

## Community Events



PHOTO BY AIRMAN ERIK CARDENAS

### **CFC starts Monday**

Staff Sgt. George Matthiessen, 27th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, readies Combined Federal Campaign booklets for distribution Monday. The annual CFC campaign begins Monday and continues through Oct. 31.

### **New MPF hours**

The Military Personnel Flight will have new hours of operation beginning Monday.

Customer Service, Casualty, and Personnel Systems Management will continue to have regular hours, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. It will be closed for training on Tuesdays except from 7:30 to 9 a.m.

The remainder of the MPF will be by appointment only, Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., except Tuesdays when it will conduct training from 7:30 – 9 a.m.

Walk-ins are Monday through Friday 12:30 – 3 p.m. and system updates/package processing are Monday through Friday – 3-4:30 p.m.

To schedule an appointment, call Separations/Retirements, 784-2171;

Outbound Assignments/Formal Training, 784-7573;

Employments, 784-2619;

Career Enhancements, 784-6461;

Casualty Assistance, 784-2562; or

Personnel Readiness, 784-6809.

### **New legal hours**

The following new legal assistance hours are now in effect:

Monday – Walk-ins, 1-3 p.m.; Will execution, 3:30 p.m.

Tuesday – Appointments only, 9-11 a.m.; Will execution, 11:30 a.m.

Wednesday – Walk-ins, 9-11 a.m.; Will execution, 11:30 a.m.

Thursday – Appointments only, 1-3 p.m.; Will execution, 3:30 p.m.

For more information, call 784-2211.

*More Community Events on Page 8*

# MACH METER

Vol. 51, No. 35

Cannon Air Force Base, N.M.

Sept. 15, 2006



PHOTO BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS CHAD KELLUM

### **Arriving for business**

An F-16 Fighting Falcon from Cannon taxis while another takes off from Balad Air Base, Iraq Saturday. The F-16s arrived to support Operation Iraqi Freedom.

## **AFSOC meetings scheduled next week**

### *Public invited to learn more about October 2007 move*

*27th Fighter Wing Public Affairs*

**T**he public is invited to attend three area meetings scheduled next week to learn more about environmental impact issues when the Air Force Special Operations Command (AFSOC) assumes command of Cannon Air Force Base in October 2007.

All meetings will be from 6-8 p.m. The first will be on Monday at Clovis Community College, 417 Schepps Blvd. in Clovis. The second meeting will be on Tuesday at Clayton High School, 323 South Fifth, Clayton and the third meeting will be on Wednesday at the Fort Sumner Community House, 137 East Baker Ave. in Fort Sumner.

AFSOC proposes to transfer aircraft and personnel from Hurlburt Field, Florida, to Cannon, along with assets that may include weapons systems, equipment and personnel. In addition to considering what assets should be housed at Cannon, AFSOC is also considering how to best use existing facilities, and what facilities

may need to be built for the new mission.

Approximately 90 aircraft and 3,500 personnel will be moved to Cannon, along with possible construction of additional facilities at Melrose.

**L**ocations for outlying drop zones within or outside Melrose Air Force Range, or water training within two hours travel from Cannon may also be identified for training use.

Possible impacts on the environment will be considered in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) that AFSOC is compiling.

For more information, send written comments before Oct. 5. to:

**Mr. Carl T. Hoffman**

**HQ AFSOC/A7CV**

**427 Cody Avenue, Suite 225**

**Hurlburt Field, Florida 32544-5434**

General information questions should be sent to:

**Cannon AFB Public Affairs**

**Capt. Rebecca Garcia**

**Cannon Air Force Base, N.M. 88103**

**(505) 784-4131**



## NEWS



PHOTO BY JANET TAYLOR-BIRKEY

## Signing up to vote

Airman First Class James Chenevert, 27th Component Maintenance Squadron, fills out the form for absentee voting, assisted by 2nd Lt. Christopher Husher, 27th Operations Support Squadron. Lieutenant Husher said volunteers helped more than 12 Airmen and civilians sign up to vote in less than two hours.

## Motion hearing concludes in Novak case

27th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

An Article 39A motion hearing concluded Sept. 8 in the Cannon courtroom in the case of the United States vs. Airman Basic Edward M. Novak.

The defense counsel for the accused previously filed three separate motions: request for a new Article 32 investigation, a request to sever the charges against the accused and a request to compel a mitigation expert specializing in clinical social work.

Based upon information and testimony presented by both the defense counsel and trial counsel, the military judge presiding over the hearing denied the defense's motion for a new Article 32 investigation. Similarly, the presiding

military judge denied the defense's motion to sever the charges against the accused. Upon the conclusion of the proceedings, the presiding military judge had yet to rule on the defense's final motion to compel a mitigation expert specializing in clinical social work.

Future motion hearings are currently being scheduled.

Airman Novak is charged with the October, 2004 murder of his wife, Kimberly Novak, under Article 118 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice. Airman Novak is also charged with child abuse/neglect under Article 134 of the UCMJ.

The charges are merely accusations. Airman Novak is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

## New agency for strays

Courtesy 27th Security Forces Squadron

Have you encountered a stray dog or cat on the base? Cannon now has a method to retrieve these strays. The 27th Fighter Wing has a contract with One 4 All animal rescue organization to retrieve and control stray animals on the main base and in Chavez housing areas.

One 4 All is a non-profit agency established in 2004 that recovers abandoned animals and attempts to place them in long term homes.

To report a stray or captured animal, contact the 27th Security Forces Squadron at 784-4111 and provide the necessary details such as location, a detailed

description of the animal and the animal's demeanor, such as if it's friendly.

Depending on the time of day or the distance, response could take up to an hour.

Security Forces will continue to respond to any calls involving dangerous or vicious dogs when reported. For other feral animals such as skunks or raccoons, Security Forces will be assisted by the 27th Civil Engineering entomology section.

Residents in Clovis or Portales 801 housing areas, should continue to direct calls to the appropriate local police departments: Clovis Police Department at 769-1921; Portales Police Department at 356-4404; or the Clovis County Animal Control and Shelter at 769-7893.



## Remembering those who did not return

Courtesy Air Force Press Service

Today is National POW/MIA Recognition Day, a day to remember those who sacrificed so much and to account for those who did not return.

The observance, established in 1979, was held on different days until the standard practice of celebrating it the third Friday of September was enacted in 1986.

In his 2005 National

POW/MIA Recognition Day proclamation, President George Bush talked about why it is important to recognize the day.

"In every generation, members of our Armed Forces have answered the call of service in our nation's hour of need," the president said. "These patriots have defended our freedom and way of life, triumphed over brutal enemies, and answered the prayers of millions."



## NEWS

## Seminar addresses educational financial aid for Airmen, families

*Courtesy of Education Office*

A representative from New Mexico Student Loans (NMSL) will visit Cannon Air Force Base at 10 a.m. today to provide military

personnel and family members with information and assistance on obtaining financial aid for college and post-secondary training.

NMSL Marketing Outreach Representative, Sandy Flores, will be at the education center, Bldg 600.

Ms. Flores will answer questions and assist individuals in completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). She will also provide information on financial aid options including the Lottery Success Scholarship, Pell Grants, subsidized and unsubsidized federal Stafford Loans, PLUS Loans, work-study and other assistance programs. The service is available regardless of the college the individual plans to attend.

New Mexico Student Loans is the trade name for the 501(c)(3) non-profit organization created by the New Mexico Legislature in 1981 to improve educational opportunities for New Mexicans.

For more information, call 784-4184.

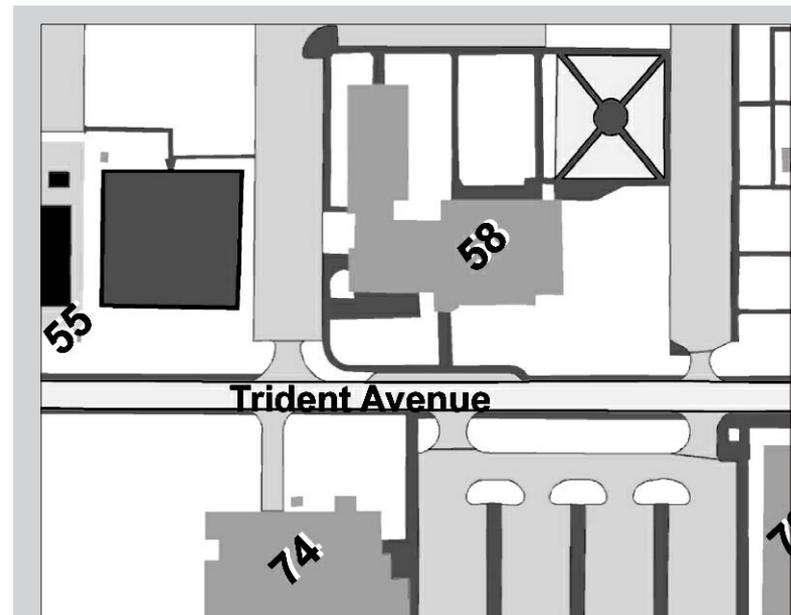


ILLUSTRATION BY SGT. LYDIA GARCIA

### Road closure, construction

A road construction project on Trident Ave. from Olympic to Torch Blvds is slated to begin Monday, weather permitting. Access to the bowling alley and theater parking lots will be through the Bank of America driveway off D.L. Ingram Blvd. Access to the chapel and law center will be via Sextant Ave. The project is expected to take two weeks, weather permitting. Construction is also under way on the South Fitness Center parking lot and is expected to last 35 days. For more information, call 784-2209.

## IDEA program nets cowboy mechanic \$10K

### Infomercial lights bulb to a better way

By Kevan Goff-Parker  
72nd Air Base Wing Public Affairs

**T**INKER AIR FORCE BASE, Okla. – William Durham was watching an infomercial about a year ago that featured a steamer blasting away caked-on pizza residue from an oven. He was amazed at how easily the steamer cleaned bathrooms, ovens and even barbecue grills.

Part of Mr. Durham's job as a mechanic with the 76th Maintenance Wing is to remove carbonized fuel – known as coking – from the inside of the fuel distribution bodies of an F-15 Eagle's engines – not an easy job because the PD-680 solvent used to clean them doesn't always work. When such cleaning fails, the \$10,000 fuel distribution bodies are condemned.

Then, it struck Mr. Durham. The combination of high-powered steam and detergent just might be the ticket to blasting away the Air Force's prob-

lems with coking.

"As a bachelor, I sometimes have pizza residue in my oven, too," said Mr. Durham, with a laugh. "I went over to the store, spent about \$90 on a steamer and I actually started cleaning with the thing. It worked great!"

**H**e said he then told the 76th MXG engineers he wanted to experiment with hot steam to remove coking from fuel distribution bodies.

"About seven or eight months later, I got the request approved and tried it on condemned bodies and it worked," he said. "When the engineers looked inside the fuel distribution bodies, they were shiny and clear, like brand new. They were surprised."

Of the 17 fuel distribution bodies that have been cleaned by Mr. Durham with detergent and shop steam, all passed inspection. The coking that was clogging the segments was blasted away.

Originally a cowboy who spent most of his life breaking horses and delivering newborn calves on five acres in El Reno, Okla. Mr. Durham

began working at Tinker in May 2001. He started in the paint shop and worked there about eight months before becoming a mechanic for the 76th MXW.

**"B**eing a cowboy, you sometimes have to improvise and sometimes the simple solutions are the best," said Mr. Durham. "Our new procedure has saved \$170,000 already."

Another aspect he is proud of is the fact that it minimizes the contact mechanics have with chemicals and saves time, money and improves mechanics' personal health safety.

"I got something (implemented) that's good for the environment," said Mr. Durham.

He said he heard about the Innovative Development through Employee Awareness program to increase efficiency, save resources and improve processes, products or equipment in the interest of national defense.

Mr. Durham applied in July for the program and was awarded \$10,000 for his creative thinking and money-saving process improvement.



PHOTO BY MARGO WRIGHT

William Durham used an inexpensive steam cleaner to discover a \$36 solution the Air Force now uses. It saves \$10,000 augmentor fuel controllers from the condemned pile. Mr. Durham is a mechanic with the 76th Maintenance Wing at Tinker Air Force Base, Okla.



## COMMENTARY

## Commander's Action Line

**Q:** Will Basic Allowance for Housing be reevaluated since the base is staying open and the cost of housing is climbing?

**A:** Thank you for this great question that affects all who are in uniform. Yes, BAH rates will be reevaluated for Cannon for 2007. Three times a year a cost analysis is done in the local and surrounding area in order to capture the most current prices for all rental properties. This information is submitted by our housing referral service to Runzheimer International – a research and services contractor.

The Per Diem, Travel and Transportation Allowance Committee establishes and sets the BAH for the upcoming year, and results are normally available between Dec. 15 and Jan. 1.

Our housing office has completed the cost analysis for this year and has submitted the data.

**Q:** Can something be done at the front gate about personnel leaving CAC cards behind? I need my card to work at my computer, but I forgot it in the reader. Can the front gate have a list of people who have been issued CAC cards so they don't have to go through the hassle of having to be signed back onto base?

**A:** Thank you for your question regarding common access card (CAC) identification use and base security. In today's world, installation security is a high interest item. In order to preclude unauthorized personnel from gaining access to Cannon, we require proper Department of Defense identification. As you would imagine, once the mandatory CAC log-in started on base computers, we experienced an increase of individuals arriving at the gate without an ID because they left it in their computer terminal. Our securi-

ty personnel have no way of knowing whether someone arriving at the gate is someone who accidentally left their ID in a computer or is someone trying to gain unauthorized access to Cannon. As a result, anyone arriving without proper identification must get a temporary pass at the Visitors Center. For the next month or so, Security Forces has partnered with the Military Personnel Flight and Civilian Personnel Flight and now has a current base personnel roster at the Visitors Center.

If you forget your CAC card, you can request a temporary pass by presenting a valid form of ID such as a driver's license. Visitors Center personnel will use that ID to verify that you are authorized entrance to Cannon and will then issue a temporary pass, which we ask you to return once you have retrieved your CAC card.

I believe this approach is an effective solution that will provide for the



OFFICIAL AIR FORCE PHOTO

Col. Scott West

27th Fighter Wing commander

continued security of Cannon as well as resolving the inconvenience caused by the oversight of forgetting one's CAC.

**Cannon One**

# Though imperfect, America is still a force for good

By Donald Rumsfeld  
Secretary of Defense

WASHINGTON – We remember where we were that day.

At 9:38 a.m., the entire Pentagon shook. I went outside and saw the horrific face of war in the 21st century. Those present could feel the heat of the flames and smell the burning jet fuel – all that remained of American Airlines flight 77.

Destruction surrounded us: smoldering rubble, twisted steel, victims in agony.

President Bush has reminded us that this enemy is still seeking new ways to attack us. He told us about captured terrorists who provided key information about planned attacks on buildings here in the U.S., and about al Qaeda's efforts to obtain biological weapons. Information the interrogators received from

these terrorists has led to the capture of other terrorists, who have in turn led us to still more.

Yet, even with these victories in the war, President Bush reminded us that it is important to understand the nature of this enemy, and what it is seeking to do. The extremist movement that threatens us is not a reactionary force. It actively looks for opportunities to acquire new and deadlier weapons, to destabilize governments, and to create discord among our allies and within our own country.

This enemy has made its immediate strategy clear in public announcements and in captured documents: to undermine the coalition effort in Iraq, drive our forces out, and then use that nation as a base from which to destabilize the surrounding nations. They seek to extend a hoped-for victory in Iraq to a broad part of the Middle East and even parts of Europe and Asia - to restore an ancient caliphate.

Iraq is the linchpin in their effort. Osama bin Laden calls Iraq the "epicenter" of this war, and he believes that "America is prepared to wage easy wars, but not prepared to fight long and bitter wars. to empower the Iraqi people to defend, govern and rebuild their own country. Extremists know that war and anarchy are their friends, peace and order their enemies.

Everyone is watching: the enemies, their supporters, their potential supporters, our allies and our potential allies. In this very public battle for hearts and minds, we must be as confident in the rightness of our cause as the enemy is in its evil purpose. We cannot allow the world to forget that America, though imperfect, is a force for good in the world.

*(Courtesy of the American Forces Press Service)*

## MACH METER

The *MACH METER* is published by the *Clovis News Journal*, a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Air Force, under exclusive written contract with the 27th Fighter Wing at Cannon Air Force Base, New Mexico. This civilian enterprise Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services. Contents of the *MACH METER* are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Air Force.

The appearance of advertising in this publication, does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense, the Department of the Air Force or the *Clovis News Journal* of the products or

services advertised.

Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user or patron.

Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the Public Affairs office of the 27th Fighter Wing.

All photographs are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated. For paid advertisements, call the advertising department of the *Clovis News Journal* at 763-3431.

News articles, local notes and other items for the *MACH METER* should be brought to the 27th Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office, 110 E Sextant Ave. Suite 1099, or e-mailed to the Mach Meter at

27fvmachmeter@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

2nd Lt. George Tobias

Deputy, Public Affairs

Mr. Greg Allen

Editor

Ms. Janet Taylor-Birkey

Staff Writer





PHOTO BY TECH. SGT. COHEN YOUNG

Gen. Ronald Keys, Air Combat commander, presents John McCurdy a Bronze Star at a ceremony in Washington, D.C., Sept. 9. Five Bronze Stars were presented to World War II veterans. The paperwork for the medals had been misfiled and rediscovered more than 60 years later. The men were unaware they were supposed to receive the medals.

## Airmen receive Bronze Stars 62 years after earning them

*Courtesy of Air Force Press News*

WASHINGTON – Reunited in a hotel ballroom just outside Washington, D.C., a small group of former Army Air Corps members were presented with long-overdue medals in a ceremony Sept. 9.

Gen. Ronald Keys, Air Combat Command commander, presented Francis Goldberg, John Bucko, John McCurdy and Eugene Peterson with Bronze Star medals they had been authorized to wear for more than 62 years but were never given to them. Kay Nehring also received a Bronze Star on behalf of her father, Charles Nehring.

“This represents a lot for the warriors of today are standing on your shoulders, the shoulders of giants,” said General Keys.

The men served in the 39th Troop Carrier Squadron. They were just a few names from a long list of Airmen from the 317th Troop Carrier Group named on the orders authorizing the medal for actions made Jan. 30 through Feb. 1, 1943, while stationed in the Pacific theater. They were responsible for delivering paratroopers into combat, and had often come under fire.

It was a case of a missing “z” that led to the evening’s ceremony, said Mr. Bucko, who spelled his name as Buczko during the war.

“I had written some articles in the past, and one of my readers was a guy who researches military records,” he said. “During one of his researches, he noticed that during the war, I spelled my name differently and he wanted to know why I

dropped the ‘z.’ He also asked if I had a Bronze Star, and I answered that I didn’t. Then he told me he had papers that said I was owed one.”

From there, the story ended up in the hands of Ann Rothrock, a history buff who joined the 39th Troop Carrier Association with her husband to learn more about World War II.

“It was really an amazing story,” she said. “Once we were sure the orders were authentic, I started looking up the names and trying to find them and make this right.”

Using the Internet, she tracked down members across the nation. A number of men had already passed away. Some couldn’t be found. But she persisted.

“It was so nice to be able to call these men and tell them they were going to be awarded for their service after all these years,” she said.

With the association’s annual reunion quickly approaching, Mrs. Rothrock got in touch with General Keys, who took an immediate interest and agreed to present the medals in a ceremony.

Eugene Peterson, who brought members of his family to the event, said he enjoys being around his wartime buddies again.

“We weren’t over there to receive any medals,” he said. “You don’t remember the specific battles or things like that. You remember the fun times you had with them, the trouble you got into. We all just did our jobs over there the best we could, and just tried to get back to our families.”



## FEATURE

# Anderson Airmen return from mercy mission

## Team performs more than 1,000 surgeries, cares for more than 60,000 patients

*Courtesy of the 36th Wing Public Affairs*



PHOTO BY SENIOR AIRMAN ANGELIQUE SMYTH

Staff Sgt. Mary Anne Vioria shares a moment with her 7-year-old son, R.J., during a welcome home celebration at Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, Sept. 10. Members from the 36th Medical Group, 36th Wing and the U.S. Navy Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 25 returned home following a 72-day humanitarian and civic assistance deployment on the USNS Mercy. Sergeant Vioria is assigned to the 36th MDG.

ANDERSEN AIR FORCE BASE, Guam –Members from the 36th Medical Group, 36th Wing and the U.S. Navy Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 25 returned home Sept. 10 following a 72-day humanitarian and civic assistance deployment on the USNS Mercy.

While embarked on USNS Mercy, servicemembers and civilians participated in theater security cooperation and medical assistance missions in partnership with non-governmental organizations, international military medical personnel and host nations of the Philippines, Bangladesh, Indonesia and East Timor.

The Mercy team cared for more than 60,000 patients, performed more than 1,000 surgeries, repaired nearly 250 pieces of biomedical equipment, conducted more than 300 preventative medicine surveys and inspections.

The team trained more than 6,000 people in topics such as basic life support, biomedical equipment repair and cardiovascular electrocardiogram training.

"I think we put a lot of effort into this deployment and accomplished a lot," said

Senior Airman Christina Vanderpool, a medical planner for the 36th MDG. "It's hard to explain the feelings, knowing that I was part of the Mercy crew and I was able to help so many people."

Upon arriving on Guam the returning members were flown via a HSC-25 MH-60S helicopter directly from their naval landing at Naval Station Guam across the island to a joint homecoming celebration hosted by both the Air Force and Navy at Andersen Air Force Base.

"Our team learned a great deal from this mission, but the one thing that stands out above all else is the level of care and compassion shown by Team Mercy toward those who have needed our help," said Senior Master Sgt. Rick McCoy, a medical technician for the 36th Medical Group.

"I'm just happy and excited to be home," said Airman Vanderpool. "It's a great feeling of accomplishment, not only helping all of those people, but also completing the joint deployment with the various services."

USNS Mercy was on a five-month deployment, during which it visited areas of South Asia, Southeast Asia, and humanitarian assistance and civic efforts.

## USAFE Airmen support Med Flag 2006

By Tech. Sgt. Pamela Anderson  
52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs

SPANGDAHLEM AIR BASE, Germany (AFPN) – More than 50 Airmen from United States Air Forces in Europe arrived in Tamale, Ghana, Saturday to participate in a humanitarian exercise called Med Flag 2006.

The group, comprised of medical, support and security Airmen from Spangdahlem, Ramstein and Sembach Air Bases in Germany, will spend four days treating patients from the South African city and surrounding rural areas.

The American military medics will work with their Ghanaian military counterparts during the exercise.

"The objective is to treat

as many people as possible in the short time frame and to work side by side with the Ghanaian doctors and learn about regional diseases," said Col. Timothy Vining, chief of USAFE exercises.

"When the people line up, we will give the second group of about 200 passes that will move them to the front of the line the following day," he said. "This will give people an idea about whether or not they will be seen by a doctor so they're not waiting in line all day for nothing."

This is not the first time the U.S. government has arranged for military personnel to offer aid to African citizens.

"(The Ghanaian people) appreciate the support extended to them," said the

Honorable Alhaji Mustapha Ali Idris, Northern Regional minister. "This is a significant deed from America and it registers effectively in the minds of the people in the region."

Though the goal of Med Flag is to help those who don't have access to standard health care, some of the caregivers feel they will get something from this experience, too.

"I'm looking forward to the opportunity to share common experiences with our Ghanaian counterparts and learn about their own unique approaches to medicine," said Maj. Kevin Bohnsack, a flight surgeon from Spangdahlem AB.



PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. CAROLYN ERFE

Col. Victor Folarin is welcomed by the Tampion head chief at Med Flag 2006 in Tamale, Ghana, Tuesday. More than 50 Airmen from the United States Air Forces in Europe are participating in the humanitarian medical mission. Colonel Folarin is the commander of the 52nd Medical Group at Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany.



## COMMUNITY EVENTS



PHOTO BY GREG ALLEN

### ***Pet of the Week***

This young female Labrador retriever mix is available for adoption. For information on her or other available pets, call the Airman and Family Readiness Flight at 784-4228.

■ Continued from page 1

### Allergy clinic resumes services

The Allergy Clinic resumes services on Sept 27. Hours will be 1 to 4 p.m. Wednesday afternoons by appointment only.

Services include allergy evaluations, allergy skin testing and immunotherapy vaccines. A referral from a primary care manager is required.

Allergy shots are given on a walk-in basis 7:30 to 11:30 a.m. and 1 to 4 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday except on holidays and official closure days.

To schedule an appointment through the primary care managers, call 784-2778. For information about allergy shots, call 784-4040.

### Case lot sale

A case lot sale at the commissary is from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. today and Saturday. For more information, go to [www.commissaries.com](http://www.commissaries.com).

### ASIST workshop

The chapel is sponsoring a two-day Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST) workshop from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Thursday and Friday at the chapel. ASIST educates personnel in evaluating suicide risk factors and prevention measures and to better understand and deal with the suicide. There is no cost, no lunch is provided and civilian attire is the duty uniform.

After receiving approval from unit first sergeants or commanders, call 784-2507 to register.

### Healthcare meeting

The Community Healthcare Council meets at 11 a.m. Sept. 27 at the Landing. The council is a forum for the 27th Medical Group to interact with beneficiaries and provide information on medical services, medical group events and health benefit information. For more information, call 784-7972.

### DRMO closure

The Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office is closed Sept. 25-29. It will reopen Oct. 2.

For more information, call 784-2437.



### Cheerleaders visit

Airmen from the 27th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron hosted Katie and Sarah, two Minnesota Vikings' cheerleaders, on Sept. 8. The Army and Air Force Exchange Service arranged for several groups of Vikings' cheerleaders to visit various Air Force bases. While here, they signed autographs and visited with Airmen at Cannon Lanes, the Shoppette and the BX.



PHOTO BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS THOMAS TROWER

### CATHOLIC

Sunday Mass 9:30 a.m. and 5 p.m.  
Weekday Mass 12:05 p.m. M,W,F  
Religious Education (grades K-6) 10:45 a.m. Sunday  
LifeTeen youth ministry (grades 7-12) 6 p.m. Sunday

### PROTESTANT

Traditional 8 a.m.  
Contemporary 11 a.m.  
Inspirational 12:30 a.m.  
Sunday School 9:15-10a.m.

*For more information about other programs or other faith groups, call the chapel office at 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.

### Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby Today and Saturday at 7 p.m.

**Description:** Ricky Bobby is a NASCAR racing sensation whose "win at all costs" approach has made him a national hero. He and his loyal racing partner and childhood friend, Cal Naughton Jr., are a fearless duo, thrilling their fans by finishing most races in the top spots - with Ricky Bobby always leading the pack. When a flamboyant French Formula One driver, Jean Girard, challenges him for the supremacy of NASCAR, Ricky must face his own demons and fight for his place as racing's top driver.

**PG-13** - crude and sexual humor, language, drug references and brief comic violence

**Running time:**110 min.

### Barnyard

Saturday and Sunday at 4 p.m.

**Description:** This lighthearted tale centers around Otis, a carefree party cow, who enjoys singing, dancing and playing tricks on humans. Unlike his father Ben, the respected patriarch of the farm, and Miles, the wise old mule, Otis is unconcerned about keeping the animals' humanlike talents a secret. But when put in the position of responsibility, the irresponsible cow finds the courage to be a leader.

**PG** - some mild peril and rude humor

**Running time:**90min.

### Zoom

Sunday at 7 p.m.

**Description:**When Earth is faced with certain destruction, an over-the-hill superhero is charged with the task of training four super-powered kids to harness their powers and save the planet in an out-of-this-world comedy adventure for the whole family.

**PG** - brief rude humor, language and mild action

**Running time:** 88 min.



## FEATURE

# Puerto Rico ANG in war zone for first time

Story and photo by  
Master Sgt. Orville Desjarlais Jr.  
455th Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs

BAGRAM AIRFIELD, Afghanistan – The Puerto Rico Air National Guard deployed to Afghanistan Sept. 8 – the first

time in a war zone in its 55-year history.

A few of the members deployed to other regions of the world, such as to Bosnia, but they had never deployed as a unit to a war zone until now.

“This is history for us,” said Chief Master Sgt. Wilford Palmer, 156th Airlift

Wing aircraft maintenance production supervisor. “This is an adventure because none of us has ever been here before.”

When the unit asked for volunteers for this war-time deployment, the chief said they received so many they had to restrict the deployment length to one

month for most of them to give everyone a chance to serve in Operation Enduring Freedom.

“We still have people at home who want to be here,” Chief Palmer said. “They want to be part of the freedom fighters, to be part of liberating Afghanistan and Iraq, to spread democracy.”

Although their members will be rotating out every 30 days, the unit is committed to its 120-day deployment.

“Our goal is to make this a better country and spread democracy, and that’s inspirational to me,” said Master Sgt. Robin Santana, a C-130 Hercules avionics guidance control technician. “I volunteered to serve my country and do my part.”

Eight years ago, the unit flew F-16 Fighting Falcons. Now they fly the Herc.

“The switch was tough,” the chief said. “Our unit had always been a fighter-oriented unit. Switching to the ‘heavy’ community was a big change. But we adapted and learned that the C-130 mission is an excellent mission. We’re relevant and ready to go.”

The 68 members who deployed received a hero’s send off nine days ago when they left after getting interviewed by three newspapers and one television news crew. Even a senator was on hand to bid them farewell.

The trip from Puerto Rico took seven days because of mechanical problems in Greece.

“We have always wanted to get involved for a long time and now we’re getting the chance,” the chief said.



Lt. Col. Jeff Alexander, 455th Expeditionary Maintenance Squadron commander, addresses Airmen of the Puerto Rico Air National Guard Sept. 9. It’s the first time the Puerto Rico ANG has deployed as a unit to a war zone.

## Base ready to celebrate Hispanic heritage, culture

By Janet Taylor Birkey  
27th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Cannon’s Cultural Observance Committee is ready for the annual Hispanic Heritage month, running today through October 15.

“Right now we have 200,000 Hispanics serving in the military,” said Tech. Sgt. Marisol Lozada, 27th Medical Operations Squadron.

She said that although being from another country can have its drawbacks, it can also be beneficial because the military offers opportunities such as education, travel and the chance to and learn about other cultures.

Several activities are planned for the Cannon community to educate them about the Hispanic culture, as well as the contributions the Hispanic her-

itage has made to America as a whole, said Sergeant Lozada.

One of these events is the annual Hispanic Heritage Luncheon at the The Landing.

The Cultural Observance Committee encourages non-Hispanics to attend the luncheon on Oct. 6. “That’s mainly who it’s for. We want to educate people about our heritage,” said Sergeant Lozada.

In this experience, non-Hispanics will learn about the differences in dress styles, speech and food among Hispanic cultures.

“I think the biggest misconception is that Hispanic heritage gets labeled Mexican heritage,” said Sergeant Lozada, adding that countries such as Guatemala and Cuba also have an Hispanic heritage.

“It’s [also] a misconception that because it’s Hispanic Heritage Month, it’s only Hispanics who should

celebrate. No. It’s to get involved, to educate others and for us to celebrate our diversity,” said Staff Sgt. Tanya Wyatt, 27th Military Equal Opportunity flight.

“It’s really because we don’t know a lot about somebody who is different from us,” said Tech. Sgt. Dawn Hendricks, 27th MEO. “A lot of people have the attitude, what do I need to learn about somebody else for? Because you work right next to them and maybe there’s a question you have about their culture: ‘Why do you wear your hair like that? Why do you dress like that on Sunday?’ Getting involved in the events will help educate you.”

The Cultural Observance Committee encourages Airmen to let them know what events they would like to see on base to observe cultural awareness months.

To donate items for cultural displays, contact Sergeant Lozada at 784-1108. Items will be returned.



## FEATURE



# Deployments:

## Making the best of the situation

Story and photo by Janet Birkey  
27th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

**M**arc Abel is part of a different group of military spouses – a male who will make permanent change of station moves, but doesn't deploy.

As an Airman's husband, he is the one left behind to handle the everyday stuff and figure out how to make a satisfying life that can be both lived alone and with his wife.

He has not only survived the deployment of his wife, Maj. Barbara Ochsner, 27th Logistics Readiness Squadron, but has chosen to make the best of a less-than-ideal situation.

With their 1-year-old daughter, Glenn, and his eighth grade son living with him, Mr. Abel didn't struggle to find things to fill his time, but rather had to find time for the things he enjoyed doing. To do this, he stopped working as a substitute teacher and used the little free time he did have to keep his training up to date in technical fields that interest him.

Major Ochsner's second deployment during their marriage lasted four months, so the couple decided Mr. Abel and Glenn would use it to spend time with both sides of their family.

While visiting his parents, Mr. Abel's mother was a senior in college. He helped her with a math class and

accompanied her on several hikes for a geology class – with Glenn strapped to his back.

Additionally, matters concerning a business he owns with his parents were handled and he took fifty ballroom dance lessons to catch up a little with his wife's level of competence, attended church regularly, spent Christmas with his wife's family and visited his two oldest children who live in another state.

**I**n getting ready for the deployment, the couple tended to important items like wills and insurance, and made arrangement for their home. "Rather than stick a neighbor with watching our house as a 'favor' we might not be able to return, we hired a mature teenager to attend to this." A family vacation in Arizona helped them spend time together before the deployment.

Mr. Abel said their mindset had a tremendous impact on how they faced the deployment. "We were also very mindful of the long deployments faced by families in other branches of our military," said Mr. Abel. "We didn't want to dishonor those who face twelve and sometimes eighteen month overseas tours by grumbling over the four months at a time we experienced," adding that the couple enjoyed telephone and email communication, which

his grandmother and grandfather didn't have during World War II. After doing so much traveling over the four months, Mr. Abel said he has a much greater desire to be home.

**U**nfortunately, the period of time he was gone took a toll on the relationships with some of his close friends and fellow military spouses.

"One sad outcome is I've also learned to live with more isolation and expect less from my peers at Cannon." "Before my wife deployed from here, I felt I was blessed with a great number of friends in Clovis. Since her return, the number seems much smaller."

"My spouse deployed for the sole purpose of benefiting others. She

worked on a broad range of peaceful missions, vitally important not just for those she served, but also in fulfillment of her own purpose."

**M**r. Abel said his most important advice is for stateside spouses not to abandon other stateside spouses: although he understands why most of his peers – who are female spouses – did not call him, it was not easy to endure the loss of the friendships. "The 27th Fighter Wing and Clovis are our home, neighbors, family and means of support. My advice is this: find out for certain which out of town spouses want to hear from you, and how often."

*(Editor's note: With the deployment of Cannon Airmen, the Mach Meter will run frequent articles on experiences of family members who have gone through or are currently going through a deployment. If you would like to share your experiences, contact Janet Birkey at 784-1073.*



Mark Abel with his daughter Glenn.

**"I DON'T THINK IT'S NECESSARY TO BE STOIC OR TO PRETEND DEPLOYMENTS ARE EASY, BUT MAKING 'DEPLOYMENT' SYNONYMOUS WITH 'BAD' IS NOT THE WISEST PATH."**

—Mark Abel

By Tech. Sgt. Russell Wicke  
Air Combat Command Public Affairs

LANGLEY AIR FORCE BASE, Va. – The growing cost of crude oil combined with increasing fuel demands of the war on terrorism are forcing Air Combat Command officials to brace for a budget crisis while looking for future fuel alternatives.

The Air Force paid approximately \$4.2 billion for petroleum in fiscal 2005 – almost \$1.4 billion more than fiscal 2004, according to the 28th edition of the Defense Energy Support Center Fact Book.

The price of fuel has gone up even more since 2005. British Petroleum was the Defense Department's No. 1 fuel provider that year based upon the lowest price, said Robert Wine, a BP spokesman. Mr. Wine attributed the rising cost of fuel to worldwide supply and demand, uncertainty in the petroleum market and political tension.

Only 12 months ago the Air Force was paying approximately \$1.74 per gallon for JP-8 (aviation fuel), said Sheila Flemings, ACC flying-hour cost program analyst. Now it's about \$2.53 per gallon.

The budget crisis of fiscal

2005 unfolded when the Air Force was paying the cheaper \$1.74 per gallon. ACC faced a shortfall then of \$825 million in must-pay funds. That very year, Ms. Flemings said ACC consumed more than 501 million gallons of fuel alone. That comes out to more than \$747 million spent on JP-8.

Now, with a 31-percent increase in fuel cost since that time and a budget that continues to shrink, the Air Force and ACC are required to make significant changes just to operate.

"The shrinking budget has caused the Air Force to reduce the funding available for flying

hours used to train ACC aircrews," said John Cilento, ACC flying-hour program analyst. "ACC programs are based on the minimum requirements to train our aircrews, so any reduction is a loss of an already maxed-out training capability."

Other significant impacts from the higher fuel costs include a reduction of operation and maintenance and quality of life for Airmen. Although aviation fuel is funded through a separate process, ground fuel is used for operations and maintenance and quality of life programs.

## Soaring fuel costs tighten Air Force belt



## FEATURE

# Project CHEER offers fun, activities for Cannon's single Airmen

By Janet Taylor-Birkey  
27th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Project CHEER is the newest, best thing at Cannon according to the new Community Center director.

The goal of CHEER is to create hope, an environment of energy and enthusiasm and recreation for single and unaccompanied Airmen when they need it most, during the

## Concert run

To kick things off, the first Project Cheer offering is a concert run to Albuquerque on Friday to see Rob Zombie and Godsmack at the Journal Pavilion.

The cost is \$50 and includes general admission and transportation to and from the event

The bus will leave from the Central Community Center at 2:30 p.m. and return at approximately 1:30 a.m., Sept. 23. Seats are limited.

Attendees must be at least 18 years old.

For more information or to sign up, call 784-6381.

holiday season and winter months said Catherine Noll.

"Now that I am stationed here at Cannon and have assumed the Community Center Director position, I have truly seen the need to bring this initiative with me," Ms. Noll.

But she isn't satisfied with bringing cheer to single Airmen at only one time a year. Instead, she received permission to set CHEER in motion and keep it going all year.

The idea behind project CHEER is to entertain dorm dwellers, but all single Airmen are invited and encouraged to participate in project CHEER happenings: Ms. Noll said that when Airmen are happier in their

duty-free hours, that satisfaction translates into being happier on the job.

Ms. Noll has been on the job only five weeks, but has already started rolling with CHEER: The Cannon Community Center and 15 Airmen are off to see Rob Zombie and Godsmack in

Albuquerque on Friday. This event, followed by Battle of the Bands on Sept. 30 kicks off CHEER at Cannon, and will be followed by many more events, said Ms. Noll.

She will work with the Outdoor Recreation office and The End Zone to organize trips and events focused

on dorm dwellers at Cannon. Ms. Noll encourages Airmen to watch for future events, "because there are really a lot of things to do around here."

To find out about upcoming events or to share ideas, contact Catherine Noll or Kristi Taylor at 784-6381.



COURTESY GRAPHIC



## What's happening?



### Today

Seafood Buffet – 11 a.m. at The Landing  
Talent Show – 5 p.m. at the Portales CC\*  
Texas Hold'em – 6 p.m. at The Landing  
DJ Night – 8 p.m. at The End Zone

### Saturday

Club Championship – 7 a.m. at the WWGC\*  
New Mexico State Fair – 8 a.m. with ITT  
Strong Man/Woman – 9 a.m., Fitness Center  
Day for Kids – 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Youth Center  
Moonlight and Music – 6 p.m., Cannon Lanes  
9-Ball Pool Tournament – 6 p.m. End Zone

### Sunday

Fall Brunch – 10:30 a.m. at The Landing

Football Frenzy – 10 a.m. at The End Zone  
Dart League – 6:30 p.m. at The End Zone

### Monday

Melba's Choice – 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at The Landing  
Monday Night Football – 6 p.m. at The End Zone

### Tuesday

Senior Golf League – 9 a.m. at the WWGC  
Home Style Buffet – 11 a.m. at The Landing  
Pool Tournament – 4 to 6 p.m. at the Portales CC

### Wednesday

International Buffet – 11 a.m. at The Landing  
Foosball Tournaments – 3 to 5 p.m. at the Portales CC  
Family Fun Night – 5:30 p.m. at The Landing

Kids Craft – 5 p.m. at the Clovis CC

### Thursday

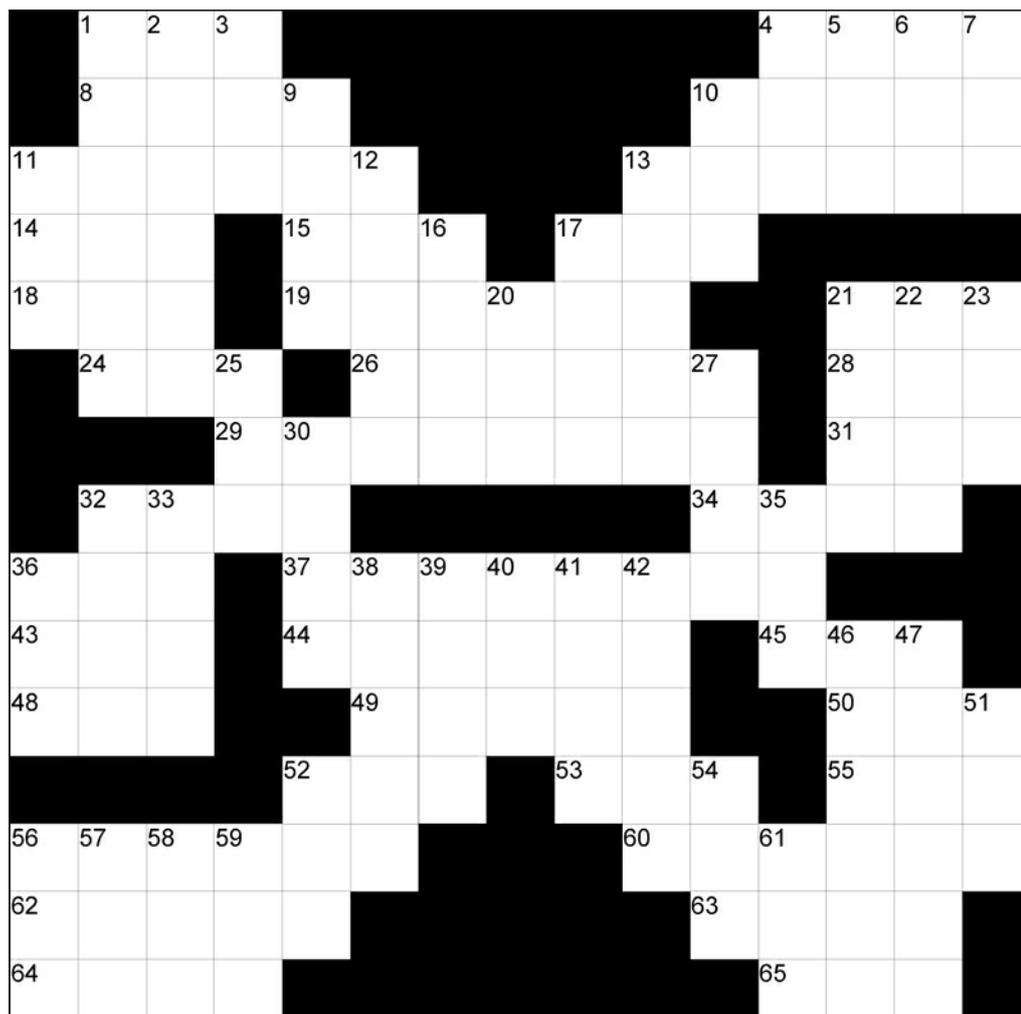
Free Billiards – 6 to 9 p.m. at The End Zone  
Chess Club Casual play – 6 to 8 p.m. at the Central CC



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



## THE LIGHTER SIDE



Happy Birthday USAF!  
By Capt. Tony Wickman  
71st Flying Training Wing  
Public Affairs

## ACROSS

1. Football scores
4. Phone
8. Musical instrument need, perhaps
10. Cpl. Frank \_\_; first enlisted person to die in air accident
11. Monarchs
13. Ascends
14. Person trained and certified to give medical care
15. MAJCOM on base named after first enlisted person
17. Cutting tool
18. Org. responsible for civilian aviation safety
19. Hawaiian thanks
21. Model/actress Carol
24. Nat'l cryptological org.
26. Prize
28. Signal
29. Air Force seal year
31. \_\_\_ out a living
32. Wine valley
34. Otherwise
36. Play it by \_\_\_; improvise
37. Place to go when in trouble

43. Dessert
44. Orates
45. Dike
48. State home to Maxwell AFB
49. Peninsula and subcontinent of southern Asia
50. USAF command organization
52. Owed as a debt
53. Immature newt
55. 1998 Jolie TV movie
56. USAF command org. 60 Gen. Henry \_\_; only five star general in AF history
62. Audibly
63. Ivy League school
64. Bambi was one
65. Dejected

## DOWN

1. President who signed Nat'l Security Act of 1947; separate AF
2. Greek letters
3. Observe
4. CENTCOM UOD
5. Charged particle
6. MCI competitor
7. O-1s and O-2s
9. Armenia money
10. Plant
11. Ump
12. Excessive but superficial compliments
13. New Zealand native
16. Breakfast cereal
17. Eastern European
20. Leather tool
21. Pilots with 5+ kills
22. 1Lt Frank \_\_; WWI ace and MOH recipient
23. Golf prop
25. Guitar need
27. Expires
30. Louts
32. Hammer target
33. Region
35. Showed the way
36. Federal org. concerned with smog
38. Addictive narcotic drug
39. Hereditary unit
40. Owned
41. Haggard's \_\_\_ from Muskogee
42. AF officer school
46. Southwestern African republic
47. Sent by USPS
51. Craze
52. Org. USAF belongs to
54. Attempt
56. Angry
57. Pub order
58. G.I. \_\_
59. Canine
61. USN equivalent to AFB



## SPORTS SHORTS



Turn slip in to the Public Affairs office by 4:30 p.m. today. They are located in Bldg 600, suite 1099.

The participant who picks the most winners will win a free large one-topping pizza from the End Zone. The name will be announced next week.

### Sunday Week 2 Schedule

Carolina at Minnesota	11 a.m.	Fox
Buffalo at Miami	11 a.m.	CBS
N.Y. Giants Philadelphia	11 a.m.	Fox
New Orleans at Green Bay	11 a.m.	Fox
Houston at Indianapolis	11 a.m.	CBS
Detroit at Chicago	11 a.m.	Fox
Cleveland at Cincinnati	11 a.m.	CBS
Tampa Bay at Atlanta	11 a.m.	Fox
Oakland at Baltimore	11 a.m.	CBS
Arizona at Seattle	2 p.m.	Fox
St. Louis at San Francisco	2 p.m.	Fox
Tennessee at San Diego	2:15 p.m.	CBS
New England at N.Y. Jets	2:15 p.m.	CBS
Kansas City at Denver	2:15 p.m.	CBS
Washington at Dallas	8:15 p.m.	NBC

### Monday

Pittsburgh at Jacksonville 8:30 p.m. ESPN

Total Monday points (tie breaker) \_\_\_\_\_



Football Genie

Circle winners and turn this into Public Affairs by 4:30 p.m. today.

Congratulations to Tech. Sgt. Clifton McFadden, 27th Logistics Readiness Squadron, who won a free large one-topping pizza last week.

Name/Unit/Phone \_\_\_\_\_

## Cannon Lanes

**Moonlight and Music** — 6 to midnight, Saturday. Bowling will cost \$1.75. Bowl late into the night with lively music all around.

**3-6-9 Pin Bowling** — 6 p.m. Sept. 23. Bowling will cost \$1.75. Bowl late into the night with lively music all around.

**Cosmic Bowling** — 9 p.m. to midnight Sept. 23. Bowling will cost \$2.50. Bowl late into the night with the black lights on.

## Whispering Winds Golf Course

**Evening Scrambles** — Two-person teams where players may select their partners will compete in a nine-hole scramble Monday. Handicaps will be used. Sign up by 3 p.m.

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

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

**Member First discounts** — 10 percent discount off annual, quar-

terly and monthly greens fees. Half off club rentals. \$2 off cart rental for 18 holes.

## Fitness center

**Fitness center runs dry on towels** — Towels will no longer be provided by the fitness center due to budget cuts on Oct. 1.

**Strong Man/Woman Competition** — Cannon's finest will compete at 9 a.m. Sept. 16. There will be a best all-around score for the "Big Three" areas; bench press, squat and deadlift.

**10K Fun Run** — Sign up at the fitness center for a 7 a.m. fun run on Sept. 23. Everyone is invited to attend this event.

## Outdoor Recreation

**White Sands Star Party** — Sept. 23-24 has been cancelled.

## End Zone

**Football Frenzy** — Football Frenzy kicks off at 10 a.m. every Sunday. Don't forget to stop back by for Monday Night Football every Monday at 5 p.m.

Every Monday, use a West Wing Pass to receive 50 percent off hot wings, pizza and drinks for the first half of the game. One drink per pass per order. Must be 18 or older. One card per person.