



Photo by Airman 1st Class Sam Taylor

Maintenance training unit named best in AF

By Airman 1st Class Sam Taylor
Public Affairs

Detachment 7, 373rd Training Squadron here, has been awarded the 2002 John F. Entrican award, recognizing it as the best aircraft maintenance training detachment in the Air Force.

The detachment, which also picked up the award in 1999, went up against 43 other maintenance training detachments assigned to operational units worldwide.

Instrumental to the win was the more than 30,000 instructional hours racked up by 37 instructors last year, said 1st Lt. Eric Nimke, detachment commander. "Our detachment provides in-depth instruction for specific aircraft maintenance areas," he said.

The Det teaches 102 different Community College of the Air Force-accredited courses, ranging from three to 30 days, each one designed for any of 13 aircraft maintenance specialties.

"It's important that people know what we have to offer," said Lieutenant Nimke. "Even if we don't have a specific course that's needed, we can tailor a training session for their needs."

In addition to their training mission, instructors routinely go out and assist in troubleshooting hard-to-fix aircraft discrepancies, not a problem considering where most of the instructors come from.

"Most of our instructors are from Hurlburt Field, which adds familiarity between the instruc-

Tech. Sgt. Tony Hudnall, a Det. 7, 373rd Training Squadron Gunship weapons instructor (right), gives a 40mm Bofors cannon maintenance lesson to Tech. Sgt. Gregg Jordan, an MH-53 PAVE LOW weapons instructor.

tors and the maintainers here," said Lieutenant Nimke.

One of the largest maintenance training detachments in the Air Force, the instructors train approximately 1,700 to 2,000 students every year, about 70 percent of which are from Hurlburt Field. Others can include Air National Guard maintainers and those who pass through courses to get quickly familiarized with Air Force Special Operations Command aircraft.

"Our main interest is right here with AFSOC and the maintenance units assigned to the 16th Maintenance Group," said Senior Master Sgt. Dale Koontz, detachment chief. "We want to be the one-stop shop for aircraft maintenance training on this base."

Although it's an Air Education and Training Command asset, the unit's instructors work directly with and assist Hurlburt Field maintainers. Some instructors are even deployed with the 16th Special Operations Wing to instruct and help train troops deployed overseas, said Sergeant Koontz, who was named field maintenance training detachment chief of the year. "We help and support the 16th SOW mission whenever and wherever they need us."

Aircraft maintainers interested in taking a course with the detachment should contact their supervisor or training manager. For information on courses offered by Detachment 7 or about how to apply for an FTD instructor position, call Sergeant Koontz at 884-6550.

Air Force realigns combat search, rescue operations

By Tech. Sgt. Ginger Schreitmueller
AFSOC Public Affairs

The Air Force announced Wednesday it will realign Air Force Combat Search and Rescue assets under Headquarters Air Force Special Operations Command, Pacific and European active duty units and PACAF-gained Air Reserve Component units will remain separate from this action.

Scheduled for Oct. 1, this change will benefit assigned personnel and enhance mission training and efficiencies by combining similar missions, skills and personnel within a single major command. The Air Force CSAR mission will remain separate and distinct from the U.S. Special Operations mission.

Less than 60 personnel authorizations will be relocated due to this change, while more than 7,000 personnel from active duty, Air Force Reserve and Air

National Guard units will be administratively affected by this realignment.

The command will gain about 640 combat rescue officers/pararescuemen authorizations. Aircraft from active duty and AFSOC-gained Air Force Reserve and ANG units will include 67 HH-60, 30 HC-130/MC-130 aircraft. AFSOC will also be responsible for the Air

See **CSAR**, Page 5

VIEWPOINTS

Open Line

The Commander's Open Line is your direct line to me for questions or suggestions about subjects of concern to the Hurlburt Field community. I really appreciate your feedback.

To receive a response, leave your name, unit and telephone number. Open lines of general interest will be printed in the **COMMANDO**. I'll answer the others

by letter or phone call. Remember, the quickest and most efficient way to resolve a problem is to talk directly to the agency responsible. This gives them an opportunity to help you, and perhaps improve their process.

However, if you're not satisfied with the answer you receive, feel free to give me a call at 884-OPEN (6736), or e-mail your concerns to commando@hurlburt.af.mil.



Col. Frank Kisner,
16th SOW commander



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Submitting articles

The deadline for submissions to the **COMMANDO** is 4 p.m. Wednesday, the week prior to publication. Articles may be submitted on IBM format computer disk or via electronic mail. Non-electronic submissions must be typed, double-spaced and all submissions must include the name and telephone number of a person to call for questions.

Address information

U.S. MAIL: **COMMANDO**,
131 Bartley St. Ste. 326,
Hurlburt Field, FL. 32544-5271
E-MAIL: commando@hurlburt.af.mil
TELEPHONE: (850) 884-7464
FAX: (850) 884-6093

COMMANDO Editorial Staff:

Col. Frank Kisner
Commander

Capt. Thomas Knowles
Chief, Public Affairs

Master Sgt. Darrell Brewer
NCOIC

Tech. Sgt. William Seabrook Jr.
Chief, Internal Information

Tech. Sgt. Andre Nicholson
Editor

Airman 1st Class Sam Taylor
Staff writer

Airman 1st Class Heidi Davis
Staff writer

16th Communications Squadron
Photography

Northwest Florida Daily News
Production support

Never forget why we fight

By Col. Marshall Sabol
321st Air Expeditionary Wing
commander

OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM

— Now that we've been involved in the war on terrorism for some time, I think it's important to remember why we fight.

I was working on this article when I received an e-mail from a very good friend of mine. He was in the World Trade Center on Sept. 11 when it was hit — his words to me, to us, hit the mark:

"I am sitting in the comfort of a beautiful home, safe and secure, due in large part to what you and your team are doing today. I send my heartfelt thanks to you for the sacrifice that you and your wonderful group of young people are offering up to our country. I pray daily for the safe return of all of you. I also pray for the innocents who are in the way of your difficult work.

"How does a country like ours have the great fortune to have dedicated people like you and your command in our service? How can we thank you and your families enough for all that they've been asked to bear?"

"As you know, my service to our country was with the 3rd infantry at Arlington in the late 60's. Back then, late at night, I would see the faces of those we had put to rest and know first hand the dangers that all of our troops must be experiencing today.

"At night these days I see the faces of the men in uniform who came to our rescue in the buildings on 9/11. Arlington did not prepare me for the river of tears that were shed here in New York over the last 16 months. The justice that I feel all of you are delivering today warms my troubled soul. I believe all those who were lost that day would send you their gratitude as well.

"I think of how proud I was to give a

few years to my country's service. I now feel the same kind of pride when I reflect upon all the people we have in uniform today in harm's way. It gives me a great deal of comfort to know there are dedicated professionals like you and your team that this country can call upon, in our time of need.

"I lost many friends on 9/11. I truly believe that what you're doing for us today is making us all a lot safer. I also believe you're making those who don't like us more reflective of the consequence of their actions."

— World Trade Center Survivor

Let us never forget why we fight. I salute you and am proud to be in this fight with you, and leave you with this quote, one by Abraham Lincoln:

"Our reliance is in the love of liberty ... our defense is in the preservation of the spirit which prizes liberty as the heritage of all men, in all lands, everywhere." (AFPN)

Simple act reflects commitment to service

By Lt. Col. Edward Keegan
18th Communications
Squadron commander

in-law, who recently returned to the United States after visiting us here on Okinawa. It was his first visit here since returning to the United States from Vietnam in 1965.

He's long since retired from the Air Force, grown his remaining hair a little longer, and taken on full time duties as a grandpa. Even the salute he gives at the gate as a retired lieutenant colonel has become perfunctory — done so often that he doesn't seem to notice that he returns the gate guard's salute any more.

On a recent weekend, young met old at Kadena's Gate Two. A young airman, pulling his latest in an unknown number of security forces augmentation tours, stepped up to the car when my wife and her parents arrived at the gate. But then something unexpected happened.

Rather than the usual rote courtesies, the airman instead bent down and, looking past my wife to her father, said,

"Thank you for serving, sir."

In my entire career, I've never been so proud of anyone.

With that deceptively simple act, the young airman reminded a retired lieutenant colonel, and this active-duty lieutenant colonel, exactly what true service is about.

It's not about rank or position, and it's more than earning a paycheck. It's about a set of ideals that transcend time, that say we'll do whatever is required to keep our country safe, just as those who came before us did.

That airman proved that the thread that binds the Air Force still exists across all the generations. He showed that our Air Force is, and will remain, in good hands, and America's greatest generation isn't in the past, but is still to come.

On behalf of the entire Air Force, I want to say to that young airman, "Thank you for serving, sir." (AFPN)

KADENA AIR BASE, Japan

— Much is made in the press and popular culture about the generation that's coming of age for military service — the generation that will replace us as the future of the Air Force.

The recurring theme is that they're not the "service" type, that their horizons are viewed through a lens of self-absorption, and that those things not immediately gratifying to them aren't noticed or are ignored.

Much is also made of the older generation. They're the venerable ones, those who served a higher cause and made America more than a country — they made America the embodiment of an ideal.

That generation includes my father-

Article submissions for the COMMANDO should be sent to

commando@hurlburt.af.mil

To place a free non-business classified ad in the **COMMANDO**, customers must come to Building 90210, Room 326. Customers type their ads into a computer system located in the Public Affairs office.

NEWS



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Andre Nicholson

Big Banner

Members of the 16th Logistics Readiness Squadron hang a five-by-20 foot banner in the Deployment Control Center April 25. The banner was presented by members of Gracefest 2003, and is one of three that were signed by community members who attended the Christian music festival in Pensacola April 11-12, and wanted to show their support for the troops. One banner will be sent to Iraq and the other went to members aboard a deployed Navy ship.

Spotlight on ...

Nelson Gutierrez

Rank/Duty Title:

Airman/Electronic Systems Security Analyst

Organization:

25th Information Operations Squadron

Hometown:

Hilo, Hawaii

Hobbies:

Sports

Contribution to the mission:

Airman Gutierrez acts as a first-line analyst during telecommunications assessments of Air Force Special Operations Command headquarters and the 16th Special Operations Wing.

A pivotal contributor, he operates fixed and mobile radio, telephone, facsimile, pager and cell phone monitoring equipment in assessing non-secure communication systems.

He conducts initial assessments of non-secure communications in accordance with detailed Air Force guidance, and uses customers' critical information listings to assess compliance with operational security directives.

A top performer, he was named the Hurlburt Field, Air Force Sergeant's Association, Airman of the Year for 2002.

(Editor's Note: The COMMANDO highlights airmen, junior NCOs, company grade officers, Department of Defense civilians and volunteers in units who do a great job, and should receive day-to-day recognition. Supervisors can call the 16th Special Operations Wing Public Affairs Office at 884-7464 for more information on nominating an individual for the "Spotlight on..." column.)

NCO earns AF level award

By Airman 1st Class Heidi Davis
Public Affairs

The officials of the 2002 U.S. Air Force Logistics Plans Awards recently named a Hurlburt Field staff sergeant the Non-commissioned Officer of the Year.

"Honestly, I didn't really think about it," award winner, Staff Sgt. Chris Labbe, 6th Special Operations Squadron said. "Sure, awards are good for an individual's career path, but I just enjoy what I do. So, I pressed on with the rest of my day (after hearing the news)."

Sergeant Labbe supervises a six-man shop, which is responsible for acquisition, equipment, deployment and readiness management.

Other than his on-base duties, Sergeant Labbe has contributed to contingency operations, and developed a new Air Force capability to assess, advise, train and assist foreign combat aviation units in the field of logistics.

"I maintain my core competencies for my Air Force Specialty Code, but I also advise, assess and assist foreign nations on logistics programs," Sergeant Labbe said. "I also maintain tactical competen-

cies to assist in high risk situations."

In addition to the previously mentioned career accomplishments, Sergeant Labbe has deployed downrange as a combat aviation advisor. He has also supported several Operation Enduring Freedom missions.

"It's very rare that a unit level logistics planner, in a special duty assignment wins this type of award at the wing level," Sergeant Labbe said, "let alone the (Major Command) or Air Force level."

Sergeant Labbe extends thanks to several people, including retired Lt. Col. Eric Huppert, Lt. Col. James Sikes, Capt. Michael Robinson, Senior Master Sgt. Vernon Rucker and Master Sgt. Gary Laughlin, who are from the 6th SOS, for helping him develop professionalism as an NCO.

"All of you have played a truly instrumental role in my development," Sergeant Labbe said, "and I'm only as



good as you have inspired me to be."

Sergeant Labbe is scheduled to receive his award in a ceremony in Washington D.C. in the fall of this year.

"I'm only as good as you have inspired me to be."

— Staff Sgt. Chris Labbe,
6th Special Operations Squadron

AIR FORCE NEWS

New common access cards prove to be safe, secure

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas – The high-tech identification common access card, which is currently replacing the familiar green ID card worldwide, is secure and proven in combat, despite some rumors to the contrary.

“Worries are unfounded” that the new ID cards are easily accessible to identity thieves or even hostile forces, said Chief Master Sgt. Ricky Arnold, survival, evasion, resistance and escape program manager at the Pentagon.

“These cards aren’t a risk to anyone’s privacy or security,” the chief said.

“We thoroughly researched the security risks before we even began to issue common access cards,” said Maj. Gen. Richard Mentemeyer, director of operations and training at the Air Staff.

“We were satisfied then, and recent events have reinforced our belief that common access cards aren’t only secure and safe, but also provide required Geneva Conventions information in the event an airman is captured,” the general said.

“In a war zone or at home station, there should be no hesitation: Don’t leave home without it,” he continued.

The card doesn’t contain any personal information electronically that isn’t already printed on the card, officials said. What it does is allow for electronic access to computer systems that contain personal data.

Also, an extra layer of protection is provided when a card is reported lost or the cardholder goes into missing or captured status. At that point, computer and data system access is turned off, officials said.

Officials also said that built-in electronic security measures make getting access to the information on the chip extremely difficult, if not impossible.

“To date, there hasn’t been a single successful attempt to extract information from one of these cards,” Chief Arnold said.

Chief Arnold said airmen isolated in

hostile areas don’t have to worry because officials tested and validated the process for turning off computer access during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Common access cards should be issued across the Department of Defense by October to all eligible Air Force active-duty members, Guardsmen, Reservists, civilians and some contractors, officials said.

Rumors that some deployed airmen destroyed or lost their common access cards in an effort to get an old-fashioned green ID card reissued to them spurred officials to conduct an informal study into the matter, Chief Arnold said.

“The results showed no evidence of that sort of activity, which would be illegal, since the cards are government property,” the chief said.

“The statistics don’t show any cases where people are intentionally maneuvering to get old-style cards. And we checked specifically for indications of that. It just seems to be a completely unfounded rumor,” he continued.

Even in hostile areas, the new cards don’t put peoples’ privacy and security at risk, officials said.

Each card bears a color photo and service seal of the holder, required visible personal data, a magnetic strip, linear and two-dimensional barcodes and a 32-kilobyte computer chip.

“The amount of information on the new ID cards is less than people normally voluntarily give to salespeople or over the Internet to buy things with their credit cards,” General Mentemeyer said.

Even if someone had the extensive knowledge and expensive equipment needed to get information off the chip, an attempt would take longer than eight hours per card, and cause the card to be deactivated and/or destroyed in the process, he said.

For more information on CAC, visit www.dmdc.osd.mil/smartcard. (AFPN)

NCO retraining program begins involuntary phase

WASHINGTON – The Air Force recently began the voluntary phase of its fiscal 2003 Noncommissioned Officer Retaining program.

The program is designed to help the Air Force balance its enlisted force, by moving NCOs in specialties with surpluses to those with shortages. The program consists of two phases – voluntary and involuntary.

“We begin this program with the clear recognition that people are our most valuable resource,” said Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Gerald Murray. “Retraining will allow us to alleviate stress from those airmen in undermanned specialties, while still giving our people options and choices in the process.”

The voluntary phase of the program ended April 25, and the involuntary phase, if needed, is scheduled for May 9 through June 13.

“While every effort is made to attract volunteers, some airmen may be selected for involuntary retraining if the number of volunteers falls short,” officials said.

“Airmen in eligible career fields should look to their supervisors and leadership to help them make informed choices,” Chief Murray said.

This year, officials seek to move approximately 1,400 mid-level NCOs into shortage specialties.

According to officials, these imbalances in the mid-level NCO grades have occurred because of personnel force structure changes, differing retention trends among specialties, and the equality of promotions across all skills.

“(The retraining program) seeks to carefully balance member expectations with the needs of the Air Force,” officials said.

“Ultimately, we need to balance our enlisted force to better meet

today’s mission requirements and those in the future,” Chief Murray said. “The retraining program will help us do that.”

Several new features have been added to the program this year to make implementation smoother.

The selection criterion is no longer based solely upon seniority. Selections are now made across all eligible year groups mirroring assignment eligibility, officials said.

For example, once all ineligible NCOs have been removed from consideration, everyone left will be sorted by the date they arrived on station. Those with the most time in service will appear at the top of the list for involuntary retraining.

Wing commanders may recommend assignment curtailments up to six months – except at remote tour locations or those requiring 100 percent manning.

The total active federal military service date requirement was extended by six months to increase the pool of eligible NCOs.

In addition, military personnel flights will provide local commanders, first sergeants, career assistance advisers and supervisors with a comprehensive briefing regarding the program.

Vulnerability listings by grade and Air Force specialty code will be updated on a weekly basis.

Airmen “at risk” for involuntary retraining may access their relative standing via the Air Force Personnel Center’s Web site at www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/enlskills/Retraining/retraining.htm.

All eligible NCOs are also encouraged to consider a special duty assignment.

For more information about NCORP, call the Military Personnel Flight office at 884-5251. (AFPN)

Look who’s talking: What future event are you looking forward to the most?

“I am looking forward to graduating from the Tactical Air Control Party technical school.”

“I am looking forward to the war ending, and the United States receiving respect for all it did to help.”

“Well, I would have to say the weekend.”

**WORD OF FAITH MIN-
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CSAR,

Continued from Page 1

Force Rescue Coordination Center located at Langley Air Force Base, Va.

Additionally, 122 new authorizations will be established. They include: 91 at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Ariz.; and 31 at Nellis AFB, Nev. Though previously announced adjustments in force structure will continue, no changes in aircraft basing will result from this action.

This administrative change will be transparent to combatant commanders and designated Joint Force/Joint Force Air Component Commanders who will gain forces from Air Force major commands. (NFNS)



Proper password protection

Courtesy of 16th SOW Information Operations

How many passwords do you have? Stop and think about it for a second. There's the NIPRNET, SIPRNET, voicemail at home, voicemail at work, ATM PIN number, credit card PIN number, padlock for locker at the gym, login for ISP at home, access code for online banking, various Web sites, software registration keys and probably many more. You get the idea – no matter what you do these days, you need some kind of key, code or number to gain access to protected data.

So, now do you think all your data is protected? What about your passwords? Do you protect them as much as you protect your data? If you're not keeping passwords safe, then you might as well not have any.

A lot of folks are guilty of gross negligence when it comes to password protection. Carrying around pieces of scrap paper with passwords, using passwords that are easy to crack and not paying attention to where passwords are going can lead to a number of bad situations at work and at home.

Protect your passwords.

Post-deployment

The 16th Special Operations Wing has established a comprehensive in-processing program at the Deployment Control Center Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9 a.m. to noon. During this time: mobility bags can be turned in, medical surveys can be accomplished and travel vouchers can be filed.

In-processing is a mandatory requirement, so no compensatory time off or leave may be taken until the in-processing list is completed. Only in extreme circumstances may group commanders excuse a member from this requirement, and even then it must be requested in writing.

The following post-deployment requirements are effective immediately:

○All personnel will in-process within 72 hours of their arrival at their home station

○All mobility bags will be inventoried, accounted for and turned in

○All personnel will complete their post-deployment medical evaluation

○Government travel vouchers will be filed

○Units will create checklists to identify individual requirements to become recurrent in critical areas

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Courtesy photo

'Holey' hardships

OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM – The Airborne RED HORSE Team poses in a crater that they're going to repair, on a runway in central Iraq. The crater is 135 feet wide, 40 feet deep and filled with 15 feet of water. It's twice the size of any crater repaired in training or combat, said Brig. Gen. Pat Burns, the Air Combat Command Civil Engineer. ARH engineers are trained to rapidly deploy into barren locations, assess airfield capabilities, prepare helicopter or aircraft landing areas, clear obstacles, install emergency airfield lighting systems and repair airfield damage. (ACCNS)

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APA Heritage Month proclamation signed

By Capt. Tom Knowles
Public Affairs

To honor the accomplishments of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders and to recognize their contributions to the United States, Col. Raymond Killgore, 16th Special Operations Wing, vice commander signed a proclamation, Wednesday designating the month of May as Asian Pacific American Heritage Month at Hurlburt Field.

"I'm proud to commemorate the rich and diverse culture of Asian Pacific Americans," said Col. Killgore. "Our diversity is what makes us strong. By taking this opportunity to recognize and learn more about the contributions of Asian Pacific Americans, we can better appreciate what a valuable part they play in the fabric of our great nation and continue to strengthen the ties that unite us."

To celebrate APA Heritage Month, a number of on-base events, led by the APA Heritage Committee, will be featured to promote the Asian Pacific culture.

The month-long base celebration, dubbed "Salute to Liberty," is scheduled to kick-off at the APA Heritage Prayer Breakfast, Thursday from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. in the base chapel.

On May 17, an Asian Pacific American information booth will be set up at the Health Fair from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Base Exchange.

An Asian Pacific American celebration show and food tasting event will be at the base theatre from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. May 20.

To wrap up the month long observance, an Asian Pacific American story time and artwork display will be conducted at the Youth Center, May 28 from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Asian Pacific American heritage has been officially celebrated in the United States for the last 21 years. It began when President Jimmy Carter signed a joint resolution to declare the first Asian/Pacific Heritage Week as May 4-10, 1979. Then, 11 years later, President George Bush signed an extension to make this week-long celebration into a month-long event. On October 23, 1992, May was officially designated as the time to celebrate Asian/Pacific American heritage.

For more information about Hurlburt Field APA Heritage month events contact Chief Master Sgt. Ramon Rogado at ramon.rogado@hurlburt.af.mil or Helen Cason at helen.cason@hurlburt.af.mil.

Medical Health Tip

Your metabolism decreases as you age. That's why many people put on extra pounds as they get older. But there's a simple way to help keep your metabolism humming steadily along – lift weights. As you age, you lose muscle mass, which is important for burning calories. The fewer muscles you have, the fewer calories you burn – even when you're not exercising. So, the trick is to maintain as much muscle as you can by participating in a modest weight-training program.

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FEATURE

Teachers, students, 16th CES honor Earth Day

By Airman 1st Class Heidi Davis
Public Affairs

Approximately 90 West Navarre Elementary students engaged in Earth Day activities April 24, as they explored the Hurlburt Field Grace Brown Nature Trail and attended a demonstration of the water cycle at the Hurlburt Field Picnic Area.

Earth Day tradition remains a strong part of the nation's public commitment to protecting the Earth for generations to come. The 2003 theme, "Action for a Healthy Environment," encourages a call to action for stewardship in the communities.

After arriving at the nature trail at 9:45 a.m., the students were given a guided tour by Philip Pruitt, 16th Civil Engineer Squadron environmental management, to show them the importance of keeping nature clean for the animals that inhabit the area. The group walked the three-quarters of a mile trail, and arrived at the picnic area by 10:30 a.m.

Gathering in the screened-in shelter house, the students, teachers and volunteers enjoyed a demonstration of the water cycle by Keith Carnley, 16th CES, who taught them the importance of ground water, the conservation of water and the consequences of polluted wells.

Sitting on the table in front of them was an "ant farm" style model of the many layers of sand, dirt, rocks and clay that make up the ground below the earth's surface.

To open his demonstration, Mr. Carnley asked the students a question. "When you go to the beach and dig down deep in the sand, what do you find?"

"Water!" the children shouted.

Mr. Carnley continued to explain, in a half-hour discussion, the importance of ground water, and how it travels from the sky to their homes. To illustrate how the water cycle works, he took a jug of water and began pouring it into the model.

Most of the children moved closer to the demonstration table, in order to see the water trickle through each layer of earth and out the bottom hole of the model.

To help them better understand how water seeps through the sandy layers, Mr. Carnley used the cartoon character Sponge Bob Squarepants as an example.

"You know how Sponge Bob has little holes in him that allows water to get in?" Mr. Carnley asked the group. "Well, it's the same with sand. The spaces in the sand allow the water to flow through and into the bottom layers in the earth."

Mr. Carnley then grabbed a nearby jug with an attached hose. He placed the end of the hose into the model and began pressing the pump attached to the jug, forcing air through the hose and into the model.

"Water towers – like this jug and pump that I have – help move the water from house to

house," Mr. Carnley said. "That's why you can have water for a bath, for dinner or to go swimming. But what happens if (the tower) keeps pumping even if it doesn't rain for a long time?"

"The ground will dry up... we'll run out of water," the children responded.

After explaining the effects of droughts and flooding, Mr. Carnley put a few drops of blue dye into one of the model's wells. Then he explained the concept of water contamination, as the children watched him pump the "water tower," allowing the blue dye to seep through the many layers of earth.

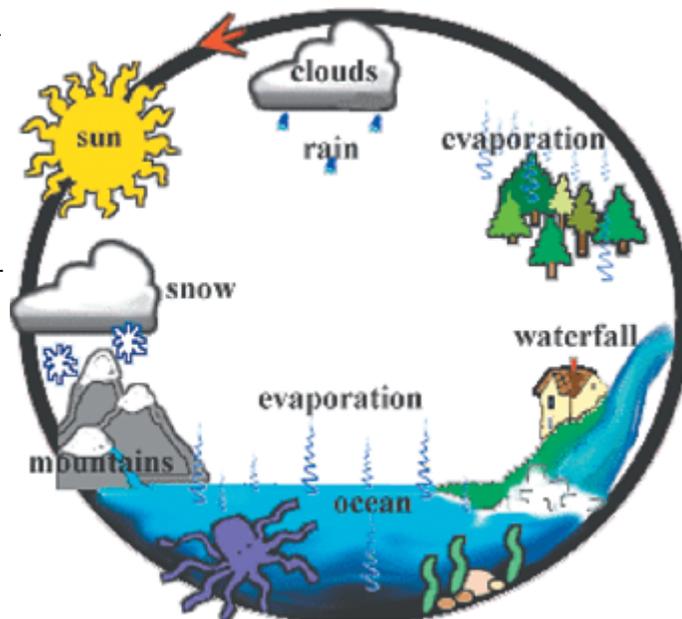
"If one well is contaminated or polluted," Mr. Carnley said, "all the other wells in the area will get polluted, too."

To conclude his presentation, Mr. Carnley took a

few questions from the audience.

Following, the children and teachers gathered outside for a group picture before loading onto the buses to leave.

For more information about Earth Day and ways to get involved in the local community, visit the Earth Day Web site at www.earthday.gov.



A courtesy image of the water cycle as discussed by Keith Carnley, 16th Civil Engineer Squadron, from the Earth Day Web site.



Photos by Tech. Sgt. Andre Nicholson

Keith Carnley (above) uses a jug and pump to represent a water tower, which distributes water throughout the underground water system. West Navarre students, teachers and volunteers (below) gathered inside a shelter at the Hurlburt Field Picnic Area engage in an inter-active discussion with Mr. Carnley, as part of their Earth Day activities.



LIFESTYLE

Community

YES program

The first meeting for the Youth Employment Skills program is scheduled for May 15, 5:30 p.m. at the base teen center. The year-long program, from June 1 to May 31, 2004, is offered to high school students of active-duty military members as an opportunity to: learn valuable work skills, iBank dollar credits toward a post-secondary education, and have a positive impact in their base community.

The program allows students to iBank \$4 in grant funding for every hour volunteered in an on-base function. They can accumulate up to 250 hours throughout their four years of high school. In addition, the base will be credited with \$2 for every volunteer hour, which will be used in support of base youth program enhancements. For more information, call Carmen DeVries at 884-6355, or e-mail carmen.devries@hurlburt.af.mil.

DAV e-mail address

The Disabled American Veterans, Playground Chapter 72 in Fort Walton Beach announces its new e-mail address, which will make DAV services even more convenient for veterans. The new address is dav@fwb.gccoxmail.com.

VA work-study program

Positions are open at Hurlburt Field for all eligible veterans to participate in the Veterans Administration Work-study Program, which is designed to provide part-time employment opportunities to veterans. Eligible veterans must be using VA educational benefits to earn a college, professional or vocational degree during a three-fourths or full-time program. Job availability varies, but all positions involve assisting other veterans. Benefits include: either federal or state minimum wages ñ whichever is higher; no income tax or social security pay deductions; and flexible work hours, which won't exceed 25 per week. For more information, call the transition assistance office at 884-6280/6281.

Ribbon cutting ceremony

First Command Financial Planning, which offers financial services to professional military families, opens a new office located at 2181 U.S. Highway 98 West, Mary Esther. The ribbon cutting ceremony Wednesday is opened to base members from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., and following the ceremony will be an open house. There are currently, more than 220 First Command field offices around the world, with local offices in Shalimar and Mary Esther, which sponsor the Sound of Independence celebration, Hurlburt Field's Annual and Quarterly Awards and the Gate-to-Gate Run. For more information, call Frank Painter at 581-5000.

Operation Salute

Anheuser-Busch is giving free single-day admission into its SeaWorld, Busch Gardens and Sesame Place parks for active-duty, active Reservists, U.S. Coastguard and National Guard military members, and as many as four of their direct dependents, in Operation Salute. The offer, which is also extended to all coalition forces serving with Operation Iraqi Freedom, begins May 23 and lasts through Nov. 11.

Passes may be used at: Busch Gardens Tampa Bay

and Williamsburg, SeaWorld Orlando, San Diego and San Antonio; and Sesame Place, Langhorne, Pa.

Be Your Own Boss

All spouses, retirees or active-duty service members, who have thought about owning their own business, are invited to come to the family support center May 9 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. A guest speaker from the University of West Florida Small Business Development Center will teach the ins and outs of self-employment and answer any questions about owning a business. For more information or to make reservations, call 884-5441.

Self-help store changes

As of April 22, the self-help store is using a voucher system to obtain plants for housing residents. The customer chooses from a catalog of available plants, fills out a voucher slip, signs it and takes a copy to a contracted vendor the following day after noon. Orders will be taken Wednesdays through Fridays. Also, beginning Saturday, the store will be open each Saturday from 8 a.m. to noon. For more information, call 884-7130.

Book signing

The base library hosts a book signing with retired Army Chief Warrant Officer Michael Durant May 21 from noon to 3 p.m. His book, *In the Company of Heroes*, retells the story of how the Black Hawk helicopter he was riding in, was shot down in Somalia in 1993. For more information, call 884-3820.

Childcare provider orientation

The Hurlburt Field Family Childcare Center hosts a free Childcare Provider Orientation May 13-16 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the community center. Participant qualifications include: residence in base housing, a license to provide care on base quarters, and training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and first aid. Application packages are available at the FCC. For more information, call Carol Carter at 884-2968.

APA Heritage breakfast

In celebration of APA Heritage Month, the Asian Pacific American Heritage Club hosts a prayer breakfast Thursday at 7:30 a.m. at the base chapel. The event is open to all. For more information, call Helen Cason at 884-3286.

Airline luggage revisions

Several months ago, commercial air carriers began revising their policy concerning free checked luggage weights, associated fees and waivers for domestic flights. However, international rules remain unchanged.

Northwest Airlines is allowing two pieces of checked luggage to a maximum weight of 50 pounds and a maximum total linear dimension of 62 inches each. Those with luggage weighing 50 to 70 pounds will be charged \$25 per piece, and luggage weighing 70 to 100 pounds will be charged \$50. Military members are given a waiver, however, which allows for two free checked pieces of luggage up to 70 pounds each. Restrictions apply.

Delta has the same weight and linear allowances, but the fee for luggage weighing between 70 and 100 pounds costs \$80. Military waivers have also been instilled, but restrictions do apply. For more information regarding airline changes and military waivers, call Passenger Travel at 884-6619.

Hurlburt Field
Chapel
884-7795

Catholic Mass

Saturday, 5:30 p.m.
Sunday, 7:15 and 10 a.m.
Confessions: Saturday, 4:30 to 5 p.m., or by request.
Youth: 5 p.m. Sunday
Religious Education:
September ñ May

Protestant Services

Sunday, 8:30 a.m. (praise & worship),
11:30 a.m. (traditional),
12:45 p.m. (Gospel)

Religious Education: August ñ May
Youth and Singles groups available

Jewish Services (882-2111)

Sabbath services: Friday, 7:30 p.m., Eglin Chapel Center

Havdallah services: next-to-the-last Saturday of each month, 7 p.m., Chapel annex

Muslim Services (882-2111), Eglin Chapel Center

Jumuah: Friday, 12:45 p.m.

Qurian: Saturday, 6 p.m.

At the movies

Prices are \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for children. Movies start at 7 p.m. unless otherwise indicated.

Hurlburt Field 884-7648

Friday ñ (R) *Tears of the Sun*, starring Bruce Willis and Monica Bellucci ñ A team of Navy SEALs is sent into the jungle in the heart of Nigeria on a search-and-rescue mission for a doctor. Can a handful of U.S. soldiers get to their rendezvous point before the several hundred African soldiers on their tail get to them first?

Saturday ñ (PG) *Agent Cody Banks*, starring Frankie Muniz and Hilary Duff ñ Teenager, Cody Banks is recruited by the U.S. government to be a special agent, who they call upon when they're faced with a mission that can only be done by someone who wouldn't normally be old enough for such a mission.

Sunday ñ (PG-13) *Willard*, starring Crispin Glover and Laura Harring ñ Pestered by his co-workers, Willard exacts revenge when one of his pet rats is killed at work. Led by the unusually intelligent rat Ben, an army of rats descends on those who did Willard wrong.

Eglin 882-1066

Friday ñ (PG-13) *Bringing Down the House*, starring Steve Martin and Queen Latifah ñ Peter is a divorced attorney who's doing his best to move on with his life. He's been chatting online, and when his friend comes to his house, he discovers she's not who he was expecting ñ it's Charlene, a prison escapee, who wants Peter to clear her name.

Saturday ñ (R) *Dreamcatcher*, starring Donnie Wahlberg and Jason Lee ñ Four young friends perform a heroic act and in the process are transformed forever when they receive special powers. Years later, now grown, they reunite for a hunting trip, which is soon interrupted by a battle with a mysterious alien force.

Sunday ñ (PG-13) *The Hours*, starring Meryl Streep and Nicole Kidman ñ Virginia Woolf in the early 1920s is struggling to begin her book, *Mrs. Dalloway*, while overcoming the mental illness that threatens to engulf her. Laura in post-World War II Los Angeles is just starting to read the book, but soon questions the very life she has chosen. Clarissa living in New York City becomes a modern-day mirror image of Mrs. Dalloway, as she plans what may be the final party for her friend and former lover, Richard.

(Editor's note: Movies are subject to change. Telephone numbers are provided for patrons to confirm scheduled playdates.)

Community

AFA membership drive

The Hurlburt Field Chapter of the Air Force Association hosts its annual membership drive through the end of the month, Mondays through Fridays, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the base mini-mall. Membership is open to all Air Force personnel, to include civilian employees. Membership benefits include: low-cost life insurance, a subscription to the Air Force Magazine, and the opportunity to work with other facets of the Air Force and local community. For more information, call Dick Schaller, chapter president, at 651-3443.

Safety briefing

The base safety office sponsors six briefings May 12-13 at the base theater. Officer Bill Cain from the National Crime Prevention Task Force will give an hour-long presentation covering a wide range of safety topics and providing real life examples of ways to increase situational awareness. Briefing times for May 12 are 8 a.m., 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., times for May 13 are 7 a.m., 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Seating is on a first come, first seated basis. For more information call Staff Sgt. Gary Gist at 884-2614.

National Police Week

The 16th Security Forces Squadron will host several events on base for local and regional law enforcement agencies during National Police Week May 12-16. Events include: a golf tournament, a bowling tournament and the Special Weapons and Tactics competition, which consists of the obstacle course, officer rescue, pistol shoot and a paintball challenge.

Also, a memorial service honoring all fallen law enforcement officers throughout the past year will be

held May 15 at 3 p.m. at Beal Memorial Cemetery, Fort Walton Beach. For more information about police week, call 2nd Lt. John Short at 884-7777.

HOSC luncheon

The Hurlburt Officer's Spouses' Club holds its monthly luncheon May 13, 10:30 a.m. at the Soundside Club. This month's program will be Stamping Tricks of the Trade, with Stampin' Up gift sets for door prize winners.

The menu will be a Pacific lunch buffet featuring: oriental chicken salad with sesame ginger dressing, java slaw, Hunan beef with broccoli and scallions, Hawaiian-style Huli Huli chicken, shrimp fried rice, stir-fried Asian vegetables and pineapple upside-down cake for dessert. The cost of the luncheon is \$13.

Childcare is available at the Hurlburt Field Child Development Center from 10:15 a.m. to 1 p.m. for \$3 per hour, per child or \$5 per hour for two or more children. Childcare reservations need to be made by Tuesday, and luncheon reservations by Thursday. For more information or to place reservations, call Marsha Babe at 678-4473, or e-mail HOSCReservations@COX.net.

Salute Savings

U.S. Airways recently introduced Salute Savings, a discount program for active-duty and Reserve military members and their immediate families on roundtrip plane tickets, starting as low as \$79 each way. Fares are valid for tickets purchased through Dec. 31, for travel completed by Feb. 12, 2004. Tickets are non-refundable and must be purchased at least three days in advance of departure. Seats are limited, and certain restrictions apply, to include: a minimum of one Saturday night stay, and a maximum 30-day stay.

APAH Month

May is Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, and

the APA Heritage Committee along with the military equal opportunity office is seeking military and civilian volunteers to assist in organizing, preparing and supporting programs for the observance period. The committee meets Tuesdays from noon to 1 p.m. in the MEO classroom in Building 90210, Room 244. For more information about APA Heritage Month, e-mail Chief Master Sgt. Ramon Rogado at ramon.rogado@hurlburt.af.mil, or call Staff Sgt. Bill White at 884-5879.

ERAU summer registration

Registration for the Summer 2003 term at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University will be held May 12 through May 23 from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday, and 8 a.m. to noon on Fridays in Building 90220. Add/Drop dates for classes are May 26 - May 30. Class dates are May 26 through July 26. For more information, call 581-2106.

Classes

FSC Classes:

Mapping Your Career - Monday, 1 p.m.

Moms, Pops and Tots - Tuesday and Wednesday, 10 a.m.

Smooth Move - Wednesday, 1 p.m.

Deployment and Families - Thursday, 5:30 p.m.; reservations required, call 884-5441

Be Your Own Boss - Friday, 11:30 a.m.

Family Feelings Workshop - Friday, 6 p.m., base chapel; reservations required, call 884-5441

HAWC Classes:

Eat Heart Healthy - Tuesday, 9 a.m.

Diabetic Nutrition - Tuesday, 1 p.m.

Lean On Me - Wednesday, 11:30 a.m.

Lean and Healthy Eating - Thursday, 11 a.m.

HARSCH'S SILK FLOWERS
CS/RHP/28TH ANNI
523539
2 X 5.00

RHINO LININGS
COMM/RHP #3 TUFF
523725
3 X 5.00

SPORTS



Photo by Airman 1st Class Sam Taylor

Softball slam

Jason Thibodeau, 16th Civil Engineer Squadron intramural softball team, slams the ball at the main fitness center softball field Tuesday. During the game, the 16th CES toppled the 16th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron team 17-15. The Hurlburt Field womens softball team is competing against other area teams in the May Day Tournament at the Fort Walton Beach Fairgrounds today and Saturday. People are invited to come out and root for their team.

CGOC golf tournament benefits families

By Capt. Tom Knowles
Public Affairs

Their golfing exploits may not have impressed the likes of Tiger Woods, but the proceeds raised for their participation in the 2003 Company Grade Officers Council golf tournament were certainly noteworthy.

The event, which saw 116 duffers hit the links, April 11 at the Gator Lakes Golf Course generated \$1,300 and \$100 respectively for the Air Force Special Operators and Air Force Assistance Funds.

"We wanted to donate the majority of the proceeds to the Special Operators Warriors Fund because it supports family members of fallen

Special Operations troops," said Keyran Reyes, Company Grade Officers Council president. "At a time like right now, we feel it's more important than ever to take care of our own."

Several local sponsors were also on hand to doll out prizes ranging from a new car for anyone lucky enough to score a hole-in-one on #7 to a wood driver donated by the Gator Lakes Golf Course for the longest drive winner.

"We saw a lot of great support from local sponsors," said Reyes. "A lot of that support was because we were donating proceeds to the Special Operations Warrior foundation."

Among the lucky winners and recipients of sponsor prizes was the team of Randy Nelson, Richard

Stengenga, Josh Phillips and Fred McDonald, which brought home a score of 58 to win the tournament. Coming in second and third were the teams of Michaela Demboski, Anne Conwell, Nicholas Petrone, John Kyker (60), and Charles Parada, Bob Love, Rod Campbell, Matt Dickens (62).

"This was a great opportunity to have fun while at the same time provide a helping hand to some of our own who may be in need," said Col. Raymond Killgore, 16th Special Operations Wing vice commander and Company Grade Officers Council advisor. "My compliments go out to the CGOC and all who were involved in making the event a success."



Courtesy Photo

A contender in the Company Grade Officer's Council golf tournament takes a swing at Gator Lakes Golf Course April 11.

Sports briefs

Top 3 golf tournament

The Hurlburt Field Top 3 hosts its annual golf tournament May 9 at Gator Lakes Golf Course. The four-man "best ball" tournament begins at 8:30 a.m., with registration beginning at 7:30 a.m.

Many prizes are up for grabs, including a \$10,000 hole-in-one prize. Cost is \$35 per person, and registration is limited to the first 30 paid teams. This tournament is open to all people affiliated with Hurlburt Field. For more information or to sign-up,

call Master Sgt. Mike Sage at 884-6529 or Master Sgt. Eric Hanson at 884-6203.

Basketball officials needed

Current and prospective basketball officials are invited to a high school-level camp June 6-8 at Pryor Middle School in Fort Walton Beach. This is a low-cost, positive camp focusing on, on-the-floor mechanics and current officiating philosophies. For more information, call Chip Boes at 968-9299, or e-mail chipboes@cox.net.