

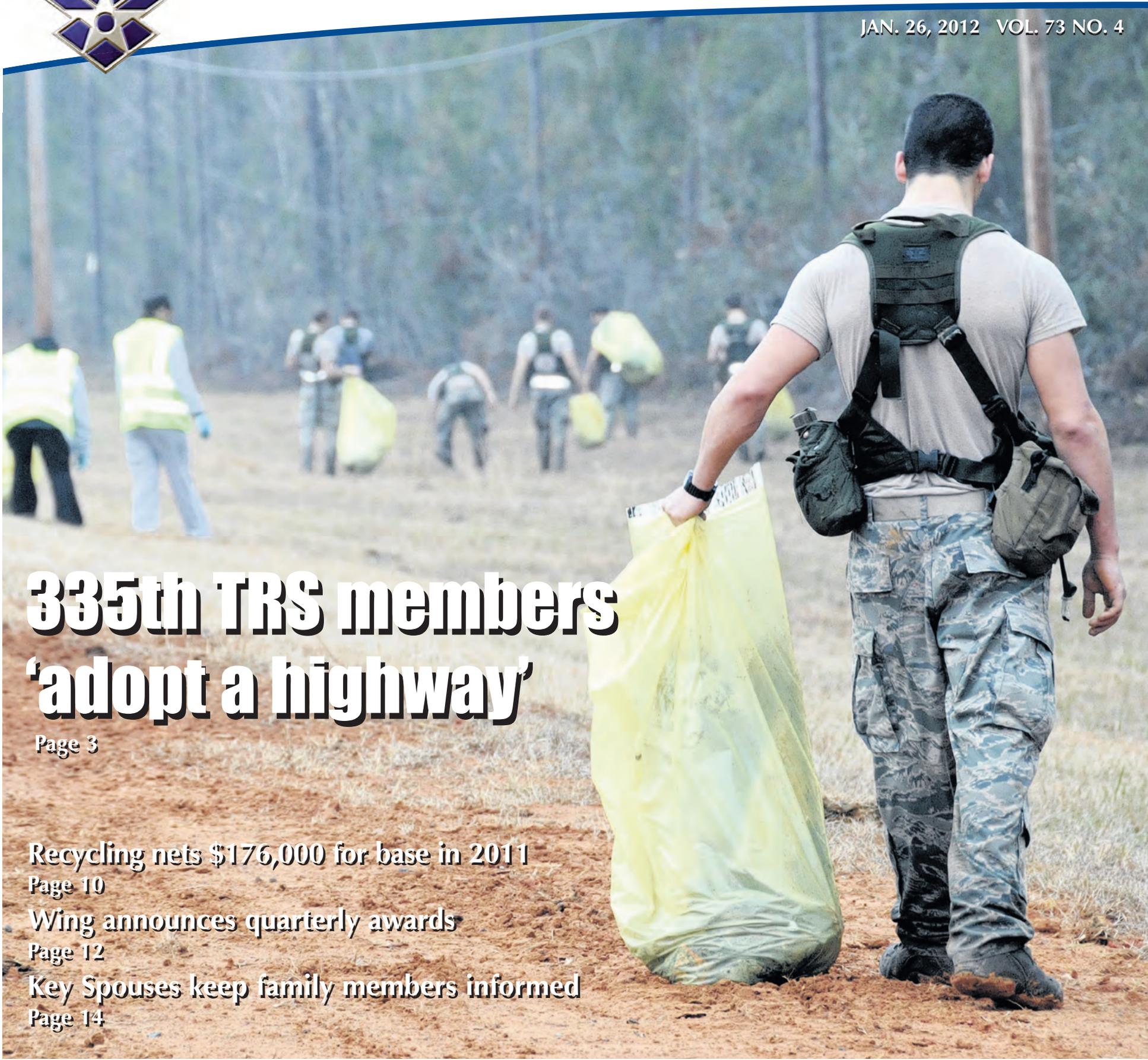


KEESLER NEWS

KEESLER AIR FORCE BASE, BILOXI, MISSISSIPPI

Train to Fight. Train to Win.

JAN. 26, 2012 VOL. 73 NO. 4



335th TRS members 'adopt a highway'

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COMMENTARY

Luck had nothing to do with it

By Master Sgt. Matt Petrie

Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo.

Editor's note: Reprinted from Torch Magazine, December 2011.

LACKLAND AIR FORCE BASE, Texas — On April 28, 2008, I became a dad for the first time. I was on cloud nine as I dreamt about all the great times and fun memories we would create with our new beautiful baby girl.

Then two weeks later, those dreams nearly came to a sudden and violent end.

May 12 would mark my first day back to work since the birth of my daughter. On the way to my job as the assistant noncommissioned officer in charge of the Dunn Dental Laboratory at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, I lost control of my motorcycle on the interchange between Interstate 35 South and Highway 90 West.

As I slid across the asphalt, one had to wonder: Would my daughter be fatherless before even her third week on Earth?

I was one of those who had to wait till I moved out of the house before I could have a motorcycle. I've been making up for lost time ever since. With nearly 15 years of motorcycle experience at the time and 10 years as a Motorcycle Safety Foundation instructor, how could things have gone so wrong so quickly?

As I drove on the interchange in the outside lane, I suddenly spotted a dead animal in the road. I swerved around the carcass, then immediately switched to the inside lane. But a car was merging into the lane ahead of me. I attempted to maneuver my 1999 Honda Valkyrie Interstate 1500 around the vehicle.

What I didn't know at the time is that I had picked up some blood and guts from around the dead animal on my tires, making them slippery. So as soon as I initiated the lean, the bike slid and low-sided.

I remember seeing sparks and the traffic behind me as I slid along the road. I let the bike go, and it flipped to the other side. (I guess I don't like to do things half way; I couldn't just damage one side, now could I?)

Post road surfing, I had a quarter-sized rub on my helmet; scrapes and holes through my vest and jacket from shoulder to behind; a hole in one of my gloves; scrapes on the legs and back of my chaps; and some scuffing on the boots. Initially, I thought I was uninjured. Later that day, however, I discovered I had broken the scaphoid bone in my wrist. Still, a broken wrist was a small price to pay for the type of mishap I had on a busy interchange at highway speeds.

Somebody later told me, "You were lucky you were wearing your gear."

I responded, "Luck had nothing to do with it."

You see, I always wear my protective gear when riding — even when it's San Antonio hot. That morning I was clad in the same thing I don every time I straddle my bike: helmet, jacket, vest, chaps, boots and gloves. Had I not had on all that protective gear, I definitely wouldn't have walked away from the crash.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Matthew Hannen
Just shortly after becoming a dad, Master Sgt. Matt Petrie nearly left his baby daughter fatherless during a motorcycle mishap while stationed at Lackland AFB, Texas.

As it is, my wrist healed (with the help of a screw), and I am back on the road.

As far as my bike goes, most of the damage was to the bags, trunk and faring. The engine guards did their job. If your bike doesn't have them, go buy them! If you ride a sport bike, get sliders put on! Not only did they protect the bike, they also protected me. Only a small scratch to the engine and one minor ding to the exhaust. I had to replace the front faring and engine guards, and everything got a new paint job; but in the grand scheme of things, minor damage.

Now on to my reality check. I ride 20,000-plus miles a year and was my squadron's motorcycle safety monitor. Despite all of my experience, training and preparation, I ended up sliding down the highway with life and death in the balance. It can happen to anyone, at anytime, in an instant. Remain aware of your surroundings, don't take anything for granted, and always aggressively search for hazards.

Remember, in making the choice to get out there and ride, we are accepting a greater risk level. Take the steps to manage and reduce your risk. Overall, ride safe, ride smart, wear your gear, and ride within your limits. Like my daughter, there are people depending on you to make it home safely each day.

Own your piece of our mission

By Chief Master Sgt. Robert Carter

62nd Aerial Port Squadron

JOINT BASE LEWIS-MCCHORD, Wash. — "Buy in." Is it a buzz word for the not quite committed?

Today's continuously changing military environment requires people who can adapt to change, think on their feet, make decisions and think through problems and issues, all for mission accomplishment. So what does this have to do with buy in? If you as a military member, do not have a buy in at different levels, you will fail to maximize your success. These levels are with your people, your job and the Air Force.

As a chief master sergeant, I didn't adopt the idea until I was a young NCO, but it progressively grew from there. My first real experience was when a close friend overheard a conversation between two Airmen in the dormitories talking about potentially creating some turmoil. She told them, "Not in my Air Force!" I thought to myself wow, that's real ownership. She's a stakeholder in this great Air Force (and that's how I want to be).

First, as a young NCO, you are a trainer of younger Airmen, and the knowledge, skills and attitudes that you display to those you train must be honest, accurate and provide growth. As one grows in rank, that same honest, accurate mentoring is shared with peers, senior enlisted leaders and junior and senior officers alike.

Second, to take care of your people on all levels must always be first in your mind. When they are late, find out where they are. When they are sick, ensure they receive medical care. When they do things well, be sure they are acknowledged. The phrase, "We are entrusted with the care of our countries sons and daughters" doesn't just relate to senior leaders or commanders. We all must care for those under our control and at times even those who are not.

Lastly, our core values really drive home the keystone of how we act, react and operate in our military microcosm. Do you really think integrity is just a buzz word? Try operating in a combat environment without it. You fail. In a flightline or operational environment without it, you fail. In a customer service environment without it, you fail.

Would settling for mediocrity on the battlefield allow for success? The Army expects and receives excellence each and every time when they call upon the Air Force in joint operations. Your buy in at all levels — your people, your job and in your Air Force — allows us to be the most feared and respected air and space force in the world!

Own your piece of the mission. Are you bought in?

Train, Care, Innovate ... Developing Combat Power for Air, Space and Cyberspace



ON THE COVER

Airman 1st Class Brendan Thurlow, 335th Training Squadron special operations weather trainee, picks up trash Friday along Highway 15 as part of the Mississippi Department of Transportation's Adopt-a-Highway program. The 53 squadron volunteers walked a mile both ways collecting 42 large bags of trash.

Photo by Kemberly Groue



Photo by Kemberly Groue

DRAGONS THAT I MEET

By Brig. Gen. Andrew Mueller

81st Training Wing commander

Capt. Iesiah Harris, 81st Surgical Operations Squadron, volunteered to serve as the chairman of the local federal coordinating committee for the 2011 South Mississippi Combined Federal Campaign, in addition to her other duties.

Captain Harris spearheaded the campaign in the 22 southern counties of the state, encompassing not only military installations but all federal agencies. During this tireless six-month effort, she showcased Keesler to all CFC participants.

The campaign raised more than \$807,000, surpassing the goal by 10 percent. The 81st Training Wing pledged \$198,903 to CFC, more than 145 percent of its goal of \$136,897.

Our people are our most valuable resource. I'm proud that Captain Harris is a part of Team Keesler.

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

KEESLER NEWS

81st Training Wing commander

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TRAINING AND EDUCATION

AETC celebrates 70 years of training, education

By Dianne Moffett

Air Education and Training Command Public Affairs

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas — The demand for flying training caused by the United States' entry into World War II after the attack on Pearl Harbor, resulted in the creation of the Air Corps Flying Training Command January 23, 1942.

Monday marked Air Education and Training Command's 70th Anniversary. After several redesignations, the Air Corps Flying Training Command became Air Training Command and finally Air Education and Training Command, headquartered at Randolph Air Force Base, Texas.

Despite changing production goals for trained personnel brought on by the events of World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the end of the Cold War, the Persian Gulf War and the terrorist strike on New York City and the Pentagon, AETC continues to meet the demands for trained and educated Airmen.

Air Education and Training Command recruits, assesses, commissions, educates, and trains Air Force enlisted and officer personnel. It provides basic military training, initial and advanced technical training, flying training, and professional military and degree-granting professional education.

The command also conducts joint, medical service, readiness and training to build partnerships with foreign air forces.

Training conducted at AETC bases provides the major Air Force commands and combatant commanders with skilled, expert Airmen who are able to perform at the highest level whether they are at home running nuclear enterprises or overseas fighting in Iraq or Afghanistan.

Today, AETC consists of 12 bases and is hosted at four



Throughout its history, AETC, known as the "First Command," has been committed to creating innovative training and education programs built on the achievements and hard work of thousands of dedicated men and women.

more. The command is home to more than 56,000 active-duty members, 16,000 civilians, and 4,000 Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve personnel. More than 6,000 Airmen from AETC are also deployed around the world.

"Major transformations in training and education came to AETC after the Persian Gulf War and 1992 was designated the Year of Training," said Ann Hussey, an AETC historian.

The initiative to create a single and consistent education and training structure for officer, enlisted and civilian personnel led to AETC's current designation.

"The year of training

revamped the Air Force's education and training requiring all enlisted personnel attend technical training," Hussey said, "The goal was to make all members mission ready upon arrival at their first duty station."

The Air Force merged Air University and ATC on July 1, 1993, re-designating the command to AETC. The command gained two numbered Air Forces, 19th Air Force at Randolph to oversee flying training and 2nd Air Force at Keesler to manage basic and technical training.

The command also converted its training centers to training wings and resumed responsibility for much of the

aircrew training mission, freeing the operational commands to focus on warfighting.

Hussey said what is most significant at AETC today is its focus on modernization and enhancing the level of education for all Airmen.

"New advanced weapons systems, such as the C-130 J at Little Rock AFB, Ark., the F-22 at Tyndall AFB, Fla., the F-35 at Eglin AFB, Fla., and the CV-22 at Kirtland AFB, N.M., requires highly skilled trainers, pilots and maintainers," Hussey said.

"Simulator flying training integrates new technology while maintaining cost effectiveness and affordability." Currently, Kirtland AFB,

N.M. provides high-fidelity training in HC-130 flight simulation, which emulates aircraft handling, refueling, air drops, defensive tactics and emergency procedures for the entire crew.

"Air University offers residence and distance learning opportunities. The Community College of the Air Force offers Airmen online courses that combine military and technical training with accredited courses to receive associate degrees," she said.

"The first Ph.D. program offered by Air University is through the School of Advanced Air and Space Studies at Maxwell AFB, Ala."

Throughout its history, AETC, known as the "First Command," has been committed to creating innovative training and education programs built on the achievements and hard work of thousands of dedicated men and women.

AETC's foundation for success in the Air Force will continue to advance its programs "to develop America's Airmen today... for tomorrow."

Supervisor resources move to Air Force Portal

By Debbie Gildea

Air Force Personnel, Services and Manpower Public Affairs

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas — Information, education and training critical to civilian supervisors is available at such online resources as the Supervisory Resource Center, which has moved to the Air Force Portal, SRC developers announced today.

Formerly located on the Air Force Knowledge Now platform as a community of practice page, Air Force Materiel Command has managed the SRC in some form since 2006. Effective Monday, the AFKN site will be phased out and employees will be directed to the portal site.

“We are continually adding content to appeal to wider audiences, based on their role - whether they are pre-supervisory, a new supervisor or an experienced supervisor. Then we introduce features focused on those roles,” said Marti Paul, SRC program manager.

The SRC is not just for supervisory development, Paul said, explaining that it can also be used by supervisors to develop their employees.

For example, she explained, there is now a pre-supervisory development process that helps people prepare for their role as a supervisor. In addition, “knowledge nuggets” were added starting in 2009. Knowledge nuggets

are short snippets of video that feature senior leaders talking about leadership topics, said Paul.

“We created learning programs based on Air Force institutional competencies and added those links to the SRC, and have continued to enhance its functionality based on Air Force topics of interest,” Paul said.

The move to the Portal is beneficial for everyone, according to Paul. Now the SRC exists on a stable, well-known platform, and it will be easier for people to access areas that before required circuitous effort. To visit the SRC, go to the Portal, hover over the life and career tab, then force development, and select the SRC link on the top left side of the FD page.

In addition to the SRC, supervisors can quickly access valuable information on a wide variety of topics at the Air Force Personnel Services civilian supervisors resource page.

“If you’re new to civil service, or a new supervisor, you’ll find a lot of information that you need all located on one page. It’s faster and more efficient to go to the supervisors’ resource page than to try to look up information every time you need it,” said Jackie Holland, Air Force Personnel Center civilian future operations branch.

The page includes knowledge articles on filling vacant

positions, pay and compensation, veteran hiring, and more. There are also quick links to reference guides, the supervisor’s handbook, overseas employment and reduction in force.

“People might waste a lot of time looking for information that they could easily access on this page, so it’s a definite benefit,” said Holland. “And, there’s a link on the page to the SRC, as well, so it’s easy to visit the center for related information.”

More formal education programs are also linked through the SRC, including Air University E-Learning programs, said Barry Waite, Ira C. Eaker Center for Professional Development.

“Air Force online supervisory courses have proved invaluable in preparing Airmen for their responsibilities,” said Waite. “We must provide training to enable people to accomplish their mission and to achieve their goals, but the money required to send all supervisors to an in-residence program is unsustainable.”

Prior to implementing the AU online learning environment, employing federal employees and contractor instructors to train new supervisors cost the Air Force more than \$1.7 million annually.

“Some bases had a contractor visit once or twice a year to conduct training, which was inflexible and required new supervisors wait until a trainer

visited,” Waite said. “E-Learning brings the classroom to the student, and it’s the same quality and technology major universities use for their online classes.”

Three courses are available for civilian and military supervisors: USAF Supervisors Course (mandatory for all new supervisors), Civilian Personnel Management Course, and Military Personnel Management Course.

The USAF Supervisors Course — launched in the e-learning format in 2009 — provides first level supervisors with leadership and management skills necessary in supervisory positions. Although it’s mandatory for new supervisors, former military members who have completed certain military professional military education can request an equivalency.

CPMC is mandatory for all new supervisors of civilian employees, and MPMC is mandatory for all new supervisors of military members. They were launched in 2010 to replace courses taught by training professionals or travelling contractors.

“We do have some challenges, but overall the courses have compared fairly well to an in-residence course. About 85 percent of the students so far have reported favorably on the comparability, and we’re saving the Air Force about \$1 million annually,” said Waite.

Challenges notwithstanding, the courses are popular with students who “are raving about the content and delivery,” said Waite. “This course is the reason we received the AETC learning innovation runnerup award during the AETC Symposium last winter.”

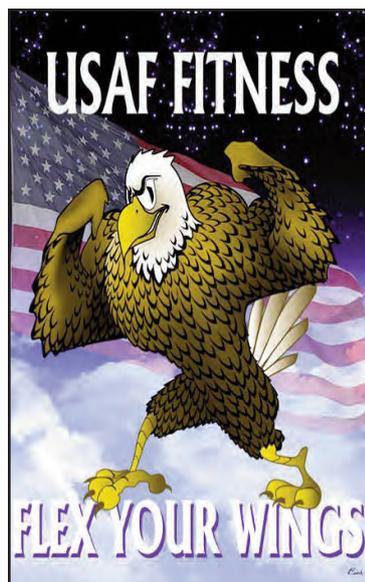
The courses are three of eight offered by the Air Force Human Resource Management School, according to Rebecca Sampson, HRMS future learning.

“I’ve been involved since 2000 in distance learning and I’ve never seen as much interest or growth in this medium as I have over the past year. It’s refreshing,” said Sampson. Go to <https://www.my.af.mil/afknprod/community/views/home.aspx?Filter=AF-ED-00-38> for details.

“Education and training are critical for success,” said Mike Hameroff, Headquarters Air Force training. He advises all Airmen to go to the different sites and browse the contents.

“These are great tools, but tools are only beneficial if you use them correctly. You can save yourself a lot of time, irritation and rework if you know what the tools are and how to use them before you need them,” said Hameroff.

For more information about leadership programs and other personnel issues, visit the Air Force Personnel Services website at <https://gum-crm.csd.disa.mil>.





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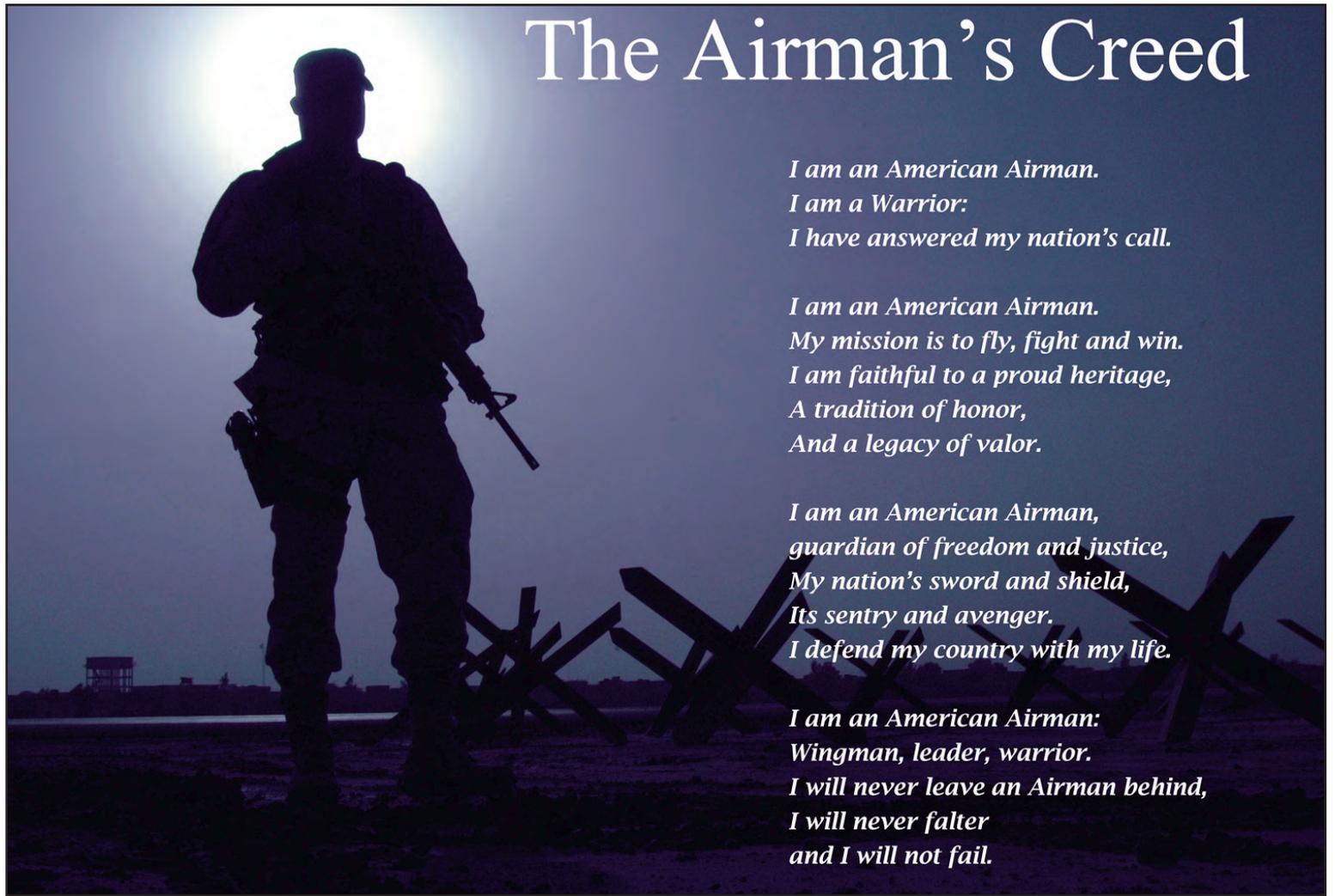
The Airman's Creed

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

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

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

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



TRAINING AND EDUCATION NOTES

MGCCC-Keesler term

Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College's Keesler Center's spring term is Feb. 27 through-May 11.

Web registration for current students begins Tuesday.

Registration by appointment in the MGCCC-Keesler office, Room 221, Sablich Center, begins Monday for active-duty military.

Students taking English composition I, oral communication or mathematics class for the first time must have an assessment of skills.

The spring term schedule is posted at www.mgccc.edu. Printed copies are available at the office.

For more information, call 376-8477 or 897-3822.

Technology expo

The 81st Training Support Squadron hosts its 17th annual training technology and information systems expo, 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Feb. 9 in the multipurpose room of the Roberts Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Facility.

Larry Monroe is the 81st TRSS project officer.

The free expo features more than 40 exhibitors and is open to all Defense Department, government and contractor personnel with base access.

For more information, call 377-7799 or 1-877-332-3976.

CCAF graduation

Feb. 24 is the deadline to apply for the Community College of the Air Force's spring graduating class.

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

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

Drill downs, parades

The 81st Training Group's drill down and parade schedule for 2012 is:

Drill downs — 8 a.m. Feb. 17, April 13, June 22 and Aug. 31; 5 p.m. Oct. 31 (tentative).

Parades — 6 p.m. March 29 and July 19.

OTS boards

Officer Training School recruiting service board dates:

Non-rated — March 1 cut-off for April 16.

Hap Arnold grants

March 9 is the application deadline for Air Force Aid Society \$2,000 grants for undergraduate studies through the Gen. Henry H. Arnold educational grant program.

Visit www.afas.org for information and to access the online application.

Grants are available to selected sons and daughters of active duty, Title 10 active Guard/Reserve members on extended active duty, Title 32 AGR performing full-time active duty, retired, retired Reservists with 20 or more qualifying years of service, and deceased Air Force members; spouses (residing state-side) of active duty and Title 10 AGR/ Reservists on extended active duty; and surviving spouses of deceased.

Tuition assistance

Effective April 1, students who want to use Air Force tuition assistance must ensure their school has signed the Department of Defense memorandum of understanding.

Tuition assistance submitted for non-participating

schools won't be approved and is currently unwaiverable.

For more information or to check on participating schools, visit www.dodmou.com.

CALT program

The Civilian Acculturation and Leadership Program is a two-week in-residence course patterned after the Officer Training School curriculum.

CALT is open to Air Force civilians in permanent General Service 7-13 with a bachelor's degree and two to five years experience. Applications are open on a continuing basis.

Nominees can apply by completing the Air Force Civilian Competitive Development Nomination Form.

Classes are open until all seats are filled.

For more information, call 376-8161 or log on to Air Force Personnel Services.

Manager certification

The Community College of the Air Force awards professional manager certification that recognizes an individual's advanced level of education and experience in leadership and management, as well as professional accomplishments.

For more information, log on to <http://www.au.af.mil/au/ccaf/certifications.asp> or call 376-8708 or 8710.

4 physician assistants graduate

By Steve Pivnick

81st Medical Group Public Affairs

Four physician assistants received their diplomas Jan. 5 during a ceremony in Keesler Hospital's Don Wylie Auditorium.

Army Capt. Seth Enterline and 1st Lts. Michael Jobe, Curtiss Howell and Laramie Richmond received graduation certificates as well as their master of science degrees from the University of Nebraska Medical Center. He also administered the oath of office as Jobe, Howell and Richmond were commissioned first lieutenants.

Enterline has been assigned to Fort Campbell, Ky.; Jobe to the Air Force Academy, Colo.; Howell to Hurlburt Field, Fla.; and Richmond to Minot Air Force Base, N.D.

Keep your data safe — back it up!

Finances limit future AETC symposiums to every other year

By Staff Sgt. Clinton Atkins

AETC Public Affairs

SAN ANTONIO — Nearly 4,000 Airmen attended the Air Education and Training Command Symposium here Jan. 12-13 to learn about world-leading capabilities and technologies for educating, training, recruiting and innovating.

The event included keynote speakers, 120 vendor booths, 70 seminars and panels and an advance screening of the movie, “Red Tails.”

Due to fiscal constraints, however, AETC will now hold its symposium every other year instead of annually as part of a new culture of cost consciousness.

“I’m already seeing it,” said Gen. Edward A. Rice Jr., AETC commander. “If you just look around at what’s going on in the command — from what we’re doing in distance learning; what we’re doing in bringing electronic capability into the classrooms with different ways of providing the instruction; what we’re doing with bringing more into the simulator environment; what we’re thinking about in terms of purchases of the next generation of our T-38 and that it’s not just an airplane, it’s a whole system that’s not only going to bring dividends to us in AETC but to the whole combat air forces in the way that we train. It will be revolutionary.”

“This idea of the culture of cost consciousness that we talk about will free up dollars, quite frankly, that will be able to be put back into the training and education enterprise,” Rice said. “And that is the very, very tip of the iceberg. I am absolutely convinced that it is our workers who on their own, if properly motivated, will come up with great ideas that will generate huge revenues for us that we’ll be able to apply back into the enterprise. I’m very excited.”

NEWS AND FEATURES



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Shane Olsen, Pete Robertson and Duane Olsen, Zero Waste Solutions recycling technicians, load furniture at the recycling center for delivery to be reused at a local facility.

Keesler's recycling program turns 2011 trash into treasure

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News editor

Keesler's aggressive recycling program returned \$176,322 in proceeds to the base by diverting nearly 40 percent of its waste from landfills in 2011.

Keesler began 2011 with a 25.4 diversion rate and proceeds of \$27,208 in the first three months of the year, said Doug Smith, Keesler's project manager for Zero Waste Solutions/Mark Dunning Industries. The amounts rose steadily as the year progressed, and by the final quarter of the year, the diversion rate more than doubled to 56.12 percent and the proceeds jumped to \$70,100.

Air Education and Training Command's annual diversion goal for 2011 is 40 percent and increases to 50 percent in 2015.

Smith is proud of the base's accomplishment, but is already eyeing additional ways to make "reduce, reuse, recycle" a stronger commitment in the future.

One of the most successful diversionary tactics has been a concerted effort to reuse items rather than dispose of them in a landfill.

"During 2011, we made donations to local

churches, schools and organizations like the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars, as well as sold some items to private individuals," Smith explained.

When Keesler remodels dining halls, offices and other spaces and furniture and equipment are no longer needed, the Defense Reutilization and Marketing System headquarters at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., is contacted. If DRMS deems items "scrap" because it's not economical to transport them, the base tries to find ways to reuse and donate items because of limited storage space.

"It's hit or miss when these things come in," recycling specialist Duane Olsen pointed out. "We don't know when or what items are going to show up and we can't help every nonprofit organization with its needs, but we'd much rather donate than discard."

Another recycling effort has been to shred the hard drives from outdated computers and send other components to a women's prison in Mariana, Fla., where precious metals, plastic and aluminum are stripped and recycled.

For more information on furniture and equipment donations, call 377-4546.

IN THE NEWS

8 medics selected for promotion

Eight Keesler officers have been selected for promotion.

Selected for promotion to major are Capt. Julia Bradley, 81st Inpatient Operations Squadron; Shannan Corbin, 81st Medical Group; Dawn Higgins and Martin Paprock, 81st Medical Operations Squadron; Shelly Pardini, 81st Surgical Operations Squadron; and Mark Francis and Larry Stowers, Air Force Institute of Technology.

Chosen for promotion to colonel is Lt. Col. Kathryn Weiss, 81st MSGS.

School board member sought

Brig. Gen. Andrew Mueller, 81st Training Wing commander, is seeking a Keesler volunteer, preferable a Biloxi School District parent, to represent the base as an honorary non-voting member of the district's board of trustees.

Meetings are at 5 p.m. the third Tuesday of each month at the DuKate Building Annex, 1445 Father Ryan Ave., Biloxi.

For more information, call 376-8505.

Storm water plan

Keesler is reviewing and updating its Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan and the Storm Water Management Plan as required by environmental regulation and public law.

For more information, comments or to participate in either program, call 377-1262.

Customer survey

CSC is soliciting customer response from Keesler members who have used any of the base operating support services since Aug. 1, 2011.

Services include the library, fitness centers, supply, civil engineering or weather. Responses are confidential.

The customer service survey is available online through Tuesday at www.keeslerbossurvey.com

Wing calendar event planning

The 81st Training Wing events calendar at <http://www.keesler.af.mil/events/index.asp> is designed to help organizers avoid conflicts with other scheduled events.

Once an official date is set, event planners should send details to the public affairs organizational box, 81trw.pamain@us.af.mil. Most items are posted within one business day. Items that must be included are the name of event, date, time, location and a point of contact.

Events should be coordinated and approved through respective chains of command and be mission-relevant to a wide audience. All inputs are subject to review and editing by the 81st Training Wing Public Affairs office.

Early Keesler News deadline

The deadline for the Feb. 23 issue of the Keesler News is noon Feb. 16 because of the Presidents Day federal holiday on Feb. 20 and the Mardi Gras holiday on Feb. 21 observed by the newspaper's commercial publisher.

Dragons deployed — 185

Computer virus prevention depends on you.

South Mississippi's CFC exceeds fundraising goal

United Way of South Mississippi and Keesler News staff

In spite of uncertainty and potential budget cuts for the federal workforce, the 2011 South Mississippi Combined Federal Campaign raised more than \$807,000, surpassing the fundraising goal by 10 percent.

Brig. Gen. Andrew Mueller, 81st Training Wing commander, chaired the annual giving campaign for all federal workers, including military, postal and federal civilians in Mississippi's southern 21 counties.

The 81st Training Wing pledged \$198,903 to CFC, more than 145 percent of its 2011 goal of \$136,897.

"Our outstanding 2011 results are evidence that our federal employees and military personnel are generous, chari-



table and willing to open their hearts for the betterment of the causes in which they believe," said Terry Olivier, Southern Mississippi CFC director. "We made significant strides this year in reaching out to federal employees and began encouraging online pledges, which both increased our number of donors as well as their payroll deduction gifts."

Susan Griggs, Keesler News editor, contributed to this report.

PERSONNEL NOTES

Veterans job fair at Superdome

A free veterans job fair is 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Feb. 2 at the Mercedes-Benz Superdome in New Orleans.

RecruitMilitary, a military-to-civilian recruiting firm, is sponsoring the event in partnership with the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the American Legion.

More than 25 employers, franchisors, educational institutions and government agencies will be available to meet with veterans who already have civilian work experience, men and women who are transitioning from active duty to civilian life, members of the National Guard and reserve, military spouses and other military family members.

For more information, visit www.recruitmilitary.com.

Humanitarian Service Medal

Military personnel section

The Secretary of the Air Force approved the Humanitarian Service Medal for relief operations in Taiwan, Indonesia and the Republic of Philippines for the period of Aug. 7-Oct. 17, 2009.

If you were assigned in support of these humanitarian missions during this period, call 376-8155 or visit Room 224, Sablich Center.

WAPS testing cycle

81st Force Support Squadron

The 12E6 and E7 Weighted Airman Promotion System testing cycle is Tuesday through March 31.

Contact your unit WAPS monitor if you have not received a test date for this current cycle or haven't received your WAPS specialty knowledge test study materials.

The online 2011 Professional Development Guide is currently an approved official reference for WAPS testing and can be found at the Airman Advancement Division website on its professional development page at <https://www.omsq.af.mil/index.htm>.



Vance



Mendoza



Kemp



S. Moore



Haney

Wing honors quarterly award winners

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News editor

The 81st Training Wing honored 13 individuals with quarterly awards for October-December at a luncheon Jan. 17 at the Bay Breeze Event Center.

Airman — Senior Airman Charlene Vance, 81st Diagnostics and Therapeutics Squadron.

Noncommissioned officer — Tech. Sgt. Scott Mendoza, legal office.

Senior NCO — Master Sgt. Van Kemp II, 333rd Training Squadron.

Company grade officer — 2nd Lt. Semira Moore, 81st Comptroller Squadron.

Civilian Category I — Michael Haney, 81st Communications Squadron.

Civilian Category II — Jeni Hornbeck, 81st Contracting Squadron.

Civilian supervisor Category I — Carol Emling, 81st Logistics Readiness Squadron.

Civilian supervisor Category II — Shaun Cooper, 81st Communications Squadron.

Honor guard Airman — Senior Airman Kerry Moore, 81st Medical Support Squadron.

Honor guard NCO — Staff Sgt. Travis Meyer, 338th TRS.

Spartan Award — Airman 1st Class Emily Franklin, 345th Airlift Squadron.

Angel Award — Airman 1st Class Zachary Bartlett, 81st MDSS, military volunteer; Lori Warren, spouse of Staff Sgt. Russell Warren, 338th TRS, civilian volunteer.



Hornbeck



Emling



Cooper



K. Moore



Meyer



Franklin



Bartlett



Warren

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Use constitutes consent to monitoring.

Keesler medic chief retires after 30 years

By Steve Pivnick

81st Medical Group Public Affairs

Chief Master Sgt. Debra Strickland ends her 30-year Air Force career during a formal retirement ceremony at 2:30 p.m. today in the Keesler Hospital Don Wylie Auditorium. Brig. Gen. (Dr.) Dan Wyman, Air Combat Command command surgeon, will officiate.

Chief Strickland is 81st Surgical Operations Squadron superintendent. She also serves as the senior 81st Medical Group health services administration enlisted member as well as Air Education and Training Command health services administration functional manager.

The chief, who hails from Kahului, Hawaii, enlisted Aug. 16, 1982, and has served as a medic her entire career. Her first assignment was with the 2nd Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron at Rhein-Main Air Base, Germany.

She also has had assignments to Hickam AFB, Hawaii; McChord AFB, Wash.; Osan AB, Korea; and Hurlburt Field and Eglin AFB, Fla. She arrived at Keesler in March 2009 from Eglin, where she was superintendent of the 96th Aerospace Medicine Squadron.

Probably the event she considers the most memorable during her three decades of Air Force service was being selected for promotion to chief in 2006.

"I really didn't expect to



Strickland

make it at that time," she said I was in special operations which tends to be a male-dominated field — and I was a medic as well. It was a total surprise!"

Strickland is married to Senior Master Sgt. Scott Strickland, 81st Medical Operations Squadron, and has a 23-year-old daughter, Deveney, who recently graduated from the University of South Florida, Tampa.

Following today's ceremony, the chief plans to take a few days off before returning to the medical group as a contract employee in the 81st Medical Support Squadron readiness flight. Her official retirement date is May 1.

Summing up her career, the chief said, "My goal was to give back to the Air Force what it has given me. I believe I've managed to do that."

Cyberspace isn't a secure environment.

Key Spouses make volunteering a profession

By Steve Hoffmann

Keesler News staff

On the Gulf Coast and particularly Biloxi, the lighthouse has taken on multiple figurative meanings — light in a world of darkness, a guide through stormy, murky circumstances, an answer to a call for help. That spirit can often be seen in the people of the Gulf Coast as well. Here at Keesler, one place where you will find it is in the Key Spouse program.

In times of confusion and upheaval, such as is often the case when arriving at a new base, calling your Key Spouse might be the safest, quickest and easiest way to get you where you need to go. The Key Spouse program exists to help Airman spouses and family members navigate the sometimes confusing and turbulent Air Force life. A Key Spouse is a volunteer, generally a spouse or family member, who represents the unit and is a conduit of information between commanders and the family unit.

“The program has become a lot more established,” said Rebecca Stanley, personal and

family life program manager with the airman and family readiness center. “This is leading to greater continuity, but we’re always looking for more Key Spouses.”

Stanley recently held training for a group of 8-10 Key Spouses and mentors, teaching them how to be that light in the dark and how to get information into the hands of the people who can use it the most.

The Key Spouse program was developed as an initiative to enhance the quality of life for Air Force families. Voluntary implementation was encouraged in 1999, but the program varied from base to base. But in 2009, the program was standardized with formal training, not only for the Key Spouses, but has been incorporated into first sergeant and officer training as well.

Prospective Key Spouses are interviewed by the first sergeant and commander of a squadron with a letter of recommendation sent to Stanley. They must then fill out all the required paperwork before training can begin. According to Stanley, this has made the organic nature of vol-



Linda Worth, spouse of Lt. Col. Brian Worth, 336th Training Squadron commander, sets out informational literature for Key Spouses in the new Key Spouse work room inside Thomson Hall.

Photos by Kemberly Groue

unteering a little more professional and official.

“Keeping the Key Spouse role and the social side of

being a spouse separate is a challenge,” said Elly McAlpine, Key Spouse mentor and wife of Lt. Col. Bradley McAlpine, 335th Training Squadron. “Since many of the Key Spouses are the spouses who volunteer with the unit anyway, there is a lot of crossover. Even when Key Spouses are able to keep the two separate, a lot of times the other spouses in the unit don’t understand the difference.”

For a Key Spouse, balancing the need to stay professional with a passion for helping and serving whenever and wherever possible can be tricky at times. Sometimes it’s better to inspire others to action than to act.

“I have found that getting the spouses together at least once every other month really helps keep everyone focused. The more they get together, the happier they are,” said Lori Warren, 338th TRS Key Spouse and wife of Staff Sgt. Russell Warren, 338th TRS. “It really helps the spouses open up and talk about what

things are going on in their lives and get inspiration and answers from others.”

Warren recounted a story of a few of her nonprior service student spouses who stepped up and offered to babysit for some new moms in the 338th TRS who wanted to go to Heartlink.

“They volunteered to babysit because they felt like Heartlink was something that was too important to miss over something as silly as child care,” said Warren.

The volunteers then used the money they received for babysitting to buy toys for the Toys for Tots program.

“This is the kind of stuff that’s going on that gets out into the Air Force community,” said Stanley. “These spouses are now going to leave here and have a different impression about military life, outreach and the support of Key Spouses.”

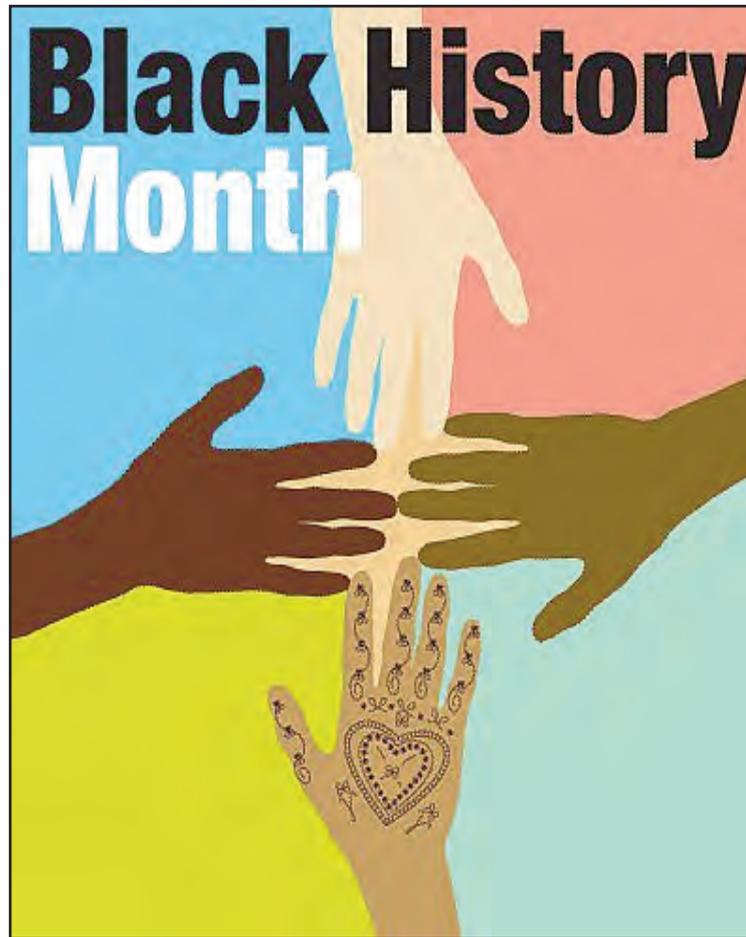
To learn more about the Key Spouse program, call the airman and family readiness center, 376-8500.



Rebecca Stanley, the airman and family readiness center’s personal and family life program manager, trains new members of the Key Spouse program, Rochelle Malone, 81st Mission Support Group; Sue Ellen Roberts, 338th Training Squadron; and Amy Wier, 81st Logistics Readiness Squadron, Dec. 12 at the Sablich Center.

For lost and found items, call 377-4500.

AAHC plans annual celebration



Keesler's African-American Heritage Committee has planned a variety of activities for Black History Month in February.

The base gets a head start on the observance with a free gospel concert, 6 p.m. Saturday at Triangle Chapel.

For more information, call 377-0327.

Other scheduled events are:

Saturday — 6 p.m., Triangle Chapel, free gospel concert. For more information, call 377-0327.

Feb. 2 — 11 a.m., Bay Breeze Event Center, Black History Month luncheon. Guest speaker is Lucimarian Roberts. The luncheon is \$15. For tickets, call 377-9386.

Feb. 10 — noon, Gaudé Lanes, 8th annual AAHC bowling tournament. \$10. For more information, call 377-5250.

Feb. 24 — 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., youth center, soul food sampling. Donations accepted. For more information, call 376-8682.

Family advocacy program provides domestic abuse victim advocate

Volunteer — get connected. Call 377-5346.

By 1st Lt. Sheontee Ferebee

81st Medical Operations Squadron

Victims of domestic abuse may be afraid to break the silence and report the abuse they endure for various reasons. Victim advocacy is designed to provide a voice to the victims who don't know how to speak about their abuse experiences.

Okimo Williams has joined Keesler's family advocacy program as the new domestic abuse victim advocate. Her duties include, but are not limited to, risk assessments, safety planning and linkage to needed installation and community services.

The domestic abuse victim advocate is a 24/7 position designed to provide victim advocacy to all active duty



Williams

personnel, their family members or intimate partners who are eligible beneficiaries of the military health care system. Retiree cases are seen on

a case-by-case situation for ongoing support. No one is turned away from initial risk assessment and safety planning, but may be deferred to the community for ongoing support.

Anyone who has been a victim of domestic violence can receive this voluntary service. A victim of domestic violence can file a restricted report that allows medical treatment and/or therapy without an investigation or command involvement. An unrestricted report allows the victim to receive medical treatment and/or therapy, as well as involves the command and authorities with the active-duty member.

For information or referrals, call 376-5361/3457 or 257-7264.

Give the gift of life — call the Keesler Blood Donor Center, 376-6100.

A 3-5 minute steady tone on the base siren is a tornado warning — take cover.

Nursing expert



Krista Lippold, 81st Aerospace Medicine Squadron deployment health clinic provider, has been selected by the American Nurses Credentialing Center to join its registry of content expert volunteers who offer their expertise and experience for activities that enhance the nursing profession. She'll be part of the content expert registry for family nurse practitioners. She graduated from Mobile College with a bachelor's degree and from the University of Mobile with a master's degree, both degrees in nursing. In addition to the Keesler Hospital, she also works on a contractual basis at Providence Hospital in Mobile, Ala., and a south Mississippi urgent care clinic.

This week's movies at Welch Theater

Friday — 6:30 p.m.,
The Twilight Saga: Break-
ing Dawn Part 1 (PG-13).

Saturday — 2 p.m.,
Arthur Christmas (PG);
6:30 p.m., The Sitter (R).

Sunday — 1 p.m., New
Year's Eve (PG-13).

Twice deferred majors, captains may face continuation board

Make safety a reality — don't be a fatality.

By Eric Gill

Air Force Personnel, Services and Manpower Public Affairs

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas — Captains and majors twice deferred for promotion to the next higher rank who have less than 18 years of service may face a selective continuation board.

Selective continuation boards allow the Air Force to retain twice-deferred officers for a length of time determined by the Secretary of the Air Force. The board typically reviews individual records, immediately following a promotion board, to determine eligibility for continuation.

Continuing service in the Air Force is not a guarantee or a right, said Col. Michael Pitts, Air Force Personnel Center's Personnel Services

Directorate Operations Division chief.

"Selective continuation is necessary to balance our force to meet current and future mission capabilities," Pitts said. "It's no longer business as 'normal.' The authority to continue twice-deferred officers is at the discretion of the Air Force Secretary when the needs of the service require."

Officers not selected for continuation are eligible for involuntary separation pay and will be projected for separation no later than six months after the President or his delegate approves the board results, said Lt. Col. Shelley Strong, AFPC's Officer Promotion Branch chief. Those who choose to apply for transfer into the Air Force Reserves or Air National Guard will

require a waiver.

With a very talented, all-volunteer force it is a difficult task to select Airmen for early transition from the active-duty force, however the process is necessary to ensure we maintain critical skills and stay within our congressionally mandated end strength, Pitts explained.

"Officers have a role to play in the process," he said. "All officers must make sure their records accurately reflect their accomplishments and experience developed in their years of service."

For more information about officer promotions, selective continuation or any other personnel related issues, visit the Air Force Personnel Services website at <https://gum-crm.csd.disa.mil>.

OPSEC, core values vital in social media use

Air University Public Affairs

MAXWELL AIR FORCE BASE, Ala. — While Airmen are encouraged to tell the Air Force story, they should be mindful to do so in ways that lend credit to themselves and the service, officials said.

With the emergence of social media, information sharing has changed in unprecedented ways. It continues to be dynamic and evolving.

Now a cultural norm around the globe, social media is part of the daily activities of Airmen and their families, who use social media sites to stay connected.

The Air Force has specific

guidance related to social media. In particular, Airmen should remember to heed both operational security and Air Force core values as they exercise the privilege of accessing social media, officials said.

“A helpful reminder for Airmen is to use our core values as a filter before engaging in a public forum,” said Col. Steve Clutter, the Air Education and Training Command public affairs director. “Core values will guide them to be cautious before crossing the line between funny and distasteful, or sharing good information without creating an OPSEC violation. We must

reinforce to our Airmen to use good judgment when using social media sites as there may be consequences with what is posted.”

Careless use of social media can jeopardize the mission. An OPSEC violation was detailed in an article written by Airman 1st Class Precious Yett, with the 502nd Air Base Wing OL-B Public Affairs at Joint Base San Antonio, Texas.

“I had a situation with a member who was deployed downrange in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom,” said Tech. Sgt. Darrell Williams, the 902nd Security Forces Squadron Military

Working Dog section NCO in charge. “I logged onto Facebook one morning and noticed he had checked-in to his search pit on the base.

“He wasn’t thinking that by doing so, he’s broadcasting the grid coordinates to a strategic location on base via an unsecured medium,” Williams said. “Anyone with hostile intentions could have utilized those coordinates to not only locate an entry point into the installation but target those who work there. Additionally, the deployed member had posted what equipment was currently in use and identified these pieces of equipment by name.”

Williams said he immediately sent the Airman a Facebook message and reminded him of operational and communication security procedures. The post was deleted, but with the information already online, the damage could have already been done.

The Air Force pamphlet “Social Media and the Air Force,” produced by the Air Force Public Affairs Agency Emerging Technology Division, states, “Airmen should note that anytime they engage in social media, they are representing the Air Force and therefore should not do anything that will discredit themselves or the Air Force.”

It goes on to say, “Airmen must abide by certain restrictions to ensure good order and discipline. All Airmen are on duty 24 hours a day, 365 days a year and all actions are subject to the Uniform Code of Military Justice. Even if Airmen state they are not representing the Air Force, other audiences may not interpret the information that way.

Officials advise Airmen to be careful of the details, text, photos and video posted to profiles on MySpace and Facebook and other social networks. Employers and adversaries can search these sites, and there are numerous examples of people losing a job due to their inappropriate photos or comments.

“Airmen, by the nature of the business, are always on the record and must always represent the core values, even on the Web: integrity first, service before self and excellence in all that is done,” the pamphlet stated.



E-mail is a privilege —
don't abuse it!

Program helps find local babysitters

By Tech. Sgt.
Mareshah Haynes

Defense Media Activity

FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, Md. — Airmen now have another option when it comes to choosing a caretaker for their children, pets and homes and even tutors.

Sittercity helps connect people who need babysitters, nannies, pet sitters, tutors, housekeepers and adult caregivers with reputable and trusted service providers. Now, membership to that service has been extended to all military members free of charge.

The original vision of Sittercity when it was founded back in 2001 was to create a place on the internet where parents could go to find that perfect care provider for their family, said Melissa Anderson, the president of Sittercity's Corporate Division.

"We invented the concept of matchmaking for care providers," she said.

The program allows military parents to post jobs with the requirements of what they consider to be the perfect sitter. They can include specifications like sitters who have access to military installations or military-subsidized care providers.

Once the job is posted, sitters apply directly to that job. The parents receive targeted cover letters through email explaining the sitters' qualifications. Then, the parents can choose from the applicants which one best suits their needs. The communications go directly through the site until they feel comfortable enough to connect with them personally.

"On average, each job post gets 11 applicants," Anderson said. "We connect a military family with a care provider every seven minutes."

Tech. Sgt. Tanya King, of the 446th Airlift Wing at Joint Base McChord-Lewis, Wash., and her family took advantage of the service after they made a permanent change of station from Keesler to a place where they had no family members.

"It was pretty simple," King said of her experience using Sittercity. "There are thousands of child care providers on the site, and you can narrow them down to specific things. Being military, there are times when our child is sick we can't just leave work to go pick up our kid from day care. We were able to find sitters who would watch our daughter if she was sick and would come out to the base and pick her up. We also have a dog, so one of our criteria was that the sitter would be willing to care for the dog too."

The care itself is not free.

"The parents have to pay for the care provided, and that is all negotiated through the parents and the provider. In the job posting the parents will give a range of what they're comfortable paying, so the sitter will have an idea before applying," Anderson said.

Sittercity is accessible to military members around the world, so members who are moving from an overseas location to a stateside location can begin finding a sitter before they even arrive in country.

"We see lots of uses of Sittercity from families who

(have a deployed member) or who have (moved) and they are in a location where they don't have family members to help them care for their children," Anderson said.

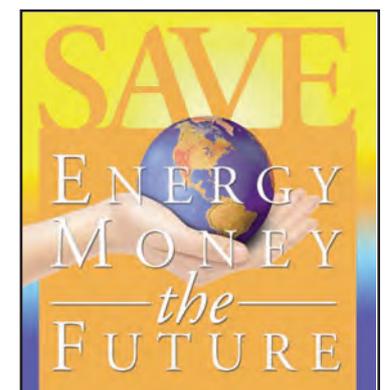
King said because of the thousands of options her family had for child care providers, they didn't feel like they were pressured to leave their child with someone who they weren't totally comfortable with.

"There were so many choices we were able to schedule interviews with our top 10 choices, and we really got a feel for the sitters," King said. "We really got an idea of the kind of care that could be provided, so we were able to find that needle in a haystack. The woman who we chose takes a learning approach to child care as opposed to just babysitting. She actually uses it as an opportunity to teach her sign language. Had we not had so many choices, we probably wouldn't have found that needle in the haystack."

Not only does Sittercity help military families find sitters, especially in secluded areas, but it helps spouses find jobs as well.

"We are a proud member of the (Military Spouse Employment Program) and we recruit military spouses to work on our site," Anderson said. "We employ thousands of military spouses. We have military families on both sides of the equation."

For more information on how to get a free Sittercity membership, visit www.Sittercity.com/DOD



2nd Air Force assists local school in 'Jeans for Teens' homeless project

Second Air Force

Second Air Force is assisting Pass Road Elementary School in Gulfport with a community relations project as part of the "Jeans for Teens" project for the homeless.

Walt Hack, who's leading the drive for 2nd Air Force, said jeans of any size or condition can be dropped off at Room 128 of 2nd Air Force headquarters, Building 2804 until Feb. 13.

"There are two million homeless teens in the U.S.," Hack said. "The one thing they want most to feel normal is a pair of jeans. A pair of jeans won't change the life of a homeless teen, but it may help make a difference. The jeans may also spur young people in need to visit a shelter where they can get needed resources the shelters have to offer."

Last year, the Teens for Jeans campaign, organized by Aeropostale and DoSomething.org, collected more than 125,000 pairs of jeans in just two weeks.

The school that collects the most jeans wins \$5,000, new jeans for every student and a party.

For more information, 377-1324.

When you gamble with safety, you bet your life.



eight days a week

Airman and family readiness center

Editor's note: For more information or to register, call 376-8728.

Wednesday — 9 a.m., deployment briefing. All members deploying must attend prior to departure.

Arts and crafts center

Editor's note: Registration is required. For more information or to register, call 377-2821.

Friday — 6 p.m., ladies' night. Games, snacks, beverages and ceramics painting. \$5 admission.

Saturday — 9-11 a.m., basic woodworking. Class certifies you to use shop equipment. \$25 includes materials.

Wednesday — 10:30 a.m. to noon, basic strokes. Painting tips and techniques of the flat brush for beginners. \$10 includes materials.

Bay Breeze Collocated Club

Editor's note: For more information, call 377-2334.

Friday — Feb. 5 — 4 p.m., Super Bowl party. Giveaways, contests, buffet and more. \$10 for Air Force Club members, \$15 non-members and \$5 for nonprior service students. Tickets on sale now.

Bay Breeze Golf Course

Editor's note: For more information or to register, call 377-3832.

Wednesday — noon to 3 p.m., ladies golf development. 30-minute driving range lesson plus four to nine-hole option. \$40 per person includes cart.

Feb. 5 — 8 a.m., Super Bowl golf scramble. Four person, select shot. Prices vary. Fee includes greens, cart, prizes, giveaways, food and beverages. Register in advance.

Daily — 6-11 a.m., breakfast platters less than \$4 at snack bar.

Fitness centers

Editor's note: For more information or to register, call 377-4385 or 3056.

Saturday — 11 a.m., women's varsity basketball; 1 p.m., men's varsity basketball games, Keesler Dragons versus Maxwell Warriors at Blake Fitness Center. Free admission.

Through Feb. 2 — intramural volleyball registration. Contact squadron sports representative or call 377-2444..

Gaudé Lanes

Editor's note: For more information, call 377-2817.

Friday-Saturday — 9 p.m. Friday and 7 p.m. Saturday, glow bowling.

Saturday-Sunday — 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday and noon to 6 p.m., Sunday, pizza and pins special. Two hours of bowling, shoes, large pizza and a pitcher of soda or tea, \$35.

Feb. 5 — 4 p.m., super bowling party. Bowling, buffet, prizes and watch the game. Advance tickets; \$30 adults, \$20 ages 5-17, free for ages 4 and younger. Tickets available at door for increased price.

Weekdays — 6:30-9 a.m., fast \$5 breakfast served at 11th Frame Café.

McBride Library

Editor's note: For more information or to register, call 377-2181.

Today — noon, free e-reader class. Learn how to download free e-books and resources. Space limited.

Monday — 6 p.m., free e-orientation. Learn how to maneuver online resources. Space limited.

Feb. 2 — 4-5 p.m., free children's story and craft time, ages 3-12.

Vandenberg Community Center

Editor's note: Friday and Saturday night activities are part of the late night dances, \$3 admission; non-prior service students only. For more information, call 377-3308 or 5576.

Saturday — 7 p.m., Ultimate Fighting Championship light heavyweight bout. Watch Rashad Evans versus Phil Davis battle for the title.

Wednesday — 6-7 p.m., free pool tournament. Prize awarded.

Wednesdays — 5-9 p.m., friends and flicks. Free movie night; popcorn provided.

Youth center

Editor's note: For more information or to register, call 377-4116. Drop-ins accepted on space-available basis.

Friday — 6:30-9:30 p.m., Friday night fun, ages 6-12. Games, skating, movies and more. \$10 for first child, \$5 each additional. Air Force Club members get 10 percent off first child's fee.

Wednesday through March 9 — youth baseball registration, ages 3-14. \$50 for first child, discounted price for each additional. Season begins in April.

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KEESLER NOTES

MPS minimally manned

The military personnel section is minimally manned Monday and Tuesday to support the 403rd Wing's Operational Readiness Inspection.

Tax, legal services

Because of limited manning Monday through Feb. 2, the tax office won't provide tax services and the legal office will only provide emergency legal assistance.

Notary service will be available, but will executions won't.

For emergencies, call 376-8601.

KSC luncheon

The Keesler Spouses Club's monthly luncheon on Feb. 14 is hosted by the 403rd Wing.

The group meets at the Bay Breeze Event Center at 10 a.m. for a windshield tour, lunch and briefings, returning to the event center about 1:45 p.m.

Lunch is \$12 and cash-only payments are made at the event.

Alcoholics Anonymous

Alcoholics Anonymous meetings are held 7-8 p.m. Fridays upstairs in the Triangle Chapel Annex.

All active-duty and retired members and their dependents are welcome to attend.

Supply classes

Quarterly supply classes are held in Room 109, Taylor Logistics Building.

Block I supply indoctrination class is 9-10 a.m. March 15. All newly-assigned supply custodians and resource managers are required to attend. For more information or to sign up, call 377-5998.

Precious Metals Recovery Program is 10-11 a.m. March 15. All newly-assigned PMRP monitors are required to attend, and refresher training is required annually. For more information or to sign up, call 377-5998.

Block IIA bench stock training is 9-10 a.m. March 29. For more information or to

sign up, call 377-4180.

Block IIB repair cycle training is 10-11 a.m. March 29. For more information or to sign up, call 377-4191.

Block III equipment custodian refresher training is 1-2 p.m. March 15. All newly-assigned supply equipment custodians are required to attend, as well as all other custodians annually. For more information or to sign up, call 377-2270.

For information on all supply classes, call 377-4480.

Keesler Thrift Shop

The Keesler Thrift Shop, operated by the Keesler Spouses Club, is at the corner of Meadows Drive and First Street.

Profits benefit base and area charities and provide scholarships.

Hours are 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays. Consignments are accepted 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Mondays.

Log on to www.keesler spousesclub.com for more information and a list of pre-

ferred donations. Pickup is available for bulk donations.

For more information, call 377-3217.

Wood shop items

A number of items at the wood shop need to be picked up by the end of February.

Hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday through Friday and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

Airman's Attic

Airman's Attic, at the corner of Meadows Drive and 1st Street, assists junior enlisted members with obtaining free basic household items.

Donations are needed such as furniture, area rugs, cutlery, dishware, infant wear and maternity clothes that are clean and in good condition.

Hours are 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 4-6 p.m. Wednesday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. the last Saturday of the month and closed on federal holidays.

For more information, call

209-1390 or 377-3814.

Supply source

The Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office is a free source of supplies and equipment.

For more information, visit CSC supply customer service, Room 126, Taylor Logistics Center, Building 4002; call 377-2005 or e-mail 81LRS.CustomerSVC@us.af.mil.

Zero overpricing

Submit zero overpricing items on Air Force Form 1046 to CSC supply customer service, Room 126, Taylor Logistics Center, Building 4002.

For overpricing issues or concerns call CSC customer service, 377-2005 or email 81LRS.CustomerSVC@us.af.mil.

Air Force Aid assistance

Air Force Aid Society assistance, including Falcon Loans, is provided by appointment only. Emergency travel aid is still provided on a walk-in basis.

For an appointment, call 376-8728.

SPORTS AND RECREATION



Photos by Kemberly Groue

Jason Webb, Maxwell-Gunter Air Force Base, Ala., attempts to gain control of the basketball as Keesler Dragons Ray Williams, Tony Whitley and Quameir Harding surround him during Saturday's Southeastern Military Athletic Conference basketball game at Blake Fitness Center. The Maxwell-Gunter Warriors defeated the Keesler Dragons, 73-69.

Maxwell takes win in SEMAC contest

Keesler's Quameir Harding drives the ball inside for a shot as Maxwell's Alexander Nelson and Andrew Williams attempt to stop him during Saturday's game. Maxwell remains atop the SEMAC standings at 7-1, while the Dragons drop to 1-7. Saturday, Keesler's men's and women's varsity teams travel to Mayport Naval Air Station, Fla., for more conference action. The Maxwell women's team forfeited to Keesler Saturday, moving the Lady Dragons into second place in the SEMAC standings at 5-3.



Medics lead Western Conference, 3-way lead in Eastern Conference in intramural basketball league

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News editor

The undefeated 81st Medical Group continues to top the intramural basketball standings in the Western Conference, but as of Friday, there's a three-way tie for the lead in the Eastern Conference.

Western Conference

Teams were idle Jan. 16 because of the Martin Luther King Jr. federal holiday.

Games resumed Jan. 18, with the 334th Training Squadron slipping past the 81st Force Support Squadron, 38-36; the 81st MDG clobbering the 81st Training Wing staff agencies, 60-43; and the Marine Corps Detachment defeating the 333rd TRS, 57-52.

As of Friday, the 81st MDG is 5-0, with the 81st FSS and MARDET tied at 4-2 in the eight-team conference.

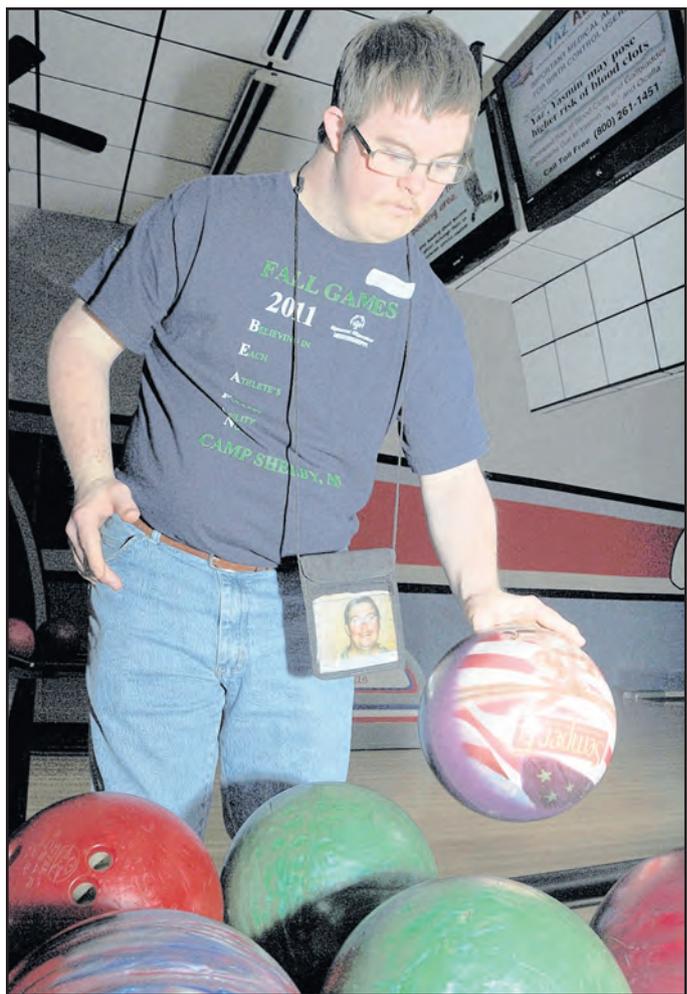
Eastern Conference

Jan. 17, the 338th TRS-A trounced the 345th Airlift Squadron, 44-24; the 403rd Wing beat the Gautier Army Recruiting Station, 39-31; and the 81st Security Forces Squadron upended the 81st Logistics Readiness Squadron, 51-31.

Games weren't played Jan. 19

As of Friday, the lead in the conference standings is shared by the 335th TRS, 338th TRS-A and the 81st SFS, all with 5-1 records.

For more information and schedules, call 377-2444.



Special Olympics bowling gets rolling at Gaudé Lanes

Jeremy Dickinson selects his bowling ball during Saturday's Special Olympics bowling competition at Gaudé Lanes. This is the first time Keesler has hosted the tournament for athletes in south Mississippi from Picayune to Pascagoula. Keesler hosts the annual Mississippi Special Olympics Summer Games May 11-13.

Right, Joe Langlinais tosses his ball down the lane as T. J. Alpelhaus waits for his turn. They were among the 120 bowlers competing in the tournament. Volunteers for the event included members of the 81st Security Forces Squadron and 338th Training Squadron. Gaudé Lanes manager Bart Bosarge coordinated the event.

Photos by Kemberly Groue



Thursday intramural bowling

Week 17 of 34

Team	Won	Lost
335th TRS-A	98.0	38.0
81st FSS	86.0	50.0
403rd AMXS	84.0	52.0
338th TRS	78.0	58.0
334th TRS	78.0	58.0
81st CS	74.0	62.0
81st TRSS-PMEL	72.0	64.0
336th TRS	68.0	68.0
81st WSA	66.0	70.0
81st LRS-A	64.0	72.0
ECS Strikers	64.0	72.0
81st LRS-B	64.0	72.0
81st TRSS-A	50.0	86.0
335th TRS-B	50.0	86.0
2nd Air Force	50.0	86.0
Seabees	40.0	72.0

Season high scores

Team game — 335th TRS, 1043.

Team series — 335th TRS, 2,990.

High handicap game (team) — 335th TRS-A, 1,144.

High handicap series (team) — 81st CS, 3,300.

Game/men — Garo Watson, 267.

Series/men — Jeff Miracle, 734.

High handicap game/men — Taras Butrej, 300.

High handicap series/men — Joseph Weaver, 749.

Game/women — Sabra Miracler, 212.

Series/women — Sabra Miracle, 567.

High handicap game/women — Carol Wetzler, 258.

High handicap series/women — Sabra Miracle, 678.

Average/men — Garo Watson, 205.97.

Average/women — Sabra Miracle, 160.04.

Most improved — Matthew, 17.51; Carol Wetzler, 5.25.

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