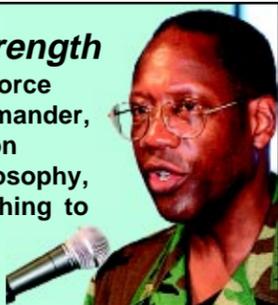


Diversity is our strength

Gen. Lester Lyles, Air Force Materiel Command commander, shares "Peanuts" cartoon character Snoopy's philosophy, "Everyone brings something to the table."

Page 3



March is National Women's History Month

Virginia Wise was the first female to receive her pilot's license in U.S. history and became one of only 1,500 women to serve as a Women's Airforce Service Pilot.

Page 16



Men's basketball

The loss of key players was too much for the Brooks men's varsity basketball team to overcome in the recent Air Force Materiel Command tournament.

Page 19



The Development of Combat Power and Efficiency

Vol. 25, No. 5 -- Friday, March 16, 2001 -- Brooks AFB, Texas

Through the many Facets of Aerospace Medicine



Interactive astronomy at Aerospace Career Day 2001

During Wednesday and Thursday's Aerospace Career Day 2001, students like these from McCollum High School in San Antonio used interactive techniques to demonstrate how laser light reacts in space. This was during the astronomy class taught by Jody Harkrider, right, one of 30 classes offered. Four special demonstrations were also available for

students to attend. More than 1,400 math and science students from San Antonio high schools toured Brooks during the two-day event. For more information about the astronomy class, turn to page 12. For more photos from Brooks Aerospace Career Day 2001, see pages 14 and 15. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Pedro Ybanez)

Sci-fi beam weapons become reality

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — The near future may see U.S. military units employing beam weapons on the battlefield.

Although this may seem like science fiction, the Air Force and Marine Corps took a big step toward making this science fact March 1, when they announced a breakthrough technology designed to project an energy beam that drives away adversaries without injuring them.

This emerging and revolutionary force-protection technology gives service members an alternative to using deadly force, said Marine Corps Col. George Fenton, director of the Joint Non-Lethal Weapons Program, Quantico, Va.

Two Air Force Research Laboratory teams led the technology development. One team was the laboratory's directed energy directorate at Kirtland Air Force Base, N.M., and the other was from the human effectiveness directorate at Brooks.

The development was done in response to Department of Defense needs for alternative options to the more traditional weapons that can cause serious injury or death, Fenton said.

"A weapon like this could be particularly useful when adversaries are mixed with innocent [people]," he said.

The Vehicle Mounted Active Denial System technology uses millimeter-wave electromagnetic energy to stop, deter, and turn back advancing adversaries from a relatively long range. While the exact range of the beam is classified, Fenton said the goal is to employ the nonlethal

Small Business Office 'closes deal' on CC award

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

Comments? rudolph.purificato@brooks.af.mil

While the name of their organization suggests something small, they never 'think small' as advocates for helping businesses and the Air Force achieve their collective goals.

That is why the 311th Human Systems Wing Small Business Office earned a huge honor as the most recent recipient of the 311th HSW Commander's Award.

The SBO received the base's highest award in a March 9 ceremony because of its continuing commitment to small business advocacy and outreach.

"In October, we received the 2000 Corporate Advocate of the Year award from the Minority Enterprise Development Consortium," said SBO director Janelle Larrison. The consortium promotes and supports minority-owned

businesses in the San Antonio area, Larrison said, noting that SBO has been apart of that advocacy for years. "We are shocked, but honored to receive the Commander's Award," Larrison said, noting that it's the first time her six-member organization has been so recognized.

The honor is in no small measure a validation of SBO's tireless efforts.

"We're faced with numerous and differing acquisition reform initiatives that act as barriers to the small business program. This group has demonstrated enthusiasm and dedication to its role of small business advocacy," Larrison said.

In addition to small business advocacy, the SBO has played a major role in shaping acquisition planning for several base organizations including the Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence and the Air Force Institute for Environment, Safety and Occupational Health Risk Analysis.

See SCI-FI REALITY, Page 11



Commentary



From the VANtage Point

Do you remember?

By Steve VanWert

Discovery editor

Comments? steve.vanwert@brooks.af.mil

This column is for us old guys and gals, the ones whose memories may not be quite as sharp as they used to be, but still hold a treasure trove of emotion.

Actually, I've been meaning to write this column for quite some time, but I keep forgetting about it. I guess that qualifies me as the type of person who remembers such things as: black-jack chewing gum, wax Coca Cola-shaped bottles filled with colored sugar water, candy cigarettes (how politically incorrect!), telephone party lines, telephone numbers with a word prefix (mine was En-8-3704 as a child - it stood for "Endicott"), S&H green stamps and Howdy Doody.

I also remember sipping a lemon coke and putting nickels into a little juke box hanging on the wall next to one of the booths in Rhodes Drug Store, using a skate key to put on roller skates and listening to 8-track tapes. I remember metal ice-cube trays with handles you pulled to release the ice, girls who wore scarves around their pony tails (just so us smart aleck boys could pull on the scarf and not the hair), and playing 45 rpm records.

I remember going out the front door, opening up a little silver box and finding fresh milk every morning. It came in glass bottles with little cardboard stoppers. I remember my mother leaving a note inside the box asking for butter or, if I begged, chocolate milk. I also remember buying stamps from the postman as he delivered our mail.

Do you remember Romper Room and penny candy? How about straining to hear the lyrics of "Louie, Louie" on a transistor radio? Of course, if you were affluent enough, you might have a HiFi in the living room. Those were the people who could afford to put Hi Test gas in their Studebakers.

Do you remember when a No. 2 pencil was the only type of pencil you ever heard of? And all the cool guys wore thin-legged jeans, white socks and penny loafers? And the really cool ones rolled a pack of cigarettes up in the sleeve of their white t-shirt?

I remember Saturday morning cartoons like Fat Albert, the Road Runner and Bugs Bunny, cartoons that weren't glorified commercials for plastic action figures and toys. Besides, all the good toys were made by Mattel.

I remember watching the Three Stooges on the old Sally Starr Show on Philadelphia afternoon television. I remember Roy Rogers, the King of the Cowboys, and Davy Crockett, King of the Wild Frontier.

I remember playing hide-and-go-seek at dusk in the front yard, or at least until we heard the tinny sounds of the Good Humor Man's truck chugging down the street, filled to the brim with Push-Ups and Rockets and fudgsicles. I remember playing hopscotch, jacks, kickball, dodgeball and yelling "olly, olly, oxen free!" And I remember dares and double dares and double dog dares and Mother May I?

Did you ever catch lightening bugs in a jar? Play cops and robbers? Cowboys and Indians?

I remember when there were only two kinds of sneakers in the world - Keds and PF Flyers. I remember when decisions were made by going "eenie, meenie, minie, mo" and cuts and bruises were made better by your mom's kiss. And I remember taking clothes pins and attaching baseball cards to the spokes of my bicycle.

And I remember carrying my best girl's books to class and holding hands in the hallway until caught by the hall monitor. I remember playing pinball years before Sega or Super Nintendo. As a matter of fact, I remember trying out the first Pong game and feeling out of touch already.

There are so many things that make up the texture of our lives. So many bright days and exciting nights. Even rainy afternoons and waking up abruptly from a nightmare (I knew I shouldn't have gone to see "Tarantula" by myself) are important parts of our lives.

Each of these moments, no matter how small, no matter how ordinary, no matter how traumatic, are the hitching posts we tie our lives up to. They give us an anchor; they define who we were, who we are and who we are to become.

And I'll remember one more thing: all my friends at Brooks. Each of you is placed in his or her own peculiar niche in my memory. You helped define me and my years at Brooks.

And I won't forget you.

DISCOVERY

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San Antonio Lawyer — Que Pasa!

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Christopher Press (Web printing)

St. Patrick's Day celebrates Ireland's patron saint

By 1st Lt. Sonya Ferreira

Chief, Brooks Military Equal Opportunity

For hundreds of years, Ireland has celebrated the life of St. Patrick, its patron saint. St. Patrick was born to a wealthy family near the end of the fourth century. When he was a teenager, Irish raiders attacked his family and took him prisoner. While in captivity, he was alone and afraid, and was working as a shepherd. It was during this time he turned to religion for comfort, becoming a devout Christian.

After he escaped captivity, St. Patrick spent 15 years in religious training before he was ordained a priest. He was sent to Ireland as a missionary, to minister to Christians in Ireland and to persuade the natives to turn away from their pagan gods. His mission lasted 30 years before his death around 460 AD. St. Patrick's Day is a religious feast that recognizes the anniversary of his death.

In 1845, Irish settlers began to immigrate to the United States in mass numbers during the Great Potato Famine. Nearly a million impoverished Irishmen came to America searching for refuge. Since America

was predominantly Protestant, the Catholic Irish were mistreated and despised for their religious beliefs and "different accents." They were portrayed in newspaper cartoons as drunkards and violent monkeys. They had difficulty finding employment and assimilating into American society.

A traditional symbol that represents Irish heritage is the shamrock. It is reported that the shamrock was used by St. Patrick to explain the Holy Trinity to the people of Ireland. The shamrock was referred to as *The Wearing of the Green*, but it later became a symbol of rebellion to Britain's Queen Victoria, who outlawed its use. People who disobeyed the Queen's order could be sentenced to death.

In America, people typically wear green clothing to recognize this time of celebration, but this is not the custom in Ireland because it is a painful reminder of Queen Victoria's reign.

Another American custom is to pinch persons who are not wearing green on St. Patrick's Day. It is important to remember that people celebrate in differ

The *Discovery* is online.
Go to <http://www.brooks.af.mil/HSW/PA/discovery>.

See ST. PATRICK, Page 6



Diversity is our strength

By Gen. Lester Lyles
Commander, Air Force Materiel Command

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio (AFMCNS) — In one of my favorite "Peanuts" cartoons by the late Charles Schulz, Snoopy is snuggling with Linus, who reflects, "I don't recall ever inviting you to share this blanket ... but I must admit you are kind of warm and fuzzy."

Snoopy's reply: "Everyone brings something to the party."

Snoopy's response echoes my philosophy exactly. Every member of our Air Force team, from the youngest airman to the grizzled senior NCO, the newest lieutenant, DoD civilian or contractor, has a valuable contribution to make to the defense of our country. The diversity of our work force is a fact and, in truth, one of our strengths. And we ignore that fact at our own peril.

You've heard it before, I know. You may even be asking yourself what you're supposed to do about it and why it's important. Here are some of my thoughts.

Take advantage of the diversity of your unit to better perform your mission — We all know that different backgrounds, different life experiences, even different Air Force assignments, add to the sum total of our knowledge, our understanding of the way things work and our general perspective on how things are best done.



Lyles

It only makes sense to take advantage of all the different resources at your disposal to meet the challenges you face daily. Seek different opinions on solutions, responses and even the very nature of any problems.

Make sure everyone is an involved and valued member of your team — People are involved and responsive when they know their team members and leaders truly value them and their contributions. As a leader, you set the example; as a member of your team, you contribute to the unity of the team by working well together and by respecting the other members.

Diversity is about readiness; divided and divisive teams don't get the job done. And our job as an Air Force is so vitally important to the national defense that we don't dare be any less than the most effective team we can be.

Former Air Force secretary, Whit Peters, said, "To be a truly effective leader, you must be able to build a team with all your people—men, women and ethnic groups different from your own. In the Air Force, diversity is our greatest strength—plain and simple, diversity is a readiness issue. If you exclude any one group, I guarantee that you won't realize your full potential."

Foster an environment in which diversity is valued — Diversity is also a recruiting and retention issue. People will not stay in an environment that is hostile to them and to the things they hold dear. It's that simple. If retention is a problem in your unit, take a long, hard look at the way people are treated.

If you discover that a problem exists, work to fix it. You don't have to be the leader, the supervisor or the branch chief to effect change. If you find that you're the problem, change your attitude. It's not easy, but it will be worthwhile.

As Dr. Sheila Widnall, former secretary of the Air Force, said, "Diversity is facing your own reactions to differentness and the discomfort it causes. It involves taking a look at why different holidays, practices, values, or language make us feel threatened and build walls between us. It means looking at the world and our actions from someone else's perspective."

Be a good mentor to every subordinate — We are all mentors. It's up to you whether the

example you set is a good one or a poor one. Support the personal growth and professional development of everyone. It will pay off tremendously, for both the individual and the team.

Likewise, for those seeking to be mentored, don't hesitate to seek advice from those in your chain who may not look like you. I have found that usually everyone wants to help others but sometimes they have to be asked.

Help us set the example — All around the globe, people are fighting each other because of real or perceived differences. The United States responded to cultural, religious and ethnic strife in the former Yugoslavia. Just a few short years ago in Rwanda, hundreds of thousands of people were murdered because they were born into different cultures.

Elsewhere, people of the same ethnic groups are fighting to form separate countries to keep out people of different cultures. When members of the U.S. military show up to help establish or maintain the peace, we fulfill our mission directly by stopping or preventing further bloodshed. But we are also demonstrating by our very presence that people of different cultures, genders and ethnic backgrounds can work together. Even the money in our pockets says, "E pluribus Unum;" out of many, one.

The U.S. armed forces have for some 50 years led our country in integrating diverse people into a single team. That's why today many people from minority communities join the military; they've seen that advancement depends on ability, achievement and potential alone.

Finally, it's the right thing to do — I don't want you to treat everyone fairly just because it's in our regs or even because it's the law. Do it because it's the right thing to do. Be someone your children can look up to because you do the right thing and you do it well. They're watching and they will act the way they see you acting.

I'm proud of everyone on the Air Force Materiel Command team. I've seen the way we work together to accomplish our mission. You are the best in the world! But let's not rest on our laurels. Make it your goal to celebrate rather than tolerate diversity and see what happens. I know we'll all be proud of the results.





Final edition:

Kelly's history book now

By Master Sgt. Dorothy Goepel
SA-ALC Public Affairs Office

The legacy and heritage of Kelly Air Force Base is a strong current that runs across the servicemembers and civilians whose memories of the base run deep.

It also is a strong theme for Ann Hussey, the woman tapped to capture Kelly's legacy in words for the third and final edition of a pictorial history of Kelly Air Force Base, tentatively titled *A Heritage of Service: Eighty-Five Years of Military Aviation at Kelly AFB, 1916-2001*.

The book, expected to encompass some 450 pages and more than 500 color and black-and-white photographs, will trace the base's legacy from Nov. 21, 1916 to July 13, 2001, and will include pictures of Kelly's closing ceremony on July 13, Hussey said.

The writer is prepared for this labor of affection. She served as the chief of the Office of History for the San Antonio Air Logistics Center from December 1986 to June 1998. Since then, she has

served as staff historian for the Air Education and Training Center at Randolph Air Force Base.

The final edition is an opportunity to add to the existing text, Hussey explained. For instance, the book will include a vignette of the 49 plus 1, a group of African-American civilians during World War II who were asked to volunteer to assist the Tuskegee airmen.

"I had no idea this group existed when we published the book in 1992," she said. "It's my pleasure to be able to add the information and give these 49 men and one woman the recognition they so richly deserve."

Two chapters will be added to the earlier edition. "One chapter will focus on Kelly's history from 1991 to 1995," Hussey said. "The other chapter will cover 1995 to the end." She paused and added, "This chapter will be hard to write because of all the emotion surrounding the base closure."

Hussey was selected for the project by the Kelly Field Heritage Foundation, which is handling all costs associated with publishing the book.

"The foundation is pleased to sponsor this book as a way for the Kelly family to preserve its memo-



Lt. Jimmy Doolittle lands his modified DH-4B at Kelly Field just after 7 a.m., Sept. 5, 1922, having finished half his transcontinental flight attempt. (Artwork by Douglas Ettridge)

ries after the Air Logistics Center closes and the base realigns," said Kelly Field Heritage Foundation President Tommy Jordan.

Jordan emphasized that once the last order is taken on July 13, no more will be accepted. "We're going to accomplish one printing of the book for the number of orders we receive through July 13, and no more."

To order a copy, go to the Kelly AFB public affairs Web link, <http://137.242.1.211/HistoryBook.htm>, and print out an order form.

Complete the form and make a check out to "Kelly Field Heritage Foundation" in the amount of \$27.50. Mail both to Lynda Wampler, Kelly Field Heritage Foundation, P.O. Box 37423, San Antonio, Texas 78237.

For more details on ordering, call Lynda Wampler at 925-9333.

23 Brooks enlisted sew on March stripes

The following 23 Brooks enlisted people sewed on new stripes during March:

TO SENIOR MASTER SERGEANT:

Mark Withers
Air Force Medical Support Agency
TO MASTER SERGEANT:
Bradley Brockelman
311th Medical Squadron
Therese Huss
U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace
Medicine
Andre Marsh
311th Human Systems Wing

TO TECHNICAL SERGEANT:

Michael Elliott
USAFSAM
Sidney Marti Jr.
311th Air Base Group
Sharon Portell
311th ABG
Anne Robertson
USAFSAM
John Williams
Air Force Research Laboratory
TO STAFF SERGEANT:
Gabriel Almario
Air Force Institute for Environment,
Safety and Occupational Health Risk

Analysis

Robert Lealilee
311th ABG
Michele McGrinson
311th HSW
TO SENIOR AIRMAN:
Casey Davis
68th Information Operations Squadron
Norman Gadson Jr.
68th IOS
Jody Jenkins
68th IOS
Paul Jenkins
68th IOS
Clinton Jones

68th IOS

Ana Santiago-Buedo
68th IOS (Below-the-zone)
Michael Vinciguerra
68th IOS
TO AIRMAN FIRST CLASS:
Erica Hernandez
311th Communications Squadron
Nathanael Meagher
311th Security Forces Squadron
TO AIRMAN:
Angelica Cecilio
311th ABG
Anthony Meadows
311th ABG



Air Force news

AFRL receives \$20,000 for research

By Tiffany Pitts
Aeronautical Systems Center Public Affairs

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio (AFMCNS) — Air Force officials here accepted a \$20,000 royalty check Feb. 22 from the world's largest centrifuge systems manufacturer for work that improves Air Force system performance while reducing operating costs.

Environmental Tectonics Corp. of Southampton, Pa., presented the check to the Air Force Research Laboratory's Human Effectiveness Directorate for pilot research being done here on pilot response to simulated maneuvers in a centrifuge. A live demonstration followed the ceremony.

A cooperative research and development agreement between AFRL and ETC allows researchers to study the responses and determine the best orientation for pilots to simulate gravity effects from airborne maneuvers.

"Negative, followed by positive, G-maneuvers are critical to air dominance, yet they are the most dangerous to practice in a real airplane," said Tamara Chelette, directorate biomedical engineer and principal investigator. "This experiment is one of hundreds of AFRL's projects that improve Air Force system performance while reducing operating costs."



Air Force Research Laboratory researchers monitor pilot response to simulated maneuvers in a centrifuge. The research, negative followed by

positive G (gravity) maneuvers, has earned AFRL a \$20,000 royalty check from the world's largest centrifuge manufacturer. (Air Force photo)

Since 1960, the U.S. Armed Services have lost three times as many pilots and airplanes in training accidents as in combat, according to service safety officials.

And training accidents are the biggest enemy the Air Force has faced since World War II, according to the Air Force Safety Center at Kirtland Air Force Base, N.M.

Since 1996, the Air Force has lost 189 pilots and crewmembers and \$3.5 billion in aircraft assets, due to training accidents.

AFRL and the Air Force Institute of Technology are collaborating with ETC to develop an improved high-fidelity, full-motion centrifuge. Wright Technology Network of Dayton, Ohio, is facilitating the partnership.



ST. PATRICK

Continued from Page 2

ent ways or may choose not to participate in the cultural customs at all. Especially on this occasion, it is wise to ensure that the people being pinched know the intentions of others.

Irish Americans began organizing parades in various cities to display their pride in their culture and heritage. The first St. Patrick's Day parade was on March 17, 1762, in New York City. Annual St. Patrick's Day parades we now see have become a show of pride and strength for many Irish Americans. When President Truman attended New York City's St. Patrick's Day parade in 1948, this was a monumental moment for many Irish Americans whose ancestors overcame stereotypes and racial prejudice in order to gain acceptance.

St. Patrick's Day has become a multicultural celebration of heritage, customs, and diversity. Many people from various countries such as Australia, Japan, Singapore, and Russia recognize St. Patrick's Day. It is certain, as in years past that the Irish people will not be alone in celebrating the life and death of the patron saint of Ireland.



St. Patrick

AFIERA launches urgent hotline

By Donna Greenwalt
ESOH Service Center

The Air Force Institute for Environment, Safety and Occupational Health Risk Analysis launched an expanded customer support feature Monday. AFIERA technical experts are now available 24 hours a day, seven days a week and 365 days a year to help with urgent situations.

Customers can reach the Environment, Safety and Occupational Health Urgent Hotline at 536-5454 or 1-888-232-ESOH (3764).

Some AFIERA customers reside in different time zones around the globe. AFIERA

identified through customer feedback, a need to provide expanded access to AFIERA's specialists during other than normal duty hours for urgent situations. Previously, overseas customers had a limited time frame to consult with the AFIERA team of professionals during normal operational hours (7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. CST).

This new feature operates through the use of a staff duty officer. When a customer calls between the hours of 4:30-7:30 p.m., the SDO will ensure the customer gets in contact with the appropriate expert for urgent situations. Any routine or non-urgent support calls will be referred to the ESOH Service Center on the next duty day.

Since July 1996, the ESOH Service Center has ensured that customers reach the appropriate ESOH expert to address their issues. A key feature of the ESOH Service Center is that follow-ups are performed to ensure customers have received the support requested. Any problems with service provided are promptly resolved.

Outreach event set for Women's History Month

Brooks hosts a regional focused outreach event for women-owned businesses March 29, in honor of National Women's History Month. The Brooks Club will be the gathering place for women-owned firms, as well as representatives from DoD prime contractors Lockheed-Martin, Boeing, Northrup Grumman and Raytheon.

The event theme is "Celebrating Women of Courage and Vision in the Government Market Place."

"This event will honor women who have the strength and determination to succeed in the government market place," said Janelle Larrison, director of small business from Brooks.

The focused outreach event at Brooks is one of many taking place across the country in 2001, in the continental United States as well as in Alaska, Hawaii and Guam.

Since 1998, the Air Force has held more than 20 such events for more than 1,000 women entrepreneurs who want to learn how to get started in Air Force contracting.

These one-day seminars introduce women business owners to the government procurement process. Participants learn how to qualify for government contracts, obtain federal training, locate procurement forecasts and find federal information.

They have opportunities to talk to small business specialists and Small Business Administration representatives, network with other women business owners and meet with prime contractors.

Follow-up surveys show that attendees have won \$50 million in Air Force contracts as a result of these events.

The Air Force Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization sponsors focused outreach events as part of its ongoing initiative to award \$1 billion in contracts to women-owned businesses. Director Anthony DeLuca, a proponent of small businesses, will be a featured speaker at the Brooks event.

He will share the platform with Raydean Acevedo, president of Resource Management Concepts, Inc., an award-winning information technology firm in Golden, Col. She has built her success in government contracting.

For more information about the Air Force small business program, and to see a schedule of future focused outreach events, visit online at www.selltoairforce.org.

Call Sharon Bickford at 536-3991 for more information about the Brooks event, or email her at SharonBickford@brooks.af.mil.



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

11 a.m.-1 p.m., March 20, Bldg. 538 — "Women and Finance"

"Every journey begins with one step." This seminar is designed to educate women about financial planning, to provide them with the knowledge and skills to take action, and to motivate them to take responsibility for their financial future.

9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., March 21, Live Oak Civic Center, Live Oak, Texas — San Antonio Military Community Job Fair

Employers will be recruiting for all types of jobs. Whether you are seeking employment now or gathering information for future career decisions, make this job fair a part of your transition/job search strategy.

The job fair is open to all DoD military, active duty and retired, civilians, and family members. A list of employers, updated weekly, is available at www.taonline.com.

8 a.m.-noon, March 29, Bldg. 538 — "Bundle for Babies"

For active duty Air Force couples with a newborn or expecting a child.

The agenda consists of segments on budgeting for baby, caring for your newborn, handling stress, and care seat regulations.

3 Brooks master sergeants make E-8

A trio of Brooks master sergeants were selected for promotion, it was announced March 7. The three are: **Jenny Houston**, 311th Air Base Group; **Maria Perez**, Air Force Research Laboratory; and **Manuel Topete**, U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine.

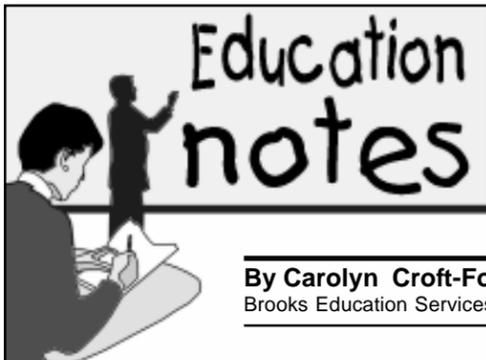
Houston, Perez and Topete were among 1,354 individuals selected out of 16,203 eligibles. This represents a selection rate of 8.36 percent, an increase from last year's promotion rate of 7.89 percent. The selection rate just four years ago (1994) was 4.62 percent.

The average total score of selections during the 01E8 cycle was 671.68. Average selectee breakdowns are:

- 37.55 points time in grade;
- 20.53 points time in service;
- 135 points performance reports;
- 19.69 points for decorations;
- 69.99 points for the U.S. Air Force Supervisory Examination; and
- 388.92 points for the evaluation board score.

The average selectee has 5.21 years time in grade and 19.42 years time in service.

The complete list of selections is posted on the Air Force Personnel Center's home page at <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil>.



By Carolyn Croft-Foster
Brooks Education Services Office

ROTC briefing April 6

ROTC detachments from UTSA and Southwest Texas State University will visit Brooks at 1 p.m. April 6. The representatives will discuss various scholarship programs available to active duty airmen that lead to Air Force commissioning.

There are one-year through four-year programs available. All airmen are invited to attend. To contact the detachment representatives, e-mail jgamez@utsa.edu or sl09@swt.edu. For more information, call education services at 536-3617.

New one-year commissioning

Air Force ROTC offers an opportunity for active duty airmen to simultaneously finish their bachelor's degree and earn a commission as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force.

Air Force ROTC is offering this to up to 450 qualified airmen who can complete the 1-Year POC-ERP program and commission in fiscal 2002. The program is open for all academic degrees. If selected, you would be discharged from active duty, enlist in AFROTC within 24 hours of your discharge, and become a full-time college student. If you are accepted in the program and meet certain age and academic requirements, you will receive a scholarship and other financial assistance provided by AFROTC that will pay for tuition and textbooks, as well as provide a monthly stipend.

For details about this program, visit the base education office (Bldg. 570-C) or by visit the website at <http://webl.maxwell.af.mil/afoats/enlisted>.

VEAP conversion to MGIB

Those servicemembers who have VEAP accounts are now eligible to convert to the Montgomery GI Bill. Education services will be contacting those members whose names appear on our list of eligibles. If you believe you are eligible and have not been contacted, please contact education services in Bldg. 570 C.

For more information or to schedule to attend a conversion briefing call 536-3617.

NEWS briefs

Military comptrollers luncheon

The American Society of Military Comptrollers March luncheon is Wednesday in the Brooks Club. Social hour is at 11 a.m., with lunch at 11:30 a.m.

Selections are: the "Blue" selection for \$8 (chef salad, hot rolls, coffee and tea) and the "Red" selection for \$9 (Monterrey Chicken, potatoes au gratin and broccoli, rolls, coffee and tea).

For tickets, call Teresa Vega at 536-5742.

Brooks tax center opens

The Brooks tax center is in operation through April 12. It is located in Bldg. 130, Room 149A. Hours are 8-11 a.m. and noon-3 p.m. Monday-Wednesday and 1-6 p.m. Thursday.

The volunteer tax assistance representatives offer free electronic filing of tax returns (by appointment only), state and federal tax forms and answers to basic income tax questions. These services are available for all active duty and retired military and their family members.

Call 536-2775 for more information.

Children's dental screenings

The Lackland Air Force Base Pediatric Dental Department provides free drop-in dental screenings for all eligible military medical beneficiaries.

Children 14 years old or younger are seen from 8-11 a.m. the second Wednesday of each month. Appointments are not necessary. The screenings include a dental exam with treatment recommendations. Upcoming dates for this service are March 28, April 11, May 9, June 13 and July 11 in Arnold Hall, Bldg. 5506. Both locations are on Lackland AFB.

Call Col. (Dr.) Jeff Mabry or Airman 1st Class Marnie Thetford at 292-3327 or 292-3342 for more information.

Hap Arnold education grant

The Air Force Aid Society awarded more than \$7.5 million in education grants during 2000 to 5,000 college students. But some Air Force families still feel they won't qualify for the grant program. But that's just not so, according to Society officials.

The Society has tailored the program to adjust need measurements based on reasonable standards that fit most Air Force families.

Call the AFAS at 536-2444 to get an application for these \$1,500 college grants.

'Wild Flossers' winner named

The exact number of Wild Flossers in the jar located in the dental clinic waiting room was 69, guessed exactly by Tech. Sgt. Theron Briggs of the 311th Medical Squadron.

Enlisted promotion ceremony

March's enlisted promotion ceremony is at 3 p.m. March 30 in the Brooks Club. All Brooks people are invited to attend.

Planning your meals with the HAWC

Does planning your meals stress you out? Learn to make quick and hearty dishes from 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. March 23 in the Brooks Health and Wellness Center, Bldg. 805.

Space is limited. Call Capt. Risa Riepma at 536-2581 to reserve a seat.

The HAWC tours the commissary

Learn how to read food labels correctly, balance your diet and prepare low fat meals by joining the Brooks Health and Fitness Center in touring the base commissary at 10 a.m. Tuesday.

Call Capt. Risa Riepma at 536-4159 to sign up.

Retiree Activities Office

The Brooks RAO serves the needs of retired enlisted and officers members, as well as active duty members preparing for retirement. The office, located in Bldg. 570B, Room 13B, is open from 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Tuesday-Thursday.

Call 536-6418 for more information.

TRICARE Senior Pharmacy program

Military retirees ages 65 and older can learn how military healthcare is changing by attending special briefings on the TRICARE Senior Pharmacy program at 9 and 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. March 28 (in the Evans Theater on Fort Sam Houston) and April 9 (in the Bob Hope Theater on Lackland Air Force Base), and at 5:30 p.m. May 16 in the Randolph Air Force Base theater.

Call 1-800-406-2832 for more information.

Altitude test subjects needed

Become a hypobaric chamber test subject and earn hazardous duty pay, currently \$150 a month. Call Jim Carlile at 536-3545 or Michele Fischer at 536-3666 for more information.



AFMC commanders talk people issues

By Tech. Sgt. Carl Norman
AFMC Public Affairs

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio (AFMCNS) — Commanders and senior leaders from Air Force Materiel Command's 13 bases converged on Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., Monday and Tuesday for the Spring Commander's Conference.

Held three times per year, AFMC's commander's conferences allow center commanders, executive directors, and headquarters two-letter directors to discuss items of common interest and concern, according to Capt. Chris Lee, AFMC commander's action group action officer.

"It sort of gets everyone on the same sheet of music when it comes to the command's direction," Lee said.

Lee said the conferences are held in the spring, summer and fall. The spring conference is dedicated to people issues, and the command chief master sergeants' and commanders' spouses are invited. The summer conference is where business affairs are discussed, such as the command's budget and work that goes into the Air Force's Program Objective Memorandum, which contains the command's fiscal forecast for upcoming years.

And the fall conference will discuss other business and concerns.

This spring conference, held in conjunction with the Air Armament Summit Wednesday through today, consisted of four sessions — taking care of the command's people, as well as logistics, acquisition and commander's issues, according to Lee. Topics such as space commission implementation, funds, work force management, quality of life, back

to basics, supply chain management, enterprise integration and AFMC's involvement with joint Air Force exercises took center stage.

"These conferences are a means to address the most pressing issues our command is facing in diverse, mission-related areas such as science and technology, product management and depot maintenance," said AFMC commander Gen. Lester Lyles.

"We're here to support the war fighter and people look to AFMC to provide excellence in these areas. These conferences help us to do just that," he said.

Different AFMC bases will host the command's three commander's conferences this year. Los Angeles Air Force Base, Calif. hosted the fall conference Nov. 13-16 and the summer conference is scheduled for Aug. 20-23 at Hill Air Force Base, Utah.

"We try, to the greatest extent possible, to plan these conferences in conjunction with other major Air Force or Defense Department events," Lee said. "For example, the conference in LA was in conjunction with the Air Force Association Space Symposium and this one at Eglin will be right before the Air Armament Summit. This way we can do the business we need to do and save the Air Force some money in the process."

With other bases hosting the conference, Lee said the CAG's role is to provide the agenda, based on Lyles' assessment of the command's most pressing issues. All other arrangements are up to the individual base.

"Eglin has bent over backwards and has put together what we feel is a great conference," he said.

We **SALUTE** you!



68th IOS wins OPSEC award

The 68th Information Operations Squadron has won the annual Organizational Achievement Award, one of the Air Force Operations Operations Security Awards, Air Force officials have announced.

"This is a major feather in the cap for the home team," said Brig. Gen. Lloyd Dodd, 311th Human Systems Wing commander. "Congratulations to the super troops of the mighty 68th!"

Air Force winners of the OPSEC individual achievement awards and the two organizational winners will now compete against the other services, joint commands and executive departments for recognition at the national level. Winners will be decided June 11-15 in Tampa, Fla.



SCI-FI REALITY Continued from Page 1



An artist's conception of the Vehicle-Mounted Active Denial System. (Courtesy U.S. Marine Corps)

weapon against adversaries before service members can come under small arms fire.

To accomplish this, the transmitter sends a narrow beam of energy to the target and penetrates less than 1/64th of an inch into the skin, quickly heating up only the skin's surface. When the beam is focused on a subject, within a few seconds they feel pain that only stops when the transmitter is shut off or when the subject moves out of the beam, according to Dr. Kirk Hackett, of the directed energy directorate at the Air Force Research Lab, Kirtland AFB.

The technology exploits a natural defense mechanism — pain — that has evolved to protect the human body from damage.

According to Fenton, the heat-induced pain produced by the energy beam is similar to the experience of briefly touching an ordinary light bulb that has been left on for a while. Pain from the heat makes a person remove his or her finger from the light bulb before a burn can happen, he explained. Similarly, exposures from this nonlethal weapon technology cause a repellent effect but not physical damage to the body.

"We've done a lot of research on this technology and have shown there are no harmful health effects," said Dr. Michael Murphy, head of the Biological Effects Research Team at Brooks. "There isn't any injury because of the low energy levels that are used. The beam only needs to be on for a few seconds to achieve its purpose. There is more physical damage to skin from exposure to visible light, such as sitting on a sunny beach, than from the energy that this technology exploits."

All testing is being conducted with strict observance of the procedures, laws and regulations governing animal and human experimentation, Murphy said. The tests have been reviewed and approved by the Air Force Surgeon General's Office and are conducted by the Air Force Research Laboratory's human effectiveness directorate.

Current testing is being conducted under field conditions at Kirtland AFB. Although additional testing is expected to continue into this summer, officials have begun examining the technology for use on a vehicle-mounted version. Future versions might also be used on board planes and ships, Fenton said.

The project is being funded under the Joint Non-Lethal Weapons Program and the U.S. Air Force Research Laboratory. Approximately \$40 million has been spent on this technology over the past decade. The program was established in 1997 under the U.S. Marine Corps to recommend, develop and field less-than-lethal weapons for U.S. armed forces.

Foundation Health changes name

Foundation Health Federal Services, Inc., has changed its name to Health Net Federal Services. The company chose the new name and identity to align with the goals of its parent company, Health Net, Inc., and to create a national brand.

In addition to the new name, the company has unveiled a new logo consistent with the Health Net, Inc. logo.

The name and logo were first introduced to HNFS's military customers at the recent national TRICARE Conference in Washington, D.C.

"This is a new beginning for our company," said Jim Woys, president and chief operating officer of Health Net Federal Services. "We not only changed our name but committed to a new way of doing business. Our new logo reflects our focus on using technologies, such as the Internet, that will allow us to move from being a "gatekeeper" to being a "gateway", which makes access to healthcare easier for our TRICARE beneficiaries. We intend to use technology to streamline our processes, empower our beneficiaries and providers, and reduce administrative burdens for our customers."

Health Net Federal Services is the nation's largest administrator of managed care programs for military families, currently serving more than 1.5 million eligible military dependents.

It currently administers programs in 11 states, including Arkansas, Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Oregon, Texas and Washington.



Salute to military youth

"Salute to Military Youth" is a multi-faceted program to thank military families and recognize the military youth from Brooks, Randolph, Lackland and Kelly Air Force Bases and Fort Sam Houston.

Tickets to military youth — Oscar Mayer Military Youth Family Night at the San Antonio Mission's is June 25. Military youth may obtain a voucher for four reserved seat tickets to the game. The youth center sports director, Larry Flores, will dispense vouchers.

Baseball caps — A special booth on Oscar Mayer Military Family Night will distribute custom embroidered baseball caps to military children during the game. To obtain a free cap, children need to show their military identification card or present a Kraft cheese product proof of purchase. The caps will be distributed to the first 1,500 people.

Post cereal essay contest — An essay contest will be conducted with the winner receiving a \$500 Savings

Bond. The contest will be based on a paper, not to exceed 1,000 words, written by the military child, on the topic "The Person I Admire."

The essay contest is open to all military family children, 18 years or younger, who are eligible to use Services facilities at the participating bases. Contestant's essays should include their name, age, telephone number and base they are associated with.

The winner will be asked for confirmation that he or she is a military family member authorized to use Services facilities.

Essays should be post-marked before Aug. 1 and mailed to:

San Antonio Missions Baseball Club

Post Cereal Youth Essay Contest
5757 Highway 90 W.
San Antonio, TX 78277

For more information contact the Services marketing office at 536-5475/2407.

Base library

**Bldg. 705,
536-2634**

The library will close March 25-29 for training on the integrated library system. This program will eliminate the card catalog system and enable the staff to directly



By Jan McMahon
Community newswriter

scan bar codes from library materials.

Patrons will be able to fill out electronic forms for inter-library loans, reserve books or change addresses.

National Library Week is April 1-7. To celebrate, the base library staff will serve cake and punch at 11:30 a.m., April 4 in the library.

Brooks Club

Bldg. 204, 536-3782

2001 Air Force Club Membership Scholarship Program — Air Force Services is conducting its fifth annual scholarship program. First prize is \$5,000, second prize is \$3,000 and third is \$2,000.

All nominations must be submitted to the Services' commander by July 15. Awards for the 2001-2002

school year will be announced by Oct. 1.

For more information on this program or to pick up an entry form contact Linda Cole, Club manager, at 536-3782, or stop by the Brooks Club, Bldg. 204.

Youth services center

Bldg. 470, 536-2515

National Child Abuse Prevention Month — Everyone is encouraged to participate in the "Blue Ribbon Campaign." This campaign has been widely recognized as a national symbol of child abuse awareness.

The movement began in 1989, when a concerned grandmother, Bonnie Finney, of Norfolk, Va., took a stand against child abuse after experiencing the death of her grandson. She tied a symbolic blue ribbon to her van as a signal to her community of her personal commitment to stop child abuse.

Bonnie's own grandson was a tragic young victim and his death gave her the strength to encourage others to help in the fight against child abuse and neglect.

The spirit of her blue ribbon grew and it inspired a statewide community based

effort to join forces in this tragic battle. The youth services center will have blue ribbons available beginning April 2.

Month of the Military Child — An open house is from 3-5 p.m. April 8 at the center. Stop by and meet the staff and pick up information on the many programs available for youth. Handouts on a variety of subjects will be available.

The center staff has scheduled various activities during the week to celebrate Month of the Military Child. Check with a staff member for events and times.

County Fair — 2001 has been designated Year of the Military Family. The center hosts the County Fair from 3-8 p.m. April 28 in the area adjacent to the center.

There will be games, competition events, team games, kid's crafts, face painting, carnival rides, finger painting, a White Elephant Sale, "bubbles" table, door prize drawings, and more.

Refreshments include funnel cakes, cotton candy, sno cones and other items. The Mountain Dew Glow Truck will make an appearance during the event. There will be "special" surprises throughout.





Pupils see 'stars' in ACD astronomy class

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

Comments? rudolph.purificato@brooks.af.mil

Like Aerospace Career Day visitors awed with visions of the cosmos, she remains a starry-eyed student of the universe who will someday venture into space. For now, Jody Harkrider is content with helping students interested in science and engineering careers understand applied science associated with astronomy.

Her Aerospace Career Day astronomy classes focused on the nature and behavior of light and her involvement with a future journey into earth's upper atmosphere as part of the jointly funded NASA/German government SOFIA Project.

"In the light spectrum there's both visible and invisible light. What I want students to understand is what [properties] exist in light, and how we can control and see and predict how it will act through certain mediums," said the San Antonio Independent School District's astronomy resource agent now serving a two-year tour as the Challenger Learning Center director/lead flight director.

Harkrider's interactive astronomy classes allowed students to experiment with laser light from a handheld laser pointer directed at various mediums such as red and blue Jell-O gelatin. Her classes were timed to underscore recent scientific discoveries involving light.

"In space, light is either absorbed, deflected or emitted," Harkrider said, explaining that if light can be controlled, then its movement can be predicted. Class attendees used geometric figures and mirrors to control and predict the movement of laser light.

Astronomers rely on light variations in space to detect cosmic bodies. While planets don't emit their own light, those discovered outside our solar system have been detected through their gravitational influence on stars, which emit light. Since 1995, astronomers have found 55 extrasolar planets larger than Jupiter by detecting light variations from stars that wobble in orbit due to the gravitational influence of nearby planets.

Harkrider's use of current events and scientific breakthroughs in the astronomical world helps frame what she is trying to convey to students involving the principles of light.

Her astronomy classes are a small-scale variation of astronomy's sub-field of spectrography that she was trained in as a school resource agent studying at the McDonald Observatory in west Texas.

While at the McDonald Observatory, Harkrider became involved in astronomical research conducted by University of Texas scientists. "They are working on the SOFIA/EXES Project that involves using an echelon spectrometer attached to a 2.7-inch telescope that will be mounted in a specially modified 747 jumbo jet to be used as a high flying stratospheric observatory." Harkrider will be aboard the airborne observatory when it's launched in 2004.

"We're going to be measuring infrared light and shorter [atmospheric] wavelengths for the purpose of detecting different molecules in and around stars," she said.

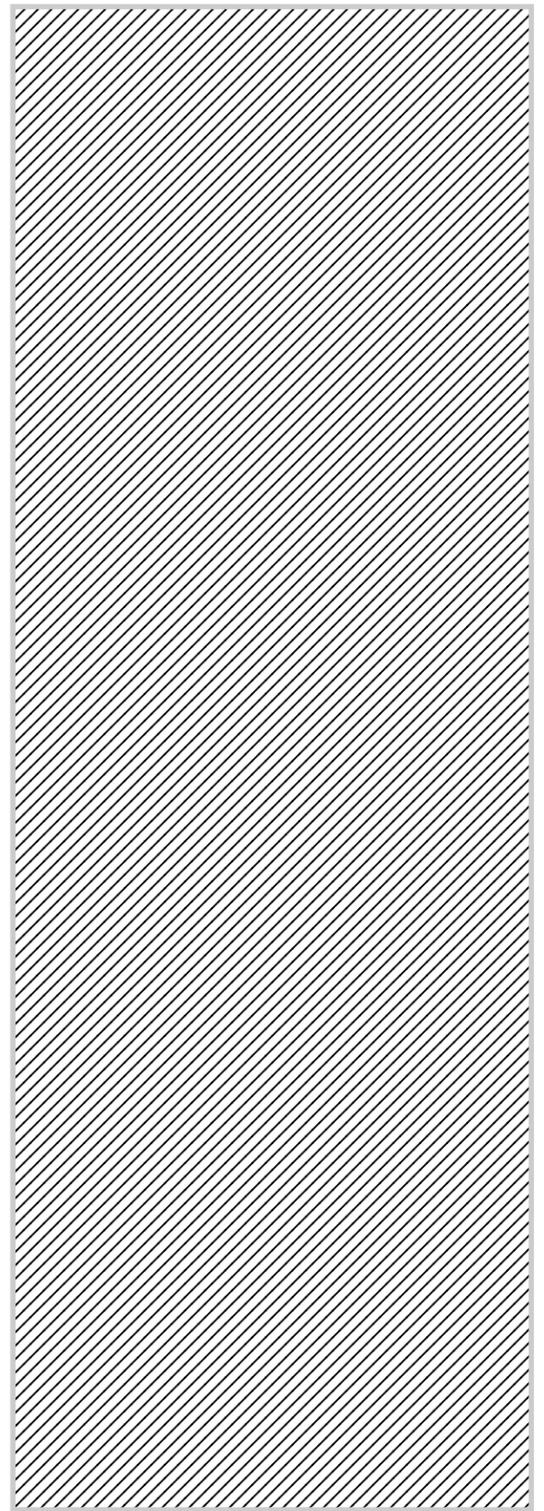
Astrophysicists in recent years used spectrometer measurements to observe molecule readings from echelons called 'hot spots' produced by Jupiter's closest moon Io.

SOFIA is a successor project to the first jet-mounted stratospheric observatory launched in the 1980s to study the Kuiper Belt, an area between Neptune and Pluto where most comets dwell amidst primordial material left over from the formation of our solar system.

Harkrider said teaching astronomy at Brooks to promote math and science careers is a dream come true. "I get to do what every teacher wants to do - inspire," she said.



Astronomy instructor Jody Harkrider shows McCollum High School students how light reacts in certain mediums during Aerospace Career Day 2001. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Pedro Ybanez)





E-6 high year of tenure changes to 22 years

WASHINGTON, D.C. (AFPN) — Air Force personnel officials recently announced the decision to change technical sergeant high year of tenure from 20 to 22 years of service effective July 1.

Enlisted tenures are governed by the Total Objective Plan for Career Airmen Personnel and were last revised in 1991. At that time, technical sergeant length of service was reduced from 23 to 20 years — the same as staff sergeants. The impending force drawdown was a major factor in deciding to keep both E-5 and E-6 HYT maximums at 20 years. By doing this, involuntary separation programs were, for the most part, avoided, said Senior Master Sgt. Larry Welch, superintendent of force structure plans at the air staff.

With force drawdowns done, and having returned to an era with more stable end-strength, a review of enlisted HYT rates was accomplished in 2000. The review indicated that, while overall HYT rates were on target, some fine-tuning was in order for technical sergeants, Welch said.

“There were several compelling arguments for increasing tech sergeant HYT to 22 years,” he said. “First, it’s an opportunity to reward tech sergeants for career advancement and let them stay in the service longer.

Second, it establishes a natural HYT bridge between staff sergeant HYT of 20 years and master sergeant HYT of 24 years service.

“Finally, input from the field indicates our enlisted members support the change,” Welch said. “This is the right thing to do,” said Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Jim Finch. “The change will help us retain our experienced NCOs longer, which will affect mission accomplishment, and the Air Force will be a better place for that.”

Although this change is effective July 1, all technical sergeants, regardless of Air Force specialty code, are now eligible to apply for the fiscal 2001 Temporary HYT Extension Program. This will allow tech sergeants with HYT dates before July 1 to apply for a HYT extension to the 22 years of service point, according to Welch.



Getting ready to recycle

Excavation crews from Holloman Corporation, working on the new Brooks recycled water project, dig up some Brooks dirt March 9 near the base main gate. Their efforts resulted in North Road being closed during most of the day. The water project, a joint effort between Brooks and the San Antonio Water System, will furnish recycled water to the base for use in servicing industrial and irrigation systems. It is not suitable for human consumption or domestic use. When completed, 18,700

linear feet of recycle water pipe will be layed and a 500,000 gallon ground-level storage tank with a booster pump station will be built. One advantage of recycled water is that there are no restrictions on its use during droughts. It's use will reduce Brooks' dependence on Edwards Aquifer water. Construction, which will involve future road closings, will continue on the project through August. Future road closings will be announced by civil engineers. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Sabrina Johnson)





1,440 students converge on Brooks for Aerospace Career Day 2001

Career Day gives students ideas

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

Comments?

rudolph.purificato@brooks.af.mil

Few students, when asked, indicated they were considering future careers in the Air Force; however, most Aerospace Career Day attendees realized there are endless possibilities for future jobs in science, math and engineering.

The two-day event, March 7-8, provided juniors and seniors with practical lessons in science and math through their applications to support the Air Force and Department of Defense mission. For many, seeing firsthand how sciences and mathematics are an integral part of job requirements was an eye-opening experience.

"I'm not sure about my [future] career, which is why I came here," said Jared Blakely, a San Antonio Christian Schools junior. Blakely was particularly impressed by ejection seat technology and other aerospace equipment highlighted in the 311th Human Systems Program Office presentation at Hangar 9.

Paul Trujillo, an Omega School (formerly Zoe Christian School) sophomore interested in math, said he had no idea about the kinds of things being done at Brooks prior to his first visit here.

His science teacher, Israel Rios, said the overall interest of his school's students attending Aerospace Career Day is science applications.

"They want to know the practical application of science," Rios said.

Roosevelt High School students studying aquatics and environmental issues responded with interest to the Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence briefing on what the Air Force is doing to protect and preserve endangered and threatened species.

"My group is a mixture of aquatic sciences students and Science Club members," said Roosevelt High School aquatic sciences teacher Mina Marsden. She said the Brooks event was an excellent opportunity for attendees to appreciate the practical applications of what they are learning in the classroom.



Students from Harlandale High School pose for photos at the 311th Human Systems Program Office. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Pedro Ybanez)



Students from Reagan High School learn about holographs from 2nd Lt. Kevin Wegener. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Pedro Ybanez)

Col. Dartanian "Doc" Warr, 311th Human Systems Program Office, shares the microphone. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Sabrina Johnson)



Students enjoyed box lunches, not MREs. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Sabrina Johnson)



Some of the 1,440-plus students who attended Aerospace Career Day 2001. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Sabrina Johnson)



Astronaut John Blaha talks about his adventures in space. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Pedro Ybanez)



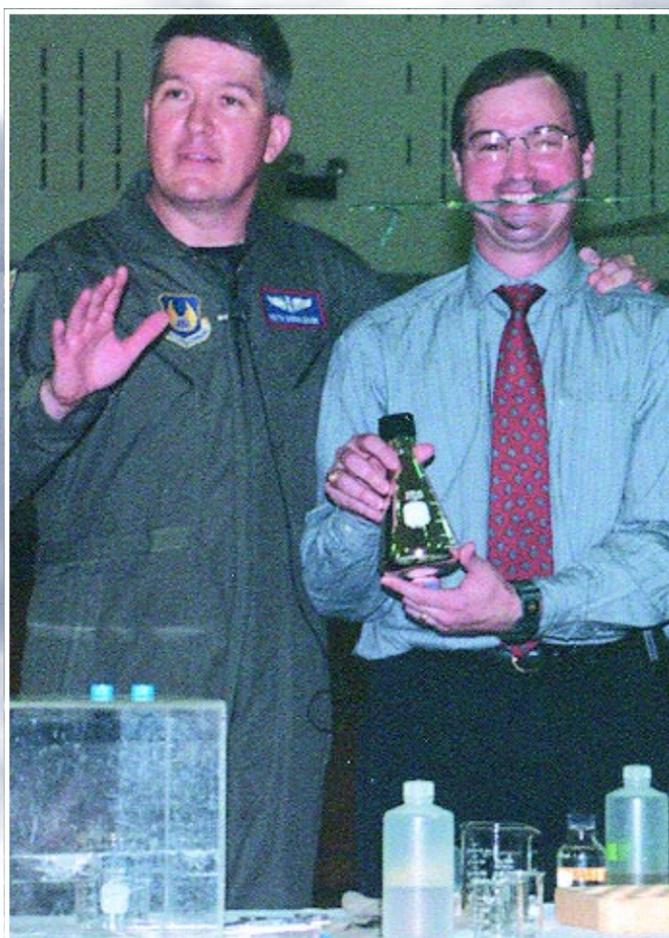
Suzanne Tupaez, a student from Incarnate Word High School, gives a "thumbs up" sign after her spin in the Barany Chair. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Pedro Ybanez)



Airman 1st Class Jennifer Ross speaks to Incarnate Word High School students. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Pedro Ybanez)



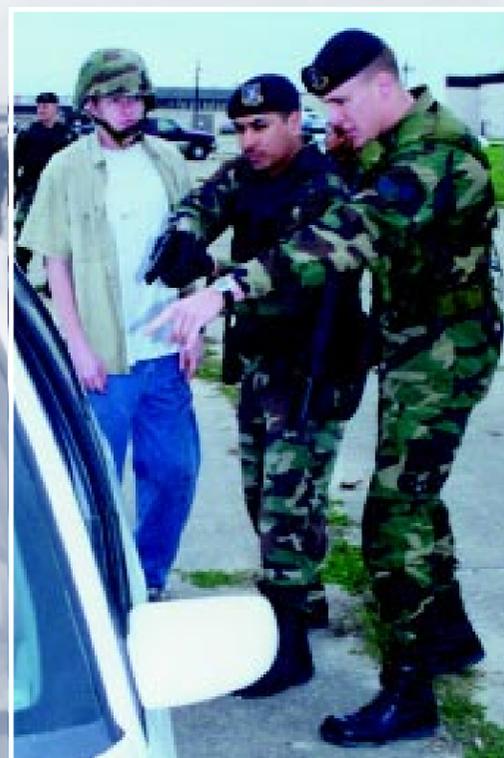
Col. Tom Bradley from Air Force Space Command speaks to a packed Hangar 9 crowd about the importance of military space missions. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Sabrina Johnson)



Capt. Keith Donaldson gets some help from an area educator during the Chemistry Magic Show. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Sabrina Johnson)



Students from McCollum High School learn about laser light and space during the Astronomy class. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Pedro Ybanez)



Airman 1st Class Arturo Domingues and Senior Airman Brendan Sorgenfrei, Emergency Services Team members, with Samuel Clemons High School ROTC cadets. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Pedro Ybanez)



March is National Womens History Month

WASPs help break down aviation gender barriers

By Senior Airman Oshawn Jefferson
Air Force Print News

On Aug. 1, 1911, Harriet Quimby became the first female to receive her pilot's license in United States history, opening the door for women all over America. More than 17 years later, on June 17, 1928, aviator Amelia Earhart became the first woman to cross the Atlantic by air.

The efforts of these women inspired women all over America, including Virginia Wise, formally Virginia Fisher. Wise would become one of the 1,500 women to serve as a Women's Airforce Service Pilot, or WASP.

"I was one of the luckiest women alive," Wise said. "More than 15,000 women applied and I was fortunate to be picked out of the best-of-the-best female pilots at that time."

Wise was born in Lisbin, Ohio, in 1922. Shortly after her birth, her family picked up and moved to Holidays Cove, W.Va. As a girl, Wise was inspired to fly at an early age. Small bands of pilots called barnstormers used to put on air shows highlighted the wonder of airplanes. These pilots would often visit Wise's hometown. After seeing a biplane at one of these barnstormer air shows, Wise decided she wanted to become a pilot.

"For a dollar they would take you for a plane ride," Wise said. "I loved it."

With her father's support, she took lessons from a pilot instructor named Bill Hunt, who was the 74th pilot in United States' history to get his pilot's license. He taught her how to fly in a J-3 CUB. She received her pilot's license in 1939.

"We did our practice flights over the Ohio River," Wise said. "It was always beautiful and thrilling."

Since there were no jobs for female pilots in 1940, Wise decided to pursue a degree from a school in Pittsburgh. Three months before graduation, Wise heard news that would forever change her life.

"On Dec. 7, 1941, I heard over the radio about the attack on Pearl Harbor," Wise said. "So, I quit nursing to pursue an active role on the warfront as a pilot. I was hoping to get into aerial combat to help America win the war."

Her efforts proved fruitless, as the military said it did not need female pilots at the time.

In 1942, two women aviators, a record-breaking female pilot named Jackie Cochran and a young Boston pilot named Nancy Harkness Love dreamed up the idea

of a female flying squadron of pilots for the U.S. Army. The women received independent grants to start their own female pilot-training squadrons with the Army.

Joining forces, Love and Cochran began the Women's Airforce Service Pilots in Sweetwater, Texas, during the summer of 1943.

"When I heard of this, I knew I had to go," Wise said. "I got in touch with Ms. Cochran and, after she read my résumé, I was accepted as a cadet in January of 1944."

To qualify for training, women had to have at least 500 flying hours and a high school education. Wise said the instructor pilot for the school let it be known immediately that he did not like the idea of female pilots and was not going to make it easy on the new women trainees.

"He told us, 'I think the idea of women pilots stinks,' and he was very mean," Wise said. "But he didn't train us any differently than the men, so in that respect he was fair."

According to Wise, the female pilots all lived in barracks and had to be up and ready to fly by 9:30 a.m. They flew one two-hour mission in the morning and one two-hour mission in the evening.

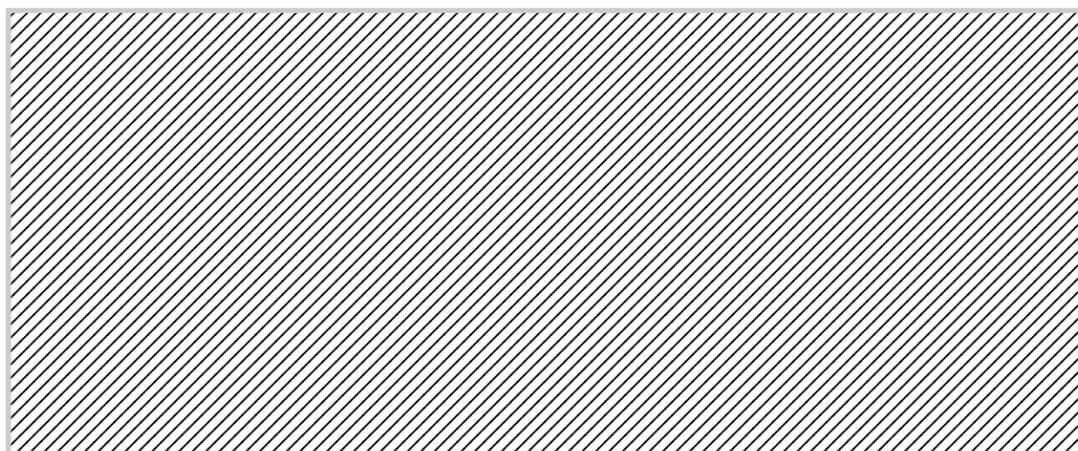
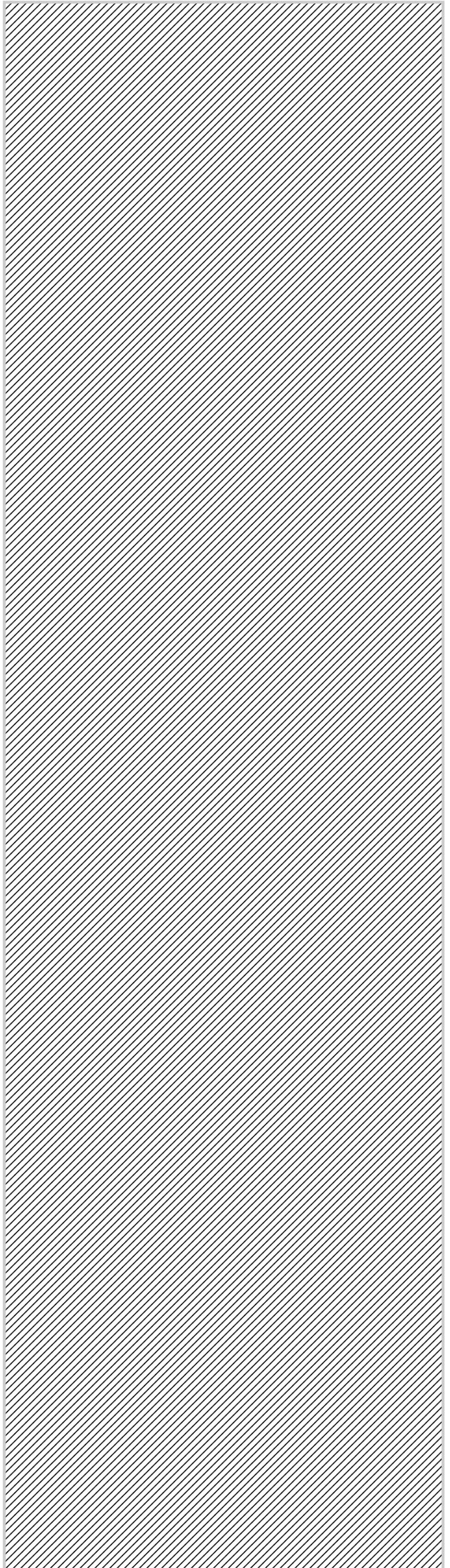
"With the early mornings and late evenings it was tough," Wise said. "Out of the 1,500 girls who attended the school, only 1,000 graduated."

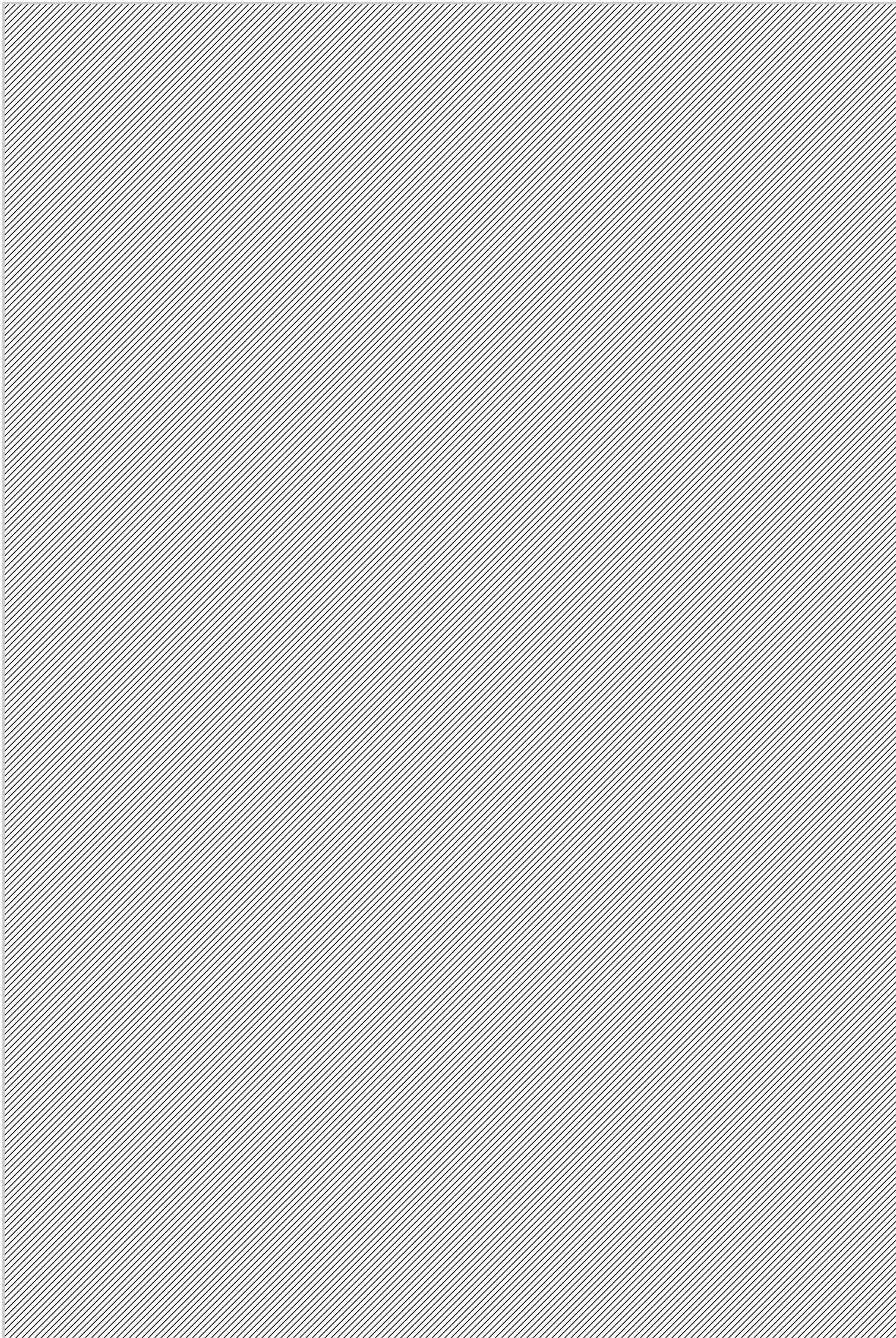
Wise graduated in October 1944 and was assigned to the 4th Air Force at McCarren Field, Nev. She began her career as a B-17 co-pilot, flying gun-camera troops around for training. Wise would never get to fly a P-39 in combat like she dreamed — the WASP was disbanded in December 1944 — but she is proud of the time she spent with the Army.

"We were never really in the Army," Wise said. "We were paid like lieutenants, but we were civilians. When I see female pilots in the Air Force now, it makes me proud of what we did."



Virginia Wise poses in her uniform as a member of the Women's Airforce Service Pilots during World War II. (Photo courtesy Virginia Wise)







Captain gets wallet back – 15 years later

By Mary Galbraith
Ogden Air Logistics Center Public Affairs

HILL AIR FORCE BASE, Utah (AFMCNS) — Fifteen years ago, a 17-year-old swimmer thought someone entered his unsecured locker at the base pool and stole his wallet. He never expected to find the wallet or its contents again. But that changed March 1.

That 17-year-old then was nearby Layton High School senior Ron Daskevich, who was a regular at Hill Air Force Base's Hess Fitness Center in 1986. Daskevich, now an Air Force captain with the 84th Radar Evaluation Squadron here, retrieved his wallet from base Security Forces a mere decade and a half later.

"I was very surprised when they called me because they said, 'Sir, somebody's turned your wallet in,'" he said. "Instinctively I checked my pocket and it was in there. So I asked, 'Are you sure it's mine?' And they said, 'Yeah. It's got your dependent ID card that expired in 1989.'"

When the Hess Fitness Center replaced old lockers in late February, resting among the unclaimed sweat socks, tennis shoes and lost keys was Daskevich's wallet — preserved behind the lockers all this time.

Airman 1st Class Stacia Kennedy, who works at the Hess Fitness Center, was excited about finding a 15-year-old wallet, and tried looking Daskevich up on the Internet and locating a contact number inside the wallet. She didn't have much success and the wallet was soon turned in to Security Forces.

Kennedy was shocked when she discovered Daskevich was right on base. No one at the gym expected the son of a major stationed here in 1986 would again be at Hill, this time as the military member — except perhaps Security Forces member Staff Sgt. Kimberly Johnson.

Using his ID card, Johnson followed procedure and looked Daskevich up in Hill's alpha roster then gave him a call. Johnson said the wallet is probably the oldest item Security Forces has ever returned intact.

The surprised captain said memories began flooding back as soon as he heard about the wallet. When Daskevich lost the wallet, his father (a pilot stationed here at the time) was TDY overseas, so having a new ID issued was complicated with his sponsor out of the country. Both of his parents were pretty upset with him at the time, so he called them last week to let them know what became of the wallet that caused them so many problems in the mid-1980s.

Daskevich, a lifeguard at the time, also needed additional copies of his Red Cross certifications in the wallet. He said luckily, he didn't have a driver's license at the time.

The captain said he left a few bucks in the wallet. He suspects someone removed the cash, and then tossed the wallet over the lockers where it was preserved for 15 years.

When the wallet was returned, he found a student ID; cards for the Gerrity Memorial Library, National Honor Society and Hoagies Hero's; a \$36.53 receipt for his senior prom tuxedo rental and several photos and other miscellaneous items "a 17-year-old carries in their wallet." He said the tux receipt was one of the more unusual items, and rummaging through the wallet has been a lot of fun.

"The pictures definitely brought some memories back," he said. "There was a picture of my best friend in high school. And a couple others like one of a school dance. I was amazed that that receipt was in there for the senior prom."

A stunned Daskevich finds the entire situation ironic, especially considering all the possible times the gym could have replaced the lockers,



Capt. Ron Daskevich reviews his 15-year-old wallet's contents. (Photo by Mary Galbraith)

they happened to do it while he was stationed here.

"I've been here for two years and am leaving at the end of the month. And just the irony that they decided to move the lockers and just happened to find the wallet back there — and somebody would actually take the time to try to find the owner of a wallet that's 15 years old," he said. "It just boggled my mind. I've definitely taken a walk down memory lane."





SPORTS TRIVIA

On May 24, 1935, Jesse Owens set three world records and tied a fourth within a 70-minute span. He ran a 9.4 100-yard dash, a 20.3 200-meter (220-yard) dash, a 22.6 200-meter (220-yard) hurdles and recorded a 16-foot, 8 1/4 inch long jump. This was the correct answer in last issue's sports trivia.

Four people answered it correctly and earned a point: Sean Houghton, Lisa Williams, Mel Waldgeir and defending champion, Tom Ray. Making the attempt and gaining a half a point were Eric Dosser, 2001 trivia leader Jay Wilson and Michael Fatone, a new entrant in our contest.

2001 standings are:

1. Tech. Sgt. Jay Wilson — 5 1/2 points
- T2. Senior Airman Sean Houghton, Staff Sgt. Tom Ray and Lisa Williams — 3 1/2 points
5. Tech. Sgt. Tom Kuhn — 2 1/2 points
6. Mel Waldgeir — 2 points
7. Staff Sgt. Jared Isaacs, Rob Sullivan and 2nd Lt. Eric Dosser — 1 point
10. Lt. Col. Michael Fatone — 1/2 point

Here is question No. 5. Since March is National Women's History Month, here's a question about a famous female athlete:

5. What was South African runner Zola Budd known for doing?
 - a. Being the first South African Olympian to have a black runner as a roommate
 - b. Being the first female member of South Africa's Olympic team
 - c. Winning five gold medals in a single Olympics
 - d. Running without shoes

Here are the rules:

QUESTIONS: Trivia questions for our contest are derived from many sources, therefore it is not possible to quote any one source. If there is a disagreement as to whether the question and answer are correct, contact the *Discovery* and we will consider your request. All decisions made by the *Discovery* staff are final.

ANSWERS: Answers must be received by the *Discovery* staff by close of business the Friday the week after the *Discovery* is published. In other words, you have a week to decide and email us at Discovery@brooks.af.mil. All entries received after that date will be discarded. If you don't have access to email, you can fax your answers to 536-3235.

SCORING: All correct answers are worth one point. All incorrect answers are worth half a point. This is done for two reasons: to help keep tie scores from happening and to give those who take the time to enter some recognition for their efforts. If there is a bonus question included, a correct bonus answer is also worth one point and an incorrect one is worth half a point. However, you must answer the original question correctly to be eligible for bonus points. The person with the most points after the last issue of the year will be declared the winner of the *Discovery* Sports Trivia contest. In the event of a tie, the person with the most correct answers during the year will be the winner.

Loss of key players too much for Brooks to overcome in AFMC basketball tourney

By Rudy Purificato
311th Human Systems Wing
Comments? rudolph.purificato@brooks.af.mil

While the Kelly Air Force Base team ended its basketball program by going out in style with its second consecutive Air Force Materiel Command championship, the Brooks men's varsity squad had to be content with knowing they gave it their best shot against insurmountable odds.

Using a rotation patchwork featuring some non-roster replacement players, Brooks coach Cecedrick Scott attempted to engineer a winning formula in the wake of losing key players prior to the post-season tournament hosted at Kelly AFB Feb. 23-25.

Posting a 1-3 tournament record, Brooks did not advance to the championship round, despite a valiant effort against first-round opponent Tinker AFB, Okla., that later lost to Kelly AFB in the championship game.

Team leader and three-year veteran starting point guard Robert Garcia believes the tournament experience overall was positive for his squad, despite the fact that their performance was disappointing. "We came together as a team. The chemistry was surprisingly good for players who had not been together. We were not bickering like we had done during the regular season. Everybody was enthusiastic. That boosted our confidence," Garcia said.

However, confidence alone could not help the team overcome key player losses including power forward William Lawrence, ineligible for post-season play because he's a civilian, and Colby Benjamin and Junell Dumes who were unavailable for the tourney due to work commitments. As a consequence, Coach Scott was forced to insert former intramural players into his lineup.

"We started out a bit nervous against Tinker due to inexperience, but we played them well in the first half," said Garcia, who was part of the starting lineup that included veteran guard David King and center Marcus Neal. Regular season power forward George Clark also saw action along with two non-roster replacements: Marcus Park and Manuel Palomarez. Brooks eventually lost the close contest.

Garcia believes Brooks could have beaten both Tinker and Los Angeles AFB, Calif., if they had what he terms "tournament difference players" such as Benjamin and former star power forward Rob Taylor who left the team during the season.

"Losing them changed the whole dynamics of the tournament for us," Garcia said. Nonetheless, Brooks prevailed against Edwards AFB, Calif., by beating them by more than 20 points.



A Brooks varsity men's basketball player shoots over the outstretched arms of an Edwards AFB, Calif., player during the recent Air Force Materiel Command tournament. (Photo by Senior Master Sgt. T.C. Coaxum)

"Throughout the tourney we uncharacteristically adopted a methodical approach in our offense. We controlled the boards against Edwards, and they as a young [inexperienced] team were not accustomed to our disciplined walk-the-ball up style," Garcia said.

Abandoning their usual run-and-gun style for a more measured approach did not work against Brooks' final two opponents. Against Los Angeles AFB, Brooks' zone defense thwarted their opponent's offense in the first half.

"Our zone defense gave them a lot of trouble. They made a lot of mistakes, but adjusted to it in the second half. They were a lumbering big team that was not fast or good at ball handling. However, we didn't switch to a man-to-man defense and lost the game," Garcia said.

Garcia said losing to Los Angeles was pivotal for Brooks. "We lost by four points. If we had won, we would have advanced to the championship round."

Inexperience, deflated morale and fatigue finally caught up with Brooks against Kirtland AFB, N.M., a team that Brooks had beaten decisively last year.

"The game against Kirtland was a disaster. We came out playing really flat. Essentially, they were the same team we played last year, except they had a key addition in a dominating small forward who was on the All-Armed Forces team. He was their catalyst who broke down our defense," Garcia said.

Despite Brooks' early tourney exit, the squad was encouraged by their play in the wake of many obstacles. "I thought everyone gave what they could. Some people played better than anticipated," said Garcia.



March is National Nutrition Month

Food, fitness: Build a healthy lifestyle

By Capt. Risa Riepma
Brooks Health and Wellness Center

Eating is one of life's greatest pleasures. There are so many foods and ways to build a healthy lifestyle — there is lots of room for choice. The 2000 *Dietary Guidelines for Americans* offers great ideas and sensible guidelines to help you with these choices.

National Nutrition Month is celebrated each year in March. This year, learn the dietary guidelines to build a healthy lifestyle.

The Dietary Guidelines for Americans begin with the basics of the ABCs for you and your family's health. These guidelines are intended for healthy children (ages 2 and older) and adults of any age.

Aim for Fitness;

Build a healthy base; and

Choose sensibly

Aim for fitness — Aim for a healthy weight and be physically active every day.

— Over time, even a small decrease in calories eaten and a small increase in physical activity can keep you from gaining weight or help you lose weight.

— Engage in 30 minutes or more of moderate physical activity every, day of the week. Make physical activity a regular part of your routine.

— Moderate physical activity is any activity that requires about as much energy as walking two miles in 30 minutes.

Build a healthy base— Let the food guide pyramid guide you so that you get the vitamins, minerals, energy, and other healthful substances from foods your body needs each day.

Make grains especially whole grains, fruits, and vegetables the foundation of your meals. This forms a base for good nutrition and health.

— A healthy weight is key to a long, healthy life.

See ABCs OF EATING, Page 20



Intramural volleyball preview

Intramural rivals to spike opponents' title plans

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

Comments? rudolph.purificato@brooks.af.mil

If the recent preseason volleyball tournament is any indication of what may occur during the regular intramural season, then the ultimate champion will more than likely be produced from a repeat showdown between two perennial rivals.

The 68th Information Operations Squadron, last year's runners-up to rival and base champion 311th Human Systems Program Office, served notice to this year's opponents that they plan to win the base title. The 68th IOS won the preseason tourney Feb. 26 with impressive play that showed they're going to be tough to beat.

The regular season started March 5 and will conclude with a double elimination championship tournament in late April. Regular season games are played at 6:15 and 7:15 p.m. Mondays and Thursdays in the fitness center.

"We basically have the same team as last year," said second-year player-coach Don Goudy about a veteran 68th IOS squad featuring several key power hitters. Beside Goudy, returning starters include 6' 6-and-a-half inch Matt Failace, Mike Vinciguerra, Mike Schmidt and Davie Bass, the latter a member of the Brooks varsity men's volleyball squad.

Goudy's group is determined to avenge last year's humiliating second-place finish. "We were undefeated going into the championship game, but several players were unavailable and I had to use some replacement players," Goudy said. 311th HSW/YA beat them in a close contest for the base title.

"I don't see any reason why we are not going to repeat as champions," said three-year veteran player Bill Schum, whose HSW/YA team is returning most of its starting lineup from last year's championship squad. Their only key player loss is last year's team captain Tom Jensen who has since PCS'ed.

Co-coached by veteran players Steve Whitney and Pete Flatten, this year's squad also returns starters Schum, Greg Martin and Mike Wyman. "We lost to the 68th IOS during this year's preseason tourney. They definitely have a stronger team in that they have played together for some time," Whitney said. Whitney is optimistic that his team will successfully defend its title, strengthened by the addition of newcomer Tara Schumway.

"I think the key to our success last year was communication on the court. We plan to maintain a high level of communication this year that will give us a definite advantage over a lot of inexperienced teams," Schum said.

The U.S. Air Force Institute for Environment, Safety and Occupational Health Risk Analysis has a squad that may cause problems for the league's contenders. Coached by Thomas Kudzia, AFIERA hopes to improve from last year's fourth place finish. "We're still looking for a 6'6" spiker, but we do have many good ball handlers on this team," Kudzia said. Characterizing his squad as a 'team of setters,' the group features women's varsity team player Kim Mikle and a supporting cast that includes Patty Brandley, Jessica Mueller and Blanco Paredes. Two newcomers with potential include Brian Blazicko and Vic Caravello.

The 311th Security Forces Squadron will field a separate team this year after combining last year with the 311th Medical Squadron. Player-coach Arturo Dominguez is optimistic about SFS's chances this year in that his squad will feature two Brooks men's varsity team players: Jose Murillo, last year's Air Force Material Command tournament "Most Valuable Player," and Donald Wooden. Other key players include Brandon Sorgenfrei, Christian Madrigal and returning starter Bradley Dapilmoto.

The U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine team will also feature a varsity men's team star, Jesse Moreno, who as a primary setter will play his fourth and final season before being reassigned to Germany. First-year player-coach Evie Cornell has assembled a formidable supporting cast of players that include John Garland, Christina Garton, Mark Fredricksen, Tasha Decker and Jeff Atkisson.

The 311th Medical Squadron, minus key veterans from last year's combined SFS squad, will field a team of newcomers. Player-coach Susan Davis, who last year played on the Randolph volleyball team, said, "We're not going to win the championship, but we do plan to improve ourselves and have a lot of fun." The only returning starter is Charles Hoag. Other key players include Danielle Desomer, Joe Krobock, Nancy Dezell and Calvin Shirey. "My philosophy is to play everyone," Davis said, explaining that she plans to work to improve the weaker players by inserting them in various rotations with veterans.

The 'dark horse' team appears to be the Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence. AFCEE didn't field a team last year and did not play in the preseason tournament. Coached by Tasha Pravecek, who plays on the Brooks women's varsity volleyball squad, AFCEE is a last-minute league entry. Two key starters include back row specialist Paul Sutto and veteran setter and front row hitter Michelle Rainey.

SPORTS SHORTS



Registration opens online for Air Force Marathon

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio (AFPN) — Online registration is now available for runners interested in participating in the fifth annual U.S. Air Force Marathon Sept. 22.

To register, visit the marathon Web page and click on the "register information" button. Payment is by credit card only.

Entrants who provide a valid e-mail address will receive a confirmation e-mail within two weeks of registration. Confirmation cards will be sent through the U.S. Postal Service to those registrants who do not provide a valid e-mail address.

Entry deadline is Sept. 5. Registrations received after Aug. 15 may not receive a confirmation. Changes to team composition will not be made after Sept. 12.

For more information, call the U.S. Air Force Marathon office at (937) 257-4350.

Youth baseball opening

The 2001 youth baseball opening ceremonies start at 9 a.m., April 7 at the Brooks minor league field.

Call Larry Flores, youth center sports director, at 536-2515 for more information.

Pistol competition

A service pistol excellence in competition match is April 6-7 at Camp Bullis Range D. This competition is open to all active duty, Air Guard and Air Force Reserve members. All other services and civilians can compete on a space-available basis.

Military personnel must wear BDUs, in accordance with Air Force instructions.

Available times are 8 and 10 a.m., noon and 2 p.m. April 6; and 8 and 10 a.m., noon, 2 and 4 p.m. April 7.

Call 652-5971 to schedule a time or for more information.

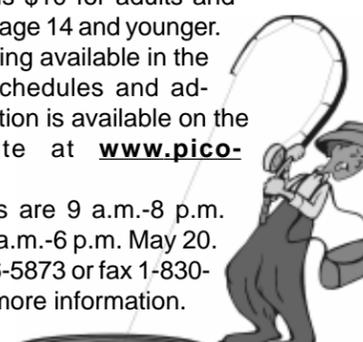
Fly fishing in the Hill Country

The sixth annual Texas Fly Fishing and Outdoor Show in inviting all fly fishermen and wannabes to join fellow enthusiasts May 19-20 in Louise Hays Park in Kerrville, Texas.

Two days of canoe and kayak river trips, demonstrations, classes and exhibits; two days of fly fishing the Guadalupe River, classes and lectures on all aspects of Texas fresh and saltwater fly fishing are scheduled. Lots of equipment and destination exhibitors await attendees on this island in the Guadalupe River.

Admission is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children age 14 and younger. There is camping available in the park. Class schedules and advance registration is available on the show website at www.pico-outdoor.com.

Show hours are 9 a.m.-8 p.m. May 19 and 9 a.m.-6 p.m. May 20. Call 1-800-256-5873 or fax 1-830-895-4344 for more information.



ABCs OF EATING

Continued from Page 19

Foods that are safe from harmful bacteria, viruses, parasites, and chemical contaminants are vital for healthful eating.

— There are many healthful eating patterns. Different people like different foods and like to prepare the same foods in different ways.

— Since foods within the same food group differ in their array of nutrients and other healthful substances, choosing a variety helps you get all the nutrients and fiber you need. It can also keep your meals interesting from day to day.

— Also choose some low-fat dairy products and low-fat foods from the meat and beans group each day. It's fine to enjoy fats and sweets occasionally.

— Wash hands often; keep raw meats and ready to eat foods separate; cook to proper temperatures; and refrigerate promptly to below 40 degrees.

Choose sensibly — Choose a diet that is low in saturated fat and cholesterol and moderate in total fat. Choose beverages and foods that limit your intake of sugars. Choose and prepare foods with less salt.

— Choose low-fat dairy products, cooked dried beans and peas, fish, and lean meats and poultry.

— Use the nutrition facts label to help you choose foods lower in fat, saturated fat, and cholesterol. Read the label to compare and help identify foods lower in sodium.

— Take care not to let foods high in sugar crowd out other foods you need to maintain health, such as low-fat milk or other sources of calcium.

— Choose herbs or spices on foods like grilled or roasted entrees, baked potatoes, and salad to help you limit sodium intake.

For more information on eating a healthy diet and for individualized counseling, call 536-4159.