



## Briefly

### 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 Web site at [wwwmil.holloman.af.mil/wing/legal/index.html](http://wwwmil.holloman.af.mil/wing/legal/index.html).

Holloman's Tax Center is at building 29, Room 2150.

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

### AETC briefing

The AETC Special Duty Briefing team will brief on all aspects of special duty opportunities at 10 a.m., Tuesday in building 222, Room 112. Spouses may attend. Senior airmen through master sergeants with less than 17 years total active service are eligible to apply.

The team can expedite the special duty application packages in most cases.

### Force Shaping

Members thinking about leaving the Air Force through the Palace Chase "Force Shaping" can call Master Sgt. Louie Birkholz from the New Mexico Air National Guard at 572-0026 to hear about options.

### Testing in progress

Alamogordo High School is Terra Nova testing Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. The testing is for freshman only. Freshman students will need to report to school at the regular time. Sophomores, juniors and seniors will need to report to school at 10:20 am.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Alan Port

### On the go

Senior Airman Brad Miller tosses a mobility bag in the heap as Airman 1st Class Joshua Helms (center) and Airman Elizabeth Sexton stand by. The 49th Logistics Readiness Squadron War Readiness section loaded bags for 150 Team Holloman members who left for Eagle Flag Saturday.

## Major general visits 417 WPS

by Senior Airman Martha Whipple  
49th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

A T-38 instructor pilot at Holloman in 1979 returned Monday to tour units connected to Headquarters, Air Warfare Center.

Maj. General Stephen Wood, AWFC commander, visited the 417th Weapons Squadron, Detachment 1, 53rd Test and Evaluations Group and Det. 1, 82nd Aerial Target Squadron.

The 417th WPS, in its first year, has come a long way since the initial validation course, according to the general. The school is training and graduating premiere F-117A Night-hawk instructors.

"They're not only the best instructors in the F-117A," he said, "but they're outstanding instructors across the Combat Air Forces."

The F-117A has played a major role in historical and recent operations. It was the first aircraft in Baghdad during Operations Desert Storm and Iraqi Freedom.

"The 49th Fighter Wing is among

**see VISIT on Page 4**

## Telling the services story to FTAC

by Senior Airman Martha Whipple  
49th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

The 49th Services Squadron and the 49th Mission Support Squadron are adding a Services Day to the First Term Airmen's Center beginning March 5.

The Services Day will give new-



to-Holloman airmen a break from the classroom-style training at FTAC and end their week with a fun day of

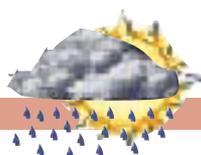
competition and recreation while they learn about the 49th Services Squadron.

"I want the Holloman FTAC program to be the benchmark for all FTACs," said Tech. Sgt. Danny Davis, FTAC director. "This imple-

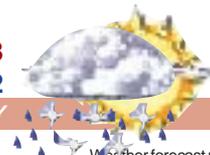
**see FTAC on Page 5**



High: 67  
Low: 36  
TODAY



High: 58  
Low: 42  
SATURDAY



High: 54  
Low: 34  
SUNDAY



High: 57  
Low: 30  
MONDAY

# Quiz time: Are you your unit's weakest link?

by Lt. Col. Cephas Franklin

14th Communications Squadron commander

The host of the popular television game show *The Weakest Link* puts contestants on the spot by firing question after question at them in a timed round.

The player who best handles the pressure and answers the most questions correctly usually winds up the winner.

Let's play this game in under less stressful conditions. I'm going to ask you to answer some simple yes-or-no questions geared toward information technology.

- Do you have your network or e-mail password written under your keyboard or in an area anyone can easily access?
- Have you shared your network or e-mail password with anyone?
- Did you click "yes" when the virus-warning screen popped up on your computer, instead of notifying your computer security manager?
- Have you shared your new Common Access Card

personal identification number with anyone?

- Have you walked away from your desk while logged into the network without locking your computer?
- Have you forgotten the name of your system administrator or computer security manager?
- Have you loaded software on your computer without permission or approval?
- Have you connected any items to your computer or the network without an OK from the designated approval authority?
- Have you visited unauthorized Web sites?

Now that you've taken the quiz, here's the secret: If you answered yes to any of the questions, you could be the weakest link in your unit's ability to secure its part of the Air Force network enterprise.

The days of base networks being stand-alone and independent of the rest of the Air Force are no more. What you do at your base has an immediate impact on your major command's infrastructure and subsequently the rest of the Air Force.

The bottom line is we've become a network-centric

entity, and each member shares the responsibility of protecting the network. It's not just the communication squadron's responsibility. Every member of the team plays an important role in protecting this resource.

A breach of network security could influence whether we strike the right target, cause innocent civilians to lose their lives or cause an international incident. That is where every person comes in. We are the keepers of the gate when it comes to network security. It's our responsibility to understand the policies, know the procedures and know where to go for help when network security issues arise.

The next time you change your password, store it in a secure place. The next time your computer becomes infected with a virus, know the procedures and who to contact. When you need software for operational use, ensure the designated approval authority OKs it.

Remember, as gatekeepers we are the enforcers. Don't be your unit's weakest link. What we do does not just stop at the front gate — it stretches far and wide across the Air Force.

## Holloman Hotline 572-7500



The Hotline is your direct link to the 49th Fighter Wing commander. If you've tried to solve the problem yourself and haven't been able to get results, call 572-7500 or e-mail [cc.hotline@holloman.af.mil](mailto:cc.hotline@holloman.af.mil). Before submitting a Hotline, please give the

appropriate agencies a chance to work out the problem.

If you want to pass on praise for a job well done, contact the supervisor or commander directly who can provide the appropriate recognition to the individual or group. The unit commanders and agency chiefs want to help. Let them try first.

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

### Sauna heat

**Q:** We've asked over and over again for the Fitness and Sports Center staff to fix the saunas.

**A:** The excuses I've been getting are there's a lot of paper work that's in-

involved, the 49th Civil Engineer Squadron hasn't done it yet, don't feel bad the men's isn't working either ... etc.

**Basically, I've been getting a barrage of excuses as to why it isn't working. Is this problem going to be taken care of?**

**A:** Thank you for your call. The saunas are both fixed and working. However, some of our customers are making it difficult to keep them working. I remind everyone not to adjust the temperature or throw water on the heaters.

"Customer adjustments" have broken the heaters and caused a lot of sauna downtime.

A polite reminder to all: If you want to use these great facilities, we all must help maintain them! Follow the rules!

## DUI Update

Days since last DUI	<b>6</b>
DUIs this year	<b>16</b>
This week last year	<b>10</b>

### Last six DUIs

- 49 MMS Feb. 21
- 8 AMU Feb. 16
- 49 MMS Feb. 13
- 49 LRS Feb. 8
- 49 CS Feb. 7
- 49 CS Feb. 2

## 572-RIDE works!

Calls made are lives saved

**242** Saves this year

**17** 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 Stephen Collier ..... Staff writer
- Laura Pellegrino ..... Staff writer

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VISIT *Continued from Page One*

the most famous wings, with a long-standing tradition of outstanding performance,” General Wood said. “With the F-117, the wing will continue to lead the way. From the initial stages of Baghdad to future operations, I see them being a critical part, whether it’s maintaining the F-117 or advancing to newer weapons systems.”

The general has experienced the fighter’s evolution during his 25 years of service. He said the F-117 will still be the premiere kick-down-the-door aircraft because of its stealth and precision weapons capabilities.

“The weapons squadron will continue with those capabilities and integrate them with other weapons systems throughout the Combat Air Forces,” General Wood said.

In December 2003, the F-117A went through a F-22 Raptor makeover. While the gray Dragon is still in the test phase and too early to draw conclusions, the goal, the general said, is to learn from it.

“It’s important the Air Force is preparing for the future and looking for new ways to improve warfighting capabilities,” he said. “The dragon F-117 allows 24/7 operations.”

In addition to the weapons squadron, General Wood visited the Aerial Target Squadron, home of the QF-4 drones.

“The target squadron is an incredible part of Holloman,” he said. “The important mission is to validate new weapon systems like the FA-22, but also to ensure the reliability of the missiles we have in our present Air Force.”

These units accomplish their missions support from the 49th Fighter Wing leadership and their fine warriors, General Wood said.

With three units here, the general has a responsibility at Holloman.

“I love Holloman,” he said. “I’m proud to be back and see all the changes. There’s a lot of history at this base and I’m glad to have units that are part of it. This wing and its members are first class.”



Maj. Gen. Stephen Wood

## Reserve Health Benefit program starts

The Department of Defense announced today that it will implement the “2004 Temporary Reserve Health Benefit Program” for certain eligible Reserve Component sponsors and their family members.

The Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act and the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal 2004 authorized new health benefits, some permanent and some temporary. The 2004 Temporary Reserve Health Benefit Program includes three temporary TRICARE benefit provisions; some are effective as of Nov. 6, 2003, and all expire Dec. 31, 2004.

Total expenditures for these new provisions may not exceed the \$400 million limit established by Congress for fiscal 2004. TRICARE Management Activity will implement the new provisions in phases starting in the spring.

“These new temporary provisions were designed by Congress to improve readiness and enhance access to care for Reserve servicemembers and their

families,” said Dr. William Winkenwerder Jr., assistant secretary of defense for health affairs. “We are implementing these new provisions as soon as possible.”

One provision temporarily authorizes TRICARE medical and dental coverage for Reserve component sponsors activated for more than 30 days and their family members.

Eligibility begins either on the day the sponsor receives delayed-effective date active duty orders or 90 days prior to the date the active duty period begins, whichever is later.

A second provision temporarily extends eligibility for TRICARE benefits to 180 days under the Transitional Assistance Management Program for Reserve component sponsors who separate from active duty status during the period Nov. 6, 2003 through Dec. 31, 2004, and their eligible family members.

The third provision temporarily extends TRICARE medical benefits to Reserve component sponsors and family members who are either unemployed

or employed but not eligible for employer-provided health coverage.

The three permanent health benefit provisions of the NDA include: benefit counselors for the Reserve component in each TRICARE region; authorization for medical and dental screening and care for members alerted for mobilization; and TRICARE eligibility for reserve officers pending orders to active duty following commissioning.

Additional information for Reserve component families, who have questions regarding the TRICARE benefit or need assistance processing TRICARE claims, are available on the TRICARE Web site at <http://www.TRICARE.osd.mil/> and the Reserve Affairs Web site at <http://www.defenselink.mil/ra>.

Each TRICARE region will soon have a designated beneficiary counseling and assistance coordinator available to assist members and families with understanding and using their enhanced TRICARE benefits. (AFP)

**FTAC** *Continued from Page One*

mentation is just the beginning of more to come! I think it is beneficial to all of us at Holloman to provide our airmen the best and most creative programs we can offer.”

The new airmen will begin the day with a golf scramble at the Apache Mesa Golf Course and end with a nine-pin No-Tap bowling tournament at Desert Lanes Bowling Center.

The FTAC airmen will participate in a paintball war, learn the ropes at the Auto Skills Center and see the opportunities offered at the Skills Development Center.

They will also be visiting the Digital Mania Zone and other programs at the community center, the enlisted club and finish with the fitness center.

“Because most airmen are unaware of the vastness of services programs and activities,” said Lt. Col. Terri Toppin, 49th SVS commander, “our goal is to encourage the airmen to take advantage of what we have to offer.”

She said the 49th SVS

strives to accommodate tight budgets of the airmen by keeping prices reasonable and providing them a quality product for their money.

“Many airmen use the fitness center and dining facilities,” Colonel Toppin said, “but many airmen don’t take advantage of the other facilities like Outdoor Recreation, which offers endless activities including white water rafting, sporting trips and tours.

“We want to ‘tell the services story’ to our new airmen by offering this exciting day of sports and recreation,” she said. “Our goal is to ensure they know what activities are available to them at Holloman.”

The services squadron is a big part of the Air Force mission, Sergeant Davis said. Services Day will increase participation in base activities and help boost the morale of newly assigned airmen. Hopefully it will rejuvenate the spirit of the young enlisted core and get them more involved in the military community.

# Holloman Salutes



... the following technical sergeants for completing the NCO academy Feb. 12:

#### 49th Aircraft Maintenance

Bruce Hoersten  
Greg Talbot  
Marvin Wilson

#### 49th Operations Support Squadron

Brian Sweebe

#### 49th Logistics Readiness Squadron

Gabino Montoyo

#### 49th Materiel Maintenance Squadron

Chad McCollum

#### 49th Materiel Maintenance Support Squadron

Kevin Leonard

#### 49th Maintenance Squadron

Charles Navarro  
Carolin Norton

#### 49th Civil Engineer Squadron

Daniel Eckert

#### 49th Maintenance Group

Jeffrey Leonard

#### 49th Services Squadron

Phillip Haddock

#### 4th Space Control Squadron

Shawn Luderman



Photo by Airman 1st Class Stephen Collier

**Christian Harris reads while Emond Washington does homework Tuesday at the base library. The library staff reminds Team Holloman about library courtesy.**

## Shhh ... Quiet in the library

**by Airman 1st Class  
Stephen Collier**

*49th Fighter Wing Public Affairs*

The Holloman Library is a service for all Team Holloman members; however, unsupervised children have been an issue at the library. While the library director encourages all to take advantage of the services, keep in mind parents are responsible for their children.

Servicemembers have options when it comes to after-school care for their children. Many on-base locations offer everything from day care options to safe havens of education for students. Ms. Cora Ahrens, library director, said children can take advantage of all the services the library offers.

“We have children’s books

available for the younger kids and the Internet is available for teens who need help with school projects or homework,” Ms. Ahrens said. “We’re happy to help all who come to the library.”

As the library offers children the ability to study and learn in a safe environment, other organizations dedicated to supervising children are also available for Holloman parents.

The Holloman Youth Center is open from 6:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., according to the 49th Services Squadron Web site, can escort children to and from school.

Mrs. Tina Luderman, youth programs director at the youth center, said the center has a lot to offer teens.

“We have all sorts of differ-

ent themed rooms for different ages,” Mrs. Luderman said. “The youth center has a pre-teen room, a teen room, a game room, an arts and crafts room and even a movie room. We want parents to know they have an after-school option.”

According to Col. Rich Treadway, recent concerns over unsupervised children have reached wing leadership as well.

“We know how busy our folks are, but parents are still responsible for their children’s safety and actions,” he said. “We encourage all parents to take advantage of these programs.”

For more information on after-school programs, call the Holloman Youth Center at 572-3573.

# Hometown USAF (Vol. 4)

**ACROSS**

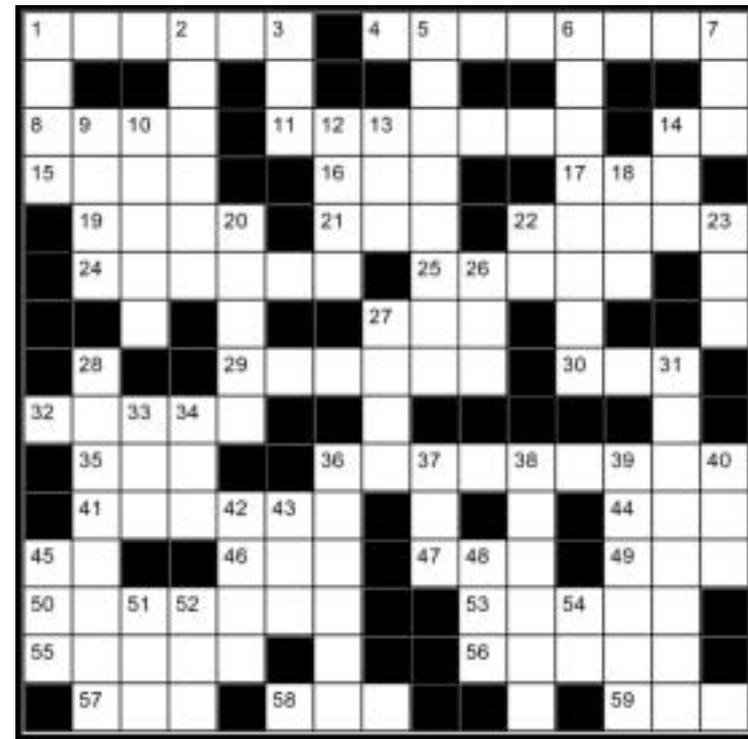
- 1. Hawaii AFB home to 15th ABW
- 4. Texas AFB home to 47th FTW; a/c tail marking of XL
- 8. Minnesota state bird
- 11. Florida AFB home to 325th FW; a/c tail marking of TY
- 14. Security clearance (abbrev.)
- 15. Chemistry work stations
- 16. Shoe size
- 17. Near the ground
- 19. Amphibian
- 21. Neither's partner
- 22. Spain AB home to 496th ABS
- 24. Ford and Fonda
- 25. Ooze
- 27. Bother
- 29. Guardian of Giza
- 30. Bother
- 32. Apes
- 35. Animal 'down under' (slang)
- 36. Washington AFB home to 336th TG; a/c tail marking of FC
- 41. Oklahoma AFB home to 552nd ACW; a/c tail marking of OK

- 44. \_\_\_\_ Paulo, Brazil
- 45. Tail marking for 28th BW aircraft
- 46. Base person responsible for deployments (abbrev.)
- 47. Barbie's pal
- 49. Unknown (abbrev.)
- 50. Massachusetts AFB home to ESC
- 53. Harsh sleeping noise
- 55. Between meals item
- 56. Symbol
- 57. Driving offense (abbrev.)
- 58. Military pay stub
- 59. Military person on-call (abbrev.)

**DOWN**

- 1. Utah AFB home to 388th FW; a/c tail marking of HL
- 2. Korea AB home to 8th FW; a/c tail marking of WP
- 3. Roll
- 5. Guam AB home to 36th ABW/13th AF
- 6. New Mexico AFB home to 49th FW; a/c tail marking of HO

- 7. Navy equivalent to AFB
- 9. Statement given during enlistment/commissioning
- 10. Woodwinds
- 12. Japense monies
- 13. Later revival
- 14. Even number
- 18. Mining goal
- 20. Put clothes on
- 22. State home to 127th WG at Selfridge ANGB
- 23. Government org. controlling satellites
- 26. 70 in olden days
- 27. Elvis song "\_\_\_\_ Las Vegas"
- 28. New Mexico AFB home to 150th FW; a/c tail marking of NM
- 31. AF Auxiliary Field in Arizona
- 33. Former Kenyan president Daniel \_\_\_\_
- 34. Age
- 36. Edith Wharton novel *Ethan* \_\_\_\_\_
- 37. Annoy
- 38. New Mexico AFB home to



- 27th FW; a/c tail marking of CC
- 39. France AB home to 16th EOG (abbrev.)
- 40. U.S. military forces headquarters (abbrev.)
- 42. Indented part of a bottle
- 43. Tokyo formerly
- 45. Questions?
- 48. Founding of a company (abbrev.)
- 51. Arizona school in Flagstaff (abbrev.)
- 52. Movie genre \_\_\_\_-Fi
- 54. Tail marking for a/c assigned to 138th FW

# Prayer breakfast features Focus on the Family VP

by Chap. (Lt. Col.) Philip McLemore  
49th Fighter Wing chaplain

Holloman's observance of the National Prayer Breakfast is 7 a.m., March 18 at the Oasis Enlisted Club. The speaker will be Rev. H.B. London Jr., "Focus on the Family" vice president.

The first U.S. Government prayer breakfast groups were initiated in 1942 in the Senate and House of Representatives. Since then, those groups have continued weekly meetings to discuss individual daily spiritual needs and the dependency of our country on God. In 1953, members of these prayer groups established the first Presidential Prayer Breakfast with the late President Dwight D. Eisenhower, to seek divine guidance for national leadership and to reaffirm faith.

Every year since, the annual break-

fast has drawn together the president, members of his Cabinet, the Supreme Court, Congress and leaders in business, labor, education, and the U.S. Armed Forces. In 1970 the name was changed to the National Prayer Breakfast to emphasize the purpose of the gathering rather than the individuals involved.

For the past 34 years military men and women, and the National Prayer Breakfast have been holding their own prayer breakfasts at virtually every military installation around the world. The objective is to reinforce and reconfirm our faith in a manner that strengthens the fabric of our lives, the quality of our leadership and the hope of peace and security for our Nation.

Tickets are \$5 and are on sale through first sergeants or at the base chapel.

## Airmen take care of their own

The Air Force Assistance Fund "Commitment to Caring" campaign runs at Holloman from March 15 to April 23 asking airmen to contribute to any of four Air Force-related charities.

Last year, Holloman raised \$39,092 for AFAF, while the AFAF alone provided \$402,704 in support to Team Holloman airmen and their families.

"By supporting this year's AFAF campaign, we can assist these great organizations in making a difference in many peoples lives," said 1st Lt. Nathan Pifer, a Holloman AFAF project officer.

The charities benefit active-duty, Reserve, Guard, retired Air Force people, surviving spouses and families. This is the 31st year of the fund drive, which the charities receive 100 percent of designated contributions.

"Requests for assistance have continued at record levels since Sept. 11, 2001. Last year the Air Force Aid Society helped 30,000 airmen with over \$22.6 million in assistance—that's a lot of help," said retired Lt. Gen. Mike McGinty, Air Force Aid Society chief executive officer. "Contributions are vital for the society to sustain this kind of help—it is truly an airmen-helping-airmen program."

Last year Air Force people gave \$5.9 million to the fund.

People can contribute through cash, check, money order or payroll deduction to:

- The Air Force Aid Society, the official charitable organization of the Air

Force which provides airmen and their families with worldwide emergency financial assistance, education assistance and an array of base level community-enhancement programs. Base family support centers have full details on programs and eligibility requirements. Information is also available online at <http://www.afas.org>.

- The Air Force Enlisted Villages in Fort Walton Beach, FL, near Eglin Air Force Base which provides rent subsidy and other support to indigent widows and widowers of retired enlisted people 55 and older. More information is available at <http://www.afenlistedwidows.org>.

- The Air Force Village Indigent Widow's Fund in San Antonio, a life-care community for retired officers, spouses, widows or widowers and family members. The Air Force Village Web site is <http://www.airforcevillages.com>.

- The General and Mrs. Curtis E. LeMay Foundation, which provides rent and financial assistance to indigent widows and widowers of officers and enlisted people in their own homes and communities. The LeMay Foundation Web site is <http://www.info@lemayfoundation.org>.

Contributions to the AFAF are tax deductible. For more information, visit <http://afassistancefund.org> or the Air Force Personnel Center's Voting and Fundraising Web site at <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/votefund>. (AFPC)





# APS rises in national education assessment

by Senior Airman Martha Whipple  
49th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Holloman schools have moved up the ladder across Air Combat Command in the education realm.

Expansion Management Magazine recently published its 13th annual Education Quotient ratings of 2,800 secondary school districts throughout the United States. Alamogordo is ranked eighth of the 17 communities across ACC, and above the national average.

More importantly, the school district is ranked in the nation's top third for the publication's Graduate Outcome, which weighs high school graduation rates and SAT scores, as well as the rate of college acceptance and progress of these high school graduates.

"Based on the magazine's assessment, ACC mirrors Middle America in terms of the quality of education, and Alamogordo comes out above average for the nation and the command," said Lt. Col. Chris Thelen, 49th Mission Support Group deputy commander and Holloman's ex-officio member of the Alamogordo Board of Education.

"I believe the major factor for our status improvement is the district schools are now focusing on school reform through the implementation of Strengthening Quality Schools," said Dr. Phil Knight, Alamogordo Public School superintendent. "SQS uses the Baldrige Model for planning and implementation of change. It also has incorporated the North Central Association's model of how to improve education. NCA's theme is data drives the curriculum."

Dr. Knight said the focus for all of APS schools is continual improvement. Next year's goals will be much the same as this year; get the faculty and staff trained in Baldrige and build on what has been done. This process is ongoing.

"One major focus we've taken beginning three years ago is to improve reading district-wide," he said. "We currently have a staff member at Texas Women's University in Denton, Texas, training to become a reading recovery trainer. She will be in district working with at risk first graders beginning this coming fall."

Expansion Magazine caters to highly mobile businesses, and developed the EQ to assist businesses in

assessing the educational offerings of communities while deciding possible sites to relocate or expand their operations. This year's EQ looked at all districts in the United States with an enrollment of at least 3,500 secondary school students.

Unlike many other educational ratings, which equate excellence to the level of public funding received, the EQ focuses primarily on results. Although it includes data on spending, teacher salaries and the socioeconomic background of the surrounding communities, by far the most important factors are the test scores and the graduation rates.

"The community is very fortunate to have someone like Dr. Knight at its educational helm," said Colonel Thelen. "He and the school board have a tremendous vision to make their schools a benchmark for the nation, and they are moving steadily toward that goal. There's still room for improvement, but these results confirm their program is working for all the district's students."

For a copy of the Education Quotient article, go to [www.ExpansionManagement.com](http://www.ExpansionManagement.com)

## High school block scheduling in transition in Alamogordo

by Ellis Neel  
Alamogordo Daily News

All the returns aren't in, but it appears the transitional block scheduling at Alamogordo High School is having a positive effect on students and staff alike.

The high school has been on the classic six-period a day schedule until the start of this year when an interim A-B block schedule was instituted. Administrators are working toward a 4x4 block schedule for the school.

With block scheduling, depending upon the form used, there can be up to 32 opportunities for credits. The 4x4 block schedule provides four credits per semester; eight credits per year for four years. Traditional full-year courses are completed in one semester and a new set of classes is offered for the second semester.

The high school is currently on the A-B block schedule a transition phase leading toward the 4x4 schedule which provides the possibilities for 28 credits: four classes one day, three classes the next. That adds up to seven classes over the course of two days, with credit being given over the course of the year.

Block scheduling takes the traditional six-period day and turns it into a four-period day. With four periods a day students are able to focus on fewer top-

ics for longer periods of time. In a six-period day, class times routinely run about 50-55 minutes. In block scheduling, the class length is 90 minutes.

"Basically, what a block does, is it allows more opportunity for student learning," said Mr. Joe Jaramillo, Alamogordo High School assistant principal. "You have longer periods of time for student learning and mastery of topics. It allows teachers to address different learning styles and it allows students to access more choices during their high school career."

It allows kids access to classes "they wouldn't have been able to get into in a six-period day," Mr. Jaramillo said. "The six-period day takes away the power of choice. It takes away the ability to grow and investigate interests students may end up pursuing as a career."

The scheduling change has suffered what could be termed a natural response, largely mumbling and grumbling about the change itself. Initial start-up pains have lessened and everyone is getting into a groove, Jaramillo said.

According to Mr. Jaramillo, block scheduling has been in the works for a long time. It's been "planned and researched here for eight years," he said, citing timing and other factors as obstacles to its earlier implementation. "The present block schedule is a transition."

The main drawback with block

**"Basically, what a block does, is it allows more opportunity for student learning."**

Joe Jaramillo  
Alamogordo High School  
Assistant Principal

scheduling appears to be the fact that it is a change; that it's something new for students and staff to deal with and learn.

Even with the initial murmurs, Mr. Jaramillo or Mr. John Jenkins, Alamogordo High School principal can't point to any serious resistance or discontentance.

"We don't have any official surveys (on the block scheduling)," Mr. Jaramillo adds, "and this is our first year in it, and, hopefully, before the end of the year, we can do some satisfaction surveys. The driving force behind all of this is what is good for the kids of Alamogordo High School. I guess we need to raise the bar and strengthen our curriculum."

The change in scheduling, Mr. Jaramillo said, has definitely changed the atmosphere of the school, "for the positive. It's peaceful. It doesn't feel like an airport or a train station. It doesn't feel rushed."

Mr. Jaramillo points out the level of major and serious disciplinary incidents at the school, compared to previous years, has dropped with the implementation of block scheduling.

Some students think the six-period day was better.

"I learned more in chemistry than in any other class because I have it every day," Ms. Kari Lemke, an AHS student and cheerleader said, but added that she "liked last year better. The material they would cover a little one day, a little the next and then you'd have a test. Now, you cover the material all one day and have a test the next. I don't like doing it that way."

Some students do prefer the longer class periods.

"I like it because it gives you longer to work with the teacher and to ask more questions," said AHS senior Ms. Nicky Bregler. "But if you're a procrastinator it's harder to get your work done because you have too much time. But, overall," she adds, "I'd say it's better, block scheduling's better."

"The staff of this high school has worked hard," Mr. Jenkins said. "I'm extremely proud of the students and the faculty for making this work."

"Any parent interested in what's going on at the high school is invited to attend the PAC the first Tuesday of each month," Mr. Jaramillo said.



## Intramural Standings - Basketball

### Small Unit

<u>Team</u>	<u>Win</u>	<u>Loss</u>
49 FW/MSS	5	0
46 TG	5	0
46 CES B	3	2
49 OSS B	3	2
4 SPCS	3	2
746 TS	3	2
49 MXS	1	6
49 CS	1	5
49 CONS	1	5

(Current as of Jan. 22)

### Large Unit

<u>Team</u>	<u>Win</u>	<u>Loss</u>
49 OSS A	5	1
49 CES A	5	1
49 MXS	2	3
49 LRS	2	4
49 MDG	2	3
8 AMU	2	3
49 MMG	2	3
9 AMU	2	3
49 SFS	1	4

(Current as of Jan. 22)

### Over 30

<u>Team</u>	<u>Win</u>	<u>Loss</u>
49 MDG	5	1
49 CES	5	0
46 TG	3	2
49 LRS	3	2
49 MXS	1	4
49 SFS	1	4
4 SPCS	1	5

(Current as of Jan. 26)

## World of Sports

The Intramural Winter Golf Tournament Finals are scheduled **Thursday** at the Apache Mesa Golf Course.

Badminton lessons and play are open to the public for free from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. Monday and Wednesdays at the Fitness and Sports Center



## BRIEFS

### Airman Magazine

Any organization that needs a copy of Airman Magazine's annual "The Book" issue, should come to the public affairs office, building 29, Room 2800.

### JEWC

The U.S. Navy will host the 49th Annual Joint Electronic Warfare Conference at the Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, Calif. May 4 to 6. The conference is for U.S. government personnel only.

For more information on the 49th JEWC, visit the Web site <https://jewc.mugu.navy.mil> or call Susan Hynds, Naval Air Weapons Division, at (805) 989-4018.

### Women's History Month

March is designated as National Women's History Month. The 2004 theme is "Women Inspiring Hope and Possibility."

A NWHM Planning Committee has been formed to plan and organize Wing observance events and celebration.

The NWHM Committee is seeking volunteers to assist in this celebration, and locations where educational displays can be set up.

For more information, call Staff Sgt. Shelia Davis at 572-5574 or 572-5575 or e-mail [shelia@holloman.af.mil](mailto:shelia@holloman.af.mil), or Mr. Donald Larsen at 572-3439 or e-mail [donald.larsen@holloman.af.mil](mailto:donald.larsen@holloman.af.mil).

### HOSC scholarships

The Holloman Officers' Spouses' Club awards \$10,000 in scholarships to local students planning to attend an accredited school during the 2004-2005 academic year. Scholarship amounts vary from \$500 to \$3,000 per student.

To qualify, applicants must be a spouse or dependent child of an ac-



Photo by Airman 1st Class Stephen Collier

### Chiefs' Choice

**Airman 1st Class Natalie Lasher, behavioral health technician, checks over medical records with supervisor Master Sgt. Robin Larocque. Airman Lasher was chosen for the Chiefs' Choice award for January.**

tive duty, retired, POW/MIA or deceased military member of the Holloman or White Sands Missile Range communities. Applications are available at the Family Support Center, Base Education and Training Services, Base Library and local high schools.

Applications may also be requested by e-mail from [Dloriwlsl@aol.com](mailto:Dloriwlsl@aol.com) or [Immuno@charter.net](mailto:Immuno@charter.net). The deadline is March 15.

For more information, call 479-9725 or 479-1019.

### Surfing

The U.S. Military Surfing Invitational is looking for new members. No experience is necessary.

For more information, go to the Web site [www.madmexgear.com](http://www.madmexgear.com) and click on

the USMSI icon, or call Tech. Sgt. Richard Gill at 572-5531.

### Road closures

As part of the ongoing construction of new housing units, a section of Martin Avenue is closed from March 8 to March 13. The closed section is from the intersection of Fairchild Drive to Patrick Avenue. This closure will allow the contractors to tie in the new sewer lines and waterlines that will provide that area of housing with service to the existing lines. 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 2nd Lt. Stacy Nimmo at 572-5832.

### OSI briefing

Headquarters Air Force Office of Special Investigations is conducting a recruiting briefing from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., March 17 at AFOSI Detachment 225. There will be scheduled interviews from 8 to 10 a.m., March 18 at the same location. Interested individuals should plan on attending March 17 and should bring a records review RIP with them. You can request a RIP from your orderly room.

For more information on AFOSI special agent duty prior to the team's visit, you can visit their website at [www.dtic.mil](http://www.dtic.mil) or contact Holloman's AFOSI detachment at 572-7143.

### Gospel extravaganza

There is a Gospel extravaganza, 1 to 5 p.m., Saturday at the chapel.

For more information, call Ms. Valerie Smith at 572-7508.

### Deployed family/friends

An open meeting for families and friends of deployed military personnel is 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., Monday and March 18 at Gerald Champion Regional Medical Center's private dining room.

For more information, call Ms. Paige Viscarra at 443-7891.

### Bereavement meetings

Bereavement for families and friends meets from 6 to 8 p.m., Wednesday and March 17 at Gerald Champion Regional Medical Center in the private dining room.

For more information, call Ms. Paige Viscarra at 443-7891.

### Chapel Services

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

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

- Sacrament of Penance, 4 p.m.
- General Protestant Worship Service, 11 a.m.

#### Special events

- Stations of the Cross and meatless potluck: 6 p.m., today
- National Prayer Breakfast at the enlisted club: 7 a.m., March 18. Cost is \$5.

For more information about chapel services, call 572-7214.

**B** On the  
BIG SCREEN



**Men of Honor (PG-13)**

7 p.m., today

**Along Came Polly (PG-13)**

7 and 10 p.m., Saturday

**Big Fish (PG-13)**

7 p.m., Sunday and Thursday

For a limited time, tickets are 99 cents.

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

## Shooting match

The Otero Practical Shooting Association has a Fun Rifle Shooting Match at 9 a.m., Saturday at the Sydney Paul Gordon Shooting Range in La Luz. Sign up is at 8:30 a.m. The match is open to the public.

For more information, call Mr. Butch Rials at 437-3663.

## Relay for life

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

For more information, contact Ms. Beth Markle at 479-6026 or [eam@zianet.com](mailto:eam@zianet.com).

## Track volunteers

The Alamogordo High School Track coach seeks volunteers to help with an all-day track meet March 20 and an afternoon track meet April 23.

For more information, call Coach Doc Helm at 443-2000 extension 270.

## Volunteers needed

The Aristocrat Assistant living home is asking for volunteers to

spend time with their residents. They are mainly looking for groups of people to visit their residents and offer some form of entertainment, singing, plays or bands. She also welcomes any group of people who would like to take one night out of the week and play games and talk with the residents. There are about 20 to 40 residents in the home, including a few veterans.

If any groups are interested in going down to the home for an evening please call Mrs. Fletcher at 437-3020.

## Oliver Lee events

The Oliver Lee Memorial State Park holds the following events:

The Night Sky: A Cultural Clock: 6 to 8 p.m., March 6. Participants should meet at the group shelter. The standard \$4 entry fee is required.

Stars-N-Parks: 7:20 p.m., March 13. Participants should meet at the group shelter. The standard \$4 entry fee is required.

A Naturalist's Walk: 10 to 11:30 a.m., March 20. Participants meet at the group shelter. The standard \$4 entry fee is required.

For more information, call the state park at 437-8284.





Photo by Laura Pellegrino

The Holloman Hero submission form is now online. It can be downloaded at:  
[https://wwwmil.holloman.af.mil/wing/49FW\\_PA/internal.html](https://wwwmil.holloman.af.mil/wing/49FW_PA/internal.html)

# Holloman Hero

## Airman 1st Class Frederick Dey 49th Maintenance Operations Squadron

*Airman Dey, a native of Ghana, was sworn in as a U.S. citizen Jan. 20.*

**Duty title:** Data Analyst

**Time in service:** One year, 10 months

**Time at Holloman:** One year, six months

**Why did you want to become a U.S. citizen?**

As Americans you are blessed to have certain things here. Just being a citizen opens doors for you.

**Why did you decide to join the Air Force?**

When I came the United States Sept. 19, 2001, I didn't know anyone in the states. I stayed in Houston for one month, then moved to Virginia. Sept. 11 had just happened, and getting a job in that area was very hard. My main goal was to go to school to get my degree. I would go through the daily papers to find jobs and saw an ad for the Air Force.

After researching the different branches of the military, I realized the Air Force was more like the kind of force I wanted to join because the Air Force is more education-oriented than the other branches.

**Personal and career goals:**

My personal and career goal is to get my degree. It was my original plan to get out after four years and go to a medical school. I can't tell

you whether I am going to reenlist or not. The future holds a lot, so we'll wait to see.

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

Airman Dey has a great personality and is liked by everyone he meets. He works as an analyst for the 49th Fighter Wing, which requires him to compile and maintain squadron and wing level data used by senior leaders to make maintenance management decisions.

Airman Dey became a U.S. citizen just recently, and what makes his story unique is that he came to the United States on a visa that was awarded to him by chance. He was not expecting to get the visa and just applied for it on a whim from a friend who gave him an application to submit.

Not only did Airman Dey join the U.S. Air Force and become a U.S. citizen, but he also played for the U.S. Air Force Soccer team in 2003. He also volunteers his personal time at every opportunity; he has volunteered to provide rides with the 572-RIDE program almost every weekend since he got his drivers license and car.

– **Staff Sgt. Patrick Hemp**  
49th Maintenance Operations Squadron  
CAMS database manager

# New 911 system to be installed

by **Laura Pellegrino**  
*Sunburst Staff Writer*

The 49th Communications Squadron has a contractor installing a new emergency 911 system on base. In order to provide the best emergency response, support from all Team Holloman members is required. The first step of the installation is to build an accurate database of the location of the telephones. To

guarantee 100-percent accuracy, someone will call Holloman's personnel to request specific information. These individuals will identify themselves as the E911 database administrators and will ask for the following information: phone number being answered, location (street address, building number and room number), organization name and office symbol. Call the building custodian if help

is needed to provide this information.

The success of the E911 depends upon the information provided by the users. All Holloman personnel should ensure they know the above information. If necessary, place the above information near every telephone to facilitate this effort.

The 49th CS point of contact is 1st Lt. Nora Delosrios at 572-7604.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Stephen Collier

## Up, up and away

Holloman's Heritage Park is on the move Saturday, Sunday and March 6 to 7. Maintainers will tow the static jets from their current location, across from the Commissary, to the new locations south of building 29. Traffic delays and detours may occur on those days in the following locations: the intersection of New Mexico Avenue, First, Second, Fourth and Fifth streets, and entryways surrounding Heritage Park and New Mexico, Tabosa, and Arizona avenues. The estimated completion date for the new Heritage Park is March 18.

# Free software must be returned

by Staff Sgt. C. Todd Lopez  
*Air Force Print News*

Air Force people who have received a promotional copy of a popular office productivity software suite, are instructed to return it to the sender.

The Microsoft Corporation sent promotional copies of its popular “Office” software to a half million customers — some in the Air Force. The commercial value of those software packages, more than \$500 each, exceeds Joint Ethics Regulation limits for personal gifts, said John Gilligan, Air Force chief information officer.

“Our ethical regulations govern the acceptance of gifts from those who do business with us,” Mr. Gilligan said. “The value of those packages is well in excess of what Air Force members can accept, in particular since we are customers of Microsoft. In the public sector we are not allowed to accept that type of gift.”

Mr. Gilligan said Air Force members who received the promotional software are obligated to return it to Microsoft.

People may return the software by re-sealing the packaging, marking it “refused delivery — return to sender” and taking it to the post office. Mr. Gilligan said if the post office refuses to take the packages, they can be turned in to local

communications squadrons.

“Our installation communications squadrons will be collecting the packages and mailing them back as a group,” Mr. Gilligan said.

The policies regarding ac-



ceptance of gifts are in place to protect the Air Force from undue influence by organizations it does business with. Mr. Gilligan said the principal desktop productivity suite used in the Air Force comes from Microsoft. He also said the service is in negotiations with the company for additional product licenses.

While it is unethical for employees of the public sector to accept gifts, Mr. Gilligan said the Air Force does not believe Microsoft had any ill intent.

“This was simply a marketing campaign that Microsoft undertook where they failed to understand the impact of sending free sample software to government employees,” Mr. Gilligan said. “I think it was just an oversight by not realizing the ethical restrictions we are under.”

# New civilian personnel system moves forward

by Donna Miles

*American Forces Press Service*

The Pentagon's personnel chief said he hopes to bring the first 300,000 civilian Defense Department employees under the new National Security Personnel System within the next six months.

The system, authorized by the fiscal 2004 National Defense Authorization Act, will introduce sweeping changes to the way the department hires, pays, promotes, disciplines and fires its civilian employees.

Progress in introducing the new system is continuing on all fronts, said David S. Chu, undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness, Feb. 19. For example, meetings between management and nine unions representing the department's 400,000 employees covered by bargaining units are slated for Feb. 26 and 27.

The new system will give the department "more flexibility" to manage its civilian work force while making civil service a more attractive career option, Mr. Chu said.

He noted that surveys of young Americans show high interest in military service, but not civil service.

"I would like to see us ... get to the point where they are as excited about the civil opportunities we have to offer as people are about the uniformed opportunities we have to offer," he said.

Among the new system's incentives is a plan to reward top performers.

"Pay, which now is often driven largely by tenure and longevity, will be much more tied to what you contribute to the mission and the organization," Mr. Chu said.

In addition, the new system will open up opportunities often not available to civilian employees. When a new task comes down the pike the standard response is to establish a military task force or call on a contractor, Mr. Chu said.

"They don't say, 'Let's stand up a civil service unit,'" he said. "And there's something wrong with that."

The new system also will eliminate many current rules that Mr. Chu said hamper effective personnel management. He said that under the current system, it takes too long to hire people — an average of three months. He added the current system also makes it hard to pay people properly or move them around.

"It's hard to reshape this force," he said.

Mr. Chu said DoD is "at the very beginnings" of implementing the NSPS, but is basing the transition on 25 years of proven experience.

More than 30,000 DoD civilians are participating in demonstration projects to test some of the new policies to be implemented departmentwide, he said. The oldest demonstration project, at the Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake in California, began in the 1970s.

After the initial transition, he said most employees involved in the demonstration projects "are much more satisfied with their opportunities in the federal civil service than they were before."

In implementing the new system throughout DoD, Mr. Chu said planners "spent a lot of time looking at the lessons learned from those demonstration projects" and are incorporating the "best practices" into the system.

"So I think that as people look at a career or look at a substantial period of time in federal civil service, they are going to find this a more exciting choice," he said.

## BDUs are in short supply

Backorders from the military supply system are affecting the availability of battle dress uniforms in military clothing sales stores.

Both Army and Air Force clothing stores are out of stock on selected sizes of the enhanced hot weather and temperate BDU coats and trousers.

The military supply system advised Army and Air Force Exchange Service officials that the "get-well date" for the temperate BDUs will be August.

"AAFES continues to be in constant communication with (the Defense Supply Center in Philadelphia)," said Dave Lumbley, military clothing divisional merchandise manager. "The information we received from DSCP indicates AAFES will be experiencing shortages on temperate BDUs through the end of summer 2004."

Representatives from DSCP said the current supply condition is because of the need to produce many more desert

BDUs than the woodland style as a result of the war in Iraq.

Since DSCP is the only authorized BDU source as directed by the memorandums of agreement with the Department of the Army and the Department of the Air Force, AAFES officials have no other choice but to continue to monitor the situation.

AAFES officials are continually requesting updates on the backorder status, according to Mr. Lumbley. (AFP)



Photo by Airman 1st Class Stephen Collier

**Nighthawk forward Dennis Martin drives past Tigers guard Jarrod Wooden Feb. 20 during hoop action at the Alamogordo Recreation Center.**

## Small stars stump Tiger offense

**by Airman 1st Class  
Stephen Collier**

*49th Fighter Wing Public Affairs*

Guard Arin Fields brought eight points to the Holloman Nighthawk's 30-10 victory over the rival Tigers Feb. 20 at the Alamogordo Recreation Center.

It all began with fouls as Fields went to the line for two shots quickly followed by an offensive rebound. The Tigers regained control and a pass to guard Hunter Kalin quickly put

them on the board with two points.

With the second quarter in full swing, the Nighthawk's forward Joseph Gallegos picked off a pass and didn't look back.

Nighthawk defense effectively shut down the Tigers who wouldn't score a single basket, ending the first half 21-2. Tiger Coach Thomas Woods said there would be changes at the half.

"We are going to change up our starting lineup," Coach

Woods said. "We need to concentrate on the defense and press their offense."

Whatever Coach Woods did for his team, it helped. The Tigers came out of halftime scoring for the first time since the first quarter with guard Jarrod Wooden tossing a layup, quickly followed by another jump shot, putting his team at 21-6.

Seven seconds remained and the Tigers put the last four points on the board. Those two shots ended the game 30-10.



Photos by Airman 1st Class Stephen Collier

**A 49th Materiel Maintenance Group guard Michael Cousins tosses a layup over 49th Logistic Readiness Squadron guard Calvin Brown during intramural basketball action Feb. 19 at the Fitness and Sports Center. MMG beats LRS by 22 points.**



**A 49th Materiel Maintenance Group forward Michael Tieyah drives by 49th Logistic Readiness Squadron guard Calvin Brown.**

## BEARS win by 22

**by Airman 1st Class Stephen Collier**

*49th Fighter Wing Public Affairs*

The 49th Materiel Maintenance Group secured its 56-34 victory over the 49th Logistics Readiness Squadron Feb. 19 during intramural basketball action at the Fitness and Sports Center.

Big scores in the beginning set the tone for each team as LRS guard Calvin Brown sunk a three pointer to put his team on the board first. Both teams popped off several shots, but the MMG team inched further and further away on the score board with an 18-6 - point lead.

A determined LRS team continued to fight with off-balance jump shots supplied by guards Jermaine Embry and Brown. MMG guard Derrick Clark's back-to-back fast breaks helped his team end the first half 22-10.

The good playing and great talent, MMG Coach Marcellues Hall said, was going to make or break the game.

"The players are on top of their game," Coach Hall said. "We aren't playing to our full potential. Now that we have forward Lex

Paxton back, the team is ready to take the season. We need to take advantage of the open man and drive the ball home. That's how you win basketball games."

Full potential or not, the MMG team went into the second half with their game faces on as forward Koti Hawkins sealed three layups for his team early on. Down by 20 points, LRS pressed onward with two alley-oops, proving to BEAR Base they were far from out.

Eight minutes remained and both teams continued to fight for possession, leading to an outbreak of three-pointers by LRS's Embry and MMG's Paxton. LRS pushed on, but the four-man team was tiring.

Continued scoring by MMG pushed the score upward as two pointers came one after another from guard Michael Tieyah and forward Tyson Anderson.

Minutes turned to seconds and with only a few left, the MMG team put two more threes on the board to end the game 56-34.

**The Sports Bar**

### Intramural Standings - Basketball

#### Large Unit

Team	Win	Loss
49 MXS	10	2
49 OSS A	10	3
49 CES A	8	3
49 SFS	6	5
49 MMG	5	6
9 AMU	4	7
49 MDG	3	9
49 LRS	3	9
8 AMU	2	9

(Current as of Feb. 19)

#### Small Unit

Team	Win	Loss
46 TG	10	0
49 MSS/FW	9	2
4 SPCS	9	3
746 TS	5	4
49 CES B	5	5
49 CONS	4	8
49 CS	4	8
49 OSS B	3	8
49 MXS	1	11

(Current as of Feb. 19)

#### Over 30

Team	Win	Loss
49 CES	11	0
49 MDG	8	3
49 LRS	6	4
49 MXS	6	4
46 TG	4	7
49 SFS	3	8
4 SPCS	0	0

(Current as of Feb. 12)

**World of Sports**

**The Holloman Nighthawks base basketball team will compete in the Mescalero Tournament this weekend.**

#### Correction

**Feb. 20: The 49th Contracting Squadron defeated the 49th Communications Squadron 29-27.**