



Briefly

Congratulations

The Air Reserve Personnel Center announced Jan. 16 the 2004 Air Force Reserve colonel promotion selection boards results that selected 315 officers for promotion.

A selection board convened at the center in October and board members reviewed the records of more than 1,682 lieutenant colonels.

Holloman lieutenant colonels selected for colonel are:

Soledad Lindo-Moon, 49th Medical Operations Squadron and **Christopher Thelen**, 49th Mission Support Group.

DDR

January's Drug Demand Reduction numbers are as follows:

- Tested this year: 959
- Positive tests: 3
- Positive tests last year: 16

Free tax services

Unit Tax Advisors will be processing tax returns at the squadrons.

A list of UTAs can be found at the legal assistance Website at wwwmil.holloman.af.mil/wing/legal/index.html.

Holloman's Tax Center opens Feb. 2 at building 29, Room 2150.

For more information, call the tax center at 572-7846.

Inside

- Command chief 3
- Crossword puzzle ... 4
- Air Force News11
- Mission feature .12-13



Photo by Staff Sgt. Alan Port

Eye on the prize

Airman 1st Class Michael Patten, 49th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, loads weapons during a quarterly competition to determine the best weapons-loading squadron.

Crew chief's action saves jet engine

Lt. Col. Skip Hinman

49th Fighter Wing Safety chief

A Holloman crew chief's initiative possibly saved a pilot and an F-117A Nighthawk.

It began like any other aircraft launch. The crew chief visited with the pilot as he helped him strap into the cockpit. The pilot set switches in the cockpit and the crew chief prepared the jet for engine start. All indications were normal following engine start and the pilot readied the aircraft for taxi.

Senior Airman John Sablotny, 49th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, performed his final walk-around prior to marshalling the aircraft. Although not a required or commonly practiced procedure for aircraft launch, Airman Sablotny made it a habit to check inside the engine access panel for potential engine abnormalities prior to taxi.

As Airman Sablotny opened the

see SAFETY on Page 9

Voluntary NCO retraining begins

by **Tech. Sgt. David A. Jablonski**
Air Force Print News

The Air Force needs 1,100 non-commissioned officers in surplus career fields to voluntarily retrain into shortage career fields to balance the enlisted force in 2004.

The voluntary phase of the fiscal 2004 NCO Retraining Program ends Feb. 23. The program helps balance the enlisted force by moving staff, technical and master sergeants from specialties with surpluses to specialties with shortages.

Imbalances in the mid-level NCO grades among specialties occur as a result of personnel force structure changes, differing retention trends among specialties, and the equality of promotions across

see RETRAIN on Page 6



Ground Safety manager: Wear your seatbelt

Air Combat Command and 49th Fighter Wing Safety officials urge Team Holloman members to be saved by the belt

Mr. Jerry McDermott
49th Fighter Wing Safety Office

The day after Christmas a valued airman died in a car crash. While driving in El Paso, Texas, he lost control of his 2002 Chevy Blazer, left the highway, rolled his vehicle and was ejected.

This past weekend another airman was driving home from El Paso, fell asleep, left the roadway, rolled her vehicle and was sent to the hospital where she was treated and released. The difference was wearing the seatbelt.

The Air Force has experienced an alarming in-

crease in Air Force fatal mishaps over the past three years.

In 1998 the Air Force had a low of 32 fatal private motor vehicle mishaps (Cars and motorcycles).

In 2003 we lost 67 airmen because of private motor vehicle mishaps. Forty three of the 67 lost their life in a car. About 25 percent of those were not wearing seat belts. Therefore, Gen. Hal Hornburg, Air Combat Command commander, has announced a seatbelt utilization goal of 99 percent for all ACC installations.

Currently Holloman maintains an overall rate of nearly 97 percent.

I believe we can achieve the 99 percent goal by pitching in and helping each other out. I would like to encourage each of us to look out for each other and give respectful reminders to those you see forgetting to buckle up.

Each and every one of us can help us reach that

goal. Supervisors, let your troops know that the Air Force needs them and continually mention this in your meetings.

Place little reminders throughout your unit about buckling up.

Challenge each other by making those caught not buckling to buy the one who catches them a lunch. The point is, if we all do our part we will make the 99 percent goal and it won't be painful. The bottom line is keeping all of us alive. We don't want to lose another airman.

There are many reasons given by those who don't like to wear seatbelts. The real bottom line is they do save lives.

Let's all reach a very important and life saving goal.

This goal is easy to do; it saves lives and doesn't take any resources to reach it. Make it a habit every time you get into your car... Buckle up Team Holloman!

Stop: Another drinking, driving message

Staff Sgt. Jonathan Dingus
49th Maintenance Squadron

How often do you hear the four-letter word *stop* and ignore what people are saying? You just simply "know better" or "I've done this a hundred times and I've never been hurt."

Each and every one of us, at one point in our lives, have said it or thought it to ourselves. Sometimes we do "know better," but we do it without thinking of what the outcome might be. We might get away with it today, tomorrow and even next year but there's a chance tragedy could strike in a blink of the eye. At this moment you're probably thinking, "Not another drinking and driving lecture. How many times do I have to hear this and read about it?"

Well, the truth of the matter is, you're going to keep hearing about drinking and driving until it stops happening. Maybe the reason you are not listening

is because you have become numb to the point. Will it take a death in your flight or family for you to open your eyes? Do you have to be the statistic? I know that some don't drink but it's still important you listen, too.

We may not all be the best of friends in the military, but a close death will definitely bring about the coping phases of grief. Do we want to be thinking about that while trying to fight a war or trying to pick up that members' slack because they're not around anymore? We know the laws and the Air Force policy, but do we really care as long as no one is getting caught?

Maybe that guardrail outside the main gate with the cross by it wasn't for those two young airmen but was meant for you and your best friend, but you got lucky the last time. Well, by now, your ears have become numb again so I'll move onto my next point.

Stop. Paying attention yet? At any

time you see the word stop, it should make you stop to think about what's going on.

Everyone needs to stay vigilant to stay safe. One missed step or lackadaisical moment while working could spell disaster. Death is inevitable. I don't want my death contributed to someone else not paying attention or doing something they "know better" and shouldn't be doing.

Whether we are at work or at home relaxing, we need to make safety part of our lifestyle.

If you've had a few drinks, find a sober person to drive. Taxi's, friends, 572-RIDE or members of your flight are good choices.

Keep your eyes open at work for unsafe conditions. A little prevention stops a lot of after effects.

A good four-letter word that substitutes for stop could be dead. Be safe. Be careful.

DUI Update

Days since last DUI	41
DUIs this year	9
This week last year	10

Last six DUIs

- 49 MOS Dec. 13
- 49 CS Nov. 27
- 49 CES* Nov. 26
- GAF Nov. 23
- 49 MXS Nov. 23
- 49 AMXS Nov. 16

572-RIDE works!

Calls made are lives saved

172 Saves this year
13 Saves this week



Editorial Staff

- Brig. Gen. Jim Hunt 49th Fighter Wing commander
- Maj. John Bryan Public Affairs director
- 1st Lt. Nora Eyle Public Affairs deputy director
- Tech. Sgt. Paul Coupaud NCOIC
- Senior Airman Martha Whipple Editor
- Airman 1st Class Vanessa LaBoy Staff writer
- Airman 1st Class 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 U.S. 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. Stories should be submitted directly to the Public Affairs Office via e-mail to 49fw.pa.sunburst@holloman.af.mil or mailed to **49 FW/PA, 490 First Street, Suite 2800, Holloman Air Force Base, N.M., 88330-8287**. All material is edited for accuracy, brevity, clarity, and conformity to regulations. The delivery of the SUNBURST to Holloman on-base family housing sections is provided by Alamogordo Daily News. *The deadline for submitting articles to the SUNBURST is 4 p.m. Thursday the week before publication.* For advertising information, call (505) 437-7120.

Wing brings in new year with new command chief

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

The 49th Fighter Wing welcomed its new command chief master sergeant in December.

Chief Master Sgt. Matthew Pollock took over after serving as the 49th Mission Support Group chief. While spending most of his career in the security forces realm, Chief Pollock said he looks forward to working with quality of life issues and just working with the people, who are the heart of the Air Force.

"I'm honored to have been selected as the new command chief," he said. "I sincerely appreciate the confidence Brig. Gen. Jim Hunt, 49th Fighter Wing commander, has placed in me. Former Command Chief Master Sgt. James Callander, focused on quality of life and customer service. I've witnessed a positive change in my 18 months at Holloman in these areas and will continue the same focus."

The command chief is a liaison between the wing com-

mander and the enlisted force. He ensures the commander's policies are known and understood by the enlisted force. He also advises the commander on enlisted force issues, concerns and morale providing support to over 18,000 people.

"I'll work hard in the months ahead on developing our enlisted force," Chief Pollock said. "I'll ensure we take care of them and their families which will allow them to continue to focus their efforts on the mission. In the support business as the security force manager and mission support group chief, I've witnessed the proven formula of 'Mission First; People Always'."

"People always" means teaching and mentoring the junior force to become leaders. Chief Pollock's goal is to continue to concentrate efforts in this arena.

"When it comes to professional development; you haven't seen anything yet," Chief Pollock said. "We'll re-energize our efforts at the First Term Airman Center, additional classes in our Airman Professional Development Program

and a strong Middle-Two Seminar. After promotion release in the summer, we'll have a fantastic Senior Enlisted Enhancement Program."

This chief is full of ideas and plans to put his best foot forward and continue to lead Holloman in the right direction.

The Oklahoma City native joined the Air Force in 1980 and has been around the world throughout his career serving in Germany, Korea, Texas, Kansas, California and Arkansas.

Now the ball stops for him as the Holloman command chief master sergeant.

"The command chief position is an awesome responsibility and I'm excited about the months ahead," he said. "I know I'm not alone. Everyday I get to work with a solid Wing Staff of dedicated professionals. I also have the support of the greatest chiefs and first sergeants in the Air Force. Our troops are focused, energetic and the absolute best at what they do. Our wing leadership, both officer and enlisted, is the best I've seen. They'll continue to get my total support."



The 49th Security Forces Squadron handled the following incidents from Jan. 13 to Monday.

Tickets

Security Forces issued 14 tickets: Two for failure to register vehicle, two for no insurance, two for unsigned registration, three for no driver's license, one for failure to stop, one for limitations on backing, two for speeding one to 10 mph over the speed limit and one for

speeding 11 to 15 mph over the speed limit.

Property loss, damage or theft

- Jan. 13 – A vacuum cleaner was missing from Dorm 340.

- Jan. 13 – A contractor's truck hit a power line pole on West Eighth Street.

- Jan. 13 – A family member lost a bracelet at the gym. Fitness center staff found the bracelet and put it at the front desk. When someone arrived to pick up the bracelet, it was missing.

- Jan. 14 – A petty officer third class reported damage to her privately owned vehicle.

- Jan. 14 – An airman reported he backed a government-owned vehicle into a pole at building 866.

- Jan. 15 – An NCO reported a package, valued at \$29.98, left outside his door by UPS Dec. 22 was missing.

- Jan. 15 – An NCO reported a package, valued at \$50, left outside his door by UPS on Dec. 22 was missing.

Patrol Response

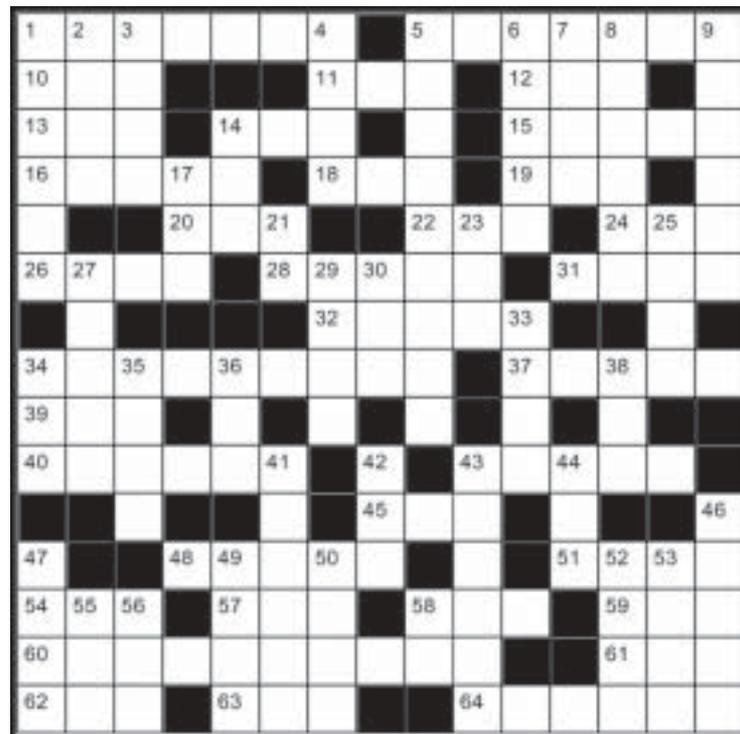
- Jan. 14 – An airman reported a verbal altercation in base housing.

- Jan. 18 – An airman was arrested for driving while intoxicated and trying to carry a concealed weapon on base.

- Jan. 16 – A marijuana joint was found in building 333.

- Jan. 16 – A family member reported she had a verbal altercation in base housing.

CROSSWORD



Hometown USAF (Vol. 2)

ACROSS

1. Maryland AFB home to 113th WG; a/c tail marking of DC
5. Alaska AFB home to 354th FW; a/c tail marking of AK
10. ____-jay Carson Daly
11. Sick
12. Aloha gift
13. Current space project (abbrev.)
14. City in south central Germany
15. Place to rest
16. From the Orient
18. See
19. Founding of a co. (abbrev.)
20. Never
22. Nation wide radio (abbrev.)
24. Inventor Whitney
26. South Korean AB home to 51st FW; a/c tail marking of OS
28. Military trenching tool
31. Greek god of love
32. Worship
34. Colorado AFB home to 50th SW
37. Illinois AFB home to 375th AW
39. Car repair organization (abbrev.)
40. Nebraska AFB home to 55 WG; a/c tail marking of OF
43. California AFB home to 9th Recon Wing; a/c tail marking of BB
45. Neither's partner
48. Slang for 1K
51. Statement given during enlistment/commissioning
54. Stock offer (abbrev.)
57. Lyrical poem
58. Military commander's place of responsibility (abbrev.)
59. School in Carbondale, Ill. (abbrev.)
60. Arkansas AFB home to 314th AW
61. Everything
62. *Lord of the Rings* character
63. California Army fort
64. Try (as in eating)

DOWN

1. Italy AB home to 31st FW; a/c tail marking of AV
2. Untouchable Elliot ____
3. Lucy's partner
4. Alike
5. Alaska AFB home to 3rd WG; a/c tail marking of AK
6. Bugs' nemesis
7. DiCaprio and Burmester
8. Tot watcher
9. Nevada AFB home to 57th WG; a/c tail marking of WA
14. Card game
17. Actress ____-Margaret
21. Secret clearance type (abbrev.)
23. Each
25. Pirate's bounty
27. Title for Hon. James Roche (abbrev.)
29. USAF helicopter MH-53J ____ Hawk
30. Summer drink
33. Italian family who governed Ferrara (13-16 century)
34. Type of military security officer (abbrev.)
35. Hoist
36. Football stat (abbrev.)
38. Car fluid
41. Someone who swaps goods
42. Finish
43. Texas AFB home to 311 HSW
44. Bother
46. Greenland AB home to 821st ABG
47. Arouse
49. Candy brand
50. Geek
52. Military for fast
53. Plow
55. Sewing item
56. Giants great Mel ____
58. Tail marking for aircraft assigned to 177th FW (NJ)

MEO wins ACC award second year in a row

by Senior Airman
Martha Whipple
*49th Fighter Wing
Public Affairs*

Holloman's Military Equal Opportunity Office continues to shine across Air Combat Command. The four-person team captured the Outstanding MEO Office award for the second consecutive year.

Tech. Sgts. Alvin Earp, Trese Smith and Alicia Lewis are the MEO team which provides human resource services such as third party conflict resolution, equal opportunity assistance information, mediation and agency referrals.

Senior Master Sgt. Joseph Lovett, MEO chief who permanently changed stations in June was a big part of our team, said Sergeant Earp.

He added the MEO goal is to enhance morale and mission effectiveness through a pro-active cultivations of fair treatment, equality, open communication, diversity, understanding and respect for our most valued resource: people.

The MEO staff agrees the most important factor in a well-run office is teamwork. Their motto is 'A first resource, not a last resort.'

"Working together, knowing the job and going above and beyond to provide service to our number one customers — the commanders are keys to our success," Sergeant Lewis said. "With a small team, it's imperative to work together to serve the entire base as best we can."

The MEO staff provides various human resource services such as third party conflict resolution, equal opportunity assistance information, mediation, and helping agency referrals.

They also provide formal and informal complaint assistance and processing to all

“Our goal is to continue to do our best, not just to win awards, but to provide top quality services to the base.”

Tech. Sgt. Alvin Earp
Military Equal Opportunity

military members, their family members and retirees who believe they have experienced sexual harassment or unlawful discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion or sex.

The staff also conducts Air Force-mandated human relations education training for all incoming military and Department of Defense civilian personnel.

The MEO staff provides technical guidance as subject matter experts for higher-level complaint processing. MEO personnel conduct Unit Climate Assessments for commanders at all levels to assess their organization's equal opportunity and treatment climate.

The MEO team covers a lot of ground in the human relations realm, but Holloman's team has set the standard across the Air Force.

"The MEO team is a cohesive unit that strives to offer the best services to Holloman," Sergeant Smith said. "This team has worked through obstacles and overcame challenges like undermanning."

"This team has pulled together to represent the base and Air Combat Command as the best MEO across the board," Sergeant Earp said. "Our goal is to continue to do our best, not just to win awards, but to provide top quality services to the base."

RETRAIN *Continued from Page One*

all skills.

If needed, personnel officials will resort to an involuntary retraining phase March 8 through April 26.

"While every effort is made to attract volunteers, some NCOs may be selected for involuntary retraining if the number of volunteers falls short," said Lt. Col. Kim Haney, chief of the Air Force skills requirements branch at the Pentagon. "The enlisted force is not perfectly balanced so we have to take some action to get as close as possible."

The Air Force's fiscal 2003 retraining program was the first action taken in five years, Colonel Haney said.

Some NCOs did not act upon the opportunities presented to them and as a result were involuntarily retrained.

"It's really in the best interest for those identified for retraining to take action and investigate the possibilities," Colonel Haney said.

Tech. Sgt. Derek Hughes, NCO in charge of Air Force enlisted retraining at the Air Force Personnel Center at Randolph Air Force Base, Texas, said he believes more

people identified for retraining in 2004 will consider their options and seek out opportunities.

"I'm guessing that we'll be more successful in the voluntary portion this year because people learned last year that the Air Force was serious about the program. People who were vulnerable, who didn't make their own choice, had it made for them" Sergeant Hughes said.

"Last year we identified people for retraining by name and we're doing that again," Sergeant Hughes said. "They'll get a 'rip' saying they're vulnerable."

A Web page shows them how vulnerable they are and where they stand on a list of their peers by Air Force Specialty Code and grade.

The Web page is available at www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/enlskills/retraining/retraining/htm.

Users must log onto their virtual MPF account to view the data.

The voluntary phase is not limited to individuals identified on the list.

Anyone matching the specialty code and grade, who is

otherwise eligible, can apply for retraining during the voluntary phase.

"Last year, there weren't enough volunteers in Phase 1, so we did a non-vol phase," Sergeant Hughes said. "And even after that, 200 people still didn't submit applications, so we had to pick jobs for them."

"They chose not to decide and were not necessarily happy with results," he said. "We'd rather tell them how to be proactive, how to find something that would interest them."

A complete list of retraining-in opportunities is available on the retraining advisory at local military personnel flights.

Vulnerability listings for retraining-out by grade and specialty code will be updated on a weekly basis.

The MPF also provides real-time updates for applications and actual program status numbers.

For more information, call Staff Sgt. Chris Polk or Senior Airman Timothy Sanford at the MPF at 572-7375. Holloman members can also go to the MPF from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday in Room 111.

On the side

AFSC/TITLE/GRD/#

- 1C6X1/SPACE SYS OPS/E5-30
- 1N2X1/SIGNALS INTEL PRODUCTION/E5-4/E6-12
- 1T1X1/AIRCREW LIFE SUPPORT/E6-8 (NOTE: 2AXXX E5 & BELOW RESTRICTED TO 1AXXXX OR 2AXXXX ONLY)
- 2A0X1B/AVIONICS TEST/HELI & ACFT (MAY RETRAIN OJT INTO 2A0X1A)/E5-6
- 2A571/AEROSPACE MAINT/E6-88/E7-42
- 2A6X2/AEROSP GROUND EQUIP/E6-50/E7-7
- 2E0X1/GROUND RADAR SYSTEMS/E7-4
- 2E1X4/VISUAL IMAGERY & INTRUSION/E6-4
- 2E6X2/COMM CABLE & ANT SYS/E5-13/E6-5/E7-2
- 2MOX2/MSL & SPACE SYS MAINT/E6-6/E7-4

- 2P0X1/PRECISION MEASUREMENT EQUIP LAB/E6-10
- 2R1X1/MAINT PRODUCTION MGT/E6-11
- 2S0X1/SUPPLY MANAGEMENT/E6-69/E7-33
- 2S0X2/SUPPLY SYSTEMS ANALYSIS/E6-2/E7-2
- 2T0X1/TRAFFIC MGT/E5-11/E6-24/E7-6
- 2T370/VEH & EQUIP MAINT/E6-43/E7-9
- 3A0X1/INFORMATION MANAGEMENT/E6-3/E7-64
- 3C1X1/RADIO COMM SYSTEMS/E6-5/E7-2
- 3E0X1/ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS/E5-22/E6-23/E7-8
- 3E1X1/HEATING, VENT, A/C, & REFRIG/E5-13
- 3E2X1/PAVEMENT & CONST EQUIP/E6-25/E7-7
- 3E3X1/STRUCTURAL/E6-22
- 3E4X1/UTILITIES SYS/E6-17/E7-9

- 3E4X2/LIQUID FUEL SYS MAINT/E6-3
- 3E6X1/OPERATIONS MANAGEMENT E5-6
- 3MOX1/SERVICES/E6-6/E7-13
- 3P051/SECURITY FORCES (RESTRICTED TO •• 3P0X1A OR B)/E5-27
- 4A0X1/HEALTH SERVICES MGMT/E6-32
- 4A1X1/MEDICAL MATERIAL/E6-10
- 4N071/AEROSPACE MEDICAL SERVICE/E6-39/E7-15
- 4N1X1/SURGICAL SERVICE (RESTRICTED TO • 4N1X1B,C,D)/E5-6/E6-6
- 4N171/SURGICAL SERVICE/E7-2
- 4R0X1/DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING (RESTRICTED TO 4R0X1A, B OR C)/E5-10/E6-10
- 4Y071/DENTAL ASST/E6-9
- 4Y072/DENTAL LAB/E6-5

CE posts new markers at outdoor running trail

by **Laura Pellegrino**
Sunburst staff writer

Holloman's outdoor trail has been modified to include distance markers and three different starting points.

Originally, the trail had one starting point across from the Fitness and Sports Center on West Gate Road. From there, it continued and turned west on New Mexico Avenue and passed the water treatment plant.

Because there were no official distance markers on the trail, some runners painted their own. The unofficial markers were measured using different starting points, creating confusion for other runners, said 2nd Lt. Jim Hunt, Fitness and Sports Center director.

The 49th Civil Engineer Squadron was asked to remark the trail, but with three separate starting points.

The first starting point, the green trail, still starts across from the Fitness and Sports

Center on West Gate Avenue. The second starting point, the red trail, starts on West Gate Avenue and West New Mexico Avenue. The yellow trail is the third starting point, which is located on Mesquite Road near the housing area.

"With multiple starting points, someone in housing area doesn't have to drive to the fitness center to use the trail," Lieutenant Hunt said.

The distance on each trail is marked with green, red or yellow color-coded posts.

"The new marking system is beneficial to runners because it marks out running paths in three different colors," said Capt. Dewlen, 49th Services Squadron Combat Support flight chief. "It also adds variety and accountability of miles ran."

All three of the starting points merge and continue in the same path as the original trail. The unofficial distance markers have been removed from the track to alleviate confusion, Lieutenant Hunt said.





Photo by Airman 1st Class Vanessa LaBoy

A penny saved is a ...

Brian Voight, kindergarten student, used six different types of juices to test which would make each penny the shiniest in his science fair project. Holloman Primary School's first place science fair winners are: Jacob Leuquire, Gage Bongo, Charles Allen, Alicia Clark, Cheyenne Eldridge, Megan Clark and Shannon McCrea.

SAFETY *Continued from Page One*

panel on this particular night, he found the nut on the oil tank support arm was loose. The unsecured support arm was repeatedly contacting the power take-off shaft, a critical component of the rotating engine, causing substantial damage in just five minutes at idle power. He immediately communicated the malfunction to the pilot who shutdown the engine and aborted the aircraft. Technicians estimate the engine would have failed in 30 to 45 minutes. His discovery was approximately 25 minutes prior to takeoff.

This proactive, safety-conscious initiative is precisely the kind of performance the Wing Safety office aims to encourage and recognize with our Safety Awards Program. We present awards quarterly in three differ-

ent categories — flight, ground and weapons safety. Additionally, one individual is awarded the Wing Commander's Annual Safety Award at the end of each fiscal year. The nomination process is very simple. Any commander can nominate an individual for an award with a letter or an e-mail to the safety office.

Most often, supervisors think of nominating an individual for a safety award when they react in a professional manner after a dangerous incident occurs. A pilot who successfully recovers an aircraft after a catastrophic engine failure, for example, would certainly be worthy of some kind of recognition.

Equally "heroic," however, is an individual like Airman Sablotny who takes proactive initiatives that avert poten-

tially serious mishaps before they occur. In this case, it's very likely his efforts prevented a catastrophic engine failure that may have required a heroic save in the air. In fact, his positive action broke the chain of events that may have been leading to the loss of an aircraft and possibly an F-117 pilot.

While admittedly more difficult to identify, I believe supervisors at all levels who are actively looking can and will identify such situations where folks take positive action that prevent possible mishaps. I also believe a conscious effort to encourage, identify, and recognize this kind of performance will help continue to develop a culture of mishap prevention in the wing, saving lives and equipment in the process.

ACC commander gives tips on e-mail

by **Laura Pellegrino**
Sunburst staff writer

E-mail continues to grow as a means of communication, and as the number of messages in a person's inbox increases, so does the confusion about how to manage the influx of information.

Gen. Hal Hornburg, Air Combat Command commander, sent a memo, dated Dec. 11, 2003 to offer e-mail tips.

Information overload is a common occurrence for today's warrior, the letter read. There are daily conscious choices we all must make to try and manage the volumes of information we receive.

According to General Hornburg's memo, it's important to establish and enforce rules to eliminate inappropriate or potentially damaging e-mail.

E-mail can come back to haunt us, he said. It is considered an official government record and is legally searchable on your computer and subject to record retention policies.

E-mail should be treated as if it were a hardcopy correspondence, said Maj. Brent Hepner, 49th Communications Squadron Information Systems Flight commander.

"Take the time to proofread your work and then ensure you file away the correspondence in electronic files similar to the way you would file printed correspondence," he said. "The comm squadron allows users to keep 40 megabytes of e-mail on the servers. Any additional e-mails should be kept in personal folders in Microsoft Outlook."

Workgroup managers can assist users in setting up personal folders, which should be maintained as a government record, Major Hepner said.

To make it easier to determine what an e-mail is about, subject lines should include keywords that describe the content of the message, General Hornburg said.

"This helps the recipients prioritize, file and search for mes-

sages," he said. "Use the basic elements of effective writing: Clarity, brevity and courtesy.

To be courteous, don't use unprofessional language and limit sarcasm and humor, he said.

It's important to be professional when dealing with e-mail because it should be for official use only.

The main culprit in unofficial use is chain e-mails, Major Hepner said.

"Chain letters will clog up our networks pretty quickly because of the mass amount of people that get involved in propagating the message," he said. "Also, the forwarding of jokes is not allowed because of the additional use of bandwidth. The use of e-mail for anything illegal, such as forwarding copyrighted material or other criminal offenses, is not allowed for obvious reasons."

Quotes, logos and graphics should also be avoided because they increase the size of the e-mail message, which requires additional bandwidth.

"When we transmit messages externally, they travel across leased circuits," he said. "The government leases enough bandwidth to cover our mission requirements. If bandwidth is consumed by unofficial e-mail traffic, this can potentially hamper the mission and we will have to purchase more bandwidth, which costs the taxpayers more money."

Following these guidelines can improve the effectiveness of e-mail, but computers shouldn't replace in-person meetings, General Hornburg said.

Using e-mail can be a great avenue for accomplishing a diverse set of tasks in an expedient manner but it shouldn't replace the time spent away from the computer to deal face-to-face with critical air force issues, General Hornburg said. The general challenges all airmen to use this guide and be a part of the Air Combat Command team effort to reduce and effectively manage the amount of e-mail we receive.

AF logo authorized on jacket

by Staff Sgt. Melanie Streeter
Air Force Print News

Air Force Uniform Board members have introduced a new addition to the lightweight blue jacket.

"The Air Force chief of staff approved adding the Air Force logo to the existing lightweight blue jacket," said Senior Master Sgt. Jacqueline Dean of the Air Force Uniform Board.

All told, 300 jackets will be distributed Air Force-wide for wear testing, Sergeant Dean said. Board members are targeting Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala., as a distribution point because of its high number of temporary duty officers and enlisted airmen.

"Because the TDY members come from so many bases throughout the Air Force, giving them out at Maxwell allows us to reach a large audience in a short amount of time," Sergeant Dean said.

Airmen receiving the jackets will wear test them and give feedback to the uniform board about fraying or other problems with the embroidery, Sergeant Dean said.

Anyone not issued an embroidered

jacket can have the logo applied on their jacket by a local embroidery shop using certain guidelines, Sergeant Dean said.

The Air Force logo is to be embroidered in a polyester white meridian thread with a stiff tear-off backing, according to information provided by Libby Glade, Air Force clothing office chief. The total stitch count of the logo and lettering will be between 4,200 and 5,000 stitches.

The symbol is to fit within a two-inch square. There is a one-fourth inch space between the symbol's lowest point and the "U.S. AIR FORCE" type.

The "U.S. AIR FORCE" type is to be one-fourth of an inch high, 3.5 inches long, in all capital Arial font, 24 point.

The symbol is to be embroidered on the upper left chest. The dot in the center of the symbol is centered vertically between the shoulder seam and where the underarm side seam joins the armhole sleeve, and centered horizontally between the zipper and the sleeve armhole seam.

Rank on the jacket continues to be worn on either the collar or the sleeve, Sergeant Dean said.



Photo by Master Sgt. Jim Varhegyi

Air Force Uniform Board members have introduced embroidering the Air Force logo onto the lightweight blue jacket as an optional wear item. The new addition will undergo a wear-testing period at Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala. Airmen can have the addition added to their jackets at any time by visiting an embroidery shop.

2005 BRAC process begins

by K.L. Vantran
American Forces Press Service

Base commanders in the United States and its territories and possessions have been asked to gather data on their installations in preparation for the 2005 round of base realignments and closures, Defense Department officials said.

The fiscal 2002 National Defense Authorization Act authorized the DoD to pursue one BRAC round in 2005. The department will use BRAC to eliminate unnecessary infrastructure and to increase military capability and effectiveness, officials said.

Formal data calls, officials said, ensure the department collects and uses the most current data on installations throughout the BRAC analysis. This data call is one of many steps in the BRAC process, officials explained. Others will be added as needed.

The department published draft selection criteria in the Dec. 23 Federal Register for public comment. Comments are due by Jan. 28. The list of BRAC recommendations will be submitted to the independent BRAC commission by May 16, 2005.

The Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990 (Public Law 101-501, as amended by the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2002, requires that closure and realignment recommendations be based on published criteria that make military value the primary consideration.

Military value criteria include:

- Current and future mission capabilities and the impact on operational readiness of DoD's total force, including the impact on joint warfighting, training and readiness.

- The availability and condition of land, facilities and associated airspace (including training areas suitable for maneuver by ground, naval or air forces throughout a diversity of climate and terrain areas and staging areas for the use of the armed forces in homeland defense missions) at both existing and potential receiving locations.

- The ability to accommodate contingency, mobilization and future total-force requirements at both existing and potential receiving locations to support operations and training.

- The cost of operations and the manpower implications.

Hoaxes affect government cards

by Staff Sgt. Melanie Streeter
Air Force Print News

A recent e-mail hoax targeted government purchasing cardholders in an attempt to gain vital account information.

The e-mail message linked users to a Web-based form, which fraudulently requested key information such as Social Security number, credit card account numbers and expiration dates.

"This is really uncommon," said Josephine Davis, Air Force banking officer. "What you see most frequently is some organization trying to pick up a slogan or relationship to (General Services Administration) because GSA administers the government purchasing contract."

Though there were only a couple of e-mail hoaxes this year, Davis said there are a variety of methods used to get government travel or purchasing card information.

"It's not because they're travel or purchasing cards, but because they are credit cards," she said.

"Credit and charge card fraud costs

cardholders and issuers hundreds of millions of dollars each year," according to the Federal Trade Commission's Web site.

Both Davis and the FTC offer ways to avoid becoming the next victim.

"Be cautious," Davis said. "In general, unless you have initiated the transaction, nobody has any need to know your account number or expiration date. Banks don't even need that information to be able to find customers in the system."

The FTC backs up that advice.

"Don't give out your account number over the phone unless you're making the call to a company you know is reputable," according to the Web site. "If you have questions about a company, check it out with your local consumer protection office or Better Business Bureau."

Any attempts to obtain government card information should be reported.

"If you receive a hoax e-mail or any other fraudulent requests, contact your agency program coordinator," Davis said.

If it is too late, and fraudulent charges appear on a credit card statement, there are still things cardholders can do to pro-

tect themselves, Davis said.

"Follow the standard information on the back of your credit card statement, and again, contact your agency program coordinator," Davis said.

While the cardholder is ultimately responsible for resolving the issue, the program coordinator can help work with the card company. Once a card is lost or stolen, or any other type of fraud is detected, the customer should immediately call the credit card issuer.

"By law, once you report the loss or theft, you have no further responsibility for unauthorized charges," according to the site. "In any event, your maximum liability under federal law is \$50 per card."

Problems aside, the government travel and purchasing card programs are still a good thing, Davis said.

"The government charge card, though sometimes cumbersome, has been an effective program," she said. "It has saved time and money, and if used and safe guarded appropriately, is a good procurement tool."

Correction

The Sunburst editor apologizes for misquoting Ms. Donna DiRoma in the Jan. 9 issue.

Road closures

As part of the ongoing construction of new housing units, the section of Martin Avenue from the intersection of Fairchild Drive to Patrick Avenue is closed from Jan. 26 to Jan. 31. This closure will allow the contractors to install the sewage lines and the waterlines that will provide that area of housing with service. There will be a detour in place that will affect residents of the following streets: Martin Avenue, Eglin Place, Patrick Avenue, Lockheed Avenue, Hughes Avenue, Andrews Drive, Langley Court, Kirtland Place, Griffis Court, Nellis Place, Keesler Court, Lea Loop, Boeing Avenue, Luna Loop, Hidalgo Loop, Otero Loop, Sierra Loop, Sierra Place, and Torrence Place.

For more information, call Lt. Stacy Nimmo at 572-5832.

TRICARE relocation

The TRICARE Service Center has relocated to the main clinic, building 15, across from the laboratory. Phone numbers are TRICARE, 572-7700 and TRIWEST, 479-4500 option 5.

Position open

The chapel has an immediate opening for a part time accounting technician, not to exceed 20 hours per week.

Previous accounting experience valuable and desirable, with a working knowledge of Quickbooks, computer systems and software. You may pick up a position statement of work detailing this position from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday to Friday at the chapel.

For more information or to schedule an interview, call the chapel at 572 7211.

Scholarships

Mrs. Hilaria Nunag and Mr. Jacob Aoga

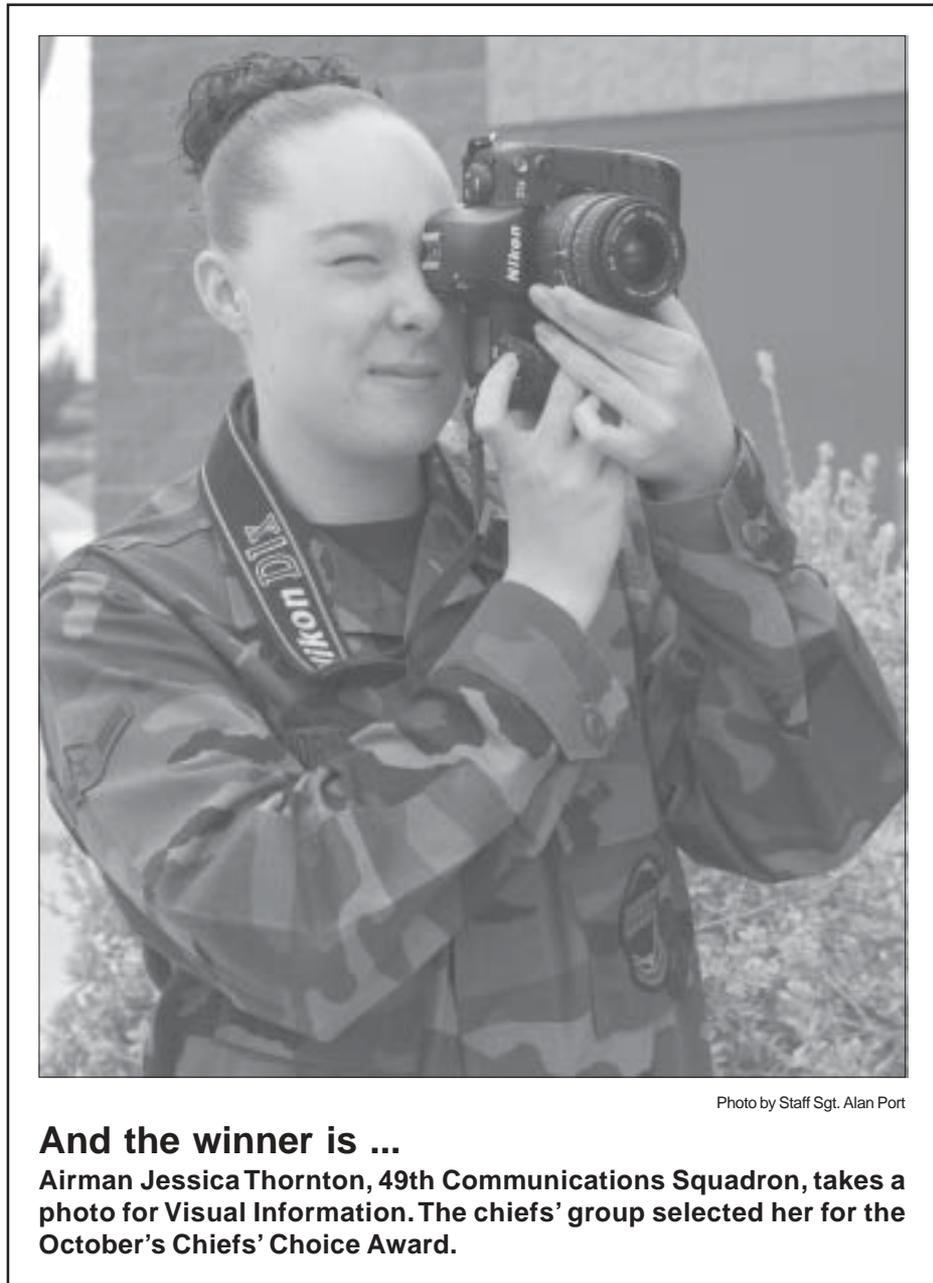


Photo by Staff Sgt. Alan Port

And the winner is ...

Airman Jessica Thornton, 49th Communications Squadron, takes a photo for Visual Information. The chiefs' group selected her for the October's Chiefs' Choice Award.

received \$200 Richard Lopez Memorial Scholarships and \$169 toward books Jan. 13. Mrs. Nunag is a military spouse attending New Mexico State University full-time and working at the Holloman Legal Office on a work/study program. Mr. Aoga is a military dependent and Alamogordo High School student who has been accepted to attend the University of Colorado, Boulder.

The scholarship was established in the name of Mr. Richard Lopez who was Holloman's Hispanic Employment Program Manager and Hispanic Heritage Committee chairman.

Speakers Bureau

Public Affairs is offering Team Holloman members the opportunity to participate in speaking engagements in the community. The Speakers Bureau is a chance for all airmen to tell their story and promote the Air Force at schools, conferences and to non-profit organizations. The

Alamogordo community is always looking for airmen of all ranks to speak at their venues.

For information about participating, call Airman 1st Class Vanessa LaBoy at 572-5406.

Heritage Park moving

To accommodate construction of Holloman's new base exchange, the Air Park (Heritage Park) will be relocated to the soccer field beside building 29. To ensure the safety of members of Team Holloman, Heritage Park will be unavailable during the construction period which continues through March of 2004.

For more information, call 572-5832.

SNAP

Spay and Neuter Assistance Program is at the Holloman Air Force Base Veterinary Clinic Feb. 2, 3 and 4. Cost is \$20 (cash only). Paperwork needs to be filled out at the Veterinary Clinic before an appoint-

ment can be made. Space is limited. The clinic is open 8 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4 p.m., Monday to Thursday. The offer is open to all military and retirees.

ALS graduation

Airman Leadership School class 04-B has their graduation banquet at 6 p.m., Feb. 10 in the ballroom of the Oasis Enlisted Club. Commanders, first sergeants, supervisors, family and friends are invited to join the graduates. Ample seating is available. See an ALS student for a ticket. The menu is charbroiled NY strip steak for \$15 for club member and \$17 for non-club members or Baled Cod for \$14 for club members and \$16 for non-club members. R.S.V.P. with a student no later than Jan. 30.

For more information, call the ALS at 572-5860.

Women's history month

The first National Women's History Month committee meeting is 2 p.m., today in the Military Equal Opportunity classroom, building 29, Suite 2170.

For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Trese Smith or Staff Sgt. Alicia Lewis at 572-3032.

Communications training

The annual 49th Fighter Wing Communications and Information Professional, Education and Training and Personnel Manager of the Year Awards Luncheon is at 11:30 a.m., Wednesday at the Oasis Enlisted Club. Check with your group point of contact for cost, tickets and meal choices.

FSC

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

- Spouse employment workshop: 1 to 2:30 p.m., Monday.

- Basic investment class: 8:30 to 11:30 a.m., Tuesday.

- Advanced investment class: 8 to 11 a.m., Wednesday.

- Yours, mine and ours: 9 to 10:30 a.m., Thursday.

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

Red Cross

The Red Cross schedule of events is as follows:

- First aid training: 9 a.m. to noon, Feb. 3 at the Alamogordo branch.

- Infant/child CPR: 1 to 3 p.m., Feb. 5 at the Alamogordo branch.

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

B On the BIG SCREEN



Stuck on You (PG-13)

7 p.m., today

The Last Samurai (R)

7 and 10 p.m., Saturday

The Human Stain (R)

7 p.m., Sunday and Thursday

For a limited time, tickets are 99 cents.

What's going on in the Tularosa Basin and beyond

Relay for life

The 2004 American Cancer Society's Relay for Life is April 30 to May 1 at Grigg's Field in Alamogordo.

The relay kick-off with the Harlem Ambassadors (formerly the Globetrotters) is 6 p.m., Feb. 21 at Alamogordo High School's Tiger Pit. Tickets are \$5 for ages 18 and under, \$7 for the general public and \$1 more at the door.

For more information or to purchase tickets for the kick-off event, contact Ms. Beth Markle at 479-6026 or eam@zianet.com.

Banquet

The Noel Southard Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation holds their annual banquet at 6 p.m., Feb. 28 at the Otero County Fair Building. There will be auctions, drawings, door prizes, great food and fun for all.

For more information, call 437-2542.

Space museum

The New Mexico Museum of Space History is kicking off a year-long celebration of the exploration of Mars with Mars Day on Saturday. There will be special events all day at the museum and persons wearing a red colored item of outer apparel will be admitted to the museum for half-price.

For more information, call 434-2840 or (877) 333-6589.

State park permits

Annual day-use and camping permits are now available for all 31 New Mexico state parks. Valid until Dec. 31, the permits can be purchased at any park visitor center or at the New Mexico State Parks Division office in Santa Fe, 1220 St. Francis

Drive. Day-use permits are \$20 for one vehicle and \$10 for an additional vehicle for both residents and non-residents. Camping permits are available for \$90 to New Mexico residents who are 62 or older and to disabled New Mexico residents. Without a permit, camping fees are \$10 a day in a developed site.

For more information about fees and permits, call (888) NM-PARKS or visit www.nmparks.com.

Country Five

There is a dance at the Senior Center to the music of Country Five from 7 to 9:30 p.m., today.

For more information, call 443-4150.

Crochet guild

Crochet Guild of America, the Alamogordo Touch of Class Chapter, meets from 6:30 to 8 p.m., Monday at Old Town Needlework, 908 New York Ave. All levels of crocheters welcome.

For more information, call 437-3832.

Give blood

United Blood Services is at the Family Recreation Center in the gym from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Jan. 31.

For more information, call 437-8922, ext. 15.

Car club

Golden Gears Car Club has a "cruise-in" at 6:30 p.m., Jan. 31 at Dairy Queen.

For more information, call 434-0200.

White Sands hours

During February, the White Sands National Monument Visitor Center will be open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Dunes Drive may be entered from 7 a.m. to sunset daily, except during mis-

sile test closures. All visitors must exit the park by one hour after sunset. Entrance fee: \$3 per adult (17 and over), free for children.

Nature walk

The sunset stroll nature walk is 4:15 p.m., today, Saturday and Sunday. The schedule is subject to change.

For more information, call 479-6124 or (505) 679-2599, extension 232. Visit the park's Web site at www.nps.gov/whsa

Volunteers

White Sands National Monument is seeking volunteers to work at the Heart of the Sands Nature Center and Interpretive Boardwalk in the heart of the dunes. Volunteers will be trained to assist park rangers in interpreting the natural history of the park to visitors. They will learn about the plants, animals and geology of the dunes, the history and mission of the National Park Service, and how to answer visitors' questions about the park. Volunteers should be willing to work a minimum of four hours per week. A training session for volunteers will be January 26 through 28.

For more information call Mr. John Mangimeli at (505) 479-6124 or (505) 679-2599 ext. 230.

Stars-N-Parks

The National Public Observatory's Stars-N-Parks program is 6:40 p.m., Saturday at Oliver Lee Memorial State Park's group shelter. Cost is \$4 per vehicle for entry to the park. Visitors observe the moon, Venus, Mars, Saturn and the winter sky.

For more information, call 437-8284.



Photos by Airman 1st Class Stephen Collier

49th Security Forces Squadron forward Devon Spurlock rolls a layup into the basket past blocking 8th Aircraft Maintenance Unit forward Tyrone Murray during their 63-59 win Jan. 16 at the Fitness and Sports Center.

David vs. Goliath

49 SFS slips by 8th AMU 63-59

by Airman 1st Class
Stephen Collier

49th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Center Mark Lee and power forward Al Johnson, the towering giants of the 49th Security Forces Squadron intramural basketball team, helped their team beat the 8th Aircraft Maintenance Unit 63-59 Jan. 16 at the Fitness and Sports Center.

The game began with only four players for the 8th AMU, placing them at a disadvantage from the start compared to their rivals, the 49th SFS team. Both teams rocketed off from the jump ball, SFS scoring first. Forward Craig Peterson tossed in the first three-pointer for the 8th, leaving them behind by two, 5-3.

The 8th continued to play valiantly, but a huge offensive push by SFS pushed the score upward to 15-10 with layups by Lee and guard Devon Spurlock. The 8th's forward Tyrone Murray and guard Will Coburn brought on outside three-pointers at the half, leaving their team trailing 29-23. The 8th coach

Coburn said his team knows they need to keep it together.

"We only have four guys, but we're doing really well," coach Coburn said. "We just need to stick it to their big guys and concentrate on our shots, and we could come out on top."

SFS came out of the first half ready to go as they started off with a three-pointer by Spurlock, putting pressure on the 8th. As if by reaction, the 8th's Murray arched a three to the basket, putting his team at 37-33.

The 8th began to dominate the board the last 10 minutes of the game with consecutive on-the-money shots by guard Marcus Preston and Murray, putting the team behind by five.

SFS's Lee led his team's defense, but the 8th pressed on, staying right behind with added three point shots by Coburn. With one minute left, Preston added three fouls to stop SFS, but no success. The 8th ended the game four points behind, 63-59.

For information on the season and teams, call the Fitness and Sports Center at 572-3229.



Intramural Standings - Basketball

Large Unit

Small Unit

Over 30

Team	Win	Loss	Team	Win	Loss	Team	Win	Loss
49 OSS A	4	0	49 CES B	2	2	49 CES	4	0
49 LRS	2	2	49 MSS/FW	3	0	49 MDG	4	0
49 MDG	2	1	46 TG	3	0	49 LRS	1	2
49 CESA	3	1	49 OSS B	1	2	46 TG	2	2
8 AMU	2	2	4 SPCS	3	1	4 SPCS	1	3
49 MXS	2	2	746 TS	2	1	49 MXS	1	2
9 AMU	1	2	49 MXS	0	4	49 SFS	0	3
49 MMG	0	3	49 CS	1	3			
49 SFS	0	3	49 CONS	1	3			

(Current as of Jan. 20)

(Current as of Jan. 20)

(Current as of Jan. 15)

World of Sports

Holloman Air Force Base Bench Press Competition is scheduled for 5 p.m. Monday at the Fitness and Sports Center

The Holloman Intramural Winter Golf Tournament swings into the semifinals this Thursday. The 49th Services Squadron will compete against the winner of Thursday's tee off between the 49th Operations Support Squadron and the 49th Logistics Readiness Squadron A team.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Stephen Collier

Pushing Tin

Michael Woodward, member of the 49 FW/MSS team, places the golf ball on the green. The Holloman Intramural Winter Golf Tournament finals takes place Feb. 5 at the Apache Mesa Golf Course.

New law protects servicemembers

by Army Sgt. 1st Class Doug Sample
American Forces Press Service

A new law replacing the Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act of 1940 provides servicemembers greater protections to handle personal financial and legal obligations, officials said.

President Bush signed the Service Members' Civil Relief Act into law Dec. 19.

"The focus of the (new act) is the same as under the SSCRA: To provide protections to servicemembers who have difficulty meeting their personal financial and legal obligations because of their military service," said Lt. Col. Patrick Lindemann, deputy director for legal policy in the office of the undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness.

This is significant, because it clarifies and updates SSCRA provisions and adds some protections.

"Servicemembers on long-term de-

ployments, or called to active duty, should not have to worry about their families in their absence being evicted from their quarters without sufficient legal protections, or that they are paying on a leased car or apartment that they can't use, or about civil legal proceedings they can't attend because of their deployment," he said.

"These are some of the situations the SCRA covers so that servicemembers are able to devote their energies to the military mission and the defense needs of the nation, and not on civil matters waiting for them at home," he said.

An automatic 90-day stay of civil proceedings upon application by the servicemember is what Colonel Lindemann called "a significant change" in the new act. This applies to all judicial and administrative hearings. Previously, stays were discretionary with the courts.

The new relief act also makes it clear the 6-percent limitation on interest

rates for pre-service debts requires a reduction in monthly payments, and any interest in excess of 6 percent is forgiven, not deferred, Colonel Lindemann said.

The SCRA also expanded the protection against eviction. Under the SSCRA, servicemembers and their family who entered into a lease for \$1,200 or less could not be evicted without a court order.

This amount is increased to \$2,400 and added an annual inflation adjustment. For 2004, the maximum will be \$2,465, significantly increasing the number of servicemembers entitled to this protection, Colonel Lindemann said.

The new relief act also gives the servicemember who has received permanent change-of-station orders or who is being deployed for 90 days or more the right to terminate a housing lease with 30 days' written notice. Before, servicemembers could be required to

pay for housing they were unable to occupy.

One of the more significant new provisions is an added protection for motor-vehicle leases.

Any active-duty servicemember who has received PCS orders outside the continental United States, or who is being deployed for 180 days or more, may terminate a motor-vehicle lease. The law prohibits early termination charges.

"Now, servicemembers won't have to pay monthly lease payments for a car they can't use," Colonel Lindemann said.

"Servicemembers may not always realize all the protections they have under the law," Colonel Lindemann said. "If servicemembers have questions about the SCRA or the protections that they may be entitled to, they should contact their unit judge advocate or installation legal assistance officer for further assistance."

Crossing into the blue ... again

by **Laura Pellegrino**
Sunburst staff writer

Two Team Holloman members are trading their stripes for bars this year after being selected for the Enlisted Commissioning Program.

Staff Sgt. Jason Jones, 49th Operations Support Squadron Intelligence Applications craftsman, and Staff Sgt. Clifton Linde, 49th Maintenance Squadron Munitions Custody account manager, were two of 50 enlisted members across the Air Force chosen to participate in the Airman Scholarship and Commissioning Program.

Through the program, Sergeants Jones and Linde will receive up to \$15,000 per year for tuition fees and \$510 per year for textbooks. While in school, they will complete an ROTC program to become commissioned officers.

“Those selected had to qualify for the program with their grades and transcripts, said Velmo Holm, 49th Mission Support Squadron Base Training and Education Services chief. “They com-

peted with hundreds of other candidates.”

It was the second time Sergeant Jones had competed for the award. The first time he submitted a package, he wasn't selected.

“Not being selected the first time made me try harder,” he said. “Now that I've been selected, I'm humbled by it,” Sergeant Jones said. “I realize it's a big responsibility.”

Sergeant Jones was inspired to become an officer by the mentors he's had through the years, he said. As an officer he will have a more direct impression on where the Air Force is going, he said.

Sergeant Linde, a General Studies major, also feels he can make more of a contribution to the Air Force as an officer.

“After I'm commissioned, if it's up to me, I will come right back to ammo,” he said.

Sergeant Jones will attend New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, and Sergeant Linde will attend Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Vanessa LaBoy

Action!!!

Airman 1st Class Burt Traynor, 49th Communications Squadron videographer shows seventh grader Timm Konrad his video camera during Holloman Middle School's Career Fair, Wednesday. More than 15 local businesses and base units set up booths for the fair.