

TAILWIND

TRAVIS AFB, CALIF.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 30, 2002

VOLUME 27, NUMBER 34

AHHHHH...

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DGMC provides clear vision

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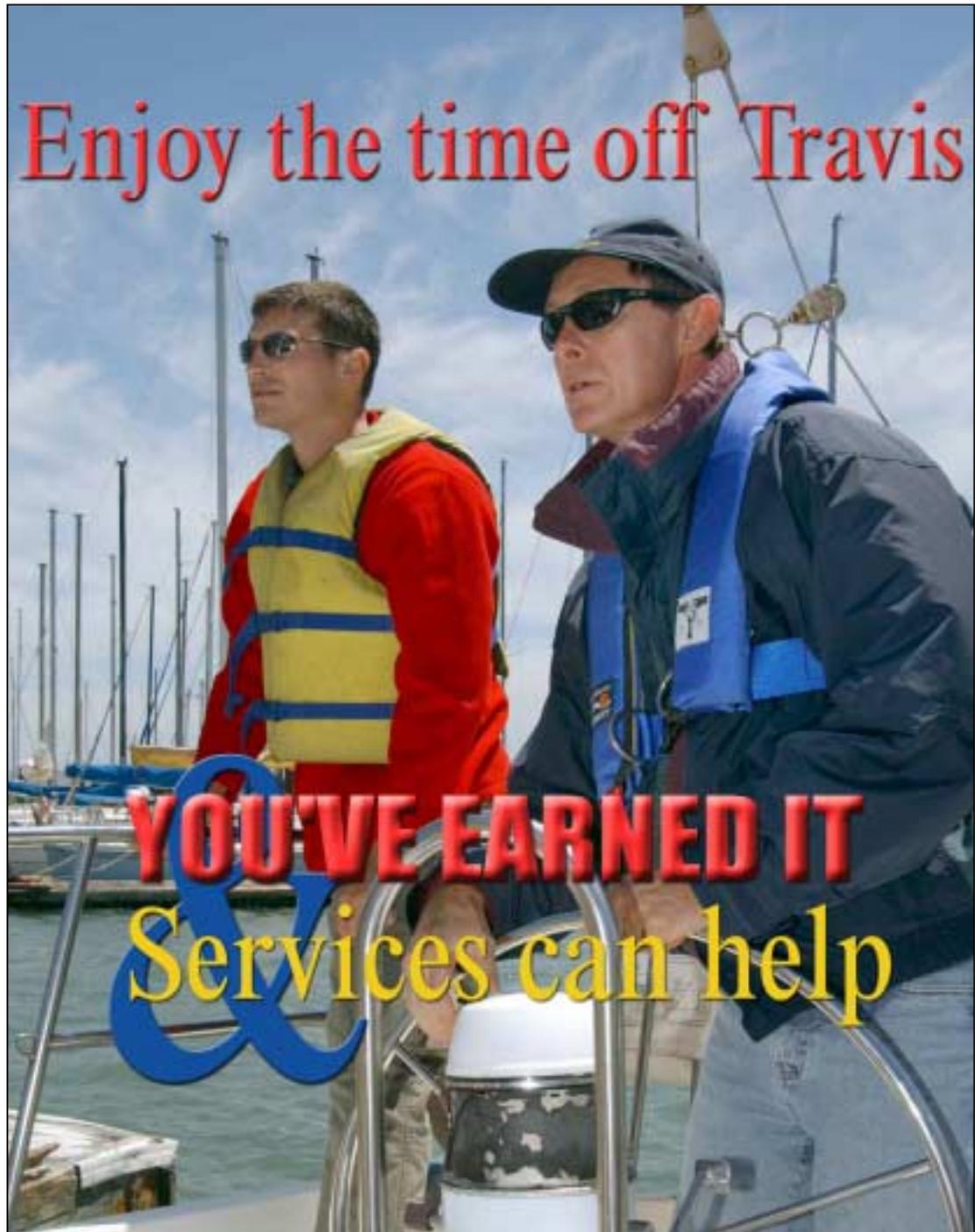
MAKING TUNES

Travis airmen showcase musical talent

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Do you carry a current LES?



Words from the top...

AMW Commander encourages holiday fun, safety

It is no surprise to leaders that we can handle as much as we do because Travis' strategic role in wartime is a long-standing tradition, one which began before the Air Force's inception as an independent service, Sept. 18, 1947.

By Col. Dave Lefforge
60th AMW Commander

Many thanks for a labor-intensive and well done job, Team Travis!

Since our operations tempo will continue at warp speed in upcoming months, I sure hope you take this opportunity to enjoy some well-deserved time off this Labor Day weekend with family and friends. Whether you spend the time at home helping your kids prepare for the school year, or head out for an end-of-summer getaway, it's also very important to maintain those good safety habits that you've practiced during the last three months. All it takes is to let the guard down one time ... to forget to wear the seatbelt ... or to drink and drive ... or the countless other ways mishaps can happen. I know you'll be as safe as possible ... taking care of yourselves and your families every step of the way.

Back to business

After we return from this break, there will be several milestones at Travis.

We will join the entire country in remembrance of Sept. 11. This tribute at Travis will kick off with a morning reveille ceremony ... to pay respects to the many who lost their lives, but also to honor the many American warriors who have served and continue to serve in Operation Enduring Freedom. This U.S. led effort is still underway today with the same rigor and urgency that it did in the immediate weeks following those attacks.

The media images and replays we'll see this and next week will take us back ... but let's work real hard to look beyond that day, particularly at how the Travis team contributed to the lift and airspeed of the overall military effort that brought the Taliban's reign to a decisive end. Travis is a trusted quality — we deliver every time, on time — which makes us the first choice to bring critical warfighting resources to the combatant commands.

We will continue to support a variety of other real world commitments ... among them Operations Northern, Southern Watch and Joint Forge top this list. We also continue to prepare for our Expeditionary Operational Readiness Inspection scheduled in October, and upon its conclusion, we will nearly be "wheels in the well" for our Air Expeditionary Force deployments 7 and 8.



Kristina Cilia / Visual Information

Col. Dave Lefforge, commander of the 60th Air Mobility Wing (left), addresses the command staff Wednesday during the weekly wing stand up meeting while recognizing several of Travis' top performers. Lefforge took the time Wednesday to recognize many of the people involved in the General John Handy, commander of Air Mobility Command and U. S. Transportation Command, visit last week.

It's all in a day's work.

It is no surprise to leaders that we can handle as much as we do because Travis' strategic role in wartime is a long-standing tradition, one which began before the Air Force's inception as an independent service, Sept. 18, 1947. On that day this year, we will not only celebrate the 55th year of our service, but we will also officially reorganize the 60th Air Mobility Wing. The 60th Logistics Group will be deactivated, as the new 60th Maintenance Group is brought to the fore. The 60th Support Group will become the 60th Mission Support Group, taking on many of those former logistics functions that were not specific to aircraft maintenance.

There are many events in front of us, and others recently completed ... before we move ahead too far, I want to again mention General Handy's visit was a stellar success.

I thank everyone who helped to make the base shine during his three-day visit. There were many anonymous helpers who pulled weeds, swept and washed sidewalks, among many other chores, while others were instrumental in putting all the pieces of the visit together. Some of those "behind the scenes" people I'd like to recognize include Lt. Col. Chris Bence, 1st Lt. Wendy Enderle, Maj. Richard Lucas, Lt. Col. Grace Blevins-Holman, Capt. Kawaniee Flowe, Capt. Craig Babbitt, Maj. Lori Bass, Lt. Col. Casey Blake, 1st Lt. Terry Cotter, Capt. Emily Farkas and Capt. Erin Evans.

Thanks again to everyone at Travis for moving effectively from the intensive exercise mode to a high profile, receptive posture for a visiting senior flag officer. Again, take this opportunity to enjoy your holiday break ... be safe ... I want to see everyone back on Tuesday!

Tailwind

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60th Air Mobility Wing

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Master Sgt. Lance Chung / Airman Magazine
ON THE COVER: Outdoor Recreation offers many activities for a variety of interests. For more information, contact 424-0971.

Air traffic controllers manage airspace

Tower personnel direct aircraft movement in the air, on the ground

By Airman 1st Class Alice Moore
60th Air Mobility Wing Public Affairs

The pre-flight checks are complete. Crewmembers of a C-5 aircraft are in place and ready to depart in support of another Air Mobility Command mission. However, for C-5s or any other aircraft departing from or arriving at Travis, it takes a little help from some people on the ground.

The air traffic controllers, members of the airfield operations flight in the 60th Operations Support Squadron, ensure safe movement of all aircraft traffic within Travis' area of responsibility — whether on the ground or Class D airspace.

"There's personal satisfaction knowing you took something complicated and made things work," said Senior Master Sgt. Lee Fiekens, 60th OSS chief controller.

With multiple aircraft flying in the air all hours of the day, Fiekens says there are several factors involved to ensure flawless movement of aircraft.

"We deal with locally assigned aircraft such as the KC-10s and C-5s," Fiekens said. "However, we have the capability to handle any air traffic transitioning into or through our airspace."

"We work with Radar Approach Control, Base Operations and the 60th Communications Squadron day to day," Fiekens said. "RAPCON governs air space outside of our five mile radius domain. The Federal Aviation Administration governs any air space beyond RAPCONS area of responsibility. The 60th CS provides us support for all of our communications tools such as the radios we use. Base Operations assists us with any airfield related issues."

Fiekens adds that from the start of Operation Enduring Freedom, the crewmembers of the air traffic control tower were ready and able to provide support for missions abroad. They also provided support for the nation's homeland defense.

"Within three days of fighters arriving on base, a crew of 84 controllers at the tower developed dozens of check lists and bed downs for fighter aircraft. For controllers who specialized primarily with mobility aircraft, they adapted to the fighters' profiles almost immediately," Fiekens said.

Even while learning fighter profiles, from Jan. to Dec. 2001, the airfield operations flight assist-

ed with 175,000 aircraft operations and 110 in-flight emergencies. The flight also provided support for Air Expo 2001, Fiekens said.

Fiekens says to be an air traffic controller in this type of environment, hours of training and a perfectionist mentality are required.

"Once individuals finish technical training, our goal is to make them into fully qualified tower controllers in approximately 11 months," Fiekens said.

In order to become fully qualified, air traffic controllers must undergo months of on-the-job training with qualified controllers, Fiekens said. Since the crew has been operating out of the new control tower, he says the new tower has provided a 300 percent increase in space, which is more than enough to accommodate the training program.

"It was stressful at times realizing just how much training is required to get rated. The training also took a long time," said Airman 1st Class Nathan Odell, air traffic controller, 60th OSS. "It's a pretty big relief to finally be qualified."

Not only does the tower provide a quality-training environment, it also offers air traffic controllers other advantages.

New equipment such as voice switches has helped controllers enhance their communication abilities, Fiekens said. In addition, administrative space and a classroom were added to the tower.

Fiekens attributes his unit's high morale to technological upgrades and the improvements to their overall work environment.

"All things considered: such as deployments, Temporary Duties and supporting our normal mission here, I believe the morale is good," Fiekens said. "Knowing others are out there supporting contingencies makes all of us here want to go the extra mile when called upon."

All in all, the crew of the control tower stays dedicated to its mission. The air traffic controllers believe when all is said and done, it's teamwork that enables them to have such a high level of success.

"I think this is a great career field," said Senior Airman Alyson Mehring, air traffic controller for the 60th OSS. "We're all so dependent on each other. The greatest part of this job is teamwork. Without it, the job couldn't get done."



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

(Above), Travis air traffic controller Senior Airman Charles Aguilar scans the skies over Travis for approaching aircraft. Vigilance and acute observation skills are important factors in performing air traffic controller duties. (Below), Aguilar communicates with the pilot of a C-5 approaching the Travis runway while Mehring monitors his procedures. Mehring is assisting Aguilar in becoming a rated controller at Travis.



(Above), Fellow controller Senior Airman Alyson Mehring joins Aguilar on an air traffic watch.



NEWS NOTES

Sept. 11 ceremony

Travis will be paying respect and courtesy on the anniversary of Sept. 11 by having a remembrance ceremony at the 60th Air Mobility Wing flagpole at 6:30 a.m. There will be a 21-gun salute, the Travis Honor Guard will perform reveille and a ringing of a bell for each aircraft that crashed Sept. 11 and one for all the Americans that lost their lives in Afghanistan since the start of the war on terrorism. All Travis Personnel and families are encouraged to attend.

ANG opportunities

The Hayward Air National Guard Station is looking to fill some critical career fields. The career fields needed are: engineering assistant, electronic computer and switching systems, ground radio, satcom and wideband and services. Those leaving active duty who are interested should call Staff Sgt. Vic Dumlao at (510) 264-5603.

Hispanic heritage

The Hispanic Heritage Committee will be holding a meeting Wednesday at 3 p.m. at the Travis Conference Center. The committee is looking for volunteers for upcoming Hispanic Heritage Month events. For more information call 424-5679.

Scout openings

The Travis Scouting program has openings for boys and girls in first through 12th grades. Adult leadership positions are also available. For more information, there will be a display at back to school night or contact Scott Stewart at 437-3940.

Quarterly training

The 60th Civil Engineer Squadron will hold its quarterly facility managers training Wednesday at 10 a.m. in bldg. 480, the Conference Center ballroom. The training will encompass requirements and responsibilities in accordance with Travis AFB Instruction 32-301. This is an annual requirement for all current and new facility managers. For more information contact Airman 1st Class Tammy Elam at 424-7595.

Base warning system

The 60th Civil Engineer Squadron will be testing the new base warning system Sept. 17. The new system will be capable of warning the base populace of imminent danger resulting from major accidents, natural disasters, enemy attacks and terrorist use of weapons of mass destruction. There will be six sirens at various places around the base that will be tested by sounding alarms, tones and voice announcements.

Anthrax vaccinations resume



A health professional from David Grant Medical center prepares a syringe for an immunization. Courtesy photo

Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — The anthrax vaccine immunization program, on hold since June 2001 because of supply concerns, will likely resume in September for people in selected areas overseas.

The vaccine will initially be given to people assigned or deployed to "high-threat" areas for more than 15 days, according to a recent message from the office of the assistant secretary of defense for public affairs. The message noted the program will expand as supply catches up with demand.

Brig. Gen. Mike Gould, the Air Force's director of operational plans at the Pentagon, said the program is an important tool in the force protection arsenal.

"This is all about readiness," he said. "It's about taking care of our people who are fighting the war on terrorism. The key thing to remember is that, first of all, the threat is real and, secondly, the anthrax shots ... are proven safe and effective."

Manufacture of the anthrax vaccine was temporarily halted in January 1998. The Food and Drug Administration approved renovation of the BioPort Corporation's Michigan-based vaccine manufacturing facility in December 2001, and the National Academy of Sciences affirmed the safety and efficacy of the vaccine in its March report.

Gould said the job of Air Force commanders and senior leaders is to take care of their people, and that is what the anthrax vaccination program is all about.

"We don't want to send anybody into harm's way or to do a mission without the full protection that we can offer," he said. "A football coach isn't going to send an offensive lineman onto the field without the same protective equipment and training and conditioning as his star running back and quarterback. It's the same exact thing here."

"We want every member to have every opportunity to survive should (he or she) encounter a threat like this."

Deputy chief of staff briefs latest personnel issues

By Staff Sgt. Jennifer Gregoire
354th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

EIELSON AIR FORCE BASE, Alaska — The Air Force deputy chief of staff for personnel briefed airmen here Aug. 19 on the latest personnel issues facing Air Force people.

Lt. Gen. Richard Brown opened his briefings by saying today's airmen, junior noncommissioned officers and officers should not accept high operations tempo as the standard, even in today's smaller Air Force.

"More than 50 percent of the Air Force joined after 1990," Brown said. "They never knew the old days. They think this ops tempo is normal, but we've got to get our arms around it."

While the general acknowledged Air Force manpower had slipped from 559,000 in 1990 to less than 360,000 in 2000, he pointed out that until recently much of this manpower was assigned to major commands without mobility missions.

These commands included Air Education and Training Command and Air Force Materiel Command. Even some combatant commands, such as Pacific Air Forces, were immune to deployments because its forces were committed to support operations in South Korea. These restrictions forced the remaining commands such as Air Combat Command and U.S. Air Forces in Europe, to fill the Air Force's growing mobility mission. That's why in recent years, AETC, AFMC and PACAF assets have started filling mobility commitments in Southwest Asia and elsewhere. Freeing up these personnel resources was a necessary move to ease

the mobility burden. "The rest of the Air Force had to step in and help," he explained.

While more evenly distributing mobility taskings among active, Reserve and Guard units was one fix, Brown feels there is a need to decrease the number of people who are held in student status.

"There are about 5,000 to 6,000 people who completed technical training, but are awaiting an assignment or who are waiting to start training who are not here helping you accomplish the mission," Brown said. "There are people now who can help take the pressure off of Eielson, and the rest of the Air Force, we just need to get them out of student status faster. Those new enlistees and young officers are anxious to see what the real Air Force is all about. They want to be a part of it as much as we need them. We're making a lot of headway at flowing them from training into the field."

Up until Sept. 11, adjustments like streamlining the Air Force's training system and an overall reduction in taskings helped bring the service's operations tempo under control, according to Brown. These gains, however, were offset by post-Sept. 11 military operations. That is why Air Force officials enacted Stop Loss and mobilized 38,000 Guard and Reservists to help ease the burden.

"Stop Loss was the most difficult thing we did," said Brown. "I know we stopped folks from leaving the Air Force who had jobs lined up and other plans. But, it was the right decision because we called up 38,000 people from their families, jobs and businesses. The waiver opportunity, approved at 82 percent,

allowed 4,000 out of 5,600 people to separate. We had to end Stop-Loss because we have a predictable mission in front of us, and we had to let people go on with their lives."

There is an increase manpower requirement linked to post-Sept. 11 and 17 functional areas are stressed. Long-term solutions include merging the manpower and personnel career fields.

Additionally, the Air Force will conduct a core — competency study to aid in making some military to civilian conversions, Brown said.

"Right now we need to clean house first and to do that our functionals need to determine the impact," Brown said. "The last thing you need is for me to tell you where you need the uniforms. The overall concept of the core — competency study is to move more uniforms from tail to tooth."

One step has already been taken to streamline the manpower and personnel career fields.

"The Air Force is the only service that separated manpower from personnel," Brown said. "They are going to be remarried — the concept has been agreed to."

One personnel issue more visible to the force is re-enlistments. First-term airmen are re-enlisting at 62 percent, second term at 77 percent and career airmen at 99 percent.

But, the Air Force is still having trouble retaining enough journeymen. More than 110 percent of 3- and 7-skill levels are re-enlisting, but only 80 percent of its 5-levels are.

To help combat these issues, the Air

Articles 15 issued at Travis

60th AMW Legal Office

Nonjudicial punishment provides commanders with an essential and prompt means of maintaining good order and discipline. It can also promote positive behavior changes in service members without the stigma of a court-martial conviction.

The following is a breakdown of the nonjudicial punishment actions that were closed out in the months of May through July 2002. Typically, it is not useful to try to compare one case with another, as the punishment for each case must be tailored based on the prior record of the member along with the facts and circumstances of the offense(s) committed.

Airman Basic

» The airman drank alcoholic beverages, possessed alcohol in her dormitory room while underage and wore a piercing in her tongue while in uniform. Punishment consisted of a reprimand, forfeiture of \$511 pay and 30 days extra duty.

» The airman committed an assault and battery, used provoking words, was drunk and disorderly and drank alcoholic beverages while underage. Punishment consisted of a reprimand, forfeiture of \$100 pay for two months, 45 days extra duty and 45 days restriction.

Airman

» The airman failed to go to the appointed place of duty. Punishment consisted of 30 days extra duty and a reprimand.

» The airman drank alcoholic beverages while underage on two occasions and failed to go to his appointed place of duty. Punishment consisted of a reduction to E-1, reprimand, 21 days restriction and 42 days extra duty.

» The airman drank alcoholic beverages while underage. Punishment consisted of a suspended reduction to E-1, forfeiture of \$250 pay for two months, reprimand, 21 days restriction and 21 days extra duty.

» The airman failed to obey a lawful order and failed to go to the appointed place of duty. Punishment consisted of a reprimand and forfeiture of \$618 pay for two months.

Airman 1st Class

» The airman missed a mission movement and was absent

from his organization. Punishment consisted of a reduction to E-2, reprimand, 30 days restriction and three days extra duty.

» The airman disobeyed a lawful command and showed disrespect toward a superior commissioned officer. Punishment consisted of a suspended reduction to E-2, reprimand, forfeiture of \$446 pay for two months and 30 days extra duty.

» The airman failed to go to his appointed place of duty, slept on duty and made a false official statement. Punishment consisted of a suspended reduction to E-2, reprimand and 30 days extra duty.

» The airman failed to obey an order not to operate a vehicle on any military installation and was drinking alcohol while on standby duty. Punishment consisted of a reduction to E-1, suspended forfeiture of \$552 pay for two months, reprimand and 45 days extra duty.

» The airman left the scene of an accident. Punishment consisted of a suspended forfeiture of \$150 pay for two months, reprimand, 30 days restriction and 30 days extra duty.

» The airman used the government travel card for unofficial purposes. Punishment consisted of a suspended reduction to E-2, forfeiture of \$150 pay for two months and a reprimand.

» The airman drank alcoholic beverages while underage and failed to obey a lawful order. Punishment consisted of a suspended reduction to E-1, forfeiture of \$100 pay, 45 days restriction and 45 days extra duty.

» The airman drank alcoholic beverages while underage. Punishment consisted of a reduction to E-2 and seven days extra duty.

» The airman drank alcoholic beverages while underage. Punishment consisted of a reduction to E-2 and seven days extra duty.

» The airman drank alcoholic beverages while underage. Punishment consisted of a suspended reduction to E-2, forfeiture of \$350 pay for two months, reprimand, 30 days restriction and 30 days extra duty.

» The airman drank alcoholic beverages while underage. Punishment consisted of a suspended reduction to E-2, forfeiture of \$350 pay for two months, reprimand, 30 days restriction and 30 days extra duty.

» The airman drank alcoholic beverages while underage.

Punishment consisted of a suspended reduction to E-2, forfeiture of \$350 pay for two months, reprimand, 30 days restriction and 30 days extra duty.

» The airman drank alcoholic beverages while underage. Punishment consisted of a reduction to E-2.

» The airman failed to go to his appointed place of duty. Punishment consisted of a suspended reduction to E-2, 30 days restriction and 21 days extra duty.

» The airman drove a vehicle while under the influence of alcohol. Punishment consisted of a reduction to the grade of E-1, 30 days restriction and 30 days extra duty.

» The airman possessed and used another person's identification card. Punishment consisted of a suspended reduction to E-1 and 30 days extra duty.

» The airman failed to go to the appointed place of duty, failed to obey a lawful order and made a false official statement. Punishment consisted of a suspended reduction to E-1, forfeiture of \$125 pay for two months, 45 days restriction and 45 days extra duty.

» The airman forged another person's signature on a receipt. Punishment consisted of suspended reduction to E-2, 30 days restriction and 30 days extra duty.

» The airman drove a vehicle while under the influence of alcohol. Punishment consisted of a reduction to the grade of E-2, reprimand and 30 days extra duty.

Senior Airman

» The airman drove a vehicle while under the influence of alcohol, hit and damaged a parked car and did not attempt to locate the owner of the damaged vehicle. Punishment consisted of a reduction to the grade of E-3, forfeiture of \$200 pay for two months, reprimand and 45 days extra duty.

» The airman committed assault and battery and was drunk on station. Punishment consisted of a suspended reduction to E-2, suspended forfeiture of \$619 pay for two months, reprimand, 45 days restriction and 45 days extra duty.

» The airman violated a "no contact order." Punishment consisted of a suspended reduction to E-3 and forfeiture of \$200 pay.

» The airman committed assault and battery. Punish-

■ SEE ARTICLES ON PAGE 12

Staff Sgt. Chris Harwell, a surgical technician shift leader assigned to the 60th MSGS secures some supplies out of the CPD unit prior to distribution. Along with sterilizing surgical tools, the unit provides supplies to various clinics throughout the hospital as well as operating rooms.



Attention to detail

CPD provides critical support for hospital's mission

Story and photo by Airman 1st Class Alice Moore
60th Air Mobility Wing Public Affairs

The proper care and treatment of patients is something the team at David Grant Medical Center takes very seriously. From the surgeons to X-Ray technicians, precision and attention to detail is important in any life or death situation. However, what many may not realize is that the smallest and underlining procedures can make a huge impact on operations.

For the members of the Central Processing and Distribution Unit assigned to the surgical suite of the 60th Medical Surgical Operations Squadron, attention to detail is vital to every patient requiring a surgical procedure.

"The CPD unit provides support by sterilizing surgical tools and providing surgeons with the necessary supplies for eight operating rooms averaging 400 procedures a month. We also provide support for 21 outpatient clinics and five inpatient clinics," said Capt. Jeff Miller, 60th MSGS officer in charge of the Central Processing and Distribution unit.

"Without us, surgeries wouldn't happen," Miller said. "We make sure things are sterile. This helps to prevent possible infections."

The CPD processes approximately 40,000 instrument sets a year, Miller said. The process begins once used surgical instruments reach the CPD unit. From there, surgical technicians ensure instruments are hand washed, ran through cleaning machines numerous times and fully sterilized. When sterilization is complete, the instruments are ready for another surgical procedure.

"Everyone must be held accountable in the

unit," Miller said. "The surgical technicians here have to accurately check for the instruments to be at the right temperature during the sterilization process. They also must ensure instruments have been exposed to the right amount of cleaning solutions."

Miller adds along with sterilizing surgical instruments, the CPD also ensures the operating rooms are provided with various supplies such as drapes, dressings and custom packs. Custom packs are packages that have been already assembled by a manufacturer containing vital tools, which can be used during all phases of a surgery.

Despite the sometimes chaotic pace, members of the CPD take on the challenges knowing the end result is assisting with the proper care of a patient.

"Our job can be hectic," said Airman 1st Class Heather Muedini, 60th MSGS surgical technician. "On any given day, you're transporting patients or in the operating room assisting a doctor. Before you know it, you find yourself working in the CPD. Even though my job may seem crazy at times, I enjoy ensuring a patient is given the best service possible."

"There's a high stress level trying to assist the surgeons and knowing your decisions may have an impact with a person's life," said Airman 1st Class Alice Dawson, 60th MSGS surgical technician. "You have to always know what to do, but the end results are rewarding."

With the numerous patients coming and going out of DGMC, the CPD unit strives to ensure its job gets done. Even though members of the unit may not always see first-hand the end results of their efforts, they know they're aiding with the hospital's effort to care for patients properly.

AF announces OTS selections

Five Travis members chosen for program

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

The Air Force is giving 92 enlisted members the chance to trade in their stripes for gold bars after being chosen to attend Officer Training School. Out of the 92 enlisted members chosen, five are from Travis.

Approximately every six weeks, an OTS board consisting of at least three Air Force colonels meets at Headquarters Air Force Recruiting Service, OTS Selection Board 0207 met from June 25 to 28. The board considered 654 applications, selecting 287 for a 41 percent selection rate, according to Air Force Print News.

"I was 18 years old when I first enlisted and all I wanted to do was see the world," said Staff Sgt. Michael Thomas of the 660th Aircraft Generation Squadron and a recent OTS selectee. "OTS didn't become a goal for me until about 20 months ago when I started college. This goal became even more important after the attacks on Sept. 11."

However, OTS isn't the only avenue the service uses to commission new officers. Anyone at Travis interested in receiving a commission through OTS, or any other program needs to start off by attending the Commissioning Programs Workshop. The workshop is held at the Base Education Center at 1 p.m. the last Friday of every month.

After attending the workshop, 60th Mission Support Squadron education specialist Stephanie Beebe says the next step is to make an appointment with a guidance counselor to discuss program specifics. During this time, the education center builds a blueprint for an individual's program of choice.

"Once individuals decide on a commissioning program, they need to complete the necessary education for it. Depending on the program, they may need to

complete a little, none or a lot. To qualify for OTS a bachelor's degree is required," Beebe said.

The remaining steps toward OTS are taking the Air Force Officer Qualifying Test and ensuring a physical is accomplished, said Beebe. She adds individuals must work closely with guidance counselors at the education center to ensure all paperwork required for the OTS board is completed correctly.

Once the paperwork is complete, the individual must submit the application package by the cutoff date for any given board. Afterwards, it's just a matter of waiting until the selections are announced. If not selected by the board, the applicant will automatically be considered for the next board, Beebe said.

Even though the road leading to OTS may be long and challenging, there is definitely a sigh of relief and perhaps a little nervousness once candidates find out they have been chosen.

"I am very happy and excited to be able to do what I have wanted to do since the beginning of my Air Force career which is to be an officer," said Senior Airman Geoffrey Schurman, of the 60th Aerial Port Squadron.

"I'm still in the 'wow' phase I think," said Thomas. "I still have to complete school, a high paced job to work and a family to spend time with. However, I think I'll be excited once I find out when I'm leaving."

"I am looking forward to a new challenge and the opportunity to excel in my Air Force career," said Staff Sgt. Kevin Paulini, of the 60th Component Repair Squadron.

Individuals selected for OTS can expect a class assignment approximately eight weeks after their physical is certified for commissioning. For more information about OTS or any other commissioning program, contact the Base Education Center at 424-3444.

ISSUES / From Page 4

Force has increased promotion rates for both officers and NCOs until fiscal 2008.

The enlisted promotion rate will allow for a senior airman to sew on staff sergeant in about four and a half years.

Promotion to senior master sergeant will increase from 2 percent to 2.5 percent of the total enlisted force in .1 increments during the next five years.

Officers being considered for promotion to major and lieutenant colonel can expect to see their promotion rates increase to 90 to 95 percent and 75 to 85 percent, respectively.

Another issue Brown discussed was how the Air Expeditionary Force construction will impact the assignment

cycle.

"During the last 20 years we've had a summer rotation system driven by the fact Air Force members have families," Brown said. "Driving the assignment system is the 16,000 remote assignments that need to be filled. We're looking at synchronizing the assignment system with the AEF cycle."

"The Air Force is looking at a three-cycle system versus a four-cycle process. But it's not just personnel officials who are trying to synchronize, it's everyone so we can get into the AEF mindset."



**Tailwind story
submission
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Absentee voting program kicks into high gear

By Jim Garamone
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — With the 2002 general election fast approaching Nov. 5, Federal Voting Assistance Program officials are sponsoring Armed Forces Voters Week, Sept. 1 to 7. The week is designed for military installations worldwide to highlight voting issues.

"The objective is to create awareness of the electoral process and to motivate military members to participate in the upcoming general election," said Polli Brunelli, federal voting program director. "We want to encourage our military members, their dependents, our federal employees overseas and our overseas citizens to be aware of the elections and to exercise their right to vote."

She said the 2002 elections cover a third of the U.S. Senate, the entire U.S. House of Representatives, 37 governors and hundreds of local races.

"These are lawmakers who will effect policies that govern our way of life," she said.

The states govern the voting rules for their residents. The FVAP works with state officials to ease absentee ballot processes. For example, Brunelli said, program officials asked state officials to allow servicemembers deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom

to receive voting materials by fax machines and to fax in completed ballots.

The agency urges military personnel to contact installation voting assistance officers to learn about what they must do to vote in 2002. All units with more than 25 people also have voting assistance officers.

U.S. citizens residing overseas can visit embassies and consulates and get the same information.

The program launched an education process to teach voting assistance officers what they need to know to help servicemembers. Worldwide, the office sponsored more than 100 workshops, Brunelli said.

She said her office has met with state leaders to ensure all absentee ballots are in on time, properly filled out and counted.

"We're working on postal issues as well," Brunelli said.

Deputy Defense Secretary Paul Wolfowitz signed a memo to the military postal service to ensure all voting materials are postmarked and cancelled for all deployed vessels and personnel. Further, military postal service employees will look for voting materials to ensure they are moved expeditiously.

For more information on Armed Forces Voting Week or absentee voting, go to the FVAP Web site at www.fvap.gov.



Respect the Flag

"The lines of red are lines of blood, nobly and unselfishly shed by men who loved the liberty of their fellow men more than they loved their own lives and fortunes. God forbid that we should have to use the blood of America to freshen the color of the flag. But if it should ever be necessary, that flag will be colored once more, and in being colored will be glorified and purified."

President Woodrow Wilson
Flag Day, 1915

Travis celebrates Armed Forces Voters Week



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

The Secretary of Defense has directed commanders at all levels to support the Voting Assistance Program to ensure maximum participation.

Team Travis is celebrating Armed Forces Voters Week, which runs Monday through Friday, by promoting a proactive program that offers voting assistance for Air Force personnel and their families. The Voting Assistance Program was created because of the Uniformed and Oversea Citizens Absentee Voting Act, which protects the right to vote for members of the Armed Forces and their dependents who are away from their voting residence while serving the United States. It helps people register to vote and request a ballot.

"The objective is to contact 100 percent of our Air force personnel on Travis AFB," said Capt. Eric Peipelman, installation voting officer. "We designed the program to be sensitive to the operations tempo and we are concentrating on personal contact."

The program requires each government department to distribute balloting materials and develop a program of information and education for all employees and dependents covered by the act.

The Secretary of Defense has directed commanders at all levels support the Voting Assistance Program to ensure maximum participation. Nov. 5 is a general election date for many state level offices, including state governor.

"Our goal is to contact everyone and see if they need assistance," Peipelman said. "Considering the high OPSTEMPO this year, if they know they are going to be deployed, PCSing, or TDY we can work with the state to help the member in this process on an individual basis. Keep in mind that ballots are time sensitive and some members can vote ahead of time if they need to, according to their state's rules."

An information booth will be

set up at the base fitness center Wednesday and another booth will be set up at the Base Exchange Sept. 6. Unit voting counselors will be available from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Travis is also promoting voting awareness by briefing it at newcomer's briefings throughout September to inform individuals of current registration, voting procedures and the importance of voting.

"We are looking ahead to teams who are deploying in 30 days because we need to get with them now," Peipelman said. "We are planning ahead. Our mission is to create excitement, maximize awareness and motivate people to participate in the election process. The Air Force generally has the highest voter turnout in this process. I certainly am looking to maintaining this achievement."

For more information contact Capt. Eric Peipelman at eric.peipelman@travis.af.mil or call 424-8888.

Unit Voting Representatives

- » 15th Air Force — Capt. Jeffrey Clark
- » 60th Support Group — 1st Lt. Nicholas Jameson
- » 60th Logistics Group — 2nd Lt. Mark Scabavea E 2Lt 660 and Henry Augustine
- » 60th Operations Group — 2nd Lt. Matthew Hull
- » 60th Air Mobility Wing — pending
- » 349th AMW — 2nd Lt. Catherine Bruch
- » 60th Air Mobility Operations Group — 2nd Lt. Eric Health

Phone numbers to know

Burger King

437-6444

Delta Breeze Club

424-1977

Military Pay

424-3925

Civilian Pay

424-1777

Hospital appointments

423-3000

Immunizations

423-5104

Recycling

424-5764

Separations

424-5029

Shoppette

437-6606

Fitness Center

424-2008

Hospital

423-7300

Lodging

437-0700

Military Personnel

424-2276

Family Support

424-2486

Legal

424-3251

Housing Maintenance

437-1230

Contracting

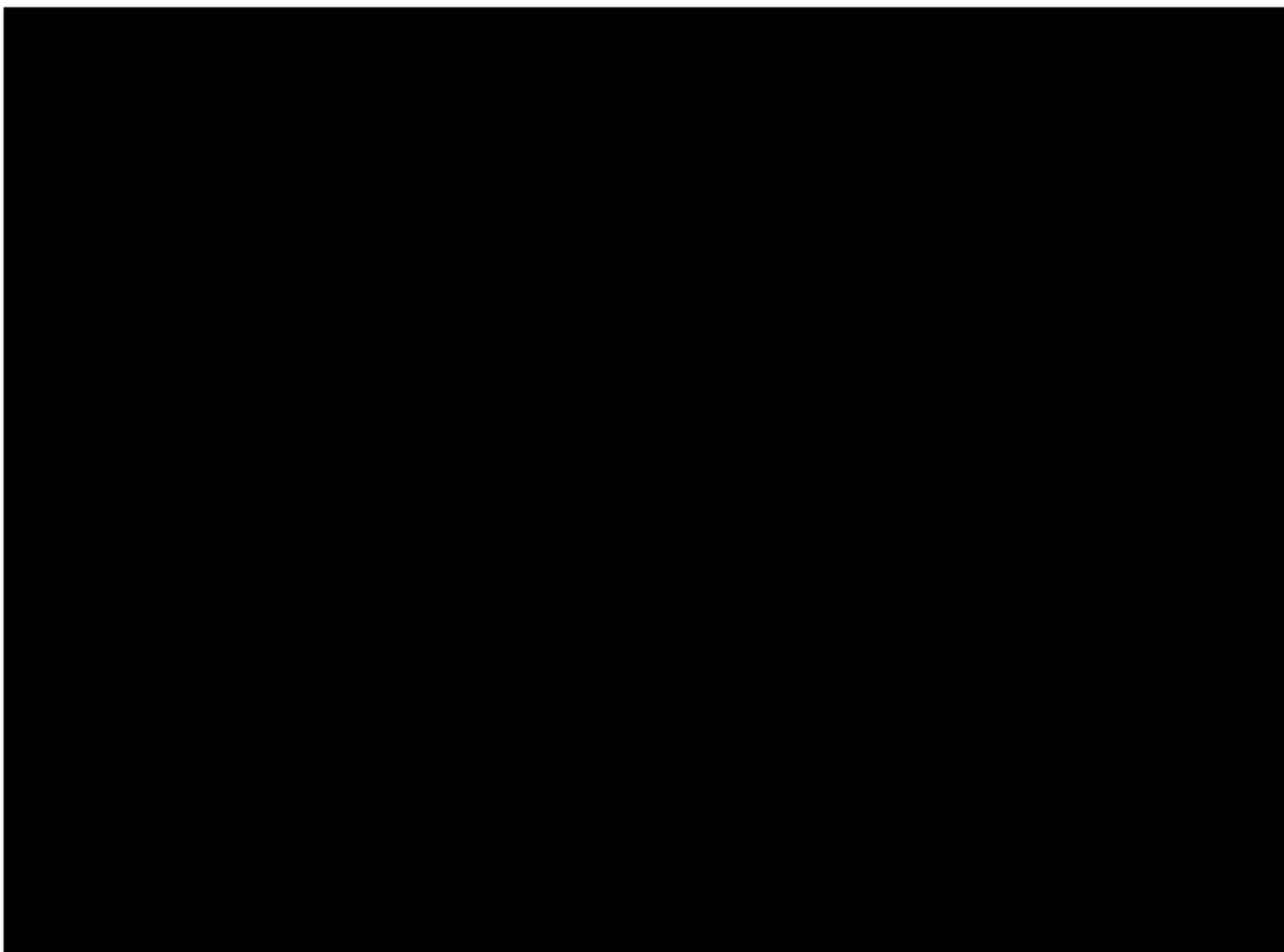
424-7711

Security Forces

424-3293

Seat belt check:

Senior Airman John Pritting, 60th Security Forces Squadron, tickets a driver for not having his seat belt on during the Wing Safety/Security Forces seat belt check.



ARTICLES / From Page 5

ment consisted of a suspended reduction to E-3, forfeiture of \$734 pay for two months, \$234 X 2 suspended, reprimand, 45 days restriction and 45 days extra duty.

» The airman used disrespectful language, failed to obey a lawful order and damaged military property. Punishment consisted of a suspended reduction to E-3, reprimand, 45 days restriction and 45 days extra duty.

» The airman possessed a dangerous weapon in the dormitory. Punishment consisted of a reduction to the grade of E-2, suspended forfeiture of \$618 pay for two months, reprimand and 45 days extra duty.

» The airman was disorderly, committed assault and battery, damaged government property and failed to go. Punishment consisted of a suspended reduction to the grade of E-2, forfeiture of \$619 pay for two months, reprimand and 30 days correctional custody.

» The airman failed to obey orders and drove an unregistered vehicle. Punishment consisted of 30 days correctional custody and suspended forfeiture of \$125 pay for two months.

» The airman used the government purchase card for personal use and stole military property. Punishment consisted of a reduction to E-1 and forfeiture of \$552 pay.

» The airman failed to go to the appointed place of duty. Punishment consisted of suspended forfeiture of \$250 pay for two months, reprimand and 25 days extra duty.

» The airman committed assault and battery. Punishment consisted of a suspended reduction to E-2, forfeiture of \$619 pay for two months, 45 days restriction and 45 days extra duty.

» The airman failed to wear the appropriate uniform to work and failed to go to the appointed place of duty. Punishment consisted of a suspended reduction to E-3 and forfei-

ture of \$100 pay for two months.

Staff Sergeant

» The sergeant stole two Playstation II video games. Punishment consisted of a suspended reduction to E-4, forfeiture of \$876 pay for two months, reprimand, 45 days restriction and 45 days extra duty.

» The sergeant failed to pay a just debt. Punishment consisted of a suspended reduction to E-4 and a reprimand.

» The sergeant was absent without leave. Punishment consisted of a suspended reduction to E-4, reprimand and forfeiture of \$155 pay for two months.

» The sergeant committed assault and battery. Punishment consisted of a suspended reduction to E-4, forfeiture of \$200 pay for two months and 21 days extra duty.

» The sergeant made a false official statement and wore unauthorized devices on the uniform. Punishment consisted of a suspended reduction to E-4, reprimand and 30 days extra duty.

Technical Sergeant

» The sergeant used a government travel card for unofficial purposes. Punishment consisted of a suspended reduction to E-5 and a reprimand.

» The sergeant failed to obey a "no contact order" and continued an ongoing unprofessional relationship. Punishment consisted of a reduction to E-5, suspended forfeiture of \$1,096 pay for two months and 14 days extra duty.

Captain

» The captain was absent without leave and showed disrespect toward a superior officers. Punishment consisted of a reprimand and forfeiture of \$2,035 pay for two months, \$1,035 pay for two months suspended.

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.

SQUADRON SPOTLIGHT

60th Diagnostics and Therapeutics Squadron

TRAVIS AIR FORCE BASE

Commander

Col. Barry Simon

Superintendent

Senior Master Sgt. Marie Potts

First Sergeant

Senior Master Sgt. Charlotte Branum

Mission

The 60th MDTs supports more than 79,000 TRICARE Region 10 beneficiaries utilizing 450,000 outpatient visits and inpatient days per year. It provides optimal quality, fiscally responsible pharmacy, radiology, pathology, laboratory, dietary and nutritional services to 60th Medical Group and Department of Defense or Veterans Administration joint ventures. It trains and equips 100 Expeditionary Medical Support System personnel for worldwide deployments. The 60th MDTs also oversees seven diverse residency and technician training programs.

Capabilities and Recent Significant Events

In addition to providing peacetime medical care, team members have participated in Operation Provide Promise, Uphold Democracy, Southern Watch, Enduring

Freedom and Noble Eagle.

Unit Recognition

Combined 60 MDTs/MDSS volleyball team base champions, June 2002

60 MDTs softball team base champions, Aug 2002

Individual Recognition

60th MDG 2001 Airman of the Year: Senior Airman Aja Blakemore

60th MDG 2001 NCO of the Year: Tech. Sgt. LaShea Stubblefield

60th MDG 2001 Senior CGO of the Year: Capt. Brian Logue

Air Mobility Command Medical Service Awards winners:

▶▶ 2001 Laboratory Airman of the Year: Senior Airman Daun Scully

▶▶ 2001 Laboratory SNCO of the Year: Master Sgt. Carl "BUB" Gibbins

▶▶ 2001 Diagnostic Imaging Airman of the Year: Senior Airman Taia Smith

▶▶ 2001 Diet Therapy Airman of the Year: Senior Airman Aja Blakemore

▶▶ 2001 CGO Dietitian of the Year: Capt. Peggy Heimlich

Air Force Subject Matter

Expert AFSC 4TOX2: Master Sgt. Carl Gibbins

Jan. to Mar. 2001 60th MDG NCO of the Quarter: Tech. Sgt. Brian Fagan

Apr. to Jun. 2001 60th MDG and 60 AMW NCO of the Quarter: Staff Sgt. Sydney Dyché

July to Sept. 2001 60th MDG and 60 AMW Airman of Quarter: Senior Airman John Copeland

60th MDG Civilian Employee: Cheryl Reynolds

Oct. to Dec. 2001 60th MDG and 60th AMW NCO of the Quarter: Staff Sgt. Daniel McCain

60th MDG and 60th AMW SNCO of the Quarter: Senior Master Sgt. J. Crowley

60 MDG Senior CGO of the Quarter: Capt. Luther Person

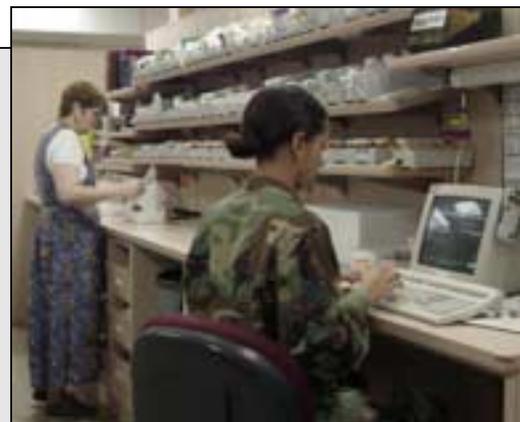
Jan. to Mar. 2002 SNCO of the Qtr: Senior Master Sgt. Kathy Whaley

Civilian Manager of the Quarter: Judith Broestler

Apr. to Jun. 2002: Junior CGO of the Quarter: 2nd Lt. Robert Curtis

Civilian Employee of the Quarter: Shanida Gallardo

Civilian Manager of the Quarter: Dawn Pickett



Courtesy photo

Pharmacy members identify and fill prescriptions to support more than 79,000 TRICARE beneficiaries a year. The 60th MDTs includes pharmacy, radiology, pathology, laboratory, dietary, and nutritional services.

Airman Leadership School award winners include:
 Senior Airman Anthony Pandina — John L. Levitow Award
 Senior Airman Heather Williams — Distinguished Graduate
 Senior Airman John Copeland

— Distinguished Graduate and Leadership Award
 Senior Airman Christopher Thompson — Distinguished Graduate
 Senior Airman ILA Peirera — Distinguished Graduate and Academic Achievement.

Identity theft: Are they who you say you are?

By Staff Sgt. Mark Diamond
60th AMW Public Affairs

Before last summer, my wife and I thought we were in control of our lives; that the decisions we made would affect our family, our finances and our future.

By the time summer had ended, we had some serious doubts as to who was actually "in control."

It all started on a Sunday afternoon in 2001. My wife and I said our goodbyes as she started the 50-mile trek across the Bay to attend a three-day business seminar.

After checking in to the hotel and stowing her personal items, my wife walked across the street for a bite to eat at a small diner. She was tired and didn't spend much time consuming a small meal. Within 30 minutes, she was back in her hotel room. She immediately ran a bath and relaxed in the tub for about 30 minutes.

After her bath, she realized something in the room was out of place. At first everything appeared as she had left it, but she quickly realized that the



Illustrative art by Staff Sgt. Mark Diamond

It doesn't take Space Age technology to steal someone's identity.

overnight bag she had slid under the bed was now sitting on the floor next to the nightstand.

At that moment, my wife said she was terrified. A dozen thoughts went through her mind: "Had someone come in while she was bathing?" "Was someone still in the room, hiding beneath the bed or inside the linen closet?" "Was anything

important missing?"

She didn't waste any time leaving the room. She immediately went to the hotel lobby and told a hotel employee what had happened. A hotel employee accompanied her back to her room to survey "the damage."

My wife discovered that her wallet, \$60 and some jewelry had been stolen. Still shaken, she called me at home and told

me the story. I immediately began calling the credit card companies to let them know our cards had been stolen.

The hotel was quick to remind my wife that because of a California law, the hotel was not liable for the theft.

My wife cancelled her business trip, returned home and started the tedious task of applying for a new drivers license and dependent ID card, and replacing other documents that were stolen. She also made follow-up phone calls to the credit card companies.

We followed every instruction we received from our credit card companies, as well as information we pulled from the Internet concerning identity theft.

We called and faxed letters and a copy of the police report to the three major credit bureaus explaining what had happened to my wife. Two of the companies immediately marked our credit reports with an identity fraud alert. The third credit bureau took nearly one week to report the same information.

The day after my wife was robbed, we learned one of our

credit cards had already been used to purchase \$250 at a grocery store about five blocks from the hotel.

Later, that \$250 would seem insignificant.

About one week after the incident, we received a phone call from a noticeably upset vehicle rental manager asking us to return the truck we had rented a few days earlier.

I called the manager and told him we didn't rent the truck. Someone must have used my wife's ID and credit card that were stolen a week earlier.

They found the vehicle a few days later abandoned on the side of the road outside of Stockton. It took us nearly one month — and several letters — to convince the rental agency we were telling the truth.

Three days after the rental truck fiasco, I received a phone call from a popular electronics store in San Jose. Apparently, my wife had purchased almost \$3,000 in computers and electronics. A store employee was calling because we forgot to include our home e-mail address on the credit application.

Global wargame brings mobility front and center

By Cynthia Bauer
Air Mobility Command Public Affairs

SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, Ill. (AFP) — When military wargamers come to the table, they usually assume that forces are ready to fight and have the equipment they need to get the "bad guys." In reality, the Air Force and Defense Department global mobility and logistics systems must come into play before and during the fight to make sure all the necessary people and equipment are in place.

To assess these challenges realistically, the Air Force's Air Mobility Battlelab and Air Mobility Command, in partnership with the Air Force Wargaming and Experimentation Division, held a three-day computer-assisted Global Mobility Wargame here Aug. 20 to 23. The event marked the first Air Force-level wargame spotlighting the capabilities of the Air Force's air mobility and logistics teams.

Global Mobility Wargame 2002, or GLOMO 2002, served as a precursor for Global Engagement VI, an Air Force Chief of Staff-directed wargame series to examine the comprehensive application of aerospace power to support the objectives of the warfighting commanders-in-chief. GLOMO 2002 provided the director of mobility forces and his staff with practical experience in preparation for the joint wargame, as well as for real-world contingencies.

"This wargame is important for transforming the Air Force to new, better and more efficient ways to do our mobility business," said Brig. Gen. Winfield W. Scott III, commander of the 43rd Airlift Wing at Pope Air Force Base, N.C., and the wargame's director of mobility forces. "Having the wargame builds areas of expertise we may not already have, and we'll walk away with increased knowledge.

"For Global Engagement VI," he said, "we hope we can help the commands in the Air Force see our contributions in providing forces and supplies. The exercise also lets us step out and explore new ideas and how they apply to real-world issues. We can't fight tomorrow how we fight today. There will be new force structures, new challenges."

The other goals of the exercise were to help shed light on the development of the Air Force's global mobility task force concept and to help planners better understand the issues not usually addressed in bigger wargames such as Global Engagement.

Such issues include aircraft basing, en route and beddown locations, routing, effect of chemical and biological attacks on operations, diplomatic clearances, munitions inventories and airlift and tanker aircraft availability. The issues affect AMC's core areas of airlift, aerial refueling, combat delivery, aeromedical evacuation and special operations forces support.

Col. Scott McMullen, chief of AMC's strategy,

planning and policy division, and senior assessment team chief for the exercise, said the exercise had other advantages.

"This was not only a great opportunity to refine the foundation for Global Engagement VI, it was professional development for all participants," he said. "The exercise brought together experts from all modes of transportation to study the operational and strategic aspects of warfighting. It's an invaluable opportunity."

Retired Lt. Gen. Michael C. Short, former 16th Air Force and 16th Air and Space Expeditionary Task Force commander, served as joint task force commander for the Global Mobility Wargame. He will repeat that role in November for Global Engagement VI.

"I think this is an extraordinary effort, and the first time in my 35 years with the Air Force that we've held this level of mobility wargaming," said Short. "We've always assumed Army forces are in place, [as well as] the RSOI (recognition, staging, onward movement and integration)...then we fight the war in three days.

"This Global Mobility wargame is a great step forward. We can't fight without mobility and logistics," he said.

GLOMO 2002 took a year to plan, with input from several organizations including the Air Force Doctrine Center, U.S. Transportation Command and its Navy and Army components, and the Air Force Logistics Management Agency.

The results of the exercise will have an impact on the future. Short said he will take the lessons learned back to the planning components for the upcoming Global Engagement wargame to help them and real-world commanders learn what is needed to get resources and forces to the fight. "We need to redirect our efforts as we can, or we learn the wrong plan," he said.

The assessment of GLOMO 2002 from Air Force headquarters reinforced the need to place mobility and logistics up front in plans and real-world operations.

"What makes the American military different from any other country is how the president can put us in someone's backyard in a matter of hours," said Maj. Gen. Richard A. Mentemeyer, Air Force director of operations and training, deputy chief of staff for air and space operations. "It's through mobility that we accomplish that."

He pointed out, as others have, that the role of mobility has been assumed in other wargames. He said that GLOMO 2002 took the assumptions out of planning and provided practice in those areas that could prove to be show-stoppers.

"This is definitely a first for us," Mentemeyer said. "It's history in the making. Next, we make sure that everyone, at every level, understands the process. All the pieces, from the units, to commands, to the joint service level should be included as we continue to expand and watch this evolve. I'm extremely proud of everyone for their hard work and history-making efforts

Career on hold?

The Family Support Center Family Member Employment Assistance Program help you explore your potential. Call 424-2486.

Outdoor cooking needs attention, too

By Master Sgt. Jerry Clark
60th Civil Engineer Fire Protection Flight

Base residents are very familiar with our push to prevent unattended cooking fires. These types of fires are the number one cause of home fires and fire injuries in the U.S. However, people tend to forget that unattended cooking doesn't always occur in the kitchen. A series of recent fires in housing involving outdoor cooking appliances illustrates the importance of watching what you heat.

A barbecue blown over by the wind, a propane deep fat fryer boiling over, and an outdoor smoker left too close to combustible materials all contributed to a combined fire loss of almost \$20,000 dollars. The common denominator in these incidents is the fact that they all could have been prevented. Below are tips that can be used to keep you from becoming another statistic, and your hard earned money in your pocket:

» First and foremost, never leave cooking unattended: Whether indoors or out, smokers or fryers, propane or charcoal BBQ's; an adult should always be there to monitor for fire safety. A little inattention can lead to disaster.

» Always follow manufacturer's recommendations for use; propane deep fat fryers are becoming more and more popular. However, they operate at much higher temperatures than normal electric units. Using oil other than what is recommended by the manufacturer can lead to boil-over, flash fires and possibly serious injury to anyone standing near the unit. No matter the cost, follow the instructions and use the proper oil.

» Give them space: propane cooking appli-

ances and charcoal barbecues need to be kept clear of all flammable or combustible materials, and at least 10 feet from all structures. Never use them in a garage or other enclosed space, or directly under carports. This applies for children as well. Kids should be kept well clear of the appliances at all times, and taught never to play with them.

» Always ensure the appliance or barbecue used is in good working order, with all safety devices such as gas regulators, thermostatic controls and auto shutoffs, in place and operational. Gas lines, regulators and all connections should be inspected for leaks prior to use, and should be immediately repaired or replaced if damaged or leaking.

» Charcoal should always be allowed to cool in the barbecue, then emptied into a non-combustible container and thoroughly soaked with water. Store these containers away from flammable or combustible materials.

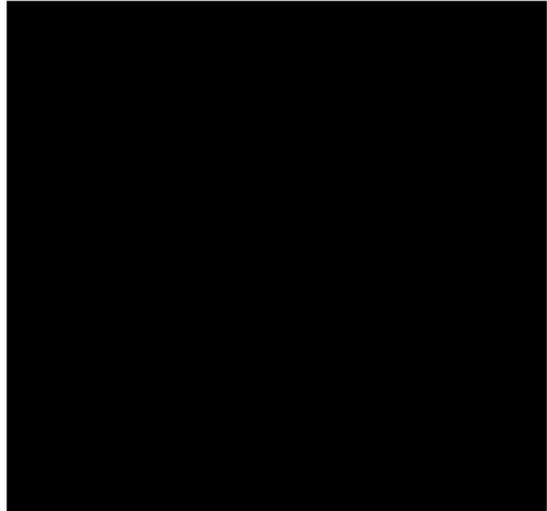
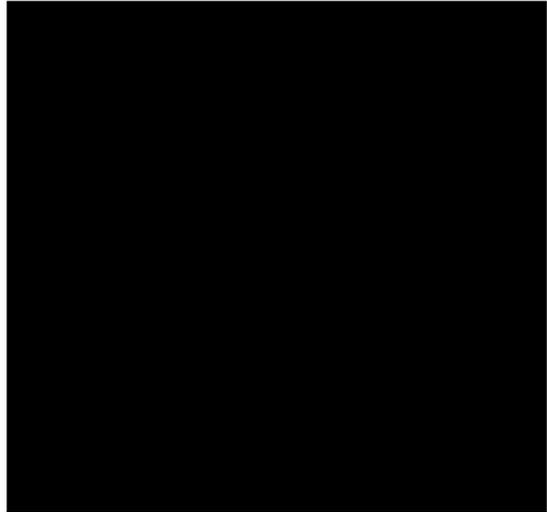
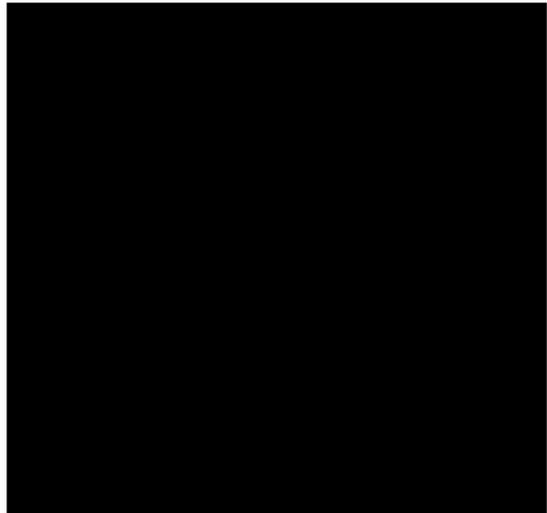
» The breezy conditions at Travis have been a factor in several incidents. Make sure that appliances used are protected as best as possible to prevent accidental knock-over by the wind.

» Finally, purchasing a renters insurance policy is one of the best values around. Fire strikes anytime and anywhere and leaves nothing untouched. Renters insurance cannot replace the lost memories or cherished possessions, but it can help relieve the tremendous burden of rebuilding your life.

For questions on this or any other fire prevention topic, please contact the Fire Prevention Office at 424-3683, or visit us on the Travis Intranet at <http://w3.travis.af.mil/60ces/fire/default.htm>.



(Above). Damage to this patio was caused when the propane deep-fat fryer in the lower right-hand corner of the photo was left unattended and consequentially boiled over. **(Right).** Damage to this fence, outer wall and drainpipe was caused by an outdoor smoker left too close to combustible material. The combined repair costs for these two incidents was \$20,000.



We informed the store manager that our credit cards had been stolen. The store manager checked my wife's credit report and discovered the identify theft statement across the top of the report. His employee had failed to notice the statement and had given nearly \$3,000 in credit to the person who stole my wife's identity. The store manager said the store would take the financial hit for the mistake.

My wife was robbed more than one year ago, and we are still discovering transactions that the thief either accomplished or tried to accomplish using my wife's name.

The incident was frightening for my wife — and she had to complete a mountain of tedious paperwork — but because of our actions immediately following the incident, we have not been held responsible for any of the damage that was done using my wife's stolen identity.

However, the next time the thief decides to use my wife's name, and credit, we may not be as fortunate.

Only time will tell.

Identity theft a concern in the Air Force

In a recent Air Force News article, agents from the Air Force Office of Special Investiga-

tions headquarters at Andrews AFB, Md., said, Air Force members need to be cautious with personal information.

Of primary concern to the AFOSI is identity theft, a crime in which a criminal gathers personal information about a person, through theft or by the victim volunteering such information.

The criminal then uses that information to apply for loans or credit cards, or uses the victim's credit card numbers to make unauthorized purchases.

When a person's identity is stolen, the damage done to credit and financial histories can be immeasurable and extremely difficult to repair, especially when dealing with creditors who want the person to pay for things he or she may never have bought.

Information, including Social Security number, bank account and credit card numbers, account passwords, telephone numbers and addresses, are collected by some criminals to commit fraud.

"You have to be very quick to remedy the situation once you realize your identity has been stolen," said AFOSI Special Agent Tom Mulconry. "They become you. Anything they do reflects on your credit."

If identity theft prevention

doesn't work, act fast.

Use the following tips if you think you've fallen victim to an identity thief:

▶▶ Contact the fraud departments of each of the three major credit bureaus (see graphic).

▶▶ The Federal Trade Commission maintains the Identity Theft Data Clearinghouse, the federal government's centralized identity theft complaint database, and provides information to identity theft victims. Call FTC toll-free at 1-877-438-4338.

▶▶ For any accounts that have been fraudulently accessed or opened, contact the security departments of the appropriate creditors or financial institutions. Close these accounts. Put passwords (not your mother's maiden name) on any new accounts you open.

▶▶ File a report with your local police or the police where the identity theft took place. Get a copy of the report in case the bank, credit card company, or others need proof of the crime.

▶▶ Visit the U.S. government's central Web site for information about identity theft. The Internet address is <http://www.consumer.gov/idtheft/>.

▶▶ One of the best ways to catch identity theft is to regularly check your credit record. Order your credit report from each of the three major credit bureaus each year and make sure all the information is correct.

▶▶ Follow up with creditors if your bills do

You Make the Call

If you think you've become a victim of identity theft, immediately call each of the national consumer reporting agencies listed below.

Ask each agency to place a "fraud alert" on your credit report, and ask them to send you a copy of your credit file.

Equifax

P.O. Box 740241

Atlanta, GA, 30374-0241

Call Equifax at 1-800-525-6285
to report fraud

Trans union

700 Sprout Road

P.O. Box 390

Springfield, PA 19064-0390

Call Trans union at 1-800-680-7289
to report fraud

Experian

P.O. Box 2104

Allen, TX, 75013

Call Experian at 1-888-EXPERIAN
to report fraud

Record label features Travis performers

CD release party at DBC Saturday

60th Services Squadron

Local bands and performing artists, often referred to as "garage bands," may be extremely talented, but without a recording contract, they will never be heard. Staff Sgt. Michael Capshaw, part of the 60th Medical Operations Squadron, decided he wanted to do something to bring local artists into the limelight.

"I love music, and I wanted to gather the talent around base and make them shine," said Capshaw.

Out of the thirteen artists currently with the label, seven are active duty Air Force stationed at Travis.

Capshaw has arranged a CD release party at the Delta Breeze Club at 8 p.m. on Aug. 31. Many of the artists will perform and their new compilation CD called, "Coldlaborations" will be available to hear and purchase.

Two years ago, Capshaw started his own recording label, InHouse Entertainment. He searches for talented musicians at Travis in all genres, from rap to R&B to alternative.

"What we are trying to do is to get people signed to major record labels, or get a good distribution deal with promotion and publicity," said Capshaw. "Business is picking up so quickly that I have two other producers working with me now."

Staff Sgt. Victor L. Follis, from the 60th Component Repair Squadron, met Capshaw



Courtesy photos

Treja, also known as Terrence Patton, is one of the 13 local artists featured on InHouse Entertainment's new CD. The CD includes performances by seven Travis artists and other local performers.

at Airmen Leadership School and began working the promotions and scouting side of the business about a year ago.

"I am very excited to be a part of promoting some of the hidden talent that's here at Travis. The CD Release Party is something new and exciting that couldn't have been possible without support and encouragement from the Delta Breeze Club. The concert on Aug. 31 will be one of the best, and possibly, the beginning of a string of concerts in the future here on Travis," said Follis.

All the artists have stage names including Capshaw "Cap" and Follis "Lojik." Some of the other Travis artists are: SrA Michael Robinson "Artikal," 60th CRS; SrA Jarvis Childs "J*Chizel," 60th Medical Operations Squadron; Staff Sgt. Doug

Caldwell "D'Caldwell," 60MOS; A1C Jon Laureano "Forty Brothaz," 60th Supply Squadron and Staff Sgt. Kevin Moore "Shi," 60MOS.

All the artists on the CD are not military, but most are local. These performers include: Marcell Williams "Novacain," Antonin Tummings "B.U.L.L.E.T.," Terrence Patton "Treja" and Dale Williams "Dirty."

Capshaw, a Hip Hop artist himself, is always looking for new talent, and is currently producing CDs for other new artists.

Their website www.bands411.com/capture has more information on the performers, how to contact the label and buy the newest CD. There are also some samples of some of the newest songs on the website.



(Left), R&B artists Dayah and Cap (aka Staff Sgt. Michael Capshaw) work together in the studio on music for Capshaw's record label, InHouse Entertainment. (Above), InHouse Entertainment features seven Travis solo artists and other local entertainers performing a variety of music on its "Coldlaborations" CD. Come meet the artists and hear them perform at their CD release party at the Delta Breeze Club on Aug. 31.



Nan Wylie / Visual Information

Take me:

(Above) This young female cat was abandoned at the Travis Veterinary Clinic Aug. 12 and needs a new home.

(Left) This male kitten needs a name and a place to grow up healthy. For more information on adopting these and other animals, call the vet clinic at 424-3010.

Phone numbers to know

Burger King

437-6444

Delta Breeze Club

424-1977

Military Pay

424-3925

Civilian Pay

424-1777

Hospital appointments

423-3000

Immunizations

423-5104

'101 Critical Days' of summer ends

ViewPoint

Maj. Gen. John Becker

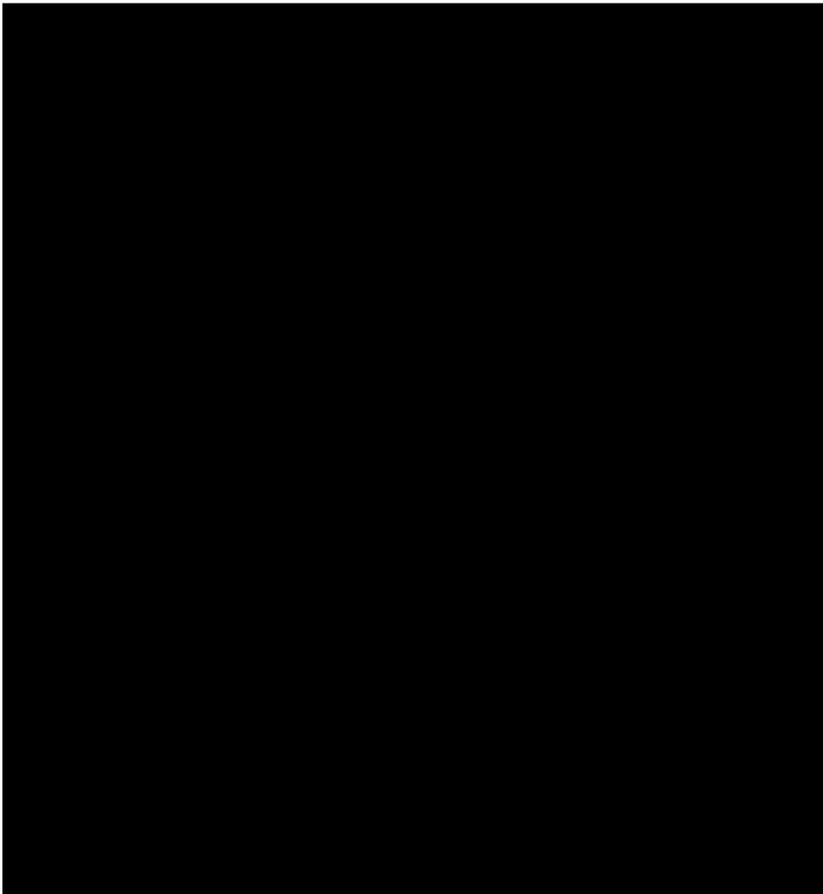
Fifteenth Air Force commander

We are approaching the final major holiday of the 101 critical days of summer. Labor day weekend is right around the corner. For many it is the last recreation opportunity of the summer. A long weekend filled with fun and outdoor activities for the entire 15th Air Force community. Private motor vehicle mishaps, especially motorcycle mishaps, continue to be the leading cause of death for Air Force personnel. Since Memorial Day, 23 Air Force members have died in Motor vehicle mishaps. Five of those fatalities were motorcycle mishaps and five had alcohol involvement. Once again, drinking and driving/riding prove to be a fatal combination.

Water recreation is a source of fun and excitement and a great way to keep cool on a hot summer day. While enjoying a day in the water one must always stay alert for the dangers associated with swimming, boating, water skiing and personal watercraft use. This summer the Air Force has lost three lives to drowning. Always know how to operate watercraft, ensure you use the proper safety equipment, be aware of your surroundings and limits while swimming and remember that alcohol and water don't mix.

Lets make sure we demonstrate to our people being prepared, planning ahead and using risk management principles are the best way to avoid a needless tragedy. We are fortunate, 15th Air Force has been blessed with no fatalities during the 101 critical days of summer. We have a great record so far. Keep up the good work!

I expect your personal involvement in assuring a successful conclusion to the 101 critical days of summer and continued safety awareness throughout the year. Do not become complacent when the labor day weekend is behind us. Please renew your 101 critical days mishap prevention processes before the upcoming holiday weekend. With a focused and determined effort we can conclude a safe, enjoyable and healthy summer for all 15th Air Force personnel.



Wash, fix, sell cars at Skills Development Center

By Linda Mann
60th Services Squadron

The purpose of the Skills Development Center is to teach hands-on skills and offer the Travis community the opportunity to save money by doing things themselves. This includes woodwork in the Wood Shop, framing and matting in The Frame Shop and auto repair in the Auto Hobby Shop, but the Skills Center is more than shops.

Under the Skills umbrella is the base car wash and the auto and RV resale lots.

This means the Travis community can fix their old car at the auto shop; wash, vacuum and wax it at the car wash on Ragsdale Road and then sell it at the resale lot located in the Base Exchange parking lot.

These services and shops are not only for active duty military, but anyone with a military ID including retired, reservists and DoD employees are eligible to use the Skills Development Center.

To have a vehicle on the auto resale lot, car owners must register at the Auto Hobby Shop during business hours: Tuesday through Friday from noon to 8 p.m. or Saturday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Fees are as low as \$1 a day for cars and \$1.30 per day for RVs.

Vehicles must have a valid DoD registration decal or a temporary permit from the security police displayed in the vehicle's windshield.

All vehicles must be parked in assigned parking slots and cars parked in designated areas without registering at the Skills Center will be towed.

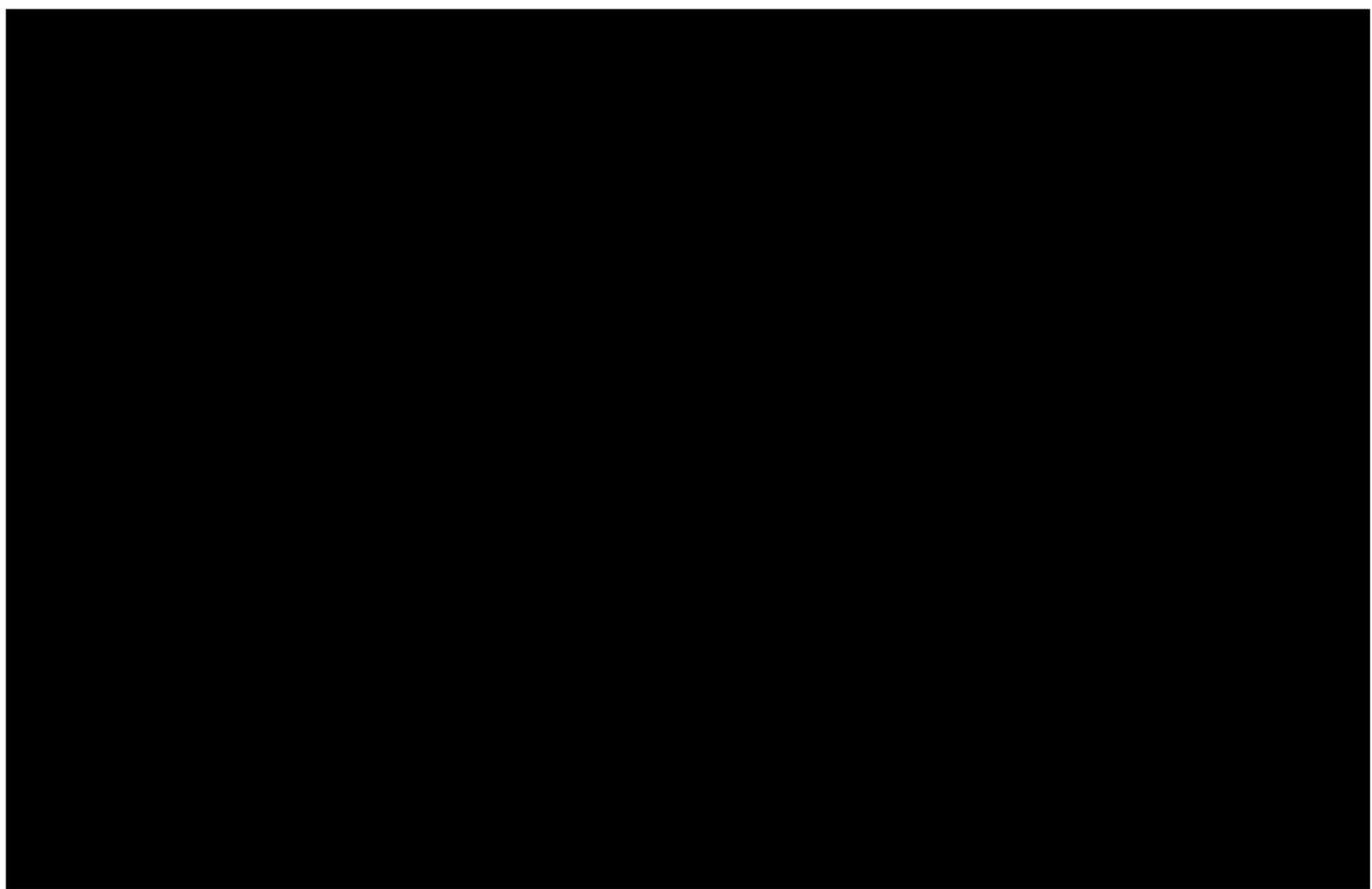
To celebrate the 10th anniversary of Air Mobility Command, the Auto Hobby Shop will offer an oil change for \$19.92 for most cars from Aug. 31 to Sept. 7 and hourly shop fees at The Frame Shop, Wood Shop and Auto Shop will be 92 cents on Sept. 7.

Call 424-1338 or 424-5300 to schedule an oil change or get more information about the Skills Development Center.



Linda Mann / 60th Services Squadron

While on leave, Tech. Sgt. Jim Miller from the 60th Aircraft Generation Squadron and his wife Jenny Miller look at a 1988 Toyota 4-runner in the Auto Resale Lot across from the Armed Forces Bank. Call Bob Rayborn at 424-5300 or stop by the Auto Hobby Shop to register a vehicle for sale in the Services lot.



Splash into summer safety

Unit safety rep. provides tips for staying safe in the water

By Tom Day
Family Support Center

Summer is still here and that means swimming and other water sports begin to rise in popularity. However, as cool and refreshing as it is, water can be a source of accidents and even death.

Drowning claims more than 4,000 lives every year and is the fourth leading cause of accidental death in the United States.

The following are basic safety tips for some water sports that can help everyone to be safe while they enjoy the water.

Swimming and diving safety

» Learn to swim and teach children at an early age.

» Poor swimmers should use properly fitting life jackets, as opposed to inner tubes or other inflatable objects, for protection.

» Swim in supervised areas only.

» Know your swimming limits and stay within them. Don't try to keep up with a stronger, skilled swimmer or encourage others to keep up with you.

» Never swim alone.

» Alcohol and swimming don't mix. Alcohol impairs your judgment, balance, and coordination, especially in water. Alcohol can reduce body temperature.

» Before diving, know how deep the water is. Enter feet first if unsure about the depth of water.

» When diving, the arms should be extended overhead with the hands together to protect the head.

» Areas with swift currents or large waves should be avoided.

» All posted swimming rules should be obeyed.

Tube and raft safety:

» Learn to swim.

» Always wear a Coast Guard-approved life jacket.

» Do not overload the raft.

» Know local weather conditions and do not go rafting after a heavy rain.

» When rafting with a tour company, make sure the guides are qualified.

Snorkeling safety:

» Practice snorkeling in shallow water.

» Check the equipment carefully and know how it functions.

» Learn how to clear water from the snorkel and how to put your mask back on when treading water.

» Be careful not to swim or be carried by a current too far from shore or the boat.

» Never snorkel alone.

Sailboard and windsurf safety:

» Always wear a Coast Guard-approved life jacket.

» To prevent hypothermia, wear a wet suit in cold water.

» Leash your board.

» Take windsurfing lessons from a qualified instructor.

These simple tips could probably prevent most water accidents, injuries and deaths if followed.

Water sports are fun — enjoy the outdoors this summer. So dive in — but be safe.

Drowning claims more than 4,000 lives every year and is the fourth leading cause of accidental death in the United States.

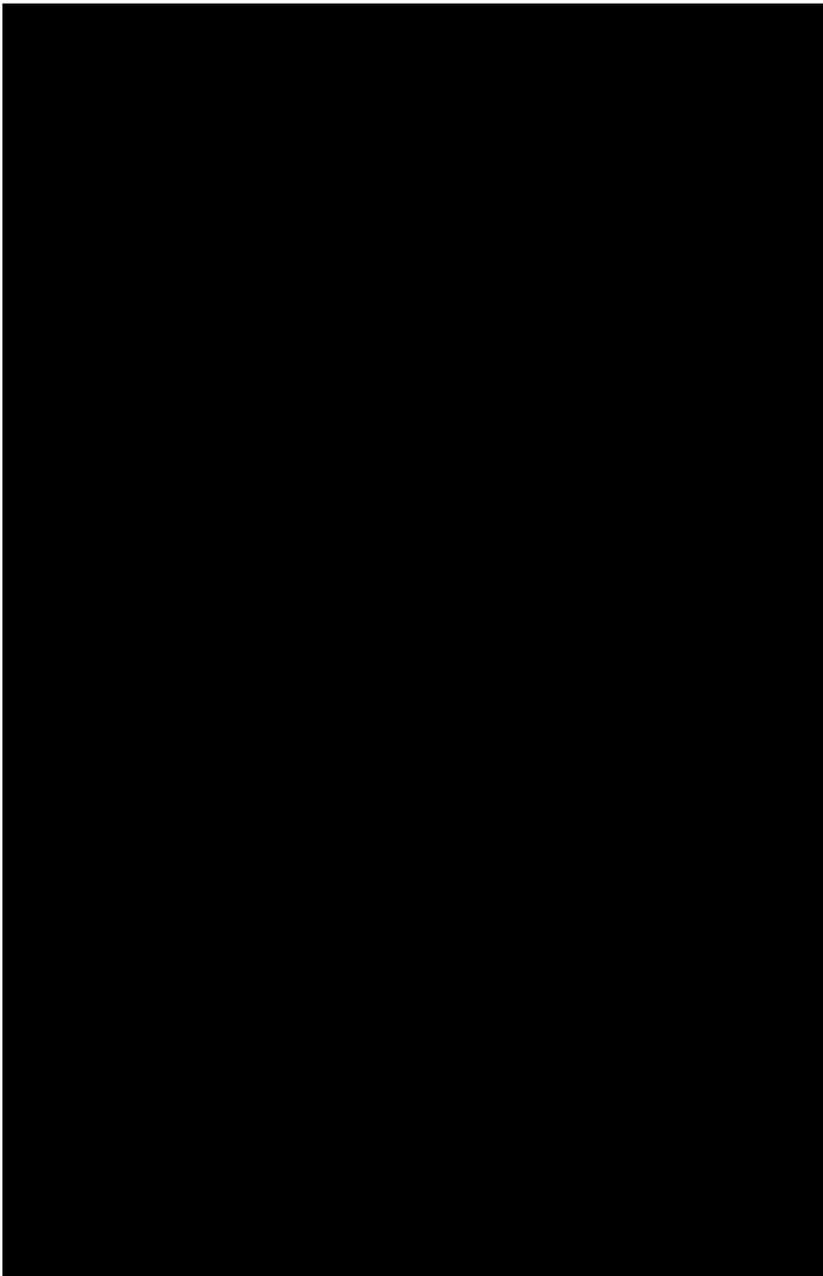
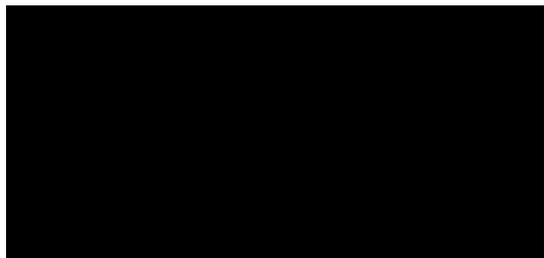
Drinking

The end results can kill

& driving

innocent people and
a military career!

don't mix



Travis teens take nationals

60th Services Squadron

Three Travis youth conquered the decathlon at the 2002 National Fitness Authority Competition on Aug. 10 in Miami, Fla., bringing home two gold and one silver.

First place honors went to Brittini Fuller in the girl's 10-11 division and Kyle James in the boy's 12-13 division. Brytni Houston took second in the girl's 14-15 division.

"These young men and women dedicated their time to be the best fitness representatives of Travis they could be," said Larry Williams, Teen Center director.

Williams said it took that dedication for them to win as each division had a national champion or competitor return-

ing from 2001.

"Not only did Team Travis have the most representatives at the regional and national events, but it had two national winners from the same team. A feat never accomplished before and only to be surpassed by Team Travis in next year's competition," he said.

The national winners were among seven Travis teens and pre-teens who competed in the regional heptathlon event in San Diego in June. Fuller, James and Houston were among only 48 regional competitors to make it to the national event. Nearly 150,000 local-level competitors began the trek in January.

"Having this number of participants in the program, just making it to regional was an

accomplishment that we all should be proud of for each kid," Williams said. "However, Brittini, Brytni and Kyle felt that was not enough for them, they decided to take their dreams to nationals."

The other regional Travis' athletes were Allison Guimond, Sadio Payton, Eric Whaley and Bradley Tinch.

Williams points out the individual trophies took a team effort to accomplish - from the Boys and Girls Club to the Fitness Center to the parents of the competitors.

"Still, the biggest salute goes to the seven young men and women who showed what hard work, dedication and determination can accomplish. They represent the best of Team Travis."



Courtesy photo

Brytni Houston, competing in push-ups, placed second in the National Fitness Authority Decathlon in the girl's 14-15 division.



2nd Lt. Norm Vujovic / AFPN

Falcons prepare to fly: Falcons free safety Larry Duncan (29) makes an interception over wide receiver Chris Charron during Falcons practice at the Air Force Academy. Last season, Duncan tied for the team lead in interceptions, with three for 113 yards and one 95-yard touchdown. Duncan will be roaming the field in search of more turnovers this season, starting with the Falcons season opener Aug. 31 against Northwestern University. The game kicks off at 10:05 a.m., MST, and will be broadcast regionally on ABC.

Fitness Center programs spice up workouts

By Linda Mann
60th Services Squadron

Physical fitness incorporates cardiovascular exercise, a nutritious diet, weight management, strength training and a healthy lifestyle, including not smoking or drinking in excess. The staff at the Fitness Center knows it is not always easy to stay fit, so they are constantly looking for new ways to make workouts more fun.

Programs like Fitness Bingo in February and the El Capitan Challenge during May Fitness Month provide a visual tracking system to encourage individuals and reward them for starting or maintaining an exercise routine.

The newest game at the Fitness Center is a take-off of the Clue game, where participants try to guess who did it, with what weapon and in what room. The game board uses the rooms in the Fitness Center and players earn turns by exercising.

"We took a fun game a lot of people are familiar with and personalized it to the Fitness Center. Sometimes it takes a while to see physical results and games can help people get over that hump," said Barbara Hickenbottom, fitness specialist at the Fitness Center.

The new Smoothie Island at the Fitness Center puts another piece in the fitness puzzle, offering nutritious frozen blended beverages to customers. Vitamins, minerals, amino acids, fruit and more are combined in delicious concoctions that boost energy and immune systems.

Call Barbara Hickenbottom at 424-2008 for more information about Fitness Clue and other fun programs at the Fitness Center.

Fitness Clue rules

- ▶ Sign up at the front counter, choose a game piece and move vertically or horizontally.
- ▶ Get one roll of the dice for every 30 minutes of cardio activity recorded.
- ▶ Land on a secret passageway marked with an "x", move diagonally, vertically or horizontally across the game board to the next secret passage.
- ▶ Reach a room where you think the murder occurred, guess who the murderer was and what the weapon was. A staff member will verify how many of the three guesses are correct.
- ▶ Stay in the same room to guess again, but work out must last 45 cumulative minutes
- ▶ Game ends Sept. 30. The first three people who get all three answers correct in one guess will win a prize.

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Iris Gutierrez serves smoothies to Fitness Center customers at the new Smoothie Island.

