



# Sunburst



Vol. 46 No. 48

Serving the Holloman Air Force Base community

Friday, Dec. 5, 2003

## Briefly

### Christmas tree lighting

The base Christmas tree will be lit at 5:30 p.m., today at the chapel. A brief ceremony featuring choir music and remarks from Brig. Gen. Jim Hunt, 49th Fighter Wing commander, will be followed by a visit from Santa Claus.

### Community Subscription Service

Subscribe today and get services and activity information sent directly to your personal e-mail account. Select only categories of interest. Log on at <http://css.acc.af.mil>.

### Wing run today

The wing run is 3 p.m., today at the track next to the Fitness and Sports Center.

### Inside the numbers

The chart below compares the percentage of the population who completed Air Force Climate surveys at Holloman versus Air Combat Command and the entire Air Force.



## Inside

- Sunburst survey results .. 6
- Crossword puzzle ..... 8
- Sports ..... 15



Photo by Laura Pellegrino

### Extreme makeover

Left to right: Tech. Sgt. Phil Kinney performs an inspection while Staff Sgts. Eric Garcia and John Bolz install a battery on an F-117A Nighthawk, nicknamed the 'Dragon.' The 'Dragon' is painted gray to test its abilities in daytime combat operations. See pages 10-11 for more 'Dragon' coverage.

## SNCO pins on unexpected star

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

Three months after returning from a deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, a Holloman senior NCO received a phone call from his former commander telling him he wasn't going to receive a meritorious service medal for his service in the desert.

He was getting a Bronze Star. Master Sgt. Richard Golden, 49th Logistics Readiness Squadron chief enlisted manager, was presented the award by Brig. Gen. Jim Hunt, 49th Fighter Wing commander. Golden was deployed to Seeb Air Base from Dec. 2002 to June 2003.

"I was really surprised. I didn't know I was even submitted for this

**see AWARD on Page 7**

## Command Chief retires after 26 years

by Airman Stephen Collier  
49th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

He started out as a kid from a poor family in the small town of Verona, N.J., but at 17, he made a choice that would affect the rest of his life.

In September 1977, with a high school diploma and a will to get out on his own, Command Chief Master Sgt.

**see CHIEF on Page 3**



**High: 60**  
**Low: 28**  
TODAY



**High: 63**  
**Low: 28**  
SATURDAY



**High: 68**  
**Low: 32**  
SUNDAY



**High: 61**  
**Low: 36**  
MONDAY

# DUI Update

**Days since last DUI:** 8  
**DUIs year to date:** 8  
**DUIs this time last year:** 7

**Last six DUIs:**

- 49 CS ..... Nov. 27
- \*49 CES ..... Nov. 26
- GAF ..... Nov. 23
- 49 MXS ..... Nov. 23
- 49 AMXS ..... Nov. 16
- 49 MXS ..... Nov. 4

# You can make a difference

COMMENTARY

by Staff Sgt. **Jamesha Jones**  
*11th Wing Reserve Affairs Office*

The AFRAB receives issues from people throughout the Air Force. Most of the input comes via e-mail.

they would have more knowledge to support the mission. After much debate, the recommendation from the board was to have AFRC step forward with a legislative initiative on the subject.

Have you ever had an issue or idea you wanted someone to take action on, but felt like nobody would listen to you? Then, if someone did listen to you, did you find them saying, "It's not going to happen because it would take an act of Congress to make those changes?"

The advisory board consists of active duty members, active Guard members, active Reserve members, individual mobilization augmentees, traditional reservists and civilians from different major commands, bases and Air Force specialty codes and grades. The members are subdivided into smaller working groups who are given specific issues that are submitted. These issues are then defined, different options for solutions are explained and a course of action is recommended.

Sometimes, we may not think our issues are very important, but unless we bring them to someone's attention, we will never know. Prior to attending the meeting, I had no knowledge of the AFRAB. This was my first experience, and I recommend it for junior enlisted troops because it provides the opportunity to see firsthand how policy changes take place. It also gives junior troops the chance to have their voices heard on issues that affect the Air Force community.

Regardless of past letdowns and frustration, I know from personal experience that you can make a difference.

My group was responsible for discussing many different issues. One particular issue we discussed came from a member requesting the Montgomery GI Bill cover certification testing for reservists. The member wanted to know why active-duty members can use the GI Bill to cover certification testing and reservists can't. The member believed by providing an incentive for reservists to get certification,

I walked away realizing I benefited from those who stood up in the past and fought for changes. Their perseverance paved the path we are on and it is up to each of us to get involved and stay the course. That is why it is important to understand the process and to know the "majority" of one can make a difference.

I had the honor of attending the Air Force Reserve Advisory Board recently.

The AFRAB is the primary forum to develop and implement clear policies for the Air Force Reserve. The board studies complicated Reserve issues, channels multiple-service initiatives to the Air Reserve Forces Policy Committee and helps develop proposed legislation of benefit to the Air Force Reserve.

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

**Calls:**  
**Year to date: 96**  
**Last week: 5**

(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.  
**Sunday** – Catholic Mass, 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.  
 • Sacrament of Penance, 4 p.m.

- General Protestant Worship Service, 11 a.m.
- Protestant Contemporary Worship Service, 6:30 p.m.
- Protestant Sunday school, 9:30 a.m. at HAFB Intermediate School.

## 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.
- **This is Team Holloman:** 7 a.m. and 12, 3 and 6 p.m.



### Holloman AFB Editorial Staff

**Brig. Gen. Jim Hunt** ..... Commander, 49th Fighter Wing  
**Maj. John Bryan** ..... Director, Public Affairs  
**2nd Lt. Nora Eyle** ..... Deputy Director, Public Affairs  
**Tech. Sgt. Paul Coupaud** ..... Chief, Internal Information  
**Airman 1st Class Vanessa LaBoy** ..... Editor  
**Airman Stephen Collier** ..... Staff Writer  
**Laura Pellegrino** ..... Staff Writer

The SUNBURST is published by Alamogordo Daily News, a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Air Force, under exclusive written contract with Holloman Air Force Base, N.M. This civilian enterprise Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the United States military services. Contents of the SUNBURST are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, Department of Defense or Department of the Air Force.

The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense, Department of the Air Force or Alamogordo Daily News, of the products or services advertised.

Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliations or any other nonmerit fact of the purchaser, user or patron.

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](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 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.

## 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](mailto: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.

### Appointment system update ...



**I would like to know if there are any plans to make changes to the current appointment system at the medical facility? Why does it take so long to actually speak to someone? Are there enough appointment clerks on staff to support the number of active duty and retired personnel eligible to use the facility? I tried to get an appointment Nov. 13 and gave up after 35 minutes of waiting. I have gotten through at other times, only to find out that all appointments for the day are filled. Why isn't possible to make an appointment for the next day or another day?**



Thank you for bringing this to my attention. We are in the process of evaluating training days and meeting times, along with adding appointment slots to increase access to care. We are making changes immediately when possible to ensure the appointment line is answered, and that there are appointments available for those who need medical attention. We've been experiencing problems with our phone systems whereby patients are being lost and their calls cannot be retrieved and we are working with the 49th Communications Squadron to correct these problems. I appreciate your patience with this matter and hope that medical services will continue to improve.

James Callander, 49th Fighter Wing command chief, left his entire life behind and crossed into the blue.

“I joined the Air Force for four reasons,” Callander said. “Patriotism to my country, to get out of my hometown, to see the world and to get an education.”

After announcing his decision to retire in early November, 10 months earlier than planned, Callander knew he had made a pretty tough decision.

“It’s tough to decide to retire,” the command chief said. “It wasn’t just my decision, but a family decision. I even talked the choice over with Brig. Gen. James Hunt, 49th Fighter Wing commander, before I went through with it. But a great opportunity came along to work for a company that hires a lot of men and women who have served their country in the past. It was hard to turn it down.”

While deciding to retire was a tough decision, joining the Air Force was a different matter altogether as Callander points out. What separates service members from everyday Americans is a desire to serve.

“Part of being an American is serving one’s country,” Callander said. “Whether you do it for two, four, 10 or even 30 years, every American should serve their country in some shape or form.”

Callander’s initial enlistment of four years passed by quickly. Even though he worked toward earning his degree, learning some discipline and maturing a little, Callander would have separated if it weren’t for the influence of a few more stripes.

“I was at the three-and-a-half year mark and talked with now-retired Chief Master Sgt. Robert Lewis, who was the senior enlisted advisor at Luke Air Force Base (Ariz.)” Callander said. “He blankly asked me, ‘What are you going to do?’ There was no job waiting for me and no degree to fall back on. With my go-to attitude and knowledge of my career field, he told me that I had a bright future ahead of me in the Air Force ... so, I stayed on.”

With an inspiration to do more, Callander’s career was impacted most by a position he was offered just after he began his second en-



Courtesy photo

**Command Chief Master Sgt. James Callander shakes hands with Airman 1st Class Maki Jones, 49th Logistics Readiness Squadron, during a dorm of the quarter inspection.**

listment.

“In 1982, I was selected to be a professional military education instructor,” Callander said. “I was in the classroom teaching non-commissioned officers how to be NCOs. During that four-year period, I found a career for myself and that position set me on the track to where I am today.”

Since then, Callander said he has seen the Air Force change to what he considers to be ‘kinder and gentler.’

“Today, we are afraid to get into folks’ business,” Callander said. “It used to be that supervisors knew what their people did on the weekends, who they were dating and their favorite sports team. We have to remember that even though we are doing a job, those people are human beings, who have good and bad days.”

Early on in his career, Callander received advice from senior leaders that still holds true today.

“It’s all about the three ‘Bs’,” he said. “Be on time, be brief and be gone. This means do what you have been trained to do and do it with a positive attitude. Life is all about attitude, not aptitude. This has stuck with me since day one.”

Brig. Gen. Jim Hunt, 49th Fighter Wing commander, said the 49th Fighter Wing is losing the finest command chief master sergeant in the Air Force.

“We are going to miss him,” Hunt said. “We are also going to miss the excellent example he continuously sets for enlisted and officers alike. We truly wish him well in his new career.”

With a new career in front of him, Callander said he is still going to miss military service.

“I’m going to miss putting the uniform on every day. Little things like coming to work at 6:30 in the morning and working on weekends - I’m going to miss that. Even the look on people’s faces when they come home after a deployment will be sadly missed, too.”

With all his years in service, Callander said the Air Force owes him nothing.

“It’s made me a model citizen; that’s what America is all about. I went to school, got promoted, received benefits, a paycheck and security. I got married and saw the world. Thanks to the Air Force, I got to experience all of these. And after 26 years, it’s made me a better person.”



The 49th Security Forces Squadron handled the following incidents Nov. 24 to Monday.

### **Tickets**

Security forces issued seven tickets from Nov. 24 through Sunday: two for failure to stop, two for driving under the influence of alcohol, one for an inoperable tail light, one for an inoperable license plate light and one for failure to stop or yield at an intersection.

### **Property loss, damage or theft**

- Nov. 24 – An airman reported damage to his privately owned vehicle.
- Nov. 24 – A senior NCO reported he cracked the window of a government-owned vehicle when he knocked on it.
- Nov. 25 – An airman reported damage to a POV he had been taking care of.
- Nov. 26 – An NCO reported an accident between two POVs.
- Nov. 28 – An NCO reported his Christmas lights were damaged at his on-base residence.
- Nov. 29 – An airman reported his wallet, containing his common access ID card, driver's license and ATM card missing.
- Nov. 30 – An airman reported seven watches, two necklaces, one locket, two earrings and one bracelet missing from his dorm room.

### **Patrol response**

- Nov. 24 – An NCO reported classified information had been accidentally downloaded onto an unclassified computer.
- Nov. 26 – A government-service employee reported an airman he worked with was threatening employees within his work place.
- Nov. 26 – A civilian employee had his driver's license and base driving privileges revoked after he was found asleep emitting a strong odor of alcohol in his POV.
- Nov. 26 – An airman was read his rights under Article 31 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice after his breathalyzer alcohol content was found to be over the legal limit for operating a vehicle.
- Nov. 27 – A civilian reported she had been assaulted by an airman.
- Nov. 28 – An airman reported damage to his personal and government property within his dorm room.
- Nov. 28 – An Army specialist reported observing an individual driving on Highway 70 toward Holloman was swerving on the road. Security forces responded and pulled over the individual at the visitor center. A patrolman from the New Mexico State Police arrived and assumed control of the situation.
- Nov. 29 – A special agent reported information about suspicious activity adjacent to BEAR Base.
- Dec. 1 – Commissary cleaning crew members reported they heard noises that sounded like unknown personnel running across the roof.



## Renter's Insurance: Affordable peace of mind

by **Capt. Brandon Jaroch**  
*49th Fighter Wing Legal Office*

Renter's insurance is a topic most people don't talk about until something terrible happens, and then it is usually too late.

Since the recent floods, fires, etc. around the country, the legal office has seen an increase in members asking how they can protect their personal property.

In deciding the need for renter's insurance, the first question should be, "Can a person afford to replace everything they own if it is damaged or stolen?" In most cases, the answer is no. However, renter's insurance, which can be purchased inexpensively from most insurance companies, can provide that protection.

There are two basic types of coverages: actual value and replacement value.

Actual value coverage insures property for the amount it is worth at the time of damage or theft. If a 5-year-old stereo is stolen, this coverage pays the amount the stereo is worth today.

Replacement value coverage insures the amount it would cost to replace the personal property with brand new items. That same stereo is covered for the cost to replace it with a new stereo of like value and quality. Replacement value policies are slightly more costly, but provide coverage to purchase new items to replace things damaged, or if the rented home is unlivable after a fire or flood.

Policies can also be specifically tailored to unique property that is owned, like a rare stamp collection. Renter's insurance can also pay hotel expenses or cover relocation expenses. Other options for renter's insurance include named peril coverage that provides for specific events like floods and lightning.

Liability coverage can also be included in a renter's insurance policy to protect the tenant in the event that someone is injured in the leased apartment or base quarters even if there was some negligence on the tenants. The coverage pays for the actual medical costs of the injured person up to the policy limits.

The legal office also gets many inquiries from base housing residents on whether they need renter's insurance. Military members can be reimbursed for damage or theft to property located on military installations by the government in ways similar to the renter's insurance actual value coverage. According to Air Force Instructions, the base claims office will generally use the lost or damaged item's fair market value to determine the amount to be reimbursed. There are also dollar limits on certain property items that limit the amount of payment. If there is a theft, the government weighs any negligence on the tenant's part in deciding the claim's outcome.

Members residing off-base should know that leases are generally not covered by the landlord's insurance policies in the event of a natural disaster or burglary. In most cases, the landlord's insurance only covers the actual building or property that is owned as long as they are not at fault for the damage. This means the apartment building would be covered, but all personal property is not.

Renter's insurance is relatively inexpensive and can be purchased from almost every insurance company. The best idea is to shop around and find a policy that suits family needs and property type.

For more information about renter's insurance, contact an insurance company or the legal office at 572-7217.

# Sunburst readers give feedback, suggestions

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

The votes are in, the numbers have been crunched and the results are overwhelmingly positive after the recent Sunburst newspaper readership survey.

More than 400 Sunburst readers completed the survey and gave their feedback on issues ranging from writing and photography to advertising and delivery.

“Surveys give our readers a chance to tell us how we’re doing and to make suggestions,” said Maj. John Bryan, director of the 49th Fighter Wing Public Affairs office. “The newspaper has undergone a lot of changes in the staff members and contract since last year, so we’re especially interested in what Team Holloman has to say.”

In addition to filling in the rating blocks of the survey, nearly 80 people also left comments about the newspaper. The constructive comments fell into two main categories: advertising and distribution, and newspaper content. The advertising and distribution comments centered around the number and quality of advertisements as well as delivery issues on base. Respondents gave views on issues such as the amount of Air Force news in each issue, suggested additions and story ideas.

“Some people might not understand how Holloman’s paper is produced,” said Bryan. “We are a commercial enterprise newspaper, which means the base contracts with a newspaper publisher to

print the newspaper free of charge for the base. The publisher sells advertising for each issue to offset their expenses to print the paper. Those ads aren’t supposed to exceed more than 60 percent of the newspaper. Our contract here is currently with the Alamogordo Daily News.”

The major said the PA staff works closely with the ADN to ensure advertisements meet Air Force standards.

“We know readers are concerned with the amount and type of advertisements in the paper,” the major said. “While we can’t ‘ban’ an ad for what someone might think is a bad influence, we do try to ensure certain criteria are met – whether it be the amount of advertising in the paper or a statement showing an advertiser’s interest rates.”

Some survey respondents also commented on classified ads and delivery issues. Whether someone isn’t getting a paper at their base housing residence, a unit is getting the wrong amount of papers delivered, or someone’s classified ad had a misprint, the major said the best course of action is to call the PA office and report it.

“We can’t fix it if we don’t know about it,” he said. “Our publisher is incredibly responsive whenever we need a tweak to the delivery route or amounts and they can ensure the changes get made. We’re also creating an electronic form that will give people on base another option in submitting a free classified ad for the paper. People should remember that these free ads are run on a space-available

basis.”

Survey respondents commented on the editorial content of the newspaper. While there were some comments the staff has already acted on, many comments cancelled each other out. For example, for every person who said there was too much Air Force news, another said there wasn’t enough.

According to Airman 1st Class Vanessa LaBoy, editor of the Sunburst, an Air Force newspaper is, by definition, an information tool for the wing commander. As such, the Sunburst’s primary mission is to recognize individuals and units, keep service members up-to-date on current base events, and give readers a cross-section of Air Force news. Each issue of the Sunburst aims to offer a combination of local, command and Air Force news, with the emphasis being on local news.

“With so many worthy events happening all the time reader input is critical in our ability to cover events,” LaBoy said. “Some great stories never get printed because no one brought it to our attention.”

“When people bring their personal or unit accomplishments to our attention, it allows us to recognize those accomplishments,” LaBoy said. “Our space is very limited each week, so the sooner we know about an event or an achievement, the better – that way we can put it in the newspaper schedule and budget the space to cover it.”

There are times, she added, when some content isn’t appropriate for the base newspaper. With a

few survey participants commenting about covering public school events, thank you letters, downtown event information and local community issues. The primary mission of the newspaper is to serve the official information needs of the active duty, Guard, Reserve, retirees, Department of Defense civilians, and the family members of each of those groups.

LaBoy said the staff understands people’s desire to have other information covered, but there usually isn’t enough space to allow that type of coverage.

“We’ve resurrected a portion of the newspaper where we used to run some area events that people here might be interested in,” she said. “We try to publish information from the schools when we know about events and when space is available, but our space has to be dedicated to Air Force issues first.”

The major said he was thrilled with the great feedback from survey respondents, and added that the staff is already looking to implement changes over the coming months.

“There were some great comments,” he said. “Unfortunately, some people didn’t leave contact information with their comment, so it’s difficult to get more information from them. There will be changes in the paper over the next few months and we hope that will address the issues we discovered through the survey. Only by working together can the Sunburst continue to represent Holloman as an award-winning publication.”

## Sunburst stats

*The following are statistics from the Sunburst survey.*

The writing in the Sunburst is easy to understand.

- Agree: 93%
- Neither: 4%
- Disagree: 3%

The Sunburst keeps me fully informed on Air Force news.

- Agree: 56%
- Neither: 23%
- Disagree: 21%

The Sunburst keeps me fully informed about base events.

- Agree: 84%
- Neither: 7%
- Disagree: 10%

Overall, the information in the Sunburst is accurate.

- Agree: 83%
- Neither: 12%
- Disagree: 5%

Where do you get copies of the Sunburst?

- Base residence/dorm: 25%
- BX/Commissary: 16%
- Work area: 43%
- Dining hall: 1%
- Clinics: 3%
- Club/library/SVS areas: 3%
- Other: 8%

How often do you read the Sunburst?

- Weekly: 80%
- Every other issue: 13%
- Once a month: 4%
- Less than monthly: 2%

How often do your family members read the Sunburst (335)

- Weekly: 58%
- Every other week: 11%
- Once a month: 8%
- Less than monthly: 11%
- Never: 12%
- Other: 2%



*The following are comments made by readers about Sunburst visual presentation and newspaper content.*

“Outstanding product, professional staff of hard workers. It’s not easy to hold your day to day work up everyone’s comments and

criticism. You all do a great job.”

“The Sunburst would be more effective with a livelier layout, a bit more visual ‘punch,’ and more balanced content.”

“I suggest more articles on

hobbies/recreation and how successfully adjusted Holloman personnel spend their off-duty time enjoying the local area.”

“I truly enjoy reading Sunburst. My husband and I enjoy the stories and like looking in the classifieds for great on-base bargains.”

“Great paper, but I’d like to see more AF News in it.”

“There is a lot of newsworthy stories that take place

around the base every week. I know advertisements are a big part of how the paper is supported but seems that the ads far outweigh the “kudos” and stories that could fill those spaces.”

“The Sunburst is great the way it is. I don’t feel that it needs to be changed. It is clear that a lot of work goes into its production and the staff should be commended for the quality of the paper.”

# Holloman Hero

## Tech. Sgt. Martin Venegas 49th Civil Engineer Squadron

**Duty title:** NCO in charge of pavements and equipment construction

**Time in service:** 17 years and two months

**Time at Holloman:** 10 years

**Personal and career goals:**

My career goal is to become a first sergeant.

**Why is serving in the Air Force important to you?**

The Air Force gives me the opportunity to make this world a better place for my kids and the kids of tomorrow.

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

I don't really have just one accomplishment that stands out. There have been quite a few. I've completed many of my accomplishments by taking pride in what I do and living life to the fullest each

day because I never know if I will wake up tomorrow.

**Core value portrayed: "Excellence in all we do"**

Tech. Sgt. Venegas portrays a positive image of an Air Force NCO in charge, a mentor, and as a base and community leader. His contributions as a volunteer and involved parent with local schools and sports organizations have positively impacted the lives of hundreds of teenagers and adults alike. As a leader he has achieved the respect of his troops who look to him for guidance and supervision



Photo by Airman Stephen Collier

that contributes to their development as future NCO's.

– Lt. Col. Andrew Landoch  
49th Maintenance Squadron commander

### AWARD

from Page 1

award," Golden said. "It was such an honor. I had no idea what we were doing there warranted such a medal."

Capt. Daniel Lemon, former commander of the 320th LRS, submitted Golden for the award.

"Master Sgt. Golden's attention to detail and understanding of the supply system enabled us to receive resources in minimal time," Lemon said. "If we needed mission-capable supplies tracked and shipped to us, he was the person who could make it happen."

Additionally, he personally reorganized the layout of facilities and combined two warehouses to create 40 percent more space for larger aircraft parts.

"When we came the warehouse was a mess," Golden

said. "We were unable to locate a lot of things. I bought shelving and we completely reorganized everything. It took a couple of weeks, but it led to a 99.2-percent inventory accuracy rate."

His leadership and knowledge allowed his small team to process over 5,300 receipts monthly without a single discrepancy.

"One of the reasons Capt. Lemon said he was able to get me the award was because U.S. Air Force Central Command Air Forces never had to worry about our base. They always knew operations were flowing smoothly at Seeb," Golden said.

Golden provided in-transit visibility of 70 C-130 aircraft engines valued at \$53 million and over 250 mission-capable parts from the United States to the area of responsibility. He masterfully eliminated five days off of the waiting

period in the airlift pipeline of these critical assets, leading to an impressive mission-capable rate of more than 93 percent.

"The parts we needed for the C-130 were taking longer to get to us because they were in customs for seven to 10 days," Golden said. "We worked with FedEx and the embassy to cut the time from seven days to two-and-a-half days."

"Golden came in early, stayed late -- whatever was required to get the mission accomplished," Lemon said. "He never limited himself to just supply duties and he ensured our forward deployed forces received quality of life supplies in minimal time. He always went above and beyond. Rich consistently balanced the operational commitment with the needs of his personnel; he never missed a beat."

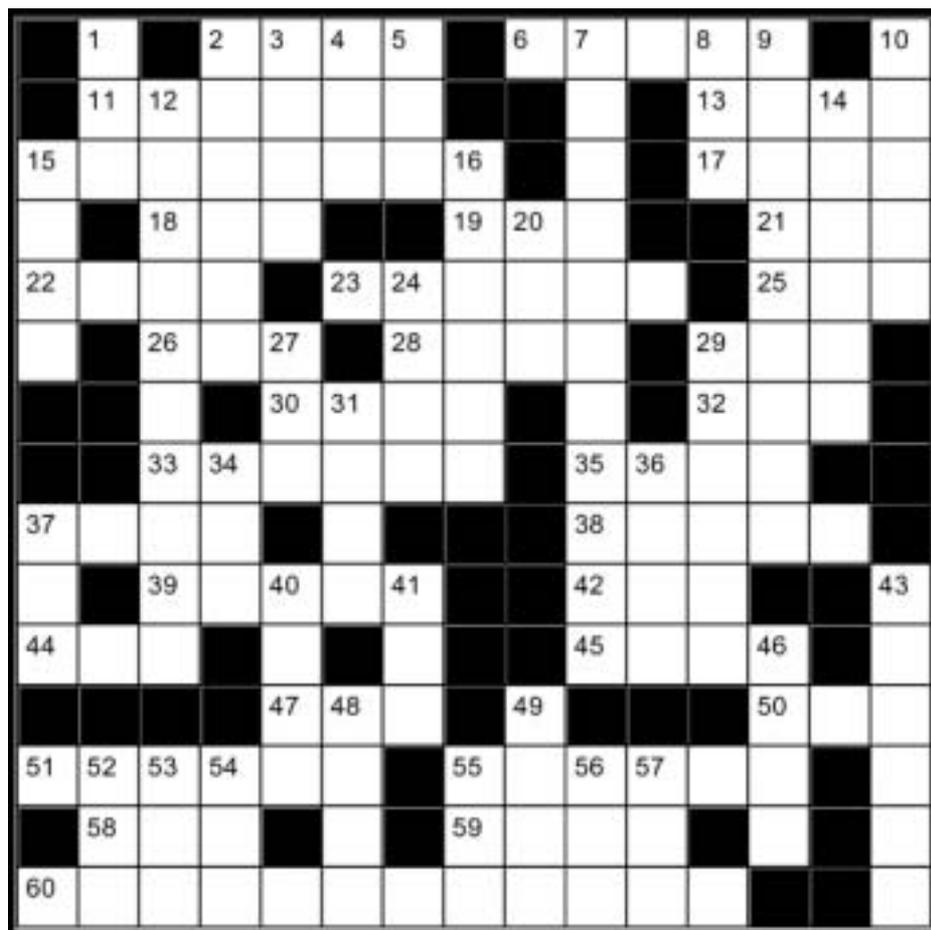
# AF Crossword: Flying into the Blue

## ACROSS

2. Actress Ward
6. Florida AFB home to 33rd FW; a/c tail marking of EG
11. \_\_\_\_\_ de corps; service pride and loyalty
13. U.S. currency coin
15. KC-10
17. Periods
18. Fighter pilot expert
19. Sphere
21. Owns
22. Actress Petty
23. B-1B
25. Temp. military duty
26. Headed
28. Type of cheese
29. Comedian Margaret
30. Champion
32. Rule
33. F-16
35. Ponderous
37. Abominable snowman
38. Duties
39. Mistake
42. See
44. Combat
45. abcd...jklm....????
47. 2,000 lbs
50. Zero
51. F-15s
55. B-2
58. Formerly
59. Peers; as in court
60. KC-135

## DOWN

1. Superman's nemesis
2. Money in coin
3. Sea eagle
4. Top
5. Dined
7. C-17
8. Actress Lupino
9. F-117
10. Sadlier novel, \_\_\_\_\_ Conway: or *The Irish Girl in America*
12. C-141
14. Lea
15. Fashionable magazine
16. Brazilian who opened country interior; Candido \_\_\_\_\_
20. Record company
24. Prefix meaning "air"
27. FedEx rival
29. Clothing spot
31. Greek nymph
34. Breath
36. Installs
37. Shrub tree
40. By memory
41. Galloped
43. C-5
46. Do \_\_\_\_\_ others ....
48. Capital of Norway
49. Gyrated
52. Picnic pest
53. Country between Ned. and Pol.
54. Actress Thompson
55. AF lawyer
56. Bother
57. Bread type



See Page 15 for the solution

## FSC

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

### Monday

• Spouse employment workshop: 1 to 2:30 p.m.

### Tuesday

• Basic investment class: 8 to 11 a.m.

### Wednesday

• Advanced investment class: 8 to 11 a.m.

### Thursday

• Thrift savings plan/REDUX: 8 to 10 a.m.

• Customer service training: 2 to 3:30 p.m.

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).

## Spread the Word campaign

The Spread the Word campaign is at the following times:

• Noon to 4 p.m., Tuesday at the base theater

• 9 a.m., Wednesday at the base theater.

All officers are encouraged to attend.

## Thrift Store hours

The Thrift Store is open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays. Consignment hours are 10 a.m. to noon, Tuesdays and Thursdays. The store is run by volunteers only, and the consignment desk will close if manning falls short.

## Free tutoring

The Company Grade Officer Council offers free tutoring from 4 to 6 p.m., every Tuesday in the base library's group study rooms. The focus is on college level math, science and English in a small group setting, but the group will try to accommodate other subjects as well.

For more information, call 2nd Lt. Chris Wojtko at 572-5038.

## Car seat safety training

Family Advocacy Outreach Prevention Services has free car seat safety technician training Feb. 25 to 28 in Las

Cruces. Trainees will be certified by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. Registration ends Dec. 12.

For more information, call Kim McLemore at 572-7022.

## Sunday brunch

The Holloman Officers' Club hosts a brunch from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. every Sunday and is open to all ranks.

## AA meetings

There are open meetings of Alcoholics Anonymous from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., every Monday, Wednesday and Friday in the conference room of the base chapel.

## Red Cross

The Red Cross schedule of events is as follows:

• Community first aid and safety: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday in Alamogordo.

• Basic first aid: 9 a.m. to noon, Tuesday in Alamogordo.

• Adult cardio pulmonary resuscitation: 1 to 3 p.m., Dec. 16 in Alamogordo.

• Infant and child cardio pulmonary resuscitation: 9 a.m. to noon, Dec. 18 in Alamogordo.

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

## HazMart giveaway

Paints and other items are available for free issue at the HazMart. The program allows authorized users access to a variety of hazardous chemical items free of charge. To participate, your shop must be authorized for the item and the item must be in HazMart's free issue area.

For more information, call the HazMart at 572-7899, 572-3093 or 572-7608.

## Red Cross hours

The Southwestern New Mexico Chapter of the American Red Cross is responsible for the operation of the Red Cross office on Holloman beginning Dec. 15.

The Holloman Red Cross office will not relocate. It is still in building 222, Room 225. The hours of operation are:

• Monday: Closed

• Tuesday: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

• Wednesday: Closed

• Thursday: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

• Friday: 8 a.m. to noon

There will continue to be 24 hour telephone coverage.

The Alamogordo



Photo by Laura Pellegrino

## Apache war dance

**Nakeeya Monte performs a war dance with members of the Apache Dance Group of Mescalero Schools to celebrate November as Native American Heritage Month.**

office, located at 700 E. First St. #765, is open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday through Friday.

For more information, call the Holloman Red Cross at 572-7066 or the Alamogordo Red Cross at 437-4421.

## HESO

Holloman's Enlisted Spouses Orga-

nization meets at 6 p.m., the second Tuesday of the month in the community center.

## Football Frenzy

The Oasis Enlisted Club has Football Frenzy from 5 to 10 p.m., every Monday night.

For more information, call 572-7378.

## B On the BIG SCREEN

### Kill Bill (R)

7 p.m., today

### The Texas Chainsaw Massacre (R)

7 and 10 p.m., Saturday

### In the Cut (R)

7 p.m., Sunday and Thursday



**DOUBLE TRUCK**

**DOUBLE TRUCK**

# Tax statements available on myPay

Defense Finance and Accounting Service officials have compiled a schedule of dates when service members, military retirees and annuitants and defense civilian employees can access their tax statements through myPay.

Military members and Department of Defense civilian employees will have access to view, save and print their tax statements from myPay at <https://mypay.dfas.mil>. For assistance, users can call myPay customer support at (800) 390-2348.

MyPay provides a secure method for users to manage their pay account information, officials said. Available around the clock, customers can make changes online, instead of visiting a finance office.

"During 2003, more than 1.2 million users viewed their tax statements on myPay, and we continue to encourage users to view and print their statements online," said Pat Shine, director of DFAS' military and civilian pay ser-

vices business line. "Timely access to W-2s and other tax statements is another way myPay gives users control of their pay information."

## Inside the story

Officials are projecting the tax statements will be posted on myPay during the following periods.

- Military annuitants: Dec. 13 to 18
- DOD civilians: Dec. 24 to 29
- Army, Air Force and Navy reserve components: Dec. 26 to Jan. 1
- Military retirees: Jan. 1 to 5
- Marine Corps active duty and Reserve: Jan. 13 to 21
- Army, Air Force and Navy active duty: Jan. 16 to 26

# Air Force-Navy develop joint radio system

The Air Force and Navy have agreed to merge their two formerly separate programs for the acquisition of improved radio systems.

The result will be the development of the Joint Tactical Radio System, a single family of radios designed to replace incompatible units in use across the services.

Senior Department of Defense leaders have hailed the initiative as a victory for jointness and interoperability among the separate armed services.

Increasing jointness across the armed forces is a key tenet of Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld's transformation goals.

Combining Air Force and Navy efforts in the JTRS realm "will yield large dividends for the Navy, the Air Force and DOD in general," said Dr. Marvin Sambur, assistant secretary of the Air Force for acquisition.

Such collaboration "will ensure that a truly joint-radio system is efficiently developed for our aerospace and maritime forces," he said.

Working with the Air Force in developing the radio system "can assure interoperability, reduce development costs and lower acquisition costs," said John J. Young Jr., the assistant secretary of the Navy for research, development and acquisition.

"We can be certain that our warfighters will be able to easily communicate in the joint warfighting environment that Secretary Rumsfeld is creating," he said.

The joint Air Force-Navy initiative is expected to produce more than 17,000 units, said Air Force spokeswoman Maj. Cheryl Law.

Initial deliveries of the new radios are expected to begin in late 2008, she said. (AFP)



Photo by Staff Sgt. Molly Gilliam

## Ready to go

The last Atlas IIAS rocket launched Dec. 2 from Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif. It carried a National Reconnaissance Office payload. The space launch complex will be refurbished to accommodate the Atlas V rocket. Atlas V is one of two evolved expendable launch vehicles set to provide medium and heavy space-lift capability.

## Online voting offers alternative

by Staff Sgt. Jeff Schoen  
Air Force Reserve Command  
Public Affairs

Potentially hundreds of airmen serving worldwide may be eligible to vote online in 2004 based on a major government initiative to simplify the absentee-ballot process.

The secure electronic registration and voting experiment program is part of the Federal Voting Assistance Program. Program organizers hope the experiment will encourage as many as 100,000 absentee voters, including reservists stationed worldwide, to register and vote in state primaries and the general election in 2004.

The initiative is designed to improve access to the polls for military people and American citizens overseas who have had difficulty receiving and returning ballots in the past because of mail transit time and their mobility. In 2000, a post-election survey found that almost 30 percent either did not

receive a ballot at all or received it too late.

"It is extremely important for us to ensure that every servicemember is afforded the opportunity to vote," said Lt. Col. Deborah Divich, voting assistance officer for the Air Force Reserve Command.

So far, more than 50 counties from seven states are expected to participate in the online program. They include Arkansas, Florida, Hawaii, North Carolina, South Carolina, Utah and Washington.

Counties participating are available online at [www.serveusa.gov](http://www.serveusa.gov).

If a county or state is not participating in the online program, people can still cast their vote by submitting a federal post card application to their local election official, Divich said. Every wing in the Air Force has a voting assistance officer to help servicemembers with the absentee voting process, she said.

For help filling out the application, people should contact their unit voting assistance officer or visit [www.fvap.gov](http://www.fvap.gov).

## What's going on in the Tularosa Basin and beyond ...

### **The Nutcracker**

The Las Cruces Chamber Ballet performs "The Nutcracker Ballet" at 7 p.m., Dec. 18, 19 and 20, and 2 p.m. Dec. 21. at the New Mexico State University Music Center Recital Hall. Tickets are \$12, \$15 and \$18 at the Pan American Ticket Office, phone number (505) 646-1420.

For more information, call Michele's Dance Academy at (505) 527-1893.

### **Christmas parade of lights**

This year's Christmas parade, "A Season of Uniting Families in Prayer for World Peace," begins at dusk, Saturday.

For more information, call the Chamber of Commerce at 437-6120.

### **Breakfast with Santa**

Alamogordo Noon Kiwanis sponsors a breakfast with Santa from 7 to 10 a.m., Saturday. Tickets are \$4 for ages 12 and over and \$2 for children under 12.

For more information, call

Wes Blanchard at 434-1874.

### **NMSU-A chorale**

New Mexico State University Alamogordo performs "Singing Through 20 Years of Christmas" at 7:30 p.m., Saturday, and 2 p.m., Sunday at the Flickinger Center. Tickets are \$5 for adults and \$4 for children.

### **Festival of carols**

The Academy of Ballet performs "A Festival of Carols" at 7:30 p.m., Dec. 12 and 13 at the Flickinger Center. Tickets are \$7 for adults and \$5 for children.

For more information, call 437-2202.

### **Christmas market**

There is a German Christmas Market from 2 to 9 p.m., Saturday at the German Community Center, 1311 Gateway Dr. German cake, coffee, fishrolls, waffles, bratwurst, peasoup, drinks, music, woodworks and pictures are some of the items available at the event.



Photo by Airman Stephan Collier

### **Who called it?**

Second Lts. Jason Cloud and Mark Allard, 46th Test Group, reach for a frisbee during their ultimate frisbee match-up with 49th Civil Engineer Squadron. The game was played on the field's new astroturf, which was finished Nov. 20



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Paul Coupaud

## Back it up

Brittany Gillium, Holloman Middle School's 8th grade center, drives against a defender from Mountain View M.S., during their 20-19 win, Nov. 18. The Falcons are 3-0 after taming Cloudcroft's Lady Bears 36-10 Tuesday.

*Crossword solution,*  
from Page 8





Photo by Airman Stephen Collier

## Comin' at ya

Left to right: William Coburn of team "Don't Bother" uses his fist to knock the ball over to defender Chad Ohelo of Team Asuncion during their teams' matchup Nov. 24 at the Sports and Fitness Center. For more information, contact Staff Sgt Travis Henderson at 572-3911.

# Sports Briefs

## Fitness Center Happenings

### Monday

11 a.m. - Step Aerobics  
4:30 p.m. - Yoga

### Tuesday

5 p.m. - Step Aerobics  
6 p.m. - Hap-Ki Do

### Wednesday

11 a.m. - Step Aerobics  
8:30 p.m. - Martial Arts

### Thursday

11 a.m. - Step Aerobics  
5 p.m. - Aquarobics

### Friday

5:30 p.m. - Cardio intervals  
6:30 p.m. - Kuk Sool Wan

## Winter Golf Schedule

### Dec. 11 Tee-off

#### *Hole 1*

49 CS vs. 49 CES B

#### *Hole 2*

49 SVS vs. 49 LRS B

#### *Hole 4*

49 FW/MSS vs. 49 MMG B

#### *Hole 5*

49 CES A vs. 49 MXS

#### *Hole 8*

49 OSS vs. 49 MDG

#### *Hole 9*

49 MMG A vs. 49 LRS A

## Sport Events

### Monthly Wing Run

3 p.m., Dec. 5 at the Sports and Fitness Center football field

### Holiday Fun Run

11:30 a.m., Dec. 11 at the Sports and Fitness Center. First 50 runners receive T-Shirt free

# TOUCHDOWN CHALLENGE

The Touchdown Challenge is a weekly competition between the 49th Fighter Wing, its groups and Holloman tenant units. A different person from each unit makes the picks each week. The winner each week gets a free meal from the Oasis Enlisted Club. Congratulations to Master Sgt. Cynthia Ward with eight correct picks last week..



## This week's games:

### NFL

- Bucs at Saints
- Seahawks at Vikings
- Colts at Titans
- Bengals at Ravens
- Cowboys at Eagles
- Dolphins at Patriots
- Jets at Bills
- Redskins at Giants
- Chargers at Lions
- Texans at Jaguars
- Raiders at Steelers
- Bears at Packers

### FW



**Tech. Sgt.  
Jose Bautista**

**NFL:** Saints, Seahawks, Colts, Ravens, Eagles, Patriots, Jets, Giants, Lions, Texans, Steelers, Packers

### OG



**Capt. Kelly  
Witcher**

**NFL:** Bucs, Seahawks, Titans, Ravens, Eagles, Dolphins, Jets, Giants, Lions, Jaguars, Steelers, Packers

### MDG



**Senior Airman  
Cesar Valverde**

**NFL:** Saints, Vikings, Colts, Ravens, Cowboys, Patriots, Jets, Giants, Lions, Jaguars, Steelers, Packers

### MXG



**Senior Airman  
Matthew Hagee**

**NFL:** Bucs, Vikings, Colts, Bengals, Cowboys, Patriots, Jets, Giants, Chargers, Texans, Raiders, Packers

### MMG



**Staff Sgt.  
Payton Barnett**

**NFL:** Bucs, Vikings, Titans, Ravens, Cowboys, Patriots, Bills, Giants, Chargers, Texans, Steelers, Packers

### MSG



**Senior Airman  
Henry Andino**

**NFL:** Bucs, Vikings, Titans, Ravens, Cowboys, Dolphins, Jets, Redskins, Chargers, Jaguars, Raiders, Packers

### GAF



**Hartmut  
Wiegmann**

**NFL:** Saints, Vikings, Colts, Ravens, Eagles, Patriots, Bills, Giants, Lions, Jaguars, Steelers, Packers