

DISCOVERY

BROOKS
CITY-BASE
A Technology and Business Center

The Development of Combat Power and Efficiency

Vol. 27, No. 2-- Friday, Jan. 31, 2003 -- Brooks City-Base, Texas

Through the Many Facets of Aerospace Medicine

West Nile virus investigator seeks Brooks, AF support to bolster bioterrorism vigil

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

While the West Nile virus outbreak was a consequence of nature, a renowned veterinary pathologist who played a major role during the investigation of the potentially fatal disease recently told Brooks leaders and local scientists that the epidemic was a pre-Sept. 11 wakeup call for improving disease surveillance in America.

Dr. Tracy McNamara, New York City's Bronx Zoo veterinary pathologist for the past 17 years, was guest lecturer here Jan. 23 when she presented her briefing "West Nile virus, Lessons Learned?" in two sessions at the U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine.

"After I heard her speak, I told her that she had a powerful homeland security message. I asked her if she could adapt her talk (for a military audience). It was critical to me that she speak to (Brig. Gen.) Dodd and the Brooks (scientific) community," said Col. Anthony Rizzo, Development Center for Operational Medicine director, who invited McNamara to Brooks after hearing her message at a veterinary conference.

"The lessons learned from this story closely imitates what would happen if there is a bioterrorism attack in the United States," Rizzo explained.



Photo by Rudy Purificato

Speaking of

Dr. Tracy McNamara, veterinary pathologist at New York City's Bronx Zoo for 17 years, defers to Col. Anthony Rizzo, director of the Development Center for Operational Medicine, during a question

McNamara painted a compelling but frustrating picture that framed public health leaders' initial confusion and misinformation about a then misdiagnosed disease that killed hundreds of New York City crows, seven people and more than two dozen zoo birds.

"When the outbreak occurred Sept. 24, 1999, our ability to respond to it was zero. We had no BL-3 laboratories, re-agents or diagnostic tests to identify it," admits McNamara.

While West Nile virus was discovered in Africa 60 years ago as a naturally occurring disease in birds, its migration to the U.S. was not detected

and answer period after McNamara's presentation on West Nile virus to Brooks' scientific community at the U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine recently.

until after bird deaths were linked to human fatalities.

"Since the 1990s, millions of dollars have been spent on bioterrorism defense, but we were very unprepared for the challenge of a disease that crossed species (zoonotic) and killed people and free-roaming livestock," McNamara said.

Compounding the problem was the lack of cooperation and coordination between the public health world and the veterinary wildlife community.

"Uninformed decisions and assumptions were made," she said, re-

See Disease, Page 4

New short-term enlistments coming

By Jim Garamone

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — A new military short-term enlistment program will begin Oct. 1 aimed at expanding the opportunities for all Americans to serve the country.

Congress authorized the National Call to Service enlistment option as part of the fiscal 2003 National Defense Authorization Act.

The program allows the military services a new option to reach a group of young Americans who otherwise might not serve because of the length of traditional enlistment options, said Bob Clark, assistant director in the Department of Defense's accession policy directorate.

The program will work like this: A recruit enlists for the option and incurs a 15-month active-duty service obligation following completion of initial-entry training, for a total active-duty commitment of about 19 months.

Following successful completion of active duty, servicemembers may re-enlist for further active duty or transfer to the selected reserve for a 24-month obligation. Once this is completed, servicemembers may stay in the selected reserve or transfer to individual ready reserve for the remainder of an eight-year commitment.

"The unique piece of this legislation is that while in the individual ready reserve, these young people will be given the opportunity to move into one of the other national service programs, such as AmeriCorps or the Peace Corps, and time

See Enlistments, Page 6

INSIDE



Hangar 9 hosts Texas Public Radio and Wings

Page 13



Brooks couple wins Superbowl trip

Page 17

Chu challenges medical pros to consider military medicine's future

By Rudi Williams

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Defense Department leaders need to think and act differently when determining how transformation will affect military medicine, David S.C. Chu told the 2003 National TRICARE Conference audience Jan. 27.

Chu, undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness, urged more than 3,000 military and civilian health care professionals to think not just about immediate issues and concerns, but also 2004's. The audience came together to discuss TRICARE programs, policies and initiatives, receive the latest information on the next generation of TRICARE contracts and to highlight health care achievements for the previous year.

"When we gather together again in 12 months, what do you think we will have accomplished?" he asked. "What will the world look like, and will the role of military medicine be changed in that world — incrementally, dramatically or not at all?"

“ One of the most feared asymmetrical threats that we've confronted in the past year is ... biological warfare. ”

David S.C. Chu
Undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness

When Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld talks about transforming DoD, Chu said, he's asking leaders to "reshape our military capabilities for this century. That means changing our business practices, processes, organizations and our culture for 'sustained advantage' against enemies of this country."

Transformation isn't a silver bullet or something that should be done to the entire force at once, Chu noted. "It will not be accomplished in a short period of time, and it's not toward some fixed, unchanging end," he said. "It's about people and how we rethink our approach to the new threats of this century."

"Transformation means looking at the new environment in which the

military health system operates and responding to it," Chu said. He quickly added that the system responded successfully during the past year.

"One of the most feared asymmetrical threats that we've confronted in the past year is ... biological warfare," Chu pointed out. He said the Bush administration and DoD have acted decisively to begin to remove the threats of anthrax and smallpox against the armed forces and American public.

"That happened in large measure because there was a cadre of biowarfare defense experts in this country, mostly resident in the military health system," he said.

However, he said, the challenges are: "Are we appropriately organized to make rapid changes? Do we have the right resources to tackle the other threats that we face?" Chu said he's confident DoD would handle any threats "as directly and decisively as we have with our anthrax and smallpox vaccination decisions."

Military medicine has enjoyed decades of innovation and improvements in readiness and operational concepts, according to Chu.

"The introduction of lighter and more agile medical forces, as well as critical

See Medicine, Page 8



The *Discovery* is published by **Prime Time Inc.**, a private firm in no way connected with the United States Air Force, under exclusive contract with Brooks City-Base, Texas.

This commercial enterprise newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the military services. Contents of the *Discovery* are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the United States Government, the Department of Defense or the United States Air Force.

The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts and supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense, the Department of the Air Force or **Prime Time Corp.** of the products or services advertised.

Everything in this publication is edited, prepared and provided by the 311th Human Systems Wing Public Affairs Office of Brooks City-Base. Material for the *Discovery* should be typewritten, double-spaced and submitted to 311HSW/PA, 2510 Kennedy Circle, Brooks City-Base, TX 78235-5115 by noon the Wednesday prior to the week of publication. All photos are Air Force photos unless otherwise indicated. Articles may also be submitted by fax by calling 536-3235 or by e-mail.

Articles may be submitted by e-mail to: Cerise.Shapiro@brooks.af.mil or to: Discovery@brooks.af.mil.

The *Discovery* is published every other week on Friday. Contact the editor at 536-5141 for more information.

Discovery advertising

Deadline for display advertising is noon the Friday preceding the publication date. To advertise in the *Discovery*, call 675-4500 or send advertising copy to **Prime Time Military Newspapers, P.O. Box 27040, San Antonio, Texas 78227.**

Discovery Editorial Staff:

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

Director of Public Affairs
Larry Farlow

Editor
Cerise Shapiro
(cerise.shapiro@brooks.af.mil)

Assistant Editor
Dale Eckroth

Public Affairs NCOIC
Staff Sgt. John Jung

Staff Writer
Rita Boland

Photography
Tech. Sgt. Anita Schroeder

Staff Sgt. Alfonso Ramirez Jr.

Senior Airman Brandy Bogart

Airman First Class Samantha Shieh

Discovery logo by Arlene Schirmer



Sylvia Black, Publisher
Pia Goodman, Prod. Mgr.
Pat McCain, Classified Mgr.
Diane Bohl, Sales Manager
Sherry Snoga, Account Exec.
Rose Stewart, Account Exec.
Jeanne Munoz, Account Exec.
Pete Guevara, Account Exec.

Advertising
(210) 675-4500
FAX:
(210) 675-4577
E-mail:
sblack@txdirect.net

William A. Johnson
President
Robert L. Jones II
Chief Operating Officer
Gregg R. Rosenfield
Senior Vice President Sales and Marketing

Community Newspapers:
North San Antonio Times — Northside Recorder
Bulverde Community News — Southside Reporter
The Herald

Military Newspapers:
Fort Sam Houston News Leader
Lackland Talespinner — Kelly USA Observer
Medical Patriot — Randolph Wingspread
Discovery

Specialty Publications:
Daily Commercial Recorder — Que Pasa!
S.A.Kids

Graphics & Printing Services:
Prime Time Graphics
Christopher Press (Web printing)



CENTENNIAL OF FLIGHT

1903 - 2003



AMERICA'S AIR FORCE



Born of Dreams
Inspired by Freedom

AFMC people building upon the centennial legacy

By Gen. Lester Lyles
Commander, Air Force Materiel Command

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio — As we begin our year-long celebration of the 100th anniversary of powered flight, I am amazed by the tremendous advances in technology we've made in such a seemingly short time.

Since the Wright Brothers' first flight and the development of the aircraft as a weapon system, the United States has become the most powerful country the world has known. Our technological edge has made airpower a decisive factor in every military engagement since World War II.

Providing increased capabilities to America's warfighters to maintain that edge is the heart and soul of our mission in Air Force Materiel Command, and I could not be more proud of the way the men and women of this command have achieved that mission this past year.

AFMC people are building upon the centennial legacy every day by developing, acquiring and sustaining the most advanced air and space technologies and systems to give our warfighters the capabilities they need to accomplish their missions and return home safely.

We developed and fielded a Wind Corrected Munitions Dispenser, which so dramatically increased the accuracy of cluster bombs dropped by B-52 bombers that the venerable aircraft could be used for close air support for the first time in its 50-year history.

AFMC people increased the Air Force's capability by arming the Predator unmanned aerial vehicle with the Hellfire missile. This powerful weapon system provides near real-time video to decision makers to identify targets, engage the targets and accomplish battle damage assessment quickly and accurately.

Our people tested and delivered the Global Hawk unmanned aerial vehicle to the warfighters engaged in Operation Enduring Freedom, even though the high-tech UAV is

still in the Engineering, Manufacturing and Development phase of acquisition.

Men and women in our depots implemented a program called, "Lean," to cut costs, overtime and repair time throughout depot maintenance processes. In many cases, they've cut repair cycle time and put aircraft back into the hands of the operational commands sooner for use in the war on terrorism.

Their work on the KC-135 tankers is a prime example. Workers reduced that aircraft's depot repair days from 400 in the year 2000 to 225 in 2002. Putting that into perspective, what took a little more than a year to do a couple of years ago now takes about seven months — putting systems back into the warfighter's hands is what AFMC is all about.

AFMC people are completely dedicated to supporting the warfighter. We are taking a hard look at everything we do to determine how we can transform to improve that support.

We're using programs such as divestiture to get rid of activities or tasks that are no longer needed, and spiral development to provide increased capabilities to warfighters when they need it most — today!

We're working to ensure we have the right people with the right experience in the right jobs through workforce shaping. We're using an approach called Enterprise Leadership to make all of our systems work with each other.

We're bringing the warfighter into the development and testing phases of our weapon systems to ensure we're providing the capabilities they need. The bottom line — AFMC is developing an expeditionary mindset, becoming more efficient and responsive — easier for the warfighter to do business with!

The men and women of AFMC have done an outstanding job this past year, and I am extremely proud and yet humbled to serve with you! As heirs to the Wright Brothers' legacy, AFMC people are continuing today to deliver Proactive Rapid Integrated Dominant Effects to America's warfighters!



We SALUTE you!



Service Members of the Quarter

Oct. 1 - Dec. 31, 2002



Airman
Senior Airman Michael Chacon
68th Information Operations Squadron



NCO
Staff Sgt. Sally Perez
Air Force Institute for Environment, Safety and Occupational Health Risk Analysis



Senior NCO
Master Sgt. Jerry Gibson
311th Communications Squadron



Company Grade Officer
2nd Lt. Leah Sprecher
311th Human Systems Program Office



Honor Guard
Staff Sgt. Earl Thomas
U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine

Airmen can file taxes online for free

ST. LOUIS (AFPN) — The Treasury Department, Office of Management and Budget and the Internal Revenue Service in Washington launched a new Web site recently featuring private-sector partners who will allow eligible taxpayers to prepare and file their taxes online for free. A substantial number of citizens will be able to use this service.

President Bush proposed free online tax filing last February as one of his e-government initiatives. Less than one year later, millions of Americans will benefit from free online tax filing services if they are eligible. Treasury, OMB and IRS officials have made this possible through a public-private partnership with some tax software companies known as the Free File Alliance.

According to information found on the IRS Web site, Free File is an easier, faster and secure way for citizens to file taxes and will also allow Americans to get refunds in half the time, said officials.

"No one likes paying taxes," said Kenneth Dam, acting treasury secretary. "It's too confusing and time consuming. The launch of this new Web site is great news for millions of Americans. Free File makes it easy. Now they can save time, money and get their refunds in half the time by filing their taxes online for free."

Each FFA member company sets taxpayer eligibility requirements for its own program. These requirements will differ from company to company. Generally, eligibility will be based on factors such as age, adjusted gross income, state residency, military status or eligibility to file a Form 1040EZ or for the Earned Income Tax Credit. Taxpayers can review the list of companies, found on the Free File section of the IRS Web site, where eligibility requirements are shown by company.

The primary candidates for Free File are those taxpayers who prepare their own taxes and still file paper returns. Last filing season, the IRS received nearly 85 million paper returns, while nearly 47 million e-filed returns.

E-government is an integral part of the president's management agenda to make it easier for citizens and businesses to interact with the government, save taxpayer dollars and streamline citizen-to-government transactions. A copy of the president's e-government strategy, which includes information on each of the e-government initiatives, is available on the OMB Web site.

A Free File initiative fact sheet, which includes list of the FFA members and frequently asked questions, can be found on the IRS Web site.

Military, civilian W-2s available on myPay

ARLINGTON, Va. (AFPN) — American military members and Department of Defense civilians can now view, save and print their W-2 wage and tax statements from myPay at: <https://mypay.dfas.mil>.

Military retirees and annuitants can view, save and print their tax form 1099s as well.

The myPay service provides a secure way for servicemembers, defense civilians, military retirees and annuitants to manage their pay account information. Customers can make changes online that previously needed to be made by visiting offices.

Customers can also help the DoD save money by volunteering to turn off the print copy of leave and earnings statements and checking it online. The Defense Department can save up to 34 cents for each LES that is delivered electronically instead of in hard copy.



Disease

Continued from Page 1

ferring to the eventual misidentification of the disease as St. Louis encephalitis that the media promulgated.

McNamara credits the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases at Fort Detrick, Md., for helping her convince public health decision-makers that America was faced with a newly introduced disease.

The Army's concern for public health prompted their quick response in testing samples from dead zoo birds. Their tests validated McNamara's belief that the bird and human deaths were caused by the same virus, the West Nile virus, which is spread primarily by mosquitoes to birds, humans and other animals.

The virus is unique, McNamara explained, because it doesn't just attack the brain but can also initially infect the heart, kidneys and reproductive tissue. The various pathways to infection this virus can take initially fooled investigators, some of whom tested only brain tissue samples.

West Nile's 'microbiological fingerprints' were all over those dead crows, six weeks before the first human cases were seen, McNamara said. The crow die-off, what she described as a 'sentinel' or early warning event, was overlooked by a variety of people who are responsible for sharing scientific data that could help safeguard human life.

The series of scientific miscues that resulted from the West Nile epidemic has led McNamara on a crusade to forge better communications between various federal agencies. She wants to encourage these stakeholders to share information and technological resources that could lead to more effective disease surveillance strategies. Rizzo shares McNamara's vision, noting that with the exception of smallpox, most known bioterrorism agents are zoonotic.

"The goal of (disease) surveillance is to detect a biological, geographically dispersed event before it kills humans," McNamara said. This goal, she said, is dependent not only upon money, but outlook. McNamara said disease investigators should take a novel approach to diagnosis by relying more on comparative pathology, citing Albert Einstein's famous advice, "Fortune favors the prepared mind."

McNamara said she is encouraged by the Air Force's commitment to bioterrorism defense, hoping that her presentation here and elsewhere will lead to future collaborations that will benefit worldwide public health.

Celebrating African-American heritage

By Rita Boland

Staff writer

The African American Cultural Association at Brooks hosted an inspirational tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on his birthday, Jan. 15.

The ceremony, held at the Brooks Chapel, combined music, prayer and preachers. The service began with a foot-stomping gospel number led by Tech. Sgt. Roy Roscoe. Roscoe's strong, spirited voice, accompanied by the AACA choir, reverberated through the chapel.

As the song ended amid cheers and applause, the pace of the ceremony slowed down for prayer and introduction before the guest speaker raised the adrenaline level again.

Chaplain Oledia Bell, Deputy, Chaplain Accessions at Headquarters air Force Recruiting Service, Randolph Air Force Base, focused of the power on faith in an uncertain world.

"(Christian) response should not be to curl up," she said. "Our response should be I will not panic, I will pray. We do not act as those who are without hope." Bell also stressed the responsibility everyone has to work for equality and justice as King did during his lifetime.

"Dr. King lived the best life he could," Bell said. "He made sacrifices and he did not ask us to do it the same way he did...We are to discharge our duties in season and out of season...True justice will bring about the peace we desire."

Bell listed many ways that King's dream of equality exists today including Condoleezza Rice in the White House, Oprah Winfrey's wealth and



Photo by Airman First Class Samantha Shieh

Chaplain Oledia Bell, Deputy of Chaplain Accessions at Headquarters Recruiting Services, accepts a plaque from 311th Human Systems Wing deputy director Dr. Brendan Godfrey. Godfrey presented the plaque as token of appreciation for her leadership during Brooks tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

philanthropy, black astronauts, Colin Powell's stance for peace in his position as Secretary of State, and people raising their children to love peace.

"(King's) dream will live on. We are going to keep his dream alive," she said. "The future is in your hands. There is hope." Bell's powerful words earned her a standing ovation.

Dr. Brendan Godfrey, executive director for the 311th Human Systems Wing, presented Bell with a plaque to thank her. "When you look at this please remember your friends at Brooks," Godfrey said during the presentation.

After another prayer and a hymn, the ceremony ended. The celebration of African-American history, however, continues with Black History Month. Several events are scheduled around Brooks.

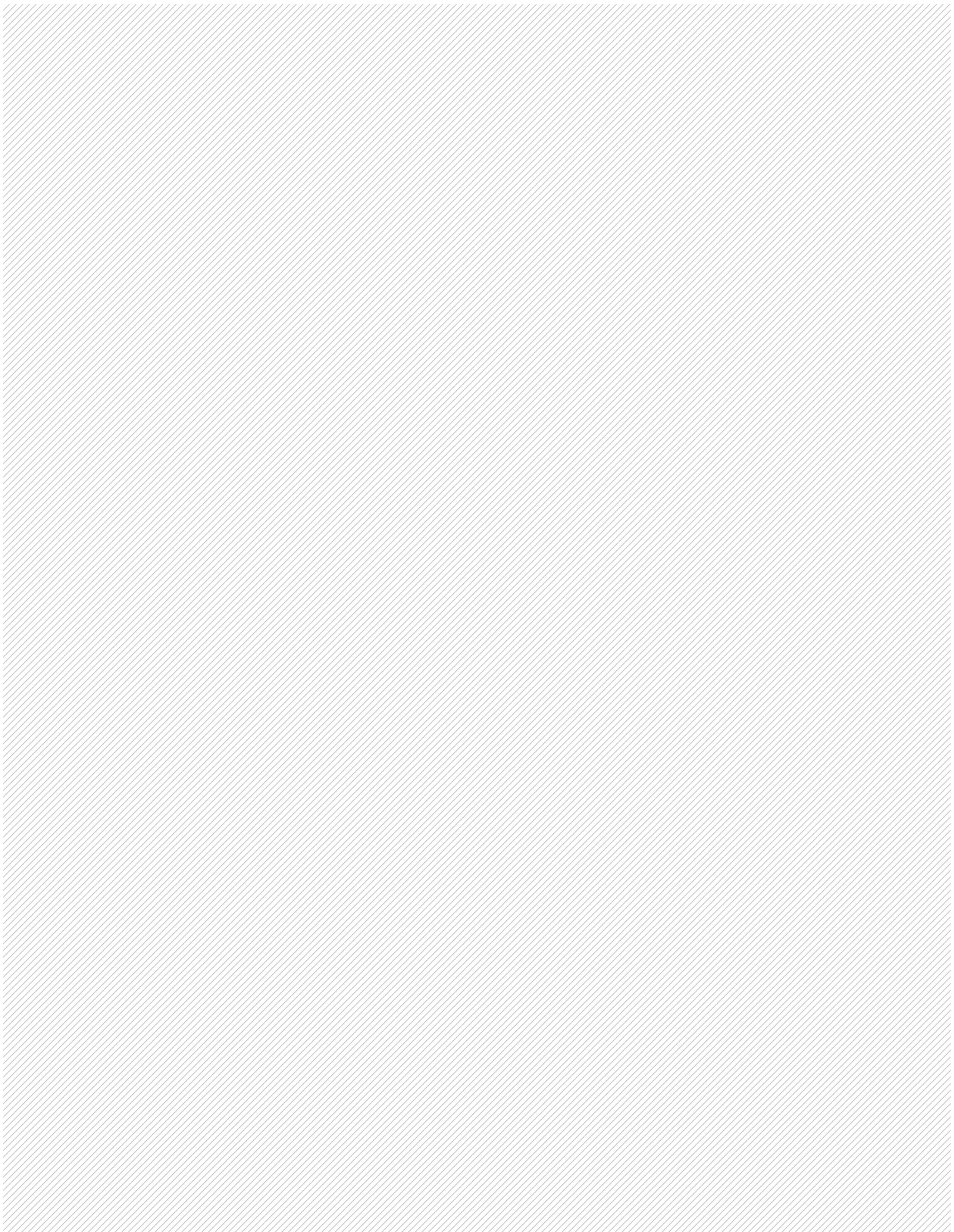
The Bernard P. Randolph Scholarship Essay Contest supports college-bound seniors or those currently at-

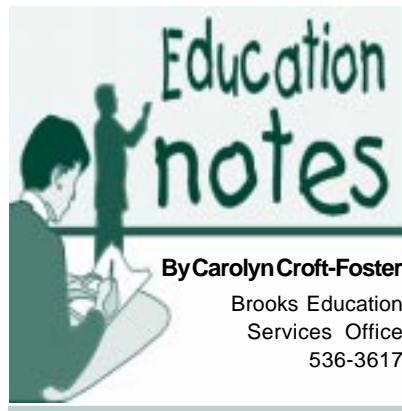
tending college in the Brooks military and civil service community. Scholarships are awarded based on essays written on W.E.B. duBois's book "The Soul of Black Folk". For scholarship information contact Master Sgt. Veronica Berry-Jones at 536-8538.

The Scholarship Luncheon, is scheduled for 11:15 a.m., Feb. 27, at the Brooks Club. Brig. Gen. Henry Taylor from the Joint Staff is the keynote speaker. Buffet luncheon tickets are available through AACA members for \$10. Call Master Sgt. Aaron Sinclair at 536-8600 for tickets and information.

Brooks personnel can see the Buffalo Soldiers' Association's Ninth Cavalry demonstrate history on the range and talk with Tuskegee Airmen at Military Heroes Day, Feb. 14, from 11:15 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. at Sidney's. Contact Master Sgt. Cornell Johnson at 536-3493 for more details.

Rita.Boland@brooks.af.mil





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

ACCD Flex 2 2003 Registration

The Alamo Community College District Flex 2 registration is underway. Semester begins March 10 and ends May 11. On-base classes include Speech, Art Appreciation, US History II and Ethics. Tuition Assistance covers the full cost of tuition for ACCD classes. Students should request TA 48 hours prior to registration. The ACCD representative visits Brooks Tuesdays. The next TASP exam is scheduled for Feb. 18. Call 536-3617 for an appointment.

St Mary's University MBA Program

The director of the St. Mary's University's MBA program will hold an information session at

1:30 p.m., Feb. 19 in Bldg. 558. For more information, call 536-3617.

Changes for OTS/ROTC application

All non-technical boards are suspended until Oct. 2003. Officer training school will continue to accept applications for pilot, navigator, and technical career fields. All non-technical selects' class assignments are on hold until Aug. 2003. Potential applicants who met with the Air Force guidance counselor need to schedule a follow-up appointment to explore how these changes will affect their packages. OTS is still accepting applications for Air Battle Managers and Space and Missile Systems. To schedule an appointment, call 536-3617.

CCAF Spring graduation deadline

The deadline for Community College of the Air Force Spring 2003 graduation is Feb. 21. Nominations must be at Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala., by that date. Students who completed classes and believe they are a degree candidate should contact Education Services to ensure their nominations have been submitted.

Enlistments

Continued from Page 1

in those will count toward their eight-year obligation," Clark said.

While the Army and Navy already have a limited two-year enlistment program, this is the first time the Air Force and Marine Corps will offer the option.

Clark said that the option would be limited to high-quality recruits — those with a high school diploma and scores in the top half of aptitude tests. Officials hope this will make the military more attractive to college-bound youth who might volunteer to take a short period out between high school and college, but would not take off that three- or four-year period.

He said he feels the option may also attract college graduates interested in serving their country before attending graduate school. But perhaps the largest potential pool for the option is with community college graduates who might serve the country for a short time and use available incentives to enter a four-year school, Clark said.

There are four incentives under the option. The first is a \$5,000 bonus payable upon completion of active duty service.

The second is a loan-repayment option also paid at the end of the active-duty portion. The legislation allows for repayment of up to \$18,000 of qualifying student loans.

The final two incentives are tied to, but not part of, the Montgomery G.I. Bill. One gives 12 months of a full Montgomery G.I. Bill stipend — currently about \$900 a month.

"This should attract college graduates looking to go to grad school," Clark said.

The other incentive offers 36 monthly payments at one-half of the current Montgomery G.I. Bill stipend.

"We look at this as being an incentive to both high school graduates or maybe college students who are financially strapped who may need to sit out for a period, serve the country, learn, see the world and then go to school," he said.

The services will set the enlistment criteria. Military specialties that involve long-term training will not be offered. Basic medical specialties, some engineer skills, and personnel, administration and combat specialties will be part of the mix. The first people who opt for this program will go into the delayed-entry program beginning Oct. 1.

Clark was adamant that servicemembers in this program would not be "second-class citizens." He said although they will serve shorter periods of time, they would be treated the same way as those with longer-term enlistments.

Traditional enlistment terms are three, four, five and six years, he said. The program will start with a small number of inductees, but there is no set number. As the program begins, DOD will work with national service organizations to ensure recruits under this program understand all their options.

Clark said the department is coming off its most successful recruiting year ever.

"The department does not need this program to fill the ranks," he said. "But we are excited about offering the chance to serve the country to young men and women who ordinarily might not."



ACTIONLINE

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.....	536-2851
SFS afterduty hours.....	536-2851
311th Civil Engineer Squadron.....	536-3861
311th Communications Squadron.....	536-6571
311th Mission Support Group Logistics Division.....	536-3541
Safety.....	536-2111
Housing Maintenance.....	533-4100
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.....	536-5778
Civilian Pay.....	536-8370
I.G. (FWA).....	536-2358
Military Equal Opportunity.....	536-2584
EEO Complaints.....	536-3702
BXMarket.....	533-9079
Brooks Development Office.....	536-3372
Brooks City-Base Marketing and Development Office.....	536-5366



Brooks Family Support Center activities

Call 536-2444
for information

Sponsor Training

Feb. 4, 8:30-9:30 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.

Education grants

The 2003-2004 Air Force Aid Society General Henry H. Arnold Education Grant Program awards \$1,500 grants to spouses of active duty members stationed stateside and widows of deceased members; retired reservists; Title

10 Guard/Reservists on extended active duty, dependent sons and daughters of active duty, retired, or deceased members and Title 32 Air National Guard performing full-time active duty. Use of funds is limited to tuition, books and fees and other direct educational expenses. Application deadline is March 14.

Transition assistance

Feb. 11-13, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., Bldg 537

Making the transition from the military to the civilian sector can be a big undertaking. This seminar allows us to better serve those separating and retiring members and their spouses. Topics include job search preparation, resume writing, interviewing skills, to include appropriate dress, Veteran's benefits and more. Members should plan to attend at least 180 days prior to separation/retirement.



Resume clinic

Feb. 5, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., Bldg 537

Part II of this resume clinic covers resume writing, job search techniques, mock interviews and dressing for success.

Contact the Family Support Center for more information on the classes available to the Brooks community.



Museum annex receives historic 'make-over'

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

Time had conspired to make the interior floor of the U.S. Air Force Aeromedical Evacuation Annex look like an old Coney Island amusement park ride. Now, the newly renovated facility adjacent to Hangar 9 is a sleek and safer venue for visitors who flock to see some of its one-of-a-kind exhibits.

Earlier this month, the former World War II single-story wood frame building reopened after nearly a month-long renovation begun in December.

The facility, the only museum in the world that chronicles the historical contributions of Air Force flight nurses and aeromedical evacuation technicians, was last renovated in 1992. The building also serves as headquarters for the Brooks Heritage Foundation.

"All the vinyl floor tiles have been replaced. Before the renovation, the floor had buckled and was a safety problem," said Eli Rush, a museum contractor consultant. Rush, a retired 311th Civil Engineer Squadron employee, had worked on the original renovation when Bldg. 754 was converted to a museum annex.



Photos by Rudy Purificato

Eli Rush, museum contractor consultant, surveys the severely damaged floor tiles at the U.S. Air Force Aeromedical Evacuation Annex prior to recent renovation.

"(This time) the problem was the sub-floor. The upper layers of plywood separated and warped the floor. The original floor's wooden slates were not affected," he explained about the 3,216 square feet of floor space.

The new flooring in the exhibit area, gift shop and artifact storage room also resolved the problem.

The building's original renovation earned the Brooks Heritage Foundation the Air Force Historic Building Preservation Award in 1992. The Foundation raised \$93,879 for the project that included the building's move from its former site where the

new U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine facility is now located, its renovation and purchase of exhibit display equipment.

Originally an enlisted mess hall, the museum annex also previously served as a barracks, laboratory, thrift shop, infirmary and shopette.

Rudolph.Purificato@brooks.af.mil



With a newly renovated floor, museum contractor consultant, Eli Rush is able to move exhibits into place in the U.S. Air Force Aeromedical Evacuation Annex.

Medicine

Continued from Page 1

care transport, is changing doctrine," he said. A challenge now, he added, is to ensure the entire DoD leadership understands those doctrinal changes.

Turning his attention to TRICARE, Chu said it and military medicine are among the more integrated programs in DoD and serve as a model for other organizations.

TRICARE reached several significant milestones in 2002, including the start of TRICARE for Life and the new generation of TRICARE contracts, Chu noted. But, he emphasized there's more to be done. "This year's work is essential and success in the 2004 transition will be based on the careful planning and execution of many activities this year," he noted.

Chu said the DoD must focus on increased collaboration and communication across the federal government, such as the collaborative initiatives between DoD and the Department of Veterans Affairs. He said he and Deputy VA Secretary Leo Mackay Jr. are overseeing the development of a joint DoD-VA strategic plan that would be a map to develop "solid goals and performance measures and serve to further institutionalize our relationship."

The relationship, he said, includes overseeing the Joint Health Executive Council and the Benefits Executive Council. The councils' goals are to establish a single discounted rate for DoD and VA medical services, work out ways to send veterans' service health records to VA electronically, and create a procurement-sharing agreement.



NEWS briefs

Promotion ceremony

The next Brooks enlisted promotion ceremony is scheduled for Jan. 31 at 3 p.m. in the Brooks Club, Bldg. 204. January and February promotees will be recognized for their promotion to the next higher grade. Come out and support the newest promotees.

Flower sale

The Brooks Honor Guard is taking orders for Valentine's Day carnations. Red, white, pink and two-tone flowers are available for \$1.50 per stem through unit honor guard members. Orders are accepted through Feb. 10 and will be delivered Feb. 13 to organizations on Brooks. Contact Staff Sgt. Melissa Gonzalez at 536-2635 for more information. Proceeds from the sale support the honor guard morale fund.

Military rodeo discount

The San Antonio Stock Show and Rodeo offers several ticket deals to military members.

Feb. 2, military members can get \$5 admission tickets. Events include the first Professional Rodeo Cowboy Association's 2003 Bull Riding Tour at 7:30 p.m. and Hank Williams Jr. in concert. The 1 p.m. rodeo event includes a Travis Tritt concert. Tickets must be purchased at the southwest ticket booth at the SBC Center. They are also available through Ticketmaster outlets, but will include an additional \$3.25 charge.

Military members can also purchase discounted tickets for \$11 plus the Ticketmaster charge for Military Nights Feb. 4-5. Martina McBride and Andy Griggs are scheduled Feb. 4 and Lynyrd Skynyrd performs Feb. 5. Regular ticket prices apply for all other rodeo performances.

Military members can also ask for special carnival ticket vouchers at the southwest ticket booth. The \$10 voucher provides eight rides and is good Monday through Friday. The \$15 vouchers provide 20 ride tickets and may be used any day.

Call the rodeo box office at 225-4237 for more information.

Sleep study subjects

The Chronobiology and Sleep Laboratory at Brooks needs volunteers to participate in a number of ongoing sleep research studies. Interested Air Force and civilian personnel who meet the necessary qualifications are eligible to receive compensation starting at \$10 per hour. Contact Laura Sanchez at 536-3616 for additional information, or visit the website at: www.ntiinc.com and link to "studies."

Red Cross volunteers

The American Red Cross is seeking volunteers to assist with the needs of the local military community as it braces for possible war. Individuals with regular weekday, evening or weekend availability are particularly needed, but all volunteers are welcome.

The local Red Cross chapter and its

military installation offices have intensified their support to local military families with increased emergency communications, assistance to deploying service members and families, and briefings for thousands of local reservists called to active duty since the first of the year.

In the event of war, the Red Cross will extend its hours of operation and staff additional offices on local military installations, which will require the help of dedicated volunteers.

Volunteers are trained to take incoming calls, complete emergency communication casework, assist with briefings and provide for a host of needs and requests from service members and their families.

Retirees, spouses, groups and young people are encouraged to find out how they can do more to help military families during this time of need.

For more information or to sign up as a volunteer call the local Red Cross office at 224-5151 ext. 248.



Service members switching to government-paid POV storage

By Rudi Williams

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — More than 140 service members per month are opting for DoD's long-term vehicle storage program since it became available May 1, 2002. Many are switching from private storage arrangements to the Military Traffic Management Command's no-cost option. Formerly, MTMC had no standard storage system for privately owned vehicles. Service members used storage programs where policies varied by installation.

By January more than 1,200 people had turned their vehicles over to MTMC for storage while they serve in overseas assignments where they're not allowed to take vehicles, according to Dennis Barborak, a member of the MTMC storage and privately owned vehicle team. Such assignments include unaccompanied tours to Korea, tours of fewer than 12 months and tours with restrictions imposed by host nations and the services. Service members are advised to check with their service for specific details.

In some cases, countries require such extensive modifications to vehicles that ser-

vice members can't afford it or don't want to pay that much, Barborak noted.

Storage isn't cheap. MTMC currently pays contractors \$224 per month per vehicle in the Midwest and on the West Coast and \$209 per month on the East Coast, he said.

Barborak cataloged MTMC contractors' services: "Storage is not humidity controlled, but it's all indoors. The vehicle is covered and the contractor is required to start the engine to recycle the heat and air conditioning every 30 days. He's also required to periodically move the vehicle to prevent flat spots on the tires." He said contractors follow the manufacturers' recommendations for long-term storage.

Under the MTMC program, vehicles may be turned in at any of 39 vehicle-processing centers operated by American Auto Logistics or the Defense Department.

Service members should change the oil, clean the vehicle and ensure it's mechanically safe before turning it in for long-term storage. While members can still make private arrangements, they'll only be reimbursed for the actual storage cost, not to exceed the government's constructed cost.

If a vehicle is already in private storage, an owner who

wants to switch to the MTMC program can do so. However, they must arrange delivery to the vehicle processing center with proper documentation, including a power of attorney.

When returning home from overseas, service members are required to give the contractor at least 30 days to prepare their vehicle.

"What's good about the program is, service members doing back-to-back overseas assignments, say from Japan to Germany, don't have to return to the states to remove their car from storage," Barborak said. "All they have to do is provide a copy of their orders to the vehicle-processing center. The contractor would remove the vehicle from storage and ship it to the processing center closest to the member's new duty station in Germany."

If the service member returns to an assignment on the West Coast and his vehicle is on the East Coast, the contractor will haul it to the processing center closest to the member's duty station.

Contractors are liable for up to \$20,000 for loss or damage to the vehicle while it's in storage.

For more information, contact the nearest installation transportation office, or American Auto Logistics at (845) 783-6279.

Online data is also available at: www.mtmc.army.mil, or download a copy of the latest "Storing Your POV" pamphlet at: www.mtmc.army.mil.

MPF NEWS

Hours of operation

Military Personnel Flight hours of operation are Monday through Friday, 7:15 a.m. - 4 p.m. except Wednesdays when the MPF closes at 3 p.m. for training.

Virtual record of emergency data

A new procedure for updating emergency data information has been implemented Air Force-wide. The DD Form 93, Record of Emergency Data, has been replaced by vRED. Brooks active-duty military personnel are required to log into vRED by Feb. 2 at: www.afpc.randolph.af.mil. The vRED is an automated program that guides users through emergency contact information and tailors questions to unique family situations. Questions can be directed to customer service at 536-1845, Brooks casualty assistance representative Wanda Jackson at 536-2447 or the Air Force Personnel Center contact center at DSN 665-1239 or 1-866-229-7074.

Officer promotions

Officers may assume the higher grade Feb. 1 unless otherwise advised.

High year tenure changes

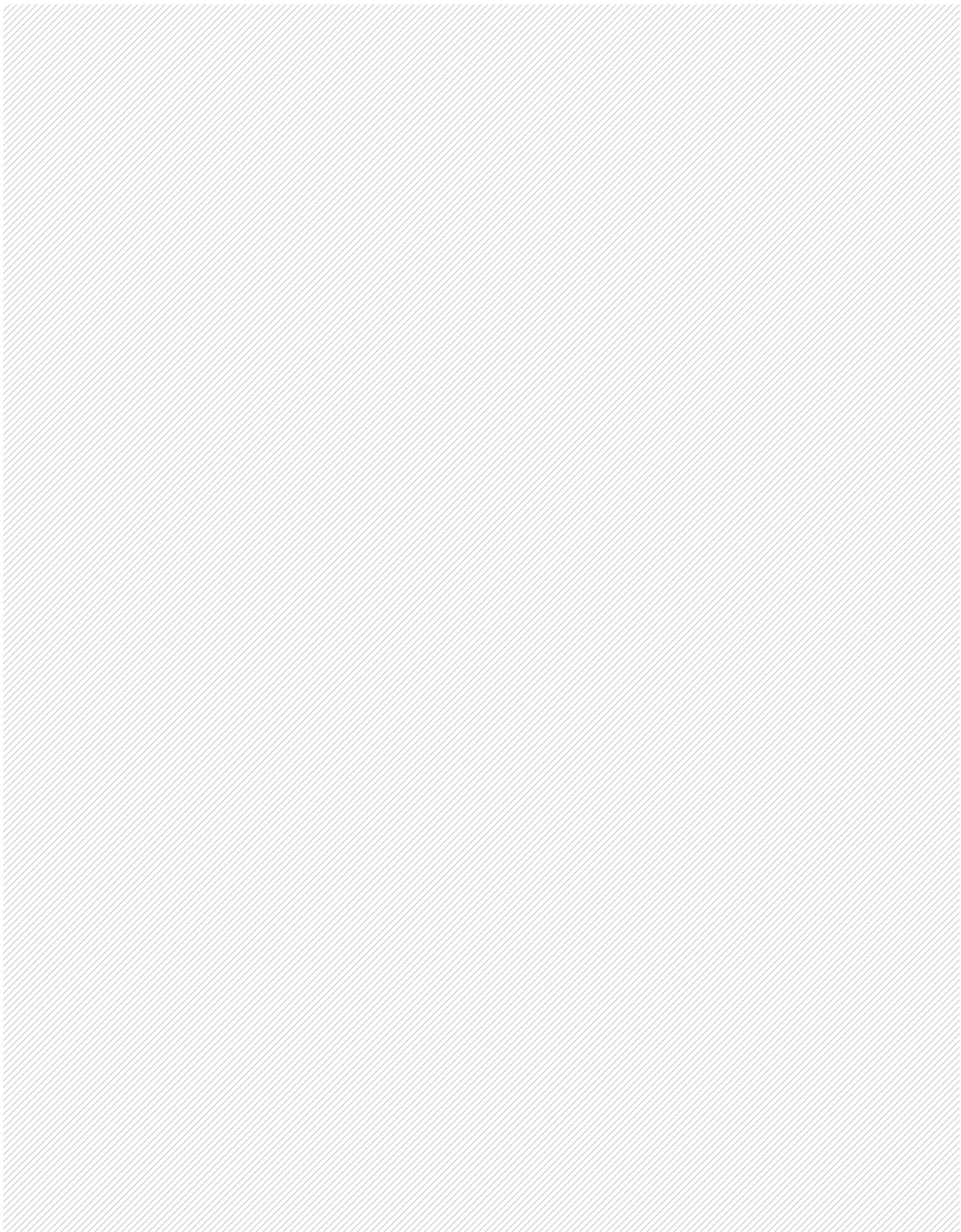
As of Dec. 23, enlisted grades of senior airmen, technical sergeant, master

sergeant and senior master sergeant are authorized to serve on active duty to their new high year tenure for grades with effective dates on or after Jan. 1. They are as follows: senior airman, 12 years; technical sergeant, 24 years, master sergeant, 26 years and senior master sergeant, 28 years.

The HYT for staff sergeants and chief master sergeants remains 20 years and 30 years respectively. Personnel who have used or expended funds using separations or retirement orders or have departed on terminal leave/permisive TDY will not be allowed to remain on active duty with this change. Personnel with approved retirements on file, retiring because of previous high year tenure, may request to withdraw their retirement. Contact Airman 1st Class Dae Paek or Tech. Sgt. Sharon Portell at 536-3187 or 536-3150 for assistance.

Dress and appearance

In accordance with Air Force Instruction 36-2903, Dress and Personal Appearance, Air Force personnel are prohibited from pursuing body alterations and modifications that disfigure, deform or otherwise detract from a professional military image. Alterations include forked or splitting tongues, filing teeth or implanting objects under skin. For more information, contact the MPF customer service section at 536-1845.





Feature



Coburn

Q&A

FULL NAME:
Chaplain, Capt. Gary Allen Coburn

DUTY TITLE, ORGANIZATION:
311th Human Systems Wing Chapel

WHAT IS MY JOB?
As a chaplain I ensure constitutional freedom to practice religion. Besides that I preach, teach, counsel and ensure our wing chaplain is happy. When he's happy he makes the wing commander happy and when he's happy everyone's happy. As you can see, a lot is resting on my shoulders.

BIRTHDAY:
Nov. 14, 1964

HOMETOWN:
Prattville, Ala.

FAMILY STATUS:
Wife, Rhonda and children, Benjamin, 12, Andrew, 9, and Courtney, 6. The dogs, Cisco and Taz; Misty, the cat; Cindy, the gerbil; Chief the bird and two foster cats, Harley and Davidson.

MOTTO:
Where there is a spirit of expectation, there will never be a spirit of gratitude.

INSPIRATIONS:
Don't want to state the obvious...

HOBBIES:
Reading and riding my 'Hog'

PET PEEVE:
People with pet peeves. Get over it, move on.

BOOK(S) AT BEDSIDE:
A newcomers Guide to the Bible, The Man in the Mirror and Biblical Archeological Review, National Geographic, and U.S. News and World Report magazines.

I JOINED THE MILITARY BECAUSE:
I wanted to serve God and country and there is no better job in the world than military ministry.

ULTIMATE GOAL:
Raise three kids who love God and their Mama and Daddy and then retire on 100 acres with my kids and grandkids living all around me.

IF I WON THE LOTTERY I'D:
Become a farmer and when all my money ran out I'd come back into the Air Force.

MY FAVORITE MUSIC:
I'm very eclectic. I enjoy classical, jazz, country as well as rock. It depends on where I am and the mood I'm in.

MY GREATEST ACCOMPLISHMENT:
is getting a "C" in Physics!

MY MOST PRIZED POSSESSION:
is my family.

A man of God



Brooks Personality PROFILE

Photo by Setaff Sgt. Alfonso Ramirez Jr.

By Rita Boland

Staff writer

When God called Chaplain Gary Coburn, Coburn responded wholeheartedly.

Coburn didn't just decide to follow Jesus, he decided to model his life after a man who taught love, acceptance and understanding.

"A few years ago I decided to get out of the judging business and let God do it," he said. Coburn, who describes some of his decisions as roads better left untraveled, recognizes that some people feel nervous speaking to clergy, but he possesses the coveted ability to make people feel comfortable quickly.

In some ways, Coburn resembles a televangelist more than a chaplain. He has a thick southern drawl - he is from Alabama after all - and he loves to preach.

Before a person has a chance to feel too nervous, Coburn begins to talk, mixing his speech with offerings of food and drink, jokes and serious topics. His eyes and demeanor, however, say more than an entire sermon of words.

Coburn has large, round eyes that gaze from behind his glasses, focusing completely on the person with whom he's speaking. When a message is negative, his eyes register concern. When a message is positive, his eyes radiate with shared joy and warmth.

And he always appears peaceful, comfortable with the work he chose and the life he leads. "I've always wanted to be a preacher," Coburn said. "I really enjoy what I do."

His life didn't follow the preacher's path immediately, though. Coburn

enlisted in the Air Force and served on active duty for six years. He married his wife while wearing the rank of an airman first class. At the time, his bride and mother-in-law were green to the workings of the military.

"My wife knew nothing about the military at all. Nothing," Coburn said. His new family cleaned houses, however, and they cleaned the houses of the higher-ranking base officials. His wife would ask her mother whose house they were cleaning and her mom would say the house of colonel so-and-so.

"It could be a colonel, it could be a general," Coburn said. "My mother-in-law would say colonel."

The Coburns, in contrast, lived in a tiny apartment with a second-hand couch. If they sat on the wrong part of the couch, it would cave in. One day, while Coburn sat on the decrepit piece of furniture, his wife looked around at their cramped living conditions and sighed. Then she looked around again and sighed. Finally she asked him when he was ever going to be a colonel. "That can really take the wind out of your sails when you're an airman first class," Coburn said.

Her words had some affect, because Coburn left active duty for the reserves and furthered his education, attaining a degree in marriage and family therapy and a Masters of Divinity. He then joined the Army National Guard, because the Air Force Reserves had no chaplain positions available.

"When I put on my second lieutenant (rank), I told my wife now I'm in the right line for colonel," Coburn said.

After serving twelve total years with the Reserves and Guard, Coburn decided to try to obtain an active duty slot. "I wanted to go to the

Air Force because I'd been enlisted in the Air Force," he said. "I got selected and was extremely happy."

After serving as a minister in both civilian and military communities, Coburn definitely prefers to wear the uniform. Besides the duties he would perform as a civilian, as a chaplain Coburn also defends airmen's freedom of religion. "I'm gonna help you find a Mosque or synagogue or Catholic worship," Coburn said.

As a chaplain, Coburn develops ties with the base community and his degree in marriage and family therapy is useful in helping relationships that deal with all the stresses of civilian marriages and the extra burden of the military. Sometimes he works in his office until late at night, counseling a couple.

Despite the sad occurrences he deals with, most of his work is filled with happiness. "You deal with dying and death, but you also deal with the baptisms, people coming to God, weddings," Coburn said.

When he wants to make a little of his own happiness, Coburn rides Harley-Davidson motorcycles. Since his weekend usually consists of Friday and Saturday, he and his wife ride in the hill country while the kids are at school. He recalls a time he and his wife pulled into a small gas station wearing their jeans, black boots and Harley t-shirts. A lady at the station looked at them for a while and then went to her car and locked the door.

"I wanted to give her my card," Coburn said. "I'm a chaplain in the Air Force. I didn't know what to think. I don't want to scare people."

God must have a good sense of humor.

Rita.Boland@brooks.af.mil



Texas Public Radio event honors Brooks aviation history

Remembers contributions to 1927 film classic "Wings"

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

Brooks Field's early aviation history and its contributions to the making of the 1927 movie classic "Wings" was part of a special program presented to the Texas Public Radio membership Jan. 25 at Hangar 9.

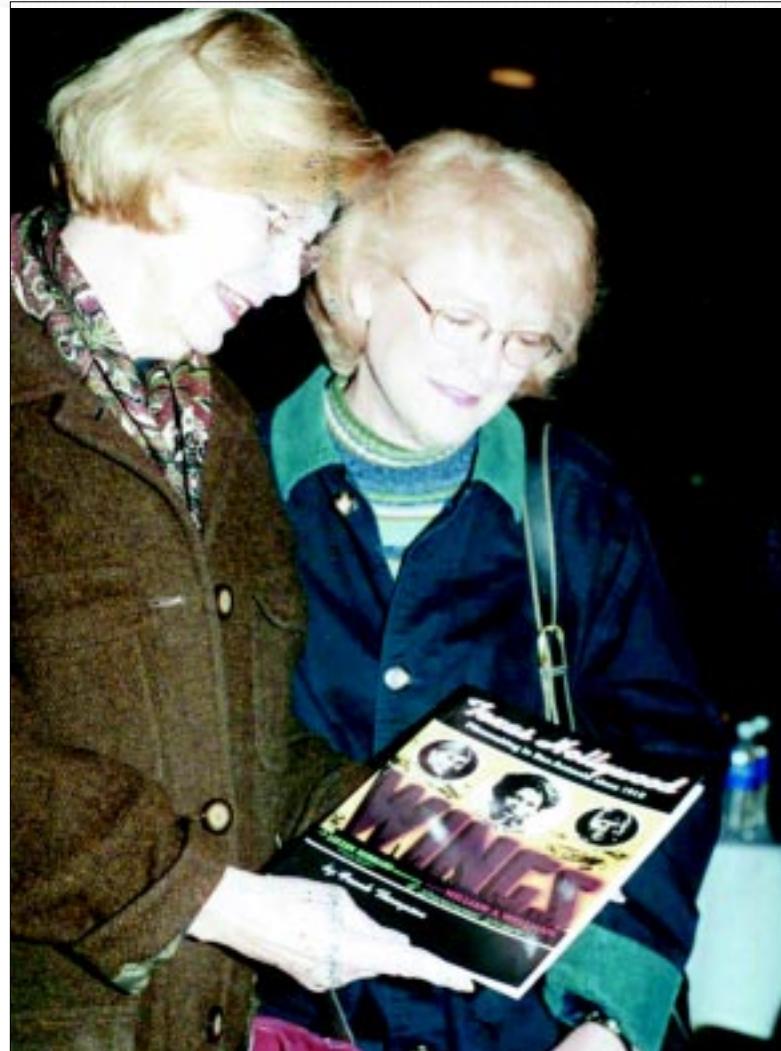
Co-sponsored by the Brooks Heritage Foundation and Frost Bank Financial Management, the event was part of Texas Public Radio's "Hands On" cultural adventure series that provides its members with unique educational experiences at various venues throughout the San Antonio metropolitan area.

"We began the series six years ago to provide our members an opportunity to explore the good work of fellow non-profit organizations," said Janet Allen, Texas Public Radio's director of corporate support. She admitted that Brooks wasn't originally part of their series plans.

"One of the films we have wanted to show as part of our special film series is 'Wings.' My boss Joe Gwathmey suggested we get a 'Jenny' airplane to be displayed at our Tuesday classic film night at AMC Huebner Oaks. I knew Hangar 9 had a Jenny, so I called Shelia Klein," Allen explained.

Klein, Brooks Heritage Foundation executive director, declined Allen's request to move the JN-4 Jenny, a World War I era aircraft on permanent loan from the Witte Museum. However, she suggested that Texas Public Radio include Brooks in their "Hands On" series since "Wings" was partially filmed here.

Allen accepted the suggestion, but her organization decided to make the "Hands On" aviation experience a two-part fund-raising event.



Suzanne Bolner and her sister Carolyn Jennings, Texas Public Radio members, said their father Ronald Short was a pilot in "Wings." He was one of several dozen pilots from Brooks and Kelly Fields that joined aviators from other bases in the aerial combat sequences, they said.

More than 100 of its members participated in the Brooks Heritage Foundation program that included presentations by base historians on Brooks aviation history; self-guided tours of Hangar 9, the Challenger Learning Center and the U.S. Air Force Aeromedical Evacuation Annex; and a special book sale featuring author Mel Brown's book "Wings Over San Antonio" and Frank Thompson's book "Texas Hollywood". Both books include Brooks Field's contributions to aviation and motion picture history.

The second part of the "Hands On" adventure was the showing of "Wings" at a Santikos movie theater that evening.

"John Santikos provided a special format lens so the movie could be shown on a big screen," Allen said.

"We began the series six years ago to provide our members an opportunity to explore the good works of fellow non-profit organizations. We have wanted to show as part of our special film series is 'Wings'. **"**

Janet Allen
Texas Public Radio
Director, corporate support

The silent film, starring Charles "Buddy" Rogers and Clara Bow, won Hollywood's first "Best Production" Academy Award.

Two Texas Public Radio members were especially interested in the "Hands On" aviation program at Brooks. Suzanne Bolner and her sister Carolyn Jennings said their father Ronald Short was a pilot in "Wings."

"He was a corporal (in the Army Air Corps). He was dressed as a German pilot for the movie," Bolner said.

He was one of several dozen pilots from Brooks and Kelly Fields that joined

aviators from other bases in the aerial combat sequences.

Brooks Field's major contribution to the movie was the ground school sequences that were filmed here.

The Brooks portion of the "Hands On" program helped promote the base among Texas Public Radio's 10,000 members and its weekly audience of 150,000 people.

Radio stations KSTX, KPAC and KTXI comprise the Texas Public Radio network.

Rudolph.Purificato@brooks.af.mil



Bill Ercoline, a Brooks Heritage Foundation boardmember, discusses Brooks aviation history with Texas Public Radio members during a "Hands On" aviation event at Hangar 9, Jan. 25. More than 100 Texas Public Radio members participated.

Photos by Rudy Purificato



BROOKS

SPOTLIGHT

Things to do around Brooks

By Jan McMahon
Brooks Services Marketing Office
536-5475

Outdoor Recreation

Bldg. 1154, 536-2881

Brooks will soon have its own indoor Mini Storage facility. Bldg. 1134 will be converted to rental storage units and Services will rent 6' x 12' and 12' x 12' units. The building is currently used to store items for various organizations on base. Organiza-

tions with items in this building should contact Dennis Chapoy, Outdoor Recreation Manager, at 536-2881, or stop by Bldg. 1154 to identify the items and organization. This must be done by Feb. 15. Items not accounted for that remain in the storage units after Feb. 15 will be removed and disposed of. Watch for more details on the opening of the storage facility.

Services plans a Sealed Bid Vehicle Auction in February. View and bid on vehicles Monday, Wednesday and Friday, Feb. 3-14 from 10 to 11 a.m. Vehicles are located in the RV storage lot on the old flight line adjacent to Bldg. 1154. Sealed bids will be opened Feb. 14 and the highest bidder will be contacted by telephone by Feb. 17. The highest bidder for each vehicle must pay, complete paperwork and remove vehicles from the lot by Feb. 21 or the next highest bidder will get the opportunity to purchase the vehicle. Call Outdoor Recreation, 536-2881, for more details.

Premiere Designs

Bldg. 705, 536-2120

Remember someone special with balloons on Valentine's Day. Single balloons start at fifty cents and bouquets start at \$4 for five latex balloons. A va-

riety of gifts are also available to add to bouquets. Orders can be placed through Feb. 12 by stopping by Bldg. 705, calling 536-2120 or e-mailing: rebecca.estrada@brooks.af.mil.

Child Development Center

Bldg. 502, 536-2736

The Child Development Center celebrates 21 years in the current building and honors remaining original staff members, director Mary Cline and caregiver Patty Hanson during its annual open house, scheduled for Feb. 19 from 9 to 11 a.m. Parents are encouraged to come for refreshments and visit their children's homerooms.

Photos are scheduled for Feb. 26 and 27, beginning at 9 a.m. both days for children who attend the center. Parents will receive a 2003 linen calendar with their child's photo on it.

BXmarket

Bldg. 660, 533-9079

The BXmarket is offering a test of Early Bird Hours Feb. 3 through 28. The store will open from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday. Take advantage of the increased hours to do your shopping before or after work.

The next AAFES Advisory Meeting is scheduled for 2 p.m., Feb. 20 at the

Brooks Club. Squadron Representatives are encouraged to attend. Officials from AAFES will discuss issues from the previous meeting.

Base Library

Bldg. 705, 536-2634

The library plans the "Books Are Fun" Book Fair Feb. 19 and 20 from noon to 6 p.m. Selections from a variety of cookbooks, educational books and toys for children are discounted.

Brooks Club

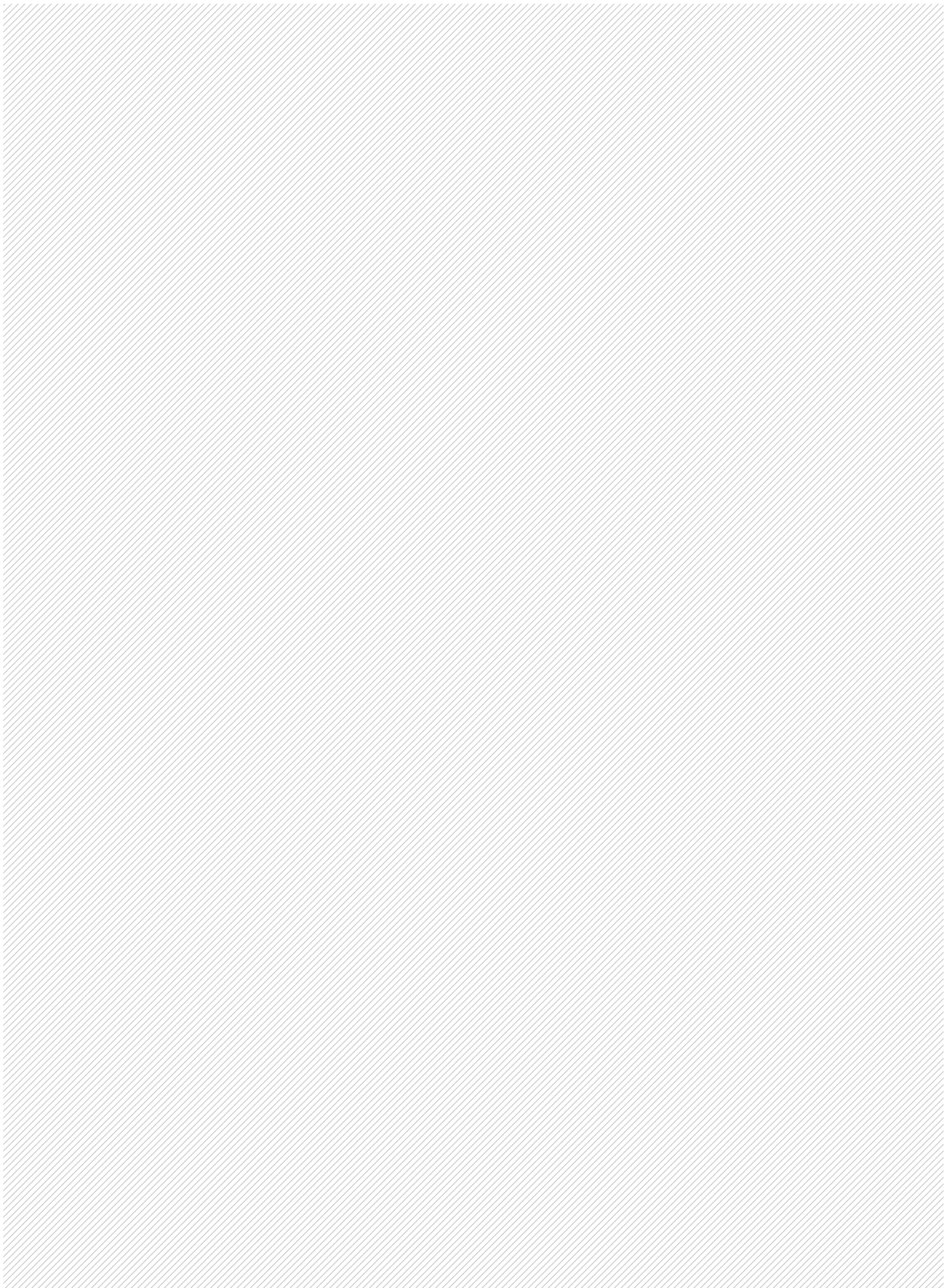
Bldg. 204, 536-3782

The OXYmorons return to the Club Feb. 14th. The OXYmorons have been San Antonio's premiere improvisational comedy troupe since 1989. Cost is \$25 per person and begins with a social hour at 6:30 p.m., a Texas barbecue buffet at 7 p.m. and the show follows at 7:30 p.m. Call or stop by the Club for tickets and information.

A Cultural Arts Showcase and Dinner is scheduled for Feb. 15. with a dinner buffet from 6 to 8 p.m. and music by Second Nature until 11 p.m. African-American art, clothing and writings will be on display during the evening. Cost is \$10 for club members and \$12.50 for non-members.



DISCOVERY **15**
Jan. 31, 2003





Sports

Lunchtime soccer players compete in first tourney

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

After more than a dozen years of playing on the fitness center field just for fun and exercise, die-hard Brooks soccer fans successfully tested their ability to compete against international athletes when they posted a respectable 3-2 record at Lackland Air Force Base's "Defender's Cup" tournament Jan. 17-19.

Carrying a roster of 27 players, the Brooks squad was one of 14 teams in the tournament that featured squads of veteran soccer players from Latin America, Africa, Europe and Asia.

"I was (initially) worried about (our team) being embarrassed. Some of our players had never been in an organized soccer game before. I wanted to give our less experienced players a taste of tournament play. We were competent and things worked out. It was a challenge," said Dave Stolarski, a Brooks contractor who volunteered to serve as coach. Stolarski guided his squad of veterans and novices to an undefeated record during the tournament's preliminary round.

In their opening game against the Defense Language Institute, Brooks battled a younger and faster squad that was eventually outmatched by Stolarski's strategy. "DLI was a team of good individual players from different countries, but they were not organized. We weren't as fast or strong as them, but our organized play held up," admits Stolarski.

Stolarski's son Jake broke up a scoreless tie in the second half with a 25-yard shot. DLI came back to tie it on a corner kick header with 10 minutes left in the game. Brooks won the game in a 4-2 shootout following regulation play. Scoring goals in the shootout for Brooks were goaltender Chris Alvarado, Jake and Dave Stolarski and Brian Hayes.

Their opening game win boosted the Brooks squad's confidence, however, their next opponent, Cannon AFB, gave Stolarski's team a wakeup call in their second game matchup. "Cannon is a very physical team. They jumped on us in the first minute of the game. I made a mistake by making a soft pass to our goaltender," Stolarski admits. His pass was intercepted by a Cannon player who immediately scored.

"We could have gotten discouraged, but we didn't. We came back to win the game in the second half," Stolarski said. About midway in the second half Jake Stolarski tied the game on a long shot that drifted over the goalie's head. With about seven minutes left in regulation, Jimmy Sanchez put



Photos by Rudy Purificato

Brooks soccer coach, Dave Stolarski, encourages his team during the opening round of Lackland Air Force Base's "Defender's Cup" tournament. Brooks beat their first opponent, Defense Language Institute, 2-1.



Brooks lunchtime soccer coach Dave Stolarski, (left), with his son, and teammate, Jake. Jake broke up a tie in the second half of Brooks match against the Defense Language Institute.

Brooks ahead for good with a goal that won the contest 2-1.

Against their third opponent, Brooks was nearly unstoppable. "I expected them to be really tough, but they were the weakest team in the tournament," said Stolarski, referring to the InterAmerican Air Force Academy squad composed of Latin American players. Sanchez scored the first and third goals for Brooks that bracketed teammate Abner Almirudis' tally in the first half. Staked to a 3-0 halftime lead, Brooks went to its bench in the second half where Ron Dick's curving long shot sealed their 4-0 victory.

Based on wins and total goals, Brooks advanced to the championship round ranked second. Nevertheless, reality hit Brooks quickly when they immediately fell behind a very fast and aggressive Tinker AFB team. "We were shorthanded, especially on defense," Stolarski said of some of his starters who no longer were able to play. One of Brooks' starting fullbacks, Vince Fonseca, sustained a hideous injury with his team down 1-0. "He went in for the challenge and tore a quadriceps muscle in his right leg. It rolled up on him like a window shade. His loss was huge for us. He was a steady defender," recalls his coach.

Tinker took full advantage, scoring again with five minutes left in the first half. Brooks' opponent made it 3-0 early in the second half before Sanchez put Brooks on the board. Tinker responded with another goal, followed by Brooks' veteran Jose Murillo who ended the scoring at 4-2 in favor of Tinker.

"We had several good chances to score. We went down fighting, but the loss put us out of the running for the championship," Stolarski said.

Brooks lost the consolation round against Lackland AFB by the same 4-2 score. The Brooks coach tied the game at halftime on a penalty kick, and Murillo tied the game at 2-2 in the second half when he intercepted a throw and scored.

Lackland's experienced players from Ghana and Latin America eventually prevailed with a full-field press resulting in two late period goals that sealed their victory.

"We were happy with the outcome. Everybody got to participate. We held our own against really good teams," Stolarski said, adding, "I am grateful to Roy Conatzer and the fitness center who sponsored us by paying the (tourney) entrance fee."



Brooks left fullback, Peter Smith, (right), defends against a Defense Language Institute opponent in the opening round of Lackland Air Force Base's "Defender's Cup" tournament. Brooks squad was one of 14 teams who competed in the tournament.

Rudolph.Purificato@brooks.af.mil



SPORTS SHORTS

Diversity welcome in
African American
Cultural
Association's
golf tournament

The Brooks African-American Cultural Association hosts the 2003 Bernard P. Randolph Scholarship golf tournament Feb. 7 at the Brooks Golf Course.

The 4-person Scramble gets underway with an 11:30 a.m. sign-in and a 12:30 p.m. tee time.

The tournament promises food, fun and prizes. Cost is \$27, which includes cart, green fees and lunch. Mulligans are available for \$1, maximum eight per team.

For more information, contact Master Sgt. Andre Marsh at 536-2945 or call the Brooks Golf Course at 536-2636.

Martin Luther King 5K run/walk

A Martin Luther King 5k run/walk in honor of Black History Month is scheduled for 11 a.m. Feb. 12 beginning at the Fitness Center. Registration starts Jan. 11 at the gym. The first 50 people to sign up and complete the race receive a t-shirt. Contact Vida Marsh at 536-8057 for more information.



Lady Luck joins Brooks couple on Superbowl trip

By Rudy Purificato
311th Human Systems Wing

"Lady Luck" worked overtime for the Susil family during a madcap Superbowl weekend in which this Brooks couple crammed a lifetime of memories into a whirlwind trip that made them a bit rich, famous and ultimately exhausted.

As grand prize winners in Outback Steakhouse and AMC Theater's Superbowl contest, Jason and Mary Susil earned an all-expense-paid, full-of-frills trip to Superbowl XXXVII where they were chauffeured to the game by ABC-TV commentator and former Oakland Raiders coach John Madden.

"It was really exciting. My wife was even more excited than I was," said the fatigued General Dynamics contractor who supports the Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence.

Their odyssey began quite peacefully when Jason, an AMC Theater movie watcher member, saw the contest advertisement on the company's website. Jason entered the contest and coaxed his reluctant wife to do the same. Neither had won anything before, believing their luck as South San High School sweethearts was confined to having married Aug. 10, 1996.

"She's (Mary) not a football fan and doesn't like to fly," Jason admits, noting it was his wife who was 'flying high' when she won the contest. As an avid football and die-hard Dallas Cowboys fan, Jason was ecstatic about going to the Superbowl. Having beaten the odds by winning a contest in which 2.2 million fans had entered was only the beginning of their saga, and their luck.

The couple flew to San Diego Friday night, Jan. 24 where they stayed at the ritzy Towne and Country Resort, "party central" for Saturday night's private "Taste of the NFL" pre-Superbowl gala.

"They treated us royally. They gave us \$250 cash spending money and VIP tickets to the "NFL Experience" show at the San Diego Convention Center where you could meet NFL players," recalls Jason. The Susils, however, decided not to go to the show after meeting a friend there. "Our friend didn't have a ticket to get in, and the lines were long. We decided to take a shuttle bus to Harrah's Casino," Jason recalls about their side trip to visit Lady Luck at a dollar slot machine. "My wife hit the jackpot and won \$200," he said.

Early Sunday morning the Susils met Madden at his hotel where the cordial and apparently pre-occupied



Courtesy photo

Jason Susil stands outside the Outback Steakhouse Madden Cruiser. The Susils joined John Madden on the bus, which delivered them to Qualcomm Stadium for Superbowl XXXVII. The Susils won the trip in an AMC Theater/Outback Steakhouse Superbowl contest.

broadcast star congratulated them during a photo. After Madden was interviewed by sportscaster Al Michaels at the hotel, the Susils joined their host on his customized tour bus called the Outback Steakhouse Madden Cruiser. When they arrived at Qualcomm Stadium, Madden autographed Mary's Superbowl cap and Jason's souvenir football. As they were about to get off the bus, former Dallas Cowboys quarterback Troy Aikman got on, blocking the couple's exit. "My wife nearly fainted. He (Aikman) signed my football," Jason recalls.

After touring ABC-TV's broadcast trailer, the couple settled into their end zone seats, which cost their contest patrons \$500 apiece. "We heard that some tickets cost \$5,000 to \$8,000," Jason said. Ticket prices did not dissuade 67,000 Superbowl fans who joined the Susils in a rollicking, pumped up frenzy where supporters of the Oakland Raiders and Tampa Bay Buccaneers taunted one another. Lady Luck, meanwhile, had joined the Susils. Apparently she had arranged they notice one particular end zone fan seated four rows from them. "Lance Bass from N'Sync was seated near us," Jason said, noting that the rock star was gracious in taking a photo with Susil's wife.

Then as suddenly as she had come into her lives, Lady Luck apparently abandoned the Susils in favor of escorting Tampa Bay players to their victory party. "We didn't have a ride after the game was over. It was chaos, a sea of people herding to trolleys and buses," recalls Jason. The weary couple eventually made it back to their hotel and to San Antonio on a very late flight Monday night. Their luck hadn't really run out, however. They had just enough luck, and a residue of energy, to wake up in time for work.

Rudolph.Purificato@brooks.af.mil