



# COMMANDO

Any Time Any Place

Vol. 52, Issue 32

16th Special Operations Wing, Hurlburt Field, Fla.

August 13, 2004



Photo by Master Sgt. Michael Rivera

## Bracing for storms

Service members at the deployment control center prepare equipment for deployment as a weather precaution here Wednesday. Northwest Florida is preparing for a hurricane this weekend.

## AF chief of staff visits Hurlburt Field cadets, dinner

By Airman 1st Class Heidi Davis  
Public Affairs

The Air Force chief of staff came Aug. 5-6 for a brief visit with the Rising Sophomore Program cadets at Hurlburt Field and also attended a dinner in his honor, hosted by the Greater Fort Walton Beach Chamber of Commerce Military Affairs Council.

The Rising Sophomore Program is an Air Force sponsored program that enables scholarship cadets to be exposed to the Air Force way of life and become acquainted with several Air Force career fields, while observing officers and NCOs carrying out the mission on an Air Force installation.

Gen. John Jumper, who has a daughter in the Rising Sophomore Program, spent the day visiting a few squadrons, where he watched the cadets demonstrate a variety of skills they had learned in the different career fields.

Stopping first at the flightline, General Jumper watched as the cadets performed pre-flight inspections with the 16th Maintenance Group. They then proceeded to the Oasis Dining Facility, where the cadets helped prepare the dinner menu with the 16th Services Squadron.

After leaving the Oasis, General Jumper and the cadets traveled to the 16th Logistics Readiness Squadron, where the cadets conducted mock for-

See **HURLBURT**, Page 6

## Safety top priority at town hall meeting

By 2nd Lt. Amy Gonzales  
Public Affairs

Col. O.G. Mannon, commander of the 16th Special Operations Wing, hosted a town hall meeting at the base theater on Aug. 2 and Aug. 3. During the meeting, Colonel Mannon addressed several issues affecting the Airmen and families of Hurlburt Field.

The first topic on Colonel Mannon's agenda was safety - particularly in the community park. He emphasized that bikes should be kept off the rubberized surface at the playground. When bicycles are laid down on the protective rubber, the sides of the pedals and wheel pegs put holes in the \$225,000 surface. He asked parents to help keep bicycles off the protective surface.

"I need your help so five years from now, that rubber is still protecting the little ones who are playing

and having a good time," Colonel Mannon said.

Colonel Mannon also asked parents to help enforce Hurlburt Field's helmet rules. A helmet is required when in-line skating or riding a bicycle, scooter or skateboard on base.

However, on-base recreation wasn't the colonel's only concern. He asked that members and their families take notice of the water condition flags on beaches.

"We have to pay attention to flags they fly on the beaches here, because the gulf coast is a very dangerous place," Colonel Mannon said. "We certainly don't want to lose any of our people to the water."

The next item on the agenda was operations security. Colonel Mannon stressed that it's not only important to those in the military, it's important to families as well.

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Former 16th Special Operations Wing command chief retires after 26 years of service  
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Beyond the 16th Special Operations Wing Plans and Programs resource taskings  
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**Hurricane**

**What to know**  
Know where to go and where to call in case of a hurricane  
Page 18

**Weather**

**Weekend forecast**  
Friday - Partly cloudy, High 91 Low 67  
Saturday - Partly cloudy, High 92 Low 65  
Sunday - Partly cloudy, High 92 Low 70  
www.hurlburt.af.mil/milonly/weather/5day

# A chief's farewell, Former 16th SOW command chief retires after 26 years of service

By Airman 1st Class Heidi Davis  
Public Affairs

After more than two decades of military service, the former 16th Special Operations Wing command chief retired during a ceremony July 30, at the Hurlburt Field Air Park.

During the ceremony, Col. Raymond Killgore, Air Force Special Operations Command chief of safety, took a few minutes to honor Chief Master Sgt. Eddie Alicea for his military leadership.

"(His career) is a roadmap of success," Colonel Killgore said. "It's a path of excellence that the Air Force expects. He's an awesome friend and a great mentor; he led by example and sacrificed in so many ways. The wing is better off for what he's done."

Following, Chief Alicea was presented with the Meritorious Service Medal by Colonel Killgore for his outstanding non-combat meritorious service at Hurlburt Field from July 10, 1998 to Dec. 1, 2004.

During this time, Chief Alicea worked as superintendent for the 16th Communications Squadron, leading a \$20 million improvement to the computer network. He was also a superintendent with the 16th Mission Support Squadron, where he was instrumental in honing the wing's combat capability, allowing for a quick response to the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11.

And as command chief, Chief Alicea directly contributed to the wing's success in operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. He also advocated more than \$50 million in quality of life improvements for the base and contributed to Hurlburt Field's winning the 2003 Installation Excellence Award, which earned the base \$1 million for additional improvements.

"I'm honored to have served with all of you," Chief Alicea said. "I still don't know what I want to do when I grow up, but I know I'm leaving the Air Force in good hands."

Following his official retirement by special order of the secretary of the Air Force, Chief Alicea was given a certificate of appreciation from President George Bush and a certificate of retirement from the armed forces, which was

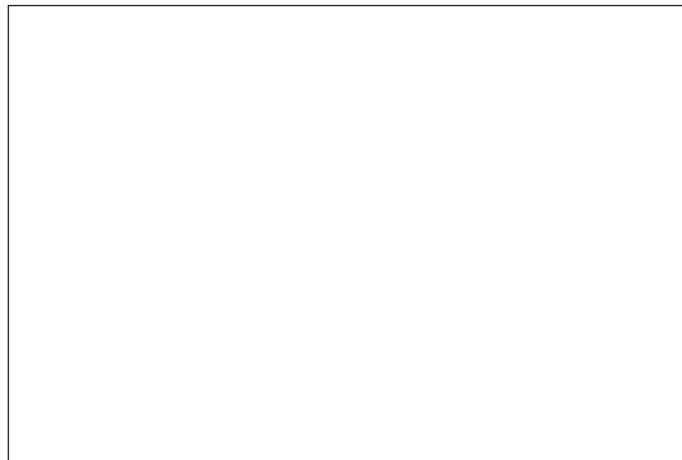


Photo by Airman 1st Class Kimberly Gilligan

**Mrs. Daniela Alicea pins a retirement pin on her husband Chief Master Sgt. Eddie Alicea, former 16th Special Operations Wing command chief, during his retirement ceremony here July 30.**

accompanied by a letter from Col. O.G. Mannon, 16th SOW commander.

"Please accept the nation's and the 16th Special Operations Wing's heartfelt thanks and appreciation for the many contributions and sacrifices you have made throughout your military career," Colonel Mannon wrote. "Your dedication made every military accomplishment of yours possible and has been key to your success."

After presenting his family with roses for their dedication during Chief Alicea's service, the ceremony wrapped up with the Air Force song.

Chief Alicea said he would like to spend his free time with his family, going fishing and taking trips. Although he's leaving Hurlburt Field, Chief Alicea said he won't forget the memories and people.

"After 26 years doing something you love, it's hard to leave," Chief Alicea said. "But, I will miss the people – the absolutely great people here – who sacrifice so much. I have been part of a great Air Force, and the great people and events are forever burned in my memory."

## 16th SOW honors quarterly award winners

Hundreds gathered at the Soundside club Aug. 3 for the 16th Special Operations Wing quarterly awards breakfast to honor the wing's prestigious Airmen.

Capt. Erik Ripple, Air Force Special Operations Command, was named the Hurlburt Field Company Grade Officer of the Quarter for his primary duty as AFSOC's chief strategic planning analyst and stepping up on short notice as the acting chief of modernization and the acting chief of doctrine. He orchestrated the AFSOC functional needs analysis conference, training 220 participants from the Air Force and joint communi-

ties. Captain Ripple is studying toward a master's degree in statistics. He's earned the AFSOC Cutting Edge award for exceptional leadership and innovation.

Master Sgt. Scott Strickland, 16th Operations Support Squadron, was named the Hurlburt Field Senior NCO of the Quarter for his leadership capabilities and expertise in support of Special Operations Forces.

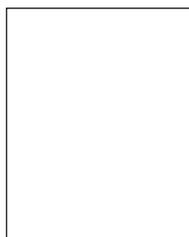
While deployed as the senior SOF medic for combat operations for Operation Enduring Freedom, Sergeant Strickland stabilized two Navy SEALs and two Afghan soldiers with multiple gunshot wounds

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Staff Sgt. Andrew Pitchlynn, 16th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, was named the Hurlburt Field NCO of the Quarter for his outstanding leadership and above-average work performance. Sergeant Pitchlynn was requested for high-risk flight operations in South America, in which he rapidly loaded

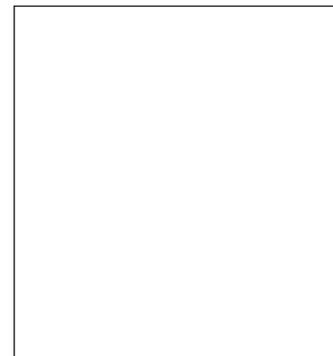


**Master Sgt. Scott Strickland**



**Capt. Eric Ripple**

## Spotlight on...



**Airman 1st Class Karen Rhodes**

**Rank/Duty Title:**

Aviation Resource Management Apprentice

**Organization:** 23rd Special Tactics Squadron

**Hometown:** Ridgeley,

W. Va.

**Hobbies:** Shopping, movies and volunteering

**Contribution to the mission:** Airman Rhodes performs Squadron Aviation Resource Management functions related to scheduling, standardization and evaluation, flying and ground training, aviation flight records, parachutist jump records and squadron operations. She also operates and maintains the Aviation Resource Management System.

Her attention to training reports ensured unit members were trained and equipped for operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. During no-notice deployment of operators for the political crisis in Haiti, Airman Rhodes learned the complex satellite data transfer systems for communication with warriors in theater.

(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.)

See **AWARD**, Page 8

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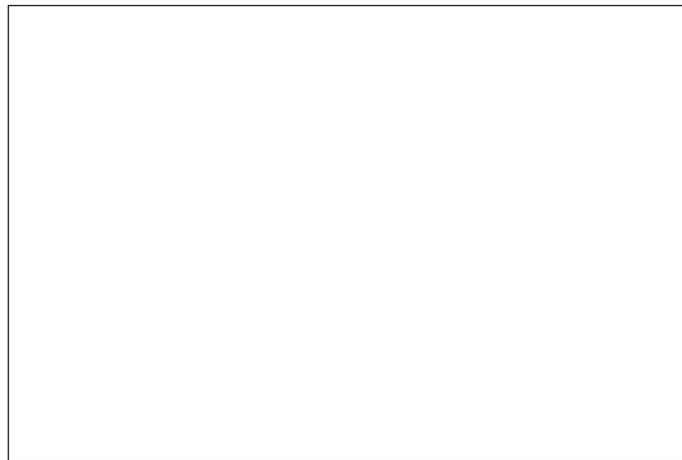


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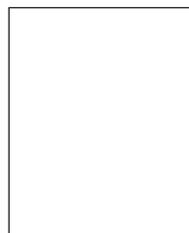
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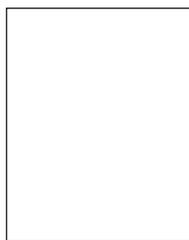
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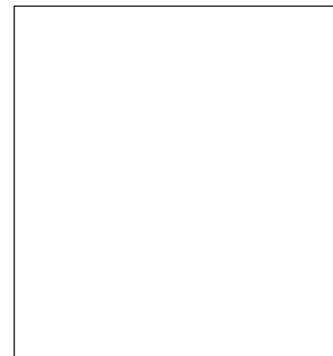


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See **AWARD**, Page 8

# New doors open to bigger, better clinic

By Staff Sgt. Chris Jordan  
Public Affairs

The 16th Medical Group has closed the doors on phase one, and has begun working to complete phases two and three, of a \$8.6 million military construction project by opening a attractive new entryway attached to the expanded and renovated clinic here Aug 2.

"The looks on our patients' faces were priceless," said Maj. Paul Skala, 16th Medical Support Squadron commander. "Everyone had big smiles as they entered our world-class new medical facility for the first time."

The original facility, designed in 1992, was for an 88-person unit supporting approximately 4,000 active-duty personnel. As of now, the clinic has 300 personnel supporting more than 16,900 active-duty personnel, family members and retirees.

Phase one of the project included a 33,890 gross square-foot two-story addition and a 128-space patient parking lot with a patient drop-off circle, according to Capt. Samuel Gonzales, 16th MDSS construction and transition project manager.

"The design of the new clinic was based on the Air Force 'clinic of the future' construct which optimizes patient care and convenience," said Lt. Col. Chet Roshetko, 16th Medical Operations Squadron commander. "This new patient care delivery platform will be a huge benefit to our Hurlburt Family."

"This addition is a wonderful improvement in many ways," said Martha Brown, 16th MDOS medical technician. "The décor is nice, and

while I am still learning my way around, the amount of space we have gained is great!"

The first floor addition now houses family practice, women's health and pediatrics. In mid-August, after expansion, it will also include the pharmacy, Captain Gonzales said. The second floor includes flight medicine and force health management, along with behavioral health services, which will move from its current location near J.R. Rockers, in October, he added.

Not only is the MILCON project consolidating the medical group's functions, it's giving the clinic much needed expansion and potential for continuing growth, said Col. Timothy Jex, 16th MDG commander.

Family practice added an isolation room, procedure room, treatment room and four exam rooms, along with its own waiting area.

"The building has allowed us to expand our overall efficiency in taking care of patients," said Capt. Karen Deaton, 16th MDG OSPREY element chief. "The amount of space for actual patient care has increased significantly."

Pediatrics also has its own waiting area and has doubled exam space from two rooms to four, said Captain Gonzales.

"The waiting areas have much more light as do many of the offices," said Tech. Sgt. Martin Vera, NCO in charge of outpatient records. "It makes the workspace much nicer for our folks."

The pharmacy, laboratory, immunizations, TRICARE and optometry areas will be doubling in size during the second phase, giving employees

much needed space to accomplish the mission, according to Captain Gonzales.

The third, and final phase of the project is estimated to be completed by March 2005 and will include completion of the laboratory, expansion of a communications room, minor alteration to the bioenvironmental engineering building and the demolition of two medical buildings located near J.R. Rockers, according to Captain Gonzales.

This new facility is a tremendous win for our Air Commandos and a result of a total team effort between the Air Force Health Facilities Office, Army Corps of Engineers, Speegle Construction Incorporated, and team Hurlburt, according to Colonel Jex.

"The 16th Medical Group Air Commando Medics did a magnificent job of planning and executing the transition to our new clinic," said Col. Douglas Ammon, 16th MDG deputy commander.

They kicked off the move at 5 p.m. July 30 and worked round the clock over the weekend to ensure the clinic was operational by 7 a.m. Aug. 2, preventing potential delays in medical care for valued patients, said Colonel Ammon.

"We're happy to offer up a bigger and more capable clinic and thank the patients for being patient while we work out the inevitable glitches," Colonel Jex said. "In the very near future we are looking to expand services, obtain additional clinical space, and lead turn our medical processes to optimally support our rapidly expanding 16th Special Operations Wing mission."

## News Briefs

### Combat Weapons, Tactics Course

Air Education and Training Command recently developed and conducted a Combat Weapons and Tactics Course prototype at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas for a select group of nearly 30 AETC security people. The purpose of the course was to prepare security forces in planning and executing missions in the extremely challenging urban environment.

Some of the course subject areas were:

- Tactical pistol, rifle and long-gun skills
- Low light movements and missions
- Physical conflict resolution
- Urban terrain combat skills
- Close-quarters combat

The high-intensity course was designed to develop and evaluate student performance. Graduates are expected to increase the impact of this specialized training by teaching their new skills to Airmen at their home bases.

AETC is still assessing whether the course will become permanent and whether it will be offered for security forces people outside AETC.

### DOD cutting down on identity theft

The Department of Defense and services are taking steps to protect their people and their families from becoming victims of identity theft:

■ Earlier this year, Defense Finance and Accounting Services dropped the first five digits of social security numbers from all hard-copy leave and earnings statements and checks

■ DOD put in place measures in the E-Government Act of 2001 that control what personal information gets posted on government Web sites

■ DOD has teamed up with the Federal Trade Commission to launch Military Sentinel, an online complaint network that enables military people and DOD civilians to report identity theft and other consumer frauds

■ The Air Force plans to launch a new public Internet site that will include identity theft and consumer fraud updates and preventive materials



Photo by Airman James Dickens

### Tidying up

Airman's Council members work together to paint a clubhouse at the child development center cleanup Aug. 6. Volunteers fluffed up sand under play structures, sanded and painted, cleaned out gutters, removed balls/frisbees from the roof of the center, repaired toys, tightened nuts and bolts and pressure washed the outside refrigerator/freezer.

## Hurricane conditions

### HURCON 4

72 hours prior to the forecast arrival of 50-knot winds or greater

### HURCON 3

48 hours prior to the forecast arrival of 50-knot winds or greater

### HURCON 2

24 hours prior to the forecast arrival of 50-knot winds or greater

### HURCON 1

12 hours prior to the forecast arrival of 50-knot winds or greater

Town-hall meeting attendees pick up pamphlets and information at the base theater last week. Col O.G. Mannon, commander of the 16th Special Operations Wing, stressed issues of safety at the meeting.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Carlotta Holley

## MEETING, Continued from Page 1

"(Operations security) is about protecting your loved ones and the rest of us who are doing the nation's business down range," he said.

Because of the nature of their mission, special operations forces cannot always reveal to their spouses or other family members when they are leaving, where they are going or when they will return. During the meeting, Colonel Mannon told the families that if there is an emergency and their loved ones are in a forward deployed location, they can

call the member's squadron and fill them in on the situation. From that point, the squadron will notify the member, and if need be, have them home within the next day or two.

This is even more important now. Since Sep. 11, 2001, the operations tempo at Hurlburt Field and across the Air Force has been high. Colonel Mannon said this wouldn't change anytime soon. It's become so important that the Air Force may soon include deployments in the promotion process.

"You're not going to get promoted if you have been a garrison base person and you

aren't going and fighting our nation's battles," he said.

He also told families that if they aren't comfortable with the special operations lifestyle or if it's causing too much stress in the household, they should sit down and re-evaluate their priorities.

Colonel Mannon touched on a number of other topics ranging from hurricane preparation to housing privatization. After the colonel's briefing, the floor was opened to audience members to ask questions. Slides from Colonel Mannon's briefing are available online at <http://www.hurlburt.af.mil/news/>.

## HURLBURT, Continued from Page 1

ward area refueling point tryouts and forklift training.

The cadets topped off General Jumper's visit by conducting military identification and security checks with the 16th Security Forces Squadron at the front gate. Soon after, Gen. Jumper departed Hurlburt Field and headed for the Ramada Plaza Beach Resort for the military affairs dinner.

Attending the general's dinner were FWB MAC members and local and out of town military leaders, to include members from Hurlburt Field, Eglin Air Force Base and Duke Field.

At the dinner, General Jumper spoke highly of the Rising Sophomores and future Airmen.

"These are the kids we have out there today," General Jumper said. "All they want to do is serve and do their duty. We should be proud of them. I know I am."

General Jumper went on to speak about the commitment of the cadets in comparison to former generations of service members.

"They (the young military members of all services) are proud of what they are doing,"

General Jumper said. "For the most part, they understand the urgency of our mission, and I tell my World War II audiences, 'yes, sir, you were the greatest generation, but this generation was no less patriotic or committed than any generation that ever served.'"

In reference to a Combat Controller in Afghanistan, who called in a bomb that killed 200 Taliban, General Jumper made it clear that the current Airmen and soon-to-be Airmen are the reason why the military is able to link past and present technology to accomplish missions.

"We never thought we'd be riding a horse," General Jumper said. "The B-52 bomber at 39,000 feet is older than the guy on the ground - or the horse. We got the satellite and the global positioning system guided bomb from the modern day; we put them together with the (President Dwight) Eisenhower era, and we're making them work. These kids that we have know how to put the stuff together to do the job that needs to be done."

General Jumper wrapped up his area tour Aug. 6 and was seen off by Col. O.G. Mannon, 16th Special Operations Wing commander.

MILITARY MEDIA  
COMM/ENHANCE WOM  
557409  
2 X 5.00

CHARTER OAK FIREARMS  
COMM/CHARTER OAK  
557483  
2 X 5.00

**AWARD, Continued from Page 3**

and unloaded 150,000 pounds of cargo and personnel at designated stops. Sergeant Pitchlynn spearheaded pre-deployment checks and verified combat readiness prior to the Operation Iraqi Freedom departure 36 hours ahead of schedule. He was also recognized for quality assurance after receiving five "zero defect" evaluations in a row. On his off-duty time, Sergeant Pitchlynn lends his time to Okaloosa County Juvenile Detention Center and the Bay Minette Detention Facility.

**Staff Sgt.  
Andrew  
Pitchland**

Senior Airman Jason Payne, 23rd Special Tactics Squadron, was named Hurlburt Field Airman of the Quarter for his support in OEF, as the sole Air Force member assigned to an austere fire-base along Afghanistan's border isolated from any command and control element. As the primary terminal attack controller for the Army Special Forces Operational Detachment-Alpha, he coordinated close air-support coverage for more than 20 mounted and dismounted combat patrols. While engaging enemy positions with multiple AH-64 passes and utilizing a 30-mm cannon and 2.75 high explosive and white phosphorous rockets, Airman Payne neutralized enemy positions and enabled mission success, without United States casualties. Airman Payne also became a certified joint terminal air controller, controlling more than 20 sorties of live fixed-wing close-air support.

**Senior  
Airman  
Jason Payne**

Airman 1st Class Paul Johnson, 16th Services Squadron, was named the Ceremonial Guardsman of the Quarter for providing more than 111 hours of service supporting base functions and rendering honor to deceased warriors. He consistently dis-

**Airman 1st  
Class  
Paul Johnson**

played a desire for perfection while performing in 27 ceremonies within two months. As the weapons manager for the Hurlburt Field Honor Guard, Airman Johnson is accountable for 55 rifles and their ammunition. Airman Johnson often volunteers for weekend ceremonies to ensure enough members are available to perform. In his off-duty time, he plays sports for the squadron teams and volunteers for Airmen Against Drunk Driving.

James Winkelpleck, 16th SOW, was named Hurlburt Field Civilian, GS 9-12 of the Quarter, for his 90-day forward deployment to multiple combat-zone locations for Central Command Area of Operations. While there, he developed a 3-D common operational picture of Afghanistan, set up a joint operations center in an austere exercise facility and installed mission software on approximately 30 laptops. Mr. Winkelpleck was the key to Special Operations Fleet Air Command and Control excellence at four worldwide locations and received the 16th SOW commander's coin while deployed for outstanding sacrifice and service to global war.

Bryan Johnson, 16th Civil Engineer Squadron, was named Hurlburt Field Civilian, GS 1-8 of the Quarter, for providing fire department emergency response service for more than 8,000 assigned personnel, \$1.2 billion in real property assets and \$3 billion in rotary/fixed wing assets. As an emergency technician, he provided medical care for an infant with a severe laceration and volunteered to provide fire protection to support the Ocean City-Wright Fire Department during the funeral ceremony for the Ocean City-Wright Fire Department fire chief.

**Bryan  
Johnson**

Theodore Johnson, 16th Logistics Readiness Squadron, was named Hurlburt Field WG/WL/WS of the Quarter for processing more than 4,000 aircraft spares and equipment valued at \$13 million for 16th SOW contingency operations with an overall fill rate of 97 percent. He provided 100 percent availability for 300 C-130/MH-53 spares and processed more than 12,000 equipment and expendable turnind to depot attaining a 99 percent accuracy rate. He quickly turned 20 organizational refusals returning \$800,000 to the units.

**DOROTHY'S  
HAIR CARE  
COMM/RHP/P**

**SUN PLAZA  
THEATRE  
COMM/MOVI**

**CONSUMER FINANCIAL  
SERV  
COMM/LOANS  
555170  
2 X 3.00**

**DAVID G  
THOMPSON/GEICO  
COMM/RHP/THE CAR  
557904  
2 X 7.00**

**Selection boards announced for upcoming year**

Air Force officials recently announced the schedule for selection boards convening in calendar year 2005. Due to fluctuations in end strengths, the schedule is subject to change. The schedule begins with Special Selection Boards Jan. 4, followed by the Senior Master Sergeant Evaluation Board Jan. 31. The first session of the Air National Guard Colonel Federal Recognition Review Board convenes March 22. The

Senior NCO Supplemental Boards are set for May 2, and Special Selection Boards will be held again May 16.

The Lieutenant Colonel Line/JAG/BSC/MSC/NC boards will start July 6. The Senior NCO Supplemental Boards will convene again July 25, followed by the Command Screening Board Aug. 15. The Colonel Line/JAG/BSC/MSC/NC boards convene Sept. 12, with Special Selection Boards held

Sept. 26. The Chief Master Sergeant Evaluation Board will be Oct. 11. The second session of the Air National Guard Colonel Federal Recognition Review Board will be held Oct. 25, followed by the MC/DC boards, which convene Nov. 14. The final boards are the Major Line/Chap/JAG/BSC/MSC, which will convene Dec. 5. For more information, call Master Sgt. Janie Patterson at 884-5874.

# Hurricane survival kit

*Be prepared for a hurricane in advance.*

- Water - at least 1 gallon daily per person for 3 to 7 days
- Food - at least enough for 3 to 7 days
- Non-perishable packaged or canned food/juices
- Foods for infants or elderly
- Snack foods
- Non-electric can opener
- Cooking tools/fuel
- Plates/plastic utensils
- Blankets/pillows, etc.
- Clothing - seasonal/rain gear/sturdy shoes
- First aid kit/medicines/prescription drugs
- Toiletries/hygiene items/moisture wipes
- Flashlight/batteries
- Radio - NOAA weather radio
- Cash - banks and ATMs may not be open or available for extended periods.
- Keys
- Toys, books and games
- Important documents - in a waterproof container
- Insurance, medical records, bank account numbers, Social Security card, etc.
- Tools - keep a set with you during the storm
- Vehicle fuel tanks filled
- Pet care items
- Proper identification/immunization records/ medications
- Ample supply of food and water
- A carrier or cage
- Muzzle and leash

## Veterans can apply for disability insurance online

The Department of Veterans Affairs has expanded its online benefits applications to include Service-Disabled Veterans Insurance.

VA's Web site already provides online convenience for applications for compensation, pension, health care and vocational rehabilitation benefits as well as education enrollment certification.

The addition of Service-Disabled Veterans Insurance means veterans can be assured their application is transmitted to the VA Insurance Center in Philadelphia without mailing delay.

The application can be accessed through the online applications link at VA's main Web page at [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov) or through the insurance Web pages at [www.insurance.va.gov](http://www.insurance.va.gov). To initiate the process through a secure Web site protecting users' privacy, eligible veterans should click on "Apply for S-DVI Insurance Online Using Our Autoform Application."

S-DVI is a VA program of life insurance that provides \$10,000 of coverage to veterans who have received a service-connected disability rating for a new condition from VA within the past two years; were separated from service on or after April 25, 1951, under other than dishonorable conditions; and are in good health except for their service-connected conditions.

The online application process guides applicants through each step of the application with easy-to-use help screens and tools. The first steps of the process will allow veterans to immediately determine if they're eligible for the insurance. They'll also be able to learn about the different types of insurance plans and premiums available to them.

Once transmitted, applications are immediately processed. However, veterans who are uncomfortable submitting their application online may also print their application from the Web site, and mail or fax it.

"The new S-DVI online application allows veterans to apply for insurance at their own convenience," said Tom Lastowka, director of the VA Regional Office and Insurance Center. "Not only can they go online and apply 24 hours, 7 days a week, but they can also stop while they're completing the application, and come back and begin again where they left off."

"We think that veterans will find the online application the easiest way to apply, and believe that this will hold true for other online applications we're developing," Mr. Lastowka said.

Airman Against Drunk Driving is a 24 hours a day, seven days a week alternative to drinking and driving. The program offers a free and confidential ride home. Call **884-8844**.



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## Ammo racks now lighter

By Lanorris Askew

Public Affairs, Robins AFB

**ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga.** – The AC-130H Gunship's mighty arsenal has a new home that's lighter and more efficient for the low-flying hunter of the skies; according to its engineers and users, the modification is making a positive difference.

The new racks, which were contracted to Rock Island Army Depot, Ill., were installed two years ago and are currently in use by the entire fleet of Gunships stationed at Hurlburt Field, Fla.

Three Airmen assigned to the 16th Special Operations Squadron gave their first-hand experiences with the new racks, but elected to have their names withheld for security reasons.

An AC-130 gunner said one big difference is that prior to bringing the new rack on board, 24 rounds were kept in the front of the aircraft and 76 in the back.

"We now have all of our rounds located in the back of the aircraft, which keeps the other guy from having to shuffle ammo," he said. "That saves time and allows us to get more rounds on target."

Another gunner from the unit said the ease of accessibility as far as 105-mm rounds is the biggest plus for him.

"The old drawers used to lock up, so you'd have to have two people open the door if the drawer collapsed on them; that would slow you down a lot," he said. "(The new racks) took them out of the drawer situation and put them in the basic sleeves – which are locked in by a handle in the back. That also makes it easier to get the rounds out."

This may all sound simple, but when you're dealing with 105 mm shells – each about 33 pounds and 3 feet long – added distance and accessibility can be a very big deal.

A pilot also assigned to the 16th SOS, said they can carry a lot more fuel and ammo now.

"We can take off a little bit lighter too because we don't have to have extra fuel," he said. "It's always safer to have a little lighter airplane. If we were ever to have a problem, it's easier to maintain control of the aircraft if it's lighter. It makes it safer for the whole aircrew."

Although the AC-130H is now more aerodynamically centered, what's even more appealing to those who man the ship's guns is that the new rack has a lot more storage room and easier access.

"The ammunition rack holds the ammo securely during flight and makes it readily available for use by the crew," said Mr. Hilton. "The gunners have to have a rack that these rounds are stored in, so they can pull it off and put it in the gun. When they fire the shot, they take the shell out of the gun and put it back in the rack."

The new ammunition rack is more than 1,000 pounds lighter than its predecessor – a weight reduction that doesn't show on the outside, but makes a noticeable difference aerodynamically.

Gene Eters, a Special Operations Forces directorate equipment specialist here, said the Gunships were originally built for missions over South East Asia which lies at sea level, but the aircraft now flies missions where the terrain is much higher.

"With the heavy ammunition the aircraft carries, it wasn't able to get very high," he said. "The higher you go, the less vulnerable you are to a ground-based threat, and to get higher, we had to go into a weight reduction effort."

*Editor's note: The AC-130 Gunship's primary missions are close air support, air interdiction and force protection. The old rack, made from steel and aluminum, weighed 2,010 pounds and the new rack, made from molded plastic, weighs 988 pounds – a savings of 1,022 pounds. The rear ammo rack holds 104 rounds; the forward holds 40 rounds*

# AAFES associates recognized for heroism

**DALLAS** – Four Army & Air Force Exchange Service civilians have been recognized for heroism in the line of duty during a ceremony at the Logistics Support Area Anaconda Post Exchange.

Jack Lauff from AAFES headquarters in Dallas, Barbara Brown from Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., Regina Koenig from Fort Drum, N.Y., and Irene Panter from Hill AFB, Utah were working in the Anaconda

**Barbara Brown**

main store June 16 when a rocket struck near the exchange causing numerous injuries.

The rocket round that exploded directly in front of the main store building was one of three 127mm rockets that hit the camp.

According to the certificate presented by Brig. Gen. James Chambers, the 13th Corps Support Command and LSA Anaconda commanding general, Ms. Brown, Mr. Lauff, Ms. Koenig and Ms. Panter assisted the wounded, "without regard to their own safety or personal risk."

After the rocket hit, all four AAFES associates scrambled to administer first-aid, and assist with bringing casualties and store customers into the safety of the hardened post exchange building.

Three Soldiers were killed, and 23 service members and civilians were injured as a result of the attack.

According to General Chambers, some of the casualties owe their recovery to the AAFES associates.

"The ability to reach and take care of people is a human quality that not everyone has," he said.

Currently, there are more than 450 AAFES associates in Operations Enduring and Iraqi Freedom who volunteer to deploy to places like Afghanistan and Iraq for at least six months.

"It's difficult to comprehend the commitment and courage of AAFES volunteers who go to contingency operations," said Maj. Gen. Kathryn Frost, AAFES commander. "Like the troops, deployed AAFES associates live and work under a constant threat in order to deliver the exchange service benefit to dangerous locations throughout the world."

AAFES operates 54 contingency locations for troops in Operations Enduring and Iraqi Freedom.

## Week in History

*The following is a list of extraordinary events in military history that occurred this week:*

**Aug. 9, 1945** – The second atomic bomb dropped on Nagasaki, Japan by B-29 "Bockscar."

**Aug. 10, 1912** – Two Army aircraft participated for the first time in ground force maneuvers.

**Aug. 11, 1950** – Fairchild XC-120, a detachable fuselage transport, completed its first flight.

**Aug. 12, 1908** – First official airship test flights were made at Fort Meyer, Va.

**Aug. 13, 1952** – The Air Force announced it had ordered the B-52 bomber into full production.



**B-52 bomber**

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# Behind the scenes of wing resource taskings

Courtesy of 16th SOW XP

Have you ever wondered what goes on behind the scenes before the wing deploys a mission package consisting of aircraft, personnel and equipment to any one of a number of locations that this wing is currently supporting?

16th Special Operations Wing Plans and Programs (XP) must first digest the specific tasking documents or attend exercise-planning conferences in order to determine what level of support is required. Then, prepare recommendations for wing commander approval.

XP also provides strategic planning and scheduling of wing resources, including 6,350 personnel from four groups and 26 squadrons; plans, executes and monitors exercise, contingency and in-extremis deployments; and manages an \$8 million annual budget.

The concept of a wing XP was originally conceived by the former Operations Group commander, Col. (now Maj. Gen.) Donald Wurster. His intent was to instill strategic, operational and tactical level planning functions within the wing.

In June 1998, Colonel Wurster assumed command of the 16th SOW and officially created wing XP. They were charged with the primary responsibility to decide what missions or activities the wing should commit assets against.

Currently, there are 59 personnel assigned to XP. This includes seven logistics planners who support all aspects of logistic deployment and execution planning for the wing, in addition to several tenants units and other Special Operations Forces units located at Eglin Air Force Base and Duke Field.

Force protection personnel assigned to XP



Courtesy photo

**Members of 16th Special Operations Wing Plans and Programs office prepare to do "calls for fire" with foreign Special Operations Fleet forces during a Coalition Special Operations Forces Subject Matter Expert Exchange.**

coordinate all resource protection requirements for continental United States deployments and recommend force protection measures for overseas deployments.

The primary divisions of wing XP are: Resource Management (XPR), Plans, Policy and Programs (XPP) and Wing Operations (XPO).

Resource Management controls an annual budget of \$8 million, which is used for XP's mobility budget requirements, the execution of Joint Chiefs of Staff exercises, joint combined exercise training, counter trafficking activity and coalition Special Operations Forces subject matter expert exchange.

XPP is the largest division in XP and is responsible for directing the wing's exercise schedule; coordinating 16th SOW support to each combatant command; and when directed, establish and conduct a joint planning group to support a specific wing tasking. XPP is further divided into a theater plans section, strategic plans and special projects and special missions plans.

The theater plans section manages the wing's participation in 25 joint exercises at a total cost of more than \$3 million. Some of these exercises include: JCETs, CTAs, Joint Expeditionary Force Experimentation, Combined Joint

Expeditionary Force Experimentation and Red Flag.

Last year, they initiated the Coalition Special Operations Forces Subject Matter Expert Exchange program in order to train coalition Special Operations Forces from six countries in Gunship operations and procedures to support the Global War on Terrorism.

Special mission plans (XPPJ) is the wing focal point during the planning phase of United States Special Operations Command quarterly exercises referred to as a JRX. The wing normally sends up to 24-aircraft and 600-persons to a JRX.

During execution, XPPJ planners transition to facilitator duties, while squadron planners accept responsibility for the tactical planning of the exercise. XPPJ also manages the Special Category programs for the wing to include the "DOS" inbrief/outbrief.

XPO is responsible for managing battle staff supervisory positions, wing scheduling program and wing mobility requirements.

Wing plans and scheduling manages the wing commit calendar, long-range schedule, flying hour program and processes all aircraft support requests. More than 1,000 taskings were processed and de-conflicted with each of the groups scheduling offices in the last year.

XPOM coordinates taskings for AFSOC personnel to support contingencies and exercises; oversees weapon and chemical training of each of the squadrons in the wing; and manages the wing's war reserve material (40 pallets). Their number one priority is to equip, deploy and man the wing commander's wartime staff.

Plans and programs are the behind the scenes workers making mission packages possible for 16th SOW personnel.

**Master Sgt. Kenny Jones, 16SOW/XP (right), briefs Master Sgt. Greg Smith (left) and 1st. Lt. Timothy Wagner (middle) both from the 4th Special Operations Squadron on a combat search and rescue scenario during a recent CSOF SMEE.**

Courtesy photo

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Photo by Staff Sgt. Samuel Rogers

**919th Civil Engineer Squadron Reservists, gear up for a structural fire exercise.**

## Florida Reservists train, assist at Langley AFB

By Maj. Beena Maharaj  
919th SOW Public Affairs

He bursts through the door with 50 pounds of protective gear on his body. The thick, black smoke momentarily fogs his vision. His instincts and adrenaline kick in as he inhales deeply from his oxygen mask.

With rapid calculated movement, Airman Nicholas Wright, 919th Civil Engineer Squadron fire protection apprentice, along with two other members on the attack team, race up two flights of stairs with a 40-pound hose straddled to their sides. Locating the orange flames on the far back wall, he kneels down, and the attack team members brace themselves as they unleash 100 pounds of water pressure.

This was just one of many training opportunities that the 10-member firefighting team from Duke Field took on during their annual tour last month at Langley Air Force Base, Va. The 919th CES firefighters trained with firefighters from Langley's 1st Civil Engineer Squadron.

"Having the Reservists here has been a tremendous help and benefit to us," said Master Sgt. Fred Smith, 1st CES deputy fire chief. "We currently have 19 active-duty firefighters deployed. With the Reservists fully integrated in our day-to-day operations here, it augments our manning and allows our folks to take some much needed time off."

"They're getting to do a lot of things that they wouldn't normally do at Duke Field," said Master Sgt. Donald Bonal, 919th CES assistant fire chief. "Handling the trucks, responding to real-world calls, and practicing their attack and search procedures are a few highlights."

"The active duty has been showing us the ropes," said Airman Jacob Munyon, a landscaper by trade who has only spent five months at the 919th CES. "Being on actual rotation and spending nights at the station really gives me a feel for this job."

For Tech. Sgt. Shannon Shea, a heating, ventilation and air conditioning technician in his civilian job, his Reserve job brings an added dimension of satisfaction to his life.

"I have served six of 23 years as a firefighter," said Sergeant Shea. "Sometimes the training is overwhelming, but I enjoy putting it to use."

Visit the Hurlburt Field Homepage

[www.hurlburt.af.mil](http://www.hurlburt.af.mil)

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# 2005 NCO retraining under way

By Tech. Sgt. David Jablonski  
*Air Force Print News*

**WASHINGTON** – Air Force officials want more than 1,000 NCOs to pick a new job during the voluntary phase of the fiscal year 2005 NCO retraining program that began Aug. 3.

Eligible NCOs have until Sept. 30 to apply. If the Air Force doesn't meet its goal of placing 1,098 Airmen from overage career fields into shortage career fields, a nonvoluntary second phase may be implemented.

Rosters showing those identified in Phase 1 as susceptible to involuntary retraining, sorted by Air Force specialty code and in order of vulnerability, are posted on a secure Web page accessible at [www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/enl-skills/retraining/retraining.htm](http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/enl-skills/retraining/retraining.htm).

The complete list of retraining-in opportunities is available on the retraining advisory at local military personnel flights.

If necessary, the involuntary Phase 2 will begin for any Air Force specialty that didn't meet voluntary retraining-out program objectives. In that case, Air Force Personnel Center officials will issue further instructions and implementation guidance.

Selection is determined across all eligible year groups, mirroring assignment eligibility ranked by the date an Airman arrived on station. Retraining is limited primarily to staff and technical sergeants with 16 years or less, or master sergeants with 18 years or less. Some second-term senior airmen may volunteer for staff sergeant quotas. There are also limited retraining opportunities for senior master sergeants.

According to personnel officials, this multi-purpose program is designed to rebalance the enlisted force from career fields with overages

to those skills experiencing shortages; provide NCO's a voice in their career development; and return disqualified airman to a productive status.

"Historically, we have retrained NCOs from career fields with overages to career fields with shortages," said Reese Lang, chief of trained personnel requirements at the Pentagon. "As in the past, the fiscal year 2005 program's goal is to balance the enlisted force."

Personnel center officials have already identified those who are susceptible for involuntary retraining and will notify these NCOs through official channels.

"We highly encourage them to apply for retraining into shortage skills that are identified in MILPDS, or to apply for any special-duty identifiers," Mr. Lang said.

"Besides those identified as vulnerable, anyone in an AFSC or grade identified as an overage, may apply for available quotas providing they meet eligibility requirements," he said.

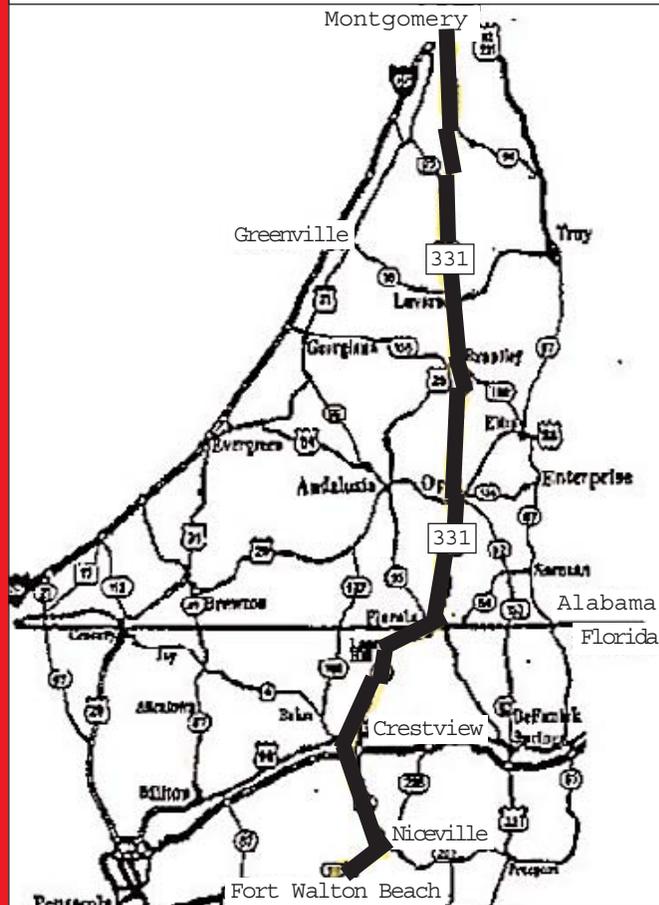
Specialty codes having the highest number of eligible retrainees includes supply management (2S0X1), security forces (3P071), communications and computer systems (3C2X1) and aerospace medical services (4N0X1).

Airmen who wish to view their current standing should follow the links from the retraining Web page to the AFPC secure page and log in using their Virtual MPF password. A retraining link will take them to the listing of specialty codes and grades.

By clicking on the current grade, or projected grade, NCOs will be able to see their current ranking amongst those who are vulnerable. A list of frequently asked questions will be posted to the retraining Web page.

## *In the event of an evacuation, travel to Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala.*

From Interstate 331, turn west on South Boulevard to Interstate 65. Then turn north onto Herron Street. Exit one mile past the Interstate 85 junction. Proceed straight at the first signal light to Bell Street. Turn left and move into the right lane. This will lead directly to the base. Upon arrival at the main gate, the security forces will direct you to the evacuation processing line. Ensure all family members have their identification cards.



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# Hurlburt Happenings

## Community

### Clinic closure

The 16th Medical Group will close today at 11 a.m. for flying training. Normal clinic operations will be in effect until 11 a.m. The Eglin Air Force Base emergency room will be open for any emergency needs.

### CGOC meeting

The Hurlburt Field Company Grade Officers Council holds its monthly meeting Aug. 20, 3:30 p.m. at Connie's Hooch. For more information, call 1st Lt. Thomas Keeble at 884-7618.

### Motorcycle range closure

Due to exercise activity in the Permanent Exercise Facility, the motorcycle training range won't be accessible during September. An experienced riders class is scheduled for Aug. 24 and will be filled on a "first come, first served" basis. Motorcycle rider training will resume in October, when the exercise facility is available.

Motorcycle operators are reminded *IAW AFI 91-207, military personnel will not operate a motorcycle on or off base without motorcycle safety foundation training.* For more information or to sign up for the training, call Tech. Sgt. Gary Gist at 884-2614.

### Munitions storage closure

The munitions storage area will be closed Aug. 30 through Sept. 10 in order to conduct a 100 percent semi-annual inventory *IAW AFI 21-201, paragraph 21.3.1.* All munitions supply points must ensure that all request for issue, turn-in and pickups are submitted to Munitions Operations no later than noon Tuesday.

Only emergency issue requests signed by the group commander *IAW AFI 21-201, paragraph 21.2.3* will be accepted during the inventory. This won't affect the flying schedule or munitions support for aircraft. For more information, call Munitions Operations at 884-2747/2004.

### Child care relocation

Effective immediately, the Family Child Care office has moved from the community center/teen club, Building 90337, into a housing unit behind the Hurlburt Field Child Development Center at 4 Clark Road. The new phone number is 581-1207.

### Free child care

With the Returning Home Care Program, Airmen who are returning home from a 30 or more day deployment in direct support of the Global War on Terrorism are entitled to 16 hours of free child care per child. For more information on this program and other family child care programs, call Carol Carter or Trish Barrett at 581-1207.

### AFSA meeting

The Air Force Sergeant's Association, Chapter 567, will hold a general membership meeting Thursday at 3:30 p.m. at the Enlisted Hooch. For more information, call Master Sgt. Mary Gowin at 884-7821 or Senior Master Sgt. Bill Ogden at 884-4957.

### Medical clinic parking

Patient parking at the 16th Medical Group clinic is now located in front of the new clinic building, across the street from the commissary/base

exchange parking lot. In the event that the parking lot is full, additional parking is available in the commissary/BX lot."

### Hurlburt Cub Scouts

Hurlburt Cub Scouts Pack 509 will hold its annual Scout School Night Tuesday and Thursday at 7 p.m. in the Florosa Elementary School cafeteria. All boys – grades first through fifth – new to scouting or current Cub Scouts, who have just relocated to Hurlburt Field, are welcome to join Pack 509. Adult volunteers are also needed to assist in any way possible. For more information, attend one of the school nights or call Therese Ammons, Cubmaster Pack 509, at 314-6616.

### SNCO induction ceremony

The Hurlburt Field Chief's Group and the Top 3 Council will co-sponsor this year's Senior NCO Induction Ceremony. The event will be held Aug. 27 at 3 p.m. in the Soundside conference center. For more information, call Master Sgt. Paula Jackson at 884-1233 or Senior Master Sgt. Greg Nabors at 884-4552.

### Hurlburt Toastmasters

The Hurlburt Toastmasters club is having regular meetings Wednesdays from noon to 1 p.m. in Classroom J at the education center. Toastmasters can help individuals improve and develop their speaking, listening and leadership skills. For more information, call Marty Mears at 884-9130.

### Hispanic Heritage Month

The military equal opportunity office is seeking volunteers to assist in organizing, preparing and supporting Hispanic Heritage Month events from Sept. 15 to Oct. 15. Meetings are Wednesdays from 1 to 3 p.m. in the MEO conference room. For more information, call 1st Lt. Angel Lugo at 884-8209 or Staff Sgt. Bill White at 884-5879.

### Native American History Month

November is Native American History Month. The military equal opportunity office invites volunteers to assist in organizing, preparing, and supporting events for the observance period. For more information, call Master Sgt. Dexter Coburn 884-2631.

### Volunteers needed

The family services loan closet is looking for volunteers Mondays through Fridays from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The loan closet is located at the family support center. For more information, call Heather Gerlach at 884-1533.

### Order of the Sword

Air Force Special Operations Command enlisted Airmen will induct Gen. Paul Hester, former AFSOC commander, into the Order of the Sword Nov. 5 in the Emerald Coast Conference Center. The general will be recognized for his contributions to the enlisted men and women of AFSOC. Tickets will go on sale for the induction ceremony, which is an enlisted-only event, Sept. 1.

### PME testing

The education office will open another testing window the following dates for Professional Military Education testing only: Wednesday, Aug. 25, Sept. 1, Sept. 8, Sept. 15 and Sept. 29. For more information or to schedule a test, call 884-6724.

### Air Force TV and Radio News



To check out Air Force TV or Radio News visit: <http://af.feedroom.com> or [www.af.mil/news](http://www.af.mil/news) and click on TV or radio to find out what's happening around the Air Force.

### Hurlburt Field Chapel



**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–May

#### Protestant Services

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

**Religious Education:** August – May  
Youth and Singles groups available

**Jewish Services** (882-2111)

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

**Muslim Services** (882-2111), Eglin Chapel Center

**Jumua:** Friday, 12:45 p.m.

**For more information, call 884-7795**

## 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, Saturday and Sunday** – (PG-13) *White Chicks*, starring Shawn Wayans, Marlon Wayans – Two FBI agents try to get back into their boss's good graces by taking on a job guarding the Wilton sisters, two New York City hotel heiresses, from a serial kidnapper. They fail, and the two women are abducted. The agents then go undercover, dressing up as the titular "white chicks" to solve the crime and rescue the victims.

### Eglin 882-1066

**Friday and Sunday** – (PG-13) *Spiderman 2*, starring Tobey Maguire and Kirsten Dunst – Peter faces new challenges as he struggles with "the gift and the curse," desperately trying to balance his dual identities as the web-slinging superhero Spider-Man and his life as a college student. Peter finds that his relationships with all those he holds dear are in danger of unraveling. His life-long earning for M.J. becomes even stronger as he fights the impulse to reveal his secret life and declare his love. Peter's life is about to become even more complicated as he encounters a formidable new foe Dr. Octavius.

**Saturday** – (PG) *Sleepover*, starring Alexa Vega and Mika Boorem – Before their freshman year in high school, Julie has a slumber party with her best friends, and they end up having the adventure of their lives. In an attempt to cast off their less-than-cool reputations, they enter into an all-night scavenger hunt against their "popular girl" rivals. Hijacking dad's car, sneaking into clubs, evading Julie's mother and even a first kiss – anything is possible at Julie's sleepover.

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

## Veterans college

The Veterans Upward Bound program at Okaloosa-Walton College is now accepting new students. The program provides free services to U.S. Armed Services veterans of any age, who wish to begin college or earn a high school equivalent diploma. The program provides: academic refresher courses, free tutoring, skills exploration, preparation for college placement tests, personal assistance with financial-aid forms, and career and employment counseling. Qualified applicants may also be eligible for a monthly financial aid stipend. For more information, call 729-4999.

## Classes

### Asia-Pacific course

The Joint Special Operations University invites all Special Operators to attend the Asia-Pacific Orientation Course Aug. 23-27. This course is designed for any military members or government civilians preparing to live in or deploy to the Asia-Pacific region. Course registration begins Aug. 23 at 7:30 a.m. For more information, call Capt. Jae Sim at 884-1858 or visit <https://www.hurlburt.af.mil/milonly/tenantunits/jsou/>.

### Boating safety course

Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 18 is conducting a boating safety course Saturday at Okaloosa-Walton College Niceville Campus Learning Resource Center, Room 128 from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. The cost is \$40, which includes a course book and materials. The course is open to those interested in boating

activities. Registration is limited. For more information, call Chris Dewey at 582-0366.

### USAFSOS courses

The U.S. Air Force Special Operations School is hosting the Introduction to Special Operations Course Tuesday through Aug. 20. ISOC provides military and civilian members a joint understanding of Special Operation Forces.

USAFSOS also hosts a Sub-Saharan African Orientation Course Monday through Aug. 20. The course is designed for personnel preparing to live in or deploy to this region. For information on ISOC, call 1st Lt. Lowell Wiggins at 884-6861. For information on seat availability for either course, call Joyce Weber at 884-4731.

### HAWC classes

To reserve a seat in the following health and wellness center classes or for more information, call 884-4292. All classes are free of charge and held in Building 90232.

**Healthy Living Workshop** – Tuesday, 8:30 a.m.

**Body Composition Improvement Program** – Tuesday, 1 p.m.

**Diabetic Nutrition Follow-up** – Tuesday, 3:30 p.m.

**Total Fitness Enhancement** – Wednesday, 8:30 a.m.

**Lean on Me** – Wednesday, 10:30 a.m.

**Body Composition Improvement Program Follow-up** – Wednesday, 1 p.m.

**Eating Heart Healthy** – Wednesday, 3 p.m.

**Lean and Healthy Eating** – Thursday, 9 a.m.

**Prenatal Nutrition** – Thursday, 2 p.m.



Imagery courtesy of the Weather Channel Web site

**Tropical Storm Bonnie and Hurricane Charley trek toward the Florida coast Wednesday morning.**

## Tropical storm vs. hurricane

**Tropical Storm** – An organized system of strong thunderstorms with a well-defined circulation and maximum sustained winds of 39 to 73 miles per hour (34-63 knots).

**Hurricane** – An intense tropical weather system with a well-defined circulation and sustained winds of 74 mph (64 knots) or higher. In the western North Pacific, hurricanes are called typhoons, and similar storms in the Indian Ocean are called cyclones.

Hurricanes are divided into five categories:

**Category 1** – winds 74-95 mph, minimal damage

**Category 2** – winds 96-110 mph, moderate damage

**Category 3** – winds 111-130 mph, extensive damage

**Category 4** – winds 131-155 mph, extreme damage

**Category 5** – winds 156 mph and up, catastrophic damage

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## Important hurricane resources

### Hurlburt Field

Health and wellness center, Building 90332

Child development center, Building 90353

Chapel, Building 90203

Permanent Exercise Facility, Building 91601

Youth center, Building 90304

Okaloosa County

### Hospitals

Fort Walton Beach Medical Center – 862-1111

Santa Rosa Medical Center – 626-7762

Twin Cities Hospital – 678-4131

North Okaloosa Medical Center – 682-9731

Gulf Breeze Hospital – 934-2000

Eglin Air Force Base Emergency Room – 883-8227

### Utilities

Gulf Power – (800) 225-5797

Choctawatchee Electric Company – (800) 342-0990

Okaloosa Gas – (800) 239-3878

Sprint – 811 or (800) 326-2497

Southern Bell – 611

Southern Bell, Navarre – 780-2355

Emerald Coast Cable – 862-4142 or 862-0175

### Baker School

Davidson Middle School

Santa Rosa County

Milton Community Center

Avalon Middle School

Sims Middle School

SS Dickson Intermediate School

### Other helpful numbers

Contact your unit control center for hurricane/evacuation information

Hurlburt Field Disaster Preparedness Office – 884-1152 or 884-1153

Federal Emergency Management Agency – (800) 426-9029

National Flood Insurance Program – (800) 638-6620

### Radio stations

WKSM-FM 99.5 – Fort Walton Beach

WYBZ-FM 105.5 – Fort Walton Beach

WFTW-AM 1260 – Fort Walton Beach

WEBY-AM 1330 – Milton

WXBM-FM 102.7 – Pace

WECM-AM 1490 – Milton

WLWI-FM 92.3 – Montgomery, Ala.

# LRS 1 resists SFS surge to win 55-51

By Staff Sgt. Chris Jordan  
Public Affairs

It appeared to be a blowout in the making. At the 10-minute mark, the 16th Logistics Readiness Squadron, team one, had a firm 32-16 lead over the 16th Security Forces Squadron during a three-on-three basketball game at the Aderholt Fitness Center Monday.



However, not to be left in the dust of the LRS's fast start, the SFS rallied behind five three-pointers from Staff Sgt. Paul Gambrell and 19 points from Airman 1st Class Alton Horton to pull the game into a 51-51 tie with less than a minute to play.

On the LRS's next possession, Senior Airman Randy Howard was fouled attempting a three-point shot. The shot was good and he made the free throw to complete a four-point play that would prove to be the difference in the game.

The LRS, now 1-1 in the standings, were led by Airman 1st Class Chad Hessler with 22 points. Airman Howard contributed 21 points and Senior Airman Damon Wright knocked down 12 points.

The SFS, also 1-1 after the loss, got 16 points from Sergeant Gambrell and eight points each from Staff Sgt. Jeremy Yates and Staff Sgt. Ron King.

Three-on-three basketball games are played every Monday, Wednesday and Thursday at the Aderholt Fitness Center. Games start at 10:30 a.m. and the last game of the day is at 1 p.m.



Photo by T.J. Filipowicz

## Four!

A young boy aims up for his swing during a Hook A Family On Golf session at the Gator Lakes Golf Course here. The program used to be solely a child's program. However, this year, parents were invited to enhance their children's participation and help them practice after the program concludes. The program will continue through Aug. 29.



## Sports Poll



What college football team has the best shot at the BCS National Championship?

- |            |              |
|------------|--------------|
| ■ LSU      | ■ Florida    |
| ■ Oklahoma | ■ State      |
| ■ USC      | ■ Texas      |
| ■ Michigan | ■ Georgia    |
| ■ Miami    | ■ Ohio State |
| ■ Florida  | ■ Other      |

## Weekly responses

The Sports Poll is great, but I see you made it in yellow and purple. I wouldn't vote for a team with those colors. I'm voting for the (Ohio State) Buckeyes.

Jeremiah Dinan,  
16th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

As a student at Florida State University, I can guarantee the BCS championship, but we'll know for sure after the first game of the season against Miami.

Travis Gourley,  
96th SCOS

To place your vote or to give feedback about the weekly poll, e-mail  
[Christopher.Jordan@hurlburt.af.mil](mailto:Christopher.Jordan@hurlburt.af.mil).

The results will be posted in next week's paper.

## Sports shorts

### Men's baseball league

The Okaloosa Men's Baseball League is kicking off with registration Aug. 15 at 3 p.m. at the Twin Oaks baseball field in Niceville for the 18 and over, and 30 and over divisions. The Twin Oaks Baseball Field is located on U.S. Highway 85 North, just north of College Boulevard. The registration process will include the collection of fees and a short baseball workout session. League fees are \$100 for each player. The final day of registration is Aug. 22 at 3 p.m. For more information, call the league hotline at 864-7529.

### Bowling coach course

Hurlburt Lanes is sponsoring a level one Bowling Coach Certification course Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The cost is \$55 per person and must be paid at the time of registration. Space is limited to 30 people. For more information, call Hurlburt Lanes Bowling Center at 884-6941.

### Men's, women's basketball

Varsity men's and women's basketball sign-up begins Monday. Over 30, 3-on-3 begins Tuesday. For more information, call Christopher Myers at 884-6884.

### Start Smart Soccer

Registration for Start Smart Soccer, an introductory soccer program for children ages 3 to 5 years old, is scheduled for Aug. 23 to Sept. 15. The weekly session will be held Tuesdays at 1:30 p.m. at the Commando Fitness Center. The first of the six weekly sessions begins with parents-only training in the health and wellness center training room the week of Sept. 20.

The subsequent five sessions will be parent and child one-on-one instruction, teaching the basic fundamentals and motor skills of soccer that will prepare children for eventual play in organized leagues. Cost is \$25 per parent-child

couple. For more information, call the youth center at 884-6355.

### Soccer tryouts

Soccer season is fast approaching. Anyone interested in trying out for the Hurlburt Field soccer team should call Master Sgt. Tim Gibson at 884-2522.

### Bowling tournament

The Family Freedom Youth/Adult Double Tournament entry deadline is Aug. 25; walk-ins are welcome. The tournament follows a nine pin, no-tap rule and is divided into three divisions based on age: Division one – ages 8 and up; division two – ages 9 to 13; and division three – ages 14 to 18.

One adult per youth is permitted, with a \$15 entry fee per team. For more information, call Hurlburt Lanes at 884-6941.