 18-29, 30-39, 40-49 and 50+; separate categories for

Clydesdale (men more than 220 pounds) and Athena (women more than 160 pounds). Relay teams of three participants; one must be female. Trophies awarded for overall male and female and top three in each category.

No registration the day of the event. Preregister by noon Tuesday at the HAWC or the Blake Fitness Center. Sign in is 6:30-7:45 a.m. day of event. T-shirts and refreshments provided to all participants.

For more information, call 376-3170 or e-mail Jeff Green, jef-fery.green.1@us.af.mil.

Outdoor recreation

Air Force Blue Streak bicycle streak program — knowledgeable volunteer needed to assist in planning, organization and implementation of noncompetitive bicycle rides for all ages and abilities. For more information, call Dave Bowers by e-mail or call 377-0002.

Water skiing — on front beach or Biloxi Back Bay. \$50 per hour for up to six skiers, including boat, driver and skis. Minimum two-hour rental. To schedule, call 377-3160.

Pools — The main base pool is open noon to 5:30 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. The Triangle Pool is open Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. for lap swimming and 4-7 p.m. for recreational swimming, and noon to 7 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. Both pools close for the season Sept. 30. For more information, call the main base pool, 377-3948, or Triangle Pool, 377-3568.

Camping packages — available, including sleeping bags, lanterns, camp stoves and tents.

Canoes, kayaks — for rent.

Cruisin' Keesler — 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Sept. 26 in the marina park. Cars, trucks, bikes, street rods, vendors and oldies music. Registration fee is \$20. Judging at noon; award ceremony at 3 p.m. Free food and T-shirts to the show participants.

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.

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. State fishing license required; minimum four, maximum six people. For date and time, call 377-3160.

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

Delacroix, La. fishing site — Outdoor fishing/hunting camp in Delacroix, La. Rent a self-contained camper that sleeps four for \$50/night, \$125/weekend (Fri noon-Mon noon) or \$300/week (7 days noon to noon). Bring food, beverages, cooking utensils, and sleeping bag or bedding. A Louisiana license is needed for fishing. For more information, call 377-3160.

Pontoon boat training — to rent a pontoon you must take a test and be certified. For more information, call 377-3160.

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. To reserve, 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.

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.

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

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

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

HONORS

Student honor roll

332nd Training Squadron

Electronic principles — Airmen Basic Andrew Adkins, Joshua Aguirre, Michael Aspy, Christopher Atanasoff, Laura Bautista, Victor Blazevec, Samson Blue, Christopher Bommarito, Matthew Boxer, Seth Brandon, Richard Cascio, Nicholas Clancy, Paul Clark, Stephen Clayton, Chance Compton, Nicholas Countess, David Deni, Jesse Denoyer, John Dugger, Aaron Embree, Alejandro Espinoza, Jeff Fulford, Marc Gabalon, Chad Gaudiosi, Benjamin Gilbert, Evan Gillespie, Michael Gillooly, Drew Glaister, Pablo Gutierrez, Bradley Hays, Anne Hiebert, Jarrod Hinman, Joshua Hutcherson, Jacob Ingram, Justin Jacobs, Joshua Jepson, Aaron John, Justin Johnson, Damon Jordan, Nicholas Kamansky, Brandon Kasper, Andrew Kerber, Brandon Koehler, Steven Kohut, Peter Kuhlman, Harvey Large, William Lau, Cody Lawyer, Joshua Lippert, David MacWilliams Jacob Martinez, Michael McClelland, Tyler McCuan, Alexander McFarland, Matthew McGuire, Jacob Olson, Joshua Ouderkirck, Santos Padilla, Adam Povey, Dustin Raab, David Richter, Fabian Rizzi, Gabriel Rucci, Thomas Ruf, Gary Ryan, Stephen Sanders, Matthew Schumacher, Michael Shaw, John Smith, Winfield Smith, Ethan Stone, Marc Taylor, James Thiebault, David Tilley, Andrew Tosch, Spencer Twenge, Mikael Vega, Curtis Wall, Kevin Wallace, Taylor Westphal, Mark Wiedeman, Brandon Wilson, Jonathan Wooden and Anthony Woodward; Airmen Robert Blacklidge, Cable Bushu, Eric Cates, Mitchell Chappelle, Josef Comerford, Justin Decker, Cody Guillory, Hayden Haake, Anthony Henry, Nathan Janes, Christopher Johnson, Elisha Logan, Anthony Lopez, Nicholas Matta, Asia McClain, Philip Meyer, Thomas Mould, Andrew Parise, Jennifer Reichert, Phillip Salazar, Devin Scott, Christopher Sewell, Ryan Shaifer, David Shinn, Ian Smith, Kimberly Snell, Jan Stevens, Kevin Thompson and Chad Wanner; Airmen 1st Class Jon Ackerman, Daniel Atchley, Stephen Averett, Zachary Babcock, Kyle Black, Latrico Blanding, Aaron Bull, Chad Butler, Spencer Campbell, Austin Carracino, Justin Chesterfield, Corbin Class, Bradley Clinton, Troy Conkle, Sean Cooney, Brandon Copeland, Nathaniel Cragun, Philippe Diaz, Gregory Egger, Kevin Ellis, James Ferguson, Kevin Fiala, Ahmed Gaid, Frank Gauss, Katherine Haigh, Christopher Hall, Matthew Hall, Michael Harwood, Melinda Hatley, Jarod Heifner, Chase Helderman, Jonathon Hood, Narvaez Hoogluiter, Megan Howard, Jeremi Isaacs, Cody Johnson, Janelle Johnson, Matthew Johnson, Jose JorgeGonzales, Jason Kelts, Nicholas Kisielewski, Sean Larrabee, Luis Lopez, Ricky Lords, Robert Mangrum, Shadrick Martin, Simon Martin, Kevin Mayer, Keith McCormick, Jeffery Mitten, Crystal Mullen, Nathan Nedstrom, Tiernan Nolan, David Parker, Matthew Purvis, Jedjarvin Ragay, Kahlia Rainer, Stephen Reichenbach, Jason Rice, Edwin Rodrigueztroche, Trey Rogers, Daniel Schott, Morgan Simpson, Jacob Stringfellow, Scott Sutherland, Luke Turner, Matthew Vanarsdale, Jenna Williams, Joshua Williamson and Mitchell Wolfarth; Senior Airmen Stephen Arnone, Carlos Claudio, Christopher Fuller, William Hatfield, Richard Pantoja, Jared Scott and Dmitry Tsvetkov; Staff Sgts. Kevin Arroyo, Ryan Dimberg, Edwin Hunter, Christopher Johnson, Kevin Klenz, Nathan Krauss and Julie Reinhardt; Tech. Sgts. Tareq Abdulla and Fredric Johnson; 1st Lt. Abdullah Alsaqabi.

Metrology basic course — Airman Basic Eirik Levesque; Airman Jason Warren.

334th TRS

Air traffic control operations training flight — Airmen Basic Summer Bolton, Michael Carroll, Anthony David, Delilah Ford, Zachary Hutchings, Nicholas Hyatt, Corey Ingraham, Joshua Roberts-Letaw, Doarman Martinez, Adam Owens, Brian Reeve, Elana Rodriguez, Zachary Scheeler, Michael Simmons, Miquel Taylor, Joseph Younger, and Hannah Victor; Airmen William Brown, Nicholas Bartow, Christopher Laubert, Felicity McDonald, and Cody Sherrer; Airmen 1st Class Kari Cox, Joshua Fischer, Zachary Hardee, William Linsmier, Donald McMaster, Emma Nielsen, James Toney, Paul Reckendorf, Jonathan Walker, Joey Waters, and Brent Zadina; Senior Airmen Priscilla Dzoku and Zachary Hesse; Staff Sgt. Thomas Sass.

Command post apprentice course — Airmen Basic Devon Bordeaux, Brittney Gilliam and Kaitlyn Hilton; Airmen 1st Class Jessica Hunt and Joshua Moore; Senior Airmen Norris Brown, Jacqueline Holmes and Marcella Mansour; Staff Sgts. Paul Bennear, Steven Cooley, Jodi Gerth and Alan Nigg; Tech. Sgts Aisha Abdul-Rahim, Justin Davis, Aaron Myers and Wayne Pennington.

335th TRS

Comptroller training flight — Airman Basic Justin Althoff, Mitchell Campbell, Jasmine Dessaure, Matthew Flores, Andrew Kelly, KC Michael Ratekin, Christopher Scardasis; Airman Stephen Klimczak, Peter Norlund and Judy Villarcayabyab; Airman 1st Class Savannah Clevinger, Kendra Cobbins, Cristian Cseh, Marvell Granville, Jeffrey Gilmour, Jenna Heinen, Krystle Jackson, Alton Kelly, Garrett Lethco, Brendan McIntyre, Jennifer Poore, Deaven Randolph and Logan Wilbur; Staff Sgts. Mary Ballesteros, Alyshia Leisure, Mary Linder, Jennifer Lundberg, Ricardo Manginigarcia, Ebony McInnis, Tamika Spigner and Sarah Yeagley; Tech. Sgt. Amy Baker; Master Sgts. Urbano Ayala Oliveras, Jeffery Harwood; Senior Master Sgt. Brian Henderson; Capt Sotirios Daniil.

336th TRS

Communications and information flight — Airmen Basic Joseph Brock, Ryan Davies, Shannon Finley, Jess Hammond, Timothy Housos, Caleb Johnson, Joel Joudrey, Michael Lallerstedt, Sean Queen, Damon Schmidt and Kyle Stone; Airmen David Chilson, Riley Curtis, Michael Gray, Christopher Kuhn, Satoia McClelland, Julian Smith, Justin Thomas and James Yost; Airmen 1st Class Bradley Anson, Cassie Beauchene, Stefan Casucci, Jeffrey Driver, Christopher Gauthier, Robert Greynolds, Adam Hillyer, Lennard Huslik, Tran Le, Elizabeth Maxwell, Jeff McCarty, Jacob Schettler, Mark Spadea, Aaron Stanley, Robert Stoerre, Alex Szafranski, Sean Walters and Macon Wright; Senior Airmen Nathan Adkison, Jeremy Joe, Joseph McCurry and Adam Yule; Staff Sgts. Larry Barker, Eduardo Rivas, Alan Schultz, Jason Sizemore, Adam Sneed and Kanada Vang; Tech. Sgt. Christina Franks.

Communications-computer systems flight — Airmen Basic Joe Harr, Corey Imel, Ian Johnson, Johnathon Largent, Nicholas Jones, Chet Long, Steven Maine, Malcolm Price,

Adam Sommerhauser, Douglas Traumer and Logan Trecartin; Airmen Jeremy Conrad, Daniel Evans and Zachary Kerns; Airmen 1st Class Anthony Browne, Patrick Broydrick, Brandon Chapman, John Cloutier, Ryan Dodge, Anthony Gerspacher, Langston Graham, Antonio Hanson, James Hartman, Sophia Joanis, Adam Letang, Shaun Lewis, Andrew Nelson, Jeffery Poore, Eric Rivas, Dustin Rowland, Benjamin Sanchez, Bryan Sledge, Charles Smith, Markus Stricklen, Jered Vest, David Wiant and Irvin Williams; Senior Airmen Heath Dean and Jonthan Johnson; Staff Sgts. Lydia Depano, Jason Garnto and Kenneth Wermann; Technical Sgt. Mohammed Sabahi; Master Sgts. James McKinney and Timothy Moore; Mr. Jason Houy.

338th TRS

Airfield systems — Airman Basic Shiloh Zamecki; Airmen 1st Class Daniel Bookman, Victoria Dietz, Jeffery Sales and Justin Wood; Senior Airman Cedric Hall; Staff Sgts. Christopher Harper and Robert Murphy.

Ground radar — Airmen Christopher Farrell, Lorenzo Gaskins and Khalil Giawashi; Airmen 1st Class Joseph Alexander, Andrew Dahn, Christopher Halubka and Ryan Waterfield; Staff Sgts. Louis Martinez and Michael Reece; Master Sgt. Sean Rice; Senior Master Sgt. Byong Park.

Ground radio — Airmen Basic Jacob Evans, Adam Farrington, Dennis Fernandez, Jason Lawhorn, Jonathan Morrison, TJ Pollack, Ronald Press, Joshua Reyes, Ivan Seppala and Jeremy Taylor; Airmen 1st Class David Couch and Robert Patterson; Senior Airman Michael McKenna; Technical Sgt. Edward Baer; Edwin Vaughn.

81st Training Support Squadron

Basic instructor course — Tech. Sgt. Glynn Holmes, best presenter award.

CLASSES

Airman Leadership School

Class 09-6 — graduation Wednesday.

Class 09-7 — Sept. 21-Oct. 28

Mathies NCO Academy

Class 09-6 — graduation today.

Class 09-7 — Sept. 21-Oct. 29

Arts and crafts center

Advanced intarsia woodworking — 10 a.m. to noon Saturday or Sept. 26. \$20 including materials and tool use.

Beginning intarsia woodworking — 10 a.m. to noon, Sept. 19. \$15 including materials. Intarsia is the art of piecing wood together in a decorative pattern.

Beginning framing — 12:30-4 p.m. Sept. 18. \$30 including materials. Bring photo or artwork no larger than 11x14 inches.

Beginning pottery — 10:30 a.m.-noon Sept 19. \$40 including supplies.

Card making — 5-7 p.m. Sept. 17. \$7 including materials.

Engraving shop — squadron, office and individual orders.

Jewelry making — 10:30 a.m.-noon Sept. 26. \$30 including materials. Learn wire wrapping and tooling.

Mosaics — One class, two sessions: 5-7 p.m. today and Sept. 24. \$15 including materials.

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.

Scrapbooking — 10:30 a.m.-noon Saturday. \$20 including materials.

Tailgate flea markets — Saturdays. Set up at 8 a.m., sales are 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tables \$15 on day of sale. Register by 4 p.m. Fridays and pay \$10 and get a parking space.

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

Please see **Digest**, Page 23

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

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

Jewish

For worship opportunities, call Master Sgt. Michael Raff, 377-5235 or 207-2196.

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.

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Chapel

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

Protestant Women of the Chapel Bible study series — “It’s Tough Being A Woman,” 10-week study on Esther. Continues weekly through Nov. 12, 9-11 a.m., Triangle Annex, upstairs. For more information, call Mary Just, 806-4562, or maryejust@yahoo.com.

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

Student research help — 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays. Basic information on Ebsco and Gale Group.

Research databases — comprehensive research capabilities. Many specialty areas. Orientations 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays. To sign up, call 377-2181.

Playaway — first self-playing digital audio books now available. Audio content preloaded; select from large assortment of titles. Pop in a battery, plug in almost any type of headset and enjoy.

Overdrive audio online book program — individual or family accounts 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.

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.

Free wireless Internet — check at circulation desk.

Tours/orientations — call 377-2604.

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

Volunteers needed — to shelve books, assist with children’s story time and create displays. For more information, call 377-2181.

CLUBS AND CENTERS

Vandenberg Community Center

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

Legends Café — Buffet specials 11 a.m.-1 p.m.; barbecue ribs Sept. 16, cajun creole chicken Sept. 23; beef brisket Sept. 30: \$6.95 each; Castfish buffet Friday and 25, \$8.95.

Pool tournaments — 7 p.m. Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

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; \$5.25, chips and salsa, DJ Wayne and his karaoke machine.

Tuesday special — 5-7 p.m., tacos two for \$1 for members, \$1.50 each for nonmembers.

Luncheon specials — 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Mondays; \$6 members, \$8 nonmembers. For more information, call 377-2219.

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

Wings and things — 5-7 p.m. Sept. 30. Free for club members; \$3 for nonmembers. Complementary hors d’oeuvres and \$1 domestic draft beer.

Youth center

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

Dance classes — Tap, ballet and aerobic classes available. Mondays 5:30-6:30 p.m. ages 6-8, 6:30-7:30 p.m. ages 9 and older; Tuesdays 5:30-6:30 p.m. for ages 3-5. \$50 per month.

Free basketball clinic — 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Sept. 26. Ages 5-14. Call or stop by the youth center to register.

Free cheerleading clinic — 1-3 p.m. Sept. 26. Ages 6-9, 3-5 p.m. Register at the youth center or call 377-4116.

TRAIL — 6-8 p.m. Mondays

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

Classes — Guitar, piano and gymnastic classes available. To register, call 377-4116.

Open recreation — 3-5:45 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.

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.

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.

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

Tour bus — available for group rental, seats 23.

Tours to New Orleans Saints home football games — \$60 per person including admission and transportation. Tickets are limited to two per family as there are only 20 seats for each game. Customers may purchase up to two tickets to any five games. For more information, call 377-3818. View the schedule at <http://www.neworleanssaints.com/Game%20Day/Seasons/2009%20Schedule.aspx>.

Please see Digest, Page 24

DINING HALL MENUS

Today

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

Dinner — herbed baked chicken, beef and noodles, fried catfish, blackeyed peas, rice, cornbread, mashed potatoes, gravy, sweet potatoes, mixed vegetables, peas, fruit salad, potato salad, broccoli soup, bean and ham soup, cannonball sandwich and Italian pepper beef sandwich.

Friday

Lunch — Mexican baked chicken, country-style steak, stuffed peppers, macaroni and cheese, mashed potatoes, gravy, corn on the cob, Spanish beans, peas and carrots, pasta salad, three-bean salad, chile con queso, Tuscan vegetables, chicken noodle, barbecue pork sandwich and burritos.

Dinner — lasagna, spaghetti with meat sauce, chicken cacciatore, buttered noodles, baked potatoes, baked beans, green beans, marinara sauce, simmered squash, Mexican cole slaw, frijole salad, white bean chicken chili, clam chowder, chicken gumbo, cheese sandwich and pizza.

Saturday

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

Dinner — crispy baked chicken, beef yakisba, baked ham, baked potatoes, mashed potatoes, gravy, broccoli, french-style peas, glazed carrots, fruit medley salad, kidney bean salad, white bean salad, minestrone soup, baja chicken enchilada and buffalo wings.

Sunday

Lunch — ginger barbecue chicken, fried shrimp, beef manicotti/cannelloni, potato wedges, mashed potatoes, gravy, blackeyed peas, steamed rice, gravy, collard greens, corn O’Brien, tomato salad, German coleslaw, chili, broccoli soup, chicken with rice and cheese pizza.

Dinner — baked fish, sauerbraten, chicken breast parmesan, au gratin potatoes, rice, gravy, cauliflower combo, peas, fried cabbage, tomato salad, German coleslaw, chili, broccoli soup, chicken with rice and cheese pizza.

Monday

Lunch — turkey, ribeye steak, cornbread, tempura fish, mashed potatoes, cornbread dressing, gravy, succotash, tempura vegetables, green beans, cucumber and onion salad, garden cottage cheese salad, macaroni salad, chile con queso, Tuscan vegetable, chicken noodle, cannonball sandwich and chicken nuggets.

Dinner — Swiss steak, baked chicken, sausage, peppers and onions, rice, mashed potatoes, gravy, broccoli, carrots, cucumber and onion salad, macaroni salad, chile con queso, Tuscan vegetable, chicken noodle, cannonball sandwich and chicken nuggets.

Tuesday

Lunch — roast pork loin, barbecue beef cubes, garlic toast, chicken fajitas, O’Brien potatoes, rice, gravy, cauliflower, corn on the cob, lima beans, waldorf salad, spinach salad, chili, minestrone soup, baja chicken enchilada, steak and cheese subs and tacos.

Dinner — lemon garlic fish, pork schnitzel steak, beef and yakisoba, ginger rice, mashed potatoes, gravy, pinto beans, spinach, squash, spinach salad, waldorf salad, chili, minestrone soup, baja chicken enchilada, steak and cheese subs and tacos.

Wednesday

Lunch — Mexican baked chicken and pork chops, beef fajitas, jalapeno cornbread, rice, refried beans, corn, gravy, pinto beans, cole slaw, tomato salad, white bean chicken chili, clam chowder, and chicken gumbo.

Dinner — spaghetti with meat sauce, Swiss steak, fried chicken, brown rice, mashed potatoes, gravy, fried cauliflower, asparagus, simmered cabbage, coleslaw, tomato salad, white bean chicken chili, clam chowder, chicken gumbo, cheese fish-wich and pizza.

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 separating/retiring under special circumstances, call 376-8728 for appointment.

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

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 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 (601) 528-4337, e-mail Camo-princess92@gmail.com or visit <http://www.keeslercap.org>.

Company grade officers council — 4:30 p.m. every second

Wednesday at the Keesler Marina inside of the Kantina. Call Capt. Naomi Henigin, 377-0779, for more information.

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 Amateur Radio Club — Net with news-line and echo-link is held Wednesdays on 146.79, minus offset, no PL tone. Monthly meeting is 7 p.m. second Monday of the month at Locker House facility. Enter courtyard on left side of building as you face the front of it. Enter the door marked "T flight" and proceed straight ahead until you see a sign saying "K5TYP."

Keesler Spouses Club — second Tuesday of the month. E-mail Devalynn Solomon, deesolomon@cablone.net, or visit <http://www.KeeslerSpousesClub.com>.

Retired Enlisted Association Magnolia Chapter 81 — 5:30 p.m. second Thursday of the month, Sablich Center, Room 108-B. For more information, call Charles Partin, 313-3267.

Top III — 3:30 p.m. third Thursday of the month; location varies. For more information, call Master Sgt. Tammy McElroy, 376-3164.

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

MISCELLANEOUS

Movies

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

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: