

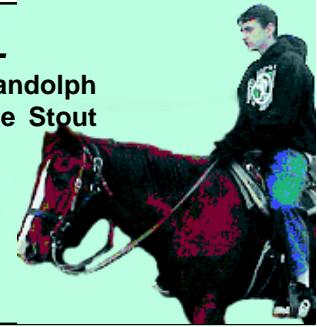
Gauger is on 'track'
George Gauger, of the Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence recalls how his lifelong interest in railroads began while a youngster growing up in Schenectady, N.Y.
Page 14



Women's memorial
History comes to light at the Women in Military Service Memorial. Read all about it during this Women's Military History Month special feature.
Page 16



Hitting the TRAIL
Twenty Brooks and Randolph teens, including Robbie Stout on horseback, spent Spring Break in Colorado, hitting the TRAIL.
Page 18



DISCOVERY



The Development of Combat Power and Efficiency

Vol. 25, No. 6 -- Friday, March 30, 2001 -- Brooks AFB, Texas

Through the many Facets of Aerospace Medicine



The Cat in the Hat is on the loose; somebody call Dr. Seuss!

The Cat in the Hat made an impromptu visit to Brooks in March as part of a nationwide "Read Across America" promotion commemorating Dr. Seuss's 97th birthday. After stopping by nearby Inez

Foster Elementary School, the Cat sensed that Senior Airman Jeremiah Davis needed some help with gate duties at the 311th Human Systems Wing gate. (Photo by Rudy Purificato)

Brooks claims 11 Command medical awards

By Cerise Fenton
Discovery staff writer
Comments? cerise.fenton@brooks.af.mil

The hard work and dedication of members of the Brooks AFB medical, engineering and science communities paid off when the Air Force Materiel Command recently announced the Medical Service Award winners for 2000.

Members of the Air Force Institute for Environment, Safety and Occupational Health Risk Analysis captured six awards, including the Air Force Laboratory Team of the Year. AFIERA's Deputy Director Eric Stephens said he is proud of the recognition and accomplishments of the award winners, but the awards don't come as a surprise.

"I work with this caliber of people everyday and have come to expect excellence from all the talented people in AFIERA," he said. "The strength of our organization lies in the diversity and talent of our people."

Five members of the U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine team also received awards, earning the praise of their commander, Col. Rodger Vanderbeek.

"These individuals are absolutely outstanding Air Force professionals and richly deserve these honors," he said. "They are great ambassadors for USAFSAM and collectively represent the overall excellence of the entire staff. We are very proud of them."

The awards packages have been forwarded to compete for Air Force-level recognition.

Outstanding Bioenvironmental Engineering Noncommissioned Officer of the Year

Tech. Sergeant James Jarreau, Jr., recognized as the AFMC's Outstanding Bioenvironmental Engineering NCO of the Year can add this award to his growing list. Jarreau was previously named as AFIERA's

Brooks pair 'net' communication awards

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

Two Brooks communications specialists recently earned the Air Force Materiel Command's Communications and Information Professional of the Year Award for 2000.

Senior Master Sgt. Thomas Coaxum was selected in the senior non-commissioned officer category and Burni Burris won the award in the civilian GS-8 or below category. The Air Force level awards for these categories will be announced in June.

"These awards recognize outstanding professionalism and performance in the communications and information management career fields," said Bessie Farley, AFMC communications and information awards monitor.



Burris

Coaxum is superintendent of the 311th Communications Squadron's Multimedia Services Center. The 41-year-old Air Force photographer is from Charleston, S.C.

A 22-year Air Force veteran, Coaxum earned the award on the strength of numerous initiatives that upgraded multimedia center equipment, streamlined work processes and improved customer service and contributed to the multimedia center earning the 311th Human Systems Wing Commander's Award in April.

"I was honored to receive the Brooks award, but shocked that I had won at the AFMC level," said Burris, who is the 311th Air Base Group commander's secretary.

The 41-year-old Tamms, Ill., native said it's the first time she has earned this award during her 23-year civil service career as an information management specialist.

Burris's many information management initiatives helped earn her the award.



Coaxum

See MEDICAL WINNERS, Page 6



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Articles may be e-mailed to steve.vanwert@brooks.af.mil or discovery@brooks.af.mil.

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Commentary



From the VANtage Point

Amazing science



**By Steve
Van Wert**
Discovery editor
Comments?
steve.vanwert@brooks.af.mil

Once a year, right about this time — the end of March, around April 1, we like to bring you a special edition of the VANtage Point, one to enrich your mind and fill it with the wonders of science. Brooks is a high technology base, after all.

Popping snowflakes

A team of audiologists, led by Dr. Thomas Trebleclef, have discovered that when a snowflake falls onto a body of water, it deposits a tiny amount of air just beneath the surface. Before the bubble reaches the surface and pops, it sends out a piercing sound. This sound, ranging from 50-200 kilohertz, is too high-pitched to be heard by human ears, which generally pick up nothing higher than 20 kilohertz.

However, to porpoises and other aquatic animals that can hear the higher frequencies, the falling snowflakes create an enormous racket just below the surface. "Falling snow can add 30 decibels to underwater noise levels," said Trebleclef. "This is a deafening impact on water animals."

The Bigon

Albert Manque, a physicist at the Centre de l'Etude des Choses Assez Minuscules in Paris, has discovered an extraordinary new fundamental particle. Although it exists for just millionths of a second, it is the size of a bowling ball. Its existence, said Manque, could possibly explain a host of mysterious phenomena.

Manque and his associates call the new particle a "bigon" and say its discovery was accidental. Their main research consists of building better vacuum tubes to replace microchips. "We are the only physicists in the world working on that," said Manque.

They were running a large current through one of their tubes when the monitor of a nearby desktop computer exploded. They were shocked, since the computer was plugged into a completely different power source. So they tried it again and their new computer also exploded. But this time they set up a video camera to record the event. In one of the video frames a black bowling ball-sized object hovered above the wreckage of the computer. In the next frame it was gone.

The physicists believe they accidentally generated an electric field just the right size in the computer to nudge a new particle — the bigon — into being.

Manque believes the existence of the bigon may answer many unexplained scientific phenomena, such as ball lightning, migraine headaches, fallen soufflés and spontaneous human combustion.

Hotheads

Aprile Pazzo, a wildlife biologist, was about to call it a day when she noticed the penguins she was observing seemed strangely agitated. Pazzo was in Antarctica studying penguins at a remote,

poorly explored area along the coast of the Ross Sea. Suddenly the whole flock stampeded.

Pazzo waded through the panicked birds to find out what was wrong. She found one penguin that hadn't fled. "It was sinking into the sea as if into quicksand," she said.

Somehow the ice under the penguin had melted. The penguin was waist deep in slush. Pazzo grabbed the bird's stubby wings and pulled. With a mighty heave, she pulled the bird out, but the penguin wasn't the only thing she pulled out of the slush. About a dozen small, hairless pink molelike creatures had clamped their jaws onto the penguin's lower body.

During the next few months, Pazzo caught several of the animals. She calls the strange new species "hotheaded naked ice borers." Adults are about six inches long, weigh a few ounces, have an amazingly high metabolic rate (their body temperature is 110 degrees), and live in labyrinthine tunnels carved in the ice.

Their most fascinating feature is a bony plate on their foreheads. Innumerable blood vessels line the skin covering the plate. The animals radiate tremendous amounts of body heat through their "hot plates," which they use to melt their tunnels in ice and to hunt their favorite prey: penguins.

A pack of hotheads will cluster under a penguin and melt the ice and snow it's standing on. When the hapless bird sinks into the slush, the ice borers attack, dispatching it with bites of their sharp incisors. They then carve it up and carry its flesh back to their burrows, leaving behind only webbed feet, a beak and some feathers.

The discovery of this new species may solve many mysterious Antarctic disappearances of parka-clad explorers, many of whose remains consisted of just snow shoes, false teeth and toupees. "After all," said Pazzo, "to the ice borers, the explorers would have looked like big penguins."

Is there any chance that these three scientific miracles are just a figment of someone's imagination or some ridiculous April Fool's joke?

Sigh. People are so cynical.

Another editor's note:

Were you April Fooled? The amazing truth is that one of these three stories is actually true. Can you figure out which one it is? To check your answer, see **April Fools** on Page 4.



Every AF member must communicate

By Maj. Eric Schnable

355th Wing Public Affairs

DAVIS-MONTHAN AIR FORCE BASE, Ariz. (ACCNS) — "What ... we've got here ... is failure ... to communicate."

That classic line from the 1970s Paul Newman movie "Cool Hand Luke" reminds me of an important fact: Communication must be both sent and received to work. With our all-volunteer force facing some real recruiting challenges, we all must communicate to help stem the widening disconnect between the American military and the public.

Americans should both want and need to know how their Air Force is fulfilling our nation's global commitments. After all, 28 percent of my taxable income helps pay for that capability. While the public affairs office is the official conduit to the news media and general public for information, every uniformed airman can be seen as a spokesperson for our service. This effect is one of the inherent responsibilities we bear as Air Force professionals.

Surely I'm not the only one who has been asked about my "job" in the Air Force. Our stockholders, the (non-uniform wearing) taxpaying American public, like to engage us in conversation, because they respect what we do and they are curious.

It may be because our society seems to be losing its connection to the idea of service before self. Or it could be that they admire our personal decision to serve during this "Me" generation while a strong economy costs us quality people who decide to get out.

Perhaps he's a proud veteran with a colorful recollection to share about the time he spent in the military. Or maybe they have loved ones or friends serving and want to relate to that intangible, fraternity-like bond uniformed members share.

Who also hasn't been asked, "What do you fly?" after you've indicated you're in the Air Force? "Sorry to disappoint you, but I'm a support type; but let me tell you why my job is important to the mission," is my usual comeback.

Responding with "I'm just a (your AFSC here) and don't know anything about that" is not only a weak response, but also a lost chance to connect an interested American with your personal role in our national defense.

Not every airman needs to be an expert on everything our Air Force does, but people expect us to be current on wing and Air Force mission areas and matters.

Public-confidence polls consistently rate the military above other trusted entities, but in order to maintain that public confidence and support, and to aid recruiting and retention, everyone should be fluent on the

basics of our issues. (We should, of course, stay in our own area when conversation goes above our pay grade, beyond the unclassified level or into political waters).

One way to stay connected is to routinely read Air Force News Service products (www.af.mil - click on "subscribe") and your base newspaper, and to pay closer attention to information at staff meetings and commander's calls.

Do your part to pass information through the chain of command the right way — not like the old telephone game, where the message at the start isn't even close to the message received at the distant end.

It's a sad comment, but I'd bet most Americans know more about PlayStation 2 and Britney Spears than their Air Force. Some may not even be able to distinguish an M-16 from an F-16.

"Why does the Air Force want the F-22 and Joint Strike Fighter? What's this EAF thing? What do they mean by optempo? How come they 'make you' get the anthrax shot? What's this 'No One Comes Close' business?" are all fair-game questions that uniformed members should be able to answer accurately enough.

If not, ask yourself at which end of the communication equation — the send or receive node — the failure to communicate begins. After all, aerospace power is no deterrent if no one knows about it.



Air Force news

U.S. provided data to Russians for Mir splashdown

By Gerry Gilmore
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — United States space specialists provided Russian technicians with Mir space station positional data to help ensure the vehicle's safe splashdown in the Pacific Ocean March 22.

Officials from U.S. Space Command at Peterson Air Force Base, Colo., provided the tracking information through the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to Russia's aviation and space agency — RosAviaKosmos — in Moscow, said USSPACECOM spokesman Maj. Perry Nouis.

"We have an observer role limited to providing data to the Russians," Nouis said. "This is actually routine for us. We've been tracking Mir since it was launched in 1986."

Mir was one of 8,300 orbiting objects USSPACECOM tracks daily to provide space situational awareness and warning against possible incoming ballistic missiles, he said.

The Russians have said Mir's controlled re-entry is strictly their responsibility, Nouis said. Unusual to

the operation, though, "is the amount of data and the frequency of updates USSPACECOM is providing the Russians — several times a day."

As Mir got closer to splashdown, the United States provided hourly updates, he said.

The former Soviet Union launched Mir's main module into orbit Feb. 20, 1986.

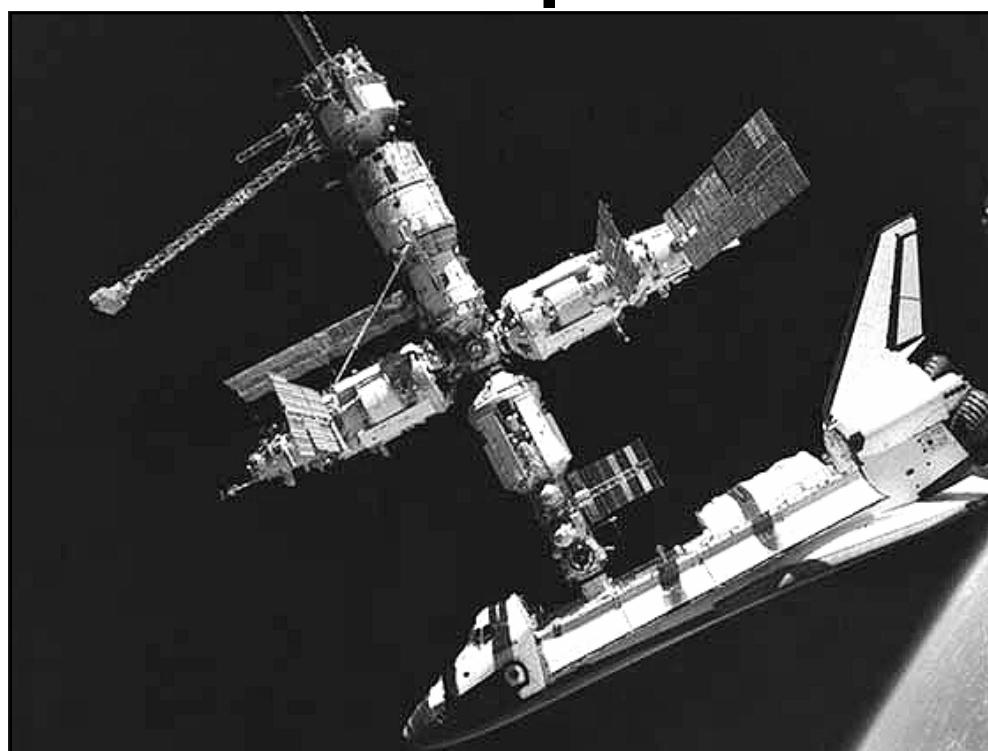
After gathering scientific data for more than a decade, the 140-ton space station — with several modules each the size of a school bus — reached the end of its useful life, according to Nouis.

For years, NASA astronauts and Russian cosmonauts have worked together on various projects aboard Mir.

Controlled re-entries of old spacecraft are not anything new for the Russians.

They have "directed successful splashdowns of many other units," Nouis said.

USSPACECOM uses its Space Surveillance Network's ground-based radar sensors and telescopes at 19 locations around the world to track the Mir and other objects, Nouis said. The Russians incorporated U.S.- and Eu-



The U.S. Space Shuttle Atlantis (bottom) undocks from the 140-ton Russian Space Station Mir in April 1996. (Photo courtesy NASA)

ropean-supplied Mir data with their own. More than 26,000 items have been shot into Earth's orbit since the Russians launched Sputnik in 1957.

More than 17,000 have re-entered the atmosphere since then, with most splashing down in the oceans or disintegrating from friction.

Thrift Savings Plan opens to military

By Jim Garamone
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Service members can begin to sign up for the Thrift Savings Plan beginning Oct. 9, 2001, Department of Defense officials said.

The Thrift Savings Plan is a retirement and investment plan that has been available to civilian government workers since 1987. Congress extended the plan to include service members in 2000.

The open season for signing up will run from Oct. 9 to Dec. 8. Deductions start in January 2002. In 2002, service members can contribute up to 7 percent of their basic pay. The maximum amount service members can contribute from basic pay will change. The

current limit of 7 percent of basic pay will rise to 10 percent by 2005 and become unlimited in 2006.

Service members must choose how they want their money invested: the G Fund invests in special government bonds, the C Fund ties to the stock market and the F Fund invests in commercial bonds.

TSP will unveil the new S and I funds in May. S Fund investments go to a stock index fund that paces small businesses. I Fund investors will track international companies the same way.

Service members will be able to start, change or reallocate their TSP contributions during two open seasons each year: November to January and May to July.

Contributions to the plan come from "pre-tax" dollars. Service members pay no federal or state income taxes on contributions or earnings until they're withdrawn. For more information see the website: www.tsp.gov/uniserv/index.html.

April Fools

If you believe in bowling ball-sized electronic particles blowing up computers, or strange Antarctic creatures with hot plate foreheads, then you've been April Fooled.

There were a couple of clues here — Albert Manque's last name, in French, means "unsuccessful" and the "Centre de l'Etude des Choses Assez Minuscules" translates into "the Center for the Study of Things that are Small Enough." "Aprile Pazzo" is Italian for "April Fool."

These two jokes, and other April Fools stories, can be found at:

www.discover.com/science-news/fool.

To be fair, though "Dr. Thomas Trebleclef" is a made-up name, but according to the 2001 edition of the Time Almanac, snow really does "pop."



Two AFMC generals nominated for second star

W R I G H T -
PATTERSON AIR
FORCE BASE, Ohio
(AFMCNS) - Two Air
Force Materiel Com-
mand generals have
been nominated for
their second star.

Secretary of De-
fense Donald
Rumsfeld announced
that Brig. Gen.
Wilbert Pearson, Air
Force Materiel Com-
mand operations di-
rector here, and Brig.
Gen. Paul Nielsen,
Air Force Research
Laboratory com-
mander here, were among those President George
W. Bush nominated to the Senate for appointment
to major general.

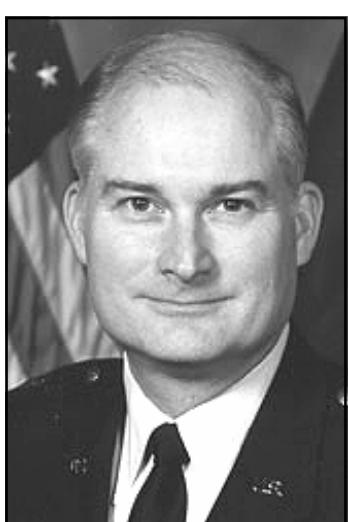
Pearson has served as AFMC's operations di-
rector since April 1997. In this role, he's responsible
for the command's test policy and resource
allocation, flight management, aircraft control ser-
vices, weather services and command post opera-
tions.

He also serves as the test mission headquar-
ters' focal point for three Air Force test centers.

The general holds a bachelor's degree in aero-
space engineering from Texas A&M University and
is a distinguished graduate of Officer Training
School. He is also a command pilot with more than
4,000 flying hours in the F-4, F-15, F-20, T-38
and 39 other aircraft.



Pearson



Nielsen

Pearson received
his first star April 1,
1997.

Nielsen has served
as the AFRL com-
mander since April
2000. In this position,
he directs the
Air Force's \$1.4 bil-
lion science and tech-
nology budget to-
gether with an addi-
tional \$1.1 billion
from the laboratory's
customers.

He is also the Air
Force's technology
executive officer and
determines the in-
vestment strategy for the full spectrum of Air Force
science and technology activities.

Nielsen is a distinguished graduate of the U.S.
Air Force Academy with bachelor's degrees in phys-
ics and mathematics. He earned a master's degree
in applied physics at the Livermore campus of the
University of California, Davis, as a Hertz Foun-
dation fellow.

He returned to Livermore and was awarded his
doctorate in plasma physics, again as a Hertz Foun-
dation fellow. He also holds a master's of business
administration degree from the University of New
Mexico.

Nielsen was awarded his first star on Sept. 1,
1997. (*Air Force Materiel Command and Air Force
Research Laboratory public affairs contributed to
this report.*)

Activities planned for Child Abuse Prevention Month, Month of Military Child

April has been officially proclaimed as Child
Abuse Prevention Month and Month of the
Military Child. The following activities are
scheduled throughout April:

3-4 p.m., Tuesday, Brooks Club — "The Shaken Baby Syndrome"

Katherine Ratcliff from Any Baby Can will
present a video called "The Shaken Baby Syn-
drome"

10 a.m.-1 p.m., April 7, Randolph Youth Center — Randolph AFB Famiganza (*Youth and Family Fair*)

Fun and Games for the whole family.

3 p.m.-dusk, April 28, Brooks Youth Cen- ter — Brooks Youth Fair

Fun and games sponsored by Services;
Agencies of the Integrated Delivery System
will participate.

For questions or comments, contact Eliza-
beth Thompson, counseling services, 536-
4711.



MEDICAL WINNERS

Continued from Page 1

Outstanding BEE NCO of the year, in addition to earning NCO of the Quarter for both AFIERA and the 311th Human System Wing. Jarbeau is recognized for his leadership, training and management skills.



Jarbeau

Outstanding Bioenvironmental Engineering Senior Noncommissioned Officer of the Year

Maj. Stephen Rademacher, chief, Radiation Surveillance Division said his superintendent, Master Sgt. Brian Saunders is a rock solid leader who he relies upon daily to complete the AFIERA's Air Force-wide radiation consultation mission.

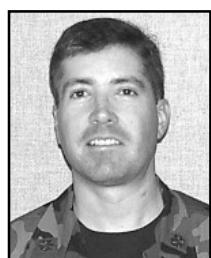
Saunders manages four branches with more than 38 military and civilian members covering nine different specialties, with a budget of nearly \$50 million.

Saunders is one of only two enlisted Air Force members to hold credentials as both a Registered Environmental manager and occupational Health and safety technologist.

Outstanding Field Grade Bioenvironmental Engineer of the Year

Maj. Todd Joachim, chief, Hazardous Waste Branch, Risk Analysis Directorate, was named the Outstanding Field Grade Bioenvironmental Engineer of the Year. Joachim was the key bioenvironmental engineer implementing Medical Service environmental quality programs throughout the Air Force, according to Risk Analysis Directorate director, Emile Baladi.

Joachim leads an 11-person branch providing environmental engineering consultative support worldwide.



Joachim

Public Health Staff Officer of the Year

Lt. Col. Roger Gibson, chief epidemiology consultant, in AFIERA's Force Health Protection and Surveillance Branch was selected as Public Health Staff Officer of the Year. In the short period of time covered by the award Gibson conceived, developed, directed and

analyzed more than 23 major studies affecting force health protection and readiness. He also orchestrated a 17-member team to provide information for evidence-based decision making to Department of Defense health policymakers in such studies as the Acute Health Effects of Jet Fuel, the Kelly AFB Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis potential case cluster, and the Air Force Mortality Register. Gibson is also an active adjunct professor at USAFSAM.

Clinical Laboratory Scientist of the Year

The Clinical Laboratory Scientist of the Year was awarded to Lt. Col. William Huff, chief of the Epidemiological Surveillance Division. Huff was also chosen in the top three percent of the Air Force by the 2000 AFMS

Medical Squadron Commander Selection Board.

He provided information, education and mentoring to 130 peers and junior officers, as well as leading subordinates to an unrivaled record of two Air Force, two major command, two wing, nine AFIERA and 14 directorate awards.

Air Force Laboratory Team of the Year

The Epidemiological Surveillance Division, Surveillance Directorate, received the award for Air Force Laboratory Team of the Year. The laboratory supported 14 TRICARE regions and 350 medical facilities as the largest reference laboratory in the DOD. The team executed an \$8.9 million budget with \$930 thousand in service contracts, yet was recognized for the lowest competitive cost by the Air Force Audit Agency with a savings of \$10 million annually.

Olson /Wegner Award for Outstanding NCO of the Year

Staff Sgt. Allison Heintzelman, assistant course supervisor for USAFSAM's aeromedical apprentice course received the Olson /Wegner Award for Outstanding NCO of the Year, due in part to the knowledge,

skills and leadership she displayed to the aeromedical career field. Heintzelman provided more than 550 hours of instruction in 45 aeromedical disciplines.

Public Health Staff NCO of the Year

Staff Sgt. Robert Gudgel was named the Public Health Staff NCO of the Year. In addition to teaching more than 700 hours of lecture, Gudgel revised the Public Health Career Development Course. According to Vanderbeek, Gudgel is one of USAFSAM's brightest and best NCOs with incredible computer skills and a personal drive second-to-none.



Gudgel

Outstanding Medical Readiness NCO of the Year

The Outstanding Medical Readiness NCO of the Year was awarded to TSgt. Therese Huss, the non-commissioned officer in charge of contingency risk assessment and countermeasures. Huss was recognized for her continued efforts to ensure effective standardized medical readiness training, impacting all medical career fields for both officer and enlisted not only at USAFSAM but throughout the AFMS.

Outstanding Medical Readiness Officer of the Year

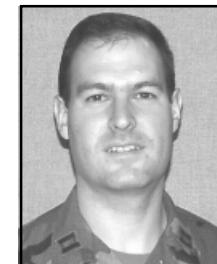
Capt. Matt Wyatt received the Outstanding Medical Readiness Officer of the Year Award. Wyatt, a doctor of veterinary medicine was heavily involved in the academic, logistic and administrative elements of developing the training platform for the Expeditionary Air Force's \$500 million Expeditionary Medical Support at USAFSAM. Wyatt also played a key role in negotiations resulting in Brooks being selected as the Air Force's premier EMEDS training and development site.



Wyatt

Outstanding Company Grade Bioenvironmental Engineer of the Year

The Outstanding Company Grade Bioenvironmental Engineer of the Year was awarded to USAFSAM instructor and scholar, Capt. Jay Vietas. Vietas provided more than 240 hours of instruction for 340 students in seven courses in his first four months as an instructor at USAFSAM. He also critiqued more than 500 hours of instruction, improving and reducing the course time by eight hours, saving more than \$20,000 annually.



Vietas

Vietas also completed course work for two masters' degrees at Colorado State University, simultaneously. He maintained a 4.0 grade point average despite taking 20 semester hours of rigorous courses.



ACTION LINE

536-2222



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

10-11 a.m., April 9, Bldg. 538 — "Sponsor Training"

In accordance with AFI 36-3011, sponsor training is mandatory for all first-time sponsors and those who have not sponsored within the past year. However, others are more than welcome to attend. Learn about tools and resources available for sponsors.

12:30-3 p.m., April 10, Bldg. 538 — "Smooth Move"

PCSing? Hear briefings from transportation, legal, clinic, finance, housing, and the family support center and ask questions. Open to all active duty members, DoD civilians and spouses.

3-4 p.m., April 10, Bldg. 538 — "PCS Overseas"

Any move can be stressful, but an overseas move has its own set of challenges and opportunities. Learn more about your overseas move by attending the "Smooth Move" seminar and staying after for the "PCS Overseas" class.

11 a.m.-1 p.m., April 11, Bldg. 538 — "Creating Your Retirement Paycheck"

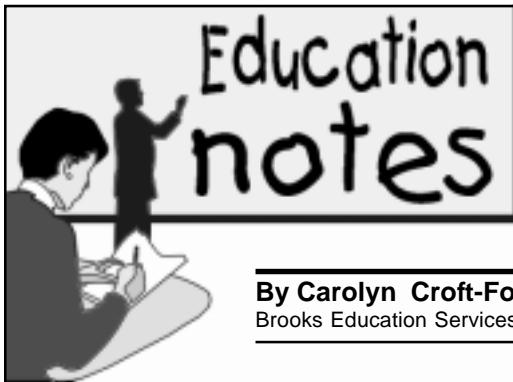
Before retirement, people receive a couple pay checks a month from one employer that are usually in predictable amounts and come at regular intervals. After retirement, they may get lots of different checks from many different sources, including Social Security, corporate pension and perhaps a part-time job.

But for some, the biggest checks may be the ones they write to themselves out of their investment accounts. This class is to help participants make tactical plans to make sure their income stream lasts for as long as they need it.

8 a.m.-noon, April 12, Bldg. 538 — "Balancing Work & Life (First Duty Station PFMP Orientation/Survival Tips for First Termers)"

This class is mandatory for members whose first duty station is Brooks. By starting off on the right track, one can avoid the common mistakes members frequently make.

Learn how to apply basic money management skills and become acquainted with the many programs and services available to you.



By Carolyn Croft-Foster
 Brooks Education Services Office

ROTC briefing April 6

ROTC representatives from UTSA and Southwest Texas State University will be on Brooks at 1 p.m. April 6. They will discuss scholarship programs available to active duty airmen that lead to Air Force commissioning. There are 1-4 year programs available. All airmen are invited to attend.

To contact the detachment representatives, e-mail gamez@utsa.edu or s109@swt.edu. For more information, call education services at 536-3617.

New 1 year commissioning program for airmen

Are you an active duty airman who already has a baccalaureate degree or is within one year of completing a bachelor's degree? Air Force ROTC offers an opportunity to simultaneously finish your degree and earn a commission as an Air Force second lieutenant.

Air Force ROTC offers this opportunity for up to 450 qualified airmen who can complete the one-year POC-ERP program and commission in fiscal 2002. The program is open for all academic degrees.

Selectees will be discharged from active duty, enlist in AFROTC within 24 hours of discharge and become full-time college students.

Qualified selectees will receive scholarships and other financial assistance provided by AFROTC to pay for tuition and textbooks, as well as provide a monthly stipend. Call the base education office (Bldg. 570-C, or visit the website at: [webl.maxwell.af.mil/afoats/enlisted](http://web1.maxwell.af.mil/afoats/enlisted).

NEWS briefs

Challenger seeks flight directors

Part-time flight directors are needed at the Challenger Learning Center of San Antonio. The Brooks Aerospace Foundation Inc. will hire up to three part-time flight directors. Individuals must be willing to commit to at least three missions per week to include some evenings and Saturdays.

Training will be provided by the Foundation. Part-time flight directors will work with sixth grade and above students from the local area and also some adults. Some experience working with groups is helpful, but not required. Background in science, astronomy or math is a plus, but not required.

Interested individuals should submit resumes to the Brooks Aerospace Foundation, P.O. Box 35400, Brooks AFB, TX 78235 no later than April 15. Interviews will be scheduled during the last two weeks of April. Include an e-mail address if possible. Please, no telephone inquiries.

TRICARE conducts briefings

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 a.m. and 11 a.m., April 5 in Hangar 9, Bldg. 671 at Brooks AFB. Briefings will also be held at 9 a.m., 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. April 9 in the Bob Hope Theater at Lackland AFB, and at 5:30 p.m. May 16 in the Randolph AFB theater. For more information, call Frank Herrera at 536-2928. Additional information is available by calling (800) 406-2832.

AFIERA hotline available 24-7

The Air Force Institute for Environment, Safety and Occupational Health Risk Analysis has technical experts available 24 hours a day, seven days a week to help with urgent situations. Customers can reach the Environment Safety and Occupational Health Urgent Hotline at 536-5454 or (888) 232-3764.

When a customer calls between 4:30 p.m. and 7:30 a.m., a staff duty officer will ensure the cus-

tomer 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 the next duty day.

Base plans Earth Day activities

Several Earth Day activities are planned at Brooks through April 18. Individuals and organizations are being asked to get involved in planning and organizing their own events to promote Earth Day. For more information, contact Rhonda Hilla at 536-2696 or Hamid Kamalpour at 536-6703.

AFPC accepts summer applications

The Air Force Personnel Center at Randolph AFB is now accepting applications or resumes for the 2001 Summer Employment season. An employment website, at www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/resweb/summer.htm has been developed to provide the latest information on what summer jobs are available, the locations of these jobs and how to apply for a summer position. Some Air Force bases have elected to manage their own summer program. This website also provides a point of contact for each location.

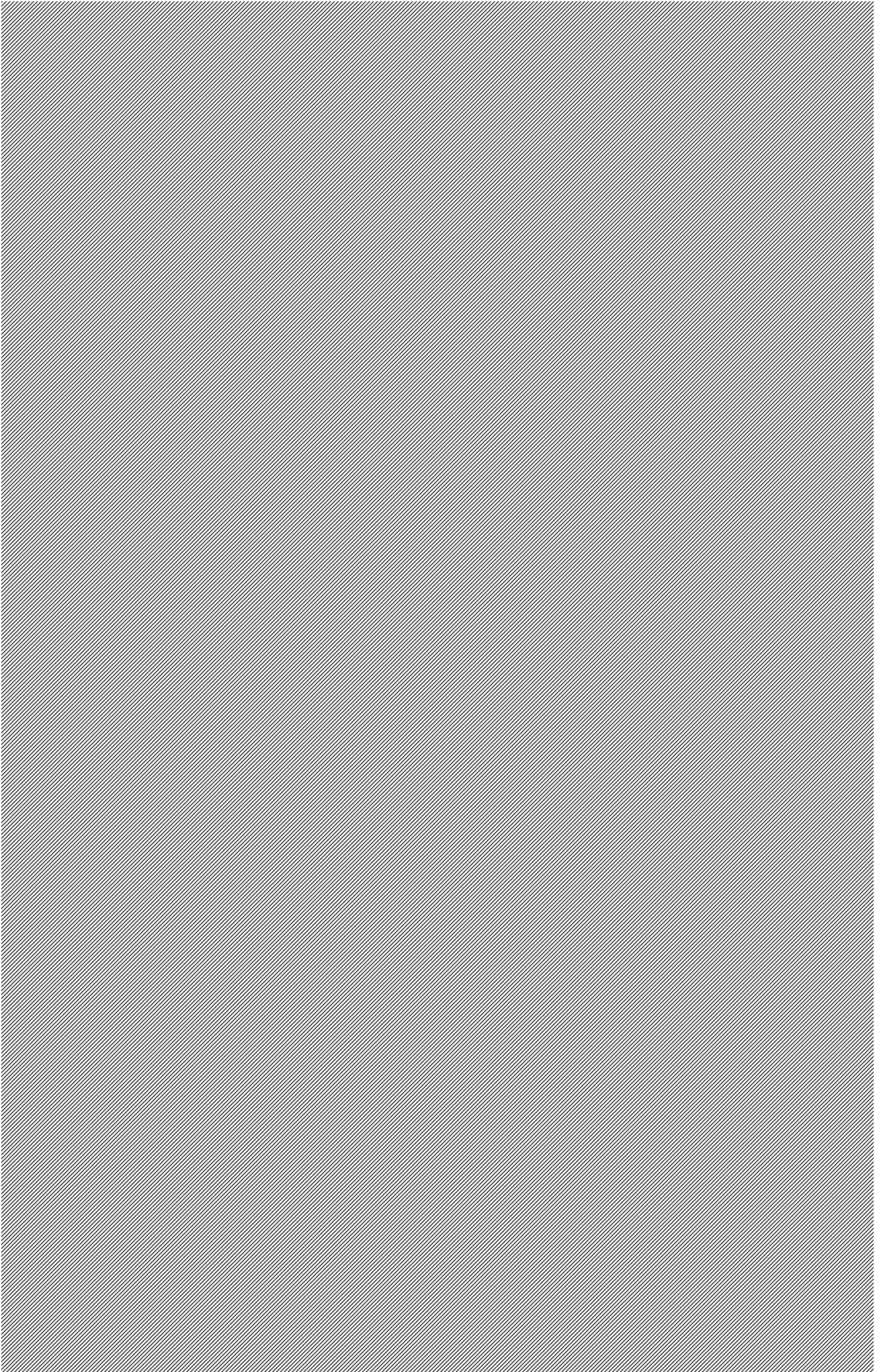
Applicants for summer employment will be considered for temporary appointments only. Summer employment positions are typically 60-90 days in duration, beginning in the May-June time frame.

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.





Brooks implements new lockout procedures

By Staff Sgt. Jeffrey Wheeler
311th Security Forces Squadron

In times past, the base fire department and base security forces have handled most lockout procedures at Brooks. As a result of manpower reduction, a lot of Brooks' resources are being combined to maximize their use.

The lockout policy at Brooks is not going away, it's just changed hands to the 311th Security Forces Squadron.

Here are the different types of lockouts Brooks workers may encounter and their security force response:

Building lockouts — The building custodians are responsible to assist any of their people who get locked out of their building. Should an emergency arise, security forces will assist.

Housing/Dormitory lockouts — Security forces will respond and assist for both emergency and nonemergency lockouts, once the person is identified as the occupant.

Vehicle lockouts — Security forces will only respond and assist in an emergency. The vehicle owner will have to contact a local locksmith in nonemergency cases.

This brings Brooks in line with the policy at all other San Antonio bases and the San Antonio Police Department.

Liability forms will be accomplished by the vehicle owners prior to the assistance of security forces.

An emergency can be described as any or all of the following: Children or pets left in the vehicle, vehicles that may have been left running and unattended, or any other such type emergency to be determined at the time of the lockout.

What can be done to prevent lockouts? There's one major solution to the lockout problem. Always have a spare key.

Questions or lockouts can be directed to the Brooks Law Enforcement desk at 536-2851/1111.

IG mission at Kelly changing

By Col. Doug Smith
Kelly installation Inspector General

The job of the Inspector General is to investigate fraud, waste and abuse and personal complaints, and be the focal point for congressional inquiries.

These functions of the Inspector General will not go away when Kelly Air Force Base closes July 13. These functions will transfer to the 37th Training Wing IG at Lackland AFB.

The 37th TRW/IG will assume installation IG responsibilities for those tenants west of the Kelly AFB runway April 1. The installation IG for main base Kelly will remain in operation until June 1. After June 1, the installation IG duties for all of Kelly AFB will transfer to the 37th TRW/IG.

If you have an Air Force Materiel Command-related complaint after June 1, contact the Brooks IG for assistance.

The Kelly AFB IG hotline, 925-5050 or DSN 945-5050, will remain active until June 1. After June 1, the IG hotline for both Kelly and Lackland AFBs will be 671-3340 or DSN 473-3340.

Brooks installation IG

IG Hotline — 536-2358
Office — 536-2358

Kelly AFB installation IG

IG Hotline — 925-5050, DSN 945-5050
Office — 925-4822, DSN 945-4822

Lackland AFB installation IG

IG Hotline — 671-3340, DSN 473-3340
Office — 671-3347, DSN 473-3347

433rd Airlift Wing

IG Hotline — 977-3385, DSN 969-3385
Office — 977-4331, DSN 969-4331

149th Fighter Wing

IG Hotline — 977-5391, DSN 969-5391
Office — 977-5391, DSN 969-5391

59th Medical Wing

IG Hotline — 292-5122, DSN 554-5122
Office — 292-7424, DSN 554-7424

Air Intelligence Agency

IG Hotline — 977-2301, DSN 969-2301
Office — 977-2301, DSN 969-2301

67th Information Operations Wing

IG Hotline — 977-6505, DSN 969-6505
Office — 977-6700, DSN 969-6700



Youth services center Bldg. 470, 536-2515

Easter happenings — Lunch with the Easter Bunny at Sidney's and then attend the annual Easter Egg Hunt at the youth center.

Lunch will be from 11 a.m.-1 p.m., April 14 in Sidney's, Bldg. 714. Enjoy hot dogs, chicken nuggets, macaroni and cheese and French fries for \$1.25 per item.

Play **Bunny Bingo** from noon-1p.m. Have your photo taken with the Easter Bunny for \$3.

After lunch and bingo "hop" on down to the youth center for the **Easter Egg Hunt**. This event starts promptly at 2 p.m. in the area adjacent to the youth center, Bldg. 470. Children must bring their own baskets.

Areas will be roped off for the following age groups: 1-3 years; 4-5 years; 6-8 years;

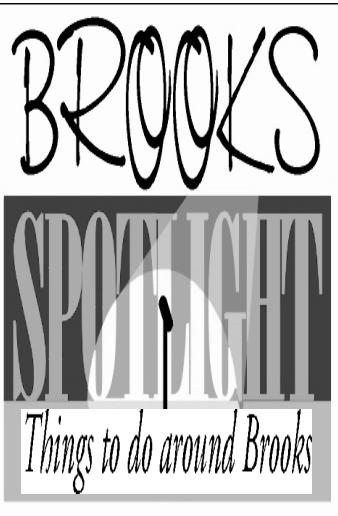
and 9-12 years. Special eggs will be located in each area. The lucky boys and girls finding these eggs should take the slip of paper in the egg to one the center staff and exchange it for a prize.

Base picnic bash

Plans for the 30th annual base Picnic Bash are in full progress. The picnic will be from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. June 8 at the base picnic grounds. The next picnic meeting is at 8:30 a.m. April 18 in Bldg. 1154.

There is still time to select a food or game booth. We suggest that you have several selections in mind as many items and games have already been assigned to organizations.

Call the marketing office staff at 536-5475/2407 for more details on booths and games. 2001 has been designated the Year of the Family and the theme for this year's



By Jan McMahon
Community newswriter

event is "Families — Present and Past." Point of contact for the event is Jan McMahon at 536-5475, and alternate POC is Gina McComb at 536-2407.

The FrameWorks

Bldg. 1154, 536-2120

Fiesta is a 10-day fun-filled event that offers parades, parties, street dancing, and presentations. Collect medals and souvenirs from the various

events and place them in a shadow box.

Framed Fiesta posters and postcards, plus a Fiesta shadow box will be on display during April in the center. In April receive a 15 percent discount on framing Fiesta posters or postcards. Create a Fiesta shadow box and receive a 10 percent discount. Specials are valid through April 30.

Also during April, receive a 10 percent discount when you pay in full for the item, framing or engraving, at the time you place the order. Orders can be paid by cash, check, charge or IMPAC Card.

Outdoor recreation

Bldg. 1154, 536-2881

Why go off base to search for a car wash when we have one readily available close to your office or home? A two-stall car wash is located adja-

cent to Bldg. 1157 (formerly the auto skills center). Wash your vehicle, large or small, for only 75 cents per three minutes. When the exterior is clean, pull forward and vacuum the interior for only 50 cents per three minutes. The end results will be a squeaky clean vehicle, inside and out.

The **base swimming pool** tentatively opens Memorial Day weekend. Season pool passes are \$10 per person with a maximum of \$50 per family. The daily user fee is \$1.50 per day. Prior to the pool opening, passes may be purchased from the youth services center, Bldg. 470, or outdoor recreation, Bldg. 1154.

After the pool opens you may purchase them at the pool. Pool parties may be scheduled through the head lifeguard. It's a great way to celebrate birthdays or just get together.



April is Child Abuse Prevention Month, Month of the Military Child

Risk, prevention of maltreatment of children with disabilities

By Elizabeth Thompson
311th Medical Squadron

The Family Advocacy Program wants to help families reduce the perils of child abuse by increasing personal awareness of risk factors and prevention. Statistics show that families with a special needs child have additional stressors in the home environment which increase the likelihood for maltreatment. The Exceptional Family Member Program can help.

The following information is from the National Clearinghouse on Child Abuse and Neglect Information at nccanch@calib.com. This is an overview of a national problem. Members enrolled into the EFMP are identified by the military personnel flight with a "Q-code." This Q-code indicates there is a special need present in the family and that special consideration must be made prior to moving to any new location. At Brooks, the EFMP point of contact is Master Sgt. Bradley Brockelman at 536-3007.

A majority of families with a disabled child are loving and giving. In this author's 10 years experience with the Family Advocacy Program there have been only a few referred cases in which the alleged abuse was directed to a disabled child.

This is meant to be an overview of a national problem to include the civilian sector.

Children with disabilities are more at risk of abuse and neglect than children without disabilities. These children have the same risk factors all children share, in addition to other risk factors that are more directly related to disabilities. These

include societal attitudes about disabilities; people's reaction to, and interactions with, children with disabilities (including family members and non-family caregivers), factors that relate to the disability itself, and program policies and procedures governing the care of children by others.

Primary prevention efforts can improve conditions for all families that have children with disabilities and secondary prevention programs can target children and families who are at high risk of maltreatment.

Prevention strategies can attempt to improve societal attitudes, Federal policies, family dynamics children's knowledge and safety skills, and programs' policies and procedures

To justify more funding for prevention programs, including services for children and families and training for professionals, further research is needed to understand the scope and nature of the problem.

Here are some important definitions from the Child Abuse Prevention and Maltreatment Act:

— The term "child abuse and neglect" means, at minimum, any recent act or failure to act on the part of a parent or caretaker, which results in death, serious physical or emotional harm, sexual abuse or exploitation, or an act or failure to act which presents an imminent risk of serious harm.

From the Americans with Disabilities Act:

— The term "disability" means a physical or mental impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activities, a record of having such an impairment, or being regarded as having such an impairment.

You can be an activist for such an individual by remaining encouraging and by referring the sponsor to the Exceptional Family Member Program. For questions or comments about this review, contact the Family Advocacy Program at 536-4711 or Capt. Teresa Roberts, Family Advocacy officer, at 536-5301.





Little boy lives thanks to AFAF

By Capt. C.K. Keegan
Air Force Security Assistance Center

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio (AFMCNS) — Doctors didn't give him more than a few weeks to live after they revived his still-born body that April day in 1991.

But now, 10 years later, Branden Hogsett has outlived his life expectancy nearly 100 times over.

His father, Tech. Sgt. John Hogsett, NCO in charge of military personnel flight management at Air Force Materiel Command headquarters and stepmother Airman Holly Hogsett, Air Force Security Assistance Center military personnel manager, contribute Branden's success to the support they've received from family, friends and the Air Force Assistance Fund.

It's that support which had Airman Hogsett stepping up to be the Air Force Security Assistance Center's AFAF representative.

"The Air Force Aid Society, which is a part of AFAF, has helped my family in so many ways," said Hogsett. "I am excited about being able to show my support and thanks for everything they have done."

Labor for Branden's natural mother, Tina Hogsett, began five weeks early. During the 36-hour labor at K.I. Sawyer Air Force Base, Mich., Branden suffered cranial hemorrhaging, caused by the umbilical cord wrapping around his neck.

Upon reviving the still-born infant, doctors put him on an aeromedical evacuation flight to Wright-Patterson for treatment just four hours after birth. He was taken to Wright-Patterson because the Michigan base didn't have the needed facilities.

"For four months, the Air Force Aid Society let us stay at a Nightingale house while Branden went through several surgeries," said Sgt. Hogsett. "But they also gave us emotional support."

Branden is now fed through a stomach tube and has to be pushed around in a wheelchair. His progress has been slow, but in the last couple of years, Hogsett says he has really improved.

"He was able to get off of a very addictive drug that would put him in a 'veggie' state," she said. "He has also stopped having active seizures."

Hogsett said Branden is able to sit up with support, he is more vocal, plays with toys, laughs and giggles and is able to have some interaction with people.

"Before, he wouldn't even notice I was there," she said. "Now, he'll reach up and touch my face. It makes me feel so good because he's never been able to do that before."

But as might be expected, Branden does have bad days when he's sick or grumpy.

"It can be frustrating because he doesn't know how to communicate what he needs," Airman Hogsett said. "Sometimes it's as simple as wanting the television on or a light off. Other times he's just grumpy and all you can do is let him cry — it's really gut-wrenching."

AIR FORCE ASSISTANCE FUND

Despite everything, the love Airman Hogsett found for Branden the first time she met him has carried her through the well times and the sick times.

"It really scares me when he gets sick," said Airman Hogsett. "He could leave us tomorrow, next week, or in the next hour. You just don't know."

Hogsett and her husband know there will be a time when Branden is no longer with them. But as they focus on the present, they don't have time to fret about what tomorrow may bring.

The AFAF has helped thousands of military families like the Hogsetts, and for the next month, military members and civilians can contribute to the fund to keep that tradition going. The campaign began Feb. 23 and ends Saturday. AFAF solicits funds to carry on the tradition of "commitment to caring" — this year's campaign slogan.

AFAF raises money for its four charitable affiliates, all geared toward helping active duty and retired Air Force members, their spouses and families.

These charitable affiliates include the Air Force Aid Society; Air Force Enlisted Men's Widows and Dependents Home Foundation; Air Force Village Foundation; and the Gen. and Mrs. Curtis E. LeMay Foundation.

AFAF provides money to help those umbrella organizations help the Air Force family when they need help most. Contributions can be made either in cash or by payroll deduction.



Feature

AFCEE railroad buff 'on track' with hobby

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

"My father used to take me to watch the trains," George Gauger recalls about how his lifelong interest in railroads began while a youngster growing up in Schenectady, N.Y. Today, this 59-year-old Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence environmental project manager is a 'walking encyclopedia' of railroad history.

Living in the same town where the American Locomotive Company's headquarters was located also helped pique Gauger's budding fascination with trains. "They were one of three major locomotive builders in the U.S.," Gauger said, explaining that the New York-based company built some of the most famous locomotives in American transportation history including the Union Pacific's 125-foot-long (plus tender) steam locomotive called 'Big Boy.'

The heyday of the 'age of steam' had long since passed when a young Gauger fell in love with the sights, sounds and smells of what Native Americans called 'iron horse.' "I used to play along the tracks near the railroad station. I remember (vividly) the smoke, sounds and size of 500-ton locomotives being tested there," Gauger said.

Gauger was a youngster when he took his first train ride with father Herman, a General Electric Company manager. "My dad's office was in Boston. We took the train in from Quincy, Mass. to South Station." By his

teens, he was subscribing to train magazines.

"In high school, I used to go to the railroad station regularly. On Fridays, the engineer would give me a free ride in the cab from Quincy to Braintree, Mass.," he recalls. In 1956 Gauger even attended the National Railway History Society convention in Toronto. By 1958, he finally realized a boyhood dream by taking a steam-powered train trip. He boarded a Norfolk & Western Railroad passenger train bound for Roanoke, Va., significant to him in that the line was the last U.S. railroad company conducting major steam locomotive operations in the country.

"The big conversion from steam to diesel occurred in the 1950s. By 1960, there were no more steam locomotives in (regular) commercial operation. Diesel was far more efficient, more powerful and needed less maintenance than steam power," Gauger noted.

He can cite chapter and verse about railroad history and how it had a tremendous impact on American culture, including its importance to America's economic development, western migration, and the establishment of time zones.

"Trains were first developed in Europe in the 1820s and first used in America in the 1830s. By 1860 railroads covered most of the U.S. east of the Mississippi. In 1864, the Pacific Railroad Act authorized the establishment of the first transcontinental railroad," he explained. He said railroads were the predominant mode of transportation in America until the 1952 Defense Highways Act established the interstate highway system.

While the heyday of train travel preceded him, the retired U.S. Army Signal Corps officer and Vietnam veteran savors memories of a unique 'Casey Jones-like' experience while on active duty in Germany. "I 'owned' a train for about 7 to 8 hours as train commander in 1965. I had to sign for the steam locomotive and about 10-11 railroad cars," he recalls. His first train journey in a foreign country involved transporting U.S. military personnel aboard the steam-powered train from Bremerhaven to Frankfurt. "It was a thrill," he said of his journey back in time to 'old fashioned' train travel. "I had my bags carried to my private berth. I (even) ate breakfast on the train," he said.

The romance of that by-gone way of traveling across country today flickers faintly in U.S. nostalgic tourist-oriented train trips such as the Durango & Silverton line operating a 45-mile route in Colorado. There are lesser known lines operating short excursion routes in North America, but the real adventure and ambiance of luxury travel amidst the splendor of the famous Pullman cars is long gone.

Nonetheless, Gauger remains intrigued by trains primarily for the engineering and design of these mechanical marvels. "I've always had an inquisitive mind, wanting to know how things work. I'm interested in the engineering aspects of trains, especially locomotives, wanting to know how they're put together," he said. He has now 'trained' his sights on future rides aboard some of the world's high-speed electric-powered trains that are helping maintain one of humanity's most enduring transportation legacies.



George Gauger poses at Sunset Station in San Antonio, where a vintage Southern Pacific Railroad locomotive is on permanent display. (Photo by Rudy Purificato)



Mammano

Q&A

FULL NAME:

Capt. John Mammano

DUTY TITLE, ORGANIZATION:
Chief, Web Technology and Resources, Air Force Medical Support Agency, Office of the Air Force Surgeon General

WHAT IS MY JOB?:

I manage the development and implementation of initiatives supporting the Air Force Surgeon General's World Wide Web

BIRTHDAY:

Oct. 22

HOMETOWN:

New Llano, La.

FAMILY STATUS:

Married to wife Mimi; have one son, Brandon, 6 months old

NICKNAME I CALL MYSELF:

"Mambo"

PERSONAL MOTTO:

"Teamwork is the fuel that allows common people to produce uncommon results."

HOBBIES:

Golf, soccer, football and traveling

PET PEEVE:

Careless drivers, mean people

BOOK AT BEDSIDE:

"Parents Magazine"

I JOINED THE AIR FORCE:

Because I'm proud to be an American and feel no greater pride than by serving my country

ULTIMATE GOAL:

To live a long, healthy life with my family and enjoy every moment -- I never want to say "I wish I would have done that."

IF I WON THE LOTTERY, I'D:

Donate money to the church, pay off my bills, give money to our families and try to live as normal as possible. I would continue to serve in the Air Force.

FAVORITE CAR:

VW Passat and Jeep Grand Cherokee

LAST MOVIE WATCHED:

"The Patriot"

MY GREATEST ACCOMPLISHMENT IS:

Marrying my wife and having our son.

MY MOST PRIZED POSSESSION IS:

My wife and son

Brooks Personality PROFILE

By Cerise Fenton

311th Human Systems Wing Public Affairs

Comments? cereise.fenton@brooks.af.mil

Even if Capt. John Mammano won the lottery he'd stay in the Air Force. As a matter of fact, you'd have to drag him, kicking and screaming, to get him out of the service at this point in his life, and probably for years to come. He claims he's got at least 30 years left.

The strength of Mammano's ties to the military community is reflected in his attitude and his beliefs. As the only son of an enlisted soldier, Mammano followed in his father's footsteps and enlisted in the Army in 1989. In 1991 he received his commission as an infantry officer. Despite his concerns of disappointing his father he transferred to the Air Force in 1996, beginning a new career as a Medical Service Corps officer. Neither he nor his father have been sorry he did.

"If being an officer doesn't go to your head, you have the opportunity to make an impact," he said. "Not only do you get to make an impact, but you get to influence what the impact is."

So each day he comes to work with a bundle of pride, patriotism and a determination to have a positive influence. Between doing his job well and imparting some of his old-time values on the young troops he comes in contact with, he's bound to make a difference.

"If it wasn't for making a difference I don't think I'd want to be doing what I'm doing," he said.

Although he is convinced that every individual has the power to make a difference, he truly believes in the power of teamwork. That lesson came early in his Army career; teamwork is the key to getting results and accomplishing the mission. As an infantryman, he said, you don't accomplish much as an individual. Thankfully, the people he works with here function well as a team.

Mammano's true passion is working with patients but that doesn't mean he hasn't enjoyed the year and a half he's been at Brooks. As chief, web technology and resources, Headquarters, Air Force Medical Support Agency, he deals with all aspects of the Air Force Medical Service's web page for the Office of the Air Force Surgeon General. Even though the team functions behind the scenes, he thrives on providing support to the customers, from treatment facility-level to major command-level.

"We get to look at the process here," he said. "How do we do things and how can we do them better?"

The answers he's getting now can be applied, he said, when he returns to a medical treatment facility, hope-

Mammano, proud son of a soldier

fully on his next assignment.

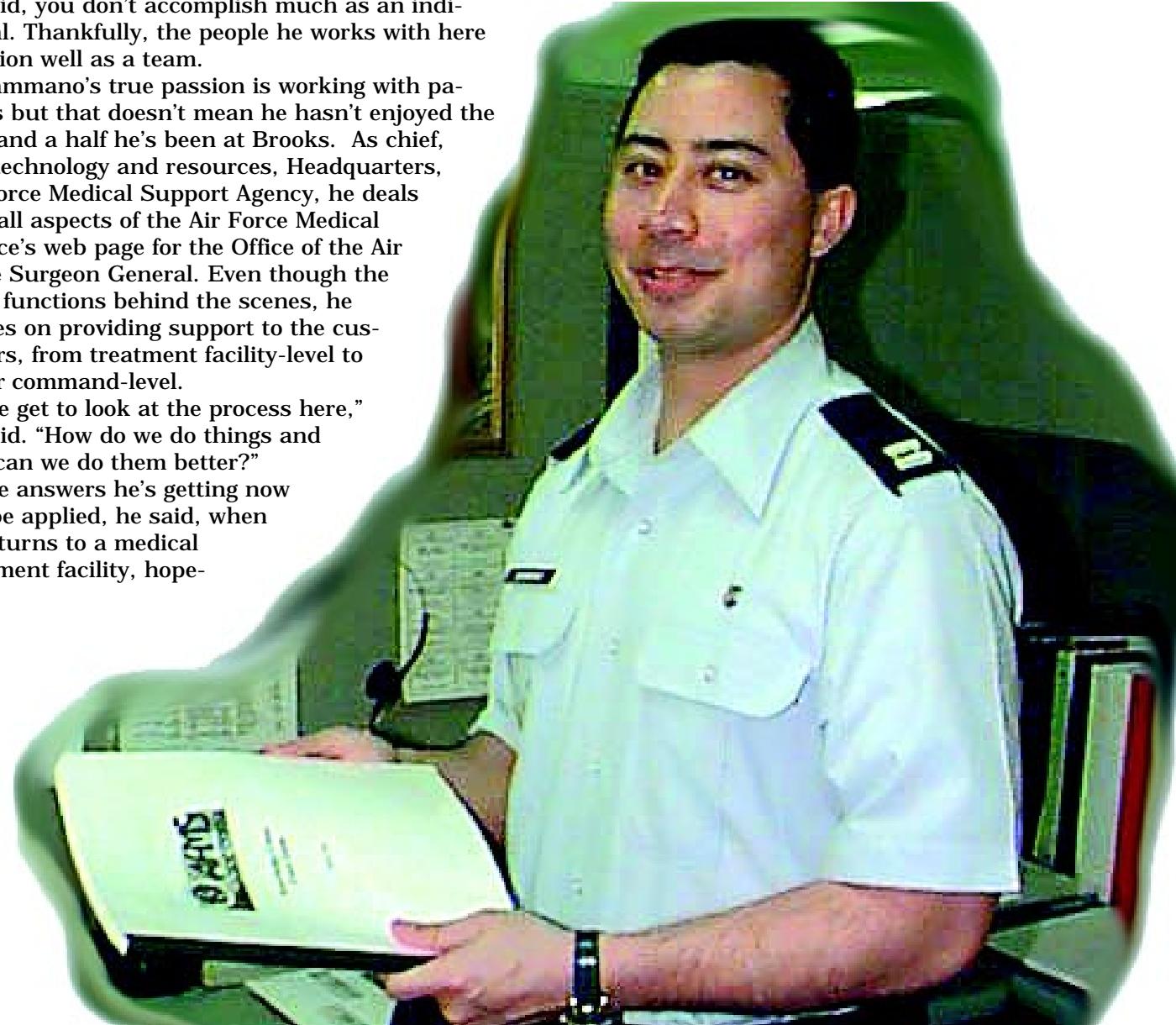
All in all, Mammano isn't picky about his assignments. So far, each duty station has been enjoyable. He thinks that's because he always goes with an open mind and a will to make the best of it. Since he and his wife jump at every opportunity to travel, taking his family overseas to a tour in Japan, for instance, would be great, but as far as he's concerned his future will be determined by the needs of the Air Force. After all, he joined the military to serve his country, not for the country to serve him.

Mammano carries that attitude with him everyday, determined to play some role in what he calls "restoring the image of the military and its members." He hopes that one day the nation will fully recognize the importance of national defense, our military forces, and the sacrifices of those who dedicate their lives to it. Perhaps a resurgence of family values, he thinks, will serve as a reminder that it isn't an easy job.

"That doesn't mean you have to serve," he said, "but at least support those who do."

With any luck, the trend toward managed care, and initiatives such as the Brooks City Base Project, where the military is partnering with the community, will create a greater awareness, educate and influence the public perception of the military, and bring back a bit of patriotism, he said.

So basically, it's simple. If Mammano can somehow make a positive difference in the world, find quality time to spend with his wife and family and avoid mean people and careless drivers, the Louisiana native will leave this world a happy man. Sure, some time to better his golf game, participate in all the other sports he loves, and see the sites with his family would be nice, but he can always find time for those things when he has completed his service to the country. It's only another 30 years or so.



If it wasn't for making a difference, I don't think I'd want to be doing what I'm doing.

— Capt. John Mammano



Memorial tells obscure facts about women's military service

By Rudi Williams

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Stories about women who masqueraded as men on the battlefield, survived prisoner of war camps, died in combat and other pieces of obscure history come to light at the Women in Military Service for America Memorial.

More than 170,000 people have visited the women's memorial every year since its dedication Oct. 18, 1997, at Arlington (Va.) National Cemetery. Those who took guided tours learned of Molly Pitcher, Sarah Osborne and Deborah Sampson in the Revolutionary War; Dr. Mary Walker, Susie King Taylor and Sally Thompkins in the Civil War; and nurses in the Spanish-American War and World War I and II. They also learned about women's service in the Korean War, Vietnam War and Desert Storm and women's role in today's military services. The stories of hundreds of individual service women are at the public's fingertips in the memorial's interactive computerized register. Visitors can use a dozen computer terminals to find information about the service of their mothers, grandmothers, sisters and other relatives and friends, said memorial curator Judy Bellafaire.

"If the woman is registered, all the information given to us, including a photograph, will appear on the computer monitor," she said. The register grows daily as word spreads of the memorial's search for the 1.7 million women whose stories of service are yet to be recorded, Bellafaire noted.

The memorial gallery is filled with exhibits showcasing artifacts, text and images depicting the roles women have played in the defense of the nation, she said.

The first World War II exhibit deals with recruiting and training of women. "They're the women who served in the Army and Navy Nurse Corps, the Navy WAVES (Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service), WACs (Women's Army Corps), Coast Guard SPARs (Semper Paratus-Always Ready) and Marine Corps Women," Bellafaire said.

The second showcase highlights civilian women who "also served" during World War II, she said. These include groups on the home



Judy Bellafaire, curator of the Women in Military Service for America Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery, explains the contents of the "Women Go to War: World War II, 1941-1945," a permanent exhibit at the memorial. It tells the story of how the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and the Army and Navy Nurse Corps recruited and trained women and sent them off to work. The exhibit includes a telegram ordering a Women's Army Corps recruit to report to basic training; notes taken by trainees learning how to repair guns and pack parachutes; and clothing issued to women, including WAC underwear and pajamas. (*Photo by Rudi Williams*)

front with the military, such as the WASPs (Women's Airforce Service Pilots) and cadet nurses, and the American Women Volunteer Service Group, which drove ambulances, conducted blood drives and ran care centers for the children of women working in defense plants.

The third World War II exhibit deals with service women overseas. "The only women who went overseas during World War II were Army and Navy nurses and members of the Women's Army Corps," Bellafaire noted. "Some of the stories of nurses who were captured by the Japanese are told in detail."

One panel exhibit honors women who served from the American Revolution through the Spanish-American War. When the memorial's Hall of Honor is finished, it will feature women who served with distinction and achievement

and highlight those who died in service and were prisoners of war.

The memorial sits at the front gate of Arlington Cemetery. Visitors get a panoramic view of Washington — in a beeline, the memorial overlooks the Lincoln Memorial, Washington Monument and U.S. Capitol across the Potomac River. "It's an absolutely gorgeous view," Bellafaire said.

The memorial is open daily except Christmas. The hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Oct. 1-March 31; and 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. April 1- Sept. 30.

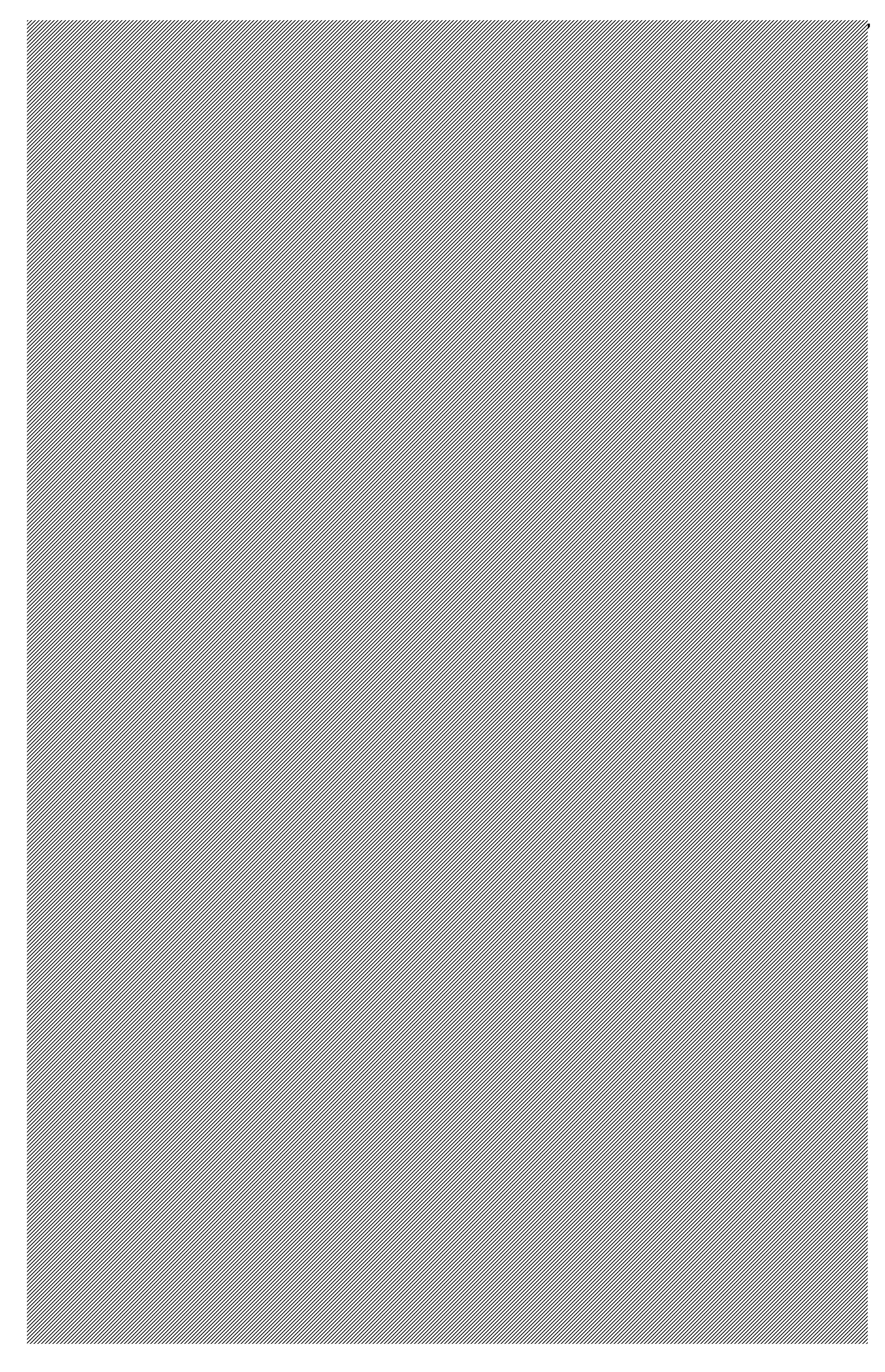
For more information, call 1-800-222-2294 or send e-mail to the memorial foundation at WIMSA@aol.com. The memorial Web site is www.womensmemorial.org.

April issue of Citizen Airman magazine now available

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. (AFPN) — While nobody knows what the total force of the future is going to look like, a small organization at the Pentagon is busy looking at a number of different ideas and concepts. Read about how the Air Force Directorate of Strategic Planning staff is working on an initiative called Future Total Force in the April edition of Citizen Airman. The initiative outlines integrating the Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard with the active-duty force.

The April issue also features stories on the Reserve's involvement in the flight test mission; Hurricane Hunters deploying to Alaska to gather weather data; two reservists who in their civilian career work as correctional officers in Georgia's boot camp program; and a security police officer who negotiated the peaceful surrender of two dangerous prison escapees.

Citizen Airman is the official magazine of the Air Force Reserve. It is published bimonthly — every February, April, June, August, October and December — by the Air Force Reserve Command Office of Public Affairs. Questions about the magazine in general or a particular article may be sent to afrc.pap@afrc.af.mil. The magazine is also available online at: www.afrc.af.mil/hq/citamn/Default.html.





Brooks Field's Johnny Cash an unknown singer in AF blue

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

Fifty years ago, future country-western musical legend Johnny Cash wore Air Force blue instead of his trademark black attire as a Brooks Field radio intercept operator.

While the 69-year-old Grammy Award-winning singer has not returned to Brooks since his days here attending tech school, his former Air Force Security Service companions shed some light on "the man in black" who in 1951 was just known as John.

"Cash was a radio traffic analyst like the rest of us who were trained here in communications intelligence," said Bill Purser, who along with 33 other veterans of the 6910th Security Group returned to Brooks last fall for a reunion. Cash learned Morse Code at Brooks and radio intercept techniques that helped him eavesdrop on the Russians during the height of the Cold War.

"I enlisted a week before the Korean War broke out [June 1950]," Cash wrote in his autobiography that partially describes his Air Force experience in San Antonio and later at Landsberg Air Base, Germany. Cash wrote, "The Air Force taught me the things every military service imparts to its enlisted men ... including one skill that's pretty unusual: if you ever need to know what one Russian is signaling to another in Morse Code, I'm your man."

"I had such a talent for that particular line of work and such a good left ear, that in Landsberg, where the U.S. Air Force Security Service ran radio intercept operations worldwide, I was the ace."



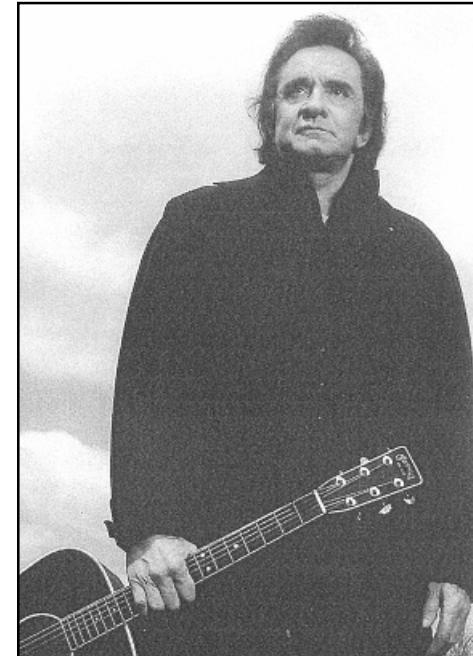
Country and western singer Johnny Cash looked quite a bit different as an airman in 1952, left, than he does today. (*Courtesy photos*)

Many of the veterans who attended the Brooks reunion had read about Cash's autobiographical account of his Air Force days. Some remember him as a quiet airman who loved to pick his guitar in the barracks, then located adjacent to their tech school training area called "The Compound," currently the site of the base exchange.

"He never played here in the club, but he had a band that was terrible when we were in Germany," said Jay Hynds. Cash's Air Force band was called the Landsberg Barbarians, a group where the young singer developed some of his first hits including "I Walk The Line."

Veteran Jim Duffy said, "I was on the NCO Club board and used to audition and hire talent for the floor shows at the NCO Club and officers club.

"John used to pester me by coming to my room and asking whether I had signed anyone for the weekend. He was always pushing



Cash looked quite a bit different as an airman in 1952, left, than he does today. (*Courtesy photos*)

the Landsberg Barbarians, who actually weren't very good at all."

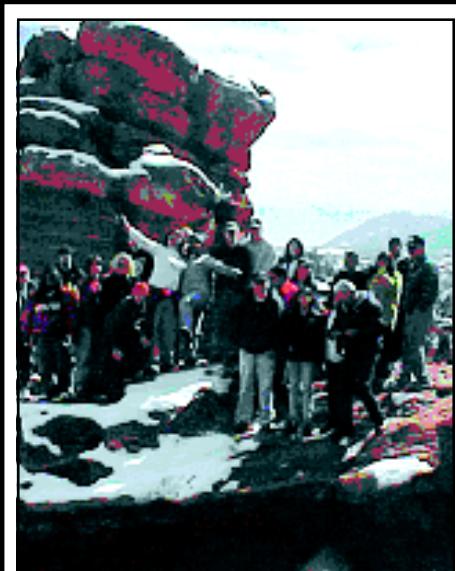
However, one veteran believes Cash's Air Force experience greatly helped him mature as a musician. Marvin Mobley said, "Little did Cash know just how much the time he spent in Landsberg, as an Air Force radio operator, would affect his future career in music."

Along with learning to play the guitar in his barracks; joining his first performing band, the Landsberg Barbarians; and having his first song 'Hey, Porter' published in Stars and Stripes, he also had a fateful encounter with an African-American staff sergeant from Virginia named C.V. White that would dramatically change the course of music history."

Cash recalls in his autobiography, "He [White] was the inspiration for the song 'Blue Suede Shoes.' We were all dressed up to go out on a three-day pass, and C.V. came into my room really spiffy. I mean, he

had his brass buttons shined and his blue uniform on and he said, 'Fellas, don't step on my blue suede shoes.' I looked down and I said, 'Those look like regular Air Force issue shoes to me.' And he replied, 'Tonight, they're blue suedes!'

The Air Force also had a profound effect on Cash's personal life when he trained at Lackland and Brooks AFBs, noted cousin Betty Bateman of San Antonio. She said he met and married his first wife Vivian Liberto of San Antonio while stationed here.



Hitting the TRAIL

Twenty teens from Brooks and Randolph Air Force Bases headed to Colorado during Spring Break, March 10-16. The trip was one of the TRAIL, or Training Responsible Adolescents in Leadership training activities coordinated through the Brooks and Randolph Teen Centers. On this trip, the teens went horseback riding, visited cliff dwellings, Seven Falls, The U.S. Air Force Academy, NORAD Cheyenne Mountain Operations and the U.S. Olympic Training Facility. They also went shopping and skiing. (*Courtesy photo*)



Gen. Lester Lyles, Air Force Materiel Command commander, visits with NASCAR Winston Cup Series driver Elliott Sadler in the pit area of Bristol Motor Speedway prior to the running of the Food City 500 auto race March 25. The Air Force is advertising its symbol on the #21 Motorcraft Ford Taurus, owned by Wood Brothers Racing. Sadler won the race. (Photo by Tech Sgt. Bob Pullen)

Commander's coin brings NASCAR driver first win

By Tech. Sgt. Bob Pullen
Arnold Engineering Development Center Public Affairs

ARNOLD AIR FORCE BASE, Tenn. (AFMCNS) — NASCAR Winston Cup Series driver Elliott Sadler won the Food City 500 auto race at the Bristol Motor speedway March 25 and said his good luck symbol will now be a four-star general's special bronze coin.

The coin Gen. Lester Lyles, Air Force Materiel Command commander, gave him during a visit to the pit area just before the race started proved to be the good luck he needed to take his first victory in 75 starts, Sadler said.

"I am going to have this coin with me for every race," Sadler said.

The Air Force announced Oct. 4 that it would advertise its symbol on Sadler's No. 21 Motorcraft Ford Taurus, owned by Wood Brother's Racing, in an effort to recruit 18 to 25 year old NASCAR fans with a mechanical background.

Taking the checkered flag at Bristol, Sadler notched his first-ever NASCAR Winston Cup Series win in record fashion. He won the race from the furthest back in the field, eclipsing the record set by Dale Earnhardt in 1999. Sadler started the race in 38th position out of the 43-car field.

"I knew we had a good car because we were running strong all day," Sadler said. "We were just so far back we kept getting caught up in traffic."

But when the yellow caution flag came out on lap 373 of the 500-lap event, Sadler and his crew decided to gamble and stay on the track while most of the rest of the field made pit stops. This decision moved the #21 car from 15th to second.

Sadler then received another break when race leader Kevin Harvick had to make an unscheduled pit stop due to a flat tire, giving Sadler the lead with 69 laps to go.

From there he never looked back and never gave up the lead taking the checkered flag for his first NASCAR win.

"This is such an incredible feeling," Sadler said after the race. "I am so proud for the Wood Brothers and for this Motorcraft Ford team, and I am proud to be representing the U.S. Air Force."

Lyles was at Bristol not only to watch the Food City 500, but also to give the oath of enlistment to 20 new recruits who are entering the Air Force on the delayed enlistment plan. He also addressed the more than 150,000 spectators from the stage in front of the grandstand.



New sports fitness specialists never 'throw in the towel'

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

They may issue a lot of towels while working the fitness center front desk, but their collective optimism about customer service never allows them to concede to the temptation of 'throwing in the towel' when faced with difficult situations.

To Janie Chavarria and Pablo Segura, Jr. the challenges of life and work are sometimes only a 'Hail Mary pass' away from solving. Since their transfer from Kelly AFB to Brooks in October, the pair has been a sort of tag team of optimism when helping people.

The San Antonio natives offer more than just a friendly smile and a helping hand. Chavarria and Segura are both certified in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and first aide, something that has aided them in their previous assignments.

"I've had to deal with a lot of sports related injuries. A lot of guys blow out their knees, injure their ankles or break legs," Segura said, referring to intramural softball as the primary sport where he's been called to administer first aide. He said, "We provide the first-line medical treatment before the ambulance arrives. Last summer, I had to pop back in the eye of a player who was hit in the face with a softball." He also had to bandage together a softball player's hand that was nearly ripped apart when sliding into a base.

Segura's most traumatic situation involved a 37-year-old Kelly AFB softball player who died of a heart attack on the playing field. "They were playing a squadron softball game when he had a massive heart attack. Everyone froze in panic until someone ran into my office for help. I administered CPR, but he had already passed away."

Nothing seems to faze Segura who grew up on the gang-infested mean streets of San Antonio. The 1988 South San Antonio High School graduate never considered a sports career despite lettering in varsity football as a nose guard/center and in baseball as a catcher.



Pablo Segura Jr. and Janie Chavarria are committed to fitness center customer service. (Photo by Rudy Purificato)

"I was not thinking about a sports career in high school. I wanted to work in the fitness center," he said when describing his last two high school years where he worked part-time at Kelly AFB.

He earned a fulltime civil service job there after graduation. At Kelly, Segura was in charge of intramural softball, volleyball, flag football and soccer. He was also involved in the base boxing program, helping stage Air Force and Armed Forces matches.

At Brooks, Segura is the new varsity sports program director as well as a groundskeeper and a personal trainer.

"I'm a personal trainer in free weights and machine weights. Most people who I help want to get in shape by losing weight," he said. After individuals clear themselves with either the HAWC or base clinic pertaining to a personal weight training program, Segura profiles individuals to help them achieve their fitness goals.

Chavarria, meanwhile, uses her effervescent charm to get customers in the mood for sports activities. Occasionally, she can be seen mimicking either kick boxing enthusiasts or aerobics program students.

Never shy, Chavarria sometimes dances with athletes to help them 'warm up' for sports activities. Her fun-loving demeanor and good-natured outlook on life helps loosen up customers who otherwise may be in a less-than-friendly mood when they arrive at the fitness center.

"I'm learning the regular customers' moods, likes and dislikes. I try to make the best of every day," Chavarria admits, describing her afternoon shifts working the customer service desk as both playful and entertaining.

The 1966 Fox Tech High School graduate has always loved sports, but was never an athlete. She began her civil service career 15 years ago at Kelly AFB, initially serving as a recreation assistant. She eventually became youth sports program director. She has since become an expert on sports equipment and what customers need for sports activities supported by the fitness center.

She sees herself as an on-the-job counselor, psychologist, mentor and friend to all who seek her help.

SFS basketball players 'hoop it up' at Sea World

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

The basketball season is not quite over for two 311th Security Forces Squadron players who will be competing against some of San Antonio's best athletes in the annual 'Hoop It Up' competition at Sea World Saturday and Sunday.

Brooks varsity basketball squad starting forward Junell Dumas and intramural player-coach Manuel Palomarez will team together on a three-man squad to try to capture the city championship co-sponsored by the San Antonio Spurs and Footlocker.

"Last year, we placed second in the tournament. We lost to a squad that had a John Jay High School varsity player and a player from UTSA," said Dumas. He said the tournament features some great players

who play in a three-on-three half court format. The first team to score 16 points or be up by two points at the end of 20 minutes wins.

"We won our first four games last year, then lost one and finished by winning the last two games," Dumas said.

This year's Brooks squad will be coached by 311th SFS's Christian Madrigal.

The 6'7" Dumas will also attempt to defend the dunking crown he won last year during the event's individual competition. "I won the dunking contest against 50 players. This year, my younger brother James, a John Jay High School varsity player, is going to help coach me," Dumas said. For winning the dunking title, Dumas earned a pair of athletic shoes, a gift certificate and a T-shirt.

'Hoop It Up' will be conducted in Sea World's main parking lot beginning each day at 8 a.m.



SPORTS SHORTS

Attention softballers

The 13th annual "Weekend Bash" softball tournament is June 23-24 in Tucson, Ariz. Champions walk off with their choice of new gloves or bats.

The top four teams will receive awards. If you have an intramural squad that wishes to compete, call Greg Manning at (520) 228-5478.

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.

Registration opens online for Air Force Marathon

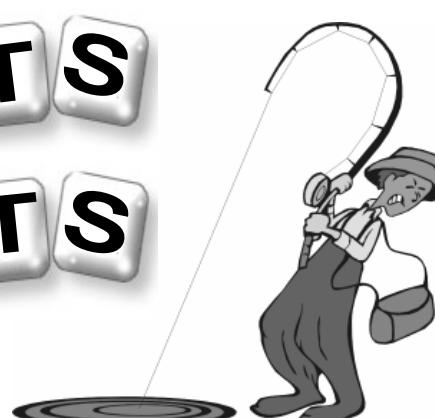
WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio (AFPN)—Online registration is now available for runners interested in participating in the fifth annual U.S. Air Force Marathon Sept. 22.

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.



Hill Country fly fishing

The sixth annual Texas Fly Fishing and Outdoor Show is 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.



Fiesta golf

The annual Brooks Fiesta Golf tournament is April 6 at the Brooks Golf Course. Registration time is 11 a.m., with tee time at noon.

Cost is \$25 per person or \$100 for team of four players. Format is Florida Scramble.

Prizes will be given for first, second and third place teams, closest to the pin and longest drive.

To register, call Ed Shannon at 536-5140.

MDS golf

The 311th Medical Squadron holds a Florida scramble golf tournament from 8 a.m.-noon, April 28 at the Brooks Golf Course.

Check-in begins at 7:30 a.m.

Only 64 individual players can compete for a total of 16 teams, so register early. Entry fee is \$25 per person and includes greens fee, cart and lunch.

To sign up or get additional information, call Capt Risa Riepma at 536-4159 or email risa.rieppma@brooks.af.mil or call Staff Sgt. Tracy Washington at 536-5147 or email tracy.washington@brooks.af.mil.



Sneaker Savvy

By Capt. Risa Riepma
Brooks Health and Wellness Center

If you've tried to buy a pair of athletic shoes recently, you probably realize that the canvas sneakers of the past have been replaced by high-tech, state-of-the-art athletic gear of the present and future.

Consumers are faced with so many options that the task of choosing a pair of shoes has become increasingly complicated and confusing, not to mention expensive.

Know what you need

When shopping for athletic shoes, the most important step is deciding what sport you will be using them for. Most sporting goods stores carry a variety of shoes for activities such as running, walking, tennis, basketball and aerobics.

Multi-purpose shoes such as cross trainers may be a good alternative for those who want to combine several sports or activities, such as bicycling and weight training, in a single workout.

Once you have decided on the particular type of shoe you need, it is important to know how to get a good fit.

Remember, no matter how popular a shoe is or how good it may look, it won't do you any good if you have blisters after the first week of wearing it.

Guidelines for buying shoes

When purchasing shoes for a specific sport or fitness activity, you must consider your foot type. People with high-arched feet tend to require greater shock absorption than those with average feet.

High-arched (cavus) feet also suffer from lateral instability and are more prone to ankle sprains. Conversely, people with low-arched ("flat") feet require shoes with less cushioning but greater support and heel control.

After considering the type of shoe needed for a particular activity and evaluating your needs based on your foot type, choose an athletic-shoe store or specialty store with a large inventory.

The shoe should be as wide as possible across the forefoot without allowing slippage in the heel. If the shoe has variable-width lacing, experiment with the narrow and wide eyelets to achieve a custom fit.

Collect box tops, enjoy a free night at the San Antonio Missions



General Mills is saying thank you to the military in San Antonio April 10, June 5 and July 31.

The company has purchased reserved seat tickets to see the San Antonio Missions baseball team and will be distributed to military personnel and their families assigned to San Antonio military bases.

Start collecting Box Tops for Education from General Mills' products. A prize drawing will be held in conjunction with Military Family Appreciation Nights.

Registration for the prizes will 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.

Registration boxes will be at various locations on Brooks Air Force Base. The Box Tops will be used to benefit schools.

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



For information on the Box Tops for Education program check out General Mills website at: www.boxtops4education.com.