



# Sunburst



## Inside

### Abuse Prevention Month



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April is the Month of the Military Child. Family Advocacy offers tips and classes to help parents.

### Ex-Orangeman among Holloman ranks



Page 12

A Holloman senior NCO shows his defense skills Syracuse-style. The ex-Orangeman now plays and coaches the 49th Fighter Wing/Mission Support Squadron intramural and Over-30 teams.

## Briefly

### Watering schedule

The base watering schedule is as follows:

Occupants in odd-numbered houses water Sundays and Wednesdays.

Occupants in even-numbered houses water Saturdays and Tuesdays.

Watering hours are from 5 a.m. to 9 a.m., and 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Newly seeded areas can be watered daily until the first mowing.

For more information, call the Housing Maintenance Office at 572-7901.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Vanessa LaBoy

Five F-117A Nighthawks touched down Wednesday from Southwest Asia after supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom. The jet displays 16 combat mission marks illustrating the number of combat missions flown during the deployment.

## Base welcomes home F-117s, troops

by Airman 1st Class Vanessa LaBoy  
49th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Five F-117A Nighthawks touched down Wednesday after supporting Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.

F-117A pilot Lt. Col. J.L. Briggs, who returned from his 7th deployment to Southwest Asia, said it's great to be home and see the tremendous support of the base and Alamogordo community.

While it's great to be home, Briggs also said it's great to be a part of this team and part of the mission that was an asset in the combat zone.

"When the crew received orders, they knew what they had to do to accomplish the objective of disarming and removing the Iraqi regime. Every unit was well trained for the job and ready to go. Even though each unit is trained individually, during combat operations, every element cohesively joins to become one team."

ment cohesively joins to become one team."

He said the pilots are a very visible tip of the iceberg for combat operations, but without maintenance support, intelligence, services, supply, security forces and all other elements the jets wouldn't leave the ground.

"Pilots fly the jet and execute a mission that's based on an overwhelming amount of effort," Briggs said. "A lot of support goes unnoticed because people see pilots dropping bombs, but they don't see the hours of labor that it takes to get the mission going."

The Holloman team of support troops and F-117s played a major role in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The F-117 was the first aircraft to drop bombs in Baghdad March 19. They flew more than 80 missions and dropped nearly 100 Enhanced Guided Bomb Units, EGBU-27s.

The jet also supported Operation Desert Storm in 1991, but according to Briggs, the enhanced weapons system allowed the jet to be even more lethal during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

"The weapons system has transformed since previous combat missions," he said. "It allowed us to use weapons in all weather conditions. Even in the worst weather, our enemy had no place to hide."

The weapons system is a large part of operations, but families and support systems at home also play an important role, Briggs said.

"We train and prepare for the job we volunteered to do," he said. "Some people may call us heroes, but it's the families who deserve that title because we're just doing our jobs."

Family members at home have lim-

see HOME on Page 3



High: 75  
Low: 48

TODAY



High: 72  
Low: 44

SATURDAY



High: 77  
Low: 40

SUNDAY



High: 79  
Low: 48

MONDAY

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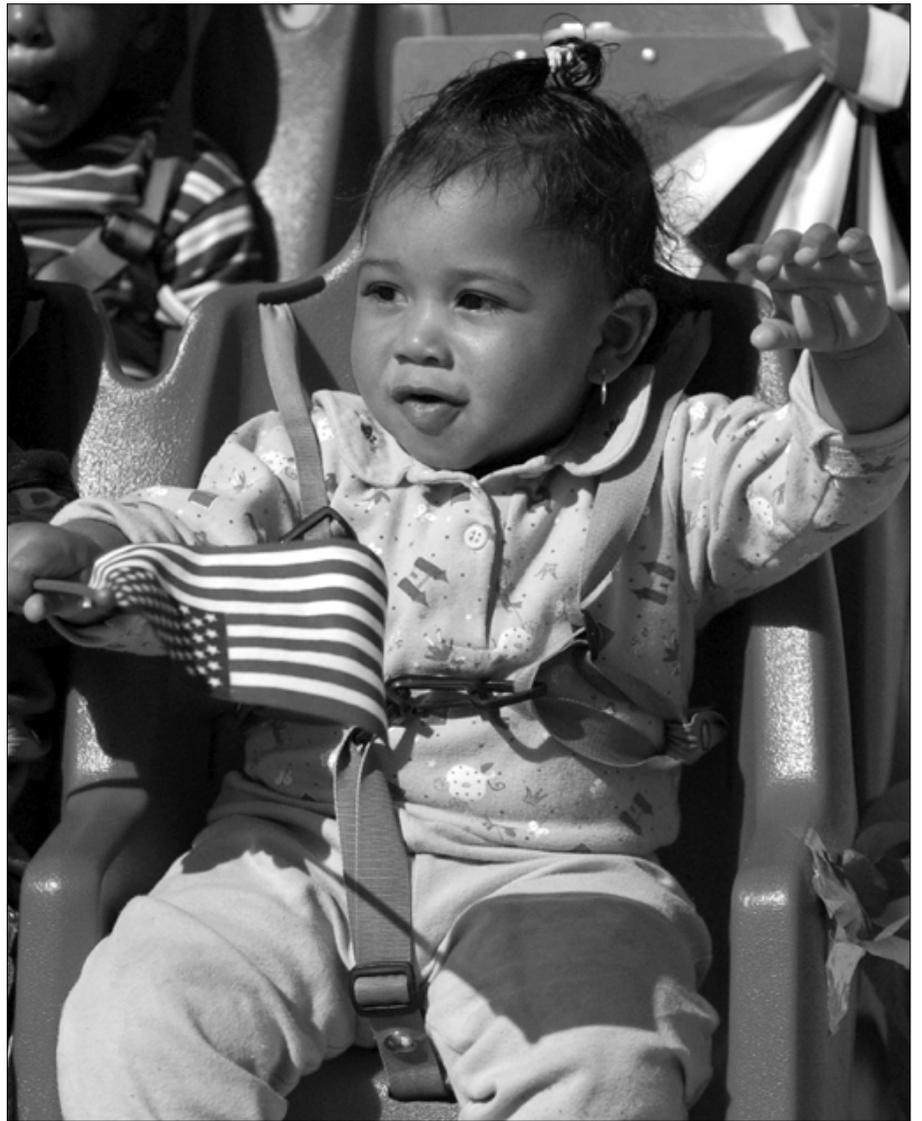


Photo by Airman 1st Class Vanessa LaBoy

## Tiny patriot ... big heart

Letrice Phillips waves a flag at the Child Development Center East Annual Week of the Young Child parade. Over 50 children paraded down First Street Friday to celebrate the Month of the Military Child. The CDC will hold its next Month of the Military child event, Build Your Own Sandwich Day, April 28.

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## Civilian wins ACC award

by Senior Airman Brandy Dupper-Macy

*49th Fighter Wing Public Affairs*

A 49th Fighter Wing legal office civilian won an Air Combat Command award recently.

Diane Adams, assistant claims officer, won ACC's Harold R. Vague award for 2002.

"Harold R. Vague is an outstanding civilian paralegal award, and is the highest award a civilian can receive in paralegal," said Diane Adams. "I'm honored to be recognized in a career field that has many outstanding civilians."

The claims office handles household claims, as well as accidents on base and ensures that people making claims get their money back as soon as possible.

"One of the most important things we do in the legal office is take care of personal matters for deploying Team Holloman members," Adams said.

Adams has been a part of civil service

for 23 and a half years.

"I've won many awards over the last couple of years," she said, "but this has been the peak of my career."

During her civil service career, she has continued her education in the paralegal field.

"I encourage people to take advantage of the opportunity to further their education," Adams said. "You can never learn enough, and I know that is part of the reason I win my awards; it's just important to know as much as you can about your job."

Not only does she go above and beyond at work, she also excels off duty, taking part as a chairperson and organizer of the Alamogordo Interagency Group, Otero County Health Council, Salvation Army and Adopt-A-Highway just to name a few.

"Diane's work ethic, positive attitude and professionalism is an asset to the legal office," said Capt. Damian Martinez, claims chief. "She's dedicated to serving the base and its mission. I can't say enough about the service she provides to our office."



Photo by Airman 1st Class Vanessa LaBoy

**A crew chief marshalls an F-117A. More than 200 people from Holloman and Alamogordo welcomed home five F-117A Nighthawks Wednesday.**

## HOME

from Page 1

ited information about their deployed loved one. Many spouses assume the role of single parent and manage the household. They do all of this, while at the same time, in the back of their minds, have a nagging inevitable concern for the safety and welfare of their loved one in the combat zone, Briggs said.

"Many families accept the role, which

is one of the toughest in the Air Force," he said. "These families take on a tough mission that they keep going day after day. The Air Force offers a number of programs to support troops and their families, but Holloman and the Alamogordo community raise the bar. Our team is grateful for the outpouring of support, thoughts and prayers from the generous hearts of these communities."

# Program is on track

New recruits waiting months for signing bonuses promised to them by their recruiters are now getting them within days thanks to a completely revamped process run by a few motivated noncommissioned officers and dedicated civilian employees.

According to Trudy Williams, superintendent of Enlisted Accessions and Special Bonuses here, the revamped process took effect Feb. 10.

"All eligible airmen receive their money within five to 10 days," she said. "Currently, there's no backlog of initial bonus request."

Initial enlistment bonuses are important in attracting new recruits to the Air Force, and then steering them toward the career fields that most need to be filled, according to Master Sgt. Tim Clark, recruiting service liaison at the Air Force Personnel Center at Randolph Air Force Base, Texas.

Airmen were expecting bonus payments within 90 days of arrival at the first duty station. However, problems

were caused by Military Personnel Data System challenges and long administrative delays in authorizing payments. At one point last year a backlog of more than 8,000 airmen were awaiting payments.

A team that crossed several agencies inside and outside the Air Force was given the mission of fixing the complex problems.

They reduced a backlog of 8,000 cases to zero, and reduced the time it was taking to get the bonus into the accounts of recruits—documented results that address a problem in the field.

The team identified long- and short-term solutions to resolve problems and validate the program. The result led to immediate reengineering of the contract process, developing computer processing solutions and dedicating manpower to eliminate the backlog of payments.

For more information, contact the MPF at 572-3429. (AFP)



Photo by Airman 1st Vanessa LaBoy

## Welcome home, daddy

**Lt. Col. David Toomey hugs his 4-year-old son, Christopher, after arriving here Wednesday. He piloted one of five F-117As that returned from Southwest Asia. His daughters, Nicole and Lauryn, also welcomed him home.**

*The following is written by 12-year-old, Nicole:*

*My family and my home mean the world to me. When my dad was deployed, my family and home are really the only things, besides my friends, helping me see through all of my pain that I'm feeling. Every single day I can hear the songs of jets flying over. This sound reminds me of my dad and all the people protecting my country and me. Unlike some people in other countries, I have a wonderful family and home that shelter me with happiness and love.*

# 572-RIDE volunteers provide safe ride home

by Senior Airman Brandy Dupper-Macy  
49th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Holloman's 572-RIDE volunteers recently had problems with Team Holloman members calling for a ride, and then not being there.

"This is the first time we have had problems with people not being at a designated location after calling," said Staff Sgt. Patricia Phillips, program coordinator. "If people are going to use the program and contact volunteer drivers in the middle of the night, they should be there when drivers arrive because they are providing a free service to help prevent potential accidents or law violations."

"I volunteer as a driver because I like to help people," said Dawn Basten. "But two no shows during a single week, is frustrating."

"If you find a different ride home, af-

ter calling 572-RIDE, contact the operator and tell them you have another ride, so the drivers don't have to go out in the middle of the night for no reason," Phillips said.

Active duty people aren't the only people allowed to use the 572-RIDE program; spouses, employees, those on temporary duty orders and German air force members are entitled to use it as well.

The volunteers don't check the age of the riders, it is not their job to get people in trouble, according to Phillips. Identification is checked to ensure only authorized people use the program.

The advantages of getting a ride home from the 572-RIDE volunteers, are people don't have to worry about getting arrested for driving while intoxicated, or getting into an accident, Basten said.

"I don't encourage people to drink," Basten said. "But I can help them get where they are going safely."



The 49th Security Forces Squadron handled the following incidents from April 8 to 14.

### Tickets

Security forces issued a total of 72 citations this week: one for assault, two for assault of a household member, 14 for failure to stop, one for improper turning, one for inattentive backing, three for no insurance, one for no license, six for no registration, two for no seatbelt, one for speeding one to 10 mph over the posted speed limit and having an expired registration, 34 for speeding one to 10 mph over the posted speed limit, and six for speeding 11 to 20 mph over the posted speed limit.

### Theft or damage to government and private property

- April 8: A retiree driving a government-owned vehicle hit a private-owned vehicle while backing out of a parking spot.

- April 9: Three juveniles were advised of their rights under the 5th Amendment for causing damage to government property.
- April 11: An NCO reported damage to flowers on his property in base housing.
- April 13: An airman reported damage to his POV which was not there the night before.
- April 14: A civilian reported damage to the Maintenance Door in building 31.

### Patrol Response

- April 8: A civilian employee at the Shopette reported an elderly man drove off without paying for gas.
- April 8: A family member reported a possible break-in at her base home.
- April 9: An airman reported an unknown individual had assaulted him.
- April 11: Two dependents were advised of their rights under the 5th Amendment, and both were issued a citation for assault on a household member.
- April 11: An NCO reported his dog had bitten an unknown juvenile.
- April 11: A civilian had an active-duty military ID card confiscated from him after he attempted to enter the base. The civilian is no longer active-duty military and is barred from base.
- April 13: An NCO requested assistance in a verbal altercation he was having with his wife before it escalated into a physical confrontation.
- April 13: An airman requested assistance in a

physical altercation she was having with her husband. The husband was advised of his rights under the 5th Amendment, escorted off base and released on his own recognizance.

- April 14: An officer reported an attack on her dog by another officer's dog. The officer of the second dog stated his dog was responsible for the attack and he would assume all medical expenses for the treatment of the first dog.

- April 14: A family member reported two dependent children playing with a pellet gun. Security forces confiscated the pellet gun.

### Missing ID cards, vehicle decals and restricted area badges

There were five reports of missing identification cards this week. Two were active duty IDs and three were family member IDs. These incidents can become breaches of security. If personnel have a military issued ID card stolen or lost, or a DD Form 2220 stolen from a vehicle or missing from the squadron's inventory, report it to security forces immediately.

Security forces can be alerted to look for the missing item, given the information and serial numbers placed on each accountable item.

**If you know of or have any information concerning any of these incidents, please contact security forces at 572-7171 or your first sergeant. For the Crime Stop Help Line, please contact security forces at 572-1100 or dial "911".**

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## Group life insurance premiums going down in July

The Department of Veterans Affairs has announced that premiums for the Servicemembers Group Life Insurance will be reduced, handing military members a few extra dollars in their pockets each month.

Beginning in July, the cost for a \$250,000 policy — the maximum coverage — will drop from \$20 to \$16.25 monthly, a \$3.75 savings. The Department of Veterans Affairs reports that rates for Veterans Group Life Insurance will not change.

Tom Tower, the Department of Defense's assistant director for military compensation, welcomed the reduced premiums, adding that anytime

you put "more money in the pockets of military members, it's always a good result."

Premiums will also be reduced for SGLI family coverage, with rates varying among age groups.

The largest saving will go to spouses 35 to 39 years old, whose premiums will be nearly cut in half. Servicemembers currently pay \$13 for a \$100,000 family policy. That policy will cost \$7.50 beginning in July — a \$5.50 savings.

The reduced rates mean a military family will save an average of \$100 a year. VA officials estimate that servicemembers collectively will save

about \$96 million annually in premiums, and \$42 million in family coverage premiums each year.

Tower said the reduced premiums are a result of an ongoing process to keep costs down for military members.

"The VA regularly checks to see how much is paid out versus how much is collected in premiums, and whenever it seems like they have built up premium reserves, they like to reduce premiums to keep the cost to a minimum for the member," Tower said. "It's part of the objective of the program to provide the lowest cost possible."

SGLI began in 1965 to meet the insurance needs of Vietnam-era

servicemembers. Before SGLI, the military provided \$10,000 policies to servicemembers, and policies were available to active-duty military only.

Today the SGLI program provides coverage of \$250,000 to active-duty servicemembers and most Reservists. Coverage of \$100,000 has also been provided for spouses of participating members with free coverage of \$10,000 for dependent children. Reduced levels of coverage may also be elected.

More information about the change in SGLI premiums can be found at [www.insurance.va.gov](http://www.insurance.va.gov), or call the office of Servicemembers Group Life Insurance toll free at (800) 419-1473. (AFP)

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# Thrift Savings Plan open season begins

Civilian and military employees can sign up for or change Thrift Savings Plan accounts during open season until June 30.

"TSP is an easy, long-term retirement savings plan that everyone should consider," said Maj. Alessandra Stokstad, chief of the Air Force Personnel Center's contact center at Randolph Air Force Base, Texas. "Current account holders might be interested, too, in transferring money from one fund to another — the TSP folks are set up to handle that."

"Either way it's a great supplement to military and civilian retirement plans," said Stokstad. "It's important to note that TSP is not limited to investing in stocks. People can choose safer government securities as well."

"Employees already contributing to the TSP are encouraged to review their TSP plan and account balances," said Janet Thomas, AFPC civilian benefits and entitlements service team, "as the open-season period is the best time to open an account or make changes to an existing one."

TSP offers investors the chance for lower taxes each year they contribute while not having to pay taxes on earnings until they reach retirement.

Investment money is deposited directly from each paycheck "so you never have to think about it," said Stokstad.

The five TSP funds are: the Government Securities Investment (G) Fund; the Common Stock Index Investment (C) Fund; the Fixed Income Index Investment (F) Fund; the Small Capitalization Stock Index Investment (S) Fund; and the International Stock Index Investment (I) Fund.

"As with any individual retirement account, the sooner you begin contributing, the better," said Stokstad.

Account changes made on or before May 31 will take effect June 1 for both military members and civilians. Changes made on or after June 1 will become effective in the following pay period for civilians and the following month for military members.

Some of the specifics of the program include:

**Military:** Military members can contribute up to 8 percent of their base pay. Airmen also have the ability to invest all or part of their bonuses or special pay. But their total yearly tax-deferred investment cannot exceed \$12,000, except those serving in tax-free combat zones are allowed up to \$40,000 in annual contributions.

Military members can enroll through the Defense Finance and Accounting Service Web site at <http://www.dfas.mil/emss/>. They can also enroll by filling out a Form TSP-U-1 at local military personnel flights, finance offices and family support centers.

**Civilian:** Contribution limits are based on the retirement system an employee has.

Federal Employees' Retirement System employees may contribute up to 13 percent of basic pay each pay period. The government provides matching funds of up to 4 percent as well as an automatic 1 percent each pay period whether the employee contributes or not, making the government's contribution 5 percent.

Employees covered by the Civil Service Retirement System may contribute up to 8 percent of basic pay, but do not receive any matching contributions.

The percentage FERS and CSRS employees may contribute will increase by one point each year through 2005, when they will be restricted only by the Internal Revenue Code's annual limit, which is \$12,000 in 2003, Thomas said.

Specific information is available for civilians on the Thrift Savings Web site at [www.tsp.gov](http://www.tsp.gov) or the BEST homepage at

[www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/dpc/best/menu.htm](http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/dpc/best/menu.htm) and for airmen at [www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/mpf/TSP/thrift\\_savings\\_plan.htm](http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/mpf/TSP/thrift_savings_plan.htm).

All Air Force-serviced civilian employees must choose their TSP contribution amount or changes through the BEST automated phone system at (800) 997-2378, or commercial (210) 527-2378.

Hearing-impaired employees may contact BEST by calling TDD (800) 382-0893 or commercial (210) 565-2276. Overseas employees can dial a toll-free direct access number for the country they are in. Direct access numbers and instructions are located at [www.att.com/international\\_business/dialing\\_guide/country-diallist.cgi](http://www.att.com/international_business/dialing_guide/country-diallist.cgi).

Counselors are available weekdays from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. CST. The BEST Employee Benefits Information System web application is located at [www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/dpc/BEST\\_GRB/EBIS.htm](http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/dpc/BEST_GRB/EBIS.htm).

People can choose which fund to contribute to by calling the TSP automated ThriftLine at (504) 255-8777 or on the TSP Web site at <http://www.tsp.gov/>. Military members with general TSP questions can call the AFPC contact center at DSN 665-5000 or toll-free (866) 229-7074. (AFP)

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## DWI Update

<b>Days since last DWI</b>	<b>43</b>	<b><u>Last six DWIs:</u></b>	<b><u>572-RIDE works!</u></b>
<b>DWIs year to date</b>	<b>12</b>	• 49 LRS* March 2	<i>Calls MADE are lives SAVED.</i>
<b>DWIs this time last year</b>	<b>10</b>	• 49 MMS March 1	<b>Calls:</b>
		• 49 CES* Jan. 17	<b>Year to date: 207</b>
		• 49 OSS Jan. 11	<b>Last week: 7</b>
		• 49 LRS Jan. 4	
		• 49 GAF Nov. 22	

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

### Holloman Chapel Services

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Weekday Masses</b> – 11:30 a.m., Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. | • General Protestant Worship Service, 11 a.m.        |
| <b>Sunday</b> – Catholic Mass, 9:30 a.m. and 5 p.m.                         | • Catholic Religious Education, 11 a.m.              |
| • Protestant Religious Education, 9:30 a.m.                                 | • Sacrament of Penance, 4 p.m.                       |
|   | • Protestant Contemporary Worship Service, 6:30 p.m. |

Call 572-7214 for more information.

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## 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 a.m., 9 a.m., 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 5 p.m. and 7 p.m.
- Return Reunion: noon, 3:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.



Holloman AFB Editorial Staff

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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](mailto: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 Aerotech News and Review. The deadline for submitting articles to the SUNBURST is 4 p.m. Thursday the week before publication. For advertising information, call (505) 479-6550.





## Chapel Easter schedule

*During the Catholic Holy Week, the worship schedule is as follows:*

- Today: A Day of Fast and Abstinence; Good Friday service at 3 p.m.

- Saturday: Easter Vigil Mass and reception at 8 p.m.

Sunday: Easter Mass 9:30 a.m.

*The Protestant Easter Schedule is as follows:*

- Today: Holy Week Protestant Gathering at noon

- Sunday: Easter Sunrise service at 6 a.m. at White Sands National Monument; Easter services at 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.

## A/C startup

The 49th Civil Engineer Squadron Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning section begins A/C startups. Units will be serviced, tested and started by May 17. HVAC starts with dormitories, then office areas and end with industrial areas.

The schedule for base housing is as follows:

- Today to Monday: 2250A-2269B and 2442-2486B

- Monday to Tuesday: 2269C-2299B and 2487-2489B

- Tuesday to Wednesday: 2300A-2308A and 2501A-2540B

- Wednesday to Thursday: 2308B-2354A and 2541A-2585A

- April 25-28: 2354B-2393B and 2585B-2599B

If residents are not available during the scheduled conversion day, appointments can be scheduled April 29-30.

For more information, call the Housing Maintenance Office at 572-7901.

## FSC

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

- Spouse Employment Workshop: 12:30 p.m., Monday

- Three-Day Transition Assistance: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Tuesday to Thursday

- Disability Transition Program: 8:30 a.m., Thursday

For more information, contact the FSC at 572-7754 or visit the website at [wwwmil.holloman.af.mil/sptg/mss/fsc](http://wwwmil.holloman.af.mil/sptg/mss/fsc).

## Gus Macker Tournament

The Alamogordo Chamber of Commerce sponsors the Gus Macker three-on-three basketball tournament May 10 to 11. Registration begins May 9. Volunteers are needed to

## On the BIG SCREEN

### Old School

7 p.m., today and Saturday

### Cradle 2 the Grave

10 p.m., today and Saturday

### Dare Devil

7 p.m., Sunday and Thursday

*Movies are subject to change.*

*For more information, call 572-3286.*



Photo by Airman 1st Class Vanessa LaBoy

## On your mark ...

**More than 25 runners take off during the Holloman High Speed Test Track Mach 10k Run/5k Walk April 12. The fun run gears Team Holloman up for the record-breaking attempt to reach mach 8.7, which is 6,530 mph, April 29. Holloman reached mach 8.1, which is 6,122 mph in 1982. Holloman is home to the world's longest test track at 50,188 feet.**

help with registration, special events and court monitoring.

For more information, call Pat Russell, Chamber of Commerce secretary, at 437-6120.

## Golf tournament correction

The next Apache Mesa Golf Course tournament is April 26.

For more information, call the golf course at 572-3574.

## Honor Guard banquet

The 2003 Honor Guard Annual Awards banquet is at 6 p.m., May 3 at the enlisted club. Tickets are \$15 for members and \$17 for nonmembers.

Contact a first sergeant for tickets.

## ALS banquet

The Airman Leadership School Class 03-D graduation banquet begins with cocktails at 6 p.m., May 12 at the enlisted club.

The dinner menu is baked chicken, \$14, or chef salad, \$11. Club members receive \$2 discount. RSVP to a student by April 30.

For more information call 572-5860.

## Extended duty care

The Family Child Care Program announces the parent co-payment for the extended duty childcare program has been waived until Sept. 30.

The extended duty child care program is designed to support active duty personnel who are occasionally required to work extra hours to provide mission support.

For more information, call 572-5848.

## Optometry service

The 49th Medical Group Optometry Clinic will only provide service to active duty members beginning May 15. The reduction in normal service should last about 6 to 8 weeks, and normal service to all eligible beneficiaries will resume July 18.

TRICARE Prime patients and family members, excluding active duty, can receive one routine optometric examination every year through a participating TriWest Network Provider. Retired military and their family covered under TRICARE Prime are eligible for one routine eye examination every two years. No referral is necessary and no co-payment is required for TRICARE Prime patients to see TriWest Network providers.

For a list of all Network providers, call the TriWest Service Center at 572-7700. The Optometry Clinic will provide acute care regardless of status.

## Secretaries Day Lunch

Secretaries Day Lunch is 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Wednesday at the Oasis Enlisted Club. Cost is \$7.50 with members receiving a \$2 discount and the menu includes carved turkey, rosemary seasoned loin of pork, shrimp stir fry, taco salad casserole and a variety of side dishes and desserts.

# Team Holloman salutes...

... the following airman who reenlisted during the first quarter.

#### 4th Space Control Squadron

Staff Sgt. Arthur Barrett  
Staff Sgt. Robert Gonder  
Staff Sgt. Douglas Pinard  
Staff Sgt. Alan Rogers  
Staff Sgt. Paul Shoop  
Master Sgt. Frederick Clausen  
Master Sgt. William Miller, III

#### 46th Test Group

Staff Sgt. Thomas Dulin II

#### 49th Aeromedical-Dental Squadron

Senior Airman Bianca Peterson  
Staff Sgt. Keith Laskey  
Tech. Sgt. Desmond Prosper

#### 49th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

Senior Airman Matthew Sealy  
Senior Airman Joseph Sullivan  
Staff Sgt. Steven Dickover  
Staff Sgt. Paul Dubovik  
Staff Sgt. Jocelyn St. Denis  
Tech. Sgt. Marty Haynes  
Master Sgt. Steven Harmon  
Master Sgt. Robert Sams

#### 49th Civil Engineer Squadron

Senior Airman Curtis Eichberg  
Senior Airman Joseph Ferrara  
Senior Airman Benjamin Lomas  
Staff Sgt. Curtis Barclay  
Tech. Sgt. Robert Wagner  
Master Sgt. Randall Allen  
Master Sgt. David Bash  
Master Sgt. Eddie Henry

#### 49th Communications Squadron

Staff Sgt. Melvin Davis  
Staff Sgt. Irvin Sweeting  
Tech. Sgt. Jeffrey Geddes  
Master Sgt. Richard Mele  
Master Sgt. David Samuels

#### 49th Contracting Squadron

Tech. Sgt. Michael Kraft

#### 49th Fighter Wing

Staff Sgt. George Balderrama  
Staff Sgt. Pebbles Gonzalez  
Staff Sgt. Edward Lecuyer

#### 49th Logistics Readiness Squadron

Senior Airman Quintin Galus  
Senior Airman Adrienne Phillips  
Senior Airman Dustin Treadwell  
Staff Sgt. Leroy Brooks  
Staff Sgt. Leonard Cole  
Master Sgt. Lula Latimore  
Master Sgt. Steve Lewis  
Master Sgt. Christopher Morman

#### 49th Maintenance Group

Staff Sgt. Michael Boschker  
Staff Sgt. Laura Kneuppel  
Staff Sgt. Ronald St. Denis  
Tech. Sgt. Steven Weipert  
Senior Airman Paul Smith

#### 49th Maintenance Operations Squadron

Master Sgt. Matthew Howell

#### 49th Maintenance Squadron

Senior Airman Fred Visser  
Staff Sgt. Marco Arredondo  
Staff Sgt. George Cutting  
Staff Sgt. Charles Echols  
Staff Sgt. David Hawkyard  
Staff Sgt. Shane Higgins  
Staff Sgt. Kevin Janssen  
Staff Sgt. Andrew Kemna  
Staff Sgt. Markus Schnellhammer

Staff Sgt. Joel Torrez  
Staff Sgt. Lorrie Ullmann  
Tech. Sgt. Darrell Harcourt  
Tech. Sgt. John Hurt  
Tech. Sgt. Bennie Robinson  
Tech. Sgt. William Strother  
Master Sgt. James Childs  
Master Sgt. Jerry Floyd  
Master Sgt. David Gonzales  
Master Sgt. Shawn Quarles  
Master Sgt. Steven Watson  
Master Sgt. Dale Witcowski  
Chief Master Sgt. Dean Hall

#### 49th Materiel Maintenance Group

Staff Sgt. Gavin Eckes

Master Sgt. Patrick Franzen

#### 49th Materiel Maintenance Support Squadron

Senior Airman Mike Alvarado  
Senior Airman Nikiya Roberson  
Staff Sgt. Dermont Nicholson  
Tech. Sgt. Bart Volentine  
Tech. Sgt. Darrin White  
Tech. Sgt. Ronald Wing II

#### 49th Materiel Maintenance Squadron

Airman 1st Class Hildo Gutierrez  
Senior Airman David McDuffie  
Staff Sgt. Kevin Hancock  
Staff Sgt. John McIntosh  
Staff Sgt. Donald Walborn  
Tech. Sgt. Janelle Asuncion  
Master Sgt. Bryan Lund  
Master Sgt. Edison Platt

#### 49th Medical Operations Squadron

Tech. Sgt. Glen Kuhn  
Tech. Sgt. Lorena Luebker  
Tech. Sgt. Joe Mahurin

#### 49th Medical Support Squadron

Staff Sgt. Immanuel Richardson

#### 49th Mission Support Squadron

Tech. Sgt. Suzanne Lule

#### 49th Operations Support Squadron

Staff Sgt. Richard Berry  
Staff Sgt. Thomas Caulson  
Tech. Sgt. Mitchell Robison  
Tech. Sgt. David Whitcare  
Tech. Sgt. Timothy Yelder  
Master Sgt. Eddie Hickman

#### 49th Security Forces Squadron

Staff Sgt. Joseph Casey  
Staff Sgt. Brent Paul  
Staff Sgt. Christopher Wilson  
Staff Sgt. Richard Yazzie III  
Tech. Sgt. Luis Thurlow

#### 49th Services Squadron

Senior Airman Omayra Nunez  
Staff Sgt. Juan Bender  
Staff Sgt. Kristy Hosby  
Tech. Sgt. Paul Boldonado

#### 586th Flight Test Squadron

Master Sgt. Ira Basinger

#### 8th Fighter Squadron

Master Sgt. Robert Revis

#### 9th Fighter Squadron

Senior Airman Jason Brown  
**Joint Communications Office**

Tech. Sgt. Scott Evaristo

Tech. Sgt. Patrick Waters

#### **Joint Task Force Six**

Tech. Sgt. Richard Engleby  
Master Sgt. Richard Blake

#### **Air Force Recruiting Service**

Senior Master Sgt. Michael Smith

... the following senior airman who graduated with Class 03C March 24

#### 49th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

Matthew Haro

Jonathan Patrick

#### 49th Maintenance Squadron

Fred Visser

#### 49th Communications Squadron

Jennifer Kelly

#### 8th Fighter Squadron

Amanda Rademacher

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# Orangeman turned airman cheers alma mater in 2003 NCAA basketball championship game

by Airman 1st Class Vanessa LaBoy  
49th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

When Syracuse took its first national title with the win over Kansas in the 2003 NCAA basketball championship, a Holloman senior NCO had a reason to boast.

Master Sgt. Calvin Perry, 49th Fighter Wing Command Post superintendent, is not only a huge fan of the Orangemen basketball squad, but also a former player.

"I was glued to the television during the championship game," Perry said. "Syracuse had a big lead in the beginning, but Kansas began tearing away at it toward the end. I was sweating bullets when they came within two points of Syracuse. But fortunately my alma mater pulled through, and I'm very proud of the coach and the team."

Perry played point guard for Syracuse from 1979 to 1983. After turning down a few athletic scholarships to other Division I schools for basketball he accepted an academic scholarship to Syracuse. His freshman year, he attended tryouts for the

basketball squad and out of 30 people, he was the only person selected for the team.

"During the tryout I just stuck to my basics," Perry said. "At 6-foot, I really had to show my skill versus the big guys on the court. Even during the season I had to better myself every day in practice to keep up."

Perry, who earned three letters while at Syracuse, had to constantly practice to make sure his lack of height didn't overshadow his skill, but practice wasn't the only challenge he had to face while playing college basketball.

"Playing basketball at Syracuse was a full time job," said Perry. "I had to balance school, family and basketball. From writing term papers to watching film to briefings on opponents, it was a very tough work schedule. Syracuse basketball was very time consuming, but I love the game, so I stuck it out."

Perry stuck it out for four straight winning seasons with the Orangemen. Their most successful season during his time there was his freshman year when his team made it to the NCAA Eastern regional tour-

nament championship where they lost to Iowa.

After college, Perry decided to put basketball on the back burner and began searching for job opportunities. Lack of jobs in his hometown of East Orange, N.J., and influence from friends and family led him to the Air Force.

"When I joined the Air Force I got a better understanding of responsibility," Perry said. "I already had discipline from my years playing basketball; the military polished it."

In the Air Force, Perry's basketball days weren't over. He played on a number of base teams, the eastern regional team for his command, a Desert Shield/Desert Storm team and continues to coach and play for the 49th Fighter Wing / Mission Support Squadron intramural and over-30 teams.

"I have learned a lot from Perry as a coach and a player," said Airman 1st Class Rhonnell Singleton, former FW/MSS teammate. "He is always relaxed and does not lose his composure when things get tough

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**"I've been playing for more than 30 years now. I think it's about time for me to give it up find a sport a little easier on the knees, maybe golf."**

-- Master Sgt. Calvin Perry  
49th Fighter Wing

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or aren't going our way. He has taught me going to the basket is good but go in control he always says 'if you drive to the basket out of control you will get hurt,' I've played with him for two years and he's an invaluable mentor."

"I'm grateful that I am still able to help others with their skills and with knowledge of the game," said Perry. "I've been playing for more than 30 years now. I think it's about time for me to give it up and find a sport a little easier on the knees, maybe golf."

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