



COURTESY GRAPHIC

Community Events

MXG spouses appreciation

The 27th Maintenance Group is holding a spouses appreciation day July 31. Child care will be provided at no charge. Please register by July 26 by calling 27 MXG at 784-6460; 27 MOS at 784-2595, 27 AMXS at 784-6516, 27 CMS at 784-2626 or 27 EMS at 784-1272.

Immunization office closure

The Immunization Clinic will be closed Monday and Tuesday.

Munitions closure

The 27th Equipment Maintenance Squadron is closed July 28 to Aug. 4 for munitions inventory. All requests for issue and turn in must be submitted by close of business today. Only emergency requests will be honored after July 28.

For more information, call 784-4200 or 784-4201.

Starting your business

Learn the essentials of starting a business 1 to 3 p.m., Monday at the FSC. T

For more information or to register, call the FSC at 784-4228.

Tricare for Retirees

Tricare for Retirees is 1 to 2 p.m. Tuesday at the Family Support Center. The class provides vital information on Tricare benefits. For more information or to register, call the FSC at 784-4228.

Smooth Move

Smooth Move Overseas/Stateside is 8:30 to 11 a.m. Tuesday at the FSC.

More Community Events on Page 10



PHOTO BY TECH. SGT. SCOTT MCKAY

Discovering home

Airman 1st Class Neznaika Weber, 27th Civil Engineer Squadron, explores the offerings of one of the vendors during the Discover Home travel Fair July 14 at the Landing. For more on the show, see pages 14 and 15.

Team Cannon welcomes AFSOC team

Team Cannon – Today we welcome Lieutenant General Michael Wooley, Air Force Special Operations Command commander, and Mrs. Wooley, Major General Donald Wurster, AFSOC vice commander, and Mrs. Wurster, Brigadier General Frank Padilla, mobilization assistant to the commander, Colonel Norm Brozenick, 16th Special Operations Wing commander, and Mrs. Brozenick and AFSOC Airmen to Cannon. With distinguished community leaders from New Mexico, we're honored to host AFSOC's senior leadership and perhaps some of our future Airmen.

We have one simple purpose with the visit – provide AFSOC families with a sense of what Cannon and New Mexico have to offer in terms of working and living environments. Because our AFSOC distinguished guests will meet and talk with many of us at Cannon, Clovis and Portales, I know they'll return to Florida, Japan and the United Kingdom and spread the word that it's beautiful here, people like it, and if assigned to Cannon, they'll look forward to serving in New Mexico.

We've got a lot to be proud of – let's show it to our fellow Airmen.



Col. Scott West
27th Fighter Wing commander



NEWS

Air Force ready to help with Lebanon evacuations

By Louis A. Arana-Barradas
Air Force Print News

SAN ANTONIO Airmen are ready on the East Coast to fly in at a moment's notice to help with the evacuation of Americans fleeing the chaos in Lebanon.

A group of Airmen from one of three contingency response groups at McGuire Air Force Base, N.J., is ready to deploy where needed – if needed, a base spokesman said. Most of the Airmen are at home with their families awaiting the orders to go, he said.

"They're all on telephone standby and can be ready to launch at a moment's notice," the spokesperson said. "If called, they should be at their location within the next 24 hours."

The group's equipment is packed "and sitting on the tarmac" on the base flightline ready for quick upload into transport aircraft, he said. The base has C-17 Globemaster III aircraft that, with aerial refueling, can fly from the East Coast base directly to most locations in the Middle East.

At the Pentagon, Air Force spokesperson Maj. Brenda Campbell said there is no final word yet on where the group will go.

But it is likely the rapid-response group will deploy to the Mediterranean island of Cyprus. The U.S. military has already sent a communications team to Cyprus, a U.S. Central Command official said. And Marine Corps helicopters have

also been evacuating Americans to the island.

Other nations are using Cyprus as the drop off point for evacuees, and ships chartered by the United States and other nations have already taken several hundred Americans to the island.

American embassy officials in Lebanon said they expect about 5,000 of the more than 25,000 Americans in the country will want to leave.

The evacuation of foreign nationals from Lebanon's under-fire capital of Beirut has been ongoing for several days. People started fleeing the country as soon as Israeli jets flew air strikes against locations in Lebanon aimed at quelling Hezbollah rocket fire into Israel and demanded the return of Israeli soldiers captured by the militant group.

At this time, the Air Force response is to facilitate the evacuation of noncombatants from the country, Major Campbell said. She said Central Command will direct all U.S. military operations during the evacuation. The military response is part of the larger Department of Defense support to the U.S. State Department.

"We're still working the details on how we will get Americans out of the country," the major said. "And, for now, that's all we have planned."

Contingency response groups are well suited for such operations. These are rapid-reaction units that fly into a



GRAPHIC BY STAFF SGT. MICHELLE THOMAS

Airmen from McGuire Air Force Base, N.J. are poised to assist with the evacuation of American citizens from the current chaos in Lebanon.

location to set up all facets of airfield operations. Used for contingency and humanitarian operations, groups have

Airmen from a host of critical specialties that can land and jump-start operations.

AFI 36-2903 updates uniform wear, clarifies PT wear

Heritage U.S. insignia circle one uniform change planned

Courtesy Air Force Press Service

WASHINGTON – An update to Air Force Instruction 36-2903, Air Force Uniform Dress and Appearance, will soon be released, Air Force officials said July 13.

A key feature of this updated instruction will be the return of heritage to the enlisted corps – chevrons on the sleeves and circles around the U.S. insignia.

"Over the years, we've made changes that made sense at the time, but had the effect of moving us away from our heritage," said Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. T. Michael Moseley. "Chevrons on sleeves and circles around the U.S. insignia are historical symbols of the finest noncommissioned officer corps on the planet. We need to return that heritage to them and

reconnect them to the great NCOs who went before them."

The circle around the U.S. was eliminated in 1991, said Senior Master Sgt. Dana Athnos of the Air Force Uniform Board.

"Yet, every uniform board has since received requests to return it to the enlisted force, so it has been done," she said. "Wearing the circle on the lapel has a lasting heritage that dates back to April 27, 1918."

The change will include the removal of senior NCO shoulder boards from the blue uniform and from all upper garments, except the optional wool sweaters. Implementation dates will be reflected in the revised AFI.

The updates will also include information about the new air staff badge and new space badge. Desert combat uniforms are now only authorized on civilian flights to and from the area of responsibility. Also, Air Force personnel are not authorized to wear desert

boots with the battle dress uniform.

The revised AFI will clarify wear of the PT gear by specifying that when doing organized PT, the shorts and T-shirts will be worn as a set and not mixed with civilian clothes; however, at other times the PT gear, to include the running suit, can be worn with civilian clothes.

More clarification will be provided about sister service badges, as well as cell phone use in uniform. New guidance about the wear of flight clothing also is incorporated in the updated document.

The new AFI will be available for all Airmen later this month.

"The Air Force Uniform Board, chaired by Air Force A1, reviews any matters related to Air Force uniforms involving possible improvements, and in turn, provides recommendations to the chief of staff for a final decision," Sergeant Athnos said. "It's a deliberate process that is focused on feedback from the field to better accomplish our mission."



NEWS FEATURES

Chapel seminar works to improve couples communication skills

By Janet Taylor-Birkey
27th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

About 20 Cannon families are better equipped to deal with daily struggles that can affect their marriages and parenting after attending a marriage workshop July 14.

The seminar, Prevention and Relationship Enhancement Program (PREP), is a one day program sponsored by the chapel and directed by Capt. (Chaplain) Don Bridges, a 27th Fighter Wing chaplain. Based on more than 20 years of research in helping couples improve their marriage and resolve conflict, PREP has been featured on television programs such as 20/20, 48 Hours and Oprah.

"You can have the relationship you always dreamed of with your mate," said Chaplain Bridges, giving couples hope for what he describes as a lifelong adventure and journey with their mate.

PREP is for couples who want to learn how to deal with common conflict styles, communication techniques, setting ground rules and exploring what commitment means.

PREP focuses on learning through informal lecture and personal stories from the facilitator, video of real-life couples in conflict and opportunities to practice verbal communication with a non-threatening topic.

"We're here to break trends, to break statistics," Chaplain Bridges said, citing that approximately 50 percent of all marriages end in divorce, and only 50 percent of those who stay together are satisfying and happy.

Chaplain Bridges encourages couples to consider the vision they have for their marriage and take the steps to make that vision become reality. He said this is accomplished by choosing to pay whatever price is required to make a marriage the best it can be, and to never quit learning. "I am always going to keep the attitude that I am going to learn something to make myself a better husband," Chaplain Bridges said.

Couples do not need to be embroiled in problems before attending a PREP seminar, according to the www.prepinc.com Web site, but the seminar is for those who want to make their marriage be the best it can be.

It doesn't matter whether you have a new-found love, you're gritting your teeth as your teen gets his license, or your youngest has left you with an empty nest, PREP offers you the chance to discover how to enjoy your marriage no matter where you are today or what tomorrow may bring, according to the Web site.

"Couples that participate in PREP statistically grow in their happiness factor," said Chaplain Bridges. "They actually enjoy each other and their marriage relationship."



PHOTO BY SEAMAN JOSEPH CABALLERO

Maj. Gretchen Black presents a gift to a young patient aboard the U.S. Navy hospital ship USNS Mercy while at a stop in Nias Island, Indonesia, on Monday. The Mercy is in the third month of a scheduled five-month deployment, conducting humanitarian and civic assistance in South and Southeast Asia and the Pacific Islands. Major Black is one of several Air Force medical professionals on the ship.

Military spouses should choose careers with care

By Rudi Williams
American Forces Press Service.

With frequent moves preventing many from moving up the career ladder in a single workplace, military spouses face unique career challenges, a military spouse career counselor told more than 150 spouses attending a recent Military Spouse Career Expo at Fort Belvoir, Va.

Laureen DuPree, an Army Community Service employment readiness counselor and instructor at Fort Belvoir, told the group about what she called "the 3 Cs to career success": recognizing one's Calling, expanding Connections and broadening Choices by taking advantage of education and training opportuni-

ties, volunteer work opportunities and other enrichment opportunities.

It's never too late or too early to find your calling, said Ms. DuPree, adding that this is usually a process that is discovered by examining what a person has enjoyed in the past.

"What were you excited about?" she asked. "What could transport you into timelessness? Reflect on your childhood passions, ask yourself what have you absolutely loved doing in some of your volunteer jobs, what did you absolutely love doing in some of your jobs. Discover your calling, honor it, find your niche. Keep looking [for it] and pursuing it. The joy it will bring is worth the pursuit."

Ms. DuPree's second "C" of

career success is connecting with friends and family as well as building "social capital" with community, military spouses clubs and other organizations.

"All of these are organizations which put people in touch with other people," she said. "These relationships build a wealth of connections which we call social capital. The more capital or connections you have, the more job opportunities will present themselves. People like to help people with whom they have a connection."

Ms. DuPree's final "C" is choice.

"I believe that we as military spouses often feel like we have no choices," she said. "However, the choices we make, whether active or passive, determine the quality of our

lives. We want to make choices that will expand our menu of choices when it comes to employment options. Choose to discover your calling, think about it and dream about it."

Choosing work that leads to expanded skills is something else that should be considered by the military spouse, Ms. DuPree said.

"Every job that you choose to take should help to expand your career choices at your next duty station and the next, and so on," she said. "Always ask yourself, 'Will this job bring me in closer touch with my calling?' Make active choices and choose wisely. Our choices determine the quality of our lives."

In addition to the three C's, Ellen Saccoia-Smith, 27th

Fighter Wing family readiness technician said spouses need to always think about the marketability of careers and the education they choose. Education, nursing and social work are degrees that are usable both stateside and overseas.

Go beyond listening to counselors at local colleges, advises Mrs. Saccoia-Smith. Family Support Center personnel are trained to help spouses decide on a career that fits in their range of talents and interests, and that is best marketable as a military spouse who will possibly be deployed overseas.

To schedule an appointment for career counseling and testing, call the Family Support Center at 784-4228.

(Editor's note: Janet Taylor-



COMMENTARY

You make the difference in Smart Ops 21

By Chief Master Sgt. Jay Jacques
366th Component Maintenance Squadron

One of my favorite shows on TV is "60 Minutes," and specifically Andy Rooney's segments. He has a direct way of asking, "Why?"

Some of the "why's" I hear most are, a "Why is everything computerized? Why do we have so much training on-line? Why is there no longer an office with people in it to do (fill in the blank)."

I'm sure conversations with bosses, co-workers and friends are the same and usually start with a new Air Force program or frustration through a bad experience. Of course, we all know the answer to many of these questions. The Air Force is trying to save money through force reduction and process efficiencies. War is expensive, and our leaders are searching for ways to "pay the bill."

"Doing more with less" is an old phrase some people don't like to hear,

but it's exactly what Air Force Smart Operations 21, or AFSO 21, is all about.

Air Force leaders feel so strongly about AFSO 21 they created its own program office at the Pentagon. This office was created in response to an initiative by Secretary of the Air Force Michael Wynne to look at process improvement across the service. It takes the lead in optimizing the way the Air Force conducts its mission and provides top-level guidance for implementing AFSO 21 initiatives.

These initiatives enhance an Air Force mindset already geared toward innovation, said Brig. Gen. S. Taco Gilbert III, director of the Air Force Smart Operations 21 office.

"The Air Force has always fostered a culture of innovation," General Gilbert said. "We are trying to take that culture of innovation to the next level, where we look at all the processes involved in what we do.

We look at not doing more with less, but at being smarter about the way we are doing business – eliminating work that is unnecessary. We have tried to capture lessons learned from industry and government agencies involved in process improvement."

Senior leaders designed the program specifically for the Air Force, and it is based on similar industry process improvement practices like Lean, Six Sigma and Theory of Constraints. An example of this innovation is in the 366th Equipment Maintenance Squadron's phase section. Through a Lean initiative, squadron members developed an idea to move consolidated tool kits next to the aircraft. This decreased the number of trips by multiple technicians across a large hangar every day.

"Air Force Smart Operations 21 is a term coined by Air Force senior leadership to represent not only a program to institutionalize continu-

ous process improvement, but also to describe a new way of thinking about the Air Force," General Gilbert said. "We want to be smart about the things we do for the future."

Air Combat Command's No. 1 AFSO 21 initiative came from the 366 EMS. This initiative reduced work-hours from 320 to 88.5 without sacrificing quality. The corrosion section reduced the full aircraft paint process by 20 percent and gained 48 hours of fully mission-capable time.

While formal implementation of AFSO 21 practices across the Air Force have just begun, General Gilbert doesn't believe it will be short-lived or ineffective as other process improvement programs have been.

"We have found that even skeptics, after they have participated in an AFSO 21 event, come away convinced there is real possibility here,

■ See MAKE THE DIFFERENCE, Page 6

We can better our lives by the choices we make

By Master Sgt. Rick Bushgen
27th Communications Squadron first sergeant

We are the masters of our destinies. Although it may be more convenient or comfortable to blame others for what occurs in our lives, the fact is we control our destinies. And, we do so by the multitude of choices we all make each and every day. We can change our lives by the choices we make!

Every waking moment, we make choices. We choose what to eat. We choose whether we exercise. We choose what to put in our minds. We will choose the people with whom we interact. We choose whether we will be kind to others. We choose whether to be happy or not. We make hundreds of decisions that directly impact the quality of our lives.

Some of the choices we make will have immediate impact. Others will have an impact days, weeks, months or even years later. But, make no mistake about it, the multitude of choices we make today will have an enormous impact on the quality of our lives tomorrow.

We live in a very competitive world, especially in America. From our entry into the school system right through to our participation in the military world, we are constantly in a competitive environment. Forced rankings in school and at work have us growing up very competitive. Literally, from a young age we are programmed to compare ourselves to others.

No matter the current conditions of our lives, we are blessed. Because we are alive, we have opportu-

nities to experience, see and hear the wonders of the world.

We are blessed with personal attributes, skills, wisdom and relationships that together create the potential that enables us to experience wonderful things.

Of course, it is easier to blame one's perceived shortcomings on circumstances rather than on our own failure to use that which has been given to us. Blaming others for our performance shortfalls is, unfortunately, the norm in our society.

We can languish in a world of blame and pity. Or, we can assume responsibility for our performance and make ever better choices.

Yes, we can choose to be the very best that we can be! The choice is ours!

MACH METER

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27fwmachmeter@cannon.af.mil.

All submissions will be considered for publication based on news value and timeliness.

Every article and photograph will be edited for accuracy, clarity and brevity, conformance with the Associated Press Stylebook and Libel Manual and with Air Force Instruction 35-101. Coverage of upcoming events should be arranged in advance by calling the Public Affairs office at 784-4131.

If you have a suggestion you would like to make, or a kudo you'd like to give, call the **ACTION LINE at 784-2722** — If you have a problem you need resolved, call the responsible agency first so they can provide better service to everyone promptly.

Deadline for submitting articles is noon Thursday the week prior to publication. Deadline for free classified advertisements is noon the Tuesday prior to publication.

MACH METER EDITORIAL STAFF

Col. Scott West

Commander, 27th Fighter Wing

Capt. Rebecca Garcia

Chief, Public Affairs

Mr. Greg Allen

Editor

Ms. Janet Taylor-Birkey

Staff Writer





PHOTO BY MASTER SGT. KENNETH PAGEL

Flying High

F-16 Fighting Falcons of the Air Force Thunderbirds perform at an air show in Milwaukee Saturday.

*This week's **Viper Volunteer is***

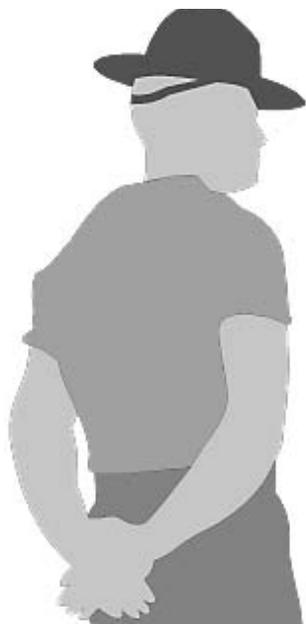


COURTESY PHOTO

Master Sgt. Eric and Shannon Butt

Sgt. Butt, 27th Civil Engineer Squadron, and his wife Shannon spent countless Saturdays, Sundays and weekday afternoons hauling hay, building pens and assisting children and helping Hebron Arabians with their horses.

The Viper Volunteer highlights the spirit of volunteerism and extraordinary contributions to the Cannon community. To nominate a Viper Volunteer, call Ellen Saccoia-Smith at 784-4228.



Sgt. Afi's 36-2903 Tip of the Week

To present the proper military image clothing must be neat, clean, fit properly, in good condition and zipped, snapped or buttoned. Footwear must be shined and in good repair.



FEATURE

WIC educates mothers, helps keep kids healthy

By Janet Taylor-Birkey
27th Fighter Public Affairs

What two-year-old eats like they are supposed to?

What pregnant mother eats like she should?

These are the questions asked by Patty Lorenz, a nutritionist with the Cannon office of Women, Infants and Children (WIC).

She laughs when asking the questions, but good nutrition for moms and young ones is no laughing matter for her.

"We are not a welfare program or an entitlement program," said Ms. Lorenz, stressing that women and children may often qualify, even if they are not in a low-income category. "We don't count [monetary] assets or anything like that."

"We are a nutritional education and counseling program," said Ms. Lorenz, adding that this is accomplished through information classes and a peer counselor to

work with breastfeeding and pregnant women who want to breastfeed.

"Breastfeeding is a big deal to us. It's easy if you have someone there to [help you]."

Checks for food packages are likened to a "food prescription." Consisting of items such as milk, cheese, eggs, fruit juice and other food items, which are "budget stretchers," said Ms.

Patty Lorenz

"We are not a welfare program or an entitlement program...we are a nutritional education and counseling program."

— Cannon Women, Infants and Children nutritionist

Lorenz.

"This frees up food budgets from things that we buy, to help with items we don't buy, like meat and fresh produce."

Approximately 460 women, infants and children at Cannon take advantage of the WIC program. Ms. Lorenz said they have even helped ranks as high as captain; while the pay grade is higher, there may be more children or a pregnant wife in the family.

Criteria for the WIC program are:

- Pregnant women, breastfeeding mothers, infants up to one year old and children ages one to five years may qualify for the WIC program.

- Live in New Mexico (not necessarily a resident),

- Meet income guidelines. Income must fall at or below 185 percent of the U.S. Poverty Income Guidelines, according to the www.fns.usda.gov Web site. An example would be that a family of four can gross \$37,000 annually, said Ms. Lorenz.

- Nutritional risk factor (determined by a questionnaire). The www.fns.usda.gov Web site lists these factors as anemia, overweight, under-

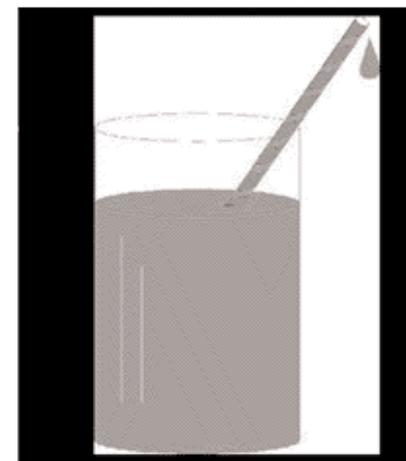
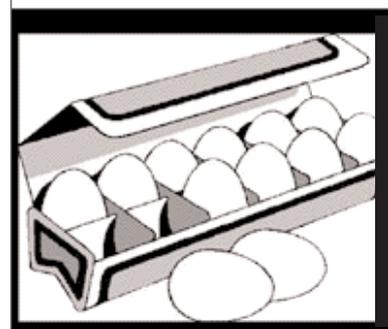
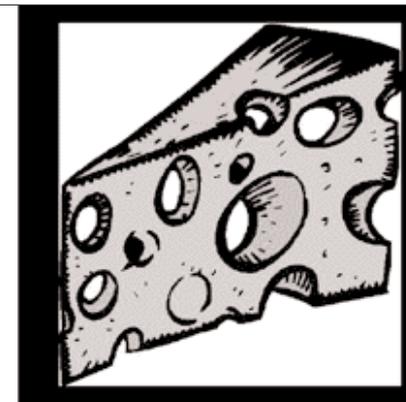
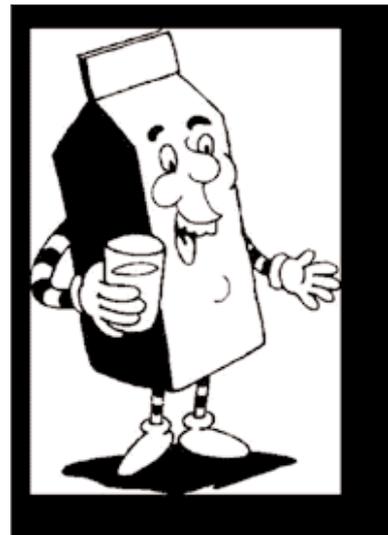


ILLUSTRATION BY JANET TAYLOR-BIRKEY

The Women, Infants and Children program provides nutritional education and "budget stretchers" that include milk, cheese, eggs and fruit juice. For more information, call 784-2127.

weight, history of pregnancy complications, or poor pregnancy outcomes.

There will be a luncheon for women who are interested in breastfeeding their children at noon Aug. 1 at The Landing

For more information about the WIC program or the luncheon, call 784-2127, or stop by the office from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday at the Cannon clinic.

MAKE THE DIFFERENCE

Continued from Page 4

that there was a return on investment and that they had an impact," he said. "AFSO 21 is about a mindset for the 21st century. This is not a short-term program. It is a program to fundamentally change the culture of the Air Force for the long haul."

It's hard for most of us to adjust to change. I told a young Airman the other day that "in the old days," almost everything was done for you. For example, before departing for a temporary duty, you would go to the finance office where they would have you sign some paperwork, send you to a "cage" much like a bank teller and someone would hand you cash for your trip. The Airman was shocked because today's Airmen do it themselves. They can simply show up at the airport with a confirmation number and a government credit card, and off they go.

I would agree that there is waste in many areas and processes. Ask yourself, what is

around you that could be improved, and what would you do to remove waste? The Air Force is cutting spending and people. But believe it or not, we do have a say on how to do it smartly.

You are the "smart" in Smart Ops, not a group of people in an office at the Pentagon. The key lies within Airmen in every small office, back shop and flightline break room, who generate ideas in small increments but when added together are enormous. We all share the responsibility of paying this large bill.

As another cost-cutting measure, Air Force officials plan to reduce the service's current size by 40,000 full-time equivalent positions by 2011. This amounts to roughly 35,000 active-duty positions. Air Force officials continuously study the force structure and retention tendencies. By doing this, they can predict to some degree what skills will be needed in recruitment, how many people are recruited in each skill set and the

likelihood of those individuals staying for a longer or shorter career.

The Air Force's expeditionary nature will also impact the personnel authorization reduction decisions. The Air Force analyzes and prioritizes each career field from a perspective of what it takes for each specialty to support the air and space expeditionary force.

"This plan is fairly front-loaded," said Lt. Gen. Roger A. Brady, Air Force deputy chief of staff for manpower and personnel. "To take care of some investment accounts we have, and to meet some obligations that were requested of us by the DOD, about 20,000 [positions] must come out by the end of fiscal year 2007."

Only time will tell the full impact of AFSSO 21 and force reduction, but these cuts are vital to meet budgetary restraints now and for our future. We will be the ones to make this a success or failure.



FEATURE

Cameras enhance solar storm forecasting

By Michael Kleiman
Space Vehicles Directorate Public Affairs

KIRTLAND AIR FORCE BASE, N.M. (AFPN) — Every 100-plus minutes, while orbiting approximately 50 miles above the Earth onboard the Coriolis satellite, the Solar Mass Ejection Imager experiment scans the darkness of space-seeking, sun-generated magnetic clouds of particles intent on striking the planet.

Since becoming operational in January 2003, the imager's three cameras have photographed more than 200 coronal mass ejections. Approximately 30 have reached Earth, causing a variety of problems including disruption of communication to the warfighter and damaging spacecraft components.

The imager's proof-of-concept experiment has enhanced forecasting when and where destructive clouds of solar particles will impact the Earth.

According to Janet Johnston, Solar Mass Ejection Imager program manager, the Solar Mass Ejection Imager project represents a collaborative effort that spans eight time zones.

"It has demonstrated that coronal mass ejections can be detected and tracked from the sun to the Earth and beyond," said Ms. Johnston, who is with the Battlespace Environment Division at Hanscom Air Force Base, Mass. "It has generated a data set never seen before. Lots of space weather forecasts are made, but the track record is not that good [60 percent are inaccurate]. The Solar Mass Ejection Imager has demonstrated a 30-percent improvement in the accuracy of forecasts."

During the early 1990s, with an increasing reliance on satellites, the Department of Defense

initiated space weather forecasts to protect its critical assets in the cosmos. Situated 93 million miles from the Earth, the sun periodically discharges large blobs of plasma and embedded electromagnetic fields, known as coronal mass ejections, traveling at speeds approaching 4 million miles per hour.

The fast and furious solar material can impact the Earth within one to three days after departure. They also trigger geomagnetic storms, which disrupt electric power and communication systems on Earth, as well as damage spacecraft circuitry and degrade performance.

In addition to monitoring solar storms, the Solar Mass Ejection Imager trial has observed high-altitude auroras, asteroids, debris, stellar variability and some unique comet tail disconnections. Nevertheless, after snapping pictures of space weather and other occurrences in the cosmos for the past three and a half years, the Solar Mass Ejection Imager has required little upkeep, but the radiation environment it operates in has impacted the quality of the images.

On the other hand, the Solar Mass Ejection Imager could remain operational for the next three to four years, or for as long as the Navy-administered Coriolis satellite continues its mission. That decision may be impacted by the shelf life of the spacecraft's other onboard payload, Windsat, a Naval Research Laboratory-sponsored experiment, which gathers information on the speed and direction of ocean-surface winds.

Regardless, Ms. Johnston says the Solar Mass Ejection Imager has set the benchmark for future space weather forecasting.

"We expect the Solar Mass Ejection Imager will continue to provide a great source of research," she said. "We also hope that an operational version of the Solar Mass Ejection Imager, which detects and tracks solar disturbances, will become a reality."

"It's part of the space weather forecasting 'big picture.' To accomplish the task, in addition to reliable detection and tracking of coronal mass ejections, we will need particle sensors in orbit around the sun and methods to predict the incoming magnetic fields," Ms. Johnston said. "It will also require a fundamental understanding of the physics of solar processes."

"The imager definitely has aided the warfighter by providing improved space weather forecasts," Ms. Johnston said. "It also has drawn the defense community's attention to the importance of knowing when and where geomagnetic storms will happen."

"We are also making substantial progress in working with other space weather forecasters to employ the imager's results into prediction models," she said.

"By combining Solar Mass Ejection Imager data with existing forecasting models, the experiment's observations can provide a 'mid-course correction' for the coronal mass ejection that is heading toward the Earth."

Ms. Janet Johnston

"We expect the Solar Mass Ejection Imager will continue to provide a great source of research."

— Solar Mass Ejection Imager program manager

Eagle Flag

Senior Airman Daniel Brown watches over a perimeter area during operations for exercise Eagle Flag 06-3 at Naval Air Engineering Station Lakehurst, N.J., on Saturday. The exercise is the only flag-level exercise that tests Airmen from multiple Air Force specialties on their expeditionary combat support skills. The exercise is coordinated by the Air Mobility Warfare Center's 421st Combat Training Squadron. Airman Brown is assigned to the 305th Security Forces Squadron at McGuire Air Force Base, N.J.

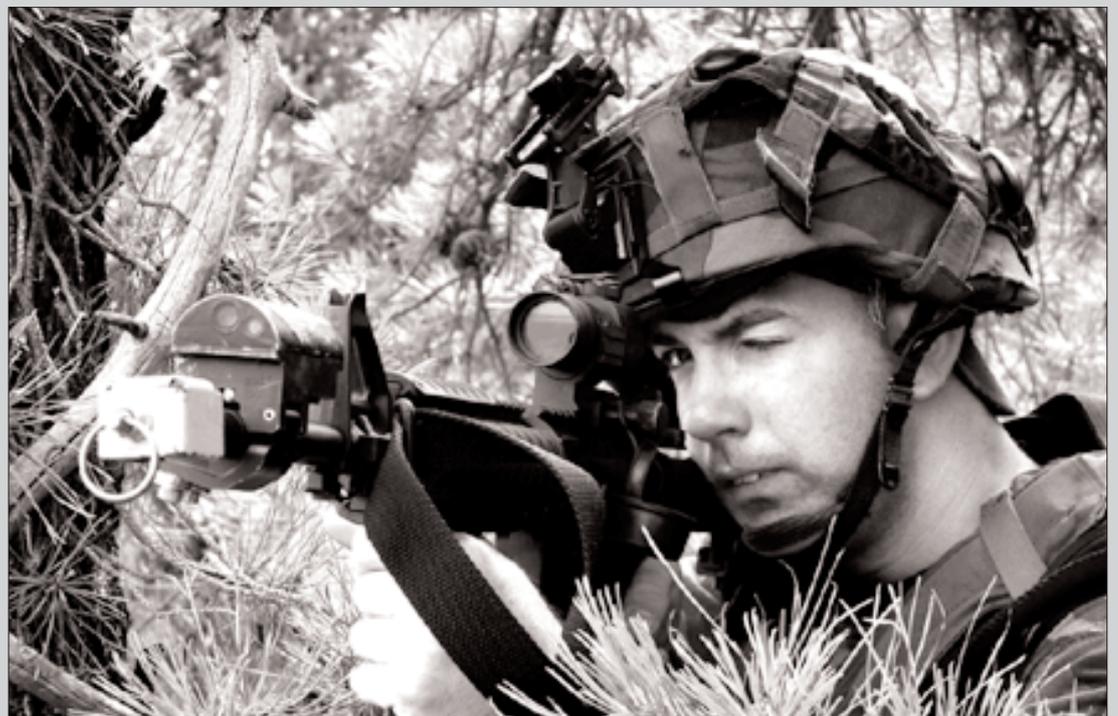


PHOTO BY TECH. SGT. SCOTT T. STURKEL



COMMUNITY EVENTS



PHOTO BY GREG ALLEN

Pet of the Week

This young male German Shepherd knows how to sit and will provide great companionship for a family. For information on him or other available pets, call the Family Support Center at 784-4228.

■ **Continued from page 1**

Learn how to make a move as stress-free as possible. For more information or to register, call the FSC 784-4228.

Bundles for Babies

Bundles for Babies is 8:30 to 11 a.m. Thursday at the FSC. The class offers a collection of information, including physical changes a mother can expect while pregnant, how to care for a baby and financial aspects of having a baby. The class is open to those at least 20 weeks pregnant or who have a newborn under three months old. Active-duty Air Force members or spouses of active-duty members will receive a gift bundle worth approximately \$75 upon attending the class. For more information or to register, call 784-4228.

Staff awards breakfast

The first staff agency quarterly awards breakfast is 7:30 a.m. on Thursday at the Pecos Trail Dining Facility. The awards presentation starts at 8 a.m. The Cannon public is invited.

For more information, call 784-7776.

Loading competition

Events for the first quarter Proud Falcon loading competition will begin at 7 a.m. on July 31 at Hangar 133. Cannon personnel are invited.

For information, contact Master Sgt. Todd Kenny at 784-4198.

Legal assistance closes

Legal assistance walk-in hours are cancelled Aug. 7-11 due to the Cannon Legal Office's participation in the scheduled base exercise

DRMO closure

The Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office is closed until Monday. For more information, call 784-2437.



SERVICES



PHOTO BY YOLANDA ROMERO

Heading for Albuquerque

Kim Wilson, Cannon Federal Credit Union, draws the winning ticket won by Dina Sellars, an AAFES employee, for a round-trip ticket to Albuquerque from Great Lakes Airlines during the Discover Home travel fair July 14 at the Landing. The tickets were the top prizes awarded at the show that highlighted opportunities for Cannon Airmen and their families to learn what was available to enjoy in the Southwest.



What's happening?



Today

U.S. Kids Golf Tournament – 9 a.m. at WWGC*
 Summer Reading Program at Cannon Library
 Penny Pincher Special – Side Salad and half a Patty
 Melt \$3 Members First
 Seafood Buffet – 11 a.m. at The Landing
 Duck Crepes – 5 to 9 p.m. at The Landing
 Yu-Gi-Oh Challenge Plus – 4 p.m. at the Clovis CC
 X-Box Challenge – 6 p.m. at The Landing

Saturday

Ladd and Lassie Tournament – 1 p.m. tee time at WWGC
 Discovery Center – 1 p.m. with the Youth Center in Amarillo

Sunday

Dart League – 6:30 p.m. at The End Zone

Monday

Penny Pincher Special – Side Salad and half a Patty

Melt \$3 Members First

All American Buffet – 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at The Landing
 Monday Night Scramble – 5 p.m. at WWGC
 Community Theater – 6:30 p.m. at the Central CC

Tuesday

Penny Pincher Special – Side Salad and half a Patty
 Melt \$3 Members First
 Senior Golf League – 9 a.m. at WWGC
 Barbecue Buffet – 11 a.m. at The Landing

Wednesday

Have a Ball League – 10 a.m. at Cannon Lanes
 Penny Pincher Special – Side Salad and half a Patty
 Melt \$3 Members First
 Chicken or Steak Fajitas – 5 p.m. at The Landing

Thursday

Penny Pincher Special – Side Salad and half a Patty

Melt \$3 Members First

X-Box Challenge – 5 to 7 p.m. at the Portales CC
 Mexican Buffet – 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at The Landing
 Mongolian Buffet – 5 to 8 p.m. at The Landing



* CC — Community Center WWGC — Whispering Winds Golf Course CDC — Child Development Center



FEATURE



PHOTOS BY GREG ALLEN

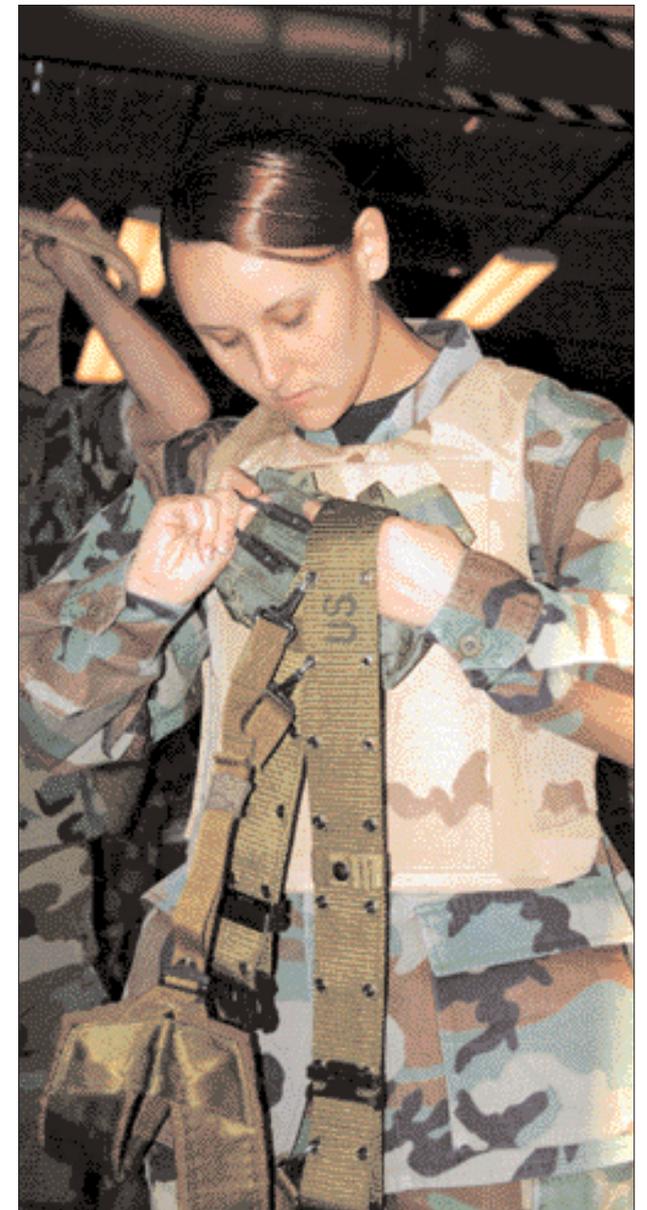
Cannon Airmen stand in line for weapons and equipment issue July 14 at the 27th Logistics Readiness Squadron issue point. The Airmen are preparing to deploy to Southwest Asia in September.

Getting ready to go

Cannon Airmen continue to get ready for deployment



Staff Sgt. Julio Betancourt, 27th Equipment Maintenance Squadron, receives his M-16 rifle from Airman 1st Class Niki Sheatler, 27th Logistics Readiness Squadron, July 14. Sergeant Betancourt will deploy to Southwest Asia with other Cannon Airmen in September.



Senior Airman Laura Flanagan, 27th Fighter Wing Command Post, adjusts her load bearing equipment July 14 during weapons and equipment issue at 27th Logistics Readiness Squadron.



Unit Spotlights



Congratulations NCO Academy Class 06-5 Graduates

Distinguished graduates

*Tech. Sgt. Elizabeth Brownstead,
27th Equipment Maintenance Squadron*

*Tech. Sgt. Wesley Mathis,
27th Component Maintenance Squadron*

Tech. Sgt. Russell Bengry,
27th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

Tech. Sgt. Lee Greger,
27th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

Tech. Sgt. James Morgan,
27th Maintenance Group

Tech. Sgt. Terry Bernatis,
27th Maintenance Operations Squadron

Tech. Sgt. Christina Herbert,
27th Communications Squadron

Tech. Sgt. Stephen Polk,
27th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

Tech. Sgt. Kevin Cole,
27th Maintenance Operations Squadron

Tech. Sgt. James Hurt,
27th Maintenance Group

Tech. Sgt. Scott Toft,
27th Operations Support Squadron

Tech. Sgt. William Colley,
523rd Fighter Squadron

Tech. Sgt. Holly Jackson,
27th Fighter Wing

Tech. Sgt. Michael White,
27th Maintenance Group

Tech. Sgt. Ray Ellis,
27th Component Maintenance Squadron

Tech. Sgt. Charles Lewis,
27th Component Maintenance Squadron



CANNON AIR FORCE BASE CHAPEL

CATHOLIC

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is 8:30 a.m.
Sunday mornings.

Sunday Mass 9:30 a.m.

Weekday Mass 12:05 p.m.
M,W,F

PROTESTANT

Sunday Services (Summer Schedule)

Sunday School 9:15 a.m.

Combined Service 11 a.m.

Vacation Bible School (July 31 – Aug. 4) 9 a.m. - noon
at the base chapel. Buses will provide transportation
from Chavez West, Clovis 801, Portales 801 and
base housing to pick up children who need trans-
portation.

Individuals interested in volunteering should contact
their first sergeant.

For more information, call 784-2507.

At the Movies

The Cannon Movie Theater is located on the corner of Torch and D.L. Ingram.
Movie prices are \$3.50 for adults, \$1.75 for children and \$1 for all viewers on Thursdays.

The Fast and the Furious: Tokyo Drift

Today, Saturday and Sunday at 7 p.m.

Description: Sean Boswell is an outsider who attempts to define himself as a hot-headed, underdog street racer. Although racing provides a temporary escape from an unhappy home and the superficial world around him, it has also made Sean unpopular with the local authorities. To avoid jail time, Sean is sent to live with his gruff, estranged father, a career military man stationed in Tokyo.

PG-13 – reckless and illegal behavior involving teens, violence, language and sexual content.

Running time: 90 min.

Cars

Saturday at 1 and 4 p.m. and Sunday at 4 p.m.

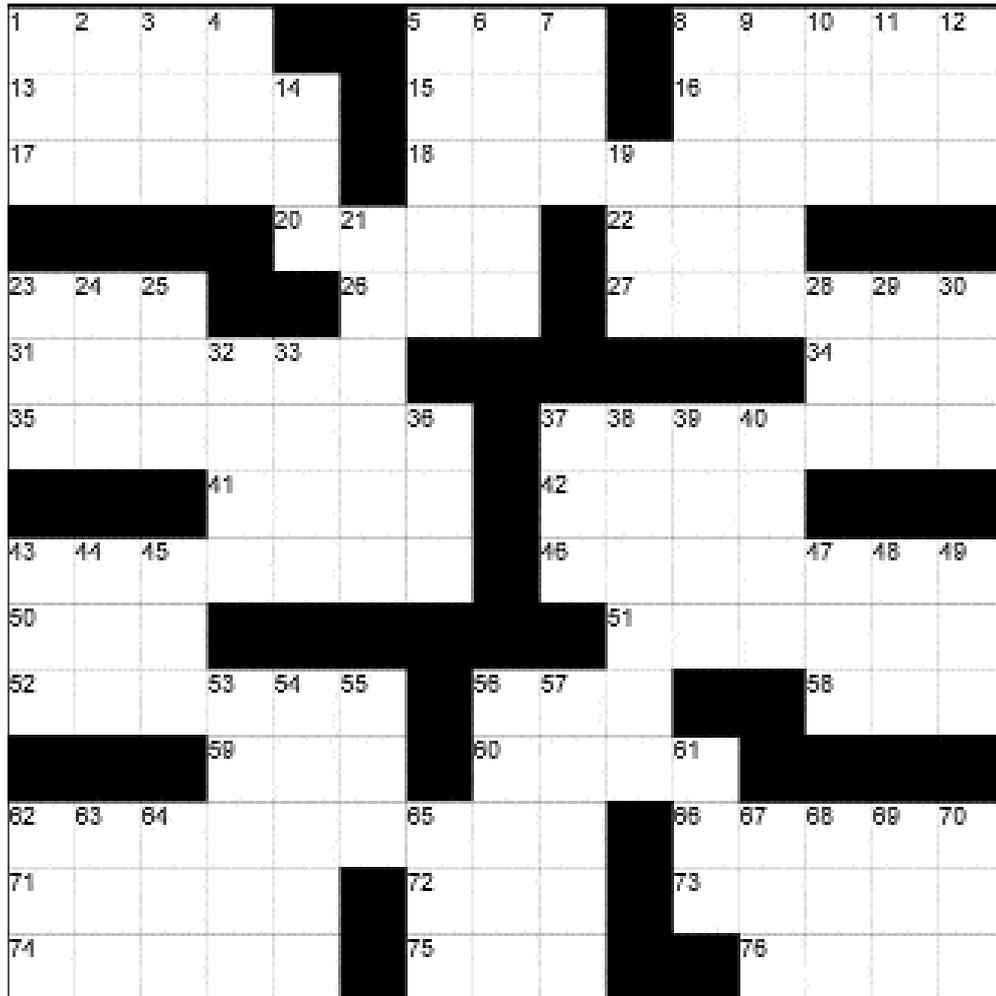
Description: Lightning McQueen, a hotshot rookie race car driven to succeed, discovers that life is about the journey, not the finish line, when he finds himself unexpectedly detoured in the sleepy Route 66 town of Radiator Springs. Enroute across the country to the big Piston Cup Championship in California to compete against two seasoned pros, McQueen gets to know the town's offbeat characters – including Sally, a snazzy 2002 Porsche; Doc Hudson, a 1951 Hudson Hornet with a mysterious past, and Mater, a rusty but trusty tow truck, who help him realize there are more important things than trophies, fame and sponsorship.

G

Running time: 116 minutes



THE LIGHTER SIDE



The Final Frontier

By Capt. Tony Wickman
71st Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

ACROSS

- 1. American cookery expert von Starkloff Rombauer
- 5. Foreign news org.
- 8. Urchin
- 13. Noticing
- 15. Singer Rawls
- 16. Lucky Lindy's 1927 destination
- 17. USAF spacelift rocket
- 18. USA's first satellite
- 20. Oak or elm
- 22. Pilot with 5+ kills
- 23. Motorist org.
- 26. USAF NCO report
- 27. USA's first space station
- 31. Cancer or Capricorn
- 34. Actress Lupino
- 35. USAF communication satellite
- 37. USAF GPS satellite
- 41. ICBM treaty
- 42. Once ___ a Time in Mexico
- 43. NASA's Enterprise or Discovery
- 46. Added up
- 50. Write
- 51. Bean
- 52. Smells
- 56. Have pain
- 58. Pistol

59. Pub order

- 60. Asset
- 62. USAF pilots Grissom, Cooper or Slayton
- 66. USAF spacelift rocket
- 71. Mercury program number
- 72. Crypto org.
- 73. Plant offspring
- 74. MOH winner Captain Harl ___
- 75. Affirmative
- 76. 2003 Jackson movie

DOWN

- 1. Danger to ground troops, in short
- 2. Deli bread
- 3. USAF website ending
- 4. Picnic pest
- 5. Edit out from a broadcast
- 6. Tyson or Holyfield
- 7. Kitchen measurement
- 8. Kirk's pal
- 9. The Emancipation of Mimi singer Mariah
- 10. Diamonds ___ Forever
- 11. Russian space station
- 12. Greek letter
- 14. Pistol, in slang
- 19. ___ Vegas
- 21. Total ___
- 23. Cash machine
- 24. Onassis nickname
- 25. Earthlink competitor
- 28. Radiant

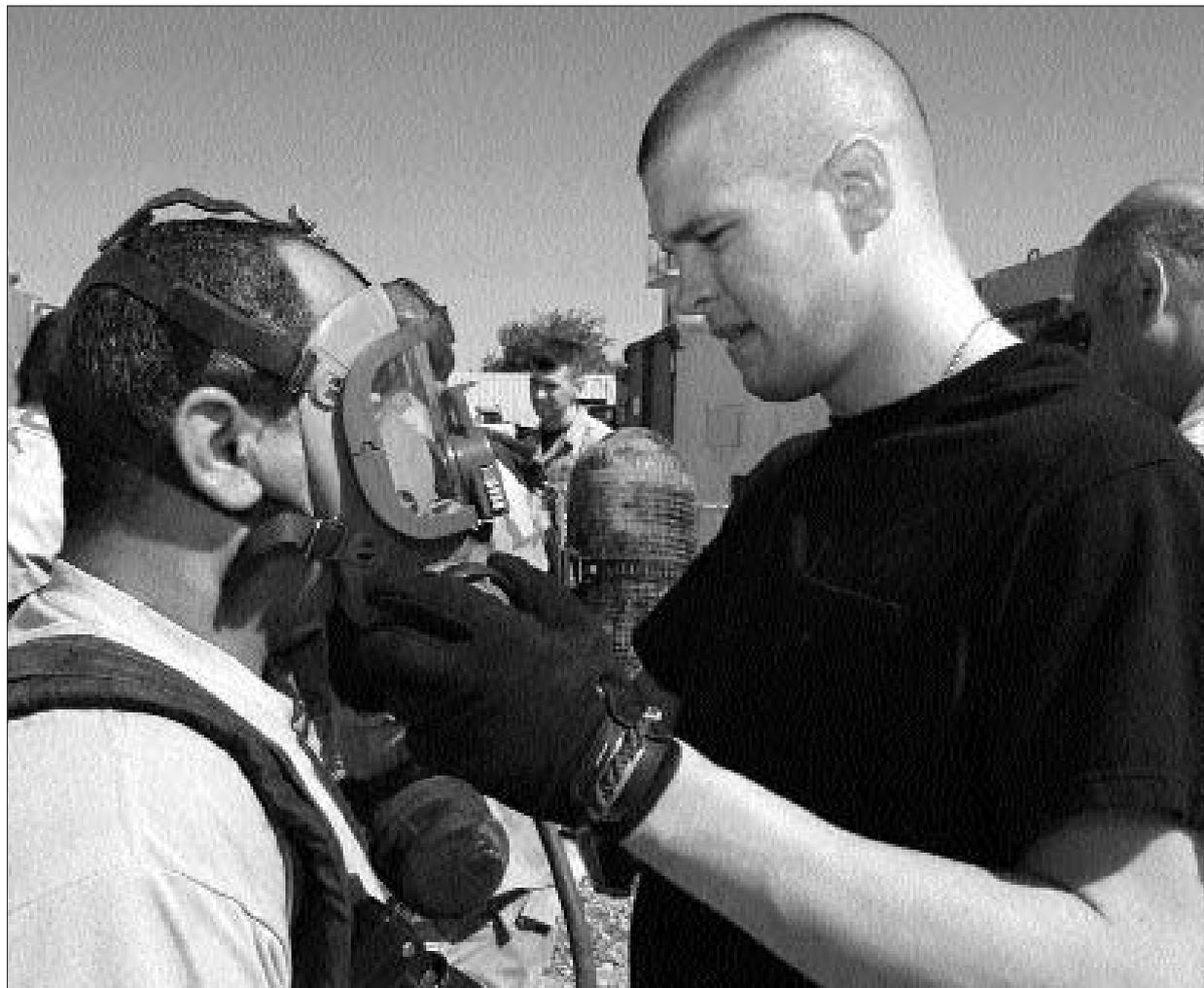
29. Oklahoma town

- 30. Prohibit
- 32. Attention getter
- 33. ___ Happened ___ the World's Fair
- 36. Map path, in short
- 37. Acorn
- 38. Space program to the moon
- 39. Rock the ___
- 40. Fabric tear
- 43. Health resort
- 44. Death Becomes ___
- 45. Card game
- 47. Bear
- 48. Flightless bird
- 49. Lair
- 53. Female horses
- 54. Isolated
- 55. Rep.'s house partner
- 56. Mistreat
- 57. Greek letters
- 61. AFB equivalent
- 62. Cleo killer
- 63. Observe
- 64. Tenn. Power assoc.
- 65. ___ Given Sunday
- 67. USAF school for 62 ACROSS, perhaps
- 68. A ___ Down Dirty Shame
- 69. ND coach Parseghian
- 70. ___ It Off



PHOTOS BY SENIOR AIRMAN ANGELITA COLLINS

Firefighters from the 506th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron and the Iraqi Air Force battle a pit fire during training at Kirkuk Air Base, Iraq.



Senior Airman Bradley Hillebrand checks an Iraqi firefighter's face mask for a proper seal during training at Kirkuk Air Base, Iraq. Air Force firefighters are training Iraqi Air Force volunteer firefighters on the principles of firefighting and using protective gear. Airman Hillebrand is with the 506th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron fire department.

Airmen teach Iraqi volunteers firefighting skills

By Staff Sgt. Stacy Fowler
506th Air Expeditionary Group

KIRKUK AIR BASE, Iraq – Iraqi Air Force maintenance people are putting down their wrenches and picking up fire hoses. They are under the experienced eyes of Kirkuk Air Base's 506th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron firefighters.

For firefighters of the Iraqi Air Force, walking into an inferno on an already warm day is an experience still rather new.

"The majority of the Iraqi firefighters have never been to a formal fire academy and have never been part of a fire department," said Staff Sgt. Carlos Bosch, a 506 ECES firefighter. "We are here to ease their transition and help them enhance their job knowledge and professional skills."

The Iraqi firefighters training began in April with basic principles of fire and fire behavior training, along with rudimentary fire attack procedures to fight the flames, Sergeant Bosch said.

"Initial training included a lot of classroom basics, as well as a large amount of practical application with equipment such as state-of-the-art vehicles, breathers and protective clothing," said Marine Maj. Waylan Cain, Squadron 3 Iraqi Air Force lead adviser.

Training continued in June with personal protective equipment, breathing apparatus, proper use of discharge patterns for fire control and some live-fire training exercises.

"Both departments work well together, and the Iraqis showed a real thirst for knowledge," Sergeant Bosch

said. "They performed exceptionally well during the live fires."

The plan, according to Major Cain, is to have training for these new firefighters at least once a month to keep them and their equipment prepared.

"Firefighting is a very perishable skill," Major Cain said. "You need repetition to try and make these abilities more instinctive. We also have a couple of these multi-million dollar trucks that we need to keep functional."

While there have been challenges to the training, they are not insurmountable.

"Our major challenge is the language barrier. Sometimes an Arabic word just doesn't have an equivalent English translation, and sometimes the English words can't fit into Arabic," Major Cain said. "But there are

other forms of communication: pointing to the equipment, using hand signs and other non-verbal cues to let them know what you're trying to say. We also have an excellent bilingual, bi-cultural adviser who translates for us.

"Anything can be overcome through teamwork," he said.

Another challenge is the differences in equipment, Sergeant Bosch said, and the occasional difficulty that arises when American firefighters are trying to create scenarios that their Iraqi counterparts will see during their time as firefighter.

"One of our career's biggest sayings is 'adapt and overcome,'" Sergeant Bosch said. "This is most certainly put to the test with this training."

Several of the firefighters who are going through train-

ing now might be asked to transfer into firefighting full-time when the Iraqi Air Force takes control of Kirkuk in the future, Major Cain said.

"I wouldn't be surprised to see several of the men here, especially the best ones of the group, become firefighters when the Iraqis come in," Major Cain said. "They're going to be the ones with the experience, as well as have the knowledge of the equipment and the knowledge of the area."

The Air Force firefighters' ultimate goal is for the Iraqi Air Force fire department to transition to a self-sufficient force. "Their training is just another example of how we can help ease their transition and enhance better communication for future joint responses between American and Iraqi firemen," Sergeant Bosch said.



SPORTS SHORTS



Cannon Lanes

Cosmic Family Fun Night*— From 6 p.m. to midnight July 22. Enjoy music, flashing lights, glow in the dark lanes, pins and bowling balls. Cost is \$2 per game.

Through Aug 15

Mondays — Coca-Cola Bowling from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. The cost is \$1.50 per game. Win a two liter of Coke with a strike on a red head pin. Limit one win per game. *No endorsement intended.*

Thursdays and Fridays — Children's Hour — 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The first child, 12 or under, bowls free when the parent bowls at regular price. The second child bowls for \$1 per game and each additional child bowls for 50 cents per game.

(*Call 784-2280 regarding children under 3 years of age)

Whispering Winds
Golf Course

Monday Night Scrambles — Two-person teams and players may select their partners. Sign up by 3 p.m.

Senior Days — Senior golfers 50 years and older will receive \$2 off daily green fees and 50 percent off electric carts Monday through Friday.

Retiree Wednesdays — Golfers with a retired military ID card will receive \$2 off daily green fees and 50 percent off electric carts on Wednesdays.

Member First discounts — 10 percent discount off annual, quarterly and monthly greens fees. Half off club rentals. \$2 off cart rental for 18 holes.

Outdoor Recreation

Boater Safety Course is offered Aug. 11 at Fort Sumner Lake. This course is mandatory before renting

powered watercraft from Outdoor Recreation.

The cost is \$20 per person.

For more information, call 784-2773.

Family Boating Play Day is Aug. 19 at Ute Lake State Park. For \$20 enjoy a day on the lake, ski boating, swimming, water skiing, wake boarding or just relaxing.

The price includes transportation, a barbecue picnic lunch, drinks and snacks. Sign up deadline is Aug. 10. Depart at 7:30 a.m. and return at 9 p.m.

This is for adults and children three years old and older.

For more information, call 784-2773.

New Mexico Hot Springs Hike and Bike is Aug. 26 and 27. The cost is \$80 per person. Soak and enjoy McCauley Hot Springs after a hike. Return to the campground and enjoy a barbecue-style dinner. On the second day, bike the San Antonio Trail and soak in the San Antonio Hot Springs.

Sign-up deadline is Aug. 21 and includes transportation, three meals, overnight camping and all gear and bicycles for those who need one.

This is for adults and children 12 years old and older.

For more information, call 784-2773.

Rock Climbing weekend — Sept. 9 and 10. The cost is \$80 per person. This adventure is for beginner and experienced climbers and provides initial climb and bouldering training or technique brush up. Training is at Kirtland Air Force Base's indoor climbing area. The second day will include several climbing stations.

Sign-up deadline is Sept. 4 and includes transportation, lessons instructions and three meals and a camping area.

This is for adults and children 12 years old and older.

For more information, call