



COMMANDO

Any Time Any Place

Vol. 52, Issue 26

16th Special Operations Wing, Hurlburt Field, Fla.

July 2, 2004



Photo by Airman 1st Class Andy Kin

Maj. Gen. Michael Wooley, Air Force Special Operations Command commander, addresses the audience at the AFSOC change of command ceremony here, Thursday. General Wooley assumed command from Lt. Gen. Paul Hester.

PAVE LOW engineer receives Purple Heart

By 1st Lt. Gabe Johnson
Public Affairs

Before an auditorium full of family, friends and fellow Air Commandos, an MH-53 PAVE LOW helicopter flight engineer received the Purple Heart June 25 for wounds he sustained during a combat mission in Iraq.

Lt. Gen. Paul Hester, Air Force Special Operations Command commander, presented the decoration to Tech. Sgt. Christian MacKenzie whose aircraft was hit by a rocket-propelled grenade in flight near Fallujah, April 12.

"It's an honor (to receive this medal)," said Sergeant MacKenzie, "but it's not one that (I) ever set out to earn."

On a pitch-black night, Sergeant MacKenzie and his fellow aircrew members were on a mission to resupply Special Operations Forces in the area when, without warning, Iraqi insurgents hit the front end of his helicopter with an RPG.

The blast destroyed the center console, dashboard and front windshields sending shrapnel into the cockpit, and injuring the engineer and his two pilots, Capt. Steve Edwards and Capt. Thomas Lessner.

"I immediately lost communication with most of my crew other than Staff Sgt. Jesse Lee on the tail and Master Sgt. Randy Kensy in the left door," said Captain Edwards, aircraft commander. "The RPG came through the nose of the aircraft and destroyed all instru-

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AFSOC welcomes new commander

Courtesy of AFSOC Public Affairs

Air Force Chief of Staff General John Jumper presided over the Air Force Special Operations Command change of command ceremony in the Freedom Hangar here, Thursday.

In a hangar packed with Air Commandos, distinguished guests and community leaders, Maj. Gen. Michael Wooley assumed command from Lt. Gen. Paul Hester.

"General Wooley is immensely qualified to assume this command with his rich history in airlift and Special Operations," General Jumper said.

General Wooley comes to AFSOC from his previous assignment as commander of Third Air Force, Royal Air Force Mildenhall, England.

No stranger to Special Operations, General Wooley served as AFSOC vice commander from May 1997 to July 1998.

Now, as AFSOC commander, General Wooley will lead a major command of the U.S. Air Force and Air Force Component of U.S. Special Operations Command. AFSOC provides Air Force Special Operations Forces and Combat Search and Rescue for worldwide deployment and assignment to unified combatant commanders.

"Let no one ever question that the world is a safer place because of you, General Wooley commended.

General Wooley went on to pledge to keep families in the forefront of everything we do.

"America appreciates the gracious and unheralded sacrifices spouses, children and even parents make; you too are a vital part of the AFSOC team," the general said.

General Wooley's other assignments include a tour as commander, Tanker Airlift Control Center at

See **CHANGE**, page 6

Special Event

The Sound of Independence celebration is set for noon to 10 p.m. today at the Soundside parking lot. The free event will feature live entertainment, games, food booths and a cardboard boat race.

News



Taking the lead

16th Mission Support Group changes leadership
Page 3

Feature



Farewell

AFSOC says goodbye to Lt. Gen. Paul Hester
Page 14

Weather

Weekend forecast

Friday – Partly cloudy, High 89 Low 72

Saturday – Isolated showers, High 90 Low 71

Sunday – Partly cloudy, High 89 Low 73

www.hurlburt.af.mil/milonly/weather/5day



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. O.G. Mannon

Former AFSOC commander shares experience at 'assignment of a lifetime'

By Lt. Gen. Paul Hester
Former AFSOC commander

On Thursday, I relinquished command of Air Force Special Operations Command and departed the "assignment of a lifetime."

The duties and missions for the past 30 months have been personally rewarding; however, it's the people of Air Force Special Operations Command that Lynda and I will miss most - You are simply *the* reason we still let the permanent change of station van come to the front door.

It's been a tremendous privilege to serve as your commander during a period of unprecedented challenge. Your accomplishments in defense of freedom and



Lt. Gen. Paul Hester

America's national security have been spectacular...your contributions to the Global War on Terrorism have put America's enemies on the run...*you* have given Americans a sense of security even in this time of war.

Every Airman - active duty, Guard, Reserve and civilian in AFSOC should take great pride in their own service and in the achievements and successes you see played out every day. The security of this nation depends on the courage and sacrifice of those special few who answer the call to defend her.

Our deepest respect and affection goes to our families. For it is they - our loved ones - who are the true, Quiet Professionals. You and your families have answered our collective call in resounding fashion.

We leave Hurlburt Field with tremendous gratitude for having been part of your distinguished command and a small part of our noble cause. May God always bless you and the great nation you so proudly serve.

Wing assessment reveals areas of concern

By Col. O.G. Mannon
16th SOW commander

We recently asked the 16th Special Operations Wing Military Equal Opportunity office to conduct a Wing Climate Assessment to determine the overall climate and health of the wing. We're pleased to report that all 49 survey questions met the Air Force criteria of a "healthy" organization.

However, as dedicated Air Commandos, we haven't succeeded in our global mission by settling for the status quo. We're convinced there are a number of areas where we can improve, and the comments provided in the survey validate our feelings.

Nine hundred nineteen Air Commandos participated in the survey with 875 written comments, and we read every single one of them. The comments addressed topics ranging from micro-management to awards presentations timeliness. Your concerns are valid, and I assure you we're taking measures to address all of them appropriately.

Your comments on the climate assessment were helpful in identifying five primary areas of concern that we want to tackle head-on: high operations tempo, the non-enforcement of zero tolerance policies, lack of leadership involvement, lack of feedback and mentoring, and the appearance of favoritism and unprofessional behavior.

Your top concern, operations tempo, is a problem we've been aware of for some time, and are working to alleviate or lessen the impact. One thing we know is the Global War on Terrorism isn't going away. Our goal is to provide this wing with deployment relief over the next couple of years. We can't promise it's going to happen, but we're fighting for it.

From your comments, we've learned that our zero tolerance policies aren't being enforced as they should. Zero tolerance means just that, not one instance will be tolerated. This wing will not tolerate any form of sexual harassment or discrimination. If it's happening to you, tell someone about it by using your

chain of command or by consulting with the MEO office.

The last three issues on the top five list indicate a need for us to take a close look at leadership, mentoring and unprofessional behavior. Commanders and first sergeants collectively need to be more involved and be more visible; our young people need more regular feedback and mentoring; and there appears to be an overall appearance of favoritism, which leads to unprofessional relationships.

Over the next five weeks your MEO office will be publishing articles in the Commando detailing the top five areas of concern and ways in which the wing is making improvements.

We want to stress that every area identified as in need of leadership focus is being examined. We'll continue to brainstorm new ways to change the environment, and then apply those methodologies vigorously. Thanks to the candid inputs on your workplace climate, we can move forward on making the 16th SOW even better.

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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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DUI Tracker

June 25- July 1: 0 DUIs

This year: 22

DUIs for 2003: 54

Last DUI: 16th Security Forces Squadron

Airmen Against Drunk Driving
Don't Drink and Drive. Call 884-8844
Potential saves this year: 503

16th OG...129	16th MSG..23
16th MXG..21	16th MDG..129

As of Feb. 15, individual groups get a down day for 60 consecutive days without a DUI. Totals are current as of July 1.

Congratulations to the 16th MDG, 16th OG and 16th SOW staff agencies for more than 120 days without receiving a DUI.



Spotlight on...

Tech. Sgt. Charles Parton

Rank/Duty Title: Technical Sergeant

Organization: 16th Helicopter Maintenance Squadron

Hometown: Whitney, Texas

Hobbies: Fishing, camping, and playing the guitar

Contribution to the mission:

Sergeant Parton is in charge of all electronics maintenance efforts supporting 15 MH-53J/M helicopters.

While helping support the flying program, he developed and implemented new testing procedures for helicopter power generation equipment.

Sergeant Parton also assisted Warner-Robbins engineers in correcting a flaw in a new aircraft modification. He participated in Operation Iraqi Freedom and at other classified locations where he was the lead electrician and overseeing four helicopters and 35 personnel. Sergeant Parton was the lead electrician on the first Maintenance Recovery Team deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

He repaired an aircraft indication panel and saved the Air Force \$30,000.

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.*

Seeing red

Members of the Fort Walton Beach Red Hat Society "Rouge Ramys" tour the 16th Component Maintenance Squadron facility recently. Lt. Col. Peter Robichaux, 16th CMS commander, briefs the group of ladies who are spouses of former military members.

Photo by Airman 1st Class Kimberley Gilligan

16th MSG leadership changes hands

By Airman James Dickens
Public Affairs

The 16th Mission Support Group welcomed their new commander during a change of command ceremony here, Tuesday.

Hundreds of people showed up to see Col. Clifford "Skip" Day assume command from Col. "Griff" Griffin.

The ceremony was presided over by Col. O.G. Mannon, 16th Special Operations Wing commander, and was held at the corrosion control facility.

Colonel Mannon expressed how much he'd miss Colonel Griffin, but referred to Colonel Day as someone the 16th MSG was blessed to have join and command them.

"We all know in the military things change," Colonel Mannon said. "But, what makes that change easier is when one great leader steps aside and allows another great leader to take the reins. We are truly blessed to have Colonel Day and his family here with us."

The wing commander went on to highlight some of Colonel Day's accomplishments.

"His bio lists his accomplishments, but I'd like to touch on a few of them," Colonel Mannon said. "He's earned combat jump wings, although he's not a combat controller and along with those wings he's earned a Bronze Star Medal for his actions in Panama and a Bronze Star Medal with Valor for classified operations during Desert Storm. However, you don't just get brawn with this guy, you get brains also. He was one of 34 members selected for the Senior Service Air Force Fellowship to a prestigious university. While there, the dean of the university said he was one of the top three out of 36 Air Force members who attended the university since 1963. So, not only is he heroic and smart about combat operations but he's also smart about business in general."

Colonel Day, a Boston, Mass., native, will be responsible for base security, information management, housing, military/civilian personnel, communications, family support, educational programs, Airman Leadership School/Professional Military Education, recreation, lodging, food services, civil engineering, supply, transportation,



Photo by Airman 1st Class Kimberley Gilligan

Col. O.G. Mannon, 16th Special Operations Wing commander, receives a salute from Col. Clifford "Skip" Day, the incoming 16th Mission Support Group commander, during the MSG change of command ceremony Tuesday.

logistics planning and contracting.

"I look forward to working with you and your families for the next two years," Colonel Day said as he addressed the audience. "Supporting the mission of 16th SOW will continue to be the number one priority for our group. I look forward to the task at hand, but actions speak louder than words and now I've got a job to do."

Colonel Griffin, who's going on to be the director of personnel for U.S. Special Operations Command, MacDill Air Force Base, Fla., had a few words for his former group.

"It's an honor to have the mighty men and women of the 16th MSG stand before me," Colonel Griffin said. "I've never been as proud of a group of individuals as I am of the service members of the 16th MSG. They've excelled in each and every undertaking and challenge placed upon them, and I couldn't have done it without the best squadron commanders I've ever served with, a true band of brothers. Now I leave Colonel Day with the best people and the best group in the Air Force."

Secretary, chief send Independence Day message

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

Happy birthday, America! For the last 228 years, our nation has been the beacon for peace, freedom and opportunity around the world.

America earned that reputation through courageous acts of patriotism by our founding fathers and bravery on battlefields from

Bunker Hill to Baghdad.

Sunday, we'll celebrate with family and friends the joys of peace and the blessings of freedom. As you celebrate, please remember those who paid the ultimate price defending the values established by our forefathers in forging our great nation.

This Independence Day is especially meaningful as we support the rebirth of Iraqi sovereignty and defend freedom far from home.

Today, Airmen are deployed all over the world, engaged on all fronts in the Global War on Terrorism carrying freedom's torch. Please remember our deployed Airmen in your thoughts and prayers on the 4th of July.

America looks to you as their representatives of pride, strength and perseverance in times of peace and war.

We're proud of you and salute your great service. We wish you and your families a safe and happy 4th of July! (AFPN)

Enjoy the holiday, summer safely *Summer safety tips prevent accidents*

By BJ Prevett
16th SOW Safety Office

With excellent summer weather comes increased risks with outdoor activities.

Whether relaxing at the beach or enjoying a backyard barbeque, the mishap potential increases as complacency sets in.

Since October, the Air Force has lost 53 individuals in fatal mishaps. Five were victims of drowning. Fortunately, Hurlburt Field has had no active-duty drownings thus far. However, several civilians have drowned this year at beaches from Destin to Pensacola.

In order to have a safe 4th of July, here are some risk management tips to help you enjoy your holiday mishap free.

Barbecuing:

■ Never use gasoline to fire up the grill. Use starter fluid that will ignite the coals appropriately.

■ Keep containers of flammables away from the grill.

■ Place the grill on level surface and a minimum of 10 feet away from buildings.

■ Keep a bucket of water or a garden hose handy in case of fire.

■ When finished soak the coals with water to prevent flare-ups. Also, don't stand in the path where the steam is generated.

Mowing:

■ Ensure you have the proper protective equipment to include eye protection, long pants and hard sole shoes.

■ Inspect your lawn to remove debris that may become a flying hazard if you run over it.

■ Never refill or make repairs while your mower is running.

■ Mowing on steep terrain can be hazardous.

When using a push mower, mow horizontally across the slope. When using a riding mower, mow up and down the slope to avoid rollover.

Water sports:

■ Avoid alcohol.

■ Use the buddy system when swimming or scuba diving.

■ Use personal flotation devices.

■ Never allow children to operate boats or personal watercrafts.

Fireworks:

■ Follow state and local laws and purchase only legal fireworks.

■ Never concoct your own firework recipe.

■ Adult supervision is a must.

■ Ignite fireworks in a safe nonflammable area with spectators at least 50 feet away. Keep away from homes, trees and telephone lines.

■ Never pick up and attempt to relight a dud. Douse it with water to make it safe.

Travel:

■ Have your vehicle inspected by a professional mechanic.

■ Ensure you have your route planned out so you won't get lost and have extra money for unexpected repairs.

■ Drive your limit. Use 350 miles as a baseline per day.

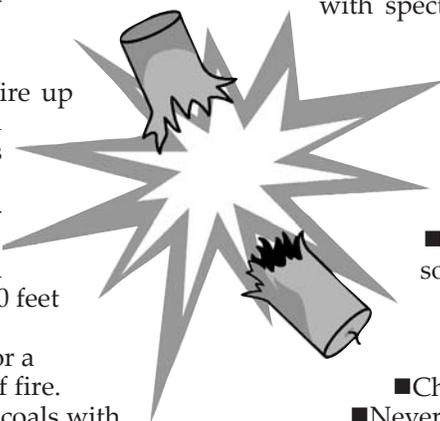
■ Change drivers every couple of hours.

■ Never drink alcohol.

■ Fasten seat belts, obey traffic laws and drive defensively.

■ If your vehicle breaks down on the highway do the following: put on hazard lights, move the car as far off the road as possible and open your hood. Then, sit in your car or walk for help. If you choose to walk, ensure you're visible and walk as far away from traffic as possible.

If you apply the common sense rule and use the risk management tips provided, you can make sure you enjoy your holiday mishap free.



Look Who's Talking:

How do you celebrate Independence Day?

"I always get together with my family and friends for a barbeque and watch fireworks."

Airman 1st Class Alana Meggitt,
16th Operations Support Squadron

"I hang out with friends and family and look at fireworks."

Airman Basic Horace Allen,
16th Operations Support Squadron

"I celebrate Independence Day by enjoying firework displays with my friends and family."

Airman Kimberly Mutschler,
16th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

Visit the Hurlburt Field Homepage

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Fill out a
Hometown News Release

CHANGE, Continued from Page 1

Headquarters Air Mobility Command and wing commander at Ramstein Air Base, Germany and Scott Air Force Base, Ill. General Wooley has also served on the Air Staff and on the staff of Air Mobility Command headquarters at Scott Air Force Base, Ill.

General Hester will assume command of Pacific Air Forces, Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii today.

He assumed command of AFSOC in January 2002. General Hester remarked that while he and his wife have enjoyed every Air Force assignment, it's especially difficult to leave here.

He quoted community leader Cliff Long as saying, "it's because you have sand in your shoes."

The general then said, "it's not often that I disagree with Cliff, but I don't think it's the sand we'll miss, but rather the Airmen of this command."

HEART, Continued from Page 1

mentation; the cockpit went black, and the nose pitched up violently."

The three crewmembers took injuries to their upper torsos, arms, legs and faces. Sergeant MacKenzie took the most damage to his face and left eye.

Sergeant MacKenzie, still conscious, assessed the seriousness of his injuries and braced for impact expecting a crash landing.

"Captain Lessner was flying the aircraft when we took the hit; he was trying to maintain control, even though he couldn't see or hear anything," said Captain Edwards. "I could still see, so I took the controls and was surprised to find that the aircraft was still flyable."

As Captain Edwards began recovering the helicopter, insurgents fired two more RPGs at the disabled lead aircraft and its wingman, another MH-53 flying just a few hundred feet behind it.

"First, we maneuvered to avoid the lead helicopter when it pitched," said Capt. Matt Berry, co-pilot of the second PAVE LOW. "Then, we had to maneuver to avoid enemy RPGs and small arms fire."

According to Captain Berry, the attack forced the two aircraft to separate and regroup for evacuation.

Despite their wounds and damage to the flight instruments, the lead aircrew maintained control and found a nearby wheat field, where they landed safely.

"It's absolutely amazing how those guys were able to maintain control and land, considering their injuries and the damage to their aircraft," said Captain Berry.

Once on the ground, the aircrew was faced with the possibility they would have to defend themselves from an enemy that was still very close to their location.

With the throttle destroyed, the crew searched for ways to shut off the engines for a safe evacuation, while arming themselves for a ground attack.

"Master Sgt. Rob Colannino (flight engineer) finally shut it down by pulling out cables in the ceiling," Captain Edwards said, "and the second helicopter landed beside us just as our blades were slowing down."

Sergeant MacKenzie, the aircrew and passengers boarded the other PAVE LOW and flew back to their base of operations for medical attention.

"I'm amazed at what the other aircrew accomplished to get all of us out of there safely," said Sergeant MacKenzie. "It could've easily been two downed helos that night. It's because of them we're all here today."

Both pilots on the lead aircraft received their purple hearts while still on station in Iraq.

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NCOs promoted



Meet the new commanders



Maj.
Richard Neal, Jr.

Name/Rank: Maj. Richard Neal, Jr.

Organization: 16th Security Forces Squadron

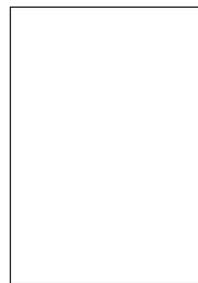
Hometown: Charlotte, N.C.

Off-duty activities: Quality time with family, physical training, golf and smoking cigars

Previous assignment: Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala., Air Command and Staff College student

Organizational goals: Focus training on deployed and in-garrison missions; remain one of the go-to squadrons for Special Ops support.

Work philosophy: I've always enjoyed leading from the front, and feel a leader must know their people if they expect to lead effectively.



Maj.
John DeVane

Name/Rank: Maj. John DeVane
Organization: 16th Mission Operations Squadron

Hometown: Austin, Texas

Off-duty activities: Spending quality time with my wife and three kids

Previous assignment: Fort Bragg, N.C., Service Director of Logistics

Organizational goals: Continue providing world-class support to the entire aircraft maintenance complex.

Work philosophy: Always give your best effort, never stop learning and leave your job better than when you took it.

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Base releases holiday weekend hours

Facility	Today	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
Gator Lakes Golf Course	6:30 a.m. to dusk (Today through Monday)			
Hurlburt Lanes Bowling Center	Closed	5 p.m. - Midnight	5 p.m. - Midnight	Closed
Spare Time Grill	6:30 a.m. to noon	5 p.m. - 11 p.m.	5 p.m. - 11 p.m.	Closed
J.R. Rockers	11 a.m. to ?	Closed	Closed	Closed
Soundside club	Closed	Special functions only	Open for Brunch	Closed
Officers Hooch	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
Enlisted Hooch	3 p.m. to ?	Closed	Closed	Closed
Velocity Subs	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
Child development center	6:15 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.	Closed	Closed	Closed
Community center	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
Teen center	Closed	4 - 11 p.m.	Closed	Closed
Youth center open recreation	Closed	1 - 8 p.m.	Closed	Closed
School Age Program	6:15 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.	Closed	Closed	Closed
ITT ticket sales	10 a.m. - 3 p.m.	Closed	Closed	Closed
ITT leisure travel sales	10 a.m. - 3 p.m.	Closed	Closed	Closed
Auto Skills	9 a.m. - 4 p.m. (Today through Sunday)			Closed
Frame Skills	9 a.m. - 4 p.m.	Closed	Closed	Closed
Wood Skills	Closed	9 a.m. - 4 p.m.	Closed	Closed
Multi-crafts center	Closed (Today through Monday)			
Outdoor recreation center	8 a.m. - 5 p.m. (Today through Sunday)			
Pool	Lap Swim Noon - 2 p.m./ Open Swim 2 - 8 p.m. 9 a.m. - 8 p.m. 11 a.m. - 8 p.m. Closed			
Marina	8 a.m. - 5 p.m. (Today through Monday)			
Dive club	Closed (Today through Monday)			
Paintball fields	8 a.m. - 5 p.m. (Today and Saturday) Closed Closed			
Aderholt Fitness Center	5 a.m. - 6 p.m. 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. (Saturday through Monday)			
Commando Fitness Center	Closed (Today through Monday)			
Oasis Café	Closed (Today through Monday)			
The Reef	Br 6 - 8:30 a.m. L 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. D 4 - 6:30 p.m. (Today through Monday)			
Library	9 a.m. - 5 p.m. 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Closed Closed			

Week in History

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

June 27, 1950 - President Harry Truman announced that he has ordered the U.S. Air Force to aid South Korea, which North Korean communist forces had invaded two days previously.

June 28, 1976 - The U.S. Air Force Academy became the first of the big three service academies to admit women cadets when it admitted Joan Olsen.

June 29, 1949 - The U.S. Air Force became the first service to announce an end to racial segregation in its ranks.

June 30, 1950 - President Harry Truman authorized Gen. Douglas MacArthur to dispatch air forces against targets in North Korea.

July 1, 1961 - The North American Air Defense Command began operation of a space detection and tracking system designed to provide electronic cataloging of man-made space objects.

July 2, 1926 - Congress established the Distinguished Flying Cross and made the award retroactive to April 6, 1917.

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711th SOS seizes palace, wins award

By 2nd Lt. Marnee Carlson
919th Special Operations Wing

A 711th Special Operations Squadron MC-130E Combat Talon I crew claimed the Maj. Gen. Thomas E. Marchbanks Jr. Memorial Award for a mission inside Iraq April 2, 2003, shortly after Operation Iraqi Freedom began.

The Reserve Officer Association honored the crew as the Reserve's most distinguished flight crew for 2003 during the ROA National Convention in Salt Lake City, Utah, June 9-12.

The 711th SOS crew, part of the Air Force Reserve's 919th Special Operations Wing at Duke Field, was recognized for their role in the mission to seize the Maqar-al-Tharthar Palace, a suspected site of weapons of mass destruction and major intelligence node.

The palace, just 20 miles northwest of Baghdad, was built on Tharthar Lake and is a one-square-mile compound that has 45 structures, including guest-houses for dignitaries.

The 711th SOS crew was tasked to refuel the 10 helicopters that delivered the joint Special Forces team who raided the palace.

"This palace was one of the top five targets for the task force we were supporting and a stronghold of Saddam Hussein," said Maj. Bruce Taylor, 711th SOS pilot. "Seizing this palace would show the Iraqis that we could put boots on the ground anywhere, which would undermine the confidence of the Iraqi regime."

Crewmembers knew the risks were going to be high for this mission, said Major Taylor.

Upon completion of mission planning, the crew's risk assessment revealed that this mission had the highest risk of any of the 1,100 combat missions flown during Operations Enduring and Iraqi Freedom by a Combat Talon I, said Major Taylor.

The area where the crews had to complete their mission was known to have surface-to-air missiles, anti-aircraft artillery and extensive radar coverage. In addition, the crew's need to fly extremely low increased the chances that the enemy would see the MC-130E's as they refueled the helicopters, Major Taylor said.

Despite the risks, the 711th SOS crews were determined to complete the mission. Three Combat Talon I's flew from their forward operating base to an intermediate staging base. While refueling, one of the aircraft developed a fuel leak and had to abort, leaving two 711th SOS crews to complete the mission.

Despite the setback, the two crews – led by aircraft commanders Lt. Col. Kenneth Ray and Major Taylor – flew 280 miles through the darkness into enemy territory. They flew at elevations as low as 100 feet to make it to the refueling point where they would meet the helicopters.

The crews were battling 35-knot winds, turbulence, sand and rolling terrain while refuel-

ing two of the helicopters, when their training was put to the ultimate test.

As they approached the Euphrates River, Colonel Ray's crew detected a missile launch.

"We saw a bright flash off to our right, and it kept coming at us," Colonel Ray said. "My copilot advocated that we depart the area as quickly as we could, and I concurred."

Colonel Ray made a descending turn and ejected his flares to avoid the missile. The helicopters he was refueling flew off to the left.

Just as Colonel Ray evaded the missile, Senior Airman Jason Dent, a loadmaster on Major Taylor's crew, saw a bright flash emerge from the darkness.

The missile was headed toward us and the helicopters we were refueling, said Airman Dent.

Unfortunately for Major Taylor's crew, their aircraft was in a position where they couldn't fully engage in evasive maneuvers.

"We couldn't speed up because there were seven helicopters in front of us; we couldn't shoot flares because we had helicopters on our hoses refueling, which would've endangered those crews," said Major Taylor. "Two of the helicopters detected the missile and dispensed their flares, and we relied on their flares for our protection while we made a slow descent."

The missile flew over the aircraft, missing the aircraft by about 1,000 feet.

"We should've been scared, but our mindset and training allowed us to focus on the task at hand," Major Taylor said. "All I remember feeling was anger that the mission could be disrupted if we didn't succeed with the refueling."

"My big concern during the whole engagement was that if we broke up our formation, it would be impossible to continue on with the mission because the helicopter wouldn't have enough gas to get to the palace," he said.

Not allowing the hostile forces on the ground or declining visibility deter the 711th crews from their quest, Major Taylor and Colonel Ray relocated the helicopters and began refueling.

During this course of action, the two aircraft commanders were forced to maneuver their aircraft into the same airspace and headed toward each other. Detecting the aircraft, Major Taylor and the helicopters made a climbing left turn, missing the other MC-130E and helicopters by several hundred feet.

After that, the two crews refueled the remaining helicopters without a hitch and flew more than 250 miles across Iraq into safe airspace. For the next two hours, they remained on station just inside Saudi airspace in case the helicopters needed extra gas.

After an intense 14-hour duty day, Major Taylor, Colonel Ray, and their crews heard of the successful infiltration and seizure of the palace.

"Seizing this palace would show the Iraqis that we could put boots on the ground anywhere..."

*Maj. Bruce Taylor,
711th Special Operations Squadron pilot*

**DR RICK SHELDON
COMM/RHP/R.BRADL**

**554052
2 X 5.00**

**MILITARY MEDIA
COMM/RETAIN**

**551159
2 X 5.00**

Commander leads troops through transition phase

By Master Sgt. Karen Petitt
Multinational Corps-Iraq Public Affairs

BAGHDAD, Iraq – Leading more than 160,000 troops through a transition of authority from coalition forces to the interim Iraqi government is more of an art than a science says the commanding general for Multinational Corps-Iraq.

Army Lt. Gen. Thomas Metz said that art comes in the delicate balance of reassigning resources for changing priorities, providing security and working with the Iraqis to rebuild their infrastructure.

“For some of our troops the ... transfer of power will not change their day-to-day mission, but for others it will be a very visible shift in focus,” he said. “We will definitely see an increase in our efforts to help Iraq become more secure and much of our effort will be behind the scenes. We’re looking to the Iraqi people to take the lead in many areas, but it’s not all going to happen (overnight). It’s a capacity that we will have to grow over the next several months.”

He said the transition means that the coalition force is now a partner to Iraq and that multinational forces will continue to conduct operations against anti-Iraqi forces. In time, the Iraqi security force will communicate its readiness to take the lead and coalition forces will begin to draw back.

While the coalition has been instrumental in restoring electricity, building sewage treatment facilities, reopening schools and numerous other civic projects, General Metz said its number one concern is the security of Iraq.

“The biggest gain we’ll have after the transition, I believe, will be the amount of human intelligence we’re able to gather,” he said. “With Iraqis taking the lead, I think we’ll see a greater amount of success in rooting out these thugs, criminals, former regime members and insurgents. Our ticket out of here is a safe and secure Iraq, and this transition brings us one step closer.”

He said joint coordination centers are being set up in provinces throughout Iraq, and that security committees will oversee the safety of their areas. There will be some coalition presence in these centers, but only for training and coordinating. Some forward-deployed locations will be realigned or closed, but the coalition will always maintain the capability to re-enter an area full strength should the need arise.

One aspect of a safe and secure Iraq will be if the national elections scheduled for December can be done without violence. The general said having armed guards at every polling place is not the goal. There needs to be security, but it should not resemble a battle zone.

“If we can achieve that right balance of security and freedom, then we have achieved success here,” he said. “We will continue to stay as long as we’re needed. We are currently seeing that as the (Iraqi security forces) take the lead, and as they become targets of these attacks, we’ll be here to protect them until the threat is eliminated.”

General Metz said that he appreciates the hard work and dedication of the coalition forces.

“I’m proud of your professionalism and your discipline,” he said. “We put you in complex situations, and your work has strategic importance.” (AFPN)



RHINO LININGS OF OKALOOSA
ADVANCE PROTECTO

554441
3 X 5.00

EGLIN BASE EXCH/AAFEES
COMM/COSMETIC

554767
3 X 5.75

Lt. Gen. Hester, wife receive farewell from AFSOC

Lt. Gen. and Mrs. Paul Hester,

The Warriors of Air Force Special Operations Command wish to congratulate you on your promotion to general and wish you both good luck and god-speed to your next command at Pacific Air Forces.

Your exceptional guidance and vision during some of the most turbulent times in our country's history were crucial to our lives. Your leadership and professionalism during our largest expansion and highest operational tempo period are testament to your outstanding officership and dedication to the ideals embodied by the U.S. Air Force.

Our 25,000 combat hours in more than 7,000 sorties speak to the abilities we executed, but that you painstakingly prepared us for. Your vision and commitment to properly equip, train and protect us by acquiring and employing the most innovative, technologically advanced equipment made a huge difference.

Your leadership was pivotal during the historic transforma-

tion of Special Operations as we embraced the search and rescue mission into our family. Under your command we executed some of the toughest missions, in the most austere locations with the greatest successes. While providing critical support to the ongoing Global War on Terrorism your guiding hand allowed us to deliver some of the most important victories for freedom.

Victories that garnered more than 1,700 Air Medals, 250 Bronze Stars, 150 Distinguished Flying Crosses, 7 Silver Stars and 2 Air Force Crosses. We'll never forget the warmth and support you and Lynda provided to our families; without it we never could have focused and been successful during our missions.

For all you've done for us, the Air Force and the United States of America, we congratulate and salute you. We are proud to have served with you, sir.

Sincerely,
The Men and Women of
AFSOC

Courtesy photo



Photo by Capt. Erin Dick

Lynda Hester (above) takes a break during her tour of the Moody Air Force Base Child Development Center, to help one of the children with a "self-help" project, during her visit to Southern Georgia in October.



Courtesy photo



Photo by Staff Sgt. Carlotta Holley

Lt. Gen. Paul Hester (right), former commander of the Air Force Special Operations Command, receives an official invitation from AFSOC Command Chief Master Sgt. Howard Mowry to be inducted into the AFSOC Order of the Sword Nov. 5 at the Emerald Coast Conference Center, Fort Walton Beach. (left) General Hester does a check on the life-support equipment before going out on a T-38 flight.

Community

Wing coin

The 16th Special Operations Wing is looking for ideas for the new wing coin. The person with the winning design will receive a three-day pass. For more information, call Staff Sgt. Franklin Hunt at 884-7153.

Sound of Independence

The annual Sound of Independence celebration is planned for noon to 10 p.m. today at the Soundside. The event will feature live entertainment, games, inflatable rides, food and craft vendors and a firework show. The annual Cardboard Boat Regatta is also a part of the event. The event schedule is as follows:

- Noon to 2:45 p.m., The Blinders
- 2 to 6 p.m., Country 105.5 live with Evan Stone
- 4 p.m., Paul Bunyan Lumberjack Show
- 3 to 5:45 p.m., Siren
- 6 p.m., Cardboard Boat Regatta
- 7 p.m., Paul Bunyan Lumberjack Show
- 7 to 9 p.m., The Fabulous Classics
- 9:45 p.m., Fireworks

The event is free and open to the public.

16th Medical Group closed

The 16th Medical Group will close at 11 a.m. today for wing training and remain closed Monday in observance of the July 4 holiday. However, normal clinic operations will be in effect until 11 a.m. today. For any emergency needs, the Eglin Air Force Base emergency room will be open. Normal clinic operations will resume Tuesday at 7 a.m.

Air Force clubs

Air Force Clubs are giving away \$25,000 in scholarships. There will be six scholarships awarded, with the top prize of \$6,000 for higher education costs. Scholarships will be awarded based on a 500-word essay entitled "What freedom means to me." Essays exceeding 500 words will be disqualified. All entries must be submitted to either J.R. Rockers or the Soundside club by July 15. Current Air Force Club members and their family members, who have been accepted by or are enrolled in an accredited college or university for entry during the Fall 2004 Term as a part- or full-time student are eligible. Rules and entry forms are available at J.R. Rockers and the Soundside club.

Theater closure

The Eglin and Hurlburt Field base theaters will be closed Sunday in observance of Independence Day. Their Friday and Saturday schedules will remain the same.

Production auditions

Auditions will be held for Missoula Children's Theater production of "The Frog Prince" July 12 from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Hurlburt Field Base Theater. Those auditioning should arrive promptly and plan to stay for the full two hours. Students from grades 1-12 are encouraged to audition. No advance preparation is necessary.

"The Frog Prince" will be presented July 16 at 7 p.m. and July 17 at 1 p.m. at the base theater. For more information, call the community programmer at 884-2189.

Changes of command

25th Information Operations Squadron

Lt. Col. Kenneth Abel is scheduled to assume command of the 25th Information Operations Squadron from Lt. Col. Kevin Wooton at 9 a.m. Wednesday at the base Aircraft Wash Facility. The ceremony is open to all base personnel. For more information, call 884-2840.

16th Medical Support Squadron

Maj. Paul Skala is scheduled to assume command of the 16th Medical Support Squadron from Lt. Col. John Felins at 9 a.m. July 13 at the Air Park. A reception following the event will be held at the Hurlburt Field Chapel. In case of inclement weather it will move to the 15th Aircraft Mobility Unit Nosedock.

9th Special Operations Squadron

Lt. Col. Keith Lambert is scheduled to assume command of the 6th Special Operations Squadron from Lt. Col. Gary Morrison July 9 at 1 p.m. at Hangar 422 next to the Climactic Hangar on Eglin Air Force Base. For more information, call Master Sgt. Caruso at 882-5227.

720th Special Tactics Group

Col. Kenneth Rodriguez is scheduled to assume command of the 720th Special Tactics Group from Col. Craig Rith at 9 a.m., Wednesday at the 15th Aircraft Mobility Unit Hangar. The ceremony is open to all base personnel. For more information, call Maj. Rena Violette at 884-2281.

Volunteers needed

The base library is looking for volunteers to help with their "Rocket into Reading" summer program. Volunteers will help with events like:

■ "Make it or Take it Day" – Wednesday at the base theater from noon to 4 p.m. Volunteers will assist children in making several different arts and craft projects.

■ "Cosmic Golf" – July 21 at the base theater. Volunteers will help monitor and run goofy gold, frisbee golf and snag golf from 12:30 to 3 p.m.

■ "Out of this World Award Party" – July 28 at the Community Park. Volunteers are needed to help set-up the event and run different games and booths.

For more information, and to sign up to help with any of these events, call the volunteer coordinator at 884-1533.

ACA reunion

The Air Commando Association annual reunion will be held in Fort Walton Beach Oct. 8-10. The purpose of the ACA was to keep alive the Air Commando spirit, to rekindle comradery of wartime relationships, to honor the dead and the living that participated in our wartime effort and to promote the utilization of low-key peacekeeping activities of Special Operations. For more information, call 581-0099.

Stars and Strikes

"Bowl for the Stars and Strikes" is an Air Force Services-wide summer program at the Hurlburt Lanes Bowling Center. Customers earn rewards by collecting punches on three levels of punch cards: red, white and blue. Punches are given for every game bowled or 32 – ounce fountain beverage purchased at the Spare Time Grill now through Aug. 31. For every 15 punches, bowlers and non-bowlers alike will receive the corresponding reward for that level, while supplies last. For more information or to enter without making a purchase, call the bowling center at 884-6941.

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 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

Jumuah: 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 – (PG-13) *Van Helsing*, starring Hugh Jackman and Will Kemp – Van Helsing the legendary vampire hunter, is in an ongoing battle to rid the world of vampires. He travels to Transylvania to bring down Count Dracula and joins forces with Anna Valerious. Her family of an old curse by defeating the vampire.

Saturday – (PG-13) *Mean Girls*, Lindsay Lohan and Tina Fey – Raised in the African bush country, Cady thinks she knows about "survival of the fittest." But, the law of the jungle takes on a whole new meaning when the home-schooled 15-year-old enters public high school for the first time, and falls prey to the psychological warfare and unwritten social rules that teenage girls face today.

Sunday - Closed

Eglin 882-1066

Friday – (R) *Troy*, starring Brad Pitt and Eric Bana – Set in ancient Greece, Paris, the Prince of Troy, begins an affair with Helen, the Queen of Sparta. King Menelaus takes this as a terrible insult, to him and his brother, Agamemnon, King of the Mycenaeans. Agamemnon unites the populations of Greece to bring Helen back from Troy.

Saturday – (PG-13) *Godsend*, Greg Kinnear and Rebecca Romijn-Stamos – Following the death of their eight-year-old son, Jessie and Paul are befriended by a doctor on the forefront of stem cell research about bringing him back to life through an experimental and illegal cloning process. The experiment is successful, and Adam grows into a healthy and happy young boy, until his eight birthday.

Sunday – Closed

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

Seminar method

The Air Command and Staff College Nonresident Program is enrolling eligible officers and federal employees for the new 2004-2005 Seminar method. Seminar classes usually meet weekly, starting in early August and running until mid-June.

ACSC programs are offered to active-duty, non-extended active-duty, Reserve, National Guard and major selects and above service members in all U.S. military services. Also, federal civilian employees and GS-11 and above or equivalent, civil air patrol officers in the grade of major and above and international officers serving with the U.S. Air Force in education, training, exchange, or liaison roles are eligible. International officers may also enroll through the Foreign Military Sales training sponsorship program.

People must enroll online no later than July 18 to receive their books in time.

If interested register online, at <http://www.au.af.af/au/acsc/Distance%20Learning/distance-learning.htm>. For more information, call LaRue Hamilton or Jannie Benson at 884-6724.

November getaway cruises

Information, Tickets and Travel can help you "getaway" before or during Thanksgiving with two great cruises to the western Caribbean. The Pre-Thanksgiving Cruise sails out of New Orleans for seven days from Nov. 14-21. Rates are \$545 for interior rooms, \$695 for oceanview rooms and \$845 for rooms with a balcony.

The Thanksgiving cruise sails out of Mobile, Ala. for five days from Nov. 22-27. Rates for oceanview rooms are now \$445. For more information, call ITT at 884-7848/5699.

HAC meeting

The Hurlburt Field Airman's Council will hold a meeting Tuesday at 3 p.m. at the base theater.

Library summer program

In celebration of the 35th anniversary of man's first walk on the moon, the base library presents "Rocket into Reading." Children are invited to participate in the program each Wednesday at 1:30 p.m. at the base theater. Free tickets are available at the library one week prior to each show. Weekly story hour at the library is at 10 a.m. every Thursday. For more information, call 884-6266.

Hispanic Heritage Month

The Military Equal Opportunity office is seeking a chairperson to help organize, prepare and support Hispanic Heritage Month events from Sept. 15 to Oct. 15. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Dexter Coburn at 884-2631.

Native American History Month

The Native American History Month is Nov. 1 - 30. The Military Equal Opportunity office is inviting volunteers to assist in organizing, preparation, and support for the observance period. Contact Tech. Sgt. Dexter Coburn 884-2631 for more information.

Classes

Boating safety

Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 18 of Niceville is scheduled to conduct a boating safety course on July 10 at the Okaloosa-Walton College Learning

Resource Center Room 128 from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. The cost is \$40, which includes course book and materials. The course is open to all persons interested in boating activities. Registration is limited. For course enrollment and information, call Chris Dewey at 582-0366.

Southern Illinois University

Southern Illinois University is offering a Bachelor of Science in Industrial Technology. With 16 required courses, persons could complete their degree in 16 months. Courses are held in alternating weekends from 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. For more information, call Tracy Deming at 581-9840.

Interpersonal Dynamics

The University of Oklahoma is offering a new innovative course Aug. 9 - 15. This one week course explores effective communication techniques, which apply to personal interactions and studies gender, cultural and family differences. For more information, e-mail aphurlburt@ou.edu.

HAWC classes

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

Healthy Living Workshop - Tuesday at 8:30 a.m.

Diabetic Nutrition - Thursday at 8:30 a.m.

Body Composition Improvement Program - Tuesday at 1 p.m.

Body Composition Improvement Program Follow-Up - Wednesday at 1 p.m.

Eating Heart Healthy - Wednesday at 3 p.m.

Healthy Weight 4 Kids - Thursday at 10:30 a.m.

CALVARY CHRISTIAN
ACADEMY
COMM/RHP/ENROLL
554035
2 X 5.00

WHOLESALE NATION
COMM/CARS
553495
3 X 5.00

AFSOC/MDG wins soccer championship 1-0

By Airman James Dickens
Public Affairs

Air Force Special Operations Command/16th Medical Operation Group snatched the soccer championship from 16th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron/16th Helicopter Maintenance Squadron in a close game June 24 at the fields behind the Aderholt Fitness Center.

One team had to be the victor in a clash of the titans, a clash that AFSOC/MDG controlled all season with an undefeated year.

"There were a lot of good teams out this year," said Osvaldo Freyre, AFSOC/MDG coach. "We

were just fortunate enough to not only go undefeated, but to win the base championship."

The game started with AFSOC/MDG getting a quick score on what seemed to be a miscommunication in the AMXS/HMXS defense. This score would be the first and last score of the game.

"I felt that we controlled the action," said Shawn Robinson, AMXS/HMXS coach. "If it wasn't for them getting a lucky bounce or two, the outcome would have been different."

Although AFSOC/MDG walked away with the championship win, Coach Robinson said he was proud of the way his team played all season.

"Adrian Hernandez, 16th HMXS, and Ricky

Newman, 19th Special Operations Squadron, provided the offensive punch we needed this season, while Eric Necker, 16th HMXS, solidified our defenses," Coach Robinson said.

Coach Robinson showed only respect for the AFSOC/MDG team and the way they played.

"You have to tip your hat to AFSOC/MDG, they just had our number this year," Coach Robinson said. "It was a pleasure to play against them; they handled themselves like professionals."

"I think the season came down to trusting in each other and working not as individuals, but as a team," said Coach Freyre.

AF makes big waves, surfing invitational

By Tech. Sgt. Mark Munsey
15th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

HICKAM AIR FORCE BASE, Hawaii

Under picture-perfect tropical skies, more than 70 surfers from all five branches of the armed services competed for bragging rights in the Third Annual Military Surfing Invitational at Oahu's Kewalo Basin June 26 and Sunday.

The Air Force team took second place in the overall Best of Branch competition, with several team competitors winning or placing in individual events.

Dee Marquez took second in both the women's short- and long-board competitions.

Ollney Ho'opai and Buster Kellum dominated the retiree division, taking first and second place, respectively, in the short-board competition and second and third place in long-board.

Ho'opai and Kellum work as civilians on base.

While this may be the latest round of

dual surfing recognition for the duo, it is far from the first.

Along with invitational coordinator Shorty Simonson, the three began boarding in island-surfing competitions more than 35 years ago, Kellum said.

"Shorty was the contest director when I became the first Air Force surfer to win the competition in 1970, and Ollney and I took turns winning the competition through 1974," said Kellum.

"It's great to come back year after year and see the same old faces, though some of our faces are older than others," he said.

Among the younger faces was the Air Force's Makani McDonald, who shares a birth year with the inaugural competition.

McDonald had a great day on the waves June 27, winning the Best of Armed Forces long-board event and two second-place finishes, in the Best of Armed Forces and world short-board competitions. (AFPN)

Photo by Mark Bates

Air Force retiree Buster Kellum attacks a wave during the Military Surfing Invitational in Hawaii Sunday. Kellum took second place in three events helping the Air Force team earn second place overall in the Best of Branch competition.

Sports shorts

Golf tournament

The Firecracker 2004 Shootout Golf Tournament will be held Monday at 8:30 a.m. Format is two-man best ball for holes 1-6, two-man scotch scramble for holes 7-12 and two man total score for holes 13-18. Cost is \$30 for members, \$35 for Eglin Air Force Base members, \$40 for non-members and \$45 for guests. Players must have handicaps within seven strokes of each other. For more information, call the Gator Lakes Golf Club at 881-2251.

Youth skateboard camp

The youth center announces Skateboard Camp for kids ages 10-16, July 12-16 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the skatepark located at the Community Park. Participants will learn basic skills, newest techniques and safety measures of skateboarding and/or rollerblading on obstacles.

Register at the youth center and bring \$20 refundable deposit to guarantee commitment. For more information, call the youth center at 884-6355.

Coaches clinic

National Youth Sports Coaches Association will be conducting a coaches clinic for the upcoming soccer and flag football seasons Aug. 3 at 5 p.m. and Aug. 5 at 5:30 p.m. at the youth center. Prior to these clinic dates, please pick up the coach background information packages at the youth center. For more information, call the youth center at 884-6355.

Football, soccer registration

Flag football and soccer registration continues through July 30. Seasons kick off Sept. 18 through Nov. 20. Registration fees correspond

with the registration period. Early registration began Thursday and continues through July 16 at \$37 per youth or \$74 for two or more. Regular registration is July 19-30 at \$42 per youth or \$84 for two or more. Late registration is after July 30 at \$47 per youth or \$94 for two or more. For more information or to get the registration form, call the youth center at 884-6355.

Cheerleading registration

Cheerleading registration runs through July 30 for children ages 6 to 14. Cost is \$5 per child. Each participant must have a sports physical on file at the youth center. A coach/parent meeting is currently scheduled for Aug. 17 at 6 p.m. at the youth center. Also at the meeting, uniform measurements and a \$30 deposit will be required. For more information or to get registration form, call the youth center at 884-6355.