

Briefly

Claims closed

The 49th Fighter Wing Claims Office will be closed from Sept. 15 to 30 for year end close out. The only household goods claims the staff will accept will be for people who are at the two year mark from date of delivery.

Other claimants will be scheduled after Oct. 1. The DD Forms 1840 and 1840R can still be turned in anytime on a walk-in basis. Call the claims office at 572-3625 with any questions.

Congratulations

Maj. Deborah Reese, 49th Medical Operations Squadron, was selected for promotion to lieutenant colonel during the FY04 Air Force Reserve Line and Health Professions Lieutenant Colonel Promotion Selection Board held June 23.

Yard of the Month

August Yard of the Month winners are Master Sgt. Gerd Scheller (zone 1), Staff Sgt. Marlin Clark (zone 2), Staff Sgt. Jose Nuñez (zone 3), Capt. James Thompson (zone 4), Staff Sgt. Matthew Galiszuski (zone 5) and Staff Sgt. Kris Wooster (zone 6).

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49th FG reunites, finds historical ties with 4th FW

by Robin DeMark
4th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

“The Fighting 49ers” host their 50th annual reunion at Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, N.C. today with more than 80 attendees from various parts of the United States.

“It’s truly an honor to welcome the active and honorary members of the 49th Fighter Group to our wing,” said 4th Fighter Wing Commander Brig. Gen. Rick Rosborg. “Our wing heritage places us together, assigned as

see *REUNION*, Page 9

Falcon Pride invades HMS

by Tech. Sgt. Paul Coupaud
49th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Twenty-six Holloman members are sharing their experiences with Holloman Middle School students as part of the school’s Falcon Pride program.

Just as successful military members depend on mentors to guide them through their career, students also need guidance in the developmental years.

The Falcon Pride program is a community mentoring program to assist students with social and civic development.

According to Silvia Papp, Falcon

see *PRIDE*, Page 6

Remember ...

Airman Andy Boyle (left), Airman Paul Autrey and Master Sgt. Juan Salas, 49th Civil Engineer Squadron firefighters, lower the flag to half-staff in Alameda Park to honor those who lost their lives in the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001. Members of the 49th Civil Engineer Squadron paid tribute alongside professional and volunteer firefighters, police officers and emergency medical service personnel from the Alamogordo, N.M. area. The ceremony is an annual event sponsored by the State Fire Marshals office.

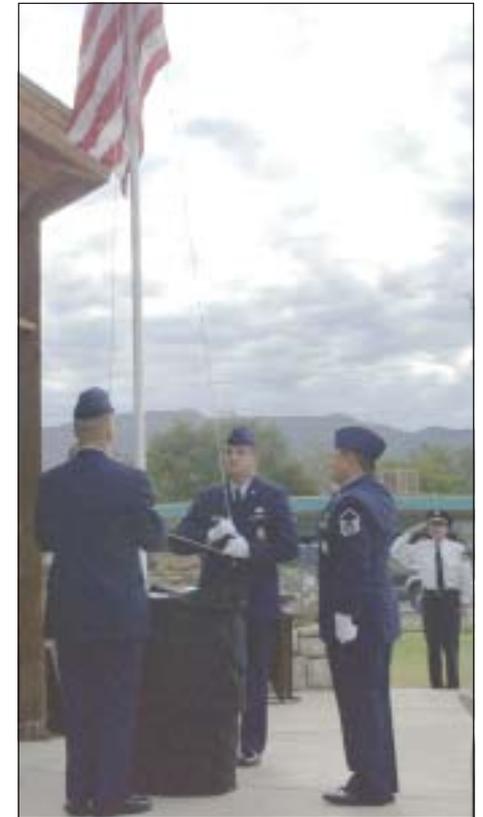


Photo by Airman 1st Class Vanessa Laboy

Nighthawk IDEA nets \$10k

by Laura Pellegrino
Sunburst staff writer

While deployed for Operation Iraqi Freedom, one Team Holloman member made improvements to the F-117A Nighthawk that allowed the weapons system to function properly.

The idea earned Master Sgt. Ted Larson, 49th Maintenance Group Weapons Standardization load crew chief, a \$10,000 award through the Air Force’s Innovative Development through Employee Awareness pro-

gram, which pays members for ideas that save money or help improve efficiency.

Holloman received new enhanced munitions after Sept. 11, 2002, and Larson’s team had been conducting weapons load crew and Nighthawk pilot training for the first use of the new GPS guided munitions, he said.

After their first mission, the aircraft returned with damage to the 1,760 critical store cables attached to

see *IDEA*, Page 4



DWI Update

Days since last DWI:	6	Last six DWIs:	• 49 SFS Aug. 28
DWIs year to date:	17		• 49 CES July 7
DWIs this time last year:	18		• 49 MXS June 26
			• 49 LRS June 12
			• 49 MMS June 7
			• 49 MXS May 31

572-RIDE works!
Calls **MADE** are lives **SAVED.**

Calls:
Year to date: **398**
Last week: **12**

(The DWI and 572-RIDE statistics reflect FY 2003. The * denotes a family member or civilian employee.)

Holloman Chapel Services — 572-7214

Weekday Masses – 11:30 a.m., Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.
Sacrament of Penance, 4 p.m.
General Protestant Worship Service, 11 a.m.
Sunday – Catholic Mass, 9:30 a.m. and 5 p.m.
Protestant Contemporary Worship Service, 6:30 p.m.

49th Fighter Wing

Commander's Access Channel

The commander's access channel, cable channel 3, offers up-to-date information about current security conditions, closures on base, hours of various programs on base and community information about what programs and events are available at Holloman and in the local area. The commander's access channel also features the following videos today through Thursday:

- **Air Force Television News:** 6, 9 and 11 a.m.; 2, 5 and 7 p.m.
- **Air Force Child Care Program:** 7 a.m. and 12, 3 and 6 p.m.



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Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the Holloman Public Affairs Office. All photos used are U.S. Air Force photos unless otherwise indicated. For editorial information call (505) 572-3515.

Articles must be typed and double-spaced. Stories should be submitted directly to the Public Affairs Office via e-mail to 49fw.pa.sunburst@holloman.af.mil or mailed to **49 FW/PA, 490 First Street, Suite 2800, Holloman Air Force Base, N.M., 88330-8287**. All material is edited for accuracy, brevity, clarity, and conformity to regulations. The delivery of the SUNBURST to Holloman on-base family housing sections is provided by Alamogordo Daily News. The deadline for submitting articles to the SUNBURST is 4 p.m. Thursday the week before publication. For advertising information, call (505) 437-7120.

COMMENTARY

AF celebrates 56th birthday

by Dr. James Roche and
Gen. John Jumper

*Secretary of the Air Force and
Chief of Staff of the Air Force*



U.S. AIR FORCE

In 56 years, the U.S. Air Force has earned its wings as the world's greatest air and space force. Our airmen and our technology are the best our nation have to offer, an achievement that flows from the contributions of every airman — whether active, guard, reserve, civilian or retired.

On Sept. 18, the anniversary of our creation, remember that through your integrity, selfless service and incomparable excellence, Americans find strength and confidence in the Air Force's ability to answer our nation's call, no matter when or where we're needed.

We celebrate the Air Force's birthday as we continue to support Operation Iraqi Freedom. Your tireless commitment, agility and professionalism are the foundation for integrating air and space power into a successful joint and coalition combat operation — one that has already

crushed a tyrannical regime and is now helping to blaze the trail of freedom for millions in Iraq.

Yet, as we celebrate, we recognize that this success is not without costs. We appreciate you and your families' extraordinary sacrifices. Let's take this special occasion to remember the airmen who made the ultimate sacrifice to ensure the security of America and the opportunity of freedom

for those who have never before tasted liberty.

The Air Force's legacy has soared in its short history and greater opportunities are on the horizon -- opportunities you'll meet with the same courage, commitment and confidence that define our first 56 years. America is proud of our Air Force, and Americans are proud of you. Happy Birthday!

Patriot Day: Ongoing war on terrorism requires focus, vigilance

By Gen. Hal Hornburg
*Commander,
Air Combat Command*

Following the events of Sept. 11, 2001, the United States and our allies began a campaign against aggression that still rages today — the Global War on Terrorism.

Even today, the men and women of Air Combat Command remain instrumental in this fight. From Operations Enduring Freedom to Iraqi Freedom to Operation Noble Eagle closer to home, ACC has been an integral part in the ongoing effort to combat terrorism worldwide.

As we observe Patriot Day, marking the second anniversary of 9/11, I ask you to reflect on the events of that terrible day. Remember what you saw, how you felt and why America chose to fight back. Don't let the passing

of time diminish your motivation or erode your commitment to fight our enemies wherever and whenever necessary.

We must maintain our focus and do all that is possible to ensure a tragedy like 9/11 never happens again.

ACC men and women are still deployed around the world fighting terrorism. We played a major role in freeing the people of Iraq and Afghanistan, efforts that changed the world for the better. But now is not the time to stop. There is still much work to be

done to ensure liberty-loving people everywhere are free from the scourge of terrorism. We each play a continuing part in this effort and should be justifiably proud of our roles.

But we cannot afford to rest on our laurels. The threat is still out there. Whether at home or deployed, I ask you to stay motivated and vigilant. The war on terrorism requires all of our efforts for the foreseeable future. That said, I have no doubt our ACC airmen will successfully meet the challenge.

Thank you for all you do to keep America, and the rest of the world, safe. I am proud to serve with you.

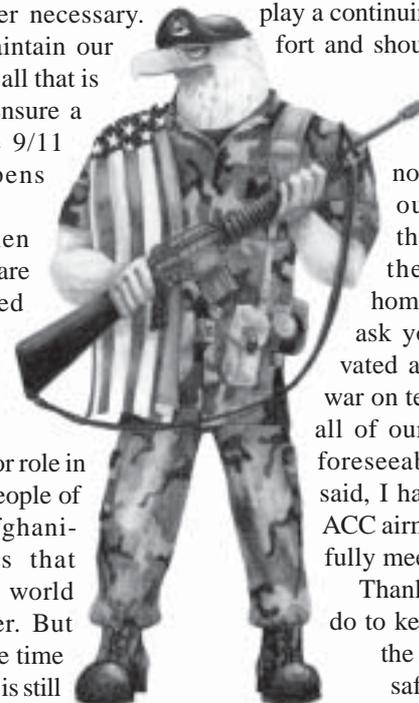


Illustration by Tech. Sgt. Cody Vance

Xeriscape program spreads across base

by 2nd Lt. Stacy Nimmo
49th Civil Engineer Squadron

Anyone driving down First Street would likely notice the change in landscaping that's coming over the base.

This style of landscaping is called "xeriscaping" (pronounced zer-i-skaping) and is the new look for Holloman.

The primary focus of xeriscaping is water conservation in landscaping, while maintaining the natural look of the environment. The credit of using xeriscaping to bring out the natural beauty of Holloman goes primarily to a five-man team working for the structures shop in the 49th Civil Engineer Squadron.

This team has saved the Air

Force approximately a half-million dollars in design and construction costs for base beautification. They've designed and built the xeriscaping for the Officers' club, the Oasis Enlisted club, Shifting Sands Dining Facility, the base theater, and the fitness center to name a few. The team took on the task of designing the xeriscape for the Officers' Club three years ago.

Until that time, a contractor did all the landscape design and the construction was done either by contract or by members of the base civil engineer squadron — depending on the size of the project. The government saved more than \$250,000 by this undertaking alone.

"The biggest challenge we face is coming up with a design

— the overall concept that a particular area will have," said Kent Smith, maintenance superintendent and team leader. "We want to make sure we redirect the flow of water, including existing features to create plenty of contours, texture, and natural color, all while maintaining an overall continuity in each landscaped section of the base. Once we get going, ideas start flying! It really is a whole team effort."

The team itself is really an anomaly in that none of the members are landscape designers.

The team consists of Smith, David Bellows, a CE maintenance work leader; team lead Brian Syr, a carpenter; Mark Denney, a mason; and Raymond Sanchez, a hazardous waste disposal worker. They take on each project from scratch and construct everything themselves.

With this range of skills, the team constantly has their plates full for future projects. The team said they hope to complete the xeriscaping around the fitness center in November and start redesigning the entire landscape of First Street next summer. During the next fiscal year, they will start landscaping the main gate and visitors' center area.



Photo by Laura Pellegrino

Raymond Sanchez drives the bobcat during a xeriscape project at the 49th Fighter Wing headquarters building.

IDEA

from Page 1

the weapons system, Larson said.

"If I didn't come up with a fix immediately, we wouldn't have been able to drop any more enhanced munitions," he said.

Larson discovered there was excessive slack in the lanyard attached to the cables. The slack caused the cable to snap during the deployment of the weapons, thereby damaging other parts of the system and plane.

He took duct tape and secured the cable's slack below the cables retaining pin eliminating the excessive slack.

"I didn't know if it would work, but it was our best shot," Larson said. "We dropped 120 more bombs after that, all with no problem."

Now the Air Force is looking into getting an adjustable lanyard for the cable so it can be used for several different types of weapons, he said.

In one year, Larson's idea will save the Air Force more than \$1.25 million. But that's not including the money saved on additional parts that could have broken and damaged the plane.

Larson will receive \$10,000 for the improvement,

and he has submitted additional ideas he believes will improve the Nighthawk's performance. Reward bonuses are calculated as 15 percent of the first year's savings up to \$10,000.

"The IDEA program rewards people for making a better process," Larson said. "People will go out and try to find more ways to improve things."

The IDEA program is open to all active duty members and Department of Defense employees. Contractors and non-appropriated fund employees may apply, but can't receive a monetary reward.

Members can submit ideas online at <https://ideas.Randolph.af.mil/ipdswarn.html>.

If the submitted idea is tangible, meaning it saves the Air Force money, a reward is calculated based on the projected savings. If the idea doesn't directly save money but improves performance or helps in other intangible ways, the member gets \$200.

The program was started to encourage people to think of ways to do their job more efficiently, said David Marsh, 49th Fighter Wing Manpower management analyst.

"The old way was 'if it's not broke, don't fix it,'" he said. "In this day and age, we always have to find ways of doing our job less expensively."

Holloman Hotline

572-7500



The Hotline is your direct link to the 49th Fighter Wing commander. If you've tried to solve the problem yourself and haven't been able to get results, call 572-7500 or e-mail *cc.hotline@holloman.af.mil*. Leave your name and phone number so the office of primary concern can contact you. Before submitting a Hotline, please give the appropriate agencies a chance to work out the problem. If you want to pass on praise for a job well done, please contact the supervisor or commander directly who can provide the appropriate recognition to the individual or group. The unit commanders and agency chiefs want to help. Let them try first.

Housing office	2-3981
Housing maintenance	2-7901
Medical clinic	2-5991
Finance	2-5107
Services	2-3528
Commissary	2-5127
Fraud, waste and abuse	2-3713
BX	479-6164

Pointed reminder ...

Q: Tonight at work out on the flight line, I had a 9mm handgun pointed at my chest by a captain from the 49th Security Forces Squadron. It was during an exercise that the cops were playing, and he also pointed the gun at five other individuals out there. We were doing our jobs and he pointed the gun at us for no reason. I would like you to look into this.

A: I've looked into the incident. The '9mm' you saw was a blue, plastic training aid, which I understand the captain displayed while he and others identified themselves as security forces personnel involved in an internal security forces exercise, requiring notification actions on your part. I can appreciate your feeling alarmed if you could not clearly see the device. To eliminate any future confusion, security forces personnel will paint their training aids red for greater visibility and will better coordinate their exercises in advance with your squadron leadership. The captain said he wasn't aware of pointing the training aid at anyone, but acknowledges moving it while gesturing with his hands. In future exercises, he'll be more deliberate in his movements and be careful to direct these devices towards others only when required for an exercise scenario.

This hotline gives me the opportunity to emphasize that everyone should use their chain of command to resolve issues before resorting to the Commander's Hotline. In this case, involvement of the first sergeant or squadron commander right away could have resolved your concern quickly and easily. Thank you for your call.

On the BIG SCREEN

Pirates of the Caribbean (PG-13)

7 p.m., tonight

American Wedding (R)

7 and 10 p.m., Saturday

Uptown Girls (PG-13)

7 p.m., Sunday and Thursday





Tickets

Citations list unavailable this week due to computer issues.

Accidents

Sept. 3 — A civilian and an airman were involved in a minor privately owned vehicle accident.

Sept. 3 — An airman and a dependent were involved in a major accident with disabling damage to both POVs.

Sept. 7 — An airman and an NCO were involved in a major accident in a government owned vehicle.

Patrol response

Sept. 4 — An airman reported smoke in his swamp cooler in base housing.

Sept. 4 — An airman was

issued an Article 128 for assault and Article 134 disorderly conduct/drunkenness after a domestic dispute.

Sept. 7 — A dependent requested a police escort to her residence to avoid a domestic dispute.

Sept. 8 — Security forces responded to a verbal altercation between an airman and his spouse.

Property theft or damage

Sept. 3 — An NCO reported three two-inch scratches to her POV.

Sept. 3 — An NCO reported a decorative lawn ornament was taken from his residence.

Sept. 3 — An NCO reported damage to his backyard fence.

Sept. 8 — Three NCOs were injured after a maintenance mishap on an F-117.

ID cards, decals and badges

Sept. 3 — Three DD Form 1173s and one Common Access Card were confiscated at the front gate.

PRIDE

from Page 1

Pride coordinator, the program offers an opportunity to address qualities middle school students need for success.

She explained members of the Holloman community are assigned to a class for the entire program.

“The community volunteers, meet with their assigned class during first hour,” she said. “The students participate in a group discussion and activities on the traits of perseverance, respect, integrity, determination and excellence — one topic each month.”

While the program is primarily designed for the students, it benefits the teachers as well.

“As a parent of four kids, I have the utmost respect for our teachers,” said Master Sgt. Kevin Wood, a volunteer and parent of a middle school student. “I believe teachers are truly the most underpaid professionals in the country. I volunteered for this program in part to give back just a little of what our teachers give

our kids. I think we have an obligation to our community to reach out in ways like this to make it a better place for everyone. If I can positively influence even one child, it would make the whole experience worthwhile.”

While many of the volunteers are parents of students at the school, others are single airmen trying to contribute to the future.

“We never had anything like this at my school,” said Airman 1st Class Patricia Bowling, another volunteer. “Being 20 years old, I think I can bridge the gap, as middle school really wasn’t too long ago for me. Hopefully, this will give the students common ground to start on to build mutual respect and healthy friendships.”

The 49th Fighter Wing vice commander, Col. Rich Treadway, thanked the volunteers and said they’re making a huge impact on the lives of these students.

“What you’re doing at the school is very important,” he said. “It’s every bit as important as what we do on the flightline, in the backshops and in the offices here — and in many ways, even more so.”

DoD allows bases to raise CDC fees

by Susan Wade-Misener
49th Services Squadron

Holloman's Child Development Centers and School Age Program will be among the many military installations raising child care fees in October.

Program officials here said that increases in personnel costs and daily operating expenses have led to this increase.

"Holloman has been very fortunate not to have had an increase in all child care fees for the last three years," said Lt. Col. Terri Toppin, commander of the 49th Services Squadron. "However, expenses have caught up with us and it must be done. The fee increase will become effective Oct. 6. We sent a letter to parents Sept. 5 that outlined the fee increase for each category."

As officials anticipate parents will have many questions concerning the new fees, they've compiled five questions and answers they think will be most common:

• Why are the child care fees about the same at all Air Force bases even though the cost of living is different from area to area?

The fee ranges for child care are the same regardless of location because the wage rates for caregivers are the same at all bases. Additionally, military pay is the same at all bases and the military member's pay is the primary source of income for most military families. If the rates were based on the local cost of living, military members would be paying higher fees in locations such as Washington, D.C., Los Angeles, Calif. and Boston, Mass., because off-base child care fees are higher in those areas. Overall, it's better for families and for recruiting and retaining caregivers to have the wages similar and, therefore, the fees the same across the Air Force.

• Why are the fees at off-base centers cheaper in some areas?

There are several reasons the fees at some off-base centers may be lower than at the Air Force child development center or school age program. Many off-base centers do not provide infant and toddler care or, if they do, provide only a few spaces for these age groups. These age groups are the most expensive to provide care for because one caregiver can care for only a certain number of children. Most Air Force centers devote up to half of their spaces to these age groups so their overall cost of operating is higher.

A second reason the fees in off-base centers may be lower is because the off-base fees do not include meals and snacks.

A third reason is that the staff-to-child ratios (the number of children for whom one caregiver can provide care) is differ-

ent. In a few states the number of children for whom a caregiver can provide care is much higher than the Air Force considers necessary to provide good care for children.

A fourth reason is the off-base center may pay very low wages and not be concerned about how high their staff turnover rate is. The Air Force believes it's important for children to be taken care of by the same person from day to day so people get to know the children and can establish an emotional bond with them.

• Why are parents charged for the weeks their child is not present because the parent is on leave? Also, why do parents have to pay child care when their child is sick?

The annual fee for use of the child development center is the fee that each child's parent would pay multiplied by 52 weeks. The fees are designed to cover the nonappropriated costs of operating the program only if they are collected for 52 weeks of the year. Parents must pay for the child care space they are reserving even if their child is not present because the program's costs for making that space available — whether it is used or not — doesn't decrease.

Unless half of the children are absent, the same number of caregivers must be present to ensure the health and safety of the children. The fees collected from parents are used to pay the caregiving staff and those costs do not decrease because of the absence of a few children.

• Why isn't there a reduction in child care fees for a second child in the family?

The Air Force doesn't offer a reduction for additional children in the family because it costs just as much to take care of the second or third child in a family as it does the first. If a reduction were offered to families with two or more children, families with one child would have to pay more to make up the reduction offered to the families with two or more children.

• How are fees determined?

The fees are set to pay approximately half of the total cost of providing the care. The Military Child Care Act of 1989 and 1996 directs that parents pay approximately half of the cost of care. The fees are set to cover the costs not paid by the taxpayers. In the child development centers, fees pay for one-fourth of the caregiver wages and benefits, consumable supplies and the cost of the food program not paid for by the United States Department of Agriculture. In the school age program, parent fees only cover wages and benefits of the staff who work with the children.

Holloman Hero

Staff Sgt. Scott Ballerstein

49th Materiel Maintenance Support Squadron

Duty title: NCOIC, Air Transportation Training

Time in service: Six years, two months

Time at Holloman: 14 months

Hometown: Colby, Wis.

Personal and career goals: My goals are to complete a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Logistics Management and travel more of the world.

Why is serving in the Air Force important to you?

It provides a sense of duty. Not just because I'm serving my country, but because I'm providing a service for the military in general. As an air transportation specialist, we're in the profession of moving passengers and cargo. When we get away from the numbers and look at each passenger as an individual with a specific mission and each piece of cargo as a piece of equipment with a purpose, it becomes less of a job and more of a duty. I don't think there's any civilian job that could give me that kind of feeling.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Vanessa LaBoy

The Holloman Hero submission form is available online. It can be downloaded at: https://www.mil.holloman.af.mil/wing/49FW_PA/internal.html

What accomplishment during your Air Force career are you most proud of?

When I was stationed at Travis Air Force Base, Calif., I was a part of a humanitarian relief team. There were hurricane relief supplies at the Port of San Francisco destined for Honduras, Nicaragua and El Salvador. As time grew short, the civilian force at the port was overwhelmed with the task. Our team from the 60th Aerial Port Squadron stepped in and, in just a few days, sorted and loaded more than 800 tons of medical supplies, food and clothing in sea containers. It was awesome to be a part of that tremendous effort, putting our skills as transporters to use for the aid of others in a time of need.

Core value portrayed: "Excellence in all we do"

"Staff Sgt. Ballerstein quickly became a vital asset to the logistics readiness flight. He was an integral part of the squadron's deployment of over 510 short tons of equipment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. He spearheaded the revitalization of the air transportation training program with updated training aides and acquired equipment to provide a true "hands-on" pallet build-up environment, training over 130 students to date. He's a sharp warrior, whose work ethic, initiative and professionalism are the benchmark for all others to strive for ... a true Holloman Hero."

— Maj. Malcom Blair

49th Materiel Maintenance Support Squadron



Photo by Airman 1st Class Vanessa Laboy

Staff Sgt. Michael Klinkert, assistant flight chief, checks the speed of vehicles in base housing.

Speeding brings citations, danger

by Laura Pellegrino
Sunburst staff writer

Although the F-117A Nighthawk can reach speeds of hundreds of miles an hour in the air, drivers on base are restricted to follow the posted limits.

"It is important to obey the speed limit for the safety of other drivers, yourself, passengers and pedestrians," said Staff Sgt. Karin Constable, 49th Security Forces Squadron Physical Security NCO.

Because of the safety issues, SFS members are always on the lookout for speeders. All SFS vehicle speedometers are calibrated every six months so patrols can pace suspected speeders, said Michael Klinkert, 49th SFS assistant flight chief. The team also uses vehicle-mounted radar with antennas that can be pointed in any direction, he said.

Sometimes, speeders think they can get away by leaving the base, Klinkert said.

"We can catch them speeding on base and still stop them off base on the overpass with authority of the on-duty flight sergeant or flight leader," Constable said.

But if someone tries to get away by driving onto route 70, the SFS member can call the Department of Public Safety to issue the citation, Klinkert said.

Speeding on highways at high speeds has other severe consequences. Speeding is gambling, said Jerry McDermott, 49th Fighter Wing Safety ground safety manager.

A person can drive at 80 or 90 mph on the highway and not get a ticket or crash, he said. "One time, an oryx will jump out. Your reaction time just isn't quick enough. The result could be a fatal car crash," McDermott said.

"Driving 65 mph only saves a few minutes more than driving 60 mph," he said. "Is a few minutes worth your life?"

Most people underestimate the risk, McDermott said, and added younger people don't see the risk as well as older people do.

"They think they're bullet proof," he said. "They don't think they're ever going to die." However, speed was a contributing factor in most of the auto accidents on and off base in the past five years, McDermott said.

"The speed limit was set at 55 mph several years ago because crashes are survivable at that speed," he said. "Once you get up to 60 or 65, the chance of a fatality increases."

If someone witnesses a traffic violation, they can report it at building 35. It's best to get the license plate information and a description of the driver, Klinkert said.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Vanessa Laboy

International connection

Uruguayan air force Col. Washington Odella, Director of Air Command and Staff School of Uruguay, and Capt. Jason Wilson discuss the F-117A Nighthawk at the 9th Aircraft Maintenance Unit Sept. 4. More than 20 Uruguayan air force and army officers from the Uruguayan professional military education school visited BEAR base, the German air force and the stealth fighter as part of a U.S. Southern Command program with the South American air forces.

REUNION from Page 1

attached squadrons during the 1950s, making Seymour Johnson an excellent site for their reunion."

The 4th Fighter-Interceptor Squadron was assigned to Chitose Air Base, Japan from 1954 to 1957 and was an attached squadron to the 49th Fighter-Bomber Group, according to Master Sgt. Neil Nichols, 4th Fighter Wing historian.

Additionally, the 334th Fighter-Interceptor Squadron was attached to the 49th for a brief period in 1951, while the 336th Fighter-Interceptor Squadron was attached to the 49th from Nov. 1954 to Aug. 1956, Nichols added.

Historical records also show a connection from 1953 to 1957 during the Air Defense and Reconnaissance missions in Korea, Japan, Formosa and the Philippines.

The reunion begins with Rosborg welcoming the 49ers at the dining facility this morning, then taking a tour of the base.

Later in the evening, the group will host a reception and banquet at the officers' club where guest speaker Lt. Col. Chris Ross of the 333rd Fighter Squadron, will

present the 4th FW First Flight Centennial slide show.

"The 4th has traditionally supported the annual commemoration of the Wright Brothers' first flight by organizing and participating in the flyover," said Ross. "This year is no exception; we are organizing six days of flyovers and events commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the First Flight."

Other highlights include the presentation of the "49th Fighter Group Airman of the Year" award to Senior Airman Kevin Beiland, 49th Maintenance Squadron tactical aircraft maintainer.

Additionally, recognition of Honorary Aces attending include 1st Lt. Frederick Dick, 49th Ace, and Capt. Dolph Overton, 51st Ace who also flew with the 49ers.

"These aces and all of our other members continue to cherish the traditions and motto of the 49ers — Tutor Et Ultor — I protect and avenge," said Lt. Col. Ralph Easterling,

president of the 49th Fighter Group association. "Once a 49er, always a 49er."

The 49th Fighter Group recorded 678 victories, received three distinguished unit citations and 10 battle honors during their time in World War II.



The patch of the 49th Fighter Group

FSC

The Family Support Center offers the following classes and events at the FSC, building 40:

- Conflict resolution: 9 to 10:30 a.m., Monday.
- Spouse employment workshop: 12:30 p.m., Monday.
- Three-day transition assistance program: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.
- Disability transition assistance program: 8:30 a.m., Thursday.

For more information, contact the FSC at 572-7754 or visit the website at www.mil.holloman.af.mil/sptg/mss/fsc.

Bowling

No-tap bowling tournaments are 7 p.m. every Saturday at the Desert Lanes Bowling Center with sign up starting at 6:30 p.m. Cost is \$8 per person.

For more information call 572-7378.

Heritage month

Native American and Indian heritage month is in November. If anyone is interested in serving on this year's committee, contact the Military Equal Opportunity office at 572-3032.

NFL Sunday Ticket

The Oasis Club offers "NFL Sunday Ticket" from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. every Sunday for football fans.

For more information, call 572-3226.

Holloman Middle Two

The next meeting of the Holloman Middle Two is at 1 p.m., Tuesday in the Oasis Enlisted Club.

Christmas parade

Volunteers are needed for traffic and crowd control during the Christmas parade at 6 p.m, Dec 6. To volunteer e-mail lisa.gallegos@holloman.af.mil or john.graves@holloman.af.mil

For more information contact the Chamber of Commerce at 437-6120 or CJ Cooper at 572-5562 or 434-8313 after 5 p.m.

White Sands Monument

White Sands National Monument holds the following special events:

- Hot Air Balloon Invitational: 7 a.m., Sept. 20 and 21.
- Star Party: 7:30 p.m., Sept. 27.
- Lake Lucero Tour: 9 a.m., Sept. 28.

Reservations will be accepted beginning Sunday.

Interested people can call 479-6124 or 679-2599 ext. 232 for more information.

Red Cross

The Red Cross schedule of events is:

- Child and infant CPR: 9 a.m. to

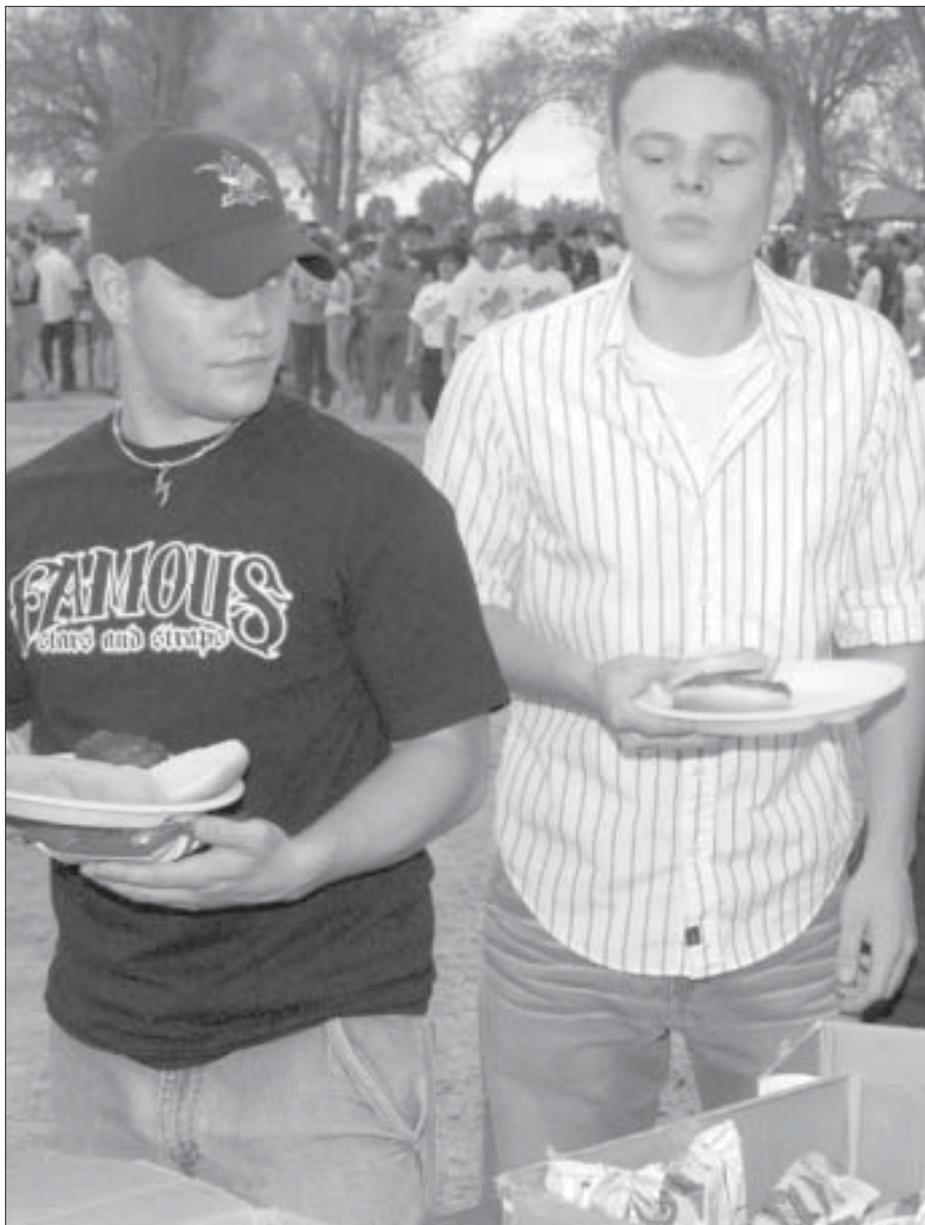


Photo by Airman Stephen Collier

Fill 'er up!

Airman Sterling Williams (right) looks to fill his plate at one of the many food lines Friday night at the Thanks Team Holloman celebration. Parking was a challenge and the park was full Sept. 5 as Team Holloman members and their families turned out in droves for the community-sponsored event.

noon, Thursday in the Holloman Community Center.

- Community first aid: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sept. 20 in Alamogordo.
- Basic first aid: 9 a.m. to noon, Sept. 24 in Alamogordo.

For more information, call the Holloman Red Cross at 572-7066.

Oktoberfest

The German Air Force Flying Training Center has its annual Oktoberfest from 4 to 11:30 p.m., Sept. 27 in and around maintenance hangar 286.

Admission for people 16 and older is \$8. Admission is free for youth under 16. Tickets can be purchased at all Otero Federal Credit Union branches, J&J Mini Markets, the Alamogordo Chamber of Commerce, Officers' Club, Outdoor Recreation, and at the GAF Headquarters in

building 45, Room 2295.

For more information, call 572-2928.

Chapel information

Catholic Sunday School starts this weekend at 10:45 a.m. weekly at the Holloman Intermediate School.

Protestant Sunday School is from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. at the Holloman Intermediate School.

The Protestant Women of the Chapel meet at 6:30 p.m., Tuesdays in the chapel annex.

The Protestant Men of the Chapel meet at 7 p.m., Tuesday in the chapel conference room.

The Protestant Singles group meets at 5 p.m., Wednesdays in the chapel conference room.

The Catholic Youth of the Chapel meet the first and third Wednesday of this month in the Chapel Annex.

The chapel activities schedule is

subject to change. Call the chapel staff at 572-7214 for information.

Mothers of Preschoolers

Mothers of Preschoolers invite all moms with infant through kindergarten aged children to a morning of "mommy time."

Childcare is provided, and the children enjoy a program of their own while their mom talks with other adults, listens to speakers, participates in small group discussions, eats or completes a craft project. The next MOPS meeting is from 9 to 11:30 a.m., Sept. 23 at the First Assembly Worship Center at the corner of 10th Street and Florida. Meetings are every other Tuesday.

Call 921-0939 for more information.

Fighter pilot opening

The New Mexico Air National Guard is accepting applications for an F-16 Fighter Pilot. If you have a four-year degree or are a senior in college, and are under the age of 28, you may qualify.

Please e-mail suzi.bowles@nmkirt.af.mil for further details.

Half price sale

All items in the Nonappropriated Fund Retail Store, building 232, will be half price from 8 to 10 a.m., Saturday. Items include golf bag pull carts, television, child activity tables, outside child furniture, child care strollers and more.

Information update

Any housing residents who changed duty sections, organizations or have a new phone number, please contact Gloria Paulfrey at 572-3982 to update this information.

POW/MIA vigil

The 49th Materiel Maintenance Group will host a 24 hour POW/MIA Vigil starting at 12 a.m., Sept. 19 at Heritage Park.

The 49th MMG will also be hosting a POW/MIA Ceremony, open to the base, at 8:30 a.m., Sept. 19 at Heritage Park.

For more information contact Master Sgt. John Etter at 572-5460 or Marilyn Darby at 572-5449.

SF spouses meet

The 49th Security Forces spouses will hold an informational meeting with the squadron's new key spouses at 6:30 p.m., Thursday in the community center. Child care will be provided. Attendees can bring a covered dish to share.

Call 491-8948 for more information.

Sunburst correction

The Whispering Sands Community Center's base yard sale is 7:30 a.m. to noon, Saturday.

MRE menu debuts new items

by Staff Sgt. Todd Lopez
Air Force Print News

Servicemembers in Iraq, Afghanistan and elsewhere will soon have several new MRE options to choose from for their deployed-dining pleasure.

The newest meals, ready-to-eat, feature three new entrée items: pot roast with vegetables, barbecue pork ribs and vegetable manicotti. The menu also includes clam chowder, both peanut butter and crispy M&Ms, almond poppy seed pound cake, pumpkin pound cake, chocolate mint cookies, and vanilla waffle-sandwich cookies.

The new entrée additions come at a cost, according to Defense Logistics Agency spokesman Jack Hooper.

“We are dropping three menu items that were found to be less popular than others,” Hooper said. “We will continue working with military members who are consuming the products — finding their likes and dislikes — and adjusting as necessary.”

Jamaican pork chops, pasta with Alfredo sauce and beef with mushrooms are no longer on the MRE menu.

Research into the popularity of menu

items came from all branches of the military, said George Miller, director of Air Force Food Services. Air Force Services Agency officials are responsible for providing the Air Force input when decisions are being made on new MRE items.

“We get a lot of feedback from end-of-tour surveys and from after-action reports,” Miller said.

Air Force feedback came mostly from the service’s largest consumers of MREs — the special-operations community, air-combat controllers, elements of the civil-engineering community such as Prime Beef and Red Horse, and Prime Ribs from Air Force Services.

While feedback from all services is what ultimately influences changes to the MRE lineup, Miller said the Air Force was instrumental to the addition of a couple of MRE items.

“We had a lot of input into some of the new snack items, (like) the cheese spread with bacon and the jalapeno cheese spread,” he said.

The jalapeno cheese spread first appeared in the MRE in 1996. If all goes according to plan, Miller said bacon-cheese spread should appear in MRE pouches sometime next year.



Courtesy photo

The new MRE lineup includes three new entrees and several desserts.

MREs are designed to provide a complete nutritional meal for servicemembers while in the field, Miller said. They are also designed to be a certain weight and size. There is always discussion on how to balance those two requirements and still maintain palatability.

“The bottle of hot sauce has some weight to it,” Miller said. “We asked if we could add something more nutritious than hot sauce to the MRE. Maybe increase the size of the entrée or add a fruit module such as raisins — anything to replace that hot sauce for nutritional value.”

Palatability won out in this case, even though the alternative might have been nutritionally better for the troops. Troops in the field nearly threatened to go on a hunger strike if they did not get their hot sauce, he said.

“They don’t care if you put raisins or a candy bar or anything else in there, they aren’t going to eat (the MRE) without that hot sauce,” he said.

The newest MRE menu lineup features the familiar bottle of hot sauce in 15 of the 24 menus.

Production of the latest MREs began in June. They will be made available for immediate use by military services.

Civilian benefits site reaches 260k customers

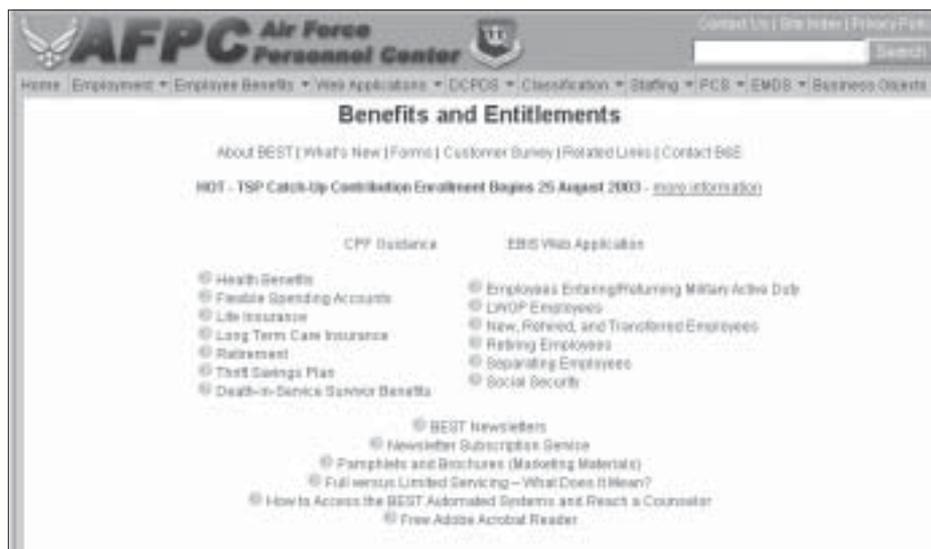
Continuing a trend toward online self service, Air Force civilian employees used the Web about 260,000 times last year to manage their career benefits.

Another 63,000 civilian employees called and talked with a benefits counselor using telephone support in conjunction with the web, officials said.

When BEST, the Benefits and Entitlements Service Team, went live in 1996, the site provided services to 3,500 civilian employees at nine bases, said Janet Thomas, human resources specialist.

“Today, we provide full servicing to more than 78,000 civilian employees at 83 bases and limited servicing to more than 57,000 employees at 13 bases from the time they come to work for the Air Force until they leave,” she said.

BEST provides benefits and entitlements enrollment and advisory services to fully-serviced civilian employees in the areas of Federal Employees Health Benefits, Federal Employees Group Life Insurance, Thrift Savings Plan, retirement counseling and



Find out more information on civilian programs on the Air Force Personnel Center home page at <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil>, then click on “Civilian Personnel Online.”

processing, and death-in-service survivor assistance. The same services are provided to limited service employees with the exception of retirement counseling and processing and death-in-service. These benefits are provided by the local civilian personnel flight.

Employees can determine if they receive full or limited servicing by going to the BEST home page at www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/dpc/best/menu.htm and clicking on “Full versus Limited Servicing” or by contacting their local CPF to see if their records are maintained there.

Benefits and entitlement services provided by BEST:

- The BEST home page provides Web pages specifically related to new, rehired, transferred, retiring, separating employees, employees entering a leave without pay status and employees entering military active duty. The “What’s New” area offers information on legislative updates and program changes.

- The BEST Newsletter provides timely reminders of FEHB and TSP open seasons and other pertinent benefits-related information. The newsletter is published electronically and e-mailed about six times a year to employees who have subscribed to receive it. New subscribers can go to the BEST home page and click on “Newsletter Subscription Service” to enroll.

- BEST provides an automated system which all Air Force-serviced civilian employees use to conduct insurance and TSP enrollments and changes. The Employee Benefits Information System is a web-based application, more commonly known as EBIS, and the BEST phone automated system is where the employee can transact business through a series of prompts or speak with a counselor. Instructions on how to access EBIS and the BEST phone automated system are located on the BEST home page under “How to Access the BEST Automated Systems and Reach a Counselor.” (AFPC News)

BRAC e-mail story a hoax

by Tech Sgt.
David Jablonski
Air Force Print News

Another e-mail hoax has been circulating through inboxes. This one contains a spoofed Air Force Print News story about proposed base realignment and closure actions allegedly affecting all services.

Air Force public affairs officials were alerted to the hoax by a military officers' association in California. The e-mail takes a legitimate Air Force Print News story titled "Air Force releases 2004 realignments," published July 23, and adds a fake list of Department of Defense installations for "closure or realignment."

Officials immediately dismissed the e-mail as a hoax, citing that the ongoing BRAC process is nowhere near complete.

They have not made any assessments, decisions or recommendations for closures and realignments to the BRAC Commission, according to Nelson Gibbs. He is the assistant secretary of the Air Force for installations, environment and logistics.

As part of the budget justification, defense officials must submit a number of reports and certifications to justify the need for the BRAC 2005 round, Gibbs said.

"This will occur in the February 2004 time frame," Gibbs said. "As such, recommendations (now) would be premature and not in accordance with the requirements of the BRAC law."

The law establishes procedures that must be followed step by step to develop information, studies, plans and reports needed for such recommendations, he said.

"While we have done much, we are still in the early stages of the formal BRAC process," Gibbs said.

The Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act prescribes a sequential process officials must follow before they can legally make recommendations

"While we have done much, we are still in the early stages of the formal BRAC process."

—Nelson Gibbs
Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for
installations, environment and logistics

for potential closures and realignments of military installations.

DOD officials must submit a force-structure plan based upon an assessment of probable threats to national security through the 20-year period beginning with Oct. 1. The plan includes probable end-strength levels and major military-force units needed to meet these threats. Units include Air Force wings, Army divisions and Navy carrier and major combatant vessels.

Officials must also submit an installation inventory to comprehensively list the number and categories of military installations worldwide, both by military department and by active and reserve forces.

The secretary must further submit a description of the inventory necessary to support the force-structure plan. The description also includes excess infrastructure and infrastructure capacity, and an economic analysis of the effect of potential closures and realignments.

On a parallel track, BRAC law also requires by Dec. 31 the secretary to propose for public review and comment the selection criteria DOD plans on using to make recommendations.

Department officials must finalize the criteria by Feb. 16 and publish them in the Federal Register.

Services' and joint cross-service groups' representatives will then assess the data and make recommendations to the secretary of defense. He then makes an independent review and assessment. The secretary must send his recommendations to the BRAC Commission and Congress by May 16, 2005.

Through this process, each base will be treated fairly and equally, according to Gibbs.

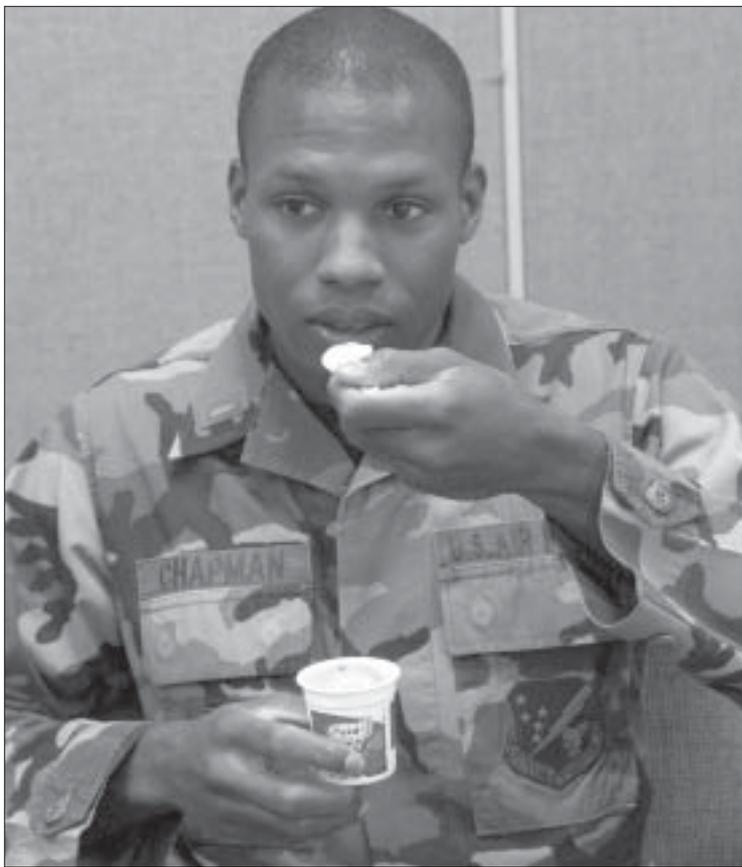


Photo by Airman 1st Class Vanessa Laboy

2nd Lt. Alonzo Chapman, 49th Fighter Wing Manpower and Organization officer takes a break from work to eat a healthy snack.

Good eating habits key to keeping fit

by **1st Lt. Mae-Li Allison**
*Air Armament Center
Public Affairs*

Exercising is only one of several elements needed to live a healthy lifestyle, according to Staff Sgt. Cristina Saguin, NCOIC of nutrition programs at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla.

“Exercise alone cannot improve a person’s health,” Saguin said. “Unfortunately, there are those who think if they exercise, it’s a license to eat whatever they want.”

This thinking leads to poor eating habits like skipping meals, not eating from all the food groups and fad diets, she said.

“Skipping meals can slow metabolism,” she said. “Later, they’ll overeat, typically on the least healthy of foods.”

The first step in improving eating habits, Saguin said, is for people to write down everything they eat during the day, and when they eat. This allows

people to assess their current eating habits and see what they can change.

Additionally, people should eat small meals and snack throughout the day, making sure the meals and snacks include all the food groups, she said.

Snacks should include whole-grain breads, cereals, rice and pastas, plenty of vegetables and fruits, low-fat dairy products, and lean meats. Products made from refined sugar or high in fat, such as pastries and candy bars should be eaten in moderation, she said.

“Eating the appropriate foods gives us the energy we need for daily activity and fitness activities,” Saguin said. “Those frequent, small meals or snacks go a long way in helping us perform our normal duties and enabling us to exercise, too.”

Experts at each base’s wellness center can provide further information on nutrition and fitness, including directions about weight, cholesterol and blood pressure management. Also, dieticians at the base hospital can give effective tips on how to make lasting changes towards healthy eating habits.

GAF SUPS named champs after overtime shootout

by Airman Stephen Collier
49th Fighter Wing
Public Affairs

With a score of 3-3 after overtime, tensions ran high as the intramural soccer championship game came down to a shootout Sept. 3.

The German Air Force Supply Squadron's midfielder Marco Grumpelt, with his eye on the goal and foot to the ball, blasted the black-and-white sphere to the right of the goalie and into the net for the fourth goal of the shootout, clinching the championship title.

The game began with a tough defense by the GAF SUPS team as they continually hammered at the German Air Force Electronics Squadron. Ralf Dziuballe, a sweeper for the GAF ELS, scored the first goal as he rocketed the ball from the right side of the goal line, slipping past the goalie's fingertips. GAF ELS pushed back hard with a combined defense, but fell short in the first half. GAF SUPS would continue to dominate with another goal made by Dziuballe, bringing the score to 2-0 at the half.

As the second half began, the GAF ELS soccer team stole the show with goals from



Photos by Airman Stephen Collier

Hauke Hammerich, a midfielder for the GAF SUPS team defends against the GAF ELS midfielder Vince Mertinitz.

midfielders Vinzenz Mertinitz and Sascha Dehnert. GAF SUPS midfielder Hauke Hammerich then took the attention away as he scored a third goal for his team. Dehnert then pressed on to score another goal for his team with his head, tying the game 3-3. After 25 minutes of play, the game spilled over into overtime.

Both teams wouldn't go quietly into overtime. GAF SUPS rallied, but could not penetrate the hard-core GAF ELS defense. The score remained at three all.

The shootout was formed, and both teams gathered in center field for the heart-stopping moment. GAF SUPS would be first and scored their first goal. GAF ELS went next and failed to out flank the goalie. With four shootout goals from the GAF Supply Squadron versus two from the GAF Electronics Squadron, the GAF SUPS earned the title of base soccer cham-

pion.

"The team displayed an outstanding performance this season," said GAF SUPS coach Hammerich on his team. "Everyone had fun as we played. We came this far because we played as a team."

GAF SUPS goalie Juergen Motschmann earned the title of best player with two big saves made during the shootout, holding back the GAF ELS group. Dehnert of the GAF ELS was given the title of most valuable player for the championship game by coach Michael Rossberg.

Dehnert made two consecutive goals that brought the GAF team from 3-1 to tie the game. He had 21 total goals for the season.

"The team had motivated players and showed great teamwork and team spirit throughout the season," said Rossberg. "The team was great, but we started off with pre-season problems. Some players went on leave during the playoffs. In the end, we only had nine players. But, we played great with just that."

For more information on the next year's intramural soccer season, contact the Fitness and Sports Center at 572-3229.



Ralf Dziuballe, a midfielder for the GAF SUPS team, jolts the ball away from defending Sascha Dehnert, a midfielder for the GAF ELS team.

49 LRS beat GAF Elect Sq. to earn base volleyball title

by Airman Stephen Collier
49th Fighter Wing
Public Affairs

The 49th Logistics Readiness Squadron's Joe Anderson supplied a monster spike in match one of the intramural volleyball championship game Sept. 4 at the Fitness and Sports Center.

His spike would be the first of many for the 49 LRS that led to their 25-16 win over the German Air Force Electronics Squadron.

The underdog came out on top as the 49th LRS volleyball team overtook the GAF ELS in two matches to claim the crown of base volleyball champs. With the GAF team having a perfect record this season, the LRS would be hard pressed to outplay their opponents twice to stay in the running for the title.

Game one of the first match began with the GAF ELS earning the first point by Klaus Poller. Poller continued to add points for his team with a huge return spike over the head of the LRS's James Stephens, bringing the score to 10-12. But the GAF ELS couldn't keep up the momentum and gave up game one to the LRS with an ending score of 25-16.

Adapting to the German of-



Photo by Airman Stephen Collier

Left to right: GAF Klaus Poller spikes on LRS' Joe Anderson and Thomas Watson during LRS' win over the GAF in two games Sept. 4 at the Fitness and Sports Center.

fense, the LRS team came on strong in the beginning of game two with a five-point run with big plays by Anderson. The 49th LRS continued to add points on the board, finally forcing the GAF to call a timeout at 23-11. The timeout couldn't stop the LRS team, who took the second game, and the first match, with a score of 25-12.

In the second match, the GAF ELS dominated with a big serve

by Mario Schneider and a net-holding call on the LRS's Anderson. A fist slam by Poller put the GAF squad ahead 13-12. Tough defenses kept both teams from running away with the game early. LRS began to turn the tide as the score settled at 20-20. They would end game one of the second match 25-22 with an out-of-bounds serve by the GAF.

The GAF ELS couldn't find a much-needed foothold in game two as the LRS took the lead with an ace serve by James Featherstone, bringing the game to 2-0. After setting up most of the game's spikes for the LRS, Chris Brocco pounded a spike himself to bring the score to 10-4.

As the score came down to 24-16, the GAF team made the final serve of the game. As the leather-wrapped ball returned to the GAF side of the court for a second time, they lost control of it and knocked it into the net, ending the game, the match and the season, with a score of 25-16.

For the 49th LRS, Featherstone became the team's highest scorer of the evening with eight points in the last game of match two.

Peter Schatten of the GAF ELS was his team's highest scorer with six points in game one of the second match.



Photo by Airman Stephen Collier

Left to right: LRS players, Travis Henderson and Thomas Watson block against the GAF's Mario Schneider during LRS' win to take the base championship, Sept. 4 at the Fitness and Sports Center.



Photo by Airman Stephen Collier

Y'er out!

Holloman Hawks pitcher William Young races the throw to Tornadoes first baseman Josh Savitt during the Hawks 21-9 win Sunday at Griggs Sports Complex.

Sports Briefs

Fitness and Sports Center closures

To support ACC Fitness Fundamental classes, several sections of the Fitness and Sports Center will be temporarily closed.

The weight room will be closed from 12:30 to 4 p.m., Tuesday; and from 7:30 to 11 a.m. and 1 to 4 p.m., Wednesday. The aerobic room will be closed from 7:30 to 11 a.m., Thursday. The cardio room will be closed from 1 to 4 p.m., Thursday.

Upcoming events

The Holloman Sports and Fitness Center will host two upcoming events:

- Fun run and walk at 11 a.m., Thursday
- Leg press competition at 5 p.m., Sept. 15

Contact Master Sgt. Joseph Shaw at 572-2392 for information.

Tennis tournament

The annual Otero County Closed Tennis Tournament is Oct. 4 and 5 at the Oregon Park Courts. Events will be available for all skill levels. Entries are available at the Oregon Park Courts and the Holloman Fitness and Sports Center and are due by Sept. 27. Call 434-1949 for more information.

AFA sponsors Fall golf tournament

The Air Force Association Chapter 196 is hosting a golf tournament beginning at noon, Oct. 17 at the Holloman golf course. Cost for the four-person, best ball tournament is \$20 for members and \$30 for non-members. The cost includes green fees, cart, entry fees and lunch.

Contact Capt. Amanda Redash at 572-1366 for details.

Falcons sneak past Wildcats, 22-21

by 2nd Lt. Rob Arnett
Air Force Academy Public Affairs

EVANSTON, Ill. (AFPN) — Nate Allen's electrifying 79-yard interception return for a touchdown sparked the Air Force Academy Falcons to a fourth-quarter come-from-behind victory, 22-21, over the Northwestern Wildcats.

"That (score) gave our football team a new life, it gave us a belief," said Fisher DeBerry, the Falcons head coach.

Free safety Larry Duncan and back Dennis Poland also picked off Wildcats quarterback Brett Basanez to give the Falcons three fourth-quarter interceptions.

The Falcons capitalized on the Wildcat turnovers to overcome a 21-7 deficit entering the final quarter of play.

Adding to the pressure of trailing the Wildcats was the loss of the Falcon's star quarterback, Chance Harridge. Harridge was ejected in the third quar-

ter for throwing a punch after losing a fumble. He finished the game with 45 yards rushing on seven carries and 51 yards passing on two completions.

Harridge's ejection left sophomore backup quarterback Adam Fitch in command of the offense. In his first series, he led the Falcon offense on an 11-play, 80-yard drive capped off by Anthony Butler's 4-yard touchdown run.

"I thought Adam played with a lot of poise, I thought our older guys rallied around him very well," said DeBerry.

Fitch finished the day completing three passes on four attempts for a total of 51 yards.

Falcon running back Anthony Butler led the offense with two touchdowns. Butler rushed for 107 yards on just 12 carries, averaging nearly nine yards each time he ran the ball. He broke a scoreless tie with 3:30 left in the first quarter when he galloped 56 yards down the sideline for a touchdown after eluding two Wildcat defenders.

Butler pounded out punishing yards and gained a critical first down late in the third quarter to sustain the drive that brought the Falcons within eight points of the Wildcats. Butler also completed a 37-yard halfback pass to receiver J.P. Waller in the first half of play.

"I thought Anthony Butler showed that he is a big-time back," DeBerry said. "When it was tough yardage he never quit, his legs never stopped."

The Falcons went ahead for good with 2:01 left in the fourth quarter when Joey Ashcroft split the uprights with a 25-yard field goal to pull ahead 22-21. Dennis Poland's interception and return set the Falcons up with great field position for Ashcroft to kick the game winner.

The Falcon defense preserved the win by continuing the stingy play that characterized the second half, in which they only allowed seven points and forced three turnovers. Wildcat's quarterback Brett Basanez was repeatedly

hurried, forced to scramble and often knocked down or sacked.

"He got knocked around as much as an option quarterback today," said DeBerry about Basanez.

Despite the Falcon victory, DeBerry said he believes his team needs a lot of improvement in the next couple of weeks before they can consider themselves a good team.

"(The number of untimely penalties) are very uncharacteristic of Falcon football. We better wake up, we better take control, and we better take charge of those types of things," DeBerry said.

Although they did not play the perfect game, DeBerry said he was thankful for the win.

"We made plays when we had to, and we won the game ... I thought our kids fought hard, and I'm encouraged about that," he said.

The Falcons return home to play the University of North Texas on Sept. 13.