

TAILWIND

TRAVIS AFB, CALIF.

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VOLUME 27, NUMBER 30

EXERCISING
615th AMOS prac-
tices command,
control

– Page 3



BEING PREPARED
Readiness flight
helps Travis get
prepared

– Page 3



FIRE FIGHTING
615th AMOG battles
blazes across Amer-
ica's Southwest

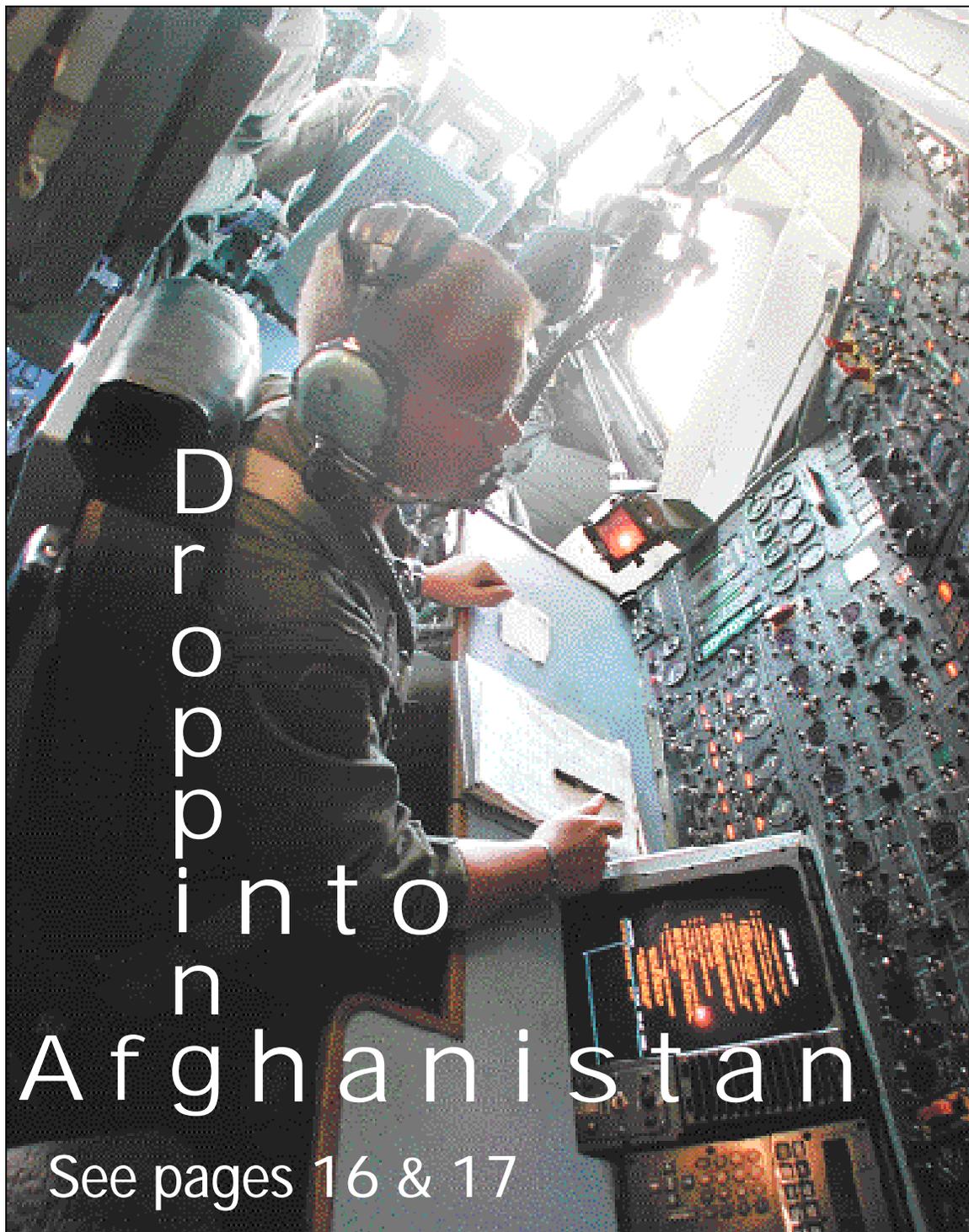
– Page 4

ARMY MISSION
Army 3rd Brigade,
91st Division, in the
spotlight

– Page 5



Have you updated
your will?



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See pages 16 & 17

Travis' operations tempo to pick up

By Col. Dave Lefforge
60th Air Mobility Wing commander

Ops tempo continues

The ops tempo supporting Operation Enduring Freedom and many other requirements continue at full speed. From mission planning to departure and employment, our team came together once again to ensure the safe and successful extension of our C-5s downrange. In place now for several weeks, deployed crews, maintainers, porters and other ops supporters have been accomplishing a very challenging and historic mission ... picking up forces and other assets in Kandahar, Afghanistan, and returning them to rear staging areas. Congratulations to everyone for a job well done, including those here at home who got the big package "out of town" in the first place.

Our taskings will likely increase near the end of the month — as the Air Expeditionary Force cycles rotate ... and we provide the necessary airlift and refueling capability to bring back folks finishing their deployments. In fact, we're about to redeploy our KC-10s to locations in Southwest Asia. At the same time we're continuing to prepare for the Expeditionary Operational Readiness Inspection-Initial Response scheduled in October. Our preparation for this will no doubt ensure an "outstanding" rating. Keep up the momentum as we go

Travis change of command

The Air Force today named Brig. Gen. Bradley S. Baker to assume command of the 60th Air Mobility Wing in September. Baker is currently serving as deputy director of Strategic Planning under the deputy chief of staff for Plans and Programs, headquarters, U.S. Air Force.

Col. David R. Lefforge will become professor of aerospace studies and commander of Detachment 820, U.S. Air Force Reserve Officers Training Corps at Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas.

Col. Lefforge took command of the 60th AMW just days after Sept. 11 and led the wing in providing critical airlift and refueling support during Operation Enduring Freedom.

Maj. Gen. John D. Becker, Fifteenth Air Force commander, stated, "Col. Dave Lefforge has done an outstanding job leading the 60th Air Mobility Wing through the turbulent initial phases of the war on terrorism. He has set high standards and provided a clear vision and path for the future. We are going to greatly miss Dave and Debbie! When it comes to Air Force teams they are unequaled.

"That said, we know that Gen. Baker and his wife Paula will continue to build on the strong foundation that 'Lone Star' put in place."

A date for the change of command has not been set.

through our checklists!

I know the inspectors will be as impressed as I am every single day ... and the results of your work are evident every day in support of operations and contingencies worldwide. Fortunately, we're not doing this alone ... the 349th Air Mobility Wing and 615th Air Mobility Operations Group also bring professionalism, capability and commitment to the fight.

The backbone of what we do, whether on the active duty or reserve side, is our NCO corps ... and it was an honor to welcome many newly promoted master sergeants into the senior enlisted tier during their seminar this week. They will have the opportunity to broaden their perspective and learn from each other ... but most importantly, they will sharpen their leadership tools for later use to help our airmen strive for integrity, excellence and service in all they do.

Homes at Travis

It has been a priority of mine to ensure as many quality homes on base. From your housing office, to civil engineers, finance, contracting and your wing's leadership, we continue to work very hard for airmen, NCO, senior NCO, company grade officer, field grade officer and senior officer housing. A very complex set of housing projects have been completed, many are currently underway, and much more is on the way. They're complex due to legislated and regulated restrictions and requirements, availability of funding in various fiscal years, and requirements to displace residents during construction. Admittedly, it hasn't been a perfect system. However, it has been successful for many — as judged by the hundreds of our families who have moved into better homes, resulting in immeasurable quality of life improvements. Quality housing for all who want it is a retention and a recruiting issue. More on the subject is explained later in this issue of the *Tailwind*.

But I want to talk to you for a moment about one specific area. Sometimes it's necessary to "think outside the box" when becoming a challenge. Ten homes in particular will be demolished during upcoming renovations and construction ... six are for senior officers (colonels), and four are prestige chief homes. Demolition of the prestige homes will occur soon, and I felt it necessary to move the four chiefs into four senior officer homes being vacated due to assignments of the residents. I had limited options available to displace them, and therefore, it was important to me to ensure these particular chiefs moved into adequate housing similar to those they occupy now. This is somewhat of an unusual move, since normally, our senior officers and senior NCOs don't live "on the same block." Also, in a year or so, six homes on Bradley Street, currently occupied by colonels, will be demolished and rebuilt, requiring us to displace those residents. Our plan is that they will live on a cul-de-sac in the new Ohio cul-de-sac area that will be completed soon. They in turn live temporarily in the

same neighborhood with company grade and field grade officer residents ... again, somewhat of an unusual situation.

Regardless, my closest advisors and I have thoroughly reviewed both these challenges, and I have decided they are the best options to take care of two particular groups. Let there be no question though, that EVERYONE on the magnificent Travis Team is important to me ... and we are trying our hardest to make life better for you all!

Arrivals and Departures

Speaking of taking care of people, the 60th Medical Group does that every single day of the year. Earlier this week, we changed commanders in the group as Col. Jim Young gave the reigns to Col. Jim Collier ... no small measure of responsibility, considering the group's center of gravity is the David Grant Medical Center, one of the finest hospitals Air Force wide. We'll miss Col. Young, but at the same time, we'll welcome Col. Collier and his family to the big Travis family.

Brig Gen (Sel) Richard E. Perrot, the new 15th Air Force vice commander, and his wife Joann, arrived this week and we welcome them too.

Also this week we wish a fond farewell to our vice commander, Col. Jan Swickard, who departs Travis in August, for Ramstein AB, Germany. He and his family have been part of the Travis community for over two years ... and we wish them the very, very best as they embark on this new adventure.

I'd also like to honor the memory of Maj. Gen. (retired) James C. Wahleithner, who died a week ago last Tuesday. He was a former 349th commander. This past Monday's memorial service was a stirring and sterling tribute to a great officer, leader, commander, family man and American. He will be missed by many in the Travis community.

Speaking of missing people you admire and enjoy working with, many of you are aware that a couple of senior officer announcements were made yesterday, and my family and I will be departing you soon for another assignment. Senior officer assignment notifications are not only sensitive, but complex, and they take a while to come out ... I know ... I've been associated with that "business" for over 16 years. In this case, my family and I made a personal decision last November to spend as much time as possible here, as your commander, until we needed to move on for family-related commitments. We will depart soon for an assignment to Texas, closer to my folks and my brothers. So, to make this loud and clear, this was a personal decision. For the time being however, we still have a lot to focus on ... and nobody is better at focusing on things than you are. Debbie, Amy, Tex and I have thoroughly been honored with our association with everyone at Travis, and in our community ... the finest assignment ever! Now, it's not over yet, so let's keep moving forward and we'll talk a little bit more about all this in a few weeks.

You are a magnificent team ... simply

Tailwind

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Staff Sgt. Jim Verchio / 60th AMW Public Affairs
Wingin' it: Staff Sgt. Bill Hoef, a flight engineer with the 782nd Expeditionary Airlift Squadron, deployed from Travis, performs a preflight at a forward operating location.

615th AMOS unit deploys for exercise



1st Lt. Angela Arredondo / 60th AMW Public Affairs

(Above), Senior Airman Mike Benge, 615th Air Mobility Operations Squadron, practices Ability to Survive and Operate techniques in preparation for an upcoming Inspector General exercise. (Right), Members of the 615th AMOS scout for the enemy during the exercise. The 615th will provide communications to other war fighters in a potentially hostile deployed environment during the upcoming IG exercise.



By 1st Lt. Angela Arredondo
60th AMW Public Affairs

A 12-member team from the 615th Air Mobility Operations Squadron recently deployed to Georgia to participate in a one-week exercise. They went to the Combat Readiness Training Center in Savannah, Ga. for an inspector general exercise, which will evaluate and inspect the unit's communications support capability.

"The 615th AMOS will provide communications to other war fighters in a potentially hostile, deployed environment," said Maj. Alexander Smith, chief of the 615th AMOS communications division. "Our personnel will set up and operate satellite communications, telephone services, ground-to-air communications to aircraft and computer network support. In addition, we will augment the deployed wing's force protection efforts before, during and after any hostilities."

The team is providing a smaller, modified package of command, control and communications, or C3, during the IGX for a broad range of Air Mobility Command units, consisting mostly of Air National Guardsmen and Reservists. The exercise mimics a realistic Air Expeditionary Group scenario. The IGX requires the agencies to establish a 24-hour, operational base from scratch, including setting up a functional flight line and supporting services.

"Working closely with the Guard and Reserves promotes the total force concept. This will provide a better working rela-

tionship if and when active duty and Guard or Reserve components are deployed together in real-world taskings," said Tech. Sgt. Bill Quick, noncommissioned officer in charge of the 615th AMOS communications division.

The team prepared for several weeks leading up to the deployment. Training tested several areas, such as the team's Ability to Survive and Operate in a hostile environment and their security measures. The unit conducted the ATSO training in the large, grassy field between Bldg. 381 and the museum earlier this month.

"ATSO consists of unexploded ordnance sweeps, perimeter and facility security, chemical or biological threats and training on how to adapt and react to any life-threatening situations. I feel confident that all team members can accomplish their primary missions, however, much of the team is new to the 615th AMOS and have not previously had extensive ATSO training," said Quick.

Now that the team has had the chance to work together extensively, they feel prepared for the challenges of the IGX.

"Our goals and objectives during the IGX are to meet the other war fighter's communications needs, to adapt quickly as those needs change and to provide the best, deployed communications support ever seen. Getting our Unit Type Codes, which are personnel or equipment requirements, rated 'green' by the inspector general is another goal, but if we do the aforementioned, a passing grade should be the byproduct!" said Smith.

CES Readiness Flight assists in protection during disasters

Story and photo by Airman 1st Class Alice Moore
60th AMW Public Affairs

When disaster strikes whether it has to do with Mother Nature or the actions of terrorists, the timeliness of a rapid response is necessary.

In order to ensure Team Travis and its assets are protected during these types of disasters, members of the 60th Civil Engineer Squadron's Readiness Flight stand ready to plan and assist.

The readiness flight manages Travis' Disaster Preparedness and Air Base Operability programs as well as their own squadron's Prime Base Engineer Emergency Forces program, said James Macaulay, 60th CES, readiness program specialist.

To be able to manage these programs, Macaulay says the flight spends time preparing emergency and contingency response plans in addition to coordinating the base's Nuclear, Biological, Chemical and Conventional warfare defense. The flight also schedules, conducts and documents training for Travis' DP, hazardous material, Ability to Survive and Operate and Prime BEEF, he said.

"We provide the material and training for people to be prepared for a disaster," said Macaulay. "After the training is done, it's up to the individuals to take the initiative to utilize what has been taught."

"Since Sept. 11, I think our purpose for being here is coming more into focus. The recent events around the world have put things more into perspective for people. Anything can happen and we all need to be prepared," said Master Sgt. Lisa

Guimond 60th CES readiness flight superintendent.

To meet the flight's responsibilities of training base personnel on chemical warfare, they also conduct four to six classes a week on chemical warfare, said Macaulay. It's during this time, trained personnel from the readiness flight instruct others on the proper wear of the chemical warfare gear.

In order to ensure individuals of how efficient gas masks work, readiness flight specialists guide course participants into a gas chamber filled with a tear agent. During this time, everyone is asked to remove his or her gas masks.

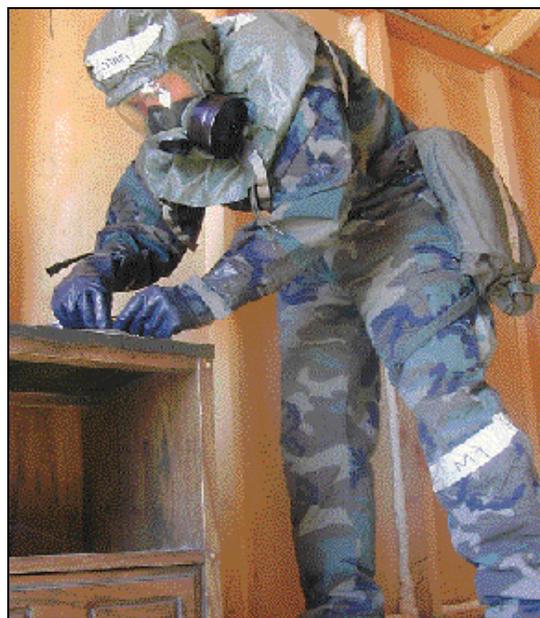
"We want everyone to know the masks really work," said Airman 1st Class Heather Leonnig, 60th CES readiness flight apprentice.

It wasn't until a few years ago that junior enlisted members such as Leonnig were able to train others on readiness issues, said Macaulay. For some time a job, like Leonnig's was only done by noncommissioned officers.

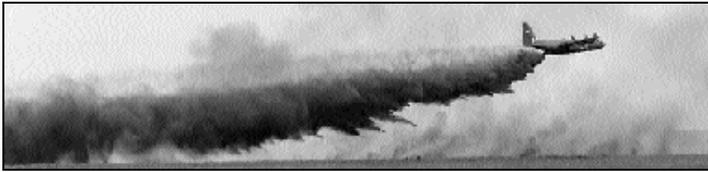
However, Macaulay says Leonnig as well as the other junior enlisted members of the readiness flight have proved they are more than capable of handling their responsibilities.

All in all, the flight stands ready to ensure the job gets done. Even with the increased deployments and operations tempo, members of the flight are still ready to assist having a positive attitude.

"It's rewarding to teach. By training people properly we're possibly saving someone's life," said Leonnig. "My favorite part of this job is the hands-on experience. We're the first responders."



Airman 1st Class Heather Leonnig, 60th Civil Engineering Squadron, prepares a tear agent for an upcoming chemical warfare training class.



Courtesy photo

A C-130 equipped with a Modular Airborne Fire Fighting Systems sprays chemical retardant over raging forest fires in the Southwest. Each MAFFS aircraft sports a large neon number to help firefighters on the ground identify them during retardant drops. The numbers can be removed so the aircraft can be used in a more traditional role.

Team Travis helps fight wildfires

By Maj. John Golden
715th Air Mobility Squadron

The 615th Air Mobility Operations Group recently deployed for the second year in a row to support a traditional Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve mission — fighting forest fires from the sky.

I deployed to Boise, Idaho in June to bring the AMOG's unique command and control expertise to the fight. I was attached to the 146th Air Expeditionary Group — their mission is to provide centralized command and control of all military airborne firefighting operations. Brig. Gen. John Iffland, 146th AEG commander, organizes this task force annually, bringing nearly 200 personnel and eight specially-equipped C-130s to support firefighting efforts in 10 western states.

The 146th AEG is co-located with the National Interagency Fire Center, which brings together seven federal agencies and fights the fires from their national command post at Boise International Airport. NIFC and the 146th AEG work hand-in-hand to make sure the right assets are allocated to fight the biggest and most dangerous fires. During the 2001 season I served as Operations Officer for the AEG, and this season I served as Director of Staff.

The 146th AEG stood up for the first time during the 2001 fire season. Last year, the 146th was the first-ever air expeditionary group set up for a real-world contingency on U.S. soil. In addition to execut-

ing new doctrine for the first time, the 146th AEG is laying the groundwork for new joint doctrine that will define Department of Defense and multi-agency response to all national disasters. It's one step beyond the joint and combined operations arena.

To fight the fires, Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve aircrews fly C-130s specially equipped with Modular Airborne Fire Fighting Systems. MAFFS are custom-built pallets with large tanks that are filled with up to 3,000 gallons of fire-retardant material. Over the fire, MAFFS-equipped aircraft can airdrop a line of retardant 1/4 to 1/2-mile long and 300 feet wide. The retardant is a special mixture of 70 percent water and 30 percent "solid material" that is stained red so firefighters can immediately evaluate the effectiveness of the drops. The retardant mixture is a viscous mix that is thicker than water, and also includes fertilizer to help promote reforestation. By coating the trees and shrubs, the liquid breaks the "fire triangle" of heat, fuel and oxygen by removing the flammability of the fuel and the necessary oxygen — stopping the fire in its tracks.

This season, the MAFFS have fought fires in several western states, including the two massive fires that made national headlines near Denver, Colo. and Phoenix, Ariz. The 146th AEG's task force includes Air National Guard MAFFS from North Carolina, Wyoming and California plus the Air Force Reserve MAFFS from Peterson

AFB, Colo. The MAFFS augment a fleet of 41 civilian tankers that fly the same mission and respond to fires throughout the nation.

This year's fire season is only half over, but over 3,600,000 acres have burned—almost two million acres above last season's total. About 100 new fires are reported every day during the peak summer months. On average, about three of those fires burn out of control but most of them are put out by local firefighters and smoke-jumpers. Only a very small percentage of fires burn as large as the one that destroyed over 300,000 acres near Denver in June.

Air National Guard and Air Force Reserves MAFFS aircrews have been performing this challenging mission for years, and are remarkably trained and very professional. Last season, I was lucky enough to fly on two airborne firefighting missions with the Charlotte, NC ANG's 145th Airlift Group. We flew to a large fire near Salt Lake City, then dropped down to 150 feet in the mountains to release the retardant. The flying is as real as it gets — over hills and down into valleys to lay the retardant in the right spot. We got so close to the fire that the whole plane was filled with the smell of burning pines. It was an extraordinary mission — just one of a several dozen flown every day by our Guard and Reserve partners.

For more information about NIFC and the western wildfires go to www.NIFC.gov.

Air Force general praises C-17 from cockpit

CHARLESTON AIR FORCE BASE, S.C. — When Air Force Lt. Gen. Charles "Chuck" Wald talks about the C-17 Globemaster III transport, he can't help talking about the other services.

"The C-17 is a great strategic asset. I compare it to an aircraft carrier. That's how important it is to the United States," said Wald, the Air Force's deputy chief of staff for Air and Space Operations. "This aircraft means a lot to the other services, particularly to the Army and Marines because of its capability of rapid mobility."

Wald made his comments July 16 after delivering the 88th production model on its maiden flight here from the Boeing assembly plant in Long Beach, Calif. The veteran pilot said he loves the new C-17s.

"This aircraft doesn't compare to anything I've ever flown," Wald said. The general has flown mostly fighters, F-16s and F-15s, during his 31 years of service. He has logged more than 3,200 flying hours, including more than 450 combat hours over Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, Iraq and Bosnia.

"I called Gen. John Handy, commander of U.S. Transportation Command and Air Mobility Command, while airborne and told him I'm switching from fighters to C-17s," Wald said. "It's an unbelievable aircraft and flies like a dream. It flew a lot like an F-15. It is hard to believe you have that much weight behind you when you are flying it."

"If you look at other countries in the world, they drool over the capability we have with this aircraft," he said. "That's the big difference between us and other countries. We can get anywhere we need

rapidly, and the C-17 is one of the reasons we can do that.

"If it had not been for the C-17, we would not have gotten the Marines into Camp Rhino or the Army into Kandahar," Wald continued, referring to the Air Force's early contributions to Operation Enduring Freedom. "We closed out the Army four days early when they went into Afghanistan. You can't ask for more."

He added the crew's ability to land the plane on austere runways as short as 3,000 feet and to quickly unload oversized cargo were key advantages. The new aircraft, dubbed a Block 13 version, contains improvements to the onboard computers, to include a warning system that maps terrain and helps pilots avoid obstacles.

The new aircraft also has a new reactive wind-shear warning system on the heads-up-display and its Station Keeping Equipment are updated to allow pilots to keep track of their location relative to up to 99 other aircraft flying in formation over a 100-square-mile area.

C-17s have featured onboard extended-range tanks for 60,000 extra pounds of fuel since the Block 12 versions. "The additional tanks allow about four to five more flying hours," said Capt. Bill Hansen, 14th Airlift Squadron C-17 instructor pilot, who helped deliver the new aircraft.

Wald described the new terrain warning system as extremely helpful when flying the C-17. "The system gives you a warning a large distance out, and it gives you the right directions up or down to avoid those obstacles," he said.

He noted the new system was worldwide compatible.

The Air Force has funding for 120 C-17s through 2003.

NEWS NOTES

Critical need

David Grant Medical Center has blood drives every Tuesday in the second floor laboratory from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. There is a critical need for blood due to a nation wide shortage. You can make a difference. For more information, call 424-5565.

Seminar for Airmen

There will be an Airmen professional growth and development seminar Thursday from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. It is for E-3s and below who want to succeed in the Air Force. Airmen will learn how to earn credibility, gain influence, and get recognized and promoted. To register, call the Family Support Center at 424-2486.

Test pilot school

The test pilot school at Edwards AFB, Calif., is accepting applications for the July 2003 and January 2004 classes. Applications must be received by Sept. 19 for consideration in the Nov. 4 to 9 board. The application process is outlined in Air Force Instruction 99-107. For more information on the test pilot school and application procedures, call Maj. Tom Floring or Howard Peterson at (210) 565-2306 or DSN 665-2306.

Reserves

Anyone interested in joining the Air Force Reserves can call 424-1919.

Recall

The Coleman Company has issued a recall for its Mosquito Deleto TM and Back Home TM model traps due to leaking propane regulators and hoses. For more information call 424-3683.

Raising Funds

There will be a car wash fundraiser on Aug 14, at the Family Support Center parking lot from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. for the Yountville Veteran's Home. During the Christmas holiday season, Travis personnel take a trip up to the home to visit the veterans. Funds generated from this car wash will aid in that effort. Anyone interested in volunteering can call 424-3777.

SQUADRON SPOTLIGHT

TRAVIS AIR FORCE BASE

Army, 3rd Brigade, 91st Division

Commander

Col. Mark Stapleton
 Command Sergeant Major
 Command Sgt. Maj. Thomas Hawkins
 Mission

The 3rd Brigade, 91st Division, provides pre-mobilization training assistance and support to the U.S. Army Reserve and National Guard units stationed in California, Nevada and Arizona. The Brigade assists units deploying or redeploying while providing continuous leader and collective training to combat support and service support units. The Brigade also provides military support to civil authorities as the Department of Defense Coordinating Element for disaster relief operations for Federal Emergency Management Agency Region IX under the Federal Response Plan.

Personnel

The 3rd Brigade, 91st Division, is comprised of a Brigade Headquarters and five subordinate battalions with more than 430 soldiers. As a fully integrated multi-component unit, the 3rd Brigade, 91st Division, is comprised of active Army, Army Reserve, Army National Guard and 14 civilians. The Brigade is geographically dispersed with the headquarters located at Travis; the 1/363rd Training Support Battalion is located in Dublin, Calif.; the 2/363rd Training Support Battalion is in Phoenix, Ariz.; the 3/363rd Training Support Battalion is at Los Alamitos, Calif.; the 2/360th Training Support Battalion is located at Lathrop, Calif.; and the 3/356th Logistics Support Battalion is located at Fort Hunter Liggett, Calif.

Capabilities and Recent Significant Events

The 3rd Brigade, 91st Division, enables Army Reserve and Army National Guard units to prepare for war by assisting, assessing, training and mentoring on a continuous basis. Additionally, the Brigade coordinates support to civilian authorities from all Services during disaster relief operations. Each training support battalion contains observer controller/trainer teams that provide tactical and technical training and evaluation for combat support and combat service support units. Since Sept. 11, the Brigade has mobilized approximately 70 reserve and guard units into the active force in support of national security.

Unit Recognition

The brigade was commended for outstanding contributions to DoD Joint Task Force-Consequence management



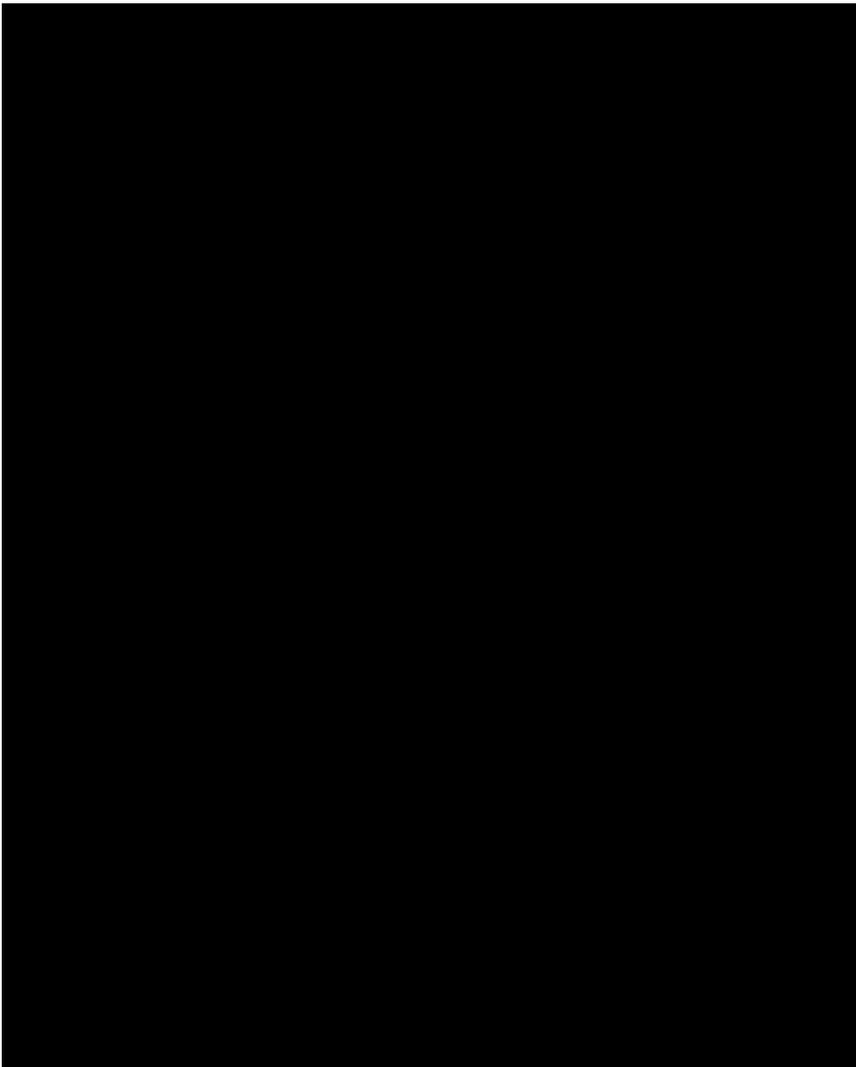
Courtesy photo

Soldiers of the Army Reserve conduct small unit training at Camp Roberts, Calif., during a joint, multi-component exercise.

Deployment Exercise Cascade Shift for 2002.

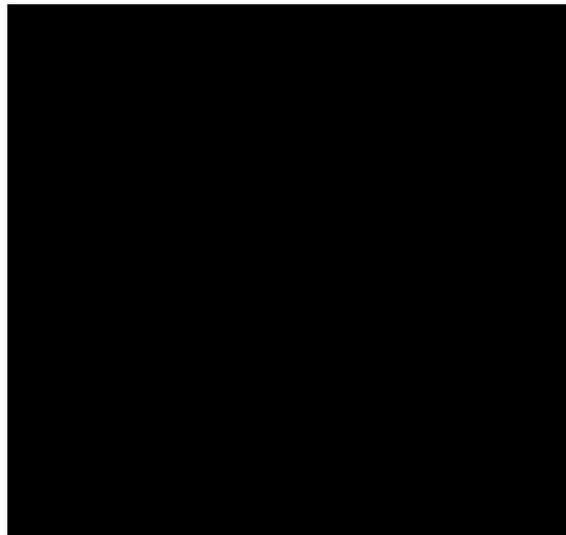
Individual Recognition

Division Soldier of the Year for 2002: Specialist Dawn Daniel, 1/363rd Battalion
 Division NCO of the Year for 2002: Sgt. William Taylor, 2/363rd Battalion



Staff Sgt. Rhonda Moraski / AFPN

Nose lift:
 Staff Sgt. Tim Williams, a Travis loadmaster, assists in the loading of a Spanish Humvee to a C-5 Galaxy July 19 at Moron Air Base, Spain. The equipment is part of an assistance-in-kind exchange with Spain. The C-5 crew delivers contributed Spanish assets to forward-deployed locations supporting Operation Enduring Freedom.



Base improves housing

By 60th Civil Engineer Squadron

Base leaders and civil engineers continue to make progress in improving the quality and availability of housing at Travis. Several initiatives are underway to improve the situation, to include the demolishing and rebuilding of more than 150 units in the State Street area—the neighborhood which includes Texas, Nebraska, Michigan, Wyoming, Ohio, Virginia, New York, Delaware, and Colorado Streets. Fifty-six of the rebuilt units, to be completed by late December, will be identical to those existing ones in the Village of Mather Manor — single-story, three-bedroom duplexes with family rooms. In the same area, another 100-unit project is underway as the old units will be replaced by new two-story, three- and four-bedroom homes similar to those in the Village of Castle Terrace.

In March 2003, a third housing construction project for 110 new units will begin. Many of the existing company grade and senior non commissioned officer homes will be affected, to include those on Cannon Drive, Fitzgerald Drive, and Clark, Cullen, and Glenn Courts, in addition to four homes which house chief master sergeants' families on Texas and Kentucky streets. In the meantime, company grade officers and senior NCO's families on Cannon, Fitzgerald, Cullen, Glenn courts affected by this

project will be relocated to the 56 new duplex homes on Texas, Nebraska, Michigan, and Wyoming streets before construction starts. In addition, the four affected chief families on Kentucky and Texas will be temporarily housed in former senior officer homes on Bradley Street, with later relocation to a permanent residence. The other homes along Bradley will not be used. They are set aside for demolition and replacement in 2004.

Travis will continue to receive the funds and execute the projects to improve base housing — building new units while improving existing homes. Many of the successful efforts are possible because of the close partnership between the 60th civil engineers and the Navy, and because of the construction firm Lend Lease ACTUS. The Travis Housing Office is also a key player in the initiatives. To prevent the stressful relocation of military families off base, this agency will continue to accommodate interested military members with housing on base using all available residences.

The long-term vision is to establish Travis as the premier west coast Air Force installation with the highest quality of military homes. This goal has been reinforced by a master plan to demolish and rebuild nearly 1,100 additional homes at Travis.

Restoration Advisory Board helps ... Community members support base cleanup

By Linda Weese
60th AMW Public Affairs

Like most industrial facilities, Travis receives a lot of attention from both federal and state regulatory agencies. Their role is to ensure the base follows environmental laws and regulations while conducting its mission. However, few people are aware of the role a group of local community members have in cleaning up the base.

This group is known as the Travis Restoration Advisory Board, and its members serve a two-year term. These volunteers represent the cities of Solano County and meet once a quarter with representatives from the 60th Civil Engineer Environmental Flight to discuss progress in cleaning up contaminated soil and ground-water sites, budget issues and upcoming projects. After each meeting, RAB members share this information with their community leaders and neighbors and answer questions and concerns they may have. In addition, several smaller RAB committees meet throughout the quarter to provide guidance on community relations and environmental programming issues.

The organizations that the

board represents are as varied as their backgrounds. Currently, RAB members come from federal and state environmental agencies, local business, environmental groups, the Travis Unified School District and interested citizens. The quarterly RAB meetings are co-chaired by the base vice wing commander and an elected community member.

The Travis Restoration Advisory Board recently changed several of its members and currently lacks a military representative.

"Master Sgt. Dan Negron was our last military member and he retired about six months ago," said Al Brickeen, restoration program manager. Ann D'Lima, the wife of a military member, also served on the board, Brickeen continued.

"To truly have an effective RAB, we need to have a cross section of membership that represents the entire Solano County community, which includes Travis," said Col. Jan Swickard, 60th Air Mobility Wing vice commander. "A military member or spouse on the RAB is very important because they voice the environmental concerns of their peers."

Over the years, the RAB has provided valuable recommendations to guide the base

cleanup program. An example is the cleanup of the maintenance yard at the Cypress Lakes Golf Course, located about three miles north of the base.

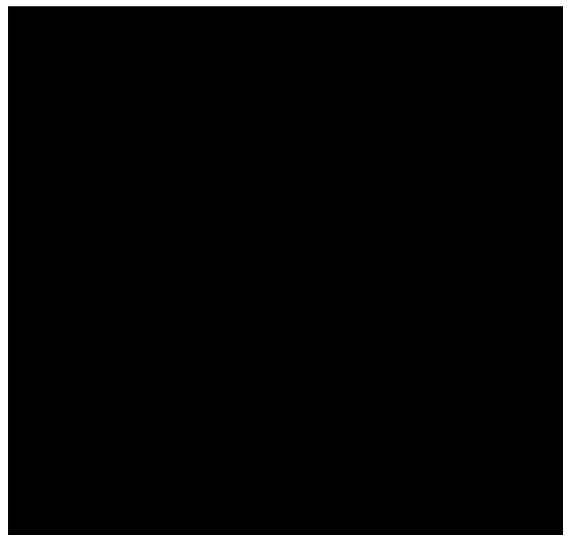
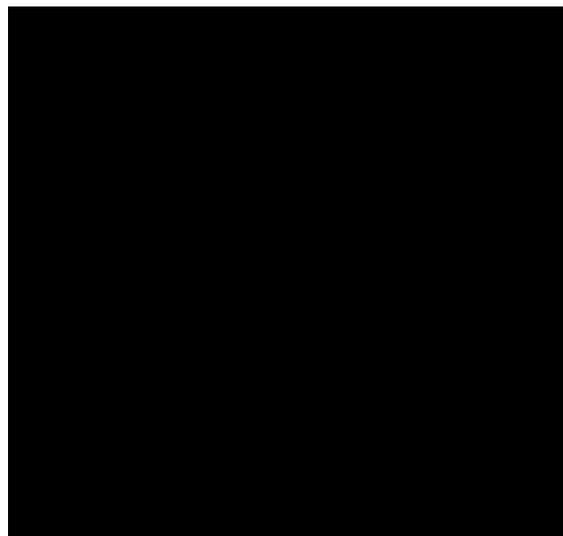
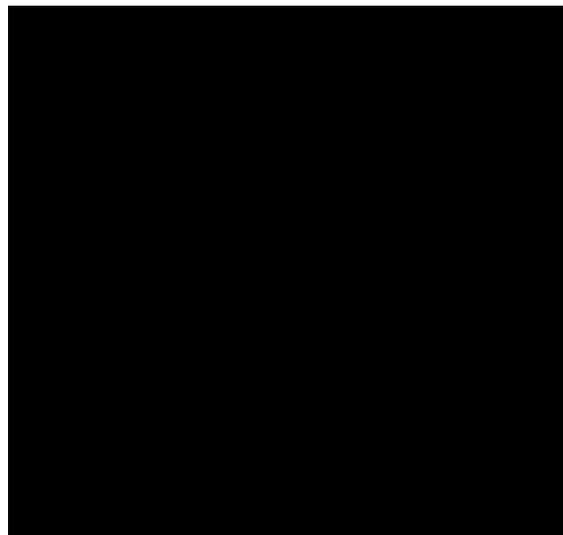
"During one meeting several years ago, the RAB asked us to look for ways to speed up the soil cleanup part of the program," Brickeen said.

"Through their suggestions and support, we found a way to expedite the removal of pesticide-contaminated soil and clear the land for unrestricted use."

"We get along well with the board members, although they often ask tough questions and demand honest answers," said Glenn Anderson, base hydrologist. "I see this as a good thing, keeping us on our toes and making sure that we have kept our neighbors in mind when making cleanup decisions."

"Besides supporting the environmental stewardship of the base, you would be a part of a group of people who are concerned about preserving and protecting the environment for future generations," Brickeen said.

For more information or if you are interested in becoming a RAB member, contact Al Brickeen at 424-3062.



Veteran retires for third time

An Army veteran recently retired again after 20 years of volunteer service. John Roth, 85, will retire from his service as a counselor at the Retiree Activities Office.

Roth, retired from Travis as a master sergeant in November 1962. After his time in the Air Force he went on to work at Mare Island for 20 years. Upon retiring from Mare Island he elected to volunteer at the Retiree Activities Office in 1982.

Roth was born Feb. 3, 1917 in North Dakota. He enlisted in the Army in 1940 and specialized in missiles. During his service in the Army he received numerous decorations and awards, to include the American Defense Service Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Korean Service Medal with two battle stars, and the World War II Victory medal.

Why I stay ...

View Point

Tech. Sgt. Allen Folsom
349th Medical Squadron

I stay because as a young boy I looked at the face of determination, hard work and sacrifice reflected in my father's eyes.

It inspired me. I stay because he, at age 86, is still haunted by those dreams, the dreams that seem all too real and compel him to awake early in the morning to calm his nerves with solitude and coffee.

I stay because his war, even though it is viewed now through the colored lens of time, is not over. He continues to fight it, every night, when he closes his eyes.

I stay because I look into the eyes of my sons and daughters and see that they need to see that there are

things larger than themselves, that require sacrifice and commitment.

I stay for my grandfather who used to tell me when I sat upon his knee. "I slept and dreamed that life was a beauty, I awoke and realized that life was a duty."



Courtesy photo

Tech. Sgt. Allen Folsom, 349th Medical Squadron, right, with his father, Edgar Roy Folsom Jr., who served in the Marine Corps and received the Navy Cross for Valor, Silver Star, Bronze Star and the Purple Heart.

Recent Airman Leadership School graduates

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| 60th Aircraft Generation Squadron | 60th Civil Engineer Squadron |
| Joseph Bauer | Patrick Natskakula Jr. |
| Steven Foley | Marvin Nickel |
| Latausha Freeman | Travis Nickerson |
| Thomas Herting | Jimmy Santos III |
| Mitchell Rowe | 60th Security Forces Squadron |
| Constance Thayer | Albert Branch III |
| Shawn Vivacqua | Christopher Campbell |
| Eric Williams | Robert Powers Jr. |
| 660th Aircraft Generation Squadron | Robert Royal Jr. |
| Carlisle Baptiste | Kenneth Stevenson |
| Timothy Bernau | 60th Services Squadron |
| Michael Latiolais | Anthony Rivera |
| Wayne Lewen Jr. | Maryrose Silvers |
| Randy Redman | 60th Aerospace Medicine Squadron |
| Dennis Ronnfeltd | Paul Crenshaw |
| Cameron Smith | Chloe Hayes |
| 60th Component Repair Squadron | Alexandros Kementzis |
| Melvin Bryant | Keith Ravenel |
| Jacob Elliott | 60th Medical Diagnostics And Therapeutic Squadron |
| Malcolm Summers II | Patricia Rodriguez |
| 60th Equipment Maintenance Squadron | Michelle Wahl |
| Grayson Adams | 60th Medical Operations Squadron |
| Philip Anderson | Veronica Ruiz |
| Sean Blocker | Tiffany Sanchez |
| 60th Supply Squadron | 60th Medical Support Squadron |
| Tanisha Manuel | Tennile Sicoli |
| Arthur Schumann | 60th Medical Surgical Operations Squadron |
| 60th Aerial Port Squadron | Adebola Ayodele |
| Makau Hunter | 615th Air Mobility Operations Squadron |
| Larry Sigley Jr. | William Elliot Jr. |
| 22nd Airlift Squadron | 349th Aircraft Generation Squadron |
| Jarrod Clay | Parrish Sessler Jr. |
| 6th Air Refueling Squadron | 349th Aeromedical Staging Squadron |
| Jeffrey Sellon | Ekkasith Phixitxonh |
| 60th Operations Support Squadron | 349th Medical Squadron Detachment 2 |
| Charles Aguilar Jr. | Dion Duenas |
| Felicia Godley | 311th Training Squadron |
| Christopher Herrera | Dmitriy Achapkin |
| Haley Sanchez | John Kim |
| Eric Sanchez | 60th Communications Squadron |
| Amanda Sizemore | James Matthews II |
| 60th Communications Squadron | 60th Mission Support Squadron |
| James Matthews II | Rose Stephenson |
| 60th Mission Support Squadron | 55th Aerial Port Squadron |
| Rose Stephenson | Benedict McCrackern |



Fini flight: Col. Jan Swickard, 60th Air Mobility Wing vice commander, gets hosed down July 25 after completing his final KC-10 flight at Travis. Swickard is PCSing to Ramstein Air Base, Germany.

CRIME STOPPER

TRAVIS POLICE ACTIVITY BLOTTER

Security Forces activity July 22 – 28

July 22

Animal control Bldg. 688
Burglary on Lamb Court
Minor vehicle accident on Hickam Avenue
Theft of government property in the dormitories

July 23

Minor vehicle accident at Bldg. 381
Damage to private property at Bldg. 381
Juvenile mischief on Hackett Street
Domestic disturbance on Bond Street

July 24

Minor vehicle accident in the dormitories
Minor vehicle accident on Hickam Avenue
Minor vehicle accident at the Main Gate

July 25

Damage to government property in the dormitories
Major vehicle accident at David Grant Medical Center
Minor vehicle accident at the Hospital Gate
Domestic disturbance at billeting

July 26

Animal control on Norton Street
Minor vehicle accident at Bldg. 648
Attempted identity theft in base housing

July 27

Juvenile mischief at the Skate Park
Loud noise complaint on Illinois Street

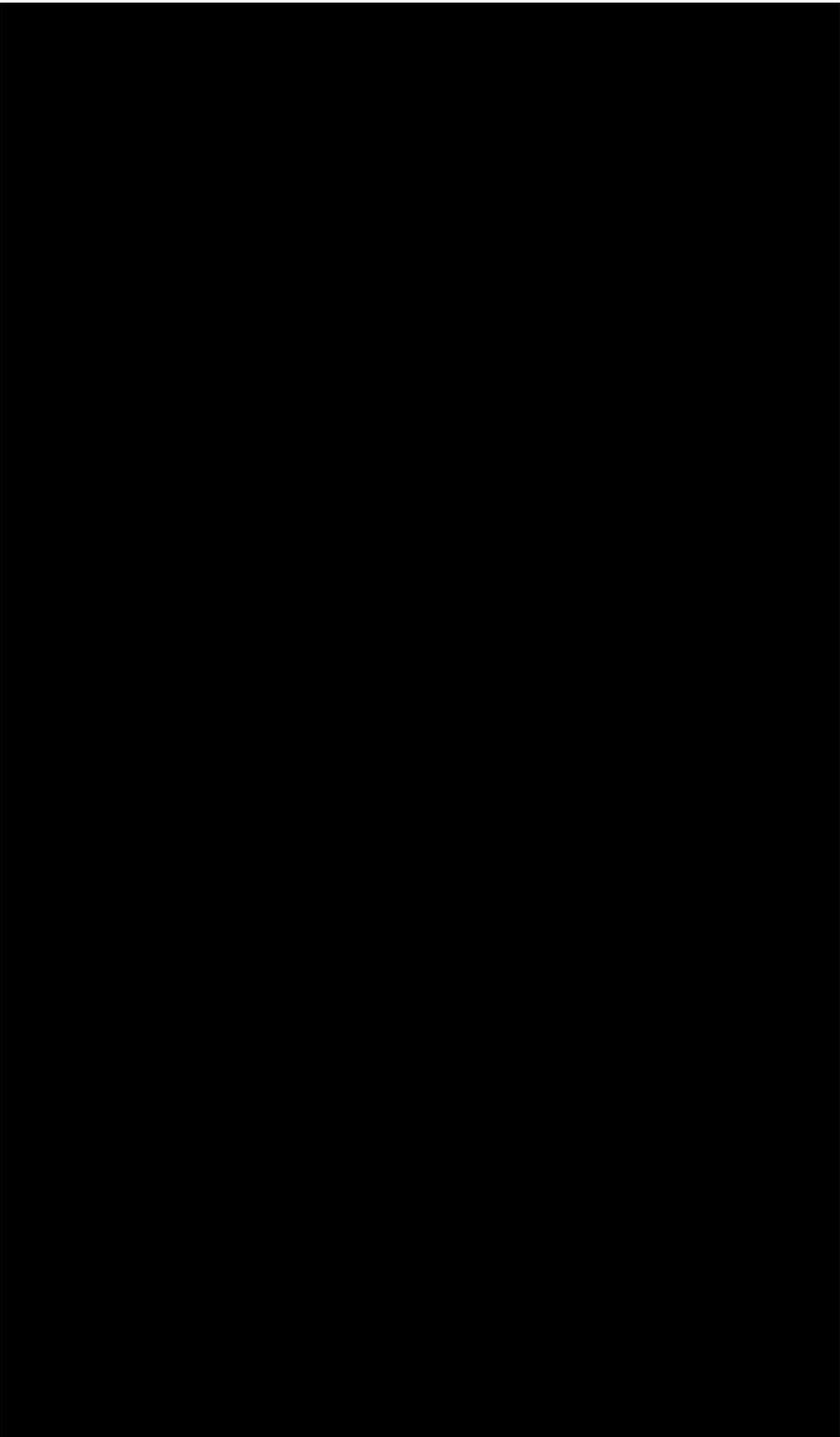
July 28

Domestic assault on Harmony Court
Verbal altercation at Billeting
Assistance rendered with irate patient at DGMC

Announcement

The Fairfield Police Department is hosting their 7th Annual Pig Out at the Pond Barbeque next Friday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Fairfield Civic Center Pond. This event is open to the public and showcases local area emergency response agencies. Come out and see displays ranging from Fire Response to Emergency Watercraft to Special Weapons and Tactics team demonstrations. The Explosive Ordnance Disposal, Security Forces and Fire Department will represent Travis emergency personnel.

The best guests to invite to a party are the designated drivers.



On the road again?

Take charge of your move with free relocation planning at the Family Support Center. Call 424-2486.





Check out Air Force
online news at
www.af.mil.

Security Forces night out against crime

Tailwind staff

Tuesday, neighborhoods throughout Travis are being invited to join forces with thousands of communities nationwide for the 19th Annual National Night Out crime and drug prevention event. National Night Out is sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch and co-sponsored locally by the 60th Security Forces Squadron and the Travis Housing Security Association. It will involve more than 9,000 communities from all 50 states, U.S. territories, Canadian cities, and military bases around the world. In all, worldwide, nearly 30 million people are expected to participate in the event.

National Night Out is designed to heighten crime and drug prevention awareness, generate support for, and participation in, local anti-crime efforts, strengthen neighborhood spirit and police community partnerships, and send a message to criminals letting them know neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

The Security Forces and the Mayors from the Travis Housing Security Association will be hosting a Travis Block

Party located at Travisville Park (across from Chapel Center off of Cannon Avenue) from 4 p. m. to 8 p. m. on Tuesday. Residents in neighborhoods across the nation and Travis are asked to lock their doors, turn on outside lights, and spend the evening outside with neighbors and police.

The playgrounds at Travisville Park as well as the basketball courts will be available. There will be free hot dogs and drinks as well as other entertainment such as fun activity booths, child fingerprinting, a dunk tank, a bouncing castle, Security Forces K-9 and Emergency Services Team Demonstrations will be available. Sparky the fire dog and McGruff the Crime Dog will make an appearance. There will also be several free give-away raffles. The last event will be a vehicle parade and citizen vigil march concluding with the singing of the National Anthem back at Travisville Park.

Anyone interested in participating in this event and hosting their own neighborhood block party should contact Staff Sgt. Baumeyer at 424-5312. National Night Out is possible only with the support from the community.

Family Support Center offers new program

Dr. Steven Covey's '7 Habits' with an Air Force twist

By Airman 1st Class Alice Moore
60th AMW Public Affairs

It's beneficial for families to have time to discuss issues to help them to be better prepared for the Air Force way of life.

— Joan Bueto
Family Support Center
director

The Family Support Center is offering a new workshop titled Seven Habits of Highly Effective Air Force Families beginning Aug. 23.

The workshop is modeled after other workshops the Family Support Center has offered such as "The Seven Habits of Highly Effective Families" and "The Seven Habits of Highly Effective Teens."

"It's beneficial for families to have time to discuss issues to help them to be better prepared for the Air Force way of life," said Joan

Bueto 60th Mission Support Squadron, Family Support Center director.

Bueto adds that the difference between the new workshop and the other seven habits workshops is that this workshop is tailored to specifically address four family dynamic issues identified by the Air Force. The four issues include family, financial, relocation and separation.



The workshop will be the first conducted in the Air Force. It is a pilot program and Travis was selected as the test site, said Bueto.

Once participants complete the workshop, they will be asked to answer a survey after 60 days to determine if the program was useful.

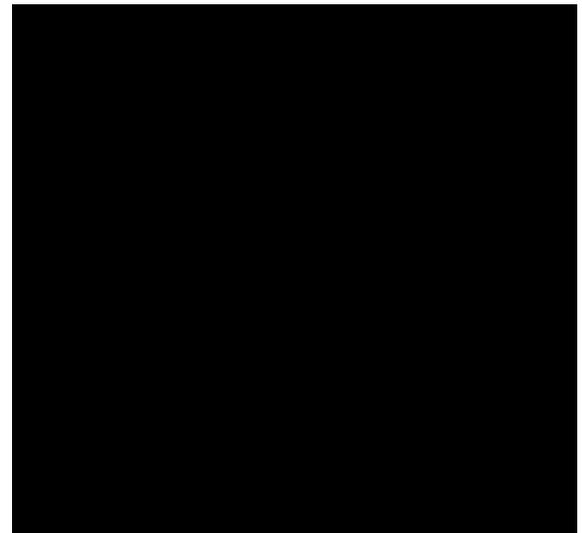
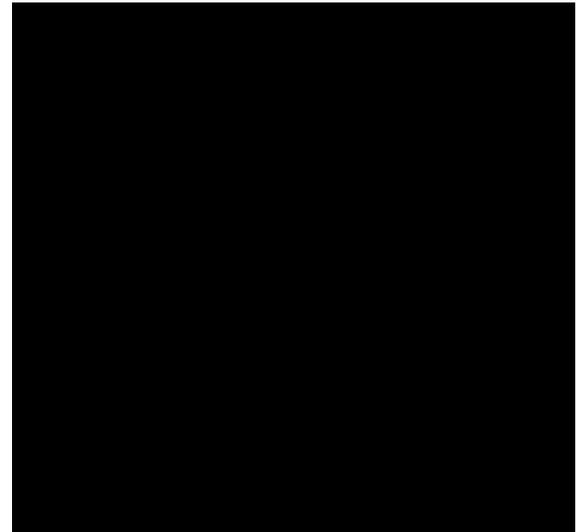
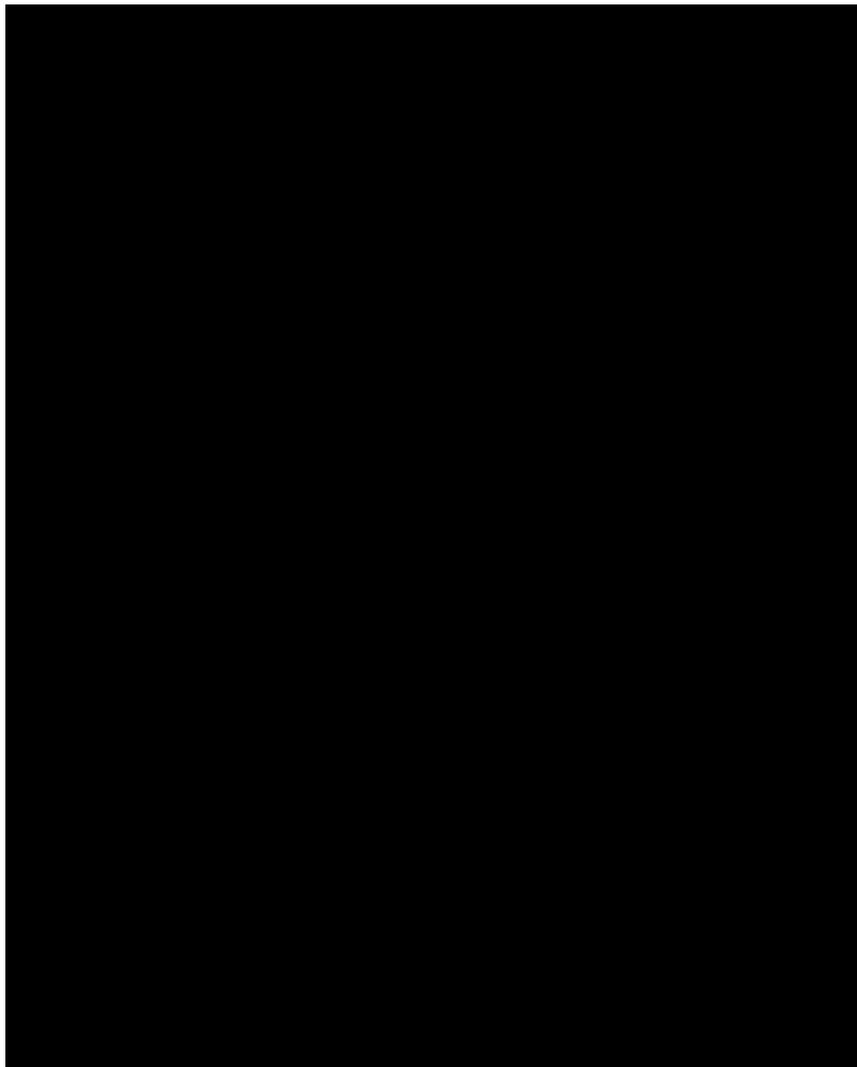
"What's unique about this program is you have the ability to work on any of these issues you chose to," said Bueto. "Relocation can be just as stressful

as a family facing a deployment. This workshop is focusing more on the readiness aspect of the four dynamic issues as apposed to only deployments."

The workshop will be held in the Family Support Center, building 660. The first workshop will run from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. The other scheduled workshops will be held Aug. 24 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Sept. 5 from 6 p.m. 9 p.m. and Sept. 6 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

"Our Air Force mission is building individuals from within," said Bueto. "We like to be given the opportunity to do that."

For more information, call the FSC at 424-2486.



Announcements**Adult trips**

Sign up for upcoming trips with Outdoor Recreation designed for the over-21 crowd. Take a tour of the Napa Valley wine country, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Aug. 10. Visit local wineries and quaint towns. Transportation is \$12. Attend a Reno turn-around to the Silver Legacy casino, 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. Aug. 13. Pay \$15 for transportation and get \$10 cash back. Call Outdoor Rec at 424-0970 to reserve seats.

Services**Today**

▲ It's the last day to sign up for the one-day course offered through the Fitness Center to become a nationally certified cycling instructor. The class is from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday. The cost is \$200. Sign up at the Fitness Center, call Barbara Hickenbottom at 424-0989 or e-mail her at Barbara.hickenbottom@travis.af.mil for more information.

Saturday

▲ Visit Pier 39 and Fisherman's Wharf with Outdoor Recreation, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.. Transportation is \$12 for adults and \$7 for children.

▲ Sign up for swimming lessons at the Travis Aquatic Center at 8 a.m. Lessons are \$30 per person and are available for all skill levels. Lessons include a "Mommy & Me" class. The next two-week session runs from Monday through Aug. 15. Call 424-5283 for more information.

▲ Give Parents a Break is held from 1 to 5 p.m. at Child Development Center 3 and the Youth Center. Call any first sergeant for more information.

Monday

▲ Monday Night Football at the Delta Breeze Club opens with the preseason Hall of Fame game at 5 p.m. The Houston Texans take on the New York Giants in Canton, Ohio. Free snacks and drink specials will be served in the Gold Rush Lounge.

Tuesday

▲ Story time for preschoolers at the Mitchell Memorial Library is from 9:30 to 10 a.m.

▲ "Guys & Dolls Jr." opens and runs through Thursday. Show times are 2 and 7 p.m. at the base theater. Advance tickets are sold at the Travis Bowl and the Youth Center. Matinees are \$3 for adults and \$2

for children. Evening shows are \$4 for adults and \$3 for children. After Monday, tickets costs increase by \$1.

Wednesday

▲ The Teen Center offers teen golf and swimming, 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.. The cost is \$45 per person. Call the Teen Center at 424-3131 for details.

Family Support**Monday**

▲ Spouse employment orientation is 9 to 10 a.m. at the Family Support Center for newly arriving spouses, spouses returning to work or spouses wishing to explore new career opportunities. Tap into career focus networking, look at hundreds of job opportunities and learn about the career development classes at the FSC. Call 424-2486.

Wednesday

▲ WIC representatives will be at the FSC from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. by appointment only. Call 435-2200.

Thursday

▲ WIC representatives will be at the FSC from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. by appointment only. Call 435-2200.

▲ The budgeting and credit class is from 9 to 11 a.m. at the FSC. Call 424-2486.

Weekly

▲ Check listings posted at the FSC for job vacancies from off-base companies and agencies in the local area and nationwide, for state, county, city and some federal government positions. In addition, Internet access vacancy listings are also available and contain nationwide, worldwide and federal job listings. For more details, call 424-2486.

▲ Get the free loan of household items such as cookware, high chairs, cribs, futons and small appliances from the FSC if you are relocating and your household goods are in transit. All loans require a copy of PCS orders before the loan can be made. If PCS orders are not available, only the active or retired member may process the loan. Unique situations will be handled on a case-by-case basis. For more information call 424-2486.

▲ Those preparing to make a permanent change of station move should see the relocation assistance manager at the FSC to help with planning and to help build a road map of necessary services you needed during the relocation process. This



Gridiron gold: *The Air Force is giving away tickets to the Super Bowl, Pro Bowl and Dallas Cowboys—San Francisco 49ers game during Football Frenzy. The Delta Breeze Club is giving away DVD players, TVs and home theater systems from Complete Connections during Monday Night Football. Stop by the Gold Rush Lounge every Monday at 5 p.m. to watch the game on the big screen and enter to win great prizes.*

includes an assessment to identify both immediate and long-term relocation needs and referral services to those capable of providing assistance. For an appointment, call 424-2486.

▲ Those planning to be married or have been recently married should pick up a pre-marriage packet at the FSC. The packet includes helpful information and resources for military members, spouses, and spouses-to-be. Before and after marriage help is included as well as information on minimizing the challenges of getting married in the military and navigating the military system.

Family Advocacy**NPSP service**

The New Parent Support Program offers support, referral services, education and information on subjects such as pregnancy, childbirth, fatherhood, newborn care, breast/bottle feeding, nursing mom's program and parenting. Participants also receive home or office visits, books, tapes and CDs. This one time class is held Wednesdays from 11:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. in the Family Advocacy clinic at David Grant Medical Center. Call 423-5168.

New dads boot camp

This is a program in which veterans (new fathers) show rookies (fathers-to-be) the ropes

of fatherhood. The program is for men only and is currently recruiting dads with babies 3 months old or younger and soon-to-be dads. Call 423-5168

Family wellness

Family Wellness class is held Tuesdays from 6 to 8 p.m. Topics include parents and children in healthy families, couples in healthy families, changes in children as they grow, solving family problems and passing on family values. Call 423-5168 to register.

Parenting class

Common Sense Parenting is a program for parents of children 3 years old and older. Topics include effective praise for good behavior, how to prevent problems before they occur and how to stop problem behavior. Classes are held at DGMC for five weeks. Call 423-5168 to register.

Chapel**Catholic services**

▲ Monday through Friday, 11:30 a.m., communion service or Mass, Chapel Center.

▲ Thursday, noon, Catholic communion service, DGMC Chapel.

▲ Saturday, 4 to 4:45 p.m., confessions, Chapel One.

▲ Saturday Mass, 5 p.m., Chapel One.

▲ Sunday Mass, 9 a.m., Chapel One.

▲ Sunday, 9 a.m. children's liturgy of the Word, Chapel One.

▲ Sunday Mass, 12:30 p.m., Chapel Center.

Protestant services

▲ Friday, noon, 30-minute worship service, DGMC Chapel.

▲ Sunday, 8 a.m., community, praise and worship service, Chapel Center.

▲ Sunday, 10:30 a.m., community worship service, Chapel Center. Nursery class for kids 3 months to 3 years.

▲ Sunday, 11 a.m., community Gospel service, Chapel One.

Jewish services

First Fridays, 7 p.m., Sabbath services and third Saturdays, 10 a.m. Sabbath services are temporarily meeting off-base. Call 424-3217 for locations.

Contemporary

Sundays, 5 p.m., Inside Out, Chapel Center. Children's program provided. For more information, contact Chaplain Herb Shao at 424-3943.

Special class offering

A book study of "A Woman's Guide to Spiritual Warfare" begins Monday at 7 p.m. at Chapel Center. For more information, call Rachel Coggins at 424-3217.

Arrive Alive!

Don't drink and drive.



Stressed out?

Take time everyday to wind down. If you feel your stress level has progressed to an unmanageable level, call the Behavioral Health Clinic Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at 423-5174.

DBC changing with the times

By Linda Mann
60th Services Squadron

Those who have been at Travis for a few years still refer to buildings by their old names: the Travis Conference Center is "the old Officers' Club" and the Family Support Center is "the old Enlisted Club." The co-located Delta Breeze Club is one of the newer buildings at Travis, offering entertainment, fine dining, music, pool and special events for both officers and enlisted club members.

"We listen to our customers and try to offer them the things they want," said Mark Larios, club manager. "Things like the Chinese Buffet on Wednesdays, Monte Carlo nights, Monday Night Football and entertainment."

The club is constantly changing with the needs and moods of its customers. The all-you-care-to-eat lunch buffet every Tuesday through Friday has something different on the menu each day. Tuesday is the chef's choice; the Wednesday Chinese Buffet has many different Oriental foods; Thursday is Mexican food and Burger Thursdays; Friday features seafood.

Parties and entertainment are part of what makes club membership so much fun. The Asian Pacific Islanders Association is co-hosting the DBC's Hawaiian Luau on Aug. 23. The luau includes traditional Polynesian recipes and entertainment. The menu includes: roasted pig, Adobo, Pancit, stir fry, seafood and more. Cocktails begin at 6 p.m., dinner at 6:30 p.m. Adult members are \$19.95, children 6 to 12 are \$8.95, non-members are \$22.95. Call Francis Anthony at 424-2191 for more information.

Although Wednesday night bingo is taking a hiatus, bar bingo is still going strong Tuesday and Thursday from 6 to 7 p.m. and Wednesday from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Enlisted Lounge. There are two games each night including an extra \$250 overall "blackout" jackpot on Wednesday.

This month, two new entertainment venues hit the E-Club. Thursdays have become comedy night in the Gold Rush Lounge twice a month. The club will invite stand-up comedians to entertain at 8 p.m. Dancing will follow until 11 p.m. The first Comedy Night is Aug. 22.

Friday now has two different types of music in the E-Club to please every ear. The new Jazz Party and Super Social Hour from 4:30 to 9 p.m. includes free hors d'oeuvres from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. and smooth danceable tunes with the Jazz Master.

At 9 p.m. Top 40 hits fill the air and dancing continues until the party ends.

The Gold Rush Lounge is hopping almost every night of the week with Salsa dancing on Tuesday, Karaoke and dancing on Wednesday and R&B and Top 40 on Saturday. But Monday night in the Lounge is for all ranks and ages, with Monday Night Football at 5 p.m. on the big screen TV.

Club members have special events just for them. The Tuesday Night Club Card Drawing offers weekly jackpots of at least \$200 in each lounge. In July, Bernard Jaworski won the highest Enlisted Club jackpot in years of \$1,675 just for being there when his name was called.

Membership Appreciation Nights offer an all-you-care-to-eat buffet dinner free to club members, and only \$5 for their dependents. Next Appreciation Nights are Sept. 19 at 5 and 7 p.m. for the enlisted members, and Sept. 24 at 6 p.m. for the officers.

The Delta Breeze Club will be offering special incentives for joining the club during the Electrified Membership Drive beginning in September. Call the DBC at 437-3711 for details.

To celebrate the 10th anniversary of Air Mobility Command, the DBC is offering a special dinner off of their Casual Dining Menu on Aug. 9 and 16. The Chicken Tenders Atlanta dinner and complimentary glass of Travis wine is only \$19.92 for two. ATWIND game pieces and a Passport stamp will also be given out to customers on Aug. 9 and 16.

No holds barred for public affairs NCO

By Capt. Dani Johnson

United States Air Forces in Europe Public Affairs

OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM — The first time he entered the cage, he believed he could physically dominate his opponent. While he did, he also learned that it might not always be the case.

When off duty, Staff Sgt. Steve Horton, from the 376th Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs office at Ganci Air Base, Kyrgyzstan, is an ultimate fighter.

Ultimate fighting, or extreme fighting, combines all forms of martial arts, kickboxing, grappling and submissions. The fights are held in a steel cage with minimal rules, basically no holds barred.

"I grew up wrestling, and after doing it for so many years, it became mundane and I lost some of my competitive drive," said Horton, who has been in the Air Force for 13 years and competitively wrestled on the Air Force team for nine years.

Ultimate fight managers approached Horton in 1997, while he was at the U.S. Wrestling National Competition, and asked if he was interested in the sport.

"I decided to try ultimate fighting because the early days were cool to watch and I also started seeing some of my wrestling buddies doing it and doing well," said the St. Louis native.

At the time, the sport was only legal in a few states. Horton traveled from Schreiver Air Force Base, Colo., to a casino in Council Bluffs, Iowa, for his first bout. Since then, the sport has evolved with rules, and most states have sanctioned the sport.

"The first time in the cage when the gate shuts, you realize there is no way out," said Horton, deployed here from

Scott Air Force Base, Ill. "I also learned that it's not all throwing and beating. There are definite techniques.

"You just can't grow up on the streets and expect to do well," he said. "You have to cross train and develop your own style."

Horton did not stop wrestling altogether. He did study ultimate fighting techniques to enhance his fighting capabilities, but his focus was on wrestling and making the Olympic team.

"I did pick up a fight once in a while," said Horton. "Promoters did call and ask me to fight because they knew I would put on a show, and that is what makes the event exciting."

He did not make the Olympics, and in April 2001, he stopped wrestling and turned his focus to ultimate fighting.

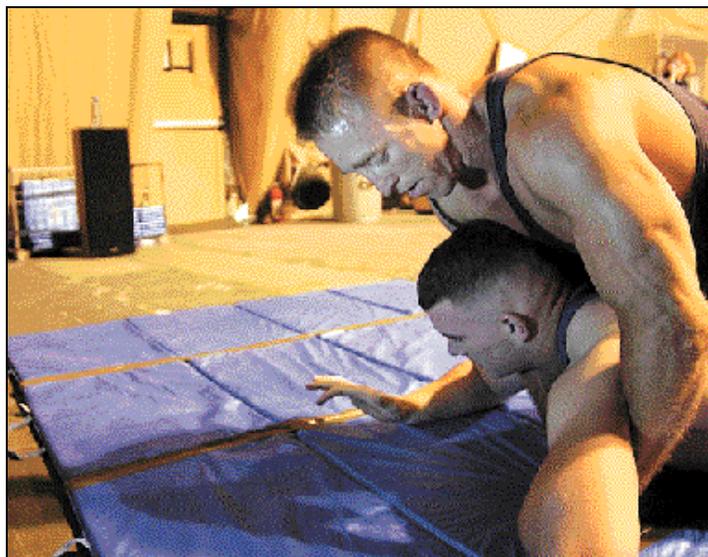
While an unusual off-duty activity, it has not interfered with his dedication to the military, or been an issue with his supervisors or his wife.

"The Air Force has never had a problem with me fighting," said Horton, recently selected for promotion to technical sergeant. "I've received the safety briefings and been lucky to have first sergeants and commanders who are familiar with the sport and know it is not a blood sport."

Horton's wife, 2nd Lt. Lisa Horton, currently at basic communication officer training course and also assigned to Scott AFB, was dating her husband when he told her about his desire to start ultimate fighting.

"I was a bit concerned about him participating in such an intensive sport and thought it was dangerous," said Lisa. "As I became more knowledgeable about it and realized it was safer than wrestling, I was excited."

At Ganci, Horton has found a grap-



Master Sgt. Keith Reed / AFPN

Staff Sgt. Steve Horton, deployed to Ganci Air Base, Kyrgyzstan, grapples with Marine Lance Cpl. Josh Miller, from Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, Calif., during a recent wrestling match. Horton, a public affairs noncommissioned officer from Scott Air Force Base, Ill., and former Air Force wrestler, is an ultimate fighter during his off-duty hours.

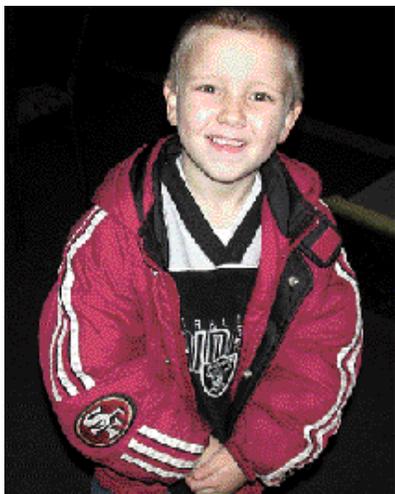
pling partner, Marine Lance Cpl. Josh Miller, deployed here from Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, Calif.

"It was a good workout and it was a big challenge," Miller said after a workout. "He is an awesome wrestler, and I hope to take all the technique I learn from him and use it to make the all-Marine team."

Horton strives daily to stay in peak physical condition.

He last fought May 3, and his next scheduled bout will either be the end of September or in October depending on his return from Kyrgyzstan.

"I am disappointed that he has put wrestling behind him," said Lisa, "but I believe extreme fighting is great for him right now. It has renewed the inner drive he lost a few years ago and allows him to focus on something new and tremendously challenging."



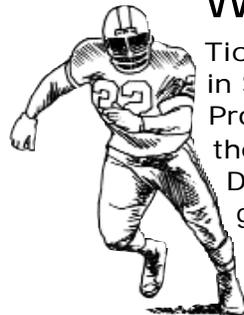
Football fever: Jason Mann shows his spirit for Bay Area football by wearing his San Francisco 49ers jacket over his Oakland Raiders jersey. Come join the football frenzy starting Aug. 5 at the Gold Rush Lounge.

FOOTBALL FRENZY

Starting Aug. 5
Gold Rush Lounge



Watch & Win!



Tickets to the Super Bowl in San Diego, tickets to the Pro Bowl in Honolulu from the Air Force.

DVD players, TVs & more great prizes from Complete Connections.

All ranks event!

No Federal Endorsement of Sponsor Intended

Pre-Season - 5 p.m.

Aug. 5 - Pro Football Hall of Fame Game - Houston Texans vs New York Giants - Canton, Ohio

Aug. 12 - Miami vs Tampa Bay

Aug. 19 - San Francisco vs Denver

Aug. 26 - Cleveland vs Green Bay

Regular Season - 5 p.m.

Sept. 9 - Pittsburgh vs New England

Sept. 16 - Philadelphia vs Washington

Sept. 23 - St. Louis vs Tampa Bay

Sept. 30 - Denver vs Baltimore

Oct. 7 - Green Bay vs Chicago

Oct. 14 - San Francisco vs Seattle

Oct. 21 - Indianapolis vs Pittsburgh

Oct. 28 - N.Y. Giants vs Philadelphia