



# Sunburst



Vol. 46 No. 20

Serving the Holloman Air Force Base community

Friday, May 23, 2003

## Remember Them...

Memorial Day 2003

*Let us give thanks this day*

*to all those brave*

*who paid the highest cost.*



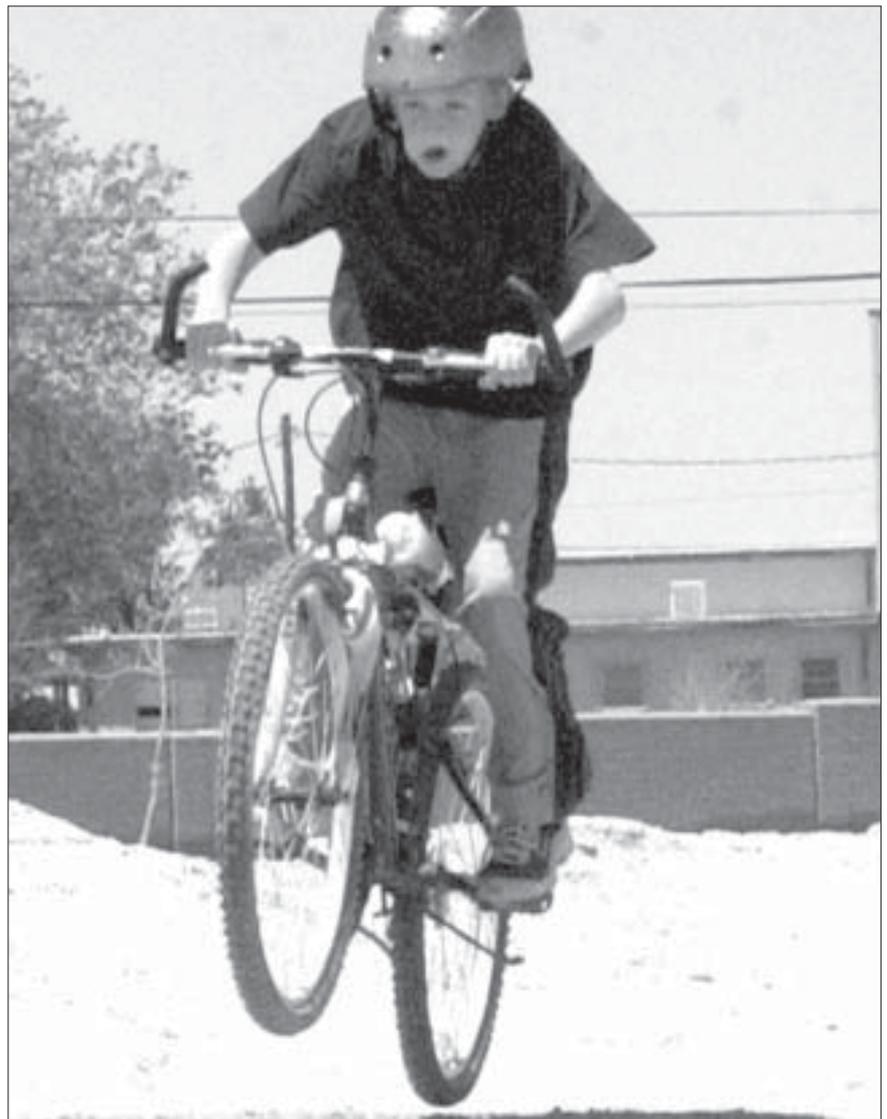


Photo by Airman 1st Class Vanessa LaBoy

## Hot rod

**Tray Hinz shows his bicycle motocross skills at Holloman's new Desert Bull BMX track located across from the Youth Center. The half-acre track opened Saturday to people of all ages for nonmotorized bikes. Children under 10 must have parental supervision. Personal protective equipment is required. If people have interests they'd like to see on base, call the 49th Mission Support Group at 572-5541.**

# Civilians to see adjustment bill in long-term premiums

The Office of Personnel Management has announced some employees enrolled in the Long Term Care insurance program may soon receive an adjustment bill for premiums that were unable to be collected via payroll deduction.

Missed payments have occurred for various reasons, such as an employee entering into a nonpay status; a paycheck insufficient to cover the premium; or a timing issue with a particular pay period preventing normal payroll deduction, officials said.

Employees will be billed directly for missed premiums.

The adjustment bills will not affect current or future premiums which continue through payroll deduction.

The system cannot collect past due premiums through payroll deduction.

Employees who receive an adjustment bill and have questions should call LTC Partners at (800) 582-3337 or hearing impaired TTY (800) 843-3557 from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., weekdays and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturdays, eastern time.

# Civilian wins AF award

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

A 49th Materiel Maintenance Support Squadron civilian won an Air Force award recently.

Robert Rowe, material handler, won the 2002 Air Force Supply Technician Civilian of the year.

“My squadron had a special commander’s call and announced that I had won,” he said. “I was totally in awe.”

Basic Expeditionary Airfield Resource troops work around the world to support contingency operations. BEAR Base assists with base and local functions providing shelters and tents. They are usually the first people to deploy to build a tent city.

“Everyone on my team deserves an award,” he said. “Winning awards isn’t just working hard with your team; it also depends on your supervisors.”

Harvest Falcon NCOIC Tech. Sgt. Allen Pratt said Rowe is a hard-working individual who strives to his best.

“This award winner is a dedicated professional who strives for perfection in all endeavors,” Pratt said. “He’s truly deserving of this award. His professionalism and positive attitude lead the way in our squadron, across the base and throughout the Air Force. We’re proud to have him on our BEAR Base team.”

According to Rowe, his supervisors have stepped up and gone the extra mile by submitting him for this award.

“Sometimes just saying ‘job well done’ goes a long way,” Rowe said. “I’m honored to have been submitted and even more honored to be named best in the Air Force. Without a total team effort in all endeavors within our BEAR Base compound, I wouldn’t have had a chance. This award lets our team know what we do is important.”



Photo by Laura Pellegrino

## Power Hour pays off

Third grader Ryan Braigel won a Play Station 2 for earning the most points this school year in the Power Hour, a School Age Program at the Youth Center. Braigel earned 3,175 points in Power Hour, which is a point-based program to encourage students to turn in school work on time. Students also earn points for participation and extra tutorials. Dakota Jutzi earned 3,050, and in third place, Ke’Juan Perez earned 2,550. The top three were awarded \$25 gift certificates to the BX.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Vanessa LaBoy

Ray Martinez checks the chlorine levels to prepare for the base pool’s opening Monday. The pool is open noon to 8 p.m., Tuesday to Sunday.

# Base pool opens

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

Holloman’s own free desert resort allows Team Holloman members to make a splash when the pool opens for summer Monday.

This year the base pool has made a few changes in hours and classes to better accommodate Team Holloman, according to Will Fongemie, Community Support Flight chief.

The pool staff offers basic, intermediate and advanced swimming lessons for

\$25 per class. The pool staff also offers scuba classes throughout the summer.

People can also make pool party reservations by calling Outdoor Recreation. The parties are offered from 9 p.m. to midnight Friday and Saturday nights.

“The 70-foot pool slide isn’t the only reason people should take advantage of the desert resort,” Fongemie said. “It’s free, close and certain to be a great time.”

Admission is free for military and family member ID card holders and \$2 for guests. The pool is closed Monday and is open from noon to 8 p.m., Tuesday to Sunday.

High: 92  
Low: 60  
TODAY

High: 90  
Low: 56  
SATURDAY

High: 91  
Low: 58  
SUNDAY

Weather forecast provided by the 49th Operations Support Squadron Weather Flight

# Extended duty care, returning home care available to Team Holloman members

by Laura Pellegrino  
Sunburst staff writer

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Extended duty care is now available for Team Holloman families with members who are deployed or are away from home because of mission-related duties.

The program, organized by Family Child Care, helps parents with child care during times of temporary shift changes, rapid mobilization and deployments.

“This program can be used by parents for any hours they’re required to work that aren’t included in their regular duty hours,” said Therese Wiley, FCC coordinator.

The fee for extended duty care, which is normally a maximum of \$2 an hour, has been waived for the second time since Sept. 11, 2001. The waiver is effective until Sept. 1, 2003.

To use the program, parents must first register with FCC by filling out the required paperwork. Once enrolled, a parent can call FCC to let them know when they need the additional care.

The program was intended for temporary or occa-

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**“The intention of the Air Force in creating this program was to make things easier for parents. This program helps people meet the needs of both work and the family.**

**-- Therese Wiley**

*Family Child Care program coordinator*

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sional shift changes, Wiley said. If the member’s shift change becomes permanent, FCC will help find a full-time provider.

“The intention of the Air Force in creating this program was to make things easier for parents,” Wiley said. “This program helps people meet the needs of both work and the family.”

According to Julie Nielson, a Holloman extended duty care provider, the program also offers transportation for children to and from the Child Development Centers to the parents don’t have to

leave work and transfer their children.

A new program, called returning home care, is an expansion of extended duty care and provides child care for families with members returning from deployment.

The program offers 16 hours of child care to military members returning from deployment. To qualify, the deployment must have lasted at least 30 days and the child care must be utilized within 30 days after their return.

The returning home program provides child care to allow spouses to get reacquainted after a deployment, Wiley said.

Military members can utilize both extended duty care and returning home care anytime, but only if there is space available, Wiley said. Right now FCC has three extended duty providers, and they are limited to the number of hours they can work each week.

FCC is always looking for new providers, Wiley said.

For more information on extended duty care, returning home care, or becoming a provider, call FCC at 572-5848.

# School's out, children need adult supervision

by Laura Pellegrino  
Sunburst staff writer

This week, children at Holloman schools took their last tests of the school year and began another summer break.

Children will be spending more time at home, and parents will need to make decisions about child supervision.

The 49th Medical Group Family Advocacy team wants parents to know that there are guidelines for child supervision.

"Children 10 or younger should never be left home alone," said Howard Hill, family advocacy outreach manager.

Parents should use discretion when leaving a child over the age of 10 home, he said.

"It's based on the maturity level of the child," he said. "A general guideline is if you're having doubts, then don't."

If a child is going to the Youth Center or other areas on base, a responsible person should walk with them, Hill said. An adult should also supervise children under 10 at the playground.

A base policy concerning leaving a child unattended in a car is another important issue as summer approaches because along with season comes the hot summer weather, Hill said.

The policy states that "Vehicles will not be left unattended with the engine running or containing children 10 years of age or less."

Many times a child is left in a car because the parent thinks they'll only be gone for a minute, Hill said. The child is in danger because of the high temperatures inside the car.

The average June and July temperature for the Tularosa Basin is 93 degrees. Within minutes inside a vehicle, body temperature can increase by 10 degrees, and cracking a window doesn't make a difference, Hill said.

"A 10-year-old can usually say, 'OK, it's hot in here, I'm getting out,'" Hill said. "But a younger child will obey if their parents tell them to wait in the car."

If someone sees a child left in a car they should call security, he said. "The parent could be given a summons for child neglect."

For more information about child safety and base policies, call Family Advocacy at 572-7061.



Photo by Senior Airman Brandy Dupper-Macy

## Corner pocket

**Mike Caughlin sets up his shot at the Oasis Enlisted Club. The club has new hours. Pizzeria: 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Monday to Friday; 4:30 to 9 p.m., Monday to Thursday; 4 to 10 p.m., Friday to Saturday; 4:30 to 8 p.m., Sunday (11 a.m. to 9 p.m., during Football season); Wright Brothers' Cafe: 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Monday to Friday; Sports Bar: 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesday to Thursday; 4 p.m. to midnight Friday; Administration: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday to Tuesday; 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Wednesday to Friday; Cage: 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday to Friday.**



The 49th Security Forces Squadron handled the following incidents May 13 to May 19.

### Tickets

Security forces issued a total of 29 citations this week: one for no insurance, one for inattentive backing, one for inoperable brake lights, one for music outside the vehicle, one for no registration and no insurance, one for no driver's license, three for assault, three for parking violations, 10 for failure to stop, three for speeding one to 10 mph over the posted speed limit, and four for speeding 11 to 15 mph over the posted speed limit.

### Theft or damage to government and private property

- May 14: An airman reported damaging a gov-

ernment-owned vehicle while loading items into it.

- May 16: A senior NCO reported damage to building 334.
- May 16: An NCO reported a check over \$200 was stolen.
- May 16: A senior NCO reported his scooter stolen.
- May 19: An NCO driving a private-owned vehicle backed into another POV.

### Patrol response

- May 13: A family member was barred from base after allegedly assaulting his sponsor.
- May 14: An airman and his family member were advised of their rights under Article 128, assault, and the 5th Amendment.
- May 17: A family member reported a possible break-in to her neighbor's residence.
- May 17: An airman reported suspected malicious mischief behind his residence.
- May 17: Four airmen were taken to building 35 in response to an assault and underage drinking occurrence at the dorms.
- May 18: An airman was advised of his rights under Article 134, disorderly conduct and drunkenness; Article 117, provoking speeches and gestures, and Article 108, damage to government property.

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

There were three reports of missing active duty identification cards this week.

These incidents can become breaches of security. If personnel have a military issued ID card stolen or lost, or a DD Form 2220, decal, 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".**

Abandoned vehicle numbers are on the rise. Members PCSing or separating from the military cannot abandon their vehicle.

If a vehicle is impounded it costs \$50 to tow it and \$5 a day for a storage fee. Force Protection condition measures require vehicles be moved on a routine basis and if personnel leave their vehicles behind, security forces can track them down at another base or state and hold them responsible for it.

# CV: have fun, be safe this summer

*101+ Critical Days of Summer are here*

by **Col. Rich Treadway**

*49th Fighter Wing Vice Commander*

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As deployed Team Holloman members return home and summer rolls around again, many of us are planning to vacation, barbecue, go camping, and spend time with friends and family. However, as critical as spending time away from work is, keeping ourselves, our friends and our families safe is just as important.

The 101+ Critical Days of Summer focuses on the time between Memorial Day and Labor Day because that's when the Air Force has more off-duty injuries and deaths to airmen than at any other time of the year.

The Air Force Safety Center at Kirtland Air Force Base, N.M. predicts 21 airmen will die this summer while "having fun," if statistics hold true.

Don't be a statistic. Each member of Team Holloman is a valuable asset to the Air Force and a key player in our mission here. If one of you gets hurt or worse, killed, it doesn't just impact your friends and family, but also your unit, Team Holloman and the mission. It takes a team to do the job, and if one member dies or can't work due to an injury because he or she wasn't safe, the whole base suffers. Each of you is indispensable; each of you impacts the mission.

This year's goal is to make it to Labor Day without losing a single Team Holloman member. Safety is everybody's business – from myself to the newest airman we all need to keep safety in mind and look out for each other.

Because Alamogordo is a bit isolated, you'll more than likely find yourself driving some distance from Holloman to spend time on vacation. If you're planning to drive somewhere, make sure and wear your seatbelt and keep alert while at the wheel. If you need to rest, take a break. Also, don't speed to get there quickly - it's far better to arrive late to your destination than not at all.

I want you to take note of some statistics from 2002: Air Force-wide there were 83 off-duty deaths, 71 of which were the result of car crashes. Of those, about half were alcohol-related and 10 speed-related. Most of these fatalities were in the 18- to 25-year-old age group.

Folks, it just isn't worth it. If you're going to party, make sure you have a sober driver, call a cab or call 572-RIDE to get you home safe. If you're driving, obey the law and drive safe. Being stupid in the driver's seat not only endangers you, but also those in the car with you and on the streets around you. Causing someone else to get hurt or killed is just as bad as killing yourself.

Some of you may be planning to participate in some of the many outdoor activities the Tularosa Basin offers. Activities such as motorcycling, camping, hiking, boating, rock climbing are popular here, but they too offer their own risks.

Make sure you wear appropriate safety gear for any of these activities, and prepare for any potential risks while outside during summer months. Use helmets, life vests, personal protective gear as necessary, and remember to drink plenty of water, use sun screen and to watch out for local wildlife while outdoors.

It all boils down to these three words: personal risk management. Identify the risks of whatever you're planning to do, develop measures to protect yourself while participating, and then take those measures.

Have a good time this summer. Throw a steak or two on the grill, go swimming or sightseeing – do whatever is fun for you. But remember to be safe, play safe, and take care of yourself, your friends and family, and each other.

Have fun and let's make it safely through the 101+ Critical Days of Summer!

# DWI Update

Days since  
last DWI

**81**

**Last six DWIs:**

- 49 LRS\* March 2
- 49 MMS March 2
- 49 CES\* March 2
- 49 OSS Jan. 11
- 49 LRS Jan. 4
- 49 GAF Nov. 22

**572-RIDE works!**

*Calls MADE are  
lives SAVED.*

**Calls:**

**Year to date: 245**  
**Last week: 3**

DWIs year  
to date

**12**

DWIs this time  
last year

**13**

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

## Holloman Chapel Services

**Weekday Masses** – 11:30 a.m.,  
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and  
Friday.

**Sunday** – Catholic Mass, 9:30 a.m.  
and 5 p.m.

• Protestant Religious Education, 9:30  
a.m.

• General Protestant Worship Service,  
11 a.m.

• Catholic Religious Education, 11 a.m.

• Sacrament of Penance, 4 p.m.

• Protestant Contemporary Worship  
Service, 6:30 p.m.

Call 572-7214 for more information.

## 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: 7 a.m., noon, 3 p.m. and 6 p.m.



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Photo by Airman 1st Class Martha Whipple

### Sugar and spice

**Master Sgt. Tony Knox shops for spices at the Commissary. The hours of operation for the Commissary are 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday; 7 a.m. to 10 p.m., Thursday; 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday; 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sunday; closed Monday. For more information, call the Commissary at 572-5721.**

## Who's minding the store?

by **Lt. Col. Christopher Thelen**  
*49th Mission Support Group*

Base Exchange and Commissary privileges are an awesome benefit, allowing us to make a wide range of tax-free purchases, usually at great savings over purchases at off-base stores. However, if we abuse these privileges, or tolerate that abuse by others, we risk losing them not only for ourselves, but for generations of Air Force members who follow us.

Protecting these privileges starts before we even enter the store. Our BX and Commissary may have limited entry control procedures, but only Department of Defense and German air force ID card holders are authorized unescorted access into these facilities. An ID card holder may sponsor other people into the stores, but in doing so they accept the responsibility to monitor the guest and share responsibility for any wrongdoing the guest may perform while in the store, with possible penalties to include losing their own privileges. If the ID card holder isn't willing to accept responsibility for their guest's actions, the guest shouldn't be allowed into the store.

The second way we protect our benefits is on the check-out line, where the Commissary and BX use ID checks to ensure their goods are purchased by and for authorized customers. An ID card holder can only purchase goods for a someone not entitled to BX or Commissary privileges if it's a bona-fide gift to that person. If the ID card holder receives money, goods or services in exchange for the purchase, that transaction is a crime and can result in their being banned from the stores along with other administrative or criminal penalties. "Buy it for me — I'll pay you outside" is an offer we absolutely must refuse.

By some estimates, Commissary and BX benefits can add 10-percent buying-power to our monthly military paychecks. It's an important benefit, but not a guaranteed entitlement — if our nation feels we've abused the privilege, we can lose it.

Be responsible in your own actions and take seriously your responsibility for guests you sponsor into these facilities. Every one of us must be "minding the store" — BX and Commissary benefits are a privilege we want to protect, and be able to hand on to future Air Force generations.

# Leaders send Memorial Day message

*The following is a joint Memorial Day message from Secretary of the Air Force Dr. James G. Roche and Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper:*

This Memorial Day, as the flag gracefully soars to the top of the flagpole then solemnly lowers to half-staff, the loss of great Americans who have fallen in our country's battles weighs heavily on our hearts.

Memorial Day is our time to salute their sacrifices and remember their dedication to duty. We remember their humanity, dignity, and nobility. We remember their laughter, their tears, and their determination to serve a grateful nation.

This Memorial Day is indeed somber because members of our ranks have recently fallen in battle. They are the mothers and fathers of children who will forever mourn their absence, the sons and daughters of parents who grieve their death, the husbands and wives of spouses who yearned for their return, and he-

roes to us all. Their sacrifice is fresh in our minds as we pay tribute to their memory. They served valiantly to secure freedom for millions who have never tasted the liberties we enjoy every day. Our nation's humble tribute this Memorial Day is a small measure of our enduring gratitude for their service.

From the Revolutionary War to the ongoing Global War on Terrorism, each generation that has answered our nation's call to arms has served with honor. Those who serve in our military are a part of a long tradition of sacrifice; those who give their lives are the standard-bearers for us all.

As is our earnest obligation, we accept the mantle of responsibility to uphold freedom from our fallen comrades and march forward, forever mindful of their sacrifice. God bless all who have gone before and made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom. And may God continue to bless each of you and our great nation.

## America remembers

*The following is a Memorial Day message from Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Gerald R. Murray:*

America remembers. We remember the names and faces of fallen heroes of past and current wars, and we honor them by setting aside a day to memorialize their sacrifice. This sacred tradition binds us together as a nation that lives in freedom today because of those who died in battle yesterday.

This Memorial Day, many Americans will visit the graves of loved ones who died for their country – a father, husband, son, brother, mother, daughter, sister, wife. The flowers they bring and the thoughts they think will bring back joyful memories, and the pain of loss.

Others will attend Memorial Day services not because they lost a loved one, but in gratitude for the freedom they enjoy because of the heroes willing to fight and die to preserve it.

As airmen in the U.S. Air Force, take time this Memorial Day to remember your recently fallen brethren who laid down their lives in the Global War on Terrorism and in Operation Iraqi Freedom: Maj. William Watkins, Maj. Gregory Stone, Capt. Eric Das, Tech. Sgt. John Chapman, Staff Sgt. Scott Sather, Staff Sgt. Patrick Griffin, Staff Sgt. Jacob Frazier, Senior Airman Jason Cunningham, Airman 1st Class Raymond Losano

You carry the torch these brave Americans lit. Continue to carry it proudly. As a nation, and as comrades in arms, it's important that we remember.





# Holloman senior NCO chosen for AFIT

by Laura Pellegrino  
Sunburst staff writer

A member of the 49th Contracting Squadron is one of 11 enlisted Air Force members chosen to attend the Air Force Institute of Technology at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio.

Master Sgt. Nanci Pigeon, 49th CONS superintendent, sent her application and transcripts to the school March 25. The school recently opened its doors to enlisted members, but Pigeon didn't know if she would be accepted.

"I heard the Air Force wants to invest in people with technical degrees," she said.

Pigeon has a bachelor's degree in management, and despite lacking a technical degree she received an e-mail seven weeks later saying she was chosen to attend the institute.

AFIT selects students based on criteria like duty performance, assignment potential and academic ability. Selection is also based on letters of recommendation, one of which 49th CONS commander Maj. James Knight wrote.

"Based on Master Sgt. Pigeon's record of performance and achievement, I had no doubt she would be selected for this prestigious program," Knight said.

Pigeon said she is proud to represent Air Force enlisted members in this new educational opportunity.

She joined the Air Force 15 years ago when she had enough of being a short order cook.

"I wanted to do something with my life," she said. "I wanted to be somebody."

Now Pigeon says the somebody she plans to be is a chief working at the



Photo by Laura Pellegrino

**Master Sgt. Nanci Pigeon, 49th Contracting Squadron superintendent, and secretary Kathy Buchholz review contracting documents. Pigeon starts at the Air Force Institute of Technology in the fall.**

major command or systems level. She said higher education from AFIT will help her achieve her goal.

Before being accepted to AFIT, Pigeon was working on her master's degree online at the University of Maryland.

She was only able to take one class

at a time because of work, she said.

Now Pigeon will be able to focus on school, and the Air Force Director of Personnel will cover tuition, she said.

She will graduate with a master's from the School of Engineering and

Management and will work in logistics management.

"Especially with 100-percent tuition coverage, people should be going to school every chance they get," Pigeon said. "If the opportunity is there, take it."

## Alamogordo DPS to inspect child car seats

by Airman 1st Class Martha Whipple  
49th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

The Alamogordo Department of Public Safety inspects child car seats starting at 10 a.m., Sunday at Wal-Mart in Alamogordo.

Ten million children are at risk of serious injury or death in crashes everyday because car seats aren't installed properly, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

NHTSA reports car crashes remain the number one killer of children in America. However, many of these deaths could have been prevented with

the proper use of child safety seats.

Holloman's 101+ Critical Days of Summer campaign is now in full swing, according to Master Sgt. Mark Sprayberry, 49th Fighter Wing Safety NCO.

"People are Holloman's most valuable asset," he said. "Our goal for 2003 is to focus on personal risk management and promote safety in every aspect of our lives."

Statistically in the Air Force there are more mishaps from Memorial Day through Labor Day, he said.

"Team Holloman members can put their children

first during this year's campaign by taking advantage of the Alamogordo DPS free inspections," Sprayberry said. "They offer several clinics throughout the year, so parents can make sure their children are safe."

According to NHTSA, child safety seats reduce fatal injury by 71 percent for infants and by 54 percent for toddlers (one to four years old). Less than 10 percent of children between the ages of 4 and 8 use booster seats.

For more information about upcoming child car seat inspections, contact the Alamogordo DPS at 439-4300.



# Holloman's Facility Self Help Center helps organizations make improvements at work



Photo by Senior Airman Brandy Dupper-Macy

**Master Sgt. Randall Allen, Facility Self Help Center superintendent, shows Michael Young, 49th CES material handler, the proper use of a weed eater at the Facility Self Help Center.**

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

The Facility Self Help Center provides tools and materials to help Team Holloman members spruce up their work place.

The most common self-help projects for work environments are tiling and painting; however the possibilities are next to endless.

"The self help store provides the base an alternative to hiring contractors to do facility upgrades," said Master Sgt. Randall Allen, Facility Self Help Center superintendent. "We tiled more than 6,200 square feet of floor in the past year, which saved the Air Force over 10,000 dollars in contracting expenses."

Saving money is one of the most important aspects of the facility, he said, but it also provides an easy outlet to give any work place a makeover.

"The process in fixing up a work place is relatively easy and takes about two weeks for the paperwork to be approved," said Staff Sgt. Steven Holt, Horizontal Construction NCOIC.

Unit commanders, first sergeants and facility managers have the authority to submit a Base Civil Engineer Work Request, Air Force form 332, with a brief justification for the project.

The request is coordinated through the 49th Civil Engineer Squadron Fire Protection Flight and 49th Fighter Wing Safety office.

The Facility Self Help Center will re-

view the request and determine the size of the project and whether or not the project can get done with the level of expertise available in the specific squadron.

Once the project is approved and coordinated through the 49th CES, the facility self help center staff assists in the planning, estimating what materials are needed and providing the necessary tools to complete the project.

The Facility Self Help Center staff also ensures all work complies with code requirements.

"Landscaping, plants, gravel, paint, tile and more, are available through the self-help program for customers to complete on their own," Allen said. "We provide all the tools and materials needed to accomplish a project, even pamphlets and videos on how to do it."

The 49th CES Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning section renovated their shop using the Facility Self Help Center.

"We added two walls, extended a doorway, added cabinets, sink and pergo floor to one area," Holt said. "In another area, we added a drop ceiling, new tile floor, trim, paint and HVAC system. The finished product was a significant upgrade to our section. It's amazing how much is provided through the self help center. It provides the means for Team Holloman members to accomplish facility improvements."

The Facility Self Help Center is located in building 55 and is open from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Monday to Friday. For more information, call 572-5467.

## *DoD employees eligible for flexible spending*

Most Air Force civilian employees are now eligible to contribute to a flexible spending account which allows money to be set aside tax-free for certain health care and eligible dependent care expenses.

An open season enrollment period begins Monday and runs through June 20. The effective date for Department of Defense employees is Sept. 1. Only expenses incurred September through December are reimbursable.

FSA is a new employee benefit that allows federal employees to set aside dollars, on a pre-tax basis, for many common expenses not covered by the Federal Employees Health Benefit program or any other source, said

Janet Thomas, human resources specialist here.

"With an FSA, you can reduce your taxes and increase your take-home pay while paying for services you'd have to pay for anyway," she said.

The Office of Personnel Management awarded the contract to SHPS, Inc., to administer the FSA program for federal employees.

There are two types of FSA accounts: **Health Care FSAs** — may be used to pay for health care expenses of employees and their dependents not reimbursed by health insurance or any other source and not claimed on the participant's income tax return. Ex-

penses include deductibles, co-insurance and insurance co-payments, as well as services not generally covered like dental care, orthodontic treatment, hearing aids, physician-directed weight-loss programs, and laser eye correction. To participate, federal civilian employees must be eligible to enroll in the FEHB program.

**Dependent Care FSAs** — may be used to pay for eligible dependent care expenses when such care is necessary to enable the employee and spouse to work, or allow the spouse to attend school full time. Expenses can be paid for the care of children under age 13 and adults who qualify as dependents. Temporary employees

with no fixed work schedule whose tour of duty is six months or less are not eligible.

Employees can enroll directly with the contract administrator at [www.fsa.feds.com](http://www.fsa.feds.com) or toll-free at (877) 372-3337 between 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., Eastern time, weekdays. After the initial open season, employees will need to make an election each year during the FSA open season which will coincide with the FEHB open season.

Program information is available from the contract administrator and OPM's FSA web site at [www.opm.gov/insure/pretax/fsa/index.asp](http://www.opm.gov/insure/pretax/fsa/index.asp). Currently, retirees and military personnel are not eligible for either program. (AFP)





# Holloman celebrates May Fitness Month

## Get going, stay active

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

During May, fitness centers worldwide will encourage Air Force members to make fitness a regular part of their daily lives. The Fitness and Sports Center here planned many events and programs during May including 3-on-3 basketball tournaments, fun walks and a softball tournament.

"The Fitness and Sports Center staff hopes by coordinating all these events for fitness month they'll persuade everyone into living healthier lifestyles and making fitness their personal priority," said Denise Allen, fitness director.

The Fitness and Sports Center turned exercise into fun by holding lunchtime sports competitions including walleyball, racquetball

and dodge ball tournaments. The gym also became muscle mania with bench press, squat and dead lift competitions.

All participants of May Fitness Month events receive a ticket that will make them available to receive a number of prizes such as T-shirts, golf passes and bowling passes. The drawing for the prizes is May 30.

Holloman's Fitness and Sports Center has scheduled the following events: Homerun Derby, at 11 a.m., Wednesday; Tour de Holloman at 11 a.m., Thursday; Squadron Softball Single Elimination tournament at 8 a.m., May 31.

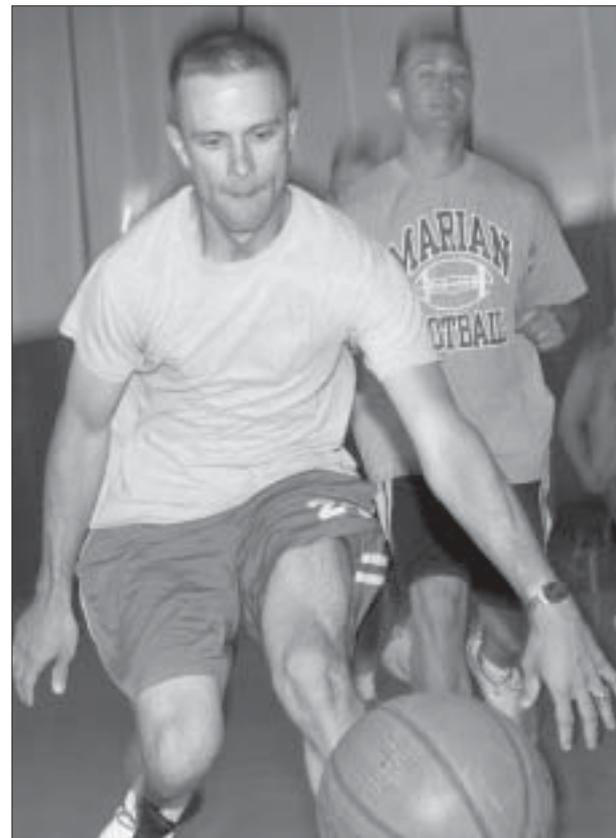
For information on May Fitness Month 2003, call the Fitness and Sports Center at 572-3229.



Jules Griffin, 49th Operations Group, performs a butterfly exercise with 30-pound dumbbells.



Chris Graeber, 49th Materiel Maintenance Squadron, gets set to dead lift 270 pounds



Jeremy Pankoski, 49th Logistics Readiness Squadron, dives after the ball while playing 2-on-2 basketball during his lunch break.



Mark Mendez, 49th Logistics Readiness Squadron and Leon Nab, 4th Space Control Squadron, take a lunchtime jog at the gym.

Photos by Airman 1st Class Martha Whipple





# 49 CES earns big softball win

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

The 49th Civil Engineer Squadron softball team beat the 49th Maintenance/Aerospace Ground Equipment squadron 11-4 Monday at Vandenburg Field.

These teams got back into the swing of things after a break from their regular intramural softball season during interleague play.

“After a week off, the team was very relaxed going into the game last night,” CES coach Martin Venegas said. “We went into the game with a great attitude and eager to improve our record.”

MXS/AGE led off the game but couldn’t get their bats started and gave CES an easy job on the field: three up, three down.

“We went into this game with a good attitude, determined to win,” MXS/AGE coach Christopher Knaup said. “The outcome wasn’t what I expected, but we all learned from the loss. We learned not to get down on ourselves and to try and pick each other up when we aren’t performing.”

CES started off hitting strong with two doubles, one from outfielder Jason Ceccoli and another from center fielder Jerel Brown. CES led MXS/AGE 2-0 after the first inning.

CES bats remained consistent little by little increasing their lead. The consistency put heavy pressure on MXS/AGE after the third leading them by eight points.



Photos by Airman 1st Class Vanessa LaBoy

**MXS/AGE outfielder James Kitt tries to beat out the throw to CES third basemen Mike Peters during CES’s 11-4 win Monday.**

“We didn’t have any big scoring innings,” Venegas said. “We played smart on the field and at the plate. One of the best things our teams did playing was stick to their basics; no

one was trying to showboat and that definitely contributed to our win.”

CES added two more points to their lead in the fourth inning, including an in-the-park home run from Brown. MXS/AGE scraped up two points of their own in the fourth and fifth, but a strike out and a line drive catch by CES pitcher Venegas ended the inning and kept the maintainers trailing by seven runs.

“The intensity is always high, but it didn’t affect the outcome,” Knaup said. “We played as hard as we could as a team.”

CES added one more run to their score in the sixth and held MXS/AGE to four runs. This win gives CES three wins on the season, which brings them one step closer to their biggest goal of the season.

“Our biggest goal this year is to finish at .500 or better, so we can make the playoffs,” Venegas said. “This year’s team may not be the best talent wise, but we will succeed because they have a lot of heart and commitment and I would take that any day over talent.”



**Dominique Shannon ducks as MXS/AGE second baseman Jeff Liessman throws to first to complete a double play during CES’s 11-4 win Monday.**

## Inside Intramurals

### Softball Standings

#### Monday/Wednesday

Unit	W	L
49th LRS (A)	8	1
49th MMG	6	2
49th SF	6	4
49th MXS/AGE (A)	5	2
49th MDG	4	3
49th AMXS	3	5
49th CES	2	7
49th MXS/AMMO	1	7

#### Tuesday/Thursday

Unit	W	L
49th CS	9	0
49th SPCS	6	1
49th SVS	6	2
46th TG	5	3
49th MXS/MAINT	5	3
49th MXS/AVIONICS	5	3
49th MOS	2	4
49th SFS/ARMY	2	7
49th LRS (B)	1	7
GAF	1	6

#### Monday- Vandenburg Field

5: 30 p.m.:	49th CES vs. 49th MMG
6: 30 p.m.:	49th MMG vs. 49th MDG
7: 30 p.m.:	49th MXS/AGE A vs. 49th MDG

#### Monday- Johnson Field

5: 30 p.m.:	49th MXS/AGE A vs. 49th AMXS
6: 30 p.m.:	49th LRS A vs. 49th MXS/AMMO

#### Wednesday - Vandenburg Field

5: 30 p.m.:	49th MXS/AGE A vs. 49th LRS A
6: 30 p.m.:	49th CES vs. 49th MXS/AMMO
7: 30 p.m.:	49th MDG vs. 49th LRS A

#### Wednesday - Johnson Field

5: 30 p.m.:	49th MMG vs. 49th AMXS
6: 30 p.m.:	49th SFS vs. 49th MMG
7: 30 p.m.:	49th SFS vs. 49th MXS/AMMO

#### June 2 - Vandenburg Field

5: 30 p.m.:	49th MDG vs. 49th CES
6: 30 p.m.:	49th AMXS vs. 49th LRS A
7:30 p.m.:	49th AMXS vs. CES

#### June 2 - Johnson Field

5: 30 p.m.:	49th MMG vs. 49th LRS A
6: 30 p.m.:	49th MXS/AMMO vs. 49th MMG
7: 30 p.m.:	49th SFS vs. 49th MDG

For more information about current or upcoming Intramural leagues, contact the sports director at the Fitness and Sports Center at 572-3256.

# Holloman Hero

## Senior Airman Asher Norwood 49th Communications Squadron

**Duty title:** Assistant NCOIC, communications focal point

**Time in service:** Seven years and seven months

**Time at Holloman:** One year and two months

**Hometown:** Chicago

**Personal and career goals:**

My personal and career goals are to finish my bachelor's degree and apply for law school.

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

The Air Force has afforded me the opportunity to be a year out from obtaining my bachelor's degree. The Air Force has taught me what it means to have perseverance. No matter what life brings my way, I have to be determined to make it to my goal and accomplish it with excellence.

**Why is serving important to you?**

The Air Force has been one of the most powerful and impacting parts of my life for two reasons. I have seen just how much we mean to those in less

fortunate countries who only dream to have the freedoms that we so apathetically take for granted. Second, there is not a day that goes by that I don't see my family and think "I would die to ensure their safety." This is why serving has taken on such new meaning for me.

**Core value portrayed: "Service before Self"**

Norwood has become an integral part of the communications focal point after only a few months on the job. By becoming my go-to-person for weekly communications status briefings, he provides in-depth information for all of wing leadership. Norwood displays his commitment to excellence on a daily basis through professional customer service to all Team Holloman members and through his constant dedication in pursuit of his bachelor's degree.

— Lt. Col. Alford Cockfield

49th Communications Squadron commander



Photo by Airman 1st Class Vanessa LaBoy

The Holloman Hero submission form is now online.

It can be downloaded at: [https://www.mil.holloman.af.mil/wing/49FW\\_PA/internal.html](https://www.mil.holloman.af.mil/wing/49FW_PA/internal.html)

# Blue, silver AEFs get rotations back on track

Staff Sgt. A.J. Bosker

Air Force Print News

The Air Force is establishing two transitional air and space expeditionary forces, blue and silver, to put the deployment schedule back on track by March 2004 and to bring home deployed airmen as quickly as possible.

"We envision these two 120-day rotations filling the requirements of combatant commanders through spring when we can once again implement the normal steady-state AEF rotation," said Maj. Gen. Timothy A. Peppe, special assistant for AEF matters at the Pentagon. "Additionally, we can expect some aircraft, aircrew and associated maintenance rotations outside these two transitional AEFs as we attempt to get them back to the normal schedule next spring."

The blue AEF will be on call to fulfill mission requirements between July and November, Peppe said. Silver will be on call from November through March.

"The magnitude of the various combatant commanders' continuing requirements throughout the world will dictate the number of airmen that we will have to deploy," he said.

According to the general, airmen

**"We would like to rotate people home more quickly but the bottom line is that it takes time to make this happen."**

-- Maj. Gen. Timothy A. Pepper  
AEF special assistant

in AEFs 9/10 and 1/2 who were identified to support Operation Iraqi Freedom but did not deploy will likely be the most vulnerable to deploy with the blue or silver AEFs.

"Ideally, as we go through the process (of matching people to these AEFs), those that have been home the longest from a previous deployment will be matched to deploy first," he said. "There may be some exceptions but I certainly hope not many. We will start with AEFs 9/10 and reach forward, as needed, to fill requirements."

Airmen selected to support the blue AEF can expect to be notified of their deployment vulnerability over the next few weeks, he said.

"Most of the major command deployment taskings will be made by June 10 and airmen should receive

their notifications soon after," he said. "However, if a (major command) cannot fill a particular tasking, the AEF Center at Langley Air Force Base, Va. will have to source it to another (major command), which may delay some individual notifications."

These transitional AEFs will allow the Air Force to get currently deployed airmen back home to their families, he said.

The combatant commanders are already releasing forces that were deployed, but those forces may need to remain in theater until the Air Force can fill those requirements and get enough assets in theater to bring them home, he explained.

"We would like to rotate people home more quickly but the bottom line is that it takes time to make this happen," Peppe said. "But we are working the issue as hard and as fast as we can."

"Airmen need to understand that the AEF is operating 'as advertised,'" he said. "It was designed, from the start, to 'flex,' as necessary, to meet the widest range of combatant commander requirements. A transition period like the one we are experiencing now is normal as we move from one AEF operating environment —

crisis action — to another — steady state."

"Since its beginning, I think the AEF has been a great success," he said.

"I don't believe it was ever designed to handle a situation the size of the one we just had but I think it worked well. We were able to use it to (quickly) and accurately identify people to meet the combatant commanders' requirements."

The Air Force was initially tasked to deploy approximately 120,000 active-duty, Guard and Reserve airmen, nearly a quarter of the service's military people, to support operations in Iraq, Peppe said.

"However, we only needed to deploy approximately 50,000," he explained.

"That feat is a testament to the awesome work of our people and the AEF that was flexible enough to adapt to mission requirements and fill them as needed."

Although Air Force leaders want airmen to be reunited with their families as quickly as possible, the service still must meet the needs of the combatant commanders to continue supporting operations throughout the world, he said.





## Memorial Day hours

The following facilities are closed Monday: Clothing sales and Alterations, Frank's Franks, Popeye's Chicken, Theater, Beauty and Barber Shops, Dry Cleaners, Optical Shop, Flower Shop, Olive Branch and the General Nutrition Center.

- Base Exchange: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Mini Mall: 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.
- Anthony's Pizza: 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Robin Hood: 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Rent a Car: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. (phone only)
- McDonalds: 5:30 a.m. to 10 p.m.

## Watering schedule

The watering schedule is as follows:

- Odd numbered houses water Sundays and Wednesdays between 5 a.m. and 9 a.m. or between 5 p.m. and 9 p.m.
- Even numbered houses water Saturdays and Tuesdays between 5 a.m. and 9 a.m. or between 5 p.m. and 9 p.m.
- Water newly seeded areas daily (kept moist) until the first mowing.
- Water flowers in beds, pots, or other containers by hand as needed.

## Red Cross

The Red Cross offers the following classes:

- Community First Aid and Safety: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday
- Standard First Aid: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Tuesday

The Holloman Red Cross Summer Volunteer Youth Program is June 9 to Aug. 1. Orientation for youth ages 13 to 19 is June 2. Volunteers are needed at the Base Training and Education Services office, Fitness and Sports Center, community center, Youth Center and the medical clinic.

For more information, call Evelyn Martinez or Crystal Calloway at the Holloman Red Cross at 572-7066.

## Paintball tourney

The enlisted club hosts a paintball tournament from 6 to 8 p.m., May 31. Cost is \$13 and members receive a \$2 discount. Cost includes transportation, equipment and barbecue. Four-person teams compete for the Percy trophy.

For reservations call 572-3226.

## On the BIG SCREEN



### Head of State

7 p.m., Today and Saturday

### Phone Booth

10 p.m., Today and Saturday

### Basic

7 p.m., Sunday and Thursday

Movies are subject to change.

For more information, call 572-3286.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Martha Whipple

## On the move

**Tech. Sgt. Catrina Crayton helps move the Women's Clinic to its new location. The Pharmacy is closed today to transition to the temporary location in the previous Internal Medicine Clinic. The Family Practice and Pediatric Clinics move May 30 to 31. There will be one PCM team located in the previous Women's Clinic area to provide care if needed. Patients will be able to enter the building through both entrances facing Santa Fe Drive, the Ambulatory Response Element entrance and the entrance near vending machines. The two doors facing the Flight Medicine building are for staff only.**

## Kids Golf

U.S. Kids Golf sponsors the Junior Golf program starting June 9. Cost is \$49.95 and includes lessons, starter clubs, hat, shirt, and tournament.

For more information, call 572-3574.

## Salsa Night

Latin Salsa Night is 8 p.m. to midnight May 30 at the enlisted club.

## Sertoma Speedway

Outdoor Recreation offers transportation to Sertoma Speedway at 6 p.m., every Friday. Cost is \$6.50 per person for transportation and admission. Sign up each Wednesday at 572-5369.

## TRICARE

TRICARE goes online May 30. There is mass briefings at 9 and 10 a.m., and 2 and 3 p.m., Thursday at the base theater.

## Asian Pacific Heritage Month

May is Asian Pacific Heritage Month and Holloman's Asian Pacific Islanders Club offers special events throughout the month.

• Luau Luncheon: 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., May 30 at the community center

• Island crafts, books and history of the heritage are displayed at the library throughout the month.

For more information, contact Daria Bautista at 572-3040 or contact Staff Sgt. Chad Ohelo at 572-7202.

## FSC

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

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

• Resume writing for adults: 1:30 p.m., Wednesday

• Achieving Highest Priorities: 8 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](http://www.mil.holloman.af.mil/sptg/mss/fsc).

## Office Skills Certificate

The Family Support Center offers eight grants to spouses who would like to obtain a Certificate in Office Skills through NMSU-A. The grant covers registration and tuition costs for the 16 credit hour program. Applicants must be the spouse of an enlisted member and not hold a degree or certification beyond a High School Diploma or GED. Spouses must be planning to remain at Holloman until May, 2004 to complete the program.

Deadline for application submission is June 6, 2003. For more information and applications, go to the FSC, building 40 or call 572-7754.

