

# TAILWIND

TRAVIS AFB, CALIF.

FRIDAY, JUNE 21, 2002

VOLUME 27, NUMBER 24

## KEEPING SAFE

Railroad safety remains a concern for base residents

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## NEW PROCEDURE

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## BEAUTIFUL BASE

Leadership works hard to ensure Travis' quality of life

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## ATWIND IS HERE

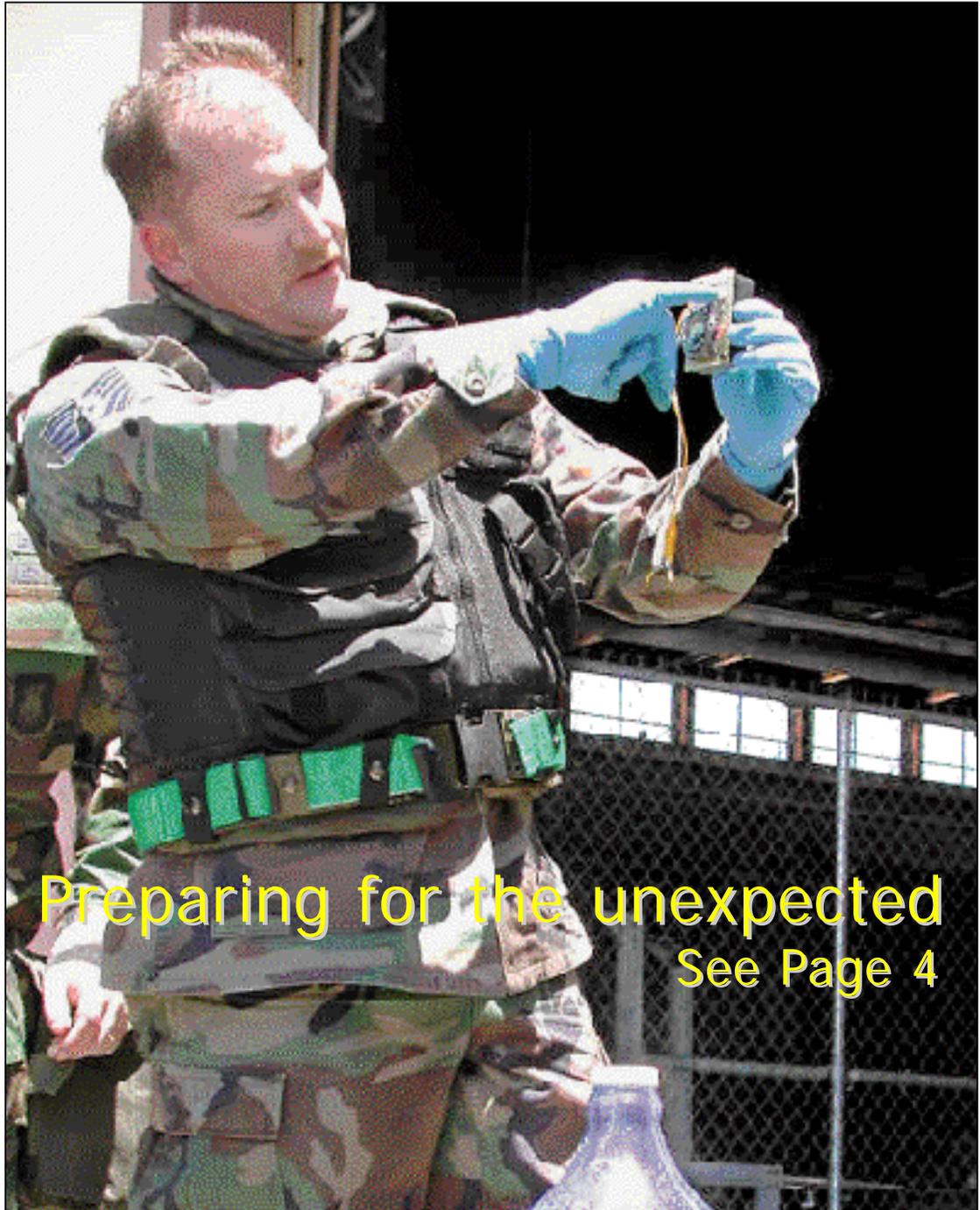
Everything you wanted to know about ATWIND

— Page 18

## YOWS QUOTE

*"Keep your fears to yourself, but share your courage with others."*

 Robert Lewis Stevenson



Preparing for the unexpected  
See Page 4

# Thank you Team Travis for all you do

By Col. Dave Lefforge  
60th AMW Commander

Father's Day has come and gone this year, summer begins officially today and our great nation's independence day is just around the corner. That only begins the list of the many things we have on our plates, personally and professionally.

Father's Day was a very special day; I hope each of you had a chance to remember your dad and all the sacrifices he makes. We have a lot of dads deployed right now, some whom have not yet had the chance to see their newborns. The 21st century military dad typically spends much time away from home, oceans apart from his family. The third Sunday in June recognizes the parental sacrifices a father makes. I only hope I can set the example for my children and be the courageous, selfless and loving father to them that my dad was to me. I would like to share with you a letter one of my fellow comrades here at Travis received from his daughter.

Dated September 15, 2001, **Jenny Bayne**, daughter of 60th Medical Group Vice Commander **Col. Melvin Bayne**, wrote, "Dad, as I drove to work this morning, I heard on the radio the National Anthem. No words. Just the music. And I began to cry. Cry for the sadness that has cloaked many thousands of families ... but I also cried with pride. Pride in you. I don't think I ever really grasped what you did for me, for mom, the boys and the country by physically fighting for us so that we could become whatever we wanted, even if at times we, our country and I seem to be ungrateful. Hopefully today, Dad, you see the outpouring of the millions of thankful, and I stand among them saying thank you, Daddy, for always protecting and always helping. I love you, and I'm proud of you." Jenny signed it. What better gift could a father receive from his child than this, even if it wasn't Father's Day when he received it? It's a treasure that stays with him wherever he goes, depicting the true sentiment of a father's love for his family as well as his country.

With Father's Day 2002 in the history books, summer's rolling in. With it comes the warmth we all look forward to, but at Travis, we also have high winds. Recently, a house fire began at Travis as a result of high winds turning over the charred coals in an outside grill, coals which were thought to be out. High winds also affect our flying operations as well. Be careful out there; summer is an incredible time to enjoy the great outdoors in California. But — be it camping, hiking, barbecuing, or any other number of things — the weather can play a critical role.

That all being said, I returned this week after a TDY to Headquarters Air Mobility Command, to discuss, among other items of interest, our Operational Readiness Inspection set for October. Time and again, we've stressed military readiness and preparedness. Here is our chance to shine. We

expect the evaluators to be here in mid-October to grade us on our jobs. Believe me, I know very well how hard each one of you has been working...and this is another event on our full plates...but an important one. We have a few months until the inspection, and now is the time to pay attention to the many fine details to make sure you and your units are ready to show the command that you are the best of the best, something I already know you are! We will have several exercises prior to the ORI. So,



Kristina Cilla / Visual Information  
Col. Dave Lefforge, 60th Air Mobility Wing commander, presents three coins to Cory Delfs at wing stand up Wednesday at Wing Headquarters. Delfs was being recognized for identifying problems in military family housing. Delfs' action line is below.

best action: be prepared!

Another couple of hot summer topics include **Stop Loss** and **demobilization**. We should hear word on the status of Stop Loss in the next few weeks. Regarding demobilization, our mobilized Guardsmen and Reservists want to know when to expect it. The Air Force announced Monday that demobilization of Reserve component forces would be limited in scope and would affect only selected groups of people. The Air Force is currently evaluating our mission needs to determine which Air Force specialties can be demobilized as soon as possible. We'll keep everyone informed along the way.

For those of you who enjoy watching The Learning Channel, pay close attention this fall to the Monster Machines Series. The C-5 is the largest airframe in the United States; the KC-10 is the largest aerial gas station. We have the privilege of having both of these "monsters" right here at Travis. An L.A.-based television crew came to Travis last week to do a segment on our aircraft. A huge thanks to the **615th AMOG, 60th Support Group, 60th Logistics Group** and, of course, our **60th Operations Group** for helping to put on an incredible show! From our Security Forces driving their Humvees through the cargo bay of the C-5, to the Fire Rescue Truck flashing its lights on the way out of the airframe, to the stellar aerial refueling performance and the expert loading of the C-5 with more than 220,000 pounds of military deployable assets ... everyone put on an all-star production! Great work and look forward to seeing it on The Learning Channel tentatively set for release Oct. 16!

I'd also like to welcome home my right hand man, **Col. Jan Swickard**, the 60th Air Mobility Wing's vice commander. Col. Swickard has been the 60th Air Expeditionary Group commander at a forward deployed location for more than three months and has just returned home to his family and Travis. While deployed, he had the privilege of leading more than 400 deployed Travis personnel. As a team, they all did some great things and hit a few milestones. Col. Swickard's team had a **99.95 percent effectiveness rate** in refueling combat strike aircraft. His time, he said, was simply awesome!

Last, but certainly not least, our 60th Contracting Squadron has new leadership! Yesterday, **Lt. Col. Jeffery Whittall** took command from **Lt. Col. Casey Blake**. Our contracting squadron has made many great things happen over the last couple of years and we look forward to continuing to see more of the same and better in the near future. Lt. Col. Casey Blake will move down the street, and will soon become the deputy commander of the 60th Support Group.

In closure, I think Jenny Bayne said what ultimately I'd like to say to you all: Thank you all for always helping and for always protecting what's so important to us...our way of life! You have been there through the thick and thin of it all. It is my greatest pleasure and privilege to work for you and work with you.

## Tailwind

Travis AFB, Calif.  
60th Air Mobility Wing

Col. Dave Lefforge  
60th Air Mobility Wing commander

**60th AMW Editorial Staff**  
Capt. Michele Tasista

Chief, Public Affairs

Tech. Sgt. Scott King

NCOIC, Public Affairs

Staff Sgt. Jim Verchio

Editor

Airman 1st Class Alice Moore

Staff writer

**Daily Republic staff**

Michael T. Moseley

Daily Republic liaison

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### ACTION LINE

**Q** To Whom It May Concern! think all the garbage on the road of Maine St. should be dealt with soon because it has carpets all over the sidewalks and tables and stereos all over the roads and it is becoming a very big mess out on the streets. Kids could get hurt because I have seen broken stereos and tables and other big broken objects, and they could have nails sticking out and the stereos have sharp edges on them. They can get cut or cars can hit them and get in a wreck. That makes me very upset. I mean people can't just go to a dumpster and just throw it all away or something except for putting it on the streets where people park and kids sometimes play. It makes our streets look very bad. Sincerely, Cory Delfs

**A** "Children want to live in a clean and safe neighborhood. Thanks Cory for pointing out that bulk trash items that cannot fit in the gray bin need to be called in to Solano Garbage at 439-2800 (not later than 1500) by Friday for the next Monday pick-up. If the bulk trash is not called in, the items remain on the street and can possibly injure a child. Abandoned trash has already decreased dramatically over the last few weeks in your neighborhood. With a little more community involvement from housing residents, abandoned trash can be the thing of the past."



Tech. Sgt. Scott King / 60th AMW Public Affairs

**On the cover:** Tech. Sgt. Thurmond Franks, an EOD craftsman from Kirtland AFB, NM, inspects an explosive training device. See more on Page 4.

# Preparing for disaster

## Basewide exercise readies Team Travis for terrorist attacks

By Tech. Sgt. Scott King  
60th AMW Public Affairs

Travis will be conducting a Weapons of Mass Destruction exercise Thursday to practice response procedures in case a real-world attack should ever unfold here.

The goal of the exercise is to enhance overall preparedness by testing plans and supporting checklists, training personnel on courses of action and responsibilities, and exercising command and control elements.

"After the events of Sept. 11, we have and will continue to hone our responses to the evolving terrorist threat," said Cheryl Brown, deputy chief of wing readiness and exercises, 60th Air Mobility Wing. "Travis must be ready to provide prompt and sustained responses in any terrorist attack."

This is a basewide exercise; agencies will be expected to respond and post exercise changes to Force Protection Condition Levels. Group Control Centers and Unit Control Centers will be activated and off-base agencies will participate as their schedule allows.

"Exercises are designed to stress and test systems," Brown said. "We learn and grow by exercising out of normal or routine operations. Exercise evaluators have planned and scripted event scenario inputs to test plans and procedures under stress."

Operations tempo here dramatically increased after Sept 11 and throughout the year, but the base cannot afford to leave any stone unturned.

With Travis' normal turnover of personnel and high operations tempo, it's very important that the base takes the time to exercise and train, not only our



Archive photo

First responders come to the aid of a disaster victim during a previous exercise.

military members, but many other segments of the base population as well, Brown said. A weapons of mass destruction attack would impact everyone on base, whether they live, work or conduct business here.

"A terrorist attack could occur with little or no warning and at any time of

the day or night. Our mindset needs to be geared toward the proactive. Regular exercising and training will ensure our ability to conduct our mission at Travis and deployed locations," Brown said. "Our airman, civilians and their families depend on our ability to face this challenge — we must be ready."



Master Sgt. John Snow / AFE

**Ultimate sacrifice:** OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM (AFIE) — Members of the 86th Airlift Wing Honor Guard at Ramstein Air Base, Germany, remove a flag-draped casket containing the remains of one of the three servicemembers Monday. The servicemembers were killed when a MC-130 Combat Talon aircraft crash in Afghanistan during a mission supporting Operation Enduring Freedom June 12.

## Demobilization begins for Reserve component

By Master Sgt. Rick Burnham  
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — Air Force officials announced Monday that a planned demobilization of reserve component forces would be limited in scope, affecting only selected groups of people across the service.

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper said Air Force officials are formulating a plan to determine the right mix of active-duty, Reserve and Guard forces.

"Our mobilized guardsmen and reservists want to know when to expect demobilization," he said in the May 3 edition of "The Chief's Sight Picture." "The deputy chief of staff for air and space operations is coordinating an effort to evaluate our mission needs and determine which Air Force specialties can be demobilized as soon as possible. At the same time, we are evaluating where, when, and how to shift from a crisis response mode — with heavy reliance on mobilized Guard and Reserve — to our 'new steady state,' which would utilize volunteer guardsmen and reservists to help meet our mis-

sion tasksings."

"We need these results to determine our long-term requirements for our mobilized members and how long to continue Stop-Loss for those in our most stressed skills."

More than 30,700 Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard men and women were called to duty following the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. Another 7,900 Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve volunteers are serving on active duty.

Most of those will remain for the duration of their activation orders, said Michael L. Dominguez, assistant secretary of the Air Force for manpower and reserve affairs.

"Many will serve until the expiration of the period of mobilization specified in their activation orders," Dominguez said, "unless that period of mobilization is extended by the secretary of the Air Force. When the command that issued the original mobilization determines that the specified forces are no longer required to perform the

■ SEE RESERVES ON PAGE 12

## NEWS NOTES

### Changes of Command

Col. Edward Connolly, commander of the 60th Logistics Group, will relinquish command to Col. Dan Steel, in a change of command ceremony scheduled for Friday at 10 a.m. at flightline spot 251 located behind the Distinguished Visitor lounge. There will be a reception immediately following the ceremony at the passenger terminal. Dress for the ceremony is uniform of the day. For more information, call 424-8393.

Maj. Rohni Winters, commander of the 60th Comptroller Squadron, will relinquish command to Lt. Col. Terry Ross in a change of command ceremony scheduled for July 2 at 2 p.m. in Bldg. 31. There will be a reception following the ceremony. Dress for the ceremony is uniform of the day. For more information, call 424-2251.

### Choir performance

A free concert featuring the California Baptist All-State Youth Choir is scheduled for Saturday at 7 p.m. in Chapel 1. The choir will also perform at all masses and Protestant Services Saturday and Sunday. For more information, call 424-3217.

### Commissary closure

The commissary will be closed in observance of July 4. The Mini-Comm will be open from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.

### Car show

The 60th Component Repair Squadron is hosting a car show July 12 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Cost to register a vehicle is \$20 and the event is open to anyone with base access. The show is open to all cars, trucks and bikes. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Richard Krusemark at 424-2655 or 424-0257.

*Submission of a story or brief does not guarantee publication. For more information, contact the Tailwind at 424-2011.*

# Travis' 'Bomb Squad' gears up for WMD evolutions

By Capt. Kim Garbett  
60th AMW Public Affairs

Ballistic missiles, nuclear bombs, anthrax and vehicle bombs ... only a few of the weapons of choice among terrorist organizations and some governments. Four sticks of dynamite strapped to an empty jug with a digital timer with a green liquid of undetermined origin is another potential terrorist device. One such training device sat in a window of Travis' Bldg. 550 on Hangar Boulevard June 13.

Travis' Explosive Ordnance Disposal flight, affectionately known as the 'bomb squad,' is a team of 15 personnel tasked to identify, render safe and dispose of all explosive, chemical, biological, nuclear and hazardous materials that pose a threat to people, property or the environment, Master Sgt. Joseph Cross, EOD superintendent said.

The proliferation of weapons of mass destruction globally is becoming a popular phenomenon. The jug of green liquid and dynamite was not a simple device. However, according to our bomb squad, no terrorist device is simple. Unlike bombs, rockets and cruise missiles used by the Air Force, there are no technical manuals for the devices terrorists create.

Travis' EOD team geared up with Sparta, Inc., to conduct a weapons of mass destruction exercise June 10 to 14. Many of the Sparta contractors are former military EOD members specializing explosive ordnance disposal and counter terrorism training. "These evolutions (exercises) are being done to establish a foundation for continued education and to increase our capabilities," Cross said.

Travis' EOD team responds to calls from a five county area and works in conjunction with the various bomb squads in the counties. Since the beginning of 2002, Travis' EOD team has responded to 22 suspected cases, 16 of which turned out to be actual. During the week-long exercise, the teams "responded" to various real-world scenarios, to include pipe bombs, chemical agents and large vehicle improvised explosive devices.

"In order to successfully complete the mission, teams need to ask the right questions before they head toward the scene. In one evolution, if people have conditions such as runny noses, tightness in chest and pinpointed pupils, the teams need to know they should don their chemical gear due to the possibility of a chemical agent present," Staff Sgt. Neil Jones, an EOD technician, said. It takes not only responding and asking the right questions but courage and personal determination.

"College was easy compared to EOD training," Jones said of the intense seven-month course held at Eglin AFB, Fla. "And once you complete training, the real-world scenarios test your willingness to place yourself in a potentially volatile and deadly situation on an irregular and unknown schedule ... it takes a person willing to challenge the odds of life and death and to be one step ahead of the enemy on the other side of that device or



Tech. Sgt. Scott King / 60th AMW Public Affairs

Tech. Sgt. Thurmond Franks, an EOD craftsman from Kirtland AFB, NM, demonstrates the proper methods of identifying a Weapon of Mass Destruction.

agent in almost any situation.

With fifteen people total, EOD teams, when dispatched, are small. "It depends on the circumstances, but usually three-to-five-person teams are sent out on responses," said Staff Sgt. Neil Newman. "Equipment could include anything from gas masks, flak vests, gloves, reconnaissance equipment (including robots), a camera and a flashlight."

Calls upon Travis' EOD team range from checking out suspicious unattended luggage to safely disposing of archaic left-over munitions to pipe bombs. Running EOD teams through multiple situations is critical, Sparta officials said. "Devices are only limited by the creator's expertise and imagination," Ernie Lorelli, program manager for Sparta, Inc., said.

In the case of the EOD teams playing the evolutions, the teams proved smarter than the "terrorist."

## Fitness Center offers convenient ID check

By Linda Mann  
60th Services Squadron

The Fitness Center has increased its space, expanded its programs, purchased new equipment and now offers the convenience of a high-tech identification check. The new system offers many benefits for users and the facility, from customer safety to tracking.

Authorized users, including reservists, guardsmen, civilian employees, active duty military and their dependents, need to bring their ID card to the Fitness Center and fill out a short application including name, address and sponsor's information. Then a digital photograph is taken and the information is entered into the computer system and attached to a bar code on a small key tag.

The 2 1/2 by 1 inch white plastic key

tag has a hole in the corner for easy carrying on a key chain. This means customers don't need to carry their ID on them, sometimes hard to do while wearing gym shorts, to gain access to the Fitness Center. Just slid the key tag through a scanner at the front counter and the turnstile allows entrance.

All personnel permanently attached to Travis using the gym need a key tag. Guests and temporarily assigned military need to sign in.

Some of the benefits of the new system are:

- ▶ Diminishes need for ID to check out equipment-use keys with key tag attached
- ▶ Ensures guests are tracked and signed in for liability purposes
- ▶ Allows customers to get specific information on classes
- ▶ Allows customers to have class fees

automatically charged to credit card if desired

"We have lots of unauthorized users in the facility-folks that have expired ID cards and downtown people being sponsored in daily. We need to curb the amount of unauthorized users so that folks who really belong and earn the privilege of this facility can use it," said Fitness Center director Tanya Graves.

The guest policy is designed for occasional visits of friends and non-dependent relatives.

"Guests are not authorized to use the facilities on any type of regular basis. The sponsor is responsible for all guests' conduct and must remain with guests at all times," said Graves.

Filling out the application only takes a couple of minutes and makes future checking in easier and faster.

For more information, call 424-2008.

## Nearly 2,200 selected Air Force wide for promotion to major

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFPN) — The calendar 2002A central line, judge advocate general, nurse corps, medical service corps and biomedical sciences corps major selection boards selected 2,175 officers for promotion to major.

A special selection board selected an additional 24 people May 6.

The entire list will be posted on the Air Force Personnel Center's Web site the morning of June 21, said AFPC officials.

The major's board convened here Feb. 19 to March 1 to consider 3,090 captains for promotion.

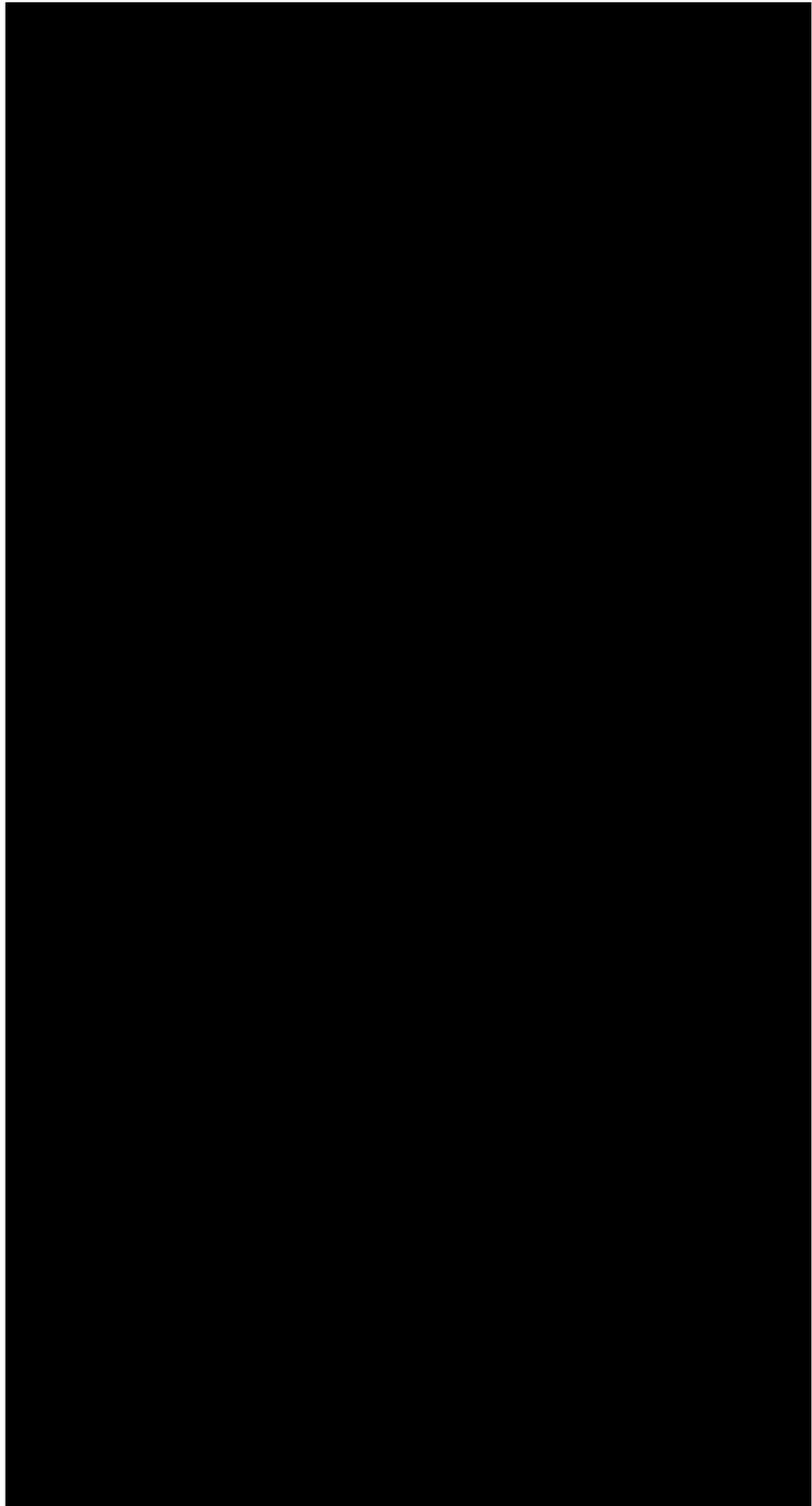
Some officers affected by Stop-Loss were given the opportunity to have their records reviewed by the regularly scheduled May 6 special selection board. This occurred because there was concern that some of those officers may not have understood their options for a promotion board in a Stop-Loss environment, officials said.

Announcement of the in-residence professional military education candidates associated with these promotion boards is scheduled for June 27. Look to next week's Tailwind for Travis' major selects.

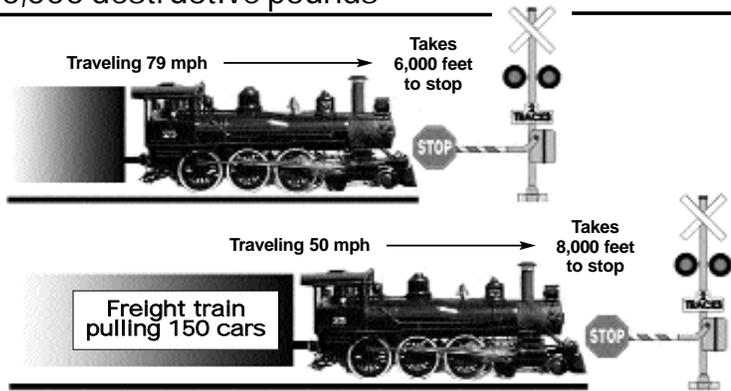


Staff Sgt. Sarah Webb-Frost / AFPN

**Facelift:** OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM (AFIE) — Crew Chiefs from Travis and Westover Air Reserve Base, Mass., unload aircraft parts and maintenance equipment from a C-5 Galaxy at a forward-deployed location supporting Operation Enduring Freedom on June 13.



## 300,000 destructive pounds



SOURCE: Operation Lifesaver

Information graphic by Staff Sgt. Mark Diamond / 60th AMW Public Affairs

# Stay on track

## When it comes to trains, look, listen and live

By Staff Sgt. Craig Johnson  
373rd Training Squadron, Detachment 14

In the Travis Air Force Base vicinity, there's a busy set of railroad tracks very close by. It's a high-speed double track line belonging to the Union Pacific Railroad, which operates numerous freight trains day and night traveling at about 55 mph.

The Amtrak California commuter train makes 19 scheduled trips a day and travels at 79 mph along that same route. Regular Amtrak service goes through four times a day traveling at the same speed. As a matter of fact, the sound of blaring horns can be heard from just about anywhere on the base, regularly, throughout the day. That horn is a warning of an approaching freight or passenger train that must not be ignored.

Trains can be long and weigh thousands of tons. Traveling at high speeds, they cannot stop on a dime. Statistics show that — traveling at 79 mph — a passenger train's approximate stopping distance is 6,000 feet (1 1/8 miles) with emergency brakes applied. A 150-car freight train's approximate stopping distance is 8,000 feet (1 1/2 miles) if it were traveling at 50 mph. This means it will take even longer if the train is moving at the posted 55 mph track speed.

Below are safety tips published by Operation Lifesaver, a non-profit organization dedicated to preventing railroad crossing mishaps.

- ▶ Never drive around lowered gates — it's illegal and deadly. If you suspect a signal is malfunctioning, call your local law enforcement agency, or the railroad or dial 911.
- ▶ Never race a train to the crossing — even if you tie, you lose.
- ▶ Do not get trapped on a crossing. Only proceed through a crossing if you are sure you can cross the entire track.
- ▶ If your vehicle stalls on a crossing, get everyone out of the vehicle immediately, move quickly toward the oncoming train but away from the tracks at about a 45-degree angle. Call the local law enforcement agency for assistance.
- ▶ At a multiple track crossing, while waiting for a train to pass, watch for a second train on the other tracks approaching in either direction.

This also means you are going to lose in either case against a passenger or freight train.

Just the engine of a passenger train weighs 273,000 pounds, and a freight engine weighs about 400,000 pounds. They are built to withstand up to 1 million pounds of impact, which means absolute destruction to whatever they hit.

Waiting at a railroad crossing two minutes or less is far better than possibly losing your life. In the past 18 months, at least three railroad mishaps occurred nearby, causing two fatalities.

One of those fatalities was a member of Travis.

The loss of even one human life is too great a consequence and yet so easy to prevent. That is why it is very important to always obey warning lights, bells and lowered gates at railroad crossings.

Remember to look, listen and live. Your life depends on it.

Students from the 373rd TRS, Det. 14, will be passing out railroad crossing safety flyers at the Base Exchange Tuesday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Seatbelts are hugs from your car!

# In good company

Ballet troop grows to more than 65 dancers



• (Left) Jenny Doyle, who is the ballet instructor at the Youth Center, teaches Stacey Jackson the proper way to execute a ballet step. (Above) Participants of the class stretch during the lesson. Various classes are offered through Doyle and the Youth Center four days a week.

Photos and story by Airman 1st Class Alice Moore  
60th AMW Public Affairs

The lights go out and the curtains rise up. Suddenly you hear the music play. Although it's not a play you're watching, you are being told a story. The story is being told not by words but through dance.

Since February 2000, Jenny Doyle has offered to teach the art of Russian-style ballet at the Travis Youth Center. Over the past year, her number of students has increased from 18 to 65.

Doyle says she emphasizes Russian-style ballet in her teaching because it's the same style she learned.

"There are three main ballet styles: French, Italian and Russian," said Doyle. "The French style is known for its soft and elegant movements. The Italian style is known to have strong and brilliant techniques. The Russian style combines the French and Italian styles. I teach in the Russian style not only because I was taught in this style, but I think it gives my students the best of both worlds."

"It's wonderful to see my students go from not knowing anything about ballet to being able to perform this art in front of an audience," said Doyle. "I love to see my students improve."

Doyle, a certified jazz and ballet instructor, started to take ballet at the age of 10 in her hometown of Nordhausen, East Germany, she said. Her instructor was a well-known solo dancer, Monika Honti.

"I became interested in ballet after watching a movie back home in Germany," said Doyle. "From that point on I started taking lessons and eventually started performing."

Doyle adds throughout her career, she's performed in several ballets in Germany. However, after East and West Germany became one country, she took a break from her dance career to pursue studies at a university in business administration.

"During the time I lived in East Germany, the ballet companies were state owned. When the wall came down, things got privatized," said Doyle. "The company I danced for started to incorporate modern style ballet. The style I danced was Russian. All of the dancers were fired. After I was let go, I decided to take a break from dancing. I went to college for a while."

After attending college, Doyle returned to ballet to be an instructor.

"I wanted to go back to ballet, because the love I had for it was still there. I had taken a break for a while, and I felt I was too old have a dance career," she said. "I decided to be a ballet instructor and share what I knew about the art."

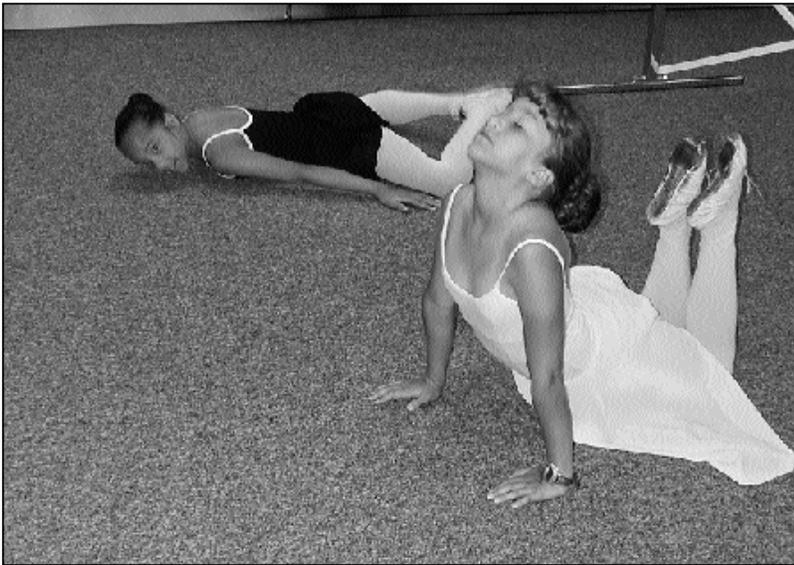
Doyle began to teach in Ramstein, Germany. She eventually met her husband who is in the Air Force. She moved to Travis in 2000 when her husband was assigned to the 815th Air Mobility Squadron.

Doyle adds once she arrived at Travis, she continued to have a will to teach ballet.

"One day I went over to the Youth Center on base and asked if I could teach ballet there. Ever since then, my number of students have grown."

Doyle is now 26 and is also expecting a child

## BALLET / From Page 9



Emily Olivas stretches prior to class while Melissa Schumann looks on.

soon. However, she continues to teach her students. She also says she accepts anyone who is willing to learn the art. She teaches students from the age of three to adults.

With Doyle's willingness to teach all ages, families are able to participate together.

"I've been participating in the classes with my family for about four months before I got deployed," said

Senior Master Sgt. David Mudge, first sergeant for the 60th Supply Squadron. Mudge, who has been deployed for the last few months to an undisclosed location, recently returned home and back to Doyle's class.

Mudge, along with his wife and two daughters, enjoys taking ballet lessons from Doyle.

"Jenny is so patient. My wife was excited when Jenny offered the adult classes," said Mudge. "I think this is a good way for me to spend

some time doing something with my family. We already spend so much time apart. This is something I can do with my wife and daughters."

Mudge also says he's surprised at the physical demands of ballet.

"When you see people doing ballet you think it's easy. You think it's something you can do with little effort. When you actually do it yourself, it's a different story," said Mudge.

"I wanted to learn ballet after watching my oldest daughter, who is eight now, take lessons,"

said Cindy Mudge, David's wife. "Learning ballet is something I always wanted to learn. My great aunt was a ballerina, and I had a friend who was into ballet."

"Miss Jenny is good at correcting us. I like to dance a lot and Jenny is the best teacher I've had," said 8-year-old Shannon Mudge. "I've also been able to make new friends. I also like that my family does it with me."

Not only does Doyle teach Russian ballet to her students, she's also responsible for choreographing the performances of her students.

In addition to Doyle's love for ballet, she says she is pleased that her knowledge is being passed on to others. She says it's also gratifying to see her students grow to love ballet just as much she does.

"I've learned a lot from Miss Jenny," said 11 year-old Melissa Schumann, Travis Youth Center ballet student. "I think the dance classes here are great and it makes me feel good."

"Miss Jenny is a nice teacher," said 10-year-old Emily Olivas, who is also a Travis ballet student. "I've been doing ballet since I was four. I've always liked it. I practice here four days a week. I keep getting better."

Doyle adds there are numerous benefits to learning ballet. She says some of these benefits include attaining strength, flexibility and adding self-confidence.

Along with Doyle, parents of her students believe in the benefits ballet has for their children.

"Ballet has been wonderful for my daughter. Melissa has never taken ballet before she started taking lessons from Jenny," said Diane Schumann. "Now my daughter has more confidence and a sense of grace. Melissa use to be a bit of a 'tomboy'."

For now, Doyle continues to teach ballet at Travis. She hopes to own her own dance studio someday.

For more information on the ballet program, contact the Youth Center at 424-5392.



Senior Master Sgt. David Mudge, first sergeant of the 60th Supply Squadron, practices his moves with his wife, Cindy. The Mudges use ballet as a way to spend time together.

# Study evaluates health trends

By Gerry Gilmore

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFP) — An ongoing Department of Defense health study will ultimately examine health surveys submitted by 140,000 current and former servicemembers throughout two decades.

The joint-service Millennium Cohort Study will evaluate the health risks of military deployments, occupations and general military service, said Navy Cmdr. Margaret A.K. Ryan, director of the DoD Center for Deployment Health Research in San Diego.

The Millennium Cohort Study is designed to examine the health effects of military service on men and women, both during service and after they leave, Ryan said. More than 60,000 servicemembers have signed up to take part since program enrollment began in August 2001, she said.

The project "is the largest and most ambitious study of military people ever," she said, noting that participants' health would be evaluated over a 21-year period.

Ryan, principal investigator for the study, works with six other investigators. The results of the study, she said, may also be used to develop future DoD health policies.

Active and reserve component Army, Marine Corps, Navy and Air Force members were randomly selected and invited to participate in the study, she said.

"People could not volunteer to be part of the cohort — that would be a different kind of study, like a registry project. A cohort study is a much stronger study design," Ryan said.

She said the first group, or cohort, will ultimately consist of about 100,000 enrollees. Ryan said participants enroll by filling out a paper form or signing up online at [www.millenniumcohort.org](http://www.millenniumcohort.org).

The study will enroll another group of 20,000 people in 2004, Ryan said. The last 20,000 of the total 140,000 Millennium Cohort members will enroll by 2007.

Ryan said participants are asked to complete surveys about their basic health every three years. The surveys, she said, inquire about any acute or chronic health problems, possible exposures to toxic substances during military deployments and health-related behaviors like smoking and exercise.

Information gathered from surveys is held in the strictest confidence, Ryan emphasized, and is only shared as summarized, anonymous research data.

"We take quite a bit of effort to make sure that all of the information people provide is confidential," she said. "None of this information leaves the DoD Center for Deployment Health Research."

Communications are maintained between officials and survey participants for the duration of the program, Ryan said.

"We ask cohort members to help us track their addresses and so on throughout the years, so that we can contact them," she said.

She said participants specify how they will maintain contact — work address, home address or e-mail — however they prefer. She noted the critical importance of cohort members maintaining contact. Participants are selected scientifically to provide an accurate cross-section of the force.

For example, she said, some people invited to participate in the survey are currently deployed overseas as part of Operation Enduring Freedom. Recognizing the challenge of enrolling in The Millennium Cohort while deployed, Ryan said people could sign up when they return to a more convenient location.

People who have received invitations to enroll in The Millennium Cohort should take the time to do so, she said. Information from the surveys, "is very important for the military and for veterans."

# Parts to go

## Auto Hobby shop expands its services

60th Services Squadron

People who work on their own cars know the frustration of having to stop working to run to the auto parts store for a small bolt, hose or more fluid they didn't anticipate needing. To assist customers with their projects and to save them time, the



Photo by Rank first and last name

Airman Yazan Bukhari in the 60th Medical Operations Squadron changes the brake pads on his 2000 Acura Integra at the Auto Hobby Shop.

Auto Hobby shop now offers the most commonly requested items for sale to shop patrons.

"The sale items are a new way of supporting our auto hobby patrons with the things they just may need during routine repairs," said Bob Rayborn, Skills Development Center manager.

The additions were prompted by numerous customer requests for help while doing maintenance.

"You just never know when a fuel hose may break off, rather than come loose. Sometimes troubleshooting electrical problems can mean several blown fuses. By having some of these basic consum-

able products here at the shop, patrons can complete a lot of average projects without the need to leave the shop for parts," Rayborn said.

Resale items are available during the Auto Hobby shop's normal operating hours to support patrons. Rayborn is always looking for suggestions on what items are most needed and encourages customers to fill out a comment card or tell the staff their ideas. For more information on the services and products offered by the Auto Hobby shop, call 424-2929 or 424-1338.

## RESERVES / From Page 3

mission for which they were mobilized, they will be demobilized."

Other situations, such as involving a rotational plan agreed to by the affected active-duty and reserve component commands, will also likely result in demobilization, Dominguez said. Other guidelines apply for those Reserve and Guard people who were ordered to active duty following the terrorist attacks.

"Under certain circumstances," Dominguez said, "individual reserve component members ordered to active duty may be deactivated and discharged, or returned to reserve component control without the necessity of SECAF-level approval."

Those circumstances include discharge for cause (for conduct or performance problems), medical reasons or personal hardship, when the needs of the Air Force will allow it.

Other circumstances include deactivation when the person is determined to be unqualified for medical reasons, when he or she is experiencing an unexpected temporary hardship, or when they are deemed unqualified because of a lack of prescribed training.

The procedures for deactivating those men and women who have volunteered and been accepted to remain on extended active duty differ slightly, Dominguez said.

"They will be deactivated on the day before the date of entry on extended active duty," he said.

Dominguez added that the responsibility for a suitable transition time for those who demobilize rests with commanders.

"Commanders will ensure that members who are deactivated or discharged are allowed adequate time to complete necessary travel and complete medical evaluation, if required," he said. "They will also be allowed time to use any accrued leave, if they desire."

Wing- and base-level military personnel flights have more information on the demobilization of Air Force reserve component people.



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

**Get well soon:** Army doctor (Maj.) Abbie Whitehead (left) and Army Spc. Rebecca Bowman, a veterinarian assistant, perform minor surgery on Donovan, a 2-year-old Basset Hound, at the Travis Veterinary Clinic June 12. All Travis housing residents must register pets with the clinic. For more information, call 424-3010.



# EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

## Distance learning keeps deployed airmen engaged in education



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

Thanks to information technology, today's students can continue their education without ever setting foot in a classroom due to the flexibility of distance learning. Distance learning lets people earn course credits through correspondence with methods like e-mail, using fax machines to send data or traditional mail delivery. It has revolutionized education and helped many military members, especially those on deployments.

"Distance learning, whether it is paper and pencil, videotape, satellite broadcast, or Internet delivery provides airmen the opportunity to take their 'school' with them, wherever they go," said Stephanie Beebe, an education specialist here. "The array of programs and courses available outside the classroom is impressive. Associate degree programs in liberal arts through master's degrees in engineering, and hundreds of programs in between, are offered by numerous reputable colleges and universities."

Even airmen at austere or classified locations can take advantage of distance learning. For example, the 60th Air Expeditionary Group has created a program to help airmen at their forward operating location earn credits while deployed.

"Our objective is to have as little disruption as possible in the lives of our deployed airmen," said 1st Lt. Ed Hale, former executive officer, 60th AEG. "If we give them their tests here, they don't get behind in their school. It seems like a little thing, but it goes a long way toward improving their quality of life and keeping them in the Air Force."

Hale served as the Test Control Officer for the 60th AEG. He received the tests from the Travis education office, administered the tests and faxed them back to Travis to be graded.

"In the past, our guys would have to request the exam and wait for it to be mailed to the education office and then have it mailed back home," Hale said. "That process could take as much as four weeks just for the test to go through the mail and back. We can accomplish this in less than three days."

Hale helped three deployed airmen take advantage of the 60th AEG's distance learning program. Master Sgt. Will Kramer, Senior Airman Brad Schafer and Senior

Airman Tim Thomas successfully completed a course called "Human Factors in Aviation Safety" from Embry Riddle Aeronautical University. Maj. Gary Grape, from the 15th Air Force, taught the course at the forward operating location.

"With so much of the working adult population desiring academic advancement and free time becoming even more scarce, distance learning is the opportunity of a lifetime. New programs become available constantly, with many more being developed," Beebe said.

She recommends prospective distance learning students consider several key factors when choosing a program.

"Not all schools are equal," Beebe said. "The greatest concern is the accreditation of the school. Air Force Tuition Assistance can only be paid on courses taken for a defined goal through a regionally or nationally accredited institution."

She warns that classes taken through schools that are not regionally or nationally accredited may not transfer and other accredited institutions or employers may not recognize the degrees. Additionally, military members applying for a commission must have a bachelor's degree from a regionally or nationally accredited school.

"Choosing a school program and course can be almost overwhelming. Base education centers provide professional guidance counseling to help determine what career fields and academic areas fit best," Beebe said.

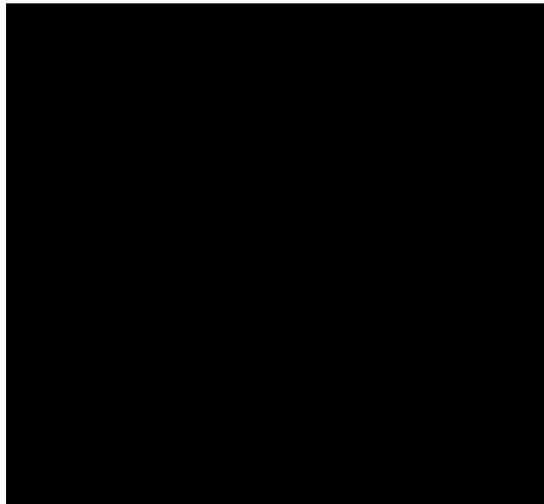
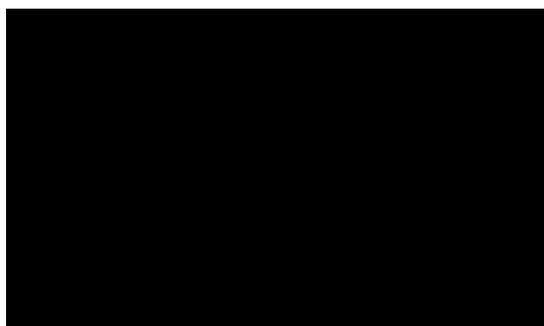
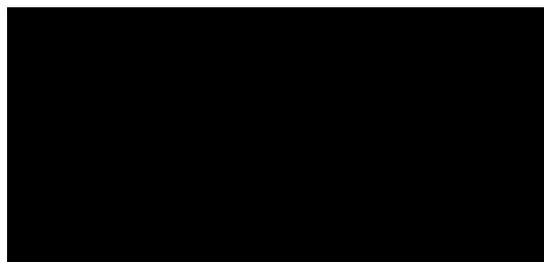
Additionally, base education centers have access to Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support catalogs. DANTES is a Department of Defense organization that consolidates and distributes information about academic programs. DANTES also helps personnel earn college credits through testing.

"Don't be fooled, distance learning is not easy," Beebe said. "In fact, many students report that it is more demanding than classroom study. Successful completion of distance learning requires strong self-discipline. The student must define 'class time' and keep the pace up, since many courses have set completions dates similar to school semesters."

For more information about distance learning education programs in the area, visit the California Virtual Campus at [www.cvc.edu](http://www.cvc.edu) or call the Travis Education Office at 424-3444.

"Distance learning, whether it is paper and pencil, videotape, satellite broadcast, or Internet delivery, provides airmen the opportunity to take their 'school' with them, wherever they go."

— Stephanie Beebe, education specialist



# A little help from friends

## 'Terrorists want to change our way of life — we must change theirs'

By Army Sgt. 1st Class Kathleen Rhem

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Portuguese Defense Minister Paulo Portas wanted Americans to know that his country stands firmly with them in the war against terrorism.

Portas met and ate lunch with U.S. counterpart Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld. The two briefly spoke to the press after their talks. The Portuguese leader stressed two topics.

Portas said Portugal is committed to the war against terrorism. "As Secretary Rumsfeld (said) once, we have two options," he said. "(The terrorists) want to change our way of life, we must change their way of life. We must fight terrorism because it is an attempt against our way of life, our culture, our civilization, our freedom, and our democracy."

Rumsfeld praised Portugal's military assistance in Afghanistan. He said Portugal is providing assistance to the International Security Assistance Force in Kabul, lending medical aid to Afghanistan, and has provided a C-130 aircraft to operations there.

"This support is both helpful and appreciated by the United States," Rumsfeld said.

Portas also said Portugal is committed to reform within NATO to better meet "new dangers (and) new risks."

In NATO meetings in Brussels, Belgium, earlier this month, talk centered on modernizing the alliance's military capabilities to better deal with threats posed by terrorism and weapons of mass

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**"Portugal is a firm, ancient and loyal ally of the United States."**

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— Paulo Portas  
Portuguese Defense Minister

destruction.

Military forces of NATO nations need to be "properly organized and equipped for their future missions, even if that means additional resources for defense and security, and ... substantial changes of priority within our defense programs," NATO Secretary-General George Robertson told the ministers in Brussels.

Portas said his country firmly believes in NATO. Portuguese defense policy is based on loyalty to NATO, he added, as well as "a very special relationship with the United States of America."

"Portugal is a firm, ancient and loyal ally of the United States," he said.

Portas noted that he had visited Arlington National Cemetery on his trip and called it "proof of our homage ... to the veterans of war in general and to people who died Sept. 11.

"It's a very deep homage," he said.



Air Force Print News

**Easy does it:** OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM (AFIE) — Airman Sarah Kuster (right) and Staff Sgt. David Dries (left), both air transportation specialists from the 60th Aerial Port Squadron at Travis, unload aircraft parts and maintenance equipment June 13 from a C-5 Galaxy at a forward-deployed location supporting Operation Enduring Freedom.

**Announcements**

**Summer adventures**

Sign up for the Youth Center's fun adventures for children and teens this summer: Angel Island bike trip for kids 10 and older, June 29; horseback riding, July 13; and whitewater rafting for 12 and up, July 24 and August 14. Call the Youth Center at 424-5392 to register as spaces are very limited.

**Contract opening**

There are currently three positions open for bidding: 10:30 a.m. Protestant service choir director, 12:30 p.m. Mass music director and a Catholic auxiliary priest. Qualified applicants should call Staff Sgt. Robinson at 423-3650 or submit a resume no later than July 8. The contract is from Oct. 1, 2002 through Sept. 30, 2003. An interim 12:30 p.m. Mass music director for July, August and September is also needed. Call Carol Lee at 424-5780.

**Services**

**Today**

▲ The Tuskegee Airman banquet at the Delta Breeze Club is at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$22. Call 423-3911 for details.  
 ▲ Galaxy bowling at the Travis Bowling Center for youth and adults is from 8:30 to 11:30 p.m. every Friday featuring dance music, strobe lights, glowing pins and a disco ball. Fees are \$2.25 per line and shoe rental is \$1.

**Saturday**

▲ Tour Napa Valley with Outdoor Recreation from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Transportation is \$12 for adults, and tourists must be over 21 and have valid ID to participate in the wine tasting. Call 424-0970 for more information.

**Saturday and Sunday**

▲ Go kayaking in Tomales Bay from 10 a.m. Saturday until 4 p.m. Sunday with the Outdoor Adventure Program. The \$40 fee includes transportation. Call 424-5240 for details.

**Monday to June 28**

▲ Family Child Care orientation for prospective providers will be held at the FCC office from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Stay-at-home parents are encouraged to learn how to earn money while caring for their family. Call 424-4583 for more information.

**Tuesday**

▲ Summer storytime with the Vacaville Police Department and K-9 dog at the Mitchell Memorial Library is from 1 to 2 p.m. Get an ATWIND game piece and a passport stamp.

▲ Scuba diving class begins with the OAP and meets every Tuesday and Thursday for five weeks. Call 424-5240 for details.

**Wednesday**

▲ Skate at the Travis Skating Center for 92 cents for 1,992 days. Rent inline or quad skates also for 92 cents. Adults skate 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., open skate from 1 to 4 p.m. Get an ATWIND game piece and a passport stamp.

▲ Take a guided rock-climbing trip in the Sierra Nevada Mountains from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. with the OAP. No experience is necessary for this climb on Donner's School Rock. The \$18 fee includes transportation. Call 424-5240 for more information.

**Family Support**

**Monday**

▲ Spouse employment orientation is from 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.

**Thursday**

▲ The Informed Decisions class is from 8 a.m. to noon. It's a mandatory seminar for all first and second term enlisted within 15 months of date of separation. Topics cover Air Force benefits, retraining, TRICARE and Guard/Reserve opportunities. Call 424-2486.

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

**Weekly**

▲ Operation HERO is designed to identify military children in grades two through eight who are experiencing temporary difficulty socially or academically. The program offers short-term assistance in the form of mentoring and tutoring with the goal of improving academic performance, attitude and self-esteem. The program goal is to recruit and hire HERO program staff who have a teaching or social work background. This would be a part-time, paid career builder for a resume. For further information and



Courtesy photo

**Escape with ATWIND:** Airman 1st Class Marlon Mathis from the 60th Communications Squadron tests the radio in the 2002 Ford Escape in front of the Sierra Inn last week. The Escape is up for grabs in the Around the World in Ninety Days game. Visit the Mitchell Memorial Library and get a look at the Ford cars that can be won by playing ATWIND.

application processing, contact the FSC at 424-2486.

▲ Starting in August, the FSC is offering a new job skills training program for military spouses, the Spouses Trained and Ready Program. A self-paced computer course, through a partnership with the Regional Occupational Program, is also offered. The computer program includes MicroSoft Office and certificates are given for keyboarding and typing. The course runs from three to six months, depending on the pace of each student. The classes are Monday thru Friday, 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Upon completion, each STAR candidate will attend three days of classes at the FSC to learn resume and interviewing skills and how to dress professionally. Upon graduation, each STAR candidate will meet with one of the community partners for local employment opportunities. Sign up at the FSC or call 424-2486 for more information.

▲ The Department of Labor presents transition workshops monthly at the FSC for separating and retiring members that provide four days of detailed information on preparing for an effective job search. A medical records screening is also included. Call 424-2486.

**Family Advocacy**

**New dad boot camp**

The boot camp is a new program in which veterans (new fathers who bring their babies) show rookies (fathers-to-be) the ropes of fatherhood. The program is for men only — no women over two feet tall allowed. The camp is currently

recruiting for coaches and veteran and rookie dads. For more information, call 423-5168

**Anger management**

The Family Advocacy Program is holding a five-week anger management course to teach effective ways to manage anger, communicate and listen. This class is held on Wednesdays from 2 to 4 p.m. at David Grant Medical Center. Active-duty members and their spouses are encouraged to attend. Seating is limited, so call the FA office at 423-5168 to register.

**Playgroups**

Playgroups for parents and their children are at the Chapel One Annex on First Street. Registration is not necessary. For more information call 423-5168.

**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., communi-

ty, 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.

**Inside Out services**

Sundays, 5 p.m., rock and praise-style worship, Chapel Center.

**Wicca classes**

Classes are held at various locations and times due to deployments. E-mail Beltane@prodigy.net for current information.

**VBS**

Vacation Bible School is for children ages 3 through the sixth grade. The chapel's VBS program will be held at Chapel Center Monday through June 28 from 9 a.m. to noon. For more information, contact Gloria Bone at 424-4710.

**Special concert**

Come and share an evening of entertainment, encouragement and inspiration from a world-renown group of college and high school kids selected from the California Baptist All-State Youth Choir. The concert is Saturday at Chapel One at 7 p.m. They will also perform at all masses and Protestant services Saturday and Sunday.

# Family fun day declared duty location *Prepare now for contests, events*

## 60th Services Squadron

Summer days are perfect for family barbecues, fishing, outdoor music concerts and playing games with friends. This year, Travis personnel will be able to enjoy all this and more at the 2002 ATWIND Family Fun Day.

The 60th Air Mobility Wing commander has designated Family Fun Day July 12 as a duty location for military. The entire day is devoted to the family, beginning with the Fourth Annual Fishing Derby at 7 a.m. at the Duck Pond and culminating with the ATWIND Jazz and Blues Festival from 3 to 10 p.m. at the Delta Breeze Club.

The ATWIND picnic is the main attraction on Family Fun Day with games and contests for children and adults from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Kids 11 and under win tickets they can redeem for prizes at the prize booth while teens and adults win raffle tickets for the prize drawing at the end of the day.

The picnic will be located in the grassy area between

the Westwind Inn, Fitness Center and the Delta Breeze Club. Traditional favorites including hamburgers, hot-dogs and chicken wings will be available for free from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The Air Force's call for readiness is applied on a daily basis to many mission-essential activities, but advance preparation is also necessary for fun events like Family Fun Day.

Now is the time to inventory tackle boxes and check fishing poles and lines for the Fishing Derby, gather teams for the bed races and Human Bowling game and taste-test new recipes for the salsa and cookie contests. There are only three weeks left to make sure bicycles are in running order for the bicycle safety inspection and race.

There will be entertainment and demonstrations all day long. Athletes from the Scottish American Games will toss the caber and perform stone demonstrations, and let the audience try the events. There will also be horse rides, a climbing wall and putting green at the

picnic.

The Travis Fire Department will be on hand, the 60th Security Forces Squadron will do a K-9 dog demonstration, the Mitchell Memorial Library will have story time for children, the Galaxy Band will entertain during lunch and the Jazz/Blues Festival will include a Disc Jockey and two live bands.

Contests include the chicken wing eating contest, the penny-in-a-frame toss, the Family Support Center's obstacle race, the Education Center's Greek event and more.

Family Fun Day also includes Bowler Appreciation Day at the Travis Bowl where all eligible patrons will be able to bowl three lines of bowling for free from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Volunteers are needed to help staff booths and help with picnic set up and take down. Individuals or squadrons who would like to volunteer may call 2nd Lt. William Gumabon at 424-3474.



## ATWIND ... Get Into It and Win!

Participate in the following activities to earn ATWIND game pieces. More ATWIND opportunities can be found at [www.60thServices.com](http://www.60thServices.com). If you haven't registered it already, please register the introductory game piece number of 9999-0033-333.

**ATWIND TIP OF THE WEEK:** Register everyone in your family to increase your chances of winning. Remember, in order for Travis to win the base race, it will take everybody playing ATWIND.

### Today

- ▶ Eat lunch at the Sierra Inn or Golden Hills.
- ▶ Eat dinner at Mike's Place, Travis Sailing Center
- ▶ Stop by Outdoor Rec and see what they have to offer.
- ▶ Rent a camping package from Outdoor Rec.

### Saturday

- ▶ "Traditions" night dining at the Delta Breeze Club
- ▶ Each paid youth bowler at the Travis Bowl.
- ▶ Each paid swimmer at the Aquatic Center earns a game piece.
- ▶ Use the Auto Hobby Shop, Frame Shop or Wood Shop.
- ▶ Take a Napa Valley Tour with Outdoor Rec
- ▶ Attend the New American Singers concert, 7 p.m., Chapel One, get Passport stamp and game piece.

### Sunday

- ▶ Eat Sunday Brunch at the DBC. Each paid brunch earns one game piece.

### Monday

- ▶ Eat lunch at Gatsby's

### Grill at the Cypress Lakes Golf Course.

- ▶ Each paid golfing participant at Cypress Lakes earns one game piece.
- ▶ Each paid bowling participant at the Travis Bowl earns a game piece.
- ▶ Family Support Center, Spouse Employment Orientation, 9 a.m.

### Tuesday

- ▶ Attend Summer Story Time with the Vacaville Police Department, 1 to 2 p.m. at Mitchell Memorial Library, get a game piece and a Passport Stamp
- ▶ Climb the wall at Outdoor Rec.
- ▶ Workout at the Fitness Center.
- ▶ Donate blood at David Grant Medical Center and get two game pieces.

### Wednesday

- ▶ Lunch at the Pizzeria.
- ▶ Come out for karaoke at the Delta Breeze Club
- ▶ Play Wednesday night bingo at the DBC
- ▶ Authorized youth 17 or younger can golf for \$5 at Cypress Lakes.
- ▶ Purchase any Smoothie

### Island drink

- ▶ Go rock climbing in Donner with OAP
- ### Thursday
- ▶ Eat lunch at the Delta Breeze Club.
  - ▶ Check out one or more books at the Mitchell Memorial Library.
  - ▶ Participate in a fitness class at the Fitness Center.
  - ▶ FSC, Informed Decision Seminar for those 15 months from Date of Separation

### 1992 Days

- ▶ Get an ATWIND game piece and a Passport Stamp at these special events celebrating the 10th Anniversary of Air Mobility Command:
- ▶ Skate rental and admission are only 92 cents each at the Travis Skating Center on June 26. Adults only skate from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., everyone skates from 1 to 4 p.m.
- ▶ Come watch the Race of a Different Sail at the Travis Sailing Center on the 4th of July and get special 92-cent beverages.

# Skating Rink celebrates history

By Linda Mann  
60th Services Squadron

In 1992 when Air Mobility Command originated, what is now known as the Travis Skating Center was then a condemned building infested with bees and rodents. With a lot of elbow grease and determination, a group of teens turned it into a facility to be proud of.

The project began as many things do with a need. The Teen Center had no extra money for field trips and activities. They had done fundraisers, but were looking for something bigger. When the director of the teen center, Barbara Hickenbottom, heard about the decrepit building behind Outdoor Recreation, she thought of a solution.

With the support of the Services Squadron deputy director, Hickenbottom got permission for her pet project. She and 25 youth from the teen center began cleaning up the building.

"We were on our knees with bleach and toothpicks to clean the bathroom floors. It was a mess and took over seven months to complete, but we did it," said Hickenbottom. "The most amazing thing is that we did it with no money."

They gathered furniture from DRMO and other donations from individuals. With advice from those more experienced and their own physical labor they created a business they could run. The teens did just about everything from painting the designs on the rink floor to applying the lacquer with squeegees. Sometimes Hickenbottom would leave her house at seven in the morning and not return until 2 a.m. the next day.

"We couldn't have done it without the help of Earl Butts on the grounds crew

## Celebrating a decade of community investment

Travis AFB didn't have a skating rink in 1992, so the Travis Skating Rink is offering skate admissions for only 92 cents Wednesday. Rent quad or inline skates for 92 cents more. Adults only skate from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Open skate form 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, call the Youth Center at 424-5392.

and Sue Spencer who designed the floor logo. Jim Mortikah was also an invaluable asset," said Hickenbottom.

Everyone wasn't supportive in the beginning.

"People would ask what we were doing, and when we told them, they thought we were crazy," Hickenbottom said.

When the facility was finally finished, the teens took Red Cross classes and a food handler's course so they could work at the snack bar and become skate guards. They ran the place in the beginning and earned money so the teen center could do fun things.

Eventually the Travis Skating Center became a full-fledged facility with paid employees from the Youth Center. They now have open skate Fridays from 7 to 10 p.m. and Saturdays from 2 to 5 p.m. The facility is also available for private party rental at a reasonable price.

To celebrate the accomplishments of a group of young people and the 10th Anniversary of Air Mobility Command at the same time, the skating rink will offer special prices for 1992 Days Wednesday. For one day only, admission and skate rental are 92 cents each. Adults only can skate from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and open skate will be from 1 to 4 p.m. For more information, call 424-3891.

## Travis youth compete in Heptathlon

By Linda Mann  
60th Services Squadron



Courtesy photo

Allison Guimond, 10, practices the 100-yard dash in preparation for the Regional Fitness Authority competition in San Diego June 28. She and ten other Travis youth qualified for the Regionals where they will compete in seven events in an attempt to make it to the National Decathlon in August.

Some children play basketball or baseball, others bike or skateboard, but a few take physical fitness to another level — competition. After months of exercise and practice, eleven Travis youth have qualified to compete in the Regional 2002 Fitness Authority Heptathlon June 28 at Point Loma Nazarene College in San Diego.

The Travis competitors are: girls, 10 and 11 — Brittany Fuller, Brittany Johnson, Sadio Payton and Allison Guimond; boys, 10 and 11 — Marius Barksdale and Eric Whaley; boys, 12 and 13 — Kyle James and Fredrick Johnson; girls, 14 and 15 — Brytni Houston; boys, 14 and 15 — Emanuel Davis; and boys, 16 to 18 — Bradley Tinch.

After the regional event, one winner in each age group will go on to the National Decathlon Aug. 9 to 11 at the University of Miami in Florida.

"I am confident that all of our kids have a chance of making it to the National competition," said Teen Center director Larry Williams.

These youth have been working out together every Saturday with Williams to prepare for the competition, but most of them have made sports and physical

fitness a way of life.

Brittany Fuller and Marius Barksdale were both chosen as All Stars in the Junior NBA and Junior WNBA programs this year. Brytni Houston has been doing a daily workout routine for the last two years. Sadio Payton and Allison Guimond both play basketball on two different leagues. Kyle James and Fredrick Johnson are both on the Golden West basketball team. Emanuel Davis plays basketball and baseball and Bradley Tinch plays basketball and is on the track team at Will C. Wood High School. Eric Whaley and Brittany Johnson also play basketball.

"I like to stay fit and healthy to show people it's okay to be fit," said Houston.

To be chosen to advance to the regional level, each child must not only have proven their overall physical fitness, but they must also be good students and have done some community service.

"I am honored to be chosen. It's fun and beneficial," Houston said.

The competition, sponsored by the Boys and Girls Clubs of America and Sports Authority sporting goods, begins with a Pentathlon on the local level. Youth ages 10 to 18 compete in five events: standing long jump, lateral hops, push-ups, sit-ups and jump rope.

Their scores are sent to the Boys and Girls Clubs headquarters and the highest scoring youth continues on to the regional competition.

Each stage gets more difficult. The regional competition is a Heptathlon, seven events, including the Pentathlon events plus the 100-yard dash and a half-mile run.

The National Decathlon adds chin-ups, squat-thrusts and a shuttle run. Youth from the Travis Boys and Girls Club will be competing in the Pacific Region against youth from Alaska, Hawaii, California, Arizona, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Utah and Washington. Williams is proud of the determination and hard work these youth have put into the event.

"I am very appreciative of all the parents who have supported their kids in doing this. I am also grateful to the Fitness Center for allowing us to practice in the facility," said Williams.

Williams encourages teens ages 13 to 18 and their parents to visit the Teen Zone to learn about the programs and events they have planned this summer.

The Teen Zone, located in Bldg. 650 in the base Mini Mall, is open from 2 to 6:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Call Williams at 424-3131 for more information.



Courtesy photo

## Warrior relay race

The 60th Medical Group will host a warrior run event Thursday. After holding earlier events, the 60th MDG is opening this run to the entire wing.

Each squadron can participate by selecting one team to represent it. Squadron team members must be listed and the list registered with the 60th MDG no later than 2 p.m. Wednesday. Team participants must be members of the squadron they represent.

Each team must provide one race assistant, who must be in place by 2 p.m. on race day. Assistants should report to the front of the 60th MDG and await instructions. Individuals should expect to stay for a short period after the race to help with clean up. Assistants can park in Staff Parking at the David Grant Medical Center.

There will be no parking for teams or team members, however, the 60th MDG will shuttle teams to and from the Base Exchange parking lot from 2 to 2:50 p.m. the day of the race. The shuttle will pick up teams at the Base Lemon Lot next to Armed Forces Bank and Burger King. The shuttle will return runners to the BX after the race is completed.

The race will begin around 3 p.m. and most of the races have ended around 4:45 p.m.

Each team will complete 10 laps. Three laps must be run by women and three laps must be run by runners 40 or older, but there is no restriction on the other four laps.

Each team must provide a personalized baton, not to exceed 18 inches in length. Teams are encouraged to use a baton-like object that best signifies its squadron. Safety, however, is always a concern.

The team with the fastest overall time wins and, in the spirit of fun, bragging rights will be the ultimate prize among the commanders.

A small ceremony will take place after the race recognizing the winning squadron.

For more information, call Capt William Malloy at 423-7901.