DISCOVERY

Air Force Materiel Command 2001 Year Of The Family yofam@wpafb.af.mil

The Development of Combat Power and Efficiency

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Through the Many Facets of Aerospace Medicine

Some Air Force members did not get correct pay

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE (AFPCNS) — After a payday that saw some airmen not paid correctly, officials here are still advising many with recent pay-status changes to stop by their finance offices to ensure they will get the right paycheck even though many of the problems from the end of June have been ironed out.

People who, in May or June, finalized their re-enlistments within 30 days of their dates of separation, new officer accessions and anyone recently returning from a break in active service are among those who may want to go by their finance offices to check what their pay is and have a chance to fix it.

"We can't say there will be no problems for this payday — we could never guarantee that," said Lt. Col. Richard Treasure, chief of the systems requirements division, July 12. "Most, if not all, of those who were shorted expected pay or bonuses the last one or two pay periods should see their full pay restored, along with a lump sum that makes up for what they have missed."

A glitch with name and social security number mismatch that caused problems with people promoted in June not receiving their pay increases has been identified and fixed, said Treasure. In addition, the problems with people not receiving their selective re-

See Pay, Page 3

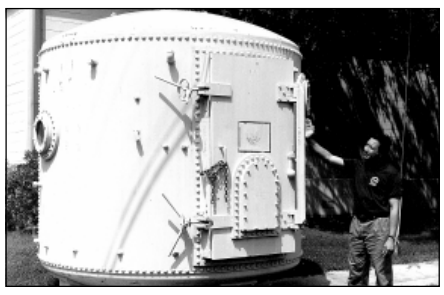
Courtesy photo

AFCEE forestry inspection

Kevin Porteck, a forester with the Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence, makes his way through the dense undergrowth of a swampy wetland forest in North Carolina while inspecting forestry operations at the Dare County Bombing Range. Porteck is the Air Force's forestry program manager, responsible for an estimated 744,000 acres of forests and woodlands on bases throughout the United States. AFCEE celebrates its 10th anniversary July 23. See Page 5.

INSIDE

White House bound Page 8



Historic chamber Page 15

'Wells Fargo-like' move earns ABG logistics team commander's award

By Rudy Purificato
311th Human Systems Wing

In a move that Wells Fargo and other commercial freight companies can only fully appreciate, the 311th Air Base Group Logistics Division team's success in preparing a 50-ton 'package' for overseas delivery has earned the unit the base's highest award.

The 311th Human Systems Wing Commander's Award was recently presented to the nine-member team for its work in supporting the Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence. It's the first time the team won this award, however, the 311th Logistics Squadron earned the honor in June.

In May, the team processed 100,000 pounds of AFCEE equipment for shipment to Moron Air Base, Spain, as part of an environmental investigation mission. "A total of over 250 man-hours were spent processing, palletizing and loading cargo onto the C-5 aircraft," said John Ashjian, 311th ABG Chief of Logistics, who credits the mission's success to the team effort exhibited by the Logistics Division's freight, medical supply and mobility sections. He said it was one of the biggest freight missions his team has supported.

Ashjian praised the team's extra efforts that ensured the cargo was properly transported to Kelly Air Force Base for shipment. He said Logistics Division members saved AFCEE more than $2,000 in commercial carrier charges by transporting the cargo themselves to the 433rd Aerial Port Squadron at Kelly. The logistics team also went beyond its area of responsibility by helping load the cargo aboard the C-5 Galaxy.

The team was composed of freight specialists Andres Avila, Esperalda Granados and Joseph Guajardo; Combat Readiness manager Robert Montenegro; Staff Sgt. Arnold Aschenbeck III, Transportation Control Unit noncommissioned officer; Staff Sgt. Robert Lealiiee, Medical Equipment Management Office specialist; Staff Sgt. Marlon Monteagudo, Freight and Packing Section NCO in charge; Senior Airman Jacob Olson, forward logistics specialist; and Airman Mark Santiago, transportation assistant.

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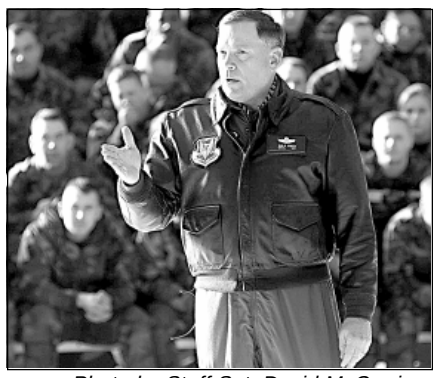


Photo by Staff Sgt. David McCarrison

Gen. John P. Jumper was nominated by the president to be the next Air Force chief of staff. Jumper is currently the commander of Air Combat Command at Langley Air Force Base, Va.

President nominates Jumper for Air Force chief of staff

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — The president has announced his nomination of Gen. John P. Jumper as chief of staff of the Air Force.

Jumper, currently the commander of Air Combat Command at Langley Air Force Base, Va., has been serving in the Air Force since 1966, and has commanded a fighter squadron, two fighter wings and a numbered air force and two major commands.

See Jumper, Page 6

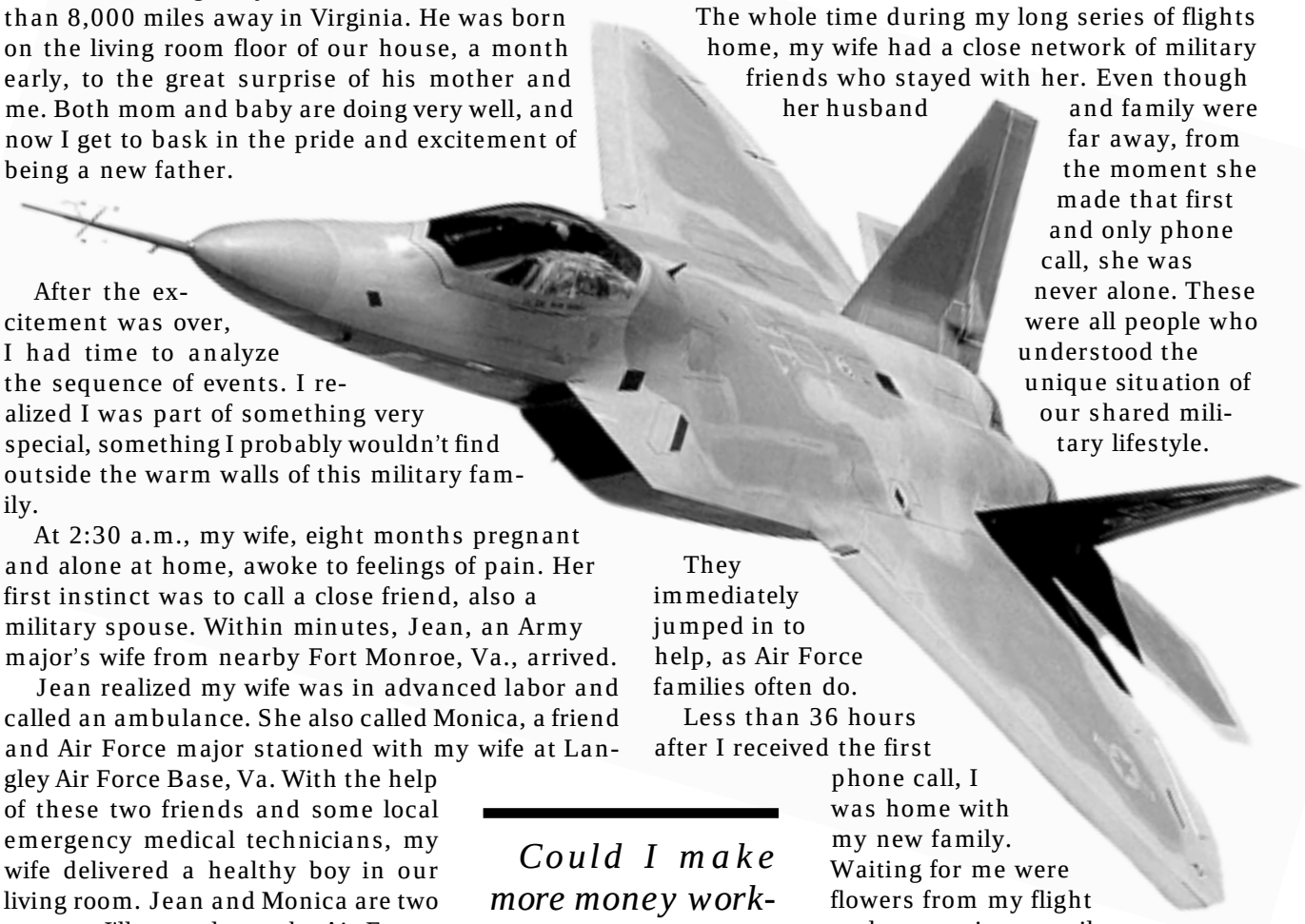
Commentary

30 reasons why I'll never leave the service

By Capt. Matteo Martemucci
51st Operations Support Squadron

OSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea (AFPN) — I'm going to tell you why I'll never willingly leave this great Air Force.

A few weeks ago, my first child was born, more than 8,000 miles away in Virginia. He was born on the living room floor of our house, a month early, to the great surprise of his mother and me. Both mom and baby are doing very well, and now I get to bask in the pride and excitement of being a new father.



After the excitement was over, I had time to analyze the sequence of events. I realized I was part of something very special, something I probably wouldn't find outside the warm walls of this military family.

At 2:30 a.m., my wife, eight months pregnant and alone at home, awoke to feelings of pain. Her first instinct was to call a close friend, also a military spouse. Within minutes, Jean, an Army major's wife from nearby Fort Monroe, Va., arrived.

Jean realized my wife was in advanced labor and called an ambulance. She also called Monica, a friend and Air Force major stationed with my wife at Langley Air Force Base, Va. With the help of these two friends and some local emergency medical technicians, my wife delivered a healthy boy in our living room. Jean and Monica are two reasons I'll never leave the Air Force.

Monica knew I was in Korea and immediately contacted the command post at Langley. They connected her to the Osan Air Base command post and explained the situation. On a hunch, Monica told them where I might be and, without hesitation, the Osan command post tracked me down at the base library. I may be wrong, but hunting down a captain to inform him of the birth of his son is probably not in the command post controller's job description. But they did it without even blinking. They're two more reasons I'll never leave the Air Force.

After being connected to my wife and being assured everyone was all right, I called my flight commander to tell him the news. Before I even asked, he contacted our squadron commander and they approved my leave and offered to help get me home. They are reasons I'll never leave the Air Force.

I needed to get home on the next flight to the states, and that meant getting on the Kimpo International Airport shuttle bus at 6 a.m. But I needed leave paperwork to get off the peninsula.

My first sergeant, no stranger to late phone calls, jumped into action. He made one phone call and the orderly room NCO in charge was in her car heading to work to personally type up the necessary papers. With a smile on her face and hearty congratulations, she handed me my leave papers and disappeared into the freezing winter night. Two more reasons I'll never leave the Air Force.

The whole time during my long series of flights home, my wife had a close network of military friends who stayed with her. Even though her husband and family were far away, from the moment she made that first and only phone call, she was never alone. These were all people who understood the unique situation of our shared military lifestyle.

They immediately jumped in to help, as Air Force families often do.

Less than 36 hours after I received the first phone call, I was home with my new family. Waiting for me were flowers from my flight and reassuring e-mails that my duties and responsibilities were being handled in my absence. The people in my flight are 22 more reasons I'll never leave the Air Force.

Could I make more money working for a major corporation? Absolutely. ... Would I trade my part in this military family for a few extra bucks? Never.

If I were working for some big faceless corporation, I wonder if I'd even have my boss's home phone number, let alone an entire organization that would jump up in the middle of the night to help a fellow airman.

Could I make more money working for a major corporation? Absolutely. Would the above events have happened if I worked for one? I doubt it. I promise you, the last thing on my mind that night, as I boarded the plane to meet my new son, was the size of my paycheck.

Would I trade my part in this military family for a few extra bucks? Never.

I've shared 30 reasons why I'd never voluntarily leave our Air Force, and yet these reasons come from only one single experience. I could fill this story with hundreds of other reasons, and they'd all be Air Force people like these, whom my wife and I are proud to call family.

Car phones: help or hazard?

By Staff Sgt. Bart D. Craven
437th Air Wing Safety

CHARLESTON AIR FORCE BASE, S.C. (AMCNS) — Have you ever found your attention drifting away from driving while you're on the phone? Have you ever had an accident or "near miss" when you've been talking on the phone?

According to National Transportation Safety Board, people with car phones run a 34 percent higher risk of having an accident than those without one. That number climbs even higher if they tend to use their phones a lot or are trying to balance driving, using the phone and doing something else like drinking coffee, eating or getting ready for work while driving.

Of the more than 700,000 traffic accidents reported in 1996, about 35 percent, or nearly 250,000 accidents, listed driver inattention as a chief factor in the accident. While accidents result from drivers running red lights or stop signs in town, more than a few happen out on the open road where the person almost inexplicably runs off the road or into the path of another vehicle.

According to Department of Defense Instruction, DODI Draft 6055.4/April 24, 1998, cellular phones are included on the "prohibited" use list while driving on DoD installations. They have reached the status of unacceptable risk along with the use of headphones, and earphones while operating a motor vehicle.

Why? DODI 6055.4 states these devices impair driving, and mask or prevent recognition of emergency signals, alarms, announcements, the approach of vehicles, human speech and the ability to determine the direction from which sound is coming.

There may be one upside to the car phone debate. When they are in an accident, the folks with the car phones can call the authorities!

DISCOVERY

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Pay

Continued from Page 1

enlistment or initial enlistment bonuses have also been fixed.

A close working relationship with people at the Defense Finance and Accounting Service has helped members of the center here to fix — temporarily or permanently — many of the problems with the new personnel data system which have caused an estimated several hundred airmen worldwide to have to go to their finance offices early this month after getting less pay than they had counted on.

"The folks at DFAS-Denver have been absolutely great, putting in extra hours to help everyone get through this series of difficulties," said Master Sgt. Michael Whirlow, noncommissioned officer in charge of personnel system operations and DFAS liaison.

"And that has helped us tremendously. They're putting the needs of the airmen first, which is allowing us all to weather this storm."

Photo by Staff Sgt. Sabrina Johnson

311 SFS change of command

Capt. John O'Connor (right), incoming commander of the 311th Security Forces Squadron, awaits the guidon being passed from Capt. Elliot Graves, outgoing commander, to Senior Master Sgt. Pamela Isaiah, of the 311th SFS. Col. Terry Nelsen (left), 311th Air Base Group commander, presided over the change of command ceremony July 16 in the Brooks Club.

Staff sergeant promotion percentage reaches all-time high

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE (AFPCNS) — Air Force Personnel Center officials have announced a 64.63 percent selection rate to staff sergeant for the 01E5 promotion cycle — the highest in the 30-year history of the Weighted Airman Promotion System.

The Air Force selected 20,793 of 32,170 eligible senior airmen for promotion to staff. The selection rate represents a 13.89 percent increase from last year's previous record 50.74 percent.

The average selectee has 1.95 years time in grade and 4.73 years in service.

"It doesn't get any better than this," said Chief Master Sgt. Greg Haley, Enlisted Promotion and Military Testing Branch chief. "It's exciting to see so many of them [airmen] rewarded for their hard work, dedication, and potential to serve in the next higher rank."

Last month's technical and master sergeant promotion rates were also at an all-time high. These record-setting percentages continue partly because of force stabilization.

"During the drawdown in the early to mid 90s we just weren't able to promote people because there were limited vacancies," the chief said. "Now that the force has settled and end-strength numbers have leveled off we've got more vacancies."

A two-year-old Air Force initiative that increases the number of E-5, E-6 and E-7 vacancies has also improved promotion opportunities. Previously, the percentage of 'Top Five' noncommissioned officers was limited to 48.5 percent of the enlisted force — a number that officials anticipate will continue to rise.

"We think these opportunities — with earlier promotions and pay increases — should be a great incentive for airmen to stay in the Air Force," the chief said.

People who tested will receive score notices which let members see how their Promotion Fitness Examination and Specialty Knowledge Test scores rank against those they competed with for promotion within their Air Force Specialty Code.

The average score for those selected was 263.67 points based on the following averages:

— 130.00 Enlisted Performance Reports

— 50.43 Promotion Fitness Exam

— 52.60 Specialty Knowledge Test

— 17.96 Time in Grade

— 11.71 Time in Service

— 0.84 Decorations

Those selected will be promoted to staff beginning in September through August 2002.

The complete list of selectees will be posted on the Air Force Personnel Center's home page at *www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/* July 21.

Brooks selectees

The following Brook senior airmen were selected for promotion to staff sergeant. The list is broken down by organization.

68th Information Operations Squadron
Davey Bass
Reynaldo Champion
Dennis Davis, Jr.
Omar Isaac
Brian Katchick
Keith Mounts
Marylou Novak
David Priest
Jennifer Shultz
Paul Tyner, Jr.
Brandy Williamson

311th Air Base Group
Shameka Artis
Melissa Brace
John Danos
Kimberly Friesenhahn
John Garcia
Melissa Gonzalez
Steven Green
Blanca Rainey
Arco Ruiz

311th Medical Squadron
Reginald Frazier
Kathryn Logan
John Parker III
Dorothy Perez
Clay Phipps
Issac Reynaga

U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine
Christa Derricotte
Mark Fredricksen
Marc Paradis
Gretchen South
Ezra Thomas

311th Human Systems Wing
Tanya Holloman
James Rouse

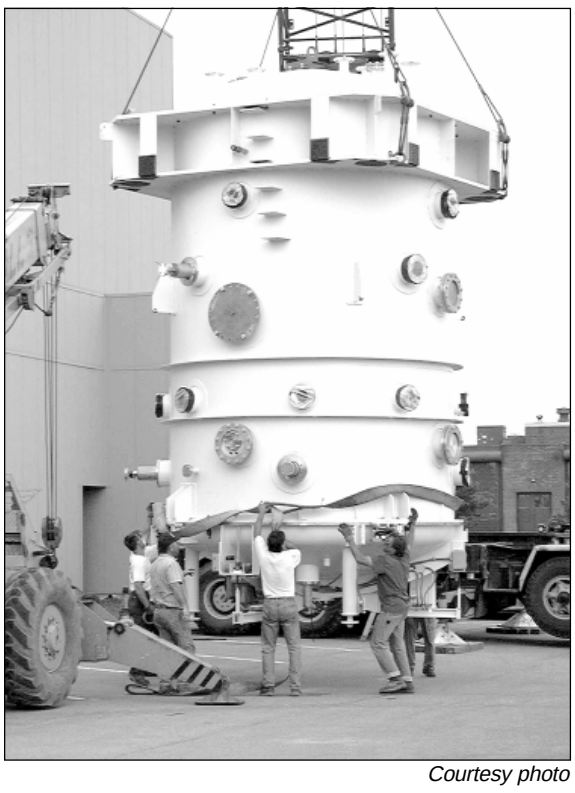
311th Security Forces Squadron
Jennifer Hilton
John Tillis

311th Communications Squadron
Michael Davis
John Donahue III
Cortney Edwards
Conrad Hernandez
Mark McParland
Lee Snider

Air Force Institute of Environment, Safety and Occupational Health Risk Analysis
Agnes Bradt
Selina Hamblin
Marcia Little
Curtis McGehee
Sherry Purdy
Tracie Tate
Sarah Taylor

Air Force Research Laboratory
Voncelle Bell
Amber Honeycutt
Bridgette Hopkins
Laura Paul
Robert Pickering

Air Force Medical Support Agency
Eric Banks
Amy Forster
Bradley Jones
Ricardo Ramos, Jr.
Kristine Robin
Miranda Sims
Rebecca Walz
Kris Williams
Brook Wood



Courtesy photo

A crane removes the cryogenic chamber from the space simulation facility at the Air Force Research Laboratory's Information Directorate, Griffiss Business and Technology Park, Rome, N.Y.

Cryo tank sent to new life with NASA

ROME, N.Y. (AFMCNS) — A multi-million-dollar cryogenic chamber, erected as part of Air Force research for President Reagan's 1980s Strategic Defeense Initiative, will soon be enhancing NASA space science capabilities for the 21st century.

What used to be the "Cryogenic Test Facility" here will now become the largest vertical cryogenic chamber at NASA's Marshall complex in Alabama when it's completely moved.

A crane lifted the main, two-story tank from an annex of the Air Force Research Laboratory Information Directorate recently. The tank, as well as mounts and controls, were trucked to NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Ala.

Rome experts said pressure in the chamber can be lowered to near vacuum conditions and the facility was designed to drop temperatures to 100 degrees Kelvin - or 279 degrees below zero on the Fahrenheit scale. It can accommodate test articles up to six feet in size.

"The cryo chamber was used for more than just testing objects in extreme cold," said James W. Cusack, an engineer on the program at the time and now chief of the information directorate's information systems division. "It also served as an optical test chamber."

He said Rome's original mission was to test optics envisioned for a space-based ballistic missile defense system.

Brooks Spouses' Club:

A way to meet people, help the community

By Kate Dodd
Brooks Spouses' Club senior adviser

What do you think of when you hear the term "spouses' club?" Hopefully you don't still cling to the old stereotype of tanned officers' wives sipping iced tea by the pool while sharing the latest gossip. That was always a misconception and no more so than now.

The Brooks Spouses' Club is primarily a support group for all military and civilian spouses connected to Brooks Air Force Base. Spouses wear no rank and you will find the most senior of us pulling the same duties as everyone else.

The social side of our club includes monthly gatherings, some daytime and some evening, that run the gamut from sightseeing to crafts to educational briefings.

Most of the base knows us best for our charitable contributions that are funded by the Brooks Thrift Shop.

All of the profits from this volunteer run store are channeled into IRS (Internal Revenue Service) sanctioned charitable organizations, such as, the Brooks Heritage Foundation, the Challenger Learning Center, Air Force Village (Indigent Widows Fund) and the Bob Hope Village.

I f you are looking for a way to meet people who understand you as a military spouse or for a way to help your community, please come join us.

Our monthly meetings will start in August and will be advertised across base. If you wish you may call me at 337-9218, or email me at *Katedodd@aol.com*.

AFCEE to commemorate 10th anniversary with ceremony, picnic

By Gil Dominguez
Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence

The Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence will commemorate its 10th anniversary July 23.

A full day of activities is planned, including a brief ceremony at the headquarters building followed by a picnic at the Brooks park.

AFCEE, a field operating agency of the Air Force Civil Engineer, is the Air Force's premier environmental services agency and center of expertise.

It offers commanders a full-range of technical and professional services in the areas of environmental restoration, pollution prevention, environmental compliance, natural and cultural resources conservation, facility design and construction management and comprehensive planning.

AFCEE is also the center of expertise for the Air Force's military family housing privatization program and recently instituted a range support unit to study issues associated with air training ranges. In addition, its Technology Transfer Division field tests and studies new technologies that may help speed up or improve environmental cleanup efforts.

The center started out with only a handful of people in 1991 but within a year had in place a full array of environmental contracts. Its concentration initially was on the cleanup work at the 19 installations affected by first two rounds of the Base Closure and Realignment process.

Courtesy photo

A contractor plants one of the 380 red bark eucalyptus trees that are part of a phytostabilization study at Travis Air Force Base, Calif. Environmental officials say the trees draw contaminants out of polluted groundwater. Travis has become a testing ground for innovative groundwater treatment technologies managed by the Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence.

AFCEE has developed into a billion-dollar enterprise, with a program totaling more than $436 million in environmental restoration work alone during the last fiscal year. It employs more than 360 civilians and 50 military members. In addition to its headquarters staff at Brooks, the agency maintains three Regional Environmental Offices in Atlanta, Dallas and San Francisco.

"Our workload has grown tremendously and we've got more significant work coming in the next few years," said Gary Erickson, AFCEE's director. "It's a real healthy sign of the confidence that the senior Air Force leadership and our customers have in us. AFCEE also has arrived at a point where we can really offer what our customers need from us."

Col. Sam Garcia, executive director and military commander, noted that AFCEE was going through a generational change, with some of the original center staffers moving on to the next stage in their careers.

"This summer will be special one for us," he said. "We're starting to see a change of leadership in our mid-level management positions where much of the creative thinking that characterizes AFCEE's approach to business really takes place."

The colonel said AFCEE continues to evolve and "get smarter" in the process.

"The environmental mission, obviously, has been our main focus, but AFCEE is seeing ways in which we can benefit the Air Force community more fully. We're stepping up to those challenges as well," he said.

Jumper

Continued from Page 1

Some of Jumper's previous Pentagon assignments include serving as deputy chief of staff for air and space operations. He also was the senior military assistant to two secretaries of defense and was a special assistant to the chief of staff for roles and missions.

Completing two tours of duty in Southeast Asia, Jumper is a command pilot with more than 4,000 flying hours, principally in fighter aircraft. He has received numerous awards for his military service including the Distinguished Service Medal and the Distinguished Flying Cross with two oak leaf clusters.

Jumper earned his undergraduate degree from the Virginia Military Institute in Virginia, and completed Squadron Officer School and Air Command and Staff College at Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala. He received a master's degree in business administration from Golden Gate University in California, and then attended the National War College at Fort McNair in Washington.

AFPC announces civilian intern vacancies

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, (AFPCNS) — The Air Force Personnel Center is accepting applications through Aug. 17 for 345 position vacancies in the Palace Acquire Civilian Intern program for 2002.

"We're looking for individuals who want an exciting career with excellent pay, great travel opportunities and outstanding benefits, but not as a uniformed military member," said Elizabeth Kelly, AFPC civilian personnel specialist.

Palace Acquire and Copper Cap programs target college graduates and offer two to three years of formal and on-the-job training, and performance-based annual promotions, while in training.

Interested candidates must be U.S. citizens and have or will soon have a four-year degree from an accredited college with a minimum overall grade-point-average of 3.45 on a 4.0 scale in the undergraduate degree.

The Air Force provides excellent employee benefits, she said. A new employee can earn two and a half weeks paid annual vacation their first year, not counting 10 paid holidays and 13 days sick leave per year. The program also offers an equivalent 401k plan.

Insurance benefits include low-cost life insurance and a choice of nearly 20 health plans at a group rate. Education assistance and other educational opportunities come with employment as well, she said.

Current annual entry-level salary for interns is $29,273, which increases to a range of about $36,000 to $43,000 or more, depending on the position and successful completion of the internship.

Intern training positions are located at Air Force bases throughout the continental United States. Following training, the intern has the opportunity to be placed at any one of the many Air Force locations in the world depending on Air Force requirements.

Applications are being accepted for the following Palace Acquire vacancies:

Budget analyst;
Child development specialist;
Communications-computer systems specialist;
Community planner;
Cost analyst;
Family support specialist;
Financial management specialist;
General education and training specialist;
General education specialist;
Historian;
Inventory management specialist;
Logistics management specialist;
Management analyst;
Museum curator;
Personnel management specialist;
Realty specialist;
Safety and occupational health specialist;
Security specialist; and
Services specialist.

More detailed qualification and application information is available on the Palace Acquire Web site at: *www.afpc.randolph.af.mil*

Air Force environmental commitment strong despite Kelly closure

By Tech Sgt. Carl Norman
AFMC Public Affairs

KELLY AIR FORCE BASE (AFMCNS) — Cleaning up environmental contamination and getting ready for the "new tenants" to move in is what a 40-member Air Force Base Conversion Agency staff will continue at Kelly, now known as Kelly USA.

Air Force officials ceased their "ownership" of Kelly's 1,879 acres and more than 600 facilities July 13, transferring them to the Greater Kelly Development Authority.

And just like when moving from one home to another, someone has to help transfer the deeds and clean up after the former tenants move out.

The AFBCA and a 30-member team of their contracted partners are serving as the real estate agents and cleaning crew, according to Adam Antwine, AFBCA's senior representative here.

"Our mission is to execute the environmental programs and real and personal property disposal for major Air Force bases in the United States being closed or realigned under the Base Closure and Realignment Act," Antwine said.

"We're responsible for helping communities convert those bases from military to civilian use and making sure property at those installations is made available for reuse as quickly and efficiently as possible."

According to Antwine, Kelly has more than 35 sites that need environmental cleanup. Those range from soil contamination that could be fixed in a few months to ground water contamination that could take a couple decades. Despite the amount of work that needs to be done, Antwine said "the sites pose no danger to the public."

He said Kelly's environmental bill to date totals $235 million and he estimates it'll take $250 million more to bring the base's environmental problems into Environmental Protection Agency and Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission compliance.

"This money covers not only putting the corrective measures in place in the near term, but the monitoring, testing and other requirements that will go with that during the next 10 to 20 years," he said. "(AFBCA) budgets about $200 million each year to clean up environmental issues like Kelly's. We're committed to be here long after closure occurs."

AFBCA has been at Kelly since 1995 when Defense Department officials announced Kelly was to be inactivated under the Base Closure and Realignment Act. They've controlled Kelly's environmental issues since December 2000, and Antwine said the last environmental remedy is expected to be in place by 2004.

To allow Greater Kelly Development Authority officials to start working its plans for the base, they've entered a 50-year lease with the Air Force.

"That way they can start their development efforts, attracting new businesses and getting more jobs to this community" before deeds are transferred, Antwine said.

Actual deeds cannot be transferred before environmental systems are in place and regulatory officials have approved them, a requirement under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liabilities Act, commonly known as CERCLA, he said.

The AFBCA has been a federal entity since 1991 and staff members have worked more than 30 base closures. That experience also comes with a sincere commitment to the environment and the communities around the closing base, according to Doug Karas, AFBCA public affairs officer.

"We've got real estate agents, geologists, environmental engineers and a host of other staff members here ensuring Kelly remedies all designated sites," Karas said. "Not only is it the law and part of the closure process, but it's simply the right thing to do."

Photo by Staff Sgt. Jeffory Mulcahy

Kelly Air Force Base closes

An American flag, which had flown over the grave of Lt. George E.M. Kelly, the first military pilot killed in a crash of a military aircraft, was lowered for the final time during the Kelly Air Force Base closure ceremony July 13. As the flag was folded, the roar of 75 mm Howitzer cannons echoed across the base in a 21-gun salute honoring the men and women who have worked at the base during its many years of service. The base is now known as Kelly USA.

ACTION LINE

536-2222

Brig. Gen. Lloyd Dodd
311th Human Systems Wing commander

The COMMANDER'S ACTION LINE is your opportunity to make Brooks a better place to live, work and play.

If you have a suggestion for improvement, a complaint or a problem that you have not been able to resolve through normal complaint channels or the chain of command, call the COMMANDER'S ACTION LINE, 536-2222.

Only items of general interest will be published, so please leave your name and number for a personal response.

The base agencies listed below can be contacted directly:

311th Security Forces Squadron	536-3310
SFS after duty hours	536-2851
311th Civil Engineer Squadron	536-3861
311th Communications Squadron	536-6571
311th Air Base Group Logistics Division	536-3541
Safety	536-2111
Housing Maintenance	536-7000
Housing Office	536-1840
311th Services Division	536-2545
311th Medical Squadron (Clinic)	536-4715
Military Personnel	536-1845
Civilian Personnel	536-3353
Military Pay	536-1851
Civilian Pay	536-2823
I.G. (FWA)	536-2358
Military Equal Opportunity	536-2584
EEO Complaints	536-3702
Base Exchange	533-9161
Commissary	536-3549
Brooks City Base Project Office	536-6626

Brooks Family Support Center activities

Call 536-2444 for information

Digging out of debt

11 a.m. - 1 p.m., July 24, Bldg. 538 — Learn how to live debt free and stick to it! Find out if you have too much debt, the consequences of your debt, and how to get out of debt.

Resume workshop

9 a.m. - noon, July 26, Bldg. 538 — Learn the different resume styles and how to write and use them effectively to open career opportunities. Learn the dos and don'ts of resume development. As an added bonus, learn how to develop impressive cover letters.

Retirement planning

9 a.m. - noon, Aug. 1, Bldg. 538 — As you make plans for your future, one of the questions you'll probably ask is, "How much will I get from Social Security?" This class is designed to give you an understanding of your investment in Social Security, what you need to know while you are working, and what you need to know when you become eligible for Social Security, and examples of benefit

Buckle Up

It's the law! Oh, by-the-way, it saves lives too!

Courtesy photo

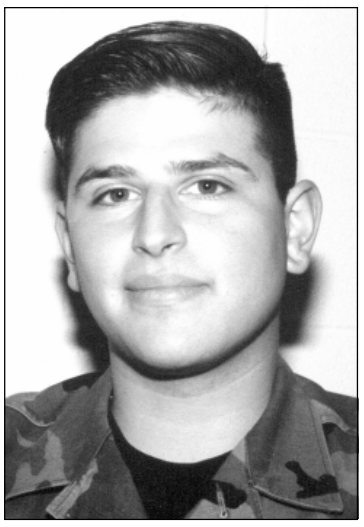
Brooks worker 'nets' White House job

By Rudy Purificato
311th Human Systems Wing

Senior Airman Conrad Hernandez Jr.'s communications network has extended east of the Mississippi River where he has never ventured before in his young life.

In August, the 311th Communications Squadron network security 'defender' will begin a new chapter in his career when he's reassigned to a four-year controlled tour in White House communications.

"I didn't even volunteer for the job," said the 23-year-old first-termer who was born at the former Mather Air Force Base in Sacramento, Calif. "It's definitely a step up. I'm excited (about it) and scared. It will be a different environment for me," he admits.



"It's definitely a step up. I'm excited (about it) and scared. It will be a different environment for me."

Senior Airman Conrad Hernandez Jr.
311th Communications Squadron

Traveling as part of a mobile communications team supporting the president, vice president and secretary of state is definitely an opportunity of a lifetime. It's the type of assignment that 311th Communications Squadron technical director Don Cosgrove had in mind when he nominated Hernandez for the job.

"I hate losing Conrad, but I like to give my people an opportunity like that. It will give him a chance to shine, and (I know) he really will," Cosgrove said. Cosgrove, who is a practicing professional development advocate, didn't hesitate to nominate Hernandez three years ago when White House communications asked for potential candidates.

Cosgrove said Hernandez had demonstrated leadership skills and technical expertise within six months of the latter's arrival at the unit in June 1998. He said nominating Hernandez is part of his advocacy in broadening the experience of his workers, which eventually benefits the Air Force.

Hernandez becomes the second 311th Communications Squadron member during Cosgrove's tenure here to be selected by White House communications. "We've had two (selected) in 10 years, which is highly disproportionate for a base our size," Cosgrove said.

Nominating quality candidates, Cosgrove believes, is the key to successfully placing workers in highly competitive White House communications positions.

Hernandez has been his organization's airman of the quarter, and was selected for promotion to senior airman "below the zone." His experience also helped.

While at Brooks, Hernandez worked as a personal computer repairman, handled message traffic in the communications center, and most recently has been an "anti-hacker" setting up computer fire wall blocks (guards) to thwart hackers from breaking into the base network.

"For the past three years, Brooks has been home to me," Hernandez said, admitting he's reluctant to leave.

However, his father, a retired Air Force pilot, is ecstatic about his son's premiere assignment. "My dad is probably more excited than I am," he noted.

Hernandez's route to the White House began in 1997 when he joined the Air Force after completing an associate's degree at Antelope Valley Community College in Lancaster, Calif. After graduating from communications computer systems operator school at Keesler AFB, Miss., Hernandez was assigned to Brooks.

When the modest Hernandez asked during a White House communications interview why he was selected for the job, they told him he was chosen because of his Air Force record and commitment to a long-term career.

His new job will require a few adjustments. "They told me I'll be wearing a coat and tie (most of the time) and I'll be on the road for a third of the year," he said.

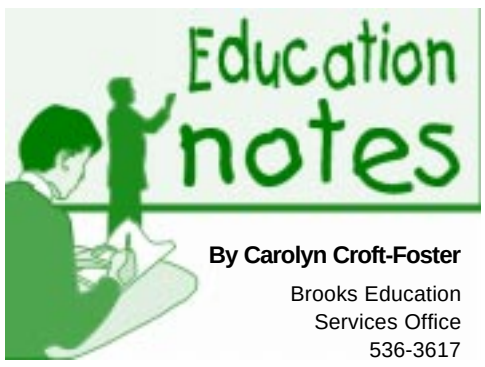
Among Hernandez's top priorities before he reports there Aug. 27 is taking a White House tour.

Rudolph.Purificato@brooks.af.mil

Photo by Staff Sgt. Sabrina Johnson

Florida or Hawaii?

Margie Quintanilla, Carlson Wagonlit Travel counselor, helps Tech. Sgt. Quenten Benning, of the 311th Communications Squadron, plan his vacation. The new leisure travel office is located in the Brooks Base Exchange and provides reservations for anyone with access to the base. Carlson Wagonlit Travel is open 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. For information or to make a reservation, call 531-0406, or visit the web site: *www.cwgovernment.com/afaetc.*



By Carolyn Croft-Foster
Brooks Education
Services Office
536-3617

ACSC Non-Resident Seminar

The Brooks Education and Training Flight is now seeking eligible candidates (major, major-selectees, GS-11, and above) for the Air Command and Staff College Non-Resident Seminar Program. Non-Resident Seminars meet for 11 months from August to June 2002. The course grants Phase 1 Joint Professional Military Education credit, Intermediate Service School credit, up to 27 semester hours of graduate course work, and Reserve Points as determined by the Air Force Personnel Center.

An organizational meeting will be held during the week of July 30. To register, visit Education Services in Bldg. 570-C to complete an ACSC application or call 536-3617 for more information.

AWC Non-Resident Seminar

Recruiting for the Air War College Non-resident Seminar Program is underway. This is an ideal way to complete senior professional military education, combining self-study with a formal, semi-structured meeting environment highly conducive to learning. Seminars are scheduled to start in early August and will run until June 2002.

The program is open to active duty, guard and reserve colonels, lieutenant colonels, and lieutenant colonel-selectees (or their equivalents) of any component of the U.S. armed forces and civilian employees (GS/GM-13 or above). Sign up today.

An organizational meeting will be held the week of July 30. Applications for enrollment for AWC are available at:

www.au.af.mil/ai/awc/awchome.htm.

After completing the application, bring it or fax it to Education Services for processing. Contact Education Services at 536-3617 for more details.

Active duty TASP waiver

Effective for the Fall 2001 semester, Texas House Bill 234 amends Texas Education Code 51.306 and 51.3061 in that active duty military members, stationed in Texas, and enrolled in a Texas public institution do not have to take a test for TASP purposes.

All TASP rules apply if a student, enrolled under the active military duty TASP waiver, is discharged from active duty. Active duty military members under this TASP waiver must still take a placement test in reading, English, and math or submit SAT or ACT scores or transcripts showing prior college credit.

Back to school fair

The Education Services Office will hold an education fair for the Brooks community. The "Back to School Fair" will held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Aug 3.

Representatives from area schools as well as the area ROTC detachments will be on hand. The event takes place in Bldg. 570.

Alamo Community College District will also conduct registration for fall classes at this time. For more information, contact Education Services at 536-3617.

On-base class registration

Fall registration is underway for on-base classes. The Alamo Community College District representative visits Brooks Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Fall classes include: art appreciation, general biology, macroeconomics, English, literature, intermediate algebra, management, government, philosophy, and speech. Classes begin Aug. 27.

For more information, stop by Bldg. 570-C, Suite 1. To schedule an appointment call 536-3617.

OLLU information

Our Lady of the Lake University will hold an information session from 10 - 11:30 a.m. July 28. The session will be held in the university's Sultenfuess Library, 411 S. W. 24th St., San Antonio, in Rooms 100, 102 and 119.

For more information about undergraduate Weekend College call 431-3995 or visit web site:

www.ollusa.edu/~wec/sawec.

For graduate Weekend College information call 431-3972.

Courtesy photo

Bobby Harnage, national president of the American Federation of Government Employees, AFL-CIO, confers with Gen. Lester Lyles, commander of Air Force Materiel Command. The two met recently at AFMC Headquarters to discuss how to build a stronger partnership between the union and the command.

AFMC commander, national union president commit to strong partnership

By Ron Fry
AFMC Public Affairs

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio (AFMCNS) — The commander of Air Force Materiel Command and American Federation of Government Employees, AFL-CIO, national president met at Air Force Materiel Command headquarters recently to discuss building stronger ties through active partnership councils at the command and base levels.

Gen. Lester Lyles and Bobby Harnage joined center directors and local union presidents from across the command in their discussions.

Lyles leads the Air Force's largest civilian work force and Harnage's union represents the vast majority of AFMC's civilian employees.

Keeping with his emphasis on communication, Lyles said maintaining clear lines of communication is critical to a successful partnership.

"There's not a thing we can't do if we all communicate," he said. "Partnership is the embodiment of the spirit of communication."

Harnage said AFMC and the union must have a strong partnership if the two are to deal with change effectively.

"A good partnership helps insulate us," Harnage told the gathering. "If we agree on what we're doing, we can stand up to any change."

Harnage applauded Lyles' support of efforts to strengthen the union-management partnership in AFMC, particularly efforts to operationalize partnerships at all levels.

AFMC Executive Director Dr. Daniel Stewart and AFGE Council 214 President Scott Blanch, co-chairs of the command-level partnership council, briefed the leaders. They discussed the council's vision, goals and objectives used to build a strategy to operationalize the partnership concept throughout AFMC.

Initiatives include:

— Developing a plan to establish Alternative Dispute Resolution processes at each base, allowing people a way to resolve workplace disputes without filing a formal grievance or unfair labor complaint.

— Working to come to an agreement on 105 Air Force Instructions previously converted from Air Force regulations. The command and AFGE have reached agreement on 72 of the AFIs and are making progress on the majority of the remaining instructions.

— Working with the AFMC Surgeon General's office to develop a command-wide policy for workers compensation and return-to-work issues.

To further operationalize the partnership concept, Lyles agreed to include it in the upcoming 2002 AFMC Strategic Plan.

Lyles and Harnage received a briefing on the upcoming negotiations for the Master Labor Agreement between AFGE and the command and heard an update on AFMC's work force shaping plan, an effort to replenish the command's aging civilian work force. They also received a presentation on the Air Force Research Laboratory Demonstration Project and its performance-based pay system.

Harnage said the command's work force shaping efforts are a challenge.

"We do have some differences, but we need to get together and discuss them," Harnage said. "The only way it's going to be done is through a partnership environment."

> *"We do have some differences, but we need to get together and discuss them. The only way it's going to be done is through a partnership environment."*
>
> **Bobby Harnage**
> American Federation of Government Employees, AFL-CIO, national president

Lyles agreed and called for the command and AFGE to work together on a work force shaping legislative agenda that both the union and AFMC agree on.

Harnage did warn the group of his concern about further efforts to privatize work traditionally done by the government.

"If we can't control privatization, our efforts in pay and retention are for naught," he said.

But he was impressed with the AFMC and AFGE Council 214 Partnership Council's efforts.

"You've come a long way and done an outstanding job," he told the group.

Harnage praised the efforts of Lyles and former AFMC Commander Gen. George Babbitt who led forming the partnership councils some 18 months ago.

Lyles extended an invitation to Harnage to visit AFMC bases to learn more about the command and its mission.

Defense Department plans B-1 reduction

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — Last week, the Defense Department announced its approval of an Air Force initiative to reduce its B-1 bomber inventory from 93 to 60 aircraft.

After the reduction, the remaining fleet from Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho; Robins AFB, Ga.; and McConnell AFB, Kan., will be consolidated at Ellsworth AFB, S.D., and Dyess AFB, Texas. This consolidation will enable the Air Force to enhance and maintain the combat capability of the remaining 60 aircraft.

To better understand the unit-level perspective of the reduction and consolidation of its B-1 Lancer fleet, the Air Force has established a team led by Lt. Gen. Joseph H. Wehrle Jr., the deputy chief of staff for plans and programs. Other team members come from Air Force headquarters, Air Combat Command and the Air National Guard. The team plans to visit Air Force installations affected by the B-1 plan.

"The purpose of our trip is to obtain and provide first-hand information about how removal of the B-1 will affect Mountain Home, Robins and McConnell Air Force Bases and their surrounding communities," Wehrle said. "We also need to assess how the consolidation of the remaining B-1s at Ellsworth and Dyess will affect those bases."

The Air Force's B-1 fleet reduction and consolidation efforts will be a phased plan taking much of fiscal 2002 to complete.

Photo by Senior Master Sgt. Rose Reynolds

A B-1B Lancer flies over mountains during a training mission.

BROOKS SPOTLIGHT

Things to do around Brooks

By Jan McMahon
Brooks Services Marketing Office
536-5475

The Frameworks Bldg. 704, 536-2120

The grand opening of the FrameWorks was a tremendous success and we could not have done it without everyone's support.

Linda Estrada, Rachel Aguilar, Julie Jiru, Sara Achinger, Dora Villa, Rita Fox and Evelyn Castro were winners of the door prize drawings and each receive a framed poster.

The shop is open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. The motto is "You name it, we'll frame it." It is certainly not too early to begin planning gifts for everyone on your holiday list. Dust off those old family photos and have them professionally framed and display them in your home or office.

Outdoor Recreation Bldg. 1154, 536-2881

Outlet store sale — The Nonappropriated Fund Outlet Store located in the former Auto Skills Center, Bldg. 1157, will conduct a NAF sale from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. July 27. The sale is for valid identification card holders only. Merchandise offered will be unneeded NAF property to be sold "as is." For additional information, contact Joe Bonomo.

Fitness Center Bldg. 940, 536-2188

— The basketball court floor closed July 16 for refinishing and will be closed approximately three weeks. Aerobics classes are being held in the racquetball courts during this time.

Once the basketball court floor is completed the racquetball courts will then close for resurfacing. Contact the Fitness Center staff for more details.

— Fitness assessments are available by appointment.

— A massage therapist is now available by appointment.

Family night at the Missions

Go see the San Antonio Missions free on July 31 at Nelson Wolfe Stadium. Ticket vouchers are available by contacting Brooks first sergeants. Vouchers must be taken to the stadium located at 575 Highway 90 West (Callaghan & Highway 90 West) to be exchanged for tickets.

In conjunction with Military Appreciation Night, a mini-vacation to Corpus Christ, will be awarded.

The prize is provided by commercial sponsorship from Corpus Christi vacation destinations: Villa del Sol Resort, the Radisson Hotel Corpus Christi Beach, Quality Inn and Suites Corpus, Texas State Aquarium and the USS Lexington Museum. (No federal endorsement of sponsors is intended.)

Registration for prizes can be done by printing your name, address and phone number on the back of a Box Tops for Education portion of a General Mills product.

These can be dropped in registration boxes located in the youth center, Bldg. 470, or the fitness center, Bldg. 940. You must be 18 years or older to enter.

Brooks Club Bldg. 204, 536-3782

Take advantage of the Cook-Your-Own Steak Night at the Brooks Club. Bring the entire family or gather a group of friends together and join the club staff every Wednesday night. Select either a New York strip or T-bone steak and grill it to your personal taste. Or try the boiled shrimp, crab legs or one-half baked chicken. Each entree is $7.35.

Gourmet Night is coming to the Brooks Club in August. Watch for details.

Photo by Staff Sgt. Sabrina Johnson

Veronica Esquivel, sales clerk (right), assists Col. Frank Meissner, of the 311th Human Systems Program Office, with his purchase of a professionally-framed print at the new FrameWorks shop in the Brooks Base Exchange. Also lending a helping hand is Rebecca Estrada, a FrameWorks employee. FrameWorks is open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Need help with your travel plans?
Visit the Carlson Wagonlit Travel leisure travel office in the Brooks Base Exchange.
Call 531-0406 or check out:
www.cwgovernment.com/afaetc.

Tom Clancy thriller launches Brooks NCO's 'Hollywood career'

By Rudy Purificato
311th Human Systems Wing

Some people may presume he already possesses a 'glowing' personality as superintendent of the Air Force Radiation Assessment Team. To his colleagues, Master Sgt. Dave Martin is now known as 'Mr. Hollywood.'

The 36-year-old Canadian-born bioenvironmental engineer recently returned to his native Canada to serve as a military consultant to the motion picture "The Sum of All Fears."

"The movie is based on the Tom Clancy book that was a best seller in the early 1990s. The story involves terrorists who detonate a nuclear weapon over the Super Bowl in Baltimore," explains Martin, who spent four days in Montreal where most of the movie was filmed.

Martin was selected for the 'movie mission' based on his 18-year Air Force experience by Col. Sherrell Russell, Surveillance Directorate director. "I first learned about it when she announced it at a staff meeting," he admits. Air Force Public Affairs had contacted the Air Force Institute for Environment, Safety and Occupational Health Risk Analysis to provide the movie production crew an AFRAT expert as technical consultant.

The Air Force supported the film to ensure accuracy in the movie portrayal of the AFRAT team. Martin's role involved dialogue coaching, radiation assessment equipment training, and military grooming support.

"Of the many military 'experts' from various branches of the military services providing technical expertise to 'The Sum of All Fears,' Master Sgt. Dave Martin's was by far the most critical.

Exceptionally knowledgeable in all facets of the AFRAT mission, his valuable contributions added greatly to the credibility and realism of the movie," said Chuck Davis, Department of Defense project officer for the film.

Photo by Staff Sgt. Sabrina Johnson

Master Sgt. Dave Martin demonstrates an Air Force Radiation Assessment Team personal protection suit.

Martin made sure actors who portrayed AFRAT members were properly groomed with military haircuts and correctly displayed Air Force patches and insignia. The prop people also duplicated the official AFRAT identification badge, something they had not included in the actors' military ensemble until they saw Martin wearing it.

More importantly, Martin helped correct some lines in the script involving AFRAT lingo.

"I helped change several lines for technical accuracy," he said. "Before I made changes, I called back (to Brooks) for guidance from several team members including Dr. (Maj.) Steven Rademacher, a health physicist."

Some of the unexpected perks Martin enjoyed involved the 'red carpet Hollywood treatment. "They picked me up at the airport in a limo and I had first class hotel accommodations," he said, noting that the Air Force agreed to him serving as a consultant based on "no cost to the government."

Martin worked mainly with supporting actors and extras and with director Phil Alden Robinson, who earned an Academy Award nomination for best screenplay adaptation for the 1989 film "Field of Dreams" that he also directed.

Martin also met the film's star Ben Affleck who played Jack Ryan. Alec Baldwin and Harrison Ford had previously portrayed the character, respectively, in the movie series based on Clancy's other best sellers: "The Hunt For Red October," "Clear and Present Danger" and "Patriot Games."

Although he was born on Canada's Prince Edward Island, Martin enjoyed working in Quebec. "Montreal was selected for the film because of its architecture. It looks like a European city. Parts of it also look like an American city," explains Martin. His arrival there in June marked the end of the film's shooting.

While he was there, a staff producer interviewed Martin on camera as part of a "how they made the movie" trailer that may air on television.

"I'll never watch a movie the same way again. When you see an extreme close-up, there are about 60 (technical) people in the background," he said.

As for his 'once in a lifetime Hollywood opportunity,' Martin said he believes his participation has given the real AFRAT team and the Air Force appropriate recognition for their contributions to national defense.

Rudolph.Purificato@brooks.af.mil

NEWS briefs

New dialing plan for Brooks

Beginning July 31, Brooks calling access codes for commercial, DSN, and long distance will change. The Air Force has mandated all installations standardize calling codes to eliminate confusion when members have a permanent change of station or are on temporary duty.

Air Force installations are expected to be standardized no later than Aug. 1.

Access codes will be as follows:

99 — commercial local

98 — FTS or international (long distance/unit funded)

94 — DSN routine

For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Quenten Benning in the 311th Communications Squadron at 536-2115.

68th IOS ribbon cutting

The 68th Information Operations Squadron will celebrate the grand opening of its new building (Bldg. 1150) located at 8009 Chenault Road at 11 a.m. today.

Brig. Gen. Lloyd Dodd, 311th Human Systems Wing commander, Lt. Col. Gregg Haege, 67th Information Operations Wing vice commander, and Lt. Col. Steven Payson, 68 IOS commander will officially cut the ribbon.

The move to Bldg. 1150 marks the completion of the second phase in a two-phase move plan for the 68 IOS. Phase one was accomplished in May 2000 with the move of the 68th's Command Section into Bldg 809.

The 68 IOS expresses thanks to all involved in these projects.

Enlisted promotions

The next enlisted promotion ceremony is scheduled for 3 p.m., July 31, in the Brooks Club, Bldg. 204. Everyone is invited to attend and support those members being promoted to their next grade.

Thrift Shop grand reopening

The Brooks Thrift Shop, located on North Road, will have its grand reopening from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Aug. 2. The thrift shop has been closed for several weeks while volunteers renovate and spruce up the facility. Brooks members are invited to stop by the shop Aug. 2 and enjoy refreshments while shopping for some great bargains.

Combat dining-in

The Brooks Airman's Council is sponsoring a combat dining-in Aug. 3 at the base park pavilion. Social hour will be held from 6-7 p.m., followed by the dining-in from 7-11 p.m.

The menu includes hamburgers, hotdogs, potato salad and sodas. BDUs are the attire for the event. Tickets are $5 for E-4 and below and $7 for E-5 and above.

For tickets and more information contact event coordinator Senior Airman Jennifer Rigney at 536-3743.

National Kids Day

Brooks will celebrate National Kids Day Aug. 5. The youth center is coordinating the event from 2 to 4 p.m. There will be food, games and prizes. The event is open to all Brooks members and their families. For information, call the youth center at 536-2515.

Brooks TRICARE service

The TRICARE Service Center at Brooks has moved from the base exchange annex to the clinic (Bldg 615). Beneficiaries can now see Sherri Dix, Beneficiary Services representative for Healthnet Federal services without leaving the clinic.

Services include TRICARE Prime enrollment/disenrollment, transfers from other TRICARE Regions, Primary Care Manager change requests, order TRICARE cards, retiree payments of TRICARE Prime premiums, claims problems or questions, network pharmacy issues, information on TRICARE programs (Prime, Standard, & Extra), active duty inprocessing and outprocessing clearance letter.

For Healthnet Federal Services information, call (800) 406-2832. The Healthcare Finder function for Brooks AFB has been centralized to Healthnet's regional office, and referrals will be handled through the computer, fax or phone.

Beneficiaries who want to meet with a Healthcare Finder in person can do so at the Randolph, Kelly, Lackland, or Brooke Army Medical Center TRICARE Service Centers.

Drop-in dental screenings

The Pediatric Dental Department at Lackland Air Force Base provides drop-in dental screenings for all eligible military medical beneficiaries one day each month. Children under 14 years of age will be seen at the Skylark Community Center from 8 to 11 a.m. on the following dates: Aug. 8, Sept. 26, Oct. 10, Nov. 14, and Dec. 12. Each child will receive a dental screening exam, an opinion about their dental condition, and appropriate treatment recommendations. Contact Airman 1st Class Marnie Thetford at 292-3327.

WHMC clinics close July 25

The 59th Medical Wing will conduct a training day July 25. All Wilford Hall Medical Center clinics will be closed that day.

"There will be no reduction in emergency room or acute care services," said Col. (Dr.) Stephen McGuire, 59th Medical Wing vice-commander. "If people have a major problem, they should still come in to the emergency room and we will take care of them."

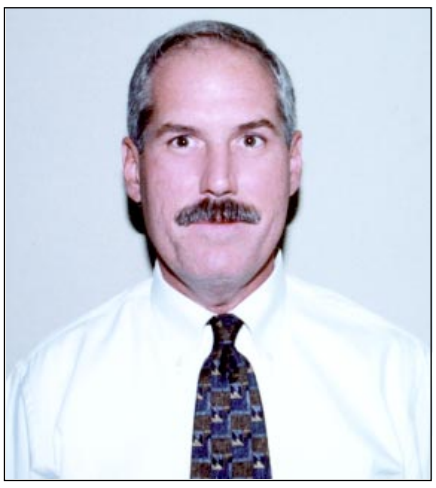
Patients with questions about appointments or manning on July 25 should contact the respective clinic.

Centrifuge test subjects

Scientists at Brooks conduct research benefiting aircrew of high performance aircraft such as the F-15, F-16, F-22, and Joint Strike Fighter. A number of ongoing acceleration research projects that require participation of volunteer subjects are needed for the centrifuge.

Military members who are interested and meet the qualifications will earn hazardous duty pay, which is currently $150 per month. Volunteers must meet Air Force body fat or height/weight standards, be at least 18 years of age, and be able to pass an appropriate physical exam. Call Tech. Sgt. Dora Caniglia at 536-3847.

Feature



Mike Mullen

Q&A

FULL NAME:
Mike Mullen

DUTY TITLE, ORGANIZATION:
Acquisition Strategy Facilitator, Acquisition Support Team 311th Human Systems Wing (PKA)

WHAT IS MY JOB?:
I help acquisition teams across Brooks develop and implement effective acquisition strategies that meet their customer's needs

BIRTHDAY:
September 25, 1953

HOMETOWN:
San Antonio, Texas, although I wasn't born here.

FAMILY STATUS:
Married; two sons

INSPIRATIONS:
My father

PET PEEVE:
None. I'm pretty laid back.

HOBBIES:
Jogging- hooked on treadmills.

BOOK(S) AT BEDSIDE:
"Jack Welch and the GE Way", by Robert Slater.

I JOINED CIVIL SERVICE:
Because I was allowed, from the beginning, to take on as much responsibility as I could handle.

FIVE-YEAR GOAL:
To have the Acquisition Support Team effectively supporting every acquisition on Brooks all the way into post-award.

ULTIMATE GOAL:
Retire and live on the beach

FAVORITE MUSIC:
Robert Cray

MY GREATEST ACCOMPLISHMENT IS:
Being a good father and husband.

ONLY MY BEST FRIENDS KNOW THAT I:
Shoot target pistols for relaxation.

Brooks Personality PROFILE

Engineer rises to the challenge

By Cerise Fenton
311th Human Systems Wing Public Affairs

While many people will rise to the challenge of increased responsibility, there are some who simply thrive on it. For one Brooks employee, that challenge is the reason he's here today.

Mike Mullen, an acquisition facilitator at the 311 Human Systems Wing Acquisition Support Team, accepted his first position in civil service at Kelly Air Force Base more than 20 years ago. From the beginning he was anxious for responsibility.

Mullen was born in Delaware and raised on the East Coast, but following his high school graduation in Connecticut he came to Texas.

Despite the fact that he had never even visited, he believed the great things he'd heard about San Antonio from his father, a former Air Force pilot in World War II who had spent time here after the war attending Trinity University.

"I grew up hearing all these wonderful stories about San Antonio and Trinity so when I graduated from high school I got on a plane and came to San Antonio," he said.

He never left. San Antonio is his hometown, he said. He's been here for 27 years, after all.

"I fell in love with San Antonio. I've never felt so accepted being an outsider.

This city really is kind of a melting pot. It's just a very warm place, kind of a casual city."

Mullen worked his way through college here, earning a mechanical engineering degree from Trinity and set out to find a job.

> *I've had a really neat career," he said. "I've designed a jet engine, advised foreign governments on their aircraft operations and investigated Air Force plane crashes.*
>
> **— Mike Mullen**
> 311th Human Systems Wing
> Acquisition Support Team

"I was familiar with civil service and the Air Force, and I knew that they would give you as much responsibility as you could handle," he said. He also knew that he would have to slog through the lower ranks as an engineer in the private sector, working toward that level of responsibility. When the offers came in, he chose civil service.

"I have never regretted it," he said. "I've had a blast."

Mullen spent 17 years at the former Kelly AFB and the last four years at Brooks.

"I've had a really neat career," he said. "I've designed a jet engine, advised foreign governments on their aircraft operations and investigated Air Force plane crashes," among other things.

Despite his multi-disciplined and diverse career, he really loves his job here at Brooks.

Today, Mullen spends a lot of his time teaching, which he's discovered he really enjoys. With acquisition reform, though, he is constantly learning too.

The acquisition process entails assessing customer needs, developing a strategy based on risk analysis and implementing that strategy, a very logical process that appeals to the engineer in him.

The whole process allows him the opportunity to spend a lot of time with different people from various organizations across base.

The teams he works with and the great support from his chain of command also make a big difference for him.

Although they've only been in place for a few years the business process has grown amazingly powerful, he said. As a customer support unit they are always striving to be better, though.

Whether it's at work or in life, Mullen pushes himself to be his best. Even in his hobbies, running on a treadmill and target shooting, he challenges himself to reach a higher standard, always pushing to do better.

Despite all of his other accomplishments, Mullen views his family as his greatest. He is a soccer dad and values his time with his two sons, ages three and 14, and his wife who is vice president of the San Antonio Children's Shelter.

"I am very, very proud of her," he said, and of his sons.

"If you can consider that a possession," he said, " my family is definitely my most prized possession."

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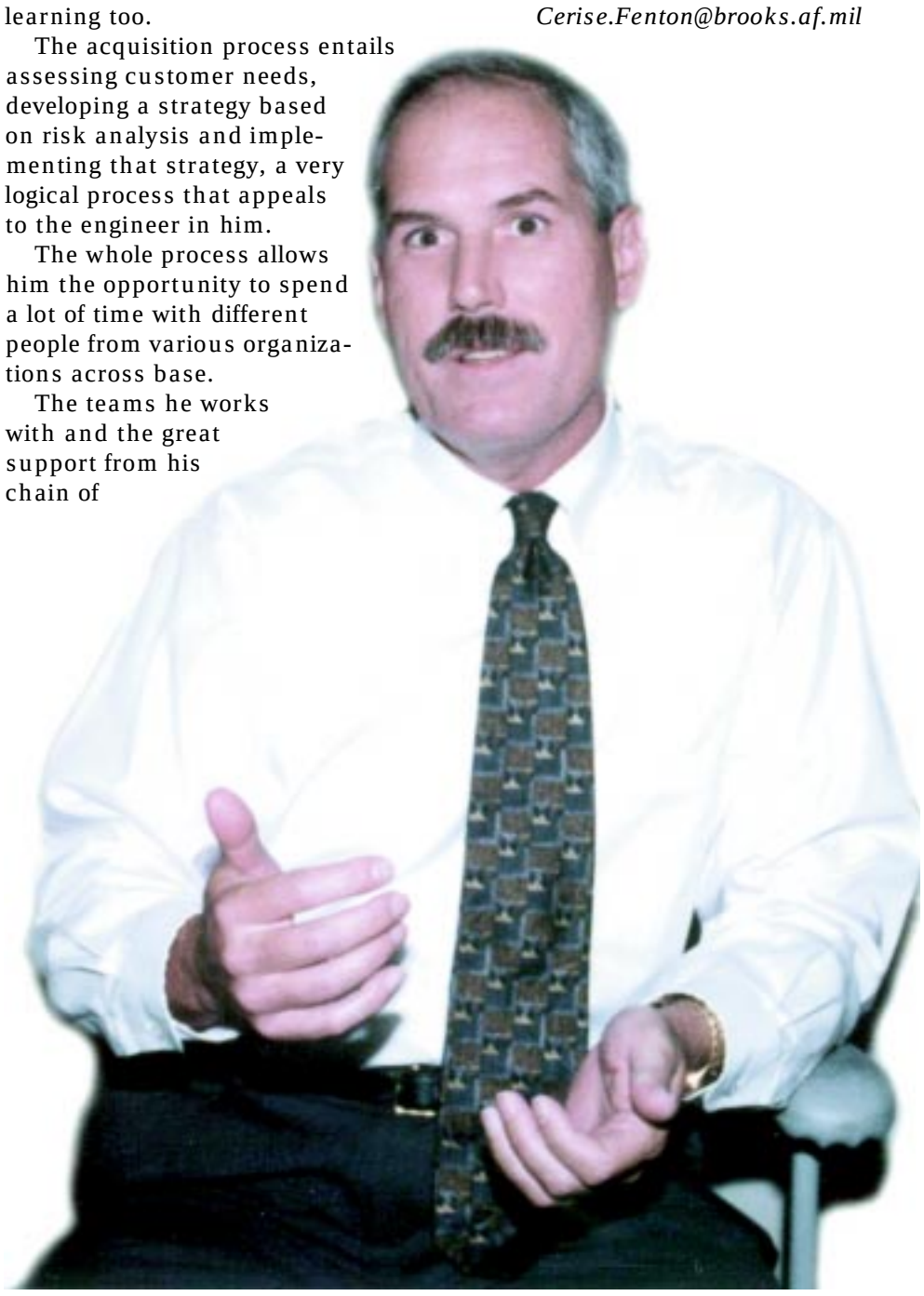

Mineola Chamber

Historic equipment to remain at Brooks

By Rudy Purificato
311th Human Systems Wing

Photo by Rudy Purificato

Eli Rush, a Hangar 9 contractor, puts the finishing touches on the refurbished Mineola Chamber.

Built in 1919, the chamber was used by aviation pioneer Wiley Post

An early research chamber that predates the 'space age' and was used during experiments by aviation pioneer Wiley Post is being refurbished as one of the last remaining exterior exhibits featured at Brooks' museum complex.

"The plan is to keep it at Brooks. It may be (eventually) moved to another location, but for now it's getting a new paint job," said Shelia Klein, Brooks Heritage Foundation executive director.

The device, which looks like a giant diving bell, is situated near Hangar 9 between the U.S. Air Force Aeromedical Evacuation Annex and the Challenger Learning Center.

Earlier this year the Air Force Museum at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, which owns the chamber, decided not to scrap it after learning the U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine was interested in preserving it as part of aerospace medical history.

Known as the Mineola Low-Pressure Chamber, the device was built in 1919 at Lancaster Iron Works in Lancaster, Pa.

At the time of its construction for use by the Medical Research Laboratory in Mineola, N.Y., the chamber was the most advanced piece of experimental equipment in the world for high altitude research.

Initially equipped with a refrigeration unit, the chamber was used for several years by the Mineola Laboratory, predecessor of the School of Aviation Medicine.

However, when SAM moved from New York to Brooks Field in 1926, the chamber was declared surplus equipment.

It was subsequently shipped to Wright Field, Ohio where Equipment Laboratory engineers used it to test flight instruments' reliability in high altitude environments. Aviator Wiley Post also used it to live-test his early pressure suit designs.

In 1935, aerospace medicine pioneer Dr. (Maj. Gen.) Harry Armstrong discovered it abandoned in a storage room.

After the chamber was refurbished for the Physiological Research Unit, Armstrong used it for two years to investigate design requirements for pressurized cabins.

This research led to the development of the fully pressurized B-29 Stratofortress. During the 1940s, however, the chamber was no longer valued as a research tool and was reportedly converted into a granary for grain to feed Wright Field research sheep.

In 1959 the chamber was shipped to Brooks as a museum exhibit when SAM was transferred here from Randolph Field.

After resting on the grass near the Hangar 9 parking lot for more than 40 years, the chamber was moved onto a specially constructed concrete pad earlier this year.

"It was last refurbished by CE (civil engineering) in 1988," Klein said. Current restoration plans include painting the exterior aquamarine, and replacing a rusted door security chain with a new stainless steel chain.

Klein said, "There are no plans to open it. Eventually, an exterior plaque identifying it (and its history) will be added.

> *"Current restoration plans include painting the exterior aquamarine, and replacing a rusted door security chain with a new stainless steel chain."*
>
> **Shelia Klein**
> Brooks Heritage Foundation

Wiley Post, an early aviation pioneer.

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Air Force seeks Korean War-era flight equipment

The Life Sciences Equipment Laboratory, part of the Human Systems Program Office at Brooks, is looking for Air Force and Navy Korean War-era flight equipment — including boots, helmets, flight suits, and survival vests — and Army equipment associated with air losses such as boots, uniforms, and web belts for the same period.

Analysts at the laboratory are seeking these items in anticipation of missing-in-action missions into Korea under the auspices of the Central Identification Laboratory — Hawaii.

"Our laboratory does not deal with remains," said Elton Hudgins, chief of the Life Sciences Laboratories. "Instead, we are involved in the scientific analysis of equipment which is used to indicate the possible presence of U.S. servicemen. To properly do this, we need examples of materials from 1950-1953 for comparison purposes.

"We also need the same types of flight equipment from the Vietnam era (1959-1975) to assist in ongoing MIA identification cases," he said.

People wanting more information about the laboratory's requirements should e-mail Hudgins at: *elton.hudgins@brooks.af.mil.*

Photo by Staff Sgt. Sabrina Johnson

Bargain hunting

Staff Sgt. Christopher Palmer, of the U.S. School of Aerospace Medicine, and his son Ryan search for bargains during the Brooks quarterly yard sale held July 14. Here they check out items at 103 Mendoza Street.

Sports

Photo by Staff Sgt. Sabrina Johnson

Maria Sigler swims to a first place victory.

Youth Games set stage for sectional competition

By Rudy Purificato
311th Human Systems Wing

Two local athletes took their first step toward repeating as national champions in soccer during the National Youth Games' citywide competition held here July 14. They were among several athletes who will advance to the sectional championships to be held at Brooks for the first time on Aug. 18.

Defending National Youth Games silver medallist Chris Johns placed first in soccer in the 12-13 boys division, while defending bronze medallist Traci Ortiz won the girls 12-13 division soccer competition.

Johns and Ortiz won medals in their respective categories last year at the national finals in Honolulu, Hawaii. Brooks dependent Takara Greer, who was the 2000 National Youth Games gold medallist in soccer, did not compete here because her family has since moved, said Larry Flores, Brooks Youth Sports director.

"This is the second consecutive year we've hosted the Youth Games at the local level," Flores said, explaining that the majority of the 25 athletes who participated this year were from Brooks. Only the top three athletes from each category will advance to the sectionals next month. Winners from various sectionals will advance to the national finals to be held in November in Orlando, Fla.

Flores said athletes ages 8-13 compete in three events: soccer, swimming and basketball.

Soccer participants must separately dribble and try to score with three balls from different positions near a goalieless goal.Swimmers are required to perform a freestyle sprint covering 25 yards in the fastest time, while basketball players have one minute in which to score field goals from seven different positions on the court.

Competition venues included the base swimming pool, and fitness center gym and soccer field.

Youth Game results

Soccer
8-9 boys: Raphael Belinfante, 1st; George Hernandez, 2nd; Nicholas Luna, 3rd
8-9 girls: Naomi Rubio, 1st; Samantha Rubio, 2nd
10-11 boys: Michael Fey, 1st; Benjamin Rubio, 2nd; Jonathan Grasch, 3rd
10-11 girls: Tina Rose Cavazos, 1st; Mariah Sigler, 2nd
12-13 boys: Chris Johns, 1st; Ryan Forrest, 2nd
12-13 girls: Traci Ortiz, 1st

Swimming
8-9 girls: Naomi Rubio, 1st; Samantha Rubio, 2nd
8-9 boys: George Hernandez, 1st; Nicholas Luna, 2nd
10-11 girls: Mariah Sigler, 1st
10-11 boys: Jonathan Grasch, 1st; Michael Frey, 2nd; Benjamin Rubio, 3rd
12-13 girls: Traci Ortiz, 1st
12-13 boys: Ryan Forrest, 1st; Michael Demmer, 2nd

Basketball
8-9 boys: Nicholas Luna, 1st; Jalen Edwards, 2nd; George Hernandez, 3rd
8-9 girls: Samantha Rubio, 1st; Naomi Rubio, 2nd
10-11 boys: Michael Frey, 1st; Beau Rodriguez, 2nd; Jordon Edwards, 3rd
10-11 girls: Tina Rose Cavazos, 1st; Mariah Sigler, 2nd
12-13 boys: Stephen Trevino, 1st; Adam Rehfield, 2nd; Robbie Wolters, 3rd
12-13 girls: Traci Ortiz and Erica Perez, 1st (tie)

Photos by Rudy Purificato

William Lawrence, a U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine key homerun threat newcomer, scores on this play during a pre-season game against the Air Force Institute for Environment, Safety and Occupational Health Risk Analysis.

AFIERA, USAFSAM contend for league crown as season nears end

By Rudy Purificato
311th Human Systems Wing

They are on a collision course with destiny as the 2001 base intramural softball season nears a tumultuous end. Barring an unexpected upset, these preseason favorites who battled each other for the base championship last year will be the top two playoffs seeds after the regular season concludes July 30.

The Air Force Institute for Environment, Safety and Occupational Health Risk Analysis and the U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine are leading contenders in a six-team intramural league that also includes the 311th Mission Support Squadron, 68th Intelligence Operations Squadron, 311th Civil Engineer Squadron and the 311th Air Base Group. The top four regular season teams will advance to the base tournament tentatively scheduled for early August.

"We knew it was going to be us and USAFSAM," said veteran AFIERA player-coach Aaron Sinclair, recalling how a pre-season game between the two rivals foretold of their eventual regular season dogfight for the league title.

"Their offense is awesome. They have a more powerful team than last year," Sinclair said, recalling how USAFSAM slugged six home runs against them by the fifth inning of their pre-season game. Because of the six-homer rule, AFIERA was forced to concede.

"We beat them by three runs during our first regular season game," Sinclair noted. Nonetheless, AFIERA knows it's going to be tough to repeat as base champions, something they've done the past four consecutive years.

USAFSAM was the top seed as league champs last year with a 10-2 record.

USAFSAM third baseman Pat Skiver connects for a run-scoring hit in a pre-season game against AFIERA.

"They have power from the number one through number eight player in their lineup. They have a new cleanup hitter who can go deeper than anybody on base," Sinclair said, referring to newcomer William Lawrence. AFIERA, meanwhile, has equally incredible power throughout its lineup.

Sinclair said his squad is more powerful than last year's championship team. Besides improving their bench, two new impact players have contributed to the team's success.

"Outfielder Marty Baugher has had limited playing time, but against USAFSAM he hit three, three-run homers," Sinclair said.

He also praised the contribution of newcomer Joe Schueger, a utility infielder, who adds depth to a team seasoned by veterans Jim Thompson, James Jarbeau, Rob Taylor and Adam Vaccarezza.

USAFSAM is equally formidable. "We have a strong team this year," said assistant coach Paul Bernal. Lawrence, a rookie homerun slugging outfielder, is a welcome addition to a team of power hitters led by right centerfielder Joel Berry. Bernal said newcomer Carl Crane has also helped solidify the team's defense and offense at shortstop.

"If we and AFIERA have all of our players in place for the playoffs, it's going to be one heck of a tournament," he said.

The MSS squad, which posted an 8-2 regular season record last year, is again contending for the league title. "Our team's strongest asset is our speed," said veteran player-coach Carl Lewis, whose players primarily rely on a running game to produce runs.

Lewis noted, "We have a few players who can hit the long ball, but we use our speed to take an extra base to get into scoring position."

Three veterans form the team's offensive and defensive nucleus: second baseman Buck Richardson and outfielders Thomas Williams and Dan Hernandez. "The playoff push is on, and I expect we'll make it," Lewis said.

Two teams whose coaches know they won't make the playoffs are CE and ABG.

"It's doubtful that we'll make the playoffs. Our weaknesses have been fielding, and having enough players," said player-coach Frank Herrera.

The squad combines players from the base clinic and 311th Security Forces Squadron. Inconsistency, lack of team chemistry and an insufficient number of veteran players have doomed ABG from the beginning of the season.

One of the few SFS members who consistently shows up to play has been the team's star: catcher-pitcher Michael Clancy.

Worse off than ABG is the CE squad, whose team name is a misnomer. "We have one guy from CE who plays on the team. The rest of my players are from the fire department," said player-coach Curtis Hill.

The jovial but realistic Hill summed up his team's regular season 'winless' performance when he said, "We've gotten stomped every game."

Several players have never before played softball, including second baseman Eric Moore who plays his position mostly using his head.

Referring to Moore, Hill noted, "He was a high school hockey goalie. Nothing gets by him. Sometimes he stops balls with his head. In fact, he has a big knot on his head."

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AFMC tourney teams overwhelm Brooks softball squad

By Rudy Purificato
311th Human Systems Wing

Brooks men's' varsity softball squad demonstrated the futility of trying to win the Air Force Materiel Command championship without key veteran players. As a consequence, seasoned AFMC teams overwhelmed them with a barrage of runs that led to Brooks' disappointing, but unavoidable 2-8 record during the tournament held June 29 - July 2 at Warner-Robins Air Force Base, Ga.

Undefeated Warner-Robins won the AFMC championship for the second consecutive year.

Brooks' usually potent offense sputtered without veterans Joel Berry, Rob Taylor, Jim Thompson and Troy Kennedy. The team's inconsistent offense proved to be their undoing as opponents routed them in games that looked more like batting practice.

"Our bats really went cold," said utility player Carl Lewis. "Our run production was terrible. Nobody was hitting the ball consistently," said Lewis, who was Brooks coach during last year's AFMC tourney.

"We wanted to be competitive," noted assistant coach Paul Bernal, referring to the challenge of using some replacement players. He added, "We didn't have a good nucleus of (reliable) players. There was no continuity."

> *"We wanted to be competitive. We didn't have a good nucleus of (reliable) players. There was no continuity."*
>
> **Paul Bernal**
> Brooks assistant mens' varsity softball coach

This fact was made painfully clear in the first game of the four-day tournament when Gunter AFB, Ala., won its only game against Brooks, blanking them 4-0. "It (loss) was hard to swallow. We knew we could play better than we did," Bernal said, explaining the defeat was particularly bitter because the opposition had less talent than Brooks.

In a game against pre-tourney favorite Eglin AFB, Fla., Brooks demonstrated a pattern of scoring in the first inning, then giving up the lead.

68th Intelligence Operations Squadron's Mike Vinciguerra tripled and scored on unit-mate Randy Blevins' single. Marty Baugher, with the Air Force Institute for Environment, Safety and Occupational Health Risk Analysis, doubled in Blevins for a 2-0 lead that Eglin eventually erased, winning the game 9-2.

Warner-Robins embarrassed Brooks by shutting them out 14-0 in game three. Brooks coach and tourney starting pitcher Stephen Smiley's advice to his team to have confidence that they will score proved true. However, the opposition outscored Brooks in several slugfests.

Hill AFB, Utah trounced Brooks 16-1 after Vinciguerra's run-scoring single produced the game's first tally. Brooks won its first contest against Los Angeles AFB, Calif., in an 18-17 come-from-behind battle on Vinciguerra's game-winning single.

"It felt good to break out of our hitting slump," Bernal said, noting it gave the squad renewed confidence. That confidence was temporarily bolstered when Brooks defeated Tinker AFB, Okla., 17-10. However, Brooks did not win again.

The team was competitive during a heartbreaking 14-13 loss to Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, but was subsequently routed by Kirtland AFB, N.M., 21-2, Hanscom AFB, Mass., 15-6 and Edwards AFB, Calif., 29-7.

The only bright spot for Brooks was solid defense from its keystone combination: shortstop Blevins and rookie second baseman Casey Davis from the 68th IOS.

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Courtesy photo

An athlete in last year's Tiathlon de la Hispanidad prepares for the cycling challenge after finishing the swimming portion of the race

Lackland schedules second annual 'Triathlon de la Hispanidad' for Aug. 25

The second annual "Triathlon de la Hispanidad" will be held at 7 a.m. Aug. 25 at Lackland Air Force Base.

The event, sponsored by the base's Hispanic Heritage Week Committee, will consist of a 300-meter swim, an 11-mile bike ride, and a 5K run. It all begins at the Chaparral Pool.

For the start of the swim, participants will be ranked by the swim time provided on the registration forms. Because of this, same-day registration will not be available. Categories include adult female and male divisions, and teams for the following categories: female, male, and coed.

All athletes will receive a T-shirt and water bottle. Plaques will be awarded to the first-, second-, and third-place winners for each category. Registration forms will be available at all San Antonio Air Force bases and Army post gyms.

Almost 100 athletes competed in last year's event, which helped raise more than $600 in scholarships for college-bound students.

For more information on this year's triathlon, contact Capt. Mary McGriff or Master Sgt Hector Medina at 671-4802 or 671-4406. Registration forms are also available through e-mail or fax.

> *Categories include adult female and male divisions, and teams for the following categories: female, male, and coed.*

Learn how to ... 'Win the Losing Battle'

By Capt. Risa Riepma
Brooks Health and Wellness Center

Are you interested in learning to eat more healthfully to lose weight? Would you like to learn more about how you can use exercise to manage your stress and make you feel more energetic? If so, the Brooks Health and Wellness Center has a program for you.

Win the Losing Battle is a 12-week weight loss competition that will help you get started. You can either participate individually or as part of a team.

All base members, their dependent family members and retirees who are at least 5 pounds overweight are encouraged to participate.

Below is the schedule of events for "Win the Losing Battle":

July 30

Orientation/registration — noon - 1 p.m. The purpose is to give individuals an opportunity to learn more about the program and decide if they are ready to commit to losing weight. Topics addressed will include readiness to change, keys to successful weight loss, and physical activity. At this time participants will be scheduled for nutrition counseling and height and weights will be obtained. Weekly weight checks will be needed throughout the program.

Aug. 27

Brown bag lunch talk — noon - 1:30 p.m. This talk will cover energy needs, food choices, serving sizes, timing/regularity of meals, speed of eating, attitudes about food and eating and ways to speed up metabolism.

Sept. 24

Brown bag lunch talk — noon - 1 p.m. This talk, given by the exercise physiologist, will answer all your questions about exercise including frequency, how much is enough, what is the best type, and how to get started. Additional topics discussed include getting around barriers to exercise and estimating your target heart rate.

Oct. 15

Celebration — noon - 1 p.m. At this time a short talk on weight maintenance will be given and results of the program will be presented (the winning team's scores and total pounds lost, the person who lost the most weight and overall results) Prizes will be awarded to winners.

(For more information on "Win the Losing Battle," contact Capt. Risa Riepma or Airman Kathryn Krekelberg at 536-4292.)