

FTAC Airmen react to SVS day

by Airman 1st Class Stephen Collier
49th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Airmen are sounding off to the new First Term Airmen Center's Services Day, sponsored by the 49th Mission Support and 49th Services squadrons.

The FTAC Services Day gives Airmen the opportunity to break away from the normal classroom-style briefings and experience the

49th SVS through hands-on activities said Tech. Sgt. Danny Davis, FTAC director.

"I think it is beneficial to all of us at Holloman," he said, "to provide our airmen the best and most creative programs we can offer."

FTAC, a two-week course, was created to help first-duty-station Airmen receive the necessary in-processing briefings that used to take them away from their squadrons on different occasions for up to a month.

The new Airmen begin their 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 also participate in a paintball war, learn the ropes at the Auto Skills Center and see the opportunities offered at the Skills Development Center.

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

Airman 1st Class Monica Masters, 49th Communications Squadron ground radio maintenance apprentice and FTAC class 04-J leader, said the Services Day gives new Airmen a chance to see what the base offers.

"If the Airmen don't know what's out there for them they tend to just sit around and get themselves into trouble," she said. "The Services Day gives them the chance to see what's out there."

Not only do Airmen sample the different activities available, but they get the chance to interact with people from other squadrons. Airman 1st Class Chris Dunn, 49th Civil Engineer Squadron fire and emergency services apprentice, said he enjoyed interacting with Airmen outside the classroom.

"It's great getting to know other people," Airman Dunn said. "All of us are new to Holloman so the Services Day let's us get our feet wet on base."

Sergeant Davis said the services squadron played a big part in the Air Force mission.

"Services Day will increase participation in base activities and help boost the morale of newly assigned airmen," he said. "Hopefully it will rejuvenate the spirit of the young enlisted core and get them more involved in the military community."



Airman Albert Puch, 49th Logistics Readiness Squadron fuels technician, takes cover behind a paintball bunker. First term Airmen traveled to the Apache Shooting Range for a paintball war during Services Day.



Airman 1st Class Misty Palacios, 49th Maintenance Squadron aerospace ground equipment apprentice, swings a club at the Apache Mesa Golf Course's driving range.



Above: Airman 1st Class Ismael Inietsa, 49th Security Forces Squadron elite gate guard, listens to Mrs. Eva Van Horn as she briefs the First Term Airman Center class on services the base consolidated skills center offers.



Left: Airman 1st Class Matthew Fenton, 49th Materiel Maintenance Squadron electrician, takes a look at different clay projects at the consolidated skills center.



Airman 1st Class Keith Harris, 49th Maintenance Squadron power production technician, shoots pool at the Whispering Sands Community Center. The base community center was one of the services highlighted during the First Term Airman Center's Services Day.

Photos by Airman 1st Class Stephen Collier