

# WINGS SPREAD

READINESS ♦ STEWARDSHIP ♦ TRANSFORMATION

Randolph AFB, Texas ♦ 58th Year, No. 14 ♦ April 9, 2004

## Safety focus must remain constant within command

By Gen. Don Cook  
Air Education and Training  
Command commander

Accidental deaths and severe injuries are plaguing our Air Force. Sadly, The Air Education and Training Command has not escaped this alarming trend.

Last weekend alone we lost three Airmen in tragic accidents. Two instructor pilots perished in the crash of a T-6A trainer at Savannah-Hilton Head International Airport in Georgia, and a young Airman lost his life in yet another fatal motorcycle accident near Keesler AFB in Mississippi.

Compounding this situation is the sharp rise in other accidents resulting in serious and near fatal injuries.

The frequency at which Airmen in our command are killed and injured in private motor vehicle accidents, especially motorcycle accidents, is appallingly high. Within the first months of this year we are well on our way to overtaking the precedent-setting number of fatal and serious injury-producing motorcycle accidents we had last year.

This heart rending loss of life and severe injury is simply intolerable.

One motorcycle accident death is one too many! There is no middle ground or room for compromise.

Safety considerations are critical in all you do at work, at home and during your leisure activities. But despite all our sustained best efforts to communicate this imperative; despite our robust

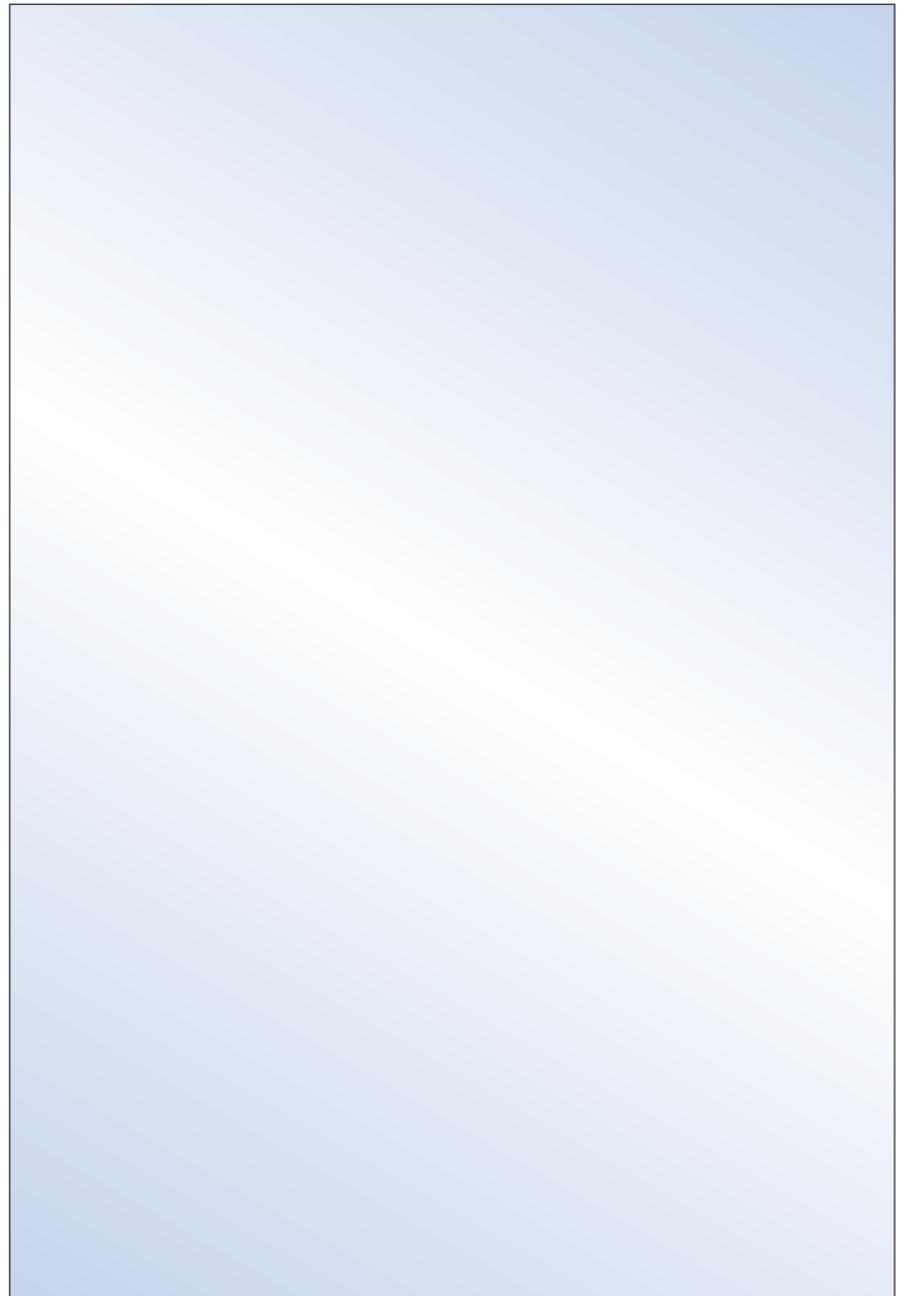
mandatory safety training programs; despite people seemingly on board with the safety mindset, deaths and injuries continue to haunt us with increasing regularity.

Immediate action by every AETC team member to halt this unacceptable trend is the only solution. To get our focus squarely on safety as our No. 1 priority, I directed commanders throughout AETC to hold a safety "down day" Thursday. I wanted everyone in our command to get a collective shake of the shoulders and look in the eye from their commanders to ensure they received – again – a loud and clear message about the paramount importance of safety.

We've reiterated our message consistently and frequently – safety and our reliance on operational risk management are absolutely crucial in all we do. Our message has not changed, and we will not stop delivering it at every opportunity possible. But it is up to each of you to respond to this call to preventative action.

Today, right now each of you must center your focus on safety – not tomorrow, not next week and not when the "101 Critical Days of Summer" begin in May. Now is the time to take the brave, but necessary action to alter behavior that puts you, your family and your colleagues at risk. Recklessness, inattention and disregard for fundamentally safe behavior must be eliminated.

### Little peeps



Ethan Griffin pets a duckling at a past Fam-A-Ganza event. This year's event runs from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday at the youth center. During Fam-A-Ganza, children can enjoy arts and crafts, a petting zoo, face painting and an Easter egg hunt. A light lunch is also planned, followed by a visit from the Easter bunny. (Photo by Airman 1st Class Chad Tarpley)

## 12th FTW observes safety down day

By 2nd Lt. LaShonda Bush  
12th Flying Training Wing public affairs

Though the annual "101 Critical Days of Summer" campaign is right around the corner, the message being emphasized throughout the entire Air Education and Training Command is that safety should be a priority 24-hours-a-day, 7 days-a-week, and 365 days-a-year.

Thursday the 12th Flying Training Wing participated in a command initiated safety down day. All flying operations, simulations, academics and regularly scheduled meetings were cancelled throughout the wing to give each unit the opportunity to re-focus on the importance of safety.

The safety down day began with several briefings in the base theater followed by individual unit safety refresher training. The safety training covered topics such as traffic safety, suicide prevention and awareness, operational risk management and flight safety.

"The spirit and intent of the safety day is to take some time at the unit level to focus on our daily business, where the dangers are, and how we can use effective operational risk management to minimize the risks," said Col. George Duda, 12th Flying Training Wing vice commander.

The commander stressed that safety is not just a seasonal topic, it is everyday awareness of your actions and environment. He urged that everyone must be actively involved to find steps to reduce

risk and prevent tragedy.

"Safety isn't going to happen without your individual involvement," said the colonel.

The recent and unfortunate deaths of several Airmen across the command reinforce the idea that individuals can never be lax when it comes to safety.

"It's imperative to pay attention to detail in everything that you do whether at home, on the job or participating in leisure activities," said the colonel. "We're losing valuable combat and training capability every time we damage a resource or injure a person."

Command officials stress that any accident is one accident too many and discipline is the key to safe operations.

### 12th FLYING TRAINING WING TRAINING TIMELINE

As of Monday			Navigator, EWO training			Wing Sortie Scoreboard				
Pilot Instructor Training			562nd FTS		563rd FTS		Aircraft	Required	Flown	Annual
Squadron	Senior Class	Overall	Air Force	247	Undergraduate	52	T-1A	2,141	2,199	4,040
99th FTS	-5.0	-0.7	Navy	73	International	16	T-6A	4,610	4,728	9,103
558th FTS	1.9	-2.0	International	2	EWC Course	0	T-37B	3,994	3,751	7,171
559th FTS	-1.1	-4.1	NIFT	73	Fundamentals	0	T-38A	4,631	4,487	5,674
560th FTS	-1.8	-0.1					T-38C	117	118	3,740
							T-43	580	612	1,160

Numbers reflect days ahead or behind for senior pilot instructor training class and an average for all PIT classes currently in training.

Numbers reflect students currently in training. The 562nd shows source of navigator students. Air Force students include Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard. The 563rd indicates students in specific courses.

The required and flown numbers reflect sorties since Oct. 1, 2003. The annual numbers are the current fiscal year target.

### Index

Commentary .....	2
News .....	4
Community .....	14
Services .....	15
Feature .....	22
Sports & Fitness .....	24





**AIR AND SPACE  
EXPEDITIONARY  
FORCE**

As of Monday, 102 Team Randolph members are deployed in support of military operations around the globe.

The Randolph  
**WINGSPREAD**

**12th Flying Training Wing  
Editorial Staff**

- Col. Mark Graper**  
Commander
- Col. George Duda**  
Vice Commander
- Capt. Paul Villagran**  
Chief of Public Affairs
- Tech. Sgt. Angelique McDonald**  
Chief of Internal Information
- Senior Airman Lindsey Maurice**  
Editor

- Prime Time Military Newspaper  
Contract Staff**
- Jennifer Valentin**  
Staff Writer
  - Bob Hieronymus**  
Staff Writer
  - Maggie Armstrong**  
Graphic Designer

**Wingspread office:**  
1 Washington Circle, Suite 4  
Randolph AFB, Texas 78150  
Phone: (210) 652-5760  
Fax: (210) 652-5412

**Wingspread Advertisements:**  
Prime Time Military Newspapers  
7137 Military Drive West  
San Antonio, Texas 78227  
Phone: (210) 675-4500  
Fax: (210) 675-4577

**Wingspread online:**  
[www.randolph.af.mil/12ftw/wing/pa/wingspread.htm](http://www.randolph.af.mil/12ftw/wing/pa/wingspread.htm)

This paper is published by Prime Time Military Newspapers, a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Air Force, under exclusive written contract with Randolph AFB, Texas. This commercial enterprise Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services. Contents of the Wingspread are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, or the Department of the Air Force.

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

Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to the race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical or mental handicap, political affiliation, or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user, or patron.

Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the Public Affairs Division of the 12th Flying Training Wing in accordance with local policy and style guidance. All photos, unless otherwise indicated, are U.S. Air Force photos.

Articles for the newspaper should be submitted by noon Thursday the week prior to the desired publication date. Items can be dropped off on a PC- or Macintosh-formatted disk at the Wingspread office in room 110 of Building 100.

Articles may also be sent by e-mail to [wingspread@randolph.af.mil](mailto:wingspread@randolph.af.mil) or by fax at 652-5412 or base ext. 7-5412.

For more information about submissions, call 652-5760 or base ext. 7-5760.

**Commander's Action Line**

Call 652-5149 or e-mail  
[randolph.actionline@randolph.af.mil](mailto:randolph.actionline@randolph.af.mil)



While our goal is to provide the best programs, products and services to our customers, there will be instances when people believe we could have served them better.

In those cases, I ask the individual to first contact the responsible organization to allow the unit commander or manager an opportunity to ensure professional and impartial treatment.

When those officials are unable to provide satisfaction, the individual may contact me through the Action Line. I will ensure each Action Line call is looked into and a reply is given by telephone or in writing. I ask callers to include their name and telephone number so we may send a personal response.

**Col. Mark Graper**

*12th Flying Training Wing commander*

**Base clinic customer unhappy with appointment system**

**Q** My wife called at 6:30 a.m. to make an appointment for our son with the pediatrics section of the base clinic. While on the phone, she received a recording saying that calls are taken in the order in which they are received.

After being on hold for 15 minutes, she decided to call from another line in the house while still holding on her original line and got through right away. However, by this time, she was told all of the appointments for the day had been taken.

This incident leads me to believe that phone calls at the clinic are not

being taken in the order they are received. Why is this?

**A** I am sorry to hear about your dilemma. The phone system used by the base clinic to make patient appointments is antiquated and on rare occasions we hear about an unusual hiccup in the program, although nothing specifically as you described. But please be rest assured that relief is one the way as the 12th Medical Group is to receive funding for replacement of the phone system by fiscal year 2005.

In the meantime another means of making appointments you and others may want to try is going online to the TRICARE Web site at [www.tricare-online.com](http://www.tricare-online.com). Thanks for the call.

**Agency contact numbers**

<b>Security Forces</b> .....	652-5509	<b>12th FTW IG</b> .....	652-2727
<b>Services</b> .....	652-5971	<b>Equal Opportunity</b> .....	652-4376
<b>Civil Engineers</b> .....	652-2401	<b>FW&amp;A Hotline</b> .....	652-3665
<b>Transportation</b> .....	652-4314	<b>EEO Complaints</b> .....	652-3749
<b>Military Pay</b> .....	652-1851	<b>Randolph Clinic</b> .....	652-2933
<b>Civilian Pay</b> .....	652-6480	<b>Base Exchange</b> .....	674-8917
<b>Safety Office</b> .....	652-2224	<b>Commissary</b> .....	652-5102
<b>Housing Maintenance</b> .....	652-1856	<b>Straight Talk</b> .....	652-7469

**Safety is an everyday activity**

**Col. George Duda**  
12th Flying Training Wing  
vice commander

I ride a motorcycle. It's a passion of mine and I often ride to decompress after a particularly hard week. I know that riding motorcycles is inherently more risky than other activities, but I have taken all required motorcycle safety courses to ensure I am in control while I am out on the road.

Additionally, every time I get on my bike I run through my own checklist on what I need to do to avoid dangerous situations and to protect myself from injury in case of an unforeseen incident. I inspect my helmet to make sure it is in good condition. I wear the appropriate clothing including boots, leather gloves and jacket, and I ensure I am highly visible to other drivers. While on the road I adhere to all traffic laws and I pay close attention to riding conditions. I go through this ritual every time I get on my bike. Every time! That is the key to safety.

Recent incidents throughout the Air Education and Training Command, including a tragic motorcycle accident that

took the life of an Airman at Keesler Air Force Base, have demonstrated that perhaps we are not focusing on safety in our every day activities. The situation prompted the AETC commander to declare a Command Safety Day this past Thursday.

I welcomed General Cook's initiative to refocus on safety in our jobs and our daily lives, and I echo his comments, "today, right now each of you must center your focus on safety – not tomorrow, not next week and not when the '101 Critical Days of Summer' begin in May."

Often times we reinvigorate our safety programs during key seasons throughout the year such as the 101 Critical Days of Summer or the holidays. I applaud those programs because they focus on safety issues we may not typically encounter throughout the year. But that is not enough when it comes to stressing safety.

We must be safety conscious every time we get on a motorcycle, get in our vehicle, or cross the street. We must be vigilant in our daily activities for potentially hazardous situations. The message is unmistakable—we must focus on safety all the time, every time.

I ask each of you to simply use the following statement to ensure safety is continuously part of your daily routine, "I think about safety every time I..." What you use to fill in the end of the sentence will be based on your own lives, but that sentence needs to be completed every time. Let's be clear, safety is not just a seasonal, holiday or safety day issue, it's an every day activity.

Accidents can be prevented through the appropriate management of risk. As General Cook stated, one accidental death is too many. If we think safety and utilize good operational risk management we can prevent these tragedies.

We must do this not just because the members of Team Randolph are vital to the Air Force mission, which you are, but because each of you is vital to your family, friends and community. Let's commit ourselves to making safety a part of our day-to-day lives.

I think about safety every time I get on my motorcycle. I think about safety every time I climb into the cockpit of an airplane. I think about safety every time I work out. I think about safety every time I...

**Door of opportunity labeled 'push'**

**By Chief Master Sgt. Doug Hodge**  
65th Air Base Wing  
command chief

LAJES FIELD, Azores – Finance guru Tom Peters was right when he said, "If a window of opportunity appears, don't pull down the shade."

For those of us serving in the Air Force, the sun shines brightly through a very large window. It overlooks many different prospects for change, promotion and advancement. From education to recognition, the door to opportunity is always labeled "push."

I've been fortunate to see many opportunities over the course of my own career. I finished my Community College of the Air Force degree. I branched out from my

career field and held positions in the professional military education field, including commandant of an NCO Academy.

Those same opportunities are available to you without discrimination. How close are you to a CCAF associate's degree? You may be closer than you think, and spring graduation is just around the corner.

No one can deny the military is the best deal for getting a bachelor's degree. With 100 percent tuition assistance and classes that flex around your schedule, the education office and the schools offering advanced degree programs are ready to serve.

Meanwhile, training opportunities abound. Have you attended the First-Term Airman

Center class? Have you gotten Airman Leadership School out of the way? When are you headed to the NCO Academy?

Sometime after you read this, look at the jobs available to you on the EQUAL Plus list. How many will you find? Special duty assignments as military training instructors, military training leaders, professional military education instructors, office of special investigation agents, recruiters and more await.

The Air Force needs more people to look at the big picture – to look for assignments that may not necessarily turn a wrench or march a patrol. Is that you?

Or will you just be filling the squares you believe need filling?

To round out your view out

this window of opportunity, seek and engage the hundreds of volunteer openings at your base. Every day I see something new from a burger burn to a car wash. Awards dinners, celebrations, ceremonies and other events are always looking for people with energy, ability and a smile.

There is so much more. The education counselors, career adviser supervisors, first sergeants and others are your first stop to pushing the door open.

As we continue our mission providing support to the world's premiere air and space force, remember to leave the shade up on the window of opportunity that's open to you. (Courtesy of Air Force Print News)

# Air Expeditionary Force: Heart of Air Force transformation

By Lt. Col. Timothy Fay

65th Operations Support Squadron commander

LAJES FIELD, Azores – AEF. These three letters represent the heart of the organizational transformation of our Air Force, yet somehow this ever-evolving Air and Space Expeditionary Force construct is misunderstood by many of our Air Force's air and space power warriors.

With another AEF rotation approaching, this is a great time to review the fundamentals of the AEF concept and what it means to us as Air Force warriors. Perhaps the best summary of the AEF concept I have seen is the Air Force's Transformation Flight Plan.

It describes the AEF as a wealth of capabilities. This "bucket" is how the Air

Force presents its forces to combatant commanders. Comparing it to a sister service, the Navy has long presented its forces in carrier battle groups. Every commander in every service understood that each carrier battle group could steam so far, so fast and put "X" many weapons on target over "Y" many days. It was a known quantity of capabilities.

We have done the same with the AEF. Each force package is composed of roughly the same capability of air and space power for combatant commanders to call on to help win our nation's wars.

Each AEF is a combination of combat air forces, mobility air forces, expeditionary combat support, and low density/high demand assets. Together, this synergistic basket of capabilities is wrapped into one AEF package.

Right now, our Air Force is divided into 10 AEFs. We pair two of these AEFs together, so in total we have five AEF rotations. This means that if things are steady in the world, each expeditionary Airman must be ready to deploy during his or her regular AEF vulnerability window for 90 days during every 15-month period.

This means all of your readiness ducks must be in a row. This ranges from medical to training readiness, to personal and family readiness issues. Each unit has a readiness officer or NCO who ensures we all remain prepared, but each one of us is ultimately responsible for keeping ourselves as ready as possible at all times.

Of course, when we have a major operation like Iraqi Freedom, the Air Force must do what is needed. The regular rotation schedule may be modified or

extended to win the war.

Why do we do things this way? If we know when our AEF turn is coming and how long it will last, then we can plan our personal and professional lives and prepare to fight.

It adds stability to our lives and predictability to our deployments. The AEF also helps solve our Air Force's problem of how to prepare to fight in a chaotic world. We no longer know from whom or from where in the world the challenges to freedom will come, so we must be ready to go anywhere, anytime, and be ready to fight and win. The AEF rotation gets and keeps us ready.

This, then, is our Air Force's Air and Space Expeditionary Force – the way we are now organized to fight and win. (Courtesy of Air Force Print News)

## Anti-terrorism efforts require everyone's help

By 2nd Lt. Darrell Peek

14th Security Forces Squadron

COLUMBUS AIR FORCE BASE, Miss. – The March 11 train bombings in Spain, occurring 911 days after "9/11" on September 11, 2001, as well as the daily bombings in Iraq, illustrate the unwavering resolve of terrorists to attack those they fervently hate.

In response to these and past terrorist attacks, a great deal of time, effort and money has been spent gathering intelligence and attempting to safeguard ourselves as well as others. Yet, lives are unfortunately lost to the perpetrators of terror almost daily.

This leads many people to believe if terrorists really want to get us, they will. This is a rather fatalistic attitude, but it's pervasive throughout the world.

So how do we protect ourselves from those determined to harm us? What can we learn from all of this violence?

First, terrorists will continue to innovate and adapt in an effort to strike at the heart of their sworn enemies, regardless of gender, age or military affiliation. Their goal is to terrorize people into altering the way they or their governments do business. An election outcome was significantly affected by the bombings in Spain.

Moreover, terrorists are only limited by their imaginations. Although improvised explosive devices seem to be the weapon of choice, you can bet terrorists are working on new methods to murder innocent people and destroy property. Terrorists are continually working on the next 9/11.

The old rules and Force Protection Condition checklists cannot, on their own, provide the basis for antiterrorism efforts. I'm not arguing their value. They are necessary. However, it is imperative we innovate and adapt as the terrorists do.

We can no longer rely solely on numerically sequenced directives in the hopes of sending the terrorists somewhere else. These people are smart and will not attack us when we most expect it.

The most important thing we can learn is anti-terrorism is everyone's responsibility. At least two of the unexploded devices found during the recent bombings in Spain were left in unattended backpacks. With a little vigilance, lives could have been saved.

If you were standing outside the base exchange and found

an unattended bag, would you become suspicious? Would you report it or move people away from the area?

Do you recall the Centennial Olympic Park bombing during the summer of 1996 in Atlanta? At a recent anti-terrorism course, I learned people actually tried to walk off with the backpack containing the bomb until they realized it was too heavy.

Vigilance and a willingness to act are paramount if we are to make the enemy ineffective.

In every anti-terrorism class I've ever instructed, I repeat the same message: I'd rather be embarrassed to have reported something that turned out to be harmless than to live with the fact I could have saved somebody's life and failed.

The expectation that our government can stop every single act of terrorism is unrealistic. As Air Force members, the expectation that security forces or the Air Force Office of Special Investigations, our counter-terrorism experts, can single-handedly thwart a well-planned terrorist event is similarly unrealistic.

That doesn't mean we're incapable of protecting ourselves. What we can and should do is work collectively to identify and report incidents that raise our suspicions. We can stop events before they occur and steal the initiative from the enemy.

(Courtesy of Air Force Print News)

## Air Force announces Thrift Savings Plan open season

Civilian and military employees can sign up for, or change, their Thrift Savings Plan contribution amounts during the "open season," which runs Thursday through June 30.

"TSP is a long-term retirement savings plan, which everyone should consider," said Senior Master Sgt. Felipe Ortiz, Air Force Personnel Center contact center superintendent. "It's a great supplement to military and civilian retirement plans."

"It's also important to note that TSP is not limited to investing in stocks," said Sergeant Ortiz. "People can choose safer government securities as well."

This open season applies only to regular TSP contributions. It does not include TSP catch-up contributions, as they are not tied to open seasons, according to Janet Thomas, of AFPC's civilian benefits and entitlements service team.

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

"Eligible employees can take out loans and make in-service withdrawals from their TSP accounts," said Ms. Thomas. "And you can keep your account, even if you leave military or federal civilian service."

Investment money is deposited directly from each paycheck "so you never have to think about it," said Sergeant Ortiz. "That makes it easy to 'pay yourself first' while only investing what you deem appropriate."

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.

"As with any individual retirement account, the sooner you begin contributing, the better," said Ms. Thomas.

Contribution elections/changes made between Thursday and June 12 take effect June 13, for both military and civilian personnel. Changes made on or after June 13 become effective at the beginning of the pay period

### TSP changes

The Thrift Savings Plan announced several changes to the loan program effective July 1. These changes are:

- A \$50 fee will be deducted from the amount of each new loan;
- Participants will no longer be able to have two general purpose loans at the same time. However, participants will still be able to have one general purpose and one residential loan;
- When participants pay off one loan, they will not be eligible to apply for another loan for 60 days.

following the one in which the election is made for civilians and the following month for military.

Some of the specifics of the program include:

#### Military

• Military members can contribute up to nine percent of their base pay, as long as the annual total of tax-deferred investment doesn't exceed \$13,000 for 2004. Airmen also have the ability to invest all or part of their bonuses or special pay.

• Those serving in tax-free combat zones are allowed up to \$41,000 in annual contributions.

• Military members can enroll through the Defense Finance and Accounting Service Web site at <http://www.dfas.mil/emss/>. They can also enroll by filling out a form TSP-U-1 at the military personnel flight, finance office or family support center.

• Contribution allocations (how an employee chooses to invest money among the five funds) can be made by calling the TSP automated ThriftLine at (504) 255-8777 or on the TSP Web site at <http://www.tsp.gov/>. For general TSP questions, call the Air Force Contact Center at (800) 616-3775.

• Specific TSP information is available for military at [http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/mpf/TSP/thrift\\_savings\\_plan.htm](http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/mpf/TSP/thrift_savings_plan.htm).

#### Civilian

Contribution limits are based on which retirement system an employee has. For the current open season, the following contribution rates apply:

• Federal Employees' Retirement System employees may contribute up to 14 percent of basic pay each pay period. Once eligible, the government provides matching funds of up to 4 percent as well as an automatic one percent each pay period, whether the employee contributes or not, making the government's contribution five percent.

• Employees covered by the Civil Service Retirement System may contribute up to nine percent of basic pay, but do not receive any agency contributions.

• The percentage FERS and CSRS employees may contribute are restricted by the Internal Revenue Code's annual limit of \$13,000 this year, said Ms. Thomas.

• Specific information is available for civilian employees from the Thrift Savings Web site at <http://www.tsp.gov/> or at <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/dpc/BEST/menu.htm>.

• All Air Force civilian employees make their TSP contribution elections or changes through the BEST automated phone system at (800) 616-3775 or the Employee Benefits Information System Web application at [www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/dpc/BEST\\_GRB/EBIS.htm](http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/dpc/BEST_GRB/EBIS.htm).

Hearing impaired employees may contact BEST by calling TDD (800) 382-0893 or locally at 565-2276.

• Contribution allocations (how an employee chooses to invest their money among the five funds) are made by calling the TSP automated ThriftLine at (504) 255-8777 or on the TSP Web site at <http://www.tsp.gov/>.

More information about the Thrift Savings Plan can be found in the booklet "Summary of the Thrift Savings Plan" on the TSP home page under civilian or uniformed services TSP Forms and Publications.

(Courtesy of Air Force Personnel Center News Service)

# Randolph NCO garners Air Force-level award

By **Connie Lariosa**

Air Education and Training Command Office of the Staff Judge Advocate

A Randolph NCO was recently selected as the Air Force Judge Advocate General Corps Steve Swigoniski Award recipient for 2003.

Tech. Sgt. Josephine Zapata, Headquarters Air Education and Training Command Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, was informed of the good news from Maj. Gen. Jack Rives, Air Force Deputy Judge Advocate General, during a ceremony March 24 in her division's conference room.

Since the general was visiting Randolph for other business reasons, he deemed it appropriate to tell the NCO in charge of the military justice division the good news himself.

"Originally I was told the general was coming by our office to check

out our new furniture," Sergeant Zapata said. "So when he came to our office and presented me with a coin and the news of the award I was in absolute shock. I must have turned six shades of red.

"It truly is an honor to be chosen for this award. But it would never have been possible without the help and support of my co-workers and leadership."

According to AETC officials, the award recognizes the most outstanding active duty paralegal technical sergeant and below, and is based on demonstrated superior initiative, technical skill, leadership ability and devotion to duty in the Judge Advocate General Corps.

One of the achievements Sergeant Zapata was noted for leading up to the award was her extensive preparation for the command unit compliance inspection conducted in October. Her efforts aided in the command's legal office receiving an "excellent"

rating as well as her recognition as an outstanding "star performer."

Sergeant Zapata was also noted for her efforts in response to the Fowler Commission, which was created in response to the Air Force Academy sexual assault cases. During this time, Sergeant Zapata performed a 10-year review of nonconsensual sexual assaults and created a report used for presentation to AETC. Her oversight of 1,600 military justice data inputs was directly responsible for bringing AETC metrics from the worst to the best overall for combined general and special courts-martial, said AETC officials.

A native Texan, Sergeant Zapata began her Air Force career in February 1990 as an air traffic control radar maintenance specialist. As a maintenance specialist, her career took her to Keesler Air Force Base, Miss.; Eaker AFB, Ark.; Loring AFB, Maine; and Robins AFB, Ga. In 1995, she cross-



Tech Sgt. Josephine Zapata, Headquarters Air Education and Training Command Office of the Staff Judge Advocate Justice Division NCO in charge, goes over some paperwork with her division's executive officer, Maj. Michael Roberts. (Photo by Steve White)

trained to the paralegal field and served in various NCO in charge positions at Nellis AFB, Nev.; Osan Air Base, Korea; and Aviano AB, Italy. Sergeant Zapata deployed numerous times in her career, most

recently as a paralegal to Al Udeid, Qatar.

Sergeant Zapata will be presented her award during a special banquet May 7 in Washington D.C.

# Air Force posts SRB list changes

WASHINGTON – Bluesuiters will see significant changes in the newly released selective re-enlistment bonus list resulting from solid retention rates, Pentagon officials said.

Following the selective re-enlistment review board, the Air Force has published the latest SRB list which contains 62 Air Force specialties.

"The SRB program is a retention tool the Air Force uses as an incentive to help keep the right people in the right jobs to accomplish our mission," said Senior Master Sgt. Maria Cornelia, chief of retention and bonus programs at Air Force headquarters.

"During this period of improved retention, it is prudent to make adjustments," she said. "Airmen should remember that SRBs are not an entitlement and must be adjusted to meet Air Force needs."

All enlisted skills were reviewed, including reporting and special-duty identifiers, officials said.

The criteria used for determining which enlisted skills will receive an SRB include

current and projected manning levels, re-enlistment trends, career-field force structure changes and inputs from individual career-field managers. SRBs are authorized in 0.5 increments, or multiples, and in three re-enlistment zones for people with between 17 months and 14 years of service.

Zone A, which applies to Airmen re-enlisting between 17 months and six years of service, incurred nine increases, 19 reductions and 86 removals. Zone B, which applies to Airmen re-enlisting between six and 10 years of service, had eight increases, 18 reductions and 80 removals. Zone C, which applies to Airmen re-enlisting between 10 and 14 years of service, saw one increase, four decreases and 32 removals.

Additions and multiple increases became effective March 30. The SRB multiple decreases and deletions are effective April 30.

For more information, contact Tech. Sgt. Connie Turner or Staff Sgt. James Cantu, 12th Mission Support Squadron re-enlistments office, at 652-3118.

(Courtesy of Air Force Print News)

## Four Randolph officers selected for promotion

Four Randolph first lieutenants received good news from their commanders earlier this week, when they were notified of their selection for promotion through the CY03D captain quarterly selection process.

The Randolph selectees are:  
**Air Education and Training Command:**  
 John Flory  
 Cynthia Howze  
**Air Force Institute of Technology:**  
 Patrick Munson  
**Air Force Element Military Entrance Processing Command:**  
 Julie Batson

# Air Force taps 160 officers for pilot, navigator training

Nearly 200 officers were recently selected as a primary or alternate to attend specialized undergraduate pilot and navigator training.

The Specialized Undergraduate Flying Training Selection Board met at the Air Force Personnel Center March 2 to 5. The board considered active-duty Air Force applicants for training.

The board considered 249 applications and selected 150 pilots in the ranks of second lieutenant through captain to attend training, including sending 16

people to Euro NATO Joint Jet Pilot Training. They also considered 19 applications and selected 10 navigators in the ranks of second lieutenant through captain.

The board identified 19 pilot alternates and five navigator alternates. Some selects will be placed into classes as early as May, June or July, while others may fill positions throughout fiscal 2005.

Individuals selected will be notified within one to two weeks.

(Courtesy of AFPC News Service)

## High altitude simulation



Airman 1st Class David Burns, 12th Medical Group Physiology Training Flight, briefs a group of University of North Texas ROTC cadets about how the altitude chamber is used to train aircrews to recognize the effects of hypoxia. The cadets were touring Randolph recently as part of their orientation to Air Force careers. (Photos by David Terry)



ROTC Cadet Capt. Kevin Pond takes his turn in the spinning chair of the disorientation test at the 12th Medical Group's Physiology Training Flight. Airmen 1st Class Jesus Reyes, left, and David Burns help him in the test, which is used to train flight crews to recognize spatial disorientation. Airman Reyes and Burns are assigned to the 12th MDG.

# Officials continue efforts to make new civilian personnel system reality

By Jim Garamone  
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — A letter signed by Defense Department leaders asks Department of Defense civilian employees to be patient as teams work to make the new National Security Personnel System a reality.

The April 1 letter, signed by David S.C. Chu, undersecretary for personnel and readiness, and Navy Secretary Gordon England, stresses that DOD sees the new personnel system as a combined effort.

The system, passed as part of the fiscal 2004 National Defense Authorization Act, allows DOD officials to transform the civilian personnel system to make it more agile and responsive.

Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld said the new system would make it easier for the department to make new hires and keep highly skilled employees. It also would allow DOD to move workers to shortage specialties as national security concerns change, he said.

In the letter, Mr. Chu and Secretary England state, "We are determined to take the time necessary to do the job right."

Taking time will allow the department to consult with employees, managers and unions, a DOD spokeswoman said. The letter encourages people interested in the system to present their ideas and concerns.

Department officials are also working with other government agencies as they develop the new system. They are consulting with people at the Office of Personnel Management, the Office of Management and Budget and the Government Accounting Office as the new system takes shape. They are also taking lessons from the Department of Homeland Security, which built its own personnel system after it was formed last year.

Five teams within DOD are looking at processes, personnel, programs, requirements and communications, officials said. A sixth team will draw recommendations from these five together in one package. That proposal is scheduled to be presented to Secretary Rumsfeld and other senior leaders later this month.

Once approved, senior leaders will work with Congress on implementing the system.

Mr. Chu and Secretary England said the system still is being formed, and few details about how the system would work are available because there is no system yet. Concepts and proposals will change over time and department leaders will do their best to keep employees informed, they said.

Information will be available on the DOD and DefendAmerica Web sites, the Pentagon Channel and local commanders' television programs.

(Courtesy of Air Force Print News)

# Air Force seeks new combined personnel system

By Staff Sgt. Todd Lopez  
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — In a recent testimony before Congress, the Air Force chief information officer said the service would like to accelerate development of a new joint personnel system.

Air Force Chief Information Officer John Gilligan told members of the House Armed Services Committee subcommittee on terrorism, unconventional threats and capabilities, that the service supports accelerating the Defense Integrated Military Human-Resource System by as much as two years.

"What we are trying to do is to accelerate our implementation of (the system)," Mr. Gilligan said. "It was previously scheduled for 2007. We would like it to be in 2005, if possible."

The system is a commercially developed software system that will replace older personnel and pay computer applications in the Department of Defense and in the component services, he said.

For instance, it will eventually replace the Defense Finance and Accounting Service's Defense Joint Military Pay System — the application responsible for handling pay for all military members. The new system will also replace the Military Personnel Data System, an Air Force human resources system.

The system will provide information about all servicemembers to senior leaders, including duty status, current location, readiness status, pay grade, and information and projections on promotion. Essentially, the new system will not just replace old applications, but combine them. It is that synergy the Air Force is most interested in, Mr. Gilligan told committee members.

"(Integrating) pay and personnel is very important to us," Mr. Gilligan said. "Today we don't have an integrated pay and personnel system in the Air Force. DFAS provides the pay system; we provide the personnel system. There are a lot of problems at that interface."

Mr. Gilligan stressed that the new system will not do everything that was done by the systems it is likely to replace. Instead it will provide the most common human resources and pay functions to all services. While it is possible the system could expand allowing more functionality, Air Force officials are interested in seeing it fielded sooner rather than later, he said.

"We are in a position today where we do not want to delay (it)," Mr. Gilligan said. "If expanding (the system) would cause it to be delayed, we don't vote for that."

(Courtesy of Air Force Print News)

# Academy celebrates 50th anniversary

## School presented with commemorative stamp, national historic landmark honor at ceremony

U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY, Colo. — Two honors were presented to the Air Force Academy on April 1 in a ceremony commemorating its 50th anniversary.

The U.S. Postal Service unveiled a commemorative 37-cent stamp, and the U.S. Department of the Interior bestowed the National Historic Landmark honor to the academy. It was 50 years ago when President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed the Air Academy Act authorizing the academy to be built.

"This is a proud time to be at the Air Force Academy," said Lt. Gen. John Rosa, academy superintendent. "The list

of graduates (who) have passed through here over the five decades includes many of our nation's finest leaders. As we take our academy to the next level of excellence, we can look forward to graduating many more in the years to come."

The stamp honors the academy's years of service to the nation. A photo of the Cadet Chapel is featured on the stamp.

William Johnstone, secretary of the U.S. Postal Service board of governors, said the image would go into the homes of America, symbolizing the values of the nation.

Retired Brig. Gen. Robert McDermott, dean of the faculty from 1959 to 1968, attended the ceremony and said he was thankful he lived long enough to witness the anniversary.

"I find it thrilling that for over 50 years, cadets have taken advantage of what the academy offers," General McDermott said.

Following the stamp unveiling, Craig Manson, assistant secretary of the interior for fish, wildlife and parks, signed the formal documentation declaring National Historic Landmark status for the academy's cadet area because of its unique resources.

These resources include Arnold Hall, Harmon Hall,



The commemorative 37-cent stamp honors the U.S. Air Force Academy's 50 years of service to the nation. It was unveiled during a ceremony at the academy April 1 by U.S. Postal Service officials. (Courtesy graphic)

Fairchild Hall, Vandenberg Hall, the aerospace laboratory, planetarium, physical-education building, Cadet Chapel, Terrazzo, Court of Honor and the parade grounds, all of which were constructed between 1958 and 1968.

(Courtesy of Air Force Print News)

# Airmen receive top honors at ALS graduation

By Bob Hieronymus  
Wingspread staff writer

Three senior airmen received special recognition during the Randolph Airmen Leadership School graduation ceremony April 1 at the enlisted club.

Senior Airman Jamie-Paul Chavez, 12th Operations Support Squadron, received the John L. Levitow award, which is presented to the student finishing at the top of the class.

Senior Airman Mychael Bulford, Headquarters Air Education and Training Command, received

the academic award, which is presented to the student who excels academically on both performance evaluations and objective phase tests.

Senior Airman Richard Geren, Joint Personal Property Shipping Office, received the leadership award, which is presented to the student who best exemplifies the characteristics and traits of a leader while attending ALS.

Randolph Airmen Leadership School is a 24 duty-day academic course which includes 192 hours of instruction on three curriculum areas: leadership and management, communication skills and profession of arms.



Senior Airman  
Mychael Bulford  
Academic Award



Senior Airman  
Jamie-Paul Chavez  
John L. Levitow Award



Senior Airman  
Richard Geren  
Leadership Award

# Heightened awareness can prevent sexual assaults

By 2nd Lt. Amber Millerchip  
Air Education and Training Command  
Public Affairs

In line with April's Sexual Assault Awareness Month, Air Force leaders encourage all Airmen to be knowledgeable about sexual assault risks, consequences and prevention.

"Sexual assault in an organization that depends on each individual in life and death situations is simply intolerable," said Gen. Don Cook, Air Education and Training Command commander. "Our most important obligation to our Air Force people is to give them a safe and secure working, living and training environment. We will continue to do everything we possibly can to prevent such criminal behavior. Have no doubt, you and all Airmen are personally responsible for preventing assaults of any kind."

Sexual assault includes rape, assault, indecent assault and the attempts to commit these crimes. According to the National Center for Victims of Crime, 1.3 women are raped every minute.

Some of these offenses require the actual use of force, where one person overpowers the other by whatever means, such as use of a weapon, strength or physically imposing size. Use of force also includes coercion, such as using rank or authority.

Women in their late adolescence and early adult years, particularly those drinking alcohol, are most at risk, said Capt. (Dr.) Julie Storey, Life Skills Support Center clinical psychologist.

"Many are on their own for the first time in their lives and do not have safety nets such as parents or guardians," Captain Storey said. "They make poor judgments, and the consequences of those judgments, at

that age, are a lot higher."

Reactions of both victims and perpetrators of sexual assault are also affected by sexual assault mythology. Most myths blame the victim.

For example, "Women who are careful don't get raped, so therefore if I had been careful this wouldn't have happened to me," or "She secretly wanted to be raped."

An assailant who mistakenly believes these myths may think his actions were justified while a victim who believes them may delay or refuse to report an assault, Captain Storey said.

Believing the myth, "Only bad or provocative girls get attacked," can result in a false sense of security by women who are sure they don't fall into either category. Anyone can be assaulted, even the elderly. This is particularly true because attackers are often people known and trusted by the victim, not strangers, Captain Storey said.

According to the National Center for Victims of Crime, 40 percent of victims know their attackers.

"That sense of invulnerability is a big one," Captain Storey said. "You do things such as walk away and leave your drink sitting on a table or bar, go to a party and say, 'I'm going to get drunk because everyone else is getting drunk,' so nobody's really accountable for what's happening."

Captain Storey emphasized this doesn't mean not to trust one another.

"Trust each other, but don't trust drunk people," she said. "Some people actually change their personality when drinking. Once alcohol enters into a situation, no one can predict how that alcohol will affect others or themselves."

According to the Texas Association Against Sexual Assault, 75 percent of perpetrators and



55 percent of victims are under the influence of alcohol at the time of an acquaintance rape.

Alcohol affects the way the brain processes things. It decreases inhibitions and impairs judgment on both the part of the victim and perpetrator, Captain Storey said. That impairment impacts the victim's ability to understand and detect danger. It also affects the perpetrator's social judgment, such as what's appropriate and what's not.

Alongside more targeted education on risk factors, young women need to learn the importance of reporting incidents immediately, Captain Storey said.

If attacked, regardless of any associated misbehavior, a victim should immediately report to an emergency room for medical assistance and to begin the investigative process. Early reporting of sexual assaults is an important factor in gathering timely evidence related to the crime.

"Victims may spend a lot of time worrying about other peoples' opinions or the consequences of revealing their misconduct at

the time," Captain Storey said. "The longer they wait, the less chance of a conviction."

Every Air Force installation has established programs, procedures and communication channels to report assaults of any nature. Victims are provided medical, legal, emotional and spiritual help. Specifically, life skills center providers are available to provide individual counseling services to deal with some of the emotional consequences of what happened.

Life skills providers also encourage victims to seek group counseling from any available community rape crisis center. According to Captain Storey, one of the components of recovery is for victims to realize they're not alone and to diminish the sense of isolation, embarrassment and shame. Community crisis centers allow victims to talk to other victims about their experiences, and to begin to change their beliefs and normalize their reaction to the traumatic event.

In addition to life skills and community rape centers, the Victim Witness Assistance Program, a federally mandated program, is available on every Air Force installation through the base legal office. The program assigns each victim a volunteer advocate to navigate the legal process and serves as another part of the victim's support system.

Prevention starts from within, with smart decision making, trusting instincts, developing situational awareness and having the confidence to not follow the crowd, said Lt. Col. Cheryl H. Thompson, chief of military justice at the AETC Directorate of the Staff Judge Advocate.

"We need to be responsible for ourselves and our friends," Colonel Thompson said. "We need to take care of and look out for each other."

(Courtesy of AETC News Service)

## IRS offers tips to beat tax time blues

With only seven days left for taxpayers to file their 2003 taxes, Randolph Tax Center and IRS officials want to make sure everyone on base who hasn't filed yet does so as quickly and smoothly as possible.

The IRS offers tax payers the following tips to help in filing this year and for next year:

**Don't procrastinate.** Haste does make waste and could potentially cause you to overlook tax savings and increase your chances to make errors.

**Organize tax records.** Organize records and receipts according to the income, deductions, tax credits and payments shown on last year's tax return.

**Visit IRS online.** Download tax forms, instructions and publications as well as tax law information are available at [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov).

**Take advantage of free assistance by phone and in person.** The help line for individuals is 1-800-829-1040 and the business and specialty tax line is 1-800-829-4933. Both lines are staffed from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. weekdays. In addition, the help line is available

from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. All times are local, except in Alaska and Hawaii, which should use Pacific Time. Hearing-impaired individuals may call 1-800-829-4059 to ask questions or to order forms and publications.

**File electronically.** It is the fastest and most accurate way to file.

**Double-check math and data entries.** Review math calculations and check social security numbers and names for accuracy.

**Request an extension of time to file, but pay on time.** Taxpayers can get an automatic four-month extension of time to file to August 15, by calling 1-888-796-1074. (E-file does not give you an extension of time to pay.)

**Don't panic if you can't pay.** Taxpayers owing money can consider some stress-reducing alternatives such as apply for an IRS installment agreement; charging the balance on a credit card; or e-filing.

**Have the refund deposited directly to your bank account.** Check tax return instructions for details on entering the routing and account numbers on the return. Again, check the numbers for accuracy. Wrong numbers can cause the refund to be misdirected or delayed.

For tax assistance or for more information, call the Randolph Tax Center at 652-1041.

# Unattended cooking could lead to house fire

By Jennifer Valentin  
Wingspread staff writer

It happens every day -- a person starts to cook something on the stove and he or she gets distracted by something else and walks away, leaving the stove unattended creating a potentially deadly situation.

"The harsh reality (of this scenario) is that in just 60 seconds a fire could possibly ignite on that stove and that person could lose everything he or she owns," said Daniel Vandergriff, fire inspector. "The bottom line is cooking cannot be left unattended, for any period of time. Fire has a way of taking people by surprise, so don't give it the opportunity to become destructive."

When the fire department investigates fires started from unattended cooking, two words come to mind: distraction and forgetfulness, said fire department officials.

"There is no good reason to leave food cooking unattended," said Mr. Vandergriff. "If you must leave your cooking area, turn the heat off."

Mr. Vandergriff added that if a person does experience a cooking fire, the first thing to do, if possible, is cover the pot or pan with a lid or cookie sheet, then turn off the power and call the fire department.

"Never attempt to move the pan, or use water to extinguish the fire," he said.

The fire inspector added that fire extinguishers should be used

only as a last resort for stove top fires.

"The pressure could be just enough to relocate the burning contents of your pan to the counter, floor or wall," he said.

Fire department officials noted that another common cause of cooking fires is a power outage within the home.

When the power goes out, and then comes back on, the food that was being prepared begins to heat up, possibly resulting in a fire, said Mr. Vandergriff.

"Many people forget to turn the stove off after the power goes out," he said. "So remember, if you are cooking on the stove and a power outage occurs, turn off the stove before leaving the kitchen or home."

For more information, call 652-6915.

## Volunteers recognized

The 12th Flying Training Wing recognizes the following people for their volunteer support of the base community relations program by serving as tour escorts, speakers and judges during February and March.

**Escorts:** Maj. Steven Fouch, 12th Flying Training Wing; Tech. Sgt. Jeff Womack, Air Education and Training Command; Staff Sgt. Susan Edmonds, 12th FTW; Staff Sgt. Shannon Lee, 12th FTW; Staff Sgt. Clinton Minor, Air Force Personnel Center; Airman 1st Class Francisco Arboleda, 12th FTW.

**Speakers:** Lt. Col. Sandra Miarecki, 19th Air Force; Lt. Col. Cynthia Lee, 12th FTW; Maj. Dave Valorz, 12th FTW; Maj. Bill Watson, AETC; Maj. Alexander Gonzalez, 12th FTW; Capt. Lynn Berg, 12th FTW; Capt. Adam Anderson, 12th FTW; Capt. Greg Kuzma, 12th FTW; Capt. Scott Grundahl, 12th FTW; Capt. Troy Eckhardt, 12th FTW; 1st Lt. Darrin Hall, Air Force Occupational Measurement Squadron; 1st Lt. James Venters, Air Force Recruiting Service; 2nd Lt. Dawn Coon, AETC; Chief Master Sgt. Mark Stevens, AETC; Chief Master Sgt. B.A. Ward, AETC; Senior Master

Sgt. Sherrer, AETC; Senior Master Sgt. Gerald Trujillo, AETC; Senior Master Sgt. Van Johnson, 12th FTW; Master Sgt. Deanna Adams, 12th FTW; Tech. Sgt. Raul Flores, AETC; Tech. Sgt. Stephen Rutherford, 12th FTW; Tech. Sgt. Terry Burden, 12th FTW; Tech. Sgt. Stacy Nelson, AFRS; Tech. Sgt. Earl Livernois, Air Force Manpower Agency; Tech. Sgt. Jenaro Jackson, 12th FTW; Tech. Sgt. Dale McCoy, AFPC; Tech. Sgt. Charles Corte, AETC; Staff Sgt. Denise Hodge, 12th FTW; SSgt David Kuwanoe, 12th FTW; Staff Sgt. Susan Edmonds, 12th FTW; Staff Sgt. Tracy Sanders, Air Force Services Agency; Staff Sgt. Vanessa Trujillo, 12th FTW; Staff Sgt. Jennifer Kernan, 12th FTW; Staff Sgt. Robert Denis, 12th FTW; Staff Sgt. Spencer McGinnis, 12th FTW; Staff Sgt. Herlinda VanDong, AETC; Staff Sgt. Garrett Miller, 12th FTW; Staff Sgt. Fredrick Crosby, AETC; Airman Sandy Smith, 12th FTW; Abel Garcia, 12th FTW; Rich Patterson, AETC; Jacqueline Delts, 12th FTW; Paul Ditullio, AFRS.

**Judges:** Maj. Robert Frink, 12th FTW; Capt. Jack King, AETC; Chief Master Sgt. Ronald Graham, AETC; Senior Master Sgt. Clay Shelby, 19th AF; Master Sgt. James Mayotte, AFRS; Master Sgt. Terrance Williams, AETC; Master Sgt. Joel Pelletier, 12th FTW; Staff Sgt. Catrina Baskin, AFPC.

For more information, call 652-4407.

## Good Neighbor: Free mulch available

(This "Good Neighbor" column is designed to help Team Randolph members be good stewards of our historic infrastructure. The column is planned to alternate with "Construction Corner" and will include helpful tips from our 12th Civil Engineer Squadron for facility managers and housing residents. I appreciate your continuing efforts to help maintain Randolph as the Showplace of the Air Force!

– Col. Greg Patterson, 12th Support Group commander)

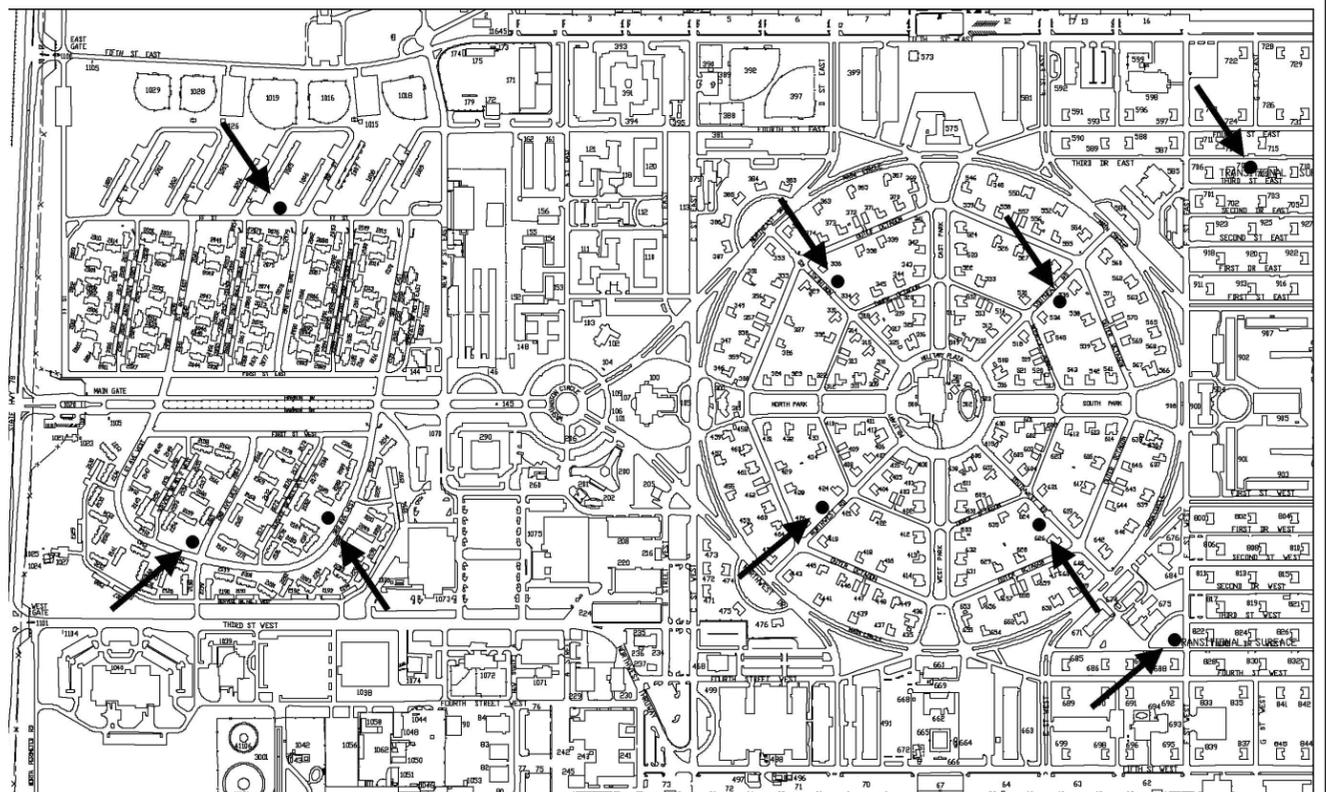
To help military family housing residents prepare for I Love Randolph Week, which runs from April 17-25, the 12th Support Group is offering free mulch now until the end of the event. There are nine locations throughout base housing where residents can pick up mulch. (see map to the right).

As a reminder, this mulch is for use by Randolph housing residents only. Building occupants can request mulch through the self help center by calling 652-3681.

Housing residents are encouraged to use this mulch to help control weeds, reduce water consumption and beautify their flower beds. Mulch piles will be resupplied as necessary based on the demand.

For more information, call the self help center at 652-3681.

## Free mulch locations on base during I Love Randolph Week



# COMMUNITY BRIEFS

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Randolph drama students advance

Randolph High School drama students won individual awards in the District 29AA competition recently, and they also qualified as a team to advance to the area contest Saturday. The students performed their one-act play called "I Never Saw Another Butterfly," written by Celeste Raspanti.

Sarah Witter was named "Outstanding Actress;" Elena Shannon and Brodie Green were named to the "All Star Cast;" and the Randolph play was selected for "All Star Technical Crew," in which the technicians included Keeya Bowman, Tamzin Gonzales, Nikita Cunningham and Kimberly Matthews.

### Student transfer application dates set

Application forms for students wishing to transfer to Randolph Field Independent School District schools for the 2004-2005 school year are available Monday.

The forms can be picked up at the administrative office on Perimeter Road, or are available at [www.randolph-field.k12.tx.us](http://www.randolph-field.k12.tx.us).

For more information, call 357-2400, or visit [www.randolph-field.k12.tx.us](http://www.randolph-field.k12.tx.us).

### Students inducted into the National Junior Honor Society

Thirty-four Randolph Middle School students were inducted into the National Junior Honor Society in a ceremony held recently at the officers' club.

Members selected include eighth graders Jonathan Antle, Tamara Austin, April Bellamy, Natasha Clea, Lance Copeland, Jared Cornish, Lance Gonzalez, Brittany Hatcher, Lauren Lewis, Brian Phagan, Christopher Phillips, Brett Sandstrom, Shalita Smith and Julie Stedman.

Seventh grade students inducted into the NJHS include Emily Allen, Stephen Boarman, Jaelyn Conroy, Julia Drue, Jessie Elkier, Brian Elmore, Kayla Gustafson, Kelsey Hern, Jasmine Kent, Morgan Labanna, Tyler Lindsay, Regan Maurer, Coral Martinez-Cardona, Krystal Martinez-Cardona, Chelsea Matthews, Justin Nadeau, Krystin Parker, Adam Schwab, Shelby Shively, James Stringer, Phoebe Torres, Megan Tubb, Marcus Willis and Kelley Wright.

### Third graders pass TAKS

One hundred percent of Randolph Elementary School third graders passed the reading portion of the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills test.

The Randolph Field Independent School District was the only district to report this achievement.

### Thrift shop closure

The thrift shop is closed today and April 23.

For more information, call 658-5990.

### AFSA meeting

The Air Force Sergeants Association hosts a meeting at 7 p.m. Tuesday in the enlisted club.

For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Del Friesen at 565-2331.

### Enlisted spouses scholarship

All enlisted spouses are encouraged to apply for the \$500 Lena Mae Browning Scholarship by Thursday.

Enlisted spouses of active duty, retired or deceased members are eligible to apply. Applications are available at the education center.

For more information, call Mary Burns,

Randolph Enlisted Wives Club scholarship chairman, at 658-8131.

### School sports physicals offered

The base clinic offers school sports physicals for children ages 7 to 18 April 20, May 18, June 8 and 22, and July 13 and 20. Appointments are available between 4 and 6 p.m.

To schedule an appointment or for more information, call 652-3432.

### NCMA luncheon

The Alamo Chapter of the National Contract Management Association hosts a luncheon at 11:30 a.m. Thursday at the Pompeii Italian restaurant for both federal contracting personnel and contractors performing work for the federal government.

During the luncheon, Larry Garza, Department of Labor, discusses "Federal Contractor's Obligation to Equal Employment Opportunities."

The cost is \$12, payable the day of the luncheon.

To sign up, call Renee Stenborg at 652-4379 or Marilyn Monserrate at 652-5460, before noon Tuesday.

### RFISD board of trustees meeting

The Randolph Field Independent School District hosts a board of trustees meeting at 4:15 p.m. Thursday in room 21 of the high school. The meeting is open to the public.

An agenda can be found at [www.randolph-field.k12.tx.us](http://www.randolph-field.k12.tx.us).

## FAMILY SUPPORT CENTER 652-5321

### How to start a business seminar

The family support center offers a seminar for people interested in starting a business from 8 to 11 a.m. April 20.

For more information, call 652-5321.

## EDUCATION SERVICES 652-5964

### ERAU

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University Associate Professor Dr. James Peter teaches an Aircraft and Spacecraft Development class on Randolph this term.

The class is one of four core classes within the Master of Aeronautical Science curriculum.

Individuals interested in learning more about this academic program can call ERAU's Randolph office at 659-0801.

### Park University

Park University at Randolph is hiring adjunct faculty to teach freshman- through senior-level accounting, computer science and English courses. A master's degree is required.

For more information, call 566-9595 or e-mail [Rand@mail.park.edu](mailto:Rand@mail.park.edu).

### Scholarship applications

Applications for scholarship money and Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University and Park University college book credits are available for Randolph Community College of the Air Force graduates who completed their degree within the last two years.

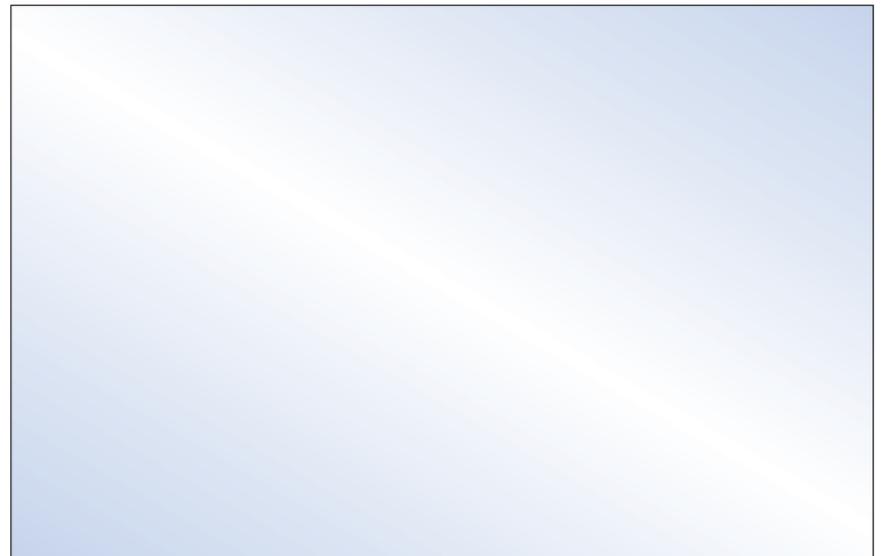
These scholarships provide competitive, one-time grants for CCAF graduates pursuing a baccalaureate degree.

Recipients will be recognized at the CCAF graduation ceremony May 4.

CCAF scholarship application packets are being sent to all spring graduates.

If a student has not received a packet, he

## Patriotic performance



Randolph Elementary School fourth graders and the Thunderbird Choir perform "This Is America" March 29 and 30 at the elementary school. The patriotic performance included singing, dancing and poem and essay readings. (Photo by Tony Symcheck)

or she should come by the education center to pick up a copy. If a student graduated from the CCAF at Randolph between May 2002 and May 2004, he or she is eligible to apply for the scholarship and should come by the education center to pick up an application.

Applications and all required documents must be turned in to the education center by close of business today.

For more information, call 652-5964.

## CHAPEL SERVICES 652-6121

### Protestant

**Saturday** - Easter Musical practice at 8 a.m. in chapel 1

**Sunday** - Easter Sunday: Worship I at 8:30 a.m. in chapel 1; Liturgical at 10 a.m. in chapel 1; Worship II at 11:30 a.m. in chapel 1; Gospel at 1 p.m. in chapel 1

**Monday** - Chapel center closed

**Tuesday** - Men's Bible study at 11:30 a.m. in the chapel center

**Wednesday** - Protestant Women of the Chapel Bible study at 12:15 p.m. in the chapel center; Liturgical Choir at 5:30 p.m. in chapel 1; Gospel Choir at 7 p.m. in chapel 1

**Thursday** - Children's Choir at 5:15 p.m. in chapel 1; Precept Bible study at 6:30 p.m. in the chapel center; Chancel Choir at 7 p.m. in chapel 1

### Catholic

**Friday** - Good Friday: Rosary at 11:10 a.m. in chapel 1; Mass at 11:30 a.m. in chapel 1; Good Friday Service at 3 p.m. in chapel 2

**Saturday** - Catholic Women of the Chapel at 9:30 a.m. in the chapel center; Confession at 4:30 p.m. in chapel 1; Mass at 5:30 p.m. in chapel 1; Easter Vigil Mass at 8 p.m. in chapel 2

**Sunday** - Easter Sunday: Mass at 8:30 a.m. in chapel 2; Mass at 10:30 a.m. in chapel 2; Mass at 11:30 a.m. in chapel 2

**Monday** - Chapel center closed

**Tuesday** - Rosary at 11:10 a.m. in chapel 1; Mass at 11:30 a.m. in chapel 1; Contemporary Choir practice at 6:30 p.m. in chapel 2; Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults at 7 p.m. in the chapel center

**Wednesday** - Rosary at 11:10 a.m. in chapel 1; Mass at 11:30 a.m. in chapel 1; Penance Service at 7 p.m. in chapel 2

**Thursday** - Rosary at 11:10 a.m. in chapel 1; Mass at 11:30 a.m. in chapel 1; Cantor practice at 6:30 p.m. in chapel 2

### Ecumenical

**Wednesday** - Film luncheon at 11 a.m. and 12:15 p.m. in the chapel center; Christian Youth of the Chapel Bible study at 7:30 p.m. in the chapel center

**Saturday** - Ops Christian Fellowship, 10 a.m. in Building 745

**April 24 and 25** - Junior High Christian Retreat

**April 30 to May 2** - Senior High Christian Retreat

### Christian youth summer camps

The following youth summer camps are open to all military family member youth and parents:

Camp Travis - June 27 to July 3, Grades 7-12, cost \$150

Deer Creek - July 4 to 10, Grades 2-6, cost \$150

Group Work Camps - July 18 to 24, Grades 7 - adults, cost \$150

There is a \$250 cost for non-participants in the CYOC ministries and the deadline to sign up is May 1. Deposits must be in before June 1. Call 652-6121 for information.

### Protestant Chapel Community, Lenten, Holy Week, and Easter Schedule:

Good Friday, Today: Protestant Good Friday Service, noon, chapel 1

Easter Sunday, 11 April:

Easter Sunrise Service, 6 a.m., Service at Randolph High School Stadium, Followed by breakfast in the chapel center. Chaplain (Col.) Thomas Schenk, Air Education and Training Command deputy command chaplain, will be the speaker. Attendees are asked to use the west gate opening at 5:30 a.m.

Protestant Informal Worship Service, 8:30 a.m.

Liturgical Service, 10 a.m.

Protestant Traditional Worship Service, 11:30 a.m.

Protestant Gospel Worship Service, 1 p.m.

No Protestant religious education classes today

No Protestant religious education classes today

## MOVIES 652-3278

### Today

"Club Dread" (R), 7 p.m. Starring Bill Paxton - A serial killer stalks people at a singles resort.

### Saturday

"Twisted" (R), 7 p.m. Starring Ashley Judd - A police officer hunts a serial killer who is murdering her former boyfriends.

# SERVICES

## FAMILY CHILD CARE 652-3668

### Childcare available

Family childcare homes are operated by military family members who reside in base housing or in affiliated homes off base. They are able to arrange flexible scheduling for parents needing childcare.

Military family members who operate family childcare homes are licensed by the 12th Support Group commander. Providers are trained in health, safety, CPR, first aid and child development. They can accept up to six children with no more than two children under two years of age.

The next family childcare training class runs from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. Monday through April 16 at the family childcare office, Building 662.

For more information on how to become a childcare provider or to obtain a current list of licensed family childcare providers at Randolph or affiliated providers off base, call 652-3668.

### Family childcare licensing

Air Force Instruction 34-276 prohibits the use of family quarters for family childcare unless the provider is licensed by the 12th Support Group commander.

Unlicensed family childcare providers cannot advertise in base publications or post advertisements on base bulletin boards.

If anyone knows of individuals providing childcare on base without a license, call the family childcare office at 652-3668. Homes of licensed providers display the family childcare logo.

## MISCELLANEOUS

### Bargain warehouse sale

The bargain warehouse, Building 1139, is open from 8 to 9 a.m. Wednesday for airmen basic through senior airmen and from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. for all others.

Limits may apply and all items have to be taken when bought.

Cash, checks and credit cards are accepted.

### Vehicle auction scheduled

The 12th Services Division hosts a sealed-bid vehicle auction this month. Viewing of the vehicles is from 1 to 4 p.m., Monday through Thursday. Sealed bids are accepted through Thursday.

Bids are opened April 16 and the bid winner is notified by phone. The bid with the earliest post-mark wins any ties.

Vehicles available are:

- 1991 Dodge 1/2 ton pick-up
- 1994 Dodge Ram 350 Panel van
- 1996 GMC Suburban V8

Payment can be made by check, cash or money order.

If interested, submit a sealed bid to 12SPTG/SVFL, Attn.: Jesse Orbe, 415 B Street East, Randolph AFB, Texas, 78150; or drop them off to Mr. Orbe at Building 118.

For more information, call 652-7319.

### Fourth of July unit fundraisers

Plans are underway for the 2004 Fourth of July celebration. This year's celebration runs from 3 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.

All base units are invited to operate a food booth to help generate income for their unit's programs or other organizational needs.

Participating units keep 100 percent of the income they make. The 12th Services Division will sell all beverages, therefore,

beverage sales are not allowed by other units.

Interested units must complete and submit an application form to 12th Services Division Marketing, Building 112, room 108, or fax it to 652-8756 by May 7.

For an application, call marketing at 652-2052 or stop by to pick one up.

## BOWLING CENTER 652-6271

### Month of the Military Child bowling special

In celebration of the month of the military child, the bowling center offers free bowling and free shoe rental to all youth each Sunday in April from 1 to 4 p.m. All ages are welcome.

### Easter Bowling Special

Children can bowl for free and adults can bowl for \$1.50 per game, per person from 1 to 9 p.m. Sunday.

## ITT & EQUIPMENT CHECKOUT 652-5640

### Spring clean-up special

Equipment checkout offers a spring clean-up special for April. The special includes lawn mower, rake, leaf blower, hedge trimmer and lawn edger rental for \$24.

### Battle of the Flowers Parade

The Battle of Flowers Parade is scheduled for 12:45 to 5 p.m. April 23.

The parade is the oldest event and largest parade of Fiesta San Antonio, attracting crowds of more than 350,000.

Bleacher seats cost \$4.50 and chairs cost \$7.50 each. There is a limit of eight tickets per person. Advanced seating is available for chairs located in the 900 and 1500 block of Broadway.

To purchase tickets, call the information, tickets and travel office at 652-5640.

### Fiesta Flambeau Parade

The Fiesta Flambeau Parade runs from 7:45 to 10:30 p.m. April 24.

Bleacher seats cost \$4.50 and chairs cost \$7.50 each. There is a limit of eight tickets per person. Advanced seating is available for chairs located on the 900 block of Broadway and bleachers located in the 1500 block of Broadway.

To purchase tickets, call the information, tickets and travel office at 652-5640.

### Ticketmaster Events

The information, tickets and travel office offers tickets to the following events:

- **Nunsense**  
Today through Sunday at the Majestic Theater, times vary  
Prices range from \$15 to \$45
- **Bill Gaither and Homecoming Friends**  
April 16, 7 p.m. at the SBC Center  
Prices range from \$18.50 to \$33.50
- **Al Green**  
April 30, 7 p.m. at Sunset Station  
Prices range from \$45 to \$65
- **Bill Cosby**  
May 2, 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. at the Majestic Theater  
The ticket price is \$56

### Texas Treasure Casino trip

The next Texas Treasure Casino trip is April 24. The motor coach departs Building 897 at 7 a.m. and returns around 10 p.m. The cost is \$25. The motor coach stops for meals to and from the casino, at the customers' expense.

## Spring Fling

### Canyon lake event offers fun for all ages

By Jennifer Valentin  
Wingspread staff writer

The Randolph Recreation Park at Canyon Lake hosts its annual Spring Fling from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. April 24.

This year's fling is free and includes a tour of the lake and park, an air-castle for kids, pony rides, a petting zoo, door prizes and free snow cones, hot dogs and popcorn.

"Like last year, various vendors from around the local area will also be on hand to show attendees the latest and greatest in outdoor boats and equipment," added Jay Whiston, Randolph Recreation park manager. "We will also have several scuba instructors there to showcase their scuba classes and equipment. This year's Spring Fling should be a lot of fun for everyone."

Mr. Whiston added that the marina is open, the cabins and shelters are

available for rent, and the boats are ready, for all visitors with campers and RVs.

"We have added an additional 54 acres to the park for visitors to enjoy this summer and the park is looking great," said Mr. Whiston. "We encourage everyone to come out and see all that Canyon Lake has to offer."

To get to the lake from Randolph, motorists should take I-35 North through New Braunfels to the Canyon Lake exit, turn left on Farm Road 306 and drive approximately 16 miles through Canyon City. Then continue another one and one-half miles past the third blinking light in Canyon City to Jacobs Creek Park Road. Turn left and the recreation park is on the left, approximately one-half mile.

This year's Spring Fling is sponsored by Randolph-Brooks Federal Credit Union and Coca Cola.

For more information, call 1-800-280-3466.

### Seven-Night Resort Vacation

The Armed Forces Vacation Club is a space available vacation condominium rental program, which offers accommodations around the world for \$249 for a seven-night stay.

For more information or to search for resorts, visit [www.afvclub.com](http://www.afvclub.com).

To reserve a condominium, call 1-800-724-9988 and provide them with the Randolph code 181.

### Houston Space Center

Customers can now stop by the information tickets and travel office to purchase tickets to visit the Space Center Houston, the Official Visitor center of NASA's Johnson Space Center.

Ticket prices are \$12.50 per person. Each attraction is self-guided.

## ENLISTED CLUB 652-3056

### Bingo offered

Big Bucks Bingo is held every Sunday at 3 p.m. in the enlisted club.

## OFFICERS' CLUB 652-3056

### Live music

"Bubba Litrell" performs from 6:30 to 10:30 p.m. today in the Sky Lounge and "Papa Wood" performs from 7:30 - 11:30 p.m. in the Auger Inn.

## CANYON LAKE 1-800-280-3466

### Easter Egg Hunt at Canyon Lake

The Canyon Lake Recreation Center hosts an Easter egg hunt at 1:30 p.m. Sunday at the park.

Areas will be set up for different age groups during the hunt, including: tots to 5, ages 6 to 10 and ages 11 to 15, so everyone has the opportunity to find and collect goodies.

The Easter Bunny also makes an appearance at 2 p.m. and a Polaroid photo can be taken for \$1.

### Boat storage

Customers can store their boat at the Canyon Lake open dry and wet storage.

Dry storage is secured with 24-hour access and wet storage is available in both 8.5 feet and 10 feet widths.

Dry storage is \$40 per month and wet storage is \$75 and \$95 per month. The rental of any storage area also includes an annual park pass, which gives free access for vehicles and all occupants for a year.

For more information, call 1-800-280-3466.

### Canyon Lake annual passes

Canyon Lake annual entry passes are now available for \$45. Entry into the park is \$5 per visit, per vehicle.

Annual passes include a vehicle and boat/trailer pass, and it is valid for one year after the date of issue. Annual pass holders are not charged the boat launch fee.

For more information, call 1-800-280-3466.

## SKREET RANGE 652-2064

### Skeet Shoot

Pre-Armed Forces/Club Champion Shoot runs April 23 to 25 at the base skeet range. The cost is \$20 per 100 targets (puller fee not included).

The competition includes doubles, 12 gauge, 20 gauge, 28 gauge and 410 shoot. National Skeet Shooting Association rules govern and Texas residents must have a current Texas Skeet Shooting Association card.

Registered shooting for the National Skeet Shooting Association/Texas Skeet Shooting Association is held every Tuesday at 1 p.m.

## SKILLS CRAFT CENTER 652-5142

### Instructors needed

Instructors are needed for various classes at the skills craft center, including drawing, pastel, watercolor, cooking and sewing.

For more information, call 652-2788.

# SPRUCING UP for spring

**I Love Randolph Week**

**April 17-25**  
**To volunteer or for additional information**  
**e-mail [ILoveRandolph@randolph.af.mil](mailto:ILoveRandolph@randolph.af.mil)**

**By Jennifer Valentin**  
 Wingspread staff writer

Whether planting flowers, painting walls, or power-washing a sidewalk, everyone can participate in the Eighth Annual I Love Randolph Week project, which runs April 17-25.

During the 12th Civil Engineer Squadron sponsored event, Randolph members and residents join together to make the base a more beautiful place to live and work.

This year's event kicks off with a yard sale and flea market April 17. The yard sale runs from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the housing areas while the flea market runs from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the clinic parking lot.

"I Love Randolph Week is a chance for the base to come together as a community," said Lt. Col. Bill

Muldoon, 12th Support Group deputy commander. "We encourage everyone to join in and help make Randolph a place to be even more proud of."

For anyone wanting to mulch their yards or the areas around their offices or buildings during the event, nine mulch drop off points are available throughout the base starting today. A map of the drop off points is provided on page 21 of the *Wingspread*.

The mulch is free for housing residents only, but building occupants can request that mulch be delivered to their organization, through their facility manager.

For those housing residents wanting to beautify their yard, plant vouchers are available starting Monday.

The \$50 vouchers can be used to purchase annual plants (a \$12 limit), perennials, shrubs and ground cover.

The vouchers are accepted by the BXtra, Calloway's Nursery on Pat Booker Road, Maldonado Nursery on Nacogdoches, and at Milberger's Nursery on Highway 1604 and Bulverde Road.

Residents must know which nursery location they are going to before picking up their voucher, said Colonel Muldoon. Vouchers are available from the self-help center in Hangar 62, room 115, Monday through Friday from 7:30 to 11 a.m. and from noon to 3 p.m. starting Monday.

The colonel added that although yard beautification such as landscaping is a big part of I Love Randolph Week, officials prefer base residents focus more so on cleaning.

"I Love Randolph Week is not only about lawn and garden care," said Colonel Muldoon. "We want to make

sure residents keep the base's historic infrastructure in the forefront of their minds."

The colonel also noted, that this year, the dates for I Love Randolph Week overlap with the dates for National Volunteer Week, which runs April 18-24.

"This is an excellent opportunity to serve a dual purpose and give something back to the Randolph community and volunteer for a good cause," said Colonel Muldoon.

At the end of the week, the 12th Support Group will present trophies to the most improved housing area and most improved facility.

For more information on I Love Randolph Week, send e-mail inquiries to [ILoveRandolph@randolph.af.mil](mailto:ILoveRandolph@randolph.af.mil).

For more information on the yard sale or flea market, call 652-3702.

# Annual open car show scheduled

**By Jennifer Valentin**  
Wingspread staff writer

The Randolph Auto Skills Center presents its Sixth Annual Open Car Show from noon to 5 p.m. April 18 in the clinic parking lot.

The event, which includes musical entertainment and food, features vehicle displays reminiscent of old time drive-ins and cruise sites, with cars detailing original window stickers and specifications, as well as modern vehicles.

"Car buffs from across Texas travel the Southwest Texas Car Show circuit to display classic cars, trucks and unique late model vehicles," said Tom Cook, auto skills center manager. "We expect cars from as far away as Dallas and Houston to come to the base show."

Participants can pre-register at the auto skills center, Building 873, now through April 16. Registration costs \$15 for active duty military senior airmen and below entering in the Airman's Open category, and \$25 for all others.

The participants should arrive between 9 a.m. and noon the day of the show. At noon, a selected panel of judges begin the task of choosing the "Best of the Best."

Trophies are presented to first, second and third place winners in each category. In

*"Car buffs from across Texas travel the Southwest Texas Car Show circuit to display classic cars, trucks and unique late model vehicles. We expect cars from as far away as Dallas and Houston to come to the base show."*

**Tom Cook**  
Auto Skills Center manager

addition, one winner is selected for each category as the "Participants' Choice" winner, "Best of Show" winner and "Commander's Choice" winner. The judges' decisions are final.

The show ends with a parade of the show's entries leaving the base at approximately 6 p.m.

The open car show is sponsored by Jack's Paint Place, Eisenhower National Bank, Vintage Air and the Randolph-Brooks Federal Credit Union.

For more information, call the auto skills center at 652-2952.



Visitors enjoy a close up look at classic cars, trucks and unique vehicles shown at last year's Open Car Show on base. (Courtesy photos)

# Muting the sound of power

## Engine specialists: the people behind the scene

By Bob Hieronymus  
Wingspread staff writer

When Randolph's planes thunder down the runway and scream into the sky, everyone on base hears the message. But those dramatic takeoffs don't happen without the day-to-day efforts of a crew of hard working aircraft mechanics and state-of-the-art equipment.

These unsung heroes work quietly in the background, day in and day out, with the help of some very special noise suppression equipment.

"Just like the auto mechanic at the corner garage who test drives a customer's car before he gives it back, we have to test run an airplane's engines after the required maintenance is done," said Jack Monreal, maintenance support branch chief. "Unlike the auto mechanic, however, we can't test-drive an aircraft after we fix it."

That's where the "Demountable Noise Suppressor Complex, Aircraft Ground Run-up" comes in. "That's the formal name for the sound suppressor cell," said Mr. Monreal.

"We do four or five planes a day in this noise suppressor cell. The one near Hangar 3 is built only for the T-38s," Mr. Monreal explained. "We also have what we call a 'hush house.' It's a fully enclosed building where we can test run T-37s and T-38s, but this smaller test cell requires fewer people. In today's austere manning situation that's an important factor," he said.

The other planes assigned to Randolph do their test runs at the end of the runways in special pad areas set aside for that purpose, he added.

Dave Harbs, Roger Garza and Chris



Roger Garza, 12th Aircraft Maintenance Organization, hooks up his communications gear to the Randolph T-38A in the engine test sound suppression cell while Chris Macias, 12th AMO, prepares to fire up the engines from the cockpit. (Photo by Bob Hieronymus)

Macias are three of the engine experts working in the 12th Aircraft Maintenance Organization. On a typical day, these maintainers can face any type of problem. In a more recent project, the men fixed a T-38A with an afterburner ignition problem.

After towing the airplane to the noise suppressor and securely fastening the heavy steel cables that anchor the plane to the ground, they wheeled up the yellow safety cocoons that wrap around the sides of the sleek airplane, and went through the

checklist for engine start up. With teamwork honed smooth by practice, they had the plane straining at the hold-down cables in a few minutes. They worked quickly with hand signals and special microphones and headsets designed for high noise environments.

The thunder of the two General Electric J-85 engines, each generating over 3,800 pounds of thrust with the afterburner kicked in, made conversation impossible under the test cell canopy. And yet, a block away the world went on, hardly noting the

muted sounds that were directed skyward by the test cell's big, black exhaust tube.

Mr. Macias, at the plane's controls in the cockpit, watched the instruments intently as he cycled the throttles in and out of afterburner a few times. Meanwhile, Mr. Harb and Mr. Garza worked with special tools under the belly of the aircraft to adjust the fuel flow systems, and in less than ten minutes the job was done. The afterburners were once again lighting up just the way the specifications called for. The engines spooled down and they all pulled off their hearing protectors.

All three men are licensed airframe and powerplant mechanics. Together they bring more than 60 years of aircraft maintenance experience to the flightline.

Mr. Garza, who has been at Randolph less than three months, has over 21 years of experience working on other military aircraft. He said that there is such a difference between working on big planes, like the C-5 Galaxy, and small planes, like the T-38.

"On the big planes, everything you do takes two or three people," he said. "It takes cranes to lift those huge engines and the wings are big enough to walk on. But on the T-38, most tasks are small enough for one person to handle. I like this kind of individual effort," he said with a grin. "I feel more like the work is personally mine."

Every time one of the jet airplanes thunders down the runway and screams into the sky, there is a crew of engine mechanics on the ground who know it's the sound of precision teamwork and a job well done.

# Thunder road

## It's safety first for Randolph's first female motorcycle course instructor

By Jennifer Valentin  
Wingspread staff writer

Participating in a recreational past time dominated by men, Staff Sgt. Brande Barkley could be considered a bit out of the ordinary.

But the 12th Aeromedical-Dental Squadron optometry technician says she feels right at home cruising down the highway on her Harley Davidson Dyna Low Rider.

"There aren't as many female motorcyclists as there are male motorcyclists, but I never saw that as a challenge," she said. "I knew riding looked like a lot of fun and it was something I wanted to do, so I went out and did it."

But along with the fun of riding comes safety, the NCO said.

"I love riding, but I believe that riding safely is most important," said Sergeant Barkley.

Which is why the NCO now teaches others how to ride motorcycles safely.

After taking the Basic Rider Course in May 2002, Sergeant Barkley decided to share the knowledge she gained through the course and through her own riding experiences, and became the first female motorcycle safety RiderCoach at Randolph in January 2004.

"I enjoy riding so much and am a strong believer in safety, so I figured I would really enjoy teaching others, and it is a lot of fun working with people who share the same passion for riding," said the sergeant.

To become a RiderCoach, Sergeant Barkley had to first complete a two-week class called the RiderCoach Preparation Course. The course teaches the basics of riding safely as well as how to teach the Basic Riders Course and Experienced Riders Course to students.

"As a RiderCoach, I teach students basic and advanced techniques to riding a motorcycle carefully and safely," the sergeant said.

Currently, Randolph has three RiderCoaches, including Sergeant Barkley.

The sergeant added that new students are always welcome into the classes, but all motorcyclists must have a motorcycle operator's license, insurance and their own motorcycle in order to take part in a course.

The advanced courses are offered on base once a month, while the basic courses are offered at Lackland once a quarter, she added.

During the Basic Riders Course, students learn how to handle obstacles, ride safely around others and obey the rules on military bases.

"I enjoy teaching the new motorcyclists



Staff Sgt. Brande Barkley, 12th Aeromedical-Dental Squadron optometry technician, is the first female motorcycle safety RiderCoach here at Randolph. (Photo by Steve White)

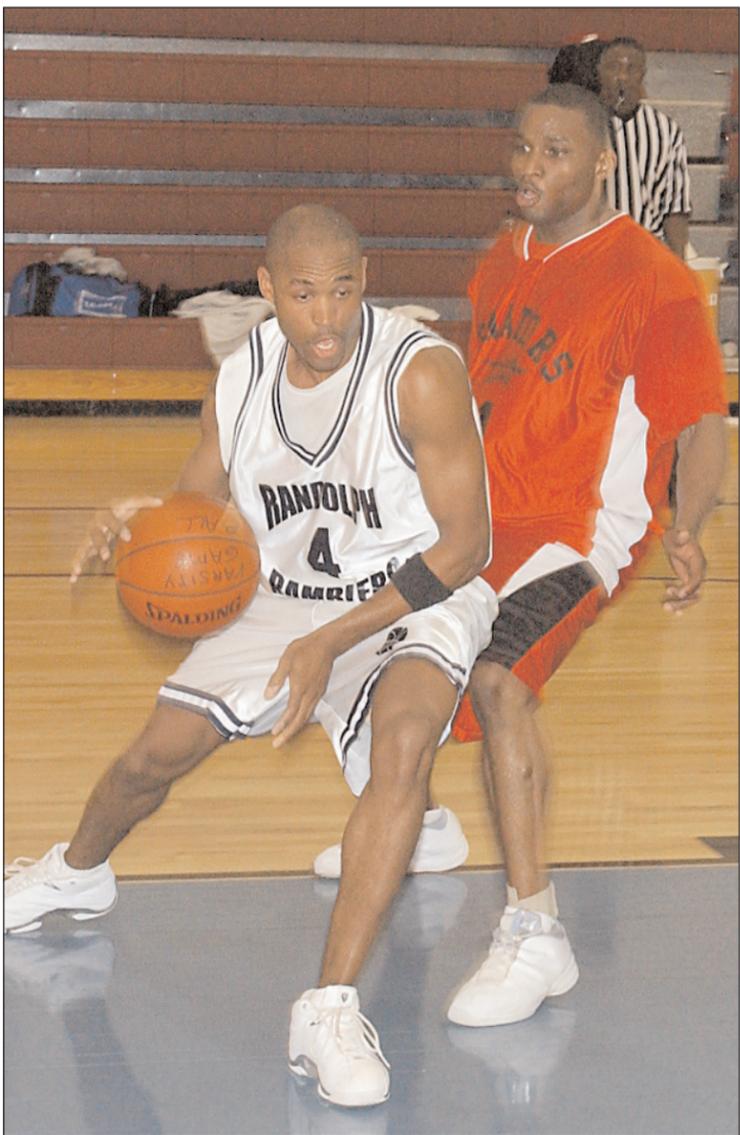
the most because they are always so motivated to learn," said Sergeant Barkley. "Also, mentoring female motorcyclists is always fun, they remind me of myself

when I first started."

For more information on motorcycle safety, call Staff Sgt. David Roller at 652-1842.

# Best in Southwest

## Ramblers win tournament, garner league title



Randolph Rambler Ernest Banks, dodges a Sheppard Air Force Base opponent during the Rambler's first match up in the Southwest Military Basketball League Tournament March 19. Randolph defeated Sheppard 93-62. (Photo by Airman 1st Class Ricky Rose)

By Senior Airman  
Lindsey Maurice  
12th Flying Training Wing  
Public Affairs

After an intense three-day, ten-team double elimination tournament at Altus Air Force Base, Okla., March 19-21, the Randolph Ramblers Men's Varsity Basketball Team was able to pull out one last victory over Fort Sam Houston for the 2004 Southwest Military Basketball League championship title.

The ten teams to compete in the final title tournament included Lackland, Sheppard, Dyess, Davis Monthan, Altus, Tinker and McConnell Air Force Bases, as well

as Fort Sam and Fort Bliss.

The regular-season varsity basketball league also includes Kirtland, Holloman and Cannon Air Force Bases, Brooks City Base and Fort Sill.

The Randolph Ramblers managed to remain in the winner's bracket the entire tournament, defeating Sheppard and Fort Bliss once and Fort Sam twice to garner the tournament and league title.

In the Rambler's first game against Sheppard Friday evening, the team struggled at first, down 36-28 at the half. But after a motivational half-time pep talk from the team's coach Terrance Dunkley, the nine-man team was able to come back strong for the

win, defeating Sheppard 93-62.

"I told the players at half time that we needed to make a statement at the beginning of the tournament – make teams know that we would be hard to beat," Coach Dunkley said. "And the guys followed through."

The coach said the Ramblers focused on their kind of pressure defense to pull away with the 31-point victory. Juwon Bailey lead all scores in the game with 28, followed by Edward Simpson with 17 and Chuck Freeman with 16.

For the Rambler's second match up in the tournament, it faced Fort Sam Houston – a team it had been having trouble with the last couple of weeks, said Coach Dunkley.

But the Ramblers got off to a good start leading by 15 points at the half, 52-37. Simpson lead his team in first half points with 18.

Going into the second half, Fort Sam was hot from the three-point line, bringing the game to within seven points. But Ramblers Nate Crawford found his own sweet spot on the arch, going 5 of 6 from downtown to seal a 107-97 win.

"We had very balanced scoring in this game," said Coach Dunkley.

Bailey had 17 points, Simpson had 24, Freeman had 23 and Crawford had 17.

Also, Paul Spencer, the Rambler's point guard had an impressive 10 rebounds in the game.

The Rambler's match up against Fort Bliss Sunday morning was the semi-final game with the winner advancing to the championship game.

As soon as coach Dunkley knew who his team was playing, he had a game plan for his guys set.

"Our plan for the match against Fort Bliss was to pound the ball down to the big guys to cause foul trouble," said Coach Dunkley. "And the plan worked to perfection as Fort Bliss' big guy had to sit with 10 minutes left in the half with three early fouls."

The coach added that the Rambler's defense was turned up in the first half, as the team forced four turnovers in a row and went on a 12-0 run. The Ramblers were up 55-36 at the half. Coach Dunkley said the team challenged

itself at the half to maintain its lead throughout the rest of the game. And the team responded with a 104-86 victory.

"During the game we never let down," said coach Dunkley.

Coach Dunkley added that Paul Spencer had an exceptional game getting the ball to the open man the entire time.

"Because of him we were able to make a lot of easy baskets," Coach Dunkley said.

The Rambler's defensive specialist Ernest Banks also had a great game, as he held Fort Bliss' leading scorer to just seven points, the coach added. Also, dominate in the game were Darontaye Warren, who had 14 rebounds to go with 10 points and Paris Fuqua, who had four steals in this game. Rambler Chad Tarpley also had two key baskets to stop the two runs that Fort Bliss made. Simpson finished the game with 24 points, Freeman with 16 and Bailey with 14.

In the championship game against Fort Sam, who fought out of the loser's bracket, the Ramblers decided to stick with the same game plan – go down low to the big guys, Coach Dunkley said.

"We pounded the ball inside and it opened the outside up," said the coach. "Which allowed Banks, Spencer, Crawford, and Fuqua all to hit from the three-point line."

Coach Dunkley added that

Warren was a beast in the down low, accounting for 20 of his team's points alone. Ramblers Fuqua and Tarpley also had some key defensive stops in the game, Coach Dunkley said.

"Games like this always bring out different key players and Tarpley and Fuqua came up with all the loose balls and put backs," Coach Dunkley said. "Both guys did a great job."

As the game went on, Fort Sam switched to a man-to-man defense enabling Spencer and Banks to drive to the basket getting anything they wanted. But the duo did not garner the team's win alone. Also noted by Coach Dunkley for his superior play was Bailey, who had nine blocks to go with his 10 points.

Simpson lead scorers with 24, followed by Warren with 20, Spencer with 14 and Crawford with 10. The final score was 97-86.

Members who played in this tournament included Spencer, Banks, Bailey, Warren, Simpson, Crawford, Freeman, Tarpley and Fuqua.

This tournament closed out the Rambler's season with a record of 34 and 9. Aside from the SWMBL tournament, the Ramblers also participated in three other tournaments throughout the season, taking a first, second and third place title home.



Col. Mark Solo, 97th Air Mobility Wing commander, Altus Air Force Base, Okla., presents the Randolph Ramblers Men's Varsity Basketball Team with the Southwest Military Basketball League Championship Trophy. (Photo by Master Sgt. Scott Johnson)

# 12th OSS campaigns for playoff spot, defeats AETC/DP 25-18, 27-25

By Senior Airman Lindsey Maurice  
12th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

Going up against the sixth ranked team in a seven-team league – the Air Education and Training Command Directorate of Personnel, second in the league, may have thought they'd have an easy win Monday night over the 12th Operations Support Squadron. But the AETC squad was greatly deceived by its opposition's ranking as it found itself left in the 12th OSS' dust – swept 25-18 and 27-25.

"In the start of the season we were forced to forfeit a few games due to not having enough players," said 12th OSS Coach David Maurice. "But now we've got a good, solid team and we're ready to turn our stats around. As long as we keep practicing and playing like we did tonight we should be able to make it to the playoffs and give last year's intramural volleyball champs a good run for the title."

Towering on the court at 6'6, Maurice lead all players in points for both games, with 14, 11 from the front line.

As game one got underway the OSS squad put the basics of the sport - bump, set, spike – into full use, as team members set Maurice up for three early kills.

But AETC kept the score close with strong serving - resulting in several aces by Jeff Graziano and Dennis Meadows and a tough center court, which tacked on several more key points.

Tied at 10, AETC was able to take the lead at 13-10 off of two bad OSS serves and one hit. But the OSS squad didn't let their opponents lead last long, as the team went on an 11-3 run shortly afterward, which included three kills by Maurice and three aces by Lance Waddy.

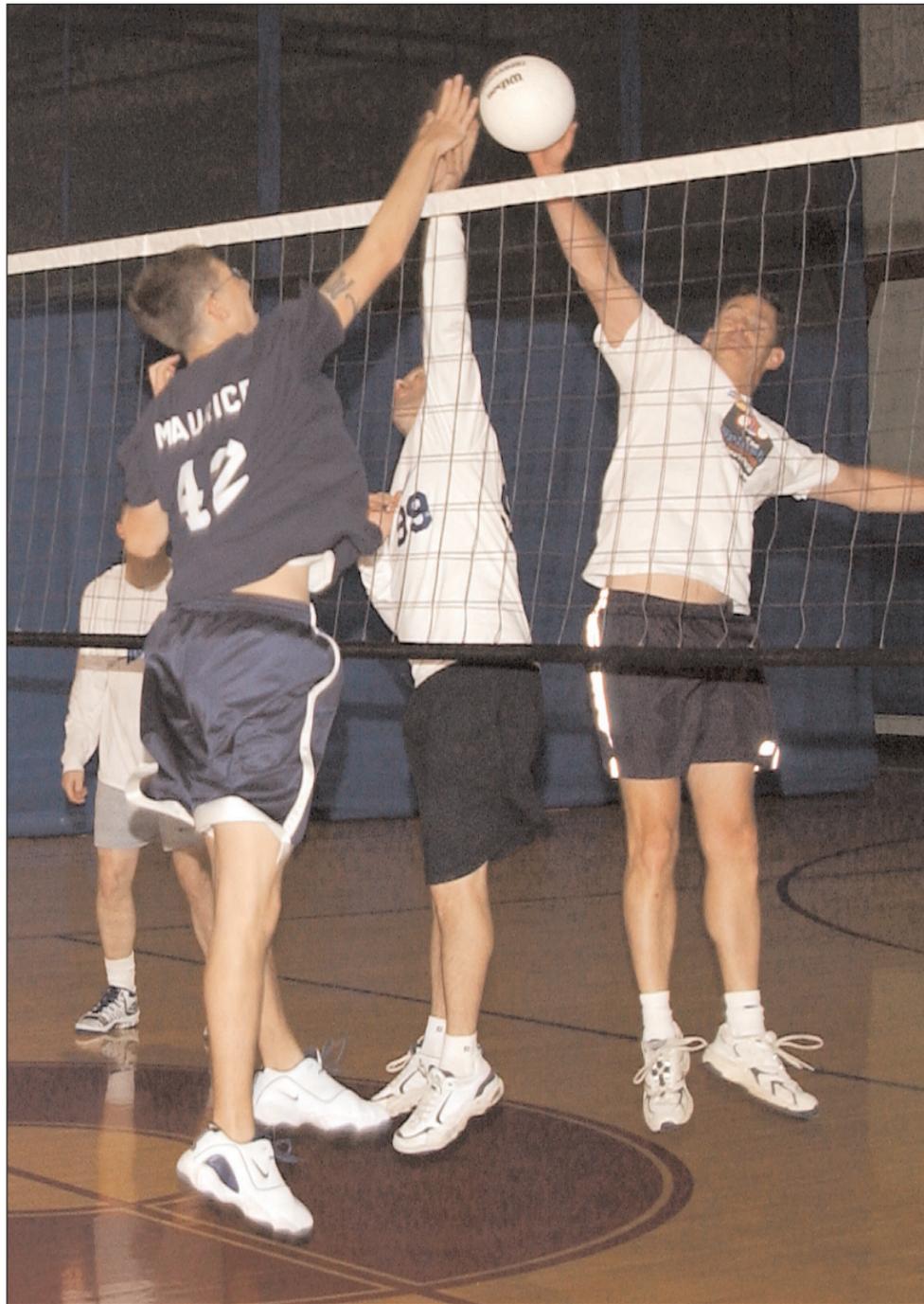
The AETC/DP squad sealed OSS' victory with two foul calls for the final OSS points.

Game two started off a little rocky for OSS as they gave up early points on bad serves.

Meanwhile AETC's Meadows and Jason Nahrgang stepped up for their team, making five early kills including one point from Meadows off of a hard block.

But OSS didn't stay down long, taking the lead at 10-9 off of a kill by Ramiro Medina.

The team's continued to play tight for the remainder of the game, with the biggest run



Air Education and Training Command Directorate of Personnel's Paul Masoni, middle, and Dennis Meadows, struggle with 12th Operation Support Squadron's David Maurice for a point during the teams' intramural volleyball match Monday night at the fitness center. The 12th OSS defeated AETC/DP 25-18 and 27-25. (Photo by Steve White)

going for five points by OSS – including two aces by Maurice and kills by Medina and Waddy.

With the win within its grasp at 24-22, OSS struggled for the game point – stopped

in their tracks off of a kill by Graziano. But the team was able to pull out the two-point win they needed (having passed the one-point win window) with a kill by Waddy and an AETC foul.

## Intramural Bowling Standings



As of March 29

Team	W	L
DFAS	140	60
RS	128	72
SFS	125	75
AFPC TOO	122	78
JPPSO	116	84
SVS #1	113	87
AFPC #1	111	89
AFPOA	110	90
SVS TOO	106	94
AFPC/ESC	106	94
340 FTG	104	96
AFSAT	100	100
CS	97	103
AETC/LG	97	103
CPTS	96	104
MSS	96	104
AMO #2	94	106
AETC/FM	93	107
AETC/XPM	89	111
AMO #1	89	111
AETC/CSS	85	115
AETC 900	84	116
AFSVA	83	117
MED GP	78	122
AFMA	74	126
LRS	58	142

## Intramural Volleyball Standings



As of Tuesday

Monday, Wednesday League		
Team	W	L
AFPC #2	8	1
AETC/DP	7	2
558/559	6	3
AFSVA	5	6
12 SFS	3	6
12 OSS	2	7
AETC/DO	0	8

Tuesday, Thursday League		
Team	W	L
AFPC #1	9	1
AETC/CSS	8	1
563 FTS	5	3
12 LRS	5	4
562 FTS	3	6
JPPSO	2	8
12 MDG	1	8

## SPORTS SHORTS

### Muscle mania competition

The fitness center hosts the Fourth Annual Muscle Mania Power Lifting Competition at 10 a.m. April 17 in the main gym.

The competition consists of seven body-weight classes for men and four classes for women. First, second and third place winners of the bench press, squat and dead lift for each weight class receive awards at the end of the event and top military contenders go on to compete in the Air Education and Training Command competition at Little Rock Air Force Base, Ark., June 4.

Contestants can pre-register at the fitness center between Saturday and April 16. The entry fee is \$5.

For more information, call 652-5316.

### Intramural golf captains' meeting

The Randolph Oaks Golf Course hosts an intramural golf captains' meeting at 2 p.m. April 22 in the golf course clubhouse for all units interested in participating in the 2004 season.

Interested units should send one representative to the meeting. Intramural golf is open to all active duty military members, Department of Defense civilian workers, non-appropriated fund employees and contractors with proper DOD identification who are either assigned to Randolph full time or are on

temporary duty to the base for more than 30 days. Civilian employees must play for the unit to which they are assigned.

For more information, call Master Sgt. Shaun Derry at 652-3905.

### Youth golf classes offered

The base youth center and the local Boys and Girls Clubs are co-hosting a basic golf class Saturdays from 2 to 4 p.m. at Brackenridge Park. Free golf balls and equipment are issued. This class is open to youth center members ages 10 to 18.

For more information, call 652-2088.

### Aerobic classes available

The fitness center offers a variety of aerobic classes Monday through Friday. Classes begin at 6 a.m., 9 a.m., 11 a.m., noon, 4:45 p.m. and 5:45 p.m. Classes include step/variety, basic step, power step, super step, cardio/sculpt, cardio/step combo, sports conditioning, power yoga and kick boxing. The fitness center also offers a kick boxing class from 9 to 10 a.m. Saturdays.

For more information, call 652-5316.

### Relay for Life

The 3rd Annual Greater Randolph Area Relay for

Life runs from 7 p.m. May 14 to 7 a.m. May 15 at Pickrell Park in Schertz, Texas.

The event is a 12-hour relay, which requires one team member to be on the track walking or running at all times during the event.

Military teams of 8-15 members can sign-up. Registration runs until the first day of the event.

For more information, call Staff Sgt. Amanda Harness at 652-2619 or Carrie Waterman at 595-0219.

### Victims' Rights Week fun run/walk

In recognition of Victims' Rights Week, which runs April 18-24, the Randolph Victims' Witness Awareness Council hosts a fun run/walk beginning at 7 a.m. Wednesday at Eberle Park. The first 50 active duty and family members to show up for the race receive a free T-shirt.

For more information, call Evelyn Mickles at 652-6781.

### Golf tournament

The Tuskegee Airmen, Inc., San Antonio Chapter hosts the Eighth Annual Legends and Heroes Golf Classic April 16 at the Woodlake Country Club, with a shotgun start at 1 p.m. The cost is \$75 per person.

For more information, call Oliver Nelson at 658-4733 or Rick Sinkfield at 536-4188.