



DYESS SORTIE BOARD



Monthly	Flown	Status
78	66	- 8



Monthly	Flown	Status
76	81	+ 8

WORLDWIDE LAUNCH RELIABILITY	Goal	Current Rate
95%	91.9%	



FLYING (TRAINING) HOURS	Sched	Flown	Delta
	363.8	332.1	-31.7



Volume 39, Number 13

The Peacemaker

April 2, 2004

Dyess Air Force Base, Texas

Read *The Peacemaker* online at: www.dyess.af.mil/pa/news/news.htm

A professional team, delivering bombing, airlift support, training and combat support to combatant commanders... anytime, anywhere

Dyess earns AF productivity award

By Senior Airman Matthew Rosine
Dyess Public Affairs

In a joint effort, a team of Dyess professionals from the 7th Civil Engineer Squadron and the 7th Contracting Squadron were recently awarded the Air Force Productivity Excellence Award.

The award recognizes Airmen, Air Force civilians and small groups of four or less who have made substantial improvements in Air Force productivity. The improvements came as suggestions through a combination of the Innovative Development through Employee Awareness program, special actions and management initiatives.

The team of Tom Denslow, base energy manager; Dwain Wadlington, 7th CES deputy commander; Ron Miller, 7th CONS contracting officer; and Deb McGrath, 7th CONS contract administrator, earned the award for their work on

the Dyess effluent water project.

"I am humbled by the fact that our team has achieved something that brings such great recognition to the 7th Bomb Wing, 7th CONS and 7th CES," said Mr. Miller.

This project has reduced the base's potable water consumption by over 30 percent or more than 160 million gallons per year. This reduction amounts to more than \$300,000 in savings per year with a combined overall increase in over \$3 million to Dyess' infrastructure.

Potable water is the standard "drinking water" people receive in their homes. Effluent water is water that has been treated from the Lake Kirby reservoir and, despite being "clean and safe," is not considered to be potable. Dyess utilizes the effluent water for base irrigation.

While this Air Force award only highlights a

few Dyess people, according to Mr. Denslow, the effluent water project was really a team effort.

"This has always been a joint project," Mr. Denslow said. "This effluent project is very diverse -- it took an integrated effort on everyone's part to make it possible."

To make the project happen, base personnel had to work with the Chevron Oil Corporation, the City of Abilene, Siemens Building Technologies and the office of Congressman Charlie Stenholm. This cooperative effort resulted in more than seven miles of piping being laid, the construction of two 11-million gallon holding reservoirs on base as well as two pumping stations capable of pumping more than 2,000 gallons per minute.

Project construction began in April 2002 and Dyess began using effluent water on Aug. 15, 2002.

See Award, Page 5

BDUs back in supply

By Senior Airman Matthew Rosine
Dyess Public Affairs

Dyess' Military Clothing Sales is now fully stocked in summer-weight Battle Dress Uniforms.

Following a recent shortage of BDUs in both the Army and Air Force, the military supply system was affecting the availability of BDUs in military clothing sales stores until recently.

"We know it inconvenienced a lot of people," said Prissy Brissette, Dyess Military Clothing Sales manager. "But some supply changes have been made and we are now fully stocked in summer-weight BDUs."

While the military supply system originally advised Army and Air Force Exchange Service officials that the summer-weight BDUs shortage would last until August, because of increased efforts to meet the demands of military members BDU supplies have increased.

Representatives from DSCP said the current supply condition is because of the need to produce many more desert BDUs than the woodland style as a result of the war in Iraq.

"The temperate trousers are the item in the most critical position and, while DSCP does not expect [the situation to get better] until August, we will experience a significant increase in deliveries starting in April," said Jim Kane, product manager for battledress uniforms in DSCP's clothing and textile directorate.

While Dyess' Military Clothing Sales is currently fully stocked in the summer-weight BDUs, according to Mrs. Brissette, clothing sales is still experiencing shortages in the winter-weight BDUs. The winter-weights should be fully restocked at Dyess by the end of August.

For more information, call military clothing sales at 696-2502.

(Air Force News Service contributed to this story.)

Weekend Weather

SATURDAY
Rain, thunder
High 65°F
Low 54°F

SUNDAY
Rain, thunder
High 68°F
Low 48°F

Weather courtesy of 7th Operations Support Squadron weather flight

Leadership

Dyess Air Force Base and surrounding west Texas has been under extreme-drought water restrictions for years. To ease the stress on the nearby city of Abilene's potable water supply, Dyess began using the city's effluent water for irrigation. They arranged to use existing oil pipelines to economically transport the water 7 miles from the city to the base. Dyess also entered into an Energy Savings Performance Contract to add two 11M-gallon holding reservoirs, two pump stations, and 3 miles of distribution piping to connect the irrigation system. The project reduces annual potable water consumption by 160 million gallons and saves the base \$300,000 a year. It also saves the city a highly valued 2% of its water supply.

Effluent holding reservoir, Dyess Air Force Base, Texas

YOU HAVE the POWER

United States Department of the Air Force
Federal Energy Management Program

Due to its effort with the effluent water project, Dyess is featured on the official Air Force Federal Energy Management Program poster.

AF announces new SRB list

WASHINGTON -- Airmen will see major changes in the newly released selective reenlistment bonus list resulting from solid retention rates, Pentagon officials said.

Following the selective reenlistment review board, the Air Force has published the latest SRB list which contains 62 Air Force specialties.

"The SRB program is a retention tool the Air Force uses as an incentive to help keep the right people in the right jobs to accomplish our mission," said Senior Master Sgt. Maria Cornelia, chief of retention and bonus programs at Air Force headquarters.

"During this period of

improved retention, it is prudent to make adjustments," she said. "Airmen should remember that SRBs are not an entitlement and must be adjusted to meet Air Force needs."

All enlisted skills were reviewed, including reporting and special-duty identifiers, officials said.

The criteria used for determining which enlisted skills will receive an SRB include current and projected manning levels, re-enlistment trends, career-field force structure changes and inputs from individual career-field managers.

See SRB, Page 5

Families of HS seniors may get to stay in place

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, TEXAS -- Some Air Force families with a child entering his or her senior year of high school may get to stay longer at their current duty stations thanks to a new policy announced in March.

"In today's environment of deployments and high operations tempo, it's important that we alleviate stress on families wherever we can," said Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Gerald Murray. "This initiative is designed to do that."

"This is a policy we think increases the quality of life

for Air Force families," said Roger Blanchard, Air Force assistant deputy chief of staff for personnel. "The intent is to decrease turbulence and increase stability for military families."

The High School Seniors Assignment Deferment Program allows senior master sergeants and below, and officers up through the rank of lieutenant colonel, to apply for a one-year assignment deferment. Back-to-back deferments may be possible and dual-military couples may also apply.

See Seniors, Page 5



Staff Sgt. Shelley Gill

Dyess rejoins war on terror

A reflection of a Dyess B-1 hovers in the shield of Grand Forks AFB boom operator Staff Sgt. Andrew Diaz after an inflight refueling by a KC-135 Stratotanker. After the fill-up, the B-1 continued its mission at a forward deployed location in support of Operations Enduring and Iraqi Freedom.



Edit-tour

The Texas Managing Press Editors tour Dyess Air Force Base Saturday. Seventeen prominent members of the Houston Chronicle, Dallas Morning News, the Amarillo Globe-News and the Associated Press among others visited various base agencies to better understand Dyess' people and mission. Stops included the flight line, the 7th Security Forces Squadron military working dogs training center and a B-1 static tour. Photo courtesy of Scott Lieberman, a Pulitzer Prize-winning photographer who also attended the tour. Lieberman is most recognized for his exclusive still photographs of the space shuttle Columbia disaster over the plains of central Texas last year.

COACH'S CORNER

There has been much improvement with our mobility expertise and deployment machine.

This week's exercise, though not yet perfect, proves that we are taking great steps toward success. There have been big improvements by all squadrons -- troops are working hard to become smart on mobility.

As you continue to excel, here are six professionals who are pushing hard to make us the best. Don't hesitate to turn to them for help and answers -- they won't let you down!!

- 1st Lt. Phil Silva, 7 MSS, runs the PDF line and has been outstanding in helping squadrons with DAV codes and shortfall (4006's).
- 2nd Lt. Mark Ducksworth, 7 LRS, supervises all Log planners. He's an expert on the DCC and all deployment AFI's.
- 2nd Lt. Chris Welch, 7 LRS, is the acting wing IDO building SAVs and has been impressive in re-doing the IDP.
- Tech. Sgt. Ken Nelson, 7 LRS, is the Log planner, teaches LOGMOD to squadron UDMs, manages AFWUS and has been working hard cleaning up UTC mistakes.
- Senior Airman Raymond Castoreno, 7 LRS, teaches pallet buildup classes.
- Senior Airman Jesse Daughtry, 7 LRS, is rapidly becoming the expert in wing HAZDEz.

Provide leadership for the occasion

By Maj. Ed Keller
7th Contracting Squadron commander

As Air Force leaders, we study many of the same materials during professional military education and read the same resources. These resources are all very valuable and key to understanding the art of leadership.

However, they may also create the false impression that leadership is a "one size fits all" discipline. Nothing could be further from the truth.

Far from an exact discipline, leadership is an art which, in addition to a genuine concern for others, requires a well-developed understanding of human nature and the ability to continually reassess and adjust for whatever situation leaders finds themselves in -- leadership for the occasion.

The unit's mission plays a critical role in determining the appropriate leadership emphasis.

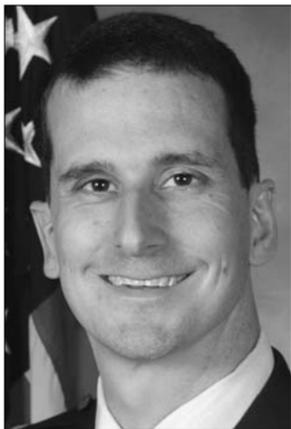
In units, like those found in maintenance and operations, engaged in moving large numbers of Airmen and machines, a carefully choreographed plan must be in place to avoid chaos and excessive danger.

To take a completely hands-off approach in leading such a unit would be foolhardy.

Conversely, to exert that same level of control over a unit whose mission benefits greatly from creative input, such as a graphics shop in a communications squadron, would result in many missed opportunities for great outcomes.

The size of a unit is also a player.

As commander of the 7th Contracting Squadron, I preside over a "vast empire" totaling 34 people (performing mightily, I may



add) and one building. Obviously, it would be folly to lead them as you would much larger units on base.

I am in the enviable position of being able to engage with each member of my squadron in a personal way.

I know their likes and dislikes, strengths and weaknesses, and what motivates and demotivates each of them.

Clearly, that type of personal involvement is impossible for a squadron of 400 to 600 Airmen spread out all over the base. So different approaches, such as emphasizing with subordinate leaders the importance of their personal involvement, must be taken.

The level of training and expertise required to perform tasks within the unit are key in determining the appropriate leadership style. A highly trained and educated workforce typically flourishes under a degree of autonomy when performing those tasks for which they have been trained whereas a less trained force or one performing a series of routine tasks may require closer supervision.

The leader who manages one like the other courts disaster.

To lead a highly trained workforce without providing autonomy is to micromanage.

Likewise, to lead a less trained, less skilled force without frequent coaching and redirects is akin to abandonment.

Finally, a leader must recognize that day-to-day demands and team dynamics often dictate a change in leadership approach.

Urgent requirements often impose a suspension of normal principles of doing business. Further, as the demographics of the team change, so must a leader. Just as a coach must adjust to the roster, a leader must identify the strengths and weaknesses of the unit and craft a plan cognizant of both.

As a parting thought, I'll quote Garry Wills, author of "Certain Trumpets: The Nature of Leadership" who wrote "Followers have a say in what they are being led to. A leader who neglects that fact soon finds himself without followers. To sound a certain trumpet does not mean just trumpeting one's own certitudes. It means sounding a specific call to specific people capable of response."

What is the lesson? Listen to and involve your folks in decision-making, adapt to their capabilities, and then sound your own "certain trumpet."

Time invested now in mentoring junior officers, NCOs will pay huge dividends

By Lt. Col. Terrie Ford
7th Services Squadron commander



The Merriam-Webster Online Dictionary defines mentor as "a trusted counselor or guide," and cites two words -- tutor and coach -- as synonyms.

Using the synonyms to expand the definition further, a "tutor" is "a person charged with the instruction and guidance of another."

A "coach" is "one who instructs or trains a performer or a team of performers; specifically: one who instructs players in

the fundamentals of a competitive sport and directs team strategy."

Perhaps a more descriptive definition for a mentor could combine all three of these definitions into one: "a trusted counselor or guide charged with instructing and guiding another in the fundamentals of a competitive sport (or profession) and directing team strategy."

In today's Air Force, it is fitting that the ideas of instruction, guidance, teamwork, competition and strategy can all be rolled into the notion of a mentor.

Granted, mentoring covers a lot of territory outside of team sports, but the same principles can be applied to the profession of arms.

In both sports and the Air Force, rarely does an individual achieve great success without teammates alongside.

Rarely does a team routinely win without a highly competitive attitude, and rarely will the team succeed without a well-defined strategy and an astute leader at the helm to steer the efforts.

Our Air Force capitalizes on all these qualities in the mentorship process to develop the leaders we need to win on the battlefield.

As a function of leadership, mentoring is one of the most critical yet most nebulous tasks assigned.

The Air Force has mapped out a mentoring strategy in AFI 36-3401, Air Force Mentoring, sort of a "mentor the mentor" guide.

It offers a laundry list of professional references to aid mentors in providing information, defining mentoring responsibilities and covers career issues such as professional military education, academic education and professional associations.

It also touches on performance feedback and evaluation,

promotion selection, the assignment system, recognition, awards and decorations.

While this instruction does not contain every last detail you need to know, it is an excellent starting point for mentoring Air Force members and will definitely point you in the right direction.

One of the most critical resources for our leaders today is time.

Time invested now in mentoring our young officers, enlisted personnel and civilians will no doubt pay huge dividends in the future.

As I approach 20 years of service in the Air Force, I can recount numerous mentors who helped me make the right choices when I faced big decisions -- my parents and grandparents, high school teachers, college professors, Reserve Officer Training Corps instructors, Air Force supervisors and acquaintances.

I've been fortunate to have many wise advisors along the way.

I'm thankful they were willing to take the time to offer their sage advice and show me the way.

There are a few things I know for sure about today's Air Force.

One is that our senior leaders are serious about the professional development of both the officer and enlisted corps. Mentoring is just one of the ways Air Force senior leaders can reach out to those who will eventually replace them.

Our junior personnel must seek out a trusted mentor to help them steer their Air Force careers toward the appropriate vector.

Those who have already navigated the path must give of their time, experience, and talent to the next generation.

This week in

Dyess AFB History

1985

Cathleen LeMaire enlisted in the Air Force April 9. Now Chief Master Sgt. Cathleen Hooks, she serves as the 7th Logistics Readiness Squadron's operations superintendent.

2001

The 7th Medical Group earned the highest scores for mission readiness in 2001 by excelling in two important health-related inspections. The Air Force Inspection Agency evaluated the group for compliance with Air Force standards and Department of Defense directives and peacetime and contingency medicine. The AFIA declared the group "Fully Mission Ready," the highest category under the inspection criteria. The Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations, a non-Air Force entity, declared the 7th Medical Group "fully accredited," the highest rating according to civilian standards. JCAHO is responsible for inspecting, and accrediting more than 95 percent of the nation's healthcare agencies.



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2nd Lt. Benjamin Gamble.....	Officer in-charge, Internal Information
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15 Airmen receive Article 15 punishment

By Tech. Sgt. Karen Graves
Dyess Legal Office

Fifteen Dyess Airmen recently received Article 15, non-judicial punishment. In each Article 15, the member's commander considered the offense and based the punishment on the individual's circumstances.

Some or all of these members were subsequently administratively discharged. Names of Article 15 violators are not released.

◆ A technical sergeant received a suspended reduction to staff sergeant, forfeiture of \$100 pay for two months, 30 days extra duty and a reprimand for three specifications of dereliction in the performance of duties. The airman violated Article 92, Failure to obey an order or regulation.

◆ A senior airman received a suspended reduction to airman first class and 30 days extra duty for two specifications of assault and battery. The airman violated Article 128, Assault.

◆ A senior airman received a suspended reduction to airman first class, 30 days extra duty and a reprimand for using a government card for unauthorized purchases. The airman violated Article 92 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice, willful dereliction of duty.

◆ A senior airman received a suspended reduction to airman first class, 30 days extra duty, a suspended forfeiture of \$912 pay per month for two months, and a reprimand for failure to go to an appointed place of duty and leaving an appointed place of duty without authorization. The airman violated Article 86, Failure to go.

◆ A senior airman received a suspended reduction to airman first class, 30 days extra duty and a reprimand for sleeping on duty. The airman violated Article 92, Failure to obey an order or regulation.

◆ A senior airman received a reduction to airman first class and a suspended reduction to airman basic for disobeying three lawful orders and making a false statement. The airman violated Article 92, Failure to obey an order or regulation, and

The Docket

Article 107, False official statements.

◆ A senior airman received a suspended forfeiture of \$250 pay per month for two months and a reprimand for intoxication. The airman violated Article 112, Drunk on duty.

◆ An airman first class received a reduction to airman with a suspended reduction to airman basic, forfeiture of \$250 pay for two months, and 15 days extra duty for driving while intoxicated and leaving the scene of an accident. The airman violated Article 111, Drunken or reckless operation of a vehicle, and Article 134, Fleeing the scene of accident.

◆ An airman first class received a reduction to airman and 45 days extra duty for failure to go to appointed place of duty. The airman violated Article 86, Failure to go.

◆ An airman first class received a reduction to airman, 30 days restriction to base, and 30 days extra duty for larceny, failure to pay debt, disobeying a lawful order, and possession of alcohol while under the legal age of 21. The airman violated Article 121, larceny and wrongful appropriation, Article 134, debt, dishonorably failing to pay, and Article 92, Failure to obey an order or regulation.

◆ An airman first class received a reduction to airman with a suspended reduction to airman basic, forfeiture of \$575 pay per month for two months suspended and 30 days extra duty for assaulting a NCO. The airman violated Article 128, Assault.

◆ An airman first class received a suspended reduction to airman, and 30 days extra duty, with 15 days suspended for failure to go to an appointed place of duty. The airman violated Article 86, Failure to go.

◆ An airman first class received a reduction to airman basic and a reprimand for using marijuana. The airman violated Article 112a, Wrongful use or possession of a controlled substance.

◆ An airman received a suspended reduction to airman basic and a reprimand for failure to go to an appointed place of duty. The airman violated Article 86, Failure to go.

◆ An airman received a reduction to airman basic and 30 days extra duty with 15 days suspended for dereliction in performance of duties. The airman violated Article 92, Willful dereliction of duty.

Courts Martial

February 12, a panel of officer and enlisted members convicted Airman Christopher Sears, 39th Airlift Squadron, in a general court-martial. Airman Sears plead not guilty to one specification of indecent assault, in violation of Article 134 of the UCMJ, and was found guilty. Airman Sears received eight months confinement, forfeiture of all pay and allowances and a bad conduct discharge.

February 13, a summary court officer convicted Airman 1st Class Stanton Lewis, 317th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, in a summary court-martial. Airman Lewis plead guilty to one specification of use of a controlled substance and one specification of possession of a controlled substance, both violations of Article 112a of the UCMJ, and found guilty of both specifications. Airman Lewis received 14 days confinement, reduction to E-1, and forfeiture of two-thirds pay for one month.

March 5, a summary court officer convicted Airman First Class Richard Pierce II, 317th Maintenance Squadron, in a summary court-martial. Airman Pierce plead guilty to wrongfully possessing a firearm and ammunition in the dormitory, a violation of Article 92 of the UCMJ, and negligent discharge of a firearm, a violation of Article 134 of the UCMJ, and was found guilty of all specifications. Airman Pierce received 30 days confinement and reduction to E-2.

49 Dyess Airmen re-enlist

The following Dyess enlisted members re-enlisted during the month of March:

Senior Master Sgt. Candice Crute, 7th Logistics Readiness Squadron

Master Sgt. Michael Barkell, Detachment 2; Master Sgt. Gary Blake, 7th Component Maintenance Squadron; Master Sgt. Jon Borseth, 7th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron; Master Sgt. Sean Brewer, 7th Civil Engineer Squadron

Tech. Sgt. William Body, 317th Maintenance Squadron; Tech. Sgt. David Criado, 7th Equipment Maintenance Squadron; Tech. Sgt. Dean DeLeon, 317th Airlift Group; Tech. Sgt. Dennis Fordyce, 39th Airlift Squadron; Tech. Sgt. Mark Gore, 7th Services Squadron; Tech. Sgt. Anthony Kennedy, 7th CES; Tech. Sgt. Robert King, 7th EMS; Tech. Sgt. Ray Larish, 7th LRS; Tech. Sgt. Buddy Manners, 7th EMS; Tech. Sgt. James Musgrove, 7th Operations Support Squadron; Tech. Sgt. Earl Sadewasser, 39th AS; Tech. Sgt. William Sims, 7th Medical Operations Squadron

Staff Sgt. Phillip Austin, 28th Bomb Squadron; Staff Sgt. Daniel Benavidez, 11th ASOS; Staff Sgt. Baltazar Garcia, Detachment 20; Staff Sgt. Darrell Gomez, 7th CES; Staff Sgt. Eric Grossman, 7th CMS; Staff Sgt. Christopher Link, 7th AMXS; Staff Sgt. Jon Malone, 317th Operations Support Squadron; Staff Sgt. Narda Martinez, 7th Bomb Wing; Staff Sgt. Jeremy Miller, 317th AMXS; Staff Sgt. Ian Mirkes, 7th Security Forces Squadron; Staff Sgt. Kevin Mooney, 317th MXS; Staff Sgt. Brandon Northern, 712th ASOS; Staff Sgt. Gary Paolucci, 7th Munitions Squadron; Staff Sgt. Todd Rooney, 7th MUNS; Staff Sgt. Jason Smith, 11th ASOS; Staff Sgt. Shawnee Stovall, 7th LRS

Senior Airman Jeffrey Arrasmith, 7th CMS; Senior Airman Michael Beddie, 7th CES; Senior Airman Clarence Blanks, 7th Contracting Squadron; Senior Airman Dewayne Campbell, 7th CS; Senior Airman Jesse Daughtry, 7th LRS; Senior Airman Brett Dominguez, 40th Airlift Squadron; Senior Airman Alex Galoyo, 7th LRS; Senior Airman Demetrio Garcia, 77th WPS; Senior Airman Walker Grant, 7th AMXS; Senior Airman Nuru Hollimanmcbride, 7th EMS; Senior Airman Gabriel Iturbe, 7th SFS; Senior Airman John Marquez, 7th OSS; Senior Airman Nadine Muro, 7th EMS; Senior Airman Christopher Pierce, 28th BS; Senior Airman Mialgros Roque, 39th AS; Senior Airman James Stembridge, 7th LRS

Award

Continued from Page 1

The efforts involved in making this project successful not only earned Dyess recognition with this award, but the Air Force has also highlighted the team by putting them and their project on the Air Force's official Federal

Energy Management Program poster which will be distributed Air Force-wide this year in support of Energy Awareness Month in October.

Despite the awards and the recognition, the AFPE award winners say that they aren't the only ones who deserve the recognition.

"Our only goal was to do

our job the best we could and build a stronger relationship between Dyess and the local community when it comes to energy conservation," Mr. Miller said. "But, none of this would not have been possible without the teamwork, long hours and a true belief in energy conservation by the entire team and the great leadership of Dyess."

SRB

Continued from Page 1

SRBs are authorized in 0.5 increments, or multiples, and in three re-enlistment zones for people with between 17 months and 14 years of service.

Zone A, which applies to Airmen re-enlisting between 17 months and six years of service, incurred

nine increases, 19 reductions and 86 removals. Zone B, which applies to Airmen re-enlisting between six and 10 years of service, had eight increases, 18 reductions and 80 removals. Zone C, which applies to Airmen re-enlisting between 10 and 14 years of service, saw one increase, four decreases and 32 removals. Additions and multiple

increases are effective March 30. The SRB multiple decreases and deletions are effective April 30.

The new list of bonuses is posted at www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/enlskills/Reenlistments/reenlistments.htm.

For more information, contact the Dyess military personnel flight re-enlistment office at 696-3100.

(Air Force Print News)

Seniors

Continued from Page 1

Even with the changes, officials said the mission comes first and will be the overriding factor in granting deferments.

"Requests will be considered on a case-by-case basis," said Col. Kathleen Grabowski, chief of assignment programs and procedures at the Air Force Personnel Center. "The goal is to approve as many requests as mission needs allow without being unfair, but the reality is that some requests won't be possible due to Air Force needs. We'll work with people as we always have," she said.

To be eligible, the senior in high school must be a dependent of and living with the Airman request-

ing the deferment, and he or she must be enrolled in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility System, she said.

Officers will need to apply before being put on assignment while enlisted people will not apply until after being matched to an assignment, said Master Sgt. Letty Inabinet, superintendent of assignment procedures.

Applications are available from military personnel flights and commander support staffs.

Officials estimate that annually 20 to 25 percent of officers and senior non-commissioned officers have children entering their senior year of high school and perhaps one third of those could be eligible for assignment in a given year, officials said.

"It's a benefit to families if teenagers can attend the senior prom and graduate with their established friends," Mr. Blanchard said.

The policy makes official what was already being done informally whenever possible in the past, said Colonel Grabowski. In some cases assignments teams were already successfully working with Airmen to allow families stability when children were preparing to graduate, she said.

The Air Force Contact Center offers information about this and other personnel programs by calling toll free (800) 616-3775 or online at www.afpc.randolph.af.mil.

(Air Force Personnel Center News Service)

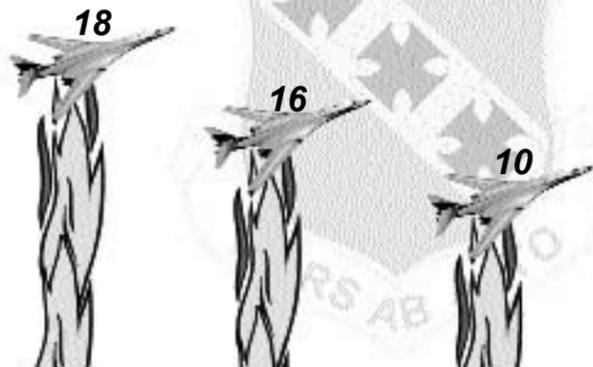
The winner is ... Most On-Time Takeoffs in March

...for the 7th Bomb Wing

...for the 317th Airlift Group

Tail No. 6137 SSgt David Holland SrA Chad Jewell	Tail No. 6133 TSgt John Ammons SSgt Dallas Osburn	Tail No. 5084 SSgt Benjamin Smith SrA Kenneth Laun
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Tail No. 1673 SSgt Marcus Nievesrivera SrA David Wurzbach A1C Grace Castro	Tail No. 1679 TSgt Scott White SSgt Victor Santana A1C Sammy Myracle Tail No. 1671 SSgt Arthur Perez SrA Chris Jenkins SrA Bobby Meuth	Tail No. 1691 SSgt Russell Bledsoe SrA Jeffrey Brett SrA Chad Bailey SrA Jason Hunter A1C Kevin Karpinski
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NEWS Briefs

SAAT briefing

A mandatory briefing is being held for all military females at 2 p.m. Tuesday at the base theater.

For more information, call Capt. Katherine Lindler at 696-2121.

CPTS closure

The 7th Comptroller Squadron will be closed from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. April 8 for an official function.

For emergency assistance, call 4-0959 from an on-base phone.

New location

The 7th Civil Engineer Squadron's readiness flight has moved to the old alert facility, building 4120.

TEAM DYESS
Warrior of the Week

Tech. Sgt. Wilbur Massie

Unit: Detachment 2, 53rd Test and Evaluation Group

Job description: Mission support chief

Job impact on the mission: I contribute to our mission in testing by keeping the mission planning software and network up to date. I also give computer related input on computer updates to the B-1 and provide direction on computer capabilities.

Time in the Air Force: 15 years

Time at Dyess: One year

Family: Son, Kevin.

Hometown: Springfield, Ohio

Career goal: To make the most of my time in the Air Force and to receive a bachelor's degree in computer science.

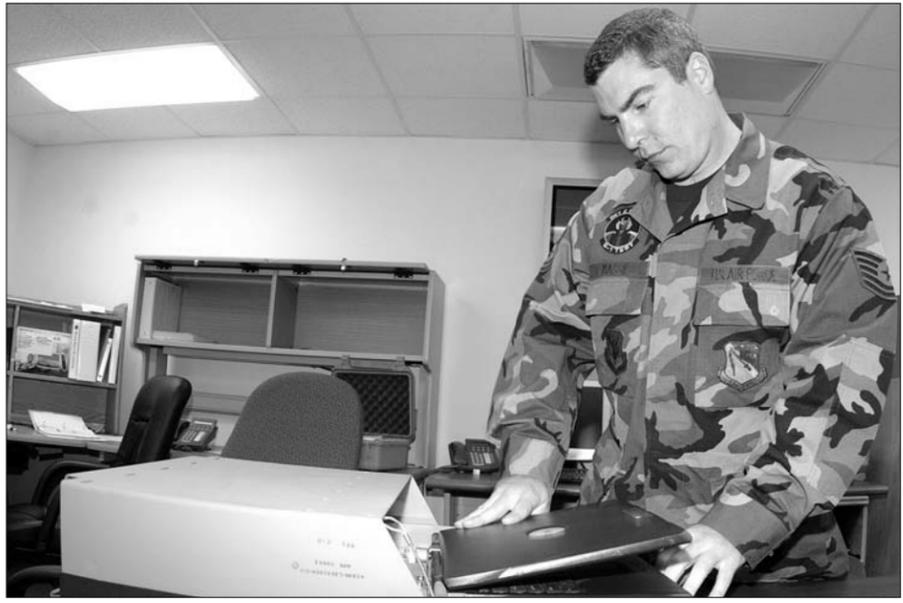
Most rewarding job aspect: Getting to make an impact on fleet-wide modifications to the B-1, then seeing those B-1s in action.

Favorite thing about Dyess: Abilene is the perfect size city for me.

Favorite thing about the Air Force: The opportunity to do a completely different job every two or three years keeps me from getting bored.

Favorite Air Force memory: Leaving Okinawa, Japan.

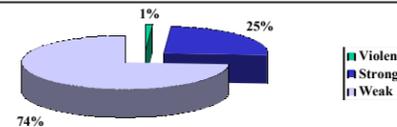
Editor's note: The Dyess Warrior of the Week is selected by unit squadron commanders, first sergeants or supervisors on a rotating squadron basis.



Airman 1st Class Rob Morris

T W I S T E R

Tornado Strengths as a Percentage from 1950-1994



Severe weather awareness more than a match for West Texas weather



Rank	Total numbers of deaths	Deaths per 10,000 sq. miles	Number of killer tornadoes	Total tornado path length per 10,000 sq. miles	Killer tornadoes as a % of all tornadoes	Annual tornadoes per 10,000 sq. miles
1	Texas	Massachusetts	Texas	Mississippi	Tennessee	Florida
2	Oklahoma	Mississippi	Oklahoma	Alabama	Kentucky	Oklahoma
3	Florida	Indiana	Arkansas	Oklahoma	Arkansas	Indiana
4	Kansas	Alabama	Alabama	Iowa	Ohio	Iowa
5	Nebraska	Ohio	Mississippi	Illinois	Alabama	Kansas

By 2nd Lt. Ben Gamble
Dyess Public Affairs

The plains of West Texas are often deceptive when it comes to forecasting the weather. Severe thunderstorms and even tornadoes have been known to appear with little or no warning.

When it comes to severe weather advisories, Dyess is independent of the surrounding community and has safety measures in place for people to protect themselves in the event of a tornado warning.

"Even though tornadoes are most common in West Central Texas in the spring, tornadoes can happen at anytime of the year," said Capt. Kathleen Campbell, 7th Operations Support Squadron weather flight commander. "The most important thing to remember about tornado safety is to remain informed and take cover when necessary."

While weather information is readily available through local television and radio stations as well as the Internet, base officials remind Airmen that the local community issues severe

weather watches and warnings for Taylor County and not specifically for Dyess Air Force Base.

The 7th OSS weather flight, however, is exclusively responsible for the Dyess flightline and everything within a surrounding 5-mile radius. The weather

flight issues watches and warnings for severe thunderstorms -- to include large hail and damaging winds -- as well as tornadoes which will come within five miles of the base.

When a tornado warning is issued, the base siren system will sound immediately and continue to sound until the danger has passed. People should move into their buildings, away from windows and onto the center of the ground floors until the siren ceases to sound and the weather has passed through the area. Anyone caught outside during a tornado warning should lie flat in a ditch or other depression. Base officials stress it is important to remember that the city of Abilene does not have any kind of audible siren warning system for severe weather conditions.

People may also find themselves on the road during a tornado watch or warning. It is safe for people to drive during a tornado watch, which identifies the potential for a tornado to form. Drivers should closely monitor the situation by radio and evaluate their safety condition.

A warning, however, advises that a tornado has been spotted or conditions are very favorable for the development of a tornado. If driving during a tornado warning, people should avoid getting into the vicinity of the tornado and, under no circumstances, drive toward it.

"If you are driving and a tornado warning is announced, pay very close attention to the information in the warning to determine if you are in danger. If you are in danger, take cover immediately in a building or ditch. Abandon your vehicle. It is replaceable; you are not."



Giving life -- organ donors perform miracles

Commentary By Lt. Col.
Robert Maness
9th Bomb Squadron

In late July 1994, I spent seven days with my dad on the transplant floor at Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville, Tenn.

While there, I talked with three patients who were waiting for new hearts. Each of them had been admitted to the hospital for the final time because of their weak condition. They would only live if they received a transplant. The situation at times seemed desperate; more organ donations were needed than were available. The following notes are my recollections on each of those days.

All three patients are men. Their names are Don, Billy (my dad) and Roger. Don, a former high school football coach, is at the top of the transplant list in the state. His condition is serious, there is a defibrillator implanted in his chest to keep him from dying. He is approximately 60 years old and is on day 91 of his hospital stay. Dad is the same age. He is on day 21 of his stay and is on several medications to keep him from deteriorating further. Both Don and dad have coronary artery disease and have endured several by-pass operations between them. Finally, there is Roger, who just arrived. Approximately 40 years old, he is the victim of a virus that attacks the heart muscle.

July 18: I arrive at the hospital at 2 p.m. All seems well, everyone is in good spirits. Hope is bright for donations this week, it has been 62 days since a heart transplant was performed. At 6 p.m. rumors abound that two possible prospects are in another city. We won't know until tomorrow.

Don strikes me as the guy that everybody looks to for guidance. Dad is hanging in there, but gets anxious at times. Roger is quiet and secluded.

July 19: A heart has been found but goes to a more critical patient from another hospital. Morale plummets, even the normally good-humored Don is down in the dumps. All the staff makes concerted efforts, along with family members, to keep up spirits in the three patients on the floor.

July 20: Things go from bad to worse on the seventh floor of Vandy Med Center. Another heart is found but is too small for any of the men in the hospital. The recipient ends up being a woman on the transplant list but at home. Don and dad talk a lot about going home. Don has been here 94 days today, he's getting fed up with the quality of life and will likely go home in a few weeks if something doesn't turn up.

July 21: Quiet Roger has quietly been getting too many fluids. His weak heart cannot keep the kidneys functioning properly. He is destined for intensive care, a kind of medical solitary confinement to the long-term patients. He is admitted at approximately 4 p.m. to the intensive care unit. Don is depressed again because anytime someone goes to ICU they bump to the top of the list.

July 22: Roger seems to be holding his own in ICU. Dad and Don pray for his recovery, hoping he'll be out by Monday. Everybody still has a good sense of humor in spite of the bleakness of the situation. One of dad's nurses, Darlene, keeps everyone in stitches most of the time. She has even gotten him to make jokes, helping his anxiety.

July 23: Everyone is

feeling better. Families are up for the weekend, greatly heightening morale. Roger is still in ICU and getting weaker. They decided to put a balloon into his heart to help it rest -- a significant change in his status. Dad and Don continue to hope for his recovery.

July 24: A fairly uneventful day. Spirits are low in the evening, with families departing for home. Don agrees to learn chess with dad next week. This will give them both something to take their minds off the drudgery of hospital life.

This story was supposed to end with my departure July 25, but at 11:45 p.m. on the 24th all that changed.

A young doctor poked his head in my dad's room and asked, "Has anyone told you yet?" Dad's reply was, "No, what are you talking about?" The doctor then informed him that they had found a matching heart for him and that surgery would begin at 5:30 a.m. Monday. Dad called me at midnight and started what became another aspect of this story.

Dad and I were awake for the rest of the night. Nurses and doctors were constantly coming and going for various blood tests, putting in new medicines and counseling. We spent the time discussing what would happen if something went wrong, including who got certain of his personal effects.

All anxiety left my father, he was very calm at this point. I told him that he now would have two birthdays and we would celebrate both with the same feelings. He agreed. We talked about how he was going to feel with a good heart in his chest after 17 years of pain and weakness, he said he couldn't wait to not have pain anymore.

Before we knew it, it was 4 a.m. and the surgical team had come in to take him to the holding area. He gave me his watch, rings and glasses. We made the long trip down to the third floor.

We reflected on what a miracle it was that I was able to be there for the surgery. Dad informed me that his last thought before turning in that night was a prayer asking that I be allowed to be there when he went into surgery. As it turned out, he and I were the only ones there when he actually began the process of prepping for the operation.

Just before the doctors and nurses insisted that I leave, the donor subject came up. Dad wanted to know everything about the person and I agreed to find out as much as possible. He also stated that his last thoughts before going under the anesthetic would be of the donor's family because he knew they must be grieving greatly.

At 5:30 a.m. July 25, 1994, the surgery began. My father's entire family was present with the exception of his aging mother. He was in the operating room for eight hours. The operation took a little longer than the normal six hours due to his three previous heart operations. The transplant surgeon consulted with us at 2 p.m. He informed us that dad was out of surgery and in recovery. He was doing well and the new heart was working like a champ.

Over the next two days I watched dad slowly come around and get his surgical tubes and medicines removed one by one. It was amazing that he was recovering so fast. By the beginning of the second day after surgery dad had all tubes removed from his body

except the I.V. providing anti-rejection medicine. His color was back to what it was before his first heart attack, 17 years before.

My father and our family have always felt a profoundly deep gratitude toward the donor and his family. What we know is that he was a 35-year-old man from Chattanooga, Tenn. He was apparently donating a kidney to his sister and died from complications resulting from that surgery. We know that his family is grieving from their loss and wanted them to know that they were in our prayers and thoughts every day. I know for my dad a day didn't pass without thinking of them.

As I completed this article, I reflected on my friends on the seventh floor transplant ward at Vanderbilt. Don was still waiting for a heart, was on day 113 of his hospital stay. The nurses and doctors continue their dedicated work of giving people the opportunity for a new life. Sadly, Roger died July 28, 1994. He never made it out of intensive care. My dad was back on the 7th floor and doing fine. He started walking four days after the operation and was coherent enough to feed and take care of himself. He still had a long way to recovery but was fairly normal in about six months.

To Don, I said "hang in there coach. You have inspired many young people in your life, including me. We are pulling for you and wish you well."

To all organ donors out there, you need to make sure your family knows your wishes so there is no question if you are unable to communicate them. To those who have not decided to be organ donors I ask you to reconsider. As you can see these gifts create

miracles in so many others lives.

Update: Since I originally wrote this story in 1994 many changes have taken place. Unfortunately the coach (Roger) died shortly after my dad was discharged from the hospital, never receiving a new heart. Retired Master Sgt. Billy Maness (my dad) passed away in April 2001. In the last six years of his life he saw a newborn grandson and twin granddaughters come into this world. He was also able to attend numerous graduations and witness the achievements of his older grandchildren and his sons -- feeling blessed by his unknown heart donor every second of every day for the rest of his life.

Finally, the last years of his life with our family were all high quality and relatively pain free due to the selfless sacrifice of the donor and his family. For these reasons our family continues to keep the donor and his family in our thoughts and prayers and have committed to strongly support transplant programs. We encourage everyone we meet to consider donating when faced with life and death decisions. All you have to do is fill out a donor card and more importantly, inform your family.

For additional information you may contact the United Network for Organ Sharing at (888) 894-6361, or visit them on the web at www.unos.org, 24 hours a day.

Please give the gift of life, it is very precious.

**April is
National
Organ Donor
Month**



Organ donation on the Web

With an increase in Internet activity over the past several years, people seeking medical information concerning organ donation can visit any of the following Web sites:

Coalition on Donation at
www.donatelife.net

American Red Cross at
www.redcross.org

The Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network at
www.optn.org

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Web site for Organ donation at
www.organdonor.gov

Community briefs

Personal safety survey

The Air Combat Command Personal Safety Survey ends today. Released March 24, the survey provided an opportunity for its Airmen to speak up about sexual assault and sexual harassment. The information will be used with data recently collected by the Sexual Assault Assessment Teams and will be included in the command's April 9 sexual harassment/assault assessment report to General T. Michael Moseley, Air Force Vice Chief of Staff.

Social hour at the clubs

The Heritage and Hangar clubs host a social hour every Friday night. Complimentary snacks for club members are available as well as Bar Bingo.

For more information, call 696-2405.

Tax center

The Dyess Tax Center is open from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Mondays for appointments only; 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesdays for appointments only; 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesdays for walk-ins; 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Fridays for walk-ins; and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays for appointments only.

For more information, call 696-2232.

Kuk Sool Won Classes

The Dyess Fitness Center holds martial arts classes Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Cost is \$35 and family rate discounts are available.

For more information, call 696-4306

Money Easter Egg Hunt

Dorm residents are invited to register for a chance to hunt for money in eggs April 10. Participants will meet in The Heritage Club parking lot at 9:30 p.m. and flash lights are required.

For more information, call 696-4797.

Skills Development Center

The Crafter's Haven is taking sign-ups for Dyess' Giant Flea Market "Shoppin' in the Park" scheduled for April 17. The cost is \$15 for a 20-by-20-foot space.

For more information on these and other activities at the skills development center, call 696-4175.

Auto Skills Center

◆ April Special -- Receive 10 percent off all parts and labor on repairs to your brake system.

◆ Auto Skills Challenge -- The auto skills center will be performing large projects such as engine swaps, suspensions lifts, etc. The event starts at 10 a.m. April 17 and 10 a.m. April 18. There will be a installation fee of \$65. No prorates. Reservations and payments must be made in advance.

◆ The auto skills center has car detailing service available. Call to schedule an appointment.

◆ Auto skills offers state inspections for all vehicles.

For more information on these and other activities at the auto skills center, call 696-4179.

Toastmasters

Club Dyess Toastmasters meets at 11:45 a.m. every Tuesday at The Hangar Center. Everyone is welcome.

For more information, call 696-1344 or 696-4305.

Longhorn Dining

The Longhorn Dining Facility offers "Dial a Menu" to find out what is being served each day. The "Dial a Menu" number is 696-2478.

Spouses of deployed members and their families can also eat at the Longhorn every Thursday evening. All specialty meals are served from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Library's tiny tots

The base library's tiny tots reading program is 10 a.m. every Tuesday. For more information, call 696-2618.

Lifestyles

Caption Contest



This week's photo (No. 7)

The rules:

1. Write a creative, printable caption for the above photo.
2. Email your entry by close of business April 5 to peacemaker@dyess.af.mil. Entries are limited to three per photo.
3. Entries must include the photo number and your name with your duty phone number.
4. Contest winners are announced weekly.
5. All entries become the property of *The Peacemaker*.



"Man these are so cool. My kid doesn't even have one of these."

The winner of the caption contest for the March 27 issue of the *Peacemaker* is **Chief Master Sgt. James Harvey**, 7th Component Maintenance Squadron.

The runners-up are:

"Duck, duck, duck...Goose!"
Capt. Paul Fontaine, 317th Operations Support Squadron

"This is so much better than playing rock, paper, scissors."
Chief Master Sgt. James Harvey

The BIG Screen

The Dyess Theater is located next to the main exchange. Patrons must have a valid identification card and may sponsor guests. Admission for adults is \$2, children 6-

12 years old are 99 cents, and children ages 6 and younger are admitted free. G-rated movies are 99 cents for kids ages 2-12. For more information, call 696-4320.

Today, 7 p.m.

Welcome to Mooseport -- Gene Hackman, Ray Romano, Christine Baranski -- A former U.S. president whose plan to retire in a small Northeastern coastal town goes awry when he tries to fill an empty mayoral seat. His opposition is a seemingly unassuming

hardware store owner (Ray Romano) who quickly proves to be a wildly popular candidate.

Rated PG-13 (some brief sexual comments and nudity)

Saturday, 2 p.m.

Welcome to Mooseport

Saturday, 7 p.m.

50 First Dates -- Adam Sandler, Drew Barrymore, Sean Astin -- The Wedding Singer's Adam Sandler and Drew

Barrymore are reunited in this romantic comedy about a veterinarian in Hawaii who falls for a girl with short-term memory loss. In order to win her affection, he must get her to fall in love with him repeatedly, since she continually forgets about their relationship. Sooner or later, he hopes their love will stick.

Rated PG-13 (crude sexual humor and drug references)

Sunday, 2 p.m.

50 First Dates

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
	11							12			
13			14					15			
		16	17		18			19	20		
21	22					23					
24							25	26			
27					28	29		30	31		
	32			33				34			
35				36				37	38	39	
		40	41		42	43		44			
			46	47		48			49		
50	51	52					53				
	54					55	56		57	58	59
	60						61				
62						63				64	

SECAF History ACROSS

1. SECAF 4/8/86-12/16/88 (acting)
2. SECAF 11/1/97-1/20/01
3. Former org. concerned with Johnson's 'War on Poverty' (abbrev.)
4. Former White House spokesman Fleischer
5. Language in Pakistan
6. New
7. Pen brand
8. Russian river
9. Actress Turner
10. Kennedy's wife
11. Behold
12. Blood carrier?
13. Cash machine
14. Tiny
15. Corporate head? (abbrev.)
16. Compute
17. SECAF 6/1/01-present
18. Mock
19. Make a mistake
20. YA-1 aircraft (abbrev.)
21. Spiny plants
22. USAF org. concerned with intel.
23. Untested
24. Timber
25. Legend (as in map)
26. SECAF 12/16/88-4/29/89 (acting)
27. NYSE symbol for Fannie Mae
28. Deployed USAF wing (abbrev.)
29. Treaty governing US forces overseas (abbrev.)
30. Terminate
31. British equivalent to Special Forces
32. SECAF 1/21/01-5/31/01 (acting)
33. Separate grain
34. Part of the foot
35. Golf prop
36. Military punishment (abbrev.)
37. Took away
38. SECAF 12/1/85-4/7/86
39. SECAF 1/20/93-7/13/93 (acting)
40. Conjured up
41. Trousers
42. Pill
43. Great Lake
44. SECAF 5/1/89-1/20/93
45. Broadcasts
46. Entropy, in a way
47. Emperor who let Rome burn?
48. Mandible
49. Region
50. SECAF 7/14/93-8/5/93 (acting)
51. Military commissioning source (abbrev.)
52. 70s TV show ___ and the Man
53. Scary
54. Military living area
55. Member of ethnic group in the Balkans
56. SECAF 8/6/93-10/31/97
57. Type of fish in the shark family
58. Skim
59. Plant bristles
60. Chewy candy
61. SECAF 4/29/89-5/21/89 (acting)
62. Currency
63. Equipment
64. Lyrical poem
65. Tolkien character
66. Formerly
67. Stain

(Editor's note: See page 10 for the answers.)

CALENDAR



Today, April 2, 2004

2-4-1 Steak Night, 5:30-8 p.m. at The Heritage Club. For information, call 696-2405.

Land and sea lunch buffet, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at The Heritage Club.

Friday night social hour, 5 p.m. at The Heritage Club and Hangar Center.

Saturday, April 3, 2004

Thunder Alley, 8 p.m. at Dyess Lanes. For more information, call 696-4166.

Late Night, 11 p.m. at The Hangar Center. For more information, call 696-4384.

Sunday, April 4, 2004

Sunday brunch, from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at The Heritage Club. For more information, call 696-2405.

Monday, April 5, 2004

Mexican lunch buffet, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at The Heritage Club.

Intramural bowling, 5:30 p.m. at Dyess Lanes. For more information, call 696-4166 or your unit sports representative.

Tuesday, April 6, 2004

Fried chicken lunch buffet, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at The Heritage Club.

Tiny Tots reading program, 10 a.m. at the library. For more information, call 696-2618.

Dyess Toastmasters Club meets at 11:45 a.m. every Tuesday at The Hangar Center.

Youth Golf Clinic, 4-4:45 p.m. every Tuesday at The Mesquite Grove Golf Course. For more information, call 696-4384.

Bingo, at the youth center. For more information, call 696-4797.

Wednesday, April 7, 2004

Barbecue lunch buffet, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at The Heritage Club.

Margarita nights, 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at The Hangar Center.

Thursday, April 8, 2004

Asian lunch buffet, all day at The Heritage Club.

Music Thursday, every Thursday after 5 p.m. at Dyess Lanes. For more information, call 696-4166.

Community



Airman Aaron Walker

Smokin'!

Dyess firefighter Reed Tate signals to teammates, directing them to stand-by ready to light a fire during a routine firefighting exercise in base housing.

CROSS ANSWERS

A	L	D	R	I	D	G	E		P	E	T	E	R	S
	O	E	O		V		A		A		R	I		
U	R	D	U		N	E	O		N		B	I	C	
		U	R	A	L		K	A	T	H	L	E	E	N
J	A	C	K	I	E		E		S	E	E			E
A	R	T	E	R	Y		D		A	T	M		R	
W	E	E		S		R		C		T		C	E	O
	A	D	D		R	O	C	H	E		A	P	E	
D				S		T		I		W		E	R	R
O		A	B	L		C	A	C	T	I		A	I	A
R			R	A	W		W	O	O	D		K	E	Y
M	C	G	O	V	E	R	N		F	N	M			
	A	E	W		L		S	O	F	A		E	N	D
	S	A	S		C		H	E	L	A	N	E	Y	
T	H	R	E	S	H		H	E	E	L		T	E	E

SECAF History crossword puzzle answers from Page 9.

tots in blue

Date March 11 Name Nicole Marie Stocking Parents Lt. Col. Tim and Ivette Stocking

To announce a baby's birth in the *Peacemaker*, please send an e-mail to peacemaker@dyess.af.mil

Severe Weather Awareness
Is A Year-Round Task
Do you know what your
required actions are
in the event of severe weather?

If not, review Dyess AFB Pamphlet 32-2
(available on the Dyess Intranet Web Site under Plans
and Programs)

Dyess Chapel

Chapel schedule

Catholic: Reconciliation starts at 4:15 p.m. Saturday followed by Mass at 5 p.m. Sunday Mass is 9 a.m. Sunday School is 11 a.m. at Dyess Elementary School. Daily Mass is at 11:30 a.m. Tuesday through Friday.

Protestant: Sunday School begins at 9:15 a.m. at Dyess Elementary School. Shared faith worship begins 11 a.m. Sunday. Gospel service starts 1 p.m. Sunday. Sunday Night Worship Service is back from 4 to 7 p.m. A nursery and children's church are available at all services.

Jewish: For information about the times and places of Jewish services, call Capt. Matt Paskin at 829-6149.

For more information, call the chapel at 696-4224.

Airman boxes way to Olympic trials

By Airman James Kang
Dyess Public Affairs

Standing at 165 pounds, a tall, lanky airman fights for his country in more ways than one.

James "The Silk" Johnson, an electrical environmental specialist with the 7th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, also fights for his country in the ring as a member of the Air Force Boxing team.

Johnson competed in the 2004 Olympic Trials Feb. 16 to 21 in Tunica, Miss. and was one of three Air Force boxers at the trials -- hoping to become the first Air Force boxer to make the U.S. Olympic team since 1972. He qualified for the trials after winning the 2003 Armed Forces Championships in his weight class.

"I have been waiting for this my whole life," said the 21-year-old airman first class, who put on his first pair of gloves at the age of 6.

After successfully battling through the early stages of competition, he nearly reached his goal when he was defeated by unanimous decision in the semi-finals. Although the score did not reflect it, Johnson felt he had won the closely fought battle.

"I felt that I had won the fight and if not, I knew the score would have been close, but



Rita Boland

James Johnson works out during an Air Force Boxing Team practice at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas. Johnson took home the title in the 165-pound weight class at the 2004 Everlast U.S. Championships in Colorado Springs, Colo., and narrowly missed making the 2004 Olympic Boxing Team.

it wasn't," Johnson said. "Our similar red uniforms must have caused confusion amongst the judges."

The top two competitors in each of the 11 weight classes at the trials advanced to the 2004 Olympic Box-Offs that were held in Cleveland, Feb. 27 and 28, to determine the U.S. team. Although The Silk had failed to make the Box-Offs, his younger brother Marcus, a 178-pound light heavyweight

who also participated in the trials, had more success. The 18-year-old competed in the tournament and qualified as a 2004 Olympic alternate.

"My brother and I have always been very competitive since we began boxing," said Johnson. "I am glad that at least one of us could make it."

The Johnson family boxing tradition came from their father, James Johnson Sr.,

who also competed in the U.S. championships, earning the title "Boxer of the Tournament."

"My father is the one who got me into boxing and motivated me to always push myself further," said Johnson.

Although Johnson was disappointed with the outcome at the trials, he considered the loss only as a minor setback. He had already established national recognition after taking home the national crown at the 2004 Everlast U.S. Championships in Colorado Springs, Colo., Jan. 13 to 17.

Johnson was the first Air Force boxer to become the national boxing champion since Jerome Bennett in 1977.

Johnson said that the most difficult challenge he has faced while boxing in the Air Force was being self-motivated and staying in shape.

"Since I haven't yet deployed, my only concerns were adjusting my workout schedule to fit my work schedule, which can be challenging," Johnson said.

Johnson began boxing at the age of six, and has been boxing for the Air Force since first enlisting two years ago.

Johnson has an 8-2 record in the Air Force and an overall amateur record of 79-18. James plans on departing the service May 15 in hopes of becoming a professional boxer.

Sports Shorts

Opening Ceremonies

Little League opening ceremonies are at 8:15 a.m. April 17 at the youth sports complex behind the youth center. For more information, call 696-4797.

Pool tournament

The Dyess Airman Advisory Council is hosting a pool tournament today at The Hangar Center. Registration begins at 6 p.m. The price is \$5 per person.

The tournament is double elimination and will use regular 8-ball rules. Cash prizes will be paid for first, second and third places.

Happy hour is from 5-7 p.m.,

and there is free food for club members. For more information, contact Cordell McGary at 696-5188, or via e-mail at cordell.mcgary@dyess.af.mil.

Paintball enthusiasts

A base paintball team is forming to compete nationally. For more information contact George Clark at 696-3090, Matthew Stevens at 696-4422, or Andrew Bohan at 696-4422.

Mesquite Grove

◆ April 10 -- Winter Series Golf Tournament final round. The winner receives a set of name-brand golf clubs.

see Sports Shorts, Page 12

Dyess men's varsity softball season in full swing

The Dyess Men's Varsity Softball team's season is in full swing. They played their first recreational (Division 2) league game March 15, and lost to Fed Ex-T's 2 Please 12-8.

They entered their first tournament March 20 in Abilene. There were 25 teams in their bracket, and their first game was against "Crush" from Dallas.

"Once again our hitting proved to be our downfall -- we lost 12-1," said Ramirez. With the risk of going "two in a queue" they regrouped for their next game against "ABI" a Recreation Division 1 team. ABI came out swinging as the visitors with five runs scored. Mark Kuhar started ABI with a base hit, and they put six more base hits together for six runs before the third out. Not until the bottom of the fourth inning did Dyess string more hits together.

"Chad Ryan started us out with a double, and with a series of singles and doubles, we put up 10 runs that inning. Our defense managed to hold ABI to three runs over the next three innings. With three more

runs we scored in the seventh we sealed the deal with a win 18-9," said Ramirez.

Their next game was against "Extreme Softball Club" another Rec 1 team. Starting out slow until the fifth inning Dyess was able to capitalize on errors, stringing more than 20 base hits together for a 21-11 win. Unfortunately their hitting went cold for our next game against "WTP" and they lost 28-5. Team Dyess ended up placing ninth for the tournament.

March 22 was their second league game against "Carlos Paint and Body" and they came away with a 20-5 victory. Eight out of 11 batters averages .750 for the night.

The team's next planned tournament is the Iron Man all-nighter in Abilene Saturday and Sunday.

For more information about the team and their schedule, call Roberto Ramirez at 696-1377.

(Editor's note: This report was compiled with information received from members of the Dyess Men's Varsity Softball team.)

Sports Shorts

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◆ April 18 -- Airmen's Golf Day. E-1 to E-4 can golf for half price. For more information on these and other happenings at the Mesquite Grove Golf Course, call 696-4384.

Fitness Center

◆ Air Force Forms 303 are due April 25 for track and field.
 ◆ The football and soccer field is closed until June 1 so the new artificial turf can be laid. Use of the field is unauthorized during the construction period.
 For more information on these and other happenings at the fitness center, call 696-4306.

Dyess Lanes

◆ Every Sunday in April -- Children can bowl one free game and receive a free 16-ounce soda when accompanied by a bowling adult.
 For more information on this and other happenings at Dyess Lanes, call 696-4166.

Outdoor Recreation

◆ Outdoor recreation has paintball guns for sale. Customers can see the current selection or place a special order.
 For more information on this and other happenings at Outdoor Recreation, call 696-2402.

Standings

Basketball

American League (Monday/Wednesday) Final Standings	
Team	Win-Loss
7 AMXS #1	8-1
317 AMXS	8-1
7 OSS	6-3
7 CMS #1	6-3
7 CS #1	5-4
7 MUNS	5-4
7 EMS	3-6
7 MDG	2-7

National League (Tuesday/Thursday) Final Standings	
Team	Win-Loss
Varsity	10-1
7 CES	10-1
7 LRS	9-2
7 AMXS #2	8-3
7 BW/MSS	6-5
39 AS	6-5
317 MXS	5-6
7 SFS	4-6
7 CMS #2	3-8
7 CS #2	2-8

Over-30 League Final Standings	
Team	Win-Loss
7 CES	7-0
7 MUNS	5-2
7 MDG	4-3
7 BW/MSS	3-4
7 EMS	3-4

317 AMXS	2-5
7 AMXS	2-5

Bowling

Dyess OSC (Week 26)	
Team	Win-Loss
Honey Kats	65-39
Herk Hotties	61.5-42.5
Still Clueless	61.5-42.5
Pin Pals	60.5-43.5
Wicked W	58.5-45.5
Kingpins	56.5-47.5
Hot Little M	56-48
Consistently	56-48
Pin Heads	56-44
Bowling Imp	46.5-57.5
The Niners	45-59

Dyess Friday Night Mixed (Week 26)	
Team	Win-Loss
Five	154-52
Got B	134-74
HMO	128-80
L If I Know	115-93
D & D	100-108
Six	88-120
Mixed Nuts	85-123
Team High Scratch Game: Five,	832
Team High Scratch Series: Got B,	2286

Individual High Scratch Game: Terry Kraly, 285; Margret McMillan, 250
 Individual High Series Scratch: Blaine Weninger, 731; Margret McMillan, 616

Juniors/Majors (Week 22)

Team	Win-Loss
Dominators	66-22
Kingpins	63-25
New-Bees	35-21

Dyess Bantams (Week 22)	
Team	Win-Loss
Little Pins	35-5
The Butterfly	31.5-8.5
Team High Scratch Game: Butterflies, 121	
Team High Scratch Series: Dynamic Duo, 335	

Dyess Preps (Week 22)	
Team	Win-Loss
Spinnerz	62.5-25.5
Team Inferno	56-32
Thunder Pin	45-43

Johnson, 172
 Individual High Series Scratch: Neil Johnson, 412

National (Week 24)

Team	Win-Loss
7 MOS	134-58
Beer Time	119-73
7 EMS	114-78
317 AMXS	108-84
7 SVS Cmd	99-93
7 SVS	99-93
7 MSS	95-97
7 AMXS #2	91-101
7 MDG	90-102
Fire Wire	62-130

Current as of March 22	
Team	Win-Loss
Team High Scratch Game: Beer Time, 945	
Team High Scratch Series: Beer Time, 2616	
Individual High Scratch Game: Terry Kraly, 258; Stephanie Kraly, 203	
Individual High Series Scratch: Byron Black, 744; Michelle Fricker, 554	

Racquetball

American League Current as of March 22	
Team	Win-Loss
7 CES	18-3
7 OSS	12-6
9 BS/13 BS	9-9
7 LRS	8-10

National League Current as of March 22	
Team	Win-Loss
7 EMS	14-4
7 CS	12-6
7 AMXS #2	10-8