

Community Events



Rumor Control

Q: Is it true that Cannon is expecting approximately 700 new personnel in the near future, possibly as soon as October?

A: The magnitude and timing of AFSOC personnel moves into Cannon are being developed and depend upon completion of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process.

This federally mandated process studies potential impacts of the proposed mission change at Cannon and is scheduled for completion by October 2007. Afterward, the addition of AFSOC personnel at Cannon will most likely be a gradual process aligned with the arrival of new aircraft.

To get to the bottom of other rumors or to get one answered, go to the Cannon Intranet site at <https://www2.cannon.af.mil>.

Hispanic luncheon today

Don't forget, the Hispanic Heritage luncheon begins at 11:30 a.m. today at The Landing.

Airman's Attic

The Airman's Attic is open from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday and 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Oct. 13.

Staff sergeants or below and their dependents are eligible to shop at the Airman's attic. Each family is entitled to 20 free items per week for immediate family use only.

Break out the spurs...

... and knock off the dust from your boots and cowboy hat for Cannon's annual Wild, Wild West night from 6 to 10 p.m. Nov. 4 at the Landing.

The evening is open to the Cannon public and tickets are \$5 at the door.

Transition assistance

The Transition Assistance Program

More Community Events on Page 9

MACH METER

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PHOTO BY GREG ALLEN

Fire Prevention Week proclaimed

Col. Scott West, 27th Fighter Wing commander, displays a proclamation he signed during the wing staff meeting Tuesday declaring next week 'Fire Prevention Week' at Cannon. He is flanked by Sparky the fire dog on the left and Chief Ivan Godwin, 27th Civil Engineer Squadron, and Byron Cross, Cannon fire inspector on the right. For more on fire safety and a schedule of next week's events, see page 2.

Force reductions 'challenging for all'

By Staff Sgt. Julie Weckerlein
Air Force News Service

WASHINGTON – Reducing the number of Airmen in the service is never easy business, but it's absolutely necessary to recapitalize today's service, said the Air Force's top personnel officer Sept. 26 at the annual Air Force Association's Air and Space Conference here.

"This is a challenging time for all people in the Air Force," said Lt. Gen. Roger A. Brady. "Our job is to get the right people in the right places, and make sure they are optimally trained, educated and equipped to be more agile with fewer people."

General Brady discussed the service's force shaping initiative, which mainly affected the officer corps earlier this year with the force-shaping of more than 3,000 lieutenants. The enlisted corps will soon face downsizing as well.

Overall, about 40,000 people will leave the service over the next three years. The money saved will go toward recapitalizing the service's aging aircraft and equipment.

"When I joined the Air Force, we had almost a million people," he said. "Now, we're going down to 315,000. Over the years, we've evolved as a service, and this is a part of that evolution."

General Brady also talked about training in his speech, focusing on future career development opportunities, as well as changes to current ones.

"Officer internship is of great importance to me," he said, "but it's an area that had very little restraint. At one point, we had as many as 7,000 people in internships around the force – that's almost as many people who attend Air University."

He said that in most cases, the officers would be sent to school right

after their internship, which "doesn't make sense. That's not an effective way to do business." By next year, only 50 officers will be in internship positions.

As for the enlisted corps, they can expect a greater push for higher education from their leaders.

"Hands down, our enlisted force is the best that ever existed," he said. "And a lot more is going to be expected of them in the future. They're going to find themselves in positions where a bachelor's degree will be necessary."

He said in the past, the push has always been for enlisted Airmen to receive their associate's degree from the Community College of the Air Force.

"But that's just not enough. Chief (Master Sgt. of the Air Force) Rodney McKinley is very supportive of this as well, and we're both trying to figure out how to make it easier for enlisted Airmen to pursue their education."



NEWS

One size fits all

Computer standardization on tap for Air Force, Cannon

27th Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office staff report

Cannon will implement the Standard Desktop Configuration (SDC) beginning Oct. 13 to ensure continued PC and network security.

The change is part of an Air Force-wide move that will also standardize common software applications and promote interoperability throughout the service, said Kenneth Page, SDC implementation manager.

Mr. Page said the SDC will enhance cyber security by establishing uniform security settings, which will result in the faster application of security patches. Also, it will limit users' abilities to change configuration settings that could inadvertently expose the network to vulnerabilities.

"Windows XP becomes the standard operating system and provides a core set of office automation tools that includes programs such as Office 2003, Internet Explorer, Acrobat Reader, ActiveCard Gold, ICS Viewer and Norton Antivirus," Mr. Page said.

He said every PC will have the same look and feel and make information sharing less complicated.

The SDC will also allow the Air Force to quickly adopt next generation applications of Windows and Office soon after public release, bringing the latest IT tools to everyone's fingertips.

Mr. Page said that for most users, the transitions to

the SDC will be simple and straightforward. Many of the changes will be installed over the network at night. Some computers, however, will require new SDC software to replace what is currently being used.

Some older software applications may not initially function properly, file and network sharing will be restricted, the workstation's configuration will be controlled and some users may not be able to access some Web sites. Also, the desktop appearance may change slightly, including the default homepage, background, icons and a new "unclassified" green banner across the top of the screen.

Nothing will be removed from the computers, only upgrades applied. Most of the differences will be noticeable in the first eight hours of use and can normally be resolved by Customer Support Administrators.

While there is the possibility of user data loss in transitions, users should backup their data to a CD before the change. Regular laptop users will see some changes in procedures.

Master Sgt. Suzanne Dubois, 27th Communications Squadron Network Operations Center section chief, said computer users who experience problems that impact their job performance should contact their Client Support Administrator or have the CSA contact the 27th CS Help Desk at 784-2666.

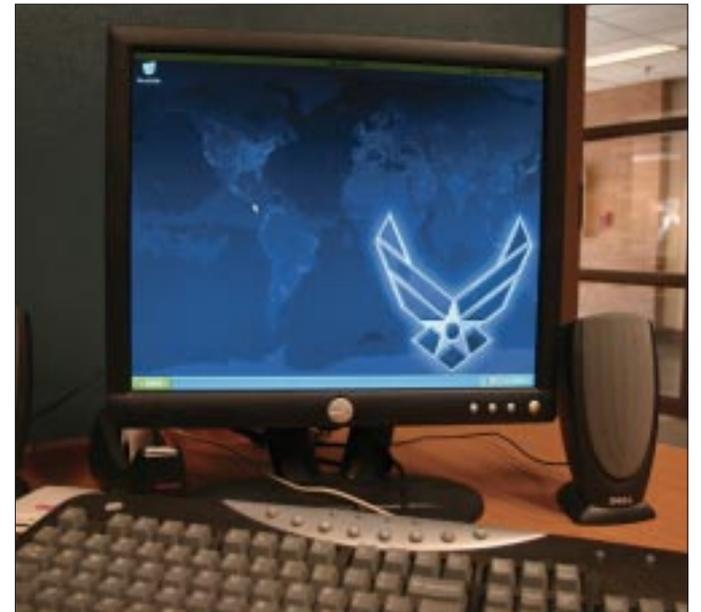


PHOTO BY GREG ALLEN

Beginning Oct. 13, computers at Cannon will all have the same look as the base and the Air Force begin to implement a Standard Desktop Configuration (SDC) system. The SDC enhances security, allows for faster configuration that could expose the computer network to vulnerabilities.

'Watch what you heat!' theme for Fire Prevention Week

Fire Prevention Week

activities schedule

Static Display — Tuesday through Friday at the BX.

Live Fire Extinguisher Training and Fire Safety House — 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Wednesday at BX/Commissary.

Live Aircraft Training Fire — 11 a.m. to noon and 5 to 6 p.m., Tuesday at the Fire Training Area.

Fire Muster — 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Oct. 13 at Unity Park.

Fire Safety Extravaganza — 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Oct. 14 at the Commissary parking lot featuring displays, demonstrations, contests and prizes.

For a list of schools the firefighters will be visiting, call 784-4077 or 784-4490.

By Byron Cross
Fire inspector

How often has the doorbell rung or a child interrupted you while you were cooking, causing you to forget about the chicken you left sizzling on the stove — until smoke filled the house?

If this sounds familiar, I'm afraid you're running the risk of having a dangerous fire. As the Fire Inspector and Public Educator for Cannon Fire and Emergency Services, I often talk to people about the ways they can stay safe in their homes. Too often, we have that talk after they've suffered a damaging fire.

If I could give just one fire warning, I'd say "Watch what you heat!"

Cooking is the leading cause of home fires, according to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA). Latest statistics from NFPA say that three in 10 reported home fires start in the kitchen — more than any other place in the home, and more than 100,000 fires a year were related to cooking.

The Cannon Fire Department is joining forces with NFPA and thousands of other fire departments across America to commemorate Fire Prevention Week, Oct. 9-15, "Watch what you heat!" The theme reminds us that leaving cooking unattended is a bad idea.

Often, when the fire department is called to a cooking-related fire, the residents tell us they only left the kitchen for a few minutes. Sadly, that's all it takes to go from a routine fire to a disaster.

A few key points to remember are:

- Never leave cooking food on the stovetop unattended, and keep a close eye on food cooking inside the oven.

- Keep cooking areas clean and clear of combustibles (i.e. potholders, towels, rags, drapes and food packaging).

- Keep children away from cooking areas by enforcing a "kid-free zone" of three feet around the stove. Keep pets from underfoot so you don't trip while cooking.

- Never use a wet oven mitt, as it presents a scald danger if the moisture in the mitt is heated.

- Always keep a potholder, oven mitt and lid handy. If a small fire starts in a pan on the stove, put on an oven mitt and smother the flames by carefully sliding the lid over the pan. Turn off the burner. Don't remove the lid until it is completely cool. Never pour water on a grease fire and never discharge a fire extinguisher onto a pan fire, as it can spray or shoot burning grease around the kitchen, actually spreading the fire.

- If there is an oven fire, turn off the heat and keep the door closed to prevent flames from burning you or your clothing and call the fire department.

A cooking fire can quickly turn deadly. Too many homes have been damaged and property lost by fires that could have been easily avoided. Please heed these simple safety rules.

If you have any questions or would like any training or information, contact the Base Fire Prevention Office at 784-4077 or 784-4490.



NEWS

Special operations mission grows on several fronts

By Airman Andrew Polvino
316th Wing Public Affairs

WASHINGTON – The commander of Air Force Special Operations Command spoke at the 2006 Air Force Association Air and Space Conference and Technology Exposition here Sept. 26 about the importance and growth of special operations forces.

“We’re growing on a lot of different fronts,” said Lt. Gen. Michael W. Wooley.

“We’re starting a second wing,” the general said. “We’re standing back up the 1st Special Operations Wing at Hurlburt Field, Fla., and moving the 16th Special Operations Wing from Hurlburt Field to Cannon Air Force Base, N.M.”

The 1st SOW standup is scheduled for Nov. 16.

Special operations have grown to two wings with more than 13,000 Airmen and many types of equipment, the general said.

“We’ve got 570 slots that we’re looking for people with aviation, language and maintenance skills to fill,” General Wooley said. “We’re growing. We will have an equal capability at Cannon as we do at Hurlburt Field, and we’re doubling our capability in foreign internal defense, and the need for that type of indi-

vidual in today’s Air Force will continue to grow.”

Following General Wooley’s remarks, Tech. Sgt. Scott Innis, a combat controller with the 22nd Special Tactics Squadron at McChord AFB, Wash., shared his experiences of his days in Afghanistan while in direct and indirect fire with enemies.

“I was stationed in the Helmand Province,” Sergeant Innis said. “The area is a well-known safe haven for the enemy and anti-coalition forces.”

The sergeant spoke of the situations he faced while deployed in Afghanistan and displayed photographs of the fire-base, which is a staging area of operation.

“We used B-52 Stratofortresses, A-10 Thunderbolt IIs, UH-60 Black Hawks, AH-64 Apaches and MH-47 Chinooks,” Sergeant Innis said. “We had some members of the (Afghanistan national army) with us as well.”

The sergeant emphasized the many different elements that compose special operations forces, such as aircrafts, weapons, technical skills, situations servicemembers may face and the many dangers in deployed areas.

Sergeant Innis was awarded the Bronze Star for valor for his actions while deployed in Afghanistan.

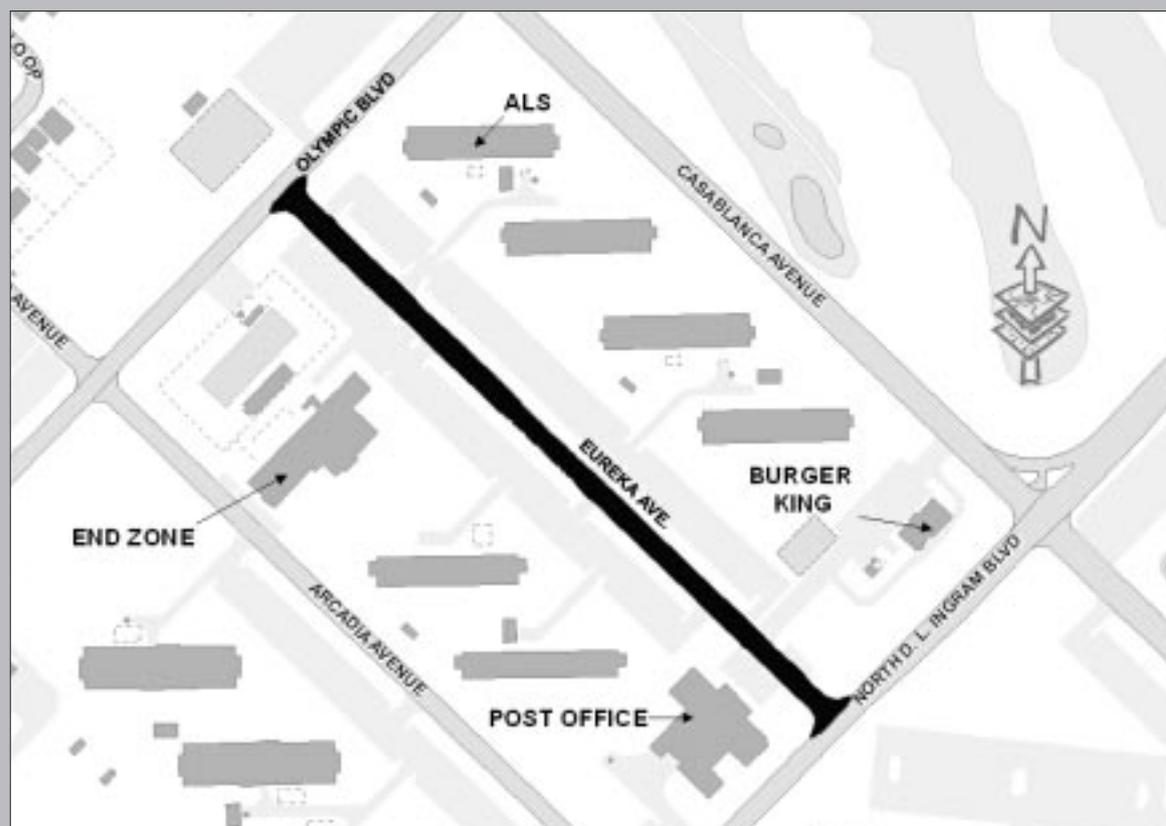


PHOTO BY TECH. SGT. BRIAN DAVIDSON

A tactical air control party Airman coordinates air cover for Soldiers during operations in the Sroghar Mountains of Afghanistan. Lt. Gen. Michael Wooley, commander of Air Force Special Operations Command, spoke at the 2006 Air Force Association Air and Space Conference and Technology Exposition in Washington, D.C., Sept. 26 about the importance and growth of special operations forces.

Road construction under way soon

Road construction begins on Eureka Ave. from Olympic Blvd. to D.L. Ingram Blvd. Oct. 16 and will last approximately 45 days. Access to Burger King will be from Casablanca Ave. The Post Office can be accessed through the parking lot on the corner of Arcadia and D.L. Ingram Blvd. Access to The End Zone and dormitory parking lots will be through normal driveways off Eureka Ave. The Airman Leadership School parking area will be closed, but there is alternate parking available across Olympic Blvd.



COURTESY GRAPHIC



COMMENTARY

Commander's Action Line

Q: AFI 36-2110 states that Airmen are ineligible to apply for self-initiated assignment actions Base of Preference (BOP) or the Voluntary Stabilized Base Assignment Program (VSBAP) while in Assignment Availability Code (AAC) 10 through 21. If first term Airmen are a "Code 36" will they still be able to apply for self-initiated assignment actions?

self-initiated assignment programs, such as special duty, BOP or VSBAP. However, when applying for these programs, ensure that you apply for assignments that have a report no later than date after the AAC 36 availability date. If you are coded 36 and wish to apply for a BOP or VSBAP, you'll need to work directly with Master Sgt. Betsy Eveland, superintendent, relocations and employments, 27th Mission Support Squadron. Her number is 784-2618. She will work to ensure proper consideration and timelines.

As an aside, some folks will be coded with an AAC 54, which means they are vital to completing the mission of the 27th Fighter Wing and the transition to the new AFSOC mission. If you have an AAC 54, you will remain at Cannon until after the transition. After that time, you can receive orders for a permanent change of station. Again, members can check the Virtual MPF or speak with their squadron Superintendents to check their codes.

A: Several members at Cannon have been or will soon be coded with an AAC 36 designator, which means they are in Air Force Skill Codes directly linked to the F-16 and/or not needed by the new Air Force Special Operations Command mission. The purpose of an AAC 36 is twofold. First, it prevents Airmen from getting an assignment until after a specific "availability" date. Second, it puts Airmen into a "must move" category after that date, so the system knows they need an assignment. To find out if you have been given an AAC 36 designation, check Virtual MPF or ask your squadron superintendent.

If you have an AAC 36, you are still eligible to apply for



OFFICIAL AIR FORCE PHOTO

Col. Scott West
27th Fighter Wing commander

Cannon One

Leadership from the past can set standards for today

By Lt. Col. John McLaurin Jr.

27th Mission Support Group deputy commander

By the time Meriwether Lewis turned 31, he had accomplished more than most people accomplish in a lifetime. His birthday was in August 1805, and in the previous week, he had successfully negotiated with the Shoshone Indians for horses that would take him and a crew of about 15, along with tons of gear, over the Continental Divide as they continued on the three-year journey that began the previous spring.

This story is wonderfully retold in the book "Undaunted Courage" by Stephen Ambrose. There are many examples from Lewis' life that we can still model today.

Lewis had exceptional leadership skills. He served in the Army. He was a Virginia farmer and served as President

Thomas Jefferson's personal secretary for almost two years. He had an insatiable curiosity of a broad range of subjects.

After Jefferson purchased the Louisiana territory from France, Lewis was a natural candidate to lead an expedition to explore the uncharted territory.

The president described a 29-year old Lewis as "possessing firmness and perseverance of purpose. Committed like a father to his charge, yet steady in the maintenance of order and discipline and of sound understanding and a fidelity to truth so scrupulous that whatever he should report would be as certain as if seen by ourselves."

Imagine the president writing that on your performance report!

But Lewis never rested on his laurels. This journey required team building and leadership. There were no maps and many were convinced he would

find the woolly mammoth still in existence, a navigable waterway that laterally traversed the entire continent, active volcanoes and salt mountains. Lewis was given about six months to form a team, choose supplies and then lead the expedition on this 5000-mile trek.

During the journey, Lewis safely led his crew through incredibly dangerous terrain. He successfully navigated his team through rapids that are still categorized as Class 6 today. He scaled mountains with tons of gear. He recorded more than 250 previously unknown plants and animals and lay to rest ideas that had been taken for fact up until that time.

On his thirty-first birthday, Lewis wrote, "This day, I completed my thirty-first year. I reflected that I had as yet done but little, very little indeed, to further the happiness of the human race or to advance the information of the suc-

ceeding generation. I viewed with regret the many hours I have spent in indolence, and now sorely feel the want of that information which those hours would have given me had they been judiciously expended."

And then he pledged to redouble his efforts in the future.

Some of us feel we have reached a pinnacle at the seven-level, or when we receive a degree, or attained a specific rank. But good leaders never stop learning. If we do not improve ourselves then we are part of the sluggish status quo.

We should all commit to learn something new that improves our skill, sharpens our knowledge and opens our mind. We owe it to ourselves and our team members to never stop learning and improving.

MACH METER

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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.

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PHOTOS BY GREG ALLEN

Safety recognized

Col. Scott West, 27th Fighter Wing commander, presents Lt. Col. Ancel Yarbrough, 27th Fighter Wing Safety office, an Air Force-level safety award Tuesday recognizing Cannon for its safety programs.



NCO lauded

Col. Scott West, 27th Fighter Wing commander, presents Master Sgt. Ken Oswald, 27th Fighter Wing Safety, with the Air Combat Command Flight Safety NCO of the Quarter.



Sgt. Afi's 36-2903

Tip of the Week

In accordance with Air Force Instruction 39-2903, table 1.3 – while on another service's installation, comply with the order of dress for that service. Temporary duty personnel will comply with local policies established at the temporary duty location.



FEATURE

Marketing yourself for a second career

Retirement, separation a starting gate, not finishing line

By Janet Taylor-Birkey
27th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

“You are not just changing jobs, you are changing cultures.”

This was the message approximately 100 separating Airmen heard at the Marketing Yourself for a Second Career seminar at The Landing Sept. 27.

While sprinkled with humor, the message was focused. Dan Koslov knows what it takes to successfully transition from a military career. After retiring as a colonel from a 30-year Air Force career, he currently serves as deputy director of the Military Officer's Association of America (MOAA), officer placement service.

Further explaining his statement that Airmen must

remember they are making a culture change, Mr. Koslov said that in order to make the change successfully, separating Airmen need to get focused on making good decisions. “You don't want to be in a panic going out that front gate.”

The decision making process begins as early as two years before separation and is broken into three phases, he said. The phases explore areas such as doing personal and professional skills assessments, research and networking and purchasing a civilian workforce wardrobe.

Separating Airmen should expect anxiety in the job search. This anxiety can display itself in many ways, such as; confusion as to what the separating Airman or retiree wants to do, shock over the loss of career, security and money, depression when employers don't call, or anger because others do not seem to understand. He also said recovery eventually comes in the form of an interview or job.

There are 80 million Baby Boomers, those born between

1946 and 1964 in the United States. The oldest of that generation turns 60 this year, creating a shortage of 4 to 6 million workers by 2010. This is very good for Airmen separating and entering the job market during the next several years, said Mr. Koslov.

“Mr. Koslov's lecture was well received by attendees,” said Ellen Saccoia-Smith, Airmen and Family Readiness Technician. “The information presented was very informative, to the point, and motivational. All separating and retiring military personnel, officer and enlisted, should be required to hear his lecture.”

Although retirement has many challenges, Mr. Koslov said, Airmen ought to remember that it is a starting gate, not a finish line.

The following are basic steps every separating Airman needs to take, regardless of their future career path.

Prepare your family

“You've got to have your spouse involved if you have one,” he said, reminding Airmen that

their families are also transitioning cultures along with them. Train children to make sure all messages are delivered: you don't want to miss a job opportunity because someone failed to deliver a phone message.

Consider expenses

Expenses include purchasing interview clothing and an on-the-job wardrobe. Mr. Koslov said that both men and women should wear a dark suit in a high quality fabric (preferably wool with a high thread count) to interviews.

Gather your references

When considering references, gather names and get permission to use their information. Give references a copy of the resume so they will know what the potential employer is talking about.

Your networking list

Think of people at church, in clubs, school and other organizations that might be able to give information or arrange introductions or interviews. This is important because 90 to 95

percent of all jobs come from networking, according to the visual presentation. Mr. Koslov reminds separating Airmen to be careful of what they say. “It is never, ever loose talk; it is always a job interview wherever you are.”

Work as a family

Don't have children or silly messages on the answering machine: potential employers are calling to talk business, not be entertained. When using an e-mail address, make sure the address is serious sounding, not using a nickname, tactical call sign, or referring to a hobby or past-time.

Develop a plan

Everything that needs to be considered is part of the job search plan. “Start being sensitive between military and civilian culture,” Mr. Koslov said.

For more information about attending a Marketing Yourself for a Second Career seminar, call the Airman and Family Readiness Center at 784-4228 or visit the Military Officers Association of America Web site at www.moaa.org.

Air Force making progress on alternative fuels

By Staff Sgt. Julie Weckerlein
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON (AFPN) – The Air Force is embracing an energy strategy that uses alternative sources of power and conservation, Undersecretary of the Air Force Dr. Ron Sega told a group of civilian energy engineers during a World Energy Engineers Congress luncheon Sept. 15.

“I think we're making progress, but we certainly need your help and we look forward to increasing partnerships and taking advantage of the good ideas and products you are developing,” he said.

The undersecretary said energy is an important topic to Air Force leaders, as the service alone consumes about half the fuel purchased by the U.S. government.

“It's important to us to pay attention to this issue,” he said.

Dr. Sega pointed out the great strides the Air Force has made toward fuel and energy conservation. In fiscal 2005, the service was the largest buyer of renewable energy in the country.

“I'm proud to say the Air Force is a leader in the use of alternative fuels and renewable energy sources,” he said.

Dr. Sega said the test

flight of a B-52 Strato-fortress, in which two of the bomber's eight engines used a fuel that was almost 50 percent synthetic, was a first for the Air Force.

Dr. Sega said four Air Force installations currently are meeting 100 percent their electrical energy needs from renewable energy sources, and cited other ongoing energy conservation efforts:

– At Nellis Air Force Base, Nev., officials will use a solar farm to provide the base with some of its energy needs.

– At F.E. Warren AFB, Wyo., officials will get additional power from a wind farm.

– And At Hill AFB,

Utah, base officials have used land gas production as an alternative source of energy since 1994.

Dr. Sega said that whether it is conserving fuel on the flightline or building more energy efficient buildings, the Air Force is working to use energy better and at less cost to taxpayers.

“At every level, we are encouraging our Airmen and civilians to adopt energy-efficient habits,” he said. “That could be something as simple as turning off the lights of the office and the computer screen at the end of the day. So with everything we do, we are looking at energy as an important consideration



NEWS

Iraqi-pilot trainer earns Bronze Star

By Janet Taylor-Birkey
27th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Last summer the Air Force was looking for pilots to serve six months as aviation advisors to the new Iraqi air force as part of AEF (Air Expeditionary Force) 7 and 8. Lt. Col. Jack Maixner, who was at the time Assistant Director of Operations for the 522nd Fighter Squadron (currently director of operations with the 523rd), volunteered and was selected to go.

Lt. Col. Maixner's trip to the desert was not the usual military tour-of-duty, said Lt. Col. Brad Kearney, 523rd Fighter Squadron commander.

"It was a unique job that needed to be done, a very important one, and he excelled at it," said Colonel Kearney. "With his operational background and his skills as an F-16 pilot — as well as a tactical pilot and his strong leadership background — he was the right man for a very challenging job."

The six month tour to Basra, Iraq, included working with an Iraqi reconnaissance squadron consisting of 12 Iraqi pilots, two pilot advisers, one sensor adviser and one maintenance adviser. Their mission was to help upgrade Iraqi pilot skills and teach them to fly recon missions in the Seabird Seeker.

The language barrier was fairly difficult said Colonel Maixner, adding that about half of the Iraqi pilots spoke English fairly well, while two or three of the pilots barely spoke any English. "A lot of the times when we were flying with those guys, we would point at things rather than try to talk to them," the colonel said.

Although the squadron had a translator for communicating on the ground, the one-on-one air situations got a little harrier. "Sometimes pointing worked better than talking," he said, adding that pointing worked well since the instrument panel is labeled the same as in U.S. aircrafts.

U.S. advisors help Iraqi pilots, but do not have to

start from scratch in training. "The pilots who are in the new Iraqi air force, were in the old Iraqi air force. Most of the guys we worked with were former MIG pilots," said Colonel Maixner.

"They had basic aviation skills: we were showing them how to fly a different type of aircraft and different missions. It wasn't just training. We actually flew reconnaissance missions in support of OIF (Operation Iraqi Freedom). So we were flying operational reconnaissance missions about half the missions and the other half we were training."

Colonel Maixner worked with the pilot training aspect, but final decisions were left to Iraqi squadron commanders. "The squadron commander flew all the check rides, so [he] would make the final decision of when one of his guys was qualified to fly alone."

Besides the language barrier, Colonel Maixner said he and other advisors had to be considerate of cultural barriers because the Iraqis have a different approach of how to run an air force than the United States does.

"These guys came from the old Iraqi air force. Now they're making the transition to the new Iraqi air force and they are making a lot of progress," Colonel Maixner said, but in the transition to the new form of government, some have old ideas they want to hold on to.

Old ideas aside, Colonel Maixner said "the Iraqi pilots that we worked with were obviously positive about democracy and about their future." Being able to directly contribute to OIF in this capacity and seeing their struggle in gaining freedom and stabilizing their government was especially impacting for the colonel.

"Since we worked with these guys, we were in their squadron for six months. I guess it kind of personalizes the struggle they are going through," Colonel Maixner said. "Now I know all these Iraqi pilots and maintainers, so it personalizes it."



PHOTO BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS HEATHER REDMAN

Col. Jeff McDaniels, 27th Operations Group commander, presents the Bronze Star to Lt. Col. Jack Maixner, 523rd Fighter Squadron, Sept. 27 for Colonel Maixner's service in Iraq.

There is more work to do in Iraq, but it's men and women like Colonel Maixner who will help make freedom a reality for the Iraqis. "What [Colonel Maixner] was able to do was help the Iraqi forces. It's just one of the many steps their military and their government need to sustain their country in the long term," said Colonel Kearney. "He did great work and made great strides in that."

Preparations under way for 60th Birthday

By Staff Sgt. Julie Weckerlein
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — Big things are in store for Airmen, as Air Force leaders have planned more than a year's worth of commemorative activities leading up to the Air Force's 60th anniversary, Sept. 18, 2007.

Brig. Gen. Janet Therianos, director of the 60th Anniversary office at the Pentagon, said this upcoming year will be full of events ranging from hometown parades and base picnics, to Air Force appearances at major national events.

"This commemoration involves everything the Air Force

is about," she said. "From the pioneers who paved the way, to the Airmen who now fight and support the global war on terrorism, to the future generations who are going to carry on after us, this historic time embraces the whole picture. It is our chance to honor our heritage, and hope for the future."

The commemoration begins Oct. 14 with the dedication of the new Air Force Memorial.

"It's going to be a phenomenal event," said General Therianos. "In addition to the dedication on (Oct. 14), there will be a wreath-laying ceremony (Oct. 15) to pay tribute to those who have made the ultimate sacrifice."

In the weeks after, there will

be events recognizing the various Air Force art works in the Pentagon, and the Air Force Academy Band and Cadet Chorale will take part in the Macy's Day parade in New York City to start off the holiday season. Later, Airmen will visit New York City high schools to talk with students about their Air Force experiences.

"This is a milestone for the Air Force," General Therianos said. "We're embracing our past and our present, and looking to an exciting future."

For more information about the Air Force's anniversary commemoration, and for a complete list of events, visit www.af.mil and select the 60th Anniversary link.



AIR FORCE ART

"Rolling Thunder" by Keith Ferris. This piece represents the year 1965 in the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force's exhibit "Heritage to Horizons: Commemorating 60 Years of Air & Space Power through Artists' Eyes."



COMMUNITY EVENTS



PHOTO BY GREG ALLEN

Pet of the Week

This Australian shepherd-mix female puppy is available for adoption. For more information about adopting available dogs or cats, call the Airman and Family Readiness Center at 784-4228.

■ Continued from page 1

Seminar (TAPS) is 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday. Pre-separation counseling is mandatory for all personnel separating or retiring. Spouses are welcome to attend.

For more information, call 784-4228.

Dad's class

Helpful parenting tips are offered at Dad's Class from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Oct. 13 at the Airman and Family Readiness Center. Lunch is provided.

Morale calls

Morale calls to deployed locations are now only available Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 10:40 p.m.

For more information, call the Airman and Family Readiness Center at 784-4228.

Marriage workshop

The base chapel is sponsoring a free marriage enrichment workshop from 9 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. Oct. 20 at the La Quinta Inn. Couples will learn to identify danger signs in a relationship, improve communication skills, resolve problems and differences, and discover the heart of commitment.

The workshop includes lunch and space available child care will be provided by the Child Development Center.

Interested couples can contact unit first sergeants to register and then call the chapel at 784-2507.

Volunteers sought

The Cultural Observance Committee is seeking volunteers to help with this year's American Indian History Month events.

The COC meets at 11 a.m. every Monday in Bldg. 600, room 2025.

For more information, call Debbie Baldwin at 784-4058 or the Military Equal Opportunity office at 784-2471.



FEATURE

Metal techs spark airpower over Iraq

Airmen fabricate joint-service components to save time, money

Story and photos by Senior Airman Kerry Solan-Johnson
332nd Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs

BALAD AIR BASE, Iraq – Dirty-fisted and in a shower of sparks, Senior Airman Chris Redman helps shape the face of airpower in Iraq.

Airman Redman, a metals technician assigned to the 332nd Expeditionary Maintenance Squadron, proves his mettle welding, heat-treating, fabricating and assembling metal components to support Balad Air Base, including the F-16 Fighting Falcon.

“The jet-based work is some of the most important work we have,” said Airman Redman, deployed from Cannon Air Force Base, N.M. “When a jet has to get off the ground, it has to get off the ground.”

The five metal technicians assigned here are a small but vital

component; it is the integrity of their work that enables maintainers to move their jets out of the chocks and into the skies over Iraq.

Their blackened knuckles and palms are the result of the hands-on production their craft requires, which Airman Redman calls a “wide range of work.”

The range includes the diverse airframes that fly through Balad, from C-17s to Predators. Metal technicians often rely on their own ingenuity to fabricate parts that might otherwise have to be ordered for aircraft and take time to arrive, from bolts to bulkhead fittings.

But the technicians aren’t limited to Air Force airframes in the joint environment of Balad AB and Logistics Support Area Anaconda.

“Right now, I’m welding brackets for [Army] helicopter blades,” said Senior Airman Daniel Lindsay, a Guardsman deployed from Joe Foss Field, S.D. “The different kinds of cus-



Senior Airman Daniel Lindsay, a Guardsman deployed from Joe Foss Field, S.D., uses a drill press at the metals technology shop.



Senior Airman Chris Redman, 332nd Expeditionary Maintenance Squadron metals technician, cuts a piece of diamond-plate steel with a plasma cutter. Metals technicians require a proficiency on many different metals to fabricate and repair parts for aircraft. He is deployed from Cannon Air Force Base, N.M.

tomers we have definitely keeps us busy.”

The job isn’t always Falcons and flying things; their welding, brazing and soldering talents are sought by many units at Balad.

“These Airmen accomplish various projects which help units meet mission needs,” said Tech. Sgt. Michael Bertrand, 332nd EMXS metal technology night shift supervisor, who is deployed from the 114th Fighter Wing, S.D. “Many of these units need things they had at home

station and don’t have here, and they come to us to fabricate these items.”

Metal technicians have fashioned work stations for radar approach and control, and blast plates for explosive ordnance disposal technicians. These jobs were additional to the typical requirements coming in from aerospace ground equipment, armament, ammunition and maintenance units.

“It’s a lot of work,” Airman Redman said. “But when I’m in it, it’s just me and my spark, just me and my weld.”

Unit Spotlights

Congratulations Airman Leadership School graduates

Distinguished Graduates:

James Bennett, 27th Civil Engineer Squadron

Carrie Powell, 27th Aeromedical Dental Squadron

Leadership Award: Charles East, 27th Security Forces Squadron

John Levitow Award: Jason Waner, 27th Security Forces Squadron

Academic Achievement: Jonathan Cartwright, 523 Aircraft Maintenance Unit

Kasey Bergdall, 27th Maintenance Group
Joseph Brooksbank, 523rd Fighter Squadron
Nitron Campbell, 27th Logistics Readiness Squadron
Martin Capasse, 27th Equipment Maintenance Squadron
David Carr, 27th Civil Engineer Squadron
Christopher Caso, 27th Equipment Maintenance Squadron
Aaron Davey, 27th Equipment Maintenance Squadron
Ricky Frye, 27th Civil Engineer Squadron
Andres Gonzalez, 27th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron
Tanya Grigsby, 27th Communications Squadron
Morgan Hernandez, 27th Medical Support Squadron
Michael Johnson II, 27th Civil Engineer Squadron
Kory Kirk, 27th Equipment Maintenance Squadron

Thomas Kunis, 27th Operations Support Squadron
Kyle Martin, 27th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron
Thomas Moore Jr., 27th Security Forces Squadron
Eric Paslay, 27th Equipment Maintenance Squadron
Timothy Pleasant, 27th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron
Joseph Ramos, 27th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron
Brian San Nicolas, 27th Civil Engineer Squadron
Omar Santiago, 27th Equipment Maintenance Squadron
Amy Seaton, 27th Aeromedical Dental Squadron
Steven Tielsch, 27th Equipment Maintenance Squadron
Michael Vaughn, 27th Equipment Maintenance Squadron
Brenton Warwick, 27th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron
Travis Wheeler, 27th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

Anthony Wilson, 27th Operations Support Squadron

CANNON AIR FORCE BASE CHAPEL

Chapel services

CATHOLIC

Religious Education	Sunday
9:15 a.m. (grades K-6)	
Sunday Mass	10:30 a.m. and 5 p.m.
Reconciliation	9:30 a.m.
Weekday Mass (M,W,F)	12:05 p.m.
Edge/LifeTeen youth ministry	Sunday
6 p.m. (grades 7-12)	

PROTESTANT

Contemporary	9 a.m.
Sunday School	10:30 a.m.
Inspirational	12 p.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.

Crossover

Today at 7 p.m.

Description: Noah Cruise, a naturally talented basketball player, is determined to become a doctor using his basketball scholarship to UCLA pre-med. Noah's best friend, Tech, the buddy that covered for him and did time for an assault charge, is also an outstanding basketball player, but has less lofty ambitions – he wants to get his GED and win an underground street ball game against an arrogant rival.

PG-13 – sexual content and some language

Running time: 95 min.

Material Girls

Saturday and Sunday at 4 p.m.

Description: Ava and Tanzie Marchetta have it all. The heiresses to a multi-million dollar cosmetics company, the girls approach life as one big party. But when a scandal involving one of their products emerges, the girls are left penniless, homeless and seemingly helpless. They could take the easy way out and listen to the board of directors who want to sell the company, but that would forever taint the name of their late father, who built it from the ground up.

PG – language and rude humor

Running time: 99 min.

World Trade Center

Saturday and Sunday at 7 p.m.

Description: In the aftermath of the World Trade Center disaster, hope is still alive. Refusing to bow down to terrorism, rescuers and family of the victims press forward. This is the true story of John McLoughlin and William J. Jimeno, the last two survivors extracted from Ground Zero and the rescuers who never gave up. It's a story of the true heroes of that fateful time in the history of the U.S. when buildings would fall and heroes would rise, literally from the ashes.

PG-13 – intense and emotional content, some disturbing images and language

Running time: 129 min.



SERVICES

27 FW powerlifter takes on world championship

Story and photos by
Airman 1st Class Thomas Trower
27th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

A bench press of 369 pounds and a dead lift of 551 pounds earned one Cannon Airman a slot to compete in the 2006 World Championships for the World Association of Benchers and Deadlifters on Nov. 18.

When Master Sgt. Steven Petersen is not working in the 27th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron as the assistant maintenance superintendent, chances are that he can be found at the fitness center four days out of the week. A relaxed one and a half hour workout is just enough to keep him in peak performance ability.

Sergeant Petersen has been powerlifting for fun for many years, 16 of which he has been doing for competition. Fitting in about three official competitions a year can be hard for a military member to schedule around deployments and other taskings.

"Everything is paid for out of pocket," said Sergeant Petersen. "Not very many of these competitions award money to the winners. I do it for the fun and the trophies."

To qualify for the world champi-

onship, Sergeant Petersen had to place at least third in his division at the Southwest Championships. He surpassed this by earning first place in all three of his specialties: the Master's division dead lift, and the Masters and Class 1 division bench press.

The world championship will host about 400 competitors said Sergeant Petersen. Once he has finished off this competition he wants to begin training for the "full competition" for next year. The full competition consists of squats, dead lift and bench press.

Sergeant Petersen said powerlifting helped him out as a younger weapons loader. "It is nice to know that you can lift a missile by yourself and load it. I never did it or needed to do it, but it was nice to know I could." He said that he emphasizes the need for strength to the Airmen under his supervision who have now taken over the loading workload.

Not many other Airmen at Cannon are into powerlifting said Sergeant Petersen, but he hopes that will change when the fitness center holds a powerlifting competition in December. He said he plans to help



Master Sgt. Steven Petersen warms up with 315 pound squats. Sergeant Petersen will be competing in the world championships for bench press and dead lift on Nov. 18. He works with the 27th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron.

with the organization and refereeing the matches. Sergeant Petersen is licensed to referee and judge powerlifting matches.

Sergeant Petersen encourages Airmen who are interested in powerlifting to take initiative and ask about it. One main piece of advice that the sergeant has is ensure that all events and organizations require drug testing. "It's just not a fair match going up against someone pumped full of steroids. All of the competitions I do are drug-free."

Competing in beginner level

events helps greatly as well said Sergeant Petersen. "You have to start out slow. Buying gear is expensive and you'll have to build up to it over time. When I gear up for a match, I wear about \$300 worth of equipment. You have to ask around and learn the proper way to lift, powerlifting is much more disciplined than other competitions."

"I plan on going out and competing in the world championships to let everyone know I am in the Air Force. I want them to know we are strong and we work, too."



What's happening?



Today

Seafood Buffet – 11 a.m. at The Landing
Family Fun Night – 5 p.m. join B-Bop the clown at The Landing
Music Jam Session – 5 p.m. at the Portales Community Center
Movies and Popcorn – 6 to 8 p.m. at the Clovis Community Center
Anime Mania – 7 to 11 p.m. at the Clovis Community Center
DJ Night – 8 p.m. at the End Zone

Saturday

FitFactor Day – 12:15 p.m. at the Youth Center
Mystery Price Game – 6 p.m. at Cannon Lanes

Sunday

NFL Football – 10 a.m. at the End Zone

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

Monday

Colombus Day – All community centers and many other facilities are closed. Call ahead to check.
Conversational Language Skills – 11 a.m. to noon, Monday through Friday at the Cannon Library
Melba's Choice – 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at The Landing
Home Schooling Parents Meeting – 1 p.m. at the Cannon Library
Football Frenzy – 6 p.m. at the End Zone

Tuesday

Senior Golf League – 9 a.m. at the Whispering Winds Golf Course
Homestyle Buffet – 11 a.m. at The Landing
Pool Tournament – 4 to 6 p.m. at the Portales Community Center

Wednesday

International Buffet – 11 a.m. at The Landing
Foosball Tournaments – 3 to 5 p.m. at the Portales Community Center
Kids Craft – 6:30 p.m. at the Clovis Community Center

Thursday

Roast Beef Buffet – 11 a.m. at The Landing
Yu-Gi-Oh Challenge – 4 to 6 p.m. at the Clovis Community Center
XBox Challenge – 5 to 7 p.m. at the Portales Community Center
Chess Club Casual Play – 5 to 7 p.m. at the Central Community Center
Finger Painting – 5:30 p.m. at the Clovis Community Center
Free Billiards – 6 to 9 p.m. at The End Zone

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 5 Schedule

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

Monday

Baltimore at Denver	8:30 p.m.	ESPN
— Bye: Atlanta, Cincinnati, Seattle, Houston		



Football Genie

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

Congratulations to 2nd Lt. James Kurzdorfer, 27th Aeromedical Dental Squadron, who won last week.

Name/Unit/Phone

Total Monday points (tie breaker) _____

Cannon Lanes

Cannon Lanes will be closed Monday in observance of the Columbus Day holiday.

Nickle-Dime night — 6 to 9 p.m., Oct. 14. Bowl for a starting price of \$2.25 per game. For every spare the price is reduced 5 cents and every strike drops the price 10 cents.

Cosmic Bowling — 9 p.m. to midnight Oct. 14. Bowl with the lights off and music playing for \$2.50 per game.

Whispering Winds Golf Course

Alternating Shot Tournament — Players may choose their own partners in this tournament that will be held Oct. 14 with a 9 a.m. tee time. There is a \$15 entry fee.

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 retired military ID cards 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.

Youth Center

FitFactor Day — Saturday, join the center for a day full of physical activities to keep everyone in the family in shape. A Fun Run/Walk will begin at 12:15 p.m., followed by basketball, a jump rope challenge and more.

Outdoor Recreation

Ojo Caliente Hot Mineral Pools/Spa & Hike — Oct. 14, \$55 per adult, and \$51 for children 12 and under.

Step out of the stresses of everyday life and discover the healing nature that has made these waters legendary. Relax, rejuvenate, enjoy a variety of mineral pools, steam bath areas, saunas and mud bath areas.

Please contact ODR for rules and regulations in regards to children 12 and under on this tour.

Sign up by Tuesday.

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.