

DISCOVERY



The Development of Combat Power and Efficiency

Vol. 26, No. 11— Friday, June 14, 2002 -- Brooks AFB, Texas

Through the Many Facets of Aerospace Medicine

Wolfowitz says dirty bomb plot highlights WMD dangers

By Jim Garamone
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Deputy Defense Secretary Paul Wolfowitz said the capture of an al Qaeda terrorist highlights the dangers posed by the whole range of weapons of mass destruction.

Speaking on the CBS Early Show and NBC Today Show June 11, Wolfowitz said law enforcement officials captured Abdullah al Muhajir, also known as Jose Padilla, in the early stages of plotting to plant a radiological “dirty bomb” in an American city.

A dirty bomb is conventional explosives surrounded by radioactive material. When the bomb explodes, it spews that material over a wide area in smoke and other particulate matter. The bomb’s destructive power depends on the amount, type and size of conventional explosives and radioactive material used.

Wolfowitz said the administration has said many times that the greatest danger facing the United States is “countries that have weapons of mass destruction who work with terrorists.” The U.S. State Department lists seven countries that sponsor terrorism: Cuba, Iran, Iraq, Libya, North Korea, Syria and Sudan.

Al Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden said in the past that the acquisition of weapons of mass destruction by his

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Photo by Staff Sgt. John Jung

Pool party — SERE style

Students in the Survival-Evasion-Resistance-Escape training course learn to manage their life rafts as part of SERE training in Bldg. 820. In an emergency aircraft evacuation, rafts may be flipped upside down when they’re deployed

in the water. Instructors in the U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine conduct SERE training, which is given to aircrew members, flight nurses, flight surgeons and aeromedical evacuation technicians. See Page 15.

S.A. mayor lauds Brooks for biomedical technology work

Garza holds press conference in Davis Hyperbaric Lab

By Rudy Purificato
311th Human Systems Wing

Dramatizing the importance of Brooks’s continuing role in the evolution of the city’s biomedical technology industry, San Antonio Mayor Ed Garza used the Davis Hyperbaric Laboratory as the venue for a June 1 press conference to highlight future initiatives for economic development.

The press conference was the first conducted by a San Antonio mayor at Brooks as part of a first-year-in-office anniversary review of the administration’s accomplishments and future plans. Garza used the laboratory’s largest hyperbaric chamber as a backdrop for his address while flanked by a diverse group of people who represented the city’s various partnerships.

“The priorities for me are standing behind me,” said Garza in referring to representatives from academia, city government, the biomedical technology and health care industry, homeland security and emergency services, education, and Air Force research and development. He noted, “We need to

continue to find ways to invest because it represents our future.”

Garza lauded Brooks’ on-going contributions to biomedical technology and health care that are part of future municipal plans for expanding economic development and quality of life opportunities in the city’s southern sector. “Our city’s largest business is

the biomedical and health care industry,” Garza said, explaining that investments in the medical center have resulted in on-going expansion.

The mayor said city plans include significant economic expansion on San Antonio’s southside.

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Wilford Hall team responds to save infant

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Brooks soccer star makes history again

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Photo by Staff Sgt. John Jung

With community and Air Force members by his side, San Antonio Mayor Ed Garza holds a press conference in Brooks’ Davis Hyperbaric Laboratory, June 1. Garza reflected on his first term in office and announced his vision for growth on the city’s southside, including Brooks City-Base.



Commentary



Photo by Dale Eckroth

Basic trainees at Lackland Air Force Base carry American flags during a graduation parade.

So, why do I serve my country?

(Editor's note: June 14 is Flag Day, a time to reflect on what the stars and stripes mean to us. For those of us associated with the Department of Defense, whether military or civilian, it's a time to ponder, "Why do I serve my country?")

By Tech. Sgt. Carl Norman

AFMC Public Affairs

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio (AFMNS) — As I was flipping through my television channels during the Memorial Day weekend, I found several news reports and commentaries honoring those who have fallen in battle before us.

Those reports told about ordinary people fighting in extraordinary circumstances for reasons they may not have understood or agreed with. They did it all because they had something inside bigger than self - patriotism and a desire to serve their country.

After wiping my eyes when the reports finished, I thought about all the patriotism being shown today in the wake of Sept. 11 - flags are flying everywhere and Americans are showing pride and confidence in their armed forces. Then I thought about what has kept me part of the Air Force team for nearly 18 years.

I could say it's because I love my job; the military pays pretty decent; I've got plenty of travel opportunities and medical coverage for me and my family; and those educational opportunities are great also. All of that would be true, but I could get those things at a number of other places. So, why the military?

I guess it's because of the warm feeling I get inside when kids salute me and total strangers come up and thank me for what I'm doing when I'm in uniform. It's also for those veterans who have come home from America's past wars and conflicts scarred physically and mentally, and the families of our fallen comrades we remembered Memorial Day. My service is to let them know their sacrifices to preserve freedom and democracy didn't go in vain.

When I was growing up, my older brother had a couple friends who had just returned from Vietnam. One had his right leg blown off and wore a wooden leg with a combat boot on the end. He had a good time with that; in the winter he would turn

that boot backwards as he walked through the snow so one print would be forward and the next facing backwards.

My brother's other friend didn't fare so well. He made it home all right physically, but he's like thousands of others who have hellish nightmares about their war experiences.

He always hit the deck when he heard sounds like cars backfiring. I'd hate to let them know I was only in the military for the pay or benefits.

I also serve because of things I learned while at the NCO Academy recently. Some of my fellow NCOs did a group paper on our experiences during Operation Desert Storm. Tech Sgt. Jack Ross from Shaw Air Force Base, N.C., shared his experiences at a missing in action museum tour in Kuwait.

He learned of the horrors Iraqi troops put the Kuwaiti people through like tying them to chairs then kicking them down flights of stairs over and over again. This and what he said his tour guide told him after the tour really brings things home for me. His tour guide said, "If the United States ever pulls their forces from the Middle East, I want to be on the first plane out of Kuwait because Iraq will invade us before the jets land in America."

Knowing I'm helping calm fears like this man has is a big reason I serve.

But the biggest reason I serve comes in the form of my wife and three children. I deploy to foreign countries, work long hours, put up with people I sometimes don't like at places I don't enjoy, all so they don't have to come home from school worried or afraid like they did Sept. 11.

Our NCO Academy class theme was "terrorism no more," and that's my wish not only for my children, but people all around the world. Military life is not glamorous sometimes and it can offer less than happy times I'll admit. But it's all in what you want to make it.

If you're coming to the military for benefits, a steady paycheck, education or whatever, that's what you're going to get and not much more. If you're coming to the military to be part of securing the domestic prosperity and way of life our constitution guarantees and America's fighting forces are pledged to defend, you'll find rewards no amount of money can touch.

So now it's your turn. Why is it, exactly, that you serve?

DISCOVERY

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311th HSW's Vanderbeek earns top AsMA award

By Rudy Purificato
311th Human Systems Wing

311th Human Systems Wing Plans and Programs Director Dr. Rodger Vanderbeek earned the highest honor in his career to date as the 2002 recipient of the prestigious George E. Schafer Award. The award was presented to Vanderbeek in May during the annual Aerospace Medical Association convention held in Montreal, Canada.

Sponsored by the Society of Air Force Flight Surgeons, the award is presented annually to an individual who has made significant long-term contributions to the Air Force and aerospace medicine.

The award is named in honor of retired Lt. Gen. George Schafer, former Air Force Surgeon General who previously served at Brooks in separate tours as commander of the Aerospace Medical Division and U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine.

"Because of whom this award is named after, and because of what General Schafer achieved and stands for, this award is the most meaningful of my career," said Vanderbeek who had Schafer belatedly and unofficially present the award to him at Brooks last week.

Schafer, a San Antonio resident, said since 1980 he has officially presented the award at AMA conventions, but was unable to attend this year's ceremony.

Vanderbeek, a retired Air Force colonel whose last assignment was as USAFSAM



"Because of whom this award is named after, and because of what General Schafer achieved and stands for, this award is the most meaningful of my career."

Dr. Rodger Vanderbeek
311th Human Systems Wing
Plans and Programs Director

commander, earned the honor on the strength of his Air Force aerospace medical career contributions.

His career began in 1971 when he received an Air Force commission through the University of Iowa ROTC program.

He subsequently became the undergraduate pilot training distinguished graduate at Williams AFB, Ariz., followed by several as-

signments that included serving as an F-4 pilot at Kunsan Air Base, South Korea, and as a dual-rated Air Force pilot physician in the F-16 at Moody AFB, Ga.; at Tactical Air Command headquarters at Langley AFB, Va., and at Air Force Surgeon General's headquarters at Bolling AFB, Washington, D.C.

He interrupted his Air Force career to attend the University of Iowa Medical School, earning his medical doctor degree in 1982.

Vanderbeek completed the aerospace medicine residency program in 1987 at USAFSAM.

Vanderbeek's significant aerospace medicine contributions include his work in sustained operations.

This encompassed fatigue countermeasures for Air Force operators on long duration missions, his advocacy for life support enhancements that improved warfighter equipment and performance, and his human factors work to mitigate pilot neck injuries from high acceleration G-forces.

Among his many accomplishments as USAFSAM commander was his leadership in directing a comprehensive review of future Air Force requirements in aerospace medical science and technology, and other initiatives that earned USAFSAM the Air Force "Team Aerospace Award for 2000" and the Air Force Materiel Command Hoyt Vandenburg Award.

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Thrift Savings Plan open season continues

AIR FORCE PERSONNEL CENTER — Civilian and military employees can sign up for or change their contributions during the Thrift Savings Plan's "open season" through July 31.

"TSP is an easy, long-term retirement savings plan, that everyone should consider," said Lt. Col. David Zeh, chief of the contact center at Randolph Air Force Base. "It's a great supplement to military and civilian retirement plans. And you only contribute what you feel you want to."

TSP offers investors the chance for lower taxes each year they contribute while not having to pay taxes on earnings until they reach retirement.

"Other features of the plan include a choice of five investment options, and an easy way to move your money between those options," said Janet Thomas, of the center's civilian benefits and entitlements service team.

The investment money can be paid directly out of each paycheck "so that you never have to think about it," said Zeh. "That makes it so easy to 'pay yourself first'."

The five TSP funds are: the Government Securities Investment (G) Fund; the Common Stock Index Investment (C) Fund; the Fixed Income Index Investment (F) Fund; the Small Capitalization Stock Index Investment (S) Fund; and the International Stock Index Investment (I) Fund.

Information is available for civilian employees from the TSP web site at www.tsp.gov/ or the BEST internet homepage at www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/dpc/BEST/menu.htm and for Air Force military personnel at www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/mpf/TSP/thrift_savings_plan.htm.

Some of the specifics of the program include:

Military

— Military members can initially contribute up to seven percent of their base pay with the option to increase that to 10 percent by 2005. They also have the ability to contribute all or part of their bonuses or special pay up to \$11,000 in 2002.

— Military members can enroll through the Defense Finance and Accounting Service web site at www.dfas.mil/emss/ or go to the local military personnel flight, finance office or family support center and ask for form TSP-U-1.

— Contribution allocations are made by calling the TSP automated ThriftLine at (504) 255-8777 or on the TSP web site at www.tsp.gov/. For general TSP questions, call the AFPC Contact Center at 565-2949 or (800) 558-1404.

Civilian

— Federal Employees' Retirement System employees may contribute up to 12 percent of their basic pay each pay period.

— Employees covered by the Civil Service Retirement System may contribute up to seven percent of their basic pay each pay period, but do not receive any matching contributions.

— Beginning with the Nov. 15 open season FERS employees can contribute 13 percent and CSRS employees can contribute 8 percent.

— All Air Force civilian employees must make their TSP contribution elections or changes through the BEST automated phone system or web application by July 31.

The BEST phone system may be reached at (800) 997-2378, or commercial 527-2378 within San Antonio.

Counselors are available Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. - 7 p.m.



Mayor

Continued from Page 1

Pivotal to this expansion are investments made in support of Brooks City-Base development, fostering what Garza described as an "economic climate" for future growth. Present during the mayor's address was one of Brooks City-Base's chief supporters, District 3 City Councilwoman Toni Moorhouse, whose advocacy greatly contributed to the initiative's implementation.

"I was so pleased he (mayor) chose Brooks (for his address). Brooks is going to become one of the (economic) anchors for the southside," Moorhouse said, explaining that City-Base will bring in higher paying jobs while promoting technology development. Moorhouse's contributions to City-Base include her role in getting city council to approve \$1 million in last year's budget for its development and her collaboration with Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison to secure additional federal funding.

Part of the economic climate the mayor alluded to is continual improvements made to the city's infrastructure, built through partnerships with various stakeholders. This infrastructure includes such resources as transportation networks, research facilities, academic and training assets linked to workforce development, and key municipal services that the city can use to support quality of life and economic development initiatives.

"There has been talk in Washington, D.C., for creating a federal vaccine facility. San Antonio is among a handful of cities able to compete (for it), because of our infrastructure," Garza announced. Following the press conference, the mayor said, "We're developing a strategy and plans to position the city to bid for the federal (vaccine) facility."

Garza did not rule out the possibility of such a facility being located at Brooks City-Base, since part of the infrastructure needed to support such an operation already exists here. Since 1988, the Air Force Institute for Environment, Safety and Occupational Health Risk Analysis' Virology Laboratory has developed numerous influenza vaccines in support of the World Health Organization and the Centers for Disease Control.

"I'm really pleased and very encouraged by the mayor's remarks about the city's planned investments in the southside," said Dr. Brendan Godfrey, 311th Human Systems Wing deputy director. Godfrey and 311th HSW Commander Brig. Gen. Lloyd Dodd were among several Brooks senior leaders who attended the press conference.

They were particularly supportive of the mayor's comments about promoting math, science and engineering careers at local universities and colleges aimed at developing a future local workforce. "We need to attract top scientists and invest in research facilities," Garza said, noting that one of his administration's top priorities is creating opportunities to invest in biomedical technology and health care development.

Garza also discussed homeland security, noting San Antonio's on-going relationship with local military organizations such as Brooks whose assets are part of city mass casualty and disaster preparedness plans. "Since 9-11, the city has come together. Homeland security is a priority, but is not just needed in response to terrorism. Homeland security begins with education, with knowledgeable young men and women in math and science who represent our future," the mayor said.

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Bees attack contractor, safety concerns raised

'101 Critical Days of Summer' incident

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

A swarm of bees that attacked a Brooks contractor on June 4 provides a dramatic example of the consequences associated with safety lapses during these '101 Critical Days of Summer.'

The contractor was stung approximately 30 times while mowing grass near a cable storage yard located off the old flight line and in the vicinity of Bldg. 1155.

According to Staff Sgt. Gary Brock with the 311th Security Forces Squadron, the vibrations from the mower disturbed the hive. The man was later transported to the Brooks Clinic where he was treated and released, Brock said.

A San Antonio Pest Control exterminator destroyed the bees that attacked the contractor.

"We don't know whether they were honey bees or the Africanized ('Killer') bees," said Dave Lemme, Brooks ground safety manager and acting chief of safety.

Lemme said the condition of the victim was not life threatening. However, the incident underscores the need for the Brooks community to be wary of their surroundings, especially during the summer.

"It's not just bees you have to look out for. There are wasps, hornets and other varmints that seek moisture during periods of hot weather and low moisture," said Lemme.

Lemme said the recent bee attack was the first incident since 1986 in which a victim was stung multiple times. "We've had bee colony concerns (over the years), especially in the southeast quadrant of the base. Our CE (Civil Engineering) workers used to get stung by bees and wasps when they were (responsible for) cutting the grass," explained Lemme.

"People especially need to be aware of bees and rattlesnakes on base," noted Brock, who said these creatures are prevalent throughout undeveloped areas to include the old flight line.

"We see a lot of rattlesnakes as well as stray dogs. Even if you are jogging on the main road, you need to be aware of your surroundings," cautioned Brock.

The only known rattlesnake-induced fatality occurred on April 14, 1996, in a grassy area on an old runway ramp near the youth sports complex. Brooks dependent Tina Grujic was walking her dog when a rattlesnake attacked and killed the pet.

According to entomologist Bo Davis, with San Antonio-based Custom Pest Services, the best precaution to avoid being swarmed by bees is to not swat at them or attempt to destroy the hive.

"They swarm all summer. You can not tell by looking at them whether they are honeybees or Killer bees. They look identical. Their identity can only be determined at the molecular level through their DNA," Davis explained.

The highly aggressive hybrid Killer bees have been a problem in San Antonio since they migrated here around 1991. "A good rule is not to disturb any bee. When you swat at a normal (honey) bee, you

“They swarm all summer. You can not tell by looking at them whether they are honeybees or Killer bees. They look identical. Their identity can only be determined at the molecular level through their DNA.”

Bo Davis

San Antonio entomologist

may or may not get stung," Davis said, adding, "When you swat at a Killer bee, it releases a chemical communicator called a pheromone which targets you as a danger to the colony and signals the others to swarm and attack."

"When they swarm, they're not too picky who they attack. Anyone in the vicinity becomes a target."

Should that occur, Davis noted, the best thing to do is find shelter quickly, preferably inside a building or a car. He said you can't out run Killer bees and diving into a swimming pool or any other water source is useless because they will wait until the person surfaces.

Davis also advises homeowners who discover hives to seek professional pest control help.

"Call any pest control company. They will contact a professional beekeeper who will remove the hive without killing the bees. Venom from these bees is used to produce serum antibodies for people who are allergic to them," Davis noted.

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Photo by Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing Commander Brig.Gen. Lloyd Dodd and Kathy Cooke, widow of Dr. Dave Erwin, unveil the street sign named in honor of Erwin.

Scientist's dream comes true; base dedicates 'Dave Erwin Drive'

By Rudy Purificato
311th Human Systems Wing

"It's wonderful that a man like Dave has been honored in this way. It's actually ful-

filling a dream of his to have something named after him," said Dr. Dave Erwin's widow Kathy Cooke following the official street sign dedication ceremony June 7.

Officiating at the ceremony, held at the intersection of Kennedy Circle and Dave Erwin Drive, was Brig. Gen. Lloyd Dodd, 311th Human Systems Wing commander, who said, "Today, we are here to recognize a DoD and national level scientist who was world famous in microwave and radiation field technology."

A large crowd of friends, family and former colleagues gathered to honor the late Brooks leader whose life was cut short by cancer last year at age 55.

Dodd said it was only fitting that the longest street at Brooks be named in Erwin's honor as a legacy to a scientist who was loved and admired by many people. The location for the ceremony could not have been more appropriate.

A few hundred feet from the ceremony site is the Bldg. 180 office that Erwin last occupied before his death as director of the Air Force Institute for Environment, Safety and Occupational Health Risk Analysis.

Referring to Erwin as a truly special person, Dodd said, "By dedicating this street, we truly put him in the same league as Air Force scientific pioneers." The HSW commander was alluding to many Air Force scientists, commanders and aviation pioneers whose names are showcased on street signs throughout the base.

The Erwin street dedication is the second in a series of ceremonies held here in recent months as a result of Brooks fulfilling a city requirement to re-name 29 streets, made necessary by City-Base.

Born in 1945 in Oklahoma, Erwin was an accomplished pianist as well as an eminent physicist. After surviving a Vietnam War tour as a Navy enlisted electronics technician, Erwin used the G.I. Bill to further his education. He eventually earned a Ph.D in physiology and biophysics from the University of Oklahoma Health Science Center.

Following a two-year teaching and research tour at the

University of Kansas Medical Center, Erwin was recruited into Air Force civil service at Brooks in 1977 where he worked as a research physicist for the U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine.

Erwin was a pioneer in electromagnetic radiation and microwave research. His knack for persuasion and team building helped him convince the U.S. Army and Navy to collocate their microwave biological effects programs at Brooks.

This resulted in the creation of the TRISERVICE "Project Reliance" for which he became director. Erwin's other Brooks leadership tours included serving as USAFSAM's Radiofrequency Radiation Division chief and Armstrong Laboratory deputy director.

In a March 1997 Discovery interview Erwin said, "I really enjoyed working with a lot of people who I consider as having had the best minds in the world."

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Brooks receives UCI report card

Inspection team singles out individuals, base chapel staff

By Rita Boland

Staff Writer

Brooks underwent its first inspection in five years with a Unit Compliance Inspection April 28 - May 7.

The UCI team from the Aeronautical Systems Center at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, graded 48 areas. Thirty-eight areas were in compliance, seven were in compliance with comments and three were not in compliance.

The last inspection was an Operational Readiness Inspection in March 1997. Then, Brooks received a rating of "excellent." Three months earlier, the base received a "satisfactory" on a Quality Air Force Assessment. UCI

teams do not give an overall rating.

According to this year's UCI report, the "311th Human Systems Wing logistical and administrative support during the inspection was outstanding."

The objectives of the UCI were: to evaluate compliance with items and activities required for safety, by federal law or military requirements; to evaluate an organization's ability to execute a robust and quantifiable management system leading to sustained effective mission performance; to identify obstacles to mission accomplishment; to evaluate adequacy of the selected Personnel Management Pro-

gram; and to identify best practice candidates.

"Any institution benefits from a good, honest, periodic scrub by outside evaluators, and our last such look was five years ago ... far too long," said 311th HSW Commander Brig. Gen. Lloyd Dodd. "This experienced UCI team brought fresh eyes and perspectives to us and really did us a service by showing us some areas where we might improve our support to the mission and our care of our people. The overall outcome, though, was extremely positive. While we do have some areas where we can improve, we also shined almost across the board."

Twenty-nine individuals received "outstanding performer" awards and the wing chapel received an "outstanding team" award. The wing chapel consisted of Chaplains (Lt. Col.) Dennis McCarty, (Maj.) William Cannon, (Capt.) Stephen Allen and Tech Sgt. Linda Cuellar.

"We are very honored. We did not know about a team designation, so there was no conscious working toward that end," McCarty said. "What a blessing this staff has been for the past three years. This staff truly has a 99-

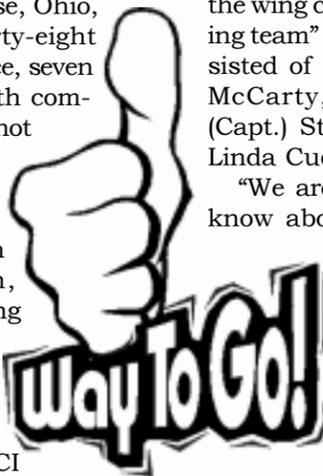
to-one positive attitude ratio. We enjoy our work. We

enjoy each other. We have our challenges but none are insurmountable.

"I believe it is a real tribute to this small energetic staff that it was done well. Also, our inspector arrived a couple of days before the rest of the UCI team. What a challenge."

Lt. Col. Susan Loveland, 311th HSW inspector general, had the following to say about the UCI, "I appreciated the team effort and General Dodd's leadership on a successful evaluation, and the resulting 'Wing down day' on the 28th of June for a job well done."

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UCI Outstanding Performers

Capt. Brian Collins
311 HSW/YAMA

Capt. Shane Lewis
311 HSW/YA

Capt. Risa Riepma
311 MDS/SGPZ

1st Lt. Melody Santo
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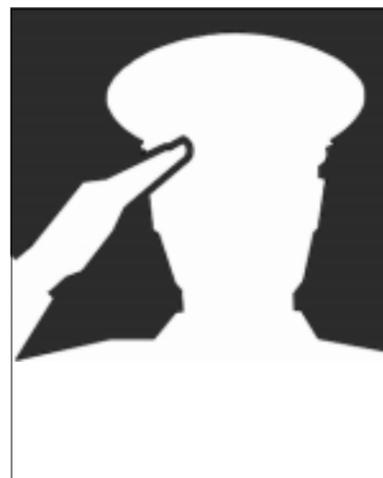
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311 HSW/FMF

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311 MDS/SGPZ

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311 MDS/SGPB



Airman 1st Class Brian Bowles
311 CS/SCXP

Airman 1st Class Monica Cathey
311 MDS/SGPZ

Airman 1st Class Erica Hernandez
311 CS/SCBN

Airman 1st Class Jennifer Kloth
311 ABG/DPMAE

Airman 1st Class Gonzalo Rodriguez Jr.
311 CS/SCBN

Sylvia Lambaria
311 HSW/YACS

Mario Trevino
311 HSW/YACSB

Larry Valchar
311 HSW/YAS

Teresa Asbury
311 HSW/FMN

Margie Kurtz
311 CS/SCXP

Shane Spahr
311 MDS/SGPZ



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.

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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
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Commissary.....	536-3549
Brooks City-Base Office.....	536-6626

Here are replies to some of the 3x5 card questions and comments you have made at the last few wing commander's calls. Only a portion of the cards can be addressed today or in this forum. Some of the cards have been sent to the various OPRs within the wing and groups for further staffing and some cards (such as these, below) are of broad interest. In some cases I have combined very similar cards to provide one response. Just wanted to let you know we are listening.

Q. Are wing commander's calls mandatory for contractors working on Brooks?

A: No. Uniformed military and civil service only.

Q. How about having Desert BDU days for the folks who earned them? Maybe Fridays?

A: Absolutely. If you earned them and want to wear them on Fridays, please do so.

Q. The CSAF Survey told us a lot about what we think about ourselves, but what do our customers think of us?

A: Great question. The CSAF Survey wasn't designed to provide customer feedback so we have to seek other methods to garner that important perspective. The units across base do this with a variety of formal and less formal tools ranging from customer feedback surveys to phone calls to head-to-head meetings here and at the MAJCOMs. All major organizations and directorates regularly have program and functional management reviews where they present the state of their outfit's health to all the leadership, including other unit commanders and two-letters. At these sessions, metrics are reviewed and all units have customer feed-

back as part of their metrics package. Feedback is critical and we always need to fight for it in order to remain relevant to those we serve.

Q. Why don't we do a compressed (alternate) work schedule like it is done at Keesler where the entire base takes a day off?

A: When we started the process of requesting AWS for our folks we were given very clear guidance from MAJCOM that we would never give our customers outside the base the impression that we weren't working full days on their needs. Brooks already has a bit of a reputation [which I really dislike] of being a low-key base. We who live and work here know better, but if outside people were to call on Fridays and find out nobody was at the office, that erroneous impression would simply be further confirmed in their minds. Just not an option for us.

Q. What is the status of tele-work (working from home) at Brooks?

A: The prospect of being able to use the modern communication tools to change the way we do work is very tempting but has not yet gained wide acceptance in the DoD. Last year ASC-North started a limited test of the concept. Honestly, I think it will be at least several years before we see it here.

Q. Can we put exercise equipment in the larger buildings/units?

A: Each organization is free to manage space and time for exercising. If a unit wanted to install exercise equipment I would encourage them to spend some time talking to folks in the HAWC and Fitness Center to make sure they were getting what they really needed and all safety issues were covered.



NEWS briefs

Base library book fair

A book fair will be conducted at the Brooks Library June 18 and 19, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Come and see the broad selection of books at 70 percent off retail. Selections include cookbooks, gardening books, CDs, history books and much more. This is the perfect time to stock up on books for the children's summer reading list. Books are nice birthday gifts also.

Call the Base Library for more information 536-2634.

Lackland expo

A communication and information systems products and services expo will be held at Lackland Air Force Base's Mitchell Hall, June 26, 9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Several exhibitors will be on hand to show their latest technology. Coffee, donuts, pizza and subs will be served. The expo is open and free to all government, Department of Defense and contractors. Mitchell Hall is located on Kenly Ave. For more information, call toll-free (877) 332-3976.

Enlisted ceremony

The next Brooks enlisted promotion ceremony is scheduled for June 27 at 3 p.m. in the Brooks Club, Bldg. 204. All enlisted promotees will be recognized for their promotion to the next higher grade for July. Come out and support the newest promotees.

Hepatitis C screenings

Free Hepatitis C screenings are being offered to San Antonians during

June. The San Antonio Health Department and Gonzaba Medical Group are conducting screenings at 720 Pleasanton Road.

Screenings are available Mondays 1:30-4:30 p.m. and Wednesdays 9 a.m. - noon. For more information, call 921-3800.

TRICARE adds Walgreens

If you are eligible for TRICARE, you can now fill prescriptions at Walgreens by presenting a military identification card, or TRICARE Prime card and paying the copayment.

Pharmacy copayments are \$3 for generic medications and \$9 for brand name medications for a 30-day supply.

Active Duty Service Members do not pay copayments for prescriptions at retail network pharmacies.

A list of network pharmacy locations is available at: www.hnfs.net.

For complete detailed information on TRICARE pharmacy benefits, contact the TRICARE Service Center at (800) 406-2832.

Clinic volunteers

The Brooks Clinic is looking for a few good volunteers for the reception desk.

Knowledge of medical records, computers and experience in customer service is a plus. Training is available.

The reception desk responsibilities include greeting patients, scheduling appointments, pulling medical records, checking in patients for appointments, including paperwork, answering

phones, and directing calls and smiling.

Call Capt. Rebekah Friday at 536-6984 or Tech. Sgt. Rene Flores at 536-8533 for information.

Voting website

The Federal Voting Assistance Program announced the inauguration of its alternate web site at: www.fvap.gov.

This new web site is in addition to the current site at: www.fvap.ncr.gov.

The two web sites are expected to provide access to voting information for all citizens, regardless of location.

The FVAP can also be contacted by telephone through the Department of Defense voting information center. The toll-free number is listed on the website.

Additionally, the program is accessible via email at: vote@fvap.ncr.gov.

Altitude test subjects

Scientists at Brooks need a number of volunteer subjects to participate in hypobaric (altitude) chamber research projects.

Air Force aircrew members who are interested and meet the qualifications will earn approximately \$150 per month for participating in one session per month.

Volunteers must meet Air Force body fat, height/weight standards, be a non-smoker for at least two years, be between 20-45 years old, and able to pass an appropriate physical exam.

Contact Jim Carlile at 536-3546 or Heather Alexander at 536-3440 for more information.

Dirty Bomb

Continued from Page 1

terrorist gang is a religious duty. U.S. and coalition troops in Afghanistan found evidence that al Qaeda was aggressively pursuing chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear information and material.

Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld has said many times that if terror groups get these types of material and launch an attack, the casualty toll would dwarf Sept. 11's.

Wolfowitz said Muhajir started out in Brooklyn and Chicago as a petty criminal.

"Somewhere along the way he got converted to being something else," Wolfowitz said. "And out in Pakistan and Afghanistan he was working on plots to do the most horrendous kinds of things in this country."

The deputy secretary said Muhajir's capture is an example of the cooperation between the Defense Department and law enforcement agencies.

On June 10, the Justice Department turned Muhajir over to DoD. He is being held in the Navy brig in Charleston, S.C.

Wolfowitz said the terrorist has been classified as an "enemy combatant."

The military can hold him "until the end of the conflict," he said. The deputy said Muhajir clearly had associates in the plot, and intelligence officials are interrogating the terrorist to track down those people.



UTSA to open interactive classroom on base

By Rita Boland

Staff Writer

Brooks will soon have a web-based interactive classroom, compliments of the University of Texas at San Antonio. UTSA and money from a Telecommunications Infrastructure Funds grant — a state grant — are funding the project.

The classroom, located in Bldg. 559, room 5, is scheduled to open for the 2002 Fall semester. The classroom will have 30 computers, video conferencing equipment, and T1 circuits. Brooks researchers will be invited to be guest lecturers, in addition to standard classes scheduled on base.

The classroom is one product of the "Memorandum of Understanding" signed by Brooks and UTSA last year. The agreement formalized joint interests in education, basic and applied research; partnerships between business, government and academia; and economic development in technology, primarily in the biotechnology/bioengineering and information technology arenas.

UTSA offered its first class on Brooks last semester, a course in human physiology taught by Dr. Clyde Phelix.

In collaboration with St. Philips College, Phelix was recently awarded a "Bridges to Baccalaureate" grant designed to help minority students make the transition from a community college to a four-year university and to obtain science degrees.

Although the College of Sciences will be the first to offer a class in the interactive classroom, others like UTSA's Colleges of Business and Education are also considering appropriate offerings.

“City-Base has widened the scope of possible collaborative ventures. We at UTSA hope to get things going that will be useful and of interest to the South San Antonio community and even further south.”

Meredith Sterling
UTSA College of Sciences

“The College of Sciences was the natural choice to lead in this venture because of the collaborative research and other projects already underway at Brooks,” said Meredith Sterling, representing the College of Sciences. “We hope to offer many more classes out here as time goes on.”

The classes at Brooks will be open to military and civilians who are enrolled at UTSA. The formation of Brooks City-Base allows civilian residents from the area to take advantage of the new courses and classroom facilities on the base, and will encourage joint efforts between UTSA, the City of San Antonio, and other business and community institutions.

“City-Base has widened the scope of possible collaborative ventures,” Sterling said. “We at UTSA hope to get things going that will be useful and of interest to the South San Antonio community and even further south. These areas are currently underserved by any local university.”

Rita.Boland@brooks.af.mil

**JUNE IDEA
PROMOTIONAL
MONTH!**

\$10,000

**Penny for your
Thoughts?**

Submit your IDEA at [https://
ideas.randolph.af.mil](https://ideas.randolph.af.mil)

Contact the Base IDEA Analyst for assistance
at 536-3661, ask for Andrea Garcia

All IDEAs submitted during
June will receive a small
IDEA gift of their choice

Approved IDEAs submitted
during June will receive
a small handy cooler
or a small FM radio!





EDQW earns first special environmental award in five years

By Rita Boland
Staff Writer

On May 1 the Secretary of Defense issued a Special Environmental Award for the first time in five years. The Environmental Data Quality Workgroup, a tri-service organization, received the honor for fiscal year 2001.

Four members of Brooks were part of the EDQW, including Dr. George Lee of the Air Force Institute for Environment, Safety and Occupational Health Risk Analysis.

His role in the EDQW is to lead the Audit/Oversight/Proficiency Testing Task Action Team which formulates laboratory evaluation procedures, using Army, Navy, and Air Force team member input.

"I didn't know we'd get the award," Lee said. "I just like to do my work and do the best I can knowing that's what's expected."

Lee's TAT ensures that Department of Defense guidelines are followed by laboratories being used by DoD.

"It is so much better to know that this program will be

in place," Lee said. "There are still laboratories being brought up on fraud charges. Just knowing that we can do an audit at any time helps keep the other laboratories on track."

The other Brooks personnel who were involved are Dr. William Batschelet, Maj. Kevin Kuhn and Mr. Burt Harrison, all of the Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence.

The EDQW is a tri-service (Navy/Marines, Army, Air Force) organization that provides uniform guidelines to all DoD laboratories who handle chemical analysis of water and soil.

"We now have in words what the DoD expects from laboratories," Lee said. "This puts the three services on a common level of thinking. We can better focus on environmental quality while by leveraging resources to be cost and personnel effective."

Brooks personnel can supervise analytical chemistry operations both in-house and in the commercial sector to ensure that all employees and organizations are following appropriate guidelines.

Because of the program consistency personnel from other services know the results meet quality standards.

"AFIERA, including contractors, analyze samples and do the paperwork, customers get a report," Lee said. "That would be the City-Base connection — Air Force needs met with community involvement."

In the past, each branch of the service might conduct the same research because of their specific guidelines. By using EDQW specifications, the military saves money, time and manpower.

"We have requirements and we have expectations," Lee said. "It gives (labs) guidelines and consistency so the DoD can say 'This is a good laboratory.' When we do get data we can legitimately say the Navy and Army are thinking the same way we are."

The most important thing is the cooperation the three services are putting together. When data comes out, there is no reason that data should not be valid."

Rita.Boland@brooks.af.mil

MPF NEWS

Hours of operation

Military Personnel Flight hours of operation are Monday through Friday, 7:15 a.m. - 3 p.m. In-house training is no longer conducted Wednesdays, 7:15-9 a.m. Call 536-1845.

Points of contact

For information on personnel relocations and employment, contact 2nd Lt. Brian Batson at 536-43091 or Master Sgt. Ken Sneed at 536-3396. For customer support contact 1st Lt. Danielle Weston 536-6977.

New active duty Air Force officers

Units are not authorized to approve early reporting for any second lieutenant reporting to his or her initial assignment on an extended active duty order, Air Force Form 766.

These lieutenants are not authorized to travel prior to the effective date of duty as indicated in Block 13 of the 766. This is important because any deviation affects the new lieutenant's pay and service dates.

The only office authorized to

approve a change in EAD is the Air Force Personnel Center at Randolph Air Force Base.

The member's ROTC detachment should work a change request prior to travel through HQ AFPC for approval.

Should you in-process a new lieutenant who initiated travel before his or her EAD date in Block 13, please advise the person, the only course of action is to apply for relief through the Air Force Board for Correction of Military Records. Contact Dennis Miller, HQ AFPC/DPPAO, 565-4312.

National Defense Service Medal

The National Defense Service Medal has been approved for all military members on duty Sept. 11, 2001. You can wear this decoration immediately.

The MPF is working to acquire the medals for all first-time recipients and will give them out to units for distribution.

If you cannot wait for this, you may purchase the medal and wear immediately.



Brooks researchers study Charleston AFB's crew rest to optimize performance

(Editor's note: Dr. Bill Storm, world-renowned sleep researcher at Brooks Air Force Base, will retire July 3 after more than 32 years of civil service.)

By Staff Sgt. Jason Smith
437 AW Public Affairs

CHARLESTON AFB, S.C. — Crews from each of Charleston Air Force Base's active-duty airlift squadrons are undergoing sleep research in hopes of finding the perfect sleep schedule for future missions.

Researchers from the U.S. Air Force Research Laboratory at Brooks and the Air Force Operational Test and Evaluation Center, Kirtland AFB, N.M., are conducting the sleep research during real-world missions flown by the 14th, 15th and 17th Airlift Squadrons.

Dr. Bill Storm, a senior research scientist from AFRL, said sleep research for the Air Force is not new. The Air Force has been conducting sleep studies for more than 25 years, and Storm worked with Charleston C-141 crews in the 1970s and 1980s.

He said the reason for his latest visit is to look at a new



File photo

“Seldom can we say, ‘That’s a bad time to bomb.’ My philosophy is that any sleep is good sleep.”

Dr. Bill Storm
Air Force Research Laboratory

software program called the Fatigue Avoidance Scheduling Tool.

“FAST allows us to take the work schedule of a security force member or pilot and

compare it to their sleep schedule,” said Storm. “We can look at a particular mission and say, ‘Here’s what time the drop is. If you take a nap at this particular time in the mission, you’ll be at your maximum performance capability for the drop.’”

“Seldom can we say, ‘That’s a bad time to bomb,’” continued Storm. “My philosophy is that any sleep is good sleep. However, there are certain times during the duration of a long mission when you’ll get a more restorative sleep at one point in that mission than another.”

Knowing when a person needs sleep and when they will be at their maximum performance level is based on the Circadian Rhythm, according to Storm. Everyone has a Circadian Rhythm, or body clock, that runs for about 24 hours. At about the 18-hour point of being awake, a person will start to experience performance deficit.

“At 18 hours, you’ll start feeling tired, like you need sleep,” Storm said. “There’s a reason for that. Your Circadian Rhythm is on the downside. You will start having re-

action time problems, and if you stay awake that whole first day, your performance will drop by 20 or 25 percent.”

A person needs between 7.5 and 8.5 hours of sleep every night, according to Storm. He said a lot of people get by on 6 hours regularly, and because of the lack of sleep, they’re not performing at their maximum level.

Overseas missions also greatly affect the performance of aircrews because of the difference between a crewmember’s body clock and the cultural clock for the area they may have to fly to.

According to Storm, it’s not practical for an aircrew member to try to pre-adapt to a new area’s cultural clock. For instance, it would take a person about six days to prepare their body clock for Germany’s cultural clock (about one hour of adjustment per day.)

Since most crews don’t have six day’s notice, and since adjusting a body clock involves things like black out curtains, Storm said it’s best just to get as much sleep as possible before departing home base.

The FAST software being

studied will account for things like sleep attained prior to departing home base. Storm said the sleep schedules of the aircrews being studied are recorded prior to leaving for a mission.

During the mission, crewmembers wear actigraphs, watch-like sleep monitors, to record the times when they are asleep. When the crews return, information from the actigraphs is downloaded into the software.

“Pilots are also completing a vision reaction time test three or four times each day,” said Storm. “The test is very sensitive to tracking sleep loss.”

Currently, a researcher is flying with each of the crews to help measure sleep patterns and recommend prime times to nap. Storm said the researchers are traveling with the test crews as they fly to Germany to take part in Operation Enduring Freedom missions.

Eventually, Storm would like to see all the research pay off in the form of user-friendly software that flight-planning officials can use while scheduling missions.



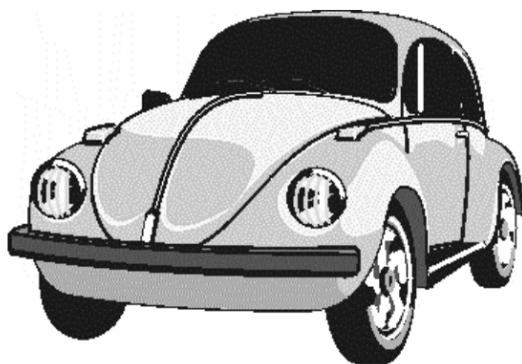
Brooks Family Support Center activities

Call 536-2444 for information

Sponsor Training

June 17, 10-11 a.m., Bldg. 537

In accordance with Air Force Instruction 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.



Car buying strategies

June 18, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., Bldg 537

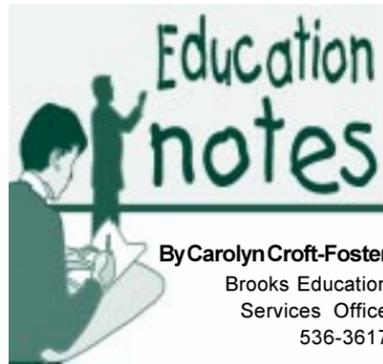
Find out how to research, obtain free information, budget, compare financing vs. leasing and negotiating the best deal!

Volunteer meeting

June 18, 2-3 p.m., Bldg 537

This is a call for past and present volunteer coordinators and managers within the Brooks community. All of the volunteers, whether active duty,

Department of Defense civilians, family members or retirees are cordially invited. Topics to be discussed are: notifications of the volunteer opportunities (e-mail, telephone number, bulletin board); next year's recognition in April (National Volunteer Week); Volunteer Excellence Award (VEA) worldwide recognition; other volunteer competitions and information that are relevant to volunteers



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



Day Vaccarezza

sity. Following completion of their bachelor's degrees they will be commissioned as second lieutenants in the Air Force. Congratulations!

Six CLEP exams to be retired

The College Board is retiring six CLEP subject paper-based tests in fiscal 2002. The exams that will be retired July 1 are: American Government, College Algebra and Trigonometry, Human Growth and Development, Marketing, Sociology, and Trigonometry.

Anyone wishing to take one of these exams must take it prior to July 1. A special test date has been scheduled for June 26 at 8 a.m. for these exams. Please call 536-3617 to reserve a seat.

CLEP, DSST exams featured this month

The Speech Exam will be offered June 21 at 8 a.m. The Social Sciences and History Exam will be given June 26 at 8 a.m. Students who need credit for the Community College of the Air Force are encouraged to take these exams. The English with Essay exam will be offered July 17 at 8 a.m. Call 536-3617 to reserve a seat.

Two from AFIERA selected for ROTC

Staff Sgt. Charles Day and Staff Sgt. Adam Vaccarezza have been selected to attend ROTC at Southwest Texas State Univer-

AWC/ACSC recruits for non-resident seminar

Recruitment is beginning for the Air War College and the Air Command and Staff College non-resident seminars. AWC enrollment is open to lieutenant colonel selects and above and GS-13s and above. Registration forms are available on the AWC homepage at:

www.au.af.mil/au/awc/enrolppr.htm

Forms should be brought to Education Services for processing. Seminars are expected to begin at the end of July. ACSC enrollment is open to major selects and above and GS-11s and above.

Registration forms are available at the Education Services customer service desk. For more information visit Education Services in Bldg. 558 or call 536-3617.

Excelsior college sets essay exams

Students wishing to take an Excelsior College Essay Exam Aug. 2 need to request their exam by today, June 14. Regular CLEP and DANTES testing are available every Friday at 8 a.m. by appointment only. Call 536-3617 to reserve a seat or to order an exam.



Photo by Rudy Purificato

Caring for a feathered friend

Santiago "Jim" Tello, an Air Force Research Laboratory civilian, calms a fledgling he rescued recently near the Davis Hyperbaric Laboratory. Tello prevented an attacking mockingbird from killing the baby bird, something he has done with other fledglings during past episodes of the spring nesting season.



Today

Brooks Picnic Bash!

11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

at the base picnic grounds

Food ... Fun ... Games for everyone!



Brooks dealt 'ACE' in acquisition game plan

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

Part of Air Force Secretary Dr. James Roche's game plan for greatly enhanced warfighter support in the post-911 era has taken shape with the establishment of the Air Force Acquisition Center of Excellence (ACE) at Brooks.

Earlier this year, the 311th Human Systems Wing's ACE was officially created as a separate organization committed to revolutionizing Air Force acquisition. Directly reporting to 311th HSW deputy director Dr. Brendan Godfrey, ACE replaces the Contracting Directorate's Acquisition Support Team.

"Dr. Marvin Sambur, Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition, came up with the idea for ACE," said ACE facilitator Dean Carsello. Sambur's initiative to establish ACEs at Air Force product and logistics centers supports one of Roche's goals to improve Air Force acquisition efforts aimed at fulfilling wide-ranging customer requirements through contracts that provide the goods and services needed to meet national defense objectives.

"The old mindset was 'this is the way it's always been done.' The ACE mindset is 'everything is subject to improvement and change,'" said ACE facilitator Mike Mullen, referring to the cultural shift within the acquisition community called 'Agile Acquisition.'

This new, flexible and streamlined approach to analyzing business practices and identifying and mitigating problems affecting the acquisition process is the core of the new organization's mission, explained ACE facilitator Carol Machacek. She said the

“ The old mindset was ‘this is the way it’s always been done.’ The ACE mindset is ‘everything is subject to improvement and change.’ ”

Mike Mullen

Acquisition Center of Excellence facilitator

ultimate goal is to provide customers with faster, more efficient delivery of products and services that will enhance warfighter capability.

Carsello said the creation of ACE represents a milestone in Air Force acquisition history, noting that its evolution has moved beyond 'acquisition reform' to 'acquisition excellence.' "We'll be focusing on results rather than blind adherence to policies and procedures," Carsello noted.

The results-oriented ACE staff, headed by interim director Lorraine Massie, has already built a foundation for success. During the past year, they have supported 22 acquisitions at Brooks representing about \$2.3 billion. The current eight-member staff, located in Bldg. 649, supports all Brooks organizations.

For ACE assistance call 536-2180, or for information on acquisition excellence initiatives search the SAF web page at <http://www.safaq.hq.af.mil>.

Rudolph.Purificato@brooks.af.mil



Photo by Cliff Lipson/CBS

Actual retail price is ...

Bob Barker, host of "The Price Is Right" game show, asks Capt. Brian Barker for his opening bid. The captain, from the Global Positioning Satellite joint program office at the Space and Missile Systems Center at Los Angeles Air Force Base, Calif., went on to win nearly \$60,000 worth of prizes. They included a 2002 Pontiac Firebird Trans Am, a Honda Shadow motorcycle, a 47-inch flat screen high-definition TV, a home theater stereo system, a baby grand piano, two sets of golf clubs and a mule chest dresser. The Trans Am, motorcycle, and piano were all part of the showcase showdown.



Feature



Brown

Q&A

FULL NAME:

Army Maj. Jeremiah Brown Jr., MS, MD

DUTY TITLE, ORGANIZATION:

Director of Ophthalmology Research, U.S. Army Medical Research Detachment of the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research

WHAT IS MY JOB?:

I plan and direct research into developing treatments for laser eye injuries. I also examine and monitor patients that have sustained accidental laser eye injuries. I am also a specialist in retinal diseases and surgery.

BIRTHDAY:

Aug. 13, 1963

HOMETOWN:

Coventry, Conn.

FAMILY STATUS:

Married with four children.

NICKNAME:

Jerry

MOTTO:

Always strive to do your best at everything you do - and the rest will fall into place.

INSPIRATIONS:

My father

HOBBIES:

Tennis, running, landscaping

PET PEEVE:

When people tell me only what they think I want to hear.

BOOK(S) AT BEDSIDE:

John Grisham novels.

I JOINED THE MILITARY BECAUSE:

I was inspired by a cousin who was a well-respected Army ophthalmologist.

FIVE-YEAR GOAL:

Find a practical, effective treatment for laser eye injury and implement it.

ULTIMATE GOAL:

To preserve the sight in as many people as possible.

MY GREATEST ACCOMPLISHMENT:

is being a Ron Michels Award winner, awarded to a retinal specialist in the last year of training in memory of a great teacher and surgeon.

MY MOST PRIZED POSSESSION:

My health

Brooks Personality PROFILE

By Rita Boland

Discovery Staff Writer

Reading this story is made possible by the ability to see.

Maj. Jeremiah Brown hopes to preserve that ability in people whose eyes have been injured by lasers.

"People treasure their sight," Brown said.

The ophthalmologist with a focus in retinas, does research on laser eye injuries at the Army Medical Research Detachment at Brooks. The research studies how lasers injure the eyes, what can be done to prevent injury and, hopefully, one day will find a treatment for the injury.

"Right now there is no accepted treatment," Brown said. "Some people with mild laser burns may do well, however many are left legally blind with retinal scarring that doesn't heal."

Brown also does surgery and hands-on work with patients at Brooke Army Medical Center on Fort Sam Houston. He uses lasers used to heal effects from diabetes and macular degeneration.

"I work (at Brooks) half to two-thirds of the time and at BAMC one-third to half of the time," Brown said.

Both ailments result in abnormal blood vessels in the eyes and macular degeneration is the number one cause of blindness in people over 70. Lasers are used to repair some of the blood vessels.

"The bottom line problem is that despite its benefits, lasers can cause problems," Brown said. "(The patients) can have little spots missing in their vision from laser treatment. It is possible that our treatments for laser eye injury will also be helpful for patients with diabetic retinopathy and macular degeneration."

Brown is exactly the type of doctor most people want working on them - especially when it comes to their eyes. Dedicated, intelligent and intense, his work is his passion.

Brown got his undergraduate degree in biology from Harvard University. While there, he joined the ROTC program. After graduation, he got an academic delay from going into the Army so that he could attend medical school at the University of California San Francisco. It was during medical school that Brown decided to become an ophthalmologist.

"I thought ophthalmology was very interesting, especially because of how much people value their sight,"



Photo by Senior Airman Brandy Bogart

Ophthalmologist has eye on future

Brown said. "It's very rewarding to help people keep their driver's licenses, to read their mail."

He did his fellowship in retina study and surgery and won the Ron Michels Award, given to one or two retina specialists in the country after they complete their fellowship.

"It's a nice award to receive," Brown said. "Especially because of whom it stands for. Dr. Michels was a highly respected surgeon and teacher."

Brown spent his fellowship doing hands-on work and research, which prepared him for his work today.

"I really enjoy both research and clinical medicine," Brown said. "I get to apply what I learn. It's a great balance. The hands-on problems facing patients give you ideas and motivation. I think it's important to do both."

Brown came on active-duty in the Army in 1998 and has spent the entire time in San Antonio. He doesn't see much difference between the military and civilian sectors.

"In general, it's the same," Brown said. "In the Army, the research all has to be motivated out of a military need, but many times there's an overlap."

While the majority of Brown's patients have natural problems, some of them have injuries from man-made devices. Military personnel working with lasers in the field can suffer injuries from accidents or not wearing protective equipment.

"We can protect against known lasers," Brown said. "However, they need to wear (the equipment)."

Brown warns that in the future, enemies may use lasers as weapons to damage the eyesight of pilots and soldiers.

"There have already been cases of lasers pointed at aircraft," Brown said.

He hopes that his work will find help for those people as well as civilians. Only three Army hospitals have retina specialists: BAMC, Walter Reed in Washington, D.C., and Madigan Army Medical Center in Washington state.

"There's definitely an Army and Air Force need," Brown said.

The USAMRD at Brooks also helps set safety standards for lasers. They determine a safe amount of energy for a laser and give input on safety equipment.

"We don't do any research into the weapon systems," Brown said.

Brown will return to civilian life in July, joining a group practice in San Antonio. He will continue his research at the USAMRD as a civilian. His love of research influenced his decision to get out of the military.

"The research going on at (The AMRD) played a large role in why I wanted to stay in San Antonio," he said.

The future is definitely looking good for Dr. Brown and his patients.

Rita.Boland@brooks.af.mil



Taking the plunge!

SERE students learn water survival skills

(Editor's note: This is the third in a four-part series on Survival-Evasion-Resistance-Escape training at Brooks.)

By Rita Boland
Staff Writer

As 38 medical personnel leaped from the plane into the dark water, they were faced with the task of making their way to a life raft and avoiding drowning. The feat wasn't made any easier by the noise of the storm or the buckets of water being poured on them — literally. The aircrew members

were participating in the pool day portion of Survival-Evasion-Resistance-Escape training at Brooks, a necessary course for any military medical member who wants to participate in flight missions.

Pool day is the third day of the eight-day course. The first two and the fourth days are spent in the classroom and the final four in the field.

"We put pool training in the middle of the classroom days so the students can have a little fun," said Master Sgt. J.T. McHan, superintendent of SERE operations.

SERE instructors simulate storm conditions, which include dumping buckets of water onto the students as they swim toward their raft and attempt to set up a waterproof tarp.

Recently, students — a group of flight nurses, aeromedical evacuation technicians and one flight surgeon — spent the first part of training being briefed on maneuvers, procedures and safety.

Staff Sgts. Dave Howse and Patrick Piper demonstrated the use of life rafts, other personal safety equipment and hoists in the enormous swimming pool while the students looked on. The humidity in the pool area was so high, that a few students looked like they had been in the pool already.

After the briefing, students broke into their flights and began an equipment check.

Next, students jumped into the pool where they learned how to use a 20-man life raft, smaller multi-person rafts and a personal raft.

They also learned how to ride a hoist and stop.

The "survivors" got to test their new skills almost immediately as the instructors herded them into the back of a plane that has been set up next to the pool. The plane had its wings, tail and nose removed for training purposes, but comes complete with gurneys that include mannequin "patients." One patient — a baby — has tattoos from previous SERE attendees.

After students were loaded onto the plane and the doors were closed, the instructors began the set-up a storm and crash scenario. Lights outside the plane were turned off and the huge hangar-like building became dark.

A sound system created the sounds of a plane flying in a storm, complete with rain and thunder. Instructors grabbed hoses and flashlights and even threw flashing strobe lights into the water to simulate lightning.

Two instructors grabbed personal flotation devices and began to pound them on the sides of the plane as the lights inside flickered and went out. Suddenly, the side door of the plane flew open and students began jumping out as the instructors aimed hoses at the door and used lights to disorient the egressing "survivors."

The students encountered mass confusion in the water as they swam to the rafts to help one another. The commotion also created waves they had to fight against. Some students were tasked with evacuating patients and saving them once in the water.

The more intent the students became on completing their mission, the more intense the instructors became, making the situation in the pool even more hectic.

Gradually the storm subsided, as the students filled the life rafts (one raft was more crowded than the other) and set up their rafts



Photos by Staff Sgt. John Jung

Students jump into the pool during Survival-Evasion-Resistance-Escape training.

for personal protection and started taking care of their basic needs.

Once students met the objectives the waves died down, lights came on and the water stopped falling. The instructors congratulated them and they began to cheer. Rafts were pulled to the side of the pool and the instructors briefed the students on their strengths and weaknesses, and then dismissed them for the day.

"I want to do it again," said Tech. Sgt. Debra Beck, an aeromedical evacuation technician, after drying off. "It was great, excellent."

"It was outstanding," agreed Capt. Louis Bellace, a flight nurse. "It helped prepare us for the real thing, (but) I wish they could make it more realistic."

Staff Sgt. Jeff Martin, noncommissioned officer in charge of Water Survival Training, is in the process of adding fog machines, overhead sprinklers, sound-activated lightning strobes and

wind fans to the scenario — all intended to make the training more intense and realistic.

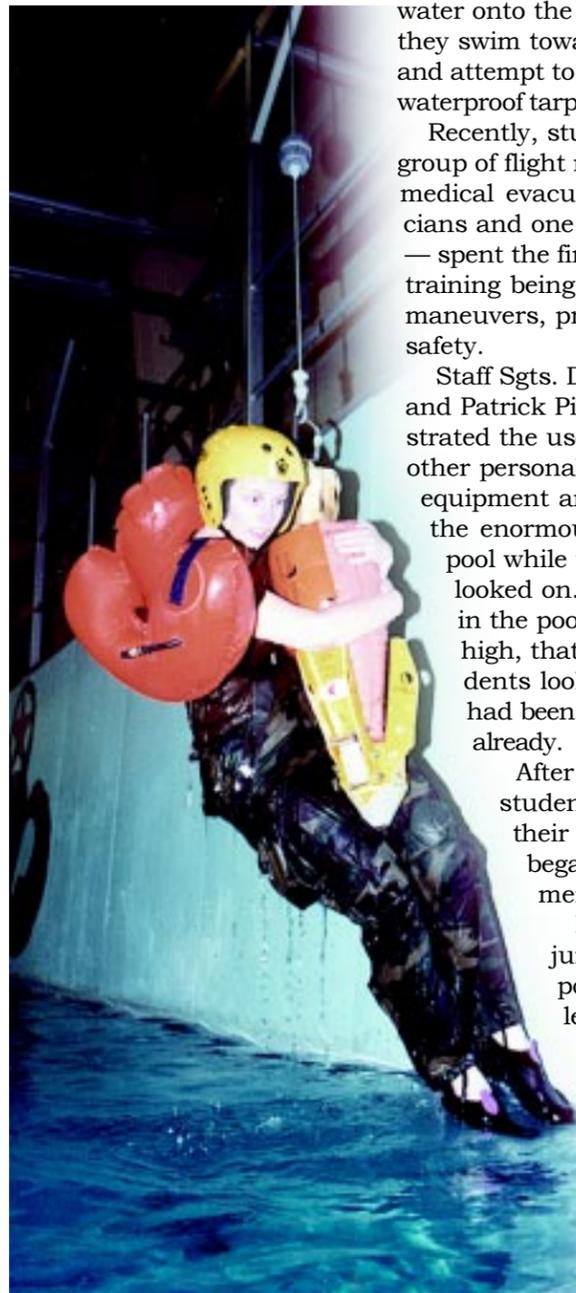
For now, though, students and instructors are content with what they have.

"It's awesome," added Capt. Michelle Hand, a flight nurse. "I recommend it for anyone who has anything to do with flying. It definitely will increase their self-confidence."

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“It's awesome. I recommend it for anyone who has anything to do with flying. It definitely will increase their self-confidence.”

Capt. Michelle Hand
SERE student



A student is hoisted out of the pool in Bldg. 820



Brooks microbiology pioneer, McCleskey passes away at 79

By Rudy Purificato
311th Human Systems Wing

Microbiology pioneer and bacteriology legend Ferne K. McCleskey died May 28 after a long illness. The 79-year-old former Brooks scientist was buried at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery.

McCleskey was chief of the Bacteriology Laboratory for the Air Force Institute for Environment, Safety and Occupational Health Risk Analysis from 1985 until her retirement in January 2001.

Her 38-year federal civil service career included a 20-year tour at Wilford Hall Medical Center at Lackland Air Force Base where she taught and mentored several future Air Force surgeon generals.

"She taught microbiology to many of the Air Force leaders of today. She was a pioneer in Air Force microbiology and

molecular biology," said Eric Stephens, AFIERA director.

Stephens said McCleskey's legacy is linked to her creating the Air Force microbiology program that has since evolved into the Air Force and Department of Defense molecular biology programs.

He credits her vision, perseverance and leadership for helping the Air Force prepare for the challenges of bioterrorism.

Born on August 17, 1922 in Broken Bow, Okla., McCleskey graduated from Oklahoma State University in 1943 with a bachelor of science degree in bacteriology. She began her scientific career as a chemist for the Bureau of Mines in Bartlesville, Okla.

Before beginning her Air Force civil service career, McCleskey worked as a bacteriologist for the U.S. Army at Brooke Army Medical Center



McCleskey

at Fort Sam Houston.

At Wilford Hall, she instructed and supervised bench-level training in bacteriology from 1965-1985.

She also served as supervisor of bacteriology for the Department of Pathology and was a member of Wilford Hall's Infection Control Committee.

It was at Lackland where she was inspired to advance scientific understanding of disease.

"I had seen babies with pneumonia in which we could not identify the cause. We suspected myco plasma and urea

plasma had caused the infections. It's virtually impossible to culture these (bacterial) organisms," McCleskey said in a January 2000 Discovery interview.

McCleskey later worked with scientists at the University of Alabama - Birmingham on bacterial research that was crucial to Brooks researchers who helped develop molecular probes used in DNA bacteria "fingerprinting."

DNA fingerprinting can identify specific bacteria serogroups even if mutations have occurred.

"Now we have (molecular) probes for many organisms," she said, "Fingerprinting bacteria is much like fingerprinting people, except sometimes bacteria mutate."

Affectionately known as "Mrs. Mack," she enjoyed the admiration and love of everyone she worked with.

"She treated you as one of her family. She was intensely loyal," said colleague and AFIERA microbiologist Anne Solomon.

"She was intuitive, an eloquent speaker and a force to

be reckoned with. She was one tough lady," admits Solomon about the outspoken scientist who was a mentor to many people. Her successor, John Gaines, was one of her proteges.

"Mrs. Mack was like a mom to me. She was extremely knowledgeable and was always willing to share that knowledge with others," said Gaines, who is AFIERA's Bacteriology Lab chief.

AFIERA's Master Sgt. Aaron Sinclair, who has known McCleskey since 1981, said, "She was my surrogate mother. She kept me in the Air Force. Anytime I had a problem I went to her."

McCleskey also gave back to her community as a frequent volunteer judge at Alamo Regional Science Fairs.

She had a passion for her profession, evidenced by her innumerable contributions to include establishing the Air Force's first clinical molecular laboratory for global diagnostic disease surveillance at Brooks.

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Dental experts recommend selective teeth polishing

By Erla Naumann, R.D. H.
Brooks Preventive Dentistry officer

Polishing teeth after proper scaling used to be a routine procedure. However, it may not always be necessary.

The procedure was established to remove plaque, however, plaque can be removed with each stroke of the instrument as well as ultrasonic cleaners. Any roughness remaining on a tooth is more than likely calculus that cannot be removed by polishing or flossing.

To prevent plaque from getting hard and forming into calculus, it should be removed daily by normal brushing.

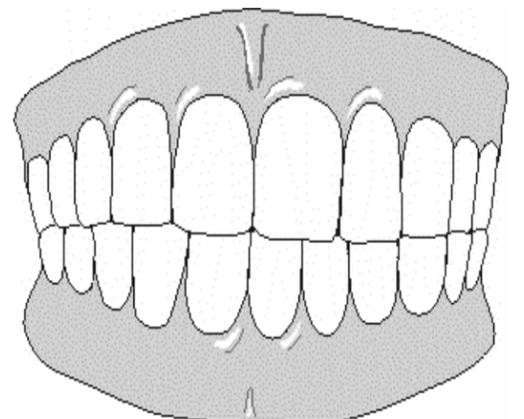
It is recommended that selective polishing be completed with the finest possible paste — even over-the-counter is a good choice.

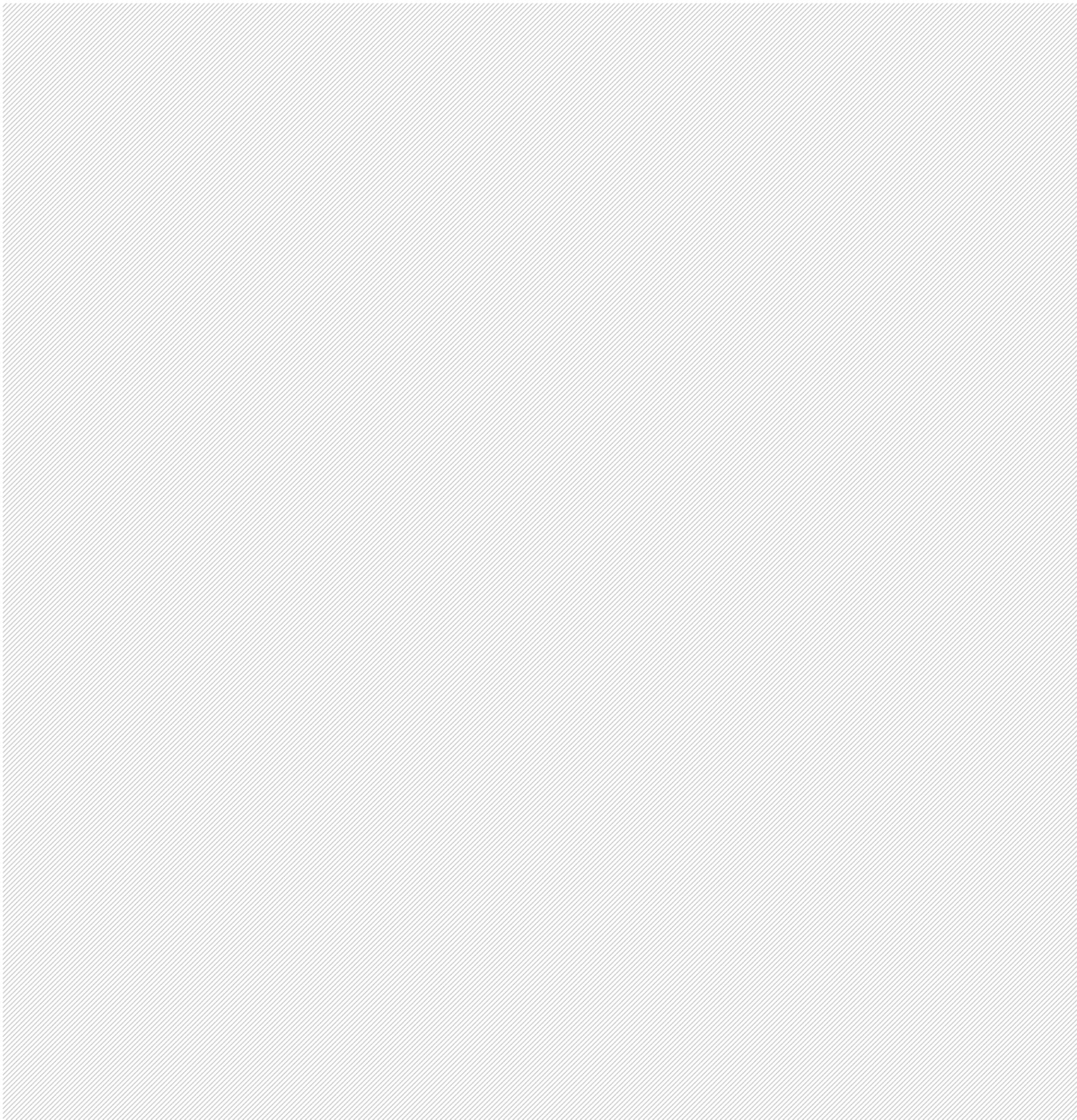
Paste contains silicate and silicone as abrasives and apparently block uptake of the stannous fluorides.

Researchers surmised that the silicone in the paste forms an anti-wetting film that blocks fluoride uptake.

The American Dental Hygiene Association and textbook authors have put the decision to polish the teeth into the hands of individual clinicians. They are the best qualified to perform polishing procedures.

For more information, contact the Brooks Dental Clinic at 536-1846.







Before flying 'Space A' this summer check out these travel restrictions

By Staff Sgt. Louie Guzman
Lackland Passenger Terminal

LACKLAND AIR FORCE BASE — In an effort to keep travelers informed and current on Space Available travel, the following information is provided for the anticipated high travel months of the summer. Restrictions are for overseas travel. Failure to produce the proper documentation for sponsors and dependents will prevent travelers from using Space A. travel.

The following information is provided for flights flying out of Lackland's Passenger Terminal (Kelly Field Annex). If you require more information or wish to inquire about other countries please contact a passenger agent at 925-8715 or simply e-mail them with a



question at: spacea@lackland.af.mil.

Germany - Department of Defense members and their dependents, who travel to Germany on leave status, require passports. A visa is not required for tourists or business stays up to three months.

Guam — All military members require identification cards and leave orders.

Japan — Military members require ID cards and leave orders identifying Japan as destination; passports not required. A visa is not required for tourists up to three months.

Korea — Military members on leave do not need passports and visas, but must have ID card and leave orders. Visas are required for stays for more than 30 days and must be obtained in advance.

Puerto Rico — Military members must have ID cards and leave orders.

The information provided was obtained from the DoD Foreign Clearance Guide and is on the Lackland Terminal website at: www.lackland.af.mil/spacea.

Pentagon wears new face at dedication capsule ceremony

By Gerry J. Gilmore
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — If the Pentagon was a person, it might just be smiling right now as it wears a spanking new coat of bright limestone across its western wall.

A terrorist-hijacked airliner slammed into that wall nine months ago, killing 184 people. June 11, Deputy Defense Secretary Paul Wolfowitz participated in a Pentagon ceremony to install a special dedication capsule into that once ruined west wall.

Wolfowitz said local commuters passing by the Pentagon have "witnessed a truly remarkable transformation" since the terrorist attack.

"Today, we'll finish one important part of that remarkable transformation," he continued, "We will restore to its rightful place a block of Indiana limestone that builders first placed here six decades ago."

A discolored block of stone taken from the ruins of the west wall after the attack was used to cap the niche where the dedication capsule would



Photo by Gerry J. Gilmore

The "Let's Roll" patch worn by construction workers at the Pentagon is among items in a bronze dedication capsule placed behind the last limestone block to the Pentagon's repaired outer west wall June 11.

be placed. The stone is inscribed with the date of the attack.

Pentagon renovation program manager Walker Lee Evey, with Wolfowitz at his side, placed the capsule into the niche. Then, with the help of construction workers, the capstone was inserted into the opening.

Wolfowitz noted that the Pentagon reconstruction

crew, in adopting the battle cry, "Let's Roll," honors Sept. 11 hero Todd Beamer.

A passenger aboard United Airlines Flight 93 on Sept. 11, Beamer said to fellow passengers, "Let's Roll!" before rushing their hijackers. The plane crashed in a Pennsylvania field killing all aboard. Beamer and his fellow passengers have been credited with sacrificing their lives to save others.

FOOD **Base Picnic Bash Today!** GAMES
 FUN 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. at the Brooks Picnic Grounds ENTERTAINMENT



Wilford Hall team responds to save infant

By Dewey Mitchell

59th Medical Wing Public Affairs

LACKLAND AIR FORCE BASE (AFPN)—A neonatal rescue team from Wilford Hall Medical Center flew to El Paso, Texas, June 1 and returned with an infant who might not have survived without their help.

The highly specialized team stays on call around the clock for emergencies such as this. The Wilford Hall team got the call at 9 a.m. that morning and sprang into action, ready with their equipment and supplies in less than two hours.

They flew to El Paso, Texas, in an Air Force C-9 Nightingale and traveled to William Beaumont Army Medical Center, on Fort Bliss, where the infant had been born earlier that morning.

The newborn son of a soldier stationed at Fort Bliss was born with a defective diaphragm which put his lungs under extreme stress. His lungs were beginning to fail.

After arriving at the hospital, the Wilford Hall team put the baby on a one-of-a-kind portable heart-lung bypass machine called extracorporeal membrane oxygenation, or ECMO, to take the stress off his lungs.

The infant, still connected to the ECMO machine, was then flown back to San Anto-



(Photo by Dewey Mitchell)

Members of the Wilford Hall Medical Center air evacuation and critical care air transport team prepare to bring an ill infant down a C-9 Nightingale's ramp to a waiting ambulance June 1 in San Antonio. The infant had to be airlifted from El Paso, Texas, after being born earlier that morning with a defective diaphragm.

nio and was taken to Wilford Hall, where he will undergo surgery to repair the diaphragm after he is stable.

The neonatal critical care air transport team was made up of physicians, nurses and respiratory technicians.

Wilford Hall Medical Center is only one of two medical centers in the United States that can transport infants and chil-

dren on portable ECMO machines.

In a similar mission in February, a Wilford Hall team brought a Marine's newborn son to Wilford Hall from Okinawa, Japan, and performed surgery on his diaphragm a few weeks later.

That infant is now doing well and is back with his family back in Okinawa.

Dyess civilian receives \$10K for idea

(Editor's note: For information on the IDEA program at Brooks, contact Andrea Garcia at 536-3661.

By Airman 1st Class
Lindsey Maurice

7th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

DYESS AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFPN) — A civilian here was awarded \$10,000 recently for his money-saving submission to the Air Force's Innovative Development through Employment Awareness Program.

Clarence Watson, a 317th Air-lift Group engineering and technical services equipment specialist, came up with the idea to replace the JB-80 jet calibration tester currently used on the C-130 Hercules with the H394 Tempcal Tester. The H394, at an average cost of a little more than \$10,000 each, can perform all necessary requirements, whereas the JB-80, at a cost of more than \$40,000 each, provides more capability than the Air Force can use on C-130 aircraft.

Another advantage the new test set has over the JB-80 is its weight. The H394 weighs about 15 to 20 pounds while the JB-80 weighs about 80 pounds, Watson said.

"The (H394) will save a lot of space when the (airlifters) deploy," Watson said. "This added room can really make a difference on a C-130."

If the Air Force implements this change throughout its C-130 fleet, it will save more than \$1,172,000 within the first year.

"When I first submitted the idea, I never realized just how much money it would save the Air Force," Watson said. "I was just thinking about Dyess."

Watson first came up with the idea after a meeting with a local sales representative.

"I was talking with a salesman I know and he told me about the test set, which he designed," Watson said. "After looking into it, we ended up trying it out here and liked it so much, we bought two."

After a little research, the 30-year Air Force veteran noticed the Air Force had no listing of the H394 Tempcal Tester. Watson did a write-up and submitted it to the IDEA program. The entire process took about a month and a half, he said.

"They processed the idea really fast," Watson said. "I was very impressed with the timeliness and the program overall. The IDEA program really is a good system. Not only does the Air Force save big, but those whose ideas are accepted get big rewards."

Ideas that can save resources, increase efficiency, improve processes, products or equipment, and are in the interest of national defense, are exactly what the IDEA program is looking for, said Master Sgt. Michael Pershing, Dyess IDEA coordinator.

In fiscal 2001 there were 51 ideas approved here with a tangible savings of \$943,746, Pershing said. Submitters were paid \$98,117.



SPORTS
SHORTS

Services sports ABG commander's farewell golf tournament



The 311th Services Division will hold a farewell golf tournament June 21 for 311th Air Base Group Commander Col. Terry Nelsen.

The tournament gets underway with a shotgun start at noon and a Florida Scramble. There's a minimum of four persons per team.

Prizes will be awarded for first, second and third-place winners. Cost is \$20, which includes green and cart fees plus hot dog and beverage.

For more information, call the Brooks Golf Course at 536-2636.

Military Night at the Missions
SA loses to Arkansas

The Arkansas Travelers beat the San Antonio Missions 2-1 in 11 innings June 11, Military Night at the Missions.

The Missions distributed ticket vouchers to the military installations around San Antonio prior to the game. Fort Sam Houston had the strongest showing, with several companies of students attending the game in uniform and taking up almost all the left field bleachers.

Sergeants from Fort Sam Houston also presented the colors and an Army staff sergeant sang the national anthem. The biggest cheers of the night came when the soldiers began the wave, not stopping until it had made its way around the stadium three times.

According to the Missions, 5,235 people attended the game.

Brooks soccer star makes history again

Tarkowski helps DOD Team USA claim world soccer title in Canada

By Rudy Purificato
311th Human Systems Wing

Her encore performance as one of the Air Force's premiere women's soccer stars again helped contribute to military sports history as 1st Lt. Karrie Tarkowski captained the Department of Defense's Team U.S.A. to a world soccer title.

Playing on the All-Armed Forces women's soccer team, Tarkowski led her undefeated squad to the first CISM (Counseil International Du Sport Militaire) women's soccer championship by beating Germany 4-0 in the tournament finals held in May at Kingston, Ontario, Canada.

"It was really great. We became the world's first military women's soccer champions," exclaimed Tarkowski, who is a 311th Human Systems Wing Contracting Office systems contracting specialist supporting the 311th HSW Program Office.

The achievement was particularly significant in that it was accomplished during an inaugural competition.

"It was the first time that CISM had held a military women's soccer tournament," Tarkowski said. She explained that CISM had been created during World War II to develop camaraderie among Allied troops.

Today, military athletes from 122 nations participate in CISM-sponsored athletic events.

"We didn't know what to expect," she admits about the competition that included teams from Canada, Germany and the Netherlands," said Tarkowski. "We found out that the European teams are very physical, fast, strong and very big (physically)."

Nevertheless, Team U.S.A. dominated the tournament. They beat Germany 4-1, Canada 4-0 and the Netherlands 3-1 in the preliminary round to advance as the top seed in the semi-finals where they easily defeated Canada 2-0. Tarkowski scored two goals and had an assist in the tourney.

Tarkowski's earlier performance during the Armed Forces tournament at Fort Eustis, Va. earned her a shot at making history again. Last year, she played on the Air Force squad that became the first military women's soccer team to win an Armed Forces title while being undefeated and un-scored upon.

This year, Tarkowski scored five goals in helping Air Force win a second consecutive championship. She also became one of only 11 players to be named to the All-Armed Forces tournament team.

That honorary title became a reality when the top 18 military women soccer stars were selected to the first DoD Team U.S.A. Tarkowski was one of seven Air Force players selected



Courtesy photo

Tarkowski (No.12) challenges for a "header" against Army Capt. Holly Pedley during the Armed Forces Tournament at Fort Eustis, Va., where the Air Force Women's Soccer team won the championship. The Air Force team went on to the World Championships.

and was subsequently named team captain because of her skills and experience. Top players from all branches of America's Armed Forces, including the U.S. Coast Guard, played on the team.

"After we were chosen for the team, we had only four days of training camp," she said, referring to their preparation for the CISM tourney. She added, "We had to defend our Armed Forces title."

She credits her co-workers and supervisors for their support that enabled her to compete. She also credits Brooks lunchtime soccer players for helping her prepare.

"Playing at lunchtime (at the fitness center field) was the only soccer training I had," she said, noting the absence of an organized soccer program at Brooks.

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HAWC Heath Tips

Take care of your back
... You only have one

Low back pain affects millions of Americans each year. Those people most commonly affected include people who sit or bend while they work, those who lift or carry heavy weight, overweight or inactive people, and those with poor posture and stress.



Common back problems include sprain/strain, disc bulge, herniated disc, degenerative joint disease and stenosis. There are a few things to focus on to prevent back injuries. Here are a few tips to follow to remain pain free.

— When lifting an object off the floor, bend at the hips not at the back and waist

— If you need to turn while lifting, stand erect and turn with your feet.

— Avoid slumping over. Keep your shoulders back and maintain a slight curve of your spine.

— Perform static stretches of the back and abdominals to increase range of motion and relieve tightness.

The Brooks Health and Wellness Center offers a low back class focusing on prevention. Call 536-4292 to enroll.

Base Picnic Bash

America's Future: Our Children

June 14

11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Picnic Grounds

The Texas Chili Peppers
Noon - 3 p.m.

Ed Kadlecek & The Fun Bunch
4 - 6 p.m.

DJ Mike
11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

- Hamburgers
- Chopped BBQ
- Turkey Legs
- Hot Dogs
- Taco Salad
- Sausage Tacos
- Lemonade/Tea
- Frozen Non-Alcoholic Drinks
- Beef, Chicken Fajitas
- Beef, Chicken, Shrimp Kabobs
- Fruit Popsicles
- Nachos
- Brisket
- Chalupas
- Funnel Cakes
- Bottled Water

- Sno Cones
- Sodas
- Beverages
- Root Beer Floats
- Face Painting
- Ice Cream Bars
- Gumbo
- Strawberry Shortcake
- Fries
- Watermelon

Games! Games!
Toddlers - Adults



Contact Jan McMahon
at 536-5475