

Air Force leaders issue Patriot Day message to troops

WASHINGTON – *The following is a Patriot Day message from Secretary of the Air Force Dr. James Roche and Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John Jumper.*

“The second anniversary of the tragic events of Sept. 11, 2001, provides us all an opportunity to remember those murdered in New York, at the Pentagon and in Pennsylvania, as well as those patriots who have sacrificed their lives in the war on terror.

“Through tragedy, our nation renewed its unending resolve to fight terrorism, to defend our way of life and to give hope to others suffering under repressive regimes that support terror. Patriot Day reaffirms the airman’s obligation to fight for what’s right – obliterating terrorism on every front to ensure a safe tomorrow for future generations of Americans and freedom-loving people around the world.

“You – America’s finest men and women who comprise our Air Force – are doing absolutely remarkable work around the globe. From our own skies to the front lines in Iraq, Afghanistan and other locations around the world, our superior Total Force of active-duty, Guard, Reserve and civilian airmen continues to respond brilliantly as the world’s greatest air and space force. Rest assured, you’re making it more difficult every day for terrorists to have their way.

“On this Patriot Day, let’s remember those who are deployed in harm’s way. Just as important, let’s renew our commitment to the families of those who are deployed. The unwavering commitment to their loved ones far from home is phenomenal; the cause for which their loved ones serve is noble and just.

See **REMEMBRANCE**, Page 6

Motorcyclists receive new training pad



Photo by Senior Airman Sam Taylor

Hurlburt Field will soon have it’s own motorcycle training facility for the many people who ride motorcycles here.

By Airman 1st Class Heidi Davis
Public Affairs

The Hurlburt Field Ground Safety Office is putting the finishing touches on the new motorcycle training facility here.

Classes are scheduled to begin at the motorcycle pad,

located in the Permanent Exercise Facility area across from the 823rd RED HORSE Squadron, beginning some time in November.

Currently, Hurlburt Field holds its motorcycle training courses at Eglin Air Force Base. The safety office recognized the need for its own motorcycle training facility approximately two years ago, as course schedules began backlogging up to three months in advance.

“Because we were borrowing Eglin’s facilities, we had to work around their schedule,” said Master Sgt. John Anderson, 16th Special Operations Wing Ground Safety Office, “so we could only hold courses once a month.”

Now, with the new \$65,000 motorcycle facility, the scheduling difficulties are anticipated to be limited in number, said B.J. Prevett, 16th SOW Ground Safety.

“Between here and Eglin, there are eight to nine instructors that volunteer to teach the course,” Mr. Prevett said. “With only one facility to work around, it made it difficult to schedule course classes for both bases.”

“Now that we have our own pad, we can control the course dates and coordinate with our instructors with ease,” Sergeant Anderson said.

To schedule motorcycle training, call 884-6463.

Air Force celebrates 56 years of service

By Secretary of the Air Force Dr. James Roche and Chief of Staff of the Air Force Gen. John Jumper

In 56 years, the U.S. Air Force has earned its wings as the world’s greatest air and space force. Our airmen and our technology are the best our nation has to offer, an achievement that flows from the contributions of every airman – whether active duty, Guard, Reserve, civilian or retired.

On Sept. 18, the anniversary of

our creation, remember that through your integrity, selfless service and incomparable excellence, Americans find strength and confidence in the Air Force’s ability to answer our nation’s call, no matter when or where we’re needed.

We celebrate the Air Force’s birthday as we continue to support Operation Iraqi Freedom. Your tireless commitment, agility and professionalism are the foundation for integrating air and space power into a successful joint and coalition combat

operation – one that has already crushed a tyrannical regime and is now helping to blaze the trail of freedom for millions in Iraq.

Yet, as we celebrate, we recognize that this success is not without costs. We appreciate you and your families’ extraordinary sacrifices. Let’s take this special occasion to remember the airmen who made the ultimate sacrifice to ensure the security of America and the opportunity of

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News



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Base event

Sept. 19: Hurlburt Field hosts a retreat ceremony in honor of National POW/MIA day at the Air Park at 4:30 p.m. People should be in place by 4 :15 p.m. Shuttles will run from the theater and the commissary starting at 3:45 p.m. Seating is reserved for distinguished visitors.

Weather

Weekend forecast 

Today - mostly sunny, partly cloudy, High 88 Low 71
Saturday - partly cloudy, chance of rain, High 89 Low 71
Sunday - partly cloudy, chance of rain, High 88 Low 72
www.hurlburt.af.mil/milonly/weather/5day

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.

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Closed roads

Comment: The closure of Cody Avenue for construction has created several traffic bottlenecks on base during the 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. timeframe.

The first one is at the intersection of Letouneau Avenue and McMillan Avenue. Traffic is being rerouted through the J.R. Rockers parking lot onto Letouneau and then to McMillan. Letouneau has a stop sign at the intersection with McMillan. Drivers "in the know" don't detour through J.R. Rockers, but rather detour through Live Oaks housing area to McMillan. They're thus able to avoid the stop sign and don't yield to their poor brethren on Letouneau who're doing it the right way. Traffic on Letouneau is then grid locked, prompting more people to detour through the housing area. This results in high traffic through an area not intended for high

traffic volumes with a resulting increase in potential for an accident almost sure to involve a child. Until construction on Cody is completed, I would like to suggest that security forces personnel direct traffic at the Letouneau/McMillan intersection during peak afternoon traffic hours.

Similarly, traffic backs up during this timeframe at the Tully Avenue/Independence Road intersection. Since westbound Independence Road traffic is typically not as heavy as traffic on Tully Avenue transitioning to eastbound Independence.

I feel having security forces personnel at this intersection during peak traffic times would also help smooth out traffic flow.

Reply: The roads in our family housing areas should never be used as a free-lance alternative detour route. I will

advise our security forces of your observations and trust they'll assure this temporary detour problem doesn't continue.

For all our great readers: working solutions to genuine traffic safety issues through this Open Line forum however, is not the most expedient means of quickly correcting such a problem. Anyone noticing any type of safety problem on our base should immediately notify wing safety or security forces. We greatly value all your observations and appreciate the team effort in making and keeping Hurlburt Field the best base in the Air Force.

Regarding the traffic flow at Tully and Independence during the peak afternoon flow, I'll have our wing safety and security forces experts take a look at this situation and make any necessary changes.

Also, keep in mind that construction may be altered due to weather constraints.

Wing command chief speaks out

By Chief Master Sgt. Eddie Alicea
16th SOW Command Chief Master Sergeant

(Editor's note: The following is the text of a speech given by Chief Master Sgt. Eddie Alicea to the Tyndall Air Force Base NCO Academy class 03-06 that graduated Thursday.)

I would like to talk to you about the global war on terrorism, and how we can prepare ourselves to continue this incredibly important fight. As we sit here tonight – comfortable among our friends and families – let's remember two years ago this night was far from comfortable.

The Pentagon was burning, the World Trade Center had collapsed into rubble, and thousands of families were ripped apart by a deliberate attack upon our country. Citizens from more

than 80 countries died that day – innocent men, women and children from across the globe.

I know Sept. 11 has a special meaning for each of us in this room – and it should – the events of that infamous day are so etched in our minds that we know exactly what we were doing when we heard about the attacks on our country. I was at a first



Chief Master Sgt. Eddie Alicea
16th SOW Command Chief Master Sergeant

See **CHIEF**, Page 13

Look who's talking: If you were granted three wishes, what would they be?

Article submissions for the **Commando** should be sent to

commando@hurlburt.af.mil

Classified advertisements must be brought to the Public Affairs office in Building 90210, Room 326. The deadline for submissions is 4 p.m. Friday one week prior to publication.

NEWS

Pitsenbarger presented

LAS VEGAS – Staff Sgt. Gabe Brown, center, receives the 2003 Pitsenbarger Award from Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Gerald Murray during a ceremony held at the Air Force Sergeant's Association Convention, here. Sergeant Brown, 720th Special Tactics Group, was selected for his heroism while supporting Operation Anaconda during Operation Enduring Freedom. Sergeant Brown was also named recipient of the 2003 Vanguard Award in May for his actions during Operation Enduring Freedom. (AFSOC NEWS)

Courtesy photo

Spotlight on ...

Kevin Mroczko

Rank/Duty Title: Senior Airman/Pneudraulic systems journeyman

Organization: 16th Helicopter Maintenance Squadron

Hometown: Benton, Wis.

Hobbies: Paintball, mountain biking and rollerblading

Contribution to the mission:

Airman Mroczko is always the first one to volunteer, having deployed twice in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, and spending six of the last 12 months overseas.

A recent graduate of the Wing Honor Guard Academy, he has spent countless hours volunteering his spare time at the Waterfront Rescue Mission and the American Red Cross. In addition, he was a key member in the teardown and upload of 10 helicopters in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Airman Mroczko further distinguished himself by completing his upgrade training three months ahead of schedule.

(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.)

New SEA arrives at USSOCOM

MACDILL AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. – The U.S. Special Operations Command welcomed its new senior enlisted advisor and bid farewell to another warrior at the Aug. 27 change of responsibility and retirement ceremony at the Special Operations Forces memorial.

Jumping in from a plane at 6,000 feet with colored smoke trailing from their boots, the USSOCOM Command Parachute Team kicked off the ceremony honoring departing Command Master Chief Richard Rogers, U.S. Navy, who turned over the SEA responsibility to Command Chief Master Sgt. Robert Martens Jr., U.S. Air Force. Command Master Chief Rogers retired in the second half of the ceremony, having served more than 30 years as a SOF Navy SEAL.

Vice Adm. Eric Olson, USSOCOM deputy commander, officiated the ceremony, during which Navy tradition reigned at the multi-service command. Service members, standing and saluting alongside a red carpet in roles as "side boys," welcomed the admiral and the two top enlisted members with piping and bell ringing as if coming aboard a ship.

Admiral Olson praised Command Master Chief Rogers for the leadership legacy he left behind.

This command has been busy late-

ly...deployments are more frequent and often longer," Admiral Olson said. "Steady as a rock – fair, balanced, thoughtful, proactive – this has been Command Master Chief Rick Rogers. This command and its components thrived."

In his role as the command top enlisted man, Command Master Chief Rogers traveled around the world to visit SOF forces from Iraq and Afghanistan to Europe and Asia.

"What a terrific journey this has been," said Command Master Chief Rogers, who now plans to move to Coronado, Calif. "I didn't start out intending to serve this long. Few know at 19 years old that they want to serve 30 years; how I got to this point has been a matter of timing and good fortune."

Chief Martens, a 27-year Air Force combat veteran and a Special Operations Combat Controller, served as the command chief to the Commander Air Force Special Operations Command before being selected to step into his new position.

In his role, Chief Martens will advise the USSOCOM commander on all matters concerning the welfare of the force and effective use of enlisted members. He also ensures the commander's policies are enforced and understood. Like Command Master Chief Rogers, the new SEA hopes to visit Special Operators

around the world in the desert or in the cold.

"It's absolutely an honor to serve the men and women of USSOCOM," said Chief Martens, also a combat vet from Panama, with more than 480 freefall parachute jumps. "I plan to go where we have people engaged actively, look them in the eye, and get a feel for what they need, so they can complete the mission at hand."

The admiral underscored the importance of the command's senior enlisted leaders.

"The senior enlisted advisor is expected to keep his finger on the pulse, to know what the force is thinking, to predict how it'll act to policy decisions and to understand the details, complexities and subtleties of the challenges, demands and rewards of service in the Special Operations community," Admiral Olson said.

As Chief Martens takes over as the fifth SEA in USSOCOM's 17-year history, Admiral Olson masterfully bid farewell to Command Master Chief Rogers with more military tradition and honor.

"You've earned your place among the legends of Special Operations," said Admiral Olson as he lifted his right hand to his brow. "I thank you and salute you."

(AFSOC NEWS, Courtesy US SOCOM Public Affairs)

AIR FORCE NEWS

Air Force officials release fitness-test details

By Staff Sgt. C. Todd Lopez
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON – Beginning next year, Air Force officials will implement a new fitness test completely different than what airmen today are familiar with.

The more functional test will include a 1 1/2-mile timed run, a muscular-fitness test of push-ups and crunches and a body composition test.

It's designed to measure the general health of airmen, said Maj. Lisa Schmidt, chief of health promotions operations at the Air Force surgeon general's office.

"The goal is to have a healthy, fit force that can deploy at any time," Major Schmidt said, "by preventing the onset of diseases such as heart attacks, stroke, high-blood pressure and high cholesterol."

To measure airmen's overall fitness, Major Schmidt's office and a panel of health and fitness experts developed a three-component measurement system that looks at aerobic fitness, body composition and muscular fitness, she said.

An airman's performance in each of the three component areas will earn points. They can earn a maximum of 50 points on the aerobic portion of the test, 30 points on the body composition portion and 20 on the muscular fitness portion.

The total number of points earned on the fitness test will put the airman into one of four categories: 90 or greater is excellent, 75 to 89.9 is good, 70 to 74.9 is marginal, and less than 70 is poor, Major Schmidt said.

People scoring marginal on the test will attend a two-hour healthy-living workshop that focuses on lifestyle behavior, time management and fitness education, Major Schmidt said.

Intervention for people scoring in the poor category involves the healthy-living workshop, an individualized exercise and weight-loss programs for those who exceed body fat standards. It also involves mandatory exercise five days a week, she said.

The test for body composition is still being finalized, but it'll



Photo by Master Sgt. Jim Varhegyi

BOLLING AIR FORCE BASE, D.C. — Trainees at the U.S. Air Force Honor Guard technical school here participate in a physical-fitness routine several times a week.

measure how much body fat a person has, Major Schmidt said.

Tests for other components of the fitness standard have already been determined. A 1 1/2-mile run will determine aerobic fitness. Airmen who aren't medically cleared to run will take the cycle-ergometry test.

Airmen's scores on the new fitness test will also determine how often they need to retest. People scoring "good" or "excellent" will retest after a year, while those scoring "marginal" will retest after six-months. Airmen scoring "poor" will retest after 90 days.

Just how many push-ups and crunches airmen will have to do, or how fast they'll have to run, has yet to be finalized. Major Schmidt's office has developed draft charts for the composite score; the fitness standards on the draft charts are tailored to both age and gender.

IMAX film crew wraps session at Nellis

By Staff Sgt. Chris Stagner
Air Warfare Center Public Affairs

NELLIS AIR FORCE BASE, Nev. – Filming wrapped for the summer Friday on an IMAX film based on the Air Force and the mission of Red Flag.

The 45-minute, multimillion-dollar film is scheduled to be released in 2004, according to officials.

"IMAX is a spectacular venue to showcase the Air Force," said Maj. Gen. Steve Wood, Air Warfare Center commander. "It's such a dramatic and overwhelming view of what we do. When (it's) finished, I think airmen will look at this film with pride for years to come."

IMAX uses large-format 70-mm film images projected onto an eight-story-tall flat screen and 12,000-watt digital sound, according to officials.

"I'm really impressed by the young airmen I've encountered doing their country's work and (I) want to do them justice through this film," said Stephen Low, the film's director.



Courtesy photo

An F-15 flies over the film crew as they wrap up for the summer at Nellis Air Force Base, Nev.

The film will encompass many angles of the Air Force mission and the people who make that mission a success.

The project involved airmen from the Air Combat Command, Air Mobility Command, Air Force Special Operations Command and Air Force Materiel Command.

"This is a great opportunity to showcase

what Red Flag does, not only for Nellis, but for the U.S. Air Force," said Col. Joel Malone, 414th Combat Training Squadron commander. "Red Flag provides a mosaic of what the Air Force brings to the table. If there's one unit that brings all aspects of the Air Force together, it's Red Flag."

Red Flag is administered by the center's 57th Wing. It provides a realistic airpower combat-training exercise involving the U.S. Air Force and the air forces of its allies, according to officials.

"The work of our Air Force and the coalition forces provides such a rich story line," Colonel Malone said. "I'm glad IMAX is able to catch that on film and make it a part of Air Force history."

Filming often ran from before sunrise to after sundown and took place in locations ranging from an auditorium to the airfield between both runways to the fire pit.

"This film is going to reach a huge population of recruiting-age men and women in the United States," General Wood said.

Filming will continue in October and November. (AFPN)

News Briefs

Study list now available

Promotion-eligible enlisted people can now find out which materials to study for the 2004 testing cycles.

The most current Weighted Airman Promotion System catalog is now available on the Air Force Personnel Center Web site at www.afpc.randolph.af.mil.

The catalog lists the materials used by test writers to develop the 2004 promotion tests.

Test administration dates for the 2004 promotion cycle are Jan. 10 to 24 for senior master sergeant, Feb. 15 to March 31 for technical and master sergeant and May 1 to 31 for staff sergeant.

For more information, go to www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/testing.

Force protection safeguards AF

All airmen must practice force protection to safeguard our people and their families, property, equipment, information, operations and facilities around the world.

The force protection mission is accomplished through the integrated application of:

- Counter- and anti-terrorism
- Operations security
- Physical security
- Personal protective services
- Information security

Superior intelligence and counterintelligence programs support the force protection mission. To practice force protection:

- Become a 'sensor' by noticing and reporting suspicious activities
- Challenge unknown people in your work area; look at their access badges
- Protect unauthorized access to your computer
- Properly dispose of printed information
- Ensure your work area is secure at the end of your duty day

REMEMBRANCE, Continued from Page 1

"As we've seen, winning the war on terrorism is a long and deliberate journey – we're confident you are up to the task. Be patient and stay the course – we will continue to face challenges and overcome obstacles as we win the war on terrorism. Thanks for all you do for America and our Air Force.

"May God bless you, and may God bless America."
(AFPN)

BIRTHDAY,

Continued from Page 1

freedom for those who have never before tasted liberty.

The Air Force's legacy has soared in its short history and greater opportunities are on the horizon – opportunities you'll meet with the same courage, commitment and confidence that define our first 56 years. America is proud of our Air Force, and Americans are proud of you. Happy Birthday!



What is Hispanic Heritage Month?

By Staff Sgt. Luis Rodriguez
16th Civil Engineer Squadron

Hurlburt Field will celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month Monday through Oct. 15.

Hispanic Heritage Month is the celebration of the Spanish speaking community, which is composed of a vastly diverse culture.

Observing Hispanic heritage was first approved as a week of observance by a Joint Resolution of the United States Congress on Sept. 17, 1968. Twenty years later, on Aug. 17, 1988, President Ronald Reagan expanded the celebrations to a month, Sept. 15 to Oct. 15. The time period was selected to coincide with the independence celebrations of Mexico, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Chile and Nicaragua.

Numerous presidents including Gerald Ford, Ronald Reagan, George Bush, and Bill Clinton have recognized how far Hispanic heritage extends in our country and the enormous contribution Hispanic Americans have made to our society.

The Hispanic community was well settled and thriving in the states of Florida and New Mexico at the time the Pilgrim Fathers landed at Plymouth Rock. Saint Augustine, Florida, which was founded by Pedro Menendez de Aviles, is recognized as the oldest continuously inhabited city in the United States. Over the years, the Hispanic



Illustration by Virginia Reyes

community has given us generals, admirals, philosophers, statesmen, musicians, doctors, engineers, writers, lawyers, athletes, and Nobel Prize winning scientists. Hispanic Americans have contributed heroically to the defense of our nation and many have received the highest decoration our country can bestow, the Congressional Medal of Honor.

There are approximately 29 million Hispanics in the United States which comprise almost 11 percent of the total population.

Many Hispanic Americans trace their roots to the cultures of the indigenous peoples of the Americas – including the Arawaks (Puerto Rico), the Aztecs (Mexico), the Incas (South America), the Maya (Central America), and the Tainos (in Cuba, Puerto Rico and other places).

Some trace their roots to the Spanish explorers – who in the 1400s set out to find an easier and less costly way to trade with the Indies. Others trace their roots to the Africans who were brought as slaves to the New World.

For purposes of the U.S. Census, Hispanic Americans today are identified according to the parts of the world that they or their ancestors came from, including Mexico, Puerto Rico, Cuba, Spain, or the nations of Central or South America.

Throughout the history of the United States, many groups of people have come from many different parts of the world and helped build the nation we are today.

When we celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month we learn about other cultures, embracing the wonderful variety of people that makes our country. Hispanic Heritage Month reminds us that a person's heritage is something to be recognized, valued, celebrated and shared.

Look for a calendar of events on Hispanic Heritage activities in a future edition of the COMMANDO.

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Medical tips, questions, answers

Q: Can a unit find out if a person on medication is deployable?

A: For the most part, the unit doesn't know if a person is on medication for depression, anxiety, etc. Being prescribed medications isn't, in itself, disqualifying for deployment or any other duty. In fact, most people prescribed medications are not recommended for any type of duty restriction and many have deployed successfully while continuing to take medication as prescribed. However, if a troop is placed on medications for a problem of such severity that a duty restriction of some sort would be recommended, then information that would be mission essential – and only that information – would be disclosed to the unit leadership (if the person shouldn't deploy, or is suicidal, etc.).

Behavioral Health Service providers are required to notify the unit of any recommendations about a person that may effect mission sustainability, including a recommendation for profile, hospitalization, or other duty restrictions. A good rule of thumb is if we haven't contacted you regarding those issues, then the troop is world-wide qualified. If there are any questions please call us, and we can verify if any restrictions apply.

Q: How can the command element know what's going on with their people seen at BHS?

A: There are many confidentiality issues that we at Behavioral Health Services struggle with when it comes to this issue. Trying to protect a patient's privacy and keep the unit's leadership informed, so that mission essential decisions can be made, is often a fine line. In general, not much information will be given to the unit leadership. Our guidelines for breaking confidentiality are restricted to only information that's deemed necessary or is "need to know" for the commander to be able to make proper decisions in accordance with AFI 44-109, "Mental Health and Military Law." This could be if the person is to be hospitalized or recommended for a profile or other duty restriction. In these cases, confidentiality is breached because these actions may impact mission sustainability, or the person may be at risk for harming him/herself or others. This would be the only information released to the unit leadership, unless the patient freely signed a Release of Information form, allowing more full discussions between the provider and the unit.

If a commander has a pressing concern or issue that he wants more feedback on than this, the commander can order a Commander-Directed Evaluation, in which most rules of confidentiality are waived. This however, is reserved for more serious types of problems.

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Transition help from FSC

**Courtesy of the
Hurlburt Field
Family Support Center**

The Hurlburt Field Family Support Center is the focal point for the Air Force's Transition Assistance Program.

Changes have recently occurred within the TAP program that'll enhance the transition from the military or may entice one to continue their career with the Air Force. Military members can attend TAP 12 months prior to their separation or 24 months prior to retirement from active military service.

TAP was developed by the Department of Labor, Department of Defense and the Department of Veteran's Affairs in 1990. The concept of this program is to ensure separating and retiring service members and their families make a smooth, well-disciplined and successful transition to a second career.

In order to accomplish this, the transition assistance team focuses on the job search and personal adjustment, through one-on-one career counseling, a 3-day TAP seminar and other

classes as needed or desired.

In addition to assisting the military member with their transition, the Benefits Delivered at Discharge Program is important for those members wanting to submit a disability claim through the Veterans' Administration.

The program allows for the member to get their medical records reviewed 60 – 180 days from their actual retirement/separation date, a Veterans' claim submitted and a physical exam conducted by a VA medical doctor while they are on active duty. This will enable the veteran to receive a decision on their disability claim just about the time they actually separate or retire from military service, instead of waiting the normal 14 – 16 months to receive a decision on their disability claim.

Upon approaching separation or retirement, call or drop by the separations/retirements section at the military personnel flight office to set up a Pre-separation TAP briefing at the family support center. The briefing is held on Tuesday and Thursday mornings starting at 7:30 a.m. For more information, call 884-6281.

Student loans on hold

By K.L. Vantran
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – Service members who've been deployed or mobilized aren't required to make student loan payments during their absences.

Federal regulations require lenders to postpone the student loan program payments of active-duty service members. This applies to members of the National Guard and Ready Reserves, who've been called to active duty, as well as to active-duty members whose duty station has been changed as a result of a military mobilization.

The regulations apply to student loans made under the Federal Family Education Loan, William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan and Federal Perkins Loan programs.

The law also requires that active-duty people who haven't begun the repayment period on their loans continue to receive a grace period (generally six months) before repaying their loans. Students, who were in school at the time of mobilization, must also be given a reasonable period to resume school before lenders request payments.

Colleges won't be required to collect financial-aid funds that active-duty students were given to pay for books and living expenses.

Additionally, Education Department officials encourage colleges and universities to either fully refund tuition and other institutional charges or give comparable credit against future charges to students forced to withdraw from school to fulfill their military obligations.

For more information, visit www.ifap.ed.gov. (AFPN)

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Know the threat from clandestine keystroke loggers

Courtesy of the 16th SOW, Defensive Counter-Information Cell

The risks and dangers of using public Internet terminals at cyber cafes, libraries, airports and other establishments have been demonstrated by recent high-profile cases where software or hardware that logs individual keystrokes has been installed on public computers and used to record user names, passwords and other critical information.

With the numerous types of computer keystroke loggers currently available in the commercial market, Department of Defense employees could easily become the target of someone who wants to spy on their computer activity using the latest keystroke logging technology and provide it to a terrorist or hacker with the ability to collect sensitive information from DOD computer systems.

While there are numerous commercially available keystroke logging hardware devices available on the commercial market, one excellent example of the latest in keystroke logging technologies is called "KEY-Katcher," which is roughly the size of a AA battery.

This device is placed between the keyboard cable end and computer keyboard port and can be installed in just a few seconds. It remains discreetly out of normal

view on the back of the computer, looking like part of the keyboard cable. It's capable of storing over 90,000 keystrokes, and is re-useable indefinitely.

The device has numerous applications, but its primary purpose is for deployment on the user's PC as a monitoring device or a backup tool for creating an authentic log of whatever has been typed into the target computer. This device captures "everything" that's typed into a computer, including passwords, access codes, card numbers, Web site addresses, Internet chat sessions, email, etc.

There's no software to install on the target computer; the device gets its power from the computer, and the computer doesn't have to be turned on to install the device. The device retains information even when there's a loss of power. Because there's no software involved, it's virtually undetectable.

The device can be removed at anytime, then all the keystrokes can then be retrieved. The ease of use and open availability of this latest keystroke logging technology presents a significant threat to the Air Force and DOD.

One can reasonably expect that the use of keystroke logging technology will continue to grow and become a "tool of choice" for criminals attempting to steal personal information. For this reason, DOD members are



Keystroke loggers like this one can be used to record every key someone pushes, including passwords and account information.

strongly advised to be more aware while remotely accessing their government network accounts to check e-mail or access vital password protected information, especially overseas.

Be familiar with what these devices look like. It's all of our responsibility to protect our sensitive information, and to prevent its disclosure to unauthorized individuals.

For more information, call the 16th Special Operations Wing Information Assurance Office at 884-6790/6605.

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CHIEF,*Continued from Page 2*

sergeant's meeting when I received the news. I rushed to the battlestaff only to see symbols of our nation tumbling down. I was shocked, then numb and then just mad. Remember how you felt? Well, keep a little bit of that bottled up inside of you – and when you find yourself four months into a deployment in the middle of nowhere, pull it out, fan it to life and remember why we're doing what we're doing. We're taking the fight to the enemy, so our friends and families can enjoy nights like this in comfort and security.

So, tonight, as we remember the 343 firefighters who perished when the towers fell on them, and the 40 brave travelers fighting back on flight 93, let us also remember our fellow service members killed during military campaigns in Afghanistan and Iraq that defeated the Taliban and the forces of Saddam Hussein.

I want to share with you three characteristics that have helped Special Operations Forces succeed through countless combat operations. I'd also submit to you that these same characteristics have made our Air Force successful from Bosnia to Baghdad, and

from Kosovo to Kandahar.

What makes us so successful is that we're tough, capable and confident. These characteristics were and remain central to achieving U.S. objectives in the global war on terrorism.

Be tough. Physical fitness plays a huge role in these challenging times, as demonstrated by the Chief of Staff's sight picture of fit to fight. We need to be strong enough to endure the hardships of combat, and good old-fashioned physical training is the best way to do it. I recall a former POW addressing a gathering of enlisted folks. He went on to say that the only reason he spent years as a prisoner-of-war was because he couldn't run the three miles to rejoin friendly forces. That got my attention. Get fit, do it now.

Be capable. Take skills training – professional military education theory and off-duty education – sprinkle in some experience and apply them in a combat environment. That's being capable. I don't care what your specific job is, you all are important to mission accomplishment. Be the best at what you do – whether in garrison or deployed – the team is counting on you to do your best. Missions fail if you aren't up to the task, and sometimes people die.

Finally, if you're tough and capable, you're going to be confident. It doesn't matter if the scud alarms are ringing, or if you're being shot at, or if you're on a horse in Afghanistan – you're going to make it happen. But, being confident not only means trusting in yourself and your teammates, it also means trusting in your leaders. As I traveled through the Middle East, I saw troops working 14 to 16-hour days for months at a time, with no days off – yet morale was high. Morale was high because the troops were confident.

They knew what they were doing was important work that needed to be done. They were confident the leaders deployed with them were taking care of their needs. And they were confident that their families back home were being taken care of.

In Special Operations, just like the rest of the military, if you're tough, capable and confident, you'll be successful. From the horn of Africa to the mountains of Afghanistan and the hot sands of Iraq, tough, capable, and confident airmen are serving the cause of freedom with dedication and distinction. We've shown our enemies that if you mess with us we're coming after you, guaranteed, because that's the American way.

Centennial of flight

On Oct. 14, 1947, Capt. Charles Yeager, in the Bell X-1 rocket-propelled experimental aircraft,



was the first man to exceed the speed of sound in level flight, crossing with little trouble an invisible threshold thought to be an impediment to aircraft development and to contemporary aircraft structures. Captain Yeager was awarded a cluster to his Distinguished Flying Cross; the Mackay Trophy, given annually by the National Aeronautic Association for the outstanding flight of the year; and the Collier Trophy, given annually for achievement in aeronautics. In its successful conduct of the XS-1 program, from Ezra Kotcher's original conceptualization through Captain Yeager's milestone flight, the U.S. Air Force had demonstrated that the military could play a very meaningful role in experimental flight research.

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FEATURE

19th SOS gives warfighters the edge

By 1st Lt. Gabe Johnson
Public Affairs

Not long ago AC-130U Gunship crewmembers flew their first combat missions over foreign skies, but now, thanks to 19th Special Operations Squadron instructors and simulators, virtual combat missions can be flown before they ever reach a combat environment, allowing crewmembers to learn from their mistakes in training, versus paying for them in combat.

As aircrew members return to Hurlburt Field from deployments in support of Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom, they attribute their success to the training they received at the 19th SOS.

"I felt well prepared with the training I received here," said Capt. Meghan Ripple, an AC-130U Gunship pilot, who deployed twice to Afghanistan. "It does a good job of pushing a student to his or her situational awareness limits; to their limits of task saturation."

Operated by a team of military, civil service, and Lockheed-Martin contractors, the Gunship simulator trains entire Gunship crews – not just pilots. The full-motion flight deck trains the aircraft commander, copilot and engineer.

The battle management center trains the navigator,

fire control officer, two sensor operators and an electronic warfare officer to work together to identify and engage targets.

The Visual Threat Recognition and Avoidance Trainer teaches crewmembers on all 16th Special Operations Wing aircraft to identify anti-aircraft artillery or surface-to-air missiles being fired at them and how to dispense countermeasures and perform tactics to defeat the threat.

Tom Haddock, a Lockheed-Martin Information Systems contractor for the 19th SOS, is also a master sergeant in the Air Force Reserve. As a loadmaster for the 711th Special Operations Squadron and VTRAT instructor for the 19th SOS, he was able to see first-hand the benefits of simulator training during his deployment to Afghanistan.

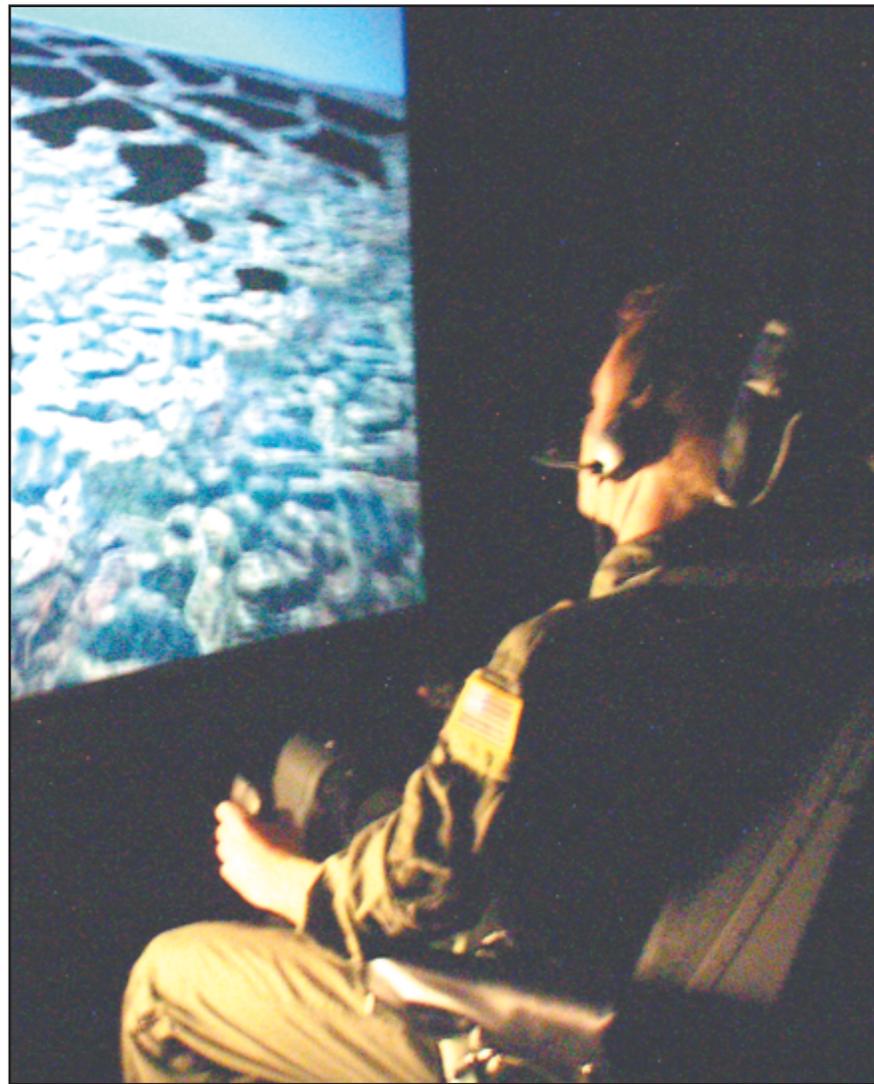
"While I was deployed, a Gunship loadmaster that I trained came up to me, shook my hand, and said, 'Thanks for the training,' because it helped him on a mission he had flown the night before," said Sergeant Haddock. "He said he was able to stay calm, make the correct call, identify the threat and advise the crew as to the correct countermeasures."

"We're getting great words back from crewmembers as they return from Afghanistan and Iraq about their experiences in the simulator," said Lt. Col. Mike Plehn, 19th SOS commander. "Much like the Red Flag piece did years ago for the fighter aircraft community, we can now give our crewmembers the equivalent of five or six combat missions in the simulator before they ever go out and face that in real life."

Colonel Plehn, a 13-year Gunship electronic warfare officer, began his career flying with crews who didn't have the benefit of 19th SOS training. On his latest deployment to Afghanistan, he noticed the difference in his copilot, a former 19th SOS student.

"The first crew that I was on last year, the copilot was absolutely phenomenal having come through the program, and used the new training devices. He was

Lockheed Martin's AC-130U Gunship flight deck simulator moves anywhere the pilot directs it to give the most realistic simulation to the crew inside. The simulator is used to give crewmembers their first combat experiences, and can be networked with other trainers across the Department of Defense for participation in joint exercises.



Photos by 1st Lt. Gabe Johnson

Airman 1st Class Daniel Colver, a student gunner at the 19th Special Operations Squadron, practices defeating airborne threats in the Visual Threat Recognition and Avoidance Trainer.

leaps and bounds ahead of where you'd expect a brand new copilot to be. That's directly attributable to the training program here," said Colonel Plehn.

According to the commander, the 19th SOS is able to network its simulators together with other simulators that have similar architecture and connectivity throughout the Air Force and Department of Defense. Gunship crews can train in a joint, distributed environment without leaving Hurlburt Field.

Captain Ripple completed the copilot training at the squadron three years ago, and returned in July to begin aircraft commander training. She said the best thing about the 19th SOS was its commitment to adapting to the ever-changing needs of the Air Force Special Operator.

"The 19th SOS has been very reactive to the needs of the squadrons," she said. "If you give feedback, the



LIFESTYLE

Military

JSOU intro course

All U.S. Special Operations Command affiliates are invited to attend the Introduction to Special Operations Course offered by the Joint Special Operations University here Sept. 23 ñ 26. ISOC provides military and civilian members with a joint understanding of SOF, to include the structure, assets and capabilities. The course will also focus on an in-depth analysis of Special Operations missions, the lessons learned from those missions, and their pro and con observations.

For more information about the course and seating availability, call Joyce Weber at DSN 579-4731. For those who don't have a reservation, should call their unit-training manager and arrive at 7 a.m. for space-available seating ñ first come, first served. For more information on ISOC, visit the USAFSOS Web site at <https://www.hurlburt.af.mil/milonly/usafsos>, or call 1st Lt. James Rigsbee at 884-6861.

1A3X1 slots available

The 89th Airlift Wing at Andrews Air Force Base, Md., is looking for Airborne Communications and Electronics Specialists (1A3X1). With a fleet of 22 specially configured aircraft, this selectively manned unit supports DV airlift for the United States' senior executives. These specialists fly all over the world in support of the White House, state and defense departments, the chairman's office and many other government executive agencies.

They also support crisis, contingency and continuity of government communications as well as the routine daily business for the nation's most senior leaders, which allows them to continue their roles and responsibilities. For more information, call Chief Master Sgt. Ed Moren at 858-4673, or e-mail 89og.ogk@andrews.af.mil.

Palace chase

Those separating or contemplating applying for Palace Chase should consider the Air National Guard for a part-time military commitment. Those in the Air National Guard receive most of the benefits full-time active-duty members receive, in addition to state benefits such as 100 percent tuition assistance that can be used ñ in most cases ñ in conjunction with the Montgomery G.I. Bill.

For more information, call In-service Recruiter, Master Sgt. William Andujar at 884-2729, or e-mail william.andujar@hurlburt.af.mil.

New college class

The U.S. Army Command and General Staff College is forming a class for majors and promotable captains, to meet one weekend per month beginning Oct. 18 here. Participants can earn military education level four in a classroom environment without a permanent change of station for resident studies. Interested active-duty and Reserve Component Army, Air Force, Navy and Marine O-4s (O-3P) personnel should call Maj. Wayne Hausser at 543-7163, or e-mail wayne.hausser@us.army.mil.

Community

Flight management closure

The flight management office, located in the Aircrew Training Building, will close at noon today for an

office/career field function. Normal hours will resume Monday.

MSS closure

The Mission Support Squadron will close at noon Sept. 19 for an official function. However, the Military Personnel Flight Customer Service desk will remain minimally manned for normal duty hours.

Retiree Appreciation Week

Hurlburt Field honors retirees and their families during Retiree Appreciation Week with a variety of activities and giveaways on behalf of several base organizations. On Sept. 19 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the base exchange, retirees can have their blood pressure and cholesterol levels checked by the staff from the health and wellness Center for free.

Also, the same day, at the golf course, retirees will receive special rates on green fees and cart rentals; green fees are \$9, and cart rentals are \$5 per person. The commissary will be having a super case-lot sale Sept. 19 and 20, and the base exchange will be offering a "Still Serving" sale for the entire weekend. For more information, call the Hurlburt Field Retiree Affairs Office at 884-5443 Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to noon.

Book signing

Vietnam combat veteran and broadcast journalist, Michael Hirsh will be at the Hurlburt Field Base Exchange Tuesday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. for a book signing. Mr. Hirsh's book, *None Braver* describes the actions of Pararescuemen at an Air Force unit in Afghanistan.

Self Help closure

The Hurlburt Field Self Help Store will be closed Wednesday through Sept. 19, in order to do inventory. For more information, call 884-2378.

Clinic closure

The 16th Medical Group will close at 11 a.m. today for wing training. However, normal clinic operations will be in effect until then, and Eglin Air Force Base's emergency room will be open for any emergency needs.

V-MPF accrual info

Travel accrual can now be filed online by logging-on to the Virtual Military Personnel Flight Web site. Click on *Accrual Travel Voucher* on the bottom right-hand corner and type your temporary duty information. The request will instantly be sent to the 16th Comptroller Squadron and processed within 72 hours. E-mail notifications will be sent once the payment is made. For more information, call 1st Lt. Amanda Cheatham at 884-4053.

HOSC luncheon

The Hurlburt Officers' Spouses' Club hosts a luncheon Thursday at the Soundside Club. Socials begin at 10:30 a.m., and the luncheon will immediately follow. The theme of the luncheon is antiques; guests will receive tips on how to buy quality antiques, have an antique appraised or have an opportunity to buy one from the local dealers present at the luncheon. The luncheon menu includes: a selection of Bigelow teas, scones, canapés, mini quiche, assorted mini sandwiches, mini cheesecakes, petit fours and coffee, iced tea and water. The cost of the luncheon is \$11.70 with a \$2 discount for club members. For more information, call Becky McVay at 897-0928, or tbmcvay@cox.net or Betsy Treloar at 936-5306.

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

Jum'ah: Friday, 12:45 p.m.

Qur'an: 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 and Sunday ñ (PG-13) *Pirates of the Caribbean*, starring Johnny Depp and Geoffrey Rush ñ Set in the Caribbean Sea in the 17th century, Jack Sparrow, a charming rogue pirate teams up with the governor's daughter to stop the evil plan of a ship of dangerous pirates led by Captain Barbosa. The captain and his crew are trying to reverse an ancient curse that leaves them stuck between life and death.

Saturday ñ (PG-13) *Lara Croft Tomb Raider: The Cradle of Life*, starring Angelina Jolie and Gerard Butler ñ Lara Croft, travels to a sunken underwater temple, it leads her to a sphere that contains the mythical Pandora's Box, only to have it stolen from her by Chen Lo, the leader of a Chinese crime syndicate, who is in league with a bad guy named Reiss, who wants to use the box as a doomsday weapon.

Eglin 882-1066

Friday and Sunday ñ (R) *American Wedding*, starring Jason Biggs and Alyson Hannigan ñ Jim and Michelle have decided to tie the knot. Jim's friends Finch and Kevin are on hand to help with preparations, but the trio soon gets an unwanted fourth wheel in the form of the eternally obnoxious Stifler. Meanwhile, the question is, how many things will go wrong before Jim and Michelle walk down the aisle?

Saturday ñ (R) *iGigli*, starring Ben Affleck and Jennifer Lopez ñ Gigli is ordered to kidnap the psychologically challenged younger brother of a powerful federal prosecutor. When plans go awry, Gigli's boss sends in Ricki ñ a gorgeous, free-spirited female gangster with her own set of orders ñ to assist with the kidnapping. But, Gigli starts falling for the decidedly unavailable Ricki.

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

Tour guides needed

The 16th Special Operations Wing Public Affairs Office is looking for outgoing people to volunteer as tour guides for the many groups who visit the base throughout the year. Civilian, military – officer or enlisted, active duty or retired – anyone who has a government identification card and is familiar with the base is encouraged to apply. A base tour book and training on the responsibilities of being a tour guide will be provided. Those interested should call Amy Oliver at 884-6199.

ERAU briefing

The next briefing for students interested in entering the Professional Aeronautics or the Technical Management bachelor's degree program at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University will be Sept. 23 at 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. at the base education office, Building 90220.

Students need to send their Community College of the Air Force transcript and any other transcripts to the education office before Sept. 23 to sign up for the appropriate briefing. Counselors will be available at the briefings to do an unofficial evaluation of students' accumulated credits. For more information, call the ERAU office at 581-2106.

Native American History Month

November is Native American History Month, and the military equal opportunity office invites volunteers to assist in organizing, preparing and supporting the observance period. Currently, there aren't any officers or appointed positions held, and the positions of chairperson, vice-chairperson and treasurer will need to be filled. For more information, call Staff Sgt. Natasha Hollomon at 884-8746.

Attn: Commando Village

The housing office staff is in the process of cleaning the recreational vehicle compound and removing any items/vehicles that aren't claimed. Those who haven't recertified their RV for 2003 need to stop by the housing

office and do so because beginning Sept. 30, any items/vehicles not accounted for will be towed and/or discarded. For more information, call Dave Elrod at 884-7505 ext. 106.

Memories luncheon

The Eglin Enlisted Officers' Spouses Club is sponsoring a luncheon at the officers' club Wednesday at 10:30 a.m.. During the luncheon, guest speakers will present ideas and information on framing and displaying photos, scrapbooking and tips for taking better pictures. Those interested in participating should call Cheryl Toth at 678-4084 or e-mail actoth@hotmail.com.

Hispanic Heritage Month

The military equal opportunity office is seeking volunteers to assist in organizing, preparing and supporting Hispanic Heritage Month runs from Monday to Oct. 15. Meetings are held every Wednesday at 3 p.m. in the MEO classroom, Building 90210, Room 244. For more information about the observance period, call Capt. Laura Ramos at 884-6731, or Staff Sgt. Bill White at 884-5879.

Volunteers needed

Dee Dee James, daughter of U.S. Air Force retired Robert James, is asking for volunteers to assist with the care of her mother Bridget James, who's in a coma. Dee Dee is looking for teams of five people for 20 minutes to help with brain stimulation exercises called "Patterning." Schedules are flexible in the morning or evening. If anyone is interested in participating, call Dee Dee James at 243-8860.

40 Days of Purpose

The Hurlburt Field Chapel's Protestant services will be participating in the 40 Days of Purpose Oct. 11-Nov. 23. This nationwide seminar will involve hundreds of Protestant churches simultaneously reading "40 Days to a Purpose Driven Life" by Dr. Rick Warren. The

churches will also focus on the five paths to spiritual growth during Sunday and midweek service and week-end and midweek small groups. The chapel's goals by the end of the 40 days are to have larger church participation, a stronger sense of church unity and for personal spiritual growth.

The chapel's looking for volunteers to help support the event in one of the many areas of planning. For more information, call Chaplain Brad Green at 884-7795. For more information about the event, visit www.purposedriven.com.

Classes

FSC classes

For more information, call 884-5441.
Employment Orientation – Monday, 9 a.m.; Wednesday, 1 p.m.
Sponsorship Training – Monday, 1 p.m.; reservations required
Transition Assistance Program – Tuesday, 7:20 a.m.; Wednesday and Thursday, 7:30 a.m.; reservations required, call 884-6281
Moms, Pops and Tots – Tuesday and Wednesday, 10 a.m.
Readiness – Thursday, 9 a.m.

HAWC classes

For more information, call 884-4292.
Fitness for Weight Management – Tuesday, 8 a.m.
Eating Heart Healthy – Tuesday, 1 p.m.
Lean On Me – Wednesday, 11:30 a.m.
Diabetes Nutrition Follow Up – Thursday, 3:30 p.m.

Eating Heart Healthy

Eating Heart Healthy is class to teach military members and their families how to plan meals, cook and shop in order to lower cholesterol and blood pressure.

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SPORTS



Photos by Airman 1st Class Heidi Davis

Matthew O'Leary, 6th Special Operations Squadron (left), and Joe Martell, 20th Special Operations Squadron, wait for their chance to get back in the game.



Martell, non-food group (left), struggles with his opponents for possession of the puck. Martell led the non-food group to victory, with three of the six goals scored by the team.

Hurlburt Hawks represent in league all-star competition, game

By Airman 1st Class Heidi Davis
Public Affairs

Two players from the Hurlburt Hawks hockey team were chosen to participate in the All-Star competition and All-Star game as part of the Emerald Coast Roller Hockey League Sept. 3 at the Gulf Breeze Skate and Fun skating rink, Gulf Breeze.

League players voted for the best to represent from each team for the competition and game based upon their overall league points, ability and sportsmanship attitude. Joe Martell, 20th Special Operations Squadron, and Matt O'Leary, 6th SOS, were chosen from the Hurlburt Hawks – the only sanctioned military team in the league.

The All-Star competition consisted of five areas of competition: stick handling, fastest skaters, shot accuracy, hardest shot and the 3-person breakaway. The participating players were divided up into two categories based on their league standings and team names, with players representing from both teams for each competition.

As part of the “non-food group,” Martell and O'Leary were essential to the team win for the competition. Martell, who took the win for the hardest shot, which was clocked at 83 miles per hour, helped take the win for the stick handling competition and the 3-person breakaway.

O'Leary also assisted with the 3-person breakaway, but his skills really came out in the all-star game, with one goal and three assists; Martell had three goals and one assist. The non-food group won 6-2.

As the Hawks wrapped up the last game of the season, Martell had a few things to say about the team and the outlook for next season.

“Despite the deployments, temporary duty assignments, family time and other volunteer commitments,” Martell said, “each teammate was committed to playing and representing the Air Force in a positive way to the community. The Hawks had the discipline as military members to walk away from cheap shots and poor conduct.”

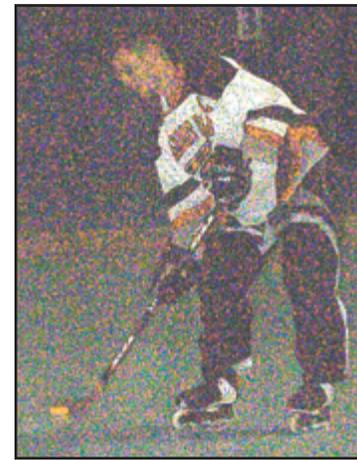
Martell continued to say that although the team finished up with a 2-6-1 record, the outlook for next sea-

son looks promising.

“The Hurlburt Hawks have a full line-up,” Martell said. “Tryouts were competitive, but Coach John Hauser and his staff selected the players with the most teamwork and discipline for the game.”

The Hurlburt Hawks hope to be playing on base at their new skating facility with the support of the 16th Services Squadron.

For more information about the base hockey team, call Coach Hauser at 884-0440.



O'Leary leans forward to take his shot in the all-star accuracy competition for the non-food group.

Sports shorts

Football grant

The Boys and Girls Club of America has selected Hurlburt Field's Youth Sports Program to receive a grant to fund the youth flag football program. The grant will fund all the jerseys, balls, flags, shorts and all other equipment. The selection committee reviewed more than 200 applications before selecting Hurlburt Field as one of the grant recipients.

Start Smart Soccer

The Hurlburt Field Youth Center is offering Start Smart Soccer, a national program designed to help

children develop the basic motor skills needed in organized soccer. The program is open to children 3-5 years old whose parents can attend six 1-hour sessions with them. The program begins Sept. 23 at 1:30 p.m., continuing every Tuesday for six weeks. Cost is \$15. Interested people can register now. For more information, call the youth center at 884-6938.

Charity golf tournament

Sign-ups for the Sept. 25 charity golf tournament, in honor of the 50th anniversary of Combat Control teams and hosted by the Combat Control Association,

begins at 7:45 a.m. at the Fort Walton Beach municipal golf course, across from the fairgrounds on Beal Parkway.

50 positions are available for \$75 a person, which includes fees, an awards ceremony and a banquet. Individuals and teams of four can register at www.specialops.org.

Men's varsity soccer

Men interested in playing varsity soccer should sign up at the fitness center. Tryouts are Monday and Tuesday from 6 to 7:30 p.m.